

The RYS Daily - 7/18/06 - Honesty

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, Part 2 pages 205 - 206

He made no distinctions between the laws between man and G-d and the laws between man and man, and even gave priority to the latter over the former. He regarded honesty in business, and the preservation of the sanctity of someone else's property as occupying the highest level - and he found support for his evaluation in many Rabbinic dicta. We have been taught that Enoch was a shoemaker, and for every stitch that he sewed, he proclaimed: 'Blessed the Name of His glorious majesty for ever,' thereby unifying (yichud) and combining all worlds." [5] R. Israel gave a straightforward interpretation of the passage: Enoch would examine every thread to make sure that it had been properly spun, and every stitch to ensure that it had been properly sewn. He would perform his task with utmost honesty. Dealing honestly with the property of others constituted the "unifying and combining" and was among the highest levels of human attainment.

[5.] Emek Hamelech, Sha'ar Kiryat Arba, Chap. 94, p. 103.

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