The mission of **Torah Is Geshmack** is to bring out the richness and enjoyment of Torah for everyone, and in doing so bring them closer to Hashem.

תשפ״ו

Who Opened the Window?

Dovid Kopel

There is a well-known גמרא at the beginning of סוטה that says:

> אין אדם עובר עבירה אלא אם כן נכנס בו רוח שטות

Roughly translated: a person cannot do a sin unless a wind of foolishness enters him. I once asked my Mashgiach, HaRav Beryl Weisbord שליט״א: "So if every time a רוח שטות enters a person it causes him to do an עבירה, how is a person ever held accountable for his actions?" He liked the question. I gave him this answer: "Who opened the window?"

What was the catalyst of that רוח שטות? Did you surround yourself with bad people? Bad content? Bad ideas? The idea seems to resonate that a person is still held accountable for getting himself into that situation. Perhaps once the יצר הרע has a grasp on him, he's in real trouble.

The goal is to learn from your experiences. Be cautious with what we open ourselves to, and with the influences we allow into our lives. May we all be זוכה to keep that window closed!

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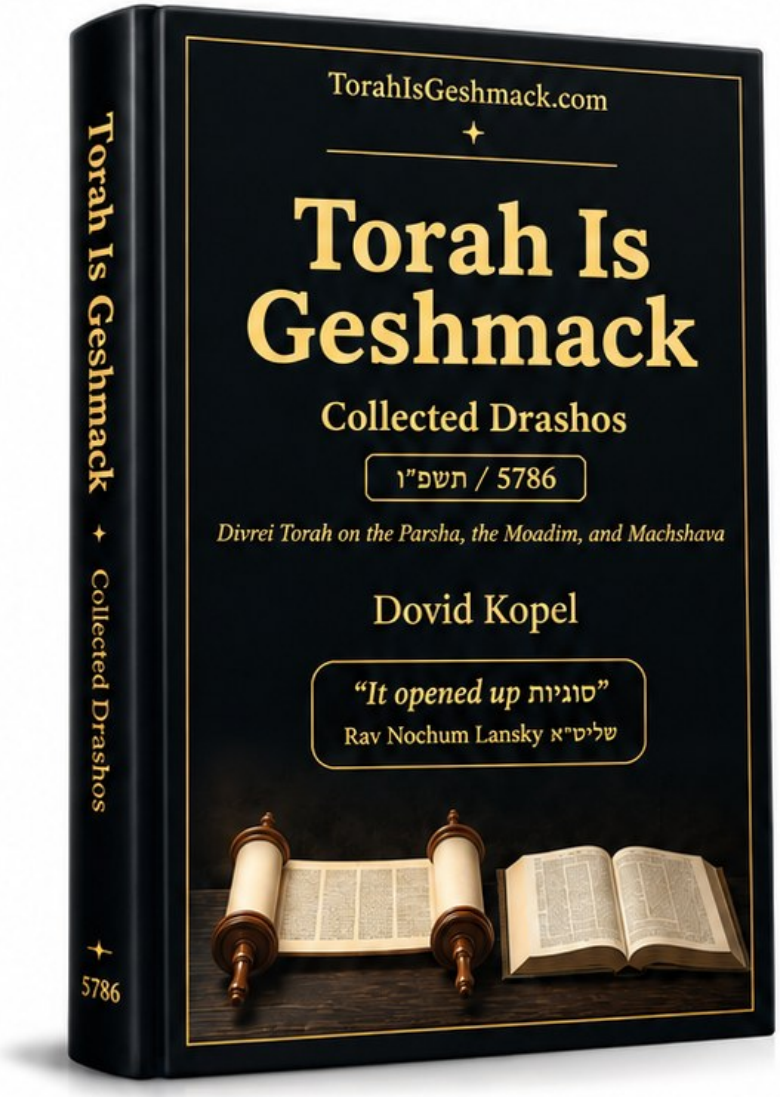
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