בס"ד

MISHNAH YOMIT

VOLUME 24 · ISSUE 29 · PARASHAT VAYEITZE

Timing the Assessment

Recall that we have learnt for a white mark to be considered a *nega tzaraat*, it must be a particular shade of white. The *Mishnah* (2:2) teaches that the *kohen* can only inspect the white mark, to determine whether it is the required shade of white, at certain times of the day. These are the during the morning and afternoon. The *Bartenura* explains that this is learnt from the *pasuk* – "*le'chol mareh enei ha'kohen*". The *Chachamim* understand that just as the *kohen* must have clear vision with no physical impediments, so too the environment must also enable a clear view. If the day was cloudy or it was at midday when the sun is bright, that would also prevent the *kohen* from performing the assessment accurately. Consequently, the inspection cannot be performed at those times.

The *Minchat Chinnuch* (169:18) understanding that the law in our *Mishnah* is specifically regarding the inspection. In other words, the *Torah* was particular that it is performed when an accurate assessment can be made. The declaration that the individual is *tameh* or *tahor* can be performed even at nighttime.

We will learn that if a *kohen* does not know how to assess the *nega*, another person who does can make the assessment and instruct the *kohen* regarding what to say. The *Minchat Chinnuch* explains once again, that since the *Torah* was particular that the assessment should be clear, if it was performed by a person with clear vision, even a blind *kohen* would be able to then declare the individual *tameh* or *tahor* based on that assessment.[1]

The *Rambam* (*Negaim* 9:9) however rules that even the declaration of *tameh* or *tahor* must also be done during the day.

The *Gemara* (*Sanhedrin* 34b) however brings a *beraita* where *R' Meir* cites the *pasuk* "... and by their word, all disputes and all *nega*." He explains that the *pasuk* connects *dinim* to *negaim*. Just as the *negaim* are only during the daytime, so too passing judgements. The simple understanding of the *Gemara* is that it is referring to the ruling regarding *negaim* and not just the inspection.

The *Chazon Ish* (*Negaim* 4:5) elaborates. The *Gemara* required an extra *drash* to teach, with respect to *dinim*, that they can be carried out on a cloudy day, inside and other cases which are not allowed for *negaim*. This implies that without that *drash*, passing judgement would similarly be restricted. This only really makes sense if our *Mishnah* is not only talking about the time of the inspection, but also the *kohen's* ruling.

The *Chazon Ish* explains, based on the above, that it must be that the *horaah* – the ruling – must be done at the time of the *re'iyah*. It is not just a technical requirement, but rather he says they are *chad milta* – one and the same. That being the case, he explains that even though an unlearned *kohen* can be guided by someone else who knows how to assess a *nega*, he must still see the *nega*. He therefore disagrees with the *Minchat Chinnuch*, and the ruling could not be performed by a blind *kohen* since also needs to see the *nega*.

Yisrael Bankier

[1] The *Meiri* (*Sanhedrin* 34b) brings that this case is the subject of debate.

REVISION QUESTIONS

אהלות י"ח:ו'-י' נגעים א':א' – ב':ג'

- What is the law regarding one who travels outside Israel through the mountains? Through the sea? (י"ח:ו')
- What is a *Shunit*? (י"ח:ו')
- What is the law regarding fields in *Surya* with respect to *tumah, ma'asrot* and *shmittah*? (י"ח:ז')
- In what circumstances does a property occupied by a *goi* in *Eretz Yisrael* require checking for *tumah*? (What case is the exception?) (י"ח:ז')
- Provide the three opinions regarding the areas that required checking. (י"ח:ח')
- What are *itz't'vaniyot* and can they have the status of a *mador goyim*? (י"ח:ח')
- What does *R' Shimon ben Gamliel* rules does not have the status of *mador goyim*? (י"ח:ט')
- Which location was purified by the *Chachamim*? (י"ח:ט')
- Which location was purified by *Rebbi* and his *Beit Din*? (י"ח:ט')
- Which ten places do not have the status of *mador goi'im*? (י"ח:י')

- Explain the following statement: (א':א')

  מֵרֵאוֹת נְגָעִים שְׁנַיִם שֶׁהֵן אַרְבָּעָה...
- Explain the debate regarding the previous question. (א':א')
- Explain the debate regarding the colour of בהרת אדמדמת. (א':ב')
- Explain how the different colour *negaim* combine: (א':ג')
  - *Liftor*? (Include all cases.)
  - *Lehachlit*? (Include all cases.)
  - *Lehasgir*?
- How many *mar'ot negaim* do the following *Tana'im* maintain there are: (א':ד')
  - *R' Channinah segan Ha'Kohanim*?
  - *R' Dosa ben Harkinas*?
  - *Akavya ben Mehalalel*?
- According to *R' Channinah segan Ha'Kohanim* on which days does the *kohen* not inspect *negaim* and why? (א':ד')
- Who argues with *R' Channinah segan Ha'Kohanim*? (א':ד')
- In what ways is the other opinion more lenient? (א':ה')
- In what ways is the other opinion stricter? (א':ו')
- Explain the debate regarding how the colour of a *nega* is assessed with people that have varying natural skin colours. (ב':א')
- What are the two opinions regarding the time of day that a *nega* should be inspected? (ב':ב')
- Can a *kohen* that is blind in one eye inspect *negaim*? (ב':ג')
- If a house does not have windows, are windows created to allow natural light in for the purpose of inspecting its *negaim*? (ב':ג')

ONLINE SHIURIM

Yisrael Bankier
mishnahyomit.com/shiurim

Rabbi Reuven Spolter
mishnah.co

Rabbi Chaim Brown
www.shemayisrael.com/mishna/

Rabbi E. Kornfeld
Rabbi C. Brown
http://www.dafyomi.co.il/calendars/myomi/myomi-thisweek.htm

APPS

Mishnah Yomit
mishnahyomit.com

All Mishnah
Orthodox Union

Mishna Yomi
Ohr Somayach, South Africa

Kehati

KOL HALOSHON

Rabbi Moshe Meir Weiss
In US dial: 718 906 6400
Then select: 1 – 2 – 4

NEXT WEEK'S MISHNAYOT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	שבת קודש
15 November · ה' כסלו	16 November · ו' כסלו	17 November · ז' כסלו	18 November · ח' כסלו	19 November · ט' כסלו	20 November · י' כסלו	21 November · י"א כסלו
Ohalot 18:6-7	Ohalot 18:8-9	Ohalot 18:10 - Negaim 1:1	Negaim 1:2-3	Negaim 1:4-5	Negaim 1:6-2:1	Negaim 2:2-3

Have a good Shabbos!