

Inside the Daf

Imagine a charity collector who did not want to approach a donor because the donor gave too much money! Such was the case with אֶלְעָזָר אִישׁ בִּירְתָּא. Charity collectors used to hide from him because he would give them all that he had. Even though it is noble for one to desire to give everything one have to charity, one is not actually allowed to do so.

Once, some charity collectors were spotted by אֶלְעָזָר אִישׁ בִּירְתָּא and tried to get away. When he caught up to them and asked what they were collecting for they told him they were collecting money to arrange a wedding between two orphans. As was his custom, אֶלְעָזָר אִישׁ בִּירְתָּא gave the charity collectors all the money he had, except for a small amount of money he used to buy some wheat.

When he returned home, אֶלְעָזָר אִישׁ בִּירְתָּא tossed the small amount of wheat into the granary.

When his wife came home and went to open the granary door, she did not find a small amount of wheat. In fact, the entire granary door was filled with so much wheat that it was coming out through the door hinges.

When אֶלְעָזָר אִישׁ בִּירְתָּא heard about the miracle he immediately set all the wheat aside...for charity!

WORD OF THE DAY:

אֶחָד

"ONE"



Did You Know...

רבי יוסי would hire out his donkey for the day. In the evening, the borrower would send it home with its rental money on it. But if more or less than the correct amount was placed on the animal it would not move until the mistake was corrected!

"Show Us Your Wonders"

רָבָא's court had made a terrible mistake. They had accidentally killed a man they were punishing. When this news reached King Shapur, emperor of Persia and Mesopotamia, he wanted to punish רָבָא.

The king's mother advised otherwise.

"Have nothing to do with the Jews," she said, "because whatever they ask of their G-d – He grants them!"

"What does He grant them?" asked King Shapur.

"They pray for mercy and the rains come!" said his mother.

"That's because they pray in the rainy season," said the king. "Let them pray now, in the summer season, and let the rain come!"

רָבָא heard of the king's challenge and prayed hard for rain, but none came.

"Master of the Universe," רָבָא begged, "we have heard of the great miracles You performed for our ancestors but have never seen them with our own eyes!"

The rains fell so hard that the gutters overflowed.

רָבָא's father appeared to him in a dream. "You have some nerve to trouble Hashem to change nature!" he chided.



King Shapur's mother warned him of the Jews

A מְדוּת Moment

It was the last day of school and the students were happy to be having an end-of-the-year party. After a while the party got a little out of hand and the boys started having a food fight. Chips and candy went flying everywhere.

The party came to a stop when their teacher slammed his fist down on his desk. BAM! The class was silent.

"In today's *daf yomi* we learn that a famine came because people were throwing food at each other. This disrespect toward food led to a famine," said their teacher. "Let's not make that same mistake for our celebration."

Games

WORD MORPH

Can you turn PRAY into RAIN by changing one letter at a time? Follow the clues for help.

P	R	A	Y
R	A	I	N

(not black or white)

(short for grandma)

(don't frown or smile!)

(opposite of loss)

תענית דף כ"ד – Review Questions

1. Who was known to give all of his money to charity?

2. Who challenged רָבָא to pray for rain in the summer?

3. When would רָבָא's donkey יוֹסֵי refuse to move?
