



Text Message Q&A #143 Ask Rav Aviner: toratravaviner@yahoo.com
Prepared by Rabbi Mordechai Tzion Visit our blog: www.ravaviner.com

Ha-Rav answers hundreds of text message questions a day! Here's a sample:

Growing a Beard

Q: I want to grow a beard but my mother is opposed. What should I do?

A: You should grow it, and appease her by telling her that you want to marry a woman who wants a husband with a beard (Ha-Rav Chaim Kanievski related that the Chafetz Chaim also gave the same advice, and the mother of the man agreed that he should grow a beard. Minchat Todah p. 89).

Cohain Leaving Eretz Yisrael

Q: Is there more of a prohibition for a Cohain to leave Eretz Yisrael for the impurity of the lands outside of Israel than the general prohibition of leaving Eretz Yisrael?

A: Yes (And this is the opinion of Ha-Rav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach. Halichot Shlomo – Tefillah, Chap. 10 note #12. Unlike the opinion of Va-Yoel Moshe, Maamar Yishuv Eretz Yisrael, Chap. 132 #11 and Shut Teshuvot Ve-Hanhagot 2:565).

Kol Isha

Q: Why is it written in the Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chaim 75:3) that it is forbidden to hear a woman sing during Keriat Shema, it is always forbidden to hear a woman sing?

A: Then it is forbidden to even hear your wife sing (And the Rama explains so there).

Slap for Rav Ovadiah's Honor

Q: Is it permissible for me to give someone a slap who makes fun of Rav Ovadiah?

A: No. But admonish him.

Shul in Name of Yitzchak Rabin

Q: Is there a problem to Daven in a Shul named in memory of Yitzchak Rabin?

A: There is certainly no problem. That is a strange question.

Adult Films

Q: A Rabbi said that one who watches adult films on the internet is evil. Is this true to such an extent?

A: Certainly, since these films are made by taking advantage of poor and down-cast women's weaknesses, forcing them, raping them and destroying them. One who is a partner to wickedness is evil.

Finds a More Beautiful Woman

Q: Rabbi Akiva says that if one finds a woman more beautiful than his wife, he is permitted to get a divorce. Gittin 90a. This is difficult to understand.

A: If one finds a woman more beautiful than his wife, it is a sign that the marriage is in poor condition.

Boycotting Israel

Q: What should we do if European countries boycott Israeli products?

A: Let's see how they get along without the technological advances we invented in cell phone, computers and medical equipment.

Taking Counsel with One's Wife

Q: Why did Yaakov Avinu take counsel with Rachel and Leah about whether or not they should return to Israel, when Hashem explicitly commanded him to do so?

A: One should not give his wife orders but include her respectfully in the decision. Commentary of the Shelah ibid.

Modesty

Q: I dress extremely modestly but every time a hair pops out of my head-scarf, my husband points it out. I am insulted and I tell him. He then gives me Mussar. What should I do?

A: Tell him you are no longer a teenager in high school. And in any case, not all religious high schools point out to the girls when something needs improvement. If need be, speak to my wife.

Special thank you to Orly Tzion for editing the Ateret Yerushalayim Parashah Sheet



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