

מסכת
תענית
דפיה

DAF YOMI4 KIDS

WORDS OF THE DAY:
אף על פי
"EVEN THOUGH"

"Let your G-d save you the way He saved עזריה and מישאל, חנניה from Nebuchadnezzar!"

Inside the Daf

In the days of the בית המקדש (Holy Temple) the 12th and 13th of the month of אדר were minor festivals.

The 12th of אדר was called the Day of Turyanus and celebrated the day Turyanus, a Roman officer, died.

Turyanus put two righteous Jews, Papus and Lulianus, to death for a crime they didn't commit.

"Let your G-d save you from my hand the way He saved חנניה, מישאל, and עזריה (Hanania, Misha'el and Azariah) from the hand of Nebuchadnezzar!" mocked the Roman before putting the men to death. (Turyanus was referring to the three righteous men who were thrown into a fiery furnace by the Babylonian king but came out unharmed, see דניאל ג, Dan. 3).

Right after Papus and Lulianus were killed, a pair of Roman officers came and killed Turyanus on the spot.

The 13th of אדר was called the Day of Nikanor. It celebrates the anniversary of Nikanor's, a Greek general, death.

Every day, Nikanor would wave his hand against Jerusalem and Judah and say, "when will these fall into my hands so I can trample it!"

When the Jewish Hasmoneans drove the Greeks from the Land of Israel, they cut off Nikanor's thumbs and big toes and hung them on the gates of Jerusalem.

This was punishment against the hands that used to wave against Jerusalem and the toes that threatened to trample it!

A Moment

Theo was so upset that his friend, Arnold had told on him to the teacher. Because of this, Theo had to stay after school, clean the classroom and write a report on why it was wrong to damage school property.

"Oh...I'm so angry!" declared Theo. "If it wasn't for that Arnold, I wouldn't be getting in any of this trouble!"

"There's no point in getting upset with him," said Jason. "We learn in today's *daf yomi* that no badness befalls man unless Hashem says so. That means it may *seem* as though someone is responsible for harming you, but really it is Hashem who, in His wisdom, has decided your lot."

Last Resorts

If rain has not arrived by the 17th of the month of מרחשון, the rabbis of the community would fast three days (not in a row!) If rain has still not come, the community fasts three days. If rain has still not fallen, the community fasts another set of three fasts which are even stricter than the first set. If the rains still did not come, the community would observe a set of seven fast days which have the strictest regulations of all (see pg. 41 and 45).

The משנה teaches that for some disasters we start off with the strictest type of fasts. If any of these disasters should strike, we immediately declare a series of fasts with the strictest regulations:



Rain Delay. The first rains arrived on schedule, but 40 days passed and the second rains did not come. This is a sign of famine.



Abnormal crops. For example, wheat plants that did not produce any kernels.



Town. One town did not receive rain, but the surrounding towns did. This shows that the town was singled out for punishment.



Light Rain. Rain was good enough for crops, but not strong enough for trees.



Did You Know...

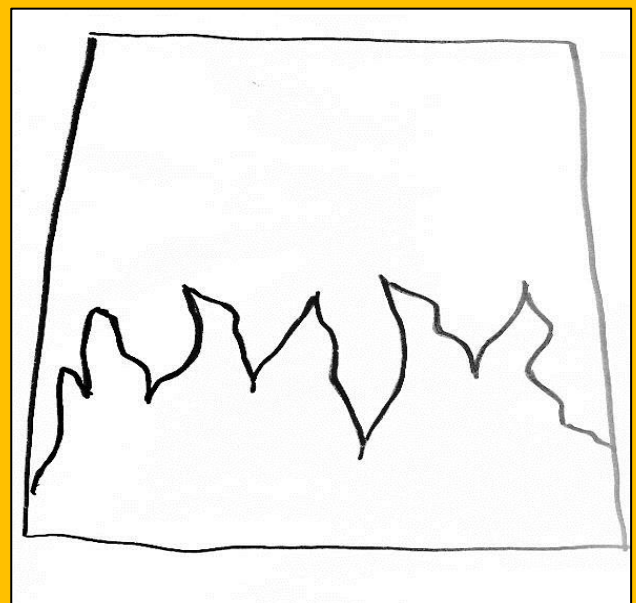
In later generations the Sages eliminated the 12th of אָדָר (the Day of Turyanus) as a minor festival after two righteous brothers were killed on that day.

Games



DRAW IT!

Draw the picture of מישאֵל, חַנְנִיָּהּ and עֲזַרְיָהּ (Hanania, Misha'el and Azariah) in the fire.



תענית דף י"ח - Review Questions

1 Name two dates in the month of אָדָר that were minor festivals.

2. List two disasters that would call for the strictest type of fast days.

3. Why was the 12th of אָדָר eliminated as a minor festival?
