

Review Questions on Lessons 1-4 Makos Daf 2a-b:

1)

(a) Our Mishnah discusses how witnesses become Zom'min. What are Eidim Zom'min?

(b) What punishment do Eidim Zom'min generally receive?

(c) What punishment would one therefore expect them to receive if they testified ...

1. ... that Reuven, a purported Kohen, is the son of a divorcee or of a Chalutzah?

2. ... that Shimon is Chayav Galus (obliged to go to exile)?

(d) What punishment does the Tana actually prescribe?

(e) In the former case, how can the witnesses possibly testify with certainty that the Kohen was the son of a divorcee?

2)

(a) What is strange about the Tana's words "Keitzad he'Eidim Na'asin Zom'min" ('How do witnesses become Zomemim')?

(b) What else is strange about the Mishnah's question, in view of the Mishnah later that says 'Aval Amru lahem He'ach Atam Me'idin ...' ('But if they say to him how could you testify...')?

3)

(a) In answer to these questions, we explain that the Tana refers directly to a Mishnah in 'Eilu hein ha'Nechnakin' in Sanhedrin. What does the Mishnah there say about Zom'mei bas Kohen u'Bo'alah (false witnesses about a daughter of a Kohen who adulterated with a man)?

(b) What is our Mishnah then coming to add?

(c) How does Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi extrapolate the first law in our Mishnah from the Pasuk in Shoftim "va'Asisem lo Ka'asher Zamam La'asos le'Achiv" ("and do to him as he attempted to do to his brother")?

(d) So why not simply declare the witnesses Pasul and not their children?

4)

(a) bar Pada learns the law in our Mishnah from a 'Kal va'Chomer' from a Mechalel. What is the case of 'Mechalel'?

(b) How does he learn it from there?

(c) On what grounds do we reject bar Pada's source, and revert to that of Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi?

5)

(a) What does Resh Lakish learn from the Pasuk in Parshas Shoftim "Hu Yanus el Achas he'Arim ..." ("He will flee to one of the cities")?

(b) How does Rabbi Yochanan learn it from a 'Kal va'Chomer'?

(c) On what grounds do we query the 'Kal-va'Chomer', forcing us to learn like Resh Lakish?

6)

(a) What does Ula mean when he speaks of a hint in the Torah for Eidim Zom'min?

(b) What problem does he have with the Pasuk in Ki Seitzei "ve'Hitzdiku es ha'Tzadik, ve'Hirshi'u es ha'Rasha; ve'Hayah Im bin Hakos ha'Rasha" ("then they shall justify the righteous, and condemn the wicked. And it shall be, if the wicked man deserves to be beaten")?

(c) So how does he interpret it?