

Zevachim Daf 89



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Mishnah

Whatever is more frequent takes precedence over its counterpart. The tamid (sacrifice brought every morning and afternoon) is brought before the mussaf (sacrifice); the mussaf of Shabbos is brought before the mussaf of Rosh Chodesh, and the mussaf of Rosh Chodesh is brought before the mussaf of Rosh Hashanah. This is as the verse states: Besides the olah of the morning which is the continual olah offering. (89a1)

More Common Takes Precedence

The Gemara asks: How do we know this law?

The *Gemara* replies: How can you ask for the source of this law? The *Mishnah* explicitly stated that the source is the verse: *Besides the olah of the morning which is the continual olah offering*.

Rather, the *Gemara* explains: This source is valid for the law that the *tamid* is always before a *mussaf* offering (*as this is the context of the verse*). However, how do we know that this also means that a common *mussaf* takes precedence to a less common *mussaf*?

Rabbi Ila'a answers: This is derived from the (following) verse: Like these shall you do each day for seven days. Like these implies that just as the tamid is before the mussaf, so too a common mussaf takes precedence to a less common mussaf.

The *Gemara* asks: Don't we need this verse to teach that a *mussaf* is brought for seven days on the festival (*pesach*)?

The Gemara answers: It could have merely said: These you should do each day. [The extra "like" teaches us the law regarding common sacrifices.]

The Gemara asks: If it would only say, these you should do each day for seven days, I would think that the seven sheep should be split up amongst all seven days of Pesach (and only one sheep should be brought each day)!?

The Gemara answers: The verse explicitly states each day (teaching that seven sheep are brought each day).

The *Gemara* asks: It is still possible that *l'yom* means for the first day of *Pesach* (*instead of each day*), and we do not know how many sheep to offer on the rest of the days!?

The *Gemara* answers: This is why the verse says, *you should* do, indicating that all of the "doings" (i.e. offerings each day of Pesach) should be the same.

Abaye answers (the Gemara's original question): This (that a common mussaf takes precedence to a less common mussaf) can be understood from the verse quoted in the Mishnah. The verse could have taught that the tamid is before mussaf by merely saying, besides the olah of the morning. Why did it add which is the continual olah offering? It must be that it is explaining that the reason why the tamid is before the mussaf is because it is "tamid" — "constant." We can therefore apply this to every sacrifice (or mitzvah) that is







more common than another sacrifice (that the formertakes precedence). (89a1 – 89a2)

Mishnah

Whatever is holier takes precedence over its counterpart. The blood of a chatas (sacrifice) is offered (sprinkled) before the blood of an olah, because it atones. The limbs of an olah are offered (burned on the altar) before the limbs of a chatas, because an olah is totally burned (as opposed to a chatas which is partially eaten by Kohanim). A chatas is offered before an asham, as its blood is sprinkled on all four corners of the altar, with the remainder spilled onto the base. An asham is offered before a todah or ram of a nazir because it is kodshei kodashim. A todah and ram of a nazir are offered before a shelamim because they are only eaten for one day, and require the bringing of loaves. A shelamim is offered before a bechor because its blood must have two blood applications that in fact are four applications on the altar, semichah (owner leans on the sacrifice before it is offered), and tenufah (the waving of chest and right thigh after it is slaughtered). A bechor is offered before a ma'aser because a bechor is holy from birth, and it is only eaten by the Kohanim. A ma'aser is offered before bird offerings, because it is called a zevach (animal sacrifice) and because two parts of it are put on the altar, namely its blood and limbs (as opposed to a bird chatas whose limbs are not put on the altar). Bird offerings are brought before flour offerings, as they do involve an atonement of blood (which Rashi says is more of an atonement). The flour offering of a sinner is before a voluntary flour offering, as it comes to atone for a sin. A bird chatas is brought before an olah bird. Similarly, when dedicating two birds to be both a chatas and olah, one should first dedicate the chatas. (89a2 – 89a3)

Source for Precedence

The Gemara asks: How do we know this?

The Gemara answers its question from a Baraisa, which states: And a second young bull you should take as a chatas. The verse cannot be teaching that another bull is brought, as the verse already states: and you should make one a chatas and one an olah. Why, then, does the verse state: and a second young bull you should take as a chatas? One might think that all services of a chatas should be taken care of before doing any service of an olah. This is why the verse is stated (to imply that the chatas is sometimes second). If the verse says, a second bull perhaps this means that the services of an olah are always before a chatas? This is why the verse states: and you should make one a chatas and one an olah. What is the practical meaning of these verses? The blood of a chatas is offered before the blood of an olah, because it atones. The limbs of an olah are offered (burned on the altar) before the limbs of a chatas, because an olah is totally burned.

The *Gemara* asks: Why don't we say that only the first application of a *chatas* that atones should take precedence over an *olah*?

Ravina answers: We are discussing a *chatas* of the *Leviim* (*by their inauguration, where there is no atonement*). Even though it is like an *olah*, the Torah teaches us that it precedes an *olah*.

In the West (*Eretz Yisroel*) they answered: Once he started applying the blood of a *chatas*, it is understandable that he should finish. (89b1)

Inquiries of Precedence

They inquired: If the blood of a *chatas* and limbs of an *olah* are waiting, which one of them takes precedence? Do we say the *chatas* blood is applied first because it atones, or do we say that the limbs of an *olah* are offered first because they are burned on the altar?





The *Gemara* attempts to answer this question from our *Mishnah*. The *Mishnah* states: The blood of a *chatas* takes precedence over the blood of an *olah*. This indicates that it is only before the blood of an *olah*, but not before the limbs of an *olah*.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary!? The next part of the *Mishnah* states that the limbs of an *olah* take precedence over the limbs of a *chatas*. This indicates that they are not before the blood of a *chatas*! Rather, the *Gemara* concludes, we cannot answer the question based on our *Mishnah*. (89b2)

They inquired: If the blood of an *olah* and limbs of a *chatas* are waiting, which one of them takes precedence? Do we say the *olah* blood is sprinkled first because it is part of a sacrifice that is totally burned, or do we say that the limbs of a *chatas* are offered first because they from a sacrifice that atones?

The *Gemara* attempts to answer this question from our *Mishnah*. The *Mishnah* states: The blood of a *chatas* takes precedence over the blood of an *olah*. This indicates that only the blood of a *chatas* is before the blood of an *olah*, while the limbs of a *chatas* are not before the blood of an *olah*.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary!? The next part of the *Mishnah* states that the limbs of an *olah* take precedence over the limbs of a *chatas*. This indicates that the limbs of an *olah* are before the limbs of a *chatas*, but the blood of an *olah* is not before the limbs of a *chatas*! Rather, the *Gemara* concludes, we cannot answer the question based on our *Mishnah*. (89b2)

The *Gemara* inquires: If the blood of an *olah* and blood of an *asham* are waiting, which one of them takes precedence? Do we say the *olah* blood is sprinkled first because it is part of a sacrifice that is totally burned, or do we say that the blood of an *asham* is offered first because it atones?

The *Gemara* attempts to answer this question from our *Mishnah*. The *Mishnah* states: The blood of a *chatas* takes precedence over the blood of an *olah*. This indicates that only the blood of a *chatas* is before the blood of an *olah*, as opposed to the blood of an *asham* that is not before the blood of an *olah*.

The *Gemara* answers: In truth, the *Mishnah* could have said the blood of an *asham* along with the blood of a *chatas*. However, being that it wanted to discuss the next case comparing the limbs of an *olah* to the limbs of a *chatas*, and it only mentioned *chatas* in that case, as that certainly includes an *asham* (as opposed to if it would have only mentioned asham, as we would not know chatas), it did not mention asham.

The *Gemara* attempts to answer from the *Mishnah*. The *Mishnah* states: A *chatas* takes precedence over an *asham*. This indicates that a *chatas* is before an *asham*, while an *olah* is not before an *asham*. This must be referring to sprinkling blood, proving the blood of an *asham* is before the blood of an *olah*!

The *Gemara* answers: No. It is saying that the limbs of a *chatas* take precedence over the limbs of an *asham* (*in which case there is no proof, as the limbs of an olah are before the limbs of a chatas*). This is apparent from the *Mishnah* itself, which says "its blood is put etc." This clearly indicates that the case is about the limbs, not the blood. [*If it would be about the blood, it would have said, "because it is put etc."*] (89b2 – 89b3)

The *Mishnah* says that a *chatas* takes precedence over an *asham*.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary!? An *asham* should be before a *chatas*, as it must have a certain minimum value (*as opposed to a chatas*).





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The *Gemara* answers: Even so, the fact that there are more blood applications on the altar make a *chatas* holier.

The *Mishnah* says that an *asham* is offered before a *todah* etc.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary!? A *todah* and ram of a *nazir* should be before an *asham*, as they must also be brought with loaves!?

The *Gemara* answers: Even so, being that an *asham* is *kodshei kodashim*, it takes precedence. (89b3)

The *Mishnah* says that a *todah* and ram of a *nazir* are before a *shelamim*.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary!? A *shelamim* is better as it is brought by both the public and an individual (as opposed to a todah and ram of a nazir that is only brought by individuals)!?

The *Gemara* answers: Even so, the fact that a *todah* and ram of a *nazir* are eaten for only one day gives them significance.

The *Gemara* asks: Which is offered first, a *todah* or ram of a *nazir*? Is a *todah* first because it requires four different types of bread, or is a ram of a *nazir* first because it is brought along with other sacrifices (*that are brought at the same time by a nazir*)?

The *Gemara* answers from a *Baraisa* that explicitly states a *todah* is before the ram of a *nazir*, as a *todah* requires four types of bread, as opposed to the two of a *nazir*. (89b3 – 89b4)

The *Mishnah* says that a *shelamim* takes precedence over a *bechor*.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary! A *bechor* should be first because it is holy from birth and is only eaten by *Kohanim*!?

The *Gemara* answers: Even so, the extra *mitzvos* done with a *shelamim* (*semichah*, waving, etc.) gives a *shelamim* significance. (89b4)

The *Mishnah* states that a *bechor* takes precedence over *ma'aser*.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary! *Ma'aser* should be given precedence, as the tenth animal (*labeled ma'aser beheimah*) can make the animal before it and after it holy (*if they were accidentally proclaimed ma'aser beheimah*)!?

The *Gemara* answers: Even so, the fact that a *bechor* is born holy takes precedence. (89b4)

The *Mishnah* states that *ma'aser* takes precedence over bird offerings.

The *Gemara* asks: On the contrary! Bird offerings should take precedence as they are *kodshei kodashim*!?

The *Gemara* answers: Even so, an animal sacrifice is more significant. (89b4)

Ravina bar Shilo says: The limbs of *kodashim kalim* that went out of the Courtyard before the blood of the sacrifice was applied are invalid. Our *Tanna* supports this, as he says that *ma'aser* takes precedence over a bird sacrifice because it is an animal, and it has two parts that go on the altar, namely the blood and the limbs. It is understandable why our *Tanna* said that its limbs go on the altar, as the limbs of a bird *chatas* do not go on the altar. However, why did the *Tanna* mention the blood? [*The blood of a bird chatas also goes on the altar!?*] Rather, he must be teaching that the limbs are like the blood. Just like the blood is called *kodshei kodashim* before sprinkling, so too the limbs are called *kodshei kodashim* before sprinkling. Just as the blood is invalid if it leaves the Courtyard, so too the limbs are invalid if they leave the Courtyard. [*This is why the Tanna calls them both kodshei*





kodashim, in order to give the blood and limbs of ma'aser beheimah, and all kodshei kodashim, a similar law to kodshei kodashim which must remain in the Courtyard.]

The *Gemara* attempts to bring a proof to this from the following argument. If meat of *kodashim kalim* leaves the Courtyard before the sprinkling of the blood, Rabbi Yochanan says it is still valid, while Rish Lakish says it is invalid. Rabbi Yochanan says it is valid, as it going to be permitted anyway to be taken anywhere in Yerushalayim. Rish Lakish says it is invalid, as it is not yet permitted to go outside the Courtyard. It seems that they only argue regarding meat, not limbs. This must be because they both agree limbs become invalid when taken outside the Courtyard!?

The *Gemara* answers: No. They argue regarding limbs as well. They argue regarding meat in order to show the strong position of Rish Lakish that even meat, which is going to be permitted to be anywhere in Yerushalayim, is still considered invalid if it went out before the sprinkling of the blood. (89b4 – 89b5)

INSIGHTS TO THE DAF

Should a Person who came to Shul during Mussaf Pray Shacharis or Mussaf?

An ill person once found the strength to come to the synagogue on *Shabbos* morning, but discovered that the congregation was about to start *mussaf*. As he was erudite, he was uncertain whether he should join them for *mussaf* or if he shouldn't change the order determined by *Chazal*, and pray *shacharis* alone.

The *poskim* presented with the question had different opinions, as follows. The Maharshag (Responsa *Maharshag*, I, 22) rules that as the prayers were instituted corresponding to the sacrifices (Brachos 26b; Rambam, *Hilchos Tefilah*, 1:5),

one mustn't change their order, as explained in our *sugya*, that one mustn't offer the *mussaf* sacrifice before the *tamid*.

However, HaGaon Rav Yitzchak Elchanan Spektor zt"l, av beis din of Kovno, disagreed (Responsa Beer Yitzchak, O.C. 20) and, typically, explained his approach step by step. He explains that we would err to resolve this question by resorting to the halachos of sacrifices. We must distinguish between two types of halachos regarding sacrifices. There are some halachos that the sacrifice depends upon and others that are a mitzvah to perform but whose lack of observance does not disqualify the sacrifice. Chazal only applied those halachos to prayer whose lack of observance disqualifies a sacrifice. If a mussaf is offered before a tamid, it is not disqualified and therefore Chazal did not institute this prohibition concerning the halachos of prayer. Therefore, the ill person has two mitzvos before him, shacharis and mussaf, and we must decide which he should observe first according to the rules applying to all portions of the Torah. First, we must examine the characteristics of the two mitzvos. Shacharis is tadir (frequent) every day, while mussaf was instituted only for Shabbos. Therefore, it is fitting, apparently, to place shacharis first as "the more frequent takes precedence". On the other hand, this person's mussaf will be holier than his shacharis as he can pray it with the congregation whereas shacharis he can only pray alone. If so, we have before us a frequent *mitzvah* and a holier mitzvah. Our Gemara (90b) debates "if there is a frequent thing and a holier thing, which takes precedence?" and, as the Gemara does not decide, Rambam rules (Hilchos Temidin Umusafin, 9:2) that "if he has before him a frequent thing and a holier thing, he should perform whichever he wants first." Apparently, we should instruct the ill person to act as he likes.

However, adds Rav Spektor, if we examine the issue carefully, we notice another advantage to this person's praying *mussaf* as aside from being "holier" because of being prayed with the congregation, the person only thus will also earn the *mitzvah* of prayer with the congregation. Therefore,





we should instruct him to pray *mussaf* first. The *halachah* of "if he has a frequent thing and a holier thing, he should perform whichever he wants first" only deals with a case where he can give precedence to one of the *mitzvos* but not lose it altogether. In our case, if he prays *shacharis* first, he won't be able to pray *mussaf* with the congregation.

HaGaon Rav Eliezer Yehudah Waldenberg (Responsa Tzitz Eli'ezer, XIV, 6) remarks that as for the halachah, the issue is valid only if the person comes to the synagogue just before mussaf, but if there is some time before mussaf, he should try to pray what is necessary of shacharis up to Shemoneh 'Esreh and when the congregation starts mussaf, he should start Shemoneh 'Esreh of shacharis. He is then considered as praying with the congregation, as Mishnah Berurah rules (90, S.K. 30) that someone who prays shacharis with a congregation that prays mussaf is considered as praying with the congregation as, after all, he is praying with a minyan. (We point out that that is the opinion of *Mishnah Berurah* but in *Beer Yitzchak* it is evident that someone who prays shacharis with a congregation praying mussaf is not considered as praying with the congregation and that, at any rate, he should pray mussaf first. See Eish Tamid, p. 542, in the name of HaGaon Rav Chayim of Brisk zt"l, according to which he can pray *shacharis* with the congregation and then the berachos of kerias Shema' and mussaf; see ibid and according to that perhaps he must do so).

DAILY MASHAL

In the 16th century, an innocent Jew was thrown in prison by a feudal baron who gave him a life sentence. For some reason, this tyrannical baron decided to show the man a bit of mercy. He told him, "Look Jew, you're my prisoner for life, there's nothing that will change that. But this I will do for you: I will grant you one day of freedom a year during which you can return to your family. Do whatever you want. I don't care which day you choose. But remember, you have only one day a year."

The man was conflicted. Which day should he choose? Should he choose Rosh Hashanah, to hear the sounding of the shofar? Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year? Pesach, to celebrate a seder? His wedding anniversary?

This prisoner, not being able to make up his mind, wrote a letter to one of the rabbinic leaders of that generation, Rabbi David ben Zimra, known as the Radvaz (1479-1573), the spiritual leader of the Jewish community in Egypt, and then in Sefad. The prisoner asked for his advice.

The Radvaz said the prisoner should choose the first available day. Whatever it is, grab it now, don't wait — be it a holiday, a Shabbos, a Monday, or a Wednesday.

This, he based upon the ruling: We do not pass over an available mitzvah, even if there is one holier down the road.

