



The Joy of Torah - For Life

## **Parshas Nitzavim**

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In this week's Parsha the Torah (29,18) warns that someone might "hear the words of the curse and he will bless himself in his heart, saying, "There will be peace for me, because whatever my heart wants I will do ". And Hashem will "add the (until now overlooked) punishment for accidental sins onto the punishment for the purposeful sins. "

Rashi explain "and he will bless himself" as saying that "he will think in his heart just a blessing of peace for himself, saying, these curses won't come up on me, just peace that will be for me." The Sifsei Chachamim explains that Rashi needed to explain what the beracha is, since just not getting a curse isn't a blessing. There must be something extra, some abundance of good. So therefore Rashi explained the beracha as "a blessing of peace... Just peace they will be for me." We find this idea in other places as well that peace is the greatest blessing of all.

So this evil man, who wants to do avairos, not only thinks he won't get the curses that Hashem said he will get, but he thinks he will get "abundant good and peace?! The Mesilas Yescharim says that not even one in 1000 has a life of peace and tranquility, and this sinner thinks he'll be that guy?!

**It must be that a wicked man cannot recognize that life has suffering, or else he'll have to admit that Hashem is in charge, and he'd have to change.** Going into Rosh Hashanah, we have to realize that our lives are at stake, and that our lives are on the line, And we have to do what Hashem wants, or our lives will have moments of trouble. **We have to recognize how much our peace and tranquility all depend on Hashem and how our actions shape our fate.**