
The Final Moments before the Final 10-Year Period Began.

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*Erev Rosh Hashanna, 5769, the final minutes of 5768, 10 years to the hour from when the Kabbalists had prophesied that *Moshiach* would come. I was about to to a *mikveh* and checked my blackberry for the final time before storing it away. The stock market had just closed and I had an email alert from the NY Times. "The Dow Jones industrials plunged a record **777.68** points, or 6.98 percent, to 10,365.45 after lawmakers failed to approve a \$700 billion financial bailout package."*

As the sun set on the last chances for Tshuvah (repentance) before the final decade began, the market lost \$1.2 trillion in its final hour. The Dow sank **7%**, a total of **777.7** points, or an even **778**, and with the revelations about the coming of the Messiah in the year **5778** ever present, whose else hand could there have been in this other than *Hashem*.

And as has been recently been pointed out to me, **778** is the gematria of **????? ?????** , (**in the coming of the Messiah**), and also of **"??? ????? , (I have indeed remembered you)**." which Joseph used to ask the generation to come to elevate his bones to the Land of Israel in pasha Vayechi.

We've written about the connection of *Pakad* (???) to the final redemption before, but we should add that **??? ?????** are "the secret passwords of redemption which Moses used to prove that he was the real redeemer speaking in G-d's name."

The next morning the markets were still, as the *shofars* blast around the world, this time, after **66.6** jubilee years they heralded the onset of the final redemption.

And that same day, "gold rose **\$23.20** to **\$911.70** on the Nymex." Gold, of gematria, **14**, the same as David, rose **232**, as in the value of the 4 aspects of the Tetragrammaton, YHVH (*Av, Sag, Mah, Ban*) to **911** (*reshit*, beginning) and **70**, as in the **70** Nations, and the **70** years of David's life, and as in the age that Israel will be in **5778**.

God's Hand, also of numerical value **14**, was in this, as it is in everything, only this time the world took notice. It was the largest drop in history, but the **17th** largest in percentage terms, **17** is the gematria of *tov*, good. And yes, it was good, spiritually; it started to wake people up. It is forcing Tshuva on many of us.

As the ball dropped in Time Square New Years Eve, closing out 2008, **42** tons of garbage were also dropped, a not coincidental allusion to the **42%** of the assets in the worldwide markets that year, and to the **42**-Letter Name (*Ana B'Koach, Shem Mem-Bet*) that we know from *chazal* will

help bring about the *geula*. That **42%** translated to \$29 trillion dollars--that's a lot of garbage--that's a lot of tshuva.

G-d speaks softly, but carries a big stick. Every day, companies, individuals, scoundrels, and governments are finding new ways to make vast amounts of assets disappear. Earlier this year an investor in Germany had a \$9.2 billion empire, last week he committed suicide when much of it collapsed. **Bernie Madoff** (**Mem-bet** for those that understand) made \$50 billion of people's money disappear, especially many in the orthodox community and charities. The US government finally made that \$700 billion disappear and then some, and now **Obama** (**Mem-bet** for those that understand) has declared that besides the \$1 Trillion he's promised to help vanish, we should expect multi-trillion deficits for the next few years. Poof! All gone.

The last time *Hashem* went "poof, all gone" was with Noach and the Flood, **Mabul** (**Mem-bet** for those that understand). There are easier ways to do tshuva. It's time we all look inside ourselves, and ask ourselves what we're doing to prepare the way for *H'Mashiach*. *Hashem* will do His part, of that we can be certain. We need to do ours.

In London, some group of atheists started 2009 off by taking out ads on 800 **Omnibuses** declaring "There is no G-d." And **Bilaam** made **42** sacrifices to counteract Moses' use of the **42-Letter Name** (*Shem Mem-Bet*). It didn't work; every curse he said became a blessing. Let's make the perceived curses all around us into blessings. The final 10 years have begun, and the *shofars* have sounded. Who will answer the call?