

## Parenting Class #8 – Sibling Rivalry:

1. **Shemos 2,1-3:** A man went from the house of Levi and took a daughter of Levi. The woman conceived and gave birth to a son. She saw he was good...
2. **Shemos 6:20:** Amram took his aunt Yocheved as a wife, and she bore him Aharon and Moshe.
3. **Talmud Sukkah 52a:** He who is greater than his friend, has a greater Yetzer Hora than him.
4. **Rav Moshe Feinstein:** A person should not be praised for having a gifted child... and should not rely on that talent so that he not supervise the child more than others...knowing that he will certainly become a G-d fearing person...just the opposite! He should be concerned that with his great talents he can develop in the wrong areas and be seduced by his inclination. This child needs more learning, more training, and more supervision...
5. **Avos DeRav Noson Ch. 12:** Even Hashem creates peace in the upper world. What peace does Hashem create? That he did not call ten angels Gavriel, or ten angels Uriel, as the manner of men, who call ten people Reuven, Shimon, Levi, or Yehuda. For if Hashem had called many angels by the same name, when Hashem would call one of them, they all would have come, and they would have become jealous of each other....
6. **Bereishis 4:8:** Kayin said to his brother Hevel; and it happened when they were in the field, that Kayin rose up against his brother, Hevel, and killed him.
7. **Midrash:** What were they judging? They said, 'Let us divide up the world, one took the property and one took the movable objects.....as a result of this, Kayin arose up against his brother, Hevel, and killed him.
8. **Talmud Sanhedrin 102a:** After G-d seized Yeravam by his garment and said to him, "Return, and I, you, and the son of Yishy will stroll together in the Garden of Eden." Yeravam said to G-d; "Who will be at the head?" G-d replied, "The son of Yishy will be at the head." Yeravam replied, "If so, I do not desire it."
9. **Path of the Just, Ch. 11:** Jealousy is another instance of foolishness and temporary loss of sensibility. The jealous person gains nothing, and does nothing against the person he is jealous with but he causes damage to himself...There are those whose foolishness in these things goes so far that they will get depressed, worried, and bothered by the fact that an acquaintance becomes successful at something, and their own successes will give them no pleasure...More serious than this is the coveting of respect. It is possible for a person to subdue his Yetzer Hora for possessions and other such pleasures. But the need for respect is more compelling because it is impossible for you to endure being lower than your friends.
10. **Avos 4:21:** Jealousy, desire, and the request for respect expunge a man from the world.
11. **Talmud Shabbos 10b:** One should not favor one child over the others - a small amount of fine wool which Yakov added to Yosef's garment caused [his brothers to envy him, resulting in] the descent of our ancestors to Mitzrayim!
12. **Rambam, Laws of Inheritance 6:13:** Our Rabbis told us that a person should not show favor between his children during his lifetime, even for a small thing – in order not to bring them to rivalry and jealousy like the brothers of Yosef with Yosef.

13. **Bereishis 49:28**: All these tribes of Israel, twelve of them; and this is what heir father spoke to them and he blessed them, he blessed each man according to his appropriate blessing he blessed them.
14. **Or Hachayim**: The verse is said in the plural, because each one's blessing will benefit himself and all the brothers. As is customarily said, when a king is blessed that his hand will be around his enemies' neck, all the brothers benefit from that.....