

"seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by happygrowth - 19 Apr 2010 22:26

i am a young youth counsellor and i am close to a lot of frum and secular teens.

i know some secular kids, that were becoming very passionate about yiddishkeit and had even started keeping shabbos.

however after they saw the film "the seal of truth" they told me that they don't want a relationship with a god that tortures people for masturbating and not keeping shabbos, even if they were born secular! "the guy in the film does not even mention being jugged for the way he treated people yet he was publicly humiliated for masturbating!"

What worries me the most and what really compelled me to post this is that i have had 2 frum kids cry to me, with terrible guilt and fear in their eyes after watching that movie, they both told me they had not slept properly in weeks. the one kid sounded suicidal so i sent him for help as i am not qualified.

the thing is, before they watched the film they were doing well.

I am begging anyone who can stop this to do something, **must we wait for the first child to kill himself G-d forbid?** the movie clearly is not true if this even has to be debated it is tragic. one is jugged on a personal level for what you were able to do. the film gives the christian impression that you will burn in hell even if you never hear of the torah.

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by briut - 26 Apr 2010 16:16

[Yosef Hatzadik wrote on 26 Apr 2010 15:59:](#)

If someone can lie in bed at night upset over what he did during the day, he makes Hashem extremely proud.

HHhmmnn. I'm not sure that Hashem wants my shortcomings to have me "lie in bed at night upset over what he did during the day." I'm also not sure such worry makes Him "extremely proud."

I mean, after all, didn't he also give us tachanun? Erev Rosh Chodesh (Yom Kippur Katan)? Behab? Yom Kippur? As the old joke goes, he sent us three boats and a helicopter.

I'm wondering if maybe He wants us to love ourselves (not our sins, but our selves) and is proud when we figure out how to do that (even in our imperfection).

Reasonable people may choose to disagree on this one. Eilu v/eilu divrei Elokim chai.

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 26 Apr 2010 16:36

Briut, we do not disagree in this matter.

We are just discussing two different aspects of it.

I heard a story about someone who came to his Rabbi with a list of complaints against Hashem. Hashem didn't do this for him. He didn't do that. Why is his business not successful? Why did his roof sprout a leak? Why did his competition open a store down the block? Why did he miss the train? etc. etc.

The Rabbi stood up for him out of respect. He told him that he is very impressed a man simple background like his can have such a clear perception of Hashem. How many of us really SEE every little detail of our lives and the world around us as the workings of God?

How many of us have think of Hashem is a REAL being, enough to actually be crying in bed over our daily misdeeds?

(BTW, Do you want to start a thread defining 'Yiras Shomayim, FEAR of Hashem'?)

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 26 Apr 2010 18:24

Do others also not understand exactly what point you are trying to make?

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by briut - 26 Apr 2010 19:33

Actually, Tzadikl, I think I might understand Rage. (Although he's QUITE competent to repeat it himself, I know. I just like taking pop quizzes.)

Namely, you can comb chazal and find lots of actions listed in far harsher language than the aveira of mzl. We just don't know what kind of priority to give any particular lav, even The Big Three (murder, incest, idols). So relying on the relative awful-ness of this crime might be sorta shaky ground from a legal view.

("I call your mzl and raise you leaving shul early," "Well, I call your leaving shul early and raise you your disgusting meal without divrei Torah," and on and on and on)

I'd take his point even one notch further. I'd say we never ever ever know which mitzvos might be 'shtarker' than others. Hashem gave us a barrel-ful. He never told us which is which, or even if the same hierarchy holds true for every individual Jew.

I wonder if it'll turn out after 120 that we learn life was all about shatnez!!

(How'd I do, Rage-man?)

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 26 Apr 2010 19:44

[Briut wrote on 26 Apr 2010 19:33:](#)

I'd take his point even one notch further. I'd say we never ever ever know which mitzvos might be 'shtarker' than others. Hashem gave us a barrel-ful. He never told us which is which, or even if the same hierarchy holds true for every individual Jew.

I wonder if it'll turn out after 120 that we learn life was all about shatnez!!

As you say!

The mishna in Avos advises us to be as stringent with the 'small/easy' mitzvos as with 'big' mitzvos for we do not know the reward for mitzvos.

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by silentbattle - 27 Apr 2010 00:36

Rage - I agree with you (whoa! mark down the date! :D) that treating this as an addiction is

probably the best way to deal with it. For almost anyone masturbating, anyway, it comes darn close to the DSM-IV's criteria for substance abuse and substance dependence (even though those are talking about physical drugs).

But for people who don't feel that it's destroying their lives, it might be important for them to know the reason they should work on this issue before, say, talking in shul. The guilt is not a good method for dealing with the issue, but realizing how important an issue it is, is necessary.

yes, you can find an extreme saying from chazal for lots of aveiros. However, this one's got a lot of 'em, including soem more extreme than the one you posted.

More importantly, though, to my mind, there ARE halachic ramifications. So it's not just an esoteric agadata gemara, that we can say, "well, I don't understand what that means, when I have a chance to check up what the maharal says, I'll get back to you."

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by silentbattle - 27 Apr 2010 00:57

By the way, am I the only one who, when reading the title "seal of truth," thinks of a marine mammal that can tell if you're lying? Or perhaps one of the artifacts from a Zelda game?

Sorry, just had to share my thoughts.

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by trying123 - 27 Apr 2010 05:19

I don't know how in Gihenims name I missed this thread till now....

I am in full agreement with the original poster of this thread....

I for one was mortified by "seal of truth".... It was the most damaging video I have ever watched
-hands down....

For all you tough minded guys out there see this:

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"
Posted by trying123 - 27 Apr 2010 05:25

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"
Posted by trying123 - 27 Apr 2010 05:27

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"
Posted by trying123 - 27 Apr 2010 05:28

When we sin and get all dirty...

G-d is like our Mommy who will still take care of us and clean us and even still kiss us -even though we are dirty...

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"

Posted by trying123 - 27 Apr 2010 05:39

According to R' Desler, the reason Klal Yisroel fell to the depths of moral impurity in Egypt...

Is due to the fact that they felt bad about themselves....

Sounds like guilt is the cause, not the solution.... :-\ :-\ :-\

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"
Posted by trying123 - 27 Apr 2010 05:41

I can go on and on and on and on....

The point is that G-d is understanding....

We must be understanding of ourselves...

Guilt is extremely destructive....

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Re: "seal of truth"="seal of suicide"
Posted by southafricanJEW - 27 Apr 2010 09:17

[Tried-123 wrote on 27 Apr 2010 05:39:](#)

According to R' Desler, the reason Klal Yisroel fell to the depths of moral impurity in Egypt...

Is due to the fact that they felt bad about themselves....

Sounds like guilt is the cause, not the solution.... :-\ :-\ :-\

I Know what you say from experience, my Yatzter horah would convince me that “masturbation is the worst sin in the entire universe and is on the same level as brutally murdering little children, therefore I must spend every moment of the day focusing on stopping this, Stop worrying about trying to daven with a minyan, doing chessed and small things like that, a murderer has more important things to stop.” I am beginning to realize that I am wasting a lot of my potential because of this guilt.

And did the guilt help me stop masturbating?

It made me do it a lot more!

Another point that may be worth discussing is that I am sure that true “yirat shomayim”

Has nothing to do with “fear of punishment” fear of punishment is fear of pain, not the profound awe of Hashem we should really have.

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