

FREE TRANSLATION

By the Grace of G-d
Lag B'Omer, 5722
Brooklyn, New York

To the members of Neshel Ubnois Chabad,
Everywhere, and to the participants in
the Seventh Annual Convention, in
particular,

G-d bless you all

Blessing and Greeting:

The annual Convention takes place this year soon after Shabbos-
Chazak, the conclusion of the Book of Vayikro, which is also
called Toras Kohanim and Sefer Hakerbonois (Book of Sacrifices).
I trust that this will set the proper "tone" for the Convention.

The thought behind this is as follows:

Jews, as a people, and individually, have to be like a "Kohen",
as G-d has declared: "And you should be unto me a Kingdom of
Kohanim". Just as the Kohen has been selected to dedicate himself
to the sacred Divine Service, not only for his own sake, but also
for his brethren, the whole Jewish people. So has every Jew been
chosen to serve G-d, with a responsibility also for his entire
environment.

To serve G-d does not mean to withdraw from the world; it rather
means to serve G-d within this world and together with this world,
beginning with one's own home which is to be conducted in such a
way that the Shekina (G-d's Presence) should dwell in it, as it
is written: "They shall make me a Sanctuary that I may dwell among
Them."

This is accomplished by a way of life which exemplifies the
Kerbonois (Sacrifices) of old.

The service of the Sacrifices consisted in taking things from one's
own possession - a lamb, flour, oil, wine, salt, etc. - and consecrating
them as a sacrifice: a Burnt Offering - completely offered to G-d, as
well as a Peace Offering which, after some parts of it were offered
on the Altar, the rest was shared by the Kohen and the owner of the
sacrifice and eaten in purity.

This is the way a Jewish home should be conducted in every detail,
and then the Shekina dwells therein, and it is a home blessed by
G-d, materially and spiritually.

To realize this in the actual daily life - this depends on, and is
the main purpose of the Jewish woman, the Akeres haBayis (the
foundation of the house); to bring the Shekina into the home and
into the family-life, and to bring up the children in this spirit.

May G-d grant that you should carry out your purpose in the fullest
measure, and with Chassidic warmth and vitality, and in this way
bring closer the time when the Beth Hamikdash will be rebuilt and
the Holy Service will be restored, when the true and complete Geula
(Redemption) will come through our Righteous Mashiach, speedily in
our times.

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With a prayerful wish and blessing that the Convention and all the members should successfully fulfill all the above with joy and gladness of heart

/Signed/ MENACHEM SCHNEERSON