

RABBI AHARON ZIEGLER

ROSH HASHANAH- 2020-5781

Interesting, that we Jews do not greet each other with the phrase of have a “Happy New Year”, but rather with -“have a Shannah Tova”. There is a vast difference between the two.

Happiness comes from bringing joy or happiness to someone else, while a “good year” comes from having a meaningful year. Psychologists note that “Happy people get joy from receiving while people leading meaningful lives get joy from giving to others”.

In the Torah, the very first time the word “good” appears is in the events of Creation, when HaShem created the “light”,. HaShem looked at the light and said it was “good”. Of course if Gd created it, what else could it be,? it must be good!! To which Rav Soloveitchik suggested, that , until we examine it and evaluate it , and only then can we determine that it good.

The meaning here is that every part of creation fulfilled Gd’s purpose; it was good because it was what it was meant to be. We are good when we achieve our purpose, our lives are good when they fulfill what they are meant to be.

Aaron Ahuvia, associate professor of marketing at the University of Michigan, explained. “People spend a lot of money to make their lives feel meaningful, and important. When you give away money you are making that same kind of purchases, but what you’re really trying to buy is a meaningful life.

SO I SAY TO MY READERS-HAVE A SHANA TOV-MAY YOU HAVE A YEAR FILLED WITH MEANING AND PURPOSE, AND HAPPINESS THAT WILL SURELY FOLLOW.

SHABBAT SHALOM AND SHANA TOVA- FROM YERUSHLAYIM

RABBI AHRON AND LIBBY ZIEGLER

NOTE-THIS COMING YEAR- 5781-THERE WILL BE NO SHABBAT CHOL HA’MO’ED NO LESS THAN 5 TIMES WE WILL BE MAKING KIDDUSH AND HAVDALA TOGETHER BY RECITING VA’TO’DI’ANU.

HOW MANY CAN YOU FIND???