

Rav Chaim Volozhin's Segulah to be saved during danger meditate on *Ein Od Milvado* - אין עוד מלבדו

HaGaon Rav Chaim Volozhin (Nefesh HaChaim III:12-13)

אין עוד מלבדו - *Ein Od Milvado*

"Hashem, He is G-d, there is nothing else besides Him" (Devarim 4:35).

“There is a great *inyan* and a wondrous *segulah* which has the effect of abolishing any spiritual judgments against you. It can sway the will of others so that they are unable to control you or affect you whatsoever.

When you allow this concept to take root in your heart and say to yourself that

‘Hashem is the only true G-d and there is none besides Him, no other force or power in this world, or any other realm at all:

*ayn od milvado Yisborach Shemo shum koach
ba'olam ve'kol ha'olamos klal -*

Everything is filled only with His oneness and simple unity.’

“If you completely nullify yourself in your heart, pay no attention at all to any other force or power or will in this world, subjugate yourself and attach your pure thought

and mind only unto the Master of the World blessed is He, then He shall grant you success and fulfill your needs.

And all other external forces shall be cancelled and nullified and they shall be unable to act or do anything to you at all.

(Nefesh HaChaim Sha'ar 3 Ch. 12)

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The Nefesh HaChaim discusses a Gemara regarding a woman who wished to take the dust from the feet of Rabi Chanina to perform witchcraft and kill him. Rabi Chanina granted her permission, for he was confident that he had enough merits that she would not succeed. The Gemara asks: How could Rabi Chanina not be frightened of this power of evil?

Rabi Chanina knew: “Ein od milvado—There is none other than He.”

The forces of impurity don't harbor power of their own. Hashem is the One Who gave them the ability to override the forces of nature, but without Hashem, they are helpless [and have no life force of their own].

Thus, Rabi Chanina believed with singularity of thought that nothing other than Hashem possesses any power at all. Therefore, he was sure that the witchcraft would not overcome him.

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Rav Shapira related how when the Griz HaLevi Soloveitchik came before the draft board and worried that he would be drafted into army service, his father, Rav Chaim, ordered him to use this *segula* from the Nefesh haChaim.

He also related in the name of Brisker Rav that once he escaped from Warsaw during the second World War, at the time that the Nazis-- may their names be blotted out-- had already conquered half Poland. All the roads were swarming with the Nazi murderers and he made his way forward, concentrating non-stop on this *segula*. When, for one moment he lapsed in his focus, a Nazi soldier took notice of him and approached to attack, he immediately resumed his concentration on the *segula* of the Nefesh HaChaim and he was saved. (*Yalkut Lekach Tov, Devarim 4:35*)

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