

מסכת

סוּפָה

דף מא

DAF YOMI⁴
KIDS

Inside the Daf

On one hand, the Torah commands us to take the four species

"ביום הראשון", "on the *first* day" of the סוּפּוֹת holiday. But the Torah continues by saying, "וּשְׂמַחְתֶּם לִפְנֵי ה' אֱלֹהֵיכֶם שִׁבְעַת יָמִים", "and you will rejoice in front of Hashem, your G-d for seven days" (ויקרא כג,מ), Lev. 23,40). So are we to take the four species for one day or seven days?



The משנה teaches that long ago, the four species were taken for seven days only in the בית המקדש (Holy Temple). This is because the Torah commands us to rejoice for seven days "in front of Hashem," meaning in the Temple.

This changed after the destruction of the Temple. רבן יוחנן בן זכאי made a decree that the four species should be taken for all seven days of the holiday even outside the Temple as a זכר למקדש, remembrance for the Holy Temple.

The גמרא asks what gave רבן יוחנן בן זכאי the idea to make a remembrance for the Holy Temple. In the book of ירמיהו (Jeremiah), Hashem criticizes the Jewish people when the nations of the world will say no one seeks out Zion (meaning, among other things, the Holy Temple). So we should show that we are "seeking out Zion" by showing how much we long to be performing the four species commandment as it was performed in the Holy Temple.

Did You Know... 

רבן יוחנן בן זכאי paid 1,000 זוז for his לולב set. That's about \$48,000 in today's money! This shows how valuable מצוֹת were to the Sages of old.

A Moment

"\$50 for an אָתרוג (citron)! I've never heard of something so ridiculous!" said Mr. Malmidot as he eyed the citrus fruit.

"But look," said the vendor, "It's a perfect one! No blemishes, a bright uniform yellow color. Completely spotless!"

"I pay 67¢ for a lemon at the corner store and that's all that fruit is worth!"

"Tell me," asked the vendor, "how much did you pay for your cellphone?"

"About \$300," said Mr. Malmidot "But that's different! It's a top-of-the-line mePhone! There's a touch screen and games and it even tells me what the weather is in Zanzibar!"

"I see. And do all those things help you in your day-to-day life, or do they just distract you from what's important?"

"Hmm...maybe there are a few things I can do without," Mr. Malmidot considered. "I don't use the fingerprint analysis app often, and I probably don't need the GPS to help me find my way home from the subway station..."

"Did you know that in the times of the Talmud some rabbis spent as much a car to buy a לולב set. They felt their מצוה items were more precious than cars or mePhones. After all, Hashem Himself commands us to have them. Who commands you to have a mePhone?"

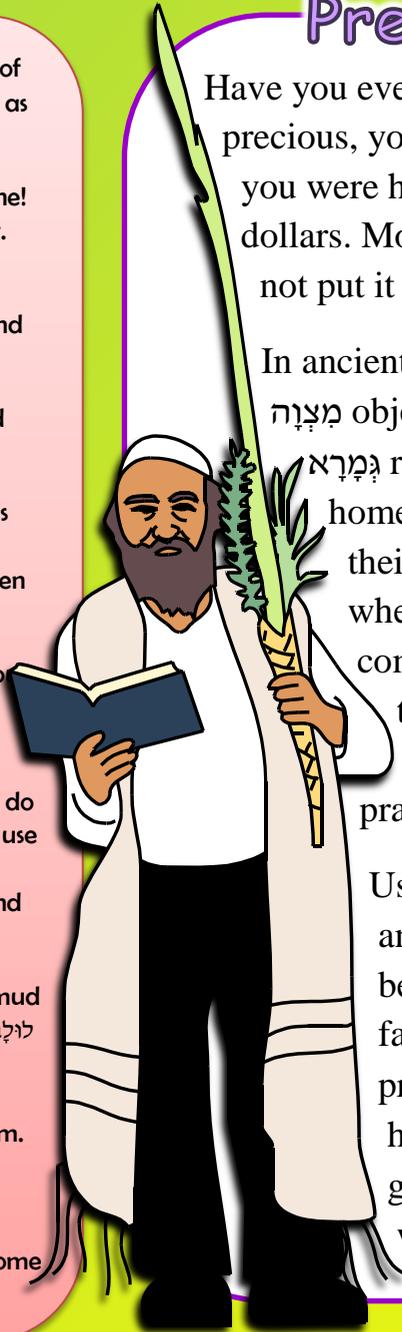
"I suppose you have a point," said Mr. Malmidot. "I'll take the אָתרוג. Er... does it come with a hava nagilah ringtone?"

Precious Items

Have you ever held something so valuable, so precious, you were afraid to let go of it? Imagine you were holding a diamond worth millions of dollars. Most people would clutch it tightly and not put it down just in case it got lost.

In ancient times, the men of Jerusalem treated מצוה objects as precious as jewels. The גמרא relates that when they would leave home they would hold the לולב bundle in their hand. They would hold the bundle when visiting the sick and when comforting mourners. They would hold the לולב bundle as they walked to synagogue and even when they prayed.

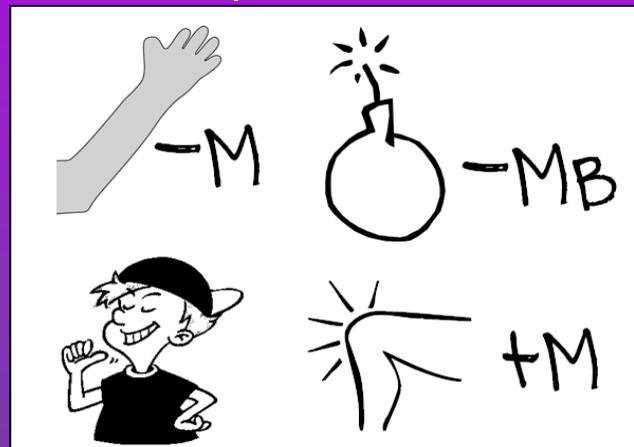
Usually, one is forbidden to hold anything during the עמידה prayer because he will worry the item might fall and become distracted from praying. אַמרימר, however, would hold his לולב during prayer. Because of his great love for the מצוה object, he would not become distracted by it.



Games

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Review Questions – סוכה דף מ"א

1. Nowadays, why do we take the לולב bundle for seven days?

2. What did the men of Jerusalem hold while they prayed?

3. How much did רבן גמליאל spend on his לולב set?
