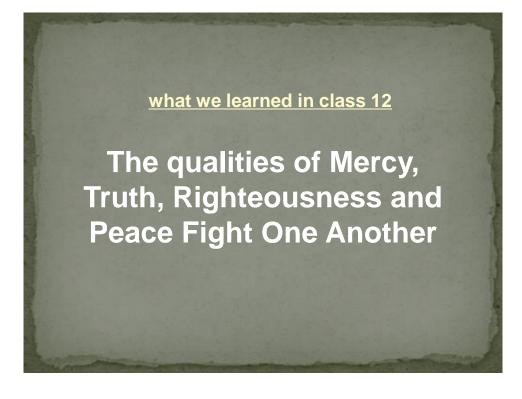
The New Writings of Rav Ashlag: Article on World Peace Part 13

Meir Yeshurun 8/3/2009

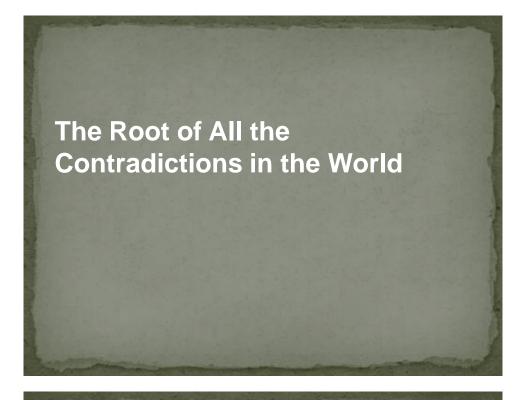


Thus you see, how these qualities within us lock horns and fight with each other, not only between one sect of society and another, but also within each individual as well.

For these four qualities take hold of him or her either all at once or one after the other, and fight within him to the point that there is no way one could sort them out with the help of common sense and arrange them and bring them into one absolute agreement.

On the contrary, each obstructs the other.





And the truth is, that the root of all this great confusion that prevails in us is no other than the Unique Individuality that we mentioned earlier, which is present in each and every one of us, to a lesser or greater degree.

We have explained its beautiful and exalted and very grand purpose, inasmuch as this quality is extended to us directly from the Creator, who is the Individual of the world and the root of all creatures.



Still, because it became our narrow egoism, its action has become that of destruction and ruin.

So much so, that it has become the source of all the destructions that were inflicted and will be inflicted in this world.

And you should know that not one human being in the world is free of it

And all the disagreements are only in the ways of using it, whether for the desires of the heart, or for governance, or for honor; these are the ways in which people differ from each other.

But the equal aspect all the people of the world share with each other is that each one of us is ready to take advantage of all the other people in the world for his own personal benefit, using every possible means at his disposal, not taking into account that in so doing he is going to benefit himself on the basis of the destruction of the other.



The type of justifications each person comes up with, according to their interests and their orientation, do not matter whatsoever here. The desire to receive is the root of the mind; the mind is not the root of the desire.

And frankly speaking, it can be said that the greater and more excellent a person is, to exactly that degree, the quality of his Unique Individuality is greater and more excellent.

Now we will try to penetrate and understand the suitable conditions that would finally be accepted by humanity when the age of world peace appears: In order to find out to what extent these conditions are suitable to share with both the individual and the society a life of happiness, as well as examine the extent to which humanity as a whole is prepared to ultimately assume these lofty conditions.



The Two Sides of the Coin of Unique Individuality

So let us return to the issue of the Unique Individuality in the heart of each person, which is ready to swallow up the world in its entirety for its own pleasure.

We will consider the previously mentioned question regarding the importance and glory of its roots, being an extension directly from the Individual of this world to humans, who are the branches as mentioned earlier.

That question is valid and demands an answer: how is it that it [the principle of Unique Individuality] manifests among us in such a distorted fashion, having become the root cause and progenitor of all the destroyers and ruin mongers of the world?

How could the source of all construction bring about directly the source of all destruction? Such a question cannot be laid aside without an answer.



Indeed, there are two sides to the coin of the said Unique Individuality. Because if we examine it from the point of view of one side, the exalted side, which means from the aspect of it's affinity with the Individual of this world, that aspect only operates through a mode which we call "sharing with others." After all, the Creator is there entirely for the sake of sharing.

He does not have any trace of receiving in Him, because He lacks nothing and does not need to receive anything from the creatures, His own created beings. Therefore, the Unique Individuality that is extended to us from Him must necessarily operate also in the form of "sharing with others" rather than "receiving for oneself."

But looking at the other side of the same coin, which means from the lower, second aspect, from the point of view of the way it practically operates within us, we find that it operates in a completely opposite direction, because it operates only when taking the form of "receiving for oneself."

For example, an ambition to be the single wealthiest person in the whole world, or the single most honored person in the whole world, etc. In the end, therefore, the two said aspects are two ends that are as distant from each other as is at all possible, just as East is distant from West. Thus obstructs the other.

