

## **Happiness: The Source**

Say that the happiness of a person is a feeling which is upbeat, a state of mind that is caused by certain factors. These may include materialistic gains, such as financial growth or other worldly pleasures. Other factors include honor to man, deserving or not and power, ruler-ship over an entity. However, a person will find himself most content by doing the will of G-d, even if people do not agree. This includes performing a positive commandment properly and abstaining from committing a negative commandment. One can also achieve happiness by putting his trust in G-d, confident that He will help. The happiness caused by materialism is short lived.

One of the important goals of a person is to earn a livelihood, something obligatory on the husband, the traditional breadwinner, something guaranteed in the kesubah. This is obligatory and therefore, whatever profession or work he chooses must be scrutinized carefully to identify the pitfalls. It is vital that one avoids dishonesty and thievery that can lead to money fraud and criminal activity. Bernie Madoff pulled off the biggest fraud in the investment community. Bernie did not come out of thin air. This was the outgrowth of listening to the advice of the evil inclination to destroy others and gain, for selfish purposes, huge amounts of money. Eventually the truth will reveal itself and the shame of not only the person who committed the sin but all those who supported him will be known.