

Thursday, June 19, 2014
ד'תשע"ד

מסכת תענית דף ה'

DAF YOMI 4 KIDS

Inside the Daf

In the days of שְׂמוּאֵל בֶּר נַחֲמָנִי, a famine and a deathly plague spread throughout the land.

"What shall we do?" the people asked.
"Should we pray for both the plague and the famine to end? We cannot do that because we cannot make one prayer for two things.*" They decided to pray for the end of the plague, choosing to suffer through the famine. רַבִּי שְׂמוּאֵל בֶּר נַחֲמָנִי disagreed.

"Let us pray for the end of the famine," said רַבִּי שְׂמוּאֵל בֶּר נַחֲמָנִי. "When Hashem provides us with plenty of food, He provides it for *living* people." Therefore, if Hashem grants the request to end the famine, it means He will end the plague as well.

רַבִּי אֶמִי teaches that prayer is accepted by Hashem only if it is sincere. שְׂמוּאֵל, however, teaches that Hashem accepts even insincere prayer. The גְּמָרָא explains that רַבִּי אֶמִי and רַבִּי שְׂמוּאֵל are not disagreeing. Hashem accepts the insincere prayers that a congregation prays together, but accepts only the sincere prayers of an individual.

WORD OF THE DAY:
רַחֲמָנָא
"THE MERCIFUL ONE"

A מְדוּת Moment

"But you promised!" said Jonathan to Nathan.
"I never *promised* you I'd help you make a fort," said Nathan. "I just *said* I'd help you."
Jonathan scowled. A teacher called for Nathan.
"Nathan," she said, "it doesn't matter if you *promised* or just *said* to Jonathan that you would help him. We are told that Hashem causes the rain to fall and nourish the earth only because of people who keep their word scrupulously. Basically, the whole world exists only because of honesty."
"Looks like I have a fort to build!" said Nathan.

ONE PRAYER FOR TWO THINGS
In the book of עֵזְרָא (ח,כג, Ezra 8,23) we read of the Jews returning from Babylonia and praying for a safe journey to Jerusalem. Although there were many things for the Jews to pray for, they prayed for only this one thing. We see from here we do not make one prayer for two things

Did You Know...
רַבִּי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן לֵוִי says that one who joyfully accepts his suffering brings salvation to the world.

Review, Review, Review

At one time or another, most of us have had difficulty in our studies. Today's גמרא teaches us what to do if we are having trouble with our Torah studies.

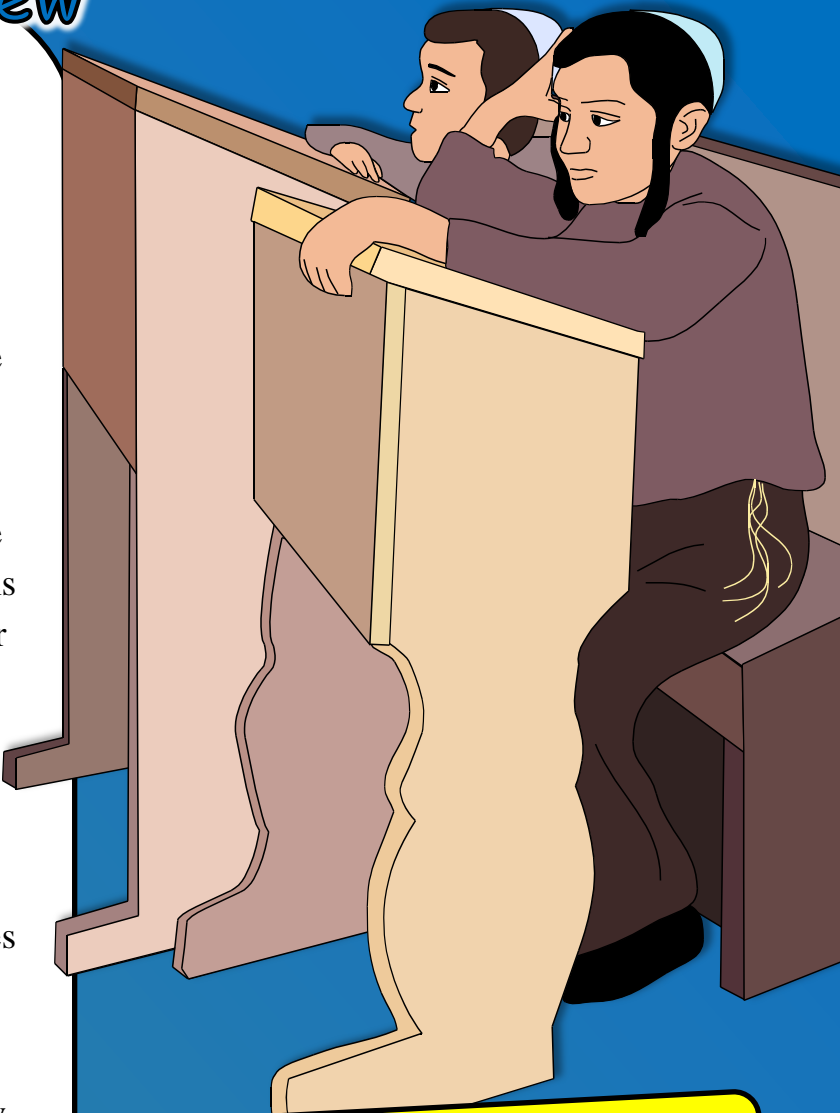
רבא says, if you see a student whose Torah studies are as hard for him as iron, it is because his teacher is not cheerful around him.

ריש לקיש says if you see a student whose גמרא studies are as hard for him as iron, it is because he has not "organized" the משנה properly.* This means he does not remember the משנה at all, or does not remember it properly.

What should this student do? He should spend more time studying in a yeshiva where other students are "organizing" their משנה learning.

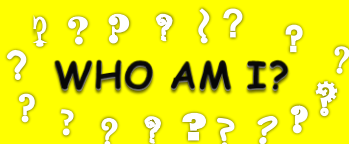
ריש לקיש himself would review his משנה studies forty times, similar to the forty days משה (Moses) was taught the Torah on Mt. Sinai.

רב אדא בר אבהו would review his משנה twenty-four times, the same amount of times as the number of books in the תנ"ך (Bible).



*The Talmud has two parts: גמרא and משנה. The "משנה" teaches basic laws and the "גמרא" analyzes and clarifies those laws by asking questions to clarify the משנה's true

Games



1. According to me, a grumpy teacher could be the cause of your problems
2. "Pray for the end of the famine, not the plague."
3. I say it's best to review your משנה 40 times
4. I hold prayers are answered only if they are sincere
5. I reviewed my משנה 24 times

תענית דף ח - Review Questions

1. What did רבי שמואל בר נחמני say the people should pray for during a famine and plague?

2. According to ריש לקיש, what should a student do if he is having difficulties in his גמרא studies?

3. According to רבי יהושע בן לוי, who brings salvation to the world?
