

*A heretic saw that Rava was immersed in studying Halacha. His fingers were beneath his leg and he was squeezing them, causing his fingers to spurt blood. Rava did not notice that he was bleeding because he was engrossed in study. The heretic said to Rava: "You impulsive nation who accorded precedence to your mouths over your ears. You still bear your impulsiveness, as you act without thinking. You should listen first. Then, if you are capable of fulfilling the commands, accept them. And if not, do not accept them." Rava said to him: "About us, who proceed wholeheartedly and with integrity, (trusting in Hashem that He will not overburden us - Rashi) it is written: "The integrity of the upright will guide them," (Proverbs 11:3), whereas about those people who walk in deceit, it is written at the end of the same verse: "And the perverseness of the faithless will destroy them." (Shabbos 88a)*

*We are all familiar with the words of the Vilna Gaon: "The central reason for the giving of the Torah to Klal Yisroel is so they will have Bitachon in Hashem." From the above Gemarah we see that our receiving of the Torah was also only through our Bitachon in Hashem. Additionally, we see that even regarding our spiritual obligations, we mustn't be overwhelmed by them. Rather, we must place our trust in Him that we will succeed in their fulfillment, bringing us happiness in this world and eternal bliss in the World to Come!*

*Established By:*



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