

The Purpose of Bris Milah

Posted by ihadstringsbutnowimfree - 06 Feb 2022 23:07

I always wondered what the point of Bris Milah was and why it was so important in that we do it ASAP. It wasn't something that I recall hearing about in shmuzen in yeshivah.

When I listened to some GYE talks it turns out that it's all about sex or something. That makes sense due to its physical nature, but I still don't get it. Why is the bris, the covenant, the Big Deal between Hashem and Avraham Avinu...about sex? Why is that so important? Why is that the starting point of when Avraham Avinu becomes Jewish?

Also, if it's so important, how is it possible that it never really gets talked about? The bris milah is omnipresent yet the meaning behind it is still kind of mysterious to me. Is it all kabbalah? If so, that's kind of disappointing, I feel kabbalah should be left to the elite talmidei chachomim.

So, would anyone like to weigh in on what the point of bris milah is? Would love to hear other's different explanations and perspectives. Thanks!

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Re: The Purpose of Bris Milah

Posted by Rt234 - 06 Feb 2022 23:18

Don't quote me on this. however I think I remember hearing or reading somewhere that the point (atleast one of them) of bris milah is too give us the ability to fight the yetzer hara and be shomer bris (not be motzeh zera livatalah). & Without bris milah it wouldn't be possible to fight it. It kind of weakens the yetzer harah enough that we can fight it.

Again don't quote me on this but I believe it's somewhere along these lines (atleast one of the reasons).

all the best!!!

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Re: The Purpose of Bris Milah

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Re: The Purpose of Bris Milah

Posted by omekhadavar - 07 Feb 2022 00:42

The Rambam brings down in Moreh Nevuchim that the reason is to weaken the ever in order to minimize taivah. (??? " ???? ?????? ?" ???? ??)

[https://www.sefaria.org/Guide_for_the_Perplexed%2C_Part_3.49.11?lang=bi&with=all&lang2=en]

There are a bunch of other reasons brought here:

www.dirshu.co.il/%D7%9C%D7%A4%D7%99-%D7%A9%D7%94%D7%99%D7%9C%D7%93-%D7%91%D7%9E%D7%A2%D7%99-%D7%90%D7%9E%D7%95-%D7%99%D7%95%D7%93%D7%A2-%D7%9B%D7%9C-%D7%94%D7%AA%D7%95%D7%A8%D7%94-%D7%9B%D7%95%D7%9C%D7%94-%D7%95/

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Re: The Purpose of Bris Milah

Posted by baaltshuvah5782 - 30 May 2023 01:52

check out the chassidic explanation of the mitzvah of bris milah here:

drive.google.com/file/d/1RIT3Qq15hg05cPyPUJpsSSsMNAmrFz82/view?pli=1

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