

# The Weekly Daf



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Week of 24 Iyar - 1 Sivan 5755 / 24-30 May 1995

Rav Weinbach's insights, explanations and comments for the 7 pages of Talmud studied in the course of the worldwide Daf Yomi cycle

**Sanhedrin 44-50**

***This issue is dedicated in the memory of Shalom Simcha Steinlauf Z"l***

## For Whom the Eulogy



Is the purpose of the *hesped* eulogy said at a funeral to honor the *survivors* or to honor the *departed*?

This is not a mere theoretical question. One practical implication arises in a case where the man makes a request before his death not to be eulogized. If it is the honor of his survivors which is at stake his wish is ignored while if it is his own honor which is the issue his wish will be honored. Another ramification is a situation in which no such request was made but the survivors refuse to pay the expense of hiring a professional eulogizer. If it is their honor they have a right to waive it while if it is the honor of the departed they can be compelled to hire the eulogizer.

The question is resolved on the basis of a statement by Rabbi Nossen to the effect that one who is not eulogized is considered as having suffered a disgrace in this world which will serve as an atonement for him in the World to Come. This is considered conclusive proof that a eulogy's purpose is to honor the departed.

*Sanhedrin 46b*

## Divine Commiseration

**When** a man suffers as a result of being executed for his sins Hashem, as it were, commiserates with him and says: "*How heavy with pain is My head, how heavy with pain are My arms.*"

If this is how the Omnipresent One relates to the shedding of the blood of the wicked, observed Rabbi Meir, how much more so does He suffer along with the blood of the righteous.

*Sanhedrin 46a*

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