



ISRAEL'S TRUE DEFENSE 19 Tishrei, 5741-1980

It is obvious that, first and foremost, we must strengthen our 'spiritual weaponry,' which is the true protection for Jews wherever they are, and the true protector for the Land of Israel – the Land that always belonged to Jews, belongs now to Jews, and will belong to Jews for all eternity – in its true borders.

The true ammunition is, as G-d declared explicitly in our Torah, the Torah of Life and the Torah of Truth: "Follow My statutes;" eventually you will certainly follow My statutes – "Observe My Mitzvos and fulfill them," you will keep the Mitzvos and fulfill them."

G-d pleads with us: "If you will follow My statutes;" our Sages explain, 'if' is a plea. G-d begs of every Jew, no matter how he behaved up to this moment, at least now to fulfill His plea by "Following My statutes and observing My Mitzvos." This is the only way to ensure that "I will give your rains in their proper times," and "I shall set peace upon the Land, and you will sleep and no one will frighten you," because "dread and fear will fall upon them," when they see "the Name of G-d is upon you," "they are afraid of you," they don't bother the Jews in the first place.

On the contrary, they will assist the Jewish People, as stated in the prophecy: "Their Kings will serve you." In exile, many Jews are dependent on governments and must follow the laws of the countries they live in, and Jews in the Land of Israel are dependent on other nations.

But this is only on issues not related to the holiness of the Land or to Judaism.

G-d wants Jews to request and obtain arms from other nations – certainly not to hand them to the enemy! – and to receive financial aid from them, as well. And G-d promises us, "no one will frighten you," We will not need to worry that tomorrow morning they will announce whether they will fulfilling their commitment to deliver weaponry and money, and provide security – since G-d promises: "You can sleep peacefully – no one will frighten you," for "great is the Shepherd Who guards the sheep from the seventy wolves." – That is said of the time of exile.

So too, "I shall set peace," is also blessing for nowadays. "And no sword will pass through your Land" as Rashi explains, "even a sword of peace." Even soldiers of peace from the UN who come to guard and protect – they have no place in the Holy Land! Because even "a sword of peace will not pass," because it is "Your Land," – our Land – until the end of time.

But the way to achieve this is through "Follow My statutes, keep My Mitzvos, and fulfill them." This includes using natural means: Requesting weapons with self-esteem, without compromising Jewishness, and surely not to compromise on matters of life-and-death.



And this is one of the greatest Mitzvos of the Torah; to guard the life of even a single Jew; and surely a group and certainly a large number of Jews, may they be well.

Whether they are in the Holy Land in the time of the Temple, or in the Holy Land in the time of exile, when the Land of Israel is in an inner exile, intimidated by non Jewish values and non-Jewish nations! Or whether it is Jews in the Diaspora, as the Talmud speaks of the people of Nehardea, a city inhabited by Jews in Babylonia. Likewise in all generations, wherever Jews live and practice Judaism.

May it be G-d's will, that from today on there be only "good decrees, deliverance and consolation," by "Following G-d's statutes and observing His Mitzvos." One of these Mitzvos is, that despite the exile, when a joyous holiday comes, or a fortunate opportunity to perform G-d's Mitzvah arises, one is in a state of great joy.

