

Inside the Daf

What if someone does not know who his father is? Would he be able to inherit his father's property when his father dies?

Usually, a son inherits his father's property.

If a man dies childless, the living brother performs **יבום** (rate marriage) with the widow, marrying her. In that case, the **גבם** (living brother who performed **יבום**) inherits all of his deceased brother's property.

The **גמרא** brings a case where a man (we'll call him, **ראובן**) dies

and his living brother, (we'll call him, **שמעון**) is about to perform **יבום** with **ראובן**'s widow. **שמעון** is set to inherit all of **ראובן**'s property when suddenly someone appears claiming to be **ראובן**'s son (we'll call this person, **לוי**). **שמעון** claims **לוי** is really *his* son and not **ראובן**'s!

If **לוי** is the true son of **ראובן**, then not only will **שמעון** not inherit **ראובן**'s property, but he will not be allowed to remain married to **ראובן**'s widow since **יבום** may be performed only if **ראובן** had no children.

The **גמרא** rules that **ראובן**'s property should be divided evenly between **שמעון** and **לוי**, since we don't know who it really belongs to.



A Man's Two Families

You probably do not know any men who have two wives. That's because nowadays, Jewish men are allowed to marry only one woman. In the times of the Talmud, and in Biblical times, that wasn't the case. A man was allowed to marry more than one woman.

Even so, רבי אֶלְעָזָר בֶּן יַעֲקֹב warns against marrying two wives in two different countries. Such a practice can lead to disaster! Imagine if the son from one wife would marry the daughter from the other wife. In that case, a brother and sister would end up marrying each other, each one unaware that they shared the same father.

Some famous sages, such as רב נחמן and רב, would have two wives in two different cities. There was no worry that a child of one wife would marry the child of another because their mothers would proudly proclaim who their fathers were.



A Moment

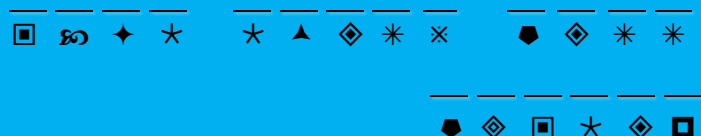
"I'm so mad at that Nachum!" declared Zachary to his entire family. "I'm going to be very nice to him, and then, when he least suspects it, WHAM! I'm really gonna let him have it!"

"That's an awful thing to do, Zachary," said his brother. "We learn how wrong it is to plan evil against your friend when he is sitting securely with you. Don't plan to trap Nachum."

SECRET CODE

Use the code to find how we say...

MONEY THAT IS IN DOUBT – WE DIVIDE



Games

יבמות דף ל"ז – Review Questions

1. Who inherits a dead man's property if we are not sure if the יבם or son should?
2. Why may a man not marry two women in two different places?
3. At the time one marries a woman, what may he not plan on doing?

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★	◆	◇	◻	✱	✱	◆	✱	✱