

## Excerpts from Pirke Avot, chapter 5

(Don't forget to identify your Hevruta and log your hours in the Beth El office so that a contribution to MAZON can be made in honor of your learning.)

שְׁבַעַת דְּבָרִים בְּגוֹלָם	Seven characteristics of a clod
וְשִׁבְעָה בְּחָכְם	And seven of a wise person
חָכָם	A wise person
אֵינוֹ מְדַבֵּר	Does not speak
לְפָנַי	Before
מִי שֶׁגָּדוֹל מִמֶּנּוּ	One who is greater than he
בְּחָכְמָה	In wisdom
וְאֵינוֹ נִכְנָס	And does not interject
לְתוֹךְ דְּבָרֵי חֲבֵרוֹ	Into the words of his companion
וְאֵינוֹ נְבָהֵל לְהַשִּׁיב	And is not in a hurry to answer
שׂוֹאֵל כְּעִנְיָן	He inquires on topic
וּמְשִׁיב כְּהִלְכָה	And replies accordingly
וְאוֹמֵר עַל רִאשׁוֹן רִאשׁוֹן	He speaks about the first thing first
וְעַל אַחֲרוֹן אַחֲרוֹן	And about the last thing last
וְעַל שְׂלֵא שָׁמַע	And about what he has not heard
אוֹמֵר לֹא שָׁמַעְתִּי	He says I have not heard
וּמוֹדָה עַל	And he acknowledges
הָאֱמֶת	The truth
וְחִלּוּפֵיהֶם בְּגוֹלָם	The opposites are the clod

אַרְבַּע מִדּוֹת בְּאָדָם	Four types in humankind
הַאֹמֵר	One who says
שְׁלִי שְׁלִי	Mine is mine
וְשֶׁלְּךָ שֶׁלְּךָ	And yours is yours
זוֹ מִדָּה בֵּינּוֹנִית	This is the average type
וַיֵּשׁ אֹמְרִים	But there are those who say
זוֹ מִדַּת סְדוֹם	This is Sodom type
שְׁלִי שֶׁלְּךָ	Mine is yours
וְשֶׁלְּךָ שְׁלִי	And yours is mine
עֵם הָאָרֶץ	An ignoramus
שְׁלִי שֶׁלְּךָ	Mine is yours
וְשֶׁלְּךָ שֶׁלְּךָ	And yours is yours
חֲסִיד	Pious
שֶׁלְּךָ שְׁלִי	Yours is mine
וְשֶׁלִּי שְׁלִי	And mine is mine
רָשָׁע	Wicked

אַרְבַּע מְדוֹת There are four types  
 בְּאָדָם In man  
 נוֹחַ לְכַעַס Easy to anger  
 וְנוֹחַ לְרַצוֹת And easy to appease  
 יֵצֵא הַפְּסִדוֹ His lack is nullified  
 בְּשִׂכְרוֹ By his merit  
 קָשָׁה לְכַעַס Hard to anger  
 וְקָשָׁה לְרַצוֹת And hard to appease  
 יֵצֵא שְׂכָרוֹ His merit is nullified by  
 בְּהַפְּסִדוֹ His lack  
 קָשָׁה לְכַעַס Hard to anger  
 וְנוֹחַ לְרַצוֹת And easy to appease  
 חֲסִיד Benevolent  
 נוֹחַ לְכַעַס Easy to anger  
 וְקָשָׁה לְרַצוֹת And hard to appease  
 רָשָׁע Wicked

אַרְבַּע מִדּוֹת בְּיוֹשְׁבֵי	Four types who sit
לְפָנֵי חֲכָמִים	Before the sages
סָפוֹג	A sponge
וּמְשִׁפֵּךְ	And a funnel
מְשַׁמֶּרֶת	A strainer
וְנֶפֶה	And a sieve
סָפוֹג	A sponge
שֶׁהוּא סוֹפֵג	Absorbs
אֶת הַכֹּל	Everything
וּמְשִׁפֵּךְ	And a funnel
שֶׁמִּכְנָס בְּזוֹ	Receives in this end
וּמוֹצִיא בְּזוֹ	And lets out at this end
מְשַׁמֶּרֶת	A strainer
שֶׁמוֹצִיָּאָה	Lets out
אֶת הַיַּיִן	The wine
וְקוֹלֶטֶת	And retains
אֶת הַשְּׂמָרִים	The dregs
וְנֶפֶה	A winnower/sifter
שֶׁמוֹצִיָּאָה	Lets out
אֶת הַקֶּמַח	The flour dust
וְקוֹלֶטֶת	And retains
אֶת הַסֵּלֶת	The fine flour