

By the Grace of G-d
Rosh Chodesh Elul
Third Day of the Week
Blessed twice with good, 5743
Brooklyn, N. Y.

To All Campers: Boys and Girls

G-d Bless You All

Greeting and Blessing:

I was pleased to receive reports about your camp life and activities. I take this opportunity also to acknowledge the letters and request for a blessing. May G-d grant each and all of you the fulfillment of your heart's desires for good and blessing.

I am gratified to be informed that you have made, and are making, good use of the camp season in the fullest measure, to strengthen your health of body and soul, with the soul ruling the body. Needless to say, the way to keep the soul healthy and strong is through learning Torah and doing Mitzvoh, by which Jews live.

Inasmuch as this letter is written on Rosh Chodesh Elul, I trust you know the significance of this month of special Divine grace and benevolence, as explained by the Alter Rebbe, the Founder of Chabad, by means of the parable of "A King in the Field."

Briefly: When a king rules his kingdom from his palace, his subjects know it and feel it in various degrees. It is not easy to meet the king personally when he is in his palace. But there is a time when the king goes out and meets the people in the field. At such a time everyone can go up to the king and present a request to him personally, and the king receives every person with a smiling face, and fulfills the request.

Such is the month of Elul - a time when the people go out to meet the King of Kings, HaShem, "in the field," for He has designated this month as a month of special Divine grace, mercy and forgiveness. This is why the month of Elul calls for special efforts in matters of Torah and Mitzvoh, to learn Torah and to do Mitzvoh with an extra measure of devotion and diligence. And G-d responds with a growing measure of blessing to each and everyone.

I am confident that you will take the fullest advantage of this special opportunity and go from strength to strength in your Torah studies and in your everyday conduct.

Wishing you Hatzlocho in all above, as well as a Kesivo vaChasimo Tovo, for a good and sweet year, materially and spiritually,

With blessing,

/Signed: Menachem Schneerson/