

בעז"ה

An excerpt from



Based on the teachings of
The Lubavitcher Rebbe

By Rabbi Yekusiel Goldstein

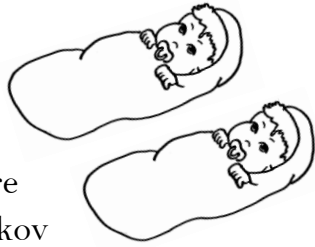
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Two Types of Pleasure

After being married for twenty years, Yitzchak and Rivka were finally *bentched* with Yaakov and Eisav. When Rivka was expecting, Yaakov and Eisav both kicked. Yaakov kicked when Rivka passed a *shul* and Eisav kicked when Rivka passed a place of *avoda zara*. Later, when they grew up each of them followed these ways. Yaakov served Hashem, while Eisav served *avoda zara*.



Question - How can it be that Yitzchak and Rivka who were such great *tzadikim* had a child who had a tendency towards *avoda zara* even before he was born?!

Answer - There are two types of *Yidden*, *tzadikim* and *baalei teshuva*.

Tzadikim – They don't have a *yetzer hara* challenging them and they never do *aveiros*.

Baalei Teshuva – They have a *yetzer hara* that tries to get them to do *aveiros*. Yet, they overcome their *yetzer hara* and do Hashem's will.

Hashem has pleasure from the *tzadik* who never sins. At the same time there is an additional benefit in the *avoda* of a *baal teshuva*, and Hashem has tremendous pleasure from his way of serving Him. When the *baal teshuva* overcomes the challenges of his *yetzer hara*, he shows Hashem how powerful his *yetzer tov* is!

Hashem created Eisav with challenges so that he should **overcome** them and have the benefit of a *baal teshuva*. Eisav, however, chose to give in to his *yetzer hara* and didn't succeed in fulfilling his mission.



Lesson - Sometimes the *yetzer hara* tries to stop us from doing a *mitzva*, like listening to our parents or talking nicely to a friend. When we overcome the *yetzer hara* and do the *mitzva*, it gives Hashem tremendous pleasure, even more than the *avoda* of a *tzadik*!

(Based on *Likutei Sichos* vol. 20 p. 109)

שבת ויום טוב
צבר' תורה

Let's Review...

Question #1 – From whose *avoda* can we see the true power of the *yetzer tov*; the *tzadik* or *baal teshuva*?

Question #2 – What does Hashem expect us to do when we are challenged by the *yetzer hara*?



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Gut Shabbos!