

A Moment

"Amichai, have you studied for your test tomorrow?" his mother asked.

"Don't worry, mom," said Amichai, "I went over the material at least a hundred million times."

"I'm happy to hear you are studying hard, but spare me the exaggeration. In the גמרא only the greatest rabbis exaggerate. They can afford to since they are always telling the truth. But regular people like you and I have to keep far, far away from lies."

(אמרי פנחס, שער אמת ואמונה, טו)

Fallen Wood

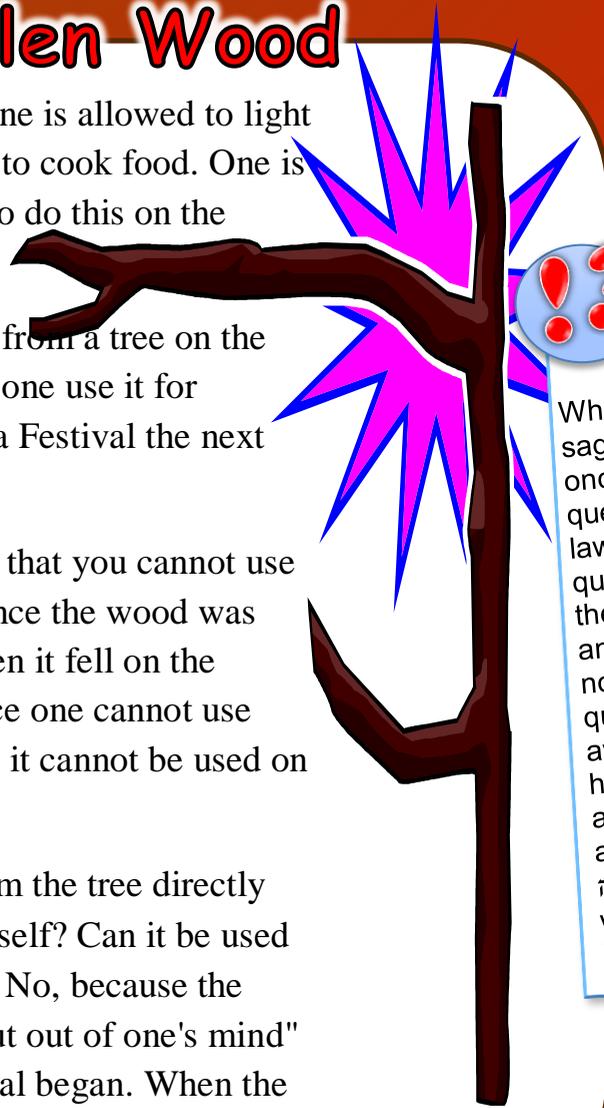
On יום טוב, one is allowed to light wood on fire to cook food. One is not allowed to do this on the Sabbath.

If wood falls from a tree on the Sabbath, can one use it for firewood on a Festival the next day?

רבי יוחנן says that you cannot use the wood. Since the wood was unusable when it fell on the Sabbath (since one cannot use

firewood on the Sabbath) it cannot be used on the Festival the next day.

What if the wood fell from the tree directly into an oven on יום טוב itself? Can it be used as firewood for cooking? No, because the wood was "מקצה," or "put out of one's mind" from use when the Festival began. When the Festival began no one had in mind to use wood that was still attached to the tree, as firewood.



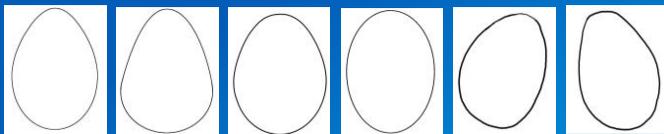
Did You Know...

When the Talmudic sage, רב פפא, was once asked a question of Jewish law he asked the questioner to return the next day for an answer. רב פפא did not answer the questioner right away because he had just drunk wine and did not want to answer a matter of הלכה (Jewish law) while under the influence of alcohol.

Games

SHADOW MATCH

Match the shadows to their images



ביצה דף ד' - Review Questions

1. In what areas are two days of יום טוב (Festival) observed?

2. If wood falls from a tree into an oven on יום טוב, can it be used as kindling?

3. Why did רב פפא not answer a question right away?

מסכת
ביצה
דף ה

DAF YOMI⁴ KIDS

Inside the Daf

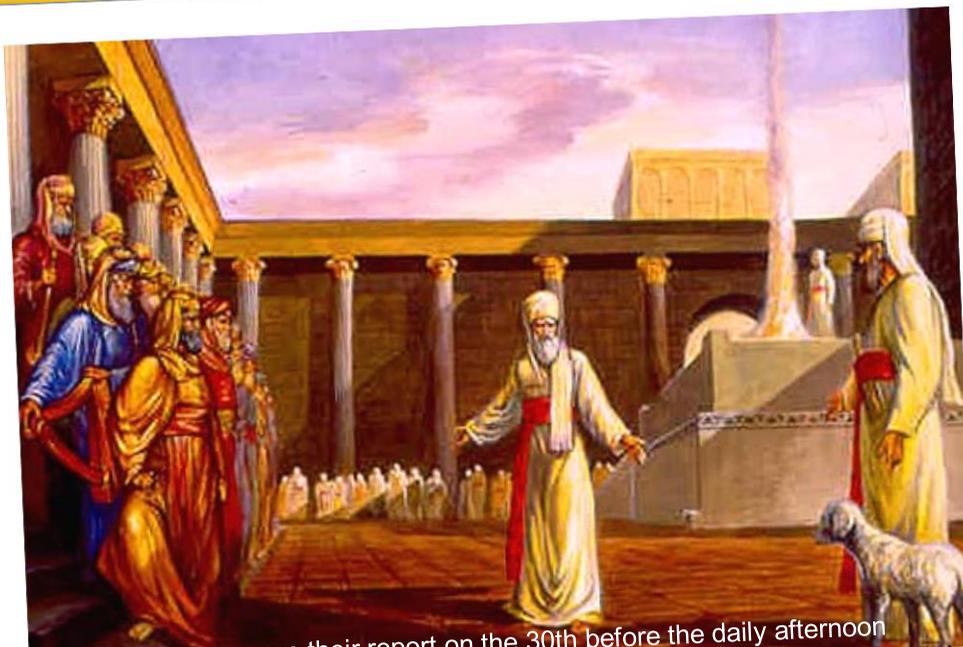
Yesterday, we learned that outside the land of Israel, every יום טוב (Festival) is celebrated for two days, while inside the land of Israel Festivals are celebrated for one day.

There is, however, one Festival that is celebrated for two days inside the land of Israel, too. That Festival is ראש השנה (New Year). Nowadays, even in Israel ראש השנה is celebrated for two days. In the time of the Temple it was sometimes celebrated for two days in the land of Israel and sometimes for one day as we shall see.

WORD OF THE DAY:

הַתְּקִין

"DECREE"



If the witnesses gave their report on the 30th before the daily afternoon sacrifice was offered in the Temple, the 30th day would be declared ראש השנה

In the time of the Temple, ראש השנה was announced by the סנהדרין (Supreme Court) after two witnesses reported seeing the new moon. These witnesses would see the new moon either 30 or 31 days after the beginning of the previous month, אָלוּל. Since no one knew in advance if the witnesses would see the new moon on the 30th or 31st day, no one knew which of those two days would be ראש השנה!

Therefore, both days were observed as ראש השנה.

If the witnesses gave their report on the 30th before the daily afternoon sacrifice was offered in the Temple, the 30th day would be declared ראש השנה by the סנהדרין and the following day would be treated as a non-holy weekday. If the witnesses came *after* the afternoon sacrifice, the סנהדרין would announce the 31st day as ראש השנה and the rest of the 30th day would continue to be observed as ראש השנה, as well.

This two-day ראש השנה was treated like one long holy day. This meant that if an egg was laid on the first day of ראש השנה, it may not be eaten on the second day since that day is just as holy as the first one.

A More Powerful Court

In today's **גמרא** we learn that if a **בית דין** (Jewish Court) makes a decree, it can only be rescinded (taken back) by another **בית דין** if the Court is greater than the first one in wisdom and in number.

ר' יוסף learns this rule from what Hashem said when the Torah was given. He commanded the people to not go near their wives for three days before the Torah was given. After the Torah was given, Hashem commands the people to return to their wives.

Why did Hashem have to tell the people to return to their wives after the Torah was given? He already told the people to separate from their wives for only the three days before the Torah was given.

Obviously, now that the Torah was given, they could return to their wives!

We see that a rule is in place until someone greater than the rule maker nullifies the rule. In this case, nothing is greater than Hashem so He was the only One who could take back His rule! In a regular situation, a **בית דין** that wants to get rid of another **בית דין**'s rule, must be greater in wisdom and in number.



Did You Know...

The Sages decreed that anyone within a day's journey to Jerusalem must eat there his grapes grown in the fourth year of a vine's growth. This was decreed so that the marketplaces of Jerusalem would be beautifully adorned with fruits.

A **מדות** Moment

Nosson had an important Torah question he wanted answered. He knew of two rabbis in his synagogue, one from the great Torah community of Oceansteel, and the other from the unknown community of Boonyville.

His friend, Zvi told him that the rabbi from Boonyville was known as the greater scholar. But Nosson wasn't so sure.

"He's from the great Torah community of Oceansteel! He's gotta know what's he's talking about!" said Nosson. "The other rabbis is just from Boonyville. How much Torah could he possibly know coming from *that* hicktown?"

"That's the wrong perspective, Nosson," Zvi said. "The **גמרא** today teaches that the place a person comes from doesn't make him important. Rather the greatness of the *person* makes his city important. Think about it: Mount Sinai didn't make Hashem important; Hashem made the mountain important. As soon as Hashem's Presence left, the mountain wasn't important anymore. You can be a great person and live in a not-so-impressive place."

(רש"י)

Games

Find The Differences

Find 10 differences between the two pictures.



Review Questions - ביצה דף ה'

1. For how many days is ראש השנה observed in the land of Israel?

2. When can a בית דין (Jewish Court)'s decree be rescinded by another בית דין?

3. What did the Sages decree to be eaten in Jerusalem?
