Do All to the Glory of God

By Rabbi Yehudah ben Shomeyr – Kris Shoemaker

Here is an example of Rav Sha'ul (Apostle Paul) in the Brit Chadasha ("New Testament") teaches the same thing as Orthodox Judaism does today is in:

1Cor. 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

The Tanya, the book of Jewish Philosophy and Mysticism speaks of one way in defeating the sirta archa (the other side) and or his animal soul, is to even abstain from permitted things. This helps produce the Fruits of the Spirit, especially self-control (Gal. 5:22). For example, eating kosher food is permissible, but doing so only for the sake of satisfying your hunger actually gives strength to the Yetzer Hara (evil inclination), but eating for the sake of gaining strength to pray, study Torah, or fulfill a Mitzvah (Commandment) gives strength to the Yetzer tov (good inclination) (Tanya Ch.27). So again this fits perfectly with Rav Sha'ul's words, who was an Orthodox Pharisaical Nazarene Rabbinical Master of Torah.

I Cor. 6:12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

I Cor. 10:23 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.

Even in the realm of speech, which is considered a garment of the soul along with thought and deed, if one abstains from mundane talk, not necessarily LaShone Hara (evil speech), but just "small talk" this too defeats the sirta archa and strengthens the Yetzar tov. This too is reminiscent of the words of Rav Sha'ul:

Phil. 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things.