

The Zohar - Chayei Sarah ("The life of Sarah")

9. (תוספתא) ויהיו וזיי שרה. גופא דמתניתין, אגן קריבין הינא, שמענא קלא מתהפך מעילא לתתא, אתפשטת בעלמא, קל מתבר טורין, ומתבר טורין תקיפין, עלעולין רברבין סלקין, אודנא פתיוון.

9. Tosefta (Addendum). "And Sarah's life was..." The body of the Mishnah, NAMELY ITS ESSENCE, WAS LONG AND IS NOW ABRIDGED. We, WHO ARE VERSED IN THE MISHNAH, were close TO THE INNER SIDE OF THE GRADE and heard a voice that travels down from above and expands throughout the world. This voice uproots mountains and smashes strong rocks, NAMELY ITS ILLUMINATION UPROOTS AND SMASHES ALL THE KLIPOT. Great spirits rise, and ears are open.

10. הוה אמר במטלני קוץ קוציתא, דמיכן דמימין דשינתא בוזריהון, קיימין בקיימיהון. מלכא דממלכא, נטרי תרעין, שליטא דזילין סגיאין, קם בקיימיה.

10. As THE VOICE TRAVELS TO THREE PLACES, it says, Cut off a portion, how the still ones, who are still sleeping, maintain their guard and stand in position. The king, NUKVA, guards the gates, as the ruler over many armies stands by his post.

11. פלהו לא מרגשין, ולא ידעי דספרא פתיוון, ובשמא אכתוב, ודומה קאים, ונטיל בוזשבנא, ודיירי עפרא תייבין לבר, וקריב טב לאתמנאה בהו, לא תאיבין, גלגולא והפוך.

11. Nobody notices or knows that the book is open, and is written in by a name (is this correct?), and Dumah rises to receive the reckoning. The dwellers of dust, NAMELY THE WICKED, go back outside. The good part, THE CENTRAL COLUMN, THAT IS YESOD, WHICH IS CALLED GOOD, APPROCHES, to be counted among them, but they do not wish for rolling and reversing (what does rolling and reversing mean?).

Relevance: Intellectual blockages in our consciousness prevent us from completely accepting and beholding the truth of the World to Come and the gravity of our erring actions. Though we might accept the notion of a Creator and other spiritual principles on a purely intellectual level, internalizing and living these truths is a much more difficult task, and the basis of our spiritual work. The intent of this passage is to remove impediments and doubts, opening our eyes to spiritual truths and stimulating greater awareness. As we become more devout in our pursuit of righteousness, the desire to replace our bad actions with good ones becomes an intrinsic part of our nature. This process is furthered by the Light emanating from this portion.