



“The Man, The Child, The Donkey”

July 2018

They are called "Back seat drivers", "Monday morning quarterbacks", "Know it all's", there is always one around. It almost feels like we can't run away from them.

No matter what the question, situation or circumstances, they always have a remark, comment or suggestion on how you should have done it differently could have gotten it at a better price or the way you did was inefficient.

Or have you ever received criticism that you felt was unfair or downright spiteful from these individuals? If so, here is an interesting parable to keep you thinking: A man and his son were once going with their donkey to market. As they were walking along by their side a countryman passed them and said, *“You fools, what a donkey for but to ride are upon?”* So the man put the boy on the donkey, and they went on their way. But soon they passed a group of men, one of whom said, *“See that lazy youngster; he lets his father walk while he rides.”* So the man ordered his boy to get off, and got on himself. But they hadn't gone far when they passed two women, one of whom said to the other, *“Shame on that lazy lout to let his poor little son trudge along.”* Well, the man didn't know what to do, but at last he took his boy up before him on the donkey. By this time they had come to the town, and the passersby began to jeer and point at them. The man stopped and asked what they were scoffing at. The men said, *“Aren't you ashamed of yourself for overloading that poor donkey of yours — you and your hulking son?”*

The man and boy got off and tried to think what to do. They thought and they thought, until at last they cut down a pole, tied the donkey's feet to it, and raised the pole and the donkey to their shoulders. They went along amid the laughter of all who met them until they came to a bridge, when the donkey, getting one of his feet loose, kicked out and caused the boy to drop his end of the pole. In the struggle the donkey fell over the bridge, and swam away, no more donkeys.

The moral of the story is: Try to please everyone, and you will please no one. It's natural for us to try to win the approval of others, whether it means pursuing a respectable career, following our peers, or acting in certain ways. We crave social acceptance to reassure ourselves that we're doing the right thing. But whatever you decide to do, someone, somewhere will have an opinion about it. People might question your motives, your reasoning, or nitpick at the smallest details. Sometimes, people can take an issue and blow it out of proportion. They

take offense over something. They might even make personal remarks. These criticisms can gradually chip away at you — but only if you let them. So you have to decide: Will you keep moving, or will you stop and listen to everything everyone has to say? Not always an easy or even pleasant choice to make, but that's why they call it "life". And now a bit of "Humor from the Files", to keep you smiling!

Funny Story About Medicine ~ "The Doctor's Cure". A woman went to the doctor's office, where she was seen by one of the new doctors, but after about 4 minutes in the examination room, she burst out, screaming as she ran down the hall. An older doctor stopped her and asked what the problem was, and she told him her story. After listening, he had her sit down and told her to go relax in another room. The older doctor marched down hallway to the back where the first doctor was and demanded, "What's the matter with you? Mrs. Terry is 63 years old, she has four grown children and seven grandchildren, and you told her she was PREGNANT?" The new doctor continued to write on his clipboard and without looking up said, "Well, yes I did! But I bet her hiccups are gone now!"LOL

On behalf of ALL the Chaplains, may G-d bless you and keep you safe. Don't forget to make some time to share and enjoy the season with your loved ones, the summer has a way of passing too quickly. Should you need a shoulder to lean on or perhaps have some good humor to share, don't hesitate to give us a call or drop us a line. Your Chaplains are available and here for you, 24/7.

Compliments of your Police Chaplain
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