Torah

Above Everything

PLAN · TREASURE · CHAIN · LETTERS · YOUR SCREEN · WATER · WILL



Torah is the first gate,
and everything comes out of it.

CONTENTS

The Book Before You

OPENING

- Opening Words — What Is Torah? 5

FIRST GATE · THE GATE OF THE PLAN

- Before We Begin — The world is the screen. Torah is the code. 6
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 7
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 8

SECOND GATE · THE GATE OF THE TREASURE

- Before We Begin — The most precious thing He has, and He chose to give it to us. 11
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 12
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 13

THIRD GATE · THE GATE OF THE CHAIN

- Before We Begin — Everything passes. Torah stays. 16
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 17
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 18

FOURTH GATE · THE GATE OF THE LETTERS

- Before We Begin — Every letter is a vessel of light. 21
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 22
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 23

FIFTH GATE · THE GATE OF YOUR SCREEN

- Before We Begin — One Torah. Seventy faces. One of them is yours. 26
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 27
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 28

SIXTH GATE · THE GATE OF WATER

- Before We Begin — Like fish in water: in Torah we live. 31
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 32
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 33

SEVENTH GATE · THE GATE OF WILL

- Before We Begin — Whoever connects to the wisdom rises to the will. 36
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 37
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 38

CLOSING CHAPTER · HOW WE CONNECT TO ATZILUT

- Before We Begin — Whoever wants what He wants is already in Atzilut. 41
- Glossary of the Gate — The ideas in today's language 42
- What Is in This Gate — 4 short chapters 43

CLOSING

- My Torah — How each person receives Torah in their own color 46
- The Book in One Line 47
- Afterword 47
- Appendix — The sources in full 48
- Sources 52

· *With the help of Heaven* ·

עֵץ־חַיִּים הִיא לַמַּחֲזִיקִים בָּהּ וְתֹמְכֶיהָ מְאֻשָּׁר

It is a tree of life to those who hold on to it, and those who support it are happy.

PROVERBS 3:18

OPENING

Opening Words

What Is Torah?

Torah is not one more subject, and not one more gate among several. It is the gate all the other gates come out of. Shabbat, the Land of Israel and teshuva are all written in it, and all of them draw their life from it.

Before the world was created there was Torah, and the world was created for its sake. Torah is the plan, and the world is the building.

It is infinite, so no one holds all of it. And still it touches every person personally: one letter, their own.

It is not a burden and not a punishment. It is a chance to connect. To clean the pipe, and to keep a clean line all the way to the Source.

Seven gates in this book

The Gate of the Plan, on a world created out of Torah. The Gate of the Treasure, on the most precious thing He has. The Gate of the Chain, on a Torah that never fell. The Gate of the Letters, on the holy tongue the world was created in. The Gate of Your Screen, on seventy faces and the letter of every person. The Gate of Water, on a Torah that flows down to the low place. And the Gate of Will, on learning that rises from the mind to the will. And at the end, the closing chapter: how we connect to Atzilut.

· FIRST GATE ·

The Gate of the Plan

THE SCREEN AND THE CODE · THE ARCHITECT AND THE BLUEPRINT · BEFORE THE PLAN · THE CONDITION OF CREATION



Every app on your phone runs on code no one sees. The screen changes every moment, and the code stays. So is the world: what we see is the screen. Torah is the code behind it.

> כְּךָ הָיָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא מַבִּיט בַּתּוֹרָה וּבוֹרֵא אֶת הָעוֹלָם
>
> *"So the Holy One, blessed be He, looked into the Torah and created the world."*
>
> — BERESHIT RABBAH 1:1

FIRST GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of the Plan, in the holy tongue and in today's language

---

Source code SOURCE CODE

Torah. What runs the world behind the scenes.

Screen SCREEN

The world we see. It changes every moment, and the code stays.

Blueprint BLUEPRINT

The plan the building was built by. "He looked into the Torah and created the world."

Runtime RUNTIME

The world was not created once and left. It runs on Torah every moment.

§1 THE GATE OF THE PLAN

The Architect

> מֶלֶךְ בָּשָׂר וָדָם בּוֹנֶה פָּלָטִין, אֵינוֹ בוֹנֶה אוֹתָהּ מִדַּעַת עַצְמוֹ אֶלָּא מִדַּעַת אָמָּן, וְהָאָמָּן אֵינוֹ בוֹנֶה אוֹתָהּ מִדַּעַת עַצְמוֹ אֶלָּא דְּפְתְּרָאוֹת וּפִנְקְסָאוֹת יֵשׁ לוֹ
>
> *"A king of flesh and blood who builds a palace does not build it from his own mind, but from the mind of an architect. And the architect does not build it from his own mind either: he has plans and notebooks."*
>
> — BERESHIT RABBAH 1:1

A king who builds a palace does not build from his head. The architect has plans: where the rooms go, where the doors go.

So God looked into the Torah and created the world. First the plan, and then the building.

§2 THE GATE OF THE PLAN

Before the World

> שִׁבְעָה דְּבָרִים נִבְרְאוּ קוֹדֶם שֶׁנִּבְרָא הָעוֹלָם, וְאֵלּוּ הֵן: תּוֹרָה, וּתְשׁוּבָה
>
> *"Seven things were created before the world was created, and these are they: Torah, and teshuva."*
>
> — PESACHIM 54A

Torah was not written after the world already existed. It was there before it.

And together with it teshuva was created: the way back to the plan, always.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of the Plan



The world is the screen, Torah is the code

§3 THE GATE OF THE PLAN

The Condition

> שֶׁהִתְנָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא עִם מַעֲשֵׂה בְרֵאשִׁית וְאָמַר לָהֶם: אִם יִשְׂרָאֵל מְקַבְּלִים הַתּוֹרָה — אַתֶּם מִתְקַיְּימִין, וְאִם לָאו — אֲנִי מַחֲזִיר אֶתְכֶם לְתוֹהוּ וָבוֹהוּ
>
> *"The Holy One, blessed be He, made a condition with the works of creation and said to them: if Israel accepts the Torah, you will endure; and if not, I will return you to chaos and void."*
>
> — SHABBAT 88A

The world was created on one condition: that there be Torah in it.

Without the code, the screen goes dark.

§4 THE GATE OF THE PLAN

Day and Night

> אִם־לֹא בְּרִיתִי יוֹמָם וָלָיְלָה חֻקּוֹת שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ לֹא־שָׂמְתִּי
>
> *"If not for My covenant day and night, I would not have set the laws of heaven and earth."*
>
> — JEREMIAH 33:25

Torah was not only the plan. It holds the world up, day and night.

Like oxygen: you do not see it, you get used to it, and the moment it is missing nothing lives.

IN SHORT

God looked into the Torah and created the world. Torah came before the world, the world stands on it by a condition, and it holds the world up day and night.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

The world is the screen. Torah is the code.

· SECOND GATE ·

The Gate of the Treasure

HIDDEN TREASURE · PRECIOUS VESSEL · MORE PRECIOUS THAN PEARLS · THE WHOLE WORLD · WHAT REMAINS



When Moshe went up to receive the Torah, the angels did not want to give it up. They called it "a hidden treasure." It is the most precious thing He has, and He chose to give it to us.

> חֶמְדָּה גְּנוּזָה שֶׁגְּנוּזָה לְךָ תְּשַׁע מֵאוֹת וְשִׁבְעִים וְאַרְבָּעָה דּוֹרוֹת קוֹדֶם שֶׁנִּבְרָא הָעוֹלָם, אַתָּה מְבַקֵּשׁ לִיתְּנָהּ לְבָשָׂר וָדָם
>
> *"A hidden treasure that was hidden away with You for nine hundred and seventy-four generations before the world was created, and You want to give it to flesh and blood?"*
>
> — SHABBAT 88B

SECOND GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of the Treasure, in the holy tongue and in today's language

---

The vault VAULT

"A hidden treasure." What was kept with Him since before the world.

The vessel TOOL

The vessel the world was created with, placed in our hands.

No comparison NO MATCH

Nothing goes on the same list with it.

What remains BACKUP

What stays with a person when everything else is left behind.

§1 THE GATE OF THE TREASURE

A Precious Vessel

חֲבִיבִין יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁנִּתַּן לָהֶם כְּלִי חֶמְדָּה. חִבָּה יְתֵרָה נוֹדַעַת לָהֶם שֶׁנִּתַּן לָהֶם כְּלִי חֶמְדָּה שֶׁבּוֹ נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם

"Beloved are Israel, for they were given a precious vessel. An extra love was made known to them, that they were given the precious vessel with which the world was created."

— AVOT 3:14

The vessel God created the world with, He placed in our hands.

Not a copy, and not a description. The vessel itself.

§2 THE GATE OF THE TREASURE

I Was Sold with It

מָכַרְתִּי לָכֶם תּוֹרָתִי, כִּבְיָכוֹל נִמְכַּרְתִּי עִמָּהּ

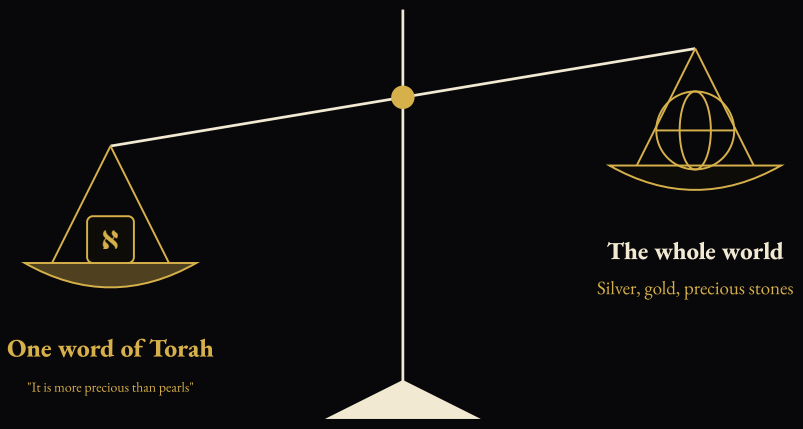
"I sold you My Torah, and, as it were, I was sold along with it."

— SHEMOT RABBAH 33:1

Like a king whose only daughter is getting married, and he asks: "Make me one small room, so I can live near you."

Whoever holds on to Torah, God lives with him.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of the Treasure



The whole world on one side of the scale, and one word of Torah on the other

§3 THE GATE OF THE TREASURE

The Whole World

> אֲפִילּוּ כָּל הָעוֹלָם כּוּלּוֹ אֵינוֹ שָׁוֶה אֲפִילּוּ לְדָבָר אֶחָד מִן הַתּוֹרָה
>
> *"Even the whole world is not worth even one word of the Torah."*
>
> — JERUSALEM TALMUD, PEAH 1:1

Not all of Torah. One word of it.

"It is more precious than pearls, and all your desires cannot compare to it" (Proverbs 3:15). Not one of the desires, but above all of them.

§4 THE GATE OF THE TREASURE

What remains

> שֶׁבְּשָׁעַת פְּטִירָתוֹ שֶׁל אָדָם אֵין מְלַוִּין לוֹ לָאָדָם לֹא כֶסֶף וְלֹא זָהָב וְלֹא אֲבָנִים טוֹבוֹת וּמַרְגָּלִיּוֹת, אֶלָּא תוֹרָה וּמַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים בִּלְבַד
>
> *"For at the hour of a person's passing, neither silver nor gold nor precious stones and pearls go with him, but only Torah and good deeds."*
>
> — AVOT 6:9

Rabbi Yosi ben Kisma turned down a huge fortune: "I live only in a place of Torah."

Because this is what remains. Everything else is left behind.

IN SHORT

Torah is the hidden treasure, the vessel the world was created with. Whoever holds on to it, God dwells with him. The whole world is not worth one word of it, and it is what stays with a person forever.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

The most precious thing He has, and He chose to give it to us.

· THIRD GATE ·

The Gate of the Chain

IT NEVER FELL · FROM SINAI UNTIL TODAY · IT HAS NO PRICE · GUARDIANS, NOT OWNERS · A CROWN FOR EVERYONE



Empires rose and fell. Torah went through exile, expulsion and destruction, and did not move. From teacher to student, from father to son, without a break, until today.

יָבֵשׁ חָצִיר נָבֵל צִיץ וּדְבַר־אֱלֹקֵינוּ יָקוּם לְעוֹלָם

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

— ISAIAH 40:8

THIRD GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of the Chain, in the holy tongue and in today's language

---

Chain CHAIN

"Moshe received the Torah from Sinai and handed it to Yehoshua." Link after link.

Transfer HANDOFF

Every generation receives, and hands it on to the next.

Guarding CUSTODY

We guard it. We are not its owners.

Open access OPEN ACCESS

The crown is waiting for everyone. Whoever wants, comes and takes.

§1 THE GATE OF THE CHAIN

From Sinai

> מֹשֶׁה קִבֵּל תּוֹרָה מִסִּינַי, וּמְסָרָהּ לִיהוֹשֻׁעַ, וִיהוֹשֻׁעַ לִזְקֵנִים, וּזְקֵנִים לִנְבִיאִים, וּנְבִיאִים מְסָרוּהָ לְאַנְשֵׁי כְנֶסֶת הַגְּדוֹלָה
>
> *"Moshe received the Torah from Sinai and handed it to Yehoshua, and Yehoshua to the elders, and the elders to the prophets, and the prophets handed it to the men of the Great Assembly."*
>
> — AVOT 1:1

Every link holds the one before it and the one after it.

And you are a link. What you received, you pass on.

§2 THE GATE OF THE CHAIN

A Heritage

> תּוֹרָה צִוָּה־לָנוּ מֹשֶׁה מוֹרָשָׁה קְהִלַּת יַעֲקֹב
>
> *"Moshe commanded us the Torah, a heritage of the congregation of Yaakov."*
>
> — DEUTERONOMY 33:4

A heritage, not a private inheritance. It belongs to the whole community.

Every generation guards it for the generation after.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of the Chain



"Moshe received the Torah from Sinai and handed it to Yehoshua"

Link after link, without a break, until today. What you received, you pass on

The chain from Sinai until today, and one link is yours

§3 THE GATE OF THE CHAIN

It Has No Price

> לֹא־יִתַּן סְגוֹר תַּחְתֶּיהָ וְלֹא יִשָּׁקֵל כֶּסֶף מְחִירָהּ
>
> *"Gold cannot be given in exchange for it, and silver cannot be weighed as its price."*
>
> — JOB 28:15

You cannot buy it. You can only receive it, and guard it.

And whoever receives it becomes free: "No one is free except one who is busy with Torah study" (Avot 6:2).

§4 THE GATE OF THE CHAIN

A Crown for Everyone

> כֶּתֶר תּוֹרָה הֲרֵי מֻנָּח וְעוֹמֵד וּמוּכָן לְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל
>
> *"The crown of Torah lies waiting, standing ready for all of Israel."*
>
> — RAMBAM, LAWS OF TORAH STUDY 3:1

The crown of priesthood was given to Aharon, and the crown of kingship to David. The crown of Torah is waiting for everyone.

You do not need a pedigree. Just come and take it.

IN SHORT

Torah never fell. It passes from generation to generation in one chain, it has no price, we guard it, and its crown is waiting for everyone.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

Everything passes. Torah stays.

· FOURTH GATE ·

The Gate of the Letters

TWENTY-TWO LETTERS · TEN UTTERANCES · ISHA FROM ISH · LETTERS THAT GIVE LIFE · A WORD THAT BUILDS



The world was not built by hand. It was created by speech, in the letters of the holy tongue. Every letter is a vessel of light.

> עשרים ושתים אותיות, חקקן, חצבן, שקלן והמירן, צרפן, וצר בהם נפש כל היצור
>
> *"Twenty-two letters: He engraved them, carved them, weighed them, exchanged them, combined them, and with them He formed the soul of all creation."*
>
> — SEFER YETZIRAH 2:2

FOURTH GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of the Letters, in the holy tongue and in today's language

Letters CHARACTERS

Twenty-two building blocks, and everything is built from them.

Command COMMAND

"And God said, let there be light," and there was light. One word, and something stands up.

Name IDENTIFIER

In the holy tongue a name is not a label. It is what the thing is.

Power POWER

The letters give the thing life every moment. Without them it goes back to nothing.

§1 THE GATE OF THE LETTERS

Ten Utterances

בַּעֲשָׂרָה מַאֲמָרוֹת נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם

"With ten utterances the world was created."

— AVOT 5:1

The world was created by speech. Not by force, not by matter. By words.

And so with us too, a good word builds a world.

§2 THE GATE OF THE LETTERS

Isha from Ish

כְּשֵׁם שֶׁנִּתְּנָה תּוֹרָה בְּלָשׁוֹן הַקֹּדֶשׁ כָּךְ נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם בְּלָשׁוֹן הַקֹּדֶשׁ

"Just as the Torah was given in the holy tongue, so the world was created in the holy tongue."

— BERESHIT RABBAH 18:4

"She shall be called isha, woman, for she was taken from ish, man." Only in Hebrew do the words connect this way.

The Sages learn from here: the world was created in the holy tongue.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of the Letters



Twenty-two letters · Ten utterances · One world

Twenty-two letters, and everything is built from them

§3 THE GATE OF THE LETTERS

The Letters Give Life

> תֵּיבוֹת וְאוֹתִיּוֹת אֵלּוּ, הֵן נִצָּבוֹת וְעוֹמְדוֹת לְעוֹלָם בְּתוֹךְ רְקִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם, וּמְלוּבָּשׁוֹת בְּתוֹךְ כָּל הָרְקִיעִים לְעוֹלָם לְהַחֲיוֹתָם
>
> *"These words and letters stand forever within the firmament of heaven, clothed within all the firmaments forever, to give them life."*
>
> — TANYA, SHAAR HAYICHUD VEHAEMUNAH I

"Let there be a firmament": these words stand inside the firmament and give it life, every moment.

Like a screen that stays lit only as long as there is power. If the letters left for a moment, everything would go back to nothing.

§4 THE GATE OF THE LETTERS

A Word That Builds

> מָוֶת וְחַיִּים בְּיַד־לָשׁוֹן
>
> *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue."*
>
> — PROVERBS 18:21

When we speak, we use the same tools the world was created with.

Good speech builds. Bad speech tears down. So it is worth choosing every word.

IN SHORT

The world was created with ten utterances, in the twenty-two letters of the holy tongue. The letters stand inside things and give them life, and whoever speaks uses the same tools.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

Every letter is a vessel of light.

· FIFTH GATE ·

The Gate of Your Screen

SEVENTY FACES · HAMMER AND SPARKS · YOUR LETTER · IN HUMAN LANGUAGE · NEAR TO YOU



The same website opens on a phone, a tablet and a computer, and adjusts to every screen. So is Torah: one Torah, and each person sees it on their own screen, in their own color.

> כִּי־קָרוֹב אֵלֶיךָ הַדָּבָר מְאֹד בְּפִיךָ וּבִלְבָבְךָ לַעֲשֹׂתוֹ
>
> *"For the thing is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to do it."*
>
> — DEUTERONOMY 30:14

FIFTH GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of Your Screen, in the holy tongue and in today's language

---

Responsive RESPONSIVE

The same Torah, and each person sees it according to their screen.

Pixel PIXEL

Every soul has one letter. Without your letter, the picture is not complete.

Interface INTERFACE

"The Torah speaks in human language." The Infinite speaks in our language.

Available LOCAL

You do not need to go up to heaven. It is already here, with you.

§1 THE GATE OF YOUR SCREEN

Seventy Faces

כְּשֵׁם שֶׁיַּיִן חֶשְׁבּוֹנוֹ שִׁבְעִים, כָּךְ יֵשׁ שִׁבְעִים פָּנִים בַּתּוֹרָה

"Just as the numerical value of yayin, wine, is seventy, so there are seventy faces to the Torah."

— BAMIDBAR RABBAH 13:16

The same verse, many lights.

And each of them is true, for the one it was meant for.

§2 THE GATE OF YOUR SCREEN

Hammer and Sparks

מָה פַּטִּישׁ זֶה מִתְחַלֵּק לְכַמָּה נִיצוֹצוֹת, אַף מִקְרָא אֶחָד יוֹצֵא לְכַמָּה טְעָמִים

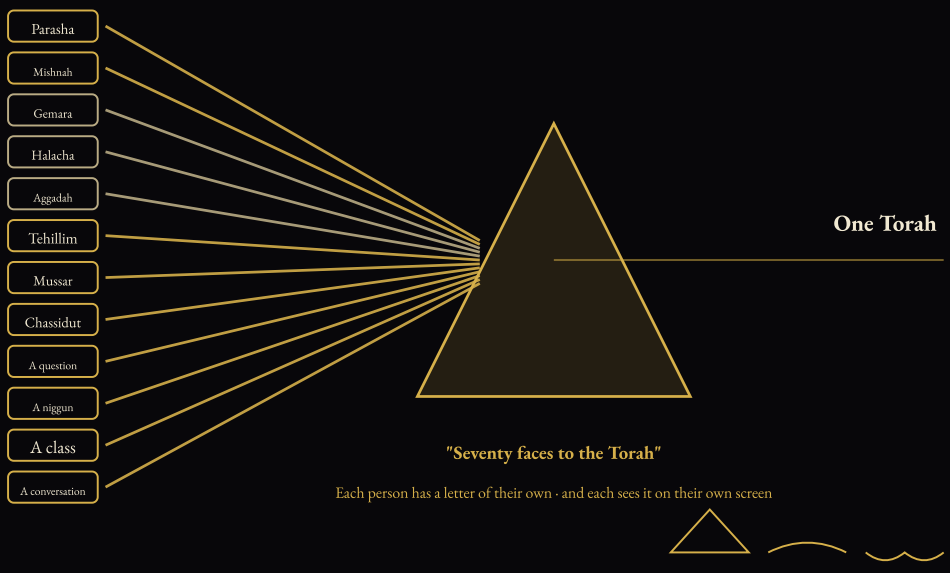
"Just as a hammer splits into many sparks, so one verse goes out into many meanings."

— SANHEDRIN 34A

One blow, and a thousand sparks.

Every spark lights the way for someone else.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of Your Screen



One Torah, and each person receives it in their own color

§3 THE GATE OF YOUR SCREEN

Your Letter

כי לכל אחד מישראל יש לנשמה שלו אות אחת מס' רבוא אותיות התורה

"For every one of Israel, his soul has one letter of the six hundred thousand letters of the Torah."

— MEGALEH AMUKOT, VA'ETCHANAN, OFAN 186

A Torah scroll missing one letter is not kosher. So is the people of Israel without one of its members.

A screen is made of pixels. If one goes out, you see a hole in the picture. Your letter is missing if you are not there.

§4 THE GATE OF YOUR SCREEN

In Human Language

> דִּבְּרָה תוֹרָה כִּלְשׁוֹן בְּנֵי אָדָם
>
> *"The Torah speaks in human language."*
>
> — BAVA METZIA 31B

White light passes through your lens and becomes your color, like sunlight through stained glass.

Every Shabbat we ask, "Give us our portion in Your Torah." Not all of the Torah. Our portion.

IN SHORT

Torah has seventy faces, and from every verse sparks fly in every direction. Every soul has one letter in it, and it speaks to each person in their own language.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

One Torah. Seventy faces. One of them is yours.

· SIXTH GATE ·

The Gate of Water

WATER MEANS TORAH · TO THE LOW PLACE · THE FIG TREE · THE FISH AND THE FOX · THE REMEDY



Without water there is no life. And water flows down, to the low place. So is Torah: it reaches whoever opens up to it, not whoever thinks he already knows.

הוֹי כָּל־צָמֵא לְכוּ לַמָּיִם

> *"Ho, all who are thirsty, come to the water."*
>
> — ISAIAH 55:1

SIXTH GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of Water, in the holy tongue and in today's language

Flow FLOW

Water flows from high to low. So does Torah, to the humble.

Refresh REFRESH

Like pulling down the screen to refresh: every time there is something new.

Environment ENVIRONMENT

A fish lives in water. We live in Torah.

Cleaning CLEANUP

"I created Torah as its remedy." Torah cleans the pipe.

§1 THE GATE OF WATER

To the Low Place

מָה מַּיִם מַנִּיחִין מָקוֹם גָּבוֹהַּ וְהוֹלְכִין לְמָקוֹם נָמוּךְ, אַף דִּבְרֵי תוֹרָה אֵין מִתְקַיְּימִין אֶלָּא בְּמִי שֶׁמַּדְעָתוֹ שְׁפָלָה

"Just as water leaves a high place and flows to a low place, so words of Torah last only with one who is humble."

— TAANIT 7A

Whoever is full of himself has no room left.

Whoever opens up, Torah flows to him.

§2 THE GATE OF WATER

Three Days

אֵין מַּיִם אֶלָּא תּוֹרָה

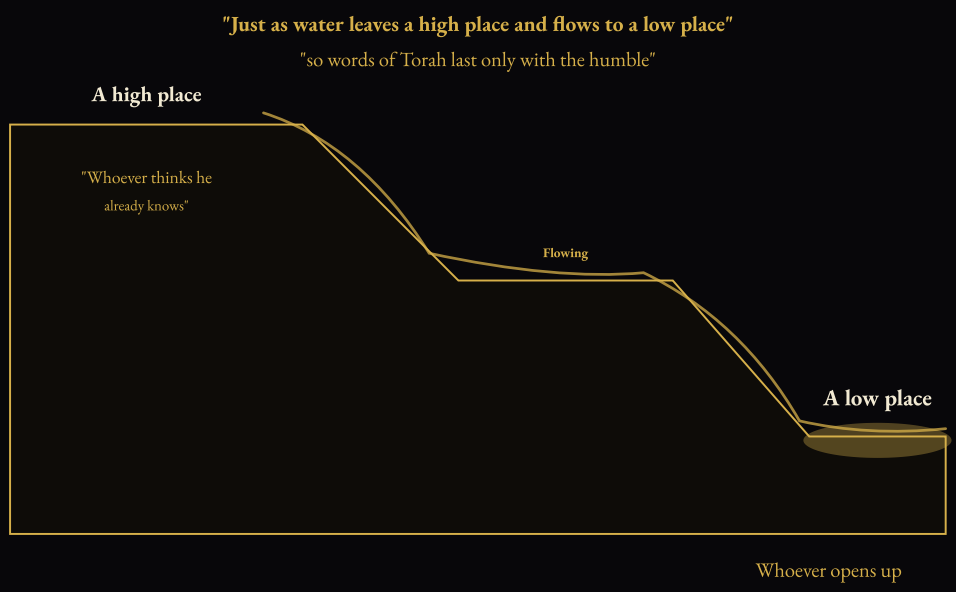
"Water means nothing other than Torah."

— BAVA KAMMA 82A

That is why the Sages set the Torah reading for Shabbat, Monday and Thursday.

So that three days never pass without water.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of Water



Water flows from high to low, and Torah to whoever opens up

§3 THE GATE OF WATER

The Fig Tree

> מָה תְּאֵנָה זוֹכָל זְמַן שֶׁאָדָם מְמַשְׁמֵשׁ בָּהּ — מוֹצֵא בָּהּ תְּאֵנִים. אַף דִּבְרֵי תוֹרָה, כָּל זְמַן שֶׁאָדָם הוֹגֶה בָּהֶן — מוֹצֵא בָּהֶן טַעַם
>
> *"Just as with this fig tree, whenever a person touches it he finds figs, so with words of Torah: whenever a person studies them, he finds flavor in them."*
>
> — ERUVIN 54A–B

There is always more.

Like refreshing the screen: every time, something new.

§4 THE GATE OF WATER

The Remedy

> בָּרָאתִי יֵצֶר הָרָע וּבָרָאתִי לוֹ תּוֹרָה תַּבְלִין
>
> *"I created the evil inclination, and I created Torah as its remedy."*
>
> — KIDDUSHIN 30B

"If this scoundrel meets you, drag him to the study hall. If he is a stone, he will melt." When something gets stuck in the pipe, Torah dissolves it.

And Rabbi Akiva said: like the fish who answered the fox, at least in the water we live. "For it is your life and the length of your days" (Berakhot 61b).

IN SHORT

Torah is water: without it there is no life, it flows down to the humble, every time you find a new taste in it, and it cleans the pipe.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

Like fish in water: in Torah we live.

· SEVENTH GATE ·

The Gate of Will

HIS WISDOM AND HIS WILL · A WONDROUS UNITY · THREE THAT ARE BOUND · MAKE YOUR TORAH FIXED · A CHANCE, NOT A PUNISHMENT



When your phone syncs with the cloud, the same data is in both places. When a person learns, his mind is clothed in God's wisdom. And it does not stop at the mind. From there you rise to the will.

> דְּאוֹרַיְיתָא, הִיא חָכְמָתוֹ וּרְצוֹנוֹ שֶׁל הַקָּדוֹשׁ־בָּרוּךְ־הוּא
>
> *"For the Torah is the wisdom and the will of the Holy One, blessed be He."*
>
> — TANYA, LIKKUTEI AMARIM 4

SEVENTH GATE · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of The Gate of Will, in the holy tongue and in today's language

---

Sync SYNC

My mind and His wisdom, the same content in both places.

Floors LEVELS

Information, understanding, will. Floor after floor.

Connection LINK

"The Holy One, the Torah and Israel." Torah is the thread.

Fixed DAILY

Not a lot, but every day. The line stays open.

§1 THE GATE OF WILL

A Wondrous Unity

> וְהוּא יִחוּד נִפְלָא שֶׁאֵין יִחוּד כָּמוֹהוּ וְלֹא כְּעֶרְכּוֹ נִמְצָא כְּלָל בְּנַשְׁמִיּוּת
>
> *"And this is a wondrous unity, like which there is no unity, and nothing comparable to it is found at all in the physical world."*
>
> — TANYA, LIKKUTEI AMARIM 5

Whoever learns does not only learn about God. His mind grasps God's wisdom, and it grasps him.

This is a full sync. The same content, in both places.

§2 THE GATE OF WILL

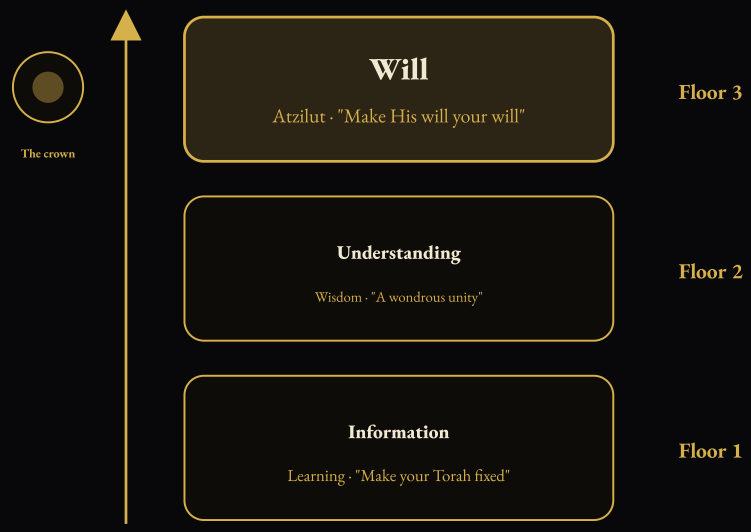
Three That Are Bound

> תְּלַת דַּרְגִּין אִינּוּן מִתְקַשְּׁרָן דָּא בְּדָא, קוּדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא, אוֹרַיְיתָא, וְיִשְׂרָאֵל
>
> *"There are three levels bound to one another: the Holy One, blessed be He, the Torah, and Israel."*
>
> — ZOHAR, ACHAREI MOT 73A

Torah is the thread that connects God and Israel.

Whoever holds the thread is connected on both ends.

♦ A drawing for §2 · The Gate of Will



One gold line runs through every floor: from learning, through wisdom, to the will

Three floors: information, understanding, will. One gold line runs through all of them

§3 THE GATE OF WILL

A Chance

רָצָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְזַכּוֹת אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְפִיכָךְ הִרְבָּה לָהֶם תּוֹרָה וּמִצְוֹת

"The Holy One, blessed be He, wanted to give merit to Israel; therefore He gave them much Torah and many mitzvot."

— MAKKOT 23B

Every mitzvah is another point of connection. Another chance to gain.

Not a punishment and not a burden. A way to clean the pipe and keep a clean line.

§4 THE GATE OF WILL

Fixed Time

עֲשֵׂה תוֹרָתְךָ קֶבַע

"Make your Torah fixed."

— AVOT 1:15

Not a lot, but every day. Ten fixed minutes are worth more than two hours once a month.

The more you learn, the cleaner the signal. And from there you rise to the will: not only to know what He wants, but to want it ourselves.

IN SHORT

Torah is God's wisdom and will. Whoever learns becomes one with that wisdom, is bound in one thread with God and with Israel, and from there rises to the will. And the way is simple: fixed, every day.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

Whoever connects to the wisdom rises to the will.

· CLOSING CHAPTER ·

How We Connect to Atzilut

THE WORLD OF WILL · ONE BOOK IN FOUR CHAPTERS · THE PLAN · THE PLACE · THE TIME · THE CLEAN PIPE



This book was about Torah. But Torah is not a book on its own. It is the first chapter of one great book with four chapters. Atzilut is the world that is right up against the Source. It is the world of will. Whoever connects to His will is connected to Atzilut.

> עֲשֵׂה רְצוֹנוֹ כִּרְצוֹנֶךָ, כְּדֵי שֶׁיַּעֲשֶׂה רְצוֹנְךָ כִּרְצוֹנוֹ
>
> *"Make His will your will, so that He will make your will His will."*
>
> — AVOT 2:4

CLOSING CHAPTER · GLOSSARY

Glossary of the Gate

The ideas of How We Connect to Atzilut, in the holy tongue and in today's language

---

The plan BLUEPRINT

Torah. The blueprint the world was built by.

The place LOCATION

The Land of Israel. The point God's eyes are always on.

The time TIME SLOT

Shabbat. The day the whole world rests and receives.

The Clean Pipe CLEAN LINE

Teshuva. What keeps the line open, so that everything can flow.

§1 HOW WE CONNECT TO ATZILUT

The World of Will

> עֲשֵׂה רְצוֹנוֹ כִּרְצוֹנְךָ, כְּדֵי שֶׁיַּעֲשֶׂה רְצוֹנְךָ כִּרְצוֹנוֹ. בַּטֵּל רְצוֹנְךָ מִפְּנֵי רְצוֹנוֹ
>
> *"Make His will your will, so that He will make your will His will. Set aside your will before His will."*
>
> — AVOT 2:4

Above wisdom and the mind there is will. That is where everything begins. Whoever wants what He wants is already there.

This is Atzilut: not more knowledge, but one will. My will and His will, on one line.

§2 HOW WE CONNECT TO ATZILUT

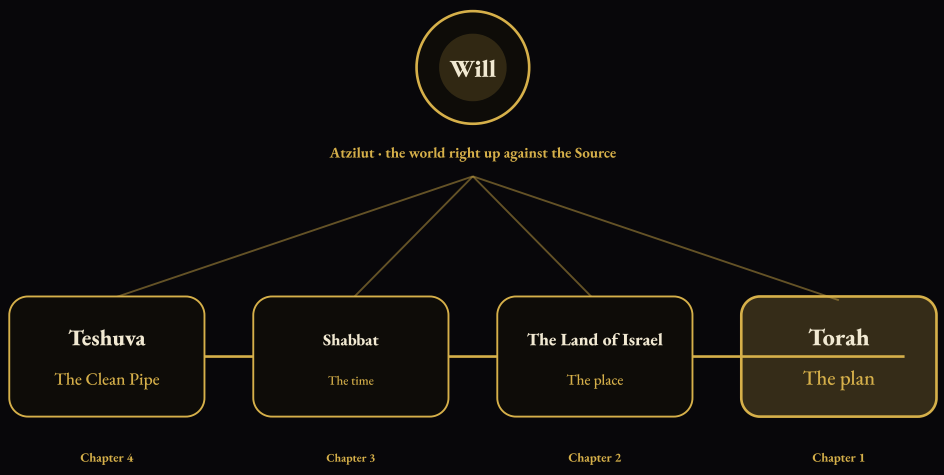
Three Gifts

> שָׁלֹשׁ מַתָּנוֹת טוֹבוֹת נָתַן הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְיִשְׂרָאֵל, וְכֻלָּן לֹא נִתָּנָן אֶלָּא עַל יְדֵי יִסּוּרִין. אֵלּוּ הֵן: תּוֹרָה, וְאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהָעוֹלָם הַבָּא
>
> *"The Holy One, blessed be He, gave Israel three good gifts, and He gave all of them only through suffering. They are: Torah, the Land of Israel, and the World to Come."*
>
> — BERAKHOT 5A

The Sages list the gifts in order: first Torah, then the Land of Israel, and then the World to Come.

Torah is the plan. The Land of Israel is the place where the plan is built. And what waits at the end is the World to Come.

♦ A drawing for §2 · How We Connect to Atzilut



One book in four chapters: Torah, the Land of Israel, Shabbat, teshuva, and from all of them one line to the will

§3 HOW WE CONNECT TO ATZILUT

One Sixtieth

שַׁבָּת, אֶחָד מִשִּׁשִּׁים לָעוֹלָם הַבָּא

"Shabbat is one sixtieth of the World to Come."

— BERAKHOT 57B

You can taste the World to Come already now, once a week. Shabbat is the taste.

That is why Shabbat stands in third place: it is the time when the World to Come enters our week.

§4 HOW WE CONNECT TO ATZILUT

The Clean Pipe

> גְּדוֹלָה תְּשׁוּבָה שֶׁמַּגַּעַת עַד כִּסֵּא הַכָּבוֹד, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר: שׁוּבָה יִשְׂרָאֵל עַד ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ
>
> *"Great is teshuva, for it reaches the Throne of Glory, as it says: Return, Israel, to the Lord your God."*
>
> — YOMA 86A

And what connects it all? All three gifts are given "through suffering," and of suffering it says there: "they scour away all of a person's sins." Scouring is cleaning.

That is teshuva. Not a punishment, a cleaning. It is the clean pipe that runs through all the chapters, and it reaches all the way to the Throne of Glory, to the Source.

IN SHORT

Torah is the plan, the Land of Israel is the place, Shabbat is the time, and teshuva is the clean pipe. Four chapters in one book, and all of them rise to the will.

THE GATE IN ONE LINE

Whoever wants what He wants is already in Atzilut.

CLOSING

My Torah

How each person receives Torah in their own color

Torah is one for everyone. And still each person touches it in their own way. Here are some of those ways, each with its source.

Who	How they touch Torah	Source
Someone with little time	Sets a fixed time, even a short one, and keeps it every day.	Avot 1:15
Someone who works all day	The Shema in the morning and at night, and he has already kept "it shall not depart."	Menachot 99b
Someone who supports those who learn	Holds up the tree and becomes a partner. "It is a tree of life to those who hold it."	Proverbs 3:18
A parent	"Teach them to your children." One sentence at the table.	Deuteronomy 6:7
Someone on the road	"When you walk on the way." A class in your earbuds, a verse in your heart.	Deuteronomy 6:7
On Shabbat	The free time of the week. Rabbi Berechya says: "Shabbatot and festivals were given only to be busy in them with words of Torah."	Jerusalem Talmud, Shabbat 15:3
Someone who loves questions	"Turn it and turn it, for everything is in it."	Avot 5:22
Someone who honors	Stands up before a Torah scroll and before a Torah scholar. "Whoever honors the Torah is himself honored by people."	Avot 4:6
Someone who speaks	Chooses every word. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue."	Proverbs 18:21
Someone in the Land of Israel	"There is no Torah like the Torah of the Land of Israel."	Bereshit Rabbah 16:4
Someone who fell	Comes back. "Bring us back, our Father, to Your Torah."	The Amidah prayer

CLOSING

The Book in One Line

Torah is the plan the world was created from, the hidden treasure that God placed in our hands. It never fell. It is written in letters that give life to everything, and every person has a letter in it. It flows down like water to whoever opens up, and whoever learns rises with it to the will. It is the first chapter of one book in four chapters.

CLOSING

Afterword

Torah is not a book you read once and put back on the shelf. It is living water, and every time you come back to it there is a new taste in it.

"Turn it and turn it, for everything is in it" (Avot 5:22). There is no question in life that has no place in the Torah.

And anyone can begin today. One verse, one mishnah, ten minutes. Your letter is waiting for you.

"For the thing is very near to you." It is already here.

APPENDIX

The Sources in Full

Every source quoted in the book, in its own words, in the order of the gates

---

The Gate of the Plan

The Architect (Bereshit Rabbah 1:1)

מֶלֶךְ בָּשָׂר וָדָם בּוֹנֶה פָּלָטִין, אֵינוֹ בוֹנֶה אוֹתָהּ מִדַּעַת עַצְמוֹ אֶלָּא מִדַּעַת אָמָּן, וְהָאָמָּן אֵינוֹ בוֹנֶה אוֹתָהּ מִדַּעַת עַצְמוֹ אֶלָּא דְּפִתְרָאוֹת וּפִנְקָסָאוֹת יֵשׁ לוֹ

"A king of flesh and blood who builds a palace does not build it from his own mind, but from the mind of an architect. And the architect does not build it from his own mind either: he has plans and notebooks."

Before the World (Pesachim 54a)

שִׁבְעָה דְּבָרִים נִבְרְאוּ קוֹדֶם שֶׁנִּבְרָא הָעוֹלָם, וְאֵלּוּ הֵן: תּוֹרָה, וּתְשׁוּבָה

"Seven things were created before the world was created, and these are they: Torah, and teshuva."

The Condition (Shabbat 88a)

שֶׁהִתְנָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא עִם מַעֲשֵׂה בְרֵאשִׁית וְאָמַר לָהֶם: אִם יִשְׂרָאֵל מְקַבְּלִים הַתּוֹרָה — אַתֶּם מִתְקַיְּימִין, וְאִם לָאו — אֲנִי מַחֲזִיר אֶתְכֶם לְתוֹהוּ וָבוֹהוּ

"The Holy One, blessed be He, made a condition with the works of creation and said to them: if Israel accepts the Torah, you will endure; and if not, I will return you to chaos and void."

Day and Night (Jeremiah 33:25)

אִם־לֹא בְרִיתִי יוֹמָם וָלָיְלָה חֻקּוֹת שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ לֹא־שָׂמְתִּי

"If not for My covenant day and night, I would not have set the laws of heaven and earth."

The Gate of the Treasure

A Precious Vessel (Avot 3:14)

חֲבִיבִין יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁנִּתַּן לָהֶם כְּלִי חֶמְדָּה. חִבָּה יְתֵרָה נוֹדַעַת לָהֶם שֶׁנִּתַּן לָהֶם כְּלִי חֶמְדָּה שֶׁבּוֹ נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם

"Beloved are Israel, for they were given a precious vessel. An extra love was made known to them, that they were given the precious vessel with which the world was created."

I Was Sold with It (Shemot Rabbah 33:1)

מָכַרְתִּי לָכֶם תּוֹרָתִי. כְּבֶיכוֹל נִמְכַּרְתִּי עִמָּהּ

"I sold you My Torah, and, as it were, I was sold along with it."

The Whole World (Jerusalem Talmud, Peah 1:1)

אֲפִילּוּ כָּל הָעוֹלָם כּוּלּוֹ אֵינוֹ שָׁוֶה אֲפִילּוּ לְדָבָר אֶחָד מִן הַתּוֹרָה

"Even the whole world is not worth even one word of the Torah."

What remains (Avot 6:9)

שֶׁבְּשָׁעַת פְּטִירָתוֹ שֶׁל אָדָם אֵין מְלַוִּין לוֹ לָאָדָם לֹא כֶסֶף וְלֹא זָהָב וְלֹא אֲבָנִים טוֹבוֹת וּמַרְגָּלִיּוֹת, אֶלָּא תּוֹרָה וּמַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים בִּלְבַד

"For at the hour of a person's passing, neither silver nor gold nor precious stones and pearls go with him, but only Torah and good deeds."

The Gate of the Chain

From Sinai (Avot 1:1)

מֹשֶׁה קִבֵּל תּוֹרָה מִסִּינַי, וּמְסָרָהּ לִיהוֹשֻׁעַ, וִיהוֹשֻׁעַ לִזְקֵנִים, וּזְקֵנִים לִנְבִיאִים, וּנְבִיאִים מְסָרוּהָ לְאַנְשֵׁי כְנֶסֶת הַגְּדוֹלָה

"Moshe received the Torah from Sinai and handed it to Yehoshua, and Yehoshua to the elders, and the elders to the prophets, and the prophets handed it to the men of the Great Assembly."

A Heritage (Deuteronomy 33:4)

תּוֹרָה צִוָּה־לָנוּ מֹשֶׁה מוֹרָשָׁה קְהִלַּת יַעֲקֹב

"Moshe commanded us the Torah, a heritage of the congregation of Yaakov."

It Has No Price (Job 28:15)

לֹא־יִתַּן סְגוֹר תַּחְתֶּיהָ וְלֹא יִשָּׁקֵל כֶּסֶף מְחִירָהּ

"Gold cannot be given in exchange for it, and silver cannot be weighed as its price."

A Crown for Everyone (Rambam, Laws of Torah Study 3:1)

כֶּתֶר תּוֹרָה הֻרֵי מֻנָּח וְעוֹמֵד וּמוּכָן לְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל

"The crown of Torah lies waiting, standing ready for all of Israel."

The Gate of the Letters

Ten Utterances (Avot 5:1)

בַּעֲשָׂרָה מַאֲמָרוֹת נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם

"With ten utterances the world was created."

Isha from Ish (Bereshit Rabbah 18:4)

כְּשֵׁם שֶׁנִּתְּנָה תּוֹרָה בִּלְשׁוֹן הַקֹּדֶשׁ כָּךְ נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם בִּלְשׁוֹן הַקֹּדֶשׁ

"Just as the Torah was given in the holy tongue, so the world was created in the holy tongue."

The Letters Give Life (Tanya, Shaar HaYichud VehaEmunah 1)

תֵּיבוֹת וְאוֹתִיּוֹת אֵלּוּ, הֵן נִצָּבוֹת וְעוֹמְדוֹת לְעוֹלָם בְּתוֹךְ רְקִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם, וּמְלוּבָּשׁוֹת בְּתוֹךְ כָּל הָרְקִיעִים לְעוֹלָם לְהַחֲיוֹתָם

"These words and letters stand forever within the firmament of heaven, clothed within all the firmaments forever, to give them life."

A Word That Builds (Proverbs 18:21)

מָוֶת וְחַיִּים בְּיַד־לָשׁוֹן

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue."

The Gate of Your Screen

Seventy Faces (Bamidbar Rabbah 13:16)

כְּשֵׁם שֶׁיַּיִן חֶשְׁבּוֹנוֹ שִׁבְעִים, כָּךְ יֵשׁ שִׁבְעִים פָּנִים בַּתּוֹרָה

"Just as the numerical value of yayin, wine, is seventy, so there are seventy faces to the Torah."

Hammer and Sparks (Sanhedrin 34a)

מָה פַּטִּישׁ זֶה מִתְחַלֵּק לְכַמָּה נִיצוֹצוֹת, אַף מִקְרָא אֶחָד יוֹצֵא לְכַמָּה טְעָמִים

"Just as a hammer splits into many sparks, so one verse goes out into many meanings."

Your Letter (Megaleh Amukot, Va'etchanan, Ofan 186)

כי לכל אחד מישראל יש לנשמה שלו אות אחת מס' רבוא אותיות התורה

"For every one of Israel, his soul has one letter of the six hundred thousand letters of the Torah."

In Human Language (Bava Metzia 31b)

דִּבְּרָה תּוֹרָה כִּלְשׁוֹן בְּנֵי אָדָם

"The Torah speaks in human language."

The Gate of Water

To the Low Place (Taanit 7a)

מָה מַּיִם מַנִּיחִין מָקוֹם גָּבוֹהַּ וְהוֹלְכִין לְמָקוֹם נָמוּךְ, אַף דִּבְרֵי תוֹרָה אֵין מִתְקַיְּימִין אֶלָּא בְּמִי שֶׁמַּדְעָתוֹ שְׁפָלָה

"Just as water leaves a high place and flows to a low place, so words of Torah last only with one who is humble."

Three Days (Bava Kamma 82a)

אֵין מַּיִם אֶלָּא תּוֹרָה

"Water means nothing other than Torah."

The Fig Tree (Eruvin 54a–b)

מָה תְּאֵנָה זוֹכָל זְמַן שֶׁאָדָם מְמַשְׁמֵשׁ בָּהּ — מוֹצֵא בָּהּ תְּאֵנִים. אַף דִּבְרֵי תוֹרָה, כָּל זְמַן שֶׁאָדָם הוֹגֶה בָּהֶן — מוֹצֵא בָּהֶן טַעַם

"Just as with this fig tree, whenever a person touches it he finds figs, so with words of Torah: whenever a person studies them, he finds flavor in them."

The Remedy (Kiddushin 30b)

בָּרָאתִי יֵצֶר הָרָע וּבָרָאתִי לוֹ תּוֹרָה תַּבְלִין

"I created the evil inclination, and I created Torah as its remedy."

The Gate of Will

A Wondrous Unity (Tanya, Likkutei Amarim 5)

וְהוּא יִחוּד נִפְלָא שֶׁאֵין יִחוּד כָּמוֹהוּ וְלֹא כְּעֶרְכּוֹ נִמְצָא כְּלָל בְּגַשְׁמִיּוּת

"And this is a wondrous unity, like which there is no unity, and nothing comparable to it is found at all in the physical world."

Three That Are Bound (Zohar, Acharei Mot 73a)

תְּלַת דַּרְגִּין אִינּוּן מִתְקַשְּׁרָן דָּא בְּדָא, קוּדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא, אוֹרַיְיתָא, וְיִשְׂרָאֵל

"There are three levels bound to one another: the Holy One, blessed be He, the Torah, and Israel."

A Chance (Makkot 23b)

רָצָה הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְזַכּוֹת אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְפִיכָךְ הִרְבָּה לָהֶם תּוֹרָה וּמִצְוֹת

"The Holy One, blessed be He, wanted to give merit to Israel; therefore He gave them much Torah and many mitzvot."

Fixed Time (Avot 1:15)

עֲשֵׂה תּוֹרָתְךָ קֶבַע

"Make your Torah fixed."

How We Connect to Atzilut

The World of Will (Avot 2:4)

עֲשֵׂה רְצוֹנוֹ כִּרְצוֹנְךָ, כְּדֵי שֶׁיַּעֲשֶׂה רְצוֹנְךָ כִּרְצוֹנוֹ. בַּטֵּל רְצוֹנְךָ מִפְּנֵי רְצוֹנוֹ

"Make His will your will, so that He will make your will His will. Set aside your will before His will."

Three Gifts (Berakhot 5a)

שְׁלֹשׁ מַתָּנוֹת טוֹבוֹת נָתַן הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא לְיִשְׂרָאֵל, וְכֻלָּן לֹא נָתַנָן אֶלָּא עַל יְדֵי יִסּוּרִין. אֵלּוּ הֵן: תּוֹרָה, וְאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְהָעוֹלָם הַבָּא

"The Holy One, blessed be He, gave Israel three good gifts, and He gave all of them only through suffering. They are: Torah, the Land of Israel, and the World to Come."

One Sixtieth (Berakhot 57b)

שַׁבָּת, אֶחָד מִשִּׁשִּׁים לְעוֹלָם הַבָּא

"Shabbat is one sixtieth of the World to Come."

The Clean Pipe (Yoma 86a)

גְּדוֹלָה תְּשׁוּבָה שֶׁמַּגַּעַת עַד כִּסֵּא הַכָּבוֹד, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר: שׁוּבָה יִשְׂרָאֵל עַד ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ

"Great is teshuva, for it reaches the Throne of Glory, as it says: Return, Israel, to the Lord your God."

SOURCES

Sources

References for the quotations in the book

Bereshit Rabbah 1:1
Pesachim 54a
Shabbat 88a
Jeremiah 33:25
Avot 3:14
Shemot Rabbah 33:1
Jerusalem Talmud, Peah 1:1
Avot 6:9
Avot 1:1
Deuteronomy 33:4
Job 28:15
Rambam, Laws of Torah Study 3:1
Avot 5:1
Bereshit Rabbah 18:4
Tanya, Shaar HaYichud
VehaEmunah 1
Proverbs 18:21
Bamidbar Rabbah 13:16
Sanhedrin 34a
Megaleh Amukot, Va'etchanan,
Ofan 186
Bava Metzia 31b
Taanit 7a
Bava Kamma 82a
Eruvin 54a–b
Kiddushin 30b
Tanya, Likkutei Amarim 5
Zohar, Acharei Mot 73a
Makkot 23b
Avot 1:15
Avot 2:4
Berakhot 5a
Berakhot 57b
Yoma 86a
Shabbat 88b
Isaiah 40:8
Sefer Yetzirah 2:2
Deuteronomy 30:14
Isaiah 55:1
Tanya, Likkutei Amarim 4
Menachot 99b
Proverbs 3:18
Deuteronomy 6:7
Jerusalem Talmud, Shabbat 15:3
Avot 5:22
Avot 4:6
Bereshit Rabbah 16:4
The Amidah prayer
Proverbs 3:15
Avot 6:2
Berakhot 61b