Just a Story

The Gate that Was Closed

The following is a true story. Names of people and places were changed for privacy.

At the LaGuardia airport, Shaul, who came for a week from Eretz Yisroel to visit his parents in New York said goodbye to his father and proceeded to the security check. When he entered the area he was shocked to see how long the lines were. After finally passing through security, he rushed to his gate. But when he got to the gate, he discovered a closed door! The airline has closed the gate's door since it was time for the plane's takeoff. Shaul approached the gate's desk and told them that he needed to catch this plane because his wife and children were waiting for him. The airline officer explained that due to security regulations they were forbidden to open the gate once it's closed.

Well, the only thing left for Shaul to do was to pray. Soon after, he heard a woman running from the security area to the gate. She had the same fate as Shaul. When she discovered that she missed her flight, her reaction, however, was much more dramatic than Shaul's. She plopped in a chair, put her hand on her face and began sobbing with a heart-breaking wail. The airline staff looked at her with a big shock and pity. So they made a few dispatcher calls...Shorty after, the gate's door was re-opened and the woman and Shaul boarded the airplane!

Hints & Answers* HALACHA CHALLENGE: HaRav Moshe Shternbach [Teshuvos v'Hanhagos 2:170] teaches that just like the *mann* of erev Shabbos was of high quality in taste and smell (as Rashi explains in his commentary on Chumash, Shemos 16:22), so too, it is appropriate (whenever possible), that <u>both</u> breads used for the *mitzva* of *Lechem* Mishne should be of high quality. This is because both challahs used for the *mitzva* of *Lechem Mishne* serve as a remembrance of the special *erev* Shabbos *mann* which had good taste and smell. **RHYME**: "say" **RIDDLE 1.** Vayikra 7:37, Vayikra 14:54, Bamidbar 19:14

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Halacha Challenge Using Challah and Matza for Lechem Mishne



On a Friday afternoon, Moishy and his brother Chaim went to shop at the bakery. They were given enough money to buy challas and some dessert.

Once they went in and saw the great selection of cookies and cakes, Chaim told Moishy, "Let's buy only the

minimum number of challahs so that we can buy more dessert."

"Good idea, Chaim!" said Moishy, "So let's see, the minimum number of challas that we need is four, so that we can have *lechem mishne* at each *seuda*. And if we buy them in large size, it will be plenty for our family for the whole Shabbos."

Chaim proposed another plan: "Moishy - we have so many left over matzos from Pesach. So let's just buy three challas, and we'll use matza as 'the 2nd challah' at Shalosh Seudos!"

Question: How many challas should Moishy and Chaim buy - three or four?

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

Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel

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וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁמִינִי יִמּוֹל בְּשֵׂר עָרְלָתוֹ

Regarding this verse, which is referring to the mitzva of Bris Mila, the Midrash Tanchuma says the following:

אין כתיב שם שיוציא הוצאות על המילה. בא וראה כמה ישראל מחבבין את המצות שהם מוציאין הוצאות כדי לשמור את המצות ולשמוח בהם. אמר הקדוש ברוך הוא אתם משמרים את המצות ותשמחו בהן אני **מוסף לכם** שמחה שנאמר (ישעיהו כט) וְיָסְפּוּ עֲנָוִים בַּה׳ שִׂמְחָה וְאֶבְיוֹנֵי אָדָם בִּקְדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל יָגִילוּ.

The Torah does not say that Jewish people must spend money on the mitzva of Bris Mila. Come and see how much the Jewish people show their love for the mitzvos: They spend money in order to keep the mitzvos and rejoice in them! Says HaKadosh Boruch Hu: "You guard the mitzvos and rejoice in them, [and] I will **add** joy to you! As the verse in prophet Yeshayahu (29:19) says: "And the humble ones shall increase their joy in HaShem, and the impoverished people shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel."

This Midrash is revealing to us that the reward for having joy of a mitzva is more joy in your life!



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

We know that the Torah refers to Shavuos as "Chag Shavuos" -The Holiday of Weeks (Shemos 32:22).

Ask around your Shabbos table: Since on Shavuos we received the Torah, why doesn't the Torah call Shavuos "*Chag* Matan Torah"!?

Answer: The goal is not to just receive the Torah, but to bring the Torah inside of our hearts. The word Shavous means "weeks". The *Chag* of Shavous is 'built' from the seven weeks that precede it when we purify our middos so that that Torah can enter inside of our hearts. [Source: Nesivos Shalom, Sefiras HaOmer]



Shalom is the Torah way! Loshon Horah I don't _____.

"...his (metzorah's) dwelling shall be outside the camp" (Vayikra 13:46) Commenting on this verse, Rashi says: "Since the metzorah caused a separation between a husband and wife or between a man and his fellow by speaking *loshon horah*, he too, shall be separated.





זאת הַתּוֹרָה appears three times in the Torah. Can you find them?

Trivia

[If you need hints, here they are: One time in parshas Tzav; one time in this week's parsha (Metzora), and one time in parshas Chukas]



Often we think that the tougher and the louder we speak, the more effect it will have. Mishlei is teaching us otherwise:

וְלָשׁוֹן רַכָּה תִּשְׁבָּר גָּרֶם...

...and a soft tongue breaks a bone [Mishlei 25:15]

The soft tongue is what "breaks" the hardest barriers.