

# Inside The Daf

Did you know the Torah doesn't actually tell us to fast on יוֹם כְּפוּר? The Torah says:

"בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי בֶּעָשׂוֹר לַחֹדֶשׁ **תְּעַנּוּ אֶת נַפְשׁתֵיכֶם** וְכָל מְלָאכָה לא תַעֲשׂוּ"

"On the seventh month on the tenth of the month **you should afflict yourselves** and not do any work." (עקרא טז :כט), Lev. 16:29)

"Afflict" means to "punish" or "hurt". The גְּמָרָא tells us ▶ that this means we should fast.

But how do we know that the Torah doesn't mean that we should sit in the freezing cold or in the burning hot sun? Wouldn't this also be "afflicting" ourselves?

The answer is, right after the Torah tells us to afflict ourselves it tells us not to do any work. Just like not doing any work means we are *not* doing something, so too "afflicting" ourselves means we have to *not* do something – like eating and drinking.

Another way we know that "afflicting" means "fasting" is from a וַיְעַנְדְ (verse) in the Torah that says," וַיְעַנְד "ויי, "He afflicted you and let you hunger" ( דברים, Deut. 8:3) This shows "affliction" is caused by "hunger."





### Did You Know...

People enjoy their food more when they can see it. The גְמָרָא therefore suggests to eat during the day, so you can see your food.

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## What You Don't See Can Hurt You

The Torah says, "הַמַּאֲכִלְדָּ מָן בַּמִדְבָּר ... לְמַעַן עַנּתְדָ", "[Hashem] fed you manna in the desert ... in order to **afflict you**" (דברים ח:טז, Deut. 8:16).

The question is, how was the manna an "affliction"?

אַמָּיָ and אָדָרָבּי אַסִי (manna). According to one, since the מָן always looked the same but tasted like any food its eater wanted, the eater wouldn't fully enjoy it because he couldn't see the food he wanted to eat. Someone who can't see his food doesn't enjoy it as much as someone who can.

According to the other, since the ự fell daily and none could be leftover until the next day, the Israelites were in a constant state of worry that they wouldn't have food tomorrow. This was the "affliction" of the ự.

### -A-Moment-

The setup was perfect. At recess, Yitzi was doubled over tying his shoelace right in front of the biggest puddle you could imagine.

Avi smiled to himself. All it would take is a small push to play the funniest practical joke on Yitzi! Avi slowly snuck up behind his prey and...

Stopped.

Not by himself but by Rabbi Malkin who was on duty for recess.

"Don't even think about it, Avi," Rabbi Malkin said.

"The אָמָרָא explains the verse, 'אָמָד מַהֲלָדְ גַיָּרָאָה אֵיניִים מַהֲלָדָ גָפָש' to mean that thinking about doing a sin is often more pleasurable than actually doing the sin. Haven't you ever looked forward to doing something all day and when you finally get to do it, it isn't as exciting as you imagined? It's the same thing with doing something wrong – it may be a lot of fun to think about, but in the end, it's not so much fun to do!"

#### Review Questions – יוֹמָא דַּף ע"ד

1. What does the Torah actually tell us to do on ייום כָּפּוּר?

2. What food was also an "affliction"?

3. Name something you can do to make your meal more enjoyable.

Use the code to find ... The Torah's command to fast

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