

**Sefirat HaOmer**  
**27 Nissan 5782**  
**28 April 2022**  
**Esther Wein**

**This shiur is dedicated to a very dear long standing talmida  
Dale Pianko who died suddenly this morning in Florida  
Dina Esther bat Yitzchak.  
May her memory be for a blessing**

### **Sefirat HaOmer and the Sefirot**

The Torah (Vayikra 23:15) states that there is a mitzvah to count (the days and weeks) for a period of seven weeks in conjunction with the offering of the korban ha'omer. This counting is known as sefirat ha'omer. The Gemara, Menachot 66a, states that there is a mitzvah to count the days as well as the weeks.

#### **Taanit 8b**

וַאֲמַר רַבִּי יִצְחָק: אֵין הַבְּרָכָה מְצוּיָה אֶלָּא בְּדָבָר הַסְמוּי מִן הָעֵין, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר: "יֵצוּ ה' אֶתְךָ אֶת הַבְּרָכָה בְּאֶסְמֶיךָ".  
תָּנָא דְּבִי רַבִּי יִשְׁמַעֵאל: אֵין הַבְּרָכָה מְצוּיָה אֶלָּא בְּדָבָר שֶׁאֵין הָעֵין שׁוֹלֵטֶת בּוֹ, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר: "יֵצוּ ה' אֶתְךָ אֶת  
הַבְּרָכָה בְּאֶסְמֶיךָ".

Rabbi Yitzhak said: A blessing is found only in an object that is hidden [samui] from the eye, not in an item visible to all, as public miracles are exceedingly rare. As it is stated: "The Lord will command His blessing upon you in your barns [ba'asamekha]" (Deuteronomy 28:8). Rabbi Yitzhak's exposition is based on the linguistic similarity between *samui* and *asamekha*. Likewise, the school of Rabbi Yishmael taught: A blessing is found only in an object that is not exposed to the eye, as it is stated: "The Lord will command". His blessing upon you in your barns

Bracha does not befall that which is defined as its own entity.

What does this principle help us think about counting Sefirat HaOmer?

**– M'ameir (Gathering)**

In the construction of the Mishkan, m'ameir (gathering) involved binding sheaves together; it is the fourth of the 11 agricultural melachos. For practical purposes, m'ameir involves any collecting of scattered produce. It doesn't have to be fruit, though—anything that grows from the ground is subject to m'ameir. For example, the m'kosheish eitzim (gatherer of sticks) who desecrated Shabbos in parshas Shlach (Number 15:32) might have been guilty of m'ameir (although he might have been guilty of kotzeir for breaking the sticks off of trees – see Talmud [Shabbos 96b](#)).

Counting from one to ONE

Running bamboo Vs Clumping Bamboo

49 “levels of Tumah”

#### Pesach 22- Ani Vlo Malach

More specifically, the seven weeks between Pesach and Shavuot correspond to the Seven Sefiros, a spiritual reality mostly unfathomable to us. Zechariah Hanavi speaks of “seven eyes,” and of “the eyes of Hashem roving over the entire earth” (4:10). The Malbim and others explain that this is a metaphorical reference to the Seven Sefiros, or attributes, with which Hashem created the world and with which He governs the world.

The Seven Sefiros are: Chesed, Gevurah, Tiferes, Netzach, Hod, Yesod, and Malchus. They're derived from the verse we recite daily, “To You Hashem, belong the greatness (chesed), the strength (gevurah), the harmony (tiferes), the eternity (netzach), the beauty (hod), for all that is in the heavens and the earth (yesod, foundation) is Yours, and Yours is the kingdom (malchus)” ([Divrei Hayamim I, 29:11](#)).

It is also customary to learn the ethical teachings of Pirkei Avot during this period of self-improvement in anticipation of Shavuot. This is in fulfillment of the dictum, "*derech erez kadma l'Torah*" – "good character traits are a prerequisite for Torah". This particularly applies to the 48 ways of acquiring Torah enumerated in the 6th chapter where each of these ways corresponds to one of each of the 49 days, and the 49th day is a culmination, synthesis and review of all of them together in preparation for receiving the Torah!



