## "A New Year, A New Outlook"

December 2020

A man and his girlfriend were married after many months of dating. It was a large celebration. All of their friends and family came to see the lovely ceremony and to partake of the festivities and celebrations. A wonderful time was had by all.

The bride looked gorgeous in her white wedding gown and the groom was equally dashing in his black tuxedo. Everyone could tell that the love they had for each other was true and the joy felt in the air.

A few years into their marriage, the wife came to the husband with a proposal. "I read in a magazine, a while ago, about how we can strengthen our relationship," she offered. "Each of us will write a list of the things that we find a bit annoying with the other person. Then, we can talk about how we can fix them together and make our lives happier together." The husband agreed. So each of them went to a separate room in the house and thought of the things that annoyed them about the other. They thought about this question for the rest of the day and wrote down what they came up with.

The next morning, at the breakfast table, they decided that they would go over their lists. "I'll start," offered the wife. She took out her list. It had many items on it. Enough to fill three pages, in fact. As she started reading the list of the little annoyances, she noticed that tears were starting to appear in her husband's eyes.

"What's wrong?" she asked. "Nothing," the husband replied, "keep reading your list." The wife continued to read until she had read all three pages to her husband. She neatly placed her list on the table and folded her hands over it.

"Now, you read your list, and then we'll talk about the things on both of our lists," she said happily. Quietly the husband stated, "I don't have anything on my list, my piece of paper is blank. I think that you are perfect just the way you are. I don't want you to change anything for me. You are lovely and wonderful and I wouldn't want to try and change anything about you."

The wife, touched by his honesty and the depth of his love for her and his acceptance of her, turned her head and wept.

IN LIFE, there are many times when we are disappointed, depressed, and annoyed. We really don't have to go looking for these unpleasant situations. But we also have a wonderful world that is full of beauty, light and promise. You can look up

and admire the beautiful stars or look down and find always dirt or mud. Why waste time in this world looking for the bad, disappointing, or annoying, when we can look around us and see the wondrous things before us? Take a few moments each day to find at least one thing that makes you smile.

We are happiest when we see and praise the good and try our best to accept the not so good. Remember Nobody's perfect, but it is up to US to find the perfectness in them and change the way WE see them.....

So before we say good-bye to 2020 a year that was filled with unprecedented challenges and bumps in the road and rough times, let us take a moment to thank G-d for the many blessings that were showered upon us along the way!

## We are THANKFUL For:

The wife who says "it's hot dogs tonight", because she is home with us, not with someone else.

For the husband who is on the sofa being a couch potato, because he is home with me, and not out where he shouldn't be.

For the teenager who is complaining about doing dishes, because that means he or she is at home, not on the streets.

For the taxes that we pay, because it means that we are employed.

For the mess to clean after a party, because it means that we have been surrounded by friends.

For the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means we have enough to eat.

For my shadow that watches me work, because it means I am out in the sunshine.

For a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing, because it means we have a home.

For all the complaining, we hear about the government, because it means that we have freedom of speech.

For the parking spot, we find at the far end of the parking lot, because it means we are capable of walking and that we have been blessed with transportation.

For my huge heating bill, because it means we are warm.

For the lady behind me in church that sings off key, because it means that I can hear.

For the pile of laundry and ironing, because it means we have clothes to wear.

For weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day, because it means we have been capable of working hard.

For the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours, because it means that we are alive.

Most of all we are grateful to wake up January 1st 2021, cause that means through ALL the hardships and challenges in 2020, we made it!!!!!

On behalf of all the Chaplain's, Let me wish all of you a happy, healthy New Year Filled with best of blessings, and a 'new outlook' to life. May 2021 be one of our best ones yet!

May G-d bless you, keep you safe, and always keep you in his loving care. Amen.

Your Chaplains are here for you 24/7, should you need a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen, or perhaps have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to call.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

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