

Menachos – Simanim

פרק ט – כל קרבנות הצבור

Daf 84 – דף פד – 84

1. Using *shemittah* produce for the עומר, rather than last year's crop

A Mishnah states: שומרי ספיחין בשביעית – *the watchmen of the aftergrowths of [shemittah]* who guard the barley for the עומר, שומרי ספיחין בשביעית – *take their pay from funds removed from the treasury chamber* (which was designated for קרבנות ציבור). Rami bar Chama asked Rav Chisda how the עומר, which is completely burned, could be brought from *shemittah* produce, about which the Torah says "לאכלה" – *it is yours for eating*, ולא לשריפה – *but not for burning!*? Rav Chisda replied: רחמנא אמר לך לדורותיכם – *The Torah says the עומר is an eternal decree for your generations*, ואת אמרת תיבטל – *and you say it should be canceled during shemittah?*! Rami bar Chama explained that he meant they should use barley from the previous year. The Gemara answers that ברמל תקריב – *fresh kernels you shall offer* implies they must be fresh at the time of offering, which last year's crop is not. Rebbe Yochanan also made this *derashah*, but Rebbe Elazar *darshened* "ראשית קצירך" – *the first of your harvest*, to require the עומר to be brought from the first of the new crop's harvest, ולא סוף קצירך – *and not from the end of the previous year's harvest*. A Baraisa disproves Rebbe Yochanan's *derashah*.

2. ביכורים may not be brought from low-quality produce, *machlokes* if one did

A Mishnah teaches that ביכורים may only be brought from the שבעת המינים. It may not be brought מתמרים שבהרים – *from dates of the mountains*, נסר מפירות שבעמקים – *from grain of the valley*, both of which are of inferior quality. עולא says: אם הביא לא קידש – *if one brought ביכורים from such produce, he did not sanctify them*, and his designation is ineffective. Below, the Gemara quotes Rebbe Yochanan ruling like עולא, but Reish Lakish says: אם הביא קדש – *if one brought such produce, he did sanctify it*; נעשה ככחוש בקדשים – *it becomes like a lean animal among korbanos*, that although a *korban* must be brought from one's choicest animals, if he designated an inferior animal as a *korban*, it is effective. Rebbe Elazar explains Rebbe Yochanan's opinion: the *passuk* says ביכורים should be brought "מראשית" – *"from" the first*, ולא כל ראשית – *but not all the first*, and "מארצך" – *"from" your land*, ולא כל ארצך – *but not all your land*, implying that inferior produce is completely disqualified from ביכורים. A Baraisa supports Reish Lakish's opinion, and Rebbe Yochanan concedes that it is a *machlokes* Tannaim.

3. הלחם שתי precedes all *menachos* and ביכורים to be brought from the new crop

A Baraisa discussing the הלחם שתי of Shavuot *darshens*: "קרבן ראשית" – *a first-fruit offering*, implying שתהא ראשית – *that it should be first to all the menachos* from the new crop. Not only do the הלחם שתי precede all *menachos* of wheat, but they even precede all *menachos* made of barley, based on an extra "חדשה". They even precede ביכורים, because the *passuk* says וחג שבעות תעשה לך בכורי קציר חטים – *and you shall make for yourself the festival of weeks, the first fruits of the wheat harvest*. Another *passuk* teaches that they also precede ביכורים of barley. The Baraisa proceeds to *darshens* that the הלחם שתי not only precede ביכורים from grains which were planted, but even from those which grew on their own. They also precede שבגג ושבחורבה ושבעיץ ושבספינה – *those which grew on a roof, in a ruin, in a flowerpot, or on a boat*, which are of inferior quality, because the *passuk* says בכורי כל – *barley of everything* – *the first fruits of everything that is in their land*. Finally, a *gezeirah shavah* teaches that the הלחם שתי also precede נסכים and ביכורים from fruits of the tree.

Siman – Spaceship Launch Pad

On the **spaceship launch pad** where a freshly harvested crate labeled "שביעית\עומר" – **New Crop Only, Not Last Year's** was rushed onto the rocket, while a supervisor **rejected a box of low-quality ביכורים as another argued it might still count**, two giant loaves labeled "שתי הלחם" – **Must Launch First** were sent up **ahead of all the other ביכורים and מנחות**.



On the **spaceship launch pad** where a freshly harvested crate labeled “שביעית עומר—New Crop Only, Not Last Year’s” was rushed onto the rocket, while a supervisor rejected a box of low-quality **ביכורים** as another argued it might still count, two giant loaves labeled “שתי הלחם—Must Launch First!” were sent up ahead of all the other **מנחות** and **ביכורים**.

3 things to remember

1. Using *shemittah* produce for the **עומר**, rather than last year’s crop
2. **ביכורים** may not be brought from low-quality produce
3. **שתי הלחם** precedes all *menachos* and **ביכורים** to be brought from the new crop

