

## Yom Kippur 5770

### *Zohar 2:215a*

When they reached Rabbi Shimon, they arranged all these words before him, all that was said on that way. He opened and said: "The path (orach) of the righteous is like radiant sunlight, ever brightening until noon. The way (derekh) of the wicked is all darkness; they do not know what will make them stumble." (Proverbs 18-19)

**The** path of the righteous -- what is the difference between path (orach) and way (derekh)? They have already clarified the matter. A path (orach) is that which has just now been opened and revealed, and was made in that place a path, where no feet have trodden before.

Way (derekh), as it is written, "Why is your clothing so red, your garments like his who treads (dorekh) grapes?" (Isaiah 63) where the feet of all who wish tread.

**That** is why where the righteous walk is called path (orach), since they were the first to open that place. And even when others, the people of the world, walk in that place, now that the righteous walk there, it becomes a new place, for now that place is new as though never trodden before, because the righteous innovate that place through the sublime words in which the Blessed Holy One delights.

**And** what's more, the Shekhinah goes in that place, which was not the case before. And that is why it is called the path (orach) of the righteous, because the sublime, holy guest (oreach), visits there.

**Way** is open to all, and who wish tread (dorekh) there, even the wicked.

Way--this is the secret of all "who made a road (derekh) through the sea and a route through mighty waters" (Isaiah 43:16). Since the other, forbidden side has trodden there and rules to defile the sanctuary, therefore the righteous alone stand and rule over that place called path (orach). As we have clarified, a way (derekh) is open to all, to this side and that side.

And you sublime, holy ones, concluded Rabbi Shimon have entertained a holy, supernal guest and sublime, supernal words were arranged before the Ancient of Days. Happy is your portion!