

# Pathways From Parshat Acharei Mot – Kedoshim

written by breslov.org

April 26, 2012

Pathways Parshat Acharei Mot • Vol. 1 1981 [#breslov.org/pot/may12](http://breslov.org/pot/may12)  
Crossing the Narrow Bridge with Rebbe Nachman and his students.  
In and out of the world of Talmud, Torah, Chassidim, and Mysticism

---

**KORACH'S MISTAKE: DOTS**  
By Chayyim Saperstein

"The earth opened its mouth, swallowing them and their households, along with all the men who were with Korach, and their property" (Numbers 16:32).

"A serpent passes in a valley and the refuse is gone, but the tunic is the foundation of the world" (Pirkei 13:21).

Last week we talked about some benefits of Ahavasmitos (Chassidim being "one") in a household. This is a great time to talk about a disadvantage, perhaps the disadvantage, of being disconnected from teshuvah.

My observant (Torah study person) recently reminded me we cannot study Torah, even (or especially) the weekly reading, separately. We must realize there is much more than what meets the eye. We must

conclusions you reach depend very much on what it is you want from life. The letters, the body of the Torah and how it is individualized, cannot be safely separated from the soul and desire to live it as it should be lived, the way the greatest talmidim live it.

That was Korach's fatal error. He thought the letters, which all Jews and every Jew has equally, were also the soul of the Torah. "I have the letters. I—anyone who sees his soul—can have the life these letters contain and how to live it. We are all holy enough. We do not need a teacher!"

But it isn't so. The letters of the holy Torah receive their life, their soul, only in the soul. The soul is the engine, the power, the positive desire and longing of the talmidim, and of an ordinary Yehude, who want (or at least, want to want) to live up to the Torah's ideals. We know that just as we need a Master Rebbe to give us the Torah's letters, the body, we need him for the soul, the soul, in order to have a Torah that lives.

**SIDEPATH**  
On the service of God

Someone once asked Rebbe Nachman who the real God is. He told his daughter, Selimot (184), in such high esteem. The Rebbe explained, "My great-grandfather advised his daughter so much because she was about constantly with a heart full of longing for God. She always asked herself, 'What can I do to please the One above?'" (Sich Sayy Seder, Vol. 2, 172).

Our Sages declare that Korach was a heretic. He was haughty, which is inconsistent with Mitzvah (AM 1, 10-9).

**The Difference Between Akava and Korach**