



The Joy of Torah - For Life

Parshas Toldos

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The Midrash Rabbah on this week's Parsha (68:4) discusses the fact that Hashem is the one that makes shidduchim. A noblewoman questioned Reb Yosi that it isn't that hard to make shidduchim! She then tried to do it on her own by setting up many of her many of her servants and maidservants and had disastrous results! **He then said to her that it may seem easy, but it's as difficult for Hashem as the splitting of the sea!**

The Yefei Tohar asks the following question. Don't we see many righteous people married to a bad spouse?! How are we to explain this. He explains that it must be because of the concept that Hashem punishes the righteous in this world to prepare them for the World to Come! He says that we also see wicked people who merit righteous spouses. He explains 3 in three separate ways.

1. She can have a good influence on him and help him repent
2. If he doesn't repent, he will get rewarded in this world by having this righteous wife.
3. To cleanse the righteous spouse from their own few sins they committed!

Lets focus on answer #2. The Wicked person is rewarded in that world by having a good wife!? What kind of reward is that? Every time he wants to do something forbidden, she always spoils his fun! She constantly probably puts pressure on him to live a different life than he wants to live so how can we call that a reward?

We see from here that even for a wicked person, when his wife forces him to go to davening and a shiur, not to rob banks, to only eat in Kosher restaurants, he is really enjoying it! Because his Neshama feels good doing good things and effects his feelings of enjoyment in this world so much that when his wife forces him to do the right thing, that's called a reward!