

## The RYS Daily 6/8/07 Mussar Doctrine VIII

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, Part 2, page 20.

Yet study and the acquisition of knowledge alone do not produce action. Often the two constitute distinct areas separated by a vast chasm. People know ® they realize what they should do, yet act otherwise. It is common even for scholars and sages to believe in, and to fear, G-d, but their tenets lie buried within them and exercise no control over their deeds and thoughts .

R. Israel considered this phenomenon completely normal. He regarded the human evil inclination not only as spiritually contaminating -- but as being "the powerful drive towards the presently pleasurable, without giving thought to the future which will be painful (lit. "bitter") in the end." This instinctive drive holds sway over man, and his intellect is powerless to overcome it. Furthermore, "the greater the man, the more overpowering his inclination,"

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