



One Should Not Seek Out Challenges.

The *Chazon Ish* writes (*Emunah U'Bitachon* 4:9):

“A person must distance himself from spiritual challenges and should certainly not deliberately seek out challenges in order to overcome them and thereby attain a loftier level in *ruchniyus*. A person should never put himself in a situation where he will be faced with challenges, just as he should never stand in a place that poses a danger to his physical wellbeing. This can be proven from the words of *Chazal* (*Shabbos* 32a): ‘A person should not stand in a dangerous place.’ If it is forbidden for a person to position himself in a place of physical danger, the same must be true for a situation of spiritual danger.

“This can be explained with an analogy to a common practice in the business world. A good businessman would never invest in a venture that has as great a chance of failing as it does of succeeding. Although he stands to make a large profit if the investment succeeds, he would definitely pass on the deal if he knew that he would be ruined if it failed. The odds are not good enough to take the chance. So too, it is obvious that one should completely avoid situations where there is a great chance of spiritual downfall.”