



The Joy of Torah - For Life

## **Parshas Vayikra**

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The Rabbeinu B'chaya on this week's Parsha discusses that by our midos - character traits, it is known that we generally should aim for the middle ground. We shouldn't deviate to "the right or the left". But by humility we are warned not to choose a middle ground because it may lead to arrogance, which is a terrible trait and also ruins our lives in this world and the next for us, like it says in Perkei Avos (4,4) that a person should be exceedingly humble.

One can ask why is it that right afterwards the Rabbeinu B'chaya writes that one should not follow the middle path when it comes to Humility because there are many beautiful attributes to humbleness and he does not mention the reason that he said above, that without being exceedingly humble one can end up in the territory of arrogance and destroy his life. It is also interesting to note that when the incredible humility of Moshe is mentioned, the Rabbeinu B'chaya writes that it was glorious and tremendously advantageous, and not that Moshe Rabbeinu did it to protect from haughtiness?!

It seems that what the Rabbeinu B'chaya is saying is that of course it goes without saying that being exceedingly humble is meritorious and a beautiful trait. The reason why Rabbeinu B'chaya mentioned the reason that it will be a protection not to become a ba'al gayva was only because it is very difficult to do deal with a character trait very differently than one normally does and an extra jolt is called for which the Rabbeinu B'chaya supplies and says it's very very dangerous to just stay in the middle path because G-d forbid we can and end up in the territory of haughtiness. It seems that becoming humble to the extent that we are supposed to according to the Torah, has a particular test because it is to be done on a totally different scale than all other Middos. May we be Zocheh to have proper מדת הענוה and truly enjoy a life of שמחה in this world and the next.

**רוח מאד מאד הוי שפל רוח!!**