

## LIVING TORAH

## A MOMENT TO SAVE THE WORLD Part III of III: The Spirit of the Law

## 10 Shevat, 5743-1983

A debate has begun, people have begun to study the law from the bottom up, and began to study the laws without their spirit.

They're translating the lifeless letters, without contemplating their spirit – the intent behind why the law was written as it was.

So considering only the last stage of the law, reading only the lifeless letters and ignoring the spirit of the law and its purpose, they have drawn a conclusion – interpreting the lifeless letter of the law – that we must separate religion from the state, including public education.

They say it is unimportant to know the thinking behind the law.

They claim that the law's purpose was to separate government from education, while everyone clearly knows the law's true intent: The people who arrived in this land were fleeing persecution – they had been prohibited from serving G-d as they wished.

So, to have the freedom to serve G-d as they saw fit, without interference, they established a law preventing government from interfering with their serving G-d.

But not, G-d forbid, to battle religion and G-d.

Some have read the words lifelessly, void of their spirit and essence, ignoring their intent.

And just as then, they fled their countries because they were prevented from worshipping G-d as they wished, people wish to do the same here, Heaven forbid, in a democratic country, where people should have the right to act freely, and certainly to serve G-d, – a spiritual issue and a fundamental issue.

They wish to read into the law that one may not mention G-d's name in a school, since the government sets the rules there.

- With the many implications this approach has.

In other words: When there are parents who wish for their child to be able to mention G-d – not only when someone else sanctions it, but that there should be no possibility that a teacher or principal should tell him that here, in school, it is forbidden to mention G-d – this is what the Founding Fathers fled! And for that reason they included separation in the Constitution.

Instead, the opposite is imposed, and fought for, and ostensibly, it's "freedom"! In truth, this is enslavement, and the worst possible persecution of religion! By imposing the separation

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as it is until today, Heaven forbid, and garbing it as an expression of democracy and the Constitution, is contrary to the intention, the spirit and the meaning of those who wrote the law into the Constitution.

As stated, when one views matters from the bottom up, and when one remains below, taking only the letter of the law, one discards its spirit and intent, and interprets the law contrary to its true spirit.

In truth, this argument is irrelevant, for the Constitution itself declares, one of its foundations...

When I was to receive my citizenship, I was told to study this, as well; that the Constitution was made "By the people, for the people!"

Arguing the Founders' intent 200 years ago – when we look at today's youth in their present state, we must first and foremost contemplate, what is truly best "for the people." One clearly sees a difference between children reared without knowledge of G-d, without even occasional prayer, and you look at the percentages among them who violate decent behavior, and compare the number with children educated in schools that taught about G-d and in households where G-d was spoken of – although even then bad things can happen, for the Evil Inclination is "a skilled expert," and can sometimes win; yet, the percentage of delinquency is incomparable of those who blundered in human behavior, between children who studied in parochial schools, in comparison with those who attended schools where one may not mention G-d, and surely not pray to Him.

The disparity is incomparable.

Since this is evident to all, and proven statistically, then the law's intent 2years ago is not important.

Even if the Constitution would state the opposite, we would need to change it today – since the Constitution itself allows for amendments according to the needs of the place and time.

Moreover, as mentioned, the Constitution as it is "living" not only doesn't oppose G-d or dispel Him, Heaven forbid, from any building – rather, the entire purpose is to assure that one can refer to G-d wherever and however one desires.



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