The Parallax View

"Keep" and "remember" in a single utterance The One God caused us to hear.

Heavenly Torah

As Refracted through the Generations

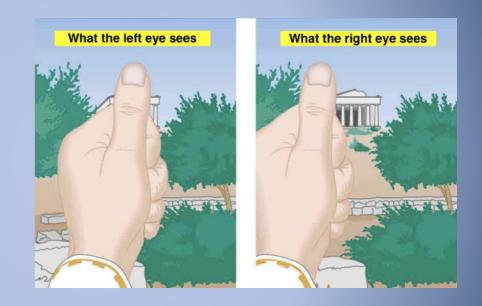
תורה מן השמים באספקלריה של הדורות

Abraham Joshua Heschel

Edited and Translated by Gordon Tucker

BLOOMSBURY

Lechah Dodi

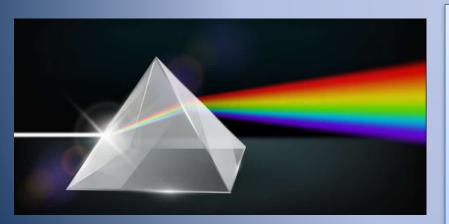


"One who is blind in one eye is exempt from the pilgrimage." (Chagigah 2a)

A Living Torah

"In Judaism there is something holy about argument. Why so? Because only God can see the totality of truth." Rabbi Sacks

"Is it possible to have a living Torah without the struggle of opposites, without disputes, without the many permutations of ideas and outlooks?" Rabbi Heschel



"The Torah never became two Torahs, for their intention was for the sake of heaven." "It is inappropriate to judge matters the same way every time, for it will often happen at a given time that it is appropriate to rule leniently, and at another that stringency is called for.

This is called *chesed* [loving-kindness] by the Sages, and it operates to rectify inequities in religious law. This does not undermine religious foundations. It is rather a drawing near to God's will, God's intent, if not God's very words."

Rabbi Joel ibn Shuaib

"Both the case for the prosecution and for the defence must be heard if justice is to be done and seen to be done. The pursuit of truth and justice requires the freedom to disagree.

And where do we learn this from? From God Himself, who chose as His prophets people who were prepared to argue with Heaven for the sake of Heaven in the name of justice and truth."



A Life-Changing Idea

"When you learn to listen to views different from your own, realising that they are not threatening but enlarging, then you have discovered the life-changing idea of argument for the sake of Heaven."

Rabbi Sacks