



הלכה of the Week

~ הלכות כבוד אב ואם ~

The Laws of Honouring One's Father and Mother

(Based on "Kitzur Shulchan Aruch," Chp. 143)

One should take great care to honour and fear his parents.

~ "כְּדָרָךְ שְׂצִיָּה עַל כְּבוֹד שְׁמוֹ הַגָּדוֹל וּמוֹרָאוֹ, כִּן צִיָּה עַל כְּבוֹדֵם וּמוֹרָאֵם." ~

The honour and fear due to our parents is linked to the honour and fear due to Hashem. This is because we are created through a partnership between Hashem and our parents, so we must show our gratitude to all three for giving us the gift of life.

~ "בְּזִמְן שֶׁאָדָם מְכַבֵּד אֶת אָבִיו וְאֶת אִמּוֹ, אוֹמֵר הַקְדוֹשׁ-בְּרוּךְ-הוּא,

מַעֲלָה אֲנִי עֲלֵיכֶם, כְּאֵלוֹ דְרָתֵי בְּנֵיהֶם וְכַבְדוֹנִי." ~

The Rabbis teach us that when we honour our parents Hashem says:

"I consider it as if I were dwelling among them and that they have honoured Me, also."

~ What is "fear" ? איזהו מורא? ~

A person should not stand or sit in a place where his father always stands or sits. For example, the places where his father regularly eats or prays.

It is forbidden to contradict our parents and to argue with their words.

~ What is "honour" ? איזהו כבוד? ~

A person must provide his parents with food, drink and clothes. He must help them in and out and do everything that he does for them happily and with a cheerful manner.

פְּרָקִי אֲבוֹת of the Week

(continued from week 14)

פְּרָק ו'

וְגִדּוּלָה תוֹרָה יוֹתֵר מִן הַכְּהוֹנֵה וּמִן הַמְּלֻכּוֹת, שֶׁהַמְּלֻכּוֹת נִקְנִית בְּשָׁלְשִׁים מַעֲלוֹת, וְהַכְּהֹנֵה בְּעֶשְׂרִים וְאַרְבַּע, וְהַתּוֹרָה נִקְנִית בְּאַרְבָּעִים וּשְׁמוֹנֵה דְבָרִים. וְאֵלּוּ הֵן . . .
בְּעִנְיָה, בְּשִׂמְחָה, בְּטִהְרָה, בְּשִׂמּוּשׁ חֻכְמִים, בְּדִקְדוּקַת חֻבְרִים, . . .

To learn Torah is greater than to be a kohen or a king.

A king has thirty advantages, and a kohen has twenty-four, but in order to gain Torah learning a person must improve himself in forty-eight ways.

They are:

humility, joy, purity,

serving the sages, getting on well with friends . . .

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