

מסכת תענית דף ט

DAF YOMI4 KIDS

Inside-the-Daf

Usually, we are not encouraged to test Hashem. But there is one area where testing Hashem is allowed.

רבי יוחנן teaches that by donating מעשר, or "tithes" (a portion of your money given to Levites and to the poor) one becomes rich. This is known from the Torah's commandment to donate מעשר – "עשר עשר, תעשר," meaning, "If you tithe you will tithe again" (see דברים יד, כב, Deut. 14,22.) By donating tithes you will be awarded extra produce allowing you to tithe again.

A child once asked רבי יוחנן how he knew this was really true. רבי יוחנן told the boy to try it himself – separate tithes and watch your wealth grow!

"But are you allowed to test Hashem?" asked the boy. "Doesn't the Torah say, 'Do not test Hashem?'" (see דברים ו, טז, Deut. 6,16).

"Tithes are different," said רבי יוחנן. One is allowed to tithe just to see if Hashem will reward him for it.

After all, in the Book of מלאכי (ג, י, Malachi 3:10) Hashem orders all tithes be brought to a storehouse. Hashem encourages the Jewish people to test His reliability through this. When this is done, says Hashem, He will cause limitless blessings.

The גמרא asks what is meant by "limitless blessings." רמי בר חמא (in the name of רב) says, this means that there will be so much blessing that people will wear out their lips from saying, "Enough already! Enough!"

WORD OF THE DAY:
נִסְתַּלַּק
"WAS REMOVED"

Did You Know...
A rainy day is as great as the day on which the heavens and earth were created.

The 3 Gifts

The גמרא teaches that the Jewish people were given three excellent leaders: משה (Moses), אהרן (Aaron) and מרים (Miriam). Because of them, three excellent gifts were given to the Jewish people while they journeyed in the desert: The Well which provided water in the desert, the Pillar of Cloud which surrounded the Jewish people during their travels, flattening land and destroying harmful reptiles and the miraculous מן (manna) food which provided nourishment. The Well was given in the merit of מרים, the Pillar of Cloud in the merit of אהרן and the מן in the merit of משה.

When מרים died, the Well disappeared but returned in the merits of אהרן and משה. When אהרן died, the Pillar of Cloud went away but came back in משה's merit. But when משה passed away, all three gifts disappeared forever.

How did משה merit to have all three gifts? The גמרא explains that since he prayed for many people, he is considered to have the merit of many people!

A Moment

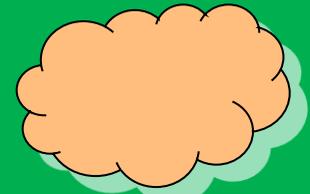
"Good morning, sir," said the boy at the man's door. "I'm collecting money to help poor people in this city and was wondering if you would care to make a contribution."

"Aren't you the kid who was raising money for the Jewish school?" asked the man. "Forget it! If I keep giving charity to all these causes, I'll become poor!"

"Actually," the boy said, "you don't lose any money by giving charity. In fact, today's גמרא teaches us that you can give charity in order to become rich. We have a tradition that by giving charity, we are actually given more wealth."



Well



Pillar of Cloud



Manna

How Many Pieces of Manna Can You Find?



Games

Review Questions – תענית דף ט'

1. Which commandment may we do to test Hashem?

2. Which three gifts were given to the Jewish people in the desert?

3. What is a rainy day as great as?
