

"Command Aharon and his sons saying, "This is the law of the burnt offering." (6:2)

Rashi notes the specific use of the emphatic term "command" as opposed to "say" or "speak". Armed with this strong approach Hashem enjoined the *Kohanim* to be especially zealous in performing this service, as well as in transmitting the exhortation to future generations. Emphasis is necessary whenever a possibility of monetary loss exists, as is this case. This can be likened to a warning sign on a road in which there is a remote chance of an accident occurring. Similarly, the *Torah* cautions us whenever there is a likelihood, no matter how remote, of a weakness related to the performance of a given *mitzvah*.

There are moments in one's life when the need for vigilance and circumspection is most imperative. During the years when one is able to engage in *Torah* study in a *Yeshiva*, he has an obvious responsibility to follow the daily *Yeshiva* schedule and curriculum in order to ensure that his days and nights will be utilized properly. When the moment arrives, however, that he must leave these walls of fortitude and enter into a world in which he will not be able to engage in full-time study, a warning must be flashed to signal that potential for dangers exists. During such moments, an individual must depend upon his own endurance to live up to the noble title of "*Ben Torah*" which he earned during his tenure in the *Yeshiva*.

A "*Ben Torah*" must also reflect upon the awesome responsibility which this mantle confers upon him. He must never forget that others view him as an embodiment of *Torah* - which he truly must be. His total demeanor should serve as a source for sanctifying Hashem's Name. Regrettably, some do not appreciate the individual and communal benefits of having our young men dedicate themselves to the full-time study of *Torah*. Conducting oneself in an inappropriate manner will only serve to support their unfounded criticism. A *Ben-Torah* must realize that his behavior has far-reaching ramifications. One's responsibility to serve as a paragon of respectability and ethics is consistent with the dignity of one's station in life.