

Battle Cry

Posted by battleworn - 05 Oct 2008 16:33

Dear Holy Brothers, Precious Yidden, great warriors,

Yesterday we read in the Haftorah, "Shuva Yisroel ad Hashem Elokecha Ki Chashalta Baovonecha". The Gemoroh points out that avon refers to sinning intentionally while chashalta (you stumbled) implies that it was unintentional. The message is that once we've sinned we're bound to keep stumbling. And the solution is to return all the way till Hashem. Don't try to go half way, because it won't work. We don't need to turn off our passion, rather we need to turn it to Hashem.

The "Reishis Chochma" in shaar haahava tells this story. There was a man who got this crazy crush on the king's daughter. He managed to tell her that he wants her, so she answered that they'll meet in the cemetery. She meant that only when they're dead will he get anywhere near her, but he understood what he wanted to understand. So he went to the cemetery to wait for her and he of course waited and waited. Eventually he came to his senses, but then something interesting happened. He took all that passion and desire that was welled up in him, and he redirected it to Hashem. He became a very great tzadik and all his berochos would be fulfilled.

And then the Reishis Chochma says that one who has never had desire for a woman, is like a donkey and even less than that.

The powerful drive that we have is not a "problem" that needs to be cured. The same is true about the curiosity. We are just very very potent people. If we use it in the right way, the wicked menuval won't even be able to get near us. If we learn to experience spiritual pleasure the despicable menuval has no chance of enticing us with his garbage. When we have an intimate relationship with Hashem, we don't get depressed, anxious, bored or unfulfilled etc. (Of course the war is never over and he will do anything he can to get you out of that position of being close to Hashem.) Now is the time, "Dirshu Hashem bihemutzo" is referring to the Aseres Yimei Teshuva, grab the opportunity. Perhaps find a dynamic rebbe or at least a sefer that can change your life (they most definitely exist) You might end up being shocked when you see what a great person you can become.

This is what Hashem is waiting for, and this is the greatest Nachas Ruach for Him: To go from the lowest of the low to the highest of the high. And I believe we can all do it.

Gmar Chasima Tova!!! and a very very successful year!!!

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Re: Battle Cry

Posted by the.guard - 05 Oct 2008 17:57

Battleworn, we need to change your name to **General Battle-Worthy!**

Someone just told me a story of a Bachur who used to go places where there was Pritzus and he told R' Elya Lopian that he wasn't afraid of falling in shmiras ainayim. So R'Elya Lopian asked him for his name. So the Bachur asked why R' Elya wanted his name. So R'Elya answered that he wanted to daven for him, because anyone who can go in a place of Pritzus and is not afraid of falling must be very sick. And R'Elya continued that even he, who was old, feeble, and blind in one eye, was terribly afraid of falling in Shmiras Ainayim...

So like you said, General. It is 100% normal (at least non-addicted situations). The Tzadikim though, are brave enough to fight it for Hashem's honor, and redirect their wordly passions to Hashem!

Ashreinu Ma Tov Chelkeinu!

P.S. Is that story in Shar Ahava true, or just a moshel?

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Re: Battle Cry

Posted by Mevakesh Hashem - 06 Oct 2008 14:21

You are so right on target, once again!

The story, whether factual or not, is TRUE!!!!

Chazak V'Ematz!

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Re: Battle Cry

Posted by battleworn - 04 Jan 2009 16:20

Rabeinu Guard, I just got around to looking up the "Reishis Chochmoh". (It's at the end of the forth perek of shaar hahava) It's clearly a true story, and it's worth reading.

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Re: Battle Cry

Posted by Binyomin5766 - 04 Jan 2009 16:33

Wow, Battleworn, what an inspiring story. I have only been on my Jewish journey a relatively short time so I am still amazed at the wisdom of our sages. The ability to turn the passion to Hashem is the ultimate key, as it were. I guess that mastering the ability to turn one's passions to Hashem is what makes a Tzaddik?

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Re: Battle Cry

Posted by the.guard - 04 Jan 2009 17:18

thank you. I'll check it out bl"n!

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