

From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 08 Jan 2015 10:00

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I am a middle aged person, highly talented, but leider unaccomplished. I seem to have some strengths but not the strength and the resolve to do what it takes to use my talents to be what I can be. I have had lot's of tzaros in my life which have gotten the better of me and eventually removed me from my learning and my general Ruchnius success. I was not omed benisoyon. I am ashamed of myself. On the outside I still seem like a basically Choshever person but nobody knows what I really am. When I was a Bochur and a young yungerman, everybody was sure I would turn out to be one of the Gedolim. That hasn't happened(yet). I would never tell anyone of my worst failings, but this failing of me not succeeding to fulfill my potential is known. I guess people may have long ago forgotten what was supposed to become of me but looking at me now they see nothing but an empty wasted soul. I haven't forgotten the original plan and somewhere deep down I still hope Hashem will give me back my neshama. My Boosha is maybe a good thing in a way because it keeps things from getting more out of hand. But it makes it impossible for me to get the support and encouragement that might help me do what I should. Maybe I could get the support here. I am middle aged but my mind knows that it isn't too late. I need my heart to know it too.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 19 Aug 2015 23:10

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Ok folks, this is my thread after all, no gaayva intended

**Warning: Spoiler!**

. So my 2 cents is in order here in this Brisker lomdus to make a shpalt between religion and spirituality which I think is not bechlal being maishiv keinyan. I repeat my hisnatzlus that I don't know the 12 steps. But duch... (my spell checker isn't working and I'm not sure if it shouldn't be spelled dukh) Or maybe I should

just write duch/dukh.

**Warning: Spoiler!**

Let me quote someone bepseudonym omro, in order to bring the geula.

[Hashivalisesonyishecho wrote:](#)

[jack wrote:](#)

which leg of a 3-legged stool is the most important?

1 - being honest

2 - humility/surrendering to a Higher Power

3 - group support

That's a great way of referring to it - a 3-legged stool. So you answered your own question. The 3-legged stool is completely dependant on each of the legs. If any of the legs is missing the stool won't stand. But each leg has a different function one holds from the right one from the left and one adjacent to the center(of the other 2). so...

1 - Being honest is the necessary mindset to facilitate the other 2 legs.

2 - Humility and surrender which includes kabalas ol malchus shomayim & ol Torah umuitzvos(the will of the higher power) is the actual job that you are doing.

3 - group support(or at least some other person/people) is the tool with which to work (leg 2) and to keep honest (leg 1)

So the point is: Yes the 12 steps are religious, but when Dov says that Torah alone won't do the trick, he means Torah as it is applied by the Torah addict. The 12 step program is the antidote to addiction. It contains religious application in the context of the 12 step approach to recovery.

Capisch?

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Re: From tragedy to redemption  
Posted by jack - 20 Aug 2015 15:13

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eh, not sure.anyway, shlomoy above called me his good friend - that i capisch!

and sorry for using your thread.you mochel me? it's just you have a really great thread going here-

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 20 Aug 2015 17:24

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[jack wrote:](#)

eh, not sure.anyway, shlomoy above called me his good friend - that i capisch!

and sorry for using your thread.you mochel me? it's just you have a really great thread going here-

Please keep using the thread. I would have a hard time being mochel you if you didn't. It's only a great thread because of people like you.

Are you and Shloimy an exclusive click or can I also consider you a good friend? I do anyway.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 20 Aug 2015 17:29

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if everyone is gonna be jack's friend then at least they should know his niggun

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by jack - 20 Aug 2015 17:49

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u guys are too much.i thought no-one knew about that nигun anymore- that was in the good old days when i was beginning recovery.i did 6 1/2 months straight after that now-famous phone call. it was 38 years of up-down,up-down.i am far past those days - but i am still not perfect.i used to take my car during lunch and take a little, shall we say, detour, on my way to eat.haven't been in those places in years.i'm glad you guys pulled me back in - because i was in isolation for a couple years - no good for the likes of me.i had 2 threads - 1st time my story & jack-veiter.

'bout 4 years ago, i had a relapse - because of gaavah, plain & simple.i thought i was the king, then boom!

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 20 Aug 2015 23:36

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What do you mean in saying that that's Jack's nigun?

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by newlife - 21 Aug 2015 04:47

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I just read the first six pages of this thread and WOW!! do I relate to this idea of not becoming what I thought and was expected I would be.

On another note, I wish I can lust day and night without consequences and it kills me to know that I cannot. That being said, however, I am so happy that I am starting to work on this aggressively (or at least more aggressive than in the past) because I know that it means my life, job, family (in no specific order).

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by jack - 21 Aug 2015 12:46

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*What do you mean in saying that that's Jack's nigun?*

ok, i will answer that.way back, when there were only a few people on this forum, we started the 90 day thing based on something that a sex-addiction therapist said on a phone call run by my friend in the southern part of the YOUNited states.i was in on that phone call.when i heard that 90 days is a good start to battling addiction, i decided to go for it.i believe i was the first person on GYE to do the 90 days and beyond.our leader was so happy that i accomplished that feat,

that he put up a song in my honor.and that's also when the wall of honor was started.that 90 days was the most difficult period i ever went through voluntarily in my entire life.i had the help of my little (well, not so little - he's 6 ft tall!) friend in the south.he helped me over the hump - and it wasn't easy.my story is on the thread - 1st time my story (i dont know how to link to it).it was because of that experience that the 90 days thing became part of GYE.

that's how it was, 7 years ago (today).the only difference is, you are there!

jack

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by shlomoy - 21 Aug 2015 15:42

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Hashivalisesonyishecho Its good to know its your thread....but guess what it really is GYE and they do the copyright otherwise i wouldnt be able to post.....But dont worry your my Good

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by shlomoy - 21 Aug 2015 15:55

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[shlomoy wrote:](#)

Hashivalisesonyishecho Its good to know its your thread....but guess what it really is GYE and they do the copyright otherwise i wouldnt be able to post.....But dont worry your my Good

friend too.....maybe you should also have a nigun that we can call it on your name.....

but I thank you the Baal Haachsanya Hashiva.....and be Moichel if I said something wrong.

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 21 Aug 2015 20:26

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Hashem

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 21 Aug 2015 20:28

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[shlomoy wrote:](#)

[shlomoy wrote:](#)

Hashivalisesonyishecho Its good to know its your thread....but guess what it really is GYE

but I thank you the Baal Haachsanya Hashiva.....and be Moichel if I said something wrong.

That's exactly what I said...It's **MYYYY** thread!!! and it really is GYE-va. Like the Zaide Lavan said ??? ??? ??? ????

You said everything right. Sorry, I know it's Elul but I'm afraid you're gonna hafta find more real things to ask mechila about from people or Hashem

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by cordnoy - 23 Aug 2015 17:38

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From the days when Dov wrote in brief:

[Dov wrote:](#)

Woah, Neveragain - May I remind you of what Bill and Bob wrote near the end of their book: "This book is suggestive only...". My sponsor reminded me once that this is not a matter of faith, just experience. If something doesn't work for you, why would anyone want to keep it? Is AA or SA a religion? Last time I checked, the Program was **secular** (look up the word if you think [as I did] that it means "w/o G-d"). And thank G-d for that! I can have a roman catholic sponsor whose help saved my life and led me to caring about wearing rabeinu Tam's, learning with hislahavus before shacharis in the morning, building a heilige (sorry Reb b!) home with my wife, and learning how to be a true jewish father to my kids - and for the same reason, I am able to sponsor yidden who are frum, agnostics, frum but still totally sold on lust (oy?), evangelicals, and mormons, all the same way. And each person is precious to Hashem *right where he is*, and will grow into living the right way only *after they become **sober***.

So SA is not a religion, just a toolbox. The tools work for me so far. Why listen to the religio-program types at all? Just take what works and leave what doesn't behind you!

(fluff) Dov

PS. Indulge me here...OK so what *are* the lies in AA? And how did you determine what wasn't *working* for you vs you not working *it*? What do you mean when you say you tried it? Do you mean that you read it and tried carrying out what they suggest, or that it just seemed so stupid that in all honesty you just couldn't bear to go there at all? Being pretty sold on much of the program, I'd like to hear it clear from someone who has been there. I may not respond, but I'd like to learn, maybe trade notes. I'm OK with that, but not debating. Thanks. If you'd prefer to PM me, that's fine. Bye!

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Re: From tragedy to redemption

Posted by Hashivalisesonyishecho - 24 Aug 2015 04:56

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[newlife wrote:](#)

I just read the first six pages of this thread and WOW!! do I relate to this idea of not becoming what I thought and was expected I would be.

On another note, I wish I can lust day and night without consequences and it kills me to know that I cannot. That being said, however, I am so happy that I am starting to work on this aggressively (or at least more aggressive than in the past) because I know that it means my life, job, family (in no specific order).

Thankfully, through the insight of some chaverim here, I am moving my focus away from what I should 'become' and instead focusing on what I should 'do' each day and each moment on it's own. It is more wholesome. Doing good out of ambition to 'become' something isn't really doing the good for it's own value. So it doesn't really make me a good person, and it won't bring me to be the person I fantasized about 'becoming'. Doing the right thing one day at a time is really wanting to do the right thing for it's own sake. That eventually brings real growth too. When a person only wants to 'be' great but doesn't particularly care about doing the right thing for it's own sake, then he wishes he can lust day and night without consequences, because all he cares about are the consequences of 'being' or 'not being' this and that. But when a persons gets of his high horse of 'being great', and makes his focus to be about 'doing good', then he gets into the mode of not wanting to lust because it's not 'good'

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