

unanimun & belmont4175's heoros
Posted by unanimun - 03 Jul 2014 00:42

the mishna in avos says ?? ?????? ?????? ?????? ???????, ?????? ????????"

The Maharal asks why does the mishna say that one whose fear of His sin is greater than his chochmo? It should say one whose fear of sin (?????? ?? ?????).

He answers that everyone, as a result of his inherent nature has a tendency towards specific sins. It is not enough for him to have a general fear of sin. He has to have a fear of his specific sin that he is more inclined to transgress.

Thereby the mishna is saying that only when one's fear of HIS sin precedes his chochmo, will his chochmo last.

(As explained by Rav Wolbe in aley shur vol. 1 pg. 133)

I think that just being aware of the fact that it is normal for different people to lean towards different sins should be encouraging. Also we see that there is a concept of working on the fear of a specific sin and not only a general Yiras Shamayim.

I know that some people will say that Yiras Shamayim doesn't do the job, but I think that there is something here that can help. Not the fear of heaven but the fear of sin. Being afraid of the sin and all the side effects, spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Contemplating the fear of the specific sin, while we are not in the trenches nor in the middle of battle, perhaps can have a positive effect and change the results once the games begin.

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