



Deciding to Stop

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1	קידושין ל:	Kiddushin 30b
	ת"ר שלשה שותפין הן באדם הקב"ה ואביו ואמו	The Sages taught: There are three partners in the forming of a person: The Holy One, Blessed be He, who provides the soul, and his father and his mother
2	בראשית א/כז-כח	Genesis 1:27-28
	וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצַלְמֵ אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם: וַיְבָרֶךְ אֹתָם אֱלֹהִים וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם אֱלֹהִים פְּרוּ וּרְבוּ וּמְלֵאוּ אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וּכְבֹּשׁוּהָ וּרְדוּ בַדְגַת הַיָּם וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבְכָל־חַי הָרֶמֶשׂת עַל־הָאָרֶץ:	And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them and God said to them, "Be fertile and increase, fill the earth and master it; and rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and all the living things that creep on earth."
3	קהלת יא/ה-ו	Ecclesiastes 11/5-6
	כַּאֲשֶׁר אֵינְךָ יוֹדֵעַ מִהֲדָרְךָ הַרְיוֹם פְּעֻצְמִים בְּבֶטֶן הַמְּלָאָה לָכֵן לֹא תִדְעַל אֶת־מַעֲשֵׂה הָאֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשֶׂה אֶת־הַכֹּל: בַּבֹּקֶר זָרַע אֶת־זֶרְעֶךָ וּלְעֶרֶב אַל־תִּנַּח יָדְךָ כִּי אֵינְךָ יוֹדֵעַ אִי זֶה יִכְשֹׁל הַזֶּה אוֹ־זֶה וְאִם־שְׁנֵיהֶם קָאֻחַד טוֹבִים:	Just as you do not know how the lifebreath passes into the limbs within the womb of the pregnant woman, so you cannot foresee the actions of God, who causes all things to happen. Sow your seed in the morning, and don't hold back your hand in the evening, since you don't know which is going to succeed, the one or the other, or if both are equally good.
4	ישעיהו מה"ח	Isaiah 45:18
	כִּי לֹא אֶמְרֶה' בּוֹרָא הַשָּׁמַיִם הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים יִצֵּר הָאָרֶץ וַעֲשֶׂה הוּא כּוֹנֵן לֹא־תִהְיֶה בְּרָאָה לְשֶׁבֶת יִצְרָה אֲנִי ה' וְאֵין עוֹד:	For thus said the LORD, The Creator of heaven who alone is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who alone established it— He did not create it a waste, But formed it for habitation: I am the LORD, and there is none else.



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5	יבמות סה::, יו.	Yevamot 65b-66a:
	יהודה וחזקיה תאומים היו. אחד נגמרה צורתו לסוף תשעה, ואחד נגמרה צורתו לתחלת שבעה. יהודית דביתהו דר' חייא הוה לה צער לידה. שנאי מנא ואתיא לקמיה דר' חייא ואמרה: אתתא מפקדא אפריה ורביה? אמר לה: לא. אזלא אשתיא סמא דעקרתא.	The Gemara relates that Rabbi Ḥiyya's sons, Yehuda and Hizkiyya, were twins , but one of them was fully developed after nine months of pregnancy and one was fully developed at the beginning of the seventh month, and they were born two months apart. Yehudit, the wife of Rabbi Ḥiyya, had acute birthing pain from these unusual deliveries. She changed her clothes to prevent Rabbi Ḥiyya from recognizing her and came before Rabbi Ḥiyya to ask him a halakhic question. She said: Is a woman commanded to be fruitful and multiply? He said to her: No. She went and drank an infertility potion.
	לסוף איגלאי מילתא. אמר לה: איכו ילדת לי חדא כרסא אחריתא. דאמר מר: יהודה וחזקיה אחי פזי וטוי אחוותא.	Eventually, the matter was revealed , and Rabbi Ḥiyya found out about what Yehudit had done. He said to her: If only you had given birth to one more belly for me , i.e., another set of twins. As the Master said: Yehuda and Hizkiyya were twin brothers and became prominent Torah scholars, and Pazi and Tavi , Rabbi Ḥiyya's daughters, were twin sisters , and became the matriarchs of families of distinguished Torah scholars.