

מסכת יבמות דף נה

DAF YOMI⁴ Kids

Inside the Daf

The punishment
of כרת is given to people
who do certain very serious sins.

The word "כרת" literally means
"cutting off" but its punishment is dying early.

One type of כרת is "ערי" which means
"childlessness." Dying childless is like being "cut off" since one's future generations are lost.

Sometimes the Torah says that the sinner is punished with "ערי" "they shall *be* childless."
Other times, the Torah says, "ערי" "they shall *die* childless."

When the Torah says that the sinner shall "*be*" childless, it sounds like the sinner's situation will
become worse; if he has children already, they will die before he dies. On the other hand, when
the Torah says the sinner will "*die*" childless, it sounds like sinner's situation will stay the same; if the
sinner is childless now, he will still be childless when he dies.

The גמרא explains that the punishment of ערי is that the sinner will bury any children he already has,
but if he does not have any children he will continue to be childless.

A מידות Moment

"Rabbi Aaronstein told me you can't leave that book on the ground," said Ryan.

"Well he told *me* that I could," said Avishai.

"So are you saying I'm lying about what he said?"

"Not lying," said Avishai "But you have to be extra careful when quoting the opinion of a
rabbi. רב דימי was once faced with a contradiction between his ruling and that of another
sage. He replied that either he or the sage must be lying. By being more careful to quote
opinions correctly, no one becomes a liar."

Not Told Not To

Sometimes we can figure out what we are not allowed to do from being told what we *are* allowed to do. For example, if a parent tells you that you can have an apple for a snack, you can figure out that you are *not* allowed to have ice cream for a snack.

The same can be true in the Torah. Let's say an Egyptian or a member of the ancient Edomites converted to Judaism. We are told that "the third generation" may marry into the Jewish community (see דברים כג, ח,ט, Deut. 23, 8,9). From this statement we can figure out that the first and second generations of the Egyptian or Edomite convert may *not* marry into the Jewish community.

Prohibitions (things we are not allowed to do) that can be figured out from a positive statement (something we *are* allowed to do) are called "חִיּוּבֵי עֲשֵׂה". Here we can figure out that we cannot marry a first or second generation Egyptian or Edomite by being told that we *are* allowed to marry the third generation.



Did You Know...

When רב דִּימִי was told that his quote of רבי יוחנן contradicted another sage's version of the same statement he said, "Either he is a liar or I lied!"

WORD OF THE DAY:

אֵלֵמָּא
 "WE SEE"

Games



Circle the articles of
 Egyptian clothing

יבמות דף נ"ה – Review Questions

1. What is the "עֲרִירִי" punishment?

2. What do we call a prohibition that we can figure out from a positive statement?

3. What did רב דִּימִי say when someone contradicted his quote of רבי יוחנן?

