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Upper and Lower Worlds

By Rabbi Dr. Hillel ben David (Greg Killian)

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In this paper I would like to understand how the [human body](body.html) can tell us about the [Olam HaBa](futures.html), the upper world, and this world, which is the lower world.

The [head](body.html) is the part of the human [body](body.html) which tells us about the upper world. The [body](body.html), from the [shoulders](body.html) downward, [teaches](teacher.html) us about the lower world. The [neck](body.html), which [connects](connection.html) the [body](body.html) to the [head](body.html), [teaches](teacher.html) us about that which [connects](connection.html) the upper and lower worlds.

**The Brit**

There are [two](two.html) covenental parts of the [body](body.html):

1. “Brit HaLashon”, the [covenant](covenant.html) of the [tongue](spirit.html).

1. “[Brit Mila](circumcz.html)h”, the [covenant](covenant.html) of [circumcision](circumcz.html).

**The Sepher Yetzirah** 1:3. [Ten Sefirot](ten.html) of Nothingness: The [number](nchart.html) of the [ten](ten.html) [fingers](body.html), [five](five.html) opposite [five](five.html), with a single covenent precisely in the middle, like the [circumcision](circumcz.html) of the [tongue](spirit.html) and the [circumcision](circumcz.html) of the membrum.

**The Sepher Yetzirah** 6:4. And when [Abraham](avraham.html) our father gazed, he looked, saw, delved, understood, engraved, carved, permuted and depicted, and he was successful. And the Master of all, Blessed be He, revealed Himself to him, and took him in His bosom, [kissed him on the [head](body.html), and called him, “my Beloved”]. He made a [covenant](covenant.html) with him between the [ten](ten.html) toes of his [feet](heel.html)-this is the [covenant](covenant.html) of [circumcision](circumcz.html)-and between the [ten](ten.html) [fingers](body.html) of his [hand](fourteen.html)-this is the [covenant](covenant.html) of the [tongue](spirit.html). He bound the [twenty](twenty.html)-[two](two.html) [letters](letters.html) to his [tongue](spirit.html) and revealed their foundation. He drew them in water, burned them in [fire](fire.html), agitated them with breath. He ignited them with [seven](seven.html) [planets](mazaroth.html), and directed them with [twelve](twelve.html) [constellations](mazaroth.html).

The [Brit Milah](circumcz.html), the [male](male+female.html) organ, is used to bring a soul down from the upper world and clothe it in a [physical](physical.html) [body](body.html). The father’s sperm, a mother, and [HaShem](hashem.html) work together to draw a soul down from the upper world. This soul is then given a [physical](physical.html) [body](body.html) with which to elevate itself by performing the will of [HaShem](hashem.html).

The Brit HaLashon, the [tongue](spirit.html), is used to bring a soul in a [physical](physical.html) [body](body.html), into the the [Olam HaBa](futures.html), the [world to come](futures.html). A [teacher’s](teacher.html) words, [ears](body.html) to hear, and [HaShem](hashem.html) work together to lead a soul from this world into the upper world, the [Olam HaBa](futures.html).

In the lower world, [physical](physical.html) [sperm](flower.html) is used to draw a soul from the upper world and give that soul [physical](physical.html) life.

In the lower world, non-[physical](physical.html) words are used to draw a soul from the lower world and give that soul [spiritual](physical.html) life.

***Horayoth 13a***[*GEMARA*](orallaw.html)*. Our Rabbis* [*taught*](teacher.html)*: If a man and his father and his* [*teacher*](teacher.html) *were in captivity he takes precedence over his* [*teacher*](teacher.html) *and his* [*teacher*](teacher.html) *takes precedence over his father, while his mother takes precedence over all of them.*

The [Talmud](orallaw.html), in Horayoth 13a, suggests that if [one](one.html)’s father and [one](one.html)’s [teacher](teacher.html) were both drowning, G-d forbid, a man is required to [save](salvation.html) his [teacher](teacher.html) [first](one.html), unless his father also paid for the torah [teaching](teacher.html) for his son. The logic for this is as follows: A man’s father brings him into this world, but a [teacher](teacher.html) brings a man into the next world, the [Olam HaBa](futures.html).

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| The [Four](four.html) Worlds; Isaiah 43:7 |  |
| ∞ Azilut - World of Emanation - The Divine | |
| ∞ Beriah - World of [Creation](bara.html) - The [Spiritual](physical.html) | |
| ∞ Yetzirah - World of Formation |  |
| ∞ Assiyah - World of Action - The [Physical](physical.html) | |

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