

8-12

July 30, 1952

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Miss London
Tex and Jinx Program
N.B.C. Studios
New York City

Dear Miss London,

Following is the text of the sermonette which I recorded yesterday and which you asked me to send in to you.

"Penitence is the major theme of this season for one of America's three great faiths. The word for penitence in Hebrew is 'Teshuvah' which, literally, means 'return'. The essence of this lofty concept is that Man must return to G-d and walk in His ways, and leave behind him his sins and frailties, if he wishes G-d to return to him, meaning, to offer him of the blessings of Heaven and the bounty of Earth. And indeed as the Prophet Malachi tells us: 'Return to Me and I will return to you, saith the Lord of Hosts'. If you will repent, I will repent.

"You see, my friends, we who frequently complain that G-d does not pay enough attention to us, forget that it is we who must first pay attention to Him. Return to Me first, says G-d, then I will return to you. For penitence is a half-way meeting of G-d and Man. If we take the first step on the Road of Return, which is the way of wisdom and honesty and faith and good deeds, then G-d will repent; He will return towards us on the road of benevolence and blessing.

"And as with G-d, so with Man. If we desire the friendship and affections of our fellows, let us take the first step towards them, and automatically they will respond to us. For in both cases, penitence is a two-way street and involves a half-way meeting. Return to Me and I will return to you, saith the Lord of Hosts - and your fellow man as well."

If there is anything else I can do for you, please feel free to write or phone. May I again remind you that I would appreciate your notifying me of the date when the broadcast is contemplated.

Sincerely yours,

Norman Lamm