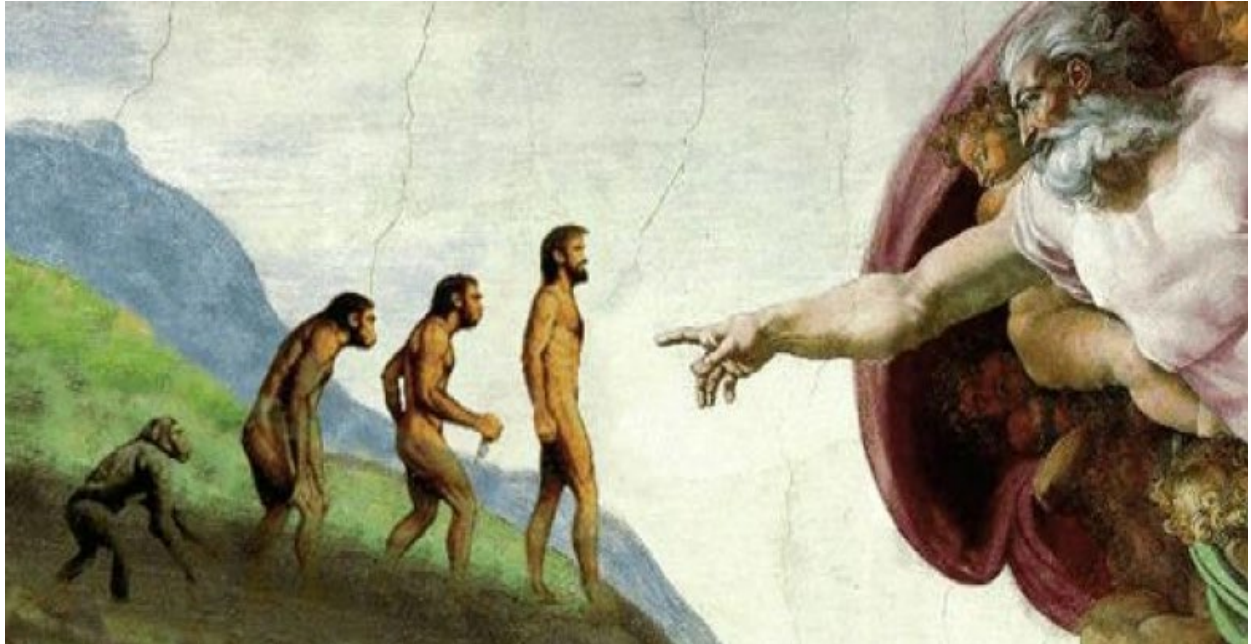


# What Hath God Wrought: <sup>בס"ד</sup> Scientific Progress in Jewish Thought



Tzvi Benoff  
LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

בעזה"ת

קונטרס

# מה פעל קל

מקורות ועיונים בהלכות חובבות הלבבות והאברים  
בענין התקדמות מדעית ועבודת ה' לאור התורה  
ודברי חכמיה מדורות האחרונים

מאת

צבי אריה בענאף

שנת תהא שנת פסיקת אנחה

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# Dedication

קונטרס זה מוקדש כזכות לרפואה שלמה לכל חולי ישראל ובמיוחד לחולי  
קרונה

יה"ר שבזכות לימוד התורה במקביל לתשובה ותפילה וצדקה הקב"ה יעביר את רוע  
הגזירה וישלח מהרה רפואה שלמה מן השמים רפואת הנפש ורפואת הגוף השתא  
העגלה ובזמן קריב

וגם תעמוד לציון לשם עולם לעילוי נשמת אלו שמתו במגפה זו

ת. נ. צ. ב. ה.

יה"ר שבעל הרחמים יסתירם בסתר כנפיו לעולמים ויצרור בצרור החיים את נשמתם  
ותנוחם על משכבם בשלום ויעמדו בקץ הימים אל חיק משפחותיהם

ועד היום ההוא יה"ר מלפני אבינו שבשמים שינחם ויחזיק משפחתם וכל עמו בכח  
ברוחניות ובגשמיות להמשיך לעבדו באהבה, ביראה, ובשמחה לקדש את שמו בעולם.  
וינחם אותם בתוך שאר ישראל בראיית נחמת ציון וירושלים בקרוב ממש ובקיום דברי  
הנביא (ישעיהו כה:ח) "בִּלְעַם הַמָּוֶת לְנֹצֵחַ וּמָחָה אֶדְנִי יְקוֹק דְּמָעָה מֵעַל כָּל פְּנִים וְחָרַפַּת  
עֲמוֹ יִסִּיר מֵעַל כָּל הָאָרֶץ כִּי יִקְוֶה דְבָר."

\*\*\*\*\*

This work is dedicated as a merit for the speedy recovery of all those  
that are ill and in loving memory of those who perished in the  
COVID-19 pandemic.

May God speedily fulfill the words of Isaiah (25:8) "[God] will  
destroy death forever, and the Lord God shall wipe the tears off  
every face, and the shame of His people He shall remove from upon  
the entire earth, for the Lord has spoken."

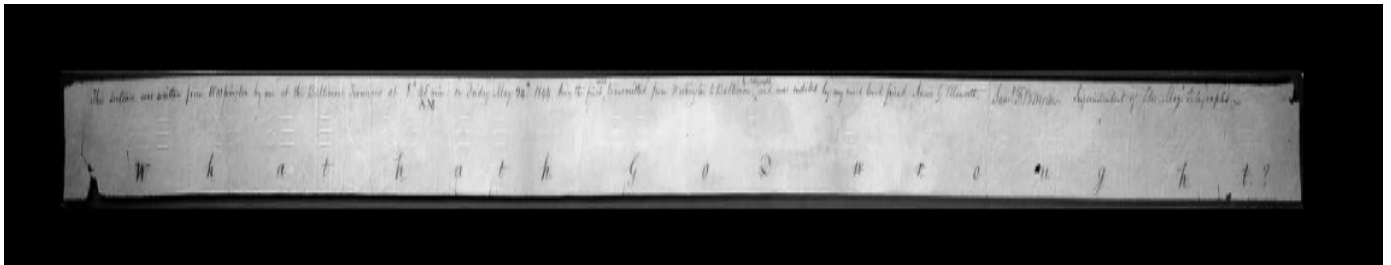
כִּי לֹא-נִחַשׁ בְּיַעֲקֹב וְלֹא-קָסַם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל כְּעֵת יֵאמָר לְיַעֲקֹב  
וּלְיִשְׂרָאֵל מִה-פָּעַל אֱלֹ: (במדבר כג, כג)

**For there is no divination in Jacob and no soothsaying in Israel.  
In time it will be said to Jacob and Israel, 'What has God  
wrought'? (Numbers 23:23)**

\* \* \* \* \*

*"[These words inaugurated and sanctified] the American Telegraph with the name of its author... No words could have been selected more expressive of the disposition of my own mind at that time, to ascribe all the honor to Him to whom it truly belongs."*

- Samuel F. B. Morse



*"עתידה בת קול להיות מפוצצת על ראשי ההרים, ואומרת, מה פעל אל, כל מי שפעל [עם אל] יבוא ויטול שכרו. ורוח הקדש אומרת, מי הקדימני ואשלם, מי קלס לפני עד שלא נתתי בו נשמה" (פסיקטא דרב כהנא ט)*

*In the future a heavenly voice will spread across the mountaintops saying "What hath God wrought? All who have worked with God should come and take their reward!" And the heavenly spirit says, "Who can precede me and I will pay them? Who can praise me before I have given them a soul?"*

- Pesikta DeRav Kahana



## I - The Mandate of Scientific Progress

### 1. Pirkei Avos 3:14 – פרקי אבות ג:יד

הוא היה אומר, חביב אדם שנברא בצלם. חבה תתרה נודעת לו שנברא בצלם, שנאמר (בראשית ט) כי בצלם אלהים עשה את האדם. חביבין ישראל שנקראו בנים למקום. חבה תתרה נודעת להם שנקראו בנים למקום, שנאמר (דברים יד) בנים אתם לה' אלהיכם. חביבין ישראל שנתן להם כלי חמדה. חבה תתרה נודעת להם שנתן להם כלי חמדה שבו נברא העולם, שנאמר (משלי ד) כי לקח טוב נתתי לכם, תורתני אל תעזבו :



Rabbi Yisrael Lifschitz (1782-1860)  
Altona

**He used to say: Beloved is man for he was created in the**

**image [of God].** Especially beloved is he for it was made known to him that he had been created in the image [of God], as it is said: “for in the image of God He made man”

(Genesis 9:6). Beloved are Israel in that they were called children to Hashem. Especially beloved are they for it was made known to them that they are called children of the Hashem, as it is said: “your are children to Hashem your God” (Deuteronomy 14:1). Beloved are Israel in that a precious vessel was given to them. Especially beloved are they for it was made known to them that the desirable instrument, with which the world had been created, was given to them, as it is said: “for I give you good instruction; forsake not my Torah” (Proverbs 4:2).

### 2. Tiferes Yisrael: Yachin on Pirkei Avos 3 - תפארת ישראל: יכין מסכת אבות פרק ג

(פח) חביב אדם. נ"ל דהאדם גרסינן דהיינו אפילו עכו"ם [כתוס' יבמות, דס"א א, א'], דהרי מדסיים בסיפא חביבין ישראל ש"מ דרישא בכל מין האדם מיירי, ור"ל אפילו בעכו"ם, וכן הראיה דמייתי תנא מקרא דעשה את האדם, הרי בעכו"ם נמי מיירי, דלבני נח נאמר [וכמ"ש התו"ט], וגם מלך עי והחמשה מלכים שתלה יהושע, הורידם קודם הערב, ש"מ שגם לעכו"ם יש צלם אלהים (א)

**It appears to me that the correct version is “the [species] man” which comes to include gentiles.**

For since the statement concludes “Beloved are Israel,” it implies that we are speaking about the entire human species including gentiles. Another proof to this idea is that the Tanna brings

[support] for this from the verse “made man” which also refers to gentiles. [Indeed,] regarding descendants of Noach it says, “and also the King of Ai and the five kings which Yehoshua slew were brought down before evening.” We learn from here that even gentiles have *tzelem elokim*.

### 3. Tiferes Yisrael: Boaz on Pirkei Avos 3 - ג - תפארת ישראל: בועז מסכת אבות פרק ג

(א) אמר המפרש ואגב דאתא לידן, נימא בה מלתא שמצוה לפרסמו...  
ואנחנו רואים כמה מחסידיהן שמלבד שמכירין יוצר בראשית,  
ומאמינין בתה"ק שהיא אלהית, ועושין ג"ח גם לישראל, וכמה מהן  
שהיטיבו ביותר לכל באי עולם, כהחסיד יענער שהמציא  
האפאקקענאימפפונג, שעל ידה ניצולים כמה רבבות בני אדם מחולי  
וממיתה וממומין, ודראקא שהביא הקארטאפפעל לאיראפא, שמעכב  
כמה פעמים הרעב. וגוטענבערג שהמציא את הדפוס. וכמה מהן שלא  
נשתלמו כלל בעה"ז...



*"I am not surprised that men are not grateful to me; but I wonder that they are not grateful to God for the good which He has made me the instrument of conveying to my fellow creatures."*

- Dr. Edward Jenner (1749-1823)

And once we have reached this topic, I will say something that must be publicized... **We have seen many righteous**

**gentiles that aside from the fact that they recognize the Creator of the World (Hashem) and believe in the divinity of the Torah, they are kind to the Jews and many have done so much good for all of humanity like the pious [Edward]**

**Jenner who invented the smallpox vaccine which saved tens**

**of thousands of people from sickness, death, and deformities.** [Similarly, Sir Francis] Drake who

brought the potato to Europe that prevented many famines and [Johannes] Guttenberg who

invented the printing press. And many of these have not been rewarded in this world...

### 4. בראשית א - Genesis 1

26 And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness, and they shall rule over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the heaven and over the animals and over all the earth and over all the creeping things that creep upon the earth."

כו וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים נַעֲשֶׂה אָדָם  
בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כְּדְמוּתֵנוּ וְיִרְדּוּ בְדִגְתַּת הַיָּם  
וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבַבְּהֵמָה וּבְכָל  
הָאָרֶץ וּבְכָל הַרֹמֵשׁ הָרֹמֵשׁ עַל  
הָאָרֶץ

<p>27 And God created man in His image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.</p>	<p>כז וַיְבְרָא אֱלֹהִים   אֶת־הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּעֵלֶם אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם</p>
<p>28 And God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and rule over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the sky and over all the beasts that tread upon the earth."</p>	<p>כח וַיְבָרֵךְ אֹתָם אֱלֹהִים וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם אֱלֹהִים פְּרוּ וּרְבוּ וּמְלאוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ וּכְבֹּשׂוּהָ וּרְדוּ בְדַגַּת הַיָּם וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבְכָל־חַיַּה הַרְמֵשֶׁת עַל־הָאָרֶץ:</p>
<p>29 And God said, "Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing herb, which is upon the surface of the entire earth, and every tree that has seed bearing fruit; it will be yours for food.</p>	<p>כט וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים הִנֵּה נָתַתִּי לָכֶם אֶת־כָּל־עֵשֶׂב   זֶרַע זֶרַע אֲשֶׁר־עַל־ פְּנֵי כָל־הָאָרֶץ וְאֶת־כָּל־הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר־בּוֹ פְּרִיעַץ זֶרַע זֶרַע לָכֶם יִהְיֶה לְאֹכְלָה:</p>

## 5. Rashi Genesis 2:5 – ה – רש"י בראשית ב, ה

כי לא המטיר. ומ"ט לא המטיר? לפי שאדם אין לעבד את האדמה, ואין מכיר בטובתם של גשמים, וכשבא אדם וידע שהם צריך לעולם, התפלל עליהם וירדו וצמחו האילנות והדשאים :

**Because God had not brought rain** — And what is the reason that God had not caused it to rain?

“because there was no man to till the ground” and there was, therefore, no one to recognize the good (utility) of rain. When Adam came (was created), however, and he realized that it was necessary for the world, he prayed for it and it fell, so that trees and verdure sprang forth.

## 6. Genesis 2 – ב – בראשית ב – 2

<p>5 Now no tree of the field was yet on the earth, neither did any herb of the field yet grow, because the Lord God had not brought rain upon the earth, and there was no man to work the soil.</p>	<p>ה וְכֹל   שֵׁיחַ הַשָּׂדֶה טָרָם יִהְיֶה בָאָרֶץ וְכֹל־ עֵשֶׂב הַשָּׂדֶה טָרָם יִצְמַח כִּי לֹא הִמְטִיר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים עַל־הָאָרֶץ וְאָדָם אֵין לְעַבֵּד אֶת־הָאֲדָמָה:</p>
<p>6 And a mist ascended from the earth and watered the entire surface of the ground.</p>	<p>ו וַאֲדָ יַעֲלֶה מִן־הָאָרֶץ וְהִשְׁקָה אֶת־כָּל־פְּנֵי הָאֲדָמָה:</p>



<b>7</b> And the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and He breathed into his nostrils the soul of life, and man became a living soul.	<b>ז</b> וַיִּצְרֶה יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאָדָם עֹפָר מִן־הָאֲדָמָה וַיִּפַּח בְּאַפָּיו נִשְׁמַת חַיִּים וַיְהִי הָאָדָם לְנֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה:
<b>8</b> And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden from the east, and He placed there the man whom He had formed.	<b>ח</b> וַיֹּטֵעַ יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים גֶּן־עֵדֵן מִקְדָּם וַיִּשֶׂם שָׁם אֶת־הָאָדָם אֲשֶׁר יָצָר:
<b>15</b> Now the Lord God took the man, and He placed him in the Garden of Eden to work it and to guard it.	<b>טו</b> וַיִּקַּח יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאָדָם וַיִּנְתְּהוּ בְּגִדְעֵדֵן לְעִבְדָּהּ וּלְשֹׁמְרָהּ:
<b>16</b> And the Lord God commanded man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat.	<b>טז</b> וַיֹּצִו יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים עַל־הָאָדָם לֵאמֹר מִכָּל עֵץ־הַגֶּן אָכַל תֹּאכַל:
<b>17</b> But of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat of it, for on the day that you eat thereof, you shall surely die."	<b>יז</b> וּמֵעֵץ הַדַּעַת טוֹב וָרָע לֹא תֹאכַל מִמֶּנּוּ כִּי בַיּוֹם אֲכָלְךָ מִמֶּנּוּ מוֹת תָּמוּת:
<b>18</b> And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man is alone; I shall make him a helpmate opposite him."	<b>יח</b> וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים לֹא־טוֹב הֵיטֵת הָאָדָם לְבָדּוֹ אֶעֱשֶׂה־לּוֹ עֵזֶר כְּגֹדְדוֹ:
<b>22</b> And the Lord God built the side that He had taken from man into a woman, and He brought her to man.	<b>כב</b> וַיִּבֶן יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הַצֶּלַע אֲשֶׁר־לָקַח מִן־הָאָדָם לְאִשָּׁה וַיְבִאֶהָ אֶל־הָאָדָם:
<b>23</b> And man said, "This time, it is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one shall be called <i>ishah</i> (woman) because this one was taken from <i>ish</i> (man)."	<b>כג</b> וַיֹּאמֶר הָאָדָם זֹאת הַפֶּעַם עֲצָם מֵעֲצָמִי וּבָשָׂר מִבָּשָׂרִי לְזֹאת יִקְרָא אִשָּׁה כִּי מֵאִישׁ לָקַחְתִּי־זֹאת:

## 7. Yad Hamelech: Foundations of Torah 4 - פרק ד

ובזוהר פרשת בראשית נאמר ויפח באפיו נשמת חיים מאן דנפח מתוכו נפח.

The Zohar in Parshas Breishis says "And He blew into his nostrils" – One who exhales, exhales from one's essence.

## 8. Aderes Eliyahu Genesis 2:15 – טו, ב, טו

לעבדה הוא עבודת האדמה וההשקאה והשמירה שלא יעלה בה פריץ חיות. וכן חלקי המצוות הם שנים עשה ול"ת. עשה הם בגדר העבודה. ול"ת בגדר השמירה



“To work” refers to working the ground and irrigating it. “To guard it” refers to guarding it to prevent animals breaking in and destroying it. So too are the *mitzvos* divided into two groups – positive and negative. Positive commandments constitute the “work” and negative commandments constitute the “guarding.”

## 9. Yevamos 63a – יבמות סג.

וא"ר אלעזר מאי דכתיב זאת הפעם עצם מעצמי ובשר מבשרי מלמד שבא אדם על כל בהמה וחיה ולא נתקררה דעתו עד שבא על חוה

“Why does it say This is the time, bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh’? It teaches that Adam was intimate with every animal, but his mind was not at ease until he was intimate with Eve

## 10. Rashi Genesis 1:27 – רש"י בראשית א, כז

זכר ונקבה ברא אותם. ולהלן הוא אומר ויקח אחת מצלעתיו וגו' מד"ש אגדה שבראו שני פרצופים בבריאה ראשונה, ואחר כך חלקו.

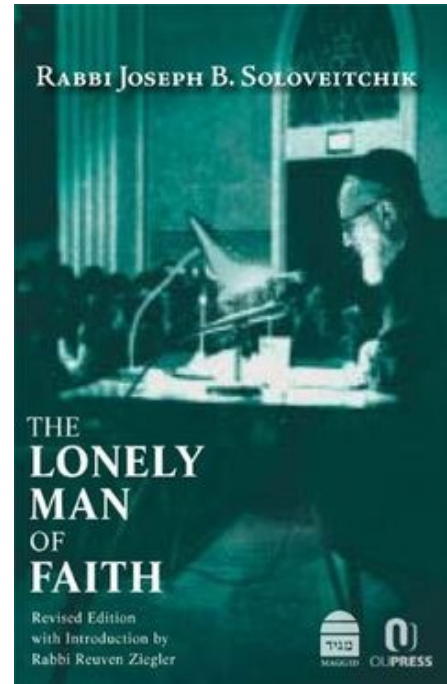
“Male and Female He created them.” But later the Torah says “And He took one of [Adam’s] ribs?” There is a midrash that He initially created Adam with two faces and subsequently divided them.

Differences	Genesis 1	Genesis 2
Name of God	אלקים	הויה אלקים
Creation	Image of God	Soul
Charge/Eating	Rule	Custodial/mitzvos
Creation of Eve	Together	Separate and later met

## **11. *The Lonely Man of Faith* Chapter 1 (excerpts)**

There is no doubt that the term "image of God" in the first account refers to man's inner charismatic endowment as a creative being. Man's likeness to God expresses itself in man's striving and ability to become a creator...

God, in imparting the blessing to Adam the First and giving him the man-date to subdue nature, directed Adam's attention to the functional and practical aspects of his intellect through which man is able to gain control of nature...Adam the First is overwhelmed by one quest, namely, to harness and dominate the elemental natural forces and to put them at his disposal...



What is Adam the first out to achieve? What is the objective toward which he incessantly drives himself with enormous speed? The objective, it is self-evident, can be only one, namely, that which God put up before him: to be "man," to be himself. Man is an honorable being. In other words, man is a dignified being and to be human means to live with dignity... "Thou hast made him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands. Thou hast put all things under his feet." In other words, dignity was equated by the Psalmist with man's capability of dominating his environment and exercising control over it. Man acquires dignity through glory, through his majestic posture vis-a-vis his environment.

Hence, dignity is unobtainable as long as man has not reclaimed himself from coexistence with nature and has not risen from a non-reflective, degradingly helpless instinctive life to an intelligent, planned, and majestic one...Life in bondage to insensate elemental forces is... an undignified affair.

**Man of old who could not fight disease and succumbed in multitudes to yellow fever or any other plague with degrading helplessness could not lay claim to dignity. Only the man who builds hospitals, discovers therapeutic techniques, and saves lives is blessed with dignity... Civilized man has gained limited control of nature and has become, in certain respects, her master, and with his mastery he has attained dignity as well.**

Hence, Adam the First is aggressive, bold, and victory-minded. His motto is success, triumph over the cosmic forces. He engages in creative work, trying to imitate his Maker (imitatio Dei)...

**In doing all this, Adam the First is trying to carry out the mandate entrusted to him by his Maker** who, at dawn of the sixth mysterious day of creation, addressed Himself to man and summoned him to "fill the earth and subdue it." **It is God who decreed that the story of Adam the first be the great saga of freedom of man-slave who gradually transforms himself into man-master.** While pursuing this goal, driven by an urge which he cannot but obey, Adam the first transcends the limits of the reason-able and probable and ventures into the open spaces of a boundless universe. **Even this longing for vastness, no matter how adventurous and fantastic, is legitimate. Man reaching for the distant stars is acting in harmony with his nature which was created, willed, and directed by his Maker. It is a manifestation of obedience to rather than rebellion against God.**

*"For this is what America is all about. It is the uncrossed desert and the unclimbed ridge. It is the star that is not reached and the harvest sleeping in the unplowed ground. Is our world gone? We say "Farewell." Is a new world coming? We welcome it--and we will bend it to the hopes of man."*

- Lyndon B. Johnson  
1965 Inaugural Address

## II – The Spiritual Cost of Scientific Progress

### 12. Lonely Man of Faith Ch. 1-2 (excerpts)

**Modern science has emerged victorious from its encounter with nature because it has sacrificed qualitative-metaphysical speculation for the sake of a functional duplication of reality ...** [Adam 1] is not fascinated by the question, "Why does the cosmos function at all? nor is he interested in the question, ""What is its essence?" He is only curious to know how it works... nurtured by the selfish desire on the part of Adam to better his own position in relation to his environment...

**He [Adam 2] looks for the image of God not in the mathematical formula or the natural relational law but in every beam of light, in every bud and blossom, in the morning breeze and the stillness of a starlit evening. In a word, Adam the second explores not the scientific abstract universe but the irresistibly fascinating**

**qualitative world where he establishes an intimate relation with God...** Adam the second lives in close union with God. His existential "I" experience is interwoven in the awareness of communing with the Great Self whose footprints he discovers along the many tortuous paths of creation.



### 13. Sanhedrin 102b – סנהדרין קב:

<p>Rav Ashi ended [his lecture] just before reaching [the topic] of the three kings. He said to his students: Tomorrow we will begin with our 'colleagues' [the three kings]</p>	<p>רב אשי אוקי אשלשה מלכים אמר למחר נפתח בחברין</p>
<p>Manasseh came and appeared to him in his dream. [He] said to him: You called us your colleague and the colleagues of your father? [How dare you characterize yourself as our equal?] [I will ask you], from where are you</p>	<p>אתא מנשה איתחזי ליה בחלמיה אמר חברך וחברי דאבוך קרית לן מהיכא בעית למישרא המוציא</p>

<p>required to begin cutting a loaf of bread [when reciting the blessing]: Who brings forth bread from the earth? Rav Ashi said to him: I do not know. Manasseh said to him: Even this, from where you are required to begin cutting a loaf of bread when reciting the blessing: Who brings forth bread from the earth, you did not learn, and yet you call us your colleague? Rav Ashi said to Manasseh: Teach me this halakha and tomorrow I will lecture and cite it in your name during my lecture. Manasseh said to him: One cuts the loaf from where it crusts as a result of baking.</p>	<p>אמר ליה לא ידענא א"ל מהיכא דבעית למישרא המוציא לא גמירת וחברך קרית לן א"ל אגמריה לי ולמחר דרישנא ליה משמך בפירקא א"ל מהיכא דקרים בישולא</p>
<p><b><u>Rav Ashi said to [King Menasseh in a dream]: Since you were so wise, what is the reason you engaged in idol worship? [Manasseh] said to him: Had you been there [at that time], you would have lifted the hem of your cloak and run after me [due to the fierce desire to engage in idol worship].</u></b> The next day Rav Ashi said to the Sages as a prelude to his lecture: We will begin with the treatment of our teachers, [those kings who were greater than us in Torah knowledge].</p>	<p>א"ל מאחר דחכימתו כולי האי מאי טעמא קא פלחיתו לעבודת כוכבים? א"ל אי הות התם הות נקיטנא בשיפולי גלימא ורהטת אבתראי. למחר אמר להו לרבנן נפתח ברבוותא</p>

#### 14. Seder Olam Rabbah Ch. 30 – סדר עולם רבה פרק ל

<p>“The horned ram, that is the king of Greece; the mighty horn that is between his eyes, that is the first king.” (Dan. 8:21) “A valiant king will arise ... and when he arises, his kingdom will be broken and separated in the four directions of the sky.” (Dan. 11:3-4) <b><u>That is Alexander the Macedonian who ruled for 12 years. Until that time there were prophets prophesying by the Holy Spirit; from there on (Prov. 22:10) “bend your ear and listen to the words of the wise,”</u></b> ... And so it says (Deut. 32:7): “Ask your father and he will tell you, your elders and they will inform you.” I could think of old men from the market place, the verse says “they will inform you.” From this you learn that an elder is a man who has acquired wisdom.</p>	<p>הצפיר השעיר מלך יון וגו' הוא המלך הראשון (דניאל ח כא) ועמד מלך גבור וגו' וכעמדו תשבר וגו' (שם יא ג), <b>הוא</b> <b>אלכסנדרוס מקדון שמלך י"ב</b> <b>שנה, עד כאן היו הנביאים</b> <b>מתנבאים ברוח הקדש, מכאן</b> <b>ואילך, הט אזנך ושמע דברי</b> <b>חכמים</b> (משלי כב יז), ... וכן הוא אומר, שאל אביך ויגדך זקניך ויאמרו לך (דברים לב ז), יכול זקני השוק, תלמוד לומר ויאמרו לך, הא למדת שזקן זה שקנה חכמה,</p>
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## 15. Vilna Gaon's Commentary to Seder Olam – פירוש הגר"א שם

עד כאן היו הנביאים, פירוש משהרגו את היצר הרע בטלה הנבואה:

“Until then there were prophets” - When they slew the Evil Inclination, prophecy ceased.

## 16. Yoma 69b – יומא סט:

<p>“They cried with a loud voice to the Lord God (Nehemiah 9:4). What was said? Rav said, and some say it was Rabbi Yoḥanan said: Woe, woe. It is this, [the evil inclination for idol worship] that destroyed the Temple, and burned its Sanctuary, and murdered all the righteous ones, and caused the Jewish people to be exiled from their land. And it still dances among us, [it still affects us]. Didn't You gave it to us for solely for the purpose of receiving reward [for overcoming it]. We do not want it, and we do not want its reward.</p>	<p>ויצעקו אל ה' אלהים בקול גדול (נחמיה ט, ד) מאי אמור אמר רב ואיתימא ר' יוחנן בייא בייא היינו האי דאחרביה למקדשא וקליה להיכליה וקטלינהו לכולהו צדיקי ואגלינהו לישראל מארעהון ועדיין מרקד בין כלום יהבתי לן אלא לקבולי ביה אגרא לא איהו בעינן ולא אגריה בעינן</p>
<p>A note fell to them from the heavens upon which was written: Truth, [indicating that God accepted their request]. (Rav Ḥanina said: Learn from this that the seal of the Holy One, Blessed be He, is truth.)</p>	<p>נפל להו פיתקא מרקיעא דהוה כתב בה אמת. (אמר רב חנינא שמע מינה חותמו של הקב"ה אמת.)</p>
<p>They observed a fast for three days and three nights, and He delivered the evil inclination to them. A form of a fiery lion cub came forth from the chamber of the Holy of Holies. Zechariah the prophet said to the Jewish people: This is the evil inclination for idol worship, as it is stated in the verse that refers to this event: “And he said: This is the evil one” (Zechariah 5:8).</p>	<p>אותיבו בתעניתא תלתא יומין ותלתא לילואתא מסרוהו ניהליהו נפק אתא כי גוריא דנורא מבית קדשי הקדשים אמר להו נביא לישראל היינו יצרא דעבודת כוכבים שנאמר (זכריה ה, ח) ויאמר זאת הרשעה</p>
<p>When they caught hold of it one of its hairs fell, and it let out a shriek of pain that was heard for four hundred parasangs.</p>	<p>בהדי דתפסוה ליה אשתמיט ביניתא ממזייתא ורמא קלא ואזל קליה ארבע מאה פרסי אמרו</p>

<p>They said: What should we do [to kill it]? Perhaps, Heaven forbend, they will have mercy upon him from Heaven, [since it cries out so much]. The prophet said to them: Throw it into a container made of lead and seal the opening with lead, since lead absorbs sound. As it is stated: “And he said: This is the evil one. And he cast it down into the midst of the measure, and he cast a stone of lead upon its opening” (Zechariah 5:8). [They followed this advice and were freed of the evil inclination for idol worship.]</p>	<p>היכי נעביד דילמא חס ושלום מרחמי עליה מן שמיא אמר להו נביא שדיוהו בדודא דאברא וחפיוהו לפומיה באברא דאברא משאב שאיב קלא שנאמר (זכריה ה, ח) ויאמר זאת הרשעה וישלך אותה אל תוך האיפה וישלך את אבן העופרת אל פיה</p>
<p>The Sages said: Since it is an auspicious time, let us pray also concerning the evil inclination for sin in the area of sexual relationships. They prayed, and it was also delivered into their hands.</p>	<p>אמרו הואיל ועת רצון הוא נבעי רחמי איצרא דעבירה בעו רחמי ואמסר בידייהו</p>
<p>[Zechariah] said to them: See and understand that if you kill this [evil inclination], the world will be destroyed because [as a result there will no longer be any desire to procreate]. They followed his warning, and instead of killing it, they imprisoned it for three days. They searched for a fresh egg throughout all of Eretz Yisrael and could not find one.</p>	<p>אמר להו חזו דאי קטליתו ליה להוא כליא עלמא חבשוהו תלתא יומי ובעו ביעתא בת יומא בכל ארץ ישראל ולא אשתכח</p>
<p>They said: What should we do? If we kill it, the world will be destroyed. If we pray for half, i.e., that only half its power be annulled, nothing will be achieved because Heaven does not grant half gifts, only whole gifts. What did they do? They gouged out its eyes, effectively limiting its power, and set it free. And this was effective to the extent that a person is no longer aroused to commit incest with his close relatives</p>	<p>אמרי היכי נעביד נקטליה כליא עלמא ניבעי רחמי אפלגא פלגא ברקיעא לא יהבי כחלינהו לעיניה ושבוקהו ואהני דלא מיגרי ביה לאיניש בקריבתה</p>

### **17. B'reishis Rabbah 9:9 – ט, ט**

והנה טוב מאד זה יצר רע, וכי יצר הרע טוב מאד, אתמהא, אלא שאלולי יצר הרע לא בנה אדם בית ולא נשא אשה, ולא הוליד ולא נשא ונתן

“Very good” refers to the evil inclination. Is the evil inclination very good?! Rather, without the evil inclination, humanity would not build houses, marry, reproduce, or conduct business.



### 18. Michtav Me'Eliyahu Vol. 3 pg. 233 – מכתב

#### מאליהו חלק ג

We find in the words of Rabbi Tzadok Hakohen of Lublin that as long as the evil instinct of idolatry existed, there was prophecy to counterbalance it, and there were visible miracles in Israel. For “God created [forces] to oppose one another.” **For there is always a balance between the powers of holiness and impurity. And as long as there was prophecy in the world, by which sensory/visceral faith is attained, there were also visceral forces facilitating [the credibility] idolatry ... so that it free choice is preserved.** We also see that in the early days of the Second Temple **the desire for idolatry was destroyed, and conversely prophecy also ceased from the Jews.** And even though the need to eliminate the instinct of idolatry was so clear to them that they were willing to give up such high levels [of spirituality], they nevertheless did not fast until the note fell from heaven that had the word “truth” written on it.

ומצינו בדברי רבי צדוק הכהן ז"ל, שכל עוד שהיה קיים יצר הרע של עבודה זרה, היתה כנגדו הנבואה, והיו נסים גלויים בישראל, **כי זה לעומת זה עשה האלקים, שכן לעולם יש שיווי משקל בין כחות הקדושה והטומאה, וכל זמן שהיתה נבואה בעולם, שעל ידה משיגים אמונה חושית, היו לעומתה גם כחות טומאה מוחשים, שפעלו לצד העבודה זרה... וזה כדי שתשאר בחירה חפשית. וכן רואים אנו שבתחלת ימי בית השני בטל יצרא דעבודה זרה, ולעומתו פסקה גם הנבואה מישראל.** והנה אף שהצורך לביטול היצר של עבודה זרה היה ברור להם כל כך, עד שהיו מוכנים לוותר על מדרגות רמות כאלה, מכל מקום לא התענו עד שנפלה להם פיתקא מרקיעא דהוה כתיב בה אמת,



(L to R) Alexander the Great kneels before Shimon HaTzaddik; Alexander the Great listening to Aristotle

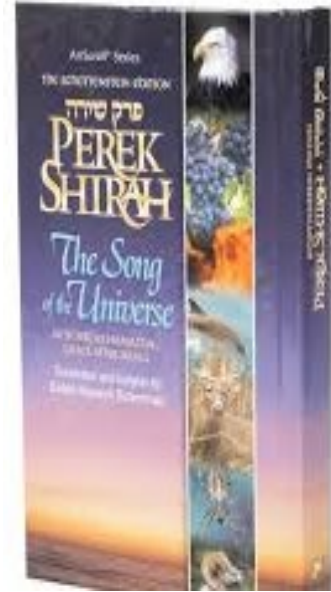
## 19. Speech of Angels: Addendum (R' Zadok) – שיחת מלאכי השרת: נוספות

**Aristotle who was the greatest of the sages of the nations of the world in secular wisdom was a contemporary of Shimon Hatzadik who was the greatest of the sages of the Truth – the sages of the Mishnah and Oral Law.** For God created opposing forces. All of the sages of the nations of the world before [Aristotle and Greek philosophers] had their wisdom rooted in the supernatural... and the sages of Greece began to establish the wisdom of science and study the nature of things, though they only attributed it to the laws nature. But the wisdom of the sages of the Jews is to recognize in wisdom that God oversees the world and “rides” upon angels who are the spiritual forces of nature. And the experience of prophecy, the vision of heaven opening up to them, facilitated a visceral knowledge of God and His glory filling the world. [This was lost by the advent of science and Oral Torah.]

אריסטו ראש לחכמי האומות בחכמות  
 חיצונית...היה גם כן בימי שמעון  
 הצדיק כידוע ראש חכמי אמת חכמי  
 המשנה ותורה שבעל פה. כי זה לעומת  
 זה עשה אלקים. וכל חכמי אומות  
 העולם שלפניו כל חכמתם בכשפים ...  
 וחכמי יון התחילו לייסד חכמת הטבע  
 ולהתבונן על טבע כל דבר רק שהם  
 ייחסו הכל לטבע. וחכמת חכמי ישראל  
 הוא להכיר בחכמה שבאמת השם  
 יתברך מנהיג הבריאה ורוכב על  
 המלאכים שהם רוחניות כוחות  
 הטבעים. וההכרה בנבואה היינו  
 במראה שנפתחו לפניו ארובות השמים  
 ועל ידי זה הוא ראייה ממשיית  
 מעצמות השם יתברך דממלא כל עלמין  
 ומלא כל הארץ כבודו:

**Hashem's the World (Avraham Fried 1986)**

You don't have to understand it  
Just feel it in the air  
See it in the old man's gentle smile  
We don't have to see Him, 'cause we all know that He's there  
I'll sing to you a while  
Hear it in the mountains' echo, in the oceans' roar  
See it in the rolling clouds above  
Even though it's all been said ten thousand times before  
We know- Hashem's the world, Hashem we love

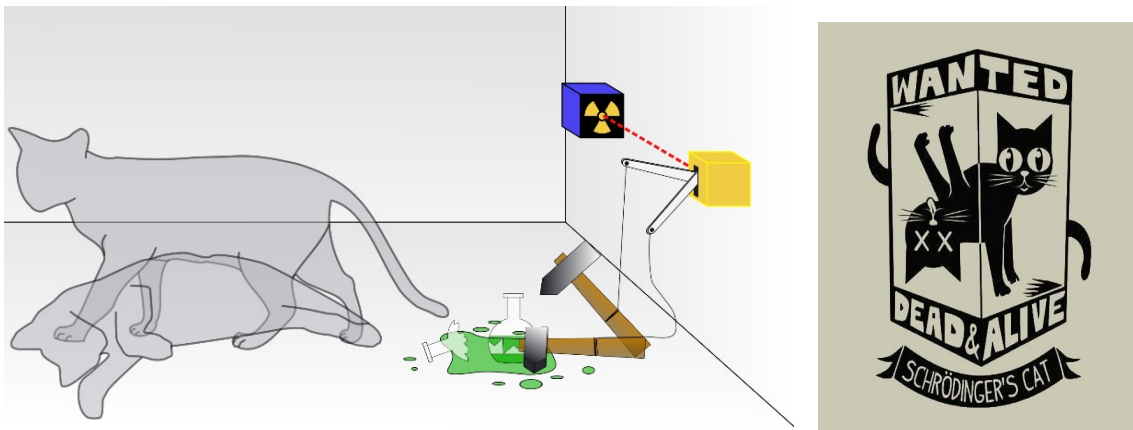


### III – The Utility of Scientific Progress

#### 20. Bava Metzia 42a

ת"ר ההולך למוד את גורנו אומר יהי רצון מלפניך ה' אלהינו שתשלח ברכה במעשה ידינו התחיל למוד אומר ברוך השולח ברכה בכרי הזה מדד ואח"כ בירך הרי זה תפילת שוא לפי שאין הברכה מצוייה לא בדבר השקול ולא בדבר המדוד ולא בדבר המנוי אלא בדבר הסמוי מן העין שנאמר יצו ה' אתך את הברכה באסמיק

The Sages taught: One who goes to measure the grain on his threshing floor recites: May it be Your will, O Lord, our God, that You send blessing upon the product of our hands. If one began to measure the grain he says: Blessed is He Who sends blessing upon this pile of grain. If one measured and afterward recited this blessing, this is a prayer made in vain, **because blessing is found neither in a matter that is weighed, nor in a matter that is measured, nor in a matter that is counted.** Rather, it is found in a matter concealed from the eye, as it is stated: "The Lord will command blessing with you in your storehouses". And Rabbi Yitzhak says: Blessing is found only in a matter concealed from the eye, as it is stated: "The Lord will command blessing with you in your storehouses."



#### 21. Mahar"l Chiddushei Aggados Shabbos 113b – מהר"ל חידושי אגדות שבת קיג:

כי הברכה שיהיה מתברך ומוסיף תמיד, ודבר זה סמוי מן העין, שכאשר ראה אותו העין כבר הוא בפעל, שכל אשר העין שולט בו הוא בפעל, שהרי כבר הוא נראה ובדבר שכבר יצא לפעל, וכבר היה מה שהיה, איך יהיה בו ברכה. אבל דבר זה שאין העין שולט בו, ואינו נמצא עדיין בפעל, יש ברכה

For blessings mean that it is continuously blessed and adding. And this is concealed from the eye for when the eye sees something, it is already in finite, actuated existence. For everything the eye rules over is in existence, since it can be seen. And something that has come into existence and is



what it can be, how can there be blessing [in it]?! But something that the eye does not rule over and is not yet in existence, there can be blessing.

## **22. Maharal Chiddushei Aggados Bava Metzia 42a**

**מהר"ל חידושי אגדות בבא מציאה מב. –**

אין הברכה מצויה וכו'. והטעם ידוע, מפני כי העין הוא שנותן גבול לכל דבר, והברכה אין גבול לה, שזהו עניין הברכה

“Blessing cannot be found in something unless it hidden from the eye.” The reason is because the eye imbues everything with boundaries and blessings have no boundaries since that is the essence of a blessing



## **23. Rabbeinu Bachya Deuteronomy 8:10 – רבינו בחיי דברים ת, י**

אין הברכה צורך הדיוט בלבד וגם אינה הודאה בלבד אבל הוא לשון תוספת וריבוי... וכאשר אנו מברכים להקב"ה יש בזה תוספת רוח הקדש וברכתנו היא סבה שיתברכו כל בריותיו ממנו והוא מלשון ברכה הנובעת מן המקור

Blessings are not for individual, personal benefit, nor are they only for praise. Rather it comes from the word “addition” and “increase”... When we bless Hashem, there is an additional suffusion of His Holy Spirit and our [saying a] blessing is the cause of all of creation being blessed. [The term blessing thus also] comes from the term “pool” that is drawn from it’s source

## **24. Pesachim 50b - פסחים נ: -**

העושה מלאכה בערבי שבתות וימים טובים, מן המנחה ולמעלה - אינו רואה סימן ברכה לעולם  
Whoever does work on *Erev Shabbos and Erev Yom Tov* from the afternoon and onward will not see an indication of blessing from it forever.

## **25. Taz Orach Chaim 468:1 – ט"ז או"ח תסת, א**

היינו אף אם יש לו איזה ריוח מזו יהיה לו כנגדו הפסד ממקום אחר

“Forever” means that even if the person receives any financial gain [from that work], they will suffer a loss from another area [of their financial assets].

## 26. Taanis 9a - תענית ט.

אשכחיה רבי יוחנן לינוקא דריש לקיש, אמר ליה: אימא לי פסוקיך! - אמר ליה: עשר תעשר. אמר ליה: ומאי עשר תעשר? - אמר ליה: עשר בשביל שתתעשר. - אמר ליה: מנא לך? - אמר ליה: זיל נסי. - אמר ליה: ומי שרי לנסויה להקדוש ברוך הוא? והכתיב לא תנסו את ה'! - אמר ליה: הכי אמר רבי הושעיא: חוץ מזן, שנאמר הביאו את כל המעשר אל בית האוצר ויהי טרף בביתי ובחנוני נא בזאת אמר ה' צבאות אם לא אפתח לכם את ארבות השמים והריקתי לכם ברכה עד בלי די

Rabbi Yochanan found the young son of Reish Lakish. He said to the boy: Recite to me your verse, [i.e., the verse you studied today in school.] The boy said to him: “A tithe shall you tithe.” [The boy] further said to Rabbi Yochanan: But what is the meaning of this phrase: “A tithe shall you tithe”? Rabbi Yochanan said to him: The verse means: Take a tithe so that you will become wealthy. The boy said to Rabbi Yochanan: From where do you derive that this is so? Rabbi Yochanan said to him: Go and test it. The boy said to him: **And is it permitted to test the Holy One, Blessed be He? But isn't it written: “You shall not test the Lord your God?”** Rabbi Yochanan said to the boy that Rabbi Hoshaya said as follows: **It is prohibited to test God in any way, except in this case of tithes**, as it is stated: “Bring the whole tithe into the storeroom, that there may be food in My house, and test Me now by this, said the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing that there shall be more than sufficiency.”

## 27. Beitza 15b-16a - ביצה טו:- טז.



אמר רבי יוחנן משום רבי אליעזר ברבי שמעון: אמר להם הקדוש ברוך הוא לישראל: בני, לוו עלי וקדשו קדושת היום, והאמינו בי ואני פורע... כל מזונותיו של אדם קצובים לו מראש השנה ועד יום הכפורים, חוץ מהוצאת שבתות והוצאת יום טוב, והוצאת בניו לתלמוד תורה. שאם פחת - פוחתין לו, ואם הוסיף - מוסיפין לו.

Rabbi Yohanan said in the name of Rabbi Eliezer, son of Rabbi Shimon: The Holy One, Blessed be He, said to the Jewish people: My children, borrow on My account, and sanctify the sanctity of the day of Shabbat and the Festivals with wine, and trust in Me, and I will repay this debt... A person's entire livelihood is allocated to him during the period from Rosh HaShana to Yom Kippur except for expenditures for Shabbatot, and expenditures for Festivals, and expenditures for the school fees of his children's Torah study. Rather, if he reduced the amount he spends for these purposes, his income is reduced, and if he increased his expenditures in these areas, his income is increased.



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"Is it just me, or do you think lunch tastes better when purchased with an expense account?"

## 28. Maharal Chiddushe Aggados – חידושי

### אגדות למהר"ל שבת דף קיט עמוד א

כי ראוי המכבד שבת לעושר, וכן המכבד את התורה ראוי לעושר, מצד כי השבת וכן התורה שניהם מצות קדושת...

ראוי שיהיה מלא ושלם ואינו חסר. כי החומר הוא חסר אבל דבר הנבדל אינו חסר... וטעם המעשר שהוא זוכה לעושר... מה שאמרה תורה עשר תעשר בשביל שתתעשר, והוא הטעם אשר אמרנו אצל השבת ואצל התורה כי העשירי בכל מקום הוא נבדל וראוי אל הש"י... וכאשר יש בעושר שלו העשירי שהוא לה' אין ספק שדבק בעושרו הברכה העליונה כמו שאמרנו אצל כבוד שבת ואצל כבוד התורה... והנה כל אלו דברים... ענין אחד כאשר תבין

One who honors Shabbos and Torah is worthy of wealth since both are mitzvos of kedusha... so it is fitting that they should be complete/perfect without any deficiencies. For physicality is incomplete/imperfect, but not so something that is spiritual... The reason for tithes [meriting wealth] is that the Torah says "tithes tithes" – tithes so that you will be rich. And this is the same reason that we mentioned by Torah and Shabbos for the tenth [i.e. tithes] is something distinct and set aside for God... And when the tenth of his portfolio goes to Hashem, there is no doubt that the blessing from on high will cling to his wealth like for honoring Shabbos and Torah... And behold these examples are all the same idea when [properly] understood.

## 29. Sefer Hama'amarim 5619 Aser Ta'aser – ספר המאמרים תשי"ט ד"ה עשר תעשר

וזזה ענין עשר תעשר עשר בשביל שתתעשר... שמצד הריחוק דוקא  
בא לידי קירוב היותר גדול

This is the idea behind tithing meriting wealth... For the distance [from God] is what leads to the greatest closeness.



## 30. Genesis 28:12 - בראשית כח, יב

וַיַּחלֶם וְהִנֵּה סֹלֶם מֻצָּב אֶרְצָה וְרֵאשׁוֹ מֵגִיעַ הַשָּׁמַיְמָה וְהִנֵּה מַלְאָכֵי אֱלֹהִים עֹלִים וְיֹרְדִים בּוֹ

And [Yaakov] dreamed and behold a ladder was standing on the ground and its top reached the heavens. And behold angels of G-d were going up and down it.



## 31. Pirke D'Rebbe Eliezer - א - פרקי דר"א

ומלאכי השרת עולים ויורדים בו, ורואין פניו של יעקב, ואומרים זה הפנים כפני החיה שבכסא הכבוד

And the angels were going up and down it, and they saw the face of Yaakov and they said, "This face is like the face of the *chaya* on the Throne of Glory."

## 32. Genesis 35:1 - א - בראשית לה, א

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל יַעֲקֹב קוּם עֲלֵה בֵּית אֵל וְשֹׁב שָׁם וַעֲשֵׂה שָׁם מִזְבֵּחַ לְאֵל הַנִּרְאָה אֵלֶיךָ בְּבֶרֶךְךָ מִפְּנֵי עֲשׂוֹ אָחִיךָ

And Hashem said to Yaakov, "Get up and go ascend to Beis El and dwell there and build an altar to the G-d who appeared to you when you ran away from your brother Eisav.

## 33. Midrash Shir Hashirim Zuta 1:4 - ד - מדרש זוטא שיר השירים א, ד

מלמד שהראה הקב"ה עליה למעלה מעליה והראה אותו חדרים שבמרום

We learn from here that Hashem showed [Yaakov] level upon level [of heaven] and showed him the chambers of heaven.



### **34. Genesis 28:22 – בראשית כח, כב**

וְהָאֲבֶן הַזֹּאת אֲשֶׁר־שָׂמְתִי מַצְבֵּה יְהִי־הִיא בַּיִת אֱלֹהִים וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר תִּתְּנֶנִּי עֹשֶׂר אֲעֲשֶׂרְנֹו לְךָ:

And this stone, which I have set up as a pillar, shall be God's abode; and of all that You give me, I will set aside a tithe for You."

### **35. Rashi Genesis 28:12 - רש"י בראשית כח, יב**

עולים תחלה ואחר כך יורדים, מלאכים שליווהו בארץ אין יוצאים חוצה לארץ ועלו לרקיע, וירדו מלאכי חוצה לארץ ללותו

[The angels] went up first and then they went down. [Because] angels that accompanied him in Israel do not go outside of Israel. [So] they went up to heaven and the angels for outside Israel descended to accompany him.

### **36. Genesis 32:2-3 - בראשית לב, ב-ג**

וַיַּעֲקֹב הֵלֵךְ לְדַרְכוֹ וַיִּפְגְּעוּ בוֹ מַלְאֲכֵי אֱלֹהִים: וַיֹּאמֶר יַעֲקֹב כַּאֲשֶׁר רָאָם מַחֲנֵה אֱלֹהִים זֶה וַיִּקְרָא שֵׁם הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא מַחֲנֵיִם

And Yaakov went on his way and, angels of G-d encountered him. And Yaakov said when he saw them, "This is a camp of G-d." And he called the name of the place, Machanyim.

### **37. Tanchuma Vayishlach 3 - תנחומא וישלח ג**

מהו מחננים, שתי מחנות, שבשעה שהלך יעקב לארם נהרם היו מלאכי ארץ ישראל משמרין אותו ומלוין אותו. כיון שהגיעו לחוצה לארץ, נסתלקו וירדו אחרים ונתלוו לו. כיון שחזר מן לבן, היו אותן מלאכים שנמסרו לו מלוין אותו עד ארץ ישראל. כשהרגישו מלאכי ארץ ישראל שיעקב בא, יצאו לקראתו להתלוות לו, שנאמר: ויפגעו בו מלאכי אלהים. התחילו שתי מחנות עומדין אצל יעקב, שנאמר: מחננים



What does Machanayim [two camps] refer to? At the time that Yaakov was going to Aram Naharyim, the angels of the Land of Israel guarded and escorted him. **Once the reached outside the land of Israel, they left and other [angles] came down and accompanied him.** When he returned from Lavan, those angles that were given to him accompanied him until the Land of Israel. When the angels of the Land of Israel realized that Yaakov had arrived, **they went out to meet him and escort him.** As it says, “And angles of G-d [proactively] encountered him.” Thus, two camps stood by Yaakov, as it says “Machanayim.”



### **38. Da'as Chochma Umassar 2:1 - דעת חכמה ומוסר חלק ב מאמר א**

“בצלם אלקים זה יותר כלל גדול” משום שצלם אלקים, “מאן דנפח מדילי' נפח”

Being made in the image of God is an even greater principal [in Judaism] because the “image of God” [means] that one who breathes, breathes from their essence.





## IV - The Redemption of Scientific Progress

### 39. Responsa of R' Zvi Hirsch Chajes 11 – שו"ת מהר"ץ

#### חיות סי' יא

הש"ת הביט וראה מראשית, וגבולות חלק לכל הזמנים והדורות להשלמת החכמות, ולא כל העתות שוות בזה עתים חשים ואין חוון החכמה נפרץ ועתים ממללים בתבונה וכעלי החכמה והסגולה מרובים ואיך לך דבר שאיו לו זמן ומקום והכל ברצון השם יתברך שהוא קורא הדורות מראש.

Hashem saw [all] from the beginning of time and set boundaries for intellectual development for each era and generation. And not every generation was equal; some eras were weak and no visions of

wisdom sprouted, and other times were filled with wisdom and many great, wise men. Everything has its proper time and place; everything according to the will of Hashem who orchestrates generations from the beginning [of time].



### 40. Zohar 1:117a – זהר חלק א קיז.

ובשית מאה שנין לשתינאה יתפתחון תרעי דחכמתא לעילא ומבועי דחכמתא לתתא

And in the 600<sup>th</sup> year of the 6<sup>th</sup> millennium (5600=1700s), the gates of heavenly wisdom will open and the lower wellsprings of wisdom shall open



### 41. Orot Hakodesh 1:6 (Rabbi Avraham Y. Kook) – אורות הקודש חלק א סימן ו

As scientific inquiry progresses and discovers insights in the field of the early development of the universe ... [which] so closely resembles the [spiritual creation process], the wisdom of [physical] creation becomes more revealed as it is sought after by society and vitalizes its spirit.

כשהחקירה המדעית הולכת ומוצאת דיוקים מכוונים בתוך העלילות כולן של התוהו והבהו... כ"כ מתאימות הן למטרת הבנין הגמור בשכלולו הולכת בזה חכמת מעשה בראשית להיות יותר ויותר חכמה גליה שנדרשת ברבים ושנותנת מחיה לרוחות רבים.

And proportional to the exposure to the secrets of [physical] creation, is the wisdom of spiritual creation thus imbued and emmeshed into [everyday] life, consciousness, and experience [of the masses]... The spirituality proceeds to elevate and refine [the consciousness and desires] of humanity and the world...

Modern society with its improvements, its progress in liberating the intellect and emotions, its heroic spirit and physical might with all its grace and beauty, all coalesce into the [international contemporary] desire for 'eternal perfection [utopia],' which only through that will the world rest in this revolutionary and tumultuous time. [But] it is only through spiritual, moral values that are derived from spiritual life that the world and its inhabitants - all the oppressed souls, and those who dwell in darkness with [spiritually and morally] ill bodies - finally achieve rest and eternal peace.

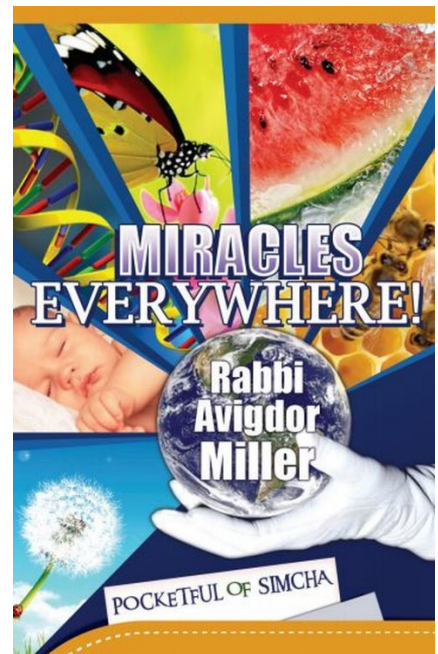
ולפי ערך ההכשר הזה שהעולם מתכשר לצפונותיה של חכמת היצירה המעשית הולכים לעומתו הרעיונות של חכמת היצירה הרחנית ומתגבלים עם החיים והמצואות... הרוחניות הולכת היא ומתעלה באדם ובעולם...

החיים החברותיים עם כל מילויי תקוניהם החופש השכלי וההרגשי עם כל הרחבתם, אומץ הרוח וגבורת הבשר עם כל חסנם ויפים, כל אלה יחדיו יחברו למשאלות הנצח שרק הן בהפתרן תעמודנה לעולם בשעת דחקו. רק דעות עליונות, שהן נובעות ממקור עליון של חיים עליונים, ישיבו להעולם וכל אשר בו, לכל הנשמות העשוקות הערטילאות, ולכל שוכני מאפליות בגויות חולות, הרוסות ומזהמות, את עז גבורת חייהם, את ברק יפעת נצחם. ושלום העולמים

#### 42. Ramban Exodus 13:6

ומן הנסים הגדולים המפורסמים אדם מודה בנסים הנסתרים שהם יסוד התורה כלה, שאין לאדם חלק בתורת משה רבינו עד שנאמין בכל דברינו ומקרנו שכלם נסים אין בהם טבע ומנהגו של עולם, בין ברבים בין ביחיד

And from the open miracles a person will acknowledge the hidden miracles which serve as the foundation for the entire Torah since a person has no portion in the Torah of Moshe until they believe that all of the events and occurrences – both for communities and individuals - are all miracles and not the product of nature or 'the way of the world'



#### 43. Psalms 89:3 – תהילים פט, ג

כִּי־אֶמְרָתִי עוֹלָם תִּסְדָּד יִבְנֶה שָׁמַיִם | תִּכְנֶן אֲמוֹנָתְךָ בְּהֵם :

For I said, "Forever will it be built with kindness; as the heavens, with which You will establish Your faithfulness."

#### **Why the World is Built on Kindness**



#### 44. Midrash Tanchuma Mishpatim 9 - מדרש

##### תנחומא משפטים ט

אמר דוד לפני הקב"ה רבון העולם... תיישר עולמך בשוה העשירים והעניים, א"ל ... אם יהיו כולם עשירים או עניים מי יוכל לעשות חסד,

**Everyone Needs Something**

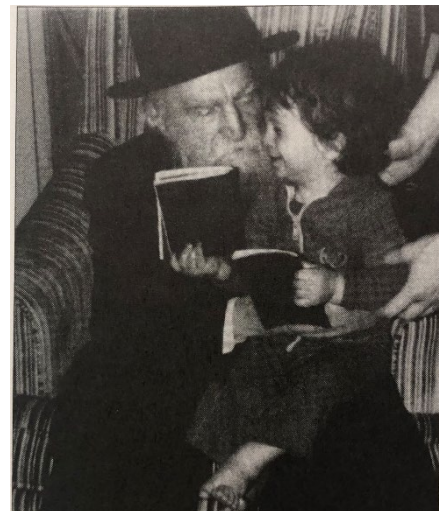
David said to God, "Master of the Universe... straighten your world with equalizing the rich and poor." He replied, "If everyone would be rich or poor, then who would be able to do kindness?"

#### 45. D'rash Moshe Bamidbar 25:11 – דרש משה במדבר כה, יא

שודאי הוא על הקב"ה לפרנסן אך הניח להאדם שיעשה הוא מה שעל הקב"ה לעשות שע"ז יש שכר גדול ביותר אף שברור שהש"ת היה מפרנסו שהוא הנותן להם לכל זון ומפרנס ומ"מ רצה הוא לעשות ודמי לתינוק שרוצה לסייע לאמו ונותנת לו דבר קטן לשאת שבעצם אינו מסייע כלום שלא היה קשה לה לשאת גם את זה אבל הרצון של התינוק לסייע אף שידוע שאינו סיוע מראה החביבות של התינוק לאמו וזהו הנאה גדולה להאם... ומצות צדקה היא ג"כ כזה... הש"ת רצה שאנחנו נעשה תגמור מעשיו.

While it is certainly upon God to give sustenance [to everyone], He left over a bit for humanity to do His work, for there is great reward [for kindness]. Even though it is clear that God is the one who is actually providing sustenance to all of creation,

nevertheless such is His wish. It is similar to a child who wants to help its mother, so she gives the child something small to carry. In truth, the child isn't helping at all since it would not be difficult for her to carry it. However, the child's desire to help, even if it knows that it's not actually helping, demonstrates its love for its mother. And this is the greatest source of joy for a mother. So it is with the commandment to give charity... God wanted us to finish His work.

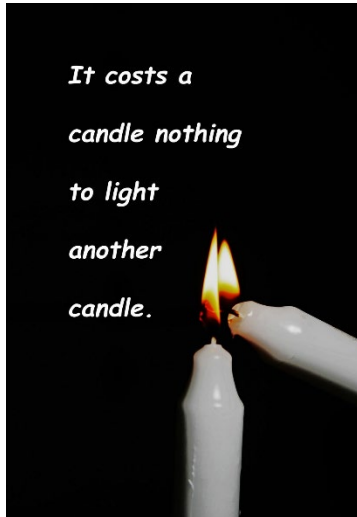


#### 46. Peah 1:1 – פאה א, א

אֱלוֹ דְבָרִים שְׂאֵדָם אוֹכֵל פְּרוּתֵיהֶן בְּעוֹלָם הַזֶּה וְהַקֶּרֶן קִיָּמָת לוֹ לְעוֹלָם הַבָּא. כְּבוֹד אָב וְאִם, וּגְמִילוּת חֲסָדִים, וְהַבְּאֵת שְׁלוֹם בֵּין אָדָם לְחֵבְרוֹ, וְתִלְמוּד תּוֹרָה כְּנֶגֶד כָּלָם:

The following are the things for which a man enjoys the fruits in this world while the principal remains for him in the world to come: Honoring one's father and mother; The performance of righteous deeds; And the making of peace between a person and his friend; And the study of the Torah is equal to them all.

#### 47. Pachad Yitzchok Rosh Hashanah Discourse 2 – פחד יצחק: ראש השנה מאמר ב



כל הפקת תועלת גורמת כליון כחותיו של העצם המועיל במדה גדולה לאין ערוך יותר מאשר הפקת תועלת הצמיחה גורמת לקרקע עולם והיינו משום שבועלמנו אנו פעולת הצמיחה וההולדה היא הקרובה ביותר אל יצירת בראשית של יש מאין לאחר שנתחדשו העולם ההתחדשות היותר גדולה היא צמח חדש או וולד חדש ובה במדה שאנו מתקרבים לתחום היצירה של יש מאין בה במדה הולך ופוחת הכלל של מכליא קרנא. והוא הדין והיא המדה בעולם הרוחני של עבודת השם מכיון שעולם חסד יבנה ועל ידה של מדת החסד יצאה כל הבריאה מן האין אל היש הרי שמדה זו מופקעת היא לגמרי מענין המכליא קרנא והאדם המתנשא למסגרת צלם אלקים ונעשה ליוצר פועל של מדת החסד בעולם מתן שכרו הוא בתכונת יש מאין דהיינו שאין הפירות מפחיתין את גוף הקרן ולא כלום והאדם אוכל פירוורו בעולם הזה והקרן קיימת לו לעולם הבא...

Any derivation of benefit/utility causes a proportional loss of the principal on a much greater scale than it does by planting in the ground. This is because in our world, the act of growth and birth are the phenomena that closest resemble creation *ex nihilo*. And the closer that we to the realm of creation *ex nihilo*, proportionally the concept of “destruction of principal” decreases. **The same is true in the spiritual world of serving God. Since the world was built upon kindness, and through kindness does the entire creation emanate *ex nihilo*, this character trait transcends the rule of “destruction of principal.”**



**And the person who exalts themselves to exemplify the image of God and becomes a creator of**



kindness in the world, their reward is *ex nihilo*, whose fruits do not detract from the principal.

Thus, the person eats from the fruits [of their labors] in this world, while the principal is preserved for the World to Come.

#### **48. *Lonely Man of Faith* Chapters 3-4 (excerpts)**

Adam the first is challenged by a hostile environment and hence summoned to perform many tasks which he alone cannot master... What we call civilization is the sum total of a community effort through the millennia. Thus, the natural community fashioned by Adam the first is a work community, committed to the successful production, distribution, and consumption of goods, material as well as cultural.



*The 2000 Year Old Man* - Mel Brooks & Carl Reiner (1975)

[Through the creation of Eve], the contrast between the two Adam's comes into focus. **Adam the first was not called to sacrifice in order that his female companion come into being, while it was indispensable for Adam the second to give away part of himself in order to find a companion. The community-fashioning gesture of Adam the first is... purely utilitarian and intrinsically egotistic and, as such, rules out sacrificial action.** For Adam the second, communicating and communing are redemptive sacrificial gestures.

#### **49. "Industry and Jewish Tradition" (R' Norman Solomon) *European Judasim: A Journal for New Europe* Vol. 18 No. 1 pp23-28 (1985)**



It is often said that ours is the first generation that knows it might also be the last. **I would like to stress that ours is also the first generation that has the knowledge and skills to guarantee food and a fair standard of living for all. Ours is the first generation that knows how to control its**

population without war, want or famine. Ours is the first generation to effect cures of many of our worst diseases and to entertain realistic hopes for the global elimination of ill-health...

This is progress. It is the direct outcome of the Industrial Revolution and subsequent technological development, exploited for the benefit of mankind by skillful entrepreneurs. If we fail to appreciate and nurture the technological and managerial skills we have acquired, we will lose them. They cannot be taken for granted. We will find ourselves in a world incapable of

supporting its population, striving futilely for bare necessities, and ultimately reduced to barbarism. Peace itself, and the future of mankind, hang upon the success of the industrial enterprise.



### 50. *And From There You Shall Seek* Chapter 3C (Rav Soloveitchik)

Rational religious experience also differs from revelational experience in the way it develops.

The former develops in the directions in which human cultural values take shape. At its height, it is an idea embodied in the achievements of the spirit that rend the heavens. It is the most radiant and brilliant thread in the frame of mind of cultured man, who is mobile and whose image is changeable. Thus, it too embodies vital motion, fascination, and constant renewal. The horizons are breathtaking, drenched in glory. Infinity and infinitude meet, time and eternity touch.

As science progresses, so does man's knowledge of God as His Creator, as the One who endows man with reason. When man reveals new foundations of knowledge that explain natural

phenomenon which were not understood before, his rational religious experience is

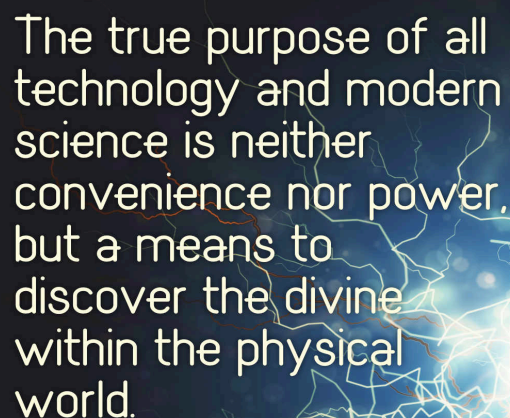
deepened. God created humanity as male and female, and He commanded them to master the world: "fill the earth and subdue it." How can a human being master the world or even some part of it if not by grasping the laws of nature and using them for man's benefit? Scientific progress is part of man's destiny in the world that the Creator of the universe fashioned for us.



**However, man's mastery of the world, of the environment, cannot be complete until man realizes that the mathematical laws of physics contain within themselves the primordial will of the creator..** Man's mission cannot be completed merely by revealing the mechanical order of the universe; dry knowledge cannot save man. **Only the combination of scientific reason with the heart that searches and yearns for the living God can allow man to progress. It is for this reason that God made man a scientific creature, able to understand truth, and at the same time an individual who longs for God and is capable of transcending the shackles of science.**

The second sort of consciousness is altogether different. **This aspect of religious consciousness is, as mentioned, unique – the awareness of a compulsory covenant, submission and acceptance of the yoke of the Kingdom of Heaven.**

One who lives the vision of the revelation of the *Shekhinah* stands beyond the authority of the cultured creative mind that is subject change and alteration... **The revelational form of life, with its firmly embedded principles, forces the spirit to check its powerful course.** Culture flows on, continually taking on new forms, sweeping up natural religion in its eddies; revelational faith overcomes the transitory, jealously guarding its eternal persistence... **Any act of repair or change of values in the realm of revelational faith saps its original strength, and its benefits are outweighed by its deficiencies.**



The true purpose of all  
technology and modern  
science is neither  
convenience nor power,  
but a means to  
discover the divine  
within the physical  
world.

–The Rebbe, Likutei Sichot 15.

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# **ANGELS & DEMONS**

**DAN BROWN**

POCKET BOOKS  
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Sitting in the Sistine Chapel among his stunned colleagues, Cardinal Mortati tried to comprehend the words he was hearing. Before him, lit only by the candlelight, the camerlegno had just told a tale of such hatred and treachery that Mortati found himself trembling. The camerlegno spoke of kidnapped cardinals, branded cardinals, murdered cardinals. He spoke of the ancient Illuminati—a name that dredged up forgotten fears—and of their resurgence and vow of revenge against the church. With pain in his voice, the camerlegno spoke of his late Pope.....the victim of an Illuminati poisoning. And finally, his words almost a whisper, he spoke of a deadly new technology, antimatter, which in less than two hours threatened to destroy all of Vatican City.

When he was through, it was as if Satan himself had sucked the air from the room. Nobody could move. The camerlegno's words hung in the darkness. The only sound Mortati could now hear was the anomalous hum of a television camera in back—an electronic presence no conclave in history had ever endured—but a presence demanded by the camerlegno.

To the utter astonishment of the cardinals, the camerlegno had entered the Sistine Chapel with two BBC reporters—a man and a woman—and announced that they would be transmitting his solemn statement, live to the world.

Now, speaking directly to the camera, the camerlegno stepped forward. "To the Illuminati," he said, his voice deepening, "and to those of science, let me say this." He paused. "You have won the war."

The silence spread now to the deepest corners of the chapel. Mortati could hear the desperate thumping of his own heart.

"The wheels have been in motion for a long time," the camerlegno said. "Your victory has been inevitable. Never before has it been as obvious as it is at this moment. Science is the new God."

What is he saying! Mortati thought. Has he gone mad? The entire world is hearing this!

"Medicine, electronic communications, space travel, genetic manipulation. .... these are the miracles about which we now tell our children. These are the miracles we herald as proof that science will bring us the answers. The ancient stories of immaculate conceptions, burning bushes, and parting seas are no longer relevant. God has become obsolete. Science has won the battle. We concede."

A rustle of confusion and bewilderment swept through the chapel.

"But science's victory," the camerlegno added, his voice intensifying, "has cost every one of us. And it has cost us deeply."

Silence.

"Science may have alleviated the miseries of disease and drudgery and provided an array of gadgetry for our entertainment and convenience, but it has left us in a world without wonder. Our sunsets have been reduced to wavelengths and frequencies. The complexities of the universe have been shredded into mathematical equations. Even our self-worth as human beings has been destroyed. Science proclaims that Planet Earth and its inhabitants are a meaningless speck in the grand scheme. A cosmic accident." He paused. "Even the technology that promises to unite us, divides us. Each of us is now electronically connected to the globe, and yet we feel utterly alone. We are bombarded with violence, division, fracture, and betrayal. Skepticism has become a virtue. Cynicism and demand for proof has become enlightened thought. Is it any wonder that humans now feel more depressed and defeated than they have at any point in human history? Does science hold anything sacred? Science looks for answers by probing our unborn fetuses. Science even presumes to rearrange our own DNA. It shatters God's world into smaller and smaller pieces in quest of meaning. .... and all it finds is more questions."

Mortati watched in awe. The camerlegno was almost hypnotic now. He had a physical strength in his movements and voice that Mortati had never witnessed on a Vatican altar. The man's voice was wrought with conviction and sadness.

"The ancient war between science and religion is over," the camerlegno said. "You have won. But you have not won fairly. You have not won by providing answers. You have won by so radically reorienting our society that the truths we once saw as signposts now seem inapplicable. Religion cannot keep up."

Scientific growth is exponential. It feeds on itself like a virus. Every new breakthrough opens doors for new breakthroughs. Mankind took thousands of years to progress from the wheel to the car. Yet only decades from the car into space. Now we measure scientific progress in weeks. We are spinning out of control. The rift between us grows deeper and deeper, and as religion is left behind, people find themselves in a spiritual void. We cry out for meaning. And believe me, we do cry out. We see UFOs, engage in channeling, spirit contact, out-of-body experiences, mindquests—all these eccentric ideas have a scientific veneer, but they are unashamedly irrational. They are the desperate cry of the modern soul, lonely and tormented, crippled by its own enlightenment and its inability to accept meaning in anything removed from technology."

Mortati could feel himself leaning forward in his seat. He and the other cardinals and people around the world were hanging on this priest's every utterance. The camerlegno spoke with no rhetoric or vitriol. No references to scripture or Jesus Christ. He spoke in modern terms, unadorned and pure. Somehow, as though the words were flowing from God himself, he spoke the modern language... delivering the ancient message. In that moment, Mortati saw one of the reasons the late Pope held this young man so dear. In a world of apathy, cynicism, and technological deification, men like the camerlegno, realists who could speak to our souls like this man just had, were the church's only hope. The camerlegno was talking more forcefully now. "Science, you say, will save us. Science, I say, has destroyed us. Since the days of Galileo, the church has tried to slow the relentless march of science, sometimes with misguided means, but always with benevolent intention. Even so, the temptations are too great for man to resist. I warn you, look around yourselves. The promises of science have not been kept. Promises of efficiency and simplicity have bred nothing but pollution and chaos. We are a fractured and frantic species... moving down a path of destruction."

The camerlegno paused a long moment and then sharpened his eyes on the camera. "Who is this God science? Who is the God who offers his people power but no moral framework to tell you how to use that power? What kind of God gives a child fire but does not warn the child of its dangers? The language of science comes with no signposts about good and bad. Science textbooks tell us how to create a nuclear reaction, and yet they contain no chapter asking us if it is a good or a bad idea.

"To science, I say this. The church is tired. We are exhausted from trying to be your signposts. Our resources are drying up from our campaign to be the voice of balance as you plow blindly on in your quest for smaller chips and larger profits. We ask not why you will not govern yourselves, but how can you? Your world moves so fast that if you stop even for an instant to consider the implications of your actions, someone more efficient will whip past you in a blur. So you move on. You proliferate weapons of mass destruction, but it is the Pope who travels the world beseeching leaders to use restraint. You clone living creatures, but it is the church reminding us to consider the moral implications of our actions. You encourage people to interact on phones, video screens, and computers, but it is the church who opens its doors and reminds us to commune in person as we were meant to do. You even murder unborn babies in the name of research that will save lives. Again, it is the church who points out the fallacy of this reasoning.

"And all the while, you proclaim the church is ignorant. But who is more ignorant? The man who cannot define lightning, or the man who does not respect its awesome power? This church is reaching out to you. Reaching out to everyone. And yet the more we reach, the more you push us away. Show me proof there is a God, you say. I say use your telescopes to look to the heavens, and tell me how there could not be a God!" The camerlegno had tears in his eyes now. "You ask what does God look like. I say, where did that question come from? The answers are one and the same. Do you not see God in your science? How can you miss Him! You proclaim that even the slightest change in the force of gravity or the weight of an atom would have rendered our universe a lifeless mist rather than our magnificent sea of heavenly bodies, and yet you fail to see God's hand in this? Is it really so much easier to believe that we simply chose the right card from a deck of billions? Have we become so spiritually bankrupt that we would rather believe in mathematical impossibility than in a power greater than us?"

"Whether or not you believe in God," the camerlegno said, his voice deepening with deliberation, "you must believe this. When we as a species abandon our trust in the power greater than us, we abandon our sense of accountability. Faith... all faiths... are admonitions that there is something we cannot

understand, something to which we are accountable... With faith we are accountable to each other, to ourselves, and to a higher truth. Religion is flawed, but only because man is flawed. If the outside world could see this church as I do... looking beyond the ritual of these walls... they would see a modern miracle... a brotherhood of imperfect, simple souls wanting only to be a voice of compassion in a world spinning out of control."

The camerlegno motioned out over the College of Cardinals, and the BBC camerawoman instinctively followed, panning the crowd.

"Are we obsolete?" the camerlegno asked. "Are these men dinosaurs? Am I? Does the world really need a voice for the poor, the weak, the oppressed, the unborn child? Do we really need souls like these who, though imperfect, spend their lives imploring each of us to read the signposts of morality and not lose our way?"

Mortati now realized that the camerlegno, whether consciously or not, was making a brilliant move. By showing the cardinals, he was personalizing the church. Vatican City was no longer a building, it was people-people like the camerlegno who had spent their lives in the service of goodness.

"Tonight we are perched on a precipice," the camerlegno said. "None of us can afford to be apathetic. Whether you see this evil as Satan, corruption, or immorality... the dark force is alive and growing every day. Do not ignore it." The camerlegno lowered his voice to a whisper, and the camera moved in. "The force, though mighty, is not invincible. Goodness can prevail. Listen to your hearts. Listen to God. Together we can step back from this abyss."

Now Mortati understood. This was the reason. Conclave had been violated, but this was the only way. It was a dramatic and desperate plea for help. The camerlegno was speaking to both his enemy and his friends now. He was entreating anyone, friend or foe, to see the light and stop this madness. Certainly someone listening would realize the insanity of this plot and come forward.

The camerlegno knelt at the altar. "Pray with me."

The College of Cardinals dropped to their knees to join him in prayer. Outside in St. Peter's Square and around the globe... a stunned world knelt with them.