The Fire that Doesn't Burn

Fireproof blood can you imagine? It would be great for every firefighter speeding in a fire engine! From fire a salamander is created, And from fire it is protected!

If this is true about the salamander, How much more so does it apply to a Torah scholar! When a person studies Torah it isn't just something that he did learn, He becomes the Torah and his body is like a fire which does burn.

If a Talmid Chochom did sin, And needs to go to Gehenim, From the fire he is protected completely, Because spiritually, he has a fireproof body!

The oneness that we achieve through serving Hashem with fire is so great, Our desire and enthusiasm Hashem does appreciate! When educating children, it is not enough to train them to do a Mitzvah action, With excitement we must teach them Torah so that it will be their passion!

The fire of Gehenim has no power over Jewish sinners either, We learn this from the Golden Altar. Despite all the years that Ketores was on it burning, It wasn't damaged, although it only had a thin gold coating. Even if a Jew falls into a spiritual pit, His Mitzvos are still compared to the 613 seeds in a pomegranate. But by a thin membrane each seed is separated, With the Mitzvah he doesn't become united.

The Mitzvos that we do are like clothing, They are compared to the altar's golden protective covering. But we don't become one with the clothing so nice, With Mitzvos alone we can't suffice.

When one studies Torah it becomes his identity,He is called a Torah scholar even if he is in Gehenim presently.Even if he sunk low like a salamander which is impure,His Torah learning is like consumed food which becomes one with his core.

It is true that in the Mishkan, There were lots of Mitzvos that did get done, But since the unity that we achieve through Torah study is like no other, The Torah was placed in its own place, in the holy of holies which is higher!

Torah and Mitzvos are both necessary, To make this world into a home for Hashem is our priority, But when we learn Torah specifically, We bring down the light of Hashem's infinity!

From Likkutei Sichos 16, Vayakhel 2 Written by Chanie Gourarie