



Points to Ponder

הערות של רב יחיאל גרינהויז

THE SIXTH PEREK OF YEVAMOS IS DEDICATED:

לע"נ גרשון בן החבר מרדכי

YEVAMOS DAF 61 IS DEDICATED:

IN HONOR OF RABBI ZACHARIA ADLER

יבמות דף סא

1. The Gemara quotes ר"ש בר יוחאי who said that the graves of non-Jews aren't מטמא באהל. Why didn't he say that a body of a Non-Jew is not מטמא באהל as opposed to talking about the graves? (Especially since we learn it from the פסוק אדם כי ימות which talks about the actual נפטר באהל).
2. A כהן גדול who was engaged to a widow and was then appointed to be a כהן גדול can marry her. The משנה brings a story about יהושע בן גמלא who was engaged to a widow and was appointed by the king to be a כהן גדול and married the widow. Why does the משנה bring this story knowing that this was not a regular (legitimate appointment)? Would it be better if a כהן גדול doesn't follow through with marrying a widow in such a case?
3. Further to the above if it's a case of יבום whereby a כהן's brother died without kids and his widow is a יבמה to his brother who is then appointed a כהן גדול, he can't marry her, even if he already did מאמר. Why don't we say אשה הקנו לו משמים? Would this same din apply if we hold ככנוסה זיקה?
4. קטנה. Why didn't they ask how one can marry a קטנה. Why didn't they also ask about זקנה?

5. תוס' ד"ה וכן הוא אומר והנערה טובת מראה מאד ask the following; it would seem from this גמרא that רבקה was a נערה yet the מדרש says that she was 3 years old. Since the Torah explicitly describes רבקה as a נערה throughout, why does תוס' say that it would seem this way from the גמרא, instead of asking directly from the פסוק?

6. בית שמאי say that one needs to have two boys in order to fulfil their obligation of פרו ורבו. They bring a proof from משה רבינו. Since משה רבינו had these children before מתן תורה how do we know that they still count towards the מצוה? (Even if a non Jew who converted can count children born prior to the conversion, this is only now that we already have the תורה).

If you have any comments or suggestions please email me at

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לע"נ אבי מורי הרב יעקב בן ר' קיים משה יצחק ז"ל

רפואה שלימה לרב רפאל צבי ליפא בן אסתר רכאל