



Volume 10. Issue 46

Removed for the World

R' Elazar HaKapar taught: jealousy, inordinate desire and the pursuit of honour remove a person from the world.

Avot (4:21)

The *Yaavetz* teaches that people have a natural inclination to be drawn to these three things. The *Mishnah* therefore highlights the damage that they can cause so that the reader will endeavour to avoid them.

The *Abarbanel* elaborates further that these three things are the roots of all sins. For examples, jealousy can lead one to theft, fraud and other money related offences. Uncontrolled desires can drive one to forbidden foods, relationships, etc. In the pursuit of honour, one is likely to embarrass others, take pride in their downfall, etc. The *Tana* therefore warns that even though these things preoccupy thought alone and involve no actions, they lead to all sorts of sins.

While the *Mishnah* lists three things that remove a person from the world, this theme is quite familiar. Previously (2:11), *R' Yehoshua* taught that "an evil eye, the evil inclination and hatred of people remove a person from the world." Also *R Dosa ben Harkinus* explained (3:10), "[Late] sleep in the morning, wine at midday, children's talk and meeting places of *amei ha'aretz* remove a person from the world." Are the *Tanaim* arguing and if so about what?

The *Tosfot Yom Tov* explains that our *Mishnah* is aligned with *R' Yehoshua*. Jealousy results from an evil eye – not being satisfied with one's lot. The *yetzer ha'rah* fuels one's desires and people tend to hate those that pursue honour.

The *Rashbatz* however explains that each of the *Tanaim* are referring to different things. *R' Yehoshua* was

focused on what removes a person from this world, i.e. makes living unbearable. A person with an evil eye ultimately causes damage to other people's property and causes damage to his own. The *yetzer hara'ah* draw one to all sorts of things, particularly things that impact negatively on one's health. Continual hatred of others puts one in a depressive state, which is unhealthy.

R' Dosa however was focused on what removes a person from the world to come. He lists those things that lead a person to waste their time and distract them from learning and engaging in *avodat Hashem*.

R' Elazar HaKapar however lists those things that are detrimental to this world and the next. Jealousy inevitably leads to arguments and fights, and sometimes more dire consequences in their wake. Life is perilous and the sins accumulated can lead to loss of the next as well. Untempered desires can have serious health consequences and can also lead to violations en masse.

Finally we have honour. We have already learnt that "lordship buries those that engage in it." Yet it can also lead one to lose the next world as well. The *Rashbatz* cites the following incident. *Hashem* had come to *Yeravam ben Navot* (an evil king) and tried to convince him to repent. *Hashem* said, "repent and I, you and *ben Yishai* (*David HaMelech*) will walk in *Gan Eden*." *Yeravam* asked, "Who is first?" "*Ben Yishai*" was the response. *Yeravam* responded, "if so, I decline."

The *Sichat Mussar* notes, that initially *Hashem* had listed *Yeravam* before *David HaMelech*. Yet, *Yeravam* wanted his precedence spelled out. Having asked, *Hashem* set *Yeravam* back and *Yeravam* ultimately declined. Indeed, *Kavod* can remove a person from both worlds.

Yisrael Yitzchak Bankier

Revision Questions

אבות ד': י"ב ה': ג'

- How does *R' Eliezer ben Shamu'a* say that one should treat: (ד': י"ב)
 - The honour of his students?
 - The honour of his friends?
 - The awe of his *Rebbi*?
- According to *R' Yehuda* why should one be careful with his learning? (ד': י"ג)
- According to *R' Shimon bar Yochai* what are the three crowns and what (other) crown rises above them all? (ד': י"ג)
- What does *R' Nehorai* say when *Torah* learning is not found in one's locale? (ד': י"ד)
- Complete the following statement of *R' Yanai*: (ד': ט"ו)

_____ ואף לא _____ אין בידינו לא _____
- Complete the following statement of *R' Matya ben Charash*: (ד': ט"ו)

הוי _____ כל אדם _____ והוי _____ לאריות ואל תהי _____ לשועלים
- To what does *R' Ya'akov* compare this world? (ד': ט"ז)
- According to *R' Ya'akov* what two things are better than the entire *Olam HaBah*? (ד': י"ז)
- According to *R' Ya'akov* what is better than the entire *Olam HaZeh*? (ד': י"ז)
- According to *R' Shimon ben Elazar* what are the four times when one should not confront/see his friend? (ד': י"ח)
- What *pasuk* is central to the *Mishnah* in the name of *Shmuel Ha'Katan*? (ד': י"ט)
- To what does *Elisha ben Avuya* compare one that learns when he is young? (ד': כ')
- To what does *R' Yosi bar Yehuda ish Kfar HaBavli* compare learning from an elderly sage? (ד': כ')
- Who argues with *R' Yosi bar Yehuda* and what is his rationale? (ד': כ')
- According to *R' Eliezer* what three things remove a person from the world? (ד': כ"א)
- What eight "roles" of *HaKadosh Baruch Hu* should one be conscious of and inform others about? (ד': כ"ב)
- What five events occurred and will occur against our will? (ד': כ"ב)
- Why was the world created with ten utterances? (ה': א')
- Why were there ten generation from: (ה': ב')
 - *Adam* to *Noach*?
 - *Noach* to *Avraham*?
- Who bore ten trials? (Two people.) (ה': ג' ד')

Local Shiurim

Melbourne, Australia

Sunday -Thursday

10 minutes before *Mincha*
Mizrachi Shul
 Melbourne, Australia

Friday & Shabbat

10 minutes before *Mincha*
Beit Ha'Roeh
 Melbourne, Australia

Efrat, Israel

Shiur in English

Sunday -Thursday

Rabbi Mordechai Scharf
 9:00am
Kollel Magen Avraham
 Reemon Neighbourhood

ONLINE SHIURIM

Rabbi Chaim Brown
www.shemayisrael.com/mishna/

Rav Meir Pogrow
613.org/mishnah.html

Rabbi E. Kornfeld
Rabbi C. Brown
<http://www.dafyomi.co.il/calendars/myomi/myomi-thisweek.htm>

SHIUR ON KOL HALOSHON

Rabbi Moshe Meir Weiss
 In US dial: 718 906 6400
 Then select: 1 – 2 – 4

Next Week's Mishnayot...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	שבת קודש
29 th December כ"ט טבת	30 th December ל"ז טבת	31 st December כ"ח טבת	1 st December כ"ט טבת	2 nd December א' שבט	3 rd December ב' שבט	4 th December ג' שבט
Avot 5:4-5	Avot 5:6-7	Avot 5:8-9	Avot 5:10-11	Avot 5:12-13	Avot 5:14-15	Avot 5:15-16

