

The Daily RYS 8/2/06 - Cursing Others

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, part 2, page 212.

In a conversation with his disciples, the discussion turned to saintly individuals whose influence extends on high. One of the disciples related that he was acquainted with a certain tzaddik who had been offended by the remarks some individuals had directed at him. He retorted sharply and cursed them. The curse was fulfilled to the letter. R. Israel was not surprised by the incident itself, but observed in his own telling style: "Someone who had reached so elevated a stature that his words can take effect, should exercise the utmost caution to guard his tongue and lips, so as not to utter anything evil, since he can easily become a damaging agent, for what difference does it make whether one damages with his hands or with the whiplash of his tongue, smiting his neighbor in secret with the force of a Heavenly decree?"

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