

Character subjugation

Posted by willandtonya - 20 Jan 2022 02:41

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I have read, in Ohr Yisrael, that one can perfect themselves in a character trait to a point that it is only on the subconscious level, the deep subconscious level, that the negative trait exists. They no longer love the desire they are resisting but rather have no desire to do it whatsoever.

May we all reach this exalted level in our closeness to Hashem!

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Re: Character subjugation

Posted by bego - 20 Jan 2022 16:52

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[willandtonya wrote on 20 Jan 2022 02:41:](#)

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Sounds nice.

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Re: Character subjugation

Posted by DavidT - 20 Jan 2022 19:26

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Rav Eliyahu Dessler wrote a "phenomenal essay on *bechira*" (*Michtav MeEliyahu*, Vol. 1, pp. 111-116). In this essay, Rav Dessler describes how the "*nekudas habechirah* - the point of free choice" is different for different people and in different situations. He explains that *bechira* is not a theoretical concept that can be applied to any circumstance where a person can hypothetically choose between two options. Rather, it only applies to moral conflicts where the two opposing forces are of approximately equal strength, the person is aware of the internal

conflict, and he makes a conscious decision in one direction. When a person does something over which he does not experience conscious conflict, or if the compelling force on one side is significantly stronger than the other, the fact that he is theoretically able to decide either way does **not** qualify his act as an expression of *bechira*.

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