

Text Message Q&A #128Ask Rav Aviner: toratravaviner@yahoo.comPrepared by Rabbi Mordechai TzionVisit our blog: www.ravaviner.com

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

Bring the Grave of Rebbe Nachman to Israel

Q: Is it a Mitzvah to transfer the grave of Rebbe Nachman to Israel?

A: It is certainly a Mitzvah. See Shulchan Aruch, Yoreh Deah #363, Pitchei Teshuvah #2. And it is a great Mitzvah (And there are those who opposed bring the graves of Gedolei Yisrael to Eretz Yisrael. The Chazon Ish opposed bringing the grave of the Vilna Gaon. Orchot Rabbenu Vol. 1, p. 316. And it is related in Kuntres Reshumei Aharon p. 24 #37, that the grandchildren of the Chafetz Chaim once came to Ha-Rav Moshe Feinstein and asked if they were permitted to move the Chafetz Chaim's grave to Israel, since there are non-Jews in Radin who desecrate the cemetery. Ha-Rav Feinstein replied that the basic halachah is that it is permissible to transfer a grave on account of honoring the deceased, but he didn't recommend it in this case. All of the souls of the Jews of Poland who are deceased anticipate greeting the Messiah together with the Chafetz Chaim, Ha-Rav Feinstein reasoned, and if you take his bones to Eretz Yisrael, perhaps those souls will be upset over it).

Protection from Troubles

Q: I have many troubles in my life. Is there a Segulah to protect me from them?

A: "Whoever guards his mouth and his tongue, keeps his soul from troubles". Mislei 21:23.

Asking a Rabbi

Q: Is it permissible to ask a Rabbi a hypothetical question?

A: If you inform him from the outset that it is not a practical question, since if he thinks it is a practical question, the Rabbi will spend much effort and toil to answer it. It is therefore forbidden to deceive him (When Ha-Rav Meir Brandsdofer, author of Shut Kene Bosem and

member of the Beit Din of the Eidah Ha-Charedit, was asked a halachic question, he would often say: "Tell me the truth, is this a practical question?" When he was asked about this practice, he explained that when he gives a practical halachic answer, there is a special Divine help in reaching the truth of Torah. Another time, he said: "A Rabbi is not a factory to create answers." And he pointed out that all of the responsa books of the Rishonim and Achronim were written from questions sent from around the world, aside from Shut Terumat Ha-Deshen, as brought in the Shach, Yoreh Deah 196:20. The reason being is that if one detail is different, the ruling can totally change. Heichal Hora'ah, pp. 17-18).

Pidyon Ha-Ben

Q: How does one calculate the time of a Pidyon Ha-Ben?

A: It is 30 days after the birth, which always falls 2 days later in the week than the birth itself. If the child was born on Tuesday, the Pidyon Ha-Ben is on Thursday or Thursday night. And if it falls on Shabbat, then the Pidyon Ha-Ben is on Motzaei Shabbat.

BCC

Q: Is it permissible to put a BCC (blind carbon copy) on an email?

A: Only if it is the desire of the one to whom the email is sent. "One who goes along slandering reveals secrets." Mishlei 11:13.

Sleeping Security Guard

Q: If I enter a place and see the security guard sleeping, should I report it?

A: Certainly. It is a life-threatening situation.

Segulah for a Long Life

Q: Is there a Segulah for a long and good life?

A: "Who is the man that desires life and loves days of seeing good? Let him guard his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking evil." Tehillim 34:13-14.

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