

לעילוי נשמת
יעקב בן אייזיק ע"ה
גלב"ע ח' טבת ה'תשע"ז
ת"נצ"ב'ה'

נדפס ע"י בנו
הרה"ת ר' אלכסנדר וזוגתו
מרת חנה ומשפחתם שיחיו
קאלער



He Will Return

Rabbi Eli Silverstein, shliach to Cornell University relates:

A number of years ago, there was a student at our university who came from a modern orthodox home and had studied in Yeshiva. When he first came to university, he was very involved in Yiddishkeit, organizing shiurim in the shul, and so on.

A few months after his arrival, he suddenly disappeared and stopped coming to the Chabad House. I had no idea where he went and why he had stopped coming. One Friday, on my way back from shul, I noticed this student without a Yarmulke, walking with some non-Jewish friends. I asked him, "What happened? Why did you stop coming to shul?" he told me that he is no longer religious, and that he thinks the whole thing is not for him. I heard what he said and didn't question him further.

He did come to shul on Yom Kippur, and told me he had questions and doubts in his *emunah*. I tried explaining that his questions were not really questions, but it did not help.

When the time came for this student to graduate, his parents came and stayed in town for Shabbos. Out of respect for his parents, the student came to shul on Shabbos.

When I met his father, he told me:

"I know you may be worried about my son, given what he's been going through, but allow me to tell you a story:

"When my son was two years old, he was diagnosed with a mysterious disease which caused him to lose consciousness. The doctors were not able to find a solution for his disease, he was losing a lot of weight and his situation was deteriorating.

"At that time, someone told me about the Lubavitcher

Rebbe, and that he receives people for *yechidus*, so I took my son with me to see the Rebbe. When I was in *yechidus*, I broke down in tears, and told the Rebbe "I am losing my son... my son can't walk anymore, he is very weak, and his situation is getting worse!" The Rebbe asked that I bring my son closer to him, and he put him on his lap. The Rebbe began speaking to my son, as one speaks to a young child. Then the Rebbe smiled, returned my son to me, and said, "It's nothing, he will be okay". And in fact, from that *yechidus* on, my son never again lost consciousness and the disease disappeared as if it never was.

"Seventeen years later, my son went to Eretz Yisroel for a year. Before he left, I decided to go to the Rebbe at the Sunday dollars line to receive a *bracha* for my son. When I reached the Rebbe, before I even said anything, the Rebbe asked me, "How is...doing?" (the Rebbe said my son's name!) Now, I hadn't visited the Rebbe since that *yechidus*, nor had I written a letter, and yet the Rebbe remembered everything about my son! The Rebbe gave me *brachos*, that I should see *nachas* from my son."

With this his father concluded, "I am certain that he will return. After the Rebbe gave me such *brachos*, it's not possible otherwise. You should not be too worried."

Lately, I succeeded in getting in touch with the son. He lives in California; a very successful businessman. I spoke to him and he asked me if I could tell him the story of the Rebbe that his father told me. With Hashem's help our connection will grow, and we will see the fulfillment of the Rebbe's *brachos*. **1**