

מסכת מגילה דף ז

DAF YOMI⁴ Kids

Inside the Daf



מתנות לאביונים (gifts to the poor)



משלוח מנות (sending food portions)

Two of the special מצוות (commandments) of Purim are משלוח מנות (sending food portions) and מתנות לאביונים (gifts to the poor).

For the commandment of sending food portions we are told, "איש לרעהו משלוח מנות", "and sending portions, every man to his friend" (אסתר ט, כב, Es. 9,22). We have to send *portions* (plural) to one *friend* (singular). This means one has to give *two* portions of food to *one* person.

When it comes to giving gifts to the poor, we find we must give, "לְאֲבִיּוֹנִים מִתְּנוּת", "gifts to the poor." We see that we must give *gifts* (plural) to the *poor* (in Hebrew it is plural). This means we have to *two* gifts to *two* poor people (one gift to each). These gifts can be either money or food.

On Purim, רבי אושעיא the thigh of a third-born calf with a bottle of wine. רבי sent back the message, "Our teacher! You have fulfilled the commandment of sending food portions."

רבה, royal head of the city of Pumbedita (a city in present-day Iraq), once told אבאי to deliver to מרי a basket filled with dates and a cup filled with flour of roasted wheat. אבאי was not impressed. He felt the gifts were too commonplace for a man of רבה's stature!

WORD OF THE DAY:

איצטרך

"IT IS NEEDED"

Purim Feast

In the Purim מגילה, we read that the days of Purim are "ימי משתה ושמחה", "days of feasting and happiness" (אסתר ט, כב, Es. 9,22). This means we must have a feast on Purim and we must have it during the day.



A מְדוּתָה Moment

"I can't wait for this year's Purim meal," said Isaac.

"Me too," said Peter. "I love all the food we have."

"Did you know," asked Aaron, "that the meal isn't the most important part of Purim?"

"It isn't?" asked Peter. "But I thought we were supposed to be happy and have fun on Purim!"

"That's exactly my point!" said Aaron. "It's better to spend more money on gifts for the poor than on the Purim feast. There is no greater joy than gladdening the hearts of the poor."

(רמב"ם הל' מגילה ב, טז)

On one Purim, רב אשי and רב כהנא were in the house of study. רב כהנא noticed that the hour was late and the rabbis had not yet arrived to study.

"Why have they not arrived yet?" asked רב אשי.

"Maybe they are still having their Purim feast," suggested רב כהנא.

"Can't they eat it at night?" asked רב אשי.

At that point רב אשי taught רב כהנא that one must have the Purim feast during the day. רב אשי reviewed this ruling forty times until he was sure he would remember it!

רבי זינרא and רב רבה had the Purim feast together and became drunk. רב רבה rose and killed רבי זינרא! The next day רבי זינרא came back to life after רב רבה prayed for him.

The next year רב רבה asked רבי זינרא to his Purim feast. רבי זינרא refused. "It is not always that a miracle happens!" he said.



Did You Know...

רב אשי said that the Book of אסתר (Esther) was written by Divine inspiration. We know this because we read, "And Haman said in his heart," (אסתר ו, א, Es. 6,6). How would any human know for sure what Haman was thinking in his heart?

Games

Find 'em!

Can you find these items in the picture? How long did it take you?

- Antennas
- Cone shape
- 3 white shirts
- 3 different triangle shapes
- 4 fruits
- 2 ribbons
- A piece of candy
- 6 green objects
- Wings



Review Questions – מגילה דף ז'

1. What are two Purim commandments involving giving something to another?

2. At what time must one have the Purim feast?

3. Which verse proves that the מגילה was written with Divine inspiration?