

# The Narrow Bridge

## גשר צר מאוד

### INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

#### Short Quotes from Various Tzaddikim - Week 91

To join our Whatsapp group for daily messages, contact us at 845-641-2648

לע"נ פעסל בת ישראל מנחם / לזכות חילינו

*In her letter to the Rebbe, a woman used the term "Orthodox Judaism." In his response, the Rebbe wrote: "I must point out to you that splitting Judaism into 'orthodox, conservative, and reform' is purely artificial division, for all Jews share one and the same Torah given by the One and same G-d. While there are more observant Jews and less observant ones, to tack on a label does not change the reality that we are all one."*

LUBAVITCHER REBBE, RABBI MENACHEM MENDEL SCHNEERSON (1902-1994)

*The power of Sukkot is that it takes us back to the most elemental roots of our being. You don't need to live in a palace to be surrounded by Clouds of Glory.*

RABBI JONATHAN SACKS (1948-2020)

*The Sukkah symbolizes Hashem's embrace of every individual, regardless of their spiritual level or background. The Sukkah calls on us to leave behind material concerns and focus on our spiritual core, where we are all equal in Hashem's eyes.*

LUBAVITCHER REBBE, RABBI MENACHEM MENDEL SCHNEERSON (1902-1994)

*The joy of Sukkos lies in the integration of the sacred and the mundane, in knowing that G-d is with us not only in moments of prayer but also in the regular rhythms of life; that holiness is not confined to the synagogue or moments of spiritual elevation - it is woven into the fabric of our daily routines, our meals, our conversations, our moments of relaxation.*

*When we sit in the Sukkah, we are once again enveloped by the Clouds of Glory, a physical and spiritual reminder that G-d is with us, not just in times of grandeur, but in the simplicity of our daily existence.*

*This is the essence of Sukkos - the joy of knowing that our relationship with G-d is not limited to moments of spiritual intensity, but is part of the very fabric of our lives.*

CHARLIE HARARY

*Simchas Torah was born when Jews had lost everything else, but they never lost their capacity to rejoice.*

RABBI JONATHAN SACKS (1948-2020)

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*Of the Four Species, the etrog has both taste and fragrance,  
representing the person who possesses both Torah and good deeds.*

*The lulav has taste but no fragrance, representing someone who possesses Torah but lacks good deeds.*

*The hadas (myrtle) is fragrant but has no taste, representing someone who possesses good deeds but lacks Torah.*

*The aravah (willow) has neither taste nor fragrance,  
representing someone who possesses neither Torah nor good deeds.*

*However, we are taught that if any one of these components are missing, the set is invalid and unusable.*

*This is to convey an important lesson:*

*Each and every Jew - regardless of their spiritual standing - is an indispensable member of our nation.  
We must bind ourselves closely together, for if even one person is excluded, we are simply incomplete.*

*On Simchas Torah there are two chassanim (grooms): Chassan Torah and Chassan Bereishis.*

*The Chassan Torah is the one who makes the final blessings of the entire Torah,  
while the Chassan Bereishis begins the torah afresh.*

*Now, we understand why we celebrate with the Chassan Torah, because he has finished the entire Torah and we join  
in his jubilation after a year of intense learning, but what is the Chassan Bereishis celebrating?*

*The answer is that although he hasn't finished anything, he has resolved to start,  
and that is worth celebrating just as joyously.*

HOMELER RAV, RABBI AVRAHAM ELYASHIV (1877-1942)

*How will we spend this one last day, this regel bifnei atzmo?*

*We will grab hands and dance in a circle, a circle that has no beginning and no end, no hierar chy or tier system,  
no head of the table or dais, no mizrach or lead position, just everyone dancing equally in a circle, united, together.*

*There is not one circle for shtreimels, one for black hats and one for kippot serugot.*

*There isn't one circle for the old and one for the young or a circle for the republicans and a circle for the democrats.*

*One circle, one people, one community, one history and one destiny. That is the enduring image of this yom tov,  
that is the message we take with us into the dead of winter and beyond.*

*Don't stop dancing even when Simchas Torah ends.*

*Don't stop holding the hands of the person on your left and your right - literally and metaphorically.*

RABBI EFREM GOLDBERG