

We find many places in the Torah where firstborn children are considered special. One example is the male firstborn animal (בְּכוֹר) born to a cow, sheep or go-at. This animal is considered to be holy and is given to a considered to be holy and is given to a considered to be holy and is given to a considered to be holy and is given to a considered to be holy and is given to a<math>considered to be holy and is given to aany other type of regular meat. Whether or not theanimal has a permanent <math>considered to be an expert.

רא טוקצה רוא אלא

A מָקְצָה is מָקְצָה (set aside from use) on Festivals since before the Festival began, one did not intend to eat it, but rather to offer it as a sacrifice.

If a בְּכוֹר animal had a permanent מום before the Festival began, it would not be מַקְאָה since a כָּהָן may slaughter it for food on the Festival.

The מְשְׁנָה talks about a blemished בְּכוֹר animal that falls into a pit on a Festival. In this case, it has a blemish but has not yet been examined by an expert to see if it is permanent or temporary.

On the one hand, the blemish may be temporary and the animal, מַקְצָה meaning it may not be moved out of the pit. On the other hand, the בְּכוֹר may have a permanent blemish making it not מָקַצָה. The animal then may be removed from the pit.

אום says, an expert may be lowered in to check if the animal has a permanent מום. If it does, it is not מַקַאָר We may raise it out of the pit and slaughter it for the Festival.

לבי שָׁמְעוֹן does not allow the expert to examine the animal. After all, if the expert says the blemished animal may be used, it is as if the expert has "fixed" the creature – and activity

not allowed on a Festival!





Did You Know...

In the time of the גְּמָרָא, many texts were quoted from memory. Some sages quoted texts more accurately than others and were more trusted in quoting sources accurately. One of these sages was רַב אוֹשַעיַא.

DAF YOMI 4 KIDS

Page 50 ביצה דף כו

ה למקצה for Part of a Day

Anything that cannot be used on the Sabbath or יוֹם טוֹב (Festival) is called "מִקְשָׁה"," or "set aside," because they are "set aside" from being used on these holy days.

The Talmudic sage, רָבָא was asked, if something is מִקְצֶה for part of the Sabbath, does it stay מֵקְצֶה for the rest of the Sabbath?

> For example, if figs were edible when the Sabbath began but during the Sabbath it rained and made them unfit for eating. Later on the Sabbath, the figs dried out and become

edible again, may they be eaten? Or do we say that since the figs could not be eaten (and were מְקְצֶה) when they were wet in the middle of the Sabbath, they are *still* מִקְצֶה even when they dry off and become edible?

רְבָא rules that the figs may be eaten once they become dry again. This is because if something was not מִקְצֶה when the Sabbath began, it does not become מִקְצֶה for the entire Sabbath even if it became מִקְצֶה for part of the Sabbath.

A-Moment

"Hey, Itzy, the synagogue is trying to collect toys for poor kids. Do you have anything to donate?"

"I'll have to look in my closet to see if I have any old junk to give," Itzy said.

"It's not nice to just give old junk to kids who don't have toys. We learn that an animal with a blemish may not be sacrificed. This is because we should be giving only our best to Hashem and to His causes, like charity. Don't donate something that is poor quality; donate your best!"

(based on רלבייג דברים יז, התועלת החמישי)

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FIND ביצה ביצה מום וקצה וקצה רבא כהן

Review Questions – בִּיצָה דַּף כ"ו

- 1. What must usually be done with a firstborn male animal?
- 2. Can something be מֵקְצָה for part of a holy day?

3. Which sage quoted sources very accurately?

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