

# *James*

## Chapter 3 (Pt. 1)

***Just as the mitzvah of Torah study is equal to all the mitzvot combined, so too, the sin of lashon hara equals all the sins of the Torah combined***

∞ TALMUD

***“When one resists the temptation to say something foolish, it is like a sacrifice on the altar in the Holy Temple.”***

∞ R' ADIN STEINSALTZ

**Q: What is the difference between a horse and a ship?**

## HORSE

- Alive
- Mind of its own
- Self-powered (internal)
- Controlled from the front
- Reins are visible

Visible

## SHIP

- Not alive
- No mind of its own
- Relies on external power
- Controlled from the rear
- Rudder is hidden

Hidden

**The tongue is so powerful because it is so small.  
Words are doubly powerful for the same reason.**

## **James 3:6 – The tongue...**

- *... is a fire*
- *... is the world of iniquity*
- *... defiles the entire body*
- *... sets on fire the course of our life*
- *... is set on fire by hell*
- *... is untamable*
- *... is a restless evil*
- *... is full of deadly poison*

***“Satan gravitates naturally to a place of strife and dissent; it is his natural habitat. In a place where peace reigns, on the other hand, Satan cannot find any rest.”***

## Psalm 34:11-13

***Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. Who is the man who desires life, And loves length of days that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit.***

 חפץ חיים

***Chofetz Chaim***

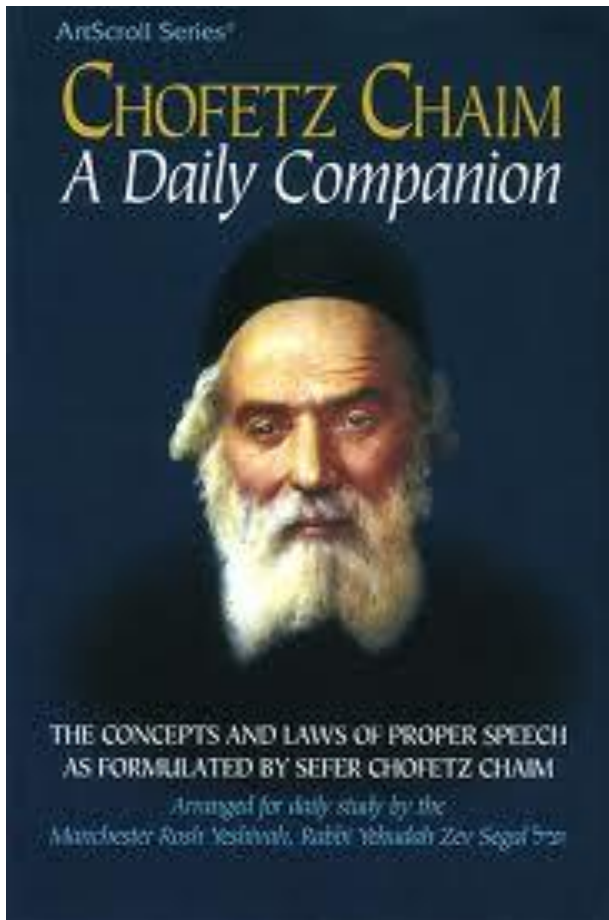
**(R' Yisrael Meir Kagan)**

1834 – 1933

***Loshon Hara***  
“Evil Speech”



***Rechilus***  
“Gossip”



## **Chofetz Chaim** ***A Daily Companion*** (Artscroll Publishers)

∞ 127 Daily Readings ∞

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- **The Torah contains 17 commandments against *lashon hara*.**
  - ***Lashon hara* was the cause of *tzaraas* (leprosy).**
  - ***“There is no other sin so toxic that it comes with its own unique corrective illness.”***

**Matt. 6:5-7** *“When you pray, do not...”*

**Matt. 6:7-13** *“When you are praying, do not...”*

**Summary:**

Don't pray in order to impress **men**, and don't pray in order to impress **God**.

*“The prayer preceding all prayers is ‘May it be the real I who speaks. May it be the real Thou that I speak to.’”*

📖 C.S. Lewis

**Matt. 6:7** “...do not use meaningless repetition as the **Gentiles** do, for they suppose they will be heard for their many words.”



Prayer Flags



Prayer Wheels

***“The fundamental law of creation is that one is required to pray for everything in life; otherwise he remains on the spiritual level of an animal, whose sustenance is provided without prayer.”***

✍ R' Shalom Arush

**Matt. 6:13** *“And do not lead us into temptation...”*

**Psalm 26:1-2**

*“Judge me, Adonai, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in Adonai without wavering. Prove me, Adonai, and try me; test my heart and my mind.”*