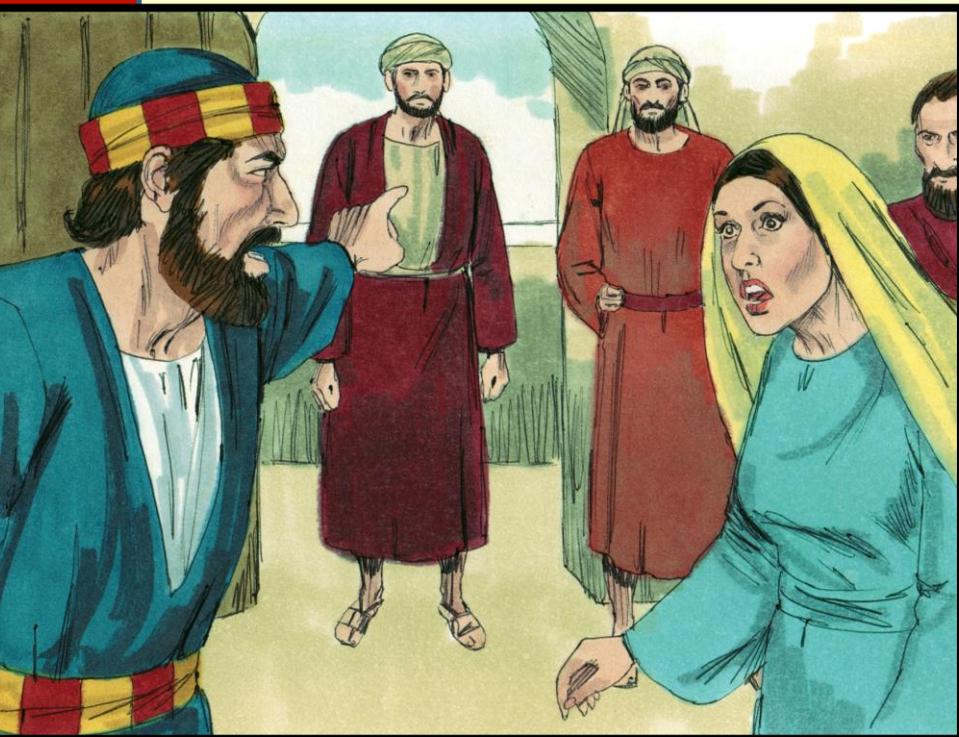


Inside the Daf

The כֹּהֲנִים who served in the בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ (Holy Temple) were divided into groups according to their families. One of these groups was the בֵּילְגָה family.

The גְּמָרָא tells us that the חֲכָמִים (Sages) punished the entire בֵּילְגָה family group of כֹּהֲנִים.

The reason for this punishment centered around מְרִימָה, a member of the בֵּילְגָה family. Before the Greeks entered the Temple Sanctuary she converted out of the Jewish faith and married a Greek officer.



To make matters worse, when the Greeks entered the Temple Sanctuary she kicked the Altar and called it a wolf that eats up the money of the Jewish people and does not help them in a time of need.

Some say the reason the Sages punished the בֵּילְגָה family group is because they were once late coming to the Temple for duty. This showed that the Temple service wasn't important to them.

The גְּמָרָא asks why the whole family group of בֵּילְגָה should be punished on

account of something one person (מְרִימָה) did! The answer is that anyone who shows such disrespect for the Temple as מְרִימָה did surely learned it from her parents.

But still, the גְּמָרָא continues, why punish the *entire* family group? Punish only her parents! The גְּמָרָא explains the entire group is punished because anyone who is in the company of the wicked can expect punishment to befall him.

Fortunately, the opposite is also true: Anyone who keeps in the company of the righteous can expect reward!



A Matter of מחלוקת

Which blessing do we recite first?

On the holiday of סוכות, we are required to say two special blessings at the beginning of the holiday: "לישב בסכה" ("to sit in the booth") and "שהחנינו" ("that He gave us life").

According to רב we say the "לישב בסכה" blessing first because it discusses the requirement to sit in a סוכה which is the special obligation of the holiday.

רבה בר בר חנה says we first say "שהחנינו" since we recite that blessing on every holiday. We have a rule that "תדיר ואינו תדיר קודם", if we have two things to do and one is more common than the other, we do the more common thing first. In our case we have two blessings to recite but since the "שהחנינו" blessing is more common, because it is said on all holidays, we say it before the blessing over sitting in the סוכה.

The גמרא rules that we follow the opinion of רב.

A Moment

"I'm worried about Sruli," Mrs. Horstein said about her son. "Today he spoke very disrespectfully about Torah. I just don't understand where he's getting this from?"

"Hmm," said Mr. Horstein. "Maybe it can be explained by something I learned today in *daf yomi*."

"We learn how מרים בַּת בִּילְגָה insulted the Temple and we blame her behaviour on her parents. This doesn't mean she heard her parents insulting the Temple in that manner; surely no one with any decency would do that. Rather we mean to say she never heard her parents *praise* the Temple and speak respectfully of it. That's what led her to profane it in that manner.

"From here we learn how important it is to talk positively about Torah and its elements. By not talking in a productive manner, we teach our children disrespect!"

(חכמה ומוסר, ח"א, דף רכ)



Did You Know...

אביי quotes a common adage: If you are given a choice between picking a small fruit off its tree now or waiting until it has grown more and picking it later, you should pick it now while it is smaller. Perhaps you won't need it after it has grown. Or maybe the person making the offer will change his mind and not give it to you when it becomes bigger!

WORD OF THE DAY:

הֵילָךְ

"HERE IS"

הֵדְרוּ עֵלְדֵי מַסְכַּת סוּכָה

Games

WHICH WORD DOESN'T BELONG? WHY?

- 1) שהחנינו, הדרון, לישב בסכה
- 2) רבה בר בר חנה, רב, רב חסדא
- 3) הדסים, לולב, ערבות
- 4) Mountain, Thread of hair, Orange
- 5) הדסים, ניסוך המים, שמחת בית השואבה

Review Questions – סוכה דף נו

1. Who married a Greek officer and desecrated the Temple?

2. Which blessing do we say first, the one for sitting in a סוכה, or שהחנינו?

3. If you are offered a small fruit on its tree now or a bigger fruit later, which one is recommended?
