



**Parashat B'raishit**  
**29 Tishri 5784 – October 14, 2023**

We begin the cycle of Torah reading this Shabbat. We can talk about creation and destruction. Creation is that which is relegated to HaShem. HaShem gives us creativity which means we have an ability to explore and discover. With that ability of creativity and discovery, we are endowed with a good and evil inclination.

What HaShem is instructing us to do is to take care of the world. What does that mean? It means protecting oneself to walk in a path of good. It means to destroy pure evil at its core.

HaShem created “The Beginning.” A person’s function is to endeavor to produce in this world. When a person puts in effort the success is shared. The human being is HaShem’s creation. Within that creation, the good person continues to evolve. When the personal evolution toward good diminishes evil becomes the accepted norm.

There are those born into holiness and there are those who strive for holiness. Greatness and success are different. Greatness overcomes challenges consistently. Success may be the end goal with no more to strive for. Greatness is fulfillment observed by others. Success is measured for the moment.

We are challenged now to be successful and great in order to ensure and secure, with the help of HaShem, our survival!

Good Shabbos!

Rabbi Nathan W. Langer