

Parshas Noach

Shmuz by Rabbi Shimon Max
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There is a pasuk in Mishlei (28,12), "When Tzadikim rejoice there is abundant splendor, and when the wicked get up, they search man." The Sharei Teshuva explains that this refers to how the righteous always have something good to say about everyone, while the wicked always look for ways to put people down, and even bring up old avairos they used to do that they've done teshuva for already, in order to put them down.

The Sharei Teshuva continues to say that you should not tell everyone your avairos that you are doing Teshuva on because of the above pasuk that says only wicked people bring down men.

What does the above Pasuk have to do with anything? I can understand not putting other people down but what does degrading myself to others have to do with the verse that says that wicked people search the sin of people to find their faults?

It seems that the Sharei Teshuva holds that one needs to see himself in the correct truthful perspective just like one should not find faults in others that are false, one should not see faults in himself that do not exist either. When one is a בעל תשובה he should not be telling others his faults that he had before doing תשובה as he is not that same person. Telling others of our past sins means we don't believe that we have changed and transformed into a new being with our Teshuva, therefore, the Sharei Teshuva says one should tell others of past sins. We see from here that once one does teshuva and confesses his sins he must realize that he is a new person and HaShem with His mercy has truly forgiven him.

We are coming off of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. our avodah now is to realize that we are not the same people we were a month ago. **We have to have proper respect for ourselves and realize with pride the gains that we have made!**