

A Very Very Urgent Appeal!

A Personal Word from HaRav Ariel Bar Tzadok

GOTCHA! I BET YOU THOUGHT THIS URGENT APPEAL WAS A PLEA FOR YOUR MONEY.

WELL, IT'S NOT! THIS VERY VERY URGENT APPEAL IS A PLEA FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

I am pleading with you to please read this essay and take it to heart.

OUR COLLECTIVE JEWISH FUTURE IS IN SERIOUS JEOPARDY AND WHILE I CANNOT CHANGE THE WORLD, I AM AT LEAST TRYING TO DO MY SHARE. SO, PLEASE READ ON...

Here we are again, at the end of one year and the beginning of the next. So much has happened over this last year and we can rest assured that we will say this exact same thing again this time next year. This New Year will have its share of excitement; it will have its share of ups and downs, along with its good and bad times.



HaRav Ariel Bar Tzadok
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Many are desperately hoping that this New Year will be the one when Mashiah finally comes. We shared this same hope last year, and if Mashiah does not come this year, we will equally share the hope for the year after that. After all, it is part of our Torah faith to hope and wait for Mashiah daily.

OK, with this being said, let me address now a serious concern I have. With regards to the coming of Mashiah, rest assured he will come, this year, next year or in a hundred years, in one way or another, when the time is right, Mashiah will come and as the prophet says, Mashiah and his army of angels will set the world straight once and for all. Yet, like I said, while we wait and hope for this daily, it still may not happen for a long time to come. Therefore, we must understand this, take it into account and live our lives accordingly.

Granted, the End of Days may be upon us; apocalypse may very well just be around the corner; gloom and doom may be awaiting us all at any moment; but then again, maybe not!

LIFE IS MEANT TO BE LIVED BY THE LIVING, NOT BY THE WALKING DEAD! WE CANNOT GO ON THROUGH LIFE JUST WAITING FOR EVERYTHING TO MIRACULOUSLY CHANGE.

We cannot expect a magical Mashiah to suddenly appear out of nowhere and wave his magic wand making all the world's problems disappear. This is not the hope and faith sincere Torah-believing Jews have in the coming of Mashiah. Anyone who embraces such infantile and immature beliefs about magical redemptions certainly demonstrates a lack of Torah knowledge about the coming of Mashiah and worse it expresses symptoms of delusional thinking.

THERE IS NO MAGIC WAND TO WAVE; THERE IS NO MAGIC PILL TO TAKE; THERE IS NO MAGIC AND THERE WILL BE NO MAGIC. MAGIC AND TORAH DO NOT JIVE WITH ONE ANOTHER.

Every individual must choose between the fantasy of magic and the reality of Torah. As for me, I chose Torah. And I feel that I must elaborate on exactly what this means because the definition of living a Torah life today has become so twisted and perverted that its true meaning is becoming lost in an avalanche of imposter life styles.

Living a Torah life means just that, living by Torah, and not by one's personal interpretation of what it means to be religious. The Torah Way includes numerous paths and these include many different walks of life, culture and ethnicity. Any path along the Torah Way is kosher (legitimate), regardless of how different it may be from another path. Remember back to the days of the Bible, when we had the reality of twelve distinctive tribes. Each was different from the others in many ways, still only together were they called Yisrael.

THE GREATEST THREAT I SEE TODAY FACING TORAH JUDAISM IS NOT THE THREAT OF THE RADICAL SECULAR, BUT RATHER THE RADICAL RELIGIOUS!

The internet is full of stories, websites, philosophies and beliefs that scream out radicalism and polarization. Loud voices screaming out, "only I (we) are right, everyone else is dead wrong!" These voices insult other groups, individuals and Rabbis by name, condemn sacred legitimate Torah beliefs, offend the memories of holy Sages and condemn and outright curse complete segments of the Torah religious community simply because "they are not right, like we are!"

THIS TYPE OF RADICALISM AND DIVISION IS EVIL! IT IS MORE THAN WRONG, IT IS OUTRIGHT DANGEROUS!

It is the reincarnation of the spirit of the evil "biryonim" spoken of in the Gemara whose radicalism and defiance of Heaven led to the destruction of the Holy Temple and the holocaust of over a million fellow Jews under the hands of the Romans.

Look around! This same ugly face has risen again and it is threatening to destroy our communities and to again make Jews and Judaism a pariah in the eyes of the world. We have enough enemies in this world who hate us and want to kill us for no cause; we do not need to make matters worse and give our enemies good reasons to hate us!

The nation of Israel today seethes with such extreme religious radicalization. Hatred abounds towards other religious individuals, Sages and even entire communities. How on earth does one expect a magical Mashiah to come and magically make all the hate go away?

TORAH TEACHES US THAT THERE IS NO GREATER BLESSING THAN UNITY AND NO GREATER CURSE THAN DIVISION!

LOOK AROUND! SEE WITH YOUR OWN EYES! ARE WE SOLICITING THE BLESSINGS OF HEAVEN OR ARE WE SOLICITING THE CURSE?

When will this end? When will we rise up and yell out with a loud voice, “enough insanity.” We have to make things rights.

Now, let me get personal. I am but one man, a lone voice. I have dedicated my life to Torah and to bringing its revitalizing message of real change, real answers and real solutions to many who seek it but cannot seem to find in with all the noise and distractions vying for people’s attentions and money.

I am but one guy. I have no big backers, no millionaires writing me checks. I am unaffiliated and make every effort to get along with everyone in the Torah community, no matter what color hat or kippah they wear. I equally endeavor to get along with everyone else if and when I can.

THERE IS A TIME AND PLACE FOR CONFLICT AND FIGHTING, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT TORAH IS THE RIGHT PLACE AND CERTAINLY, WITH ALL THE DANGERS FACING US, NOW IS NOT THE RIGHT TIME!

I believe that it is high time that we refocus our collective attentions on what a Torah life is supposed to be about.

TORAH IS ABOUT HASHEM; THE TORAH WAY IS ABOUT CONNECTING TO HASHEM.

Therefore, I believe the great solution to all the divisiveness going on around us and destroying our very core is that we must stop placing emphasis on divisions and start placing emphasis on unity. Unity awareness can only be achieved when we stop looking at each other and instead start looking again to Heaven, directly and personally.

WE NEED TO REVITALIZE INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH G-D.

Each of us as individuals need to stop paying so much attention to what is going on outside and start focusing on what is going on inside. We must stop the radicalization of those claiming to speak for G-d and instead we ourselves must approach G-d as individuals and silently contemplate and listen to what Divine insight we might individually glean.

No one is going to be able to “hear” anything from G-d if their spiritual ears are clogged up with all the nonsense and noise coming out of from every corner of the religious communities. The politics and the infightings have got to stop. Radicalisms and extremisms must be confronted and marginalized. If we do not take these necessary steps, then we are destined to face the outcome of our lack of action. This is not a prediction; this is rather the natural outcome. No magical Mashiah came to save us from the Biryonim last time and over a million Jews died. Do you really think the next time will be any different?

ONE OF THE SMARTEST JEWS OF ALL TIMES, ALBERT EINSTEIN SAID THAT, “INSANITY IS DOING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER AGAIN AND EXPECTING DIFFERENT RESULTS.”

HAVE WE ALL GONE INSANE? CAN WE CONTINUE DIGGING A DEEPER AND DEEPER HOLE AND EXPECT NOT BE GET BURIED IN IT?

Here we are again before Rosh HaShana, Judgment Day. I am only one guy, without money and with very few resources to get my message out.

Granted, like all the other Rabbis and organizations, I too only get along with the help and contributions of my supporters. Yes, I do solicit your support financially just like everyone else does. But there is a level of support that you can provide which may be of far more value than money.

IF YOU LIKE WHAT I DO HERE AT KOSHERTORAH.COM, THEN PLEASE PASS IT ALONG.

SEND MY ESSAYS AND EMAILS TO PEOPLE YOU KNOW. HELP ME GET THE WORD OUT.

PARTICIPATE WITH ME AND LET'S WORK TOGETHER.

I know many of my readers do not have significant financial means and cannot always send to KosherTorah the money that they would otherwise like to send. I understand this. As a poor man for many years, I also know that G-d provides. One way or another we will all manage and get along; maybe not the way we want, but ultimately in the end, G-d be willing, we will still all be here next year.

This is my very very urgent appeal. Help me get the message out. If you believe in what KosherTorah.com stands for, then help me publish my books and help me get the word out. Work with me by spreading KosherTorah and let's see if together we can make a difference.

We may not be able to change the world, but maybe, just maybe, we can change some of the people in it for the better. And if we can better the lives of those we can reach, then as far as I am concerned we will have accomplished something big.

So, please let's work together. If you wish to financially support KosherTorah.com I sincerely thank you. Your donations go directly to supporting these endeavors. I do not take any funds that I receive and put them towards expensive building funds, or the "buy the Rabbi a new Mercedes fund." Monies that come into KosherTorah go to pay the daily bills and whatever little is left over goes into publishing. That is all that I can do with what I presently have.

I am trying to make a difference. I pray that each of you will also try in your own ways. But please try! Time is short and much more work needs to be done. Mashiah may not come tomorrow, but maybe we can speed up his coming if we get our acts together. Please help me towards this end.

Thank you all. May we all have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

MAY G-D BLESS US WITH ALL OUR NEEDS AND INDEED MAY G-D BLESS US WITH THE CLOSING WORDS OF THE KADDISH, "MAY HE WHO MAKES PEACE IN HIS HIGH PLACES, MAKE PEACE OVER US AND OVER ALL ISRAEL," AND PLEASE, DEAR G-D, LET US SAY AMEN.