

לענט-מנשסטר

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON

Lubavitch

770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn, N. Y. 11213

Hyacinth 3-9250

- מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליובאווימש
 - 770 איסמערן פארקוויי ברוקליו, נ. י.

ב"ה, אסרו הה"ת תש"ל ברוקלין, נוי

האברך הוו"ח אי"א נו"נ וכו" מוה' דוב שי' וב"ג תי'

שלום ובדכה!

במענה על ההודעה מקביעות זמן החונתם ליום ד", ר"ה אייר הבע"ל,

הנני בזה להביע ברעתי ברכת מזל טוב מזל שוב ושתהי' בשעה טובה ומוצלחת ויבנו ביה בישראל בנין עדי עד על יסודי התורה והמצוה כפי שהם מוארים בסאור שבתורה זוהי תורת החסידות.

בברכת מזל שוב מזל שוב

A LETTER TO THE PARENTS OF THE CHOSSON ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR WEDDING

By the Grace of G-d 28th of Adar, 5734 Brooklyn, N.Y.

Greeting and Blessing:

It is with some delay that I received the information about your marriage. However, a blessing is always timely, and I take this opportunity to extend to you and to your wife my prayerful wishes for a Binyan Adei Ad.

It is surely unnecessary to emphasize to you at length that the said expression for a lasting and happy marriage is very meaningful. for, in comparing marriage to an everlasting edifice, as it is called in the blessing under the Chuppa, the young couple are reminded that the important thing in marriage is the foundation. And insofar as the foundation is concerned, the important thing is not how it appears to the outsider, but that it should be of the most durable material, the kind of material that has been tested and found reliable to withstand all possible erosions, etc.

I am therefore, confident that both you and your wife have firmly resolved to establish your married life and family on the foundations of the eternal Torah and Mitzvoth, especially as they are illuminated by the light, joy and vitality of Chasidus.

With the blessing of Mazel Tov, Mazel Tov,

M. Schneerson

A LETTER FROM THE REBBE CONCERNING MARRIAGE

DODAL FILE

ארכרון טוב איוז באואר בתי הכאה הנאאה ג' חי ווזקא תחי זו דע החמן הרב ג' גווז גיצוא יי הני בוב אבבא את כא מנואיי אק בשתת אברוב עברוב וערמק, בתעובה בווטגרת בוה הדתק עברוב ער הי קרא ש בוד בק אדור באו אויני אביצו הראשון, רצו הגרוז גרוקאהה נבגי ידי אצר יגואה יהי אש גיר רגיע נקבי ער ביו בתנכי ידירון אצי, ר' איד יאין וט

, SILAG 17960 ,

הרות זראה הביא הי בולר בא הוא. בי היחם בין החיייז וווןריהו ראת הביא הי בולר בא אית אחר האסרות שאט מולוא חוו קרולת ארריז וואר אחרה גלויי האייז רצתו לצא לריב או ועריהו ואזע אהוויל לורת באקר ואזע אנו שראאר איר קרים בלה האסיר בי אי בי ראי נהשרוא אנו שריאאי אור קרים בלה האסיר בי אי בי ראי נהשרוא ברר הבאת שוו והאסרי הרא על החייר ראו ני בירא בילו וצר הראר שוו והאסרי הראו ני בירא של הייר ויצר ברבי אילא שר בואר ברוב הנוגואת שיאו וער הייר בי בי

הצות וניו אח רבני הגרו אליהו צי ניותב אזיין הצרק אתניי האל הווה איש עי בר וואת ביא עי בר אין זהיות זר ברטות וגנון אארבת ויהאני תי אבא ול אי ראש שייפין בפוצאטרות שארת בארב בי עראו לטובה נסון בכוב אארא באצר הצור היא בארי אינוי נאר עי וויצו הבצים נע וואה האול בנה את ב

נגוה עי זוינן הנשט ני חות החו או היי ניין וניין: וההבש אוון יאנה גהיא שאח רגין הגרין וניין: נה החשיר כי גוה נע

יישי כה בתוגי-אוויז אויזיזי אויזיזי יישי גער באוו היישיאי איישי גער אויזיזי איישי

להררי הי זעה נא שאותם נקקשוט לעורך רוחי טהרה בלכן הטא ליציר על מרוטי ביארעי כל היציר זול וכו אהיורי אין העלבי ולבקש מחילה ברכוס מרעיך יו זאיר נג קורס יהב הבוצ ליצורי ג'אר ליאין ג'אין דשל כי זאן של יוצא מחרך מריבה או נבקבט מימוונר לים אשר רוב הברוג נהראות הן מיזונות לים הרדי צורן ומצר נעור בטחול שרברי אלה המוצעי יחניקו המרוב ניהיו לרצון איירי כילא שלי כלי אחרי גיון הו קצרת נאוד של של של מיצרים בנבים השרט ביום ברוב בי אורר נא ש

לידידי פני ספה לי שאלתי ונקשוי לעור ורח שותה בלנו חסת זו לחקבי על מזוחיו נסאירל כל השקבי על וגו ולחיות מן המלביםם ולקפש מהלה נובים מהגביד מם משיך לי שהם ידל הגבלי (ומהגביארים הנשיעו"כובו, ולישוו את למעוי ולסע השלחם: יד און שלה ידגו מתו מרכז מרכז נפצא משמלוקת לליש רצם שמסו שארו ונת וותו הולאשות הן מסתלות לכדש הרחמן יתילנו ממנה המגדל במהתי שדבר אלה המאפרים: החדש המרצרים והחובים היו המולחם ידל או שליכם. המורמן יתילנו ממנה המגדל במהתי שדבר אלה המאפרים: החדש המרצרים והיו לנתו אמרים המולחם יד

אתרי גיוו ה"ו קצרותי ואוסר של

10 the Bury

ואילו שלום השורת פרשלאל. הכתובת בפוח הרחיית. נכתנו פרידי שור לארק שתרי פשה פוררוסבין גבן שרדבין מיידלש בתוליא שיו דבר פליניי אם האם לאיזן אליו לי

> שתי השרוח שחיצון כתובו אי הן - שנובר לדף --בנוןיכתבייד שרש אוצויד חוש: לתרכני מרח משה מויידלש שמש וטאסן ידקן הרותן אילנא

A SOUVENIR DISTRIBUTED AT THE REBBE'S WEDDING 14 KISLEV 5689 (1928)

And this very fact, that the Jews are in exile, [is sufficient to bring them to a state where] they feel "crushed." And through this crushed state, they reach "the light."

To explain: The very fact that a Jew is in exile, (even when he is blessed with material and spiritual prosperity) makes him feel broken [and crushed]. For the true desire of every Jew is that there be a revelation of G-dliness. Indeed, this [desire for] the revelation of G-dliness affects the very essence of his being.

Therefore, the fact that in the time of exile, G-dliness is not revealed to the same extent as in the time of the Beis HaMikdash jolts every fiber of his being, er iz ingantzen tzutreiselt; he is crushed. {This is particularly true when one considers our Sages' statement,⁵² "Whoever did not [merit to have] the Beis HaMikdash built in his time should consider it as if it was destroyed in his time."}

Even when an individual is on such a lofty spiritual plane that G-dliness is revealed for him in a manner which resembles the revelation during the times of the *Beis HaMikdash*,⁵³ the fact this revelation is not expressed throughout the world at large is a clear indication that even the revelation granted him is limited in nature. For when the infinite dimension of the *Or Ein Sof* is revealed, that revelation [will permeate] every place. As long as there is one place (even a far-removed corner) where G-dliness is

EXTRACT FROM THE LAST EDITED DISCOURSE OF THE REBBE, PURIM KATAN 5752 (1992) REGARDING YEARNING FOR THE REDEMPTION

^{52.} See the Jerusalem Talmud, Yoma 1:1 (4b), Midrash Tehillim on Tehillim 137:7.

^{53.} To cite a renowned [example]: "For... Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, it was [as if] the Beis HaMikdash was not destroyed at all (Pelach HaRimon, Shmos, p. 7, in the name of the Alter Rebbe).

not revealed, the revelation is limited ([and that limitation affects] even the place where the light shines).

{This is implied by the statement in the Alter Rebbe's maamar⁵⁴ that the Tikkunei [Zohar]⁵⁵ relates that if even one tzaddik in a generation would turn [to G-d] in perfect teshuvah, Mashiach would come. For perfect teshuvah draws down the revelation of the infinite dimensions of the Or Ein Sof, and [when this light is revealed], the revelation will permeate the totality of existence.}

And when [a Jew — and these feelings are inherent to all Jews —] does not perceive the revelation of the essence of the Or Ein Sof, he is broken and crushed. {This relates to the concept that π [the Hebrew word for "sick,"] is numerically equivalent to 49. [There are 50 "gates of understanding."⁵⁶ Even] when a person attains 49 of these gates and is lacking merely the fiftieth, [he is not content with his achievements. Rather,] he is "sick" [with yearning for the revelation of G-dliness].³⁷

[In a similar vein, it is worthy to mention] the renowned statement of the Tzemach Tzedek:³⁸

We would hear from our teacher and master o.b.m. (i.e., the Alter Rebbe): "I do not want anything. I do not want Your *Gan Eden*. I do not want Your World to Come. I want nothing else but You Yourself."

^{54.} Maamarei Admur HaZakein HaKetzarim p. 403.

^{55.} The Alter Rebbe's maamar cited in the previous note [mentions this as the source]. [The exact source in the Tikkunei Zohar is, however, a matter of question.] See the conclusion of Parshas Noach in the Zohar Chadash (23d): "If the head of the community or one member of the community will turn in teshuvah, the entire diaspora will be gathered in."

^{56.} R. Chaim Vital, Ta'amei HaMitzvos, Parshas Vayeira.

^{57.} Ta'amei HaMitzvos of the AriZal, Parshas Vayeira; Likkutei Torah, Berachah 97b; the series of discourses entitled VeKachah 5637, ch. 63 (p. 99).

^{58.} Quoted in the maamar, Shoresh Mitzvas HaTefillah of the Tzemach Tzedek, ch. 40 (p. 138a).

לענט-מנשסטר

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליובאווימש

> איסמערן פארקוויי 770 איסמערן איזי. ברוקליו, ג. י.

ב"ה, כ' אדר חשל"ד ברוקלין, נ.י.

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON Lubavilch

> 770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn, N. Y. 11213

HYacinth 3-9250 212 443-9250

הוו"ח אי"א נו"נ עוסק בצ"צ הרב דוב שי'

שלום וברכתו

במענה על הודעתו אשר נולד לחם בן למזל טוב,

הנה יה"ר מהשי"ת שיכניסוהו לבריתו של אברחם אבינו, וכשם שיכניסוהו לבריח כן יכניסוהו לתורה ולחופה ולמעשים סובים, ויגדלו ביחד עם זוג' תי' מתור הרחבה.

בטח שומר הוא השלשת השיעורים השוים לכל נפש בחומש תהלים ותניא הידועים.

LETTER FROM THE REBBE UPON THE BIRTH OF THE CHOSSON, ZALMAN SHIMON HALEVI "?

לערוענטאל- לונדון

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON Lubavitch

> 770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn, N. Y. 11213

> > 493-9250

נחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליוכאווימש

> 770 איסמערן פארקוויי ברוסלין, נ. י.

ב"ה, כח' מ"ח תשל"ז ברוקלין, נ.י.

הוו"ח אי"א נו"נ וכו מוה' נפתלי חיים שי"ה)וי

שלום וברכה!

בפענה על הודעתו אשר נולדה להם בת למזל טוב ונקרא שמה בישראל רבקה תי",

הנה יה"ר מהשי"ת שיגדלה ביהד עם זוג' תי' לתורה ולחופה ולמעשים טובים מתוך הרחבה.

ידוע מכ"ק אדמו"ר (מוהרש"ב) נ"ע, אשר מנהגנו הוא לאמר גם בלידת בה <u>לתנרה</u> ולחופה ולמעשים טובים, ע"פ מרז"ל (ברכות יז' א) נשים במאי זכיין באקרוי' כו' באתנוי' כו' ונטרין כו'.

בברכה מזל טובן ואמרת

הפ"נ שבמכ' יקרא בעת רצון על הציון הק

LETTER FROM THE REBBE UPON THE BIRTH OF THE KALLAH, RIFKY תחיי

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON Lubavitch 770 Eastern Farkway Brooklyn 13, N. Y.

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מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליובאווימש

> איסטערן פאַרקוויי 770 איסטערן פאַרקוויי ברוקלין, ג. י.

By the Grace of G-d In the Days of Selichoth 5722. Brooklyn, N.Y.

Mr. Dov Lent 88 Windemere St. Gateshead 8

Greeting and Blessing:

With the approach of Rosh Hashanah, the begining of the New Year, may it bring blessings to us all, I send you and all yours my prayerful wishes for a good and happy year, materially and spiritually.

With the traditional blessing of

כתיבה ותתיפה פובה

cordially Schneckton

Letter received.

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON

Lubavitch 770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn 26, N. Y.

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליובאווימש

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770 איסטערן פארק:ויי 770 ברוקלין. נ. י.

By the Grece of G-d Erev Peacon, 5722 Brooklyn, M.Y.

Mr. Dov Lent 3 Tewkeebury Driva Prestwich Mancheeter.

Greating and Glessing:

Your letter reached me with some delay. As requested, I will remember the person in prayer in accordance with the contents of your letter.

I would be remiss in my duty if I were not to point out that the way for a Jaw to receive G-d's blassings is to live the daily life in accordance with the Torah and Mitzvoth. Therefore thosekoncerned to help enother person must find ways and means to help that person improve the observance of the Torah and Mitzvoth. A friendly approach, and one that is suitable and Mitzvoth. A friendly approach, and one that is suitable yood results, and words coming from the heart enter the heart. Needless to say, the most effective way to influence other people is by shofwing a good example personally.

We are at present in a very auspicious time, in the month of Nissan, and on the eve of Pesach. It reminds us forcefully of the wonderful liberation of our ancestors from Egyptian bondage, not only physically but also spiritually. Fut this liberation could not have come without a real effort on the part of the Jews themselves. We are told to remember the Liberation from Egypt every day, in order to apply the lesson of Pesach in our daily lives. In this way does the Jew achieve true liberation from all anxiefties and problems, materially and spiritually, which we hand in hand together.

Wishing you and yours a Kocher and happy Pesach

With blessing, By Array August?

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליוכאווימש

Lubavitch 770 Eastern Parkway Brocklyn 13, N. Y.

770 איכטערן פארקוויי 770 ברוקלין, נ. י.

HYacinth 3-9250

B.H. 28th of Tammuz, 5722 Brooklyn, N.Y.

Mr. Dov Lent c/o Gateshead ^Yeshiva 38 Windermere Street Gateshead 8, Durham.

Sholom uBrocho:

I received your letter of July 25, and the previous one. As requested, I will remember all those mentioned in your letter, in prayer, when visiting the holy resting place of my father-in-law of saintly memory.

I send you my prayerful wishes to have Hatzlocho in your Torah learning with devotion and diligence, and I trust that you have regular shiurim in Chassidus.

At this time in the period of the Three Weeks, you surely know that the purpose of the remembrance is a practical one, to correct the mistakes of the past which to the ^Destruction and Exile and hasten the Redemption of our people through Teshuvah and increased devotion to the Torah and Mitzvoth.

Hoping to hear good news from you,

With blessing.

By Aman Muinde

The enclosed excerpt will surely be of interest to you and your friends.

Mr. Dov Lent

The location of the Tefillin on the head is, of course, explicitly given in the Shulchan Aruch. If you have noticed that a certain person seems to have placed the Tefillin lower than the original hairline, it is undoubtedly because the hair of that person had receded, and from a distance it would have been difficult for you to determine actually where the original hairline was. On the other hand, it is also possible that it that particular time the Shel-Rosh had slipped unknowingly to the person, although he usually frequently checks the position with his hand as required by the Din.

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON Lubevited 770 EASTERN PARKWAY BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11213



Raubi Dov Lent

c/o Lubavitch Foundation 109 Stamford Hill London, N, 16

ENGLAND

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON

Lubavitch 770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn 13, N. Y.

HYacinth 3-9250

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליובאווימש

איסטערן פארקיויי 770 איסטערן בארקיויי ברוקלין. נ. י.

By the Grace of G-d 27th of Nissan, 5724 Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mr. Dov Lent 3, Tewkesbury Drive Prestwich, Manchester Lancs., England

Greeting and Blessing:

I received your letter written on Erev Pessach, and, as requested, I will remember you in prayer, when visiting the holy resting place of my father-in-law of saintly memory. May G-d, whose benevolent Providence extends to everyone individually, lead you in the way that is truly good for you in every respect.

As we are now in the midst of the days of Sfira, you surely know that the inner aspect of counting the days of the Omer is to express our longing and desire for Mattan Torah, which comes immediately at the end of Sfira. It is necessary that this feeling should not remain confined to the heart, but should be expressed in a growing devotion and diligence in the study of the Torah and the fulfillment of the Mitzvoth.

I hope that this will be your daily experience, and that you will also use your good influence on your friends in this direction, in fulfillment of the teaching of our Sages that Ahavas Yisroel is the great principle of the Torah.

With blessing

By Aisan Munidee

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON Lubavitch 770 Eastern Parkway

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליובאווימש

Brooklyn 13, N. Y.

HYacinth 3-9250

איסטערן פארקוויי 710 גרוקלין, ג. י.

1.1

By the Grace of G-d 23rd of Tammuz, 5727 Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mr. Dov Lent 3, Tewkesbury Dr. Prestwich Manchester, Lencs. England

Greeting and Elessing:

I was pleased to receive regards from you through Rabbi Yitzchok Dubov, who also brought me your letter.

As requested, I will remember you in prayer when visiting the holy resting place of my father-in-law of saintly memory, for the fulfillment of your heart's desires for good in all the matters about which you write. May G-d grant that you should have good news to report.

While we are at this time to the product which is in the period of the Three Weeks, it has always been the Jewish fervent hope, in accordance with prophetic promise, that these days will be turned into days of gladness and joy. Hence they already carry the seeds of auspicieus promise.

Needless to say, the way to hasten the fulfillment of the said promise is to do everything possible to remove the causes which brought about the period of the Three Weeks, namely "because of our sins we have been exiled from our land." Consequently the effort on the part of every Jew to spread the Torah and Mitzvoth helps to clear the way, and to hasten, the end of the Golus and the beginning of the true Geulo. This is particularly important in the case of one whose field is Jewish education, as in your case, in accordance with your writing.

With blessing of Halyfacho in Beth-Hiller Ey/lian / midel

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהו Lubavitch ליובאווימש 770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn, N. Y. 11213 770 איסמערז פארקוויי 493-9250 ברוקלין, ג. י. ב"ה, ה' שבט תש"מ ברוקליז הוו"ה אי"א נו"נ עוסק בצ"צ כו' מו"ה נפתלי חיים שי' הלוי שלום וברכה! והמצו"ב מאשר הנני קבלת מכ**'-אמצ'צמב** ות"ח. ודבר בעתו בסמיכות למוצש"ק כ"ד טבת, - יום הילולא דאדמו"ר הזקן וכקביעות דשנה ההיא. הפ"נ שבמכ' יקראן בעת רצון על הציון הק'.

בברכה – בקשר ליום הולדת – לשנת הצלחה בגן"ר אקב לע 20 כגן אר אקב לע

> שבתי"ק: /כקרט כסקר/ איזה איזה איזה with blessing.. for a year of success in material and spiritual matters and especially with his book concerning the Mitteler Rebbe

RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSON ממזם מענדל שניאורסאהן Lubavitch ליובאווימש 770 Eastern Parkway Brooklyn, N. Y. 11213 770 איסמערן פארקוויי 493-9250 ברוקליז, נ. י. ימי אלול, ה'תשמ"א ב"ה. שנת הקהל. ברוקליז. עוסק בצ"צ הוו"ח אי"א נו"נ מו"ה נפתלי חיים הי 1111 .].] אף שאין זה מקצועי, בכ"ז אעיר שהמאמו

אף שאין זה מקצועי, בכיו אעיו שהמאמרים סיי עושים רושם חזק וכו',

ובודאי שכשידפיסון עוד יתחזק הרושם. והשם יצליחה לקיים גם בזה כל מעשיך יהיו לשם שמים, לדוגמא-שליטת הנפש ומנוחתה (ע"י חיים מתאימים לתכונות ודרישת הנפש) אפילו על צורת האותיות הנכתבתת באצבעי היד דהגוף.

Although this is not my field, your articles on this subject make a great impression. Surely when you print them, the impression will be even greater. May G-d help you to fulfil the teaching of our sages, that "in every mundane thing G-d should be realized"—as, for example, how the soul's control over the body can be recognized even in one's handwriting.

A LETTER FROM THE REBBE TO THE KALLAH'S MOTHER WITH A COMMENT ON AN ARTICLE SHE WROTE ABOUT GRAPHOLOGY

מנחם מענדל שניאורסאהן ליוכאוויפש

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> בייה, ימי חנוכה היתשמייח ברוקלין, נ.י.

הרהייח איייא נויינ עוסק בצייצ וכוי מוהי נפתלי חיים שיי הלוי ללוץ אי

שלום וברכה!

מאשר הנני קבלת המכי וכוי

ודבר בעתו-

בימי חנוכה - דענינם מוסיף והולך ואור,

ובמיוחד אשר השנה שנת ייהקהליי ושנת תשמייח.

רמז אבל גלוי – לשמחה גלויי של עצמו (חָשמח) ולשמח את האנשים הנשים והטף שיכול להגיע אליהם (תשֵמח)

ולהמשיך זה בכל ימות השנה.

הפיינ שמכי יקראו בעת רצון על הציון הקי.

בברכה לחנוכה מא 120

בכחי"ק: אהראתה כפרט בהפצת היהרות with blessing... and for success especially in spreading of Judaism A Maamar (Chassidic Discourse) by Rabbi Dov Ber, the Mitteler Rebbe (Second Lubavitcher Rebbe, 1773-1827). Much of this discourse is extant in the actual handwriting of the Mitteler Rebbe. The printed text runs to 75 pages. Here a few points from the discourse are freely paraphrased and presented.

The discourse is headed, in the Mitteler Rebbe's handwriting "15 Menachem Av 5586 (1826) (Wedding of my daughter Sarah and of my grand-daughter)".

One of the blessings said at a wedding reads "Grant abundant joy to these loving friends, as You bestowed gladness on Your created beings (Adam and Eve) in the Garden of Eden long ago..".

It is known that the Holy One is called 'Chatan' (Groom), and the Jewish people are called 'Kallah' (Bride), as is understood from the Song of Songs. The theme of Chatan and Kallah can be understood as the Giver and the Receiver, whose love is very great. The Receiver always longs for the Giver, as G-d told Eve "and your desire will be for your husband" (Gen.3:7), and similarly the Giver longs for the Receiver as the Torah states at the creation of Adam and Eve "therefore a man leaves his father and mother and cleaves to his wife" (Gen.2:24).

This is paralleled above: G-d is called the husband and the Jewish people the wife, and the longing of the Jewish people for G-d is continuous and with a deep and inner bonding, as expressed in the words "my soul thirsts for You" (Ps.63:2). This is the reason for the Hebrew name Kallah for the bride, which comes from the verb 'to yearn'.

Similarly the love of G-d for the Jewish people is perpetual, as G-d says "I love you with an eternal love" (Jer.31:2).

The Holy One and the Shechinah

A further way of understanding this love, on a yet higher spiritual level, is in the union of the Holy One and the Shechinah, the Divine Presence. The term Shechinah means the revelation of the Divine radiance which dwells within all the worlds, giving them life and existence continually, like the soul giving life to the body. One can also describe this radiance in terms of the Divine words which create and maintain the universe.

Another term for this 'feminine' life-giving Divine radiance, the Shechinah, is ''the Light which Fills the Worlds''. The 'masculine' counterpart of this is ''the Light Beyond the Worlds''. Since the kabbalists depict existence as concentric circles of spiritual dimensions, with the physical universe at the centre, this light is described as 'surrounding' the Divine flow which enters and gives life to the worlds.

In itself, the Divine radiance is so far exalted beyond existence that the only way it can impart a flow of energy into the worlds is by means of a relatively external aspect. The discourse gives a number of images (*meshalim*) to express the external and secondary quality of this flow compared with the essence of the Divine light.

Communicating an Idea

One image is of the words which express a subtle idea, compared with the idea as it is in the mind of the thinker. The words define the idea so that another person can understand it - yet the words also limit the idea. In the mind of the thinker it is far more complex and subtle.

An extension of this image depicts the situation of a teacher and a student. The teacher wants to impart his grand idea to the student, but can only express a very limited aspect of it. This is understood by the student, but those aspects of the idea which cannot be fully understood and grasped remain 'surrounding' the student's understanding. The student is aware of the presence of these further subtleties, but has not internalised them and has not grasped them.

However, the words which the teacher employs to express his teaching are in themselves not separate from the depths and subtleties of the idea as it is in the teacher's mind. As he speaks to the student, although his words are simple and limited, they are continuously being fed by the depths of his idea as it exists within the teacher's own understanding.

The Divine and the Universe

[ch.3] Now let us try to understand this image in terms of the Divine and the universe. The flow which actually enters the mind of the student and which can be understood is the light which fills the words and directly gives them existence. This is the Shechinah, the indwelling 'feminine' radiance. The encompassing light is that which cannot be properly understood.

However, these two levels of radiance are not separate from each other. Just as the inexpressible thoughts in the teacher's mind are continually informing his speech which the student does actually understand, so too the encompassing level of radiance flows into the light which fills the worlds. There is thus a flow from the 'masculine' aspect of the Divine, beyond existence, into the 'feminine' aspect which directly creates and maintains existence.

This supernal process, taking place in exalted spiritual realms, relates to the nature of the human Chatan and Kallah, the groom and the bride.

Chatan and Kalla

[ch.5] This is the meaning of the words "Grant abundant joy to these loving friends". For the Giver and Receiver, the two forms of radiance, encompassing and indwelling, are called loving friends. They are like two loving friends who never separate, and like the physical Chatan and Kallah, male and female, who are called loving friends because their love for each other is wondrous. Thus the Chatan leaves his parents and cleaves to his wife, and so too the Kallah leaves her father's home and goes with her husband. As the Zohar tells us, that the longing of the male is for the female, for without her he has no wholeness, and similarly the longing of the female is for the male, for she has no wholeness without him. Through their unity together they become the fullness of what a person should be.

This is despite the fact that they are two opposites: that one gives (*chesed*) and the other receives (*gevurah*). For each desires to unite with their opposite, and through this unity of opposites they give birth to a new being, the child which comes from their unity together. As is known, there is a general rule: whenever two opposites which can come close to each other actually unite, they bring into being something new.

The Power of Joy

[chs.20, 16] How is this unity of opposites achieved? Through *Simcha*, joy. For 'joy breaks through barriers'. When a person is in a state of joy, he can do the opposite of his ordinary nature.

Like a great and exalted king, who is usually hidden from the populace, when he truly rejoices as in the joy of his wedding, or at hearing good news about a great victory, his joy prompts to act quite differently to usual. Instead of being hidden deep within his strongly guarded palace, he goes out and sits at the entrance, clearly visible and smiling at everyone, with great humility, speaking to everyone, giving honour even to the lowest person who normally could never reach him, and if his joy becomes even greater the king will be seen even in the streets of the city and he will command that people should make fun before him, with all kinds of mirth and gaiety and singing.

It is this joy from the Essence of the Divine which brings about the unity of opposites, of the Giver and the Receiver, the Chatan and the Kallah, the two loving friends. And hence it is a Mitzvah to make the Chatan and the Kallah rejoice, by dancing at the wedding.

This is of course only a brief selection of a few points from the discourse. It also discusses the text of the daily prayers and the importance of joy in carrying out the Commandments. The Mitteler Rebbe also tells a story about a simple couple who rejoiced very much because they thought G-d was eating the Challos they put every week in the Holy Ark (actually they were taken by the beadle of the synagogue), and explains the nature of the coming of Moshiach in terms of these themes of joy and unity.