Just a Story...

Only the Truth

by Rabbi Mendel Weinbach zt"l



One of the people with a close tie to Rav Yosef Shalom Eliyashiv extended an invitation to him to attend the engagement of his daughter. The rav told him that he would not attend the engagement but hoped to participate in the wedding.

This fellow kept coming back to implore the rav to come to the engagement, and on the day of the engagement even increased the pressure. On that day the rav was ill with fever. Members of his household considered informing the father of the kallah that the rav was unable to attend the engagement because of his health. When they asked the rav for permission to do so he responded: "Do not tell him this for it will make him think that it was my illness which prevented me from attending. The truth, however, is that I never intended to come and blaming my absence on my health would be a distortion of the truth."

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

Hints & Answers* HALACHA CHALLEGE: Sefer Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa (18:18) writes that it's permitted to wear glasses whose lenses change color in the sun. In the footnote (70) the author explains that the Melacha of Tzove'ah (coloring) does not apply in the case of wearing such glasses because the person himself is not coloring, and it's compared to a case where someone is sitting under a hot sun and his skin changes color. Hence, according Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa it is permitted for a person to be under a hot sun, even though he will get a tan. But would it be permitted for a person to sit under a sun for the purpose of getting a tan? Sefer Kitzur Hilchos Shabbos (21:4) writes that sitting under a sun in order to get a tan is prohibited. RHYMES: "give" RIDDLE: Levi missed the camp's Maariv and is planning to daven later on his own. Once three stars emerge, a person is not allowed to learn Torah if he is planning to daven Maariv on his own, unless he asks someone to remind him to daven (see Mishna Berura 235:17). | *Answers here do not necessarily reflect the consensus of poskim. The purpose of answers is to provide a base for discussions and further study.







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Menucha

A Shabbos table companion for the whole family

Volume 14, Issue 42

ראה

5785

Halacha Challenge Sitting Under a Hot Sun





"Chaim - why are you setting up these two beach chairs?" asked his friend Shmuel on a Shabbos afternoon as he observed Chaim setting up the chairs in his backyard.

"Well, you wanted to learn Gemorah with me now. So I thought it would be really *geshmak* to learn while sitting on those comfortable beach chairs," answered Chaim.

"But your backyard doesn't have any shade!" said Shmuel.

"Oh, are you saying that you'll be hot?" asked Chaim.

"No, it's not so hot now," replied Shmuel, "I am just saying that if we'll be learning for an hour under the sun, our skin will get a tan! And changing the color of the skin would be the *melacha* of *tzove'ah*."

"Oh, now I see what you mean!" said Chaim.

Question: Can Chaim and Shmuel sit and learn for an hour under the sun?

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

DEDICATIONS

♦ Dedicated anonymously for *yeshuos* and *refuos* to all Klal Yisroel



"Because you did not arrive yet to the Menucha..." -- Devorim 12:9

From this verse, which appears in this week's parsha, we see that Eretz Yisroel is called "Menucha".

Q. Why is this one of the names for our Land?

A. Based on a discussion in the Gemora Nedarim, Rav Chaim Shmulevitz zt''l explains that Eretz Yisroel possesses a unique quality - it helps those who live in the Land to have *menucha* - to be calm and serene.



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

שְׁמַר וְשָׁמַעְתָּ אֵת **כָּל** הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶה אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַנָּדֶּ לְמַעַן יִיטַב לְּדּ וּלְבָנֶידְּ אָחָרֵידְּ עַד עוֹלֶם... דברים יב:כח

Ask Around Your Table: Since it is obvious that Hashem needs us to fulfill every mitzva that He commanded us, why does the Torah go out of its way in this verse to tell us that we need to guard and accept all mitzvos?

Answer: Rashi's comment to this part of the verse answers our question. Rashi says, שתהא הביבה עליך מצוה קלה כמצוה המורה – [This is teaching us] that a small mitzva should be dear to you just like a great mitzva is dear to you.] As we know, being passionate about doing mitzvos is an integral part of a Jewish life. In this verse, Hashem is telling us that this applies to absolutely all mitzvos.

Menucha



Rhymes for Kids



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בּי־פַּתֹחַ תִּפְתַּח אֵת־יַדָּדְ לוֹ וְהַעֲבֵט הַעֲבִיטַנוּ דֵּי מַחָסֹרוֹ אֲשֵׁר יַחְסַר לוֹ.

"Rather, you shall open your hand to him, and you shall lend him sufficient for his needs, which he is lacking." - Devorim 15:

"[Rather] you shall open [your hand]" - Even many times. [Rashi]

"and you shall lend" - If he does not want [your money] as a [charitable] gift, give it to him as a loan. [Rashi]

Po you know the secret how with *simeha* to live?

When someone is in need, open your hand and!



Riddles



שָׁמֹר וְשָׁמֵעְתָּ אֵת כָּל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה...[דברים יב:כח] שָׁמֹר: זו משׁנה [פירוש רש''']

"Levi, what are you doing there leaning over that *sefer?*" asked Avi during the last evening of their sleepover camp.

"What do you mean?! I am learning!" answered Levi.

"Sorry, you can daven Maariv, but you're not allowed to learn now," said Avi.

"But it's not Tisha B'Av today. In fact, it's almost Elul!" said Levi.

"I know, but you still can't learn," said Avi.

"I am not a mourner, ה"י." said Levi.

"I know, but you still can't learn," said Avi.

"We threw away that smelly garbage bag. This place is clean now," said Levi.

"I know, but you still can't learn," said Avi.

"I said Bircas Hatorah in the morning and it is still in force now!" said Levi.

"I know, but you still can't learn," said Avi.

"Avi - are you allowed to learn now?" asked Levi.

"Yes!" replied Avi.

Why is Levi not allowed to learn now?