

T H E L I G H T O F K A B B A L A H

Introduction to the Book of Zohar

VOLUME ONE

The Science of Kabbalah
(Pticha)

THE SPIRITUAL SECRET OF KABBALAH

ORIGINAL TEXTS OF RAV YEHUDA ASHLAG
IN HEBREW AND ENGLISH

Commentary by Rav Michael Laitman PhD

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LAITMAN
KABBALAH PUBLISHERS

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Executive Editor: Talib Din
Editor: Clive Borkum
Project Coordinator: Lenny Estrin
Translation: David Brushin
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Laitman Kabbalah Publishers Website:
www.kabbalah.info

Laitman Kabbalah Publishers Email:
info@kabbalah.info

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ZOHAR
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The Science of Kabbalah (Pticha)

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TO THE READER

For many centuries, the wisdom of Kabbalah was inaccessible to anyone who could not read Hebrew. Now, for the first time in the history of the Western World, readers of the English language and serious students of Kabbalah have the opportunity to learn the Wisdom of Kabbalah from the 20th Century's greatest Kabbalist, Baal HaSulam. In this text,* the student will find a systematic, graduated exposition of Kabbalah unlike any treatment found in other available texts. This text comes with a brilliant commentary by Michael Laitman, a scientist and Kabbalist who received the Tradition from that illustrious chain that includes the Ari, Baal HaSulam, and his teacher, Rabash.

"The Wisdom of Kabbalah" is an exhaustive text that the reader will certainly make a steady companion in his exploration of the Upper Worlds for many years to come. Enjoy!

Talib Din, Executive Editor
Bnei Baruch
May 16, 2004

* As Rav Laitman did not translate the Hebrew text word for word, the reader will find that the English translation does not strictly follow the Hebrew text.

FOREWORD

- If you still ask yourself, "Where am I from?", "Where has everything around me come from?", you cannot manage without this book.
- If you are interested in the world where you live and want to know what it is like – you cannot manage without this book.
- If you want to study Kabbalah or at least take an interest in it – you cannot manage without this book.
- If you have been studying Kabbalah for a long time or even started teaching it, again you will not manage without this book.

"The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah" is the principal article that helps man enter the world of Kabbalah. One of the greatest Kabbalists of all times, Rabbi Yehuda Leib Alevi Ashlag, wrote it as one of the introductions to The Book of Zohar. Without the comprehension of this article, it is impossible to understand correctly a word in The Book of Zohar.

Without this book, one cannot succeed in Kabbalah. It is the key to all Kabbalistic literature: to "The Study of the Ten Sefirot", the principal modern Kabbalistic textbook, to the Book of Zohar, to the books of the great Ari. It is the key to the door that leads from our world to the spiritual world.

For a long time, I could not begin its translation and commentaries. My second book was an attempt to show the basic structure of the universe. It was published in 1983. In recent times, it has become very urgent to publish a textbook in English on the birth, basic structure, and correction of the worlds and souls.

It is hard and "clumsy" to describe Kabbalistic terms in translation, to relate Kabbalistic notions in another language. A Hebrew word contains endless information: its numeric meaning, transposition of letters, their inscription, and substitution of one kind of letter with another

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according to certain laws – all this makes it impossible to render in a different language.

To be honest, I had to receive my Teacher's permission. My Teacher is Rabbi Baruch Shalom Alevi Ashlag - Baal HaSulam's eldest son and the last Kabbalist of past generations. The period of the Descending Upper Wisdom stopped with him, and a new personal, group period of apprehending the creation has begun; it is the last stage of correction and its obvious manifestation.

I spent 12 years with my Teacher and he instructed me to continue the great mission of spreading Kabbalah in the world. I called my Kabbalistic School *Bnei Baruch*, in his honor. This school is open to anyone who really wants to study and devote himself to the ascent to the Upper worlds.

The material of the book was tape-recorded during my studies with beginners. It was typed, translated from Hebrew, proofread, edited, and prepared for publishing by dozens of my students. I am very glad that they participated in the publishing of this and other books, since those who circulate Kabbalah receive spiritual reward from above, i.e., advancement.

The book contains the original (Hebrew) text of the article "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah" by Rabbi Y. Ashlag and its translation (*in italics*), supplemented by my commentaries (in regular print).

Drawings of every spiritual process were specially made for this book. It also contains 52 lectures, delivered by me on the article "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah"; fourteen lessons on "The Introduction to the Commentaries of the Sulam"; four talks on the "Introduction to the Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah", and other pertinent information.



FOREWORD

A great spiritual wealth needed for self-knowledge and advancement to spirituality is found in this book. The rest depends on the reader!

My students and I are grateful to the Creator for the opportunity to publish this book, for the chance to reveal Kabbalah to the English reader, opening thereby the source of attaining Perfection, Happiness, and Eternity.

We invite you to travel to the unknown upper worlds, which are awaiting you and to reveal their secrets to all those, who really desire it.

M. Laitman



THE INTRODUCTION
TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM
OF KABBALAH”

All introductions composed by Rabbi Y. Ashlag (The Baal HaSulam) are written to allow a reader to enter the essential material, understand, and absorb it. As well, all introductions are separate Kabbalistic compositions, possessing their own spiritual power and depth.

א) איתא בזוהר ויקרא פרשת תזריע דף מ' תא חזי דכל מה די בעלמא לא הוי אלא בגיניה דאדם, וכלהו בגיניה מתקיימי וכו', הדא הוא דכתיב וייצר ה' אלקים את האדם, בשם מלא, כמה דאוקימנא, דאיהו שלימותא דכלא וכללא דכלא וכו', וכל מה דלעילא ותתא וכו' כלילין בהאי דיוקנא. עש"ה. הרי מפורש, שכל העולמות העליונים והתחתונים כלולים כולם בהאדם, וכן כל המציאות הנמצאת בעולמות ההם אינם רק בשביל האדם. ויש להבין הדברים, המעט לו לאדם העולם הזה וכל אשר בו בכדי לשמשו ולהועילו, אלא שהוא נצרך גם לכל העולמות העליונים וכל אשר בהם, כי לא נבראו אלא לצרכיו.

1) *It is said in The Book of Zohar (weekly chapter Tazriya, p.40):*
“All worlds, the Upper and the lower, are inside man. All that is created in the world is for man’s sake and everything lives and develops because of man.”

It is necessary to understand: Is man not content with this world and everything that is in it, existing to serve and develop him, that he desires the Upper worlds too?

The Torah is a Kabbalistic book. It was written by the greatest Kabbalist Moses. The Book of Zohar is a Kabbalistic commentary for the

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Torah. The Book of Zohar, as well as the Torah, is divided into 5 books and weekly chapters. One of the weekly chapters is entitled "Tazriya".

It is said: "The Creator created man with a full name. And everything that is created is absolutely perfect; everything is found in it." From the above statement, we see that all worlds, the Upper, and the lower, everything that fills and animates them, **all except the Creator, is inside man.**

ב) והנה בכדי להסביר הענין הזה על מילואו הייתי צריך להביא כאן לפנינו את כל חכמת הקבלה, אמנם בדרך כלל בשיעור המספיק להבין את פתיחת הדברים יתבאר לפניך בפנים הספר. והתמצית הוא, כי כוונת השי"ת בבריאה היתה כדי להנות לנבראיו כנודע. והנה ודאי הוא, שבעת שעלה במחשבה לברוא את הנשמות ולהנותם מכל טוב, הנה תיכף נמשכו ויצאו מלפניו בכל צביונם וקומתם ובכל גבהם של התענוגים שחשב להנותם, כי אצלו ית' המחשבה לבדה גומרת ואינו צריך לכלי מעשה כמונו. ולפי"ז יש לשאול למה ברא העולמות צמצום אחר צמצום עד לעוה"ז העכור והלביש הנשמות בהגופין העכורים של העוה"ז.

2) In order to explain the above, one would need to expound the entire wisdom of Kabbalah. Through further studying, the meaning of these statements will be revealed at a later stage.

The point is that the Creator's intention is to bestow delight. The moment the Creator thought to create souls and delight them, they instantly appeared before Him in their perfection and exaltedness. They were filled with infinite pleasure, which the Creator thought to bestow upon them. His thought alone completed the entire Creation and required no physical actions.

A question arises accordingly: Why did He create worlds, restriction upon restriction, down to our relatively tiny world, and then place the souls - the created beings - into the insignificant bodies of this world?

If the Creator is omnipotent, why did He not provide man with everything necessary? Why did He not allow each of us to do something of our own will? If desire alone were enough - each of us would have created a much better world than this. Why then did the Creator do it all this way?

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If we are suffering now in whatever manner to reap the benefit in the future – it also points to imperfection.

ג) והתשובה על זה איתא בע"ח שהוא כדי להוציא לאור שלמות פעולותיו (ע"ח ענף א') ויש אמנם להבין איך אפשר זה שמהשלם יצאו פעולות בלתי שלמות עד שיהיו צריכים להשלים ע"י פועל ומעשה שבעולם הזה. והענין הוא כי יש להבחין בהנשמות בחינת אור ובחינת כלי, כי עצם הנשמות שנבראו הוא הכלי שבהם, וכל השפע שחשב ית' להנותם ולענגם הוא האור שבהם. כי מאחר שחשב ית' להנותם הרי עשה אותם בהכרח בבחינת רצון לקבל הנאותו, שהרי לפי מידת הרצון לקבל את השפע כן יגדל ההנאה והתענוג. ותדע שהרצון לקבל ההוא הוא כל עצמותה של הנשמה מבחינה התחדשות ויציאת יש מאין, ונבחן לבחינת כלי של הנשמה. ובחי' ההנאה והשפע נבחן לבחינת אור של הנשמה הנמשך יש מיש מעצמותו.

3) *The answer is in the Ari's book "The Tree of Life". "...It is created by Him so as to demonstrate the perfection of His actions". However, we need to understand: how could such imperfect action emanate from the perfect Creator? Moreover, the created beings must correct and spiritually elevate themselves through actions in this world.*

Why did He create such a seemingly low world with imperfect bodies and put infinite souls in them? Was it done so that afterwards they might discover what perfection means? That is to say, the Creator created the most insignificant world and the most insignificant man, whereas man himself has to sweat in order to achieve perfection. Is this the aim and perfection of the Creator's actions?

The fact is that two parts should be distinguished in the souls: the light and the vessel. The essence of the soul is its vessel (Kli), and the abundance with which the Creator thought to delight the souls is the light (Ohr), which fills the vessel.

Since the Creator thought to bestow pleasure upon the souls, He was bound to fashion it in the form of a desire to receive delight. The size of the desire to receive pleasure determines the amount of pleasure received. You should know that the desire to receive pleasure is the essence of the soul. It is created from nothing, and is called "Kli"

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– *the soul's vessel. The abundance and delight that fill the vessel are defined as the light of the soul, emanating from the Creator.*

This light spreads out from the Creator. Only the desire (*the Kli*), the vessel, was created. The light emanates from the Creator Himself as pleasure and fills the vessel. In other words, the primary goal was to bestow, the secondary – to create someone who would desire to receive pleasure. Overall, there are two components in the creation:

1. The vessel – the desire to receive pleasure, the soul, *Adam HaRishon*, creation.
2. The delight that emanated from the Creator.

ד) ביאור הדברים. כי בריאה פירושו התחדשות דבר מה שלא היה מקודם שהוא הנבחן ליש מאין, אמנם איך נצייר זה שיהיה דבר מה שאינו כלול בו ית'. הלא כל יכול וכוללם יחד, וכן אין לך נותן מה שאין בו. ובאמור אשר כלל כל הבריאה שברא ית' אינו אלא בחינת הכלים של הנשמות שהוא הרצון לקבל, מובן זה היטב, שהרי הכרח הוא שאינו כלול ח"ו מהרצון לקבל כי ממי יקבל. וא"כ הוא בריאה חדשה ממש שלא היה אף זכר ממנו מקודם לכן, וע"כ נבחן ליש מאין.

4) *Creation is something that did not exist before, i.e., something born out of nothing. Yet, how can we imagine something non-existent in the Creator? He must include absolutely everything. It is said that the entire creation is no more than a vessel (a Kli) of the soul, a desire to receive pleasure. So it is quite clear that such a desire is absent in the Creator. Hence, the desire to receive is a totally new creation, non-existent before, and is defined as born out of nothing.*

We cannot imagine what "nothing" is. Everything that exists in our world has its prehistory, its previous form; it is born out of something. For example, solid matter is formed out of gas. What does it mean to be formed out of nothing? We are unable to understand it. Afterwards, while apprehending spirituality, we will become participants in the comprehension of this process.

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ה) ויש לדעת, שהחיבור ופירוד הנוהג ברוחניים אינו אלא בהשוואת הצורה ובשינוי הצורה, כי אם ב' רוחניים הם בצורה אחת הרי הם מחוברים יחד והם אחד ולא שנים. שהרי אין מה שיבדילם זה מזה, ואי אפשר להבחיןם לשנים זולת בהמצא שינוי צורה מזה לזה. וכן לפי מדת גודלה של השתנות הצורה ביניהם כן שיעור התרחקותם זה מזה, עד שאם הם נמצאים בהפכיות הצורה זה מזה אז נבחנים רחוקים כרחוק מזרח ממערב, דהיינו בתכלית המרחק המצוייר לנו בהמציאות.

5) One should know that, in spirituality, closeness and remoteness are determined by equivalence (similarity) or distinction of properties. If two spiritual objects have the same form, i.e. the same properties, they are bound together constituting a single whole. If there is no distinction between the two objects, they cannot be divided into two. The division is possible only if a difference between their properties is found.

The degree of distinction in their properties will determine the distance between them. If all the properties of two spiritual objects are opposite, then they are infinitely remote from each other, i.e., in a state of absolute remoteness.

In our world, when we say one object resembles another, it means they both exist, but are identical. In the spiritual world, this is impossible. Everything in it differs by the distinction of their properties. If there is no distinction, the two objects merge and form one. If there is a partial similarity of properties, then they merge in their common properties as two overlapping circles. A segment of one circle overlaps with a segment of the other, thus forming a common area.

In the spiritual world, there are two properties: (i) "to receive pleasure" and (ii) "to bestow pleasure". There is nothing except these two. If we juxtapose one with the other, we will see they are completely opposite and have no point of contact between them. However, if the property "to receive" is changed into the property "to bestow", i.e., the creation and the Creator will have some common desires, then they will move closer and bond with one another in these properties. The rest of their opposing desires will stay remote. Initially creation was created as absolutely opposite to the Creator.

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ו) והנה בהבורא ית' לית מחשבה תפיסא ביה כלל וכלל, ואין לנו בו ח"ו שום הגה או מלה. אמנם מבחינת ממעשיך הכרוך, יש לנו להבין בו ית', שהוא בבחי' רצון להשפיע, שהרי ברא הכל בכדי להנות לנבראיו, ולהשפיע לנו מטובו ית'. ולפי"ז נמצאים הנשמות בבחינת הפכיות הצורה אליו ית' שהרי הוא כולו רק להשפיע ואין בו ח"ו רצון לקבל משהו, והנשמות נטבעו ברצון לקבל לעצמם, כנ"ל, שאין הפכיות הצורה רחוקה מזו. ונמצא אם היו הנשמות נשארים בפועל בבחינת הרצון לקבל, היו נשארים נפרדים ממנו ית' ח"ו לעולמי עד.

6) *Human thought is unable to grasp the infinite Creator's perfection. There is no way to express or describe Him. However, by feeling His influence, we can understand that He desires to bestow delight upon us, for his only goal is to give us pleasure, fill us with bliss.*

The souls' properties are absolutely opposite to those of the Creator. Whereas He is a giver with no trace of the desire to receive in Him, souls were created with only the desire to receive delight. Hence, there is no greater antithesis of properties and remoteness from each other than this. Therefore, had the souls remained in their egoistical desire to receive pleasure, they would have been forever separated from the Creator.

No words of our language may describe Him, for we are separated from Him by our properties, and cannot feel Him.

It is worth pointing out here that this Introduction was written by a man, the Baal HaSulam, who had grasped it all in himself. He says he felt the Creator and His actions, saw His absolute kindness. At our level of understanding, we are yet unable to feel it.

Why is it not enough just to desire delight in order to receive it? Why do I have to approach near to the Creator, make my properties equal to His, merge with Him completely? Why could He not create such a state where the creation would, on the one hand, would receive pleasure, and on the other, bestow pleasure as does the Creator? In fact, then the Final Correction would come immediately, creation would merge with the Creator, being filled with His light, becoming equal to Him.

Why do we have to accomplish this entire evolutionary process in our senses, perceive each desire as egoistical and opposite to the Creator;

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then correct it, make it altruistic, similar to Him? Why do we have to feel how we approach Him, merge with Him? What do we gain from it?

ז) עתה תבין מ"ש (בעץ חיים ענף א' הנ"ל) שסבת בריאת העולמות הוא לפי שהנה הוא ית' מוכרח שיהיה שלם בכל פעולותיו וכוחותיו וכו' ואם לא היה מוציא פעולותיו וכוחותיו לידי פועל ומעשה לא היה כביכול נקרא שלם וכו' עכ"ל. שלכאורה תמוהים הדברים, כי איך אפשר שמתחילה יצאו פעולות בלתי שלמות מפועל השלם עד שיהיו צריכים לתיקון. ובהמתבאר תבין זה כיון שעיקר כלל הבריאה אינו, רק הרצון לקבל, הנה הגם שמצד אחד הוא בלתי שלם מאוד להיותו בהפכיות הצורה מהמאציל, שהוא בחינת פירוד ממנו ית', הנה מצד הב' הרי זה כל החידוש והיש מאין שברא, כדי לקבל ממנו ית' מה שחשב להנותם ולהשפיע אליהם. אלא עכ"ז אם היו נשארם כך בפירודא מהמאציל לא היה כביכול נק' שלם, כי סוף סוף מהפועל השלם צריכים לצאת פעולות שלמות. ולפיכך צמצם אורו ית' וברא העולמות בצמצום אחר צמצום עד לעוה"ז, והלביש הנשמה בגוף מעוה"ז וע"י העסק בתורה ומצוות משגת הנשמה את השלימות שהיה חסר לה מטרם הבריאה, שהוא בחינת השואת הצורה אליו ית'. באופן, שתהיה ראויה לקבל כל הטוב והעונג הכלול במחשבת הבריאה, וגם תמצא עמו ית' בתכלית הדבקות, שפירושו השואת הצורה, כנ"ל.

7) Now we can understand what is written in the book "The Tree of Life". The creation of all the worlds is a consequence of the Creator's perfection in all His actions. However, if He had not revealed His powers in the actions He is performing on created beings, He would not have been called "perfect". Nonetheless, it is still not clear how imperfect deeds could come out of the perfect Creator?

Moreover, the Creator's actions are so imperfect that they need to be corrected by man. It is clear from the above statements that creation is a desire to receive pleasure. Although it is quite imperfect due to its being completely opposite to and infinitely remote from the Creator, it is nonetheless this specially created property of "reception" that is necessary for Creation to receive the Creator's delight.

Here arises a question: "What did the Creator create everything for?"

A Kabbalist who speaks only out of what he has attained asserts that He created us to bestow His delight upon us.

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For example, say that I come to visit a person and see before me a magnificent palace. The host comes out to meet me saying: "I have waited for you all my life. Come and see what I have prepared for you." Then he begins to display all the delicacies and offer them to me. I ask him:

- Why are you doing all this?
- I am doing it to delight you.
- What is in it for you if I am delighted?
- I need nothing but to see you delighted.
- How can it be that you do not need anything?
- You have the desire to receive pleasure and I do not. Therefore, my delight is in giving pleasure to you.

On the finite human level, we cannot understand what it means to give without receiving anything in return. This property is absolutely opposite to our nature. Hence, it is said: "Only in my sensations can I know Him." Above it, I am unable to grasp. I have no way of knowing if the host has some secret idea or intention.

If the Creator has intentions as regards us, but does not reveal them, we are unable to know them. Each of us being created as a vessel can understand only what enters it. That is what fills our hearts and minds. When we develop our vessels to the maximum, we will receive in them everything that emanates from the Creator. Then we will feel that He is absolutely kind and has no thoughts other than to bestow delight upon man.

There are the so-called 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th millennia, after the 6th millennium – the 6 thousand levels of the Creation's attainment of the Creator. It reveals His thoughts, merges with Him so completely that no questions remain. It is not because the vessel is filled, but because the Creator allows the vessel inside of Himself.

This equivalence of form can be achieved in two ways. Either we improve our properties or the Creator will worsen His. The correction of souls occurs when the Creator descends to their level by worsening His properties and merging with them; He then starts to improve His

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properties, simultaneously improving those of the souls, as if pulling them out of their taint.

For example, a teacher joins a group of youngsters, pretending to be as frivolous as they are; he starts to liken his properties to theirs, and then, by improving himself, begins to make them a little better. In this way he corrects them, elevates them from their low level towards the light of the true intelligence.

Therefore, there needs to be an initial worsening of the Creator’s properties in order to become equal with the creation, followed by the improvement and subsequent correction of the created souls.

This process depends on the Creator; it is carried out by Him and therefore is defined as “the Creator’s work” (*Avodat Hashem*). However, man must be willing to go through this process if he wants the Creator to change him. Hence, he has to prepare himself and have the strength and understanding to justify the Creator’s work. Such a person is called “a righteous man”, for he is able to justify the Creator’s actions.

The desires to receive and to bestow constitute two opposite moral and spiritual vectors, intentions. One is directed inwardly, the other is directed outwardly. However, the fact is that later, in the process of the evolution of creation, these desires take many different forms.

Each *Sefira* and *Partzuf* represents different kinds of desires. We study desires in their “pure” form, but in fact, a Kabbalist who grasps them, feels them as much more complex. However, the desire to receive pleasure is always at the heart of creation, whereas the desire to bestow is at the heart of the Creator’s influence upon created beings.

Outwardly, the Creator may act as if He desires to receive, as is illustrated by the Baal HaSulam’s example of the host and the guest. This example includes all elements of our relations. The host says, “I prepared it all for you; chose only the things you like. I will be delighted to watch you eat. Can you not give me that pleasure?” Thus, he can make the guest sit down and eat. After such persuasion, the guest feels he is obliged to



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eat and enjoy the meal. Otherwise, how would the guest reciprocate with the host for all his efforts?

However, the guest has a different problem; whatever he does, the desire to receive pleasure is constantly “burning” inside him. That is how he is created, and there is no getting away from it. He can only enjoy what he receives. How can he give? By receiving: to give for the sake of receiving. As a result, his act of giving is nothing more than a means to receive what he desires.

According to my nature, I can receive both in action and in intention. My action may be giving or receiving, but my goal is the same – to receive pleasure. Man unknowingly seeks delight; it is our natural desire. In other words, the essence of my action depends solely on my intentions.

With the help of intention, I can reverse the essence of my action. I can receive by giving as in the example of the host and the guest. In any case, I can only receive; I am unable to give anything. With the help of intention, I can only receive, either “for my own sake” or “for someone else’s”.

Therefore, the relations between the Creator and man may take innumerable forms. They change on each level of man’s spiritual growth. The Creator changes with regard to us through a system of His concealments, demonstrating one of His properties at a time in accordance with our ability to be equal to Him.

If the Creator shows us His genuine, absolutely perfect properties, the way He is, we will not be able to become equal to Him. That is why he diminishes, coarsens, and rather adapts Himself to us. We only have to rise onto this tiny level, become similar to the Creator in one little property.

As soon as we do that, the Creator starts revealing Himself in this property on a slightly higher level, and in other properties too. Through a system of worlds, He conceals His perfection, allowing us to liken ourselves to Him and ascend spiritually.



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“*Olam Hazeḥ*” (“our world”) is man’s **inner** sensation of being in a state of absolute egoism. It is in this state that man feels that there is a Creator Who is extremely remote and completely hidden from him.

In view of his created properties, man is totally opposite to the Creator and spiritually distant from Him. Such an inner sensation is called “*Olam Hazeḥ*.” One may sit in his room and simultaneously be in “*Olam Hazeḥ*”, or in the worlds of *Assiya*, *Yetzira*, *Beria*, and *Atzilut* – man’s inner states that link him to the spiritual levels.

The Creator is in a constant state of absolute calm. What does this mean? The Host, having found out what you like most, prepared a special meal, and is waiting for you. When you come to Him, He persuades you to accept his treat. In spite of all these actions, we still say the Creator is in a state of absolute calm, since His intention “to bestow upon creation” is invariable.

By absolute calm, we mean a constant unchanging desire. It exists only in the Creator, in all His deeds. These deeds are countless, infinite and vast. Since all these variations of deeds remain unchanged and seek only after one goal, we define them as a state of absolute calm.

Here we see no movement, since there is no change. Yet how shall we give for the sake of receiving pleasure? In our world, we are constantly doing it. For example, somebody brought me a cup of tea. Why did he do that? Because he enjoyed doing it, otherwise he would not have done it. Our action of giving or receiving does not matter at all. Mechanical action does not determine anything.

Everything is determined only by the intention. There are four combinations of an intention and action:

- reception for the sake of reception;
- giving for the sake of reception;
- giving for the sake of giving;
- reception for the sake of giving.

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The first two combinations, “action-intention”, exist in our world. The third and the fourth exist in the spiritual world. If man can achieve such an intention, it means he is in the spiritual world. Spirituality begins when one gives in order to please. This is something we do not understand; giving for the sake of pleasing. Where am I here? I am “cut off” from my ego, from my desire to receive. I give something and please somebody without receiving anything in return... Can this be possible?

Then there is also “reception for the sake of giving”. When we study it in the spiritual objects - *Galgalta*, AB, SAG – it seems quite simple. Actually, we are unable to imagine such a phenomenon in our life.

The fact is that to receive pleasure through giving is not forbidden. However, bestowal must be purely spiritual, without a trace of 'for one's own sake'. First, man makes a *Tzimtzum* (a restriction), “ascends” to such a spiritual level, and acquires a quality of complete disregard for his own needs. Only then can he bestow and be delighted, receive pleasure through giving, i.e., the delight he feels is not as a result of his bestowal, but a consequence of someone enjoying his act.

Tzimtzum Aleph (The First Restriction) is not just an action performed in the world of Infinity. If man is able to restrict himself and not think of his own benefit, he then starts to ascend, “to count” his spiritual levels.

Movement is defined as a change of desire, or more accurately, the desire to which he can add his intention “for the sake of the Creator” and not “for his own sake”. If your desire is constant in size and direction, you are considered to be motionless. Suppose you wish me well only in 20% of your intention. If your desire is only such, then you are absolutely motionless. If it changes with regard to me, then you are in motion.

While climbing the spiritual levels, man is in constant motion with regard to the Creator. It also seems to man that, regarding himself, the Creator is constantly moving towards him. This is because as man rises to a higher level, the Creator's revelation of Himself to him increases,

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i.e., he sees that the Creator is more kind and wants to bestow upon him. In man’s sensations, the rapprochement is mutual.

However, we say, “the Upper Light is absolutely motionless”, the Upper Light, not the one that comes upon him, i.e., the Creator’s intention, not His light. We cannot feel the Upper Light until it enters the vessel. Inside the *Kli* we can feel the different varieties of light, and the way it affects us. However, the Creator, the Upper Light, is absolutely motionless, for His only unchanging desire is to bestow delight upon us.

How do we know this? There are people who have ascended to such a high level, where they could fully grasp the Creator’s desire with regard to creation. They reached the level of the largest *Kli* and entirely filled it with the Creator’s light. They are unable to rise higher, but can see that everything that comes from the Creator to creation is absolute kindness.

“From Thy deeds I will know Thee” – I cannot know the Creator’s thoughts; I can only verify that everything He does is meant for me, for my ultimate good, demonstrating His infinite kindness. Then I may say His attitude to me is absolutely kind.

What is it to be absolutely kind? We do not mean He Himself, but rather His properties regarding me. The Creator Himself is incomprehensible. If man in his *Kli*, be it the Baal HaSulam, the Ari or Rabbi Shimon, achieves The Final Correction (*Gmar Tikkun*) and receives from the Creator everything he can – he becomes the sole receiver! Perhaps he alone enjoys the Creator’s attitude and others do not. We see that in our world the Creator treats one better and another worse. How can we assert that He is absolutely kind to all?

The fact is that, while climbing the spiritual levels, man absorbs all the vessels of all the souls, attaches all created souls to his. He absorbs their sufferings and performs their corrections. It is called “he who suffers with the whole world is rewarded by the whole world”. Man receives the light descending to all souls. Therefore, in his ultimate state, each Kabbalist is

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afforded such sensations as if he alone was created and he is *Adam HaRishon*. Hence, he knows and feels what the Creator does with each soul.

We all exist in one perfect state, but do not feel so. Our sensations are unimproved and distorted; according to them, our state is imperfect. Our inner feelings are so unrefined that we nevertheless perceive our most blissful state as imperfect.

Even now, we are in an absolutely perfect state. However, we are sent such thoughts and feelings that it seems to us that we are in a different, bad state, as it is said, “When we return to the Creator, we will see it was a dream”.

Then we will realize that our sensations were totally unimproved, that we saw reality quite differently from what it really was at the time. We could not perceive it correctly, for our senses were incorrectly tuned.

In fact, all souls are in a perfect state. No bad state was ever created by the Creator. He created a perfect soul that is in full confluence with Him. It is completely filled with the light and is delighted by His greatness and power.

Why then do other states exist? Because there is no way we can presently feel this perfection. Why are all worlds inside us? For unless we correct these concealments and distortions inside, we will not be able to sense where we really are.

Actually, we are in there and feel it, but not in our present state. A Kabbalist in this world is constantly performing corrections. He suffers and worries while making these corrections in himself. Further, there are special souls in our world that take upon themselves the general corrections of the entire world, thus “pulling” it towards the universal good.

Even in our most “lifeless” states, we go through tremendous changes. We cannot feel them. Oftentimes, a day flashes by like one moment, but at other times drags on for eternity...

Question: “What does it mean when the *Partzuf* receives the light and then expels it?”

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In our world, it is impossible to return what was already received inside. Nevertheless, as we speak about spirituality, we mean sensations. Imagine feeling wonderful, then wretched, then wonderful again, and wretched again. This is in some way similar to receiving the light and expelling it. This example demonstrates the impossibility of juxtaposing spiritual actions with our material body. They are of a very different type.

The *Kli*'s desire to acquire a screen and liken its properties to the Creator's after the First Restriction is just one of a number of “external” corrections, so-called “attires”. The inner property, the desire to receive pleasure, remains unchanged in accordance with the spiritual law that holds: “desire remains unchanged”. In other words, the size of the created desire never changes.

The Creator created the desire in absolute conformity to the light with which He wishes to fill creation. Neither the size of this desire, nor its quality, is subject to change. Only the creation's intention during reception alters. Reception can be either “for the Creator's sake” or “for one's own sake”. There is a host, but I can neither see nor feel him; all that I see I use for my own sake. This state is called “our world”.

Feeling the Creator and being able to push away what He offers me means that I have crossed the *Machsom* – a partition between the spiritual world and ours. I already have an intention not to use my egoism: desire remains and is by no means diminished, but its use was modified from “for one's own sake” to “for the Creator's sake”.

First, I only restrain myself from receiving “for my own sake”; then I can correct my intention and make my screen so powerful that I will be able to use my egoism “for the Creator”, i.e., begin to receive “for His sake”.

My spiritual level, my place in the spiritual worlds, depends on how much I can receive for His sake. If I can thus receive one fifth of the light destined for me, then I am in the world of *Assiya*; if I can receive two fifths – I am in the world of *Yetzira*; if I receive three fifths – I am in the

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world of *Beria*; if I receive four fifths – I am in the world of *Atzilut*, and if I receive five fifths – I am in the world of *Adam Kadmon*. Once I am able to receive everything that emanates from the Creator, I return to *Olam Ein Sof* (the world of Infinity), i.e., the world of Unlimited Reception.

That was the world of Unlimited Reception without the screen, before *Tzimtzum Aleph* (*TA*). Now, I can also receive the light endlessly, but with the help of the screen. This state, which is so strikingly different from reception prior to *TA*, is called the Final Correction. There are no levels in the world of Infinity, although more and more new conditions for reception arise.

We do not study the state of creation once it achieves the world of Infinity, since everything related to the state after the Final Correction is called “*Sitrey Torah*” (secrets of the Torah). Everything related to the state before the Final Correction is called “*Ta’amey Torah*” (tastes of the Torah). *Ta’amey Torah* may and must be studied by all. Everyone is obliged to grasp them. They may be apprehended in two ways (more often in their combination): by “way of suffering” or by “way of the Torah”; in any event, the result will be the same, differing only in time and sensation. All people will have to apprehend *Ta’amey Torah*, i.e., master Kabbalah - the science of attaining the light of Torah.

Thus, as it was said above, the desire itself remains unchanged. It is only the screen that changes. In accordance with the screen's magnitude, I take only the part of my desire that I can use for the Creator's sake. In any case, whatever part of my desire I may use, I always receive a certain part of the light in all my five levels of soul.

Suppose there are five dishes on the table in front of me. I have to cut some layer off each dish, whereas “the thickness” of the layer would depend on the magnitude of my screen. I always have *NaRaNHAY* – five lights-pleasures (*Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*) felt in five parts of my desire to receive delight (*Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Zeir Anpin*, and *Malchut*).

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If I received the light in one of my desires, it means that I received it in five parts of the desire (five *Sefirot*) being on the same level of *Aviut*. It means that this reception of the light (*Partzuf*) emerged (was born) because of one *Zivug de Haka'a* (the screen interacting with the light).

It is similar to ordering a set meal. There are various kinds worth \$10, \$20, \$30, \$100, and \$1000, but each consists of five courses, since I always have a combination of five desires. This is how my desire to receive was originally designed. Similarly, I have five senses. Each dinner consists of my five desires, *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*; inside them, I receive the lights, *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*.

The vessel and the light are common names, but the *Partzufim* have specific names. For example, *Partzufim* in the world of *Adam Kadmon* are called *Galgalta*, *AB*, *SAG*, *MA*, and *BON*, in the world of *Atzilut* – *Atik*, *Arich Anpin*, *Abba ve Ima*, *ZON*, etc.

After the 'Fall', creation, the common soul, *Adam HaRishon*, split into thousands of souls. In the process of their correction, the souls ascend and occupy certain places in the spiritual worlds. In order to give these levels brief and accurate names, they are called Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, *Beit HaMikdash* (the Temple), *Cohen HaGadol* (the High Priest), *Shemesh* (the Sun), *Yareach* (the Moon). In correspondence with these levels and states, names were given to the weekdays, Sabbaths, holidays, etc., depending on how the worlds and the souls in them ascend and descend.

Now we can understand what the Torah really speaks about: it describes only spiritual reality – worlds, *Partzufim*, *Sefirot* and souls. For describing the souls and what happens to them, “the language of branches” taken from our world is used. Hence, you will not find Kabbalistic names like *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Atik*, and *Arich Anpin* in the Torah. More precise, specific names, designating a definite level or a part of it in a certain state, are applied. In such a case, this level would for example be called a place of rest in a desert or some action, etc.

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Regardless of ascents or descents of the world, the soul is always enveloped in some outer shell. At the moment, we call our shell “this world” or “our world”. If man works on himself and crosses the *Machsom*, alongside this world he would feel another world, i.e., more outward forces, a greater manifestation of the Creator; man will distinctly see the light emanating from Him, establish a tangible contact with Him.

Man reaches this or that level in accordance with the magnitude of the acquired screen, because each world and each level represent a filter: from the world of Infinity to our world, there are 125 levels, i.e., 125 filters between the world of Infinity and our world.

I was completely filled with the light in the world of Infinity. In our world, I am totally deprived of the light, and can neither see nor feel it because all these filters conceal it from me. Supposedly, each filter conceals 125-th part of the light. Since there are five worlds, each containing five *Partzufim*, which in turn include five *Sefirot*, they total $5 \times 5 \times 5 = 125$ levels. What is the meaning of these levels?

As with glass, each of them restrains the light. For example, take a piece of red glass. Why is it red? It is because it restrains the color red. How can I prevent this level from restraining the light coming to me? It is very simple. I have to match the properties of that level. In other words, it restrains the light for me because I am not allowed to receive it.

If it reaches me without being deferred by the filter, I will receive it “for myself”, since I have no screen for it. Therefore, my screen must be equal to the properties of that level’s filter, in which case I myself would be able to weaken the light. Thus, if I acquire a screen as powerful as this particular level, I match its properties and all its restrictions disappear for me; they cease to exist.

Therefore, gradually, level by level, I abolish all these levels-filters until they all vanish and only the light remains. Such a state signifies attainment of the world of Infinity. It is endless and has no limitations, since I neutralized them all.

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When I reach a certain level, I begin to feel and grasp everything on it quite distinctly. I myself become the property of that level. Hence the Torah says, “Everyone has to be like Moses”, i.e., must rise to the level reached by him, since in the spiritual worlds “Moses” is the name of a certain level, and anyone who reaches it is considered to be like Moses.

Each time, man increases the magnitude of his screen according to the properties of the level before him. Any level above me is defined as the Creator; I cannot see anything beyond it since it is His manifestation for me. Therefore, each time, I have to match my properties to the Creator in front of me. On each level, He is different, revealing Himself to me more and more.

To what extent? Suppose a person might steal \$1000 lying before him, but if there is only \$100, he would not do so. It means that he already has a screen for \$100, so this sum may be placed before him; he will be able to reject it, altruistically work with it. Therefore he is not affected by the ban “Do not steal” with regard to \$100.

If he is able to strengthen his screen and not to steal \$1000, then this amount will not be a limitation for him, and it could be placed before him. Likewise, he must strengthen his screen before the infinite light that is destined to fill him “is placed” before him.

When man is able to receive all this light for the Creator’s sake, he will experience a delight 625 greater than *Malchut* (creation) in the world of Infinity. Why will he receive more pleasure? Why was *Malchut’s* (soul’s) descent from the world of Infinity to our world necessary? For what purpose was the separation from the Creator and gradual return to Him?

It was done so that, with the help of the freedom of choice, by will and power, he might achieve an elevated state like the world of Infinity. Being in the world of Infinity was initially determined by the Creator, not by man. If he achieves this state by himself, he acquires his own new vessels, his own screen, his own sensations, earns his own eternity and perfection.

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The fact is that because of man's independent efforts, he prepares himself for feeling what is really bestowed upon him in the world of Infinity. When *Malchut* of the world of Infinity was born by the Creator's thought, received the light and later restricted itself from further reception, it felt only a tiny part of it, for its vessel was not yet ready.

As creation begins to ascend from a point totally opposite to the Creator, from complete darkness, when hunger and the desire to enjoy this light are gradually accumulated, creation consequently begins to be delighted with the same light, but the delight is already 625 times greater than before the beginning of correction.

The light does not change; everything depends on hunger, on the desire to receive the light. If man is not hungry, he will not be able to enjoy even the best delicacies. If he is starving, even a crust of bread will become a source of tremendous pleasure. Thus everything depends on how strong the hunger is, not on the light. One can receive a scanty measure of the light, but the vessel will have a huge pleasure in that.

On the contrary, the light can fill everything around, but if the vessel feels no hunger, it will feel, out of all this light, only *Ohr Nefesh*, a very small light. The entire Universe and its control are designed exactly to prepare the *Kli* for receiving perfect delight; in other words, that it might really feel what the Creator bestows upon it. For that, it must move away, then gradually and independently draw nearer.

“The language of branches” exists only in Hebrew, but it could be made on the basis of any other language. In other languages, the relation between the spiritual root and its consequences in our world cannot be traced. It does not exist even in Modern Hebrew. Nevertheless, if we take basic Hebrew with all its roots, then there is a clear connection between the root and the consequence.

Such a connection exists in every language, but in other languages, no one has ever tried to find it. No Kabbalist is pointing out the connection between the spiritual and the material in Chinese hieroglyphs

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or in Latin letters, etc. In Hebrew, thanks to Kabbalists, we know these correspondences, for example, why the letter “*Aleph*” is written this way and not another.

What do we really express by it? We express human sensations. One can take the language of music, colors, or any other language. Everything that can be used to express human sensations, notions, comprehension, can be utilized as a language. It is possible to speak about spirituality in any language. Hebrew is unique in that it has a ready code. However, if there is a Kabbalist who knows the roots of any other language, he will be able to do the same with it.

The forces standing behind Hebrew letters form combinations expressed in a certain letterform. Hebrew is within the root of other languages. Inscription of the letters in other languages actually come from the same root as the Hebrew letters. However, they are modified, so the connection between letters in other languages and their spiritual roots are different.

When we comprehend a certain spiritual level or sensation, when we feel something in the spiritual world, we know what to call this sensation. So what can be done if we have not yet comprehended the spiritual, when the sensations cannot be expressed in words, when we do not have an appropriate language? What should be done to find this language?

In the spiritual world, there is no language, no worlds, and no letters; there is only the vessel’s sensation of the light. The fact is that every spiritual vessel has its branch in this world; everything descends from the world of Infinity downwards to our world. Then all the sensations of our world rise to the world of Infinity. Therefore, if we take any point in the world of Infinity, it is possible to trace a straight line passing through all the worlds down to our world, to its branch.

Thus it is possible to say that the soul of *Adam HaRishon*, broken into 600 thousand parts, exists in each of the spiritual worlds. The arrangement of the spiritual worlds is absolutely identical. The difference

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is only in the material from which they are built. In any world, the soul feels its condition, the influence on it, and its interaction with a certain spiritual level.

If one takes the projection of this soul on our world, one will find in Hebrew the notions corresponding to spiritual conditions. Then we can take words from our world, assuming that with their help, we speak not about the objects of our world, but with the help of these words, we speak about the objects, forces, and actions in the spiritual world. Such complete correspondence is a result of our use of one and the same language. The difference is only in the plane of this or “that” world, where the intended notion exists.

Our language is a description of objects, actions, sensations, reactions, interactions.

Everything we have in our world exists in the spiritual one - the similar picture on all 5 levels. Hence, on each stage, on any of the 125 levels, regardless of where you are, you can always take our language and describe what is going on at that level. However, only someone who has already been on that level can really understand you. The one who has not yet been there will suppose that you are talking about our world, or the level he is on at the moment of reading or listening to your account.

The Torah is written in the language of branches at the level of the world of *Atzilut*. However, unprepared people understand what is written in the Torah literally, thinking that it is talking about our world. They take it as a collection of stories. Thus, the language of branches describes spiritual actions that take place simultaneously on all levels.

“The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah” studies the birth, development, and arrangement of the worlds. When the Upper worlds spread down to the level of our world, the souls begin to rise from our world to the world of Infinity.

The soul rises because it absorbs all the qualities, knowledge, and revelations from the previous levels. Therefore, it knows exactly what

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happens on all the lower levels. Kabbalists are in the world of *Atzilut*. So how do they call the actions taking place there by the names of our world? The fact is, they do not lose the connection with our world; they live in both worlds, feeling simultaneously what is going on in the world of *Atzilut* and in our world.

They know exactly the correspondence between one and the other; therefore, they call the objects in the world of *Atzilut* according to the properties of those that appear in our world as a projection coming from the spiritual worlds. In the world of *Atzilut*, there are no man-made objects (e.g. radio sets, computers etc), but all other objects and forces are present there. The Kabbalist sees that a certain object in our world is the consequence of the same object in the world of *Atzilut*. Therefore, he gives the object (root) in the world of *Atzilut* the same name born by the corresponding object (branch) in our world.

There is no connection between Kabbalistic comprehension and meditation or any other “mystical” notions. Everything that is studied by esoteric specialists, mystics, and pseudo-kabbalists, belongs to the human psyche, and is in no way connected with spirituality, attainment of the Creator or Kabbalah.

Most of these people do not have the slightest idea of what a screen is, and without the screen, spirituality cannot be grasped. Pseudo-Kabbalists who have heard about the screen, believe they already have it, imagining they are already in the world of Infinity. Kabbalah is a secret science; it cannot be “narrated” to anyone. Only the one who feels is able to understand.

Therefore, all methods, teachings, and religions belong to the comprehension of the latent qualities of the human psyche, to the product of human brain activity. These people can do a lot. They can cure, foretell the future, and relate the past - everything that refers to the body. Man has potential powers to do whatever he wants with the physical body.

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However, to enter the spiritual world, one must have a screen. That is why the various kinds of predictions, tricks, miracles, including those that really exist, must not be confused with Kabbalah. One may foretell the future the way Wolf Messing and Nosrtadamus did; one can know the past by looking at a person, but none of this has anything to do with spirituality.

Whatever refers to the body, to our world, can be predicted and changed; there is nothing supernatural in that. Each of us, if he so desires, may move away from the disturbances of civilization, and start cultivating such powers, and abilities. We lost these capabilities because they were substituted by the products of civilization.

Every person has these natural inclinations. People with these kinds of abilities who are capable of looking at themselves critically, say that there is a Creator, but they know nothing about Him, or have nothing to do with Him. However, predicting man's future, seeing his past, or making something against his will, is not connected to the world of spirit. Since these abilities are unconnected with the soul, they die together with a person.

The soul is a vessel, created with the help of the screen. If there is no screen, there is no soul. While there is no screen, there is only “a point in the heart”, the soul embryo. In the process of acquiring the screen, the first (still very small) ten *Sefirot* begin to emerge. The larger the screen gets, the larger the ten *Sefirot* under it become, but there are always 10 of them.

If man has no screen, then he will die as he was born, no matter what great abilities he had or what he did in this world.

Do you think that when a yogi does not breathe, it makes him spiritual? To enter the spiritual world, man must devote all of his strength, time, and desires to that end. Only the desires necessary for one's existence in this world need attending. For the spiritual world to open up, a real desire is necessary. Only the one who really desires it will enter the spiritual

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world. If you combine Kabbalah studies with something else, other than for taking care of your existence, it means that your desire is split.

Right now, man can judge only from the level on which he is. He cannot know what he will be like on the next one. Everything completely changes on another level, man's entire inner world. Thoughts, desires, reactions and outlook – everything changes. Everything is taken out of you, leaving only flesh, your outer shell; the rest is reinstalled anew.

Hence, we cannot understand how this desire can be the only one. We cannot understand it now, since we are not yet on that level. When we gradually ascend to a higher level, we will feel that this desire is really formed. This desire is the only requisite for entering the spiritual worlds; and when you meet this condition, the gates of spirituality will open up before you.

It should be pointed out that even a great Kabbalist cannot predict man's potential abilities. A fortuneteller might correctly predict his earthly, material future, but not man's spiritual future. Moreover, when coming across a Kabbalist, a genuine fortuneteller feels that a prediction of his future is beyond his abilities.

A Kabbalist is not interested in developing the abilities to predict his future. Forces of our world are necessary for this, and as a rule, they are totally undeveloped in a Kabbalist.

A fortuneteller can name all the ailments and bodily problems of a Kabbalist. However, he has nothing to say about his “self”. He can only determine his physical condition at a given moment.

A Kabbalist is constantly looking for the connection with the Creator and does not try to guess how or what he has to do to earn a better future. It would never cross a Kabbalist's mind to know his future. Such a desire belongs to the impure forces and not to Kabbalah. By grasping the Upper world, a Kabbalist comprehends the ways of correction of all souls.

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All information in the spiritual world consists of five parts (*Behinot*). One *Zivug de Haka'a* in the *Peh de Rosh*, although it involves only one kind of light, leads to formation of a *Partzuf* made of five parts. What does it mean - one light? One light is a general state. It consists of five parts that differ from each other quantitatively and qualitatively. However, they must always be together, as a whole set. It is similar to a sensation that is the product of five composite sub-sensations in our five senses: touch, smell, sight, hearing, and taste.

Since five lights come to me, there must be five desires inside me. The difference between them has to be both quantitative and qualitative. However, all of them ultimately act together. I cannot make one desire bigger and another smaller. They form a certain combination. The light entering the vessel passes four levels. In turn, the vessel consists of five levels of the desire to receive pleasure.

Now let us review paragraph 7:

7) And now understand what is written in the first part of the book "The Tree of Life": "The creation of all worlds is a consequence of the Creator's perfection in all His actions. However, if He had not revealed His powers in the actions that He is performing on the created beings, He would not have been called "perfect".

Thus, since the Creator is perfect, all of His actions must be perfect. That is why He created the worlds. On the contrary, the worlds are a concealment of the Creator, the remoteness from Him.

On the face of it, however, it is not clear how imperfect deeds could come out of the perfect Creator. Moreover, the Creator's actions are so imperfect that they need to be corrected by man. From the above statement, understand that, since the essence of creation is a desire to receive pleasure, it is quite imperfect due to its being absolutely opposite to the Creator (while He is perfect and giving, the creation only receives, is imperfect, and its properties are opposite to His). On the one hand, it is infinitely remote and detached from Him. On the

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other hand, it is something new, born out of nothing. Creation was created to receive, and be filled with the Creator's delight.

This means that the desire to receive pleasure, albeit quite contrary to the Creator and absolutely imperfect, is, nevertheless, exactly what the Creator had to create.

However, if the creations had been distanced from the Creator by their properties, He could not have been called the Perfect One, since imperfect actions cannot come from someone Perfect. Therefore, the Creator restricted His light, created the worlds, restriction after restriction down to our world, and put the soul into the body of our world.

By "our world", we do not mean our physical world, but the set of egoistical desires corresponding to the lowest stage of development of the worlds.

"To study the Torah" means to learn for the sake of correction, not to read a book called "the Torah". "To observe precepts," means to perform spiritual actions with a screen, not to carry out mechanical actions. Through studying the Torah and observing its precepts, the soul achieves a perfection that it lacked in the beginning of creation. It signifies the equivalence of its properties with those of the Creator. The soul would deserve to receive all the pleasure that was in the Thought of Creation. Now it will completely merge with the Creator.

It means that, apart from the delight, an additional reward is prepared for the soul, and this reward is called "merging with the Creator". Thus it is not just a reception of the entire light, but a merging with the Creator, a receiving of the light that appeared because of an equivalence of properties.

The equivalence of properties and merging with the Creator is much higher than just receiving the light, since because of the equivalence of properties, the soul rises to the level of the Creator. It not only receives the light from the Creator, but also ascends to His level. Thus,

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it rises from the level of creation to the Creator's level and also comprehends that which is above its nature.

ח) וענין הסגולה שבתורה ומצוות להביא את הנשמה לדבקה בו ית', הוא רק בבחינת העסק בהם שלא לקבל שום פרס רק בכדי להשפיע נחת רוח ליוצרו בלבד, כי אז לאט לאט הולכת הנשמה וקונית השואת הצורה ליוצרה, כמ"ש לפנינו במאמר ר' חנניא בן עקשיא בהתחלת הספר, עש"ה. כי יש בזה ה' מדרגות כוללות נפש רוח נשמה חיה יחידה המקובלים מה' העולמות הנקראים א"ק, אצילות, בריאה, יצירה, עשיה. וכן יש ה' מדרגות נרנח"י פרטיות המקובלים מפרטיות ה' פרצופין שיש בכל עולם מה' העולמות, וכן יש נרנח"י דפרטי פרטיות המקובלים מהעשר ספירות שבכל פרצוף, כמ"ש בפנים הספר. שע"י תורה ומצוות להשפיע נ"ר ליוצרו זוכים ומשיגים לאט לאט לכלים מבחי' הרצון להשפיע הבאים בהמדרגות האלו מדרגה אחר מדרגה עד שבאים בהשוואת הצורה לגמרי אליו ית'. ואז מקיימת בהם מחשבת הבריאה לקבל כל העונג והרוך והטוב שחשב ית' בעדם, ועוד נוסף להם ריוח הכי גדול, כי זוכים גם לדבקות אמיתית, מכח שהשיגו הרצון להשפיע כיוצרים.

8) Only through indulging in the Torah and the Commandments with an intention not to receive any reward for it, but for pleasing the Creator, generates a special power ("Segula") that enables the soul to reach the state of absolute unity with the Creator. Gradually, the soul advances by acquiring more and more new properties equal to the Creator's, as is said in the article "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah".

This ascent, merging with the Creator, consists of five levels: Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida. These are received from five worlds: AK, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya.

When the soul rises to the world of Assiya, it receives the light of Nefesh. When it rises to the world of Yetzira, it receives the light of Ruach. In the world of Beria, it receives the light of Neshama. In the world of Atzilut, it receives the light of Haya; and in the world of Adam Kadmon, it receives the light of Yechida.

Each of these five levels is in turn divided into its own five sub-levels also called Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida. It receives them from the five Partzufim that form each of the five worlds. Each

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sub-level has its own NaRaNHaY, which it receives from the ten Sefirot forming each Partzuf.

With the help of the Torah and the Commandments with an intention to please the Creator, created beings gradually acquire vessels-desires from the above-named levels until they completely merge with the Creator.

Thus, a greater desire to bestow is gradually formed in the soul. In accordance with this, the soul is filled with more and more light until it achieves a complete equivalence of properties with the Creator.

At this stage, the fulfillment of the Thought of Creation takes place in the souls: reception of all the delight the Creator prepared for them. Moreover, since the souls acquired the desire to bestow, they fully merge (Dvekut) with the Creator and experience a perfect, eternal and infinite pleasure, much greater than the reception of the light.

So the creation achieves:

- 1) The reception of pleasure prepared for it in the form of NaRaNHaY.
- 2) The equivalence of properties with the Creator, i.e. it rises to the Creator's level and gains a perfection equal to His.

We cannot yet imagine this level. We are used to operating with such notions as life, death, time, and pleasure. However, when it refers to the spiritual levels, we have neither words nor sensations to imagine or describe such states.

In the process of acquiring the screen, man begins to modify his properties, accordingly receiving the light and gradually ascending. Five major levels (worlds) are divided into five sub-levels (*Partzufim*), which in turn consist of their own levels (*Sefirot*) - and all of these are characterized by greater and greater likeness to the Creator.

While man is yet uncorrected, each of these levels is a concealment of the Creator from him. When man receives correction, the same level

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becomes a revelation of the Creator and a light for him. That is to say, on the one hand, each stage is the concealment of the Creator, and on the other – His revelation.

Each stage is a certain level of the Creator’s properties. Let us assume that the world of Infinity corresponds to 100% of the Creator’s properties, and is the highest level. Then our world corresponds to 0% of the Creator’s properties. The remaining spiritual Universe is between them, and is divided into 125 levels, which correspond to 125 measures of the Creator’s properties.

As it was said, we have to rid ourselves of egoism, because egoism is an inferior *Kli*, or vessel. The moment it starts feeling pleasure, the feeling eliminates the desire; as a result, the pleasure dies away. This means that the moment the desire is satisfied, the pleasure immediately disappears. Thus an egoistical *Kli* can never be satisfied. Therefore, egoism is given to us only for its correction, that we may be able to feel eternal and perfect delight in it.

Man feels that he has reached a certain level only when he is there. Then he knows what level he is on and what level he has already passed. He sees the next level before him, the one he has to reach. While seriously studying genuine Kabbalah from the authentic books, in the right group, he begins to understand the next level of his ascent.

At the beginning, he feels only the concealment of that level, i.e., the Creator is hidden from him in it. Then man begins to grasp what properties the Creator possesses and how he can acquire them. There are many stages along this path, but the first one is the most difficult. Compared to the first stage, comprehension of the rest of them is much easier.

It proceeds from the fact that on the first level, the largest *Kelim*-desires are being born; precisely those *Kelim* that appear on the first level, afterwards show up on the last one. This is because there is a so-called inverse relationship between the lights and the vessels.

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Right now, we are in a condition wherein we do not know really which *Kelim* we are using. Although we are using very complex *Kelim* already, they have not yet manifested in our sensations. The biggest *Aviut* from *Shoresh*, *Aleph*, *Bet*, *Gimel*, and *Dalet* is in the world of *Assiya*. However, the biggest screen is in the world of *AK* - this is the screen of *Dalet*, in *Atzilut* - the screen of *Gimel*, in *Beria* - the screen of *Bet*, in *Yetzira* - the screen of *Aleph* and in *Assiya* - the screen of *Shoresh*.

One should always pay attention to what we refer to - whether it is the screen or the desire this screen is “dressed on”. Therefore, this is the most difficult stage of our work. Entering the spiritual world is the major problem in man’s entire spiritual quest.

Afterwards man confronts other problems and the work becomes completely different. He already knows clearly what to do; gets an idea of the 10 *Sefirot* he acquired, has some true comprehension of the entire Universe. The Universe is built according to one principle, so if man has acquired his own (even the smallest) 10 *Sefirot*, then he readily knows what the Torah talks about, albeit on the level of his 10 *Sefirot*.

If, for example, a man born in the jungle were brought to the civilized world, he would not know how to use certain technical devices. A person who grew up in a developed country, may not know the processes inside those devices, but he knows how to use them, because he lives among these objects. The same principle applies to a person who has reached the minimum level in the spiritual world. He has a slight idea about spirituality, already has *Kelim* (albeit the smallest). The innermost processes are perceived on the higher levels.

When a man acquires a screen, he makes a *Zivug de Haka’a* and receives the Inner Light inside, which gives him an idea about spirituality. We do not feel anything outside of us, we feel the world within, the spiritual world. This Inner Light, which fills the *Kli*, provides the measure, which we call “the level” or the light, the level of “*Nefesh*”, “*Ruach*”, “*Neshama*”, “*Haya*”, and “*Yechida*”.

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To go forward, man should constantly absorb, pass Kabbalistic texts through his mind and heart, be filled with it all the time. There is no other method apart from studying Kabbalah with the right books, guided by a Teacher, and working in a group. Collective efforts are very important. Even a group of beginners is already a spiritual force, despite the fact that its members hardly imagine what they study Kabbalah for and what goals they have. It will be able to attract very strong spiritual light by its own efforts in the future.

King David described all the spiritual states that a soul or a man goes through, from the lowest to the highest. King David (David *HaMelech*, *Malchut*) is called so, because he himself passed through all the spiritual states and described them. His book “*Tehilim*” (“Psalms”) is the highest level in Kabbalah, which includes all possible states of the soul.

If man acquires all properties of the Creator, all His desires, habits, powers, such a state is called merging with the Creator.

It means that man becomes equal to Him. What does he create? By giving to the Creator, he creates himself, creates the screen, or rather becomes the Creator’s equal partner in creating himself.

The Creator created egoism, man; and man makes altruism, the Creator out of egoism, out of himself. Naturally, he does not create it out of nothing (“*Yesh mi Ayn*”) as the Creator has made our desire to receive pleasure, egoism, out of nothing. However, turning this desire into its opposite is man’s goal. This process is called “correction” (*Tikkun*). Actually, it is a birth of a completely new quality. Indeed, the Creator created man’s egoism and man creates the Creator.

What does it mean that the creation is made out of nothing? We know it from Kabbalists. They study all the Creator’s properties and see that He is absolutely kind and complete. Hence, He made the Creation out of nothing. When man ascends, making his properties equal to the Creator’s on the high levels called “the tenth millennium”, where the Torah’s secrets are revealed, he sees the creation itself and the way it was created by the Creator.

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The only sources we study are the book of the "Zohar", the Ari's books, the books written by the Baal HaSulam and the Rabash. Nothing else can be read independently. One can read the books of the series "Kabbalah - the Secret Science", but nothing else. The Pentateuch can be read only when man can understand that it has an inner, Kabbalistic meaning, and is not merely an historical narrative.

A long time passes before man automatically begins to see the spiritual actions behind the words of the Torah. It is better to read the Book of Psalms; there at least human feelings are described. Although spiritual feelings are meant there, they are more or less equivalent in our world. One will not be misled as much as by reading the Torah.

It is necessary to study how to observe the precepts in our world. There is the "Shulchan Aruch" for that purpose. The commandments should be kept on a "simple" level. Josef Caro wrote the "Shulchan Aruch" especially for those who wish to study Kabbalah, and want to know how the precepts should be observed without having to study the Gemarra folios and having no time left for Kabbalah. One may not read The Zohar in Aramaic, only the Baal HaSulam's commentary.

ט) ומעתה לא יקשה לך להבין דברי הזוהר הנ"ל, אשר כל העולמות העליונים והתחתונים וכל אשר בתוכם לא נבראו אלא בשביל האדם. כי כל אלו המדרגות והעולמות לא באו אלא כדי להשלים הנשמות במדת הדבקות שהיה חסר להם מבחינת מחשבת הבריאה, כנ"ל. שמתחילה נצטמצמו ונשתלשו מדרגה אחר מדרגה ועולם אחר עולם עד לעולם החומרי שלנו בכדי להביא את הנשמה בהגוף של עוה"ז, שהוא כולו לקבל ולא להשפיע, כמו בהמות וחית הארץ. כמ"ש עייר פרא אדם יולד, שהוא בחינת הרצון לקבל הגמור שאין בו מבחינת השפעה ולא כלום, שאז נבחן האדם להפכי גמור אליו ית', שאין התרחקות יותר מזה. ואח"ז בכח הנשמה המתלבשת בו הולך ועוסק בתורה ומצוות שאז משיג צורת ההשפעה כיצרו לאט לאט בדרך המדרגות ממטה למעלה דרך כל אותם הבחינות שירדו בעת השתלשלותם מלמעלה למטה, שהם רק מדות ושיעורים בצורת הרצון להשפיע. שכל מדרגה עליונה פירושה שהיא יותר רחוקה מבחינת הרצון לקבל ויותר קרובה רק להשפיע, עד שזוכה להיות כולו להשפיע ולא לקבל כלום לעצמו, ואז נשלם האדם בדבקות אמיתי בו ית', כי רק בשביל זה נברא. הרי שכל העולמות ומלואם רק בשביל האדם נבראו.

9) It will not be difficult for you to understand now what is written in The Book of Zohar, that all the worlds – Upper and lower - and

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everything that exists in them were created only for man. All these levels were created only to fill up the souls, to direct them to perfection, to the degree of merging with the Creator, which is absent from the moment of the Thought of Creation.

In the beginning of creation, five worlds were formed from the Creator's level down to our world to place the soul into the material body of our world. The material body is the desire to receive without giving anything in return. This is the final form of the desire to receive pleasure for itself. That is why man's properties in our world are absolutely opposite to the Creator.

By studying Kabbalah, man gradually begins to comprehend the properties of giving. According to his comprehension, he gradually ascends, learning the properties of the descending levels that have the property of bestowal. Then he reaches the level of the desire only to give, receiving nothing in return. As a result, man completely merges with the Creator, i.e., reaches the state for which he was created. Therefore, all the worlds were created for man's sake.

Thus, all the worlds are created to help man ascend from point zero, upwards, opposite to the Creator, and finally to reach the last point - merging with the Creator, to cover the entire journey beginning from the complete concealment of the Creator, passing 125 levels, each representing a greater revelation of the Creator.

We have already spoken about the fact that the Creator deliberately concealed Himself behind five worlds, each consisting of five *Partzufim*, each *Partzuf* having five *Sefirot*, overall, 125 levels of concealment. All this was done for making man absolutely remote from the Creator.

Man cannot feel the Creator, he thinks he is independent, believes he has freedom of will - freedom to develop and utilize his egoism as he sees fit. Such conditions are called “our world”; in fact, they are the Creator's forces affecting us in a state of complete concealment.

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Everything that surrounds us in this world is just the last level of the various forces that influence us on behalf of the Creator. Whatever man feels, inside and around himself, everything we call “our world”, is the last level that can possibly exist in the Universe.

As soon as man, with the help of his inner work, is able to eliminate the nearest level of the Creator’s concealment from him, to draw this curtain apart, he immediately starts feeling the Creator in this minimal 125th part.

It does not mean that 125 levels conceal the Creator from us proportionally. The lower the level, the more it conceals the Creator. As soon as man pulls away the lowest curtains separating him from the next level, the Creator’s light immediately begins to shine upon him, and he begins to see the Creator behind all that exists around him in this world.

The still, vegetative, animal and human levels of nature - all that is around man and inside him, all his animal cravings and desires for power, honor, fame, aspiration for knowledge - for him, everything now becomes a manifestation of the Creator.

He feels how the Creator affects him, his “self”, with the help of his surroundings and inner properties. The first level of revelation, though the most difficult, is the most important, because by overcoming it, man immediately establishes contact, albeit minimal, with the Creator, and never loses it. There is no way back. Thus, the correct beginning is paramount.

Sometimes, man seems to have lost all he had gained, and has fallen from his level. However, this sensation is deliberately sent to allow him to rise even higher. The spiritual levels are built in such a way that the concealment of the Creator on each of them depends on man’s correction. The concealment is given to him on a level he is able to overcome.

Let us suppose that man has corrected 10% of his intention to receive. This means that he receives pleasure in these 10% not for himself, but for the sake of the Creator. Therefore, the measure of concealment

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and revelation of the Creator is the same level, its back and front parts. In other words, there is nothing outside man; all the levels are built for him and are inside him.

All the spiritual worlds are inside man's soul, forming a ladder between him and the Creator. That is, they are 125 levels of our properties. Around us, there is only one thing: the completely altruistic property to bestow and please us. We call this property the Creator. However, our inner property is absolutely egoistic.

The gradual correction of man's inner properties is the purpose of his existence in our world. Everyone must correct himself. The sensation of the Creator that man gains during his correction is called “spiritual ascent” from one level to another, or from one world to the next. All this takes place solely internally.

We have already said that the surrounding world is just a reaction of our inner properties to the Creator's influence, i.e., all worlds, *Partzufim*, *Sefirot*, everything that we ever talk about is inside the person; there is nothing outside. One may say that outside there are only the four properties of the Direct Light.

The descending light creates man and all his inner properties. All the spiritual worlds in us are just the measures of sensing the Creator. All the angels, devils, dark and light forces are no more than man's inner forces, specially created in him by the Creator to help him constantly correct and overcome his natural egoism.

Initially, they were systematically restricted, world-by-world, and descended to the level of this material world to insert the soul into the body, to dress man's “self” in absolutely egoistic properties, infinitely remote from the Creator, the most opposite to His properties.

They are called “the qualities of this world”. What is meant here is not a number of material objects surrounding us - liquids, gases, solids. By material world, we mean absolutely egoistical qualities, from the least

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to the most developed, regardless of whether it is a baby or the greatest grown-up egoist in the world.

When the Kabbalists say “the body of this world”, they mean the desire to receive. There is the body of our world – an egoistic desire to receive, and there is the spiritual body – the same desire to receive, but already with the screen, which means an egoistic desire transformed into an altruistic one.

As stated, in order to make man wish only to receive, the Creator put the soul into the body of our world. This is the so-called “animal” state, as the proverb says, “man is born like a wild donkey”. Thus, when man descends to this world, he receives egoistic desires called “body” and with his properties becomes absolutely opposite to the Creator, infinitely remote from Him.

The Creator gives man only one little altruistic quality called the “soul”. If man starts indulging into the Torah and the commandments with the right intention, he gradually acquires the Creator’s desire “to bestow”.

The highest level is the desire only to bestow without receiving anything for oneself. Achieving this state, man completes his way to the Creator and merges with Him. Closeness and remoteness of the spiritual objects take place because of an equivalence or difference of properties. Therefore, by achieving the state of absolute desire to bestow, i.e., the last 125-th level, man is rewarded with complete revelation of the Creator.

Thus, all the worlds with everything that fills them are created only for man’s sake and for his correction. Observing the Torah and the commandments, with the intention to bestow pleasure upon the Creator without receiving anything in return, means adherence to the spiritual laws that man learns as he climbs these steps.

Each time, when he is in a certain spiritual state, there is always a choice before him, what to do, how to think, feel, choose his thoughts, intentions, inner decisions. Although the Creator has not yet revealed

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Himself to us, we have to try to compare all our thoughts, decisions, and opinions with our intention to acquire His desire to bestow.

The way we analyze and choose each opinion and decision, is called "a commandment" (*Mitzvah*). When man fulfills this law correctly, he stimulates the candle, allowing a little more light to enter his spiritual desire.

On the higher levels, upon man's entering into the spiritual worlds, he corrects his absolutely egoistic desire, and with the help of a *Zivug de Haka'a* (Stroke Contact) receives a portion of the light. The light he receives is called variously "the Torah", "the Creator" or "the light of the soul".

There is a so-called Essence of the Creator (*Atzmut HaBoreh*). We do not feel the Essence of the Creator, but only His influence. We are like a black box: whatever penetrates through our five senses - sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste, or with the help of these devices, which only widen the range of our sensations - all this creates a picture of this world in us, seemingly existing outside of us.

However, this world is only a product of our inner sensations, something pressing us from outside. It is like making a body out of clay and giving it a kind of sensitivity. When I press on it, it will have an inner reaction. It feels this pressure in its sensations; somehow, it is reflected in it. The body calls this outside influence (or rather its reaction to it) a certain property.

Now, if someone pricks it, the body will call this outside stimulation (or its reaction to it) some other property. It has no idea what affects it from outside, but feels only its reactions to whatever presses on it. All the creation's reactions to the numerous outside influences create inside it a feeling of "the surrounding" world.

If a person is deprived of one of his senses from birth, say the sight, he must build a picture of the surrounding world with the help of the remaining four. The resulting picture differs from ours.

If we are able to widen somehow the range of our senses (we cannot add any more senses), then the picture of the world will instantly change.

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At any rate, we will perceive only what “enters” us (that is how we call our reactions to the external influences), and not what is outside.

Another additional stimulation, called the Creator’s light, will enter us. He Himself will enter us, not just press us like a piece of clay from outside. He will enter and start filling us according to the extent of the equivalence of our properties to His. All our essence is “a piece of egoistic clay”; if this “piece” succeeds in acquiring the Creator’s properties, i.e. learns to give, then there will be no difference between them. The outer boundary between Him and the “piece” will disappear. They will merge into one; the Creator will fill this “clay” from inside, and it will be in complete harmony, fully merged with whatever is outside.

This state is the most perfect, comfortable, eternal, and absolutely good. “The piece of clay” must achieve this level. Man must reach it, beginning with the lowest level, called “our world”. The soul dressed into the body, forces it to work before it can ascend.

The soul at its zero stage is an egoistic property, but in its final state, it must be transformed into an altruistic one. In case man is reluctant to do it on his own free will, he will be assisted from above, and then, spurred by hard sufferings, “he” will be compelled to agree. Each of these “pieces of egoism” (souls) has to overcome all 125 levels. These “pieces” are divided only because each of them feels its own small desire.

In the process of likening their properties to the Creator’s, they begin to feel the commonness and inseparable continuity of their mass, the absolute unity of all these egoistic splinters. They understand that they represent a single whole. The more man is corrected, the more he sees himself as an absolutely inseparable part of the whole, i.e., he depends on everybody and everybody depends on him.

If the creation is one whole organism, then it does not matter which part of it receives and which part gives. It is easier to be corrected as a small piece, and when all the pieces have corrected themselves, they

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merge in their sensations into a single whole – this is what they call: the merging of the souls.

There is much interference, all specially sent to us. Finally, only persistence wins. Man does not have to possess any special inclinations, intellect, particular qualities, or properties. He should only be persistent, or rather, show the ability and courage to endure; only this will lead to victory.

Each of us is the way the Creator made him; nothing can be done about it. All our inner changes in thoughts, desires, and ambitions - all of these are programmed in us from above, and they all must be corrected. It is that very material, that ‘piece of clay’ that we must work on.

A corrected egoistic property, which the Creator’s light enters, is called a “Kli” (the vessel). A person who has just begun his study of Kabbalah can be told everything; everything enters him, nothing is forgotten, and nothing disappears. When necessary, he will recall it, but will do so only after his correction. When he has the minimal inner vessels and this information is necessary for his work, it will emerge, “surface” out of his subconscious.

Man himself will have to sort out this information and work with it. At this stage, he should not be given ready answers to his questions; now he has to search and find the answers.

Being on the high levels of the spiritual development, man suffers not because the souls on lower levels feel bad. He suffers from an inability to fulfill the Creator’s desire as regards these souls, their present state; i.e., from the fact that not all souls feel the unity with the Creator the way he does. In addition, he naturally tries to accelerate this process by dissemination of Kabbalah, by spreading the knowledge about the necessity of correction, while others interfere with his mission.

Man needs the entire world in order to complete his spiritual work, because it consists not only in self-correction, but also on each level there is certain mutual work to be done with the rest of the souls.

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A Kabbalist must feel the entire world, feel its sufferings, absorb them on his level, and correct them. Moreover, on each level, the inclusion of all the souls into his and his own into all other souls takes place.

ועתה אחר שזכית להבין ולדעת כל זה, כבר מותר לך ללמוד חכמה זו בלי שום פחד של הגשמה ח"ו. כי המעיינים מתבלבלים מאד, שמצד אחד נאמר שכל הע"ס והפרצופין מתחילת ע"ס האצילות עד סוף הע"ס דעשיה הוא אלקיות ואחדות גמור. (ע"ח שער מ"ד שער השמות פרק א') ומצד הב' נאמר שכל אלו העולמות מחודשים ובאים אחר הצמצום, ואיך יתכן אפילו להרהר זה באלקיות. וכן בחינת מספרים ומעלה ומטה וכדומה מהשנוים ועליות וירידות וזווגים, ומקרא כתוב אני הויה לא שניתי וכו'.

10) *Now after having grasped this much, you may study Kabbalah without fear of materializing the spiritual. The beginners in Kabbalah are confused because it is said that all 10 Sefirot and Partzufim beginning from the world of Atzilut and down to the 10 Sefirot of the world of Assiya are absolutely divine and spiritual, i.e., in fact it is the Creator Himself.*

On the other hand, it is said that all these worlds were created because of the Tzimtzum (restriction). Then how can one say the divine Sefirot, which refer to the Creator, appeared after the Tzimtzum? Besides, how should one take such notions as quantity, up, down, rise, fall, spiritual merging, separation etc.? How can all this be said about the divine and perfect?

It is said, "I change nothing; I am everywhere, the only One unchanging Creator". How can one say that transformations and restrictions exist in the perfect One, since any change speaks of imperfection?

The question is simple: what we call worlds - is it the Creator or the creation? Why are beginners confused by it? It is because, as a rule, they materialize it. They try to imagine these worlds in the form of material objects. It is a natural reaction for a man limited by his reality. Yet, how can he be given the correct perception; is it possible at all?

There are risks for people who study Kabbalah without a true guide, a person that would constantly direct them, prevent them from

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getting off the right track, and from materializing spirituality. For this reason, Kabbalah was kept away from the masses for centuries. If, at the beginning, man deviates one millionth of a degree from the right way, then in time, this deviation from the goal will gradually increase.

Consequently, the more he advances and, as it seems to him, draws nearer to the goal, the more he moves away from it. Therefore, the Kabbalists made certain demands and restrictions for those who wanted to study Kabbalah. It is better to remain on the mechanical level of observing the commandments (the common Surrounding Light shines upon man and purifies him slowly) than to study Kabbalah alone.

Unfortunately, we see self-taught Kabbalists and to what it has led them; they fabricate their own concepts about the spiritual world, populate it with all kinds of bodies, forces and their interactions, with winged angels, devils, witches, hell, and paradise, etc. They do this without understanding that the spiritual world is only inside of man's soul, while only the Creator is outside.

The Kabbalists were deeply concerned about all this. The principal commandment is not to make an idol out of your own egoism. Whether you want it or not, you worship it anyway - it is an idol made inside of you; from your birth, you worship only your own desires, thinking only about how to satisfy them.

Not to make an idol means not putting your own idol in place of the Creator. If you truly desire to enter spirituality, to have any contact with it, do not make a false picture of it in your imagination, for it leads astray. It is said, "To sit and do nothing is preferable to making a mistake".

A question arises: Can a man studying Kabbalah interfere with other people's matters? Can he explain anything to them? He can and should, but very carefully. A book can be given to read; one can talk a little about Kabbalah, but never argue the point.

It can be harmful to you. You will lose everything you have gained by your own efforts and studies. Kabbalah should be popularized unob-

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trusively, never try to convince a person. It will not help anyway. Man's egoism is stronger than any influence from outside. You will never make him change his mind. You can direct him only if he wants it. Man perceives something only when he feels he can fill his desire.

יא) ובהמתבאר לפנינו מובן היטב כי כל אלו העליות וירידות והצמצומים, והמספר, אינם נבחנים אלא בבחינת הכלים של המקבלים, שהם הנשמות. אלא שיש להבחין בהם בחינת כח ובחינת פועל, בדומה לאדם הבונה בית שסוף מעשה במחשבתו תחילה, אמנם תכונת הבית שיש לו במחשבה אין לו שום דמיון להבית הצריך לצאת בפועל, כי בעוד הבית במחשבה הוא רוחניות מבחינת חומר מחשבתי, ונחשבת לבחינת החומר של האדם החושב, כי אז נמצא הבית רק בבחינת "כח", משא"כ בעת שמלאכת הבית מתחילה לצאת בפועל כבר מקבלת חומר אחר לגמרי דהיינו חומר של עצים ואבנים. כן יש להבחין בבחינת הנשמות כח ופועל, אשר בחינת התחלת יציאתם מכלל מאציל לבחינת נשמות "בפועל" מתחיל רק בעולם הבריאה, וענין התכללותם בא"ס ב"ה מטרם הצמצום בבחינת מחשבת הבריאה, כנ"ל באות ב', הנה זה אמור רק בבחי' "הכח" בלי שום הכר ממשי כלל וכלל. ומבחינה זו נאמר שכל הנשמות היו כלולים במלכות דא"ס המכונה נקודה האמצעית, כי נקודה זו כלולה ב"כח" מכל הכלים של הנשמות העתידיים לצאת ב"פועל" מעולם הבריאה ולמטה. וענין הצמצום א' לא נעשה רק בנקודה האמצעית הזו, והיינו רק בדיוק באותו הבחינה והשיעור שהיא נחשבת לבחינת "כח" לנשמות העתידיים, ולא כלום בעצמותה. ותדע כי כל הכלים של הספירות והעולמות עד לעולם הבריאה המשתלשלים ויוצאים מנקודה זו או בסבת הזווג דהכאה שלה הנק' אר"ח המה ג"כ בבחינת כח לבד בלי שום מהות של הנשמות, אלא שהשינויים הללו עתידיים לפעול אח"כ על הנשמות שמהותם מתחיל לצאת מעולם הבריאה ולמטה כי שם עדיין לא יצאו ממהות המאציל ית'.

11) *From the above statement, we can conclude that all these worlds, Partzufim and the processes taking place in them (ascents, descents, restrictions etc.), are all man's inner vessels of reception, the properties of his soul.*

That is to say, everything about which one reads in Kabbalah transpires inside of man's soul, and has two aspects: what happens in thought and what happens in action. It is similar to a situation in which a man builds a house: the end of his action is already integrated into his original plan.

The image of a house, the very notion "house" in man's thoughts, is different from the real house, because the structure existing only as a plan is made of the material of his ideas. As the process of build-

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ing begins, the plan acquires other qualities, different properties that gradually materialize, and turn into a structure made of wood and stone, etc.

The thought materializes more and more until it comes to its final form, expressed in the materialized idea – a house. Also with regard to the souls, one should differentiate between the two parts: the plan and the action. The state of souls in the world of Infinity, i.e., when they were united with the Creator, before all restrictions, one with the Thought of Creation, is called “the souls in the Thought of Creation”.

In the Thought of Creation, these souls are in the Creator without any distinction between them. This state is called Ein Sof – the world of Infinity. A similar state continues in the worlds of Adam Kadmon and Atzilut. The state, wherein souls receive, and are separated from the Creator, is called “the souls in the act of creation”. This separation takes place on the level of the world of Beria.

The world of *Beria* (the word “*Beria*” derives from the same root as the word “*bar*” which means “out of”, “except for”) is the first one below the world of *Atzilut*, under the *Parsa*. Starting from the world of *Beria*, there is a transition of the souls into the state of “action”.

The world of *Beria* is the first world, where the souls, as it were, fall out of the Creator’s plan and become more materialized, “independently” existing. All the thoughts and desires in our world and in the spiritual ones descend to us from above. What one should do with these thoughts and desires in our world and in the spiritual ones is the subject of our studies.

Nothing that is inside or outside you is created by you. You react to any outside irritation according to your animal nature. Any reaction of this kind can be calculated in advance and your actions can be predicted in any given situation. So where is even the slightest freedom of choice or freedom of will here? Freedom of will is only in the effort to understand how the Creator would act in my place and react similarly.

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Somehow or other, the entire world obeys the Creator’s will; not even an atom can move against it. The difference lies in the fact that a Kabbalist consciously tries to correlate his actions with those of the Creator. With all his desires, he wants to follow the stream that the Creator set in motion for the entire Universe. Thus, he enters the most comfortable state of absolute “relaxation” (freedom and eternal peace).

Time stops, everything disappears except for the sensation of infinity, because there are no disturbances, no contradiction between you, the entire Universe and the Creator. It is said that every soul is included in *Malchut* of the world of Infinity, called “the central point”, for this point is the Thought, and all the vessels come out of it, all the properties of the soul in action. This action begins in the world of *Beria* and continues into the worlds of *Yetzira* and *Assiya*.

Everything found in the worlds of Infinity, *Adam Kadmon* and *Atzilut*, still belongs to the Creator’s Thought. We know it from the emanation of the four phases of Direct Light. The light coming out of the Creator is called “*Behina Shoresh*”. Then the light completes the creation of the *Kli*, but it has no independent sensations. This phase is called “*Behina Aleph*”.

In phase *Shoresh*, the light came out of the Creator; in the phase, *Aleph*, the *Kli* came out of the Creator. Both of these phases are still under the Creator’s complete power, totally in His Thought; they are not yet separated from Him. The world of *Adam Kadmon* corresponds to phase *Shoresh*; the world of *Atzilut* corresponds to phase *Aleph* (*Galgalta* is *Shoresh le Ohrot*, *AB* is *Shoresh le Kelim*).

Tzimtzum Aleph (the First Restriction) was performed on that central point, i.e., on its property, to the extent that it is a Thought as regards the future souls. Regarding the Creator, there is no restriction in this point, only concerning the souls coming out of this central point.

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You must know that all these vessels, Sefirot, and worlds down to the world of Beria, which descend from this central point in consequence of the Zivug de Haka'a, are called "Ohr Hozer" (the Reflected Light). They are all considered as "The Thought of Creation", without being distinguished as independent souls. However, these transformations are already included in the plan, then realized in action, in the process of the souls' descent from the world of Beria. Before the world of Beria, they are still inseparably connected to the Creator's properties.

The introductions to the Kabbalistic books are very complicated; their purpose is to dispose the man who studies Kabbalah correctly, to channel his inner efforts in the right direction. If one deviates from this course, he is unable to understand a Kabbalistic book.

Man's task is to realize what happens to him, and how the Creator works with him from above, so that he will completely agree with the Creator's actions. The righteous person is the one who justifies the Creator's actions. When man gives completely and enjoys, he lets in the Upper Light through himself, which then returns to its Source; it is the Reflected Light (*Ohr Hozer*), which comes from above as Direct Light (*Ohr Yashar*) and is reflected, completely filling the entire vessel. *Ohr Yashar* dresses onto *Ohr Hozer* and man becomes a single whole with the Creator.

Man approaches the Universe in essentially two ways: (i) called "*Da'at Ba'alabaitim*" - petty owners' opinion, i.e., the opinion of egoistic masses. (ii) - "*Da'at Torah*". The word "Torah" derives from the word light (*Ohr, Ohra'a* - the way to the Creator). These two approaches are absolutely contrary to each other.

The problem is that while we are still in the bounds of our world and have not yet acquired the spiritual properties, we cannot understand that those two approaches to the Universe are opposite to each other. It happens because as man acquires the spiritual properties, time and space merge into one point for him and all movement stops.

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This is when he begins to see everything as absolutely static, nothing happens around him, but everything takes place inside him. According to his inner spiritual state, his spiritual qualities, and properties, man begins to see a totally different world around him.

Every time these qualities are transformed in him, he sees a completely different picture. Then he discovers that the entire picture around him is in fact absolutely static, and it changes only inside him, according to the transformation of his properties, the organs of receiving “external” information (external – illusory, in fact only man is changing).

In fact, there is static, amorphous, homogeneous spiritual light around us, which is called “The Creator”. Similarly, with our five senses, we also have five spiritual ones: spiritual eyes (sight), ears (hearing), nose (smell), mouth (taste), and hands (touch). Depending on their qualities, carrying capacity and sensitivity, we will constantly receive different impressions from this homogeneous spiritual light. The most primitive impression is the one we receive today.

The homogeneous spiritual light is perceived in our senses; it forms a cumulative picture of the Universe in our consciousness, which we call “our world”, “this world”. If our senses change a little bit, i.e., become less opposite to this light, come closer to it in their properties and receive altruistic properties, then they will begin to perceive it more correctly, more as it actually is.

Such complex sensations of oneself through one’s own five senses will give him a picture, which is called the world of *Assiya*. The world of *Assiya* is no more than the measure of sensation of one’s correction or difference from the light, from the Creator. Therefore, it is said that all worlds are inside man.

If we develop our senses even more, by changing our egoism into spiritual altruism, we will receive an even more correct picture of the light, called the world of *Yetzira* and so on. On the highest level, when we completely correct ourselves, we will perceive an undistorted picture

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of the Upper Light, i.e., the homogeneous light will fill us, enter through our five senses, and then we will feel the Creator Himself in all His true properties, thoughts, and desires as regards us.

Man must reach this state of complete merging with the Creator while still being in our world. Man's attitude to everything around him, as well as his reactions, are dictated by the level he is on, i.e., everything is determined by his present, partially corrected and uncorrected properties.

You cannot change your attitude about what is going on, nor react differently to it until you change yourself. Then your inner, improved, new properties will naturally earn you a different and better attitude.

When man begins to study Kabbalah, it seems to him that he will be able to progress with the help of his reasoning mind, analyzing, researching, and making conclusions. One writes a summary, another is tape-recording the lessons - it is natural, because the mind is our tool of perception and analysis of the world. However, this is true only in the bounds of our world.

In fact, spiritual comprehension occurs differently. When man makes an effort, although his intentions are absolutely egoistical, he attracts upon himself an increased emanation of the Surrounding Light (*Ohr Makif*). This surrounding emanation is already directed at a certain person, and not at the masses.

A person who studies according to the Kabbalistic method, attracts to himself a personal emanation of the Surrounding Light. This light begins to push man forward to spirituality; it “pulls” him up. This is a totally different way: not with the help of one's mind; it actually deprives man of his earthly mind: little by little he is sent circumstances with which he is bound to struggle. The light forces him to act; it “throws” him from side to side, from one circumstance into another, to arouse new sensations in him, to prepare him to feel spirituality.

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The emanation of the Surrounding Light intensifies and we begin to feel worse. Why? We feel that, there is something on the outside, stronger, and better, that cannot enter us. Thus, we experience periods of depression. In fact, this means that the actual reason for our depressions is that we receive from above a more powerful emanation.

Man can in no way predict the next level in his spiritual development by his own mind. A possibility to somehow consciously control one's spiritual states (actually, they are not spiritual yet) disappears. Indeed, it is done to bring man to part with his earthly mind, to let him acquire a mind of a different sort: faith above reason. It is called “enter *Ibur*” (enter into the state of an embryo) inside a higher spiritual *Partzuf*.

It can only be done when man completely shuts off his intellectual, analytical properties belonging to this world. He totally surrenders to the higher force and wants to be completely included in it. The masses shun this approach. In Kabbalah, when man progresses by faith above reason, he first controls what is going on with him and then consciously switches off his mind.

The masses exist in faith below reason. The Zohar calls them “*Domem de Kedusha*”. “*Domem*” means 'still', 'lifeless', “*Kedusha*” means 'holy', i.e., “the holy still level”. What does this mean? There are five levels in the Universe:

- still
- vegetative
- animal
- human
- and one more, the highest level - **Divine**.

These are the five levels of nature. In the spiritual world, according to this division, there are also five levels of development of man's inner properties.

What is the meaning of the lowest “spiritually still” level? One is in the same static, “motionless” state, one similar to the 'still life' in nature,

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perhaps even a stone. This is because you were created so, and were told how everything should be done.

One makes everything on a “still” level, without an attitude of one’s own, without a personal spiritual intention, one just carries out certain spiritual actions that correspond to the spiritual laws, but performs them “mechanically”, without involving one’s personal “self”.

In the spiritual world, interaction between the human soul and the Creator takes place. The general interaction between man and the Creator is divided into 620 different actions, called commandments, 620 laws, spiritual actions that man carries out when he passes all levels, beginning from our world and up to the level of completely merging with the Creator.

There are 620 levels separating us from the Creator, each of which is overcome by the fulfillment of a certain spiritual action, which is called a commandment (a law or condition).

This spiritual action is fulfilled only by man’s intention, or rather by changing his intention from “for himself” to “for the sake of the Creator”. The size of the altruistic intention with which man performs the action is determined by the spiritual level he has reached.

If we carry out all 620 spiritual actions, in only mechanical way, without correcting the intention, as do the masses, we attract a Surrounding Light that maintains these masses in the way that it preserves 'still nature' in a certain form. This light inspires them to continue to do what they were taught, but does not move them forward, does not turn them from the spiritually 'still nature' into the 'vegetative' one.

To pass from the spiritually 'still nature' into the spiritually 'vegetative', one must have the special method that we study here. The moment man passes this threshold and becomes spiritually 'vegetative'; he has already entered the spiritual world. Then later, when he first develops his vegetative nature, that is, if he performs certain spiritual actions, constantly corrects his intentions, and thus carries out, perhaps, 100 precepts, this refers to the vegetative spiritual layer. Next, if he performs 100-

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150 precepts, this refers to the animal spiritual layer. After performing 200-300 precepts, this refers to the human spiritual layer. The remaining precepts belong to the Divine layer, *Keter*. I offer this idea as an illustration, not as a specific example.

All spiritual levels, from zero to 620, are based on the principle that man changes himself internally, constantly improving, becoming more and more similar to the Creator, until there is no difference between them.

However, on our present lowest level, we can observe the commandments only mechanically. Mechanical action will never let us pass from the 'spiritually still' level to the 'vegetative' one. Only with the help of Kabbalah, one can break through it. This method attracts onto us the special Surrounding Light and pulls us out of this world, transforming “a stone” into “a plant”.

Man is born as any other animal in this world, and there is nothing spiritual in him. The only thing you can say about man, with all the “intricacies” one can acquire from all kinds of oriental teachings, is that all this belongs to the inner “mental” (let us just put it this way) level of an animal called “man of our world”. These various 'wisdoms' speak about forces that accompany our physical body.

Auras, Chakras etc. all exist, but they are biological, bio-energy structures of the human body. Animals possess them too; as a rule, they are even more sensitive to bio- and psycho- fields than man is. Anyone can develop these abilities.

All this refers to the physical body, but science has not pursued this research. Nowadays it has started developing more, and many things are not clear yet, but in principle, all this is subject to tests and research on an absolutely scientific basis, involving no spiritual corrections of man himself. Of course, man morally influences these fields, but still remains an egoist, or rather an egoistic altruist (gives for his own sake).

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Thus, man is born with all these mental dispositions, which he can develop. There is only one more peculiarity: apart from egoistic desires, man can be given only one more desire, which is non-existent in our world. This is a desire to give, which is a spiritual desire. It is called “*Nekuda she baLev*” (a point in the heart).

Later we will examine how it is inserted into a human heart. In fact, it is inserted into man’s egoistic “self”, i.e., our entire organism is built on our egoistic “self”. All of a sudden, a point, an embryo of the spiritual, altruistic “self”, enters egoism. In principle, this point has nothing to do with man, because he is a totally egoistic creature.

Biologically, man is very similar to animals. He differs from them only by this “black point”. Why is it called “black”? Is it not spiritual? It is because it is not yet filled with the light. With the help of Kabbalah, when the individual Surrounding Light begins to shine, it illuminates this “black point”, and thus it begins to feel tension, disparity between itself and the light.

Continuing to study, man gradually begins to develop this point; it expands, until ten *Sefirot* are formed in it. As soon as there are the first ten *Sefirot* in the “black point”, they are included in the structure of the higher spiritual *Partzuf*; this is then called “*Ibur*” (conception). This point is an embryo of the soul. The first 10 *Sefirot* acquired by man are called the soul, the vessel of the soul. The light that fills them is called “the light of the soul”.

Man should develop this point up to a degree where it will enable him to turn all his egoistic properties into altruistic ones. A “black point” begins “to swell” as man adds egoism to it and turns it into altruism. This point is *Sefira Keter*. Out of it, with the help of additional egoism, 10 *Sefirot* begin to develop. The more egoism man adds to it, the bigger spiritual *Kli*, called “soul”, he receives.

However, if this does not happen, then as man was born an animal, so he will die. On the other hand, if he has developed his spiritual

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Kli even a little bit, albeit he has not reached the spiritual world, and if he has been influenced by the spiritual light, it remains in him forever. Because this newly formed quality does not refer to the body, does not die with it, it refers to the “black point”, which is spiritual, i.e., eternal. Therefore this work, this effort is not lost.

How can one make at least 10 of the smallest *Sefirot* out of this point? Let us assume that we take one gram of our egoism and provide it with a screen. Egoism plus the screen combined with this point gives us the smallest spiritual *Kli*. There is no need for a screen as far as the “black point” is concerned, because man receives it from above.

Now let us come back to the question of free will. In the Baal HaSulam’s book, “*Pri Hacham. Igrot*”, it is written, “As I have already said on behalf of the Baal Shem Tov, before one performs any spiritual action (a commandment is meant), there is no need to think about the Creator’s personal Providence, but on the contrary, man must say: ‘If I don’t help myself, then who will?’”

However, after he completes this action with the absolute confidence that everything depends only on him and the Creator does not exist at all, he has to collect his thoughts and believe that he has performed this spiritual action not by his own efforts, but only thanks to the Creator’s presence, because such was His initial intention.

One should also act similarly in everyday, regular proceedings, because the spiritual and the earthly are alike. So before man leaves home to earn what he has to earn during the day, he must completely switch off the thought of the Creator’s personal Providence saying: “If I don’t help myself, then who will?”, and do exactly what the rest of the people who earn their living do in the world.

But in the evening, when he comes back home with what he has earned, he should by no means think he has earned it by his own efforts, but believe that if he had not left home at all, he would have got the

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same. Since it was planned by the Creator in advance how much he had to earn during that day, in the evening he had to receive it anyway.

In spite of the fact that in our mind, these two approaches to the same action contradict each other, and neither our mind nor our heart perceives them, man must believe it anyway. It seems contradictory to us, because our properties are contrary to the Creator's, and have not entered the spiritual space yet, where all opposites unite in a single whole and all contradictions disappear, “drown” in the Unity.

There is the Divine Providence called *HaVaYaH* - which means that the Creator controls everything and man can in no way take part in this control, and that all his thoughts, desires, actions, etc., are given to him from outside. Then there is the Divine Providence called “*Elokim*” with *Gematria* (numerical value of Hebrew letters and words) equal to “*Teva*” (nature). This is Providence through nature, when man, regardless of the Creator's absolute control, acts according to his nature.

If man tries to combine these two kinds of Providence inside him (although they do not match in his mind, nor in his heart, he actually goes above his mind), these attempts finally lead to their union, and he sees there is no contradiction. However, until we reach such unity, we will ask the same question all the time: who has done this - the Creator or I? Moreover, there is no getting away from these questions until we come to the level where *HaVaYaH* - *Elokim* concur; then we may understand.

We speak here about man's attitude to action. Before acting, man consciously decides to be under the control of *Elokim*; it gives him an opportunity to analyze his actions and his attitude toward them. Thus, he juxtaposes these two systems and brings his “self” to the likeness with the Creator, constantly remembering their existence.

If man forgets or does not know about the existence of the two systems, he is influenced only by nature (*Elokim*), not by the Creator's personal Providence (*HaVaYaH*). Without juxtaposing these two systems, accepting only one of them (either He controls everything or I do), it

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turns out that either the Creator or man does not exist. Man's advancement to the Creator is only possible when he can forcefully combine these two providential systems in himself before each action.

וב) ואמשול לך מהויות דעולם הזה, למשל האדם המתכסה ומעלים את עצמו במיני כיסויים ולבושים שלא יראנו חברו ולא ירגישו, הכי יעלה על הדעת שהוא עצמו יש לו איזה התפעלות משהו של העלמה וכדומה מחמת ריבוי הכסויים שמתכסה, כן למשל הע"ס שאנו קוראים בשמות כתר חכמה בינה חסד גבורה ת"ת נצח הוד יסוד מלכות, הם רק עשר כסויים שא"ס מתכסה ומתעלם בהם, אשר הנשמות העתידיים לקבל ממנו יהיו מחויבים לקבל באותם השיעורים והע"ס מודדים להם, ונמצאים המקבלים מתפעלים על ידי המספר הזה שבע"ס, ולא כלל אורו ית' שהוא אחד יחיד בלי שינוי, משא"כ המקבלים נחלקים לעשר מדרגות ממש לפי תכונת השמות הללו. ולא עוד אלא אפילו אלו בחינות הכיסויים שאמרנו אינם בערך האמור רק מעולם הבריאה ולמטה, כי רק שם כבר נמצאות הנשמות המקבלות מהעשר ספירות ההם, משא"כ בעולמות א"ק ואצילות עוד אין שום מציאות אפילו להנשמות כי שם הם רק בבחינת הכח. ולפיכך ענין העשר כיסויים האמורים בע"ס הם שולטים רק בג' עולמות התחתונים הנק' בריאה יצירה עשיה. אמנם גם בהעולמות ב"ע נבחינים העשר ספירות לאלקיות עד סוף עשיה, ממש כמו בא"ק ואב"ע וכמו מטרם הצמצום, רק ההפרש הוא בהכלים של הע"ס, אשר בא"ק ואצילות אין להם עוד אפילו בחינת גילוי של שליטה, להיותם שם רק בבחי' "כח" כנ"ל, ורק בב"ע מתחילים הכלים של הע"ס לגלות כח ההעלמה והכיסוי שבהם. אמנם באור שבע"ס אין שום שינוי של משהו מחמת הכסויים הללו כנ"ל במשל וז"ס אני הו"ה לא שניתי וכו'.

12) I will give you an example from our world. Let us assume that a man is hiding from strangers, so that no one can see or feel him, but he is not able to hide from himself. It is likewise with the 10 Sefirot that we call Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod, and Malchut. They are just 10 curtains behind which the world of Infinity is concealed. The souls will have to receive whatever light the 10 Sefirot transfer to them from the Infinity in the future.

Note well, there are Infinity, the 10 hidden screens and the Souls.

If a soul is behind all 10 "covers", it does not feel the world of Infinity at all. As the soul "takes off" these "covers", it approaches the world of Infinity and begins to feel it more and more.

The measures of sensation of the world of Infinity are called the worlds: Adam Kadmon, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, Assiya, or levels of the spiri-

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tual ladder, 620 levels, 125 levels, 10 levels, *Sefirot*. It does not matter how one calls them; the path and the distance are the same.

Souls acquire the properties of the light depending on how much of it and from which level of the 10 *Sefirot* they receive, behind whatever “cover” they happen to be. The light inside the 10 *Sefirot* is absolutely homogeneous and static on all levels of all the worlds, whereas the receiving souls are divided into 10 levels, corresponding to the properties of the names of these levels.

This means that the Creator is indivisible and unchanging in Infinity. Being on one of the levels, the soul receives through the screens-concealments of the Creator and, naturally, it already receives the distorted light.

Each of these names - *Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod* and *Malchut* - means a certain property, concealing and at the same time revealing. On the one hand, each name speaks of how much it conceals the Creator, on the other hand, it speaks of how much I reveal the Creator if I ascend to that level. These are two contrary directions - the measure of concealment and the measure of revelation.

All of these concealing screens about which we now speak act only in the world of Beria and below, for the souls receiving this light are only in these three worlds Beria, Yetzira and Assiya.

What does this mean? The souls can even be higher than the worlds of *Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya*, but only as they ascend with these worlds. In other words, the souls are always in these three worlds. The notion “ascent of the worlds” means that, if man leaves this world, he can be in the world of *Assiya*, then in the world of *Yetzira*, then in the world of *Beria*, but he cannot ascend above the world of *Beria*. If he ascends, he does it only inside these worlds. Through his efforts, he makes these worlds ascend with him. These worlds are his cover. With these worlds he ascends to *Atzilut*, and then to the world of Infinity.

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In the worlds Adam Kadmon and Atzilut, the souls exist only in Thought, being inseparable from the Creator. Hence, these 10 "covers" act only in the 10 Sefirot in the worlds Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. Nevertheless, even in these worlds the 10 "covers" are considered absolutely divine, down to the very end of the world of Assiya.

There is no distinction between the Sefirot and the Creator, exactly as before all restrictions. The difference is only in the Kelim that the 10 Sefirot consist of, since in the worlds Adam Kadmon and Atzilut, the power of the 10 Sefirot has not yet manifested sufficiently, for these 10 Sefirot are only in a Thought. Their Kelim begin to express their concealing power only in the worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya.

However, due to "the covers", the light in these 10 Sefirot remains unchanged, as stated: "I never change, - the Creator says about Himself, - I am omnipresent and "change" only in man's eyes, depending only on his ability to feel Me and the degree of correction of his properties, his eyes".

ג) ואין לשאול, כיון שבא"ק ואצילות אין עוד שם שום גילוי למהות הנשמות המקבלים, א"כ מה משמשים הכלים ההם הנק' ע"ס ולמי המה מעלימים ומכסים בשיעוריהם הללו. ויש בזה ב' תשובות: הא', שכן דרך ההשתלשלות כמו שתמצא בפנים הספר. והב' הוא כי גם הנשמות עתידים לקבל מהע"ס ההם שבא"ק ואצילות, דהיינו בדרך עליות הג' העולמות ב"ע אליהם, כמ"ש להלן באות קסג, ולפיכך יש להבחין גם בא"ק ואצילות אלו השינויים שבע"ס, כפי מה שהם עתידים להאיר להנשמות בשעה שהם יעלו שמה עם העולמות ב"ע, כי אז יקבלו לפי המדרגה שבע"ס ההם.

13) Questions may arise: if there is no manifestation of the souls receiving the light in the worlds Adam Kadmon and Atzilut, then why are the 10 Sefirot there, the 10 Kelim? What are the worlds Adam Kadmon and Atzilut for, if there are no souls there? If these worlds do not conceal or hamper anything, then what is their role? Also, if they hamper the light by various measures, then who is it for? There are two answers:

- a) All the worlds and the Sefirot must develop this way.
- b) In the future, souls must receive from the 10 Sefirot in the worlds

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Adam Kadmon and Atzilut, due to the ascent of the worlds Beria, Yetzira and Assiya to Atzilut, and then to Adam Kadmon. Hence, there must be steps, places prepared in advance in these worlds, so that the worlds Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya could ascend there, enter them, and receive a greater revelation of the Creator.

Otherwise, a soul cannot ascend; it can do so only with the worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya, because this is the way the souls will have to ascend there, and these worlds will shine upon the souls at the time. Then each of them will receive its level out of these 10 Sefirot.

(ד) הרי נתבאר היטב, שענין העולמות ובחינת החידוש והשינויים ומספר מדרגות וכדומה, כל זה לא נאמר אלא בבחינת הכלים המשפיעים להנשמות ומעלימים ומודדים להם שיכלו לקבל מאור א"ס ב"ה שבהם בדרך המדרגה, והם אינם עושים שום התפעלות של משהו באור א"ס ב"ה עצמו, כי אין כיסוים פועלים על המתכסה רק על השני הרוצה להרגיש אותו ולקבל ממנו כנ"ל במשל.

14) Thus, we see that Kabbalah speaks about all the worlds and levels, about everything but the Creator. It refers to the Kelim, the vessels that measure off the states of concealments for the souls, so that afterwards they will be able to receive the light from the world of Infinity according to their levels. All these concealing curtains affect only those who are supposed to receive the light and not the One, who like the Source, hides behind them, i.e., they do not influence the Creator.

The worlds are levels like lifeless filters in our world; they hamper the light, but contrary to the live souls, they cannot consciously take part in the process of communication with the Creator. The Sefira (screen, world) by itself is a lifeless device for concealing the spiritual light from the souls. What kind of a device is that? We have already spoken about it - this device inside us is our egoism.

(טו) ובדרך כלל, יש להבחין בהספירות ובפרצופין, בכל מקום שהם, את ג' בחינות הללו: עצמותו ית', כלים ואורות. אשר בעצמותו ית' לית מחשבה תפיסא בו כלל, ובכלים יש תמיד ב' הבחנות הפכים זה לזה, שהם העלמה וגילוי, כי ענין הכלי מתחילתו הוא מעלים על עצמותו ית', באופן שאלו העשרה כלים שבע"ס הם עשר מדרגות של העלמות. אמנם אחר שהנשמות מקבלים להכלים הללו בכל התנאים שבהם הנה אז נעשים אלו ההעלמות לבחי'

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של גילויים להשגות הנשמות. הרי שהכלים כוללים ב' הבחנות הפכיות זו לזו שהם אחת, כי מדת הגילוי שבכלי הוא ממש כפי מדת ההעלמה שבהכלי וכל שהכלי יותר עב, דהיינו שהוא יותר מעלים על עצמותו ית' הוא מגלה קומה יותר גדולה הרי שב' הפכים הללו הם אחת. וענין האורות שבהספירות פירושן, אותו שיעור קומה הראוי להתגלות להשגת הנשמות. כי מתוך שהכל נמשך מעצמותו ית' ועם זה אין השגה בו רק בתכונתם של הכלים כנ"ל, ע"כ יש בהכרח עשרה אורות בעשרה כלים הללו, דהיינו עשר מדרגות של גילויים אל המקבלים בתכונת אותם הכלים. באופן שאין להבדיל בין אורו ית' לעצמותו ית' רק בזה, אשר בעצמותו ית' לית השגה תפיסא ביה כלל זולת המגיע אלינו ממנו ית' דרך התלבשותו בהכלים של הע"ס, ומבחינה זו כל הבא בהשגה אנו מכנים בשם אורות.

15) Hence, we may divide these Sefirot and Partzufim into three parts: the Creator's Essence, the vessels, and the light. We have no way of understanding or feeling the Creator Himself, neither in our sensations, nor in our mind.

There are always two opposite properties in the vessels, "concealment" and "revelation", because the vessel first conceals the Creator, so that these 10 vessels, called the 10 Sefirot, represent the levels of concealment. However, after the souls are corrected, according to the spiritual conditions dictated by the 10 Sefirot, these levels of concealment turn into the levels of revelation, attainment of the Creator.

Thus, it turns out that the vessels consist of two properties contrary to one another, and the degree of revelation inside the vessel (man, the soul) is the same as the degree of concealment. The rougher the vessel (the soul), i.e., the more it conceals the Creator and the more egoistic it becomes in the process of correction, the more powerful the light that is revealed in it at the end of correction. Thus, these two opposite properties are in fact just a single one.

The light inside the Sefirot is a measure of the Creator's light received by the souls according to their corrected properties. Everything comes out of the Creator: both the vessels and the light that fills them. Therefore, there are always 10 lights inside the 10 vessels, i.e., 10 levels of revelation according to the properties of the vessels.

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We cannot distinguish between the Creator and His light. Outside of the vessel, He is imperceptible, impossible to grasp. We can attain only what enters our Kelim, our corrected properties. We comprehend only what comes from Him, what dresses onto our vessels, i.e., our properties consisting of the 10 Sefirot. Hence, whatever we perceive in the Creator we call the light, although it is a subjective sensation inside the corrected properties of our souls.

The vessel feels that it exists independently, but this is an illusion. What can we understand about the Creator? We reveal our own corrected properties. According to what we call them, kindness, mercy, etc., we attribute these properties to the Creator. The purpose of creation, the degree of our unity with the Creator, lies in an absolute likeness to Him, in revealing all His greatness, eternity and perfection.

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FOREWORD

The article “The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah” was written by the Baal HaSulam as one of the forewords to “The Book of Zohar”. Overall, the Baal HaSulam wrote three forewords to the book of the Zohar: “The Foreword to the Book of Zohar”, “Preface to the Book of Zohar” and “The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah”.

For an understanding of “The Book of Zohar”, we should know the entire structure of creation; how all the worlds are built, the laws of their functioning, how they influence the souls, and vice versa, how the souls affect the worlds, how the Creator governs the entire Universe, and how created beings influence His Providence.

The purpose of studying Kabbalah is to feel the spiritual worlds and the scope of the Universe in their full measure; to experience sensations beyond the power of birth and death; to transcend time; to reach in one of the incarnations a state such that man can live in all the worlds at the same time, completely merged with the Supreme force; to fully comprehend the Creator, - i.e., to attain the purpose of man’s existence in this world; and all while still living in this world.

Kabbalah studies provide man with the answers to all of his questions. He studies all cause-and-effect connections in this world; he studies the Upper world from which everything descends to ours. The revelation of the Upper worlds happens constantly, gradually, and inside of man. Man creates within himself additional senses, more sensitive than his regular ones, which allow him to feel the additional forces of the Universe, the part of it that is concealed from the common person.

Kabbalah is called a secret wisdom, because only he who comprehends, who feels the real picture of the Universe, it is only for him that this science becomes obvious. Because it educates man quite differently, Kabbalah has always been distinguished from common religion. It develops in him a sense of criticism, analysis, clear intuitive and conscious

research of himself and of his surroundings. Without these qualities, man can research neither this world, nor the Upper one.

One can see how far apart Kabbalah stands from common religion by the fact that the greatest experts on religious laws and commandments in our world – many Rabbis and leaders of the religious masses, neither study nor know about Kabbalah. This ignorance in no way prevents them from physically observing the commandments or leading a religious life. It relates to the fact that Kabbalah speaks not about performing something in action, but about the way to create the right intention “for the sake of the Creator”, which has nothing to do with common religion.

Kabbalistic education is entirely individual and completely contradicts the education of the masses. A Kabbalist must be given the freedom of self-knowledge, the tools, the means with the help of which he can constantly develop. In no way should his inner development be limited. If man is given all kinds of instructions, he ceases to be free, for someone else’s model is imposed on his “self”. The Torah says “The knowledge (opinion) of the Torah is contrary to the knowledge (opinion) of the egoistic masses”. Hence, Kabbalists represent an entirely separate and autonomous group, though they were formally associated with the religious community.

During recent years, the general attitude toward Kabbalists has drastically changed. If during the previous centuries their books were burned and they were persecuted by the religious masses, today the situation is different, and the religious world treats genuine Kabbalists with much more tolerance. There are spiritual reasons for that, since all that happens in our world is a consequence of the spiritual phenomena in the Upper worlds.

We are at the end of the period of human development, on the eve of the whole of humanity's entering the spiritual world. There have never been so great a number of people taking an interest in Kabbalah. Today, Kabbalah studies are considered honorable and prestigious. All this shows that great changes have been sent from above.

Just 200 years ago, during the period of the so-called Enlightenment (*Haskala*), there was a retreat from traditional religion. It was sent from above so that the same souls might later return to the Torah by themselves; not only to its general open part, but also to Kabbalah.

Each generation consists of souls from previous generations dressed in new bodies. These souls descend into our world, accumulating experience with each reincarnation. In addition, with time external spiritual conditions also change.

400 years ago, a great Kabbalist known as the Ari founded the modern Kabbalah. His writings are destined for the souls that began to descend to this world from his time onward. Since that period, a qualitative change in the souls descending to our world began. There appears an obvious striving for spirituality among them. Hence, the ban on Kabbalah studies was rescinded. In the Ari's book “The Foreword to “The Gates of the Ascent”, he says that, from his time on, Kabbalah may be studied by anyone who has that desire.

Today, a mass dissemination of Kabbalah should begin all over the world. The world has come to the moment when all spiritual roots have already descended from above; everything described in the Torah has already happened in our world. There have already been exiles, destructions. The only thing that has not yet happened is the attainment of spirituality by the souls, the elevation of this world to the level of the spiritual one and merging of these two worlds. This process began in the twenties of the 20th century, and now it is gathering momentum like a snow-ball.

By using the internet (<http://www.kabbalah.info>), we can see how the interest in Kabbalah is rapidly growing among those who until recently had nothing to do with it. People already understand that Kabbalah is not a teaching about some astrological-spiritual force. They begin clearly to realize that Kabbalah provides an understanding of the entire Universe. What are the forces governing the world? They realize that only this knowledge will save humankind from imminent disaster.

People who cannot find satisfaction on this world's level come to Kabbalah, hoping to receive answers to their most vital questions. In the future, millions of people will study Kabbalah. Those who are studying today will teach it to the succeeding generations.

In the process of man's life, his intentions go through constant changes. They move from the animal-like desires to settle comfortably in this world, to benefit from everything, to the aspiration for knowledge, and then to spiritual elevation.

We are built that way. Gradually, by studying Kabbalah, man changes his desires of this world to the higher, spiritual ones, to discover the spiritual world and enter it.

Subsequently, man's properties become altruistic. An egoistic vessel is very small and cannot include every pleasure prepared for us by the Creator. Therefore, by changing egoistic properties into altruistic ones, we infinitely expand the capacity of our vessel to receive all the spiritual information into it, to achieve a state of eternity and perfection.

There is a mistaken opinion that the person who has comprehended the spiritual, especially who has already reached a certain spiritual level, should appear as if he soars in the sky, and is “not of this world”, as if there are no negative qualities in him.

Man ascends to the spiritual world internally to the extent of his “descent”, to the degree that he senses and understands his own egoism. Man ascends as his natural egoism is progressively revealed to him. By correcting it to a certain extent, man rises to a higher spiritual level, which corresponds to the measure of his correction.

The higher a person becomes, he will possess increasingly greater egoistic properties. However, they receive correction. My Rabbi was a great Kabbalist. At the same time, he was able to be irritated or feel joy much more than any common human being.

Egoism is the stuff we are made of. It was the only thing created by the Creator, and the entire Universe is made only of this egoistic mate-

rial. We cannot correct egoism itself; we can only modify the way we use it. By being corrected, man does not cut off his egoistic *Kli* from himself. He changes the intention for which he applies it.

A *Kli* with an altruistic intention is called spiritual. This *Kli* is a vessel of receiving pleasure and knowledge that changes, undergoes correction, and grows in size during the process of spiritual development.

A Kabbalist will not be recognized by his external appearances. All of them are energetic, purposeful people who neither give up this world, nor hide (except for special cases, when it is the Creator's direct command). Many temptations lie in wait for a Kabbalist as he advances spiritually; many unforeseen troubles suddenly come his way. It is only upon reaching a higher level that he sees why he had been given all of his hardships. Nothing is done in vain; everything is given only for further spiritual advancement; whatever is sent to man on a certain level must be accepted by faith above reason. Note this well.

A person who is ready to give up everything, who needs nothing, cannot move forward. While studying Kabbalah, man becomes more egoistic; all of his negative qualities become exposed. He seems rotten in his own eyes. This continues until he cannot bear his own properties anymore. Next, he is finally forced to cry out to the Creator for help. At this moment, he begs the Creator to rid him of his egoism and to replace it with altruism, for he clearly sees how much he loses because of his egoistic qualities.

On the other hand, the one who does not feel it cannot see these negative qualities in himself. He cannot even believe that man is even able to come to making such requests. Hence, there is no urging or coercion in Kabbalah, only the method leading a disciple to the realization of his negative egoistic qualities by way of feeling how contrary he is to eternity and perfection.

Only Kabbalah can lead man to transform his properties that they may come into agreement with the higher spiritual ones. There are two

parts to the Torah: the obvious, open part and the secret concealed one. The open part speaks about mechanically observing the commandments. It is called open because it is quite obvious how man fulfils it. This part of the Torah is studied and carried out by the masses.

Therefore, a restriction is imposed on this part, “nothing to add and nothing to reduce”.

For example, one must not add on more *Tzitzit* (frills on a ritual prayer shawl) to one’s clothes, or put one more *Mezuzah* (a box containing an excerpt from the Holy Scriptures secured on the door-post of a Jewish home), or check the fitness of food with microscope, where one is instructed to check it with his naked eye and so on. Quite often, those who do not understand the essence of the Torah and its purpose in this world, concentrate more on mechanical performance.

The second part of the Torah, the secret one, speaks about man’s intention (*Kavana*) in all his actions. Only this focused intention can change man’s action into its opposite, without suppression, by using his natural egoism. Since man’s intention is concealed from those around him, the part of the Torah that teaches the right intention is called the secret part, or Kabbalah. It instructs one how to receive everything prepared for him by the Creator.

This part of the Torah encourages a constant increase of intention, so that the bigger it is, the more man attains the spiritual world.

He feels the spiritual world to the extent of his intention, starting from the lowest level of the universe up to the complete intention on his entire true egoism – the highest level of the universe, a complete merging with the Creator.

During the past 6000 years, various types of souls have descended to our world, from the purest in the first generations of the world, to the most corrupt ones of our time. For the correction of the first souls, even the Torah was not necessary. The very fact of their existence, their animal suffering already meant their correction. The process of accumu-

lating suffering during the soul’s existence in a body of our world leads to the spiritual need (concealed from the soul) to enter the Upper world while still living in this one.

However, the first souls did not accumulate enough sufferings to feel the necessity to give up their own egoism. Their primitive, animal way of thinking (insufficient *Aviut*) could not generate in them the necessity of the spiritual elevation, did not push them towards the Creator.

All the private emotional experiences, sufferings and knowledge of the descending souls are accumulated in a common spiritual vessel, a general soul called “*Adam*”. After two thousand years of accumulating this common experience, humankind felt the necessity for a mechanical, unconscious fulfillment of the commandments, while the rules of the spiritual world, which have no bearing on our world, are in no any way related to it.

Consequently, to those who do not know their true spiritual origin, they seem so odd. At this period, the Torah was given to humankind, although only to a small group of people. In the next and the last two thousand-year period, a conscious desire for the spiritual and the necessity for self-correction begins to manifest. It becomes especially strong at the time of the great Kabbalist Ari and continues right up to our generation.

The ultimate state of the entire universe is the Final Correction (*Gmar Tikkun*), where the lowest point of creation achieves the same state as the highest. The Creator at one stroke created this state. We are all in it already. Then why are we given the instruction for its attainment? It concerns the fact that we cannot feel our true state with our present egoistic desires.

According to Kabbalah, if we do not evolve or correct our senses according to the instruction (“the Torah” derives from the word *Ohra’a*, instruction), we will be urged, compelled by force and suffering. The instruction is given for shortening the suffering period by increasing the

speed of this rite of passage, making suffering different in character and substituting suffering of hatred for suffering of love.

Why does the Creator need our suffering? He could have made the process of our spiritual growth painless. Of course, He could have. However, He wanted us to bear some kind of grievance against Him so that we might turn to Him for help, come into contact with Him, feel the necessity for Him. This connection with Him is the true purpose of the creation, while the correction is only a means to this end.

The arising of the need for the Creator’s help, with regard to connection with Him, is possible only when we feel a real hunger for spiritual delight. The sensation of the lack of perfection must precede the feeling of perfection. Everything in the creation is comprehended only from its opposite state. First, a desire is created; only then can one sense pleasure from its fulfillment by the thing desired. We cannot feel our final, perfect condition at this time without preceding sufferings from the absence of this perfection.

We all feel our present condition as imperfect due to the absence of corresponding corrected *Kelim* (desires). If we begin to correct them, then by each corrected *Kli* we will begin feeling part of a true perfect state. Moreover, once we correct all of our *Kelim*, we will feel complete perfection. In order to complete our correction, we must create in ourselves the possibility of feeling every nuance of perfection.

This comprehensive process takes 6000 years, i.e., 6000 levels of correction which are called the period of the existence of this world, in other words, the period of feeling our imperfection. We all exist in biological bodies in which “a biological computer is installed. Ours is more sophisticated than that of animal organisms because ours serves a larger egoism. This computer is our mind. It is no more than a mechanical calculator that allows us to choose the best, most comfortable state for any given moment.

This has nothing to do with spirituality. Spirituality begins when a “black point in the heart”, which is planted into man from above, begins striving after the Upper world. It should be developed to the state of a full spiritual desire -“the *Partzuf*”, in which later one receives spiritual information, spiritual sensations.

If there is no such point in a person, he may be a genius, but according to the spiritual criteria, he remains no more than a highly developed animal on the levels of the spiritual world.

We stated that Kabbalah deals with the most important question in man’s life. We exist in an absolutely incomprehensible world, which we investigate with the help of our five senses. Whatever penetrates us from outside through these senses is processed in our mind, which synthesizes and presents us this information as a picture of the world. Therefore, what seems to us to be the surrounding reality is no more than our unimproved senses’ interpretation of the outer light.

In fact, this is only a fragment of the universe. It means that what we perceive is a tiny part of what surrounds us. If we had different senses, we would perceive another fragment, i.e., we would sense this world differently. It would seem to us that the world around us has changed, while in fact all changes occur in us, in our perceptions, while the world would remain the same. This is because, outside of us, only the Creator’s simple, Upper Light exists.

We sense how our organism reacts to outside influences. Everything depends on the sensitivity of our organs. If they were more sensitive, we would feel how atoms strike our bodies. We would comprehend, feel, perceive not the objects themselves, but their interaction; not their essence, but their outer form and material. Similarly, no device invented by us can register an action in itself; only the reaction to it.

Anything we might like to know about our world, in order to understand the meaning of our existence in it, depends on the framework of our comprehension, on the kind of questions we ask. Our nature,

our innate qualities, dictates to us the level of our intellectual curiosity. The Creator, having programmed our properties, somehow dictates to us from inside what to take interest in, what to research, what to comprehend, what to discover. Ultimately though, the Creator leads us to revealing Himself.

The various sciences that deal with humans reveal only matters about man himself. All that is outside of man remains inaccessible. Therefore, the question about the meaning of our life cannot be solved with the help of science because the sciences do not discover anything outside of us, only what is in connection with us, with our senses, with our devices, with our reactions and those of our devices that communicate with the outer world.

The most global human questions, birth, the meaning of life and death, can be solved only by comprehending what is outside of us; not by discovering and researching our reactions to the outer world, but by objective knowledge concerning the outer world. This is exactly what is inaccessible to scientific research. Only when man enters the spiritual world, does he receive the gift of comprehending objective reality; how and what truly exists outside of him.

There is a method with whose help one can receive complete information about the entire universe; i.e., what exists beyond the bounds of human sensations and feelings, what is happening outside of oneself. This method is called Kabbalah. The one who masters it is called a Kabbalist.

This is a very special, ancient method. It was created by people who, while living in our world, managed to sense the spiritual worlds and pass their sensations on to us. The Kabbalistic method that they used throughout the centuries was described with more and more meticulousness, taking into consideration the properties of the generation for which it was meant. It went this way until its arrival in the form we are able to study today. This is the result of five thousand years of spiritual development.

“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

Each succeeding generation of Kabbalists, guided by previous experience, worked on developing a method of mastering the spiritual, outer world, suitable for their generation. The textbooks they used for studying Kabbalah 2-3 thousand years ago, or even 400-500 years ago, are of no good use to us. We can use them only in a very limited capacity. The last great Kabbalist who adapted Kabbalah for the use of our generation was Rabbi Yehuda Leib Alevi Ashlag (1885-1955). He wrote the commentary to The Book of the Zohar and to the books of the Ari. His 6-volume textbook, “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”, is the principal work on Kabbalah and is the only practical instruction for us to master spirituality.

To help the beginners studying this fundamental work, Rabbi Y. Ashlag wrote “The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah”, which is a concise summary of what is written in “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”. It provides an understanding of the structure of the universe, slightly lifting the veil for the attainment of this goal and explains the role of our world in grasping the entire universe.

THREE MAIN CONCEPTS IN KABBALAH ג' יסודות של חכמה

א) “רבי חנניא בן עקשיא אומר: רצה הקב”ה לזכות את ישראל, לפיכך הרבה להם תורה ומצות, שנאמר ה’ חפץ למען צדקו יגדיל תורה ויאדיר” (מכות כ”ג ע”ב). ונודע שזכות הוא מלשון הזדככות. והוא ע”ד שאמרו ז”ל “לא נתנו מצות אלא לצרף בהן את ישראל” (ב”ר רפמ”ד). ויש להבין ענין הזכות הזה, שאנו משיגים ע”י תורה ומצות. וכן מהי העביות שבנו, שאנו צריכים לזכותה ע”י התורה ומצות.

וכבר דברנו מזה בספרי “פנים מסבירות” ו”תלמוד עשר הספירות”. ונחזור כאן בקיצור, כי מחשבת הבריאה היתה כדי להנות לנבראים, כפי מתנת ידו הרחבה ית’ וית’. ומכאן הוטבע בהנשמות רצון וחשק גדול לקבל את שפעו ית’. כי הרצון לקבל הוא הכלי על מדת התענוג שבהשפע.

כי לפי מדת גדלו ותוקפו של הרצון לקבל את השפע, כן הוא מדת התענוג והחמדה שבשפע. לא פחות ולא יותר. והם מקושרים זה בזה, עד שאין לחלק ביניהם. זולת בהיחס, שהתענוג מיוחס להשפע, והרצון הגדול לקבל את השפע מיוחס לנברא המקבל. ובהכרח ב’ אלה נמשכים מהבורא ית’. ובאו בהכרח במחשבת הבריאה. אלא שיש לחלק בהם על דרך הנזכר, אשר השפע הוא מעצמותו ית’, כלומר שהוא נמשך יש מיש, והרצון לקבל הכלול שם, הוא השורש של הנבראים, כלומר הוא השורש של חידוש, שפירושו יציאת יש מאין. כי בעצמותו ית’ ודאי שאין שם בחינת הרצון לקבל ח”ו. וע”כ נבחן שהרצון לקבל האמור, הוא כל חומר של הבריאה, מראשה עד סופה. עד שכל מיני הבריות המרובות ומקריהן, שאין להן שיעור, ודרכי הנהגתן, שכבר נתגלו והעתידיים להתגלות, אינם רק שיעורים ושינוי ערכים של הרצון לקבל.

וכל מה שיש בהן באותן הבריות, דהיינו כל מה שמקובל ברצון לקבל המוטבע בהן, כל זה הוא נמשך מעצמותו ית’ יש מיש, ואינו כלום מבחינת הבריאה המיוחדת יש מאין, כי אינו מיוחד כלל. והוא נמשך מנצחיותו ית’ יש מיש.

1) Rabbi Hanania ben Akashia said, “The Creator wished to reward Israel, so He gave them the Torah and the Commandments...” In Hebrew “to award” (“Lizkot”) is similar to the word “to purify” (“Lezakot”). Midrash “Bereshit Rabbah” says, “The Commandments are given only to purify Israel with their help”. Here two questions arise:

- What is the privilege that the Creator awarded to Israel?
- What is this “impurity” and “coarseness” that is in us and from which we have to purify ourselves with the help of the Torah and the Commandments?

“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

These matters have been discussed in my books “Panim Meirot uMasbirot” and “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”. Let us review them briefly.

The Creator’s intention was to give pleasure to created beings. For this, He prepared an enormous desire in the souls to receive this pleasure contained in the Shefa (the abundance which the Creator wants to bestow upon us). The “desire to receive” is a vessel for the reception of the delight contained in the Shefa.

The greater the “desire to receive”, the more pleasure enters the vessel. These two notions interconnect in such a way that it is impossible to separate them.

It is only possible to point out that the pleasure refers to the Shefa (i.e., to the Creator) while the “desire to receive” refers to the Creation.

Both of these notions come directly from the Creator and are included in the Thought of Creation. While the abundance descends directly from the Creator, the “desire to receive” it, also included in the Shefa, is the root, the source of created beings.

The “desire to receive” is something essentially new, something that never existed before, because there is no trace of “desire to receive” in the Creator. It turns out that the “desire to receive” is the essence of the creation, from beginning to end, the only “material” the creation is made of. All of the various created beings are merely different “portions” of the “desire to receive”. Moreover, all events that happen to them are the changes that happen to this “desire to receive”.

Everything that fills the created beings and satisfies their “desire to receive” comes directly from the Creator. Therefore, everything that exists around us actually comes out of the Creator, either directly as abundance, or indirectly as, for example, the “desire to receive”, that does not exist in the Creator Himself, but was created by Him for delighting His creatures.

Since the Creator's desire was to bestow upon the created beings, He had to create someone capable of receiving his abundance. Consequently, He integrated into the Creation the desire to receive pleasure. Why? There is a rule: the Creator created everything that exists in our nature. The question “Why did we receive such nature?” refers to the state of being prior to the beginning of the Creation and is beyond our grasp. We are able only to attain that which refers to the Creation, but not before or after it. Therefore, our nature allows us to receive only the pleasure that is in equilibrium with our desire for it.

For example, if a man is hungry he enjoys the meal; whereas, if he is offered food while not being hungry, he derives no pleasure. Everything is a combination of a deficiency and the filling of it. The stronger the desire, the greater is the pleasure from filling it.

ב) וכפי האמור, כלול הרצון לקבל בהכרח תכף במחשבת הבריאה, בכל ריבוי ערכים שבו, ביחד עם השפע הגדול שחשב להנותם ולהעניקם. ותדע שז"ס אור וכלי, שאנו מבחינים בעולמות עליונים. כי הם באים בהכרח כרוכים יחד, ומשתלשלים יחד ממדרגה למדרגה.

ובשיעור שהמדרגות יורדות מאת אור פניו ומתרחקות ממנו ית', כן הוא שיעור ההתגשמות של הרצון לקבל הכלול בשפע. וכן אפשר לומר להיפך, אשר כפי שיעור התגשמות של הרצון לקבל בשפע, כן הולך ויורד ממדרגה למדרגה. עד המקום הנמוך מכולם, דהיינו שהרצון לקבל מתגשם שם בכל שיעורו הראוי.

נבחן המקום שהוא בשם “עולם העשיה”. והרצון לקבל נבחן לבחינת “גופו של אדם”. והשפע שמקבל נבחן למדת תוכנו של “החיים שבגוף” ההוא. ועד ז"ג גם בשאר בריות שבעוה"ז. באופן, שכל ההבחן שבין העולמות העליונים לעוה"ז הוא, כי כל עוד שהרצון לקבל הכלול בשפעו ית' לא נתגשם בצורתו הסופית, נבחן שעודו נמצא בעולמות הרוחנים, העליונים מעוה"ז, ואחר שהרצון לקבל נתגשם בצורתו הסופית, הוא נבחן שכבר הוא מצוי בעוה"ז.

2) Therefore, the “desire to receive” in all its variety was included in the Thought of Creation from the very beginning. It was inseparably linked to the delight that the Creator prepared for us. The “desire to receive” is a vessel, while the Shefa is the light that fills the vessel. These lights and vessels are the only components of the spiritual worlds. They are inseparably connected to one another. Together they descend from above, level by level.

The farther away from the Creator these levels are, the greater and coarser the “desire to receive” becomes. On the other hand, the greater and coarser the “desire to receive” becomes, the more remote it is from the Creator. This happens until it comes to the lowest point where the “desire to receive” reaches its maximum size. This condition is desirable and necessary for the beginning of the ascension toward the correction.

This place is called “the world of Assiya”. In this world the “desire to receive” is defined as “man’s body”, while the light is called “man’s life”. The difference between the Upper worlds and this world (Olam Hazeih) is that in the Upper worlds the “desire to receive” is not yet coarse enough, and is not yet separated completely from the light. In our world, the “desire to receive” reaches its final development and becomes completely separated from the light.

ג) וסדר השתלשלות האמור עד להביא את הרצון לקבל על צורתו הסופית שבעוה"ז, הוא על סדר ד' בחינות שיש בד' אותיות של השם בן ד'. כי ד' אותיות הו"ה שבשמו ית' כוללות את כל המציאות כולה, מבלי יוצא ממנה אף משהו מן המשהו. ומבחינת הכלל הן מתבארות בהע"ס: חכמה, בינה, ת"ת, מלכות, ושרשם. והם עשר ספירות, כי ספירת התפארת כוללת בעצמה ששה ספירות, הנקראות חג"ת נה"י.

והשורש נקרא כתר. אמנם בעיקרם הם נקראים חו"ב תו"מ. והן ד' עולמות הנקראות: אצילות, בריאה, יצירה, עשיה. ועולם העשיה כולל בתוכו גם את עוה"ז. באופן, שאין לך בריה בעוה"ז, שלא תהיה מחודשת מא"ס ב"ה, דהיינו במחשבת הבריאה, שהיא בכדי להנות לנבראיו.

והיא בהכרח כלולה תיכף מאור וכלי. כלומר, מאיזה שיעור של שפע עם בחינת רצון לקבל את השפע ההוא. אשר שיעור השפע הוא נמשך מעצמותו ית' יש מיש, והרצון לקבל השפע הוא מחודש יש מאין. ובכדי שהרצון לקבל ההוא יבא על תכונתו הסופית, הוא מחויב להשתלשל עם השפע שבו דרך הד' עולמות אצילות, בריאה, יצירה, עשיה. ואז נגמרת הבריה באור וכלי, הנקרא "גוף" ו"אור החיים" שבו.

3) *The above-mentioned descending order of the development of the “desire to receive” is divided into four levels (Behinot). This order is encoded in the mystery of the Creator’s Name. The Universe submits to the order of these four letters, HaVaYaH (Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey). These letters correspond to the ten Sefirot: Hochma, Bina, Tifferet*

(or Zeir Anpin), Malchut and their root. Why are there ten? It is because the Sefira Tifferet includes 6 Sefirot: Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod and Yesod.

The root of all these Sefirot is called Keter, but often it is not included in the Sefirot count; hence, one says HuB-TuM. These four Behinot correspond to the four worlds: Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. The world of Assiya also includes this world (“Olam Hazeih”). There is no single created being in this world whose root is not in the world of Infinity, in the plan of the creation. The plan of the creation is the Creator’s desire to please all the created beings.

It includes both the light and the vessel. The light comes directly from the Creator, while the desire to receive pleasure was created by the Creator anew out of nothing. For the “desire to receive” to reach its final development, it must pass together with the light through the four worlds of Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya (ABYA). Then the development of the creation is completed with the creation in it of the light and the vessel, called “the body” and “the light of Life”.

The connection between the Creator and the creation is called “the world of Infinity” (the *Ein Sof*). Lower spiritual objects as they comprehend it give the names of the Upper Light. Since the Creator’s desire was to bestow pleasure upon the created beings, He created someone who would be able to receive this pleasure from Him, and the creation of the desire to receive pleasure called “*Malchut*” or “the world of Infinity” was sufficient for that.

Since in this state *Malchut*, receives for its own sake, making no restriction on reception, *Malchut* later performs a restriction on the reception of the light-pleasure.

It is said that the “desire to receive” was finalized in the world of Assiya. So does it mean that the biggest “desire to receive” exists in this world of Assiya? Yet, while the world of Assiya is only *Behinat Shoresh* and

has the weakest light, there is the light of *Keter* in the world of A”K. The notion the world of *Assiya* has two meanings:

- a) The entire *Behina Dalet* is called the world of *Assiya*.
- b) The world of *Assiya* by itself.

To understand the meaning of the first notion one needs to know that the finished vessel is called “*Behina Dalet*”; but, in fact the true vessel (the *Kli*) is already present in *Behina Aleph*. *Keter* is “the “desire to bestow” pleasure upon the creation”; *Hochma* is “the “desire to receive” this pleasure” and is completely filled with the light. Nevertheless, the *Kli* should pass four more levels to its final development.

We study everything from the point of view of our nature because all laws come out of the spiritual roots. In our world, the value of man’s pleasure depends on the force of his striving for it. Unbearable passion brings great pleasure, while a tiny desire leads to small pleasure. For man to grasp a true desire, two conditions are necessary:

- a) Man cannot strive for something that he has never heard of before. He has to know what he wants, i.e., once he has already had it.
- b) But he cannot be striving for something he already has. Therefore four levels of development of the *Kli* are necessary for it to receive the final form.

Malchut had the entire light in the world of Infinity. However, the vessel is characterized by the difference of its properties from those of the Creator, which did not exist in the world of Infinity. With the following development of the vessel, we realize that the true vessel is the lack of the light.

In the world of *Assiya*, the *Kli* does not receive anything at all, because it wants only to receive; hence, it is defined as a genuine vessel. It is so far from the Creator that it knows nothing about its root. As a result, man has to believe that he is created by the Creator, although he is unable to feel it.

Conclusion: the vessel is not someone or something that has a lot; on the contrary, it is someone or something extremely remote. It is totally disconnected from the light. While receiving only for its own sake, the vessel has no “desire to give”; all it can do is to believe that such desire exists... Man just cannot understand why he has to strive for giving.

What is the point of existence for such a vessel that has no spark of the light and is extremely remote from the Creator? Such vessels have to begin working for the sake of bestowal with objects that are, so far, unreal.

The Baal HaSulam gives the following example. In the past, everything was very expensive, so children were taught to write first on the blackboard with a piece of chalk. Then they could erase what they had mistakenly written, and only those who had learned to write correctly were given real paper.

The same is true with us. First, we are given playthings, and then, if we learn to add the intention for the Creator’s sake to our desire, we will be able to see the true light. The *Kli* is created in such a way as to get used to the real work.

Before the souls appear all actions are performed by the Creator. By this He shows the souls how they should act. For example, how does one learn to play chess? The moves are made for the pupil and in this way, he learns. That is why the worlds descend from above. The Creator carries out all the actions relating both to the higher levels and to the lower ones. Then at the second stage, the souls begin to ascend by themselves.

Meanwhile, we strive for playthings and not for spirituality; hence, the light of the Torah is concealed from us. Man would not be able to receive the enormous delights offered to him for the Creator’s sake.

The Baal HaSulam gives us an example. A man puts all of his valuables on the table – gold, silver, diamonds. Suddenly, strangers come to his house. He fears they may steal his treasures. What can he do? He

switches off the light so that no one can see that there are precious things in the house.

We do not lack the desire for spirituality because the “desire to receive” is absent in us; rather, because we cannot see anything. We cannot see the wood for the trees. The more man “purifies himself”, the better he begins to see. Then his *Kli* (the “desire to receive”) gradually grows, for he wants to feel greater pleasures.

For example, if one manages to receive 0.5 kg of pleasure for the sake of bestowal, he is given 1kg. Then, if that amount was also received with the intention for the Creator’ sake, he is given 2 kg of pleasure, and so on.

The sages said about it: “He who has reached higher levels of Torah has bigger desires.” Yet we cannot see anything until our desires acquire the intention to receive for the sake of bestowal. In this sense, the only distinction between a secular and religious person is that the former aspires to receive only the pleasures of this world, while the latter also desires the delight of the world to come.

The power of the desire to receive over all created beings is so great that the sages said about it, “The law ruling over people is this: Mine is mine, and yours is yours; and only fear stops man from saying, ‘Yours is mine’.”

ד) והצורך להשתלשלות הרצון לקבל על ד' בחינות האמורות שבאב"ע, הוא מפני שיש כלל גדול בענין הכלים, אשר התפשטות האור והסתלקותו הוא עושה את הכלי רצוי לתפקידו. פרוש, כי כל עוד שהכלי לא נפרד פעם מהאור שלו, הרי הוא נכלל עם האור "ובטל אליו כנר בפני האבוקה".

וענין הביטול הזה הוא, מפני שיש הפניות ביניהם הרחוקה מקצה אל הקצה. כי האור הוא שפע הנמשך מעצמותו ית' יש מיש. ומבחינת מחשבת הבריאה שבא"ס ית' הוא כולו להשפיע, ואין בו מבחינת רצון לקבל אף משהו.

והפכי אליו הוא הכלי, שהוא הרצון הגדול לקבל את השפע ההוא, שהוא כל שורשו של הנברא המחודש. הנה אין בו ענין של השפעה כלום. ולפיכך בהיותם כרוכים זה בזה יחד, מתבטל הרצון לקבל באור שבו, ואינו יכול לקבוע את צורתו, אלא אחר הסתלקות האור ממנו פעם אחת. כי אחר הסתלקות האור ממנו, הוא מתחיל להשתוקק מאד אחריו. והשתוקקות הזאת

קובעת ומחליטה את צורת הרצון לקבל כראוי. ואח"ז, כשהאור חוזר ומתלבש בו, הוא נבחן מעתה לב' עינים נבדלים: כלי ואור, או גוף וחיים. ושים כאן עיניך, כי הוא עמוק מכל עמוק.

4) *The necessity to develop the “desire to receive” on four levels (Behinot) through the four worlds of ABYA is caused by the existing rule, according to which only the spreading of the light followed by its subsequent expulsion make the vessel fit for use.*

An explanation: when the vessel is filled with the light, they are inseparably connected. The vessel is in fact non-existent; it abolishes itself as the flame of a candle disappears in the flame of a torch.

The desire is satisfied, so it ceases to exist. It can reappear only after the light exits from it, stops filling it. The reason for this self-annihilation of the vessel lies in its total contrast with the light. The light comes directly from the Creator's essence, from the Thought of Creation. This light is a “desire to bestow” and has nothing to do with a “desire to receive”. The vessel is absolutely opposite to it; it is a huge “desire to receive” the light.

The vessel is a root, a source of something very new, non-existent before the creation. The vessel has no “desire to give”. Since the light and the vessel are inseparably connected, the “desire to receive” is annulled by the light. The vessel acquires a certain form only after the expulsion of the light from it. Only then, the vessel starts craving for the light. This passionate desire determines the necessary form of 'his “desire to receive”. When the light reenters the vessel, they become two separate objects – the vessel and the light, or body and life. Take a good note of it, because these are most profound notions.

When the Kli begins to receive, it must feel: “Now I receive pleasure”. But the light carrying that pleasure does not let this “I” open and be felt by the Kli. Hence, the “I” annuls itself. It means that the Kli does not feel that it receives, although it does so.

Rabbi Baruch Ashlag gives this example. An old man won \$100,000 in a lottery. His friends were afraid to tell him the news, thinking he might have a heart attack and die of over-excitement.

One of them said he could pass the information without causing any harm. He came to the old man and asked him, “Would you share \$10 with me if you won in the lottery?” - “Of course I would!”, answered the old man. “And if you won \$100, would you still be willing to share the prize with me?” “Why not?” answered the old man. It went on and on until the sum reached \$100,000, then the guest asked, “Are you ready to sign our agreement?” - “I certainly am!” - exclaimed the old man. At that very moment the guest collapsed on the floor and died.

We see that man can die of great joy, since too powerful a light annuls the “desire to receive”. In such a case, the *Kli* disappears and the light is bound to exit to encourage the *Kli* to strive after it.

Why then does the light not annul the *Kli*, the *Behina Dalet*, upon returning to it? When the *Ohr* and *Kli* are together in the *Behina Aleph*, both the “desire to bestow” and the “desire to receive” must spread there. However, since they are opposite to one another, the “desire to bestow” annuls the “desire to receive”, i.e., prevents it from spreading.

After the *Behina Dalet* was formed, the light cannot annul it, since they represent two existing forces. In the *Behina Aleph* the light does not let the “desire to receive” spread and grow; but once it has developed, it cannot interfere with it.

For example, two men are fighting. One of them prevents the other from entering his house. Does it matter if they are fighting outside or the intruder is already inside? If we say that, nothing exists but the Creator, who wishes to bestow pleasure and the creation that strives after this pleasure, it is sufficient to have *Keter* as a giver and *Hochma* as a receiver!

In the phase of *Hochma* the “desire to receive” is one with the light, the latter preventing it from feeling as it receives. This state is not perfect

though, since the *Kli* must feel that it receives. For instance, man gives something to his friend, but he cannot feel it. In this case the giver violates the commandment, “do not destroy”.

Hence, it is clear why we are not given important (precious) things. Since we are quite content with scanty pleasures, we are not worthy to be given valuable things. Therefore, the development of 4 phases is necessary for the birth of the *Kli*, which feels as it receives.

ה) ולפיכך צריכים לד' בחינות שבשם הו"ה, הנקראות חכמה בינה ת"ת מלכות. כי בחי"א, הנקראת חכמה, היא באמת כל כללותו של הנאצל, אור וכלי. כי בו הרצון לקבל הגדול עם כל כללות האור שבו, הנקרא אור החכמה או אור החיה, כי הוא כל אור החיים שבהנאצל המלוּבש בהכלי שלו.

אמנם בחינה הא' הזו נבחנת לכלו אור, והכלי שבה כמעט שאינו ניכר, כי הוא מעורב עם האור ובטל בו כנר בפני האבוקה. ואחריה באה בחי"ב. והוא, כי כלי החכמה בסופו הוא מתגבר בהשוואת הצורה לאור העליון שבו. דהיינו שמתעורר בו רצון להשפיע אל המאציל, כטבע האור שבתוכו, שהוא כולו להשפיע.

ואז ע"י הרצון הזה שנתעורר בו, נמשך אליו מהמאציל אור חדש, הנקרא "אור חסדים". ומשום זה כמעט שנפרש לגמרי מאור החכמה, שהשפיע בו המאציל. כי אין אור החכמה מקובל רק בהכלי שלו, שהוא הרצון לקבל הגדול בכל שיעורו. באופן, שהאור וכלי שבבחי"ב משונים לגמרי מבחי"א. כי הכלי שבה הוא הרצון להשפיע, והאור שבה נבחן לאור החסדים, שפירושו אור הנמשך מכח הדבקות של הנאצל בהמאציל. כי הרצון להשפיע גורם לו השואת הצורה למאציל. והשוואת הצורה ברוחניות הוא דבקות.

ואחריה באה בחינה ג'. והוא כי אחר שנתמעט האור שבהנאצל לבחינת אור חסדים בלי חכמה כלל, ונודע שאור החכמה הוא עיקר חיותו של הנאצל, ע"כ הבחי"ב בסופה התעוררה והמשיכה בקרבה שיעור מאור החכמה, להאיר תוך אור החסדים שבה. והנה התעוררות הזו המשיכה מחדש שיעור מסוים מהרצון לקבל, שהוא צורת כלי חדש, הנקרא בחינה ג' או ת"ת. ובחינת האור שבה נקרא "אור חסדים בהארת חכמה". כי עיקר האור הזה הוא אור חסדים, ומיעוטו הוא אור חכמה.

ואחריה באה בחינה ד'. והוא כי גם הכלי דבחי"ג בסופו התעורר להמשיך אור חכמה במילואו, כמו שהיה בבחי"א. ונמצא התעוררות הזו היא בחינת השתוקקות, בשיעור הרצון לקבל שבבחי"א ונוסף עליו. כי עתה כבר נפרד מאור ההוא. כי עתה אין אור החכמה מלוּבש בו, אלא שמשתוקק אחריו. ע"כ נקבע צורת הרצון לקבל על כל שלימותו. כי אחר התפשטות האור והסתלקותו משם, נקבע הכלי. וכשיחזור אח"כ ויקבל בחזרה את האור, נמצא הכלי מוקדם להאור. וע"כ נבחנת בחינה ד' הזאת לגמר כלי. והיא נקראת "מלכות".

5) As stated above, the creation develops according to four phases, Behinot, encoded in the name HaVaYaH and called Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut. Behina Aleph (1) is called “Hochma”, which contains both the light and the vessel made of the “desire to receive”. This vessel contains the entire light called Ohr Hochma (the light of wisdom) Ohr Haya (the light of life), because it is the entire light of life inside the creation.

Nevertheless, Behina Aleph is still regarded as the light and the vessel in it has not manifested yet, existing potentially. It is still inseparably connected with the light in the state of self-abolishment. Afterwards, Behina Bet (2) comes into being, because by the end of its development Hochma wished to acquire the equivalence of properties with the light that is inside it. The “desire to bestow” upon the Creator has awakened in it.

The nature of the light is a pure “desire to give”. As an answer to the awakening of that desire, the Creator sent a new and different light called “Ohr Hassadim” (the light of mercy). Hence, Behina Aleph almost completely got rid of Ohr Hochma, given by the Creator. Ohr Hochma may only be present in the proper vessel, i.e., the “desire to receive”. Both the light and the vessel in Behina Bet are totally different from those in Behina Aleph, since the vessel in Behina Bet is the “desire to bestow” and the light is Ohr Hassadim. Ohr Hassadim is the pleasure of being like the Creator.

The “desire to bestow” leads to the equivalence of properties with the Creator that, in the spiritual worlds, leads to merging with him. Then Behina Gimel emerges. After the light inside the creation passes to the level of Ohr Hassadim in the almost complete absence of Ohr Hochma (as we know Ohr Hochma is the principal life force in the creation), Behina Bet felt its deficiency. At the end of its development, it attracted a portion of the Ohr Hochma so that it could start shining inside its Ohr Hassadim.

To this end, it reawakened a portion of its inner desire to receive and formed a new vessel called Behina Gimel, or Tifferet. The light inside it is Ohr Hassadim with the luminescence of Ohr Hochma because the main part of this light is Ohr Hassadim, Ohr Hochma being less significant. Behina Dalet follows it because the vessel of Behina Gimel also wished to attract Ohr Hochma at the end of its development, but this time it wanted all of it, as it had been in Behina Alef.

It turns out that this awakened desire leads to a situation where Behina Dalet feels the passionate desire that Behina Aleph had. Moreover, now, after expelling the light once, the creation knows how bad it feels, so it desires this light much more than at the earlier stage of Behina Aleph.

Therefore, the emanation of the light and its subsequent expulsion create a vessel. If the vessel now receives the light again, it will precede the light. Therefore, the Behina Dalet is a final phase in the creation of the vessel called Malchut.

Why did the light itself become a reason for the Kli's wish to give? We observe a law in our nature: each branch longs to be like its root. That is why, as soon as the light of Hochma came, the Kli received it. However, when it felt that the light had come from the Giver, it wished to be like the Source and not to receive. It means that two actions come out of Keter:

- a) the desire to bestow pleasure upon the creation, which created the “desire to receive”, and it is Behina Aleph.
- b) the desire to bestow acts in the creation, because the latter feels that the light it receives comes from the desire of the superior giver, and thus also wants to give.

We can see an example of this in the material world. One person gives another a present, and the latter receives it. Then he begins to think and understands: “He is a giver and I am a receiver! I should not take it!” That is why he returns the gift. At the beginning when he received the

present, he was under the giver’s influence and did not feel he was a receiver. However, after the reception he began to feel that he is a receiver, which made him decline the present.

It is necessary to point out that this person has a “desire to receive”, because he did receive the present at the beginning. But he did not ask for it! Hence, it is not called a *Kli*. The *Kli* is a state in which one feels that there is pleasure, begs, and pleads to the giver to give it to him.

Why is *Bina’s Aviut* bigger than that of *Hochma*, i.e., why does it have a bigger “desire to receive”, but wishes only to give? *Hochma* is the vessel that does not yet feel that it receives; the giver controls it completely. Nevertheless, *Bina* already feels itself as a receiver; therefore, its *Aviut* is bigger.

There are two kinds of light:

- a) The light of the Purpose of the creation called “*Ohr Hochma*” comes from the Creator (the “desire to bestow” upon the creation); it is *Behina Aleph*.
- b) The light of the Correction of the creation called “*Ohr Hassadim*”, which spreads thanks to the creation; it is termed *Behina Bet*.

How can one say that *Ohr Hassadim* spreads thanks to the creation? Is not the Creator the source of the light and pleasure? It is because the Creator’s pleasure comes to the creation owing to its merging with the Source of pleasure.

The beginning of the Creation happens as follows:

The light comes out of the Creator, the *Ohr* - pleasure. This emanation of the light from the Creator is called the zero phase (0), or the root (*Shoresh*).

The light creates the *Kli*, which is able to feel, absorb all pleasure contained in the light. Let us assume that the Creator wanted to give the creation 1kg of pleasure. In that case, He should have created the “desire to receive” that pleasure (*Kli*) with the capacity of 1kg, which could absorb the entire delight.

Such a state of the *Kli*'s being completely filled with the Creator's light is called phase *Aleph* (1). This phase is characterized by the desire to receive pleasure. The light, carrying the pleasure is called “*Ohr Hochma*”. The *Kli* in this phase receives the *Ohr Hochma*; hence, the phase itself is called “*Hochma*”.

The *Kli* receives the Creator's light, feels absolute pleasure and acquires its property - the “desire to give”, to please. As a result, instead of receiving, the *Kli* now desires to give, and stops receiving the light. Since a new desire, contrary to the initial one appears in the *Kli*, it passes to a new state, which is called phase *Bet* (2), the “desire to give”, or *Bina*.

The *Kli* has stopped receiving the light. The light continues to interact with the *Kli* and says to it, that by refusing to receive the light, it neither fulfils the Purpose of the creation, nor the Creator's desire. The *Kli* analyses this information and comes to a conclusion that it really does not fulfill the Creator's desire.

What is more, the *Kli* feels the light is a vital force, and that it cannot do without it. Hence, the *Kli*, still willing to give, decides to start receiving an essential portion of the light. It turns out that the *Kli* agrees to receive the light for two reasons: first, because it wants to fulfill the Creator's desire, this reason being the main one; and secondly, it feels that it really cannot exist without the light.

The appearance of a new, though, a tiny “desire to receive” the light in the *Kli*, creates a new phase that is called *Behina Gimel* (3), or *Zeir Anpin*.

While simultaneously giving and receiving a little in phase *Gimel*, the *Kli* begins to realize that the Creator's desire is to fill completely the *Kli* with the light so it might be able to enjoy it infinitely. Since the *Kli* has already acquired a little bit of the light of *Hochma* necessary for its existence, it now decides to receive the rest of the light. This is the Creator's desire, and the *Kli* resumes receiving the Creator's light the way it did in phase 1.

The new phase is called *Behina Dalet* (4). It differs from phase 1, in that it independently expressed its “desire to receive”.

The first phase was unconsciously filled with the light by the Creator’s desire. It had no desire of its own. The 4th phase is called “the kingdom of desires”, or *Malchut*. This state, *Malchut*, is called “the world of Infinity’ (the *Olam Ein Sof*) - infinite, unlimited desire to receive pleasure, to be filled with the light.

Behinat Shoresh (0) is the Creator’s desire to create the creation and give it maximum pleasure. In this phase, as in a seed, or embryo, all subsequent creation is included from its beginning to the end, encompassing the Creator’s attitude to the future creation.

Behinat Shoresh (0) is the Thought of the entire creation. All subsequent processes are only the realization of this Thought. Each subsequent phase is the logical consequence of the previous one. The development goes on from above and each preceding phase is “higher” than the following one, i.e., the preceding phase includes all the subsequent ones.

In the course of this development from the Creator down to our world, new levels come into being; everything evolving from perfect to imperfect. The Creator created the light, the pleasure, out of Himself, out of his Essence. Hence, it is said that the light is created “*Yesh mi Yesh*” (existent out of existent), i.e., that the light has existed forever. However, with the appearance of phase 1 of the desire to receive pleasure, the vessel, the *Kli*, is called “*Yesh mi Ayn*” (existent out of non-existent), i.e., the Creator made it out of nothing; because there cannot be even the slightest “desire to receive” in the Creator.

The creation’s first independent desire occurs in phase two. In this phase, the “desire to bestow” appears for the first time. This desire appeared under the influence of the light, which was received from the Creator, and had already been included in the Thought of Creation. However, the *Kli* feels it as its own, independent desire. The same is true of our desires: all of them are sent from above, from the Creator; but we consider them to be our own.

By feeling the “desire to give” in phase two, contrary to the “desire to receive”, the *Kli* ceases to feel pleasure from receiving, stops sensing the light as pleasure. The light filters out and leaves it remaining empty.

In phase one, the desire to receive pleasure was created. It is the only desire that is absent in the Creator. This very desire is the creation. Subsequently, there are only variations of this desire of phase 1 in the entire Universe; the desire to receive pleasure either from receiving or from giving, or from the combination of these two desires. Apart from the Creator there is only one thing – the desire to receive pleasure.

The vessel (the *Kli*) always wants to receive. The material it is made of does not change. Man can understand it only when he realizes the evil and comprehends his egoistic nature. All that is incorporated into our nature; in every cell of our body, there is no more than the desire to receive pleasure.

Phase two, now empty, stops feeling that it exists; it is created by the light and being without it, feels like dying. Hence, it desires to receive at least a little bit of the Creator’s light. The pleasure from receiving the light is called “*Ohr Hochma*”, while the pleasure from giving is called “*Ohr Hassadim*”.

Phase two (*Bina*) wants to give, but it finds out it has nothing to give, that it “is dying” without *Ohr Hochma*. That is why it decides to receive a little bit of the *Ohr Hochma*.

This is what constitutes the third phase, *Behina Gimel* (3). In this phase, there are two different desires in the vessel: the “desire to receive” and the “desire to bestow”. But the “desire to give” prevails. In spite of the fact that it has nothing to bestow upon the Creator, the “desire to give” still exists in it. This desire is filled with the light of *Hassadim*. It has in it also a little bit of the light of *Hochma*, which fills the “desire to receive”.

The fourth phase, *Malchut*, is being gradually born from the third one. The “desire to receive” grows stronger, pushing out the “desire to

give”, and after awhile the “desire to receive” remains as the sole one. Therefore, this phase is called “*Malchut*”, i.e., the kingdom of desire, the desire to absorb everything, the entire pleasure (*Ohr Hochma*).

This phase is a completion of the creation, and since it receives everything infinitely, endlessly, it is called “the world of Infinity”.

These are the four phases of the Direct Light coming from the Creator. The rest of the creation, all the worlds, angels, *Sefirot*, souls - everything is only a part of *Malchut*. Since *Malchut* desires to be like the phases preceding it, the entire creation is a reflection of these 4 phases.

To understand it, to explain how these four phases are reflected in each of the worlds, how this affects our world; how we, by working actively with the help of feedback from above, can affect them and join in the general process of the Universe; this is the purpose of the science called Kabbalah. Our goal is to comprehend it all.

ו) ואלו ד' ההבחנות הנ"ל ה"ס עשר ספירות, הנבחנות בכל נאצל וכל נברא. הן בכלל כולו, שהן ד' העולמות, והן בפרט קטן ביותר שבמציאות. ובח"א נקראת "חכמה" או "עולם האצילות". ובח"ב נקרא "בינה" או "עולם הבריאה". ובח"ג נקרא "תפארת" או "עולם היצירה". ובח"ד נקרא "מלכות" או "עולם העשיה".

ונבאר את הד' בחינות הנוהגות בכל נשמה. כי כשהנשמה נמשכת מא"ס ב"ה ובאה לעולם האצילות, היא בח"א של הנשמה. ושם עוד אינה נבחנת בשם הזה. כי השם "נשמה" יורה שיש בה איזה הפרש מהמאציל ב"ה, שע"י הפרש הזה יצאה מבחינת א"ס ובאה לאיזה גילוי לרשות בפני עצמה. וכל עוד שאין בה צורת כלי, אין מה שיפריד אותה מעצמותו ית', עד שתהיה ראויה להקרא בשם בפני עצמה.

וכבר ידעת שבח"א של הכלי אינה ניכרת כלל לכלי וכולה בטלה להאור. וז"ס הנאמר בעולם אצילות שכולו אלקיות גמור, בסוד "איהו וחיהו וגרמוהי חד בהון". ואפילו נשמות שאר בעלי החיים, בהיותם עוברים את עולם אצילות, נחשבים כעודם דבוקים בעצמותו ית'.

6) *The four above-mentioned phases correspond to the ten Sefirot of which every created being consists. These four phases correspond to the four worlds of ABYA, which include the entire Universe, and all the details existing in reality. Behina Aleph is called Hochma, or the world of Atzilut. Behina Bet is called Bina, or the world of Beria. Be-*

hina Gimel is called Tifferet, or the world of Yetzira. Behina Dalet is called Malchut, or the world of Assiya.

Now let us understand the nature of these four Behinot existing in every soul. Each soul (Neshama) originates in the world of Infinity and descends to the world of Atzilut, acquiring the properties of Behina Aleph there. In the world of Atzilut, it is not yet called “Neshama”, for this name points to a certain degree of separation from the Creator that leads to a fall from the level of Infinity, from a state of complete unity with the Creator, and acquires some “independence”. However, it is not yet a completely formed vessel, so nothing separates it from the Creator’s Essence thus far.

As we already know, while in Behina Aleph, the vessel is not yet such, for at this stage it annuls itself as regards the light. Hence, in the world of Atzilut, everything is said to be still absolutely Divine – “He is one and His Name is one”. Even the souls of other creatures passing through this world merge with the Creator.

ז) ובעולם הבריאה כבר שולטת בחינה ה' ה"ל, דהיינו בחינת הכלי של הרצון להשפיע. וע"כ כשהנשמה משתלשלת ובאה לעולם הבריאה, ומשגת בחינת הכלי ההוא אשר שם, אז נבחנת בשם "נשמה". דהיינו, שכבר יצאה ונתפרדה מבחינת עצמותו ית' והיא עולה בשם בפני עצמה, להקרא "נשמה". אמנם כלי זה זך מאוד, להיותו בהשוואת הצורה להמאציל, וע"כ נחשבת לרוחניות גמורה.

7) Behina Bet rules in the world of Beria; i.e., its vessel is the “desire to bestow”. Consequently, when the soul arrives in the world of Beria, it reaches this stage of the vessel’s development and is already called “Neshama”. This means it separated from the Creator’s Essence and acquired a certain degree of independence. Nevertheless, this vessel is still very “pure”, “transparent”, i.e., very close in its properties to the Creator. Thus, it is regarded as being completely spiritual.

ח) ובעולם היצירה כבר שולטת בחינה הג' ה"ל, שהיא כלולה מעט מצורת הרצון לקבל. וע"כ כשהנשמה משתלשלת ובאה לעולם היצירה, ומשגת הכלי ההוא, יצאה מבחינת הרוחניות של הנשמה, ונקראת בשם "רוח". כי כאן הכלי שלו כבר מעורב בעביות מועטת, דהיינו מעט

הרצון לקבל שיש בו. אמנם עדיין נבחנת לרוחני, כי אין שיעור עביות זאת מספיק להבדילו לגמרי מן עצמותו ית', להקרא בשם "גוף, עומד ברשות עצמו".

8) *Behina Gimel rules in the world of Yetzira; it contains a certain amount of the "desire to receive". Therefore, when the soul comes to the world of Yetzira, reaches this stage of the vessel's development, it exits the state of "Neshama", and is now called "Ruach". This vessel already possesses certain Aviut, i.e., some portion of the "desire to receive". It is nevertheless still considered as spiritual, since this quantity and quality of the "desire to receive" is insufficient to be completely separated in its properties from the Creator's Essence. A complete separation from the Creator's Essence is a body, which is now fully and clearly "independent".*

ט) ובעולם עשייה כבר שולטת בחינה הד', שהיא גמר הכלי של הרצון לקבל הגדול. וע"כ משגת בחינת גוף נפרד ונבדל לגמרי מעצמותו ית', העומד ברשות עצמו. והאור שבו נקרא "נפש", המורה על אור בלי תנועה מעצמו. ותדע, שאין לך פרט קטן בהמציאות, שלא יהיה כלול מכל האבי"ע.

9) *Behina Dalet rules in the world of Assiya; it is the final stage of the vessel's development. At this level, the "desire to receive" reaches the peak of its evolution. The vessel turns into a body totally separated from the Creator's Essence. The light inside Behina Dalet is called "Nefesh". This name points to the lack of independent movement in this type of the light. In addition, remember that nothing exists in the Universe that does not consist of its own ABYA (four Behinot).*

What is the difference between the "desire to receive" and the soul? The "desire to receive" is called *Behina Dalet*. It is the heart of everything; it feels and attains all levels. As a rule, "the light" is named "soul". The light without the one who comprehends it is called "light". The light together with the one who attains it is called "the soul".

For example, five people are watching an airplane through binoculars, and each one has better binoculars than another does. Now, the first one says that the size of the plane is 20 cm. The second claims it to

be 1 m. Each of them speaks the truth because they base their speculations on what they see, but their opinions in no way affect the plane.

The reason for the difference of opinions consists in the difference of quality of the binoculars' lenses. The same occurs with us; there is no change in the light, all the changes are in those who attain it, and whatever we grasp is called “the soul”. In our example the binoculars are the equivalence of properties, and in this sense there are differences between those who attain, and all the more so in that which is attained, the soul.

י) והנך מוצא, איך שהנפש הזאת, שהיא אור החיים המלוּבש בהגוף, נמשכת יש מיש מעצמותו ית' ממש. ובעברה דרך ד' עולמות אב"ע, כן היא הולכת ומתרחקת מאור פניו ית'. עד שבאה בכלי המיוחד לה, הנקרא "גוף". ואז נבחן הכלי לגמר צורתו הרצויה. ואם אמנם גם האור שבה נתמעט מאד, עד שאין ניכר בו עוד שורש מוצאו.

עכ"ז ע"י העסק בתורה ומצות ע"מ להשפיע נחת רוח ליוצרו, הוא הולך ומזכך את הכלי שלו, הנקרא "גוף", עד שנעשה ראוי לקבל את השפע הגדול בכל השיעור, הכלול במחשבת הבריאה בעת שבראה. וזה שאמר ר' חנניא בן עקשיא: "רצה הקב"ה לזכות את ישראל, לפיכך הרבה להם תורה ומצוות".

10) *The Nefesh, the light of life installed in the body, comes directly from the Creator's Essence. Passing through the four worlds of ABYA, it gradually moves away from the Creator until it acquires a vessel, a body assigned to it. Only then is the vessel considered as completely formed. At this stage of the vessel's development, the light inside it is so small that its source cannot be felt, i.e., the creation (the vessel) stops feeling the Creator.*

However, with the help of the Torah and the Commandments with the intention to bestow delight upon the Creator, the creation can purify its vessel called the body, and receive all the light prepared for it by the Creator in the Thought of Creation. That is what Rabbi Hanania ben Akashia meant by saying, "The Creator wished to reward Israel, so He gave them the Torah and the Commandments..."

Here he explains the notion “*Aviut*”, which we have to “*Lezakot*”, purify. *Behina Dalet* is called *Aviut*, because it receives for the sake of self-enjoyment. The purpose is to achieve the equivalence of the properties, i.e., to receive for the sake of bestowal. That is what is defined as “*Zakut*” - purification. One can reach such a level by learning the Torah with the intention to acquire the “desire to give”.

There cannot be two contrary desires simultaneously in the *Kli*; it is either the “desire to receive” or the “desire to give”. If there are two desires in one *Kli*, it is divided into two parts, into two *Kelim*, proportionately.

“Time” in the spiritual world is the cause-and-effect connection between spiritual objects, the birth of the lower out of the higher. There are causes and effects in the spiritual worlds, but there are no time gaps between the two. In our world, as a rule, some time passes between a cause and an effect.

If we say “before”, we mean the cause; but if we say “after”, we mean the effect. We will gradually get used to such notions as “the absence of time and space”. Rambam wrote that all our matter, the entire Universe, is below the speed of light. If anything exceeds the speed of light, time stops, and space contracts into a point. This is also known from Einstein’s theory of relativity.

What is beyond it? Beyond it is the level of the spiritual world where space and time do not exist, i.e., they are taken by a person comprehending them as equal to zero. Spiritual space can be compared to our inner spiritual world where one feels either satisfied or drained.

There are only the Creator and the creation in the world. The creation is the “desire to receive” the light, pleasure from the Creator. In our world, this desire is unconscious; we cannot feel the source of life, of pleasure. In our world, the desire to receive pleasure is egoistic. If man can correct it and start using it altruistically, he begins to feel the light,

the Creator, the spiritual world in the same *Kli*. The spiritual world and the Creator are the same.

Man's corrected desire is called “the soul”. A soul is divided into different parts, private souls. Then they become diminished and move away from the Creator according to their properties and enter into man born in this world. A soul can enter a grown-up person at any time of his life. It happens according to a program given from above.

The souls supersede one another in one and the same person during his life. In fact, it is similar to the clothes that a man changes all the time. The same is true with the soul; it changes its material dress, its physiological body, leaving it, and being replaced by another soul. The body dies, but the soul changes its dress for another one.

Man's purpose is, while still living in this world, being in this body, in spite of all its egoistic desires, to strive to reach the spiritual level from which his soul descended. By achieving this goal, man reaches a spiritual level, which is 620 times higher than the present one. It corresponds to the 613 principal and seven additional commandments.

All the souls have the same task - to achieve their complete correction. That means to rise 620 times higher. Man can rise to that level with the help of the bodily encumbrances. That is the meaning of being in our world, in our body. The only difference between the souls is in their initial and final conditions, depending on the soul's character and on which part of the common soul it comes from. When all the souls combine into one, a completely new state of quantity and quality of the common desire and the volume of information emerges.

There are certain types of souls that have already completed their own correction and have descended to our world to correct others. Such is the soul of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, which later incarnated into the Ari, and then finally into the Baal HaSulam. Sometimes such a soul descends to influence the world as a whole, sometimes to bring up future Kabbalists.

After the final correction, there will be no difference between souls. The distinction between them exists only in their way to the Goal. It is said, that the people of Israel went into exile to disseminate the knowledge about spirituality and thus drew other peoples to the way of correction, those who were worthy of correction and elevation.

Note well, the material action similar to the spiritual one takes place in our world, in our bodies.

The connection between the spiritual and the material worlds is unilateral; it comes from above, from the spiritual to the material. Man is pushed ahead by the feeling of shame. Upon feeling shame, *Malchut* of the world of Infinity contracted and stopped receiving pleasure. The shame was so unbearable, that it was greater than the pleasure.

What is shame? It is absolutely different from the feeling we know. Spiritual shame arises exclusively when man feels the Creator. It is the feeling of spiritual variance between the Creator and man. Although receiving everything from the Creator, man cannot give him the same in return. Shame is characteristic only of the higher souls that have already entered the spiritual world and ascended to the levels where the Creator can be felt.

The sensations cannot be conveyed. If man knows this or that feeling, it can be aroused in him from outside, but not be made afresh. Spiritual sensations are particularly indescribable because only the one who attains them feels them. Both in our world and in the spiritual one, the man who feels something can neither convey nor prove his sensations to anyone else. It is an intensely personal experience.

We feel only that which enters us. We do not know what is outside of us, what does not pass through our senses. Science constantly discovers something new, but we do not know what has not been uncovered yet, and there is no way we can know it in advance. It is still beyond us, around us; it has not yet entered our mind and sensations.

By its “discoveries”, science only ascertains the existence of certain facts in nature. The undiscovered realm continues to exist around us

and outside of our sensations. Kabbalah is also a science; however, it researches not our world, but the spiritual one, providing man with an additional sense. By entering the spiritual world, we can better understand ours. All events that take place in the spiritual world descend to us, while all the effects of our world ascend to the spiritual world according to the law of constant circulation and interaction of all information.

Our world is the last, lowest level of all the existing worlds. Hence, the Kabbalist, who enters the spiritual world, can see the descending and ascending souls, the causes and effects of all spiritual and material processes.

Is the science of Kabbalah verifiable? Looking at our world from above, one can see that all the teachings and religions end where man's inner world, his inner psychology comes to the limit. As long as it is impossible to demonstrate anything spiritual on the level of our world, it will be impossible to prove anything. Only the one who ascends will see it. Hence, Kabbalah is called a secret science. If man is born blind in our world, it is impossible to explain to him the meaning of “seeing”.

In Kabbalah, there is a method of strictly scientific, reasonable, critical self-attainment. When an additional sense emerges, man begins to talk with the Creator, to feel Him. The Creator begins to open his own inner world - the only thing man can feel and understand. As any other created being, man can feel only what descends to him from the Creator.

Perhaps the Creator has something else He does not speak about? Of course, He does. We also receive more and more new information, new sensations, which He has not introduced into us before. However, one cannot pass judgment about something he has not yet received from the Creator.

Man attains everything in Kabbalah by going through the 6000 levels, or so-called “six thousand years”. Having completed his spiritual

ascent, consisting of 6000 levels, man rises to the higher level of attainment - the 7th millennium or “*Shabbat*”.

Then three more ascents come- the 8th, 9th and 10th millennia, where man attains the highest *Sefirot*: *Bina*, *Hochma* and *Keter*. These levels are above the creation. They completely belong to the Creator who gives the corrected souls such attainments, such merging with Him.

Nothing is written about this anywhere; there is no language capable of describing it. It refers to the Torah secrets. Hence, when one asks about the Creator Himself, we cannot answer anything. We speak only about the light that emanates from Him. We attain the light and thus attain the Creator. Whatever we attain, we call “The Creator”, something that created us. It turns out that we actually attain ourselves, our inner world, and not Him.

Being completely filled with the light, *Malchut* felt that, although it had pleased the Creator by receiving His light, it was totally opposite to Him in its properties. It only wants to receive pleasure, while the Creator’s only desire is to give pleasure.

At this stage of development, *Malchut*, for the first time, felt a burning shame because it had seen the Giver and His properties, and all the vast difference between Him and itself.

As a result of this sensation, *Malchut* decides to completely free itself from the light, as in phase 2 (*Bina*), with the only difference being that here the creation passionately desires to receive pleasure and feels how much this desire is contrary to the Creator’s.

The expulsion of the light out of *Malchut* is called “*Tzimtzum Aleph*” (*TA*). Because of *TA*, *Malchut* remains completely empty. The Creator acted up to phase four. Beginning with the feeling of shame, the creation starts acting as if “independently”, the feeling of shame being its driving force.

After the restriction, *Malchut* does not want to receive any more light. It feels its contrast to the Creator Who gives it this pleasure. Being filled with the light, and thus fulfilling the Creator’s desire, *Malchut* now

has finally become contrary to the Creator. What should it do so as not to feel shame and be similar to the Creator, i.e., to receive, because He wants it to, and to give the way He does?

Malchut can achieve such a state if it receives not for its own sake, not for satisfying its own desire to receive pleasure, but for the sake of the Creator. This means that it will now receive the light only because, by doing so, it gives pleasure to the Creator. It is similar to the guest who, even though very hungry, refuses to receive the treat for his own sake, but receives to please the host.

For this purpose, *Malchut* creates a screen - a force resisting the egoistic desire to receive pleasure for its own sake, which pays no attention to the Giver. This force pushes away all the light coming to it. Then, with the help of the same screen, *Malchut* calculates what amount of the light it can receive for the sake of the Creator.

Malchut opens up only to the portion of the light measured by the screen that it can receive for the Creator's sake. The remaining part of *Malchut*, i.e., the rest of its desires, remains empty. If it could fill itself completely with the light and receive for the sake of bestowal, it would have become similar to the Creator by its properties. It would finish the correction of its egoism and begin using it only to give pleasure to the Creator.

Such a state of absolute correction of *Malchut* is “the purpose of the creation” and is called “The End of the Correction” (of egoistic desire to receive pleasure). But it is impossible to reach such a state in one moment, one action, because it is completely contrary to *Malchut*'s egoistic nature. *Malchut* receives its correction in parts, in portions over a period of time.

The light that enters the *Kli* is called “*Ohr Yashar*” (the Direct Light). The *Kli*'s intention to receive the light only for the Creator's sake is called “*Ohr Hozer*” (the Reflected Light). With the help of this intention, the *Kli* reflects the light. The part of the *Kli* that receives the light is called

“*Toch*” (inner part). The remaining empty part of the *Kli* is called “*Sof*” (end). Together, *Toch* and *Sof* form the “*Guf*” (body) - the desire to receive pleasure. One should take into consideration that, when Kabbalistic books speak about “the body”, a “desire to receive” is always meant.

With the exception of our world, the entire spiritual Universe is built on this single principle - to receive for the sake of the Creator. It appears that the Universe is only variations of *Malchut* emptied in *TA*, which now fills itself with the help of the screen. The outer, less significant part of this *Malchut* is called the worlds of *Adam Kadmon*, *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira* and *Assiya*. However, the remaining inner part of *Malchut* is called “the soul”, *Adam*.

The process of filling *Malchut* with the light is qualitative and quantitative. This is the very process we are going to study. It consists in the fact that each tiny part of *Malchut* that descended into our world must correct itself by merging with the Creator. And each such particle is inside man. It is his real “self”.

The part of *Malchut* that does not yet receive the light, but just makes a preliminary analysis, calculating how much light it can receive for the Creator’s sake, is called “the *Rosh*” (head). As much light as *Malchut* can receive, so much pleasure can it give to the Creator. *Malchut* has a complete freedom of will; it can choose either not to receive at all, or to receive as much as it wants. It controls its egoism and chooses just this state to be similar to the Creator. It works with its egoism, i.e., not only it chooses not to receive for its own sake, but receives for the sake of the Creator.

Malchut has to feel pleasure, because this is the Creator’s desire; but the intention must be altruistic. That is why it cannot receive for the Creator’s sake all the light coming from Him. There arises a contradiction between the intention and the pleasure itself. If *Malchut* does not enjoy, neither would the Creator. All His pleasure is in pleasing *Malchut*.

The light that entered the *Toch* of *Malchut* is called “*Ohr Pnimi*” (the Inner Light). The place where the screen sits is called “the *Peh*” (mouth). The screen in Hebrew is “*Masach*”. The boundary where the *Kli* stops receiving the light is called “the *Tabur*” (navel). The line signifying the end of the *Kli* is called “the *Sium*” (completion) or “*Etzbaot Raglin*” (toes).

The part of the light that *Malchut* cannot receive, because of a weak screen remains outside and is called “*Ohr Makif*” (the Surrounding Light). The light that *Malchut* receives inside should correspond to its intention to receive this light for the Creator’s sake. This intention, as is known, is called “the Reflected Light”. Therefore, the light from the head enters the body and mixes with the Reflected Light.

The *Toch*, filled with the light, is absolutely similar to the Creator and is in a state of constant exchange of pleasure with Him. The Creator emanates pleasure, which is felt by the souls according to their measure of “hunger”, the desire to receive it. The problem here is to desire to feel the Creator and to receive pleasure from Him. This is what Kabbalah teaches us.

One can feel the Creator only to the degree of similarity of his own properties. The sense that perceives, that feels the Creator, is called “the *Masach*” (screen). The entrance into the spiritual world starts with a minimal screen emerging in man, when he begins to feel the outer world and understands that it is the Creator.

Then, by studying Kabbalah, man increases the magnitude of his screen and begins to feel the Creator more and more. The screen is the force of resistance to one’s egoism and the measure of one’s similarity to the Creator. It allows him to harmonize his intention according to the intention of the Creator. To the extent that man’s desires are equal in their measure of likeness to those of the Creator’s, he begins to feel the Creator.

Nothing exists in the Universe except the Creator’s desire “to bestow” and the creation’s initial desire “to receive”. Every subsequent pro-

cess is the correction of this desire “to receive” with the help of the desire “to bestow”. Yet, how can man change something that was created by the Creator - the desire “to receive”, if it is his very essence?

The answer is that it occurs only with the help of the intention “to receive for the sake of bestowal”. The creation becomes equal to the Creator in its properties, its spiritual level. Every created being should achieve such a state either during one or several lifetimes. This process takes place throughout every generation. We are the consequence, the product of the previous generations; our souls have been here more than once, and have descended yet again and again. They accumulate the experience of suffering and the readiness to approach nearer to the spiritual...

Man’s nature is one of laziness, and it is a very good feeling. Unless he had it, he would have scattered himself all over the different kinds of pursuits, without giving preference to anything. One should not be afraid of laziness; it protects us from unnecessary activities.

The Creator’s actions become apparent in the first two phases:

The Zero phase, called “the root”, is the light emanating from the Creator.

The First phase, called “*Hochma*” is the “desire to receive” the light, the vessel (the *Kli*), created by the light itself, that it may receive the pleasure contained in this light. Furthermore, until the end of the entire creation, everything happens only as the *Kli*’s reaction to the light inside it. Everything occurs only due to the interconnection between these two components - the light and the vessel, the “desire to give” pleasure and the “desire to receive” that pleasure.

The Second phase, called “*Bina*”, is the first reaction of the *Kli* to the light that fills it; the *Kli* borrows the property of “bestowal” from the light and wants to be equal to it. That is why it expels the light.

The Third phase, called “*Tifferet*”, or “*Zeir Anpin*”, is the first action performed by the *Kli*. It understands that the Creator wants it to

receive and enjoy the light. Therefore, it begins receiving a little bit of the light. This “desire to receive” is the third phase.

The Fourth phase is called “*Malchut*”. In the third phase the *Kli*’s “desire to receive” the entire light of *Hochma* emanating from the Creator develops, and this desire is then called *Malchut*.

This fourth phase is the complete desire, the only creation. We can see that the creation has only one desire - to receive and enjoy the light of *Hochma*. Initially, the only possibility for bestowal is by not receiving for its own sake, but for the sake of the Creator.

However, to become a giver it is necessary to feel the Creator and to receive only for the sake of bestowing pleasure upon Him. You become partners.

He gives to you and you give to Him. You become equal in your properties and aspirations; you suffer if He does not receive pleasure, but He also suffers if you do not enjoy what he has prepared for you. He and you become one whole.

The fourth phase, *Malchut*, is then subdivided into five parts. This happens, because it cannot correct all of its egoism at once, i.e., it is unable to receive the entire light prepared for it for the Creator’s sake. The “desire to receive” for someone else’s sake is unnatural; hence, the creation should gradually “get used” to this desire.

Malchut wants to be similar to the preceding phases. Hence, it divides itself into five parts:

- (a) **The root part** of *Malchut* is similar to the root phase of the Direct Light;
- (b) **The first part** of *Malchut* is similar to the first phase of the Direct Light;
- (c) **The second part** of *Malchut* is similar to the second phase of the Direct Light;
- (d) **The third part** of *Malchut* is similar to the third phase of the Direct Light;

(e) **The fourth part** of *Malchut* is *Malchut* itself, which is not similar to any of the previous properties. Therefore, it is absolutely egoistic.

These phases are correspondingly called:

1. Still
2. Vegetative
3. Animal
4. Human and
5. Spiritual

The souls are created out of the last part of *Malchut*. The rest of the Universe, the worlds and everything that fills and inhabits them, is created out of the preceding parts of *Malchut*. The difference between the levels of the creation is in the degree of the desire to receive pleasure: from the least in the still nature to the biggest in man and to the highest in the souls.

Through reincarnations, man feels all kinds of desires. The one who has even an unconscious desire to become closer to the Creator has also the rest of rougher desires. The question becomes, in what proportion are these desires represented in him, and which desire should he choose for his actions?

With the help of the group and the Rabbi (Teacher), one can replace all of his desires with the single one of attaining the Creator. While moving towards that Goal, the rest of the desires grow and interfere with this advancement. There come all kinds of desires, including sex, money, power, fame, knowledge, and the various idols of the material world.

Man is given all kinds of temptations from above; he is lured by the possibility of growing rich, of being promoted to a high post etc. It happens so that man can get to know himself, to realize his aspirations and weaknesses, his insignificance in withstanding tempting pleasures. All of this is only that he may learn what this desire to receive pleasure is that the Creator has fashioned in him.

Kabbalah is a science of self-knowledge, of revealing the Creator in oneself. Man realizes what is most important to him. It matters what man does with his free time, what he thinks about the rest of the time. A Kabbalist should work. Free time can be used in the right way only if it is planned beforehand. If you think about the question “What am I living for?” during your free time, then it will allow you to think correctly the rest of the time.

To ascend spiritually, one should have an objective to correct, i.e., it is necessary to have the “desire to receive”, egoism. Only this, the “desire to receive”, corrected with the help of the intention to receive for the sake of the Creator, becomes the vessel into which the light intended by the Creator enters. It turns out that the more egoistic man becomes the better. For man’s egoism steadily grows during his approach to the Creator. It is necessary to make a bigger egoist out of man. In this way, he might come to feel that something in him requires correction.

Egoism makes man negatively perceive the positive manifestation of the Creator. Nevertheless, this very negative sense of the Creator brings us to Him. During the spiritual ascent, drawing nearer to the Creator, all negative emotions turn into positive ones.

Man’s inner “self” is the Creator. We feel separated from Him only because our egoism is not yet corrected.

The entire creation consists of five *Behinot*: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Tifferet* or *Zeir Anpin* and *Malchut*, to which correspond 10 *Sefirot*. Why are there 10? The matter is that *Tifferet* consists of 6 *Sefirot*: *Hesed*, *Gevura*, *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod*, *Yesod*. Let us point out that the name “*Tifferet*” means both one of the 5 *Behinot*, and one of its private *Sefirot*.

This private *Sefira*, one of the 6, determines the character of the common *Tifferet*. However, it is more usual to use the name *Zeir Anpin* (ZA) instead of *Tifferet*. This name (the tetragrammaton) is more accepted, especially in the school of the Ari. These 10 *Sefirot* include the entire Universe.

“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

These five *Behinot*: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA*, *Malchut*, are also the five worlds that we otherwise call by the name of the Creator (*Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey*). This name is usually pronounced as HaVaYaH. It has an infinite multitude of meanings, because it provides the framework, the basis of all the names of all the creations:

<i>Sefira</i>	World	Letter
Keter	Adam Kadmon	The point of the letter <i>Yud</i> (<i>Kutzo shel Yud</i>)
Hochma	Atzilut	<i>Yud</i>
Bina	Beria	<i>Hey</i>
ZA	Yetzira	<i>Vav</i>
Malchut	Assiya	<i>Hey</i>

Our world is a part of the world of *Assiya*. Although our world is formally under its lowest spiritual level, as there is no place for such an egoistic property as the one ruling over our world in the spiritual realm, this is considered to be the final level of the world of *Assiya*.

The reason for the creation of the worlds consists in the fact that, in order to give pleasure to the creation, the Creator has to create in it several conditions:

- The creation must want to receive pleasure.
- This desire must come from the creation itself.
- It must be independent, which is not the same as in the previous condition.
- The creation must be able to rule over this desire, so that the desire may neither have power over the creation, nor dictate its behavior.
- The creation must be independent to choose whether it will receive pleasure by being a creation, or by being similar to the Creator.

The creation must be able to act freely between the two contrary forces: its own egoism and the Creator; it must independently choose its path and set out upon that path.

In order to provide the creation (man) with these conditions, the Creator should:

- Distance the creation from the light;
- Create the condition for freedom of will;
- Create an opportunity to attain the Universe and evolve;
- Create an opportunity (what is the difference between a condition and an opportunity?) for freedom of action.

The Creator gradually creates such conditions for the creation. By creation, we mean man in our world, in the state where he already begins to realize himself in relation to the Universe or starts climbing the spiritual levels. Such a state is desirable for the beginning of man’s spiritual work and is called “this world”.

Why did the Creator, Who is at the highest spiritual level, have to form the creation out of an egoistic property that is contrary to Him? Why did He initially completely fill creation with the light, which then empties itself of the light, and by doing so lower creation to the state of “this world” (*Olam Hazeh*)?

The matter is that creation is not independent; even though it is filled with the light, for it is completely suppressed by the light. The light dictates its conditions to the creation, and the desire to receive pleasure, the *Kli*, transfers its properties to it.

For the creation of an independent *Kli*, absolutely free from the light’s assistance, the light should completely move away from it. There is a simple rule: the spreading of the light inside the *Kli*, with the subsequent expulsion of it, makes the *Kli* suitable for its function of independently realizing and choosing the way of filling. Such a genuine, independent *Kli* can emerge only in our world.

The descent of the light from above through all the worlds to man in this world presents the preparatory phase of formation of the genuine the *Kli*. At each phase, only the light determines all the forms, stages, and character of the *Kli*. As soon as the *Kli* completely expels the light, it becomes absolutely independent and is able to take on different decisions.

Any soul (one more name for the *Kli*) that descends from a certain spiritual level is considered as part of the Creator and is filled with His light, until it dresses into man's body-desire and until he starts working with it.

Only after a soul descends to our world and learns Kabbalah does it comprehend its real state. Then man, in whom a desire for spiritual advancement emerged, may ask the Creator to fill him with the spiritual light that will elevate him. However, man does not rise spiritually to the level from which his soul descended, but 620 times higher.

How does man advance? If he were given from above an incentive for the attainment of the spiritual, he must not lose it. Man can be pushed several times from above, by providing him with the interest for spirituality. However, if he does not use this desire correctly, he will eventually be left in peace until his next incarnation.

The *Kli* is forced to rise spiritually by the Surrounding Light, *Ohr Makif*. It shines from outside, because it cannot enter the egoistic *Kli* yet. But this light affects man's desire for spirituality and makes it grow so considerably, that all he wants is the spiritual ascent. Then he receives help from above. To increase the influence of the Surrounding Light and thus to start feeling the spiritual sensations, to break into the spiritual space one can only do this:

- a) under the guidance of a true Kabbalist;
- b) with the help of studying genuine books;
- c) through communication with the members of his group (collective studies, work, meals).

Olam Hazeh (“**this world**”) is the state where man already feels that the Creator conceals Himself from him. At this time, we do not feel it yet. We are told that the Creator exists, we hear about it, but in any case, we cannot feel it. When man starts feeling that there is something outside of our world, something that hides from him, it is called the double concealment of the Creator.

Egoism is man’s property that automatically makes him derive benefit from everything he does. Only in this does he see the purpose of his actions. Altruism is a property we are totally unable to comprehend; it is when person does something without any benefit to himself. Nature endowed us only with the egoistic properties. Altruism is beyond the limits of our understanding.

Only someone who feels the Creator can acquire this property. Using the language of Kabbalah, when the light enters the *Kli*, it will pass its altruistic properties to it. Man cannot be corrected all by himself, and he is not required to. Under his Teacher’s guidance, during the group lessons, he has to arouse such spiritual desires that would cause the light to enter him.

To obtain that one should work hard on his thoughts and desires to know what is exactly necessary, although he cannot yet desire it. If man performs an action in our world that seems outwardly altruistic, it actually means that he calculated its future reward in advance.

Any movement, even the slightest one, is made only based on a calculation. As a result, it seems to man that he would be better off than he is now. If man did not make such calculations, he would not be able to move, for a certain amount of energy is needed for movement even at the molecular level of nature, and this energy is our egoism, i.e., the desire to receive pleasure. This law then “dresses” into general physical-chemical laws. In our world, man can only receive or give for the sake of receiving.

It is worth noting here that the desires that make all humankind happy are also egoistic, for man, seeing himself as a part of humankind, desires to please this very part of him...

Kabbalah permits the description of both the inner actions performed by man, and those the Creator performs on him, i.e., their interactions. Kabbalah is a physical-mathematical description of the spiritual objects and their actions, expressed in formulas, graphs and tables.

All of them describe a Kabbalist's inner spiritual actions, and only the one who can reproduce these actions in himself, and thus understand what these formulas mean, can know what stands behind them.

A Kabbalist can pass this information on to his disciple only when the latter reaches at least the first spiritual level. Such information is passed “by word of mouth” (*mi Peh le Peh*), because the screen is at the level of “Peh” of the spiritual *Partzuf*. If a student has not yet acquired the screen, he cannot really understand anything; he cannot yet receive anything from his teacher.

When a Kabbalist reads a Kabbalistic book, he should feel each word, each letter internally, just as blind people feel each letter of the alphabet using the Braille system.

We have studied four phases of the formation of the *Kli* (0-*Shoresh* or *Keter*, 1-*Hochma*, 2-*Bina*, and 3-*Tifferet*). Why are there four and not five? It is because the fifth one is the *Kli* itself, and not the phase of its formation. Starting from *Malchut*, there are no more phases; the *Kli* is completely created, born, formed in its egoistic desire to receive pleasure from the light of *Hochma*. The *Kli* is independent not only in its desire, but in the implementation of its desire to act.

However, if the light, the pleasure, fills the *Kli*, it dictates to the *Kli* the way it should act, because it suppresses it by filling it with delight. That is why the *Kli* is truly free in its intention only when it is not filled with the light. Still that is not enough yet; the light should not be felt even from afar; i.e., the Creator should conceal Himself completely from

the *Kli*, *Malchut*. Only then can *Malchut* be independent, free in its decisions and actions.

When the *Kli* can realize its desires independently, when it is completely free from the influence of the light and pleasure, and the light cannot dictate to the *Kli* its conditions, such a state, is called “our world”, or “this world”. This state can be achieved if the light is removed not only from the inner part of the *Kli*, but gradually distances itself from outside of the *Kli*. In our world, man feels the Creator neither on the inside nor the outside; i.e., he does not believe in His existence.

The expulsion of the light from the *Kli* is called the restriction of the desire to receive pleasure, or simply the restriction, *Tzimtzum Aleph*. Moving the light away from outside of the *Kli* is attained with the help of a system of darkening screens that are called worlds. There are only five such screens; i.e., there are five worlds. Each of these worlds consists of five parts called “*Partzufim*” (plural of *Partzuf*). Each *Partzuf* includes five parts called “*Sefirot*” (plural of *Sefira*). As a result, *Malchut* is so remote from the light that it does not feel it at all. This is man in our world.

In Kabbalah, we study the properties of the worlds, *Partzufim* and *Sefirot*; i.e., the properties of screens that conceal the spiritual world, the Creator from us. The purpose of this study is to know what properties man should acquire so as to neutralize the concealing actions of all these worlds, *Partzufim* and *Sefirot*; to rise to the level of this or that spiritual level of *Sefira*, *Partzuf* or world.

By acquiring the properties of a certain *Partzuf* in a certain world, man immediately neutralizes the concealing action of this level and attains it.

At this time, only the higher levels hide from him the Creator, the light. Gradually he should attain all the properties of all the levels, starting from the lowest one immediately above our world, and up to the highest level, his final correction.

Let us return to *Malchut*, the 5th phase of the development of the *Kli*. When *Malchut* feels that it receives whilst the Creator gives, it perceives the contrast of its state to the Creator's to be so disgusting that it decides to stop receiving pleasure. Since there is no compulsion in the spiritual world, and pleasure cannot be felt, if there is no desire for it, the light disappears, stops being felt in the *Kli*.

Malchut performs *Tzimtzum Aleph (TA)*. In the previous phases, the *Kli* had not felt itself receiving, and only in the 5th phase, when it independently decides to receive, the *Kli* feels its opposition to the Creator. Only *Malchut* can make *TA*, for to make the *Tzimtzum*, one should first feel its complete opposition to the Creator.

Another name for *Malchut* is soul, but the name “soul” may refer both to the *Kli*, and to the light in it. While reading a text, one should always remember whether it speaks about the creation or about what it is filled with. In the first case, it is a part of the creation itself, a desire. In the second case, it is the Creator's part, the light.

When a soul descends to the world of *Atzilut* from the world of Infinity, it becomes the soul of phase *Aleph*, but not the real soul. The distinction between it and the Creator is not yet felt. It is as a baby in its mother's womb; it cannot be called independent yet, although it already exists. It is still in the interim phase.

The world of *Atzilut* is absolutely spiritual, because the *Kli* is not felt in it; it is completely suppressed by the light and is a single whole with the light. The souls of the rest of the created beings, for example, animals, descending from above through the world of *Atzilut*, are also considered one with the Creator. However, in our world, the created beings are completely empty of the light and infinitely remote from the Creator.

The worlds are levels of closeness to the Creator in man's ascent and the measures of remoteness from Him in the descent of the souls. It does not matter about what kind of souls we speak. Although all nature presents a single whole, some types of created beings, differing in the

degree of their freedom of choice, can be singled out as more or less free in the choice of the Goal.

Of all created beings, only man has a true freedom of will; the rest of nature ascends or descends with him, because everything in our Universe is related to man. It is impossible to speak about a certain number of souls that pass this way, for it is difficult to give a quantitative estimate.

Particles of other stronger and higher souls may appear in each of us. They begin to speak in us and push us forward. In fact, the soul is not something predetermined, permanent, something that accompanies our physiological body during its entire biological life. For example, the Ari, in his book “*Shaar HaGilgulim*” (“The Gates of Reincarnation”) describes the kind of souls and in what succession they took root in him.

A soul is not something indivisible. It constantly merges and separates, creates new parts according to the demands of the correction of the common soul. Even during man’s life, some of the souls’ parts take root or leave him; souls constantly “flow” one into another.

The world of Beria corresponds to the phase *Bet-Bina*, the “desire to bestow”, to please. The *Kli* in the world of *Beria* is called “*Neshama*”; for the first time it has its own desire, albeit the “desire to bestow”; hence, it is very “clear”, non-egoistic in its desires and considered to be absolutely spiritual.

The world of Yetzira corresponds to the phase *Gimel-Tifferet*, or *ZA*, in which both the “desire to bestow” (approximately 90%) and the “desire to receive” (approximately 10%) emerge. There is a little bit of the light of *Hochma* on the bright background of *Ohr Hassadim*. The *Kli* in this phase passes from the state of *Neshama* to *Ruach*. Although the desires of the *Kli* are already egoistic to some degree, all the same the “desire to bestow” prevails; therefore, the *Kli* in the world of *Yetzira* is still quite spiritual.

The completely egoistic fourth phase, *Malchut*, rules in **the world of Assiya**. Here the “desire to receive” is itself the *Guf* (body), which is ab-

solutely remote from the Creator. The light that fills the *Kli* in the world of *Assiya* is called “*Nefesh*”; this name suggests that the *Kli* and the light are spiritually motionless similarly to the still nature of our world.

The *Kli* becomes coarser as it gradually descends through the levels of the worlds, and moves away from the light until it is completely empty, i.e., it does not feel the light at all. Therefore, it becomes completely free from the light and the Creator in its thoughts and actions.

Now, if the *Kli* itself prefers the path of spiritual development to “petty” egoistic pleasures, it will gradually be able to ascend through the levels of the worlds of *Assiya*, *Yetzira*, *Beria*, *Atzilut*, *Adam Kadmon*, and reach the world of Infinity, i.e., infinitely merge with the Creator, become equal with Him.

Each man has a so-called black point in his heart, an embryo of the future spiritual state. In different people, this point is in a different state of readiness for the spiritual perception. There are people who cannot grasp spiritual notions at all; they have no interest in them. However, there are people who suddenly wake up, and are puzzled by the fact that they suddenly become interested in such “abstract” matters.

As with all other animals, man lives under the influence of his parents, the environment, traits of his character. Having no freedom of will, he only processes the available information according to outer and inner factors. Then he performs the actions that seem best to him.

Yet, everything changes when the Creator starts awaking man. A person wakes up under the influence of a small portion of the light that the Creator sends to him in advance. Upon receiving this portion, his inner point begins to demand further filling, forcing him to look for the light. Therefore, he starts to search for it in different occupations, ideas, philosophies, doctrines, study groups, until he comes to Kabbalah. Each soul on the Earth has to go along the same path!

Until, with the help of the screen, his black point, reaches the size of a small *Partzuf*, man is considered to have no soul, no *Kli*, and natu-

rally, no light in him. The presence of even the smallest spiritual *Partzuf*, having the lights of *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, *Yechida* (*NaRaNHaY*), indicates man's birth and his leaving of the animal state (which we are used to consider human, by the way).

Man refers to such a spiritual state where one has already passed the spiritual barrier (*Machsom*) separating this world from the spiritual one, the world of *Assiya*; i.e., one who has acquired the spiritual *Kli* called the soul.

The experience accumulated by the soul in each of its incarnations in this world remains with it, and passes from generation to generation, only changing its physiological bodies as one would change a shirt. All bodily physical sufferings also register in the soul, and at a certain moment, bring man to a desire to attain spirituality.

The dressing of a soul into a woman's body signifies that it does not have to go through any personal spiritual correction in this incarnation. A woman does not advance spiritually by herself, except by helping to circulate the wisdom of Kabbalah and receiving spiritual elevation through her husband.

The Torah says that the hearts of those who rule the world are in the hands of the Creator. This refers to all politicians, heads of states, dictators - all those on whom humankind depends. All of them are nothing but marionettes in the hands of the Creator, through whom He controls everything.

There is only one law in the spiritual realm - the law of the equivalence of the spiritual properties. If the properties of two people are equal, similar, they are spiritually close. If people differ in their thoughts, viewpoints, they feel separated and distant from one another, even if they are physically close.

Spiritual proximity or distance depends on the similarity of the objects' properties. If the objects completely coincide in their properties, desires, they merge. If two desires are contrary to one another, they are

said to be remote one from the other. The more similar two desires are, the closer they are in the spiritual world.

If only one out of the numerous desires of the objects coincides, these two objects have contact only in one point. If there is not even one desire in us that is similar to the Creator's, it means that we are absolutely remote from Him and have nothing with which to feel Him. If there appears just one desire in me that is similar to the Creator, then with it I will be able to feel the Creator.

Man's task is gradually to make all his desires similar to those of the Creator. Then man will completely merge into one spiritual object with Him, and there will be no distinction between them. Man will achieve everything the Creator has: eternity, absolute knowledge, and perfection. This is the ultimate purpose of the correction of all man's natural desires.

Malchut, upon expelling all the light in *TA*, decided to receive it with the help of a screen. The Direct Light comes to it, presses on the screen, wanting to get inside. *Malchut* refuses to receive the light, remembering the burning shame it felt when it was filled with it. Refusal to receive the light means reflecting it with the help of the screen. Such light is called “*Ohr Hozer*” (the Reflected Light). The reflection itself is called “*Haka'a*” (a stroke) of the light into the screen.

The reflection of pleasure (the light) takes place inside of man with the help of the intention to receive this pleasure only for the Creator's sake. Man calculates how much he can receive to please the Creator. He, as it were, dresses the pleasure he wants to receive onto the intention to bestow upon the Creator; to receive, to enjoy for the sake of the Creator.

The dressing of the Direct Light onto the Reflected Light allows *Malchut*, after *TA*, to expand and receive a portion of the light. It means that, at this point it becomes similar to the Creator by merging with Him. The Purpose of the creation is to fill *Malchut* completely with the

Creator’s light. Then all reception of the light will be equal to bestowal and will mean total merging of the entire creation with the Creator.

By dressing the coming pleasure into its intention (the Reflected Light), *Malchut* announces that it wants to feel this pleasure only because, by doing so, it delights the Creator. In this case, reception is equal to bestowal, since the meaning of an action is determined by the *Kli*’s intention, not by the mechanical direction of the action, inward or outward. Pleasure felt in this case will be twofold: from receiving it and from bestowing it upon the Creator.

Rabbi Ashlag wonderfully illustrates the situation with the example of a relationship between a guest and his host, the guest, receiving pleasure from the host, turns it as it were into giving. He pays a visit to the host, who knows exactly what he likes most. The guest sits down in front of the host, and the host puts his five most favorite dishes before him, the exact amount to match his appetite.

If the guest had not seen the giver, the host, he would have shamelessly pounced on the food and gulped down all the delicacies without leaving a bit, since they are exactly what he desires. However, the host, sitting in front of him, embarrasses him, so the guest refuses to eat. The host insists, explaining how much he wishes to please him, to give him delight.

Finally, by trying to talk the guest into eating, the host says that the guest’s refusal makes Him suffer. Upon realizing that by eating the dinner he will give pleasure to the host, turning himself into a giver instead of a receiver, i.e., becoming equal with the host in his intentions and properties, only then does the guest agree to eat.

If a situation arises where the host wants to please the guest by putting the treat before him, and the guest, in return, eats it with the intention to return the pleasure to the host, enjoying it at that, this condition is called interaction by stroke (*Zivug de Haka’a*). However, it can take place only after the guest’s prior complete refusal to receive pleasure.

The guest only accepts the treat when he is sure that he pleases the host by receiving it, as if doing him a favor. He receives it only to the extent of his ability to think not about his own pleasure, but about pleasing the host, in other words, the Creator.

So, why do we need all these pleasures in our world if they are all based on suffering? When a desire is fulfilled, the pleasure “is extinguished” and disappears.

Pleasure is felt only when there is a burning “desire to receive” it. With the help of the correction of our desires, by adding to them the intention “for the sake of the Creator”, we can enjoy infinitely, without feeling “hunger” before receiving pleasure. We can receive enormous delight by granting pleasure to the Creator, with the help of constantly increasing in ourselves the feeling of His greatness.

Since the Creator is eternal and infinite, we, by feeling His greatness, create in ourselves the eternal and infinite *Kli* - hunger for Him. Thus, we can enjoy eternally and infinitely. In the spiritual world any reception of pleasure promotes an even larger “desire to receive” it, and it goes on forever.

Filling becomes equal to giving: man gives, sees how much the Creator enjoys it, and acquires an even bigger “desire to give”. However, the pleasure from giving should also be altruistic, i.e., for the sake of bestowal, and not for the sake of receiving pleasure from it. Otherwise, it will be giving for self-enjoyment, as when we give while pursuing our own ends.

Kabbalah teaches man to receive pleasure from the light with the intention for the sake of the Creator. If man can screen all the pleasures of this world, he will be able instantly to feel the spiritual world. Then man falls under the influence of the spiritually impure forces. They gradually provide him with additional spiritual egoism. He builds a new screen on it with the help of the pure forces, and then he can receive a new portion of the light, which corresponds to the quantity of egoism corrected by him. Thus, man always has the freedom of will.

The notion of “screen” contains the difference between the spiritual and material. Receiving pleasure without the screen is a common egoistic pleasure of our world. The point is to prefer spiritual pleasures to the material ones and by developing the screen, to receive eternal pleasure, which is intended for us according to the Thought of Creation.

However, the screen can appear only under the influence of the light of the Creator, on the egoistic desire of the *Kli*. The moment the Creator reveals Himself to man, his question of who needs his efforts, instantly disappears. So all our work boils down to just one thing: to feel the Creator.

To overcome any level of concealment, man must acquire the properties of this level. By doing so, he “neutralizes” the restriction, takes upon himself the influence of the concealing level, so that the concealment turns into revelation and attainment.

For example, let us take a person whose every property belongs to our world. His properties are so unimproved that he is under the influence of the concealment of all five worlds. If, because of the correction, his properties become similar to those of the world of *Assiya*, then this world stops concealing the Creator’s light from him, which means that man has spiritually ascended to the level of *Assiya*.

A person, whose properties and sensations are already in *Assiya*, feels the concealment of the Creator on the level of the world of *Yetzira*. By correcting his properties according to those of *Yetzira*, he neutralizes the concealment of the Creator’s light on this level and begins to feel Him on the level of *Yetzira*. It turns out that the worlds are the screens that conceal the Creator from us. However, when man puts the screen on his egoism similar to those levels, he by doing so, reveals the part of the Creator’s light that this screen, this world was concealing.

The one who is in a certain spiritual world will feel the concealment on that level and the one above it, but not on the one below. So, if man is on the level of *Sefira Hesed* of the *Partzuf ZA* of the world of *Beria*,

then from this level downwards, all the worlds, all the *Partzufim* and all the *Sefirot* are already in him in their corrected state. These passed levels are the levels of revelation for him; he absorbed their egoism, corrected it with the help of the screen, and thus revealed the Creator on this level.

However, the Creator is still concealed from him on all the higher levels. Overall, there are 125 levels from our world to the Creator: five worlds with five *Partzufim* in each world, with five *Sefirot* in each *Partzuf*.

The main thing is to take the first step into the spiritual world; afterwards it becomes much simpler. All the levels are similar to one another, and the difference between them is only in the material, not in the design. The world of *Adam Kadmon* consists of five *Partzufim*: *Keter (Galgalta)*, *Hochma (AB)*, *Bina (SAG or Abba ve Ima, or AVI in short)*, *ZA* (sometimes it is called *Kadosh Baruch Hu, Israel*), *Malchut (Shechina, Leah, Rachel)*.

On each spiritual level, man as it were, changes his name, and according to where he is now, is called either Pharaoh, Moshe (Moses), or Israel. All of these are the Creator's names, man's levels of attaining Him. As a rule, the Kabbalistic books are written by Kabbalists who have passed all these levels of the correction.

The levels that follow are not the levels of correction, but an individual's attainment and personal contact with the Creator. They are not studied. They belong to the so-called “secrets of the Torah” (*Sodot Torah*) that are given as a gift to the one who has completely corrected himself. Unlike these, the levels of correction belong to the tastes of the Torah (*Ta'amey Torah*); they must be studied to be attained.

The conveying of Kabbalistic information is the conveying light. The transferring of properties from the higher spiritual level to the lower one is called “descent” or “influence”, and from the lower to the higher one - “request”, “prayer”, *MAN*. The connection exists only between two adjacent *Partzufim*, one above the other. No communication is possible between two discontinuous levels. Each higher level is called the Creator with regard to the lower one; its relationship to the lower level can be likened to a ratio of the Universe to a grain of sand.

יא) ועם זה תבין גדר האמיתי להבחין בין רוחניות לגשמיות: כי כל שיש בו רצון לקבל מושלם בכל בחינותיו, שהוא בח"ד, הוא נקרא "גשמי". והוא נמצא בפרטי כל המציאות הערוכה לעינינו בעוה"ז. וכל שהוא למעלה משיעור הגדול הזה של הרצון לקבל, נבחן בשם "רוחניות". שהם העולמות אבי"ע, הגבוהים מעוה"ז, וכל המציאות שבהם.

ובזה תבין, שכל ענין עליות וירידות האמורות בעולמות העליונים, אינן בבחינת מקום מדומה ח"ו, רק בענין ד' הבחינות שברצון לקבל. כי כל הרחוק ביותר מבחי"ד, נבחן למקום יותר גבוה. וכל המתקרב אל בחינה ד', נבחן למקום יותר תחתון.

11) Now we can understand the difference between the spiritual and the material. If the "desire to receive" has reached its final development, i.e., achieved the stage of Behina Dalet, it is called "material" and belongs to our world (Olam Haze'h). If the "desire to receive" has not yet reached its final development, then such a desire is considered spiritual and corresponds to the four worlds of ABYA, which are above the level of our world.

You should understand that all ascents and descents in the Upper worlds are not by any means movements in some imaginary space, but are merely changes in the magnitude of the "desire to receive". The object most remote from Behina Dalet is in the highest point. The closer an object is to Behina Dalet, the lower is its level.

Here the name "Olam Haze'h" means the world of Assiya.

The "desire to receive" in Behina Dalet is absolutely complete; this is the desire just to receive without giving anything in return. All ascents and descents in the spiritual world in no way refer to the notion of place they speak solely about the increase or decrease of the similarity of man's inner properties to those of the Creator.

If one likens it to our world, then the ascent can be imagined as a burst of joy and high spirits, while the descent would be a dismal mood. We speak about the similarity of properties though, when the mood only accompanies the realization of the spiritual ascent. In Kabbalah, all actions refer to man's inner feelings.

It depends on man himself what property he should use. What really matters is the measure of egoism that man works with right now and

“for whose sake”, i.e., for the sake of the Creator, which will be an ascent, or for his own, which corresponds to a fall. It is important how he uses his egoism and in what direction.

(ב) אמנם יש להבין: כיון שכל עיקרו של הנברא ושל כל הבריאה בכללה, הוא רק הרצון לקבל בלבד, ומה שיותר מזה אינו לגמרי בכלל בריאה, אלא נמשך יש מיש מעצמותו ית', א"כ למה אנו מבחינים את הרצון לקבל הזה לעוביות ועכירות, ואנו מצווים לזכות אותו על ידי תורה ומצות, עד שזולת זה לא נגיע אל המטרה הנעלה של מחשבת הבריאה?

12) One should understand that the essence of each vessel and the entire Creation is only the “desire to receive”. Nothing outside the framework of this desire has anything to do with the creation, but refers to the Creator. Then why do we regard the “desire to receive” as something coarse, disgusting and requiring correction? We are instructed to “purify” it with the help of the Torah and the Commandments; otherwise, we will not be able to achieve the ultimate purpose of the Creation.

The desire to receive pleasure was formed by the Creator and therefore not subject to change. Man can only choose what size of a desire he can use now and “for whose sake”. If each of his desires he uses only for his own benefit, then it is egoism or “spiritual impurity”. If man wants to use his desires to receive pleasure while simultaneously delighting the Creator, then he has to choose only those of his desires with which he can really do so.

Therefore, wishing to act altruistically, man should first check what kind of desires he can use to receive pleasure so that it returns to the Creator. Only then can he start filling them with pleasure. All of man’s desires are the desires of *Malchut*. They are divided into 125 parts called levels. Gradually, using larger and larger egoistic desires for the sake of the Creator, man ascends spiritually. The use of all of *Malchut*’s 125 private desires is called ‘the complete correction of egoism’.

Sometimes it is more convenient to divide *Malchut*’s desires into 620 instead of 125 parts. Such parts of the desire or rather their use

for the sake of the Creator are called “commandments”, actions for His sake. By fulfilling these 620 actions, commandments, man ascends to the same 125-th level.

ג) והענין הוא, כי כמו שהגשמיים נפרדים זה מזה ע"י ריחוק מקום, כן נפרדים הרוחנים זה מזה ע"י שינוי הצורה שבהם. ותמצא זה גם בעוה"ז. למשל שני בני אדם, הקרובים בדעתם זה לזה, הם אוהבים זה את זה. ואין ריחוק מקום פועל עליהם, שיתרחקו זה מזה. ובהפך, כשהם רחוקים זה מזה בדעותיהם, הרי הם שונאים זה את זה, וקרבת המקום לא תקרב אותם במאומה.

הרי ששינוי הצורה שבדעתם, מרחקם זה מזה, וקרבת הצורה שבדעתם, מקרבתם זה אל זה. ואם למשל, טבעו של האחד הוא הפוך בכל בחינותיו כנגד טבעו של השני, הרי הם רחוקים זה מזה כרחוק המזרח ממערב. ועד"ז תשכיל ברוחניות, שכל העינים של התרחקות והתקרבות וזווג ויחוד, הנבחנים בהם, הם משקלים של שינוי צורה בלבד. שלפי מדת שינוי הצורה, הם מתפרדים זה מי זה, ולפי מדת השואת הצורה, הם מתדבקים זה בזה.

ועם זה תבין, שהגם שהרצון לקבל הוא חוק מחויב בהנברא, כי הוא כל בחינת נברא שבו, והוא הכלי הראוי לקבל המטרה שבמחשבת הבריאה, עכ"ז הוא נעשה ע"ז נפרד לגמרי מהמאציל, כי יש שינוי צורה עד למדת הפכיות בינו לבין המאציל. כי המאציל הוא כולו להשפיע, ואין בו מנצוצי קבלה אפילו משהו ח"ו. והוא כולו לקבל, ואין בו מנצוצי השפעה אף משהו. הרי אין לך הפכיות הצורה רחוקה יותר מזה. ונמצא ע"כ בהכרח כי הפכיות הצורה הזו מפרידה אותו מהמאציל.

13) *As all material objects are separated from one another by distance in space, spiritual objects are also separated from one another due to the difference in their inner properties. Something like this can be seen in our world. For example, two men have similar views, sympathize with one another, and no distance can influence the empathy between them. On the contrary, when their views are very different, they hate one another and no proximity can unite them.*

Therefore, the similarity of views draws people together, while the differences separate them. If one person's nature is absolutely opposite to the nature of the other, these people are as remote from one another as East is from West. The same occurs in the spiritual worlds: moving away, rapprochement, merging – all these processes happen only according to the difference or resemblance between the

inner properties of the spiritual objects. The difference in properties separates them, while their similarity brings them closer.

The “desire to receive” is the principal element of the creation; this is the vessel necessary for the realization of the Purpose included in the Thought of the Creation. This is the desire that separates the creation from the Creator. The Creator is the absolute “desire to bestow”; He does not have a trace of the “desire to receive”. It is impossible to imagine a greater contrast than this: between the Creator and the creation, between the “desire to bestow” and the “desire to receive”.

The spiritual place means being with one’s properties on one of the 125 levels of the spiritual ladder. From this, it follows that the notion of “place” means quality, property, measure of correction. Even in our world, closeness in physical space does not bring two different characters close to one another; it is only the similarity of their properties, thoughts and desires that can bridge the gap between them. On the contrary, the difference in properties, thoughts, and desires moves the objects away from one another.

(יד) ובכדי להציל את הנבראים מגודל הפירוד הרחוק הזה, נעשה סוד הצמצום הא’, שענינו הוא, שהפריד הבח”ד מן כל פרצופי הקדושה. באופן, שמדת גדלות הקבלה היא נשארה בבחינת חלל פנוי וריקן מכל אור. כי כל פרצופי הקדושה יצאו בבחינת מסך מתוקן בכלי מלכות שלהם, שלא יקבלו אור בבח”ד הזו.

ואז, בעת שהאור העליון נמשך ונתפשט אל הנאצל, והמסך הזה דוחה אותו לאחוריו, הנה זה נבחן כמו הכאה בין אור העליון ובין המסך, המעלה אור חוזר ממטה למעלה, ומלביש הע”ס דאור העליון. כי אותו חלק האור הנדחה לאחוריו, נקרא “אור חוזר”. ובהלבשתו לאור העליון, נעשה אח”כ כלי קבלה על האור העליון במקום הבח”ד.

כי אח”ז התרחבה כלי המלכות, באותו שיעור האו”ח, שהוא אור הנדחה, שעלה והלביש לאור העליון ממטה למעלה, והתפשטה גם ממעלה למטה, שבזה נתלבשו האורות בהכלים, דהיינו בתוך אור חוזר ההוא. וה”ס ראש וגוף שבכל מדרגה. כי הזוג דהכאה מאור העליון במסך, מעלה אור חוזר ממטה למעלה, ומלביש הע”ס דאור העליון בבחינת ע”ס דראש, שפירושו שרשי כלים.

כי שם עוד לא יכולה להיות הלבשה ממש. ואח"כ כשהמלכות מתפשטת עם האו"ח הוא ממעלה למטה, אז נגמר האור חוזר, ונעשה לבחינת כלים על אור העליון. ואז נעשית התלבשות האורות בכלים. ונקראת "גוף של מדרגה" ההיא, שפירושו כלים גמורים.

14) *In order to save the creation from such remoteness from the Creator, the Tzimtzum Aleph (TA, the First Restriction) took place and separated Behina Dalet from the spiritual objects. This happened in such a way that the "desire to receive" turned into a space void of the light. After the Tzimtzum Aleph, all the spiritual objects have a screen on their vessel-Malchut in order to avoid receiving the light inside Behina Dalet.*

The moment the Upper Light tries to enter the creation, the screen pushes it away. This process is called a Stroke (Haka'a) between the Upper Light and the screen. Because of this blow, the Reflected Light rises and dresses the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light. The Reflected Light, dressed on the Upper Light, is becoming a vessel instead of Behina Dalet.

After this, Malchut expands in accordance with the height of the Reflected Light, then spreads downwards, thus letting the light get inside. One says that the Upper Light dresses onto the Reflected Light. This is called the "Rosh" (head) and the "Guf" (body) of each level. The Stroke Contact of the Upper Light with the screen causes the lifting of the Reflected Light. The Reflected Light dresses onto the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light, thus forming the 10 Sefirot de Rosh.

The 10 Sefirot de Rosh are not the real vessels yet; they only pass for their roots. It is only after Malchut, with the Reflected Light, spreads downwards, that the Reflected Light turns into the vessels for the reception of the Upper Light. Then the lights dress into the vessels, called "the body" of this particular level. The real, complete vessels are called "the body".

The creation is formed as absolutely egoistic. Moreover, according to this property it is as remote as can be from the Creator. To help the

creation out of such a state, the Creator fashioned in *Malchut* a desire to make TA, i.e., to separate *Behina Dalet* from all pure *Behinot*, leaving it absolutely empty in the space filled with nothing.

On its way to the creation, the Upper Light (*Ohr Elion*) collides with the screen, which is in front of *Behina Dalet*'s desire to receive pleasure, and which completely pushes it back. This phenomenon is defined as an interaction by the stroke between the Upper Light and the screen and is called “*Haka'a*” (stroke). Divided by the screen into 10 parts, *Sefirot*, the Reflected Light, dresses onto the Upper Light, thus dividing it into 10 *Sefirot*. The combination of 10 *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light and the 10 *Sefirot* of the Upper Light forms the *Rosh* (head) of the *Partzuf* (spiritual object).

Thus the Reflected Light, i.e., the desire to return to the Creator the pleasure that one receives from Him, becomes the condition of receiving this pleasure, i.e., the vessel of reception (*Kli Kabbalah*) instead of *Behina Dalet*. *Behina Dalet* is unable to receive pleasure without the screen because of its egoistic desires. We see that the screen can change its intention from egoistic into altruistic, turn it into the “desire to receive” for the Creator's sake. Only after the creation builds such an intention can the higher light spread into the vessel and dress it into the desires-*Kelim*, formed by the Reflected Light.

טו) הרי שנעשו בחינת כלים חדשים בפרצופי דקדושה במקום בחי"ד אחר הצמצום א', שהם נעשו מאור חוזר של זווג דהכאה בהמסך. ויש אמנם להבין את אור חוזר הזה: איך הוא נעשה לבחינת כלי קבלה, אחר שהוא מתחילתו רק אור נדחה מקבלה, ונמצא שמשמש תפקיד הפוך מענינו עצמו?

ואסביר לך במשל מהויות דחיי העולם. כי מטבע האדם לחבב ולהוקיר מדת ההשפעה. ומאוס ושפל בעיניו מדת הקבלה מחברו. ולפיכך, הבא לבית חברו, והוא מבקשו שיאכל אצלו, הרי אפילו בעת שהוא רעב ביותר, יסרב לאכול. כי נבזה ושפל בעיניו להיות מקבל מתנה מחברו.

אכן בעת שחברו מרבה להפציר בו בשיעור מספיק, דהיינו עד שיהיה גלוי לו לעינים, שיעשה לחברו טובה גדולה עם אכילתו זו, הנה אז מתרצה ואוכל אצלו. כי כבר אינו מרגיש את עצמו למקבל מתנה, ואת חברו להמשיפע. אלא להיפך, כי הוא המשפיע ועושה טובה לחברו, ע"י קבלתו ממנו את הטובה הזאת. והנך מוצא, שהגם שהרעב והתאבון הוא כלי קבלה המיוחד

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לאכילה, והאדם ההוא היה לו רעבון ותאבון במדה מספקת לקבל סעודת חברו, עכ"ז לא היה יכול לטעום אצלו אף משהו, מחמת הבושה.

אלא כשחברו מתחיל להפציר בו, והוא הולך ודוחה אותו, הרי אז התחיל להתרקם בו כלי קבלה חדשים על האכילה. כי כחות ההפצרה של חברו וכחות הדחיה שלו, בעת שהולכים ומתרבים, סופם להצטרף לשיעור מספיק, המהפכים לו מדת הקבלה למדת השפעה. עד שיוכל לצייר בעיניו, שיעשה טובה ונחת רוח גדולה לחברו עם אכילתו. אשר אז נולדו לו כלי קבלה על סעודת חברו. ונבחן עתה, שכח הדחיה שלו נעשה לעיקר כלי קבלה על הסעודה, ולא הרעב והתאבון, אע"פ שהם באמת כלי קבלה הרגילים.

15) *After the First Restriction, new vessels of reception appear in place of Behina Dalet. They are formed because of a Stroke Contact between the light and the screen. However, we still need to understand how this light turned into a vessel of reception after being the light reflected from such a vessel. It turns out that the light becomes a vessel, i.e., starts playing an opposite role.*

To explain the above, let us take an example from this world. Man naturally respects a “desire to give”, at the same time, he resents receiving without giving something in return. Let us suppose that a person comes to his friend’s house, and is offered a meal. Naturally, he would refuse to eat no matter how hungry he may be, because he hates to be a receiver who gives nothing in return.

His host, however, starts persuading him, making it clear that by the guest's eating his food, he would please his host immensely. When the guest feels that what the host says is true, he will consent to accept the meal, since he would not feel as a receiver anymore. Moreover, now the guest feels he is giving to the host, delighting him with his readiness to eat. It turns out that in spite of his hunger - a genuine vessel of receiving food - the guest could not even touch the delicacies until his shame was placated by the host's persuasions.

Now we see how a new vessel for receiving the food comes to life. The gradually growing power of the host's persuasion and the guest's resistance finally turn reception into bestowal. The act of receiving

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remained unchanged; only the intention was transformed. Just the force of resistance and not hunger (the true vessel of reception) turned into the reason for accepting the treat.

Wherever *Behina Dalet* is mentioned, *Malchut* is meant, i.e., reception for the sake of reception. There is an action and the reason of this action. What is the reason for reception before the Restriction? It is the desire to receive pleasure. It means that receiving is an action for the sake of receiving. After the Restriction, the *Partzufim* do not use *Behina Dalet*; the only light received by it is that coming from the screen and the Reflected Light.

The reason for receiving that existed before the Restriction remained afterwards too, because without a desire and striving for something, it is impossible to receive. Nevertheless, this reason is not enough for reception; it should be accompanied by an additional reason i.e., the intention for the sake of bestowal.

Malchut is ready to renounce animal pleasures; it performs the Restriction on them. It receives only because it is the Creator's desire. According to that, reception for the sake of bestowal looks different. The act of receiving does not arise from the first reason, but from the second - receiving for the sake of giving; however, the first reason must accompany the second, for if there is no desire to receive pleasure, how will it be able to enjoy?

For example, there is a commandment to enjoy the Sabbath meal; but if there is no hunger, how can one receive pleasure from eating? Hence the first reason - the “desire to receive” should remain (albeit because of the shame it is unable to receive), but only in the presence of the additional reason - the “desire to give”.

ז) ומדמיון הנ"ל בין אדם לחברו אפשר להבין ענין הזווג דהכאה ואת האו"ח העולה על ידו, שהוא נעשה כלי קבלה חדשים על אור העליון במקום בחי"ד. כי ענין ההכאה של אור העליון, המכה בהמסך ורוצה להתפשט אל בחי"ד, יש לדמותו לענין ההפצרה לאכול אצלו. כי כמו שהוא רוצה מאד שחברו יקבל את סעודתו, כן אור העליון רוצה להתפשט למקבל. וענין המסך, המכה באור ומחזירו לאחוריו, יש לדמותו לדבר הדחיה והסירוב של חברו לקבל את

סעודתו. כי דוחה את טובתו לאחור. וכמו שתמצא כאן, אשר דוקא הסירוב והדחיה נתהפכו ונעשו לכלי קבלה נכונים לקבל את סעודת חברו, כן תוכל לדמות לך, כי האו"ח, העולה ע"י הכאת המסך ודחיתו את אור העליון, הוא שנעשה לכלי קבלה חדשים על אור העליון, במקום הבח"ד ששמשה לכלי קבלה מטרם הצמצום א'.

אמנם זה נתקן רק בפרצופי הקדושה דאב"ע. אבל לא בפרצופי הקליפות ובעוה"ז, שבהם משמשת הבח"ד עצמה לכלי קבלה. וע"כ הם נפרדים מאור העליון, כי שינוי הצורה של הבח"ד מפריד אותם. וע"כ נבחנים הקליפות וכן הרשעים למתים, כי הם נפרדים מחיי החיים ע"י הרצון לקבל שבהם.

16) *With the help of the example of the host and the guest we can now understand what a Zivug de Haka'a (Stroke Contact) is, which results in the birth of new vessels of receiving the Upper Light instead of the Behina Dalet. The interaction takes place because the light hits the screen wishing to enter the Behina Dalet. It resembles a host who tries to convince his guest to eat. The force of the guest's resistance is similar to the screen. As the refusal to eat turns into a new vessel, so does the Reflected Light become a vessel of receiving instead of the Behina Dalet, which played that role before the First Restriction.*

However, we should keep in mind that it happens only in the spiritual objects of the worlds of ABYA, whereas in the objects related to the impure forces and to our world, the Behina Dalet continues to be a receiving vessel. Hence neither in the impure forces nor in our world is there any light, because of the difference between the properties of the Behina Dalet and those of the Creator. Therefore, the Klipot (impure forces, a "desire to receive" the light without the screen) and sinners are called dead, since the desire to receive the light without the screen separates them from the Life of Lives, the Creator's light.

FIVE LEVELS OF MASACH ה' בחינות שבמסך

יז) והנה נתבאר עד הנה ג' יסודות הראשוניים שבחכמה; הא' ענין אור וכלי, שהאור הוא המשכה ישרה מעצמותו ית', והכלי הוא בחינת הרצון לקבל הכלול בהכרח באור ההוא, שבשיעור הרצון הזה יצא מכלל מאציל לנאצל. והרצון לקבל הזה היא בחינת המלכות הנבחנת באור העליון, וע"כ נק' מלכות, שמו, בסוד הוא ושמו אחד, כי שמו בגימטריא רצון. ענין הב', הוא ביאור הע"ס וד' עולמות אבי"ע, שהם ד' מדרגות זו למטה מזו. שהרצון לקבל מחויב להשתלשל על ידיהן עד לקביעות כלי על תוכנו. ענין הג', הוא ענין הצמצום ומסך שנעשה על כלי הקבלה הזה שהוא בחי"ד, ותמורתו נתהוו כלי קבלה חדשים בע"ס הנק' אור חוזר. והבן ושנן היטב אלו הג' יסודות הם ונימוקיהם כפי שנתבארו לפניך, כי זולתם אין הבנה אף במלה אחת בחכמה הזו.

17) *The three basic definitions are now clear to us:*

1) *The Ohr is a direct emanation of the Creator's light, while the Kli is a "desire to receive" created by the light. The light initially contains an unexpressed "desire to receive", but as this desire develops, the vessel (Malchut) is separated from it. Malchut is called "His Name" (Shemo) ("He and His Name are one"). The numerical value of the word "Shemo" is identical to the word "Ratzon" (desire).*

2) *The 10 Sefirot or the 4 worlds of ABYA correspond to the 4 Behinot (phases). They must be present in any created being. The "desire to receive", or the Kli, "descends" from the Creator's level through these 4 worlds and achieves its full development in our world.*

3) *The First Restriction and the Masach of Behina Dalet bring forth a new vessel instead of Behina Dalet. The vessel is an intention to bestow to the Creator, and is called "Ohr Hozer". The quantity of the received light depends on the intensity of the desire.*

יח) ועתה נבאר ה' בחינות שיש בהמסך, שעל פיהם משתנים שיעורי הקומה בעת הזווג דהכאה שעושה עם אור העליון.

יש להבין תחלה היטב, כי אע"פ שלאחר הצמצום נפסלה הבחי"ד מלהיות כלי קבלה על הע"ס, והאור"ח העולה מהמסך ע"י זווג דהכאה, נעשה לכלי קבלה בתמורתה, עכ"ז היא

מוכרחת להתלוות עם כח הקבלה שבה אל האו"ח. וזולת זה לא היה האו"ח מוכשר כלל להיות כלי קבלה.

ותבין זה ג"כ מהמשל הנ"ל באות ט"ו. כי הוכחנו שם, אשר כח הדחיה והסירוב לקבל הסעודה, נעשה לכלי קבלה במקום הרעב והתאבון. כי הרעב והתאבון, שהם כלי קבלה הרגילים, נפסלו כאן מלהיות כלי קבלה, מחמת הבושה והבזיון להיות מקבל מתנה מחברו. ורק כחות הדחיה והסירוב נעשו במקומם לכלי קבלה. כי מתוך הדחיה והסירוב נתהפכה הקבלה להיות השפעה. והשיג על ידם כלי קבלה מוכשרים לקבל סעודת חברו. ועל"ז אי אפשר לומר, שעתה כבר אינו צריך לכלי קבלה הרגילים, שהם הרעב והתאבון. כי זה ברור, שבלי תאבון לאכילה לא יוכל למלאות רצון חברו ולעשות לו נחת רוח עם אכילתו אצלו.

אלא הענין הוא, כי הרעב והתאבון, שנפסלו בצורתם הרגילה, נתגלגלו עתה, מחמת כח הדחיה והסירוב, וקבלו צורה חדשה, שהוא קבלה ע"מ להשפיע. ועל"ז נהפך הבזיון להיות כבוד. הרי, אשר הכלי קבלה הרגילים עדיין פועלים עתה כמו תמיד, אלא שקבלו צורה חדשה. וכן תקיש בענינינו כאן: כי אמת הוא שבח"ד נפסלה מלהיות כלי קבלה על הע"ס, שהוא מחמת העוביות שבה. שפירושו שינוי הצורה כלפי המשפיע, המפריד מהמשפיע.

אמנם ע"י תיקון המסך בהבח"ד, המכה על אור העליון ומחזירו לאחוריו, הנה נתגלגלה צורתה הקודמת הפסולה, וקבלה צורה חדשה, הנקראת "או"ח", בדומה לגלגול צורת הקבלה בצורת השפעה. אשר התוכן של צורה הראשונה לא נשתנה שם, כי גם עתה אינו אוכל בלי תאבון. כן גם כאן, כל העוביות, שהיא כח הקבלה שהיה בבח"ד, נתגלגל ובא תוך האו"ח. וע"כ נעשה האו"ח מוכשר להיות כלי קבלה.

ולפיכך יש להבחין תמיד בהמסך ב' כחות: א. קשיות, שהוא כח הדחיה שבו כלפי האור העליון, ב. עוביות, שהוא שיעור הרצון לקבל מבח"ד הנכלל בהמסך, אשר ע"י זווג דהכאה מכח הקושיות שבו, נתהפכה העוביות שבו להיות זכות, דהיינו התהפכות הקבלה להשפעה. ואלו ב' הכחות שבהמסך פועלים בה' בחינות, שהם ד' הבחינות חו"ב תו"מ, ושורשם הנקרא "כתר".

18) We will now clarify the five Behinot of the screen according to which the size of the Kli is changed during the Stroke Contact with the Upper Light.

After the First Restriction, Behina Dalet ceases to be a receiving vessel. The Reflected Light (Ohr Hozer), which rises above the screen because of the Stroke Contact, now plays that role instead. However, Behina Dalet with its powerful "desire to receive" has to accompany the Ohr Hozer. Without it, the Ohr Hozer is absolutely unable to be a vessel of reception.

Remember the situation between the host and his guest. The guest's force of refusal to eat has become a receiving vessel taking on the role of

hunger, which lost that function because of shame. During that refusal, receiving actually turns into an act of giving. However, we cannot say that the guest has no need for the usual vessels of receiving. Without them, he will not be able to please the host by eating his delicacies.

By way of refusal, hunger (the “desire to receive”) acquires a new form – a “desire to receive” for the sake of bestowing to the host, the Creator. Shame has now become a merit. It turns out that the usual vessels of reception keep functioning as before, but acquire a new intention, i.e., to receive for the Creator’s sake. The coarseness of Behina Dalet, the state of being opposite to the Creator, prevents it now from being a receiving vessel.

However, thanks to the screen set in Behina Dalet, which hits and reflects the light, it takes a new form called the Ohr Hozer – the Reflected Light – while receiving turns into giving, as in the example with the host and the guest. Nevertheless, the essence of the form remains the same, because the guest would not eat without an appetite. Yet all the power of Behina Dalet’s desire to receive pleasure is included in the Ohr Hozer, making it a proper vessel.

There are two forces always present in the screen. The first is Kashiut, the force of resistance to receiving light; the second is Aviut, the force of Behina Dalet’s “desire to receive”. Because of a Stroke Contact of Kashiut with the light, Aviut totally changes its properties, turning reception into bestowal. The two forces function in all five parts of the screen: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut.

Five parts are in the screen through which it receives the light (five *Zivugey de Haka’a*). The *Ohr Hozer* is not a genuine vessel; it can only assist in the receiving of light. The desire to receive pleasure, *Behina Dalet*, which was a vessel before the First Restriction, still retains that role; only its intention changes.

The larger man’s egoism, the more light he is able to receive, provided there is a screen matching his egoism. Instead of resenting his

unworthy desires, man should only ask the Creator for a screen that will correct those desires by making them altruistic.

Oftentimes we know neither what motivates our actions nor what our real desires are. Sometimes we feel a need for something but have no idea what it is. Man is in a constant dream-like state until Kabbalah wakes him up and opens his eyes. Initially we do not even possess a genuine desire to receive pleasure. Kabbalah works with the spiritual desires, which are much more powerful than those of our world are.

Thanks to the *Kli*'s new intention, the “desire to receive” obtains a new form: a “desire to bestow”, or more precisely, a “desire to receive” for the sake of the Creator. Man now starts receiving in order to please the Creator. Upon discovering the difference between its own properties and the Creator's, *Behina Dalet* feels shame. The screen set up by *Malchut* reflects the light and thus changes the intention. The essence of the “desire to receive” remains, but now it is receiving for the Creator's sake.

Kabbalah is a logical science. Every phenomenon leads to a certain consequence, which in turn becomes a reason for the next, thus forming a chain of cause and effect connections. Our problem, however, consists in that we are not yet really connected to what we study. While reading about the spiritual worlds, the *Partzufim* and the *Sefirot*, we cannot yet feel them.

There are two levels in Kabbalah studies. The first is for beginners, when there is no sensation of the material studied. After further study though, a Kabbalist receives a feeling of the phenomena and terms described in the book.

One should point out that the light is actually motionless; it neither enters anything nor exits from anywhere. However, depending on its inner properties, the vessel feels the light differently, distinguishing in it different “tastes” or pleasures. If the vessel enjoys direct reception of the light, then such pleasure is called *Ohr Hochma*. If the creation receives pleasure from the likeness of its properties to those of the Creator,

then this kind of delight is called *Ohr Hassadim*. The alternate reception of either *Ohr Hochma* or *Ohr Hassadim* creates “movement”.

When man starts on his spiritual path, he initially realizes how evil his nature is. This thought leads him to the beginning of correction. As a result, he ascends, starts feeling more and more subtle influences of the supreme forces.

The light descending from the Creator after the First Restriction represents a narrow ray of light coming from Infinity to the central point of the universe. All spiritual worlds (*AK* and *ABYA*) are dressed onto this ray. From the point of the Creator’s influence, we are at the very center of all the worlds.

The Creator’s personal providence is implemented with the help of the light ray. This ray descends to a certain soul, dressing it in all the worlds, starting from *Adam Kadmon (AK)*, then continuing to *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira* and the outermost, *Assiya*.

A common person differs from a Kabbalist by the fact that he has no screen, hence he cannot feel, reflect the light, or create his own spiritual vessel. Such a vessel is *Toch*, the inner part of the *Partzuf* where the creation receives the Creator’s light. Strictly speaking, what we call the Creator is His light, since we are unable to attain the Creator’s Essence.

The Creator influences all people as though they had never left the world of Infinity (*Ein Sof*), i.e., they are in an unconscious state. Such an influence is called “*Derech Igulim*”, with the help of circles and spheres, i.e., through the general light surrounding the entire creation. The spreading of the light in the form of a circle signifies the absence of a limiting force, the screen.

Man’s task is to take into his own hands a partial control over his destiny, thereby becoming the Creator’s partner. Then the Creator will no longer treat him as He does all other creatures, but individually, with the help of the light ray (*Derech Kaw*). In this case, man himself takes control instead of the Creator.

יט) כי הגם שביארנו שג' בחינות הראשונות אינן נחשבות עוד לבחינת כלי, אלא רק הבח"ד לבדה נחשבת לכלי, עכ"ז מתוך שג' בחינות הראשונות הן סבות וגורמות להשלמת הבח"ד, באופן שהבח"ד אחר שנשלמה, נתרשמו בה ד' שעורים במדת הקבלה שבה: החל מבחי"א, שהוא שיעור היותר קלוש שבה ממדת הקבלה, ואח"כ בחי"ב, שהיא משהו עב ביותר מבחי"א במדת הקבלה שבה.

ואח"כ בחי"ג, העבה יותר מבחי"ב במדת הקבלה שבה, ולבסוף בחי"ד, שהיא בחינתה עצמה העבה יותר מכולם, שמדת הקבלה שלה מושלמת בכל תוכנה. גם יש להבחין בה עוד, אשר גם השורש של הד' בחינות כלול בה, שהוא הזך מכולם. ואלו הן ה' בחינות הקבלה הכלולות בבחי"ד. ונקראות ג"כ בשמות הע"ס כח"ב תו"מ, הכלולות בבחי"ד. כי הד' בחינות הם חו"ב תו"מ והשורש נקרא "כתר".

19) As stated, the three first Behinot are not considered vessels yet. Only Behina Dalet is a true vessel. Since these three first Behinot are the reasons, phases preceding the creation of Behina Dalet, it adopted their properties upon completion of its development. They were somewhat imprinted in it, creating inside of Behina Dalet its own four levels of the "desire to receive". Everything begins with the Behina Aleph, the "purest", "weakest" "desire to receive". Then follows the Behina Bet, which is a bit "coarser" and has a bigger Aviut than the Behina Aleph, i.e., it is a higher level of the "desire to receive".

Behina Gimel has an Aviut even greater than that of the Behina Bet. Finally comes the turn of the Behina Dalet, which has the largest Aviut, i.e., the greatest "desire to receive". Its desire reached the highest, most perfect and ultimate level. It should be pointed out that the root (Shoresh) of these four Behinot is Keter (known as the highest of all and the closest to the Creator), which also left its imprint in Behina Dalet. Thus we mentioned all five levels of the "desire to receive" included in Behina Dalet, which are otherwise called Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut.

The three Behinot preceding Malchut are called "the light"; only Malchut is the Kli, for it wants to receive for its own sake. As a result, it becomes a separate independent part. The previous Behinot are not separated from the Creator; hence, they are defined as the light.

When the last phase or *Malchut* is completely filled with the light, it begins to feel the properties of all the preceding *Behinot*: first the adjacent *Tifferet*, then *Hochma*, which created *Bina*, then the source (*Shoresh*) and finally the overall Thought – *Keter*.

This means that all the previous properties of all the *Behinot* are included in *Malchut* and influence it. It is then *Dalet de Dalet* (i.e., the last part – *Dalet* of the entire *Dalet*) and all the previous properties it acquired from the light. Apprehending the light that fills it, *Behina Dalet* attains the Creator’s greatness. It discovers in itself the striving to become similar to the “desire to bestow”; to the way the Creator does it.

What is “to bestow”? The Creator is the source of the light. The *Kli* cannot bestow anything; it can only intend to do so. The Creator created the “desire to receive”, the rest being just different degrees of it. Only an intention can change from “for one’s own sake” to “for the sake of the Creator”.

What is the difference between *Aviut Keter* and *Aviut Bina*? Are they not both called “the “desire to bestow””? *Keter* is the “desire to give”, *Hochma* receives, and *Bina*, upon receiving the light, returns it to the Creator. This can be understood from the example taken from the *Mishna*. “Man studies the Torah for the sake of the Creator” means that he refuses to receive anything that corresponds to *Aviut Keter*. “The Torah secrets are revealed to him” means that he did not ask for this, but received them from above – from *Behinat Hochma*.

Upon receiving, man has to overcome himself and say, “I refuse it, because all I want is to bestow”. Now look what a difference it makes: man wishes to give after receiving the light or before receiving it!

כ) ומה שה' בחינות הקבלה שבבחי"ד נקראות בשם הספירות כח"ב תו"מ הוא, כי הבחי"ד מטרים הצמצום, דהיינו בעוד שהבחי"ד היתה כלי הקבלה על הע"ס הכלולות באור העליון בסוד "הוא אחד ושמו אחד", כי כל העולמות נכללים שם, נבחן שם הלבשתה להע"ס ע"פ אותן ה' הבחינות.

שכל בחינה מה' הבחינות שבה הלבשה הבחינה שכנגדה בהע"ס שבאור העליון: כי בחינת השורש שבבחינה ד' הלבשה לאור הכתר שבע"ס, ובחי"א שבבחי"ד הלבשה לאור החכמה

שבעשר ספירות, ובח"ב שבה הלבישה לאור הבינה, ובח"ג שבה הלבישה לאור הת"ת, ובחינתה עצמה הלבישה לאור המלכות. ולפיכך גם עתה אחר הצמצום א', אחר שהבח"ד נפסלה מלהיות עוד כלי קבלה, נקראות ג"כ ה' בחינות העוביות שבה על שם ה' הספירות כח"ב תו"מ.

20) *The five levels of the “desire to receive” included in Behina Dalet are called by the names of the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light because Behina Dalet was a vessel receiving this light before TA (“He and His Name are One”). All the worlds, the entire Universe, was included in Behina Dalet of the Direct Light (Malchut of the world of Infinity).*

Each Behina contained in Malchut adopted the properties of the corresponding Behina in the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light. Behina Shoresht of the Behina Dalet adopted the properties of Keter, “dressed in it”, one of the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light. Behina Aleph of the Behina Dalet “dressed” into the light of Hochma of the 10 Sefirot, and so on. Even after TA, when Behina Dalet ceased to be a vessel of reception, its five levels of the “desire to receive” still bear the names of the five Sefirot: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tiferet, and Malchut.

We are *Behina Dalet de Dalet*, whereas all the preceding four *Sefirot* are the worlds. By interacting with the worlds, we can receive their properties in order to correct the *Behina Dalet*. All the worlds are inside of us, as well as all spiritual work. Our task is to feel the Creator's light as *Malchut* did in the world of Infinity and thus get corrected.

What does it mean that *Behina Dalet* attains the properties of the preceding *Behirot*? It means that it begins to feel that, with the exception of the “desire to receive”, there is also the “desire to bestow”, which was absent in it. *Malchut* still wants to receive pleasure; however, it is now imbued with the “desire to give”; i.e., it now strives to receive delight from giving.

The properties and desires inside the *Kli* gradually change from a yearning for simple reception of the light to a “desire to give” everything.

These changes are caused by the light; the *Kli*'s behavior depends solely on this influence.

We study the 10 *Sefirot*, the 10 aspects of the relationship between the Creator and the creation. First, *Malchut* completely reflects the light, and then it calculates how much it can receive inside. If it worked with all its five desires, it could receive the light in all its five parts. If *Malchut* does not have enough anti-egoistic force to receive all the light for the Creator's sake, it receives only that portion out of five parts of the light for which it has a screen.

The ability to withstand the desires to receive pleasure is termed willpower. The force of resistance in the screen is called rigidity (*Kashiut*). The intensity of the desire to receive pleasure, the passion for fulfillment, is called thickness (*Aviut*). Inside the screen, two of *Malchut*'s properties collide: these are “reception” and the screen's anti-egoistic force of “bestowal”. If my egoistic “desire to receive”, has an *Aviut* that equals 100%, and a force of resistance or rigidity, that equals only 20%, then I can receive for the Creator's sake no more than 20%. Only *Kashiut* determines what amount of egoism I may use.

After *TA*, *Malchut* wants to change only the method of applying its desire. *Malchut* understands its “egoism”, it realizes that the “desire to receive” is its nature. However, this property is not negative; everything depends solely on the method of its use. The sensation of the Creator's properties, of the “desire to bestow” and of the previous *Behinot* arises inside the egoistic desire (*Behina Dalet*). Now *Malchut* only has to become like them, i.e., it must make its desire to receive pleasure similar to theirs.

For that purpose, it pushes the entire light away from its egoism by performing *Tzimtzum* (Restriction) on itself. It then calculates to what extent it can assimilate the Creator's properties – *Behinot* 0, 1, 2, and 3.

The screen knows exactly how much light it may let in according to its egoism. The screen's *Kashiut*, its will power, the force of resisting

temptation to receive pleasure, must match precisely its *Aviut*, the “desire to receive”.

The memories left from the previous state of being filled with the light, which help *Malchut* calculate her future actions, are called “a record” or “a memory” (the *Reshimot*). Spiritual attainment is called investing.

כא) וכבר ידעת, שחומר המסך בכללו מתבאר בהשם “קשיות”, שפירושו כמו דבר קשה מאד, שאינו מניח למי שהוא לדחוק במשהו תוך גבולו. כן המסך אינו מניח משהו מאור העליון לעבור דרכו אל המלכות, שהיא בחי' ד. שעם זה נבחן, שכל שיעור האור הראוי להתלבש בכלי המלכות, מעכב עליו המסך ומחזירו לאחוריו. גם נתבאר, שאותן ה' בחינות העביות שבבחי' ד, נכללות ובאות בהמסך ומתחברות במדת הקשיות שבו. ולפיכך נבחנים בהמסך ה' מינים של זווגים דהכאה ע"פ ה' שיעורי עביות שבו.

שזווג דהכאה על מסך שלם מכל ה' בחינות העביות, מעלה אר"ח המספיק להלביש הע"ס כולן, דהיינו עד קומת כתר, וזווג דהכאה על מסך חסר מעביות דבחי' ד, שאין בו רק עביות דבחי' ג, הנה האר"ח שהוא מעלה, מספיק להלביש הע"ס רק עד קומת מכתר.

ואם אין בו אלא עביות דבחי' ב, הנה אר"ח שלו קטן יותר ואינו מספיק להלביש הע"ס רק עד קומת בינה, וחסר מכתר חכמה, ואם אין בו אלא עביות דבחי' א, הנה האר"ח שלו מוקטן יותר, ומספיק להלביש רק עד לקומת ת"ת, וחסר מכח"ב, ואם הוא חסר גם מעביות דבחי' א, ולא נשאר בו אלא עביות דבחינת שורש, הנה ההכאה שלו קלושה מאוד, ומספיק להלביש רק לקומת מלכות בלבדה, וחסר מט"ס הראשונות, שהם כח"ב ות"ת.

21) *We have already learned that the screen's material is called Kashiut. It is similar to a solid body that does not allow anything to enter it. Likewise, the screen prevents the Upper Light from entering Malchut, i.e., Behina Dalet. The screen stops and reflects all the light that was destined to fill Malchut. The five Behinot of Aviut in Behina Dalet are included in the screen according to its kashiut. Hence, the screen performs five Stroke Contacts (Zivugy de Haka'a) with the light according to its five Behinot of Aviut.*

The light reflected by the screen, consisting of all the five Behinot of Aviut, rises back, envelops the coming light and reaches its source, the Behina Shoresh. However, if only 4 out of 5 parts of the Aviut are present in the screen, then its Reflected Light will “see” only four portions of pleasure.

In the absence of Behinot Dalet and Gimel, the 5-th and the 4-th parts of rigidity in the screen, it can reflect the Ohr Hozer only up to the level of Bina. If there is only the Behina Aleph in the screen, then its Ohr Hozer is very small and can envelop the Direct Light only up to the level of Tifferet in the absence of Keter, Hochma, and Bina. If there is only the Behina Shoresh of Kashiut in the screen, then its resisting power is quite weak and the Ohr Hozer can envelop Malchut's coming light, while the nine first Sefirot are absent.

The screen is characterized by two properties. One of them is *Kashiut* (strength); it does not let the light enter *Malchut*. Any measure of the light that comes to the screen is pushed back and reflected.

The second property of *Masach* is its coarseness, egoism, *Aviut* (thickness). This is what can be added to the strength of the screen of *Behina Dalet* and be used for reception for the Creator's sake.

Since there are five desires for five kinds of pleasure in *Malchut*, it reflects all of them, thus avoiding the egoistic reception of pleasure.

The screen is like a curtain that I can draw when the sunlight disturbs me. In the material world, we know of what material a curtain is made. In the spiritual world, the material of the screen is called “*Kashiut*”, which is its strength, hardness, or rigidity. One describes as “very hard, tough” a person who does not accept other people's opinions but sticks vehemently to his own.

The conclusion: The Creator (the “desire to bestow” delight upon created beings) prepared the “desire to receive” and wishes to fill it. However, the creation is adamant in its decision to receive nothing for its own sake. This is the purpose of the screen.

Here we need to make an important note: there is no restriction of the desire! If man sees pleasure before him, he instantly wants to receive it in full. However, he can only receive by applying the intention for the sake of bestowal; but this does not mean that the “desire to receive” the entire pleasure is absent in him. Now we can formulate a law: man makes

a restriction on the pleasure he cannot refuse and receives the pleasure he can give up.

For example, man says to his body on Yom Kippur; “Know that today you must not receive food, so don’t feel the hunger!” Nevertheless, his body does not listen... Why is it designed in such a way? The Creator created the “desire to receive”; therefore, it is invariable. If this desire disappears, then man is no longer alive.

Some people speak about the elimination of desires. Here is what Rabbi Israel from Ruzhin said in this connection: “He, who eliminated one desire, will receive two instead”. It is impossible and unnecessary to eliminate the “desire to receive”; one should pray for an opportunity to use it with the intention for the Creator’s sake.

The difference between created beings depends on the size of the “desire to receive”. Someone with big aspirations is called big; someone with a small “desire to receive” is called small.

My spiritual level is determined by how completely my Reflected Light can envelop the entire Direct Light coming to me, all the pleasures anticipated by me, so that I would be able to receive them for the Creator’s sake. I can be on the level of *Malchut*, *ZA*, *Bina*, or maybe even *Hochma* or *Keter*.

Malchut of the world of Infinity divides into many parts, but they all differ from one another only by the screen’s properties. In the world of *Assiya*, *Malchut* is similar to the Creator in perhaps 20%, 40% in the world of *Yetzira*, 60% in the world of *Beria*, 80% in the world of *Atzilut*, and in the world of *Adam Kadmon* (AK) *Malchut* is 100% equal to the Creator.

The levels differ only by the strength of their screen. There is no screen in our world. Hence, we cannot feel the Creator and exist in an absolutely empty space. As soon as man acquires the screen, he already starts feeling the spiritual world on the lowest level of the world of *Assiya*. We ascend with the help of increasing the strength of the screen.

What is the transition from one spiritual level to another? It means to acquire the properties of a new, higher level. If at a certain level, man can increase his screen’s magnitude; this can elevate him to the next level. The higher the level is, the more different is the sensation, the attainment of the universe.

We have said that when there are five *Behinot* of *Aviut* in the screen, the *Ohr Hozer* reaches the highest level (the light of *Keter*, *Ohr Yechida*). Then the *Kli* receives all the lights: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Tifferet*, and *Malchut* from all the preceding *Behinot*.

In the absence of the coarsest *Behina* (*Dalet*) in the screen, i.e., the intention for the Creator’s sake on the most intense desires, the highest light (*Keter*, *Yechida*) is also absent in the *Kli*, while the screen reaches the level of the light of *Hochma* (*Ohr Haya*). In the absence of *Aviut Dalet* and *Gimel* in the screen, the lights of *Keter* and *Hochma* (*Ohr Yechida* and *Haya*) are absent in the *Kli*; it works with *Aviut Bet* and the light of *Bina* (*Ohr Neshama*).

If the *Aviut* of the screen is *Aleph*, then the lights of *Tifferet* and *Malchut* (*Ohr Ruach* and *Nefesh*) are present. Finally, the screen with the *Aviut Shoresch* raises the *Ohr Hozer* only up to the level of the light of *Malchut* (*Ohr Nefesh*), and only this light is present in the *Kli*. To make it easier, we usually say that the *Masach* is set before *Malchut*, although we have to understand that the *Masach* spreads over the entire *Malchut*, over all the desires of the *Kli*.

Why is the highest light missing in the absence of *Aviut Dalet*? It happens because there is an inverse relationship between the *Ohr* and the *Kli*, the light and the vessel. If the screen has a maximum *Aviut*, it raises the *Ohr Hozer* to the highest level, i.e., to the light of *Keter*. It means that with the “strongest” screen, the *Ohr Hozer* can envelop all pleasures standing before the screen and let them inside the *Partzuf*.

כב) והנך רואה איך ה' שיעורי קומות של ע"ס יוצאים ע"י ה' מיני זוג דהכאה של המסך, המשוערים על ה' בחינות עוביות שבו. ועתה אודיעך טעם הדברים, כי נודע שאין אור מושג בלי כלי.

גם ידעת שה' בחינות עוביות הללו, באות מה' בחינות העוביות שבבחי"ד, שמטרם הצמצום היו ה' כלים בהבחי"ד, שהלבישו להע"ס כח"ב תו"מ (אות י"ח), ואחר הצמצום א' נכללו בה' בחינות של המסך, אשר עם האר"ח שהוא מעלה, הם חוזרים להיות ה' כלים מבחינת אר"ח על הע"ס כח"ב תו"מ, במקום הה' כלים שבבחי"ד עצמה שמטרם הצמצום.

ועל פי זה מובן מאילו, שאם יש במסך כל ה' בחינות עביות הללו, אז יש בו ה' כלים להלבשת הע"ס. אבל בעת שאין בו כל הה' בחינות, כי חסר לו העביות דבחי"ד, הרי אין בו אלא ד' כלים. וע"כ אינו יכול להלביש רק ד' אורות חו"ב תו"מ. והוא חסר מאור אחד, שהוא אור הכתר, כמו שחסר לו כלי אחד, שהוא העביות דבחי"ד.

וכמו כן בעת שחסר בו גם בחי"ג, שאין בהמסך רק ג' בחינות עביות, דהיינו רק עד בחי"ב, הרי אז אין בו רק ג' כלים. וע"כ אינו יכול להלביש רק ג' אורות, שהם בינה ת"ת ומלכות. והקומה חסרה אז מב' האורות כתר וחכמה, כמו שחסרה מב' הכלים בחי"ג ובחי"ד.

ובעת שאין בהמסך רק ב' בחינות עוביות, דהיינו מבחינת שורש ומבחי"א, הרי אין בו אלא ב' כלים. וע"כ אינו מלביש רק ב' אורות, שהם אור ת"ת ואור מלכות. ונמצאת הקומה חסרה מג' אורות כח"ב, כמו שחסרה ג' הכלים, שהם בחי"ב ובחי"ג ובחי"ד.

ובעת שאין בהמסך רק בחינה אחת דעביות, שהיא בחינת שורש העביות לבד, הרי אין לו אלא כלי אחד. לכן אינו יכול להלביש רק אור אחד, שהוא אור המלכות. וקומה זו חסרה מד' אורות כח"ב ות"ת, כמו שחסרה מד' הכלים, שהם עוביות דבחי"ד ודבחי"ג ודבחי"ב ודבחי"א.

הרי ששיעור הקומה של כל פרצוף תלוי בדיוק נמרץ בשיעור העביות שיש במסך: שהמסך דבחי"ד מוציא קומת כתר, ודבחי"ג מוציא קומת חכמה, ודבחי"ב מוציא קומת בינה, ודבחי"א מוציא קומת ת"ת, ודבחינת שורש מוציא קומת מלכות.

22) *The five levels (Behinot) of the 10 Sefirot of the Reflected Light emerge because of five kinds of Zivugey de Haka'a (Stroke Contact) of the Upper Light with the five levels of the screen's Aviut. This light is not perceived or attained by anyone if there is no vessel to receive it.*

These five phases emerge from five Behinot of Aviut of Behina Dalet, which were five receiving vessels of Behina Dalet before TA; they enveloped the 10 Sefirot: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut. After TA, these same five Behinot merge with the five Behinot of the screen, and with the help of the Reflected Light again become receive-

ing vessels instead of the five Behinot of Behina Dalet, which played that role before TA.

Now we can understand that if the screen has all these five Behinot of Aviut, then it possesses five vessels for enveloping the 10 Sefirot, i.e., for receiving the Upper Light. If the Aviut of the Behina Dalet is absent in the screen, it has only four vessels and can receive only the four lights corresponding to Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut but cannot receive the light of Keter.

If the Aviut of Behina Gimel is absent in the screen, it has only three vessels and can receive only the three lights corresponding to Bina, Tifferet and Malchut. The lights corresponding to Keter and Hochma as well as the vessels corresponding to Behinot Gimel and Dalet are absent in it.

If the screen has only two levels of Aviut, Shoresh, and Behina Aleph, it possesses only the two vessels corresponding to the lights of Tifferet and Malchut. It turns out that such a Partzuf lacks the three lights of Keter, Hochma and Bina, as well as the three vessels corresponding to Behinot Bet, Gimel, and Dalet. If the screen has only Aviut Shoresh, then it has only one vessel with only the light of Malchut (Nefesh).

The remaining lights, Keter, Hochma, Tifferet and Malchut, are absent in it. Therefore, the size of each Partzuf depends only on the screen's Aviut (thickness). The screen with the Aviut of Behina Dalet creates a Partzuf consisting of five levels including Keter. The screen with Aviut of Behina Gimel creates a Partzuf consisting of four levels up to Hochma, and so on.

There are five levels of the desire to receive pleasure in the screen, i.e., 5 levels of anti-egoistic force of resistance to pleasure. Two of its forces, thickness (*Aviut*) and strength (*Kashiut*), must be balanced. Then *Malchut* has the freedom of will and can make its own decisions, since it is independent of its own desires and pleasures.

The *Ohr Yashar* is equal to the *Ohr Hozer*, which means that the creation wishes to bestow upon the Creator the very pleasure He prepared for it. The *Ohr Hozer* (intention) dresses, as it were, on the Creator's delight; this demonstrates that the *Kli* does not want it for itself, but returns the delight to Him.

In the absence of one more desire (the absence of the “desire to bestow” is meant and not an egoistic “desire to receive”, since the latter never disappears), *Gimel*, the screen can envelop only three lights in its Reflected Light. Therefore, it will not be able “to see” the lights of *Yechida* and *Haya*. That is why we cannot feel the Creator's light in our world. Initially we do not possess the screen and the light reflected by it without which it is impossible to see or feel the Creator's light.

The amount of the Reflected Light depends on the screen's strength: the stronger the screen, the higher the level of the Reflected Light, the farther the *Kli* sees and the more it can receive for the Creator's sake. As the screen grows weaker, the *Kli* sees less and accordingly can receive less for the Creator's sake.

There are no changes in the screen. All changes are only in *Aviut*. The screen is the force of resistance to egoism; it is present in each property. The difference is in the *Aviut*, in the number of egoistic desires provided with the screen. We study only four levels of *Aviut*, since *Keter* has no *Aviut* (the “desire to receive”); it only wants to bestow.

The desire to give pleasure to the created beings – *Keter* – called forth the “desire to receive” in the lower *Sefirot*; therefore, *Keter* is a root of *Aviut*. When the lower spiritual object is unable to receive with the intention for the sake of the Creator, it uses the *Aviut* Shoresheh, i.e., it can perform only acts of giving with the intention for the Creator's sake.

There are the light – pleasure, the *Kli* – the “desire to receive” and the screen – the force of resisting pleasure. The *Kli* creates the screen to become like the Creator. There is nothing else in the entire universe!

One should constantly remember this and try to interpret Kabbalah with the help of these three components.

We cannot feel any spiritual pleasures because we lack even a minimal screen. The screen's will power determines with what pleasure the Kabbalist works. After *TA* the *Kli* includes not just the “desire to receive” but also the “desire to receive” with the screen, i.e., not for self-satisfaction, but for the Creator.

When there is no screen for a certain desire, it means a Kabbalist cannot work with it, i.e., it is unfit to be filled with the light; hence we say it is absent. It does not disappear; it is just not worked with. The spiritual level (*Koma*) of a *Partzuf* depends on the intensity of desire fitted to the screen.

The opposition to the most intense desire - *Dalet*, gives birth to the *Partzuf* of the highest level - *Keter*. The opposition to the desire of the level *Gimel* gives birth to the *Partzuf* of *Hochma*, which is one step below *Keter*. The force of opposition to the desire *Bet* creates the *Partzuf* of the level of *Bina*, a step lower than the preceding one, i.e., it can liken itself to the Creator even less than with the screen *Gimel*.

If the screen can resist the desire - *Aleph*, it means that the Kabbalist's spiritual level is *Tifferet*. If it can resist the smallest desire - *Shoresh*, then it gives birth to the tiniest *Partzuf*, *Malchut*.

Egoistic desires should be used only to the extent of the will power to resist them. One cannot work with uncorrected desires without the screen; they should be neutralized and restricted. Desires neither appear nor disappear; they are created by the Creator. Only their use depends on man.

Everything depends on the screen's force of resistance, the intention, which turns a receiver into a giver. That is what the “game” between the Creator and the creation is all about: transforming an egoistic desire into an altruistic one, i.e., directing it towards the Creator.

All desires are in *Malchut* of the world of Infinity; it uses them in accordance with the screen, which emerges in it in each case. There are screens with the help of which *Malchut* builds worlds and those that

form various *Partzufim*. Certain types of screens promote the appearance of souls. These are all parts of *Malchut* of the world of Infinity.

Giving up a certain pleasure is easier than receiving it from someone who gives it to you. One can always receive less light for the sake of the Creator than one can give up. Or one can choose not to “work” with it at all.

If a *Kli* decides to receive egoistically, i.e., has a desire without a screen, the light first approaches the *Kli* (the *Kli* attracts the light), but as soon as the light wishes to get inside it, the law of *TA* snaps into action and the light retreats.

When *Malchut* or the world of Infinity performed *TA*, the Creator accepted this law. Hence, we cannot openly use our egoism. We are under the influence of this law; therefore, we cannot feel any spiritual pleasures until we succeed in creating a screen for them.

In addition, what are the pleasures of this world? They constitute the micro-dose of the light (the *Ner Dakik*) of the entire *Malchut* of the world of Infinity, which was allowed to be felt by us and can exist outside *TA*. Transcending this world is possible only through acquiring the screen.

If there is the screen for a greater pleasure, then it is also available for a smaller one. In order to stop receiving delight for oneself, one should add an intention to that pleasure (the *Ohr Hozer*) and receive it for the sake of the Giver.

Movement in the spiritual world occurs only because of a strengthening or weakening of the screen. The entire creation, *Malchut* of the world of Infinity, gradually acquires the screen for all of its desires. When all of *Malchut*'s desires are fitted with the screen, it will achieve the state of “the Final Correction” (the *Gmar Tikkun*). This is the meaning of all of creation's actions.

The creation of the screen, its interaction with the light, the *Ohr Hozer* enveloping the light, is called “a commandment”, a *Mitzvah*. The received light is called “the Torah”. Overall there are 620 levels, steps,

measures of the screen's interaction with the light so as to receive all the light particles in all *Malchut's* desires. When *Malchut* is completely filled with the Creator's light, it means it has received the entire Torah and has achieved perfection.

ג) אמנם עוד נשאר לבאר: למה בחוסר כלי מלכות בהמסך, שהוא בחי"ד, הוא נחסר מאור הכתר? ובחוסר גם כלי הת"ת, נחסר מאור חכמה וכו'? ולכאורה היה צריך להיות בהיפך: שבחוסר כלי מלכות במסך, שהיא בחי"ד, יחסר בקומה רק אור מלכות, ויהיו בה' ד' אורות לכח"ב ות"ת? וכן בחוסר ב' כלים בחי"ג ובחי"ד, יחסרו האורות מת"ת ומלכות, ויהיה בקומה ג' אורות לכח"ב? וכו' עד"ז.

23) *We need to understand why, in the absence of the vessel of Malchut, the light of Keter is missing, and why the light of Hochma is missing when the vessel of Tifferet is also absent. On the face of it, everything should be the other way around. If the Aviut of the Behina Dalet is absent in the screen, then the light of Malchut (Nefesh) should be missing. If two vessels are absent – Behina Gimel and Behina Dalet – the lights of Tifferet and Malchut should also be missing.*

Supposedly, if there is no force of resistance for the greatest desire (*Malchut*), then the light of *Malchut* should presumably be missing, i.e., the light that fills this desire. Then why do we claim that the greatest light (*Keter*) is missing in this case? Is this not the light, which fills *Behina Keter*?

This can be explained by the inverse relationship between the light and the vessel, i.e., first the smallest desire (*Keter*) is filled with the smallest light of *Malchut (Nefesh)*, so far unrelated to the formed *Kli* and temporarily taking its place. However, as the desire gradually grows, or rather by acquiring the screen for more desires, greater lights fill the *Kli Keter*. Meanwhile *Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut* are filled with the various lights until *Malchut* is finally filled with the light of *Nefesh and Keter* - with the light of *Yechida*.

כד) והתשובה היא, כי יש תמיד ערך הפכי בין אורות לכלים. כי מדרך הכלים הוא, שהכלים העליונים נגדלים תחילה בפרצוף. שמתחלה נגדל הכתר, ואחריו הכלי דחכמה וכו', עד שכלי המלכות נגדל באחרונה.

וע"כ אנו מכנים לכלים בסדר כח"ב תו"מ מלמעלה למטה, כי כן טבע גידולם. והפכי אליהם האורות, כי באורות, האורות התחתונים נכנסים תחלה בפרצוף. כי מתחילה נכנס הנפש, שהוא אור המלכות, ואח"כ הרוח, שהוא אור הז"א וכו', עד שאור היחידה נכנס באחרונה.

וע"כ אנו מכנים לאורות בסדר נרנח"י ממטה למעלה, כי כן סדר כניסתם מתתא לעילא. באופן, בעת שעוד לא נגדל בפרצוף רק כלי אחד, שהוא בהכרח כלי העליון כתר, הנה אז לא נכנס בפרצוף אור היחידה, המיוחס לכלי ההוא, אלא רק אור התחתון מכולם, שהוא אור הנפש, ואור הנפש מתלבש בכלי דכתר.

וכשנגדלו ב' כלים בפרצוף, שהם ב' העליונים כתר וחכמה, הנה אז נכנס בו גם אור הרוח, ויורד אז אור הנפש מכלי דכתר אל כלי דחכמה, ואור הרוח מתלבש בכלי דכתר. וכן כשנגדל כלי ג' בפרצוף, שהוא כלי הבינה, אז נכנס בו אור נשמה. ואז יורד אור הנפש מכלי דחכמה לכלי דבינה, ואור הרוח לכלי דחכמה, ואור הנשמה מתלבש בכלי דכתר.

וכשנגדל בפרצוף כלי ד', שהוא כלי דת"ת, הנה נכנס בפרצוף אור החיה. ואז יורד אור הנפש מכלי דבינה לכלי דת"ת, ואור הרוח לכלי דבינה, ואור הנשמה לכלי דחכמה, ואור החיה בכלי דכתר.

וכשנגדל כלי חמישי בפרצוף, שהוא כלי מלכות, נכנס בו אור היחידה. ואז באים כל האורות בכלים המיוחסים להם. כי אור הנפש יורד מהכלי דת"ת לכלי דמלכות, ואור הרוח לכלי דת"ת, ואור הנשמה לכלי דבינה, ואור החיה לכלי דחכמה, ואור היחידה לכלי דכתר.

24) *The fact is that there is an inverse relationship between the lights and the vessels. First, the higher vessels emerge and start growing in the Partzuf, from Keter and down to Hochma and so on until Malchut.*

Hence we call the vessels according to the order of their growth: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut (KaHaB-TuM), from up downwards. The lights enter the Partzuf in an opposite order, first the lower ones: the lowest light – Nefesh (its place is inside Malchut), then Ruach (Zeir Anpin's light) and so on until Yechida.

Hence, we name the lights in the following order: Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya and Yechida (NaRaNHAY), from down upwards, according to the order of their entering into the Partzuf. When the Partzuf has only one vessel (this can be only Keter), the first light to enter it is not Yechida, which must be inside it, but Nefesh, the lowest light.

When two higher vessels, *Keter* and *Hochma*, emerge in the *Partzuf*, then the light *Ruach* also enters it. The light *Nefesh* exits the vessel *Keter* and descends to the vessel *Hochma*, whereas the light *Ruach* enters the vessel *Keter*. When the third vessel *Bina* emerges in the *Partzuf*, the light *Nefesh* exits the vessel *Hochma* and descends to the vessel *Bina*, while the light *Ruach* descends to the vessel *Hochma* and the light *Neshama* enters the vessel *Keter*.

When the fourth vessel *Tifferet* emerges in the *Partzuf*, the light *Haya* enters it; the light *Nefesh* exits the vessel *Bina* and descends to the vessel *Tifferet*. While the light *Ruach* descends to the vessel *Bina*, the light *Neshama* enters the vessel *Hochma* and the light *Haya* enters the vessel *Keter*.

When the fifth vessel *Malchut* emerges in the *Partzuf*, the light *Yechida* enters it. All the lights are now in their places, since the light *Nefesh* exits the vessel *Tifferet*, and descends to the vessel *Malchut*, while the light *Ruach* descends to the vessel *Tifferet*, the light *Neshama* enters the vessel *Bina*, the light *Haya* enters the vessel *Hochma*, and the light *Yechida* enters the vessel *Keter*.

When the *Partzuf* consisting of five parts of the “desire to receive” (the *Kelim Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet* and *Malchut*) is filled with the light, *Nefesh* is in *Malchut*, *Ruach* is in *Tifferet*, *Neshama* is in *Bina*, *Haya* is in *Hochma* and *Yechida* is in *Keter*. This is what a completely filled *Partzuf* looks like.

However, the formation, i.e., correction of the *Kelim*, their acquiring the screen, occurs from the most unselfish (*Keter*) to the most egoistic (*Malchut*) from up downwards. Their filling with the lights starts from the weakest one (*Nefesh*) to the most intense pleasure (*Yechida*).

Gradually, all the lights first enter *Keter*, one after the other. The filling of the *Partzuf* always occurs in the following order: *Keter – Hochma – Bina – Tifferet – Malchut*. The lights enter in the following order: *Nefesh – Ruach – Neshama – Haya – Yechida*. The rule states: the *Kli* starts grow-

ing from the uppermost *Sefira*, while the lights enter from the lowest one. It is similar to two cylinders entering one another.

According to the order of their entering the *Partzuf* from *Nefesh* to *Yechida*, the lights are abbreviated *NaRaNHaY*, from the smallest to the largest; while the *Kelim* are abbreviated according to their descending order *KaHaB-TuM*.

We see the same occurrence in our life: if I want to resist some pleasure while remaining somehow connected to it, I always start from the smallest one, gradually passing to more and more intense delights, until I am quite sure that even the biggest pleasures I can receive are not for my own sake.

When we say that a new *Kli* is born, it means that there is a screen for the corresponding pleasure, the force of resisting this delight, the intention to receive for the Creator's sake. Consequently, the *Partzuf* is being filled with the light that matches the opposing force.

The screen appears as a result of focused studies and work in a group with the proper intention. When a Kabbalist acquires a screen for the smallest desire, he only works with it. The rest of his desires are simply put aside and restricted. Because of man's efforts, the screen grows stronger, i.e., an additional force of resisting a bigger desire emerges and man starts working with two desires and receives two lights.

This continues until there is a screen for all five desires, when all the lights can be received for the sake of the Creator. Every time a man can work with new desires, the preceding ones come nearer to perfection, for along with the light that was in it, a new more powerful light enters bringing greater pleasure.

If a person, who consistently studies in a group of like-minded people and listens to the Teacher's explanations, can afterwards concentrate on the same spiritual matters, while being in various states and circumstances of our world, then the next time he comes to study he will feel more than the previous time. He will receive a higher light, for he

now works with purer *Kelim* and does not think about animal pleasures. This is what the inverse relationship between the *Ohrot* and the *Kelim* (the lights and the vessels) means.

The land of Israel differs from all other places by its highest level of egoism. It is the most difficult place for the spiritual work. However, at the same time, it is unique and most favorable.

This land has a special spiritual potential. The Baal HaSulam wrote that Jerusalem is a place of the destruction of the Temple. The most powerful force is present there, but so are the mightiest impure forces, the *Klipot*.

Is the *Kli Keter*, the *Aviut de Shoresh*, designed for the smallest or the biggest pleasure? – It is meant for the biggest delight – the *Ohr Yechida*, which enters *Keter* last, when the *Masach* gets strong enough to oppose the most intense desire of *Malchut*. In other words, by working with the lowest desires, creating for them the intention to receive pleasure for the Creator’s sake, the Kabbalist receives the greatest delight – the *Ohr Yechida*, which enters the purest *Kli Keter*.

If, by filling his coarsest animal desires, man can think about the Creator and the Purpose of Creation, then while learning, studying Kabbalistic texts and also by praying, he will surely establish better contact with the Creator.

There are five desires to receive pleasure in the *Kli*. Its “size” or “volume” depends only on the screen. The level of desire it can resist determines the light that will enter the *Kli*, i.e., the *Kli*’s level. First, one works with the *Kli* of *Aviut de Shoresh* and gradually creates the screen for *Aviut Aleph*.

When this process is over, you will be able to receive the same screen for *Aviut Aleph* and work with it. Next, little by little, you create a screen for *Aviut Bet*, *Gimel*, and *Dalet*. The *Kli* with the initial *Aviut Shoresh* must have rudiments of the screen for all the five *Behinot*, to build the screen for all these kinds of *Aviut*.

The *Kli* gradually builds itself going from the tiniest desires to the biggest. It happens in this order to avoid the egoistic reception of pleasure. The desires are measured according to the intensity of the pleasure felt. That is how humankind progresses from small desires to bigger ones.

Beginning to work with the smallest desire (*Keter*), man transforms it into an altruistic one with the help of the screen. Then he receives the light *Nefesh*, feeling great pleasure, because the Creator is partially revealed in it, i.e., according to the size of the *Kli*'s correction, he becomes equal to the Creator.

The *Ohr Nefesh* is a delight of being united with the Creator in the smallest, fifth part, where one is able to feel eternity, wisdom, absolute knowledge, exquisite delight and perfection.

Such a state of the *Kli* means transcending the bounds of our world, our nature. So far, the *Kli* is unable to see beyond that state. Nevertheless, as it develops further, it starts feeling more and more perfect states, receiving greater and greater pleasures.

Man's reception of *Ohr Nefesh* means reception of all five parts of that light: *Nefesh de Nefesh*, *Ruach de Nefesh*, *Neshama de Nefesh*, *Haya de Nefesh*, and *Yechida de Nefesh* (“de” means “of”). Any *Kli*, any reception, also consists of five parts. It is similar to the way we receive information in this world through our five senses: sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch.

All these five lights must manifest in the *Kli Keter*, where the light *Nefesh* enters first. The same happens with the rest of the lights. All external religious trappings just hint at spiritual actions. Great Kabbalists in each generation introduced certain rules into the life of the religious masses to bind them to the Torah and thus educate them.

For example, there is the tradition of putting on two robes, which symbolizes the two types of “*Levushim*” (clothes) that dress the soul in the world of *Atzilut*. All these religious rituals have a Kabbalistic meaning.

The principal spiritual law is the equivalence of man’s properties, his desires, with those of the Creator.

The Creator’s light is homogeneous by nature. A certain *Kli*, depending on its inner parameters, distinguishes in the homogeneous light various “tastes”, i.e., different kinds of pleasure: the *Ohr Yashar*, the *Ohr Hozer*, the *Ohr Elion*, the *Ohr Pnimi*, the *Ohr Makif*, etc. This is the same light; everything depends on how the *Kli* perceives it. Prior to entering the *Kli*, it is called the simple Upper Light (the *Ohr Elion Mufshat*), since no diversity of properties can be distinguished in it.

This resembles the Baal HaSulam’s example about the heavenly manna, which has no taste, whereas everyone senses the taste that corresponds to his properties. If the simple Upper Light shines in the head of the *Partzuf*, it is called “the *Ohr Yashar*” (the Direct Light). The light reflected by the screen (the *Ohr Hozer*) envelops the *Ohr Yashar*, and when they both enter the *Kli*, this light receives another name – the *Ohr Pnimi* (the Inner Light) or *Ta’amim* (tastes).

Since the *Partzuf* receives only a certain portion of the coming light, the uncollected part of it is left outside of the *Kli*. This part of the light is called “the *Ohr Makif*” (the Surrounding Light). The *Partzuf* will gradually receive this light in small portions. The state in which the entire Surrounding Light will be able to enter the *Partzuf* is called *Gmar Tikkun* (the Final Correction).

The light exiting the *Kli* is called “*Nekudot*” – points, because *Malchut* is called a point, a black point, due to its egoistic properties, which are unable to receive the light after *TA*. Upon filling the *Partzuf* with the Inner Light, the Surrounding Light presses on the screen in the *Tabur*, so that the *Kli* might receive the light left outside.

However, the *Partzuf* does not have the proper *Masach* for this light. Hence, if it receives it (it already lacks the intention for the Creator’s sake), such a reception will be egoistic. Since the restriction on receiving

the light is a consequence of *Malchut's* egoistic desire (the black point), the light exiting *Malchut* is called “*Nekudot*”.

When the Inner Light exits the *Partzuf* and shines on it from afar, it provokes a special sensation, an impression inside the *Kli*, called recollections (*Reshimot*). These recollections constitute the vital information without which the *Partzuf* cannot know what to do next.

כה) הרי שכל עוד שלא נגדלו כל ה' הכלים כח"ב תו"מ בפרצוף, נמצאים האורות שלא במקומם המיוחס להם. ולא עוד, אלא שהם בערך ההפכי, שבחוסר כלי מלכות חסר שם אור היחידה, ובחוסר ב' הכלים תו"מ חסרים שם יחידה חיה, וכו'. שהוא מטעם שבכלים נגדלים העליונים תחילה, ובהאורות נכנסים האחרונים תחילה.

גם תמצא, שכל אור הבא מחדש, הוא מתלבש רק בכלי דכתר. והוא מטעם, שכל המקבל מחויב לקבל בהכלי היותר זך שבו, שהוא הכלי דכתר. ומטעם זה מחויבים האורות, שכבר מלובשים בפרצוף, לרדת מדרגה אחת ממקומם, בעת ביאת כל אור חדש. למשל בביאת אור הרוח, מחויב אור הנפש לירד מהכלי דכתר לכלי דחכמה, כדי לפנות מקום הכלי דכתר, שיוכל לקבל את האור החדש, שהוא הרוח.

וכן אם האור החדש הוא נשמה, מחויב גם הרוח לרדת מהכלי דכתר לכלי דחכמה, לפנות מקומו דכתר לאור החדש שהוא נשמה. ומשום זה מחויב הנפש, שהיה בכלי דחכמה, לרדת לכלי דבינה. וכו' עד"ז. וכל זה הוא כדי לפנות הכלי דכתר בשביל אור החדש.

ושמור הכלל הזה בידך. ותוכל להבחין תמיד בכל ענין, אם מדברים בערך כלים ואם בערך אורות. ואז לא תתבלבל, כי יש תמיד ערך הפכי ביניהם. והנה נתבאר היטב ענין ה' בחינות שבמסך, איך שעל ידיהן משתנים שיעורי הקומה זה למטה מזה.

25) Until the formation of all the five Kelim in the Partzuf has been completed, their five lights are not in their places; moreover, they are arranged in an inverse order. In the absence of the Kli Malchut, the light Yechida is missing in the Partzuf. In the absence of the two vessels Malchut and Tifferet, there are no lights Yechida and Haya. On the one hand, the pure vessels are born, from Keter to Malchut; on the other hand, the weaker lights (starting from Nefesh) are the first to enter them.

Since any reception of the light occurs in the purest vessels, each new light must enter the Kli Keter. As the new light enters the Kli Keter, the light that was there descends to the Kli Hochma. When there is

a Masach for the vessel Hochma, Ohr Ruach enters the Kli Keter and the Ohr Nefesh descends to Hochma.

As the screen grows stronger, the following vessels are formed: Bina, Tifferet and Malchut, and the lights Neshama, Haya, and Yechida are able, one by one, to pass through Keter and fill all the vessels. All the lights enter their rightful places: Nefesh in Malchut, Ruach in Tifferet, Neshama in Bina, Haya in Hochma and Yechida in Keter.

Remember this rule about the inverse relationship between the lights and vessels, and you will always be able to distinguish whether the lights or the vessels are meant in a certain context without getting confused. We have learned about the five Behinot (levels) of the screen and how the levels of the Kli emerge one under the other in correspondence with them.

Each new light is billions of times more intense than the preceding one. Hence, each subsequent level is perceived as a totally different world. In our world, where we have no screen at all, we cannot see the light that is before us. One can only see with the help of the Reflected Light (the *Ohr Hozer*) and only to the extent of *Malchut's* reflecting it.

However, by studying Kabbalah we stimulate the *Ohr Makif* until it creates in us the primary *Kli Keter*, where we will instantly receive the *Ohr Nefesh*. This state signifies our spiritual birth, crossing the barrier (the *Machsom*) between our world and the spiritual one. It means we are on the lowest level of the world of *Assiya*.

By continuing to work on our correction, we acquire the next screen of the *Aviut Aleph* and receive the light *Ruach*. Next, we acquire the screens for the *Kelim Bet*, *Gimel*, and *Dalet* and accordingly receive the lights *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*. Now all the lights are in their correct places.

How can we set up a screen? If I could know and feel my egoistic properties today, I would run away from the corrections! There is nothing my egoism hates more than the screen. Nevertheless, I cannot escape the spiritual for the reason that I am unaware of my own egoism or

do not understand my properties. Such an “unconscious” initial state is deliberately created that we may not resent spirituality, but that we may aspire to it out of a curiosity and desire to improve our future.

Therefore, the principle consists in crossing the barrier in spite of our own nature. It happens unconsciously; man does not know what he is heading for or when it might happen. After crossing the *Machsom*, man begins to see that, until that moment, he was in a dream-like state.

Two processes precede the crossing of the *Machsom*, the first being a comprehension of one’s own evil. Man begins to understand how harmful his egoism is for him. The second process consists in the realization that spirituality is very attractive, and there is nothing more worthwhile, magnificent, or eternal than that.

These two opposite points (realization of the evil and attraction of the spiritual) come together in the common person to create a zero level. As they advance spiritually, they begin to move away from one another. At the same time, spirituality gets elevated in man’s eyes, while his egoism is perceived as evil.

This difference between them, one’s own appraisal of the spiritual and criticism of egoism, increase so tremendously that it evokes one’s inner outcry, a request about a solution to the problem. If this outcry reaches the required intensity, the screen is given to one from above.

The study of egoism, its correction and proper use, constitutes man’s entire journey from the initial state to the ultimate end (the *Gmar Tikkun*). In the spiritual worlds, man continues to study his egoism on each level. The higher we ascend, the more egoism is added to us, so that by working with it, we are able to turn it into altruism.

Everything we say is seen from the point of view of the creation. We cannot say anything about the Creator, since we do not really know who He is. On a personal level, I just know how He is perceived in my sensations. Only philosophers have the time to speculate about something that can never be attained. Hence, this science has completely degenerated.

“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

Kabbalah operates only with what the Kabbalists sensed and quite distinctly drew upon themselves and related to us in a special Kabbalistic language. Everyone can reproduce that process internally as in a strict scientific experiment.

The instrument of such an experiment is the screen that man must create in the central point of his own egoism; this “I” develops with the help of the method called Kabbalah.

There are two kinds of screen. The first is positioned in front of the *Kli* in the *Peh de Partzuf*, i.e., in *Malchut de Rosh*. It reflects the entire light, as if standing guard over the implementation of *TA*. The second screen receives the light; it works with the *Aviut* that is positioned in *Malchut de Guf*. It absorbs all the egoism that can be transformed into reception for the sake of the Creator.

Generally, the screen is always in *Malchut*, the lowest point of the *Partzuf*. Reflection and reception are two of its actions. The first forms *Rosh* while the second forms the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*. For further details, see Part 3 (“*Histaklut Pnimit*”), chapter 14, p. 5 of “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”.

THE FIVE PARTZUFIM
OF THE WORLD ADAM KADMON
ה' פרצופי א"ק

כו) אחר שנתבאר היטב ענין המסך שנתקן בכלי המלכות, שהיא הבחי"ד אחר שנצטמצמה, וענין ה' מיני זווג דהכאה אשר בו, המוציאים ה' קומות של ע"ס זו למטה מזו, נבאר עתה ה' פרצופי א"ק, הקודמים לד' עולמות אבי"ע.

וזאת כבר ידעת, שהאור"ח הזה, שעולה ע"י זווג דהכאה ממטה למעלה ומלביש הע"ס דאור העליון, הוא מספיק רק לשרשי כלים, המכונים "ע"ס דראש הפרצוף". ובכדי לגמור את הכלים, מתרחבת המלכות דראש מאותם הע"ס דאור"ח שהלבישו לע"ס דראש.

והיא מתפשטת מינה ובה ממעלה למטה, באותו שיעור קומה שבעשר ספירות דראש. ובהתפשטות הזה נגמרו הכלים, שהם נקראים "גוף הפרצוף". באופן שב' בחינות של ע"ס יש להבחין תמיד בכל פרצוף: ראש וגוף.

26) We clearly understand the notion of the Masach (screen), placed over the Kli Malchut (Behina Dalet) after TA, and also the five kinds of Zivugeyde Haka'athat occur on this screen to create five levels of 10 Sefirot, one beneath the other. Now we shall learn about the five Partzufim of the world of Adam Kadmon (AK) that precedes the four worlds of ABYA.

We know that the Ohr Hozer that rises as a result of the Zivug de Haka'a dresses the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light; this is sufficient only to create "the roots" of the future Kelim defined as the 10 Sefirot de Rosh .

Malchut spreads from up downwards, according to the height of the level of the 10 Sefirot de Rosh. It results in the creation of the Kelim called "Guf"(body) of the Partzuf (see §14). Therefore, there are always two kinds of the 10 Sefirot in the Partzuf: the Rosh and the Guf.

In each Partzuf, two kinds of the 10 Sefirot should be determined: the Rosh and the Guf. Those who do not know Hebrew find it much easier to study Kabbalah, because they do not take literally such Kabbalistic terms as Peh-mouth, Rosh-head, Guf-body, Tabur-navel etc. They can

understand them abstractedly, and such people do not make a materialistic picture out of these terms.

These students easily perceive all the above-mentioned terms as forces, desires, intentions, not as body parts. There are no bodies in the spiritual world, only the desire to receive pleasure, the intention for the sake of what or whom one can receive this pleasure, and the pleasure itself.

The place where the reflecting *Masach* resides is called the *Peh*. At first, the *Masach* pushes away all the *Ohr Yashar* that is before it, as if to say it does not want to receive anything for its own sake. Then a calculation is made in the *Rosh* to determine how much can be received anyway, not for its own sake, but for the sake of the Creator. Then, the *Ohr Hozer* dresses the 10 *Sefirot* of the Upper Light (*de Ohr Elion*) from down upwards.

It is sufficient only for making a clear decision; the vessel roots (*Shorshay Kelim*). The 10 *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light that dress the 10 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light together form the 10 *Sefirot* of the *Rosh* of the *Partzuf*.

To complete the formation of the *Kelim* and truly receive the light, the 10 *Sefirot de Ohr Yashar* dress into the 10 *Sefirot de Ohr Hozer*. They “pass” through the *Masach*, spread from up downwards, thus widening the tenth *Sefira* of the *Rosh - Malchut de Rosh* for its own 10 *Sefirot* - from *Keter* to *Hochma* and forming the *Kelim de Guf*.

Before *Malchut* could receive for the sake of the Creator, it was compressed, restricted to the size of a point. Nevertheless, by receiving the screen, it acquired a new intention to receive for the sake of the Creator, and then it “expanded” from a point to the 10 *Sefirot*, receiving the light into the *Guf*.

כז) והנה תחילה יצא הפרצוף הראשון דא"ק. כי תיכף אחר צמצום א', אשר הבחי"ד נצטמצמה מלהיות כלי קבלה על אור העליון, והיא נתקנה במסך, הנה אז נמשך אור העליון להתלבש בכלי מלכות כדרכו. והמסך שבכלי מלכות עיכב עליו והחזיר את האור לאחוריו. וע"י הכאה זו שהיתה ממסך דבחי"ד, העלה אר"ח עד קומת כתר שבאור העליון. ואותו אר"ח נעשה ללבוש ובחינת שורשי כלים לע"ס שבאור העליון, הנקרא "ע"ס דראש" של הפרצוף הראשון דא"ק.

ואח"ז התרחבה והתפשטה המלכות ההיא עם האו"ח, מכח ע"ס דראש, מינה ובה, לע"ס חדשות ממעלה למטה. ואז נגמרו הכלים בבחינת הגוף. וכל שיעור הקומה, שיצא בע"ס דראש, נתלבש ג"כ בהע"ס דגוף. ובזה נגמר הפרצוף הא' דא"ק ראש וגוף.

27) *As soon as the first Partzuf of the world of Adam Kadmon is born, after TA, Behina Dalet immediately stopped being a Kli for receiving the Upper Light, being thus corrected by way of the screen. The Upper Light descended to be dressed in the Kli Malchut according to its nature.*

However, the screen, which positioned itself before Malchut, reflected and returned it to the Source. Because of this Stroke Contact, the Ohr Hozer ascended to the level of Keter de Ohr Elion. This Ohr Hozer has become the embryo of the vessels ("the Shorshey Kelim") for the 10 Sefirot de Rosh of the first Partzuf of Adam Kadmon.

Afterwards, by using the power of the 10 Sefirot de Rosh, Malchut de Rosh together with Ohr Hozer expanded and spread from up downwards, thus creating inside itself 10 new Sefirot, which are true and complete Kelim. All that potentially existed in the Rosh has finally manifested and taken form in the Guf. Thus, the creation of the Rosh and the Guf of the first Partzuf of the world Adam Kadmon was completed.

After TA, when Malchut made a restriction on reception of the light, it decided to receive a portion of it with the help of the screen for the sake of the Creator. The first reception formed the first Partzuf of the world of Adam Kadmon (Keter or Galgalta). Overall, there are five Partzufim in the world of Adam Kadmon.

The Masach in the Kli Malchut pushed away the entire Upper Light. With the help of a stroke (Haka'a) into the Masach, whose force was equal to all five Behinot, the Reflected Light (the Ohr Hozer) rose to

the level of *Keter* of the Direct Light (the *Ohr Yashar*) and dressed the 10 *Sefirot de Rosh* of the first *Partzuf* of *AK*. Then *Malchut* expanded, and the light spread inside it, forming the 10 *Sefirot de Guf*.

The part of the *Kli* (*Guf*), which was filled with the light, is called the *Toch* (the inner part), and the light in it is called “the *Ohr Pnimi*” – the Inner Light. The part of the *Guf* that remained empty is called the *Sof* (end), and the light in it is called the *Ohr Hassadim*.

This part refuses to receive any pleasure, because it does not have a proper screen; so if it receives the light, this will lead to the reception of pleasure for its own sake. The boundary separating the *Toch* and the *Sof* is called the *Tabur* (navel). The light that has not entered the *Kli* is called the *Ohr Makif* (the Surrounding Light).

Each *Partzuf* sees what light is in front of it only with the help of the Reflected Light. If the power of the Reflected Light equals the power of the screen on all five *Behinot*, it can see the light of *Keter*. It divides this light into five parts, fills the *Toch* with them, leaving the *Sof* empty. Light of any intensity can shine in the *Rosh* of *Partzuf*, but *Malchut de Peh de Rosh* will see only as much as the *Ohr Hozer* allows it to.

Our senses are based on the same principle. Make them more sensitive and they will see micron-sized objects, feel microbes etc. In other words, everything depends not on what really surrounds us, but on whatever we are able to detect, on the perceptibility of our sensors.

Each subsequent *Partzuf* has a screen of a smaller quantity and quality of desires (*Behinot*) than the preceding one; therefore, its *Ohr Hozer* is smaller and it sees the light of a lower level. It resembles a person whose eyesight has deteriorated and who can see objects only at a short distance.

If the screen has the strength of the *Behina Gimel*, it can see the light of the level of *Hochma* as regards the preceding *Partzuf*. Regarding itself, it receives the same five parts of the light of *NaRaNHaY*, but of the general level of *Hochma*, not *Keter*. Let us take the example of this world: a tall person and a short one naturally consist of the same “parts”. However, we say that one of them is a whole head taller than the other, i.e., the latter is, as it were, short by a head.

We study the descending worlds. When the Universe came into being, the *Partzuf Adam HaRishon* (the First Man) was created. Then this *Partzuf* split into 600,000 fragments called souls. Each of these fragments has to receive its part of the Upper Light.

When the soul, i.e., a fragment of the *Partzuf Adam HaRishon*, reaches a certain level in the spiritual world, it receives a little of its part of the light. Although it has not yet received the entire light assigned to it, the soul perceives this state as absolutely perfect. Then a little more egoism is added to it (the soul) and again it begins to wish for more. By correcting this portion of egoism, it receives a new portion of the light in the newly corrected vessels, and only then realizes that there is a greater perfection to be attained.

If a man lacks this inner desire, the need or point in his heart, he is unable to understand how one can be interested in spirituality. By the way, fortune telling, amulets, alternative medicine and blessings have nothing to do with spirituality. Kabbalah interprets the spiritual as the aspiration for the Creator, His properties. In fact, we always discover that whatever seemed supernatural to us turns out to be the work of more or less talented frauds who use the forces of our world unknown to most people, as well as psychology and the inner powers of the human body.

כח) ואח"כ חזר ונשנה אותו הזווג דהכאה על מסך המתוקן שבכלי מלכות, שאין בו רק עביות דבחי"ג. ואז יצא עליו רק קומת חכמה. ראש וגוף. כי מתוך שחסר במסך העביות דבחי"ד, אין בו רק ד' כלים כח"ב ת"ת. וע"כ אין מקום באו"ח להלביש רק ד' אורות לבד, שהם חנר"ג, וחסר בו אור היחידה. ונקרא "ע"ב דא"ק".

ואח"כ חזר אותו הזווג דהכאה הנ"ל על מסך שבכלי מלכות, שאין בו רק עביות דבחי"ב. ואז יצאו עליו ע"ס ראש וגוף בקומת בינה. והוא נקרא פרצוף "ס"ג דא"ק", שחסרים בו ב' הכלים דז"א ומלכות וב' האורות דחיה יחידה.

ואח"כ יצא הזווג דהכאה על מסך שאין בו רק עביות דבחי"א. ואז יצאו ע"ס ראש וגוף בקומת ת"ת. וחסרים בו ג' כלים בינה ז"א ומלכות, וג' אורות נשמה חיה יחידה, ואין בו אלא רוח ונפש מהאורות, המלוּבשים בכתר חכמה דכלים. והוא הנקרא פרצוף מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק. וזכור כאן את ערך ההפכי שבין כלים לאורות (כנ"ל באות כ"ד).

28) After the above, there was one more Stroke Contact with the screen of the Kli Malchut. However, this time the Behina Dalet was absent in it. The screen now has only four vessels: Keter, Hochma, Bina, and Tifferet. Therefore, the next Partzuf of the world of Adam Kadmon, which emerged one level below the Partzuf Galgalta, on the level of Hochma, is called AB. In this case, the Ohr Hozer dresses onto the four lights of the NaRaNH while the fifth part, the Ohr Yechida, is absent.

The Behinot Dalet and Gimel are absent in the screen of the third Partzuf. Hence, it emerged one level lower than the Partzuf AB, i.e., on the level of Bina, and the lights Yechida and Haya are absent in it. It is two steps lower than the first Partzuf and only one step lower than the second. It is called Bina or SAG.

Then a Zivug de Haka'a occurred on the Masach with the Aviut Aleph; thus, the Rosh and the Guf emerged on the level of Tifferet with the lights Nefesh and Ruach, whereas the lights Neshama, Haya, and Yechida are absent. There are no Kelim Dalet, Gimel, and Bet; therefore, the corresponding lights are also missing. This Partzuf is called Tifferet or MA.

The final fifth Partzuf emerged on the Aviut Shoresch with the light Nefesh. It is called Malchut or BON.

כט) והנה נתבארו אופן יציאתם של ה"פ א"ק, הנקראים גלגלתא ע"ב ס"ג מ"ה וב"ן, זה למטה מזה, שכל תחתון חסר בחינה עליונה של העליון שלו. כי לפרצוף ע"ב חסר אור יחידה. ובפרצוף ס"ג חסר גם אור החיה, שיש להעליון שלו, שהוא ע"ב. ובפרצוף מ"ה וב"ן חסר גם אור הנשמה, שיש בהעליון שלו, שהוא ס"ג. והוא מטעם שזה תלוי בשיעור העוביות שבהמסך, שעליו נעשה הזווג דהכאה. (אות י"ח). אמנם צריכים להבין: מי ומה גרם שהמסך ילך ויתמעט, בחינה אחר בחינה משיעור עוביותו, עד שיתחלק לה' שיעורי קומה שבה' מיני זווגים הללו?

29) *So we have investigated the formation of the five Partzufim of the world of Adam Kadmon called Galgalta, AB, SAG, MA and BON, where each subsequent Partzuf is one step lower than the preceding one. For example, there is no light of Yechida in the Partzuf AB, and no light of Haya in SAG (it was in AB). The light of Neshama is absent in the Partzuf MA. The level of each Partzuf depends on the thickness of the screen on which a Zivug de Haka'a is made (see §18). However, we have not yet clarified the reason for the lessening of the screen's thickness at the formation of a new Partzuf.*

After TA Malchut acquires a screen with five degrees of hardness, hence it can work with all five levels of its desires. Using the screen's force, it reflects the entire light and in the Reflected Light reaches the level of Keter. It "sees" all five parts of the coming light: the lights in the Sefirot Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut, which are in the Rosh. Approximately 20% of each light can be received in the Toch.

The general level of this light is determined according to the highest light – Yechida, which corresponds to the level of Keter (Komat Keter). In the second Partzuf, Malchut can receive less light, since it loses one higher level of desire – the Aviut Dalet and the light Yechida.

The amount of light in the third, fourth and fifth Partzufim is even smaller. Their level gets lower and lower because of the decreasing Aviut that occurs from Gimel to Bet in the third Partzuf, from Bet to Aleph in the fourth and from Aleph to Shoresh in the fifth. According to the degree

of *Aviut*, there are no lights *Yechida* and *Haya* in the third *Partzuf* *SAG*, *Yechida*, *Haya* and *Neshama* – in the fourth and *Yechida*, *Haya*, *Neshama* and *Ruach* – in the fifth.

The *Partzufim* look this way only as regards one another, where each *Partzuf* that follows is “one head” lower than the preceding one by the level of the light, strength, and quality. However, each of them has its own 5 (or 10, for *Sefira Tifferet* consists of 6 *Sefirot*) *Sefirot* *KaHaB-TuM* and 5 lights *NaRaNHaY*, respectively.

Each *Partzuf* must have a set of all those 10 parts of which the creation consists. The *Partzufim* differ only by the strength of their screen. Therefore, when the screen grows weaker, a new *Partzuf* is born one-step lower than the preceding one.

After *TA*, the *Kli* consists of the “desire to receive” and the *Masach*. The filling of the *Kli* happens in accordance with the strength and size of this *Masach*. The screen can push away the pleasures corresponding to its five, four, three, two, or one desires. Every *Partzuf* consists of five parts, defined as:

Keter	The point of beginning the letter <i>Yud</i>
Hochma	<i>Yud</i>
Bina	<i>Hey</i>
Tifferet	<i>Vav</i>
Malchut	<i>Hey</i>

These letters are the shell of the *Partzuf*, the five permanent parts that constitute its *Kli*. According to the strength of the screen, the *Partzuf* fills these parts with more or less intensive light – the *Ohr Hochma* or the *Ohr Hassadim*. *Ohr Hochma* is denoted by the letter *Yud* and the *Ohr Hassadim* – by the letter *Hey*. Therefore, we can designate each *Partzuf* by a letter code or a number.

“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

As it was explained in the article “The Letters of Amnon-Saba” (p.104): “Each *Partzuf* consists of five parts = 5 *Sefirot*: a point and 4 letters: *Keter*-point+*Hochma*-*Yud*+*Bina*-*Hey*+*ZA*-*Vav*+*Malchut*-*Hey*=*HaVaYaH*”. The difference between all 125 *Partzufim* is in the light that fills them, while the shell *HaVaYaH* remains the same. This is because the desire cannot be formed unless the Creator’s light goes through five preliminary stages, where only the fifth stage constitutes the birth of the new creation – a new desire.

The entire Universe and all the worlds are only the 10 *Sefirot*, or the Creator’s name *HaVaYaH*:

Sefira	Letter	Partzuf	World	Light
Keter	Point	Galgalta	AK	Yechida
Hochma	<i>Yud</i>	AB	Atzilut	Haya
Bina	<i>Hey</i>	SAG	Beria	Neshama
ZA	<i>Vav</i>	MA	Yetzira	Ruach
Malchut	<i>Hey</i>	BON	Assiya	Nefesh

The filling of *HaVaYaH* with the light is called its revelation, for it is to that degree that the Creator reveals Himself in this desire. By this action, the letters emerge out of the state of concealment and emptiness.

Overall, there are five *Partzufim*: *Keter* (*Galgalta*), AB, SAG, MA, BON. *Keter* is the principal *Partzuf*, the source of the rest of them. Within *Keter*’s 10 *Sefirot* is a simple or inner *HaVaYaH*. Moreover, each of the four letters of its *HaVaYaH* gets outside and creates a new *Partzuf* that dresses onto the *Partzuf Galgalta*.

So, the following *Partzufim* emerge from *Keter*-*Galgalta*:

<i>Yud</i>	Partzuf Hochma, AB
<i>Hey</i>	Partzuf Bina, SAG
<i>Vav</i>	Partzuf ZA, MA
<i>Hey</i>	Partzuf Malchut, BON

Thus, the *Partzuf Keter* is denoted by a simple *HaVaYaH*, while the *Partzufim* that dress onto it are denoted by a *HaVaYaH* with fillings. The

registration of *HaVaYaH* with the light that fills it is called “*Milluy*” (filling). For a short designation of the *Partzuf*, the notion *Gematria* (numerical value of the fillings) was introduced.

The letters of the alphabet:

Name	Pronunciation	Gematria
Aleph	[a], [e]	1
Bet	b, v	2
Gimel	g (gate)	3
Dalet	d	4
Hey	[a], [e]	5
Vav	v, [u], [o]	6
Zayn	z	7
Het	h (how)	8
Tet	t	9
Yud	y, i (in)	10
Chaf	h, k	20
Lamed	l	30
Mem	m	40
Nun	n	50
Samech	s	60
Ayn	[a], [e]	70
Pey	p	80
Tzady	tz	90
Kuf	k	100
Reish	r	200
Shin	sh, s	300
Tav	t	400

The *Gematria* of the *Partzuf* that is not filled with the light, i.e., the *Gematria* of the empty *HaVaYaH* is equal to $Yud+Hey+Vav+Hey=10+5+6+5=26$.

The *filling* of each letter forms the *Gematria* of the filled *HaVaYaH*: each Hebrew letter has a full name: A – *Aleph*, B – *Bet* and so on, according to the table.

Hence, there are 4 kinds of fillings of *HaVaYaH*: a) AB; b) SAG; c) MA; d) BON.

a) HaVaYaH with the filling of AB:

- **Yud:** $Yud + Vav + Dalet = 10 + 6 + 4 = 20$
- **Hey:** $Hey + Yud = 5 + 10 = 15$
- **Vav:** $Vav + Yud + Vav = 6 + 10 + 6 = 22$
- **Hey:** $Hey + Yud = 5 + 10 = 15$

Total: $72 = 20 + 15 + 22 + 15 = AB$, where the letter A stands not for *Aleph*=1, but for *Ayn*=70 (they are just pronounced the same way, therefore in English they are marked by the same letter).

HaVaYaH, filled with such light, is called the *Partzuf AB*, the *Partzuf Hochma*, because the letter *Yud* in its filling means the *Ohr Hochma*. Such filling of *HaVaYaH* is called *HaVaYaH* with the filling of *Yud*.

b) HaVaYaH with the filling of SAG. The *Partzuf*, filled with the light of *Hassadim*, is called SAG, because such is its *Gematria*: $SAG = Samech (60) + Gimel (3) = 63$:

- **Yud:** $Yud + Vav + Dalet = 10 + 6 + 4 = 20$
- **Hey:** $Hey + Yud = 5 + 10 = 15$
- **Vav:** $Vav + Aleph + Vav = 6 + 1 + 6 = 13$
- **Hey:** $Hey + Yud = 5 + 10 = 15$

Total: $63 = 60 + 3 = Samech + Gimel = SAG$. If the *Kelim* and their filling originate in the *Tzimtzum Aleph (TA)*, then there is **Yud** in the filling of the *HaVaYaH*. We will learn that later there was another restriction *Tzimtzum Bet (TB)*. Therefore, if the *Kelim* are filled with the light from the Second Restriction, then in their filling of *HaVaYaH* the letter **Aleph** is present instead of *Yud*.

The difference between AB and SAG is in the filling of the letter *Vav*: in AB the *Gematria* of *Vav*=22 from the filling with the light of *Hochma*, and in SAG the *Gematria* of the letter *Vav*=13, from filling with the light of *Hassadim*. From the above statement, it is clear that AB originates in TA and in the *Partzuf SAG* its letter *Vav*, or ZA, derives from TB.

c) **HaVaYaH with the filling of MA:**

- **Yud:** $Yud+Vav+Dalet = 20$
- **Hey:** $Hey+Aleph = 6$
- **Vav:** $Vav-Aleph-Vav = 13$
- **Hey:** $Hey+Aleph = 6$

Such a filling of *HaVaYaH* is called: $20+6+13+6=45=40+5=Mem+Hey=MA$. The letter *Hey* is pronounced as [a].

d) **HaVaYaH with the filling of BON:**

- **Yud:** $Yud+Vav+Dalet = 20$
- **Hey:** $Hey+ Hey = 10$
- **Vav:** $Vav+ Vav = 12$
- **Hey:** $Hey+ Hey = 10$

Such a filling of *HaVaYaH* is called $20+10+12+10 = 52 = 50+2 = Nun+Bet$, and is pronounced in the reversed order: *BON*.

Malchut of the World of Infinity is a simple “desire to receive”. The screen, by way of dividing *Malchut* into different parts, calls forth the variety of its forms:

- The division of *Malchut* into five general parts is called “worlds”.
- The division of each world into five more parts is called “*Partzufim*”.
- The division of each *Partzuf* into five more parts is called “*Sefirot*”.

Each *Sefira* in turn consists of five more sub-*Sefirot*, which in turn consists of its own 10 *Sefirot*, and so on ad infinitum.

Our world is a reflection of the lowest spiritual world, and it has the same types and kinds of objects as in the spiritual world, except they are, as it were, made of a different substance. They consist of a material desire to receive pleasure without the screen, from the portion of light, completely detached from the Creator. We feel it as pleasure, but we do not feel its source. Therefore, by studying the spiritual world, one can completely attain the entire nature of our world, all its laws.

THE WEAKENING OF THE MASACH
FOR THE CREATION OF THE PARTZUF
הזדככות המסך לאצילות פרצוף

(ל) בכדי להבין ענין השתלשלות המדרגות בה' שיעורי קומה זה למטה מזה, שנתבאר בה' פרצופין דא"ק לעיל, וכן בכל המדרגות המתבארים בה"פ של כל עולם ועולם מד' העולמות אבי"ע עד המלכות דעשיה, צריכים להבין היטב ענין הזדככות המסך דגוף, הנוהג בכל פרצוף מפרצופי א"ק ועולם הנקודים ובעולם התיקון.

30) *In order to understand the development of the spiritual levels, expressed by the five degressive Partzufim of the world AK, and all levels of the five Partzufim of each of the four worlds of ABYA, down to Malchut of the world of Assiya, we have to learn properly what the thinning of Masach de Guf is. This occurs in all the Partzufim of the worlds AK, Nikudim and Atzilut (the world of Correction).*

All the levels, beginning with the World of Infinity (the *Olam Ein Sof*) and down to our world, are created according to one and the same scheme. The more removed a level is from the World of Infinity, the thinner and weaker the screen becomes. Because of this, *Malchut* receives less and less light each time its levels descend lower and lower, until gradually *Malchut* descends from its highest state – the *Olam Ein Sof* and reaches its lowest state – our world.

לא) והענין הוא, שאין לך פרצוף או איזה מדרגה שהיא, שלא יהיה לה ב' אורות, הנקראים אור מקיף ואור פנימי. ונבארם בא"ק. כי האור מקיף של פרצוף הא' דא"ק ה"ס אור א"ס ב"ה, הממלא את כל המציאות. אשר לאחר הצמצום א' והמסך שנתקן במלכות, נעשה זוג דהכאה מאור הא"ס על המסך הזה.

וע"י האו"ח שהעלה המסך, חזר והמשיך אור העליון לעולם הצמצום, בבחינת ע"ס דראש וע"ס דגוף (אות כ"ה).

אמנם המשכה זו שבפרצוף א"ק מא"ס ב"ה אינה ממלאת את כל המציאות כמטרם הצמצום, אלא שנבחן בראש וסוף: הן מבחינת מלמעלה למטה, כי אורו נפסק על הנקודה דעוה"ז, שה"ס מלכות המסיימת בסו"ה "ועמדו רגליו על הר הזיתים".

הן מבחינת מבפנים לחוץ. כי כמו שיש ע"ס ממעלה למטה כח"ב תו"מ והמלכות מסיימה את הא"ק מלמטה, כן יש ע"ס כח"ב תו"מ מפנים לחוץ, המכונים מוחא עצמות גידין בשר ועור, אשר העור, שהוא סוד המלכות, מסיימת את הפרצוף מבחוץ.

אשר בערך הזה נבחן פרצוף א"ק, כלפי א"ס ב"ה הממלא את כל המציאות, רק כמו קו דק בלבד. כי פרצוף העורר מסיימת אותו ומגבילה אותו סביב סביב מבחוץ, ואינו יכול להתרחב למלא את כל החלל שנצטמצם. ונשאר רק קו דק עומד באמצעו של החלל.

והנה שיעור האור שנתקבל בא"ק, דהיינו קו הדק, נקרא "אור פנימי". וכל ההפרש הגדול הזה, שבין האר"פ שבא"ק ובין אור א"ס ב"ה שמטרם הצמצום, נקרא "אור מקיף". כי הוא נשאר בבחינת אר"מ מסביב פרצוף א"ק, כי לא יכול להתלבש בפנימיות הפרצוף.

31) The fact is that any Partzuf, or even any spiritual level, has two kinds of the light: the Ohr Makif (the Surrounding Light) and the Ohr Pnimi (the Inner Light). As was made clear, in the first Partzuf of the world AK Galgalta the Surrounding Light is the light of the World of Infinity, which fills the entire Universe. After TA and emerging of Masach, the Stroke Contact (the Zivug de Haka' a) between the entire light of the World of Infinity with this Masach takes place.

The Ohr Hozer that emerged as a result of this Zivug allowed a part of the Upper Light to enter the world of Restriction (the Olam HaTzimtzum) and thus created the ten Sefirot de Rosh and the ten Sefirot de Guf, as was said in § 25.

However, the entire light did not enter the Partzuf Galgalta. Now the light of the World of Infinity does not fill the entire Universe, as was the case before TA. Now there are Rosh and Sof, i.e., while the ten Sefirot spread downwards, the light stops at the point of "this world", in "limiting" Malchut (Malchut Masayemet), as said: "his feet are standing on the Mount of Olives"...

Furthermore, now there is a notion "from inside out". Similarly to the downward spreading of the ten Sefirot Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, Malchut (KaHaB-TuM) and limiting Malchut, there also exists the spreading of the ten Sefirot KaHaB-TuM from inside out.

Here the Sefirot are called: Mocha-brain (Keter), Atzamat-bones (Hochma), Gidin-tendons (Bina), Basar-flesh (Tifferet), and Or-skin (Malchut; "Or" with the letter "Ayn", not with "Aleph", i.e., "the light"). Concerning the World of Infinity, where the entire Universe

was filled with the light of the Partzuf Galgalta, there is just a thin ray of light. Or-skin (Malchut) limits the Partzuf on the outside, preventing the light from “widening” further and filling the empty space.

The amount of light (its thin ray) received in Galgalta is called “the Ohr Pnimi” (the Inner Light). The enormous amount of light of the World of Infinity, which did not enter Galgalta, remained outside. Now this light is called the Ohr Makif (the Surrounding Light). It cannot enter the Partzuf but rather surrounds it on all sides.

Any part of *Malchut* is called a level, if it has filled each of its desires with the light by using a screen. Each level received by *Malchut* divides the coming light into two parts: the *Ohr Pnimi*, which enters the *Partzuf*, and the *Ohr Makif*.

The screen sees the entire light coming to it with the help of the *Ohr Hozer*, and then determines how much it can receive with the help of the screen for the sake of the Creator, and how much it must leave outside. The screen always divides the light into two parts.

The *Ohr Pnimi* (the received part) is only a thin ray of light, which entered *Malchut*, i.e., the empty space, departed after *TA* (before *TA Malchut* was completely filled). We see the strength of egoism, which allowed just a thin ray of light to enter *Malchut* with the help of the screen. Moreover, it only refers to the first *Partzuf* of *AK - Galgalta*. The remaining *Partzufim* are filled with even less light.

Then, with the help of this ray of light, additional *Partzufim* are created. In the very center of this dark sphere – *Malchut*, after *TA*, there is our world. In the world of *Atzilut* a very special *Partzuf*, *Adam HaRishon*, is born. It consists of two components: the qualities of *Bina* and *Malchut*. Then this *Partzuf* splits into numerous separate *Partzufim*, called “souls”.

By acquiring the screen, the formed souls can gradually fill the entire sphere with the light. Such a state is called “The Final Correction” of the souls with the help of the screen—“the *Gmar Tikkun*”. After that, the

further widening of *Malchut* consists in the attainment of the Creator, not inside itself, but above its properties.

This already refers to that part of Kabbalah called “the secrets of the Torah”. The rest of Kabbalah, everything that is below this level and refers to “*Ta’amey Torah*”, can and must be studied by all. Kabbalists must open “*Ta’amey Torah*” to everyone but conceal “the secrets of the Torah”.

There are many kinds of the *Ohr Makif* as well as the *Ohr Pnimi*. One of them shines upon man when he has no screen yet, no corrected feeling - and man starts longing for the spiritual. It happens owing to the *Ohr Makif* that shines upon him. Here the light is primary and the desire is secondary.

The *Ohr Makif* starts shining when man does not yet understand where this luminescence comes from, but spirituality begins to attract him. As he starts learning, he arouses upon himself the luminescence of another kind, which gradually corrects him; with its help, man begins to see his shortcomings, more and more opening the surrounding world. Gradually the light creates the spiritual picture before him, which gets clearer and clearer, as if emerging out of a fog.

We are surrounded by the Creator, Who is behind all objects around us, and wishes to bring us nearer to Him. For this purpose, He uses the objects of nature. In our world, He does it with the help of people - family, boss, acquaintances. He deliberately sends us complicated situations and sufferings, so that by trying to escape from them, we would come closer to Him.

However, man is inclined to see the reason of all his misfortunes in his shrewish wife, angry boss or the people who surround him. However, that is the way it should be, because the Creator is concealed from him. Man has not yet reached the level where he can only see the Creator behind all that happens to him. Moreover, he should react according to his own feelings, not as if it is only the Creator Who exists in the world.

While on the material level, it is impossible to see the spiritual forces in the surrounding objects.

We depict the *Partzufim* very relatively. Though it is said that *Galgalta* looks like a thin ray of light, we imagine it in the form of a rectangle to show the correlation between the parts of the *Partzuf*. The *Partzuf* with its parts is gradually created in man's sensations. We study how from a point, a *Sefira* is created in man, then an embryo-*Partzuf*; next, it grows as man starts receiving the Upper Light into it.

It is said, “his feet will ascend onto the Mount of Olives and will stand on it”. Olive oil symbolizes the *Ohr Hochma*. The entire process of reception and the grading of the *Ohr Hochma* are extremely complicated. In Hebrew *Har* (mountain) also means “*Hirhurim*” - doubts, sufferings and efforts while climbing a mountain. From below, on our part, this ascent continues until the *Machsom*, where the spiritual world begins. In the *Gmar Tikkun*, the *Ohr Hochma* will fill not only the *Toch*, but also the *Sof of Galgalta*.

(לב) ונתבאר היטב סוד האו"מ דא"ק, שלגדלו אין קץ ותכלית. אמנם אין הכונה שא"ס ב"ה, הממלא את כל המציאות, הוא עצמו הוא בבחינת או"מ לא"ק. אלא הכונה היא, שבעת שנעשה הזווג דהכאה על המלכות דראש א"ק, אשר א"ס הכה במסך אשר שם, שפירושו שרצה להתלבש בבחי"ד דא"ק כמו מטרם הצמצום, אלא המסך שבמלכות דראש א"ק הכה בו, שפירושו שעיכב עליו מלהתפשט בבחי"ד, והחזירו לאחוריו (אות י"ד).

שבאמת האו"ח הזה שיצא ע"י החזרת האור לאחוריו, נעשה ג"כ בחינת כלים להלבשת אור העליון. אמנם יש הפרש גדול מאוד בין קבלת הבחי"ד שמטרם הצמצום, ובין קבלת האור חוזר שלאחר הצמצום. שהרי לא הלביש אלא בחינת קו דק בראש וסוף. אשר כל זה פעל המסך בסבת הכאתו על אור העליון.

הנה זה השיעור, שנדחה מא"ק בסבת המסך, כלומר כל אותו השיעור, שאור העליון מא"ס ב"ה רצה להתלבש בבחי"ד, לולא המסך שעיכב עליו, הוא הנעשה לאו"מ מסביב הא"ק. והטעם הוא, כי אין שינוי והעדר ברוחני. וכיון שאור א"ס נמשך להא"ק להתלבש בבחי"ד, הרי זה צריך להתקיים כן. לכן אע"פ שעתה עיכב עליו המסך והחזירו לאחוריו, עכ"ז אין זה סותר להמשכת א"ס ח"ו. אלא אדרבא, הוא מקיים אותו! רק באופן אחר.

והיינו ע"י ריבוי הזווגים בה' העולמות א"ק ואב"ע, עד לגמר התיקון, שתהיה הבחי"ד מתוקנת על ידיהם בכל שלימותה. ואז א"ס יתלבש בה כבתחילה. הרי שלא נעשה שום שינוי והעדר

ע"י הכאת המסך באור העליון. וזה סוד מ"ש בזוהר: "א"ס לא נחית יחודיה עליה עד דיהבינן ליה בת זוגיה".

ובינתים, כלומר עד הזמן ההוא, נבחן שאור א"ס הזה נעשה לאר"מ, שפירשו שעומד להתלבש בו לאחר מכן. ועתה הוא מסבב ומאיר עליו רק מבחוץ בהארה מסוימת, שהארה זו מסגלתו להתפשט באותם החוקים הראויים להביאוו לקבל האר"מ הזה בהשיעור שא"ס ב"ה נמשך אליו בתחילה.

32) Now let us clear up what is the Ohr Makif of the world AK (or rather Galgalta), which is infinitely great and inexhaustible. It is not a question of the light of the World of Infinity being the Ohr Makif. It means that, when the Stroke Contact took place, the enormous light of the World of Infinity hit the screen of the Malchut de Rosh Galgalta. Although it wished to enter Behina Dalet, as if no TA had ever happened, the screen stopped and reflected it, preventing it from getting inside Behina Dalet (see § 14).

This Ohr Hozer has virtually become the vessel of reception of the Upper Light. However, there is a tremendous difference between the reception by Behina Dalet before TA and the reception with the help of the Masach and the Ohr Hozer after it. As we have already said, the light that entered Galgalta is just a thin ray compared to what it was before TA.

The part of the Upper Light that could not enter the Partzuf has turned into the Ohr Makif of Galgalta. There is a rule: nothing ever disappears in the spiritual world, hence the light of the World of Infinity that was meant for Behina Dalet has not vanished; it is bound to fulfill its predestination and enter Malchut, so now it starts filling the worlds AK and ABYA, albeit according to a totally different principle. Now the creation gets only that part of the light that it can receive, not for its own sake, but for the sake of the Creator.

It happens due to a large number of Stroke Contacts between the light and the Masachim of the worlds and the Partzufim, until Behina Dalet corrects itself with their help and reaches the state of

absolute perfection, conceived by the Creator at the beginning of the creation.

Then the entire light of the World of Infinity will enter it; but now the creation will be the Creator’s partner in creating itself, “earning” the reception of the light. Therefore, the Stroke Contact between the light and the Masach does not lead to a disappearance or a transformation of the light.

But for the time being, before the Final Correction (the Gmar Tik-kun) the light of Infinity turns into the Ohr Makif (the Surrounding Light), which means that it will have to enter this Partzuf in the future. However, for the present moment it surrounds the Partzuf and shines upon it as if from “outside”.

This outside luminescence spreads through all the worlds in the form of corrections, capable of leading Malchut to being completely filled with the light of the World of Infinity.

As we have already said, the light reflected by the screen dresses onto the Direct Light (the Ohr Yashar) and serves as the Klifor receiving the Ohr Pnimi into the Guf. The Ohr Hozer is Kavanah (intention), thanks to which the light can enter the Guf for the sake of the Creator. The screen has enough strength only to dress and receive just a small portion of the light into the Toch as compared to the light that Malchut was filled with in Behina Dalet in the world of Ein Sof. The empty desires form the Sof of the Partzuf; whereas the light that was unable to enter them and was left around the Partzuf, is called “the Ohr Makif”.

In the spiritual world, all processes take place according to the cause-and-effect relation. There is no time, nothing changes or disappears there. All that was continues to be, and everything new merely dresses onto it. The previous continues to exist and is the cause, while all the new becomes its effect.

The screen that pushed away the *Ohr Yashar* did not prevent it from spreading in *Malchut*, but just gave the process a new form. Now it happens in the way of a partial receiving with the help of numerous “*Zivugey de Haka’a*” in the five worlds of *AK*, *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira* and *Assiya*.

This process goes on until the Final Correction, when the *Behina Dalet* will be corrected in all its perfection. Then the light of Infinity will spread into it as it had done before *TA*. In this process, the *Masach* has not introduced anything that would interfere with achieving perfection.

The light of the World of Infinity will not rest until it fills the entire *Malchut*. So far it surrounds it from outside as the *Ohr Makif*, ready to enter it the instant the screen appears. The luminescence of the *Ohr Makif* is able to correct *Malchut* and allow it to receive the light inside.

The light hits the screen, because such is its nature; as it wanted to fill the *Behina Aleph*, so later it constantly wishes to fill the vessel of reception - the “desire to receive”. For example, sometimes man has some kind of a hidden desire; the outside pleasure strikes it and awakens this desire, arouses it. Then man begins to feel that this pleasure wants to enter him.

In the spiritual world, each action is new because the creation makes a *Zivug de Haka’a* on every new portion of the “desire to receive” that has not yet been involved in the correction. Each new action is the effect of the preceding one and the cause of the subsequent one. The light emanating from the Creator is one and the same, simple light; but with each new desire, the *Kli* singles out the various kinds of pleasure in it that correspond to this new desire.

Everything depends on the *Kli*. According to its inner properties, desires (whether it wants to receive for its own sake or for the sake of the Creator, whether it wants to receive at all) it distinguishes certain kinds of pleasure in the light. The vessel (the *Kli*) must be created so that it will be able to pick out all those numerous pleasures in the light that were incorporated in it from the beginning.

On the one hand, the light emanating from the Creator creates the *Masachim*, screens, which assist the gradual filling of different parts of *Malchut* with the light, and it continues in this way until the *Gmar Tikkun*. On the other hand, we must say that the light is the cause that arouses the desire of the *Kli*, whereupon it should work hard to create its own screen.

לג) ועתה נבאר ענין הביטוש דאור"פ ואור"מ זה בזה, המביא להזדככות המסך ולאבידת בחינה אחרונה דעביות. כי בהיות ב' האורות הללו הפוכים זה מזה וקשורים יחד שניהם במסך שבמלכות דראש א"ק, ע"כ מבטשים ומכים זה בזה.

פירוש: כי אותו זווג הדכאה הנעשה בפה דראש א"ק, דהיינו במסך שבהמלכות דראש, הנקראת "פה", שהיה הסבה להלבשת אור פנימי דא"ק ע"י האור"ח שהעלה, הנה הוא ג"כ הסבה ליציאת האור"מ דא"ק. כי מחמת שעיקב על אור א"ס מלהתלבש בבחי"ד, יצא האור לחוץ בבחינת אור"מ. דהיינו כל אותו חלק האור שהאור"ח אינו יכול להלבישו כמו הבחי"ד עצמה, הוא יצא ונעשה לאור"מ. הרי שהמסך שבפה הוא סבה שוה לאור מקיף כמו לאור"פ.

33) Now, the time has come to learn about the impact between the *Ohr Makif* and the *Ohr Pnimi*, which leads to a thinning of the screen and the subsequent loss of its highest level of *Aviut*. These two kinds of light have quite opposite properties, although the screen, positioned in *Malchut's Peh de Rosh of the Partzuf*, inseparably connects them.

They are in constant contradiction, leading to concussion between them. The same *Zivug de Haka'a* that happened on this screen, on the one hand, called forth a filling of the *Partzuf* with the Inner Light (the *Ohr Pnimi*); on the other hand, the same *Zivug de Haka'a* produced the Surrounding Light (the *Ohr Makif*). In this way, it prevented the light of Infinity from entering *Behina Dalet*.

The screen, positioned at the *Peh de Rosh* divides the simple light descending from above into two contrary, albeit, connected kinds: the *Ohr Pnimi*, partially received inside by the *Partzuf* with the help of the *Ohr Hozer* and the *Ohr Makif*, which the screen prevents from entering the *Guf (Behina Dalet)* and leaves it outside.

Thanks to the same intention of man (to receive for the Creator's sake), one part of the light is received, while the other is left outside. The *Partzuf* (man) receives exactly as much light as he can receive with the intention for the sake of the Creator.

לד) ונתבאר שהא"פ והא"מ שניהם קשורים במסך, אלא בפעולות הפוכות זה לזה. ובה במדה שהמסך ממשיך חלק מאור העליון לפנימיות הפרצוף ע"י הא"ח המלבישו, כן הוא מרחיק את א"מ מלהתלבש בהפרצוף. ומתוך שחלק האור הנשאר מבחוץ לא"מ גדול הוא מאוד, מפאת המסך המעכב עליו מלהתלבש בא"ק, ע"כ נבחן שהוא מכה במסך המרחיק אותו, במה שהוא רוצה להתלבש בפנימיות הפרצוף.

ולעומתו נבחן ג"כ, אשר כח העביות וקשיות שבמסך מכה בא"מ, הרוצה להתלבש בפנימיות ומעכב עליו, ע"ד שהוא מכה באור העליון בעת הזווג. ואלו ההכאות שהא"מ והעביות שבמסך מכים זה בזה, מכונים "ביטוש הא"מ באו"פ". אמנם ביטוש זה נעשה ביניהם רק בגוף הפרצוף, כי שם ניכר ענין התלבשות האור בכלים, המשאיר את הא"מ מחוץ לכלי. משא"כ בע"ס דראש, שם אינו נוהג ענין הביטוש הזה, כי שם אין הא"ח נחשב לכלים כלל, אלא לשרשים דקים לבד.

ומשום זה אין האור שבהם נחשב לא"פ מוגבל, עד להבחין באור הנשאר מבחוץ לבחינת א"מ. וכיון שאין הבחן הזה ביניהם, לא שייך הכאה דא"פ וא"מ בע"ס דראש. אלא רק אחר שהאורות מתפשטים מפה ולמטה לע"ס דגוף, ששם מתלבשים האורות בכלים, שהם הע"ס דא"ח שמפה ולמטה, ע"כ נעשה שם הכאה בין הא"פ שבתוך הכלים ובין האור מקיף שנשאר מבחוץ.

34) *The Ohr Pnimi and the Ohr Makif are concerned with the Masach, even though their actions are contrary to one another. According to the ability of the Masach to let a part of the Ohr Yashar that has dressed on the Ohr Hozer inside the Partzuf, it prevents the Ohr Makif from entering it. The amount of the Surrounding Light left outside the Partzuf exceeds by far the Ohr Pnimi.*

The screen, with its Aviut and Kashiut, does not allow the Ohr Makif to enter the Partzuf as much as it resists the Ohr Yashar. The concussion between the Ohr Makif and the screen's Aviut is called Bitush – the impact between the Ohr Makif and the Ohr Pnimi. This impact happens only in the Guf of the Partzuf, since that is where the reception of the light in the vessels took place; however, a considerable part of the light was left outside. In the 10 Sefirot

de Rosh, this impact does not occur, for the Ohr Hozer is not yet regarded as a true vessel of reception. It only forms the Shorshey Kelim (roots, sources of the vessels).

Therefore, the light that is in them is not yet genuine *Ohr Pnimi*. Due to the same reason, the *Ohr Makif* cannot be distinguished there either. Since there is still no difference between them, there cannot be any impact in the *Rosh* of the *Partzuf*. Only after the light spreads downwards from the *Peh* by way of the 10 *Sefirot de Guf* (where the lights dress into the vessels, i.e., the 10 *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light), then the impact between the *Ohr Pnimi* and the *Ohr Makif* takes place.

The amount of *Ohr Makif* surrounding the *Partzuf* is incomparably greater than the *Ohr Pnimi* inside it. In an attempt to enter the *Partzuf*, the *Ohr Makif* strikes the *Masach* that gave birth to it. What does it mean that the *Ohr Makif* strikes the screen? *Malchut* has a passionate desire to receive pleasure. It feels that the light contains just the pleasure it would so much like to receive. Hence, it begins to attract the light.

This demonstrates that, in order to feel and then receive pleasure, one should have an appropriate vessel, a vessel that has passed through an intricate inner development. Why do we perceive the *Ohr Makif* as being outside us? Because, in the *Sof* of each *Partzuf*, there are unfilled desires that feel the light as pleasures that are so far out of their reach. Or rather, these empty desires feel as though the outer light strikes them, “demanding” to be enjoyed.

Mutual strokes of the Surrounding Light (pleasure), with the desire of *Malchut* to receive pleasure and the strength of the screen resisting these desires, are called the *Bitush Pnim u Makif*, the impact between the Inner and the Surrounding Lights. Strictly speaking, the *Ohr Makif* nor the *Ohr Pnimi* do not collide. Rather, both of them strike into the screen between them. It happens in the *Masach* positioned in the *Tabur* of the *Partzuf*, where the reception of the light clearly ends.

It becomes clear only in the *Tabur* how much light (pleasure) entered the *Partzuf*, and how much remained outside of it. In the 10 *Sefirot*

de Rosh, there is no such impact, because the *Ohr Hozer* is not yet the vessel for receiving the *Ohr Yashar*, but serves only as an embryo of the *Kli*. The impact begins only after the *Ohr Yashar*, dressed in the intention (the *Ohr Hozer*), spreads into the *Toch* down to the *Tabur*.

Spirituality cannot be attained through the mind; the spiritual *Kli* is a sense that does not understand the Creator, but feels Him. If man can feel the Creator, the spiritual realm, then understanding gradually comes to him.

לה) והנה הביטוש הזה נמשך, עד שהאור"מ מזכך את המסך מכל עוביותו, ומעלה אותו לשרשו העליון שבפה דראש. כלומר, שמזכך ממנו כל העביות שממעלה למטה, המכונה "מסך ועביות דגוף". ולא נשאר בו רק השורש דגוף, שהוא בחינת המסך דמלכות דראש, הנקרא "פה". דהיינו שנזדכך מכל העביות שממעלה למטה, שהוא החוצץ בין אור"פ לאור"מ. ולא נשאר רק העביות שממטה למעלה, ששם עוד לא נעשה ההבדל מאור"פ לאור"מ. ונודע שהשואת הצורה מדביק הרוחניים להיות אחד. ע"כ אחר שנזדכך המסך דגוף מכל עביות של הגוף, ולא נשאר בו רק עביות השוה למסך דפה דראש, ונעשה צורתו שוה אל המסך דראש, הנה נכלל עמו להיות אחד ממש, כי אין ביניהם מה שיחלק אותם לשנים. וזה מכונה, שהמסך דגוף עלה לפה דראש. וכיון שנכלל המסך דגוף בהמסך דראש, נמצא נכלל שוב בזווג הדכאה שבמסך דפה דראש, ונעשה עליו זווג הדכאה מחדש. ויוצאות בו ע"ס בקומה חדשה, הנקרא "ע"ב דא"ק" או "פרצוף חכמה דא"ק". והוא נחשב לבן ותולדה של הפרצוף הא' דא"ק.

35) *This impact continues until the Ohr Makif liquidates the Aviut of Masach de Guf in the Tabur. As a result of this, the Masach de Guf starts ascending towards the screen, positioned at the Peh de Rosh, which is the root, the cause of the screen de Guf. After merging with the screen in the Peh de Rosh, the Masach of Tabur also gets involved in the Zivug de Haka'a, which is constantly taking place between the Masach in Peh de Rosh and the light. This Zivug results in the formation of a new Partzuf and the emergence of 10 new Sefirot called AB de AK or the Partzuf Hochma of the world of Adam Kadmon. In relation to the first Partzuf Galgalta-Keter, this new Partzuf is considered its result, its "son".*

The Surrounding light puts great pressure upon the screen in an attempt to enter the *Kli* that is positioned at the *Tabur*. However, the

Masach cannot bear it. On the one hand, it is unable to receive more light with the intention for the sake of the Creator; on the other hand, it cannot remain under such pressure.

Therefore, the best solution is to return to its previous state in the *Peh de Rosh*, altogether refusing to receive the light. The *Masach* begins to rise from the *Tabur* to the *Peh*. On its way, it banishes all the light from the *Kli* and merges with the *Masach* in *Peh de Rosh*, i.e., it returns to the previous state where the light was only in the *Rosh* of the *Partzuf*, but absent from the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*.

The small pleasure that the *Kli* enjoyed by receiving the light in the *Toch* has given it an idea of the great pleasure that is waiting outside. Reception of this pleasure only weakened the screen. It is much easier to refuse altogether a certain pleasure than to receive it in small portions, for the pleasure that was received inside weakens the will power, i.e., the intention to receive pleasure for the sake of the Creator.

As *Ohr Pnimi* and *Ohr Makif* both press upon the screen with their pleasure, the screen weakens under this double pressure, and is forced completely to stop receiving the light. It gets free from all the *Aviut*, rises to the *Peh de Rosh* and fully merges with the *Masach*, which receives nothing at all, but just pushes the light away.

Further on, the material studied may become more technical, but one should not despair. Studying Kabbalah is a complicated inner process. Sometimes Kabbalah is perceived in sensations (and it is the best way), but sometimes it is not perceived at all. That is natural.

One should continue with persistent learning. At a certain moment, you will feel the material penetrating inside. Meanwhile, even if it is impossible to understand, one should continue to study so as not to lose touch with the general scheme, and at each time add another new element to it.

The general scheme looks like this: the light, gradually growing thicker and thicker, creates the *Kli* out of itself and for itself. The *Kli*

passes through four phases of its development, turning into *Malchut*, i.e., the only creation.

Then the aim becomes complete separation of it from the Creator; the creation should feel neither the *Ohr Pnimi* nor the *Ohr Makif*, i.e., neither inner, nor outer pleasures, which could dictate their conditions to it.

It needs to acquire absolute freedom of will and the possibility of its own desires and actions, directed at the correction of its egoistic desires and spiritual advancement towards the Creator.

The first independent desire of *Malchut* was to become like the Creator in its properties. That is why it makes the First Restriction on its “desire to receive”, on *Behina Dalet*, and leaves it without the light. Then it creates the system of descending worlds. The spiritual worlds are nothing but the phases of restriction; they are curtains, screens. In all, there are five of them: the worlds of AK and ABYA (*Adam Kadmon*, *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira* and *Assiya*).

Upon creating the worlds from above down to the lowest point, the creation finds itself in absolute emptiness and darkness; it does not feel the Creator at all. Humankind is in such state.

When, as a result of studying, man begins to vaguely feel that the *Ohr Makif* shines on him, that the omnipotent Creator is hiding somewhere behind it all, that each phenomenon has its own cause and effect, it means that he is already on a certain spiritual level called the *Olam Haze*.

Now we are studying the descending structure of all the screens and the worlds that conceal the Creator from *Malchut*. Then, if *Malchut*, by the power of its own desire, creates the screen, protecting it from the light-pleasure, it becomes, as it were, equal to this screen, this level, and the screen serves as revelation of the Creator.

If man independently desires to observe all 620 laws of the Creator’s revelation, they stop being restrictive for him, and then the corresponding screen is neutralized on each level. Man acquires the properties of the screen, and there is no sense in concealing the Creator on

this phase, since there is no danger that he will receive the light for his own sake.

While spiritually ascending, Kabbalists internally perceive all these processes, having previously studied the descent of the worlds. On the one hand, it is necessary to study Kabbalah to acquire knowledge; on the other hand, man should feel everything he studies.

לו) ואחר שפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק יצא ונשלם בראש וגוף, חזר גם עליו ענין הביטוש דאור"מ באור"פ, ע"ד שנתבאר לעיל בפרצוף הא' דא"ק. והמסך דגוף שלו נזדכך ג"כ מכל עביות דגוף, עד שהשוה צורתו לבחינת מסך דראש שלו.

ונמצא אז שנכלל בזווג שבפה דראש שלו. ונעשה עליו זווג דהכאה מחדש, שהוציא קומה חדשה של ע"ס, בשיעור קומת בינה, הנקרא "ס"ג דא"ק". והוא נחשב לבן ותולדה של פרצוף הע"ב דא"ק, כי יצא מהזווג דפה דראש שלו. ועד"ז יצאו ג"כ הפרצופים שמס"ג דא"ק ולמטה.

36) *After the Partzuf AB de AK was born and completed its development by forming the Rosh and the Guf, the process of the Bitush Ohr Pnimi be Ohr Makif resumed in it, as in the first Partzuf of AK. Its Masach de Guf (the screen of its spiritual body) gradually lost all its Aviut and merged its properties with the Masach de Rosh.*

Now this Masach happens to be involved in a Zivug between the Upper Light and the screen that is positioned in the Peh de Rosh. In it the Zivug de Haka'a was renewed and gave birth to a new Partzuf at the level of Bina, which is called SAG de AK. It is considered to be the consequence of the Partzuf AB de AK, since it emerges because of a Zivug on the Masach positioned at the Peh de Rosh. The Partzufim, starting from SAG and further down, emerge according to the same principle.

As it was stated, the second Partzuf AB of the world AK was formed after Galgalta; it felt Bitush Pnim u Makif, expelled the light, then brought the screen de Guf and the screen at Peh de Rosh together.

Then AB felt the pressure of those two lights and behaved exactly as Galgalta did, i.e., it began to get rid of its Aviut Gimel. It raised the

Masach de Guf to the *Peh de Rosh*, where *Zivugim* constantly take place, and became equal to it in its properties.

This means that it stops receiving pleasure for the sake of the Creator. Then a new *Zivug de Haka'a* takes place on this screen, but on a new portion of egoism, one that corresponds to the level of *Bina*. This is how the third *Partzuf SAG de AK* was formed.

When *Malchut* of the World of Infinity performed *TA* and established the screen, four *Behinot* lay between it and the Creator. The light cannot reach it through these four *Behinot*, and *Malchut* understands that it is absolutely remote from the Creator. This is a most terrible state, where it is ready completely to rid itself of the infinite delight, whose absence turns into suffering, pain and bitterness.

Now, thanks to the screen, it begins to see the light of the four *Behinot* and understands that the Creator wants it to receive pleasure. It makes a calculation and receives a small part of the light, from the *Peh* down to the *Tabur*. As soon as *Malchut* receives this small portion of the light, it starts feeling the pressure from the *Ohr Makif* in the *Tabur*, which wants to enter it, paying no attention to *TA*.

Malchut finds itself at an impasse, for it cannot receive the light just yet; so it should somehow get out of this situation. The way out consists in returning to the initial state. However, by making the first screen, it has already placed a curtain between itself and the Creator, thus creating the first *Partzuf* and receiving 20 per cent of the light. What is it supposed to do when the remaining 80 per cent of the light comes to it? The way out is to try working with a smaller amount of egoism for the sake of the Creator and make the screen for it.

For example, Ruben asks Simon to wake him up at 2 a.m. that he might be able to come to the lesson on time. On the next day, he turns to Simon: “It is so hard for me to get up at 2 a.m., please wake me up at 3 a.m.”. The next day, regretting it all, he asks to wake him up at four in the morning, then at five. Seeing that even this is difficult for him, he altogether stops coming to the lessons...

If earlier Malchut could liken itself to the Creator in 20 per cent, it tries now to do it to a lesser degree; by making the screen for 15 per cent of the light, (the numbers serve strictly as an example). Thus, *Malchut* is separated from the Creator by two screens. It then becomes even more remote from Him.

By creating these *Partzufim*, *Malchut* tries to liken itself to *Behina Shoresh, Aleph, Bet, and Gimel* of the Direct Light, to the Creator's properties. However, the egoistic core made the *Tzimtzum*. Becoming like the Creator in these *Behinot*, it isolated itself from Him, as it were, by these *Partzufim* creating an empty space. Now being spiritually empty, it can independently look for the way to become like the Creator.

Although we endow these *Partzufim* with the properties of living beings, we should nevertheless understand that they are not actually alive. They are the weakening screens that shield the spiritual delight from the egoistic desire to receive pleasure.

Only man's soul, which we will discuss later, feels the Creator; therefore, only the soul is a living being. All the rest of the objects are no more than robots, programmed by the Creator to fulfill this or that function, which is somehow connected with man's correction.

All newly created *Partzufim*, levels and their previous states, exist at the same time. An example can be given by analogy with a movie. The scrolled film disappears from our field of sight, but it exists as if in a still state. Similarly, each previous *Partzuf* is like a sequence in this film.

The entire picture, from the first moment and until the last one, is very diverse. A great number of actions take place in it, but all together, because of merging of the present, past and future states, form one sphere, a closed system. The lower *Partzufim* can influence the higher ones, because through them they receive the light from the World of Infinity.

For example the *Partzuf AB*, which receives the light from *Galgalta*, forces it to change too, for the light passing through it is already similar

to the properties of *AB*, which also transforms *Galgalta*. From this follows the diversity, interconnection, and interdependency of all the spiritual processes.

The very last desire of *Malchut*, which realized that it is absolutely contrary to the Creator in its properties, that wants to receive only for the sake of itself without giving anything in return, is called the true “creation”, or “the soul”. Although we are not there yet, this very part of *Malchut* is the “material” of which a human soul will be created later on.

The rest is not the creation, but only an auxiliary tool for the merging of the creation with the Creator. These forces assist the Creator in governing creation. There are only two existing entities: the Creator and the creation. Everything else is the system of their communication, with whose help they find one another.

The *Partzufim* do not make the actions. Being on a certain level and performing actions corresponding to this or that *Partzuf*, Kabbalists see the light that they can push away and consequently receive it inside. All Kabbalistic books appeared in the following way: a Kabbalist, ascending the spiritual levels, describes his spiritual sensations on paper...

The entire world of *AK* is similar to *Malchut* of *Ein Sof*, on the level of *Shoresh*; *Atzilut* is similar to *Malchut* on the level of *Behina Aleph*; *Beria* corresponds to *Behina Bet* of *Malchut*; *Yetzira* - to *Behina Gimel*, and the world of *Assiya* is similar to *Behina Dalet* of *Malchut*. The light in *Galgalta* is the *Ohr Nefesh*.

לז) והנה נתבאר יציאת הפרצופים זה למטה מזה, הנעשה מכח הביטוש דאר"מ באר"פ, המזכך המסך דגוף עד שמחזירו לבחינת מסך דפה דראש. ואז נכלל שם בזווג דהכאה, הנוהג בפה דראש.

ומוציא ע"י זווגו קומה חדשה של ע"ס. שקומה חדשה זו נבחן לבן אל פרצוף הקודם. ובדרך הזה יצא הע"ב מפרצוף הכתר, והס"ג מפרצוף ע"ב, והמ"ה מפרצוף ס"ג. וכן יתר המדרגות בנקודים ואב"ע. אלא עוד צריכים להבין: למה יצאו הע"ס דע"ב רק על בחי"ג ולא על בחי"ד. וכן הס"ג רק על בחי"ב וכו'? דהיינו, שכל תחתון נמוך במדרגה אחת כלפי עליונו? ולמה לא יצאו כולם זה מזה בקומה שוה?

37) Thus, we have made clear the consecutive emerging of the Partzufim (one under another), which happened due to the impact between the Inner and the Surrounding Lights (Bitush Ohr Pnimi u Makif). This impact weakens the Masach so that it loses its strength and returns to the Peh de Rosh (coincides with it in its qualities), thus getting involved in the Zivug de Haka'a constantly occurring at the Masach de Rosh.

Owing to this Zivug, a new Partzuf emerges as an offspring of the previous one. So AB is a result of the Partzuf Keter, SAG is an offshoot of AB, MA – of SAG and so on in all subsequent levels of the worlds of Nikudim and ABYA. However, we also have to understand why the Partzuf AB can only reach the level of Behina Gimel and not Dalet. SAG reaches only Behina Bet. I.e., each following Partzuf is one level lower than the previous. Why are they not all equal?

לח) ותחילה יש להבין, למה נחשב הע"ס דע"ב לתולדה של פרצוף הא' דא"ק. כי מאחר שיצא מהזווג דפה דראש דפרצוף הא', כמו הע"ס דגוף הפרצוף עצמו. וא"כ במה יצא מבחינת פרצוף הא', להיות נחשב כפרצוף שני ותולדה אליו?

וצריך שתבין כאן ההפרש הגדול ממסך דראש למסך דגוף. כי יש ב' מיני מלכיות בפרצוף: א. הוא מלכות המזדווגת, בכח המסך המתוקן בה, עם אור העליון, ב. היא מלכות המסיימת, בכח המסך המתוקן בה, את אור העליון שבע"ס דגוף.

וההפרש ביניהם כרחוק מאציל מנאצל. כי המלכות דראש המזדווגת בזווג דהכאה עם אור העליון, נחשבת לבחינת מאציל אל הגוף. כי המסך המתוקן בה לא הרחיק אור העליון עם הכאתו בו, אלא אדרבא, שע"י אור חוזר שהעלה, הלביש והמשיך את האור העליון בבחינת ע"ס דראש. ונמצא מתפשט ממעלה למטה עד שנתלבשו הע"ס דאור העליון בהכלי דאור"ח, הנקרא "גוף".

וע"כ נבחן המסך והמלכות דראש בבחינת מאציל להע"ס דגוף, ולא ניכר עדיין שום בחינת מגביל ומדחה במסך ומלכות הזאת. משא"כ המסך והמלכות דגוף, שפירושו, שאחר שהע"ס נתפשטו מפה דראש ממעלה למטה, אינם מתפשטים רק עד המלכות שבע"ס ההם. כי אור העליון אינו יכול להתפשט תוך המלכות דגוף, מפני המסך המתוקן שם המעכבו מלהתפשט אל המלכות. וע"כ נפסק הפרצוף שם ונעשה סוף וסיום על הפרצוף.

הרי שכל כח הצמצום והגבול מתגלה רק בהמסך והמלכות הזאת של הגוף. ולפיכך כל הביטוש דאור"מ באור"פ אינו נעשה רק במסך דגוף בלבד, כי הוא המגביל ומרחיק את האור"מ מלהאיר

בפנימיות הפרצוף. ולא במסך דראש, כי המסך של הראש הוא רק הממשיך ומלביש האורות, ואין עדיין כח הגבול מתגלה בו אף משהו.

38) *First, we have to understand why the Partzuf AB is regarded as the offspring of the Partzuf Keter. After its birth because of the Zivug at Peh de Rosh of the Partzuf Galgalta, its height corresponds precisely to the 10 Sefirot de Guf of the Partzuf. So why is it unable to continue as part of the Partzuf Galgalta and not as an individual Partzuf, the result of the first one?*

Here you should realize what an enormous difference there is between the Masach de Guf and the Masach de Rosh. There are two kinds of Malchut in the Partzuf. The first is Malchut Mizdaveget, i.e., Malchut that interacts with the Upper Light owing to its corrected intentions (Masach); the second is Malchut Mesayemet, which with the help of its screen prevents the spreading of the Upper Light into the 10 Sefirot de Guf of the Partzuf.

The distinction between them is as great as between the Creator and the creation. It is because Malchut de Rosh, in the Stroke Contact with the Upper Light, is considered to be the Creator as regards the Guf of Partzuf. Its screen does not push away the light when it strikes. Rather, following the dressing of the Ohr Hozer onto the Ohr Yashar, the 10 Sefirot de Rosh emerge, allowing the light to spread downwards, until the 10 Sefirot of the Upper Light dress in the Kli de Ohr Hozer, called the Guf (body of the Partzuf).

Hence, the Masach and Malchut de Rosh are regarded as the Creator for the 10 Sefirot de Guf. However, so far there is absolutely no resisting power in this Malchut and in its Masach. It will happen thanks to Malchut and the Masach of the Guf de Partzuf. Let us explain: after the 10 Sefirot spread from the Peh de Rosh downwards, they could only reach the Malchut of these 10 Sefirot, for the Upper Light cannot spread into Malchut de Guf. The Masach positioned

there prevents the light from filling it; therefore, the Partzuf ends and the Behina Sof (End of Partzuf) appears there.

Since all the power of the Restriction manifests in this Masach of Malchut de Guf, the impact between the Inner and the Surrounding Lights occurs only in the Masach de Guf (the screen of the body) of the Partzuf. It restrains and repels the Ohr Makif, preventing it from shining inside the Partzuf. The Masach de Rosh does not do it, since it only attracts and dresses the light, but the resisting power is not yet apparent in it.

As we have already said, there are two screens in each *Partzuf*. The first is at *Peh de Rosh*, which says that it will not receive pleasure for its own sake; hence, it pushes away all the light. The second is the *Masach de Guf*, which appears together with the intention to receive the light for the sake of the Creator, i.e., to dress it into the *Ohr Hozer*.

This *Masach* descends with the light and ascends when the light exits the *Guf*. The first screen is always in action and is in the spiritual world. The second one determines the position of the *Kli* on the straight line from zero level until the *Gmar Tikkun*. These two screens do not contradict one another.

לט) ונתבאר, שמכח הביטוש דאו"מ באו"פ, חזר המסך דמלכות המסיימת להיות לבחינת מסך ומלכות המזדווגת (אות ל"ה). כי הביטוש דאור מקיף טיהר את המסך המסיים מכל העביות דגוף שהיה בו, ולא נשאר בו רק רשימות דקות מהעביות ההיא, השוות לעביות דמסך דראש. ונדע שהשתוות הצורה מדביק ומיחד הרוחניים זה בזה. לפיכך, אחר שהמסך דגוף השווה צורת עביותו למסך דראש, הנה תיכף נכלל בו ונעשה עמו כאלו היו מסך אחד. ואז קבל כח לזווג דהכאה, כמו מסך דראש.

ויצאו עליו הע"ס דקומה החדשה. אמנם יחד עם זווג זה, נתחדשו בו במסך דגוף הרשימות דעביות דגוף, שהיו בו מתחילה. ואז חזר וניכר בו שוב שינוי הצורה באיזה שיעור בינו למסך דראש הנכלל עמו. והכר של השינוי הזה מבדילהו ומוציאהו מהפה דראש דעליון.

כי אחר שחזר וניכר מקורו הראשון, שהוא מפה ולמטה דעליון, הנה אז אינו יכול לעמוד עוד למעלה מפה דעליון. כי שינוי הצורה מפריד הרוחניים זה מזה. ונמצא שהוכרח לירד משם למקום שמפה ולמטה דעליון. ולפיכך נבחן בהכרח לגוף שני כלפי העליון. כי אפילו הראש של הקומה החדשה נבחן כלפי העליון כגופו בלבד, להיותו נמשך ממסך דגוף שלו.

ולפיכך שינוי הצורה הזו מבדיל אותם לב' גופים נבדלים. וכיון שהקומה החדשה היא כולה תולדה של המסך דגוף של פרצוף הקודם, ע"כ נחשב כבן אליו, וכמו ענף הנמשך ממנו.

39) *As stated above, the impacts between the Ohr Pnimi and the Ohr Makif have turned the Masach of Malchut Mesayemet into the Masach of Malchut, which makes a Zivug at Peh de Rosh. The Bitush of the Ohr Makif so weakened the restraining power of the Masach that, out of all the Aviut de Guf of Masach de Rosh, only the thin Reshimot (equal to Aviut of Masach de Rosh) remained, which led to the merging of the Masach de Guf with the Masach de Rosh. As a result, it enabled the Masach de Guf to make the same Zivug de Haka'a as the Masach de Rosh.*

Out of this Zivug emerged a new Partzuf that has its own 10 Sefirot, whose level is one-step lower than the preceding one. At the same time, the Reshimot de Aviut that had originally been in the Masach de Guf were renewed there; therefore, the difference between the properties of both screens reappears. This difference separates the Masach de Guf from the Masach de Rosh.

When its true nature manifests, it cannot remain in the Peh of the higher Partzuf, since in the spiritual world the changing of properties separates one object from another. Therefore, it is forced to descend and become an individual Partzuf. Even the Rosh of the new Partzuf is at the level of the Guf of the higher one, because it was born out of its Masach de Guf.

This distinction between them divides them into two different Partzufim, and since the new Partzuf emerged out of the Masach de Guf of the previous one, it relates to its superior as a branch relates to its root.

The Reshimot are the Ohr Makif, which was inside the Partzuf and exited it. That is why it retains a special connection with the Kli.

The screen has already made a Zivug de Haka'a on its previous desires, received the light and made sure that it has reached only the

Tabur. It knows that this way is wrong and cannot lead to the *Gmar Tik-kun*. Now, when its desires to receive the light for the sake of the Creator reactivate, they emerge one level lower. This means that the new *Partzuf* will receive the light on a lesser level.

The first and second portions of the light are added together to equal the total quantity of the light that entered *Malchut* of the World of Infinity. Now *Malchut* has to receive all the light that was inside it before *TA*, with the new intention to receive, not for its own sake, but to please the Creator, i.e., with the help of the *Masach* and the *Ohr Hozer*.

The second *Partzuf* differs in its properties from the first; hence, it emerges not from the *Peh*, as the previous one did, but lower than the *Peh*, i.e., it is as if it is a head shorter than the previous *Partzuf*. Even its head is considered the *Guf* of the previous *Partzuf*, because it emerges from the *Masach de Guf* of the previous *Partzuf*. The second *Partzuf* is a complete outcome of the first one and branches off it as a frond out of the trunk.

When the first *Masach* at the *Peh de Rosh* pushes away the light, it puts itself into an independent position as regards the giver. The second *Masach* in the *Guf* says that it can receive even for the sake of the host. It has five desires; the *Partzuf* fills each of them by 20 per cent. The rest of the desires remain unfilled, because the *Masach* is not strong enough.

By receiving the light inside, the second screen descends. The *Ohr Makif* continues to interact with the *Partzuf*; it presses and tries to fill the remaining desires. The *Masach de Guf* cannot withstand it, and ascends to the level of the *Masach de Rosh*, and the light leaves the *Partzuf*. The united *Masach* makes a new *Zivug*, and as a result, a new *Partzuf* appears one level below the previous one and it differs in the quality of the light.

The peculiarity is that the *Partzuf AB* is not born from the *Masach de Rosh* of *Galgalta*, but from the *Masach de Guf*. It is strange, because a *Zivug* on the *Behina Gimel* took place in the *Rosh* of *Galgalta*. It is explained in “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”, part three, answer 310. While the *Masach de Guf*, i.e., the *Masach de Behina Dalet*, ascends to the *Peh de Rosh*,

it unites with the *Aviut de Rosh*, which is “an ascending *Aviut*”. However, it is an *Aviut* of *Behina Gimel*, and not *Dalet*, because the *Aviut* of *Behina Dalet* is the *Masach de Guf*, which has never used the *Aviut Gimel*.

Here we can determine two major notions:

1) **The Essence.** This is the *Masach de Guf* and it rises to the *Rosh*, demanding to be filled. That is why the *Masach de Rosh* of *Galgalta* makes a *Zivug* on the *Behina Gimel*. When the essence of the elevated *Masach* becomes clear, it descends into the *Guf* again, not to the *Tabur* (*Behina Dalet*), but to the *Chazeh* (*Behina Gimel*). This *Behina* is not called “the son or offspring”, but the “*Partzuf AB Pnimi*”, i.e., the *Partzuf AB*, which spreads into the empty inner *Kelim* of *Galgalta* and is considered the *Guf de Galgalta*, because it emerged from a *Zivug* in the *Rosh* of *Galgalta*.

2) **The Inclusion.** After the *Masach de Guf* descends to the *Chazeh*, the *Reshimot* of the “descending” *Aviut* are activated during their presence in the *Malchut de Rosh*.

It turns out that, as regards the *AB Pnimi*, this is the *Masach HaMe sayem* (limiting the spreading of the light), born from a *Zivug* on the *Aviut Gimel* at the *Peh de Rosh* of *Galgalta*. However, regarding the property of “the inclusion”, it is *Masach HaMizdaveg* (interacting with the light).

Then it attracts the light again, making a *Zivug de Haka'a* on the *Behina Gimel*, so that the *Rosh AB* emerges from the *Chazeh* up to the *Peh de Galgalta*. The *Peh de AB* is at the level of the *Chazeh de Galgalta*, while the *Guf de AB* spreads downward to the *Tabur* of *Galgalta*. It turns out that the *AB Pnimi* spreads into the *Kelim de Galgalta* and the *AB Hitzon* (outside) dresses onto it so that even its *Rosh* is in the place of the *Guf* of *Galgalta*.

The *AB Pnimi* spreads from the *Rosh* of *Galgalta* (*Behina Dalet*) into the empty *Kelim* of the *Behina Dalet*, but the *AB Hitzon* has absolutely no connection with the *Behina Dalet*.

Two united objects are completely similar in their desires. As much as the *Masach* can withstand egoism, the *Kli* becomes similar to the Cre-

ator in its properties, receiving the light inside with the intention for the Creator’s sake. A comparison of the properties is a comparison of the intentions, but it does not mean that both of them become one and the same object. They remain two objects, but their properties are so close that, at this moment, from our point of view, there is no difference.

The more the *Partzuf* receives, the more it becomes similar to the Creator in its intention, and the less in its action. To become equal with the Creator, one should develop one’s egoism, to receive more for His sake, but that will lead to an even bigger difference between the creation and the Creator in action. When the *Masach* at the *Peh de Rosh* pushes away all the light, it becomes, as it were, similar in action to the Creator (it does not receive either), but it is isolated from Him in its intention.

The method of self-restraint is wrong. There is no need to fast and give up pleasures; on the contrary, the Creator increases man’s egoism to the extent that he can apply the screen and work with it. So out of the two above-mentioned screens, the screen of the *Guf* can lead out into the spiritual.

However, if the screen is only at the *Peh de Rosh*, then man is as if a stone that does not need anything, has no inner movement. It has always been unclear how egoism can lead to the spiritual, when the purpose of the Creation implies reception of delight.

The *Kli* does not see what is outside it. All our names: the “*Ohr Makif*”, “presses from outside”, “hasn’t entered yet” – are notions belonging to the language of our world that we need to imagine somehow a spiritual action. Nevertheless, there is in fact no light pressing from outside, and there is no delight in it. Man’s internal *Kli* will feel pleasure, if this light is inside it.

Hence, in order to have an appetite sufficient for the pleasure, I must somehow imagine and sense this pleasure. The light is an inner reaction of the *Kli* for some kind of influence emanated by the Creator, i.e., the light corresponds to our “resistance”. Everything depends on

how the *Kli* will react to this influence. Only the *Ohr Pnimi* that enters the *Kli* is the measure of similarity to the Creator.

All of the *Partzufim*, from the World of Infinity down to our world, were born according to the same principle: the lower *Partzuf* was born from the higher one.

Man should never think about what will happen to him at the next moment. One should always use the present moment, constantly trying to penetrate into its depth. The next moment will be born out of this one; but one should neither wait for it to come nor think about what it will be like. The entrance into the spiritual world depends on inner penetration into the present.

(מ) ויש עוד דבר נוסף בהבדל מהתחתון לעליון. והוא, כי כל תחתון יוצא מבחינת שיעור קומה אחרת שבה' בחינות שבמסך (אות כ"ב).

וכל תחתון חסר הבחינה העליונה של האורות דעליון, והבחינה התחתונה של הכלים דעליון.

והטעם הוא, כי מטבע הביטוש דא"מ במסך, להאביד מהמסך את בחינה אחרונה דעביות שלו. ולמשל, בפרצוף הא' דא"ק, שהמסך יש לו כל ה' בחינות עביות שלו, דהיינו עד לבחי"ד, הנה ע"י הביטוש דא"מ בהמסך דגוף, מזכך את העביות דבחי"ד לגמרי, ואינו מניח ממנו אפילו רשימו של העביות ההיא.

ורק הרשימות מהעביות דבחי"ג ולמעלה נשארים במסך. ולפיכך, כשהמסך הוא נכלל בראש ומקבל שם זווג דהכאה על העביות שנשאר בהרשימות שלו מהגוף, נמצא הזווג יוצא רק על בחי"ג דעביות שבמסך בלבד, כי הרשימו דעביות דבחי"ד נאבדה ואינה שם. וע"כ הקומה שיוצאת על המסך הזה, הוא בשיעור קומת חכמה לבד, הנקרא "הו"ה דע"ב דא"ק" או "פרצוף ע"ב דא"ק". ונתבאר באות כ"ב, אשר קומת חכמה, היוצאת על המסך דבחי"ג, חסרה המלכות דכלים ובחינת אור יחידה מהאורות, שהוא אור הכתר. הרי שפרצוף הע"ב חסר הבחינה אחרונה דכלים דעליון, והבחינה עליונה דאורות דעליון. ומשום שינוי הצורה הרחוקה הזו, נבחן התחתון לפרצוף נבדל מהעליון.

40) *The difference between the lower and the higher Partzufim consists in the fact that each lower Partzuf appears at a different level, lower than the preceding one. As was mentioned, this level is determined by the Aviut of Masach, consisting of the five Behinot.*

The highest level of the light and the lowest Behina of the Kelim of the previous Partzuf are absent in each subsequent one. The smaller the desire I use with the screen, the lower the quality of the light I receive in my Partzuf.

The Impact between the Ohr Makif, and the Ohr Pnimi in the screen that separates them, contributes to the loss of the last Behina of the Aviut of this Masach. Therefore, Behina Dalet disappears in the Partzuf Galgalta, so that no Reshimot are left from it.

After the *Masach de Guf* rises and merges with the *Masach de Peh* making a *Zivug de Haka'a* on the *Aviut* left in the *Reshimot* of *Masach*, the *Partzuf* of one level lower emerges, i.e., the *Partzuf Hochma*. The *Behina Dalet* of the vessels is absent in it as well as the light of *Yechida*. Because of the transformation of properties, a new *Partzuf AB* separates from the *Partzuf Galgalta* and becomes independent, but is considered its offspring.

If I can accept 20 per cent of five portions, it means that I receive the *Ohr Yechida* and the *Behina Dalet*. The next time a *Partzuf* is born with the smaller light of *Haya* and the *Kli Gimel*, then the *Ohr Neshama* and the *Kli Bet*, then with the *Ohr Ruach* and the *Kli Aleph*, and the last one with the *Ohr Nefesh* and the *Kli Shoresch*. Then the desires recommence, and for 20 per cent of the remaining desires, the five *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* are born, and so on, until all the desires of *Malchut* of the World of Infinity are used.

All the *Partzufim* of the five worlds have received as much light as there was in *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, only gradually and with the help of the screen. No matter what portion we take as an example, it will always consist of five parts, albeit very small. The *Kli* is created out of the five desires, and it is necessary to make a *Zivug de Haka'a* on each of them.

If man has not yet corrected his *Kelim*, then the less egoism he has, the closer he is to the Creator. When he acquires the screen, then

the bigger his egoism is, the better, for the closer he is to the Creator. Everything depends on the presence of the screen.

To make a *Kli* suitable for use, the light needs to enter it first, and then disappear, so that the *Kli* becomes completely remote from the Creator. With further correction, it will be able to make a choice and merge with the Creator again.

The exit into the spiritual world is possible only if there is a screen for all of your desires. However, if there are no desires, a *Masach* is not necessary either. Hence, without having desires, man cannot enter the spiritual world, since he has nothing to correct.

The ascent to the spiritual levels goes in three lines: left, right and middle. By receiving new portions of egoism, man applies a stronger screen to them. A *Zivug de Haka'a* takes place between the screen and the light; as a result, man receives a new portion of the light and ascends to the next level.

If man has big desires, while the strength of his resistance to them (the screen) is small, then he receives the light according to his screen and generates a small *Partzuf*. Then, when he is able to withstand a new portion of egoism, his *Partzuf* will expand on and on, until he receives a screen for absolutely all of his desires.

This is called “*Gmar Tikkun*”. The “bigger” man is, the more desires he has, the stronger the screen he acquires; such a man has great attainments because he is able to rule over his coarsest desires. The desires are given to man from Above when he can ask for their correction.

The scanty desires of our world, the *Ner Dakik*, turn our heads, occupy our thoughts and have such command over us, that we do not know what to do with them, how to get rid of them. All our life is concerned with looking for an opportunity to fill these animal desires. Egoism itself must not be destroyed; one should only put two kinds of screen on it: first – to stop receiving for one’s own sake, then to start receiving for the sake of the Creator.

A *Zivug de Haka'a* takes place in the *Rosh*, i.e., I calculate how much I can receive with the intention for the sake of the Creator. The calculation is followed by the reception of the light into the *Guf*, from the *Peh* down to the *Tabur*. The *Tabur* is the borderline of the reception with the intention for the Creator's sake. The light that the *Kli* was unable to receive, the *Ohr Makif*, offers it to receive more; otherwise it does not fulfill the Purpose of creation. But the *Kli* knows that it cannot receive more for the sake of the Creator; provided it receives even a little bit more, this will already be for its own sake.

There is no way out except to overcome this deadlocked state, i.e., expel all the received light. The *Kli* understands that, even if it can receive in the future, it will not be the same amount as it has now, but smaller and with a weaker *Masach*.

The *Masach* loses strength, rises to the *Peh de Rosh* together with the *Reshimot* it received from the four lights in the four *Kelim*. The *Aviut Dalet* was lost in the *Tabur* after the *Bitush* of the *Ohr Makif* in the *Masach*; therefore, the *Kli* will not be able to receive the *Ohr Yechida* henceforth. However, it has not yet made the restriction on the remaining levels of the *Aviut*; hence, it just does not know what it will or will not be able to receive.

Now, when the *Masach* is at the *Peh de Rosh*, the *Kli* feels it can receive some more light. Then all its *Reshimot* awake, and it tries to receive on the *Behina Gimel*. The *Masach* descends to the *Chazeh*, makes a *Zivug de Haka'a* there, and then a new *Partzuf AB* is born. However, all the *Reshimot* of *AB* come from the *Guf* of *Galgalta*.

What is the difference between the two notions: the screen and the Restriction, the *Masach* and the *Tzimtzum*? A restriction means complete refusal to receive. The screen means reception of one part and pushing away the rest. Rabbi Baruch Ashlag gives the following example: each time a drunkard attended a wedding, he would drink himself to oblivion, fall down, and lay on the ground; even his wife would not let him into the house. Ashamed of his disgrace, the man decided to stop

attending weddings altogether, because he could not control himself. And so he commenced.

After awhile, he decided he could be present at the festivities and allow himself to drink half a glass of wine, an amount that would not harm him. So he did. Conclusion: a restriction means to abstain from attending celebrations, while the screen means that one attends, but decides to receive a small amount.

There are two kinds of *Reshimot*. The first is the *Reshimo de Itlabshut*, i.e., the memories of the pleasures I was filled with. The second kind is the *Reshimo de Aviut*. It is a recollection of the desires with the help of which I did that, and how strong and hard the screen I used was.

The “desire to receive” in the *Kli* is created by the Creator. The *Kli* received the “desire to give” from Him. How can it use these absolutely opposite desires right now? First, the *Kli* measures the size of its “desire to give”, i.e., opposes its genuine, natural “desire to receive”.

Let us assume that I have 20 per cent of the “desire to give”. It is called the hardness of the screen. I can resist my desire to receive pleasure by 20 per cent. It means that in these 20 per cent I can receive the light, for in them I receive not for my own sake, but for the sake of the Creator. It is similar to a mother who receives pleasure when her baby is delighted. The Creator enjoys when I receive pleasure. The remaining desires, not included in these 20 per cent, remain empty; I do not work with them.

What is Kabbalah? First, we take our inner desires, break them into small cells or vectors and build various graphs. This is the inner psychology of man; not as a creature of this world, but of some entity brought forth by the Creator with all the forces that the Creator gave to him.

Then we study how, with the help of those forces, man attains the Creator. This is a brief explanation of what Kabbalah is. One should not see it as some mystical teaching about secret, supernatural forces that exist outside the Universe. The main idea of Kabbalah suggests that, in

the process of accumulating anti-egoistic forces, one can take a certain portion of egoism and work with it in a different direction.

First, the screen that was at the *Peh de Rosh* did not want to receive anything, then it calculated how much it could receive for the sake of the Creator. It is a bigger effort than not receiving anything at all for one's sake. As a result, the screen that is at the *Peh de Rosh* is divided into two screens. The first says that I do not want to receive anything for myself. It is a complete reflection of the light, its rejection, its observance of *TA*. The second screen, which is inactive so far, also stays there. After meeting the conditions of *TA*, I begin to try to receive a little bit of light for the sake of the Creator.

מא ועד"ז אחר שנתפשט פרצוף ע"ב לראש וגוף, ונעשה הביטוש דא"מ על המסך דגוף דע"ב, שהוא מסך דבחי"ג, הנה הביטוש הזה מעלים ומאביד ממנו את הרשימו דעביות של הבחינה האחרונה שבמסך, שהוא בחי"ג. ונמצא בעת עלית המסך אל הפה דראש, ונכלל בו בהזווג דהכאה, נעשה ההכאה רק על עביות דבחי"ב, שנשארה במסך הזה. כי הבחי"ג נאבדה ממנו ואינה. וע"כ הוא מוציא רק ע"ס בקומת בינה, הנקרא "הוי"ה דס"ג דא"ק" או "פרצוף ס"ג". ויחסר ז"א ומלכות דכלים וחיה יחידה דאורות. ועד"ז כשנתפשט הפרצוף ס"ג הזה לראש וגוף. ונעשה הביטוש דא"מ בהמסך דגוף שלו, שהוא מסך דבחי"ב. הנה הביטוש הזה מעלים ומאביד ממנו הבחינה אחרונה דעביות שבהמסך, שהוא בחי"ב, ולא נשארו במסך אלא הרשימות דעביות שמבחי"א ולמעלה. וע"כ, בעת עלית המסך לפה דראש, ונכלל בזווג דהכאה אשר שם, נעשה ההכאה רק על מסך דבחי"א, שנשארו במסך. כי הבחי"ב כבר נאבדה ממנו. וע"כ הוא מוציא רק ע"ס בקומת ת"ת, הנקרא "קומת ז"א". והוא חסר בינה ז"א ומלכות דכלים, ונשמח חיה יחידה דאורות. וכ' עד"ז.

41) After the formation of the Partzuf AB, the impact between the Ohr Makif and the Ohr Pnimi on the Masach de Guf of AB (with Aviut Gimel) takes place. This impact makes for the loss of the last Behina of the Reshimo de Masach. The Masach rises to the Peh de Rosh and makes a Zivug de Haka'a there only on the Aviut de Behina Bet. This Zivug forms the 10 Sefirot on the level of Bina, i.e., the Partzuf SAG of the world of Adam Kadmon, which has neither the Kelim of ZA and Malchut, nor the lights of Yechida and Haya.

When the Partzuf SAG spreads into the Rosh and the Guf, it leads to a Bitush Ohr Makif on its Masach de Guf and the loss of the last Behina de Aviut of the Masach, the Behina Bet takes place. The Masach with the Reshimot de Aviut from the Behina Aleph and higher rises to the Peh de Rosh and makes a Zivug on the Behina Aleph there, which forms the 10 Sefirot on the level of Tifferet (or ZA). The Kelim Bina, ZA and Malchut and the lights Yechida, Haya and Neshama are absent in this Partzuf.

Does the *Behina Dalet* in SAG have desires, or does it restrict them and the desires of the *Behina Gimel*? Are there any desires in *Behina Dalet* in AB, or does it restrict them too?

Everyone has these desires; we speak only about the “desire to receive”, without which there is no creation. However, there was a danger that the souls might “steal”, receive for their own sake; hence, the correction took place, making them unable to see anything.

Now let us understand the saying, “All the earth is full of His Glory”, i.e., everyone has to feel His existence. Yet why can we not actually feel it? It is because, from the direction of the Creator, “All the earth is full of His Glory”; but to prevent the creation from receiving for its own sake, the Restriction took place. Seeing no delight in it, man does not aspire after spirituality.

The Introduction to “The Study of the Ten Sefirot” says that if punishment and reward were revealed so that the one who eats something forbidden would instantly choke with it, who would dare to eat the forbidden food? On the contrary, if man felt great pleasure while putting on the *Tzitzit* (a ritual prayer shawl), he would never take it off. Therefore, if we felt the spiritual delight, we would immediately wish it for our own sake.

There is only one law inherent in egoism: “To work less and to receive more”, it knows nothing else. So what can one do if one can

neither see nor receive anything? The Creator tells us: “I give everything freely and you should give freely”.

We must reach the same level where we can give without expecting any reward. Hence, there was the *Tikkun* (correction) - we can neither see nor “steal”. It is written in the *Gemara* (Treatise “Sanhedrin”): “*Adam HaRishon* was a thief” (he stole from the Creator).

In the beginning there was the Creator’s domain, i.e., all that *Adam HaRishon* did was for the sake of bestowal; nothing for his own benefit. However, upon seeing the enormous light, he could not receive it with the intention for the sake of giving and got it for himself. This is called, that he takes the light from the Creator’s domain to his own; hence, he is called “a thief”.

To prevent this from ever happening again, the correction took place in the souls; that is why they cannot see anything. Man should not ask for attainment and spiritual heights, only for the *Kelim* to be able to see.

To give a name to the *Partzuf* there is no need to say that a *Zivug* on some *Behina* takes place; it is enough to give its numeric value, the *Gematria*, to know what it is like qualitatively. *Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey* is the basis of any *Kli Malchut* of the world of Infinity and the entire Universe consist of this one and only structure.

The amount of matter on this structure, i.e., the use of a desire with the right intention is equal to the light received by the *Partzuf*. The numerical value speaks about the quantity and the quality of this light in the *Partzuf*.

The *Partzuf Galgalta* corresponds to the entire *Malchut* of the World of Infinity and has the biggest screen in the Universe. If it received the maximum of what it could for the sake of the Creator, how can there be a place for another *Partzuf*? What can *AB* add to what *Galgalta* has not yet received?

It turns out that *AB* also corresponds to *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, and it can receive the light that *Galgalta* could not. The screen in the next *Partzuf* is weaker; it interacts with the light of a different quality, much less powerful than that of *Galgalta*; hence, *AB* can receive an additional portion of the light.

Each subsequent *Partzuf* receives the light of lower quality. Each new *Partzuf* is an absolutely new state. *AB* draws its desires from the *Sof* of *Galgalta*, i.e., it works with the desires that the previous *Partzuf* could not deal with. *Galgalta* wanted to receive the *Ohr Yechida*, whereas *AB* – only the *Ohr Haya*.

When *Malchut* in the World of Infinity pushes away all the light, it is called *Dalet de Aviut* and *Dalet de Hitlabshut*. It shows that the *Reshimot* of the entire World of Infinity are in it. *Galgalta* starts working with these *Reshimot*, makes a *Zivug de Haka'a* on *Dalet / Dalet* and receives the corresponding light. When the *Bitush Pnim u Makif* takes place, the *Dalet de Hitlabshut* and the *Gimel de Aviut* remain. *Dalet de Aviut* disappears because the *Partzuf* decides not to work with it anymore, and annuls it.

There is an inverse relation between the *Kli* and the light. The smaller the *Kli*, the closer it is in its properties to the light. Let us assume that I have five egoistic desires, from the purest to the coarsest. My purest desire is the nearest to the Creator, the coarsest one is the most remote. *Malchut* has five desires: *Shoresh*, *Aleph*, *Bet*, *Gimel* and *Dalet*.

To put it more precisely, these are the five phases of development of one and the same “desire to receive”. The *Shoresh* is the purest, most elevated desire; therefore, it is the closest to the Creator.

When *Malchut* puts the screen over its egoistic desire, the law that states that the purest desire is the closest to the Creator remains unchanged. Besides, the intention for the sake of the Creator is put on it, and exactly this intention allows it to receive more light than such a small desire was supposed to. *Malchut* with the *Masach* “attracts” the light, but *Keter* (the purest, loftiest part of the *Kli*) receives it and not *Malchut*.

The main elements of the Universe are:

- the light emanating directly from the Creator;
- the egoistic “desire to receive” delight that was created by Him;
- the screen that emerged as a reaction to the received light.

Kabbalah studies these elements in their various states. Harmonious correspondence between the screen, the light, and the desire constitutes the soul, which dictates its laws to the angels, the *Levushim* and material objects.

Each *Partzuf* fills *Malchut* of the World of Infinity; thus the *Partzufim* cover its innermost point from the light. We are the central point. Therefore, as regards us, all the worlds, all the *Partzufim* are the restraining screens.

On the one hand, we say that all the worlds were created in descending order, i.e., before the existence of man. The Worlds are the measures of concealment of the Creator. *Galgalta* conceals the Creator from the lower *Partzuf* by 20 per cent. *AB* only sees 80% of the Creator. Nevertheless, these 80 % are the Creator for it, so they are in fact 100 % for *AB*.

Thus, it goes until the five worlds that consist of the five *Partzufim*, where each *Partzuf* in turn consists of five *Sefirot*, completely conceal the Creator’s light from us behind 125 screens. The light does not reach our world at all. We are behind the screen and can neither see nor feel the Creator.

On the other hand, as man ascends and reaches the level of some *Partzuf*, he puts up the screen equal to this *Partzuf* and by doing so eliminates the concealment of the Creator on this level. Rising to the next level, man neutralizes its concealment with the help of his screen, attains the Creator on this level et cetera. When he annuls all the filters, he will completely grasp all the levels that separate him from the Creator.

The worlds are created to teach us how to act in each situation. Therefore, the Creator’s concealment is descending, while the revelation

happens in the opposite direction. The steps, which the soul climbs, as it were, disappear thereupon.

The lower *Partzuf* knows the previous one and understands that it cannot receive as much light as the one before it does. However, to provide the lower *Partzuf* with the light, each higher one should send its request for the light (called *MAN*) to the *Partzuf* above it.

Since each new *Partzuf* is an absolutely new desire, which after *TA* has never been filled with the light, each new *Partzuf* leads to a new attainment, exceeding the previous one both qualitatively and quantitatively.

The light received by each subsequent *Partzuf* arrives to it via the previous one. All the *Partzufim* it passes through, receive their part of the light, and this portion is immeasurably bigger than the amount of the light that will be received by the last one in this chain. Only *Galgalta* receives the light directly from the World of Infinity.

All our actions are based on our desires. The mind plays only an auxiliary role at that. The mind consciously perceives only what enters the senses; it calculates and analyses them. The wider and deeper the sensations are, the bigger the mind necessary for their processing.

If we take a person who studies Kabbalah and indulges in some kind of inner work, then the more subtle this work is, the more flexible and precise his mind should be to differentiate and analyze his senses and make adequate conclusions. However, the mind always remains only an auxiliary tool of the desire. The mind is needed only for gaining the desired object. All of us want pleasure, and the mind assists us in achieving it. If man wants to enjoy scientific research, his mind helps him there. Man thinks that he lives only by his mind; therefore, he stands above all other creatures.

מב) ונתבאר היטב הטעם של ירידות הקומות זו למטה מזו בעת השתלשלות הפרצופים זה מזה, שהוא משום שהביטוש דאר"מ באר"פ, הנוהג בכל פרצוף, מאביד תמיד שם את הבחינה אחרונה דרשימו דעביות אשר שם.

ויש לדעת, אמנם שבאלו הרשימות, הנשארות במסך לאחר הזדככותו, יש בהם ב' בחינות: א. נקרא רשימו דעביות, ב. נקרא רשימו דהתלבשות. למשל, אחר שנזדכך המסך דגוף דפרצוף הא' דא"ק, אמרנו שהבחינה האחרונה דרשימות דעביות, שהיא הרשימו דבחי"ד, נאבדה ממנו. ולא נשאר בהמסך, אלא הרשימו דעביות דבחי"ג. אמנם הרשימו דבחי"ד כוללת ב' בחינות כנ"ל: דהתלבשות ודעביות. ולא נאבד מהמסך בסבת ההזדככות ההיא רק הרשימו דעביות דבחי"ד. אבל הרשימו דהתלבשות דבחי"ד נשארה בהמסך ההוא ולא נאבד ממנו. ופירושו של הרשימו דהתלבשות, הוא בחינה זכה מאד מהרשימו דבחי"ד, שאין בה עביות מספיק לזווג דהכאה עם אור העליון. ורשימו זו נשארה מהבחינה אחרונה שבכל פרצוף בעת הזדככותו. ומה שאמרנו, שהבחינה אחרונה נאבדה מכל פרצוף בעת הזדככותו, הוא רק הרשימו דעביות שבה בלבד.

42) Now we will understand the meaning of the consecutive descent of the levels during the development of the Partzufim one after another because of the Bitush Ohr Makif and Ohr Pnimi, which governs in each Partzuf and contributes to the loss of its last Behina of the Reshimo de Aviut.

The Reshimot left after the thinning of the screen are of two kinds: the Reshimo de Aviut and the Reshimo de Hitlabshut. Therefore, after the weakening of the Masach of the Partzuf Galgalta, the Reshimo de Aviut of the Behina Gimel remained, while the Reshimo de Hitlabshut of the Behina Dalet did not change.

The Reshimo de Hitlabshut is a very thin part of the Reshimo that does not have sufficient Aviut for a Zivug de Haka'a with the light. Like Galgalta, any Partzuf with the weakening of its Masach loses only the last Reshimo de Aviut, but not the Reshimo de Hitlabshut.

We have studied that there is an inverse relation between the light and the vessel, and there are two rules here:

1) “Lefum Tza'ara – Agra”, i.e., the reward is given according to the merit (suffering); in other words, the amount of the light revealed to man depends on the amount of efforts he made.

2) The light wants to enter the clearest Kli. The Kli is considered clear if it refuses to receive anything the coarse Kli wants to receive.

For example, it is easier to work with the intention for the sake of bestowal during prayer, when man is covered with a *Tallit*, and crowned with a *Tefillin*; he does not want to receive anything, only to fulfill the commandment. But while studying, it is more difficult to have the intention for the sake of bestowal, much more difficult to have it during the family meal, and still more difficult to apply during one’s work.

However, according to the first rule, the bigger hindrances one can overcome, the more powerful light one can receive. That is why if man can do business with the intention for the sake of the Creator, without doubt he is worthy of a high level. We say about such person that “His knowledge is deep and his prayer is strong!”

The second rule springs from the first one: the highest level corresponds to the lightest *Kelim*, although there it is easier to intend for the sake of the Creator. On the other hand, the height of the level is determined by its most corrected property, and the light goes through it and descends to the lower level.

Therefore, the *Reshimo de Aviut* is a deficiency, the “desire to receive”. But one should not forget that, in spirituality, the “desire to receive” always means the desire with a *Masach*. Therefore the *Reshimo de Aviut* means that there is a memory in it of how much it can receive for the sake of giving, i.e., the previous strength of resistance disappeared in it. Its lightest *Kli*, the *Kli de Keter*, cannot disappear under the influence of the surrounding light, because it has no *Aviut*. Hence, *Reshimo* of the light that was there once is left in it, which is called the *Reshimo de Hitlabshut*.

There is always some *Reshimo* left from the presence of the light. Two notions should be cleared up:

- 1) The light comes from the giver’s direction.
- 2) The *Aviut* and the *Masach* come from the receiver’s direction.

Whatever comes from the giver leaves a memory, and whatever comes from the receiver – meets with resistance and disappears.

Rabbi Baruch Ashlag gives the following example: “Once I found myself in a place where old people were resting. I looked around and saw that all of them were dozing, paying no attention to anything. It is said about it: “the day is devoid of passion”. I came up to one of them and began talking to him. First I asked him where he was from, then how he made his living, so I got him talking, and he began telling me about his past businesses.

Little by little, he was getting more and more excited and enthusiastic, recalling his achievements and the various events he went through, i.e., in the language of Kabbalah the *Reshimot* of the past delights awoke in him. At the end, I asked him, “Would you like to relive it all over again, traveling from town to town making deals and striking bargains the way you did before? That very instant his eyes grew dim, for he recalled the present and the bygone strength, which he had no more”.

Thus, we see that the *Reshimo* of a man’s delight remains in him, while the strength is all gone. We may conclude that he has no more *Aviut* in him, i.e., he cannot receive for the sake of giving. The *Reshimo de Hitlabshut* – the reminiscence of the pleasure dressed in the *Kli*-desire remained, but, having no screen, he is unable to return to the bygone delights.

מג) וההשאה של הרשימו דהתלבשות מהבחינה אחרונה, שנשארה בכל מסך, גרם ליציאת ב' קומות זכר ונקבה בראשים דכל הפרצופים. החל מע"ב דא"ק, וכן בס"ג דא"ק, וכן במ"ה וב"ן דא"ק, ובכל פרצופי אצילות.

כי בפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק, שאין שם במסך אלא רשימו דעביות דבחי"ג, המוציא ע"ס בקומת חכמה, הנה הרשימו דהתלבשות מבחי"ד, הנשארת שם במסך, שאינה ראויה כלל לזווג עם אור העליון משום זכותה, הנה היא נכללת עם העביות דבחי"ג ונעשת לרשימו אחת. ואז קנתה הרשימו דהתלבשות כח להזדווגות עם אור העליון.

וע"כ יצא עליה זווג דהכאה עם אור העליון, המוציא ע"ס בקירוב לקומת כתר. והוא מטעם, היות בה בחינת התלבשות דבחי"ד. והתכללות זה נקרא התכללות הנקבה בזכר. כי הרשימו דעוביות מבחי"ג נקרא נקבה, להיותה הנושא לבחינת העביות. והרשימו דהתלבשות דבחי"ד נקרא זכר, משום שבא מקומה גבוה ממנה, ומשום שהוא זך מעביות.

ולפיכך, הגם שהרשימו דזכר בלבד אינו מספיק לזווג דהכאה, אמנם ע"י התכללות הנקבה בו, נעשה גם הוא ראוי לזווג דהכאה.

43) *The disappearance of the Reshimo de Hitlabshut in each last level left in the Masach leads to the formation of two stages: Zachar and Nekeva (“male” and “female” essence) in the Rosh of each Partzuf, starting from AB de AK, but also in SAG, MA, BON and in all the Partzufim of the world of Atzilut.*

There is the Reshimo de Aviut of the Behina Gimel in the screen of the Partzuf AB. It elevates the 10 Sefirot of the Reflected Light only up to the level of Hochma, but the Reshimo de Hitlabshut of the Behina Dalet that is left there is unfit for Zivug with the Upper Light, due to its Zakut (the absence of the “desire to receive”, but wishing to be like the Creator). By absorbing the Reshimo de Aviut and forming one common Reshimo with it, it now receives enough strength for a Zivug de Haka’a with the Upper Light.

Then a Zivug de Haka’a with the Ohr Elion takes place, and as a result, the Partzuf of the level close to that of Keter emerges, as the Reshimo de Hitlabshut of the Behina Dalet is present in it. This merging is called the inclusion of Nekeva in Zachar; since the Reshimo de Aviut of the Behina Gimel is called “Nekeva”. This is because it is determined by the property of Aviut (the sensation of the “desire to receive”). However, the Reshimo de Hitlabshut of the Behina Dalet is called Zachar, because it corresponds to a higher state and does not have Aviut.

The Reshimo de Zachar cannot make a Zivug by itself. A Zivug de Nekeva determines the level of the emerging Partzuf, the quality and the quantity of the light that will really enter the Partzuf.

Owing to the memory of its previous state, i.e., the previous Partzuf, Zivug de Zachar gives to the emerging Partzuf a kind of additional, auxiliary luminescence.

Such interaction of Zachar and Nekeva starts from the Partzuf AB. Therefore beginning with it, all the Partzufim have two heads (Rashim) and two Zivugim.

There is a rule: regarding the lower level, the upper one is called perfection (*Shlemut*). *Zachar* is called perfection because it is the *Reshimo* of the light and there is no deficiency in it.

מד) ואחר זה יש גם התכללות הזכר בנקבה. דהיינו שהרשימו דהתלבשות נכלל בהרשימו דעביות. ואז יוצא זווג דהכאה על קומת הנקבה בלבד, שהוא רק קומת בחי"ג, שהיא קומת חכמה, הנקרא "הוי"ה דע"ב".

והנה הזווג העליון, שהנקבה נכללה בהזכר, נבחן לקומת הזכר, שהיא קומת כתר בקירוב. וזווג התחתון, שהזכר נכלל בהנקבה, נבחן לקומת הנקבה, שהיא קומת חכמה בלבדה. אמנם קומת הזכר, מתוך שהעביות שבו אינו מעצמו, אלא ע"י התכללות עם הנקבה, הנה הגם שמספיק ליציאת קומת ע"ס ממטה למעלה, הנקרא "ראש", עכ"ז אין קומה זו יכולה להתפשט ממעלה למטה לבחינת גוף, שפירושו התלבשות האורות בכלים.

כי זווג דהכאה על עביות הבא מבחינת התכללות, אינו מספיק להתפשט לבחינת כלים. ולפיכך אין בקומת הזכר רק בחינת ראש בלי גוף. וגוף הפרצוף נמשך רק מקומת הנקבה, שיש לה עביות מבחינת עצמותו. ומשום זה אנו מכנים את הפרצוף רק על קומת הנקבה בלבד, דהיינו בשם פרצוף ע"ב. כי עיקרו של הפרצוף הוא הבחינת גוף שלו, שהוא התלבשות האורות בכלים. והוא יוצא רק מקומת הנקבה כמבואר. ע"כ נקרא הפרצוף על שמה.

44) *There is also the inclusion of Zachar in Nekeva. This means that the Reshimo de Hitlabshut unites with the Reshimo de Aviut. In this case a Zivug occurs only on the level of Nekeva, i.e., on Behina Gimel (Hochma), which is called HaVaYaH (Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey, the unutterable Name of the Creator) de AB.*

There are the so-called "upper" and "lower" Zivugim. The upper Zivug corresponds to the inclusion of Nekeva in Zachar. Because of this Zivug, the Partzuf whose level is close to Keter emerges. The lower Zivug corresponds to the inclusion of Zachar in Nekeva. This Zivug leads to the creation of a Partzuf whose level is only Hochma. Aviut, which corresponds to the level of Zachar, does not belong to it, as was mentioned above; it was acquired because of the "inclusion", the interaction with Nekeva.

Therefore this Aviut is sufficient only for creating the 10 Sefirot bottom-up (called Rosh), but not for spreading top-down, which forms the Guf – the true vessels. The Guf of the Partzuf is formed with the

help of the level of Nekeva, which has its own Aviut. Hence, we call the Partzuf according to the level of Nekeva, in this particular case AB. The main part of the Partzuf is the Guf; it is where the reception of the light in the vessels takes place.

מה) וע"ד שנתבארו ב' הקומות זכר ונקבה בראש דפרצוף ע"ב, ממש על אותו דרך יוצאים ב' הללו גם בראש הס"ג. אלא שם קומת הזכר הוא בקירוב לבחינת חכמה, משום שהוא מהרשימו דהתלבשות דבחי"ג בהתכללות העביות דבחי"ב. וקומת הנקבה היא בקומת בינה, דהיינו מהעביות דבחי"ב.

וגם כאן נקרא הפרצוף רק על שם קומת הנקבה, משום שהזכר הוא ראש בלי גוף. ועד"ז בפרצוף מ"ה דא"ק. ושם קומת הזכר הוא בקירוב לקומת בינה, המכונה "קומת ישסו"ת", להיותו מרשימו דבחי"ב דהתלבשות בהתכללות עביות מבחי"א. וקומת הנקבה היא קומת ז"א לבד. כי היא רק בחי"א דעביות. וגם כאן אין הפרצוף נקרא אלא על שם הנקבה, דהיינו פרצוף מ"ה או פרצוף ר"ק, משום שהזכר הוא ראש בלי גוף. ועד"ז תשכיל בכל הפרצופים.

45) *Similar to the formation of the two levels of Zachar and Nekeva in the Rosh of the Partzuf AB, the same levels emerge in the Partzuf SAG. The only difference is that, in the former case, the level of Zachar is approximately Hochma, since it emerges as a result of a Zivug on the inclusion of Aviut Bet (Bina) in the Reshimo Gimel de Hitlabshut (Hochma). The level of Nekeva in SAG is a pure Bina with Aviut Bet.*

In the case of SAG, the Partzuf is also called according to the level of Nekeva (Bina), since the level of Zachar has only the Rosh without the Guf. Zachar of the Partzuf MA of the world AK is at the level close to Bina and is called YESHSUT, since it results from the interaction between the Reshimo Bet de Hitlabshut and the Reshimo Aleph de Aviut. Nekeva of this Partzuf is at the level of ZA, since it has only Aleph de Aviut. The rest of the Partzufim of the world AK are constructed similarly.

VAK de Bina is called YESHSUT, and Gar de Bina is called the upper Abba ve Ima.

TA'AMIM, NEKUDOT, TAGIN, AND OTIOT
טעמים נקודות תגין ואותיות

מו) אחר שנתבאר הביטוש דאו"מ באו"פ, הנוהג אחר התפשטות הפרצוף לבחינת גוף, שבטבתו מזדכך המסך דגוף, וכל האורות דגוף מסתלקים, והמסך עם הרשימות הנשארים בו עולים לפה דראש, ומתחדשים שם בזווג דהכאה מחדש, ומוציאים קומה חדשה בשיעור העביות שברשימות, נבאר עתה ד' מיני אורות טנת"א, הנעשים עם הביטוש דאו"מ ועליות המסך לפה דראש.

46) *We said above that because of the Bitush Ohr Makif in the Masach de Guf, the Masach weakens, rises until it joins the Masach de Rosh, and becomes a single whole with it. Then both screens perform a Zivug de Haka'a, which leads to the emergence of a new Partzuf in concordance with the Aviut in its Reshimot. Now let us study the four kinds of the light TANTA (Ta'amim, Nekudot, Tagin and Otiot – in Hebrew the word begins with the letter Aleph), which stem out of the Bitush de Ohr Makif and the rise of the Masach to the Peh de Rosh.*

מז) כי נתבאר, שע"י הביטוש דאו"מ במסך דגוף, הוא מזכך למסך מכל עביות דגוף, עד שנזדכך ונשתוה למסך דפה דראש. שהשתוות הצורה עם הפה דראש, נמצא מיחדהו כבחינה אחת עמו, ונכלל בזווג דהכאה שבו. אמנם נבחן, שאין המסך מזדכך בבת אחת, אלא על פי סדר המדרגה. דהיינו, מתחילה מבח"ד לבח"ג, ואח"כ מבח"ג לבח"ב, ואח"כ מבח"ב לבח"א, ואחר כך מבח"א לבחינת שורש, עד שנזדכך מכל בחינת עביותו ונעשה זך כמו המסך דפה דראש. והנה אור העליון אינו פוסק מלהאיר אף רגע, והוא מזדווג עם המסך בכל מצב ומצב של הזדככותו.

47) *However, the Masach does not lose its strength at one go; it happens in a certain order. First, the Masach loses Behina Dalet, then Behina Gimel, then Bet, then Shoresh and Aleph, until the Masach is totally free from all the Aviut and merges with the Masach de Rosh. The Upper Light never stops shining; it continues to interact with the Masach in whatever state it may be during the process of its weakening.*

The egoistic desire that made *TA* now wants to work only in an altruistic mode and enjoy receiving for the sake of the Creator. However, at the beginning it receives only 20 per cent, then gradually gets free from the light, because it cannot receive any more as the result of the *Bitush* of the *Ohr Makif* and the *Ohr Pnimi*.

In fact, the light neither enters nor exits anything. The light is constantly inside the vessel (the *Kli*). Everything depends on whether the particular vessel is able to feel the light inside it or not. Similarly, we are filled with the Creator's light, but do not feel it due to the lack of correction, the screen. If we begin to correct ourselves and acquire the screen against our egoism, we will feel the Creator and His light.

Now that the decision to expel the light is made, *Malchut*, wishing to feel and reveal the Creator, starts modifying its inner sensations. The Upper Light never stops shining, but constantly makes *Zivugim* with the *Masach* in each state as it ascends.

When the Masach de Guf ascended one level above the Tabur, i.e., from the Malchut de Guf to the Zeir Anpin de Guf, there was an intermediate Zivug in the Masach de Rosh. Because of this Zivug, the intermediate Partzuf of the level of Hochma emerged.

Then the Masach de Guf continues to rise. From ZA de Guf it rises to Bina de Guf. At this time, there is another intermediate Zivug de Haka'a on the Masach de Rosh, which leads to the formation of the Partzuf of the level of Bina and so on.

There are four such interim Zivugim during the transition from Galgalta to AB. These Zivugim lead to the formation of four intermediate Partzufim called Hochma de Galgalta, Bina de Galgalta, ZA de Galgalta, and Malchut de Galgalta.

Thus, we learned that the second Partzuf AB is born with the help of four Zivugim, which gradually emerge during the weakening of the Masach de Guf on its way to complete merging with the Masach de

Rosh. A similar process takes place during the transition from AB to SAG or any other Partzuf.

There is a general rule: the Masach cannot get free from its Aviut at one go; it is a gradual process. The Ohr Elion, which is constantly shining, makes a Zivug on each level.

כי אחר שנזדכך מבח"ד, ונסתלק כל הקומת כתר הזו, והמסך בא לעביות דבח"ג, הרי אור העליון מזדווג עם המסך על פי העביות דבח"ג הנשארת בו, ומוציא ע"ס בקומת חכמה.

ואחר כך, כשנזדכך המסך גם מבח"ג, ונסתלק גם קומת חכמה, ולא נשאר במסך רק בחינה ב', נמצא אור העליון מזדווג עמו על בח"ב, ומוציא ע"ס בקומת בינה. ואחר כך כשמזדכך גם מבח"ב, ונסתלקה הקומה הזו, ולא נשאר בו רק עביות דבח"א, הנה אור העליון מזדווג עם המסך על עוביות דבח"א הנשארת בו, ומוציא קומת ע"ס בקומת הז"א. וכשנזדכך גם מעביות דבח"א, וקומת הז"א מסתלקת, ולא נשאר בו אלא שורש העביות, מזדווג אור העליון גם על העביות דשורש הנשארת בהמסך, ומוציא ע"ס בקומת המלכות. וכשנזדכך המסך גם מעביות דשורש, וגם קומת המלכות נסתלקה משם, כי לא נשאר במסך עוד שום עביות דגוף, הנה אז נבחן שהמסך ורשימותיו עלו ונתחברו עם המסך דראש, ונכלל שם בזווג דהכאה, ויוציאים עליו הע"ס החדשות, הנקראות בן ותולדה לפרצוף הראשון.

והנה נתבאר, שענין הביטוש דא"מ באו"פ, המזכך להמסך דגוף של הפרצוף הא' דא"ק, ומעלהו לפה דראש שלו, שע"ז נולד ויוצא פרצוף שני ע"ב דא"ק, אין זה נעשה בבת אחת, אלא על סדר המדרגה, אשר אור עליון מזדווג עמו בכל מצב ומצב מהד' מדרגות, שהולך ובא עליהם במשך זמן הזדככותו, עד שנשתווה לפה דראש. ועד"ז שנתבאר יציאת ד' קומות במשך זמן הזדככות הגוף דפרצוף א' לצורך ע"ב, כן יוצאות ג' קומות במשך זמן הזדככות המסך דגוף דפרצוף ע"ב, בעת אצילותו לפרצוף ס"ג. וכן בכל המדרגות.

כי זה הכלל: אין המסך מזדכך בבת אחת אלא בסדר המדרגה. ואור העליון, שאינו פוסק להתפשט לתחתון, נמצא מזדווג עמו בכל מדרגה ומדרגה שבדרך זיכוכו.

מח) אמנם אלו הקומות שיוצאות על המסך במשך זמן הזדככותו ע"פ סדר המדרגה, אינן נחשבות להתפשטות מדרגות אמיתיות, כמו הקומה הראשונה שיצאה מטרם התחלת הזדככות, אלא שהן נחשבות לבחינות נקודות. ומכונות בשם "או"ח ודין". כי כח הדין של הסתלקות האורות כבר מעורב בהם.

כי בפרצוף הא', הנה תיכף כשהביטוש התחיל לפעול וזיכך את המסך דגוף מבח"ד, הנה נחשב כאלו כבר נזדכך כולו. כי אין מקצת ברוחני. וכיון שהתחיל להזדכך, כבר מוכרח להזדכך כולו. אלא מתוך שמדרך המסך להזדכך על סדר המדרגה, יש שהות לאור העליון להזדווג עמו בכל מדרגה של עביות שהמסך מקבל במשך זמן הזדככותו, עד שמזדכך כולו. וע"כ אלו הקומות היוצאות במשך זמן הסתלקותו, כח ההסתלקות מעורב בהן, ונחשבות רק לבחינות נקודות ואו"ח ודין.

48) These interim, inner Partzufim are called “Nekudot”. Nekudot are the Ohr Hozer, *per se*. Besides, the Nekudot are inseparably connected with the category of “Din” (judgment), because the force of this judgment-restriction is already included in them.

There are no half-decisions in spirituality. Therefore, when the Partzuf, affected by a Bitush Pnim u Makif, decides to expel the light, this process cannot be stopped. However, as was said above, during the expulsion of the light, i.e., during the ascent of the Masach from the Tabur (Malchut de Guf), intermediate Zivugim de Haka’a take place and create intermediate Partzufim called Nekudot.

Any reception of the light inside the Partzuf (including what occurred because of such a Zivug) is a reception of pleasure. It means that, even while passing from one level to another lower one (e.g. from Galgulta to AB, from AB to SAG and so on), the Partzuf continues to receive the light (pleasure).

ולפיכך אנו מבחינים בכל פרצוף ב' מיני קומות, בשם: טעמים, ונקודות. כי הע"ס דגוף שיצאו בראשונה בכל פרצוף נקראות בשם "טעמים". ואותם הקומות היוצאות בפרצוף בדרך זיכוכו, דהיינו אחר שכבר התחיל המסך להזדכך עד שמגיע לפה דראש, הן נקראות בשם "נקודות".

Thus, we can distinguish two levels in each Partzuf: the Ta'amim and the Nekudot. The Nekudot were defined above. The Ta'amim are the first 10 Sefirot de Guf of the Partzuf, emerging because of the first regular Zivug de Haka'a, which leads to the formation of this particular Partzuf.

The first spreading of the light – the Ta'amim – came to shine on this level; but the Nekudot, although they have the Direct Light and also spread in the form of Rosh, Toch and Sof, do not emerge to shine on this level because the Ohr Makif annuls the screen and the entire level disappears.

However, since the screen consists of the four Behinot, the light cannot leave the level at one go. It resembles a situation in which a person sitting in the fourth room is asked to leave. He cannot leave the

house from the fourth room without passing through the other three. When he enters the third room, he does not intend to remain there, for he wishes only to pass through it.

A person falling down from the fifth floor cannot stop during the fall, can he? He must fall down to the fourth floor, then to the third and so on, until he reaches the ground. A clever person falling down from the fifth level considers the fourth level the lowest; in this case, he can stop immediately and must not continue falling. Someone less smart, falling from the fifth level to the fourth one, thinks: “There are people worse than I am”. This person must fall to the bottom.

There is another example. Two workers received their salary. The first one got \$800 and is very pleased; the second got \$900 and is very sad. The first one used to receive \$600 before; hence, he was pleased to receive \$800. The second one used to receive \$1000, so he was sad when his salary was cut. The reduced salary brings no pleasure, only judgment and restriction.

It is defined as “the power of judgment”, the power of outcome, which arises from the disappearance of the screen and according to the law that imposes a ban on the egoistic reception. These phases of the light's withdrawal are called “the Returned Light”. Yet in fact, they are the Direct Light since they shine at the time of departure, during “the return of the light to its root”.

Since there are no half-decisions in the spiritual world, we may conclude that, if we wish to attain spirituality, we should prefer it to everything else and go on until the end.

מט) ואלו הרשימות הנשארות למטה בגוף אחר הסתלקות האורות דטעמים, נקראות בשם “תגין”. ואלו הרשימות הנשארות מקומות הנקודות נקראות בשם “אותיות”, שהם “כלים”. והתגין, שהם הרשימות מהאורות דטעמים, הם חופפים על האותיות והכלים, ומקיימים אותם.

ונתבאר ד' מיני אורות, הנקראים “טעמים”, “נקודות”, “תגין”, “אותיות”. אשר הקומה הראשונה היוצאת בכל פרצוף מה”פ, הנקראים “גלגלתא”, “ע”ב”, “ס”ג”, “מ”ה” “ב”ן”, נקראת בשם “טעמים”. וקומות היוצאות בכל פרצוף אחר שכבר התחיל להזדכך, עד שמזדכך

כולו, נקראות בשם "נקודות". והרשימות הנשארות מהאורות דטעמים שבכל קומה אחר הסתלקותם, נקראות בשם "תגיף". והרשימות הנשארות מהאורות של קומות הנקודות אחר הסתלקותם, נקראות בשם "אותיות" או "כלים". ותזכור זה בכל ה"פ הנקראים "גלגלתא", "ע"ב", "ס"ג", "מ"ה", "ב"ן", כי בכלם יש הזדככות ובכולם יש אלו ד' מיני אורות.

49) *The Reshimot (memories) that remain from the Ta'amim in the Guf of the Partzuf are called "Tagin". The Reshimot that remain from the interim stages of Nekudot are called "Otiot" or "Kelim". The Tagin (Reshimot from the lights of Ta'amim) are placed above the letters (Otiot - the genuine Kelim), and enliven them.*

Therefore, the ten Sefirot that emerged from the first Zivug de Haka'a and the subsequent descent of the light are called the "Ta'amim". The ten Sefirot or, rather, ten interim Partzufim (or five, if we consider ZA one Sefira), which emerged from the nine (or four) intermediate Zivugim during the rise of the screen from the Tabur to the Peh, are called "Nekudot". The Reshimot of Ta'amim are called "Tagin" and the Reshimot of Nekudot – "Otiot".

Nothing ever appears or disappears; everything depends on the attitude of the *Partzuf* to the light. It either perceives the light as pleasure or as darkness. *Malchut* of the World of Infinity sensed the light as egoistic pleasure, and then saw emptiness in it. Therefore, it disappeared (in the language of Kabbalah, *Malchut* "expelled" the light).

Now it does not derive pleasure from egoistic reception, but from receiving for the sake of bestowal. The filling of it from the *Peh* to the *Tabur* is the sensation of pleasure from giving to the Creator. Being too weak to keep this pleasure, *Malchut* loses the desire for it, and it leaves. However, the reminiscence of this pleasure stays behind; it is called the *Reshimo*, i.e., the outside light, as it were, shines from afar upon this *Partzuf*.

In fact, all sensations are inside; so the meaning of "outside" is purely relative. There are dozens of kinds of *Reshimot* (memories) and of course, all of them are felt inside. The *Ohr Makif* (the Surrounding, Outer

Light) is inside me, but the attitude to it is different now. We must learn to think internally, turning all our attention and thoughts “inside”.

Being empty of pleasure creates the *Kelim*. Man had already experienced the previous state, passed it, and sensed all its transformations. Now, he can proceed to the next. Without the state of being filled and the following emptiness, it is impossible to acquire a genuine *Kli*.

Longing for spirituality or being indifferent to it, striving after animal pleasures – only this determines man’s advancement. It does not depend on us how many levels we will go through. We can only determine the speed. This means that man can shorten the duration of the correction (“Israel shortens the time”). This is the main task of Kabbalah.

It turns out that the *Ta’amim*, i.e., the spreading of the light from above, only marks the contours of the future *Partzuf*. It is only *Keter*, the sketch of the future ten *Sefirot*. The *Nekudot* are the ten *Sefirot* that already appear according to the contours outlined by the *Ta’amim*. The *Nekudot* are the next stage of the creation of the *Partzuf*, the *Kli*. The *Tagin* are the ten *Sefirot* that were also placed on the borders created earlier by the *Ta’amim* and the *Nekudot*. The *Otiot* are the ten *Sefirot* that appeared after the expulsion of the light.

Otiot, i.e., the state where there is no light, but there is a very strong “desire to receive” it, are the very final phase in the development of the *Kli*. One must remember that well, because the weakening of the screen, the expulsion of the light and the emergence of four kinds of the light, *Ta’amim*, *Nekudot*, *Tagin* and *Otiot*, take place in all the *Partzufim*.

The light enters or exits the *Kli*, but the *Reshimot* are also the light that shines with small intensity, as it cannot be retained anymore.

When man ascends the spiritual levels, all these *Reshimot* are already inside him. He knows in advance that there will be difficulties; hence, foreseeing a fall, he can use it as a springboard for a future ascent. By working, putting his efforts into something, man is rewarded

with knowledge and pleasant sensations. The moment he starts enjoying them, there comes a fall.

Nevertheless, while man is descending, he cannot feel the fall yet; it still pleases him. When he feels it, it means that he is already down. Therefore, to avoid the sensation of a fall, to sweeten its bitterness, man, when he achieves something good, should consider it a fall. Then he can continue ascending. This refers to the practical studies of Kabbalah.

The answers to the questions that come to one's mind during the study of the material should be attained internally. If man starts feeling the Creator just a little bit, then the questions he used to ask others are revealed to him. Only by receiving a personal answer to his question, by attracting a spark of the light, does he discover the essence of phenomena, and it is never forgotten; it remains inside him, in his sensations.

Such answers depend on the amount of effort man puts forth and have nothing to do with the bulk of his accumulated knowledge. Nor does it depend on his educational level or intellect. This is the main difference between Kabbalah and all other sciences. Kabbalah is called a science because it is based on the reception of the spiritual light – the *Ohr Hochma*, which enters the spiritual *Kli* with the help of the screen, but not through knowledge or intellect.

Spiritual knowledge is the light that enters the *Kli*, the desire to receive pleasure for the sake of the Creator. All other kinds of knowledge enter our 'desire to acquire'; the knowledge itself constitutes egoistic information.

The discovery of spirituality means that one should not seek knowledge; rather one must be eager to acquire the intention to receive for the sake of the Creator. Spiritual information must enter the spiritual vessel. While studying, I should connect with the material; find something that speaks about me. I have to understand where my past, present and future are, and how they are related to the material I study. If man has not yet

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entered the spiritual world, it means that the quality and the quantity of his efforts were not sufficient.

Or, perhaps man has made considerable effort; but their quality was not adequate enough, i.e., during his studies he did not concentrate on how the Upper Light would purify and elevate him above our world. Instead, he tried to understand the material and fill his mind with it.

ROSH, TOCH, SOF, AND DRESSING
OF THE PARTZUFIM ON ONE ANOTHER

ענין רת"ס שבכל פרצוף
וסדר התלבשות הפרצופים זב"ז

(ג) הנה כבר ידעת את ההבחן שיש ב' מיני מלכויות בכל פרצוף, שהם מלכות המזדווגת ומלכות המסיימת. והנה מהמסך שבמלכות המזדווגת יוצאות ע"ס דאו"ח ממנה ולמעלה, המלבישות לע"ס דאור העליון, שהם נקראות "ע"ס דראש", כלומר שרשים לבד.

ומשם ולמטה מתפשטות הע"ס דגוף הפרצוף, דהיינו בבחינות התלבשות האורות בכלים גמורים.

ואלו הע"ס דגוף מתחלקות לב' בחינות של ע"ס, הנקראות "ע"ס דתוך" ו"ע"ס דסוף". שהע"ס דתוך מקומן מפה עד הטבור, ששם מקום התלבשות של האורות בכלים. והע"ס דסוף וסוף הפרצוף, מקומן מטבורו ולמטה עד סיום רגליו, שפירושן, אשר המלכות מסיימת לכל ספירה וספירה עד שמגיעה לבחינתה עצמה, שאינה ראויה לקבל שום אור, וע"כ נפסק שם הפרצוף.

ובחינת הפסק זה מכונה "סיום אצבעות רגליו של הפרצוף", שמשם ולמטה חלל פנוי וריקן בלי אור. ותדע, שב' מיני ע"ס הללו נמשכים מהע"ס דשרשים, הנקראים "ראש". כי שניהם נכללים במלכות המזדווגת. כי יש שם כח הלבשה, שהוא האו"ח, העולה ומלביש לאור העליון.

גם יש שם כח העיכוב של המסך על המלכות, שלא תקבל האור, שע"ז נעשה הזווג דהכאה המעלה אור חוזר. וב' כחות הללו המה בהראש רק שורשים בעלמא. אלא כשמתפשטים למעלה למטה, הנה כח הא', שהוא כח הלבשה, יוצא לפועל בע"ס דתוך, שמפה ולמטה עד הטבור. וכח הב', שהוא כח העיכוב על המלכות מלקבל אור, יוצא לפועל בע"ס דסוף וסיום, שמטבור ולמטה עד סיום אצבעות רגליו.

וב' מיני ע"ס הללו נקראים תמיד חג"ת נה"מ. שהע"ס דתוך, שמפה עד הטבור, נקראות כולן בשם "חג"ת". והע"ס דסוף שמטבור ולמטה, נקראות כולן בשם "נה"מ".

50) As was stated above, there are two kinds of Malchut in each Partzuf: Malchut that makes a Zivug and Malchut that prevents the light from entering. Because of the Zivug de Haka'a that occurs on the Masach of the first Malchut, the 10 Sefirot of the Reflected Light emerge. They rise and dress onto the Upper Light, dividing it into ten Sefirot de Rosh, i.e., purely the roots of the Kelim.

Then this Malchut expands downwards from the Masach via the ten Sefirot, spreading by the ten Sefirot de Guf, which means dressing of the light in the finished Kelim.

The ten Sefirot de Guf are divided into two parts: the Toch and the Sof. The position of the ten Sefirot de Toch is from the Peh to the Tabur, where the lights dress in the Kelim. From the Tabur down to the “Sium Reglav” is the place of the ten Sefirot de Sof and Sium. It means that here Malchut restricts the reception of the light in each Sefira, having reached the maximum corresponding to the particular size of the Masach, until it reaches Malchut de Malchut, which is totally unfit to receive the light.

This stage is called “the toe-tips of the Partzuf”. From that point and below there is an empty space devoid of the light (“Halal Panuy”). Both kinds of ten Sefirot de Toch and Sof descend from the ten Sefirot de Rosh and are included in Malchut Mizdaveget, since it has power to dress the Ohr Hozer on the Ohr Elion.

There is also the force of the Masach that prevents the light from entering Malchut and raises the Ohr Hozer. These two forces are merely the roots, the germs of the Kelim. Then the first force of dressing the light from the Peh to the Tabur in the Toch of the Partzuf is activated, while the second restricting force starts acting in the ten Sefirot de Sof and Sium, from the Tabur down to the Sium Reglav.

If we examine the entire Partzuf, i.e., the Rosh, Toch and Sof as a single whole like the common ten Sefirot, it turns out that the Rosh corresponds to the Sefirot Keter, Hochma and Bina – KaHaB, Gimel Rishonot, Gar (the three first Sefirot). Toch, i.e., the area from the Peh to the Tabur corresponds to the Sefirot Hesed, Gevura, and Tifferet (HaGaT). Sof, i.e., the area from the Tabur and below corresponds to the Sefirot Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut (NHYM).

As it was said, the science of Kabbalah operates with its own special language of formulas, definitions, symbols, and graphs. The light is the sensation of the most exquisite pleasure. Then this sensation is graded into different parts according to its quantity and the quality. This is the source of the five lights of *NaRaNHaY*; each of them in turn consists of its own five lights.

They depend on the sensation, the desire, the quality, and property of this desire, its intention and its selective abilities. Then the text describes the connection between the receiver's properties (the *Kli*, sensor) and the perceptible information that it feels. In other words, all the perceptible information becomes strictly scientific, which allows one to describe these feelings.

Neither psychology nor psychiatry can graduate it all, for they lack this mathematical data. Each person reacts in his own way in a certain situation; there is no common approach. In Kabbalah, the desire created by the Creator reveals itself completely. Everything is most accurately defined and described. Kabbalah provides the general method of attainment of the entire Universe.

When man is on a certain spiritual level, he can qualitatively and quantitatively measure his own actions, vis-à-vis someone else who has already mastered and described this level.

Each fragment of the Universe includes some other fragment in one of its *Sefirot*. So each person in one of his private sensations can feel someone else, i.e., include that person in himself or be included in the other. Thus, through self-knowledge and learning about his source with the help of Kabbalah, man gets to know other people and the entire Universe.

The desire, *Behina Dalet*, is positioned in the area from the *Peh* to the *Sium*, i.e., these are the *Toch* and the *Sof* of the body of the spiritual *Partzuf*. Depending on its screen, it divides itself into two parts. First, it pushes away the light and refuses to receive it in any of its desires. At this

time, the *Ohr Hassadim* spreads inside *Malchut*. Then the desire to receive a portion of the light for the sake of the Creator spreads through it.

What does this reception for the sake of the Creator mean? Let us take an example from our world. Suppose you would like to do something really nice for a certain person. If he finds out that you did something for him, you will definitely derive some benefit from it; say respect etc. In the spiritual world, neither I, nor someone I want to please, must know about it. Otherwise it will not be true giving.

Let us assume that man wishes to absorb everything. Later he refused to receive anything for himself, and afterwards feels the “desire to give” everything to someone else to please him. This last stage is called *Bina*. When man is in this state, the *Ohr Hassadim* (pleasure from giving) enters him.

However, the one he wished to please says, “If you really want to please me, start receiving.” Now you, as it were, should act in defiance of your previous “desire to give” and start receiving for his sake. This is extremely difficult to do. You cannot use all your “desire to give” on receiving for someone’s sake.

It is very difficult to receive for someone else’s sake. You have to act in accordance with your innate egoism, i.e., to receive, but with an intention opposite to egoism – receive for the sake of the giver. Hence, it can only be done gradually.

We see it in the example of *Galgalta*, which accepted the light only in the *Toch*, leaving the *Sof* empty; then the light of the *Hassadim* filled it.

“*Halal Panuy*” constitutes those egoistic desires that have no screen. However, they will manifest only after the Breaking of the *Kelim*.

Galgalta acts according to the law of *TA*. Later on, we will study the structure of the *Partzufim* in compliance with the law of *TB* (*Tzimtzum Bet*). All elements created there will be reflected in the structure of man’s soul.

נא) עוד יש לדעת, כי ענין הצמצום לא היה אלא על אור החכמה, שהכלי שלה הוא הרצון לקבל הנגמר בבחי'ד, שבה נעשה הצמצום והמסך. אבל על אור דחסדים לא היה שום צמצום כלל, כי הכלי שלו הוא הרצון להשפיע, שאין בו שום עביות ושינוי הצורה מהמאציל, ואינו צריך לשום תיקונים.

ועכ"ז לפי שבע"ס דאור העליון נמצאים אלו ב' האורות חכמה וחסדים, מקושרים יחדיו בלי שום הפרש ביניהם, להיותם אור אחד המתפשט לפי תכונתו, לפיכך כשבאים בהתלבשות בכלים אחר הצמצום, הנה גם אור דחסדים נפסק על המלכות, אעפ"י שעליו לא נעשה צמצום.

כי אם היה אור דחסדים מתפשט במקום, שאין אור החכמה יכול להתפשט שם אף משהו, דהיינו במלכות המסיימת, היתה נעשת שבירה באור העליון. כי האור דחסדים היה מוכרח להפרד לגמרי מאור החכמה. ולפיכך נעשה מלכות המסיימת לבחינת חלל פנוי וריקן לגמרי ואפילו מאור דחסדים.

51) One also has to know that TA was referred exclusively to the Ohr Hochma, which was in the Kli, the “desire to receive”, which ended in the Behina Dalet. A Tzimtzum was made and the Masach was created on this specific Behina. The Ohr Hassadim, however, was not restricted at all, since its Kli is the “desire to bestow”, which has no Aviut, and whose properties do not differ from those of the Creator, hence require no correction.

As was already stated, the Creator's light is one and indivisible; the Ohr Hochma and the Ohr Hassadim are inseparably connected and spreading together, filling the vessels. According to its inner properties, the Kli distinguishes various kinds of pleasure in the light – the Ohr Hochma (pleasure from the direct reception of the light) and the Ohr Hassadim (pleasure from the equivalence of the vessel's inner properties with those of the Creator).

Therefore when, after TA, the light exits from the Kelim, the Ohr Hassadim stops spreading in Malchut as well as the Ohr Hochma, while there was no Restriction on the Ohr Hassadim. If the Ohr Hassadim had been able to enter Malchut, which resisted the light of Hochma, the light would have been shattered in it, for the Ohr Hassadim would have had to completely separate from the Ohr Hochma. Nevertheless, since that is impossible, Malchut Mesayemet is left quite empty of even the light of the Hassadim.

One can give infinitely; there is no ban on it. Everything that was ever created in *Malchut* of the World of Infinity is based on the restriction imposed on the “desire to receive”. If man feels a powerful desire and it is genuine, he will hear the Creator say “If you really wish to give, start receiving”.

This will be the measure of giving. In fact, there is nothing man can possibly give, since he does not generate the light; but only consumes it. We can “give” only our intention; in action, we can at most either receive or not receive.

Man’s true natural desire is to receive. Look at a small child; it is pure egoism in action. We are born with it. In our world, I can refrain from using this desire. I want to receive or do something, but I will restrict myself, will not take advantage of my desire. To that end, I must imagine a gain that, by my abstinence, may be more considerable than by fulfilling my desire.

The process of purchase and sale takes place here. If I think of some nice profit from the restriction, I will be able to work with my egoistic desire. Let us suppose that I want to steal some money lying on the table. In this case, I need clearly to imagine how the theft will lead me to jail and how I will only lose from it. Then it is not worth it.

Everything is precisely evaluated in our world. Both giving and receiving are in any case egoistic here. You just do what seems to be the most favorable thing in the given situation. In the spiritual world, one can only be exposed to the Upper Light, which transforms your true natural property of reception. It provides you with the screen. We cannot understand what it means. However, with its help we stop thinking about filling our egoism. The first correction consists in gaining strength to stop filling yourself.

If you can meet this condition, it is called the *Tzimtzum Aleph*. You see that reception for the sake of reception is detrimental for you. Then you are given a stronger desire – to receive through giving to the Creator. Where does it come from? You begin to see that there is something

called the Creator, that He is so enormous and great, that He includes you in Himself. This feeling grips you so that you wish to give to Him; you acquire the screen for the egoistic desires.

When the screen for the *Behinot Shoresch*, *Aleph*, and *Bet* appears, the desire is still not very strong. When there is a screen for *Behinot Gimel* and *Dalet*, you become one great “desire to give”. However, what can you actually give? Here the Creator tells you that only by receiving His light and enjoying it can you give to Him. Having transformed the intention from egoistic to altruistic, for the Creator’s sake, you start receiving. The end of correction comes when you acquire the intention for the sake of the Creator on all your egoistic desires and receive all His light.

The “desire to receive” for the sake of the Creator is not egoistic, since it went through several phases of correction. The “desire to receive” for one’s own sake turns first into the desire to receive nothing at all. Then the “desire to give” everything to the Creator appears; and finally, the desire to receive everything from the Creator with the intention to bestow upon Him.

וב) ועם זה תבין תוכנם של הע"ס דסוף הפרצוף שמטבור ולמטה. כי אי אפשר כלל לומר שהן רק בחינת אור החסדים בלי חכמה כלל, כי אין האור דחסדים נפרד לעולם לגמרי מאור החכמה. אלא שיש בהן בהכרח הארה מועטת גם מאור החכמה. ותדע שהארה מועטת הזו אנו מכנים תמיד בשם "ר"ק בלי ראש". והנה נתבארו ג' בחינות הע"ס שבפרצוף, הנקראות "ראש", "תוך", "סוף".

52) Now, we can understand what the 10 Sefirot from the *Tabur* and below are. It would be wrong to say there is only the *Ohr Hassadim* without any *Ohr Hochma*. There has to be some faint luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma* called *VAK bli Rosh* (6 ends without a head). There are 10 Sefirot in any *Partzuf*: the *Gar* is *Keter*, *Hochma*, and *Bina*: the *Ohr Hochma* is present there in all its greatness. *Hesed*, *Gevura*, *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod* and *Yesod* form *VAK*, where there is the *Ohr Hassadim* and a little *Ohr Hochma*. The tenth Sefira *Malchut* remains empty.

נג) ועתה נבאר ענין סדר הלבשת הפרצופים גלגלתא ע"ב וס"ג דא"ק זה לזה. וזה ידעת, כי כל תחתון יוצא ממסך דגוף דעליון, אחר שנזדכך ונעשה בהשוואת הצורה אל המלכות והמסך שבראש. כי אז נכלל במסך שבראש בזווג דהכאה שבו.

ואחר שנעשה עליו הזווג דהכאה בב' הרשימות עביות והתלבשות הנשאר במסך דגוף, הנה הוכרה העביות שבו, שהיא מבחינת עביות דגוף. וע"י הכר ההוא נבחן לנו, שהקומה יוצאת מבחינת ראש דפרצוף הא' דא"ק, ויורדת ומלבשת לבחינת הגוף שלו, דהיינו במקום שורשה, כי ממסך דגוף היא.

ובאמת היה צריך לירד המסך עם המלכות המזדווגת של הפרצוף החדש למקום הטבור דפרצוף הא', כי שם מתחיל המסך דגוף עם מלכות המסיימת של פרצוף הא', שמשם שורש הפרצוף החדש ואחיותו. אלא מתוך שהבחינה האחרונה דעביות נאבדה מהמסך, בסבת הביטוש דא"מ באו"פ (אות מ) ולא נשאר במסך זולת בח"ג דעביות. אשר בח"ג הזאת דעביות נקרא חזה. ולפיכך אין למסך ומלכות המזדווגת דפרצוף החדש שום אחיזה ושורש בטבור דעליון, אלא רק בחזה שלו. והוא דבוק שם כענף בשורשו.

53) *And now let us examine the order in which the Partzufim Galgalta, AB and SAG dress on one another. It is known that each subsequent Partzuf emerges from the Masach de Guf of the previous one after losing its Aviut, ascending, and merging with the Masach de Rosh.*

A Zivug de Haka'a with this screen is made on two kinds of the Reshimot left in the Masach de Guf of the previous Partzuf: Aviut and Hitlabshut. The Partzuf that emerges from the Rosh of the previous one descends to its Guf and dresses onto it, i.e., on its root, the Masach de Guf.

In fact, the Masach of the new Partzuf and Malchut Mizdaveget are supposed to descend to the Tabur of the previous Partzuf, since that is the place of the root and the attachment of the new Partzuf. However, owing to the Ohr Makif and Pnimi, the Masach of the previous Partzuf lost the last Behina de Aviut. Thus, only Behina Gimel de Aviut (Chazeh) remained; hence, the Masach and Malchut of the new Partzuf have no connection with the Tabur of the previous one, but only in its Chazeh, where it is attached as a branch to its root.

We learn how the entire Universe consisting of five worlds was created. We learn what preceded the creation of our universe, man. We have

also learned how the Upper forces gradually transformed, weakened, divided, deteriorated in quality and size, in order to recreate everything to allow the Creation to achieve the most perfect state, become equal to the Creator. It was necessary to create such an interaction between all forces that would gradually and following a certain order, influence the entire Creation, and raise all its elements to the highest spiritual level.

In fact, the Universe is a shell that, on the one hand, separates the Creator from the Creation, and, on the other hand, unites them. The creation of this shell required a huge number of levels on which the future Creation, corresponding to the properties of each level, was modeled. To that end, each of these levels had to be fully adapted to the Creation. Now we are beginning to study how the supreme power (the Creator) adjusts itself to the inferior system.

נד) ולפיכך נמצא, שהמסך דפרצוף החדש יורד למקום החזה דפרצוף הא'. ומוציא שם ע"י זווג דהכאה עם אור העליון ע"ס דראש ממנו ולמעלה, עד הפה דעליון, שהוא המלכות דראש דפרצוף הא'. אבל את הע"ס דראש של פרצוף העליון אין התחתון יכול להלביש אף משהו, להיותו רק מבחינת מסך דגוף של העליון.

ואח"כ מוציא ע"ס ממעלה למטה, הנקראות "ע"ס דגוף", בתוך וסוף של התחתון. ומקומם מחזה דפרצוף העליון ולמטה עד הטבור שלו בלבד. כי מטבור ולמטה הוא מקום הע"ס דסיום של העליון, שהיא בח"ד, ואין להתחתון אחיזה בבחינה אחרונה של העליון, כי נאבדה ממנו בעת הזדככותו (אות מ).

וע"כ פרצוף התחתון ההוא, הנקרא "פרצוף החכמה דא"ק" או "פרצוף ע"ב דא"ק", מוכרח להסתיים למעלה מטבור של פרצוף הא' דא"ק. ונתבאר היטב, שכל רת"ס דפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק, שהוא התחתון דפרצוף הא' דא"ק, המה עומדים ממקום שמתחת הפה דפרצוף הא' עד מקום הטבור שלו. באופן, שהחזה דפרצוף הא' הוא מקום פה דראש של פרצוף ע"ב, דהיינו מלכות המזדווגת. והטבור דפרצוף הא' הוא מקום סיום רגלין דפרצוף ע"ב, דהיינו מלכות המסיימת.

54) Therefore, the Masach of the new Partzuf (AB) descends to the Chazeh of the previous one (Galgalta). With the help of a Zivug de Haka'a with the Upper Light it creates the ten Sefirot de Rosh from the Chazeh and above – up to the Peh of the previous Partzuf, where its Malchut de Rosh is. The lower Partzuf is unable to dress the ten Sefirot de Rosh of the higher one, because it is born from the Masach de Guf of the higher Partzuf and not from its head.

Each subsequent Partzuf can attain only the Guf of the preceding one, its root, and not the Rosh – the calculations, the thoughts and the mind of the previous Partzuf. Next, the screen creates ten Sefirot de Guf of the new Partzuf from the Chazeh down to the Tabur of the previous one, while from the Tabur and below, there are ten Sefirot de Sium of the previous Partzuf. In other words, there is Behina Dalet, with which the new Partzuf cannot work due to the loss of the last Behina de Aviut during the weakening of the screen.

Therefore, the position of the Rosh, Toch, and Sof of the Partzuf AB is from the Peh de Galgalta to the Tabur. At that, the Chazeh de Galgalta is the Peh de AB, i.e., Malchut Mizdaveget, and the Tabur de Galgalta is the Sium de AB (Malchut Mesayemet).

נה) וכמו שנתבאר בסדר יציאת פרצוף ע"ב מפרצוף הא' דא"ק, כן הוא בכל הפרצופים עד סוף עולם העשיה, שכל תחתון יוצא ממסך דגוף דעליון שלו, אחר שנזדכך ונכלל במסך דמלכות דראש דעליון בזווג דהכאה אשר שם, ואח"ז יורד משם למקום אחיזתו בגוף דעליון, ומוציא גם במקומו ע"י זווג דהכאה עם אור העליון את הע"ס דראש ממטה למעלה, וגם מתפשט ממעלה למטה לע"ס דגוף בתוך וסוף, ע"ד שנתבאר בפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק. אלא בענין סיום הפרצוף יש חילוקים, כמ"ש במקומו.

55) *The order of the creation of the Partzuf AB from Galgalta applies to the formation of on the rest of the Partzufim, down to the lowest Sefira of the world of Assiya. It consists in the fact that each subsequent Partzuf emerges from the Masach de Guf of the previous one. After the Masach loses its strength, it ascends and merges with the Masach of Malchut de Rosh of the preceding Partzuf, making a Zivug de Haka'a with it. Then it descends to the Chazeh of the previous Partzuf and there, after a Zivug with the Upper Light, the ten Sefirot de Rosh arise as well as ten Sefirot Toch and Sof de Guf, thus forming the Partzuf AB of the world of Adam Kadmon.*

THE TZIMTZUM BET:
CALLED THE TZIMTZUM NHY DE AK
צמצום ב' הנקרא צמצום נה"י דא"ק

נו) והנה נתבאר היטב ענין הצמצום א', שנעשה על כלי המלכות, שהיא הבח"ד, שלא תקבל לתוכה אור העליון. וכן ענין המסך, והזווג דהכאה שלו עם האור העליון, המעלה או"ח, שהאו"ח הזה נעשה לכלי קבלה חדשים במקום הבח"ד. וכן ענין ההזדככות של המסך דגוף, הנעשה בגופים דכל פרצוף, מפאת הביטוש דאו"מ באו"פ, המוציאה ד' הבחינות טנת"א דגוף דכל פרצוף, והמעלה את המסך דגוף לבחינת מסך של ראש, ומכשרתו לזווג דהכאה עם אור העליון, שעליו נולד פרצוף שני, הנמוך במדרגה אחת מהפרצוף הקודם. וכן יציאת ג' פרצופים הראשונים דא"ק, הנקראים "גלגלתא", "ע"ב", "ס"ג", וסדר הלבשתם זה את זה.

56) Thus, we have cleared up the meaning of TA, which was made on Behina Dalet – the Kli Malchut, as it stopped receiving the light. We have also spoken of the Masach and its Zivug de Haka'a with the Upper Light. It raises the Ohr Hozer, which plays the role of the new vessel of reception instead of Behina Dalet.

Then we discussed the weakening of the *Masach de Guf* that happened because of the impact between the *Ohr Makif* and the *Ohr Pnimi*. These processes led to the formation of the *Ta'amim*, *Nekudot*, *Tagin* and *Otiot de Guf* in each *Partzuf*, and the ascent of the *Masach* to the *Peh de Rosh* and its *Zivug de Haka'a* with the Upper Light. As a result, the second *Partzuf* is born one level below the first and then the third. These *Partzufim* of the world of *Adam Kadmon* are called *Galgalta*, *AB* and *SAG*. Each subsequent *Partzuf* dresses onto the preceding one from the *Peh de Rosh* and below.

וז) ותדע, שבאלו הג' הפרצופים גלגלתא ע"ב וס"ג דא"ק, אין עוד אפילו שורש לד' העולמות אב"ע. כי אפילו בחינת מקום לג' עולמות ב"ע עוד לא היה כאן. שהרי פרצוף הפנימי דא"ק היה נמשך עד הנקודה דעוה"ז. וכן לא נגלה עוד שורש לענין תיקון הנרצה, שבסבתו נעשה הצמצום. כי כל הנרצה בדבר הצמצום, שנעשה בבח"ד, היה בכדי לתקנה, שלא תהיה בה שום שינוי צורה עם קבלתה את אור העליון (אות י"ד). והיינו, כדי לברוא גוף האדם מבחינה ד' היא, ועם העסק שלו בתורה ומצוות על מנת להשפיע נ"ר ליוצרו, יהפך את כח הקבלה שבבח"ד, שיהיה ע"מ להשפיע, שבזה משווה צורת הקבלה להשפעה גמורה, ואז יהיה גמר התיקון.

כי בזה תחזור הבח"ד להיות לכלי קבלה על אור העליון, וגם תהיה בדביקות גמורה עם האור, בלי שום שינוי צורה כלל. אמנם עד עתה לא נגלה עוד שורש לתיקון הזה. כי לענין זה צריך האדם להיות כלול גם מבחינות העליונות שלמעלה מבח"ד, כדי שיהיה בו ההכשר לעשות מעשים טובים של השפעה.

ואם היה האדם יוצא מהמצב של פרצופי א"ק, היה כולו מבחינת חלל פנוי. כי הבח"ד, הצריכה להיות לשורש גופו של האדם, היתה כולה מלמטה מרגלי א"ק, בבחינת חלל פנוי וריקן בלי אור, להיותה נמצאת בהפכיות הצורה מאור העליון, שנבחנת משום זה לבחינת פרודא ומיתה.

ואם היה נברא האדם ממנה, לא היה יכול לתקן מעשיו כלל. כי לא היה בו שום ניצוצים של השפעה. והיה נמשל כבהמות, שאין בהם מבחינת השפעה ולא כלום, שכל חייהם הוא אך לעצמם. וכדוגמת הרשעים, השקועים בתאות הקבלה לעצמם, "ואפילו החסד דעבדין, לגרמיהו עבדין". שעליהם נאמר: "רשעים בחייהם נקראים מתיים", להיותם בהפכיות הצורה מחי החיים.

57) *You must know that there is not even a hint of the creation in the four worlds of ABYA in these three Partzufim; there was not even a place for them, for the Galgalta of the world of Adam Kadmon reaches the point of our world. The root of the desired correction has not yet been revealed, that being the reason for the Tzimtzum Aleph. It was made to provide Behina Dalet with an opportunity to receive the Upper Light, and then create man from it, who, with the help of the Torah and the Commandments for the sake of the Creator, could transform reception into giving.*

Then Behina Dalet would become the vessel of reception of the Upper Light, merging with it by its properties. However, the root of such correction has not yet even been revealed in the world of Adam Kadmon. For that, man should consist not only of the Behina Dalet – the "desire to receive" – but also possess the properties that refer to the first nine Sefirot, i.e., the "desire to bestow", allowing him "to perform good deeds" (to give).

If man had appeared at the state in which the Partzufim de Adam Kadmon had been, he would have had no light at all, because the Behina Dalet, being the root of man's spiritual body, would have been

below the Sium of the world of Adam Kadmon in total darkness and absolutely opposite to the light by its properties.

Had man been created of such “material”, he would never have corrected himself due to the lack of even the slightest “desire to give”. He would have been considered an animal, living only for itself. Similarly, sinners bogged down in their “desire to receive” only for themselves, even while doing good deeds, are called dead during their life.

The Creator created a single creation –*Behina Dalet* – the “desire to receive”, egoism, man, *Malchut*. Having received the light inside, *Behina Dalet* felt emptiness. In the spiritual world, such straightforward reception leads to death.

Upon realizing this, it wished to be like the Creator and stopped receiving the light by making a *Tzimtzum*. By doing this, it did not become like the Creator, but rather stopped being opposite to Him in its properties. The Creator allotted His own properties to the four phases of *Malchut*'s development. However, since *Malchut* itself is no longer His property, it is called the “creation”, the “desire to receive”.

How can *Malchut* be made equal to the Creator? To this end, it must receive, but only for His sake. If *Malchut* sees that by receiving it pleases the Creator, it must begin to do so.

Where can *Malchut* get such altruistic properties? It must come from *Bina*, for *Bina* is the “desire to bestow”. To accomplish this, we need to combine *Bina*'s desire not to receive anything with *Malchut*'s “desire to receive” for its own sake. If that can be done, it will be possible to give *Malchut* the intention to receive for the Creator's sake. A desire cannot be transformed. It is our nature and is not subject to change.

If it is possible to give *Malchut* such an intention, it can receive the Creator's entire light and reach the *Gmar Tikkun*. How can we bring together and mix these two opposing properties? We must have something common between them. For this, we must break *Bina* and *Malchut* – the

“desire to receive” and the “desire to give” – and mix the fragments very thoroughly so that each spiritual object that emerged after this breaking may possess these two desires.

For this purpose, one of *Bina*’s properties must be “spoiled”, in order for it somehow to become similar to *Malchut*. In other words, *Bina*’s intention to bestow for the sake of the Creator must be “spoiled”, converted, as it were, into the “desire to give” for the sake of reception. Its intentions would become similar to those of *Malchut*, even though *Bina* receives nothing, while *Malchut* wants to get everything. In this way, *Bina* “spoils” its intention and becomes selfish like *Malchut*. Now it is necessary to inculcate *Bina*’s property into *Malchut*.

This is done with the help of the stroke penetration, an explosion that will mix their properties so thoroughly that it will be practically impossible to divide them. If this can be done, we will be able to irradiate this common mass with the Upper Light until *Bina* retrieves its previous intention for the sake of the Creator. Then *Malchut*, in this mass, will also acquire the intention to receive for the sake of the Creator.

In the world of *Adam Kadmon*, the *Partzuf Galgalta* is *Keter*; *AB* is *Hochma*; *SAG* is *Bina*. It should be noted that everything that is in the *Sof* of *Galgalta*, or below its *Tabur*, is *Malchut*. That is why, in order to mix *Bina* with *Malchut*, it should be placed under the *Tabur* of *Galgalta*. *Malchut* passes three states:

1. When it received everything prior to the *Tzimtzum Aleph*
2. The state of correction
3. The state of reception for the sake of the Creator.

Throughout this time, *Malchut* never changed its action – neither before the *Tzimtzum Aleph*, nor after it. The correction consisted merely in transforming the intention to receive for itself into receiving for the sake of the Creator. This is what the Universe was created for. This intention is received from *Bina*.

Malchut of the World of Infinity that is mixed with *Bina* is called *Adam*, man. The entire system of the worlds, the Universe, is aimed only at changing *Malchut's* intention. The reception for the sake of the Creator is called Kabbalah.

נח) וז"ס מ"ש חז"ל (ב"ר ספי"ב): "בתחלה עלה במחשבה לברא את העולם במדת הדין. וראה שאין העולם מתקיים, והקדים מדת הרחמים ושתפה למדת הדין". פירוש: כי כל "תחילה ואח"כ", הנאמר ברוחניות, פירושו "סבה ומסובב". וז"ש, שהסבה הראשונה של העולמות, דהיינו פרצופי א"ק, שנאצלו תחילת כל העולמות, נאצלו במדת הדין, דהיינו בבחינת מלכות לבד, הנקראת "מדת הדין", דהיינו הבח"ד, שנצטמצמה ויצאה בבחינת חלל פנוי וסיוס לרגלי א"ק. שה"ס הנקודה דעוה"ז, הנמצאת למטה מסיוס רגלי א"ק בבחינת חלל פנוי וריקן מכל אור.

וראה שאין העולם מתקיים". דהיינו כנ"ל, שבאופן זה לא היה שום אפשרות לאדם, הצריך להברא מבח"ד הזו, שיוכל לסגל מעשים של השפעה, שעל ידו יתקיים העולם במדת התיקון הנרצה, לכן "הקדים מדת הרחמים ושתפה למדת הדין".

58) *In the beginning, the Creator's conception was to create the world with the properties of "Din" (judgment). This means that, if something were created from the "material" taken from the first nine Sefirot, it would possess only the "desire to give". On the other hand, something created from the "material" taken from under the Tabur would have only the "desire to receive".*

Then the Creator "saw" that the world could not exist this way. So He mixed the desire to receive with the desire to give. What does this mean? Did He not know in advance that the world would not be able to exist this way? Everything that was, is and will be – the entire Universe, was built according to the principle of "cause and effect". There is neither beginning nor end; only cause and effect.

Moreover, the first cause of the worlds, (the Partzufim of the world of Adam Kadmon, created before all other worlds) was the property of judgment, i.e., Malchut's decision not to receive the light for its own pleasure. As was already said, if man had been created from Behina Dalet (Malchut) at this stage (Malchut de Malchut, Dalet de Dalet, i.e., the complete "desire to receive", the only Creation, and the rest

being the transition from the Creator to the creation), he would never have been able to correct the egoistic “desire to receive”.

When it is said that, in the beginning the Creator created the world with the properties of judgment, this means that He initially created the world *Adam Kadmon* as distinctly divided into two kinds of vessels: “giving” and “receiving” – *Malchut*. However, inside this *Malchut* there was not even a single spark of the “desire to give”, i.e., it could not receive at all, thus failing to fulfill the Purpose of the Creation (to please the Creator). The Creator mixed the “desire to give” (*Bina*) with the “desire to receive” (*Malchut*) so that *Malchut* could receive with the altruistic intention.

פרוש: ספירת בינה נקראת “מדת הרחמים”. וספירת המלכות נקראת “מדת הדין”, משום שעליה נעשה הצמצום. והמאציל העלה מדת הדין, שהוא כח הסיום הנעשה בספירת המלכות, והעלה אותה אל הבינה, שהיא מדת הרחמים. ושיתף אותם יחד זה בזה, שע”י השתתפות הזו נעשית גם הבח”ד, שהיא מדת הדין, כלולה מניצוצי השפעה, שבהכלי דבינה. ובזה נעשה הכשר לגוף האדם, היוצא מבח”ד, שיהיה כלול גם ממדת ההשפעה, אשר יוכל לעשות מעשים טובים ע”מ להשפיע נ”ר ליוצרו, עד שיהפך מדת הקבלה שבו שתהיה כולה ע”מ להשפיע, שע”ז יתקיים העולם לתיקון הנרצה מבריאת העולם.

To this end He raised the property of judgment, i.e., the force of restriction that is in Malchut to Bina, and mixed them until Behina Dalet included the sparks of the “desire to give” that are present in Bina. This allowed man, who was later created from Behina Dalet, to acquire the sparks of giving, so that afterwards, by doing good deeds, he would completely change his properties (the “desire to receive”) and thus ensure the existence of the world.

It should be noted that the mixing of *Bina* and *Malchut* is an extremely complex process that passed several phases, which we are about to examine. Ultimately, the Creator broke both *Bina* and *Malchut* into many tiny fragments and thoroughly mixed them. It turned out that each fragment had properties of both *Bina* and *Malchut*. This fragment is man’s soul.

“Our world” is a spiritual category, a spiritual property of absolute egoism, which remains empty and unable to receive anything.

Before the souls were created, and fell to the lowest possible level, everything is thought to have been made by the Creator. In fact, only man, totally detached from the Creator, can be called the creation.

When the creation is filled with the light, it does not understand anything; it is blind. It has no freedom of choice; everything is predetermined inside and outside of it. It is only to the extent of acquiring the *Masach* that *Malchut* begins to ascend to the Creator’s level.

All the *Partzufim* of the world *AK* (*Galgalta*, *AB*, *SAG*, *MA* and *BON*), end above the *Tabur* of *Galgalta*. So how can these *Partzufim* suddenly descend below that level? We can understand the descent of the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* below the *Tabur*, since this *Partzuf* is pure *Bina*, which desires nothing for itself.

There is no *Tzimtzum* on the light of *Bina* (the *Ohr Hassadim*); hence, it can descend under the *Tabur*. The *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* feels perfectly well in any situation, in any place in the spiritual space. *Bina* is characterized by a freedom of choice and behavior that are above all restrictions.

As the soul acquires the properties of *Bina*, it becomes more and more free. The *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* is reluctant to receive anything, ignoring even the most intense desire – the *Aviut Dalet*; hence, it could descend under the *Tabur de Galgalta* unrestricted.

Both the *Ohr SAG* (*Bina*) and the *Ohr AB* (*Hochma*) descend to the world of *Nikudim*. How is it possible? *AB* can descend under the *Tabur* in order to correct the lower *Partzufim*; it becomes similar to them in its properties, although its mission is quite different.

All the worlds are not the created beings, but constitute the Creator’s attire, made in the power and quality of their restriction in such a way that each soul receives only a certain portion of the light. The souls

strive after the Creator while retaining their freedom of will, some sort of illusionary choice.

All the worlds and the *Partzufim* are still objects, “robots”. They have no independence, no freedom of choice. Only man – the combination of Malchut de Malchut, the essence of the “desire to receive”, with *Bina*, the “desire to bestow” – can be considered the creation.

As in all other worlds, AK consists of five *Partzufim*. These *Partzufim* emerge because of the same process – the weakening and rising of the *Masach*. *Keter*, *Hochma*, and *Bina* (the higher *Partzufim*) control the lower ones. They are direct representatives of the Creator, of His desire to fulfill the Thought of the Creation.

Keter (*Behina Shoresch*) is the Creator’s thought to create and bestow delight upon the created beings.

Hochma (*Behina Aleph*) is the delight the Creator wishes to bestow upon the created beings. It is both the vessel and the light of *Hochma* inside it.

Bina (*Behina Bet*) is the Creator’s own property, the desire not to receive anything. All three upper Sefirot represent the Creator’s properties. With these, He created the creation and instilled into it two opposing desires. On the one hand, there is the desire to receive pleasure; conversely, there is the desire to bestow. This duality is completely realized in *Behina Dalet*.

ZA (*Behina Gimel*) and **Malchut** (*Behina Dalet*) are not the Creator’s properties. They are rather by now their consequences, their realization.

The Creator’s properties are defined differently in each world. In the world of the *Nikudim* they are *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima*. In the world of *Atzilut*, they are called *Atik*, *Arich Anpin*, and *Abba ve Ima*. The names differ, but the meaning is the same.

At all stages of the creation, there are five essential levels. The end result is important: how does *Behina Dalet* achieve perfection? How can

each of the five properties, which in turn consist of their own five, be elevated to the level of perfection? Each property of the soul corresponds to the specific force that pulls it up, corrects it, and leads it to absolute perfection.

Soon we will begin to study the world of the *Nikudim*. This world emerged and broke in order that each “broken” fragment of the light would adapt itself to a fragment of the soul, and find points of contact with it for future correction..

(נט) והנה השיתוף הזה של המלכות בבינה נעשה בפרצוף ס"ג דא"ק, וגרם לצמצום ב' בעולמות שממנו ולמטה. כי נעשה בו סיום חדש על אור העליון, דהיינו במקום הבינה. ונמצא, שהמלכות המסיימת, שהיתה עומדת בסיום רגלי הס"ג דא"ק, ממעל הנקודה דעוה"ז, עלתה וסיימה את אור העליון במקום חצי בינה דגוף הס"ג דא"ק, הנקרא ת"ת.

כי כ"ב דגוף נקרא חג"ת. ונמצא הת"ת היא בינה דגוף. וכן מלכות המזדווגת, שהיתה עומדת במקום הפה דראש הס"ג דא"ק, עלתה למקום נקבי עינים דא"ק, שהוא חצי בינה של ראש. ונעשה שם הזווג לצורך המ"ה דא"ק, הנקרא "עולם הנקודים", במקום נקבי עינים.

59) *The interaction between the properties of Malchut and Bina in the Partzuf SAG brought about the Tzimtzum Bet in the worlds below. This led to the emergence of a new Sium of the Upper Light in the place where Bina is. Malchut, which prevented the light from spreading into the Sof of Galgalta at the level of the Sium Reglav (positioned a little above the point of this world), rose to Bina de Guf of the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG. It then restricted the light of the upper half of Bina de Guf, called Tifferet.*

Indeed, Hesed, Gevura, and Tifferet correspond to Keter, Hochma and Bina de Guf, so it turns out that Bina de Guf is Tifferet. Malchut, which was in the Peh de Rosh, rose to the Nikvey Einaim (pupils of the eyes), i.e., to the line separating the vessels of bestowal (Galgalta) from the vessels of reception (AHP) of Bina de Rosh. From there, it made a necessary Zivug for the creation of the Partzuf MA de AK, called the world of Nikudim (or the lower MA).

The *Partzuf SAG* has the *Reshimot Gimel (3) de Hitlabshut* and *Bet (2) de Aviut*. This means that, in principle, SAG is the *Partzuf Bina* with the *Ohr Hassadim* inside, which is determined by the main *Reshimo Bet de Aviut*. However, SAG has also the *Hitlabshut Gimel* – the memory of the previous state (the *Partzuf AB*, the *Partzuf Hochma*). Hence, there is a slight luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma* inside the *Partzuf SAG*. As long as this luminescence is inside SAG, it cannot descend below the *Tabur*.

Before the rise of its *Masach*, the *Partzuf SAG* still has some properties of the *Partzuf Hochma* – “*Hochma be Kiruv*”. Because of the rise of the *Masach* and expulsion of the light caused by the impact between the *Ohr Pnimi* and the *Ohr Makif*, some radical changes take place in SAG. As was stated, each rise of the screen from one level to another is accompanied by a series of intermediate *Zivugim de Haka’a* that lead to the formation of interim *Partzufim* called “the *Nekudot*” (in this case the *Nekudot de SAG*).

The very first rise of the screen (from *Malchut de SAG* to *ZA de SAG*), which leads to expulsion of the light *Yechida de Bina*, naturally calls forth the expulsion of luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*, stimulated by the presence of the *Reshimo de Hitlabshut Gimel* in SAG. Because of this, “*Hochma be Kiruv*” disappears, and SAG turns into the *Partzuf* of pure *Bina*, which has the *Reshimot Bet de Aviut* and *Bet de Hitlabshut*.

The *Reshimot Bet de Aviut* and *Bet de Hitlabshut* - pure *Bina* – can descend below the *Tabur*. Therefore, the *Nekudot de SAG* freely descended under the *Tabur* of the world of AK, since even the *Masach de Galgalta* was too weak to fill these desires below the *Tabur* with the *Ohr Hochma*. Generally, the process of transition takes place from the *Partzuf SAG (Gimel/Bet)* to the *Partzuf MA (Bet/Aleph)*. Hence, the *Nekudot de SAG*, which has the *Reshimot Bet/Bet*, constitutes an intermediate *Partzuf*.

Like all the other *Sefirot*, *Bina* in turn consists of its own five: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*. *ZA* represents an interim stage between the three upper *Sefirot* and the vessel of reception – *Malchut*. This is a common property of the Creator and *Malchut*. In a sense, it links them

together and consequently consists of six *Sefirot*: *Hesed* is similar to *Keter*; *Gevura* to *Hochma*; *Tifferet* to *Bina*. While *Netzah* is the property of *ZA* itself, *Hod* is similar to *Malchut* and *Yesod* is the sum of all the properties.

Therefore, *Tifferet* in *ZA* is *Bina*. If we also divide it crosswise, it will similarly consist of *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina* (*KaHaB*), *Hesed*, *Gevura*, *Tifferet* (*HaGaT*) and *Netzah*, *Hod*, *Yesod* and *Malchut* (*NHYM*). If we divide *Tifferet* into one third and two thirds, it will turn out that the light descends only to its upper third, spreading no further. The point where the vessels of bestowal get separated from the vessels of reception, *Bina* from *Malchut*, is called “the *Parsa*”.

The desires *KaHaB-HaGaT* are called *GE* (*Galgalta ve Eynaim*) – the altruistic desires. The desires *NHYM*, the egoistic *Kelim*, are called *Awzen*. The lower part of *Tifferet* – *Netzah* and *Hod* are *Hotem*, while *Yesod* and *Peh* are *Malchut*. This combination is called *AHP* (*Awzen, Hotem, and Peh*). Now the creation can work only with *GE*, whereas the *Kelim* with a touch of egoism (*AHP*) are not used.

The *Tzimtzum Bet* is a source of all our souls. The Torah (the chapter *Bereshit*) begins at this very moment. From this point, we start speaking about man’s soul; until then there was no root of the creation. First it was necessary to make *Tzimtzum Aleph*, then descend to the *Nekudot de SAG* to make *Tzimtzum Bet*, break all the good and bad properties in order to mix them, and finally to start building a totally new system. This system is a combination of Good and Evil, the right and the left line, the systems of pure and impure forces.

Bina (the Creator’s properties) has to descend to such a level where it can become equal to the properties of *Malchut*, i.e., spoil itself to the extent of becoming similar to the property of reception for its own sake. How can this happen?

Malchut divides *Bina* into *GE* and *AHP*, stands between them, and influences the lower part of *Bina* (*Zat* – the seven lower *Sefirot de Bina*) so

that its properties become equal to those of *Malchut*. The upper part of *Bina* (*Gar*) remains altruistic as before. This is called *Tzimtzum Bet* (*TB*).

The Creator deliberately “spoils” *Bina*, i.e., His own property, so that it would become similar to the property of reception and merge with it. Next, He gradually shows it how much better His properties are, encouraging it to adopt them and slowly move up toward Him.

Above *Malchut*, there is a choice to apply the intention for the sake of bestowal; below *Malchut*’s domain, there is no such option. So, if *Malchut* ascends to *Bina*, from that point and downwards there is no choice. All of the *Behinot*, the properties below *Bina*, fell under the power of the egoistic desires.

Let us review in a general way the ascent of *Malchut* to *Bina*. Is it possible that the “desire to receive” appeared in *Bina*? First, let us clear up the notion “the *Tet Rishonot*”, the nine upper *Sefirot*, and *Malchut* in general.

Rabbi Baruch Ashlag gives the following example: Man has the *Kelim* called eyes, ears, nose, and mouth that dress the sight, hearing, smell and speech. Of course, these *Kelim* are very important. If man’s eyes are damaged, he cannot see; if his ears are damaged, he cannot hear. Nevertheless, sometimes man does not use his senses. When does this happen? When he goes to sleep.

It turns out that when man wants to receive pleasure through his senses, he uses them; but when he wants to enjoy rest, he ignores them. Hence, we see that the true *Kli* is a desire to receive pleasure. Our senses are not the *Kelim*; they only serve that desire.

In accordance with our example, the nine upper *Sefirot* are sight, hearing, smell and speech, i.e., the light and the vessel. Each type of light dresses into its corresponding *Kli*, but the *Kelim* of the first nine *Sefirot* are not genuine. This is because the *Kli* is a desire to receive pleasure and is present only in *Malchut*. These *Kelim* are necessary only for the dressing of the light, as in the example with sight, hearing etc. So who

receives pleasure from the first nine *Sefirot*? It is the “desire to receive”, called “*Malchut*”.

Now let us return to the question of *Malchut* rising to *Bina*. Is it possible for an ear to have a “desire to receive”? Everything we discuss here refers to whatever *Malchut* receives from the first nine *Sefirot*. After the Second Restriction, *Malchut* attains only a half of *Bina* and above.

ס) וזה מכונה ג"כ "צמצום נה"י דא"ק". כי הס"ג דא"ק, שהיה מסתיים בשוה עם פרצוף גלגלתא דא"ק, ממעל הנקודה דעוה"ז, הנה ע"י השיתוף ועלית המלכות במקום בינה, נמצא מסתיים ממעל לטבור דא"ק הפנימי, דהיינו במקום חצי ת"ת, שהוא חצי בינה דגוף דא"ק הפנימי. כי שם עלתה מלכות המסיימת, ועכבה אור העליון, שלא יתפשט ממנה ולמטה.

וע"כ נעשה שם חלל פנוי וריקן בלי אור. ונמצאו התנה"י דס"ג, שנצטמצמו ונתרוקנו מאור העליון. ולפיכך נקרא הצמצום ב' בשם "צמצום נה"י דא"ק". כי ע"י סיום החדש, שנעשה במקום הטבור, נתרוקנו התנה"י דס"ג דא"ק מאורותיהם. וכן נבחן, שאח"פ דראש הס"ג, יצאו ממדרגת ראש הס"ג, ונעשו לבחינת גוף שלו. כי המלכות המזדווגת עלתה לנקבי עינים, ויצאו הע"ס דראש מהמסך שבנקבי העינים ולמעלה. ומנקבי העינים ולמטה כבר נקרא "גוף הפרצוף", כי אינו יכול לקבל רק הארה שמנקבי עינים ולמטה, שזו היא בחינת גוף.

והנה קומת הע"ס הללו, שיצאה בנקבי עינים דס"ג דא"ק, הן הע"ס הנקראות "עולם הנקודים". שירדו מנקבי עינים דס"ג, ובאו למקומן, שהוא למטה מטבור דא"ק הפנימי. ונתפשטו שם ראש וגוף. ותדע, כי הסיום החדש הנ"ל, הנעשה במקום הבינה דגוף, מכונה בשם "פרסה". ויש כאן פנימיות וחיצוניות. ורק הע"ס החיצוניות נקראים "עולם הנקודים". והעשר ספירות הפנימיות נקראים "מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק" עצמו.

60) *Tzimtzum Bet* is also called *Tzimtzum NHYM de AK* (if we divide the *Partzuf Galgalta* into the ten *Sefirot*, then the *Rosh* will be *KaHaB*, *Toch – HaGaT* and *Sof - NHYM*). This is because the *Nekudot de SAG*, which ended above the point of our world during *Malchut's* rising to *Bina* and interacting with it, end below the *Tabur of Galgalta* in *Tifferet de Guf of Galgalta*, where *Malchut Mesayemet rose*.

An empty space absolutely devoid of the light was formed under *Malchut* in the place of the egoistic desires *NHYM de SAG*, which restricted reception of the light and were left empty. The *AHP de Rosh de SAG* were separated from *GE* and began to play the role

of the Guf. The ten Sefirot de Rosh rose from the Nikvey Eynaim (the boundary between Gar de Bina and Zat de Bina) and higher, while the Guf was formed underneath. This can receive only a slight luminescence emanating from the Rosh.

The ten Sefirot that emerged because of a Zivug de Haka'a in the Nikvey Eynaim de SAG are called the ten Sefirot of the world of Nikudim. They descended from the Nikvey Eynaim and took their place under the Tabur de AK. There they split into the Rosh and the Guf. The place, below which the Ohr Hochma cannot spread, is called “the Parsa”. The world of the Nikudim is called “the outer part”. The inner Sefirot are called the Partzufim MA and BON of the world of AK.

So why did Tzimtzum Bet take place? The fact is that when the Nekudot de SAG, which are actually the Zat de Bina (Zat means “Zain Tachtonot” – seven lower Sefirot), i.e., the vessels, which ZA and Malchut turn to for the light and which are ready to transfer that light downwards, descended under Tabur. They also encountered the NHYM of Galgalta – the enormous desires of Dalet/Gimel that, with regard to their properties, are close to Dalet de Dalet, i.e., to the Essence of the Creation.

The Nekudot de SAG adopted the desires of the NHYM de Galgalta. However, they did not have the appropriate screen; hence, Nekudot de SAG ran the danger of receiving the light for their own pleasure. To avert this, Malchut, which had made TA, rose to Tifferet (i.e., Bina de Guf), thus cutting the vessels of reception off from the vessels of bestowal. Now the Nekudot de SAG will not be able to receive delight for their own sake. This is the Tzimtzum Bet.

There are the ten Sefirot KaHaB, HaGaT, and NHYM in Malchut of the world of Infinity. After TA, it is possible to use the first nine Sefirot in order to receive as much light for the Creator's sake as the strength of the screen allows. Only Malchut cannot receive the Direct Light. It has just the Ohr Hozer (the Surrounding Light).

The *Tzimtzum Bet* puts forward additional conditions. Now it is impossible to receive the *Ohr Hochma*, even for the sake of the Creator. *Malchut* can only give, receiving the *Ohr Hassadim*, the pleasure from the equivalence of its properties with those of the Creator. If a ban is imposed on two or three desires, a *Zivug de Aka'a* is not made on them. They are not taken into account but remain unused.

Let us review the interaction between the qualities of judgment and mercy. During the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina*, the latter was restricted. How do we know that *Malchut* received so-called sweetening (the quality of mercy)? Is not the purpose of this action to provide *Malchut* (*Din*) with the qualities of mercy, and not vice versa, to give *Bina* (mercy) the property of judgment?

To answer this question, let us give an example that demonstrates how *Malchut* received the sweetening by way of *TB*.

The sages said: “In the beginning, the Creator thought to create the world by the quality of judgment, but saw that it cannot exist, and added the property of mercy”. That world is *Malchut*, which restricted itself (the expression of the quality of judgment). Nevertheless, there are always *Sefirot* in each *Partzuf*, although *Malchut* made the Restriction on itself. *Malchut* does not yet have a complete *Partzuf*. However, the Creator’s desire is to make it a full *Partzuf* so that it will receive the direct Light into its *Kelim* as before the Restriction.

We have learned that the place for such correction is *Malchut de ZA* of the world of *Atzilut*. Then it separates from *ZA* and becomes an independent *Partzuf - Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut*. As in all the other *Partzufim*, *Malchut* ascended to *Bina* in *ZA*, i.e., its *Malchut* rose to its *ZA* called “*Chazeh*”. *NHY* fell into the power of *Malchut* from the *Chazeh* and downwards. It turns out that, owing to the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina*, *ZA* restricted itself; i.e., it does not use all of its ten *Sefirot*, but only down to the *Chazeh* (*Bina de Guf*).

Then, thanks to a *Zivug ABSAG*, *TB* was cancelled and *Malchut* returned to its place. The *Kelim NHY* were purified, so *ZA* can use them again. Here we see something quite new! Since nothing disappears in the spiritual world, we find that *Malchut* is still up with *NHY* under its power. However, by canceling the *TB*, the *Zivug ABSAG* does not lower *Malchut*.

Therefore, *Malchut* acquired the *Kelim de NHY*, thanks to the *Gadlut de ZA*, and included them in itself. These *Kelim* refer to the Direct Light, called “sparks of the “desire to bestow””. Although they have no connection with *Malchut*, these vessels fell into it (the “desire to receive” for itself), so now it is able to bestow.

These *NHY* split into nine parts, joined *Malchut* in its upper position and formed the *Partzuf Malchut*. Now we see that, if it were not for *TB*, *Malchut* would have been totally unable to build its own *Partzuf*.

A calculation is made in the *Rosh* that only the first three *Sefirot* are the vessels of reception and can therefore be used. The lower, receiving vessels, i.e., *Sefirot* from *Malchut* up to the middle of *Tifferet*, cannot be used. A *Zivug de Haka'a* occurs only from mid-*Tifferet* and above. A similar action takes place in the *Guf*: I can use only *Sefirot* from *Keter* to mid-*Tifferet*. The rest of the desires remain empty. This is *TB*. It indicates that it is only possible to give for the Creator's sake, but not to receive.

The *Masach de Rosh* rose from the *Peh* to the *Nikvey Eynaim*; now only the vessels of bestowal above the screen can be used. There is no screen on the receiving desires, but it is possible to prevent these desires from receiving selfishly. They are just neutralized, ignored; only the desires of bestowal are worked with. The state of the *Partzuf* working only with the desires of bestowal is called “*Katnut*” (small state), since it uses only the giving vessels.

The state, when the *Partzuf*, having acquired anti-egoistic powers, will be able to receive the light in its vessels of reception and work with all ten desires, is called “*Gadlut*” (big state). Here a question arises: how can the tenth desire – *Malchut*, receive? Was it not impossible even before

TB? It can be done with the help of the *AHP de Aliyah* and “the three lines”. But we will discuss this later.

Only the giving vessels (*GE*) are above the screen; below it are the vessels of reception (*AHP*), with which it does not work while in the state of *Katnut*. The *GE de Rosh* fills the *GE de Toch*, while no part of the *AHP* goes into the *AHP de Toch*.

Our body is designed in the image and likeness of the spiritual *Partzuf*. There is a dividing line – the diaphragm – which separates the respiratory system from the digestive. The respiratory system corresponds to the giving vessels, the digestive – to the vessels of reception.

Therefore, the letter *Aleph*, the first one in the Hebrew alphabet, consists of a slanting line – diaphragm – above which the upper letter *Yud* represents *GE*, and the lower – *AHP*. In fact, it is only after the *TB* the creation takes a definite form. Hence the letter *Aleph* embodies the beginning of this process.

When desires appear in man, he decides which of them he can or cannot use. This means that the screen is being created in him, and he starts working with it. What does it mean to wish to bestow without receiving anything in return. This is *Bina*, the *Behina Bet*.

It says it does not want to receive anything, since it understands that pleasure distances it from the Creator. It prefers not to receive at all in order to be closer to Him. It enjoys giving. We can receive pleasure either from reception or from giving, which is in fact also a kind of reception. It enjoys being close to the Creator.

The *Partzuf SAG* does not receive anything either. Then why does it have a *Rosh*, *Toch*, and a *Sof*? Why does it make a *Zivug de Haka'a*? On the face of it, only the *Ohr Hassadim* has to spread inside it. Yet it is not so. The *Ohr Hassadim* is an enormous pleasure of being similar to the Creator, from closeness to Him, from sharing the information that is in Him.

One gets to know His thoughts, feelings, attain whatever is in Him; one reaches the same level. It brings tremendous delight, which must also be provided with the screen, so that it would be felt in an altruistic way.

SAG cannot receive all the pleasures, hence it makes a *Zivug* in the *Rosh* and has the *Toch*; the *Sof*, however, cannot be filled.

Actually, the creation cannot have the vessels of bestowal. The creation is *Malchut* after the *TA*, i.e., the vessel of reception. This *Malchut* places the screen of this or that power and acts accordingly as *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA*, or *Malchut*. So, a part of these vessels of reception, that is *Keter*, *Hochma*, and *Gar de Bina*, which are equipped with the appropriate screen, can be used as the vessels of bestowal.

If the pure bestowal (this is only the Creator) existed, the creation would not be able to feel it at all, since it can only feel something that enters it. The upper *Partzuf* always gives birth to the lower one because it retains the *Reshimot*. The light filled *Malchut* of the World of Infinity and transferred all its powers and properties to it. Because of this, *Malchut* passionately desires to be like it and is ready to sacrifice everything to expel the light and to remain empty.

The strength of this desire drives the entire creation from the beginning to the very end – the *Gmar Tikkun*. All that happens to the creation (*Malchut*'s desire to correct itself and become similar to the Creator) finds its reflection after the *TA*. In addition, *Malchut* has strength for that, since it was filled with the light that passed it its properties.

The higher state fully determines and gives rise to the lower, which is itself on a lower level. For instance, what is the difference between *Galgalta* and *AB*? It consists in the fact that *AB* works for the Creator with less power. Nevertheless, both of them use the egoistic *Kelim* for His sake.

The *SAG* is already unable to do that, for its screen is weaker than that of *AB*; like *Bina*, it can only refuse to receive anything. By receiving nothing, ignoring its receiving vessels, it can fill with the *Ohr Hassadim*

those desires that no other *Partzufim* could. As was stated, there was no *Tzimtzum* on the *Ohr Hassadim*; hence, the *Partzuf* SAG can descend under the *Tabur*.

Then it creates the world of *Nikudim* and afterwards – the world of *Atzilut*. *Bina* (SAG), is the first and only desire of the creation that sets everything in motion. The *Behinat Shoresh* is the Creator’s “desire to bestow” delight upon the created beings. The *Behina Aleph* is the creation created by the Creator. Only the *Behina Bet*, *Bina*, is the creation’s reaction, its desire to be like Him. Henceforth, this property of *Bina* determines the direction of the entire creation’s evolution, right up to the Final Correction.

SAG spread as the *Nekudot* both above the *Tabur de Galgalta* and below it. The *Partzufim* MA *Elion* and BON *Elion* emerged from the *Reshimot de SAG* above the *Tabur*. The SAG makes a *Zivug* on the *Reshimot* that rose from under the *Tabur de Galgalta* and creates a *Partzuf* called the world of *Nikudim*. The SAG was imbued with the desires *Dalet/Gimel* under the *Tabur* and wished to fill them.

Imagine that you have both the desire to give and to receive. Generally speaking, the creation does not have the altruistic desires to give; it was created out of pure egoism, the desire to receive pleasure. However, it is possible to enjoy the reception of the *Ohr Hochma*, i.e., directly receiving delight (the Creator’s light), and the reception of the light of *Hassadim*, i.e., enjoying the similarity of one’s properties to those of the Creator. We therefore define two desires of the creation: to receive and to give. Actually, the Creator created only one desire – to receive.

When man works only with his “desire to give”, he restricts all his egoistic desires and is in the state of *Katnut*. How can this state be called forth? If all man’s egoistic desires are bigger than his screen, there is nothing else for him to do but to refrain from using them as the vessels of reception. All of us are in such a state. The only thing we can do is not

activate all our egoistic desires, ignore them. This state is called “*Ubar*” (embryo).

Malchut is the “desire to receive” for the sake of reception, a purely egoistic desire. If all man’s desires are imbued only with this intention, it means that *Malchut* rose to *Bina*, i.e., it rules over all of its desires from *Bina* and below it. This is the *Tzimtzum Bet*.

We cannot correct independently such desires in ourselves. The only thing we can do is to work in a group under the guidance of a Teacher and study authentic, reliable sources of Kabbalistic knowledge. By introducing necessary efforts into such studies, we can attract the Creator’s light, His influence, His sensation, all of which will help us to acquire anti-egoistic power, i.e., the screen.

As much as we can withstand our egoism, we will be able to feel the Creator; we will acquire the intention to work for His sake. The law states that when the smaller *Partzuf* begins to feel the higher one, it acquires the desire, the intention, to do everything for it.

If we still lack such desire, it is only because we cannot feel the higher *Partzuf*. The Creator conceals Himself from us, since egoism rules over us, suppresses altruism, and makes us feel our independence. However, when He is revealed, we will instantly become His slaves. To transform some of my qualities, I primarily need to realize they are harmful to me, and then ask the Creator to make them altruistic. This process is called “the realization of evil”. All our studies are based on it.

We are either slaves of our own egoism or the Creator’s slaves. The main thing is to understand what is preferable. Freedom consists in the ability independently to choose one or the other. The sensations of suffering determine man’s behavior. The Creator provided a mother with the desire to nurture her child and to do everything for it. To some people, He gives the ability to feel the sufferings of others. Nevertheless, overall, everyone suffers from being unable to satisfy his egoistic desires.

סא) אמנם יש להבין, כיון שהע"ס דנקודים והמ"ה דא"ק נאצלו ויצאו מנקבי עינים דראש הס"ג, הנה היו צריכים להלביש להס"ג מפה דראשו ולמטה, כמ"ש בפרצופים הקודמים, שכל תחתון מלביש לעליונו מפה דראש ולמטה.

ולמה לא היה כן, אלא שירדו להלביש במקום שלמטה מטבור דא"ק? ובכדי להבין את זה, צריכים לידע היטב, איך נתהווה השיתוף הנ"ל, שהבינה והמלכות נתחברו לאחת?

61) *It is necessary to understand that, since the 10 Sefirot of the world of the Nikudim and MA of the world of AK emerged from Nikvey Eynaim de SAG (the boundary between the "giving" and "receiving" vessels – Gar and Zat de Bina), they had to dress SAG from Peh de Rosh and below. This is similar to the way all previous Partzufim emerged – each lower Partzuf dresses onto the upper one from the Peh de Rosh and downwards.*

סב) והענין הוא, כי בעת יציאת פרצוף ס"ג, הוא נסתיים כולו למעלה מטבור דא"ק הפנימי, כמו שנתבאר בפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק, כי לא יכלו להתפשט מטבור ולמטה. כי שם מתחלת שליטת הבחי"ד דא"ק הפנימי בבחינת ע"ס דסיום שלה, ובפרצופי ע"ב ס"ג אין בהם מבחי"ד ולא כלום (אות נ"ד).

אמנם כשהתחילו לצאת הנקודות דס"ג דא"ק, דהיינו אחר שנזדכך המסך דס"ג, שהוא בחי"ב דעביות, ע"י הביטוש דאר"מ בו, ובא לבחי"ב דהתלבשות ובחי"א דעביות, הנה אז נסתלקו הטעמים דס"ג, ויצאה קומת הנקודות על העביות הנשארת במסך, בר"ק בלי ראש. כי הע"ס היוצאות על בחי"א דעביות הן קומת ז"א בחסר ג"ר. וגם בקומת הזכר, שהוא בחי"ב דהתלבשות, אין שם בחינת בינה אלא בקירוב, שהוא נבחן לר"ק דבינה.

ולפיכך קומה זו דנקודות דס"ג, נשתוה צורתה עם הע"ס דסיום שלמטה מטבור דא"ק, שגם הן בבחינת ר"ק בלי ראש (אות נ"ב). ונודע שהשתוות הצורה מקרבת הרוחניים לאחד. וע"כ ירדה קומה זו למטה מטבור דא"ק, ונתערבה שם עם הזו"ן דא"ק, ושמשו כאחד יחד, להיותם שוים בשיעור קומה.

62) *The fact is that when the Partzuf SAG emerged, as did AB, it ended above the Tabur de Galgalta, because it could not descend below the Tabur, where Behina Dalet de Galgalta rules as the ten Sefirot de Sium. The Partzufim AB and SAG have nothing to do with the Behina Dalet.*

But when, after the weakening of the Masach, the Nekudot de SAG began to emerge from the Bet de Aviut and the Gimel de Hitlabshut

to the Aleph de Aviut and the Bet de Hitlabshut and the Ta'amim de SAG disappeared, then the level of the Nekudot de VAK (six Sefirot) appeared, i.e., ZA without the first three Sefirot. There is no Ohr Hochma there, only the Ohr Hassadim.

This state completely corresponds to the property of the ten Sefirot de Sium below the Tabur, which are also in the state of VAK. We know that the equivalence of properties in the spiritual world unites them into one. Therefore, the Nekudot de SAG descended under the Tabur and merged with ZON (ZA and Malchut) of the world of AK.

We should remember, that the “Nekudot de SAG” do not refer to Bina, which does not wish to receive the Ohr Hochma. All we speak about is no more than Malchut! Malchut is called “Bina”, since it knows that it will not be able to withstand the pleasure of the Ohr Hochma; hence it does not want to subject itself to temptation; it is not interested in the light of Hochma, only in the light of Hassadim.

Let us examine the notion “raising MAN”. MAN stands for “Mey Nukvin”, the plural of the words Maim (water) and Nukvin (female). Before merging, Bina and Behina Dalet existed separately. When Bina descended under the Tabur, it was mixed with Malchut; now there are two kinds of Bina: Bina de Bina and Bina included in Malchut. There are also two kinds of Malchut: Malchut de Malchut and Malchut included in Bina.

Bina is known as Maim (water) and the plural of two Malchut – Nukvin – together form “Mey Nukvin”. This hints to the fact that, beginning from this moment on, with each raising of MAN, Malchut must be sweetened by Bina. Pure Malchut is not called MAN, but the Masach or “the property of judgment”.

Many things in this paragraph raise questions, but the Baal HaSulam did not provide all the answers. That was never his goal; he always gave his disciples an opportunity to make an effort to find the required answer.

Our work is in the field of the application of necessary efforts; not in the means to understand the spiritual worlds. Understanding comes only in the measure of our ability to **feel** the Creator. When man's property is similar to the property of the Creator, it turns into the spiritual vessel of reception, with the help of which man can sense spiritual information.

The Creator reveals Himself only after man applies a sufficient quantity and quality of efforts. If you simply memorize the text, and remember that *Nekudot de SAG* descends under the *Tabur* and mixes with *NHYM de Galgalta*, it will be enough for your further advancement. The facts must be rooted well in your head. This information does not vanish with biological death.

סג) ואין להקשות: הרי עדיין יש ביניהם מרחק רב מצד העביות שבהם, כי הנקודות דס"ג באו מעביות דבחי"ב, ואין בהם מבחי"ד ולא כלום? והגם שהם קומת ז"א, אין זה עוד דומה לקומת ז"א של הלמטה מטבור דא"ק, שהוא ז"א דבחי"ד, הרי שיש בהם הפרש גדול?

התשובה היא, כי אין העביות ניכרת בפרצוף בעת התלבשות האור, רק אחר הסתלקות האור. וע"כ בעת שהופיע פרצוף הנקודות דס"ג בקומת ז"א, ירד ונתלבש בקומת זר"ן שמטבור ולמטה דא"ק, ואז נתערבו הבחי"ב בהבחי"ד זה בזה, וגרם לצמצום הב', שנעשה סיום חדש במקום בינה דגוף של פרצוף ההוא. וכן גרם להשתנות מקום הזווג, ונעשה הפה דראש במקום נקבי העינים.

63) *However, we must understand that there is a significant distinction between the Nekudot de SAG and the NHYM de Galgalta. The Nekudot de SAG have the Behina Bet de Aviut and are totally unconnected with the Behina Dalet, which is below the Tabur, although both of them are on the level of ZA, but with a different degree of the Aviut.*

The fact is that the Aviut does not show in the Partzuf when it is filled with the light that overwhelms the vessel (the desire). However, after the light exits the Partzuf, the necessary Aviut becomes obvious in it. This allows the Nekudot de SAG to descend under the Tabur and be mixed with the NHYM de Galgalta. This led to TB and the formation of a new Sium in the position of Bina de Guf of the

Partzuf. The place of the *Zivug* also changed; *Malchut* moved from the *Peh de Rosh* to the *Nikvey Eynaim*.

It is written that there is a similarity of properties between the *Nekudot de SAG* and the *ZON de AK*, since both of them make up the *Partzuf VAK (Katnut)*. The level of the *Partzuf SAG* is *Bet-Aleph*, which is defined as *VAK*. However, the *ZON de AK* are *VAK* due to a different reason. It is not according to their height, which is *Dalet-Gimel*, but because they are under the *Tabur* – the ten *Sefirot* of *Sium de Partzuf*. So what is the similarity between these *Partzufim*?

The *Partzuf Galgalta* is called “inner AK”; it has the inner *HaVaYaH* (the unutterable four-letter name of the Creator – *Yud, Hey, Vav, Hey* – the base of any *Kli*). This means that it is divided according to a certain order, regardless of the height of the *Partzuf*.

The head is called *Keter* and is *Kotzo* (the beginning) of the letter *Yud*. From the *Peh* to the *Chazeh* is *Hochma*, the *Yud* of the name *HaVaYaH*; from the *Chazeh* to the *Tabur* is *Bina*, the first *Hey* of *HaVaYaH*; from the *Tabur* downwards are *MA* and *BON*, the letters *Vav* and *Hey* of the name *HaVaYaH*; they are *VAK*. According to this order, it turns out that their height is the same, i.e., both of them are *VAK* and have the light of *Hassadim* with the luminescence of *Hochma*; not, however, because they are *Vav* and *Hey*, but because these are the ten *Sefirot* of *Sium de Partzuf*.

(סד) והנך מוצא, שמקור השיתוף של המלכות בבניה, הנקרא “צמצום ב”, נעשה רק למטה מטבור דא”ק, ע”י התפשטות פרצוף נקודות דס”ג שמה. ולפיכך לא יכלה קומת ע”ס זו דנקודים, הבאה מצמצום ב’, להתפשט למעלה מטבור דא”ק, כי אין שום כח ושליטה יכול להתגלות למעלה ממקור יציאתו. ומתוך שמקום התהוות הצמצום ב’ התחיל מהטבור ולמטה, ע”כ הוכרחה גם קומת הנקודים להתפשט שם.

64) It turns out that the source of the interaction between *Malchut* and *Bina (TB)* became apparent only below the *Tabur* of the world of *AK*, when the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* spread there. Hence, the ten *Sefirot* of the world of *Nikudim* that emerged according to the laws

of TB could not spread above the *Tabur de AK*, because nothing can manifest above its source, its root. Since TB rules from the *Tabur* and below it, the world of *Nikudim* was bound to spread there as well.

As in all the other *Partzufim* affected by the impact between the Inner and the Surrounding Lights, the screen of the *Partzuf SAG* began losing strength and rising to the *Peh de Rosh*. Because of this intermediate state, the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* began to take form. It has the *Reshimot Bet/Bet*, i.e., constitutes pure *Bina*. Hence, it can spread anywhere, including under the *Tabur* of *Galgalta*, and fill the desires that the previous *Partzufim* could not.

The *Nekudot de SAG* can use their desires in a way that neither the *Galgalta* (it used only 20% for the Creator's sake above the *Tabur*, restricting the remaining desires, *NHYM*, under the *Tabur de Galgalta*), nor *SAG* could.

The *SAG* could not receive for the Creator's sake at all. It can only bestow without receiving anything. If it starts receiving, the reception will be egoistic. It has no screen on its egoistic desires.

Why does the *SAG* not immediately descend under the *Tabur*? It is because the *SAG* has *Gimel de Hitlabshut*, a slight luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*, which does not allow it to descend under the *Tabur*. When the *Masach* rises to the *Peh de Rosh* and the *Gimel de Hitlabshut* disappears, leaving only the *Bet de Hitlabshut* (pure *Bina* without *Ohr Hochma*), the *Nekudot de SAG* can descend under the *Tabur*, refuse to receive anything in their *Kelim* and wish to enjoy giving, i.e., receive the *Ohr Hassadim*. This is the work of pure *Bina*.

When it descends under the *Tabur*, the *SAG* encounters desires that it cannot resist. The *Galgalta* and *AB* also refuse to receive anything under the *Tabur*, but in addition to the *Ohr Hassadim* there was some luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*, which they received in their *Kelim* above the *Tabur* for the Creator's sake.

The *Nekudot de SAG*, which by nature do not want to receive anything and by their structure are similar to the *NHYM de Galgalta*, begin to mix with them. However, seeing the luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*, which brings enormous pleasure, they suddenly “desire to receive” that delight, although they have no screen for it; hence, they are totally unfit to receive.

The law of *TA* instantly snaps into action, preventing the light from entering the egoistic vessels. As a result, the light disappears from them, and *Malchut* of the World of Infinity rises to *Bina* and restricts the reception of the light in the receiving vessels. This is how the *Tzimtzum Bet* (the Second Restriction, *TB*) takes place.

Even the *SAG* could not use its egoistic vessels for the Creator’s sake. More, the subsequent *Partzufim*, *MA* and *BON*, which do not have the appropriate screen, will not be able to receive anything for the sake of the Creator.

The *Tzimtzum Bet* makes the use of the egoistic *Kelim* impossible. They are forbidden to be used and must be isolated. Only the altruistic *Kelim* are worked with. When such information rises to the *Rosh de SAG*, the structure of the future *Partzuf* is planned there in advance, taking into consideration the *Tzimtzum Bet*. Then a *Zivug* is made, not in the *Peh de Rosh*, but in the *Nikvey Eynaim*. From this point and above there are only the desires of bestowal.

The same calculation must be made in the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*, where the light can enter only the vessels of *KaHaB HaGaT*, i.e., up to the middle of *Tifferet*. In fact, in the *Rosh* and in the *Guf*, the same 10 *Sefirot* remain; only the level on which they are used changes. This means that each *Sefira* – *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina* etc. – is used not up to 100%, but only up to 60%. Now, we say that a *Zivug* is made only in *GE*, *KaHaB HaGaT*. However, these are mere terms.

It is possible to use the *AHP*, i.e., the vessels of reception, only if they are referred to as the vessels of bestowal, “raising” them above the

boundary between the receiving and the giving vessels, i.e. the *Parsa*. However, despite the fact that the *AHP* are now considered as vessels of bestowal and fit to receive only the *Ohr Hassadim*, the ascended *AHP* naturally and automatically attract a slight luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*. This process is called the “*AHP de Aliyah*” – the ascent of egoistic desires; in other words, they achieve their correction by merging with the upper *Partzuf*.

The *Masach* that stands at the *Peh de Rosh* of the *Galgalta* had the *Aviut Dalet* and made a *Zivug* on all the desires. However, only 20 % of each of them is used for the Creator, while 80 % do not take part in the reception for the Creator’s sake. The anti-egoistic force in the screen is not sufficient for them. Only altruistic vessels placed above the *Nikvey Eynaim* are used in the *Nekudot de SAG* after the *Tzimtzum Bet*, because they have the “desire to give” for the sake of bestowal.

The entire universe represents one cause-and-effect chain that began from the first state when *Malchut* of the World of Infinity was completely filled with the light and up to its final correction when it will be filled with the light again. This process is controlled with the help of the *Reshimot*. Starting from the World of Infinity, *Malchut* gradually sorts out all its delights and builds a screen on them. It then leaves *Reshimot* from each of the previous states, up to its final correction.

The *Reshimot* alone determine the birth of the next *Partzuf* from the previous one. It is just this information about the past that provides the possibility to work with the screen. Only the light that filled the previous *Partzuf* can give to the next *Partzuf* the information about the pleasure and desires that were in it, and then pass them on to the next. Otherwise, there would be no idea about the light or the pleasure. The *Reshimot* in the *Partzuf* make it desire, seek, and move towards something new. We merely follow the instructions of our *Reshimot*.

There are no concepts such as 'was', 'is', or 'will be' existing separately in the spiritual world. These three concepts are already included in each new spiritual state. The *Reshimo* is a state in which I exist, but it

shines from afar, attracting me from the future, arousing the desire to reach it. This light, which was inside the vessel, left and is now shining upon it from outside.

There are many kinds of *Reshimot*; they are reminders of what was inside each *Partzuf*. Unlike *Reshimot*, the *Ohr Makif* is the light that has not yet entered the vessel, but is shining upon it from outside. After the expulsion of the light from each *Partzuf*, lots of spiritual information remains around it. Meanwhile, we need only a tiny picture of the creation, some clear idea of the spiritual worlds. Everything around is in the state of absolute peace.

Although one must try to read what is written with understanding, a person should not take it as an assessment of his state: where he is now, where he is going, what he should do. Only the quantity and quality of efforts can be the criterion, for only they promote spiritual growth. Only your efforts can reveal the Creator, not your knowledge. Nevertheless, knowledge is also necessary, though minimal.

If you understand that your work, family, children and, of course, the studies are needed for achieving only one Goal – revealing the Creator – all these are counted as your efforts. Whatever you do in life, whatever you study, everything must remind you about the Purpose of the creation. This leads accordingly to the accumulation of efforts that reach the necessary result.

THE PLACE OF THE FOUR WORLDS ABYA
AND THE PARSA BETWEEN ATZILUT AND BYA

המקום לד' העולמות אבי"ע
וענין הפרסא שבין אצילות לבי"ע

סה) והנה נתבאר, שכל עיקרו של צמצום הב' נעשה רק בפרצוף נקודות דס"ג, שמקומו מטבור ולמטה דא"ק עד סיום רגליו, דהיינו עד ממעל לנקודה דעוה"ז. ותדע שכל אלו השינויים, שנעשו בעקבות צמצום הב' הזה, באו רק בפרצוף נקודות דס"ג ההוא, ולא למעלה ממנו. ומה שאמרנו למעלה, שע"י עלית המלכות לחצי ת"ת דא"ק וסיימה שם הפרצוף, יצאו חצי ת"ת התחתון ונה"מ דא"ק לבחינת חלל פנוי, לא נעשה זה בתנה"י דא"ק עצמו, אלא רק בתנה"י דפרצוף נקודות דס"ג דא"ק. אבל בא"ק עצמו נבחנו השנויים הללו רק לבחינת עליית מ"ן לבד, שפירושו, שהוא נתלבש בשינויים הללו, כדי להאציל לע"ס דנקודים בבחינתו. אבל בא"ק עצמו לא נעשה שום שינוי.

65) Thus it turns out that the essence of the TB was revealed exclusively in the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG from the Tabur down to the Sium Reglav above the point of this world (HaOlam Hazeh). Know that all changes called forth by TB happened only in the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG and not above it.

As was already said above, because of the ascent of Malchut to mid-Tifferet of the Sefirot de Sof of the world AK, which cut off its vessels of reception at this point, the lower part of Tifferet and the NHYM de Sof de AK turned into an empty space. It happened not in AK, but in the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG de AK. The changes that took place in AK are considered the raising of MAN, which means that AK only performs these changes for creating the ten Sefirot of the world of the Nikudim. There were no changes in AK itself.

After TA, Malchut of the World of Infinity, which decided not to receive anything, makes a new decision. It chooses to receive the Ohr Hochma for the Creator's sake by building the anti-egoistic screen, i.e., by acquiring the intention to receive for the sake of the Creator. The first Zivug de Haka'a and reception of the light are called Galgalta, the second - AB and the third - SAG. All the above-mentioned Partzufim could

receive the light only above the *Tabur de Galgalta*. This is because the desires beneath the *Tabur* are so egoistic that they can only be ignored.

When the screen of *Partzuf SAG* weakens and *Nekudot de SAG* (the *Partzuf* of pure *Bina*) emerge, they can fill those desires under the *Tabur de Galgalta* with *Ohr Hassadim*, which neither *Galgalta*, *AB*, nor *SAG* could fill.

The *Nekudot de SAG* want nothing for themselves; they receive pleasure only from giving, i.e., from *Ohr Hassadim*. Hence, the *Nekudot de SAG* can refuse to work with its vessels of reception, and fill the desires with *Ohr Hassadim* instead.

But as soon as the desires under the *Tabur* are filled with the *Ohr Hassadim*, it turns out that there are *Zat de Bina* in *Nekudot de SAG*, i.e., the lower part that connects *Bina* with *ZA*, and obliges it to fulfill *ZA*'s request for the *Ohr Hochma*. For that, *Bina* needs to receive this light, although by nature it desires not to receive at all. This quality of *Zat de Bina* became apparent already during the formation of the four *Behinot de Ohr Yashar*, where *Bina*, at the end of its development, decides to receive a little of the *Ohr Hochma* in order to create *ZA*.

For that purpose, *Bina* had to restrict slightly its desire not to receive and create in itself the “desire to receive”, but only for the sake of giving, that it may be somewhat similar to the Creator. Now, having met with the enormous desires to receive, *Bina* (the *Nekudot de SAG*) had to submit to them and pass them some *Ohr Hochma*, which it has to request from above.

Such tremendous, newly acquired desires (*Dalet/Gimel*) are incomparably greater than the strength of the screen of the *Nekudot de SAG*; hence, there is a hazard that the *Nekudot de SAG* would receive the light for their own sake. To avert this, *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, which earlier decided to make *TA*, ascends from the *Sium de Galgalta*, where it was so far, to mid-*Tifferet* of the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG*, thus cutting off the vessels of reception – the lower part of *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod*, *Yesod* and

Malchut, thereby restricting their use. Why are these particular *Sefirot* separated?

The upper *Sefirot Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura*, and the upper part of *Tifferet*, are by nature vessels of bestowal; therefore, they did not take on the desires of the *NHYM de Galgalta (Dalet/Gimel)*. Only the *TNHYM* of *Nekudot de SAG*, albeit similar vessels with smaller *Aviut*, reacted to them. Recall that the *NHYM de Galgalta* have the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel*, while *Nekudot de SAG* is a transition from *Reshimot Bet/Bet* to *Bet/Aleph*.

The upper light can pass through *Galgalta, AB, SAG*, descend under the *Tabur*, pass through *Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura* and the upper half of *Tifferet*, i.e., the light can reach *Malchut*, which is now at mid-*Tifferet*. The light cannot descend under *Malchut*, because of the egoistic desires that remain in absolute emptiness and darkness.

In this manner, *Malchut* divided *Nekudot de SAG* into the vessels of bestowal that are above it and the vessels of reception that are below it. The line that separates them is called “*Parsa*”. Any kind of light, including *Ohr Hochma*, can be above that line, for that is where the giving vessels or *GE* are. This is the place where the world of *Atzilut* will later emerge.

This world of *Atzilut* is completely altruistic; it will rule over the entire creation, create the worlds *BYA*, the *Partzuf* of *Adam HaRishon*, and facilitate its “sin” and consequent breaking into six hundred thousand souls. Afterwards, it will begin correcting all the broken vessels; it will lift them up to their Final Correction (the *Gmar Tikkun*) during 6000 years-levels.

The second half of *Tifferet*, i.e., *Zat de Bina* that lies under the *Parsa*, has the properties of *Bina*; therefore, the future world of *Beria (Bina)* will be formed in its place. Below it, in the place of *Netzah, Hod* and *Yesod*, the world of *Yetzira* will emerge, and the world of *Yetzira* - in the place of *Malchut*.

This is the general scheme of the creation of the worlds. Meanwhile, we have learned that the notion of “place” has nothing to do with our everyday physical definition. By “place”, we mean the *Nekudot de SAG* from the *Tabur* to the *Sium de Galgalta* that are divided by the *Parsa* into the places of *Atzilut* and *BYA*.

We should also note such properties of the future worlds as ascent and descent. Indeed, their place may ascend and descend with them or remain where it is. The worlds always go up or down together with the souls.

סו) והנה תיכף בעת הצמצום, דהיינו בעת עלית המלכות לבינה, עוד מטרם העלית מ”ן והזווג שנעשה בנקבי עינים דא”ק, גרם זה שיתחלק פרצוף הנקודות דס”ג דא”ק לד’ חלוקות: א. כח”ב חג”ת עד החזה שלו, הנבחנים למקום אצילות, ב. ב”ש ת”ת שמחזה ולמטה עד סיום הת”ת, שנעשה למקום בריאה, ג. ג’ הספירות נה”י שלו, שנעשה למקום עולם היצירה, ד. המלכות שבו, שנעשה למקום עולם העשיה.

66) *The division of the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG happened already during the TB (ascent of Malchut to Bina), i.e., before the raising of MAN and the Zivug made in the Nikvey Eynaim of the Rosh de SAG. This division occurred in the following way: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura, and the upper third of Tifferet, down to its Chazeh, is the place of Atzilut; two thirds of Tifferet, from the Chazeh to the end of Tifferet, is the place of Beria; Netzah, Hod and Yesod is the place of Yetzira; and Malchut is the place of Assiya.*

סז) וטעם הדברים הוא, כי מקום עולם אצילות, פירושו המקום הראוי להתפשטות אור העליון. ומתוך עלית המלכות המסיימת למקום בינה דגוף, הנקרא ת”ת, נמצא מסתיים שם הפרצוף. ואין האור יכול לעבור משם ולמטה. הרי שמקום האצילות נסתיים שם בחצי ת”ת על החזה. וכבר ידעת, שסיום החדש הזה שנעשה כאן, נקרא בשם “פרסא”, שמתחת עולם האצילות.

ובאלו הספירות, שהן למטה מהפרסא, יש בהם ג’ חלוקות. והוא מטעם, כי באמת לא היו צריכים לצאת למטה מהאצילות רק ב’ הספירות זו”ן דגופא, הנקרא נה”מ. כי מאחר שהסיום נעשה בהבינה דגופא, שהוא ת”ת, נמצאים רק הזו”ן שלמטה מת”ת, שהם למטה מהסיום, ולא הת”ת. אמנם גם חצי ת”ת התחתון יצא ג”כ למטה מסיום. והטעם הוא, כי הבינה דגוף נכללת ג”כ מע”ס כח”ב זו”ן. ומתוך שהזו”ן הללו דבינה הם שרשים של הזו”ן דגוף הכוללים, שנכללו בהבינה, הם נחשבים כמוהם.

67) *The place of the world of Atzilut is assigned to the spreading of the Upper Light down to Tifferet, where the Partzuf ends, i.e., the place of the ascent of Malchut Mesayemet to Bina, below which the light cannot enter. Thus, the place of the world of Atzilut ends in the Chazeh, i.e., at the boundary between the upper third of Tifferet and the lower two thirds of it. The new frontier, called the Parsa, is below the world of Atzilut.*

Below the Parsa, the place was divided into three parts, although it was to be divided only into two: the ZON de Guf (ZA and Nukva) of NHY. Nevertheless, after a new Sium emerged in Bina de Guf (or Tifferet), only the ZON is below it. However, two thirds of Tifferet also descended under the Parsa. The fact is that Bina de Guf (Tifferet) in turn consists of its ten Sefirot KaHaB and ZON; and since ZON de Bina is the root of the ZON de Guf, ZON de Bina already possesses properties similar to those of ZON.

It means that they already have the “desire to receive”, not for themselves, but for passing the light down to the ZON.

וע"כ יצאו גם הזר"ן דבינה למטה מהפרסא דאצילות ביחד עם הזר"ן הכוללים. ומטעם זה נסדקה ספירת הת"ת לרחבה במקום החזה. כי המלכות שעלתה לבניה עומדת שם, ומוציאה גם את הזר"ן דבינה לחוץ, שהם ב"ש הת"ת שמחזה ולמטה עד סיומו.

ועכ"ז יש הפרש בין ב"ש ת"ת לבין נה"מ. כי הב"ש ת"ת שייכים באמת להבינה דגוף, ולא יצאו למטה מסיום האצילות מחמת עצמם, רק מפני שהם שורשי הזר"ן. לכן אין הפגם גדול בהם, כי אין יציאתם מחמת עצמם. וע"כ נבדלו מהנה"מ ונעשו לעולם בפני עצמו, והוא הנקרא "עולם הבריאה".

Hence, together with the ZON de Guf, the ZON de Bina is also under the Parsa. For this reason, Sefira Tifferet split in all its width in Chazeh de Partzuf, since Malchut, which rose to Bina, stands there, leaving the ZON de Bina (two thirds of Sefira Tifferet below the Chazeh) outside (under the Parsa).

That explains the distinction between the upper part of Tifferet above the Parsa, which refers exclusively to Bina, and the lower part

of Tifferet (ZON), which is under the Parsa against its will. It is the root of the real ZON and in the future will have to provide them with the light. There is not much evil in it, since it emerged not by its free choice. It separated from the NHYM (actual ZON), positioned below it, and formed the world of Beria.

סח) גם הז"ן דגוף, הנקרא נה"ם, נתחלקו ג"כ לב' בחינות. כי המלכות להיותה בחינת נוקבא, נמצאת פגמה יותר קשה, והיא נעשית למקום עולם העשיה. והז"א, שהוא נה"י, נעשה לעולם היצירה, למעלה מעולם עשיה.

והנה נתבאר, איך נחלק פרצוף הנקודות דס"ג בסבת הצמצום ב', ונעשה מקום לד' עולמות: אצילות, בריאה, יצירה, עשיה. אשר הכח"ב חג"ת עד החזה שבו - נעשה מקום לעולם אצילות. וחצי ת"ת התחתון שמחזה עד סיום הת"ת - נעשה מקום לעולם הבריאה. והנה"י שבו - לעולם היצירה. והמלכות שלו - לעולם העשיה.

ומקומם מתחיל מנקודת הטבור דא"ק ומסתיים ממעל לנקודת עוה"ז, דהיינו עד סיום רגליו דא"ק, שהוא סוף שיעור הלבשת פרצוף נקודות דס"ג לפרצוף גלגלתא דא"ק.

68) *The ZON de Guf also split into two parts: ZA (NHY – Netzah, Hod and Yesod) became the world of Yetzira, while Malchut (or Nukva) formed the world of Assiya under Yetzira.*

Here we have learned how, because of TB, the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG was divided and the place for the four worlds, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira and Assiya, was formed. Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura and Tifferet down to the Chazeh formed the place for the world of Atzilut. The lower two thirds of Tifferet, from the Chazeh down to the end of Tifferet, formed the place for the world of Beria. Netzah, Hod and Yesod prepared the place for the world of Yetzira and Malchut created the place for the world of Assiya.

The common place for all the worlds begins at the point of the Tabur of the world AK and ends above our world, i.e., reaches Sium Reglav de AK where the dressing of the Nekudot de SAG on the Partzuf Galgalta comes to an end.

Desires are created by the Creator and cannot be changed. All desires are created as *Malchut* of the World of Infinity. One can only decide

how and when to apply them. Each desire can be used, worked with, or left aside until better times.

If you can do it, you are called “man” in the spiritual sense of the word and means that you already have the screen. You are the master of your actions and desires. If, with the help of the screen, you can use some of your desires, then depending on the strength of your screen, you may fill them with the Creator’s light.

The desires are called the vessel of your soul; the light is called the light of the soul. The soul constitutes those desires you work with for the sake of the Creator. The filled vessel is like the soul.

TA was aimed neither at restricting the use of desires nor at neutralizing them. We have no power over that. We always want something. The restriction was made only on receiving for one’s sake, whereas one can receive for the Creator’s sake at any time. *Malchut*, from the *Peh* to the *Tabur*, began receiving the *Ohr Hochma* for the sake of the Creator in the desires that were there.

The ten *Sefirot* of *Nekudot de SAG* are under the *Tabur*. The *Parsa* divided the *Nekudot de SAG* into two parts – altruistic and egoistic. The altruistic vessels end in *Tifferet de Tifferet*.

As was stated, we need to understand the material in order to grasp the general picture, the meaning of Kabbalah, to see where it leads us and with what it provides us. How can we start working with a set of our desires? Which of them do I have to begin with? Can I use them? If so, under what conditions may they be used?

THE STATES OF KATNUT AND GADLUT
IN THE WORLD OF NIKUDIM
ענין הקטנות והגדלות, שנתחדש בעולם הנקודים

סט) והנה אחר שידעת בדרך כלל ענין הצמצום ב', שנעשה בפרצוף הנקודות דס"ג לצורך אצילות הע"ס דעולם הנקודים, שהוא פרצוף הרביעי דא"ק, נחזור ונבאר ענין יציאת הע"ס דנקודים בפרטיות. וכבר נתבאר ענין יציאת פרצוף מפרצוף, שכל פרצוף תחתון נולד ויוצא ממסך דגוף דעליון, אחר הזדככותו ועליתו להתחדשות הזוג להפה דעליון, והגורם להזדככות הזה הוא הביטוש דאר"מ במסך דפרצוף העליון, המזכך למסך מעביות דגוף שבו, ומשווה אותו לבחינת עביות דראש (אות ל"ה).

שבדרך זה יצא פרצוף ע"ב דא"ק מפרצוף הכתר דא"ק, וכן פרצוף ס"ג דא"ק מפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק. והנה גם פרצוף הד' דא"ק, הנקרא ע"ס דעולם הנקודים, נולד ויצא מהעליון שלו, שהוא ס"ג דא"ק, ג"כ באותו הדרך.

69) Having acquired some general idea of the TB in the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG, we now proceed to a more detailed analysis of the creation of the ten Sefirot of the world of Nikudim, the fourth Partzuf of the world AK. We already know how one Partzuf takes form out of another. It happens when each lower Partzuf emerges from the Masach de Guf of the upper one, after it loses its strength and rises to the Peh to resume a Zivug de Haka'a. Bitush of the Ohr Makif in the Masach facilitates a loss of the Aviut of Masach de Guf down to Aviut de Rosh.

This allows the creation of a new Partzuf from the previous one. In this way, the Partzuf AB (Hochma) emerged from the Partzuf Galgalta (Keter); similarly, the fourth Partzuf of the world of AK, called the ten Sefirot of the world of Nikudim, emerged from the Partzuf SAG (Bina).

This means that, unless the *Nekudot de SAG* had descended under the *Tabur de Galgalta*, followed by the TB, the world, or rather, the Partzuf *Nikudim*, would simply have been the Partzuf ZA of the world of AK. However, the above-mentioned events have resulted in a considerable difference between the Partzuf *Nikudim* and the previous Partzufim.

The rising of the *Masach de Guf* to the *Peh de Rosh* means that, by its properties, it becomes equal to the screen at *Peh de Rosh*. As was already said, there are actually no rises or descents in the spiritual world. Kabbalists simply use the notions “ascent”, “descent” and so on, to explain to us the processes that happen there. For example, if I am on a certain level, then provided I have the properties of the higher level, it means that I ascend to it.

ע) אמנם יש כאן ענין נוסף, כי בפרצופים הקודמים, בעת הזדככות המסך והעליה לפה דראש דעליון, לא היה המסך כלול רק מהרשימות דעביות דגוף העליון בלבד. משא”כ כאן בהזדככות המסך דס”ג דא”ק לצורך הנקודים, היה המסך הזה כלול מב’ מיני רשימות.

כי מלבד שהוא כלול מרשימות העביות של עצמו, דהיינו מבחינת הספירות דגוף דס”ג דא”ק, הנה הוא כלול עוד מרשימות העביות דזו”ן דא”ק שלמטה מטבור. והוא מטעם התערבותם יחד למטה מטבור דא”ק, כמ”ש (אות ס”א) שהנקודות דס”ג ירדו למטה מטבור דא”ק ונתערבו יחד עם הזו”ן דא”ק אשר שם.

70) Now, what is the fundamental difference between the Partzuf (the world) Nikudim and the previous Partzufim? The fact is that, during the creation of the previous Partzufim, a Zivug de Haka’a was always made on one pair of Reshimot – de Hitlabshut and de Aviut. In this case, however, two pairs of Reshimot rose to Rosh de SAG.

This is because it consists not merely of Reshimot of its own Aviut, i.e., reflects the properties of the Sefirot of Guf de SAG, but it also includes the Reshimot of Aviut de ZON of Partzuf AK below the Tabur. This happened because they were mixed under the Tabur of Partzuf AK; as said in § 61, the Nekudot de SAG descended under the Tabur de AK and merged there with ZON de AK.

The first pair is the usual *Bet/Aleph*, i.e., the Reshimot that emerge one after the other, following the weakening of the screen of Partzuf SAG (*Gimel/Bet*). A *Zivug de Haka’a* is made on these Reshimot, which leads to the creation of the Partzuf MA Elion. This Partzuf, as well as the following BON Elion, have nothing to do with us, i.e., the actual creation.

These *Partzufim* exist only for the completion of the world AK. As is well known, each spiritual object is supposed to consist of five *Behinot*. Similarly, the world AK must have its own five parts.

The second pair is also *Bet/Aleph*, but these *Reshimot* are completely different. First, they contain the information about *TB* that occurred in the *Nekudot de SAG*, and the ban on direct use of any desires of reception, i.e., it is forbidden to receive *Ohr Hochma* directly, even with the intention for the Creator's sake.

It means that, now, only the vessels down to *Gar de Bina* (included) can be used. Secondly, these *Reshimot* contain information about the presence of *Nekudot de SAG* under *Tabur*. *Zivug de Haka'a* is made on these *Reshimot*, which leads to the creation of *Katnut* (the small state) of the world of *Nikudim*.

The third pair is *Dalet/Gimel*, i.e., the enormous desires, which are close to the Essence of the Creation by their properties, that were taken on by the *Nekudot de SAG* from the *NHYM de Galgalta*. A *Zivug de Haka'a* is made on these *Reshimot*, which leads to the creation of *Gadlut* (the big state) of the world of *Nikudim*. In fact, a *Katnut de Nikudim* is the *Partzuf*, while a *Gadlut de Nikudim* is already the world.

Just the availability of these enormous desires, this additional *Aviut*, allows for the creation of the world, which consists of several *Partzufim*. Thus, the awakening of the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* leads to the emergence of the world.

The study of Kabbalah is a cumulative process. The Creator knows exactly how much time you spend sitting at the lessons, listening to texts and struggling with sleep. He considers everything and then turns on the tap. Everyone has his own way. There are no bright or stupid people here. What is important are the efforts made to withstand the egoistic desires.

However, there is no need to do anything artificially. One must persistently advance without fear of being thrown back. To avoid it, one

must do something for the group, translate articles, and spread Kabbalah wherever possible. Man does not know until the last moment when he is going to reach the next level. It is now advisable to learn to think in spiritual categories.

עא) ומכח זה נתחדש כאן בפרצוף הנקודים ענין קטנות וגדלות. אשר מבחינת הרשימות דעביות שבמסך, יצאו עליהם ע"ס דקטנות נקודים. ומבחינות הרשימות דזו"ן דא"ק שלמטה מטבור, שנתחברו ונתערבו עם הרשימות של המסך, יצאו עליהם הע"ס דגדלות נקודים.

71) Owing to the merging of the Sefirot under the Tabur of the Partzuf AK, new states of Gadlut and Katnut (big and small states) emerged in the Partzuf Nikudim. The ten Sefirot de Katnut of Nikudim emerged on the Reshimot de Aviut in the Masach of Partzuf SAG. The ten Sefirot de Gadlut of Nikudim emerged on the Reshimot ZON de AK under the Tabur that were mixed with the Reshimot of the Masach.

עב) גם תדע, אשר הע"ס דקטנות נקודים שיצאו על המסך, נחשבים לעיקר הפרצוף נקודים, משום שיצאו על סדר המדרגה, דהיינו מעצם המסך דגוף דעליון, ע"ד שיצאו ג' פרצופים הקודמים דא"ק. אבל הע"ס דגדלות נקודים נבחנות רק לתוספת בלבד על פרצוף הנקודים, משום שיצאו רק מזווג על הרשימות דזו"ן דא"ק שלמטה מטבור, שלא באו על סדר המדרגה, אלא שנתחברו ונתוספו על המסך מסבת ירידתו דפרצוף נקודות דס"ג למטה מטבור דא"ק (אות ע).

72) Know that the ten Sefirot of Katnut of the world of Nikudim are considered the principal Partzuf, since it emerged similarly to the three previous Partzufim of the world AK. It was born because of a Zivug de Aka'a on the Reshimot Bet/Aleph in the Masach de Guf of the upper Partzuf. The ten Sefirot de Gadlut are only an addition to the Partzuf Nikudim, because they appeared, not in the order of the emergence of levels, but from a Zivug on the Reshimot of ZON de Galgalta, which were added to the screen as a result of the descent of Nekudot de SAG under the Tabur.

At first, man wants to “understand” Kabbalah, but comprehension comes through applying efforts, not by absorbing information. The

study merely allows us “to contact” the spiritual world. The information provides just the general outline; the way things are designed. But how can we touch it, find out where it is, in what virtual space we can get hold of it, feel it, what the connection is between certain phenomena? It is similar to a musician who feels each note. Any specialist in his field instantly understands the meaning, internally feels it in his mind, his senses, then passes it through himself and builds an inner picture.

Man always perceives with his senses. For many years, I used to work with fighter planes. New digital computing equipment was introduced at that time. A pilot, however, saw only arrows on his control panels. However, while a man cannot concentrate on digits during the flight, he can instantly evaluate the situation by casting a glance at the arrows. This is because images play the most important role in our perception.

What we learn here technically only provides a formal basis, but the principal purpose is to create inner images in ourselves, upon which all technical information can be gradually dressed. This depends on the efforts we put into it.

Spiritual sensation is born in man as an addition to his five senses. It is in no way connected to the mind or any other senses. Hence, it is irrelevant in what language man reads Kabbalistic books. It is important to attract the Surrounding Light.

There are methods of promoting a more powerful influence. Man’s mind plays no role in it. Only persistence and desire will allow us to enter the Creator’s domain. My Rabbi did not permit me to move to the city of Bnei Brak for a long time, so I had to come from Rehovot twice a day. At 10 p.m., I used to return home, only to be back to the lesson by 2 a.m.

I was tired, slept at the lessons, but the Rabbi used to say that I would learn everything I needed to. The efforts have played their part. If man thinks there is no sense in attending a class, because he overslept and would not comprehend anything, it demonstrates his failure to under-

stand that spiritual efforts are not measured by time or physical strength, but by an inner resistance to egoism, even if it is instantaneous...

There was a man in our group who finished working late, so he came in a taxi to catch the final ten minutes of the evening class. These ten minutes gave him more than someone else who spent two hours studying.

I do not have a grudge against those who spend their time sitting in a bar or in front of the TV set. They have not been given the desire for Kabbalah. This life will pass, and then a couple more lives, until their souls finally mature. We went through the same process in the previous incarnations; I can clearly see it on the people sitting here...

עג) והנה תחילה נבאר הע"ס דקטנות נקודים. וכבר ידעת, כי אחר התפשטות הס"ג דא"ק, נעשה בו הביטוש דאר"מ באר"פ, דהיינו על המסך שלו, וזיכך אותו על דרך המדרגה. אשר הקומות היוצאות בדרך הזדככותו, נקראות "נקודות דס"ג". והן שירדו למטה מטבור דא"ק ונתערבו עם הבח"ד אשר שם (אות ס"ב). והנה אחר שנגמר להזדכך מכל העביות דגוף שבמסך, ולא נשאר בו רק בחינת עביות דראש, נבחן שעלה לראש הס"ג, וקבל שם זוג מחדש, על שיעור העביות שנשארו ברשימות שבמסך (אות ל"ה).

73) First, let us examine the process of the birth of the Partzuf Katnut de Nikudim. As we know, after the spreading of Partzuf SAG, the Bitush Ohr Pnimi and Makif takes place in its Masach. It weakens the Masach and forces it to return to the Peh de Rosh. With that, the intermediate Partzufim, called Nekudot de SAG, emerge and descend under the Tabur of the Partzuf AK. There they are mixed with Behina Dalet. After the Masach lost all of its Aviut and only the Masach de Rosh is left in the Partzuf, the Masach de Guf supposedly rises to the Peh de Rosh and leads to a new Zivug on the Aviut de Reshimot that remained in the Masach.

עד) וגם כאן נבחן, שבחינה אחרונה דעביות, שהיא העביות דבח"ב שהיתה במסך, נאבדה לגמרי, ורק רשימו דהתלבשות נשאר ממנה. ומהעביות לא נשאר כי אם בח"א בלבד.

ולפיכך (אות מ"ג) קבל המסך שם בראש הס"ג ב' מיני זווגים: א. מהתכללות בח"א דעביות תוך בח"ב דהתלבשות, הנקרא "התכללות הרשימו דנקבה בהרשימו דזכר, יצאה עליהן קומת בינה בקירוב, שהוא בערך ו"ק דבינה. וקומה זו נקרא "ספירת הכתר דנקודים".

ב. מהתכללות הזכר בהרשימו דנקבה, דהיינו התכללות הרשימו דבחי"ב דהתלבשות בבחי"א דעביות, יצאה קומת ז"א, שהוא בחינת ו"ק בלי ראש, הנקרא "אבא ואמא דנקודים אב"א".
 וב' קומות הללו נקראות "ג"ר דנקודים", כלומר בחינת ע"ס דראש נקודים. כי כל ראש מכונה בשם ג"ר או כח"ב. ויש חילוק ביניהם, כי הכתר דנקודים, שהוא קומת הזכר, אינו מתפשט לגוף ורק בראש הוא מאיר, ואו"א דנקודים, שהם קומת הנקבה, היא לבדה מתפשטת לגוף, הנקרא "ז"ס תחתונות דנקודים" או "חג"ת נה"י דנקודים".

74) *As always, the last level (in this case the Aviut of the Behina Bet) completely disappeared after the return of the Masach to the Rosh. Only the Reshimo de Hitlabshut and the Behina Aleph de Aviut remained.*

As in all the previous Partzufim, two Zivugim occur in the Rosh de SAG after the Reshimot that were left from the intermediate Partzuf Nekudot de SAG rose there. One of them happens because of the inclusion of the Reshimo de Aviut (Nekeva) in the Reshimo de Hitlabshut (Zachar).

In this case, the matter concerns the emergence of the world of Nikudim; hence, this is the Reshimo Aleph de Aviut and Bet de Hitlabshut. Because of this Zivug, the Sefira of the level called "Bina be Kiruw" or "VAK de Bina" emerges, i.e., the interim state between Bina and ZA. This Sefira is called Keter of the world of Nikudim.

A second Zivug happened because of the inclusion of the Reshimo de Hitlabshut (Zachar) in the Reshimo de Aviut (Nekeva), from which the Sefira of the level of ZA or "VAK bli Rosh" emerged. This Sefira is called Abba ve Ima of the world of Nikudim, and they are in a back-to-back position (Achor be Achor).

These two levels are called two heads of the world of Nikudim. However, there is a difference between them. It consists in the fact that Keter de Nikudim, i.e., the level of Zachar, does not spread into the Guf, but shines only in the Rosh, whereas Abba ve Ima de Nikudim, i.e., the level of Nekeva, spreads into the Guf and is called HaGaT NHYM de Nikudim.

The *Nikudim* is the first world that is built according to *TB*; hence, there are certain elements in it that are related to our world.

The distance between the Creator and us can be divided as follows: the *Rosh de Galgalta* is, roughly speaking, the *Dalet Behinot de Ohr Yashar* (four phases of emergence and development of the Direct Light). Then, *Malchut* of the World of Infinity is positioned from the *Peh de Galgalta* downwards. It decides to accept some part of the light (*Ta'amim*) into the *Toch* after the *TA*.

Further pressure of the *Ohr Makif* on the *Masach* leads to its weakening and to the gradual emergence of the *Partzufim de Galgalta*, *AB*, *SAG*, *MA* and *BON*. Then the *Nekudot de SAG* descend under the *Tabur* and form the 10 *Sefirot*, which consist of *GE* (the vessels of bestowal) and *AHP* (the vessels of reception). An enormous “desire to receive” the light for themselves manifests in the vessels of reception. Thus, observing the conditions of *TA*, *Malchut* of the World of Infinity rises to *Bina* and prevents the reception of the light by those vessels. This is how *Tzimtzum Bet* took place.

The screen of *Nekudot de SAG* commenced rising with the *Reshimot Bet de Hitlabshut/Aleph de Aviut*, the *Reshimot* of *TB* and of the *NHYM de Galgalta (Dalet/Gimel)*. A *Zivug* is then made on the first pair or *Reshimot* (usual *Bet/Aleph*), which leads to the formation of the *Partzufim MA Elion* and *BON Elion*. One more *Zivug* is made on the *Reshimot Bet/Aleph*, plus the information of *TB*, and the light spreads only in *GE*. The *Partzuf* that emerged on this pair of *Reshimot* is called *Katnut* of the world of *Nikudim* (see above).

When people who study “The Preamble to the Science of Kabbalah” reach this point, they feel a sudden change, and have to start learning from the beginning. This turning point is not random, since beginning from *TB* and on, we begin to study the origins of our soul. *TA* and its consequences are not directly connected with our soul. Starting from the first *Partzuf* based on *TB* – the world of *Nikudim* and further, we begin to see the development of our soul, properties and aspirations that

originate from the fragments of the common soul of *Adam HaRishon*. There is no doubt that the laws of *TA*, although having no direct influence on us, generally affect the entire Universe.

After their descent under the *Tabur*, the *Nekudot de SAG* acquired additional desires (*Dalet/Gimel*), for which they did not have a proper screen, i.e., the force of resistance. A surplus of the egoistic desires was formed, and because of this *Malchut* rose to *Bina* up to the upper third of *Tifferet*. Now the light cannot spread below the *Parsa*.

For the light to spread from the *Tabur* to the *Parsa*, *SAG* has to make a prior calculation in the *Rosh*. To that end, it raises the screen from the *Peh* to the *Nikvey Eynaim*. This is the boundary between *Gar de Bina* and *Zat de Bina de Rosh*, i.e., between the vessels of bestowal and reception. This happens in the the *Rosh de SAG* under the *Tabur de AK*, taking into account that the light would spread only down to the *Parsa* in the *Guf de Nikudim* under the *Tabur de AK*. Here the *Partzuf Katnut de Nikudim* emerges. It has two heads (*Keter and Abba ve Ima*) and *Guf* (*ZON*). Both heads are in a back-to-back position (“*Achor be Achor*”). There is a notion “combination of the *Partzufim*” in the spiritual world. As the light gradually spreads from one *Sefira* to another in ten *Sefirot* of each *Partzuf*, the upper part of the *Sefira* is the receiving one, the middle part is the *Sefira* proper, and the lower part gives the light to the next *Sefira*.

Abba ve Ima de Nikudim are in a back-to-back position. It means that none has the *Ohr Hochma*. Another explanation suggests that they received the correction called “*Achor be Achor*” or “*Ki Hafetz Hesed*”, i.e., they have only the *Ohr Hassadim*.

Normally the word “*Achoraim*” (back part) means the part used either for reception or for bestowal. “*Panim*” (face) has the opposite meaning; it is the property being used. The correction, “*Achor be Achor*”, is also called “the correction of *Achoraim de Ima*”, which is *Bina de Ohr Yashar*. It is unwilling to receive the *Ohr Hochma*, just the *Ohr Hassadim*.

Abba ve Ima is *ZA*, the *Behinat VAK* (the lack of *Ohr Hochma*), but thanks to the received correction, they only want the *Hassadim*. Hence, it

is considered as the *Rosh* and *Gar*. They received this correction through *Zachar*, which has the *Bet de Hitlabshut*. *Abba ve Ima - Behina Aleph de Aviut* - was included in the *Bet de Hitlabshut*. Consequently, when a *Zivug* was made on their *Behinot*, they were also involved in a *Zivug* with their property “*Kli Hafetz Hesed*”.

The same happens in the world of the *Nikudim*. Two objects may be in four states: *Achor be Achor*, *Achor be Panim*, *Panim be Achor* and *Panim be Panim*. When *Abba ve Ima* are in the state of *Achor be Achor*, *Abba* is unable to give *Ima* anything, while *Ima* does not want to receive anything from *Aba*. Only in the state of the *Panim be Panim* can *Abba* transfer the light to *Ima*. There are two kinds of *Zivugim*: the spiritual, when no *Partzuf* is born, and “corporeal”, which leads to the birth of a new *Partzuf*.

(עה) באופן שיש כאן ג' מדרגות זה תחת זה: א. הוא הכתר דנקודים, שיש לו קומת ו"ק דבינה. ב. הוא קומת א"א דנקודים, שיש להם קומת ז"א. והם שניהם בחינת ראש. ג. הוא ז"ת דנקודים חג"ת נה"מ, שהם בחינת הגוף דנקודים.

75) Here, we speak about the three levels, one under the other, in the world of *Nikudim*:

- a) *Keter de Nikudim* on the level of *VAK de Bina*;
- b) *Abba ve Ima* on the level of *ZA* – the two heads;
- c) *Zat* or *HaGaT NHYM* – the *Guf de Nikudim*.

Recall that *Galgalta* (*Keter*) has the *Reshimo Dalet/Dalet* (4/4), *AB* (*Hochma*) has the *Reshimo Dalet/Gimel* (4/3), and *SAG* (*Bina*) has the *Reshimo Gimel/Bet* (3/2). The next *Partzuf* is the world of *Nikudim*. It is *Partzuf ZA* or *MA* (shortened due to *TB*). Therefore, *Abba ve Ima* and *ZON de Nikudim* constitute just this common *ZA* of the world *AK*.

Note that the world of *Nikudim* in *Katnut* is no more than the fourth *Partzuf* (*ZA*) of the world *AK*. *Keter* of the world of the *Nikudim* represents *VAK de Bina*, the interim level between the *Partzuf Bina* (*SAG*) and the *Partzuf ZA* (the world of *Nikudim*).

Previously we paid no attention to the fact that the *Partzuf* has two heads, although this was present in each *Partzuf*. Since there are

two kinds of *Reshimot* – *Hitlabshut* and *Aviut*, there are also two types of *Zivugim*, and consequently two heads. However, they did not play a major role before, so we never mentioned them. Here, in the state of *Katnut de Nikudim*, they play a very special part and are very important.

Let us learn to “adapt” ourselves to the laws of the spiritual worlds. There is a soul, man. Previously he had the screen on all his desires, with the help of which he could receive a certain amount of the light for the Creator’s sake. Now he cannot knowingly use all his desires for the Creator, since there are those among them that wish to receive for their own sake. Hence, he chooses not to use them, but puts them aside and works only with the altruistic desires: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Hesed*, *Gevura*, and a part of *Tifferet*.

Now, there appears a basis for the emergence of the observed desires-commandments, which refer to *Sefirot* above the *Parsa*, and the forbidden desires, which refer to *Sefirot* below the *Parsa*. When, at the Final Correction, the *Partzuf* acquires the screen for the forbidden desires and they turn into the ones to be observed, he will be able to completely fill himself with the light.

The light is pleasure. If I enjoy the reception, it is called egoism. If I enjoy the act of giving, it is still egoism, but of a totally “different kind”. There is no *Ohr Hochma* or *Hassadim* under the *Parsa* after *TB*, only absolute darkness. When the worlds *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya* are formed under the *Parsa*, some light appears in them, the so-called *Ohr Tolada*, i.e., a small luminescence destined for the spiritual birth and correction, but not for the reception of pleasure.

In our rise to the *Parsa*, we climb 6000 steps or levels to reach and cross this barrier that separates us from the spiritual worlds. Then the *Mashiah* (the Upper Light) comes, resurrects the dead, egoistic desires, and corrects them. Then they can be used for the reception of the light-pleasure. This process is called “the resurrection of the dead”.

We should stress that there is a fundamental difference between the creation of the worlds (the process we are studying) and creation

of souls. Strictly speaking, the worlds are not the creation; they are the levels of the Creator’s concealment, still objects, robots.

Only man, who climbs these steps, turning them into the levels of the Creator’s revelation, animates them. We have spoken about this. Nevertheless, it is so important that it merits repeated mentioning.

Now, as we study the structure of the worlds, we learn about the creation of the spiritual environment for the future souls. The worlds promoted the creation of the soul of Adam HaRishon. Then this soul broke into many fragments. Each of them represents a human soul, which, upon its correction, will be able to receive the light, tearing off the spheres and filters during its ascent.

The *Parsa* is called “the point of the world to come”. The *Sium* of *Galgalta* is “the point of this world”. The difference between the two points is the place of the worlds *BYA*. The world of *Atzilut* is called *Gan Eden* (Paradise).

In our world, we have the task of acquiring the vessels of bestowal (*GE*). This is achieved by crossing the barrier (the *Machsom*) and advancing to the *Parsa*. Only in the world of *Atzilut* do we begin to correct the vessels of reception (*AHP*). This means that, during 6000 years or levels, we only acquire the altruistic desires.

Upon entering the seventh millennium, the world of *Atzilut*, we will be able to start correcting the egoistic desires. This is called the resurrection of the dead egoistic desires, which were forbidden to be used. This process takes 4000 more years. The tenth millennium already refers to the secrets of the Torah, of which we may not speak. There is no time, as we understand it, in spirituality. The so-called millennium can be passed in one day, provided the necessary corrections are made. The spiritual level is called “a year”, since while passing a certain level, the soul’s desires go through a full cycle of changes.

We study the most necessary science in our life, through which all others are attained. Imagine an empty space in which your “I” emerges.

This “I” is endowed with senses, with the ability to feel. Whatever you feel inside your senses is called your world. Who provides you with these sensations? The Creator does. He emerges from nowhere, existing outside, but you can feel Him only inside of you.

People differ by their sets of desires to receive pleasure. One strives after power, while another is drawn to money; one longs for animal pleasures, yet another is attracted to science. Similar phenomena exist in the spiritual world. It is impossible “to enter” the spiritual essence of another human being.

Therefore, we should never compare our sensations with those of others, since everyone runs them through his own set of desires. We cannot compare two different people's sensations of the same food, even though in both cases it will be, say, sweet. Only the Creator's light is common for all.

Whatever is necessary for man's existence is not considered egoism, although people's needs are quite diverse. Had I been satisfied with receiving nothing for my existence, I would have been free from all and totally independent. However, I still have to devote some time to satisfying the needs of my body. The Creator made me this way, and, although I would be happy not to do it, this does not depend on me.

Egoism means following one's own desire. Here man must determine what is necessary for the existence of his body, and what is superfluous and serves the satisfaction of his egoistic desires. However, the goal is to feel the Creator. Gradually increasing the sensation of the Creator will give us strength, confidence and the opportunity to move forward, correctly evaluating the current situation.

Kabbalah does not turn man into a fanatic nor oblige him to give something up. On the contrary, it wishes to lead him to absolute perfection and delight. Only the thoughts that cross your mind during the reading of a genuine text, combined with the explanations of a true

Teacher, can lead to a good result. If you are away from the book and your thoughts divert you from Kabbalah, consider yourself outside of it.

Kabbalah leads us to a state in which we can already feel the point in the heart. In this state we can evaluate ourselves, not from the angle of the egoistic desires, but according to the apprehension of the Universe and our own place in it, i.e., from the altruistic standpoint. Then a contradiction, between egoism and altruism arises, which forces man to cry out to the Creator for help, for deliverance from his egoism.

There are two kinds of *Rosh* in each *Partzuf*: the *Rosh de Hitlabshut* and the *Rosh de Aviut*. The *Rosh de Hitlabshut* contains information about the light that was present in the previous *Partzuf*. The *Rosh de Aviut* says which *Masach* is available at this moment. These two kinds of information are all there is in the entire Universe: the power of the light and the strength of the vessel. They provide us with two notions: the power of delight in the Creator's light and the strength of the screen in the *Kli*. Then, after making such a calculation in the *Rosh*, the vessel receives some part of the light in the *Guf* for the Creator's sake.

As was stated, the *Rosh de Hitlabshut* in the world of *Nikudim* is called *Keter*, and the *Rosh de Aviut - Abba ve Ima*. Yet there is the third head in the world of *Nikudim* – the YESHSUT. However, we usually disregard it, since it refers to *TA*, is under the *Tabur* and is considered a part of the *Partzuf SAG*. *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima* already refer to *TB*.

Each *Reshimo* should give birth to a thought that can emerge in action. The thought that was born because of the previous pleasure, the *Reshimo de Hitlabshut*, the *Rosh de Keter*, cannot come to realization for the lack of proper screen. It can emerge only by a *Zivug* on the *Reshimo de Aviut*, the body of the *Partzuf*.

The world of *Nikudim* consists of the *Rosh de Keter*, the *Rosh de Abba ve Ima* and the *Guf* – *ZON*, which itself includes seven *Sefirot*. The *AHP de ZON* is under the *Parsa* and joins the *Partzuf* only in the state of *Gadlut*. In this way, the *AHP* passes its egoistic desires on to the altruistic

vessels, i.e., *GE*, which in accordance with *TA*, leads to the loss of the screen, the breaking of the vessels and the disappearance of the light. Only the empty egoistic desires remain.

Now we are studying the state of *Katnut* of the world of *Nikudim* that emerged as a result of a *Zivug* made on *Reshimot Bet/Aleph*. We come across some entirely new notions that need to be very thoroughly examined, since our *Kli*, our soul, is based on them. We are created because of the laws of *TB*. By overcoming the 6000 years or levels, we cover the distance from our world to the *Parsa*, and then enter the world of *Atzilut*.

The descending structure of the Universe described by Kabbalists, and man's attainment of the spiritual worlds, pass through the same levels. In fact, the Creator created all the spiritual worlds so that they would serve as steps-levels in man's attainment. The Kabbalists left us a detailed description of the descent; the ascent is attained by each man individually and is impossible to describe. We study the laws of the spiritual Universe and must know them if we wish to exist in the spiritual world.

The laws of *TB* apply to this world, but we see them in their material form: physical, chemical, biological and social. All these laws are expressed in their outward appearance, but if we look closely enough, we will see that they are also based on the spreading of the light, the formation of the screen etc. We study the basic laws of the Universe, reaching into the very depths of it.

עו) ותדע, שמכח עלית המלכות לבינה, נבחנו אל המדרגות דנקודים, שבעת יציאתן נתבקעו לב' חצאים, הנקראים "פנים" ו"אחורים". כי מאחר שהזוג נעשה בנקבי עינים, אין בראש אלא ב' ספירות וחצי, שהם גלגלתא ועינים ונקבי עינים, דהיינו כתר חכמה וחצי העליון דבינה. והם מכוונים "כלים דפנים". והכלים דאח"פ, שהם חצי בינה התחתון וז"א ונוקבא, יצאו מהע"ס דראש ונעשים לבחינתה של המדרגה שלמטה מהראש, ועל כן אלו הכלים דראש, שייצאו לחוץ מהראש, נבחנו לכלים דאחורים. ועד"ז נבקעה כל מדרגה ומדרגה.

76) Know that all the levels of the *Nikudim* are determined by the rising of *Malchut* to *Bina*. Moreover, they divide into two parts: "Panim ve Achoraim" (front and back of the *Partzuf*). After making

a Zivug in the Nikvey Eynaim, there are only two and a half Sefirot in the Rosh: GE and Nikvey Eynaim, i.e., Keter, Hochma, and the upper third of Bina, which are actually the Kelim de Panim. AHP, which consists of the lower two thirds of Bina, ZA and Nukva (Malchut) got outside the ten Sefirot de Rosh and is now called the Kelim de Achoraim, which are not taken into account during a Zivug. Each subsequent level is divided similarly.

So, a *Zivug de Haka'a* cannot be made on AHP. No calculations and no reception of the light are possible. These Sefirot may not be used, since they are under the screen. Only the vessels of bestowal above the screen are taken into account. Accordingly, only the two and a half upper Sefirot are filled with the light in the *Guf of Partzuf – Keter, Hochma, and the Gar de Bina*. Such a state, when the receiving vessels are not used, is called *Katnut*. Only the vessels of bestowal are worked with.

It is similar to the situation where a host puts 10 different dishes before his guest. The guest, however, tells him that he can only enjoy watching this culinary abundance without touching anything. By not receiving, the guest likens himself to the giver. According to the force, which resists his egoism, he can receive only two salads for the sake of the host.

The *Partzuf SAG*, which refuses to receive anything, has the *Rosh*, the *Toch*, and the *Sof*. By not receiving, it enjoys tremendously its connection with the Creator, His revelation. Since the SAG is similar to the Creator by its properties, the *Ohr Hassadim* spreads in it. A question arises: should a *Zivug de Haka'a* be made on the *Ohr Hassadim*? Previously we only dealt with a *Zivug de Haka'a* on the *Ohr Hochma*.

It turns out that a *Zivug* must also be made on the *Ohr Hassadim*. As we have already said, the Creator's light is indivisible, and only the vessel distinguishes the various kinds of pleasure in it, according to its properties. Since there is a screen and a *Zivug de Haka'a*, there are also the *Rosh*, the *Toch*, and the *Sof* of the *Kelim*, in which the *Ohr Hassadim* spreads. They are called *GE – Keter, Hochma* and *Gar de Bina* (the vessels of bestowal), whereas the light does not enter AHP.

The Creator created the ten *Sefirot*. They are always present. Everything depends only on the strength of our screen and the ability to work with it. Now the screen is weak and can work only with the *Kelim de Panim* (the vessels of bestowal). There are the *Kelim de Panim* in the *Rosh*, the *Toch* and the *Sof*. However, we cannot work with the *Kelim de Achoraim* (the vessels of reception) that are also present there. Hence, the screen rises from the *Peh* to *Nikvey Eynaim*.

The entire *Partzuf* takes a different form: the *Peh* is in *Nikvey Eynaim*, the *Tabur* is where the *Peh* was, and the *Sof* is where the *Chazeh* was. Thus, after *TB*, the *Partzufim* use only the uppermost, giving, parts of their desires. According to the law of the inverse relation between the vessels and the lights, the light that fills them is correspondingly smaller than that which fills the *Partzufim* in *TA* (the lower, coarser *Kelim* the *Partzuf* uses, the higher light fills it). Due to the rise of the screen, which leads to using only the giving vessels, the *Partzuf* can entirely descend under the *Tabur* of *Galgalta* and work with the coarse desires, using only the giving part of each of them. The *Partzufim* of the world of *AK* are unable to use these coarse desires, because they make a calculation on both the giving and the receiving parts. *Partzufim* of the world of *AK* can descend under the *Tabur* only for passing the light to the lower *Partzufim* that function in *TB*, for at that stage, they do not make any calculation with regard to themselves, but with regard to those they bestow upon.

The notions “*Panim*” and “*Achoraim*” are self-explanatory: *Panim* is a more significant stage, *Achoraim* – less significant. *Panim* is used for both giving and receiving; *Achoraim* is a stage that is used for neither giving nor reception.

עז) ונמצא לפי"ז, שאין לך מדרגה, שאין בה פנים ואחורים. כי האח"פ דקומת זכר, שהם הכתר דנקודים, יצאו ממדרגת הכתר וירדו למדרגת או"א דנקודים, שהם קומת הנקבה. ואח"פ דקומת הנקבה, שהם או"א דנקודים, ירדו ונפלו למדרגת הגוף שלהם, דהיינו למדרגות ז"ס חג"ת נה"י דנקודים. ונמצא, שאו"א כלולים מב' בחינות פנים ואחורים, כי בפנימיותם נמצאים אחורים של מדרגת הכתר, דהיינו האח"פ דכתר, ועליהם מלביש הכלים דפנים דאו"א עצמם, דהיינו גלגלתא ועינים ונקבי עינים שלהם עצמם. וכן הז"ת דנקודים כלולים מפנים

ומאחורים. כי הכלים דאחורים דאו"א, שהם אח"פ שלהם, נמצאים בפנימיות הז"ת. והכלים דפנים דז"ת נמצאים מלבישים עליהם מבחוץ.

77) *There is no level in the world of the Nikudim that would not divide into Panim and Achoraim. Therefore, the AHP de Keter, i.e., the Zachar de Nikudim, descended to the level of the Panim de Rosh, Abba ve Ima; in other words, to the level of Nekeva. AHP, i.e., Achoraim de Nekeva of Abba ve Ima, descended to the Guf, i.e., to HaGaT NHYM de Nikudim. Thus, both Keter and Abba ve Ima consist of two parts: Panim and Achoraim. In other words, Panim de Abba ve Ima dress onto the Achoraim de Keter that descended from above. Achoraim de Abba ve Ima, which descended to the Guf, constitutes the inner part on which Panim de Guf dress.*

For example, there were five thoughts in the Rosh and correspondingly five desires in the Guf to receive pleasure from the light that is in the Rosh. Now, there are only two and a half thoughts in the Rosh and two and a half desires to receive pleasure. The rest of the desires are inside the lower level and are not used.

עח) וענין זה דהתחלקות המדרגות לב' חצאים גרם ג"כ, שאי אפשר להיות בכל אלו המדרגות דנקודים יותר מבחינת נפש רוח, דהיינו ו"ק בחסר ג"ר. כי מתוך שחסר בכל מדרגה ג' הכלים בינה וזו"ן, הרי חסר שם ג"ר דאורות, שהם נשמה חיה יחידה (אות כ"ד). והנה נתבארו היטב הע"ס דקטנות נקודים, שהן ג' מדרגות הנקראות: כתר, או"א, ז"ת. ואין בכל מדרגה זולת כתר חכמה דכלים ונפש רוח דאורות, כי הבינה וזו"ן דכל מדרגה נפלה למדרגה שמתחתיה.

78) *The division of each level into two parts led to the presence of only the lights of Nefesh and Ruach in each upper part of the level, i.e., VAK, and the vessels Keter, Hochma and a part of Bina. Therefore, there are three levels in Katnut de Nikudim: Keter, Abba ve Ima and Zat, i.e., the vessels Keter, Hochma and a part of Bina, and the lights Nefesh and Ruach, since Zat de Bina and ZON descended from their level to the lower one.*

RAISING OF MAN AND GADLUT
OF THE WORLD OF NIKUDIM
עלית מ"ן ויציאת הגדלות דנקודים

עט) ועתה נבאר הע"ס דגדלות הנקודים, שיצאו על המ"ן דרשימות של הזו"ן דא"ק שלמטה מטבורו (אות ע"א). ויש לידע מקודם ענין עלית מ"ן. כי עד עתה לא דברנו כי אם מעלית המסך דגוף לפה דראש דעליון, אחר שנזדכך. שעל הרשימות הנכללות בו, נעשה שם הזווג דהכאה, המוציאות קומת ע"ס לצורך התחתון. אמנם עתה נתחדש ענין עלית מ"ן נוקבין, כי אלו האורות שעלו מלמטה מטבור דא"ק לראש הס"ג, שהם הרשימות דזו"ן דגופא דא"ק, מכונים בשם "עלית מ"ן".

79) Now we will learn about the ten Sefirot de Gadlut de Nikudim that emerged on MAN from the Reshimot of ZON de AK below the Tabur. Until now, we have not spoken about the raising of MAN. We discussed the rise of the Masach de Guf from the Tabur to the Peh de Rosh of the upper Partzuf, and a Zivug de Haka'a in the Rosh that was made on the Reshimot included in Masach, which led to the formation of the ten Sefirot of the lower Partzuf. Now let us talk about the light that rose from under the Tabur de AK to the Rosh de SAG, i.e., about the Reshimot of the ZON de Guf of the world of AK that are called "Mey Nukvin" (rising of female waters) or "Aliyat MAN".

"Aliyat MAN" is the rise of the desire, a request from the lower spiritual object to the upper one about making a *Zivug de Haka'a*. *Malchut* asks *Bina* (the soul turns to the Creator) to fill its emptiness, to correct its property of reception, to make *Malchut* similar to Him, the Creator, the "desire to give". It is called female waters because this is a request for the light of *Hassadim*, the altruistic desire.

Malchut had the 10 *Sefirot* completely filled with the light in the World of Infinity. Wishing to be like the Creator, it expelled the 10 *Sefirot*, i.e., it did not want to feel them. Nevertheless, they did not cease to exist because of it. *Malchut* chooses either to feel pleasure from them or not, but its nature remains unchanged.

After *TA* the *Rosh*, *Toch* and *Sof* are created in *Malchut*; it begins to calculate how much light it can receive for the Creator's sake. The *Partzuf* formed consists of three parts; each part contains ten *Sefirot*. The *Sof* emerged because *Malchut* began calculating its possibilities and understood that not all of them coincide with its desires, that it can fill with the light only 20% of its desires to receive for the Creator. 80% of the desires cannot be filled, so *Malchut* restricts them - makes the *Sof* and leaves it empty.

It will continue to be so until the *Gmar Tikkun*, when all 100% of the desires for the Creator's sake will be filled with His light. Then there will not be any need for the *Rosh* or any calculations. *Malchut* will be able to receive the Creator's entire light without any preliminary testing of its own powers. There will not be any uncorrected desires left. The angel of death will turn into the angel of holiness. Only the *Toch* will remain.

However, in the process of correction, calculations are essential. Restrictions may be quantitative (the *Galgalta*, *AB*, and *SAG*) when the light is received (although only a certain amount, in accordance with *TA* laws) in each of the ten *Sefirot*, and qualitative when not all ten *Sefirot* are filled with the light, but only some of them, depending on their properties.

Such qualitative division took place after *TB*, the state wherein only the small desires (of bestowal) are filled. On the other hand, *Katnut* is the state in which the big desires are not worked with. The lights that fill only the small desires are called *Nefesh* and *Ruach*. In this state, the creation feels only two and a half *Sefirot* out of its ten and does not work with the rest. If the creation gains additional powers and can activate the remaining *Sefirot* for receiving for the Creator's sake, it enters the state of *Gadlut*.

Now we are examining, according to the laws of *TB*, the transition from *Katnut* to *Gadlut*. In the course of our advancement from one level to another, the two states will alternately supersede one another. As soon as we enter the spiritual reality, climb its first level, we will gradually pass

from *Katnut* to *Gadlut*. Then the *AHP* of the upper level will instantly lower us into the state of *Katnut*, but already of its own higher level on which we will have to achieve again *Gadlut* in order to descend into *Katnut* of the new level, and so on.

All the 6000 descending levels are built so that the *AHP* of the upper level is inside the *GE* of the lower one, and is dressed onto it. Hence, all the levels string one onto the other forming one ladder (*Sulam*) from the lowest point of the creation to its perfection – the Creator. Thanks to this close connection between the *AHP* and *GE*, each soul can ascend by climbing one level after another until the Final Correction. Such advancement can be roughly compared to the peristalsis of intestines while pushing the digested food forward by way of contracting muscles.

Any upper level is considered inner as regards the lower one, since it is closer to the Creator; it has a more powerful screen and bigger desires under the screen. Therefore, the levels become wider as they descend, which resembles a pyramid.

פ) ודע שמקורו של עלית מ"ן הוא מהז"א ובינה של הע"ס דא"י (אות ה). ונתבאר שם, אשר הבינה, שהיא בחינת אור דחסדים, בעת שהאצילה את ספירות הת"ת, הנקרא בחי"ג, חזרה להתחבר עם החכמה, והמשיכה ממנו הארת חכמה בשביל הת"ת שהוא ז"א. ויצא הז"א בעיקרו מבחינת אור חסדים של הבינה ומיעוטו בהארת חכמה.

ומכאן נעשה קשר בין הז"א והבינה: שכל אימת שהרשימות דז"א עולות אל הבינה, מתחברת הבינה עם החכמה, וממשיכה ממנו הארת חכמה, בשביל הז"א. והעליה הזו של הז"א אל הבינה, המחברת אותה עם החכמה, מכונה תמיד בשם "עלית מ"ן". כי בלי עלית הז"א להבינה, אין הבינה נחשבת לנוקבא אל החכמה, בהיותה בעצמותה רק אור דחסדים ואינה צריכה לאור החכמה. ונבחנת היא תמיד אחר באחור עם החכמה, שפירושו, שאינה רוצה לקבל מהחכמה.

ורק בעת עלית הז"א אליה, חוזרת להעשות נוקבא לחכמה, כדי לקבל ממנו הארת חכמה, בשביל הז"א. הרי שעלית הז"א עושה אותה לנוקבא. לפיכך מכונה עליתו בשם "מיינ נוקבין". כי עליתו דז"א מחזירה פנים בפנים עם החכמה, שפירושו שמקבלת ממנו כבחינת נוקבא מהדכר. והנה נתבאר היטב סוד עלית המ"ן.

80) You should know that ZA and Bina of the 10 Sefirot de Ohr Yashar (i.e., before Malchut de Ein Sof) are the source of raising MAN. This is what happened with them there: Bina, which is the Ohr Hassadim and the Behina Bet, gave birth to Tifferet (or ZA, the Behina Gimel) and reunited with Behinat Hochma to ask for the Ohr Hochma to pass on to ZA, which consists of the Ohr Hassadim and some luminescence of the Ohr Hochma.

In this way, contact was established between ZA and Bina. Each time the Reshimot of ZA rise to Bina, the latter merges with Hochma and draws a small amount of the Ohr Hochma for ZA. Such a rise of ZA to Bina, and Bina's connection with Hochma, is called the raising of MAN. Without this action, Bina itself has no need for the Ohr Hochma. Its essence is the Ohr Hassadim and it is always in the Achor be Achor (back-to-back) position with Hochma.

Only the request of ZA prompts Bina to receive the Ohr Hochma for it and turns it to Nukva; hence, this rise is called “female waters” (i.e., the receiving Sefira) as regards Hochma and changes their position from back-to-back to face-to-face (Panim be Panim).

All our corrections, prayers, during the 6000 years are made with the help of raising MAN. We (the souls) are parts of a general Malchut. Our request for correction arouses Malchut, which rises to Bina, forces it to receive the Ohr Hochma and pass it through ZA back to Malchut, which in turn transfers it to the souls. This chain rises like a call for help (raising MAN) from the direction of Nukva and then descends as the Ohr Hochma (male waters). Here lie all our opportunities for spiritual enlightenment, exaltedness, and revelation of the Creator. Gradually, we have to clear up these two principles.

We are now coming closer to the material that relates directly to us, our souls. First, it will seem difficult, muddled, but it needs to be mastered; with time it will enter into our sensations.

פא) וכבר ידעת שפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק הוא פרצוף החכמה. ופרצוף הס"ג דא"ק הוא פרצוף הבינה. דהיינו, שהם נבחנים לפי בחינה העליונה של הקומה שלהם. כי הע"ב שבחינה העליונה שלו הוא חכמה, נחשב לכולו חכמה. והס"ג, שבחינה העליונה שלו היא בינה, נחשב לכולו בינה. ולפיכך, בעת שהרשימות דז"ן דגוף שלמטה מטבורו דא"ק, עלו לראש הס"ג, נעשו שמה למ"ן אל הס"ג, שבסבתם נזדווג הס"ג, שהוא בינה, עם פרצוף ע"ב, שהוא חכמה. והשפיע הע"ב להס"ג אור חדש לצורך הז"ן, שלמטה מטבור שעלה שמה.

ואחר שקבלו הז"ן דא"ק אור חדש הזה, חזרו וירדו למקומם, למטה מטבור דא"ק. ששם נמצאים הע"ס דנקודים. והאירו את אור החדש תוך הע"ס דנקודים. והוא המוחין דגדלות של הע"ס דנקודים. והנה נתבאר הע"ס דגדלות, שיצאו על המין הב' דרשימות, שהם הרשימות דז"ן שלמטה מטבור דא"ק (אות ע"א). אמנם המוחין דגדלות האלו גרמו לשבירת הכלים, כמ"ש להלן.

81) *We already know that AB is the Partzuf Hochma and SAG is the Partzuf Bina. They are defined according to their highest property. AB has the Aviut Gimel; hence, it is called Hochma. SAG has Aviut Bet, called Bina. When the Reshimot ZON de Guf (ZA and Malchut) rise from under the Tabur up to the Rosh de SAG (Bina), this process is called raising MAN to SAG. There, a Zivug between the SAG and the AB (between Bina and Hochma) is made, which results in the transfer of the Ohr Hochma from AB to SAG.*

After ZON (Zeir Anpin and Nukva) receive the "new light", they descend under the Tabur again to shine upon the 10 Sefirot of the world of Nikudim, which leads to the emergence of the 10 Sefirot of Gadlut de Nikudim. However, we will find out later that just these 10 Sefirot contributed to the breaking of the vessels.

The Creator created only the "desire to receive" delight. The amount of light filling each of these desires determines the essence of the Partzuf. All the Sefirot of each Partzuf possess the qualities that correspond to its essence. For example, the 10 Sefirot of the Partzuf AB are ruled by its highest property of Hochma. Keter in AB has the property of Hochma, so does Hochma de AB, etc. In the Partzuf SAG (Bina), the highest Sefira Keter already has the property of Bina, and not Hochma as in AB.

The Reshimot that the Nekudot de SAG received from the NHYM de Galgalta (ZA) demand Ohr Hochma, which SAG (Bina) does not have.

Therefore, SAG turns to AB, receives *Ohr Hochma*, and makes a *Zivug* on it. According to the demand of the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* of *NHYM de Galgalta*, the light from this *Zivug* must spread from the *Tabur* to the lowest point (the law of *TA*). From here, the world of *Nikudim* receives *Gadlut* by adding the *AHP* to itself, i.e., now it consists of 10 full *Sefirot* and uses all its desires.

Tzimtzum Bet represents the state where one may just passively observe, refusing to receive anything. If you can hold out in such a state without using your vessels of reception, then you are in *Katnut*. It means that you work only with the vessels of bestowal. In this state, you are somehow connected with the Creator, since He does not receive anything either. Hence, these ten *Sefirot* of yours are filled with the *Ohr Hassadim*.

Galgalta and *AB* received by bestowing upon the Creator. *SAG* already could not receive, just gave, or, rather, could passively exist in the spiritual space. *Nekudot de SAG*, being a part of *SAG*, also passively exist and do not want to receive anything. However, when a pleasure that is bigger than their screen (with the *Reshimot Bet/Bet*) can cope with (the *Reshimot Gimel/Bet*) comes their way, they catch this desire, being unable to resist it.

Any *Partzuf* is egoistic, but the screen that withstands egoism protects the *Partzuf* from receiving for its own sake, by the power it has. As the *Partzuf* meets with delight *Dalet/Gimel*, the screen instantly loses its strength and has no other option but to become a slave of its own desires and submit to them.

The difference between *Katnut* and *Gadlut* lies in the fact that, in the state of *Katnut*, the *Partzuf* activates only a half of its *Kelim (GE)*, and correspondingly, if the *Kelim Netzah-Hod-Yesod* (the *AHP*) are missing, then the *Gar* of the lights are absent too. Even if there had been no *TB* and a *Zivug* on the middle line, there would not have been the *Aleph de Aviut* and the *Bet de Hitlabshut* on the level defined as the *Ohr Hassadim*. This state is called “*Katnut*”.

The *Aviut Gimel* is used in *Gadlut*, which is defined as the *Kli* for the *Ohr Hochma*. In this case, *TB* is cancelled, since it allows only the use of the *Kelim* of bestowal. In other words, *Gadlut* means being filled with the *Ohr Hochma*.

The pure (clear) parts of the *Kli* are called the *Panim*, i.e., the *Kelim de Ashpa'a*, the desires of bestowal. The state wherein only such *Kelim* are present (where the screen for using the more egoistic desires (*Achoraim*) is unavailable) is called “*Katnut*”. However, when there is a screen for the *Kelim de Achoraim*, the desire to receive the *Ohr Hochma*, i.e., the Inner Light called the light of *Gadlut*, enters the *Kli*.

פב) ונתבאר לעיל באות ע"ד, שיש ב' מדרגות בראש דנקודים, הנקראות כתר ואו"א. ולפיכך, כשהאירו הזו"ן דא"ק את אור החדש דע"ב ס"ג אל הע"ס דנקודים, האיר תחילה אל הכתר דנקודים דרך טבורו דא"ק, ששם מלביש הכתר, והשלימו בג"ר דאורות ובינה וזו"ן דכלים. ואח"כ האיר אל או"א דנקודים דרך היסוד דא"ק, ששם מלבישים או"א, והשלימם בג"ר דאורות ובינה וזו"ן דכלים.

82) *We already know that there are two heads in the world of Nikudim: Keter and Abba ve Ima. When the new light of Hochma (AB-SAG) from the Rosh de SAG (requested by the ZON de Galgalta) begins to shine upon the ten Sefirot de Nikudim, it first enters the Rosh de Keter via the Tabur de AK. The world of Nikudim fills the Rosh de Keter with the light of Gar and elevates Sefirot Bina and ZON (i.e., AHP) de Keter, which have so far been in the Rosh de Abba ve Ima. Then the light AB-SAG enters the Rosh de Abba ve Ima of the world of Nikudim via Yesod de AK, fills them with the light of Gar and elevates Sefirot Bina and ZON de Abba ve Ima, which have been in the Gar de Guf. Thus, both heads, Keter and Abba ve Ima, enter the state of Gadlut.*

We see that the request rising from *ZON*, the creation's appeal to the Creator about getting strength for receiving the light for His sake, for the first time appears after *TB*. Ahead, we will observe the constant requests of the lower *Partzuf* to the upper one; we will see this connection

that allows them to be incorporated into the entire system of the Universe, become similar to it, and become permanent partners with it.

In spirituality, a desire is considered existing if it can be used for the Creator's sake, i.e., for giving. If such an intention is absent, one may say the desire is non-existent, since it is suppressed by the *Partzuf*. Any *Partzuf* consists of 10 *Sefirot*, 10 desires, but if it works only with one of them, then, in fact, only this particular desire exists. The rest do not, because they take no part in reception.

In *Gadlut* the desires *Netzah*, *Hod*, *Yesod* and *Malchut* join the desires *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Hesed*, *Gevura*, and *Tifferet* (*Katnut*). These desires become active because they acquired the anti-egoistic screen.

When the lower part of *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod*, *Yesod* and *Malchut* (*AHP* of each *Partzuf*) are inactive, there is no schematic description of them. Each *Partzuf* of the world of *Nikudim* has only *GE*, while its *AHP* (*Awzen*, *Hotem*, *Peh*) descend to the lower *Partzuf* and are, as it were, concealed inside its *GE*, which are dressed on them. This means that, as the light *ABSAG* fills the *GE* of the upper *Partzuf* and then descends to the *GE* of the lower one, the light enters the *AHP* at the same time, which means the equivalence of the properties of *GE* of the upper *Partzuf* with the *AHP* of the lower one.

This temporary fall of the *AHP* is necessary for pulling the *GE* of the lower *Partzuf* up together with the rise of the *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf* to its place in *Gadlut*. The *GE* of the lower *Partzuf* joins the *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf* on the level of the lower one, i.e., in *Katnut*. It happens owing to the presence in both of them of the intention to give to the same upper *Partzuf*. The commonness of the intention also remains when they both rise to the level of the upper *Partzuf*, where they form the 10 full *Sefirot*. The *Partzuf* that is formed from the *GE* of the lower one and the *AHP* of the upper one is new in the creation. Its formation depends on man's spiritual prayer, while both the upper and the lower *Partzufim* are the Creator's work.

Thus, the lower *Partzuf* can rise to a higher level with the help of the upper one, which temporarily likened itself (its properties) to the lower one. The same laws apply to the souls. The main thing is to feel the upper *Partzuf* inside, do everything in your power for establishing contact and merging with it, so that, when it starts lifting its *AHP* attached to your *GE*, it will elevate you as well.

When the *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf* descends to the *GE* of the lower and merges with it, this combination takes place only from the point of view of the upper *Partzuf*. Now the lower *Partzuf* has to put effort into merging with it, preferring contact with the Creator, despite the emptiness it feels in the *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf*. Furthermore, when the upper *Partzuf* begins to fill its *AHP* with the light, elevating it, the lower one must hold on to this *AHP*, not for the delight it now feels in it, but out of longing to merge with it, become like it.

We can see it in the example of the granting of the Torah. The desires *GE* in the *Partzuf* (in man) are those that strive for the Creator. They are called Israel (from the Hebrew words “*Yashar El*” – “straight to the Creator”). The entire process of their emergence, correction and filling is described in the Torah. This book is a manual for the spiritual work. All that is written in it happens inside man’s desires, in his heart, in the point that represents his true “I” and longs only for merging with the Creator.

It is a major delusion to perceive this book as a collection of stories, although the historical facts also took place, since everything in our world is a reflection of the spiritual worlds in man’s heart. At the foot of Mount Sinai, only the Torah (the light of correction), emanating from the *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf* was granted. Israel (*GE* of the lower *Partzuf*) is yet unable to accept it. The Torah was given, but not yet received. The only desire in man’s heart, called *Moshe* (Moses), can climb Mount Sinai, i.e., rise above its doubts and receive the Torah there.

Afterwards, this desire pulls (“*Moshech*”) Israel after it. How many wars, births, and inner transformations must happen before the Temple

(the vessel for receiving the light of the Torah) is rebuilt. This example demonstrates the fundamental difference between the descent of the AHP of the upper *Partzuf* into the GE of the lower and the state, where thanks to their own efforts, GE merge with this AHP, so that the upper *Partzuf* will be able to fill all of them with the light of the Purpose of Creation.

פג) ונבאר תחילה ענין הגדלות, שגרם אור חדש הזה אל הע"ס דנקודים. והענין הוא, כי יש להקשות על מ"ש באות ע"ד, שקומת הכתר ואו"א דנקודים היו בבחינת ו"ק, משום שיצאו על עביות דבח"א. והלא אמרנו, שע"י ירדת הנקודות דס"ג למטה מטבור דא"ק, נתחברה הבח"ד במסך דנקודות דס"ג שהוא בינה. הרי יש במסך הזה גם רשימו של בח"ד דעביות. וא"כ היה צריך לצאת על המסך, בעת התכללותו בראש הס"ג, ע"ס בקומת כתר ואור היחידה, ולא קומת ו"ק דבינה בספירת הכתר, וקומת ו"ק בלי ראש באו"א?

והתשובה היא: כי המקום גורם! כי מתוך שהבח"ד נכללה בבינה, שהיא נקבי עינים, נעלמה שם העביות דבח"ד בפנימיות הבינה, ודומה כמו שאיננה שם. וע"כ לא נעשה הזווג, רק על הרשימות דבח"ב דהתלבשות ובח"א דעביות, שהם מעצם המסך דבינה לבד (אות ע"ד) ולא יצאו שם אלא אלו ב' הקומות: ו"ק דבינה וו"ק גמורים.

83) First, let us find out what Gadlut is, the transition that was caused by the spreading of the new light (AB-SAG) into the ten Sefirot of the world of Nikudim. We should point out that the levels Keter and Abba ve Ima de Nikudim were on the level of the VAK, since their Aviut was Aleph. However, we previously said that, during the descent of Nekudot de SAG under the Tabur, they were mixed with Dalet/Gimel of the NHYM de Galgalta, which means that the Masach that rose to the Peh de Rosh has the Reshimo Dalet. Therefore, after such a Zivug in the Rosh de SAG, ten Sefirot de Nikudim of the level of Keter with the light of Yechida were supposed to emerge there, and not the VAK de Bina.

The fact is that, due to the inclusion of the Behina Dalet into Bina de Nikvey Eynaim, Behina Dalet takes no part in a Zivug; it, as it were, disappears as regards Bina. Moreover, a Zivug took place not in the Peh de SAG, but rose higher, to the Nikvey Eynaim. Here, TB occurred on Bet de Hitlabshut and Aleph de Aviut, which is the essence of the Masach de Bina. Two levels emerged from this Zivug:

the VAK de Bina (Bet de Hitlabshut) and the complete VAK (Aleph de Aviut, the level of ZA).

פד) ולפיכך עתה, אחר שהזו"ן דא"ק שלמטה מטבור המשיכו את האור החדש ע"י המ"ן שלהם מע"ב ס"ג דא"ק, והאירו אותו לראש דנקודים (אות פ"א), הנה מתוך שפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק אין לו שום נגיעה בצמצום ב' הזה, שהעלה את הבחי"ד למקום נקבי עינים, ע"כ כשהאור שלו נמשך לראש דנקודים, חזר וביטל בו את הצמצום ב', שהעלה מקום הזווג לנקבי עינים. והוריד בחזרה את הבחי"ד למקומה לפה, כמו שהיתה בעת הצמצום הא', דהיינו במקום הפה דראש. ונמצאו ג' הכלים אוזן חוטם ופה, שמסבת צמצום הב' נפלו מהמדרגה (אות ע"ו), הנה עתה חזרו ועלו למקומם למדרגתם בכתחילה. ואז ירד שוב מקום הזווג מנקבי עינים אל הבחי"ד במקום הפה דראש. ומאחר שהבחי"ד כבר היא במקומה, יצאו שם ע"ס בקומת כתר. והנה נתבאר, שע"י אור החדש, שהמשיך הזו"ן דא"ק אל הראש דנקודים, הרויח ג' האורות נשמה חיה יחידה, וג' הכלים אח"פ, שהם בינה וזו"ן, שהיו חסרים לו בעת יציאתו מתחילה.

84) Now, after the ZON de AK, which positioned under the Tabur, attracted the new light from the AB-SAG by raising MAN, this light shone on the Rosh de Nikudim and cancelled TB for the lack of any connection between the Partzuf AB and the TB (it originated in TA). Behina Dalet de AK under the Tabur, which rose to the Nikvey Eynaim after TB, now returned to the Peh de Rosh, as in TA.

Hence, the vessels AHP in the Rosh de SAG, which descended from under the screen due to TB, now rose again and took their previous position under the vessels of GE, while the place of Zivug descended from Nikvey Eynaim to Peh de Rosh, Behina Dalet. The return of Behina Dalet to its place led to the emergence of the Partzuf of the level of Keter with the light of Yechida. Thus, with the help of the new light, the Partzuf gained three more kinds of the Ohr Hochma: Neshama, Haya and Yechida, and the vessels Bina and ZON that were absent in it in the state of Katnut.

The principal task is to fill Malchut of the World of Infinity completely with the light. Malchut represents the Galgalta. If it were filled with the light from the Peh to the Tabur and from the Tabur down to the Sium, the Final Correction would come. However, according to the law of TA, only a part of Malchut from the Peh to the Tabur can be filled with

the light so far. Filling *Malchut* with the light from the *Tabur* to the *Sium*, with the help of *TA*, a usual *Zivug de Aka'a* is simply impossible. Neither *Galgalta*, nor *AB* nor any of the subsequent *Partzufim*, whose screen was even weaker than that of the *Galgalta*, could do that.

The only way is to somehow liken the properties of *Malchut* to those of *Bina*, mix the egoistic vessels of *NHYM de Galgalta* with the altruistic vessels of the *SAG (Bina)*, receive their altruistic properties, and gradually start filling the corrected vessels with the light.

Being the intermediate *Partzuf* between *Bina* (the *SAG*) and *ZA* (the *MA*, the world of *Nikudim*), the *Nekudot de SAG*, on the one hand, have the properties of *Bina*; on the other hand, the *Aviut Aleph*. Hence, it has also the properties of *ZA* or, rather, *VAK*, so it is somewhat similar to the *NHYM de Galgalta (ZA)*. That is why just the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* proves useful to achieve that goal – filling *Malchut* of the World of Infinity with the light under the *Tabur*. It descended under the *Tabur* and filled the *NHYM de Galgalta* with the *Ohr Hassadim*.

Then, as we already know, since the “desire to receive” for one’s sake was activated in the lower part of *Nekudot de SAG*, *Tzimtzum Aleph* snapped into action. *Malchut* instantly rose to *Tifferet (Bina de Guf)* and restricted reception of the light in the lower two thirds of it and in the *NHY*. The new restriction received the name *Tzimtzum Bet* and divided each level into *Gar* and *Zat*, *GE* and *AHP*.

The result of *TB* is that all the properties are mixed. *SAG* acquires egoistic properties and *Malchut* – altruistic vessels. This general mix of properties constitutes the world of *Nikudim* in *Katnut*, which says that now only the altruistic desires (*GE*) may be used. In fact, the world of *Nikudim* also consists of ten *Sefirot*, but of all these ten desires, it may use only the altruistic ones; hence, they say it has only *GE*.

After the emergence of the world of *Nikudim* in the state of *Katnut* (the screen is in the *Nikvey Eynaim*, the *Reshimot Bet/Aleph*), its *ZON* raise *MAN* on *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* asking for the filling of their desires.

To receive the *Ohr Hochma* and pass it on to the ZON, SAG turns to AB, since AB has a sufficiently strong screen to work with the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel*.

Light ABSAG passes through the *Tabur* to the *Rosh de Keter* and *Rosh de Abba ve Ima* of the world of *Nikudim*, dictating its properties. It annuls TB, elevates AHP to GE in the *Rosh de Keter* and *Abba ve Ima*, and then makes them enter the state of *Gadlut*. The light corrects and fills the vessels. The correction of our souls will take place in a similar fashion, with the help of the raising of MAN. There are just three components in this process: the egoistic “desire to receive” created by the Creator, the screen and the light.

Malchut of the World of Infinity slowly moves through the entire process of transition from the first state (of being completely filled with the light) to the third state (the *Gmar Tikkun*) during 6000 years or levels. This process represents the second stage of gradual correction of the vessels and fills them with portions of the light. Kabbalah is a practical science that deals with the filling of desires with the light. Like other sciences, it possesses its special instrument called the screen and the methods for building it, the so-called “*Birur*” (analysis) and the “*Tikkun*” (correction). The screen is not just an instrument, or the vessel to be filled; it also contains the *Reshimot* – the information about the previous state.

We have never heard of the additional light that comes and allows the vessel to transform itself. The *Partzuf* in the state of *Katnut*, filled with the *Ohr Hassadim* is unable to change anything by itself, give birth to a new state. Only the *Partzuf* filled with the *Ohr Hochma* can do this.

Galgalta above the *Tabur* has exhausted all its *Reshimot* because of *Zivugim*, on which the five *Partzufim* of the world of AK emerged. Now the world of *Nikudim* in *Katnut* is under the *Tabur*, together with the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* on four unused desires after TB. These vessels want to receive the light, since they feel that their desires are not filled. They demand the *Ohr Hochma* from the upper *Partzuf*. However, the vessel

must acquire a screen with sufficient power to resist its egoistic desires, i.e., the intention to receive for the Creator’s sake.

To correct the vessels of the world of *Nikudim*, SAG turns to AB, receives the *Ohr Hochma* from it, then passes the combined light *Hochma-Hassadim* (AB-SAG) to *Nikudim*. This light is not pleasure; it is the light of correction, which means that it allows even the egoistic vessels to receive for the sake of the Creator.

How can such a light enter the egoistic vessels when the law of TA, which forbids the light from entering the *Kli* without the *Masach*, is effective? The Light AB-SAG acts in the following way: it allows the vessel to see the Creator’s greatness from afar. This sensation of significance of spirituality lets the vessel act in an altruistic way.

The *Ohr AB-SAG* is a very specific kind of light that we will discuss later. Having no *Ohr Hochma*, the SAG turns to AB. The *Ohr AB-SAG* is the light that corrects the creation. In order to be corrected, one needs to know what correction is, what it means to be filled with wisdom and knowledge. The Light AB-SAG contains all this information. Both the light of AB and SAG are necessary to show the lower *Partzuf* the entire diversity of the spiritual attainment.

From the state of complete emptiness, performing each new action for the sake of the Creator, *Malchut* of the World of Infinity accumulates more and more altruistic properties. These are the *Partzufim Galgala*, AB and SAG. Seemingly, it should get closer and closer to the Creator. The birth of each new *Partzuf* is like a manifestation of a new altruistic property of *Malchut*. Yet in reality, each new action moves *Malchut* away from the Creator.

Perhaps it is drawing nearer and not moving away? On the one hand, the more distant the *Partzuf* is from the Creator, the more independent it becomes. On the other hand, there lies its weakness; it loses contact with the Creator, and feels less of the power of His light.

Every action in the spiritual world is either perfect or must approximate perfection. Now *Malchut* realizes the Creator's goal: to be completely filled with His light. Hence, each new action is supposed to draw it nearer to this goal and must be better than the previous. The vessels' properties become more and more revealed. *Malchut* moves farther away from the Creator, but from the point of its self-knowledge, it is a very positive process. However, one can come to know oneself only with the help of the powerful light, whereas each subsequent *Partzuf* contains less and less of it.

A phenomenon can be properly examined only by summarizing all actions. Everything should be looked upon from the viewpoint of the creation, i.e., *Malchut* of the World of Infinity. First, turning into new worlds and *Partzufim*, it moves farther and farther away from the Creator. Then, reaching the point of our world and turning into the human soul, it starts ascending, being the initiator of all actions. The actions performed from above refer exclusively to the Creator.

פה) ונתבאר היטב הקטנות והגדלות דנקודים. אשר צמצום הב', שהעלה את ה"ת, שהיא בחי"ד, למקום נקבי עינים, ונגנזה שם, גרם לקומת הקטנות דנקודים, שהוא קומת ו"ק או ז"א באורות דנפש רוח, והיו חסרים שם בינה וזו"ן דכלים ונשמה חיה יחידה דאורות. וע"י ביאת אור חדש דע"ב ס"ג דא"ק אל הנקודים, חזר הצמצום א' למקומו. וחזרו הבינה וזו"ן דכלים לראש, כי ה"ת ירדה מנקבי עינים וחזרה למקומה למלכות, הנקראת "פה".

ואז נעשה הזווג על בחי"ד, שחזרה למקומה. ויצאו הע"ס בקומת כתר ויחידה. ונשלמו הנרנח"י דאורות והכח"ב זו"ן דכלים. ולשם הקיצור מכאן ואילך: נכנה להצמצום ב' והקטנות בשם "עלית ה"ת לנקבי עינים וירידת אח"פ למטה", ואת הגדלות נכנה בשם ביאת אור דע"ב ס"ג, המוריד ה"ת מנקבי עינים ומחזיר האח"פ למקומם.

גם תזכור תמיד שגו"ע ואח"פ הם שמות דע"ס כח"ב זו"ן דראש, והע"ס דגוף מכונים בשם חג"ת נה"מ. וגם הם נחלקים לפי גו"ע ואח"פ, כי החסד וגבורה ושליש עליון דת"ת עד החזה - הם גלגלתא ועינים ונקבי עינים, וב"ש ת"ת ונה"ם הם אח"פ.

גם תזכור, שגלגלתא ועינים ונ"ע או חג"ת עד החזה הם מכונים כלים דפנים, ואח"פ או ב"ש ת"ת ונה"מ שמחזה ולמטה מכונים כלים דאחורים, וכן תזכור ענין בקיעת המדרגה, שנעשה עם צמצום ב', אשר לא נשאר בכל מדרגה רק הכלים דפנים לבד. וכל תחתון, יש בפנימיותו הכלים דאחורים של העליון (אות ע"ז).

85) *We have cleared up the meaning of Katnut and Gadlut of the world of Nikudim, where TB lifted Malchut to Nikvey Eynaim and concealed it there. This caused the emergence of the world of Nikudim in Katnut. This is the state in which the vessels Keter, Hochma and Gar de Bina are filled with the lights Nefesh and Ruach, while the vessels the Zat de Bina and ZON, and the lights Neshama, Haya, and Yechida are absent. Then, as the new light AB-SAG descends from the world AK to the world of Nikudim, TA returns; as a result, the vessels Zat de Bina and ZON in the Rosh joined the upper vessels and the screen descended from Nikvey Eynaim to Peh.*

Then a Zivug is made on Behina Dalet, which returned to its position in Peh de Rosh. This leads to the formation of ten Sefirot of the level of Keter. From this moment, TB and Katnut are defined as the ascent of Malchut to Nikvey Eynaim and the downfall of AHP. The state of Gadlut is characterized by the appearance of the light AB-SAG, the descent of Malchut to its previous position (as in TA) and the rise of AHP.

As was stated above, GE and AHP are names of the 10 Sefirot KaHaB ZON de Rosh. The 10 Sefirot de Guf are correspondingly called the HaGaT NHYM, which in turn consist of their GE (Hesed, Gevura and the upper third of Tifferet down to the Chazeh) and the AHP (two lower thirds of Tifferet and NHYM).

*You should also remember that GE (HaGaT down to the Chazeh) is also called the **Panim** (face, front part), and the AHP (two thirds of Tifferet and the NHYM) is called the **Achoraim** (back part). You should not forget about the division of the levels after TB, when only GE remained on each level, while the AHP fell into the GE of the lower level, whose AHP in turn fell to the GE of the level below, etc.*

THE NEKUDOT: HOLAM, SHURUK, HIRIK ביאור ג' הנקודות חולם שורק חירק

פז) דע, שהנקודות נחלקות לג' בחינות ראש תוך סוף, שהם: נקודות עליונות, שממעל לאותיות, הנכללות בשם "חולם", ונקודות אמצעיות, שבתוך האותיות, הנכללות בשם "שורק" או "מלאפום", דהיינו ו' ובתוכה נקודה, ונקודות תחתונות, שמתחת האותיות, הנכללות בשם "חירק".

86) You must know that there are three kinds of Nekudot (dots, points): the Rosh, the Toch and the Sof. The upper Nekudot, positioned above the Hebrew letter as dots, are called Rosh, or **Holam**. The middle Nekudot inside the letters, as in Vav with a dot, is called Toch, or **Shuruk**. The lower Nekudot, placed under the letters, are called Sof, or **Hirik**.

What does this mean in the spiritual world? The letters are the vessels, while the dots are the lights. If the dot is above the letter, it symbolizes the light that has not yet entered the vessel, but is destined to do so in the future. This kind of a dot is called *Holam*. If the dot is inside the vessel, in its *Toch*, it is called *Shuruk*. If the dot left the vessel and is under it, it is called *Hirik*.

פז) וזה ביאורם. כי אותיות פירושם כלים, דהיינו הספירות דגוף. כי הע"ס דראש הם רק שרשים לכלים ולא כלים ממש. ונקודות פירושם אורות, המחיים את הכלים ומנענעים אותם. והיינו אור החכמה, הנקרא "אור חיה". והוא בחינת אור חדש, שהז"ן דא"ק קבלו מע"ב ס"ג והאירו להכלים דנקודים, והורידו את ה"ת בחזרה לפה דכל מדרגה, והשיבו להמדרגה את האח"פ דכלים וג"ר דאורות. הרי שאור הזה מנענע הכלים דאח"פ ומעלה אותם מהמדרגה שלמטה, ומחבר אותם לעליונה כבתחילה, שז"ס "נקודות המנענעות להאותיות". וזה האור להיותו נמשך מע"ב דא"ק, שהוא אור חיה, ע"כ הוא מחיה לאותם הכלים דאח"פ ע"י התלבשותו בתוכם.

87) The letters constitute the vessels, i.e., the *Sefirot de Guf*. The ten *Sefirot de Rosh* are called the roots of the vessels. The *Nekudot* are the lights that animate these vessels. Hence, the *Ohr Hochma* is called the light of life (*Ohr Haya*). This new light *AB-SAG* passes through the *ZON* of the world of *AK*. It then shines upon the vessels of the world of *Nikudim*, causes *Malchut* to descend from *Nikvey*

Eynaim to Peh on each level, and thus brings the AHP back. As a result, all the lights return to their places. This light moves the Kelim from the state of TB to the state of TA, from Katnut to Gadlut. Accordingly, the light AB-SAG animates and arouses the vessels by dressing into them.

In the *Katnut de Nikudim*, *Abba ve Ima* dressed on the *AHP de Keter*, the *ZON* dressed on the *AHP de Abba ve Ima*, and the *AHP de ZON* were under the *Parsa*. This state appeared after a *Zivug* in *Nikvey Eynaim* of the *Rosh de SAG*. Now, under the influence of the new light *AB-SAG*, the screen in *Rosh de SAG* descended from *Nikvey Eynaim* to the *Peh de Rosh* and made a *Zivug* with the *Ohr Hochma* of *AB*. First, the light descended to the *Rosh de Keter* and attached the *AHP* and the light of *Gar* to *Keter*. This light let the vessel understand what the Creator means. The vessel is totally imbued with altruism and is now able to work with all of its ten desires, making a *Zivug de Haka'a* on them. Thus, the vessel passes from *Katnut* to *Gadlut*.

פח) וכבר ידעת, שהזו"ן דא"ק האירו את אור החדש הזה להע"ס דנקודים דרך ב' מקומות: דרך הטבור האיר להכתר דנקודים, ודרך היסוד האיר לאו"א דנקודים. ותדע, שהארה דרך הטבור מכונה בשם "חולם", המאיר לאותיות מלמעלה מהם.

והוא מטעם, שהארת הטבור אינו מגיע אלא לכתר דנקודים, שהוא קומת הזכר דראש הנקודים (אות ע"ד). וקומת הזכר אינו מתפשט לז"ת של הנקודים, שהם הכלים דגוף שנקראים "אותיות". לפיכך נבחן שהוא מאיר אליהם רק ממקומו למעלה ואינו מתפשט באותיות עצמם. וההארה דרך היסוד מכונה בשם "שורק". דהיינו ו' עם נקודה שהיא עומדת תוך שורת האותיות. והטעם, כי הארה זו מגיע לאו"א דנקודים, שהם קומת הנקבה דראש הנקודים, שאורתיה מתפשטים גם לגוף, שהם הז"ת דנקודים, הנקראים "אותיות". וע"כ נמצא נקודת השורק תוך שורת האותיות.

88) *We already know that ZON of the world of AK affected the ten Sefirot de Nikudim with the new light in two ways: through the Tabur, it shone upon Keter de Nikudim, and through Yesod – upon Abba ve Ima de Nikudim. You should know that the light passing through the Tabur is called Holam. It shines above the letters only in*

Keter, representing the level of Zachar (active male essence), or Hitlabshut, and cannot spread to the vessels of the Guf, called letters.

That is why it is considered to be shining only above the letters without spreading inside them. The light passing through Yesod is called Shuruk, Vav with a dot, which means it is inside the letters and enters Abba ve Ima, the female essence of the Rosh de Nikudim. This light also spreads in the Guf, i.e., the Zat de Nikudim, called letters. Thus, the Nekudat Shuruk is inside the letters.

When we look at the Hebrew alphabet of the *Torah*, we will see that there are many dots inside of letters (not just *Vav* with a dot): for example, *Pey* and *Fey*, *Bet* and *Vet*. *Mem* and *Tav* can also have dots. All these laws derive from the rules of the spiritual world. Later we will study the Hebrew alphabet, which actually originates in *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut*, and fully correspond to the *ZON* and the *AHP de Abba ve Ima* of the world of *Nikudim*. The first letters from *Aleph* to *Tet* are in *Bina*, the letters from *Chav* to *Tzadik* are in *ZA*, the last four letters: *Kuf*, *Reish*, *Shin*, and *Tav* are in *Malchut*.

Every dot, whether over the letters (crowns), inside the letters, or under them, speaks only about the spiritual state of the *Partzuf*. Every word in Hebrew says something about the Universe and signifies the reception of some spiritual light in the vessel. The combination of the vessel and the light is expressed in a code called “word”. This code contains all relations between the light and the vessel, the screen, *Aviut* etc.

Each letter of the alphabet carries a tremendous amount of information in its shape, the relation to the previous letter. This information points exclusively at spiritual actions. When man pronounces a word, he expresses his feelings in each letter; they register in the screen and speak about the spiritual level of the *Partzuf*.

In our world, we do not feel the spiritual conformity between the vessel and the light. While using a language, we do not understand the inner spiritual meaning of the words that come from the *Torah*, which

carry clear spiritual information. It is impossible to call something by a different name. For example, the word *Maim*, which consists of two letters, *Mem* (one of which is terminal – *Sofit*) and certain dots, precisely expresses the essence of water; so does each word.

Kabbalists are known to perform some actions with the letters. This does not at all mean they write something on parchment or paper. When they say that Kabbalists operate with letters, it means that they perform strictly spiritual actions, i.e., they fill their vessels with the help of the screen and the Reflected Light. No eye can see these actions.

(פט) והנה נתבארו היטב החולם והשורק. אשר הארת אור חדש דרך הטבור, המוריד ה"ת מנקבי עינים דכתר לפה, ומעלה בחזרה האח"פ דכתר, הוא סוד נקודת החולם, שממעל לאותיות. והארת אור חדש דרך היסוד, המוריד ה"ת מנקבי עינים דא"א להפה שלהם, ומשיב להם את האח"פ, ה"ס נקודת השורק, שבתוך האותיות. מטעם שמוחין אלו באים גם בז"ת דנקודים, הנקראים "אותיות".

89), *We have learned the meaning of the dots Holam and Shuruk. The luminescence of the new light passing through the Tabur, which lowers the screen from Nikvey Eynaim de Rosh of Keter to its Peh and returns the AHP de Keter to its level, is called Nekudat Holam. The luminescence of the new light passing through Yesod lowers the screen from Nikvey Eynaim de Abba ve Ima to the Peh and returns their AHP de Keter to its place. This light shines inside the letters and is called Shuruk. These Mochin (the light of Gar) also spread to the Zat de Nikudim, called letters, i.e., the vessels receiving this light.*

However, from the *Rosh de Abba ve Ima* (called the *Rosh de Aviut* as distinct from the *Rosh de Keter* called the *Rosh de Hitlabshut*), the light spreads to the *Guf de ZON*.

צ) וסוד החירק, הוא בחינת האור חדש, שהז"ת עצמם מקבלים מאו"א, להוריד בחינת ה"ת המסיימת, העומדת בחזה שלהם, אל מקום סיום רגלי א"ק. שע"ז חוזרים אליהם האח"פ שלהם, שהם הכלים שמחזה ולמטה, שנעשו למקום ב"ע. אשר אז יוחזרו הבי"ע להיות כמו אצילות.

אמנם הז"ת דנקודים לא יכלו להוריד הה"ת מהחזה, ולבטל לגמרי את הצמצום ב', והפרסא, והמקום ב"ע. אלא בעת שהמשיכו האור לבי"ע, נשברו תיכף כל הכלים דז"ת. כי כח ה"ת המסיימת, העומדת בפרסא, היה מעורב בכלים האלו. והיה האור מוכרח תיכף להסתלק משם. והכלים נשברו ומתו ונפלו לבי"ע. ונשברו גם הכלים דפנים שלהם, העומדים למעלה מפרסא, דהיינו הכלים שמחזה ולמעלה. כי גם מהם נסתלק כל האור. ונשברו ומתו ונפלו לבי"ע. וזה היה מחמת חיבורם עם הכלים דאחורים לגוף אחד.

90) *Hirik is the new light received by Zat directly from Abba ve Ima, which lowers Malchut from the Chazeh to the Sium de AK; as a result, the AHP de ZON returns to its place from under the Parsa. These AHP de ZON formed the worlds BYA under the Parsa. So now, under the influence of the light of Hirik, these worlds are supposed to become similar to the world of Atzilut.*

However, the ZON de Nikudim could not lower Malchut from the Chazeh and completely cancel TB and the Parsa, thus changing the place of the worlds BYA. The moment the light spread to BYA, all the vessels of the Zat broke, for the law of Malchut Mesayemet (in the Chazeh) was still effective. The lights instantly left the vessels, which broke, died and fell to BYA. The Kelim de Panim also broke. Even though these vessels were under the Parsa, they wanted to unite with the AHP in one Partzuf.

They also died and fell to BYA, because the light had disappeared from them. In fact, the worlds *Atzilut* and *BYA* have not been there yet, but the vessels from which they would later be created, already existed.

All was well until the light disappeared from *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima*. After the light descended under the *Parsa*, to the *AHP de ZON*, there occurred the breaking of the vessels. *GE* had the screen above the *Parsa*, which could bestow everything upon the Creator, while under the *Parsa* (the receiving vessels) the law restricting any reception ruled entirely, even though the “desire to receive” was concentrated there. When the light *ABSAG* came, it gave the strength to the common vessel to receive this entire light for the sake of the Creator, and fill the *NHY de Galgalta* with it.

However, *Rosh de Keter* and *Abba ve Ima* failed to take into account the fact that the light AB-SAG, which spread under the *Parsa*, would arouse the egoistic desire in the vessels present there. The fact is that not just two heads, *Keter* and the *Abba ve Ima*, maintain the *Parsa*, but also by the third, the *YESHSUT* that is under the *Tabur*. This very head restrains the light AB-SAG, preventing it from spreading under the *Parsa*.

This is deliberately done to break all the vessels, deprive them of the screen, and move them as far from the Creator as possible. However, because of this, the altruistic and egoistic vessels completely mixed with one another. Now each fragment contains both the “desire to bestow” and the “desire to receive”. This was exactly what breaking of the vessels aimed at.

The ZON of the world of *Nikudim* embodies the entire *Malchut* of the World of Infinity. The purpose is to fill its part under the *Parsa* with the Creator’s light. How can that be done? Only by the above-mentioned explosive method, when *Abba ve Ima* and ZON get the wrong impression that they can receive the light for the Creator’s sake under *Parsa*. The ZON really seem to start receiving the light for the sake of the Creator, but then realize they receive it in an egoistic way.

The light disappears; the vessel finds itself in a desperate situation, where not only its own properties, but also those of *GE* become egoistic. They fall under the *Parsa* and mix with the egoistic vessels. Now these fragments of the egoistic vessels have sparks of altruism. When the light shines upon them, it will arouse their altruistic sparks and correct them.

צא) והנך רואה, שנקודת החירק לא יכלה לצאת לשליטתה בעולם הנקודים, כי אדרבה היא גרמה לשבירת הכלים. והיינו משום שרצתה להתלבש בתוך האותיות, דהיינו בתנה"מ שלמטה מפרסא דאצילות, שנעשו לבי"ע. אמנם אח"כ, בעולם התיקון, קבלה נקודת החירק את תיקונה. כי שם נתקנה להאיר מתחת האותיות.

דהיינו שבעת שהז"ת דאצילות מקבלים את אור הגדלות מאו"א, הצריך להוריד את ה"ת המסיימת ממקום החזה לסיום רגלין דא"ק, ולחבר את הכלים דתנה"מ לאצילות, והאורות יתפשטו למטה עד סיום רגלין דא"ק - אינם עושים כן, אלא שהם מעלים התנה"י הללו ממקום בי"ע אל מקום האצילות שלמעלה מפרסא. ומקבלים האורות בהיותם למעלה מפרסא

דאצילות, כדי שלא יארע בהם שוב שביה"כ כבעולם הנקודים. וזה נבחן, שנקודת החירק, המעלה את הכלים דתנה"י דז"ת דאצילות, עומדת מתחת אלו הכלים תנה"מ שהעלתה, דהיינו שעומדת במקום הפרסא דאצילות. הרי שנקודת החירק משמשת מתחת האותיות. והנה נתבאר סוד ג' נקודות חולם שורק חירק בדרך כלל.

91) *We see that the world of Nikudim was not ready to receive the light that corresponded to the point of Hirik; hence it made for the breaking of the vessels. It happened because it wanted to get inside the letters, i.e., the vessels Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut under the Parsa in the worlds of BYA. Afterwards, in the world of Correction (Atzilut), the point of Hirik is corrected and shines below the letters.*

When Zat of the world of Nikudim received the light of Gadlut from Abba ve Ima, which had to lower Malchut from the Chazeh to the Sium de AK and unite the vessels of the AHP with the GE de Nikudim, the light began spreading under the Parsa. This led to the breaking of the vessels. To prevent this from happening again, the corrected point of Hirik in the world of Atzilut elevates Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut from under the Parsa (the worlds BYA) to the world of Atzilut above the Parsa, and stays below them, i.e., on the level of the Parsa. Thus, we have learned the meaning of the three dots: Holam, Shuruk, and Hirik.

How can the desire be elevated above the Parsa? This becomes possible only after the breaking of the vessels, when each desire of Malchut is mixed with Bina and has a chance to be corrected. This material is difficult to understand without certain inner sensations. Kabbalah is impossible to grasp by the mind alone. If man persistently tries to do that, he commits a most serious violation. Yet, there is so far no other way out, for we have no alternative connection with spirituality.

Let us review the material we have studied. We know that *Nekudot de SAG* descended under the *Tabur de Galgalta* and mixed with the *NHYM de Galgalta*. Then they rose to *Rosh de SAG* with the *Reshimot Bet/Aleph* and the information about the *TB*, which produced the *Katnut de*

Nikudim with *Keter*, *Abba ve Ima* and *ZON* reaching the *Parsa*. *Keter* is the *Rosh de Hitlabshut*, *Abba ve Ima* is the *Rosh de Aviut* and *ZON* is the *Guf*.

In fact, *Nikudim* in *Katnut* is not a world; it is still only a small *Partzuf*. Nevertheless, it is called the world because later it will in fact appear there. This will happen as a result of a *Zivug* on the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel*, which were received from the *NHYM de Galgalta* and were also present in the screen ascending to the *Rosh de SAG*.

When the world of *Nikudim* emerge in the state of *Katnut*, the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* awaken in the *Rosh de SAG*. They now wish to receive the entire *Ohr Hochma* destined for the vessels of *Galgalta* under the *Tabur*. Light *AB-SAG* descends in response to this request. The *SAG* demonstrates what the “desire to bestow” is; *AB* shows how it is possible to receive for the Creator’s sake. Both of them enable the vessel in *Katnut* to pass to the state of *Gadlut*.

In order to receive the light *AB-SAG*, a *Zivug* is made not in *Nikvey Eynaim*, but again in the *Peh de Rosh*, where the screen descends. First, this new light descends through the *Tabur* to *Keter de Nikudim*, and by filling it, provides it with strength to attach its own *AHP* and pass to *Gadlut*. The light cannot spread beyond *Keter* (the *Rosh de Hitlabshut*). It spreads to *Yesod de Galgalta*, where the *Rosh de Abba ve Ima* is dressed. Thus, the second head (the *Abba ve Ima*) can receive light *AB-SAG* and, with its help, achieve the state of *Gadlut*.

The light in *Keter* is called *Holam* (dot above letter). This means that the light does not spread farther than the *Rosh*. The light in *Abba ve Ima* is called *Shuruk* (dot inside letter). Then the light enters *GE de ZON* and tries to descend to *AHP de ZON* under the *Parsa*, to the egoistic vessels. If it could get under the *Parsa*, it would unite *GE de ZON* with their *AHP*. However, it cannot get there to give the *AHP* the altruistic properties.

Therefore the *AHP* does not join *GE de ZON*; *AHP* retain their “desire to receive” for their own sake, which leads to breaking of the ves-

sels. The light disappears, since according to *TA* it cannot be inside egoistic vessels. The *Kelim de GE* and the *AHP de ZON* become absolutely egoistic; having no screen, they fall under the *Parsa*, which means their properties are totally opposite to the Creator's. The light that tries to get under the *Parsa* is called the point of *Hirik*.

Later on, the correction takes place in the world of *Atzilut*. This world has the following structure. It also has *Keter*, *Abba ve Ima* and *ZON*. The principle of correction is quite simple. The *Parsa* cannot be eliminated. The only way is to raise the *AHP* (the vessels of reception) above the *Parsa* and attach them to the *GE de ZON*, thus creating the ten *Sefirot* above the *Parsa* and filling them with the light. This process is called “*AHP de Aliyah*” – the ascending vessels of reception. This state is called the Final Correction.

Afterwards, the light from above will come to eliminate the *Parsa*. When it is out of the way, it will lower the *AHP* to its place under the now non-existent *Parsa*. This is called the *AHP Amiti'im* (real *AHP*) or the *AHP de Yeridah* (descending *AHP*). Thus, the light completely fills *Galgalta* down to the *Sium Reglav*. This light is called the *Ohr HaMashiach*. It corrects and fills all vessels.

This correction is going on in the Universe. So where is man in this scheme? All we discuss happens for the sake of the souls that will be created later on, and which will have to go through all the levels prepared for them. Right now, the worlds seem to be the goal; man seems to have no place in them. This is not so. The worlds represent the system that controls the souls, whereas the souls can in turn control the worlds. We will talk about it later.

The state where the *AHP* rises above the *Parsa* is called “the ascent of the worlds on *Shabbat* and on holidays”. When the *AHP* is under the *Parsa*, it is called “weekdays”. That is the origin of time.

Why were there not any letters before the world of *Atzilut*? It is because there were no real vessels, just their roots. The formation of the vessel

is gradual. A clear-cut vessel-desire requires information about the *Reshimo* (the desire of the *Kli*) and a total absence of the desired pleasure. First, the light must enter the vessel, whose desires are opposite to this light.

It happens that, in the preliminary vessels, the light is primary while the vessel's reaction to it is secondary. However, in the case where the true vessel is primary, the light is secondary. The real vessel emanates its own desire, aspiration to something, which is beyond its absolute darkness and remoteness from the Creator.

When man studies Kabbalah, he knows that some previously unknown information is delivered to him: information about the light, the *Sefirot*, the *Partzufim*, the worlds etc. In order to feel it, he needs to have the screen, and then all the information turns into light, which previously surrounded him. This information is all around, but there are no vessels able to perceive it so far.

We should not imagine anything, for all our images will be wrong until we have the screen. If you were reading a book about delicious and healthy food recipes, you would instantly imagine the tastes and the smells of the described delicacies. Any images in Kabbalah are totally groundless if no adequate vessels are available.

The plan, the Thought of Creation, all further actions, their initial and final states, are concealed in *Behina Aleph* of the Direct Light, its first point called *Keter de Ohr Yashar*. Then it develops as the four *Behinot*, *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, the world *AK*, the world of *Nikudim*, the worlds of *BYA*, the breaking of the vessels, *Adam HaRishon* etc.

The properties of both the light and the vessel were determined in the Thought of Creation, so the way from the initial state to the final is known in advance. There are no unforeseen obstacles or unnecessary actions on this way, which might lead to unexpected results. Everything evolves according to a precisely planned program. Either you feel the tough influence of nature, mercilessly pushing you towards the Purpose of Creation, or you take control into your own hands and move quickly

to leave the blows behind. Thus, you accelerate the entire process. This quick movement will not be a burden to you; on the contrary, it will seem delightful.

As regards the Creator, the initial point of the creation merges with the final; they continue to exist as one. As regards us, the first point gradually unfolds as a series of consecutive actions, until this way ends in its final point. No horoscopes, fortune telling, or corrections of destiny will help us to avoid blows.

The light is amorphous. The vessel surrounded by the light feels more or less in accordance with its spiritual properties – the screen. There are 12 kinds of *Ohr Hozer*, 12 kinds of *Reshimot*, 10 kinds of the *Ke-lim*, seven kinds of *Masachim*, and six kinds of *Ohr Yashar*. In order to feel it all, one must have the appropriate vessels. For instance, when we hear the word “*Lechem*” (bread), we can sense its smell, its taste. What do we sense when words such as “*Ohr*”, “*Reshimo*” or “*Kli*” are pronounced? ...

The *Gadlut* of the world of *Nikudim* symbolizes the *Gmar Tik-kun*, when the light fills the *AHP de ZON*, but it will happen in the sensations of the souls. The state wherein each soul can correct itself is called its birth.

RAISING OF MAN OF ZAT DE NIKUDIM
TO ABBA VE IMA

ענין עלית מ"ן דז"ת דנקודים
לאו"א וביאור ספירת הדעת

צב) כבר נתבאר, שבסבת עלית ה"ת לנקבי עינים, שנעשה בצמצום ב', דהיינו לעת יציאת הקטנות דע"ס דנקודים, נחלקה כל מדרגה לב' חצאים: גלגלתא ועינים - נשארים במדרגה ונקראים משום זה "כלים דפנים", ואזן חוטם פה - הנפולים מהמדרגה להמדרגה שמתחתיה, נקראים משום זה "כלים דאחורים". באופן, שכל מדרגה ומדרגה נעשית כפולה מפנימיות וחיצוניות, באשר הכלים דאחורים דעליונה נפלו בפנימיות הכלים דפנים של עצמה. ונמצאים אח"פ הנפולים דכתר נקודים מלובשים תוך גלגלתא ועינים דאו"א, ואח"פ הנפולים דאו"א מלובשים תוך גלגלתא ועינים דז"ת דנקודים (אות ע"ו).

92) *We have already explained that, because of Malchut rising to Nikvey Eynaim (caused by TB) and the emergence of the world of Nikudim in Katnut, each level divided into two parts. GE, remain on their level and are therefore called Kelim de Panim, and AHP, which fall from their level to the lower one and are called Kelim de Achoraim. Thus, each level now consists of inner and outer parts. The AHP de Keter of the world of Nikudim is inside the GE de Abba ve Ima. The AHP de Abba ve Ima fell into the GE de ZON of the world of Nikudim.*

So, starting from TB, each level consisting of 10 Sefirot is divided into GE, which include Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura and the upper third of Tifferet, and the AHP that include the lower third of Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut.

The light can enter the upper part (the GE), which may be used. The AHP cannot receive the light and these desires may not be used. The upper Sefirot are called the altruistic desires, the lower Sefirot – egoistic. The former bestow, the latter receive. Each level may actively work only with its upper part, i.e., the GE.

If before TB all levels were one under the other, after TB all AHP's of the upper levels are inside the GE of the lower ones, which allowed

an exchange of information in both directions. This entire structure is called a “*Sulam*” (ladder); the souls descend and ascend it.

There are two entities: the Creator and the Creation. The Creator is an entirely altruistic desire, whereas the Creation is an absolutely egoistic desire.

The Creator’s goal is to make the Creation similar to Himself, so that by the end of its correction, it will achieve absolute perfection. This can be done only by way of passing the Creator’s properties to *Malchut*, i.e., by mixing the nine upper altruistic *Sefirot* with the egoistic *Malchut*. However, they are completely opposite to one another. To bring them closer, a special force is created in the system of the worlds. With its help, the egoistic properties of *Malchut* can mix with the sparks of altruistic properties by a stroke contact between them.

Now we begin to study the formation of these forces (external as regards the souls) in the worlds, so that with their help the souls could be elevated to the Creator’s level.

We have learned that there are four phases of development of the light: *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*. Being completely filled with the light, *Malchut* expels it and makes *TA*, which leaves it absolutely empty. Then *Malchut* invents a system that allows it to begin receiving a little light, but for the sake of the Creator. *Bina* is an interim stage between *Malchut* and *Keter*. It consists of two parts: *Gar* (*Gimel Rishonot*) and *Zat* (*Zain Tachtonot*). *Bina* does not want to receive anything in the first three parts, but agrees to receive in the seven lower parts on condition that the reception be for someone else’s sake. This someone is *ZA*, which agrees to receive only 10 % for *Malchut*. Such is the property of *Zat de Bina*: receiving for the sake of giving to someone else.

However, if a light more powerful than *Bina*’s screen comes, then *Behina Bet* starts desiring it for itself. However, *TA* forbids egoistic reception; hence, the *Zat de Bina* begins to contract and assume the egoistic properties of *Malchut*. The further goal is to reverse this process: elimina-

tion of the egoistic properties in *Zat de Bina* and passing the true altruistic properties to *Malchut*. This can be achieved by breaking of the vessels, which we will study later. With this, the entire system turns into such a combination of both egoistic and altruistic vessels that, as in our world, there will be no distinction between them.

To change this situation, an additional portion of the Creator’s light is necessary. With its help, it will be possible to distinguish between the two kinds of desires. The entire process of correction is based on this principle.

In fact, *Zat de Bina* is the central part of the creation. Much depends on it, so we will discuss it at length. During the descent of *Nekudot de SAG* under the *Tabur*, i.e., when *Zat de Bina* meets the more powerful desires of *NHYM de Galgalta*, *Zat de Bina* contract and assume *Malchut*’s properties. *TA* was made by *Malchut* to restrict itself; *TB* is the restriction of *Bina*. In other words, the Creator, as it were, takes on the egoistic properties of the creation.

This is done in order that the Creator gradually passes His altruistic properties to the creation, corrects it, and fills it with the light. To correct someone, one has to possess the same properties that will later be corrected. The spiritual ladder is built so that its last spiritual level, the *AHP*, enters us, partially acquiring our egoistic properties. In this way, it establishes contact with us to elevate us later on to the spiritual world.

In fact, the worlds do not turn egoistic (they are still completely altruistic), but they are covered with an external curtain of coarseness, which enables them to be in contact with the souls of our world. Alternatively, rather, the worlds are the curtains that the Creator puts on, which weakens His light to the extent of becoming similar to the “spoiled” created beings, for the purpose of keeping contact with them.

Therefore, on all levels in the spiritual worlds, there is the same measure of imperfection that is present in the created beings. The *TB* is a restriction in the worlds.

Then the soul of *Adam HaRishon* emerges and goes through the process of splitting and descending to the point of this world. The descending levels of the worlds and the ascending steps of the soul are identical. So, when the soul finds itself in our world, the whole ladder of worlds is prepared for its consecutive ascent.

The properties of the entire creation are installed in four phases of the development of the Direct Light. Later on, they will affect *Malchut* in the worlds. The worlds represent *Malchut*, which affects the first nine *Sefirot*. The soul is *Malchut*, the tenth *Sefira* that acquired the properties of the first nine. They gradually contract, coarsen, “get spoiled” and turn into the egoistic desire of *Malchut*. This state is called the worlds.

The worlds are the Creator’s properties that gradually descend, coarsen, and contract in order to become similar to the properties of *Malchut*. Each world includes the properties of the others. The first nine *Sefirot* gradually acquire the properties of *Malchut* to affect later on its egoistic desires, correcting and elevating them to the highest level.

צג) ומכאן נמשך, שגם בביאת האור חדש דע"ב ס"ג דא"ק להמדרגה, המוריד בחזרה את הה"ת למקומה לפה, דהיינו לעת הגדלות דנקודים, אשר אז מחזרת המדרגה אליה את האח"פ שלה, ונשלמים לה הע"ס דכלים והע"ס דאורות, נבחן אז, אשר גם המדרגה התחתונה, שהיתה דבוקה על אח"פ דעליונה, עולה גם היא עמהם ביחד לעליונה. כי זה הכלל: "אין העדר ברוחני". וכמו שהתחתונה היתה דבוקה באח"פ דעליון בעת הקטנות, כן אינם נפרדים זה מזה בעת הגדלות, דהיינו בעת שהאח"פ דעליונה שבים למדרגתם. ונמצא, שמדרגה התחתונה נעשתה עתה לבחינת מדרגה עליונה ממש. כי התחתון העולה לעליון נעשה כמוהו.

93) From this, it follows that, when the new light AB-SAG comes to a certain level, it lowers *Malchut* to its previous place in the *Peh de Rosh* and leads the world of *Nikudim* to the state of *Gadlut*. With this, the *AHP* return to its level, complementing it to ten *Sefirot*-vessels and *Sefirot*-lights. The *GE*, of the lower level, rises together with the ascending *AHP*. This is because nothing disappears in the spiritual world. If the lower level were connected with the *AHP* of the upper level in *Katnut*, it would also remain attached to it during

Gadlut. In other words, during the rise of the AHP, the lower level acquires the properties of the upper.

When the light *ABSAG* enters the vessel, it imparts its altruistic qualities to it, so the vessel can use its *AHP*. Furthermore, the *GE* of the lower level (*Abba ve Ima* with *AHP de Keter* inside) is corrected. Now there are the *GE de Keter*, the *AHP de Keter*, and the *GE de Abba ve Ima* on the level of *Keter*.

We are in our world now. There is a special spiritual point inside us (“*Nekuda she ba Lev*”), which has no screen so far; hence, it is totally egoistic. Inside our egoistic vessel, there is the *AHP* of the lowest spiritual level (the world of *Assiya*). If the *Ohr ABSAG* comes, the world of *Assiya* will elevate its *AHP* and together with it our spiritual vessel.

This means that man will cross the barrier and enter the spiritual world, i.e., he will not just rise from one spiritual level to another, but will make a quantum leap from the material world to the spiritual. This opportunity - to pass from one level to a higher one up to the highest with the help of the *Ohr ABSAG* - was created by a *TB* that divided each level into two parts, and lowered the *AHP* of the upper level into the *GE* of the lower.

We see that now in *Keter* there are the *GE de Keter*, the *AHP de Keter*, and the *GE de Abba ve Ima* of the lower level. Yet that is not all. The *GE de Abba ve Ima* can receive its *AHP* (necessary to form its own 10 *Sefirot*) from the *AHP de Keter*, since its power is much greater than the *GE de Abba ve Ima* need.

Thus, *Abba ve Ima* start using the egoistic desires and enter *Gadlut*. However, these are not their own desires; hence, such a state is called the 1st *Gadlut*, as distinct from the 2nd *Gadlut*, where *Abba ve Ima* begin using their own *AHP*. As the lower *Partzuf* enters the 1st *Gadlut*, it somewhat learns to use the desires from the upper one, imitates it. This is a transition between the state of *Katnut* and the real *Gadlut*. (For details see § 134)

צד) ונמצא, בעת שאו"א קבלו האור חדש דע"ב ס"ג, והורידו הה"ת מנקבי עינים בחזרה אל הפה שלהם, והעלו אליהם את האח"פ שלהם, הנה גם הז"ת, המלבישים האח"פ אלו בעת קטנות, עלו עתה גם הם עמם ביחד לאו"א. ונעשו הז"ת למדרגה אחת עם או"א. והנה עליה הזו של הז"ת לאו"א נקרא בשם "עלית מ"ן". ובהיותם מדרגה אחת עם או"א, נמצאים מקבלים גם אורותיהם דאו"א.

94) *When Abba ve Ima receive the light AB-SAG, their Malchut naturally descends to the Peh de Rosh and their AHP rise from the lower level of the ZON, taking with it the GE de ZON to the level of Abba ve Ima, constituting a single whole with it and allowing it to receive the light of this level. The ascent of the ZON to Abba ve Ima is called raising MAN.*

Generally speaking, the GE of the lower *Partzuf* is called MAN, and the AHP of the upper *Partzuf* is called in this case "the Kli raising MAN".

צה) ומה שנקרא בשם מ"ן, הוא מטעם שעלית הז"א אל הבינה מחזיר אותה פנים בפנים עם החכמה (אות פ). ונודע שכל ז"ת הם זר"ן. וע"כ בעת שהז"ת נתעלו עם האח"פ דאו"א למדרגת או"א, נעשו מ"ן אל הבינה דע"ס דאו"א. והיא חוזרת עם החכמה דאו"א פב"פ, ומשפעת הארת חכמה אל הזר"ן, שהם הז"ת דנקודים שעלו אליהם.

95) *The ascent of ZON to Bina, i.e., the raising MAN, places Bina face-to-face with Hochma. As we know, each Zat (seven lower Sefirot) is a ZON; therefore, when Zat rose together with the AHP de Abba ve Ima to the level of Abba ve Ima, they turned to MAN as regards the 10 Sefirot de AVI. Then Bina returns to a face-to-face state with Hochma de AVI and passes the luminescence of the Ohr Hochma to ZON (Zat de Nikudim).*

The *NHYM de Galgalta* is a criterion according to which we can see how much is corrected and how much is left to correct until the *Gmar Tikkun*. As with any other *Partzuf*, the light passing to the lower *Partzuf* fills the *NHYM de Galgalta*. All the upper *Partzufim* transfer the light to the lower. There is no other way for the light to get through. It descends from the World of Infinity and has to go through the *Partzufim* AB, SAG and so on, until it reaches the lowest one. The upper worlds are filled with the light that passes through them to the lower worlds.

How does the light pass from one *Partzuf* to the next, from *Malchut* of the upper to *Keter* of the lower? *Malchut* receives all; *Keter* bestows all. How is it possible? This subject is studied in Part 3 of “The Study of Ten *Sefirot*”. We deal with the inverse transition of *Malchut* into *Keter* and vice versa. There is a notion “*Nitzutz Boreh and Nitzutz Nivrah*” (spark of the Creator and spark of the creation). The creation is something made of nothing. The Creator’s “absence” in any place is the root of the creation.

There are five vessels: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*; and five lights: *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida*. Actually, there is no such thing as “a variety of the lights”. The light depends on the sensation of the vessel, which, while receiving the amorphous light, distinguishes whatever it feels now and gives this light an appropriate name. There is no variety of the lights outside of the vessel; only one amorphous light called 'the Creator'.

The lights generally divide into *Ohr Hochma* and *Ohr Hassadim*. If the vessel can only bestow and is yet unable to receive for the Creator’s sake due to the lack of the screen, the lights *Nefesh*, *Ruach* and *Neshama* spread in it. The lights *Haya* and *Yechida* are absent. If the vessel acquires the screen and starts receiving the light for the sake of the Creator, the lights *Haya* and *Yechida* fill it.

The *ZON*, which rise together with the *AHP* to *Abba ve Ima* (*AVI*) become *MAN*, the request to *Abba ve Ima* to make a *Zivug de Haka'a* and pass the light of *Hochma* down to *GE de ZON*. This resembles a child’s request directed to its mother, in whom the child’s source is rooted. It turns for help to this very source.

צו אמנם עלית הז"ת לאו"א שאמרנו, אין הפירוש שנעדרו ממקומם לגמרי ועלו לאו"א, כי "אין העדר ברוחני". וכל "שינוי מקום" הנאמר ברוחניות, אין הפירוש שנעדרה ממקומה הקודם ובאה למקום החדש, כדרך העתקת מקום בגשמיות, אלא רק תוספת יש כאן, כי באו למקום החדש וגם נשארו במקומם הקודם. באופן, שהגם שהז"ת עלו לאו"א למ"ן, מכל מקום נשארו ג"כ במקומם במדרגתם למטה כמקודם לכן.

96) *However, the rise of ZON to Abba ve Ima does not mean they disappeared from their place. Nothing ever disappears in the spiritual world and a change of place does not lead to disappearance of any particular object from its place as it happens in our world. Only a minor addition to the previous state is meant in spirituality: an object moves to another place while remaining where it was. The same refers to ZON, which rose to Abba ve Ima and retained their original position.*

צז) וכן עד"ז תבין, אע"פ שאנו אומרים, שאחר שעלו הזר"ן למ"ן לא"א וקבלו שם אורותיהם, יוצאים משם וחוזרים למקומם למטה, הנה גם כאן אין הפירוש שנעדרו ממקומם למעלה ובאו להמקום שלמטה. כי אם היו הזר"ן נעדרים ממקומם למעלה בא"א, היה נפסק הזווג פב"פ דאר"א תיכף, והיו חוזרים אב"א כמקודם לכן. ואז היה נפסק השפע שלהם. וגם הזר"ן שלמטה היו אובדים את המוחין שלהם. כי כבר נתבאר למעלה, שהבינה מטבעה חושקת רק באור דחסדים, בסר"ה "כי חפץ חסד הוא", ואין לה ענין כלל לקבל אור חכמה. וע"כ נמצאת עם החכמה אב"א. ורק בעת עליית הזר"ן להם למ"ן, חוזרת הבינה בזווג פב"פ עם החכמה, בכדי להשפיע הארת חכמה אל הז"א (אות פ). ולפיכך הכרח הוא, שהזר"ן ישארו שם תמיד, כדי ליתן קיום והעמדה אל הזווג דאר"א פב"פ. וע"כ אי אפשר לומר שהזר"ן נעדרו ממקום אר"א בעת שבאים למקומם למטה. אלא כמו שאמרנו, שכל "שינוי מקום" אינו אלא תוספת בלבד. באופן, שהגם שהזר"ן ירדו למקומם למטה, מכל מקום נשארו ג"כ למעלה.

97) *We should also understand that the ZON rising to Abba ve Ima, together with their AHP (raising MAN), receive the Ohr Hochma from a Zivug between Abba ve Ima, and then descend to their place. They do not disappear from the level of Abba ve Ima, since such disappearance would lead to stopping a Zivug between Abba ve Ima and a consecutive change of their position to Achor be Achor. This will prevent the spreading of the Ohr Hochma in the ZON below, because Bina by nature does not need the Ohr Hochma, only the Ohr Hassadim.*

It needs the light of Hochma only for passing it on to ZA in answer to its request. If the request stops, the light of Hochma ceases to descend. Only the raising of MAN de ZON to Abba ve Ima returns them to a face-to-face Zivug and resumes the passage of the Ohr Hochma to ZA. Hence, the ZON must always be above, constantly renewing their request for the Ohr Hochma.

As we have already stated, any change of place in the spiritual worlds is just an addition to the previous state. Consequently, the ZON are above and below, simultaneously. The GE de ZON that is above passes the light to GE de ZON below.

From this example, we see that an exchange of properties takes place. The same property can be located in a number of different places. If I write a letter to my boss asking for something, it does not mean that, upon sending the letter, I will stop having the desire for what I asked in my letter. This desire will simultaneously be in me and will pass to my boss.

We are studying the transition of the world of *Nikudim* to the state of *Gadlut*. It happens that *Keter*, *Abba ve Ima* and the ZON in *Katnut* consisted only of GE. Now *Keter*, which uses all of its ten *Sefirot* again, lifted the GE de *Abba ve Ima* up to its own level. Having received its ten *Sefirot*, *Abba ve Ima* lifted the GE de ZON. Later on, we will study how the light AB-SAG reached the *Parsa* and wished to get inside; but there met with enormous desires that led to breaking of the vessels.

Now we encounter the notion “*Sefira Da’at*” for the first time. Until now, we said that there are only five *Behinot* in the *Partzufim* of AK: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*. Beginning with the world of *Nikudim* and further on, we come across one more *Sefira* called *Da’at*, which we include in the general number of *Sefirot* called *HaBaD*: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina* and *Da’at* (*Keter* is usually omitted). There was no notion of “Raising MAN” in the world of AK.

The Creator created the first four *Behinot de Ohr Yashar*: *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*, which emerged from *Keter* (the four phases of the vessel development). The rest is the consequence of these four phases called *Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey* (the Creator’s Name). Any vessel or desire, any development, takes place within these four phases. They contain all the information about the vessel and the light.

Afterwards, the light fills the fourth phase, *Malchut*, and gives it its properties. It makes a *Tzimtzum* and then starts analyzing its rela-

tions with the light; it wishes to receive the light on different conditions, according to the properties installed both in *Malchut* and in the light. Nothing new happens, only the relations between the light and the vessel continue to develop. If later on you find something that is difficult to understand, you should each time go back to these four phases.

The Creator's light can enter *Malchut* only when *Bina* fills its *Zat* with the *Ohr Hochma* and passes it to *ZA* and on to *Malchut*. How does *Bina* receive the *Ohr Hochma*? It turns to *Hochma*, makes a *Zivug de Haka'a* on this light, and then passes it to *ZA*. If for some reason, *ZA* and *Malchut* cannot or do not want to receive the light, *Bina* understands and refrains from passing it to them. At this moment, its seven lower *Sefirot* are filled only with the *Ohr Hassadim*. The property of *Bina*, to receive the *Ohr Hochma*, manifests only when it can pass this light on to someone else. *Bina* does not need this light.

We may see this picture in the world of *Nikudim* where the seven lower *Sefirot* of *Bina* (i.e., of the *Partzuf Abba ve Ima*) are in the state of *Achor be Achor*; *Bina* does not want to receive anything. It waits until the *ZON* start receiving the *Ohr Hochma*, which may happen only when they (the *ZON*) decide to pass from *Katnut* to *Gadlut*. The *Ohr AB-SAG* provides them with such an opportunity.

For that, the *ZON* must turn to *Abba ve Ima*, which turn face to face, make a *Zivug* on the *Ohr Hochma*, and pass it to *ZON*. The request *ZON* sends to *Ima* is called *Raising MAN*. When *Ima* starts giving *Ohr Hochma*, the *ZON* descend with this request and become the receiver of the *Ohr Hochma*. However, being below and receiving the light, the *ZON* must be constantly close to *Ima* with their request to ask it to continue making a *Zivug* on the *Ohr Hochma* with *Abba* for passing it down.

The request of the *ZON* must be genuine; otherwise it cannot be called *Raising MAN* and will not be answered. The request of *ZON*, which remained above while the *ZON* descended, is called *Sefira Da'at*. This is not an additional *Behina* or the eleventh *Sefira*; it simply points to the state of the *Partzuf*.

Abba ve Ima may be in three states: *Achor be Achor* (back to back), where the ZON do not need the *Ohr Hochma*, so it is also absent in *Abba ve Ima*. Such a state is called *Holam* and *Katnut*. The second state comes when there is *Ohr Hochma* in *Keter* and in *Sefirat Abba* of the world of *Nikudim* and *Sefirat Abba* faces *Ima*'s back. This state is called *Shuruk* and *Yenika*. In the third state, ZON raises MAN to *Sefirat Ima*, which turns its face to *Aba*. This state is called *Hirik* and *Gadlut*.

The Light AB-SAG allows the ZON to receive the *Ohr Hochma* like AB, and to acquire the “desire to bestow” inherent in SAG.

There are two kinds of *Reshimot*: of *Katnut – Bet/Aleph* and of *Gadlut – Dalet/Gimel*. The first allows the world of *Nikudim* to enter the state of *Katnut*. When the second kind of *Reshimo* awakens, the vessel begins to ask the AB-SAG for strength to receive the *Ohr Hochma*. There is no pressure from above unless there is a request from below. Although the *Reshimot* provoke such a request, the vessel ascribes it to itself.

The Light AB-SAG is the light of correction. It provides strength and desire to feel the Creator and do something for Him. The Ohr Hochma, which the vessel receives for the sake of the Creator, is a result of the correction made by the Ohr AB-SAG, and is called the light of the Purpose of Creation. For this reason, we speak about two different kinds of the light.

צח-צט) ומכאן תבין סוד ספירת הדעת, שנתחדש בעולם הנקודים. כי בכל פרצופי א"ק עד הנקודים אין שם כי אם ע"ס כח"ב ז"ן. ומעולם הנקודים ואילך כבר יש גם ספירת הדעת, ואנו חושבים כחב"ד ז"ן. והענין הוא שגם ענין עלית מ"ן לא היה בפרצופי א"ק אלא רק ענין עלית המסך לפה דראש (אות ע"ט). ותדע, שספירת הדעת נמשך מעלית מ"ן דז"ן אל א"א. כי נתבאר, שז"ן, שעלו שם למ"ן לחח"ב, המה נשארים שם גם אחר יציאתם משם למקומם למטה, בכדי ליתן קיום והעמדה להזווג דא"א פב"פ. והז"ן האלו, הנשארים בא"א, נקראים "ספירת הדעת". וע"כ יש עתה לחח"ב ספירת הדעת, המקיים ומעמיד אותם בזווג פב"פ. שהם הז"ן שעלו שמה למ"ן, ונשארו שמה גם אחר יציאת הז"ן למקומם. וע"כ אנו חושבים מכאן ואילך את הע"ס בהשמות כחב"ד ז"ן. אבל בפרצופי א"ק, שמקודם עולם הנקודים, שעוד לא היה שם ענין עלית מ"ן, ע"כ לא היה שם ספירת הדעת. גם תדע, שספירת הדעת מכונה תמיד בשם "ה' חסדים וה' גבורות". כי הז"א הנשאר שם הוא בחינת ה"ח, והנוקבא שנשארה שם היא בחינת ה"ג.

98-99) *We can now understand what the Sefira Da'at, which appeared in the world of Nikudim, is. As was stated above, such a notion was absent in the Partzufim of the world of AK. There were just the 10 Sefirot of KaHaB ZON, and the rise of the screen to Peh de Rosh; the notion “Raising MAN” still did not exist. The Sefira Da'at emerges because of the MAN de ZON rising to Abba ve Ima and its permanent staying there. From the world of Nikudim and further, we already speak about the Sefira Da'at and the Sefirot are now called the HaBaD ZON. The Sefira Da'at is also called Hey (5) Hassadim, Hey (5) Gvurot, since ZA, which remained there, is Hey (5) Hassadim, and Nukva is Hey (5) Gvurot.*

ק) ואין להקשות על מה שכתוב בספר יצירה, שהע"ס הן עשר ולא תשע, עשר ולא אחד עשר". ולפי האמור שבעולם הנקודים נתחדש ספירת הדעת, הרי יש אחד עשר ספירות כחב"ד זר"ן? והתשובה היא, שאין זה הוספה של כלום על הע"ס. כי נתבאר, שספירת הדעת היא הזר"ן, שעלו למ"ן ונשארו שם. וא"כ אין כאן הוספה, אלא שיש ב' בחינות זר"ן: א. הם הזר"ן שבמקומם למטה, שהם בחינת גוף, ב. הם הזר"ן שנשארו בראש באר"א, מטעם שכבר היו שם בעת עליית מ"ן. ואין העדר ברוחני. הרי שאין כאן שום הוספה על הע"ס, כי סוף סוף אין כאן אלא ע"ס כח"ב זר"ן בלבד. ואם נשארו גם בחינת הזר"ן בראש באר"א, אין זה מוסיף כלום על בחינת הע"ס.

100) *We should not think that there are 9 or 11 Sefirot. Since the Sefira Da'at emerged in the world of Nikudim, it seems to complement the 10 Sefirot with the 11th. It is not so, because in reality it is the ZON, which raised MAN to Abba ve Ima and stayed there. There are two kinds of the ZON: the first are in their place below and receive the light of Hochma; the second are in Abba ve Ima above, with a constant request for this light. Therefore, they cannot be considered an addition to the 10 Sefirot.*

Malchut reaches the state of perfection when it receives the entire light of Hassadim from Bina and the entire light of Hochma from Hochma. First, Bina must gain strength for using its AHP for the Creator's sake and then receive information about the ZON's "desire to receive" the Ohr Hochma, i.e., the ZON must raise their MAN, and then Bina will pass the light of Hochma down to them.

BREAKING OF THE VESSELS AND THEIR FALL
TO THE WORLDS OF THE BYA
ענין שבירת הכלים ונפילתם לבי"ע

קא) ונתבאר היטב סוד עלית מ"ן וספירת הדעת, שהם בחינת הכלים דפנים דז"ת דנקודים, שנמשכו ועלו לאר"א. כי אר"א קבלו אור החדש דע"ב ס"ג דא"ק מן הזו"ן דא"ק בסוד נקודת השורק, והורידו הה"ת מנקבי עינים שלהם אל הפה, והעלו את הכלים דאחורים שלהם, שהיו נפולים בהז"ת דנקודים. שמתוך כך עלו גם הכלים דפנים דז"ת הדבוקים בהכלים דאחורים דאר"א (אות פ"ט-צ"ד). ונעשו הז"ת דנקודים שם בבחינת מ"ן. והחזירו אר"א בבחינת פב"פ. ומתוך שה"ת, שהיא בחי"ד, כבר חזרה למקומה במקום הפה, ע"כ הזוג דהכאה, שנעשה על המסך הזה דבחי"ד, הוציא ע"ס שלמות בקומת כתר באור היחידה (אות פ"ד). ונמצאים הז"ת, הנכללות שם בסוד מ"ן, שגם הן קבלו אורות הגדולים ההם דאר"א. וכל זה הוא רק בבחינת ממטה למעלה. כי אר"א הם בחינת הראש דנקודים, ששם נעשה הזוג, המוציא ע"ס ממטה למעלה. ואח"ז מתפשטים ג"כ לבחינת גוף, דהיינו ממעלה למטה (אות נ). ואז נמשכו הז"ת עם כל האורות שקבלו באר"א אל מקומם למטה. ונגמר הראש והגוף של פרצוף הגדלות דנקודים. והתפשטות זו נבחן לבחינת הטעמים דפרצוף גדלות הנקודים (אות כ"ו).

101) *The Sefira Da'at is the GE de ZON of the world of Nikudim that rose to Abba ve Ima, for Abba ve Ima had received the light AB-SAG from the ZON de AK, which is called Shuruk. Then Malchut descends from Nikvey Eynaim to Peh, thus lifting the AHP de Abba ve Ima that fell to GE de ZON of the world of Nikudim. The vessels GE de Zat of the world of Nikudim rise together with them and form the Behinat MAN, which turns the Sefirot Abba ve Ima face to face (Panim be Panim).*

A Zivug de Haka'a on the screen in Behina Dalet led to the formation of 10 complete Sefirot on the level of Keter with the light of Yechida. The Zat de Nikudim in Abba ve Ima (MAN, Sefirat Da'at) receive powerful light from the Rosh de Abba ve Ima, since Abba ve Ima constitute the Rosh de Nikudim, where a Zivug that lifted ten Sefirot took place. This light then spreads downwards into the Guf de ZON, and consequently into the Rosh and Guf of the world of Nikudim in the state of Gadlut. Such spreading of the light is called Ta'amim.

As was mentioned, the rise of the desire from ZON to Bina is called Raising MAN. Previously, *Abba ve Ima* did not interact, and such a state is called *Panim be Achor*. There is the light of *Hochma* in the *Partzuf Abba*, but *Ima* does not want to receive it. MAN stimulates *Ima*'s need to receive *Ohr Hochma* from *Abba*; hence, it turns its face to it.

The world of the *Nikudim* consists of three parts: *Keter* and *Abba*, where the lights is, the second part is *Ima*, which does not want to receive the light, and the third is the ZON. If the ZON ask *Ima* for the light, it will make *Ima* meet *Abba*, receive the light and pass it on to ZA.

The desires that manifest in us, besides those of the animal level, are a consequence of breaking of the vessels, which caused tiny sparks of the light to enter us.

A special *Partzuf* emerges after TB – *Katnut de Nikudim*. As we already said, it consists of three parts: *Keter*, *Abba ve Ima* and the ZON. TB restricts the vessels of reception and allows working only with the vessels of bestowal. Hence, there is only the *Galgalta* in *Rosh de Keter*, while the AHP is inside the *GE de Abba ve Ima*. The AHP de *Abba ve Ima* is in the *GE de ZON*. AHP de ZON is under the *Parsa*, having desires to receive for itself, and cannot be worked with. None of the AHP's has either light or screen. All of them (except the AHP de ZON, which do not receive the light at all) receive just a small luminescence from GE.

Then the aroused *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* ask to do something for the AHP. Why does this desire appear? A TB was made on the *Aviut Bet*. The *Partzuf Nikudim* emerged because of a *Zivug* on *Aviut Aleph*. Now this *Partzuf* decides to try to work with the AHP. Afterwards, the *Partzufim AB* and SAG make a *Zivug*, pass the light down to *Keter*, enabling it to enter the state of *Gadlut*, i.e., to lift its AHP from the *GE de Abba ve Ima*. For this purpose, *Malchut* in the *Rosh de Keter* descends from *Nikvey Eynaim* to the *Peh* and makes a *Zivug* on ten complete *Sefirot*.

Being dressed on the AHP de *Keter*, *Abba* rises (achieves *Gadlut*) together with it. Now there is *Ohr Hochma* both in the ten *Sefirot de Keter*

and in *Abba*, so it turns its face to *Ima*. However, *Ima* wants only *Hasadim* and not *Hochma*, so it is still with its back to *Abba*. How can it be compelled to receive the *Ohr Hochma*? It can be done only if the ZON ask for it. To this end, the “desire to receive” the *Ohr Hochma* must be aroused in the ZON.

The ZON *de Nikudim* dress onto *NHYM de Galgalta* of the world of AK, then pass the *Ohr Hochma* to the ZON. The ZON turn with their request to *Ima*, *Ima* then turns face to face with *Abba*. Thus, the light descends; but when it reaches the *Parsa* and wishes to get under it, the light encounters the enormous egoistic “desire to receive”, which, in defiance of *TB*, received a portion of the light. The light instantly disappears, and the vessels of *GE de ZON* and the *AHP de ZON* break and mix with one another. This is so that each fragment might have a little of the *Ohr Hochma*.

All of them fall to the lowest level under the *Parsa*, moving as far from the Creator as possible. This led to the presence of tiny sparks of the light in all the egoistic desires of *Malchut*. On the other hand, their egoism is sufficiently formed, since it has already received the *Ohr Hochma*.

The “desire to receive” the *Ohr Hochma* and egoism were not yet developed in the World of Infinity. The egoistic vessels of the *AHP* were first created in *Nekudot de SAG*. From the world of *Nikudim*, such vessels are called *Klipot*, *Tuma*. The light's properties are absolutely opposite to these vessels, but the “desire to receive” is so huge that it craves even for a spark of the light, which it retains, but is unable to enjoy. Hence, during all our life, we chase after any expression of the light that dresses in the various attires of this world. It seems sometimes that we are about to touch this spark of the light, but it instantly disappears.

Then we rush after another expression of that spark. Thus, the sparks of light are a moving force of our egoism; they pull man forward, give him an aspiration to conquer the entire world. However, there are

sparks that, when taking root in our hearts, endow us with the aspiration to spirituality.

The *Gadlut* of the world of *Nikudim* depends only on the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel*. They start up this entire system, which ultimately leads to breaking of the vessels. After this breaking, *Malchut* on its lowest level is called *Adam*, and we are its parts.

The place of the creation (i.e., this or that part of *Malchut* of the World of Infinity) is determined only by the strength of the screen. There is no screen under the *Parsa*, so all egoistic desires are concentrated there. Depending on their closeness to the Creator (i.e., on the measure of their egoism), they have their places in the worlds of *BYA*. Everything interacts to the extent of the similarity between the vessel and the light. It is determined by the screen, which serves as a link between the light and the vessel, when the creation crosses the barrier between the material world and the spiritual.

קב) כי גם בפרצוף נקודים נבחנים ד' הבחינות: טעמים נקודות תגין אותיות (אות מ"ז). כי כל הכחות שישנם בעליונים, הכרח הוא שיהיו גם בתחתונים. אלא בתחתון נתוספים ענינים על העליון. ונתבאר שם, שעיקר התפשטות כל פרצוף נקראת בשם "טעמים".

ואחר התפשטות נעשה בו הביטוש דא"מ באו"פ, שע"י הביטוש הזה מזדכך המסך בדרך המדרגה, עד שמשתווה לפה דראש. ומתוך שאור העליון אינו פוסק, נמצא אור העליון מזדווג במסך בכל מצב של עביות שבדרך זיכוכו. דהיינו, כשמזדכך מבח"ד לבח"ג, יוצא עליו קומת חכמה. וכשבא לבח"ב, יוצא עליו קומת בינה. וכשבא לבחינה א', יוצא עליו קומת ז"א. וכשבא לבחינת שורש, יוצא עליו קומת מלכות. וכל אלו הקומות, שיוצאים על המסך בעת הזדככותו, נקראים בשם "נקודות".

והרשימות, הנשארים מהאורות אחר הסתלקותם נקראים בשם "תגין". והכלים, הנשארים אחר הסתלקות האורות מהם נקראים בשם "אותיות". ואחר שהמסך מזדכך כולו מהעביות דגוף, נמצא נכלל במסך דפה דראש בזווג אשר שם. ויוצא עליו שם פרצוף שני.

102) *The four stages, Ta'amim, Nekudot, Tagin and Otivot, are also present in the world of Nikudim, since the forces that act on the higher levels must have their reflections below, but with the additional information about the higher forces. The spreading of each Partzuf downwards is called Ta'amim.*

Then, because of Bitush of the Ohr Makif and the Ohr Pnimi, the screen loses its Aviut and gradually rises to the Peh de Rosh, where it finally merges with the screen positioned there. However, since the Upper Light never stops spreading, a Zivug between the light and the screen occurs at each stage of its weakening.

The level of Hochma emerges when the Aviut Dalet passes to Gimel; the transition to Aviut Bet gives birth to Bina, ZA emerges on the Aviut Aleph and Malchut – on Aviut Shoresch. All the levels emerging during Zivugim, together with the weakening screen, are called Nekudot.

The Reshimot remaining after the light exits are called Tagin. The vessels left without the light are called Otiot. In other words, Otiot are the Reshimot that remain on the level of the Nekudot. When the Masach de Guf finally rids itself of all its Aviut and joins the Masach de Rosh in the Peh with the help of a Zivug, the Partzuf emerges.

Moving away from the light is considered a positive factor in the development of the vessels. When man feels disappointed, spiritually depressed, he should understand that the genuine vessels are being developed in him, the desire to receive the spiritual light. It is first decided how much light man can accept for the Creator's sake; only then can he actually receive. The decision is made in the Rosh, where the quality and quantity of the light is calculated in advance. It may then be received in the Toch. The part of the vessel devoid of the light is called the Sof. Malchut of the World of Infinity did not have the Rosh; it calculated nothing, receiving everything into the Toch.

The Galgala, AB, and SAG could not fill the Sof with the light. Only Nekudot de SAG could get there and fill Malchut, although not with the Ohr Hochma, but with the Ohr Hassadim. Of course, Malchut wants the Ohr Hochma for its own delight, but the Ohr Hassadim also gives it enormous pleasure from giving.

Spiritual advancement is possible only under the light's influence. If the vessel is filled with the light, it has enough strength to act against its own nature; the light is more powerful than the vessel. At that, the vessel makes a *Tzimtzum* on the reception of pleasure and acquires some opportunity to receive for the sake of the Creator.

The *Galgata*, *AB*, and *SAG* are the first three actions that *Malchut* performs for the Creator's sake. The fourth action prevents it from receiving the light for the Creator's sake, due to the small *Aviut Bet*. Now it can only bestow, so, when it still tries to receive something, the enormous egoistic desires emerge, and since *Malchut* is unable to work with them, *TB* is made. The next reception of the light is *Katnut* of the world of *Nikudim*; in this state, the vessel can only give for the sake of bestowal. Because of this, the *Ohr Hassadim* enters it.

Then the great reinforcement comes to this *Partzuf* in the form of the light *AB-SAG*. The *Partzuf AB* can receive an enormous amount of the *Ohr Hochma*; the *Partzuf SAG* can receive only the *Ohr Hassadim*. These two *Partzufim* seem to be opposite to one another, but they are opposite only in their actions, while their intentions are the same – to bestow. That is why they can give the *Partzuf* maximum power. In this particular case, both lights descend upon the small *Partzuf* that works only with its altruistic desires. The *Katnut de Nikudim* does not use any pleasure for its own sake.

The light *AB-SAG* reveals the Creator's greatness in the *Nikudim*. It shows the importance of merging with Him, without tempting it with pleasures. Because of this, the *Partzuf* has powers to receive for the sake of the Creator, to acquire the screen and pass on to *Gadlut* in the *Partzufim Keter* and *Abba ve Ima*. The *AHP de ZON* also try to enter *Gadlut*, but they cannot receive the light; therefore, the vessels break. They tasted the pleasures of *Gadlut*, and after breaking of the vessels, they retain the *Reshimot*, which speak only about the egoistic pleasures. Thus, the fragments of the broken vessels fall into the *Klipot*. The place where the *Klipot* are found is called the *Mador* (area) *Klipot*.

We have learned that *Malchut* rose to the level of *Bina* in *TB* and restricted the reception of the light in the *Kelim* of *GE*. Together with the acquired *Kelim de AHP*, *Malchut* is not yet a *Klipah* at this stage, since it restricts its egoistic reception of the light. Now, during the breaking of the vessels, the egoistic desire of *Malchut* feels delight without having the appropriate screen, begins to want it for itself, and thus turns into a *Klipah*. However, the *Klipah* does not have the real light. All it has is the *Reshimot* (fragments of the broken screen).

If the creation were not to go through the stage called *Klipot*, it would not have its own true desire. All previous desires, created by the Creator, constitute a single whole with Him. The genuinely created beings have no connection with the Creator; hence, they feel independent. Now, in order to allow the creation to achieve complete merging with the Creator, a spark of altruistic desire must be installed in it. It is accomplished with the help of the breaking of the vessels and mixing all fragments together.

The *Reshimot* of the Inner Light that departed after leaving the vessel are called “*Tagin*”. The *Kelim*-desires that remain after the light disappears from them are called *Otiot*.

It is said about the world of *AK* that the *Tagin* are the *Reshimot* of *Ta’amim* and *Otiot* are the *Reshimot* of *Nekudot*.

Thus, we find an additional explanation:

- *Ta’amim* – *Keter*;
- *Nekudot* – *Hochma*;
- *Tagin* – *Bina*;
- *Otiot* – *ZON*

קג) והנה ממש על דרך זה נעשה גם כאן בפרצוף נקודים. כי גם כאן יוצאים ב' פרצופין: ע"ב, ס"ג. זה תחת זה. ובכל אחד מהם: טעמים, נקודות, תגין, אותיות. וכל ההפרש הוא, כי ענין הזדככות המסך לא נעשה כאן מחמת הביטוש דא"מ באו"פ, אלא מחמת כח הדין דמלכות המסיימת, שהיה כלול בכלים ההם (אות צ). ומטעם זה לא נשארו הכלים הריקים בפרצוף אחר הסתלקות האורות, כמו בג' הפרצופין גלגלתא ע"ב ס"ג דא"ק, אלא נשברו ומתו ונפלו לבי"ע.

103) *As in the world of AK, two Partzufim also emerge in the world of Nikudim: AB and SAG, one under the other, each having its own Ta'amim, Nekudot, Tagin and Otiof. The difference lies in the weakening of the Masach that happened, not as a result of the Bitush Ohr Makif with the screen, as in the world of AK, but because Malchut Mesayemet (Din) emerged, and, standing in the Parsa, sees to it that TB is observed. Therefore, when the light disappears, the vessels are not left empty as they were in Galgalta, AB and SAG. Instead, they break, die and fall into the worlds of BYA.*

קד) והנה פרצוף הטעמים, שיצא בעולם הנקודים, שהוא פרצוף א' דנקודים, שיצא בקומת כתר, יצא בראש וגוף, שהראש יצא באו"א, והגוף הוא התפשטות הז"ת מפה דאו"א ולמטה (אות ק"א). והנה התפשטות הזאת שמפה דאו"א ולמטה נקרא "מלך הדעת". והוא באמת כללות כל הז"ת דנקודים, שחזרו ונתפשטו למקומם אחר העלית מ"ן. אלא מתוך ששרשם נשאר באו"א לקיום והעמדה לפב"פ דאו"א (אות צ"ח), שנקרא שם בשם "מוח הדעת", המזווג לאו"א, לפיכך גם התפשטותם ממעלה למטה לבחינת גוף נקרא ג"כ בשם הזה, דהיינו "מלך הדעת". והוא מלך הא' דנקודים.

104) *The first Partzuf, Ta'amim of the world of Nikudim, emerged on the level of Keter, its root being in Abba ve Ima, while the Guf spreads downwards. Such a Partzuf is called Melech HaDa'at; it contains everything found in Zat de Nikudim, i.e., it includes all their vessels.*

Unlike the upper Partzufim AB and SAG, the lower Partzufim are called the Melachim. Abba ve Ima makes a Zivug de Haka'a on the Reshimot Dalet/Gimel and send powerful light downwards. The state of Abba ve Ima interacting is called Da'at, since a Zivug is made on the Ohr Hochma. The Partzuf that descends from them is called Melech HaDa'at. These Partzufim are called the Melachim because they originate in Malchut. Then this Partzuf breaks and leaves fractured vessels that merge with the AHP and fall down.

The actions that take place in the world of Nikudim are similar to those happening in AK. First, a Zivug on the Reshimo Dalet/Gimel is made, where the Partzuf Melech HaDa'at emerges in correspondence to

AB. Then the *Partzuf* loses the *Aviut Gimel*, and *Zivugim* on the *Reshimot Gimel/Bet* (as in SAG), *Bet/Aleph*, and *Aleph/Shores* take place.

The desire created by the Creator cannot be changed; we can just try to change our intention. Everything boils down to the screen and the intention (for the sake of bestowal or for the sake of reception). We can either increase or decrease them depending on the conditions.

If I have desires for all five dishes placed before me, and there are no restrictions to hold me back, I will naturally gobble them down; my desires match the available delight. Such was the situation in *Malchut* of the world of Infinity, where it wanted to enjoy everything the Creator had given it. This is not defined as the *Klipah*, since there was no restriction from the Creator’s direction. However, having filled *Malchut*, the light gave it such power that now it can resist the pressure of delight. It does not want to receive it for its own sake, although the desire remains. Furthermore, *Malchut* not only refuses to receive for itself, but also acquires additional powers to receive a part of the light for the sake of the Creator.

The *Tzimtzum Bet* states that there is no more strength to receive for the Creator’s sake. Now it is only possible to sit at the table without touching anything. Having the properties similar to those of the Creator secures a right to be in the spiritual world. However, such a state is undesirable to both the Creator and the creation. Hence, *Abba ve Ima* make a *Zivug* on the *Ohr Hochma* to pass it down, failing to take into account the fact that the light AB-SAG cannot descend under the *Parsa* and correct the vessels there. The intentions in the *Rosh* were good, but impossible to implement.

The same happens to us: we suddenly embark on doing something with good intentions, but then forget about them and fall into egoistic desires, turning into their slaves. This occurs because the very first sensation of pleasure completely seizes our desires and there is no power to resist them. As a result, all the vessel’s desires under the *Parsa* break, lose their screen, and pass to the *Mador Klipot*. Man is sitting at the table, sees

all the dishes, and is craving to swallow them in one gulp. He is driven by his egoistic desires and pays no attention to the host.

There is a fundamental difference between the desires of *Malchut* after *TA*, when it restricted its egoistic desires and refused to receive anything (although it saw all pleasures before it). In addition, *Malchut*, after the breaking of the vessels, just wishes to receive pleasure in any way possible, using the giver, but fails. Later, we will study how the *Klipot* influence man in such a way that, during all his life, he chases them, but is never able to receive ultimate pleasure.

No egoistic desires are the true created beings, since the Creator made them. The only genuine creation is that in which its own desire for spirituality arises. It is the aspiration for the Creator, longing to receive for His sake. Such a desire is absent in Him; it derives from the lowest black point of the creation as a result of the light's constant influence upon the vessel, like the constant dropping of water wears away the stone. This desire is called a soul; it marks man's birth out of an animal. Then, as the creation receives larger and larger portions of the light, the soul gradually reveals the Creator and finally merges with Him.

We have said that the two *Partzufim*, *AB* and *SAG*, emerged under the *Tabur* in the world of *Nikudim*. As we know, the world of *Nikudim* under the *Tabur* is in the state of *Katnut* on the *Reshimot Bet/Aleph*. Then it enters the state of *Gadlut* on the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel*. This is the first *Partzuf* of the world of *Nikudim* that is similar to *AB de AK*, which also emerged above the *Tabur* on the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel*.

Next, the screen loses strength, not because of the *Bitush Pnim u Makif* as in *AK*, but because of the breaking. Then another *Partzuf* (similar to *SAG de AK*) emerges under the *Tabur* on this *Reshimo*. However, both of these *Partzufim* are called *Melachim*, since the *Malchut* that rose to *Bina* rules over them. Both *AB* and *SAG* of the world of *Nikudim* include four inner *Partzufim*: one from *Ta'amim* and three from *Nekudot*, i.e., 8 *Melachim*, all in all. The intermediate *Partzufim* that emerge on *Aviut Shoresh* are not taken into account, since they do not spread into the *Guf*.

The first *Partzuf* is called *Melech HaDa'at*. As its screen weakens, it begins to include three more: *Melech Hesed*, *Melech Gevura*, and *Melech Shlish Elion de Tifferet*. The second *Partzuf* is called the *Shnei Shlish Tachton de Tifferet*, *Melech Netzah ve Hod*, *Melech Yesod*, and *Melech Malchut*. The *Partzufim* of the world of *Nikudim* are called by the names of the *Sefirot de Guf*, because they emerge in the *Guf* of *Partzuf Nikudim*. All of these eight *Melachim* are various measures of the light received under the *Parsa* for the Creator's sake. However, the screens with anti-egoistic power disappeared; the light left them, so they are considered fallen below all spiritual desires.

Why is the number of *Aviut* levels in the *Partzuf* determined differently in various places? The language of the ten *Sefirot* is very laconic. Using it for the explanation of certain phenomena in a certain aspect, Kabbalists often apply the same terms and definitions for the description of different interrelations. Thus, examining the *Partzuf AB*, we say that it consists of five inner *Partzufim*. In general, five levels of *Aviut* may be distinguished in any spiritual object, since it is a part of *Malchut* of the World of Infinity. However, when we look upon *AB* in relation to *Galgalta*, we say that it has only four levels of *Aviut*, because the *Aviut Dalet* is absent in it.

Thus, the description of spiritual objects depends on the aspect in which they are examined. Similarly, when describing a person, we may say he is a whole head shorter than another man, but it does not at all mean he has no head.

All that is described in this book happens in man's soul. Therefore, in order to understand the material, one does not have to possess abstract thinking or the ability to look at an object from different angles. This requires finding all the described phenomena and processes in one's relations with the Creator. Then comprehension will come and everything will take its place. However, if man imagines the spiritual worlds as something existing outside him, as some abstract system beyond his own feelings, then eventually he will reach a deadlock. In such a case, he will find

it a lot more difficult to study Kabbalah, since he will have to give up his abstract ideas. If this material seems tangled to you, try to combine it with reading other books of this series, e.g. Book 4 (“Attaining the Worlds Beyond”). Make an effort to feel that they speak about the same subjects.

What is the *Midat haDin* (category of judgment)? *Din* is the only restriction, ban or the only “desire to receive” for its own sake. *Malchut* assumed this restriction already during *TA*, when it refused to receive for its own sake and remained empty. Prior to that, it could easily receive pleasure for itself. After *TA*, anyone who violates this law is considered a sinner, a *Klipah*, an impure force etc.

The “desire to receive” in its four phases is the only creation. If someone decides to change his nature and acquire altruistic desires, it will be his personal affair. However, since man is unable to accomplish such transformation on his own, he will have to ask the Creator for help. Still, the desire for pleasure remains; only the intention for the use of this desire changes.

Malchut is called the *Midat haDin*. It demands filling. If this desire has no anti-egoistic screen, it remains egoistic. However, if *Malchut* receives power from above and acquires the screen, its intentions become altruistic. The *Midat haDin* disappears and the *Midat haRachamim* (the light of the *Hassadim*, the Reflected Light, the screen) takes its place.

קה) ונודע, שכל הכמות והאיכות שבע"ס דראש, מתגלה ג"כ בהתפשטות ממעלה למטה לגוף. ולפיכך, כמו שבאורות דראש חזרה וירדה מלכות המזדווגת ממקום נקבי עינים למקום הפה, וגו'ע ונ"ע, שהם הכלים דפנים, חזרו וחיברו להם את הכלים דאחורים, שהם האח"פ, והאורות נתפשטו בהם, כן בהתפשטותם ממעלה למטה לגוף, נמשכו האורות גם לכלים דאחורים שלהם, שהם התנה"מ שבב"ע למטה מפרסא דאצילות.

אמנם לפי שכח מלכות המסיימת שבפרסא דאצילות מעורב בכלים ההם, ע"כ תיכף בפגישת האורות דמלך הדעת בכח הזה, נסתלקו לגמרי מהכלים ועלו לשורשם. וכל הכלים דמלך הדעת נשברו פנים ואחור, ומתו, ונפלו לב"ע. כי הסתלקות האורות מהכלים הוא כמו הסתלקות החיות מגוף הגשמי, הנקרא "מיתה". ואז נזדכך המסך מהעביות דבח"ד, מאחר שהכלים האלו כבר נשברו ומתו. ונשאר בו רק עביות דבח"ג.

105) You should know that whatever is present in the ten Sefirot de Rosh is also found in the Guf in the same quantity and quality. Thus, as in the Rosh, Malchut descended from Nikvey Eynaim to the Peh, its GE joined their AHP and the light spread there. The light reached the Kelim de Achoraim, i.e., Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut under the Parsa.

However, since the power of Malchut in the Parsa affects these vessels, the light Melech haDa'at disappears from them and rises to its root, while all the vessels of both the Panim and the Achoraim of Melech haDa'at break, die and fall into the BYA. This is because the disappearance of the light from the vessel is similar to life leaving a biological body and is therefore called death. Upon the downfall and death of the vessels, the screen loses the Aviut Dalet, so the Aviut Gimel remains.

When we speak about Aviut Gimel, we should bear in mind that the matter concerns the first Partzuf of the world of Nikudim that reached Hitlabshut Dalet and Aviut Gimel. Nevertheless, there are inner Partzufim with Aviut Dalet, Gimel, Bet, Aleph, and Shoresht inside the Partzuf with Aviut Gimel. Now only the first inner Partzuf with Aviut Dalet disappeared, leaving Aviut Gimel. The light cannot spread in desires that have no intention to be filled, so they remain empty and do not break.

קו) וכמו שנתבטלה העביות דבחי"ד מהמסך דגוף מחמת השבירה, כן נתבטלה העביות ההיא גם בהמלכות המזדווגת של ראש באו"א. כי העביות דראש ועביות דגוף דבר אחד הוא. אלא שזה כח וזה פועל (אות נ).

ולכן נפסק הזווג דקומת כתר גם בראש באו"א. והכלים דאחורים, שהם האח"פ, שהשלימו לקומת כתר, חזרו ונפלו למדרגה שמתחתיה, דהיינו להז"ת. וזה מכונה "ביטול האחורים דקומת כתר מאו"א". ונמצא, שכל קומת הטעמים דנקודים, ראש וגוף, נסתלקה.

106) As Aviut Dalet disappeared (as a result of the breaking of the vessels) from the Masach de Guf, so does Aviut Dalet in Malchut. Malchut makes a Zivug in the Rosh de Abba ve Ima, since Aviut de Rosh and Aviut de Guf are identical, although the first Zivug (in

the Rosh) is only potential, while the second one (in the Guf) really happens.

For this reason, a Zivug on the level of Keter disappears also in the Rosh. The AHP, which complemented Keter, returned to the previous lower level, that is to say, to the seven lower Sefirot. This is called the elimination of the AHP de Keter in the Partzuf Abba ve Ima. Thus, the entire level of the Ta'amim de Nikudim (both the Rosh and the Guf) disappears.

Abba ve Ima makes a Zivug only to fill ZON with their light. The moment ZON become unable to receive the light and their request to Ima stops, Ima instantly terminates its Zivug with Abba. In this case, we see that the Guf sends a command to the Rosh, which immediately stops a Zivug.

First, the world of Nikudim was in Katnut, then, upon raising MAN, the AHP rose to their GE, but the breaking of the vessels followed. These vessels will continue to split into more and more desires until all the desires of ZON de Nikudim are totally broken. These are Dalet, Gimel, Bet, Aleph and Shoresh of level Gimel. Then the same happens with level Bet, Aleph and Shoresh, down to the very last desire. All this was necessary for the mixing of altruistic and egoistic properties. The breaking of the vessels has far-reaching and positive consequences.

Only the very first level – the Shoresh – is called the Creator's intention as regards the future creation. The other levels constitute development, realization of the intention and its transformation into the Creation. The first Creation is called Dalet de Dalet (Malchut de Malchut) of the World of Infinity. Everything could have stopped at this point, but, under the influence of the light, the first Creation wished to become similar to the Creator in its intentions, although its actions remained unchanged.

To change the intention, one must first completely refuse to receive the light, and then create an anti-egoistic force (the screen). It is

necessary for the reception of the light for the Creator’s sake. This development begins with a reception of a small portion and proceeds up to complete merging with the Creator. Such a process of the screen’s development begins after *TA*. This is achieved by breaking the desire *Dalet de Dalet* into certain parts and creating the screen on all desires, from the smallest to the biggest.

The screen is prepared during the descent of the worlds. To create the minimal screen, both the Creator’s and the creation’s intentions and desires must mix. Only then will sparks of altruistic desire appear in the creation, i.e., in *Dalet de Dalet*. This is achieved with the help of the breaking of the vessels.

Nevertheless, none of these processes disappears; they constantly exist and the future connection with the Creator is conceived in them. The light does not enter the *Guf* during breaking of the vessels; it is in the *Rosh* and enters only the *GE* of each *Sefira*, although it also wants to enter the *AHP* (the egoistic vessels). However, in accordance with *TA*, it cannot do that. Still, a very brief contact takes place, so the vessel starts wishing to receive the light for its own sake, realizing what such reception could mean.

Previously, the creation did not understand it. The matter concerns the development of egoism from a stage where the reception of the light is restricted, to that of a passionate “desire to receive” it no matter what. During the emergence of the worlds and *Partzufim*, we are dealing with the gradual formation of a more advanced, albeit coarser egoism, an egoism that understands what it means to enjoy the light, and desires it more and more. When the vessel reaches the last stage of its development (our world), it becomes most suitable for its role.

When the vessel breaks, the egoistic desire (the *Reshimo* of the screen) is left in it, while the light that was to enter the vessel ascends. However, the connection between the *Reshimo* of the screen and the vanished light still exists, giving the vessel some luminescence, some memory of the screen it once had.

What is the difference between the weakening of the screen due to the *Bitush Pnim u Makif* and that owing to the breaking of the vessels? In the first case, the vessel, pressed by the *Ohr Makif* that wants to get inside, understands that it cannot receive the light in an altruistic way. Egoistic reception is forbidden, so the vessel decides to expel the light rather than violate the ban. In the second case, the vessel's initial intentions seem to be good, but it suddenly discovers that it wants to receive in a purely egoistic way; therefore, *TA* instantly snaps into action, and the weakening of the screen is expressed here as the breaking of the vessel, as its death.

Previously, we explained how the breaking of the vessels took place. The light *AB-SAG* came and began spreading in the *Rosh de Keter*, the *Rosh de Abba ve Ima*, the *GE de ZON*, and upon reaching the *Parsa*, the vessels began to break and to lose their screen. This is because the light met with the egoistic desires without the screen. Here the *TA* prohibition worked; the light rose to the *Rosh de Nikudim* and then to the *Rosh de SAG*, while the vessels that wanted to receive pleasure for themselves broke and fell into the *Klipot*.

There is the light of the Thought of Creation and the light of Correction of Creation. The light that created *Malchut* and its desire to enjoy it is called the *Ohr Hochma* or the light of the Thought of Creation. The light that corrects *Malchut*, reveals the higher properties in it, and enables it to feel pleasure from giving is called the *Ohr Hassadim*. One can feel the Creator either by enjoying the contact with Him (delight from reception of the *Ohr Hochma*), or by feeling His properties and enjoying similarity to Him (delight from the *Ohr Hassadim*).

Unless egoism begins to feel the Creator's properties, it will neither make *Tzimtzum Aleph*, nor ever wish to be like the Creator. The Creator created an egoism that would be able to develop and feel both the delight as well as the One who provides it. Indeed, the future ability to be like the Creator was already included in the initial phase of the development of egoism.

The information that stimulates the sensation of the Giver comes to the vessels together with the light *AB-SAG*. This is the light of correction, the light of a very different nature. It arouses in man very subtle feelings of the Giver’s significance and the desire to be like Him. The *TA* is an extremely cruel act of the creation that rather pushed the Creator aside, saying that it wanted nothing from Him, depriving Him of an opportunity to be the Giver. It rendered His desires uncalled for, until it begins to understand that the Thought of Creation suggests, not refusing to receive the light, but reception of it for the sake of the Creator.

The primary role in the creation of the *Partzufim* after *TA* belongs to the screen; action is secondary and the entire process develops from big to small. After *TB*, when the *Partzuf* restricted itself, the desire to pass from *Katnut* to *Gadlut* appeared for the first time. This required strength; the strength came from the light *AB-SAG*. All the vessels above the *Parsa*: *Keter*, *Abba ve Ima*, *GE de ZON*, can feel an opportunity to pass to *Gadlut*. However, this light cannot get under the *Parsa*. The *AHP de ZON* cannot feel it; hence, they remain in the same state. The *Nekudot de SAG* under the *Parsa* are empty after the *TB*. They form a place for the worlds *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya*.

When we say that there is no light, it actually means that the *Kli* simply cannot feel it. The light itself is amorphous; there are no distinctions in it; in other words, the vessel is unable to detect any shades, any variations of pleasure in the light. Such was the state of *Malchut* in the World of Infinity. When it felt the light’s properties, it made *TA*. *Malchut* began to distinguish nine previous *Sefirot* in the light, starting from the closest. As it discovered the last one (*Keter*) and felt the contrast between their properties (*Keter* only bestows and *Malchut* only receives), it instantly made a *Tzimtzum*.

ZA consists of *Hochma* and *Bina*. It is called “a small face”, which refers to the amount of light in it, as compared to *Malchut*, which wishes to be big and receive all the light of *Hochma*. *Keter* gives all, *Malchut*

receives all, and *Bina* does not receive anything. These are the characteristics of the four phases of the Direct Light and their root called *Keter*.

While studying Kabbalah, one should constantly remember that there are no such notions as place, time or space (as we understand them) in spirituality. The notion of place first appeared only after *TB*. The *Nekudot de SAG* under the *Parsa* remain empty after *TB* and form a place for the worlds of *ABYA*. Thus, by “place”, we usually mean the *Nekudot de SAG*; to be precise, the vessels working in compliance with the law of *TA* as regards the vessels working according to *TB*, which form the worlds beginning from *Atzilut*. Now we can understand the fundamental difference between these two modes of working with desires.

The vessels of *TB* are not exactly the vessels of *TA*, which use only half of their desires. It is a cardinally different principle of work. We will be studying the so-called ascents of the worlds wherein the "place" may or may not ascend together with the worlds.

In spirituality, we understand time as a number of necessary actions aimed at achieving a certain spiritual level. These actions form a cause-and-effect chain. The less corrected man is, the more the Creator conceals Himself from him; the more man's way to the Creator turns from a sequence of spiritual actions into an unconscious flow of time.

In the spiritual world everything is connected to the intention for the sake of the Creator, hence nothing ever disappears there. Only the *Klipot*, the desires for one's self can disappear. Our world is below the *Klipot*, therefore we observe in it such a phenomenon as disappearance.

We have spoken about the breaking of the vessels. The light *AB-SAG* came and began to spread in the *Rosh de Keter*, the *Rosh de Abba ve Ima*, the *GE de ZON*, and as soon as it reached the *Parsa*, the vessels began to split, lose the screen, for the light came across desires to receive for one's own sake without a screen. The *TA* snapped into action, the light rose to *Rosh de Nikudim*, and then to *Rosh de SAG*; the egoistic vessels broke and fell into the *Klipot*.

קז) ומתוך שאור העליון אינו פוסק מלהאיר, נמצא שחזר ונזדווג על העביות דבחי"ג, הנשאר במסך של ראש באו"א. ויצאו ע"ס בקומת חכמה. והגוף שממעלה למטה, נתפשט לספירת החסד. והוא מלך הב' דנקודים. וגם הוא נמשך לבי"ע ונשבר ומת. ואז נתבטלה גם העביות דבחי"ג מהמסך דגוף ודראש. וגם הכלים דאחורים, האח"פ, שהשלימו לקומת חכמה זו דאו"א, חזרו ונתבטלו ונפלו למדרגה שמתחתיה, לז"ת, כנ"ל בקומת כתר.

ואח"כ נעשה הזווג על העביות דבחי"ב, שנשאר במסך. ויצאו ע"ס בקומת בינה. והגוף שממעלה למטה נתפשט בספירת הגבורה. והוא מלך הג' דנקודים. וגם הוא נמשך לבי"ע ונשבר ומת. ונתבטלה גם העביות דבחי"ב בראש וגוף. ונפסק הזווג דקומת בינה גם בראש. והאחורים של קומת בינה דראש נפלו למדרגה שמתחתיה בהז"ת.

ואח"כ נעשה הזווג על העוביות דבחי"א, שנשאר בהמסך. ויצאו עליה ע"ס בקומת ז"א. והגוף שלו ממעלה למטה נתפשט בשליש עליון דת"ת. וגם הוא לא נתקיים ונסתלק האור ממנו. ונזדככה גם העוביות דבחי"א בגוף וראש. והאחורים דקומת ז"א נפל למדרגה שמתחתיה, לז"ת.

107) *The Upper Light never stops shining; it makes a new Zivug on the Aviut Gimel, which remained in the Masach de Rosh of Abba ve Ima. Because of this Zivug, a Partzuf consisting of 10 Sefirot emerges with the level of Hochma, while the Guf, with the level of Hesed, spreads down, and is called the second Melech of the world of Nikudim. As with the first, the Melech haDa'at, it spreads in the BYA, breaks and dies. The Aviut Gimel disappears from the Masachim de Guf and de Rosh. The AHP, which completed the Partzuf at the level of Hochma, broke and fell to the lower level.*

Then a Zivug on Aviut Bet produces 10 Sefirot of the level of Bina, while the Guf spreads down to Gevura, and is called the third Melech of the world of Nikudim. It spreads down to BYA, breaks and dies. Aviut Bet disappears from the Guf and the Rosh and a Zivug on the level of Bina also stops in the Rosh. The AHP of Bina de Rosh fall to the lower level, into the seven lower Sefirot.

The next Zivug is made on Aviut Aleph; the 10 Sefirot with the level of ZA appear, while the Guf spreads to the upper third of Tifferet. It also ceases to exist, the light leaves it, and Behina Aleph disappears from the Guf and the Rosh. The AHP de ZA falls to the lower level of Zat.

Why are the *Partzufim* in the world of *Nikudim* called *Melachim*? It is because they are in *Gadlut* (big state), which emerges from *Katnut* (small state) with the *Ohr Nefesh*, also called the *Ohr Malchut*. Regardless of the eight levels, only seven *Melachim* exist, since there are only seven lower parts, levels. Similarly, there are just seven *Shorashim* (roots) in the *Rosh* for their spreading.

קח) וכאן נגמרו כל האחורים דאו"א לירד, שהם האח"פ. כי בשבירת מלך הדעת, נתבטלו באו"א רק אח"פ השייכים לקומת כתר. ובשבירת מלך החסד, נתבטלו באו"א רק אח"פ השייכים לקומת חכמה. ובשבירת מלך הגבורה, נתבטלו האח"פ השייכים לקומת בינה. ובהסתלקות שליש עליון דת"ת, נתבטלו האח"פ דקומת ז"א.

ונמצא שנתבטלה כל בחינת הגדלות דאו"א, ולא נשאר בהם רק הגו"ע דקטנות. ונשאר במסך רק עביות דשורש. ואח"כ נזדכך המסך דגוף מכל עביותו, ונשתוו למסך דראש. אשר אז נמצא נכלל בזווג דהכאה של ראש. ומתחדשים שמה הרשימות שבו חוץ מהבחינה האחרונה (אות מ"א). ובכח התחדשות הזה יצא עליו קומה חדשה, הנקראת ישור"ת.

108) After the last Zivug on Aviut Aleph was terminated, all the AHP de Abba ve Ima stopped descending; therefore, when the Melech haDa'at de Abba ve Ima broke, the AHP de Keter disappeared. When the vessels of the Melech haHesed in Abba ve Ima broke, the AHP de Hochma disappeared. When the vessels of the Melech haGevura in Abba ve Ima broke, the AHP de Bina disappeared. When the Melech Shlish Elion de Tifferet broke, the AHP de ZA disappeared.

Thus, the entire level of Gadlut in Abba ve Ima ceased to exist. Only the vessels of the GE de Katnut with Aviut Shoresch in the Masach remained. Afterwards the Masach de Guf loses all its Aviut, merges with the Masach de Rosh, and joins a Zivug de Haka'a in the Rosh. All the Reshimot except for the last Behinot are renewed in it. From this renewal (Zivug), a new level arises called the YESHSUT.

Let us review the whole process briefly. The world of *Nikudim* was in *Katnut* where there were only the vessels of *GE* in *Keter*, *Abba ve Ima* and *ZON*. Then *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima* made a *Zivug* on *Dalet de Hitlabshut* and *Gimel de Aviut*, and the light spread to the *Guf*. The *Guf* broke

and only *Aviut Gimel-Bet* remained. *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima* want to make a *Zivug* on that *Aviut* and hope that the *Guf* will be able to receive this light for the Creator's sake, since it is one level lower. Because of this *Zivug*, a *Partzuf* of a different spiritual level emerges; hence, it is already called the *YESHSUT* and not *Abba ve Ima*.

קט) ומתוך שהבחינה אחרונה נאבדה, לא נשאר בו כי אם בחי"ג. ויוצאים עליו ע"ס בקומת חכמה. וכשהוכרה עביות דגוף שבו, יצא מהראש מאו"א, וירד והלביש במקום החזה דגוף דנקודים (אות נ"ה). ומוציא מחזה ולמעלה הע"ס דראש. והראש הזה מכונה "ישסו"ת". והגוף שלו הוא מוציא מהחזה ולמטה בב"ש ת"ת עד סיום הת"ת. והוא מלך ה' דנקודים.

וגם הוא נמשך לבי"ע ונשבר ומת. ונזדככה העביות דבחי"ג ראש וגוף. והכלים דאחורים של ראש נפלו למדרגה שמתחתיה במקום גוף שלהם. ואח"כ נעשה הזווג על עביות דבחי"ב, הנשאר בו. ויצא עליו קומת בינה. והגוף שלו שממעלה למטה נתפשט בב' הכלים נצח והוד. והם שניהם מלך אחד, דהיינו מלך ה' דנקודים.

וגם הם נמשכו לבי"ע ונשברו ומתו. ונזדככה גם העביות דבחי"ב בראש וגוף. והכלים דאחורים של הקומה נפלו להמדרגה שמתחתיה, לגוף. ואח"כ נעשה הזווג על עביות דבחי"א, שנשארה בו. ויצא עליו קומת ז"א. והגוף שלו שממעלה למטה נתפשט בכלי דיסוד. והוא מלך ה' דנקודים. וגם הוא נמשך לבי"ע ונשבר ומת. ונזדככה גם העביות דבחי"א בראש וגוף. והכלים דאחורים שבראש נפלו למדרגה שמתחתיהם, לגוף. ואח"כ נעשה הזווג על העביות דבחינת שורש, הנשאר במסך. ויצא עליו קומת מלכות. והמעלה למטה שלו נמשך לכלי דמלכות. והוא מלך ה' דנקודים. וגם הוא נמשך לבי"ע ונשבר ומת. ונזדככה גם העביות דשורש בראש וגוף. והאחורים דראש נפלו למדרגה שמתחתיה, בגוף. ועתה נגמרו להתבטל כל הכלים דאחורים דישסו"ת, וכן שביה"כ דכל ז"ת דנקודים, הנקראים ז' מלכים.

109) After the disappearance of the last degree of *Aviut (Dalet)*, the *Behina Gimel* brought forth 10 *Sefirot* of the level of *Hochma*. The *Partzuf* begins from the *Chazeh de Abba ve Ima* so that the *Sefirot* of its *Rosh* rise above the *Chazeh* and are called the *YESHSUT*; whereas below the *Chazeh*, including the lower two thirds of *Tifferet*, the 10 *Sefirot de Guf* are formed. This is the fourth *Partzuf* called the *Melech* of the world of *Nikudim*.

It also spreads to *BYA*, breaks and dies. The *Aviut de Behina Gimel* disappears both in the *Rosh* and in the *Guf*. The *AHP de Rosh* falls to the lower level (*Guf*). Then a *Zivug* on *Aviut de Behina Bet* brings forth the level of *Bina*. The *Guf* of the new *Partzuf* spreads to the

vessels Netzah and Hod. This fifth Partzuf is called the Melech of the world of Nikudim.

It also spreads to BYA, breaks and dies. The Behina Bet disappears both in the Rosh and in the Guf, while the AHP de Rosh falls to the lower level (Guf). The next Zivug on Aviut Aleph produces the level of ZA, while its Guf spreads down to the vessel of Yesod. This is the sixth Melech of the world of Nikudim, which reaches the BYA, breaks, and dies. The Aviut Aleph disappears both in the Rosh and in the Guf, while the AHP de Rosh falls to the lower level (Guf).

After that, the last Zivug is made on the Aviut Shoresh that is left in the Masach. It brings forth the level of Malchut, which spreads to the vessel of Malchut. This is the seventh Melech of the world of Nikudim. As with all the preceding Melachim, it breaks and dies. The last Aviut de Shoresh disappears in both the Rosh and in the Guf, and the AHP de Rosh fall to the lower level (to its Guf). Thus, all the AHP de YESHSUT disappeared and all the seven lower Sefirot de Nikudim (i.e., all the seven Melachim) broke.

Tifferet constitutes the entire Guf of the Partzuf. Because of TB, Tifferet divides into three parts: the upper third of Tifferet is called the Chazeh, the middle third of Tifferet is called the Tabur, and the lower third of Tifferet is called Yesod.

קי' והנה נתבארו הטעמים ונקודות שיצאו בב' הפרצופים או"א וישו"ת דנקודים, הנקראים ע"ב ט"ג.

שבאו"א יצאו ד' קומות זה למטה מזה, שהם קומת כתר, הנקראת הסתכלות עיינין דאו"א, קומת חכמה, הנקראת "גופא דאבא", קומת בינה, הנקראת "גופא דאמא", קומת ז"א, הנקראת יסודות דאו"א. שמהם נתפשטו ד' גופים, שהם: מלך הדעת, מלך החסד, מלך הגבורה, מלך ש"ע דת"ת עד החזה. וד' הגופים אלו נשברו פנים ואחורים יחד.

אבל מבחינת הראשים, דהיינו בד' הקומות שבאו"א, נשארו בהקומות כל הכלים דפנים שבהם, דהיינו בחינת הגו"ע ונ"ע דכל קומה, שהיה בהם מעת הקטנות דנקודים. ורק הכלים דאחורים, שבכל קומה שנתחברו בהם בעת הגדלות, הם בלבדם חזרו ונתבטלו בסבת השבירה, ונפלו למדרגה שמתחתיהם, ונשארו, כמו שהיו לפני יציאת הגדלות דנקודים (אות ע"ו-ע"ז).

110) *We have learned about the Ta'amim and the Nekudot that emerged in two Partzufim: Abba ve Ima and YESHSUT of the world of Nikudim, and are called the AB and the SAG.*

Four levels, one under the other, appear in Abba ve Ima: Keter is called “Histaklut Eynaim Abba ve Ima” (looking into one another’s eyes); Hochma is called “Gufa de Aba”; Bina is called “Gufa de Ima”; and ZA is called “Yesodot de Abba ve Ima”. Four bodies emerge from the above-mentioned levels: the Melech haDa’at, the Melech haYesod, the Melech Gevura and Melech of the upper third of Tifferet down to the Chazeh. The Gufim of all of these four levels broke, both Panim and Achoraim, i.e., both GE and AHP.

However, in the Rashim (heads) of these four levels of Abba ve Ima, all the Kelim de Panim of each level that were during Katnut de Nikudim, that is to say, the GE and Nikvey Eynaim (Keter, Hochma and Gar de Bina), remained in their places. Only the Kelim de Achoraim (i.e., the AHP de Rosh, the Zat de Bina, ZA, and Malchut) of each level, which joined the GE during Gadlut, disappeared because of the breaking of the vessels. They fell to the lower level, i.e., to where they had been during Katnut.

קיא) ועד"ז ממש היה בפרצוף ישסו"ת יציאת ד' קומות זה למטה מזה: שקומה הא' היא קומת חכמה ונקראת הסתכלות עיינין דישסו"ת זה בזה, וקומת בינה, וקומת ז"א, וקומת מלכות. שמהם נתפשטו ד' גופים, שהם: מלך ב"ש תתאין דת"ת, מלך נו"ה, מלך היסוד, המלכות. וד' הגופים שלהם נשברו פנים ואחור יחד. אבל בהראשים, דהיינו בד' הקומות דישסו"ת, נשארו הכלים דפנים שבהם, ורק האחורים בלבד נתבטלו בסבת השבירה. ונפלו למדרגה שמתחתיהם. והנה אחר ביטול אלו ב' הפרצופים אר"א וישסו"ת, יצא עוד קומת מ"ה בנקודים. ולפי שלא נתפשט ממנה לבחינת גוף אלא רק תיקוני כלים בלבד, לא אאריך בו.

111) *Similarly, four levels, one under the other, emerged in the Partzuf YESHSUT. The first level (Hochma) is called the Histaklut Eynaim de YESHSUT, the second level (Bina), followed by ZA and Malchut, brings forth 4 bodies: the Melech of two lower thirds of Tifferet, the Melech Netzah-Hod, the Melech Yesod and the Melech*

Malchut. These four Gufim broke (both Panim and Achoraim), but the Kelim de Panim remained in the Rashim de YESHSUT. Their Achoraim disappeared because of the breaking of the vessels, and fell to the lower level. After the two Partzufim Abba ve Ima and the YESHSUT broke, one more Partzuf emerged – MA of the world of Nikudim. However, since no Guf spreads from it (only “Tikuney Kelim”), we will not characterize it here.

Thus, because of a Zivug on the Reshimot Dalet/Gimel, four Melachim emerged in the Rosh de Abba ve Ima (Gadlut de Nikudim). Then there was a Zivug in the Rosh de YESHSUT on the Aviut Gimel/Bet, which led to the emergence of four more Melachim. All of them received the Ohr Hochma, but not for the Creator’s sake; hence, they lost the screen, broke and fell from their spiritual level. Each of them retained the Reshimo of the light and the Ohr Hozer – a tiny portion of the screen’s light, which they wanted to work with, but could not.

This tiny portion of the light is called a “Nitutz” (spark). The fact that it resides inside the egoistic desire makes it possible to start correcting the broken vessels. Had the vessels never been broken, this altruistic spark would have never gone under the Parsa, and the vessels of the AHP found there would have had no possibility for correction. This will be the task of the MA Hadash (new MA) or the World of Correction, Atzilut, which emerged from the Rosh de AK because of a Zivug on the Aviut de Shoresh. This level is called the Metzah (forehead).

The screen in Galgalta lost its strength, the light disappeared, and the Masach de Guf rose to join the Masach de Rosh. The Reshimot Dalet/Gimel was left from the light of Hochma in the Toch and Dalet/Gimel from the light of the Hassadim in the Sof. Reshimot Dalet/Gimel of the light of Hassadim means that, although the Ohr Hochma is felt and desired owing to the Aviut Gimel, nevertheless, the creation just wants to merge with the Creator. That is to say, it wants to be filled with Ohr Hassadim and not with Ohr Hochma (the light of Purpose of the Creation), for it is unable to receive Ohr Hochma for the Creator’s sake. The Partzuf AB

emerges on the *Reshimot de Toch* and the *Gadlut de Nikudim* emerges on the *Reshimot de Sof*. After the light leaves the *Partzuf AB*, the *Partzuf SAG* emerges above the *Tabur* in the world of *AK*.

As a result of a *Zivug* on the *Reshimo Dalet/Gimel* under the *Tabur*, *Gadlut* of the world of *Nikudim* called the lower *AB* or *Abba ve Ima* emerges. When it disappears, a *Zivug* on the *Reshimo Gimel/Bet* takes place under the *Tabur*. As a result, the second *Partzuf* called the lower *SAG* or the *YESHSUT* springs up. The properties of the *Partzufim* both above and under the *Tabur* are similar in the sense that the light of *Hochma* spreads in the lower *AB*, while the light of *Hassadim* with luminescence of *Hochma* spreads in the lower *SAG*. The correction of the *ZON* and *Malchut* under the *Tabur* will consist in lifting them to the level of the *Partzufim AB* and *SAG*.

After the disappearance of the light in the *Partzufim*, pure egoism remains, which remembers what it means to receive the light. All the previous *Reshimot* were based on the reception of the light for the sake of the Creator. Now, when the vessels of *Malchut* were broken, the “desire to receive” the light at any cost appears for the first time. However, this is not the final point of development of egoism; a very long way lies ahead of it.

Malchut senses the light long before it enters it. The same happens in our world. We feel pleasure before we actually receive it. Once we get it, it instantly disappears. It only seems to us that we feel delight. Each time we have to perform certain actions that would help us feel pleasure, but the moment we come in contact with it, the vessel ceases to exist and the pleasure vanishes.

However, we all live only for the sake of achieving such contact. If we were filled with constant imperishable pleasure, we would not make a single move in the direction of new delight, since we would be overfilled with the previous one. Like drug addicts, we would enjoy an injected dose, doing nothing until the need for a new dose is felt. Only egoism (if corrected) that has reached a state of absolute opposition to the Creator

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may become equal to Him. Then the received pleasure will not vanish; the desire for it will remain, whereas we, not for a moment stopping to enjoy, will rush towards new reception for the sake of the Creator.

The light wanted to enter the vessel under the *Tabur* and the vessel was eager to receive it for the Creator’s sake according to the strength of its screen. The vessel discovered too late that there was no screen. All pleasures were already inside and imposed their will on it. However, *TB* expelled the light and the vessel remained empty of the desires it could not satisfy. This terrible state accompanies the breaking of the vessels, death and a downfall. All desires become isolated and undirected at one goal.

When man is firm of purpose, all his desires (both altruistic and egoistic) pursue the same goal. If he is not, he has many different desires that do not aim at one target. Such a person cannot succeed.

When the *Melachim* fall, the highest of them, having lost the screen, falls lower than the rest. All the eight *Melachim* were of different levels. The vessel of *Keter* fell down to *Malchut*. The vessel of *Bina* (the vessel of bestowal) did not fall as low.

The Sefirot de Rosh have the following names:

<i>Gar de Keter</i>	<i>Metzah</i>
<i>Hochma</i>	<i>Eynaim</i>
<i>Gar de Bina</i>	<i>Nikvey Eynaim</i>
<i>Zat de Bina</i>	<i>Awzen</i>
<i>ZA</i>	<i>Hotem</i>
<i>Malchut</i>	<i>Peh</i>

THE WORLD OF CORRECTION
BORN FROM METZAH OF THE WORLD OF AK
עולם התיקון ומ"ה החדש, שיצא מהמצח דא"ק

קיב) והנה נתבאר היטב מתחילת הפתיחה עד כאן ד' פרצופים הראשונים דא"ק:
פרצוף הא' דא"ק, הנקרא "פרצוף גלגלתא", שהזווג דהכאה נעשה בו על בחי"ד, והע"ס שבו
הן בקומת כתר.

112) Now, let us examine all the spiritual worlds, the entire spiritual Universe as a single whole. We will see that in the Galgalta (Partzuf Keter of the entire Universe) a Zivug was made on all the five Reshimot – Dalet/Dalet.

In fact, the screen stood in *Malchut (Peh)* of the common *Rosh* of the entire Universe (this *Rosh* is actually "*Rosh*" of *Malchut* of the World of Infinity).

פרצוף הב' דא"ק, נקרא ע"ב דא"ק, אשר הזווג דהכאה נעשה בו על עביות דבחי"ג, והע"ס שלו
הן בקומת חכמה. והוא מלביש מפה ולמטה דפרצוף הגלגלתא, פרצוף הג' דא"ק נקרא ס"ג
דא"ק, שהזווג דהכאה נעשה בו על עביות דבחי"ב. והע"ס שלו הן בקומת בינה. והוא מלביש
מפה ולמטה דפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק.

Then the screen rises from Malchut to ZA (Hotem) of this Rosh. A Zivug on Reshimot Dalet/Gimel in this screen creates AB (Partzuf Hochma of the entire Universe). So now, the screen stands in ZA of the common Rosh. Then the screen continues rising. This time it ascends from ZA to Bina of the common Rosh and there a Zivug on the Reshimot Gimel/Bet creates the Partzuf SAG (Bina of the entire Universe).

Afterwards, as we know, *TB* takes place and renders the *AHP* (the vessels of *Zat de Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*) of each *Sefira* unfit for use. Because of *TB*, *Bina* of the common *Rosh* happens to divide into two parts: the *Gar* (**Nikvey Eynaim**) and the *Zat* (**Awzen**). Now the screen stands on the borderline between these *Gar* and *Zat*, i.e., between the **Nikvey Eynaim** and the **Awzen**. With some reserve, it may be said that the *Partzuf*

Nekudot de SAG, which is an intermediate stage between *Bina* and *ZA* of the entire Universe (essentially it is *Zat de Bina*, *YESHSUT*), emerged because of a *Zivug* made on the screen positioned there.

Then the screen continues “rising” to *Hochma* of the common *Rosh*, i.e., the **Eynaim**, but it should be stressed that now, after the *TB*, the screen stands not at the bottom of each level as before, but in the **Nikvey Eynaim**, that is to say, on the border between *Gar de Bina* and *Zat de Bina*. Hence, the world of the *Nikudim* (*ZA* of the entire Universe and *Partzuf MA*) emerges from a *Zivug* in **Nikvey Eynaim de Eynaim**, i.e., the screen stands on the border between *Gar* and *Zat de Hochma* of the common *Rosh*.

This *Zivug* was made on the *Reshimot Bet/Aleph* with the additional information of *TB* (ban on using the vessels of reception). So now the *Partzufim*, as it were, consist only of two and a half *Sefirot*. Then, upon breaking of the vessels, the screen moves to the **Nikvey Eynaim de Keter** of the common *Rosh* (*Metzah*). There a *Zivug* on the *Reshimot Aleph/Shoresh* creates the world of *Atzilut*, also called the world of *Vrudim* or *MA Hadash* (new *MA*).

We will explain later on why *Atzilut* is called *MA Hadash*. The world of *Atzilut* corrects the broken vessels, gives birth to the soul of *Adam haRishon*, the soul that descends to the lowest point and only then becomes the true Creation, for now it is infinitely remote from the Creator and can start correcting itself and ascend back to Him.

We should have a general idea of the world of *Atzilut*, which controls everything. The creation is constantly connected with this system. As the result of a gradually achieved correction, we ascend 6000 levels and reach the world of *Atzilut*. Then the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th millennia come, accessible only to those who rise to the level of the Final Correction (the *Gmar Tikkun*).

פרצוף הד' דא"ק נקרא מ"ה דא"ק, שהזווג דהכאה נעשה בו על עביות דבחי"א, והע"ס שבו הן בקומת ז"א. ופרצוף זה מלביש מטבור ולמטה דס"ג דא"ק. והוא נחלק לפנימיות וחיצוניות,

שהפנימיות נקרא מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק, והחיצוניות נקרא "עולם הנקודים". וכאן נעשה ענין השיתוף של המלכות בבינה, הנקרא צמצום ב', והקטנות, והגדלות, ועלית מ"ן, וענין הדעת, המכריע והמזווג הח"ב פב"פ, וענין שבירת הכלים. כי כל אלו נתחדשו בפרצוף הד' דא"ק, הנקרא מ"ה או "עולם הנקודים".

The fourth Partzuf of the world of AK is called MA. It emerges from a Zivug de Behina Aleph, and its 10 Sefirot have the level of ZA. It dresses onto Galgalta from the Tabur and below, where the Nekudot de SAG spread. The Partzuf MA has an inner part called MA and BON of the world of AK, and an outer – Nikudim, which dresses onto the inner part. In this place, Malchut joins Bina, i.e., TB, Katnut, Gadlut, the raising of MAN, the emergence of Sefira Da'at. This in turn promotes a Zivug between Hochma and Bina Panim be Panim, the breaking of the vessels – all of which occurred in the fourth Partzuf MA or the world of Nikudim.

The Partzuf MA, born from the SAG on the Aviut Bet/Aleph, refers to TA and is considered an inner Partzuf as regards the MA that was born from the Nekudot de SAG, and under the Tabur, refers to the TB. We see this entire process as a cause-and-effect chain, but in fact, this is not a process; it is a constantly existing static picture.

There are Ta'amim, Nekudot, Tagin and Otioi in each Partzuf. The processes that occur in Nekudot de SAG – the descent under Tabur, the mixing with NHYM de Galgalta, TB, whose Reshimo brings forth the world of Nikudim in Katnut and Gadlut, the breaking of the vessels – all this may be referred to the Nekudot de SAG and to one of the parts of the Partzuf SAG.

The Gematria (numeric value) of SAG consists of Yud-Key-Vav-Key, but the filling, the light that is in the Kelim of Hochma, Bina, ZA and Malchut, amounts to 63. The filling of the letter Vav (Vav-Aleph-Vav) includes the letter Aleph, which points to TB and the Partzuf Nikudim. The following letter, Key, again includes Yud and not Aleph, which refers to Gadlut de Nikudim. Therefore we do not view Nikudim (when taken separately) as the world. So why do we not say that the SAG got broken? These changes

do not affect the SAG since it is under the *Tabur*, and all that happened refers to its outer *Partzufim* (so-called *Partzufey Searot*), which dress onto it. The *Partzufey Searot* (hair) are examined in detail in Part 13 of “The Study of the Ten Sefirot” on the example of the *Partzuf Arich Anpin* of the world of *Atzilut*.

The first spreading of the light down from *Peh de Rosh* to the *Tabur* on *Aviut Dalet* is called *Ta’amim*. Then next *Partzufim-Nekudot* emerge on *Gimel de Dalet*, *Bet de Dalet*, *Aleph de Dalet* and *Shoresh de Dalet*, although we do not give them names under the *Tabur de AK*. Under the *Tabur* in the world of *Nikudim*, we call them *Sefira Da’at*, *Melech Da’at*, *Melech Hesed*, *Melech Gevura* and *Melech* of the upper third of *Tifferet*. At that, the *Partzuf* emerging on *Aviut Shoresh* does not spread into the *Guf*; hence, it is not taken into account and is not called a *Melech*.

When can we see that the *Guf* influences the *Rosh*? Raising *MAN* makes *Abba ve Ima* turn *Panim be Panim* to make a *Zivug* on the *Ohr Hochma* for passing it on to the lower *Partzufim*. Such a request of *ZA* to *Abba ve Ima* leads them to a state called the *Sefira Da’at*. As the vessels break, this desire in *Abba ve Ima* disappears and they terminate their *Zivug*. As the lower *Partzuf* turns to the upper with a request, it changes the way it is controlled. When we long to change our state from below, we must raise *MAN* to the upper *Partzuf* and receive correction.

קיג) ואלו ה' בחינות עביות שבמסך נקראים על שם הספירות שבראש, דהיינו גלגלתא עינים ואח"פ: שהעביות דבחי"ד נקרא "פה", שעליה יצא פרצוף הא' דא"ק, ועביות דבחי"ג נקרא "חוטם", שעליה יצא פרצוף ע"ב דא"ק, ועביות דבחי"ב נקרא "אזן", שעליה יצא פרצוף ס"ג דא"ק, ועביות דבחי"א נקרא "נקבי עינים", שעליה יצא פרצוף מ"ה דא"ק ועולם הנקודים, ועביות דבחינת שורש נקרא "גלגלתא" או "מצח", שעליה יצא עולם התיקון. והוא נקרא מ"ה החדש. כי פרצוף הד' דא"ק הוא עיקר פרצוף מ"ה דא"ק, כי יצא מנקבי עינים בקומת ז"א, המכונה בשם הו"ה דמ"ה. אבל פרצוף החמישי דא"ק, שיצא מן המצח, דהיינו בחינת הגלגלתא, שהיא בחינת עביות דשורש, אין בו באמת אלא קומת מלכות הנקרא ב"ן. אמנם מטעם שנשארה שם גם בחי"א דהתלבשות, שהוא בחינת ז"א, ע"כ נקרא גם הוא בשם מ"ה. אלא בשם מ"ה שיצא מהמצח דא"ק, שפירושו, מהתכללות עביות דשורש, הנקרא "מצח". וכן הוא נקרא בשם מ"ה החדש, בכדי להבדילו מהמ"ה שיצא מנקבי עינים דא"ק. ופרצוף מ"ה החדש הזה נקרא בשם "עולם התיקון" או "עולם אצילות".

113) *The five levels of Aviut in the screen are called by the names of the Sefirot in the Rosh: the Galgalta ve Eynaim and the AHP. The first Partzuf of the world of AK emerged on Aviut de Behina Dalet, called the Peh, and the Partzuf AB of the world of AK emerged on Aviut de Behina Gimel, called the Hotem. The Partzuf SAG de AK emerged on Aviut de Behina Bet, called the Awzen. The Partzuf MA and the world of Nikudim emerged on Aviut de Behina Aleph, called Nikvey Eynaim. The Partzuf MA Hadash, or the world of correction (Atzilut), emerged on Aviut de Behina Shoresh, called the Metzah. Unlike all the other Partzufim, the name of Atzilut is determined not by the Aviut, but by the Hitlabshut Aleph, which plays a most significant role in the world of Atzilut. Therefore, it is not called BON, but MA Hadash.*

Does not the appearance of MA Hadash signify that up to now the entire way of Malchut of the World of Infinity was faulty? There is no such notion as “a mistake” in spirituality. The entire way is just phases of the rise of the genuine desire.

Any level, even the lowest, corresponds to the entire Universe, reality. However, on the lowest levels, everything happens in the coarsest way, whereas on the highest levels it takes the most open, sophisticated and perfectly analyzed form. This difference provides all the strength, all the taste that is in the sensation of the Creator. There is NaRaNHaY on all levels. All see the same picture, but everyone perceives it differently on various levels. Alternatively, rather, each level bears in itself a deeper attainment, which provides information that is more extensive. These sensations cannot possibly be expressed with words from our world. The lower level is unable to comprehend the upper one.

קיד) אמנם יש להבין: למה ג' הקומות הראשונות דא"ק, הנקראות "גלגלתא", ע"ב, ס"ג אינן נבחנות לג' עולמות, אלא לג' פרצופים? ולמה נשתנה פרצוף הד' דא"ק להקרא בשם "עולם"? וכן פרצוף החמישי דא"ק, כי פרצוף הד' נקרא בשם "עולם הנקודים" ופרצוף הה' נקרא בשם "עולם האצילות" או בשם "עולם התיקון".

114) We should understand why the three first levels of the world of AK are called *Partzufim* and not worlds. Why is the fourth level of AK called the world of *Nikudim* and the fifth – the world of *Atzilut*.

The first three levels of AK, called *Galgalta*, AB and SAG, are *Keter*, *Hochma*, and *Bina*. Why is the fourth *Partzuf* (if it is just ZA with the *Aviut Aleph*) called “the world of *Nikudim*” and the fifth (having only *Aviut Shoresht*) – “the world of *Atzilut*”?

The dot is the light of *Malchut* in the *Kli de Keter*. The creation’s task is to expand this dot to the size of a complete, fully corrected *Partzuf* of *Adam haRishon*. The preparation stages are:

1. The outer body is similar to our material (*Homer*), “the dust of the earth”, i.e., the egoistic desire to receive pleasure.
2. Reaching the level of “*Nefesh-Ruach*” in the worlds *Yetzira* and *Assiya* and then “*Neshama*” in the world *Beria*.
3. Reaching the levels “*Nefesh-Ruach-Neshama*” in the world of *Atzilut*.
4. As a result of the “Sin”, *Malchut* falls from the world of *Atzilut* to the worlds of *BYA* and acquires the properties “the dust of the earth”, loses all its achievements in the world of *Atzilut*, and retains only the point of *Keter*.
5. The broken soul split into 600,000 fragments, from which our souls were formed.
6. Thus, the *Behina Dalet*, i.e., *Adam HaRishon*, emerged to begin correcting the intention.

קטו) וצריכים לידע ההפרש מפרצוף לעולם. והוא, כי בשם פרצוף נקרא כל קומת ע"ס, היוצאת על המסך דגוף דעליון, אחר שנזדכך ונכלל בפה דראש דעליון (אות נ). שאחר יציאתו מהראש דעליון, הוא מתפשט בעצמו לרת"ס. גם יש בו ה' קומות זה למטה מזה, הנקראות "טעמים" ו"נקודות" (אות מ"ז). אמנם נקרא רק על שם קומת הטעמים שבו.

ועד"ז יצאו ג' פרצופים הראשונים דא"ק: גלגלתא, ע"ב, ס"ג (אות מ"ז). אבל "עולם" פירושו, שהוא כולל כל מה שנמצא בעולם העליון ממנו, כעין חותם ונחתם, שכל מה שיש בחותם עובר כולו על הנחתם ממנו.

115) *We should know the difference between a Partzuf and a world. A Partzuf is any level consisting of ten Sefirot, which emerge as a result of Zivug with the Masach de Guf of the upper Partzuf upon the weakening of the Masach, and its merging with the Masach in the Peh de Rosh of the upper Partzuf. When it emerges from the Rosh of the upper Partzuf, it spreads to the Rosh, the Toch and the Sof and has 5 levels, one under the other, called the Ta'amim and the Nekudot. However, it receives its name only from the Ta'amim.*

Similarly, the three first Partzufim, Galgalta, AB and SAG of the world of AK, emerged and received names from their Ta'amim, Keter, Hochma and Bina. As far as the worlds are concerned, each consecutive world contains all that was in the preceding one, the way an imprint is the copy of a seal.

The entire Torah is constructed from the Creator's names. Each time man rises to a certain spiritual level and is filled with a certain kind of light, he feels this level and gives it a corresponding name, which he himself receives too. The Masach and the Ohr Hozer are called "Milluy" (filling), since the light filling the vessel depends on it.

קטז) ולפי זה תבין, שג' פרצופים הראשונים גלגלתא ע"ב ס"ג דא"ק, נבחנו רק לעולם אחד, דהיינו עולם הא"ק, שיצא בצמצום הראשון. אבל פרצוף הד' דא"ק, שבו נעשה ענין הצמצום ב', נעשה לעולם בפני עצמו, מטעם הכפילות שנעשה במסך דנקודות דס"ג בירידתו למטה מטבור דא"ק. כי נכפל עליו גם העביות דבחי"ד, בסוד ה"ת בעינים (אות ס"ג).

אשר בעת גדלות חזרה הבחי"ד למקומה לפה, והוציאה קומת כתר (אות פ"ד). ונמצאת קומה זו נשתוה לפרצוף הא' דא"ק. ואחר שנתפשט לרת"ס בטעמים ובנקודות, יצא עליו פרצוף ב' בקומת חכמה, הנקרא ישור"ת. והוא דומה לפרצוף ב' דא"ק, הנקרא ע"ב דא"ק. ואחר התפשטותו לטעמים ונקודות, יצא פרצוף ג', הנקרא מ"ה דנקודים (אות ק"א). והוא דומה לפרצוף ג' דא"ק.

הרי שיצא כאן בעולם הנקודים כל מה שהיה בעולם א"ק, דהיינו ג' פרצופים. זה תחת זה. שבכל אחד מהם טעמים ונקודות וכל מקריהם, בדומה לג' פרצופים גלגלתא ע"ב ס"ג דא"ק שבעולם הא"ק. וע"כ נבחן עולם הנקודים, שהוא נחתם מעולם הא"ק. ונקרא משום זה עולם שלם בפני עצמו. (ומה שג' פרצופי נקודים אינם נקראים גלגלתא-ע"ב-ס"ג אלא ע"ב-ס"ג-מ"ה, הוא מטעם שהבחי"ד שנתחברה במסך דס"ג אין עביותה שלמה, מפאת מקרה ההזדככות שהיה מכבר בפרצוף הא' דא"ק. וע"כ ירדו לבחינת ע"ב ס"ג מ"ה).

116) As was already stated, the Partzufim of the world of AK, Galgalta, AB and SAG, are called by one common name, AK. They emerged in accordance with TA. However, the fourth Partzuf (in which TB occurred) is called the world, because when Nekudot de SAG descended under the Tabur, they acquired the additional Reshimot Dalet/Gimel.

During Gadlut, Behina Dalet returned to its place in the Peh de Rosh; the level of Keter emerged there, very similar to the first Partzuf of the world of AK. Then it spread to the Rosh, the Toch and the Sof, the Ta'amim and the Nekudot. The Partzuf Bet with the level of Hochma, called YESHSUT, follows. It is similar to the Partzuf AB de AK. Then the third Partzuf of the world of Nikudim arises. All three Partzufim stand one above the other; each has the Ta'amim and the Nekudot and all that is found in the three Partzufim of AK.

Hence, Olam HaNikudim is considered an imprint, a mould of the world of AK and is called the world. The three Partzufim of the world of Nikudim should rather be called not Galgalta, AB and SAG, but AB, SAG and MA, since the Nekudot de SAG received only Dalet/Gimel (not Dalet/Dalet, which was in the Galgalta before the light was expelled) from the NHYM de Galgalta. That is why the first Partzuf of the world of Nikudim (it adopted these Reshimot from the Nekudot de SAG and would later pass them on to the world of Atzilut) corresponds to AB (the Reshimot Dalet/Gimel and not Dalet/Dalet).

קיז) והנה נתבאר איך עולם הנקודים נחתם מעולם הא"ק. ועד"ז נחתם פרצוף הה' דא"ק, דהיינו המ"ה החדש, שנחתם כולו מעולם הנקודים. באופן שכל הבחינות ששמשו בנקודים, אע"פ שנשברו ונתבטלו שם, מכל מקום חזרו כולם ונתחדשו במ"ה החדש.

וע"כ הוא נקרא עולם בפני עצמו. ונקרא "עולם האצילות", מטעם שנסתיים כולו למעלה מפרסא, שנתקנה בצמצום ב'. ונקרא ג"כ "עולם התיקון", מטעם שעולם הנקודים לא נתקיים, כי היה בו ביטול ושבירה. אלא אחר כך במ"ה החדש, שחזרו כל הבחינות ההם, שהיו בעולם הנקודים, ובאו במ"ה החדש, הנה נתקנו שם ונתקיימו. וע"כ נקרא "עולם התיקון". כי באמת הוא עולם הנקודים עצמו, אלא שמקבל כאן במ"ה החדש את תיקונו משלם. כי ע"י מ"ה

החדש חוזרים ומתחברים לג"ר כל אלו האחורים שנפלו לגוף מן אר"א וישסו"ת, וכן הפנים ואחורים דכל הז"ת, שנפלו לבי"ע ומתו, חוזרים ועולים על ידו לאצילות.

117) *We know that the world of Nikudim is an imprint of the world of AK. Similarly, the fifth Partzuf de AK (MA Hadash) was formed. It is considered an exact copy of the world of Nikudim in the sense that all the Behinot used in Nikudim that broke and disappeared there were renewed and reconstructed in MA Hadash.*

This world is also considered independent and is called Atzilut. Its position is between the Parsa (formed after TB) and the Tabur. It is also called the world of Correction. After the world of Nikudim broke and disappeared, the world of Atzilut was formed from the same broken Behinot. Thus, the world of Nikudim gets corrected with the help of MA Hadash, where all the AHP's that fell into the Guf de Abba ve Ima and the YESHSUT gather and return to Gar. All the Panim and Achoraim of all the Zat, which fell into the BYA and died, now return and ascend to Atzilut with the help of MA Hadash.

The *Tabur* is an imaginary line above which the light of *Hochma* may be received. Under the *Tabur*, there is no screen so far, so reception is forbidden. The *Parsa* is also an imaginary line; the vessels of bestowal (*GE*) that require no light of *Hochma* are above it, while the vessels of reception are below it and may not receive the light of *Hochma*.

The world of *Atzilut* is between the *Tabur de Galgalta* and the *Parsa*. It is the world of Correction and has in it the *Ohr Hochma*. How can that be? This world elevates the fallen vessels of reception, attaches them to the vessels of bestowal, and fills them with the light of *Hochma*. This action takes place gradually. As soon as the *AHP* of all levels ascend to *Atzilut*, the state called *Gmar Tikkun* or the 7th millennium will be achieved.

Then there are also the 8th, 9th and 10th millennia, when the *AHP* start to be filled with light under the *Parsa* as well. When the world of *Atzilut* lowers the *AHP* to the place of the world of *Beria*, the 8th millennium will come. The *AHP de Atzilut* in *Yetzira* will mark the 9th millennium and the *AHP de Atzilut* in *Assiya* will mark the 10th millennium.

Then absolutely every vessel will be filled with light in accordance with the Purpose of Creation. However, the *Gmar Tikkun* is 6000 levels, all that we can correct by ourselves, whereas further correction will come with the help of the light of *Mashiach*.

ק"ח) וטעם הדברים, כי כל פרצוף תחתון חוזר וממלא הכלים דעליון, אחר הסתלקות אורותיהם בעת הזדככות המסך. כי אחר הסתלקות האורות דגוף דפרצוף הא' דא"ק, מפאת הזדככות המסך, קבל המסך זוג חדש בקומת ע"ב, אשר חזר ומילא הכלים הריקים דגוף דעליון, דהיינו דפרצוף הא'.

וכן אחר הסתלקות האורות דגוף דע"ב, מפאת הזדככות המסך, קבל המסך זוג חדש בקומת ס"ג, שחזר ומילא הכלים הריקים דעליון, שהוא ע"ב. וכן אחר הסתלקות האורות דס"ג, מפאת הזדככות המסך, קבל המסך זוג חדש בקומת מ"ה, שיצא מנקבי עינים, שהם הנקודים, שחזר ומילא את הכלים הריקים דעליון, שהוא הנקודות דס"ג.

וממש עד"ז, אחר הסתלקות האורות דנקודים, מחמת ביטול האחורים ושבירת הכלים, קבל המסך זוג חדש בקומת מ"ה, שיצא מהמצח דפרצוף ס"ג דא"ק, וממלא את הכלים הריקים דגוף דעליון, שהם הכלים דנקודים שנתבטלו ונשברו.

118) Each lower Partzuf returns and fills the vessels of the upper one after the expulsion of the light from it. When the light disappeared from the body of the first Partzuf de AK, due to the weakening of its screen, a new Zivug was made in the screen on the level of AB. Then it returned and filled the empty vessels of the upper Partzuf.

After the expulsion of the light from the body of Partzuf AB, because of the screen weakening, a new Zivug was made in the screen on the level of SAG, which returned and filled the empty vessels of Partzuf AB. After the expulsion of the light from the body of Partzuf SAG, due to the weakening of the screen, a new Zivug was made in the screen on the level of MA, which emerged from Nikvey Eynaim and filled the empty vessels of SAG.

Similarly, after the expulsion of the light from the world of *Nikudim*, due to the disappearance of the *Achoraim* and the breaking of the vessels, a new *Zivug* made in the screen on the level of *MA*, emerged from the *Metzah* of *Partzuf SAG de AK* and filled the empty vessels of the world of *Nikudim*, which broke and disappeared.

We have always studied the development of creation “from above”. The Creator created the only creation – *Malchut* of the World of Infinity. It constitutes the unity of all desires (vessels) and pleasures (the light). Whatever happens afterwards is just a sequence of various intentions *Malchut* uses in order to fill itself. We learn that *Malchut* gradually begins to move away from the Creator to become fully independent of Him.

Malchut stops feeling the Creator, coarsens, transforms its properties into egoistic ones and becomes opposite to the Creator, infinitely remote from Him. When the process of evolution reaches its lowest point, the creation is ready to begin the reverse process – gradual advancement towards the Creator.

Each higher *Partzuf* is nearer to perfection than the previous one, has a stronger screen, and is closer to the Creator. How can it be that each consecutive *Partzuf* fills the preceding one with light, although it is weaker? Does it not originate from it? It fills the preceding *Partzuf* by demanding to be filled.

When the *Partzuf Galgalta* completely expels the light, its *Masach de Guf* merges with the *Masach de Rosh* and the lower level of *Aviut* disappears. A new *Partzuf* is born and demands strength from the previous in order to fill itself with the light. To receive such light, the preceding *Partzuf* has to make a *Zivug de Haka'a* with the light of Infinity, decrease the intensity of this light by one degree to pass it to the lower level, which feels it in the *Rosh* and perceives it as the light of the World of Infinity.

For instance, *Malchut* of the world of *Assiya* sees the light diminished 125 times in its *Rosh*, but perceives it as the light of the World of Infinity, although it passed through all 125 degrees of weakening. *Malchut* perceives it as absolute Infinity. The filling of the preceding *Partzuf* happens through the consecutive *Partzuf's* desire to be filled with the light of the preceding one.

When SAG asks AB to fill it with the light, AB, having nothing, turns to *Galgalta*, which has nothing else to do but to ask *Malchut* of The

World of Infinity for the light. Why is it so? We say that the entire light is in the *Rosh de Galgalta*. It is really so, but it must now give SAG the appropriate light of *Bina*. Therefore, *Galgalta* turns to *Malchut* of The World of Infinity, or, rather, to its *Behina Bet*, which corresponds to the light of *Bina*. It passes this light first through *Bina de Galgalta*, then through *Bina de AB* and only then to the *Rosh de SAG*.

Overall, there are five *Partzufim* and five lights. The *Partzuf* receives each light from *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, or, rather, from one of its *Sefirot*. Any *Bina* of any *Partzuf* or world can receive the light of *Bina* only through all *Binot* of all the *Partzufim* and worlds preceding it. The other *Sefirot* – *Keter*, *Hochma*, *ZA* and *Malchut* – receive the light by including themselves in the desires of the requesting vessel. The consecutive *Partzuf* complements the preceding one with the desires (the vessels), while the preceding *Partzuf* fills these desires with the light.

The lower *Partzuf* always turns to the upper, from which it originated. The *Partzuf AB* emerges from *Hochma de Galgalta* and is connected with *Galgalta* only through *Hochma*. *Galgalta* turns to the *Sefirat Hochma* of *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, receives *Ohr Hochma*, but cannot pass it to *AB*. It must transform it into *Ohr Hochma* that would suit *AB*, and only then pass it on to it.

The smallest, but true request of the tiniest *Partzuf* fills all the worlds up to *Galgalta* with the light. At that, the higher the *Partzuf* is, the more light it receives. Therefore, being filled with the light, the Tree of Life is revived by the raised *MAN*.

קיט) אמנם יש הפרש גדול כאן במ"ה החדש. כי הוא נעשה לבחינת דבר ובחינת עליון הכלים דנקודים, שהוא מתקן אותם. משא"כ בפרצופים הקודמים, אין התחנות נעשה לדבר ולעליון אל הכלים דגוף דעליון, אע"פ שהוא ממלא אותם ע"י קומתו.

והשינוי הזה הוא, כי בפרצופים הקודמים לא היה שום פגם בהסתלקות האורות, כי רק הזדככות המסך גרם להסתלקותם.

אבל כאן בעולם הנקודים, היה פגם בהכלים. כי כח מלכות המסיימת היה מעורב בהכלים דאחורים דז"ת. ואינם ראויים לקבל האורות. שמסבה זו נשברו ומתו ונפלו לבי"ע. לפיכך הם תלויים לגמרי במ"ה החדש: להחיותם, לבררם, ולהעלותם לאצילות. ומתוך זה נחשב המ"ה

החדש לבחינת זכר ומשפיע. ואלו הכלים דנקודים הנבררים על ידו נעשו בחינת נוקבא אל המ"ה. ולכן נשתנה שמם לשם ב"ן. כלומר שנעשו בחינת תחתון אל המ"ה. ואע"פ שהם עליון למ"ה החדש, כי הם כלים מעולם הנקודים ובחינת מ"ה ונקבי עינים, שבחינה עליונה שבו הוא י"ק דס"ג דא"ק (אות ע"ד), מ"מ נעשו עתה לתחתון אל המ"ה החדש. ונקרא ב"ן מטעם האמור.

119) However, there is a fundamental distinction in MA Hadash, called the world of Atzilut. It consists in the fact that, being the Partzuf that follows the world of Nikudim, it affects and corrects all of its vessels. However, in the previous Partzufim, each lower one could not influence the Kelim de Guf of the upper one, even though it filled them with the light of its level.

This change in MA happened because the power of Malchut restricting the light in the world of Nikudim intervened with the AHP de Zat. This led to the loss of the screen, expulsion of the light, breaking of the vessels, their death and fall into BYA. In the previous Partzufim, there was no "spoiling" of the vessels during the light expulsion, which was connected exclusively with the weakening of the screen and its rising to the Rosh of the Partzuf.

However, here in the world of Nikudim, the vessels become spoiled and their existence now depends on the world of Atzilut, which has power to correct and lift them up. Hence, the world of Atzilut is considered new and bestowing (Zachar) as regards the vessels of the world of Nikudim (Nekeva in regards to it); hence, they change their name from Nikudim (the Aviut of MA) to BON, i.e., they descend below MA Hadash.

The world of Nikudim emerged on the Masach in Nikvey Eynaim (Bina de Hochma); the world of Atzilut emerged on the Masach in Nikvey Eynaim de Metzah (Bina de Keter) of the Rosh de SAG. The world of Nikudim was supposed to be MA and Atzilut – BON, but owing to the breaking of the vessels, they switch places: Atzilut becomes MA, while the broken vessels of Nikudim, which it attaches to itself, become the BON.

FIVE PARTZUFIM OF THE WORLD OF ATZILUT,
MA AND BON IN EACH PARTZUF

ה"פ אצילות וענין מ"ה וב"ן שבכל פרצוף

קכ) ונתבאר, שקומת מ"ה החדש נתפשטה ג"כ לעולם שלם בפני עצמו כמו עולם הנקודים.

120) Now, the MA Hadash turned into an independent world like the Nikudim.

Each Partzuf in the world of AK emerged on one pair of Reshimot (e.g. Dalet/Dalet etc.). As was already stated, the Nekudot de SAG under the Tabur also received Reshimot Dalet/Gimel from the NHYM de Galgalta in addition to those upon which this Partzuf emerged.

Thus, there are two kinds of Reshimot under the Tabur: the Bet de Hitlabshut – Aleph de Aviut, and Dalet de Hitlabshut – Gimel de Aviut. The first brought forth the world of Nikudim in Katnut, whereas the second gave rise to a series of Partzufim similar to AB-SAG. The world of Atzilut emerged on Aleph de Hitlabshut and Shores de Aviut, although the Reshimo Dalet-Gimel remains.

Therefore, a second desire emerges in the Masach, which also rises to the Rosh de SAG: to receive light from Dalet-Gimel. Therefore, as with the world Nikudim, Atzilut also initially emerges in Katnut, and then wants to pass to Gadlut.

וטעם הדבר הוא, כמו שנתבאר בקומת הנקודים, שהוא מכח כפילות המסך גם מבח"ד (אות קט"ז). כי הגם שהארת הז"ן דא"ק שהאיר דרך הטבור והיסוד לג"ר דנקודים החזירה הצמצום א' למקומו, וה"ת ירדה מנקבי עינים לפה, שע"ז יצאו כל אלו הקומות גדלות נקודים (אות ק"א), אמנם כל אלו הקומות חזרו ונתבטלו ונשברו, וכל האורות נסתלקו. וע"כ חזר הצמצום ב' למקומו. והבח"ד חזרה ונתחברה במסך.

The luminescence of ZON de AK through the Tabur and Yesod in the Gar de Nikudim returned Malchut from Bina to its place, i.e., from the Nikvey Eynaim to the Peh. Thus, all levels of the world of Nikudim emerged in Gadlut, but later, as we know, they disap-

peared, broke, and the light exited them. TB returned to its place; Behina Dalet joined the Masach.

The state of *Gadlut*, which happened in the world of *Nikudim*, also took place in *Atzilut*, although according to the laws that prevented the vessels from breaking.

קכא) ולפיכך גם במ"ה החדש, שיצא מהמצח, נוהג ג"כ ב' בחינות קטנות וגדלות, כמו בעולם הנקודים. אשר תחילה יוצאת הקטנות, דהיינו לפי העביות המגולה במסך, שהוא: קומת ז"א להתלבשות, המכונה חג"ת, וקומת מלכות דעביות, הנקרא נה"י. מטעם ג' הקוין, שנעשה בקומת מלכות: שקו ימין נקרא "נצח", וקו שמאל נקרא "הוד", וקו אמצעי "סוד". אמנם כיון שאין מבחי"א רק בחינת התלבשות, בלי עביות, ע"כ אין בה כלים. ונמצאה קומת חג"ת בלי כלים. והיא מתלבשת בכלים דנה"י. וקומה זו נקראת "עובר". שפירושו, שאין שם אלא שיעור עביות דשורש, שנשאר במסך אחר הזדככותו, בעת עליתו לזווג במצח דעליון. שקומה, היוצאת שם, היא רק קומת מלכות. אמנם בפנימיותה יש בחינת ה"ת בגניזו. והוא בחינת ה"ת במצח. ואחר שהעובר מקבל הזווג בעליון, יורד משם למקומו (אות נ"ד). ואז מקבל מוחין דיניקה מהעליון, שהם עביות דבח"א, בבחינת ה"ת בנקבי עינים. ועי"ז קונה כלים גם לחג"ת, מתפשטים החג"ת מתוך הנה"י. ויש לו קומת ז"א.

121) Therefore, as in the world of Nikudim, the two forces also rule in MA Hadash, which emerged from Metzah: Katnut and Gadlut, i.e., first Katnut on Hitlabshut Aleph (ZA,) called the HaGaT, and Malchut (Shoresh) de Aviut, called NHY, due to the appearance of "three lines" in it. The three lines are the right line (Netzah), the left line (Hod) and the middle line (Yesod). However, since there is only the Behinat Hitlabshut without the Aviut in the Behina Aleph, it has no Kelim, so the level of the HaGaT, for the lack of its own vessels, uses the Kelim de NHY. Such a Partzuf is called Ubar (embryo). Then it grows to the Aviut Aleph and receives the name of Katan (small). Upon reaching the Aviut Gimel, it enters Gadlut.

There were only two states in the world of *Nikudim*: *Katnut* and *Gadlut*; and three - in *Atzilut*. *Gadlut* was instantly born in *AK*. The world of *Nikudim* is called *ZA* or the *HaGaT*; the world of *Atzilut* is first called *Ubar* or *NHY*, then *Katan* (*ZA*), or *HaGaT-NHY*. In *Gadlut*, it is called *HaBaD-HaGaT-NHY*, the *Aviut Bet-Gimel-Dalet*. When the *Partzuf*

is born in the state of *Ubar*, it has *Aviut de Shoresh*, the vessel of *Keter* and the lights *Nefesh* and *Ruach*.

So where is *Ohr Ruach*? It turns out to be together with *Ohr Nefesh*. However, it is true that *Malchut* hides inside the *Ubar*, for *Reshimo Dalet-Gimel*, on which a *Zivug* was not made, is still there. Later on, in the state of *Aviut de Shoresh*, the *Ubar* receives light from the previous *Partzuf* and grows to *Aviut Aleph*, while the screen descends from the *Metzah* to *Nikvey Eynaim (de Eynaim)*. The *Partzuf* in this state is called *Katan*. If the screen descends lower, the *Partzuf* will be in *Gadlut*, gradually passing from *Aviut Bet* to *Gimel* and then to *Dalet*.

When a *Partzuf* is born, it means that a screen is born, no more. Desires are created by the Creator, while the light preceded the desires. Now only the intention to receive for the sake of the Creator is brought forth. The screen is an inversion of what I may do with the pleasure I can feel. The entire ladder, from us to the Creator, is graduated in accordance with the screens – from 0%, the lowest level, up to 100%, the highest level. The *Partzuf* is a measure of the screen’s reaction to the Upper Light. After its birth, the *Partzuf* instantly descends to its place according to its screen. In *TB*, only *GE* (the vessels of bestowal) are used in all the states of the *Partzuf* from *Shoresh* to *Dalet*.

קכב) והנה אח"ז עולה פעם ב' למ"ן להעליון. ונקרא "עיבור ב'". ומקבל שם מוחין מע"ב ס"ג דא"ק. ואז יורדת הבח"ד מנקבי עינים למקומה לפה (אות ק"א). ואז נעשה הזוג על בח"ד במקומה. ויוצאות ע"ס בקומת כתר. והכלים דאח"פ מתעלים וחוזרים למקומם בראש. ונשלם הפרצוף בע"ס דאורות וכלים. ואלו המוחין נקראים "מוחין דגדלות" של הפרצוף. וזהו קומת פרצוף הא' דאצילות, הנקרא "פרצוף הכתר" או "פרצוף עתיק" דאצילות.

122) After its birth in *Katnut*, the *Partzuf* raises *MAN* for the second time in the *Rosh de SAG*, and is called the *Ibur Bet* (the 2nd conception). There it receives *Mochin*, i.e., the light *AB-SAG* of the world of *AK*. Then *Behina Dalet* descends from *Nikvey Eynaim* to its place in *Peh de Rosh*. A *Zivug* on *Behina Dalet* gives birth to 10 *Sefirot de Keter*. The vessels of *AHP* return to its place in the *Rosh*. Thus, the *Partzuf* is extended to 10 *Sefirot* (both the vessels and the

lights). This light is called the *Mochin de Gadlut of the Partzuf*. This is how the first *Partzuf* of the world of *Atzilut*, called *Keter* or *Atik de Atzilut*, emerged.

The name *Atik* derives from the word “*Ne’etak*”, i.e., isolated from the rest of the lower *Partzufim*. It is a kind of intermediary between the worlds of *AK* and *Atzilut*. *Atik* works according to the laws of *TA*, but dresses in “*Searot*” (the outer *Partzufim*), which is already in *Rosh de SAG* and is perceived by other *Partzufim* as the *Partzuf* that exists according to the laws of *TB*. Concerning *Galgalta*, the *Atik* is on the level of *Hochma*, since it emerges on *Reshimo Dalet-Gimel*. This corresponds to the *Partzuf AB (Hochma de Galgalta)*. As regards the world of *Atzilut*, it is the first *Partzuf* of the level of *Keter*, which initiates the entire network of *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut*, to which it will bestow.

In fact, *Keter de Atzilut* is not *Atik*, which is so isolated and concealed that it is practically unable to contact any other *Partzuf*. It passes its functions to the second *Partzuf* of the world of *Atzilut* – *Arich Anpin*, which is in fact *Keter* and carries out all corrections of the vessels.

Four out of 6 volumes of “The Study of the Ten Sefirot” speak about the world of *Atzilut*. The general control of the entire Universe, the connection between the souls and the Creator, originates there. Almost nothing is said about *Atik*, since it, as it were, has nothing to do with the world of *Atzilut*. Actually, *Atzilut* begins with *Arich Anpin*, which, as regards all the other *Partzufim*, plays the role of *Galgalta* of the world of *AK*. All the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* are also dressed on it.

קכג) וכבר ידעת, שאחר שביה"כ חזרו ונפלו כלהו אח"פ מהמדרגות, כל אחד למדרגה שמתחתיו (אות ע"ז, ק"ו). ונמצאים אח"פ דקומת כתר דנקודים בגו"ע דקומה חכמה. ואח"פ דקומת חכמה בגו"ע דקומת בינה, וכו'. ולפיכך בעת העיבור ב' דגדלות דפרצוף הא' דאצילות, הנקרא "עתיק", שחזרו ונתעלו האח"פ שלו, הנה עלו עמהם יחד גם הגו"ע דקומת חכמה. ונתקנו יחד עם האח"פ דקומת עתיק. וקבלו שם עיבור הא'.

123) *You already know that, after the breaking of the vessels, all the AHP fell again from their level to the one below. The AHP of Keter de Nikudim is now on the level of the GE de Hochma. The AHP of Hochma is on the level of GE de Bina, and so on. Now, during Ibur Bet, i.e., in Gadlut of the Partzuf Atik, its AHP rose, with GE de Hochma, and was corrected together. The GE de Hochma reached Behinat Ibur Aleph.*

When a *Partzuf* is born in *Katnut*, its AHP do not receive the light and are inside GE of the lower level. As the upper *Partzuf* starts lifting its AHP and filling them with the light, the *Reshimot* GE of the lower still unborn *Partzuf* rise together with them. The AHP of the upper *Partzuf* prepare a place for the birth of this *Partzuf*. The upper *Partzuf* passes through *Ibur Bet*, while GE of the lower *Partzuf* pass through *Ibur Aleph*.

Thus, the fall of each AHP by one level created an opportunity, with their return to the original level, to elevate and correct GE of the lower level, in other words, their fall allowed GE of the lower *Partzuf* to enter *Ibur Aleph*, while the upper *Partzuf* entered *Ibur Bet*.

After the breaking of the vessels in the world of *Nikudim*, the egoistic desires without a screen (*Reshimot*) remained. They cannot come out of that state by themselves. Because there are *Reshimot* of the GE of the following *Partzuf* in all the fallen AHP, it becomes possible to correct the GE of the lower *Partzuf* during the rise and correction of the AHP. The miracle of *TB* and the breaking of the vessels lie in this process.

קכד) ואחר שהגור"ע דחכמה קבלו קומת העיבור והיניקה שלהם (אות קכ"א), חזרו ועלו לראש דעתיק. וקבלו שם עיבור ב' שלהם למוחין דגדלות. וירדה הבחי"ג למקומה לפה. ויצאו עליה ע"ס בקומת חכמה. והכלים דאח"פ שלהם חזרו ועלו למקומם בראש. ונשלם פרצוף החכמה בע"ס דאורות וכלים. ופרצוף זה נקרא פרצוף "אריך אנפין" דאצילות.

124) *After the GE de Hochma pass through the Ibur and the Yenika (Ibur Aleph, Katnut), Hochma passes to Ibur Bet, so as to receive Mochin de Gadlut. Then Behina Gimel descends to the Peh de Rosh, and a Zivug on it forms all the 10 Sefirot de Hochma; its AHP rises*

and accomplishes this level. In this way, the Gadlut of the second Partzuf de Atzilut, called the Arich Anpin, emerged.

The transition to Gadlut happens with the help of the light ABSAG, which allows the acquisition of a screen and begins to work with the vessels of reception (the AHP). *Arich Anpin* means a long face. *Hochma* symbolizes a face. “Long” suggests that there is a lot of *Ohr Hochma* in *Arich Anpin*, unlike in ZA (small face), where there is just a little *Ohr Hochma*. When the creation begins to understand the Creator’s greatness with the help of the light ABSAG, it starts working with the previously unused vessels of reception.

קכה) ועם אח"פ הללו דא"א עלו ביחד גם גו"ע דקומת בינה. וקבלו שם עיבור הא' ויניקה שלהם. ואח"ז עלו לראש דא"א לעיבור ב'. והעלו האח"פ שלהם וקבלו המוחין דגדלות. ונשלם פרצוף הבינה בע"ס דאורות וכלים. ופרצוף זה נקרא או"א וישסו"ת. כי הג"ר נקראות או"א, והז"ת נקראות ישסו"ת.

125) The vessels of GE de Bina rose together with the AHP de Arich Anpin and received Ibur Aleph and Yenika there. Then they rose to the Rosh de Arich Anpin for Ibur Bet, lifted their AHP and received Mochin de Gadlut. Next, the Partzuf of Bina began using all of its 10 Sefirot, both the vessels and the lights. This third Partzuf of the world of Atzilut is called Abba ve Ima and YESHSUT, where Abba ve Ima are Gar de Bina and YESHSUT is Zat de Bina.

GE has *Aviut Shoresh* and *Aleph*. When the *Partzuf* passes all the stages of the screen's formation, *Shoresh*, *Aleph*, *Bet*, *Gimel* and *Dalet* of the *Aviut de Shoresh*, it constitutes conception. Then the screen emerges on *Shoresh*, *Aleph*, *Bet*, *Gimel*, and *Dalet* of *Aviut de Aleph*. This is the *Yenika* and the birth of the *Partzuf* in *Katnut*, i.e., the use of only the GE (the *Aviut Shoresh* and *Aleph*). Then this *Partzuf* rises again to the *Rosh* of the previous one. This is a stage of *Ibur Bet* (the second conception). Then, it lifts its *AHP* and receives *Mochin de Gadlut*, i.e., the full 10 *Sefirot*.

קכו) ועם אח"פ הללו דא"א עלו ביחד גם גו"ע דז"ן. וקבלו שם העיבור א' שלהם והיניקה. ובזה נשלמים הזו"ן בבחינת ו"ק לז"א ונקודה להנוקבא. והנה נתבארו ה"פ מ"ה החדש, שיצאו בעולם האצילות בבחינת קביעות, הנקראים עתיק א"א אר"א וז"ן.

שעתיק יצא בקומת כתר, וא"א בקומת חכמה, ואר"א בקומת בינה, וזו"ן בר"ק ונקודה, שהוא קומת ז"א. ובאלו ה' הקומות לא יארע שום מיעוט לעולם. כי בג"ר אין מעשי התחתונים מגיעים אליהם, שיוכלו לפוגמם. וז"א ונוקבא, שאליהם מגיעים מעשי התחתונים, היינו דוקא בכלים דאחורים שלהם, שמשיגים בעת הגדלות. אבל בכלים דפנים, שהם גו"ע באורות דר"ק ונקודה, הנה גם בהם לא יגיעו מעשי התחתונים. ולפיכך נבחנים ה' הקומות הנ"ל לבחינת מוחין הקבועים באצילות.

126) GE de ZON rose together with AHP de Abba ve Ima and YESHSUT and received Ibur Aleph and Yenika there. Thus, the Partzuf ZON was completed and reached the level of Vak de ZA and Nekudah de Nukvah. So all five Partzufim of the world of MA Hadash or Atzilut are in its minimal state: Atik, Arich Anpin, Abba ve Ima and ZON.

The Partzuf Atik emerged on the level of Keter, Arich Anpin – on the level of Hochma; Abba ve Ima is on the level of Bina and the ZON is on the level of Vak and Nekudah, i.e., ZA and Malchut. There cannot be any descent of these five levels. No actions of the lower Partzufim can reach Atik, Arich Anpin and Abba ve Ima, so they are unable to spoil them. As far as ZA and Nukvah are concerned, as they achieve Gadlut, the actions of the lower spiritual objects (the souls) can reach only their AHP, but not their GE.

The lower objects are the souls in the AHP de ZON of the world of Atzilut. They cannot correct themselves, but can raise MAN to ZON de Atzilut, which raise their AHP. As MAN makes a Zivug on them, it simultaneously gives birth to Katnut of the particular soul.

The task consists in providing the broken vessels with a new screen and gradually filling them with light. This work is carried out from down up. It starts with the less egoistic vessels and ends with the coarsest and most egoistic, i.e., proceeds from the easy-to-correct vessels to the most difficult. The work begins with the birth of the world of Atzilut.

After the vessels break, the screen ascends to *Rosh de SAG* and makes a *Zivug de Haka'a* on the purest *Reshimot*, which results in the emergence of the first *Partzuf Atik*. Then *Atik* makes a *Zivug* on the purest *Reshimot*, which leads to the emergence of *Arich Anpin*. *Arich Anpin* takes the purest of the remaining *Reshimot* and makes a *Zivug* on them, which creates the *Partzuf Abba ve Ima*. From the remaining *Reshimot*, *Abba ve Ima* create the *ZON*.

After that, a *Zivug* could be made on no more pure *Reshimot*. Only the *Reshimot* that can lead to *Katnut* of the world of *Atzilut* are activated. Similarly, *Katnut* of the world of *Nikudim* was created in its own time. These worlds resemble one another; the difference being that *Atzilut* is constructed so that the vessels in it cannot break.

Actually, there are 12 *Partzufim* in the world of *Atzilut*. Each of them is divided into two parts: up and down, left and right, etc. All these intermediate states are created for using the *AHP* to the maximum, correcting them without breaking the vessels.

How can the *AHP* be used after the breaking of the vessels, when they are forbidden to use? *TA* and *TB* must not be violated. However, *TA* is in effect forever, while *TB* - only during 6000 levels. The entire process of correction is controlled by *TB*. What is the meaning of *Tzimtzum Bet*? Out of five desires, only *Keter* and *Hochma*, which are almost unselfish, may be used. The three remaining desires, *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*, i.e., the *AHP*, are not to be used for their egoistic nature; they require great willpower, a very strong screen.

After *TB*, the *Kelim* that have no strength to work with the egoistic vessels emerge. Nevertheless, the desires do not disappear. It is only possible to forbid their use. The desires of *GE* may be used only within certain limits. When you are in *Katnut*, you do not receive anything and enjoy only the equivalence of properties with the Creator. You are similar to the Creator - that is a lot, but insufficient for fulfilling the Purpose of Creation, which is being filled with the light of *Hochma*. To achieve

that, you need to have the vessels of reception. Such an opportunity is yet unavailable to you.

The only solution is to use the egoistic vessels of the *AHP*, including them in the altruistic *GE*. The vessels of *AHP* want to receive *Ohr Hochma* exclusively, which is forbidden. Only the light of *Hassadim* may be received. However, when the light of *Hochma* is pushed away, a small amount of it enters the vessels. The *AHP* may be used only if they are lifted above the *Parsa*. If all the *AHP* in the world of *Nikudim* were lifted above the *Parsa*, and the light of *Hochma* received in 10 Sefirot formed in this manner, the vessels would not have broken. The *AHP* can be lifted and filled with light only if this light will be passed on to the lower *Partzuf*. That is one of corrections made by the world of *Atzilut*.

Raising *MAN*, filling the lower *Partzufim* with light, in answer to a request for correction, corrects the broken vessels, from which they receive portions of the light. Thus, the system of spreading and receiving (Kabbalah) light emerges in the spiritual world. Similarly, one can come to reveal the Creator only in a group of those who wish to be corrected by joining the system of circulation of Kabbalah.

Desires are constant; they are our very essence created by the Creator. We cannot change ourselves, but we can modify our intentions. There is no need to work on actions, only on the intentions that accompany them. The purpose of your actions is either your own good feeling, the health of your family, money, or the reward to be received from the Creator in the world to come – all this remains within the limits of your egoism.

It is a very different matter if the Creator endows you with an opportunity to realize His greatness to such an extent that, whatever you do, is only for His sake. This requires the Creator's revelation. Only constant, persistent, work with books and in a group under the guidance of a true Teacher can attract the Surrounding Light and lead to the Creator's revelation. The spiritual path does not begin with an action, but with inner reflection.

Nothing disappears in the spiritual realm. This rule applies to the souls. Today I am on a certain level, tomorrow I will pass to another. All my previous states are included in this new one. Today I can still remember what happened 20 years ago. The past states are rather lit up by today's condition. The light that shines in the present also fills the past.

In the *Gmar Tikkun*, all the previous states are condensed into one big *Partzuf* filled completely with light. All the successive vessels give additional desires to those preceding them so that each time they receive a more powerful light.

All the screens broke together with the vessels. During the correction, they start growing from zero to 100%. New desires for which you do not have a screen are added to provide for passage to the next level, whereas the previous one has exhausted itself. Such a state is called a fall. A moment ago, you were in a wonderful state, you had a screen, but now you “have fallen”. You were given more egoistic desires; hence, you do not want anything spiritual.

In this state, some serious inner work must be done in order to acquire a new screen, which will allow you to receive an even more powerful light. The work on the screen consists only in active studies.

At the first encounter with “The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah”, the human brain cannot comprehend all the information; it creates confusion, especially while studying the world of the *Nikudim*, then *Atzilut* and so on. One should stop for a while, contemplate about the things heard and perhaps review the previous chapters. Listening to audio cassettes is highly recommended. Gradually the material settles down and is absorbed, because building the spiritual vessels (and that is exactly what happens to you), requires time and efforts.

קכז) וסדר הלבשתם זא"ז ולפרצוף א"ק הוא, כי פרצוף עתיק דאצילות אע"פ שיצא מראש הס"ג דא"ק (אות ק"ח), מכל מקום לא יכול להלביש מפה ולמטה דס"ג דא"ק רק למטה מטבור. כי למעלה מטבור דא"ק הוא בחינת צמצום א', ונקרא "עקודים".

והן אמת, שפרצוף עתיק, להיותו בחינת ראש הא' דאצילות, עדיין אין הצמצום ב' שולט בו. וא"כ היה ראוי שילביש למעלה מטבור דא"ק. אמנם כיון שהצמצום ב' כבר נתקן בפה דראשו, בשביל שאר פרצופי אצילות, שממנו ולמטה, ע"כ אינו יכול להלביש רק למטה מטבור דא"ק. ונמצא קומת עתיק מתחלת מטבור דא"ק. והיא מסתיימת בשוה עם רגלי א"ק, דהיינו למעלה מנקודה דעוה"ז. וזהו מפאת פרצופו עצמו. אמנם מפאת התקשרותו עם שאר פרצופי אצילות, שמבחינתם נבחן שהוא כלול ג"כ מצמצום ב', הנה מבחינה זו הוא נבחן שרגליו מסתיימים למעלה מפרסא דאצילות. כי הפרסא הוא הסיום החדש של הצמצום ב' (אות ט"ח).

127) *The Partzufim “dress” one onto the other in the following way: although Atik de Atzilut emerged from the Rosh de SAG of the world of AK, it cannot dress onto SAG from the Peh to the Tabur, but only under the Tabur, since above it, the power of the TA rules entirely.*

It is also known that the Partzuf Atik (its alternative name is Akudim) is essentially the first Rosh of the world of Atzilut, where the TB does not rule yet; so, in principle, it can dress onto the AK above the Tabur. However, TB comes into effect in the Rosh de Atik with regard to the subsequent Partzufim of Atzilut; hence, Atik dresses onto AK only under the Tabur.

The level of Atik stretches from the Tabur to the Sium de AK, i.e., above the point of our world. This refers to Atik itself. As far as its connection with the rest of the Partzufim of the world of Atzilut is concerned, it is considered to be ruled by TB; from this point of view its feet end above the Parsa de Atzilut (new Sium of TB).

Therefore, there are two kinds of Atik: one abides by the laws of TA, while the other obeys TB. All the other *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* born after Atik submit to the laws of TB. Atik contains all information about all the *Partzufim* that follow it, down to our world.

All the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* emerged in the state of *Katnut*. They do not require the light of *Hochma*, although they can pass to *Gadlut* at any time, receive this light through a request of the lower *Partzufim*, and transfer it to them.

Out of all the *Reshimot* left from the breaking of the vessels, *Partzuf Atik* selects the purest, the best, and makes a *Zivug* on the level of *Keter*. As *Atik* reaches its ultimate state, it transfers only the *Ohr Hochma* and gives birth to the *Partzuf Arich Anpin*. Similarly, *Arich Anpin* chooses the purest *Reshimot* related to *Bina* and creates the *Partzuf Abba ve Ima*.

קכח) ופרצוף הב' דמ"ה החדש, הנקרא א"א, שהוא נאצל ויצא מפה דראש עתיק, הנה קומתו מתחיל ממקום יציאתו, דהיינו מפה דראש עתיק. ומלביש את הז"ת דעתיק, המסתיימים למעלה מפרסא דאצילות. ופרצוף הג', הנקרא אר"א, שנאצלו מפה דראש א"א, הם מתחילים מפה דראש א"א ומסתיימים למעלה מטבור דא"א. והז"ן מתחילים מטבור דא"א ומסתיימים בשוה עם סיום א"א, דהיינו למעלה מפרסא דאצילות.

128) *The second Partzuf of the world of Atzilut is called Arich Anpin. It emerges from the Peh de Rosh of the Partzuf Atik and dresses onto its seven lower Sefirot, which end above the Parsa de Atzilut. The third Partzuf of the world of Atzilut, called Abba ve Ima, emerges from the Peh de Rosh of Arich Anpin and ends above the Tabur de Arich Anpin. The fourth and fifth Partzufim of the world of Atzilut, called ZON, stretch from the Tabur de Arich Anpin to the Sium de Arich Anpin, i.e., above the Parsa de Atzilut.*

Atik emerges from the *Metzah* of *Rosh de SAG* and under the influence of *TA* spreads from the *Tabur de Galgalta* down to its *Sium*. *TA* can no longer affect the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut*. *Atik* is created according to the laws of *TA*, since it receives light from the *Partzufim* of the world of *AK* (created according to the laws of *TA*), but it then transforms the light for the lower *Partzufim*, ruled by *TB*.

Arich Anpin, born from *Atik*, spreads from the *Peh de Rosh de Atik* down to the *Parsa*. The third *Partzuf* of the world of *Atzilut*, called *Abba ve Ima*, emerges from the *Peh de Rosh* of *Arich Anpin* and ends at the level of the *Tabur de Arich Anpin*. *Abba ve Ima*, i.e., *Bina de Atzilut*, gives birth to two *Partzufim* that can be viewed as one: *ZA* and *Malchut* or *ZON*. This *Partzuf* dresses onto *ZON de Arich Anpin* and reaches the *Parsa*.

Later on we will study how the world of *Atzilut* changes, affected by the upper and the lower spiritual objects. Stimulation from above is ex-

pressed in holidays, Sabbaths, the beginnings of months, which appear regardless of what happens below in the worlds of the BYA. Stimulation from below comes from the souls in the worlds of BYA, which demand from *Atzilut* to be elevated, corrected, and filled with light. In this case, *Atzilut* is obliged to react to the request from below. This reaction includes the reception of light from above and passing it on down.

As in the world of *Nikudim*, there are six upper *Sefirot* of ZA called *HaBaD-HaGaT* in *Atzilut be Katnut*. Only one *Sefira*, *Keter de Malchut*, is above the *Parsa*, while the three lower *Sefirot* (*NHY*) of ZA and nine lower *Sefirot* of *Malchut* (from *Hochma* to *Malchut de Malchut*) are under the *Parsa*.

As was already stated, *Malchut* did not have its own *Sefirot* before *TB*; it was just a point. Because of *TB*, *Malchut* rose and received all the *Sefirot* that are now below it (the lower third of *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod* and *Yesod*), turning into an independent *Partzuf*. Then, these four *Sefirot* are restructured into ten according to special laws.

A *Sefira* is a certain property of the Creator that *Malchut* takes as firm and unchanging. The *Sefira Da'at* is a request that ZA and *Malchut* raise to *Bina* in order to receive the *Ohr Hochma*. The *Sefira Da'at* has no constant place of its own; it constitutes the “desire to receive” *Ohr Hochma*, which *Bina* feels owing to the request of the *ZON*. As soon as ZA starts breaking up, its request to *Bina* gradually begins to subside: first, *Sefira Keter* is lost, then *Hochma* etc., until the last one finally disappears.

קכט) ותדע, שכל קומה וקומה מה"פ אלו דמ"ה החדש, בעת שיצאה, ביררה וחיברה לעצמה חלק מהכלים דנקודים, שנעשה לה לבחינת נוקבא: כי הנה בעת שיצא פרצוף עתיק, לקח וחיבר אליו כל הג"ר דנקודים, שנשארו שלמים בעת שביה"כ. דהיינו, בחינת הגר"ע שבהם, שיצאו בעת קטנותם, הנקראים "כלים דפנים" (אות ע"ו).

שבקטנות הנקודים לא באו עמהם רק מחציתה העליונה דכל מדרגה, שהם גר"ע ונקבי עינים. ומחציתה התחתונה דכל אחת, הנקראים אח"פ, ירדו למדרגה התחתונה. ולפיכך נבחן, שפרצוף עתיק דמ"ה החדש לקח לו מהכלים דנקודים את מחציתה העליונה דכתר, ומחציתה העליונה דחור"ב, וז' השרשים דז"ת הכלולים בג"ר דנקודים. והם נעשו לבחינת פרצוף נוקבא אל העתיק דמ"ה החדש. ונתחברו יחד זה בזה. והם המכונים "מ"ה וב"ן דעתיק דאצילות". כי הזכר דעתיק נקרא מ"ה, והכלים דנקודים שנתחברו אליו נקראים ב"ן (אות קי"ט). וסדר עמידתם הוא פ"א: העתיק דמ"ה בפנים והעתיק דב"ן באחוריו.

129) You should know that as each level of the five *Partzufim* of MA Hadash emerged, it sorted out and added a certain part of the *Kelim de Nikudim*, which became like a *Nukvah* (that, which asks to be filled with the light) as regards this particular level. Therefore, Atik attached all the *Gar de Nikudim* that remained intact upon breaking of the vessels, i.e., the GE, the upper halves of each level.

Thus, the *Partzuf Atik* added to itself only the upper halves of *Keter*, *Hochma* and *Bina* (*Abba ve Ima*), and the seven *Ketarim* of the seven lower *Sefirot*. All the parts added to Atik received the names MA and BON de Atik de Atzilut. MA is the giving part in Atik called *Zachar* (male essence). BON is the receiving part in Atik called *Nekeva* (female essence). With regard to one another, they are *Panim* (Atik de MA – Ma de Atik) and *Achoraim* (Atik de BON and BON de Atik).

In general, all the *Partzufim* of the world of Atzilut are built similarly. All the vessels of Atzilut that emerged from a *Zivug* on *Reshimot Aleph/Shoresh*, i.e., its own *Sefirot Keter*, *Hochma* etc., form the right line of Atzilut, have light in them, and are called MA and *Zachar*.

Each of these *Sefirot* (*Partzufim*) takes the broken, empty and eliminated vessels from the world of *Nikudim* and builds the left line out of them, which requires correction and filling with light. These vessels are called BON or *Nukvah*.

Thus, the world of Atzilut contains five pairs of *Partzufim* (actually, there are six of them; we will study that in detail in “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”). These are Atik and its *Nukvah* (*Keter*), *Arich Anpin* and its *Nukvah* (*Hochma*), *Abba*(*Zachar*) *ve Ima* (*Nukvah*) – the *Partzuf Gar de Bina*, *Israel Saba* (*Zachar*) *ve Tvunah* (*Nukvah*) (YESHSUT) – the *Partzuf Zat de Bina*, ZA and its *Nukvah* and also *Malchut*, for which the souls that require correction play the role of *Nukvah*.

Tvunah is a part of *Bina*, in which a root of the future *Sefira* (or *Partzuf*) ZA emerges. In other words, this part of *Bina* can be called a womb. In Hebrew, it is called exactly so: “*Rechem*”. This is a place of a *Zivug*, conception, and birth.

Atik, which has nothing to do with the breaking of the vessels, selects and attaches to itself the entire vessels of *GE de Keter* and *Abba ve Ima* (left empty after the breaking) and commits itself to filling them with its light. The world of *Atzilut* is in fact *Nikudim*; only it has a special system of protection against the breaking of the vessels. This system is based on the reception of small portions of light by large vessels. The *Sefira*, which was in the world of *Nikudim*, now turns into a whole *Partzuf* in *Atzilut*. The force of resistance to egoism will be a lot more powerful than this egoism.

Any giving part of the *Partzuf* is called *MA* and the receiving – *BON*. However, in the world of *AK*, the *Ohr Hochma* shines in *MA* and *BON*, while in *Atzilut* – the *Ohr Hassadim*. The world of *Atzilut* is called giving, *Zachar*, the correcting and male part. Concerning *Atzilut*, the world of *Nikudim* is called *Nekeva*. It receives from and is corrected with the help of *Atzilut*.

It is not the case that every upper vessel will be called giving, and the subsequent one receiving. For instance, *Bina* does not want to receive anything, so is it *MA* or *BON*? Only *ZA* and *Malchut (Nukvah)* may be called *MA* and *BON*. If the giver and the receiver face one another, they are both ready: the one to bestow, the other to receive the light.

If we speak of transferring the light of *Hassadim*, the notions “right” and “left” arise, since *Ohr Hassadim* provides the breadth of spiritual attainment, not the height. Where there is an abundance of *Ohr Hassadim*, it is defined as “right”; where there is only a little of it, it is called “left”.

קל) ופרצוף א"א דמ"ה החדש, שיצא בקומת חכמה, בירר וחיבר אליו את חציו התחתון דכתר הנקודים, שהם האח"פ דכתר, שבעת הקטנות היו בהמדרגה שמתחת הכתר, דהיינו בחכמה ובינה דנקודים (אות ע"ז). ונעשה לבחינת נוקבא אל הא"א דמ"ה החדש. ונתחברו יחד זה בזה. וסדר עמידתם הוא ימין ושמאל: א"א דמ"ה, שהוא הזכר, עומד בימין, וא"א דב"ן, שהיא הנוקבא, עומדת בשמאל.

ומה שפרצוף עתיק דמ"ה לא לקח גם את חציו התחתון דכתר נקודים, הוא, כי עתיק מתוך שהוא ראש הא' דאצילות, שמעלתו גבוהה מאד, לכן לא חיבר אליו רק הכלים דפנים דג"ר דנקודים, שבהם לא אירע שום פגם בעת השבירה. מה שאין כן בחציו הכתר התחתון, שהם

אח"פ, שהיו נפולים בעת הקטנות בחו"ב, ואח"כ בעת הגדלות עלו מחו"ב ונתחברו בכתר דנקודים (אות פ"ד), אשר אח"כ בעת שבירת הכלים חזרו ונפלו מהכתר דנקודים ונתבטלו, הרי המה כבר נפגמו עם נפילתם וביטולם, ואינם ראויים משום זה לעתיק. ולכן לקח אותם א"א דמ"ה.

130) *The Partzuf Arich Anpin (the level of Hochma) sorted and attached to itself the lower half of the Keter de Nikudim, i.e., the AHP de Keter, which were on the lowest level (Hochma and Bina, Abba ve Ima) of the world of Nikudim. Arich Anpin turned these AHP into its Nukvah. MA (Zachar) de Arich Anpin is on the right, while its Nukvah (BON) is on the left.*

The Partzuf Atik did not attach the lower part (AHP) of the Keter de Nikudim to itself, since it corresponds to the first Rosh of the world of Nikudim, and its level is very high. Hence, only Gar de Keter and Gar de Abba ve Ima were attached to it, i.e., the vessels unspoiled during the breaking. This cannot be said about the AHP de Keter that fell to a lower level during Katnut and then returned to its place during Gadlut by merging with Keter. When the vessels broke, the AHP fell again and disappeared. Therefore, only Arich Anpin, but not Atik, can attach the AHP de Keter to itself.

Only the light and the vessel exist; but there are countless varieties of their combinations and interactions. Only man who reached this level can clearly confirm or deny it. We know too little. It is just a figment of our imagination. No Kabbalist ever made a point of describing everything. They wrote their books so that we could ascend and feel it for ourselves, and not just spend time reading thick bulky volumes. We can exist in our world, and then start researching nature, whereas in the spiritual world, we must first attain it and only then start living in it. Spirituality is attained through perception.

קלא) ופרצוף אר"א דמ"ה החדש, שהם בקומת בינה, ביררו וחיברו להם את חצים התחתון דחו"ב דנקודים, שהם האח"פ דחו"ב, שבעת הקטנות היו נפולים בהז"ת דנקודים. אלא אח"כ בעת הגדלות נקודים, עלו ונתחברו לחו"ב דנקודים (אות צ"ד).

ואשר בעת שביה"כ חזרו ונפלו להז"ת דנקודים ונתבטלו (אות ק"ז). ואותם ביררו להם אר"א דמ"ה לבחינת נוקבא אליהם. והם מכונים ז"ת דחכמה ור"ת דבינה דב"ן.

כי בחינת החסד דבינה נשארה עם הג"ר דחור"ב דב"ן בפרצוף עתיק. ולא נשאר בחציה התחתון דבינה כי אם ר"ת מגבורה ולמטה. ונמצא הזכר דאר"א הוא קומת בינה דמ"ה, והנוקבא דאר"א היא ז"ת דחור"ב דב"ן. ועמידתם הם בימין ושמאל: אר"א דמ"ה בימין, ואר"א דב"ן בשמאל. והישטר"ת דמ"ה, שהם הז"ת דאר"א, לקחו המלכיות דחור"ב דב"ן.

131) *The Partzuf Abba ve Ima de MA Hadash on the level of Bina sorted out and attached to itself the lower part of Partzuf Hochma-Bina of the world of Nikudim, i.e., their AHP, which were on the level of the Zat de Nikudim. Then, during the Gadlut de Nikudim, they rose to join GE de Abba ve Ima.*

However, as the vessels broke, these AHP fell to the Zat de Nikudim and disappeared. These broken vessels were sorted out by Abba ve Ima de MA Hadash (as Nukvah) and are now called Zat de Hochma and the six lower Sefirot (Vav Tachtonot) de Bina, as regards BON. Why are there six Sefirot in BON de Bina and not seven?

It is because Hesed de Bina remained in Partzuf Atik together with Gar de Hochma and Bina de BON. Only the six lower Sefirot from Gevura to Malchut were left in the lower half of Bina. Thus, Bina de MA Hadash is considered Zachar de Abba ve Ima, while Zat of Hochma-Bina de BON is Nukvah de Abba ve Ima. The YESHSUT de MA, i.e., the Zat de Abba ve Ima, attached to itself Malchut of Hochma-Bina de BON.

Here we learn how the *Rashim de Nikudim* were attached to the *Rashim de Atzilut*. The world of *Nikudim* was first in *Katnut*, then in *Gadlut*, where its heads, *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima*, attached their *AHP* and received the light of *Gadlut*. They passed it to *GE de ZON*, but some sparks of the light went under the *Parsa*. This led to a breaking of the vessels, their downfall and death. The *Rashim de Nikudim* lost the light of *Gadlut* and returned to *Katnut*, whereupon *Atzilut* emerged instead of *Nikudim*.

The purpose of the world of *Atzilut* is to correct the broken vessels, lift them up, absorb, and fill them with the light, while at the same time avoiding another breaking. The world of *Atzilut* is in fact similar to the world of *Nikudim*, but its mode of operation is correct. There can be no errors in *Atzilut*, because it has the *Reshimot* of the broken vessels and knows how to act to avoid repeating that state.

The *Partzuf Atik de Atzilut* attached to itself the purest vessels: the upper part of *Keter de Nikudim*, the upper part of *Abba ve Ima de Nikudim* and *Zat de Nikudim*, i.e., the 7 roots (*Ketarim*) with the information of the future *Guf de Nikudim*. *Arich Anpin* takes upon itself to correct, attach and fill the *AHP de Keter* of the world of *Nikudim* with light.

The *Partzuf Abba ve Ima* is responsible for the correction and filling of the *AHP de Abba ve Ima de Nikudim* with light. *Abba ve Ima* forms a combination of two *Partzufim*: *Hochma* and *Bina*. The *Partzuf Hochma*, i.e., *Abba de Atzilut*, attached the *AHP de Abba de Nikudim*, but *Ima de Atzilut* did not attach all the *AHP de Ima de Nikudim* (excluding *Hesed*), since *Hesed* is a giving part of *Bina* and refers to the *Rosh*.

While studying the interconnections between the corrected and uncorrected properties (vessels) in the world of *Atzilut*, we better understand what we will possess in the future. We learn what spiritual properties we will be connected with and how, for our souls are actually the broken vessels.

The attachment of the *Kelim de Nikudim*, which are to the left of the *Kelim de Atzilut*, speaks of the *Ohr Hassadim* that always spreads from right to left. The light of *Hochma* spreads downwards. From this, it becomes clear that the height of the *Partzuf* depends on the amount of the *Ohr Hochma*, while its capacity depends on the *Ohr Hassadim* (correction). These parameters complement one another. The light of *Hochma* spreads only together with the light of *Hassadim*.

קלב) ופרצוף ז'ו"ן דמ"ה החדש, שהם בקומת ר"ק ונקודה, ביררו וחיברו אליהם את הכלים דפנים דז"ת דנקודים, מתוך שבירתם בב"ע. דהיינו בחינת הגו"ע של הז"ת דנקודים (אות)

ע"ח). והם נעשו לנוקבא אל הזו"ן דמ"ה. ועמידתם הוא בימין ושמאל: הזו"ן דמ"ה בימין, והזו"ן דב"ן בשמאל.

132) *The Partzuf ZON de MA Hadash, which has only the Sefirot ZA and Keter in Malchut, sorted out and attached to itself (as Nukvah) the GE de Zat de Nikudim, positioning them on the left, being itself on their right. The YESHSUT de MA (seven lower Sefirot de AVI) attached the Sefirot of Malchut (Behinot Hochma and Bina of Partzuf BON).*

The *GE de Zat de Nikudim* did not just disappear; they were broken with the vessels under *Parsa*. Consequently, they cannot be attached to the *ZON de Atzilut* the way the other *Partzufim* of *MA Hadash* attaches *Nukvot* from the world of *Nikudim*. The *Kli* of *Zat de Nikudim* must be corrected first by raising *MAN* and other consecutive actions.

There is only one vessel – the desire to receive pleasure, which later acquires the Creator’s properties, i.e., the 9 upper *Sefirot*, by using them to work with its egoism. As the egoism is gradually corrected, *Malchut* begins to approach differently the properties received from the Creator in its nine *Sefirot*. On each level, the combinations of the nine properties and *Malchut* are completely different from those of the previous level.

The same is true about people. One differs from another by his character traits. We cannot even catch all the nuances of the differences in these traits, be that external appearance or inner content. It seems to us that the spiritual forces and objects are rather simple.

There are ten parts, which in turn, consist of their own ten. That is all. However, we should understand why there is such a remarkable subdivision in the spiritual world, and what is in it for us. Above all, this multitude of desires must be united by one intention, imparting completeness and perfection to them: the intention for the sake of the Creator.

Perfection in itself is very simple, impossible to divide. If it can be divided, it suggests some differences; and it cannot be called perfec-

tion. In spirituality, common intention leads to perfection. Until that happens, we are overwhelmed with a swarm of desires with all their connections, an awesome system of control and unpredictability. Ideally, it is only *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, completely filled with the light, that exists outside of us.

In his manuscripts (which, by the way, are still unpublished, because people are not yet ready for what they say), Baal HaSulam writes about extremely complicated interactions; he gives them special names and describes such levels of attainment that are not even mentioned in “The Study of the Ten Sefirot”. He can speak about these processes because he himself was in a state of simple perfection.

The higher your head (which sees the simplicity and wholeness of the entire system) is, the more minute the details you can distinguish, seeing the same perfection and simplicity in the general confusion. It resembles a scientist who sees the interconnections between all elements of the general picture as he penetrates deeper into his science.

קלג) והנה נתבאר המ"ה וב"ן שבה"פ אצילות. אשר ה' הקומות דמ"ה החדש, שיצאו בעולם האצילות, ביררו להם מהכלים הישנים ששימשו בזמן הנקודים, ונתקנו להם לבחינת נוקבא, הנקראת בשם ב"ן.

שהב"ן דעתיק נעשה ונתקן ממחציתן העליונה דג"ר דנקודים, והב"ן דא"א ואו"א נבררו ונתקנו ממחציתן התחתונה דג"ר דנקודים, ששמשו להם בעת גדלות דנקודים וחזרו ונתבטלו, והב"ן דזו"ן נברר ונתקן מהכלים דפנים, שיצאו בעת קטנות דנקודים, שבעת הגדלות נשברו ונפלו ביחד עם הכלים דאחורים שלהם.

133) So, we know what MA and BON are in the 5 Partzufim of the world of Atzilut, where 5 levels of MA Hadash (Kelim de Atzilut) sorted out the old vessels of the world of Nikudim, selected the suitable ones, and corrected them (using them as Nukvah called BON).

Thus, MA de Atik corrected the upper part of Gar de Nikudim, and MA de Arich Anpin and Abba ve Ima sorted out and corrected the vessels of the lower half of Gar de Nikudim, which had been used during Gadlut de Nikudim and later broke, fell and disappeared.

MA de ZON sorted out and corrected the vessels of GE de Zat of the world of Nikudim, which had also broken during Gadlut and disappeared together with their AHP.

Overall, 320 parts have been broken. The count is as follows: eight *Melachim*, each containing *HaVaYaH* – *Yud-Key-Vav-Key* with the 10 *Sefirot* inside. In all, there are $8 \times 4 \times 10 = 320$. Out of these 320 parts, 32 *Malchuyot* are called “*Lev haEven*” (stone heart). The remaining 288 parts, called *Rapach*, refer to the first nine *Sefirot*.

Each fragment of a broken vessel is a spark that remained from the screen of the *Partzuf* in its previous unspoiled state.

There are *GE de Keter* and *GE de Abba ve Ima* above the *Parsa*. The *AHP de Abba ve Ima* fell to the place of *GE de ZON de Nikudim*, while the broken vessels fell under the *Parsa*. In place of the world of *Nikudim*, there emerged the world of *Atzilut* with its five *Partzufim*. The entire *Gar de Atzilut* takes the *Gar de Nikudim*, corrects them and fills with the light of *Gadlut*. *ZON de Atzilut* correct *GE de ZON* of the world of *Nikudim*. Both the *GE* and the *AHP de ZON* break and fall under the *Parsa*.

When the vessels break, all their fragments mix and penetrate one another. Why do the *GE* and the *AHP* interpenetrate during the breaking of the vessels? Does the intention “to receive” unite them more than the intention “to bestow”? Prior to the breaking, the *GE* and the *AHP* possessed a common intention to bestow. Afterwards, in their uncorrected state, the intention is again the same– to receive. Hence, the connection between them is also preserved after the breaking, despite the fact that each fragment feels separated from the others. However, the *GE* and the *AHP* do not make up a single whole anymore; therefore, the connection between them (if it exists) is characterized only as inclusion. Thus, there are the four following kinds of broken vessels (left):

1. The *GE* (the vessels of bestowal);
2. The *GE* inside the *AHP*;
3. The *AHP* inside the *GE*;
4. The *AHP* (the vessels of reception).

The *ZON de Atzilut* take the vessels that refer to the *GE*. The *AHP* are the egoistic vessels that cannot be corrected yet and are called *Lev haEven*. There are two more kinds of vessels: the *GE* inside the *AHP* and the *AHP* inside the *GE*. These vessels can somehow be corrected. The *GE* inside the *AHP* are the vessels of bestowal inside the vessels of reception. This combination can be used for the formation of the worlds of *BYA* under the *Parsa*: *Beria* – *GE* in the *Awzen* (*Bina*), *Yetzira* – *GE* in the *Hotem* (*ZA*) and *Assiya* – *GE* in the *Peh* (*Malchut*). These vessels are sorted out and born by *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut*.

With the help of the *AHP* inside the *GE*, we can pass to *Gadlut* of the world of *Atzilut*. If *Atzilut* remains only in *Katnut*, it will not be able to correct anything under the *Parsa*, i.e., the vessels referring to the *AHP de ZON* of the world of *Nikudim*. It is precisely because the *AHP* are inside the *GE* of the broken vessels that they can be lifted above the *Parsa* and subjected to correction, by their use as vessels of bestowal.

That is what man’s work is all about. A special *Partzuf* (common soul) *Adam* is created. The correction of this part depends on *Adam*’s correction. However, this is not the topic of our research for the time being. The vessels of reception cannot be corrected when they exist separately. This can be done only when they are united with the vessels of bestowal.

By way of an explosion, the Creator mixes these vessels, i.e., He actually mixes His own “desire to bestow” with the creation’s “desire to receive”. Now a part of the broken vessels will possess both the “desire to receive” and the “desire to bestow”, although each in its own proportion. That is what the breaking of the vessels, “the sin” of *Adam* and other fragmentations, were needed for.

THE UNCHANGING STATE
AND THE ASCENTS OF THE WORLDS OF BYA
כלל גדול בעניני המוחין שבקביעות ובעליות
הפרצופים והעולמות, הנוהגין בשתא אלפי שני

קלד) כבר נתבאר, שיציאת הגדלות של הג"ר וז"ת דנקודים באו בג' סדרים, בסוד ג' הנקודות חולם שורק חירק (אות פ"ו). ומשם תבין שיש ב' מינים של השלמת הע"ס לקבלת המוחין דגדלות:

א. הוא מצד עליתו והתכללותו בעליון. דהיינו בעת שהזו"ן דא"ק האירו את האור חדש דרך הטבור אל הכתר דנקודים, והורידו הה"ת מנקבי עינים דכתר להפה שלו, שבזה נתעלו האח"פ הנפולים דכתר שהיו באו"א, וחזרו למדרגתם לכתר והשלימו הע"ס שלו.

הנה נבחן אז שעלו עמהם גם גר"ע דאו"א, שהיו דבוקים על האח"פ דכתר. ונמצאים גם או"א נכללים בהע"ס השלמות של הכתר, כי התחתון העולה לעליון נעשה כמוהו (אות צ"ג). ונבחן משום זה, שגם או"א השיגו האח"פ החסרים להם להשלמת ע"ס שלהם, מכח התכללותם בהכתר. וזהו מין הא' של מוחין דגדלות.

Having failed to receive all the light at one go, the world of *Nikudim* could not exist, so the light was left above the *Parsa* in the world of *Atzilut*, while correction of the broken vessels continues above the *Parsa*. The total amount of light above the *Parsa* divides into 6000 parts; each of them must go through 6000 levels or corrections. It resembles a huge column consisting of 6000 people (called one generation). Each generation must climb all 6000 steps.

The world of *Atzilut* corrects the vessels only up to the *Ateret haYesod*, i.e., the vessels of *Malchut*, while the *Zat de Yesod* receives no light. Hence, due to the inverse relation between the lights and the vessels, only the following lights can enter the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut*: *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, and *Vak de Haya*. The lights *Yechida* and *Gar de Haya* do not enter the *Partzuf*. This means that we use only the vessels of *GE* (with lights *Nefesh* and *Ruach* inside), while of *AHP*, only their inclusion in the *GE* (with the lights *Neshama* and *Gar de Haya*) is used. *Atzilut* conditions the correction in this way, so that the law of *TB* would never be violated. Real *AHP* cannot be worked with; it is impossible to

fill them with light. The only opportunity is to lift them to GE, i.e., work only with those AHP that are able to become similar to GE.

Each fragment that feels the desire to be corrected consists of 10 Sefirot or four Behinot. Keter, Hochma and Gar de Bina can be corrected and filled with light, but Zat de Bina, ZA and Malchut cannot. Only a very small part of the desires that receives an insignificant amount of light is corrected. This continues until the Mashiach comes; then the entire AHP rise to the world of Atzilut and are filled with the light, which means the Gmar Tikkun.

134) *We already know that the transition to Gadlut took place in three stages: 1) Holam (a point above the letter), 2) Shuruk (a point inside the letter) and 3) Hirik (a point under the letter). According to this, now let us examine two kinds of supplementations of the 10 Sefirot with the subsequent reception of the Mochin de Gadlut.*

The first kind of supplementation occurs because of the rise of the Partzuf by way of its inclusion into the upper one. For example, when ZON de AK pass the new light to Keter de Nikudim through the Tabur and lower Malchut from Nikvey Eynaim de Keter to its Peh, this leads to the rise of AHP de Keter from the Rosh de Abba ve Ima, which create 10 complete Sefirot in Keter.

The GE de Abba ve Ima rose together with AHP de Keter and joined the 10 complete Sefirot de Keter, since the lower object rising to the level of the upper becomes equal to it. Hence, it is assumed that when the AHP de Keter rose, Abba ve Ima also received the AHP for the completion of 10 Sefirot by including them in Keter.

Keter acquires its own AHP, completes its Partzuf to 10 Sefirot, and receives the light of Mochin de Gadlut. So what AHP is received by GE de Abba ve Ima? It is definitely not their own AHP. The rise of one's own AHP requires a lot more power, since each lower object is worse off than the one above it. Keter received the light according to its anti-egoistic force. The rise of the AHP de Abba ve Ima requires a more powerful light

than that which lifted the *AHP de Keter*; therefore, the *GE de Abba ve Ima* take the *AHP de Keter*.

There is no quantitative division in the spiritual world; one can receive as much as one wants. The division is qualitative. *Keter* and *Abba ve Ima* passed to the state of *Gadlut* with the help of the same *AHP de Keter*. Supplementing *Abba ve Ima* to 10 *Sefirot* is called the First Supplementation.

When man reaches the next level, it means that he equals its measure of correction, but not by his personal properties, “chromosomes”. In other words, two people on the same level merge into one new vessel according to the measure of their altruistic intention. Only the extent of correction unites people on the same level and makes them equal to it.

The light that descends from above for correcting a certain *Partzuf* does not have enough power to correct the one below it, because it is more egoistic; hence, its correction requires more power. The light *AB-SAG* allows the vessel to feel the Creator’s greatness and become like Him, i.e., to start doing altruistic actions.

Keter of the world of *Nikudim* gains this power, but *GE de Abba ve Ima* receive light from *AHP de Keter*, along with the opportunity to rise to *Keter*, together with them. However, this is the level of *AHP de Keter*, whereas *AHP de Abba ve Ima* remains in its place so far. Meanwhile, *GE de Abba ve Ima* also rise, at the same time staying in their place, since nothing disappears in the spiritual worlds. Hence, *GE de Abba ve Ima*, which rose similarly as *GE de Keter*, also receive a new state with the help of *AHP de Keter*.

If something changes in *Atzilut*, this world and the worlds *BYA* simultaneously move up one or more levels. Similarly, they can also descend, but not lower than their constant state of *Katnut*. There are three states in *Gadlut*: the use of *Bet de Aviut* (*Awzen*), *Gimel de Aviut* (*Hotem*), and *Dalet de Aviut* (*Peh*). The three ascents of the worlds *ABYA* take place in compliance with these three states of *Gadlut*.

In the state of *Katnut*, the vessels work only with GE, but not with AHP; hence, the latter are hidden inside of the GE located below. The light AB-SAG comes from above and gives the *Partzuf Keter* power to lift and attach its own AHP, which fell into the GE *de Abba ve Ima*. This process is called AHP *de Aliyah* (AHP of Elevation). The GE *de Abba ve Ima* is partially filled at the expense of AHP *de Keter*; to be completely filled, they must use their own AHP.

קלה) ומין הב' הוא, שהמדרגה נשלמת בע"ס בכחה עצמה. דהיינו בעת שהזר"ן דא"ק האירו את האור חדש דרך היסוד דא"ק, הנקרא "נקודת השורק", לאר"א, והוריד הה"ת מנקבי עינים דאר"א עצמם להפה שלהם, שבזה העלה את הכלים דאח"פ דאר"א ממקום נפילתם בז"ת אל הראש דאר"א, והשלימו להם הע"ס, שעתה נשלמים אר"א ע"י עצמם.

כי עתה השיגו הכלים דאח"פ ממש החסרים להם. משא"כ במין הא', בעת שקבלו שלמותם מהכתר ע"י הדבקות באח"פ שלו, הרי באמת היו עוד חסרים אח"פ. אלא ע"י התכלותם בכתר, קבלו על ידו הארה מאח"פ שלהם, שהספיק רק להשלימם בע"ס בעודם במקום הכתר, ולא כלל בעת יציאתם משם למקומם עצמם.

135) *The Second Supplement of the Partzuf to 10 Sefirot consists in the fact that a certain level acquires its 10 Sefirot by its own strength. This happens when the new light shines through Yesod of the world of AK (called Nekuda de Shuruk – a point inside the letter).*

This luminescence was destined for Abba ve Ima de Nikudim. Assisted by it, Malchut descended from the Nikvey Eynaim to the Peh de Abba ve Ima and elevated its AHP from GE de ZON to Rosh de Abba ve Ima, which completed the vessels of Abba ve Ima to 10 Sefirot by their own strength, i.e., with the help of their own AHP. In the first case, the completion to the 10 Sefirot were at the expense of the connection between GE de Abba ve Ima and the AHP de Keter that was preserved during their ascent and attachment to Keter. In the second case, it happened with their own AHP in their own place.

קלו) ועד"ז נמצא ב' מיני השלמות גם בז"ת: א. בעת הארת השורק ועלית אח"פ דאר"א. שאז גם הגר"ע דז"ת הדבוקים בהם נתעלו יחד עמהם ועלו לאר"א. וקבלו שם בחינת אח"פ

להשלמת הע"ס שלהם. שאח"פ אלו אינם עוד אח"פ הממשיים שלהם, אלא רק הארת אח"פ, המספיק להשלמת ע"ס בעודם באו"א, ולא כלל בירידתם למקומם עצמם.

ב. השלמת הע"ס, שהשיגו הז"ת בעת התפשטות המוחין מאו"א אל הז"ת. שע"ז הורידו גם הם בחינת ה"ת המסיימת מהחזה שלהם אל מקום סיום רגלי א"ק, והעלו את התנה"י שלהם מבי"ע, וחיברו אותם למדרגתם לאצילות. שאז, לולא נשברו ומתו, היו נשלמים בע"ס שלמות ע"י עצמם. כי עתה השיגו את האח"פ הממשיים החסרים להם.

136) Similarly, there are two methods of supplementing the *Zat de Nikudim* to 10 *Sefirot*. The first is with the help of luminescence through *Shuruk* and elevation of *AHP de Abba ve Ima* to *GE de Abba ve Ima*. This is accompanied by the rise of *GE de Zat*, with their subsequent reception of *AHP de Abba ve Ima* for supplementing their *Sefirot* to 10. These *AHP de Abba ve Ima* are not real *AHP de Zat de Nikudim*, and their insignificant luminescence is sufficient only for supplementing the *Sefirot de Zat* to 10 in the place of *Abba ve Ima* (i.e., one level higher), and not in their own location.

The second method consists in the fact that the light from *Abba ve Ima* reaches the *Zat*, which start lowering their screen from the *Chazeh* to the *Sium de AK*, and elevate their *Tifferet-Netzah-Hod-Yesod* from the *BYA* in order to attach them to their *GE*. Had there been no breaking of the vessels, they would have had to supplement the *GE de Zat* to 10 *Sefirot* by their own strength, i.e., with the help of their actual *AHP*, whereupon the entire process of filling *Malchut de Ein Sof* with the light would have been done.

As soon as *ZON* wished to supplement itself to 10 *Sefirot*, the vessels broke. Later on, we will study how the *AHP* will attach to their *GE* in the world of *Atzilut* in order to avoid a new breaking. In *Atzilut*, this method will prevent independent attachment of the *AHP*, i.e., the second method of supplementation that led to the breaking must be abolished.

Keter is just the 10 *Sefirot*. *Abba ve Ima* consist of two parts: *Abba* (the upper part, *Panim*, able to receive the light) and *Ima*, which is *Acho-raitim* as regards *Abba* and receives light only on a request from *ZON*. Then it turns its face to *Abba*, accepts the light from it and passes it to

ZON. Both *Abba* and *Ima* have GE and AHP, but *Abba* is above *Ima*, so its GE and AHP are filled and supplemented by *Keter*. The GE and AHP *de Ima* may receive only because of the MAN raised by ZON. The light that *Gadlut* gives to *Keter* also elevates *Abba*, leaving *Ima* below. Thus, we may say that *Abba* is the GE of their common *Partzuf*, and *Ima* is their common AHP. Distinctions and definitions are applied according to what we wish to emphasize.

Therefore, we have learned about two kinds of supplementation to 10 *Sefirot*. For example, *Abba ve Ima* can receive *Gadlut* with the help of the AHP *de Keter*, i.e., through the rise of GE *de Ima* to *Keter*, or while remaining in its place, be supplemented with the help of their own AHP. The same would have been the case with ZON *de Nikudim* had their vessels not been broken.

קלז) וגם בד' פרצופים, שיצאו מאו"א לכלים דחג"ת, וכן בד' הפרצופים, שיצאו מהישו"ת לכלים דתנה"מ (אות ק"ז-ק"ט), הנה גם בהם נמצאים אלו ב' מיני השלמות הע"ס. כי מבחינה אחת היה נשלם כל אחד מהם ע"י התדבקותם באח"פ דאו"א וישו"ת בעודם בראש, שהיא השלמת ע"ס דמין הא'. ואח"כ שנתפשטו לבי"ע, היו רוצים להשתלם בהשלמת הע"ס דמין הב'. וענין זה נוהג גם בפרטי פרטיות.

137) *As with the Rashim, there are two kinds of supplementation to 10 Sefirot in the 4 Partzufim (Melachim) that emerge from Rosh de Abba ve Ima (Reshimot Dalet/Gimel). They are called Da'at, Hesed, Gevura, and Tifferet. The same is true for the four Partzufim that emerge from the Rosh de YESHSUT (Reshimot Gimel/Bet) that replaced Abba ve Ima. They are Tifferet, Netzah-Hod, Yesod and Malchut.*

On the one hand, the 10 Sefirot de Guf are supplemented at the expense of the AHP of their Rashim, rising to where the Rashim are. On the other hand, they spread in the BYA wishing to be increased to 10 Sefirot by way of attaching their own AHP, i.e., using the second method. This rule is also effective in each individual case.

The division of the *Partzuf* into *GE* and *AHP* is purely qualitative and means that only the vessels of bestowal may be worked with, while the vessels of reception stay inactive. Now the *AHP* of the upper object are not in *GE* of the lower as before. They are located exactly under their own *GE*, but remain idle. They can transfer the light downward. Creation, designed in this way, cannot change its structure or location. It can change only the intention, the way it will work with its parts.

קלח) ותדע, כי אלו ה"פ אצילות, עתיק וא"א ואר"א וזר"ן, שנתקנו בקביעות ואין שום מיעוט נוהג בהם (אות קכ"ו), שעתיק יצא בקומת כתר, וא"א בקומת חכמה, ואר"א בקומת בינה, וזר"ן בקומת ז"א, ו"ק בלי ראש.

הנה הכלים דאח"פ, שנתבררו להם מעת הגדלות, היו מבחינת השלמת ע"ס דמין הא'. והיינו על דרך נקודת החולם, שהאיר בכתר דנקודים. שאז נשלמו גם אר"א על ידי הכתר והשיגו הארת כלים דאח"פ (אות קל"ד). ולפיכך אע"פ שהיה לכל אחד מעתיק וא"א ואר"א ע"ס שלמות בראש, מ"מ לא הגיע מזה בחינת ג"ר לגופים שלהם. ואפילו פרצוף עתיק לא היה לו בגוף אלא בחינת ו"ק בלי ראש. וכן א"א ואר"א.

והטעם הוא, כי כל הזך נברר תחילה. וע"כ לא נברר בהם רק השלמת ע"ס דמין הא', שהוא מצד עליתו בעליון. דהיינו בחינת הארת כלים דאח"פ, המספיק להשלים הע"ס בראש. אבל אין עוד התפשטות מהראש לגוף. כי בעת שאר"א נכללו בכתר דנקודים, היה מספיק להם הארת אח"פ מכח הכתר, ולא כלל בהתפשטותם למקומם עצמם, מפה דכתר דנקודים ולמטה (אות קל"ה). וכיון שהגופים דעתיק וא"א ואר"א היו בר"ק בלי ראש, מכ"ש הזר"ן עצמם, שהם בחינת גוף הכולל דאצילות, שיצאו בר"ק בלי ראש.

138) You must know that the 5 *Partzufim* of the world *Atzilut*: *Atik*, *Arich Anpin*, *Abba ve Ima* and *ZON*, have their minimal state below which they cannot descend. *Atik* has the level of *Keter*, *Arich Anpin* – of *Hochma*, *Abba ve Ima* – of *Bina* and *ZON* – of *ZA*.

The *AHP* that joined them during *Gadlut* supplemented their *Sefirot* to 10 through the point of *Holam*, which shone upon *Keter de Nikudim*. The *GE de Abba ve Ima* rose together with the *AHP de Keter* and received the same luminescence. Despite the fact that the *Rashim* of *Atik*, *Arich Anpin*, and *Abba ve Ima* have the full 10 *Sefirot*, they did not receive the lights that correspond to the *Gar*

in their Gufim. Even the Guf de Atik had the level of the Vak like Gufim de Arich Anpin and Abba ve Ima.

It is known that the purer Partzufim are corrected first; consequently, they were corrected only according to the first method when the AHP rose to their GE and supplemented them to 10 Sefirot in the Rosh. However, the light has not yet spread from the Rosh into the Guf. Therefore, Abba ve Ima rose to Keter and received the light of AHP de Keter. This light, though, was insufficient for shining upon their own AHP, which remain below. Since the bodies of Atik, Arich Anpin, and Abba ve Ima have only the level of Vak, the ZON de Atzilut (its body) also has the same level.

No Guf of the Partzuf in the world of Atzilut receives Gadlut. They stay in Katnut, while only the Rosh of each Partzuf receives Gadlut.

In the world of Atzilut, Gadlut can be received only when the lower Partzuf rises to the upper. All ascents of the worlds on holidays, Sabbaths and the new moons are based on this principle, which prevents the breaking of the vessels.

קלט) אמנם בא"ק לא היה כן. אלא כל הכמות שיצא בהראשים דפרצופי א"ק, נתפשט ג"כ לגופים שלהם. ולפיכך נבחנו כל ה"פ אצילות, שהם רק בחינת ו"ק דפרצופי א"ק. וע"כ הם מכונים מ"ה החדש או מ"ה דה"פ א"ק. דהיינו קומת ז"א, שהוא מ"ה. בחוסר ג"ר, שג"ר הן גלגלתא ע"ב ס"ג. כי עיקר המדרגה נבחנת ע"פ התפשטותה אל הגוף מפה ולמטה, וכיון שגם לג' פרצופים הראשונים אין מהם התפשטות לגוף רק ו"ק בלי ראש, ע"כ הם נבחנו לבחינת מ"ה, שהוא קומת ו"ק בלי ראש אל ה"פ א"ק.

139) In the world of AK, the picture was different. The amount of the light in the Rosh spread to the Guf. In the world of Atzilut, the light that spread in the Rosh, even in the state of Gadlut, does not spread to the Guf. Hence, the world of Atzilut, as regards the world of AK, is defined as Vak (ZA) and is called MA Hadash or MA of the 5 Partzufim de AK, i.e., the level of ZA, which constitutes MA without Gar.

It is similar to the state of the *Partzufim* of the world of AK, provided each of them will have only the *Vak* without the *Gar*. Let us examine it in more detail. Each *Partzuf de AK*, i.e., *Galgalta*, AB, SAG, MA and BON (*Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, ZA and *Malchut*) in turn, consists of *Gar* (*Galgalta* – *Keter*, AB – *Hochma* and SAG – *Bina*) and *Vak* – MA and BON. So, all the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* correspond only to MA de AK. *Atik de Atzilut* equals MA de *Galgalta*, *Arich Anpin* – the MA de AB, *Abba ve Ima* – the MA de SAG and the ZON – MA and BON de AK. There is no spreading of light in the *Guf*, i.e., all of these *Partzufim* are in the state of *Vak*.

קמ) באופן, שעתיק דאצילות, שיש לו בראש קומת כתר, נבחן לבחינת ו"ק לפרצוף הכתר דא"ק. וחסר נשמה חיה יחידה דכתר א"ק. וא"א דאצילות, שיש לו בראש קומת חכמה, נבחן לבחינת ו"ק לפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק שהיא חכמה. וחסר נשמה חיה יחידה דע"ב דא"ק.

ואו"א דאצילות, שיש להם בראש קומה בינה, נבחנים לבחינת ו"ק של פרצוף ס"ג דא"ק. וחסר לו נשמה חיה יחידה דס"ג דא"ק. והזו"ן דאצילות נבחנים לבחינת ו"ק דפרצוף מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק. וחסר להם נשמה חיה יחידה דמ"ה וב"ן דא"ק. וישסו"ת וזו"ן הם תמיד במדרגה א': זה ראש וזה גוף.

140) Rosh de Atik of the world of Atzilut has the level of Keter, which is defined as Vak (MA) with regard to Partzuf Galgalta de AK. It has only the lights Ruach and Nefesh, while Neshama, Haya, and Yechida de Galgalta are absent. The Rosh de Arich Anpin, with the light of Hochma, corresponds to Vak (MA) de AB and has the lights Nefesh and Ruach, while Neshama, Haya and Yechida de Hochma de AB are absent.

Abba ve Ima de Atzilut, whose Rosh has the light of Bina, is defined as Vak de SAG without the lights of Neshama, Haya and Yechida de Bina de SAG. The Partzuf ZON de Atzilut, which has the level of ZA and Malchut in its Rosh, is defined as the Vak of the Partzufim MA and BON de AK, without the lights of Neshama, Haya and Yechida de MA and BON de AK.

קמא) וע"י העלאת מ"ן ממעשים טובים של התחתונים, נבררים השלמת האח"פ דע"ס דמין הב'. דהיינו השלמתם דאו"א מבחינת עצמם, על דרך בחינת נקודת השורק. שאז או"א עצמם

מורידים הה"ת מנקבי עינים שלהם, ומעלים אליהם האח"פ שלהם. שאז יש להם כח גם להשפיע אל הז"ת, שהם ז"ן. דהיינו אל הגופים ממעלה למטה. כי הגו"ע דז"ן, הדבוקים באח"פ ואו"א, נמשכים עמהם לאו"א ומקבלים מהם השלמת ע"ס (אות צ"ד).

ואז נמצא כל כמות המוחין שישנם באו"א מושפעים ג"כ לזו"ן, שעלו אליהם ביחד עם האח"פ שלהם. ולפיכך, בעת שה"פ אצילות מקבלים השלמה זו דמין הב', אז יש ג"ר גם להגופים דג' פרצופים הראשונים, שהם עתיק וא"א ואו"א דאצילות. וכן להזו"ן דאצילות, שהם גוף הכולל דאצילות.

ואז עולים ה' פרצופי אצילות ומלבישים לה"פ א"ק. כי בעת התפשטות הג"ר גם אל הגופים דה"פ אצילות, הרי הם משתוים עם ה"פ א"ק. ועתיק דאצילות עולה ומלביש לפרצוף כתר דא"ק, וא"א לע"ב דא"ק, ואו"א לס"ג דא"ק, וזו"ן למ"ה וב"ן דא"ק.

ואז מקבל כל אחד מהם נשמה חיה יחידה מהבחינה שכנגדו בא"ק.

141) The souls in the worlds BYA raise MAN, thus causing the descent of additional light This leads to a supplementing of the Partzufim to 10 Sefirot according to the second method wherein the light comes through NHY de Galgalta to the ZON de Nikudim (and Atzilut), via the point of Shuruk. Abba ve Ima lowers its Malchut from Nikvey Eynaim to Peh and elevates their AHP. GE de ZON (merged with the AHP de Abba ve Ima) rise to Abba ve Ima together with the AHP, and increase to 10 Sefirot.

Then the entire amount of Mochin (the light) in Abba ve Ima affects the ZON, which rise together with the AHP de Abba ve Ima. Since the five Partzufim de Atzilut are supplemented according to the second method, the three first Partzufim have the lights of Gar in their Gufim as well as in the ZON, which makes up the common Guf of the world of Atzilut.

Then the five Partzufim of the world of Atzilut rise and dress upon the five Partzufim de AK, since the spreading of Gar in the Gufim de Atzilut equates them with the five Partzufim de AK. This is so that Atik might rise and dress upon the Partzuf Keter de AK (Galgalta), the Arich Anpin – on AB de AK, Abba ve Ima – on SAG de AK, and ZON – on MA and BON de AK.

Such a dressing of the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* onto the corresponding *Partzufim* of the world of *AK* means that each of them receives the lights *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida* on the level of the world of *AK*.

After the vessels break, all the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* emerge in *Katnut*, both in the *Rosh* and in the *Guf*. The first *Partzuf*, *Atik*, is born. The *Reshimot* of *Arich Anpin* begin to appear in it; it later emerges from *Atik*. Thus, *Atik* does not fully enter *Gadlut*, but only to the extent of being able to give birth to *Arich Anpin*. In this way, all the *Partzufim* of *Atzilut* and the worlds *BYA* emerge. Then the light of *Holam* on the *Reshimot Dalet/Gimel* descends from above. As in the world of *Nikudim*, this light enters *Keter*, which attaches its *AHP* and *Abba ve Ima* to itself, etc. This is the first case when all the *Rashim* receive *Gadlut*, while all the *Gufim* remain in *Katnut*.

The second way of receiving *Gadlut* requires awakening from below, desire. In the world of *Nikudim*, the desire was received from *NHY de Galgalta*. The light shone upon them, and the *ZON de Nikudim* began asking for light from *Abba ve Ima*. True requests to *Abba ve Ima* in the world of *Atzilut* cause all the *Partzufim* to pass to *Gadlut*, according to the second method.

If the *Rashim de Atzilut* receive *Gadlut* through the first method, why does this light not pass to the *Gufim*? The reason lies in the fact that *Gadlut* of the *Rashim* does not happen at their own expense; rather, they are elevated by the higher *Partzufim* and lifted with their light. The *Rosh* did not rise to a higher level by its own strength. Neither was it filled by its own effort. Hence, upon receiving *Gadlut*, it also remained in *Katnut*, in its place below. It can in no way pass the light to its *Guf* below. All the *Rashim de Atzilut* received this kind of *Gadlut*.

The second state of *Gadlut* in the *Gufim* occurs when the lower *Partzufim* ask the upper for strength to make a *Zivug* and pass to *Gadlut* in their own places, without rising; consequently, they can spread the light to their bodies.

Spiritual states do not disappear. Everything depends on what you wish to see at a particular moment and upon one's point of view. We are now interested in the specific states, first according to the initial method (*Gadlut Rashim*), then – to the second (*Gadlut Gufim*).

Before the vessels were broken, we spoke about the *Bitush Pnim u Makif*. After the breaking, we do not speak about it anymore, since the vessels start to be corrected, acquire a screen. Next, they are filled with light from below. From our various desires, we take the smallest, the least egoistic, the one we can correct most easily, and fill it with light in accordance with its correction.

Now, the light that comes to the vessel is no more than it can receive. In the world of AK, a *Zivug* on the entire *TA* was made, and it was possible to withstand the light of Infinity pressing the vessel to receive the light. After the break, it is no longer possible to withstand even a gram of light. It is only upon acquiring the tiniest screen that we can receive the light according to its strength.

קמב) אמנם כלפי הז'ן דאצילות נבחנו המוחין הללו רק לבחינת מין הא' דהשלמת הע"ס. כי אלו האח"פ אינם אח"פ גמורים, רק הארת האח"פ, שהם מקבלים ע"י אר"א, הוא בעת שהם במקום אר"א. אבל בהתפשטותם למקומם עצמם, הרי הם עוד חסרים האח"פ שלהם (אות קל"ו). ומטעם זה נבחנו כל המוחין שהז'ן משיג בשתא אלפי שני בשם "מוחין דעליה". כי אי אפשר להם להשיג מוחין דג"ר, רק בעת עלותם למקום ג"ר. כי אז נשלמים על ידם. אמנם אם אינם עולים למעלה למקום הג"ר, אי אפשר להיות להם מוחין. כי עדיין לא נבררו לז'ן בחינת המוחין דמין הב', שזה לא יהיה זולת בגמר התיקון.

142) *The ZON de Atzilut receives light according to the first principle, that is to say, through "AHP de Aliyah". These AHP are not yet final. The light they receive is just the luminescence coming through Abba ve Ima, when ZON is on their level. However, on their own level, they do not have the AHP, so the light received by the ZON during 6000 years is called Mochin de Aliyah, for the light of Gar can be attained only while being on the level of the Gar, which increase them to 10 Sefirot. Until they reach the level of Gar, the ZON are unable to receive the entire light. However, the ZON have not yet*

received their correction of the second kind. This will happen only in the Gmar Tikkun.

When the ZON rise to *Abba ve Ima*, they compel them to make a *Zivug* and to receive light. The request of ZON is made for the comprehensively selected desires that are now unfit. It is necessary to find out whether they can be corrected. To that end, there is a special mechanism in the *Rosh de Arich Anpin*, through which it rules over *Abba ve Ima*, which in turn control ZON.

The light that *Arich Anpin* sends down allows seeing fallaciousness only in nine *Sefirot*, but not in the 10-th, *Malchut*. Hence, the light of *Arich Anpin* is less powerful than it is supposed to be, but it provides an opportunity to correct the vessels of reception, which rise and join the vessels of bestowal.

קמג) והנה נתבאר, שהמוחין דה"פ הקבועים באצילות, הם מבחינת בירורי כלים דמין הא' דאו"א, שבעולם הנקודים מכונה הארה זו בשם "הארת הטבור", או "נקודת החולם". שאפילו או"א אין להם השלמה, אלא מבחינת מין הא'. וע"כ אין מגיע מהראשים דעתיק וא"א דאו"א להגופים שלהם עצמם וכן להזו"ן שום הארת ג"ר. כי גם הז"ת דנקודים לא קבלו כלום מהארה זו דבחינת החולם (אות פ"ח).

והמוחין דשתא אלפי שני עד גמר התיקון הבאים ע"י העלאת מ"ן של התחתונים, הם מבחינת בירורי כלים להשלמת ע"ס דמין הב' דאו"א, שבעולם הנקודים מכונה הארה זו בשם "הארת היסוד" או "נקודת השורק".

כי אז מעלה או"א את האח"פ של עצמם, שעליהם דבוקים גם הגו"ע דז"ת. וע"כ גם הז"ת מקבלים במקום או"א בחינת מוחין דג"ר. ולפיכך מגיע המוחין הללו גם להגופים דה"פ אצילות ולזו"ן הכוללים. אלא בלבד שהם צריכים להיות למעלה במקום הג"ר ולהלביש אותם.

ולעתיד לבא בגמר התיקון יקבלו אז הזו"ן את בחינת השלמת ע"ס דמין הב'. ויורידו ה"ת המסיימת מבחינת החזה שלהם, שהוא הפרסא דאצילות, אל מקום סיום רגלי א"ק (אות קל"ו). ואז יתחברו התנה"י דזו"ן שבב"ע אל מדרגת הזו"ן דאצילות. וישתה סיום רגלין דאצילות לסיים רגלים דא"ק. ואז יתגלה מלכא משיחא. בס"ה "ועמדו רגליו על הר הזיתים". ונתבאר היטב, שבשתא אלפי שני אין תיקון לעולמות רק בדרך עליה.

143) *The light received by the five permanent Partzufim of the world of Atzilut is called the correction of the Kelim de Abba ve Ima. They supplement their Sefirot to ten by using the first method. In the world of Nikudim, this light is called "luminescence through the Tabur" or*

“Nekudat Holam”. Thus, no light de Gar spreads from the heads of Atik, Arich Anpin and Abba ve Ima, to their bodies and to ZON, for in the past, the Zat de Nikudim did not receive anything from this luminescence.

The Mochin (the light) received during 6000 years until the Final Correction comes as an answer to the request – MAN – raised by the lower Partzufim, including the souls in the worlds BYA, i.e., by the second method. In the world of Nikudim, it is called “luminescence through Yesod” or “Nekudat Shuruk”.

According to this method, Abba ve Ima elevate their own AHP, and merge with GE de Zat, which receive the light Mochin de Gar on the level of Abba ve Ima. In this way, Mochin spread to the Gufim of the five Partzufim de Atzilut, including ZON, but on the condition that they will be above, in the place of Gar.

In the future, after the Gmar Tikkun, ZON will be increased to 10 Sefirot according to the second method, and Malchut will descend from the Parsa to the Sium Raglin de AK. Then Netzah, Hod and Yesod de ZON in the BYA will join ZON de Atzilut, while the Sium de Atzilut will have the same properties as Sium de AK. At that period, the Melech-haMashiach will come and “His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives”. Then it will be clear that the complete correction of the worlds during 6000 years can happen only through their ascent.



THE WORLDS OF BERIA, YETZIRA AND ASSIYA
ביאור ג' העולמות בריאה יצירה ועשיה

- קמד) ז' עיקרים כוללים יש להבחין בג' העולמות ב"ע:
- א. מהיכן נעשה המקום לג' העולמות הללו.
- ב. שיעורי קומת פרצופי ב"ע ועמידת העולמות בראשונה, בעת שנאצלו ויצאו מהנוקבא דאצילות.
- ג. כל אלו שיעורי קומה מהמוחין דתוספת ומצב עמידתם, שהשיגו מטרם חטאו של אדה"ר.
- ד. המוחין שנשתיירו בפרצופי ב"ע, ומקום נפילת העולמות לאחר שנפגמו בחטאו של אדה"ר.
- ה. המוחין דאמא, שקבלו פרצופי ב"ע אחר נפילתם למטה מפרסא דאצילות.
- ו. בחינת פרצופי האחור דה"פ אצילות, שירדו ונתלבשו בפרצופי ב"ע ונעשו להם לבחינת נשמה לנשמה.
- ז. בחינת המלכות דאצילות, שירדה ונעשית בחינת עתיק לפרצופי ב"ע.

144) We must learn seven interrelated fundamentals about the worlds of BYA:

1. Where the place for the three worlds come from.
2. The level of the Partzufim of BYA and the initial position of the worlds at the time of their formation and separation from Nukvah de Atzilut.
3. The ascents of the worlds and their positions before the sin of Adam haRishon.
4. The Mochin that the worlds of BYA received, and the place of their fall after they were broken due to the sin of Adam haRishon.
5. The Mochin, the light of Gadlut from Ima de Atzilut received by the worlds of BYA after they fell under the Parsa de Atzilut.



6. The meaning of the back parts of the five *Partzufim de Atzilut* that fell under the *Parsa* into the worlds of *BYA* and became as *Neshama de Neshama* for them.

7. The level of *Malchut de Atzilut* that fell into the worlds of *BYA* and plays the role of *Atik* for the *Partzufim de BYA*.

We have learned that the source of all, the Creator, cannot be attained by us. He thought to bestow delight upon the future creations. The light (the thought of creation and bestowal) emanates from Him and builds a vessel that will “desire to receive” His delight.

All of creation’s desires correspond to the thought (the light) that emanates from the Creator. If that vessel were filled with the light, it would achieve the state of perfection. However, there is only one perfection – the Creator; thus creation has to reach His level independently.

For that purpose, the creation must be put into the Creator’s position; it should start creating something out of nothing. It must make the Creator out of itself. This is achieved by ascending the levels. Such work includes several requirements:

1. The advancement of creation by means of the descending ladder of the worlds and the *Partzufim*.
2. The arrangement of necessary conditions for the creation, which is thoroughly detached from the Creator, so that it might ascend the “steps-levels” prepared in advance.

We have learned about the formation of the steps from above: the structure of the world of *AK*, *Nikudim*, and then *Atzilut*. Had the world of *Nikudim* received the entire light, it would have meant the *Gmar Tik-kun*. *Malchut* of the World of Infinity would have been completely filled with the light (fulfillment of the Thought of Creation). However, as we know, this did not happen; the vessels broke and fell under the *Parsa*. Now the world of *Atzilut* must correct the broken vessels and elevate them above the *Parsa*.

Atzilut consists of the five *Partzufim*, *Atik*, *Arich Anpin*, *Abba ve Ima* and *ZON* (*ZA* and *Malchut*). *Malchut* rises to *Bina* to pass from *Katnut* to *Gadlut* and to receive an opportunity to create its next state – the world of *Beria*. Prior to that, *Malchut* was a point; for the creation of the next state, it needs to acquire *Aviut Bet*. Hence, it rises to *Bina* and sorts its vessels.

Before the vessels were broken, they consisted of only two kinds: the giving and the receiving. Afterwards, these two kinds are supplemented with two more: the vessels of reception that mixed with the vessels of bestowal, and the vessels of bestowal that mixed with the vessels of reception.

The *ZON de Atzilut* are created from the *Kelim de GE*, sorted out from all the broken and mixed vessels that fell under the *Parsa*. All vessels that have only the “desire to receive” are put aside; they cannot be corrected yet. This is the so-called *Lev haEven* that will be corrected only after the *Gmar Tikkun*.

After that, only the vessels of reception that mixed with the vessels of bestowal, and the vessels of bestowal that mixed with the vessels of reception, remain. Thus, the Creator’s and the creation’s properties were mixed together.

How can they be corrected? The worlds of *BYA* are created from the vessels of bestowal that are inside the vessels of reception (the *GE* inside the *AHP*). The vessels of reception that are inside the vessels of bestowal (the *AHP* inside the *GE*) may be used by way of elevating them to the world of *Atzilut*.

Nothing can exist under the *Parsa*; it is the place of very distinct egoistic vessels. However, as the fragments of the altruistic vessels break and fall into them, some form of spiritual light, called the *Ohr Tolada* (the secondary light), can already shine there.

This is necessary for the souls below the worlds of *BYA* (under the *Sium*, beneath the barrier, in the point of our world) to mature enough to enter the spiritual world, and receive that property without which they

cannot exist. They then cross the barrier and proceed to creating a screen for turning the egoistic properties into altruistic ones.

Entering the place where the vessels of bestowal are inside the vessels of reception, the souls can communicate with them. They receive the light from the fragments of the vessels of bestowal (the right line), simultaneously receiving additional desires from the fragments of the vessels of reception (the left line) in the worlds of *BYA*, rising systematically from one level to another.

Generally, all the worlds are built according to one scheme. The difference is in the fact that the lower the world is, the more it conceals the Creator's light. Egoism lies at the heart of nature. If it receives a screen it is corrected, and acquires altruistic properties. There are broken vessels that can be corrected during the 6000 years (the levels of the worlds of *BYA*, 2000 in each).

The vessels uncorrected during 6000 years are called *Klipot*. These can be corrected only after the coming of the *Mashiach*. The ascending soul contains all kinds of vessels: those that can be corrected, and the *Klipot*. While ascending, it is important to sort out the vessels correctly in order to separate and ignore the *Klipot*, using only the remaining vessels. This is called the work in three lines.

The entire way of ascent is covered with darkness. Each consecutive level can be felt only when the light of *Hochma* enters the corrected vessels. One can advance only by alternately moving between the right and left lines, Creation was not made just for receiving, as was the case with *Malchut* of the World of Infinity.

Hence, man's state is suspended between the earth (egoism) and the sky (altruism). On each level, we have to go through all the states from *Katnut* to *Gadlut*. Having climbed a certain level, man believes he has achieved everything. Then he receives additional desires and resumes his ascent, not knowing what awaits him ahead.

קמה) הנה הבחן הא' כבר נתבאר (אות ס"ו), שמפאת עלית המלכות המסיימת, שמתחת סיום רגלי א"ק, למקום החזה דז"ת דנקודות דס"ג, הנעשה בזמן צמצום ב', יצאו ונפלו ב"ש תתאין דת"ת ונהי"ם למטה מנקודת הסיום החדשה שבחזה דנקודות. ואינם ראויים עוד לקבל אור העליון. ונעשו מהם המקום לג' העולמות ב"ע: שמב"ש תתאין דת"ת נעשה מקום עולם הבריאה, ומג' ספירות נה"י נעשה מקום עולם היצירה, ומהמלכות נעשה מקום עולם העשיה.

145) *The first definition: as was stated above, as a result of Malchut rising to Bina (Tifferet) of the Nekudot de SAG, the lower two thirds of Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut of this Partzuf fell under the Parsa, and formed the place for the worlds of BYA there. The lower two thirds of Tifferet have become the place of the world of Beria, three Sefirot, Netzah, Hod and Yesod, have become the place of the world of Yetzira, and Malchut has become the place of the world of Assiya.*

Therefore, the place of the worlds of BYA are the vessels of *Nekudot de SAG*, specifically, they are in fact the *Kelim de AK* that submit to the laws of TA.

Each consecutive *Partzuf* dresses upon the previous one, which afterwards turns out to be inside it. Place means desire. The larger the desire is, the larger the place. This is how it was before TA. After TA, place is determined not by the size of the desire, but by the strength of the screen. The vessel can receive light only in accordance with the size of the screen and not the desire, since there are usually desires in the *Partzuf* that the screen cannot affect.

We should note that the worlds of BYA were created by *Malchut de Atzilut*, so they actually constitute the *AHP de Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut* or *Atzilut* as a whole. The worlds of BYA descended to the existing “place of BYA”, which, as we said before, was formed by the vessels of the *Nekudot de SAG*. As the vessels got broken, the *Kelim* of bestowal (the GE) *de ZON* also fell to “the place of BYA”.

After the creation of the worlds of BYA, one more *Partzuf* was created inside them. Its name is *Adam haRishon*. As the worlds began

ascending, *Adam haRishon* rose together with them. These ascents continued until it “committed a sin”. The places of the worlds of *BYA*, i.e., the *Nekudot de SAG*, ascended together with the worlds. After *Adam*’s sin and downfall, the worlds of *BYA* and their place descended. So now, their place (the *Nekudot de SAG* forming a kind of a frame of the worlds of *BYA*) does not ascend, but constantly remains under the *Parsa*. The worlds of *BYA* rise together with the souls living in them.

קמו) והבחן הב' הוא שיעורי קומת פרצופי בי"ע ומקום עמידתם בעת יציאתם ולידתם מבטן הנוקבא דאצילות. דע, שבעת הזאת כבר השיג הז"א בחינת חיה מאבא, והנוקבא כבר השיגה בחינת נשמה מאמא. וכבר ידעת, שאין הז"ן מקבלים המוחין מאו"א אלא בדרך עליה והלבשה (אות קמ"ב). וע"כ נמצא: הז"א מלביש את אבא דאצילות, הנקרא או"א עילאין, והנוקבא מלבשת לאמא דאצילות, הנקרא ישו"ת. ואז הנוקבא דאצילות ביררה והאצילה את עולם הבריאה בכללות ה"פ שבו.

146) *The second definition: the level of attainment of the Partzufim de BYA and their position at the time of emergence and birth from the Beten de Nukvah of the world of Atzilut. Malchut de Atzilut creates the worlds of BYA. Then, ZA de Atzilut reached the level of Haya (Hochma) of Abba, and Nukvah reached the level of Neshama of Ima. As you already know, the ZON receive Mochin from Abba ve Ima only by way of their elevation and dressing upon the upper Partzuf. ZA dresses onto the Partzuf Abba de Atzilut, called the upper Abba ve Ima, and Malchut dresses onto Ima de Atzilut, called YESHSUT. Being in this state, Malchut de Atzilut chooses suitable, yet uncorrected, vessels and creates of them the world Beria with the five Partzufim.*

We know that a *Partzuf* emerges from the screen of the previous one, which rose to the *Peh de Rosh* and made a *Zivug* there. So it was in the world of *AK*. However, in the worlds of *BYA*, the *Partzufim* are born from the *Beten*, “abdomen” of the previous *Partzuf*.

In the four *Behinot de Ohr Yashar*, we see that *Shoresh* creates *Behina Aleph*, which wants to receive the light. Then *Behina Bet* emerges from *Behina Aleph* and refuses to receive the light. After that, a partial “desire to receive” the light is born in it; this *Behina* is called *ZA*. However, such

a desire is born in the lower part of *Bina*, the *Zat de Bina*, which wants to receive for the Creator's sake. Only the lower part of *Bina* is related to the creations; its upper part does not want to receive anything.

Malchut rises to *Zat de Bina*. Only this part of *Bina* gives birth to the next *Partzuf* from its *Peh* (if we view the *Zat de Bina* as an independent *Partzuf*, it will be positioned from the *Tabur de Bina*, and below; another independent *Partzuf* of common *Bina* – the *Gar de Bina* will be above the *Tabur*). Thus, the *Peh de Zat* is on the level of the *Beten* of the common *Partzuf Bina*.

קמז) וכיון שהנוקבא עומדת במקום אמא, הרי היא נחשבת למדרגת אמא, כי התחתון העולה לעליון נעשה כמוהו. ולפיכך עולם הבריאה, שנבררה על ידה, נבחנת למדרגת ז"א, להיותה מדרגה תחתונה להנוקבא, שהיא בחינת אמא. והתחתון מאמא הוא ז"א. ונמצא אז עולם הבריאה, שעומדת במקום ז"א דאצילות, מתחת להנוקבא דאצילות, שהיתה אז בחינת אמא דאצילות.

147) Since Malchut is in the place of Ima (Bina), it reaches the level of Ima. Hence, the world of Beria, created from the Beten de Malchut (Nukvah) is one level below Ima, and therefore one level below Nukvah, which rose to Ima and reached its level. Thus, at the moment of its birth, the world of Beria is on the level of ZA de Atzilut.

קמח) ועל פי זה נבחן עולם היצירה, שנברר ונאצל ע"י עולם הבריאה, שהוא אז במדרגת הנוקבא דאצילות, להיותה מדרגה תחתונה לעולם הבריאה, שהיה אז בחינת הז"א דאצילות. והתחתון מהז"א היא בחינת נוקבא. אמנם לא כל הע"ס דעולם היצירה הם בחינת הנוקבא דאצילות, אלא רק הד' ראשונות דיצירה בלבד. והטעם הוא, כי יש ב' מצבים בנוקבא, שהם פב"פ ואב"א: שבהיותה פב"פ עם הז"א, קומתה שוה אל הז"א.

ובהיותה אב"א, היא תופשת רק ד' ספירות תנה"י דז"א. ומשום שאז היה מצב כל העולמות רק אב"א, לא היה בבחינת הנוקבא אלא ד"ס לבד. וע"כ גם עולם היצירה אין לו במקום הנוקבא דאצילות רק ד"ס ראשונות שלו. ושאר ששה תחתונות דיצירה היו בששה ספירות ראשונות דעולם הבריאה של עתה. דהיינו ע"פ תכונות מקום ב"ע שבהבחן הא' (אות קמ"ה), ששם נפלו העולמות ב"ע אחר חטאו של אדה"ר, ושם היא מקום קביעותם עתה.

148) The world of Yetzira was created in a similar way. It was birthed after the world of Beria, on the level of Nukvah (Malchut) de Atzilut, which follows ZA. However, only four out of the ten Sefirot of the world of Yetzira are in the place of Nukvah de Atzilut. Concerning

ZA de Atzilut, Nukvah has two states. If it is at Panim be Panim with ZA, then it is on one level with it and dresses upon it. Both of them have 10 Sefirot in this state.

When Nukvah is at Achor be Achor with ZA, it has only its four first Sefirot dressed on the 4 lower Sefirot of ZA. The six upper Sefirot of Nukvah descend one level, i.e., under the Parsa, and take the place of the first 6 Sefirot of the world of Beria. Therefore, when Nukvah is at Panim be Panim with ZA, the world of Yetzira is entirely in the place of Nukvah, i.e., in the world of Atzilut, above the Parsa.

In Achor be Achor, when Nukvah (Malchut) de Atzilut has only four Sefirot above the Parsa, the world of Yetzira also has only 4 upper Sefirot above the Parsa. The remaining six Sefirot of the world of Yetzira are on the level of the first six Sefirot of the world of Beria.

The place by itself constitutes the vessels of TA. Malchut of the World of Infinity, Galgalta with all the Partzufim dressed on it; the world of Atzilut and the worlds of the BYA, as it were, fill the place, which never changes. All ascents and descents are measured according to place. If places were not constant, we would not be able to determine the movement, defined by change of one object with regard to another.

As we said, one should differentiate between the worlds of BYA and their places. The place of BYA was formed by the vessels of Nekudot de SAG and is under the Parsa. Two thirds of Tifferet is the place of the world of Beria. Netzah, Hod and Yesod make up the place of the world of Yetzira. Malchut is the place of Assiya. As far as the worlds are concerned, Beria is in the place of ZA de Atzilut at the time of its birth, i.e., on one level with it. The world of Yetzira is either on the level of Nukvah de Atzilut (in Panim be Panim) or has only 4 Sefirot on this level, while 6 lower Sefirot are under the Parsa in the place of the 6 upper Sefirot of Beria.

The lowest 10th part of any Partzuf is called Malchut. After TB and up to the Final Correction, its use is forbidden. Therefore, a circumci-

sion takes place; this *Sefira* is removed and a *Zivug* is made on the *Ateret haYesod*.

Each member of our group donates the tenth part of his income that cannot be used until the *Gmar Tikkun*. Only the corrected nine parts may be worked with. This is done in correspondence with the spiritual worlds.

קמט) ועולם העשיה, שנברר ע"י עולם היצירה, נבחן למדרגת בריאה של עתה. כי מתוך שעולם היצירה היה אז במדרגת הנוקבא דאצילות, נמצא המדרגה שמתחתיה עולם העשיה, שהוא בבחינת עולם הבריאה של עתה. אלא מתוך שרק הד"ר דיצירה היה בבחינת הנוקבא דאצילות, והשש תחתונות שלה היו בעולם הבריאה, לכן גם עולם העשיה שמתחתיה, נמצאים רק הד"ר שלו בבחינת ד"ס תחתונות דעולם הבריאה, והשש התחתונות דעולם העשיה היו במקום שש ראשונות דעולם היצירה של עתה.

ונמצאו אז י"ד הספירות, שהם נה"ם דיצירה של עתה, וכל הע"ס דעולם עשיה של עתה, היו ריקנות מכל קדושה. ונעשו למדור הקליפות. כי רק הקליפות היו נמצאות במקום י"ד ספירות הללו. כי העולמות דקדושה נסתיימו במקום החזה דעולם היצירה של עתה. והנה נתבאר מדרגות שיעורי הקומה של פרצופי ב"ע ומקום עמידתם בעת שנאצלו בראשונה.

149) *The world of Assiya corrected with the help of the world of Yetzira is defined as the level, taken by the world of Beria today. This is because previously the world of Yetzira was on the level of Nukvah de Atzilut. That is why the level below it refers to the world of Assiya – today's Beria. However, only the 4 first Sefirot de Yetzira were on the level of the Nukvah de Atzilut, while its 6 lower Sefirot were on the level of Beria. Hence, the 4 first Sefirot de Assiya are on the level of the 4 lower Sefirot de Beria, and the 6 first Sefirot de Assiya are in the place of the 6 upper Sefirot of the actual location of Yetzira.*

Thus, the four Sefirot de Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut of today's Yetzira and all the 10 Sefirot of the actual world of Assiya stopped being related to Kedusha (holiness) and passed to the Klipot (the uncorrected desires). The level from the Chazeh de Yetzira to the Sium de Assiya cannot be taken by anything but the Klipot; the pure worlds are located above the Chazeh of today's Yetzira. Now we

know the levels taken by the worlds of *BYA* and their place, created before the actual formation of those worlds.

So, before the sin of *Adam haRishon*, at the moment of creation of the worlds of *BYA*, the worlds and the *Partzufim* were positioned in the following way:

1. *ZA de Atzilut* was on today's level of *Arich Anpin (Abba, Hochma)*.
2. *Malchut (Nukvah) de Atzilut* was on the level of *Abba ve Ima (Bina)*.
3. The world of *Beria* was on the level of today's *ZA de Atzilut*.

4. The four upper *Sefirot* of the world of *Yetzira* were on the level of *Malchut de Atzilut* and the six lower *Sefirot* – on the level of the six upper *Sefirot* of today's world of *Beria*. We may say that the places of *Malchut* and *ZA de Atzilut* in *Gadlut* (10 *Sefirot* in each) are not one under the other, but on the same level. When *Malchut* is in *Katnut*, its four upper *Sefirot* are on the level of the four lower *Sefirot* of *ZA*, and its six lower *Sefirot* are under the *Parsa*.

5. The four upper *Sefirot* of the world of *Assiya* were on the level of the four lower *Sefirot* of today's world of *Beria*; its six lower *Sefirot* were on the level of today's world of *Yetzira*. Thus, previously all the worlds were 14 *Sefirot* higher than they are now.

After the breaking of the vessels, the screen rose to the *Rosh de SAG* with all the *Reshimot* left from the breaking above the *Parsa* and with all the fragments that fell down. The screen is in *Nikvey Eynaim de Keter* of the *Rosh de SAG*. It begins to make *Zivugim* on the *Reshimot* left in it after the breaking. Since the breaking of the vessels included the entire *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, there were *Reshimot* left on all kinds of broken vessels that fell under the *Parsa*.

First, the *Masach* selects the best *Reshimot* and makes a *Zivug* on them. Further *Zivugim* are performed on the remaining *Reshimot* according to their deterioration. These *Zivugim* lead to the birth of the *Partzufim* one after another, from the best to the worst. First, *Atik* is born, then

Arich Anpin, Abba ve Ima, YESHSUT, ZA and Nukvah de Atzilut. All the *Reshimot* of GE (the vessels of bestowal) end here.

In addition to the vessels that have only one desire – either to bestow or to receive, vessels emerge that have both of these desires mixed. Now they can be sorted out and create additional *Partzufim*. *Malchut* of the World of Infinity undertakes this mission.

Initially, it is just a point with a single *Sefira, Keter*. Then it rises to ZA and receives the state of *Katnut* there. After that, it rises to *Bina* and grows to match its size. Now it can give birth like the higher *Partzufim*. Being on the level of *Bina*, it makes a *Zivug* on *Bet de Aviut* and gives birth to the world of *Beria*, which has to descend one level below its mother, i.e., to the level of *ZA de Atzilut*.

The world of *Yetzira* is born from a *Zivug de Haka'a* on *Gimel de Aviut* and descends below ZA, i.e., to *Nukvah de Atzilut*. *Nukvah* is not completely under ZA, but dresses its four upper *Sefirot* on it, its six lower *Sefirot* being under the *Parsa*. Hence, the world of *Yetzira* takes the place of *Nukvah* and its four upper *Sefirot* cover the four lower *Sefirot* of ZA, while its six lower *Sefirot* dress onto six lower *Sefirot de Nukvah*, under the *Parsa*, i.e., overlap with the six first *Sefirot* of the place of *Beria* in its actual location.

If some *Partzuf* ascends to or descends from a certain level, it means that it assumes the properties of the level on which it currently rests.

Even in our world, if a person feels the desire to do something good, he is thought to be improving his properties and spiritually rising. “I ascend,” means that my properties do not correspond to the level I was on previously, but reach a higher level that I dress upon, so to speak.

Now, we begin to study how all the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut* dress, one after the other, onto their corresponding *Partzufim* of the world of *Adam Kadmon*. The spiritual world’s ladder is permanent; it can move up and down as a whole with regard to something. Nothing dis-

appears in the spiritual realm. Hence, even while moving, the spiritual ladder stays in its place.

קנ) ועתה נבאר הבחן הג', שהוא שיעורי קומה דפרצופי ב"ע ומצב עמידתם, שהיה להם מהמוחין דתוספת, מטרם חטאו של אדה"ר. והוא, כי ע"י הארת תוספת שבת, היה להם אז ב' עליות: א. בשעה חמשית בערב שבת, שבו נולד אדה"ר. שאז מתחיל להאיר תוספת שבת, בסוד הה' דיום הששי.

ואז השיג הז"א בחינת יחידה ועלה והלביש לא"א דאצילות, והנוקבא בחינת חיה, ועלתה והלבישה לאו"א דאצילות, והבריאה עלתה לישסו"ת, והיצירה עלתה כולה לז"א, והד"ס ראשונות דעשיה עלו למקום הנוקבא דאצילות, והשש תחתונות דעשיה עלו במקום שש ראשונות דבריאה.

ב. היתה בערב שבת בין הערבים. שע"י תוספת שבת, עלו גם הו' תחתונות דעשיה למקום הנוקבא דאצילות, והיו עומדים עולם היצירה ועולם העשיה בעולם האצילות במקום ז"ן דאצילות בבחינת פב"פ.

150) Now we clear up the third definition: the height of the Partzufim of BYA during the reception of the additional light of the Mochin after the sin of Adam haRishon. There were two ascents of the worlds with the help of the additional light on Shabbat. The first ascent took place on the fifth hour of Erev (eve) Shabbat, when Adam haRishon was born. Then the additional light of Shabbat called "Hey de Yom haShishi" began to shine.

At that time, ZA reached the level of Yechida, rose, and dressed upon Arich Anpin de Atzilut. The Nukvah reached the level of Haya, then rose and dressed upon Abba ve Ima de Atzilut. Beria rose to YESHSUT, Yetzira – to ZA; the four first Sefirot de Assiya rose to the place of Nukvah de Atzilut. The six lower Sefirot de Assiya rose to the six upper Sefirot de Beria.

The second ascent of the worlds took place on Erev of Shabbat when, with the help of the additional light on Shabbat, the six lower Sefirot de Assiya rose to the place of Nukvah de Atzilut. Thus, both worlds, Yetzira and Assiya, rose above the Parsa and found their place in ZON de Atzilut in the state of Panim de Panim.

The worlds of *BYA* were born before *Adam haRishon*. Then *Partzuf Adam haRishon* emerged. It was born from *Malchut de Atzilut* that had risen to *Bina*. What is the difference between the births of *Adam haRishon* and the worlds of *BYA*?

The worlds of *BYA* are created from *GE*, which fell to *AHP* of *ZON de Nikudim*. *Adam haRishon* is a totally new construction that derives from the inner thought of creation. When the 4 phases of Direct Light were completed and *Malchut* of the World of Infinity emerged, it began to receive the light that gradually revealed its previous parts, *Gimel*, *Bet*, *Aleph*, and *Shoresh*, which had given birth to it.

Malchut cannot overstep its own limits, but it discovers the previous phases due to the deeper attainment of light that fills it. *Malchut* gradually starts building up nine more *Sefirot* (the light properties) out of the initial point and attains them little by little. The tenth part is *Malchut* itself.

It makes a *Tzimtzum* on this tenth part (on itself) and wishes to become similar to the nine *Sefirot-Partzufim*. Not all worlds and *Partzufim* are *Malchut* itself. They are just its attempts to copy the light, mere lifeless objects. The central point of the creation – *Malchut* of the World of Infinity, starts working after the completion of all the worlds and the breaking of the vessels.

A special combination between *Malchut de Malchut* (the Essence of the Creation) and the nine first *Sefirot* is called *Adam haRishon*. It is destined to become equal to the Creator.

During *TB*, *Malchut* of the World of Infinity rose to *Tifferet* of *Nekudot de SAG*, separating the vessels of reception from the vessels of bestowal. It remained there ever since.

Malchut de Atzilut, which is also on the level of the *Parsa*, is its direct representative. Then *Malchut de Atzilut* rises to *Bina* and makes a *Zivug de Haka'a* only on the *GE*; it does not work with the *AHP*.

The created *Partzuf*, which has so far only the vessels of GE, is called *Adam haRishon*. The direct participation of *Malchut* of the World of Infinity in the creation of *Adam haRishon* turns it into the most important *Partzuf*. In fact, it is the true Creation. The difference between *Adam haRishon* and all other spiritual objects is enormous.

Since it was also born from *Malchut de Atzilut*, which gave birth to the worlds of the *BYA*, *Adam haRishon* is inside these worlds. Its head begins below *Malchut* located in *Bina*, in the place of *ZA de Atzilut*. Its throat corresponds with the four upper *Sefirot* of *Malchut de Atzilut* above the *Parsa*. The body from the shoulders to the *Tabur*, is below the *Parsa*, in the place of the first six *Sefirot* of the world *Beria*, or in the place of the six lower *Sefirot* of the world *Yetzira* or in the place of the six lower *Sefirot* of the *Malchut de Atzilut*.

Then the *Partzuf Adam haRishon* spreads from the *Chazeh* of the world of *Beria* to its end; its feet end on the level of *Chazeh de Yetzira*, where the world of *Assiya* ends in this particular state. The height of *Partzuf Adam haRishon* is equal to that of the worlds of *BYA*. Such was the state of the *Partzuf Adam haRishon* at the moment of its birth.

A totally new structure was born. If previously only the environment for correction of the creation (called the central point or the *Malchut* of the World of Infinity) was being created, now it can be completely corrected. The common soul of *Adam* must be broken into fragments that altruistic desires will later enter. The breaking of the *Partzuf Adam haRishon* was similar to the breaking of the *Kelim de Nikudim*. The vessels of bestowal will enter the central point. This could not be achieved before.

Now let us see how the breaking of the *Partzuf Adam haRishon*, which is inside the worlds of *BYA* and can ascend and descend only together with them, took place.

Adam HaRishon, with its vessels of bestowal, performed all kinds of different actions, but then it realized that the most significant action

for the Creator’s sake can be done only through receiving the light of *Hochma*. It must have the vessels of reception, which are absent in it, or, rather, not yet corrected. Its intentions were quite clear.

Hence, it starts attaching to itself the vessels of reception, whereupon they break (as they previously did in the world of *Nikudim*) inside its *Guf*, both the *GE* and the *AHP*. After the breaking, altruistic sparks penetrate the vessels of reception. From this point on, the work of each fragment of *Adam’s* soul (feeling separate from one another) begins.

All this corresponds to what must be done by everyone in this world. When *Adam’s* soul was broken, in addition to the downfall of the vessels from the level of *Atzilut*, a whole system of impure worlds was formed: *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya de Tuma*, which correspond to the four pure worlds. Human souls exist between these two systems.

Our present state is a consequence of the breaking of *Adam haRishon’s* soul. We are a construction consisting of a biological body saturated with egoistic desires. As we mentioned, altruistic sparks, called the “*Ner Dakik*” (a tiny candle), fell inside these desires. If the *Ner Dakik* manifests in an altruistic desire, man starts longing for something uncertain, trying to satisfy that wish.

But there is nothing in our world that can fill this desire – all pleasures of this world are egoistic. Man would run around searching, until he finds a source that can (or so it will seem to him) somehow fill the void or will do so in the future. If this is a group of students headed by a Teacher-Kabbalist, then such a man will gradually begin to transform his egoistic vessels into altruistic ones, attaining the Creator in them.

How does this correction take place? There are 320 sparks inside each human being. Man must do exactly what happened in the world of *Atzilut*, i.e., sort out the 288 sparks and separate them from the *Lev haEven* (32 egoistic sparks), from its central point, (the egoistic essence, nature), and say that he stops working with them in order to become similar to the altruistic desires.

Man should do it consciously, by sparing no effort, overcoming the formidable resistance of his own egoism. This work forms the vessels that man did not have before. As a result, it allows him to work with the nine altruistic *Sefirot*, the *Lev haEven* remaining inactive. Upon sorting out all altruistic desires and restricting 32 egoistic desires, man achieves the *Gmar Tikkun*. By struggling against his egoism, he preferred to become equal to the Creator.

After that, the upper light descends from above and corrects the *Lev haEven* in such a way that it may now be used for receiving the *Ohr Hochma* for the sake of the Creator. Somehow, the light *AB-SAG* affects this point and corrects it. Such correction is called the arrival of the *Mashiach*; the *Malchut* of the World of Infinity completely merges with the Creator, i.e., reaches its third and final state. It is worth mentioning that the first state is the *Malchut* of the World of Infinity prior to *Tzimtzum Aleph*. The second state is the descending formation of the worlds and the creation's correction through gradual ascent.

The additional light for the ascent of *Adam haRishon* is called the “*Hey de Yom haShishi*”, i.e., the 5th hour of the 6th day. *Adam haRishon* reaches this level together with the worlds of *BYA*. This is the first ascent (the 10 *Sefirot* of one world) on the eve of *Shabbat*. If before this ascent the feet of *Adam haRishon* and the world of *Assiya* were on the level of the *Chazeh de Yetzira*, then afterwards they ascend to the *Chazeh de Beria*.

The world of *Atzilut* has many states. We must be very attentive while studying the world of *Atzilut* – in accordance with the changes in man's sensations in the process of his correction. All the names of the Torah have definite roots in the world of *Atzilut* – one source of all that exists.

This includes the general and individual control, the soul's incarnations, the ascents and descents, etc. If man studies the material correctly, he steps back each time he starts learning about *Atzilut*, realizing that it is over his head. This happens several times for a few years, until man begins to establish contact with this enormous system, when some form of connection with the world of *Atzilut* manifests inside him.

The purest desires rise during the first ascent, while the darkest, most egoistic sink, forming a division between the corrected and the uncorrected desires in both man and the worlds. The emptiness that formed between them, is called “*Tehum Shabbat*”. In our world, it is symbolized by the distance a man may move away from a city wall without violating the laws of *Shabbat*.

Man is not allowed to leave “the domain of the One” for “the domain of the many”. “The domain of the One” (the “*Reshut haYachid*”) is a state, when all of man’s thoughts, desires and prayers are directed to the Creator, when man always justifies Him and perceives all His deeds as those of “the Kind One Creating Goodness” (“*Tov ve Meitiv*”). Such desires are completely corrected and are in the world of *Atzilut*.

As well, man also has the desires that have not been corrected yet. He is still in doubt: does the Creator rule over everything or not, and if He does, is His rule good or bad? Perhaps the society, the boss, the wife, or the children are to blame in all his troubles. These diverse aspirations and thoughts in man are called “the domain of the many” (“*Reshut haRabim*”). These desires are below the *Chazeh de Yetzira* and down to the *Sium*. In all, they constitute 14 *Sefirot* and are called the *Mador* (section) *haKlipot*.

After the *Shabbat* ascents, the section from the *Parsa de Atzilut* to the *Mador haKlipot* is an empty space consisting of 16 *Sefirot*. These are in turn divided into two parts: the first part is made up of the six upper *Sefirot* of the world of *Beria*, the second part – the ten *Sefirot* from the *Chazeh de Beria* to the *Chazeh de Yetzira*. The first six *Sefirot* of the world of *Beria* are called “*Iburo shel Yir*” (“conception of a city”). This can be compared to a pregnant woman whose belly belongs to her, but which at the same time protrudes because there is a foreign body inside it. On the one hand, it is so far related to her, but, on the other – may be considered as a separate entity.

Such a state is called *Ibur*: still related to the upper one, but also to a new creation.

The world of *Atzilut*, the Creator’s domain, is called “a city”. In his thoughts, man can step out of the city’s bounds (albeit no farther than the *Chazeh de Beria*) without committing a transgression. This additional section (“*Iburo shel Yir*”) is the 70 *Amah* (an *Amah* is the distance from wrist to elbow, i.e., seven *Sefirot*: *HaBaD HaGaT*) from the *Chazeh*. This still refers to the city, although outside its walls.

At the end of the 70 *Amah* from the *Chazeh de Yetzira* to the *Chazeh de Beria*, an additional area of 2000 *Amah* stretches on. These are 10 *Sefirot* called “*Tehum Shabbat*”. Man can step into these 2000 *Amah* without transgressing his unity with the Creator, called *Shabbat*, because there are no impure desires in this area. Such is the power of the *Shabbat* luminescence; it allows man, who is in the world of *Atzilut*, to descend to that level without losing his connection with the Creator. Thus, the 16 upper *Sefirot* of the worlds of *BYA* are still the vessels of bestowal; therefore, man can be in them without leaving the bounds of *Atzilut*.

We have examined the two ascents of the worlds of *BYA* and *Adam haRishon* to *Atzilut* (first, 6 *Sefirot*, then 10 more) that took place on the eve of *Shabbat*. Sixteen empty *Sefirot* are in this state below the world of *Atzilut* down to the *Chazeh de Yetzira*. They are still regarded as the vessels of bestowal; hence, their properties are very close to those of *Atzilut*.

As was stated above, the worlds of *BYA* were created from the broken vessels of the world of *Nikudim* that fell under the *Parsa* and intermixed. This created the following four kinds: vessels of bestowal, vessels of reception, vessels of reception mixed with vessels of bestowal and vessels of bestowal mixed with vessels of reception. First, the *Partzuf SAG* selects the vessels of bestowal out of all the broken fragments. These form the world of *Atzilut* that consists exclusively of *GE*, which even before the breaking were in the world of *Nikudim* as *GE de ZON*. *ZON de Atzilut* correspond to *ZON de Nikudim*.

Three kinds of vessels remain unused:

1. The egoistic vessels of reception. The SAG sorts them out, puts them aside, and does not work with them. This is the *Lev haEven*; no altruistic intentions can correct it until the *Gmar Tikkun*.

2. The vessels of bestowal that fell into the vessels of reception and cannot be separated from them. These are the worlds of *BYA*, which resemble a narrow lucid altruistic stripe within a mass of egoistic desires.

3. The vessels of reception are included in the vessels of bestowal. They are called “*AHP de Aliyah*” of the world of *Atzilut*. With their help, *Ohr Hochma* can be received in addition to *Ohr Hassadim* in *Atzilut*, thus allowing it to receive *Gadlut*. Thus, we have learned what can be received out of all four kinds of broken vessels of the *ZON de Nikudim*.

As *Adam’s* soul breaks, four more kinds of broken vessels are formed. They are not in the worlds of *BYA* anymore, but fall to our world under the *Sium de Galgalta*. All these breakings lead to the fact that there are roots of the altruistic desires (the *AHP de Elion*) inside *GE de Tachton* (the lower *Partzuf*). Thus, it becomes possible to correct the vessels.

Now, if man begins to study in a proper group, guided by a true Teacher, he attracts the influence of the Surrounding Light (the *Ohr Makif*), which gradually purifies the fragments of *GE* inside his egoistic vessels. Inside himself, man builds his own world of *Atzilut* with the help of the corrected vessels of *GE*. On each level, the *Lev haEven* is not worked with.

Therefore, it turns out that man reflects all that seemingly happens outside of him, i.e., the worlds of *AK* and of *BYA*. As he corrects his vessels, man receives the light of *AK ABYA*. Upon completing his correction, he becomes equal to the distance between the central point of our world and the World of Infinity, i.e., he matches the size of *Galgalta*, and all the corrected fragments (all human souls) completely fill the entire *Malchut* of the World of Infinity with the light.

קנא) ועתה נבאר הבחן הד', שהוא קומת המוחין שנשתיירו בבי"ע. ומקום נפילתם לאחר החטא. והוא, כי מחמת פגם חטאו של עצה"ד, נסתלקו מהעולמות כל המוחין דתוספת, שהשיגו ע"י ב' העליות. והזו"ן חזר לר"ק ונקודה.

151) Now let us clear up the fourth definition – the level of the Mochin in the worlds of BYA and the place of these worlds' downfall after the sin of Adam haRishon. It is known that, due to the damage caused by Adam's sin, the Mochin completely disappeared from these worlds, i.e., all the additional light that the worlds received during the two ascents on Shabbat eve.

Furthermore, ZON de Atzilut returned to the state of Vak and Nekuda.

This means that now, as regards the vessels, ZA again has only the six upper Sefirot, HaBaD HaGaT, filled with the six “lower” lights, the HaGaT NHY (inverse relation between the lights and the vessels). Now Malchut de Atzilut has only one Sefira – Keter with the Ohr Nefesh under the Parsa.

וג' העולמות ב"ע, נשתיירו בהם רק המוחין שיצאו בהם בראשונה בעת אצילותם, שעולם הבריאה היה במדרגת הז"א שפירושו ו"ק, וכן היצירה ועשיה בשיעור הנ"ל (אות קמ"ח). ונוסף ע"ז, כי נסתלק מהם כל בחינת אצילות ונפלו למתחת הפרסא דאצילות בתכונת מקום ב"ע, שהוכן ע"י צמצום ב' (אות קמ"ה). ונמצאו ד"ת דיצירה וע"ס דעולם העשיה, שנפלו ועמדו במקום הי"ד ספירות של הקליפות (אות קמ"ט), הנקרא "מדור הקליפות".

The worlds of BYA are now filled only with the light that they had during their birth. They are in the state of Vak (ZA). Moreover, they fell under the Parsa to the place of the worlds of BYA, prepared for them after TB. Now the 4 last Sefirot of the world of Yetzira and all 10 Sefirot of the world of Assiya are in the place of the 14 Sefirot of the Mador haKlipot.

קנב) הבחן הה' הוא המוחין דאמא, שקבלו ב"ע במקום נפילתם. כי אחר שיצאו הבי"ע מאצילות ונפלו למתחת הפרסא דאצילות, לא היה בהם אלא בחינת ו"ק (אות קנ"א). ואז נתלבשו הישסו"ת בהזו"ן דאצילות. ונזדווגו הישסו"ת מבחינת התלבשות בזו"ן. והשפיעו מוחין דנשמה לפרצופי ב"ע במקומם: שעולם הבריאה קבל מהם ע"ס שלמות בקומת בינה, ועולם היצירה קבל מהם ו"ק, ועולם העשיה רק בחינת אב"א.

152) *The fifth peculiarity of the worlds of BYA consists in the fact that, during the fall, they received the Mochin de Ima. When the worlds of BYA left Atzilut and fell under the Parsa, they were on the level of Vak. Then YESHSUT de Atzilut dressed upon ZON de Atzilut, made a Zivug on the Reshimo de Hitlabshut in ZON, and passed the light of Neshama to the worlds of BYA. Thus, the world of Beria received from it 10 full Sefirot on the level of Bina, the world of Yetzira – Vak de Bina, and the world of Assiya – only Behina Achor be Achor, i.e., one point of the Malchut de Bina.*

קנג הבחן הו' הוא בחינת נשמה לנשמה, שהשיגו פרצופי ב"ע מפרצופי האחור דה"פ אצילות. כי בעת מיעוט הירח נפל פרצוף האחור דנוקבא דאצילות ונתלבש בפרצופי ב"ע. והוא כולל ג' פרצופים, המכונים: עבור, יניקה, מוחין. ובחינת המוחין נפלה לבריאה, ובחינת היניקה נפלה ליצירה, ובחינת העיבור נפלה לעשיה. ונעשו בחינת נשמה לנשמה לכל פרצופי ב"ע, שהיא בחינת חיה אליהם.

153) *The sixth peculiarity is the level of Neshama de Neshama (Haya) reached by the worlds of BYA from the five Partzufim de Achoraim of the world of Atzilut. It happened because during the lunar diminution (Miut haYareach), i.e., Malchut de Atzilut, nine of its lower Sefirot forming the “Partzuf de Achor de Nukvah” fell under the Parsa and dressed on the Partzufim BYA, which included three stages: Ibur, Yenika and Mochin. The Behinat Mochin (adult state) fell to the world of Beria, Behina Yenika fell to Yetzira, and Behina Ibur fell to Assiya. Thus, all three worlds of BYA received Behina Neshama le Neshama.*

ZA builds Malchut, and gives it all the power. The final, ultimate state comes when ZA and Malchut become equal and establish full contact with one another. Then Malchut receives from ZA without restraint, at the same time being pleased to bestow delight upon it.

This final state is called a Zivug de ZON Panim de Panim. Malchut wished to achieve it already on the fourth day of creation. Eager to receive the light from Bina, Malchut rose to ZA, but discovered that its (of Malchut) vessels are defective; hence, instead of the light, it received total darkness.

Darkness is *Ohr Hochma* not dressed in *Ohr Hassadim*. Therefore, *Malchut* starts complaining that the two *Partzufim* cannot possibly receive the light from the same source. ZA has both *Ohr Hassadim* and *Ohr Hochma*. *Malchut*, however, has no *Ohr Hassadim*; it must correct its vessels, its intentions.

The only way out of this state is to contract into a point (one *Sefira*), assume its natural size and start gradually correcting its vessels, i.e., acquire a screen. The diminution of *Malchut* is called a *Kitrug haYareach*, i.e., the Moon's (*Malchut*'s) complaint about being unable to shine like the Sun (ZA). It has to turn itself into a point and then start growing systematically, until it reaches the ultimate state. Still it will not be able to shine like the Sun, i.e., in any case *Malchut* will receive the light from ZA.

קנד) הבחן הז' הוא הנוקבא דאצילות, שנעשתה לרדל"א ולהארת יחידה בבי"ע. כי נתבאר, שבעת מיעוט הירח, נפלו ג' הבחינות עי"מ (עיבור, יניקה, מוחין) דפרצוף האחור דנוקבא דאצילות ונתלבושו בבי"ע. והם בחינת אחורים דט"ת דנוקבא, שהם עי"מ: שנה"י נקרא "עיבור", וחג"ת נקרא "יניקה", וחב"ד נקרא "מוחין".

אמנם בחינת האחור דבחינת הכתר דנוקבא, נעשתה לבחינת עתיק לפרצופי בי"ע. באופו שבחינת עיקר אורותיהם דפרצופי בי"ע של עתה, הם מהשירים שנשאר בהם אחר חטאו של אדה"ר, שהוא בחינת הר"ק דכל פרט מהם (אות קנ"א). ובחינת נשמה קבלו ממוחין דאמא (אות קנ"ב), ובחינת נשמה לנשמה, שהוא בחינת חיה, קבלו מט"ת דפרצוף האחור דנוקבא, ובחינת יחידה קבלו מבחינת האחור דכתר דנוקבא דאצילות.

154) *The seventh peculiarity is the Sefira Keter of Nukvah de Atzilut, absolutely unattainable by the worlds of BYA, but which emanates faint luminescence of Ohr Yechida onto them. As it turned out, during the lunar diminution, Behinot Ibur, Yenika and Mochin of the back part of Nukva de Atzilut fell under the Parsa and dressed upon the worlds of the BYA. The NHY are called Ibur, HaGaT – Yenika and HaBaD – Mochin.*

However, Achoraim of Keter de Nukva turn into Atik as regards the Partzufim de BYA, and are unattainable. The light shining in BYA is just a faint luminescence, compared to what it was prior to the "Fall" (sin). The worlds receive Ohr Nefesh from Ibur, Ohr

Ruach – from Yenika and Ohr Neshama – from Mochin de Ima. The Neshama de Neshama (the Ohr Haya) is received from the nine lower Sefirot de Nukva and Behinat Yechida – from the Achoraim de Keter of Nukva de Atzilut (the point of Malchut de Atzilut).

We have already mentioned that, on the fourth day of creation, a so-called lunar diminution took place. *Malchut de Atzilut* wishes to be like *ZA de Atzilut*, so it rises to *Bina*, but cannot receive the same light as *ZA* gets, for it neither has the intention to receive for the Creator’s sake, nor the screen to resist the egoistic desires.

Only upon receiving the *Ohr Hassadim*, which would dress onto the *Ohr Hochma* and take it in, will it be able to acquire the properties of *ZA*. Hence, *Bina* refuses to receive the *Ohr Hochma*. Instead of *Ohr Hochma*, *Malchut* felt darkness. This happens when there are desires without the proper intentions.

Existing in our world, we feel neither darkness, nor light. We cannot feel the preliminary state of darkness for the lack of the necessary desire to receive pleasure, even for our own sake. When the enormous desire acquired for spiritual delight becomes as all-consuming as a great love, we will discover within ourselves the intention to receive the light for the sake of the Creator.

How can this be done? *Bina* advises *Malchut* to diminish itself. *Malchut* contracts into a point and begins gradually to acquire a screen in the three stages *Ibur*, *Yenika*, and *Mochin*.

THE ASCENTS OF THE WORLDS ביאור ענין עליות העולמות

קנה) עיקר ההפרש מפרצופי א"ק לפרצופי עולם האצילות הוא, כי פרצופי א"ק הם מבחינת צמצום א'. שבכל מדרגה שבו יש בה ע"ס שלמות. ואין בע"ס רק בחינת כלי אחד, שהוא כלי מלכות. אבל הט"ס ראשונות הן רק בחינת אורות לבד.

משא"כ פרצופי אצילות הם מבחינת צמצום הב', בסו"ה "ביום עשות הוי"ה אלהים ארץ ושמים", ששיתף רחמים בדין (אות נ"ט). שמדת הדין, שהיא מלכות, עלתה ונתחברה בהבינה, שהיא מדת הרחמים. ונשתתפו יחד.

שעי"ז נעשה סיום חדש על אור העליון במקום הבינה. שהמלכות המסיימת את הגוף עלתה לבינה דגוף, שהיא ת"ת, במקום החזה. והמלכות המזדווגת שבפה דראש עלתה לבינה דראש, הנקרא "נקבי עינים", שע"ז נתמעטו שיעור קומת הפרצופים לגו"ע, שהם כתר חכמה דכלים, בקומת ו"ק בלי ראש, שהוא נפש רוח דאורות (אות ע"ד). ומצאו חסרים מאח"פ דכלים, שהם בינה וזר"ן, ומנשמה חיה יחידה דאורות.

155) The principal distinction between the worlds of AK and Atzilut consists in the fact that the Partzufim of the world of Adam Kadmon emerged as a consequence of Tzimtzum Aleph. Each of their levels includes 10 full Sefirot with one single vessel – Malchut. The nine first Sefirot constitute exclusively the light, the Creator.

The Partzufim de Atzilut is the result of Tzimtzum Bet. When we say that on that day the Creator created the Heaven and the Earth, we mean the Rachamim (mercy) were included in the Din (judgment) during the ascent of Malchut (the level of Din) to Bina (the level of Rachamim) and their merging.

As a result, a new Sium of the Upper Light appeared in Bina on the level of Chazeh (as Malchut Mesayemet rises to Bina). The Malchut Mizdaveget, which was in the Peh de Rosh, rose to Bina de Rosh called the Nikvey Eynaim, so that only the vessels Keter and Hochma remained on the level of Vak without the Rosh, i.e., the lights Nefesh and Ruach. Out of the five vessels, Bina, ZA and Malchut are absent as well as the lights Neshama, Haya and Yechida.

The worlds have two parts: the inner and the outer. The place of *ABYA* is called the outer worlds. Inside this place, there must be an inner part where the world of *Nikudim* is located. The root of the outer part of the worlds is the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* that merged with *Behina Dalet* during its descent under *Tabur de Galgalta*. From the merging of the *Behinot Bet* and *Dalet*, the place between the *Tabur* and the *Sium* split into two parts: the place of *Atzilut* and the place of *BYA*.

There are 10 vessels in each *Partzuf* of the worlds of *ABYA* and *Nikudim*. This was caused by the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina* of each *Sefira*. In *TA*, there is only one *Kli*, since below there is only one *Malchut*, that receives the light from the nine first *Sefirot*.

Ten *Kelim* are formed in *TB*. Due to the Second Restriction, *Malchut* ascends to the nine first *Sefirot* (*Tet Rishonot*). Are these *Sefirot* considered the lights? Does *Malchut* rise to the lights?

There is a rule: *Behina Dalet* is called the *Kli*, and the nine first *Sefirot* are called the lights. The “desire to receive” is *Behina Dalet*; hence, it is separated from the light. In the spiritual world, *Behina Dalet* is reception for its own sake without a hint of bestowal.

The first nine *Sefirot* are the lights and *Malchut* receives all that these nine *Sefirot* have to offer. Now this *Behina* pushes the light away, as if to say, if I can work with the altruistic intention like the light, then I should receive for the sake of bestowal. This transformation of the intention is the essential difference between work for the Creator’s sake and reception for one’s own.

קנו) והגם שנתבאר (אות קכ"ד), שע"י עלית מ"ן לעיבור ב' השיגו פרצופי אצילות הארת המוחין מע"ב ס"ג דא"ק, המוריד הה"ת מנקבי עינים בחזרה למקומה לפה, כבצמצום א', ומשיגים שוב האח"פ דכלים והנשמה חיה יחידה דאורות.

אמנם זה הועיל רק לבחינת הע"ס דראש של הפרצופים, ולא להגופים שלהם, כי המוחין הללו לא נמשכו מפה ולמטה אל הגופים שלהם (אות קל"ח). וע"כ גם לאחר המוחין דגדלות, נשאר הגופים בצמצום ב', כמו בזמן הקטנות.

ומשום זה נחשבו כל ה"פ אצילות, שאין להם רק קומת ע"ס היוצאת על עביות דבחי"א, שהוא קומת ז"א, ו"ק בלי ראש, הנקרא קומת מ"ה. והם מלבישים על קומת מ"ה דה"פ א"ק, דהיינו מטבור ולמטה דה"פ א"ק.

156) *As was stated above, with the help of raising of MAN during the second Ibur, the Partzufim of the world of Atzilut received the light of Hochma from the Partzufim AB-SAG de AK. This light again lowered Malchut from Nikvey Eynaim de Rosh to Peh, as was the case before TB. Hence, the Partzufim again acquire the hitherto missing Kelim de Bina, ZA and Malchut and, correspondingly, the lights of Neshama, Haya, and Yechida.*

This refers only to the 10 Sefirot de Rosh, but not to the Guf, since the light of Hochma has not yet spread from the Peh de Rosh to the Guf, so, even upon receiving the Mochin de Gadlut de Rosh, the Gufim still remained in the state of TB, as in Katnut.

Thus, the Partzufim de Atzilut are regarded as the level of the 10 Sefirot that emerged on Aviut de Behina Aleph. This corresponds to the level of ZA (Vak without Rosh), and is called the world of MA. They dress upon the Partzufim de MA (ZA) of the five Partzufim de AK, located below the Tabur.

A certain ban exists in the world of *Atzilut*: the light of the *Rosh* does not spread to the *Guf*. Once, *Gadlut* spread from the *Rosh* to the *Guf* in the world of *Nikudim*, which led to the breaking of the vessels. In the world of *AK*, we see that whatever is in the *Rosh* later spreads to the *Guf*.

After the breaking of the vessels in the world of *Nikudim*, the *Reshimot* remained. They clearly state that *Gadlut*, which occurred in the *Rosh* after the raising of *MAN*, will not pass to the *Guf* – it is forbidden. Hence, the light of *Gadlut* will never pass from the *Rosh* to the *Guf* in the world of *Atzilut*. Does it mean that the vessels of reception cannot be used? Then how will the correction take place?

The entire following process is a correction of egoism with the help of a very special method defined as the *AHP de Aliyah*, or the middle line.

However, in the world of *Atzilut* the light of *Gadlut* will never spread to the *Guf*, even provided an accurate calculation is made stating that it is quite safe to receive the light for the Creator’s sake. It will never happen again in the spiritual world because of the remaining *Reshimot*.

All the *Partzufim* of the world of *Adam Kadmon* are divided in the following way: the *Rosh* is called *Keter*, the place from the *Peh* to the *Chazeh* is called *Hochma*, from the *Chazeh* to the *Tabur* – *Bina*, from the *Tabur* to *Yesod* – *ZA*, and the place from *Yesod* down to the *Sium* is called *Malchut*. If we take *Galgalta*, its *Rosh* is called *Keter*; from the *Peh* to the *Chazeh* is *AB*, from the *Chazeh* to the *Tabur* – *SAG*, from the *Tabur* to *Yesod* – *MA* and from *Yesod* to the *Sium* – *BON*.

Each *Partzuf* of the world of *Atzilut* dresses onto the corresponding part of the *Guf de AK*. For example, the *Partzuf Atik de Atzilut* refers to the *Partzuf Galgalta* as *MA*, i.e., the way *ZA* refers to *Keter*.

The *Rosh* of any *Partzuf* is a consequence of the previous state, which already passed and left the *Reshimot*. A new state appears based on these *Reshimot* with all the contiguous details. Hence, the *Rosh* contains all the information of the past.

As in our world, there is nothing unusual or unknown. Knowing the qualities of parents, we can more or less imagine and describe their future baby. As each new *Partzuf* emerges, one can very accurately foresee what it will be like.

However, what happened in the world of *Nikudim* does not seem to have been preprogrammed. There is one more *Rosh* – *YESHSUT*, which is under the *Tabur de Galgalta* and refers to *TA*. The lower *Rashim* are unaware of what happens in *TA*; they can find their bearings only within their own framework (*TB*).

The *YESHSUT* contains all information. As regards *TA*, it is interested in the further breaking. Had the *Kelim de Guf* of the world of *Nekudim* possessed the full information of *TB*, they would not have been

able to receive the light for the Creator's sake, since their screen would not have withstood it.

After the breaking of the vessels, a special *Reshimo* in the *Rosh de Atzilut* prevents the light from spreading to the *Guf*. The *Guf* can be only in the state of *Vak*.

קנז) באופן: שפרצוף עתיק דאצילות מלביש על פרצוף הכתר דא"ק מטבורו ולמטה, ומקבל שפעו מקומת מ"ה דפרצוף הכתר דא"ק אשר שם, ופרצוף א"א דאצילות מלביש מטבור ולמטה דפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק, ומקבל שפעו מקומת מ"ה דע"ב דא"ק אשר שם. ואר"א דאצילות מלבישים מטבור ולמטה דפרצוף ס"ג דא"ק, ומקבלים שפעם מקומת מ"ה דס"ג אשר שם.

זו"ן דאצילות מלבישים מטבור ולמטה דפרצוף מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק, ומקבלים שפעם מקומת מ"ה דפרצוף מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק. הרי שכל פרצוף מה"פ אצילות אינו מקבל מפרצוף שכנגדו בא"ק, רק בחינת ו"ק בלי ראש, הנקרא קומת מ"ה.

ואע"פ שיש בראשים דה"פ אצילות בחינת ג"ר, מכל מקום אנו מתחשבים רק בהמוחין המתפשטים מפה ולמטה לגופים שלהם, שהוא רק ו"ק בלי ראש (אות קל"ט).

157) Atik de Atzilut receives the light from MA de Galgalta, i.e., dresses upon it from the Tabur to Yesod. The Partzuf Arich Anpin (AA) de Atzilut dresses onto the Partzuf AB from the Tabur and below and receives the light from MA de AB. The Partzuf Abba ve Ima de Atzilut dresses onto SAG de AK from the Tabur and below and receives the light from MA.

ZON de Atzilut dresses onto the Partzufim MA and BON of the world of AK and receive the light on this level. Thus, each Partzuf of the world of Atzilut receives light from the corresponding Partzuf de AK on the level of its Vak bli Rosh from the Tabur to Yesod, i.e., on the level of the MA de AK. However, it does not completely dress onto the corresponding Partzuf of the world of Adam Kadmon.

Despite the fact that the level of Ohr Hochma in the Rashim de Atzilut reaches the Gar, we take into account only that level of Hochma, which spreads from the Peh de Rosh to the Guf, i.e., the Vak bli Rosh or ZA.

The Universe consists of five worlds, that in turn include five *Partzufim*; each of them is divided into five parts in accordance with the degree of its *Aviut*. Starting with *TB*, each *Partzuf* has three states: *Ibur*, *Yenika*, and *Mochin*, one inside the other. The *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf* is inside the *GE* of the lower one. *Keter* of the lower *Partzuf* can receive the light only from *Malchut* of the upper.

Each *Partzuf* dresses onto the previous one from its *Peh* downwards as in *TB*. However, the *Partzufim* built according to *TB* have laws of their own. Everything depends on what function needs to be expressed. Besides, all the *Ketarim* are interconnected and so are *Hochmot*, etc. *Hochma* of the lower *Partzuf* cannot receive the light from *ZA* or *Bina* of the upper. *Hochma* receives from *Hochma* throughout the entire chain. Both overall and in particular, everything submits to the law of the similarity of properties.

Man starts attaining this entire intricate system only when he acquires the vessels corresponding to it. He becomes its integral part, can influence it, and is affected by it constantly.

קנח) ואין הכונה שה"פ אצילות מלבישים כל אחד על הבחינה שכנגדו בא"ק. כי זה אי אפשר, שהרי ה"פ א"ק מלבישים זה על זה. וכן ה"פ אצילות. אלא הכונה היא, שקומת כל פרצוף מפרצופי אצילות מכוונת לעומת הבחינה שכנגדו שבה"פ א"ק, שמשם מקבל שפעו (אילן, ציור ג').

158) This does not mean that each of the five *Partzufim de Atzilut* dresses onto the corresponding *Behina* in the world of *AK*. This is impossible, because the five *Partzufim de AK* dress one onto the other. The same happens to the five *Partzufim de Atzilut*. It means that the level of each *Partzuf de Atzilut* correlates with the level corresponding to it in the five *Partzufim de AK* and receives its light from there.

Now let us look at Diagram 3 in “*Sefer hallan*” (The Book of the Tree) and the brief comment to it. It shows the permanent state of the five *Partzufim de AK*, from which the five *Partzufim de MA Hadash* (or *Atzi-*

lut) emerged in their permanency. Since they are the vessels of bestowal, no diminution ever happens in them, only *Gadlut*.

The book also examines the division of each *Partzuf* into *Keter* and *ABYA*, which are alternatively called *Keter*, *AB*, *SAG*, *MA* and *BON* or *Yechida*, *Haya*, *Neshama*, *Ruach* and *Nefesh*. Each *Rosh* down to its *Peh* is called *Keter* or *Yechida*. The distance from the *Peh* to the *Chazeh* in each of them is called *Atzilut*, *AB* or *Haya*; from the *Chazeh* to the *Tabur - Beria*, *SAG* or *Neshama*; below the *Tabur - Yetzira* and *Assiya*, *MA* and *BON*, or *Ruach* and *Nefesh*.

Now let us look at the order in which the *Partzufim* dress one onto the other. Each lower *Partzuf* dresses onto the upper from the *Peh* and below according to the following law: the *Rosh* of each lower *Partzuf* dresses onto the *AB - Atzilut* of the upper, *AB - Atzilut* of the lower - on the *SAG - Beria* of the upper; *SAG - Beria* of the lower - on the *MA* and the *BON* (*Yetzira* and *Assiya*) of the upper.

Thus, the *Peh* of the upper *Partzuf* is the level of *Galgalta* of the lower; the *Chazeh* of the upper serves the *Peh* of the lower; the *Tabur* of the upper is the *Chazeh* of the lower. The emergence of *MA Hadash* becomes clear in each of the five *Partzufim de Atzilut* and in the corresponding *Partzuf de AK*.

קנט) ובכדי שיושפעו המוחין מפה ולמטה אל הגופים דה"פ אצילות, נתבאר (אות קמ"א) שצריכים לעלית מ"ן מהתחתונים, שאז מושפעים להם השלמת הע"ס דמין הב' המספיק גם להגופים. והנה באלו המ"ן שהתחתונים מעלים, יש ג' בחינות.

כי כשמעלים מ"ן מבחינת עביות דבחי"ב, יוצאות עליהם ע"ס בקומת בינה, הנקראת קומת ס"ג, שהן מוחין דאור הנשמה. וכשמעלים מ"ן מעביות דבחי"ג, יוצאות עליהם ע"ס בקומת חכמה, הנקראת קומת ע"ב, שהן מוחין דאור החיה, וכשמעלים מ"ן מעביות דבחי"ד, יוצאות עליהם ע"ס בקומת כתר, הנקרא קומת גלגלתא, שהן מוחין דאור היחידה (אות כ"ט).

159) For the upper *Partzufim* to be able to spread the *Mochin* from the *Peh* down to the *Gufim* of the five *Partzufim de Atzilut*, the lower *Partzufim* must raise *MAN*. Only then can they receive an

increase to the 10 Sefirot of the second kind sufficient for the Gufim. MAN is raised in three stages.

First, MAN, on *Aviut Bet*, gives birth to the 10 Sefirot de Bina, i.e., the SAG in *Gadlut* with the light of *Neshama*. Then MAN on *Aviut Gimel* creates the 10 Sefirot de Hochma, i.e., AB with the *Mochin de Haya*. When MAN is raised for the third time on *Aviut Dalet*, 10 Sefirot emerge on the level of *Keter* or *Galgalta* with *Mochin de Yechida*.

The light coming from above as a result of raised MAN increases the lower *Partzufim* to 10 Sefirot and provides them with enough strength to create a screen on their uncorrected properties and pass from the state of *Katnut* to *Gadlut* by using the second method, i.e., by adding AHP to GE in order to form the 10 Sefirot.

The light that enters a *Partzuf* depends on the *Aviut de Masach*, on the desire the *Partzuf* may use. Indeed, the amount of light that a *Partzuf* can absorb is equal to the degree to which it is willing to use the light for the Creator's sake.

As soon as something changes in one of the *Partzufim*, all the others are instantly transformed, for all of them are interrelated and interconnected. If man makes even a tiny correction, he immediately generates a tremendous light in all the *Partzufim* and the worlds. This is how important man's role is in changing the state of the world. Each element of the creation feels exactly what all others feel.

After the disappearance of the light, the *Reshimot* remain in the screen, which then rises to the *Rosh* and asks for strength in accordance with those *Reshimot*. After the breaking of the vessels in the world of *Nikudim*, the screen with all the *Reshimot* ascends, eager to be filled again, and wills to acquire the new power of intention.

Each consecutive level may be born only after the complete emergence of the previous one, i.e., the *Partzuf Arich Anpin* may not be born be-

fore Atik is fully formed. The *Rosh de SAG* analyses the *Reshimot Dalet-Gimel* and gives birth to *Atik*. *Behinat Hochma* cannot emerge before it is born.

After the *Rosh de SAG* fills *Atik* and brings it to the state of *Gadlut*, it passes to *Atik* all the *Reshimot* it had in order for *Atik* to select the smallest of them. Therefore, *Atik* chooses *MAN* (a screen) and the *Reshimot de Behinat Hochma*.

Then, after the formation of *Katnut* and *Gadlut* in *AA*, it receives all the *Reshimot* and selects the smallest for *Behinat Bina*. Now that *AA* has *Gadlut de Neshama*, it can give birth to *Katnut de Abba ve Ima* (*AVI*) in the place of *Bina de Atzilut* (*Bina de MA*). In order to give the *AHP de AVI* strength to receive the light “for the sake of the Creator”, a *Zivug AB-SAG* must be made. This light descends from *SAG* under the *Tabur* through all the *Partzufim de Atzilut* to the relevant place.

קס) ודע שהתחתונים הראויים להעלות מ"ן, הם רק בחינת נר"ן דצדיקים, שכבר כלולים מבי"ע, ויכולים להעלות מ"ן לזר"ן דאצילות, הנחשבים לבחינת העליון שלהם. ואז הזר"ן מעלים מ"ן אל העליון שלהם, שהם אר"א. ואר"א יותר למעלה, עד שמגיעים לפרצופי א"ק. ואז יורד אור העליון מא"ס ב"ה לפרצופי א"ק על המ"ן שנתעלו שמה. ויוצאות קומת ע"ס ע"פ מדת העביות של המ"ן שהעלו: אם הוא מבחי"ב הוא קומת נשמה, אם מבחי"ג הוא קומת חיה וכו'.

ומשם יורדים המוחין ממדרגה למדרגה דרך פרצופי א"ק, עד שבאים לפרצופי אצילות. וכן עוברים ממדרגה למדרגה דרך כל פרצופי אצילות, עד שבאים להזר"ן דאצילות, שהם משפיעים המוחין האלו אל הנר"ן דצדיקים, שהעלו את המ"ן הללו מבי"ע. וזה הכלל, שכל חידוש מוחין אינו בא אלא רק מא"ס ב"ה לבדו. ואין מדרגה יכולה להעלות מ"ן או לקבל שפע, רק מהעליון הסמוך לו.

160) *The lower Partzufim that must raise MAN are the human souls (the “NaRaN de Tzadikim”), already included in the worlds of BYA and capable of raising MAN to the ZON de Atzilut, which in turn raise MAN to their own upper Partzufim: Arich Anpin, Abba ve Ima and above, until they reach the Partzufim de AK.*

Then, in response to MAN, the upper light descends from the World of Infinity to AK. The 10 Sefirot emerge according to the Aviut de MAN present there. If it is Behina Bet, it corresponds to the level

of Neshama, Behina Gimel equals the level of Haya, and Behina Dalet attracts the light of Yechida.

Gradually, the Mochin descends from the same level through *Partzufim de AK* to the *Partzufim de Atzilut*, until it reaches *ZON de Atzilut*. With the help of the Mochin, *ZON de Atzilut* compels the *NaRaN de Tzadikim* to raise *MAN* from *BYA*. The general rule states that each new Mochin comes directly from the World of Infinity. No level can raise *MAN* or receive the light of *Hochma* without the upper *Partzuf* closest to it.

The place of *Atzilut* is between the *Tabur de AK* to the *Parsa*. The worlds of *BYA* with the uncorrected souls are under the *Parsa*. If by certain actions these souls can receive strength for the correction of *ZON de Atzilut*, they elevate their request higher, to *Rosh de Galgalta* of the world of *AK*, which is in contact with the World of Infinity and draws the upper light in order to pass it on to *BYA*.

The light spreading from above is many times more powerful than was requested by the worlds of *BYA*, but while descending and passing through all the *Partzufim* and the worlds, it diminishes to the size of the request, so as not to harm the requestor.

Wherever the *Partzuf* might be, it feels only the one standing right above it. Its request is turned only to the upper *Partzuf* and not to the one several levels higher. In accordance with the accomplished correction and the acquired screen, its level will change, but the *Partzuf* will always address the one at its immediate, upper level.

The soul's correction begins in our world. Man of this world, a two-legged, albuminous creature, receives a signal from above and starts looking for something he cannot yet understand. Nevertheless, if he finds a Teacher, a group and books, then by persistent studies, together with other members of the group, and guided by the Teacher, a student can achieve the state of *Ibur* in the lowest spiritual *Partzuf*.

Then his vessels of bestowal (the *GE*) will be gradually born. Such a state is called *Katnut*. The emergence of *GE* marks the appearance of man's inner world of *Atzilut* with *Aviut Shoresh* and *Aleph*.

The continuation of studies generates in him a desire to turn to the upper level with a request for the vessels of reception, i.e., for *Gadlut*, in order to receive by way of bestowal. However, as we know, the vessels of reception were restricted by *TB*. The world of *Nikudim* wanted to receive them and was broken. So was *Adam haRishon* when it wished to work with them.

So how can they possibly be received? It can be done only with the help of the *AHP de Aliyah*. Man asks for strength to work with the vessels of reception without the risk of breaking them. If man asks for the measure of correction his vessels are ready for, and if he knows exactly what he needs, a spiritual force comes to him and answers his request.

If he previously had the *GE* with *Aviut Shoresh/Aleph*, now man starts working with the *AHP*, perhaps, of *Aviut Bet*. He passes the level of *Katnut* and receives the first level of *Gadlut* (the *Behina Bet*), and ascends for the first time. By further efforts, he gains more strength to work with *Aviut Gimel* and rises again. At last, he acquires the vessels of reception of the level *Dalet* and ascends for a third time to full *Gadlut*.

When man has *GE*, he is on the level of *ZON de Atzilut*. The first time in *Gadlut*, he rises to the level of *YESHSUT*, the second time - to *Abba ve Ima de Atzilut*, the third time - to *AA de Atzilut*, i.e., completely dresses onto *ZON de Nekudim* (broken) and corrects them. So, by his own efforts, man returns to his spiritual root, receives the entire spiritual light.

The *Tzadikim* are souls in a certain spiritual state in the worlds of *BYA* that are willing to justify the Creator's actions. Our only task is to achieve the level of the *Tzadik Gamur* (absolutely righteous), when all the Creator's actions are revealed to man. Seeing that all His actions are right and just, man calls Him the Righteous One. Hence, he himself is called a righteous man. If the Creator's actions are partially or complete-

ly concealed from man, he is called a partially righteous man, a partial or complete sinner.

Our state and name depend only on the extent of the Creator’s revelation. Our desires and properties will change accordingly. Why is a soul called *Neshama*? The reason is that it is the most powerful light our soul can receive. The world of *Adam Kadmon* consists of five *Partzufim*, since the Creator affects all the five parts of *Malchut*.

ZON de Atzilut is the uppermost *Partzuf* for all worlds of *BYA*, the inclusion of all that is found under the *Parsa* and below. Any *MAN* first rises to the *Gar* of *ZON de Atzilut*. However, *ZON* cannot answer the request of the worlds of *BYA*. The light of correction or the light filling the vessel with delight can come from above only.

The light that the *Partzufim* enjoyed before the breaking is different from that which corrects and fills them. This speaks about how delighted I am while delighting the Creator. Hence, such light descends from the World of Infinity; it cannot be in *ZON de Atzilut*.

Any spiritual movement is altruistic. The upper *Partzuf* cannot possibly give the lower something that may harm it. The next *Partzuf* is always a natural continuation of the development (desires, thoughts) of the previous one. *Galgalta* completely exhausted all its resources. It can do no more for the Creator. Therefore, a new opportunity springs up: to accept some more light on a smaller *Aviut*, i.e., on the level of *AB*, which continues what *Galgalta* began doing.

After (below) the world of *Atzilut*, the first seven *Sefirot* from the *Parsa* to the *Chazeh de Beria* (70 *Amah*) are still somehow connected with *Atzilut*. Then the full 10 *Sefirot* from the *Chazeh de Beria* to the *Chazeh de Yetzira* (2000 *Amah*) may still be used on *Shabbat*, when the *Partzufim* rise to *Atzilut*. We see that the passage from *Chazeh de Yetzira* to *Chazeh de Beria* is much more difficult than from the *Parsa* to the *Chazeh de Beria*. Naturally, these estimates are relative.

קסא) ומכאן תדע, שאי אפשר שהתחתונים יקבלו משהו מהזו"ן דאצילות, מטרם שיתגדלו על ידיהם כל הפרצופים העליונים דעולם האצילות ועולם הא"ק. כי נתבאר, שאין חידוש מוחין אלא מא"ס ב"ה. אמנם אין הנר"ן דצדיקים יכולים לקבלם אלא מהעליון הסמוך להם, שהם זו"ן דאצילות.

ולפיכך צריכים המוחין להשתלשל דרך העולמות והפרצופים העליונים, עד שמגיעים אל הזו"ן, שהם המשפיעים לנר"ן דצדיקים. וכבר ידעת, שאין העדר ברוחני. וענין העברה ממקום למקום, אין הפירוש שנעדרים ממקום הא' ובאים למקום הב', כנוהג בגשמיים, אלא שנשארים במקום הא', גם אחר שעברו ובאו למקום הב', כמו מדליק נר מנר ואין חברו חסר.

ולא עוד, אלא זה הכלל, שעיקר ושורש האור נשאר במקום הא', ובמקום הב' נמשך רק בחינת ענף ממנו. ועם זה תבין, שאותו השפע העובר דרך העליונים עד שמגיע לנר"ן דצדיקים, נשאר בכל מדרגה ומדרגה שעבר דרכה. ונמצאות כל המדרגות מתגדלות בסבת השפע, שהם מעבירים לצורך נר"ן דצדיקים.

161) You should know that the lower Partzufim cannot receive the light from ZON de Atzilut before all the upper Partzufim de Atzilut and AK acquire Gadlut. The new Mochin descends only from the World of Infinity. However, the NaRaN de Tzadikim can receive the Mochin only from the previous Partzuf, i.e., from ZON de Atzilut.

Hence, the Mochin must descend and spread through all the Partzufim located above ZON de Atzilut, until it reaches it. Only after that, will the Mochin pass on to NaRaN de Tzadikim in the worlds of BYA. We already know that nothing ever disappears in the spiritual realm. Contrary to what happens in our world, a spiritual object passing from one place to another continues to remain in its initial position.

This can be compared to lighting one candle from another. As the first candle passes the fire to the next, it continues to remain alight. The rule holds that the primary light (the root) stays in place while the branch changes its position. Now you will understand that the same light that descends via all the upper worlds and reaches NaRaN de Tzadikim remains on each level it passes through. All the levels receive more light owing to the fact that they have to pass it to NaRaN de Tzadikim.

Tiny man's diminutive work below generates a tremendous light in all the worlds. Man's merit consists in the fact that the reception of the light is his personal achievement.

קסב) ובהאמור תבין, איך התחתונים במעשיהם גורמים עליות וירידות להפרצופין והעולמות העליונים. כי בעת שמטיבים מעשיהם ומעלים מ"ן וממשיכים שפע, הרי כל העולמות והמדרגות, שדרכם עברה השפע, מתגדלים ועולים למעלה בסבת השפע שמעבירים, כנ"ל, ובעת שחוזרים ומקלקלים מעשיהם, הנה מתקלקל המ"ן, והמוחין מסתלקים גם ממדרגות העליונות, כי נפסק ענין העברת השפע מהן לצורך התחתונים, ונמצאות חוזרות ויורדות למצבן הקבוע כבתחילה.

162) *From the above, you should understand how, by their actions, the lower spiritual objects cause the rise of the worlds and the Partzufim. If their actions are correct, they raise MAN and attract the light. Then all the levels it passes through grow and rise. When their actions deteriorate, so does MAN; Mochin disappears from the levels, the upper worlds stop passing light to the lower; so, they descend to their initial permanent (minimal) state.*

Nothing disappears; whatever was before continues to exist. Ascents and descents of the worlds are determined only as regards the souls, which by aggravating their actions, lower the worlds; however, by doing good deeds, they contribute to the ascent of the worlds.

All that happens in the worlds makes for correction and the approach of the *Gmar Tikkun*. Every thought, every event, and every action is just one more step towards correction. What does it mean that a soul is spoiled? It worked on itself, to make a spiritual action, to rise and merge with the Creator on some level. It raised MAN, received the light and strength to ascend. Once the new level is achieved, the soul cannot remain motionless.

To make it move, more egoism, for which it does not yet have a screen, is added to the soul. Affected by this load, it falls and deteriorates. Each fall is necessary for regaining powers, rising higher and, consequently, receiving another portion of egoism. Thus, all initially egoistic desires are gradually transformed into altruistic ones.

The Baal HaSulam gives the following example. A king, who wanted to move from one capital to another, did not know how to transfer all his treasures without being robbed. Hence, he dispensed a gold coin to each of his subjects. The king could trust them with that amount. Thus, by small portions, he was able to transfer his entire wealth. This example hints at the correction of the general egoism by way of dividing it into small parts that are then transferred to the world of *Atzilut*. There, they will again merge into one common vessel, one single soul.

קסג) ועתה נבאר סדר עליות ה"פ אצילות לה"פ א"ק, וג' העולמות ב"ע לישסו"ת וזו"ן דאצילות. החל ממצבם הקבוע, עד להגובה שאפשר להיות בהשתא אלפי שני מטרם גמר התיקון. שברך כלל הן רק ג' עליות. אמנם הן מתחלקות לפרטים מרובים.

והנה מצב העולמות א"ק ואבי"ע בקביעות כבר נתבאר לעיל, כי פרצוף הראשון הנאצל לאחר צמצום א', הוא פרצוף גלגלתא דא"ק, שעליו מלבישים ד' פרצופי א"ק: ע"ב ס"ג מ"ה וב"ן. וסיום רגלי א"ק הוא למעלה מנקודת העוה"ז (אות כ"ז, ל"א). ועליו מסבבים המקיפים דא"ק מא"ס ב"ה, שלגדלם אין קץ ושיעור (אות ל"ב). וכמו שא"ס ב"ה מקיף מסביב לו, כן הוא מתלבש בפנימיותו. והוא המכונה קו א"ס ב"ה.

163) Now we will clear up the way the five Partzufim de Atzilut rise to the five Partzufim de AK. We will also clarify the ascent of the three worlds of BYA to YESHSUT and ZON de Atzilut, starting with their minimal state (Katnut), up to the ultimate state that will be achieved by the end of a 6000-year period, in the Gmar Tikkun. Usually we speak about three main ascents that are divided into many special ones.

We know that the first Partzuf in the world of AK after TA was Galgalta. The four following Partzufim de AK dressed on it: AB, SAG, MA and BON. Sium Raglely de AK is above the point of our world. Galgalta is surrounded with the light of Infinity on all sides. This light is limitless and its magnificence is indescribable. The part of this light that enters Galgalta is called a line, or the Inner Light.

קסד) ובפנימיות מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק יש פרצוף תנה"מ דא"ק, המכונה נקודות דס"ג דא"ק (אות ס"ג, ס"ו). שבעת צמצום הב' עלתה מלכות המסיימת, שעמדה ממעל לנקודה דעוה"ז, וקבעה

מקומה בהחזה דפרצוף הזה, מתחת שליש עליון דת"ת שלו. ונעשה שם סיום חדש על אור העליון, שלא יתפשט משם ולמטה. וסיום חדש זה נקרא בשם "פרסא שמתחת האצילות" (אות ט"ח).

ואלו הספירות שמחזה ולמטה דפרצוף נקודות דס"ג דא"ק, שנשארו מתחת הפרסא, נעשו מקום לג' העולמות ב"ע: ב"ש ת"ת עד החזה, נעשה מקום לעולם הבריאה, ונה"י נעשו מקום לעולם היצירה והמלכות נעשה מקום לעולם העשיה (אות ט"ז). ונמצא שמקום ג' העולמות ב"ע מתחיל מתחת הפרסא ומסתיים ממעל לנקודה דעוה"ז.

164) There is a Partzuf called TNHYM de AK inside Partzufim MA and BON de AK. It is also defined as Nekudot de SAG de AK. During TB, Malchut Mesayemet, which was above the point of our world, rose to Tifferet and set a place in the Chazeh of this Partzuf below the upper third of Tifferet. A new Sium on the upper light (unable to spread lower) was formed there. This Sium was named Parsa under the world of Atzilut.

The Sefirot of the Partzuf Nekudot de SAG, which remained under the Parsa, formed a place for the the worlds of BYA in the following order: the lower two thirds of Tifferet down to Chazeh prepared a place for the world of Beria. Netzah, Hod, and Yesod prepared a place for the world of Yetzira. Malchut formed a place for the world of Assiya. Thus, the location of the three worlds of BYA begins from the Parsa and ends with the point of our world.

The Parsa, Tifferet, is called "Bina de Gufa". Affected by the Tzimtzum (restriction), it finds itself under the Gar (Gimel Rishonot) de Bina. One should remember that the Guf of the Partzuf (Tifferet) is divided into three parts: the upper third of Tifferet – the HaBaD, the middle third of Tifferet – the HaGaT and the lower third of Tifferet – the NHY. Malchut rises to the level under the Gar de Bina to a place called "the Chazeh". The law of TB rules from here downwards and the Parsa is formed under the world of Atzilut.

קסה) ונמצאים ד' העולמות אצילות, בריאה, יצירה ועשיה. שמתחילים ממקום למטה מטבור דא"ק ומסתיימים ממעל לנקודת העוה"ז. כי ה"פ עולם האצילות מתחילים ממקום שלמטה

מטבור דא"ק ומסתיימים ממעל להפרסא. מהפרסא ולמטה עד לעוה"ז עומדים ג' העולמות ב"ע. וזהו מצב הקבוע של העולמות א"ק ואבי"ע, שלעולם לא יארע בהם שום מיעוט. וכבר נתבאר (אות קל"ח), שבמצב הזה אין בכל הפרצופים והעולמות אלא רק בחינת ו"ק בלי ראש. כי אפילו בג' הפרצופים הראשונים דאצילות, שיש ג"ר בראשים שלהם, מכל מקום אינן מושפעות מפה ולמטה שלהם. וכל הגופים הם ו"ק בלי ראש. וכ"ש בפרצופי ב"ע. ואפילו פרצופי א"ק, בערך המקיפים שלו, נבחנים ג"כ שהם חסרי ג"ר (אות ל"ב).

165) *The four worlds, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira and Assiya, are located between the Tabur and the point of our world. The world of Atzilut is between the Tabur de AK and Parsa. The place for the worlds of BYA was formed between the Parsa and the point of our world. The state of the worlds of AK and ABYA is now permanent, and there will never be any diminution in them.*

All the Partzufim and the worlds in this state have only the level of Vak bli Rosh. In addition, even if Gar is in the Rashim of the first three Partzufim de Atzilut, the light cannot spread below the Peh, and all their Gufim are in the state of Vak bli Rosh. The same state is present in the worlds of BYA. Even in the Partzufim de AK, Gar is considered to be absent as regards the Surrounding Light (the Ohr Makif).

The Gar represents the Rosh and the genuine light of Hochma, while Vak represents Ohr Hassadim with a spark of Ohr Hochma.

So what happens in the world of *Atzilut*? Let us begin our explanation with *Galgalta*. *Galgalta* receives light from the World of Infinity. We know there is an inverse relation between the lights and the vessels. The coarser the vessel, the larger screen it may use, the more powerful light it can receive. Vice versa: the smaller the vessel, the weaker the screen it has and the less light it will receive.

Everything depends on how the lowest spiritual objects, the souls, will demand powers for the correction of their egoism. Until they are completely corrected, *Galgalta*, AB and SAG are filled with only the smallest light.

First, the light of *Nefesh* enters the *Kli Keter*. As the *Kli Hochma* appears, *Ohr Nefesh* passes to it, and *Ohr Ruach* enters *Keter* and so on, until *Malchut*, the largest vessel, is activated. Then the most powerful light of *Yechida* fills *Keter*. We see that for the reception of the uppermost light, the most egoistic vessel – *Malchut* – must start acting to build a screen.

Malchut de Malchut of the world of Infinity is forbidden (unable) to work with until *Gmar Tikkun*. Man is unable to correct or fill it with the true light of *Hochma* before the *Mashiach* comes. Hence, the *Gar* (the true light of *Hochma*) is absent in the *Partzufim Galgalta*, *AB* and *SAG*. It appears only when *Malchut* is used.

The breaking of the vessels demonstrated that it is impossible to work with the vessels of reception; they may be gradually included into the altruistic vessels – the *AHP de Aliyah*. It means that the light of *Hochma* in its entirety and perfection cannot enter the vessel until its final correction – the *Gmar Tikkun*.

As was mentioned numerously, after *TB* only the *Kelim de GE* (filled with the light of *Hassadim*) and the *Kelim de AHP* (receiving no light at all) included in the *GE* may be worked with. However, since they are still egoistic, by virtue of their nature, the *AHP* automatically attract the luminescence of *Hochma*, i.e., they have *Vak de Hochma* or *Vak bli Rosh*, but not the *Gar*.

All the laws of the world of *Atzilut* are created to allow no spreading of the powerful light below. There is *Ohr Hochma* in the *Rashim de Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut*, but only a small part of it spreads below. If the *Rosh* has the *Gar*, only the *Vak* of this light spreads to the *Gufim*.

AB-SAG is not the light of pleasure. It descends to correct the vessels, to impart an altruistic intention to its desires. We have no control over our desires; they are given by the Creator. They may only be given an altruistic intention. Suppose, I would like a cup of coffee. I cannot change this desire. However, I can drink it, because either I want to receive pleasure, or I can do it for the sake of pleasing the Creator. This

happens only when I feel Him and understand that He gives me, so I wish to return the delight to Him. For this, I must feel the Giver.

The light ABSAG descends in order to correct a desire or, rather, impart an altruistic intention to it. Man starts revealing the Creator, whose greatness and magnificence he begins to feel. Then man is ready to do everything for His sake. The importance and greatness of spirituality are far above the level of our pleasures; hence, they give us strength to do everything for the Creator. In our world, upon seeing someone outstanding and important, we agree, with pleasure, to do everything for that person.

קסו) ולפיכך נוהגות ג' עליות כוללות, בכדי להשלים העולמות בג' הקומות נשמה חיה יחידה, החסרות להם. ועליות האלו תלויות בהעלאת מ"ן של התחתונים. העליה הא' היא, בעת שהתחתונים מעלים מ"ן מבחינת העביות דבחי"ב. שאז נבררים האח"פ דקומת בינה ונשמה מבחינת השלמת הע"ס דמין הב'. דהיינו מהארת נקודת השורק (אות קל"ה). אשר המוחין האלו מאירים גם לבחינת הז"ת והגופים. כמו בפרצופי א"ק, שכל הכמות שיש בע"ס דראשי פרצופי א"ק, עוברת ומתפשטת גם לגופים.

166) *There are three general ascents for supplementing the worlds with three levels: Neshama, Haya and Yechida. These ascents depend on the MAN raised by the lower objects. The first ascent is when MAN rises on the level of Aviut de Behina Bet. Then the AHP de Bina (Ohr Neshama) is corrected by its supplementation to 10 Sefirot of the second type, i.e., with the help of the luminescence of Shuruk. At that, the Mochin also shines onto the Zat and the Gufim, as in the Partzufim de AK, where all levels of the 10 Sefirot of the Rashim also spread in their Gufim.*

The worlds of ABYA do not use their genuine AHP. Nevertheless, each of these worlds receives light in its AHP and gradually fills with the entire light necessary for the end of correction, its ultimate state. How does it happen?

First, all the Partzufim in addition to the GE (*Aviut Shoresh* and *Aleph*) also acquire the *Awzen* (*Aviut Bet*). Then a force comes and helps to receive *Bet de Aviut* and the light of *Neshama*. However, since the AHP

de Aliyah (not their own *AHP*) is used, hence the worlds ascend one level (the 10 *Sefirot*).

At last, the light that corrects *Behina Dalet* (the *Peh*) comes, which leads to a third ascent of the worlds one level (the 10 *Sefirot*). In all, three ascents are necessary for the reception of all missing lights: *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*.

Accordingly, the entire five *Partzufim de Atzilut* dress onto the five *Partzufim de AK*: each *Partzuf de Atzilut* dresses from the *Tabur* downwards onto the corresponding upper *Partzuf de AK*. The part of the *Partzuf* from the *Tabur* to the *Sium* is called *Vak*.

In its first ascent, the *Partzuf* in *Katnut* (*Nefesh-Ruach*, *GE*) is supplemented with the level of *Neshama*, *SAG*. Then it dresses onto the corresponding part of the world of *AK*, from the *Chazeh* to *Tabur*, because *Bina de Gufa* (*SAG* of each *Partzuf*) is located there.

In its second ascent, each *Partzuf* dresses onto the corresponding *Partzuf* of the world of *AK*, from the *Peh* to its *Chazeh*, i.e., on the level of *Hochma*, *Haya*, *AB*.

In its third ascent, each *Partzuf de Atzilut* dresses onto the *Rosh* of the corresponding *Partzuf de AK* and receives *Mochin* (the light) *de Yechida*.

Each *Partzuf* must dress onto the place where the *Reshimot* of the previous level of the *Gufa de Galgalta* shine. The *Rosh de AB* must dress, not on the *Rosh de Galgalta*, but from its *Peh* to the *Chazeh*, since the light must spread to where it disappeared, i.e., in the *Chazeh de Galgalta*, and not in its *Rosh*.

The *Rosh de Nekudim* (*YESHSUT*) dresses onto the *Rosh de Galgalta*. *Keter* dresses onto the *AB de AK*, *Abba ve Ima* - onto *SAG de AK*. Each has to fill the *Partzufim* in *AK*. Since in the *Gufim de Partzufim* of the *Gar de Atzilut* in “*Matzav haKavuah*” (its initial state) there is just the light of *Vak*, only three ascents of the worlds of *BYA* are possible.

When the lower *Partzufim* raise *MAN*, as if to request the strength to withstand our desires, to give us the properties of *Bina* that are in the

world of *Beria*, then the power may be received from the light of *Shuruk*, i.e., the light descending from *Abba ve Ima Panim be Panim*; then one can start ascending spiritually.

קסז) ונמצא, בעת שהמוחין אלו עוברים דרך פרצופי האצילות, מקבל כל אחד מה"פ אצילות בחינת מוחין דבינה ונשמה, הנקרא מוחין דס"ג, המאירים ג"ר גם לפרצופים שלהם, כמו בא"ק. וע"כ נבחן אז, שהם מתגדלים ועולים ומלבישים על פרצופי א"ק, כפי מדת המוחין שהשיגו.

167) *As the light passes through the world of Atzilut, each of this world's five Partzufim receives the light of Bina, called Neshama, or Mochin de SAG, which shines upon the Partzufim de Atzilut in the manner they had in AK. They receive the light of Gadlut and dress onto the Partzufim de AK according to the level of the Mochin they possess.*

קסח) באופן, שבעת שפרצוף עתיק דאצילות השיג המוחין האלו דבינה, נמצא עולה ומלביש לפרצוף בינה דא"ק, המכוון נגד קומת ס"ג דפרצוף גלגלתא דא"ק. והוא מקבל משם בחינת נשמה דיחידה דא"ק, המאירה גם להז"ת שלו.

וכשהמוחין באים לפרצוף א"א דאצילות, הוא עולה ומלביש על ראש דעתיק דקביעות, המכוון נגד קומת הס"ג דפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק. והוא מקבל משם בחינת נשמה דחיה דא"ק, המאירה לז"ת שלו. וכשהמוחין באים לפרצוף אר"א דאצילות, הם עולים ומלבישים לג"ר דא"א דקביעות, המכוון נגד קומת בינה דס"ג דא"ק. והם מקבלים משם בחינת נשמה דנשמה דא"ק, המאירה גם להז"ת שלהם.

וכשהמוחין האלו באים לישסר"ת וזו"ן דאצילות, הם עולים ומלבישים על אר"א דקביעות, המכוון נגד קומת בינה דפרצוף מ"ה וב"ן דא"ק. ומקבלים משם בחינת נשמה דנפש רוח דא"ק. ואז מקבלים הנר"ן דצדיקים את המוחין דנשמה דאצילות. וכשהמוחין באים לפרצופי עולם הבריאה, עולה עולם הבריאה ומלביש את הנוקבא דאצילות. ומקבל ממנה בחינת נפש דאצילות.

וכשבאים המוחין לעולם היצירה, הוא עולה ומלביש לעולם הבריאה דקביעות. ומקבל ממנו בחינת נשמה וג"ר דבריאה. וכשהמוחין באים לעולם העשיה, הוא עולה ומלביש על עולם היצירה, ומקבל משם בחינת מוחין דו"ק שביצירה. והנה נתבאר העליה הא', שהשיג כל פרצוף מאבי"ע, בסבת המ"ן דבחי"ב, שהעלו התחתונים. (האילן, ציור ז').

168) *As soon as Atik receives Mochin de Bina, it rises and dresses onto the Partzuf Bina of the world of AK, corresponding to the level*

of SAG (Bina) de Galgalta of AK. There it receives Behinat Neshama de Yechida of the world of AK, which shines in its Guf.

When the Mochin reaches Partzuf Arich Anpin de Atzilut, it rises and dresses onto the Rosh de Atik, corresponding to the level of the SAG of Partzuf AB de AK and receives Behinat Neshama de Haya de AK, which also shines in its Guf. When the Mochin reaches Partzuf Abba ve Ima, it rises by one level and dresses onto the Gar de Arich Anpin, corresponding to the level of Bina de SAG de AK. From there it receives the light of the Neshama de Neshama de AK that shines in its Zat.

When the Mochin reaches YESHSUT and ZON de Atzilut, they rise and dress onto Abba ve Ima de Atzilut, corresponding to Behinat Bina of the Partzufim MA and BON de AK. From there they receive the light of Neshama de Nefesh-Ruach de AK. Then the NaRaN de Tzadikim receive the Mochin de Neshama of the world of Atzilut. When the Mochin reaches the Partzufim de Beria, this world rises and dresses onto Nukvah de Atzilut, receiving from it Behinat Nefesh de Atzilut.

When the Mochin reaches the world of Yetzira, it rises and dresses onto the world of Beria, receiving Behinat Neshama and the Gar de Beria from it. Finally, as the Mochin reaches the world of Assiya, it rises and dresses onto the world of Yetzira, receiving from it Behinat Mochin de Vak de Yetzira. Thus, we have learned what each Partzuf received during the first ascent caused by MAN of the second type, raised by the souls in the worlds of BYA.

We see how, influenced by the requests and prayers raised by the souls from the worlds of BYA, they ascend through all worlds to the Rosh de Galgalta. It makes a Zivug with the light of the World of Infinity and receives it. Then the light passes through all the Partzufim of the worlds of AK and ABYA, and reaches the soul that attracted this light, filling it. The soul and all worlds are in a state of ascent. The thread that ties this soul with the World of Infinity links it to the Creator.

Nefesh and Ruach are two constant lights shining in the worlds. During the ascent, Neshama is added to them. Each Partzuf goes up one

level. The *Rosh* of the lower *Partzuf* reaches the *Rosh* of the upper, attaining all of its thoughts and calculations.

Let us look at diagram 7 in the book “*Sefer hallan*”. On diagram 3, we saw a minimal permanent state of the worlds of *BYA*. Diagram 7 shows the states of the worlds of *BYA* after the first ascent, when they received the light of *Neshama*. Let us note that the *Rosh* of each *Partzuf* dressed on the *MA* of the corresponding *Partzuf de AK*.

The *Rosh* of each *Partzuf de Atzilut* dresses onto the *SAG* of the corresponding *Partzuf de AK*. Thus, the worlds of *ABYA* shifted one level up as compared to the previous state and the world of *AK*. Receiving light from the World of Infinity, *AK* also rises. Here our goal is to see the additional light received by the worlds of *ABYA*. We may say that, thanks to the souls’ request, all worlds received the light of *Neshama* and all vessels from the World of Infinity down to our world were filled with it.

קסט) העליה הב' היא בעת שהתחתונים מעלין מ"ן מבחינת העביות דבחי"ג, שאז נבררים האח"פ דקומת חכמה וחייה, מבחינת השלמת הע"ס דמין הב'. שמוחין אלו מאירים גם לבחינת הז"ת והגופים, כמו בפרצופי א"ק. וכשהמוחין עוברים דרך הפרצופים דאבי"ע, נמצא כל פרצוף עולה ומתגדל על ידיהם כפי המוחין שהשיג.

169) *The second ascent took place as a result of the raising of MAN on Aviut de Behina Gimel, when the AHP de Hochma (Haya) is corrected. Gadlut and supplementation to 10 Sefirot of the second type take place as the Mochin shines in the Zat and the Gufin, as well as in the Partzufim AK. When the Mochin passes down through the worlds of BYA, each Partzuf affected by this light grows and ascends one more level.*

The additional filling with light is called an ascent. In fact, nothing ascends or descends in the spiritual world. It is necessary to have an additional vessel that can be created through a request sent from below.

What other methods of correction and filling the vessels are available? The light can come from above and temporarily arouse a craving

for spirituality. It corrects and sustains all the *Partzufim* and the souls in the worlds of *BYA*, filling them with scanty light. This happens on *Rosh Hodesh*, *Shabbat* and holidays.

Depending on the light descending from above, we can know what these days and holidays are. The diversity is determined by the light, its kind. Hence, we have the time calendar, introduced by the Creator. The light comes from above, arouses the vessels, fills, and empties them. This light is not connected with the souls' request.

In accordance with the kind and intensity of the request, raised by the soul, it can ascend one, two, or three levels. The soul's ascent through all three levels means it achieved the *Gmar Tikkun*. It corrected everything it could with the help of the *AHP de Aliyah*, i.e., included its own vessels into the vessels of bestowal and does not work with the *Lev haEven* that is corrected only with the arrival of the *Mashiach*.

Thus, there are two kinds of the souls' ascents. The first is stimulation from above; this is the work of the Creator, Who activates this most intricate mechanism called nature. The process is totally beyond our powers. The second kind includes a most thorough preparation for stimulation from below, surpassing the light's influence from above, paying no attention to it and rising independently.

By this, the *Klipot* descend and cease to be parallel to the pure worlds. This prevents them from exerting a negative influence. That is why, having completed the three ascents to the world of *Atzilut*, the souls completely break away from the *Klipot*. Up to that time, there is an opposition between the pure and the impure worlds. Man needs to analyze his thoughts, intentions, and feelings carefully and try to separate the altruistic from the egoistic.

קע באופן, כשבאו המוחין לפרצוף עתיק דאצילות, עולה ומלביש לג' דפרצוף חכמה דא"ק, הנקרא ע"ב דא"ק, המכוון נגד קומת ע"ב דגלגלתא דא"ק. ומקבל משם בחינת אור החיה דיחידה. וכשהמוחין מגיעים לפרצוף א"א דאצילות, הוא עולה ומלביש לג' דס"ג דא"ק, המכוונים נגד קומת ע"ב דפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק. ומקבל משם בחינת אור החיה דחיה דא"ק.

וכשהמוחין מגיעים לפרצופי אר"א דאצילות, הם עולים ומלבישים לג"ר דעתיק דקביעות, המכוונות נגד קומת ע"ב דפרצוף ס"ג דא"ק. ומקבל משם בחינת אור החיה דנשמה דא"ק, המאירה גם להז"ת והגופים. וכשהמוחין באים לישסו"ת דאצילות, הם עולים ומלבישים לג"ר דא"א דקביעות, המכוונות נגד קומת ע"ב דמ"ה דא"ק. ומקבלות משם אור החיה דמ"ה דא"ק.

וכשהמוחין באים לזר"ן דאצילות, הם עולים לג"ר דאו"א, המכוונים נגד קומת ע"ב דב"ן דא"ק. ומקבלים משם בחינת אור החיה דב"ן דא"ק. ומהזר"ן מקבלים נשמת הצדיקים. וכשמגיעים המוחין לעולם הבריאה, הוא עולה ומלביש על הז"א דאצילות. ומקבל ממנו בחינת רוח דאצילות.

וכשהמוחין באים לעולם היצירה, עולה היצירה ומלביש על הנוקבא דאצילות. ומקבל ממנה אור הנפש דאצילות. וכשבאים המוחין לעולם העשיה עולה ומלביש לעולם הבריאה ומקבל ממנו בחינת ג"ר ונשמה דבריאה. ואז נשלם עולם העשיה בכל הנר"ן דב"ע. והנה נתבאר העליה הב' של כל פרצוף מפרצופי אב"ע, שעלו ונתגדלו בסבת המ"ן דבח"ג, שהעלו הנר"ן צדיקים. (האילן, ציור ח').

170) When the Mochin reaches Partzuf Atik de Atzilut, Atik rises and dresses onto Partzuf Hochma de AK, called AB. This corresponds to the level of AB de Galgalta de AK and receives the light of Haya de Yechida. When the Mochin reaches Partzuf Arich Anpin de Atzilut, AA rises and dresses onto the Gar de SAG de AK, corresponding to the level of AB de AK, and receives the light of Haya de Haya de AK.

When the Mochin reaches Partzuf Abba ve Ima de Atzilut, it rises and dresses onto the Gar de Atik in Katnut. It corresponds to the AB de SAG de AK and receives the light of Haya de Neshama de AK, which also shines for the Zat and the Gufim. When the Mochin reaches the YESHSUT de Atzilut, it rises and dresses onto the Gar de Arich Anpin in Katnut. It corresponds to the AB de MA de AK and receives the light of Haya de MA de AK.

When the Mochin reaches Partzuf ZON de Atzilut, it rises and dresses onto Gar de Abba ve Ima. This corresponds to AB de BON de AK and receives the light of Haya de BON de AK. The souls of the Tzadikim receive light from ZON. If the Mochin reaches the world of Beria, it rises and dresses onto ZA de Atzilut and receives the light of Ruach de Atzilut.

When the world of Yetzira receives the Mochin, it rises and dresses onto Nukva de Atzilut, receiving the light Nefesh de Atzilut. If the Mochin reaches the world of Assiya, it rises and dresses onto the world of Beria and receives Behinat Gar and Neshama de Beria. Then the world of Assiya is filled with all lights of NaRaN de BYA. Thus, we have learned about the second ascent of each Partzuf de ABYA that rose and grew because NaRaN de Tzadikim had raised MAN de Behina Gimel.

The second ascent is identical to the first. As regards the world of AK, which remains in its place, the worlds of ABYA ascend. From diagram 8 at the end of the book, we see how the Rosh of each Partzuf dresses onto the corresponding place of Partzuf AB de AK (not SAG, as during the first ascent). Atik dresses onto AB de Galgalta, Arich Anpin – on AB de AB, Abba ve Ima – on AB de SAG, i.e., all of them receive the light of Hochma from AB.

קעא) העליה הג' היא בעת שהתחתונים מעלים מ"ן מעביות דבחי"ד. שאז נבררים האח"פ דקומת כתר ויחידה, מבחינת השלמת הע"ס דמין הב'. אשר המוחין אלו מאירים גם להז"ת והגופים שלהם, כמו בפרצופי א"ק. וכשהמוחין אלו עוברים דרך פרצופי אב"ע, הרי כל פרצוף עולה ומתגדל ומלביש לעליונו כפי מדת המוחין ההם.

171) The third ascent of the worlds happens in response to MAN raised by the souls on Aviut Dalet. The AHP de Keter is corrected and the Partzuf receives the light Yechida by way of being supplemented to 10 Sefirot (second type). The Mochin also shines in its Zat and Gufim as it did in the Partzufim de AK. While passing through the Partzufim of the worlds of ABYA, each of them grows, rises, and dresses onto the corresponding upper one, depending on the kind of light in it.

The next paragraph describes the third ascent. From diagram 9, we may see how all the Partzufim of the worlds of ABYA ascend one more level and receive the light Yechida. By this, all of the Partzufim de Atzilut dress onto the corresponding Partzufim de AK. Thus, all the worlds of ABYA that were on the level of GE (Keter-Hochma), with the help of the

three ascents, now acquired the vessels *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*, and were thus completely filled with light.

During the first ascent, the world of *Beria* ascended above the *Parsa* up to the world of *Atzilut*. During the second ascent, *Yetzira* reached *Atzilut*, and during the third ascent, *Assiya* rose above the *Parsa* up to *Atzilut*. During the first ascent, the world of *Assiya* rose to the level of *Yetzira*; during the second - to the level of *Beria*; and during the third - to the level of *Atzilut*.

All the *Reshimot* that remained from the breaking of the vessels form a certain chain from the weakest to the mightiest, coarsest, from an easy correction to a more difficult one. Each cycle of correction of certain souls is called a generation; they receive the light that corresponds to them from above. As the coarser souls descend, they require a more powerful light that leads to the considerable correction, both in the spiritual worlds and in ours. All of this continues until the Final Correction (*Gmar Tikkun*) comes.

קעב) באופן, שבעת ביאת המוחין לפרצוף עתיק דאצילות, עולה ומלביש לג"ר דפרצוף גלגלתא דא"ק. ומקבל משם בחינת אור היחידה דיחידה. וכשהמוחין מגיעים לפרצוף א"א דאצילות, עולה ומלביש להג"ר דפרצוף ע"ב דא"ק. ומקבל משם אור היחידה דחיה דא"ק.

וכשהמוחין מגיעים לפרצוף או"א דאצילות, הם עולים ומלבישים לג"ר דס"ג דא"ק. ומקבלים משם אור היחידה דנשמה דא"ק. וכשהמוחין מגיעים לפרצוף ישס"ת, הם עולים ומלבישים לג"ר דמ"ה דא"ק. ומקבלים משם אור היחידה דמ"ה דא"ק. וכשהמוחין מגיעים לזו"ן דאצילות, הם עולים ומלבישים לג"ר דב"ן דא"ק. ומקבלים משם אור היחידה דב"ן דא"ק. ואז מקבלים הנר"ן דצדיקים את אור היחידה מהזו"ן דאצילות.

ובעת שהמוחין מגיעים לעולם הבריאה, עולה ומלביש לפרצוף ישס"ת דאצילות. ומקבל משם נשמה דאצילות. וכשהמוחין מגיעים לעולם היצירה, עולה ומלביש לפרצוף ז"א דאצילות. ומקבל ממנו בחינת רוח דאצילות. וכשהמוחין מגיעים לעולם העשיה, עולה ומלביש לנוקבא דאצילות, ומקבל ממנה בחינת אור הנפש דאצילות. (האילן, ציור ט').

172) When the Mochin comes to the Partzuf Atik de Atzilut, Atik rises and dresses onto the Gar de Galgalta de AK and receives the light of Yechida de Yechida. When the Mochin reaches Arich Anpin

de Atzilut, the latter rises to the level of the Gar de AB de AK and receives the light of Yechida de Haya de AK.

When the Mochin reaches AVI, this Partzuf ascends to the Gar de SAG de AK and receives the light of Yechida de Neshama de AK. When the Partzuf YESHSUT receives the Mochin, it rises to the Gar de MA de AK and receives the light of Yechida de MA de AK. When the Mochin reaches ZON, the latter rise to the Gar de BON de AK and receive the light of Yechida de BON de AK. Then NaRaN de Tzadikim receive the light of Yechida from ZON de Atzilut.

When the Mochin reaches Beria, this world rises to YESHSUT de Atzilut and receives the light of Neshama de Atzilut. The Mochin elevates the world of Yetzira to Partzuf ZA de Atzilut, receiving the light of Ruach de Atzilut. As the Mochin reaches Assiya, the world rises to Partzuf Nukva de Atzilut, receiving the light of Nefesh de Atzilut (see diagram 9 from “Sefer hallan”).

קעג) ונמצא עתה בעת עליה הג', אשר ה"פ אצילות, נשלמו כל אחד בג' הקומות נשמה חיה יחידה מא"ק, שהיו חסרים להם מבחינת הקביעות. ונבחן, שה"פ אצילות עלו והלבישו את ה"פ א"ק, כל אחד להבחינה שכנגדו בפרצופי א"ק. וגם הנר"ן דצדיקים קבלו בחינת הג"ר, שהיה חסר להם. וגם ג' העולמות ב"ע, שהיו נמצאים מתחת הפרסא דאצילות, שמבחינת הקביעות לא היה בהם אלא בחינת נר"ן דאור חסדים, הנפרשים מחכמה מכח הפרסא שעליהם. ועתה עלו למעלה מפרסא, והלבישו לישסו"ת זר"ן דאצילות, ויש להם נר"ן דאצילות, שאור החכמה מאיר בחסדים שלהם.

173) It turns out that during the third ascent, each of the five Partzufim de Atzilut expanded at the expense of Neshama, Yechida and Haya de AK, by dressing onto the 5 corresponding Partzufim de AK. The NaRaN de Tzadikim and the worlds of BYA received the Gar as well and rose above the Parsa. Now the light of Hochma shines in their Hassadim.

קעד) ויש לדעת, שהנר"ן דצדיקים מלבישים בקביעות רק לפרצופי ב"ע שמתחת הפרסא: הנפש מלביש לע"ס דעשיה, והרוח לע"ס דיצירה, והנשמה לע"ס דבריאה. ונמצא, שהגם שהם מקבלים מזר"ן דאצילות, עכ"ז הוא מגיע אליהם רק דרך פרצופי ב"ע, שמלבישים עליהם.

באופן, שגם הנר"ן דצדיקים עולים בשוה עם עליות הג' עולמות ב"ע. ונמצא שגם עולמות ב"ע אינם מתגדלים, אלא לפי מדת קבלת השפע של הנר"ן דצדיקים, דהיינו ע"פ המ"ן הנבררים על ידיהם.

174) *One should know that the NaRaN de Tzadikim, (human souls living in the worlds of BYA) constantly dress only on the Partzufim of BYA, under the Parsa. Nefesh dresses onto the 10 Sefirot de Asiya, Ruach – on the 10 Sefirot de Yetzira, and Neshama – on the 10 Sefirot de Beria. Although the souls receive light from ZON de Atzilut, it comes to them through the worlds of BYA, onto which they dress. The NaRaN de Tzadikim rise together with the ascents of the three worlds of BYA. The worlds of BYA ascend in accordance with the reception of light by the NaRaN de Tzadikim, i.e., depending on the power of MAN raised by them.*

We mentioned the *Partzuf Adam haRishon* that was broken and whose vessels were mixed and are now in the worlds of BYA. According to the request raised by each of these fragments, the worlds of BYA become agitated and in turn arouse ZON de Atzilut. Then, it passes on to the *Gar de Atzilut*, and then to AK, which receives light from the World of Infinity, moving gradually, through all worlds, lowering it to the soul that raised its MAN. The soul rises to its individual correction in accordance with the light received by it.

קעה) והנה נתבאר, שמבחינת הקביעות, אין בכל העולמות והפרצופים שבהם רק בחינת ו"ק בלי ראש. כל אחד כפי בחינתו. כי אפילו הנר"ן דצדיקים אינם אלא בחינת ו"ק. כי הגם שיש להם ג"ר דנשמה מעולם הבריאה, עכ"ז ג"ר אלו נחשבים רק בבחינת ו"ק בערך עולם האצילות. מטעם שהם בחינת אור חסדים, הנפרשים מחכמה.

וכן פרצופי אצילות, אע"פ שיש ג"ר בראשים שלהם, מכל מקום כיון שאינם מאירים לגופים, הם נחשבים רק לבחינת ו"ק. וכל המוחין המגיעים לעולמות, שהם יותר מבחינת ו"ק, אינם אלא ע"י המ"ן שמעלים הצדיקים.

אמנם המוחין האלו לא יוכלו להתקבל בפרצופים, זולת דרך עלית התחתון למקום העליון. והוא מטעם, כי אע"פ שהם נחשבים לבחינת השלמת הע"ס דמין הב', מכל מקום כלפי הגופים והז"ת עצמם עוד הם נחשבים לבירורי אח"פ דמין הא', דהיינו שאינם נשלמים במקומם עצמם, אלא רק כשהם נמצאים במקום העליון (אות קמ"ב).

ולפיכך לא יוכלו ה"פ אצילות לקבל נשמה חיה יחידה דא"ק, זולת בעת שהם עולים ומלבישים אותם.

וכן הנר"ן וג' עולמות ב"ע לא יוכלו לקבל נר"ן דאצילות, זולת רק בעת שהם עולים ומלבישים ליססו"ת וזו"ן דאצילות. כי אלו האח"פ דמין הב', השייכים להז"ת, שיש להם התפשטות ממעלה למטה, למקום הז"ת, לא יתבררו רק בגמר התיקון. ולפיכך בעת שהג' עולמות ב"ע עולים ומלבישים ליססו"ת וזו"ן דאצילות, נמצא אז, שמקומם הקבוע מפרסא ולמטה, נשאר ריקן לגמרי מכל אור קדושה. ויש שם הפרש בין מחזה ולמעלה דעולם היצירה, לבין מחזה ולמטה שלו.

כי נתבאר לעיל, שמחזה ולמטה דעולם היצירה, הוא מקום הקבוע רק לקליפות (אות קמ"ט). אלא מסבת פגם חטאו של אדה"ר, ירדו ד"ת דיצירה דקדושה וע"ס דעשיה דקדושה ונתלבשו שם (אות קנ"ו). ולפיכך בעת, עליות ב"ע לאצילות, נמצא שמחזה דיצירה ולמעלה, אין שם לא קדושה ולא קליפות. אבל מחזה דיצירה ולמטה, יש שם קליפות. כי שם המדור שלהם.

175) All the worlds and Partzufim that are in their usual permanent state have only the Vak bli Rosh. This means that each level uses only six of its upper Sefirot, filled with the 6 lower lights. Even the NaRaN de Tzadikim are no more than the Vak, in spite of the fact that they have the Gar de Neshama from the world of Beria. In comparison with the world of Atzilut, these Gar are the Vak.

The same may be said about Partzufim de Atzilut. Although there is the light of the Gar in their Rashim (heads), this light, nevertheless, does not spread to the Gufim; hence, these Partzufim are also considered Vak. The use of the additional vessels (Sefirot), which leads to the reception of more light, takes place only as a result of MAN raised by the Tzadikim (i.e., human souls in the worlds of BYA).

However, the reception of this light (the Mochin) is possible only through the rise of the lower Partzuf to the level of the upper. The upper Partzufim de Atzilut (AA, AVI and YESHSUT) are supplemented to 10 Sefirot according to the second type (with their own AHP). However, the ZON are supplemented to 10 Sefirot according to the first type, i.e., by ascending to the level of the upper Partzuf with its AHP, and not theirs.

This happens because the AHP de ZON de Atzilut are enormous desires to receive, similar to the Essence of Creation (Malchut de Malchut). These desires cannot be corrected before the Gmar Tik-kun. Hence, the five Partzufim of the world of Atzilut can receive the lights Neshama, Haya and Yechida only during their ascent to the corresponding Partzufim de AK.

The worlds of BYA can also receive the lights Neshama, Haya, and Yechida during their ascent to YESHSUT and ZON de Atzilut. Beria dresses onto YESHSUT, Yetzira – on ZA and Assiya – on Malchut (Nukva) de Atzilut. It turns out that during this ascent, the space from the Parsa and below (the place of BYA) becomes empty of any light. However, on the one hand, there is a difference between the 10 Sefirot of Beria and the 6 upper Sefirot of Yetzira, and on the other, all of the other Sefirot.

Thus, 14 (out of 30) lower Sefirot of the place of BYA constitute a permanent location only for the Klipot (i.e. “desire to receive” the light for their own pleasure without a screen). Just because of Adam’s “sin”, the 14 lower Sefirot de BYA descended to this place. Previously, as we know, these worlds stood at least 14 Sefirot higher. Therefore, after the ascent of the worlds of BYA to Atzilut, there is absolutely “nothing” in the space between the Parsa to the Chazeh (chest) de Yetzira, neither the worlds of BYA, nor the Klipot; while the space from the Chazeh de Yetzira and below is taken by the Klipot.

קעו) ולפי שהמוחין היתירים מקומת ר"ק אינם באים רק ע"י מ"ן של התחתונים, אינם נמצאים משום זה בקביעות בפרצופים, כי תלויים במעשי התחתונים. ובעת שהם מקלקלים מעשיהם, נמצאים המוחין מסתלקים (אות קס"ב). אמנם המוחין דקביעות שבפרצופים, שנתקנו מכח המאציל עצמו, לא יארע בהם שום שינוי לעולם, שהרי אינם מתגדלים ע"י התחתונים. ולכן אינם נפגמים על ידיהם.

176) Thus, the reception of the additional lights, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida, depends on MAN being raised by the lower Partzufim and, finally, on MAN being raised by the human souls (NaRaN de

Tzadikim). If something happens to the NaRaN de Tzadikim and, for some reason, they cannot raise MAN, the “additional” lights depart from all the Partzufim de ABYA. However, the permanent lights – Nefesh and Ruach, which fill the vessels Keter and Hochma in such states, never leave them.

(קעז) ולא יקשה לך, הרי א”א דב”ן הוא נבחן לכתר דאצילות, ואו”א לע”ב (אות ק”ל).

כי א”א הוא מחצית הכתר התחתונה דב”ן, ואו”א הם מחצית התחתונה דחו”ב דנקודים. וא”כ הבחינה שכנגדו דא”א בא”ק היה צריך להיות פרצוף הכתר דא”ק, והבחינה שכנגדו דאו”א בא”ק היה צריך להיות ע”ב דא”ק. והתשובה היא, כי פרצופי הב”ן הן נוקבין, שאין להם שום קבלה מעצמם, אלא רק מה שהזכרים, שהם פרצופי המ”ה, משפיעים להם.

ולפיכך, כל אלו ההבחנות שבהעליות, שפירושם, השגת מוחין מהעליון, נבחנים רק בהזכרים, שהם פרצופי המ”ה. וכיון שא”א דמ”ה אין לו מבחינת כתר כלום, אלא רק קומת חכמה בלבד, ואו”א דמ”ה אין להם מבחינת חכמה כלום, אלא קומת בינה בלבד (אות קכ”ו). ע”כ נבחן הבחינה שכנגדם בא”ק: ע”ב דא”ק לא”א, וס”ג דא”ק לאו”א. ופרצוף הכתר דא”ק מתיחס רק לעתיק בלבד, שלקח כל הקומת כתר דמ”ה.

177) As was already stated, there is MA on the right side of the world of Atzilut, i.e., its own vessels, and BON on the left side, i.e., the broken vessels of the world of Nikudim, which are corrected with the help of the vessels of MA de Atzilut. Do not think it strange that Arich Anpin de BON is considered Keter de Atzilut and Abba ve Ima – AB de Atzilut.

Arich Anpin is the lower half of Keter de BON and Abba ve Ima is a lower half of Hochma and Bina de Nikudim. So, the Partzuf Keter de AK (Galgalta) must presumably correspond to AA de Atzilut. The fact is that all the Partzufim de BON are Nekevot, i.e., they have no opportunity of their own to receive; they can acquire only what the corresponding Partzufim de MA (Zeharim) give them.

Hence, all the ascents happen only with the Zeharim (Partzufim de MA). Since no vessels of AA de MA correspond to Keter, but only to Hochma, and AVI de MA have only the vessels corresponding to Bina, the Partzuf AB de AK corresponds to AA and the Partzuf SAG

de AK corresponds to AVI. The Partzuf Keter de AK corresponds only to the Partzuf Atik, which took the entire level of Keter de MA.

During *Gadlut de Nikudim*, the *Rosh de YESHSUT* rose to the *Rosh de Galgalta*; the *Rosh de Keter* rose to *AB de AK*; while *AVI* rose to *Rosh de SAG*. During *Gadlut de Nikudim*, *Abba ve Ima* had the level of *Keter*. Then why is it said they had the level of *Hochma* and *Bina*?

The level of the 10 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light differs from that of *Gadlut*, since the phase of the Direct Light is the first point, called *Keter*. In the state of *Katnut*, *GE de Keter* was on its level, while its *AHP* were in *GE de Abba ve Ima*.

Keter in *Gadlut* had the level of *Keter*. *Abba ve Ima*, called *Hochma* and *Bina*, as the *Behinot de Ohr Yashar*, received the level (*Komah*) of *Keter* in *Gadlut* (they had the *Aviut Aleph* in *Katnut*).

קעח) גם צריך שתבחין בהאמור, כי סולם המדרגות, כפי שהם בהמוחין דקביעות, אינו משתנה לעולם, בסבת כל העליות הנ"ל. שהרי נתבאר לעיל, שסבת כל אלו העליות, הם מפאת שהנר"ן דצדיקים, העומדים בבי"ע, אי אפשר להם לקבל משהו, מטרם שכל הפרצופים העליונים מעבירים אותה להם מא"ס ב"ה. שבשיעור הזה נמצאים העליונים עצמם, עד א"ס ב"ה, מתגדלים ועולים גם הם. כל אחד להעליון שלהם (אות קס"א).

ונמצא, שבשיעור התעלות מדרגה אחת, כן מחויבים להתעלות כל המדרגות כולם, עד א"ס ב"ה. כי למשל, בהתעלות הזו"ן ממצבם הקבוע, שהוא למטה מטבור דא"א, ומלביש מחזה ולמטה דא"א, הרי גם א"א נתעלה באותה העת במדרגה אחת ממצבו הקבוע, שהיה מפה דעתיק ולמטה. ומלביש לג"ר דעתיק. שאחריו מתעלים גם מדרגות הפרטיות שלו. כי החג"ת שלו עלו למקום ג"ר הקבועות. והמחזה עד הטבור שלו עלו למקום חג"ת הקבועים, והמטבור ולמטה שלו עלו למקום המחזה עד הטבור.

אשר לפי זה נמצא הזו"ן, שעלה למקום מחזה עד הטבור דא"א הקבוע, שהוא עדיין למטה מטבור דא"א. שהרי בעת הזאת כבר עלה גם הלמטה מטבור דא"א למקום המחזה עד הטבור. (האילן, ציור ד' - עליות הזו"ן בערך הקבוע דה"פ דאצילות, שעולה ומלביש בעת השגת נשמה, לג"ר דישסר"ת, שעל גבי מפה ולמטה דא"א, שעל גבי מחזה ולמטה דא"א).

אמנם גם כל פרצופי אצילות עולים בעת הזאת (האילן, ציור ז'). לכן תמצא שם את הזו"ן עדיין מלביש מפה ולמטה דישסר"ת, שעל גבי מחזה ולמטה דא"א, שעל גבי מטבור ולמטה דא"א. הרי שסולם המדרגות לא נשתנה כלום מחמת העליה. ועד"ז בכל מיני העליות (האילן, מציור הג' עד סופו).

178) *The order of Partzufim in all the worlds does not change as a result of these ascents. As we know, MAN raised by the NaRaN de Tzadikim caused an additional reception of light in all the higher Partzufim, which pass them the light from the World of Infinity, leaving a part of it for themselves, each according to its position, growing in size, ascending higher and higher.*

Each Partzuf rises to the level of the higher one, i.e., all the Partzufim ascend without changing the order of their positions. For example, when ZON move from their permanent position under the Tabur de AA, they rise one level higher, i.e., to the Chazeh de AA. However, AA simultaneously goes up one level, i.e., from the Peh de Atik to the Gar de Atik.

Naturally, all of its Sefirot rise too. Its HaGaT reach the previous level of the Gar, while the Sefirot that were between the Chazeh and the Tabur rose to their place, etc. Thus, ZON are now on the level of the Tabur and below the Partzuf AA, i.e., their position remained unchanged (see diagram 4 in “Sefer hallan”, where during the reception of the light of Neshama, ZON rose to the Gar de YESHSUT, located below the Peh de Abba ve Ima, positioned below the Chazeh de AA).

However, all the Partzufim de Atzilut also ascended one level (see diagram 7 in “Sefer hallan”) during the reception of the light of Neshama. Hence, ZON still happen to be dressed on the space below the Peh de YESHSUT, located below the Chazeh de AVI, positioned below the Tabur de AA. Without exception, the ascents of all the Partzufim occur in a similar fashion (see diagrams 3 to 12 in “Sefer hallan”).

קעט) גם יש לדעת, שגם אחר עליות הפרצופים, הם משאירים כל מדרגתם במקום הקבוע או במקום שהיו שם מתחילה. כי אין העדר ברוחני (אות צ"ו). באופן, שבעת שהג"ר דא"א עולים להג"ר דא"א, עוד נשארו הג"ר דא"א במקום הקבוע מפה ולמטה דא"א. ונמצאים הישסו"ת, שעלו אז על גבי החג"ת דא"א דעליה, שהם מקבלים מהג"ר דא"א ממש, אשר היו שם מטרם העליה.

ולא עוד, אלא שנבחן שיש שם ג' מדרגות ביחד. כי הג"ר דאו"א דעליה, העומדות במקום ג"ר דא"א דקביעות, נמצאות משפיעות למקומם הקבוע שמפה ולמטה דא"א, ששם נמצאים עתה ישסו"ת. הרי הג"ר דא"א ואו"א וישסו"ת מאירים בבת אחת במקום אחד. ועד"ז נבחנים כל הפרצופים דא"ק ואבי"ע בעת העליות.

ומטעם זה יש להבחין תמיד בעלית הפרצוף, את ערך העליה כלפי העליונים במצבם הקבוע, ואת ערך שלו כלפי העליונים, שגם הם עלו מדרגה אחת כמותו. (ועיין כל זה באילן. כי בציור ג' תמצא מצב הפרצופים במצבם הקבוע. וג' עליות הז"א לפי ערכם של ה"פ אצילות הקבועים תמצא בציור ד', ה', ו'. וג' עליות של כל ה"פ אצילות, לפי ערכם של ה"פ א"ק הקבועים, תמצא בציורים ז', ח', ט'. וג' עליות של כל ה"פ א"ק, בערך קו א"ס ב"ה הקבוע, תמצא בהציורים י, י"א, וי"ב).

179) It should also be noted that, while ascending, all the Partzufim leave “traces” on all the previous levels. In other words, they both rise and stay in their places, for nothing disappears in the spiritual world. For example, although the Gar de AVI ascend to the level of the Gar de AA, they, at the same time, remain in their previous place – below the Peh de AA, where the YESHSUT now rose (to the HaGaT de AVI), received the same light that was received by HaGaT de AVI when they were in this place before the ascent.

Thus, there are now three Partzufim on that level at the same time; the Gar de AVI (after the ascent) now take the permanent place of the Gar de AA, pass the light to their previous position – from the Peh de AA and below. Now that level is taken by YESHSUT, since the Gar de AA, AVI and YESHSUT simultaneously shine upon one place. So, all the Partzufim de AK and ABYA line up during the ascents.

That is why, when the Partzuf rises, one must pay attention to the level of its ascent with regard to the permanent position of the higher Partzufim, their new places (see diagram 3 in “Sefer hallan”, where the permanent positions of the Partzufim are shown. On diagrams 4, 5 and 6 we can see 3 ascents of ZA as regards the permanent location of the Partzufim de Atzilut. On diagrams 7, 8 and 9 we can see three ascents of the five Partzufim de Atzilut as regards the five Partzufim de AK. On diagrams 10, 11, and 12 we can see three ascents of the five Partzufim de Atzilut as regards the permanent position of the Line of Infinity).

THE DIVISION OF EACH PARTZUF
INTO KETER AND THE ABYA
ענין התחלקות כל פרצוף לכתר ואבי"ע

קפ) יש לדעת, שהכלל ופרט שוים זה לזה. וכל, הנבחן בכלל כולו יחד, נמצא גם בפרטי פרטיות שבו, ובפרט האחרון, שאך אפשר להפרט. ולפיכך, כיון שהמציאות בדרך כלל נבחן לה' עולמות א"ק ואבי"ע, שעולם הא"ק נבחן להכתר של העולמות, וד' עולמות אבי"ע נבחנים לחו"ב וז"ן (אות ג).

כמו כן אין לך פרט קטן בכל ד' העולמות אבי"ע, שאינו כלול מכל ה' האלו, כי הראש של כל פרצוף נבחן להכתר שבו, שהוא כנגד עולם הא"ק. והגוף מפה עד החזה נבחן לאצילות שבו. וממקום החזה עד הטבור נבחן לבריאה שבו ומטבור ולמטה עד סיום רגליו נבחן ליצירה ועשיה שלו.

180) In the spiritual worlds, everything is built according to the same principle, i.e., one can judge the common by the particular, and vice versa, the particular by the common. The entire Universe is usually divided into the five worlds of AK and ABYA. The world of AK is regarded as Keter of all the worlds, while the four worlds of ABYA are correspondingly Hochma, Bina, ZA, and Malchut.

Therefore, any world, Partzuf or Sefira – in general, any spiritual object, can also be divided into the five worlds of AK and ABYA. The Rosh of any Partzuf is considered its Keter and the world AK. The Guf, from the Peh to the Chazeh, is considered the world of Atzilut (Hochma). The space from the Chazeh to the Tabur is considered the world of Beria, from the Tabur, and below – the worlds Yetzira and Assiya (the ZON).

קפא) וצריך שתדע, שיש כינויים מרובים לעשר ספירות כח"ב חג"ת נהי"מ. כי פעמים נקרא גו"ע ואח"פ, או כח"ב ז"ן, או נרנח"י, או קוצו של יוד וד' אותיות י"ה ר"ה, או הוי"ה פשוטה וע"ב ס"ג מ"ה וב"ן, שהם ד' מיני מילואים שבהוי"ה:

- א) מילוי ע"ב הוא יוד הי ויו הי,
- ב) מילוי ס"ג הוא יוד הי ואו הי,
- ג) מילוי מ"ה הוא יוד הא ואו הא,
- ד) מילוי ב"ן הוא יוד הה וו הה.

וכן הם הנקראים א"א ואו"א וזו"ן. שא"א הוא כתר, ואבא הוא חכמה, ואמא היא בינה, וז"א הוא חג"ת נה"י, והנוקבא דז"א היא מלכות. וכן נקראים א"ק ואב"ע או כתר ואב"ע. והמלכות דכתר נקרא פה, והמלכות דאצילות נקרא חזה, והמלכות דבריאה נקרא טבור, והמלכות דיצירה נקרא עטרת יסוד, והמלכות דכללות נקרא סיום רגליו.

181) Now, the Sefirot KaHaB HaGaT NHYM have many different names. Depending on what we wish to express, they may be called: 1) GE and AHP, 2) KaHaB ZON, 3) NaRaNHAY, 4) The dot of the letter "Yud" and the 4 letters "Yud", "Hey", "Vav" and "Hey".

5) A simple HaVaYaH (Galgalta) and AB, SAG, MA and BON, which constitute four kinds of the light filling (Milluyim):

- a) Filling of the AB – יוד הי ויו הי
- b) Filling of the SAG – יוד הי ואו הי
- c) Filling of the MA – יוד הא ואו הא
- d) Filling of the BON – יוד הה וו הה

6) The AA, AVI, and ZON:

- a) The AA is Keter,
- b) The Abbais Hochma,
- c) The Ima is Bina,
- d) The ZA is HaGaT NHY,
- e) The Nukvah is Malchut.

7) AK and ABYA or Keter and ABYA.

Malchut de Keter is called "the Peh", Malchut de Atzilut – "the Chazeh", Malchut de Beria – "the Tabur", Malchut de Yetzira – "the Ateret Yesod", and the common Malchut – "the Sium Raglin".

קפב) ותדע שיש תמיד להבחין באלו שינוי השמות של הע"ס ב' הוראות: א. הוא ענין השואתו להספירה, שעל שמה הוא מתיחס, ב. הוא ענין השינוי שבו מאותו הספירה שמתחסס אחריה. שמסבה זו נשתנה שמו בהכינוי המיוחד. למשל, הכתר דע"ס דאו"י ה"ס א"ס ב"ה. וכל ראש של פרצוף נקרא ג"כ כתר. וכן כל ה"פ א"ק נקראים ג"כ כתר. וכן פרצוף עתיק נקרא כתר. וכן א"א נקרא כתר.

וע"כ יש להתבונן: אם הם כולם כתר, למה נשתנה שמם להקרא בהכינוים הללו? וכן אם הם מתיחסים כולם לכתר, הרי צריכים להשתוות להכתר?
אמנם האמת הוא, שמבחינה אחת הם כולם שוים לכתר, שהם בחינת א"ס. כי זה הכלל: שכל עוד שאור העליון לא נתלבש בכלי, הוא בחינת א"ס.
ולכן כל ה"פ א"ק נחשבים כלפי עולם התיקון שהם אור בלי כלי. כי אין לנו שום תפיסא בהכלים דצמצום א'. ולכן נחשב אצלנו אורותיו לבחינת א"ס ב"ה.
וכן עתיק וא"א דאצילות, הם שניהם מבחינת הכתר דנקודים. אמנם מבחינה אחרת הם רחוקים זה מזה. כי הכתר דאור"י הוא ספירה אחת, אבל בא"ק יש בו ה"פ שלמים, שבכל אחד מהם רת"ס (אות קמ"ב). וכן פרצוף עתיק הוא רק ממחצית הכתר העליון דנקודים, ופרצוף א"א הוא ממחצית הכתר התחתון דנקודים (אות קכ"ט). ועל דרך זה צריכים להבחין בכל מיני הכינוים של הספירות אותם ב' ההוראות.

182) There are two reasons why the 10 Sefirot are called differently. The first is the similarity of properties to the Sefira to which it refers. The second is the difference of properties with this Sefira, which leads to the emergence of a new and special name. For example, Keter of the 10 Sefirot de Ohr Yashar, on the one hand, is the light of Ein Sof (of Infinity); on the other hand, the Rosh of any Partzuf is also called "Keter". All five Partzufim de AK are also "Ketarim"; the Partzuf Atik is Keter and so is AA.

If all of them are "Ketarim", then why does each of them have its own name? Furthermore, we know that spiritual objects that have completely identical properties merge into a single whole. Then why do these spiritual objects (the Ketarim) not merge?

It happens because, although they have properties similar to those of Keter (they refer to Ein Sof), there is a rule saying that unless the upper light enters the vessel (spreads to the Guf), it is regarded as Ein Sof (unattainable Infinity).

Therefore, as regards the worlds of ABYA, all five Partzufim de AK are considered the light, which has not yet entered the vessel, since the AK, built according to the laws of TA, is utterly unattainable by the Partzufim de Atzilut, based on the laws of TB.

The Partzufim Atik and AA de Atzilut both correspond to Keter de Nikudim. It should be noted that during Katnut de Atzilut, AA is not Keter, its level in this state being Hochma. Meanwhile, the only Keter is Atik.

However, during Gadlut, all the Partzufim of Atzilut rise, Atik “leaves” for AK and AA takes advantage of its AHP de Aliyah and becomes the Partzuf Keter de Atzilut. Further, as with the entire Partzufim de AK, Atik is built in accordance with the laws of TA; hence, it is unattainable by the lower Partzufim and worlds (“Atik” derives from the word “Ne’etak” – “separated”).

קפג) ותדע שההוראה המיוחדת לעצמה שבאלו הכינויים דע"ס בשם כתר ואבי"ע, הוא להורות, שהכונה היא על בחינת התחלקות הע"ס לכלים דפנים ולכלים דאחורים, שנעשו בסבת הצמצום ב' (אות ס'), שאז עלתה מלכות המסיימת למקום בינה דגוף, הנקרא ת"ת במקום החזה, וסיימה שם את המדרגה, ונעשה שם סיום חדש, הנקרא "פרסא שמתחת האצילות" (אות ס"ח).

והכלים שמחזה ולמטה יצאה לבר מאצילות ונקראים בי"ע. שב"ש ת"ת שמחזה עד הסיום נקראים "בריא", ונה"י נקראים "יצירה", והמלכות נקראת "עשיה". גם נתבאר, שמטעם זה נחלקה כל מדרגה לכלים דפנים וכלים דאחורים, שמחזה ולמעלה נקרא "כלים דפנים", ומחזה ולמטה נקרא "כלים דאחורים".

183) *The ten Sefirot are called Keter and ABYA, because Kabbalists want to point to their division into Kelim de Panim (the “front” vessels) and Kelim de Achoraim (the “back” vessels), which took place during TB. As was stated above, Malchut Mesayemet rose from the level of Bina de Guf (called Tifferet) to the Chazeh, thus creating a new Sium de Partzuf called “the Parsa” and located below Atzilut.*

The vessels that are below the Parsa “left” Atzilut and are called BYA. The lower two thirds of Tifferet are called Beria, the NHY are called Yetzira, and Malchut is called Assiya. It is worth mentioning that each Sefira was divided into the vessels of “Panim” and “Acho-

raim”, so that those vessels above the Chazeh are Panim, while those beneath the Chazeh are Achoraim.

קפד) ולפיכך, הבחן זה של הפרסא במקום החזה, מחלק המדרגה לד' בחינות מיוחדות, הנקראות אבי"ע: האצילות עד החזה, והבי"ע מחזה ולמטה. וראשית ההבחן הוא בא"ק עצמו. אלא בו ירדה הפרסא עד הטבור שלו (אות ס"ח).

ונמצא בחינת אצילות שלו הוא הע"ב ס"ג המסתיימים למעלה מטבורו. ומטבורו ולמטה הוא בי"ע שלו, ששם ב' הפרצופים מ"ה וב"ן שבו. הרי איך ה"פ א"ק נחלקים על אבי"ע, מכח הסיום דצמצום ב', שנקרא "פרסא": שהגלגלתא הוא הראש, והע"ב ס"ג עד טבורו הוא אצילות, והמ"ה וב"ן שמתטבורו ולמטה הוא בי"ע.

184) *Since the Parsa is on the level of the Chazeh, each Sefira and each Partzuf splits into four levels called ABYA. Atzilut is the space above the Chazeh, BYA – under the Chazeh. In fact, this division was also present in the world of AK, the difference being that in AK the Parsa descended to the Tabur, whereas in Atzilut, it is on the level of the Chazeh.*

It turns out that its own Atzilut is the Partzufim AB and SAG, which end above the Tabur, while its BYA, i.e., the Partzufim MA and BON, are under the Tabur. Therefore, Galgalta is Rosh; AB and SAG above the Tabur are Atzilut; MA and BON under the Tabur are BYA.

קפה) ועד"ז נחלקים ה"פ עולם האצילות בפני עצמם לכתר ואבי"ע: כי א"א הוא הראש דכללות אצילות, ואו"א עלאין, שהם ע"ב, המלבישים מפה ולמטה דא"א עד החזה, הם אצילות. ושם, בנקודת החזה, עומדת הפרסא, המסיימת בחינת האצילות של עולם האצילות.

וישסו"ת, שהם ס"ג, המלבישים מחזה דא"א עד טבורו, הם בריאה דאצילות. והזו"ן, שהם מ"ה וב"ן, המלבישים מטבור דא"א עד סיום האצילות, הם יצירה ועשיה דאצילות. הרי שגם עולם האצילות, בכללות ה"פ שבו, מתחלק לראש ואבי"ע, כמו ה"פ א"ק. אלא כאן עומדת הפרסא על מקומה, שהוא בחזה דא"א, ששם מקומה האמיתי (אות קכ"ז).

185) *All five Partzufim de Atzilut are divided similarly. AA is the Rosh of the entire world of Atzilut; AVI Ilayin, which correspond to AB and dress onto the Partzuf AA from its Peh to Chazeh, are Atzilut de Atzilut (not to be confused with the common Parsa of the worlds of ABYA).*

The YESHSUT that correspond to SAG and dress onto AA from its Chazeh to the Tabur are the Beria de Atzilut. The ZON, which correspond to MA and BON and dress onto AA from its Tabur to the Sium de Atzilut, are Yetzira and Assiya de Atzilut. Thus, we see that the world of Atzilut is also divided into its own Rosh and ABYA. As in the world of AK, the Parsa is in its place, i.e., at the level of the Chazeh de AA.

The principal Partzuf de Atzilut, Arich Anpin, has four kinds of dress: 1. Abba, 2. Ima, 3. Israel Saba, 4. Tvunah. All of them are the Yud-Hey of the name HaVaYaH and dress onto AA from the Peh to the Tabur. ZA and Malchut de Atzilut dress onto AA from the Tabur down to the Parsa; they are the Vav-Hey of the name HaVaYaH. There are only Keter and Hochma in the Rosh de Arich Anpin; its Bina exited the Rosh and split into the Gar and the Zat.

Abba ve Ima dress the light on the Gar de Bina and remain in the state of perfection felt in the Rosh, because they have properties of Bina, which desires nothing, hence stays unaffected. The YESHSUT takes the Zat de Bina of Partzuf AA (located under the Chazeh de AA), where the absence of Ohr Hochma is felt. This level is called “Beria de Atzilut”.

קפו) אמנם בכללות כל העולמות, נבחינם כל ג' הפרצופים גלגלתא ע"ב ס"ג דא"ק לבחינת הראש דכללות. וה"פ עולם האצילות, המלבישים מטבור דא"ק ולמטה עד הפרסא דכללות, שהיא הפרסא שנעשתה בחזה דנקודות דס"ג (אות ס"ו), הנה שם הוא אצילות דכללות, מפרסא ולמטה, עומדים ג' העולמות ב"ע דכללות (אות ס"ז-ס"ח).

186) If we view the entire Universe as a single whole, we will see that the three Partzufim, Galgalta, AB and SAG of the world of Adam Kadmon, constitute its common Rosh; the five Partzufim de Atzilut, which dress onto the space from the Tabur de AK to the Parsa, are Atzilut of the Universe. The three worlds of BYA under the Parsa are the BYA of the Universe.

קפו) וממש על דרך הנ"ל מתחלקת כל מדרגה דפרטי פרטיות שבכל עולם מאבי"ע לראש ואבי"ע. ואפילו בחינת מלכות דמלכות שבעשיה. כי נבחן בו ראש וגוף. והגוף נחלק לחזה,

וטבור, וסיום רגליו. והפרסא, שמתחת האצילות של אותו המדרגה, עומדת בהחזה שלו ומסיימת האצילות. ומחזה עד הטבור הוא בחינת בריאה של המדרגה, שנקודת הטבור מסיימתה. ומטבור ולמטה עד סיום רגליו הוא בחינת יצירה ועשיה של המדרגה. ומבחינת הספירות נבחנים החג"ת עד החזה לאצילות. וב"ש תתאין דת"ת שמחזה עד הטבור לבריאה. ונה"י ליצירה. והמלכות לעשיה.

187) *All individual Sefirot de Sefirot are divided in a similar way. Even Malchut de Malchut de Assiya has its own Rosh and Guf. The Guf is divided by its Chazeh, Tabur, and Sium Raglin. The Parsa, which is located under Atzilut of this level, stands in the Chazeh and limits it.*

Beria of this level takes the space between the Chazeh and the Tabur. Yetzira and Assiya of this level are located between the Tabur and Sium Raglin. The Sefirot HaGaT of each level correspond to Atzilut. The lower two thirds of Tifferet from Chazeh to the Tabur are Beria, NHY – Yetzira and Malchut – Assiya.

קפח) ולכן הראש דכל מדרגה מיוחס לבחינת כתר, או יחידה, או לפרצוף גלגלתא. והאצילות שבו, שמפה עד החזה, מיוחס לחכמה, או לאור החיה, או לפרצוף ע"ב. והבריאה שבו, שמחזה עד הטבור, מיוחס לבניה, או לאור הנשמה, או לפרצוף ס"ג. והיצירה ועשיה שבו, שמטבור ולמטה, מיוחס לז"ן, או לאורות דרוח נפש, או לפרצוף מ"ה וב"ן. (ותראה בהאילן, מצוור ג' ואילך, איך כל פרצוף מתחלק לפי הבחינות הנ"ל).

188) *Thus, the Rosh of each level refers to Keter or Yechida, or Partzuf Galgalta. Atzilut (from the Peh to the Chazeh) refers to Hochma or the light of Haya, or AB. Beria (from the Chazeh to the Tabur) refers to Bina or the light of Neshama, or SAG. Yetzira and Assiya (below the Tabur) refer to ZON or the lights Ruach and Nefesh, or Partzufim MA and BON (see diagrams 3 to 12 in "Sefer hallan").*



QUIZ TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO
THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

1. What is the substance (“*Homer*”) of which the Creation is made? (§ 1)
2. What is the meaning of the light and the vessel described as the ten *Sefirot*? (§ 2)
3. Why are the ten *Sefirot* called only the four *Behinot HuB TuM*; where does the number 10 come from? (§ 3)
4. What is the reason for dividing each creation into ten *Sefirot*? (§ 5)
5. What is the difference between the worlds of *ABYA*? (§§ 6, 7, 8 and 9)
6. Why is the world of *Atzilut* considered as referring only to the Creator? (§ 6)
7. How was the soul (*Neshama*) separated from the Creator? (§ 7)
8. What is a “*Zivug de Haka’a*” of the Upper Light with a screen? (§ 14)
9. How did new vessels referring to the “desire to bestow” emerge? (§ 15)
10. Why is the *Aviut* inherent in the “desire to bestow” also present in the new vessels? (§ 18)
11. Why are the *Partzufim* positioned one under the other after their emergence? (§ 22)

QUIZ TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

12. Why are the vessels *KaHaB TuM* positioned in a descending order? (§ 24)
13. Why are the lights called *NaRaNHaY* in a descending order? (§ 24)
14. Why is there an inverse relation between the lights and the vessels? (§ 25)
15. What is the difference between the *Rosh* and the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*? (§ 26)
16. How did the five *Partzufim* of the world of *AK* (the *Rosh* and the *Guf*) emerge one under the other? (§ 27, 28)
17. Why did the world of *AK* turn into a thin line and fail to fill the entire Universe? (§ 31)
18. Why did the luminescence of *AK* stop above the point of our world? (§ 31)
19. What is the quantitative correlation between the Surrounding Light and the Inner Light in the world *AK*? (§ 32)
20. How and where is the Surrounding Light of *AK* manifested? (§ 32)
21. Why are the Surrounding and the Inner Lights connected with one another in one vessel? (§ 33)
22. What is the Impact between the Surrounding Light and the Inner Light? (§ 34)
23. How does the screen with the *Reshimot de Guf* rise to the *Peh de Rosh*? (§ 38)
24. What is the reason for the formation of the lower *Partzuf* out of *Peh* of the upper? (§ 39)
25. Why is each lower *Partzuf* smaller by one level (*Behina*) than the upper? (§ 40)
26. Why is the lower *Partzuf* separated from the upper and considered its “consequence”, “son”? (§ 40)
27. What are the *Reshimo de Hitlabshut* and the *Reshimo de Aviut*? (§§ 42, 43)

QUIZ TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

28. Why are there two levels in the *Rosh* of all the *Partzufim* – *Zachar* and *Nekeva*? (§ 43)
29. Why is the level of the *Partzuf* determined by the level of *Nekeva* and not *Zachar*? (§ 44)
30. What are *Ta’amim*, *Nekudot*, *Tagin* and *Otiot*? (§§ 48, 49)
31. Why are the level of *Ta’amim* mercy (*Rachamim*) and the level of *Nekudot* – judgment (*Din*)? (§ 48)
32. Why is every *Partzuf* divided into *Rosh*, *Toch* and *Sof* and each of these parts – into ten *Sefirot*? (§ 50)
33. Why does each lower *Partzuf* dress onto the upper from the *Chazeh* and below? (§ 53)
34. What is the difference between *TA* and *TB*? (§ 58)
35. Why could not the worlds exist according to the laws of *TA*? (§ 57)
36. What is the principle benefit of *TB*? (§§ 57, 58)
37. What is *Tzimtzum NHY de AK* and what was the reason for it? (§ 60)
38. Why did the world of the *Nikudim* not dress onto the *Partzuf SAG* above the *Tabur*? (§ 62)
39. What is the essence of the *Parsa* located under the world of *Atzilut*? (§ 67)
40. How did three places for the worlds of the *BYA* emerge? (§ 67)
41. Why are there *Katnut* and *Gadlut* in each *Partzuf*? (§ 71)
42. Why did the *Partzufim de AK* not have the states of *Katnut* and *Gadlut*? (§§ 70, 71)
43. Why did *Zachar* and *Nekeva* (*Dechar ve Nukva*) appear in the *Gar de Nikudim*, i.e., in *Keter* and the *AVI*? (§ 74)
44. Why does *Keter de Nikudim* not spread to the *Zat*? (§ 74)
45. Why did each level in the world of *Nikudim* split into two parts? (§ 76)

QUIZ TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

46. What led to the emergence of “the *Panim*” and “the *Achoraim*” in the world of *Nikudim*? (§ 76)
47. Why are the *Achoraim* of the upper *Partzuf* inside the *Panim* of the lower? (§ 77)
48. What is the reason for the raising of *MAN*? (§ 80)
49. Why did the *Mochin de Gadlut* emerge? (§ 84)
50. What is the light raised by the *AHP* of the vessels and the *Gar* of the lights? (§ 84)
51. What are the ascent of *Malchut* to the *Nikvey Eynaim* and the descent of the *AHP*? (§ 85)
52. What is the difference between the names of the *Sefirot GE, AHP* and *KaHaB TuM*? (§ 85)
53. Why do *Hesed, Gevura* and the upper third of *Tifferet* refer to the *Kelim de Panim*? (§ 85)
54. Why do the lower two thirds of *Tifferet* and the *NHYM* refer to the *Kelim de Achoraim*? (§85)
55. What are the lights *Holam, Shuruk* and *Hirik*? (§ 89)
56. Why does the point of the *Hirik* get broken as it emerges in the world of *Nikudim*? (§ 90)
57. Why is the *Hirik* under the letters (*Otiot*)? (§ 91)
58. How did the *Zat* raise *MAN* to the *Gar de Nikudim*? (§§ 93, 94, 95)
59. What is the *Sefira Da’at*, which first appears in the world of *Nikudim*? (§ 98)
60. Why does the *Sefira Da’at* not become the 11th *Sefira*? (§ 100)
61. What is the level of the *Partzuf Ta’amim de Rosh* and the *Guf* in the world of *Nikudim*? (§ 104)
62. What is the level of the *Partzufim Nekudot de Rosh* and the *Guf* in the world of *Nikudim*? (§ 104)

QUIZ TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

63. What is *Melech haDa'at* in the world of *Nikudim* and what is its level? (§ 107)
64. What is the reason for the breaking of the vessels? (§ 105)
65. Why is *Gadlut* in the world of *Nikudim* only an addition? (§ 72)
66. What are the names of the levels *AVI* and *YESHSUT* in the world of *Nikudim*? (§§ 110, 111)
67. What is the difference between *MA de Nikudim* from *MA Hadash* (in *Atzilut*)? (§ 113)
68. What is the difference between the *Partzuf* and the world? (§§ 115, 116)
69. What are the first and second *Ibur*? (§§ 121, 122)
70. What are *Ibur*, *Yenika*, and *Gadlut*? (§§ 121, 122)
71. How did five levels of the world of *Atzilut* emerge one under the other? (§§ 122-129)
72. What is the order of superposition (“dressing”) of the five *Partzufim de Atzilut* one on the other? (§ 122-129)
73. What are *MA* and *BON* in each *Partzuf de Atzilut*? (§ 129, 133)
74. What are the two kinds of *Gadlut* that can exist in the world of *Atzilut*? (§ 134, 135)
75. What is the difference between supplementation to 10 *Sefirot* of the lower *Partzuf* at the expense of *AHP* of the upper and the use of its own *AHP* for that purpose? (§ 135-138)
76. What kind of supplementation to 10 *Sefirot* do the 5 permanent *Partzufim de Atzilut* use for reaching *Gadlut*? (§ 138)
77. What is the size of the *Gufim de AK* and the *Gufim de Atzilut*? (§ 139)
78. Why do the worlds supplement their 10 *Sefirot* with the help of *AHP de Aliyah* (§§ 142, 143)

QUIZ TO THE ARTICLE
“THE PREAMBLE TO THE WISDOM OF KABBALAH”

79. What are the seven basic peculiarities of the worlds of *BYA*? (§§ 144, 154)
80. Why do the worlds ascend when the souls of the *Tzadikim* receive the *Mochin*? (§§ 161, 162)
81. What is the order of the three ascents at that time? (§§ 163-176)
82. How do the five *Partzufim de Atzilut* dress onto the 5 *Partzufim de AK* during each of these ascents? (§§ 163-176)
83. What are the four fillings of the Name *HaVaYaH*: *AB*, *SAG*, *MA* and *BON*? (§ 181)
84. What are the four parts of the *Partzuf*? (§ 180)
85. What is the meaning of terms: “*Peh*”, “*Chazeh*”, “*Tabur*” and “*Sium Raglin*” (§ 181)
86. What is the reason for the division of the *Partzuf* into *Keter* and *ABYA*? (§ 180-185)

RECAPITULATION

BY RABBI BARUCH ASHLAG

First, let us examine the issue: “The connection between the Creator and the Creation”, having pointed out that the Creator’s Essence is unattainable. We can only grasp His actions. This connection may also be called “The Thought of Creation”, where the Creator’s desire is to bestow delight upon created beings.

Therefore, from the moment of The Thought of Creation, the Universe begins its descending evolution: creation of worlds, nature, and then, out of its root called “the soul of Adam haRishon”, human souls are born. All that was created before the birth of Adam’s soul (or simply soul) was prepared as an environment in which this soul can exist, develop and improve until it reaches its ultimate spiritual level.

Let us speak about the top-down evolution of the worlds. Wishing to delight the created beings, the Creator intended to give them, perhaps, 100 kg of pleasure. Hence, He had to create such beings that would be willing to receive that pleasure. The entire essence of creation consists in this will to receive the Creator’s delight. Hence, the name “*Yesh mi Ayn*”, i.e., the essence created from something that was previously non-existent, prior to the Creator’s Thought. This 'will to receive pleasure' was created for the single purpose of bestowing delight upon created beings.

The creation of a will to receive for delight must go through four phases of development, since man cannot enjoy anything without having a passionate desire for that pleasure. Therefore, a vessel is a passionate

desire for delight. The size of the vessel is measured according to volume of its desire.

Two conditions are essential for a desire to appear:

1. You must know what you want to enjoy. Man cannot wish for something that he never saw or heard of. In other words, a pleasure has to be something previously felt and evaluated as such.

2. The vessel must not have this pleasure at this particular moment, since, if pleasure fills the desire, it extinguishes the aspiration to it.

To achieve these two conditions, i.e., to develop a genuine desire, the initial will to receive pleasure (that derives from nothingness, from the Creator's Thought) must pass four phases of its development:

Phase Shoresh, 0, Keter is "the Creator's "desire to bestow" delight upon the createdbeings".

Phase Aleph, 1, Hochma is "the Creator's "desire to bestow" delight upon the createdbeings" created "Yesh mi Ayn", out of nothing - a will to receive delight. Since the desire was created of the light - the pleasure prepared by the Creator, it emerged already filled with delight. Hence, there is no genuine striving after it.

Phase Bet, 2, Bina. Since the light emanates from the Creator and His property to bestow, the vessel gradually acquires that property of giving, i.e., the vessel wishes to be like the light. The emergence of a new desire in phase one turns it into a separate phase two.

Question: "If the desire of *Bina* is to give, why is it considered coarser and more remote from the Creator? Does it not have to be purer than *Hochma*?"

I would like to explain it with the following example. A person gives his friend a gift and he accepts it. Then, after thinking it over, decides not to, and returns it. First, he was under the giver's influence; hence, he took the gift. Yet, having received it, he felt himself a receiver, and this feeling of shame forced him to return the gift.

From this, we may conclude that *Behina Aleph* received under the influence of the giver and did not feel that it was receiving. However, when, affected by the light, it felt it was receiving, and then it stopped. Therefore, the sensation of desire to receive pleasure in *Bina* is greater than that in *Hochma* – the desire feels more egoistic, because it compares itself with the light, i.e., with the giver. Hence, it considers itself more remote from the Creator.

The light that enters the vessel, which wants to merge with the Creator by its properties, is called *Ohr Hassadim*. This light shines in *Bina*. However, *Bina* feels only the “desire to give”, and it can only give to the light, to the Creator. *Bina* realizes that its goal is to receive, to enjoy. It can give the Creator only by receiving His pleasure.

Hence, phase two makes a compromise: now it will accept the light of *Hassadim* and a little light of *Hochma*. Since *Bina* had to generate the desire to enjoy the *Ohr Hochma* in order to receive it, the new desire for both *Hassadim* and *Hochma* is coarser than the previous. That is why **phase three** is farther away from the Creator and is called *Behina Gimel de Aviut*. This phase bears the name “*Zeir Anpin*” – a small face, because *Hochma* is called “*Panim*” (“*Anpin*” in Aramaic), i.e., a miniature spiritual object.

When phase three is completely filled with the light of *Hassadim* (and the luminescence of *Hochma*), it feels the “desire to receive” the entire light of *Hochma* and not just its part. This happens because the light lets ZA know that the Thought of Creation consists in receiving the entire light of *Hochma* prepared by the Creator. This awakening leads to an enormous desire for the *Ohr Hochma* rising up in the vessel. It wants to receive as much light as was in *Behina Aleph*. The difference lies in the fact that *Behina Aleph* did not have this passionate desire for the light that *Behina Dalet* (*Malchut*) has, so *Behina Aleph* did not feel delighted, since the light gave birth to desire, whereas here the desire attracts pleasure!

Therefore, **phase four** is defined as a genuine vessel, and all previous phases are called preparatory. *Malchut* is filled with limitless, infinite

pleasure; hence, it is called the “World of Infinity” – 100 kg of delight filled 100 kg of desire.

However, when the light fills phase four, *Malchut*, it starts passing it its properties, as it was in phase one: phase one received the light, but with the delight it acquired the light’s property of bestowal; hence, its “desire to receive” turned into a “desire to bestow”, phase two.

Since this desire is absolutely opposite to its original, the natural will to receive pleasure, *Malchut* feels “shame” – a tremendous inner tension between its original desire and the one it acquired. Because of this, it decides to completely stop receiving the light, similar to phase one as it passed into phase two. Why did phase one not feel shame? It is because phase four already has a desire to receive pleasure that derives from the creation itself, and not the one created by the Creator.

The expulsion of pleasure from the desire (phase four, *Malchut*) is carried out by the creation; hence, it is called “the First Restriction” (“*Tzimtzum Aleph*”).

The light passed its properties to *Malchut*, so that it would become like the light; but *Malchut* only stopped receiving pleasure. So how can the creation carry out the Creator’s will – to receive the entire light of *Hochma* without being a receiver?

After the restriction, *Malchut* makes a decision: to receive the entire delight according to the Creator’s wish, but only because He, and not *Malchut* itself, wants it.

Question: “The *Tzimtzum* was made only on *Behina Dalet*; only the desire “*Lekabel al menat Lekabel*” (“to receive pleasure for one’s own sake”, “reception for the sake of reception”) was restricted (in contrast to “receiving for the sake of bestowal”, which appears later). So why did the light disappear from all the previous *Behinot*?

Answer: The three first *Behinot* are not yet called “vessel”, for they merely contribute to the formation of the genuine vessel in *Behina Dalet* – “reception for the sake of reception”. The only true vessel is *Malchut*;

if it does not want to receive, it stops feeling the light, as if being non-existent in phases zero through three.

Malchut, having accepted the entire light, was filled with it. Such an absolute state is called whole or round, because a circle (or, rather, a sphere, since *Malchut* of the World of Infinity filled with the light is meant) is identical in all its parts; there are no “up – down”, “better – worse” in it. If every desire is filled, it does not matter what size it is, big or small; they all receive infinite delight.

Only after the *Tzimtzum*, when the light disappears, the empty desires begin to differ in their properties, sizes, and closeness to the Creator. They divide into up and down according to their significance, become more or less spiritual, closer, or farther away from the Creator. The desires that are more distant from egoism are considered more important, those that are closer to it – less important.

After the *Tzimtzum*, “traces” were left in the empty desires – the *Reshimot* of the light that was inside them. These five phases, or the 10 *Sefirot* (because phase three, ZA, consists of six parts) are called the “ten round *Sefirot*” (“*Eser Sefirot de Igulim*”) after the restriction. They are called round because there is no notion of “up – down” in them.

Since everything develops from the Creator to the creation, from perfection to imperfection, the upper object’s desire always becomes a law for the lower. Hence, after deciding not to receive the light for its own sake, *Malchut* makes a restriction, which applies to all future parts of the creation.

Egoistic reception of pleasure would be impossible, and if some part of *Malchut*, e.g. man, has such desire, he will not be able to enjoy it, constantly chasing after pleasure. *Malchut* is the only creation. All that exists are its parts.

Although the decision to restrict itself was voluntary, it became law the moment *Malchut* made it. Now reception for its own sake is forbidden. Now that a ban is imposed, notions like “up – down” as regards this ban,

come into being. Hence, reception for the Creator's sake is called "a *Kav*" ("line"), which spreads from the World of Infinity down to our world.

After the restriction, the empty round, *Sefirot* fill with the light by way of the line.

Thus, there are three states of the creation (desire, *Malchut*):

1. The will to receive created in the world of *Ein Sof*, which received the entire light. It is called *Malchut de Ein Sof* (*Malchut* of the World of Infinity).

2. The restricted desire called "*Olam haTzimtzum*" – the World of Restriction, *Malchut Metzumtzemet* (restricted, empty *Malchut*).

3. *Malchut de Kav* – *Malchut*, which decided to receive the light after the restriction, but only as much as it can accept for the Creator's sake.

After the restriction, *Malchut* decides to receive pleasure for the Creator's sake. It attracts the entire light that it expelled previously and calculates what part it can receive; not for itself, but to please the Creator. First, *Malchut* makes this decision in its mind (*be Koach*), then in action (*be Foahl*).

Such an interaction of *Malchut* with the light, antagonizing its desire to receive pleasure for itself and accepting the light in its "desire to bestow" upon the Creator, is called "a *Zivug de Haka'a Ohr be Masach*" (interaction between the light and the screen by stroke). *Malchut* puts a barrier before the coming light.

This screen reflects the entire light, and then *Malchut* calculates that it can accept, perhaps, 20% of it for the Creator's sake and receives it inside its desire, but this pleasure is dressed in the intention "for the Creator". *Malchut* feels such enormous delight in the remaining 80% of the light that, if it accepts it, it will not be for the Creator, so it decides not to receive more than 20%.

What is the difference between the *Tzimtzum* and the *Masach*? The *Tzimtzum* took place because of *Malchut*'s independent decision to stop

enjoying the infinite light, i.e., the entire pleasure emanating from the Creator that is inside it. The *Masach* is a law imposed by the superior spiritual object as regards the lower: even if the lower wants to receive, the superior will not allow it.

What is a *Zivug de Haka'a*? Wishing to bestow upon the created beings, the superior spiritual object creates a “desire to receive” the light in the lower. The lower wants to be like the superior, so it decides not to accept the light. Hence, they contradict one another, which results in their impact (*Haka'a*).

The superior and the lower objects are always the Creator and the creation, since each higher level, *Sefira*, *Partzuf*, world or soul represents a parent, a source from which the lower one originates and receives the light. Furthermore, the lower can attain only the level above it. So the superior is always perceived by the lower as the Creator.

Because of this conflict, when each one wants to bestow and not to receive, an impact (*Haka'a*) takes place. Both come to an agreement by way of a *Zivug* (merging): the lower receives the light since the superior wants it to, but only as much as it can accept with an intention to bestow. A *Zivug* is possible only if an impact (*Haka'a*), a contradiction, preceded it.

The whole process of a *Zivug de Haka'a* takes place in the part of the creation that precedes the action. Such comprehension and decision making (*be Koach*) is called the *Rosh* (head) or the *Shoresh* (root). Then the action (*be Foahl*) follows; it is called the *Guf* (body).

The *Rosh*, the preliminary estimate of the action, is necessary because there are desires that are not equipped with an altruistic intention; hence, *Malchut* is obliged to make a calculation (called the *Rosh*) before it actually receives the light in the *Guf*.

Therefore, it is said, “There were neither the *Rosh* nor the *Sof* before the creation came into being”. Reception was not banned in the world of *Ein Sof*, so *Malchut* received without limit or preliminary evalu-

ation. However, as soon as *Malchut* made its decision to receive only for the Creator's sake, the need to oppose its own decision arose; the *Sof* was defined and the *Rosh* (*be Koach*) and the *Guf* (*be Foahl*) were separated.

The 20% of the light *Malchut* received are called the *Toch*, i.e., the place where the light spreads inside the desire. A desire consists of the *Rosh*, the *Toch*, and the *Sof*. The *Rosh* ends in the *Peh* (mouth). The light is received in a space from the *Peh* to the *Tabur*. This part of a desire is called the *Toch*. *Malchut de Toch*, which received 20% of the light, stands in the *Tabur*. It also restricts the reception of 80% of the light in 80% of the empty desires. The light that is supposed to fill these desires of the *Sof* remains outside and is called "the *Ohr Makif*" ("the Surrounding Light").

When the vessel is filled with 20% of the light from the *Peh* to the *Tabur*, the remaining 80% of the light (the *Ohr Makif*) strikes into the screen, positioned at the *Tabur*. This tells *Malchut* that it is wrong, since it cannot fulfill the purpose of creation in this way. If it remains on the same level, it will never be able to receive more than 20% of the light. Since *Malchut* can neither accept more than these 20%, nor remain filled only with 20% (seeing now that this state is far from perfect), it decides to stop receiving the light altogether.

The collision of opinions of *Malchut*, which decided to receive only 20% of the light, and the Surrounding Light, is called the *Bitush Ohr Makif be Ohr Pnimi* or the *Bitush Ohr Makif be Masach de Tabur*.

Each spreading of the light consists in filling all the five parts of *Malchut*. Even if *Malchut* is filled by 20%, it means that each of its five parts receives 20%. Therefore, when *Malchut* decides to expel the received light, it does so systematically.

After the restriction, *Malchut* decides to receive 20% of the light, which it had in the state of being completely filled. That state left the *Reshimot* in *Malchut*, and it makes a *Zivug* on them.

The *Masach* gradually loses its *Aviut*: first, *Behina Dalet de Dalet*, then *Gimel de Dalet* and so on, until it reaches the *Peh de Rosh*, where the *Masach de Guf* originated. As it rises, the *Masach* uses smaller and smaller *Aviut* and consequently receives weaker light for the sake of bestowal. Being on the level of *Behina Dalet*, the *Masach* can receive the light of *Yechida*, on the level of *Behina Gimel – Haya*, on the level of *Behina Bet – Neshama*, on the level of *Behina Aleph – Ruach*. *Behina Shoresh* provides it with the light of *Nefesh* for the sake of bestowal, until it becomes completely unable to receive the light for the sake of bestowal.

A question arises: “What did the *Ohr Makif* gain by forcing the creation to fulfill the purpose of creation and receive more and more light? On the face of it, what happens is opposite to what the *Ohr Makif* wants: the *Masach* completely stops receiving the light and the vessel loses the little light it had”.

Answer: There was no chance to receive any more light before the *Bitush*. Now that *Behina Dalet* disappeared, the vessel may receive more, i.e., in *Behina Gimel*. When *Behina Gimel* is lost, it receives light in *Behina Bet* and so on. New vessels were created with the help of the *Bitush*. So what is the gain, if each time the creation receives less and less? There is a rule: nothing ever disappears in the spiritual world. In other words, whatever was revealed remains; but it cannot be enjoyed. Only when the entire work is completed will all lights be revealed simultaneously. This will be the final gain.

There is a story about two men who were friends when they were young. Then their ways parted. One became a king, the other a beggar. Many years passed, when one day the beggar found out that his friend had become a king. He decided to travel to the country where his friend was ruling and ask him for help. When they met, he told the king about his distress. The story touched the king’s heart and he gave the beggar a letter to his treasurer. The letter allowed the beggar to spend two hours inside the treasury and take as much money as he could within that time.

Upon receiving the treasurer's permission, the beggar began filling the cup he had used for collecting his alms with gold coins. When the cup was full, he moved to get out of the building, beaming with happiness. However, as he approached the door, a guard took the cup from his hands and emptied the contents onto the floor. The beggar burst out crying, but the guard told him: "Take your cup, go back, and refill it". The beggar did as he was told, but as he came to the door, the guard once again emptied his cup.

And so it went on until the two hours expired. As the beggar came to the door for the last time with the full cup in his hands, he began to implore the guard to let him have this last cupful, since his time was up. The guard told him that he could have not just the last cupful of money, but also all the coins that were scattered on the floor.

From the story, we may conclude that every time we receive light for the Creator's sake, it remains. However, if it does, there is no desire to accept more, since it is impossible to increase the intention for the Creator's sake and receive a larger portion than before. Hence, the previous level has to disappear, so that each consecutive level will allow the correcting of the vessels, until they are all completely corrected and all the lights simultaneously shine in them.

Let us explain the notion of the *Masach* again. The first spreading of the light from the *Peh* down is called the *Ta'amim*. As the *Masach* gets weaker, new levels emerge in the process. All these levels are called *Nekudot*. My Rabbi said that new vessels were formed with the help of the *Bitush*. This allowed the reception of new portions of the light. As long as the light shines inside the vessel, it has no need or "desire to receive" the light. Therefore, both the light and the vessel are identical. However, after the expulsion of the light, they (the light and the vessel) can be separately defined.

The levels that emerge during the weakening of the *Masach* are called *Nekudot* (*Nekudat Tzimtzum* is meant). What is this? *Malchut* without the light is called a black point. When the ban on egoistic reception

is in force, darkness sets in. The point of the *Tzimtzum* starts acting in the place where the “desire to receive” for oneself arises. In our example, when the *Masach* loses *Behina Dalet*, the ban on egoistic reception applies to it and the point of the *Tzimtzum* snaps into action. Then this process spreads to *Behina Gimel* and so on.

Now let us clear up the difference between the *Rosh*, the *Toch*, and the *Sof*. The *Rosh* is *Behina be Koach*; there is no actual reception in it. Two parts spread from the *Rosh*: one can accept the light of *Hochma*, the *Ohr Pnimi*, the light of the Thought of Creation. Another part is a will to receive for one’s own sake, which may not be used by the vessel, so the *Sof* (end of reception) is formed there. It is called the 10 *Sefirot de Sof*. The main distinction between the *Toch* and the *Sof* consists in the fact that the *Toch* is filled with the light of *Hochma*, while the *Sof* contains the light of *Hassadim* with luminescence of *Hochma*.

The light of *Hochma* shines upon the vessels of reception and depends on their level of *Aviut*. The light of *Hochma* spreads top-down, so the notions “*Aroch*” (long) and “*Katzar*” (short) are inherent in it.

The light of *Hassadim* neither spreads because of the *Aviut* nor depends on it; hence, the notions expressing width (“right” and “left”) are applied to it. This hints at the luminescence on the same level regardless of the amount of *Aviut*.

We have so far discussed only the first *Partzuf de AK* called the *Galgalta* or the *Partzuf Pnimi de AK*. Each world has a so-called *Partzuf Pnimi*, which is dressed in four “garments”. Let us make it clear in the case of *AK*. The *Partzuf Galgalta* consists of a complete *HaVaYaH* (the Creator’s Name – “*Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey*”).

An independent level emerges from each letter of *HaVaYaH*. The *Rosh* is unattainable; it is called *Keter* or *Kotzo shel Yud* (point of *Yud*). The part from the *Peh* to the *Chazeh* is called *Yud*. The second *Partzuf de AK* called *AB* emerges on this level and dresses onto it. The part from the *Chazeh* and below is called the first *Hey*. This is the third *Partzuf de AK*.

It is called SAG or *Bina*. Both AB and SAG are dressed above the *Tabur* and constitute the letters *Yud-Hey*.

The letters *Vav-Hey* of *HaVaYaH* are located below the *Tabur*. The *Vav* takes the upper third of *Netzah-Hod-Yesod*, called MA, from which the world of *Nikudim* later emerges. The last *Hey* takes the lower two thirds of *Netzah-Hod-Yesod*. The *Partzuf BON* or *Malchut* emerges from it. Later on, the world of *Atzilut*, using *Aviut Shoresh*, comes into being there.

When the light disappeared from *Galgalta*, *Reshimot* remained in the empty vessels. *Reshimo* is a passionate desire for something that was available in the past. *Reshimo* consists of two parts: pure transparent light and coarser light. The *Reshimo* of the transparent light is left by the *Ohr Yashar* (Direct Light), whereas the *Ohr Hozer* (Reflected Light) leaves the *Reshimo* of the coarser light. Both of them merge and dress in the common *Ohr Hozer*, which plays the role of a vessel.

When the light shines upon the vessel, it is impossible to separate one from the other, both perform the same duty. It may be compared to food and appetite. Both take part in one process. If there is an appetite without food, eating becomes impossible. The same is true when there is food without an appetite.

As soon as the light disappears from the *Partzuf*, the notion “vessel” arises. *Ohr Hozer* plays that role. This notion also refers to the *Reshimot*. When both the transparent and the coarse lights are combined together, they are called “light”. When *Ohr Yashar* disappears from the *Reshimo*, the coarse light receives the name *Nitzutzin*. The light that vanished shines from afar.

Now we are going to discover the meanings of *Shoresh* of the vessels and *Shoresh* of the lights. There is a rule that states: all worlds emerge as “a seal and its imprint”. The worlds develop in a descending order that corresponds unerringly to all the peculiarities that initially emerged.

The vessels first manifested in the *Partzuf Galgalta*; hence, it is called the *Shoresh* of the vessels. As long as the light shines inside the vessels,

there is no opportunity to differentiate between the vessels and the lights. The vessels first manifest after the expulsion of the light and retain the *Reshimot* of it. Therefore, the *Kli Keter* retains the *Reshimo* of the light of *Keter*. The *Kli Hochma* holds the *Reshimo de Ohr Hochma*. Each light enters the purest vessel, i.e., *Keter*, which is called the *Shoresh* of the vessels.

Now what are *Tagin* and *Otiot*? The *Reshimo* of *Ta'amim* is called *Tagin*. The *Reshimo* of *Nekudot* is called *Otiot* (letters).

When the light exits the *Partzuf Galgalta*, two kinds of *Reshimot* remain. The *Reshimo* of the light *Keter*, which was inside the vessels, is called *Dalet de Hitlabshut*. The last degree of the *Masach's* power (*Dalet*) is lost and now only *Behina Gimel de Aviut* is left. The *Hitlabshut* is the *Reshimo* of *Ta'amim*; the *Aviut* is the *Reshimo* of *Nekudot*.

As the *Masach* in the *Partzuf Galgalta* grows weak and rises to the *Masach de Rosh*, two *Zivugim* took place in the *Rosh* of that level: one on *Dalet de Hitlabshut*, the other - on *Gimel de Aviut de Ohr Hochma*. Thus the *Partzuf AB* was born. The *Dalet de Hitlabshut* shines only in the *Rosh* of the level, preventing the light from spreading into the *Guf*. The *Gimel de Aviut* causes the light to spread in the *Guf de Partzuf*, i.e., in the vessels and the *Otiot*.

As the *Masach de Partzuf AB* loses the last degree of *Aviut Gimel*, only *Aviut Bet* and *Hitlabshut Gimel* remain. After two *Zivugim* on these *Behinot*, the *Partzuf SAG* emerges. The *Nekudot de SAG* is *Behina Hasadim*; therefore, they can spread under the *Tabur de Galgalta*. Regardless of the *Aviut Dalet* under the *Tabur* (the vessels of reception), the *Nekudot de SAG* still wish to bestow, and are not interested in receiving the light.

Having no *Masach* on *Behina Dalet* and being aware of the “desire to receive” present there, the *Nekudot de SAG* wished the light for themselves. However, the *Tzimtzum* is imposed on the “desire to receive”, so the light instantly disappears. How is it that *Nekudot de SAG* (the vessels of bestowal) suddenly wanted to receive the light for themselves? The *Gar de Bina* did not want to receive. Only the *Zat de Bina* was supposed

to get the *Ohr Hochma* to pass it on to ZA. Hence, the restriction took place only in the *Zat de Bina*, i.e., in the *AHP* that exceeded the bounds of the level. This is *Tzimtzum Bet (TB)*. The *Gar de Bina*, i.e., the *Galgalta ve Eynaim (GE)* did not merge with *Behina Dalet*. Meanwhile this place is called *Atzilut*.

When the *Masach* of the *Partzuf SAG* began rising to the *Peh de Rosh*, the following *Zivugim* took place in the *Rosh*: a *Zivug on Reshimot de Ta'amim de SAG*, which did not descend under the *Tabur*, and on which the *Partzuf MA Elion*, emerged. A *Zivug on Reshimot de SAG*, which made *Tzimtzum* and merged with *Behina Dalet* under the *Tabur*. The *Partzuf MA*, called the world of *Nikudim*, emerged on them. This *Zivug* was made on one half of *Aleph de Aviut* and *Bet de Hitlabshut* with the information on *TB*.

There are two *Rashim* in the world of *Nikudim*: one is *Keter –Bet de Hitlabshut*; the other is *Abba ve Ima –Aleph de Aviut*. Since *Bet de Hitlabshut* cannot draw the light for the lack of desire, it needs to work together with the *Aviut*. We have learned that “the *VAK de Bina*” is *Behina “Hafetz Hesed”*; with its help, this level feels no need for the light of *Hochma*. This light is also called “the *Tikkun Kavim*” (correction of lines).

We know that in the world of *Nikudim* “the *Tikkun Kavim*” shines only in the *Rosh*, because the *Hitlabshut* cannot spread the light into the *Guf*. There was just some luminescence in the *Guf*, so the state of *Katnut* brought no satisfaction to the vessels. However, as the light of *Gadlut* came, even the vessels of bestowal break.

Only after the vessels break does an independent desire called “the creation” come into being and begins looking for the way to its source. Hence, there is no action in the Universe, from the beginning to the very end, which would not bring the creation closer to its goal – eternal, perfect, and infinite filling with the Supreme Light.

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THE TEN SEFIROT

1. First of all, one should know the names of the ten *Sefirot*: *KaHaB HaGaT NHYM* (*Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod and Malchut*). These ten *Sefirot* constitute the ten concealments of the Supreme Light, which exist in order to let the created beings receive that Light. It is impossible to look at the Sun without the help of some darkened glass that weakens sunlight and makes it suitable for visual perception.

With certain reserve, this may be compared to the reception of the light by the spiritual objects (created beings), for which the Creator’s Light is too powerful; hence, it can be received only through these ten concealments. It should be noted that the lower the concealment is located, the more it weakens the Creator’s Light.

2. These ten *Sefirot* correspond to the Creator’s ten Sacred Names, mentioned in the Torah (*Zohar, Vayikra* §§ 156-177):

The Name אהיה (*Ekeh*) corresponds to *Sefira Keter*.

The Name יה (*Yah*, pronounced as “*Koh*”) corresponds to *Hochma*

The Name יה"ה (*HaVaYaH*, with the vowels of “*Elohim*”) corresponds to *Bina*.

The Name אל (*El*) corresponds to *Hesed*.

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The Name אלהים (Elohim) corresponds to *Gevura*.

The Name יהוה (HaVaYaH, with the vowels of *Shvah-Holam-Kamatz*) stands for *Tifferet*.

The Name צבאות (Tzevaot) corresponds to two *Sefirot Netzah* and *Hod*.

The Name שדי (Shaddai) is *Yesod*.

The Name אדני (Adonai) is *Malchut*.

3. Ten *Sefirot* correspond to the five *Behinot* (phases). The fourth *Behina Zeir Anpin* (ZA) or *Tifferet* contains six *Sefirot*: *Hesed*, *Gevura*, *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod*, *Yesod*. The reasons for it are explained in great detail in "The Book of Zohar" (See "Hakdamat Sefer HaZohar", "Marot HaSulam", p. 5). Thus, the 5 *Behinot* are called: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Tifferet* (or ZA) and *Malchut* (See also "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah", §§ 1-7).

WHY DOES TIFFERET CONSIST OF HAGAT NHY?

4. Each of the five *Behinot KaHaB TuM* in turn consists of its own five *Behinot KaHaB TuM*. However, the *Sefirot de Tifferet* are not called *KaHaB TuM*, but *HaGaT NH* (*Hesed*, *Gevura*, *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod*), since their level is lower than the *Gar*. *Sefira Yesod* unites all of them. The fact that *Behina Tifferet* includes six *Sefirot* does not at all mean it is higher and better than *Keter*, *Hochma* and *Bina*.

On the contrary, since the *Behina Tifferet* does not have the light of the *Gar*, its five *Sefirot KaHaB TuM* received new names - *HaGaT NH*. *Sefira Hesed* corresponds to *Keter*, *Gevura* - to *Hochma*, *Tifferet* - to *Bina*, *Netzah* - to *Tifferet* and *Hod* - to *Malchut*. *Sefira Yesod* is added to them. It is not a new level; it is rather a mixture of all the previous *Behinot*. *Tifferet* is otherwise called VAK - "Vav Ktzavot" (six edges), which means six *Sefirot*.

THE LIGHT AND THE VESSEL

5. We cannot speak about the light in the absence of the vessel. "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah" in §§ 3-4 explains what the spiritual vessel is. First, there was just one vessel – *Malchut*. When we say, there are five *Behinot KaHaB TuM*, we actually mean that they constitute parts of *Malchut* called *Behina Dalet*. In fact, these *Behinot* are stages of the vessel's development, whereas *Malchut* is a final stage (See "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah", § 5).

After the First Restriction (*Tzimtzum Aleph, TA*) the *Kli Malchut* puts up a screen (*Masach*), which prevents the light from getting inside it. As the Supreme Light tries to enter *Malchut*, it impacts the screen, and is reflected by it. This process is called "a *Zivug de Haka'a*" (a stroke interaction) between the light and the screen of *Malchut*. The light that bounces back is called "the ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light".

ROSH, TOCH, SOF, PEH, TABUR, SIUM RAGLIN

6. Because of the emergence of new vessels of the Reflected Light, three parts are formed in each *Partzuf*: the *Rosh*, the *Toch*, and the *Sof*. As was already stated, the screen blocked the reception of the light inside *Malchut*, which led to the Stroke Interaction (a *Zivug de Haka'a*) between the light and the screen. The ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light created by this *Zivug* "dressed" on the ten *Sefirot* of the Direct Light. The ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light combined with the ten *Sefirot* of the Direct Light form the ten *Sefirot de Rosh*. However, the ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light and the ten *Sefirot* of the Direct Light are not yet genuine vessels.

The word "vessel" points to a certain "*Aviut*" – the size of a "desire to receive". This means that the power of the category of Judgment, the ban inherent in the screen, prevents the light from entering *Malchut*. There is a rule: the power of the ban is effective only below the point of the restriction, but never above it. Since the ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected

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Light rise above the screen, the restriction does not apply to it; therefore, it cannot be a genuine vessel.

The ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light are called "the *Rosh*". These ten *Sefirot* are not considered the real vessels. *Malchut* with a screen that makes a *Zivug de Haka'a* is called "the *Peh*" (mouth). Similar to a material mouth, which utters sounds designated by letters, the spiritual *Peh* forms the ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light called the five *Behinot KaHaB TuM* resulting from a *Zivug de Haka'a*. These *Sefirot* are the vessels for the Direct Light; these vessels are called "letters" ("Otiot"). Thus, now we know what the ten *Sefirot de Rosh* are.

7. When the ten *Sefirot* of the Direct Light, and the ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light spread under the screen, the ten *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light turn into the real vessels for the reception of the light. These in turn dress onto the ten *Sefirot* of the Direct Light. This happens because the screen that created the Reflected Light already rules over it with the help of its *Aviut*. These ten *Sefirot* (now genuine vessels) are called "the *Toch*" and "the *Guf*", i.e., they constitute the inner part of the *Partzuf*.

Malchut de Toch is called "*Tabur*". The *Tabur* is a center. It means that *Malchut de Toch* is a central, principal *Malchut*. The genuine vessels of the *Guf* were formed out of its Reflected Light. We may also add that the word *Tabur* (טבור) consists of the same combination of letters as the word טוב אור ("Tov-Ohr", good light). This suggests that the light is good when it is inside the vessels fit to receive it. Thus, now we understand the meaning of the ten *Sefirot de Toch* down to the *Tabur*.

8. There are two *Behinot* in *Malchut de Rosh*: 1. *Malchut Mesayemet* (limiting), i.e., the *Masach* in this place prevents the light from entering the vessels of *Malchut*; 2. *Malchut Mizdaveget*, which makes a *Zivug*. There would have been no vessels of reception, unless the light impacted on the screen (a *Zivug de Haka'a*) and elevated the Reflected Light. There would have been no light, because without the vessel the light does not exist.

These *Behinot* exist in *Malchut de Rosh* only as "*Shorashim*" – roots, sources. *Malchut Mesayemet de Rosh* is a root of the *Malchut Mesayemet*,

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which completes this level. *Malchut Mizdaveget de Rosh* causes the light to get inside the vessels. Both of these actions really happen only in the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*, i.e., in the space between the *Peh* and the *Tabur*, where the *Malchut Mizdaveget* rules, and so the Supreme Light enters the vessels.

Malchut Mesayemet rules in the space between the *Tabur* and the *Sium*, creating the ten *Sefirot de Sium* (end of the *Partzuf*). Each of these *Sefirot* has only luminescence of the Reflected Light; the Supreme light cannot enter them. The *Partzuf* ends at the point of *Malchut de Sium*, since this is exactly the *Malchut Mesayemet* that does not receive any light; it limits the spreading of the *Kli de Partzuf*. We also call it *Malchut de "Sium Raglin"* ("end of the legs"), which cuts the light off and limits the *Partzuf*.

These ten *Sefirot de Sium*, which spread from the *Tabur* down to the *Sium Raglin*, are called the ten *Sefirot de Sof*; they are all parts of *Malchut de Sof* and *de Sium*. By saying that there is only the Reflected Light inside these *Sefirot*, we do not mean they have no Direct Light at all. There is some luminescence of the Direct Light in them, but it is considered the *VAK bli Rosh* (See "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah", § 50-53).

CHAZEH (CHEST)

9. Up to this point, we have spoken about the *Partzufim* of the world of *Adam Kadmon* (AK). However, a new *Sium* is added in the *Partzufim de Atzilut*, in the ten *Sefirot de Toch*. It happens because *Malchut de Toch*, called the *Tabur*, rose to *Bina* of the ten *Sefirot de Toch*, and restricted them. This new *Sium* (end) is called "*Chazeh*". This is where the *Parsa* is.

The Torah calls this boundary "the firmament" ("*Rakia*"); it separates "the upper waters" (i.e., *Keter* and *Hochma de Toch*) from "the lower waters" (the vessels of *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*), which descended from the level of the *Toch* to the *Sof*. Because of this, the ten *Sefirot de Toch* split into two levels: a space from the *Peh* to the *Chazeh*, still considered the *Toch*, *Atzilut* and the *Gar de Guf*; and a space below the *Chazeh* and the *Tabur*, regarded as the ten *Sefirot de Sof*, *Beria* and also the *VAK bli Rosh* like the ten *Sefirot de Sof*.

THE INVERSE RELATION BETWEEN THE LIGHTS AND THE VESSELS

10. The lights and vessels are always inversely related. This happens because the upper vessels are the first to grow in the *Partzuf*: *Keter* emerges followed by *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Tifferet* (ZA) and *Malchut*. Hence, we call the vessels *KaHaB TuM*, i.e., top-down, according to the order of their emergence in the *Partzuf*.

The lights, however, enter the *Partzuf* in the opposite order, starting with the lowest: first, *Nefesh*, then *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida*. Thus, *Nefesh* (the smallest light), which corresponds to the *Sefira Malchut* is first to enter the *Partzuf*, whereas *Yechida* (the most powerful light), which corresponds to the *Sefira Keter*, is last to enter the *Partzuf*. Hence, we always call the lights *NaRaNHaY*, i.e., according to the sequence of their emergence inside the *Partzuf*.

11. It turns out that when there is only one upper vessel, *Keter*, which appears first, it is not filled by the light of *Yechida* that corresponds to it, but with the weakest light of *Nefesh*. When the second vessel *Hochma* appears in the *Partzuf*, the second light of *Ruach* enters it. By this, the light of *Nefesh* descends from *Keter* to *Hochma*, while *Ruach* fills *Keter*.

After the emergence of the third vessel, *Bina*, the light of *Nefesh* descends from *Hochma* to *Bina*, *Ruach* passes from *Keter* to *Hochma*, and the light of *Neshama* enters *Keter*. As the fourth vessel ZA appears, the light of *Nefesh* descends from *Bina* to ZA, *Ruach* passes from *Hochma* to *Bina*, *Neshama* – from *Keter* to *Hochma*, and *Haya* enters *Keter*. With the emergence of the fifth, last vessel, all lights take their rightful places: *Nefesh* enters *Malchut*, *Ruach* – ZA, *Neshama* – *Bina*, *Haya* – *Hochma* and *Yechida* fills *Keter*.

12. It turns out that before all the five vessels of the *KaHaB TuM* emerge, the lights are not in their places. Furthermore, the lights and vessels are inversely related, for unless *Malchut*, the smallest vessel, appears, the light of *Yechida* will remain outside the *Partzuf*. If two lower vessels,

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ZA and *Malchut*, are absent in the *Partzuf*, the two upper lights, *Yechida* and *Haya*, will not be able to enter it.

13. By saying that because of the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina*, each level (*Partzuf*) ends after *Hochma* and only two *Sefirot* – *Keter* and *Hochma* remain in the *Partzuf*, while *Bina*, ZA and *Malchut* descended one level (See § 17), we mean only the vessels. Contrary to that, the lights *Nefesh* and *Ruach* remained on their level, and *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida* exited the *Partzuf*.

14. Certain places in "The Book of *Zohar*" say that since *Malchut* rose to *Bina*, only two letters מ"י of the five letters that make up the Name *Elokim* (אלהים) remained on the same level, while three letters ה"ל descended to the lower level (See The Introduction to the *Zohar*, p. 20). Other places in the "Zohar" state the contrary, that because of this ascent, two letters א"ל remained on their level, while three letters ה"מ descended to the lower level (See "The *Zohar*", "Bereshit (Genesis) 1", § 59).

The fact is that the five letters of the Name אלהים constitute the five *Sefirot* *KaHaB TuM* or the five lights *NaRaNHaY*. When *Malchut* rises to *Bina*, two upper vessels remain on this level – *Keter* and *Hochma*, designated by letters א"ל, and three letters, ה"מ descended to the lower level. The opposite happens to the lights: the two last letters, מ"י, correspond to the two lower lights – *Nefesh* and *Ruach*. They retain their level while the first three letters, ה"ל, corresponding to the lights *Yechida*, *Haya*, and *Neshama* descended to the lower level. If one keeps that in mind and determines whether the lights or the vessels are meant in each particular case, many seeming contradictions will no longer be relevant.

THE RISE OF MALCHUT TO BINA

15. One should pay close attention to the correction of *Malchut* in *Bina*. This notion is the root, the source of all *Kabbalah*, since *Malchut* represents the category of judgment (restriction). The world, the spiritual Universe, cannot be based only on restriction. Hence, the Creator elevated *Malchut* (judgment, restriction) to *Sefirat Bina*, which is the category of mercy.

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The sages say that the world was first created with the help of the category of judgment (restriction), i.e., *Malchut*, but seeing that such a world cannot exist, the Creator mixed the category of judgment (*Midat HaDin*) with the category of mercy (*Midat HaRachamim*), i.e., *Malchut* with *Bina*. Because of the rise to *Bina*, *Malchut* acquired its properties, i.e., the category of mercy. After that, *Malchut* starts ruling the world using its new properties. The process takes place on all levels, in all the *Sefirot* from the *Rosh de Atzilut* and down to the *Sof de Malchut* of the world of *Assiya*, because absolutely all levels, all worlds and the *Partzufim* consist of the ten *Sefirot* – *KaHaB HaGaT NHYM*.

THE DIVISION OF EACH LEVEL INTO TWO HALVES

16. All *Sefirot*, all levels, are known to end with the *Sefira Malchut*. This means that *Malchut* of each level does not let the light enter it. The reason for this lies in *TA* (restriction), which forbids *Malchut* from receiving the Supreme Light. Hence, the light spreads only down to *Malchut* without entering it; it stops, blocked by the screen.

A *Zivug de Haka'a* (stroke interaction) is made on this screen. Therefore, as *Malchut* of each level rises to *Bina*, it begins to restrict the light in its new place in the middle of *Bina*. The lower part of *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* are now below *Malchut Mesayemet*. They happen to be outside this particular level and by this form its second half.

Therefore, owing to the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina*, each level was divided into two levels. *Keter*, *Hochma* and the upper half of *Bina* remained on their level, while the lower half of *Bina*, *ZA* (which includes *HaGaT NHY*), and *Malchut* turned into the lower level. The new end created by *Malchut* in the middle of *Bina* is called "the *Parsa*".

17. As we know, there must be five lights on each level: *Yechida*, *Haya*, *Neshama*, *Ruach* and *Nefesh*, which are inside five vessels: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*. After *Malchut* rose to *Bina*, only two

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full vessels - *Keter* and *Hochma* - remained in each level; *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* are absent there.

Hence, only two lights - *Nefesh* and *Ruach* - were left in each level. They are inside the vessels *Keter* and *Hochma*. Three lights - *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida* are absent for the lack of appropriate vessels. In the language of Kabbalah, this process is described in the following way: letter י (*Yud*) enters the word "אור" ("*Ohr*", "light"). As a result, the word "אור" turns into "אוויר" ("*Avir*", "air"). It means that the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina* causes the loss of the three first lights called "*Ohr*", the light by each level.

It retains only the lights *Nefesh* and *Ruach*, called "*Avir*", air. Alternatively, this process can be described with the help of five letters of the Name "אלהים", which was divided in two parts - אל"ה מ"י, so that the two letters מ"י correspond to the two lights *Nefesh* and *Ruach* in two vessels *Keter* and *Hochma* that remained on their level. The remaining three letters אל"ה correspond to the three vessels *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*, which descended to the lower level.

DESCENT OF MALCHUT FROM BINA
TO ITS OWN PLACE

18. Because of raising *MAN* (request, prayer) by the lower *Partzufim*, the upper luminescence descends from the *Partzufim* *AB* and *SAG* (*Hochma* and *Bina*). This forces *Malchut* to leave *Bina* and return to its own place. Now letter 'י' exits the word "אוויר" ("*Avir*", "air"), turning it into "אור" ("*Ohr*", "light").

The vessels of *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* return to their level. Now each level again has the five vessels *KaHaB TuM* filled with the five lights *NaRaNHaiY*. "*Avir*" turns to "*Ohr*", because the three upper lights of the *Gar*, called "*Ohr*", returned.

THE TIME OF KATNUT AND THE TIME OF GADLUT

19. Owing to the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina*, each level began to have two states, two periods: *Katnut* and *Gadlut*. After *Malchut* rose to *Bina*, the level ends under the *Sefirat Hochma*; *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* descend to the lower level. Only the vessels *Keter* and *Hochma* with the lights *Ruach* and *Nefesh* remain there.

This state is called *Katnut*. When because of raising *MAN* by the lower *Partzufim*, the luminescence of *Hochma* and *Bina* (light *AB* and *SAG*) descends from the world of *AK*; *Malchut* descends from *Bina* and returns to its position. The vessels of *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* rise to their level.

Thus, five vessels, *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut* and five corresponding lights, *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida* again make up each level. Such a state is called *Gadlut*. Therefore, the state without the *Gar*, without the three upper lights, is called *Katnut*. The state wherein the three vessels *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* return and the lights of the *Gar* reappear is called *Gadlut*.

THE RISE OF THE LOWER PARTZUF TO THE UPPER

20. The rise of *Malchut* to *Bina* creates an opportunity for each lower object to rise to the level of the upper. The rule states that the upper *Partzuf*, which descended to the lower, acquires its properties; and vice versa, the lower *Partzuf*, which ascended to the upper, becomes similar to it.

Thus, during *Katnut*, i.e., when *Malchut* rises to *Bina*, moving *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* to the lower level, these *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* become similar to that new level. During *Gadlut*, i.e., when *Malchut* returns to its place, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut* rise to their level.

By this, they elevate the lower level, inside which they were before, to their own. Consequently, the lower level receives all the lights that were in the upper level. Thus, we have discovered how the connection between the levels is formed due to the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina*, which allows even the lowest level to reach the highest.

KATNUT AND GADLUT OF THE YESHSUT AND THE ZON

21. Now that we know what the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina* generally means in all phases of the worlds of *ABYA*, let us look at the details. For example, let us take to phases in the world of *Atzilut* called the *YESHSUT* and the *ZON*. Because of the rise of *Malchut de YESHSUT* to *Bina de YESHSUT* during *Katnut*, three *Sefirot* – *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* descended to the *ZON*. While being in the *ZON*, these three *Sefirot* acquired their properties.

During *Gadlut*, when *Malchut* descended to its place, *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* returned to theirs – in the *YESHSUT*. At the same time, they elevated the *ZON* (or, rather, *Keter* and *Hochma de ZON*), with which they actually constitute a single whole. As a result, the *ZON* also became the *YESHSUT*, i.e., acquired their properties and received the corresponding lights.

UNLESS MALCHUT RISES TO BINA, THE ZON CANNOT RECEIVE GADLUT

22. It should be stressed that the *ZON* cannot receive the light of *Gadlut* by themselves, since they refer to the space under the *Tabur de AK*. *Malchut* rules there, controlled by the power of *Tzimtzum* (Restriction), which prevents it from receiving the light. However, during *Gadlut*, when *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut de YESHSUT* elevated the *ZON* with them, the *ZON*, in fact, turn into the *YESHSUT*; now they (like the *YESHSUT*) can receive the light of *Gadlut*.

23. Now we can understand what our sages meant by saying, "First, the Creator created the world in the category of judgment". The *ZON de Atzilut* is called "world". This word refers to our world, which receives the light from *ZON de Atzilut*. Whatever was received in *ZON de Atzilut* can be received by people in our world.

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Conversely, whatever was absent in *ZON de Atzilut*, cannot descend to our world. As we said, the root (*Shoresh*), the source of *ZON de Atzilut*, is the space under the *Tabur de AK*, where *Malchut* rules in the state of restriction. Therefore, the *ZON* cannot receive the light and exist. All the more our world, located much lower and receiving from *ZON de Atzilut*, would be unable to exist.

That is exactly what the following words refer to: "Then the Creator saw that such world cannot exist, so He mixed mercy with judgment". It means that the Creator elevated the *Malchut* (judgment) of each level to *Bina* (mercy). In particular, the *Malchut de YESHSUT* rose to *Bina de YESHSUT*; as a result, *Bina*, *ZA* and the *Malchut de YESHSUT* descended one level, i.e., to the *ZON*. By this, they acquire that level's properties. In fact, the *Sefirot* and the *ZON* become a single whole after their descent.

Hence, during the *Gadlut de YESHSUT*, when *Malchut* descends to its own place from *Bina*, the three vessels – *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* also return to their position on the level of the *YESHSUT*. With that, they also elevate the *ZON*, with which they form a single whole. As a result, the *ZON* rise to the level of the *YESHSUT*. This means they can now receive the same lights that the *YESHSUT* gets. At the same time, they pass the light to our world allowing it to exist.

However, unless the categories of judgment and mercy were mixed, i.e., unless *Malchut de YESHSUT* rose to *Bina de YESHSUT*, forcing *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut* to descend one level to the *ZON*, the *ZON* would never be able to rise to the *YESHSUT*, or receive the Supreme Light for our world and allow its existence. Thus, we understand what the rise of *Malchut* to *Bina* means.

ALBUM OF DRAWINGS

How to associate diagrams and charts with the text:

The annotation P. on the diagrams indicates the associated paragraph number as found in the body of the text of Baal Ha Sulam e.g.

Figure 8. Olam HaTzimtzum (The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.14)

14) *In order to save the creation from such remoteness from the Creator, the Tzimtzum Aleph (TA, the First Restriction) took place and separated Behina Dalet from the spiritual objects. This happened in such a way that the “desire to receive” turned into a space void of the light. After the Tzimtzum Aleph, all the spiritual objects have a screen on their vessel-Malchut in order to avoid receiving the light inside Behina Dalet.*

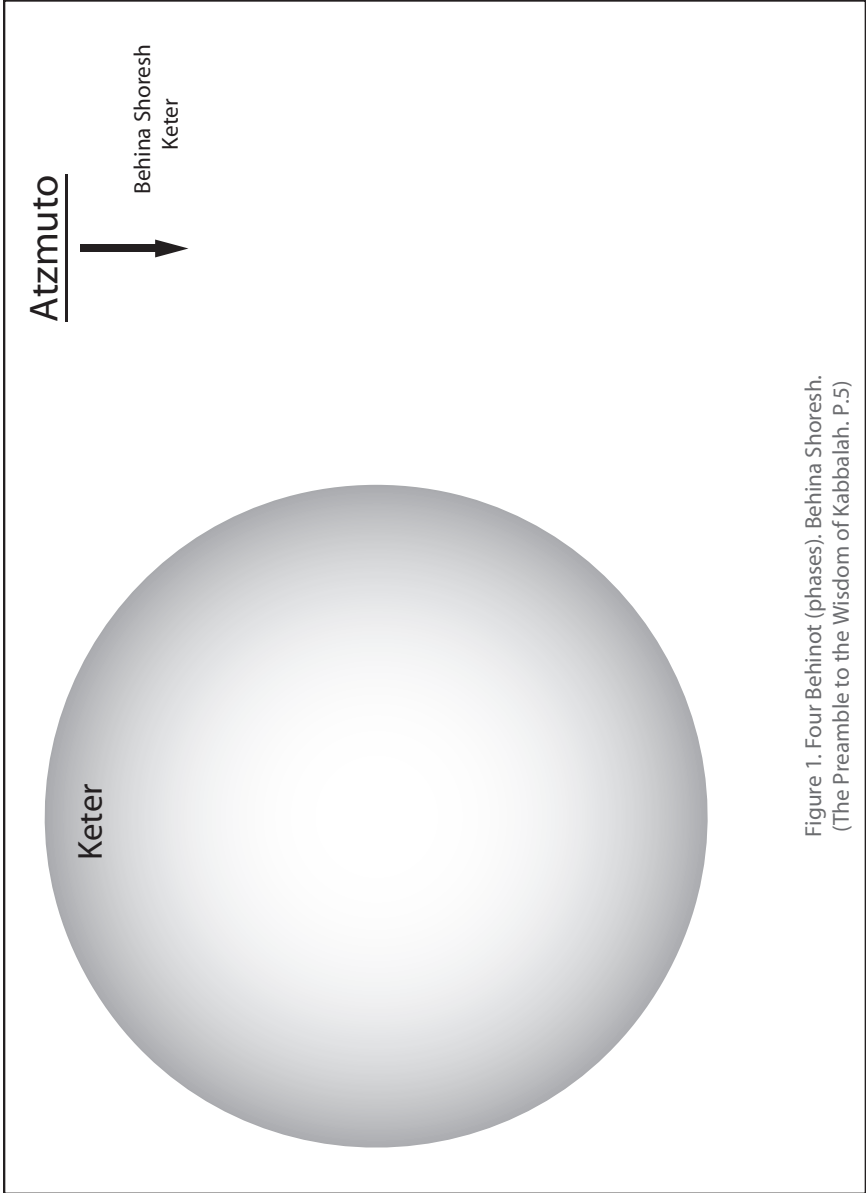


Figure 1. Four Behinot (phases). Behina Shoresh.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.5)

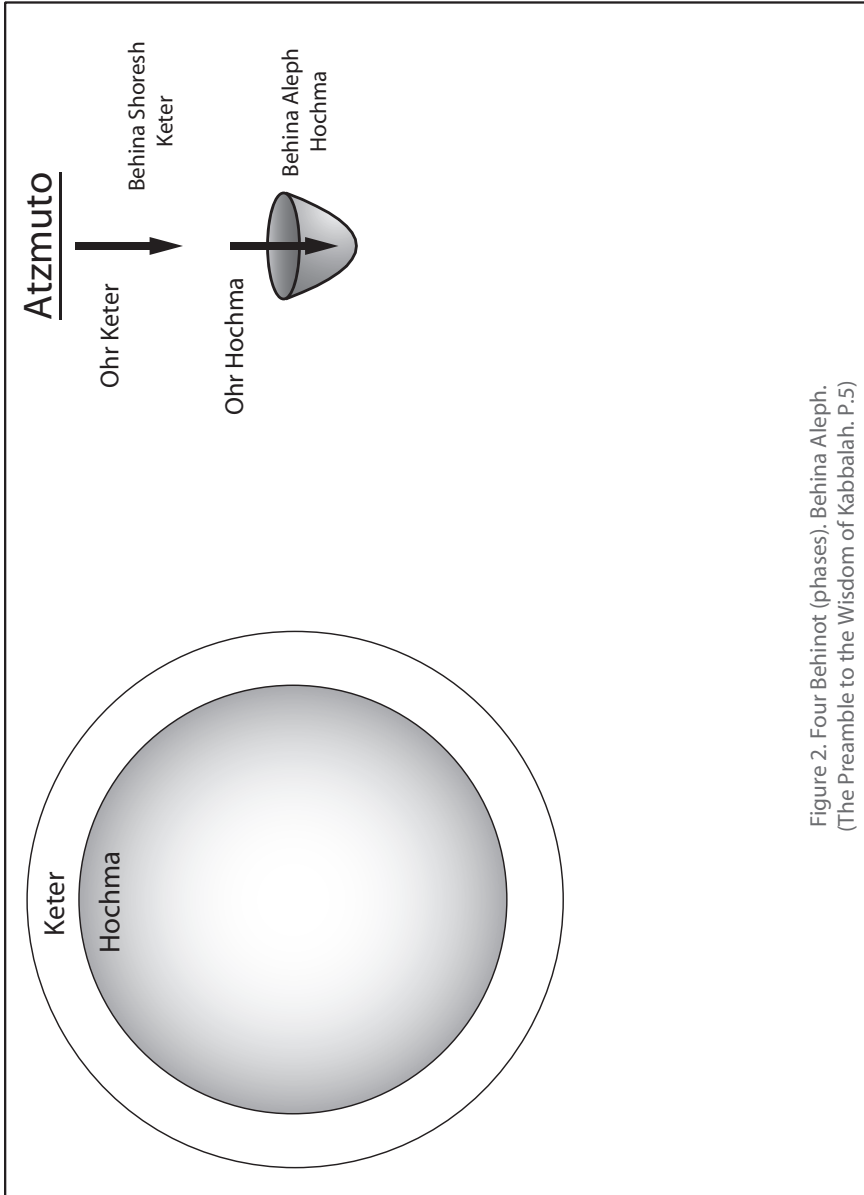


Figure 2. Four Behinot (phases). Behina Aleph.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.5)

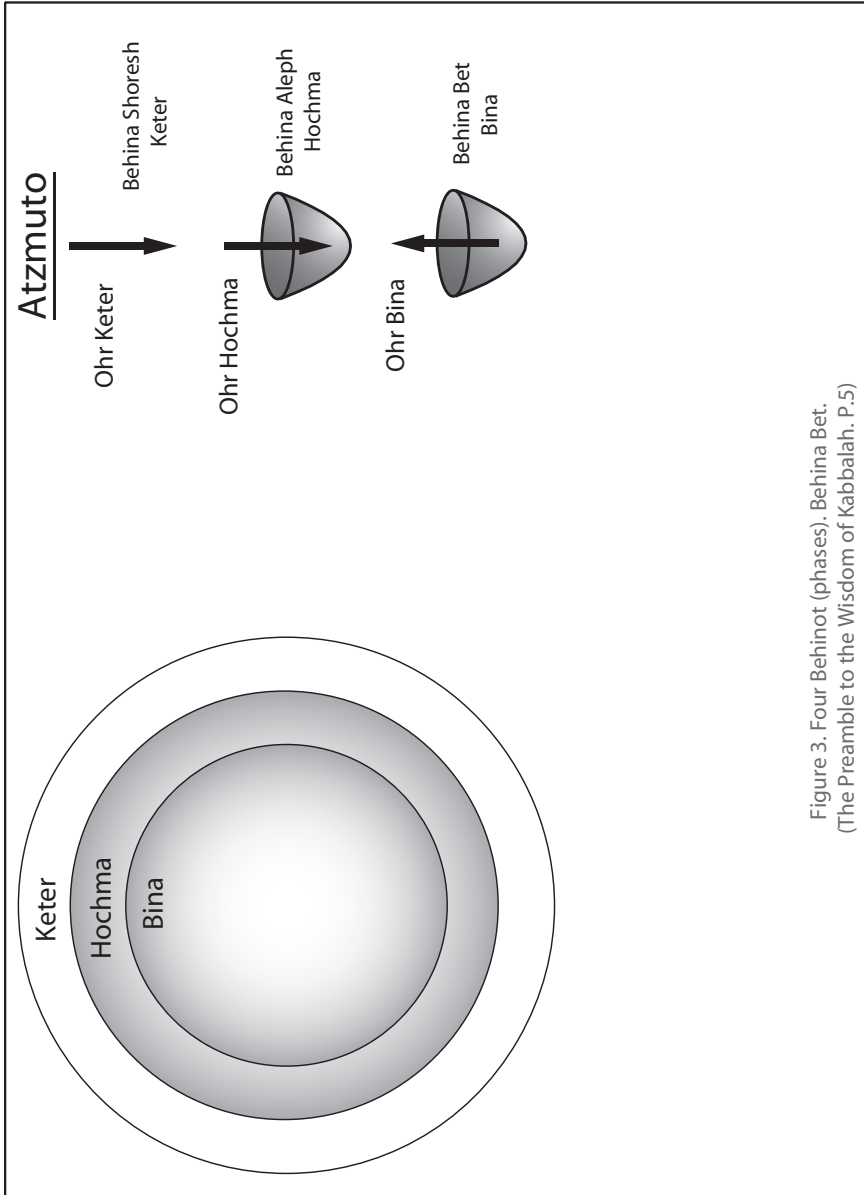


Figure 3. Four Behinot (phases), Behina Bet.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.5)

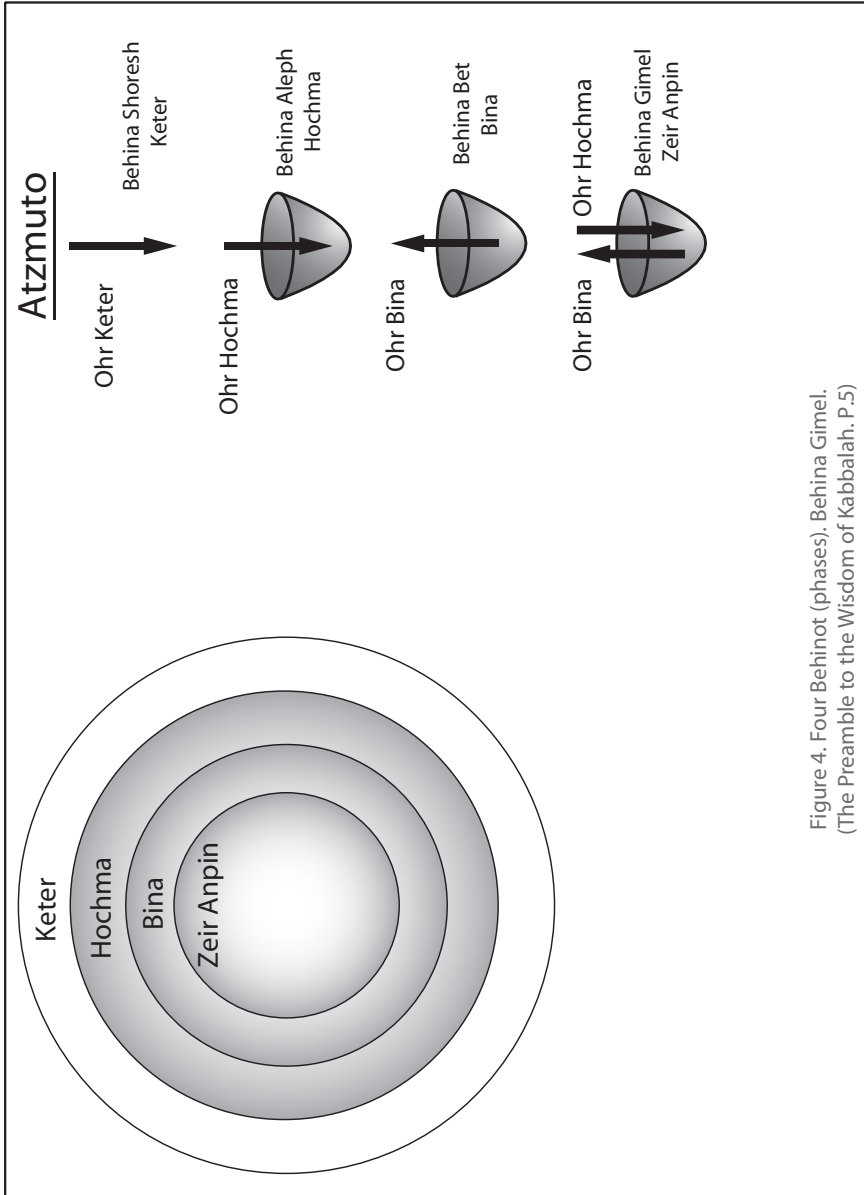


Figure 4. Four Behinot (phases). Behina Gimel.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.5)

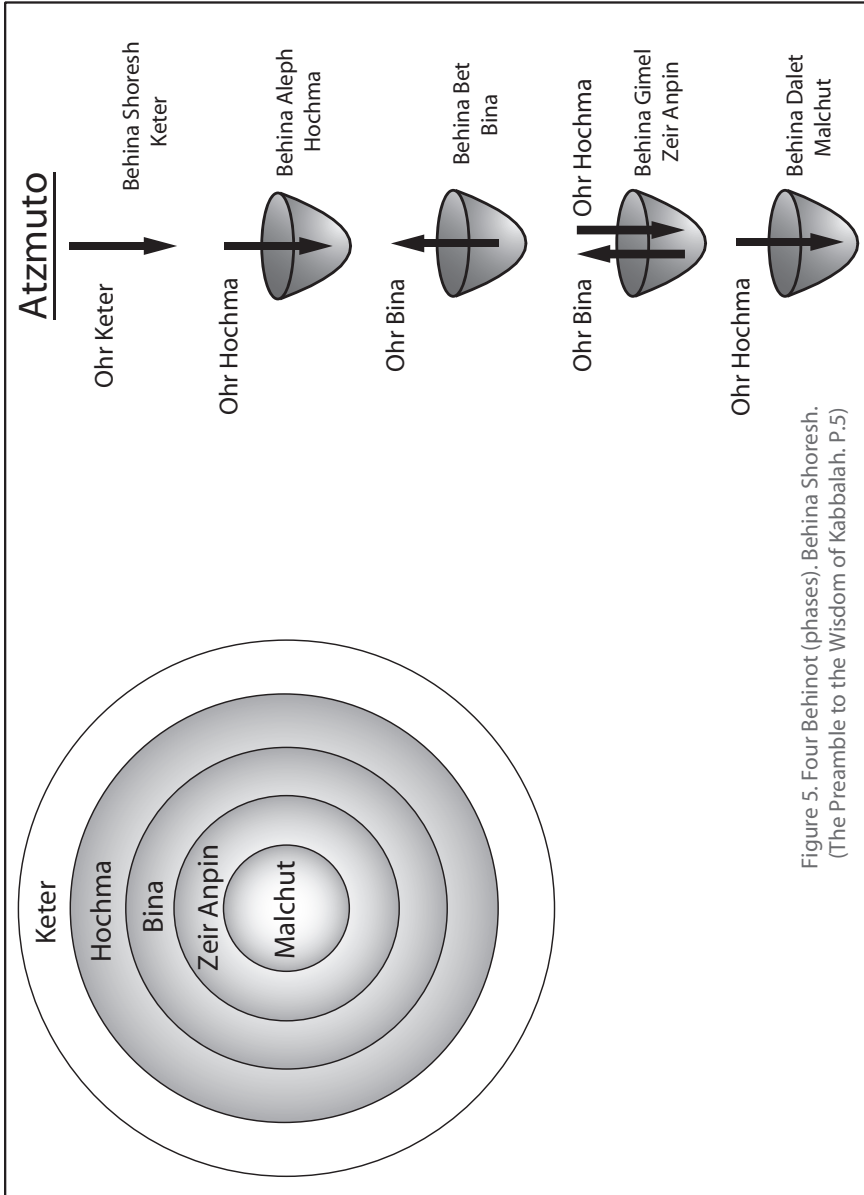


Figure 5. Four Behinot (phases). Behina Shoresh.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.5)

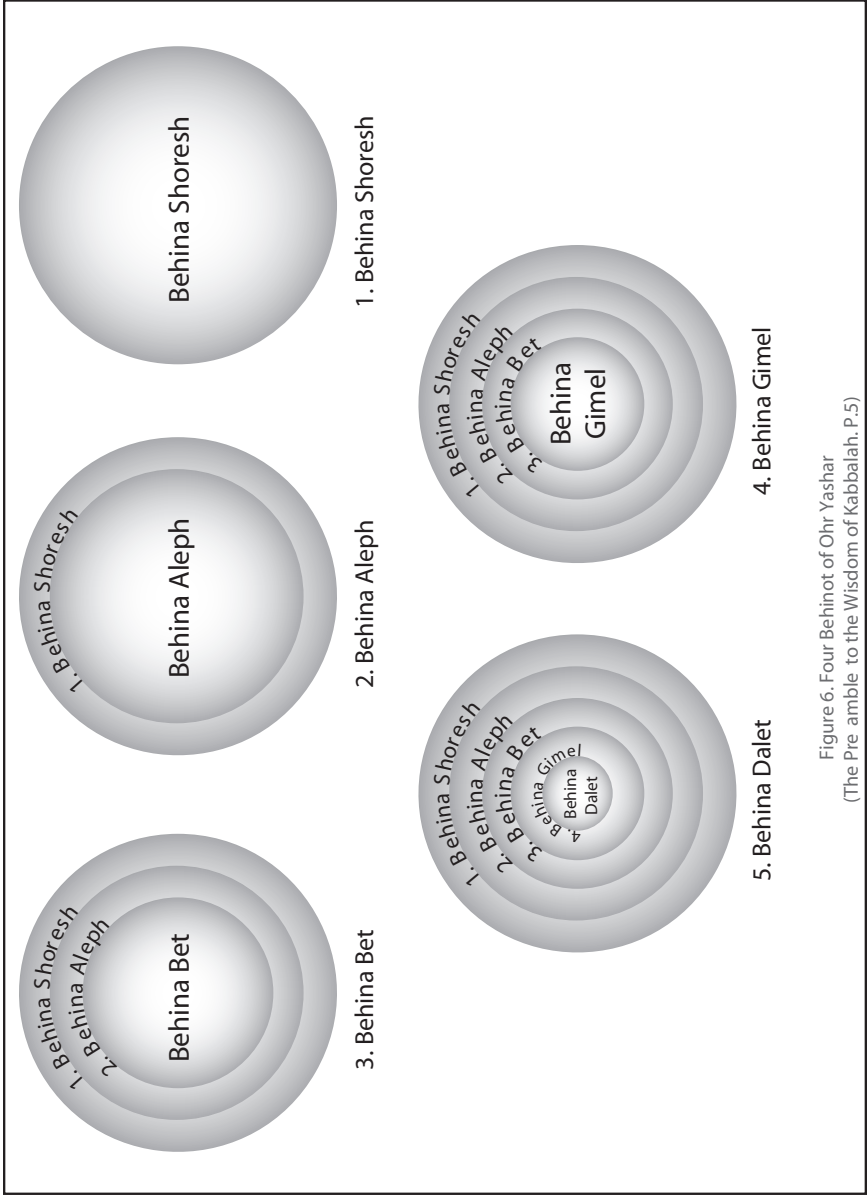


Figure 6. Four Behinot of Ohr Yashar
(The Pre-amble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.5)

ALBUM OF DRAWINGS

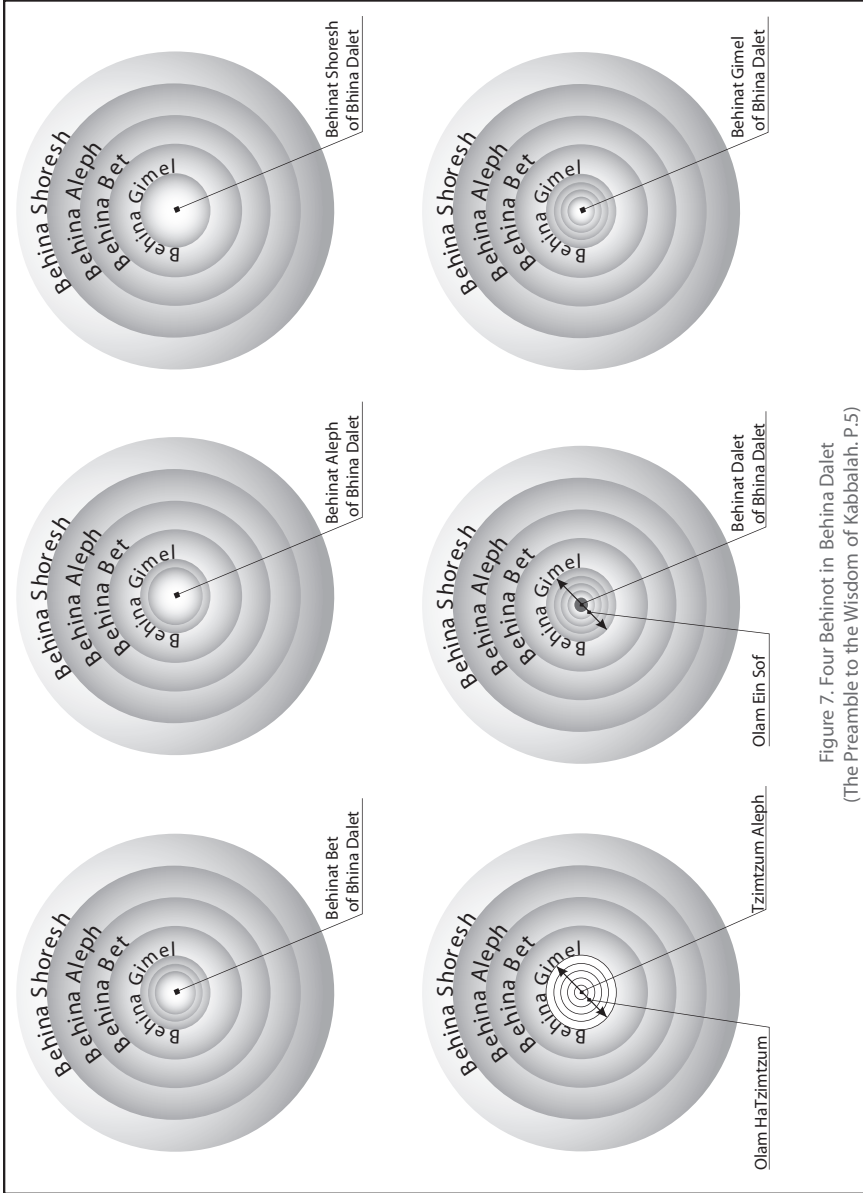


Figure 7. Four Behinot in Behina Dalet
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.5)

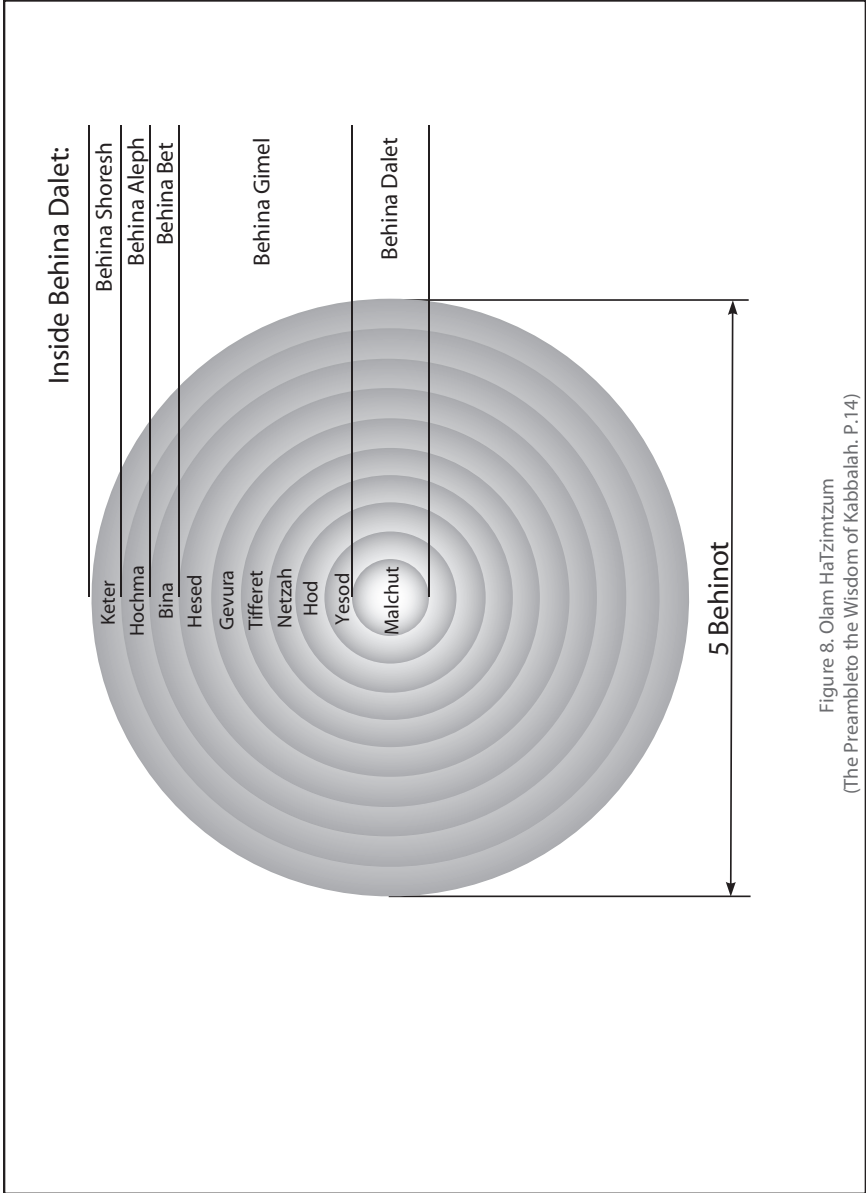


Figure 8. Olam HaTzimtzum
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.14)

ALBUM OF DRAWINGS

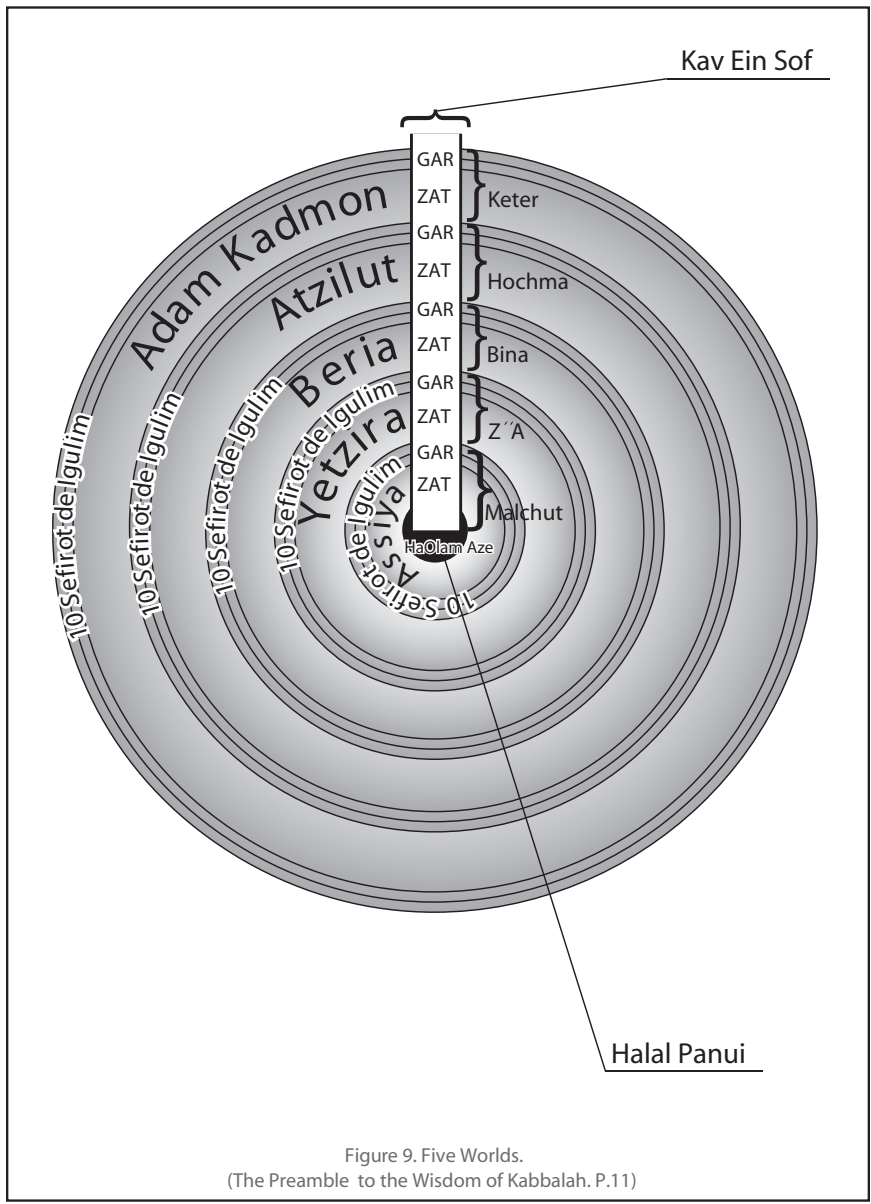


Figure 9. Five Worlds.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.11)

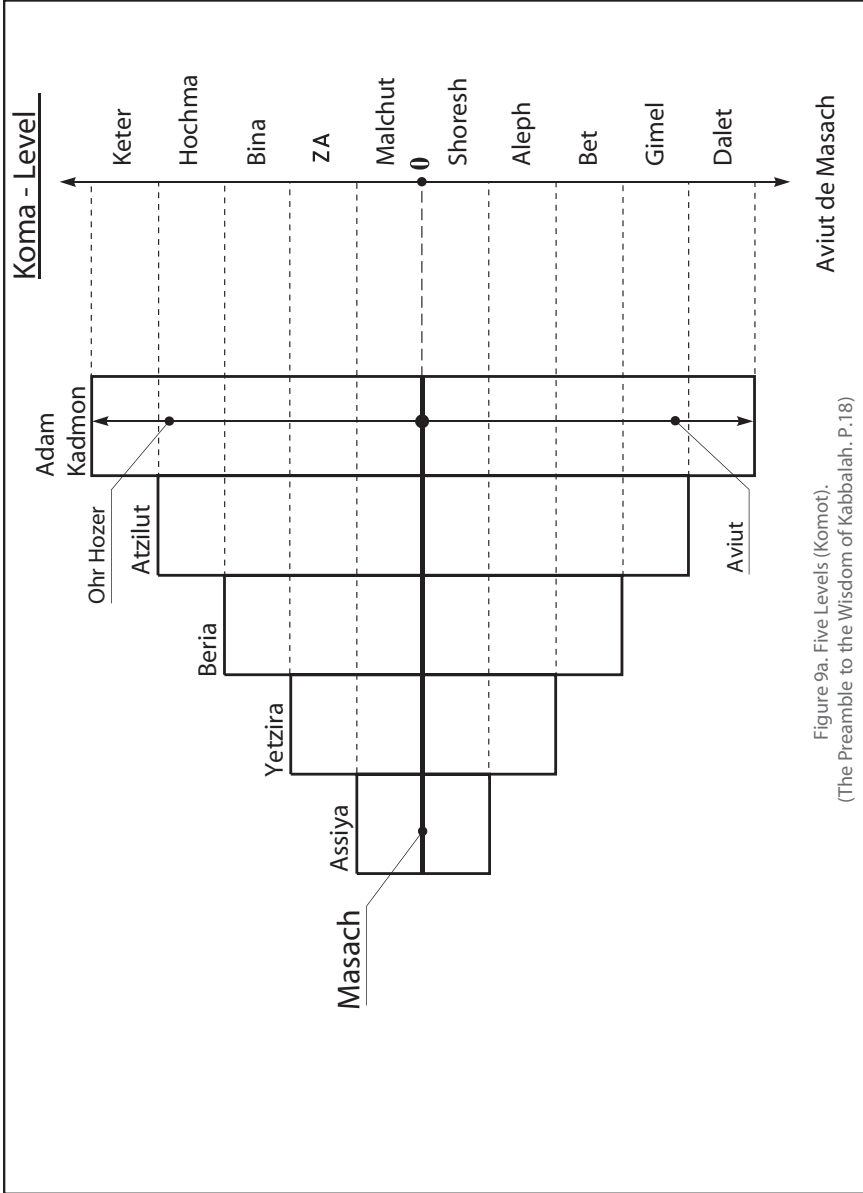


Figure 9a. Five Levels (Komet).
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.18)

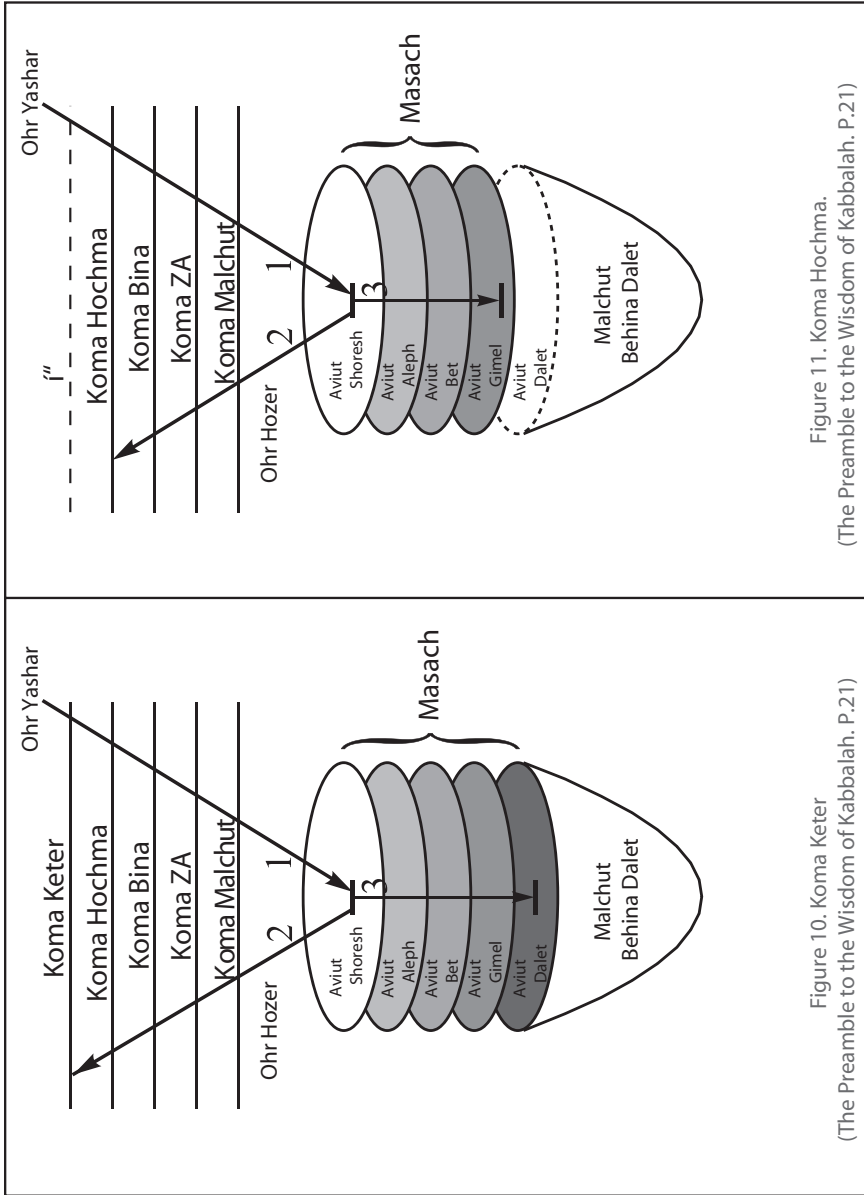


Figure 11. Koma Hochma.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.21)

Figure 10. Koma Keter
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.21)

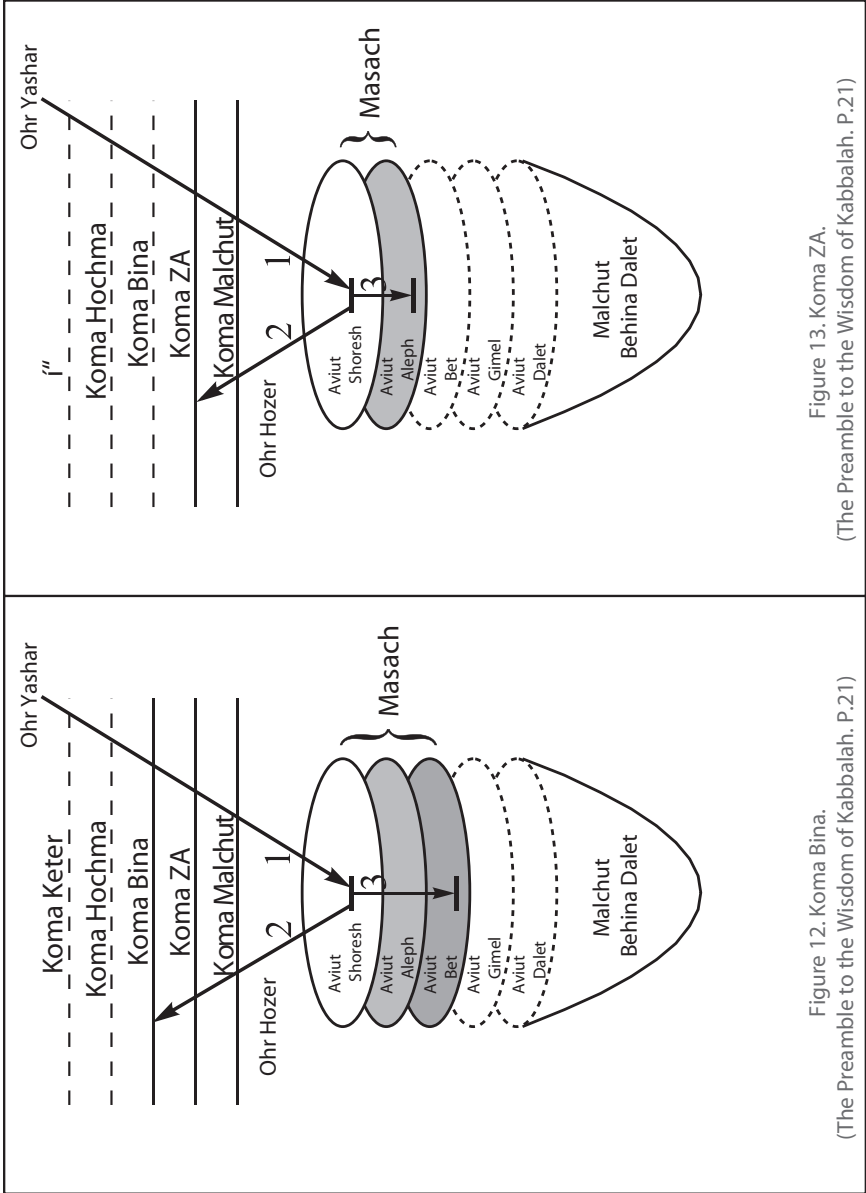


Figure 12. Koma Bina.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.21)

Figure 13. Koma ZA.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.21)

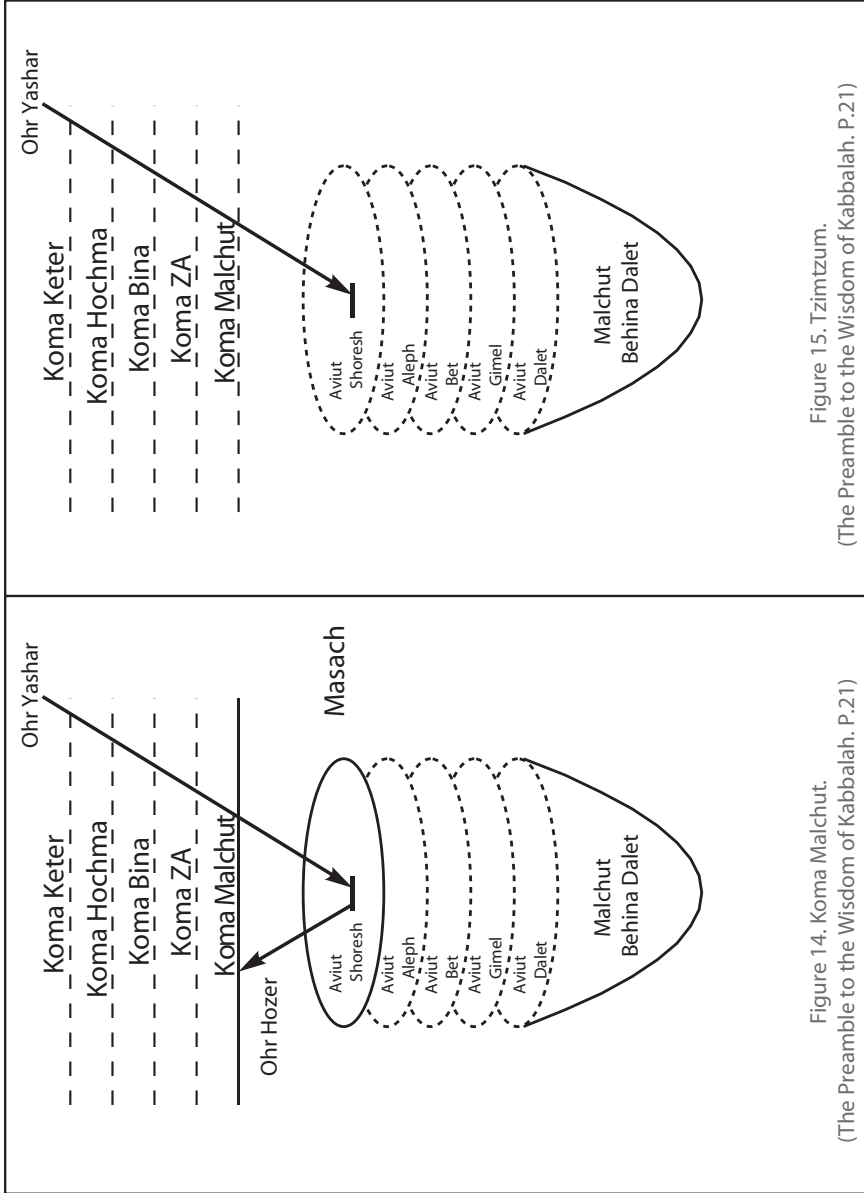


Figure 15. Tzimtzum.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.21)

Figure 14. Koma Malchut.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.21)

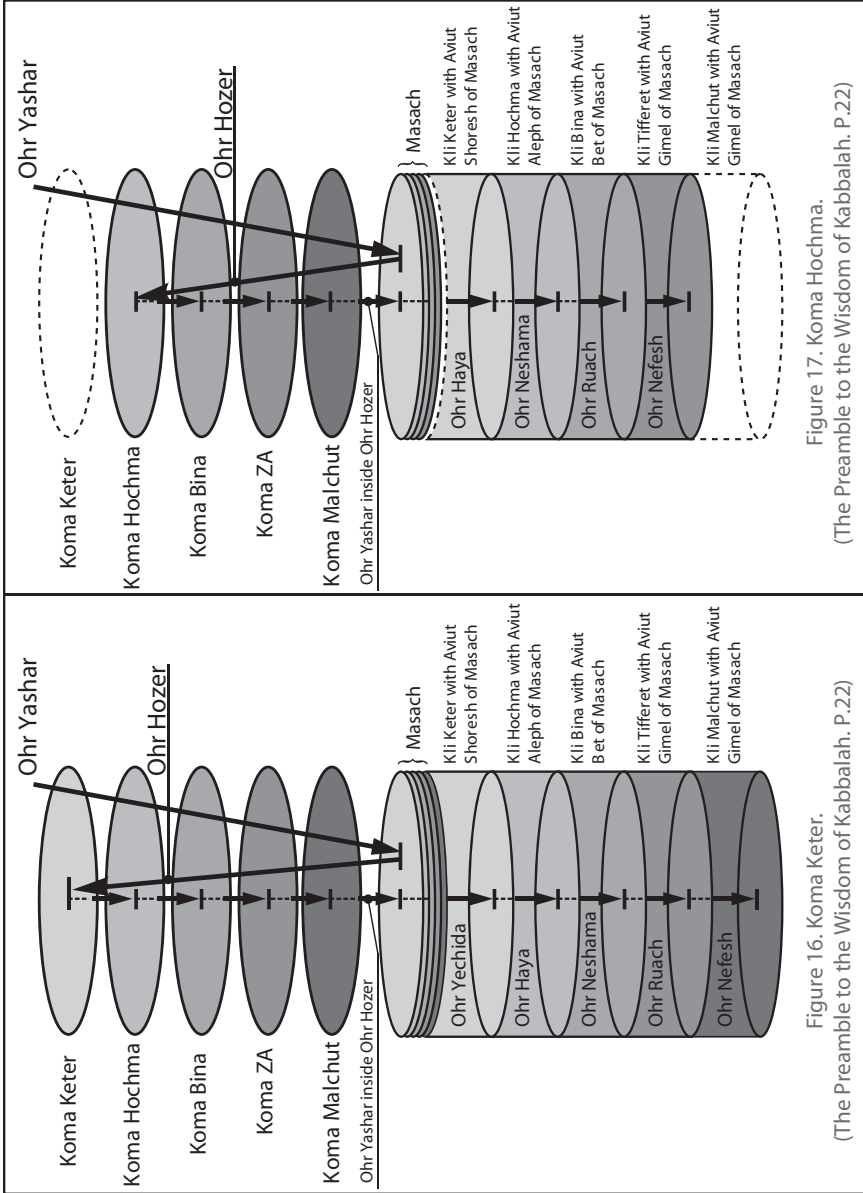


Figure 16. Koma Keter.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.22)

Figure 17. Koma Hochma.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.22)

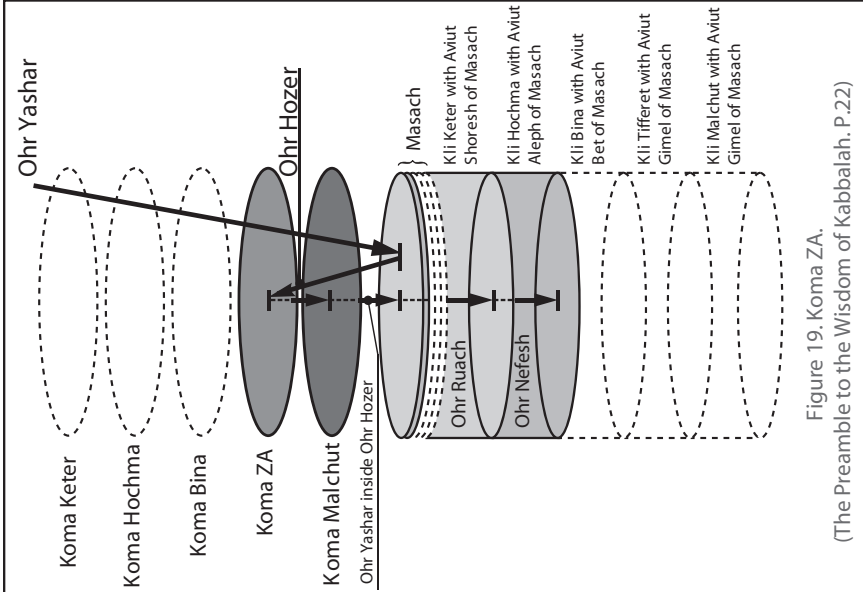


Figure 19. Koma ZA.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.22)

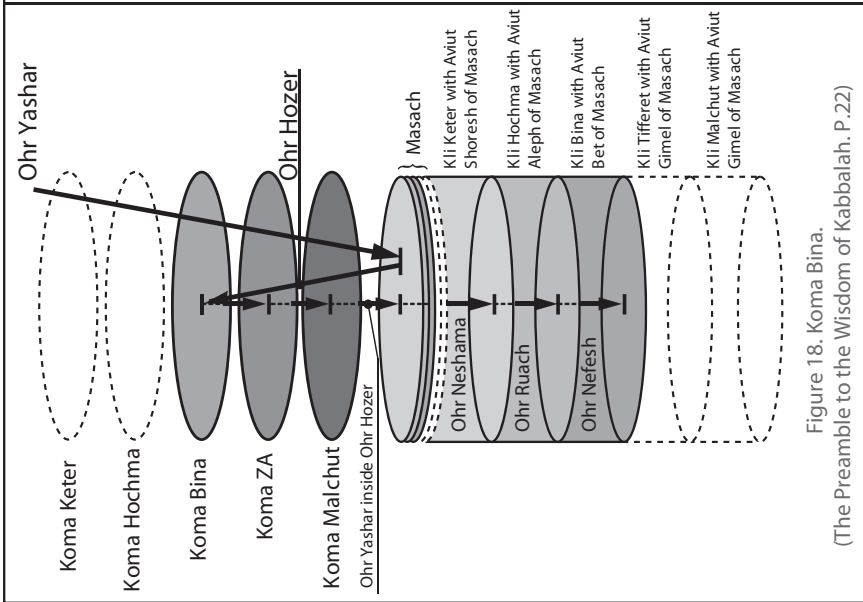


Figure 18. Koma Bina.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.22)

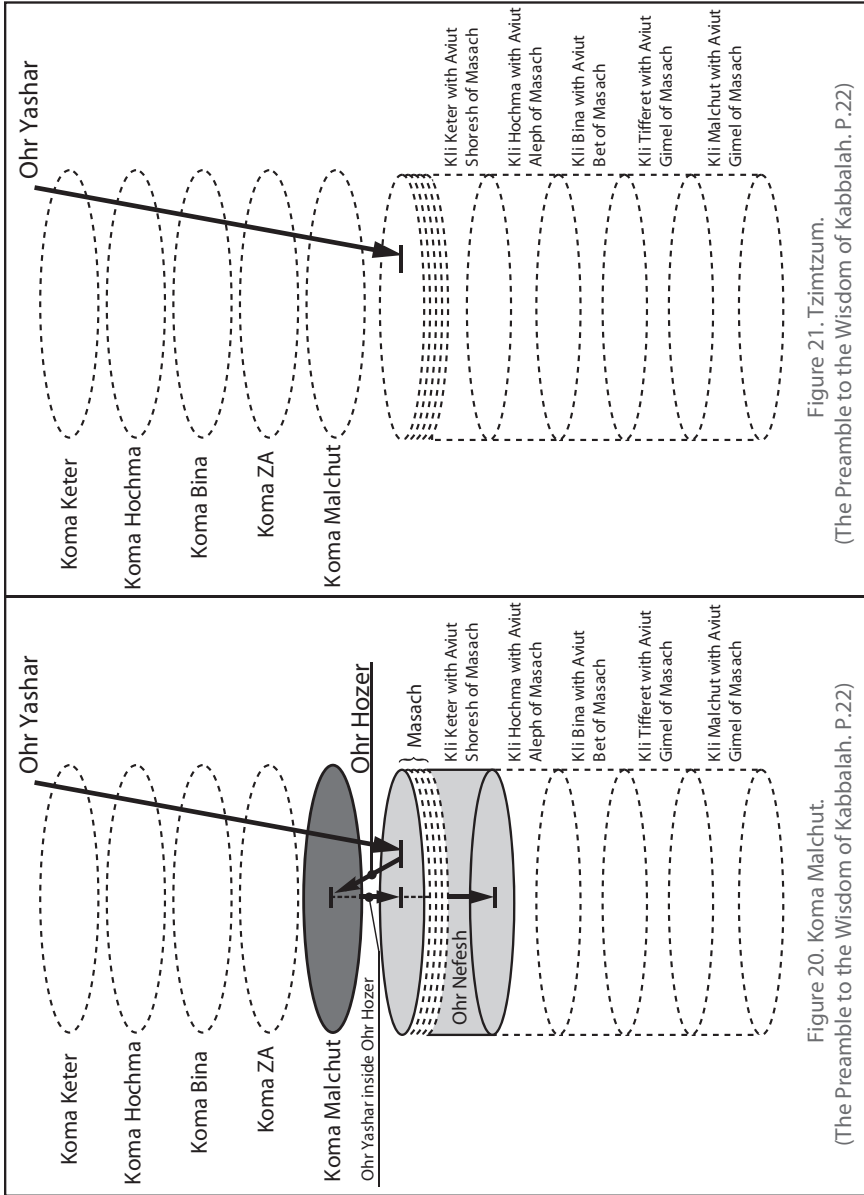


Figure 21. Tzintzum.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.22)

Figure 20. Koma Malchut.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.22)

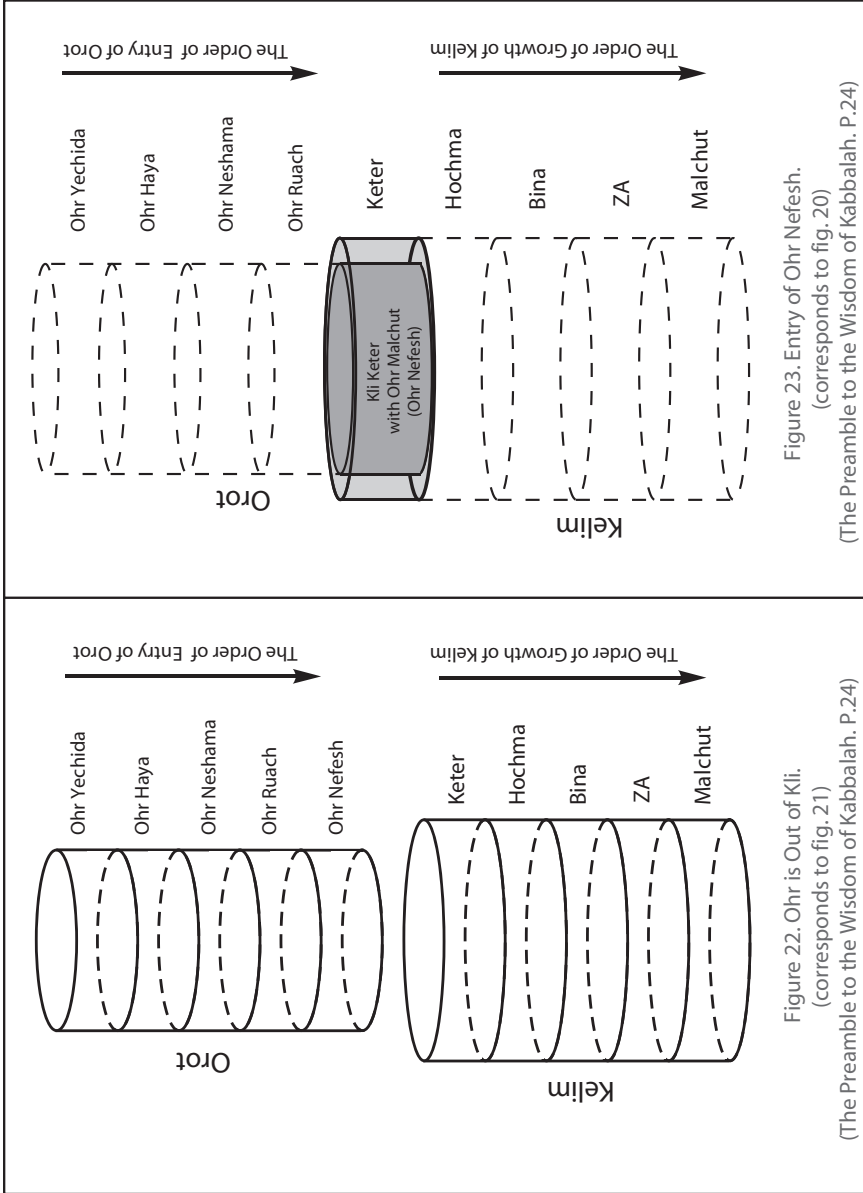
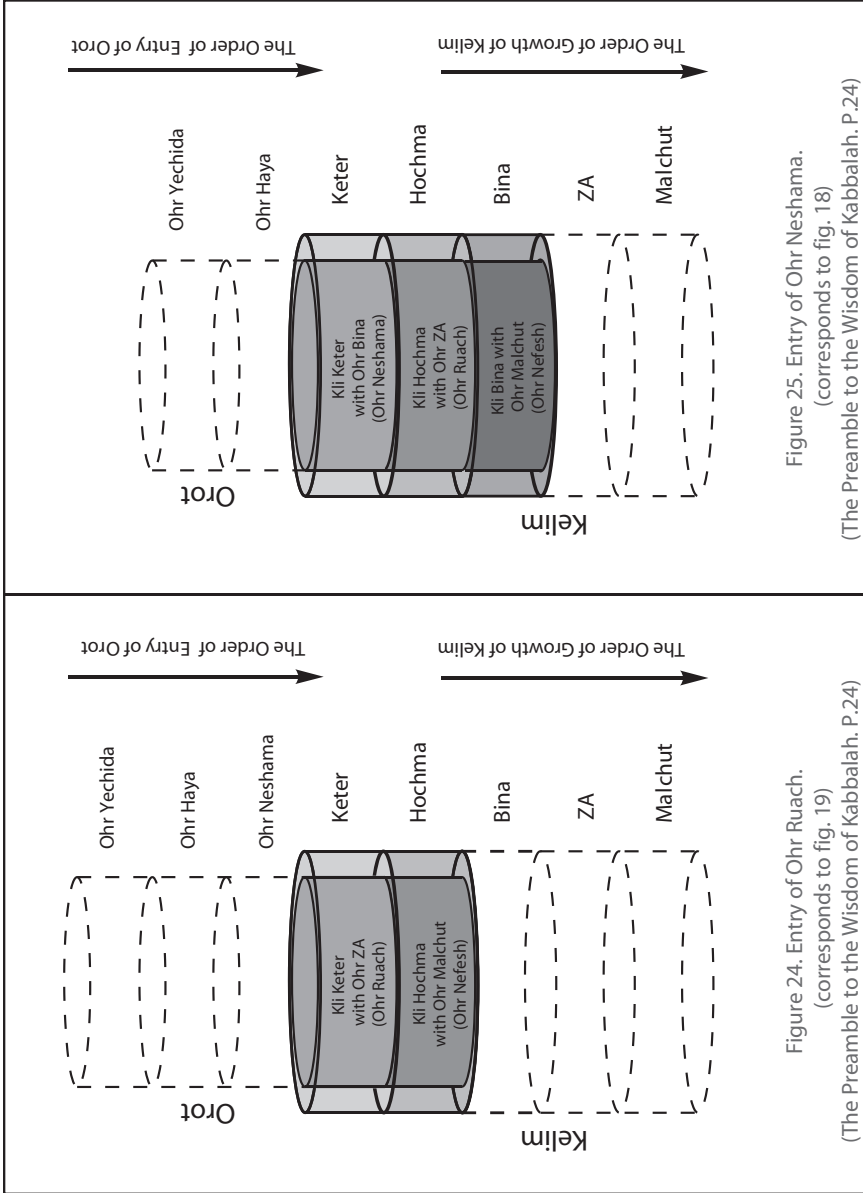


Figure 23. Entry of Ohr Nefesh.
(corresponds to fig. 20)
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.24)

Figure 22. Ohr is Out of Kli.
(corresponds to fig. 21)
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.24)



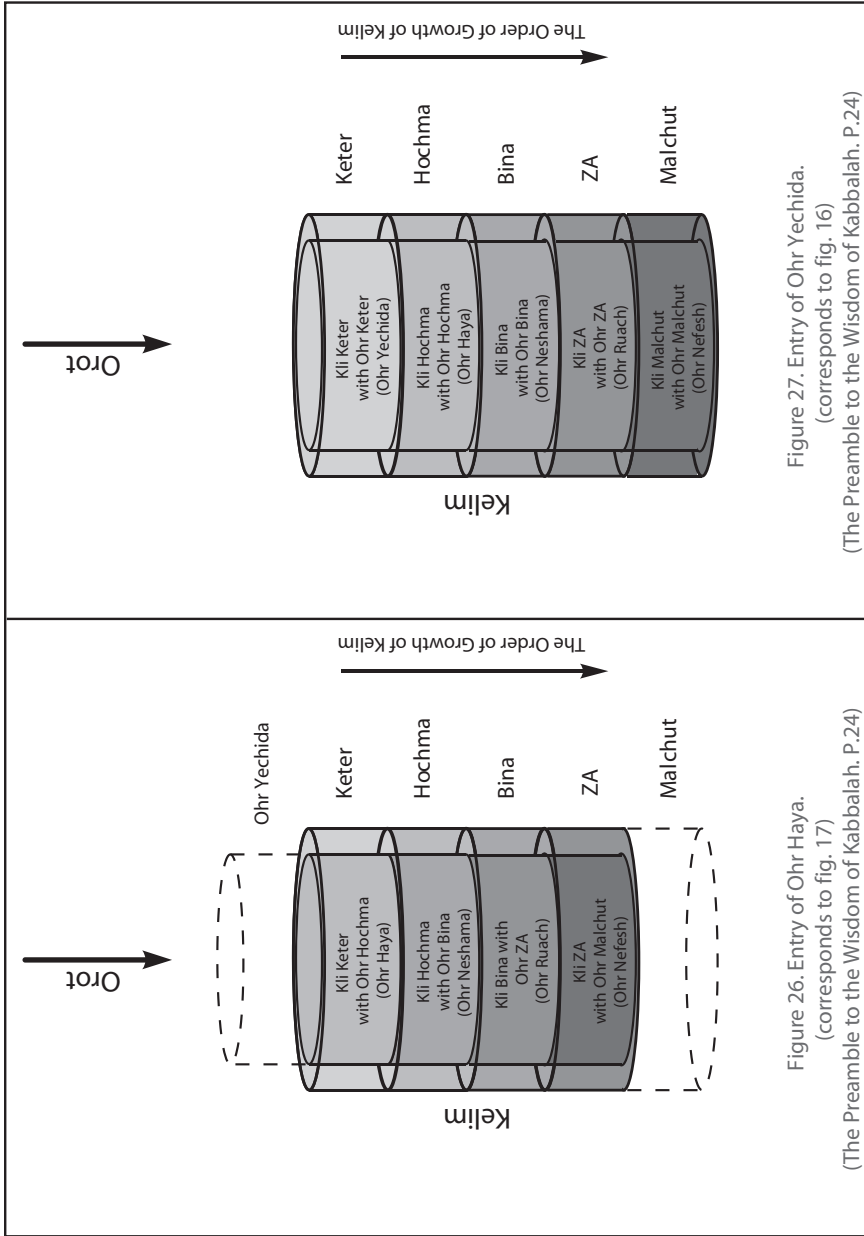


Figure 26. Entry of Ohr Haya.
 (corresponds to fig. 17)
 (The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.24)

Figure 27. Entry of Ohr Yechida.
 (corresponds to fig. 16)
 (The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.24)

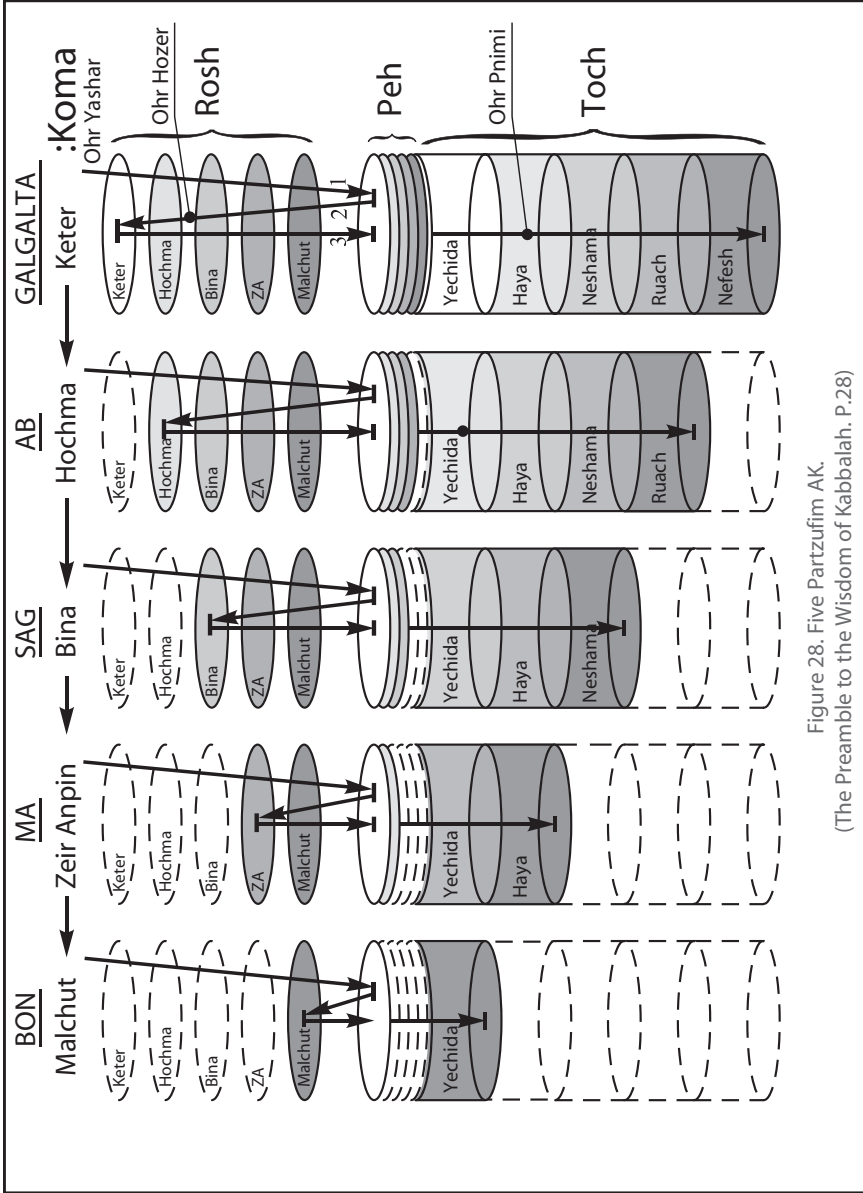


Figure 28. Five Partzufim AK.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.28)

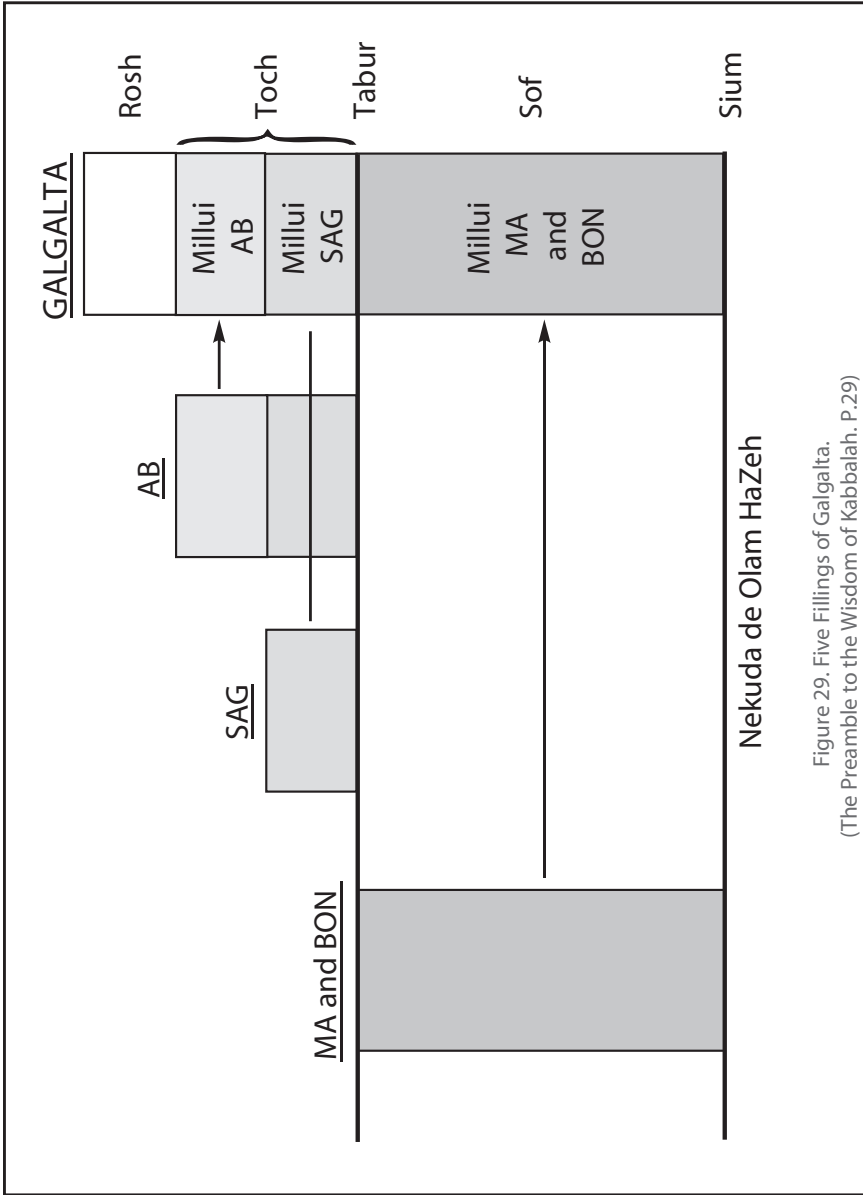


Figure 29. Five Fillings of Galgalta.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.29)

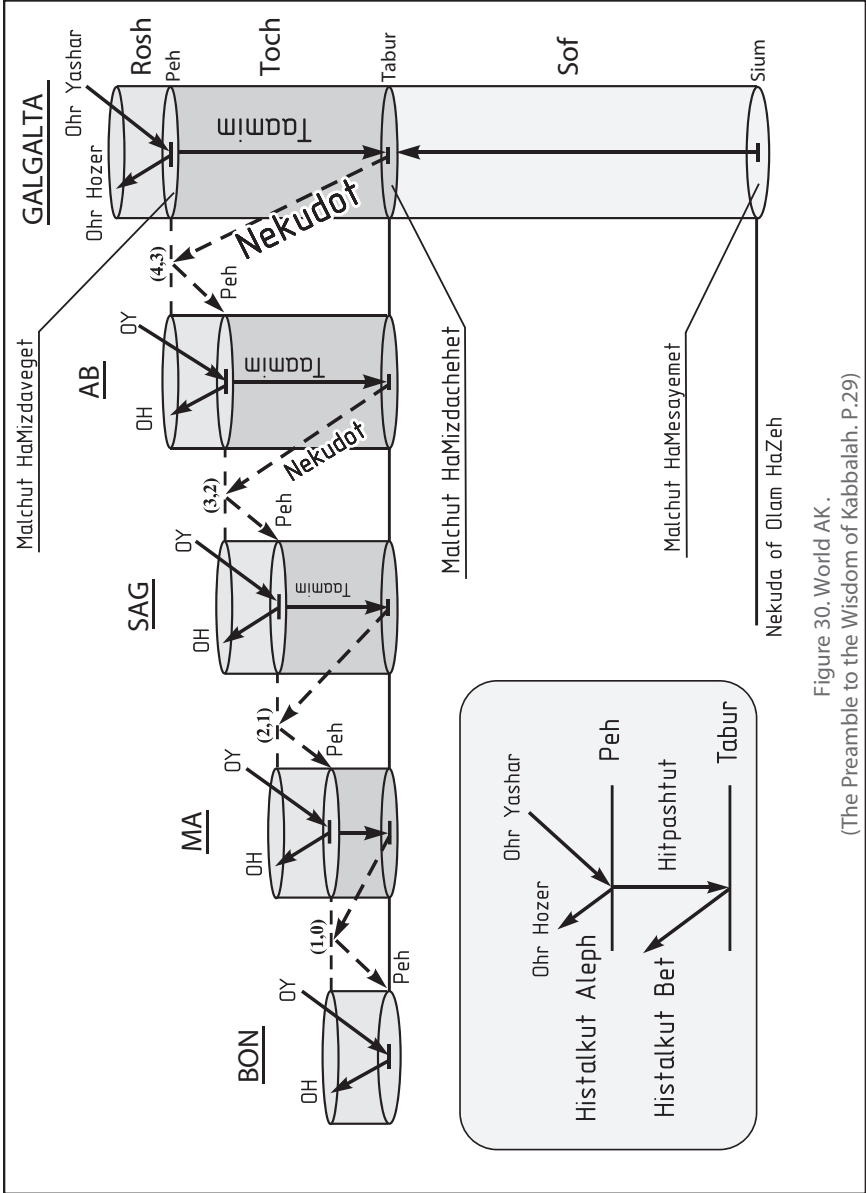


Figure 30. World AK.
 (The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.29)

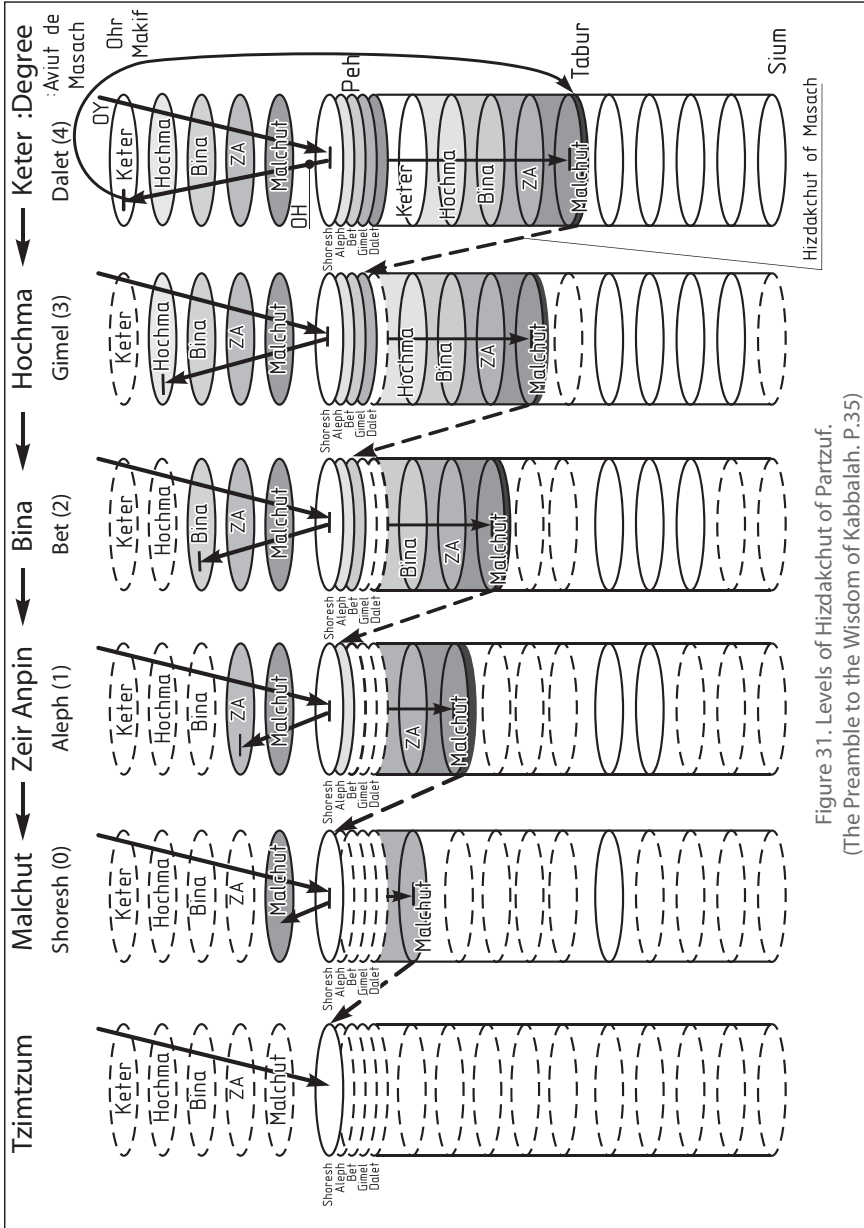


Figure 31. Levels of Hizdakchut of Partzuf.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.35)

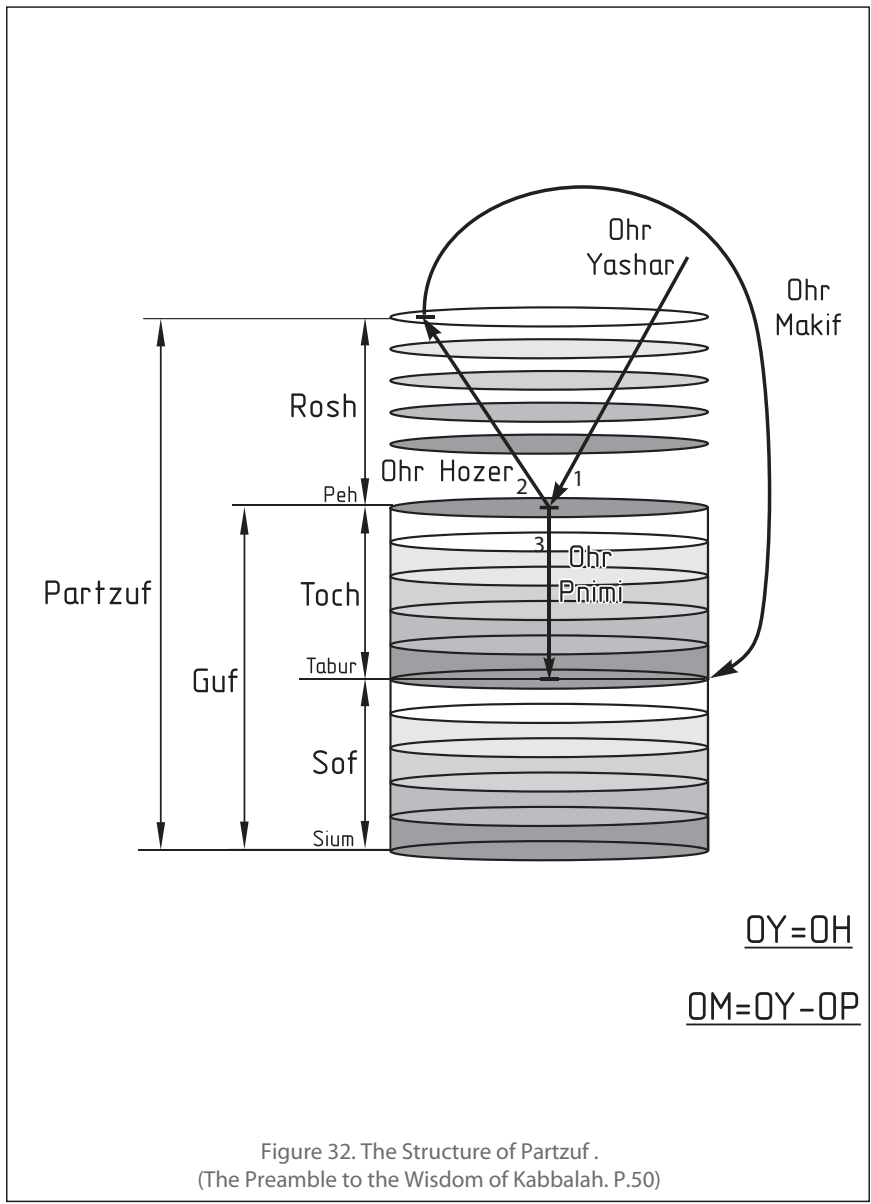


Figure 32. The Structure of Partzuf .
 (The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.50)

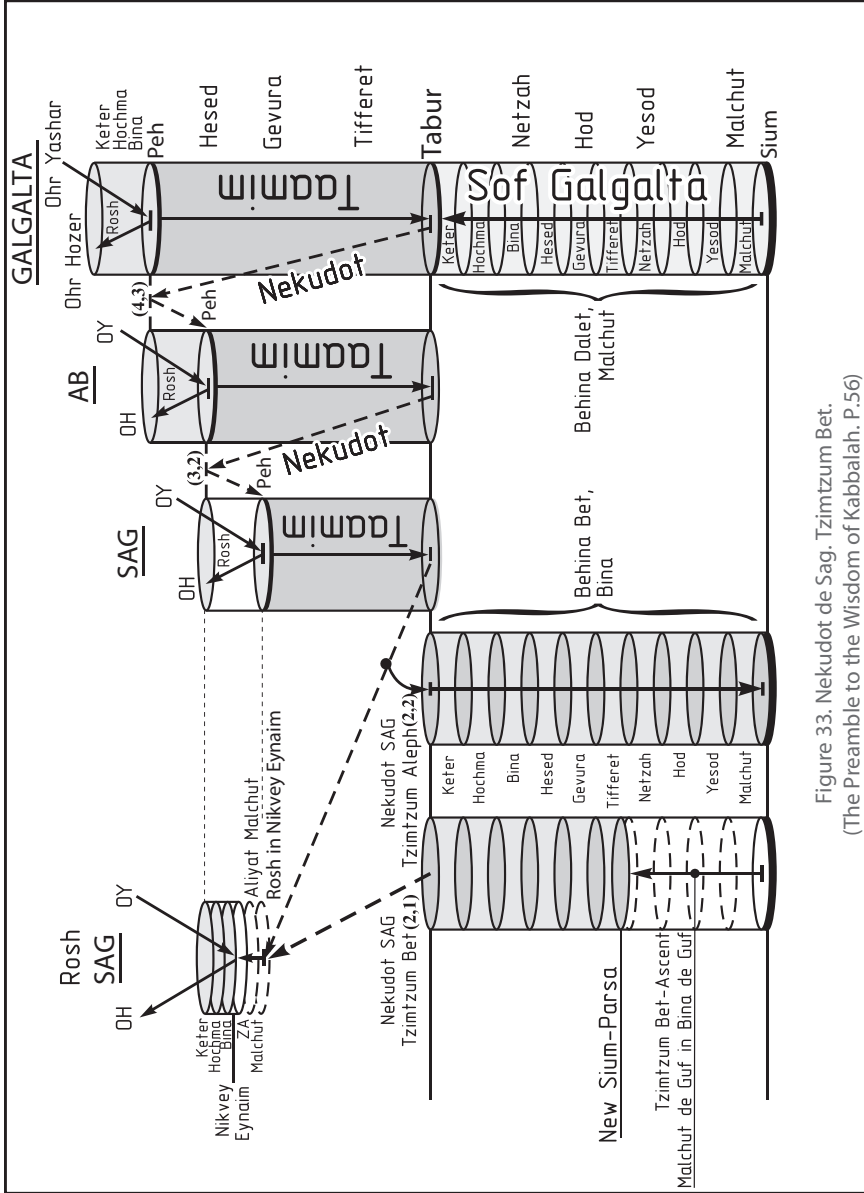


Figure 33. Nekudot de Sag. Tzimtzum Bet.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.56)

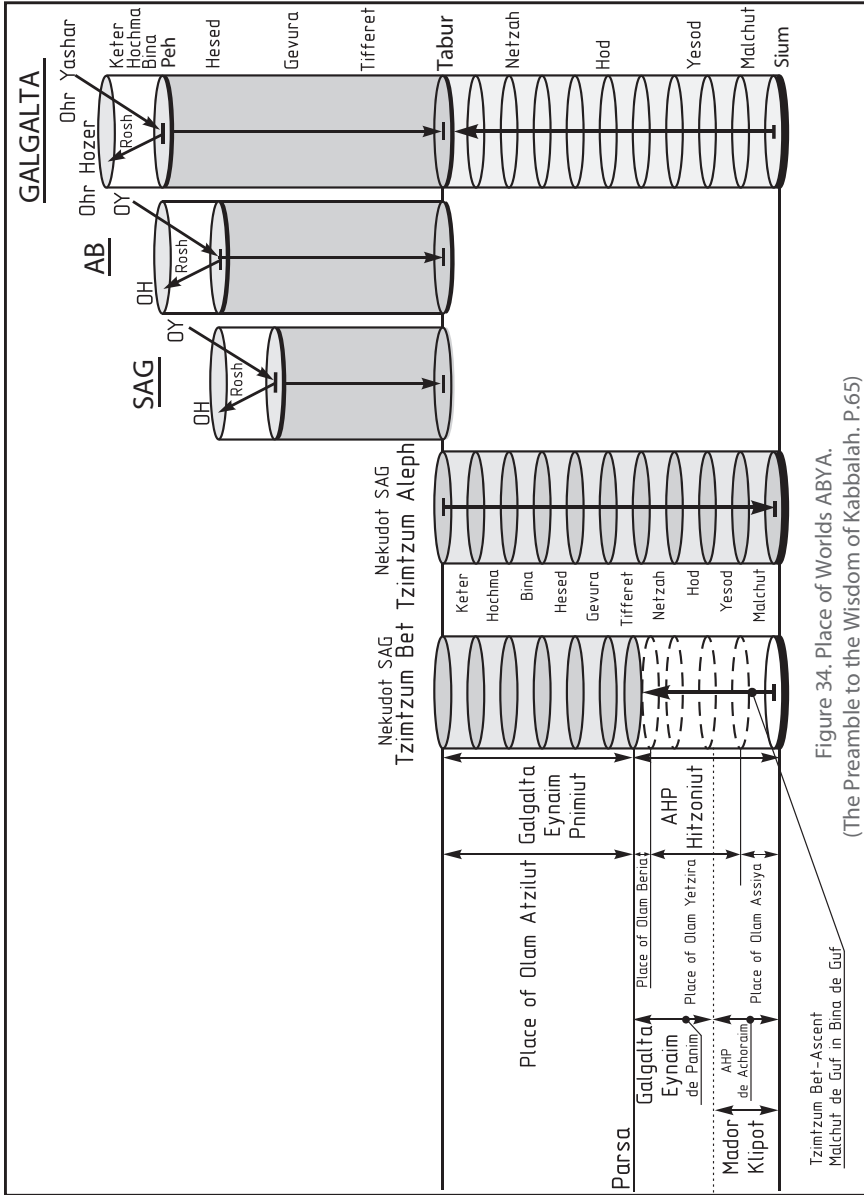


Figure 34. Place of Worlds ABYA.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.65)

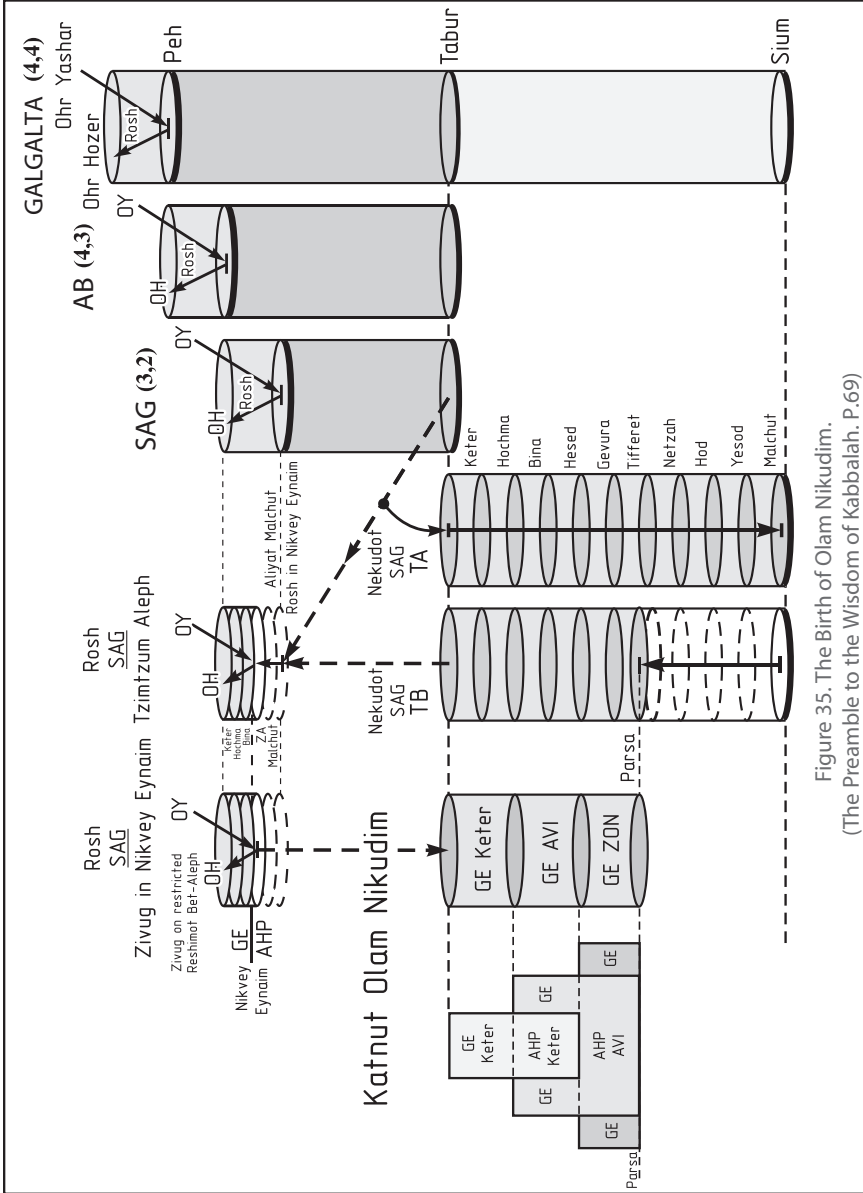


Figure 35. The Birth of Olam Nikudim.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah, P.69)

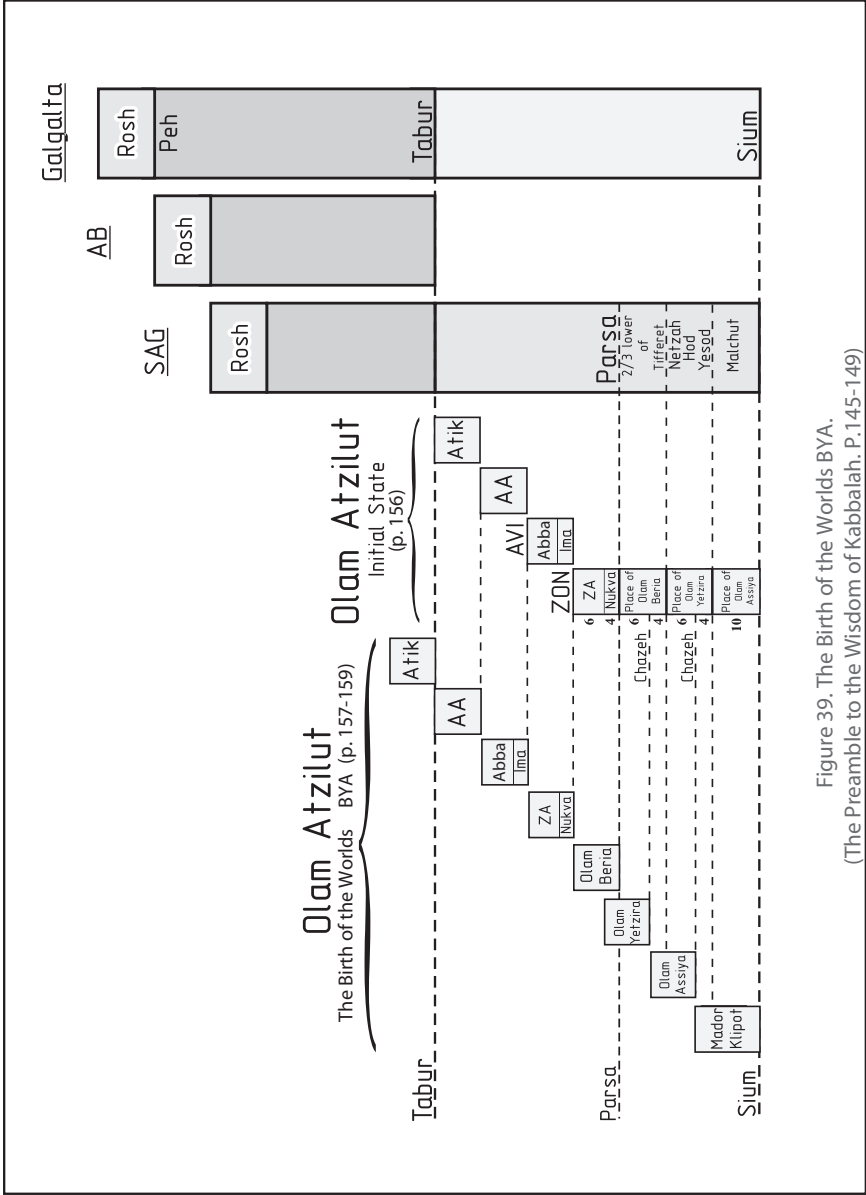


Figure 39. The Birth of the Worlds BYA.
(The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.145-149)

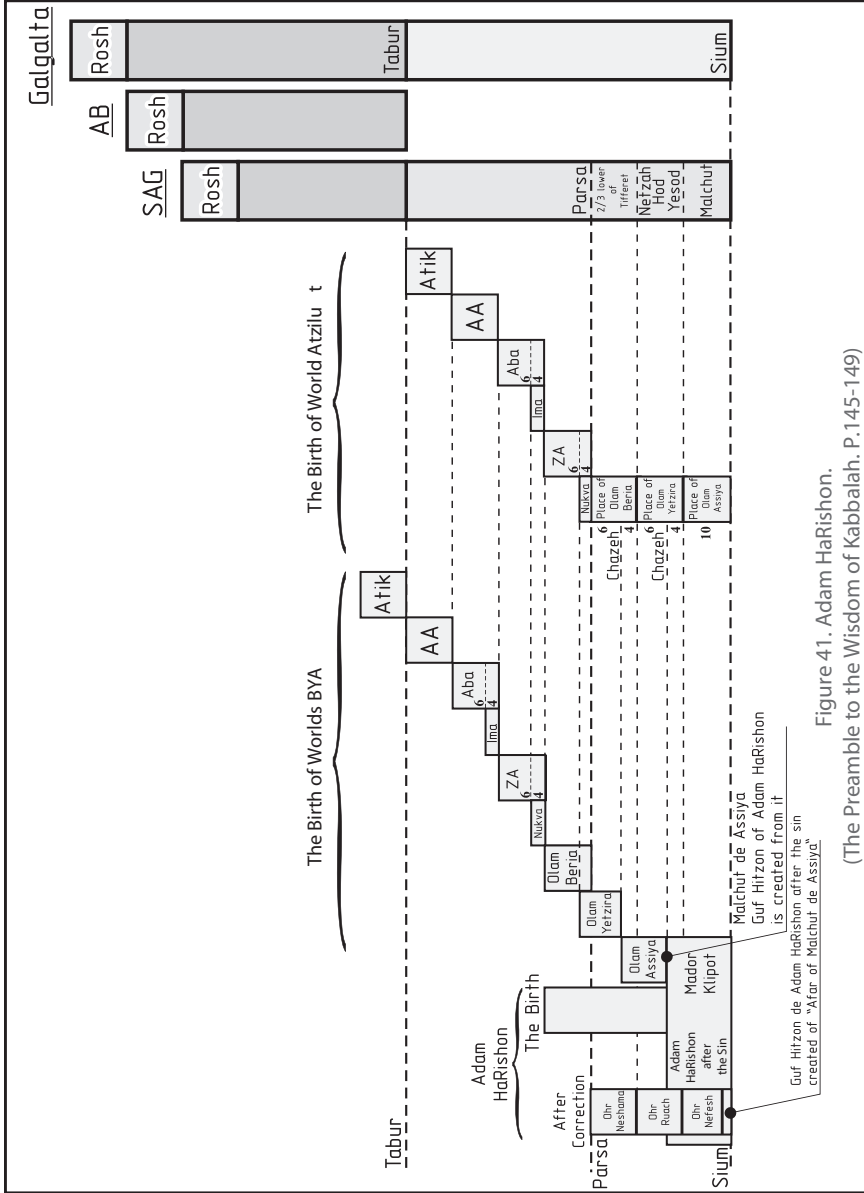


Figure 41. Adam HaRishon.
 (The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah. P.145-149)

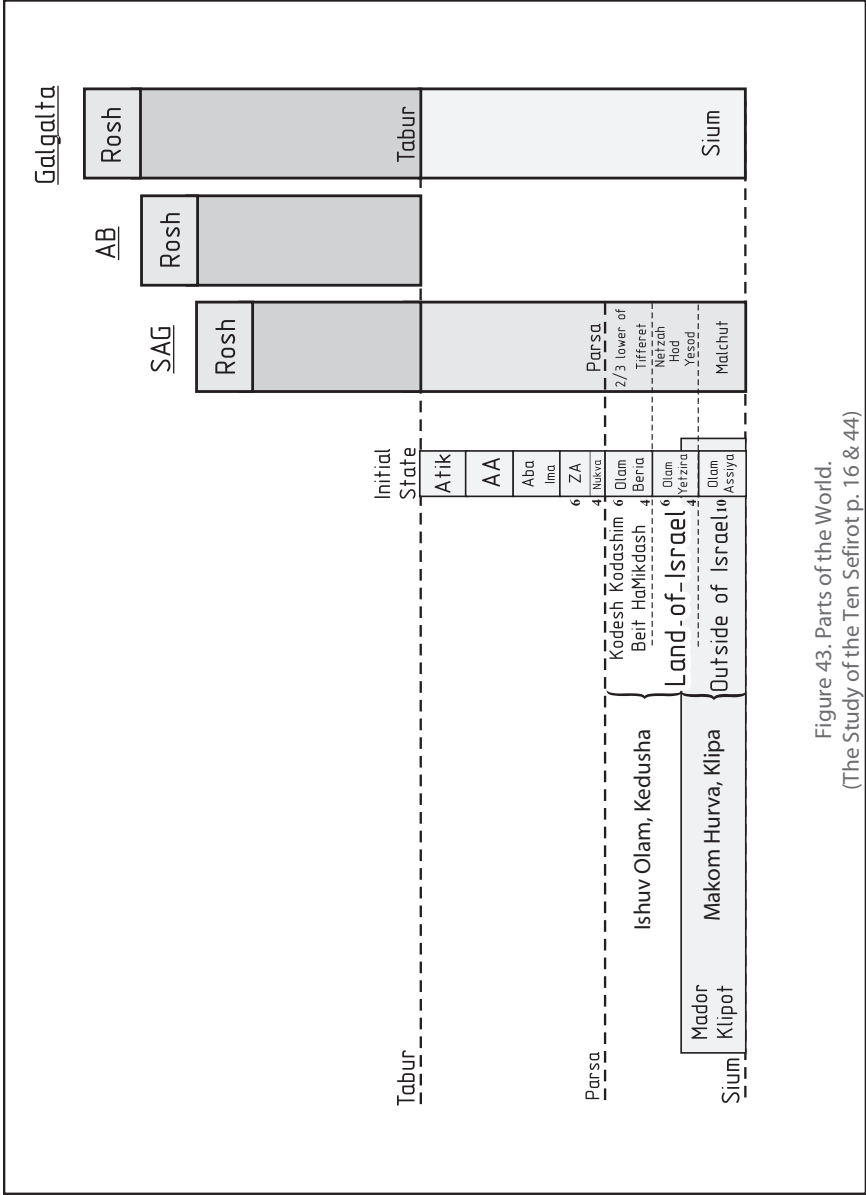


Figure 43. Parts of the World.
(The Study of the Ten Sefirot p. 16 & 44)

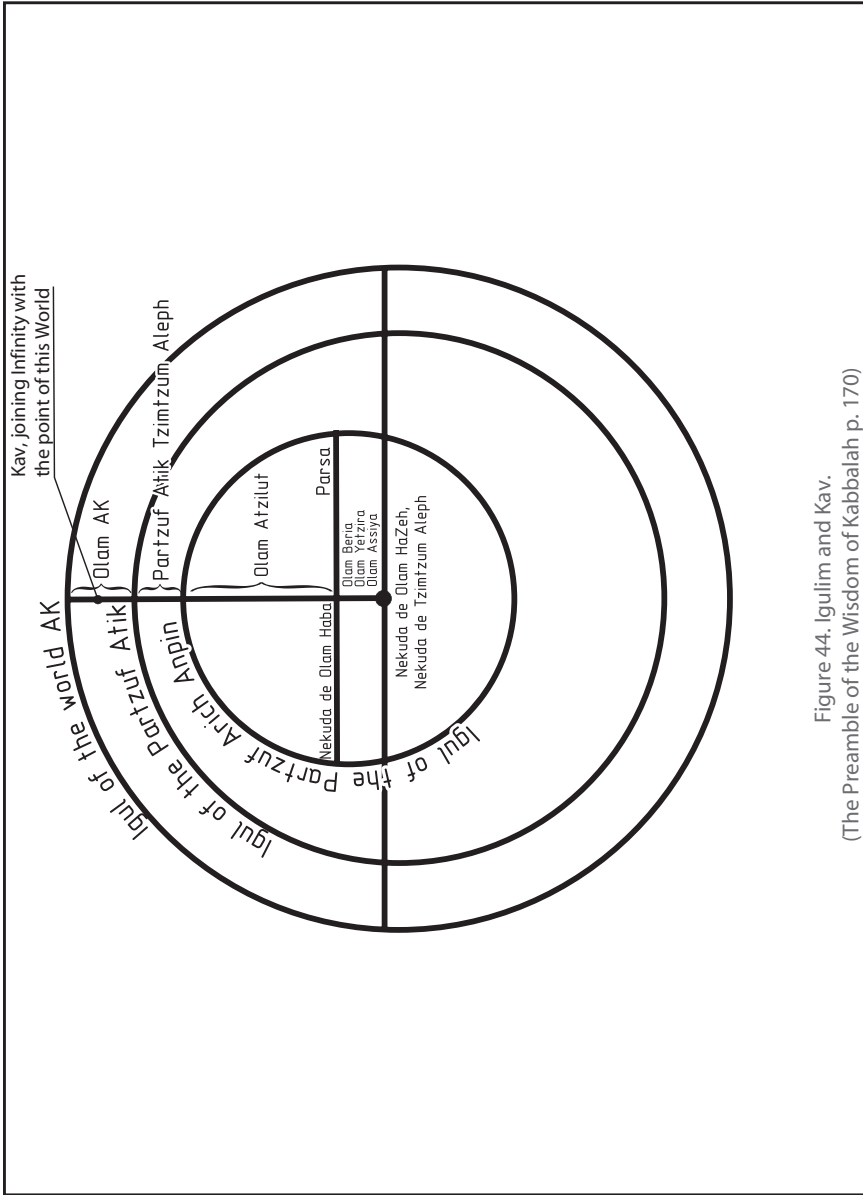


Figure 44. Igulim and Kav.
(The Preamble of the Wisdom of Kabbalah p. 170)



SEFER HA-ILAN

Fig. 1

The three first Partzufim of the World of AK

3. Bina, SAG

The third spreading in the World of AK named Partzuf SAG.

10 Sefirot de Rosh	
Ohr Hozer Malchut Tifferet Bina Hochma Keter	Ohr Yashar Keter Hochma Bina Tifferet Malchut
Masach in Kli Malchut	
Peh	
10 Sefirot de Toch	
Keter Hochma Bina Hesed Gevura 1/3 Tifferet	
Chazeh	
2/3 Tifferet	
Netzah Had Yesod Malchut	
Tabur	
10 Sefirot de Sof	
Keter Hochma Bina Tifferet Malchut	
Sium Raglin	

2. Hochma, AB

The second spreading in the World of AK named Partzuf AB.

10 Sefirot de Rosh	
Ohr Hozer Malchut Tifferet Bina Hochma Keter	Ohr Yashar Keter Hochma Bina Tifferet Malchut
Masach in Kli Malchut	
Peh	
10 Sefirot de Toch	
Keter Hochma Bina Hesed Gevura 1/3 Tifferet	
Chazeh	
2/3 Tifferet	
Netzah Had Yesod Malchut	
Tabur	
10 Sefirot de Sof	
Keter Hochma Bina Tifferet Malchut	
Sium Raglin	

1. Keter, Galgalta

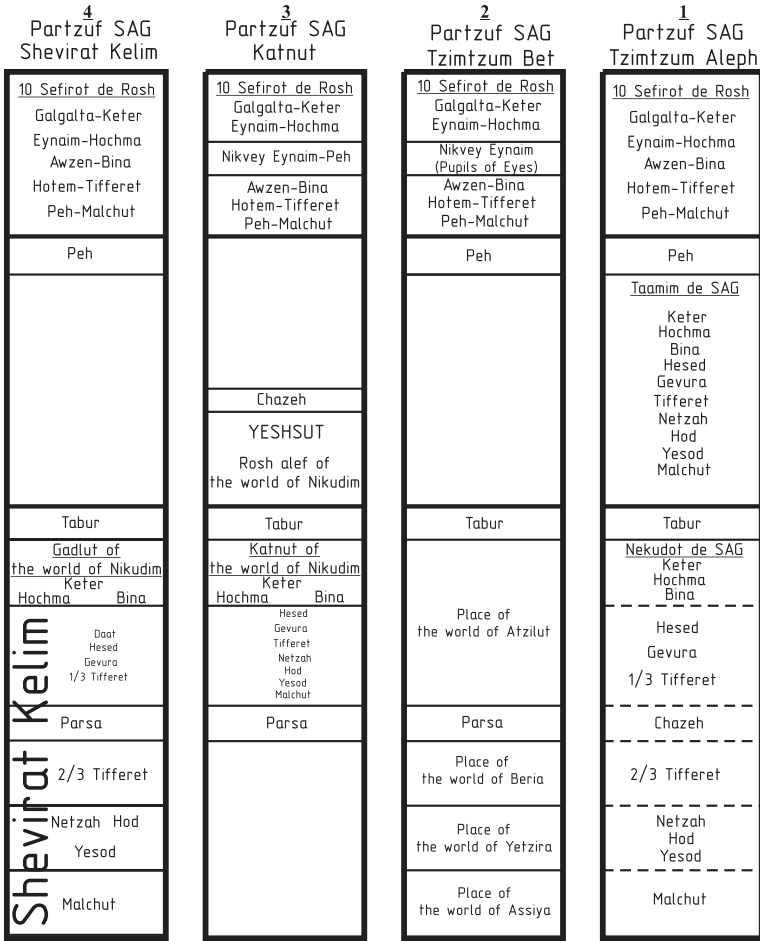
Spreading of the first ten Sefirot from the World of Infinity into the void, formed after TA, named Partzuf Keter, Galgalta, AK Pnimi.

10 Sefirot de Rosh		Kav Ein Sof, beam of the Light of Infinity
Ohr Hozer Malchut Tifferet Bina Hochma Keter	Ohr Yashar Keter Hochma Bina Tifferet Malchut	
Masach in Kli Malchut		
Peh		
10 Sefirot de Toch		
Keter Hochma Bina Hesed Gevura 1/3 Tifferet		
Chazeh		
2/3 Tifferet		
Netzah Had Yesod Malchut		
Tabur		
10 Sefirot de Sof		
Keter Hochma Bina Tifferet Malchut		
Sium Raglin		

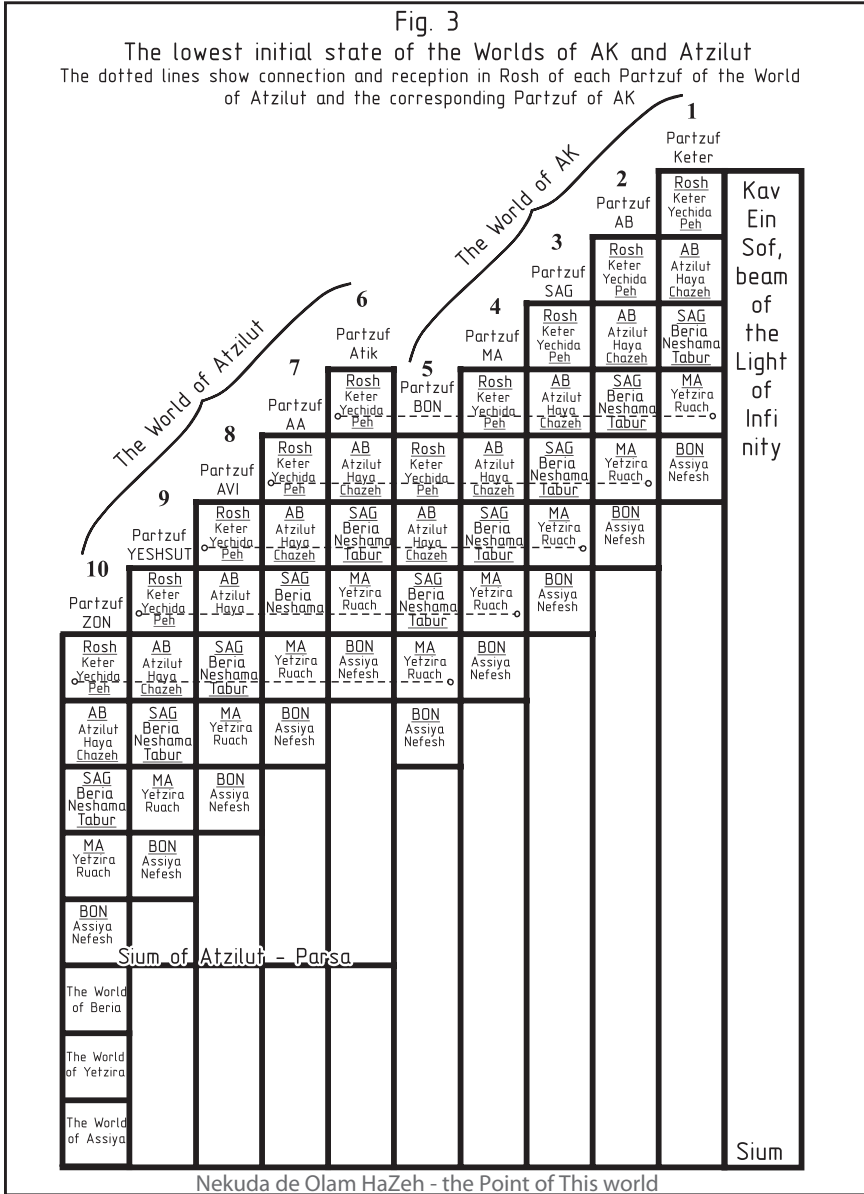
Nekuda de Olam HaZeh - the Point of This world

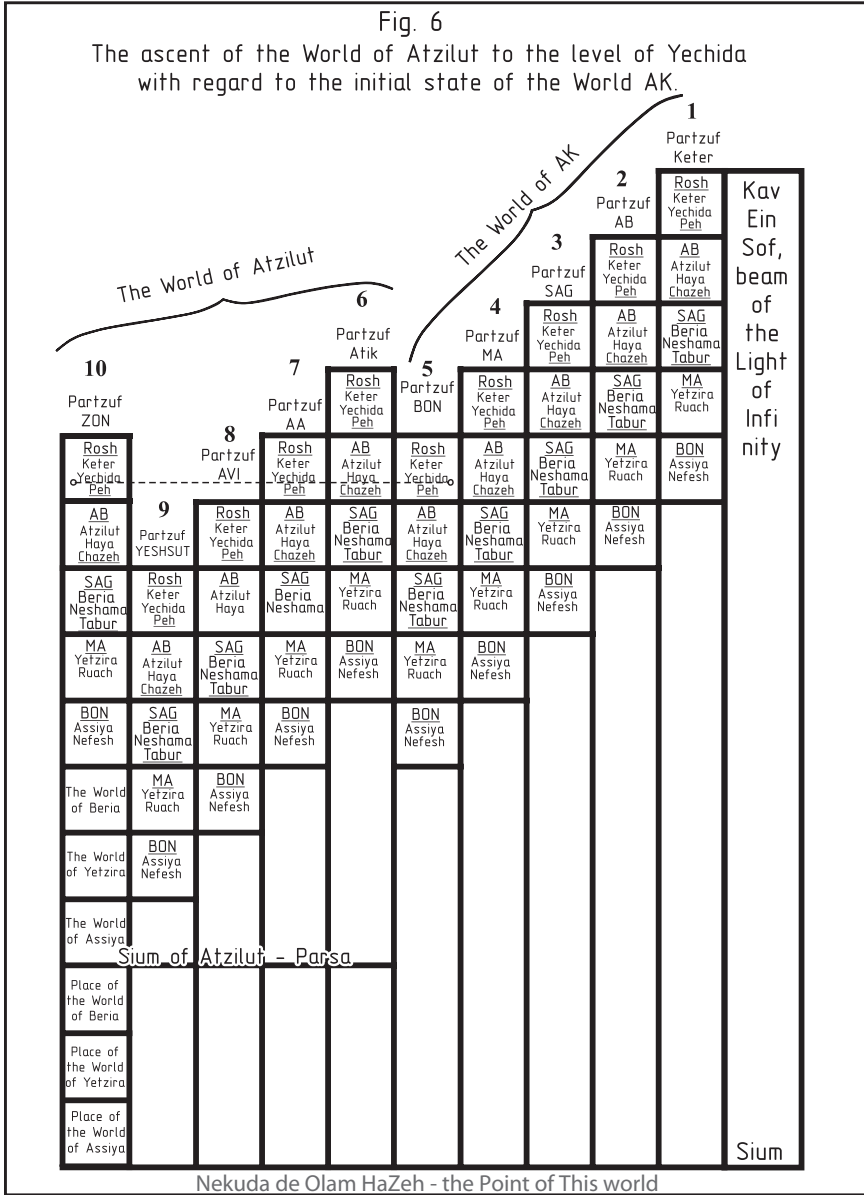
SEFER HA-ILAN

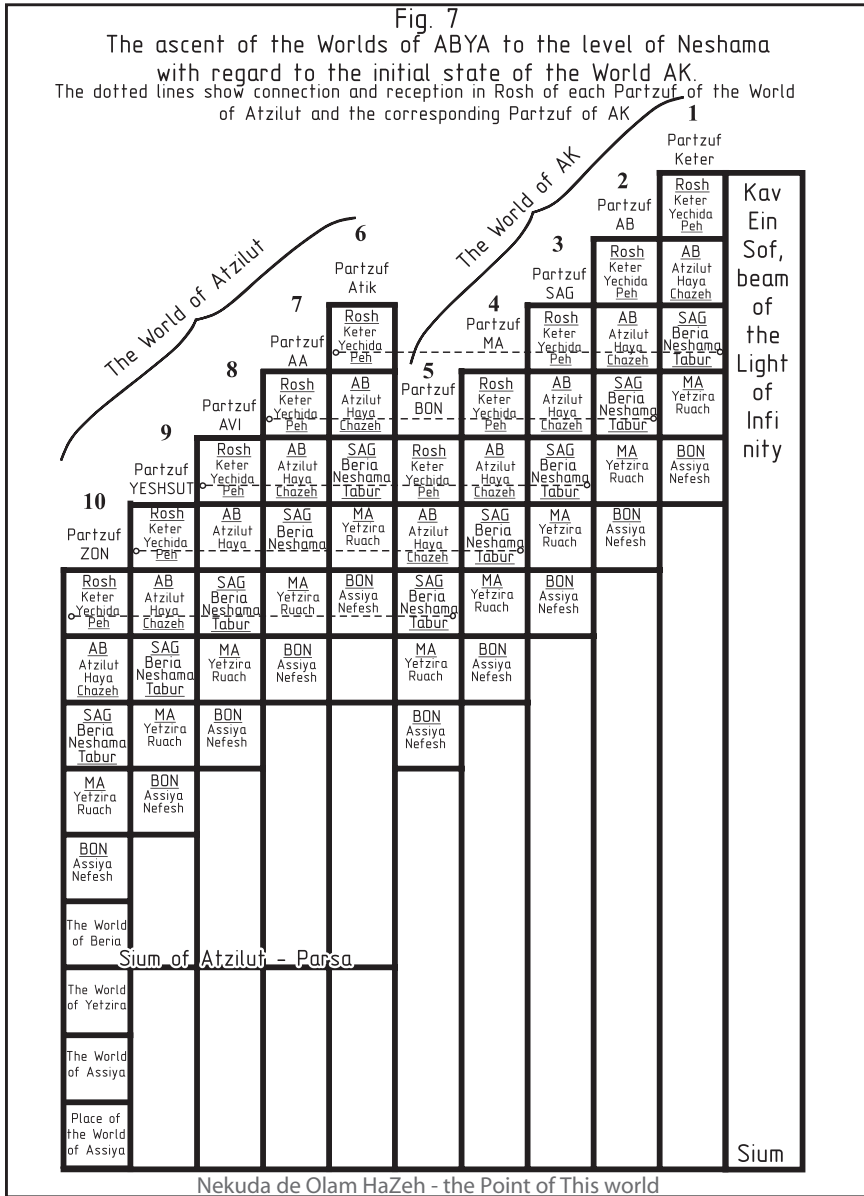
Fig. 2

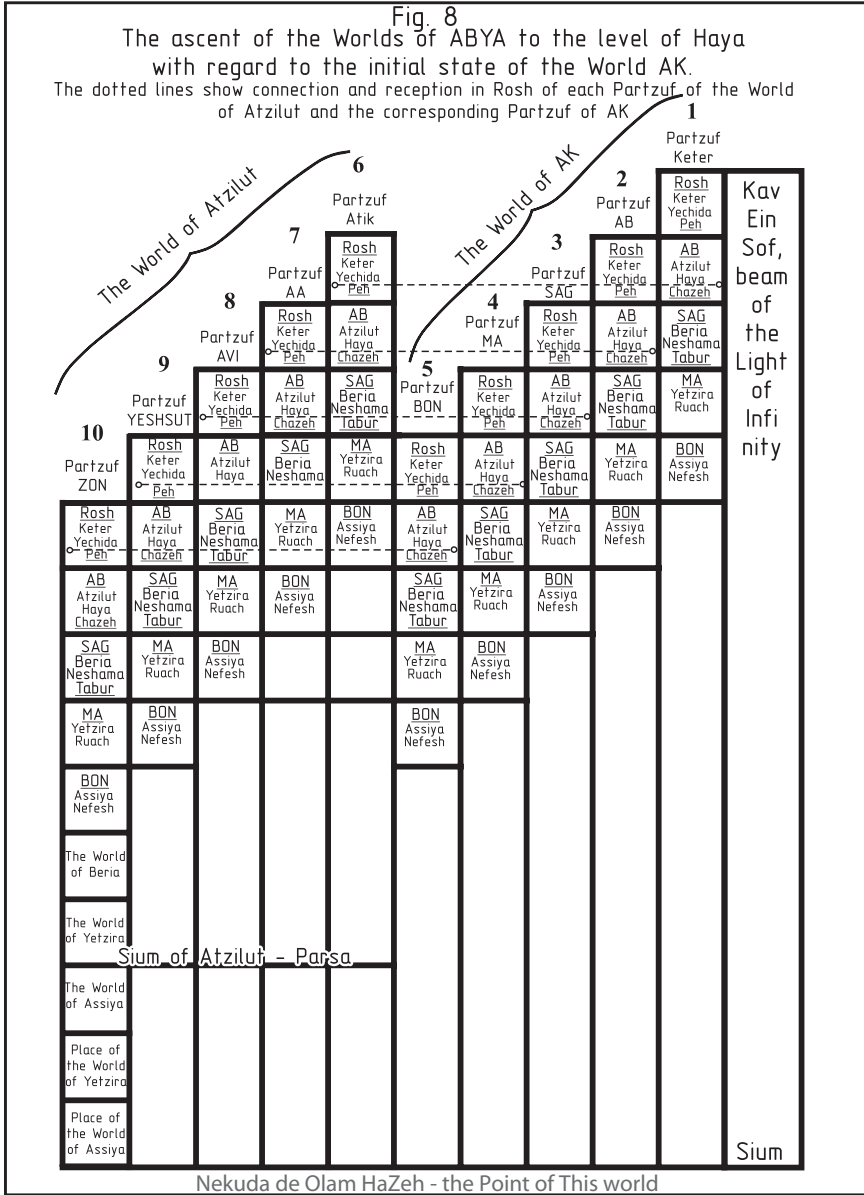


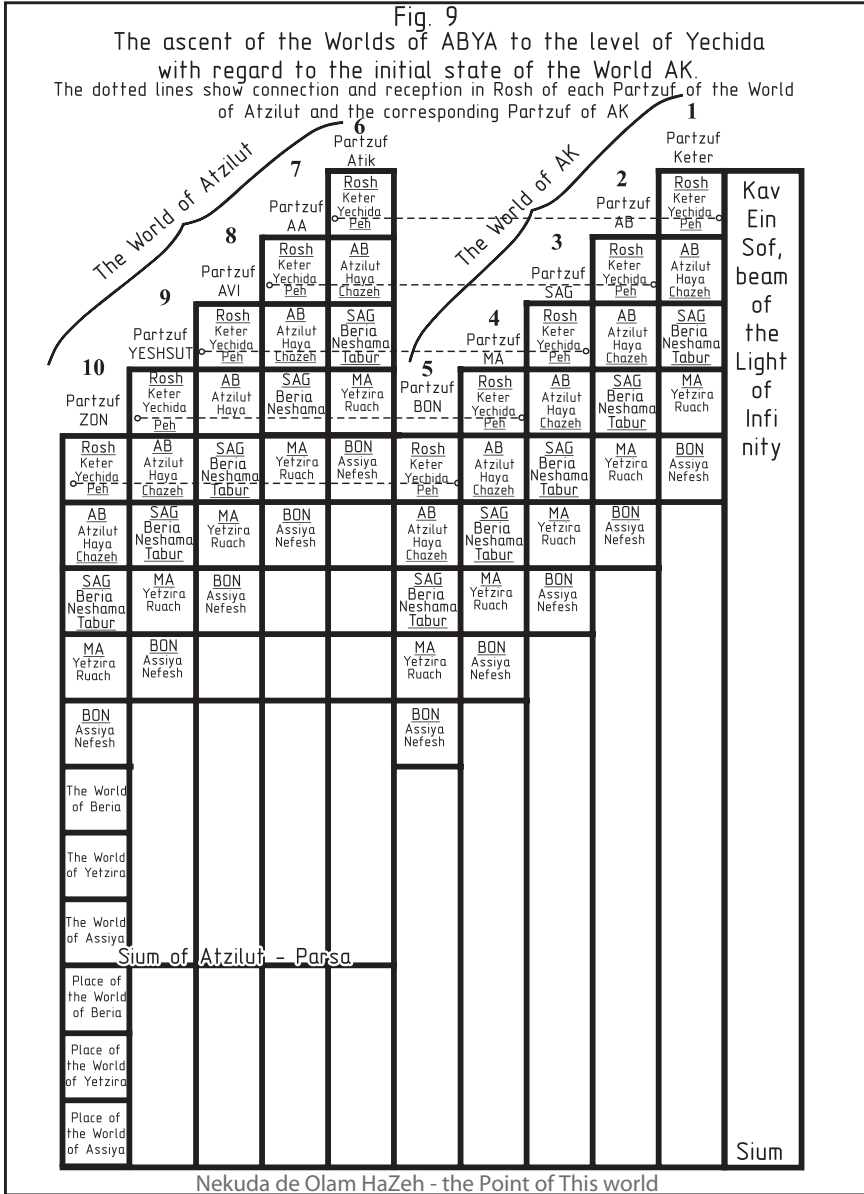
Nekuda de Olam HaZeh - the Point of This world

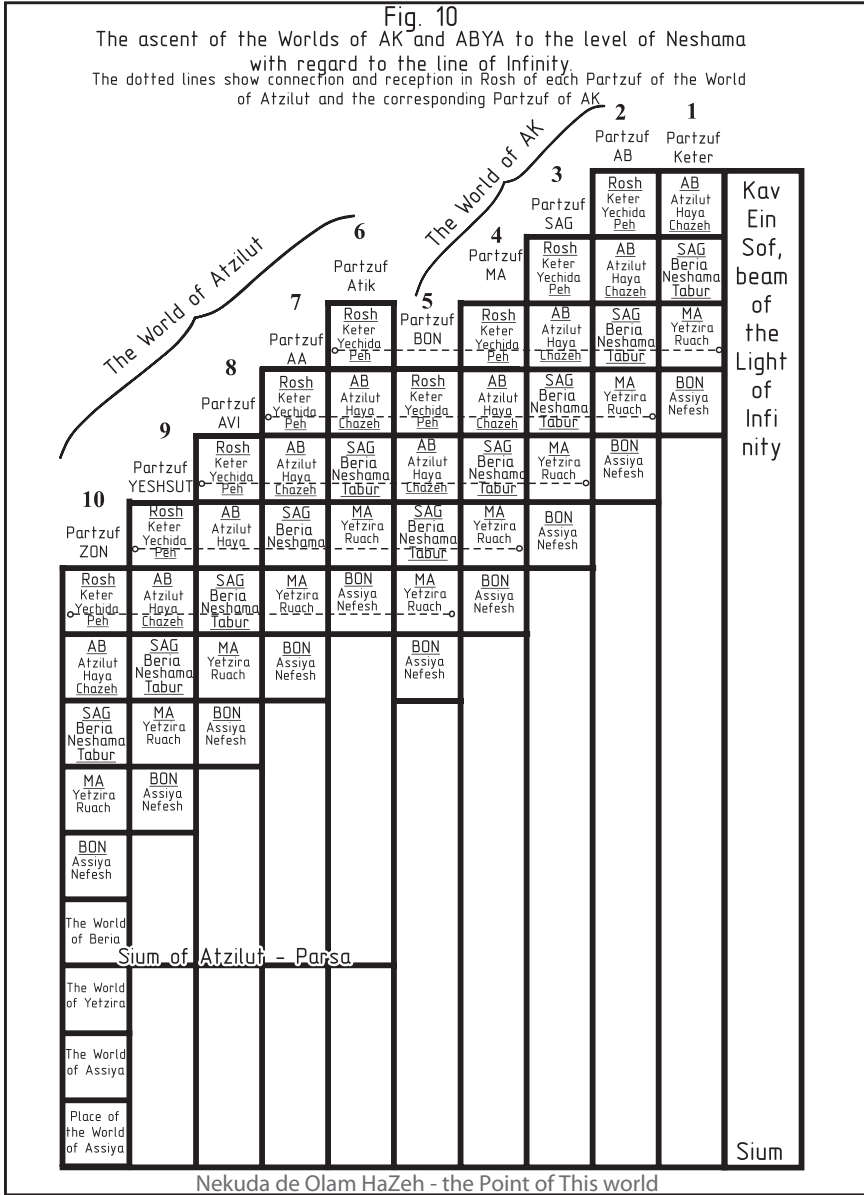


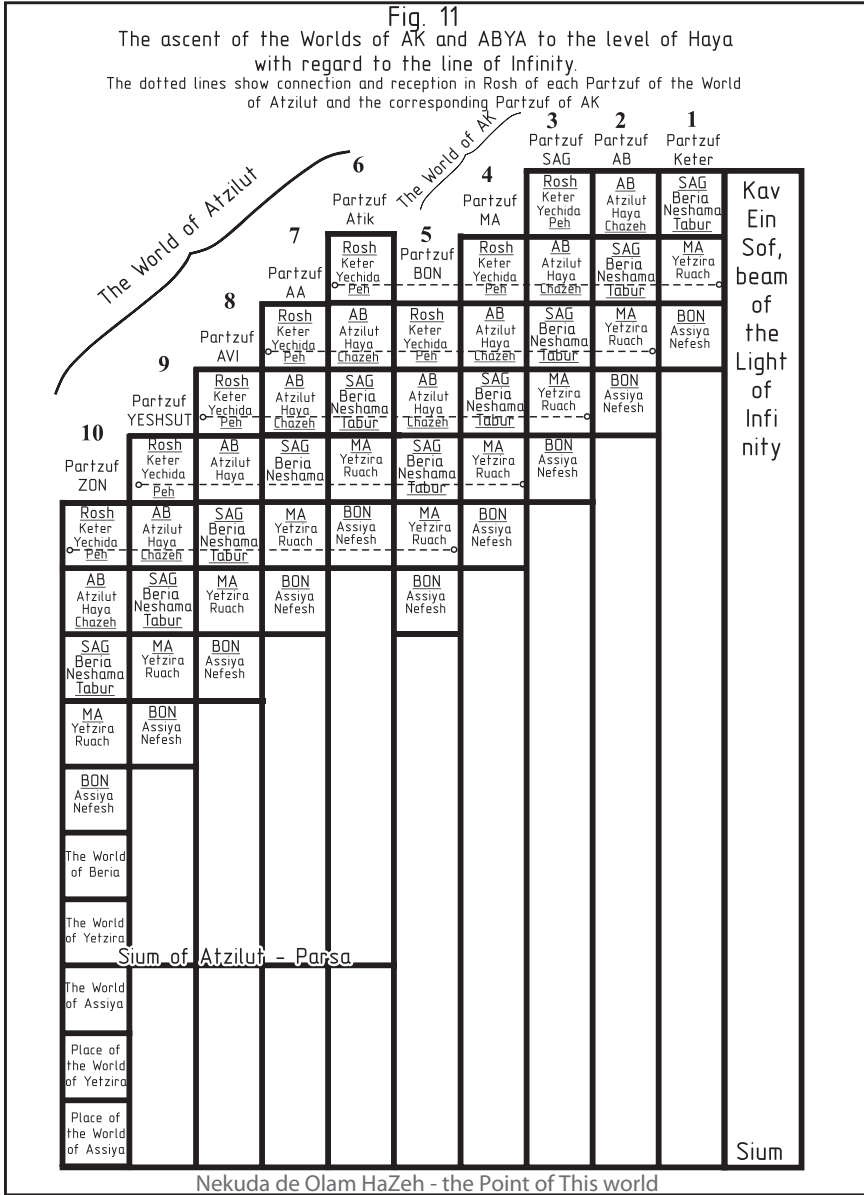


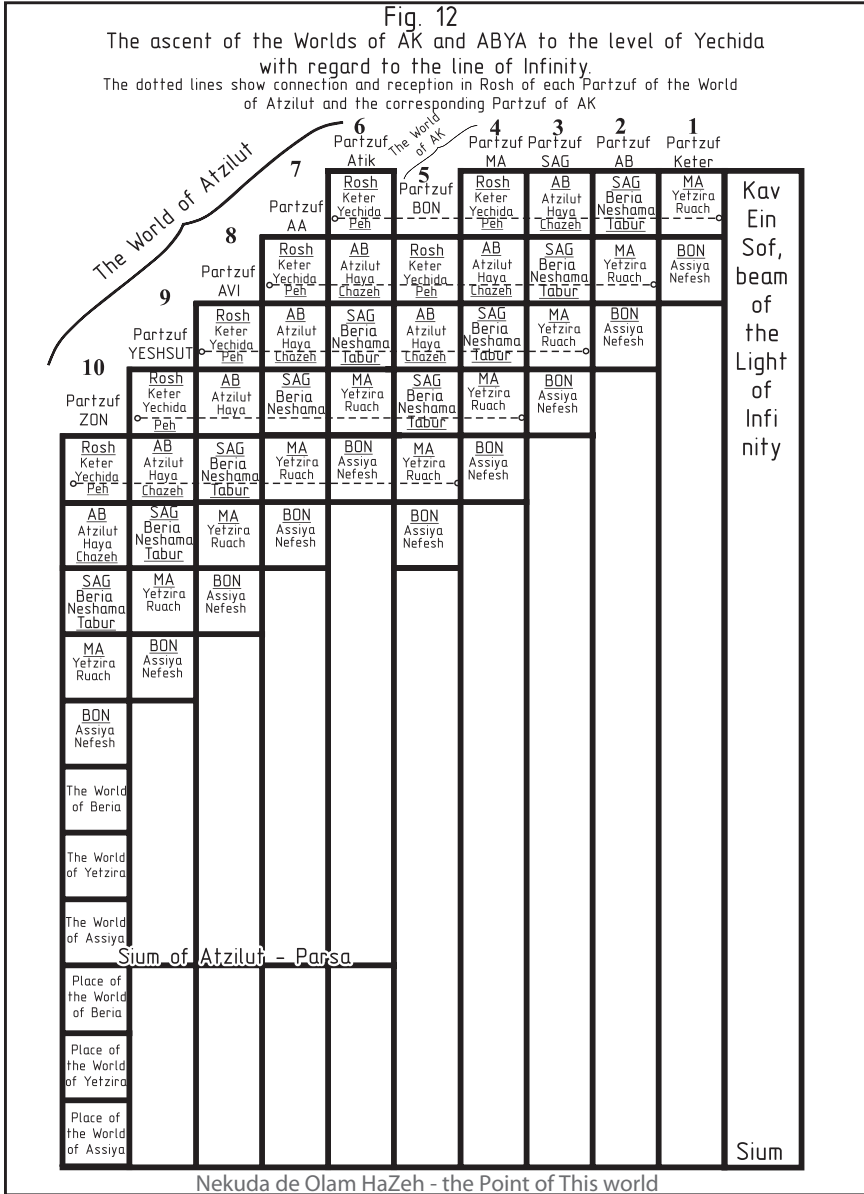














KABBALISTIC TERMS GLOSSARY

A

ABYA, the impure worlds (אב"ע של קליפות) - oppose the pure (holy) worlds of the *ABYA*, but take the space from the *ZON de Atzilut* and below. The *Klipot* are beneath the holy, pure forces in the place of absolute emptiness, below the line of *Sium* (end), under *Malchut*, which ends all pure desires (*Kedusha*). After the *Tzimtzum Aleph* their place was under the *Partzuf AK* (below the legs of *Adam Kadmon*). However, after the *Tzimtzum Bet*, when the *Malchut Mesayemet* rose to *Bina* in the *Guf de Partzuf Nekudot de SAG*, the "*Parsa*" (limit of holiness) was formed there. "The place" for the worlds of the *BYA* emerged under it. Since this place was free from holiness, it was completely occupied by the impure forces.

Achar Kach (אח"כ) after that - an effect of a certain cause.

Achiza (אחיזה) a grip - like a branch that sucks water from the root, the *Klipot* gather in the place of deficiency in holiness. The extent of the lack of holiness makes up "a pipe", through which they suck (receive) power and life energy.

Achor be Achor (אב"א) back to back - the correction with the help of the light of *Bina*. i.e., "*Hafetz Hesed*". In the absence of the *Ohr Hochma*, the *Kli* is corrected by means of the *Ohr Bina*, which provides it with the sensation of perfection.

Achor be Panim (אב"פ) back to face - the *Panim* (face) *de Malchut* is a reception of only the light of *Hochma*, which is possible only by dressing it in the light of *Hassadim*. Hence, *ZA* corrects *Malchut* by way

of a *Zivug de Achor be Panim*, passing the *Ohr Hassadim de Achoraim* to the *Panim de Malchut*.

Achor, Achoraim (אחור, אחוריים) opposite side – 1) The *Kli* without the light of *Hochma*; 2) The *Kli* or its part, which does not work for the sake of reception or bestowal; 3) the part of the *Kli* below the *Chazeh* (chest) *de Partzuf*.

Achoraim shel Nukva (אחוריים של נוקבא) the opposite side of the *Nukva* – the *Sefirot NHY* (*Netzah, Hod* and *Yesod*) of the *Nukva Mesayemet* of the world of *Atzilut*; it borders on the *Klipot*, which stick to the *Achoraim* (the place where there's a lack of the *Ohr Hochma*).

Achsadrin (אכסדראין) “outer rooms” – the *NHY de Zeir Anpin*. Revelation, sensation of the light of *Hochma*.

Adam Kadmon (אדם קדמון) – The first world that emerged after the *TA*. It receives the light from the World of Infinity and spreads down to “our” world. It is called “Adam”, because its *Sefirot de Yosher* with the light of bestowal is a root of man in our world. The name “Kadmon” (first, original) derives from the influence of the *TA* on it.

Adrin (אדרין) “inner rooms” – the *HaGaT de Zeir Anpin* filled with the light of *Hassadim* without the luminescence of *Hochma*; hence they are called “inner”.

Agol (עגול) circular – when there's no difference between up and down in the four phases of the “desire to receive”. Hence, the four *Behinot* are called four spheres, one inside another.

Aleph (א) – the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value is 1.

Aliyah (עליה) ascent, rise – purification, since there is a similarity of properties with the World of Infinity. The rule states: the purer object is higher, the coarser object is lower.

Alpaim Amah Tehum Shabbat (אלפיים אמה תחום שבת) two-thousand-Amah domain of the *Shabbat* – the real position of the worlds, their

second state before the Fall, when ZA stands in the place of *Arich Anpin*, *Malchut* – in the place of *Abba ve Ima*, *Beria* – in the place of the YESH-SUT, *Yetzira* – in the place of ZA, the four first *Sefirot* of the world of *Assiya* stand in the place of the *Nukva* and dress onto the world of *Yetzira*. The six last *Sefirot de Assiya* stand in the place of the six first *Sefirot de Beria*. The six first *Sefirot* of the place of *Beria* from the *Parsa* to the *Chazeh* are called “*Iburo shel haYir*” (conception of a city). They refer to the world of *Atzilut*, because the six lower *Sefirot de Assiya* remained there.

Ani (אני) I – *Malchut*, when it is revealed, is called “Ani”. When *Malchut* is concealed, it is called “Hu” (He).

Arich Anpin (א"א) – The *Partzuf* filled with the light of *Hochma*. Small luminescence of *Hochma* is called *Zeir Anpin*.

Aroch (ארוך) long – reception (for the sake of bestowal) of the *Ohr Hochma*.

Assiya (עשייה) – the 10 *Sefirot* of *Malchut*, which receives the light from ZA.

Atzmut (עצמות) essence – the light of *Hochma*, since it is the essence of life of the creation.

Avir (אוויר) air – The *Ohr Ruach*, the light of *Hassadim*.

Avir Reykani (אוויר ריקני) – The light of *Hassadim* before being dressed on the light of *Hochma*.

Aviut (עביות) – a great “desire to receive”, which attracts the light, hence it is called “the inner part of the *Kli*”.

Avot (אבות) fathers – *Sefirot HaGaT* as regards *Sefirot NHY* (their “sons”).

Awzen (אוזן) – the level of *Bina* of the 10 *Sefirot de Rosh*.

Ayn (ע) – the sixteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 70.

The 24 *Sefirot* (“the space empty of the light”) were left from the *Chazeh de Beria* to *Sium*. The 16 *Sefirot* from the *Parsa* to the *Chazeh de*

Yetzira are called “*Tehum Shabbat*”. *Tehum Shabbat* constitutes of the 10 *Sefirot* from the *Chazeh de Beria* to the *Chazeh de Yetzira*, also called the 2000 *Amah*. The 14 *Sefirot* from the *Chazeh de Yetzira* to the *Sium* are called “*Mador haKlipot*” (the impure forces section). *Yir* (city) is the world of *Atzilut*. The *Parsa* is the *Sium* (end, limit) of a city.

The vessels got broken, because the light of *Hochma* descended from the *Rosh* (head) *de SAG* wishing to spread under the *Parsa* in all the ten *Sefirot* down to the *Sium de Galgalta*, as before the *TB*. This happened because the *GE* joined the *AHP* both in the *Rosh* and the *Guf* (head and body) of the *Partzuf Nekudim*. But before the light could pass through the empty space (*Halal Panui*), the vessels got broken and died, for the *Parsa* continued to exist. The light rose back, while the vessels fell under the *Parsa* and got mixed with the *Klipot* in the worlds of the *BYA*. The vessels of the *AHP de Guf* (but not the *Rosh*) *de Nekudim* fell under the *Parsa*. Hence, the *Klipot* are found only in the space from the *ZON de Atzilut* and below.

B

Bait, or Heichal (בית, היכל) house or palace – the part of *Malchut* detached from the inner *Kelim*, which turned into the *Kli* for reception of the Surrounding Light (*Ohr Makif*).

Bassar (בשר) flesh – the *Behina Gimel* called *Zeir Anpin*. In the ten *Sefirot* that spread outwardly we distinguish: *Mocha* (brain), *Atzamot* (bones), *Gidin* (tendons), *Basar* (flesh) and *Or* (skin).

Beer (באר) a well – the *Yesod de Nukva*, from which (like from a well) the Reflected Light rises.

Beit HaMikdash (בית המקדש) Temple – *Beria* of this world.

Ben (בן) son – the lower spiritual object as regards the upper.

Beria (בריאה) creation – the creation of “*Yesh mi Ayn*” (existence from absence). It manifests under the *Parsa* as the *Aviut*, “desire to receive”.

Bet (ב) – the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 2.

Beten (בטן) abdomen – the lower third of the *Sefira Tifferet* in every *Partzuf*. This is where pregnancy and delivery take place.

Bina (בינה) – research by means of a “cause-and-effect” method.

Binyamin (בנימין) – a screen lifting the Reflected Light from the *Yud de Zeir Anpin*.

Birur (בירור) test, selection – separation, isolation of the *Behina Dalet*, which impedes reception the Supreme light.

Birur and Tikkun (בירור ותיקון) selection and correction – selection is a separation of 32 (*Lamed Bet*) sparks, *Malchuyot* as waste (*Psolet*). 288 (*Rapach*) sparks remain inside the system of holiness, which is corrected by the light of the the *Partzuf Aba*. A level, the *Partzuf* cannot exist without *Malchut*. So, thanks to the screen of *Partzuf Ima* the properties of *Bina-Ima* and *Malchut* get mixed. This is called “inclusion of judgment in mercy”. As a result of this, 32 new *Malchuyot* from *Bina-Ima* are added to 288 pure sparks, which brings the number of the lights to 320 (*Shach*). Selection (*Birur*) of adequate properties “for the sake of bestowing upon the Creator” is possible only if the light of *Abais* available: it does not shine in the *Behina Dalet*, thus it gets separated from all the other adequate *Behinot*, properties. Then correction is carried out by the light of *Ima*.

Bohu (בוהו) – *Arich Anpin*, in which the Creator is revealed.

Bolet (בולט) protruding – luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*.

Boreh (בורא) the Creator – the name refers only to the creation of previously non-existent “desire to receive”.

Brit (ברית) union – the place of the *Aviut* and a screen, where the interaction with the Supreme Light takes place.

BYA of This world (בי"ע שבעולם הזה): the place of the Temple – the world of *Beria*, the Land of Israel – the world of *Yetzira*, outside of Israel – the world of *Assiya*, desert – the place of the impure forces.

C

Chaf, Kaf (ך, כ) – the eleventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 20.

Chama BeNartika (חמה בנרתיקה) – the *Sefirot NHY de Zeir Anpin*, dressed in the *Toch de Nukva*.

Chazeh (חזה) chest – the end of the *Tzimtzum Bet*. Hence, there are the *Kelim de Panim*, the GE, face above the *Chazeh*. The TB has no power over them.

Chet (ח) – the eighth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 8.

D

Dadei Behema (דדי בהמה) nipples of a beast – luminescence of *Malchut* without mitigation by the light of *Hassadim*, the lower third of the *Sefirot Netzah* and *Hod* of the *Partzuf Atik*, positioned in the world of *Beria*.

Dadim (דדים) nipples – mediator between the upper and the lower levels, when the upper affects the lower even before the lower can rise to it.

Dalet (ד) the fourth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 4.

Dalet Tzurot (ד' צורות) four forms – the *Aviut* or desire in the created being is called its material. The four levels of the *Aviut* are called “the *Dalet Tzurot*”.

Dalet Yesodot (ד' יסודות) four foundations – four properties of the *Aviut* in the *Kli de Malchut*.

Dam (דם) blood – the *Aviut de Malchut*, governed by the TA, which prevents the reception of the light. This makes *Malchut* “bleed”; it wishes

to receive the light, hence it is called “blood”. When this *Aviut* refers to the *NHY*, it is called “*Dam BeMakor*” (blood in the source). Its reception is forbidden. However, when this *Aviut* rises to *HaGaT*, which is not its place, it is mitigated (sweetened) there and turns to “milk”.

Dam Lida (דם לידה) birth blood – when *MAN de Zeir Anpin* in the *AVI* rises, *MAN de Zeir Anpin* and all the *Partzufim* that would emerge from *ZA* in the future down to the last *Partzuf de Assiya*, simultaneously rise with it. During the months of pregnancy (*Ibur*) only *MAN de ZA* is purified. Its *Partzufey de Ibur* are born on this *MAN*. During birth each *MAN* unrelated to *ZA* gets outside as *Dam Lida*. Birth blood is also called “impure blood”.

Dam Mitapech LeHalav (דם מתהפך לחלב) – See **Dam**.

Dam Tameh (דם טמא) impure blood – birth blood.

Derech Tzar (דרך צר) narrow road – a limited reception the light in *Hassadim*.

Dibur (דיבור) speech – the 10 *Sefirot* of the light passing through the *Malchut de Rosh* called the *Peh* (mouth) to the *Toch* (body). The inner *Partzuf* of the *Nukva* is called “*Dibur*” (speech). If it disappears and the *Nukva* is left only with the outer *Partzuf*, it is called “*Ilem*” (mute), since the inner *Partzuf* is the *Gar* and the outer is the *Vak*.

Dmut (דמות) image – Letters *Yud*, *Hey* and *Vav* of the Name *HaVaYaH* constitute “*Tzelem*”, while the last letter *Hey* of *HaVaYaH* is *Dmut*.

Dofen (דופן) side – the *Aviut* of a screen is a vessel for reception of the light. It is called “*Dofen Kli*”, because each *Kli* is made up of its sides (*Dfanot*). Four degrees of the *Aviut* are four the *Klipot* (sides) in thickness of the *Dofen* dressed one on another inwardly and outwardly. The coarser property in *Dofen Kli* attracts more light and is regarded the inner part of the *Kli*, i.e., The *Behina Dalet* is more interior than the *Behina Gimel*, while the *Behina Gimel* is more interior than the *Behina Bet* etc.

Dormita (דורמיטא) sleep - when the lower *Partzuf* rises to the upper as *MAN*, all lights disappear from it; the *Partzuf* is considered to be below and has just enough light to sustain life, which is regarded as a state of “slumber”.

Dvekut (דבקות) merging - similarity of properties in two spiritual objects.

E

Echad (אחד) One - The Supreme Light that emanates from the Creator and spreads down without any change.

Eden Elyon (עדן עליון) - *Yesod* of the world of *Beria*.

Eden Tachton (עדן תחתון) - *Yesod* of the world of *Assiya*.

Eichut Makom (איכות מקום) place quality. Place quantity is a number of levels in this place. Place quality is the importance of the level.

Ein (אין) non-existent - concealment of the *Ohr Hochma*. Presence of the *Ohr Hochma* is called “*Yesh*” (existent).

Elohim Acherim (אלוהים אחרים) “other gods” - the *Klipot* attached to the opposite side of the *Nukva*, since there is no perfection in its selection and correction up to the *Gmar Tikkun* (the End of Correction).

Elyon (עליון) supreme, upper one - more important.

Emtzai (אמצעי) a means, which unites two remote ends, properties.

Eretz Edom (ארץ אדום) - when *Malchut* is included in *Bina*, *bina* is called “*Eretz Edom*”.

Eretz Elyona (ארץ עליונה) the Upper Land - *Bina*.

Eretz Israel (ארץ ישראל) - *Yetzira* of This world.

Eretz Tachtona (ארץ תחתונה) the Lower Land - *Malchut*.

Et (את) *Malchut* is called “*Et*”, because it includes all letters from *Aleph* to *Tav*.

Et Ratzon (עת רצון) time of desire – time of a *Zivug* in *Gadlut*, when owing to the light *AB-SAG* “hair” disappears and the light of *Hochma* shines.

Etz (עץ) – *Yesod de ZA*, middle line, the place of a *Zivug*.

Etz HaChaim (עץ החיים) tree of life – a place from the *Chazeh* and above, where the light of *Hassadim* is concealed – the light of the opposite side of *Bina*; there are no *Klipot* there.

Etz HaDa'at (עץ הדעת) tree of knowledge - a place from *Chazeh* and below called “*Assiya*”. *Yesod*, i.e., the middle line called “tree” is most important.

Etz HaDa'at Tov VeRa (עץ הדעת טוב ורע) the tree of knowledge of good and evil – stretches from the *Chazeh* down to *ZA*. There is some luminescence of *Hochma* there, hence the *Klipot* called “the evil” stick to that place.

Evel (הבל) – the Reflected Light that rises from a screen.

Eyvarim (איברים) organs – the *Sefirot de Guf* of *Partzuf*, parts of body of the *Partzuf*.

G

Gadlut (גדלות) big state – A level’s *Ohr Hochma*.

Gadol (גדול) big – revelation of the light of *Hochma*. Lack of the light of *Hochma* makes the small *Partzuf* (*Katan*).

Gag (גג) roof – *Keter* of each level.

Galglim (גלגלים) wheels – the *Sefirot de Igulim* (circles), since, having neither the *Aviut* nor the *Hizdakchut*, the lights that fill them take a circular form.

Galgalta (גלגלתא) the *Partzuf Keter*. The *Ohr Hochma* fills its *Kli*.

Gan Eden (גן עדן) Garden of Eden – *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut*. *Eden* means *Hochma*, *Gan* is *Malchut*. Since the entire world of *Atzilut* is *Hochma*, the *Malchut de Atzilut* is called “*Gan Eden*”.

Gan Eden Elyon (גן עדן עליון) – in the world of *Beria* (*Bina*).

Gan Eden Tachton (גן עדן תחתון) – the *Yesod de Malchut* in the world of *Assiya*.

Gar (ג"ר) the first three – the lights of the *Rosh* (head), which precede the vessels. The *Sefirot Keter*, *Hochma* and *Bina* called “the *Rosh de Partzuf*”.

Gar of Guf (ג"ר של גוף) the first three *Sefirot de Guf* – *Hesed*, *Gevura* and *Tifferet*.

Gashmiut (גשמיות) corporeality – all that is perceived and felt by five senses, or whatever is determined by place and time.

Gidin (גידין) tendons – the *Kli de Bina* in the 10 *Sefirot* of one level.

Gimel (ג) the third letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 3.

Guf (גוף) body – the place, where the light is received in a level. Owing to the dressing of the Reflected Light (*OH*) on the Direct Light (*OY*) in the *Rosh*, both lights spread in the desire. This reception forms the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*.

Gvul (גבול) boundary – a screen of a particular level.

Gzar (גזר) verdict – separation of *Malchut* from the *Kelim* that fell into the worlds of the *BYA*. The entire correction is dependent on it.

H

Habatat Panim (הבטת פנים) manifestation of face – spreading of the *Ohr Hochma*.

Hachana Lekabel (הכנה לקבל) readiness to receive – a condition, when the *Partzuf* has a screen with the *Aviut* sufficient to attract the light and interact with it.

Hafradat HaSigim (הפרדת הסיגים) separation of admixture. *Sigim* is *Malchut* mixed with seven *Malachim*, which led to breaking of the world of the *Nikudim*. Hence, the correction consists in separating *Malchut* from all broken vessels. This happens owing to the light of *Hochma*, the *Ohr Aba*. This correction is called “*Hafradat HaSigim*”.

Hagdala (הגדלה) enlargement – a transition from *Katnut* (small state) to *Gadlut* (big state).

Haka’a (הכאה) stroke – a contact between the light and the screen, similar to an interaction between two solid objects, when one wants to penetrate the other, which resists the penetration.

Halal (חלל) space, emptiness – the *Behina Dalet* without the light. Due to the *TA* it is still within the Creator, but as an empty space without the light.

Halal Panui (חלל פנוי) empty space – by the power of the *TA Malchut* restricts the reception of the Supreme Light. The boundary is above the point of This world. Owing to the *TB*, the limit of the spreading of the light rises from the *Sium de Galgalta* to the *Chazeh de Nikudim*. From there and below an empty space was formed, the place where the future impure forces would emerge. But with the fall of the bestowing vessels (the *GE*) under the *Chazeh*, only the 14 *Sefirot* remained to accommodate the impure forces in the place of the worlds of the *BYA*.

After the First Adam’s Fall, the boundary of holiness descended to *Bina de Malchut* of *Assiya* called “the Land of the lower Garden of Eden” and an empty space was formed there. It turns out that by way of breaking the vessels and through First Adam’s Fall the empty space shrank, since

it descended from the *Parsa* to *Bina* of the *Malchut de Assiya*, but then the *Klipot* found powers to build four worlds down to the *ZON de Atzilut*.

Halav (חלב) milk – the lights of *Hassadim*, which *Bina* gives to *ZA* after its birth (*Zman HaYenika*, a biennial period feeding). In *ZA* the lights of *Hassadim* turn into *Hochma*. This is called “milk turns to blood”.

Halon (חלון) window – the power of the Reflected Light that allows receiving the light in the *Kli*.

Hamtaka (המתקה) sweetening – as a result of the *Shevira* (breaking of the vessels), the *Kelim* are in need of the light that would correct them, sweeten their bitterness (power of judgment-restriction), so that the outer forces wouldn't seize them.

Harchaka (הרחקה) – the correction of the *Kli* by way of refusing to receive the *Ohr Hochma*, preferring the reception of the *Ohr Hassadim*.

Hash'ala (השאלה) borrowing – the *Kelim* *NHY de Ima*, which it (*Ima*) passes to *Zeir Anpin*, whereupon *ZA* receives the light in these *Kelim*.

Hashva'a Achat (השוואה אחת) equivalence of properties – when there is no distinction in the four phases of the “desire to receive”.

HaVaYaH-ADNY (הויה"ה-אדני) – A *Zivug Panim be Panim* between *ZA* and the *Nukva* of the world of *Atzilut*, designated by a combination of their letters, where the first *Yud* means the *Hochma de ZA* and the last – the *Hochma de Malchut*.

Hay (חי) life, the numerical value: 18 – *Yesod*, since it elevates the 9 *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light and receives the 9 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light in them.

Haya (חיה) – the light of *Hochma*.

Hazara LeMa'atzil (חזרה למאציל) back to the Creator – spreading of the light during the weakening of a screen.

Heilot HaMalchut (חילות המלכות) see also **Tzvaot HaMalchut** – the *Partzufim* that emerge from *Malchut* of the worlds of the *BYA*.

Hevdel (הבדל) difference – a screen’s action, which divides the *Partzuf*, so that no impure desires would stick to the light.

Hey (ה) – the fifth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 5.

Hibuk Smol (חיבוק שמאל) embrace from left – spreading of the light from *ZA* to *Malchut* so that it would elevate the *AHP*.

Histaklut (הסתכלות) scrutinizing – spreading of the light from the World of Infinity to the screen. The light of the World of Infinity is always the *Ohr Hochma*, the light for the eyes, for the sight.

Histaklut Aleph (הסתכלות א') scrutinizing – See **Histaklut**.

Histaklut Bet (הסתכלות ב') - spreading of the light from the World of Infinity to the screen, which rises from the *Tabur* to the *Peh*. On its way up the screen makes *Zivugim* that lead to the emergence of the *Partzufey Nekudot*.

Hitchadshut HaNeshamot (התחדשות הנשמות) renewal of the souls – spreading of the light of *Hochma* in the souls, as was during the *Gadlut de Nikudim*, but disappeared after the breaking of the vessels. The souls also were in this state before the sin of *Adam HaRishon*, but again lost it after the breaking of the souls into many fragments.

Hitdabkut Klipot (התדבקות קליפות) adhesion of the *Klipot* – the *Klipot* stick to the opposite side of *Malchut*, because it limits the reception of the Supreme Light; below it is complete darkness. Therefore, the *Klipot* touch the bottom point of *Malchut*, which is called “*Hitdabkut Klipot*”.

Hitkashrut (התקשות) connection – the 10 *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light, which rise from the *Masach de Rosh* of *Partzuf*, dress onto the 10 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light and connect with them, since the lights precede the vessels in the *Rosh de Partzuf*.

Hitpashtut (התפשטות) spreading – the light spreading from the Creator to the created being in accordance with its “desire to receive” the light.

Hitpashtut Aleph (התפשטות א') – the light of the *Ta'amim*.

Hitpashtut Bet (התפשטות ב') – the secondary entry of the light after purification (*Hizdakchut*) of the screen, because now there are vessels fit to receive the light.

Hitrachkut MiOhr Elyon (התרחקות מאור עליון) distancing from the Supreme Light – the closer an object is to spiritual emptiness, the farther it is from the Supreme Light.

Hitzoniut HaMalchut (חיצוניות המלכות) the outer part of *Malchut* – the purest part of the *Kli*, which is a vessel for the Surrounding Light.

Hochma (חכמה) wisdom – the knowledge of the final result of any existing phenomenon.

Hochma (חכמה) wisdom – the light of the essence of the creation.

Hochma Ila'a (חכמה עלאה) the supreme wisdom – the light of *Hochma* in *ZA*.

Hochma Keduma (חכמה קדומה) preceding wisdom – the light of *Hochma* in the *Partzuf Arich Anpin*, which does not shine in the world of *Atzilut*. Only the light of *Hochma shel Lamed-Bet Netivot* shines there.

Hochma shel Lamed-Bet Netivot (חכמה של ל"ב נתיבות) wisdom of 32 ways – the light of *Hochma* received by *Bina* for *ZA*, which constitutes 22 letters of *Bina* + the 10 *Sefirot* of the *ZON* in *Bina*.

Hochma Tata'a (חכמה תתאה) the lower wisdom – the light of *Hochma* in *Nukva*.

Holam (חולם) – the light above letters.

Homer (חומר) material – thickness of the *Partzuf* in the *Behina Dalet* (“desire to receive”). It possesses length, width, depth and 6 ends: up, down, east, west, north and south.

Hoshech (חושך) darkness – the *Behina Dalet* (“desire to receive”) without the light because of *TA*.

Hotem (חוטם) nose – the *Sefira* of the *ZA de Rosh*.

Hotam (חותם) stamp – the Reflected Light, rising up from a screen and dressing the 10 *Sefirot de Rosh* of the *Partzuf*. “*Nihtam*” (imprint) is the same 10 *Sefirot* passing from the *Rosh* to the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*.

Hurva (חורבא) ruins, desert – the place of the *Klipot* of This world, a lifeless place.

Hutz LaAretz (חוץ לארץ) abroad – *Assiya* of This world. *Beria* is the place of the Temple. *Yetzira* is the Land of Israel.

I

Ibur (עיבור) conception – A *Zivug de Katnut*.

Ibur Aleph (עיבור א') – A *Zivug* on the conception of *Partzuf*.

Ibur Bet (עיבור ב') – A *Zivug* for reception of the additional light of *Hochma* in *Partzuf*.

Iburo Shel Yir (עיבורו של עיר) conception of a city – the first six *Sefirot* of *Beria* that protrude from the world of *Atzilut* like a pregnant woman's belly.

Ihud (יחוד) unity – two different properties that became similar in their corrected intentions.

Ilem-Dibur (אלם-דיבור) mute-speaking – the 10 *Sefirot* of the light, which pass through the *Malchut de Rosh* into the *Toch de Partzuf* called the “*Peh*” (mouth). The inner *Partzuf de Nukva* is called “*Dibur*” (speech). If it disappears, leaving the *Nukva* only with the outer *Partzuf*, then the *Nukva* is called “*Ilem*” (mute), because the inner *Partzuf* is the *Gar* and the outer – the *Vak*.

Ima Tata'a (אמא תתאה) the lower Mother – *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut*.

Israel (ישראל) or Moshe and Israel – the *Gar de Zeir Anpin* or inner *Partzuf*.

K

Kaf, Chaf (כ, ך) – the eleventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 20.

Kaf-Bet (כ"ב – כ"א) letters of the Hebrew alphabet. The letters are the *Kelim*, which the light dresses in. There are 22 basic letters (beside 5 ending letters called *Mantzepach*), which define all the *Partzufim*.

Kaf-Zayin (כ"ז – כ"ז) letters of the Hebrew alphabet. 22 basic letters and 5 ending letters (*Mantzepach*). Owing to the 5 ending (limiting) properties in a screen, the lights spread from the *Rosh* of the *Partzuf* to its *Guf* giving birth to the *Kelim*, i.e., the other 22 letters.

Kamatz (קמץ) – accumulation of the light, pointing at the 10 *Sefirot de Rosh* before they dress in the *Guf* of the *Partzuf*. Spreading of the light in the *Guf* is called “aperture”, letting the light in.

Kamut Makom (כמות מקום) place quantity – a number of levels in a particular place. Place quality of is the importance of the level.

Karka (קרקע) ground – *Malchut* of any level or world.

Katnut (קטנות) small state – the *Partzufim de Ibur* (conception) and *Yenika* (feeding), hence they have neither the *Rosh* nor the light of the *Mochin* (brain).

Katzar (קצר) short – a decreased amount of the *Ohr Hochma*. “*Rahav*” (broad) suggests spreading of the *Ohr Hassadim*. “*Tzar*” (narrow) means the restriction of the *Ohr Hassadim*. Spreading of the *Ohr Hochma* I called “length”.

Kav (קו) line – the name points to the presence of up and down, and also at the scanty amount of the *Ohr Hochma* as compared to the previous light. The 10 *Sefirot* of the *Direct Light*, *Kelim* are also called “a pipe”; filled with the light, they are called “a line”.

Kaved (כבד) liver – the inner *Kli* with the light *Nefesh*.

Kelim Hitzoniim (כלים חיצוניים) the outer *Kelim* – the *Kelim* of the opposite side (כלים של אחוריים) – the *Kelim* below the *Chazeh de Partzuf*.

Kelim shel Achoraim - See Kelim Hitzoniim

Kelim shel Panim (כלים של פנים) - the *Kelim* above the *Chazeh de Partzuf*.

Keshar (קשר) connection - the name of the correction of the *Kelim*, because the *Sefirot* are connected to such an extent that there's no opposition between them.

Keshar Sefirot (קשר ספירות) - connection between the *Sefirot* - the rise of *Malchut* to the *Eynaim* (eyes) connects the *Sefirot*.

Keter (כתר) crown - the root (*Shoresh*) of any level. Being the purest part, it surrounds the *Partzuf* from above.

Kisseh (כסא) throne - the world of *Beria*. The word derives from "Kissui" (cover) and "Alama" (concealment), because the light of *Hochma* is concealed there. It is also called "Kisse", since the light of *Hassadim* passing through the *Parsa* is considered the light of the *Vak*. It means a sitting position as regards the *Ohr Hochma* - the light of the *Gar* (standing position).

Kisseh Din (כסא דין) throne of judgment - *Malchut* filled with the light of the *Partzuf Ima* dressed in the *Malchut de Beria*.

Kisseh HaKavod (כסא הכבוד) throne of honor - the 10 *Sefirot* of the light *de Partzuf Ima*, which spread in the world of *Beria*: the *Gar* is called "Kisse"; the *Vak* is called "six ascents (steps) to the throne". *Malchut* that dresses in the *Malchut de Beria* is called "Din" (judgment), *Tchelet* or *Sandalfon*.

Kisseh Rachamim (כסא רחמים) throne of mercy - the first nine *Sefirot* of the *Partzuf Ima*.

Kista DeHayuta (קיסטא דחיותא) a pocketful of life-force - a micro dose of the light left in the *Partzuf*, which rises with *MAN* to the upper *Partzuf*. The light of the *Mochin* disappears from it at this time.

Kli (pl. Kelim) (כלי) vessel - a will to receive in the creation.

Kli HaMa'ale MAN (כלי המעלה מ"ן) the *Kli* raising *MAN* - the *AHP* of the upper *Partzuf* during *Gadlut*.

Kli LeOhr Makif (כלי לאור מקיף) the vessel for the Surrounding Light - the outer *Dofen* (side) of the *Kli*, i.e., its purer part.

Kli LeOhr Pnimi (כלי לאור פנימי) the vessel for the Inner Light - the inner part of *Dofen* (side) of the *Kli*, i.e., its coarser part. The vessel for the Surrounding Light is a half of the outer *Dofen* (side) of the *Kli*, i.e., its purer part.

Klipat Noga (קליפת נוגה) - the property of the light sparks, in which good and evil are mixed. When *Noga* receives the light in its good part, it also shines in the bad part.

Klipot (קליפות) impure forces - the egoistic desires opposite to the Supreme Light, which wishes only to bestow. Hence, they are detached from life and are called "dead".

Knafaim (כנפיים) wings - *Malchut* of the *Partzuf Ima* is always in *Katnut* (the small state), separating and protecting the *ZON* from the outer *Kelim*, since only a small luminescence of *Hochma* passes through it. The *Parsa* below the world of *Atzilut* is also *Malchut* of the *Partzuf Ima* and is called "Na'al" (shoe), protecting "legs" of the *ZON*. However, no light of *Hochma* passes through it.

Knesset Israel (כנסת ישראל) assembly of *Israel* - the *Partzuf Gar de Malchut*, receiving (*Knesset*) the lights from the *Gar de Zeir Anpin* called *Israel*.

Koach (כוח) strength - a potential quality similar to that of a seed growing into a tree.

Koach HaKlipa (הקליפה כוח) power of dark forces - the dressing of the lights that exit their vessels, due to the admixture of evil in them, fall into the impure forces and strengthen them.

Kol ve Dibur (קול ודיבור) voice and speech - a *Zivug* of the two inner *Partzufim* - *ZA* and the *Nukva*; also called *Neshika* ("kiss").

Kotel (כותל) The Wailing Wall – the screen of the opposite side of the *Partzuf Ima*, which repels the *Ohr Hochma* by the power of its state “*Hafetz Hesed*”, preventing it from entering the ZON, because they are in *Katnut* (small state).

Kuf (ק) - the nineteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 100.

L

Lamed (ל) – the twelfth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 30.

Lamed Madregot BeGuf shel Nukva (למד מדרגות בגוף של נוקבא) thirty levels: conception, feeding and adulthood of the opposite side of the *AHP de Nukva*, where every period consists of the 10 *Sefirot*.

Lamed-Bet Elokim DeMa’ase BeReshit (ל"ב אלוקים דמעשה בראשית) thirty two channels, through which the light of *Hochma* comes to *Bina* (“*Elokim*”). It selects 288 sparks (the nine upper *Sefirot*) out of 320, leaving *Malchut* (32 sparks) below as waste.

Le’at (לאט) slowly, gradually – spreading of the light in a level according to cause and effect.

LeAtid Lavo (לעתיד לבוא) in the distant future – the light of *Tvunah* may be in ZA, and so be called “the world to come”. The light of *Ima*, which ZA receives on a still higher level, is called “*LeAtid Lavo*”.

Lemala (למעלה) – the comparison of properties of the upper and the lower spiritual objects.

Lev (לב) heart – the *Kli* of the light *Ruach* in the *Sefirot HaGaT*.

Levush (לבוש) clothes – the properties of ZA (free of the Inner Light), which turns into the *Kli* for the Surrounding Light. Moreover, each upper *Partzuf* is dressed on the lower.

Lida (לידה) birth – the emergence of the *Aviut* in the *Guf de ZA*, which differs from the *Aviut de Ima*. It is considered the birth and separation from *Ima* due to the difference of properties and is similar to changing place in the material world.

Loven Elyon (לובן עליון) – the light prior to entering the *Kli*, since all hues are distinguished only by the *Kli*.

M

MA (מ"ה) *HaVaYaH* filled with the light of “*Alephim*” יוד-הא-ואו-הא

Ma'atzil (מאציל) the Creator – each cause with regard to its effect. The *Malchut de Rosh* is considered the Creator as regards the *Guf de Partzuf*. The same applies to any upper level with regard to the lower.

Machtzevet HaNeshama (מחצבת הנשמה) – will to receive in the souls, which separates them from the Supreme Light. It is a transition from the world of *Beria* to the world of *Atzilut*.

Makom (מקום) place – the will to receive (filling, delight) in the created being. Place, time and movement constitute one notion.

Makom Ahizat HaKlipot (מקום אחיזת הקליפות) a place of attachment of the impure forces – lack of holiness and correction.

Makom BYA (מקום ב"ע) – a place under the *Parsa*. Emerges during the *TB*.

Makom HaHerayon (מקום ההריון) a place of pregnancy – the lower third of the *Sefira Tifferet* of the *Partzuf Abba ve Ima*, when it joins the *YESHSUT*.

Makom Hosheh (מקום החושך) a dark place – the *Sefira Malchut*, which limits the *Partzuf* by the power of the *Tzimtzum*, creating a dark place outside.

Makom Panui ve Halal (מקום פנוי וחלל) empty space – when *ZA* rises to the *AA*, which is its real place, since the *AA* dresses onto the *ZA*

de Nikudim, the place of the worlds of the *BYA* remains empty of the light of *Atzilut*. During the *Gmar Tikkun Atzilut* descends under the *Parsa*.

Makom Yishuv (מקום ישוב) a place of settlement – the place of the worlds of the *BYA* is divided into the *GE* (holiness) and the 14 *Sefirot* of the *Mador HaKlipot*. Similarly, This world is divided into “a place of settlement” including the worlds of the *BYA*: the Temple, the Land of Israel, abroad and the deserts unpopulated by man.

Makor HaOrot (מקור האורות) – the *Malchut de Rosh*, since it produces the Reflected Light (the *Ohr Hozer*) dressed on the Direct Light (the *Ohr Yashar*) and filling the *Toch* of the *Partzuf* with the Inner Light (the *Ohr Pnimi*).

Malchut (מלכות) – the last phase called so, because it emanates absolute rule and power.

Malchut Ein La Ohr (מלכות אין לה אור) *Malchut* without the light – as a result of the weakening of the screen, it retains only the smallest *Aviut* (*Shoresh*), insufficient for a *Zivug*, hence it can receive the light only from a *Zivug* made in *ZA*.

Malchut Mesayemet (מלכות המסיימת) limiting *Malchut* – *Malchut de Guf*.

Malchut Mizdaveget (מלכות המזדווגת) *Malchut* that makes a *Zivug* – *Malchut de Rosh*.

Maleh (מלא) full – there is no deficiency in it and nothing can be added to its perfection.

MAN (מ"ן) – the cause of a *Zivug*.

MAN (מ"ן) – the *GE* (altruistic vessels) of the lower *Partzuf* that merged with the *AHP* of the upper during *Katnut*. Being one with the upper *Partzuf* in *Katnut*, the *GE* of the lower rises together with the *AHP* in *Gadlut*, which turns into the new *NHY*. The *Partzufim* of the *TB* are born similar to the way the *AB* is born from the interaction of the screen

and the *Reshimot* of the future the *Partzuf AB* in the *Rosh de Galgalta*. The difference lies in the fact that a *Zivug* is made on *Yesod*.

MANTZEPA"CH (מנצפ"ך) – properties of a screen and the *Aviut* of the *Partzuf*, left in it from *Katnut*. *MAN* of the souls is merged with the *AHP* of the *Partzuf Nukva*, from which the lower one will be conceived. Hence, *MAN* of conception is included in *MANTZRPA"CH* of *Nukva*, which elevates it to *ZA*. A conception of the new *Partzuf* of the soul is made on this *MAN*.

Masach (מסך) screen – the force of Restriction, which emerges in the created being with regard to the Supreme Light, preventing it from entering the *Behina Dalet*. This means that the instant the light touches the *Behina Dalet* this power snaps into action, strikes the light and hurls it back. This force is called “a screen”.

Mata (מטה) below – a qualitative diminution with regard to the upper one.

Mayin Nukvin (מיין נוקבין) female waters – during the spreading of the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* under the *Tabur* two kinds of the *Reshimot* joined: *Hey Rishona* (the first letter “Hey”) of the Name *HaVaYaH*, *Bina* of the *Partzuf SAG* and the last *Hey* of the Name *HaVaYaH*, *Malchut* of the *Partzuf Galgalta*. Hence, the screen that included two *Nukvot* (*Bina* and *Malchut*) is called “*Mayin Nukvin*”. Now each *Zivug* it makes includes two *Nukvot*.

Mazal (מזל) luck – *Yesod*, because it dispenses the *Ohr Hochma* in drops, intermittently. *Mazal* derives from the word “*Nozel*” (dripping).

Mazla (מזלא) beard hair, since its light drips until it is accumulated in the most powerful light available in the worlds.

Mechaber (מחבר) unite – *Malchut* of the upper one turns to *Keter* of the lower uniting the two levels, making them equal. Thus, all levels become equal.

Mechitzot (מחיצות) partitions – body of the *Partzuf*.

Mem (מ) – the thirteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 40.

Meshulash (משולש) triangle – the level possessing only the three first properties (desires).

Metaltelin (מטלטלין) flipping – the *Vak*. Until the *Partzuf* reaches *Gadlut*, it is between judgment and mercy, being intermittently in one of the states, which is called “flipping”.

Metzah (מצח) forehead – *Bina* of the *Sefira Keter*.

Metzah HaRatzon (מצח הרצון) – during a *Zivug* in *Gadlut*, when owing to the light *AB-SAG Ohr Hochma* shines, the *Partzufey Searot* disappear and the “*Et Ratzon*” (time of desire) manifests.

Mezonot (מזונות) sustenance – provides power for rising to a higher level.

Mi (מי) who – *Bina*.

Midbar (מדבר) desert – the place of the impure forces of This world.

Milemala Lemata (מלמעלה למטה) top-down – from the *Behina Aleph* to the *Behina Dalet*. Since the *Behina Dalet* remained empty, it is considered the lowest, while the *Behina Aleph* is the highest, since its desire is the purest.

Milemala Lemata (מלמעלה למטה) top-down – the light spreading from a pure property to a coarse one is called “the Direct Light”.

Milemata Lemala (מלמטה למעלה) bottom-up – the light spreading from a coarse property to a pure one is called “the Reflected Light”.

Milluy (מילוי) filling – a degree of the *Aviut de Masach*, since the *Kli* is filled according to it.

Milluy shel HaVaYaH (מילוי של הוי"ה) – the Name *HaVaYaH* constitutes ten *Sefirot*: *Yud-Hochma*, the first *Hey-Bina*, *Vav-Zeir Anpin* and the second *Hey-Malchut*. This, however, does not point to their height, which may be *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* or *Yechida*. It is determined by their

filling. The level of *Nefesh* is filled with *HaVaYaH* (with infill of “Hey”), *Gematria* of the *BON*; *Ruach* – with infill of “Aleph”, *Gematria* *MA*; *Neshama* – with infill of “Yud” and *Vav* with infill of *Aleph*, *Gematria* of the *SAG*; *Haya* – with infill of “Yud” in all letters, *Gematria* of the *AB*.

Milluy Shemot (מילוי שמות) filling of names – points to the height of the level. Dots above and under the letters designate the root of each particular level and determines whether it is included in the upper, in the lower or just exists by itself.

Milluyim (מילויים) an infill – the *Partzuf* consists of 10 empty *Sefirot*: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*. They are denoted by the letters *HaVaYaH*: *Yud-Hochma*, *Hey-Bina*, *Vav-Zeir Anpin* and *Hey-Malchut*. The *Gematria* of *Yud-Hey-Vav-Hey* equals $10+5+6+5=26$. But it does not reflect their height: *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida*. The height is determined by the filling of the ten *Sefirot* with the light.

Mita (מיתה) death – a place below the spreading of the Supreme Light, i.e., below the point of the Restriction (*Tzimtzum*), under the *Parsa*. Hence, the *Kelim* that fell under the *Parsa* are called “dead”, since they are detached from the light of life.

Mita (מיתה) death – the light of *Atzilut* exiting the *Kli* in any place is considered death. That is why the light of *Hochma* is called “the light of life”, because it provides the *Kelim* with life force.

Mitat Malachim (מיתת המלכים) death of the angels – unable to receive the *Ohr Hochma*, they get isolated from the Supreme Light, fall to the worlds of the *BYA* and die, since the light stops spreading in the world of *Atzilut*.

Mitbatel (מתבטל) self-elimination – when the properties of two spiritual objects completely coincide, so that there’s not a slightest distinction between them, they turn into one, and the smaller object eliminates itself before the bigger one.

Miuchad (מיוחד) Uniting – ultimately turns into the One. The One is the Supreme Light that brings numerous levels to unity, equality.

Miut Yareach (מיעוט ירח) lunar diminution – the state of Malchut of the world of Atzilut, when it is unable to receive the light, due to the lack of correction.

Moach (מוח) brain – the *Sefira Keter* of 10 *Sefirot* of the same degree. The vessel of the *Ohr Neshama* in the *Gar*.

Mochin (מוחין) brain – the light of the *Gar* or the light of the *Rosh*.

Mochin shel Gadlut (מוחין של גדלות) – the light received by ZA during raising MAN after 9 years-levels. This is called “*Ibur Gimel*” (the third conception), or the “*Mochin shel Tolada*”, since the ZON make a *Zivug* “face to face” and give birth to the souls.

Moshe and Israel (משה וישראל) – the *Gar de ZA*.

Motrei Mocha (מותרי מוחא) excessive light in the brain – the lights that the brain cannot bear due to the lack of correction, hence they get outside the *Partzuf Galgalta*. They are also called “hair”.

a) The level of *Haya* is completely filled with “Yud” – the *Gematria AB*:

b) The level of *Nefesh* is determined by *HaVaYaH* filled with “Hey” – the *Gematria BON*:

c) The level of *Neshama* is filled with “Yud”, except for the letter *Vav* filled with “Aleph” – the *Gematria SAG*:

d) The level of *Ruach* is filled with “Aleph” – the *Gematria MA*:

$$מ"ה = 45 = (1+5) + (6+1+6) + (1+5) + (4+6+10) = \text{יוד-הא-ואו-הא}$$

$$ב"ן = 52 = (5+5) + (6+6) + (5+5) + (4+6+10) = \text{יוד-הה-וורה}$$

$$ג"ס = 63 = (10+5) + (6+1+6) + (10+5) + (4+6+10) = \text{יוד-הי-ואו-הי}$$

$$ע"ב = 72 = (10+5) + (6+10+6) + (10+5) + (4+6+10) = \text{יוד-הי-וי-יה}$$

N

NaRaNHaY (נרנח"י) – the *Kelim* of the 10 *Sefirot* called the *KaHaB ZON*. The lights of the 10 *Sefirot* are called: *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida*. The *Kelim* are called top-down and the lights – bottom-up in accordance with the order of their growth.

Nefesh (נפש) – the light received by the *Partzuf* from the one above and not from the World of Infinity. It is also called “the light of the *Nekeva*”.

Nefila (נפילה) fall – descent of a level due to acquiring the properties of the lower level.

Nehtam (נחתם) imprint – the same 10 *Sefirot* that pass from the *Rosh* to the *Guf*. *Hotem* (stamp) is the Reflected Light, which rises from a screen and dressing the 10 *Sefirot de Rosh*.

Neiro Dakik (נהירו דקיק) minute light – tiny, weak luminescence, which enlivens and sustains the *Klipot*.

Nekeva, Nukva (נקבה, נוקבא) – *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut*. It is called so, because it receives the light from *ZA* through *Nekev*, an opening in its *Chazeh*, which diminishes the light.

Nekuda (נקודה) point – *Malchut*, on which no *Zivug* is made. Black and empty, it does not raise the Reflected Light because of the *TA* that took place in the central point.

Nekuda Emtzait (נקודה אמצעית) central point – the *Behina Dalet* of the World of Infinity merged with the light of Infinity.

Nekudot (נקודות) points, dots – four levels emerging during a *Zivug* between the Supreme Light and a screen (as it loses strength). The lights of the *Tabur* – dots above the letters – the *Holam*; the lights of the *Sefira Yesod* – dots inside the letters – *Melaphon*; the light of the *Sium Reglaim* – dots under the letters.

Neshama (נשמה) soul – the light dressed in the *Kli de Bina*. It is called “breath” (“Linshom”, “to breathe”), because ZA receives the light of “life spirit” from *Bina* by way of ascending and descending, as if breathing.

Neshamot Adam HaRishon (נשמות של אדם הראשון) the First Man’s Souls – these are the lights of the *NaRaN de BYA*, which rose to the world of *Atzilut* before the Fall.

Neshamot Bnei Adam (נשמות בני אדם) human souls – the inner *Kelim KaHaB de Atzilut* called *Mocha*, *Atzamot* and *Gidin* with the lights of *NaRaN*. The lights *Haya* and *Yechida* dress in the light of *Neshama*. The *Kelim ZA* and *Malchut* got separated from the *Partzuf*, hence they are called “*Bassar*” and “*Or*”, i.e., they are not the real (corrected) *Kelim*, but only dress onto the *Guf* from outside. The lights *Ruach* and *Nefesh*, which fill them, are received from the inner *Kelim*. Therefore, there are *Ruach* and *Nefesh* in both the inner and the outer *Kelim*. Human souls are born as a result of the interaction between the inner *Kelim*. The interaction between the outer *Kelim* gives birth to the souls of angels. The souls are considered the inner part of the worlds, since they are born out of the inner *Kelim* of the *Partzuf*. Angels are considered the outer part of the worlds, since they are brought forth by the outer *Kelim* of the *Partzuf*.

Neshamot Hadashot (נשמות חדשות) new souls – 1) really new souls – the light of *Hochma de Ohr Yashar*. These souls don’t enter the world of Correction. 2) Renewed souls that emerged from *Hochma* of 32 ways, from *Bina* included in *Hochma*. With regard to the ZON, they are new, since they come from the *Partzuf MA Hadash* (only the old souls of the *BON*). There are also two distinctions in them:

a) New souls refer to the state “*Panim be Panim*” (at the time), when ZA was constantly on the level of the AB; *Beria* that determines the souls’ properties was in *Atzilut*, therefore the souls were also in *Atzilut* and were considered to be in the state of “face to face”.

b) After destruction of the Temple *Beria* descended under the *Parsa* and lost the light of *Atzilut*. It is in the state of “back to back”, so the souls are considered to be in the same state.

Neshamot Malachim (נשמות מלאכים) the souls of angels – See **Neshamot Bnei Adam**.

Neshikin (נשיקין) kiss – A *Zivug* between the two inner *Partzufim* – ZA and the *Nukva*; also called “sound and speech”.

Neshirat Evarim (נשירת איברים) – the downfall of the souls to the impure forces. With regard to the *Kelim* such a fall is called breaking.

Neshirat Evarim Adam HaRishon (האדם הראשון נשירת איברים) fall-off of the First Man’s organs – before the Fall of *Adam HaRishon* had the lights of the *NaRaN de Atzilut*; after the Fall all parts of its soul fell off – only the light of *Nefesh* was left in the *Kelim* of the 100 *Ketarim*.

Nesira (נסירה) – separation of the *Nukva* from the ZA.

Netinat Orot (נתינת אורות) - passing the light from one *Sefira* to another as the screen loses its strength. All lights emanating from *Partzuf* come to *Keter*: as the screen rises from the *Tabur* to the *Peh*, all lights gradually rise to *Keter*.

Nikud Otiot (ניקוד האותיות) – points to the source of each particular *Sefira*: whether it emerged as an inclusion in the upper or the lower one, or by itself. The infill of a name (*Gematria, Milluy*) designates a level’s height.

Nikuy Psolet (ניקוי פסולת) purifying the waste – the *Aviut* in MAN of the lower *Partzuf* rises and gets involved in a *Zivug* of the upper. The screen of the upper *Partzuf* analyses and corrects it there. The lower one can now make its own *Zivug*. Everything depends on a *Zivug* of the upper the *Partzuf*: if it is made on the *Aviut Aleph* of the screen, only the *Behina Aleph* gets purified, while the remaining *Behinot* are rejected as waste, since the screen was unable to correct them. Hence, this *Zivug* is called “a purification of the waste”. Only the amount of waste included in the screen gets corrected and can make a *Zivug*.

Nikvey Awzen, Hotem, Eynaim (נקבי אוזן, חוטם, עיניים) – during the *TB Malchut* of each of the 5 *Sefirot de Rosh* of *Hochma* rose and made an opening in them: in the *Hotem* (nose), the *Awzen* (ear) and the *Eynaim* (eyes). Before the rise of *Malchut* there was only one opening in the *Rosh* of each *Sefira* – the *Peh* (mouth).

Nikvey Eynaim (נקבי עיניים) pupils of eyes – *Behina Aleph de Rosh*. *Hochma* is called “eyes”. Owing to the rise of *Malchut* to the *Eynaim*, *Hochma* appeared in the *Nukva* as well.

Nimshach (נמשך) attraction – descent of the light through the power of the *Aviut*, i.e., desire in the creation is called “spreading” or “attraction”.

Nitzutz (ניצוץ) a spark (pl. *Nitzutzim*) – the Reflected Light. *Nitzutzin* (ניצוצין) – sparks-reminders left from the lights of the *Partzuf Nikudim* after they disappeared from the broken vessels. There are two kinds of light in them: 1) the Direct Light (pure) called “the lights” left in the world of *Atzilut*; 2) the Reflected Light (coarse) called “sparks”, which descended to the worlds of the *BYA*.

Noflim (נופלים) fall – when *ZA* is worthy of receiving the light, *Tvunah* rises to *Ima*, makes a *Zivug* on the *Aviut Bet* and passes the light to *ZA*. This is called “to support the falling *ZON*”, since they receive the light from the *Gar*.

Nogeah (נוגע) touch – transformations that take place between the levels, although insufficient for the separation from the root.

Nukva (נוקבא) – the *Nukva* grows so as to be face to face with *ZA* in full height in one *Keter*. The smallest state of the *Nukva* is a point below the *Yesod de ZA*.

Nun (נ) – the fourteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 50.

O

Ohr (pl. **Orot**) (אור) **light** – all that is inside the *Behina Dalet*, beside the desire to receive pleasure.

Ohr Atzilut (אור אצילות) – the light of *Hochma* (wisdom).

Ohr Beria (אור בריאה) – the light of *Hassadim* (mercy) without the light of *Hochma*.

Ohr Eynaim (אור עיניים) the light of the eyes – the light emerging as a result of interaction between the Direct light and the screen standing in the *Nikvey Eynaim*, *NE* (*Aviut Aleph*). The *Ohr Eynaim* spreads from the World of Infinity to the screen. Such light is always the *Ohr Hochma* or the *Ohr Eynaim*.

Ohr Hadash (אור חדש) new light – any light that emanates as a result of correction of the vessels in the world of *Atzilut* (the light felt in the corrected vessels in *Atzilut*).

Ohr Hochma (אור חכמה) the light of *Hochma*, the light of wisdom – the light emanating from the Creator to the creation, the essence and life of all that exists.

Ohr Hozer (אור חוזר) *OH*, the Reflected Light – the light rising from a coarser vessel to a purer one called the top-down emanation of the light. The Reflected Light is rejected by the *Behina Dalet* with the help of a screen.

Ohr Makif (אור מקיף) the *OM*, the Surrounding Light – any light rejected by a screen due to its weakness and inability to receive the light in the *Sof* of the *Partzuf*. The *OM* surrounds the *Partzuf* and presses on the screen intending to be received in the future.

Ohr Malchut (אור מלכות) See **Ohr Nefesh**.

Ohr Mit'agel (אור מתעגל) rounded light – the Direct Light descends to the *Kli* in accordance with its desire, the *Behina Dalet*, which resembles a heavy object falling to the ground. The *Kelim* without the

Aviut (i.e., a strong desire) don't have power to attract the light, so it becomes rounded.

Ohr Mugbal BeKli (אור מוגבל בכלי) the light limited by the vessel – when the light can spread in the vessel according to the degree of the *Aviut de Kli*.

Ohr Nefesh (אור נפש) the light of *Nefesh* – the light received by the *Partzuf* from the upper level and not from the World of Infinity. It is also called the “*Ohr Nekeva*” or the “*Ohr Malchut*”.

Ohr Nekeva (אור נקבה) See **Ohr Nefesh**.

Ohr Panim (אור פנים) light of face – the light of *Hochma*.

Ohr Pnimi (אור פנימי) the *OP*, the Inner Light – the light dressed in the *Kli*.

Ohr Reshimo (אור רשימו) the light of reminiscence – that, which is left in the *Kli* after the light exits it.

Ohr Yashan (אור ישן) – the light that remained in the world of the *Nikudim* after breaking of the vessels.

Ohr Yashar (אור ישר) the Direct Light – the light descending from the World of Infinity to the spiritual objects, worlds and the *Partzufim*, not felt by the *Kelim de Igulim* (the circular vessels without an anti-egoistic screen), only by the *Kelim de Yosher* (*Kelim* with a screen, the corrected desires). The *Ohr Yashar* (*OY*) is the light received by a coarser vessel from a purer one. This is called the top-down emanation of the light.

Olam (עולם) world – the name “world” starts from the *Partzuf BON* of the world of *Adam Kadmon*, because *ZA* and *Malchut* of the inner vessels of the *Behina Dalet* disappeared, turning into the *Kelim* for the *Ohr Makif*. In this case they are called the *Heichalot* (palaces). **Olam** means “concealed” (“*Alama*” - concealment).

Olam HaBah (עולם הבא) the future world – the lights of *Tvunah* that constantly spread in the *ZON*. “*Le Atid Lavo*” (in the future) means the lights of the upper *Bina*, since they are to enter *ZA* in the future.

Olamot VeNeshamot (עולמות ונשמות) the worlds and the souls – the *AVI* make two *Zivugim*: 1) “back to back” to enliven the worlds with the light of *Hassadim*; 2) “face to face” to give birth to the souls. The first, outer *Zivug* produces “garments”, the second, inner *Zivug* spreads the *Ohr Hochma* and gives birth to the souls. Hence there are three *Partzufim*: the outer and intermediate of the first *Zivug* and the inner of the second.

Orech (אורך) length – distance between the two opposite ends of the level, from the purest (the uppermost) property to the coarsest (the lowest).

Otiot (אותיות) – the *Kelim* (the vessels).

P

Panim (פנים) face – a place for reception or bestowal in the *Kli*.

Panim be Panim (פנים בפנים) face to face – when the *Nukva* receives the Supreme Light from the face of the *Zachar* to its own face.

Panim Lemala (פנים למעלה) face up – the weakening of the screen; directed to the smaller *Aviut*.

Panim Lemata (פנים למטה) face down – when the light spreads according to the *Aviut*.

Panui (פנוי) vacant – a place ready to be corrected.

Parsa (פרסא) boundary – a partition dividing the *Partzuf* into the vessels of reception and the vessels of bestowal.

Partzuf (פרצוף) – the 10 *Sefirot* one under another, which emerged due to the rise of *Malchut* to the Creator.

Pashut (פשוט) simply – no difference in levels and sides.

Pe'ah (פאה) *Malchut* – because it is the last *Sefira*.

Peh (פה) - *Malchut de Rosh*.

Perud (פרוד) – two levels having no common properties.

Petah (פתח) opening – spreading of the light in the *Guf*, which lets it in.

Pey (פ) – the seventeenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 80.

Pnei Nekeva (פני נקבא) woman's face – *Kelim* for the reception of the *Ohr Hochma*.

Pnei Zachar (פני זכר) man's face – spreading of the light of *Hochma*.

Pnimi (פנימי) inner – the *Partzufim* of conception, feeding and maturity dress ontoe into another so that the biggest of them is the innermost.

Pnimiut (פנימיות) – the *Aviut* of the screen, since it is a place where the light spreads.

Psolet (פסולת) waste – the *Kelim* left after their selection.

Ptihat Eynaim (פתיחת עיניים) open eyes – the light of the eyes, the light of *Hochma*.

R

Rachel (רחל) – *Nukva* of ZA located from its *Chazeh* and below.

Rachok (רחוק) far – the maximal transformation of properties. Small luminescence of the *Ohr Hochma*. “Near” means a great amount of the *Ohr Hochma*.

RADLA (רדל"א) – the 10 *Sefirot* of the *Partzuf Atik* called “unattainable head”, because they use *Malchut* of the TA.

Rahav (רחב) broad – spreading of the light of *Hassadim*.

Rakia (רקיע) firmament – the *Yesod de ZA*, since it is its end, the upper waters, and the beginning of the *Nukva*, the lower waters.

Reiach (ריח) smell – the light in ZA *de Rosh* called “*Hotem*” (nose).

Resh (ר) - the twentieth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 200.

Reshimo (רשימו) reminiscence – that, which the light leaves behind after its disappearance, which is the root of a new *Partzuf*.

Reshit (ראשית) in the beginning – *Hochma de Zeir Anpin*.

Ribuah (ריבוע) a square – the *Zivugim* made by *Malchut* as it rises from the *Behina Dalet* to the *Behina Gimel* to the *Behina Bet* etc., until it reaches the *Peh*. The name also derives from the four kinds of weakening of the screen.

Ribui Ohr (ריבוי אור) a large amount of the light – a large number of the *Reshimot*, which were not renewed during a *Zivug*, hence they require correction and raise *MAN* to a new *Zivug*.

Riyah (ראיה) sight – spreading of the light from the World of Infinity to a screen. The light descending from the World of Infinity is always the *Ohr Hochma* or the *Ohr Eynaim*, or the sight, or the *Ohr Hochma de Rosh*.

Rosh (ראש) head – the part of the creation most similar to the root. The 10 *Sefirot* of the Supreme Light spreading to the screen of *Malchut* so as to raise the Reflected Light are also called so, because they precede the screen and the *Ohr Hozer*. The 10 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light dressed in the 10 *Sefirot* of the Reflected light have the same name.

Rosh Shualim (ראש לשועלים) “head of a fox” – the *Rosh* of the lower level. It is simultaneously considered “a lion’s tail” – the end of the upper level.

Ruach (רוח) spirit – the light of *Hassadim*, which fills the *Kli* of *ZA*. Its nature consists in rising to *Bina*, receiving the light and descending to *Malchut* so as to pass the light to it.

Ruchaniut (רוחניות) spirituality – abstract from all material notions, i.e., from categories of time, place, imagination, movement.

S

Said to the world: “Stop spreading” (אמר לעולמו די ולא תתפשטו) (יותר) – *Malchut* blocks the light from spreading in the *Chazeh* of the world of *Yetzira* and makes the boundary there.

Salik Beruta (סליק ברעותא) – a *Zivug* on the *Masach de Aviut Shoresh*.

Samech (ס) – the fifteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 60.

Samuch (סמוך) near – similarity of the properties.

Sandalphon (סנדלפון) – *Malchut* of the light of the *Partzuf Ima* dressed in *Malchut* of the world of *Beria*.

Searot (שערות) hair – the light, which brain is unable to endure for the lack of correction, absence of a screen. Hence, it gets outside of the *Partzuf Galgalta*. It is also called “excessive brain” (“*Motrei Mocha*”).

Sefira (ספירה) – the 10 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light dressed in the 10 *Sefirot* of the Reflected Light born in one *Zivug* are called “one *Sefira*” after the uppermost *Sefira*, despite the fact that it includes the 10 *Sefirot* in height and width.

Segol (סגול) violet – a hint at three points of *HaBaD*, where *Hochma* and *Bina* are positioned face to face.

Shadayim (שדיים) breasts – nipples are the source of the *Ohr Hasadim*; now the *Ohr Hochma* shines there as well.

Shana (6000 years - ששת אלפים שנה) – the world of *Assiya* is called “2000 years of *Tohu*”, since *Tohu* means the *Klipot*; the entire world of *Assiya* is in the *Klipot*. The world of *Yetzira* is called “2000 years of the *Torah*”, because *Yetzira* is the property of *ZA* (the written *Torah*). The world of *Beria* is called “2000 years of *Mashiach’s* coming”. *Beria* is the property of *Bina (Ima)*, the source of deliverance called “*Leah, Mashiach Ben-David’s* mother”.

Shem (שם) name – a formula, which explains how the light designated by it gets revealed on this particular level, because each level is characterized by its own way (name) of attainment.

Shemiya (שמיעה) hearing – the light in the *Sefirat Bina de Rosh* (in head of the *Partzuf*).

Shena (שינה) sleep – when the *Partzuf* ascends with MAN, it is considered to be sleeping in its permanent place, i.e., instead of the *Ohr Hochma* (which is gone now) it retains just a sustaining luminescence.

Shevira (שבירה) breaking – disappearance of a screen's boundary.

Shevira (שבירה) breaking – the downfall of the *Kelim* into the impure forces. The process is also called the “*Neshirat Evarim*” (the “fall-off of organs”).

Shin (ש) – the twenty-first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, the numerical value: 300.

Shoresh (שורש) root – all properties of *Keter*, the 10 *Sefirot de Rosh*.

Shvirat Kli (שבירת כלי) breaking of a vessel – when the *Kli* is unable to receive the light.

Sigim (סיגים) – *Malchut*, mixed with seven *Malachim*, which caused the breaking of the world of the *Nikudim*.

Sium Kelim shel Panim (סיום כלים של פנים) end of the vessels of “face” – the level of *Chazeh*.

Sium Ragley Adam Kadmon (סיום רגלי אדם קדמון) end of legs of the world of *Adam Kadmon* – the point of This world, where the line of the Supreme Light ends; the position of the Central point of all worlds.

Sium Ragley Atzilut (סיום רגלי אצילות) end of legs of the world of *Atzilut* – the *Bina de Gufa* of the *Partzuf Nekudot de SAG* (the middle of *Tifferet* in its *Guf*).

Sium shel Tzimtzum Aleph (סיום של צימצום א') End of the First Restriction – located above the point of This world.

Sium shel Tzimtzum Bet (סיום של צימצום ב') End of the Second Restriction - the *Parsa* below the world of *Atzilut*.

Sof, or Sium (סוף או סיום) - end, ending - the refusal of the *Behina Dalet* to receive the light. The *Behina Dalet* is called “end”, because it blocks the reception of the light, thus ending the level.

Sovel (סובל) suffer - when the *Kli* is free to receive the light, but chooses not to.

Sovev (סובב) - a cause of a *Zivug*.

T

Ta'amim (טעמים) tastes - top-down spreading of the light from the *Peh* to the *Tabur*.

Tabur (טבור) navel - the *Malchut de Guf*, from which the actual rejection of the light starts.

Tabur Lev (טבור לב) - the place of the *Chazeh*.

Tachlit Kulam (תכלית כולם) the ultimate purpose - being the coarsest of all, the *Behina Dalet* is called the “*Sof*” (end). All the *Madregot* (levels, worlds etc.) were created only in order to correct and fill it.

Tardema (תרדמה) slumber - The state of *ZA* while raising *MAN*. It is also called “*Dormita*”.

Tav (ת) the twenty-second letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 400.

Tchelet (תכלת) light blue - *Malchut* of the light of the *Partzuf Ima* dressed in *Malchut* of the world of *Beria*.

Techiyat Metim (תחיית מתים) resurrection of the dead - return from the *BYA* to *Atzilut*, since exiting *Atzilut* is called “death”.

Tefillin (תפילין) - *Tzitzit* is hair of *ZA* that shines in the *Rosh de Nukva* and creates the *Tefillin* on its *Metzah* (forehead).

Tehum Shabbat (תחום שבת) – the boundary set by the power of *Malchut* for the spreading of the Supreme Light in the *Chazeh de Yetzira*.

Tenuah (תנועה) movement – any renewal of spiritual form (properties) with regard to the previous form (properties).

Terem ve Achar Kach (טרם ואחר כך) – when the relation between cause and effect is discussed, cause is called “*Terem*” and effect – “*Achar Kach*”.

Tet (ט) – the ninth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 9.

Tipa (טיפה) a drop – intermittent reception of the light, on and off.

Tipat HaHolada (טיפת ההולדה) – the light of *Hesed* of the *Partzuf Abbalowering* the screen from the eyes.

Tohu (תוהו) – the *Partzuf Atik* unattainable by the lower *Partzufim*. *Bohu* (בוהו) is the *Partzuf Arich Anpin (AA)*, which can be attained.

Tohu (תוהו) – the unattainable *Atik*.

Torah (תורה) – the light of *ZA*.

Tosefet Shabbat (תוספת שבת) – the descent of the Supreme Light causing the ascent of the worlds at the fifth hour of the sixth day (*Erev Shabbat*).

Tzadi (צ) – the eighteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 90.

Tzar (צר) narrow – the abatement of the *Ohr Hassadim*. *Rahav* (wide) means spreading of the *Ohr Hassadim*. Restriction of the *Ohr Hochma* is called “short”. Spreading of the *Ohr Hochma* is called “long”.

Tzela (צלע) – the name of the *Nukva*, when it is attached “back to back” to the opposite side of the *Chazeh de ZA*. Since it is attached to the *Guf de ZA*, both of them use the same *Keter*.

Tzelem (צל"ם) – dressing of the light of the *Mochin de ZA*.

Tzelem (צל"ם) – the Reflected Light that rises owing to the inclusion of the lower one's MAN into the upper one's screen and the *Aviut*. The 10 *Sefirot* of the Direct Light are dressed on it. This light refers to the upper one, but since it makes a *Zivug* for the lower one's sake (on its *Aviut*); the Reflected Light descends with the light that refers to the lower one. However, in order to receive it, the lower one has to consecutively diminish the light by three levels called "M-L-Tz", or, if read bottom-up by the lower one – "Tze-Le-M".

Tzere (צירה) – the name of *Hochma* and *Bina*, when *Bina* constitutes the opposite side of *Hochma* and has no point of *Da'at*, which leads to a *Zivug* with *Hochma*. *Bina* is also called "Tzere", since all parts of ZA take their form thanks to its *Aviut*.

Tzimtzum (צימצום) a restriction – overcoming one's desire. One restricts reception despite the passionate "desire to receive".

Tzimtzum Aleph (צימצום א') – a restriction imposed on *Malchut* (the *Behina Dalet*), hence the line of the World of Infinity ends in *Malchut* of the *NHY*.

Tzimtzum Bet (צימצום ב') – a restriction of the *NHY* of the world of AK (*Behina Bet*), hence the line of the World of Infinity ends in *Bina de NHY* of the world of AK, where the place of the *BYA* starts. The Second Restriction is a merging of two properties: mercy (of *Bina*) and judgment (of *Malchut*).

Tzinor (צינור) pipe – the *Kelim de Ohr Yashar* (the Direct Light), since they confine the light within their limits.

Tzion (ציון) – inner *Yesod* of the *Nukva*. "Tzion" derives from "Yetzia" (exit).

Tziporney Raglaim (ציפורני רגליים) toe-nails – end of any *Partzuf*.

Tzitzit (ציצית) – the hair of ZA that shines in the *Rosh de Nukva* and creates the *Tefillin* on its *Metzah* (forehead).

Tzura (צורה) form – four degrees of the *Aviut* in the *Masach* of *Malchut* called “*Hochma*”, “*Bina*”, “*ZA*” and “*Malchut*” (four forms).

Tzvaot Malchut ((גם חילות) (צבאות מלכות) – the *Partzufim*, which emerge from *Malchut* in the worlds of the *BYA*.

Y

Ya’akov (יעקב) – the *Vak* of *Zeir Anpin* or the outer *Partzuf*.

Yamey Kedem (ימי קדם) past days – the *Sefirot* of the *Partzuf Atik*, since *Malchut* of the *TA* is concealed from all the other *Partzufim* of *Atzilut*.

Yarchey Ibur (ירחי עיבור) months of conception or months of pregnancy – time and place constitute a renewal of form, quality. The *Partzuf* perfects itself by way of numerous *Zivugim* and the lights in the process of 7, 9 or 12 months of pregnancy in accordance with the number of the lights necessary to completely feel the *Partzuf*.

Yashar (ישר) straight – the descent of the Supreme Light into the *Kelim* in precise correspondence with their desire, which resembles a heavy object falling to the ground. the *Kelim* without the *Aviut* (i.e., a strong desire) don’t have power to attract the light, so it becomes rounded.

Yechid (יחיד) One – the Supreme Light leading to the unity of all properties. *Miuchad* means that in the *Gmar Tikkun* everything becomes one.

Yechida (יחידה) – the light in the *Sefirat Keter*.

Yenikat Klipot (יניקת קליפות) attachment of the impure forces – the substance of the *Klipot* is absolute evil; hence they cannot receive any light. However, when the vessels got broken, the *Kelim* of bestowal (the *GE*) fell into the impure forces of the *AHP* and became their soul and life.

Yerida (ירידה) descent (from a level) – it occurs during the second spreading of the light, when the *Ohr Hochma* comes and dresses in the *Kli Keter*. The level of *Keter* turns out to have descended to the level of *Hochma*, *Hochma* – to *Bina*, etc.

Yerida le Klipot (ירידה לקליפות) descent to the impure forces – as a result of MAN raised by the souls to the ZON, the ZON rise to the AVI to receive the new light. If the souls' actions (properties) deteriorate, the ZON lose the *Ohr Hochma*, because the light comes to ZON only as a result of MAN raised by the souls, when the *Kelim* rise from the worlds of the BYA, go through selection and dress in the ZON. If MAN disappears, the light exits and the ZON return to their place. The *Kelim* NHY of ZA and the 9 lower *Sefirot* of the *Nukva*, which rose to the BYA and dressed in the ZON, descend (fall) into the *Klipot*.

Yesh (יש) existing – the presence of the *Ohr Hochma* is called “Yesh”. The disappearance of the *Ohr Hochma* is called “Ain” (absence).

Yetzia le Hutz (יציאה לחוץ) getting outside – transformation of properties in a certain part of the *Partzuf* leads to its coming out of that *Partzuf* and becoming independent. At that, no changes take place in the first *Partzuf*.

Yetziat Ohr Derech Eynaim (יציאת אור דרך עיניים) the light emanating from the eyes – when *Malchut* rises to the *Nikvey Eynaim* (NE) and makes a *Zivug*, the light of this *Zivug* shines through the pupils of the eyes and not through the mouth.

Yir (עיר) city – the state of the world of *Atzilut*, when the worlds ascend to it.

Yirushalayim (ירושלים) Jerusalem – the outer *Yesod de Malchut*.

Yosef (יוסף) – *Yesod* of *Zeir Anpin*.

Yotzer (יוצר) – spreading of the light in the worlds, which includes everything, but the will to receive.

Yud (י) – the tenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 10.

Yud-Aleph Simaney Ketoret (י"א סימני קטורת) eleven parts of incense burning – sparks of the light left for the resurrection of the *Lev HaEven* (stony heart).

Z

Zachar (זכר) male essence – the upper *Partzuf* gives the same light it has to the lower one.

Zanav LeArayot (זנב לאריות) lion's tail – end of the upper level, which turns into the *Rosh* of the lower level called “fox's head”.

Zayin (ז) – the seventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet; the numerical value: 7.

Zeir Anpin (זעיר אנפין) – the literal meaning is “small face”, since the essence of ZA is the light of *Hassadim* and a little light of *Hochma*. The *Ohr Hochma* is called “face”, therefore *Keter* is called the “*Arich Anpin*” (big face), because it is filled with the light of *Hochma*.

Zivug Gufani (זיווג גופני) bodily *Zivug* – coition of *Abba* and *Ima* for passing the light to the souls (ZON).

Zivug Haka'a (זיווג הכאה) – an impact coition – a screen's action directed at pushing the light away from the *Behina Dalet* and returning it to the root, the source. There are two opposite actions present in this phenomenon: rejection of the light and consecutive interaction with it, which leads to reception of the light in the *Kli*, because the rejected light turns into the Reflected Light, i.e., into the *Kli* that reveals the light in the *Partzuf*.

Zivug Pnimi Shel Atzilut (זיווג פנימי של אצילות) the inner *Zivug* in the world of *Atzilut* – the inner *Kelim de Atzilut* are the *KaHaB* called “*Mocha*” (brain), “*Atzamat*” (bones) and “*Gidin*” (tendons), filled with the lights: *Nefesh*, *Ruach* and *Neshama*. Having no *Kelim* of their own, the lights *Haya* and *Yechida* dress in the light of *Neshama*. This is because the *Kelim* of ZA and *Malchut* that must be filled with the lights *Haya* and *Yechida* got separated from the *Partzuf*. Other ZA and *Malchut* called “*Bassar*” (flesh) and “*Or*” (skin) are used instead of them. These are not real complete vessels, but only dress the *Guf* from outside. They receive

the lights *Ruach* and *Nefesh* that fill them from the inner *Kelim*. That is why *Ruach* and *Nefesh* fill both the inner and outer *Kelim*. A *Zivug* on the inner *Kelim* creates human souls and a *Zivug* on the outer *Kelim* creates the souls of angels. Hence, born from the inner *Kelim* of the *Partzuf*, the human souls are considered inner, while the souls of angels born from the outer *Kelim* of the *Partzuf* are regarded outer.

Zivug Ruchani (זיווג רוחני) - A *Zivug* that comes from the *Rosh de SAG* to the *Rosh de Nikudim* and corrects the *Gar de Nikudim*, but does not spread to the *Guf de Nikudim*. It is also called “coition by a kiss”.

Zivug Shel Neshikin (זיווג של נשיקין) coition by a kiss - *Zivug* that comes from *Rosh de SAG* to *Rosh de Nikudim* and corrects *Gar de Nikudim*, but does not spread to *Guf de Nikudim*. It is also called “the spiritual coition”.

Zivug Shel Yesodot (זיווג של יסודות) coition of bodies - corrects the *Zat* of the seven lower *Sefirot* of the *Partzuf*. It is also called “the lower *Zivug*” and “bodily *Zivug*”.

Zivug Tadir (זיווג תדיר) permanent *Zivug* - coition of *Abba* and *Ima* in their places.

Zman (זמן) time - a certain number of properties, which develop one out of another as cause and effect.

ZON Shel Klipah (זרין של קליפה) - only the *Kelim* of the seven lower *Sefirot* got broken.



OUR OTHER BOOKS

Guide to the Hidden Wisdom of Kabbalah with Ten Complete Kabbalah Lesson: provides the reader with a solid foundation for understanding the role of Kabbalah in our world. The content was designed to allow individuals all over the world to begin traversing the initial stages of spiritual ascent toward the apprehension of the upper realms.

Attaining the Worlds Beyond: is a first step toward discovering the ultimate fulfillment of spiritual ascent in our lifetime. This book reaches out to all those who are searching for answers, who are seeking a logical and reliable way to understand the world's phenomena. This magnificent introduction to the wisdom of Kabbalah provides a new kind of awareness that enlightens the mind, invigorates the heart, and moves the reader to the depths of their soul.

Introduction to the Zohar: is the second in a series written by Kabbalist and scientist Rav Michael Laitman, which will prepare readers to understand the hidden message of "The Zohar". Among the many helpful topics dealt with in this companion text to *The Science of Kabbalah*, readers are introduced to the "language of roots and branches", without which the stories in the Zohar are mere fable and legend. Introduction to the Zohar will certainly furnish readers with the necessary tools to understand authentic Kabbalah as it was originally meant to be, as a means to attain the Upper Worlds.

Kabbalah for Beginners: By reading this book you will be able to take your first step in understanding the roots of human behaviour and the laws of nature. The contents present the essential principals of the Kabbalistic approach and describe the wisdom of Kabbalah and the way it works. Kabbalah for beginners is intended for those searching for a sensible and reliable method of studying the phenomenon of this world for those seeking to understand the reason for suffering and pleasure, for those seeking answers to the major questions in life. Kabbalah is an accurate method to investigate and define man's position in the universe. The wisdom of Kabbalah tells us why man exists, why he is born, why he lives, what the purpose of his life is, where he comes from, and where he is going after he completes his life in this world.

Root of All Science: The process of examining our world with the help of the human mind and manmade tools is called science. All fields of science deal with what is perceived through our natural five senses, yet the Wisdom of Kabbalah deals with acquiring knowledge that exceeds their limitations.

In *Root of All Science*, Rav Michael Laitman presents the differences between Kabbalistic scientific method and the current method used by scientists. The distinction is in the ability of Kabbalah to incorporate human awareness in a verifiable analysis of reality. The enormous significance of this additional focus, to both the scientific researcher and the seeker of spirituality, is that it provides the leap in dimensions enabling the observer to penetrate the causal level of all aspects of existence and all events that occur in this world.

Wondrous Wisdom: Today interest in Kabbalah has exploded world-wide. Millions of people are seeking answers as to what this ancient wisdom really is, and where they can find authentic instruction. With so many conflicting ideas about Kabbalah on the internet, in books, and in the mass media; the time has finally arrived to answer humanity's need, and reveal the wisdom to all who truly desire to know. In *Wondrous Wisdom* you will receive the first steps, an initial course on Kabbalah, based solely on authentic teachings passed down from Kabbalist teacher to student over thousands of years. Offered within is a sequence of lessons revealing the nature of the wisdom and explaining the method of attaining it.

But if you listen with your heart to one famous question, I am sure that all your doubts as to whether you should study the Kabbalah will vanish without a trace. This question is a bitter and fair one, asked by all born on earth: "What is the meaning of my life?"

Rav Yehuda Ashlag,
from "Introduction to
Talmud Esser Sefirot"

ABOUT BNEI BARUCH

Bnei Baruch is a non-profit group centered in Israel that is spreading the wisdom of Kabbalah to accelerate the spirituality of mankind. Kabbalist Michael Laitman PhD, who was the disciple and personal assistant to Kabbalist, Rabbi Baruch Ashlag, the son of Kabbalist Rabbi Yehuda Ashlag (author of the Sulam Commentary on the Zohar), follows in the footsteps of his mentor in guiding the group.

Rav Laitman's scientific method provides individuals of all faiths, religions and cultures the precise tools necessary for embarking on a highly efficient path of self-discovery and spiritual ascent. The focus is primarily on inner processes that individuals undergo at their own pace. Bnei Baruch welcomes people of all ages and lifestyles to engage in this rewarding process.

In recent years, an awakening of a massive worldwide quest for the answers to life's questions has been underway. Society has lost its ability to see reality for what it is and in its place easily formed viewpoints and opinions have appeared.

Bnei Baruch reaches out to all those who seek awareness beyond the standard view. It offers practical guidance and a reliable method for understanding the world's phenomena. The group's unique method not only helps overcome the trials and tribulations of everyday life, but initiates a process in which individuals extend themselves beyond the standard boundaries and limitations of today's world.

Kabbalist Rabbi Yehuda Ashlag left a study method for this generation, which essentially 'trains' individuals to behave as if they have already achieved the perfection of the Upper Worlds, here in our world.

In the words of Rabbi Yehuda Ashlag, *"This method is a practical way to apprehend the Upper World and the source of our existence while still living in this world. A Kabbalist is a researcher who studies his nature using this proven, time-tested and accurate method. Through this method, one attains perfection, and takes control over one's life. In this way, one realizes one's true purpose in*

life. Just as a person cannot function properly in this world having no knowledge of it, so also one's soul cannot function properly in the Upper World having no knowledge of it. The wisdom of Kabbalah provides this knowledge."

The goal-orientated nature of these studies enables a person to apply this knowledge on both an individual and collective basis in order to enhance and promote the spirituality of humankind, and indeed the entire world.

HOW TO CONTACT BNEI BARUCH

Bnei Baruch
1057 Steeles Avenue West, Suite 532
Toronto, ON, M2R 3X1
Canada

E-mail address: info@kabbalah.info

Web site: www.kabbalah.info

Toll free in Canada and USA:

1-866-LAITMAN

Fax: 1-905 886 9697









THE LIGHT OF KABBALAH

Introduction to the Book of Zohar

VOLUME TWO

THE SPIRITUAL SECRET OF KABBALAH

ORIGINAL TEXTS
OF RAV YEHUDA ASHLAG
Commentary by Rav Michael Laitman PhD



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VOLUME TWO

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Introduction to the Book of Zohar

VOLUME TWO

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TO THE READER

For many centuries, the wisdom of Kabbalah was inaccessible to anyone who could not read Hebrew. Now, for the first time in the history of the Western World, readers of the English language and serious students of Kabbalah have the opportunity to learn the Wisdom of Kabbalah from the 20th Century's greatest Kabbalist, Baal HaSulam. In this text,* the student will find a systematic, graduated exposition of Kabbalah unlike any treatment found in other available texts. This text comes with a brilliant commentary by Michael Laitman, a scientist and Kabbalist who received the Tradition from that illustrious chain that includes the Ari, Baal HaSulam, and his teacher, Rabash.

"The Wisdom of Kabbalah" is an exhaustive text that the reader will certainly make a steady companion in his exploration of the Upper Worlds for many years to come. Enjoy!

Talib Din, Executive Editor
Bnei Baruch
May 16, 2004

* As Rav Laitman did not translate the Hebrew text word for word, the reader will find that the English translation does not strictly follow the Hebrew text.



FOREWORD

While working on a course of virtual lessons at the World Academy of Kabbalah that Michael Laitman teaches on the Internet, we did our best to preserve the style and spirit of his classes and discussions. This is not a literary text, nor is it a lecture on philosophy. Here you will discover secret, deep layers of information about the Upper World. In this way, through the Kabbalist, the Creator reveals the Thought of Creation and His light.

In one of his Saturday discourses, M. Laitman told us about the attitude of his Teacher, Rabash, to the manuscripts of his great father Baal HaSulam, the commentator on “The Book of Zohar”. While publishing the manuscripts, Rabash never allowed himself to make even a single correction of what might seem to be a mistake. M. Laitman acted in a similar way, when he was preparing his Teacher’s notes for publication. “What may now seem like a mistake will become clear when we ascend the higher spiritual level”, said Rabash to his disciple Michael Laitman. We try to follow the advice of our teachers and make a point of leaving all the “mistakes” and “typos” uncorrected.

This book was not written; to its last line it was orally shared with numerous members of the virtual group, who gather in many places in the world to hear these classes.

While reading this book, you can join the community of beginning Kabbalists, provided you treat it as a very special Kabbalistic text filled with profound meaning. Succumb to your sensations, let the Upper Light lead you, correct, and prepare your soul, your spiritual vessels, for reception of the ultimate delight – merging with the Creator.

The students of
Rav Michael Laitman



PREFACE TO THE BOOK OF ZOHAR

1. The depth of wisdom and learning contained in the Holy Book of Zohar is concealed behind a thousand locked gates.

Why is it “concealed behind a thousand locked gates”? In actual fact, no one conceals anything; everything exists within the framework of the natural laws of the creation. Unlike in this world, there is no key that can unlock the gates to enter where one may or may not be. The spiritual world is completely open; a person just advances from one spiritual level to another, and leaves one realm to enter the next in accordance with the way he changes his own properties.

In our world an object can be moved from one place to another by way of mechanical displacement, whereas in the spiritual world we need to make an inner motion in order to pass from one part of the world to another. This is what they call a locked gate; as long as the person is confined to one part, the next one remains concealed, “locked” from him.

What can be done to open it? Transform yourself in accordance with the part you wish to enter, and then you will get inside. It is pretty simple. Everything exists within man. By inwardly using his potential abilities, anyone can easily move in spiritual space, from his present state to the state of perfect infinity and merging with the Creator.

All wisdom consists in the method of advancing in spiritual space. Hence it is said that the depth of wisdom is “concealed behind a thousand locked gates”. It is not concealed behind any kind of external gate.

PREFACE TO THE BOOK OF ZOHAR

All the locks and keys are within us. Carrying out inner actions correctly and opening the locks with our own inner keys is our method. This is the purpose of studying “The Book of Zohar” and the wisdom of Kabbalah as a whole.

Human language, being poor and meager, can serve us neither as a suitable instrument, nor a sufficient means of expression for uncovering the full meaning of even a single sentence in “The Book of Zohar”.

This means that even if we take the smallest phrase from “The Zohar”, which seems quite clear to us, the interpretation of it will definitely depend on our level of attainment. By gradually developing our inner potential, by adapting ourselves to various spiritual laws and properties, we will begin to discover great depth in every word, phrase, or sentence of the book, and not the actions and phenomena that we perceive today. Depth of perception depends solely on the researcher’s level of attainment.

My explanations are only the rungs of a ladder.

The structure of the commentary to “The Book of Zohar” resembles a ladder. This does not mean that the first volume of the book is intended for beginners and the last for the most advanced students. Every sentence, every word in the text includes inner levels of attainment of all the described actions and states.

The text is composed in such a way that the reader gradually discovers an increasingly clearer picture. He should only aspire for discovering some inner information concealed in the book. That is all man can understand at this stage, but this initial tune up is quite sufficient for the book to begin affecting us in this way.

I intended to help the student attain the heights from which he may see and investigate what the Book itself expounds. Therefore, in this preface, I find it necessary to prepare the student interested in “The

PREFACE TO THE BOOK OF ZOHAR

Zohar” by providing him with correct definitions, to demonstrate how to study the book and learn from it.

In other words, the goal of studying “The Zohar” is to attain the Upper World, to feel and control it, to begin living not just within the limits of this world, but to enter a greater, eternal and perfect realm.

2. At the outset, one should be aware that every concept discussed in “The Book of Zohar”, whether in the language of legends or tales, concerns the Ten Sefirot: i.e., KaHaB (Keter, Hochma, and Bina), HaGaT (Hessed, Gevura, and Tifferet), NHYM (Netzah, Hod, Yesod, Malchut), and their derivatives. Just as the spoken language, consisting of the 22 letters with their various permutations, are entirely adequate for uncovering the essence of any object or learning, so too are the concepts and permutations of the Ten Sefirot sufficient to expose the entire wisdom contained in the spiritual universe.

From the study of the four phases of development of the direct light, we know that these phases (zero, one, two, three, and four) are respectively called “the tip of the letter Yud”, the letters “Yud”, “Hey”, “Vav”, and “Hey”. They make up the word HaVaYaH, the Creator’s ineffable name.

Partzuf Soul	Sefirot	HaVaYaH	Stages	
K	K	—	0	
	H	— י	1	
	B	— ה	2	
	H G T N H Y	ZA	— י	3
		M	— ה	4
M	M	—		
	10	5		

What does *HaVaYaH*, the Creator's name, mean? These symbols contain the information about the entire universe. The rest happens to be their various interpretations. If we describe them as *Sefirot*, they will correspond to *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *Zeir Anpin* (*ZA*) and *Malchut*. We then further divide the *Sefira ZA* into six the *Sefirot Hesed*, *Gevura*, *Tifferet*, *Netzah*, *Hod*, and *Yesod*. Thus these Ten *Sefirot* are all that we have. *Keter*, the Creator's attitude to the creation, is followed by the *Sefirot*-derivatives, the last of which is *Malchut*, the creation. Accordingly, the Creator's attitude to the creation descends from *Keter* to *Malchut*, while the creation's attitude to the Creator ascends in the opposite direction, from *Malchut* to *Keter*. All that is included in the Ten *Sefirot* is called the Soul or the *Partzuf*. This is all we deal with.

We know nothing beyond that. We can only perceive what enters inside us, and call it our life.

Baal HaSulam says that the combinations of the *Sefirot* and their various, partially used sub-*Sefirot* are quite sufficient to describe all possible states, actions, and properties of everything that takes place between the Creator and the creation.

In our reality, there are three definitions.

In fact, they are not definitions, but, rather, limitations, which we need to understand properly. When we dispose ourselves to "The Book of Zohar" through these three limitations, we understand what it says, and can penetrate its deeper form.

3. *First definition (limitation).*

There exist four categories of knowledge called:

- *Matter,*
- *Form in matter,*
- *Abstract form, and*
- *Essence.*

PREFACE TO THE BOOK OF ZOHAR

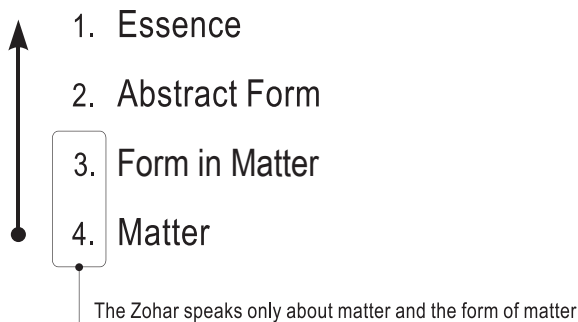
If we move outside from within in our analysis, we find that the essence, abstract form, form, and matter are dressed on one another. This is how we perceive any object in our world.

For instance, here is my cup, which has the form of a vessel (Hebrew: *Kli*). The matter of which it is made is clay. When I speak of it without any reference to its shape or material it is made of, I refer to its abstract form as a *Kli*. In general, what is a glass or a cup? I speak about something abstract, unconnected with a particular, concrete object. Then the essence follows, a category, something that constitutes the notion of a cup, a *Kli* for me.

These are the four degrees of inner attainment of any definition, object, action, or property.

It is the same with regard to the Ten Sefirot. One must be aware that the Book of Zohar does not concern itself at all with such concepts as the Essence of the Sefirot or their Abstract Form. Rather, since the Form is the carrier of Matter, the book discusses either the Form of the Sefirot or the Matter they contain.

If we take essence, abstract form, form in matter and matter (in the order they descend to this world), our attainment starts from matter and rises up. Baal HaSulam says that “The Zohar” only speaks of the first two levels of attainment, matter and form in matter. So this is the first of our limitations pertaining to the study of “The Zohar”.



4. *Second definition (limitation).*

Everything existing in the Divine reality that is concerned with the creation of Souls and their forms of existence is conditioned by the following three states:

- *The World of Infinity,*
- *The World of Atzilut, and*
- *The Three Worlds called Beria, Yetzira and Assiya.*

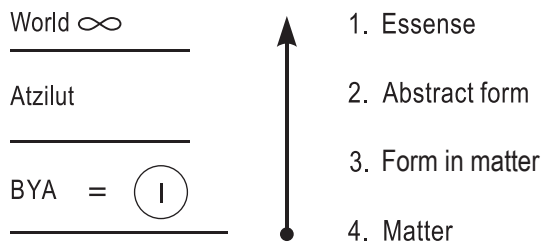
The World of Infinity is absolutely divine and refers both to the state before the *Tzimtzum Aleph* and to the state of Final Correction.

The World of *Atzilut* is the World of our correction. While being corrected itself, it represents the basis, the source of our life and betterment.

The Worlds of *BYA* are the realm in which we exist.

Know that “The Book of Zohar” investigates only the Worlds of BYA (Beria, Yetzira and Assiya) and nothing else. It touches on the Worlds of Infinity and Atzilut only to the degree that the Worlds of BYA receive from them. Otherwise, “The Book of Zohar” does not concern itself with them at all.

The Worlds of Infinity and Atzilut by themselves are of no interest to us. What we do need to know is where we are and how these worlds can help us.



“The Book of Zohar” always speaks about a practical application of everything that we study. It only deals with what is attained in man’s Soul, which exists, acts, rules and facilitates man’s correction, but never speaks of anything abstract.

Consequently, our approach to “The Zohar” should be purely practical. We should dispose ourselves so that the light it emanates can clearly indicate what we need to correct.

The essence and abstract form refer to what is above our correction. We will attain it as well, but later on, after the Final Correction; hence “The Book of Zohar” does not speak about it. Neither does it mention the Worlds of Infinity and *Atzilut*, where we ascend after the Final Correction. This is not our current task.

Our mission is to go through 6000 years (levels) of correction; therefore “The Zohar” speaks only about this process. It describes me and, through me, the World of Infinity and *Atzilut*, dealing only with what concerns me in my matter and form. Nothing at all is said of what exists without being somehow connected with me.

5. Third definition (limitation):

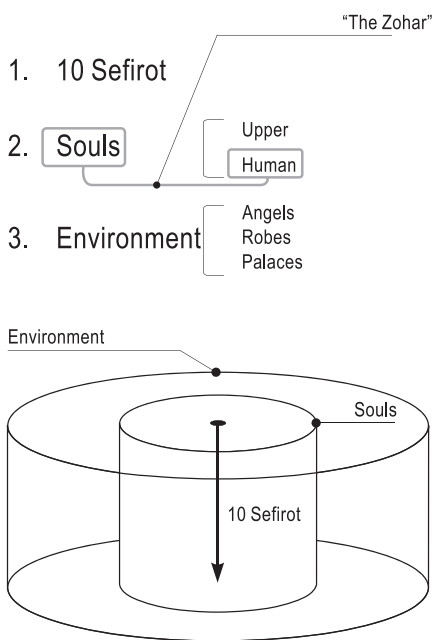
In each of the Worlds of BYA, there are three aspects:

- *Ten Sefirot,*
- *The Souls, and*
- *The rest of reality.*

The Ten *Sefirot* constitute the descending pure light in the form of gradually diminishing emanations. Thus, to the extent of our ability to communicate with these Ten *Sefirot*, we perceive the light.

The Souls dressed on these Ten *Sefirot* exist within the reality that surrounds them. This way, one element is inside another. There are Souls of two kinds: Upper and human. At a later stage we will understand the notion of “the Upper Souls.”

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The rest of the surrounding reality is comprised of “angels,” “robes,” and “palaces.”

These are the inferior spiritual forces that surround the human Soul. Their names indicate resemblance to our world: “angels” are similar to animals; “robes” are the forces that are external with regard to man, but very close to him; in similarity to our world, “palaces” are the forces that constitute man’s more remote surroundings.

In any case, one should know that, although “The Book of Zohar” meticulously explains every minute detail of every world...

However, one should not deceive oneself thinking that everything is explained about all the worlds. “The Zohar” reveals and expounds only that, which concerns one aspect – the human Souls, and completely ignores everything that pertains to the Ten Sefirot or surrounds the Soul (i.e., the Upper Souls, angels, robes, and palaces).

Any other aspect that may be expounded or explained is done so only for the purpose of understanding what it is that Souls receive. “The Book of Zohar” does not utter even a single word about anything that does not relate to Souls.

These three fundamental aspects serve as our point of departure:

- *Not to pass beyond the framework of matter and form in matter;*
- *Not to pass beyond the framework of the worlds BYA;*
- *Not to pass beyond the framework of the human Souls.*

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If we remain within the framework of these three limitations, we will understand correctly what “The Book of Zohar” wishes to provide us with. Thus, we will accurately receive its message through the channel that descends from it to us, and establish contact with the book.

We will neither demand something that is absent in it, nor something that we do not need. We will receive from it only what is necessary for our correction. Every single word in it speaks exactly about it. For example, if a person with a philosophical frame of mind tries to understand abstractly what is written in the book, he will definitely fail. Hence, “The Zohar” seems to be “concealed behind a thousand locked gates.”

If the person wishes to reveal something about the abstract form and the essence, but has not yet achieved the necessary spiritual level, he will not be able to do that from the level of our world by way of philosophical reasoning. To this end, he will have to reach the proper level in the World of *Atzilut* or the World of Infinity, and begin his research there. In general, “The Book of Zohar” has nothing to do with these issues; it exclusively studies the process of our correction. Once we have corrected ourselves and attained the Upper Reality, we will attain all additional knowledge about the abstract form, the essence, the Worlds of *Atzilut* and Infinity, the Ten *Sefirot*, the Upper Souls, angels, robes, and palaces.

“The Zohar” cannot tell us about all this until, with its help, we correct matter and form in matter, i.e., the worlds *BYA*, in which our Souls exist. Only after the created desire is corrected will it be possible to say how it attains the higher spiritual levels. As long as this desire continues to remain egoistic, it will be unable to grasp anything above its own level.

Naturally, it will not reach the level of the abstract form or the essence in the Worlds of *Atzilut* and Infinity, because it already means to possess the property of bestowal. Neither will it be able to attain what

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exists beyond the human Souls, especially in the ten divine *Sefirot*, in the pure light that emanates from the Creator.

“The Book of Zohar” is written in such a way that it can adequately and positively influence the person who wishes to receive its energy in the right way, i.e., in order to be corrected. Unless the person has this intention as regards “The Zohar”, then he just leafs through its pages being unaware of the great power that the book emanates.

It is so focused that its light affects us only on condition that we aspire for correction and attainment of the Upper World. The method of establishing contact with the Upper Source of correction is called Kabbalah. All that it includes is given only for attuning oneself to the Upper Light.

6. You already know that the Ten Sefirot are called Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, Malchut and their root, Keter. They are ten because Tifferet consists of six Sefirot called Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, and Yesod. Remember always that when we mention the Ten Sefirot, we mean HuBTuM.

That is, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut. As a rule, even the name Keter is omitted, because Keter represents the Creator. It is attained from the four subsequent Sefirot: Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut.

Partzuf Soul	Sefirot	HaVaYaH	Stages
K	K	—	0
	H	—	1
	B	—	2
	H G T N H Y [ZA]	—	3
	M	—	4
	10	5	

attainment of property to delight
 attainment of property to bestow

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Keter is not even designated by a letter, but by a hook-like tip of the prospective letter “*Yud*”. This is similar to the descending light: the moment it begins to create something, it turns into phase one.




The light being unattainable by itself, we therefore pay no attention to it. We can speak about its property of bestowal, when we feel it inside our *Kli*. In phase two we say that it bestows delight upon us. So in the first case, we speak of what the light is in itself, and in the second – what it gives us.

7. In “*The Book of Zohar*” these Ten Sefirot, *HuBTuM*, are called by the names of four colors: white, red, green, and black.

- White corresponds to the Sefira of Hochma,
- Red corresponds to the Sefira of Bina,
- Green corresponds to the Sefira of Tifferet, and
- Black corresponds to the Sefira of Malchut.

In our world these Sefirot create the four basic colors.

This is similar to an optical instrument that has four lenses with colors corresponding to the ones mentioned above. In spite of the fact that the light is unified, while passing through a lens, it acquires a color and becomes one of the four lights: white, red, green, or black.

	<u>Sefirot</u>	<u>HaVaYaH</u>	<u>Stages</u>
	K	— · —	0 
White	— H	— ך —	1 
Red	— B	— ך —	2 
Green	— ZA	— ך —	3
Black	— M	— ך —	4

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Thus, the light that is found in each of the Sefirot is the Creator's light, simple and unified. In actual fact, it (i.e., the Ten Sefirot) is completely colorless.

The ten (innermost) Sefirot of the direct light have no color, but when they pass through the worlds, they acquire different colors, dress into various shells, and thus manifest before us. That is how we perceive this world.

We can describe the same in a different way. There is only the simple, absolutely amorphous light around us. However, in our inner properties we single out in it such pictures as the still, vegetative, animal, and human levels of nature, the worlds, etc. This is achieved with the help of our inner Kelim. There is nothing like that in the light itself.

Thus, the light that is found in each of the Sefirot is the light of the Creator. This light is simple and unified, from the Rosh (head) of the World of Atzilut to the Sof (end) of the World of Assiya. The differentiation of this light into the Sefirot HuBTuM happens in the Kelim (vessels), also called HuBTuM. Each Kli (Sefira) is like a thin partition through which the light of the Creator passes. This is the way each Kli (partition) imparts a different color to the passing light. Thus, the Kli de Hochma of the World of Atzilut passes white light. This is because the Kli de Atzilut (vessel of Atzilut) is similar to the light itself, and the light of the Creator does not suffer any changes while passing through it.

This is the secret of the World of Atzilut about which "The Book of Zohar" says: "He, the Light, and His Essence are One". In accordance with this, the light of the World of Atzilut is defined as white light. However, concerning the Kelim of the Worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya, the light passing through them changes and darkens. Consider, for example, that the light becomes the red light of the Sefira Bina in the World of Beria, the green light of Tifferet in the

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World of Yetzira and the black light of Sefira Malchut in the World of Assiya, respectively.

There are other *Kelim* already; hence, the light assumes color. This happens because the *Kelim* in the Worlds of *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya* (as in *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*) are partially or completely uncorrected with regard to the light. If “The Zohar” speaks of colors, we can interpret them as the properties of the *Sefirot*. For instance, when we speak about the color green, it means that the property of *ZA* is implied, and we are at its level or receive through it.

8. In addition to what was mentioned above, the allegory of the four lights contains an additional important hint. The Upper Lights are called “Sefer” (book).

The wisdom contained in each book is not revealed to the student in the white color it contains...

The light descending to us from the Creator carries its wisdom, reveals itself. This wisdom is not attained from the clear, white color of the light of the Ten *Sefirot*, or from the essence. It is attained from matter and the form in matter, from the Worlds of *BYA*, through our Souls, i.e., from *Malchut*’s reaction to what descends from above. Hence, we cannot grasp the colorless light of *Keter* or the simple light of *Atzilut*, but attain them through the Worlds of *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya*, through black, green, and red colors.

These very colors give us an idea of what Infinity, eternity, and perfection are. Although by themselves these properties are colorless, we are totally unable to attain this achromatism. We can only grasp it after we include in ourselves all the existing colors and the immense variety of their combinations, after they intermix within our completely corrected *Kelim*.

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Each of these colors takes its own place in the *Kelim*. Only from absolute attainment, as a result of absorbing the entire palette of colors, do we first come to color white, and then to absolute achromatism.

In other words, we do not attain the color white. We reveal everything through the Sefirot Bina, Tifferet and Malchut. These three Sefirot, which are the three Worlds of BYA, are the colors in which the Book of Heaven is written. The letters and their permutations are revealed through the three colors mentioned above. The revelation of Divine light is mediated only through them.

Moreover, we must discern the following. While the white color in a book is its foundation, all the letters are “wedded” to it.

Since the page of a book is white, the black letters stand out against its background. They seem to be stuck to it, while the white color supports them. By concealing the white color of the page, by violating its absolute whiteness, the letters pass us their wisdom.

As a result, we perceive not the color, but the *Kli*, the letters that we read. In other words, we read not the letters themselves, but the deviations we introduce into the light, i.e., black, green, and red shapes, where, as we see, the light is absent. We perceive the white color even through its absence, because we are created beings and perceive everything out of our deficiencies (*Hesronot*), desires.

All wisdom is in the World of *Atzilut* because *Atzilut* is the World of *Hochma*. *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya* correspond to *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*. The World of *Adam Kadmon* (AK) is *Keter*.

The Worlds of Infinity and AK are the same with regard to us because all that is above *Tzimtzum Bet* and is not included in *Tzimtzum Aleph* is unattainable for us before the Final Correction. From this it follows that both worlds are included into the notion of the World of Infinity. We only attain the World of *Atzilut* through the Worlds of *BYA* because it is a form corrected by *Tzimtzum Bet*.

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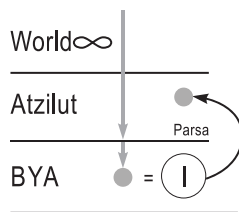
9. “The Zohar” says that we attain the World of Atzilut as white and its luminescence as letters against a white background in the three Worlds of BYA. These three worlds are the colors, the letters and their permutations, as in a book. This is manifested in two ways: if the three Worlds of BYA receive the light of Atzilut in their place (under the Parsa).

That is, the World of Atzilut is a mount, while all the letters, colors and their permutations are determined by our coordinates in the Worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. As the light of Infinity passes through the World of Atzilut and enters the Worlds of BYA, we can be in and receive the light in them, or we can rise to Atzilut and receive the light there.

We can freely move within the Worlds of BYA: from Assiya to Yetzira to Beria, and even to Atzilut. Our Souls can move provided they transform their inner properties. The Soul rises to the level to which its inner properties correspond.

If the three Worlds of BYA receive luminescence from the World of Atzilut while in their place, when the light is diminished many times over while passing through the Parsa under the World of Atzilut, then it becomes merely the luminescence of the Kelim de Atzilut.

That is, the Kelim of the World of Atzilut slightly shine in the Worlds of BYA. The light that passes from Atzilut to the Worlds of BYA is called “Ohr de Tolada” (light of birth), i.e., microscopic luminescence in comparison with the light in the World of Atzilut.



Otherwise, the Worlds of BYA (with the Souls in them) rise above the Parsa to the place of the Sefirot Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut of Atzilut, and “clothe” the World of Atzilut, i.e., receive the light, where it shines.

In this case, they certainly receive the light of *Atzilut*. First, we need to enter into the Worlds of *BYA*, reach their highest point in the World of *Beria*, get as close to the *Parsa* as possible, and force all the Worlds of *BYA* to rise to *Atzilut*. Together with the Worlds of *BYA* we will ascend to the World of *Atzilut* and receive the light that is there.

10. All the same, this allegory does not completely reflect the essence, because the book of wisdom of this world consists of a white background and the color of the letters in which there is no spirit (Ruach) of life.

Actually, the allegory about the World of *Atzilut* is as a white page, and the attainment in the Worlds of *BYA*, being similar to letters, is pretty lifeless. It does not convey the vast breathtaking picture that man attains when he enters into these worlds, feels new spiritual universes, the Upper Souls, angels, palaces. He discovers a wonderful, effervescent life, reveals the forces that govern not our tiny world, but the immense universe.

Naturally, this example fails to express such sensations. Why is it so? Baal HaSulam says: *...because the book of wisdom of this world consists of a white background and the color of the letters in which there is no spirit of life. The revelation of wisdom (in our sensations) is not within their essence, but outside of them, i.e., in the intellect of the one studying them.*

As we ascend from the Worlds of *BYA* to the World of *Atzilut* and attain the heavenly wisdom, it exists not on paper, not outside us in some book, but turns into reality that permeates and surrounds us as a result of our inner changes.

In accordance with this, one must be aware that the color white contained in the book is a subject of study in and of itself, and the function of the other three colors is to manifest it.

This is a very important sentence. I advise you to look at it closely.

Here I would like to remind you that we are one group that exists for the sake of achieving one Goal. There are many of us, and we wish to help each other. Only by joining our forces and desires will we be able to fulfill this great mission.

Baal HaSulam writes that when we combine our efforts and aspirations, then each of us frees himself from an existence inside a closed shell. Thus we create one common *Kli* of such enormity that, while passing through the Worlds of *BYA* to *Atzilut*, we attain not the colors of *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya*, but the white background of *Atzilut*. In other words, we reach a state where we transcend the limits of matter and the form in matter, and begin attaining the abstract form – something that is completely inapprehensible in our world.

While reading books in this world only, we attain the wisdom contained in the letters. By reading a book in the spiritual world, we adapt the letters within ourselves and build our inner properties, configure our inner forces, and define the combinations of our *Sefirot*. While passing from letter to letter, from word to word, from phrase to phrase in the books recommended by Kabbalists, we inwardly perform spiritual actions.

By creating these letters within ourselves, we attain through them the white background, i.e., absolute wisdom, the level of *Hochma*. This is the difference between the attainment of spiritual and earthly wisdom. The earthly wisdom is concentrated in our inner *Kelim*, in our knowledge, whereas the spiritual wisdom enables us to attain the light in our sensations, to the extent of similarity of our inner *Kelim* to the properties of light.

11. It should always be borne in mind that there are four categories of knowledge, which were mentioned above, in the first limitation, namely:

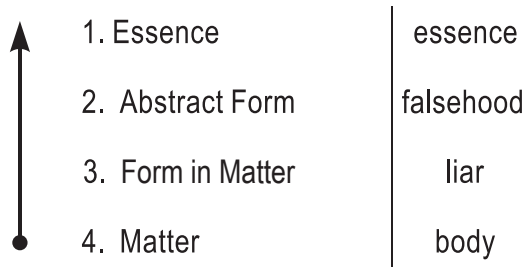
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- Matter,
- Form in matter,
- Abstract form, and
- Essence.

I will explain them first using actual examples from this world. For example, when we say a: “strong person”, or “truthful person”, or “liar” etc., we discern between the following:

- *The matter the person consists of, i.e., the body. Matter is the fourth stage, so if we speak about a person, it means the body.*
- *The form into which this matter is shaped, i.e., strong, truthful or false (let us say a liar).*
- *The abstract form, i.e., it is possible to comprehend an abstract form of falsehood irrespective of the matter of a person and study these three forms as such, without their being manifested in any matter or body. In other words, it is possible to investigate the qualities of strength, truthfulness or falsehood, to discern their merits or baseness, when they are abstracted from any matter at all*
- *The essence (of falsehood)*

12. Know that the essence of a person, as such, is quite impossible to perceive without his material embodiment, as discussed in the first



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limitation. This is because our five senses and our imagination do not offer us anything more than the revelation of the actions of the essence, but not of the essence itself.

That is, we do not perceive the essence, which is purely divine. We can more or less abstractly attain whatever derives from it, but not the essence itself.

... because our five senses and our imagination do not offer us anything more than the revelation of the actions of the essence, but not of the essence itself.

For example:

- *Our vision perceives only the waves from the essence of what we see, according to the light it reflects.*

When I am looking at an object, I do not know what it really is. I only perceive it as waves that it reflects. They return to me and create a certain form in my perception.

- *Our hearing is simply the power of influence of sound waves, transmitted through the air from some essence. This air, reflected under the influence of a sound wave, exerts pressure on the membrane of the eardrum. This is how we are able to hear that something is near us.*

The sound comes from something beyond me. That is, I know nothing about the source of the sound; I have no clue as to what it is by itself. I can only judge it by the way I perceive it.

- *Our sense of smell is the irritation of our nerve receptors reacting to smells, by the air emanating from the essence, and this is how we sense a smell.*

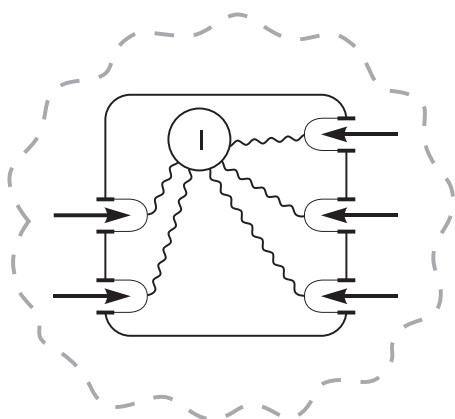
Everything depends on our nerve receptors and on how they transmit to us this or that smell.

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- *Our sense of taste is only a derivative from a contact between some essence and our gustatory receptors.*

These four senses offer us nothing but the revelation of actions emanating from some essence. It never reveals the essence itself.

I have said on numerous occasions that the person, his “I”, resembles a black box with five points of entry, our five senses. We perceive only that which enters through them from outside. Moreover, as we



have just noted, we perceive not what enters inside, but what is detected by special membranes positioned at the entry (it is unclear how this external influence reaches us considering our inner limitations), which somehow pass the electrical signals to our brain. That is we selectively perceive the reaction of our senses to some external influence.

Naturally, if one of our senses is damaged or some of our faculties are defective, then our perception of the world will be rather distorted as compared to the normal one. Concerning the ideal picture, we have no way of knowing anything, because we cannot possibly imagine anything existing beyond us. Hence it is utterly impossible to speak about the essence.

We can imagine the abstract form, yet it is unknown whether we can do that correctly.

Even our strongest sense, the sense of touch, which is able to discern between hot and cold, firm and soft, is nothing but the revelation of actions within an essence. However, these too are only the manifestations of the essence. It is possible to cool down something hot or warm

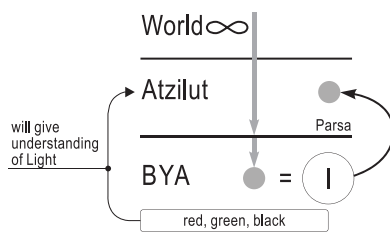
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up something cold. It is possible to melt something solid into a liquid. It is possible to evaporate a liquid and bring it to a gaseous state so that it would become impossible to sense it with the help of our five senses. Nevertheless, the essence is preserved and we can again transform the gas (a totally imperceptible state of some essence) into a liquid or bring the liquid to a solid state.

It is as clear as a sunny day that our five senses will not reveal to us any essence at all, but only instances of manifestation of the essence's actions.

Baal HaSulam means that without ascending through the Worlds of BYA to the Worlds of Atzilut and Infinity in our senses, we will not attain the Creator. We will never be able to perceive something that is outside or above us. Neither our five natural senses - touch, smell, sight, hearing, and taste - nor the Ten Sefirot in the Worlds of BYA will give us anything.

If we wish to attain the Upper categories that are beyond us, we should reach the higher worlds where the white light really exists.



The lights in the Worlds of Assiya, Yetzira, and Beria are black, green and red respectively.

When all of them combined enable us to feel how they stand out against the white background of Atzilut, we will attain what this background really is. Here Baal HaSulam stresses that without correcting our inner sensations and rising to the Upper Worlds the person has no opportunity to attain spirituality.

Moreover, we do not even have the ability to perceive our own essence. I feel and know that I occupy a certain volume in this world, that I am solid, hot, that I think, and so on. All of these are the result of

manifestations that influence my essence. However, if someone were to ask me “What is the essence from which all these manifestations emanate?” I would not know how to answer. After all, Supervision prevents us from attaining the essence. We only attain the manifestations and mode of action originating from the essence.

That is, we cannot attain ourselves, let alone the Upper Worlds, until we reach the level where the essence manifests.

13. We are fully capable of comprehending Matter, which we discussed in the first limitation, i.e., manifestations of the action of any essence.

Now he explains to what extent different levels of attainment are accessible to us. Our attainment is graduated: *Malchut, Zeir Anpin, Bina, and Hochma*. How correctly can we perceive each of these categories?

It is quite possible that such awareness can help me make up for the lack of knowledge. Knowing exactly what I do not know can assist me to get my bearings and avoid errors.

Matter reveals the actions of any essence, and the revelation of matter is quite sufficient for us.

The lowest level of attainment is the attainment of matter. It completely satisfies all our needs and desires. That is, when we attain, feel, and absorb the universe at this level, we have no questions left. That is the way we are created. As we begin to ascend, our needs will develop and grow, including our demands for the sensation of matter. But by and large, we are so created that we feel little necessity for it.

This explains why we do not suffer at all from the lack of any possibility to perceive the essence itself. Moreover, we do not desire it. In the same way, we do not feel the need for a sixth digit on our hand.

I am created so that five digits are absolutely sufficient for me. My brain is designed in such a way that I prefer to work with five fingers,

although, if necessary, I may dispense with a smaller number, somehow compensating for the deficiency. However, I am totally unprepared to work with six or seven fingers. Nature has not provided me with any technique for such work. I cannot even imagine what I will do with an additional digit.

In other words, the comprehension of matter, i.e., the manifestation of the essence's actions, is sufficient for all our requirements and investigations, both in the attainment of our own essence and in the attainment of any external one.

So we have no problem with anything that concerns matter. If we only live within its limits, we feel quite satisfied with our attainments.

But imagine a Kabbalist, who attains higher forms, feels the insignificance of lower categories, and think of his overwhelming aspiration to extend the ability of his senses ad infinitum. He wants to acquire thousands of digits-tentacles, longs for the infinite sensation of an endless diversity of colors, until all of it merges in simple, white, absolute, and all-encompassing knowledge.

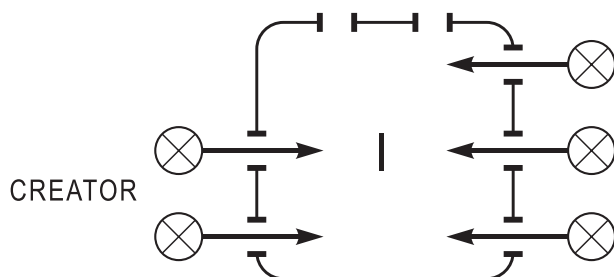
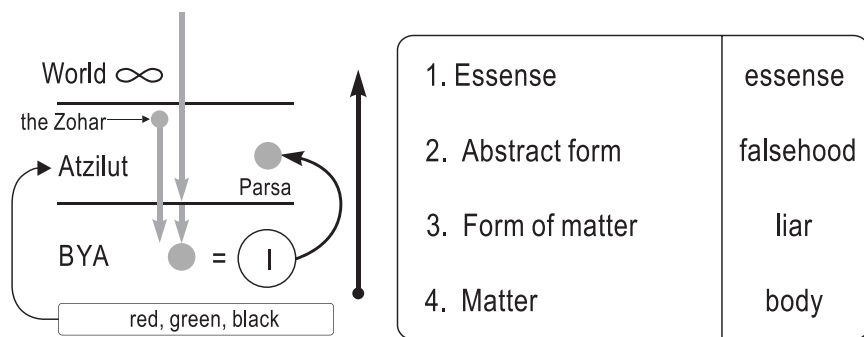
We, however, seem to have no problem, and happily agree to live with our five little fingers. Larger aspirations appear under the influence of the Upper Light. It generates in us more and more new needs, while at the same time letting us understand that by having more diverse *Kelim* we could perceive a much greater world than what our five senses can pick in a rather warped way.

When something takes place outside us, we perceive it within a very limited, one-sided, and twisted range of sensations. Let us imagine that some outside influence enters into us unobstructed. Were we designed so that everything could penetrate us without any resistance from us, we would be able to perceive absolutely all outside influences. What does it mean that I perceive something which is outside me? The Creator is outside me, so I will clearly feel and perceive Him.

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This will become possible if I eliminate all barriers standing in the way of all incoming information. They work as membranes letting information inside only within their limited range. If I move from the color black to green, red, and white, then I will acquire two, or perhaps, twenty new senses, in addition to my natural five. I will then be able to ascend to the World of *Atzilut*, and through these colors perceive the higher light, which will enter me unimpeded.

How is it going to happen? I will not be able to open additional apertures in my “black box”. But I need not do that – the sensation of the color white will enter me through my perception of black, green, and red, followed by the Creator’s achromatism. This happens because through these undistorted colors that enter into me, I will be able to feel what is inside them, i.e., the Ten *Sefirot* of the direct, pure light.



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As a result, we see that even without getting out of the Kli itself, the black box, everything depends only on how it is tuned up. "The Book of Zohar" teaches us how to adapt ourselves to the Upper Radiance. The Zohar descends from the highest point of Atzilut, hence its name "radiance".

"The Book of Zohar" explains how we can perceive all spiritual information by changing our inner parameters. In other words, we attain the form in matter, the abstract form, and the essence through the matter of form.

In order to bring us to the World of *Atzilut*, "The Zohar" deals with just two kinds of attainment. After reaching the World of *Atzilut* and the state of *Gmar Tikkun*, we attain the absolute form, and, through it, the essence in the World of Infinity.

We have spoken about four kinds of attainment. When we delve into some material, both within and without us, we attain it as matter, the form that matter takes, the abstract form, and the essence.

We have also said that matter and the form in matter are entirely sufficient to safeguard us against mistakes. Another question is whether we can operate with the abstract form. Being beyond our power and clear sensations, it can be misinterpreted and misleading. It is even more so when it concerns the completely unattainable essence.

Why are we studying it? When we look for contact with the Creator, we should know exactly what we wish to achieve, what we need to hold on to in order to avoid errors on our path. We should be careful not to imagine abstract forms.

As a rule, this happens to people who seem to be very "spiritual". They will tell you about various forces they see, about images and angels, about their previous incarnations and special messages received from above. This is a totally wrong interpretation of the abstract form. Therefore, "The Zohar" positively forbids delving into abstract forms,

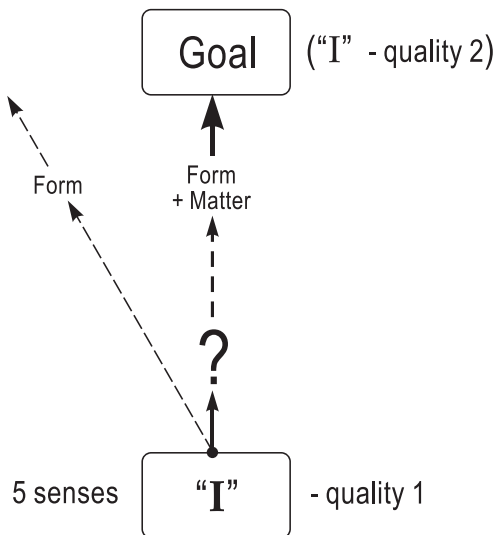
and calls upon the person to remain within the limits of matter and its form.

14. We also comprehend the form in matter that is described in the second restriction in an absolutely clear and satisfactory way, for we do so based on the experience of concrete actions that we derive from matter's response. Thus, we acquire all of the sublime knowledge that one can indeed rely on.

That is, matter is what our senses perceive, whereas the form in matter is something we attain as a result of penetrating matter itself.

Baal HaSulam says that we attain the form in matter absolutely, and that all the Upper knowledge we acquire at the higher levels is true and clear to us. If we advance along this path of attainment to ever higher forms of matter without abstracting the form from matter, then we unfailingly move in the right direction, towards the right goal.

If we move anywhere in this world, there always exist an "I" located at some point, some path, and some goal. While seeing the goal before me, I direct myself toward it. That is, "I" represents one of my qualities,



whereas I have no idea about the quality of the goal. I do not direct myself with the help of my senses; they are of no help to me at this stage. I do not imagine how I can see this goal, how I can depict it to myself. The goal possesses a certain quality that is very different from "I". This concerns the distinction between just two levels, whereas, overall, there are 125 of them.

So how can I imagine it, how can I elevate myself, break through this barrier? What should my first step be and toward what goal? I cannot imagine what I want to be. In our world I may, for example, aspire to become a professor; I create this image in myself, see it, and clearly know what it is like. In Kabbalah, however, there is no way to imagine all that.

So if, instead of matter and the form it assumes, I imagine only the abstract form, I will immediately fall into delusion and my subsequent advancement will increasingly deviate from the goal.

Hence “The Zohar” instructs the person seeking spirituality to be extremely careful with forms that are detached from matter, and are unperceived by our sensations.

I cannot say that I feel something spiritual until I acquire a minimal screen. Only having done that will I be able to perceive spiritual objects and properties within it. They will be considered the acquired form of this matter because the form will be determined by the screen. The screen displays for us various properties and their combinations out of matter, which assumes a certain form.

Therefore, he says: “Thus, only from the form of this matter do we acquire all of the sublime knowledge that one can indeed rely on.” In the process of studying “The Book of Zohar” we will be repeatedly emphasizing this problem.

15. The third restriction is abstract form. This means that, after the form reveals itself to us in matter, the power of our imagination allows us to detach it completely from matter.

Here Baal HaSulam does not speak about absolute abstractions that we have never seen before (e.g. angels and supernatural forces). He asserts that even when we watch something and then divert our attention from the observed object or phenomenon, we imagine it in an abstract

form. We should not abstractly imagine something which previously had a form.

One can observe abstractly or detached from any kind of matter; for example, virtues and laudable qualities that books on moral subjects speak about. When we touch upon qualities of truth, falsehood, anger, heroism, etc., we have in mind their abstract form, free from any matter whatsoever. We endow such abstract form with virtues or flaws.

Today, in particular, I was asked: “How could such a Kabbalist as Rabbi Shimon be angry?” That is, how can such a highly spiritual person have any unspiritual qualities? Where does this incomprehension emerge from? The reason lies in the separation of form (qualities, properties) from matter. If you combine one with the other, all contradictions will vanish. However, to see that, you will first have to assume those properties.

Know that serious scientists regard the third restriction with the utmost caution, for it is impossible to rely upon it with 100% assurance. This is because it is easy to err in something that is detached from matter. For example, a non-religious idealist who praises the abstract category of truth can conclude that he would not intentionally utter an untrue word, not even for the sake of saving people’s lives, if the entire world should perish.

There are many idealists who abstract some category from real life and from man, and place it above all. In other words, they detach a category from the matter in which it is clothed, i.e., from that for which sake it actually exists. Such a truth-loving person, who is ready to sacrifice the world, does not understand that in fact the abstract category of truth turns into its opposite, falsehood.

The Torah forbids it in its laws, stating that we neither have the right to accept abstract form as absolute knowledge, nor rely on it.

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But this is contrary to the opinion of Torah, which says: "Nothing is above saving a Soul", even if you are compelled to lie.

Indeed, had he examined truth and falsehood when they are cast into matter, he would judge these categories according to the right, or wrong they give rise to in matter. Then, having conducted numerous experiments in the world, he would see the multitude of victims and losses that liars and their untruths cause. Moreover, he would perceive the great benefit to those that uphold the truth and those who observe the rule of speaking only the truth. He would then come to an agreement that there is no value higher than truthfulness, and nothing lower than falsehood.

If an idealist understood this, he would certainly agree with the opinion of Torah and accept that a falsehood, even if it delivers one human life from death, is immeasurably greater in value and importance than any abstract truth. It is because abstract categories that belong to the third restriction absolutely lack clarity. It is not worth discussing abstract forms that have not yet materialized in this world; this is but a waste of time.

There are certain periods in our life, when we define for ourselves some ideals. Later on, as we face them in real life, we see that they do not exist, and as soon as these ideals dress into matter, they acquire an unexpected, unpredictable, and in most cases, very unappealing form.

Hence, we need to accept this limitation in advance, i.e., on no account should we use any abstract notions nor set any abstract rules pertaining to the spiritual world. We have no idea what the spiritual world is like, the next level has never been clothed in any concrete form before.

We have no right to reason about the upper level from our present viewpoint; otherwise we will delude ourselves and never reach it. Thus we can only speak of matter and the form this matter assumes.

What other positive conclusion follows from this? Kabbalah pushes us toward matter, i.e., toward physical sensation of the spiritual. It warns us against engaging in abstract, imaginary actions, and at the same time it instructs us to feel the spiritual forms which our own matter will assume. That is, the screen's different forms dressed on my desires should create in me various spiritual images, and, without detaching one from the other, I would exist in them. This will be called my spiritual world.

If I now abstract one from the other, I will imagine myself in the spiritual worlds today. Most probably I will feel great while soaring in my imagination, but it will be a pure fantasy. By compelling us to remain connected with matter even though we may be studying a form, Kabbalah urges us to dress our matter (will to receive) into the proper form (will to bestow).

16. Now that we have thoroughly explained these four categories – matter, form in matter, abstract form and essence...

The author stops short of discussing the essence here because there is no point in talking about something imperceptible. We may abstractly reason about the essence without knowing what it is, but in this case all our reasoning turns into empty philosophy.

Now that we have thoroughly explained these four categories with simple examples, it is clear that:

- *In principle, we lack any possibility of grasping the fourth category, which is essence;*
- *Studying the third category can lead to fallacy;*
- *Only the first kind of knowledge – matter, as well as the second kind – form cast in matter, is there for our clear and sufficient attainment of the Upper Providence.*

If our matter, i.e., our initial egoism (will to receive) assumes the form of bestowal (altruism), intention for the sake of the Creator, this means that we enter into the Upper World's existence.

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With their help, one can also grasp the reality of the spiritual levels of the Upper Worlds of ABYA. Even the smallest component will fall into these four categories. For instance, every component in the World of Beria has its red colored vessel...

The World of *Beria* is all red (*Bina*). *Hochma* is white, *Bina* is red, *ZA* or *Yetzira* is green, and *Malchut* or *Assiya* is black.

Baal HaSulam says that if we take any of our attainments, sensations in the World of *Beria*, we will feel in it the *Kelim* of the color red, whose light translates to those existing in the World of *Beria*. That is, while passing through the *Kelim* of the World of *Beria* (i.e., through my own properties, filters), the colorless light is perceived as red.

What is “red” in the spiritual? In our world the branch of this root corresponds to the color red.

The vessels of the World of Beria that have the color red represent a form that is “dressed” onto an essence. This refers to the first way of attainment. Although it is but a color, meaning a detail and manifestation of the actions of the essence, we shall never be able to grasp the essence itself, only the manifestation of its actions. We call such a manifestation “essence”, “matter”, a “body”, or a “vessel”. That is, we attain ungraspable essence as matter.

The light of the Creator “dressing” and passing through the color red represents a form that is “dressed” onto the essence. This is the second way of attainment. That is why it appears as a red light that points to it being “dressed” and emanating through the essence, that is, the body and matter of the red color.

In other words, there exists matter and there are levels that are perceived by this matter, which assumes different forms. If it is in the World of *Beria*, it assumes the color red.

However, if a person still wishes to separate the Upper Light from its essence, from its red color (i.e., to separate the color red that emerges in the World of Beria from the colorless inner light), or if he begins to study the light alone, immaterialized, this belongs to the third way of attainment, i.e., the abstract form, and it will result in fallacies.

I cannot speak of the Creator, but only about my properties that are similar to Him. I cannot say that He is kind. And what exactly is my idea of “kindness”? Is my notion of “kindness” the same as what I ascribe to Him? If I become similar to the Creator by ten per cent in the category of “kindness”, then to the same extent I can testify that He is kind. I understand Him because I am similar to Him, equal with Him. Only from within my own corrected *Kelim* can I speak about similarity to the Creator. This means to remain within the limits of matter even in the expression of its form.

However, if we only speak about the abstract category of “kindness”, then I will modify it in the same way as I did with the category of “truth”. I will be ready to sacrifice all humankind for the sake of preserving this category. That is, it will be utterly abstracted from reality.

Why is this possible? The fact is that we consist of a huge *Kli*, some part of which is corrected. In that part I can perceive the Creator correctly, whereas in the rest of my *Kli* I will imagine Him abstractly, not clothed in my properties. So without doubt, my picture of Him would obviously be wrong because the properties in which I wish to imagine Him are still opposite to His.

Hence, on no account should the person be overly focused on abstract form. Yet it exists in us because there is a great number of uncorrected *Kelim* that are opposed to the Creator’s form.

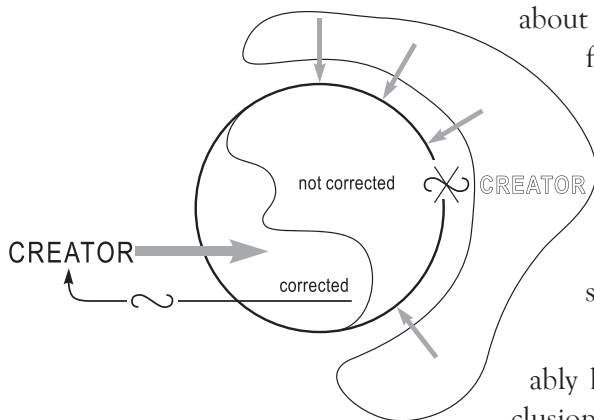
It is characteristic of man to reason about form dressed in matter, i.e., about the will and the intention to bestow that a part of his *Kelim* have acquired, about the Creator’s properties that have not yet become

his own. All of this exists within our Soul, which is presumably divided into two parts, corrected and uncorrected.

So what does “The Book of Zohar” speak of?

The light enters the corrected part of your Soul, which is similar to the Creator in its properties. You can characterize whatever happens in it as the form equivalent to the Creator because its properties are clothed in matter.

On the other hand, we still have many uncorrected *Kelim*, which are destined to be filled with the Creator’s light. However, if we keep reasoning about the light that is still outside our *Kelim*, we will be talking



about the Creator’s abstract form and will always be in the wrong. This is because it is impossible to reason about the light out of the still uncorrected vessels.

Abstract forms invariably lead to erroneous conclusions; hence “The Zohar”

clearly states that only after the person has achieved equivalence of form with the Creator, can he really speak about Him.

We see how Kabbalah directs the person to practical understanding and knowledge, safeguarding him against various mistakes. Unfortunately, we are constantly speaking about something that is not in us; therefore we have no way of determining our position.

Oftentimes, people tell me that they are already in the World of *Beria* or *Atzilut*, or even achieved the *Gmar Tikkun*. I understand them, of course; nothing can be proved or disproved. I can only advise him to

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read something, somehow show him the right direction, and try to generate more or less adequate sensations.

Each of us can see for himself how often confused thoughts visit us, and we can never be sure where we really are.

When the person enters the spiritual world, he cannot stand firmly on his feet, but continues treading on a very long path of realization, accumulation of knowledge, and studying various forms dressed in matter.

Only when the person reaches the World of *Atzilut* and begins to raise the *Kelim* of the Worlds of *BYA* (*Gadlut* of the Soul), can one say that he has risen above the common mistake of working with abstract forms.

Accordingly, the most stringent ban prohibits the study of the Upper Worlds, and no true Kabbalist would do it, let alone those studying Zohar. There is no use in mentioning the "essence" of even the smallest part in creation, for we are incapable of comprehending it. Since we fail to comprehend the essence of objects in our corporeal world, we will fail even more when trying to comprehend spiritual manifestations.

I can as little grasp the essence and abstract form of, say, a pencil (I cannot imagine the notion of a pencil detached from its matter). Only the form clothed in matter and matter itself constitute an absolutely reliable source of knowledge.

Thus, we have before us the four aspects from our example in the World of Beria:

- *The vessel of Beria, which represents the red color and is defined as essence or the matter of the World of Beria;*
- *The filling of the vessel of the World of Beria with the Upper Light, which is the form in matter;*

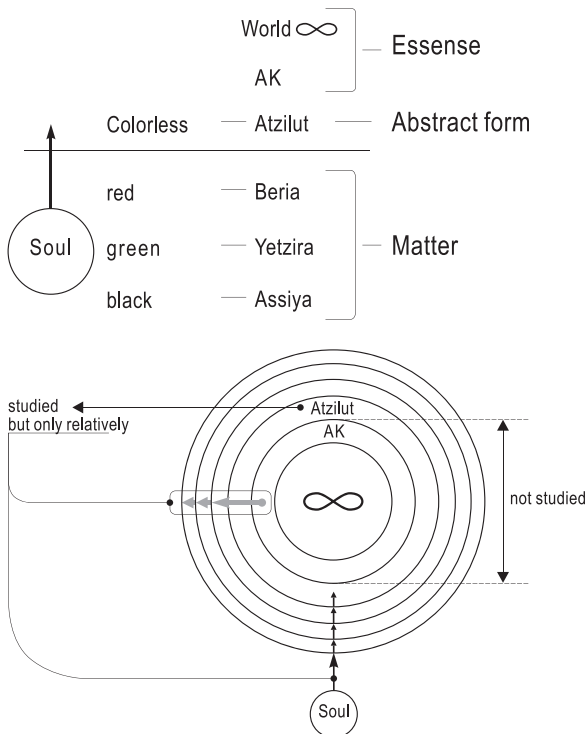
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- The Upper Light itself, detached from the matter of Beria;
- The essence.

Thus, we have clarified the first restriction in detail: “The Book of Zohar” only speaks about the first and the second kinds of knowledge. Concerning the third and the fourth kinds, not a single word is mentioned in the entire book.

So when we study Kabbalistic books, we should never imagine anything that is not there. Otherwise we simply fail to take advantage of what is given to us, and bluntly misinterpret the author’s words. We should only rely on the first two levels of knowledge, matter and form in matter.

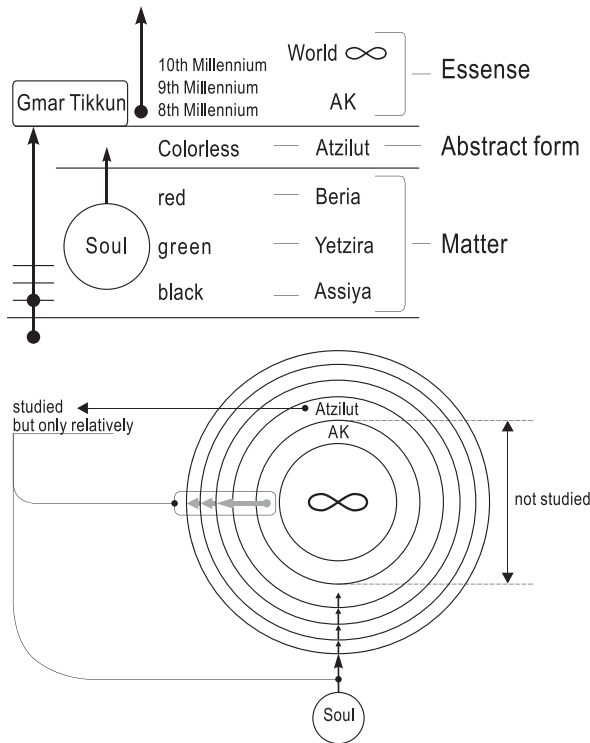
17. The second restriction will be explained in the same way. Know that, as we explained the four kinds of knowledge in one component



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of the World of Beria, so it is in general true with respect to the four Worlds of ABYA, where the colors red, green and black in the three Worlds of BYA are matter and essence. The white of the World of Atzilut is form cast into matter, i.e., into the three worlds called BYA. The World of Infinity, as such, is essence.

Let us take a look at all the spiritual worlds (Fig. 3). The World of Infinity represents the essence (as we know, the World of Infinity includes the World of Adam Kadmon) and is followed by the Worlds of Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. The World of Atzilut constitutes the abstract form; the World of Beria is matter in which this form dresses. Atzilut is colorless, Beria is red, Yetzira is green, and Assiya is black.



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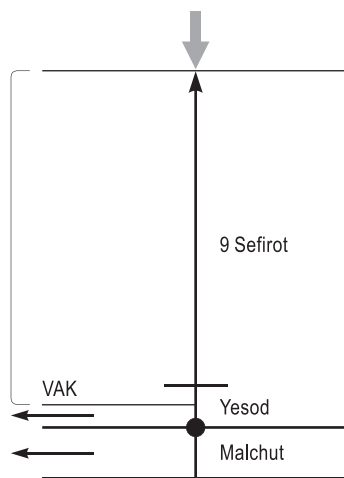
At the beginning of our research of “The Preface to the Book of Zohar” we have said that we do not study the World of *Atzilut*, but only *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya*, since that is where the Souls are. We deal with *Atzilut* only as the Worlds of *BYA* rise to it, or, the other way around, as *Atzilut* shines inside the Worlds of *BYA*. All the more, we do not touch upon the Worlds of *AK* and Infinity.

As we have said in the first restriction, the essence is beyond our grasp; it is the fourth kind of knowledge that each being conceals within itself, even in the beings of our world. The white color stands alone and is not “dressed” into the three colors of the three Worlds of BYA; meaning, the light of Hochma is not “dressed in Bina, Tifferet and Malchut, but is an abstract form that we disregard.

If we attain our world from within (and we certainly will), we should always remember that we only study matter and the form cast in matter. However, the deeper, more inner properties concealed in it remain unattainable. We just imagine them because it is impossible to attain them before the Final Correction.

“The Zohar” exclusively speaks about our ascent to the World of *Atzilut* through the Worlds of *BYA*. (See Fig. 4) The Final Correction (*Gmar Tikkun*) takes place in the World of *Atzilut*. The Book of Zohar deals neither with the ascent to the World of Infinity after the *Gmar Tikkun*, nor with the so-called eighth, ninth, and tenth millennia.

Therefore we will always see matter and its form, whereas the abstract form and essence will remain unattainable because our correction on all the levels will only be partial. Even if some *Reshimo* emerges in us and we correct it, this correction is always limited and fragmentary.



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Let me tell you how it works. Suppose there are Ten *Sefirot*, from *Keter* to *Malchut*. We cut off *Malchut*, and stop receiving the Light that descends to us (it tries to fill *Malchut*); hence, we cannot attain the essence. Besides, when we work not from *Malchut* but from *Yesod*, we attain only the first nine *Sefirot*. We only attain them with the intention for the sake of bestowal; thus, it is said that we partially use *Yesod*. Only the part of the *Kli* called *VAK* is used, whereas *GAR* stays inactive, so another attainment (perceived as the abstract form) is severed. We attain *GAR de VAK* in *Gmar Tikkun*, and after that *GAR de GAR*.

There are four kinds of attainment, but at the moment only two of them are available to us. Therefore, we should know what we can and cannot accept as something obvious.

There is nothing said about it in the Zohar. It speaks only of the first kind, i.e., the three colors of BYA, considered as matter, and representing the three Sefirot: Bina, Tifferet and Malchut. The Zohar also speaks of the second kind, representing the illumination of the World of Atzilut, "dressed" in the three colors of BYA, i.e., the light or Hochma, "dressed" in Bina, Tifferet and Malchut – the form where it "dresses" itself in matter. The book of Zohar examines only these two kinds.

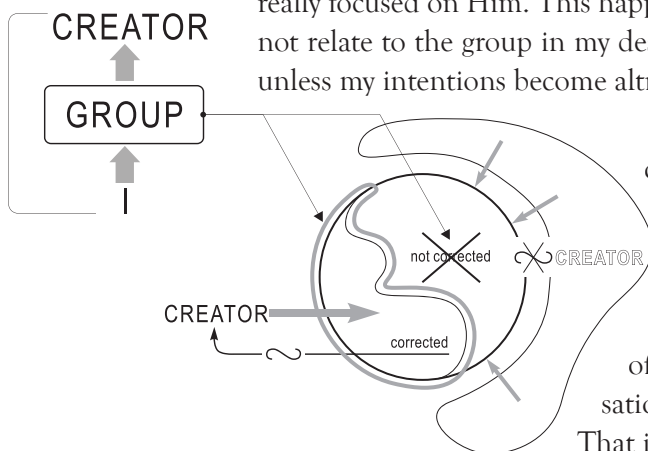
Accordingly, if each student is not utterly conscientious that when studying Zohar his thoughts and comprehension are always within the limits of these two kinds of knowledge, he will immediately become confused on all issues, for it will strip the words of their true meaning.

That is, if during our studies we do not clearly realize that we work with concrete forms cast in matter, we will totally miss what "The Zohar" tries to explain. Baal HaSulam warns us not to fall into that trap.

A question arises, whether it is realistic to accomplish what he describes. Can I really control myself; see myself as someone who clearly understands all of these questions during the studies, someone who can precisely distinguish these properties in himself? Is this possible at all?

Although he tells us that it is impossible, correct perception occurs subconsciously through our right attitude to reality, i.e., by focusing on the Creator through the group.

For what is a group? It is an indicator of my altruistic direction. If I correctly direct myself at the Creator through the group (I, the group, and the Creator), then I am really focused on Him. This happens because I cannot relate to the group in my desire to attain Him, unless my intentions become altruistic.



So, if I am focused on the Creator through the group, I will necessarily be dealing with the part of me where my sensations are corrected.

That is why I have a very simple indicator of what I should be doing at the moment. It is my study with the group, and my aspiration to the Creator through the group.

Thus, the group helps me to stay within the correct framework and study only what I really need, at the same time avoiding the areas where I can err.

Therefore, we do not really need any special analytical and extra-sensory abilities. We are provided with everything necessary for our spiritual growth.

There are a great number of people in our virtual group. All of us study, think of one another, and know that without each other's help we will not be able to attain anything spiritual. Gradually we will achieve unity, interaction, interdependence, and love; we will clearly see and feel how interconnected we are.

This grows out of purely egoistic sentiments. Quite naturally, without any mental effort, I will treat matter and the form in matter correctly, directing myself at the Creator, becoming similar to Him. I will not transcend the limits of my uncorrected, unregulated desires, in which I can imagine abstract categories and assert that their truth is above all, while totally disregarding the likes or dislikes of people. That is, the laws of the Torah testify to my correct, true state, which I can only achieve with the help of the light.

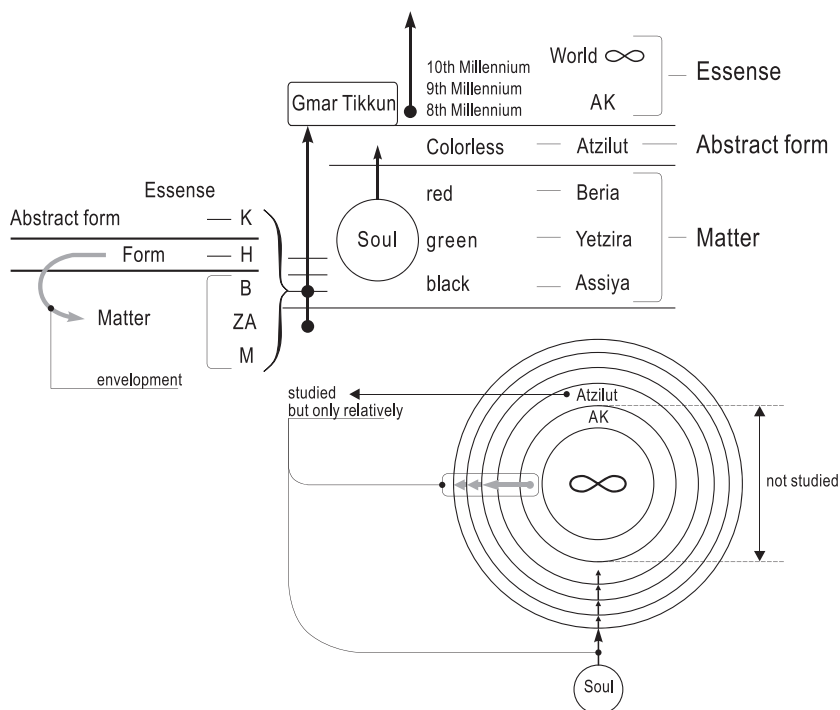
18. What we explained about the four Worlds of ABYA is in general true with regard to each one of the worlds. As it is in relation to every small component of each of them, such as in the Rosh of the World of Atzilut, so it is in the Sof of the World of Assiya. This is because every part (state) on the ladder of worlds Assiya, Yetzira, Beria, and Atzilut consists of Ten Sefirot.

We do not mention *Keter* because it is the source of pure light. Each level, each attainment consists of Ten Sefirot: *Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA, and Malchut.*

The Sefira Hochma exists as the form and Bina, Tifferet and Malchut as the matter in which the form has materialized. It also has the first and the second definition, whose objects "The Zohar" examines, as well as the Sefira Hochma, when it is vacant of Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut, which is the form that is free of matter...

That is, if we speak of how the *Ohr Hochma* manifests in *Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut*, in the same manner that form manifests in matter. If we only speak about the worlds *Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya* or about the

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Sefirot Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut regardless of where they may be, then we imply matter. It is possible to talk about it as well as about the light that fills the corrected *Kelim* (because it is the form assumed by matter) or about the *Kelim* themselves in their corrected or uncorrected form. However, it is utterly impossible to speak about the light which is outside the *Kelim*, let alone imagine the essence which is even higher. There is no way we can say anything about the Creator Himself, the source of the light.

Baal HaSulam writes: “Do not think that you encounter these problems only when you reach higher levels of attainment. It occurs even at the relatively low level of the World of Assiya...” He says that each small level consists of its own *Sefirot Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA*, and

Malchut, where *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut* constitute matter, *Hochma* is the form, *Keter* is the abstract form, and the essence is above it.

So, we do not speak about what happens in *Keter*, for it is above the level of the Creator's thoughts. This is something we attain after the *Gmar Tikkun*. We never speak of the form that is detached from matter. We either discuss *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya* (*Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*), or the form (the light) which dresses this matter. In other words, we either speak of our *Kelim*, our desires (*Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*) or, provided they are already corrected, of the light that enters into them.

We see how practical "The Zohar" is. Baal HaSulam devotes many pages of his works to this issue, and we will be discussing it while reading the book, because the correct direction to the Goal is dependent on it.

19. We shall now explain the third restriction. Although "The Zohar" examines each world only from the point of Sefirot, which are the illuminations of the Upper Light in these worlds, and each component on the still, vegetative, animate and speaking levels – the creations of the respective worlds, the main object of the examination is, nonetheless, the speaking level in each of the worlds.

Baal HaSulam says that "The Zohar" studies everything that is found in the spiritual worlds. But whatever the book may deal with (be that the light inside the *Kli* or the *Kli* itself), it never speaks separately about the still, vegetative, and animate levels of existence simply because it is not its task.

All that is written in "The Book of Zohar" only concerns man, i.e., the human Souls; the way these Souls are served or how they serve other spiritual entities in the creation.

You may object by saying that millions or billions of various creatures, forces, purposes and ideas may exist in the universe. You are quite right, but "The Zohar" does not deal with it. This is because in order

to research such things one needs to rise to the level that is above “The Book of Zohar”, i.e., reach higher than the book’s purpose.

“The Zohar’s” purpose is very concrete; it must lead us to the Final Correction. Our path completely changes after that. We will continue researching the universe in our corrected properties. This research is impossible to describe in books because no spoken or written word can express it.

Therefore, “The Zohar” exclusively speaks of things pertaining to our Souls, i.e., what should be corrected at the present moment. The rest is none of its concern.

We find that a man in this world must receive nourishment from all the four levels (the still, vegetative, animate and speaking) of this world, in order to grow. Even in man's food there are four ingredients from all the four degrees that are a consequence of his body having four degrees (still, vegetative, animate and speaking). These are:

- *The will to receive in order to sustain oneself;*
- *The will to receive in excess of the need to sustain oneself, looks for excesses, but is capable of restraining only the beastly desires;*
- *The yearning for pleasures that society provides, such as universal respect and posts in government;*
- *The aspiration to the sciences.*

We usually say that man consists of four levels of desire: for bodily pleasures, wealth, power, fame, and knowledge.

- The will to receive in order to sustain oneself, which corresponds to the still level of desire;

- The will to receive beastly desires is the vegetative level of desire; the will to receive that is given in order to increase and fill one with pleasure in his vessel – flesh (*Basar*) of the body;

- The will for human pleasures, which corresponds to the animate level of desire;

- The aspiration to the sciences is the speaking level of desire.

20. We therefore find that a reception from the first level, the measure of the need to sustain oneself, and from the second level – the degree of animate desires that exceed the need to sustain oneself, are for him reception and nourishment from the still, vegetative and animate levels, all of which are lower than his.

If I desire food or sexual pleasures (these are the two basic kinds of pleasure that my body demands), then I receive nourishment from objects that are lower than my own level: from the still, vegetative and animate levels. If I seek wealth, I too depend on the still level (money). If I am after power and fame, I already need people like myself, i.e., the human level. If I am thirsty for knowledge, I receive pleasure from a higher level that is novel to me as well as to many people. My aspirations are then considered spiritual in this world.

21. Similarly, you will learn the categories of the Upper spiritual world. Since all the worlds are imprints of one another from upper to lower, and all that is on the still, vegetative, animate and speaking levels in the World of Beria, is impressed upon the still, vegetative, animate and speaking levels of the World of Yetzira. Moreover, all that is on the still, vegetative, animate and speaking in the World of Yetzira is impressed upon the degrees still, vegetative, animate and speaking levels of the World of Assiya. Again, the still, vegetative, animate and speaking levels in the World of Assiya are impressed upon the still, vegetative, animate and speaking levels of this world.

All of these levels in each world: the still, vegetative, animate and human copy one another, each world being on its own different level of organized matter.

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- *The still degree in the spiritual world is called “palaces”*
- *The vegetative level is called “robes”*
- *The animate is called “angels”*
- *The speaking level consists of the Souls of people in their respective world*
- *The Ten Sefirot in each world – is Divinity (the Upper Light dressed in these four levels).*

The Souls of people are the center of each world and receive fulfillment from the entire spiritual reality of the corresponding world. Likewise, a person in the corporeal world receives fulfillment from all the corporeal reality of our world.

In the same way man in our world represents the “crown” of nature, and rules over all the other levels (everything else only exists for his sake), the human Soul in the spiritual world is the central point of the creation and governs all levels of matter in the Upper realm.

- *In Behina Aleph, which is the will to receive in order to sustain one’s existence, he receives illumination from palaces and robes, which are there;*
- *In Behina Bet, which is the excess of the animate desires that increase his body, he receives spiritual light from angels who are there in quantities above what is needed to sustain his existence, in order to develop the spiritual vessels in which his Soul is vested;*
- *The reason is that he receives from Behina Aleph and Bet, which are lower in relation to him. These are palaces, robes and angels, and their level is lower than that of human Souls;*
- *In Behina Gimel, representing the human degree of the will to receive that develops the spirit (Ruach) of man – in this world he receives from equals. Thus, he receives from equals there also; meaning*

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all of the Souls that find themselves in that world. With their help he magnifies the light of Ruach filling his Soul;

- *In Behina Dalet of the will to receive, that is aspiration for sciences (the attainment of Kabbalah in the spiritual world is meant), he receives from Sefirot of the respective world, receiving from them HaBaD of his Soul.*

Man's Soul has to develop and perfect itself in each of the worlds using everything that is in that world. This is the third restriction that one needs to be aware of; that the entire Book of Zohar speaks about every component of the Upper Worlds that we study, whether it be Sefirot, Souls, angels, robes or palaces. And although we study them as they are, the student must always bear in mind that they are mentioned only in relation to man's Soul, which receives and is filled by them. It means that they all serve the needs of that Soul. If you follow that line in your studies, you will comprehend everything and be successful in your path.

Baal HaSulam says that by strictly observing all of these limitations one will succeed on his path. That is why he provides such a detailed explanation.

We will keep returning to the limitations pertaining to the four kinds of knowledge: matter, form in matter, abstract form, and essence. We will see them in Souls, angels, robes, palaces, and worlds. Whatever we may feel, we should always separate real attainments from imaginary ones that we can neither test, nor analyze.

We have spoken of the things which we are still unable to feel. It would have been wonderful if I could, with some object in the spiritual world, show you what its matter, form in matter, abstract form, and essence are. Hopefully, we will soon reach that level. Basically, this is what we aspire to achieve.

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But even now, as we speak about it, we already subconsciously prepare ourselves. The most important thing is our unity and common desire. Together we aspire to achieve one goal, attract upon ourselves the correcting light of enormous power. Whatever we learn and understand, this light propels us forward.

I strongly advise you to review this material and write a short summary of what is written here. Baal HaSulam's language is a little archaic, and the text is rather confusing, the translation loses some of the Hebrew original's poignancy and vividness. However, I recommend you to go through these four kinds of knowledge, because we will periodically speak about them. Although they look rather "dry" and abstract now, they will gradually become our main instruments of attainment, of delving into new, unknown matter.

Basically, "The Preface to the Book of Zohar" speaks about the limitations we need to observe so as to correctly perceive the information provided by the book.

There is always a problem of communication and mutual understanding between the upper and lower spiritual entities. We see it in our world too: between adults and between children as well as between adults and children. When the matter concerns two high levels, there should always be an intermediary between them. For instance, in order to raise a baby, a mother's body has a special system for producing milk. The baby sucks milk, which is then transformed into blood. Blood is further transformed into its body matter, and so on.

So, in order for the lower level to receive from the upper one, there must be certain ways of passage and modification between them. Both the upper and lower levels should have systems of adjustment, adaptability and communication. Hence, when we come to study Kabbalah, we wish to receive power from above that will elevate and change us in such a way that we may begin to feel the Upper World, acquire an ad-

ditional sense of perception, comprehension and adaptation to the true universe.

Therefore, we need to adapt ourselves to the Upper World in order to take from it what it has to give us. Unless we succeed, we will be lost in our own illusions and superstitions, failing to establish contact with the upper level.

To direct us at this contact precisely, to make it not only correct, but also ultimate in its magnitude, Baal HaSulam provided us with this Preface. It is similar to a healthy baby that receives nourishment from its mother and can completely and properly digest it.

The text instructs us how to restrict ourselves (create a “tube” through which everything will descend to me from the upper level), how to receive correctly and most efficiently rise to the higher level.

Matter is our will to receive pleasure, the only thing created by the Creator. Its form is a way of receiving pleasure: “for one’s sake” or “for the sake of the Creator”.

We should stay within these two categories and avoid abstract forms of reasoning about egoism and altruism without any connection with matter, or speculate about the Creator, the essence. However, this is insufficient, and from Paragraph 22 onwards, we will enter deeper into these limitations, tuning ourselves up to the wave that “The Zohar” transmits to us.

We will now discuss two limitations, or, rather, a correct combination, contact, communication between the upper level that sends me the light and me.

22. After all that has been said, we are left with describing, with the help of the Ten Sefirot, all the material images that one encounters in the Book of Zohar. Such images are upper and lower, rise and fall, diminishing and expanding, small condition and large one, separation and unification, numbers and so on – in a word, everything that the

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lower ones cause in the Ten Sefirot with their good and bad actions (described with earthly words in “The Zohar”).

How can one pass from the words of this world to expressing the same through Ten Sefirot? There are no words in the spiritual world, only Sentiments. These Sentiments should be transformed, vested into some images, which we can pass to one another. We can write it down or express it in some other way. We do not need a language within ourselves; it becomes necessary only for passing information.

“The Book of Zohar” explains how to pass from such word pairs as higher-lower, expansion-contraction, falls-rises to their correct interpretation and description with the help of Ten Sefirot. The Ten Sefirot comprise the physical-mathematical language of the spiritual world.

At first sight, it seems peculiar: how is it possible that the Upper Worlds are so inspired that changes in them can be described as caused by the actions of the lower ones?

That is, if I change something within me, I change the entire universe. The worlds with all the forces and spiritual entities that are in them descend and move. Can I influence the Upper Worlds from this world?

Even if you find it necessary to declare that nothing in the Upper Light is of the sort that “dresses” itself and shines in the Ten Sefirot, that it is only in the vessels of Sefirot, which are not divine, they are nevertheless created only with the creation of Souls. This is in order to conceal or reveal the degree of attainment, to the measure and with the swiftness that are required for the Souls to reach the desired Final Correction. It is as in the example mentioned above, with an optical device that consists of the four pieces of colored glass – white, red, green and black.

What is Baal HaSulam trying to convey in this long sentence? He says the following: even though nothing happens in the Creator’s light, and everything only takes place in our Souls, we express the light’s influ-

ence with these words. This influence is constant, but it generates bigger and bigger changes in us.

For example, I put a glass of water into the refrigerator. The temperature of water in the glass is 20° Centigrade, while the temperature inside the refrigerator is only 10°. This means that the refrigerator's constant influence cools the water down to its own temperature. That is, the refrigerator's influence is invariable, whereas the temperature of the water in the glass is constantly changing. The same happens with us: the Upper Light exerts on us its constant pressure, but its pressure gradually penetrates our matter, our desire to receive pleasure, and changes it in accordance with its own parameters.

Kabbalah describes all transformations that take place within us under the light's constant influence. It is said: "I, the Creator, do not change My Name". His attitude to us is absolutely good, and He is constantly pressing us in order to elevate us to the level of the Absolute Good. However, since His influence penetrates us ever more deeply, we begin to adapt ourselves to it, and begin sensing our states as imperfect and remote from Him. We begin to aspire for a more elevated state, wish the light to purify us and make us similar to it.

It turns out that by His constant kind pressure, the Creator invokes in us increasingly worse sensations pertaining to our own condition, and increasingly good Sentiments pertaining to Him. Kabbalah describes the constant changes that we go through.

Basically, Kabbalah does not do that so as to tell us what else we are going to experience under the light's constant influence, from our present state up to a complete equivalence of form with the light called the *Gmar Tikun*. It, rather, encourages us to make our own earnest effort and by our personal and independent participation shorten this process.

At that, we go through the same transformations, but they become desired; hence, we, in anticipation of the bright future states, perceive our spiritual ascent, our life as positive and pleasant. In other words, an

active participation in the process of correction elevates man to a fairly good level the moment he makes his decision.

Even if you find it necessary to declare that nothing in the Upper Light is of the sort that “dresses” itself and shines in the Ten Sefirot, that it is only in the vessels of the Sefirot, which are not divine, they are nevertheless created only with the creation of Souls. This is in order to conceal or reveal the degree of attainment.

The light is constantly playing with us. However, in actual fact, it is not a game. Since we consist of *Reshimo de Yitlabshut* and *Reshimo de Aviut* (information about the light and the *Kli*), consequently, different informational *Kelim* are alternately activated in us. Thus, we evaluate our state either from the point of the light, or from the point of the *Kli*. Therefore, it seems to us that we go through different states. The light, however, is an act according to *the measure and with the swiftness that are required for the Souls to reach the desired correction.*

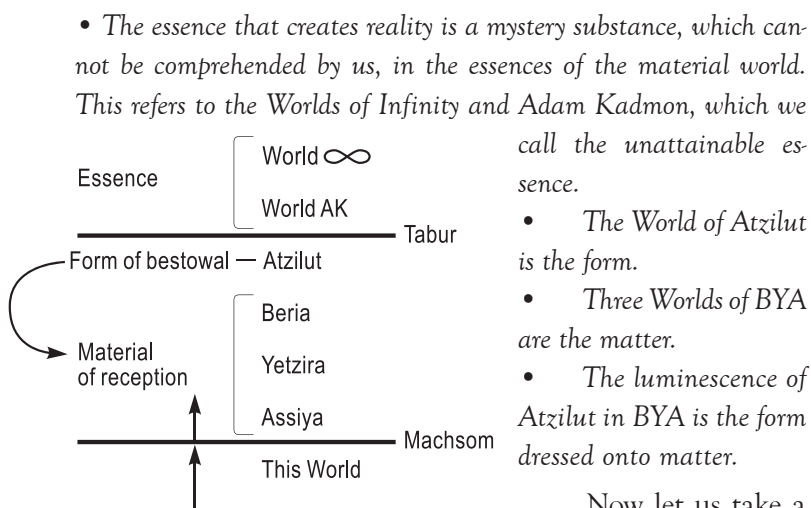
It is similar to the case where the white color in a book and the material that forms its letters are all possible in the three Worlds of BYA, where there are vessels of the Sefirot which have been created, but not the divinity. However, it would be utterly groundless to opine that they exist in the World of Atzilut where the vessels of the Ten Sefirot as well represent the utter divinity, merged with the Upper Light that fills them.

Baal HaSulam wishes to say the following: in all there are three components: the Creator, the light that is emanated from Him, and the *Kli* that changes under the light’s influence in order to reach equivalence of form with the Creator. Both the Creator and His light are invariable, whereas all changes take place in us to make us similar to Him.

All of this exists in absolute unity.

23. In order to understand the above, we must recall what was said in paragraph 17, which stated:

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Now let us take a look at the drawing in order to understand where we are in our research of “The Book of Zohar.” There exist the Worlds of Infinity, Adam Kadmon, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. The Worlds of Infinity and Adam Kadmon represent the essence; the World of Atzilut is the form, while the Worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya constitute matter. Below them are Machsom, or Sium, and this world.

We spend our time in this world only during a preparation period before we enter the Upper World. Kabbalah tells us about a stage that begins after we cross the Machsom and commence our ascent. From that moment, matter (our desire) gradually emerges in us, and takes the form of the World of Atzilut. That is to say, the World of Atzilut dresses into matter and gives it its form of bestowal. Matter is reception, desire to receive. This desire begins to acquire the form of bestowal.

Now let us try to understand how we attain Infinity. What is “Infinity” for us? Is it simply a lack of comprehension? In such a case it may not be called this name. If we use a certain word to denote something, it means that we first attain, grasp, weigh and graduate it within us, and only then do we give this sensation or state a name. That is to say, if I call

something Infinity, it means that I have experienced that state, and after measuring it in accordance with all accepted standards and rules, give it a name. Thus, Infinity is one of precise physical categories, definitions, measures.

Baal HaSulam asks: *How can you name something that is not comprehended?*

And gives this answer: *The name of the World of Infinity does not express the essence of the One Who Creates Reality per se, but rather points out that all the worlds and Souls are included in Him. This is reflected in the intent of the creation about which it is said “the completion of the action is in its initial design” –connection of all Creation with Him until complete correction. This is what is called the World of Infinity.*

Inasmuch as there is a state in which both the first and the last thoughts merge into one, this merging is called Infinity. We cannot attain it our present state because we have not yet reached the final state. Thus, Infinity means confluence of the two extreme points of the creation. The same is true with our world: when we cannot coordinate cause and effect, everything seems to consist of contrasting, unrelated details.

This happens because the notion of Infinity seems truly infinite to us. However, as we begin correcting our inner properties and rise to the light’s level, these notions merge within us, and all contradictions disappear. Good and evil, light and darkness dissolve in one all-embracing notion, and the definition of Infinity vanishes. We enter into it, and it becomes real, clear and attainable.

We also call the World of Infinity the “first state of Souls” when all Souls exist in the Creator, filled with all possible delights, the full volume of which will be received at the state of Final Correction.

24. Let me give an example from our world. Let us say a person wants to build a nice house. His first thought pictures a house with all the rooms and amenities just as it will be when its construction

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is finished. After that, he lays out the plan of construction in all of its details to explain it to the builders, one detail at a time: wood, bricks, metal frames, etc. Only after that does he begin building the house for real and continues building it until it is done, just as he planned it initially.

You should know that in the World of Infinity, which is the mystery of initial design, all of the Creation is prepared in its complete perfection. However, this allegory does not entirely convey the meaning, because the future and the past are one for the Creator, and the initial design is being implemented in Him. He does not need any instruments for action, as we do. Therefore, the real reality is in Him.

We perceive our remoteness from the Creator as Infinity. If we try to combine within us opposite notions, so that all of them will merge into a single whole, we will enter the World of Infinity, which thus ceases to be infinite, and becomes real, where the present, past, and future merge into one.

We should do our best to pass from our usual notions of “eternity”, “infinity” to more concrete, correct, spiritual definitions. All the spiritual notions exist within us, but we only understand them when they are opposed to each other: good and evil, black and white, limited and unlimited, reception and bestowal, etc. If we make a point of superposing these notions in our inner properties, Infinity will gradually become our reality.

This is exactly what happens in the Creator; hence in Him a thought and an action are the same. In the course of our advancement, we will be trying to unite all the notions with one source. We will enter a constant and absolute state when time becomes irrelevant. Little by little, we need to get used to this state. In the article “Habit Becomes a Second Nature” from his book entitled “Shamati” (“I Heard”) Baal HaSulam writes that all the concealed, implicit qualities and states are within us because we exist in our present state only in our perception. From the Creator’s

perspective, we are in a state of perfection and infinity, in the only state that was ever created by Him. Our task is to correct our sensations, feel our true condition.

Baal HaSulam says that we can achieve this state with the help of ongoing exercise, by developing a habit, which will turn into our second nature. Any action in our world gets into the field of our vision or stays beyond it only depending on whether we can attune ourselves to that action. While learning and acquiring proper habits, we begin to perceive all kinds of events that were passing unnoticed before. It is the same with the spiritual: first, we gradually acquire special senses, and then we can perceive spiritual reality.

“The Book of Zohar” says that the category of Infinity is based on contrast, that spirituality is where the past, present, and future merge. “The Zohar” encourages us to develop rudiments of these sensations.

Baal HaSulam continues with the example of a house: *the World of Atzilut is like a thoughtful and detailed plan that will be realized.*

The purpose is to build a house (i.e., the Worlds of Infinity and Adam Kadmon). The World of Atzilut is a form, which can be clearly imagined. This is a detailed plan of the house with drawings and specifications – all that exists on paper, but has not yet materialized.

You should know that both the initial design, which is the World of Infinity, and deliberative detailed plan, which in its own time will be realized in reality, do not have anything to do with creatures, because everything is still in the design stage where nothing yet has been implemented into practice. That is to say, the worlds of, Infinity, Adam Kadmon, and Atzilut are completely detached from the Souls, from you and me.

A person does similarly: although he has thought out all the details (bricks, metal pieces, wood) that he will need during construction, he does not yet have anything save his own mental image of the house.

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The main difference is that the mental plan of a person is not reality, while the Creator's design is the reality itself and is incomparably greater than the reality of creatures.

Therefore, the third state of the creation is absolutely real. In comparison with it (the Worlds of Atzilut, Adam Kadmon and Infinity), our state is spiritually illusory; it is perceived only within us. This resembles a sick person lying unconscious in his bed. Although he is in this world, he cannot feel it. Or, imagine a person in a dark room, unaware of the enormous world around him.

Thus, we have explained the mystery of the World of Infinity and the World of Atzilut; everything that they convey relates only to the creation of creatures as they all exist in the design, but their essence has not yet been revealed. Just as in our example with a house, there is nothing yet in humanity's construction plan: no bricks, no wood, no metal pieces.

25. The three Worlds of BYA, along with this world, are the embodiments of a planned action, just as construction material is needed before construction is complete. Correspondingly, the Upper Light shines in the Worlds of BYA to the extent that Souls must receive it in order to reach their completion. The Upper Light "dresses" itself into ten Kelim Keter, Hochma, Bina, Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, Yesod, and Malchut, which are the real Kelim relative to the Creator. That is, they are not related to the Creator, but, rather, newly created for the Souls' needs.

The infinite light dresses into the Ten Sefirot of the World of Atzilut; through them, it enters into our Souls, and transforms them accordingly.

26. From the example above, one should understand how the three components in the house design are related to one another by causes and consequences, where the root of everything is in the initial design.

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There will be no element in the plan that is not aimed at the completion of the action taken in accordance with the initial plan; nothing will be put into practice during construction that was not already included in the initial plan.

Both in the Worlds of BYA and in our world, everything happens only in accordance with the initial plan, which is instantly realized in the World of Infinity. In actual fact, we cannot influence anything around us. We gradually come to that conclusion in the course of our life... The only area where we can apply our effort is in accelerating our entry into the spiritual world, and in merging with the Creator. This issue is left to us; it depends on the changes that our *Kelim* go through from our present state up to complete equivalence of form with the World of Infinity.

However, all of our states are as fixed and predetermined as every stage in a construction plan: first, digging a pit, building a foundation, erecting buttresses, etc. Hence, we cannot really change anything in this world save our own aspiration to the Purpose of creation. If we do that of our own free will, we feel comfortable, because the difference between our aspirations and the Creator's state disappears, and in the course of our convergence we attain the World of Infinity. We and the Creator are the two main opposites that include all the other contrasting pairs: good and evil, up and down, black and white, and many other parameters and categories. All of them begin to converge, and by merging into a single point, they usher us into a state called the World of Infinity.

You should understand that there is not even a slightest new element that was not originated in the World of Infinity. That is, the Souls in their initial state are in their perfect state of Complete Correction, which is consistent with saying "completion of action is in the initial plan."

Everything that will be revealed in the Final Correction exists there and initially emanates from the World of Infinity into the World of

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Atzilut. This is the same as the mental plan in the example above, where the initial design is realized as the house is being built in reality. This happens with us, the Souls in the Worlds of BYA.

Therefore, there is not the smallest component in this world that did not emanate from the World of Infinity, and this defines the condition of all Souls in the initial state. The World of Atzilut emanates from the World of Infinity, which is the personal relationship toward every new component existing in our world. From the World of Atzilut, every new emanation into the three Worlds of BYA unfolds into action, into the Worlds of Yetzira, Assiya and the lowest level in our world, and is revealed as the Creator's attitude toward creation.

Let us understand that there is nothing new existing in this world that did not emanate from the common root in the Creator's World of Infinity, his personal root in the World of Atzilut, that came down into the Worlds of BYA and became the creation by unfolding into our world.

That is to say, if we observe a creature or an action in this world, we should take it as the Creator's act descending from the World of Infinity. In accordance with it, we need to check very well whether we should intervene in the process, or just change our attitude to it. We see that all of man's attempts to change the world lead to deterioration in ecology, to bigger disappointments and suffering. The reason for that lies in our conviction that everything does not descend from the World of Infinity, but depends on our actions.

If the person stops interfering in the surrounding world and only concentrates on his inner work (i.e., on his attitude to the world), he can transform it beyond recognition and elevate his own perception of the world to the state of Infinity and perfection.

By giving up his attempts to change this world mechanically outside himself, but, rather, trying to correct his attitude, his inner sensations,

man truly acts. This is the most efficient means and the greatest power that is given to us in the entire universe. Whatever inner attitude we may have towards the world, our senses cannot perceive the influence of this attitude on the universe. I believe that science will clearly demonstrate it to us in the near future.

Be that as it may, “The Zohar” teaches us that everything descends from the World of Infinity and all that takes place in our world is a consequence of what happens there. By changing our attitude to it, by aspiring to it, by seeing everything as if it is already there, we can reach it.

27. At the same time, we need to understand that all the changes that take place in the World of Atzilut have nothing to do with the Creator himself. We are speaking only about Souls, to the extent of their receiving from the World of Atzilut through the three Worlds of BYA. This world corresponds to the World of Infinity just as the mental plan correlates to the initial design. However, these two worlds (the World of Infinity and World of Atzilut) do not contain any Souls yet. As it is in the mental plan of a person, there is no real wood, nor iron pieces, nor bricks.

Souls start opening up in the World of Beria. That is why the kelim of the Ten Sefirot, which measure the volume and pace of Souls, are undoubtedly not divine. Rather, they are newly created, because the Upper Light does not contain any changes or quantitative characteristics. That is also why we correlate the kelim of the Ten Sefirot of three Worlds of BYA with the colors red, green and black.

The Worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya are the consequences of the Sefirot Bina, Zeir Anpin, and Malchut. The colors red, green, and black correspond with them, being the results of the Worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya.

Moreover, it is impossible even to think that they are divine, because the Upper Light does not undergo any changes.

These are our inner uncorrected or partially corrected properties against the white background of *Atzilut*. Therefore, before man enters the World of *Atzilut* and reaches the property of *Bina* (complete bestowal), nothing of what he attains is considered quite true. Man is already in the spiritual world, but has not yet reached his true, ultimate state.

However, the light that is “dressed” in the ten Kelim in Worlds of BYA is a divine, simple unity without any disturbance. Even the light filling the lowest Kli in the World of Assiya is simple divinity without slightest change, because light has only one nature. Any change is made by the Kelim, the Sefirot that are not divine (i.e., do not refer to the Creator) and consequently have the three aforementioned colors (red, green, and black). These three colors form the basis for numerous combinations.

We (the Souls) receive the light from the Worlds of *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya* through three filters: red, green, and black. The color white of *Atzilut* passes through these three filters and descends to us already tinted. We perceive these colors and their numerous combinations as a complete palette of our sensations. The Hebrew letters originate in the same three *Sefirot*: *Bina*, *Zeir Anpin*, and *Malchut*. The first nine letters from *Aleph* to *Tet* correspond with *Bina*, or the World of *Beria*. The second group of letters, from *Yud* to *Tzadi*, corresponds with *Zeir Anpin*, or the World of *Yetzira*. The last four letters, from *Kuf* to *Tav* originate in *Malchut*, or the World of *Assiya*. In all, the Kabbalistic alphabet comprises twenty-two letters.

28. It is obvious that the Kelim of the Ten Sefirot of the Worlds of BYA receive all their parts and details from the World of Atzilut. They exist there as the mental design of all the parts which will be realized in a corresponding order when the Worlds of BYA are built. Every slightest detail or action had been completely formed in the World of Atzilut before it descended to the Worlds of BYA.

Baal HaSulam encourages us to stop thinking that our actions can change anything. If we can adopt this truth, our attitude to life and to the world will change. We will stop wasting our energy on something we cannot change, but instead, will start looking for a point with the help of which we can transform the world.

According to this, we discern that the Kelim of the Ten Sefirot HuB-TuM of the Worlds of BYA receive from the corresponding Kelim HuBTuM of the World of Atzilut; that is, from the mental design. Therefore, any single part, i.e., in the Worlds of BYA, receives from the corresponding Sefirot: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Zeir Anpin, and Malchut of the World of Atzilut.

So, if we discover within ourselves the slightest spiritual detail consisting of Ten Sefirot, we can reach through it the Ten Sefirot of Atzilut because they are directly connected between them. We call the color of the Kelim de Atzilut white, which is not even a color—it is colorless. However, it is the source of all colors.

All the roots of the Ten Sefirot emanate from it, which give us the entire gamut of sensations.

Similar to the white color of the pages of a book of wisdom (notwithstanding the fact that nothing can be comprehended through the white color), it is the carrier of everything that is in a book of wisdom. That is why it shines around every letter and inside every letter, giving them their shape and determining a special position of every combination.

We cannot see the wisdom of the white color of Atzilut; it manifests through its luminescence in the Worlds of Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya.

Similarly, we can say that the material of the letters (red, green, and black) is absolutely unattainable. This is because the material is lifeless. We receive all our attainments and knowledge through the

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material of the book, which is white. The luminescence around and inside letters gives them their shape, which reveals the wisdom of a book to us.

That is to say, on the one hand, we read the letters; while on the other hand, we read the white color around each letter. Only by superposing the two notions of Infinity, by elevating our sensations, our letters, to the level of the World of Infinity, where they merge into a single whole, and the attainment of the true wisdom takes place.

This is the essence of the Ten Sefirot de Atzilut. They are similar to the white color, and nothing can be known of them: neither quantity, nor changes. However, at the same time, the shining of white onto the Worlds of BYA, which are the three colors of letters, creates the Kelim of Ten Sefirot de Atzilut.

29. From the above, one should understand that the splitting of the World of Atzilut into three components, as described in “Corrections to Zohar”, are “He, His light and His actions which are one”.

If in our present state we feel the universe around us and ourselves in it, we can complement that picture with the Creator and His influence. As a result, we come up with a pretty complex picture. In reality, however, when we ascend to the spiritual world and enter the World of Atzilut, the Creator, His influence on us, the universe that we perceive, all merge into a single whole called “the Creator’s merging with the creation”, endless, limitless, boundless Oneness.

Such merging takes place at the level of the World of Atzilut and higher, when “the Creator, His light, and His actions are one,” hence Atzilut emanates the white color in spite of the fact that there exists only a simple unity with nothing from created beings. This is because the Creator means Divinity itself (the property of bestowal), whose essence we do not comprehend. “His actions” constitute the ten Kelim HuBTuM existing in Him, which were likened to

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the color white in a book of wisdom. Even quantity is impossible to discern in the white, for nothing there would make any quantity, as it is all white.

We can characterize neither the Creator nor His actions in the World of Atzilut. Therefore, “The Zohar” speaks of nothing from Atzilut and above, but only about the Worlds of BYA, because otherwise it is impossible to convey the information to us. We will simply be unable to receive it.

The matter of the letters begins in the Worlds of BYA. We first find them in the Kelim: Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA, and Malchut of the World of Atzilut, but only with the help of the color white, which allows for the letter's shape, whereas there is no color in itself. When we ascend to the World of Atzilut through the Worlds of BYA, we see that the color white has a multitude of forms, although it is formless, that the Creator performs many actions, although in reality he performs none. Various contradictions begin to merge and disappear in this simple unity, in this attainment of perfection.

The ten Kelim in the World of Atzilut reveal themselves in numerous changes according to their shining in the World of BYA, which is similar to the way a mental design is implemented in reality when a house is built.

Thus, all the changes taking place in the Worlds of BYA occur only under the influence of the shining of the Kelim of the Ten Sefirot HuBTuM de Atzilut. Pertaining to those receiving in the Worlds of BYA, we can differentiate all the numerous changes taking place in the color white. As for the World of Atzilut itself, it is just as the color white does not acquire the colors of the letters. Indeed, there is no quantity whatsoever in it.

We do not attain the white color with the help of other letters, i.e., by means of the worlds BYA that superpose the World of Atzilut.

We attain nothing, for there is no quantity or action in it, only a simple, unattainable light.

Kabbalah speaks about how we should correct our perception of the surrounding world in order to feel the World of Infinity instead of it. Everything depends on our sensations and correct adaptations to the true reality in place of the illusion, which we feel in our five senses.

We have said that the notion “*the Creator, the light and His actions in the World of Atzilut are one*” does not fall into several categories the way we perceive it in our world. Our world, our actions, the Creator, His actions, - all of this - and we seem to be absolutely disunited. Nevertheless, as we correct our perception of reality, it will merge within one all-embracing Upper Force, which rules over all.

30. “His light” refers to the light inside of the white color of Atzilut that are Kelim. This light is understood by us only as it concerns the Souls receiving from the World of Atzilut. However, we do not mean the Divinity per se, which is the mystery of the word “He.”

There exists two notions of light: one refers to the word “He”, the other shines out of this category as the color white. It enters the colors red, green, and black of the Worlds of BYA, and descends to us, the Souls.

That is to say, when the three Worlds of BYA rise up to Atzilut with the Souls of people, the light that they receive there is determined as Ohr Hochma or Ohr Haya. It is also called “this white light.”

Hence, we say that out of the five Sefirot (Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA, and Malchut) Keter is colorless, Hochma is white (the World of Atzilut), while Bina, ZA, and Malchut are red, green, and black respectively. This is how the colors are distributed. In other words, Hochma (Atzilut) is white, but only with regard to us. However, if we only speak about the color itself, it has no name there at all.

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From this point of view, we call this light “His light”, as it is written: “He, the light and His actions are one.” All three of these components are said to merge above the Parsa of the World of Atzilut into one notion, the Creator. This light never descends below the Parsa de Atzilut. Only its tiny luminescence can do so.

We know that *Ohr Hochma* can only be present in the World of *Atzilut*, but never under the *Parsa*. It only shines below the *Parsa* in order to “tempt” the *Kelim* by its luminescence and attract them to *Atzilut*.

That is why it is impossible to comprehend the World of Atzilut per se. We only perceive it as the white color of a book’s page, which serves a basis for printing the letters.

31. The way “The Zohar” describes the Kelim HuBTuM in the World of Atzilut, which increase or decrease as the result of people’s actions, means that in the Upper Light itself there is nothing but its simplicity, because no changes are possible in it.

At our lessons, we study the World of *Atzilut*, the Worlds of *BYA*, how the Souls raise their desires to the world *Atzilut* through the Worlds of *BYA*, and how the World of *Atzilut* begins to emanate the light and pull us up to itself. We learn that certain actions take place in the world *Atzilut* under the influence of *MAN*, our desires. That is, by our actions, desires, demands, we can cause changes, developments.

Baal HaSulam says that there is another aid for the correct understanding of “The Zohar.” If we disregard it, we will not receive the spiritual information and will fail to understand what is really written in the book. We will be as millions of other people, who kept reading “The Zohar” one generation after another without understanding anything and imagining all kinds of fantastic pictures.

So should what the correct tune-up to “The Zohar” be? The conclusion is that we never affect anything in the World of *Atzilut* with our actions. And as for all the actions that take place in *Atzilut* with regard to

the Souls, it only seems to us that only they happen in *Atzilut* and only with regard to the Souls.

From what we see in this world, where all of our actions take place, we come to believe that the same actions happen in the World of *Atzilut*.

As much as we become worthy of receiving the light in our world, we receive it. When we fall and become unworthy of the light, it disappears. It seems to us that it happens above, in the World of *Atzilut*, the source of the light. In actual fact, it is constantly and unfailingly shining upon us, whereas all the changes occur within us. This is the same delusion as in trying to change the world around us. It stems from the same source: We erroneously believe that all changes take place outside, and not within us. However, everything depends on the person's inner *Kelim*, his sensations.

Therefore, let us repeat: we should perceive the World of *Atzilut* as something constant, invariable. The phenomena that we research as its changes with regard to us (rises, falls, AVI and ZON ascending and descending in the worlds, *Atik*, AA, AVI, YESHSUT, and ZON of the World of *Atzilut*, the *Partzufim* that change depending on our MAN), all of this we perceive within us.

In reality, no changes ever take place in the World of *Atzilut*. It is very important for us to develop a correct attitude to the universe and to receive the information that is contained in "The Book of Zohar." All that is written there aims at generating necessary changes in us. All our efforts should be directed inward, all the changes in our *Kelim* (from our present state up to the World of Infinity: boundless attainment) take place only within us. Such an understanding can save us many years of futile effort, search, and confusion.

32. This is similar to a candle for which it makes no difference whether you light up tens of thousands of other candles from it or none. There will be no change in the candle itself. The same is with

regard to Adam HaRishon. It matters not whether he will father numerous sons like himself or none at all, for there will be no changes in Adam HaRishon himself.

Similarly, there are no changes in the World of Atzilut, whether the lower ones receive immeasurable abundance from it or receive nothing. All of the growing (advancement) concerns only the lower ones, and occurs within them.

33. However, why do those who have attained the knowledge of “The Zohar”, i.e., the great sages who already live in the World of Infinity, need to describe all the changes in the World of Atzilut. Why do they entangle us this way? They have attained it; for them it is their essence, existence, reality. So why do they describe it in such a confusing form? Do they intend to purposely baffle us? Would it not have been better to describe it in relation to receiving in the Worlds of BYA, and not to pile up so many definitions in the World of Atzilut, to which we would have to look for some kind of excuses?

Baal HaSulam asks the question that should necessarily arise in our mind: “Why is Kabbalah written in this way? It seems to be thoroughly misleading: it tells us of what happens in the Souls as if it takes place in the worlds.” Here is how Baal HaSulam answers: “The same occurs in our world. It seems to us that everything happens outside, that is why we describe our reality the way we do.” In actual fact, as we begin to attain the spiritual, our perception of the world changes so that we see and feel it as something invariable, static, and gradually dissolving in our spiritual vision. But until we do feel this way, the world looks quite tangible, consisting of numerous real objects, actions, forces. Why is it all so confused?

Baal HaSulam writes:

That has in it a big secret. When Kabbalists mention the word “secret”, it means that they wish to reveal something to us. This is because

in our imperfect state we cannot sense the true reality of the World of Infinity. What we feel is our present condition. The difference between our present state and the World of Infinity is called a “secret”. This secret was expressed by the prophets, i.e., by the Kabbalists who have reached a certain level of spiritual attainment called “prophecy”.

Here is what they say:

This has the manifestation of Divinity, of the Creator’s special power, because these images create an impression that they exist outside, although in reality they only exist in the receiving Souls to show them as if the Creator Himself takes part in all the actions together with them. The Soul asks and the Creator responds, moves toward it, while the Soul advances toward Him. Why does the Creator fill the Souls with a sensation as though something happens beyond them? Baal HaSulam answers: in order to maximally increase the comprehension of the Souls.

When I feel that apart from my personal aspiration for the spiritual, the spiritual also advances toward me, I perceive the Creator’s plan in addition to my own actions. By manifesting Himself to me, the Creator as it were is moving in my direction. In fact, He just reveals His plan to me, which I perceive as movement toward me. Thus, beside my own action, which elevates me to the spiritual world, I also receive an additional part of the Creator’s mind. This is a very subtle point. If the person interprets it correctly, he or she begins to understand the Creator’s thoughts in each sensation or action.

It is similar to the father who is hiding himself from his favorite little son in grief and in happiness, although he has in him neither grief nor happiness. We imagine the Creator as “Terrifying”, “Cruel”, “Kind”, and “Loving”, in all of His possible manifestations, as if He always changes. He does that only to force his favorite son to widen his understanding, and to play with him. Only when he grows up and becomes wiser will he discover everything that his father did for him, and learn that there was nothing more than necessary for playing with him.

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The same is true with us. In spite of the fact that all of these images and transformations begin and end in the impressions of Souls, this manifestation of the Creator in our perception creates an imaginary picture, as though they all exist within Him. The Creator does that in order to maximally increase the comprehension of the Souls in accordance with the thought of creation, which is “to delight His created beings”. In other words, man should acquire the Creator’s mind and achieve His level.

34. Do not be surprised by the fact that you will find similar examples in the Creator’s governance of this material world. Take our vision, for example. When we see the enormous world before us in all its magnificence, we do not see it as it really is, but only as it is perceived within us. That is, in the rear part of our brain, there is some kind of photo camera that draws everything that we see; not what really exists outside us.

Moreover, the Creator designed our brain in such a way that, like a special mirror, it creates in us an illusion that everything we see exists outside our brain. Although what we see outside of us is not reality, we should still be grateful that the Creator made this mirror in our brain that allows us to see and to comprehend everything that is outside us. By doing so, He gave us the capacity to learn, to get complete and clear knowledge, to measure every subject inside and outside. But for that, most of our knowledge would have been non-existent.

Why is this so? By studying ourselves and the outside world and thanks to the difference between these two states we have an opportunity to develop. Therefore, by feeling ourselves and the Creator Who is, as it were, playing and interacting with us, we not only evolve, but also acquire His wisdom, His thoughts.

The same is true in relation to Divine wisdom. In spite of all the changes that happen inside of the receiving Souls, they see everything in the Giver. Only in this way are they privileged to receive all knowl-

edge and all pleasures in the plan of creation. Other than that, judge by the example. Although we practically see everything in front of us, every sensible person knows precisely that everything we see is only inside our brain. The same is true with the Souls. Although they see all images in the Creator, any researcher of the Upper World knows without doubt that everything is only within them, and not in the Giver.

There is a saying in Kabbalah: "I will know You from within myself." The time has come for us to begin adjusting our perception of both inner and outer reality. We need to realize that we exist in the absolutely corrected, perfect world, and that everything that happens around us is a result of our false, inadequate perception. By correcting it, we can also correct the world in which we live, and our existence in it. If we succeed to correct our perception of the world, we will enter the sensation of the Upper Realm and the Creator, and "The Book of Zohar" will show us how we can fill our Souls correctly.

35. The *Torah* laws forbid making any images. They even prohibit depicting nature, let alone people. This is because man should be engaged in creating inner images.

The meaning of the saying is that the Sefira Malchut, which includes all worlds and Souls, and is the root of all the Kelim, creates this picture inside itself.

The picture that we perceive in *Malchut* is the Creator's picture. That is to say, what we see in the surrounding world, in ourselves, and in what we will later see in the Upper Worlds, is basically a projection of the Creator's light on *Malchut*.

The matter does not concern Malchut as it is in its own place, but, rather, the situation when Malchut descends and spreads to the created beings, becomes visible to all of them in accordance with their perception and imagination. In other words, Malchut exists only

with regard to the receivers, and not by itself. This is the correct perception of the universe.

The Creator says: "In spite of the fact that I appear to you in your properties, i.e., in your perception and imagination, who are you going to compare Me with?" Indeed, before the Creator created the picture of the world and gave it a form, He was the only one that existed in the world without any form or image.

The person who attains the Creator in this world perceives Him as some image. In the Worlds of Assiya, Yetzira, and Beria we always attain His images, i.e., various forms of His manifestation in us. Afterwards, as we rise from the Worlds of BYA to the World of Atzilut and elevate the entire universe with us, we become a part of the Upper simple light.

That is why all hints that are contained in the letters, dots, or holy names are nothing but imprints of our Kelim in the Creator's simple light.

This happens because the Soul consists of 613 *Kelim*, which we have to correct. Of them, 248 comprise our properties of bestowal (*Galgalta ve Eynaim*), and 365 constitute our properties of reception (AHP). All of them can be subdivided into five parts in accordance with the Creator's ineffable Name. He projects Himself onto us in such a way that the four letters of His Name form a four-phase superposition on our 613 properties. Hence, it turns out that in whatever world or on whatever level I may be, I always expose my Malchut to the Creator's projected image. This is why man is always called "Adam", whether in the World of Assiya, Yetzira, or Beria. This is a kind of the Creator's prototype, which exists on the level where one can project His image on himself.

36. At first glance, we might find a contradiction in what was said above. Earlier it was said that all the forms emanate only from the Sefira Malchut to the receivers; whereas here it is said that they come from Beria (Bina) and below.

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In reality, forms and images come only from Behina Dalet, which is Malchut. All the Kelim come not from the first Ten Sefirot - Keter, Hochma, Bina, and Tifferet - but from Malchut. However, the properties of mercy and restriction interacted in the World of correction. This means that Sefira Malchut (of restriction) ascended, and made its way into Sefira Bina (the property of mercy).

In accordance with that, from this moment on, the Kelim of Malchut became rooted in Sefira Bina. Thus, the Zohar says that the genuine roots of images (Kelim) are in Malchut. But after that, it says they are in the World of Beria, which means it results from the interaction made for the correction of the world.

In addition, the sages said: "Originally, the Creator created the world based on the property of judgment, but saw that the world could not exist, so He made his interaction with mercy". You should know that the Ten Sefirot KaHaBTuM have many names in the book of Zohar in accordance with their numerous functions.

When they are called "Keter-Atzilut-Beria-Yetzira-Assiya" their task is to distinguish between the Kelim "de Panim" that are called "Keter-Atzilut" (Keter-Hochma), and the Kelim "de Achoraim" called Beria-Yetzira-Assiya" (Bina-Tifferet-Malchut). Such a division results from the interaction between the properties of judgment and mercy.

Since the Zohar hints at the interaction between Malchut and Bina, the Sefira Bina is called "Beria." Before this interaction happened, Bina had neither form nor image, even in relation to receivers.

37. So it continues: "...but after He had given this form to the structure of "Adam Elion", He descended and "dressed" in it. He is called HaVaYaH, which means the Ten Sefirot KaHaBTuM because the tip of letter "Yud" is Keter, "Yud" is Hochma, "Hey" is Bina, "Vav"

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is Tifferet, and last letter “Hey” is Malchut. This was done so that the Creator could be attained through His properties, Sefirot.

38. Here is an explanation of what was said above. After her interaction with the restrictive properties of Malchut, from Beria (Bina) and below, images and forms descend to the Souls. It happens not in its place, but only where the receivers are.

It is said: “He gave a form to the structure “Adam Elion”, and came down and “dressed” into this man’s form.” Thus, man’s form consists of 613 Kelim resulting from the Kelim of a Soul. Since a Soul had 613 spiritual Kelim that are called “248 organs and 365 tendons, it is subdivided into five parts in accordance with 4 letters of HaVaYaH:

- Tip of the letter “Yud”, her Rosh is Keter;
- From Peh to Chazeh is Hochma;
- From Chazeh to Tabur is Bina;
- From Tabur to Sium Raglin there are two Sefirot: Tifferet and Malchut.

The Torah describes the Partzuf Adam, which represents the 248 affirmative commandments corresponding with “248 organs” and 365 negative commandments corresponding with “365 tendons.” It has five parts – the five books of Torah. This is called “the image of Adam Elion”, which means that Adam, in the World of Beria (Bina), where the Kelim start and continue to places where the Souls are. This is called “Adam Elion” for there are three Adamic properties in the Sefirot:

- Adam de Beria;
- Adam de Yetzira;
- Adam de Assiya.

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However, Keter and Hochma do not have any image that can be related to any dotted letter or the four letters of HaVaYaH. Since the matter concerns the World of Beria, it is confirmed: “Adam Elion”.

Always remember that the Zohar says there are no images in the place of Sefirot Bina and Malchut, only in the receivers' place. Since all these Sefirot give the Kelim garments for the Souls to attain the Creator with the help of light descending to them within certain limits in accordance with their 613 organs, we call givers “Adam” as well. However, they are the color white there.

39. It should not be difficult for you to understand because all four letters of HaVaYaH and the tip of the letter “Yud” are the five Kelim that are always called “letters”, which refer to the five Sefirot KaHaBTuM. The tip of the letter “Yud” and the letter “Yud” in the name of HaVaYaH hint at the presence of the Kelim in Keter and Hochma.

The fact is that when it is said that “images” and “properties” representing Kelim that begin from the World of Beria and below, the matter only concerns the three Sefirot Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut, but not Keter and Hochma, from the point of essence of the Sefirot.

However, you should know that Sefirot are included in each other. There are Ten Sefirot KaHaBTuM in Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and in Malchut. In accordance with that, we find that each of the five Sefirot KaHaBTuM has three Sefirot: Bina, Tifferet and Malchut from which Kelim originate.

From that, you need to understand that the tip of the letter “Yud” which refers to the Kelim of Keter, points to Bina and TuM that are included in Keter. The letter “Hey” of the name HaVaYaH that represents the Kli Hochma, points to Bina and TuM that are included in Hochma. Thus, both Keter and Hochma, included even

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in Bina and ZON, have no Kelim, while Bina and TUM, included even Keter and Hochma, have Kelim in them.

From that perspective, Adam really consists of five parts. This is because Bina and TuM perform an act of bestowal in each of the five Sefirot, which is concealed in the name “Merkava de Adam.” In accordance with that:

- *Adam on level Keter is called “Adam Kadmon,”*
- *Adam on level Hochma is called “Adam de-Atzilut,”*
- *Adam on level Bina is called “Adam de-Beria,”*
- *Adam on level Tifferet is called “Adam de-Yetzira,”*
- *Adam on level Malchut is called “Adam de-Assiya”.*

40. There are ten Names of the Creator, which are correspondingly imprinted on our ten basic properties – Sefirot.

- *Sefira Keter is called Ekie;*
- *Sefira Hochma is called Yud-Key;*
- *Sefira Bina is called HaVaYaH;*
- *Sefira Hesed is called El;*
- *Sefira Gevura is called Elokim;*
- *Sefira Tifferet is called HaVaYaH (simple one, different from Bina);*

Since Tifferet and Bina are on the middle line, they resemble one another; therefore they are designated by the same name, albeit it is spelled differently.

- *Two Sefirot – Netzah and Hod are called Tzvaot;*
- *Sefira Yesod is called Chai;*
- *Sefira Malchut is called Adni.*

There is no need to memorize these names; later on we will understand how they originated. We are speaking about the ten none erasable Names. They are called none erasable because if the scribe who writes

the Torah scroll makes a mistake in one of them, the entire segment must be destroyed; it is forbidden to correct such mistakes.

What does that mean in our world? Man cannot perceive the world's picture correctly, unless his Ten *Sefirot* are properly attuned. As with a violin, one can play it only if its strings are properly tuned up. Thus, they form a certain interrelation with one another, each one of them being in its standard, correct state.

Similarly, if at least one of the Creator's Names resonates in us incorrectly, i.e., one of our properties will not be completely similar to His, we will not be able to perceive His manifestation. That is to say, being made up of Ten *Sefirot*, we perceive the Creator's action in ten of His emanations.

At the same time, when we attain all Ten *Sefirot* and completely fill them with the Creator's image, an amazing phenomenon occurs. All Ten *Sefirot* merge, the boundaries between them disappear, and they form the general, Infinite, white light of *Atzilut*, where we ascend upon attaining all the levels of the Worlds of *BYA*.

This is what Baal HaSulam writes in his "Preface to the Book of Zohar". This "Preface" deals with the limitations, which exist between us and our perceived reality. All that we experience within us is only perceived in our egoistic *Kelim* to the extent of their correction. If our properties coincide with those of the Creator, we will be able to understand and sense Him better and better. It is the same as when a radio receiver picks a certain outside wave only because its own wave contour is identical to the outer wave.

In other words, only our equivalence of form with the Creator will enable us to enter the true universe and exist in it. At the beginning, we need to do it in our 613 *Kelim*, subsequently felt as Ten *Sefirot*. Afterwards, they are felt as a single whole, the Creator's general manifestation regarding *Malchut*. When *Malchut* finally becomes similar to the Creator,

it completely merges with the light in its nine first Sefirot. All images fade and disappear, whereas we become one with the Infinite, white light.

41. Unless the Creator's light spreads onto all created beings by way of filling these holy Sefirot, how can the creatures be honored to know Him, and to fulfill the following: "The earth will be filled with knowledge of the Creator?"

An explanation is that the Creator tricks the Souls into believing that all the changes in the Sefirot happen in Him. The purpose of that was for the Souls to get to know and comprehend Him. Thus, the saying, "The earth will be filled with knowledge of the Creator" is going to be realized.

42. And woe to them who compare the Creator with any kind of measure, or say that this measure is in the Creator, even if it is a spiritual measure which appears to the Souls. This is especially so if it is a material measure that stems from mortal human nature, whose foundation is dust.

Although the Souls perceive all the changes that occur in them as taking place in the Giver, it should be clear to them that there are neither changes nor measures in Him. He is Divine, and it only seems to them, as it is said: "I am similar to what prophets have said."

Woe to them who err, because they will immediately lose their divine abundance, let alone the fools who see Him as an embodiment in flesh and blood, transient and flawed.



INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ZOHAR

This Introduction is one of four explanations that Baal HaSulam wrote for the “Book of Zohar” to furnish a person with an outlook on evolution, to show where this book leads, and to what goals and heights it should elevate him. In this book, Baal HaSulam researches the deepest layers of the universe. He tries to explain the properties of our reality, to unveil its depth and the extent of our comprehension of it. He tells us how we can change it and ascend to a different, Upper Reality.

Most importantly, this Introduction speaks about our active part in this process. It is very good and commendable to be simply studying Kabbalah. Yet, can we change anything with the help of this knowledge? This is where the study should lead us. This is the only aspect of Kabbalah that should interest us.

“Introduction to the Book of Zohar” is a very deep, summarizing text. While “Introduction to the Study of the Ten *Sefirot*” speaks of the person’s path and the levels he ascends on his way to the Goal, this composition is an immersion into the universe. As a submarine dives into the ocean, so does the Zohar descend with us to the unimaginable depths of reality.

As the article, “The Essence of the Wisdom of Kabbalah” says, the task of Kabbalah is to reveal the Creator to the person. The Creator created man and conceals Himself to let him rise to His level. Otherwise, we would feel no need to reach out to Him, to grow and become similar to Him. The Creator is like a loving mother who teaches her child to

walk. She places him on his feet, and then moves slightly away to compel the child to make a few steps towards her. She then moves farther away to encourage him to make a few more steps and so on. This is how our children grow, and we are supposed to grow in the same way with regard to the Creator. We should always perceive His concealment as an appeal to get closer to Him.

The book of Zohar expounds the profound processes that unfold in us while we gradually reveal the Creator. This is called ascending the ladder of the spiritual worlds. Kabbalah tells the person what he sees and feels while gradually ascending this ladder of similarity to the Creator. He can only be revealed to the extent of our equivalence with Him; the more likeness there is between He and I, the better I can feel Him. Therefore, it turns out that to be similar to the Creator is the same as to feel or reveal Him.

1. In this introduction, my wish is to clarify issues that seem simple at first. Everyone has tried to explain these issues, and much ink has been spilled in these efforts (throughout the history of humankind). Yet to this day, we have not reached a clear enough knowledge in these matters.

The questions are as follows:

Both ancient and modern philosophers and scientists have been puzzled by them.

What questions are these? They are fundamental and critical to our essence and existence.

First question:

What is our essence?

Who are we? Are we animals or are we human? Are we intelligent beings? Do we exist or only imagine that we exist? It is quite possible that we are completely different than we imagine. In fact, when we look at

any other small animal, such as a dog or a kitten, our impression about it, about its nature, is completely different.

How can we objectively see ourselves as though we are looking from outside? What does it mean to see from the outside? Starting from where can we imagine ourselves? The question about our essence consists of many conditions.

Second question:

What is our part in the long chain of reality, of which we are but small links?

We can see that we have gone through some states. This world has gone through some states with or without our involvement. Alternatively, perhaps it exists by itself; or we somehow exist in it. Nevertheless, we see everything from the perspective of historic consequence, the cause and effect chain of reality.

Do we play any role? This chain exists for a reason, and so do we. Do we exist parallel to the chain or inside of it? Do we determine the development of this chain and its consequences? Can we influence reality or do anything about it? What is our role? The answer to these questions includes knowledge of all potential development, cause and effect, beginning and end, all the processes, all the intermediate levels, and knowledge about our potential impact in this process.

Third question:

When we look at ourselves, we feel that we are so spoiled and low that no one is more despicable than we are.

Baal HaSulam addresses here the particular inner attainment in which we can actually perceive ourselves. We can feel our insignificance and meanness with the help of the descending Surrounding Light, the *Ohr Makif*, in direct proportion with the descending Upper Light. If we

genuinely attract it with the help of the group and serious study, the Upper Light demonstrates to us the insignificance of our essence.

What is the actual matter here? The matter is that, in addition to the animal essence, we have something that is above animal existence. This something is called our egoism. It is based on our aspirations to wealth, honor, fame, power, and knowledge. Animals do not have these aspirations. This is called “Kina”, “Ta’avah”, and “Kavod” – envy, inclination to pleasures, and aspiration to honor. These aspirations bring a person to a level above the animal. Since they are above animal qualities, these aspirations and qualities are praiseworthy. On the other hand, their common natural utilization puts us below all other levels.

Therefore, Baal HaSulam says:

When we look at ourselves, we feel that we are so spoiled and low that no one is more despicable than we are.

Animals kill other animals because it is integrated in them at the level of instinct. A lion kills only in order to fulfill his small desire to be sated. However, egoism in humans is so much higher than for its own sake; humans want to destroy everyone. Consequently, the additional egoism that elevates us above animals actually makes us lower than animals.

However, if we look at the One who created us, we would think that we were supposed to have become the crown of everything, higher than everything, because an excellent Creator should only perform excellent actions.

Baal HaSulam tells us here about people who can roughly imagine what the Creator, Perfection, and a desire to bestow mean.

Yet, how did it happen that a perfect Creator created such a mean being that is so much meaner than the rest? What is He like, if He is perfect? Additionally, are we perfect or imperfect? We have observed from Universal laws that imperfection does not emanate from perfection.

Fourth question:

Our mind makes us acknowledge the Creator's absolute kindness and that He only performs kindness, so that there is nothing higher than He.

Fundamentally, our mind does not agree to that. Many believe that the world is governed by a single “evil force”. Kabbalists tell us about the essence of the Creator. They are on a different level of attainment. Baal HaSulam provokes us with questions that have not yet materialized for us. Nevertheless, they have been already resolved for him.

Hence, he offsets what he conceived on the upper, perfect level to our imperfect condition. He does this from the foundation of these two points where the first point is he being at the state of the Creator and another point is we at our current state. He demonstrates a difference between these states that are called questions. All our questions come from discrepancies and oppositions to his state. So he says:

Our mind makes us acknowledge (from its perception) the fact that the Creator is all kind and performs only kindness, so that there is nothing higher than He. However, how could He create so many forms which, from the very beginning, are destined to spend all the days of their existence in suffering and grief? (Now he is asking at our level). If that was not done in kindness, could it at least have been done with less evil (He created us)?!

Why did He create us to harm? In addition, why, even now when we are just beginning to study the path we must take in order to reach the Purpose of creation, do we see that every step of the way consists of continuous falling and rising, that the lower the falling, the higher the rising?

Nothing is comprehended unless a *Kli* has been comprehended first, a suffering, and feeling of worthlessness, inferiority, depression, emptiness, opposition to the Creator. Only then, follow the revelation of the Creator and unification with Him.

Why should it all be done this way? Why were we created inferior? Why should we comprehend perfection from our inferior state?

Fifth question:

How could insignificant, temporary, and impure forms come from the Infinite, something without beginning or end (our “final state”, as conceived by Baal HaSulam)?

How can this be? The fifth question appears similar to the third one. He states that, "*When we look at ourselves, we feel that we are so spoiled and low that no one is more despicable than we are. If we look at the One who created us, we would think that we were supposed to have become the crown of everything, higher than everything, because an excellent Creator should only perform excellent actions.*"

Here he says something similar: *When we look at ourselves, we feel that we are so spoiled and low that no one is more despicable than we are.*

The five questions that he addresses here concern our state with regard to the Creator's. These questions can only be raised and cleared up by someone at His level as compared to ours. Baal HaSulam tells us about the discrepancies between these two levels. He wishes to explain to us why it is necessary to have this difference and how we may reach perfection. This is our challenge, to conceive where we are, where the Creator is, and how to overcome this chasm between us.

Why does he raise these questions? In this Introduction, he partially explains it, but actually, he raises these questions in order to comprehend them. During these lessons, we will discover that not only must we understand these questions while studying this Introduction, but also actualize them within ourselves and subsequently use them to climb to the level where we need to be. That is why we need to study the book of Zohar. Hence, he uses this explanation in his Introduction to this book.

2. *In order to comprehensively clear all this up, in advance, we have to carry out certain studies where the subject is not a "forbidden area", meaning, the essence of the Creator. This can in no way be comprehended by our mind; hence, we have neither thought nor concept of Him. The compulsory field of research is the study of the Creator's actions.*

In general, we can understand the questions: "What is the Essence?", "What is our role in a chain of reality?", and "Why are we defective, while the Creator is perfect?" and so on. So, for what do we need preliminary studies?

We need them to understand these questions accurately. In other words, we should approach them in a different way, for it is said, "*Many people (in the course of history) have attempted to disclose these questions, and much ink has been spilled*". Yet in the end, the questions have remained unanswered.

How can we resolve these questions, find the answers, and actually become fully aware of them within ourselves? In order to look at these questions and correctly move towards their realization, it is necessary to put us in an unambiguous position with regard to them. This is what Baal HaSulam does in his studies. He says:

In order to clear all this up comprehensively, in advance, we need to make some preliminary inquiries, where the subject is not a "forbidden area", i.e., the essence of the Creator... Why is it forbidden for us to study the essence of the Creator? Further, he answers this: ...which can in no way be comprehended by our mind.

Since we cannot comprehend the Creator's essence, we should not study it. This is unattainable for us at our current level of development. Therefore, the only thing we should do is study all that we can possibly comprehend. Moreover, perhaps, if we study what we are able to attain, we will approach the incomprehensible area, the essence of the Creator.

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Here he says: ... *the Creator's essence, which can in no way be comprehended by our mind, hence we have no thought and concept about Him...and the compulsory field of research (i.e., the Creator's instruction), is the study of the Creator's actions. As we are told, "Know the Creator and serve Him".*

If I attain Him, His actions, and His instructions, I will be adapting the correction internally. I will place myself in likeness to Him and this will be called "I perceive His actions and serve Him", work "for the sake of Creator".

It is also said, "*By Your actions I will know You*".

I will attain Him by adapting my actions to His and by becoming similar to Him. If I begin my exploration of Him straightforwardly, this will be called "philosophy." I will not achieve anything this way. I can only comprehend and attain the Creator if I become similar to Him, and then all those conditions and qualities that exist in Him will be formed in me. Subsequently, I will be able to understand His intentions, something that precedes His qualities and actions. From the *Guf* (body) of the *Partzuf* I will rise to its *Rosh* (head).

If I make my body, i.e., all of my desires, similar to all of the Creator's actions, then the inner body of my soul, my desires, the body of the *Partzuf* will be formed. The *Toch* (inner part) or *Sof* (end) of the *Partzuf* will be similar to the Creator's influence on me. This is called "nine of my reversed *Sefirot* become similar to nine of His direct *Sefirot*". It allows me to reach complete balance with the Creator and to grasp His thoughts, the *Rosh* of the *Partzuf*.

Thus we can come to an understanding of the Creator. If the person specifically acts in this manner, he reveals in his study the opportunity to ascend from the level of the creation to the level of the Creator. If we are willing to do this, what kind of inquiries should we make?

First Inquiry:

How can we see creation as something newly formed, something new, something that did not exist in the Creator before it was formed. How can anyone in his right mind understand that there is nothing that was not in the Creator? Simple common sense makes us acknowledge that. One cannot give if he does not have that which he is giving.

If the Creator creates something, it has to be within Him in some form. How can it be that something suddenly appeared from nothing, out of nowhere? What does it mean “out of nowhere”? Has He thought of this? Has He made any plans? What has induced Him to this? From where has he taken the material – thoughts, feelings, and actions to make the creation? Was there a point in Him from which it all began? How can it be if there was nothing within Him, no starting point? Should not there be a beginning? If so, how is it possible to imagine that we appeared not from Him, but from nothing?

I recommend that you stop and try to remember all I say. Do not make an inner effort to adapt the material and put everything within you on the right shelves. Please do not do this!

You should take it easy or it will not enter you. There is no need to be tense; study it freely, with love. Do not attempt to memorize anything! We cannot possibly remember anything of what we learn.

Suddenly we feel that we can only understand something new if it penetrates us from within, becomes our nature. Do not imitate the philosophers who have “spilled much ink” for thousands of years. Nothing has come out of it!

We should reproduce all of these actions within ourselves. When they become our inner properties, we will know, feel, and see it all. Otherwise, our useless attempts to sort this data will fail.

While studying try to concentrate on what we wish to achieve, where we want to be. The most important thing is not to know, but to at-

tract the light of correction, which would elevate us to these states. This is what we should be thinking about during our lessons.

By aspiring to one goal, we try to draw on ourselves the Surrounding light. To this end, we read what the author wrote while being on the high level of attainment where he is merged with the Creator. He wrote his books not to enlighten poor philosophers or us. He instructs us to “know the Creator and serve Him”, to adapt His actions in ourselves and become similar to Him. The result will be as King David says, “By Your actions I will know You”. This is where our focus must be. So let us stop racking our brains in vain and try activating our hearts, and most importantly the point in them.

Second Inquiry:

Can you say that, from the aspect of the Creator's almightiness, He certainly can create something from nothing, meaning something new that is not in Him?

If we say that He can do everything, then of course, He can create something from nothing, meaning something new, which is not in Him at all. Then the question arises, what kind of reality can we refer to as having no place in the Creator, but is a new formation?

Suppose that we accept our first inquiry as an axiom: yes, the Creator has created something from nothing. We are yet to come to this conclusion, but for now let us admit that we have already accomplished it. In that case, He has created something that is completely not within Him.

Then the question arises, what kind of reality can we refer to as having no place in the Creator, but is a new formation?

So what was it that the Creator decided to create, something that is not within Him and in which He felt the sudden need? Does it not follow that there is an absence of perfection in Him? That something was

missing, and now this something is in demand? Alternatively, if He was perfect before and afterwards, why has He made something new? If this is so, obviously this new “creation” has nothing to do with perfection.

Third Inquiry:

The Kabbalists say that the human soul is a part of the Creator. Therefore, there is no difference between Him and the soul.

There is a person within whom there is an animal soul, a vital force that sustains alike both animals and us. Besides this, we have a tiny particle of the Creator Himself. The soul is within us, but it is a small part from Above. When it is above, it is a small particle; when it is within us, it is already a soul.

The difference is that He is the "whole" and the soul is a "part". This resembles a stone carved from a rock. There is no difference between the stone and the rock except that the rock is a "whole" and the stone is a "part". Thus, we must ask: Although a stone carved from the rock is separated from it by an axe made for that purpose, causing the separation of the "part" from the "whole", how can one imagine that the Creator separates a part from His essence to become detached from Him, meaning a soul, to the point that it can only be understood as part of His essence?

An Axe is a *Kli*, a tool, a material force that splits a “part” from the “whole”.

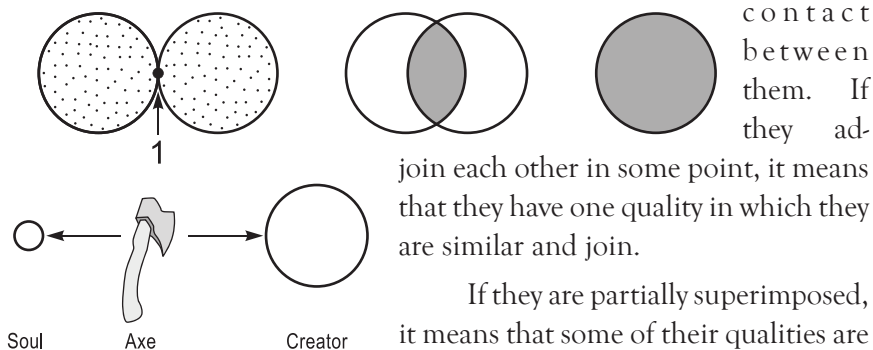
So what is the spiritual axe that cuts a part from the whole? Why does the carved off part remain unchanged with the same properties that are in the Creator? Does the Creator suffer from this process? A piece was cut from Him! Was that part of his perfection reduced? Is it possible that He became imperfect? Does He lack anything? What is the connection between a part (a soul) separated from the Creator and the Creator Himself? Alternatively, is this part completely detached from Him?

3. Fourth Inquiry:

Since the system of impure forces and the *Klipot* are so far from the Creator's purity that nothing farther remote can be conceived, how can they be emanated from the Creator, much less sustained by Him?

The Kabbalists wish to make our life easier, so they tell us everything in advance. In addition to the usual questions they ask many others, which we would never think of. Here Baal HaSulam speaks about the system of impure forces (*Klipot*) that are absolutely opposite to the Creator. He gives birth to this system of impure worlds and constantly sustains it with His purity. What connection can exist between them if they are opposite?

We say that if spiritual properties are opposite, there can be no



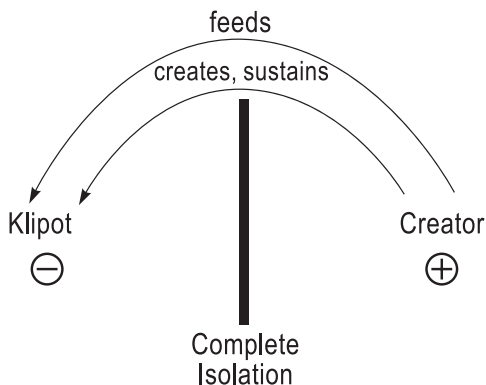
This is what happens with impure forces. There is the Creator and the *Klipot*.

Klipot are born and sustained by the Creator, whereas in fact they are completely separated from each other. How can this be? The Creator creates and sustains *Klipot* while at the same time being completely sepa-

rated from them. This question demands an explanation.

Fifth Inquiry refers to the “resurrection of the dead”.

Baal HaSulam says there is a state called “resurrection of the dead”. We should agree upon definitions: by “the soul”, we mean bestowal or the intention of bestowal. By “the body”, we mean the *Guf* of the *Partzuf* or desire. By “resurrection of the dead”, we mean rising of the dead bodies (desires).



Since the body is so despicable, it is doomed to perish and to be buried.

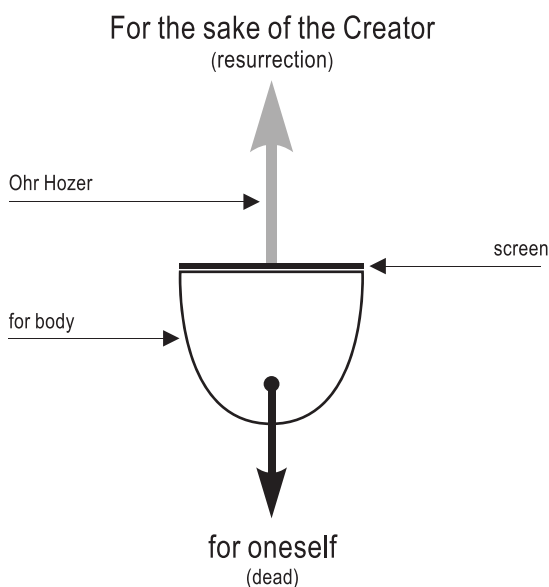
What does it mean, “doomed to perish” and “to be buried”? By the body, we mean desires from the moment of birth, because they have

Soul	= intention to bestow
Body	= desires

egoistical intentions. “Doomed to perish,” means to be completely cut off from the light, become dead. The person considers his “desires with egoistic intentions” to be dead. He is neither able nor willing to use them, wants to bury them. After that, the desires go through corrections, i.e., the intention for one’s own sake (which is the intention of the *Klipot*) is transformed into the intention for the sake of the Creator, for the sake of bestowal. This process is called a resurrection of the dead bodies.

The body (of desires) does not change. Only the intention does. The body itself is neutral. There is the egoistical intention “for one’s own sake” or the screen that generates *Ohr Hozer* (Reflected light), the intention “for the sake of the Creator”. The intention “for one’s own

sake” is called *Klipa*. The intention “for the sake of the Creator” is called *Kedusha*. We need to come to the point when the intention “for one’s own sake” will be dead in us. If we achieve the intention “for the sake of the Creator”, that will be the resurrection.



Let us look at what Baal HaSulam writes. While reading the text without commentaries, one may think of fairy tales about the resurrection of dead bodies that arise from the graves and wander around.

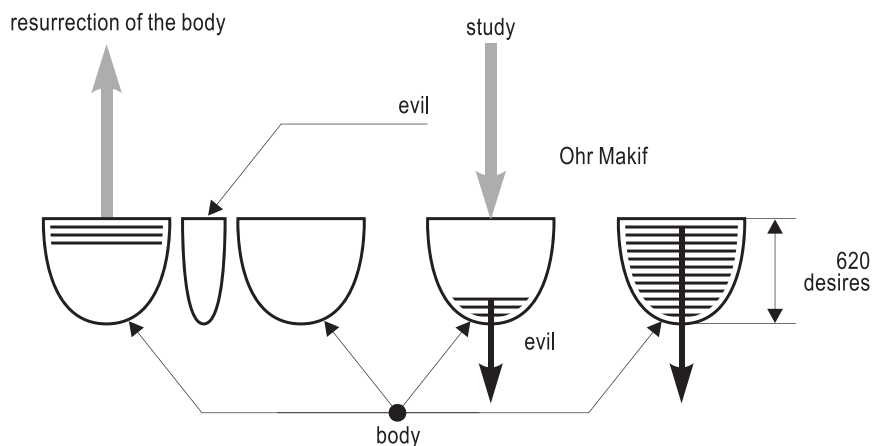
Why then does the body return and rise at the “resurrection of the dead”? Could the Creator not delight the souls without it?

Baal HaSulam’s question concerns neither the body nor the soul, but rather the reason why we have to go through all these transformations. Why do we have to stay in *Klipot* until we consider them dead and bury them, until they are completely decomposed? We can use the body (desire) and start working on this desire “for the sake of the Creator” only after we free ourselves from the egoistical intention.

Let us suppose that I have a desire with initially egoistic intentions, everything for my own sake. This is my first state. My second state is when under the influence of the Higher Light that I draw upon myself by reading Kabbalistic texts, these desires begin to gradually leave me. I begin to feel my condition as evil and it slowly comes out of me. I sense that they (desires) are dying and reach the condition when I am com-

pletely free of them. On my next level, I begin to adopt the Creator’s properties and aspire to Him. This is called resurrection of the body.

By “the body” we always mean the desire. It remains the same; nothing happens to it, only the intention changes. The body always consists of the same desires. I always have 620 desires in my body.



By and large, we can easily understand this. The question always arises about another matter. Why are we bound to receive bad intentions “for our own sake” to begin with? Why should we see them as bad, and then wish to be completely free of them and finally begin to acquire good intentions?

Baal HaSulam says:

Why then does the body return and rise at the “resurrection of the dead”? Could the Creator not delight the souls without it?

Why can we not receive good properties from the beginning and be one with the Creator at once? Why do we have to discover Him through bad properties?

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Furthermore, the Zohar says that before the body rots entirely, the soul cannot ascend to its place in Heaven, while there are still remnants of it. That is until all intentions “for one’s own sake” disappear; the soul will not be resurrected and merged with the Creator in the similarity of properties.

Even more bewildering is what our sages said of the dead bodies that are destined to rise with their flaws, so that they will not be mistaken for others.

Although we say that the bodies, desires, death, and resurrection refer to intentions, one still finds it extremely difficult to perceive it correctly.

There arises a question: Why should we go through it all? Mortification of our intentions seems clear enough. Transformation of the intention “for one’s own sake” into the intention “for the sake of the Creator” is clear too. The problem is different: unless the bodies remain in their flaws, we will not be able to make them similar to the Creator.

The Creator will then cure their flaws. We ought to understand why it is important to Him that they will not be mistaken for other bodies...

Someone should know if the body is different or not; only after that will the Creator correct and revives it. When we reach the stage called “resurrection of the dead bodies” (our dead desires), we clearly understand that this is our body and nothing has changed in it except one thing: the realization that we rid ourselves from our past intentions and now we wish to obtain the intention for the sake of the Creator. As it is said, the Creator then cures their flaws.

We ought to understand why it is so important to the Creator that they will not be mistaken for other bodies that he would recreate their flaws and then cure them.

Besides the resurrection of the body, there should be a realization of flaws. When they are dead and we have none of them left in us, we

should then retrieve them, have them manifest within us in order to give each of them up and correct it.

What does this process look like?

I initially have egoistical intentions, on which I perform a *Tzimtzum* (Restriction). I have no desire to be in any way connected with them. I get rid of them and remain empty. After the *Tzimtzum*, how can I correct them in me?

After I buried all of these dead intentions and they decomposed completely I now begin to resurrect them. I have gained strength and acquired a screen. While excavating each of my egoistical intentions from the ground I say: “Here is my true original property – the intention for my own sake. Now I will transform this intention “for my own sake” into the intention “for the sake of the Creator”.

In other words, my egoistical intention comes back to life, and I correct it into a positive one, because I need to make a *Tzimtzum* on the way.

Previously all of my past intentions were 100% negative, so I eliminate them. I remain empty, i.e., I stop using any of my intentions, and let them “decay”. I then resurrect them. In what form? I revive them in a negative form, although not the entire 100%. I correct just 1%, and gradually reach 100%.

1. 100% —————→ realization of evil
2. emptiness —————→ TA + screen
3. resurrection —————→ from 1 to 100%
4. correction

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- 1 - I come to the realization of evil;
- 2 - I remain empty, perform *Tzimtzum Aleph*.

The person must go through these stages. Resurrection of the dead should take place in him after he executed *Tzimtzum* and obtained the screen.

Let us read it again.

Fifth Inquiry refers to the “resurrection of the dead”.
Since the body is so despicable, it is doomed to perish and to be buried.

This includes a complete realization of evil, of my primordial egoistical desires.

Why then does the body return and rise at the “resurrection of the dead” (after I buried it and it remained empty)? Could the Creator not delight the souls without it?

No, He cannot.

Furthermore, the Zohar says that before the body rots entirely (until all of my desires die and rot in the ground), the soul cannot ascend to its place in Heaven, while there are still remnants of it (I will not be able to fill myself with the light).

Even more bewildering is what our sages said of the dead bodies that are destined to rise with their flaws...

Why should I revive all of my negative desires? This seemingly returns me to my negative properties.

... so that they will not be mistaken for others. I should admit that all of them are my natural properties.

The Creator will then cure their flaws. I should realize that I would never be able to cure these flaws by myself. They can only be cured if I realize them as evil and ask the Creator for a remedy.

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We ought to understand why it is so important to the Creator that they will not be mistaken for other bodies that he would recreate their flaws and then cure them (why should these desires be the same as before?).

We should comprehend the resurrection of the dead in this manner alone, and the way it should be realized.

Therefore, little by little we become accustomed to Baal HaSulam's writings and try to understand the flow of his thoughts. We just need to absorb all that we read. It does not matter how much of it we comprehend. We simply wish to be close to him. To the extent of our desire, the light will descend upon us from the level on which he explains it all.

Our will to be on that level is called "understanding", "attainment". While studying "The Introduction to the Study of the Ten *Sefirot*", we read the well-known paragraph 155. It says, "The *Ohr Makif* shines upon the person who wants to attain the higher level. Such an attainment can only be achieved if we ascend to it and become a part of that level".

When we speak about spiritual forms, objects, conditions, actions and states, let us try to be on that level, and not on the level of this world. Leave your "head" in this world. You should simply try to rise there with your desire. This effort will stimulate the emanation, the release of the Higher Light that will elevate us there. One must learn to work with the heart, not with the head.

Sixth Inquiry

Our sages said that man is the center of reality, that the Upper Worlds and this corporeal world and everything in them were not created but for him (The Zohar, Taxriya, 40).

Man is in the center of the universe.

[The Kabbalists] obliged man to believe that the world had been created for him (Sanhedrin, 37). It is seemingly hard to grasp, that for this small human...

By his material size, and by his power in this world, in this universe, man is utterly insignificant. Whatever level we take (vegetative, animal or human), he does not represent something special. In comparison with his poor nature, he is more selfish and evil. So what is his advantage?

Moreover, for what does he need this entire Universe?

Concerning man's value in comparison with the Universe, Baal HaSulam says:

He who grasps no more than a wisp of this world's reality, much less of the Upper Worlds, whose height is immeasurable, the Creator troubled Himself to create all this for him. Yet why would man want all that?

Vast, endless galaxies and spiritual worlds: why is all of this necessary? If it is made for man, at some point he has to use it, manage it, and somehow establish contact with it. However, where is he on this Earth with its various cataclysms? Where is he in our small (compared to others) galaxy, in this entire infinite universe? If we take our entire universe, our world in comparison with Upper Worlds, it is a tiny disappearing particle in the Infinity.

In the upshot, man, the only intelligent, yet the worthless being in our universe, is the center of all worlds! He is destined to command them in the future. It depends on man in what condition they will be. The Kabbalists say that he is directly connected with them. Is he in this state now? For what does he need it? What does he gain from it?

Why was it created for man?

Why did the Creator make it so that the person cannot comprehend what he can gain if he rules over the entire universe and all the Upper Worlds? He feels no need of this to be happy. However, all of this is created for man. Only by using it will he achieve the ultimate state.

This is the last inquiry we have to make. If we complete this research, we will be able to answer the questions that Baal HaSulam raised

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at the beginning of this Introduction and understand why we need the Book of Zohar. This is only the Foreword to the book.

Afterwards, while reading the Book of Zohar, we will know what we should do with the help of the book in order to attain all of these states.

4. In order to understand these questions and inquiries, one should start by looking at the end, i.e., at the purpose of creation. For nothing can be understood in the middle of the process, but only at its end.

This is a necessary condition. If we want to understand something, we should be sure to know what is going to be at the end. Yet how can we know this? In our world, we do not know about any state beforehand. Could we possibly harm ourselves if we had known the outcome in advance? How could we do anything if we had not anticipated some benefit?

Our problem is that we never know the end in anything. The only thing we know in this small animate world is to give advice to our children: “do this, don’t do that”. However, they do not listen to us. In our life, we cannot see the end of the next level or its consequences. We normally act without listening to others, and our children do not listen to us, even though we know exactly the right answer. In addition, the entire humanity does the same.

How can we agree with this thought of Baal HaSulam: *in order to understand these questions and inquiries one should start by looking at the end of the action, i.e., at the purpose of creation.* The purpose is the result for the sake of which the creation was created.

For nothing can be understood in the middle of the process, but only at its end.

This is true. The Creator looks at us from “the end of creation”, not from its beginning.

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He conceives all of His with regard to us and draws us closer to Himself. That is a perfect approach. I am unable to do that in our world. If I only knew in advance the results of what I am doing now and could make corrections to improve it; if I could know the result and see that I should not wish it, there would be nothing better. Yet how can I achieve that?

“The Study of the Ten *Sefirot*” describes in the following way: our spiritual advancement depends on the condition called “*Olamcha Tireh be Hayecha*” (lit. You will see your world in your life time).

It is said: “will see,” and not “will receive”. Even on this level, the person can see the future world (his future state) from afar. When he does, he can justify his path, receive energy, understanding and strength to rise above his egoistical desires, to acquire “the desire to bestow” and to work on his correction.

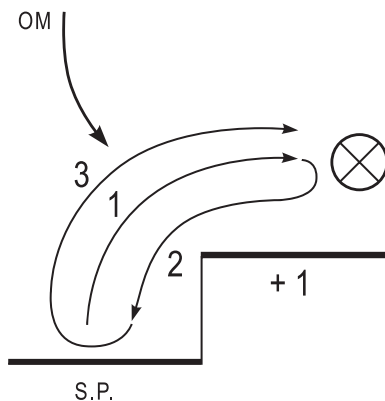
“Foreseeing the purpose of creation” and planning your actions and steps from that level is a compulsory condition. Without it, we will never make any correct move and our spiritual life would be exactly the same as our life in this world. The spiritual life does not tolerate things like that.

Every time I find myself in an initial position, I am obliged to ascend to the next state “plus one”, to the next level. I have no clue how to do this and I do not know what my condition is going to be pertaining to this level. I need to see it in advance (1), and after that decide upon my actions (2). Only then can I work on it (3). This is the only way to do things right.

If I commence to act without knowing my next state, it will always be fallacious, because from the level I am on now, with my intellect and knowledge, I cannot possibly know what is on the next level, because it is higher. In the initial position, everything that I have in me is opposite to this level because here I am a big egoist. There I am a big altruist, but I do not desire it at all.

Based upon the prerequisites, principles, and desires that I have in me I cannot imagine my future. It is so opposite to me that whatever I imagine as being there is unattainable. My nature would not allow me to do this. However, even if it did, I would not aspire to it. I would keep away from it.

That is why I somehow need to see my next level. I need to understand and accept it inside of me. I should ask the Creator to help me from Above, to give me the *Ohr Makif*, so that in my third action I would move up to a higher level.



If I do not do that, I would advance in the spiritual world in the same way as in our world, making unsuccessful attempts all the time. Every next step of mine would be less successful than the previous one. Instead of ascending, I would go down more and more. Therefore, Baal HaSulam writes:

One should start by looking at the end, i.e., at the purpose of creation. For nothing can be understood in the middle of the process, but only at its end. Moreover, it is clear that there is no act without purpose, for only the insane can be found to act purposelessly.

People always act with a purpose, so if I wish to ascend spiritually, this should become my purpose. I should acquire new strength, intellect, and properties, which I do not have. I cannot do this with my present properties.

I know that there are “know-alls” who scorn the method of Kabbalah (who believe that they know better ways), saying the Creator created reality, but then left it to the mercy of fate; because of the worthlessness of the creatures, it is not fitting for the exalted Creator to watch over their petty

little ways. Had the Creator left me here, I would have never been able to rise to the next level. Why?

Indeed, without knowledge they have spoken, for it is not possible to comment on our nothingness and lowliness before we decide that we have created ourselves with all our tarnished natures. But while we decide that the Creator, who is perfect in every way, is the one who created and designed our bodies (our properties), with all their admirable and contemptible attributes, surely from under the hand of the perfect worker there cannot emerge an imperfect act, since each act testifies to its performer. What fault is it of a bad garment, if some no-good tailor made it?

Of course, this is the tailor's fault. If we have some bad properties, it is clear to us that it is the Creator's fault. Here Baal HaSulam offers us a parable from the Talmud (*Ta'anit* 20).

This is a tale of Rabbi Elazar, the son of Rabbi Shimon, who came before a most ugly man...

Rabbi Shimon wrote "The Book of Zohar". His son was one level higher than Rabbi Shimon was. Having reached the level of his father, he found an even uglier, lower level in himself. It was so ugly that he could not help saying (to himself): "You are so ugly!" The man replied, "Go and tell the craftsman who made me – how ugly is this instrument you have made".

If you have a grudge against some of your properties, turn to the Creator. He is the One who created them and He is the One who would correct them.

Hence, those who claim that because of our nothingness and lowliness, it is not fitting for Him to watch over us, and therefore He has left us, do nothing more than publicly display their ignorance. Try to imagine, if you had met some man who would create creatures precisely so that they would suffer and agonize their whole lives as we do. Not only that, but he cast them behind his back, not wanting

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even to look after them, to help them a little. How contemptible and low would you regard him? Can such a thing be thought of Him?

The paradox we see here remains a paradox so far.

5. Therefore, common sense... (Baal HaSulam tells us about it from the level he reached) dictates that we grasp the opposite of what appears to be on the surface...(what can be seen with the naked eye) and decide that we are truly noble and worthy creatures...

Indeed, we are so huge, so great, we can rule over our entire world and the spiritual worlds that are in absolute harmony with the Creator, in complete likeness with Him. We are truly in this state, but we feel just a tiny part of it that is called “this world”. Indeed, we are now in a perfect, great state.

There is no end to our immeasurable importance; we are actually worthy of our Maker. For if you wish to find faults in our bodies, then behind all the excuses that you give yourself, it falls only on the Creator who created us and the nature within us. For it is clear that He created us.

He also knows all the ways that stem from our nature and the attributes He created in us. It is as we have said that we have to contemplate the end of the act. Then we will be able to understand it all. As the saying goes: “Do not show a fool an unfinished work”.

Because of our lessons, you will see the answers to all the inquiries and questions and all that will be left for you to do is realize it all. I hope that it will be a result of our studying. What is necessary for that? I repeat, by no means should you consider Kabbalah as a usual science. Though Kabbalah is a science, it instructs you how to correct yourself and achieve eternity and perfection.

This is why the work of your mind is insufficient. You ought to desire your own changes with your heart and be on the level where Baal HaSulam is. He is teaching us now from that high level.

Question: I see my defects and try to correct them. I turn to the Creator, the only One who can correct them. I understand the method. The question is how can I speed up the process?

Everything you do is correct and, by the way, you actually do nothing. Why? It is because eventually, under the influence of suffering, and of contemplation, you would have found it necessary to turn to the Creator.

Our problem is in shortening time. In the chain that we should pass, we can only control time. All we can do is speed up the process with the help of a group. You need additional forces to turn to the Creator, so that the Creator would correct you more intensely.

This additional strength can come from your friends, who have the same purpose and agree to interact with you to join all forces to turn to the Creator. This is the only means available, and without it, you cannot accelerate your development.

In the end, the realization of all our actions comes to one thing: how to make our group more direct, more serious, and more intense. Strive to make your friends from the group like fighters who are always standing for our idea, for the Goal. You will then see how many states you go through in one day and you will have enough strength to do that. In just a few weeks, you will not recognize yourself. You will reach much higher levels!

It depends on all groups and on each separate group. Every group will get as much as it puts into the whole process.

Question: Can I see the next step?

I can see it, but only in a way that seeing it would not affect me negatively and I would not wish it selfishly, for myself. How can I adopt the next spiritual level in order to receive strength from it, to have the method of correction so that it will not obstruct my personal ascent? I want it to remain in me, as my own properties, as if I create this next level

within myself. After all, I need to become similar to the Creator. This similarity means creating me on the next level, giving birth to myself.

To this end, I need to get the material for my birth from the next level. It means desires and strength to turn them into properties of bestowal. I am still very small, but I acquire my spiritual form. I can only obtain this from the *AHP* of the higher level. Hence, we perceive the *AHP* of the higher level in different variations; now luminous, now devoid of the light. We should stick to it, because it is our Creator. This is how we see Him. We should constantly cling to Him like a leech regardless of how bad or good, repulsive or attractive He may seem in our feelings; we simply must hold on to Him all the time.

A group can play a very important role in this. It always reminds me of what I need to do. I need a group alarm clock. This is not the kind of an alarm clock you carry on your wrist and fail to pay attention to. If your group were constantly thinking about it, you would always remember the goal and aspire to it. This way you would hold on to the *AHP* of the higher level so fast that it will pull you in against your will.

There is no other alternative. Our main task is to overcome this first level, because reaching it means crossing the *Machsom*. Afterwards, we already begin to feel the Creator. This is a very different kind of work.

Only group work can help, when all its members constantly strive to stay on this higher level. It does not matter how we imagine it. We should be obsessed with the Creator; only this will lead us to the Goal.

Question: Why did the perfect Creator have to create something? Was it perhaps in order to achieve even greater perfection?

He did it to bestow.

Question: How can we see our future state? Without seeing, there is no ascent, yet we cannot see!

We should accept it without seeing, because it comes from the Creator, not because we see and like it. In other words, we should ac-

cept it in our vessels of bestowal, in the intention “for the sake of the Creator”, because He desires it. We need to ask for strength to accept it without seeing.

Question: My next level is opposite to me. Does it mean that what I can “see in this life” happens to be just a tiny part of the level closest to my properties? Otherwise, it will repel me and not attract me.

This is precisely why the revelation of the *AHP* of the higher level is defined as a spiritual downfall. If the person realizes that, he immediately finds strength to master this *AHP*.

6. Our sages said: “The Creator created the world for no other reason, but to bestow delight upon His creatures (i.e., the sages, who attain the Creator, know His thoughts). Here is where we must place our mind and heart, for it is the final aim of the act of the creation of the world.

Baal HaSulam says that one sentence “*The Creator created the world to bestow delight upon His creatures*” contains the thought, the act, and the end of the creation. Apparently, that is why he suggests that we should reflect on this phrase. What he actually means is that at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of all the actions that take place in the world, however noble or mean they may seem, on all their levels and in all their combinations, they pursue only one goal: to bestow delight upon the creatures. There is no other motive in any of the Creator’s actions.

In addition, we must bear in mind that, since the thought of creation is to bestow to His creatures, He had to create in the souls a great amount of desire to receive that which He had thought to give. For the measure of any delight depends on the measure of the will to receive it. The greater is the will to receive, the greater the pleasure, and the lesser the will, the lesser the pleasure from reception.

We know it from our own experience in this world. I may sit at a table beautifully laid with most exquisite delicacies, but I can enjoy it

only to the extent of my desire. Therefore, we say that the Creator's light fills the entire creation. We are inside this ocean of light, and we shall feel it only in our desire for this light, for its property, for the delight of bestowal.

It is quite natural that if we do not feel anything now, it means that we have no desire whatsoever for this light of bestowal. Nevertheless, the Creator preinstalled in us an enormous desire to receive delight perfectly matched to His desire to bestow.

Therefore, the thought of creation itself dictates the presence of an excessive will to receive in the souls, to fit the immense pleasure that the Creator thought to bestow upon them. For the great delight and the great desire to receive must go hand in hand.

7. *Once we have learned that, we have come to understand the second inquiry to its fullness, and with complete clarity. For we have learned what is the reality that one can base clear decisions on, that is not a part of His essence, but constitutes a new creation. Now that we know for sure that the thought of creation is to bestow to His creatures, He necessarily created a measure of desire to receive from Him the bounty and delight that he had planned for them. Thus, we see that the will to receive certainly was not a part of His essence before He had created it in the souls, because He can receive from no one. He created a novelty that is absent in Him.*

Along with that, we understand, according to the thought of creation, that there was no need to create anything more than the will to receive. For this new creation is sufficient for Him to fulfill the entire plan – to bestow delight upon someone (if this someone exists as a will to receive pleasure). Since the Creator's desire is to bestow delight, He is in need of a will to receive delight. We happen to represent this will.

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However, all the filling in the thought of creation, meaning all the benefits He had planned to render us, stem directly from His essence. They are emanated from His very first thought – to create beings and bestow delight upon them.

He has no need to recreate them, since they are already extracted from the great will to receive that is in the souls. Thus, we clearly see that the whole matter of the renewed creation, from start to end, is only the "will to receive".

This is all we can imagine, except the perceived pleasure, i.e., the Creator Himself. Consequently, whatever or whomever we may speak about, on any levels of development (still, vegetative, animal and human nature), whether fields, bodies, emanations, spirits, or anything that exists in our world and in all the others (from tiny insects to vast galaxies), be it information, force, plasmic or other forms of creation – they are all created and constitute no more than a desire to receive pleasure.

There is nothing like it in the Creator; He made it out of nothing, sustains and fills all. Our life is but the Creator's microscopic filling. We are filled with one billionth of His light and we call it our life.

If we perceive Him clearer, we will feel Him, not what He emanates. We will then define ourselves as being in the spiritual world. That is, all that happens in us is a result of our sensation of the Creator. We should never forget about it, because our life, thoughts and everything good or bad in our hearts and minds is no more than the sensation of the Creator.

Therefore, if we wish to change our state, we just need to change our connection with Him, reach a different level of contact with Him.

8. After the previously mentioned, we have come to understand the third inquiry. We wondered how it was possible to say about souls that they were a part of the Creator, like a stone that is carved from a rock. There is no difference between them except that one is

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a 'part' and the other is a 'whole'. It seemed strange: it is one thing to say that the stone that is carved from the rock becomes separated by an axe made for that purpose, but can you say that about the Creator's essence? In addition, with what were the souls divided from His essence and excluded from the Creator to become creatures? From the above we clearly understand that, just as an axe cuts and divides a physical object in two, so the spiritual change of form divides it in two.

If a certain property of mine begins to change with regard to another property, this transformed attribute instantly (to the extent of the inconsistency between the two properties) begins to move away from the original one and may even become opposite to it. This is how the souls are separated from the Creator.

That is, the Creator originally created a desire, filled it with Himself, whereupon it started moving farther and farther away from Him, until it became completely opposite to Him.

For example, when two people love each other, we say that they merge with each other as one body. When they hate each other, we say that they are as far from one another as the east is from the west. However, it is not a question of near or far in this case.

We define people in our world as close or distant to one another by the proximity between their bodies. On the other hand, we may speak about affinity or estrangement between the souls.

Here the matter concerns the equivalence of properties, when each loves what the other loves and hates what the other hates (i.e., if they refer to all of their qualities in the same way), they become lovers (similar in their properties) and merge with one another. If there is some change of form between them, meaning that one of them likes something that the other hates, then to the extent that they differ in form, they become distant and hateful to one another. And if, for

example, they are opposite in form, meaning that everything one likes is hated by the other, and everything he hates is liked by the other, they are deemed as far away from each other as the east is from the west, meaning from one end to the other.

There is not a single common property that would connect them. No contact is possible unless these properties partially coincide. Sometimes people quarrel, then they make up. This way they test the contact between them, share various properties, both similar and dissimilar.

If they are opposite, there is not even the slightest chance for a contact. Such is our initial contrast with the Creator today.

The revelation of the Creator within us is the purpose of our studies.

9. Thus, in spirituality, the dissimilarity of properties acts as an axe in our world, dividing the material. The degree of divergence is determined by the measure of dissimilarity of properties.

I need not pay attention to anything else - neither to my parameters, nor to the parameters of the Creator, nor to any additional conditions. I should think only of one thing: "How can I more closely resemble Him? To that extent I shall discover Him and I shall feel His filling in me. In that measure I shall receive the sensation of pleasure, light, life, eternity, and perfection".

And from here we will understand that, since the [egoistical] desire to receive pleasure is inherent to souls, and as it is already discovered by us that this property is not completely present in the Creator, we can conclude that precisely this dissimilarity of properties (egoistical desire to receive pleasure), which the souls acquired - acts as an axe, separating them from the Creator. Therefore, it is through this difference of properties that the soul separated from the Creator and became to be known as "created".

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Until the soul feels its complete separation from the Creator, it is impossible to speak of the existence of creation. At that point, it is still simply the desire to take pleasure, which has not left the Creator and was not separated from Him to become something existing quite independently. Therefore, looking at the world around us, at the 7 billion "homo sapiens", we cannot say that these are creations (and even more so, we can neither say that about the inanimate, vegetative, and animal levels, because they do not have a sensation of contrast to the Creator).

At present, we also lack this property, this analysis. The first thing we must accomplish is this so-called "comprehension of evil" (*Akarat HaRah*), as it is the comprehension of the polar inverse to the Creator. This is where the creation begins. As soon as we reach it in all our primordial properties, we shall feel, together with the property, how opposite it is to the Creator. Then this property is discerned as independent, completely remote, cut off, chopped off from Him with this axe (this change from the Creator). It therefore already considers itself the creation.

However, everything that souls attain from the light of the Creator is received from the essence of the Creator, from what is existing. In the light of the Creator that is received in the Kli (the soul, the will to receive), there is no difference from the Creator's essence. In fact, it comes directly from the Creator as from something existent. The entire distinction between the souls and the Creator's essence is no more than that the souls are just a part of the essence of the Creator. That measure of light received inside of the desire to take pleasure, (that part which was torn off from the Creator since I am not completely similar to Him), separates from the Creator by a dissimilarity of properties, takes the form of being separated from the whole, and is referred to as a soul. In fact there is no difference between them except that one is the whole, while the other being its part, is as a stone chiseled from a rock.

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Ponder upon the depth of the above-mentioned, since it is impossible to explain further this exalted matter.

Nonetheless, we shall try to add a few words regarding the matter.

The most harmless perception about creation is to perceive ourselves existing in the most perfect final state, because that is the only thing created by the Creator, the only one in which we exist. It is only for us that the perception is the final state, as though there were an initial state and an intermediate state. Actually, it is the only existing condition. That is, when the Creator conceived to create creations, His idea instantly became action.

The fact that we are inside of the Creator, completely filled with the light of Infinity, is a concealment. Actually, this is our natural, unique, and true condition. If this is how we perceive it, then another relationship becomes clear - how to discover the measure of connection between us. I am in a static condition completely filled with the Creator, and what separates me from the Creator (prevents the feeling of closeness to the Creator) is my egoism, my internal desire, which is opposite to His desire. Only to the degree in which I can change my internal desire, my direction, will I at once start to feel the Creator, to feel myself as filled with another kind and measure of life.

The small measure of the sensation of the Creator which is in us, named "*Ner Dakik*" ("*Ner*" - "candle", "*Dakik*" - from a word "*Dak*" - very thin, minute part), is a portion of light that enables us to exist in the biological, animal state we are in.

If we can change a measure of light in us, we cardinaly change our life - it takes life to the next level, and the greater measure of light in us, the higher the level. The only thing we should do is to let the light that is in us do its work, open ourselves and let it shine in us. We can facilitate this process only from our attitude to the Creator, from our likening to Him. Therefore, ascending spiritual levels is no mechanical

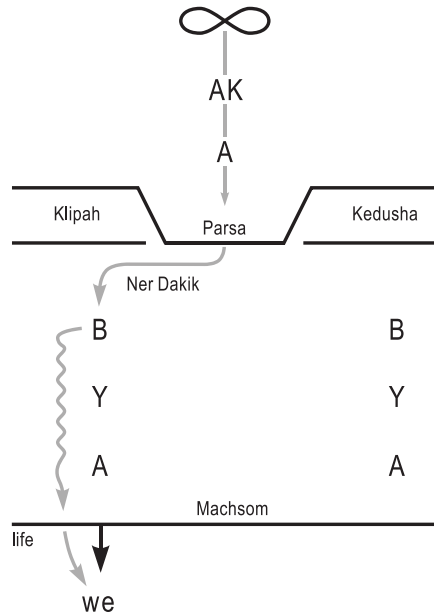
movement. Rather it is an inner increased likening to the light, a sensation of a full, perfect, and eternal life.

One should not merely receive that small particle of light that only supports the animal condition of existence. Rather, we should receive the large portion of light that would sustain one in a condition of life above the biological body; that is the challenge to us.

The following step, the next portion of the light that we receive, will already be spiritual light, and it will already take us on a level of spiritual existence. That is what one should imagine clearly today.

10. Now the opportunity presents itself to understand the fourth inquiry. How is it possible that the system of impure forces and Klipot come from the purity of the Creator? Since in fact it is extremely distant from His purity, how is it possible that the Creator would fill and sustain it?

Moreover, we can imagine the worlds from top down, AK (the world of Infinity), then Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, Assiya (the pure worlds) and Beria, Yetzira, Assiya (Klipot). The Parsa is under the world of Atzilut, and our world is under the Klipot. That which enters from Malchut of the world of Atzilut through all the worlds and comes to the impure worlds, refers to *Ner Dakik* (a small candle, a small luminescence). When the *Ner Dakik* descends to the *Machsom* and reaches us, we receive what is referred to as “our life”.



That is, all that fills, supports, revives and pulls us forward in our world, we receive through the system of impure forces.

Baal HaSulam asks, "How can it be that a property at such a spiritual level as the Creator's - complete bestowal - creates impure desires, including us, who are the lowest, and the most insignificant of them? Not only are they created by Him, but He also fills them, albeit with small light. Furthermore, He constantly sustains them and maintains contact".

Let us clarify the question; How can it be that the Creator acts this way? This question arises from the point of view of our previous definition. If we say that in the spiritual world such categories as merging, separation, rapprochement, and remoteness occur to the extent of the similarity of properties, it means there is no connection between the Creator and this system, since the system of impure forces is absolutely antithetical to the Creator. So how could He have created it?

Suppose there was a non-recurring act of birth. However, there is no such concept in the spiritual, since everything exists there permanently, (i.e., born, filled, and sustained permanently). This is unlike our world where there is an event of creation after which the body exists and subsequently dies. It exists and dies precisely because the act of creation has ended. In the spiritual world, it is different. Everything that occurs there is constantly sustained, and therefore eternal. All actions exist constantly at all levels.

Therefore, if the Creator has created impure forces, sustains and supports them, this would contradict the previous conclusion. How is one to reconcile this?

First, it is necessary to understand the essence of the system of impure forces and Klipot. Know that the huge desire to receive that we spoke about is the essence of the created souls. This desire is ready to receive all the fulfillment that is in the plan of creation; and, it

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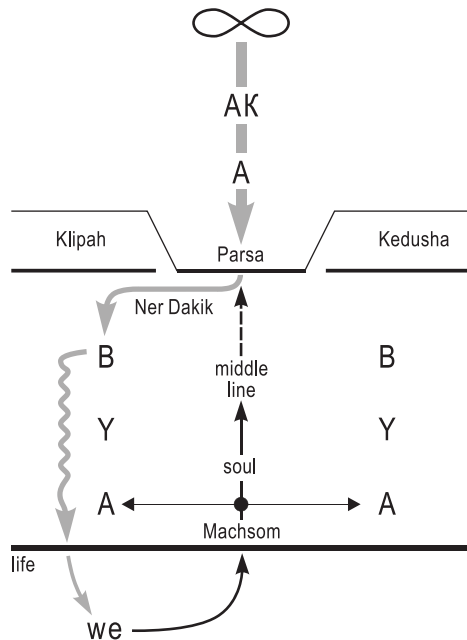
does not remain in the souls in the same form, for if it remained in them permanently (in a form which is antithetical to the Creator) the souls would be forever separated from the Creator. This difference of properties would forever cut them off from the Creator.

To correct this initial remoteness from the Creator, He has created the worlds and has divided them into two systems: the four pure worlds of ABYA and the four impure worlds of ABYA.

Moreover, He has positioned the soul between them.

In our ascent, we constantly choose the middle line - the overlapping of pure and impure forces. The soul ascends to the Creator precisely on this middle line.

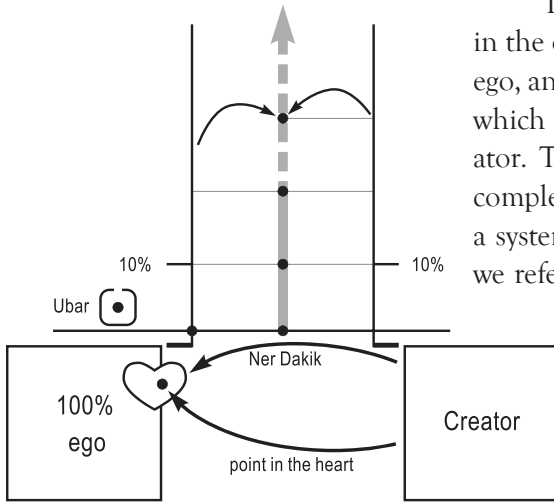
Having created the system of impure and pure forces, this initial huge, impure egoism opposite to Himself, He also creates a system with which we can transform this egoism - having retained all the same desires and only having corrected their intention. Therefore, it turns out that, while ascending the middle ladder from one level to another between the two systems of pure and impure forces (egoistical and altruistic), we choose how to act.



We take from the egoistical system, from our essence, whatever we can, to adapt all our desires to the Creator and to ascend.

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Let us consider a simple example.



There are two systems: "I" in the original form - an absolute ego, and a system opposite to me, which we agree to call the Creator. They are opposite and are completely divided. Between us is a system of communication that we refer to as the system of pure and impure forces.

What does it give me? To exist, I receive from Him only a small portion of the light, the *Ner Dakik*. Besides,

I receive from it a so-called point in the heart. By receiving *Ner Dakik*, I revive my heart.

Having received a point in the heart, after a number of efforts, I arrive at a certain baseline level. On this zero level called "*Ubar*" (embryo), one can compare himself to all the properties of the Creator only as a tiny point. It is in the middle of these properties, and it signifies that everything that I can attach to the Creator's attributes is no bigger than a point.

If I can take 10 % of my desires and assimilate them accordingly to 10 % of the Creator's desires, then the midpoint between them will be my next level. And so on. That is, I always ascend along the middle line, where I compare my egoism with the properties of the Creator, until I completely work through 100 % of my desires. Only then do I achieve 100 % likeness to the Creator.

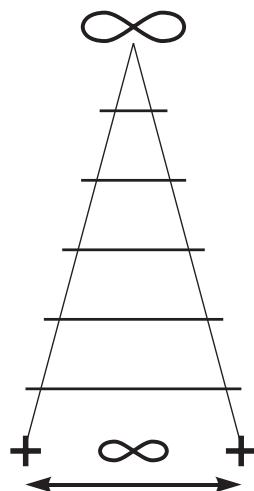
It transpires that the system of pure and impure forces has neither bad nor good in it. It only exists relative to the observer who needs these

graduated levels of his own comparisons, associations, unions (exact terminology is unimportant) with the Creator. Such an internal system exists in me for this sole purpose. These worlds do not exist outside; they are the essence of my internal structure.

With the help of such levels – these thresholds of sensitivity – one feels either more remote from the Creator or closer to Him. One cannot sense a half or a quarter of any level. Internally one is graduated in such a way that one feels only certain threshold changes in sensations, and they are referred to as steps of the worlds. Naturally, these are inside the person, for nothing exists outside. In general, we do not know what exists outside; hence, it will never exist for us. We address only that which is present inside us. This is what we feel; it is our world, our life.

Therefore, Baal HaSulam says that the Creator has created egoistical desire to receive ...and He has given over to the system of pure worlds His property to impart, and has withdrawn from them the desire to receive for the sake of oneself, and has given it over to the system of impure worlds. As a result, this system became completely separated from the Creator and from everything pure.

The Klipot are, therefore, referred to as dead and so are sinners (we, who are under them), because our desire to receive, which is opposite to the Creator, does not allow the light of a life, the light of pleasure, to manifest itself in us (therefore we only experience a small portion of this light's influence upon us, namely our animal life). In addition, we are extremely remote from the Creator, as there is no trace of a desire to receive in Him, only the property of bestowal. However, in the Klipot (and in us), there naturally is no concept of bestowal; there is only a desire to receive, the desire for selfish gratification.



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Our spiritual separation from the Creator begins with a small difference of properties with the above and ends up as a complete opposition.

We emerge in the spiritual worlds and then gradually diverge. At the level of our world, we are completely and indefinitely opposite to the Creator. By bridging the chasm between the Creator and the creation, we reach the Higher Infinity, boundless sensation of the Creator.

11. The worlds descended to the level of this world's reality, i.e., to the place where the body and the soul exist. This is the time of being uncorrected and the time of correction. The body is a will to receive, which stems from its root in the thought of creation. While passing through the system of impure worlds, it remains under the influence of this system until its correction begins.

As you know, in Kabbalah the body the body of the *Partzuf* means a will to receive pleasure. As a rule, the Kabbalist will interpret the body as the *Kli* and the soul as the light.

Quite often, both the light and the *Kli* are implied by the word “soul”, or sometimes the word “soul” is offhandedly used as the *Kli* without the light. However, normally, while studying our higher spiritual states above the level of this world, we should never think about our biological body, because it is in no way connected with our soul.

All of our properties and desires, all that we can use to influence our soul and our spiritual advancement have nothing to do with our body. The powers we wish to develop in ourselves are not biological; they are spiritual. We must receive them from Above, for only then will we be able to help our soul to ascend to the Creator. We cannot influence the state of the soul by our animal properties.

Therefore, man's properties are quite irrelevant. He may be healthy or sick, intelligent or mentally retarded, or he may possess any character traits. This does not matter at all. Nothing of what refers to our physical

body, nothing we may characterize in man as his human property concerns the spiritual. It neither affects our inner egoistical desire, which is opposite to the Creator, nor the revelation of the light in us.

In order to expose my soul, my inner part that is yet non-existent in me, to such an influence, I need to acquire new *Kelim* that would help my soul to grow and enable me to reveal the Creator in it.

The instrument for the development of my soul is called a screen. I should receive it from Above. I cannot achieve the goal with the animal properties I possess today.

The comprehension that I cannot use the instruments at my disposal, i.e., my mind, will power, even my great desire and total inability to change spiritually, are referred to as the realization of evil, awareness of the insignificance of my own nature. It is not evil in itself; I consider it faulty because it prevents me from discovering the Creator and merging with Him.

In fact, it cannot be regarded as evil; “the realization of evil” is merely a definition. When I reach this state, I really discover a miracle. I see that there is Someone I can turn to, that I can receive the Creator’s power – the light, which corrects me by endowing me with a screen.

On the one hand, the sensation of my own insignificance is called “the realization of evil”, on the other hand, it leads to the reception of a screen from Above.

Here is another definition demonstrating the absence of evil. The Kabbalists call us sinners because we exist under the system of impure forces. Actually, we are not sinners at all. How can we possibly sin, if we are absolutely unaware of it? In other words, this name is used in a purely figurative sense.

The worlds descended to the level of this world’s reality, to the place where the body and the soul exist (the Kli constitutes the impure, egoistic desires, the body and the soul are some essence, a

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tiny particle of the light, a point in the heart, the nucleus of the soul). *This is the time of being uncorrected and the time of correction* (in our world we perceive the levels of correction as a temporal factor).

Because the body, which is the egoistical will to receive, is extended from its root in the thought of creation (from the Creator – Yesh mi Ayn, something from nothing), through the system of impure worlds, and it remains under the influence of that system for the first thirteen years, which is the time of corruption.

What does it mean “the time when a person remains under the influence of the system of impure forces”? This refers to thousands and thousands of years, when we pass through certain unconscious corrections in our consecutive incarnations.

From 13 years of age and on... That is, when the desire for the spiritual ascent begins to manifest in man *through commandments*, i.e., with the help of correction of his desires. We have 620 desires within ourselves. Of course, we do not understand them at this time. Where are these desires? Perhaps we can count 10 or 20 desires, but certainly not 620. Later on, we will discover that the correction of each desire from the intention for one’s own sake to the intention for the sake of the Creator is called fulfillment of the Creator’s commandment.

If man observes it, he begins to purify his will to receive, and slowly turns it into the desire to receive delight for the Creator’s sake. Thus, the upper soul descends from its root in the thought of creation, passes through the system of pure worlds, and “dresses” in his soul.

What does it mean? *Thus the upper soul* (i.e., the true spiritual light) *from its root in the thought of creation passes through the system of pure worlds* (begins to manifest in us through the system of our gradual corrections). By correcting ourselves, we build our pure *Kli*. The light that will be revealed in it already fills it, but we cannot feel it yet.

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This is described by the words: *It passes through the system of pure worlds and “dresses” in his soul. This is called the time of correction.*

There is a preliminary period called the uncorrected state that lasts until the person receives the point in his heart. It starts pushing him towards the spiritual. From this time on the period of correction begins.

Thus, man ascends and attains the levels of the thought of creation in the Creator’s Infinity, until he can turn his desire to receive for himself into the desire to receive for the sake of the Creator.

Man gradually receives new portions of the correcting light. With the help of this light, he gradually reveals his soul and the degree of its similarity to the Creator determines the extent of this revelation. In other words, as much as he can create the screen within himself, so can he reveal his soul, his *Kli*. Man feels the light inside of this *Kli*. This is what Kabbalah defines as man’s degrees of similarity to the Creator, the levels of his spiritual ascent.

These levels help one another: the lower one helps the higher one, and the higher one helps to reveal one’s soul completely with the emerging of the Upper Light in it.

Man’s properties become equivalent to the Creator’s, since reception for the sake of giving is a “pure” form, a bestowal.

What is a revelation of the *Kli* and the light that fills it? If I wish to reveal and feel this light not for my own enjoyment, but to please the One Who filled me (when I see what delight my revelations bring to Him), then my attainment will be considered bestowal and will take place.

Man achieves complete merging with the Creator... Where does he achieve it? Inside of what he reveals. There he discovers himself, his *Kli*, his intention and the Creator who fills him. He no longer needs to look at the Creator and reveal the *Kli* – now he sees both himself and the Creator within this common thought.

Man achieves complete merging with the Creator, because the spiritual merging is nothing but equivalence of properties. Our sages asked, "How can one merge with the Creator?" – and answered their own question: "By merging with His properties".

In other words, it can be expressed this way: "I will know You from my similarity to You". That is, if I gradually reveal the Creator in accordance with my growing similarity to Him, then I will finally become exactly like Him. It turns out that the Creator's revelation, similarity to Him, correction of the *Kli*, and reception of His light are the same action.

Because of this, man discovers that there is no division between him, the action he performs and the Creator. All of this is a single, undivided whole (as if a vessel is one thing, the light filling it is another, the reaction of the vessel to the light, and that of the light to the vessel is the third). Nothing like that exists. One suddenly realizes that all of this is a single whole, indistinguishable in any way. This condition is called merging with the Creator.

12. Thus, we have clearly explained the correction of the will to receive that is imprinted in the souls by the thought of creation (imprinted in the egoistic desire to receive, which is initially inherent in us). The Creator has prepared for them two systems of worlds, one against the other, through which the souls pass and divide into two aspects, body and soul, and dress one in the other. With the help of the Kabbalistic method (that includes a gradual correction of one's desires), defined as "observing commandments", they convert the property of "reception for himself" into the property of "bestowal".

They become blessed with all the pleasures in the thought of creation. And along with it (with the sensation of this blessing) they completely merge with Him.

That is, a person neither receives the Creator's bounty nor gives Him anything, but reaches the level of the Creator, rises up to the essence - up to the Creator. The result is a paradox, but that is what happens.

"By Your actions I will know You". I receive an example (of how I should act) from Him, the screen (what to operate with), a desire and strength. By following His example, I perform the same actions that He does. This way I build the middle line: from the left side I take my egoistical desires, from the right side - His light and the screen. As much as I can make one similar to the other, I build this combination and create my middle line from it; I perform my own action.

Finally, it leads to a surprising consequence: I do not liken myself to the Creator in action, but by making my actions similar to His, I begin to understand His intention, His thoughts, and the so-called secrets of the Torah. This is called: "By Your actions I will know You". As a result, we discover that the Creator's thought is not just to fill man with some pleasure, and it does not matter that the pleasure is infinite, eternal, and perfect.

The Creator's goal is to elevate man to His Own level, higher than the initial point of his creation. As a result of becoming similar to the Creator, man ascends above the point of his birth. He rises to the higher level and reaches the Creator's thought that had existed even before He created the desire to receive pleasure from nothing.

This is the End of Correction. Since there is no longer a need for the system of impure forces, it shall be eliminated from the earth and death shall cease forever.

These allegorical expressions can seriously spoil our picture, but if we interpret them correctly and immediately apply them, then they only strengthen our knowledge and enrich this internal image.

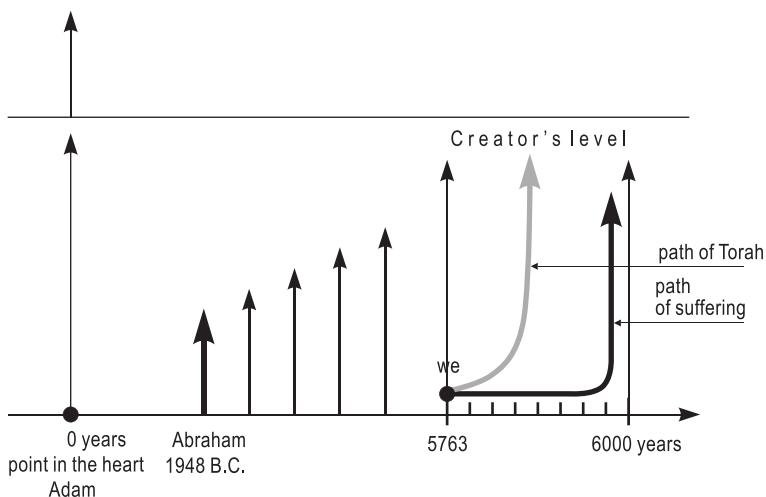
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The word “ground” alludes to the egoistical desire to receive pleasure, since it takes in, imbibes, absorbs, and decomposes all that enters into it. On the other hand, if the ground (the property of reception) is combined with water (*Bina* – the property of bestowal), and a grain is planted into it, these two properties can create the condition for the emergence of a new life.

Later we will be studying all these spiritual roots and why our world is built this way because of it.

The system of impure forces shall be eliminated from the earth (i.e., the intention for one’s own sake will disappear from the egoistical desire) and death shall cease forever (“death” means the gap between the light and the desire to receive pleasure; and as soon as the light enters the desire to receive, it gains life).

And all the work in the Torah and commandments (i.e., drawing the light, Torah comes from the word “Ohr”, “Ohra’a” – “the light”; a “commandment” means the correction of an egoistical desire) is given to the world during 6000 years of its existence...



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It is 5764 now (according to the Jewish calendar), i.e., a few hundred years from “the end of the world’s existence” according to this chronology. In the future, we will clarify what “the End of the world’s existence” means.

Let us consider into what periods these 6000 years are divided. Let us follow the development of the two axes – the spiritual and ours.

Adam is the first person who has discovered the point in his heart. What we mean is not the spiritual Adam, but a human being in this world. In about 1948 B.C. Abraham appeared. This is the period when the point in the heart did not merely appear inside a human being; it awakened and began to lead him to the Creator. Until this time, human beings existed like animals, without any aspiration to the Creator.

For the first time, the point in man’s heart manifested in Abraham. He strongly desired to merge with the Creator and revealed Him. Now the year is 5764.

During the period of 6000 years, all of humankind is obliged to reach the level of the Creator. Even before Abraham, there were some actions taken in this direction, but at that time, only the preliminary method existed. After Abraham, thousands of people have done it.

Today we can do it to enable all humankind to accomplish it quickly and without suffering, by way of Kabbalah, i.e., by way of the light. If we do not help humankind quickly to pass through the period of realization of evil and to aspire to the Creator, humanity will advance by way of suffering.

Baal HaSulam writes, “These few hundred years may be very critical. They might bring terrible destructions, nuclear wars and immense calamities as a result of which only a small number of people will remain on the Earth. But they will execute the program of the creation; they will include all the other souls.”

We can help the rest of the people to accelerate this process, to pass through this period painlessly and comfortably.

And all the work in the Torah and commandments that are given to the world during 6000 years of its existence and to each person for the duration of his seventy years of life, are only in order to bring them to the end of correction, to the equivalence of form and merging with the Creator.

So we have clarified how the system of impure forces and the Klipot (shells) emerged from the Creator's purity and exists at His expense. It was bound to happen for the creation of bodies (i.e., egoistical desires) that will later be corrected by the light (the Torah) and with the help of the screen (observing the commandments).

Unless our bodies had been created with the uncorrected (egoistical) desires by the system of the Klipot, we would have had no opportunity to correct them (i.e., man would never have been able to realize his own "I" and reach the Creator's level by himself).

Instead, it would be the same solitary point existing in this infinite light, not as an independent being, but as a desire made by the Creator that does not exist by itself.

Question: Is there any practical method for strengthening the contact with the Creator? Is it possible to merge with Him during this life?

Kabbalah is a practical method of increasing contact with the Creator called a revelation. While existing in our world as we are, a chance just to hear about this idea, this method, already enables us to implement it in this life, i.e., to merge completely with the Creator. We can reveal the entire reality in such a way that we will stop feeling any transition between life and death of our biological body. We can now ascend to the world of Infinity and exist on its highest level.

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This is not only the question of increasing our contact with the Creator; we are talking about becoming similar, equal to Him.

We have all the prerequisites for it. Unlike previous generations of Kabbalists, we do not have to wait for ten years. We can do it in ten months. It only depends on our unity and common aspiration. Let us join our forces!

We continue studying item 13 of “The Introduction to the Book of Zohar”. Baal HaSulam wrote several introductions to the Zohar: “The Introduction to the Zohar”, “The Foreword to the Zohar” and “The Introduction to the Commentary on the Zohar”.

“The Foreword to the Zohar” is the most profound and summarizing of all. It touches upon the general system of creation, penetrates its depths. “The Introduction to the Commentary on the Zohar” describes the mechanics of the spiritual ascent. “The Introduction to the Zohar” expounds the peculiarities of the book and explains how it should be approached

Let us have a closer look at the most important of these introductions in order better to understand the scope and power of the universe. We also need it to prepare ourselves for the actual reading of the Zohar.

13. However, we must still understand: if the will to receive (i.e., egoism, a desire to receive for its own sake) is so bad and corrupt, how could it be planned and stem from the Thought of Creation in the Infinity and Perfection of the Creator Himself, whose wholeness is unspeakable?

That is, how can there be a root to all that happens to us and in us within the Creator, the root of the imperfection we are in?

The thing is that when the thought of creation had only just begun, everything had also ended. This is because unlike us, the Kli needs no actions. All the souls and their future states immediately emerged in their completeness and utter perfection (in their final, best, ultimate state). They appeared exactly as the

Creator had conceived them. Only at the end of correction will the souls achieve this exalted state (from the Creator's perspective it already exists. He is already merged with us in the final, perfect state). After our will to receive is completely corrected and becomes "pure" bestowal (with the intention for the sake of the Creator), it (the will to receive) attains complete equivalence of properties with the Creator.

With regard to the Creator, we have existed in this final state from the moment of our conception. He sees us in this perfect state and appeals to us from it. If we consider those, we will better comprehend His attitude to the creation, to us. We will also know how we should appeal to Him.

The Creator's attitude to us can be compared to the way a mother treats her child. While knowing that her child can be in various states, her love for it is complete. On the other hand, the child is bound to experience the "developmental diseases" and finally achieve complete equivalence of form and correction.

Why does creation go through this transformation with regard to the Creator?

Because the past, present, and future exist as a single whole in the Creator's infinity.

Time does not exist relative to the Creator, because there is no difference between an action and its consequence. They all unite into one.

The same applies to people. While entering the Upper World, a human thought becomes an act, and time contracts to the point of non-existence. As man ascends the spiritual levels, time begins to disappear. In the realm of his sensations, where man is equal with the Creator, he exists beyond time.

By making his properties similar to the Creator, the person begins to feel that his desires, actions, and his ultimate state are the same. There

is no chain of cause and effect. It exists only where something needs to be corrected. Where it is already corrected it ceases to exist, time stops and everything freezes in a state of perfection.

Hence, there was no corrupt will to receive (regarding the Creator) separated from His Infinity, and vice-versa, the equivalence of attributes that is destined to appear at the end of correction appeared immediately in His eternity (with the thought of creation).

This is what our sages meant when they said, “even before the world was created (the Hebrew word “Olam” (world), comes from the word “Ha’alama” (concealment). This word refers to a descent from the level of infinite perfection), He and His Name (the Creator, His Light and all the creatures) exist in the “only perfect state”, because there was no separation of the will to receive in the souls, but rather they were merged with the Creator in their attributes (they were completely identical). That state is described in the words “He and His Name are One.”

“He” designates the Creator; “His Name” means a vessel (*Kli*), the creatures that were created in their perfect, eternal, final state.

When we speak of imperfections, impure forces, suffering and the various states we are to go through from the Thought of creation to its end (from the first state, through the second and into the third one), we should understand that the transition from the first to the third state exists only for us. For the Creator they all merge into one. To the extent of our correction, the corrected part also merges with this one perfect and infinite state.

14. From here stem the three states of the souls:

The first state is in the world of Infinity, in the Thought of creation, where the souls already have the future form of the end of correction.

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The second state is called the period of 6,000 years. With the help of two systems (the pure, altruistic system and the egoistical, impure system), the souls divide into body and soul (meaning the light called “soul” (Neshama) and the body (Guf) known as a vessel (Kli), which is an egoistical uncorrected desire). We were then given the work in the Torah and Commandments in order to turn the will to receive into the will to bestow. (This work is performed through corrective actions under the influence of the Upper Light; by drawing the Light upon ourselves, we turn the egoistical intention of our desires into to the altruistic ones).

We do not change the desires themselves. They were created in us. Only the intention to use them selfishly is considered the “will to receive.” The intent to use them for the Creator is called the “will to bestow.”

Hence, we exist between the pure and impure systems of forces. We can receive forces for correction from the right side, while the left side constantly adds corrupt desires. Thus, we attain our correction.

The corrupt desires that come from the left side, from the impure forces (*Klipot*), are not completely alien to me. Those are my own corrupt desires that are always at my left side, while the lights that correlate to them and correct them are on my right. I ought to take the next desire that corresponds in size to my ability to correct from my left. I then take from the right the appropriate Light to correct that desire (i.e., its egoistical intention). Thus, I create within myself a corrected desire with the intention for the sake of the Creator. This will be defined as my “middle line”.

Neither the right nor the left lines are my own. They were given to me from Above by the Creator. They were both created by Him. I only connect them by taking the impure force from the left and correct it using the pure force from the right. Only this singular act is mine. This

means that neither the egoistic desires from my left nor the Light that comes from the right are mine. So what is mine? Mine is the action!

What does it mean, “my action?” If the Light affects the desire and consequently corrects it, then it is the action of the Light and not my own. I am only the character that performs it. It is more accurate to say that what depends on me is to wish that my egoistical desires collide with the Upper Light from the right, and be corrected with its help.

It can also be expressed in another manner (as we read in § 155 of “The Introduction to the Study of the Ten *Sefirot*”). While studying, we have the only opportunity actually to perform a correction in its pure form, in action. During our studies, we concentrate on our desire to be exposed to the influence of the Surrounding Light that would correct and elevate us to the level we read about. At that particular moment, we expose our egoistic desires to the Upper Correcting Light.

Souls may be in two states. The first one relates to the world of Infinity, to the Thought of creation. The second one relates to the relative period of 6,000 years (though it can take less time). During that time, we correct ourselves. This means that under the influence of the Light we gradually correct all of our 620 egoistical desires.

“Gradually” means a consecutive ascent of the 6,000 levels. The entire way can also be divided into 125 levels. It does not really matter how we divide it. What is important is that we must go through all of them. The order in which we progress is as preordained as our actions.

The only thing that is not preordained is our desire for it to happen. Without our desire there will be no correction; the right and the left lines will neither come into contact nor interact. That can happen only if we want it to. This desire is called “*Aliyat MAN*” (raising of *MAN*), i.e., raising our desire. It appears the moment we want it.

This desire is exactly what we should reach during our studies. As we study, we should only think that this correction will come to each and

every one of us. We ought to long for the tremendous Upper Light to descend upon all of us. There are many of us; we have a large group all over the world. We go through many different states and live in different conditions. With our combined effort, we can draw a very intensive Upper Light that would correct us; we should only want it.

It all depends on the intensity of our desire. If it reaches its maximum (it is really in our power), we will be corrected and achieve the first spiritual level.

While we are in this state (of 6000 years), only the souls are corrected, but not the bodies. This means that we must relinquish all the desires to receive for ourselves called the attributes of the body, and remain only with the desire to bestow known as a spiritual desire.

Plainly speaking, we do not correct the body itself during the six thousand years. This means that we are unable to correct “*Lev HaEven*” (heart of stone), our original egoism. We can only do it by ascending to the higher-level called “*AHP de Aliya*”.

Even the souls of the righteous cannot be in the Garden of Eden (a specific level in the world of Atzilut) after death (when one’s egoism dies), but only after their bodies rot in the ground.

We have talked about the meaning of the “bodies rotting in the ground”. We know that it constitutes a complete revocation of our egoism (we perform *Tzimtzum*). Egoism becomes completely detached from us and we only work with the properties we receive from Above - *GE* (desires of bestowal).

All of our *Kelim de Kabbalah* (vessels of reception) are restricted. By refraining from using them, we seemingly bury them in the ground to rot. What does this “rotting” mean? It is as though we examine each of those desires and acquire *Kelim de Ashpa’a*, *GE* (vessels of bestowal). Abstaining from the use of these desires is called “decomposition” of these desires. We will discuss it later.

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After the acquisition of all the altruistic desires (*GE*), we begin to raise the previously rejected *AHP*. Such a return of the *AHP* to the corrected level by retrieving it from the state we put it in is called “resurrection of the dead”. We raise the “dead” desires that we did not want to use, revive them with their flaws, thus correcting our egoistical *AHP*. That is the meaning of the dead that have completely rotted rising from their graves. This way the vessels of the *AHP* join with the vessels of *GE*.

One should by no means imagine that this happens with our physical bodies in the material world. We can burn or bury the physical body, perform implants and do whatever else we want with it. We are not talking about this body; it has nothing to do with spiritual terms, and the soul is completely disconnected from it.

The third state is the end of correction of the souls after the “resurrection of the dead. (When the GE are already acquired, and the AHP are corrected and connected with it, this means that the vessel (Kli), all the Ten Sefirot, the 620 completely corrected desires, are complete), when all the bodies (egoistical desires) are corrected. In that state, reception for one’s self (original), which is the property of the body, is overturned and adopts the form of pure giving, thus becoming worthy of receiving all the bounty, pleasure and delight that is in the thought of creation.

This means that before the *Kli* has corrected all the Light that comes to it, it is felt as darkness because of the dissimilarity of properties. And vice versa, to the extent that we acquire equivalence of form with the Light, with the Creator, we begin to feel Him. We feel this Light in its true form, as a Giver of perfection, infinity, love, and goodness. It all depends on how similar we can be to the Light that comes from Above.

Therefore, our today’s world will begin to expand and to be filled with the Upper World to the extent of our similarity to the Light. This world will be gradually “disappearing” from our sensations. The more we

correct ourselves, the clearer we will see the laws that exist around us in the Upper World. This is how we will feel the universe.

At the same time, souls merit complete merging with the Creator through equivalence of properties with Him. That is because they do not take pleasure in their own will to receive, but rather in the desire to give to the Creator (they become equal to Him). Consequently, He enjoys when they receive pleasure, because they also receive pleasure from Him.

The souls rise to the level called the “Thought of creation”. They become equal with the Creator, and they are granted the sensation of unbound infinity. It is said: “The thought of creation is to delight the creatures.” They feel endlessness in each of their feelings, pleasures, and attainments, timeless and flawless existence.

Many states follow the correction of the vessels. We are just talking about achieving a state when our *Kelim* (desires) are corrected. Once we are corrected, the Creator begins to elevate us to His own level and higher. We cannot even speak about these states; there are no words in our language to describe them. We can only discuss something that precedes the end of correction, when everything enters the state we refer to as Infinity (*Ein Sof*).

We are unable to understand what follows, because what we feel, understand and attain, what we can absorb and analyze, can only exist because it consists of opposites: black and white, pain and pleasure, or any kind of limit. It is only in the transition between two opposite states that we can feel. We use the opposites to create symbols, express our inner feelings as letters, black symbols against a white background.

As we enter the world of Infinity (*Ein Sof*), where there are neither opposite attributes, nor contrasting sensations of good and evil, our language becomes useless. Consequently, we can read nothing about those states, because Kabbalists have no means to convey them to us.

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It is therefore said: “Taste and see that the Lord is good.” It can only be verified by tasting, by drawing Inner Light called flavors (*Ta’amim*). There is no other way.

Kabbalah is a purely applied science. By using its methods on themselves, Kabbalists achieve correction. Unlike those who study it theoretically and therefore can never understand what these books have to say, Kabbalists receive their attainments within themselves and understand what it is all about.

For the sake of brevity, we shall refer to the three states of the soul as states one, two, and three. You should remember them well.

Baal HaSulam uses these names quite frequently, referring to them as the first, second and third states. The first one is the Thought, the second is the 6,000-year period of correction, and the third is the final state.

15. By looking at these three states, we find that they necessitate one another. If one of them did not exist (even a tiny detail in any of them – action, cause and effect), the others would disappear as well.

These above three states are interwoven, support one another, and exist simultaneously in the present. We should perceive them as initially created, existing relative to us. It depends only on our desire to be included in this or that state and be in it.

This desire is called “*Aliyat MAN*” (raising of *MAN*). It is the sending out of a prayer and depends only on how much we perceive the greatness of the Upper One as well as the lowness of our own condition.

For example, unless the third state, in which the property of reception turns into the property of bestowal, existed, the first state would not have been able to exist in the world of Infinity (in the primary thought). Perfection in the first state could only manifest, because it already exists in the third state in the future. Because of the Creator’s

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eternity, the third state exists as present, and the perfection of the third state is seemingly copied onto the first one (this way, the first state becomes as ideal as the third one). Hence, the third state necessitates the existence of the first one.

In other words, if the Creator had not created the perfect state, the first state would also have been unable to exist regarding Him.

Unless something existed in the second state, where occurs all our work in correction (during 6,000 years), in reaching spiritual levels, then how could the third state come to pass (with regard to us)? In this way, the second state determines the existence of the third one.

It is not enough for something to exist in the Creator, because it exists in Him even without us. He is in a perfect and eternal state. However, for us to feel that we are in the third state, we should go through the second one.

It is the same with the first state in the world of Infinity, where the perfection of the third state exists. It definitely necessitates the existence of the third state, i.e., the second and third states should manifest in complete perfection. Thus, the first state necessitates the emergence of two opposite systems in the second state. This brings forth the body (egoistical desire in the second state), enabling us to correct it with the help of the impure forces (and attain the third state that would ensure perfection in the first one).

This leads us to the conclusion about the necessity of the impure forces. We cannot attain the third state unless we fall under the influence of impure forces and receive the material with which we can work and correct ourselves.

Had there been no system of impure worlds, we would neither have had the will to receive (the enormous egoistical desire that matches the Creator's desire to bestow), nor could we have

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corrected it and achieve the third state, for “man cannot correct that which is absent in him”.

The system of impure forces is necessary as storage of all the corrupted desires. We extract and correct them one by one, and ascend the ladder from the first state to the third one, getting closer to the Creator.

Thus, we need not ask how the impure system emerged from the first state (which is perfect and eternal, because Malchut in the world of Infinity performed the first restriction [Tzimtzum Aleph] and, having no other desires, was merged with the Creator). These impure forces appeared so that we would be able to correct them, and consequently attain the third state.

The gap between the first and the third states makes the impure system necessary. It is expressed in our falling to the full depth of the impure forces and subsequently ascending and correcting them in accordance with the first state. This becomes the third state, because we have now acquired the impure forces and corrected them.

Therefore, the difference between the first and the third states lies in the correction of the impure forces and not merely in the reception of additional forces, desires, and possibilities.

Malchut of the world of Infinity is but a point in the Light. In order to fill the entire Infinity, the greater, outer circle, *Malchut* should acquire impure desires that match the size of that circle. *Malchut* itself is just a point in the circle that is surrounded by impure forces. It first acquires and then corrects them, so they become pure forces of *Malchut*. Thus, it fills up the entire circle, acquires the upper nine *Sefirot* and the point turns to *Partzuf*, the *Kli* the size of *Infinity*.

The first state, *Malchut*, is just a point merged with the Creator. It is perfect, albeit only a point. *Malchut* in the third state is a huge circle. You might say that it is 620 times bigger than the first point. In truth, it is impossible to measure just how much greater the circle becomes with these 620 desires after it connects them to itself and uses them for the

sake of bestowal. This is the actual difference between the first and the third states.

16. But the above words should not lead us to the conclusion that we have no freedom of choice because we are compelled to come to the third state, being that it is rooted in the first one.

It appears that if the first, second, and third states exist, one might ask where my freedom of choice is? Are we just marionettes “tramping” from the first state to the third without any say in the matter? No! We do have freedom of choice. Then, how is it expressed?

The fact is that the Creator has prepared two paths for us in state two.

This means that there are two ways for us to proceed from the first state to the third one: a short way and a long way.

1. The Path of Torah and Commandments

A Commandment (*Mitzva*) is an act intended to correct a desire. When we correct a certain egoistic desire, the act of correction itself is the *Mitzva*. In other words, the act of correction is what the Creator commanded: to correct the egoistical use of a desire to the altruistic one.

The Light does it. The Light is the “Torah” (from the Hebrew word “*Ohr*” - light). There exist many types of light, such as the Light of *Hasadim* (Mercy), the Light of *Hochma* (Wisdom), Light of *AB SAG*, the descending, ascending, and surrounding Light, and the *NaRaNHaY*. However, the Torah is the general Light that descends from Above.

We learned that correction is made by way of Torah and *Mitzvot* (actions influenced by the Light). This way is called the path of Torah, or the path of Light.

2. The Path of Suffering

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Suffering refines the body and eventually compels us to turn our (egoistical) will to receive into the will to bestow and merge with the Creator. Our sages said, "If you repent (i.e., if you follow the Path of Torah), then it is fine, but if not, I will place over you a ruthless king, and he will make you repent" (allusion to the Pharaoh).

In other words, terrible sufferings will compel us in spite of everything to understand that we should only progress spiritually. Mere development of technology, ethics, or any other field will eventually degrade us more and more, with each passing generation.

It is written: "By good or by evil. If you merit, I will hasten it (I will lead you to the third state); if you do not, then by pain and sufferings." It means that by observing Torah and Commandments, we hasten our correction and do not need the harsh agony and the prolonged time to compel us to correct ourselves (with the help of the Light, through Torah and Commandments). If not by way of Torah and Commandments, our correction will in any case be completed through the path of suffering; it will be forced upon us. The path of suffering entails the punishment of the souls in Hell.

What in fact is "Hell"? In a word, Hell is the feeling of absolute lowness, smallness, and baseness of the egoistical attributes compared to the Upper Light and perfection. It is the difference between the Upper One and me. This is the contrast between the egoistical sensations and the sublime altruistic ones. Hell is a terrible, endless abyss that is felt between these two states.

Be that as it may, the End of Correction (i.e., state three) is a must for all and is preordained by the first state. Our choice is only between the Path of Suffering and the Path of Torah and Commandments.

Thus, we have made clear how the three states of the souls are connected to one another and necessitate each other's existence.

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It is not quite correct to say that there are only two paths, namely the path of Torah and the path of suffering. In fact, it is impossible to be corrected through the path of suffering. Only the Light corrects. We learn in the four phases of the Straight Light: The Light begets the will to receive, i.e., *Behina Aleph*, and then it awakens the will to bestow in *Behina Aleph*, which forms *Behina Bet*. Afterwards, the Light continues acting in the desire to bestow of *Behina Bet* and creates *Behina Gimel*, then *Behina Dalet* and so on.

The Light affects the *Reshimot* in all the worlds. It elevates and lowers, corrects and develops. It is therefore impossible to be corrected by suffering. The only thing that can be achieved through pain is the realization of the necessity of correction. We can either suffer or quickly awaken (before the most terrible calamities befall us), and with the help of studies and a group expose ourselves to the influence of the Surrounding Light.

We must regain our sight before we plunge into real anguish, because eventually we will still have to return to the starting point. We should both grow smarter and do what we must, or wait until sufferings compel us to do the same. There is no other way. Therefore, our freedom of choice is in becoming smarter and taking advantage of the opportunity provided.

This is the only choice we have. We need quickly to realize what we should do. In that case, our journey will be peaceful, comfortable, and quiet. We will know and look forward to everything that awaits us. Thus, we will constantly attain better and better things, feel pleasant feelings, and attract the Surrounding Light upon ourselves.

The alternative is to stubbornly stay put and wait until terrible pain forces us to climb the same steps towards our already existing third state.

We normally err in our interpretation of the concept of free will. We perceive it as an ability to do something freely. However, nothing is

free! We are given a desire to work with, and we can do it either the right way or the wrong way.

My desires are pre-instilled in me. I can work with them exactly as they are within me, in their corrupt way. This means that I do not inspect them in view of the purpose of creation without first checking what I should do with them, what the Creator wants of me. I simply follow them. This situation is regarded as living in this world. In other words, I choose a slow and painful road.

However, there is another way. I can examine my desires, compare them with the future, with my corrected state, know what form they must eventually take, and try to draw the Surrounding Light. This light will correct them and equalize them with the Creator so that I will begin to feel Him.

This is the difference between a senseless existence in the desires of this world below the *Machsom*, and an existence in contact with the Upper World, in aspiration to it, in matching my desires with those of the Upper World. That is the manifestation of our free will.

17. From all the above, we understand the third inquiry: when we examine ourselves, we find that we are as corrupt and as despicable as can be...

There is no need to explain to every person what he really is. The meaning of not knowing one's self entirely is that he must still go through a period of recognition of evil (my individual evil). Then he will see that all of his desires and intentions are only for his own benefit, that he is ready to give up everything to satisfy even the most inconsequential desires that he does not care at all about what happens around him. This is the meaning of baseness, opposition to the Creator.

When we examine ourselves, we find that we are as corrupt and as despicable as can be. However, when we look at the Creator, we must be similar to Him, for there is no one higher than He, as is

becoming of the Creator who created us. That is because the nature of the Perfect One is to perform perfect acts.

How could something imperfect create something perfect, and vice versa, how could something imperfect be emanated by something perfect? That is impossible, for if the Creator is perfect, and He creates something imperfect, it means that this imperfection existed in Him to begin with.

Now we can understand that our body with all of its insignificant egoistical desires is not our real body (it is what we are given from the impure system). Our real body, eternal and perfect (corrected), already exists in the third state.

The impure thoughts and desires that we receive from the left line (our so-called “impure body), are only given for us to correct. While climbing by means of our corrected desires, as if on the rungs of a ladder, we ascend to the third state. That is where we receive our complete form, in reception for the sake of bestowal. All of the 620 impure desires given to us must be turned into a perfect and pure body.

Thus, state one (in which Malchut is merely a point) necessitates our reception of a corrupt and loathsome shell (Klipa, the will to receive), of the egoistical desire. State two separates us from the Creator, (we do not feel it, because it covers all our feelings) so as to correct it and allow us to receive our eternal body in state three. We need not angrily protest it (such a loathsome body) because our work cannot be done except in a body as transitory and as wasteful as ours (in these detestable and egoistical desires)...

We need something to work with. Unless we had these desires, what would we have to correct? We need somehow to comprehend the acts of the Creator. Why do we need this metamorphosis? Why do we have to go through all these phases of correction? Could we not have been spared this forced correction? We really could, but then we would remain a point, a mere fetus inside the Creator.

When we examine the 620 desires that are opposite to the Creator, correct them, and make them similar to Him, we become equal with the Creator. That is because He created those 620 desires by His will to bestow. When we correct them, we become similar to His bestowal, we acquire the necessary properties, intention, power, and knowledge. We learn what happens inside the Creator Himself and become equal with Him.

Therefore, it is impossible to receive those 620 desires corrected in advance. If that were the case, we would not be able to adopt them in us without turning them from negative to positive, until they become similar to the Creator.

Thus we are already in a perfect state, in correspondence with the perfect Creator who has made us in the second state (it does not matter that the second state is low, because it is not our own). Since our body is going to die, and since it is here only for the time necessary for the reception of its eternal form, it can cause us no harm.

The Creator gave us a loathsome, base, and egoistical body by dropping us into infinitesimal negativity. He did this so that we might have a way to ascend. For that reason, these properties were created artificially. They are, in fact, a backward reflection of His attributes, allowing us to make them similar to the Creator.

If we invert them from reception to bestowal, the past intentions die, rot, and disappear, making room for the intentions to bestow to emerge in their place. Hence, this body is *only here for the time necessary for its cancellation and reception of our eternal form.*

18. That resolves our fifth inquiry, which was – how could it be that from the Eternal (like the Creator) transitory, wasteful actions would be extended (concrete, discrete and of limited size)?

How can something transitory, limited, low, and flawed, stem from something eternal? We do not fully understand these questions because

we do not feel any kind of eternity. That is how opposite it is to our condition.

However, the difficulty still stands. We will understand what Baal HaSulam is saying only when eternity begins to shine on us from Above. It will happen slowly as we begin to attain the Surrounding Light that creates the complete and perfect universe around us and creates this picture in our mind's eye. Only then will we begin to understand this contradiction, how this flawless eternity and perfection, without even a trace of limitation, contrast, or opposites, in which all the points are perfect and eternal and continuous, can come from a source where states and actions are passing, transient and low.

We see that we are indeed in a state worthy of His eternity, meaning that even now we are eternal and perfect beings.

The only thing that obstructs us from feeling this eternity is the shell that wraps us, this being our egoistical impure intention. We are like a magnetic field that reflects everything we project outwardly. When we stop turning inwardly and can turn the current from inside out, we will instantly feel the eternity and perfection we are actually in. We must only neutralize the shell.

And our eternity necessitates that the egoistical shell of the body will have been given to us only for a transitory, wasteful work (in order to turn it to altruism and increase it from being a point to being a circle, meaning the level of the Creator), for if it had remained eternal, we would have remained separated from the Life of Lives for all eternity.

As we have said in item 13, this form of our body, which is the will to receive for ourselves alone (with the intention for our own sake), is not at all present in the thought of creation, for there we are formed as state three (to begin with), but rather appears (to us)

only in the second state (so that we acquire it by ourselves in the third state).

It should not appear as a paradox, or something unnatural. We are in fact in the third state, and only exist in the second one with our subjective feelings, in order to correct them to correspond to the real situation.

We must not ponder (there is no question) *over the state of other beings in the world* (they are inconsequential for us), *since man is the center of creation.*

We think that humankind cannot be the center of creation, because we are lost, even on this planet. We exist on a thin layer of the planet, sitting on a vibrating, steaming, and erupting volcano. We are in a vast universe, dependent on some negligible star called "Sun".

If we measure ourselves with respect to the nature of the still or the vegetative, which are so abundant, it will seem that we are a tiny insignificant minority. You can also say the same thing with regard to animate nature, which is thousands of times greater than we in numbers are.

If we exist on this planet as animals, completely disconnected and detached from the Upper World, without accepting upon ourselves the purpose of creation, we naturally become tiny fractions in space and in this world. If we begin to acquire the attributes of the Upper World, we will become lords of the universe. During the ascent to the Upper World, we begin to absorb it into ourselves, to the point of Infinity.

It turns out that without connection with the Upper World we are insignificant. In fact, this is our actual strength. To the extent that we acquire these Upper Forces, being the Light that controls, creates, sustains and fills everything, and come to own that Light, we will rise higher than all of nature.

We must not ponder over other beings in the world, since man (a person who attains the Upper World) *is the center of creation.*

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All other creations (still, vegetative, and animate) do not have their own value, but only as much as they are useful in bringing humanity to completeness. Thus, they ascend and descend with man without any regard for himself. They all depend on us, on how much we draw them to ourselves for the purpose of our ascent.

When one begins to ascend in spirituality, one finds a wondrous interdependency where one's every inner trait is not one's own, but rather a reflection of an external nature. My animate nature contains the entire nature around me. My vegetative degree is more internal, meaning it is a higher reflection of the entire vegetative nature. My still desires are a higher reflection of the entire universe, of the entire inanimate nature around me.

Once I discover this dependency, I begin to use nature through perception of it, consequently understanding its language and sensations. That is the reason Kabbalists are said to understand the language of the birds and the animals, and feel and understand everything around them. It is metaphorically described as man containing everything within.

After that, while ascending to the Upper Worlds, we discover the entire surrounding nature within us, in our new attributes. Our inner vessels, our perception of the surrounding world, become incomplete. As a result, we are separated and severed from our surroundings.

The absence of the screen, which produced the second restriction, created a division of internal worlds and external worlds. The parts of the *Partzuf* were created from the innermost to the outermost.

Immediately after the conclusive and collective screen is created, everything will unite into one structure of Ten *Sefirot*, and our entire world will be contained in each and every one of us. Then we shall all unite into a single soul, and become *Adam*, the only *Adam* (*Adam HaRishon*), containing everything within.

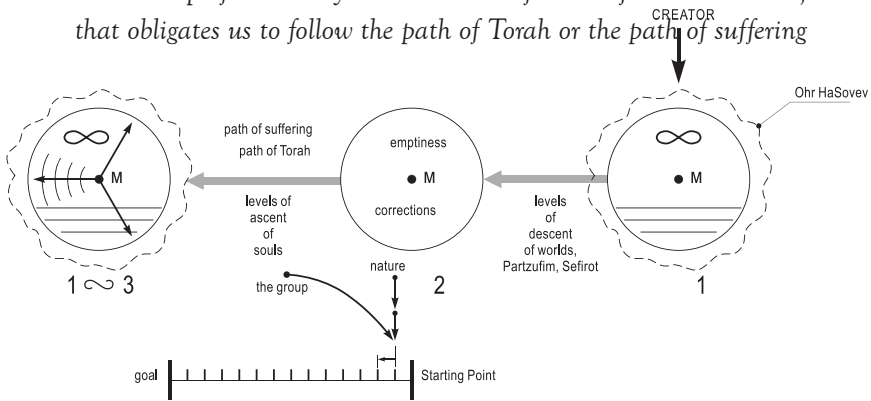
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Therefore, we need not ask about the rest of nature, for it depends on us alone. We now discover how badly we influence it. As we spiritually correct ourselves, we will discover fantastic changes for the better in our surrounding nature. We will not need any genetic engineering to be able to provide for ourselves. Nature will independently create in us everything we need.

Let us continue studying “The Introduction to the Book of Zohar,” where we have carefully examined the first three points. Here Baal HaSulam approaches the fourth question.

19. If the Creator is kind and only brings goodness, how could he intentionally create his creations so that they are bound to suffer and grieve during their lives?

It is said that all this suffering is predetermined in our first state, in which our perfect eternity will be achieved from the future third state, that obligates us to follow the path of Torah or the path of suffering



in order to achieve eternity in state three.

What is Baal HaSulam talking about? Let me remind you with the help of a little sketch.

We say that state one, created by the Creator, the state of Infinity, is completely filled with the light and this is *Malchut*. In state two,

Malchut performs a *Tzimtzum*, becomes empty, and during this state it is being gradually filled with the light, performs corrections, which finally lead to the third state, when *Malchut* returns to being completely filled with the light.

This third state is equivalent to the first one, the only difference between them being that the third state was achieved by *Malchut* itself. According to the above sketch, the first state is created by the Creator from outside, by the surrounding light called *Ohr Sovev*. The third state - the world of Infinity - is achieved by the correction of *Malchut* itself, which absorbs all these previous properties. They become the properties of *Malchut*, which fills the entire volume of Infinity by attracting the outer light.

It is not that the Creator governs and fills the world of Infinity, but rather *Malchut* fills this void from within its own desire. We are going to examine how these three states predetermine each other.

There is an opportunity to pass from the first state to the second and then from the second to the third in the following way: from the first state, we pass to the second by descending the so-called levels of descent (the worlds, *Partzufim* and *Sefirot*). This process is usually depicted as one unfolding from up downwards, from the World of Infinity to our world. The passage from the second state to the third constitutes the levels of ascent (correction) of the souls. Naturally, we do not exist between the first and the second stages; there are no created beings yet. The path of creation starts between the second and the third states.

There are two paths: “*the path of Torah and the path of suffering*”. The difference is only in time. From the beginning until the end of every path, I should go through a certain number of levels. Every time, while passing from one level to another I need to feel the evil and corruption of my current state and the perfection expected at the next one. I can evaluate the corruption of the current level and the perfection of the future one either under the influence of my group, books and the Rav or under the influ-

ence of blows that I will be dealt. These blows act slowly; they are stretched in time and therefore I prolong my passage on the path of suffering.

However, with the help of books, the Rav, and my group, I can quickly realize the corruption of my current condition and the perfection of the following state and thus move forward of my own free will. That is, the path itself does not mean escaping from a corrupted state to a better state by necessity, but rather it means to be in a state of attainment and exaltation. The path itself becomes an ascent and time spent in each state will literally shrink to a minimum. Here lies the difference between the path of Torah (light) and the path of suffering.

Only with the help of a self-created outside source can I start advancing along the path of Torah instead of the path of suffering. I myself create my group; the group is most important. Only with the help of my complementary element, by switching the natural factor of influence on me with my group's influence, do I start moving much faster. This is the most important factor at our disposal. Our studies cannot guarantee us any advancement. The essence of what we study is to create forces around us that would influence us and move us forward faster than those natural forces that move the rest of humanity. This is the reason we gather; this is why we study and try to understand why Kabbalists, who have already attained this, advise us on how to accelerate our development, our passage from the second state to the third.

So, Baal HaSulam says that *all this suffering is felt only in the Klipa of our body, (i.e., in our still uncorrected desires), which was created for nothing else but to die and be buried.*

This means we should bury these desires for the purpose of not using them. The desires that have not been used by man are called dead.

This points out that the will to receive (egotistical desire to obtain everything, to fill oneself) was created only to be destroyed in the mode in which it exists, in its initial mode, to be wiped out and

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turned into the will to bestow. Suffering is only given to us to discover the insignificance and harm of the will to receive.

In other words, there is a goal in suffering, some causality, and the people who try to follow the right path, replace bodily suffering (from their unsatisfied egotism) with purposeful ones.

When the whole world agrees to set itself free and annihilate the will to receive for its own sake, everyone will only have the desire to give to others. This transformation will happen under the influence of enormous suffering of which Baal HaSulam writes in his article “The Last Generation,” and which the ancient prophets predicted to us pointing at our time as a beginning of this period.

When the whole world agrees to set itself free and annihilate egoistical desires, when it chooses to acquire the will to bestow, it will annihilate all the evil in the world and everyone will be sure of a healthy and full life, because each one will have the whole world taking care of him and his needs. However, when everyone only desires to receive for his own sake, this becomes the cause of suffering, atrocities, and wars, from which we cannot escape. This desire weakens the body with disease and pain.

That is, on all our levels suffering is determined by our common egoism. Naturally, as humanity evolves, this suffering will only increase up to the point of becoming so unbearable that everyone will want to get rid of his own egoism just to stop suffering. It is therefore called the path of suffering. Imagine how much suffering every person and humanity, as a whole will have to go through in order willingly to get rid of egoism as a source of suffering. How much of his own evil should each one of us realize? Just imagine what a horrible future is ahead of us in such a case!

On the other hand, by attracting the Upper Light into this world, even our small groups relieve people from suffering, although they know nothing about Kabbalah as a method of achieving happiness. We already give them some subconscious inner factors that help them quickly find correct answers to their questions about suffering. We see how a new per-

son comes to a group and without knowing or understanding what the group is doing, in no time adapts himself to what is being taught there.

It took those who have studied for a long time months or years to reach this level, whereas the newcomers are so quick in the uptake. This happens because we have paved the way for them. Moreover, every generation that is engaged in spiritual work similarly influences all the consecutive generations.

So we should not be thinking of the enormous sufferings awaiting us. By increasing the number of people studying Kabbalah, we help the world to reach the realization of evil faster. In the near future humanity will clearly understand that egoism is the source of every evil. All we will have left to do is to show that there is a method of turning this evil to good.

Thus, we can see that all suffering in our world exists only to open our eyes, compel us to get rid of the evil egoism of our body, and attain the perfect form of desire to bestow. The path of suffering is quite capable of pushing us towards this desired condition.

That is, the sooner the person realizes the reason for his suffering, the sooner his group will be able to help him, the faster he will attain the Upper World, eternity, perfection and wisdom.

Know that the commandments pertaining to relations among people are more important than man's relations with the Creator are, because giving to others leads to bestowal upon the Creator.

That is, where and how can I recognize evil? Where is it and what is its purpose? I can understand it faster by working with my friends in a group.

This is why it is said that relations among people are more effective for finding evil than relations between man and the Creator. Since man's relations with the Creator are hidden from him, he can imagine them in all possible variations, but none of us will know for sure, until our eyes open and we see our true relations with the Creator.

At the same time, the relations among the members of a group as with opponents, antagonists or as real friends moving towards the mutual goal, agreements and disagreements among them - all of this is a testing ground, a laboratory in which the person can quickly discover the reason for his terrible states. He will understand how by making necessary changes he can attain the Upper World.

This is precisely why we are given this world and our life among other people. A huge society is purposefully created around every single one of us. On the other hand, every one of us has an opportunity to create a small society in which he can work on his inner changes. We have it all, so we just need to accomplish it.

20. After all the research we have done so far, we can now answer the first question: "What is our essence?", because it is the essence of all the realms of Creation, which represent no more and no less than the desire to receive.

It follows that we are a "desire to receive pleasure" created by the Creator.

Not in the way it appears to us in state two (in the uncorrected condition, far from perfection, after all the stages of descent of the worlds and Sefirot), as a will to receive for oneself alone (egoistical desire), but in state one, in the world of Infinity, in our eternal form, as a desire to bestow, to please the Creator.

But even though in reality we have not yet achieved state three (in our sensations) and still remain within the limits of time (i.e., we are still ascending the levels of correction), it does not in the least diminish our essence (the question was - what is our essence. The fact that we are now in the state of imperfection, does not diminish our inner essence), because our third state (the future state) is guaranteed by the presence of state one. The one who will receive it in the future is similar to the one who has

already received it (if he knows exactly what he receives and is absolutely confident in his future state).

If we had “faith”, i.e., not egoism, but a desire to bestow, we would then feel our third state in advance. It would already be shining upon us from afar, even in our uncorrected states, as the *Ohr Makif* (the Surrounding Light) is shining upon us.

In this case, we would not feel any problems, any imperfections, even in state two, because we would receive the luminescence from our future state three. This resembles a person who, with all the responsibilities and tasks he needs to do during the day, awaits the evening when he will receive something extraordinary, something wonderful. You live in the anticipation of the evening. You are confident that it will be something really special, something exciting, and enlightening. Your whole day completely changes. Why? It will only happen in the evening! You draw upon yourself that future state in advance. Therefore, if we could only see our future state (it is only possible in the Reflected Light), it would already be shining upon us today, and it would be like being within that Light.

Oftentimes, when the person is controlled by his egoistical desires, anticipation of a better state is sometimes much more powerful than the actual state, when we achieve it. This is because anticipation is caused by the Surrounding Light, and it is not limited by my *Kelim*, by my desires. It is unlimited because I receive the light from afar; it is not inside of my *Kelim*; it comes from outside; it is around me. It is as the light of Infinity, so anticipation of it is always much more promising and exciting than the feeling of the actual pleasure.

Therefore, even now we can be in that state (although we really are in state two) by receiving the luminescence of state three, but only if we possess the Reflected light. Baal HaSulam says that even though in reality we have not reached state three and remain confined within the bounds of time, this does not in the least diminish our essence, be-

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cause our future state three is guaranteed to us by the present state one. And he who will receive in the future is similar to the one who already received.

The time factor becomes a problem when the person has doubts (i.e., when there is a lack of faith) whether he would complete everything he is supposed to complete in the given time. Since the person achieves such a state when he has no more doubts, it is as if he achieves state three.

So what is our task today? What is the most important thing to do? We should immediately feel Infinity, eternity, the state of absolute attainment and omnipresence. Life and death of the body become irrelevant. Everything depends on acquiring the attributes of Bina (faith). As soon as that happens, the light of state three will start shining upon us.

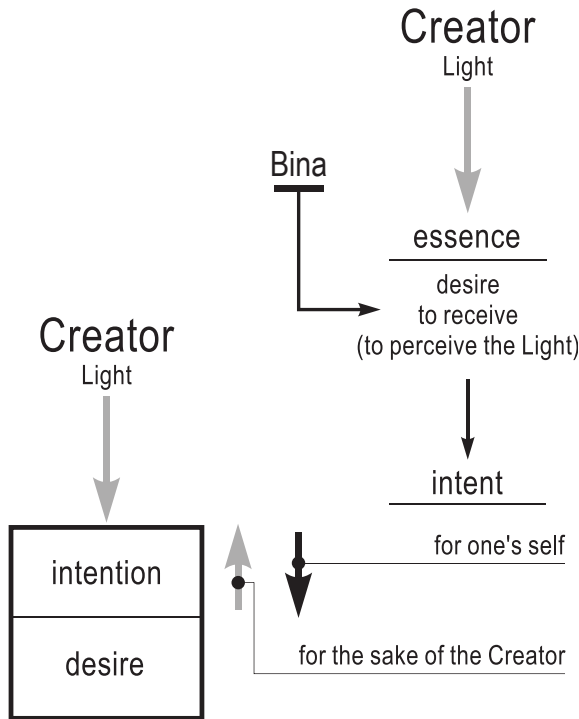
The evil body (our uncorrected desires) that we received at present does not diminish our essence, because the body with all of its acquisitions will disappear together with its source - the system of impure forces. The one that disappears is similar to that which has already vanished, as if it had never existed.

This is what the Creation looks like from the next level, and if we rise above it and look behind and ahead of us, then egoism disappears and the perfect state begins to shine upon us.

However, the essence of the soul dressed in the body is only the desire to bestow, which is rooted in the system of four pure worlds: Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, Assiya. This desire is eternal, because it is the property of the Source of life. It is invariable and therefore eternal.

In order to have a better understanding, let us look at the following picture.

The Creator created, from top down, the will to receive pleasure. This will to receive is the desire to feel Him. If the Creator is the light, then the desire to receive is the desire to feel the light.



This desire is neither good nor bad; it is the essence of Creation. Because of the breaking of the vessels, it received from *Bina* the intention on how to use the desire: for oneself alone or for the Creator. That superstructure appears above the desire. Therefore there are the desire, the light or the source of the light (the Creator), and the intentions on how to use that desire. That is all.

21. Do not be led astray by the philosophers who say that the essence of the soul is a substance of the mind and that it only exists through the concepts it learns and from there it grows and they are its essence. The question of the continuance of the soul after the departure of the body depends solely on the extent of concepts it has acquired, until in the absence of such concepts, there remains nothing to continue.

Philosophy states that man's existence depends on his knowledge of nature.

What is contained in this knowledge? It is just an understanding of what exists outside of me. First, is this knowledge absolute? Even through research, we understand that the world we feel around us is nothing more than the result of our subjective perception. If we had different senses, we would feel the world quite differently, not as air, solid bodies or liquid, gaseous and plasma states of matter. The world would have a completely different degree of density and other perceived qualities.

The way the world exists around us is merely a consequence of our internal states. That is why philosophy's stipulation that man's life is dependent upon his conception of the outer world cardinaly contradicts the opinion of Kabbalah.

It is also unaccepted by the heart, and anyone who ever tried to acquire some knowledge knows and feels that the mind itself is a possession and not the possessor.

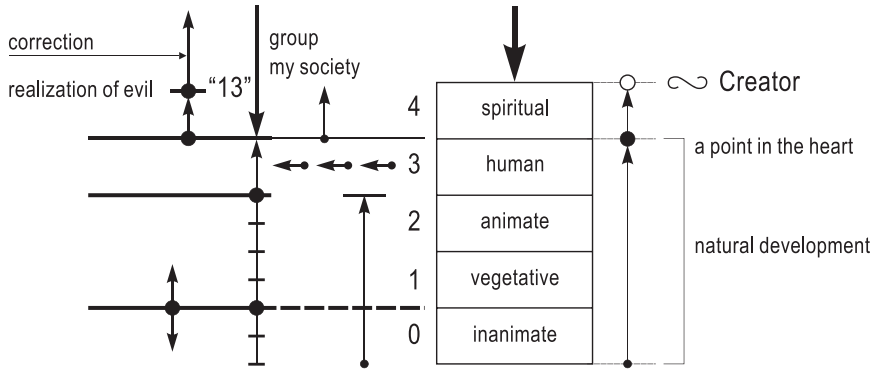
Nevertheless, as we have said, all the substance of the renewed creation, both the substance of spiritual objects and the substance of corporeal objects, is no more and no less than a will to receive.

Our essence is the will to receive. Moreover, any difference between one essence and another lies in their respective desires to receive that generate needs within every essence, which in turn create certain thoughts and knowledge that are sufficient to satisfy those needs. Therefore, desires are the very core of whatever is within us. Our mind is created to satisfy these desires. Our essence is not the mind; it is the will to receive.

Just as human desires differ from one another, so are their needs, thoughts and ideas. For instance, those whose will to receive is limited to beastly desires, their needs, thoughts and ideas all aim to satisfy those desires.

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People only differ in the combinations of their desires. Moreover, we cannot do anything with people. We cannot affect them from outside, no matter what pressure we put upon them. Somehow, we should indirectly find a way to speed up their development and transition from the animate level to the human and from the human to the spiritual. Unless the person's desires change, we would not be able to give him anything that is out of tune with his desires, because his essence is a desire. The current level of development of his desires constitutes his true state.



In every one of us, there are five levels of desires: still, vegetative, animate, human, and spiritual. Zero, one, two, three, and four are five types of desires (or five types of *Dargot Aviut*), five kinds of ego. This is the way people evolve. However, if the person reaches a level where he passes from human desires to spiritual ones, a point in his heart emerges and he starts to feel something. This point is a beginning of the spiritual desire, while the end of it is similarity to the Creator. Such is the way of correction.

Desires evolve naturally up to the spiritual level, whereas the development of the point in the heart may follow either the path of Torah or the path of suffering. We live in a society where everyone has his own desires. Consequently, every person exists at a certain level of development: still, vegetative, animate, human, or spiritual.

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If people come to us, we need to determine whether they already reached the necessary level. In other words, has the point in their hearts awakened? If yes, then this is my society, my group. I seek such people to build a force around me that would help me to advance in the right direction. Some people come to us with their desires being only on the still, vegetative, animate, and human levels. Human desires include cravings for wealth, honor, fame, and knowledge. Any desire below that level is considered natural.

Therefore, the people whose level of desire is below the level of the point in the heart will never understand us. Nevertheless, as we attract the Surrounding Light upon us, we gradually elevate them as well. More and more people have come to us recently with greater inner readiness to adopt our material at an ever-accelerating pace.

However, until the person's desires change, he will not be able to understand anything. In other words, everyone understands only through the point of his desire. The one who reached a certain level only wants to fulfill the desires at that level. He is neither interested in desires below this level, for he has already overgrown them, nor does he understand the desires above, for he perceives them as quite unreal.

For instance, take a simple person from a village, start telling him how good it is to write music, to paint and discover nature's secrets. Having no such desires, he will simply not understand. Similarly, an ordinary person does not want to be a millionaire. Therefore, each of us acts only from the level of desire that is developed in us; hence, we should relate to it correspondingly. Therefore Baal HaSulam says that the most important thing is not human knowledge or thoughts, but desires. The only thing we can do for people and for ourselves is to stimulate a rapid evolution of desires. This will lead the world towards a perfect state, quickly and painlessly.

For instance, those whose desire to receive is limited only to animal types of pleasure, their needs, thoughts and reasons are directed to

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fulfilling this desire in his animal entirety. Even though they use human reason and knowledge for this purpose (in fact, it is time for them to grow up), their mind is as the mind of an animal, since they are enslaved to animal desire and its service.

Sometimes we see influential and very self-confident individuals, who, apparently, understand what they are living for. However, in spite of their self-confidence and understanding, what are their real desires? In fact, they only want to acquire something in this life and content themselves with it.

On the other hand, those whose desire to receive demands by and large human delights such as honor, power (control) over others, which is not available to the animal type, their main needs, thoughts and knowledge are intended only for the completion of their desires, as much as possible. Again, those with the desire to receive generally require all their needs, thoughts, and knowledge only to fulfill entirely this desire.

Mind, thoughts, and knowledge are meant to serve the desires, to fulfill them.

22. These three kinds of desires predominate in every man, but everyone combines them in different proportions. All differences between people come from this point. Speaking about material properties, you can draw an analogy to spiritual properties, according to their spiritual value.

23. Thus, the souls of people with their spiritual investing the Reflected light (Ohr Hozer), which they receive from the Upper Worlds and from which they descend, find only the desire to bestow, the intention for the sake of the Creator. This is the essence of the soul. After its investing into a man's body, it bears in it the necessities, thoughts, and intellect that are aimed at giving, pleasing the Creator according to the value of the soul's desire.

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Baal HaSulam says that as we advance and work in contact with the Creator, we begin to understand the Creator and enter Infinity and Perfection. We attain the true creation breaking free from our present existence, rise above the level of life and death. However, we continue working with our desires, investing them with the intention for the sake of the Creator. The same desires remain; they just acquire an opposite direction.

In addition, with the change of direction, they obviously acquire different filling.

24. Thus, the essence of the body is only the desire to receive for itself in all its manifestations and with all its acquisitions. Everything it gets is just for filling this depraved desire to receive that has been created only to be destroyed and to disappear from the world (the intention for one's own sake is meant), in order accomplish state three at the End of Correction.

That is why it (our egoistical intention) is mortal and, of course, imperfect, for all its acquisitions are slipping by like a shadow, without leaving anything after them.

This can be compared with our own experience in this world. We have already lived here for a few decades, but where are all those achievements and pleasures that we so enjoyed some time ago? All of them disappear and the person is left with nothing at the end of his life.

Why are they not accumulating in us? Why do we not feel greater satisfaction every time? Why, in our egoistical state, do we need always to loose the previous one to get a new fulfillment?

The fact is that such is the law of impure forces called *Klipot*. They cannot receive more than a small spark of light and are therefore unable to get the next fulfillment before they get rid of their previous tiny portion.

This is the essence of our life: exhalation and inhalation, emptying and filling. This continues at the same level, like small vibrations: up and down, up and down. Moreover, our entire life is made of such periods of intermittent emptiness and fulfillment.

Therefore, Baal HaSulam says:

That is why it is mortal and, of course, imperfect, for all its acquisitions are slipping by like a shadow, without leaving anything after them.

At the same time, the essence of the soul is just the desire to bestow. All her manifestations and acquisitions are filled with the desire that exists already as in the eternal state 1 and in the future state 3.

What does the second intermediate state mean? This is my starting point from which I should attain my true state three. In fact, we are already in that state. We just need to feel it. Thus, our gradual advancement towards state three and its gradual manifestation represent the stages of the path that we have to go through.

Nothing new ever happens in the world. My eyes begin to open and I gradually reveal the Infinity in my sensations. If the person tunes himself up this way, he will eventually start feeling it.

Try to tune yourselves to this feeling: we exist in the world of Infinity, of which we perceive only a tiny fragment. We just need to discover it. This is what Baal HaSulam says. This way, the shroud will disappear along with all of its manifestations and the eternal, infinite world will emerge.

But what should disappear? By the shroud, we mean our egoistical body that is destined to die, be buried, and completely disappear. The egoistical body is our intention to receive for ourselves.

On the contrary, deliverance from the uncorrected body makes her stronger, so that she can rise up to paradise (Gan Eden).

Paradise, or the Garden of Eden, is *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut* that acquired the properties of *Bina*.

Thus, we have made plain that the eternity of the soul does not depend on the knowledge it has, as philosophers consider. The eternity of the soul is in her essence, that is, in her desire to bestow.

The soul is eternal; it is the desire to receive initially created with the intention for the sake of the Creator.

The knowledge that she obtained is her reward, and does not represent her.

The true knowledge is the *Ohr Hochma* that enters into the corrected intentions.

25. From this, we will find a complete solution to the fifth analysis, where we asked if it is the case that the body is so imperfect (by body we only mean the egoistical desire with the intention for oneself) that, unless it is decomposed, the pure soul (by soul we mean the Upper Light that enters into the intention for the sake of the Creator) cannot enter into it, why does it come back and revive by rising from the dead? As it is said by the sages, the dead (i.e., all these egoistical intentions for oneself) are resurrected with all their shortcomings, so that nobody could say that they are not the same bodies.

Why do we have to struggle through these purposely-confusing ideas in the texts of Kabbalists? According to what we saw in previous articles, the soul and her correction depend not on knowledge, but on a change of desires and intentions. Therefore the Kabbalist, even though he writes such articles as we study now that are supposed to shed some light on our state, is least of all concerned about our understanding of what he wants to say. His intentions with regard to us are very different.

He wants us, half-asleep, lost, unconscious and confused to follow his thoughts. He does not demand from us an understanding of the

text we are reading now. What he does demand is our presence in that chain of thought, which he unfolds before us. Hold on to him like a small child. It does not matter how much you understand. The most important thing is your desire to go along with him.

Just be with your teacher, go along with him and he will lead you forward. The person can never understand a higher state with the mind of a lower state, because very different desires, functions, and laws rule on the higher level. He will never rise to the next level before he understands it. It is utterly impossible. The Kabbalist purposely muddles his texts, because he wishes us to feel the need to cling to him. He wants us to follow him in the dark, as if we are small, helpless, and blind.

Hence, this state of confusion, incomprehension and ignorance is good. We just need to realize that it is not the mind we have to use, but our intention to merge with the Creator. We should use our desires, not the intellect, because our intellect cannot function there. It functions only in our world. It is of the animate level, not spiritual. When we make our desires spiritual, going hand in hand with the Kabbalist who guides us, our desires will change. They will generate very different thoughts aimed at fulfilling these new, spiritual desires, to correct them, elevate them even higher, absorb and understand them.

That is, the mind is a pure consequence of our desires and evolves together with them. Therefore, it is said that suffering makes one wiser. It is truly so! Because the mind, the intellect is the consequence of the necessity to escape suffering. You should never hope first to find out something about the spiritual and then rise to the level of your knowledge. Never! The mind only develops in accordance with a change of desire. We always advance this way.

That is why I am saying it again: it does not matter at all what your condition during the lesson is, even if you do not know the language or cannot “switch on” your brain today. The only thing that matters is you desire to follow the author, lecturer, teacher. If you do, then you ad-

vance. And vice versa, when you come to the class relaxed, able to catch everything with your sharp intellect, with your inquiring mind, you basically rob yourself, because you switch all of your energy from obtaining the spiritual information to gaining purely intellectual fulfillment.

You have to understand that this is from the plan of creation itself; thus, from state one. We said that, as soon as the plan becomes to delight the creation, it without fail creates in souls a huge desire to receive this pleasure, which is in the plan of creation, for a great pleasure requires a huge desire (the Creator wished to delight us with Infinity; hence, He created in us infinite desire).

We also said that this huge desire to receive is the only new creation, which has been created, so there was no need at all for something bigger to fulfill the plan of the creation. With his perfect nature, the Creator does not do anything superfluous.

One thing the Creator needed for bestowing delight is the will to receive delight.

We also said that this huge desire to receive had been completely expelled from the system of pure worlds and was given to the system of impure worlds. They are the source of the bodies' provenance and existence, with all their acquisitions in this world, until a man reaches the age of thirteen (i.e., egoistical desires).

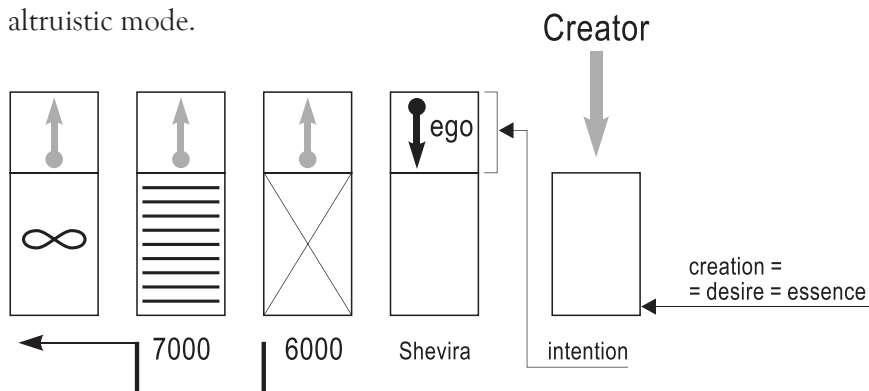
It is just an arbitrary number used by Baal HaSulam to confuse us. When he mentions certain numbers, such as 40, 13 or 70 years, he implies a certain inner condition of the person.

Thus, our development can be divided into two periods: first, when we are under the power of egotistical desires – conventionally, this period is called the age before 13, before coming of age. After the age of 13, a person with the help of higher light begins to comprehend his soul, which is to correct his desire from egotistic to altruistic. This transition is conventionally called “13 years”.

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That is, from this level the person starts to take interest in Kabbalah. He completes the first stage of his development (realization of evil) and starts to correct himself and acquire pure intention. He already exists at the expense of the pure worlds in accordance with the attainment of the soul. That is, before he reaches the state called “13 years”, the person exists under the power of impure worlds. In this state, he is constantly given more and more egoism, and he absorbs it to the point when he finally begins to realize how harmful, vain, and evil it is.

Finally, the person comes to a turning point where he feels the need to begin correcting his egoism. This point is called “coming of age”. From this point on, he is considered an adult, i.e., he begins to obtain the screen that gives him the ability to work with his desires in the altruistic mode.



It was also said that during 6000 years that were given us for the work on corrections, the body, i.e., the huge desire to receive, remains uncorrected. All corrections that are the result of our work happen only with the soul (with the intention). The soul ascending to higher levels of purity and sanctity merely increases the desire to bestow.

That is why the body is predestined to die, to be buried, to decay, because it does not make any correction and cannot really exist like that. Alas, if that huge desire to receive from this world should disappear, the plan of creation will not be fulfilled. Created beings would

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not receive all the great pleasures that He planned for them. An enormous desire to receive delight and great pleasure correlate to one another. As soon as the desire to receive diminishes, the enjoyment from receiving diminishes as well at the same level.

What is Baal HaSulam trying to say?

He talks about the stages of our development. There is the original desire - *Malchut* and the light. At the next stage, the same *Malchut* acquires egotistical intentions for itself. The next stage is uncorrected. We call it *Shevira*. After that, *Malchut* “destroys” itself, since it wishes gradually to acquire the desire for the sake of the Creator. The work during 6,000 years is a gradual transition from the intention for its own sake to the intention for the sake of Creator. At that, the body is not taken into consideration. It is being constantly destroyed. When the intention for the sake of Creator is fully obtained, the will to receive is resurrected. This constitutes the seventh millennium, when the so-called “dead” rise from their graves and gradually join with the pure intention for the sake of Creator. The next stage marks the achievement of final and complete correction, when the intention for the sake of the Creator prevails.

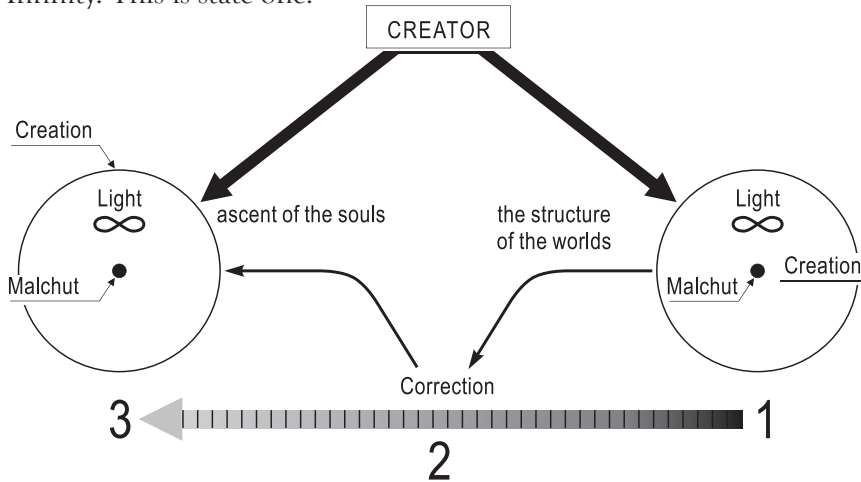
There exist only the Creator and His Creation. Creation is a desire and everything that is above it is intention. The Creator created desire, and this is what our essence is. Intention is a superstructure built above desire, and it only appears to correct this desire and make it similar to the Creator.

At first, we receive an egoistical intention that is directed towards ourselves, our ego. We then transform it into its opposite. This transformation takes place during the so-called 6,000 years. The end of that period marks a complete acquisition of the altruistic intention. In the seventh millennium, the desire is corrected together with the intention. After that, the *Kli* exists in its infinite form. What is “infinite form”? It means no limitation for any of the original desires. The intention for the

sake of Creator makes Creation entirely similar to Him. We do not study what happens with the creation after that.

26. As was already said, state one obliges state three to exist. It has appeared in all its completeness, as in state one, according to the plan of creation; nothing less was planned

Baal HaSulam says that the Creator created *Malchut* in the center of the world of Infinity. *Malchut* is inside the light called the world of Infinity. This is state one.



He also created state three, in which *Malchut* exists in the state of Infinity, filled with the light, where all is inside it. So what is the difference? The difference lies in the fact that in the first case only *Malchut* constituted creation; now it expanded and filled the entire volume of the world of Infinity.

This is because having gone through the so-called period of correction it passed from state one to state three. *Malchut* became similar to the entire volume, which we refer to as “the world of Infinity” or the Creator. We can achieve state three either by taking the path of Torah (i.e., correction with the help of the light) or the path of suffering.

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In any case, both states are identical as regards the Creator. Time and correction do not exist for the Creator, because with regard to Him both these states are quite obvious and real. Only we, who are moving along this path, gradually pass from one state to the other.

This transition consists of several stages. The first one is called “construction of the worlds”, the second – “correction” and the third – “ascent of the souls”. The first stage necessitates the existence of the third one.

So, state one obliges the resurrection of the dead bodies. That is, their huge desire to receive that became worthless, ended, and decayed in state two (during correction). It must again rise from the dead, in its enormous proportions without any reduction, that is, with all its former shortcomings.

Work begins anew in order to turn the enormous desire to receive into the desire to bestow for the sake of the Creator. Here we win twice: First, we have an opportunity to obtain the abundance and pleasure that is in the plan of creation. We already have a huge desire to receive, which ascends together with these enjoyments.

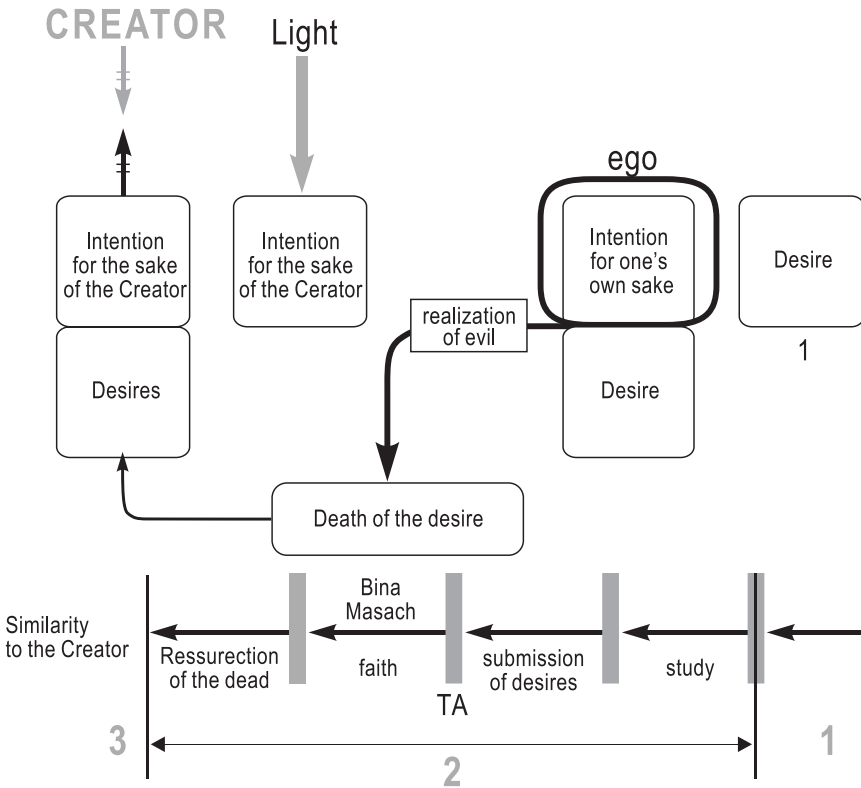
Secondly, receiving in this way will be equal to the desire to delight the Creator and will be a “pure” bestowal. In other words, we gain the equivalence of properties with the Creator, which is complete merging of our state one with state three.

Baal HaSulam wishes to tell us that state one, in which the will to receive pleasure was created, is a minimal natural desire. At a later stage, this desire is complemented with a huge “makeweight” – the intention for oneself. This negative intention goes through a period called the “realization of evil”, and is completely rejected by the person (considered “dead”). The person who studies Kabbalah acquires the intention for the sake of the Creator with the help of the Upper Light.

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That accomplished, the person attaches his desires to the acquired intention and “resurrects” them. When desires are used with the intention for the sake of the Creator, the person becomes completely similar to the Creator.

There are several stages in our development. At first, we only have one desire. Later we acquire the egoistical intention called our “ego”. Being our natural properties, our desires are not taken into consideration regardless of what they are and what form they take. The intention (for what purpose we use our desires) is critical.



Whatever desires our children may have, we do not consider them egoists. In our view, they resemble small animals, and we treat them with kindness. If a child takes something that does not belong to it, we do not consider it as theft, as something evil. We judge every action by the intention that stands behind it.

Evil begins when I acquire the egoistical intentions. I then recognize them as “dead” and refrain from using them. I detach myself from my previous intentions, neutralize my desires, and acquire the intention for the sake of the Creator under the influence of the Upper Light.

The first stage continues as we study Kabbalah. During our studies, the Surrounding light descends upon us. At some stage we begin to perceive ourselves as egoists, mean, evil people totally opposite to anything spiritual. This happens because under the influence of the Upper Light, we begin to feel our own evil. As we reach a state when we can neither use the intention for our own sake, nor our desires, we will make a kind of *Tzimtzum Aleph* and be ready to receive only spiritual properties. The next stage is the reception of *Masach* (or “faith”), a new *Kli*, the intention for the sake of the Creator.

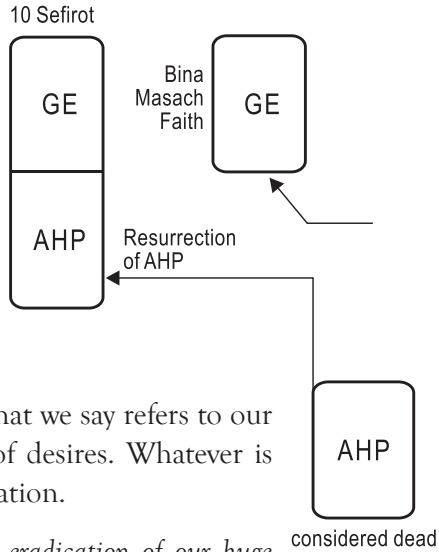
As soon as we receive it, we proceed to the next stage called “resurrection” and “similarity to the Creator”. Baal HaSulam writes about these stages in item 26.

27. Indeed, resurrection cannot take place before the End of Correction; that is, at the end of state two.

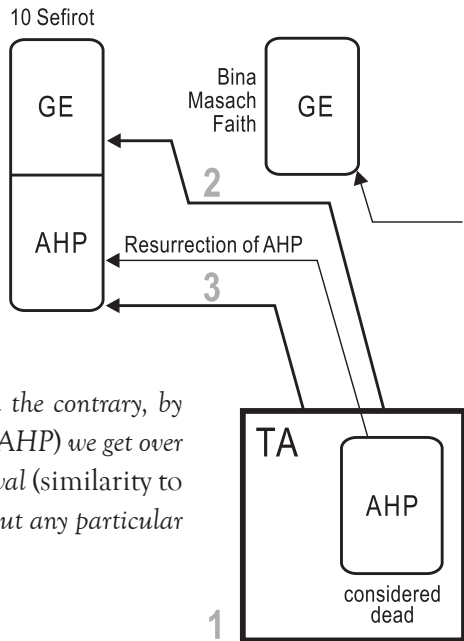
Baal HaSulam says: resurrection of the dead (i.e., our desires and intentions we refused to use) takes place when we acquire the intention for the sake of the Creator (*Kelim de Ashpa'a*). At the next stage, we add *AHP* to *Galgalta ve Eynaim*. This is the *AHP* that we ignored, considered dead before, and now revived. Thus, we form a complete *Partzuf* consisting of Ten *Sefirot* similar to the Creator.

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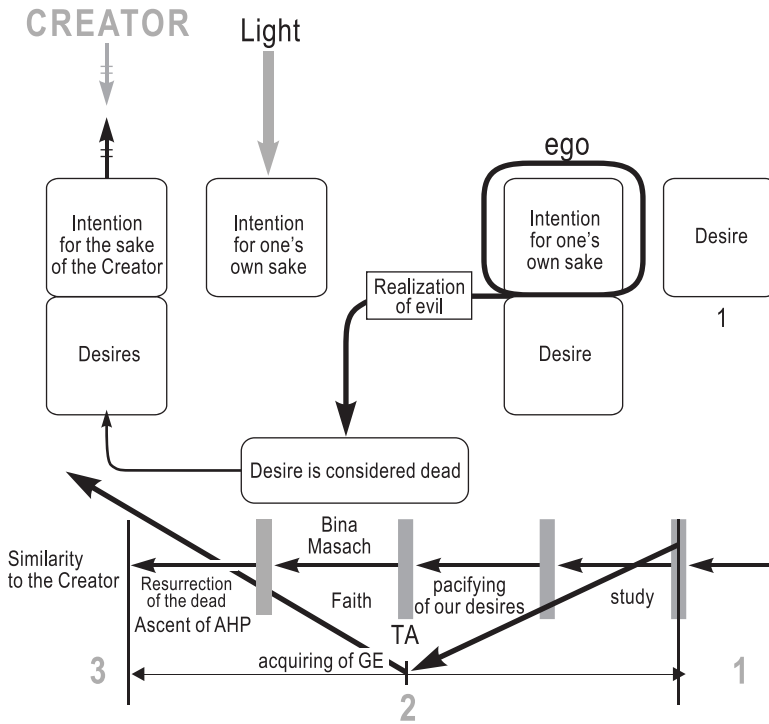
Reception of the *Galgalta ve Eynaim* is called “acquisition of the intention for the sake of the Creator”. The subsequent adding of the *AHP* occurs when we resurrect our old previously unused desires. So the revival of the dead desires, or as Torah describes it, “resurrection of the dead” happens right before the End of correction. Naturally, not a word of what we say refers to our biological bodies. We only speak of desires. Whatever is found in our world has no continuation.



Therefore after we achieved the eradication of our huge desire to receive and earned the desire to bestow, we were privileged to attain the levels of the soul that are called *Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida*. We gained the greatest perfection so that the body arises from the dead in all its enormous desire to receive. Now it does not threaten us any more with a separation from our merging with the Creator. On the contrary, by adding the desires of the body (*AHP*) we get over it and give it the form of bestowal (similarity to the Creator). This is true about any particular bad property.



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Baal HaSulam says that first of all, we reject our original desires and make a *Tzimtzum* on them. Secondly, we acquire a new desire. Our third action is the resurrection of our old desire.

He says that we apply the same method in our world.

It deals fairly with any individual bad property that we want to get rid of. At the beginning, we have to give it up completely so that nothing of it remains (i.e., completely neutralize it). Then you can come back (by gradually attaching the AHP), get it over again, and bring it (AHP) to the middle line.

This period is very long. At the beginning, we just study and gradually conclude that all we are made of is evil. We then obtain Faith and the *Kelim of Galgalta ve Eynaim* and ascend them. Starting with the pe-

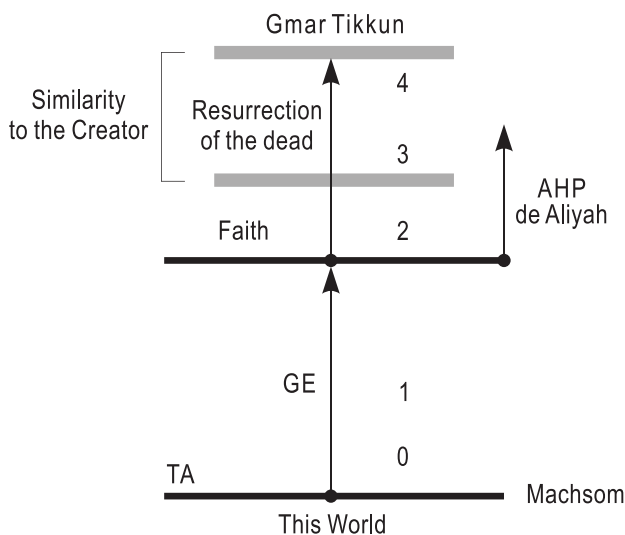
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riod of “resurrection of the dead” we begin to attach to ourselves the *AHP*. The similar process takes place in the worlds as well.

We exist in this world, cross the *Machsom*, acquire the *Kelim* of *GE* (*Aviut* 0 and 1) and finally reach the *Aviut* 2 (absolute Faith), three and four (resurrection of the dead). The seizure of evil occurs when the *Machsom* is crossed. “Resurrection of the dead” is the *AHP de Aliya*. By acquiring the *GE* we gradually attach to ourselves the *AHP*. Only when the person can start raising his *AHP*, does he become similar to the Creator, because only reception for the sake of the Creator is considered bestowal.

When the *Kelim* of *GE* are all I have, I only learn how to bestow. Real bestowal can only be at the last levels three and four, when by receiving pleasure the person pleases the Creator.

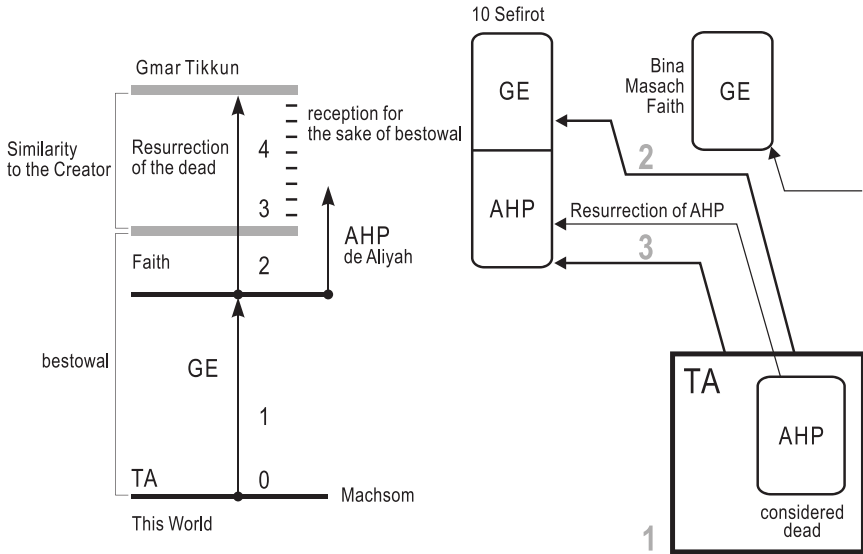
Hence, the resurrection of the dead takes place right before the *Gmar Tikkun* (End of Correction). Only at this level can the similarity to the Creator be achieved.



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28. As it is said by the sages, “In the future, the dead will rise with their defects and then will make a complete recovery”. That is, at the beginning, the same egoistical body rises from the dead. It is a huge, limitless desire to receive, one that was nurtured by the system of impure forces before it was honored to be purified by the light with the help of Kabbalah.

Of course, this is an allegory. No dead bodies are going to rise from their graves. When we begin to work with our previously dead AHP, it appears in all its original vileness (*Aviut* 3 and 4). We begin to correct the emerging egoism on the last levels of similarity to the Creator. Prior to that, it was only the period of preparation. Although we are in the spiritual world, these are just the *Kelim de Ashpa'a* (vessels of bestowal). However, at the levels three and four, we achieve reception for the sake of bestowal, which is equivalent to absolute bestowal.



We completely rid ourselves of egoistical desires, acquire altruistic intentions, and begin to resurrect our dead desires from the smallest to

the biggest, while attaching them to the altruistic intentions. Such is the order of correction.

Thus, all of our desires recover and achieve the similarity of properties with the Creator. From this, we can understand why the dead must rise from their graves with all their defects. The expression “Nobody would say that these are different bodies” means: no one would say that this form is different from the one that was in the Thought of creation. The huge desire to receive the abundance of the plan of creation was only temporarily given into the power of the Klipot... (the intention for oneself).

As a result, the desire is given to the person to correct with the intention “for the sake of the Creator”. He not only becomes similar to the Creator in his actions, he becomes equal to Him in that he achieves the ultimate level of existence. He not only enters the Creator’s sensations, but also attains the Thought of creation, eternity, perfection, infinity, and absolute freedom.

At that, our world loses its significance, disappears from the sensations of the person who now includes all the other souls.

We should reach this state while living in this world. We should attain and feel all the spiritual levels while being in our biological body. Everyone has this opportunity.

29. From all we have explained, it is possible to answer the second question: What is our role in the long chain of reality in which we are small links throughout our short life?

We come to this world to spend some 60-70 years and have no clue how we are going to live them or what we can make out of this life. The first 20-30 years are spent to reach adulthood. The last years do not count, because we grow too weak, indifferent, and tired. All we have left is a few years to ask a question about the meaning of life and understand something.

What are we and what is our purpose, how can we do or influence something, if our conscious existence is so brief? Why are we so sensitive to this question that animals never ask themselves?

This is what Baal HaSulam says:

You should know that our work during the years of our life consists of 4 periods. In the first period, the person acquires a huge, limitless desire to receive in all its depravity, while remaining under the power of the system of the 4 impure worlds of ABYA. This is the AHP, which we gradually destroy. Why does man first acquire enormous desires from all the Klipot? Unless we had that uncorrected desire to receive, we would not be able to correct it, because you can correct only the properties that you have.

Our first steps consist in acquiring as many desires as we can, although we aspire for the spiritual! Actually, we do not strive to satisfy our egoistical desires. Yet, as the person's spiritual aspirations grow, his egoistical desires awaken and develop as well. Hence the words: "He who aspires higher than others has bigger egoism" are very true.

Do not be surprised by the growing feeling of our egoism. This happens not only because we understand ourselves better, but also because bigger egoistical properties are revealed in us. This way, we acquire the *Kelim* of the AHP, the egoistical vessels in their egoistical form (with the intention for oneself).

Hence, the desire to receive, which our body has from its birth in this world, is not enough... For a certain amount of time we should be under the influence of the Klipot, i.e., we unconsciously and unwillingly let the egoistical desires grow in us.

The period during which the egoistical desires grow in the person is called "13 years". *This means that impure forces should control the person and give him some of their light under the influence of which his desire to receive*

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would grow, because the pleasures which impure forces supply the desire to receive extend and increase his demands.

Affected by the Upper Light, egoism grows day by day, because we need more and more of this light. By His purposeful influence, the Creator causes our egoism to grow.

For example, when man is born, there is a desire only for one portion, no more. When the impure forces fill the desire with this portion, the desire to receive doubles immediately. When the impure forces satisfy the increased desire, it extends and wishes to receive four times more pleasure.

Unless the person begins to limit himself and acquire the intention for the sake of the Creator (the *Kelim* of GE), unless he purifies himself, severs all ties with egoism and makes a *Tzimtzum Aleph* (does away with his *AHP*), he will continue chasing various pleasures of this world. Every time he receives some satisfaction from the *Klipa*, his desire would become twice as big as before. Hence, it is said:

If the person does not purify the desire to receive in order to turn it into bestowal, it grows during his lifetime, until he dies without gaining the desired objective.

This is what happens with us during all our incarnations, until we really understand that the pursuit of pleasure never leads to fulfillment.

I was asked by a local TV station to comment on Madonna's visit to Israel and her plans to make a video clip about Kabbalah. People want to know why she decided to do it in Israel. The presenters were genuinely puzzled asking why would someone who has seemingly everything, millions of dollars, influence and fame, all of a sudden seek Kabbalah, come to Israel, although the situation here is rather volatile. Why would Madonna be promoting Kabbalah?

I told them that the person comes to a state, when he or she ostensibly achieved in this life all he ever wanted. Nevertheless, he suddenly re-

alizes that he in fact has nothing. He understands that by increasing his desires he will only intensify his suffering, i.e., he will increase the emptiness of his *Kelim*, his sensations. So instinctively, he begins to search for an alternative method of fulfillment and discovers that this method is at a level that is higher than the usual pursuit of pleasures.

We see that, after satisfying their big desires, people like Madonna suddenly feel that it is not the end, that there is more pleasure waiting to be received. These desires are purely egoistical, but unfortunately, the hosts of the TV show do not feel that way. Everything depends on the level of development of egoism.

Thus, the person is under the power of the Klipot and impure forces. Their task is to extend and increase his desire to receive and make it limitless in order to show him the material (all of his AHP) which he should work on and correct.

Until the person receives this AHP, until he perceives it as dead, unfit to be used for receiving pleasure, he will continue reincarnating repeatedly.

By feeling his dead desires that are totally unable to give him a genuine fulfillment, the person will begin to soar and acquire new, sublime *Kelim* of GE. This only happens after the realization of evil.

This process can be accelerated. We should not try to get everything in the world, while receiving blows each time something is achieved with no fulfillment. We do not have to go all the way to the end, when we can save time and avoid suffering with the help of the Upper Light.

By attracting the Upper Light, we see how defective all of our *Kelim* (AHP) are. We have not yet used it, but we see how evil and opposite to the light it is. Therefore, we need not spend many more lives to discover the fallaciousness of the egoistical fulfillment.

This is what we call time contraction; this is what the method of Kabbalah is about. We need to draw the Surrounding light, and by using

it, quickly go through the period of realization, correction, and ascent to perfection.

All the stages of this path are predetermined. The only thing that depends on us is the acceleration of time. Without plunging into negative sensations and clashing with our own egoism, we can see the vileness of egoism in advance and avoid its blows.

This is achieved by the most intensive drawing of the Upper Light, which is only possible with the help of a group, of friends who aspire to the Goal together. I can attract the Surrounding light that affects all of us.

If we join our forces, we will make a breakthrough towards the end of state one. If we accumulate the light that everyone can attract, we all would feel its influence and realize our own evil so intensively that we would desire to obtain the Kelim of GE (properties of bestowal). Therefore, everything depends exclusively on our intention, on how much we are prepared to adopt this method.

30. The second period is from 13 on (after we come to the realization of the dead state, AHP), when strength is given to the point in the heart of man. It is the opposite side of the pure soul clothed in the desire to receive from the moment of his birth.

That is, from the moment of birth, we possess the egoistical *Kelim* that keep growing until we wish completely to reject them. Only then does our point in heart awaken. Even before we reach the level of “13 years”, we feel it as an aspiration for the Creator, but it is still suppressed by our egoistical desires. As soon as we see their evil and vileness and relinquish them, the point in heart emerges and manifests.

Awakening does not come before one reaches the level of “13 years”. After that, a man begins to pass into the power of a system of the pure worlds because of his study of Kabbalah. The main purpose during this period is to obtain a spiritual desire and to increase it (to reach GE, i.e., the properties of Bina, the screen, Faith, Kelim

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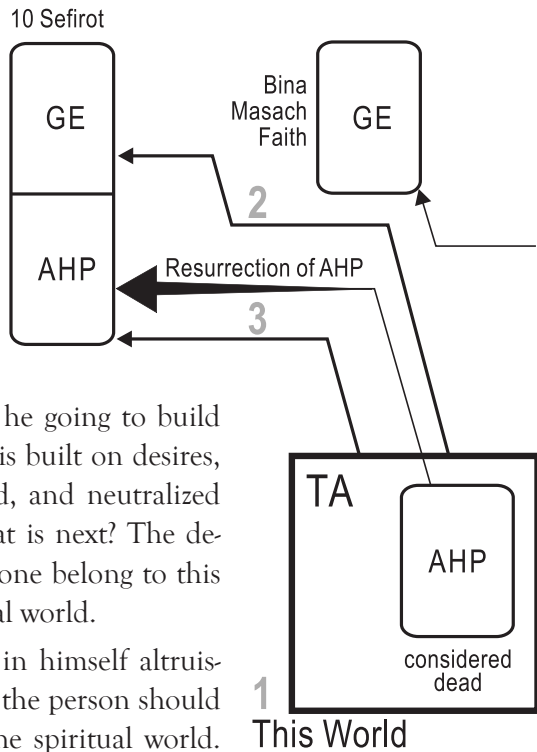
de Ashpa'a). From his birth, the person only seeks to satisfy his material desires. Therefore, notwithstanding that during 13 years he gains a huge desire to receive (feels his AHP in this first period), his development is not finished yet. The end of development of the desire to receive is an aspiration to spirituality. If for example, during 13 years his desire to receive aimed at receiving wealth and honor in this material world, it is known that this world is not everlasting and that, like a fleeting shadow, everyone appears in it for a brief moment and then disappears.

When he gains the huge desire to receive spirituality, he wants to absorb all the abundance of the eternal world to come for his own pleasure. Therefore, the essence of the huge desire to receive is to gain spirituality.

Thus, he acquires the eternal, enormous AHP.

After the first period, the person makes the First Restriction (*Tzimtzum Aleph*) and starts working with the vessels of bestowal in order to acquire a screen. What is he going to build his screen on? The screen is built on desires, yet he restricted, destroyed, and neutralized them in state one. So what is next? The desires he restricted in state one belong to this small, simple, and egoistical world.

In order to develop in himself altruistic intentions in state two, the person should lean on new desires for the spiritual world.



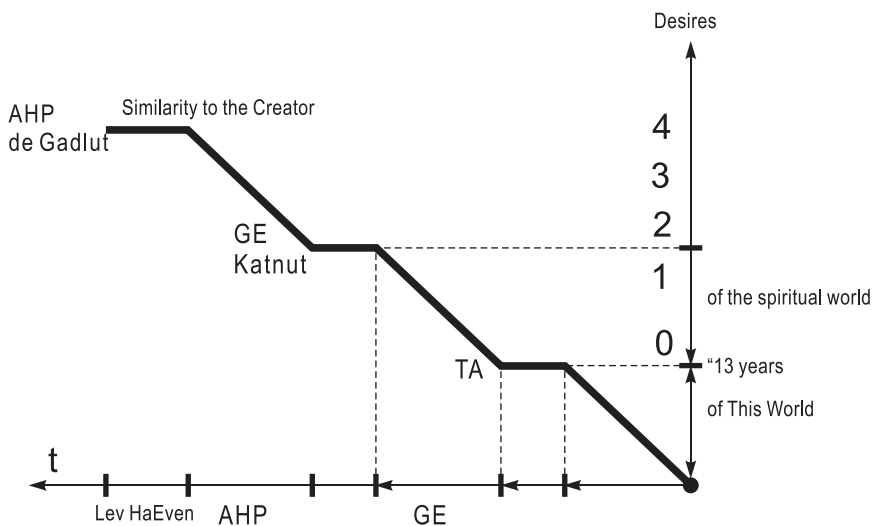
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First, he grows his desires of this world up to the level of “13 years”. They in turn separate into animate desires and the desires for wealth, honor, fame, and knowledge. This happens in all of our previous incarnations.

Feeling them as evil, he restricts them (makes *Tzimtzum Aleph*) and begins to acquire other desires that develop on spiritual levels.

He builds his altruistic *Kelim* (*GE*) on the enormous egoistical desires zero and one, which are much greater than “our world”. This state is called “*Katnut*” (small state). Now he has *GE*, or as we say, he achieves the states of *Bina*, the *Masach*, or Faith. Here he begins to build his new desires: two, three, and four. When he reaches the level of “*Gadlut*” (big state), he attaches to himself the *AHP* (levels of *Awzen*, *Hotem* and *Peh*). At this stage, he becomes similar to the Creator.

This is what the entire path of man is like.

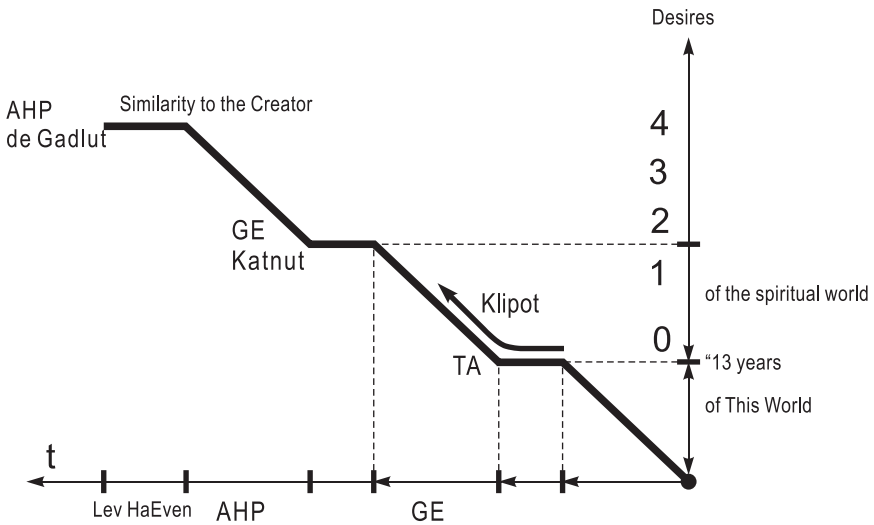


We are now in the middle of the process of realizing evil. After that, we will be building our *GE* and working with the “dead bodies”, i.e., with the *AHP*. This stage will be followed by the correction of the *Lev HaEven* when we achieve complete similarity to the Creator.

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Baal HaSulam describes these stages of our development in a different way, uses a different language. We can look upon the states either from the point of the light (the *NaRaNHAY*), or from the point of the *Kelim* (the *Sefirot*). We can also divide them into periods that presumably correspond to a human life. This is because all the spiritual roots have their reflections in our world.

Baal HaSulam may use the language of the Torah (the Bible or Talmud) to demonstrate that all the sacred books write about the same topic: the path man must traverse and how he will do that. He says that the problem starts not in this world, but at the stage that follows, because man's desires begin to grow. The *Klipot* (impure forces) emerge and enable the person to transform their influence into something opposite and pure.



How does it happen? Here is what the Kabbalist says:

31. Our sages say: "The leech has two daughters, crying, give, give (Proverbs 30, 15)": "A leech means Hell (hell is a forced use of the egoistical properties). The sinners, who fall into the trap of hell,

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bark like dogs: “Bow-wow” (“Hav-Hav” – Heb.: give-give), meaning – “give us the wealth of this world and the wealth of the world to come”.

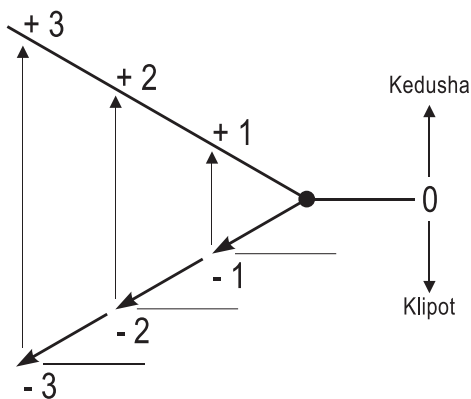
The level at which the person works with the *Klipot* is very important, because this way he obtains the material for his work. He acquires the desires without which he cannot become similar to the Creator. Therefore, there must be periods when we receive uncorrected desires and correct them.

Therefore, the level that comes after 13 years is defined as “pure”, which is the meaning of the writing, “the house-maid serves her mistress”, that is, to serve the Holy Shechina. It means that the maid-servant symbolizes egoistical desires that lead to the spiritual level of bestowal, when the person is awarded “the light of Shechina”.

It is the person’s responsibility to do everything he can in order to gain the state of “Li Shema” (desire to bestow). If he does not make every effort to reach the state of “Li Shema”, he will fall into the garbage bin of the “impure” maidservant, who is the opposite of the “pure” one.

Unless the person who studies Kabbalah begins to purify the acquired impure desires, he falls more and more into the *Klipot*.

The zero level corresponds to our natural petty egoism. Below is the area of the *Klipot*; above is the place of *Kedusha*, the intention for the sake of the Creator. Unless the person makes an effort to apply the right method of spiritual ascent, unless he turns the property “-1” into “+1”, “-2” into



“+2”, etc., he falls deeper and deeper under the power of the *Klipot*, until his study of Kabbalah is for his selfish enjoyment, with an intention to pass himself off as an important Rabbi, in order to lock people to him and to turn them into zombies. Thus, he plunges into absolute impurity.

This means that the maidservant takes the place of her mistress and prevents the person from approaching the Holy Shechina. The last level of this period is the desire to enjoy the Creator. This resembles man in this world whose passionate desire is so great that it is burning in him day and night, as it is said, “A constant memory does not let me sleep”.

It is also said about him, “The tree of life is full of passion”, that is the five levels of the soul form the Tree of life for 500 years. Every level lasts 100 years that brings the person to the reception of all these five levels of NaRaNHAY that become revealed in the third period.

Why are there exactly 500 years? 500 years is a complete level. Every level is called “100 years”, because it consists of 10 *Sefirot* and each *Sefira* in its turn has ten sub-levels. Therefore, the number “100” is considered a complete level. If *Nefesh* is a complete level, it is called “100”. This means that man created the *Kli* and acquired for it the inner light called “100”. This is how the corrected *Kli* filled with the light is designated. It is defined similarly on all the levels: *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Haya*, *Neshama*, and *Yechida*, which totals 500 years. However, this is attained in the third period.

32. The third period is in Torah and Commandments Li Shema, that is, for the sake of bestowal and not for receiving a reward. This work purifies man’s desire to receive for himself and turns it into the desire to bestow.

After man acquired all the egoistical desires, not only the *Galgalta ve Eynaim*, but the AHP as well, he begins to work for the Creator. I

would like to remind you that “the desire to bestow” and “the desire to receive” are just names. Human beings do not have pure desires to receive or to bestow. The desire to bestow is the Creator’s attribute, while the desire to receive is man, creation. This is his property and there is nothing else in him.

If man wishes to become similar to the Creator, he uses his desire to receive for the sake of bestowal, i.e., he receives pleasure to please the Creator. However, he still receives. Desires remain unchanged, only the intention, the method of using the desire is modified. Therefore, when we say that man passes from the “desire to receive” to the “desire to bestow”, we ought to understand that he acquires a new intention for the same old desire. This is why old desires with the intention for one’s self are considered dead. At a later stage, they rise and become pure and eternal, if man acquires the intention for the Creator’s sake instead of the intention for himself.

Let me say this again: although Kabbalah is called a science, it is attained not in the mind of our world, but in the Upper mind. This world is attained in its *Kelim*, in the mind of our world. To start attaining the Upper World above the *Machsom*, one should acquire the mind that corresponds with the Upper World.

The mind of the Upper World is called “faith above reason”; it is the property of bestowal. This property is exactly what constitutes the mind in the Upper World. You may be sitting at the lesson and understand nothing. It does not matter. Just make an effort and this will attract the Upper Light. The Upper Light will create in you the Reflected light, the correct intention. This intention is where you will feel the Upper World and receive the Upper mind.

This will happen not because you will be racking your brain, but because while being confused, irritated and exhausted, you will continue to aspire to Him. You will succeed not because you slept well and came to the lesson in good spirits, with pen and paper, eager to research the

Upper Realm as the scientists of our world. This will only happen because of your effort.

Quite the contrary, everything will work out from the state of confusion, disillusion, detachment, and weariness. When spirituality seems insignificant and unreal, it means that you are in the most correct state with regard to the Creator. If, while being in these states, you continue aspiring to the Upper World, the necessary spiritual *Kelim* (spiritual mind) will be formed in you.

Man rises to the level where so much light descends upon him that he can already transform his desires into spiritual, altruistic.

As soon as man purifies the desire to receive, he becomes worthy and ready to obtain the five parts of the soul that are called the NaRaNHaY. They are in the desire to bestow and cannot be clothed into the body until the desire to receive has a power in him.

The soul has two components: one is the *Kli* that consists of five parts: *Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA* and *Malchut*. It is alternatively called the body of the soul, or the *Partzuf*. Inside it there is the light called the *NaRaNHaY* (*Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida*).

As soon as the egoistical intentions become altruistic, desires begin to fill with the Upper Light to the extent of the *Ohr Hassadim* (or the Reflected light, or the screen – the definition is of no consequence). *Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA, and Malchut* are the five *Kelim* that are filled with the five lights of the *NaRaNHaY*.

However, when man is honored to become entirely a desire to bestow without receiving anything for one's self, he earns the same properties that he has in his upper NaRaNHaY (descending from its source in the world of Infinity from state one through the pure worlds of ABYA). These properties descend upon him immediately and clothe in him in accordance with the level.

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The fourth period is the work after rising from the dead. It means that the desire to receive that completely disappeared, died and was buried, rises from the dead in its biggest and worst appearance, as it is said, "In the future, the dead will rise with all their defects", and then turn them into receiving for the sake of giving.

Some special individuals are given this work during their lifetime in this world.

Baal HaSulam says that there are people, who complete this work and reach the levels that are above the "resurrection of the dead", when *Lev HaEven* becomes completely corrected. This is the level we are destined to achieve.

33. Now, there is the sixth analysis left to understand. As it is said by the sages, all worlds, upper and lower, were created only for man, not for anything else. At first glance, it seems very strange that the Creator has tried to create all of this for such an insignificant creature like man, who is like a grain of sand in this world in comparison with the whole universe, let alone with the spiritual worlds.

The matter concerns man's feelings, his mental and spiritual parameters. How can we compare ourselves with the Upper Worlds, when even our world, our universe is a tiny grit in the great cosmos with regard to the smallest level of the Upper World?

We are told that man is created to become the master of all the worlds, to include all of them within him, and that nothing exists except for man with all the worlds within him. How can this be? It utterly contradicts our ideas about ourselves, and the universe that we know by our sensations.

It is even stranger to realize why man needs all these Upper spiritual worlds? What is this universe for? How can we use it? We do not even properly know our own planet. We have no idea of what is a couple of miles below us, or a couple of parsecs

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above us. Why do we need all that is created around us? Here is what Baal HaSulam answers:

You should know that the Creator receives joy just from the gratification of those whom He has created, but only to the extent in which creation feels Him, feels that He is giving and wishes to delight them. He starts amusing Himself with them as a father who is playing with his beloved son. As much as the son feels and recognizes the greatness and power of his father, he shows him all the treasures that he prepared for him.

Read this again; *As much as the son feels and recognizes the greatness and power of his father (the Creator)...* This means man acquires the properties of the Creator, for how else would he be able to understand?

Think carefully about what was said and then you can understand and know the great amusement of the Creator with those perfect souls that were honored to feel and understand His greatness throughout all the ways He has prepared for them, until they come up to the relationship between father and son. Everything that was written is for those who perceive the spiritual worlds.

Until we reach these levels and establish the same contact with the Upper Force, we will not be able to understand the purpose of all that was prepared for us. As much as we can feel the greatness of this power, realize it on ourselves, and adopt its properties, we will begin to comprehend how we can rule over the universe and all the Upper Worlds in place of the Creator. Only then shall we discover why He created such immense and awesome worlds for us.

There is nothing more to say about it. It is enough to know that for those pleasures and amusements, it was worth it for Him to create all the worlds, both the Upper and the lower, which we are yet to reveal.

34. *In order to prepare His creatures to reach the aforementioned exalted level, the Creator thought of four levels that evolve one out of another. They are called still, vegetative, animate, and human, and they are indeed the four phases of the will to receive that each of the Upper Worlds consists of. For although the vast majority of the will is in the fourth phase of the will to receive, it is impossible for it to materialize all at once, except by the preceding three phases that gradually expose and develop it, until its form has been completed.*

Man gradually enters into the sensations of the Creator, becomes similar to Him, masters the system of creation, and begins to rule over the heritage that the Creator prepared for him. Man gradually ascends the four levels still, vegetative, animate, and human, while attaining the four degrees of comprehension of the universe.

These four levels exist in our will to receive and, by correcting each of them, we ascend to the next level of sensation of power over the surrounding world.

35. *In the first phase of the will to receive, called still, which is the preliminary exposure of the egoistical desire in this corporeal world, there is but a general movement that includes the whole of the still category. But in particular items there is no apparent movement. That is because the will to receive generates needs and the needs stimulate movement that is sufficient to attain what it wants.*

It is the same with us; the most important thing is desire. If there is a desire, I will be able to make a move to receive what I want. If I feel that I am too lazy, (What does it mean, to be lazy? - It means that my will to receive is insufficient), I have to work on increasing my will to receive, and then I will not be lazy anymore.

How can I make this happen within myself? Only with the help of studies, contacts with others like me, by receiving the Kabbalistic method from the books, listening to what Kabbalists advise us.

Our will to receive is small. To increase it to such an extent that we break through the barrier into the spiritual, we need to turn our desire from being small into being an all-conquering one. One can do this only under external impact, under the influence of a group, when I have 35 people around me.

If all of us out there are given the opportunity to unite, then each of us will receive the will that is 200, 300 times greater, according to the number of people now present at our virtual lesson. It will be quite enough to cross the barrier and enter the Upper World right now. We lack only one thing: the union of our aspirations for the spiritual.

Since there is only a small will to receive, it dominates the whole of the category at once, but its power over the particular items is indistinguishable.

This refers to the first phase – the still level of the will to receive. Each subsequent level appears as a superstructure above the preceding one.

36. The second phase of the will to receive that is called vegetative is added to the first. Its desire is larger than in the still phase, and it dominates every item of the category. Similarly, in the vegetative world we see a germ, a spark of life in every plant.

Each one has its own private movement that spreads up and down and to the sides, and moves where the sun shines (reaction of each part to the Upper Light); **the manner of nourishment and excreting waste is also apparent in each item.** There is already a recognition of what is “good” and “evil”; useful things are attracted, harmful are repelled. Already the vegetative type of will to receive exists in us, but is nonetheless a very small, general desire.

A group appears and, in general, it aspires to something. You may say, “Well, isn’t it good that the group aspires to something?” Everyone in the group must be an individual, but at the same time, all of them

must be united, merged in a single whole, despite their outstanding individual qualities.

Only then will this gathering of individuals become a group. If they are not prominent individuals, but simply people united on their small level, it is not a group, but an amorphous mass. This difference separates a Kabbalistic group and an ordinary mass of people. A group is made up of people who are developing themselves individually to the maximum, while uniting in one whole to the maximum despite their individuality.

Thus, individuality starts from the second vegetative level, when each of us begins to feel inner movements, to comprehend and distinguish between the notions of “evil” and “good”, “to the Creator” and “to myself”, “to friends” – “away from them”, and so on.

37. In addition, we also have the animate level, the third phase of the will to receive that is so great that it generates in each of its parts (that is, in every individual who reaches the animate level) a feeling of freedom, which represents a special life of each part that is distinct from the others.

Plants and trees in the field shed their leaves at the same time, and then begin to grow. The leaves fall because there is no sun; the sun shines for all of them. Conversely, they wake up when the sun rises, turn in the direction of the sun, and so on. That is, there is a common life for all, different from that of the still nature, but it is common for each species.

Each individual animal leads a separate life; each can move around freely, even though there are periods common to specific animal groups, such as mating, development, growth, and rearing. Animals are at the intermediate level, but they have freedom of movement.

In the same way, as we reach the animate level of development where free inner movements awaken within us, work begins on our egoistical de-

sires that are unique for everyone. Yet what is still negative and insufficient on this animate level? Why is it not final? Baal HaSulam says:

However, these desires yet lack the sensation of their neighbor (this is most important), that is, they are yet unprepared to feel compassion for others' suffering or joy over their good fortune.

He does not write, "to feel joy over others' suffering or joy over their good fortune", but puts it in the right, altruistic way: "to feel compassion for others' suffering or joy over their good fortune."

This is the fourth degree of the will to receive. Why do we need it? Why is it something that distinguishes man (by man we mean his spiritual category) from an animal?

38. In addition to all is the human level, the fourth phase of the will to receive. This is the complete, fully developed will to receive, because it includes feelings for others.

If you wish to know with absolute accuracy what the distinction between the third (animate) phase of the will to receive, and the fourth (human) one is, I shall tell you that it is as the worth of a single creature against the whole of reality.

What does the feeling of someone's joy and suffering give me? Why should I feel another's *Kli*, another's desire?

The person who finds himself at the third level of development is an ordinary person. If he reaches the fourth level of the will to receive, he includes in himself all the worlds. Only the quality of feeling his neighbor enables man to grow his will to receive to such a degree where he attains and absorbs the whole universe. This is what he gets from the sensation of others, something that animals lack.

A feeling for others is an altruistic feeling! Animals possess an egoistical sensation of others; they help one another, have families, prides,

packs and herds, i.e., groups of all sorts. They have developed mutual aid on a very high, animate, instinctive, egoistical level.

Baal HaSulam writes in paragraph 37, “to feel compassion for others’ suffering”. Compassion means to feel someone’s suffering as one’s own or to be happy for his good fortune. When someone else receives, I feel as if I receive.

If man can reach such a level of his will to receive, he rises above nature, above all the other worlds, starting from phase zero, where he is still at the animate level of development. If he rises to the human level, i.e., absorbs in him all the negative and positive desires of those around him and identifies himself with them, then he turns into an immense vessel that includes all souls, all worlds, including the world of Infinity. This whole circle enters inside his large, common soul.

This is because the will to receive at the animate level, which lacks the sensation of others, is unable to beget desires and needs other than what is imprinted in this creature alone. Whereas man, who can feel others, acquires their desires and properties as his own, absorbs them, becomes needy of everything that others have too, and is thus filled with envy wishing to acquire everything. He then acquires additional egoistical desires, the Klipot, that he can now correct.

When he has a certain share, he wants to double it. (He sees that someone else has something and craves it). Therefore, his needs multiply until he wants to swallow all that there is in the whole world.

He desires all that exists in the world, including the desire called “Pharaoh”. He wants the Creator to fill, delight, and serve him. Only owing to our inner quality of envy, meaning sensation of others, can we evolve and reach the level called “man”. The rudiments of this opportu-

nity exist outside us. How can we prevent them from leading us to the *Klipot*, away from the Creator? We shall discuss this at length later...

We continue studying “The Introduction to the Book of Zohar.” In this Introduction Baal HaSulam tells us about the development of the human soul – from a small Reshimo, which awakens in man, up to the moment when he enters the spiritual world. First, in the form of a spiritual embryo, then as a child, and later on – as an adult, man becomes similar to the Creator and enters the sensation of eternity, infinity, and perfection. He rises above life and death, feels life as an endless process. Therefore, he naturally perceives his state in this world quite differently.

Each of us aspires to achieve such a state because the people who feel good do not come to Kabbalah. All of us need something, but mostly we are restless because of the tormenting question about the point of our life. The point of life can be attained as a result of the revelation of the Upper World, the Creator, the entire universe in which we exist (it is called the Creator on the highest level with regard to us). The remaining lower levels are called the worlds.

Kabbalah explains how man can go through all these intermediate states and rise from the level of this world to the Upper World, and then reach the highest level of merging with the Creator. Since it reveals the most important concerns in our life, man’s purpose, what he is going to achieve from his efforts in this world, this wisdom is vitally important for man. Because Kabbalah not only theoretically explains the existing reality, but also ushers the person into the Upper World, it is also important for the entire humankind.

We are just beginning to understand it and hope that others will soon realize it too, thanks to our efforts. The only means for entering the Upper World is the spiritual light that corrects us. We should expose ourselves to this light, so that it will pull us out of this reality into the sensation of the Upper World. Only during the studies can we tune our-

selves up to this Supreme force (the so-called *Ohr Makif* – the Surrounding light). Being surrounded by the Upper Light is the most favorable state. We just need to prepare ourselves, be more sensitive to it, and wish to be influenced, corrected by this light.

The influence of the light depends on our desire, which can be increased at the expense of desires of other people. The way we receive desires for something in this world, from our environment, the virtual group, all of us should tune each other to the reception of the Upper Light and to spiritual ascent. When this becomes the most important thing in our life, when we need the influence of the Upper Light more than anything else, it will reveal itself to us and elevate us to the next level.

Therefore, during our studies we should imagine huge virtual groups with hundreds of people who gather and listen to us in Russian, Hebrew, and English all over the world. We should get to know each other well and encourage it in every way possible. We need to create a common webpage, post our photographs, and share our impressions. You should join this virtual group so that our spiritual aspirations will merge. Then the light of correction will shine upon all of us and elevate us to the Creator.

As a teacher and a guide, I only direct you to the Creator. Do not lock yourselves to me. Your opinions, desires, requests, and demands should be directed to the Creator alone. Even the questions you ask me on the forum, in your letters and in phone conversations should first be turned to Him. You may receive the answer and find the necessary solution within yourself. This will be the Creator's reply to you.

After such attempts, when nothing is clear to you and it makes you suffer, you may turn to me. However, even in this case you may not receive my answer, because the answer to such questions should come from Above. As a teacher, I will not answer them.

Our advancement is directly connected with the higher spiritual level. We should try to demand the *Ohr Makif* from it, address all our questions to it and only from it receive the answers. The group, the teacher, and the books are only the means that help us to advance. This is the attitude we should adopt. Do not replace the Creator with Rav or the group, because they are only auxiliary instruments on our path to Him.

Now we will find out how to advance towards the Creator. Baal HaSulam says:

39. We have shown that the Creator's purpose is to bestow upon His creatures, so that they may know His genuineness and greatness, and receive all the delight and goodness He had prepared for them. We do not yet understand His purpose, but it will gradually transpire. It is most clear to the Kabbalists, on whose behalf Baal HaSulam speaks. They attain the purpose, the meaning, and the final result of the entire creation.

After that, we (i.e., the Kabbalists) clearly find that this purpose does not apply to the still and the large planets such as the Earth, the Moon, or the Sun, however luminous they may be.

The Creator's intentions refer neither to the vegetative nor to the animate level of nature (although they live some form of a biological life), for they lack the sensation of others (they cannot even develop it on their own level, let alone on the higher one).

They lack the sensation of others, of jealousy, envy, and real pleasures, even of the animate kind. Animals do not feel pleasure. All they do is dictated by their inner instincts. Since they are unable to absorb the desires of others, they naturally cannot enjoy the pleasures of others either. An animal may be either hungry or not, but it cannot get hungry by simply looking at another hungry animal.

Even on a primitive animate level, desires do not pass from one animal to another, even more the desire to attain a higher spiritual level, which is initially absent in us. Suppose I have no idea what it means to be a scientist, a professor, or an actor. However, I look at them and see how they enjoy it, so I want to be like them. With the help of “*Kinah, Ta'avah ve Kavod*” (envy, craving for pleasures and the desire for honor and fame), I can acquire from others the tastes that are totally unknown to me. This way, my *Kli*, my desire, can constantly grow, and I can infinitely develop it in our world by absorbing all the desires existing in the universe and even on the spiritual level. It resembles a hypothetical situation where, with the help of certain actions, a plant could turn into an animal, or an animal into man. However, only humans can rise to the Divine level. This is possible because the root of such a property is present in us – the sensation of another human being. This property is absent in the inanimate bodies, plants and animals.

We are born with only animal desires, purely animal instincts that existed in primitive people. These are our bodily desires for such natural pleasures as food, sex, home and family. Besides, as a result of envy man develops a desire to receive something that another person has, even if he does not really need it. Even if I have all that my heart desires, but there is someone who enjoys something else; then I want to receive that pleasure too.

Finally, the desires for power and honor bring me pleasure, because I feel people’s submission and respect. These are man’s ultimate aspirations in this world. It does not matter to me that I do not have it in my pocket; I enjoy people’s attitude toward me. This makes me bigger, more significant.

Envy, craving for pleasures, and the desire for fame and recognition develop man to such an extent that he can attach additional egoism from others to his own and begin to advance spiritually.

Man does not receive his desires only from the level of this world. He has a “point in his heart” – the egoistical spiritual desire. In Hebrew, it is called “*Achoraim de Nefesh de Kedusha*.” This is the egoistical desire of the upper level. I come to desire to control this Upper level, the Creator. I want Him to do what I wish. The attainment is not limited by the desires of this world; the process continues in the Upper Worlds. Always, my Upper level begins with my desire to enslave the Creator. When I discover His properties and gradually reveal His perfection, it transforms me in such a way that I already wish him to enslave me, my egoism. I want Him to pass His properties to me, so that I may absorb them and become similar to Him.

However, everything begins with huge egoistical desires. Hence, it is said: “He, who is higher than another has greater egoistical desires.” One should not be afraid of that.

Therefore, a few months after the person begins to study Kabbalah, he suddenly notices that his egoism has grown. For example, he never dreamed about millions of dollars before, and all of a sudden, he realizes what the passion for money is. He never thought of honor and recognition, for why would he need that and from whom? From other two-legged creatures? Yet suddenly he begins to crave it; he wants people to pay attention to him. The person who was quite moderate in his animal instincts (food and sex) suddenly loses his mind. It becomes his inner obstacle, which gave him no trouble before.

Everything that happens to the person in the process of his spiritual growth is based on the development of egoism. It is said in the Babylonian Talmud that, since the destruction of the Temple (when we spiritually fell to the level of this world), the real taste for sex and the genuine egoistical desires (“sex” being the core of our animal pleasures) can only be enjoyed by those who aspire to the Upper World (“*Ta’am Biah Nishar Rak le Ovdei HaShem*”). We need to correct additional egoism for advancing spiritually.

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Having realized that the Creator's desire, the purpose of creation, is in bestowing pleasure upon created beings, we now clearly see that this purpose refers neither to the inanimate bodies nor to huge planets, since they have no sensation of others. Neither does it concern the plants and animals in our world, because they also lack such a sensation. How will they be able to feel the Creator's goodness if they cannot even feel their own kind?

When we develop and reach the spiritual level called “man”, i.e., when our egoism is so developed that we want much more than others, we begin to envy them and desire whatever they have, although initially we never had such desires. We envy their pleasures, honor, fame, and wish to conquer the whole world. This is called the real man. He is still uncorrected, yet he is ready for it because he already has what to correct.

Man alone, after having been prepared with the sensation of others who are like him, after delving into Torah and the commandments, will turn his will to receive (egoistic, enormous desire acquired from outside) into the will to bestow, and come to equivalence of form with his Maker. Then he reaches the levels that had been prepared for him in the Upper Worlds. This is the way we ascend the Upper Worlds.

As we receive additional portions of egoism (from the left line), we begin to correct it with the help of the Upper Light by raising a request (commandment) and receiving the Torah (the light of correction) from Above. The correction occurs with the help of the right line, the descending light. Thus, we create ourselves in the middle line. Our egoism of the left line becomes similar to the Creator's properties of the right line.

We build ourselves between the two lines, while receiving the NaRaNHaY on all the 120 levels of our ascent to the world of Infinity. The NaRaNHaY in the world of Infinity is referred to as the light of the Torah; its parts on the preliminary stages between our level and the world of Infinity are called *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*. While

ascending the five worlds we receive the light of *Nefesh* in the world of *Assiya*, the light of *Ruach* in the world of *Yetzira*, the light of *Neshama* in the world of *Beria*, the light of *Haya* in the world of *Atzilut* and the light of *Yechida* in the world of *Adam Kadmon*.

As we ascend from the world of *AK* to the world of Infinity, we simply are included into the common light already called, not the *NaRaNHAY*, but the Torah. There are no distinctions or subtle nuances in it, just the perfect light.

Thus, rising from our world to the world of Infinity, we pass through the following levels: first “secret”, then “allegory”, after that “hint” and finally “simplicity”. It is called *PaRDeS* – *Pshat*, *Remez*, *Droosh*, and *Sod*. The *Pshat* is the simplest light in the world of Infinity; the *Droosh* (the light in the worlds of *AK* and *Atzilut*) is below it; then the *Remez* is like a hint in the world of *Beria* and *Yetzira* and the *Sod* in the world of *Assiya* and in our world, the secret, concealed light, which we neither feel nor understand.

Therefore the attainment of the *PaRDeS* occurs in the reverse order (from down upwards). This is what the *Gaon* from Vilna says in his prayer book: “The *PaRDeS* constitutes four different levels of attainment: first the simple, then a little deeper, then deeper still and finally very profound knowledge”.

Thus, we ostensibly attain the *PaRDeS*, but in fact, we just mechanically study what is written in the book, staying within the bounds of a simple learning of the text on the level of our world. In reality, the attainment of the *PaRDeS*, i.e., of the Torah in the world of Infinity is simple, like the light that is shining there, because even the *NaRaNHAY* becomes one simple light on that level.

Here Baal HaSulam says that the common people who study the Torah think that everything is studied on our level and that the knowledge of the laws of the universe requires no spiritual ascent. He calls such

people “philosophers” or “*Baalei Batim*” (house owners), or sometimes “false sages”.

40. I know that it is completely unaccepted in the eyes of some philosophers. They cannot agree that man, whom they think of as low and worthless, is the center of the magnificent creation.

In other words, man should not ascend and absorb the entire Creation. Everyone except for Kabbalists thinks this way. Kabbalists, however, are convinced that just with the help of his egoism, and not through its suppression, man should take in this whole world and become similar to the Creator in his attitude to the universe.

Baal HaSulam says: *I know that it is completely unaccepted in the eyes of some philosophers... He speaks about “the know-it-alls” among us, who are not willing to grasp the universe and rise above it. They are like the worm that is born inside a radish and thinks that the Creator’s world is as bitter and dark as the radish it was born in. However, as soon as the shell of the radish breaks and it peeps out, it wonders and says: “I thought the whole world was the size of my radish...” This is what we say to ourselves today. Each of us feels this way before crossing the Machsom. “I thought the whole world was the size of my radish, and now I see before me a grand, beautiful, and wondrous world!”*

So too are those who are sunk in the shell of the will to receive; they were born with (that prevents them from feeling something beyond themselves), and did not taste the new means, new sensations and the divine properties (that would enable them to transcend the bounds of their egoism and feel the world beyond themselves) that can break this hard shell and turn it into a will to bestow contentment upon the Maker (i.e., become equal to Him). It is certain that they must determine their worthlessness and emptiness, as that is what they really are like, and cannot

comprehend that this magnificent reality had not been created but for them.

Indeed, if they had delved into Kabbalah in order to bestow contentment to their Maker (if they had transformed their egoistic desires into bestowal upon the Creator). They would try to hatch from the shell they were born into and receive the will to bestow, their eyes would immediately open to see and attain all the pleasant and sweet, beyond words, degrees of wisdom, intelligence and clear mind, which have been prepared for them in the spiritual worlds. Then they themselves would say as our sages said: "What does a good guest say? Everything the host did, he did for me alone".

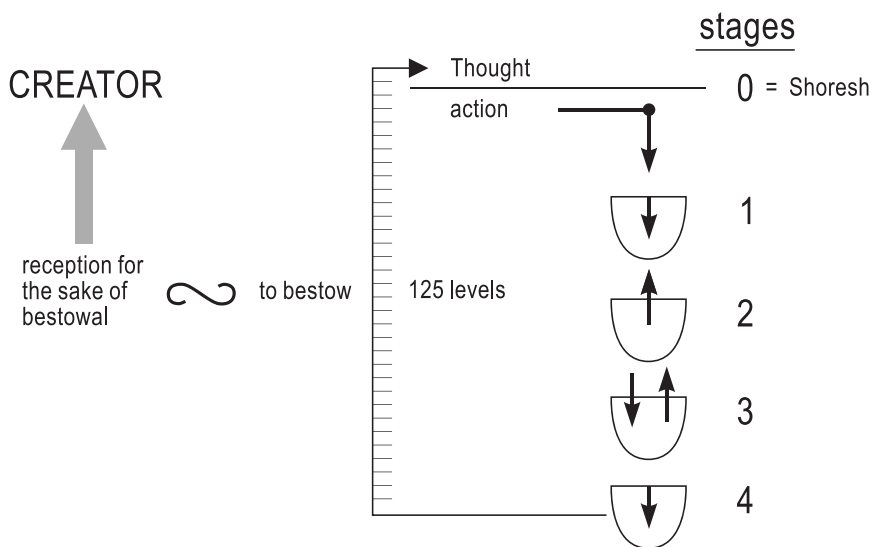
We should attain this level and see all that the Creator is doing for us. "All" implies the level of the world of Infinity.

We learn that the last level of man's attainment is called the "Thought of creation". The first, the second, the third, and then the fourth levels descend from there, from the four stages of the Straight light. The highest level consists of two parts. The lower part of this root level, *Behina Shoresh*, refers to us. The Upper Light descends from it and gives birth to *Behina Aleph*, the first stage of the Direct light, but this is the lower part of the root level. The upper part of the root level is the Creator's Thought, where all that was created is inside Him, on His level. We should reach this level.

Although we are born on the lower part (zero stage), we have to achieve the Creator through our own effort.

Behina Shoresh consists of two parts. The first stage (the will to receive) is born from the lower part. Then the second stage (the will to bestow) emerges. Here the Creator's action manifests with regard to us. His Thought is in the upper part (the zero stage).

We are born in the third stage, and then the fourth stage follows. *Malchut* transforms itself, performs *Tzimtzum Aleph*, acquires a screen,



and then ascends 125 levels through a long series of corrective actions. Although it was born because of the Creator's action, by imitating His actions, it rises, achieves His Thought, and merges with Him, since "similarity" in the spiritual world implies likeness to the Creator's actions – the desire to bestow. Our will to receive for the sake of bestowal is equivalent to the Creator's bestowal.

It is said: "I will know You by Your actions", (i.e., we reach the Creator's level. "I will know You" means I will rise to the level of Your thoughts). This is what similarity gives us. Only after reaching the level of the Creator's thoughts can we really say: *Everything the host did, he did for me alone.*

41. *However, there still remains a need to clarify why man would need all those Upper Worlds the Creator built for him? For what use has he of them?*

Bear in mind, that reality is generally divided into five worlds, which are Adam Kadmon, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. Indeed, in

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each of them there are an infinite number of details, which are the five Sefirot...

Each world consists of five parts, called *Sefirot*. I would call them five *Partzufim*: Galgalta, AB, SAG, MA, and BON, alternatively, Atik, AA, AVI, and ZON. It is not so important how we name them. Baal HaSulam calls them *Sefirot* instead of *Partzufim*: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut. He does not wish to divide the worlds into *Partzufim*: five worlds with five *Partzufim*, five *Sefirot* in each *Partzuf* amounts to 125 levels. He wants to explain that:

Because the world of Adam Kadmon is Keter, and the world of Atzilut is Hochma, and Beria is Bina and Yetzira is Tifferet and the world Assiya is Malchut. And the lights that dress in those five worlds are called YHNRN, as the light of Yechida shines in Adam Kadmon (the most powerful common light of the Torah, which shines in the world of Infinity), the light of Haya shines in Atzilut, the light of Neshama shines in Beria, the light of Ruach shines in Yetzira, and the light of Nefesh shines in Assiya.

All these worlds and everything in them are included in the holy name Yud Hey Vav Hey, and the tip of the Yud. In the first world, Adam Kadmon, we have no perception. Therefore, the tip of the Yud of the name indicates it; we do not speak of it and always mention only the four worlds ABYA. The Yud is the world of Atzilut, the Hey is Beria, the Vav is Yetzira, and the bottom Hey is Assiya.

42. We have now explained the five worlds that include all the spiritual reality that extends from Infinity to this world. Indeed they are included one in the other and in each of the worlds there are the five worlds, the five Sefirot - Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tiferet, Malchut, where the five lights - NaRaNHAY are dressed, which correspond to the five worlds.

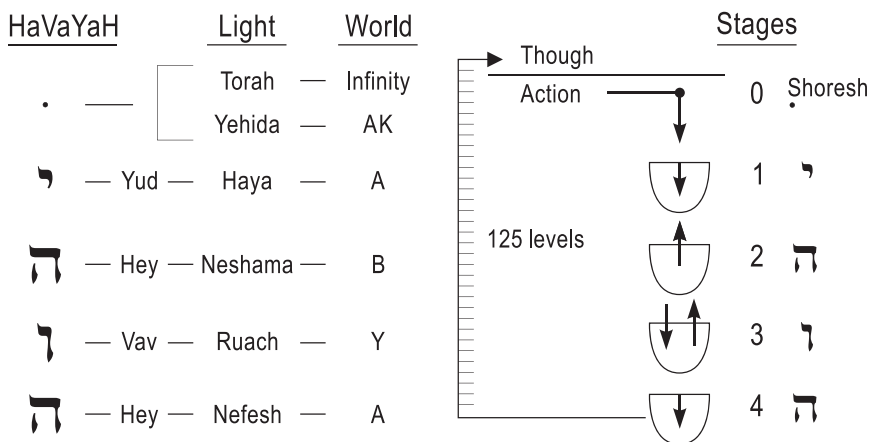
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Besides the five Sefirot, in each world there are the four spiritual categories - Still, Vegetative, Animate, Speaking - where the soul of man is regarded as the Speaking in that world, and the Animate is regarded as the angels in that world. The Vegetative are called the clothes, and the Still are called the halls.

They are all dressed one into the other - the Speaking, which are the souls of people, are dressed in the five Sefirot: Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut - in that place. The Animate, which are the angels are dressed into the souls, the Vegetative - which are the clothes - dress into the angels and the Still - which are halls - encompasses them all.

The world of Assiya includes our world. The initial point of the Yud is in the world of AK and in the world of Infinity. That point is the beginning of the whole creation and the little tail beneath it points at what emerges and spreads from the point. This corresponds to Shoresh.

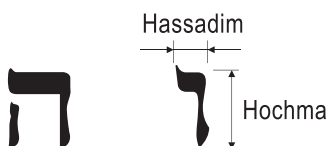
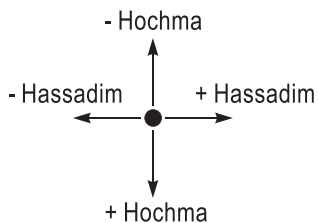
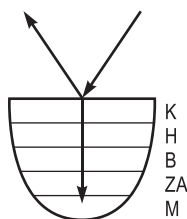
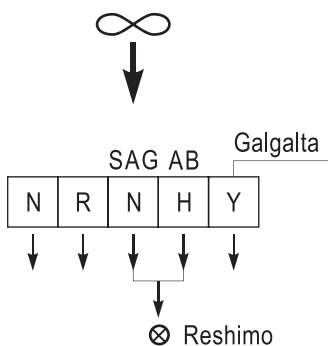
Why are these four letters used? This is because the point is a source of the light. If the source of the light moves to the right, it means the light of *Hassadim*. If it moves to the left, it is the lack of *Hassadim*. If this point goes down, it means the spreading of the light of *Hochma*, if it goes up - the light of *Hochma* disappears.



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All kinds of combinations occur inside the construction of the *Kli*: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA*, and *Malchut*. Each of these five desires has its own property and interrelates with the rest. In addition, we act with the screen and see how we can fill ourselves, so it turns out that there is never a “pure reception” or a “pure bestowal”.

“Pure receptions” and “pure bestowals” only exist in the world of *AK*. It is from there that the light spreads through the world of Infinity down to our world. The light, which descends from the world of Infinity to the world of *AK* splits, into *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida*, where they descend to us in their pure form.



The *Galgalta* is the light of *Yechida*, the *AB* is the light of *Haya*, and the *SAG* is the light of *Neshama*. When the two lights *AB-SAG* come to us, they correct and purify us with all their power.

They influence the *Reshimo* and the *Reshimo* (depending on its structure) chooses how much of the light of *Hochma* and *Hassadim* should affect it. Therefore, the *Reshimo* (its inner structure) determines to what kind of influence it will be exposed. Perhaps, the influence of the light on the *Reshimo* would be in the form of

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As you may see, there is nothing regarding *Keter* because this is the Creator. If we begin to analyze how these spiritual levels are inter-related, we will discover that the soul is in the center, the angels dress on the soul, the *Levushim* dress on the angels and the halls dress on the *Levushim*. Inside the soul, a part descends from *Keter*. It consists of the Ten *Sefirot* of the Straight light, the Ten *Sefirot* of the “*Kav*” (“line”).

Since the soul “dresses” on the Creator, it is in turn surrounded by the angels, the clothes, and the so-called halls. It is preferable to use the Hebrew names, because in Hebrew their structure and inscription include many different elements. These words are very meaningful and they include many levels of information.

Since the soul “dresses” on the Creator and the angels, the clothes and the halls dress on the soul, it becomes clear that the angels, the clothes and halls, i.e., the outer universe regarding the soul is only necessary for bonding this soul with the Creator, who is inside it.

Now we begin to deal with ourselves, and Baal HaSulam speaks about our path from the lowest level. You will not find the things he so clearly and laconically explains in this Introduction anywhere else. He writes openly about the things that are normally ignored. How much of it can we grasp?

While reading these lines please let us think of each other, of how we can help each other by simply joining our desires. Let us assume there are 1000 men and women in the world, who simultaneously listen to me about the Creator’s revelation to man. Let us all together want it to happen to us. This is called the raising of prayer, of desire, that will be answered with the Surrounding light. It will, by all means, generate this action in us.

43. *When man is born, he immediately receives a “holy soul”, Nefesh... Oh! If he only could have it... But he does not. So what do we actually have when we begin to aspire to the Creator? However,*

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not an actual soul, but the posterior of it, meaning its last category, which is called a "point" because of its smallness. It is inserted in man's heart, in his will to receive, which is found primarily in man's heart.

Heart means all our egoism. There is a point in the heart – the reverse side of the soul, its beginning, its root. It is a tiny part that is destined to become the soul and will have to go through inversion in order to become a true point of the soul.

We feel it as opposite to our egoism. Even if I wish for the spiritual, my desire is absolutely egoistic. My point is called “a point in the heart”, because it is in the midst of my egoistic desires. It is in the center of my heart. For example, after satisfying all my egoistic desires of this world, I now want to grab the spiritual delights (I can think of no better word).

Know this rule, for all that you will find in reality in general, you will also find in every world, even in the smallest particles of it.

The same laws that rule in the universe influence the very last, microscopic part of it. The Hebrew phrase “*Prat u Klal Shavim*” (the common and the individual are equal) explains the idea. This is because there cannot be even a slightest detail that would not consist of five stages of the Straight light. All that is concentrated in these five stages only spreads through the worlds from our first state to the third. Actually, nothing else was created except for these stages of the Straight light. Every minute detail consists of them. Therefore, “*Prat u Klal Shavim*” is the general law of the universe, even its smallest part.

The smallest soul and the sum of all the souls are equal. There is nothing in the spiritual that would be bigger or smaller than something else would. Moreover, if one is against all the rest of the 599,999 souls, this one is equal to all the others. This is a marvelous property of the spiritual world.

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Just as there are five worlds in reality, which are the five Sefirot, Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut, so too are there five Sefirot, Keter, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet and Malchut in, each and every world, and there are five Sefirot in the smallest particle of that world.

Everything is divided into five parts.

We have stated that this world is divided into the still, vegetative, animate, and human levels. They correspond to the four Sefirot, Hochma, Bina, Tifferet, and Malchut; or rather in the reverse order, Malchut, Tifferet, Bina, and Hochma.

Indeed, even in the smallest particle of each species in the still, vegetative, animate, and human levels, there are four inner categories: still, vegetative, animate, and human. The same exists in a single species, i.e., in one person..., in all of us.

Now let us understand what man is. Why should we think about anything else? We are the most active part of the universe, that which is destined to bring everything to the Creator. If we (the soul) merge with the Creator, then the halls, the clothes, and the angels will merge with Him together with us (i.e., the entire universe ascends to the Creator's level). This depends only on our desire and our work. Therefore, we study the level of "man" and the way he ascends to the Creator.

So even in one person, there are also four levels (still, vegetative, animate and human), which are the four parts of his will to receive.

In all, there are five kinds of desires. We call them *Aviut* zero, one, two, three and four. All of these egoistic levels of a desire, still, vegetative, animate and human, exist in our world and are characterized by the general notion of a man's heart.

The still level is represented by the bodily desires for food, sex, family, and home. The vegetative level is the desire for riches. The animate

level is the desire for honor and fame. The human level is the desire for knowledge. Above it, there is only the spiritual desire.

We can see the same inside us. Even on the level of the biological and physical-chemical structure of the body, there are various minerals, non-organic compounds (the still level). Then there are nails and hair (the vegetative level). The next to follow is our flesh (the animate level) and finally, our inner psychology (the human level). Yet all of these parts are of the animate level. Above them is also the Divine nature that is called a point in heart. Man begins to study Kabbalah only because this point prevails in his heart. Instead of craving this world with its food, sex, family, its chasing after money, fame and even knowledge, man becomes interested in something bigger, even without knowing what it is. This point makes him restless.

44. Earlier than the “thirteen years of age” (a relative level in man’s development) there cannot be any detection of the point in his heart. However, after “thirteen years”, when he begins to delve into Kabbalah, even without any intention for the Creator’s sake, (i.e., without any love and fear, as there should be with someone who serves the king), even not For Her Name, the point in his heart begins to grow and reveal its action.

Man, who begins to feel an aspiration for the spiritual world is considered to have come of age. From then on, he willy-nilly begins to develop the point in his heart, because this desire prevails over the others. He tries all kinds of ways until he finds a group, a book, and a teacher. The point in the heart leads him to the place, to the source that can fill him. We believe it to happen by chance, but it is not so.

However, man should constantly check the source from which he receives. I advise all of you who are sitting before your monitors not to trust me, to check for yourselves where you are. Perhaps you may find a better company, a wiser teacher who will provide you with a more power-

ful influence and lead you to the Purpose of creation. This is our main task. The rest is a means for achieving the goal.

You should have no other image before your eyes except for the Creator. You should say to yourself, “Only in order to achieve Him, am I ready to listen to some wise man, read some books, be in some company of people, make a sacrifice, etc. The Creator should constantly be in front of me; He alone should determine what I do.

This is the correct development of the point in the heart. Even if my desire for the Creator is egoistic, I still aspire for Him and nothing else. By no means should I join someone in order to feel more secure and comfortable.

I once asked my Teacher: “How can I be sure that I am in the right place? I have only one life, so I wish to realize everything I need by myself”. His answer was very simple: “Keep looking. This is your free will”.

The freedom of will is in a constant search for the right group. Only after you have checked everything, may you begin to work on its improvement. You are obliged to do it because your future depends on your environment, on your books, and teachers. Do not take anything on trust. You should check everything because this is the only way you can grow. Unless you put your effort into the group, unless you try to make it stronger, you will not be able to grow.

The realization of my freedom of will consists in exerting influence on the teacher, the books, the group, and consequently the Surrounding light, so that it will develop me. If man relaxes and wants to get under the wing of some wise person, some Rabbi, he confines himself to the still level and stops growing. Try to avoid such aspirations, although our body desires them very much. We should force ourselves every second to shake them off and realize our free will. Thus, we will only shorten the period of our correction because all the levels are predetermined. We will not reach the next level until we have corrected this one.

Even if man begins to study Kabbalah without any intention for the Creator's sake, the point in his heart begins to grow.

This is what we partially feel and hope that it will continue to develop. The actions performed by the beginning Kabbalist so far do not require the intentions. Man always acts with a certain intention – with the egoistic intention for his own sake. However, regarding the spiritual, these actions are considered to be without intention. We can influence something in the spiritual only in accordance with our altruistic intention. Therefore, at the beginning of our development, even an egoistic intention is good enough. It is important to have a huge desire to conquer the spiritual world and the Creator, even if it is egoistic.

In his book “*Pri Hacham*”, Baal HaSulam says in one of his letters on page 70, “This should be similar to the sensation of a man overwhelmed by passion for his beloved. He can neither see nor hear anything; it fills his whole world, he ... loses his mind”. In Hebrew, it is called “*Metoraf*” (crazy). There is no other pleasure that can fill his empty *Kli*.

This is exactly the state we have to achieve with regard to the Creator. Only He can fill my vessels. I do not want anything else. This is the final level of this world after which we pass on to the spiritual one.

Man purifies, corrects the still level of his egoistic desire ...

That is what we do today. We do not know anything on this level. We cannot see the difference between the elements. They are still. As a result, we pass through all 613 parts of the point in heart. Actually it consists of 620 parts, but we agreed on 613 parts that exist in every spiritual organ, shell, *Partzuf*, both in the general structure of *Adam* and in each of its individual parts. It does not matter what we speak about, whether it be the five stages or the 10 *Sefirot* or the 613 parts. There can be neither more nor less than that.

To the extent that man aspires for the Creator, he purifies the still part of the desire to receive. He builds the 613 organs of the point in

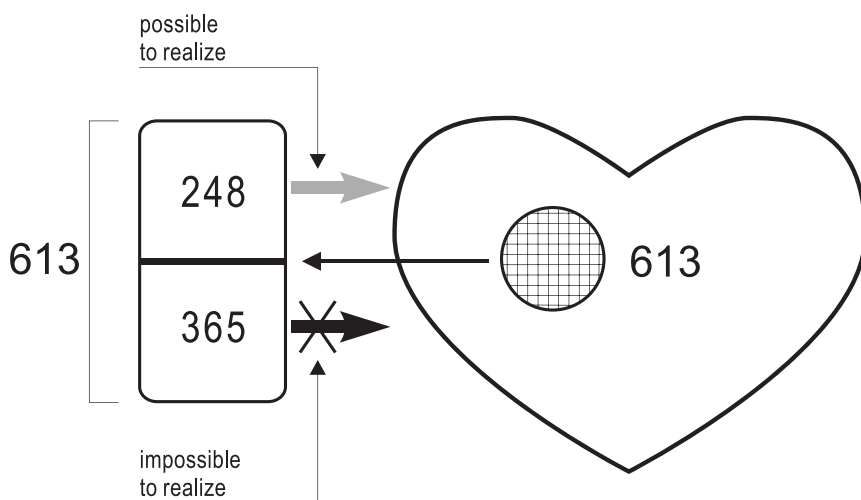
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the heart, which is the still level of the pure soul. When all the 613 actions called the commandments are completed, he creates the 613 organs (the corrected parts) of the point in the heart, which is the still part of the holy soul.

Let us imagine our big egoistic heart with a tiny point consisting of 613 desires. I should develop each of them to the maximum and direct them to the Creator. I neither know nor understand any of these 613 desires in the heart. I do not feel the difference between them because these desires are of the still level. However, this is not important. Like a still body, I automatically aspire to the Creator with my might.

Two hundred forty-eight spiritual organs are built through the observance of the 248 actions of "do" (precepts that you have to perform in), and its 365 spiritual organs are built through the observing of the 365 precepts of "do not do", until it becomes a whole Partzuf of pure Nefesh.

What does it mean? I have the Partzuf that consists of two parts - 248 and 365, in all - 613.



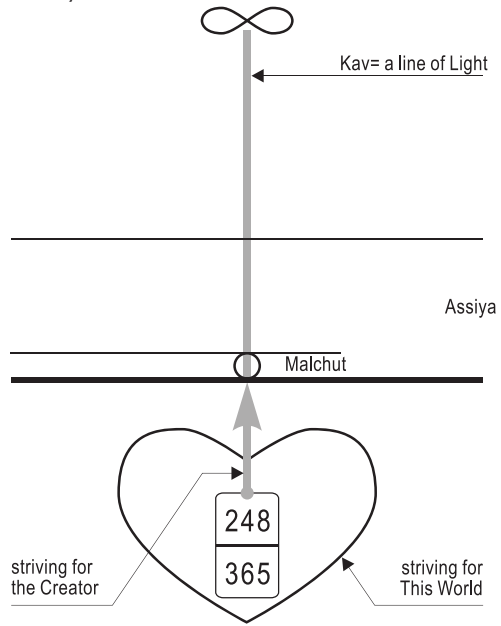
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Two hundred forty-eight actions out of 613 that I perform with my desires are those with whose help I can act. Basically, these are my actions in the group, with all the people, friends, and family – the desires in which I can express and realize myself.

However, there are actions in which I cannot realize myself. I have no idea how to work with them correctly. These are not simply desires to kill or to steal. These are all of my desires that I cannot connect with the spiritual in any way.

This is a natural process. We should not think: “Now I want something, so how am I to deal with this desire, satisfy it or refrain from it?” When I aspire to the Creator on the level of my point in the heart, I still do not have the inner definitions and cannot make this inner analysis. It is not necessary at this point. Consequently, my level is defined as still. I have not yet received the light from Above that breaks my point into 613 tiny squares where I know what properties each of them represents and that they are connected with the Creator. I cannot do that yet. However, when I do it... “my level of Nefesh rises and dresses Malchut in the spiritual world of Assiya”.

Below the level of the spiritual worlds, inside my heart (the heart is all our desires, but you should on no account imagine the biological heart) the *Partzuf* emerged (my aspiration to the Creator as something



distinct from the aspirations of this world). If I aspire to the Creator, I rise to the level of *Malchut* of the world of *Assiya* on the first still level.

All the worlds form a descending line (“*Kav*”). “*Kav*” is the line of the light descending from the world of Infinity down to this world. When my *Partzuf* is complete, it rises and “dresses” from Above onto the *Malchut* of the World of *Assiya*, on the light that is there.

In other words, my soul “dressed” on this line with the angels, the clothes, and the halls enveloping my soul. They are added because these are my auxiliary desires that I have realized in order to ascend to this particular level.

All the spiritual parts of the still, vegetative and animate levels in the world that correspond to the Sefira of Malchut of Assiya serve and aid the soul of man who has risen there. To the extent that Nefesh (the soul, the very first level) uses them, they become spiritual nourishment to it...

All of these halls, clothes, and angels are our desires, except for the aspiration to the Creator. These are the desires of our world that strengthen my aspiration to the Creator. Even the hindrances in the form of a bad boss or problems with the children, everything that surrounds me in this world, are all the positive and negative influences that aspire together with me and “dress” on my soul, on the *Malchut* of the world of *Assiya*.

This means that, if I carry out a spiritual action and there are people who help me to do that, then as I ascend to a certain spiritual level, all those who helped me, “dress” on me with their inner parts and receive the light. This reception is still unconscious because they have not yet prepared their inner spiritual *Kli*. However, they do take part in the process. This is what makes the connection between all the people in the world so important. Through mutual aid, communication, and trade, our world has now become a small village. The world, as it exists

with regard to the ascending man, rises together with him and enters the clothes of the *Malchut* of the world of *Assiya* and then even higher.

To the extent that Nefesh uses them (the auxiliary desires: the halls, the clothes and the angels) they give it strength to grow and multiply until it can extend the light of the Sefira of Malchut of Assiya in all the desired perfection to shine in man's body. That complete light aids man to add toil in Kabbalah and receive the remaining higher levels.

Just as immediately at the birth of man's body, a point of the light of Nefesh is born and dressed in him, so it is here, when his Partzuf of "pure Nefesh" is born. A point from one level higher is born with it, meaning the last degree of the light of Ruach of Assiya, and fills the inner part of the Partzuf Nefesh.

As soon as we ascend to that world, instead of it, what remains? The next part forms the so-called "naked" *Partzuf* – the next point in the heart. It has changed and has now divided into its own 613 parts. This second point in the heart is not of *Aviut Shoresh* (0). In order to ascend and dress on *Malchut*, it has to have *Aviut Aleph* (1). This happens because, as the *Partzufim* emerge, one is always born inside another and after completing its own development, pulls the next one after it similar to the forming of a garland.

Therefore, as soon as the *Partzuf, Nefesh*, completes its ascent and dresses on the *Malchut* of the World of *Assiya*, that very instant the point of the following *Partzuf* emerges and begins to push this whole process forward. Like cars of a train move one behind another, the point of the next *Partzuf* will push them up to the level of Infinity. This is an ascending movement, because man should reach the world of Infinity while living in this world – in his body, with his heart and with the point in it.

Here I would like to end this lesson and remind you again that we should unite. It will save much time and effort in our advancement.

None of us will be able to gain individually what we can gain collectively. The growth of our group by just 10% shortens our path by many months. As we grow sufficiently and the members of the group learn to understand one another, even very different people will have much to discuss. We will know how to advance together to the Creator.

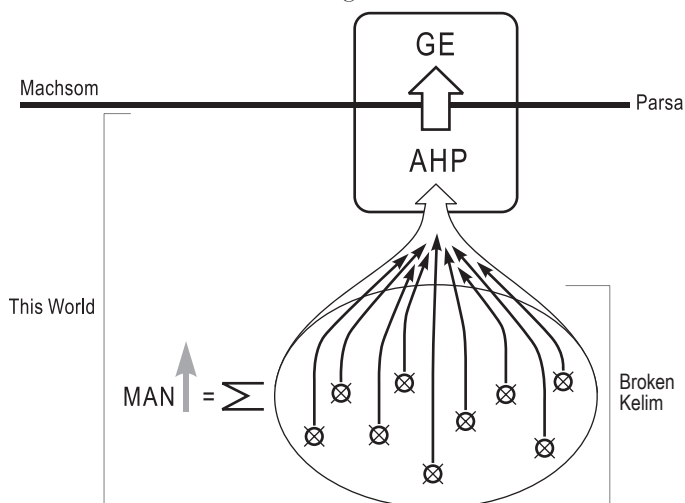
In the process of reading “The Book of Zohar”, a person gains the sense of the upper world. In any case, reading this book creates internal prerequisites, *Kelim*, with whose assistance we begin to feel what we could not feel before, something that seemed non-existent to us, but now becomes real. Something that could not be felt in our senses suddenly comes into the field of their sensitivity, and the world starts opening up, slowly developing like a photograph, until we enter into this common whole world. “The Book of Zohar” should do this to us. “The Introduction to The Book of Zohar” helps us to understand what stages we should go through.

The conception of a *Partzuf* occurs in such a way that there is an upper *Partzuf*, half of which is above the *Parsa* (so-called *GE*), and another half (*AHP*) is below the *Parsa*. We, the broken souls, broken *Kelim* (*Kelim Shevurim*) exist below the *Parsa*. The little crosses on the picture mark all of us. This does not mean that I gave up on us, but quite the opposite; those who are marked here have a bright future. Now we can raise all the *AHP*. Where? To me. Your upper *Partzuf* is me. Raise all your desires with me and through me get up to the *GE*. From this picture you can clearly see how important it is for us to join together and cling to the *AHP* whose *GE* is above the *Parsa*, above the *Machsom*.

This world below is where we exist and where the *AHP* of the lower *Partzuf* exists together with you, and I rather represent it for you. Together we can latch onto the *GE*, to the part above, and thus be able to ascend.

The more we unite to include these desires into the *AHP*, the more I feel you, so that your desires go through me up to the Creator, the more

effectively we will be able to act. This is the meaning of merging of all the groups in the world. We ought to create a huge, cumulative desire that will be equal to what we call MAN, a request to the upper Partzuf, which it cannot refuse. This is our goal.



From this we see that there is absolutely no point to be attached to the people whose *GE* is not in the upper world; hence, we see how much we all must participate in the same process of connecting all of our desires into the one and only desire to the Creator.

We have said that man goes through a certain period in his spiritual development called “13 years”. This is a period when the aspiration to the Creator has not yet awakened in him. It is then followed by the period of conscious spiritual development, when a person begins to feel a point in the heart, an aspiration to the Creator, and starts developing it deliberately. Now we are developing our point in the heart; therefore, our state is called “13 years” or “coming of age”.

Why 13 years? While studying the *Partzufim* of the world of *Atzilut*, we discover that there are 13 corrections of the beard (“*Yud Gimel Tikunei Dikna*”) of the upper *Partzuf*. There exists an upper *Partzuf Arich Anpin*

(AA), from whose head the light descends along the hair and the beard. Why “along the beard”? Because with regard to AA the beard constitutes the external *Partzuf*. AA is in the GAR, very powerful light. The light descends along its external *Partzuf* and then weakened so that the lower ones might accept and use it correctly for their growth, causing no harm to themselves.

Such a *Partzuf*, called *Se'arot*, is a part of AA. We receive the upper light through it, whereupon it is transformed in us, and helps us to grow. Therefore, the first 13 years of our development, the first 13 spiritual steps, are considered the years of unconscious development, as with children. Then we come of age and begin to grow consciously. The light that we receive is *Ohr Nefesh* of the world of Assiya. That is what Baal HaSulam writes about in paragraph 45.

45. The aforementioned light of Nefesh is called the light of the still level of the world of Assiya. It is correspondingly aimed at purifying the still level of the will to receive in man's body (it is said about our present condition). It shines in the spiritual world much like the still category in the corporeal world, whose particles do not move independently ...

Inanimate objects in our world do not move independently. They have no desire to move or change. Their only desire is to remain constantly in the same state and that is where their effort is directed. For example, the structure of a crystal is only aimed at preserving its particular state. Obviously, if external conditions exceed the forces of internal preservation of the material's properties, then they will destroy such a material, its inner connections.

Therefore, there is a general movement that surrounds all the details equally, like the movement of the planet Earth, and everything else in a galaxy, in the universe, in our world. And so it is with the light of the *Partzuf* of *Nefesh* of the world of Assiya. Although there are 613 organs to it, 613 forms of receiving the bounty (they are already in us, but they are undeveloped yet

existing only in potential) yet these changes are not apparent, but just a general light whose action surrounds them all equally, without distinction of details (separate desires).

The light develops desires in one direction or another, like an embryo that is forming inside the mother's womb. Different parts of the embryo's body begin to develop at different times, the head, then the arms, then suddenly the torso, the legs, and so on. There is a specific time for development of every organ or body part. However, on the lowest level of *Nefesh de Nefesh*, there is only a general development with no manifestation of particular stages.

46. *Bear in mind, that although the Sefirot are divine...* (related to the Creator, and being in the state of similarity to Him. But do we already have them within ourselves? Believe it, we do. And if we have even the slightest desire, aspiration for the Creator, then we have already achieved some microscopic similarity to Him).

There is no distinction between the first Sefira Keter in the world of AK and the last Sefira Malchut in the world of Assiya... There is no difference in the structure of creation. It is either in the world of Infinity, or in our world. We are made of the same components, the same Ten Sefirot. The question is in the screen. How can the absence of the screen compress the Ten Sefirot into a point, while its presence develops the Sefirot to become a huge, infinite vessel? All 613 parts of our spiritual body are compressed into the point within us.

Physicists assert that the entire cosmos developed from a micro point that consisted of an infinitely compressed substance. All of a sudden, there was a bang, and so the universe was created. Some day we will discuss this act of conception and birth of the universe. In fact, the

transition from the spiritual world to the material world happened in exactly this way.

The point, that emerged from the spiritual and became somewhat like the essence of matter, still possessed the same properties. It only changed its form, became material, and yet retained absolute similarity. Our universe, planet Earth, the solar system, and we ourselves, are all created in complete correspondence to the worlds of *Assiya*, *Yetzira*, *Beria*, etc. All the worlds are parallel to each other, and all their parts resemble each other, but each of the upper worlds is made of a more spiritual substance.

Bear in mind that although the Sefirot are divine, and there is no distinction between the first Sefira Keter in the highest world of AK and the last Sefira Malchut of the world of Assiya, there is still a great difference with regard to the receivers. (even though the highest Sefira in the world of AK and the lowest Sefira in the world of Assiya are the same. Then what is the difference?). For the Sefirot are composed of lights and vessels. And the light in the Sefirot is absolutely divine (emanated by the Creator, the Creator's part inside the Kli). But the vessels called KaHaBTuM in each of the lower worlds of Beria, Yetzira and Assiya are not divine. They are merely covers that conceal the light of Infinity within them and ration a certain amount of light to the receivers, that each will receive according to its degree of purity.

Here Baal HaSulam wants to say that the universe is arranged in the following way: the world of Infinity, then the world of AK (*Adam Kadmon*), which is *Keter* (as regards the others) and all of its parts. It consists of five *Partzufim* called the *NaRaNHaY* (*Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*) that emanate the light. Then follow *Atzilut*, *Beria*, *Yetzira*, *Assiya* and our world, as the last level of the world of *Assiya*.

All of these worlds consist of similar parts, and there is no difference between them. The only distinction is in the material from which they are created.

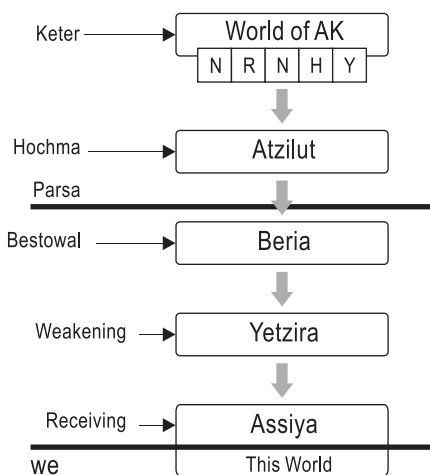
Baal HaSulam says that the worlds of *Beria*, *Yetzira*, and *Assiya* constitute three huge filters that weaken the light descending to us from the worlds of AK and *Atzilut*.

The world of *Atzilut* is *Hochma*, where all the light of Infinity is waiting for our later reception. *Beria* is *Bina*. But the world of *Beria* located below helps us to keep the *Kelim de Ashpa'a* (desires of bestowal) under the *Parsa* and be corrected with their help. *Beria* is *Bina*, the property of bestowal. *Bina* is specially isolated from the world of *Atzilut* to help us. The world of *Yetzira* is a weakening of the property of bestowal and the world of *Assiya* is reception. We are a part of the world of *Assiya*.

The difference between these parts of the universe stems from the fact that the *Sefirot* are divided into the *Kli* and the light. The light of the *Sefira* is divine, whereas the vessels in each of the worlds: *Beria*, *Yetzira*, *Assiya* are not divine. Why? The *Kelim* in the worlds of *BYA* are not divine because they are below the *Parsa*. They consist of the *Kelim* that were broken and corrupted. Now they need to be corrected and elevated to the world of *Atzilut*.

Although the light is one, we still name the lights in the Sefirot NaRaNHAY because the light is distinguished according to the attributes of the vessels. Malchut, which is the coarsest cover, hides all the light of the world of Infinity. The light that it does pass on to

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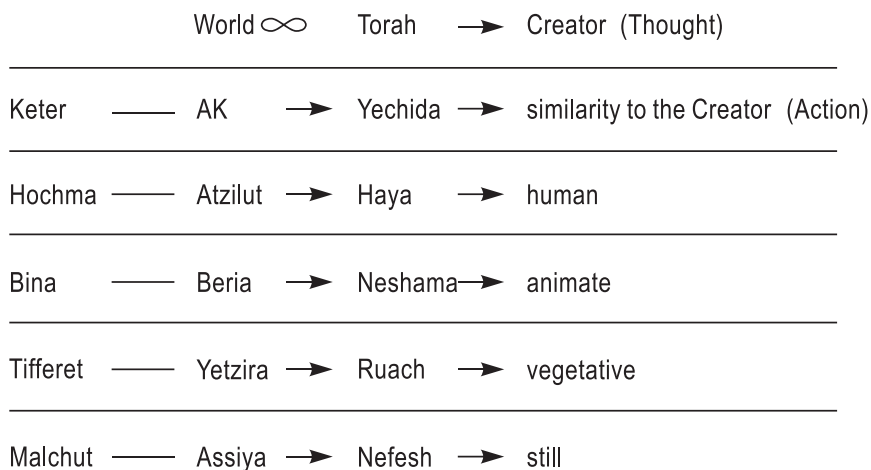
the receivers is only a small portion related to the purification of the still level in the body of man. It is called Nefesh.

If we imagine a person in this world and the world of Assiya above him, it means that the only light that will reach him through the world of Assiya will be Nefesh.

The vessel of Tifferet (Kli of the world of Yetzira) is finer than Malchut and the light it passes from the world of Infinity relates to the purification of the vegetative level of man's body, because there the light is more powerful than that of Nefesh. It is called Ruach.

One receives the light of Nefesh in the world of Assiya and corrects one's still level. Those who are in the world of Yetzira receive from Assiya the light of Ruach, which corrects the vegetative level of desire.

The vessel of Bina is finer still than Tifferet, and the world that corresponds to it is called Beria. Those who are in the world of Beria receive the light of Neshama that purifies the animate level of man's body, and it is called the light. The vessel of Hochma is the finest of all (this is the world of Atzilut). It passes the light of Haya, which purifies the human level in man and whose action is unlimited.



Why is it unlimited? The reason is that all the light that the Creator passes through the *Kli Keter* is here. The *Kli Keter* is AK, while *Yechida* is already completely similar to the Creator. Then follows *Olam Ein Sof*, the world of Infinity, where man reaches the combined light called the Torah, *NaRaNHaY*. In this case, he becomes similar to the Creator not in actions, but in his thoughts. We define *Keter* as “the Creator’s actions with regard to creation”. “The Creator’s thought with regard to creation” that precedes action is above *Keter*.

47. In the Partzuf Nefesh, which man has attained through observing the Torah and Commandments without intent, there already dresses a point from the light of Ruach.

The *Partzuf Nefesh* is the smallest of all. We have already started acquiring it. We obtain the light of *NaRaNHaY de Nefesh* both in the world of AK and here in our world. This can be done by observing the Torah and Commandments without intent, i.e., by performing all kinds of actions that can correct us. Baal HaSulam describes them in his article “Free Will”.

What is the meaning of an “action”? “Action” means working with the book during your studies in the group. This directs you toward the Creator, enables you to increase your desire for Him. If you accumulate all your powers, all your desires combined with the desires of your friends while aspiring to achieve the states described in the book, you will cling to the *AHP* of the superior spiritual *Partzuf* (the teacher) together with others, so that he will elevate you and attract the *Ohr Makif*.

To this end, you do not need to have special intentions for the sake of the Creator, for they cannot yet appear in you. They will appear because of the Upper Light’s influence, but we can attract the light while still having egoistic intentions. In this case, the light that shines upon us is called not the *Ohr Pnimi* (it cannot enter us), but the *Ohr Makif*; and it will purify us all the same.

This way we acquire our first *Partzuf NaRaNHaY de Nefesh*. As soon as we complete it, its uppermost point will be the root of the next *Partzuf Ruach*. We will then begin building *Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya*, and *Yechida* of the *Partzuf Ruach*. Once we have finished it, the beginning of the next *Partzuf* will be in the point of *Yechida: Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya*, and *Yechida* of the *Partzuf Neshama*. When we are done with it, we will begin working on *Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya*, and *Yechida* of the *Partzuf Haya*, etc.

This “ladder” originates in the descent of the worlds. During this process the upper world brought forth the next one below, therefore the lowest point of the upper *Partzuf* is connected with the uppermost point of the lower *Partzuf*. Man can say that he passes from one level to another when he reaches the highest point of a given *Partzuf*. An aspiration for the next level automatically awakens in that *Partzuf* and prerequisites of the next level’s *Kli* appear. Thus, man keeps ascending.

Yet the work we do in order to advance, i.e., the screens, the depth of self-knowledge, the attainment of the surrounding world and the contact with the Creator, is totally different each time. This resembles a newborn baby that is still unable to hear, see, or understand anything. It gradually develops and begins to participate in the world’s doings: first through games and playthings, later through contact with playmates and finally through interaction with adults.

An individual’s advancement along the levels occurs because of a diverse influence of the environment and the development of alternative senses, powers, and means. This is what happens in the spiritual world; hence, we observe the same in our world as well. What are the nuances of man’s work on these levels? I seem to be surrounded by the same world, and my inner essence remains unchanged. I just interact with myself and with the surrounding world at different depths in order to compare myself with the Creator. More and more, I deeply penetrate my inner world and that which surrounds me, so that they begin to form

one single *Kli*. All the levels of nature, still, vegetative, animal, and human, merge with the Creator. Here Baal *HaSulam* explains how and on what levels it takes place.

All that we can do is called commandments, or drawing the Upper light (the *Ohr Makif*) known as the Torah (from the word “*Ohr*”, “*Ohr*”). The Torah is the most general, all-inclusive Upper light. However, the light that reaches us in our state through all worlds, the *Ohr Makif*, is also called the Torah. This indivisible light is intended for all humankind in its final most exalted state. We receive the *Ohr Makif* that affects us even though we still have no intention for the sake of bestowal. If man does everything he can, he purifies and corrects his still level.

When one strives to observe the Torah and Commandments with the desired intent, he purifies the vegetative part of his will to receive and rises to the next level. To that extent, he builds the point of Ruach into a Partzuf. Performing the 248 “Positive” Commandments with the right intent brings forth the formation of the 248 spiritual organs in this point. And the observance of the 365 “Negative” Commandments brings forth 365 additional spiritual organs.

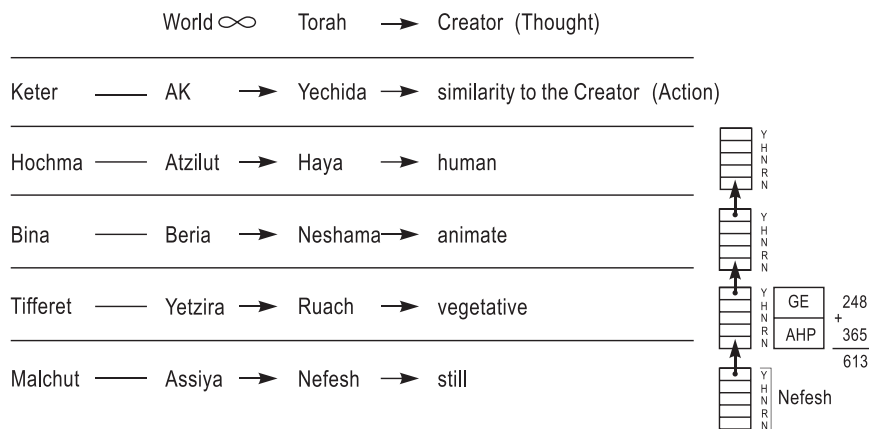
Although the point of *Ruach* originated in the previous *Partzuf*, it already refers to the next one.

At the vegetative level man already begins to differentiate between good and evil, benefit and harm. Everything useful for the growth of the altruistic desire and intention is attracted and absorbed, while the opposite is repelled. So far, he does not possess the ability to move independently, and lacks the sensation of the past and the future. It still exists together with those similar to him, in the same states moving under the influence of the light. He still cannot work independently, and like a flower, withers at night and springs back to life at dawn.

Nonetheless, he already understands what he needs for his growth, hence he separates the 248 commandments-desires, which he aspires to

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work on, and correct from the 365 desires with which he has no right to work. Already at this level, his *Partzuf* is divided into GE and AHP, 248 and 365, in all 613 desires. In the state of *Nefesh*, he is yet unable to feel or distinguish these desires, let alone analyze them. This will happen at a later stage.



When the formation of all 613 organs of the *Partzuf* is completed, it rises and dresses the *Sefira* Tifferet of the world of Assiya, which conducts the more important light called *Ruach* from the World of Infinity. The light *Ruach* is meant for the correction of the vegetative part in the person's body. The world Assiya has the still, vegetative, and animal parts that belong to the level of the *Sefira* Tifferet. All of these parts help the *Partzuf* *Ruach* of a person to receive the complete light from the *Sefira* Tifferet, as it happened earlier with the light of *Nefesh*. Therefore, it is called "spiritual vegetation".

What does Baal HaSulam wish to say here? All that was corrected in the previous *Partzuf* now begins to help the following one on the level where it works. On the one hand, each *Partzuf* constitutes a prerequisite for mastering the next; on the other hand, mastering of the subsequent *Partzuf* helps the realization of the preceding one.

Suppose I acquired certain skills a few years ago. Today, I become familiar with some notions or theories. I begin to use the skills acquired in the past as a means for implementing the concepts of today. Now I understand better what I acquired previously, and begin to analyze the past and correlate it with the present.

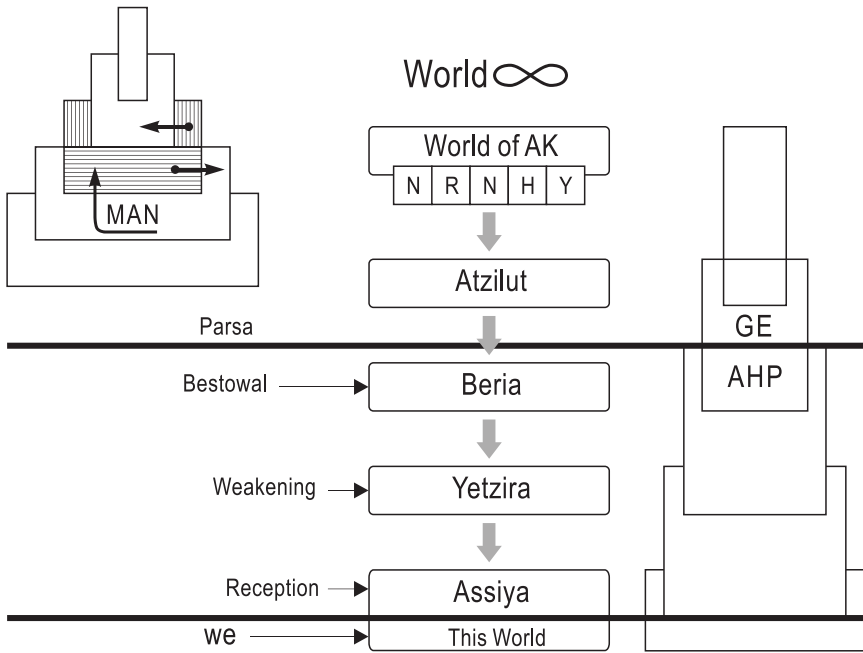
By rising to the level of the *Partzuf Ruach*, I do not stop building my *Partzuf Nefesh*. On the contrary, with the development of *Ruach*, I continue realizing and using the *Partzuf Nefesh*. Nothing disappears and nothing sinks into oblivion of the past. At every level, I realize myself in accordance with my current position, so at the level of *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, or *Haya*, I realize all the previous *Partzufim* I built.

Consequently, I receive a much greater amount of light and the *Kelim*, which form my world of Infinity. It is formed from such multitude of my thoughts and abilities that there is absolutely everything there. All the opportunities are bound with concepts, forces, and intents, so as to prepare the complete realization, beginning with the first level and up to the very last.

The nature of this luminescence on the vegetative level of the material world is such that changes in movements are noticeable in every individual part. The spiritual light of the vegetative level is able to shine in a special way upon each of the 613 organs.

The descending light of *Ruach* singles out each of the particular 613 desires within my inner common desire. I already differentiate between them, see the character of each desire, and understand whether I can adapt it to the Creator or not. I see that it is necessary to modify or put aside some desire to establish contact with the Creator. The light tells me about my soul; hence, it is called *Ruach*, *Ruchaniut* – the spiritual light. It is with this *Ruach*, spirituality that my individual growth and the contact with the Creator begin.

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The spiritual light of the vegetative level is able to shine in a special way to each of the 613 organs of the Partzuf Ruach. Every organ expresses its special power of this act. When the Partzuf Ruach is born, it receives the point of a higher level that is the point of the Partzuf Neshama.

The same principle works in the worlds AK, Atzilut, Beria, Yetzira, and Assiya. Each world is at its own level of GE, its AHP always being at the level of the lower world. Their ends overlap, as in a telescopic antenna, while none of them exists by itself. It turns out that no Partzuf has an independent, free part. In any of them, we see that its entire top, GE, dresses onto the upper Partzuf, whereas its bottom, AHP, sits inside the lower Partzuf. In other words, all of our thoughts or desires are connected with either the upper or the lower level. Therefore, development is only possible thanks to this connection. I cannot possibly rise higher

than my own level, unless I bond with the Upper level and receive desire, MAN, from the lower level.

Every one of us is just a link in a chain and can only rise if he connects with the upper *Partzuf* and pulls all the others up. It is impossible to advance alone, without being connected with the group.

48. However, when a person attains the secrets of the Torah and the tastes of the commandments, he corrects the animal level of his will to receive. By doing this, he expands and builds the point of Neshama that dresses into the 248 and 365 organs of his body.

We have studied how man advances in the worlds *Assiya* and *Yetzira*. In the world of *Yetzira*, he already has a different attitude to his duties and responsibilities. Unlike in *Assiya*, where he was not aware of what he was dealing with, in *Yetzira* he already distinguishes between the desires of bestowal and reception and acts accordingly. The next level of correction, the world of *Beria*, is where man studies the secrets of the Torah and the tastes of the commandments. In *Beria*, he begins to treat his desires (created in us by the Creator) and the light, the power that he receives from above, in a very different way.

What is his attitude to it? How does it feel to be between something that the Creator created in him and the power that He sends to him now? Man receives the *Kelim* and the light, and has to position himself correctly between these two sources of desire and pleasure. At the level of *Beria*, he continues advancing, while attaining the secrets of the Torah and the tastes of the commandments.

The Torah is the most general light that influences us. What is the meaning of “the general light’s secrets” and “the tastes of the commandments”? Man already reaches a level where he feels the light of *Hochma* (wisdom), from which he attains the secrets, i.e., how the light created the creation, how it corrects it, adapts it to itself, and absorbs it. The

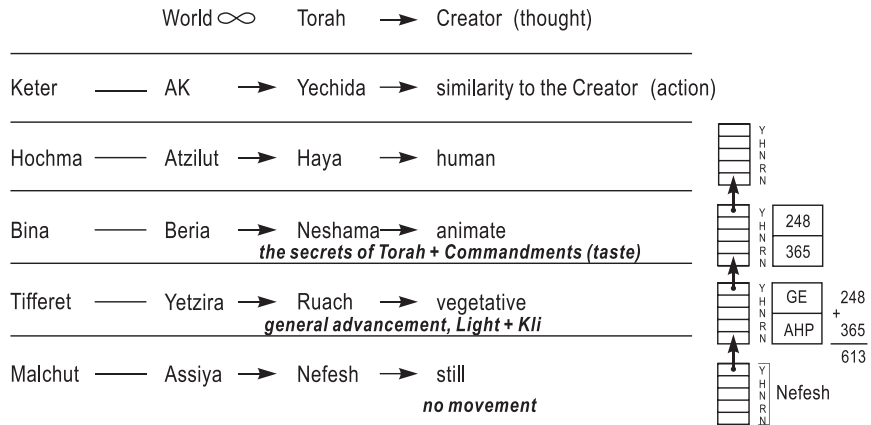
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secrets of the Torah are the inner processes that take place in our desires under the light's influence.

By attaining the most profound processes in the universe, man corrects the animal level of his desire (by comprehending the Creator's actions, he becomes similar to Him at the deepest levels of his desire) and extends the soul's point of *Neshama*, which develops in 248 and 365 of its organs.

Naturally, this part too consists of 248 and 365 sub-parts, albeit on a different level. If the world of *Assiya* is a general inanimate movement devoid of the intention for the Creator's sake, the world of *Yetzira* is a yet undefined general intention, and the world of *Beria* is an advancement by way of the Torah and commandments. The world of *Beria* may be characterized as the light and the *Kli*. This is a very high spiritual level of the secrets of the Torah and the tastes of the commandments.

In the picture you see the still (*Shoresh*, 0), the vegetative (*Aleph*, 1), the animal (*Bet*, 2) levels of desire. These are desires on the level of *Neshama*, i.e., of absolute bestowal, when man acquires the property of *Bina*.



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Every part, still, vegetative, and animal, in the world Assiya of the Sefira Bina helps the person's Partzuf Neshama to receive the complete light from the Sefira Bina. This is also called a "pure animal", because it is meant for the correction of the animal level of the person's body. The nature of its luminescence is the same as that in the animal level of the material world described above; it gives the individual a sense of life to each of the 613 organs of the Partzuf. Thus, they feel independent of the Partzuf to the degree that the 613 organs become the 613 Partzufim and each of them contains its special, individual light.

Man is isolated from others in our world. Unlike plants that turn towards the sun, he can move independently. In contrast to plants and animals that are born and die at a certain time (it is less pronounced in animals than in plants, although they mate at specific periods of the year), man is entirely free in his movements, in the sensation of the past and future, in his contact with the world, etc. The soul that reaches the level of *Neshama* is similarly individual.

When this completely individual Partzuf Neshama emerges, the superiority of this light over the light of Ruach in the spiritual world is equivalent to the difference between the animal, vegetative, and still levels of nature in the material world. In addition, a point of the light Haya is placed in the Partzuf Neshama. Further, man continues developing the level of Haya.

49. *When a person merits receiving the great light called Neshama and the 613 organs of this Partzuf are each shining with its complete light aimed at him, each of them as a separate Partzuf, the person discovers an opportunity to observe every commandment with the true intent.*

A special light of every commandment is shining upon every organ (desire) of the Partzuf Neshama (Baal HaSulam speaks of the

previous *Partzuf Neshama* on the animal level). *The power of these lights corrects the “human” part in his desire to receive and turns it into the desire to give* (The light of the level of *Neshama* rises as well, and man corrects the level of *Haya*). *To this extent, a point of the Ohr Haya is built in him.*

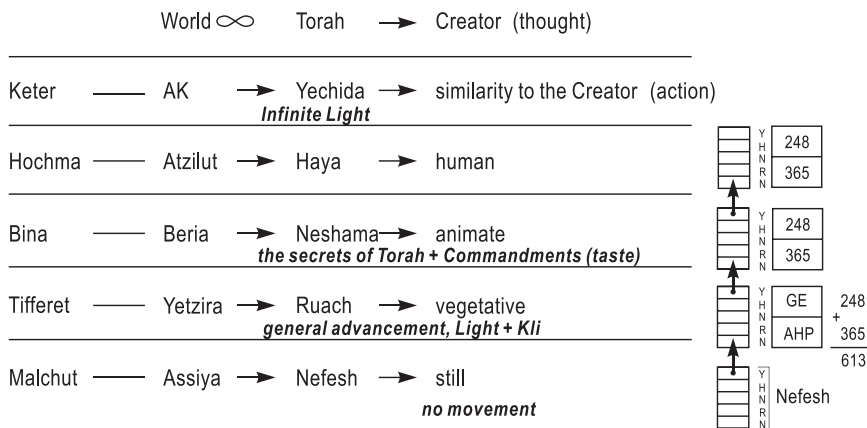
When the Partzuf is complete, it rises and dresses the Sefira Hochma. This Kli is exceptionally transparent (the matter concerns the Kli Haya as it rises to Atzilut) and, therefore, passes a huge light from the World of Infinity to man. This light is called Ohr Haya. All (previously acquired) parts of the world of Assiya, i.e., the still, vegetative, and animal that belong to the Sefira Hochma help the person to receive the complete light of the Sefira Hochma.

This is called a “spiritual human”. His essence is directed towards the correction of the “human” part in the person’s body. The meaning of this light in the spiritual world corresponds to the meaning of the human level in the four levels (still, vegetative, animal, and human) of the material world. The greatness of this light exceeds that of the light of the still, vegetative, and animal levels in the spiritual world. This can be compared to the difference between humankind and the still, vegetative, and animal kinds in the material world. The light of Infinity “clothed” in this Partzuf is called the Ohr Yechida.

Yechida is already Keter, Infinity, but the Infinity relative to that particular person, that particular Partzuf, and not the whole light of the Torah in the world of Infinity. Moreover, this light (we will call it individual Infinity), the light of Yechida, is similar to the Creator in its “actions” and is individually infinite.

Here the 248 and 365 commandments are created, the corrected desires, from which we enter the world of *Yechida*. *Baal HaSulam* and the *Zohar* do not discuss the world *Yechida*, the world of *AK*; there is only a hint in those books about the world of *Atzilut*. That is because we mostly

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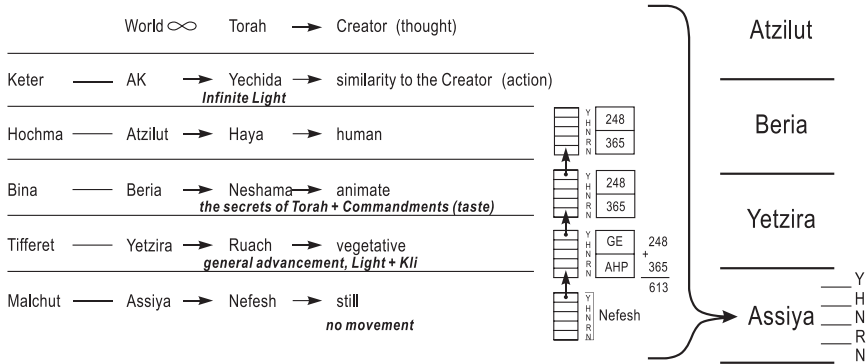
have to undergo correction on the levels of basic desires: still, vegetative, and animal, and then raise these desires of the worlds of Assiya, Yetzira, and Beria into the world of Atzilut. As was stated before, those worlds under the Parsa weaken the light and contain the yet uncorrected vessels within them. By correcting and raising them into the world of Atzilut, we complete our mission.

We spoke only about the world of Assiya and the five levels that a person passes through in it: Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida of the world Assiya. After that comes the world of Beria. All the levels that are shown here only described the five levels of the world Assiya.

So, what is the difference between ascending the levels of Assiya, Yetzira, Beria, Atzilut, AK in the world of Assiya and the ascent of the same worlds or levels, Partzufim, in the world of Beria?

50. However, you need to know that all of these five lights of NaRaNHAY are merely NaRaNHAY of the light of Nefesh. They do not have anything from the light of Ruach because Ruach exists only in the world of Yetzira, Ohr Neshama is in the world of Beria, Ohr Haya is in the world of Atzilut, and Ohr Yechida is in the world of AK.

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In fact, the work on the still, vegetative, animal, human, and general levels of our correction only refers to the still desire.

However, everything that exists in the general creation is also present in its every part, no matter how tiny it might be. Therefore, the world of Assiya has the five lights of NaRaNHaY, which refer to the light of Nefesh. Similarly, the world of Yetzira has the five lights of NaRaNHaY that refer to the light of Ruach. In the same way, the world of Beria has the five lights of NaRaNHaY that are only a part of the light of Neshama, and so on.

51. You should know that the desire to be spiritually elevated and purified is accepted by the Creator only if it is constant and if there is a certainty that man will never return to his folly. The Creator Himself testifies that man will never return to his previous state.

How can we merge with Him if we have no points of contact? How can we at least come near Him, let alone enter into Him if He is absolutely opposite to our natural property?

Baal HaSulam writes in this article that we cannot establish any contact with the Upper world. However, everyone in this world is given a prototype of the spiritual world in the form of a group and a teacher. Even though we are not immersed in constant desires of bestowal, by merely wishing to attain them, we, as it were, train ourselves, and can

gradually develop a correct attitude to the spiritual realm. We cannot establish contact with the Upper world unless we can correctly get into touch with the upper *Partzuf*, meaning a group and a teacher.

If man has a constant desire for the spiritual, he can ascend higher. There can be no state in which man always rises and never falls. Moreover, what is a fall? This means not tumbling down from one's spiritual level, but rather acquiring an additional desire without balancing it with the necessary correction, and remaining on the same level of desire.

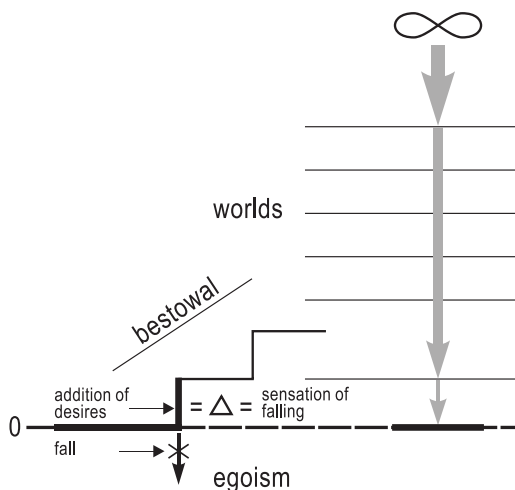
Suppose I am at the "zero" spiritual level. I am given an additional new desire, but I cannot yet balance it with the property of bestowal. At that, I still retain the level of my previous desire, and in no circumstances fall back into egoism.

The desires of bestowal are always constant in their direction. They can only grow, but never diminish. This is because the person that ascends spiritually is under constant influence of the light. It comes down from the world of Infinity through all worlds, constantly sustains him, and will never let him fall.

Man is never his own master because only the light can hold him on a certain level, as a magnet holds a piece of iron and does not let it fall.

In the Introduction to "The Study of the Ten *Sefirot*," it is said that the Creator testifies to man's righteousness. How can a person know whether he

is righteous or not? It is only possible to know if the Creator reveals Himself to him and does not let him slide back. Naturally, if the Creator



concealed Himself and cut man from His light, he would immediately fall from this level. We are constantly “suspended in the air”. Between our world and the world of Infinity, we always depend on the intensity of light, which descends from above and sustains us on this or that level.

However, as man enters the spiritual realm, he is always given a minimal level from which he begins to ascend. By correcting himself completely on a certain level, man turns it into his minimal spiritual platform, below which he will never fall and continues ascending. To the extent of man’s similarity to Him, the Creator constantly guarantees that he will never fall from the achieved level.

We find that, as it has been said, were a person to correct the inanimate level of his will to receive, he would merit the attainment of the Partzuf Nefesh. He rises and “dresses” the Sefira Malchut of the world of Assiya, and of course, he merits the Final Correction of the still level. That is, he will not return to his past (under the Machsom, below the world of Assiya), but will be able to rise to the spiritual world of Assiya because he is purified and absolutely equal to this world’s properties. According to this law, the transition from this world to the world of Assiya is only possible if man acquires a minimal constant spiritual property.

However, the other levels of the world of Assiya are Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida. To obtain their lights one needs to correct the vegetative, animal, and human levels in one’s desire to receive. The correction does not have to be final “until the Creator Himself testifies that the person will never return to his folly” (meaning his previous state).

If I passed from this world into the world of Assiya, I continue developing, i.e., I build a *Partzuf* consisting of 613 commandments. Since it is impossible to differentiate between the affirmative and negative com-

mandments in the world of *Assiya*, I divide them into *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida*.

Baal HaSulam says that man should constantly be in the world of *Assiya* in his sensations, whereas his presence on other levels may not necessarily be permanent. In fact, he will be unable to do that. It is possible only on the level of *Assiya de Assiya*, because the world of *Assiya* is characterized by just this level.

After that, when I ascend to the level of the world of *Yetzira*, it is important for me to make the levels *Assiya* and *Yetzira* in the world of *Yetzira* permanent. The levels *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida* may remain temporary, and so on.

Every time I reach a certain level, I need to correct it within me. All other levels complementing my *Partzuf* may be temporary. As, for example, an expert on metallurgy should know his field very thoroughly, while his knowledge in other spheres is necessary to him only as much as it can help him to be proficient in his own trade. The same applies to desires. If I work on my desires of the vegetative level, all other levels just assist me to distinguish it in them and work with it.

It is said, "Until the Creator Himself testifies to the impossibility of man's return to his previous state".

How does the Creator testify to that? He shines upon us with a certain light and according to this light's intensity; He keeps us on a certain spiritual level. If He shines more, we rise, if He shines less, we fall. In other words, only the intensity of the light determines our spiritual level, because our desire is constant and unchanging. Only the power

Atzilut



Beria



Yetzira



Assiya

613



I

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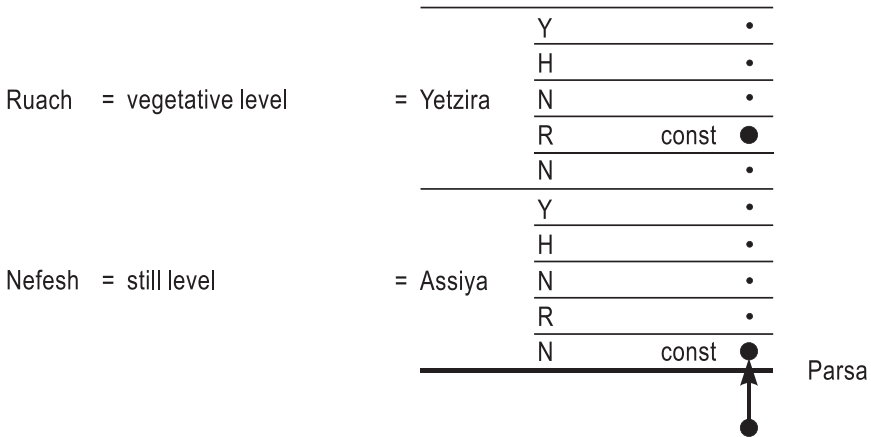
of the light does serve as a counteraction to our desire, it elevates us or pulls us down.

If the light's power reaches a certain distance or level from the Creator, let us say, level two, and then I know exactly that I will not fall below it. This constant power of the light is the Creator's guarantee that I will stay on that level.

If man corrects the still level of his desire to receive and deserves to transform the point in his heart into the Partzuf Nefesh, then he ascends and "dresses" the Sefira Malchut of the world of Assiya.

It is clear that man will not return to his previous state. He ascends to the world of Assiya and reaches his constant level, because his correction on that level has been completed. However, the remaining levels of the world of Assiya – Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida are not finally corrected yet.

So in order to enter the world of Assiya, man should completely correct his still level to prevent deterioration. Why? It is because the entire world of Assiya corresponds to the still level. All the remaining levels – vegetative, animal, human, and Divine – may still be temporary.



Similarly, to rise to the level of *Yetzira*, I need to make my *Ruach* constant, because the entire level of *Yetzira* corresponds to *Ruach* (the vegetative level).

Thus, the level corresponding to the world in which I am and constituting its characteristic property should be completely corrected in me, while all the others can have various degrees of correction. So if *Yetzira* is *Ruach*, then *Ruach de Ruach* of the entire world of *Yetzira* should be constant and so forth. Baal HaSulam explains it very clearly and it is not difficult to understand it.

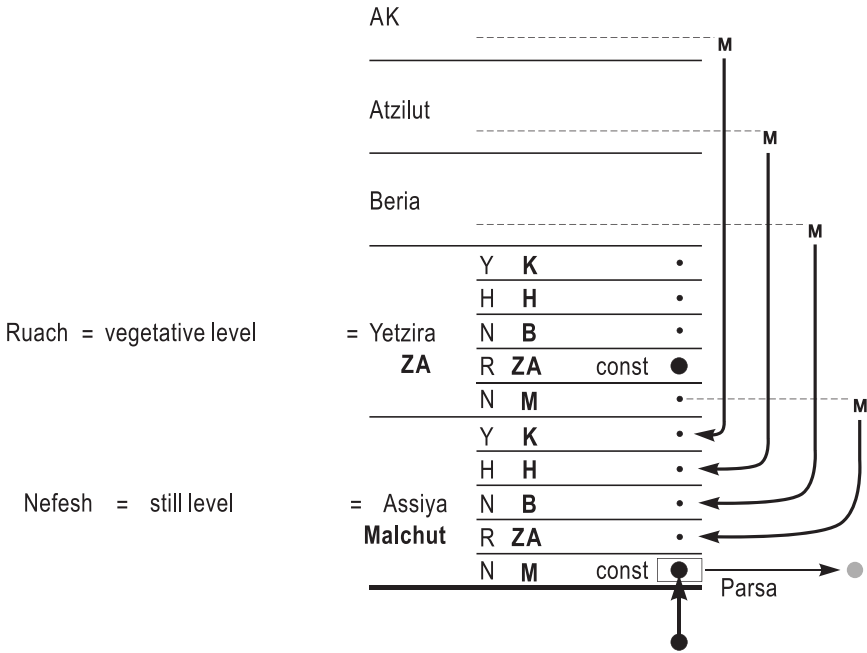
However, the remaining levels of the world of Assiya – Ruach, Neshama, Haya, and Yechida do not necessarily have to be finally corrected in order to receive the light and correct the vegetative, animal and human levels of its desire to receive.

It stems from the fact that the entire world of Assiya in each of its five Sefirot (Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA and Malchut) is none other than Malchut, which has corrected its attitude to the still level (Assiya is Malchut, Yetzira is ZA, the same applies to Keter, Hochma, Bina, ZA and Malchut of the world of Yetzira). The five Sefirot are just the five parts of Malchut (the still level of the desire to receive).

For example, the Sefira Tifferet of the world of Assiya receives the light from the world of Yetzira, which is Tifferet and the light of Ruach. The Sefira Bina of the world of Assiya receives the light from the world of Beria, which is Neshama. The Sefira Hochma of the world of Assiya receives the light from the world of Atzilut, which is Haya.

What is Baal HaSulam trying to tell us? If we take the world of Assiya, only *Nefesh* is its own level, while it receives *Ruach* from *Tifferet*. Then it receives *Neshama* from *Malchut* of the world of *Beria*, *Hochma* – from *Malchut* of the world of *Atzilut* and *Keter* – from *Malchut* of the world of *AK*.

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Consequently, since all of this constitutes *Malchut*, it receives each light (except for its own) from the corresponding world. Thus, since ZA here refers to *Malchut*, it receives the light of ZA from the *Malchut* of the world of *Yetzira*, which represents the general ZA. *Bina* that refers to *Malchut* receives the light from the *Malchut* of the world of *Beria*, because *Beria* is *Bina*.

That is, each part receives the light from the part that corresponds to it in the Upper world.

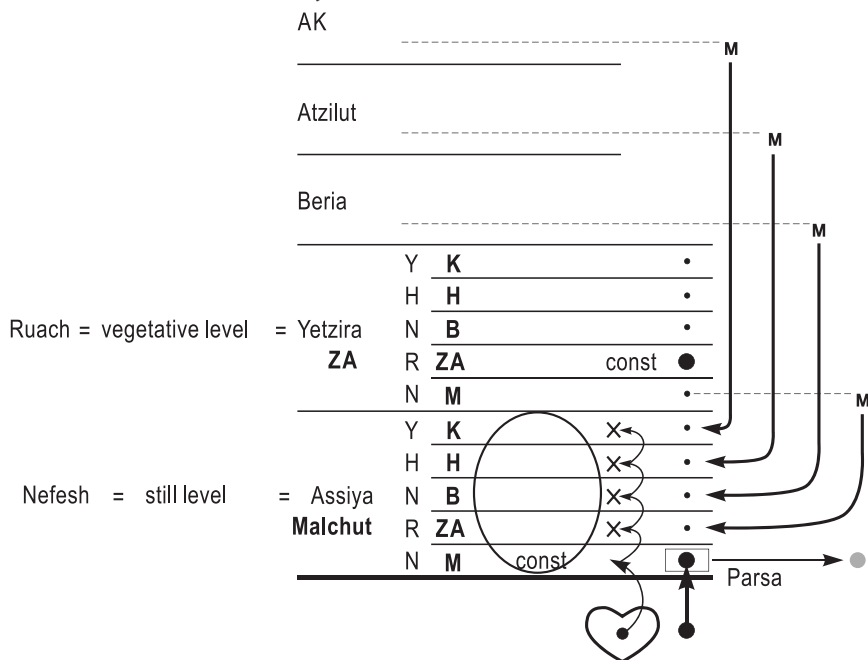
Sefira Tifferet of the world of *Assiya* receives the light from the world of *Yetzira*, which represents *Tifferet* and the light of *Ruach*. The *Sefira Bina* of the world of *Assiya* receives the light from the world of *Beria*, which is *Neshama*. The *Sefira Hochma* of the world of *Assiya* receives the light from the world of *Atzilut*, which is *Haya*. Consequently, regardless of the fact that man has not yet corrected any other level but his "still" one (the last one), if the three other

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parts of his desire to receive are partially corrected, he can still receive the lights Ruach, Neshama, Haya and Yechida from Tifferet, Bina and Hochma of the world of Assiya. This reception, however, is temporary, because as soon as one of the three parts of his desire awakens, he instantly loses these lights.

Baal HaSulam means that if man completely corrected himself on the still level and only partially on all the others, then he is in the world of Assiya. Make a note that even if his uncorrected parts fall, he still retains his constant level. This allows him to retain the level above the *Machsom*. Thus, it turns out that the person who has crossed the *Machsom* will never again fall below it.

52. After man finally corrects and purifies “the vegetative” part of his desire to receive, he permanently ascends to the world of Yetzira and attains the level of Ruach...



Now the constant is in the world of *Yetzira*. This means that man receives *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida* from the higher worlds. They fill him, but he does not have to correct them completely. The correction of the level of *Ruach* is quite sufficient. That is, *Nefesh* and *Ruach* should be totally corrected, while all the other higher levels may remain uncorrected. Therefore, if man reached the level of *Ruach* of the world of *Yetzira*, it means that he permanently corrected this state and will never fall below it.

Each level in each world should be completely corrected. This is the way that constant spiritual ascent takes place.

But what if man falls from these levels? When this occurs, it only helps him! Unless he fell, he would not be able to rise. He should fall from these levels in order to acquire the additional *Aviut*. By doing so, he ascends from the level of *Ruach* of the world of *Assiya* to the level of *Ruach* of the world of *Yetzira*.

The same happens to the other levels: the additional desires are acquired and man falls again. Therefore, the falls are essential. The rise entails the fall; the lower the fall, the higher the rise, but it refers only to the levels where man has not yet completely corrected himself. There is always some fixed (previous) level, whereupon man ascends to the higher level. Each consecutive state is more critical (both in minus and in plus) than the previous one.

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corrected. Therefore, if man reached the level of *Ruach* of the world of *Yetzira*, it means that he permanently corrected this state and will never fall below it.

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53. After correcting “the animal” part of his desire, man receives and transforms it into the desire to bestow, so much so that the Creator Himself testifies to the permanence of this condition. He achieves the similarity to the world of Beria, ascends, and receives the light of Neshama (in the world of Beria).

That is, he ascends to the world of *Beria*, where the level of *Neshama* is completely corrected. Naturally, the levels *Ruach* and *Nefesh* are also fully corrected on the level of the world of *Beria*. At that, the levels *Haya* and *Yechida* remain uncorrected. This is necessary to ascend to the world of *Atzilut* while correcting the level of *Haya* and proceed to the world of *AK* while correcting the level of *Yechida*.

54. When man deserves to correct “the human” part of his desire, he becomes similar to the world of Atzilut, ascends there and receives

the light of Haya. When he deserves even more (i.e., Yechida), he attains the light of Infinity and Ohr Yechida “dresses” into Ohr Haya. There is nothing to be added to that.

55. Thus we have found the answers to the previously asked questions: what is the purpose of all these Upper worlds (what is this special invention for)? We can see now that man is unable to bestow upon the Creator without the help of these worlds, because to the extent of correction of his desire to receive (his self-correction) he attains the lights, the levels of his soul, which is referred to as the NaRaNHAY.

What does the phrase “all these worlds” mean? This is a calibration of my soul. The gradual correction of each of its parts generates in me a sensation of ascending to the Creator from the state when none of my *Kelim* were corrected (the lowest level) to the state when I completely correct all of my soul’s vessels.

Rising from the lowest level inside my *Kli* to the highest one, I as it were pass through five parts called five worlds. Only the absolutely amorphous Upper light surrounds me. The sensations of concealment and revelation of my partial connection with the Creator – all this is felt within me and is determined by the inner part of me that I have corrected.

We shall see later that all the worlds are within us. How? We feel the general light called *Ohr haSovev* (the Surrounding light), which we can neither analyze nor feel inside. We term it “the Creator”. The light, which enters and fills us to the extent of our correction, is referred to as *Ohr Pnimi* (the Inner light). This is a partial penetration of the same Surrounding Light that shines in us.

At the End of correction, all the light will enter into us leaving nothing outside. The infinite simple light will be both inside and outside of us.

In other words, we cease to be a closed shell with a minimal dose of the light inside it and achieve the state where the light transcends us. In

our properties, we become absolutely similar to the light and stop being an obstacle in its way. This is what we call the complete merging with the light. Despite the fact that the desire remains opposite to the Creator, by neutralizing and correcting it with the help of our intention (to use it for the Creator's sake) we purify it so that it stops hampering the light.

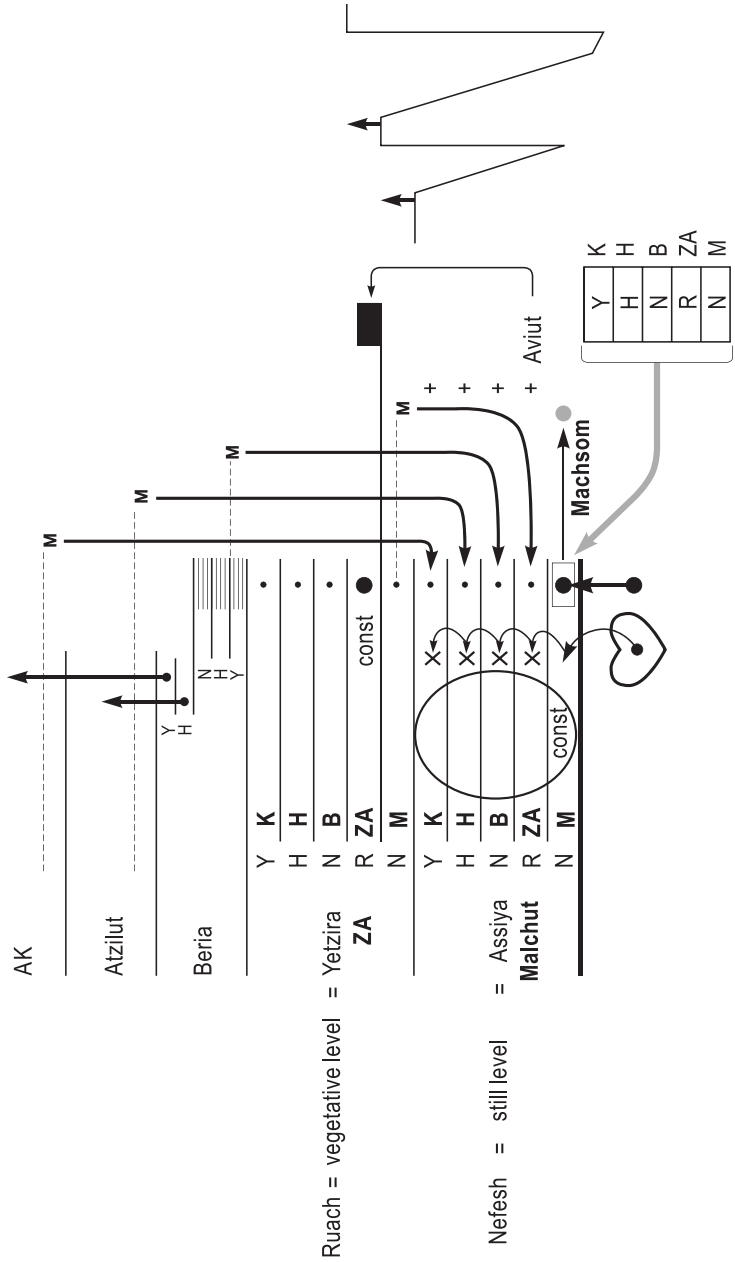
56. One should know that all the aforementioned levels of the NaRaNHaY are the five parts of which the entire creation consists. All that exists in the general creation is also present in its smallest part. For example, one can attain five parts of the NaRaNHaY even in the part of "the inanimate" level of the world of Assiya, because they sort with the five parts of the NaRaNHaY of the entire creation.

It is impossible to attain even the light of "the inanimate" level of the world of Assiya without including four parts of man's Aviut.

Baal HaSulam wants to say that, however small a *Kli* we might take (our small desire), if we ascend to the minimal level, it will still consist of the 10 *Sefirot*: *Keter*, *Hochma*, *Bina*, *ZA* and *Malchut*, and also of five parts: *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida* that originate in the five worlds.

This way, he wishes to show us the structure of the entire universe: the world of Infinity, the world of *AK* where the light is separated into *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida* and descends to the other worlds. The same occurs in each of the worlds – there are *Nefesh*, *Ruach*, *Neshama*, *Haya* and *Yechida*.

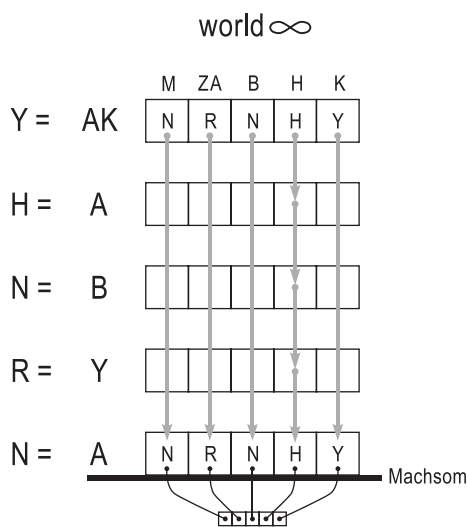
Thus the light descends from the Upper world to the lower worlds, each time passing through the corresponding *Kelim*. For example, the light of *Haya* from *Hochma* of the world of *AK* will be bound to only enter into *Hochma* of the world of *Atzilut*, *Hochma* of the world of *Beria*, *Hochma* of the world of *Yetzira* and *Hochma* of the world of *Assiya*. It cannot be any other way, because no *Kli* can distinguish any other light in this particular one, only to what corresponds to its properties. Therefore



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the *Kli Hochma* picks only the light of *Hochma* (*Ohr Haya*); the *Kli Malchut* picks only the light of *Nefesh*, and so forth.

What does it mean? If man entered the world of *Assiya* with his minimal *Kli*, which consists of five parts, he receives in them the light from all the five worlds. It passes through them, because in fact, the world of *AK* is a source of the light of *Yechida*; the world of *Atzilut* is a source of *Haya*; the world of *Beria* is a source of *Neshama*; the world of *Yetzira* is a source of *Ruach*, and the world of *Assiya* is a source of *Nefesh*.



If I reach the minimal level of the world of *Assiya* and cross the *Machsom*, then already on this level I have the sensations of all the worlds, of the entire universe, because I already consist of the 10 *Sefirot* filled with the lights (albeit very small) from each world. That is on the one hand, my minimal level allows me to receive the lights from the other worlds. On the other hand, my work should also include all the worlds.

But how can I include all the worlds on such a low level? The next paragraph speaks about it.

It is impossible to even attain the light of “the inanimate” level of the world of Assiya without including the four parts into man’s work. Hence everyone should be engaged in the Torah and the commandments (i.e., use all the possible means of correction and purification) in order to acquire the level of Ruach. Man should also study the secrets of the Torah to acquire the level of Neshama and the tastes of the commandments (i.e., to start receiving the

Inner light, since the light of *Neshama* cannot fill the *Kli* without this work).

Baal HaSulam says that even if reaching the minimal level of the spiritual world requires the knowledge and attainment of the Upper light, then naturally, without the study of Kabbalah, the secrets of the Torah one cannot ascend even to the first spiritual level.

If somebody believes that by reading such “literature” as the *Talmud* and the *Halachot*, or by studying other parts of the Torah he can correct himself and enter the Upper world, he is absolutely wrong. This is because entering the spiritual world requires the correction (even though to a minimal extent) of all the five parts of his desire. As the Introduction to “The Book of Zohar” says, they can be corrected only through the study of Kabbalah. Otherwise man will not correct the level higher than the light of *Nefesh*.

57. From the aforesaid we can understand the darkness and ignorance much more prevalent in our generation than before. Because all who study the Torah neglect the secrets of the Torah (i.e., do not study Kabbalah).

Therefore the Rambam gives the following example: “If a thousand blind people drag themselves along the road and there is one person who is able to see at the head of that column, then all the blind can be sure they will not go astray. However, if they have no sighted guide among them, they will surely get lost”.

The same refers to us. Imagine that there are people who study Kabbalah and attract the light of Infinity, lead the generation after them and the people follow them, and then all will be sure they will never err on their path. But if, instead of Kabbalah, people prefer to study other parts of the Torah (which do not correct the soul), no wonder that the whole generation errs through their fault. Consequently, the people (the Jewish people) do not fulfill its

mission. *So deep is my grief that I am unable to continue speaking about it.*

In items 155 and 156 of the Introduction to The Study of the Ten Sefirot, Baal HaSulam explains that without the study of Kabbalah one cannot achieve even the minimal *NaRaNHaY*. Kabbalah has been neglected since the destruction of the Second Temple, i.e., for about 2000 years. The great Kabbalist begins his Introduction with the following words: “I have found a great need to break down the iron wall which separates us from the wisdom of Kabbalah. Unless we do that we will end up by falling into abyss. All our problems, all our sufferings are caused by our inability to attract the Upper light of correction with the help of Kabbalah”.

Then he proceeds to explain the reason that led to neglect of Kabbalah.

58. Indeed I have known the reason: that it is mainly because faith has generally diminished, especially faith in the holy men, the wise men of all generations. And the books of Kabbalah and the Zohar are full of corporeal parables.

That is, the language of the Kabbalistic books is so confusing that man imagines that Kabbalah speaks about our world and not about the Upper worlds. The language uses the words of our world.

Therefore people are afraid lest they will fail by materializing (making idols) and will lose more than they will gain (from studying the books in this way).

That is people would think that the world is ruled not by the Creator, but some Supreme forces are in the objects of our world. The reader thinks that all the books of the Torah speak of this world.

And that is what prompted me to compose a thorough interpretation of the writings of the ARI and now to the holy Zohar (the HaSulam Commentary). And I have removed completely that concern (the fear of imagining our world instead of the spiritual one), for I have proven the spiritual message behind everything, which is

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abstract and devoid of all physical resemblance, above space and time as the readers shall see, in order to allow all to study Kabbalah and the Zohar and be warmed by its sacred light.

And I have named that commentary HaSulam (The Ladder), to show that the purpose of it is, as with every ladder - that if you have an attic full of goods, then all you need is a ladder to reach it, and then all the bounty of the world is in your hands. But the ladder is not a purpose in and of itself, for if you pause midway and not enter the attic, the purpose will not be fulfilled.

And so it is with my commentary to the Zohar. Because there has not yet been created the way to clarify these most profound of words. But nonetheless I have constructed a path and an entrance for all, that using it they can rise and scrutinize in depth “The Book of Zohar” itself (i.e., all that the Zohar reveals), for only then will my purpose of this commentary be completed.

The Commentary on “The Book of Zohar” is composed to elevate man to the peak called the Zohar.

In the chapter “Bereshit” we learned that the Zohar corresponds to the *Partzuf Arich Anpin*. It is *Keter* of the world of *Atzilut*, which includes the entire surrounding Upper world as well as the world of Infinity. With regard to us AA is the world of Infinity and it is called the *Zohar* (or *Zihara Ila'a*). The task of “The Book of Zohar” is to elevate us to that level.

59. *All those who understand what is written in the Book of the Zohar, unanimously agree that it was composed by the Godly sage Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai. Only those who are far from this wisdom doubt this origin and tend to say, relying on opponents' fabricated tales that its composer is Rabbi Moshe De Leon (who lived in a different time).*

In principle, this is not so important for us. He just wants to point out that “The Book of Zohar” is more ancient and valuable than some

tend to believe; hence, he wishes to make things clear regarding the authorship of the book.

Rabbi Moshe de Leon lived in the 11th century. He was an outstanding Kabbalist and wrote a number of books on Kabbalah. As I wrote in my foreword, “The Book of Zohar” was lost and later rediscovered by chance (naturally it was no chance). From the scraps of the book a small number of extracts and separate sheets were compiled into what we now call “The Book of Zohar”.

Rabbi Moshe de Leon inherited it from his teacher, who in turn had received it from his teacher. The book was initially found by a merchant in the 7th century A.D. It was used for wrapping spices in the Jaffo market.

The merchant, who happened to be a Jew, had evidently known a little of Kabbalah, because he discovered some very special writings on the parchment folio that contained the purchased spices. He rushed to the market place and started rummaging through the garbage and finally found all these sheets. The entire collection was afterwards passed on to one of his pupils, who left it to his, and so finally the texts reached the Rabbi Moshe de Leon in the 11th century.

The Kabbalist rewrote the book, had it beautifully bound and kept it. He knew that it was too premature to publish the book, because the people were not ready for it yet.

His wife did not know about all that, so when the Rabbi had passed away, she sold the book in the hope of coping with her financial straits. Obviously it was bought by a good business man, for he had it rewritten and put on sale. The book was a success, because at that time there were no similar compositions, except for “The Book of Creation” (“*Sefer Yetzira*”) authored by Abraham. However, “The Book of Creation” was far too difficult to be studied, since it contains just a number of vague hints. So “The Zohar” was really like radiant light, splendor at that time.

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A great number of rewritten copies spread around instantly. Though it was known to be a part of the famous Rabbi de Leon's legacy, the real Kabbalists knew it had actually been written by the Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai with the help of the Rabbi Aba in the 2nd or the 3rd century A.D.

Baal HaSulam writes about it, because he wants to elevate the book to the level much higher than that of the Rabbi Moshe de Leon. Judging from all the other compositions penned by the Rabbi de Leon, it becomes clear he was an outstanding Kabbalist, but not of the spiritual level of "The Zohar".

Therefore he says: *All those who understand what is written in the Book of the Zohar, unanimously agree that it was composed by the Godly sage Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai. Only those who are far from this wisdom doubt this origin and tend to say that its composer is Rabbi Moshe De Leon.*

This book could not have been written by a man who lived 5 to 7 centuries after the great Rabbi Shimon, because, as we know, the generations have gradually descended from the highest level down to ours, when we start from zero. In general, there are no Kabbalists of that level among us. My Rabbi was the last one; the descent ended with him. We begin this ascent by ourselves.

60. Baal HaSulam tells us that during its long history "The Book of Zohar" was ascribed to many different Kabbalists. But only the person who penetrates the inner meaning of this book and understands from what high spiritual level it descended (from *Arich Anpin* of the world of *Atzilut*, i.e., it reaches the world of Infinity), can also realize that it could be written by none other than Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yochai.

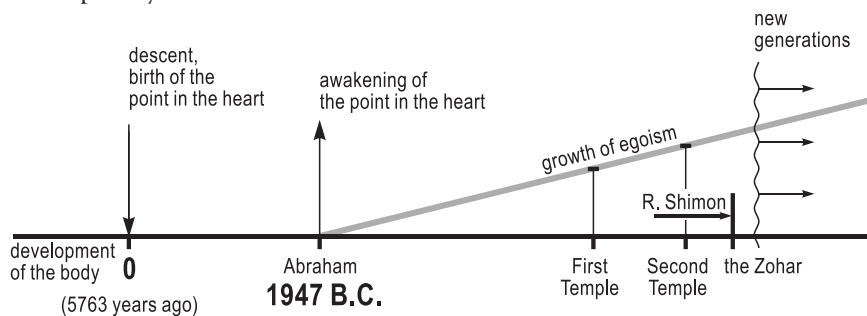
We know that Kabbalah divides all history into the following periods: first man develops as an animal, then the soul descends into him

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(in the year 0 according to the Jewish calendar, i.e., 5764 years ago), and then the development of a point in his heart (soul) begins.

Let us have a look at a graph and see how the body was developing. The spiritual point descended into man's heart 5764 years ago and activated for the first time. The next manifestation of the spiritual desire took place in Abraham in around 1947 B.C. The point in the heart continued its development in parallel with egoism, whose growth led to the destruction of the Temple.

Both the first and the second Temples were ruined, i.e., all spiritual levels fell with regard to the point in heart. "The Book of Zohar" was written after the destruction of the second Temple. Its author Rabbi Shimon lived before and after the destruction of the Temple, but the book could not have been written prior to that event, because there had been no need for such a spiritual source to raise people from the level of a completely shattered screen.



Rabbi Shimon was one of the disciples of the famous sage Rabbi Akiva who left us the entire spiritual legacy available today. This man's story is amazing. He was neither a Jew nor a believer until the age of 40. Then he began to study Kabbalah, and later became a great scholar and teacher. His life was full of unexpected turns, but finally he achieved the highest possible spiritual level.

Needless to say, being Rabbi Shimon's teacher, he was on a much higher level than his disciple. One of Rabbi Akiva's students wrote the

Babylonian Talmud, another – “The Book of Zohar”. In other words, Rabbi Akiva was the embodiment of a vast amount of wisdom about the universe that filled many sacred books.

However, Rabbi Akiva could not write a composition like “The Book of Zohar” because before the destruction of the Temple such a great, exalted power was not necessary. There was still nothing to correct. When the Temple ceased to be, his last disciple Rabbi Shimon wrote “The Book of Zohar”. Naturally, the book could not have been written by any other man born after the destruction of the Temple.

This happened in around the 2nd Century A.D., and there have been no such Kabbalists ever since. Only in the 16th Century did the Ari’s special soul descend to our world and elevate Kabbalah to a new level. In the 20th Century the soul of Baal HaSulam appeared.

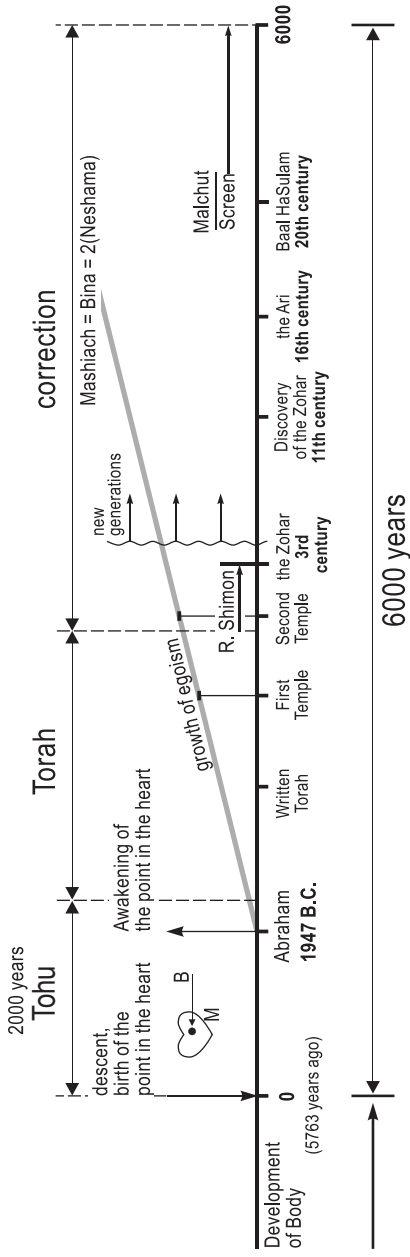
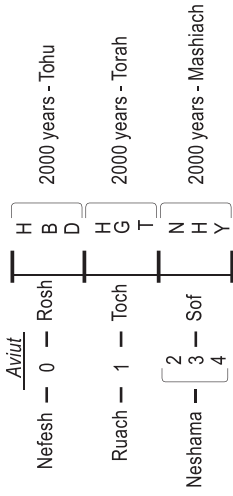
This is what the great Kabbalists writes:

From the very day that I merited the light of the Creator and saw what was written in the Book of Zohar, I have not had any need to research the facts about its authorship. This is due to the simple reason that the content of the book raised the prominence of Rabbi Shimon to the unattainable height above all other Kabbalists in my heart.

However, if I had found that the author of the book is someone else, for example, Rabbi Moses de Leon, the greatness of this Kabbalist would rise in me more than for all the rest, including Rabbi Shimon.

Honestly speaking, according to the depth of wisdom in this book, had I learned that its author was one of the 48 prophets (the Kabbalists who attained a high spiritual level called prophecy), my heart would rather agree with this than with the fact that Rabbi Shimon Bar-Yochai wrote this book (for R. Shimon was only a Tana, i.e., a Kabbalist who lived after the destruction of the Temple). If

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I had learned that Moses had received this book from the Creator Himself on Mount Sinai, I would rest assured. This is how great this book is.

Since I merited creating a commentary suited for anyone with a desire to understand what is written in the book itself, I believe I have fulfilled everything to keep from such work and research (regarding the authorship of “The Zohar”). This is because, as anyone who understands “The Book of Zohar, I cannot be satisfied with the notion that the author of the Book of Zohar can be someone less holy than Rabbi Shimon (i.e., born later than R. Shimon, because holiness diminishes with time).

61. We should ask at this point why “The Zohar” was not revealed to earlier generations, whose merit was undoubtedly greater than of the later ones, and who were more worthy of studying the book?

Since, as we see, “The Book of Zohar” was given for the correction of our egoism, a question arises: why could the first generations not receive it? If the Creator created us so opposite to Himself, why could He not at the same time hand us an instruction for correcting that state?

Why do we have to suffer during thousands of years, only to discover later that there is an opportunity to make such a correction? Why are babies and innocent adults living in such pain, why is there so much anguish in the world? This refers to the same question: why is “The Book of Zohar” revealed to us only now?

So I would like to repeat:

Why was “The Zohar” not revealed to earlier generations (that lived before the destruction of the Temple)?

Perhaps, it could have encouraged them to disseminate the wisdom of Kabbalah the world over, and humankind could have avoided such a lengthy period of suffering. We have no idea how much time people are

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destined to suffer before they accept this method of correction that will elevate them to the level of perfection and eternity.

Their merit was undoubtedly greater than of the later ones, and who were more worthy of studying the book.

On the one hand, their egoism was small, on the other – they had enormous inner resources unsuppressed by egoism, so they undoubtedly could study this book much more effectively. They were much closer to this material than we are with all our mercantile problems, modern technology, stupefying advertising, etc.

We can also ask why the commentary to “The Zohar” was not revealed together with the book to the Ari or to the earlier Kabbalists.

Why is there such a long prelude stretched along the axis of time – the Torah, the Ari (the 16th Century), and Baal HaSulam (the 20th Century) – before we in our time begin discovering “The Book of Zohar”?

The answer is that during the six thousand years of its evolution the world must go through a full period of correction.

We do not take into consideration the world that existed before a new spiritual point (of Bina) appeared in man’s heart (Malchut). Until there is no interaction between the heart and the point in it, nothing else really matters, because it simply constitutes a development of the body, animal existence.

The world during the six thousand years of its existence is like one Partzuf (spiritual entity) that is divided into three parts: Rosh, Toch, and Sof, or HaBaD (Hochma, Bina, Da'at), HaGaT (Hesed, Gevura, Tifferet) and NHY (Netzah, Hod, Yesod). Alternatively, as our sages said: “The first two thousand years are called Tohu (lit. Unformed), the second two thousand years are called the Torah, and the last two thousand years are called the days of Mashiach (Messiah)”.

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In the first two millennia (Rosh or HaBaD), the lights were very small, and they were regarded as a head without a body. It only has the light of Nefesh, because there is an inverse relationship between lights and vessels. The rule is that the upper vessels grow first in each Partzuf, whereas, for the lights the opposite applies - the lights with a smaller Aviut dress first in the Partzuf. Thus, as long as there are only the upper parts of the vessels, i.e., the HaBaD vessels, only the lights of Nefesh can dress in the Partzuf, which are the lowest lights.

Hence, the first two thousand years are called the Tohu. In other words, there can still be no correct interaction between the Kelim (vessels) and Orot (lights).

During the second two thousand years (the Kelim of HaGaT) the light of Ruach (Aviut Aleph) descends to the world. It is also called the light of the Torah (Torah is something that gives life, Ruach already constitutes a movement). Therefore, the second two millennia are called the Torah.

The last two thousand years are the Kelim of NHY (the period of correction, or the Mashiach, the year 0 according to the Gregorian calendar), therefore, at this time, the light of Neshama descends.

The lights that descend are basically *Neshama*, *Haya*, and *Yechida* inside the light of *Neshama*. This is because it is impossible to correct the third and the fourth levels of desire before the *Gmar Tikkun*.

Only the levels zero, one, and two can be completely corrected. Hence, the level of *Neshama* is called the days of the *Mashiach*.

That is, this level is already a force that brings egoistic desires to correction. The *Mashiach* is a force of *Bina*, i.e., the second level of the screen, because when *Malchut* acquires the properties of *Bina*, it transforms its desires and makes them similar to the Creator's. In other words, it provides *Malchut* with the screen necessary for correction. The

descent of the *Ohr Neshama* to our world corrects *Malchut*. The light of *Neshama* is alternatively called “*Mashiach*” (from the word *Limshoch* – to pull), meaning the light that pulls egoism up to the level of altruism.

This order applies to each particular Partzuf (each soul) as well as to the entire universe. Every soul, yours or mine, goes through all periods of its development. Long ago, we were in those periods when our body was developing, and then the point in heart appeared and gradually grew in all of us.

It does not matter in what souls or bodies it all happened, for everything is mixed at the soul’s level. The division into nations and sexes is purely relative. All parts gradually and constantly intermix because after *Adam’s* soul had broken, all souls were mixed. So, whatever corrections the different souls made, ultimately they become thoroughly interconnected.

The lights in the Kelim HaBaD and HaGaT to Chazeh of the Partzuf are concealed, so that the light of Hassadim does shine openly. This means that the luminescence of Hochma appears from Chazeh and below, i.e., in the Kelim of NHYM (Netzah, Hod, Yesod, Malchut). The reason for this lies in the fact that before the Kelim de NHYM began to manifest in the Partzuf of the world, meaning the last two thousand years, the wisdom of “The Zohar” in general, and of Kabbalah in particular, was concealed from the world.

What does *Baal HaSulam* mean? The problem is that the light of *Hochma* cannot shine in the *Kli* unless the light of *Hassadim* enters it previously.

A vessel is created as a desire to receive pleasure. Unless the vessel acquires a screen, which complements the *Ohr Yashar* with the *Ohr Hozer*, no light can enter into the *Kli*. We can explain it in a different way:

until the vessel (egoism) is lined inside with the altruistic intentions (of bestowal), the light of *Hochma* has no way of entering it.

But how can these altruistic intentions manifest? This can only happen during the last two millennia, when the light of *Neshama* descends to our world. Therefore, before this period (i.e., before the *Sof*), prior to the appearance and development of the *Kelim de NHY*, Kabbalah cannot be revealed in our world. In other words, the light of wisdom, the knowledge about the structure of the universe, cannot be revealed to the souls. They are still insufficiently egoistic to be corrected with the light of *Neshama* and to receive even a minimal amount of the *Ohr Hochma*.

We are now living in the year 2004, which corresponds to 5764 of the Jewish calendar. This means that we have less than 240 years left.

Baal HaSulam says that “...before the *Kelim de NHYM* began to manifest in the *Partzuf* of the world, meaning the last two thousand years, the wisdom of “*The Zohar*” in general, and of Kabbalah in particular, was concealed from the world. Only during the time of the *Ari*, when the time for completion of the *Kelim* from *Chazeh* and below arrived, i.e., in each of the three periods: *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY*, the *Kelim* develop and are corrected, afterwards followed by the *Orot* (lights). Suppose that the *Kelim* of *NHY* were developing from the beginning of this period and onwards until the time of the *Ari*.

Thanks to the holy soul of Rabbi Isaac Luria (the Ari for short) the radiance of the Supreme wisdom was revealed. The Kelim de NHY were sufficiently developed by his time, hence this special soul descended to our world.

Any descent of souls, including yours and mine, is predetermined by the previous general and individual development of the *Kelim de NHY*. In our time, they are called *NHY*, in the past they were called *HaBaD* and *HaGaT*. So in fact, the history of humankind is a development of

Partzuf from up down. This determines what souls descend to this world, how they dress into bodies, in what society, state or environment they find themselves, etc.

But since the soul of the Ari appeared after the development of all the vessels of NHY, he was able to reveal the greatness of “The Book of Zohar” and the wisdom of Kabbalah and by so doing overshadow all of his predecessors.

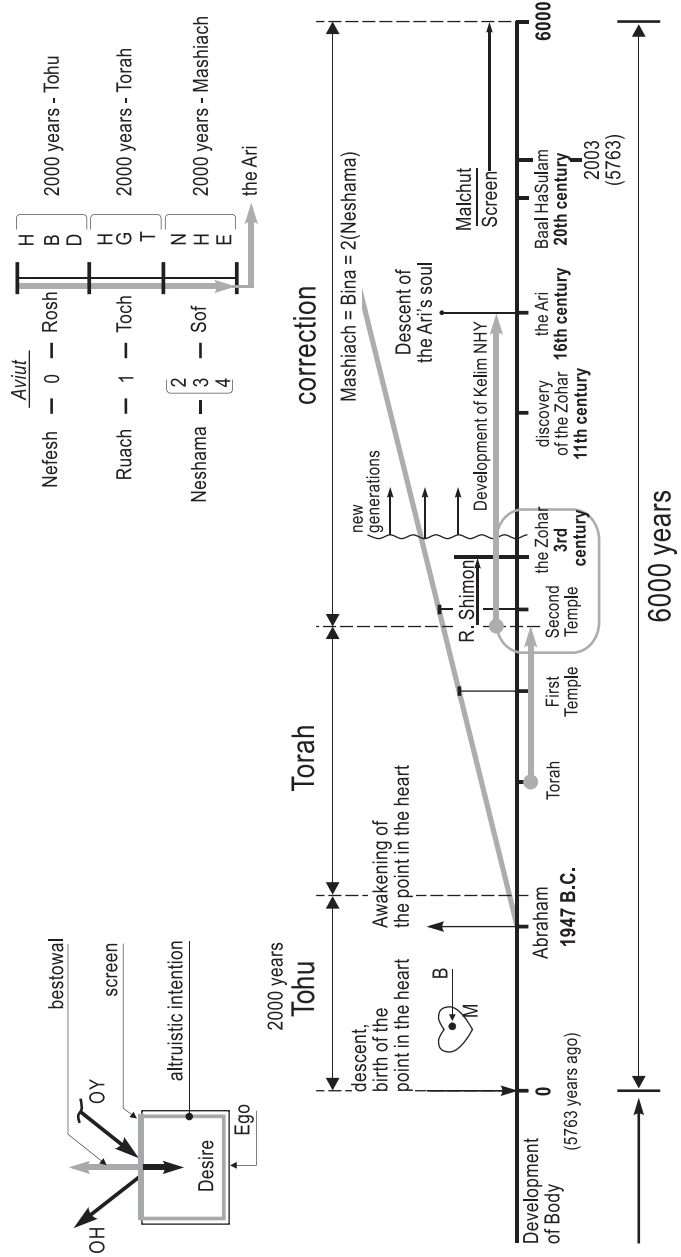
That is, from the moment “The Book of Zohar” appeared, it concentrated in itself all the knowledge that had been received from the Kabbalists living before the destruction of the Temple. The book is considered so great, not because the *Kelim* of NHY were still undeveloped, but because its wisdom was received by very exalted souls that lived at that time.

Baal HaSulam says that he would have been glad to hear that “The Book of Zohar” was written by one of the 48 prophets or by Moses, for it contains all wisdom of the previous generations.

Only the Ari could be the next in line; only he could explain and elevate Kabbalah by expounding everything that is available to us today. Practically, the Ari introduced the method of correction to the world. Since the *Kelim de NHY* had completed their development, his soul could descend to our world and provide us with everything necessary for the correction of our souls (*Kelim*). His soul is a collective image of all the *Kelim* of *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY*. He, as it were, completed their development. After the *Kelim* manifested, but before the lights entered them, the Ari appeared at once. Therefore, the collection of his works (more than 20 volumes) constitutes a complete method of spiritual ascent, spiritual correction.

None of the Kabbalists before the Ari could understand exactly how the spiritual correction takes place. No one could reach his level of attainment because these *Kelim* were not sufficiently developed in the

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creation.

Before the Ari, all humankind existed at the stage of development of the *Kelim HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY*, of all Ten *Sefirot*. Since his time and on the acquisition of a screen and reception of the light in these fully developed *Kelim* has begun. The entire universe was included in these *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY*. However, Baal HaSulam continues:

But these Kelim were not fully developed because the Ari did not have enough time to complete all the necessary corrections.

We shall later discuss why the Ari failed. Naturally, it so happened because there were objective, profound reasons and not because he suddenly fell sick and died. Rather, he fell sick and died because there had been certain prerequisites in the development of these *Kelim*.

But these Kelim were not fully developed because the Ari, as we know, passed away in 1572 (5332 according to the Jewish calendar). The world was not yet ready for the Ari's revelations.

He did not have enough time to pass to the world in action all that he wrote in his books.

His legacy, forbidden to be disclosed to the world, was used only by a chosen few.

In one of his letters, Baal HaSulam tells this story. The Ari lived only 36 years. He never wrote any books by himself. During the last one and a half years of his life he had a disciple by the name of Chaim Vital (Marhu). Chaim was 28 at the time, while the Ari was 36. Think of how young these two men were!

During the time he spent beside the Ari, Chaim Vital learned everything that later allowed him to write more than 20 thick volumes. It seems incredible to us. While reading the Ari's compositions written down by Chaim Vital after his Teacher's death, it is impossible to imag-

ine how this amount of information could be heard in a relatively short period, let alone be put down on paper.

Whatever H. Vital had learned from his great Teacher in only eighteen months, he described in a series of note-books, which were buried with him after his death. In his will he insisted that they be put in his grave in Safed (Tzefat, a town in North Galilee). The Ari and Chaim Vital used to live in this ancient town in the north of Galilee. My students and I often come to this place, and immerse ourselves in the same spring where the Ari used to have his ablutions. There is still a place above the old cemetery where the Ari's house used to stand.

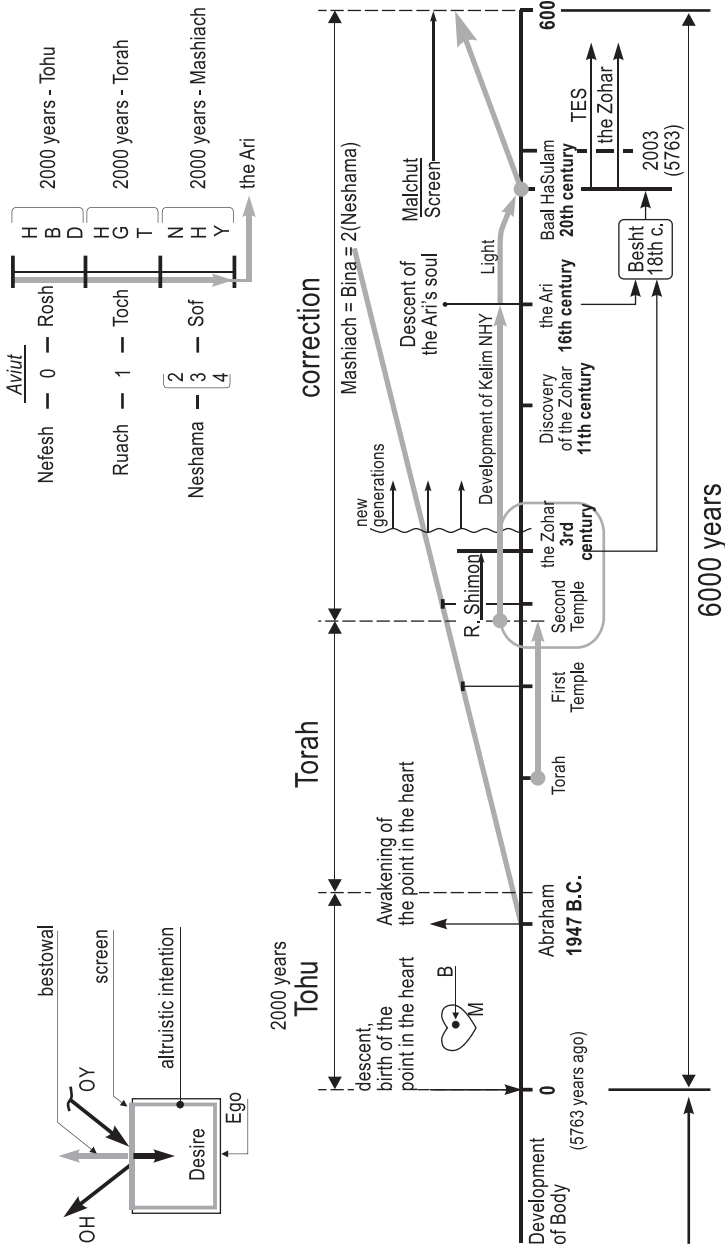
Chaim Vital was unwilling to publish his writings, believing that neither he nor his generation was sufficiently mature for this knowledge. Only years later his son, grandson and great-grandsons began to publish the Ari's compositions. During three hundred years these books were gradually coming out, and today they are known to us as the collection of the Ari's works.

Some of them were revealed at the time of the Baal Shem Tov (Besht). This great Kabbalist lived in the 17th Century in the Ukraine. Like the Ari, the Baal Shem Tov never penned anything by himself.

A few books were written by some of his disciples. Baal HaSulam composed "The Study of the Ten *Sefirot*" and "The Sulam" as commentaries on the Ari's books and "The Book of Zohar".

With the help of these two books, we can complete our correction, because during the time period between the Ari and Baal HaSulam the *Kelim* of *NHY* completed their development and were filled with all principal lights. As this greatest Kabbalist of our time had predicted, starting from the end of the last century the spiritual ascent towards the End of correction began. With the help of his books all subsequent generations will follow our path.

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63. Now we can clearly see that the souls of the earlier generations were immeasurably higher than those of the later generations. The rule for all Partzufim, both pertaining to worlds and to souls, is that the purest vessels are corrected first.

Pure means having a small *Aviut*, small egoism, hence they are easier to correct

Thus, the Kelim of HaBaD (of Tohu) both of the world and the souls were introduced first to our world. Therefore, the souls of the first two millennia are incomparably higher than those that came after them.

The souls that descended during the first two thousand years of our world's existence were very sublime and pure. Man of that time needed very little. He was quite content with a shelter, a small amount of food, and security. His egoism did not push him towards any serious undertakings. Exalted souls are not necessarily those that have profound attainments. They can feel the spiritual worlds due to their purity.

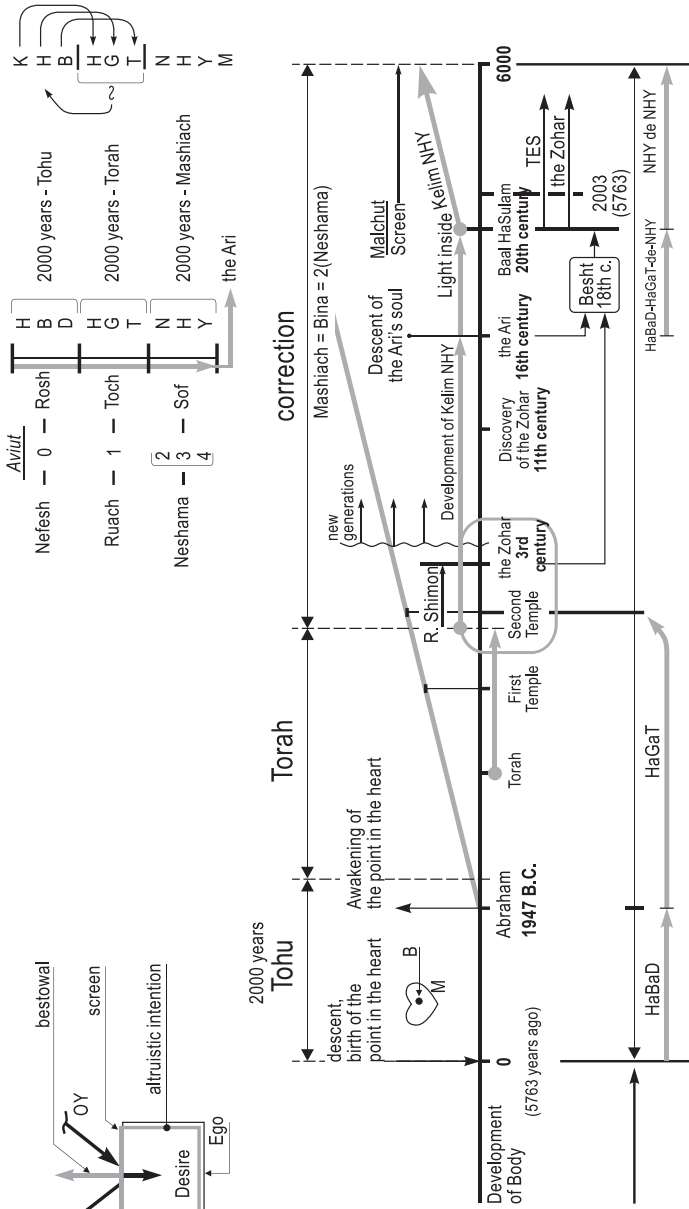
Despite their tremendous elevation, they could not receive the full amount of light due to the lack of their own lower components, the Kelim of HaGaT and NHYM.

They lacked these two parts; therefore, the light in them was only *Nefesh*.

During the middle period, when the vessels of the worlds and of the souls that emerged were of the Kelim of HaGaT, the souls were still extremely pure.

They were pure because the Kelim of HaGaT are a replica of the Kelim of HaBaD, albeit on the corporeal level. We know that there are Ten Sefirot: Keter, Hochma, and Bina, then Hesed, Gevura, and Tifferet, then Netzah, Hod, Yesod, and Malchut. Hesed is similar to Keter, Gevura is like Tifferet. Baal HaSulam says that just because the Kelim of HaGaT

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resemble the *Kelim* of *HaBaD* very pure souls descended to our world before the destruction of the Temple.

At the same time, the lights were still concealed in the worlds due to the lack of egoism in these Kelim.

For the most part, egoism is in the *Kelim* of *NHY*. As soon as these vessels began developing, both the first and then the second Temples were destroyed. The spiritual collapse that took place as a result of a transition from *Bina* to the vessels of reception (*Kelim de Kabbalah*) through *Tifferet* echoed in our world as the physical destruction of the two Temples.

Accordingly, in our generation, in which the lowest souls in all creation that could not be corrected until now, they still complement the Kelim-Partzufim of the common soul. The work can only be completed with their help.

Baal HaSulam says that although the *Kelim* of *NHY* are the worst and most egoistic, yet the completion of the work is impossible without them because they are exactly the vessels to be corrected. Their development starts after the destruction of the Temple, and then followed by the development of the lights in these *Kelim*.

The preliminary light entered into the *Kelim* of *NHY* thanks to the work of the Kabbalists who lived in the period between the Ari and Baal HaSulam. What does the name “preliminary light” mean? If we divide the *Kelim* of *NHY* into Ten *Sefirot*, we will come out with three periods, *HaBaD de NHY*, *HaGaT de NHY*, and *NHY de NHY*. From our time and on *NHY de NHY* constitute the most egoistic *Kelim*.

Therefore, all that is left for us to do is to realize this method of correction, i.e., to use the power that was given to us by Rabbi Shimon, the Ari, and Baal HaSulam. In our time this power is called *Mashiach*.

Hence, Baal HaSulam writes:

Now that the vessels of NHY are completed (as well as the lights in them) and the vessels of Rosh, Toch, and Sof of the Partzuf (all the Kelim in our world) can draw on the full measure of the necessary lights in Rosh, Toch, and Sof, the complete lights of NaRaN (Nefesh, Ruach, Neshama with Haya and Yechida inside them). Therefore, only with the completion of preparation of these lowest souls could the highest lights be revealed, and not prior to this.

Only thanks to us will the light enter into this world. We will attract it with our most evil, awful egoism because by this we complete the structure of the *Partzuf* of the entire creation.

64. This was a problem that pre-occupied the sages, and it was clear to them that the earlier generations were much more important than the later ones pertaining to their vessels, properties, and desires, which were considerably closer to the properties of the light.

Their vessels were very small, pure, and sublime in comparison with ours. They were much closer to the light, whereas we are completely opposite to it in our desires.

But the wisdom of Torah (all understanding, attainment and depth of sensations) is manifested in the later generations a lot more, due to the increased general volume of the Kli.

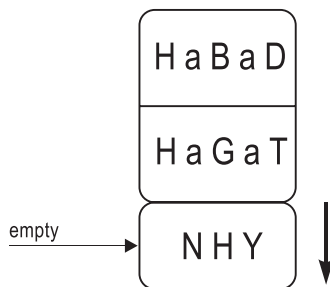
As is well known, the general volume of egoism is contained in the *Sof* of the *Partzuf*. So it turns out that the correction takes place with the help of the last generations.

65. This is because actions originate in the pure Kelim, whereas the secrets of Torah stem from the light of the Sefirot.

The revelation of light occurs inside the soul, in our Kelim, inside our consciousness. Since the Kelim and Orot are inversely related, the lower the Kelim of NHY are, the more the lights of Neshama, Haya, and

Yechida enter into them. Our generation is therefore able to draw tremendous light to this world.

We are now in the *Kelim* of *NHY*, which approach their completion, but do not possess a screen. The *Kelim* that manifest now are empty. That is why our time is so tough, egoistic, cruel and barbaric in its essence. We are now standing at a threshold of reception of light in the empty *Kelim*.



If we acquire a screen, we shall instantly begin drawing the Upper light. It will pass through our souls to the rest of the world. We are now in a very critical state, when all the *Kelim* are ready, but devoid of light. In other words, our egoism, enormous and empty, is waiting to be filled with light.

A fearful state of dismay, disorientation, and confusion is growing steadily each day. Where is this world heading? Why does it exist? Why are we here? This is our condition today.

We are left with only one choice: to begin working with a screen, because only this way all our empty *Kelim* can be filled with light. If we take “The Book of Zohar”, the works of the Ari with Baal HaSulam’s commentaries provided specially for our souls, we will be able to attract the Upper Light. *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY* will begin to receive the light of *Neshama*. It is also called the light of *Mashiach* because this light of *Bina* corrects the properties of *Malchut*. All correction is based on this combination, merging of *Bina* and *Malchut*.

By feeling the influence of the light of *Bina* and the light of *Mashiach*, the creation will bond with the Creator. This will mark the complete and final deliverance from egoism, and entrance into eternity and perfection.

By knowing the roots of our past, we can graphically depict the history of our world. This graph can show all possible nuances and minute details. We can see in it the birth and predestination of any historical personality; understand the causes of historic events, catastrophes, and wars.

Everything is predetermined on this axis of human evolution, starting with the point from which our universe emerged, to the formation of the solar system, to the birth of the Earth and people on its surface, to the appearance of the spiritual point in man's heart, when he was sufficiently mature in his animal properties. Taking the point in the heart as a zero point, we begin our count up to the Final ultimate state, when the whole world will reach a state called "the End of Correction". After that, the world will continue its existence as it did before the zero point.

Previously, the bodies were developing, whereas by the end of the six-thousand-year period the souls will continue evolving, because the body will lose its significance. Our world, our universe, however, will not change in any way.

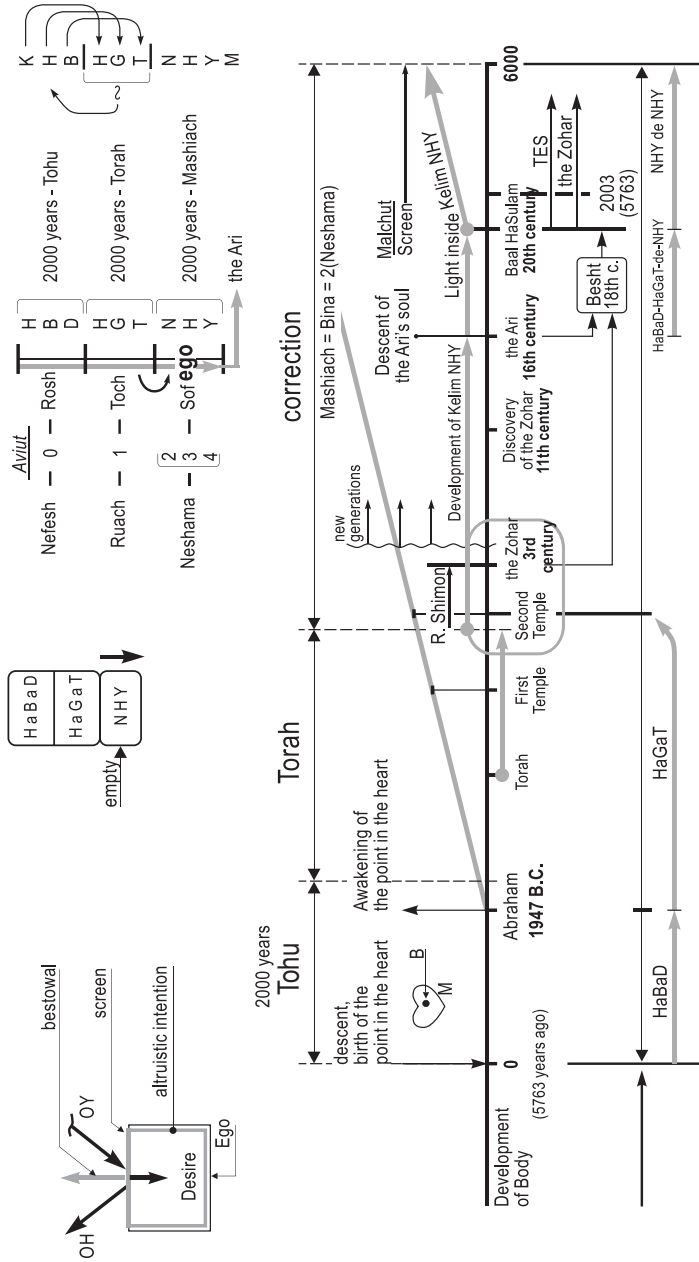
We can see many things on the axis of time. This is a part of the so-called historical Kabbalah or, rather, of the Kabbalistic history. We only need to receive from all this an answer to the age-old question about the meaning of our life.

Why should I know how this complex system is functioning outside me? Of course it is interesting information, but then what next?

Kabbalah is based on one single question: Why do I exist? By searching for the answer to this question, man attains the universe. He is first given the vessels, then is allowed to acquire a screen, and finally is filled with the light. Thus he finds the answer and reaches the Creator's level.

How does the correction take place beginning from 1995 and on according to what Baal HaSulam predicted? We are now living in 2004 or, according to the spiritual chronology, in 5764. How should we proceed?

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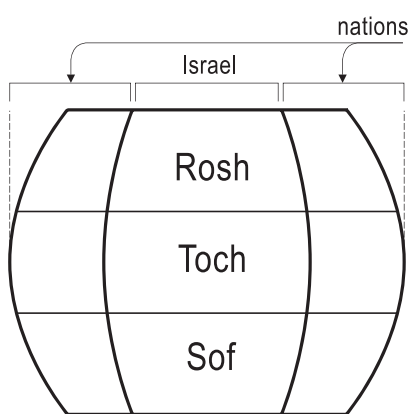
Baal HaSulam says; if we are destined to make corrections, naturally we should do it on ourselves. What does it mean? It should be done by people living in today's world; hence, each of us has his or her own mission, role, and a precise predestination.

66. Now you must know that everything has an inner aspect and an outer aspect.

The *Kelim HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY* are further divided from up downwards into the inner and outer parts. Let us see what the difference between them is. They consist of Ten *Sefirot*, or, alternatively, of *Rosh*, *Toch*, and *Sof*.

Israel refers to the inner part of the world, whereas other nations are considered its outer part.

Please do not misinterpret these names; they do not concern nationalities, but speak of spiritual conformity. If we take this particular *Partzuf*, the *Kelim HaBaD* and *HaGaT* will be called Israel, and the *Kelim* of *NHY* will be called the nations of the world. In this case, we see



that without engaging the nations of the world in this work Israel will be utterly unable to receive the Upper light.

The nations will be left without the light unless Israel passes them Kabbalah, the method of spiritual correction. That is, the combination of Israel and the nations of the world are similar to the combination of *Galgala Eynaim* and *AHP*.

Within Israel itself, there is an inner aspect that consists of those people who are committed to serve the Creator, and an outer aspect consisting of those who are not involved in spiritual work. Likewise,

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amongst the nations of the world there is an inner part called the righteous of the world and an outer part, which consists of those who are destructive and coarse.

In other words, there is a division into GE and AHP. Each of these parts has its own GE and AHP. GE and AHP in GE correspond to those who work for the Creator within Israel and those who are not. GE and AHP in the nations of the world are the righteous people and those who cause damage.

Even amongst those of Israel who work for the Creator, there is an inner part and an outer part. The inner part is comprised of those who are privileged to achieve spiritual attainment, and to grasp the secrets of the creation through attaining the Upper light. The outer part consists of people who only perform actions without comprehending their inner meaning.

Similarly every individual person has the inner part (GE, the point in heart) and the outer part referred to as the nations of the world, or the body.

Both the nations of the world and Israel are also divided into these parts. What is the essence of this division? It began from the time of Abraham who received the very first point in the heart and developed it.

When a man of Israel elevates his inner part over his outer part, meaning that he dedicates most of his time and effort to the enhancement of his innermost part as regards his outer part, the body, then by this he raises his spiritual aspect of the material one.

But if the opposite occurs, and a man of Israel elevates his outer material part over the inner, spiritual one, the outer part (the coarse and harmful elements in the nations of the world) accordingly rises over the inner part (the righteous among the nations of the world) and calamities and wars befall the world.

These actions raise the outer part of the nations of the world, prevail over the inner part, and consequently the destructive elements within the nations of the world prevail over Israel.

Thus, through suffering, everything facilitates the return to a state where *Galgalta Eynaim*, the souls of Israel, draw the Upper light to the world.

68. Do not be surprised by the fact that even an individual person, through his or her deeds, can cause an elevation or degradation of the whole world. This is an unalterable law that the whole and its parts are as identical as two drops of water. Everything that occurs in the whole occurs in its parts as well, and vice versa. Furthermore, whatever happens in the parts happens in the whole, because the whole is only revealed through the manifestation of its individual parts, according to both their measure and quality.

We are all dependent on one another. Until all of us have their vessels corrected, no one will be able to achieve full individual correction. The complete, truly absolute correction is when not only I am corrected through the world, but through me the whole world reaches the same state. We are all parts of one universe, one closed system, one soul called *Adam*, which emerged from the zero point.

Kabbalah correlates the notion of the zero point with the creation of *Adam*. What is *Adam*? *Adam* is the spiritual point in man's heart. We all originate from this point, from which all the *Kelim* of *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY* - *Tohu*, *Torah*, and *Mashiach* - began to emerge.

Baal HaSulam writes:

So certainly, the influence of every soul, i.e., each one of us, may lower or elevate the whole system, all the Kelim of HaBaD, HaGaT, and NHY.

This is how we can understand what is written in "The Zohar" that through the study of this book and the practice of the true wisdom,

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we can put an end to our state of exile and achieve a complete redemption.

A question may arise: What could studying "The Zohar" have to do with redeeming Israel from among the nations of the world? How can it possibly help to redeem the nations of the world and Israel from their egoism?

69. From what we have read, it is clear that the Torah, like the world itself, has an inner and an outer aspect.

There are two levels in the Torah. If man concentrates his efforts on the inner part of the Torah, namely on Kabbalah, in the same degree he elevates the inner part in the world. Then, consequently, a redistribution of forces takes place, when Israel and the nations of the world begin to realize the importance of spirituality, see the greatness of the Creator, and aspire for Him.

Other coarser parts gradually subside, fall off, and lose contact with the nations' aspiration for spirituality.

But if those of Israel who must study Kabbalah and then pass it on to the nations of the world diminish the importance of the inner part of the Torah in comparison with the mechanical observance of the precepts, the outer part of Israel, all opponents of Kabbalah, prevail over Kabbalists. As a result, the outer part of the nations, the destructive elements, rises above the righteous person, which leads the world to wars, catastrophes, hostilities, and suffering.

Furthermore, this leads to strengthening of the outer part of the nations over their inner part, so that the worst and most destructive of them prevail over their inner part, the righteous ones. This brings destruction and death, such as our generation has been a witness to.

Therefore we can see that the redemption of Israel and the rest of the world, wholly depends on the learning of "The Book of Zohar" and

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Kabbalah. The opposite is true also. All the afflictions that have befallen Israel and the world are due to their neglecting the study of Kabbalah (as compared to the external rituals) and treating it as something superfluous.

70. This is what “The Book of Zohar” says: “Come and wake up for the sake of spiritual ascent. Your heart is empty and you lack wisdom and the understanding of the Creator”.

In other words, “The Zohar” states: whatever you may be doing should only be for the sake of achieving equivalence of form with the Him.

This way, we rise to the level of eternity and perfection. Only Kabbalah can guide and correct us, whereas all other teachings and even the outer part of the Torah increases egoism. The nations with a higher level of egoism are greedy, resourceful, craving for pleasures of this world. Why is this so?

It is because instead of elevating their soul, they focus more on the body. Naturally, since this is not what they are supposed to do, although successful in their undertakings, they push themselves and the whole world to a catastrophe.

It is said about this generation that the Upper spirit (light) disappears and never returns. This is the spirit of Mashiach which is necessary for redeeming all people from suffering. This spirit disappears and stops shining in the world. Woe to those people who cause the light of Mashiach to depart and leave the world by making the Torah dry and tasteless, without Upper understanding and knowledge. They confine themselves to the practical aspects of the Torah and make no effort to try and understand the wisdom of Kabbalah. They do not wish to contemplate the secrets of the Torah, grasp the meaning of man’s actions and attain the Creator. Woe to them, who by their actions cause poverty, war, violence, pillage, killings and destructions in the world.

This is a quotation from “The Book of Zohar”, not the words of Baal HaSulam or one of the modern Kabbalists.

Thus, all good and bad in the world is predetermined by the presence or absence of the Upper light in it proportionate to the *Kelim* that have already developed in the world – *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY*. It therefore turns out that Israel, whose mission is to bring the Kabbalistic method to the nations, is responsible for the state of the world, both good and bad.

71. These words, as we have explained, concern those people who study the outer part of Torah, treating its inner part as something unnecessary, and pay little or no attention to it.

This fault is typical all over the world. The outer part of Israel influences the inner part, meaning that common believers are openly hostile to Kabbalists and are convinced that they are engaged in something totally wrong. Accordingly, the outer part of the nations of the world prevails over the inner.

All destructive elements raise their heads and wish to destroy the world, and primarily the people of Israel. This is because they do not fulfill their mission. The general governance is designed in such a way that the inner part could influence the outer one, while the outer part would in turn exert pressure and adjust the inner part.

After our grave sins, we have born witness to the sufferings predicted by “The Zohar”. The finest of us perished, for “the righteous are the first to suffer”. Of all the most prominent Kabbalists who used to live in Russia, only a small number remained in this country.

Baal HaSulam says that 200-300 years ago there were many Kabbalists in Russia and the Ukraine (the Baal Shem Tov with his disciples, the famous cradle of Kabbalistic learning in Kotzk, Poland). All of them have disappeared because, as he states, if the generations fall, the best are first to perish.

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It is now incumbent upon us, this tiny remnant, to right the wrong (i.e., the mechanical observance of precepts and the indifference to Kabbalah).

If every one of us takes upon himself with all his soul and mind to enhance the inner aspect of the Torah and to give it its rightful place, then each of us will strengthen the inner part within him and in the whole world.

Then our inner part and the inner part of the whole world, meaning the righteous of the nations of the world, those that aspire to the Creator (and wish to justify His actions) unite in such a joint effort that they will correct the world. A correct pyramid construction will be created in which the pure vessels will be at the top, and the coarse vessels will be at the bottom, so that we will draw on ourselves the Upper light.

In this way, the Upper light will be manifested in all the *Kelim* of *HaBaD*, *HaGaT*, and *NHY*, in all souls. Through us it will reach the rest of the world's vessels. Nature on all of its levels, the still, vegetative, animal, and naturally, human, will be good and prosperous. It will receive the spiritual fulfillment that it needs, rise to the level of the Creator, and we will achieve the Purpose of creation.

It depends on how quickly we will accomplish this task in the 236 years left until the end of the 6000-year period starting from where we are now. Instead of it being a path of development of the *Kelim*, it will turn into a path of compulsion by the absence of light, i.e., a path of horrific suffering. The Holocaust and the two world wars may be just a beginning.

Baal HaSulam speaks of the third and the fourth world wars. Already in 1934-1936 he was writing about a neutron bomb. One can find it in his manuscripts. He gives many things different names, but actually he writes about the destructive forces that will be in man's hands in the future. It is in our power to prevent all this; it depends

solely on us.

We know that the world consists of four stages of development according to the four phases of the descending light. Correspondingly, there are four destructions and four exiles. Our exile was the last. It has ended physically, and it must end spiritually. The two world wars may be complemented by two more, unless we change. We are not obliged to drink the cup of woe to the end; it is in our power to prevent these two world wars that are looming ahead of us.

So everything depends on us, on the first generation that begins its correction under the influence of the light. All the vessels are completed, we only need to acquire the *Masach* (screen) and start transferring the light to this world. Thanks to that, the world will painlessly achieve its predestination. We have to set it as our goal, for, as we know, the general and the particular are completely equal, so it turns out that each one of us determines the state of the whole world.

I hope that we will be worthy of our great teachers, and capable of bringing their legacy to the world. We have every opportunity to become the Creator's special messengers and fulfill our mission. We are already doing it, i.e., the Creator has already entitled us to accomplish this task. Now the question is whether we are ready to take it upon ourselves or not.

I believe that we will succeed in conducting the light to the world, as befitting the heirs of great Kabbalists. Imagine what spiritual reward is prepared for all of us who take part in this noble mission.

Baal HaSulam has written four introductions to "The Zohar": "The Introduction to the Book of Zohar", "The Preface to the Book of Zohar", "The Preamble to the Commentary of Sulam", and "The Preamble to the Wisdom of Kabbalah". They give us an adequate understanding of the book, so that by tuning ourselves to it, we can draw the Upper, Divine Light, the force, which ushers us into the spiritual realm.

We learn that the light is emanated from the Creator. This light is referred to as a “zero (or root) phase”, which is afterwards called *Keter* pertaining to the *Sefirot*. The zero phase builds for itself a *Kli*, phase one, the will to receive, or *Hochma*. By acting inside the *Kli*, the light creates a sensation of its source in it, i.e., of the zero phase.

Therefore, first, the light creates a desire in the zero phase, and then gives it a sensation of itself. Since the desire wants to feel pleasure, enter into it, connect with it, it reveals the root, the source of this desire, namely the zero phase.

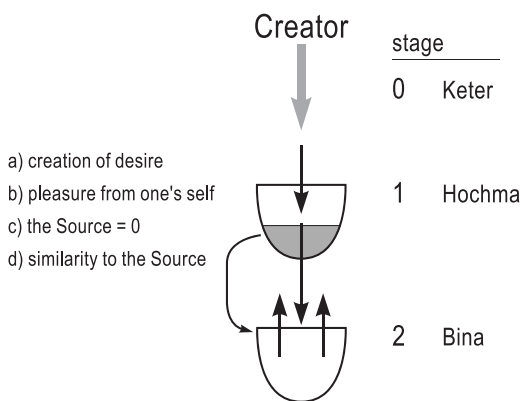
Thus, sub-phases emerge within phase one. A desire is created and feels pleasure. Consequently, by feeling pleasure, the desire longs to enter it, “cling” to it. While being “inside”, it begins to feel the source of pleasure, and, naturally, this sensation creates in it a new desire to become similar to the source.

This similarity to the source of pleasure happens to be a transition from phase one to phase two.

Phase two wishes to become similar to the source, but this decision is made at the end of phase one. Thus, it gives birth to a new desire – to bestow. This second phase is called *Bina*.

Bina in its turn consists of several sub-phases. In this way, the light’s influence inside the desire creates in it a series of consecutive transformations.

Here I see fit to emphasize that the Upper Light affecting us is able to do with us absolutely everything: make us either similar or opposite to



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itself. We should only expose ourselves to its maximum influence, try to connect with it as closely as we possibly can. All of this can be achieved by studying “The Book of Zohar”, provided we are correctly tuned to the ultimate purpose.

Therefore, all the aforementioned introductions are of great significance to us. Baal HaSulam wishes to expose us to the light that is emanated during the study of “The Zohar”, to help us penetrate more deeply into this light with the intention of merging with its source. This depends on us.

While the descending development of the four phases of the light and of all the *Partzufim* in the worlds is a result of the Creator’s actions, we must climb the spiritual ladder on our own by exposing ourselves to the influence of the *Ohr Makif*. Hence, we should study the introductions to “The Book of Zohar”, which were specially written for this sole purpose.

OUR OTHER BOOKS

Guide to the Hidden Wisdom of Kabbalah with Ten Complete Kabbalah Lesson: provides the reader with a solid foundation for understanding the role of Kabbalah in our world. The content was designed to allow individuals all over the world to begin traversing the initial stages of spiritual ascent toward the apprehension of the upper realms.

Attaining the Worlds Beyond: is a first step toward discovering the ultimate fulfillment of spiritual ascent in our lifetime. This book reaches out to all those who are searching for answers, who are seeking a logical and reliable way to understand the world's phenomena. This magnificent introduction to the wisdom of Kabbalah provides a new kind of awareness that enlightens the mind, invigorates the heart, and moves the reader to the depths of their soul.

The Science of Kabbalah (Pticha): is the first in a series of texts that Rav Michael Laitman, Kabbalist and scientist, designed to introduce readers to the special language and terminology of the Kabbalah. Here, Rav Laitman reveals authentic Kabbalah in a manner that is both rational and mature. Readers are gradually led to an understanding of the logical design of the Universe and the life whose home it is.

The Science of Kabbalah, a revolutionary work that is unmatched in its clarity, depth, and appeal to the intellect, will enable readers to approach the more technical works of Baal HaSulam (Rav Yehuda Ashlag), such as “Talmud Eser Sefirot” and Zohar.

Although scientists and philosophers will delight in its illumination, laymen will also enjoy the satisfying answers to the riddles of life that only authentic Kabbalah provides. Now, travel through the pages and prepare for an astonishing journey into the Upper Worlds.

Kabbalah for Beginners: By reading this book you will be able to take your first step in understanding the roots of human behaviour and the laws of nature. The contents present the essential principals of the Kabbalistic approach and describe the wisdom of Kabbalah and the way it works. Kabbalah for beginners is intended for those searching for a sensible and reliable method of studying the phenomenon of this world for those seeking to understand the reason

for suffering and pleasure, for those seeking answers to the major questions in life. Kabbalah is an accurate method to investigate and define man's position in the universe. The wisdom of Kabbalah tells us why man exists, why he is born, why he lives, what the purpose of his life is, where he comes from, and where he is going after he completes his life in this world.

Root of All Science: The process of examining our world with the help of the human mind and manmade tools is called science. All fields of science deal with what is perceived through our natural five senses, yet the Wisdom of Kabbalah deals with acquiring knowledge that exceeds their limitations.

In *Root of All Science*, Rav Michael Laitman presents the differences between Kabbalistic scientific method and the current method used by scientists. The distinction is in the ability of Kabbalah to incorporate human awareness in a verifiable analysis of reality. The enormous significance of this additional focus, to both the scientific researcher and the seeker of spirituality, is that it provides the leap in dimensions enabling the observer to penetrate the causal level of all aspects of existence and all events that occur in this world.

Wondrous Wisdom: Today interest in Kabbalah has exploded world-wide. Millions of people are seeking answers as to what this ancient wisdom really is, and where they can find authentic instruction. With so many conflicting ideas about Kabbalah on the internet, in books, and in the mass media; the time has finally arrived to answer humanity's need, and reveal the wisdom to all who truly desire to know. In *Wondrous Wisdom* you will receive the first steps, an initial course on Kabbalah, based solely on authentic teachings passed down from Kabbalist teacher to student over thousands of years. Offered within is a sequence of lessons revealing the nature of the wisdom and explaining the method of attaining it.

But if you listen with your heart to one famous question, I am sure that all your doubts as to whether you should study the Kabbalah will vanish without a trace. This question is a bitter and fair one, asked by all born on earth: "What is the meaning of my life?"

Rav Yehuda Ashlag,
from "Introduction to
Talmud Eser Sefirot"

ABOUT BNEI BARUCH

Bnei Baruch is a non-profit group centered in Israel that is spreading the wisdom of Kabbalah to accelerate the spirituality of mankind. Kabbalist Michael Laitman PhD, who was the disciple and personal assistant to Kabbalist, Rabbi Baruch Ashlag, the son of Kabbalist Rabbi Yehuda Ashlag (author of the Sulam Commentary on the Zohar), follows in the footsteps of his mentor in guiding the group.

Rav Laitman's scientific method provides individuals of all faiths, religions and cultures the precise tools necessary for embarking on a highly efficient path of self-discovery and spiritual ascent. The focus is primarily on inner processes that individuals undergo at their own pace. Bnei Baruch welcomes people of all ages and lifestyles to engage in this rewarding process.

In recent years, an awakening of a massive worldwide quest for the answers to life's questions has been underway. Society has lost its ability to see reality for what it is and in its place easily formed viewpoints and opinions have appeared.

Bnei Baruch reaches out to all those who seek awareness beyond the standard view. It offers practical guidance and a reliable method for understanding the world's phenomena. The group's unique method not only helps overcome the trials and tribulations of everyday life, but initiates a process in which individuals extend themselves beyond the standard boundaries and limitations of today's world.

Kabbalist Rabbi Yehuda Ashlag left a study method for this generation, which essentially 'trains' individuals to behave as if they have already achieved the perfection of the Upper Worlds, here in our world.

In the words of Rabbi Yehuda Ashlag, "*This method is a practical way to apprehend the Upper World and the source of our existence while still living in this world. A Kabbalist is a researcher who studies his nature using this proven, time-tested and accurate method. Through this method, one attains perfection,*

and takes control over one's life. In this way, one realizes one's true purpose in life. Just as a person cannot function properly in this world having no knowledge of it, so also one's soul cannot function properly in the Upper World having no knowledge of it. The wisdom of Kabbalah provides this knowledge."

The goal-orientated nature of these studies enables a person to apply this knowledge on both an individual and collective basis in order to enhance and promote the spirituality of humankind, and indeed the entire world.

HOW TO CONTACT BNEI BARUCH

Bnei Baruch
1057 Steeles Avenue West, Suite 532
Toronto, ON, M2R 3X1
Canada

E-mail address: info@kabbalah.info

Web site: www.kabbalah.info

Toll free in Canada and USA:

1-866-LAITMAN

Fax: 1-905 886 9697



