

Chaburah 29 – Chovos Halevovos Sha'ar Habitachon Perek 3

In the previous Chaburos we clarified that every person should use their innate, inborn talents and abilities to acquire their chelek in Torah and to uplift their Neshama in the greatest way in Avodas Hashem. People also need to recognize and identify their own unique, natural set of character traits, since those are an expression of their Neshama's Source Level Above, and by actualizing them, a person is revealing that part of the Framework of G-dly Traits Above that he came to the world to reveal.

In today's Chabura we see a source that even when making the technical decision of what profession to choose as a means of parnassah, it is only proper to choose that profession that is most suitable for using the innate abilities you were born with. Hashem does not expect a person to work at something that is opposite to his natural abilities. In addition, much of the time in a person's life is invested in earning a parnassah, and therefore it is only correct in regard to actualizing one's innate middos, that he choose a profession that requires him to draw upon the most parts of his natural middos and skill set as possible.

Source: Chovos Halevovos , Shaar Habitachon Perek 3

Various points that come out from the words of the Chovos Halevovos:

1- A person should recognize his physical build and stamina in proportion to his intellectual grasp. According to the reality of these natural abilities, he should choose a profession that will not exhaust him, rather one that he [will be naturally motivated by and] will be able to maintain in an ongoing way. The work a person chooses to invest himself in for his parnassah, does not have to be exhausting and "backbreaking".

2- Every person has a natural affinity that Hashem has implanted within him for one certain profession or another.

3 – Once one has chosen the profession that best suits his nature, he should endure its results and stay with it - both in the times that it is profitable, and in the times that it is not profitable.

4 – When working any job as a parnassah, one should always think that his intent in doing the work is simply to fulfill the Ratzon Hashem Who has commanded that - although we have Bitachon in Him - we need to be physically working in a field that holds potential to be a logical and a rational reason to earn the amount of parnassah [that is satisfying for his needs].

5- One should never think that his parnassah could only come through one specific, certain means; rather he should know that Hashem could satisfy his [financial] needs through any cause - whenever He Wants and in whatever way He Wants.