

ASK THE RABBI

Question: Rabbi, how do I fix a sin?

Answer: Very good question. All sins can be broken down into two categories, between man and God and man to man. The second category, sins of man to man, also have components of man to God, for one has disobeyed God by offending his fellow man. In order to repent and gain atonement for sins between man and God, man must do three things, regret his past actions, confess aloud to God, and accept to never repeat that sin again. When it comes to sins between man and man, the preceding steps towards atonement must be followed, but one must also ask the person whom he offended for forgiveness as well. Only when he has appeased his friend will he be forgiven for his sin. Until that time his soul is stained with his sin, and he stands dirtied in front of Hashem.