Menachos Daf 108

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# Moshe Raphael ben Yehoshua (Morris Stadtmauer) o"h Tzvi Gershon ben Yoel (Harvey Felsen) o"h 

May the studying of the Daf Notes be a zechus for their neshamot and may their souls find peace in Gan Eden and be bound up in the Bond of life

## Six Donation Boxes

The Gemora cites the Mishna which states that there were
six donation boxes in the Bais Hamikdash, for donations.

The Gemora asks why there were six, and offers these. answers:

1. To avoid strife between the different families of Kohanim serving each week, one box was assigned to each day's. family. (Chizkiyah)
2. Since there were many coins for donated sacrifices, many boxes were needed, to prevent the coins from rotting. (Rabbi Yochanan)
3. For six types of animals offered as donations:
a. Bull
b. Calf
c. Ram
d. Sheep
e. Kid
f. Goat

This follows Rebbe, who says that one may not fulfill a pledge of a small animal with a larger one. (Ze'iri)
4. For six types of sources of donated sacrifices:
a. Extra bulls of communal chatas sacrifices
b. Extra rams of asham - guilt offerings
c. Extra sheep of asham - guilt offerings
d. Extra goats of communal chatas sacrifices of the holidays
e. Extra money from funds designated for a sacrifice
f. The me'ah coin, brought to account for variations in shekel payments
(Bar Padda)

1. We aren't concerned that the Kohanim will fight over the donations.
The Gemora explains the reason each one choose his reason, and not the other ones:

We aren't concerned that coins will rot.
3. We don't want to make this Mishna follow the individual opinion of Rebbe.
The last two sources shouldn't necessitate their own boxes.
a. There is no need for a box for extra funds, as the first four are already extra.
b. According to Rabbi Meir, the coins brought with the shekel go with the shekel coins, and we assume that an anonymous Mishna follows Rabbi Meir.
The Gemora offers two more reasons for the six boxes:
5. Shmuel says they were for six types of extra funds:
a. From a chatas
b. From an asham
c. From the asham of a nazir
d. From the asham of metzora
e. From the minchah offered for a chatas
f. From the chavitin loaves of the Kohen Gadol
6. Rabbi Oshaya cites the same list, but replaces the leftovers from the Kohen Gadol's chavitin with the extra money from a bird offering.

The Gemora explains that Shmuel says the extra funds from bird offerings are placed in the box for the bird offerings, listed earlier in the Mishna, while Rabbi Oshaya says the extra funds had their own box. Rabbi Oshaya says that the extra funds of the chavitin loaves are not offered, but are left to rot.

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## A Blemished Pledge

The Gemora cites a supporting braisa, which says that the extra funds of a donated minchah, and the extra funds of a minchah, are left to rot.

Rav Chisda explains that the braisa must be amended to say that the extra funds of a chatas minchah are offered as a voluntary minchah, while the extra funds of a Kohen Gadol's loaves are left to rot.

Rabbah says that the extra funds of a Kohen Gadol's loaves may be offered as a voluntary minchah, and we can amend the braisa to say that the extra funds of a todah's bread are left to rot.

The Gemora says that this is the same as an existing dispute about what to do with the extra funds from a Kohen Gadol's chavitin, in which Rabbi Yochanan says they are offered as a voluntary minchah, and Rabbi Elozar says they are left to rot.

The Gemora attempts to prove Rabbi Yochanan's position from a braisa, which lists the types of minchah, whose extra funds are offered as a voluntary minchah. This list includes the extra funds from "the tenth of an eifah," which we assume means the chavitin, which were brought from a tenth of an eifah.

The Gemora deflects this, saying that it refers to the tenth of an eifah, offered as a chatas minchah.

Rav Nachman bar Yitzchak says it makes sense to say that the extra from the chavitin are left to rot. He cites Rabbi Yehudah, who says in a braisa that the verse which reiterates that the sinner's minchah, which may have no oil or levonah spice, "is a chatas" excludes the Kohen Gadol's chavitin, which do require levonah. Since it is not classified as a chatas, it is logical to assume that extra funds from it are different than those from a chatas, i.e., left to rot. (107b - 108a)

The Mishna says that if one pledged a specific bull as an olah, and it got blemished, he may offer two bulls from the money used to redeem it. If he pledged two specific bulls as an olah, and they became blemished, he may offer one bull from the money used to redeem them. Rebbe says that he may not. Similarly, if he pledged a specific ram as an olah, and it became blemished, he may offer a sheep with the money used to redeem it. If he pledged a specific sheep as an olah, and it became blemished, he may offer a ram with the money used to redeem it. Rebbe says he may not. (108a)

## Small vs. Large

The Gemora asks why he may switch his pledge from one to two animals, as we learned earlier that if one pledged to use a maneh to purchase a bull sacrifice, he may not purchase two bulls.

The Gemora answers that our Mishna's case is different, as he pledged a specific bull, which became blemished. Once it has become blemished, he has no further obligation, and he therefore may purchase two bulls with the redemption money.

The Gemora explains that the second case, where one offers one bull from the redemption money of two, is tantamount to offering a smaller animal in place of a larger one. Although he has no further obligation, Rebbe still prohibits one from purchasing one bull in place of the two, just as he does not allow one to offer a smaller animal to redeem a pledge for a larger one.

The Gemora says that Rebbe also prohibits the change in the first case, as that would be analogous to offering a larger animal to redeem a pledge for a smaller one, which Rebbe also does not allow. In the Mishna, he waited for the Sages to conclude their statement, and then disputed both.

The Gemora proves this from the second half of the Mishna, where Rebbe explicitly prohibits the case of switching a pledge for a sheep to a ram, which is analogous to offering a larger animal to redeem a pledge for a smaller one. This indicates that Rebbe disputes the Sages on any change between large and small. (108b)

## Changing Species

The Gemora asks whether the Sages allow one to change from one species of animal to another.

The Gemora cites a braisa, in which the Sages say that if one's bull, pledged as an olah, became blemished, he may not use the redemption money to purchase a ram, but he may purchase two rams. Rebbe says that one may not, as this would split his one donation into two, as the two minchah offerings brought with the two rams cannot be mixed. The Gemora explains that this proves that one may switch species, as one may switch from one bull to two rams.

The Gemora says that this braisa is an alternate version of the Sages, as it prohibits one from switching from a larger animal (bull) to a smaller (ram). It is also a different version of Rebbe, as the only objection Rebbe raises in the braisa is the splitting of sacrifices, while Rebbe in the Mishna prohibits even the case of switching from a sheep to a ram, where there is only one minchah.

The braisa continues to state that if one pledged to offer a calf, but offered a bull instead, or pledged to offer a sheep, but offered a ram instead, he fulfilled his pledge. This follows the Sages, who say that one may substitute a larger animal for a pledge of a smaller one. (108b)

## Accepting the Obligation

Rav Menashya bar Zevid quotes Rav saying that one may purchase two bulls to replace one blemished bull only if he pledged, "this bull will be an olah," but if he pledged, "this
bull is my responsibility as an olah," he accepted on himself an obligation to offer one bull.

The Gemora challenges this, as perhaps he simply means that he accepted on himself the obligation to offer this bull, and that obligation is released once it was blemished.

The Gemora amends the statement to say that one may purchase two bulls, whether he pledged, "this bull will be an olah," or "this bull is my responsibility as an olah." However, if he pledged, "this bull, and its value, are my responsibility as an olah," he personally has an obligation to offer one bull, and therefore may not switch to two bulls. (108b)

## Which Animal?

The Mishna says that if one said that one of his sheep or ox is designated as a sacrifice, and he has two, he must offer the biggest one. If he has three, he must offer the medium one. If he says that he or his late father specified one, but he doesn't know which one, he offers the largest one.

The Gemora notes that first case, where he must offer the largest, indicates that one is generous when sanctifying, while the second case, where he must offer the medium, indicates that one is stingy when sanctifying. Shmuel explains that one is generous when sanctifying, and in the second case, the Mishna means that one must consider the possibility of the medium one being the sanctified one, as it is generous relative to the smallest. Rabbi Chiya bar Rav explains that he must wait until the medium one gets a blemish, and he then redeems it on the larger one, which is then offered. (108b)

## An Ox vs. One Ox

Rav Nachman quotes Rabbah bar Avuha saying that the medium one is a possibility only when he said one of my oxen, but if he said an ox of my oxen, he meant the best one.
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The Gemora challenges this from Rav Huna, who says that if one told someone that he is selling him a house within his house, he may give him the aliyah - upper level, which is the lowest quality, implying that this phrase means the lowest, not highest, quality.

The Gemora deflects this, saying that Rav Huna is referring to me'ulah - the best part of the house, which is consistent with Rav Nachman's statement.

The Gemora challenges Rav Nachman from a braisa, which says that if one sanctified an ox from his oxen, or if a sanctified ox got mixed in with other oxen, he must offer the best. The braisa says that they must be all sold for use as olah sacrifices, and the money can be used for mundane purposes. The braisa's requirement that all be sold indicates that he may have meant other oxen besides the best, even though he said an ox.

The Gemora deflects this, saying that the end of the braisa, which requires all the oxen to be sold, is only referring to the case of a sanctified ox which got mixed in with other oxen. When the braisa cites the case of an ox as a similar case, the only similarity is that the best one is offered as a sacrifice.

The Gemora challenges Rav Nachman from a braisa, which says that if one sold someone $a$ house among his houses, he can claim it was any house, even one that collapsed. Similarly, if he sold someone a slave among his slaves, he can claim it was any one, even one that died. If Rav Nachman is correct, we should assume he meant the best, and check if that was the one that collapsed or died.

The Gemora deflects, saying that in a sale, the buyer has the lower hand, since he is claiming property owned by the seller.

The Gemora concludes that once we make this distinction, we can say that Rav Huna did mean that the seller can claim
he sold him the attic, as a sale is different than sanctification. (108b-109a)

## INSIGHTS TO THE DAF

## More or less?

The Mishna discusses what one may purchase with the money of a pledged animal which became blemished. The cases listed are:

| Pledged | Replacement | Ruling |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| One bull | Two bulls | Y |
| Two bulls | One bull | Y, Rebbe: N |
| Ram | Sheep | Y |
| Sheep | Ram | Y, Rebbe: N |

The Gemora challenges the ruling in the first case from the earlier Mishna, which said that if one pledged to offer a bull from one maneh, he may not purchase two bull sacrifices from that maneh.

Rashi states that even the Sages, who permit one to change from a small to large animal, agree with the earlier Mishna.

The Rashash notes that Rashi is assuming that changing from one bull to two bulls is equivalent to changing from a large animal to a small one, and the Sages therefore agree.

The Gemora proceeds to discuss the second case, and explains that Rebbe says that one may not switch to two bulls, as that would be like switching from a large animal to a small one.
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Rashi explains that a sacrifice of two animals, even if each is of lesser value, is considered a larger sacrifice than one animal.

The Rashash notes that this assumption of the Gemora is inconsistent with the explanation Rashi offered earlier.

The Rashash explains that the Gemora's assumption at this point is only an initial one, since we first assumed that Rebbe only disputes the second case. If Rebbe only disputes the second case, it must be because it is the worse case of changing from a large to small animal. However, once the Gemora concludes that Rebbe disputes all four cases, we can return to the (correct) assumption that one larger animal is considered larger than two smaller animals.

The Rashash explains that this is why Rashi in the Mishna explains that in the first case one may replace the one bull with two, "even though it is a case of switching from large to small." Although this is inconsistent with Rashi's explanation of Rebbe's position in the Gemora, that explanation was only based on the Gemora's initial logic.

He therefore disputes the Tzon Kadashim, who amends this line in Rashi's explanation of the Mishna.

He also challenges the Tosfos Yom Tov, who quotes Rashi's explanation of the Gemora's assumption about Rebbe, since this was only an initial assumption, which was not retained.

See Rashash for discussion of how these calculations may fit in with the Gemora's following discussion of switching from one species of animal to another.

## DAILY MASHAL

## A Minchah: <br> Like a Body Without a Soul

At the start of Menachos we cited the following peninah: The pupils of HaGaon Rav Chayim of Volozhin zt"I write in the name of their mentor: Prayer resembles the tamid. "Prayer without concentration is like a body without a soul." This means that prayer without concentration does not have the advantage of an animal sacrifice, which has a soul, but the advantage of a minchah, which is "a body without a soul" (Tosefes Ma'aseh Rav, 12; Keser Rosh, 22; Beiurei Rabeinu Chayim MiVolozhin, 163).

A reader sent us an interesting addition which he heard from HaGaon HaTzadik Rav Gedalyah Eiseman, mashgiach of Kol Torah Yeshivah. Chazal's satement, that prayer without concentration is like a body without a soul, denegrates the value of such prayer while Rav Chayim's statement apparently enlivens it as he treats such prayer as a minchah! However, a minchah was offered by a poor person who could not afford to offer an animal. From such a person, who is not able to pray with concentration, his prayer is accepted like a minchah. But someone who could have prayed with concentration should not expect his prayer to be regarded...

