

Parenthesis

Posted by Trouble - 10 Oct 2019 14:24

so, I said the parenthesis in zakkah yesterday - several times. the first time, before yk actually started, I was a bit distracted and I skipped over it. heck, I never actually "did it." I mean, it was there for the taking, but for some reason I held back. I even told her about those damned parenthesis! she understood. but then once yk got rolling, and I had the opportunity to say it several more times, I actually said those words. I told God and myself that it really made little difference. yes, the frummies and the midrash quoters will spew that stuff about actual cohabitation with an idolatress, a gentile woman! and even one who is not your actual partner. I am actually reminded now that she was in fact Jewish, a bas mitzvah, and all. got called to the Torah, wow! but I reasoned that this justification crap was going too far. you think my wife would go for the technicality that there wasn't penetration!? bottom line, I was too close for comfort, I mean it was comfortable and more, but it's not a position I wanna be found in. I certainly don't wanna be caught that way, but besides that, I'd rather not even entertain that possibility, although I actually found those thoughts slipping in several times throughout the day. am I being clear? I hope so.

I'd like to make a second half post to this and that will be about the zakkah in general. why all the women, Keri, etc. talk? but I'm running outta time now. sorry for the non-capitalization. my notes app doesn't do that for some reason.

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 18 Oct 2019 18:50

[sleepy wrote on 18 Oct 2019 17:59:](#)

[cordnoy wrote on 18 Oct 2019 13:59:](#)

[Tzvi5 wrote on 18 Oct 2019 13:45:](#)

[cordnoy wrote on 18 Oct 2019 13:25:](#)

Dov says another great (in my opinion) point: if these guys actually, truly, really, honestly believe that this is the worst sin in the world, they wouldn't do it. They'd find some other addiction to get involved with. Otherwise, they are crock full of sh*t.

If one, as a prerequisite to masturbatin', would be compelled to steal, say lashon hara, punch someone in the face, eat milchigs twenty minutes after fleishigs (God forbid), they wouldn't do it. Why?

Because all sins are not on his to do list.

You missed the point (and perhaps I wasn't clear in the pronoun). If that (the requirements I laid out) was the prerequisite, they wouldn't do it (the masturbation).

higher wrote:

"but i believe this qoute is not addressing what i said."

i think it was still not addressed

whats "it"? the dov qoute? it was. see above. if "it" means what i said (about mz"l being the worst sin-)mggsbms, (say that 3x fast), (i think), addressed it.

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by Hashem Help Me - 18 Oct 2019 21:01

This thought provoking conversation gave me the push to look up a few of Rav Moshe Feinstein zatzal's tshuvos regarding hotzaos zera. He writes that the terminology used by Chazal is "lav davka", however he sharply points out that it is an issur d'oraisa, contrary to what some would like to assume. He also says there is an added issur when it is done by hand (as opposed to by hirhur), and even in the case of medical need where there may be heterim given to collect zera,

he writes emphatically that it should not be done by hand..... He also refers to hotzoas zera as an issur chamur.

I would be curious what a posek would say regarding "looking the other way" about masturbation, if by doing so one can break the pornography habit (which for many is more permanently damaging to their image of women, can destroy their marriage, can chas v'shalom lead to "the next step", and creates more long term addictive issues). There are therapists who use such a mehalech successfully, and eventually deal with the masturbation too. They claim rabbonim have permitted this, but I am not privy to who those rabbonim are.

Regarding Dov's comment. I assume whoever is upset by it does not know Dov or his style. I am sure he was not chalila questioning Chazal or the Kitzur. He is an ehrliche fellow who believes in Torah and that it may not be muchlefees. His very blunt challenging approach makes one take a real good look at himself and convinces him to stop hiding behind facades of frumkeit and belief. He wants to know if **YOU really** understand and accept what Chazal mean. So all he is asking how do you reconcile the fact you would not dream of chalila murdering a child, yet you do (or did) consider masturbating which you supposedly believe is worse. I apologize Dov if I misrepresented you, and I apologize to anyone that finds anything I wrote offensive.

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by mggsbms - 20 Oct 2019 02:43

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In addition, Porn has a clear laav - ?? ?????? whereas mzl does not, moreover when looking at porn one transgresses multiple times.

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 23 Oct 2019 01:15

[cords wrote:](#)

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i respect you tremendously cords.

not that that makes a diff to anyone.

but i believe this quote is not addressing what i said.

all right.

almost.

(i wasn't quoted so i can't say it was intended to either).

This is actually dragging me into the area that i didn't want to go in.

the klausenberger rebbe zt"l, (in his collected shiurim chumash rashi-"shefa chaim), brings exactly this idea as the reason why it IS possible to do teshuva for us.

because we don't really relate to the choimer of this sin. and even if we intellectually KNOW that it's the WORST sin (yeah the whole deal) we still don't understand it (or feel it)
im pretty sure he says that's why er and onan were punished with misah min hashomayim

(something unmatched, that the pusuk immediately describes the punishment unlike any other sin in the torah including murder-almost like the proverbial "lightning bolt") is because they understood the gravity of the sin.

?obviously tzaddikim in tanach and their actual nisyonos are beyond our comprehension and their sins are relative to their high levels (no one should think they were just low individuals, chas v'shalom. but regardless it is written for us to learn from on our level as well)

but all that has NOTHING to do with that it IS indeed the worst sin in the torah.

?perhaps we are judged (more) leniently because of the reasons i mentioned above. but the actual gravity of the sin for its own (value?) remains. there is more to go into including the moreh heter aspect but i think this suffices.

by the way have a great shabbos everyone! and yom tov!

p.s. as i am editing, at the risk of being disingenuous, i just realized that nadav and avihu were also immediately punished for their chet. i believe that it's different over there but i don't want to debate that now and i think it's off topic. maybe another time.

plz see bold. did i miss something? isn't that more or less every aveirah btw? how can u do it if u know it's wrong? ruach shtus, moreh heter no? maybe even a therapy-like moreh heter! i wasn't responding to dov directly see above and i assumed that this conversation of why a person would still do it is self understood. in regards to the teshuva of rav moshe, i have not seen it in a while, but doesn't he actually say that in terms of teshuva-its from the easier aveiros to do teshuva on? i don't remember.

now just to preempt those that will jump on this and say that how can it be so chumur if it's the easiest to do teshuva on- i think you have to bring a proof that the spiritual implications of an

aveirah and the teshuva process have to be in sync. i dont see that as difficult to understand. the spiritual implications have nothing to do with rav moshes teshuva btw, and that was more or less the discussion.

it would be lovely if we could internalize all the musur and knowledge that we know about aveiros. then wed never sin and all be big tzaddikim. sadly, by most of us, thats not the case. still striving though...

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 23 Oct 2019 01:19

the last post was in response to hhm's post above.

i had trouble (stay outta this...) editing my response so im gonna add something here even though it belongs there.

i dont think i was ever choshesh that dov or cords believe in being machlif the torah. i dont know dov, but i assume hes an ehrliche person. (i dont know cords either but i conversed with him enough to assume the same.) i was just saying that since theres alot of talk about the zohar etc. that anything that sounds like the zohar is right away "discarded" as being kabbalah and we dont understand it. i was just saying that to do that to the kittzur is wrong. regarding the real intention of the dov qoute-i believe i addressed that above.

p.s. this discussion got carried away with some fine technical points about the "exact" severity of the sin of mz"l

to sum up where this thread started there seem to be three conclusions.

1. mz"l is front and center in tefilas zakkah because of its severity (and everyone agrees that its especially severe) even if it wasnt so common in "those days"
2. there is no solid ground on which to say that in previous doros mz"l was common (or that "cheating was rampant")
3. the internet definitely made the situation worse

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by bego - 23 Oct 2019 13:54

[higher wrote on 23 Oct 2019 01:19:](#)

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This is quite some thread!!! Lots of good solid Torah and ideas to chew on. Trouble, as always, has kicked up some good questions.

In relation to number 2 in the above quote, there are many more Teshuvos about these sorts of the things than we would think. I remember once discussing these inyonim with a rebbe of mine and he was metzayin me the noda biyehuda who has several teshuvos on this, some of which would be more than just triggers for people here!!

In relation to troubles question about what previous doros looked at, I note that IMHO many people's vision of the past of very wrong. Go to a museum with old photos and you will see what women used to wear. it was the Victorians that made everyone against sex, but before that, people (Goyim) were much more open than the current version of history says. Several English kings were openly homosexual and the number of mistresses they had would have had most people exhausted! The hamoin am married young because they had sex young and got

pregnant young. Prostitution was rampant (as it is now). These are, of course, assertions, but I like to think I know a little about these things, so take it as you wish.

Let's face it, masturbation is one of the rare aveiros that actually has a storyline in the torah! There aren't any about gid hanoshe that I know of! (I know chazal say Yosef and his brothers argued about aiver min hachai but i'm talking about mefurash in the torah.

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by Trouble - 23 Oct 2019 14:21

[bego wrote on 23 Oct 2019 13:54:](#)

[higher wrote on 23 Oct 2019 01:19:](#)

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Bego for president!

I had such pleasure reading this post, your spelling mistakes didn't even bother me.

Can you message me please those mareh mekomos from the noda beyehudah?

Thanks much

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 23 Oct 2019 14:41

in response to bego (ill prob take him for president, especially when you consider the competition).

ill confess i dont know much about the gentile society in those days. by the way aside from a couple of well known figures in terms of mistresses etc. u didnt really document much...how do you know prostitution was rampant????

in terms of the Jewish society-is there a soul out there that disagrees that we were much more segregated in those days?? yeah there was an enlightenment period and this Napoleon character, but other than that we were pretty despised "ghetto-ish jews. (im not talking about the assimilation period leading up to world war 2 in certain areas)

dunno maybe volozhin, and slonim, telz and belz,

were loaded with brothels!

speaking to my grandma about the alta heim gave me a VERY different picture.

nah shes not such a history buff.

but she has an advantage too.

she was there!

as for a "story-line" in the torah, the maysah with er and onan is something that we learn from but these are individuals far greater than our comprehension entails. they had cheshbonos and i dont think that we can compare them to us. so in that sense its kinda as relevant as the "storyline" of the hitting on the gid hanashe by yaakov avinu.

def. the torah wants to point out this sin (possibly due to the severity?)

its def not mentioned in the torah that this was common!

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by i-man - 23 Oct 2019 14:44

?????...

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 23 Oct 2019 14:46

2 points for mitzrayim.

pretty special case also dont ya think?

anything more recent that we can relate to and was assumed in the opening post?

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by i-man - 23 Oct 2019 14:59

Oh I thought there was an argument about whether civilizations and societies were immoral (there were many)...

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 23 Oct 2019 15:01

not to my understanding.

i thought this was primarily concerning us.

(the jews). (i also had a chat confirming this with trouble.)

if trouble seems to agree with you either hes confused about his opening post, im confused...

Warning: Spoiler!

p.s. if anyone has a refutation to what it was like in der heim please speak up.

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by i-man - 23 Oct 2019 15:16

Threads evolve gotta up with the times ...

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Re: Parenthesis

Posted by higher - 23 Oct 2019 15:16

not that anyone cares but i think that ive taken a bit of a sharp tone on this thread. i dont think thats necessary. sorry.

ditto for the above p.s. though

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