



ESTHER WEIN

INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EDUCATOR AND LECTURER

Esther Wein is an internationally recognized educator and lecturer who has been teaching students of all ages for over 35 years. She is the creator of "*V'Nishma - a Groundbreaking Torah Approach to Discovering Judaism and Your Authentic Self.*" This audio-visual course follows the flow of the Torah presenting a novel, holistic and integrated approach to the most foundational Jewish concepts. The course addresses the very challenging cultural issues of today within the same holistic context. It is geared for both novices and well-informed students of Judaism. Esther lives in Lawrence New York with her husband and family.

You can learn more about "V'Nishma" by visiting estherwein.com

I Am The Proof I Need

Esther Wein

Are we elaborate accidents or the deliberate work of a Divine Creator? How we answer this question will dictate our self-concept, our entire perspective on life, and by extension our thoughts, feelings and choices.

Our search for the answer is personal and urgent. However it can quickly become overwhelming and confusing. The vast scientific investigations of nature and the universe have not definitively revealed a Creator. Where should we look for the answer?

Perhaps if we explore our own most intense yearnings, we may find that WE are our own proof of God, and furthermore, that we are living in a time that proves the Creator like never before.

Most of us now have the capacity to get our basic needs met and we are no longer preoccupied with surviving. Yet, instead of the relief and contentment we should be feeling, we are discovering a need for a different type of satisfaction. This need is growing within us and urgently demands our attention.

This need is very simple but immensely powerful, it is the need to express my individuality, to define my "self" on my own terms. This need is not about my comfort or security, rather this need inspires me to forgo my comforts in order to create my own unique "I."

I feel a burning desire to transcend my survival of the fittest identity and experience myself as a creator, free to design and build my own world. To this end, I also need freedom of unlimited self-expression as I expand and develop the many layers of myself.

Western Society today is now consumed by this new need and setting an agenda to fulfill it.

Where is our desire to create our own reality coming from? What accounts for our willingness to sacrifice our basic needs for the pleasure of creative and individual self-expression? Are we the only creatures wired like this?

Knowing that there is a Divine Creator, and that this entire world is the Creator's free self-expression, gifts us with the answers to these burning questions. It means that we are both creations and creators!

We are creations, part and parcel of God's ever-ongoing "self-expression." We are also creators, actively absorbing Divine "creator energy" every moment of our lives. Of all the species, we alone demonstrate this capacity; we alone are "in the image of God."

If our deepest creator drives are sourced in the Divine Creator, it is vital for us to know about it. Freedom of self-expression is a powerful force and where there is power there is danger. It can be mishandled and lead one to do harm to themselves and to others. Handled correctly, within the context of the Creator's truths, it is exhilarating. One feels the combined pleasure and power of the "I" unleashed, but within the safe framework of the Creator's reality.

This moment in history is a lucid God moment - God is coming into focus - within our own awareness.