

Your Personal Connection

Prepare for Gimmel Tammuz by Studying the Rebbe's Letters from Igros Kodesh on the topic of Hiskashrus.

Connecting Others to the Rebbe

Igros Kodesh Vol. 3 pp 42-48

תמה

This letter was sent to R. Shlomo Chayim Kesselman.

B"H, 15 Shvat, 5709, The New Year of the Trees,

"Man is a Tree of the Field"

Greetings and blessings,

In response to your letter of 18 Teves (and the accompanying list [of contributors]) that was received after a delay:

ב״ה, חֲמִשָּׁה עֶשָּׂר בִּשְׁבַט, תש״ט

רֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה לָאִילָנוֹת, הָאָדָם עֵץ הַשַּׂדֵה.

הָרַב הָחָסִיד הַנָּתִיק וְחָסִיד אִישׁ יְרֵא אֱלֹקִים נָבוֹן וּמַשְׂכִּיל וכו' מהו"ר שָׁלֹמֹה חַיִּים שֶׁיָּחָיֶה

שלום וברכה!

בְּמַעֲנֶה עַל מִכְתָּבוֹ מֵחַ״י טֵבֵת (בְּצֵרוּף רְשִׁימוֹת) שֶׁנְּתְקַבֵּל בְּאָחוּר זְמַן: a) Thank you for informing me of the good news of the engagement of your daughter. May it be G-d's will that everything, including all the particulars, be in a good and auspicious hour. May your sending good news ([which fulfills] the mitzvah of ahavas Yisrael)lead to the good news that you will announce regarding her wedding, may it be [blessed] with good fortune. [May this lead to] an eternal edifice with all the interpretations [of the latter term, "adei ad"in Lashon HaKodesh]. For they all relate to the level of Kesser, "the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding."

[Among them are:] adei, ornaments and jewelry (which allude to abundant material prosperity); [ad] eternality (which alludes to children, as is evident); and [ad] an interruption, as in the phrase: "Only until here may you come. "The latter interpretation includes in it two levels: ad velo ad bechlal, i.e., up to but not included in the category referred to, and ad v'ad bechlal, up to and included within that category.

The first of these levels refers to the lowest level within the Emanator, "up to but not included"; and the second, "up to and including," which refers to the source for the emanations. (It is possible to explain that this is related to the category of life. For the Jewish people alone are referred to as "alive," as it is written: "You who cling to G-d our L-rd are alive," as our Sages comment in Avos deRabbi Nassan, ch. 34. "[G-d] is alive and not among the living." [This rung can be described with the phrase] "up to and not including." This [level] serves as the vitality

א) תִשׁוּאַת חֶן נִתוּנַה בַּזָה על הוֹדיעַני בַּשׂוֹרוֹת בתו משדוך טוֹבוֹת תִּחָיֵה, וִיהִי רַצוֹן אֲשֶׁר הכל יהיה בשעה טובה וּמִצְלַחַת בָּכַל הַפַּרַטִים. וּבְשׁוֹרַה טוֹבַה (מִצְוַה דאַהַבַת ישראַל) גוררת בשורה טובה שיבשר מַהַנִּשׁוּאִין לְמַזַּל טוב עד, וּכַכל בִּבִנִין עֲדֵי ״שֶׁכָּלַם הפרושים שַׁיַּכִים בָּבָחִינַת כֵּתֵר, עטרה שעטרה גו' בּיוֹם חַתנַתוֹ": עַדִי וִקְשׁוּט וַיָשׁ לוֹמַר שׁוָהוּ עַנִיַן) בַגשׁמיות. הרחבה מַזוֹנֵי רְוִיחַא). נְצְחִיּוֹת וויש לומר שוהו ענין) הפסק, כַמוּבַן). בני, תבוא, פֿה כמוֹ דבוה נכלל כּאַחַד: וְלֹא בבחינת עד שבמאציל, הַתַּחְתּוֹנָה בַּכְלַל, שֹׁרֶשׁ עד עם ויש) הנאצלים שׁזֶּהוּ עִנִיַן חַיֵּי. דְּדַוְקָא ישראל נקראו חיים על שם ואַתֶּם הַדְּבֵקִים בַּה' אַלקיכם חיים. וכמאמר רַזַ״ל בָּאַבוֹת דְּרַבִּי נַתַן פַרַק ל"ד. דהוא ולא בחיים, ולא עד בָּכָלַל. וְדַוְקַא זֶהוּ מְחַיֵּ׳ חיים דשרש הנאצלים,

for life, the source of the emanations, as reflected in the expression of Rambam which is cited and explained in Chassidus: "And G-d your L-rd is true, 'the Truth of [all] being." [This refers to] His essence, [a level described as] "the living G-d.")

And [all of these] three qualities — children, life, and prosperity — are dependent on one's mazal. See the explanation of the maamar entitled Eleh Pekudei, sec. 4, and the second maamar entitled Mizmor Shir Chanukas HaBayis, sec. 2, in Likkutei Torah; the maamar entitled Shuvah Yisrael, 5666, and the Rebbe Rashab's Chanoch LeNaar, p. 38.

- b) Enclosed is a kuntreis that was recently published. It is [being sent to you to] share with people at large.
- c) I brought the list [of donors] to my revered father-in-law, the Rebbe Shlita, and afterwards to the Committee for Nifneh. I also conveyed your request for individual receipts. These have no doubt already been sent to you. [Please] acknowledge receipt of them.
- d) [The funds that] you sent (with your letter of 25 Iyar), the five [dollars] donated toward letters for the Torah scroll and a similar amount for the Siddurim, were duly received. Perhaps the letter acknowledging this was lost. Please notify us if the letter notifying you of the letters designated for you was also not received....

וְכִלְשׁוֹן הָרַמְבַּ״ם שֶׁהוּבָּא וְנִתְבָּאֵר בִּדְאַ״ח: וַה׳ אֱלֹקִים אֱמֶת. אֲמִתִּית הַמְּצִיאוּת. עַצְמוּת וּמַהוּת הוּא אֱלֹקִים תַּיִּים) - דְּבָנִי חַיֵּי וּמְזוֹנֵי כו׳ בְּמַזָּלָא תַּלְיָא.

וּרְאֵה לִקּוּטֵי תּוֹרָה בֵּאוּר דְּאֵלֶּה פְקוּדֵי פֶּרֶק ד דְּבּוּר הַמַּתְחִיל מִזְמוֹר שִׁיר חֲנָכַּת (הַשֵּׁנִי) סוֹף פֶּרֶק ב. דְּבּוּר הַמַּתְחִיל שׁוּבָה תרס״ו. חֲנוֹךְ לַנַעַר לְאַדְמוּ״ר נִשְׁמַתוֹ עֵדֶן עַמוּד 83.

ב) מֻסְגַּר פֹּה קוּנְטְרֵס שֶׁהוּצָא לְאוֹר זָה עַתָּה. וְהוּא לְזַכּוֹת בּוֹ אֶת הָרַבִּים.

ג) הָרְשִׁימוֹת הִכְנַסְתִּי בְּהֵיכֵל כְּבוֹד קְדָשַׁת מוֹרִי וְחָמִי אַדְמוּ״ר שְׁלִיטָ״א וְאַחַר כָּךְ בָּאוּ לְוַעַד נִפְנָה. כֵּן מָסַרְתִּי עַל דְּבַר הַקַבָּלוֹת פְּרָטִיּוֹת שֶׁבְּקֵשׁ. וּבָטַח כְּבָר נִשְׁלְחוּ לִכְבוֹד תּוֹרָתוֹ, וִיאַשֵּׁר קַבָּלָתָם.

ד) שָׁלּוּחוֹ (בְּמִכְתָּבוֹ מִכ״ה אָיֶּיר) ה' תָּרַם בִּשְׁבִיל אוֹתִיּוֹת הַסַּפֶּר תּוֹרָה וּלְפִי עֶרֶךְּ זֶה עֲבוּר סִדּוּרִים - נִתְקַבֵּל בְּמוֹעֲדוֹ. וְאוּלֵי נָאֱבַד מִכְתַּב הָאִשׁוּר עַל דְּבַר זֶה. וְאִם לֹא הָגִּיעוֹ גַּם הַהוֹדָעָה עַל דְבַר הָאוֹתִיּוֹת שֶׁעָלוּ בְּחֶלְקוֹ -מְטוּבוֹ לְהוֹדִיעֵנִי...

f) You write about the impossibility of working [to collect] nifneh among the inhabitants of the city (with the exception of the members of the chassidic brotherhood and the temimim) and you give several rationales and explanations for this. Just two and a half lines previously, you write: "The chassidic brotherhood are bonded [to the Rebbe] with all their heart and with all their soul to the point of actual mesirus nefesh. If they were commanded to crawl into a pit, they would obey that command." I refer to our Sages' statement: "How secure and how intrepid is one whom His master helps!" For it appears that you don't have even a shadow of a suspicion that perhaps there is a contradiction between your introduction and your conclusion.

We have seen from experience that wherever we have involved ourselves with nifneh in these last years (in the U.S., Canada, South America, South Africa, etc.), there was an effect — albeit not to the same degree in each place. The people involved in these efforts did not have to take their [readiness for] actual mesirus nefesh from their [spiritual] backpacks. They did not even have to crawl into a pit. Not only that, [through their efforts,] their own circumstances - both material and spiritual — improved, and the respect they received from those with whom they worked and were involved continued to grow. Ultimately, [the donors] appreciated that they were the recipients and

ואו) מַה שֶׁכַּתַב עַל דָבַר אָי אָפִשַּׁרִיּוּת הַעֲבוֹדַה בִּמִקצוֹעַ נִפְנָה בֵּין אַנִשֵׁי הָעִיר (לְבַד אנ"ש והתמימים) ומסביר זה בְּכַמַה טְעַמִים וְנָמוּקִים - הָנֵה שָׁתֵּי שׁוּרוֹת וַחֶצִי לִפְנֵי זָה כּוֹתֶב, אֲשֶׁר "אַנַ"שׁ מִקשַׁרִים בְּכָל לְבָּם וּבִכָל נַפִּשַׁם עִד מסירת נפש בפועל ממש, אוּן אַז מֵען זַאל זֵיי הָייסֵען קָרִיכֵען אָין לַאך ווֵעלֵען זֵיי קַרִיכֵען" - וָהָנָנִי מַמִלִיץ עַלַיו מַאֲמֵר רַזַ״ל כַּמַה לֹא חַלִּי וְלֹא מַרגיש גַברא דמרא סייעי, כִּי כִּנָרָאֵה שַׁאֵין אֵצְלוֹ אַף צֵל דָקָסַלְקָא דַעִתָּךְ אֶפִּשָּׁר יֵשׁ מֵעֵין סְתִירָה בֵּין הַהַקְדַּמַה וָהַמַּסְקָנָא!

כִּי עַל פִּי הַנָּסַיוֹן אֲשֶׁר רַאִינוּ בָּכַל מַקוֹם אֲשֵׁר הָתַעַסְקוּ האחרונות בַשנים (ארצוֹת הבּרית, קאנאדא, דרום אַמֶערִיקַא, דרום - אַפִּרִיקַא וכו') עַשוּ פִּעָלָה אַף שַׁלֹא בָּכַל מַקוֹם בִּשַׁוָה, כַּמוּבָן, וָהַמִּתִעַסִּקִים בִּזֶה לֹא הַזָּקָקוּ לְהוֹצִיא מַתַּרְמִילַם אָת הַמְּסִירַת נֶפֶשׁ בִּפּעַל, קריכען וַאַפִּילוּ לא לַאך. וְלֹא עוֹד אֵלָא שֶׁמַצַּבָם עצמם בגשמיות ורוחניות הוטב, וכבודם בעיני אלו שהתעסקו והשתדלו עמהם הולך וגדל, וסוף סוף רואים

not the givers, even when material and financial matters were involved.

According to the explanations in your letter, in your country, by contrast, [the chassidim] are prepared for actual mesirus nefesh. Obviously, this includes giving over one's will, one's intellect, and one's thinking processes....

This fact should be made known: When writing this, my intent is not [to focus] on one particular individual, Heaven forbid. For who am I to decide that it is incumbent on so-and-so to fulfill this-and-this mission? [Instead,] my words are directed to your group as a collective; for certainly, it contains all [the individuals] necessary to complete your fundamental mission in the country in which you are located: to spread the wellsprings of the teachings of the Baal Shem Tov and the Alter Rebbe in the outer reaches of France. We have only one fountain through which the wellsprings of the Baal Shem Tov's and the Alter Rebbe's teaching flow: my revered father-in-law, the Rebbe Shlita. Through connection to this fountain connection on a physical level ([through giving resources] "with which one could purchase the vital [needs] of his natural soul,") and the connection of the soul the water becomes "the water of life." For, according to Torah law, this is the situation that rules over and directs nature in a straightforward manner in all places.

In your letter (seemingly because of a

שֶׁהֵם הַמְּקַבְּלִים וְלֹא הַנּוֹתְנִים, וַאֲפִילוּ בָּגַשְׁמִיוּת וּבָמַמוֹן.

אֶלָּא שֶׁבְּמְדִינָתָם, עַתָּה, עַל פִּי הַסְבָּרָתוֹ בְּמִכְתָבוֹ, יֵשׁ מִן הַמּוּכָן מְסִירַת נָפֶשׁ בְּפּעַל מַמָּשׁ וּפְשִׁיטָא שֶׁכּוֹלֵל מְסִירַת הַרְצוֹן וִהְשָּׂכָל וִהַטַעַם וַדַעַת...

- וַזֹאת לְמוֹדַעִי: מַה שַׁכּוֹתֵב הָנְנִי בְּזֵה אֵין כַּוַנַתִי חַס וְשַׁלוֹם לָאִישׁ פָּרַטִי, כִּי מִי אני לפסוק הדבר שדוקא פָּלוֹנִי בֵּן פָּלוֹנִי עַלַיו מִטַּל עַנְיַן פַּלוֹני. וּדָברי מַכִּוּנים לקבּוּצם יחד, שַבָּלִי סַפַּק שׁיֵשׁ בּוֹ כַּל הַנִּצְרַךְ לִמְלוּי תַפִּקִידָם הַעַקַרִי בַּמִדִינַתַם עַתַּה, שָׁהוּא הפצת מעינות הבעל שם טוב ואַדָמוּ"ר הַזַּקָן בָּאַנְשֵׁי חוּצוֹת צַרְפַת. וִאֵין לַנוּ מַעִיַן שֶׁדֶּרֶךְ בּוֹ נָמָשַׁכִים מַעִינוֹת הַבַּעַל שם טוב ואדמו"ר הזקן אַלא אַחַד - הוּא כָּבוֹד קַדְשַׁת מוֹרִי וחמי אדמו"ר שליט"א. ועל יָדֵי הָתָקַשָּׁרוּת בָּמַעָיַן זָה, התקשרות הגוף ("שיכול לָקנוֹת חַיֵּי נַפִּשׁוֹ הַחִיּוּנִית") וָהַנַפָּשׁ, גַם מַיָם כו' נַעֲשׁוּ מַיִם חַיִּים. כִּי כֵן הוּא עַל פִּי דין תורה השולטת ומנהגת אָת הַטֶּבַע, גַאר בִּפַשָּׁטוּת אוּן אומעטום.

וּכְבוֹד תּוֹרָתוֹ בָּא בְּמִכְתָּבוֹ (וּכְנִרְאָה מֵהֶעְדֵּר הַפְּּאָלוֹת, lack of activities which also appears to be the decision of the members of our brotherhood in your camp), you cold-bloodedly declare — [the term gozer, "declare,"in Lashon HaKodesh also has the implication] "cut off" — that all our other Jewish brethren in your community (with the exception of those living in your immediate neighborhood) do not have any connection to all the above.

Call all the members of the chassidic brotherhood to a meeting and make an honest reckoning of how much effort was expended to involve people in these matters. Then it will be obvious that all the debate is superfluous, for the reasons why there are no results will immediately become clear.

There was a young man who was forced to flee from his location. Now this person is not one who has a connection with the Divine service of [meditative] prayer. He is not devoted to the abstract contemplation of Chassidus (a maskil), nor to the applications of these teachings in his efforts for self-refinement (an oved). He does not [even] have a beard. He never studied in Tomchei Temimim or in any other yeshivah. This person journeyed to a very distant place, one far removed in both a physical sense and in its connection to Jewish life. After a short time passed, men and women from that place began to develop a relationship with my revered father-inlaw, the Rebbe Shlita.

For example, a businesswoman who was offered an opportunity to rent a store and

החלטת כַּן גם זהוּ אַנַ״שׁ און שַׁבַּמַחָנוֹ) קַאלִטָבָּלוּטִיג גאנץ XE), (שָׁנַיִידט) גוֹזר שלכל אחינו בני ישראל שַׁבַּמחנוֹ - (מלבד אַלוּ בִּשְׁכוּנַה אַין שַיַּכוּת לְכַל זָה! יקראו נא לאסיפת כל אַנַ״שׁ וִיַעשׂוּ חֵשְׁבּוֹן צֵדֵק כַּמַה יִגִיעוֹת יַגִעוּ לְרְכוֹשׁ נְפַשׁוֹת לְזֶה, וְאַז לְמוֹתַר יָהָיָה כַּל שַׁקְלָא וְטַרְיַא, כִּי תַכֶּף וּמִיַּד יָתְבַּרְרוּ הַסְבּוֹת להעַדֵּר תוֹצַאוֹת.

שהכרח אַבָרֶךְ אָחַד לברוח אינו ממַקוֹמוֹ, לעבודת התפלה, שַׁיַּרְ משכיל ולא לא אינו עוֹבֶד, בָּלֹא חַתִּימַת זַקַן וכו' וכו', ומעולם לא למד לא בתומכי תמימים וְלֹא בִּישִׁיבַה בִּכְלֵל - נַדַד לְמִדִינָה רְחוֹקָה בְּיוֹתֵר הֵן בְּמַקוֹם הֵן בְּעִנִינֵי יַהֲדוּת, וְכַעֲבוּר אֵיזֵה וְמַן הָתִחִילוּ מאַנשים ונשים להגיע מכתבים לכבוד משם קַדְשַׁת מוֹרִי וַחַמִי אַדְמוּ״ר ולדוגמא .שליט״א מאשה בעלת עסק שַׁמציעים לה לשכּוֹר חנוּת וִדִירַה בָּחֵלֶק א' שֵׁל הַעִיר אוֹ בְּחֵלֶק אַחֵר. וִשׁוֹאֵלֵת

a dwelling either in one part of the city or another asked the Rebbe Shlita to decide what she should do. She has never seen him. And she knows that my revered father-in-law, the Rebbe Shlita, has never been in her city, nor even in her country. She is not part of the chassidic brotherhood, nor are her roots there. But she heard the young man [mentioned above] speak sincerely, with words coming from the heart, that there is a Rebbe among the Jewish people, that he is not bound by the limitations of nature, and that a person who wants to follow a secure path — be it in business or in directing his household — should not raise his hand without asking the Rebbe. She saw that the young man's words reflected his inner feelings, because words of truth can be recognized, and she asked that her question be written [to the Rebbe].

As a matter of course, such a woman is connected to nifneh. She is drawing closer to Judaism. No doubt, in the near future, her home will be conducted in keeping with [the mitzvos of] kashrus, taharas hamishpachah, and the like. These are the fruits of the activities of a simple young man who did not act out of mesirus nefesh or kabbalas ol. For none of these activities runs contrary to his understanding, not even to the understanding of his mortal intellect.

Think [about this] for a moment: Based on his actual perception, it is very clear to him that the Rebbe's words are the Rebbe's words, and his blessings are

הַחָלֵט כָּבוֹד קַדְשַׁת אַדְמוּ״ר שליט"א מַה תַּעֲשֶׂה. מֶעוֹלָם לֹא רַאָתָה אוֹתוֹ, ויודעת שַמַעוֹלם לא היה כבוד קדשת מורי וחמי לא שׁליט״א אדמו"ר רַק בְּעִירָהּ אֶלָּא גַּם בִּכַל מאנ"ש מִדִינַתַה, אֵינַה וכנראה גם לא מגזע אנ"ש. אַבַל כִּשִּׁשַׁמִעַה מַהַאַבַרַךְ דברים היוצאים מן הלב: יַשׁ רַבִּי בִּישַׂרַאֵל, וְאֵין הוּא בַהגַבּלוֹת הטַבע, וָהַרוֹצֵה לַלֶכֶת לַבַטַח דַּרְכּוֹ: בָּמָסְחַר, בְּהַנָהַגַת הַבַּיִת, וכו' - לא יַרִים אַת יַדוֹ מבַּלי לשׁאוֹל אַת פּי הרבּי, וָהִכִּירָה בִּהָאַבְרֵךְ שֶׁפִּיו וִלְבּוֹ שַׁוִין, כִּי נִכַּרִין דְּבָרֵי אֱמֵת, הַשׁאַלה לְכַתוֹב הנ"ל, שׁיַכַת מּמִילא לנפנה, וּמַתַקַרֶבֶת לְיַהֵדוּת, וּבֶטַח בַּקַרַב הימים יהִיוּ הליכות בַּכַשָּׁרוּת וְטַהֵּרַת ביתה המשפחה וכו'. - אַלָּה מַתוֹלְדוֹת פָּעָלוֹת אַבְרֵךְ פַשׁוּט וִשֶּׁעוֹשֶׂה כָּל זֶה לֹא מצד מסירת נפש וקבלת על, כי אין זה אצלו הפר השכל, גם לא הפך שכלו הַאֲנוֹשִׁי.

וְהַגַּע בְּעַצְמְךּ: פָּשׁוּט אֶצְלוֹ עַל יְסוֹד מַה שֶׁרָאָה בְּמוּחָשׁ, שֶׁהָרַבִּי אֲמִירָתוֹ blessings. Even his animal soul accepts this [premise], because it did not come to him as the result of a process of intellectual give-and-take or the analysis of texts, but from experience — his own and that of people he knew. This provided evidence that obeying [the Rebbe's instructions] leads to a positive outcome. And when one does not do so, the results are unfavorable. As a result, just as he is not at all embarrassed to tell his acquaintances who are in need the address of an expert doctor, so, too, when he sees a person who is confused or confronted by a fundamental life question, he tells him: "The Jewish people are not without assistance, Heaven forbid. There is someone we can ask." Moreover, he does not wait until his acquaintances come to him to ask if there is a Rebbe, for by and large they don't know what a Rebbe is. Instead, he goes to them and explains to them that they should not depend on their own understanding – not on the shadchan, the doctor, or the broker — for all of these involve doubts. Instead, he has a secure path with which to resolve his doubts. As our Sages commented: "Words that come from the heart enter the heart."

To focus now on the subject of your letter: Your community contains the finest members of the chassidic brotherhood: people who saw the Rebbe Rashab, and — to make a distinction

אַמִירַה וּבָרְכַתוֹ בַּרַכַה, וְגַם נפש הבהמית מסכמת על זה. כִּי אֵין זָה אָצָלוֹ מִצַּד הַשְּׂכַּלַה שָׁקַלָּא וְטַרְיַא וְעִיוּן בָּסְפַּרִים, אַלַא שַהַנּסִיוֹן, שַׁלוֹ וְשֵׁל כַּמַה מְמַכִּירַיו, הֶרְאַה לוֹ אַז מִ'הַאט געפַאלגט אָיז געווַען גוּט, אוּן אַז מִ׳הַאט נִיט גַעפַאלגָט הַאט מען געהַאט אַ פּסָק. וּבְמֵילַא כָּמוֹ שֵׁאֵינוֹ בּוֹשׁ לוֹמֵר לְכַל מְיָדָעָיו הַזְּקוּקִים לְזֶה, הַאַדְרֵעס של רופא ממחה, כַּךְ כִּשַׁרוֹאָה אָישׁ נִמְצָא בִּמְבוּכַה אוֹ עוֹמד לפני פתרון שאלת חיים עקרית, אומר לו: לא אלמן חס וְשַׁלוֹם יִשְׂרָאֵל. יֵשׁ לְּךָּ אֶת מִי לשאול. - ולא עוד אַלא שאינו מָחַכָּה עַד שֶׁמִידַעוֹ יַבוֹא אֵלַיו לחקור ולדרוש אם יש רבי, פיון שעל פי רוב אינו יודע גם מה זה רבי, אלא שהוא הולך אַלַיו מַסְבִּיר לוֹ שֵׁאֵין לוֹ לְהָשַּׁעֵן כַּלל לא על בּינת עצַמוֹ ולא על הַשַּׁדְכַן וִלֹא עַל הַרוֹפֵא וִלֹא עַל הַסַּרְסוּר, שֵׁאֵין כַּל אֵלוּ אֵלַא עַנַינִים מָסְפַּקִים, וַיָשׁ לוֹ דֵּרֶךְ וַדָּאִית לִפִּתוֹר אֶת סִפֵּקוֹתָיו. ואמרו רז"ל דברים היוצאים מן הַלֶּב נְכָנַסִים אֵל הַלֶּב.

וְעַתָּה בְּנִדּוֹן מִכְתַב כְּבוֹד תּוֹרָתוֹ:

בְּמַחֲנוֹ יֵשׁ מִסְּלְתָּהּ וּמִשַּׁמְנָהּ שָׁל אֲנַ״שׁ, שֶׁרָאוּ אֶת אַדְמוּ״ר נִשְׁמָתוֹ עֵדָן, וּלְהַבְּדִּיל בֵּין חיים לחיי החיים את כּבוֹד

between the living and those eternally alive - my revered father-in-law, the Rebbe Shlita. They've been tested by the trials of poverty and all types of ordeals. They are involved in the abstract contemplation of Chassidus and the applications of these teachings in their efforts for self-refinement. [After leaving Russia,] they were located in a [DP] camp among thousands of our Jewish brethren who were thirstv to hear a warm and live word [of Jewish content], something that would stir them and bring them close [to their Jewish heritage]. The young people among them were fundamentally seeking direction, [asking]: Where is the Moshe, the man who will lead us out of our boundaries and limitations and show us the path of life?

I ask you: How many [of those] people were added to [those involved in] the teachings of the Baal Shem Tov and the Alter Rebbe through your efforts and the labor of your souls during the time you stayed in the camp?

At that time, I wrote to the largest group of the chassidic brotherhood instructing them to work with all those found in the camp, and in particular with the youth — i.e., those who are spiritually underdeveloped (because I thought that at the first stage of conquering [the place for Chassidus], it was not necessary to put an emphasis on their material status). I was answered that the idea was good, but that first it was necessary to make sure that there was a budget to cover expenses and that it would be more appropriate to begin these [efforts]

קַדְשַׁת מוֹרִי וְחַמִי אַדִמוּ״ר שליט"א, נבחנו בכור העני וָנָסִיוֹנוֹת מִכֵּל הַמִּינִים, עוֹסְקִים בַּהשַׂכּלה בּעבוֹדה וכו' וכו'. נמצאו בתחלה אלפים בֵּין בַקעמִפִּ מַאַחֵינוּ בָּנֵי יִשְׁרַאֵל שָׁהַיוּ צָמֵאָים לְדַבּוּר חַם וְחַי, התעוררות שָׁל וָקֶרוּב, וְהַצְּעִירִים שֶׁבַּהֶם שַׁאֲפוּ בִּעָקַר לְהוֹרָאַה: אַיָּה הוא משה זה האיש אשר יעלנו מהמצרים והגבולים וִיוֹרֵנוּ דָרֶךְ הַחַיִּים.

וְהַשְּׁאֵלָה: כַּמָה נְפָשׁוֹת נְתּוֹסְפּוּ, עַל יְדֵי הִשְׁתַּדְּלוּתָם וִיגִיעַת נַפְשָׁם, עַל תּוֹרַת הַבַּעַל שֵׁם טוֹב וְאַדְמוּ״ר הַזָּקֵן בְּמֶשֶׁךְ כָּל זְמַן הַשְּׁהִיָּה בְּקֶעִמְפְּס?

כַּתַבָתִּי אַז לִקעמִפּ דַאַנַ״שׁ היותר גדול שיעשו בכל הַנָּמִצַאָים בָּקַעמִפּ וּבַפְּרַט בָהַנֹעַר מַעַמַד רוּחַנִי (כִּי נחיצות שָׁעַרָתִּי שָׁאֵין בַּאַחִיזַה בָּגַשָּׁמִיוּת בַּתְחַלַּת הַכְבוּשׁ). וְעַנוּנִי שֶׁבְּוַדָּאי טוֹב הַדָּבַר, אֲבַל מַתַּחַלָּה תקציב להבטיח צריך ובכלל להוצאות, להתחיל בזה כשיבאו כל אנ"ש אל המנוחה ואז יסעו מהם ככל הנצרך when all the members of the chassidic brotherhood reached a state of tranquility. Then all those who were needed would travel back to the camp to work with mesirus nefesh!When, through an emissary who journeyed there, I urged a second time [that the matter be dealt with], they elected — I think — a committee, and that was the end of the matter. The outcome is well known.

The members of the chassidic brotherhood have become weary with their struggles. And it appears that those [working] with them also wearied themselves, seeing that it's a pity that Jews should continually weary themselves in upheaval. They were brought to a settled community. One might think that [there], perhaps, maybe, [they would begin outreach activities]. But instead, the entire pattern (or more precisely, the lack of a pattern) repeated itself. It is over a year that you are in your present surroundings. What is the sum total of the activities being carried out in Paris and its surroundings?

When I was in Paris a year and a half ago, I spoke [about the matter] several times until ultimately it was decided (apparently, out of respect) that the Committee for Nifneh would become involved with the people of the city. It is evident that those involved would be the appropriate ones to deal with those who are — at present — distant [from Jewish practice]. From time to time, I inquired and investigated what was being done

חֲזֶרָה לְהַקֶּעמְפְּ וְיַעַבְדוּ שָׁם בּמְסִירַת נֶפֶשׁ! וּכְשָׁגַרַזְּתִּי עוֹד הַפַּעַם עַל יְדֵי אֶחָד שַׁנָּסַע לְשָׁם - בָּחֲרוּ, כִּמְדְמֶה לִי, בְּוַעַד. וּבְזֶה נִסְתַּיֵם הַדָּבָר. וְהַ״תוֹצָאוֹת״ יִדוּעוֹת.

אַנ"שׁ זיה הַאבֵען וּכִנְרָאָה אַפּגעמַאטַערָט, אשר גם מיט זיי האט געמאטערט, זיך מען אוּן געזעהן, אַז עס איז אַ רַחַמַנוּת אויף אִידֵען: מַען מַאטַערָט זִיךְ אוּן אַן א טאלק. והביאום לעיר נוֹשֶׁבֶת - וְכוּלֵי הַאִי וְאוּלֵי. וְהָנֵּה - עֵס חַזֵרְ׳ט זִיךְ אָיבַּער דַער גַאנצַער סַדֵּר (יוֹתֵר נָכוֹן - הַפֶּךְ הַסֵּדֵר). זָה יוֹתֵר מִשַּׁנָה שַׁנִּמִצְאִים בַּמחנם עתה, ומה הוא הַסַּך הַכֹּל מֵהַפָּעִלוֹת קַיַמוֹת בָּפַארִיז וּסִבִיבוֹתֵיהַ?

בָּהָיוֹתִי בָּפַארִיז זֵה **שׁנַה** וָחֵצִי דִבַּרְתִּי כַּמָּה פִּעַמִים, עַד שָׁסוֹף סוֹף הַחִלִּיטוּ הַכַבוֹד) מַפּנֵי (כָּנָרָאֶה) נָפָנֵה יָתִעַסֵק גַּם שועד העיר. באנשי יָתִעַסָקוּ בָּזֵה הַמַּתִאִימִים לְדַבּוּר עָם הַרְחוֹקִים לְעֵת עתה וכו' וכו'. מזמן לזמן חַקירָה וּדְרִישָׁה מֵהַנַּעֵשָׂה שאין וַנוֹדעַתי... בוַה

in this regard and I discovered... that nothing is being done, nothing with regard to maamad in the spiritual sense and nothing with regard to maamad in the material sense. [These] two halves must — except in certain unique instances — be combined. [Indeed, each one] can only progress and be maintained when in tandem.

I would also be happy if someone would finally notify me that there are certain elements of activity of which I am unaware, that tens of people have not only been motivated by [members of our brotherhood] and have donated toward [the local] institutions, but have also received teachings of Chassidus from them or at least have in some way become bonded [with the Rebbe]. From your letter, however, I see that any aspect of such work is out of the question for you.

Obviously, maintaining the image of one's own community requires much work and constant labor. But even the guarding of the Beis HaMikdash was only one of the tasks [performed there] and all the priests were not occupied with it.

Obviously, if you meet a person and tell him: "Sir, give [me] money and I will give it to so-and-so who is several thousand miles away whom you do not know and with whom you do not share a connection, but [he] is a person of exceptional and lofty qualities," you

עוֹשִׂים מְאוּמָה, לֹא בְּעִנְין מַעֲמֶד רוּחָנִי וְלֹא בְּעִנְין מַעֲמֶד גַּשְׁמִי - שְׁנֵי הַחֲצָאִים, שָׁמִּלְבַד בְּהוֹרָאַת שָׁעָה, צְרִיכִים לִהְיוֹת בְּיַחַד וְהוֹלְכִים וּמִתְקַיְּמִים רַק בְּיַחַד.

גַם אֲנִי הָיִיתִי שָׂמֵחַ אָם סוֹף סוֹף הָיָה מִי שֶׁהוּא מוֹדִיעֵנִי, שַׁכַּמָּה מִפְּרָטֵי פְּעֻלּוֹתֵיהֶם אִי יְדוּעִים לִי, וַעֲשִּׁיִרִּיוֹת אֲנָשִׁים לֹא רַק נִתְפָּעֲלוּ מֵהֶם וְנָתְנוּ נִדְבוֹת מָמוֹן עַל הַמּוֹסְדוֹת אָלָּא שָׁגַם קִבְּלוּ מֵהֶם תוֹרַת הַדְּאַ״ח וְנַעֲשׂוּ חֲסִידִים אוֹ עַל כָּל פָנִים מְקְשָׁרִים קְצָת. וְהְנֵּה רוֹאֶה אֲנִי בְּמִכְתָבוֹ שֶׁמְפְּרָךְ כָּל מִקְצוֹעַ עֲבוֹדָה זָה אָצְלֶם.

פְּשִׁיטָא אֲשֶׁר שְׁמִירַת הַצִּיּוּר פּוּן דִי אֵייגֶענֶע ד' אַמּוֹת דּוֹרֶשֶׁת עֲבוֹדָה רַבָּה וִיגִיעָה תְּמִידִית, אֲבָל אֲפִילוּ שְׁמִירַת בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ הָיְתָה רַק אַחַת הָעֲבוֹדוֹת, וְלֹא כָּל הַכֹּהְנִים כָּלֶם הִתְעַסְקוּ בָּה.

פְּשִׁיטָא אֲשֶׁר אָם יִפְגְשׁוּ אָישׁ וְיֹאמְרוּ לוֹ זשִׁיד דַאוֹוַאי גְרָאשִׁי וְאֶתְּנֵם לִפְלוֹנִי בֶּן פְּלוֹנִי הַנִּמְצָא בְּמֶרְחַק כַּמָּה אֲלָפִים פַּרְסָאוֹת, שֶׁאֵין אַתָּה יוֹדֵעַ אוֹתוֹ, וְהוּא אֵין לוֹ שַׁיָכוֹת עִמְךָ, אֶלָא שָׁהוּא בַּעַל מַעַלוֹת גְבוֹהוֹת וְנִשָּׁאוֹת -יִהְיוּ בְּעִינִיוֹ כִּמְתַעְתְעִם. will be looked at as a charlatan.

On the other hand, it is [equally] obvious that when a person who believes with simple faith — i.e., [faith] that directs all his powers — that [the Rebbe's] knowledge and blessing have power over all matters and [this person] knows that his colleague must make a decision concerning a fundamental matter involving his children, health, or prosperity, or he is in danger, Heaven forbid, [he would try to connect that other with the Rebbel. If there was any hope or even the shadow of a possibility that [the other person] would listen to his words, human decency, ahavas Yisrael, and [the risk of] danger to life would motivate him to runafter his colleague and tell him: "Have mercy on yourself and on the members of your household and on all those close to you. Do not rely on your own understanding. Study Chassidus. Develop a connection with [the Rebbe]. Follow his words and then you will be successful."

As is well known, there is a promise from the Alter Rebbe: "When chassidim will make an effort, they will be successful."

[Generally,] the fact that one has not seen something is no proof that it did not occur, but this principle does not apply with regard to a frequent occurrence (see the rulings of Sifsei Cohen and the Alter Rebbe in Shulchan Aruch, Yoreh Deah, the beginning of sec. 1). I have seen several letters that were received by my revered father-in-law, the Rebbe Shlita,

וּלְאִידֶךְ גִּיסָא פִּשִׁיטָא אֵשֵׁר באמונה המאמין שׁלֵמַה, הַיִנוּ הַמַּנָהֶגֵת אֵת כל הכחות שלו, שדעת וברכת פלוני בן פלוני בכל מַשַׁלָה וִיוֹדֵעַ בַּחֲבֵרוֹ שֵׁצַרִיךְ לְהַחָלִיט בָּעָנָיַן עָקַרִי דְּבַנִי חַיֵּי וּמִזוֹנֵי וכו' אוֹ גַם בְּעַנִין של סכנה רחמנא לצלן, הרי מצַד אַנוֹשִׁיוּת אַהַבַת ישראל פקוח נפש וכו' אם רַק יֵשׁ תִקוה וּספַק ספַקא אוּלֵי יִשְׁמֵע לְדְבַרֵיו, עַלַיו לָרָדּוֹף אַחַרֵי חַבֵּרוֹ וְלוֹמַר לו: רחם על עצמד ועל בַּנִי בַיתָדְ וָעַל כַּל אַשֵׁר לְדְּ וָאֵל בינתר אל תשען, למוד דַא״ח הָתִקַשֵּׁר בִּפְּלוֹנִי בֵּן פַּלוֹני עשה על פּי דבריו וָאַז תַּצְלִיחַ.

וִידוּעָה הַבְּטָחַת אַדְמוּ״ר הַזָּקֵן, אַז ווָאס חֲסִידִים ווָעלֶען טָאן ווָעלֶען זַיי מַצִּלִיחַ זַיִין.

לֹא רָאִינוּ אֵינָהּ רְאָיָה פְּרָט בְּדָבָר הָרָגִיל (רְאֵה שַׁ״ךּ וְאַדְמוּ״ר הַזָּקֵן שָׁלְחָן עָרוּךְּ יוֹרָה דַעָה רִישׁ סִימָן א). רָאִיתִי כַּמָה מִמִּכְתָּבִים הַמִּתְקַבְּלִים לִכְבוֹד קְדָשַׁת מוֹרִי וְחָמִי אַדְמוּ״ר שִׁלִיטָ״א מִמַּחֲנָם. וְלֹא פָגַשְׁתִי אַדְּ אָחָד שֶׁיִהְיֶה כָּגַשְׁתִי אַדְּ אֶחָד שֶׁיִהְיֶה from your community and I have not seen one which relates that its author was drawn close to Chabad through the influence of one of the members of the chassidic brotherhood there.

In Paris and its surroundings you come in contact with hundreds and maybe thousands of our Iewish brethren each day. As indicated by Rambam's statements with regard to speech, you speak with them at times at length and at times briefly. How many of these thousands of people turned [to the Rebbe] with a question concerning an operation, a shidduch, a blessing for Rosh HaShanah or the like? If, however, you would have told them who the Rebbe of Lubavitch is, [sharing] a story, even without explanation, [and] on the second occasion [sharing] a portion of his talks and then his directives, many people - they, their descendants, and their descendants' descendants for posterity - would connect themselves to the Tree of Life. They would increase the light in their homes and become "Moshe's men." (See the conclusion of the maamar entitled VeYavo Amalek in the enclosed kuntreis. In my humble opinion, although in the maamarim entitled VeAsisa Tzitz in Torah Or and Toras Chavim the intent of the expression "Moshe's men" is "[people characterized by] bittul,"in this kuntreis, the intent is those who are connected to the Rebbe, the extension of Moshe in every נְתְקָרֵב עַתָּה לְחַבַּ״ד בְּהַשְּׁפָּעַת מִי מֵאַנַ״שׁ הַנְּמִצָא שָׁם.

בָּאִים הֵם בְּפַארִיז וּסְבִיבוֹתֶיהָ בְּמַגָּע עִם מֵאוֹת, וְאוּלַי עִם אֲלָפִים וַאֲלָפִים, מֵאַחִינוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, כֵּן יִרְבּוּ.

עַל פִּי מַה שֶׁכַּתַב הַרַמִבַּ״ם בִּעִנִין הַדְּבּוּר, מִשׁוֹחַחִים הֶם בֵּינֵיהֵם אַרְכּוֹת וּקצַרוֹת. כַּמַה אַנַשִּׁים מכל אַלוּ הַאַלָפִים פָּנוּ בִּשְׁאֵלָה על דבר נתוח או שדוך, בקשת בַּרַכָה לְרֹאשׁ הַשַּׁנַה וְכַיּוֹצֵא בזה? והאמנם אם היו מספרים להם מהו הרבי מליובאוויטש -ספור, גם בַּלֹא באור - ובפעם הַשָּׁנִיַה מָקצַת מִשִּׂיחוֹתֵיו וְאַחַר פַּךְ מֶהוֹרָאוֹתַיו - הַרֵי כַּמַה וְכַמַה נָפַשׁוֹת, הֶם וְזַרְעַם וְזֵרַע זַרְעַם עַד אֵין סוֹף, הַיוּ מִתְקַשְׁרִים עַל יַדַם בָּאֵילַנַא דְחַיֵּי, מוֹסִיפִּים אור בַּבתִיהַם, נעשים אנשי משה (ראה סוף דבור הַמַּתְחִיל וַיַּבֹא עַמַלֶק דְקוּנִטְרֵס הַמִּסְגַר פה. ולפי עניות דעתי אף ותוֹרַת דָּבָתוֹרֵה אוֹר דבּוּר הַמַּתִחִיל וְעָשִׂיתָ צִיץ הַכַּוַנַה בִּ״אַנִשִׁי משה״ - בִּטוּל, בַּקוּנִטְרֵס זָה הַכַּוַנַה - מִקְשַׁרִים בָּהַרַבִּי, הַאָתְפַשָּׁטוּתַא דָמשׁה שַבָּכַל דור. וִלַכַן לא נִתְבַּאֵר זָה בַּפֶרוּשׁ), נַעשִים אַנְשֵׁי מַעַמַד ומחזיקים גם בכל המוסדות בָּחֵפֶץ לֵב וּבִסֶבֶר פָּנִים יָפוֹת וְלֹא רק מפני הכבוד. generation. Therefore the concept is not elaborated upon.) They would take part in maamad and support all of [the Rebbe's] institutions eagerly, with a pleasant disposition, not merely out of respect.

Instead of [involving themselves in] such [outreach activities], this one focuses on his institution; this one, on his business. Each person pacifies himself with the thought that he gives nifneh generously, in an openhanded manner. They justify themselves that they possess ready resources of actual mesirus nefesh [should an occasion arise], as you declared. And avodah, laboriously fulfilling the mission, has not even begun.

This has been the pattern for more than a year in a community of chassidim who number several score, may their numbers increase, of those whom the Rebbe Rashab crowned with the title: "Lamps to shine." And as my revered father-in-law, the Rebbe Shlita, commented: "When a light is positioned in a dark place, people — on their own initiative — gather around."

Do you really think that the obstacle is the people of Paris and its surroundings?

Using free association, one might say: The entire concept of exile came about as a result of the breaking of the Tablets [of the Ten Commandments], for otherwise there would have been freedom. [As our Sages comment on the phrase "Engraved on the Tablets":] "Do not read chorus, "engraved," but rather cheirus, "freedom."

וּתְמוּרַת כָּל הַנַּ״ל - זֶה פּוֹנֶה לְמוֹסָד שֶׁלוֹ וְזֶה פּוֹנֶה לְעֵסֶק שֶׁלוֹ, כָּל אֶחָד מַרְגִּיעַ אֶת עַצְמוֹ בְּזֶה שָׁנּוֹתֵן נִפְנֶה בְּעַיִן יָפֶה וּבְמִדָּה רְחָבָה, מַצְדִּיקִים אֶת עַצְמֶם בְּזֶה שָׁיֵשׁ מִן הַמּוּכָן, כְּפִי דִבְרֵי כְּבוֹד תּוֹרָתוֹ, מְסִירַת נֶפֶשׁ בְּפֹעַל מַמָּשׁ. וְהָעֲבוֹדָה, כְּנִרְאֶה, עֲדַיִן לֹא הְתְחַלָה.

וְסֵדֶר זֶה נוֹהֵג, לְעֵת עַתָּה,
בְּמֶשֶׁךְ שָׁנָה וְיוֹתֵר. וּבְקְבּוּץ
אֲנַ״שׁ שָׁהוּא מִכַּמָּה וְכַמָּה
עֲשִירִיוֹת, כֵּן יִרְבּוּ, שֶׁל
אוֹתָם שָׁבְּתְּרָם אֵדְמוּ״ר
נִשְׁמָתוֹ עֵדֶן בְּתֹאַר ״נֵרוֹת
לְהָאִיר״. וְעַל פִּי פִּתְגַּם
לְבָּאִיר״. וְעַל פִּי פִּתְגַּם
בְּבוֹד קְדָשַׁת מוֹרִי וְחָמִי
אַדְמוּ״ר שְׁלִיטָ״א הֲרֵי
בִּמְקוֹם חשׁׁךְ כְּשֶׁמַעֲמִידִים
בְּנָס אוֹר הֲרֵי - מֵעַצְמָם -

וְהַאָמְנָם דַּעַת כְּבוֹר תּוֹרָתוֹ הִיא שֶׁהַמְּנִיעָה מֵאַנְשֵׁי פַּארִיז וּסְבִיבוֹתֶיהָ הִיא?!

וְאֶמֵרְתִּי עַל דֶּרֶךְ הַצַּחוּת: כָּל עָנִין הַגָּלוּת הַנּוֹרָא הוּא עַל יְדֵי שְׁבִירַת הַלּוּחוֹת, כִּי בְּלַאו הָכִי הֲבִי הָיָה חֵרוּת, אַל תִּקְבִי חָרוּת אֶלְּא חֵרוּת. הַסִּבָּה לְשְׁבִירַת הַלּוּחוֹת הוּא חֵטְא הָעֵגֶל שָׁאָז חָזְרָה הַזּוּהָמָא דְּחֵטְא שָׁאָז חָזְרָה הַזּוּהָמָא דְּחֵטְא The reason for the breaking of the Tablets was the sin of the Golden Calf, at which time the impurity that stemmed from the sin of the Tree of Knowledge returned. According to Chassidus (see the maamar entitled Al Kein Yei'omru, 5691), that [the Sin of the Tree of Knowledge] came about as a result of the diminution of the moon, which came about as a result of the breaking of the vessels of Tohu, which came about as a result of the tzimtzum.

Now what is the tzimtzum? [When] the light does not spread outward. It remains within its letters and does not diffuse further. (See sec. 5 of the maamar entitled Le-Havin MaShekasuv BeOtzaros Chayim at the conclusion of Parshas Vayikra in Likkutei Torah.)

I will again repeat my statement that I am not focusing on any particular individual, but on the community as a collective. You will no doubt show my letter to everyone who will benefit from it. It is unnecessary to add that the give-and-take is between me and them on my own initiative. There is no [need to fear that]: "Yosef will bring their gossip...."

There will no doubt be those who say: "Who appointed you...?" and "Remove the beam from between your eyes." Their complaint against me will be correct. This will not, however, change the situation or the picture as a whole. It is a shame that time which will never be regained marches forward and is lost.

I hope that you will not become negatively

עץ הַדַּעַת, שֶׁעַל פִּי דַא״ח (רְאֵה דְּבּוּר הַמַּתְחִיל עַל כֵּן יֹאמְרוּ תרצ״א) בָּא עַל יְדֵי מִעוּט הַיָּרַחַ, שֶׁבָּא עַל יְדֵי שְׁבִירַת הַכֵּלִים דְּתֹהוּ, שֶׁבָּא עַל יְדֵי הַאִּמְצוּם. שָׁבָּא עַל יְדֵי הַאִּמְצוּם. וּמָהוּ הַצִּמְצוּם? דָער אוֹר גייט נִיט לְחוּץ. עֶר אִיז זִיךְ אִין זַיִינֶע אוֹתִיוֹת, אָבֶּער נִיט ווַיִיטֶער (רְאֵה לִקוּטֵי תוֹרָה סוֹף סֵפֶר וַיִּקְרָא דִּבּוּר הַמַּתְחִיל לְהָבִין מַה שֶׁבָּתוּב הַמַּתְחִיל לְהָבִין מַה שֶׁבָּתוּב בָּאוֹצֵר חַיִּים בֶּרַק ה).

עוֹד הַפַּעַם אַכְפִּיל דְּבָרֵי שָׁאֵין כַּנְּנָתִי לְאִישׁ פְּרָטִי חַס וְשָׁלוֹם, כִּי אִם לְהַקּבּוּץ בְּכְלָל. וּבְוַדַּאי יַרְאָה מִכְתָבִי לְכָל מִי שָׁיֵשׁ תּוֹעֶלֶת בְּזָה. - וּלְמוֹתָר לוֹמַר שָׁאֵין זָה אָלָא שַׁקְלָא וְטַרְיָא בֵּינִי עְבֵינָם וְעַל דַעַת עַצְמִי. וְלֹא שָׁחַס וְשָׁלוֹם יִהְיֶה וַיָּבֵא יוֹסֵף גו׳.

בְּוַדַּאי כַּמָּה וְכַמָּה יֹאמְרוּ
 מִי שֻׂמְךּ גו' טוֹל כו' מִבֵּין
 עֵינֶיךּ וְיִהְיֶה הַצֶּדֶק אִתְּם בְּטַעֲנָתָם עָלַי. אֲכָל אֵין זֶה מְשַׁנָּה אֶת הַמַּצְב וְהַפַּךְּ־ מְשַׁנָּה אֶת הַמַּצְב וְהַפַּךְּ־ הַכֹּל. וַחֲבַל עַל הַוְּמַן הַהוֹלֵךְ הַכֹּל. וַחֲבַל עַל הַוְּמַן הַהוֹלֵךְ וְלֹא מִשְׁתְּכַח.

בְּתִקְנָה אֲשֶׁר לֹא יַקְפִּיד -אֲפִילוּ בְּמוֹחַ - עַל מִכְתָבִי זָה. וָאֵת וַהַב בָּסוּפַה. affected, even merely intellectually, by this letter. [May we see the fulfillment of the promise]: "And vehav at its conclusion."

Concluding with good wishes for all the members of our brotherhood.

I did not show this letter to the Committee for Nifneh here. However, I did send a copy of sec. (f) only to R. Ben Tzion Shemtov, but I did not tell him to whom the letter was addressed. You may do as you wish in this regard. I sent this to R. Ben Tzion because:

- a) perhaps it will be an asset in his own work;
- b) while I was in Paris, he continually offered defenses for the failure of the efforts to spread [the above activities] and was certain that they would spread in the future.

הַחוֹתֵם בִּפְרִישֵׁת שְׁלוֹם כָּל הַחֲבוּרָה תִּחְיֶה.

כאן נפנה הַרְאֵיתִי מִכְתַּבִי זֵה. בַּרַם הֶעָתֵּק מָסָעִיף וַא״ו בְּלְבֵּד שלחתי להרב ר' בַּן־ציוֹן שיחיה שם טוב, אבל לא כַתַבְתִּי לוֹ לְמִי נֵעֲרַךְּ מָכָתַב זֶה, וּכְבוֹד תּוֹרַתוֹ כרצונו. בזה יעשה להרב הנ"ל בּן־ציּוֹן: א) אוּלי יוֹעיל לַעֲבוֹדַתוֹ הוּא, ב) בָּהִיוֹתִי בָּפַארִיז שַׁקַד גַּם בָּלְמוּד סַנֵּגוֹרְיַא עַל הַעְדֵּר בַּעֲבוֹדַה ההתפשטות שתתפשט והיה בטוח בַעַתִיד.