

UTOM's Official Position on Kabbalah 09/12/09

Introduction

In the past we have been asked, "What is UTOM's position on Kabbalah?" Many are fearful of it yet many are eager to embrace it. So we are making an attempt to answer this question with as few words as possible with the understanding that this is only our opinion and does not have to reflect your feelings on the subject.

For those that fear it

It needs to be understood that Kabbalah is unavoidable. As we learn Torah we will in variably learn, whether we realize it or not, a little Kabbalah. So it is more important to understand its proper place in our walk and growth then to think it can be avoided.

If you feel it is not for you then don't pressure yourself into studying Kabbalah specifically. It is up to you as an individual. But don't sit in judgment of those that chose to study it.

For those that want to embrace it

It is a worthy and serious endeavor. It is not to be taken lightly. Be careful where you learn from and keep Torah as your primary source of study. But don't be sitting in judgment of those that chose not to study it.

Kabbalah is Wisdom of Torah

It is contained in Torah and it produced Torah. Torah is empty without it. But without Torah we cannot verify its teachings. Wisdom (Kabbalah) and Understanding (Torah) are a team.

Deuteronomy 4:6

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Observe them faithfully, for that will be proof of your wisdom and discernment (**understanding**) to other peoples, who on hearing of all these laws will say, 'Surely, that great nation is a wise and discerning (**understanding**) people.'

JPS

Bold added

In a nutshell

Ecclesiastes is a book that many feel is depressing if not sobering at minimum. But this book deals with subject of wisdom and understanding. These subjects are taught as vanity. Why? Because without Torah, wisdom and understanding are worthless.

Man's wisdom and understanding is worthless in the long run. But the wisdom and understanding that is coupled with Torah has an eternal value.

The point

Make sure Torah is main part of the picture. Don't view Kabbalah as a shortcut around Torah and its application in ones life.

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