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pardes PROJECT





anger



MANY OF THE TOPICS INCLUDED IN THE PARDES CURRICULUM ARE FAR-REACHING AND HAVE **BROAD RAMIFICATIONS.** THE INTENT OF PARDES IS TO PROMOTE SENSITIVITY AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH THROUGH EXPOSURE TO A VARIETY OF TORAH SOURCES. IT IS NOT WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF PARDES TO ARRIVE AT CONCLUSIONS RELEVANT TO DECISIONS OF HALACHA. PLEASE CONSULT YOUR RABBI FOR PERSONAL DECISIONS.

Introduction

"The world needs anger. The world often continues to allow evil because it isn't angry enough."-Bede Jarrett

 believe that I am allergic to anger. I cringe whenever I see someone lose his or her temper. I hate to see a parent yell at a child or a boss admonish his or her workers. My revulsion is immediate, and I have always considered my revulsion to be a good trait. There are many quotes from the Torah and the Talmud condemning anger. Likewise, when Loccasionally hear someone praise their parents, "My mom never got angry at us," my response is "Wow! What a great human being!"

Recently, however, I have begun to wonder. Anger is a normal reaction, as natural and honest as sympathy or fear. Though it may be ugly to see someone lose their temper, perhaps those of us who avoid getting angry are really engaged in an subtle form of escapism. If I train myself to stay calm in the face of oppression, am I not stifling my own humanity? If I fail to protest evil, if I let my children pursue the path of least resistance, if I decline to admonish inefficient employees, am I not contributing to the decay of society? Have I stifled my own conscience?

An often quoted Talmudic statement provides: "When a person gets angry, it is as if he is worshipping an idol." The trouble is, however, that this passage does not exist. What the Talmud does say is: "He who rips his clothing or throws something in his anger, it is as if he worships idols." The Talmud teaches us the not so subtle distinction between the person who gets angry and the person who loses himself in his anger; while it is never correct to lose control, controlled anger may have its place.

This brings us to our current Pardes issue. When we get angry, are we displaying strength or weakness? Sensitivity or callousness? And when we deflect our anger, are we reacting maturely or out of cold-heartedness and indifference? The answer is crucial. The future of our society is at stake.

Note: As in all Pardes issues, many of the sources compiled were written many centuries ago and therefore reflect the thinking and culture of their times. However the concepts are eternal.

Rabbi Yaacov Haber

How would you respond?

You have spent years working on controlling your temper with your children. One afternoon after school, you overhear your young children and their friends talking. One of the other kids describes to everyone the practical jokes that he has pulled on his teacher, and the calls that his parents have received from the school. When your son asks how the child can continue such behavior, the child responds that while his parents may urge him to stop, he knows that they never get angry when the teacher calls to complain so they can't be that upset. You wonder, whether it is better to refrain from anger altogether, or to get angry in order to impress your children into doing the right thing?

Your friend is a virtual cannonball of anger. He rails against those causing world hunger, derides those who fail to help the disabled, and decries those who are stupid. He attends protest railies, signs petitions and writes angry letters to the editor. You gingerly suggest that all of his anger is unhealthy and could give him a coronary. He responds that you are uncaring, and that, in any event, you are the one whose pent-up emotions are likely to result in an ulcer.

You are about to get engaged. You go to pick-up your fiancé from his class and see him in a heated argument with someone about the veracity of religion. He is very angry and seems to have lost his temper. Your intuitive response is that you don't want to marry a man who appears to lack the proper virtues. On further reflection, you find your fiance's anger to be noble because he is defending a principle to which he is strongly committed.

After standing in queue for over forty-five minutes, you are finally close to the head of the line. You notice someone trying to cut into a line next to yours, but the interloper retreats when confronted with the anger of those in that line. The interloper starts moving in front of you. Rather than getting angry, you calmly, but firmly, insist that the person leave immediately. The person snickers in response and ignores your protestations. For hours thereafter you feel like a wimp.

It is customary to recite the following prayer before entering into a Torah discussion.

Shuichan Aruch O.H. 110

יהי רצון מלפניך ה' אלקי ואלקי אבותי שלא יארע דבר תקלה על ידי ולא אכשל הלכה וישמחו בי חברי ולא אומר על טמא טהור ולא על טהור טמא ולא על מותר אסור טהור ולא על אסור מותר ולא יכשלו חברי בדבר ולא על אסור מותר ולא יכשלו חבמה מפיו הלכה ואשמח בהם. כי ה' יתן חכמה מפיו דעת ותבונה. גל עיני ואביטה נפלאות מתורתך.

ay it be Your will, Hashem my G-d and G-d of my fathers, that You illuminate my eyes with the light of your Torah and that You save me from all stumbling blocks and errors, whether it be in discussions of what is prohibited and what is permitted or in monetary matters, whether it be in any other Halachic decisions or just in theoretical study. I pray that I do not make any mistakes, and if I do, my study partners should not take delight in them. I pray that I should not proclaim the impure pure or the pure impure, the permitted forbidden or the forbidden permitted. I pray that I should not derive joy from the errors of my study partner. Open my eyes and allow me to see the wonders of Your Torah because it is from G-d that all wisdom comes forth, it is from His mouth that I will acquire wisdom and understanding. Amen.

Discussion Points

A butcher once became enraged at Rabbi Chaim of Volozhin for declaring his meat unkosher. In his anger, the butcher devised a scheme to murder the rabbi. On a pretext, the butcher had the rabbi travel with him on a lonely road. Along the way, the butcher took out his sharp knife, and made a motion to kill the rabbi.

At first, the rabbi pleaded with the butcher to have compassion, but the rabbi's pleas were to no avail. When the rabbi saw that nothing he could say would make a difference, he started to focus mentally on all the positive qualities and attributes of the butcher. Suddenly, there was an amazing transformation. While the rabbi was thinking about the butcher's virtues, the butcher changed his mind. With a strong feeling of love and tears in his eyes, the butcher kissed the rabbi and begged his forgiveness.

Mayanot HaChaim 3:19

it is permissible for a person to become angry in order to instill fear in others. R. Yehuda would tear his clothing to show that he was angry, that they should fear him. Rav Acha bar Yaakov would break dishes. Rav Sheshes poured a pot of small fish on his maidservant's head. Rabbi Abba broke the lid of a jug.

Shabbos 105b Source, p. 17

Yet

When someone throws an object in anger, an angel by the name of Sapsarita catches the item, takes it to the Heavens and says this is the person's sacrifice to the dark side.

Zohar Pikudei 263 Source, p. 17

Negative Anger

3 It is forbidden to gaze at the face of an angry person.

Zohar Tezaveh 182 Source, p. 18

When a person gets angry, he loses his faith in G-d. If he really believed that everything was from G-d, he wouldn't get angry at all.

R. Shneur Zalman of Liadi, Tanya, Igeres HaKodesh 25 in the name of the Baal Shem Tov Source, p. 19 Biography p.16

A person who has a naturally cold personality, or lacks a tendency toward anger, has not reached the level of a person who has a natural tendency to become angry, but gains control over his temper.

Sefer HaMaspik l'Avdei Hashem, R. Avraham ben HaRambam

There is a very powerful tool that will enable you to overcome many potential quarrels: humility. By speaking from a humble position, you will often be able to soften even a heart made of stone. Your adversary's heart will melt in the face of your warmth. The person who acts submissively loses absolutely nothing. Outwardly, you comply with the wishes of the other person, but inwardly, you and your spiritual level are not affected.

Maayanai HaChaim, vol. 3, pp. 64-65, R. Chaim Zaltchyk

A person who constantly works on himself and has reached a proper level of love for other people, will not feel hurt or angered by what others say to him. He will be meticulously careful to show respect to everyone, while realizing that the majority of people have not perfected their character traits, so he does not have excessive expectations of others.

Chazon ish, Emunah u'Betachon 1:11, 15 Source, p. 20 Biography p.13

The prohibition against anger does not refer to a person who gets angry for no reason; only fools do that. It refers to a person who becomes angry for good reason.

R. Avraham ben HaRambam, Sefer HaMaspik, p. 43

Anger and pride go together. Usually anger is the result of an arrogant heart.

ibid. p.44

A person becomes angry only when he knows in the depth of his heart that he is wrong, and uses his anger to cover his mistake.

R. Eliyahu Dessler, Michtav MeEliyahu, vol. 1, p. 168

Source, p. 20 Biography, p. 14

11 Rav Ashi said, "A Torah scholar who is not as tough as steel isn't a real scholar. Ravina said, "Nonetheless, a person should teach himself to act gently."

Ta'anis 4a Source, p. 21

12 "How did you merit to live such a long life?," the students asked R. Zeira. "I never became angry within my house," he replied.

Megilah 28a Source, p. 21

12a Even when he occasionally had to become angry for the sake of heaven, so that people should listen to him and change their ways, in his innermost parts, "within his house," he was not really angry with them at all.

Be'er Mayim Chaim, Ki Tisa

Reb Simcha Zissel of Kelm used to put on a special coat before he would show anger in order to remember this principle.

Rabbi Shlomo Wolbe. Alei Shur II; pg 223

All the aggression in the world comes from the energy in people that they have not yet used to serve G-d.

R. Nachman of Breslov, Likutey Moharan 1:75 Biography, p. 13

15 If I were to allow myself to get angry, I would get very angry. Therefore, I don't let myself get angry at all.

R. Nachman of Breslov Biography, p. 13

A person should never terrorize his household. If he does, he will ultimately transgress three major sins: forbidden relations, murder, and Shabbos desecration. There may be a time when the mikvah water is too cold for his wife to immerse, but she will be too afraid of him to tell him. She may run away from him out of fear, and fall in a ditch and die. She may cook or light candles after Shabbos has begun, because she is too afraid to tell him things were not ready before shabbos.

Gitten 6b according to Rashi Source, p.21

17 When a wise person gets angry he loses his wisdom, a prophet loses his prophecy. Even if a person is destined for greatness by heaven, if he gets angry, the decree is torn up.

Pesachim 66b Source, p.22

18 Cursed be their anger (Shimon and Levi) for it is intense, and their wrath because it is harsh; I will separate them within Jacob and I will disperse them in Israel.

Genesis 49; 7

18a Shimon and Levi had too much anger. G-d will therefore take their anger and dilute it by spreading it out amongst all the tribes of Israel.

Ari z"l Likutel Torah Vayechi Source, p. 23

Positive Anger

19 The students of the Chofetz Chaim would look forward to his becoming angry for then he would reveal profound and wondrous teachings that they would otherwise never hear.

Alei Shur II; pg 223

When a young scholar gets angry, it is not him that is angry, but the Torah that is burning within him

Taanis 4a Source, p. 23

Because of his deep relationship with the Torah he takes things to heart more than other people do.

The Torah is like fire and therefore changes the nature of the student to a fiery one. Nevertheless, even a scholar must learn to control this dangerous character trait.

Maharsha ibid. Source, p. 24 Biography, p. 15

21 Increasing wisdom increases anger

When a wise-hearted person looks at the world and sees how foolishly people are acting, and that they are destroying the world, he wants to fix the world according to his understanding. When he sees that he cannot, he becomes furious.

Peirush HaMaharziv, R. Zev Wolf Einhorn, on Koheles Rabbah 1 Source, p. 24

23 It's an obligation for a Torah scholar to get angry to defend his honor, and all the more so, the honor of the Torah.

Chidushei HaGeonim on Ta'anis 4a

Anger for the sake of the Torah arises when a person of high spiritual sensibility, who soars in the realm of higher contemplation, must suddenly confront reality, which remains in its lowly state in the practical world, because most of life is on a low level of development. The soul that yearns for the delight of G-d and for the splendor of the divine light, in its great brightness, is grieved and is agitated, and develops the semblance of a pent-up anger.

R. A.Y. Kook, Midos HaRayah, Anger Biography, p. 12

25 Although anger is an extremely evil trait, there are times when a person must make use of it, such as when it is necessary to castigate the wicked, or to instill awe in his children, or to bring respect upon his students.

Orchos Tzadikim, the Gate of Anger Source, p. 24

26 "Be not easily angered."

 $26a\,$ If you find any excuse to dismiss anger, dismiss it. Then, when there is reason to be genuinely angry, your anger will not fail you. Under the correct circumstances, one may not withhold anger even if it will do damage.

Rabbeinu Yonah ibid. Source, p. 24

27 If a person is angry with his friend, it is better for him to express it, than to conceal it in his heart and hate him. Better to be angry, than to put on a happy face. When you show him that you are angry, you may find that your friend isn't guilty of what you thought, and by talking the matter over, you will remove the hatred between you and make both your hearts glad.

Shnos Chaim quoted in Me'am Loez, on Ecclesiastes 7:3

A person should not be easy to anger, but he should also not be as unfeeling as a corpse. Rather, he should seek the middle path. He should become angry only over important things, in order that people should not repeat their mistakes in the future.

Rambam, Mishna Torah, Hilchos Deos 1:4 Source, p. 24 Biography, p. 16

But...

Anger is an extremely bad trait that a person should distance himself from as much as possible. He should teach himself not to get angry, even if the situation warrants it. If a father wants to instill awe in his family, or a leader in his community, to help them improve their ways, he should merely act as though he is angry. He should only pretend.

lbid. 2:3

Biographies

Rabbi Abraham Yitzchak Kook (1865-1935)

The first chief rabbi of what was then Palestine, Rabbi Kook was perhaps the most misunderstood figure of his time.

Born in Latvia of staunch Hasidic and Mittnagdic stock, he retained throughout his life a unique blend of the mystical and the rational. He was a thorough master of the entire Halachic, Midrashic, philosophic, ethical, and Kabbalistic literature. But more important, he brought to bear the entire tradition upon the contemporary scene. He saw the return to Eretz Yisrael as not merely a political phenomenon to save Jews from persecution, but an event of extraordinary historical and theological significance. Rabbi Hutner once said that Rav Kook peered down on our world from great heights and hence his perspective was unique.

Above all, Rav Kook pulsated with a sense of the Divine. And, he sought to reach those who had strayed. He once quoted the rabbinic dictum that one should embrace with the right hand and rebuff with the left and commented that he was fully capable of rejecting, but since there were enough rejecters, he was fulfilling the role of embracer. On the other hand, he was never tolerant of desecration of Torah, as will be clear to any objective student of his life and works.

Though keenly aware of the huge numbers of non-observant Jews, he had a vision of the repentance of the nation. His concept of repentance envisioned in addition to the repentance of the individual, a repentance of the nation as a whole; a repentance which would be joyous and healing. He refused to reject Jews as long as they identified themselves as Jews. In a noteworthy exchange with his great friend, admirer, and opponent, Rabbi Yaakov David Willowski, Rav Kook explained the two components of a Jew: his essential nature — the pintele yid, and the path he had chosen in exercising free will. Even if the second element were weak, as long as the first was not repudiated, there was still hope.

He called for and envisioned a spiritual renaissance where "the ancient would be renewed and the new would be sanctified." His vision of repentance disdained fear and apprehension and looked forward to "the poet of Teshuva, who would be the poet of life, the poet of renewal and the poet of the national soul waiting to be redeemed."

Perhaps he was that poet.

Rav Kook's printed works to date are in excess of 30 volumes with many works still in manuscript. There are a number of translations into English of a small fraction of his works. M.G.

Rabbi Nachman of Breslov (1772-1810)

abbi Nachman of Breslov was one of the most creative, influential and profound of the Chassidic masters. A great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, he was recognized as a tzaddik while still a young man. From his youth, he followed a path of asceticism and prayer, though he warned his followers not to abuse themselves physically. He was a passionate individual, given to intense swings of emotions. These he put toward the service of G-d, and spoke often of how to find G-d even in the low states of mind, and how to serve Him during the emotional highs. Central to his teachings is the role of the tzaddik, who has the power to descend into the darkness to redeem lost souls; the path of prayer as the main expression of religious life. His main work is Likutey Moharan, composed partly by himself, partly by his chief disciple, Rabbi Nossan Sternhartz. The book is a collection of sermons delivered by Rabbi Nachman, given mostly on the holidays when his Chassidim gathered. The lessons are long and complex, masterfully drawing on the entire body of Talmud, Midrashic and Kabbalistic literature. Ideas are connected by a poetic and intuitive grasp of the texts. In addition, Rabbi Nachman wrote thirteen "Tales"-mythical stories of kings and wizards based upon Kabbalistic thought and capturing the essence of Rabbi Nachman's teachings. These tales were known to have influenced later authors such as Franz Kafka. Rabbi Nachman died of Tuberculoses at the age of 38. Despite the fact that there was never another "Breslov Rebbe" to fill his place, the mystery and depth of his teachings continue to attract students today, and Breslover Chassidism is one of the largest and most vibrant of Chassidic groups. E.S.

Rabbi Avrohom Yeshaya Karelitz (1878-1953)

he "Chazon Ish" devoted his life to the study of Torah, although he also learned sciences such as astronomy, anatomy, and mathematics, since he felt that a knowledge of these subjects was necessary for a full understanding of Jewish law and practice. In Vilna in 1911, Rav Karelitz began publishing the work for which he is best known, the "Chazon Ish." In 1933, he moved to Eretz Yisrael where he held no official positions and yet he became known as a worldwide authority on all matters relating to Jewish law and life. He considered man's duty in life to be the constant study of Jewish law, aiming at the attainment of a maximum degree of perfection in religious observance. M.G.

Rabbi Eliyahu Eliezer Dessler (1891-1954)

abbi Dessler was born into a family steeped in the musar movement founded by Rabbi Israel Salanter and he remained a musar personality for his entire life. However, his thought went considerably beyond the ordinary concerns of other musar thinkers and he integrated other systems and confronted different problems as well.

Most of Rabbi Dessler's education took place at the Kelm Talmud Torah where his father had been an outstanding disciple of R. Simcha Zissel. The family resided in Homel where Eliyahu had the opportunity to meet outstanding Chabad thinkers. In 1929, he became a rabbi in London and in 1941 accepted the directorship of the Gateshead kollel. Over the years, he became familiar with Kabbalistic and Hasidic thought, particularly the thought of Rabbi Zadok HaCohen and the Tanya.

His essays and letters have been collected in four volumes (several volumes under the title Strive for Truth have been edited and translated into English by Rabbi Aryeh Carmel). His topics include perennial questions such as free will and faith as well as contemporary problems in education, evolution and how to respond to the Holocaust.

His personal character and modesty complemented and affirmed his thought. On the last Sukkot of his life he visited the sukkah of the Chazon Ish. The Chazon Ish, upon seeing Rabbi Dessler, rose and rushed toward him. Not imagining that he was coming toward him, Rabbi Dessler turned to the door to see who the distinguished guest was that the Chazon Ish was so honoring. M.G.

Rabbi Shmuel Eliezer Edels (MaHarSha) (1555-1631)

Shmuel wrote one of the most incisive and keenly analytical commentaries on The Talmud, Rashi and Tosofot. A model of logic and terseness it was quickly accepted and was printed in almost all editions of the Talmud. If one grasps the MaHarSha he has understood the Tosofot. R. Shmuel also wrote an extensive commentary on the aggadot of the Talmud which reflects his wide knowledge of philosophy and Kabbalah.

From the 16th to the 18th century Jewish autonomy reached its zenith in the Council of the Four Lands, through which the Jewish provinces were administered. The Council met twice a year at the Lublin and Yaroslav fairs. One of the greatest authorities of his day, the MaHarSha was an outstanding figure at the meetings of the Council. While away at the fairs he was absent from the Yeshiva when certain pages of the Talmud were studied. Because he could not benefit from the usual give and take when those pages were being studied, he refrained from printing his commentary on those pages. (See his remark at the end of the Seventh chapter of Shabbos and the Sixth chapter of Sanhedrin.)

For twenty years MaHarSha directed the Yeshiva in Posen. During this time all the expenses of the Yeshiva were assumed by his mother-in-law, Edel. In appreciation of her support he adopted her name. After her death he served as rabbi in the following prominent communities: Chelm, Lublin and Ostrog. His commentary on Aggada contains numerous references to the conditions and problems of his time. It also includes his sharp critique of contemporary failings such as wealth being a prerequisite to attaining positions in the community.

In his will, R. Yonah Landsofer admonishes his sons to be sure to carefully study Tosofot with the MaHarSha, as his commentary is true and profound and "the spirit of G-d spoke through him for without the holy spirit it would have been impossible to compose such a work".

The Hazon Ish had this to say about study of the MaHarSha: "I cannot refrain from pointing out that our generation has not done well in forsaking study of the MaHarSha which is a wonderful gift granted to Israel...to train them in laboring in Torah...which converts matter to spirit and body to soul... This holy book is full of profound ideas and trains a person in correct analysis. The Goan R. Akiva Eger did not neglect any part of this work. From the day that this book was neglected the understanding of Pshat was lost and students became accustomed to facile analysis...."

On the door post of R. Shmuel's house were inscribed the words, "No sojourner spent the night outside, my door was always open to the guest". (Job 31:32) M.G.

Ray Moshe Ben Maimon (The Rambam) (1135-1204)

oses Maimonides is known as the greatest Jewish philosopher and codifier of Jewish law in history. Born in Cordova, Spain, he was forced to flee from fanatical Moslems at the age of thirteen, where he traveled with his family to North Africa, and ten years later to Palestine. As a result of the devastation left by the Crusaders, Palestine was virtually uninhabitable, forcing the family to move to Fostat (current day Cairo). Throughout these journeys, the young Maimonides had concentrated on Torah studies under the guidance of his father, and by the time he reached Fostat had become a famous scholar. Supported by his merchant brother, the Rambam was able to write copiously, gaining international acclaim in both Jewish and secular fields of knowledge. After the tragic death of his brother, the responsibility of supporting his family fell on the Rambam's shoulders, and through his fame he was appointed chief physician of the Sultan. Despite the immense workload that was required, not only with his responsibilities to the royal family, but to the entire Egyptian community as the official Nagid (royally appointed leader), and to the halachic questions of world Jewry known as responsa, the Rambam was remarkably able to complete some of his greatest Jewish works, including his philosophical work The Guide for the Perplexed and his magnum opus the Mishna Torah - the great codification of all Jewish law. While he was considered an undisputed leader of world Jewry at the time, there was bitter opposition to much of his works because they incorporated much of Aristotelian philosophy that went against the traditional purist ideology of much of Ashkenazic Jewry, and others believed his codifications would make much of the role of the rabbi and the oral tradition obsolete. A.B.

Reb Shneur Zalman (1745-1813)

Peb Shneur Zalman was the founder of Chabad Chassidus, and learned about Hasidism from Rabbi Dov Baer HaMaggid, leader of the Hasidic movement. Under The Maggid, Reb Shneur Zalman wrote updated and profound commentaries about the Shulchan Aruch. When the anti-Chassidic movement was taking place in the mid-18th century, Reb Shneur Zalman went to Vilna and attempted to speak to the Gaon of Vilna to try to reach some kind of understanding between Chassidim and Misnagdim. Reb Shneur Zalman later published the Tanya, which was accepted as the written law of Chabad Chassidus. His ability to explain even the most complex issues of Torah made his writings popular with Torah scholars everywhere. Reb Zalman had a vast knowledge of mathematics and science as well. His son, Rabbi Shalom Dov Baer Schneerson, became the leader of the Chassidic movement after Reb Zalman's death.

Sources

1.

Shabbos 105b

ירש בן אלעזר אוטר משום חילפא כר אגרא שאטר משום חילפא כר אגרא שאטר משום רי יורנן כן נורי המקרע בגריו בחמתו והמשבר כליו בחמתו והמפור מעותיו בחמתו יהא בעיניך יכעובד עיז "שכך אומניני של יצה"ד היום אומר לו עשה כך ולמדר אומר לו עשה כך עד שאטר לו עבוד עיו והולך ועובר איד אבין מאי קראה "לא יהיה כך אל זר ולא חשתרווה לאל נכר איהו אל זר שיש בנופי של אום הני אומר וה יצר הרע לא צריכא ידקא עביד למדכש אימתא אאינשי ביתיה כי הא דרכ יצר הליף מצבייתא רב אתא בר יעקב חבר מאני תבידי רב ששת רמי לה לאמתיה מוניני ארישא רבי אבא תבר נכתמא

2.

Zohar Pikudei 263

יַשׁ מְמָנָה אָחָד, ספסידיס"א שְׁמוֹ, וְכַמָּה מְעוֹרְדֵי מִשְׁפָּט וּמְמָנָה זָה שָׁעֻלִיהָם לוֹקְחִים מְעוֹרְדֵי מִשְׁפָּט וּמְמָנָה זָה שָׁעֻלִיהָם לוֹקְחִים מַלִּי מְדְּיִם הַרָּעִים שֶׁהָהְבָּם מוֹצִיא מִפְּיו, וְנִם־כֵּן לוֹקְחִים כָּל אֵלוּ הַדְּבָרִים שָׁצִרְק הָאָדְם בְּיִדְיוֹ בְּשְׁעָה שְׁהַכִּעֵס שוֹרָה עָלָיו, כִּי אָז הַמְּמַנָּה הָנָה ספסידיט"א אוֹחֵז בַּדְּבֶר הָנָּה שְׁאֹלֵק הָאָדָם בְּכַעְסוֹ, וְעוֹלָה וְאוֹחֵז: זָה הוּא קַרְבָּן בְּלוֹנִי שְׁהָקִרִיב אֵל הַצֵּד שִׁלְנוּ. משׁוֹם אַיֹּת חַד מְמָנָּא, ספסיריט״א שְׁמָה, וְכְּפָּה בּּרְדִּינֵי נִימוּסִין וְחָאִי מְמָנָּא דַּצְלִיהוּ נְטְלֵי אָנּּוּן מִלִּין בִּישִׁיוּ, וְהָכֵי נָמִי נְטְלֵי כָּל אַלֵּיוּ מְלִּיוּ דְּתַרְ כַּרְינָשׁ בִּידוֹי כַּד רָגְוָא שְׁרָא צַלוי, דְּהָא קְרֵין הַאִי מְמַנָּא ספסיריט״א נְקָט חָאִי מְלָּה דְּתָרְ כַּרְינָשׁ בְּרָגְוַה, וְעָלֵק וְאָמֵר: דָּא הוּא קרְבָּא דְּפְלִנְא דְּקָרֵב לְסִעְרָא דִילוֹ, בְּגִין דְּכָל סְעָרָא דְּנָהָא אָיְהוּ מִפְּטְרָא דְיַמֵּינְא וּמִפְּטְרָא

Zohar Tezaveh 182

מַמָּשׁ שׁוֹרָה בְּתוֹכוֹ. וְלֹא עוֹר, אָלָא שֶׁעוֹקַר קַדַשָּׁה עָלְיוֹנָה מָמְקוֹמָה וּמְשְׁרָה בַּמְקוֹמָה עַבוֹדָת־זַרָה, אֵל זָר. מָה אֵל זַר כַּתוּב בּוּ: "אַל תִּפְנוּ אֶל הָאֵלִילִם", כְּמוֹ־כֵן אָשׁוּה לְחִשְׁתּכְל רָאָם שׁל הַפּוֹעָס וְאָם תֹאמָר: הָרֵי יֵשׁ כְּעָס הַּחָבָּמִים ז בַּעְסָם שָׁל חָכָמִים טוב הוא לְכָל הַנְּדָרִים ... אֲבָל אָם הַנְּעָס הוּא בְּדְבָרִים אַחָרִים (לא בְּדָבְרֵירתוֹרָה), אֵין זָה עְבוֹדַת הַקּדושׁ־בָּרוּךְ־הוּא, מְשׁוּם שֶׁבְּכֶל הַחְּטָאִים שָׁעוֹשָׁה הָאָדָם אַין הוּא עְבוּרָה־זַרַה מִמְּשׁ וֹנְמוֹ הַכּוֹצֵס], וְאָסוּרְ לְהָתְקָרֵב אֶל זֶה. וְאָם תּאַמָר: הָרַי לְשָׁעָה הוּא עָבֶר וְכָעַט וְאַתַר־כָּוְי חָזָר בִּתְשׁוּבָתוּ אֵינוֹ כֵן, כִּי כֵּיוָן שֶׁעַקַר קְּדָשְׁת נַפְשוֹ מְמָנוּ וּמְמְקוֹמָהּ וְהָצֵל הַזְר מַקַּיף הַמָּקוֹם הָהוּא, הוּא מְתְחָזָק בּוֹ וְאֵינוֹ עוֹוַב אותו. מִלְבַר פָּאָשֶׁר מִשְּהֵר הָאָדָם מִכּל וְכל וְעוֹקֵר אוֹתוֹ לְעוֹלָמִים, וְאַתַּר־בָּן מִשְׁתַּדֵּל לְהַתְּקֵדָשׁ וּלְהַמְשִׁיךּ קְדַשָּׁח עָלָיו, אָז הַלְּוָאי שָׁיִתְקַדָּשׁ. אָמָר לוֹ רָבָי יוֹסֵי: הוּא מְתְקַדָּשׁ מַמָּשׁוּ אָמַר לוֹ: בּוֹא וּרְאַה, בְּשְׁעָה שֶׁהוּא עוֹפֵר קַדַשָּׁת נַסְשׁוֹ וְשׁוֹרָה בִּמְקוֹמָה הָאֵל הַזָּר הַהּוּא, נִטְמָא הָאָדָם זְנְקָּרָא טְמֵא, וּמְטַמֵּא אָת הַקּרֵב אַלִינ, וַהַקּוַשְׁה הַהִּיא בּוֹרָתִת מְמָבּנְ, וְבַיוֹן שֶׁבּוֹרָחַת מְמֶנּוּ פַּעִם אָחָת, כַּמָּה יַעֲשֶׁה ָהָאָדָם לֹא תָשׁוּב עוֹד לִמְקוֹמָה. אָמָר לו: אָם־ פַּן, כַּמָּה טְמַאִים הָם שֶׁמְּטָהָרִים ז אָמַר לוּ: שוֹנָת הָיא טַמְאָת אַחֶרֶת, שָאַינָה יְכוּלָה לָצְשׁוֹת יוֹתֵר [מֵאֲשֶׁר לְטַמְאוֹ מְבַּחוּץ]; אַבְל זָה שונה מִכּל, וְכָל גוּפוֹ טְמַא מִבְּּמְנִים וּמְבַּחוּץ, וְאָת הַנָּפָשׁ וְאָת הַכֹּל מְטָפֵא, וּשְׁאָר טָמָאָה שָׁבָּעוֹלָם אַינָה מְטַמְאָה אָלָא הָגוּף מַבַּחוּץ בִּלְבַד. וּמִשׁוּם זָה כַּתוּב: "מִדְלוּ לַכָּם כִּוֹ חָאָדָם אֲשָׁר נְשָׁמָה בְּאָפּר", דְּחַיְנוּ שֶׁהַחַלִיף קָדָשָׁת רַבּוֹנוֹ בִּגְלֵל כַּעְסוֹ, כִּי זוֹ הִיא טַמְאָה

בַּצְבוֹן ה־ זָרָה מַפָּשׁ. מַאִי טַצְמָא ? בְּנִין וַעְבוֹרָה־זָרָה מָפָשׁ שָׁרֵי בְּגַוָּה. וְלָא עוֹד, אֵלָא דְּצָבֶר קָּדָשָׁה עִלָּאָה מַאַחָרֵה וְשְׁרֵי בְּאַחַרָה צַבוֹנָה־זָנָה. אַל זָר. מָה אַל זָר כְּתִיב בֵּה (ויקרא יט. יר): ״אַל תִּפְנוּ אֶל הָאֱלִילָם״, כְּגַוְנָא רָא אַסִיד לְאָסְתַּכָּלָא בְּאַנְפוֹי. וְאָי תַּימָא: הָא רָנָגֹא רְּרַבָּנָן? רָנְנָא דְרַבָּנָן טֶב אָיהוּ לְכַל סְטְרִין וְכַרַּ, אֲבָל אִי בְּמָלִין אָחֻרָנִין – לָאר פַּלְטָנָא דְּקַדְשָׁא־בְּרִיןְ־הוּא הָאי, בְּגִין דְּכְכֶּל ַחָּטְאִין דְּקָא עָבֶר בַּר־נָשׁ לָאוּ אִיהוּ עֲבוֹדַה־ זַרָה מַמָּשׁ, וַאֲסִיר לְכַּרָכָא בַּהַרָה דְּהַאִי. וְאִי ַפּיסָא: הָא לְשַׁצְחָא הָוָה דַּעֲבֶר וְהַדֵּר אַהְדֵּר? לאר הָבֵי. וְבִינוֹ וְאַעְקֵר קַרְשָׁה וְעָפְשׁה מְנֵה וּמַאַּתְרָה, וְהָהוּא אֵל זָר מַקְפָת הַהוּא אֲחַר, אָסַקַּף בָּהּ וְלָא שָׁבֵק לֵהּ; בַּר כַּד אָתְדַבֵּי בַּר־ נְשׁ מִכּּל וָכֹל וְעָקַר לֵה לְעָלְמִין, וּלְבָחֵר אְשְׁתַּרַל לְאָתְקַדָּשָׁא וּלְאַמְשָׁכָא קְדָשָּׁה עֲלֵה. בַּנִין וּלְנִי דְאָחָקַרָשׁ. אֲמֶר לֵה רַבָּי יוֹמֵי: אָתְקַדָּשׁ מַמָּשׁ ז אֲמַר לַהּ: תָא חֲזִי, בְּשְׁעַתָא רְאָיהוּ עָקַר קְרָשָׁה וְינַפְשֵׁה, וְשֶׁרְיָא בְּאַחָרָה אַל זָר, אִסְתָּאַב בַּר־נָשׁ וְאָקָרֵי טַמֶא, וְסָאַב לָסָאן דְקָרֵכ בַּהַרָה, וְהַהִּיא קָרָשָׁה עֲרַקַת מְנֵּה, וְכִינָן דַּצַרַקַת מָנָה זִמְנָא חֲדָא, כָּמָה יַצְבִר בַּר־ ָנֶשׁ עַד לָא הָּתוּב לְאַתְרָה. אֲמֵר לֵה: אִי הָבֵי, פַּמָּה מְסָאֲבִין אִנּוּן וְיִמְתְדַּכָּן: אֲמַר לֵה: שָׁנֵי מְסָאֲבוּ אָחָרָא, דְּלָא יָכֵל לְמֶעְבֵּד יַתִּיר; אֲבֶל ָדָא שַׁנָיָא מְפֹּלָּא, וְכָל גּוּפָא סָאַב מִגּוּ וּמִבַּר, וְנַפְשָׁא וְכֹלָּא מְסָאָב, וּשְׁאָר מְסָאַבוּ דּעַלְמָא לָאוֹ אִיהוּ אֶלָּא נּוּפָּא לְבַר בִּלְחוֹדוּר. וּכְנִין בָּוְּ בְּמִיב: "חַדְלוּ לָכֶם מִן הָאָדָם אֲשֶׁר נְשָׁמָה דְאַפּוֹ". דְאַחֶלְף קָרָשָׁה דְּקְרֵה בְּגִין אַפּוֹ, דְּדָא איהוּ מְסָאֵבוּ וַּמְסָאֵב כֹּלָא, ״כִּי בַפָּה נָחְשָׁב הוא": "בַּנָּה" - עְבוֹדָה־וַנָה וַדַּאי נָחְשָׁב אָיהוּ. מָא חָוִי, הַאי אַיהוּ רָגְוָא דְּאָיהוּ עֲבוֹרָה־

R. Shneur Zalman of Liadi, Tanya, Igeres HaKodesh 25 in the name of the Baal Shem Tov

> והוא בהקדים מארז"ל כל הכועם כאלו עובר עכו"ם וכו'. והמעם טובן ליודעי בינה לפי שבעת כעםו נסתלקה ממנו האמונה כי אילו היה מאמץ שמאת ה' היתה זאת לו לא היה בכעם כלל ואף שבן אדם שהוא בעל בחורה מקללו או מכחו א מזיק ספונו ומתחייב בריני ארם ובריני שמים על רוע בדורתו אעפ"כ על רניוק כבר ננור מן השמים והרבה שלוחים למקום ולא עוד אלא אפילו בשעה זו ממש שמברו או מקללו מחלכש בו כח ה' ורוח פיו ית' המחידו ומקיימו וכמיש כי ה' אמר לו קלל והיכן אמר לשמעי אלא שמחשבת זו שנפלה לשמעי בלבו ומירו ירדה מאת ה' ורוח פיו המרו' כל צבאם החוה רורו של שמעי בשעה שדיבר דברים אלו לדור כי אילו נסתלק רוח פיו ית' רגע אחר מרוחו של שמעי לא יכול לדבר מאומה

11. Ta'anis 4a

ואמר רב אשי "כל ת"ח שאינו כשה בברול אינו תיח שנא' "וכפימיש יפוצץ סלע איל רבי אבא לרב אשי אתוז כהחם מתניתו לה אנן מהכא מתנינן לה דכתיב "ארץ אשר אבניה ברול אל תקדי אבניה אלא בוניה אמר רבינא אפ"ה מיבעי ליה לאיניש למילף נפשיה בנידוחא שנאמר "והמר כעם מלכר

12.

Megliah 28a

*שאלו חלמידיו את ר' זורא במה הארכת ימים אמר להם מימי לא הקפרתי בתוך ביתי

16. Gitten 6b according to Rashi

עלים וכרסה מפני אימסה ביצה עריות, כספנים אכן אפילוה בעוד איני אילן דילה לחתר ל6 קפלה משמאה מזוד שפיכות המום ם הגו עי פערט טערים. עולת לואו העבורו עי יצ עשרתם. פירות שנחכל למסר ערבתם. עירוני (Tim)7) (b)

והצי גמירי ותסברא והא רבה אית ליוו דרבא אלא דכ"ע בעינו לקיימי וכיון דאיכא רבים דטלקו ונהתי מישכה שכודו אמר רב יוסף כאן ליכא לן דר אביתר בר סמבא הוא "ועור הא איתו רשלה ליה לרב יהורה בני ארם העולין משם לכאן הן קיימי בעצמן "יותנו (את) הילד בחנה היילדה מכרו ביין או או ממלא ממשפים וישוצ וכחב ליה בלא שרמים וא'ר יצחק ישחים כוחבין שלש אין כוחבין בפתניתא רנא שלש כוחבין ארכע אין כותבין איל אביי אצו כל דלא ידע הא דרי יצוק לאו

נברא רבה הוא כשלמא כילתא דתליא בסברא להיי הא נכורא היא ונכרא לא שמיע ליה ועוד האר אבירד הוא דאמכים מריה על ידיה דכתיב "וחונה עליו פילנשו רבי אביתר אכד ובוב מצא לה ר' יונתן אכר ניכא מצא לה ואשבוזה ר' אביתר לאלידו א"ל כאי קא עביד הקב"ה א"ל עסיק בפילנש בגבעה ומאי קאמר אכד ליה אביתר בני כך הוא אומר יונהן בני כך הוא אמי א'ל ח"ו לומי איכא ספיקא קמי שמיא א'ל אלו ואלו לרברי אלהים חיים הןובוב מצא ולא הקפיד ניכא מצא והקפיד אמר רב יהודה ובוב בקעודה וניכא באותו כסום זבוב מאיפותא תיכא סכנתא איכא ראמרי אידי ואידי בקערה ובוב אנסא ונימא פשיעורוא אמר רב רוסרא לעוולם אל יפול אדם אימה יתירה בתוך ביתו שהרי פילגש בגבעה דפיל עליה בעלה אימה יתירה והפילה ככה רבבות משראל אבר וב יבודה אמר וב ביו הפמיל אמר וחודה בתך כדור פוף הזא בא לדו שלשתבורות גייני עריות ישפכות וכים חוילול אמר רבה בר בר דעה הא דאמדי רבגן "שלשה רברים צויך אדם לומר בוצך ביתי ערב שבת עם חשיכה עשרתם ערבתם הדלים את הנר צריך

Chazon ish, Emunah u'Betachon 1:11, 15

ים אים מתאום לכיפיב לזולתו, בפגשו עם רעבו כוא לו לחדות לב, מקבלו בסבר פנים יפוח, חרד אולי לא הלע אל במערב לפי כוח רעסו. אולי דיבר דבר שלא כסונן, כי אין כאב לב אלו, ככאב של פגיעה בכבוד חברו, או שחסר מרעהו חסד. ומעולם לא נפגע הוא מרעבו. כי לבו במלא אבבה חכסה על כל ששעים, וכוא מוכן מראש לקבל בחבבב נחמנה פלעים ומיפוח שיחלות לי רעבו, בידעו שחיי כוב בני אדם אלילי כמדות, ומכ אפשר לחבוע מכם, ובכל זאת רוחש לבו לכם יקר וכבוד. ואין בלבו כרכורים רשים מעין זלאל בכבוד כבריוח. כי תפנוקו הנפש מפנקים את בפליהם להיות משמש, למעו העוב המלא. גם בשני הפכים בנושה החד, ולכיות מחשים הח עלמו על כל שעל של חסרון כשלימות בסגולת כמדות, ולכיום מזככ את אחיו זכות גמורם ומוחלטת אף אם כשבות עגלם חטאיו.

יקור כנפש דק, אינו דורש מנפשו כתאפהות יחירה, וחגירת שארית כה, נגד הרגזנות העבעית, ונגד כאב של הלבות פנים, כי נפשר כבר מלוטשת ומצוחניתם שחינה מקבלת כחמים, וכוח שובע שמחות וניל בנטימות נלה.

10.

R. Eliyahu Dessler, Michtav McEliyahu, vol. 1, p. 168

וכפי ערך זה שייד בו בא לכלל כעם בא לכלל טעות. אשר פירושו שכל מקום שיש כעם זה לאות שיש שם טעות. כי אין אדם כועם אא"כ יודע בעומה לבבו שמעה. וכועם כדי לכסות על טעותו, וכל זה היה רה בבחי׳ הצל ואעפ״כ באה התורה לבקר את משה על דבר הטעות שהאחריות צליה היתה בבחיי צל.

Pesachim 66b

עורי עוד דברי שיר ונו הדלאם כל אום שנונים אם ובם ואת וכנתו מסולות מכנו אם בני אות הבמו מסתלקת מכנו "ממשה "דכתיב "ויקצוף משה על פקודי החיל וגר וכתיב "ויאבר אלעזר הכהן אל אנשי הצבא הבאים למלחמה זאת חוקת התורה אשר צוה ה' את משה וגר מכלל דמשה איעלם מיניה אם נביא היא נבואתו מסתלקת מיניו

מאלישע דכתיב "לולי פני יהושפט טלך יהודה אני נושא אם אבים אליך ואם אראך ונוי וכתיב "ועתה קדו לי כננן והיה כננן המנגן ותהי עליו יד ה' ועי אפר דב כני כר מששם שביעה אבל מספן עלו נוילה מן האבד למה בידון אחו מגלן מאליאב שנאמר "ייחד אף אליאב ברוד ויאמד למה [זה] ידרה ועל מי נמשת מעם הצאן ההנה במרבר אני ידעתי את זדונך ואת רוע לבבך כי למען ראות המלחמה ידרה וכי אול שמיאל לממשחינה בכלהו כרוב "לא בות בחר ה" ובאליאב כתיב "ויאמר ה" אל שמואל אל תבים אל מראהו ואל נבה קומתו כי מאמתיהו מכלל דהוה רחים ליה עד תבים אל מראהו ואל נבה קומתו כי מאמתיהו מכלל דהוה רחים ליה עד

18a.

Ari z"! Likutei Torah Vayechi

מדת הכעם _ המשלימה את האדם

א. יעקב מחלק כעם לכלל ישראל

אמר רבינו האר"י ז"ל: י

האדם המשולל מכל וכל מרגשי קפדנות וכעס, אינו מגדר היישוב. כשם שאי אפשר לאדם להתהלך ללא רגליו, כן אי אפשר לקיים מצוות ה' ללא רגשי קפדנות וכעס.

והנה לך לשונו: "לפי שאי אפשר לשום אדם שימצא מבלי יצח"רע. אם לא יהיה עמו צד כעס — כדי להשלים את המצוות. וכו אמרו הז"ל:

זרוק מרה בתלמירים!

אמנם בעט היוצא מן הגרר, אינו מן הראו. והו אומרו: ארור אפם כי עז. רצה לומר: לא בשביל שיש להם בעט (אני אומר להם ארור). אלא לפי שהוא עו. וגם כן עברתם כי קשת ה. (הבעט העו והמקשה בלבר הוא הנכלל בארור).

ומה עשה?

ומח ששהי

חלקם ביעקב והפיצם בישראל. כדי שיהיה לכל אחד מעט כעם, כרי שישלים המצוות — כאמור.

אם כן פירוש — הפסוק — "אחלקם" "ואפיצם" חוזר על הבעס והעברה. עכיל.

20.

Taanis 4a

ואמר רכא האי צורכא מרבון דרתת אורייתא היא דקא מרתחא ליה שנאמר "הלא כה דברי כאש נאם ה"

20b.

Maharsha ibid.

לפי שההפס הוא משדום הגרושום כמשרום נמקכת נדרים אחר דיש לדון הח"מ. לכף זהות דאורייםת כי שהשורה היא דכר החמי דותה לאן כמ"ץ אש דם לונו שהיחה החוביה לפניו באש שחורה של גבי אש לכנה וכשכלא החורה גבוף הח"מ היא חוסתת אם כבוף וחביאו כשכם לידי כסק שהוא חדמית הלב וחסיק דבסי למילף כשהיה כי" דהיינו להרביל פלחו כדי להרחיק שלחו מתדה רשה זב שהוא מ"ש ההיבל של כל דבר עלמון:

22.

Peirush HaMaharziv, R. Zev Wolf Einhorn, on Koheles Rabbah 1

א פרברה בחבמה ומרבה בכנם: שהמכם דומה שאין מני חדם המתמנים כמי תכי כתמנים ומקוקלים כמולם ומתכם רוזה למכן מני הכמתו וחינו יכול מרכה כמם וגם דקדוק הדין נדול יותר עם כתכם ומרכה עליו ימורים:

-25.

Orchos Tzadikim, the Gate of Anger

אף על פי שהכעם מידה רעת מאר, מכל מקום צריך אדם להנחינ. עצמו בקצת הקחים במידת הכעם, כגון לייםר הרשעים, נלחמיל אימה על בני ביתו, ולורוק מוראו בתלמידים.

26a.

Rabbeinu Yonah ibid.

28.

Rambam, Mishna Torah, Hilchos Deos 1:4

דירות שיש לו לארם. והוא הדעה שהוא החזקה משתי הקצוות רחזק שוח האנה קיובה לא לוו ולא לוו. לעכך או הכנים הראשונים שדא אדם שם דעותיו הכד ומשער הקצוות רחזק שוח האנה קיובה לא לוו ולא לוו. לעכך או הכנים הראשונים שדא אדם שם דעותיו הכד ומשער אתם ומכרן אתם בורך האמצעית כדי שדא שלם בנוש. כיאד לא דא בעל המה נוח לכעים ולא בכא שאני פרניש אלא ביעיו. לא יכשה אל על דבר גודל שהאי למעים עלי בר שלא יעשה כיוצא בי פעם אחרת. וכן לא יחאה אלא לדברים שדעון צריך לק ואי אפשר להיות בוולחן בענין שנאמר אדיק אכל לשבע נמש. זכן לא יחוה עכל בעסק אלא להשינ דבר שצריך לו לחי שעת כענין שנאמר מו פעם לגדרק. ולא יות מול ושהם המו בוות בוות בלו שהוא הוא לוות בוות בעל מות בעות בעו מבים במה ידו ומלה בראי למי שצריך. ולא יות מחול ושהק ולא שהעות וא שרעות מטצעות בקרא חבם: כל אדם שהעותיו