



# RABBI SHALOM

## ROSNER

RAV KEHILLA, NOFEI HASHEMESH  
MAGGID SHIUR, DAF YOMI, OU.ORG  
ROSH BAIS MEDRASH ENGLISH SPEAKING PROGRAM MACHON LEV

# Being Honest with Yourself

אתה אלקיך תירא... (דברים י"ב)

*Be in awe of God... (Devarim 10:20).*

The Gemara in Pesachim (22b) relays a story about Rav Shimon Ha'amsuni. Rav Ha'amsuni posited that each verse that contains the word את could have been written absent that word. Since there is no superfluous word in the Torah, Rav Ha'amsuni sought to expand upon each "את" in the Torah. The word "את" appears over 4,000 times in the Torah so this was a tremendous undertaking. As an example of such an expanded interpretation – the pasuk כבד את אביך - honor thy father, is expanded to include not only honoring one's father, but to honor older siblings as well.

Rav Ha'amsuni continued with his approach until he reached the pasuk in

our parsha – אתה אלקיך תירא (Be in awe of Hashem). There is no other being that we are required to be in awe of alongside Hashem. Frustrated, he felt that if he could not find an answer to this pasuk, his entire thesis was flawed and so he was ready to rip up his entire treatise. His students asked why he would throw his life's work out just because he was unable to explain one pasuk in accordance with his theory. Rav Ha'amsuni replied: כשם שקבלתי שכר – על הדרישה כך אקבל שכר על הפרישה – just as I received reward for expanding those words, so too I will receive a reward for abandoning my thesis.

Then Rav Akiva suggested a resolution – אתה ה' אלקיך תירא - לרבות תלמידי חכמים - This pasuk may be expanded to include being in awe of *talmedei chachamim* (Torah scholars). It is not to respect merely a particular individual, but rather reflects respect for one who sanctifies God's name.

Rav Gifter asks, why was Rabbi Akiva able to resolve the dilemma and Rav Ha'amsuni unable to do so? The answer is quite simple. Rabbi Akiva had something Rav Ha'amsuni lacked. Rav Akiva had Rav Ha'amsuni as a Rebbe. Rav Akiva saw a person so committed to truth that he was willing to admit that his life's work was mistaken. That is truly admirable.

It is difficult to admit that one is wrong. We try to rationalize our actions and make excuses that at times compromise

Can you afford

## NIS 1,600,000

For life saving medications  
NOT covered by Kupat Cholim?

If not, and under age 74.5, call now

**Norman Zysblat**  
**054-4258671**

Licensed Insurance Professional

our values. Parshat Eikev is read as we approach Chodesh Elul - a time for introspection. May we have the *gevura* – the strength of Rav Ha'amsuni, to be honest with ourselves. To admit when we are incorrect. To be able to improve the manner in which we view ourselves and the way we treat others, so that we merit a geula shlema! ■



**מדר עורכי דין**  
**Madar Law Office**

**ENGLISH SPEAKING LAW FIRM**

**Orit Madar, Adv.**

**Family Law and Mediation**

Divorce, Child support, Custody  
Inheritance & Wills

**Yariv Madar, Adv.**

**Bodily Injuries, Medical Malpractice**  
Civil Litigation

10 Hillel St., Jerusalem | 36 Dam hamkabim st., Modiin  
02-6255592, 050-3202909  
Madar@netvision.net.il

## **Pinchus Klahr, MD** **Rheumatology**

US Board Certified / Misrad HaBriut recognized specialist  
in all Arthritis conditions Joint and Muscle Pain

Conscientious "American style" Care

Conveniently located at  
Refa Na Medical Center, Givat Shaul, Jerusalem

**052-713-2224**

Now also seeing patients at the  
LaBriut Health Center in RBS **02-970-1100**



Splendid new penthouse in Talbieh, 312 sqm on one level, 74 sqm Sukkah terrace facing beautiful views with luxurious facilities: gym, pool, spa



Newly 160 sqm apt near Old Katamon, private parking, Sukkah terrace facing beautiful views in a greenery neighbourhood



Stunning 168 sqm apartment, 71 sqm Sukkah terrace facing South views with the benefits of 5 star hotel facilities



Unique 190 sqm luxurious penthouse with private roof in **Mamilla**, first line to magnificent Old City views - FOR SALE OR FOR RENT

**T&T INVESTMENTS**

Deborah Touitou +972(0)54-480-4767  
www.real-estate-jerusalem.co.il  
deborah@realestatejerusalem.co.il

