

“Iran Builds Nuclear Weapons”

“Unemployment Could Hit 20%”

“Major Riots Can Develop”

“Economy Can Take Years to Turnaround”

“Homegrown Terror Plots Discovered”

“President Obama Pressuring Israel”

“H1N1 Virus Could Hit Pandemic Level”

It's a hostile world out there. We watch all these world events unfold anxiously as we ask ourselves what will the New Year usher in?! Nerve-racking? Frightening? Daunting? Here's what you can do about it:

The Chofetz Chaim writes that Hashem is willing to judge his children with mercy even if one has done the worst sins, such as Avodah Zorah.

However, if the "accuser" (a/k/a the Satan) is allowed to present one's sins, the hand of Hashem is, so to say, forced to deal strictly with us and punish us for our sins.

However, **we ourselves control** the ability of the "accuser" to speak.

Inasmuch as we are treated by Hashem "mida kineged mida" - measure for measure, the single sin that permits the "accuser" to present all our other sins in heaven is the sin of "Loshon Hora".

If one speaks slanderously about another Jew, the "accuser" is permitted to speak about him, and he is punished strictly for all his sins.

If one refrains from this one sin of Loshon Hora, the accuser is prevented from speaking, and Hashem treats us mercifully despite our other sins.

There is therefore nothing more important for one's self and family before Yom Kippur than to do Teshuva on the sin of Loshon Hora, and to undertake to no longer speak or listen to Loshon Hora in the future.

By doing so, one will silence the "accuser", and merit a good judgment for the coming year.

Chofetz Chaim Shmiras Haloshon Chelek1:Sha'ar Haz'chira, Perek 2, and Chelek2:Perek4

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L'zecher nishmas the Chofetz Chaim zatzal & his Rebbetzin z"l