

RESPONSE—80TH BIRTHDAY—S&P--December 7, 2007
Thank Angel/RJ/frnds daily serves ..I not know what doing here!

Writr/wit, Franklin Adams askd frnd: "Whose birthday today?"
She: "Yours?" He: "No, but getting warm... Shakespeare's." ...So
w me – all that tzimmes must for really some important person.

Thank: רבש"ע ... f my fam/friends—esp S&P ;Rabbis- >40 yrs

I= mixd feelings! One hand: שהחיינו. Othr: Abr Ibn Ezra:
כי בן שמונים ט' רח עלי בניו. אין לקבו אתו ול' א עיניו. בוז ליודעיו ולעג
לשכניו. אחרי ז' את קמת יהי נחשב. אשרי איש אשר נחשב לגר תושב. אין
קלבו רעיון ול' א מחשב. רק לאחריית נפשו ומשפחתו:

I choose: condtnal optimism. The unlikely model= MOSES
He livd t 120. Bt real career whn 80.—How? Bec—clear mission
I alwys bl[vd: each indvdl ~ special mission in life... שליחות
may it never be trivial...somthng worthy of effrt/sacrfe

Joke: When did he die?" Ans. "When he stopped living!"
No joke! Kotzker: "ofn met ppl long been dead bt nvr realizd it
...I believe: everyone has specife mission life. Also blvt some ppl
nvr seek t identify that mission; some not even aware what
mission means/ implies; and some blessed/lucky few do hv some
idea of a mission/devote lives t it wholly or at least significantly.

I=lucky: f most my lf I dedicated t a worthy/ transcndent vision,
refining it as I gain in experience/learning.

25 yrs rabbnt... 27 at YU....eductng Rbbs lk Angels.....RJ

[When I retird presidncy, I announced public tht henceforth ...
tm walk snow Centrl Park w wife, reread Federlist Paprs, Greek/
Latin, politicl theories Founding Fathers & o-c, finish few מסכתות.
I am sorry to tell you that *I have done none of the above!!*
Do I plan t accomplish in remaining yrs Almighty may grant me?
I'm not going to tell you]

*Thank again: ma y live as long as y want,
& nvr want as long as y live*