Opening Remarks

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Secret of the Brit
Introduction
1. Opening Remarks

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shmirat habrit english pamphlet

Herein are excerpts from Tzvi Fishman’s book, Secret Of The Brit – Torah, Kabbalah, And Sex. These essays may be copied and distributed in order to spread the wisdom and light of the Torah. They are based on the words of our Torah Sages; the secrets of the holy Zohar; and the teachings of the Kabbalist, Rabbi Eliahu Leon Levi, shlita.

The English translation of the Zohar and notes on the text are also based on a range of holy texts. These include the commentary of the Sulam to the Zohar; the explanations of the Gaon of Vilna to the Zohar and Tikunei Zohar; and the wonderfully clear and scholarly commentary on the Zohar, Matok M’Dvash, written by Rabbi Daniel Frish, z’tzal. Any reader interested in a more detailed analysis of the Zohar is advised to make use of this magnificent Hebrew commentary, the Matok M’Dvash, which relies heavily on the writings of the famed Kabbalist, Rabbi Moshe Cordevero, known as the Ramak.

Because of the Torah secrets involved, and the problems of making them available over the Internet, much of the material from the book has been edited and abridged.

While the Zohar seems to indicate in several places that there is no tikun (rectification) for transgressions of the Brit, in other places it states that repentance is indeed possible – with a great t’shuva (penitence.) All later authorities agree that t’shuva is indeed possible, even for severe sexual transgressions. Furthermore, masters of the Kabbalah have composed special prayers called tikunim to help the penitent in his path.

General guidelines regarding t’shuva, and specific guidelines regarding Tikun HaBrit (rectification of sexual transgression,) appear in the last chapters of the book. Every reader is encouraged to study them, for it is precisely regarding these sensitive matters that it is written, “For there is not a man who is such a tzaddik (righteous person,) on earth that does good and never sins,” (Kohelet, 7:20.)

May it be the will of the Almighty, that in the merit of the holy Zohar, and in the merit of its saintly author, Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, that the prayer of King David be fulfilled for all of His people, “Open Thou my eyes, that I may behold the wonders of your Torah,” (Tehillim, 119:18.)