

FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM

BS"D

A message from Binyamin Golden, an autistic man Adar 2, 5768

[Binyamin has approved the explanations and clarifications that are in parenthesis]

We are now truly approaching the great moment in history that we have been looking forward to for thousands of years. That is why we have all been going through such difficult times, such difficult tests ["Just as in Egypt, before the redemption the hard work was increased as it says in Shmos 5, 'And the work became harder for the people, etc.,' similarly are the Pre-Messianic pangs" (Hagra, Even Shlomo, chapter 11)].

The whole world is experiencing it's final rectifications and 'classifications' (i.e. deciding the future of): the Jews, the gentiles, the water, the earth, the mountains - everything that is inanimate, alive or that grows. Every living thing is now being put to the test - its final assessment until the next phase of the Creation, which is the days of *Moshiach* (Messiah), together with our righteous *Moshiach*, the third *Beis Hamikdash* (Temple), etc.

Yet, we are not ready. Most of the Jewish people, the most important beings in the entire creation, are simply not ready. Not ready to live in a perfected world, a world of spirituality. People still want the *gashmius* (materialism) and not spirituality.

If people read our words and it sounds harsh to them, they are unhappy, because they want the "easy way" [even though only the beginning is easy, and the end is very difficult and bitter]. They want materialism together with so-called "spirituality" – what they think is spirituality But they don't realize that the entire materialistic way of life they once knew is completely crumbling all around them.

If they would read what is written in the holy prophecies of the Torah, they would see that our words are very mild compared to the prophets' descriptions of all that is in store for the Jewish people and the rest of the world. They envisioned the most terrible times. Most terrible! Trials and tribulations which are almost impossible to withstand and survive.

But people don't want to hear harsh words. Before every time of *es ratzon* ('time of favor' - where our prayers are more accepted in Heaven), such as Purim or any other holyday, I hear people saying that the prayers said on these holydays are going to sweeten the harsh judgments. But don't forget that before the Second World War broke out, there were also holydays such as Purim, Pesach, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Succos, all the holydays, all the 'times of favor'. Nevertheless, a horrendous holocaust occurred that was so terrible it cannot even be described in words.

Today also, nothing will help us if we do not repent. Nothing will help us if we do not repent. Nothing will help us if we do not repent! This is the message and this people do not want to hear. They are prepared to do all sorts of minor, symbolic things, but this - doing real *teshuva* (repentance), putting up a *mehitza* (a barrier) between themselves and the unnecessary materialism of this world - this they are not prepared to do. [See *Mesillas Yesharim* chapter 1, that the foundation of Judaism is keeping away from materialism and this world and coming close to *Hashem*. This is the purpose of life].

When the moment of truth arrives, when we witness such dangerous situations beyond the perception of a tiny, weak human mind, when the fear is tremendous - when we reach that moment in

time, those who are unable to separate themselves from the "golden calf" (materialism) will disappear from the world along with it. Since they were so wrapped up in all the materialism of this world and were accustomed to putting great importance on every thing connected to materialism, they made themselves unfit to live in a world of total spirituality.

The Jews in Israel are now facing the greatest danger. The greatest. The Jews living here in the Holy Land are starting to realize this. They are starting to get a little frightened, even though they are continuing to live as though nothing special is happening. However, in Israel a movement has developed of people who are trying to do real *teshuva*. This movement is still relatively small. This movement is mainly made up of observant Jews who are seriously trying to come closer to the Truth, to our Father in Heaven.

These are Jews who are prepared to separate themselves from the materialism of the *goyish* (gentile) world [as explained in "The way of G-d", by the Ramchal who says that without this one cannot come close to *Hashem*, see there, part 1, chapter 4, 2]. However those who are not prepared to leave the excessive, *goyish* materialism – even though they may live in *charedi* (Ultra-orthodox) places such as Jerusalem, Bnai Beraq, Beit Shemesh, Beitar, Elad, Kiryat Sefer and so on – but are still trying to live a materialistic life like the *goyim* or like the secular Jews, these people will not survive to greet our righteous *Moshiach*.

Now, at this very moment, every person must decide: why is he alive? Why is he in this world? He must think about the day of after his death and what his future holds. ["Most of his days, man thinks about his business, his temporary life. Why should he not give even one hour of thought to truly serious matters: What is he? Why did he come to this world? And what does *Hashem*, the King of all kings want of him? And what will be the end of all his dealings in life? This is the best and strongest medicine man has against his Evil Inclination." (*Derech Etz Chaim*)].

What will this type of people do in *olam haba* (the World to Come)? Do they think they are going to enter the *olam haba* with their credit cards and B.M.W.'s? And with their wives who are wearing long beautiful wigs and dressing immodestly similar to the way the gentile women dress? These men, with all their "toys" - with their computers and cell phones that are also digital cameras and play all sorts of *goyish* music, etc., will definitely go straight to *Gehenom*. Because in Heaven all of these "toys", as well as his immodest wife, will testify against him – with the testimony that these toys were his whole life. Even if he *davened* at shul – not always, but whenever he could – put on tefilin, gave charity etc. But his heart and mind were focusing on these *goyish* things.

However, those Jews who distance themselves from anything Hellenistic [the Greek way of life was based purely on materialistic pleasures – as is the way of the Western world today and even of many religious people who have strayed from the correct path], like with the story of Chanukah, these few Jews, if they continue following the true path, will be the ones to merit living in the days of *Moshiach* and the third *Beis Hamikdash*, etc.

There really is no time to waste. There really is no time to waste. **We must do *teshuva*** [see next message]. This is our only lifeline – and it will protect us against every type of missile. Against the biological, G-d forbid, the nuclear, G-d forbid, the chemical, G-d forbid and even against the 'simple'

ones that 'kill on contact'. This will also protect us from all the terrible illnesses and other Heavenly punishments.

Hashem is going to perform very great miracles for those who do *teshuva*, those who reject the materialism of this world and want nothing except closeness to *Hashem*, which means doing nothing except sitting for the rest of their lives in the 'House of *Hashem*'. The 'House of *Hashem*' is the only real shelter and the only thing people can trust. Not the army, not the Home Front Command, not the government, not the prime minister, not the president or any member of parliament. **Only our Father in Heaven.**

However if we are not with Him, likewise He will not be with us. It is our duty to stay close to Him and do His will. If we do this, we will be saved. We will be safe from any kind of danger.

What I have said so far is not new. But it needs to be repeated, over and over again, because **this is the message. There is no other message.** Exactly when it will take place ("the great moment in history which we have been looking forward to for thousands of years") is interesting to know, but not the most important thing. Knowing who's going to drop what kind of bomb on whom is also not what matters. It will happen and it will be very frightening, but it is not the most important thing.

What's important is coming close to Hashem and to become servants to Him alone ("For *Bnei Yisrael* are servants to me" Vayikra 25) and not to be slaves to our bank accounts, or to our electronic toys, or to our will to be young and beautiful, to go to restaurants or any other *gashmi* (materialistic) thing. Just servants of *Hashem* that always labor to do His will.

SIX STEPS TO REDEMPTION

A message from Binyamin Golden, an autistic man

We all want to merit living in the days of *Moshiach* (Messiah), but what can we do in order to be worthy of this?

1) Every person must lower his head (his pride) and humble himself before *Hashem*.

2) Regret. This means that we must regret and cry over each and every sin we have done. Every thing we do against *Hashem*, against His Torah, every one of these things puts up a *mechitza* (a barrier) between us and the Creator of the World. [This is what the prophet Yeshayah said, (chapter 59) "Your sins separated you from your G-d."] This *mechitza* distances us from the Truth, and then we are at risk of disappearing from the world together with the *sheker* (falsehood of this world), which means eternal death, G-d forbid.

Therefore, every Jew must now regret and feel very sorry for each and every sin he ever did, to the point that he sheds tears. We must sit on the ground and tear our clothes, or wear sack and ashes, and cry and cry and cry over all our sins and the sins of our ancestors, starting with Adam *Harishon*.

We must also cry over the *Beis Hamikdash* that was destroyed and taken from us on account of our sins. We must cry over this tremendous spiritual glory that we lost and the chance we had to bring sacrifices and atone for each and every sin. Woe to us!

3) We must then **say vidui** (prayers of confession), but really feel remorse while saying it. Say, "Our Father, our King, we have sinned before You... Our Father, our King, we have no one besides You... treat us with charity and kindness and redeem us."

Say it again and again, again and again, until it sinks deep into your head and heart and entire body. Until you understand this and are really weeping.

4) After that, we must **make a firm decision** that from now on we are throwing away all the unnecessary materialism of this world (the "golden calf"). This will free us and enable us to live a life of spirituality [as it says in *Chovas Halevavos*, "Just as water and fire cannot be together with each other in one vessel, so the heart of a believer is not able to contain the love of 'this world' together with the love of the *Olam Haba* (World to Come)"] Then we will be able to observe the Torah in every aspect of our lives.

5) Then we must act and **remove from our homes** anything that has any connection at all to the *goyish* (gentile) world and go back to doing nothing else except following the will of *Hashem*. We must rid our homes of every filthy or impure tool that brings the "golden calf" (materialism) into our lives. Whether it is newspapers or books - even *Charedi* books - which are inappropriate, clothes, radios, computers, whatever it may be. We must clean out our houses thoroughly from anything unnecessary, anything *goyish*, anything that lures us into materialism.

By doing this kind of *teshuva*, we will be able to reach the highest spiritual level which is love of *Hashem*. This means to love *Hashem* by truly yearning for Him and His way. To yearn for Him more than we yearn for the person we love most in this world. We must also long for the *Beis Hamikdash* and the sacrifices with the kind of longing that brings a person to great pain and tears.

6) To successfully accomplish all this, we must realize that doing the will of *Hashem* is not something boring. Whoever starts working on this starts becoming a true son of *Hashem*. Then he will know that this life of *Torah* and *mitzvos* is absolutely the most natural, the best and the happiest way of life.

Living a life of fulfilling the will of *Hashem*, this life is the only real way of living that exists. Any other way is utter falsehood and deception. Therefore, whoever lives – or at least tries his hardest to live – this kind of life, will be worthy to receive our righteous *Moshiach* and the Redemption. Whoever does not, will disappear together with the *sheker*.

Every one must make their choice. But now, because time is really running out. If we do *teshuva* (repentance) we can save ourselves. And then, G-d willing, we will merit to greet our righteous *Moshiach* with great joy. This will be the greatest moment in history, to which *Am Yisroel* has been looking forward to for thousands of years. Remember however, that we must do true *teshuva* in order to save ourselves and merit to live in the world of *Moshiach*.