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Rabbi Yochanan said, From when they are tempered in the furnace. Resh Lakish said, From when they are polished with water. He [Rabbi Yochanan] said to him [Resh Lakish] "A thief knows about [the tools of] thievery" He [Resh Lakish] said to him [Rabbi Yochanan], "And how have you benefitted me? There they called me 'master' and here they call me 'master."

He [Rabbi Yochanan] said to him [Resh Lakish], I have benefitted you by bringing you under the wings of the Shechina." Rabbi Yochanan became very upset, and Resh Lakish became weak.

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He said (Bava Metzia 84a), "When I would make a Halachic pronouncement, (Rabbi Shimon) would challenge it with 24 questions, and I would answer each of them, and by that dialogue, the true understanding of the subject matter would emerge." Now I have no one to help me learn Torah. "Where are you, son of Lakish?"























