

DAF YOMI4 Kids

מסכת
מועד קטן
דף

Inside the Daf



צִרְעַת is a skin condition where a patch of skin turns stark white and sinks a bit into the skin. A white hair appears inside the patch, or natural, healthy skin in the middle (this is the simplest type of צִרְעַת). The Torah says that anyone with צִרְעַת is

טָמֵא (impure) and must be separated from the community (see ויקרא יג, Lev. 13).

But someone with צִרְעַת (called a "מצורע") does not become טָמֵא as soon as the צִרְעַת appears. The Torah says a כֹּהֵן must first examine the skin. If the כֹּהֵן determines that the skin has the qualities of צִרְעַת, the person becomes a מצורע and is טָמֵא.

May a כֹּהֵן examine someone with this skin condition on חול המועד? On the one hand, the כֹּהֵן might find that the person does not have צִרְעַת at all. On the other hand, if the man is found to have צִרְעַת, nothing puts a damper on חול המועד like becoming טָמֵא!

רַבִּי מְאִיר says a כֹּהֵן may examine someone's skin on חול המועד as long as he doesn't give him any bad news. That is to say, the כֹּהֵן can examine the person and tell him if the skin condition *isn't* צִרְעַת, but he may not tell the person if the skin condition *is* צִרְעַת. Such news would dampen the person's mood and the Torah commands us, "וְשִׂמְחֶתְךָ בְּחַגֶּיךָ", "you must rejoice on your Festival" (דברים טז, 14).

A מְדוּת Moment

It was חול המועד, and Benny and Isaac were taking a walk. They were surprised to see that a sewer lid was open on the side of the road.

"We have to put something heavy on it!" said Benny. "We don't want anyone to fall into it."

"Do we have to," asked Isaac. "It's חול המועד! We're not supposed to work."

"In this case we have to work!" said Benny. "The תּוֹרָה teaches that a leaning wall must be fixed on חול המועד! It represents a danger to the public and must be repaired so no one gets hurt."

WORD OF THE DAY:

מִילְתָּא

"SOMETHING / THE MATTER"



Did You Know...

A wall that is leaning into a courtyard should be properly rebuilt even on חול המועד. This is because the wall is dangerous and may fall on a bystander at any time.

Fixing Fences

On חול המועד, some types of work may be done only in an unusual way.

For example, if a fence surrounding a field is broken, one may fix the fence only in an unusual way. This is because no great loss will happen to the field because of the broken fence so it is not important enough to allow one to work to properly fix on חול המועד.

A בְּרִיקָה gives an example of how such a fence may be repaired. One may pile stones in the space where the fence is broken, but may not cement the stones together.



רב חסדא explains, only a fence surrounding a *garden* needs to be repaired in an unusual way. A fence that surrounds a *courtyard* where people live may be repaired normally. This is because a great loss may happen if the fence is not properly repaired if thieves would enter the courtyard and steal valuable items.

Games

מועד קטן דף ז' - Review Questions

1. What is צָרְעָת?

2. How may one repair a garden fence on חול המועד?

3. What type of wall must be rebuilt on חול המועד?

BACK TOGETHER

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