

B”H

Subject Line: A Gimmel Tammuz Reflection

Dear Friend,

I am en route to New York to commemorate the Rebbe’s 31st Yahrtzait and I find myself reflecting on how much the Rebbe, of blessed memory, gave to the world. And yet his greatest gift to me was his demand to never stop growing.

He taught me to never be content with yesterday’s accomplishments and my current spiritual state. Every day is a new opportunity to bring more light into the world, to do more good, and to become better, personally and collectively.

Today, I invite you to pause and reflect on the Rebbe’s teaching:

There are people who do many good things, but with pessimism—because to them the world is an inherently bad place. Since their good deeds have no life to them, who knows how long they can keep it up?

We must know that this world is not a dark, sinister jungle, but a garden. And not just any garden, but G-d’s own pleasure garden, full of beauty, wonderful fruits and fragrances, a place where G-d desires to be with all His essence.

If the taste to us is bitter, it is only because we must first peel away the outer shell to find the fruit inside.

I encourage you to utilize this auspicious day for prayer and study in the Rebbe’s memory and to rededicate yourself to seeing the good, to living with hope, and to growing a little more each day.

If you didn’t send me your name for prayer, you can still do that until 3:00 PM EST.

With gratitude and blessings,
Rabbi Chaim Bruk