



By Rabbi Yaakov Deutscher

G-d Loving Jew

“Every man: Your mother and father shall you revere and My Shabbos shall you observe- I am Hashem your G-d.” (Vayikrah 19:3)

Rashi points out that from the juxtaposition of these two *mitzvos*, to revere one’s parents and to observe Shabbos, we can learn an important principle. The *mitzvah* of fearing or listening to a parent’s command never takes precedence over the obligation of fearing Hashem. If a parent insists that his child transgress the Shabbos, or any other *mitzvah*, the child is required to abstain from listening to their parent and must follow the Torah’s laws.

Mahari Asad (1796- 1866) explains the connection differently. The Mishna in Avos (5:16) teaches: “Any love that depends on a particular thing, when that thing ceases, the love will cease; but a love that does not depend on any particular thing, it will never cease.” A love that is dependent on a condition is not everlasting. For example, if one loves a woman only for her beauty and she falls sick and loses her beauty, he will lose his love for her. The Tiferes Yisroel (Rabbi Yisrael Lipschitz, z”l, 1782–1860) adds that a person who loves another because he or she satisfies his physical or material needs does not truly love that person, but rather, he loves himself.

On a similar note, Hashem demands that the love we have for Him should not be predicated on the great kindness He bestows upon us, for this would signify a limitation of our love. As the Mishna in Avos (1:3) states: “Do not be like servants who serve the master for the sake of receiving a reward, but rather be like servants who serve the master not for the sake of receiving a reward, and the fear of Heaven should be upon you.” This can be compared to the unconditional love a parent has for a child. No matter what pain and anguish a child causes to his parents, the parent’s love for him will never cease.

The Talmud Yerushalmi (Brachos 1:5) teaches that the

mitzvah of Shabbos is equal to all the *mitzvos* of the Torah, for it is written, “Your holy Shabbos You made known to them, and commandments, statutes and teaching you commanded...” (Nechemia 9:14) Additionally, the *gemarah* in Eiruvim (69) teaches, “One who has transgressed the Shabbos is as if he has transgressed the entire Torah.”

Therefore, explains the Mahari Assad, by placing the *mitzvah* of fearing one’s parents next to the *mitzvah* of observing Shabbos the Torah is correlating the unconditional love of a parent has for a child with the unconditional love a Jew should have for his Creator.

Flesh and Blood

“Any man... who will trap a beast or bird that may be eaten; he shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth.” (Vayikra 17:13)

The Torah commands that when a Jew slaughters a kosher bird or non-domesticated animal, he should cover its blood with earth.

The Sefer ha-Chinuch (*mitzvah* 187) explains that blood represents the source of life. It is therefore fitting for one to cover the blood and conceal it, for one may acquire a sense of cruelty in his spirit by eating the meat while there is still a life-source in front of him.

The Abarbanel takes a different approach to explain the reason behind this *mitzvah*. The purpose of covering up the blood is to help one refrain from transgressing a different Biblical prohibition, the prohibition of consuming blood (*mitzvah* 148). Since one may be inclined to consume the animal’s blood while slaughtering it, the Torah therefore tells us to cover up the blood with earth. This would render the blood unappetizing and prevent one from transgressing the prohibition of drinking the animal’s blood.

Based on this understanding, Rav Zalman Sorotzkin, z”l (1881-1966) ponders why the Torah didn’t use a more disgraceful method to cover up the blood such as kicking or stepping on it? This would create an even greater

deterrence from drinking blood?

Rav Sorotzkin answers that once the Torah established that the act of covering up blood is a *mitzvah*, then there is an automatic obligation to perform it with *kavod*.

We can learn from here that every *mitzvah*, even the ones that may seem mundane, must be executed with the utmost respect and admiration.

Kollel News

This Shabbos at the Kollel :

Parshas Acharei Mos/ Kedoshim

Thursday, May 3:

8:15 p.m.:

Rabbi Biberfeld's Gemara Yoma Shiur

9:00 - 10:00 p.m.:

Rabbi Frand's Weekly Parsha Shiur

9:00-10:00 p.m.:

Kollel Erev

Friday, May 4:

No Chumash Shiur this Week

7:41 p.m.: Candle Lighting

7:59 p.m.: Shkiya/Sunset

Shabbos, May 5:

8:15 a.m.: Shacharis

8:50/ 9:26 a.m.: Latest Krias Shema

Kiddush sponsored by Rabbi Chesky and Aviva Weiss

Chaburas Chacham Lev

New! Ramban Shiur

5:45 p.m.: Business Ethics

6:30 p.m.: Mincha Note New Time!

Pirkei Avos Shiur by Rabbi Goldfarb

8:00 p.m.: Shkiya/Sunset

No Shalosh Seudos or Maariv at the Kollel

9:12 p.m.: 72 Minutes

10:30 p.m.: Rabbi Reisman's Navi Shiur Note New Time!

New Mincha Time on Shabbos : Mincha will now be at 6:30 on Shabbos Afternoons.

NEW SHIUR in Ramban Beginning This Shabbos!

Ramban was one of the greatest and most influential of the Rishonim. Probably the most popular of his works is his Commentary on Chumash which he modestly wrote to "calm the minds of those weary of galus, studying on Shabbos and Moadim." The Commentary is multi-dimensional including all methods of interpretation from simple p'shat to esoteric Kabbala. The Ramban is not satisfied with explaining the verse at hand; he is concerned with the overall structure of the various chapters and their interconnections. Many of his explanations have become basic principles of Judaism.

Join Rabbi Yochanan Eskinazi who will lead an explanatory shiur on one classic piece from the weekly Parsha.

Time: following the Kiddush on Shabbos morning for approximately 15 minutes.

Mazel Tov! to Rabbi Chesky and Aviva Weiss!

The Kollel Rabbis and Staff wish a hearty Mazel Tov to Rabbi Chesky and Aviva Weiss on the birth of a baby girl!

May they merit to raise her to Torah, chuppah and ma'asim tovim.

The Weisses will be sponsoring Kiddush this Shabbos at the Kollel

from 10:30-12:30 in honor of the birth and naming of their daughter!

THE KOLLEL'S THIRTEENTH ANNUAL LECTURE

May 21, 2012 at the Merion Tribute House, featuring HoRav Aharon Feldman, shlit"a, distinguished Rosh Yeshiva of Ner Yisrael who will speak on: "The Crown of Torah- How We Can Wear It With Pride"

Program begins at 7:45 p.m. (Mincha 7:30 p.m.)

There will be a pre-lecture dessert reception with Rabbi Feldman for all the sponsors.

Sponsorship Levels

Platinum - \$1000 * Gold - \$500 * Silver - \$360 * Sponsor - \$180

Silver Sponsors and above will receive an autographed copy of one of Rabbi Feldman's books.

FOR MEN & WOMEN

Suggested donation: \$18 - Students Free

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED BEFORE AND AFTER LECTURE

For more information please call the Kollel at 610-668-9557.

Business Ethics Shiur

Rabbi Biberfeld leads a discussion group on interesting questions relating to business ethics and their halachic ramifications. This lively interactive class places thought provoking, professional, ethical dilemmas within the framework of halachic discussion.

Feel free to come and enjoy! Note New Time: 5:45pm on Shabbos afternoon followed by Mincha at 6:30 pm Case Study #4 "Foreign Aid" Is it permissible to accept tzedakah from non Jews?

Mazel Tov:

Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Michaela Perez on the birth of twins - a boy and a girl!

Condolences:

Mr. and Mrs. Albert and Eileen Singer, on the passing of his brother, Mr. Charles Singer.

Dr. David and Lisa Eckmann on the passing of their beloved mother/mother-in-law, Chaya Esther Leah Bas Tzvi Yehuda.

Community News

Bnos of Bala Cynwyd will iy"H meet this Shabbos, Parshas Acharei Mos/Kedoshim, May 5, from 4:30pm to 5:30pm at LMS.

Torah Youth: 4:30 - 5:30 pm on the lower level of LMS. Grades K-8th. If you would like to help sponsor a Shabbos or want more information contact Rabbi Ari Silver at 610-6686-6833 or SilverDollar@verizon.net

The Man with the Truck is coming back to Philly! Monday, May 14, 4:30-8 pm; at the Philadelphia Community Kollel. He will have a full line of shells and skirts in all sizes, camp items, and boys' and men's items. Many new things!

If you would like to receive Menucha Vesimcha by weekly email or to sponsor an issue of Menucha Vesimcha in someone's honor / memory, please contact the editor at: menuchavesimcha@verizon.net

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