

ONE POINT*from***לקוטי שיחות חלק יז, שיחה לפרקי אבות – פרק ג**

~ In memory of הר"ח ר' חיים מרדכי אייזיק ב"ר שלום ישראל ז"ל חדקוב, on occasion of his 30th Yohrtzeit, on ג' אייר ה'תשפ"ג ~

Use these words to fill in the blanks:

*** compared * Daven * equal * government * swallowing ***

IN THE MISHNA:

הָגוּי מִתְפַּלֵּל בְּשְׁלוֹמָהּ שֶׁל מַלְכוּת – Daven for the well-being and success of the _____,
שֶׁאִלְמָלָא מוֹרְאָה – because if not for the fear of government,
אִישׁ אֶת רֵעֵהוּ חַיִּים בְּלַעוּ – people would swallow each other alive.

QUESTION:

If we need to _____ for the success of the government to prevent people from literally harming each other, why does the משנה use the unusual expression of people “_____ each other alive”?

ANSWER:

The משנה is talking to a person who learns תורה and does מצוות, and would never actually physically hurt or harm someone else.

However, although he would not **do** anything wrong to the other person, the way he **views** the other person might be negative. He might look down at the other person, thinking that he himself is so learned and accomplished, and the other person is nothing _____ to him. In this way, he “swallows” up the other person as if only he is important, and the other person has no independent value.

So the משנה says: Daven for the well-being of the government. When you Daven for the well-being of the “kingdom” here on earth, it will remind you of the real King, Hashem. And in the presence of Hashem we are all _____, and one will not “swallow” anyone else alive.

Further discussion:

- *What is the connection between this teaching and סגן הכהנים רבי חנינא who taught it?*

(See footnote 30 in the שיחה)



מחזור הראשון של לימוד הלקוטי שיחות - ה'תשפ"ג

Sicha resources: www.ProjectLikkuteiSichos.org
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