
Material for Friday

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To: Julia O'Brien <jobrien@lancasterseminary.edu>

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Hi Julia--


Thanks for talking this morning. I'm looking forward to my time with your class. Here's the stubborn and rebellious child material. The Binding of Isaac is attached. Please ask the students to read Genesis 22 in advance as well.

See you on Friday.

MISHNA: The Torah describes the punishment given to a son who steals money from his parents to eat a gluttonous meal of meat and wine in the company of lowly men. If his parents bring him to court for this act, he is exhorted to desist and is punished with lashes. If he repeats the same misdeed and is again brought to court by his parents within the same three-month period, he is considered a stubborn and rebellious son [*ben sorer umoreh*]. He is liable to receive the death penalty, which in this case is execution by stoning. **From when does a stubborn and rebellious son become** liable to receive the death penalty imposed upon **a stubborn and rebellious son?**

From when he grows two pubic hairs, which are a sign of puberty and from which time he is considered an adult, **until he has grown a beard around**. The reference here is to **the lower** beard surrounding his genitals, **and not the upper** beard, i.e., his facial hair, **but the Sages spoke in euphemistic terms. As it is stated: "If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son"** ([Deuteronomy 21:18](#)), which indicates that the penalty for rebelliousness is imposed upon **a son, but not upon a daughter**; and upon **a son, but not** upon a fully grown **man. A minor** under the age of thirteen is **exempt** from the penalty imposed upon a stubborn and rebellious son, **because he has not yet reached the age of inclusion in mitzvot**.

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