

Menachos – Simanim

פרק ד - התכלת

דף 39 – לט

1. קשר עליון דאורייתא

Rabbah says we can prove *the upper knot of tzitzis is a Biblical requirement* (meaning, *tzitzis* must be tied to the garment with at least one knot): had the requirement only been Rabbinical, מאי איצטריך למישרי – *why was it necessary for the Torah to permit a linen cloak with woolen tzitzis* (i.e., a *derashah* teaching to attach *tzitzis*, including the woolen תכלת, onto all garments, including linen ones, thus overriding the שטטנ prohibition)? If it is not required מדאורייתא to tie the *tzitzis* onto the garment, פשיטא – *it is obviously* permitted to use woolen *tzitzis* for a linen garment without tying it, because התוכף תכיפה אחת אינו חיבור – *if one stitches wool to linen with a single stitch, it is not considered an attachment*, and would not violate שטטנ! Since the Torah needed to permit woolen *tzitzis* on a linen garment, it proves that they must be tied on with a knot, and would transgress the שטטנ prohibition.

2. Forming the *tzitzis* as גדיל – *braids* and פתיל – *loose threads*

Rabbah quoted Shmuel, though others quoted it from Rav: תכלת שכרך רובה כשרה – *if most of the techeiles was braided* (i.e., two-thirds of the *tzitzis* were braided and one-third loose), *it is valid*. Rav also said: ונויי תכלת שלישי גדיל – *the beauty of techeiles is to have one third braid and two thirds fringe*. A man was once wearing a garment made entirely of *techeiles*, and its *tzitzis* were completely braided, with no loose threads. Rav said: יאי – *the garment is fitting, but the techeiles is not fitting*, since it lacks loose threads. Rabbah bar bar Channah said: יאי גלימא ויאי תכלתא – *the garment is fitting, and the techeiles is fitting*. The Gemara explains that he holds that since the *passuk* describes *tzitzis* as "גדיל" – *braid* and elsewhere as "פתיל" – *thread*, we derive that *tzitzis* may be פתיל או גדיל – *either entirely braided or entirely loose thread*. Rav holds that loose threads are always required, and the word "גדילים" teaches the number of threads required in *tzitzis*. The singular "גדיל" would indicate two threads (for a braid), the plural "גדילים" indicates four threads, and the additional term "פתיל" teaches עשה גדיל ופותריהו מתוכו – *make a braided fringe and let loose threads emerge from within it*.

3. *Tzitzis* of צמר or פשתן for garments of the opposite type, or other materials

Levi said: חוטי צמר פוטרין בשל פשתן – *woolen threads release a garment made of linen* from its white thread *tzitzis* obligation. The Gemara asks: does this only apply to white threads of wool, since the תכלת threads must certainly be wool despite being שטטנ with the linen garment, but פשתים – *linen* threads would not be permitted for a woolen garment? Or, since the prohibition of צמר ופשתים יחדו – *wool and linen together* is written near the *mitzvah* of *tzitzis*, it permits even פשתן threads in a צמר garment? Rav Yehudah says that either צמר or פשתן can be used for *tzitzis* in the opposite type of garment, and can be used for any other material. Rava posed a contradiction between *pesukim*: "הכנף" – *the tzitzis of the corner* implies that *tzitzis* threads should be made from כנף – *the same type of material as the corner* (i.e., the garment itself), but elsewhere the *passuk* specifies צמר and פשתים, implying wool and linen should be used for all types of garments. He concludes that צמר and פשתים can be used for all materials, and any material may be used as *tzitzis* in their own type of garment, but not for others.

Siman – Letter (Mailman)

The *tzitzis* wearing Jewish mailman who made sure the upper knot of his *tzitzis* was tight since דאורייתא and made sure that his *tzitzis* were one third braided and two thirds fringe, was delivering a package of wool *tzitzis* to the man who was going to put them on his linen garment.

דף לט | DAF 39

(Letter (Mailman)



The tzitzis wearing Jewish **mailman** who made sure the upper knot of his tzitzis was tight since **קשר עליון דאורייתא** and made sure that his tzitzis were **one third braided and two thirds fringe**, was delivering a package of wool tzitzis to the man who was going to put them on his linen garment.

3 things to remember

1. קשר עליון דאורייתא
2. Forming the **tzitzis** as גדיל – braids and פתיל – loose threads
3. **Tzitzis** of צמר or פשתן for garments of the opposite type, or other materials

