

מסכת

בבלי
דף יDAF YOMI⁴
KIDS

Inside the Daf

WORD OF THE DAY:

הֵיכָא

"WHERE"

Any object that one does not intend to use on the Sabbath or יום טוב (Festival) is called מְקַצָּה, or "set aside." Such objects may not be used on these holy days.

In the days of the Talmud, doves were regularly eaten. Doves are מְקַצָּה and usually may not be used on a Festival. However, on יום טוב, one is allowed to slaughter food for the Festival. What happens if someone wants to slaughter a dove to eat on the Festival? Is one not allowed to because it is מְקַצָּה?

The מְשַׁנָּה teaches that the dove may be eaten if it is "prepared" for Festival use before the Festival begins.

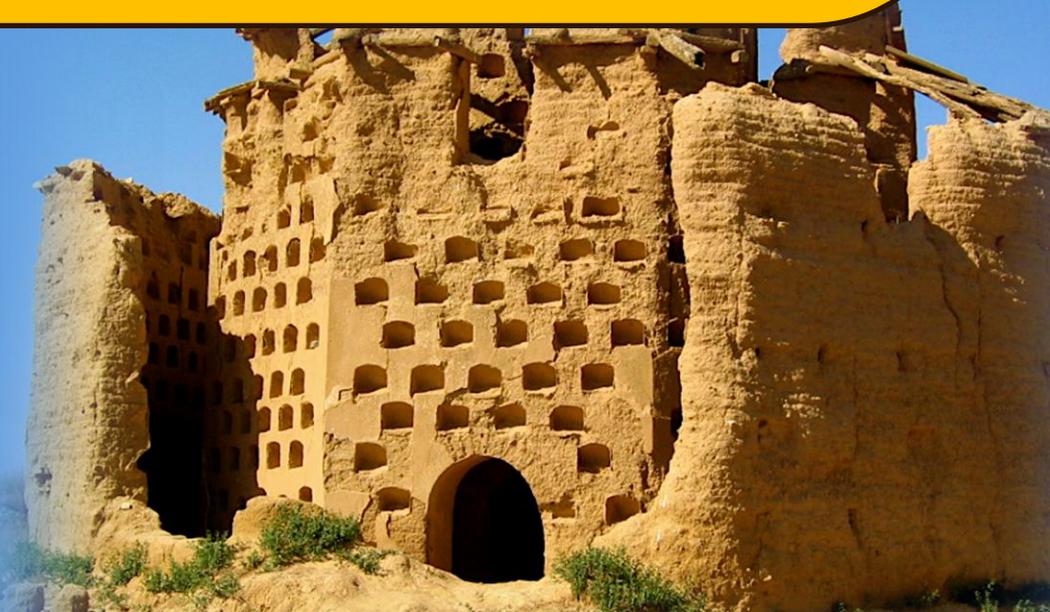
בְּבֵית שְׁמַאי and בְּבֵית הֵלֵל discuss the proper way to "prepare" a dove. בְּבֵית שְׁמַאי say that before the יום טוב begins, you have to pick up each bird you plan to slaughter on the Festival. בְּבֵית הֵלֵל say you don't have to pick up the doves, but rather look at the doves you want and say, "I will take this dove and that dove."

רַב הֲנֹן בַּר אֲמִי explains בְּבֵית שְׁמַאי's reason. We are worried that on יום טוב, you will choose a dove to slaughter, decide you don't want it, and release it. In such a case, you would have handled the dove for no reason which is not allowed because doves are מְקַצָּה. גַּמְרָא explains that according to בְּבֵית הֵלֵל, one is not likely to change his mind after verbally saying which dove he chooses.

SCIENCE and the דף



The doves of the Talmud come from the Columbidae family and, nowadays, are called pigeons. A nest of pigeon eggs is called a "clutch." As Rashi says, pigeons lay two eggs in a clutch at a time. The most common combination of each clutch is one male and one female. Pigeons mate mostly in the spring and summer and, as Rashi says, do not lay eggs in the winter.



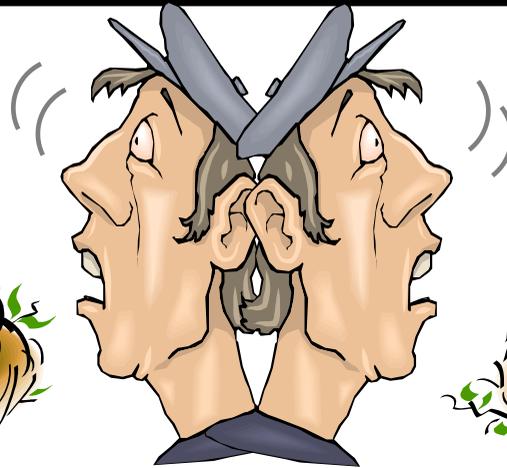
New Birds

On the last page we talked about "preparing" (or choosing) doves to slaughter for a Festival.

The מִשְׁנָה says if someone chose two birds in a dovecote before a Festival, and on the Festival finds there are three

birds now in the dovecote, none of them may be used. Rashi explains, since we know for sure the third bird is new, we assume all the birds are new and were not there before the Festival.

Also, if someone chose a black bird and a white bird before the Festival and on the Festival he finds the white bird in the black bird's nest and the black bird in the white bird's nest, he may not use either bird. We don't assume that these are the same birds that just switched places. We assume the original black and white birds flew away and these ones came in their stead.



A מְדוּת Moment

As Joshua walked home from school he found a wallet on the ground. He opened it to see to whom it belonged.

"DAVID SHERMAN" said the name on the driver's license inside.

When Joshua came home he showed his father what he found.

"Oh, I know the Sherman's," Joshua's father said. "They live four blocks away. Here I'll give you the address so you can return it to him."

"Do I have to do it *now*?" asked Joshua. "Can't I just return it tomorrow morning?"

"If you lost a wallet, wouldn't you want to get it back right away," Josh's father asked. "In today's גְּמָרָא רַבִּי הַנִּינָא says if you have to choose between following the majority or following what is closest – follow the majority. We could understand this as don't do what's 'closest' or easiest to do. Do the right thing, the thing the 'majority' of decent people would do!"



Did You Know...

רַבִּי הַנִּינָא says, if you don't know whether to follow the majority or what is closest, follow the majority. (For example, if we find a piece of meat in a city where the majority of meat is kosher, but we found it *close to* a non-kosher butchery, we assume it came from the majority of meat and it may be eaten.)

ביצה דף י' – Review Questions

1. How should you "prepare" a dove before יום טוב according to בֵּית הַלֵּל?

2. If you prepare 2 doves and find 3 the next day, which ones may be eaten?

3. If you don't know whether to follow the majority, or what is closest to you, what should you follow?

Games

CROSSOUT

Cross out every second letter (starting from the outside) What does the saying mean? (HINT: רַבִּי הַנִּינָא)

