

It would seem logical, that one who feels a lack in the totality of his trust in the Almighty, should sooner work to strengthen that Bitachon rather than to pursue additional efforts beyond those needed to fulfill the injunction of, “Do not rely on miracles.”

The Chofetz Chaim illustrates this concept with a parable:

*A story is told of a man who was on a train. The train was going at its average speed, but the man, being in a hurry, was not satisfied. He jumped out of his seat, ran to the front car, and began pushing the front wall of the train to try to make it go faster.*

We must realize that Hashem is the conductor who controls all events and our pushing will not make things come any faster than He wants them to come. In Radin, at the Chofetz Chaim’s Yeshiva, the custom was that the Yeshiva boys did not shave their beards. There was a young man who was having a difficult time finding a wife and people told him that it was because his beard made him look unattractive. He went to the Chofetz Chaim and asked him if he should remove the beard. The Chofetz Chaim replied, “The Talmud says, ‘The matching of a man with his proper mate is as difficult as the splitting of the Red Sea.’ If it is so “difficult,” so to speak, for Hashem to create a proper match, do you think that your shaving your beard will make it easier?”

*Established By:*



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