

מסכת חגיגה דף י"ד

DAF YOMI4 KIDS

Inside the Daf

We have learned that there are some things that are beyond human understanding (see pg. 41). How can one describe color to someone who was blind from birth? So too there are things that cannot be described to the human mind.

The גמרא tells of four great sages who wanted to learn the deep mysteries of the Torah that only very few are able to understand. The results were disastrous.

רבי and בן עזאי, בן זומא, אֶלִישֶׁע בֶּן אֲבוּיָה used the Secret Name of Hashem to enter into the פְּרָדֵס, the paradise closest to Hashem's Presence where the souls of the righteous live.

בן עזאי peeked at Hashem's Presence and died on the spot.

בן זומא peeked at Hashem's Presence and went crazy.

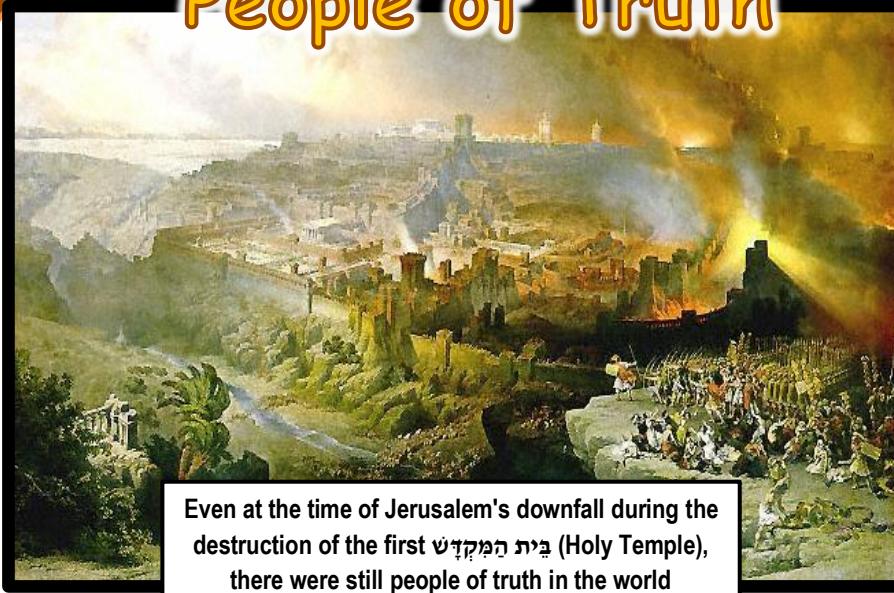
אֶלִישֶׁע בֶּן אֲבוּיָה cut down the saplings in the פְּרָדֵס, that is to say, he damaged the Torah's teachings and became a heretic. He later received the nickname, "אחר," "the other one" since his personality was so different than it was before he entered the פְּרָדֵס that it was as though he was a different person. רבי עקיבא was the only one who left the פְּרָדֵס in peace.

WORD OF THE DAY:

קודם
"BEFORE"



People of Truth



Even at the time of Jerusalem's downfall during the destruction of the first **בית המקדש** (Holy Temple), there were still people of truth in the world

רב קטינא says that even at the time of Jerusalem's downfall during the destruction of the first **בית המקדש** (Holy Temple), there were still people of truth in the world.

At the time of Jerusalem's destruction there were almost no true Torah scholars. People who were thought to be scholars were offered positions of leadership. These people would say, "I have

in my hand no knowledge of **תנ"ך** (Bible) nor **משנה** (Oral Law) nor **גמרא**!" Because they admitted that they were not true scholars and therefore unsuited for high positions we see there were men of truth in Jerusalem until the very end.

The **גמרא** suggests that these men were perhaps not really honest; if they would have pretended to be scholars, they would have been tested on their knowledge and be forced to admit their ignorance. They had no choice but to be truthful!

Did You Know...

In a Rabbinical academy there is nothing better than an elder; in war there is nothing better than a youth.



A Moment גדול

The teacher asked a good question to the class. Jon and Tommy shot their hands up at the same time to answer it.

"I know the answer....but you say it first!" said Tommy.

"If you don't know the answer to something don't bluff and pretend you do," said the teacher. "The **גמרא** says that even when Jerusalem was being destroyed the honest men never pretended they knew more than they really did. Even though they could have lied and gotten away with it, they never did!"

Games

SUDOKU

Place the letters of the word "פרדס" in the squares so that there is only one of each in each column and row

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| פ | | | |
| ר | | | ט |
| | | ו | |
| | ר | ט | |

Review Questions – חגיגה דף י"ד

1. What happened to the four rabbis who entered the **פרדס**?

2. What sort of people did not disappear from the world even at the time of Jerusalem's destruction?

3. In what place is there nothing better than an elder?