Vol 13 # 3 תשס"ב

PLEASANT RIDGE NEWSLETTER

בס"ד

פרשת: אמור

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http://www.prozdor.com Friday Shabbos Sunday

(Monsey/Spring Valley Z'manim)

Candles Mincha DafYomi

7:30 6:50/7:40

7:20 6:15

omi Shiur Shachris סזק"ש 9:28 7:05 9:00 9:27 7:30 9:26

IMPORTANCE OF

The Gemara (Gittin 65a) states that there are several stages in the development of a child's maturity. The first is when the child understands that a stone is worthless but a nut has value. Such a child is empowered to acquire things for him/herself. The second level is when a child is between the ages of six and eight, where Chazal have determined that they may buy and sell movable objects. The third level is when they reach the year before adulthood; for a girl - 11, and for a boy - 12, at which time their vows are binding on them and whatever they consecrate becomes Hekdesh. Interestingly, the Gemara goes on to state that yet another level of maturity is achieved when the "child" reaches the age of 20. At this time he is permitted to sell property that he received from his father's inheritance. Chazal were concerned that he might immaturely accept an unfairly low price for such real estate before age 20, even though he was permitted to sell other property that he may have acquired for himself before reaching the age of 20. The Baal HaTurim notes that the Posuk: יקח אשה בבתוליה יקח, which restricts a Kohen Gadol's marriage opportunities, begins with the word ההוא, which in Gematria adds up numerically to 18, the age at which the Shulchan Aruch (אה"ע) 1:3) states it is a mitzvah to marry. The Chelkas Mechokek asks why this mitzvah doesn't begin at age 13, like all other mitzvos. The Beis Yisroel uses the above Gemara to explain that the additional years of development are necessary for a marriage to have a chance of success, both from a maturity standpoint and to satisfy the practical need of a young man to know all the Halachos that regulate married life. For this reason, the Gemara (Kidushin 29b) states that until the age of 20 Hashem sits and waits to see when a man will marry. After 20, Hashem says: "His bones should bust". Until 20 he was still maturing and could not be criticized for not marrying, even though the mitzvah became incumbent upon him at 18. After 20 however, he has no excuse.

OUESTION OF THE WEEK:

If a man gave two sons a *Bris Milah*, and one died ר"ל as a result, may/must he give a subsequent third son a *Bris*?

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK:

(2 people standing for Shacharis, but only 1 is אני Krias Shema. Why?)
The Shulchan Aruch (או"ח 63:2) states that if one is Machmir to stand up for Krias Shema during Shacharis, he is a sinner, as he apparently holds like Beis Shammai. The Oneg Yom Tov (או"ח 9) rules that as such, he is not אנא Krias Shema. If he stood up for another reason or had been standing anyway, he would be אנא.

DIN'S CORNER:

There is no need to recite שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום of the portion of Krias HaTorah designated for Yom Tov, since it would have already been said as part of its weekly Parsha. (MB 285:18)

DID YOU KNOW THAT

7:45

The Chida (Avodas HaKodesh 7:217) states that if one forgot to count Sefiras HaOmer for a full day, not only may he not count with a beracha going forward, but each beracha that he recited until that point was now rendered לבטלה (wasted). Meforshim cite the Ritva (Chulin 106a) who says that if one washed his hands before a meal and recited על נטילת ידים, and then changed his mind, deciding not to eat, the beracha that he said is not thereby rendered לבטלה. Why is Sefiras HaOmer different? The Kinyan Torah answers that it is clear from the words of the Ritva that the beracha covered the washing, which took place. One did not have to eat in order to complete the beracha's purpose. Sefiras HaOmer on the other hand, requires תמימות, which cannot be fulfilled until the end, provided every day was properly counted. However, the Gemara (Pesachim 7b) states that all berachos must be said prior to their associated activity, except for Tevilah (immersing in the mikveh). Tosafos explains that if one said the beracha first and was then scared to enter the water, he would render the beracha לבטלה. He should therefore say it afterwards. If so, how could Chazal have instituted a beracha for Sefiras HaOmer, knowing how possible/probable it might be for one to forget one day, rendering all the berachos לבטלה ? What's more, the Rashba (Teshuvos 18) explains that we do not say a beracha before giving Tzedaka because the pauper may not accept the donation. Sefirah too, should require no beracha, for fear one might forget a day. However, since we see that a minor who becomes Bar Mitzvah during Sefirah still counts with a beracha, even though technically he cannot achieve Temimos, it must be that we subscribe to the theory that we are only concerned with the moment of the individual beracha alone. As such, Chazal could also permit everyone to count Sefirah with a berachah, focusing on that beracha alone, at that time.

A Lesson Can Be Learned From:

A woman came to R' Akiva Eiger with her seven-year-old son and tearfully complained how he had suddenly lost his desire to learn Torah. R' Akiva Eiger thought for a moment and then said that it's likely that the boy had eaten something non-kosher, which caused his confusion (i.e. Timtum HaLev). The mother declared that in her house, everything was kept strictly kosher and this could not be the reason. However R' Akiva Eiger insisted that this was the problem. The woman returned home and began to investigate her meat supplier. She found out that he was 100% reliable, but that another Shochet in town had recently been removed for cause and told not to Shecht in that town again. The Shochet did not listen and so, when someone made a wedding, this Shochet supplied the meat at a much cheaper price. The seven-year-old had attended that Chasunah and had eaten the meat supplied by the renegade Shochet. R' Akiva Eiger then advised the mother to send the boy to Eretz Yisroel, which cured him immediately.

P.S. Sholosh Seudos sponsored this week by the Schmerhold family.