

Bava Basra - Simanim

Daf 10 – דף י – דף י

אם אלקיכם אוהב עניים הוא מפני מה אינו מפרנסן .1

Rebbe Meir would say that a wicked person could make an argument: אם אלקיכם אוהב עניים הוא אונים הוא - If your G-d loves the poor, מפני מה אינו מפרנסן – why does He not provide for them? Rebbe Meir says one should respond: – so that we should be saved from the punishment of Gehinnom through giving them tzedakah. Turnusrufus asked Rebbe Akiva this question, and Rebbe Akiva gave the same answer. But Turnusrufus objected that on the contrary, giving tzedakah should condemn you to גיהנם! For it is like a king who became angry at his servant and imprisoned him, and ordered that he should not be fed; if someone feeds him, will the king not be angry at him? And Jews are called "עבדים" of Hashem! Rebbe Akiva responded that it is like a king who imprisoned his son, and someone fed him despite the king's orders, כששמע המלך לא המלך לא – דורון משגר לו – when the king hears about it, does he not send him a present? And Jews are called "בנים" of Hashem. Turnusrufus argued that now, when they are not doing Hashem's will, they are only called servants, but Rebbe Akiva countered that a passuk teaches to give tzedakah at all times.

חסרונותיו של אדם קצובין לו מראש השנה .2

3. The charity of nations is a sin for them, giving tzedakah for ulterior motives

Rebbe Yochanan ben Zakkai asked his talmidim the meaning of the *passuk*: צדקה תרומם גוי וחסד לאומים חטאת – *charity exalts a nation, and the kindness of nations is a sin*. Rebbe Eliezer said the first (singular) phrase refers to Yisroel, who are called "גוי אחד" – *a unique nation*, and the second teaches: כל צדקה וחסד שאומות – *all the charity and kindness which the idolatrous nations perform*, חטא הוא להן – *it is a sin for them,* שאינם עושין אלא להתגדל בו – *because they only perform* them to live longer. The Gemara asks that a Baraisa teaches that one who gives *tzedakah* "בשביל שיחיו בני" – *so that my sons should live*, or to merit עולם , is a או צדיק גמור so a Jew, who gives the *tzedakah* wholeheartedly. Other motives were suggested as the sin of idolatrous nations' *tzedakah*: (1) כדי שתמשך מלכותן – *to rebuke* and mock *us through it*.

Siman – Minyan of Yidden

The Minyan of Yidden who gave tzedakah to the poor as if they were the king's sons, was surprised when one erev Yom Kippur government agents came and seized seventeen dinarim from one of their members and were not impressed when one of the agents told them that he gives tzedakah to live longer.

DAF 10 | דף י

Minyan of Yidden

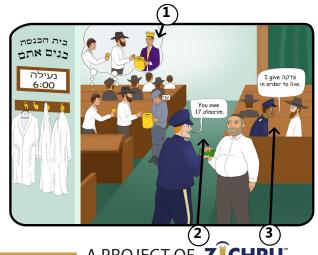




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things to remember

- 1. אם אלקיכם אוהב עניים הוא מפני מה אינו מפרנסן
- חסרונותיו של אדם . 2 קצובין לו מראש השנה
- 3. The charity of nations is a sin for them, giving tzedakah for ulterior motives



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