

## The RYS Daily 9/12/06 Concealing His Greatness I

From the Mussar Movement, Volume I, Part 2 pages 164 -165.

If he happened to arrive in some locality where people did not know who he was, he would never follow the rule that "one may reveal his identity where he is unknown." He never introduced himself. Listening to people debating some Talmudic or halachic issue, he would be able to dismiss all the questions with some single, brief observation. Yet he would not inject a single remark, appearing as if he were totally unfamiliar with the topic under discussion.

At times he would refer to this mode of behavior of his to his disciples. An outstanding German Torah authority came to make his acquaintance. R. Israel merely gave his guest the benefit of a simple insight (chiddush) in explanation of a Mishnah. When the visitor had left, R. Israel observed to his disciples: "Could I not have propounded novellae to him that would have `split his head'? I could not, however, see what use this would bring."

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