TOHIE IFUNDAMIENTAIL IPIRINCIPILIES OF AILL IFAITCHI

By:

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The Fundamental Principles of All Faith

Chapter One

Our intent and goal here, is to shed light on the True path. To truly grasp the True Path, one must fully comprehend the differences between it and false paths. Then one may follow it with the confidence and knowledge that it will lead him to his desired goal. The reason is quite simple. If the ultimate goal and claim of any path is to lead one to the ultimate Truth of reality, it must be established as valid, for if it is not, how could it lead to Truth? The ultimate purpose and claim of every religion, philosophy or path, is that it will lead one to the ultimate Truth of reality. This certainly is the claim and purpose of all religion. Certainly, those following these paths must be seeking ultimate Truth, for if they were not, they would not follow any path. Therefore, it is incumbent upon every seeker of truth to contemplate truth. This can be said to be the beginning of the path to truth. A person who has not investigated truth, cannot be a true seeker of truth. This is simply because he has not taken the necessary steps to arrive at truth and distinguish it from the false.

Unfortunately, today we find the world in a state of doubled and quadrupled darkness and confusion, to the point that not only are there those who do not seek Truth, but worse, there are those who do not believe there is Truth to seek. Therefore, our purpose here is to determine the foundational principles that may be regarded as self-evident axioms and their logical ramifications. Through this, we will be able to isolate the truth and reject the false. As explained above, this is clearly the beginning of the path for any seeker of truth. It is, therefore, the beginning of acquiring Divine wisdom and insight into the True Reality of God.

The First Axiom

The first axiom, that is, the first self-evident truth that is foundational to all other self-evident truths, is our own existence, and although the fact that we exist cannot be tested in a laboratory, there is not a single person on earth who can deny or escape the basic truth that he exists. Certainly, no one is willing to die based on this assumption. Moreover, the awareness of existing is far greater and more powerful than any other experience. The very fact that we are aware and experience anything, is proof positive that we exist, for otherwise, who is experiencing? We, therefore, accept our existence as self-evident in everything we do, for if we actually believed we did not exist, we would be incapable of doing anything. We could not eat, drink, move or breathe. A nonexistent being does not breathe. The very fact that all people breathe, proves without a doubt, that they believe they exist.

Because it is universally accepted that we exist (as evidenced by the fact that everyone eats, drinks, moves, and breathes etc.) we may establish this as an incontrovertible and self-evident truth. We will, therefore, use our existence as the starting point in determining the path to the Ultimate Truth. (Anyone who seriously disputes this, should at the very least realize that his opinions are of no consequence to those who do exist.) We may, therefore, test the claims of all paths and religions against the axiom of our existence.

The Ancillary Axiom

Secondly, regarding our existence, it is undeniable that we have limitations which we are incapable of overcoming. No matter how strongly I will it, I am incapable of flying as birds fly, or living underwater like fish. Even the powers and qualities that I do possess are limited. I am limited in time (I live, but not eternally), and I am limited in space (I am here, but not everywhere). **In every way**, I am confined by my defining qualities and limitations, for that is the very nature of my existence. This truth is undeniable and inescapable. The nature of the limitations of our existence is, therefore, our second axiom and self-evident truth.

Now, we do not ask that any of our arguments be accepted, on faith alone. On the contrary, our entire purpose here is to come to an intelligent discernment between the true and the false. Therefore, all we ask is that the reader be objective and set aside his presuppositions and prior beliefs. He need not reject them outright, but merely disregard them for now. The reason is quite simple. The strength of long held beliefs and preconceived notions may be so overpowering as to blind one to truth. Furthermore, the power of desire is far greater than all the powers of the mind. It therefore has the power to overcome one's perception, distort his reasoning and deceive him into mistaking truth for false and false for truth.

An example of how desire can distort the intellect and conjure faulty rationalizations may be understood by the example of a child who desires a bicycle. Because he desires the bicycle his brain races (automatically) with rationalizations for why he **needs** it. He goes to his mother and tells her, "I **need** a bike to get to school every morning." Clearly, this is not the true reason, but he has convinced himself of it. The proof is his reaction when his mother tells him, "Don't worry honey, I'll drive you to school every morning." Now his intellect reverts back to its original desire, and he throws a tantrum saying, "But, I want a **bike**."

Likewise, in our case, if one does not objectively analyze his beliefs, his conclusions will be distorted by preconceived notions and desires that he has picked up along the way, without truly examining whether they were true of false. Only if he can step back from his beliefs, is he able to reflect upon them objectively, to discern their truth. If he is incapable of doing so, it is a clear sign that he may have been on a false path from the onset, for he has never taken the prerequisite steps of any path,

let alone the true path. He accepts his beliefs blindly, without foundation, either because they are currently popular or are what he was born to. **Even if they happen to be true, he is unsure of it**, for he has never truly examined them. Rather, he relies on others for his beliefs. Certainly, such a person is insecure and unsure of his beliefs.

Moreover, the fact that he is unwilling to objectively analyze and investigate his own belief system, clearly indicates that he is fearful of what he may discover. This gives us insight that although he may claim to be a true believer, who believes with all his heart, in truth, he is essentially unsure of his beliefs. This is the underlying reason for his fear of objectively investigating and analyzing them. Therefore, one who truly seeks Truth, and is unafraid of what he may discover, will set his current beliefs aside and approach the analysis **objectively**. Only thus, can he ever hope to arrive at Truth.

Chapter Two

As stated above, we exist and our existence is limited. Our existence is physical. Every physical thing, whether it is the human body, the planet earth, the entire galaxy, or the whole universe, is limited. A physical thing, by definition, is composed of parts and is therefore quantifiable. If it is quantifiable, it is not infinite; it has a beginning and an end. It has a beginning and end both in space and time. A physical thing, by definition, has dimensions. It must have length, width and depth and exist in time. Whatever has length, width and depth and exists in time, has measure and is therefore limited.

Even space itself, is finite. For space to exist there must be at least two points of position. If there are two points, the area between them has measure. Being that it has measure, space, by definition, is finite. (Of course, the space between two points is only one-dimensional space and cannot exist as physical space. For actual physical space to exist there must be the three dimensions of length, width, and depth. In any case, if the totality of the universe would be compressed into a single non-dimensional point which did not possess length, width, or depth, neither space nor time could exist. In addition, that point would not exist within space and time.)

Time too, is finite. For time to exist there must be at least two points of sequence. The duration between the two points has measure. Being that it has measure, time, **by definition**, is finite. Obviously, that which is measurable cannot be

immeasurable. It has a beginning and an end. Since space and time are limited, **everything within space and time is** *most* **certainly limited**. This means that the universe and everything therein is limited and has a beginning and an end.

Now, if space and time are limited and have a beginning and an end, this means that their existence is not intrinsic to them. In and of themselves, **they do not** *have* **to be**. If this is the case with space and time, then certainly, this is the case with everything **within** space and time. We therefore see that the existence of the universe and everything therein, is not intrinsic to it. It does not **have** to be.

Now, since space, time and the universe had a beginning to their existence, this means that prior to it, they did not exist. This being the case, how did they come into being? Certainly, they could not bring themselves into being, for **something that does not exist cannot bring itself or anything else into being**. However, as mentioned above, our existence is a self-evident truth and an undeniable axiom, **for here we are!**

Now, if something that does not exist cannot bring itself or anything else into being, this means that a Being that **does** exist, must bring everything into being. Otherwise, how does anything exist? However, this Being cannot be limited to space and time. Space and time are limited and have a beginning and an end. If they have a beginning, there was a point when they did not exist. If they did not exist, they could not bring themselves into being. If space and time cannot bring

themselves into being, then certainly, any being that is **limited** to space and time cannot bring itself or space and time and the universe and everything therein, into being. **Therefore**, we must say that this Being is beyond space and time.

Furthermore, this Being cannot be a limited being with a beginning and an end whose existence is not intrinsic to it. A limited being has a beginning and an end. Since it has a beginning and an end, it does not have to be. Its existence is not intrinsic to it. Since its existence is not intrinsic to it, and it has a beginning, this means that before the beginning it did not exist. Something that does not exist cannot bring itself or anything else into being. **Therefore, we must say that this Being is Eternal, Infinite and Unlimited**. There was no point when this Being did not exist, nor will there ever be a point when this Being will not exist. The existence of this Being is intrinsic and must be. From this we understand that this Being is the True Being whose existence is intrinsic and independent of any other being.

The existence of the universe, however, is not intrinsic to it. It does not have to be and **by itself, it cannot be**. On the contrary, its existence is an anomaly which must be imposed upon it, by this True Being whose existence **is** intrinsic and who is above space and time. As explained above, it is impossible for a limited being to bring itself into existence. Only an Unlimited Being who is truly infinite and whose existence is intrinsic, can bring other beings into being. In other words, every being, and every form of existence aside from this

Unlimited Preexistent Intrinsic and Essential Being is a **dependent** being, rather than an intrinsic one. It depends on this Unlimited Essential Being for its very existence. Since it cannot exist by itself, it is not a true being. Its "natural" state, so to speak, is **not** to be.

Clearly, everything that exists, except for this Unlimited Preexistent Intrinsic and Essential Being, must have its existence imposed upon it, for its existence is not intrinsic to it. On the contrary, its "nature," so to speak, is **not** to be. Furthermore, if the Unlimited Essential Being would stop imposing existence upon Creation, it would cease to be and would revert to nothingness. Moreover, since not only space, but time would cease to be, it would be as if it never was. This is clearly understood, for as explained, since every limited thing, including all of Creation, has a beginning and an end, and its existence is not intrinsic to it, it cannot exist by itself. Furthermore, as explained above, space and time are also limited and do not have intrinsic existence. Their existence must be imposed upon them. Therefore, certainly everything within space and time must be continuously compelled into being, along with space and time.

Furthermore, this Unlimited Being is an absolute singularity whose existence alone is intrinsic and independent. In other words, there can only be one truly Unlimited Preexistent and Essential Being who exists intrinsically, without beginning or end. It is impossible for two **truly** unlimited beings to co-exist. For, if there were more than one,

neither of them would truly be unlimited. There would be a point where the existence of the one would stop and the other would begin. Therefore, we must say that this Unlimited Being is an **absolute singularity**. In other words, only this Singular Unlimited Preexistent Intrinsic and Essential Being truly exists, in a way that is intrinsic and independent of any other existence. He is alone, for all other beings have no existence, except by virtue of His existence. This means that relative to His existence, we have no existence, even after being brought into existence and that **the True self-evident Axiom of all axioms and foundation of all foundations, is this Singular Unlimited Being**, for without Him nothing at all can exist.

To summarize, we have concluded several crucial points:

- 1) Firstly, that our existence, because it is limited, necessitates the preexistence of an Unlimited Being, whose existence is intrinsic. This Being is preexistent and unlimited, and has no beginning or end.
- 2) Secondly, this Preexistent Intrinsic Essential and Unlimited Being is absolutely singular and alone.
- 3) Thirdly, any existence, aside from this Singular Unlimited Being, **does** have a beginning and an end. Therefore, the existence of anything, besides this Singular Unlimited Being, is not intrinsic to it. It does not have to be and, in and of itself, it cannot be. Therefore, its existence must be imposed upon it by this Singular Preexistent Intrinsic and Unlimited Being,

- upon whose existence it is dependent for its very existence.
- 4) This Singular Unlimited Being is above space and time, which are limited.
- 5) But for the existence that He bestows upon them, all dependent beings have no existence at all, and even after having been brought into existence, they are nothing relative to Him, for since they have no existence of their own, whatever existence they have is not theirs, but His.

It would therefore be improper to serve anything other than this Singular Preexistent Intrinsic Essential and Unlimited Being. If one were to serve anything but Him, he would be serving a created, limited entity, that does not exist intrinsically, and whose existence is and must be imposed upon it by the Singular Unlimited Being.

Chapter Three

Now, this Singular Unlimited Being cannot be described in the normal sense of the word "Infinite." This is because the infinite is limited to being infinite. For example, an infinite number at no point transitions into a finite number. It can only be infinite. Though it is infinite, nonetheless, to this degree it is limited, in that the beginning of the finite is the limit of the infinite. Therefore, this type of infinity is also limited to the definition of being infinite. It too has a beginning and an end. In other words, its end is where the finite begins. Therefore, this type of infinity also does not exist intrinsically and must be compelled into being. Moreover, a defined infinity is limited to its definition and is only infinite in that regard. For example, an infinite number is limited to the definition of being a number, or even if we were to say that time is infinite, which it is not, nonetheless, it would be limited to the definition of being time, rather than anything else. Rather, the Singular Unlimited Being mentioned above, is beyond this, for we must say that He is Unlimited in every way, and can do literally anything. He absolutely has **no** defining limitations whatsoever. Rather, He defines both the finite and the infinite, and is beyond both. (It also is clear from the above that relative to this Singular Unlimited Being, it is an equally inconsequential effort to create a grain of sand as it is to create a defined infinity.)

Furthermore, for this same reason, it must be said that this Unlimited Being has no body, form, or gender. In other words, He has no defined form whatsoever. If one were to say that He has a body or form, even in the most refined and spiritual way, he would be imposing limitations upon Him. This is impossible to say, as explained above. Therefore, it must be said that He has no body, form, or gender whatsoever. Nevertheless, because of the constraints of human language, we only have three possible options of terms by which to call Him; It, He or She. We cannot use the term "it" for that would imply a being that is inferior to us. Of the remaining two terms, "He" is the more appropriate, because in the relationship between the Singular Unlimited Being and the universe, He is the True Existence and we receive existence from Him. This parallels the biological relationship between male and female, in that the male is the bestower of the seminal drop of life and the female receives it.

Because of all the above, it is impossible for those who are limited, to grasp this Unlimited Being through their own efforts, in any way whatsoever. For, as explained above, the finite can never reach the infinite. It is therefore impossible for a human being to grasp the ultimate truth of reality, this Singular Unlimited Being, **through any of his own efforts**. This may be further understood from several points: Firstly, an effect can never grasp its cause, since by definition, the cause is always be beyond the effect. Secondly, a limited being is confined to its limitations. It is impossible for it to transcend these limitations by its own means. It is therefore impossible for anything which

has a body or defined form, even the "defined infinities" mentioned above, to grasp the essence of that which is beyond body or form.

Nonetheless, clearly this constraint only applies to limited beings, not to the Singular Unlimited Being, since He has no limitations. In other words, although, by their own means, limited created beings can in no way grasp the Singular Unlimited Being, nonetheless, the Singular Unlimited Being can certainly make Himself known to them. This is quite simple to understand, for although He is beyond us due to our limitations, we are not beyond Him, for He has no limitations.

Let us now return to what we spoke of earlier, and understand some of its ramifications. We explained above that any limited entity must have its existence imposed upon it in order to be. If this was not the case, it would revert to its original state of not being. In other words, all created existence is as nothing relative to the Singular Unlimited Being, whose existence is intrinsic to Him. Therefore, it follows with certainty, that any created entity must be created continuously, for, as explained above, it exists within space and time, and space and time are also compelled into being by this Unlimited Being. In other words, there must be a constant creative force from the Singular Unlimited Being, which imposes and compels space and time and everything therein into existence.

Since all of Creation is compelled into existence out of nothing continuously, we must say that this is intentional, rather than accidental. Firstly, something cannot come out of nothing accidentally, for there is nothing for the accident to occur upon. Therefore, all existence must be brought about **intentionally**. Secondly, as explained above, the Unlimited Being is not limited or defined by any nature, whatsoever. Rather, it is He who defines nature. Therefore, it would be erroneous to say that at some point, our existence just "came into being" accidentally (especially since He is beyond time). Furthermore, it would be erroneous to say that there is some nature that compels the Unlimited Being to create. This cannot be, for as explained above, He is above nature. He defines nature, rather than being defined by it. Rather, we are forced to say that the Unlimited Being chose to bring us into existence, intentionally. Furthermore, the intention for creation must be constant, for if the intention were to cease, our existence would cease.

Now, if there is an intention to our existence, this means it has purpose. By definition, something is purposeless if it occurs accidentally, without intention. Conversely, if something is intentional, there is purpose. If we were to say that our existence was unintentional and accidental, we would be saying that there is no purpose to our existence. Such a view is impossible, as explained above, because something cannot come out of nothing unintentionally. It also is foolish, for clearly, even when a human being chooses to do something intentionally, there is purpose. If this is the case with a human being (who is limited and is only the effect), then certainly, the Creator (who is unlimited and is the cause) is capable of **choosing** to do or not

to do. Furthermore, our choices are limited, for we are limited. However, His choices are unlimited, since He is unlimited. Therefore, He is the sole possessor of *true* choice and unlimited free will.

To argue that He cannot have free choice, because in order for there to be choice there must be "existent things" to choose from, is entirely foolish. Firstly, this would be limiting Him. Secondly, our existence itself is a testament to His free will. Thirdly, He can intentionally choose to bring things into being, as explained above. Since He is unlimited, He can do whatever He wishes. In any case, here we are! This means that He chose to create us, and that He chose to create us in the manner and way that we are. On the other hand, His is the only existence that does not need to be intended into being, for He always exists and His existence is intrinsic to Him.

It follows from the above that there is a general intention for the whole of Creation and particular intentions for all the particulars of that whole, even to the finest particle. If a single particle of Creation, no matter how small, lacked its intention for being, it could not exist. Everything that exists has an intention and purpose. In other words, all of existence, as a whole, fulfills a general purpose and intention, and every particular of that whole, fulfills its particular, specific intention and purpose, in order to bring about the general intention and purpose. This is obvious, **since the particulars are merely part and parcel of the whole.**

Furthermore, from the fact that the Singular Unlimited Being compelled everything into being with purpose, intent, and free will, it is quite clear that **He is a conscious Being**, rather than merely a "Primal Cause" devoid of any awareness or consciousness, and that **He is aware of everything, down to the finest particular**. If this was not so, they could not exist.

From all the above, we further understand that unless the nature of existence changes and is exchanged by a different nature, the purpose and intention of existence remains constant.

Chapter Four

Now, it is **impossible** for a limited human being to determine the purpose of our existence. Likewise, it is impossible for a human being to determine the nature of how our existence came into being. Any attempt at such speculations using human logic alone, is futile, for as explained above, we are limited and can in no way grasp that which is beyond limitations. Likewise, it is impossible for a human being to determine the path that will achieve the intended purpose of Creation and bring it to its ultimate fruition. One person will use his limited intellect and come up with one "purpose" and "path" while another will come up with entirely different reasoning. Firstly, how are we to determine which of them is correct? Secondly, by definition, their opinions are both wrong, because they were solely determined through human intellect, which is constrained by its limitations. Thus, any philosophy that is based on human intellect alone cannot lead to ultimate truth or shed any light on it whatsoever.

We are, therefore, forced to say that if any information on the purpose of existence and the path to its fulfillment is to be known, of necessity, it must come from that which is **beyond** our limited existence. More specifically, this knowledge must be bestowed upon us by the Creator **Himself**, for only He can know the purpose of His Creation and the path to its fulfillment. Therefore, **only the Creator can inform us of our intended purpose**. Likewise, only the Creator can inform us of the truth of existence, both His and ours. Since we are limited, it is impossible for us to determine and know this through our own efforts and devices.

It is therefore clear from all the above, that for this to be known to man, the Singular Unlimited Being Himself would have to reveal it. This means that there would have to be prophecy, which is the revelation to us, from the Singular Unlimited Being who is above and beyond limited existence. If someone were to claim to have attained this knowledge without having received it from the Singular Unlimited Being (that is, without prophecy), but rather through his own intellect and devices, we would, of necessity, be forced to categorically reject it as false.

Now, it is clear from the fact that there is a passage of time from the period in which the intention for Creation has not yet been fulfilled, to the point of its ultimate fulfillment, that its fulfillment is not solely dependent on the Creator alone. If this was not the case, it would be completely superfluous for there to be a passage of time. Since the Singular Unlimited Being is unlimited and beyond the constraints of time, He could skip straight to the end result, in which the intent and purpose would be fulfilled immediately. Therefore, we are forced to say that the Creator intentionally and specifically gave over the fulfillment of Creation to a created being, who, because of his limitations, can only fulfill it gradually.

This created being would need to be endowed with intellect and free will, so as to be capable of receiving the knowledge of the intended goal, and fulfilling it with intent and purpose, for if this creature fulfilled the intention reflexively, without thought or choice, the whole matter would be rendered a useless endeavor, for it would have been just as well for the Creator to have fulfilled it Himself, immediately.

Now, since it is specifically man who has been endowed with superior intellect and free will, it is clear that he is the creature that was chosen to fulfill the ultimate purpose of the Creator in His Creation and that the Creator intended to make His will known to us. Otherwise, it would be completely superfluous for us to possess intellect and free will, and we could simply be like all other creatures in the world, who fulfill their purpose instinctually, without thought or choice, just as it is the inborn essential nature of an animal to fulfill its purpose instinctually. Rather, we must say that we were endowed with intellect and free will so that we could be informed of our purpose and fulfill it freely.

From the above it is clear that if there were no revelation from above (prophecy), there could not be any relationship between us and that which is beyond our own limited existence and certainly not with the Creator. Furthermore, there could not be any established path of life or standard of morality etc. Rather, each person would, of necessity, "follow" his own heart, for there would be nothing else to follow. What one person or society would see as good and moral, another could see as bad and immoral, since there would not be any means by which to establish universal standards.

Moreover, if no purpose would be revealed to us from above, there would not be any imperative to abide by any laws or morals altogether, no matter what their source, and certainly, one set of laws or morals could not be held as superior to another. Rather, each person or society could follow the dictates of their whims and pleasures without regard to the will of a Creator, for no laws or morals would have been given by Him. Even physical punishment or death for transgressing rules set by social convention would be rendered meaningless, for ultimately, if no purpose were made known to us regarding our existence, there would be no purpose to life and it would make no difference whether we lived or died, except to ourselves. It is therefore understood that without any Divine purpose and law, that is, a law received from the Singular Unlimited Being, there could not be good and evil, reward and punishment, or any ultimate purpose to our existence whatsoever.

However, we cannot say that the Singular Unlimited Being is **compelled** to inform us of our purpose, or to decree laws and morals upon His creatures. However, though He is not compelled to do so, nonetheless, He could **choose** to. This is because, in order for us to be aware of purpose and to distinguish between good and evil etc., the Singular Unlimited Being **would have to** inform us of it. As long as this information would be missing, it would be impossible to consider anyone as being either good or evil or as doing the will of God or going against it, since the will of God would not have been made known to us. Moreover, as long as this information

would be missing, we would only be capable of following the whims of our hearts, because since revelation would not have been given from above, it would be quite futile to seek anything which is beyond our limitations, since, as explained above, that is beyond our capabilities.

The opposite is also true. As soon as such information would be revealed to man, he would no longer be justified in merely following the whims of his own heart. Rather, he would have to follow the will of God, and the laws decreed by the Singular Unlimited One. Furthermore, once we would have this information, we could be certain that there is a definite purpose to our existence. If after this information would be imparted, a person would transgress the Divine will, he would be a sinner who transgresses the will of God. Certainly, we must also say that once this knowledge would be bestowed upon us, there would be an absolute definition of good and evil. That is, the definition of good would be the fulfillment of the will of the Creator, and the definition of evil would be the defiance and transgression of His will.

There would certainly also be positive consequences which would result from fulfilling His will and negative ones from transgressing them. That is, if there were Divine laws, but no consequences or results, they would be futile acts that lead to nowhere. However, since, as explained above, the Creator did invest intent and purpose into His Creation, we are forced to say that consequences would have to result. Those who fulfill the will of God would reap positive results and those

who transgress it would reap negative ones. This is necessary to say, for if this was not so, no purpose would be fulfilled by doing the will of the Creator. There would, therefore, be no purpose in the Creator imparting it. Therefore, if His will is imparted, since, as explained above, **there is purpose and intention**, it is certain that its fulfillment would lead to positive results and its transgression would lead to negative ones.

Chapter Five

Let us summarize all that has been said. Our existence is limited and is therefore not intrinsic to us, yet here we are. Therefore, we must say that there is a Singular Unlimited Being who imposes our existence upon us at all times. This *must* be intentional, for as explained, it cannot be accidental. There is, therefore, intent in Creation, both generally and particularly. If there is intent, this means there is purpose. As long as the nature of existence has not changed, we can be certain that the intent and purpose has not changed. Likewise, until the intent has been fulfilled, it will not change. It is impossible for any limited entity to grasp anything beyond its limitations. Therefore, it is impossible for us to "reach beyond" and grasp the Singular Unlimited Being and His intent and purpose in Creation. If this information is to be known by man, the Singular Unlimited Being must inform us Himself. For this to occur there would have to be prophecy. If this information would be lacking, there could not be any meaningful law, neither Divine nor human. Therefore, there could not be reward or punishment, nor purpose. However, if this information would be bestowed upon us, there would be a definite law, reward and punishment and likewise, purpose.

Now, as mentioned previously, we are limited. Because of our limitations, it is not possible for us to believe the testimony of a single, lone prophet. If we were to believe a single, lone prophet, we would have to believe anyone claiming to be a prophet who speaks in the name of God. One prophet could come and tell us one thing and another could tell us another, conflicting thing. There would be no way to determine which is correct, if either. (Even according to scientific methodology, the testimony of a lone researcher cannot be regarded as credible, because his perceptions may have deceived him.) Likewise, in the case of a "prophet" he may have been delusional and only seen or heard what he imagined to be prophecy. How then, is it possible for us to determine which prophecies are true, and which are delusional or fraudulent? What principles do we have to test the veracity of prophecies?

Therefore, it is clear that, due to our limitations and the fact that we have no reference point from our own experience by which to determine the veracity of prophecies, there is only one possible way that we can accept a prophecy as being undeniably There must be a mass prophecy involving the credible. testimony of mass witnesses. However, for several reasons, there only needs to be one mass prophecy. Firstly, as mentioned earlier, unless the nature of existence changes, we can be sure that the intention and purpose of Creation has not changed, so there need not be more than one mass prophecy to express that intent. Secondly, because this knowledge would be received from the Singular Unlimited Being, it would be the ultimate Truth, and would, therefore, be unchanging. Thirdly, once this knowledge would be received, as a gift from Above, we would now have a standard by which all prior or subsequent prophecies could be tested and verified. If they would concur with the mass prophecy and in *no way* disagree with it, they could be accepted as true. If they would be in disagreement with it, **in any way**, they would be verifiably false.

This is not to say that there **could** not or **would** not be subsequent prophecies by single individuals. Rather, since the mass prophecy would be a general prophecy for all of Creation, it would, therefore, be unchanging as long as Creation remains unchanged. Therefore, all other prophecies, whether for specific generations or for all generations, would, **of necessity**, need to be in concordance with the general, unchanging, mass prophecy. **On the contrary, we would** *need* **to test them against the general mass prophecy to determine their veracity**. If they would be in disagreement, **in any way**, with the mass prophecy, we would, of necessity, have to discard them as false. If they would be in concordance to it, we would, of necessity, regard them as true.

Now, since the Creator is the only truly unlimited Being, therefore, ultimately, no dependent being can obstruct His will from coming to its ultimate fruition. This is because all other wills are dependent upon His will to exist. Therefore, ultimately, they are negated by it. The only reason they exist at all is to create conditions of free will for human beings. This is because, as explained above, the Creator desires that man have free will, so that he could fulfill his purpose freely, rather than instinctually. However, **ultimately**, for the above reason, the will of man cannot obstruct God's will from coming to its ultimate fruition.

Furthermore, since the Creator has an ultimate intention and purpose in His Creation, it follows that He would, therefore, bring about the ultimate and eternal positive consequences and results for those who advanced and worked toward its fulfillment.

Let us now recap and summarize what we have said to this point. It is impossible for a limited created being to grasp his Creator or His intent in Creation. The only way this knowledge may be accessed is if the Creator Himself, the Singular Unlimited Being, informs us of it. Therefore, in order for this information to exist in our limited world, in other words, in order for there to be a "True Religion," there would have to be prophecy. Without prophecy, it would be impossible for any human being to acquire this knowledge, and it would be impossible to believe anyone who claimed to have acquired it without prophecy.

Likewise, a mass prophecy, with mass witnesses, would be required to verify all prophecy, including prophecy received either before or after the mass prophecy. As limited beings we cannot accept, with confidence, the testimony of any single individual regarding even physical matters, let alone spiritual ones. If so, how much more so, regarding matters that transcend our very existence, we **certainly** would require mass prophecy and mass testimony in order to believe in its veracity with confidence. Furthermore, this mass prophecy would have to be unchanging, since its source is from the eternal, unchanging

God. It is, therefore, this general mass prophecy and the Divine knowledge that it contains, which would either validate or discredit all other prophecies, both those before it and those after it.

This mass prophecy would have to include a set of Divine laws which would be associated with positive consequences for those who follow them and negative consequences for those who transgress them. This is because something done with intent and purpose leads to resulting consequences, and as we have established above, there must be intent and therefore, purpose. If there were no results to our actions, by definition, they would be devoid of purpose, and therefore, the knowledge bestowed upon us by the mass prophecy would be superfluous. Only knowledge and laws given to us by the Singular Unlimited Being could possibly give purpose to our existence, and once it would be made known to us, any person who transgresses them would thus be going against the will of the Creator and there would be negative results if he does. The opposite is also true. There would be positive results if a person would fulfill the will of the Creator.

As explained above, since God is the only truly unlimited Being and all other beings are totally dependent on Him for their very existence, therefore, ultimately, nothing can stand in the way of His will. It is, therefore, certain that His will and intention in Creation will ultimately be fulfilled and that there would be eternal positive results for all those who advanced and worked toward the fulfillment of that ultimate purpose.

Chapter Six

After all the above, we may now establish the fundamental principles that a True religion must follow. If any religion does not abide by these principles, we must categorically reject it as false, and we would be foolish to follow it. This is because we accept our existence and the defining limitations of our nature as self-evident, and all these principles naturally follow from them. Therefore, to deny them would be to deny one's own existence and nature, and this we are incapable of doing, for after all, here we are! These principles are as follows:

- 1. There is a Singular Unlimited Being who brings all existence into being.
- 2. This Unlimited Being is an absolutely singularity, and there is no singularity like His. He is alone, and there is none other. He has no limitations whatsoever; no beginning and no end, and His existence is intrinsic to Him.
- 3. He has absolutely no form or body whatsoever.
- 4. He is first and He is last.
- 5. Any existence apart from this Being is imposed upon it by Him and therefore it is only befitting to pray to Him, not to any other being.
- 6. There must be prophecy in order for us to have any knowledge of Him or His will.

- 7. There must be mass prophecy for us to be able to believe the words of any prophet. This mass prophecy is what validates all prior prophecies and all subsequent prophecies, and is therefore, regarded to be the "father" of all prophecies.
- 8. The subject matter of this mass prophecy is the absolute unchanging Truth from the absolute unchanging Being. (Certainly, no human being may change a single word of this prophecy.) Therefore;
- 9. It is true for all generations, and will never be substituted for another.
- 10. This Unlimited Being is conscious and all knowing.
- 11. There must be a set of laws given, which must be followed. Those who fulfill these laws will reap positive consequences, while those who transgress them will reap negative consequences.
- 12. The ultimate intention and purpose of the Creator in Creation will be fulfilled.
- 13. The fulfillment of the intention and purpose will ultimately result in the complete and eternal perfection of the world.

Now, any seeker of truth must follow the above principles in determining the True Religion. The religion that he accepts must include all the above qualifications. These are principles that follow from the self-evident truth that we exist. For a person to deny them, he must deny his own existence and the nature of his existence. Not only would he have to be a lunatic who is not based in reality, but in reality, such a person **does**

not exist, for even the most deranged psychotics in the highest security asylums **are aware of their existence**. On the contrary, in many cases, their problem is that they find their existence to be too overbearing for them and cannot cope with it.

Therefore, anyone who is a true seeker of Truth must accept these as self-evident principles by which a religion **must** and can be accepted as true or rejected as false. If a religion does not fit theses qualifications, we can be certain, without a doubt, that it is not based in reality and must be categorically rejected as false.

Chapter Seven

Now that we have laid the foundations of true faith, we may examine all religion and distinguish between the true and the false based on these self-evident truths:

Christianity

- 1) It is based on the claims of one individual and does not have a mass prophecy to back it up.
- 2) Even though it recognizes the mass prophecy of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and claims to be a continuation of it, this claim does not hold water, since Christianity claims to supersede and abrogate it. Moreover, there are many accounts in their "testament" that portray their so called, "Savior" as openly and flagrantly transgressing the commandments of the Torah or advising others to do so. This contradicts the above principle that all prophecies, either prior to or subsequent to the mass prophecy, must be in full concordance to it.
- 3) Many forms of Christianity profess the doctrine of the trinity in regard to God, heaven forbid. This contradicts the principle of His absolute Unity and Singularity.
- 4) Even those forms of Christianity that do not profess trinity believe that a man, with a body and form, was (and is) God, heaven forbid. This contradicts the principle that He has neither body nor form.

- 5) Furthermore, this man said about himself, "I am first and I am last." This contradicts the principle that only God is first and last. In other words, only His existence is intrinsic to Him and the existence of the world and everything therein, depends on His existence to exist. He existed before the existence of the world and He will continue to exist after the world ceases to exist. Moreover, by claiming to be the son of God he inadvertently contradicts his claim of being first and last. Through this statement we see that, even according to himself, he does not exist intrinsically, for otherwise, how could God be his father?
- 6) Christians pray to their, so called, "savior." This contradicts the principle that it is only befitting to worship and pray to God, and that praying to anything other than Him constitutes the worship of false gods.
- 7) By acknowledging the giving of the Torah (The mass prophecy) at mount Sinai, but, nonetheless, not following its dictates and claiming that it has been superseded and abrogated, Christianity contradicts the principle that the mass prophecy is the unchanging truth and that all prophecies by single individuals must be tested against the mass prophecy to determine their veracity.
- 8) In doing so, it also denies that the mass prophecy is true for all generations and will never be substituted for another.

Islam

- 1) It is based on the claims of one individual and does not have a mass prophecy to back it up.
- 2) Even though it recognizes the mass prophecy given to Moses at the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, it claims that Mohammed is a greater prophet whose prophecy supersedes the mass prophecy. This is in violation of the principle that all prophecies by single individuals must be tested against the mass prophecy for their veracity.
- 3) There are many discrepancies in the accounts given in the Koran which diverge from those given in the mass prophecy of the Torah given at Mount Sinai. This is in violation of the principle that there can be no discrepancies between any other prophecies and the mass prophecy.
- 4) It modifies, changes or omits many of the commandments that were given in the mass prophecy at Mount Sinai. This is in violation of the principle that the dictates of the mass prophecy are unchanging and true for all generations.

Hinduism

- 1) It does not have a mass prophecy to back it up.
- 2) It does not have prophecy at all. This is in violation of the principle that without prophecy it is impossible to have any knowledge of God or matters of Godliness.
- 3) It believes that its "holy" men are incarnations of God in the flesh. This is in violation of the principle that God does not have a body or form.
- 4) These "holy" men are actually worshiped and prayed to. This is in violation of the principle that it is only befitting to worship and pray to God.
- 5) It believes in many gods. This is in violation of the principle that there is only one God, that He is an absolute singularity and that it is only befitting to pray to Him.
- 6) They worship graven images. This is in violation of the principle that God has no form.

Buddhism

- 1) It does not have a mass prophecy to back it up.
- 2) It does not have prophecy at all. This is in violation of the principle that it is impossible to have any knowledge of God or matters of Godliness without prophecy.
- 3) It believes in "holy" men who are incarnations of God in the flesh. This is in violation of the principle that God does not have a body or form,

- 4) Some forms of Buddhism actually worship and pray to these "holy" men. This is in violation of the principle that it is only befitting to worship and pray to God.
- 5) It does not believe in a God who is a conscious being who is aware of everything in existence. This is in violation of the principle that God is conscious and all knowing.

Now, it must be noted that here we have only pointed out several problems of these particular religions. Nonetheless, as explained above, even if only one of these principles is either missing or distorted, this in itself, is sufficient reason to categorically reject that religion. Moreover, here we have only dealt with the world's "Great" religions (and have found them to be deficient). The reader may feel free to examine any religion he so wishes, against the above standards.

The God of Israel

As explained above, by definition, an effect cannot grasp its cause. Since this is the case, the only true possibility for us to have any knowledge about the Creator and the purpose of His Creation, is if the Singular Unlimited Being Himself, **informs** us of it. Though, due to our own limitations, we are incapable of grasping this knowledge by ourselves, nonetheless, He, being unlimited, is **capable of giving it to us**. Moreover, in order for this knowledge to be recognized as the incontrovertible truth, it must be transmitted by way of **mass prophecy**. In doing so, there will thus be mass witnesses to testify to its veracity. Now, in contradistinction to all other religions, which base themselves on the claims of single individuals, **Judaism is the only religion based on a mass prophecy and on the mass testimony of millions of witnesses.**

At Mount Sinai, approximately 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 Jews experienced mass prophecy in the form of a **direct revelation from God**, when He came down on mount Sinai and revealed His Name to us, saying,¹ "I am *HaShem-יהו"ה* your God, who took you out of the land of Egypt, the house of

¹ Exodus 20:2; The word *HaShem* means "the Name," referring to the fourletter ineffable proper Name of the Essential Self of the Holy One, יהו"ה, blessed is He, the Singular Unlimited Preexistent Intrinsic and Essential Being Himself, which is not to be pronounced, as He commanded us in the third of the ten commandments, "Do not bear the Name of *HaShem* your God in vain etc.," and means "He who Is and Was and Will Be as One and is the source of all novel existence," blessed is He and blessed is His Name.

bondage," where we received the Ten Commandments from Him. This verified, without a shadow of a doubt, that Moses was a true prophet of God, who could be relied upon with confidence. Moses then ascended the mount for forty days and forty nights and received the Torah in its entirety. This included the written Torah and the Oral Torah, which includes the Mishnah, Gemara, Midrash, Halachah etc. as well as the teachings of Kabbalah, which are the secrets of the Torah and explain the workings of Creation. It also included the teachings of Chassidus, which are the secrets of the secrets, and give insight into HaShem-הוייה, the Creator Himself, blessed is He and blessed is His Name.

The exodus from Egypt and the subsequent revelation at Mount Sinai fifty days later, are **historical fact that are not subject to serious historical debate**. All accepted history is based on the fact that the event was witnessed by many people at the time and that there is an established tradition amongst their descendants that the event actually occurred. To the degree that there are no variant traditions that either negate or modify it, it is accepted as reliable historical fact.

A case in point is the American Revolution. Today, there is not a single living human being who witnessed the events of the American Revolution. This being so, how do we know, with certainty, that it actually took place? Certainly, it is **not** because it is written about in history books, for many "history books" are fabricated out of whole cloth, such as The Silmarillion, by J.R.R. Tolkien, The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, or The

Book of Mormon. What makes the American Revolution reliable history is the fact that millions of people actually witnessed it at the time and there is an unbroken tradition amongst their descendants that it took place. Its reliability is further strengthened by the fact that there are no variant traditions amongst descendants of people who lived in the colonies at the time, who claim that American emancipation was achieved differently, through the peaceful withdrawal of British troops and a benevolent granting of independence by the British crown. The same principle holds true regarding any other historical event.

Every year on Passover, Jews around the world gather together at the Seder table. The sole purpose of the Seder is specifically to recall and transmit the miraculous events of how, the Singular Preexistent Intrinsic and Unlimited Essential Being, HaShem-יהו" Himself, redeemed the Jewish people from Egypt, to the next generation. This has been taking place in an unbroken tradition, year after year, all the way back to the very first Seder which took place in Egypt as the events were actually happening! Furthermore, there are no variant traditions amongst Jews that differ in their account of what happened. There are not, and there have never been, Jews who claimed that they received a tradition from their forefathers, going all the way back, that the events were different! (Reform or Conservative Jews, who may contest this, do not do so on the grounds that they have received a different tradition from their forefathers. Rather, they will be the first to admit that they are a break from the tradition of their forefathers. It is

specifically for this very reason that their claims hold no water.)

No other nation on the surface of the earth has kept such a strong and unbroken tradition of transmitting its history, its teachings and its heritage, to the coming generations, as the Jewish nation. With this in mind, it must be concluded that this is a most reliable history. We can accept as incontrovertible historical truth, the account of the exodus from Egypt and the receiving of the Torah, directly from *HaShem-*הו"ה, blessed is He, the God of Israel, fifty days later.

With the above in mind, we can state with confidence, that even though the effect cannot understand the Cause, and we cannot, through our own devices, grasp the origin and development of the universe, what its purpose is, or what our role is in the fulfillment of that purpose, nonetheless, *HaShem-*, the Singular Preexistent Intrinsic Essential and Unlimited Being, who is not limited by these constraints, can and did inform us about this. This He did through giving us His Torah on Mount Sinai.

Now, about all the self-evident truths stated above, and their ramifications, not only is Judaism the single religion that fits them, but more so, these principles, in and of themselves, are the recognized and articulated foundational principles of Torah True Judaism. This is so much so, that in many congregations these articles of faith are recited daily, as part and

parcel of the liturgy. These are known as the "Thirteen Principles of Faith." They are:

- 1) I believe with a perfect faith, that the Creator, blessed is His Name, He created and conducts all the created, and He alone did, does and will do all that is done.
- 2) I believe with a perfect faith, that the Creator, blessed is His Name, is singular and there is no singularity such as His, in any way. He alone is our God who was, is and will be.
- 3) I believe with a perfect faith, that the Creator, blessed is His Name, is not physical and cannot be comprehended by physical comprehension. He has no likeness at all.
- 4) I believe with a perfect faith, that the Creator, blessed is His Name, He is first and He is last.
- 5) I believe with a perfect faith, that the Creator, blessed is His Name, it is only befitting to pray to Him. It is unbefitting to pray to anything other than Him.
- 6) I believe with a perfect faith that all the words of the prophets are true.
- 7) I believe with a perfect faith that the prophecy of our teacher Moses, peace be upon him, was true, and that he is the "Father" of all true prophets, whether those who preceded him or those who followed him.
- 8) I believe with a perfect faith that the entire Torah, which is now in our hands, was given to our teacher Moses, peace be upon him.

- 9) I believe with a perfect faith that the Torah will not be changed and that there will not be another Torah from the Creator, blessed is His name.
- 10) I believe with a perfect faith that the Creator, blessed is His name, knows all the deeds of man and all their thoughts, as it states,² "Who forms all their hearts and understands all their deeds."
- 11) I believe with a perfect faith that the Creator, blessed is He, rewards with goodness, those who keep His commandments and punishes those who transgress His commandments.
- 12) I believe with a perfect faith in the coming of the Moshiach, and though he may tarry, nonetheless, I await him every day, that he might come.
- 13) I believe with a perfect faith, that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the time that it is desired by the Creator, blessed and elevated be the mention of His Name, for eternity and for ever and ever.

Now, in no way should it be construed from the above, that all peoples must become Jews in order to be followers of the True Faith, or to be loved by *HaShem*. On the contrary, Torah True Judaism is a universal religion that recognizes the value and role of every individual, Jew and non-Jew alike. We all have a role to play in coming close to *HaShem* and fulfilling His purpose in Creation. Nonetheless, our roles are different. For more information

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² Psalms 33:15

as to the purpose and role of non-Jews in fulfilling *HaShem's* purpose and will in His world, reach out to your local orthodox Jewish synagogue and inquire about the seven Noahide laws that were given to Moses for all mankind. For more information about *HaShem-*, blessed is He and blessed is His Name, see HaShemIsOne.com.