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לזכות הרה"ת ר' **אברהם יהודה** הלוי וזוגתו מרת **דבורה לאה** ומשפחתם שיחיו **סאסקינד** נוביי, מישיגיו

WHERE DOES THIS QUESTION ORIGINATE?

The following was written in the Rebbe's holy handwriting as a postscript to a typed letter in English, dated 20 Kislev 5725*. The Rebbe addresses a woman's concerns and guides her in her growth in Yiddishkeit:

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וצה על על היהצות הל נאית ה צומת דמת

Blessing and Greeting

I received your letter of the 14th of Kisley, and may G-d grant the fulfillment your heart's desires for good in all the matters about which you write.

With the approach of Chanukah, I truyou surely remember what our Sages tell us about the role which Jewish women played the miracle of Chanukah, in those days at this season. The purpose of the remembras and celebration of our festivals is to corvert the inspiration of the festival into the daily life. The message of Chanukah, in particular, emphasizes the need to sprethe light of the Torah and Mitzvoth in a growing measure, just as the lights of Chanukah are kindled with an additional Chanukah light each day.

Chanukah You a happy and inspiring

[Instruction to the secretary] to add:

להוסיף

About which you write that you are not always able to find answers to the questions others ask you, regarding proof [of the authenticity] of Yiddishkeit, Torah and mitzvos:

It is obvious that you should not be disheartened by this, because even elders who spend all their days in Torah study don't have answers for every single question. Why is it surprising that a human being is unable to understand the full depth of the wisdom of Hashem, which He revealed in His Torah? Certainly this need not hinder our fulfillment of the mitzvos whatsoever.

If you think about it, you will realize that most of those who are asking these questions are not doing so out of a quest to know the truth. Rather, they wish to justify their own lifestyles (whether for other people or for their own conscience): They rejected the way of life of their ancestors, many of whom gave up their lives for the sake of Yiddishkeit, while they [the questioners] abandoned the yoke of Torah and mitzvos, trading it [merely] for a comfortable material life.

You are incorrect in your writing that one should live in a nonobservant community, as a way to test their strength and resolve. On the contrary: every single person, even a *tzaddik gamur*, prays every day at the **beginning of the day**, asking that Hashem should not put us to a test. It is only **if Hashem** has already placed you in a situation that tests [your faith], that you must stand firm and pass the test. Engaging in debates is a job for rabbonim, etc. For everyone else, it is only when absolutely necessary.

Obviously, you are correct in writing that one cannot make compromises when it comes to Torah and mitzvos.

(How would it even be possible to make a compromise about something which is absolute **truth**, given by the true G-d!)

Regarding what you've been told about compromises: For example, when we suspend [the laws of] Shabbos when a life is in danger—that is not a compromise at all, rather it is a true ruling just like any other ruling of the Torah of Truth. [Just like it is a mitzvah] to fast on Yom Kippur, it is prohibited to fast on Shabbos and *yom tov*, and there is a prohibition to fast when a life is in danger. [Similarly,] it is prohibited to light a fire on Shabbos, but it is a **mitzvah** to light a fire to save an endangered life, as well as on the *mizheiach* in the *Beis Hamikdash*.

(Teshura Levin-Simpson 5767)

לכתבה שלא תמיד מוצאה המענה לשאלות ששואלים אותה ראיות ליהדות ותומ"צ - פשוט שאין לה ליפול ברוחה מזה, כיון שאפילו זקנים שעוסקים כל ימיהם בת"ת לא כל השאלות יכולים לתרץ ומה פלא שאדם נברא אין ביכולתו להבין חכ' ה' שגילה בתורתו עד תכליתה?! ופשיטא שאין זה צריך כלל לנגוע ח"ו בקיום המצוות.

כשת[ת]בונן - תראה שרוב המקשים - זהו לא שמחפשים האמת כ"א רוצים להצדיק א"ע (לפני אחרים וגם מצפונם) על שעזבו דרך חיים דאבותיהם וא"א [=ואבות אבותיהם] שכמה מהם מס"נ על היהדות והם פרקו עול תומ"צ בשביל נוחיות החיים הגשמיים.

אינה צודקת בכתבה שצ"ל בסביבה בלתי דתית שזהו הדרך לבחון כחות עצמו - כי אדרבה כאו"א מתפלל <u>ובתחלת</u> היום ואפילו צד"ג ואל תביאנו לידי נסיון. אלא <u>כשהקב"ה</u> מזמין נסיון צ"ל חזק ולעמוד בנסיון. וכניסה לויכוחים - זהו תפקידם של רבנים וכו' - אבל לשאר אנשים הוא רק כשמוכרחים לזה.

כמובן צודקת בכתבה שאי אפשר לעשות פשרות בתומ"צ. (ואיך אפשרי פשרה בעניין שהוא <u>אמת</u> נתון מה' אמת!). ומה שא"ל [= שאמרו לה] שיש פשרות וכמו שדוחין שבת מפני פקו"נ - אי"ז פשרה כלל, כ"א דין אמת כשאר דיני תו"א [=תורת אמת]: דין לצום ביוהכ"פ, איסור לצום בשויו"ט ואיסור לצום למסוכן. איסור להבעיר אש בש"ק, <u>ציווי</u> להבעיר אש להציל מסוכן וכן על המזבח בביהמ"ק.