

JEW'S HAVE FAITH ONLY IN HASHEM **BULLETIN 37**

RABBI MOSHE CHAYIM LUZZATTO:

“If a person did not feel the need to obtain the approval of others, he would have less expenses when it comes to food, clothing, and shelter. It would save him from feeling the need to become wealthy. But because a person does not want to see himself as being below the economic level of those in his social network, there is no end to the amount of work he needs to engage in to keep up with the standards of others. For this reason the Sages (Pirke Avos 4:21) have stated that seeking honor is one of three traits that destroy a person’s life.

“There are people who would rather be supported by charity than do work they consider beneath them because they fear the disapproval of others. There is no greater folly than having this attitude. They would prefer being idle with all of its negative consequences rather than do something they view as below their dignity. The general rule is that approval-seeking is one of the greatest obstacles a person can have in his life. You cannot be a loyal servant to your Creator as long as you are concerned about your own honor. Approval-seeking results in a decreased involvement in matters that pertain to the Almighty’s honor.

“True honor is true knowledge of Torah. Only when you are free from seeking approval will you be successful.”

Mesilat Yesharim Chapter 11

IT IS BETTER FOR A PERSON TO BE CONSIDERED A FOOL THROUGHOUT HIS ENTIRE LIFE BY MAN, THAN TO BE CONSIDERED WICKED FOR ONE MOMENT IN THE EYES OF G-D (MISHNA EDUYOT 5:6)

DID YOU NOTICE THAT THE FURTHER PEOPLE ARE FROM THE TRUTH THE MORE THEY CONSIDER SOMEONE WHO TURNS AWAY FROM EVIL TO BE A FOOL? REBBE NACHMAN, SEFER HA MIDDOT, EMET