



PARSHAS MISHPATIM

Rav Mordechai Kalatsky
February 17, 23 | 26 Shevat, 5783



כִּי־תִרְאֶה חֲמֹר שֹׂנְאֶיךָ רֹבֵץ תַּחַת מְשָׁאוֹ וְחֹדְלֵת מֵעֵיב לוֹ עֵיב תַּעֲזֹב עִמּוֹ:
"IF YOU SEE THE DONKEY OF YOUR ENEMY STRUGGLING UNDER ITS BURDEN, WILL YOU DESIST FROM HELPING HIM? YOU SHALL REPEATEDLY HELP WITH HIM!" (Shemos 23:5)

There are two positive commandments related to helping the owner of an animal in distress. The first is an obligation to assist an owner in loading his animal when its burden has fallen off. The second is to assist the owner in unloading an animal struggling under its burden.

If a person is presented with both opportunities he should first unload the animal in distress and then load the other animal. The former is suffering while the latter can wait until it is reloaded. The Gemara (Bava Metzia 32b) discusses the following dilemma: if an animal of a friend is lying under its burden, while at the same time an animal of one's enemy needs to be loaded, which takes precedence? The Gemara answers one should help his enemy's animal in order to subdue one's evil inclination. Subduing one's impulse to hate a fellow Jew is of such importance that it takes precedence even over the obligation of unloading an animal. To subdue one's evil inclination one is required to help his 'enemy' before his friend.

What is puzzling, though, is why does performing a favor for one's enemy a method for removing hatred. Why not learn classic introspective Torah works? Likewise, the Tannaic work Derech Eretz Zuta states: "If one wishes to increase love for another person, he should exert himself to do the other person kindness."

We learn from here that when one does a favor for another person it creates a loving bond with that person. If a spouse feels that there is a rift in the relationship and wants to repair it before it gets out of hand he or she should follow the lesson of this parsha and do some favor or act of caring instead of waiting for an apology. This seemingly minor gesture will help remove the feelings of anger or resentment in one's heart and patch up the hard feelings.

This week, let us work on letting go of resentment and frustration by going out of our way to reach out and do for others. When this happens we will find joy, serenity and inner peace in all our interactions!

Have an inspiring Shabbos!

Rabbi Kalatsky

ZMANIM

Fri Erev Shabbos, Parshas Mishpatim, Feb 17
Shacharis 7 AM
Mincha 5:30 PM CL 5:26 PM

Shabbos, Feb 18
Shacharis 8:45 AM
Mincha 5:10 PM
Shabbos is over 6:36 PM

Sunday, Feb 19
Shacharis 8:30 AM
Mincha/Maariv 5:30 PM

Monday -Thursday, Feb 20-Feb 23
Tuesday & Wednesday Rosh Chodesh Adar
Shacharis 7 AM
Mincha 5:30 PM

Fri. Erev Shabbos, Parshas Terumah, Feb 24
Shacharis 7 AM
Mincha 5:35 PM CL 5:35 PM

HALACHIC INSIGHT

SORTING EVEN PART OF A MIXTURE IS A FORM OF BORER. IN MIXTURES OF FOOD AND WASTE, SELECTING ONLY PART OF THE FOOD OR REMOVING ONLY PART OF THE WASTE FALLS UNDER THE CATEGORY OF BORER. FOR EXAMPLE, IT IS FORBIDDEN TO REMOVE POTATOES FROM A CHOLENT TO EXPOSE THE MEAT AND BEANS.

ACCORDINGLY, IF ONE DESIRES ONLY THE MEAT FROM A CHOLENT, OR ONLY TOMATOES FROM A SALAD OR ALMONDS FROM A BOWL OF NUTS ONE MUST USE THE METHOD OF SELECTING THAT DOES NOT VIOLATE THE LAWS OF BORER.

THIS MELACHA APPLIES TO ALL FOOD ITEMS SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS. REMOVING WASTE FROM A SOLID OR REMOVING A FLY OR DIRT FROM A LIQUID, EVEN SEPARATING ONE LIQUID FROM ANOTHER IS A FORM OF BORER. AN EXAMPLE WOULD BE SKIMMING FAT FROM SOUP OR POURING EXCESS WATER FROM CHOLENT WOULD ALSO FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY.

THE PROHIBITION OF BORER ALSO APPLIES TO NON FOOD ITEMS. FOR EXAMPLE, SORTING CUTLERY, CHOOSING A PARTICULAR BENTCHER FROM A PILE OR SELECTING A SPECIFIC TOWEL FROM AN ASSORTMENT ARE ALL SUBJECT TO THE LAWS OF BORER AND MUST BE PREFORMED ONLY IN THE PERMITTED MANNER.

Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe & Esti Spiro on the birth of their son! May he grow to Torah, Chupa, and Ma'asim Tovim! Shalom Zochor will be at the home of Rabbi Chaim Gibber after 9 pm. The Bris l'yh will be on Monday, in Bais Yisroel after the 7 am Shacharis in the Kollel.

SHIURIM



Wednesdays 9am - Mesilas Yesharim (R. Kalatsky)

Thursdays 8pm- Jewish Concepts (R. Kalatsky)

Thursdays 9:15pm - Mishmar (R. Kalatsky)

Shabbos 8:15am - Parenting (John Ghermezian)

Shabbos Daf Yomi - 1 hour before Mincha (Zevi Segal)

Shabbos Nesivos Shalom - 50 minutes before Mincha - (Sender Russel)

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