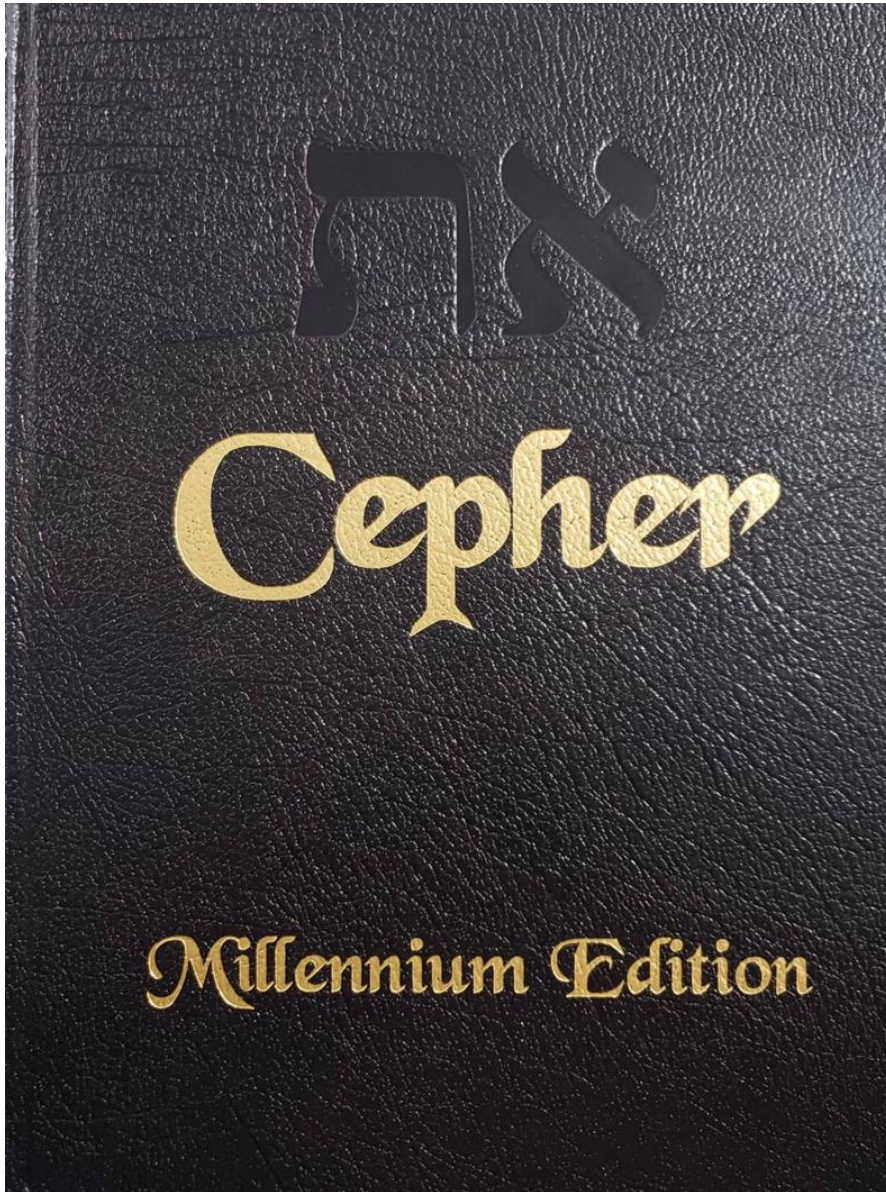


A golden celestial globe with zodiac signs and a sun symbol on a dark blue background. The globe is centered and features various zodiac signs such as Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, and Pisces. A sun symbol is visible in the upper right quadrant. The globe is surrounded by a grid of lines representing celestial coordinates.

Cepher Moments

On reason . . .

Citations from:



Cepher Moments

As I am going to demonstrate a most philosophical proposition, namely, that observant reasoning is absolute master of the passions, I would willingly advise you to give the utmost heed to philosophy. 2 For reason is necessary to everyone as a step to science: and more especially it embraces the praise of prudence, the highest virtue.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:1-2



Cepher Moments

3 If then, reasoning appears to hold the mastery over the passions which stand in the way of temperance, such as gluttony and lust, 4 it surely also and manifestly has the rule over the affections which are contrary to justice, such as malice; and of those which are hindrances to manliness, as wrath, and pain, and fear.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:3-4



Cepher Moments

5 How, then, is it, perhaps some may say, that reasoning, if it rules the affections, is not also master of forgetfulness and ignorance? They attempt a ridiculous argument. 6 For reasoning does not rule over its own affections, but over such as are contrary to justice, and manliness and temperance, and prudence; and yet over these, so as to withstand, without destroying them.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:5-6



Cepher Moments

13 The question, therefore, is, whether reasoning be absolute master of the passions.

14 Let us determine, then: What is reasoning? And what passion? And how many forms of the passions? And whether reasoning bears sway over all of these?

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:13-14



Cepher Moments

15 Reasoning is, then, intellect accompanied by a life of rectitude, putting foremost the consideration of wisdom. 16 And wisdom is a knowledge of divine and things of men, and of their causes. 17 And this is contained in the education of the Torah; by means of which we learn divine things reverently, and things of men profitably.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:15-17



Cepher Moments

18 And the forms of wisdom are prudence, and justice, and manliness, and temperance. 19 The leading one of these is prudence; by whose means, indeed, it is that reasoning bears rule over the passions.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:18-19



Cepher Moments

20 Of the passions, pleasure and pain are the two most comprehensive; and they also by nature refer to the soul. 21 And there are many attendant affections surrounding pleasure and pain.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:20-21

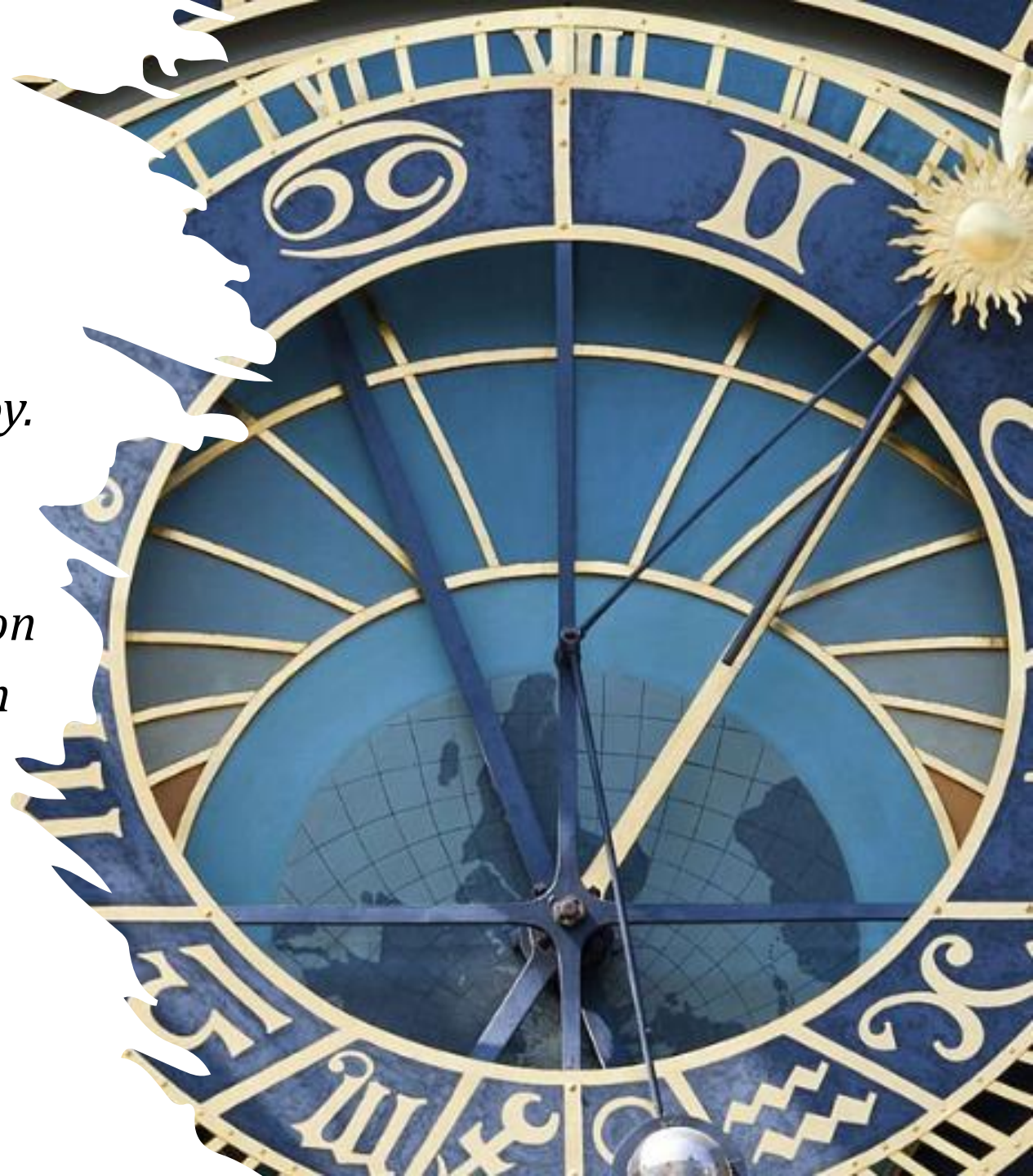


Cepher Moments

22 Before pleasure is lust, and after pleasure, joy.

23 And before pain is fear; and after pain is sorrow. 24 Wrath is an affection, common to pleasure and to pain, if anyone will pay attention when it comes upon him. 25 And there exists in pleasure a malicious disposition, which is the most multiform of all the affections.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:22-25



Cepher Moments

26 In the soul it is arrogance, and love of money, and vaingloriousness, and contention, and faithlessness, and the evil eye. 27 In the body it is greediness and gormandizing, and solitary gluttony.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:26-27



Cepher Moments

28 As pleasure and pain are, therefore, two growths of the body and the soul, so there are many offshoots of these passions. 29 And reasoning, the universal husbandman, purging, and pruning these severally, and binding round, and watering, and transplanting, in every way improves the materials of the morals and affections.
Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:28-29



Cepher Moments

31 Now temperance consists of a command over the lusts. 32 But of the lusts, some belong to the soul, others to the body: and over each of these classes the reasoning appears to bear sway. 33 For whence is it, otherwise, that when urged on to forbidden meats, we reject the gratification which would ensue from them? Is it not because reasoning is able to command the appetites? I believe so.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:31-33



Cepher Moments

34 Hence it is, then, that when lusting after water-animals and birds, and four-footed beasts, and all kinds of food which are forbidden us by the Torah, we withhold ourselves through the mastery of reasoning. 35 For the affections of our appetites are resisted by the temperate understanding, and bent back again, and all the impulses of the body are reined in by reasoning.

Makkabiym Reviy'iy (4 Maccabees) 1:34-35



A golden celestial globe with zodiac signs and a sun symbol on a dark blue background. The globe is centered and features various zodiac signs and a sun symbol. The background is a dark blue color with a subtle grid pattern.

Cepher Moments

On reason . . .