

The New Writings of Rav Ashlag: Article on World Peace Part 20

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I believe that there is a not-too-distant possibility to instill these ways of life even in the way that we live ourselves; it only depends on our understanding

~~That is to say, to explain to the leaders of our generation.....~~

~~And we have already spoken about it previously.....~~

[Rav Ashlag wrote these two lines and then erased them]

World peace and the peace of the country are interdependent.

Moreover, if you take into account the section of the population of the country who are experts in war and for whom fighting is their hope for success—for example, war experts and weapon suppliers, who form a very important minority in the country as far as the quality of society-

And if you add to them the minority that is not content with the present rules that govern the country, then you can see that at any given time, most of the people of the country are looking forward to wars and bloodshed.

This is a very practical demonstration that world peace and the peace of the country are intertwined and interdependent.

And if that is the case, it necessarily follows that even those of the country's dwellers who are satisfied with the present laws, meaning the energetic ones and the clever ones, are still very concerned about the safety of their lives because of the lack of peace in the world.

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And if that is the case, it necessarily follows that even those of the country's dwellers who are satisfied with the present laws, meaning the energetic ones and the clever ones, are still very concerned about the safety of their lives because of the lack of peace in the world.

And what sort of satisfaction might one find when one knows that most of the people of the country are scheming against one's life?

Had everyone understood this, they would have probably been happy to completely accept the above mentioned lifestyle of the last generation; because everyone will gladly give everything they possess to protect one's life.

Humans create more than they receive

And when we look closely and grasp well with our minds the above mentioned plan of the last generation, we will come to realize that the whole point of difficulty and heaviness is in transforming our nature from the desire to receive for oneself to the desire to share with others.

Seemingly, these two oppose each other, and at first sight it may seem just like some general fantasy, something that is beyond human nature—at least as far as most of humanity are concerned. Indeed, when we look deeply into it, we will find that the contradiction between “receiving for oneself” and “sharing with others” is not only in the psychological field.

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Receiving for oneself—although it has been described by us as having different aspects, from possessions and property and various luxuries that please the heart, the eye, the law, etc.—in fact, all these are defined by one term: pleasure.

It follows, in essence, that all the aspects of receiving for oneself that one longs for are no different than one's longing for pleasure.

And now imagine for yourself, if we put together all the different kinds of pleasure that one obtains during one's seventy years to one side, and all the sorrow and troubles that one suffers during those seven years to the other side.

Weigh them one against the other and present them to the person just before he is born— anyone with any intelligence could swear that no person would choose to be born of his own accord.

Because there is not one person in this world whose troubles are not 77 times more than one's pleasure throughout one's life? And if this is the case, what does one get out of living in this world?

And make a simple mathematical calculation: Suppose a person has 20 percent pleasure and 80 percent trouble in his life. If you subtract 20 from 80, you see that 60 percent of the suffering is without any reward.

The question is:

So from here you can measure the actual [amount of] receiving possible for the person.

Although these sixty percent of trouble that are without any return are only considered a deficit to that one person, still, if we do a general worldly calculation, here you will find that a person creates more than he is receiving for his own existence and enjoyment.

