

מסכת
חגיגה
דף כז

DAF YOMI4 KIDS

Inside the Daf

גיהנם (Gehenna) is a place where souls are punished after they perish from this world. גיהנם is usually described as being very hot.

רבי אבהו says in the name of רבי אליעזר that the fire of גיהנם has no effect on Torah scholars.

We can see this is true if we consider the case of the סלמנדרא, a creature created from a fire that has been left burning in one spot for seven years. A סלמנדרא is created from fire, and yet, if one covers oneself with its blood, we are told fire cannot affect his body. Then all the more so, Torah scholars who burn with an inner fire, will not be affected by the fires of גיהנם.

ריש לקיש says that the fires of גיהנם do not affect some types of Jewish sinners. We see this from the מזבח הזהב, the Golden Altar, which was in the בית המקדש (Holy Temple). It was very thin, barely the thickness of a golden coin, but for years fire burned on top of it without wearing it out. All the more so, Jewish people who, even if they sin, are full of מצוות (commandments) like a pomegranate is filled with seeds, all the more so will not be worn by גיהנם fires.

A מידות Moment

"Harry, can my cousin stay at your house for a few days?"

"Sure! After all, inviting and feeding guests in one's home is such an important thing that it atones for one's sins just like the Altar did in the Holy Temple."

WORD OF THE DAY:



רַחֲמָנָא

"HASHEM (LIT. THE MERCIFUL ONE)"



Did You Know...

When the בית המקדש (Holy Temple) stood, the מזבח (Altar) would atone for the Jewish people. Now that the Temple is gone, a person's table atones for his sins through its part in the commandment of feeding and inviting guests.



רבי אבהו led the rabbinical academy at Caesarea, a coastal city known for its Roman aqueducts

Who: An Amora

When: c. 4029 (c.279 CE)

Where: Caesarea, Israel

Teachers: רבי יוחנן

Contemporaries: רבי אטי, קטיא בר אבא, רבי אטי

Famous Quote: "One should always be persecuted rather than a persecutor."
(בבא קמא צ.ג.)

Wise, handsome, wealthy and possessing a great sense of humor, רבי אבהו was a respected leader with both Jews and gentiles. He learned Greek so that he could communicate better with the non-Jewish authorities of his time. He was able to intervene with these authorities to save the lives of רבי אבא, קטיא בר אבא, רבי אטי, אטי accepted the leadership of the rabbinical academy at Caesarea.

רבי אבהו also possessed extraordinary humility. Early in his career when he was offered a teaching position, he turned it down and instead recommended a more needy friend for the job. This was part of רבי אבהו's teaching that one should sympathize with one's fellow in his troubles and celebrate his joys.

In the times of the Talmud, rabbis' classes were repeated and announced by an interpreter. Once, the wife of רבי אבהו's interpreter bragged about her husband's greatness. Instead of being offended, רבי אבהו shrugged off the insult by saying, "What difference does it make which one of us is greater? As long as heaven is glorified through both of us!"

When רבי אבהו died, we are told even the statues of Caesarea shed tears.

הדרו עלך מסכת חגיגה

חגיגה דף כ"ז – Review Questions

1. Name someone who is protected from the fires of גיהנום.

2. What is a famous saying of רבי אבהו?

3. Now that the בית המקדש (Holy Temple) is gone, what atones for one's sins?

Games

GEMATRIA CODE:

Write the Hebrew letter for each number and find...

A CREATURE

01 200 04 50 40 30 60