SPIRITUAL ANTHROPOLOGY: There is a new look towards spirituality where many people are looking for the spiritual truth in its many different forms. Like the anthropologist who seeks truth and tries to eliminate prejudgments, so too is it beneficial to open to spiritual truth without dictating the results beforehand. If one is objective, one can find that the unconditional loving Mother Goddess is deep within the core of Judaism (even in the Holy Name) and she is the key to the Messianic Era. She is the "SHEMA" and she is the one and the many. A "Mother Goddess" is not a threat to the first two of the Ten Commandments. The addiction to land ownership, possessions and status of today's society is the antithesis of the Ten Commandments and is the real "idol worship" of today. We can learn a great deal from ancient societies like CATAL HUYUK, where there is no evidence of anyone facing a violent death or even animal sacrifice. We can wake up to the fact that divine truth is revealed to peoples all over the globe. If one learns many different forms of spirituality, one can find the common threads (though they may be "in code" or with different semantics) which are the great spiritual truths. Studying the many various spiritual forms has the effect of "lighting up" the great spiritual truths.

I contend that the Kabbalistic writings are so highly evolved because the "mystics" learned spiritual truth from other "mystics" as well, whether they were thought of as Pagan, Celtic, Hindu, Sufi, Moslem, etc. Like a university or library which has many great thoughts and diverse opinions, it is this exposure to a vast

array of thoughts and opinions that brings about a higher rate of thought evolution. (This is similar to the concept that physical evolution is enhanced by a more diverse gene pool.)

Judaism's most "wholly" days incorporate the concept of destruction of that which does not serve the individual, and renewal. Our understanding of Judaism and Divinity also benefits when we undergo this process. It was an essential part of spirituality for thousands of years to be "shaken" out of our automatic behavior with shakers, the shofar, etc. As the Buddha is quoted in Anne Bancroft's "Origins of the Sacred," (Pg. 30) "Our greatest fault...is to become so over-involved with the everyday world that the reactions of the mind become automatic and lose their spontaneous life. In the end we feel indifferent to any other form of existence than the superficial level of owning possessions, be they material or living. We prefer to have than to be." Let's be shaken out of our automatic reactions and look at our own spirituality with renewed life.

The most important reason for connection with "SHEKHINA" is the experience of "true joy." This is an experience one has in the womb. In current society we are taught to look outside ourselves for satisfaction and contentment. If we look to the mass media (the great reflector and influence of the common consciousness) we are repeatedly told that there is something we need that we can not access within, whether it is status, a car, toy, etc. Yet the first two of the Ten Commandments state that turning to outside sources in a search for this joy, will bring an iniquity for three or four generations. (Addictions within the physical world do not bring joy.) Our society is experiencing this iniquity with widespread violence, toxicity and disease. To turn this around we must understand that all our thoughts, art forms and acts are our prayers. If our prayers reflect an understanding of this source of joy, a blessing will occur for a thousand generations, according to the Ten Commandments. Since prayer does work, and since every thought, art form and act is a part of our prayers, our world reflects the sum total of these prayers. The Messianic Era occurs when the common consciousness reaches the threshold of connection with this experience of "true joy" by connecting with the essence of Shekhina within.