

## **UNDERSTANDING OUR FAITH**

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## UPROOTING THE CAUSE OF EXILE

Senseless hatred is derived from false beliefs. A person believes slander and lies about his fellow, and these effect him to the point that he hates him and wishes him dead. His fellow, in turn, believes the same things about him. Yet, if [each] would not believe the slander about his fellow..., on the contrary, [each] would find that [he] seeks each other's benefit. And by strengthening this belief in his heart, they would become the best of friends. (Shaar HaEmunah, Introduction)

In exile, we are plagued with false beliefs about our fellow man. We believed that he is different from us, and we projected negative intentions onto him. These beliefs led to distrust, strife, and destruction. In many ways, these beliefs were and still are self-fulfilling prophecies. Harboring these thoughts creates the very forces that we fear.

We must combat these false beliefs and realize that, in essence, we are all one. By uprooting senseless hatred and replacing it with love, we uproot the cause of exile, and, automatically, the Redemption will follow.

Tanya Igeres Hakodesh chapt. 22. (end)

