



Inside—the—Daf

If someone becomes טָמֵא (impure), in certain cases he or she may immerse in a מָקוֵה (ritual bath) to become אָהוֹר (pure) again.

But if one goes into a מְקְנֵה without having in mind to become טְהוֹר, it is as though he or she just took a swim in a pool and the immersion does not work.

What if someone enters a מְקְנֶה without intending to become אָהוֹר, and as he is getting up to leave, he changes his mind and decides he wants to become יְשְהוֹר?

רבי אָלְעָוָר says that even after leaving the water, one may change his mind and decide that he wanted the מִקְנָה waters to have made him water to have made him מָקּנָה. But if when he was in the מִקְנָה he decided that he only wanted the מְקְנָה to make him יְתְרוֹמָה enough, for example, to eat מְקְנָה (see pg. 51), after he leaves the מִקְנֶה he may not decide he wanted to have become יְתוֹר enough to eat sacrifices.

But if someone still has one leg inside the מְקְנֶה, he may change his mind to become טְהוֹר enough to eat the meat of sacrifices even if he had in mind when he went into the מְקְנֶה to become only טְהוֹר enough to eat מִקְנֶה.



A מדות Moment

"Does anyone know how eating food everyday can be a מִצְוָה and a holy act?" the rabbi asked his class.

No one had an answer. The rabbi explained.

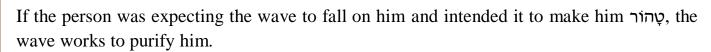
"A מְקְוֶה can either be a bath or a body of water that makes someone pure. It all depends on what the person inside has in mind. If he isn't thinking that he wants it to be a מִקְנָה, it is just a bath. If he wants it to purify him, it is a מִקְנָה. So too with other things in life. If we think that we want to eat food to fortify ourselves so that we may serve Hashem properly, then the act of eating becomes a מִצְנָה. If not, it's just a mundane, ordinary activity."

Choosing

We learned (pg. 53) that if someone is טמא (impure) there are times when he or she may immerse in a מְקֵוֶה (ritual bath) to become טהור (pure). But, they must have in mind that they want to become מָקוֵה. Otherwise, the מָקוֵה is just a bath.

What if a wave containing forty סָאַה of water (the minimum amount of a valid מקוה, about 76 gallons, or 332 liters)

came up from the sea, flew through the air, and fell on a טָמַא person?

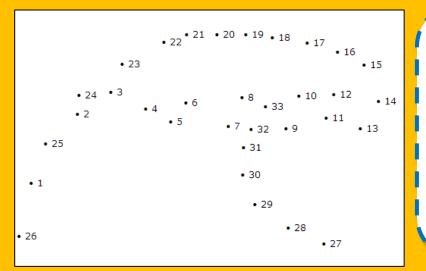


What if a wave is about to fall on shore and, after it has detached from the ocean and is flying through the air, a טְמֵא utensil is thrown up into it? In that case, the utensil does not become טְהוֹר since the wave was in midair. If the utensil was lying on the shore and a wave fell on it, it is טָהוֹר since the wave was attached to the ground at the time it hit the shore. Did You Know...



If a מְקְנֶּה contains just the right amount of water to make it בָּשֵׁר (valid), only one person may immerse in it to become יָחֹרוּ. That's because after that person leaves, some of the water leaves the מקנה with him, and the ritual bath no longer has enough water to make it valid.

Games



Review Questions – חגיגה דף י"ט

- 1. When would immersing in a מָקוָה not make someone טָהוֹר (pure)?
- 2. If a giant wave falls on someone, when can it act to purify him?
- 3. How many people may immerse in a מָקוָה with just the right amount of water?