



Shabbos Daf 34



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 One must say to his household three things before Shabbos: Have you separated ma'aser, have you made an eruv? Light the Shabbos candles.

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One is forbidden to separate ma'aser on Shabbos, so he must remind the household members to separate ma'aser prior to Shabbos. Produce that has not had ma'aser separated may sometimes be eaten as a snack. On Shabbos, however, a snack is also considered Oneg Shabbos, delighting in Shabbos, so a snack has the status of a meal. Making an eruv refers to Eruvei Techumin, which allows one to walk more than 2,000 amos from his dwelling, and to eruvei chatzeiros, which allows people to carry from one house to another inside a courtyard. Establishing an eruv on Shabbos is similar to acquiring an object, which is Rabbinically forbidden on Shabbos. Lighting candles is mentioned in the Mishna as a directive, not as a question that one asks, because one can see if the lights have been lit, as opposed to ma'aser and eruv, which are not readily apparent that they have been performed. One must say these three things to members of his household in a gentle manner, so that they accept the instructions. (34a)

 During the time known as Bein Hashemashos, twilight, one may not separate ma'aser from produce that was definitely untithed, one may not immerse vessels in the mikvah, and one may not light Shabbos lights.

Separating *ma'aser* on *Shabbos* is forbidden because it appears as if one is fixing an object, but the prohibition is only Rabbinical. Our *Mishna* conforms to the view that during *Bein Hashemashos*, even rabbinic decrees

are in effect. One may not immerse vessels that were *tamei* to make them *tahor* on *Shabbos*, as this is akin to fixing a vessel. Similarly, at *Bein Hashemashos*, one cannot immerse vessels that were previously owned by a gentile to permit them for usage with food. This is Rabbinically prohibited on *Shabbos* because it is akin to fixing a vessel, and it is forbidden to immerse such vessels even at *Bein Hashemashos*. Lighting the *Shabbos* lights is Biblically forbidden on *Shabbos*, thus it is Rabinically prohibited at *Bein Hashemashos*. (34a)

 During Bein Hashemashos, one may separate ma'aser from Demai, which is produce that is owned by an ignorant Jew. One may also make an eruv and cover hot food during Bein Hashemashos.

Ignorant people, known as *amei ha'aretz*, always were careful to separate *terumah*, but were lax in separating *ma'aser*.

The word *demai* has its roots in the words *da mai*, what is this, as people were not certain when purchasing produce from *amei ha'aretz* if the produce had been properly tithed. Nonetheless, since most *amei ha'aretz* did separate *ma'aser*, the Chachamim permitted one to separate *ma'aser* from Demai at *Bein Hashemashos*, as this was not considered a significant fixing.

It is permissible to warm hot food on *Shabbos* by covering it *Bein Hashemashos* with materials that do not conduct heat. Once *Bein Hashemashos* passed, it is forbidden to insulate the food even in such a manner. (34a)









From where do we know it?-Said Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi, Scripture says, And you, shall know that your tent is in peace; and you shall visit your habitation, and shall not err.

Rabbah son of Rav Huna said: Although the Rabbis said, a man must say three things, etc., yet they must be said with sweet reasonableness, so that they may be accepted from him. Rav Ashi observed: I had not heard this [statement] of Rabbah son of bar Rav Huna, but understood it by logic.

This is self contradictory. You say, on the eve of the Shabbos just before night a man must say three things in his house: only just before night, but not when it is doubtful whether it is night or not; then you teach, when it is doubtful, whether it is night or not ... an 'eruv may be prepared? (Mnemonic: Self, Pruning, Bird, Cord, Silk.) — Said Rabbi Abba in the name of Rav Chiya bar Ashi in Rav's name: There is no difficulty: the one refers to eruv of boundaries; the other to the eruv of courtyards. (34a)

4. The time period of *Bein Hashemashos* is unknown, so regarding rabbinic rulings, the time period is treated leniently.

Rava said: Two people requested of a third individual to make an *eruv techumin* on their behalf. For one person he made the *eruv* before the start of *Shabbos*, and for the second person he made the *eruv* during *Bein Hashemashos*. The first ones *eruv* was eaten during *Bein Hashemashos*, and the second ones *eruv* was eaten after *Shabbos* began. The law is that the *eruv* works for both people.

The Gemara asks: What is your inclination? If *Bein Hashemashos* is day, the second should acquire, but

not the first; while if *Bein Hashemashos* is night, the first should acquire, but not the second?

The Gemara answers: Since the time status of *Bein Hashemashos* is in doubt, and the rules of eruvei *techumin* are Rabbinical, we rule leniently. Therefore, the one whose *eruv* was eaten at *Bein Hashemashos*, *Bein Hashemashos* is considered night, and is *eruv* was in effect before it was eaten. For the one whose *eruv* was eaten after *Shabbos* began, we say that *Bein Hashemashos* was day, and his *eruv* was in effect before *Shabbos*. (34a)

One may not cover hot food on Shabbos, even with materials that do not conduct heat.

And Rava said: The concern with insulating food on *Shabbos* even in materials that do not conduct heat is that one may cause the pot to boil on *Shabbos*, which is biblically forbidden. Abaye asked him: If so, it should have been decreed during *Bein Hashemashos* as well? Rava said to him: [With regard to *Bein Hashemashos*, the Chachamim were not concerned about insulating a pot, because] pots are usually boiling hot [at *Bein Hashemashos*, and we are not concerned that one will heat the pot even more]. (34a)

 One may not cover hot food – even on Friday with materials that conduct heat.

And Rava said: Here we are concerned that he will insulate the food with ash mixed with coal. Abaya said to him: and let him insulate? Rava replied: [Although insulating with ash prior to *Shabbos* is not forbidden, the Chachamim made a decree that one cannot do this even on Friday. The reason for the decree is that] one may come to stir the coals that are mixed with the ash, [and by causing the food to cook quicker, he will violate

Shabbos may have commenced, although where it was prepared at twilight, it is effective. But the prohibition of carrying between houses



¹ The limitation of boundaries was held to be either Biblical or partaking of the nature of a Scriptural law; therefore the eruv, whereby that limitation is extended, really makes the territory beyond these boundaries accessible on the Shabbos, and consequently its preparation is forbidden at twilight, when the

and courtyards was merely a measure of stringency; hence the eruv permits only what might have been permitted in any case, and so it may be prepared at twilight.



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the biblical prohibition of cooking on *Shabbos*]. (34a – 34b)

7. There are three opinions as to when the time period of *Bein Hashemashos* is.

The Gemara cites a Baraisa: As to Bein Hashemashos [period] it is doubtful whether it is partly day and partly night, or the whole of it [belongs to the] day, or the whole of it night: [therefore] it is cast upon the stringencies of both days. And what is Bein Hashemashos? Rabbi Yehudah maintains that Bein Hashemashos is once the sun has set and the eastern side of the sky is red; when the lower part of the sky near the horizon gets dark, but the upper part of the sky is not yet dark, this is Bein Hashemashos. Once the upper part of the sky gets dark and is the same [color] as the bottom of the sky, this is night. Rabbi Nechemiah posits that Bein Hashemashos is the time period that it takes for a person to walk a half a mil, [which is approximately nine minutes]. Rabbi Yosi opines that Bein Hashemashos is like the weak blinking of the eye, which means that night enters and day departs, and one cannot tell whether it is day or night. (34b)

- 8. One who saw an emission two days in a row at Bein Hashemashos, there is uncertainty regarding his status of tumah and regarding his requirement to bring a sacrifice.
- One who saw an emission one day at Bein Hashemashos, there is uncertainty only regarding his status of tumah.

The master said: One applies to it the stringencies of both days. The *Gemora* asks: In respect of what law? Rav Huna son of Rav Yehoshua said: In respect of *tumah*. As we learned in a *Mishna*: if he saw (discharges) on two days at *Bein Hashemashos*, he is doubtful in respect of *tumah* and sacrifice: if he sees (a discharge) one day at *Bein Hashemashos*, he is doubtful in respect of *tumah*. [If a zav experiences two discharges on one day or on two consecutive days, or one discharge spread over parts of two days, e.g., the end of one and the beginning of the next, which likewise

counts as two discharges, he becomes tamei for seven days, as a zav. If he has three discharges (taking into account that one discharge spread over two days counts as two), he incurs a sacrifice in addition. Now, if he has discharges for a short period at Bein Hashemashos on Sunday and Monday there are the following possibilities: - (1) The Bein Hashemashos of both were either day or night, so that he had two discharges on two consecutive days, viz., Sunday and Monday or Monday and Tuesday, the night belonging to the following day, which render him tamei, but not liable to a sacrifice; (2) the first Bein Hashemashos period was day, while the second was night, so that his two discharges were on Sunday and Tuesday, and he is not tamei for seven days, because the discharges were not on consecutive days; and (3) the first Bein Hashemashos period was day (Sunday) and the second embraced the end of one day (Monday) and the beginning of the night (Tuesday), so that he had three discharges on three consecutive days, and therefore incurs a sacrifice. On account of these doubts he is tamei for seven days and must bring a sacrifice, which, however, may not be eaten. Similarly, if he has one discharge at Bein Hashemashos, it is doubtful whether it counts as one or two.] (34b)

10. Bein Hashemashos

The *Gemora* asks: This is self-contradictory. You say: What is *Bein Hashemashos*? From sunset as long as the face of the east has a reddish glow. This would imply that if the lower horizon is dark but not the upper, it is night. Then it is taught: When the lower horizon is dark but not the upper, it is *Bein Hashemashos*!?

Rabbah answered in the name of Rav Yehudah in the name of Shmuel: Combine them and learn as follows: What is *Bein Hashemashos*? From sunset as long as the face of the east has a reddish glow, and if the lower horizon is dark but not the upper, that too is *Bein Hashemashos*. But when the upper horizon is dark and the same as the lower, it is night.

While Rav Yosef answered in the name of Rav Yehudah in the name of Shmuel: This is what the *braisa* is saying:







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From sunset as long as the face of the east has a reddish glow, it is day; if the lower horizon is dark but not the upper, it is *Bein Hashemashos*; when the upper is dark and the same as the lower, it is night. (34b)

11. Rabbah maintains that Bein Hashemashos is the time it tales to walk three parts of a mil, and Rav Yosef is of the opinion that Bein Hashemashos is the time it takes to walk two parts of a mil.

The *Gemora* notes: Now, they follow their views, for it was stated: How long is the period of *Bein Hashemashos*? Rabbah said in the name of Rav Yehudah in the name of Shmuel: Three parts of a *mil* (as long as it takes to walk it -2,000 amos). The *Gemora* asks: What is meant by 'three parts of a *mil*'? Shall we say, three half-mils? Then let him simply say: A *mil* and a half? While if it is three thirds of a *mil*, let him say: One *mil*? Therefore, it must mean three quarters of a *mil*.

While Rav Yosef said in the name of Rav Yehudah in the name of Shmuel: Two parts of a *mil*. The *Gemora* asks: What is 'two parts of a *mil*? Shall we say: two halves? Then let him say: One *mil*? While if it means two quarters of a *mil*, then let him say: half a *mil*. Therefore, it must mean two thirds of a *mil*. What is the difference between them? One half of a sixth. (34b – 35a)

INSIGHTS TO THE DAF

"Bein Hashmashos" – Between the Suns

By: Meoros HaDaf HaYomi

Bein hashmashos is a period of time in which it is no longer certainly day, but the night has not begun for certain either. The parameters of bein hashmashos, its halachic status, precise times, and even the definition of its name, are all subjects of debate. In this article we will present the foremost opinions in these matters, beginning with the familiar debate over the times of shekiah (sunset) and tzeis hakochavim (the appearance of the stars).

The Geonim (cited in Teshuvos Maharam Alshakar, 96) interpret *shekiah* as the time at which the orb of the sun sets. With this, the period of *bein hashmashos* begins, continuing until *tzeis hakochavim*. However, Rabbeinu Tam holds that there are in fact two *shekios*. The first *shekiah* is when the orb of the sun sets and is hidden from view, and the second is a considerable amount of time afterward (see Maggid Mishna hilchos *Shabbos*, 5:4, et. al.). Tosafos (Zevachim 56a, s.v. *minayin*) refers to these two times as the "beginning of *shekiah*" and the "end of *shekiah*." Rabbeinu Tam holds that although the sun has set and is hidden from sight, it is still daytime until the second *shekiah*.

Now, we will proceed to define the meaning of the words, "bein hashmashos":

Between the sun and its light: According to the Maharal of Prague (Gur Aryeh, Shemos 12:6), each day is termed as a "sun." Therefore bein hashmashos, between the suns, refers to the intermediate period of Bein Hashemashos between one day and the next. The Vilna Gaon, however, explains that the two suns in question are the sun itself and its light (Biur HaGra O.C. beginning of 261 and Y.D. 262). Bein hashmashos is therefore the period between the setting of the sun and the disappearance of its light. The Vilna Gaon's interpretation fits well with the opinion of the Geonim, that bein hashmashos begins with the setting of the sun and concludes with the disappearance of its light. Indeed, the Vilna Gaon supports their position in halacha. However, according to Rabbeinu Tam, bein hashmashos begins long after sunset, when the sunlight disappears entirely.

The third issue at hand is the *halachic* status of *bein hashmashos*. The *Gemara* considers *bein hashmashos* as a questionable period, in which we are uncertain whether to apply the halachos of the previous day or the following night. What exactly is uncertain about this period?

The stars have appeared, yet is uncertain whether night has begun: According to Tosafos' (35a, s.v. trei) interpretation of the sugya, the Gemara assumes that night begins with the appearance of the stars; but which stars? The larger stars can be seen even in daylight, and the smallest stars can only be seen well into the dark of night. The interim period of bein hashmashos is when some stars are visible, but we are uncertain whether they are small enough to signal the beginning of night. Some explain that the uncertainty of bein hashmashos is







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whether night begins with two stars or three (Minchas Kohen, first essay, end of chapter 3).

A combination of night and day: Based on their interpretations of certain Rishonim in our *sugya*, some Acharonim offer a novel interpretation of the uncertainty of *bein hashmashos*. The Maharal (Gur Aryeh, here) describes it most clearly, that *bein hashmashos* is not merely a question of our ignorance in not knowing when the day ends and the night begins. Rather, *bein hashmashos* contains some aspects of day and some of night. Ours is a *halachic* question how to regard this truly questionable period of Bein Hashemashos. Do we judge it as day or as night? Since it is a question of *halachic* weight, and not mere ignorance, it can never be resolved [This interpretation conforms to the Geonim's opinion that during *bein hashmashos* daylight can still be seen, and darkness begins].

Among the proofs cited for this interpretation, the Acharonim cite the Mishna from Pirkei Avos: "Ten things were created on *erev Shabbos, bein hashmashos*" (Avos 5:6). *Bein hashmashos,* then, was a real, definite period, even at Creation. This alone, however, is no proof. Although Hashem has no doubt when the day ends and the night begins, perhaps the Mishna refers to the period of time that would be questionable in our eyes. However, the Midrash spells out more explicitly that Hashem decided to create these things between the sixth day and *Shabbos*. (Midrash HaGadol, Bereishis 2:2). This clearly implies that *bein hashmashos* is a distinct period, and not merely a matter of our ignorance (the Rogatchover in Tzafnas Pa'neach, Nezirus 2:5 asserts that this is also the Talmud Yerushalmi's opinion).

Between night and day: The Netziv concurs with this opinion, and cites as a proof the wording of the *possuk*, "To separate between the day (*bein hayom*) and the night (*u'vein halaylah*)" (Bereishis 1:14). The Torah's wording "*bein u'bein*" always signifies a third alternative: a third period between the two. This period is *bein hashmashos*. With this we can well understand why there is only a period of *bein hashmashos* at nightfall, and not at dawn. The Torah says, "between the day and the night," but it does not say, "between the night and the day"... (See Meromei Sadeh, Berachos 2:2).

According to these opinions the element of uncertainty in *bein hashmashos* is not a matter of occurrence: whether night has yet begun. It is a matter of halacha: how do we regard a period of

time that combines aspects of both day and night? (Hazmanim Behalacha 38:8. There, the author cites opinions that *bein hashmashos* is neither day nor night, but a third independent period in and of itself. However, this opinion was rejected by a number of commentaries).

DAILY MASHAL

Askarah Amongst Gentiles

The Gemora offers various reasons for the disease known as askarah, identified with diphtheria, a disease that affects the throat. One opinion maintains that askarah come because people do not separate ma'aser. A second opinion states that askarah comes because of slanderous speech. The Gemora then quotes the opinion of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, who maintains that askarah comes because of the neglect of Torah study, and this is why the mouth is affected, because the mouth does not vocalize words of Torah. The Gemora challenges this opinion, as we find that women are also affected with this disease The Gemora resolves this challenge by stating that women are also susceptible to askarah because they cause their husbands not to study Torah. The Gemora then questions this opinion from the fact that the disease also affects gentiles? The Gemora answers that gentiles are also affected with askarah because they cause the Jews not to be able to study Torah. The Gemora then questions this opinion from the fact that children who are too young to study are afflicted with askarah. The Gemora answers that children are afflicted with askarah because they cause their fathers not to study Torah.

The difficulty with the *Gemora* is that according to the opinions that *askarah* comes because of slanderous speech or because people do not separate *ma'aser*, how do we understand why gentiles are affected with *askarah*. Gentiles are not commanded to refrain from slanderous speech, nor are they commanded to separate *ma'aser*.

The Ben Yehoyada answers that when one slanders someone else, the ensuing result may be bloodshed. A gentile is also prohibited from killing, so they are certainly liable for the end result of slanderous speech. Furthermore, if a Jew who does not separate *ma'aser* is afflicted with *askarah*, then it follows that a gentile who steals produce would be afflicted with the same







disease. For this reason, the *Gemora* only challenges the opinion that maintains that *askarah* comes because of neglect of Torah study.

The Maharsha suggest an alternative answer to this question. Gentiles have the option of refraining from slanderous speech and they can separate *ma'aser* from their produce, although they are not obligated to do so. Regarding Torah study, however, a gentile is forbidden to study Torah, and if he studies Torah, the *Gemora* in Sanhedrin states that he is liable the death penalty.

It Depends How You Say It

Once, a son who had moved to the city sent a letter to his parents in the village. As they didn't know how to read, they went to the *shochet* for his help. The *shochet* looked at the letter and said in his gruff voice, "Your son writes, 'Send me money!" The parents were angered by their son's impudent demands and decided to send him nothing but the mother wasn't satisfied. Who knows if the *shochet* was telling the truth? She told her husband that they should go to the *chazan*. The latter read the letter and said in his sweet, pleading voice, "Your dear son writes, 'Send me money.'" They immediately agreed that he was asking nicely and that they would send him plenty...

The Holy Day Has Come!

The Sar Shalom of Belz zt" said on the eve of Yom Kippur: 'Isartem – the ten days of repentance have passed; 'eiravtem – the eve of Yom Kippur has passed; hadliku es haner – we have already lit the candles for the start of the day and where are we going to?



