



A serious dilemma faced the great rabbi of Prague, Rabbi Yechezkel Landau, author of the *Responsa Noda BiYehuda*. A kohen in the community asked him to officiate at his marriage to a divorcee. When he refused to do so on religious grounds, the man reported him to the Austrian Queen Maria Theresa who ordered the rabbi to perform the service or face serious punishment.

The rabbi thereupon informed the informant kohen that he would indeed officiate and arrangements for the wedding were made. As the couple stood under the chupah and the climatic moment arrived, the rabbi turned to the kohen and asked him to repeat after him word for word this marriage declaration:

"You are betrothed to me according to the rule of Queen Maria Theresa."

The guests broke into loud laughter and left the kohen and the divorcee to themselves. The brilliant rabbi of Prague thus remained faithful to his religion and no longer in danger from the Queen.

Credit: Ohr Somayach Institutions www.ohr.edu. Printed with permission]

Hints & Answers* **SHMIRAS SHABBOS:** In the laws of Tisha B'av, the *Mishna Berurah* (554:19) writes: "...Because only pleasurable washing is prohibited. And for this reason, a woman who is cooking and needs to wash the meat, is permitted to do so, even though she will be consequently washing her hands." **RHYME:** "guest" **RIDDLE: 1.** Yom Kippur (see the last mishna of *masechet Ta'anis*). **2.** Writing a Sefer Torah (see *Sefer HaChinuch*, 613).

*Note: The answers are based only on the sources quoted and might not reflect opinions of other halachic authorities. As such, *Menucha's* answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions, further study, and questions to a *posek*, etc.



Menucha

בס"ד
A Shabbos table companion
for the whole family

לע"נ ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

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Shmiras Shabbos

Washing an Apple on Yom Kippur



"Imma, I am so, so hungry," said her 7-year-old son Effy on Yom Kippur.

"Me too!" said her 9-year-old son Chaim.

Imma turned to them and said, "You ate not too long ago. You probably need just a snack now. So let me cut up an apple for you."

When Imma was about to wash that apple, she said to herself out loud, "Wait a minute! When I'll be washing this apple, the water will go on my hands. Isn't there a problem to wash hands for no reason on Yom Kippur?!"

Chaim proposed a solution: "Imma, why don't you hold the apple by the stem. That way, the water won't go on your hands!"

Effy proposed a different solution: "Imma - do you know what I think? I think that once a year, we can eat an apple unwashed!"

Yankee overheard this conversation and said, "Imma, why don't you just give them a banana?!"

Question: What should Imma do?

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)

- ♦ For *refuah sheleima* to those who need it
- ♦ *L'ilui nishmas Gershon Yosef ben Yisrael Moshe*
- ♦ Dedicated to our Mother and Father - welcome home!

Special thanks to the
kehilla of Heritage



The plan about Russian Jews died...



Parsha Pearls

Midrash *Tanna D'vei Eliyahu* (Ch.1) teaches the following incredible insight regarding Yom Kippur:

“יָמִים יֵצְרוּ וְלוֹ אֶחָד בָּהֶם” (תהילים קלט:טז) זה יום הכפורים לישראל, שהוא שמחה גדולה לפני מי שאמר והיה העולם, שנתנו באהבה רבה לישראל...ואומר להם להרים ולגבעות לאפיקים ולגאיות, בואו ושמחו עמי שמחה גדולה, שאני מוחל לעוונותיהם של ישראל.

“Days were fashioned; but one of those days was for Him.” (*Tehillim* 139:16). This “one day” is referring to the day of atonement for Klal Yisroel - it is a day of great joy for the One who spoke and the world came into existence; it is a day that He gave to the Jewish people with great love...And Hashem says to the mountains and to the hills, to the springs and to the valleys: “Come and rejoice with Me with great joy, for I am forgiving the transgressions of Bnei Yisroel.”



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

Ask around your Shabbos table: Why do we have a festive meal on erev Yom Kippur?

Menucha’s Answer: Based on the teachings of Rabbeinu Yona in Shaarei Teshuva (4:9), the explanation is as follows:

The fundamental principle of living the life of Torah was stated by Dovid HaMelech in Tehillim (100:2): עֲבַדוּ אֶת-ה' בְּשִׂמְחָה - “serve Hashem with joy”. Now, Hashem gave us this Yom Tov - i.e., Yom Kippur. He wants us to have joy on that Yom Tov because joy immensely increases the reward of mitzvos. But typically, great joy is achieved when there is a festive meal. But on Yom Kippur we cannot eat. Therefore, Hashem gave us a mitzva to eat a festive meal on erev Yom Kippur in order to enable us to have Yom Kippur’s *simcha shel mitzva*.



Rhymes for Kids



What’s erev Yom Kippur you ask from me?
It’s a day when lots of candies and sweets you’ll see!
But what does Hashem treasure on it the best?
When at the festive meal we host a _____.

יש להזמין על שולחנו עניים הגונים, שהוא סגולה להיות שולחנו כפרה. ומכל שכן שיש לעשות כן בסעודת המפסקת. [מטה אפרים תרד-תרה, יח]
And it’s good to invite appropriate poor people to his table on erev Yom Kippur, because it’s a segula that his table should serve for an atonement for the host. And all the more so, one should do so for the Seuda Hamafsekes. [Matteh Ephrayim 604-605, 18]



Parsha Trivia & Riddles



1. Which day in the month of Tishrei is a day of Matan Torah?
2. What is the last mitzva in the Torah? [Hint: It is in this week’s parsha]

? DID YOU KNOW THAT ?

You probably knew that it’s good to do *teshuva* any time. **But did you know** that the Rambam teaches that during *Aseres Y’mei Teshuva* (the 10 days from Rosh Hashana until Yom Kippur), *teshuva* is exceedingly beautiful and is accepted immediately.*

*בְּעֶשְׂרֵה הַיָּמִים שֶׁבֵּין רֵאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה וְיוֹם הַכְּפוּרִים הִיא יָפָה בְּיוֹמָהּ
(Mishne Torah, Laws of Teshuva 2:6) וּמִתְקַבֵּלֶת הִיא מִיָּד