

KASHRUT BULLETIN # 23

WHOEVER GUARD HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE, GUARDS
AS WELL HIS SOUL FROM SUFFERING (Mishle 21:23)

THE FOUNDATION OF THE SANCTITY OF ISRAEL IS THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LAWS OF KASHRUT

And you shall be holy men to me; nor shall you eat any flesh that is torn of beasts in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs. (SHEMOT 22:30) Rashi comments on this verse the following: “If you are holy and abstain yourselves from the repugnancies of Nevelot and Terefot, behold you are Mine, and if not you are not Mine”

May it be known that the foundation of Israel's sanctity and purity is their painstaking observance of the laws of kashrut. We find this stated explicitly in the Torah at the end of Parshath Shemini (Lev. 11:44)

“For I am the L-rd your G-d, and you shall sanctify yourselves and be holy, for I am holy; and you shall not defile your souls with any creeping thing that creeps on earth”.

Thus the Torah is very explicit, that by abstaining from forbidden foods we sanctify ourselves, and by laxity in this field, we, G-d forbid, defile our souls. Forbidden foods dull a person's intellect, clog his heart and soul, thereby causing him to entertain evil thoughts, leading him to apostasy and disbelief, and eventually he will stumble upon serious transgressions.

The words of the Holy Rabbi Hillel Kolomayer Ztk'l are well known (Bet Hillel siman 48, 9): “You should know that the sin of eating Nevelot and Terefot is much graver than other sins...And our Sages say that the reason why young children die, G-d forbid, is because of this sin of eating forbidden foods, therefore pity your children and don't destroy them, Chas ve Shalom”

It's also known what the Zohar ha Kadosh (Parashat Shemini) writes on this matter: That to eat forbidden foods is just as serving idols and the person is punished forever and loses his portion in the world to come.

In matters of Kashrut the problem is more serious than with other matters as the author of Shne Luchot ha Brit wrote that the body of the person that stumbles upon forbidden foods changes its nature into a dirty and impure thing indeed.

DO YOU KNOW WHO THE SHOCHATIM WHO SLAUGHTER THE ANIMALS THAT YOU EAT MEAT FROM ARE? DO YOU IF THEY ARE G-D FEARING? WOULD YOU TRUST THEM WITH YOUR MONEY? NO? THEN WHY DO YOU TRUST THEM WITH YOUR SOULS AND THAT OF YOUR WIFE AND CHILDREN? WHY DO YOU TRUST THEM WITH YOUR SHARE IN THE LIFE OF THE WORLD TO COME?

NOWADAYS YOU ALSO NEED TO TRUST THE OWNER OF THE FACTORY WHERE THE ANIMALS ARE SLAUGHTERED AND YOU ALSO NEED TO TRUST THE BUTCHER WHO SELLS THE MEAT TO YOU

**ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO RELY
ON THESE PEOPLE?**

**THE MOST UPRIGHT BUTCHER IS
A PARTNER OF AMALEK**

See further the last chapter of Kiddushin (82a): "The most upright butcher is a partner of Amalek." Rashi explains that many cases of questionable kashrut come to his hand, and in trying to save money, declares them kosher, and - sell them as such. We can see to what extent the Rabbis evaluate the pitfalls resulting from the butchers, that they did not hesitate to use the sharpest epithet when referring to them. The expression, "partner of Amalek," is, by far, the sharpest epithet used in the Talmud. One's hair can stand on end when one thinks about how far this matter extends. For a question of doubtful kashrut the Rabbis called him such a name, and not only a usual butcher, but "the most upright butcher " so that no one can be confident in himself and say that since he appointed a reliable butcher, no pitfalls can result from him, and it is accepted that a Torah scholar does not allow any pitfall to result from his doings, especially if the butcher is really learned, since the Rabbis say that a Torah scholar will commit a minor infraction in order to prevent an ignorant person from committing a major infraction.

There is no sin so severe as forbidden foods, since entire Jewish communities were lost and turned to evil ways because of eating treifos and neveilos. (Divrei Chayim-Yoreh Deah)

WHO CAN CONTRADICT THE WORDS OF THE PELE YOETZ?

It is extremely difficult to find meat that is kosher according to all views. I, therefore, derive much pleasure from the pious that are careful not to eat meat. (Pele Yoetz, teref).

Whoever wishes to avoid all risks, should be smart to eat only fowl (poultry) and not bovine meats - because the pitfalls are all too common and numerous with them. [And for eating the forbidden fat of bovine meat we become liable to the punishment of karet and this punishment does not apply to the consumption of poultry] (Shulchan Hatahor, Rabbi Aaron Roth o.b.m. (author of Shomer Emunim, Tohoras Hakodesh, etc)

ARE YOU REALLY WILLING TO RISK YOUR LIFE BY CONSUMING FOODS THAT ARE NOT KOSHER ACCORDING TO ALL OPINIONS, AND ARE BASED ON ALL POSSIBLE LENIENCIES IN KASHRUT LAWS USED BY THOSE WHO MANUFACTURE THEM? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE RABBIS OF THE EREV RAV ARE IMMERSSED IN THE BUSINESS OF ISSUING KASHRUT CERTIFICATES TO ALL KINDS OF FOODS? DO YOU KNOW THAT A LOT OF MONEY AND CORRUPTION EXISTS IN THE FIELD OF KASHRUT? PURE AND SIMPLE JEWS HAVE FALLEN PREY TOO MANY TIMES TO THE WRONGDOINGS OF THE EREV RAV! SAVE YOUR SOULS AND WATCH WHAT YOU EAT SO THAT YOUR EMUNA IN HASHEM WILL BE LEFT PURE AND NOT BE CONFUSED BY FOOLISH NOTIONS THAT ARE TOO PREVALENT IN OUR TIMES. MAY HASHEM GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO AVOID ALL THE DAMAGE THAT THE RABBANIM OF THE EREV RAV TRY TO INFLICT ON THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AMEN