

# Sepher ha Zohar ("Book of Splendor")

## Trumah ("Offering")

(42) "There is a place in civilization where people do not die"

467. אֶתֶר אֵיךְ בְּיִשׁוּבָא, דְּלֵא שְׁלֵטָא בֵּיהּ הֵוּא מוֹזַבְלָא, וְלֵא אֲתֵיִיבֵיב לִיהּ רְשׁוֹ לֵאעֲלֵא תַמְנָן, וְכֵל אֵינֹן דְּרִירֵי תַמְנָן, לֵא מֵתִין, עַד דְּנִפְקִין לְבַר מִקְרֵתָא. וְלִית לֵךְ בַּר נֶשׁ מִכָּל דְּרִירִין תַמְנָן, דְּלֵא מֵתִין, וְכִלְהוּ מֵתִין כְּשָׂאָר בְּנֵי נֶשׂא, אֲבָל לֵא בְּמֵתָא. מ"ט. בְּעִין דְּלֵא יִכְלִין לְמֵיתָב תְּדִיר בְּמֵתָא, אֲלֵא אֲלִין נִפְקִין, וְאֲלִין עֲאֲלִין, וְע"ד כִּלְהוּ מֵתִין.

467. There is a place in civilization where that destroyer has no dominion and is not permitted to enter, and those who live there do not die until they go out of the city. There is not one there who does not die. They all die like other people, but not in the city. What is the reason? They cannot remain constantly in the city, but they rather go in and out, and therefore they all die.

468. מ"ט לֵא שְׁלֵטָא תַמְנָן הֵוּא מִלְאָךְ מוֹזַבְלָא. אֵי תֵימָא דְּלֵא קִיִּימָא בְּרִשׁוּתֵיהּ, הֵא אֲרֵעָא קִדִּישָׁא דְּלֵא קִיִּימָא בְּרִשׁוֹ אֲזַרְא, וּמֵתִין, בְּהֵוּא אֶתֶר אֲמָא לֵא מֵתִין. אֵי תֵימָא בְּעִין קְדוּשָׁא, לִית אֶתֶר בְּקְדוּשָׁה בְּטַל יִשְׁנָבָא סְנוּנָא דְּאֲרֵץ יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאֵי תֵימָא, בְּעִין הֵוּא בְּרָא דְּבֵי לֵיהּ. סְמָה בְּנֵי נֶשׂא הֵוּן דְּזִכְוִתִּיהוֹן יִתִּיר מִדִּילֵיהּ. אָמַר רַבִּי יִצְחָק, אֲנָא לֵא שְׂמַעְנָא וְלֵא אִימָא.

468. What is the reason that the destroying angel does not dominate there? If you say that this is not in his domain, behold the Holy Land that is not located under another domain but people still die. So what is the reason people do not die in this place? And if you say, because of the holiness, you do not have a place in the entire civilization that is 'holy like the Land of Yisrael, and if you say it is because of the merit of the man who built the city, there were many people who merited more than him. Rabbi Yitzchak said, I did not hear anything and I cannot comment.

469. אֲתוּ שְׂאִילוּ לִיהּ לֵר"שׁ, אָמַר לוֹן, וְנֵאִי הֵוּא אֶתֶר לֵא שְׁלֵטָא עֲלֵיהּ מִלְאָךְ הַמּוֹת, וְקוּדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא לֵא בְּעִי דְּבֵהֵוּא אֶתֶר יְמוֹת בַּר נֶשׁ לְעֲלָמִין, וְאֵי תֵימָא, דְּקִדְשׁ לִכּוֹן בְּהֵוּא דְּיוֹקְתָא, עַד לֵא אֲתֵבֵי, מֵיִתּוּ בֵּיהּ בְּנֵי נֶשׂא, לֵא הִסִּי. אֲלֵא מִיּוֹמָא דְּאֲתֵבֵרִי עֲלָמָא, אֲתֵתִקֹן הֵוּא אֶתֶר, לְקִיּוּמָא, וְנֵוּא דְּרִזִּין הֵוּא, לְאֵינוֹן דְּמִסְתַּכְלִי בְּרָזָא דְּזִכְוִתָּא.

469. They came and asked Rabbi Shimon. He said to them, "Certainly the Angel of Death has no dominion over that place, and the Holy One, blessed be He, does not want any person to ever die there. If you say people did die in that place originally before it was built, it is not so. From the day that man was created, that place was established for existence, and the secret of secrets is here for those who view the secret of Wisdom."