

מסכת מגילה דף לב

DAF YOMI⁴ KIDS

Inside the Daf

Before we read from the Torah at synagogue, a man is called up to recite a blessing.

A בְּרִיתָא teaches exactly what is done. A person is called up to the Torah. He opens the Torah scroll and sees the section that will be read. According to רַבִּי מְאִיר, he rolls the Torah scroll closed and recites the blessing. The Torah is re-opened and read. According to רַבִּי יְהוּדָה, the Torah scroll is not rolled closed and the blessing is recited over the open scroll.

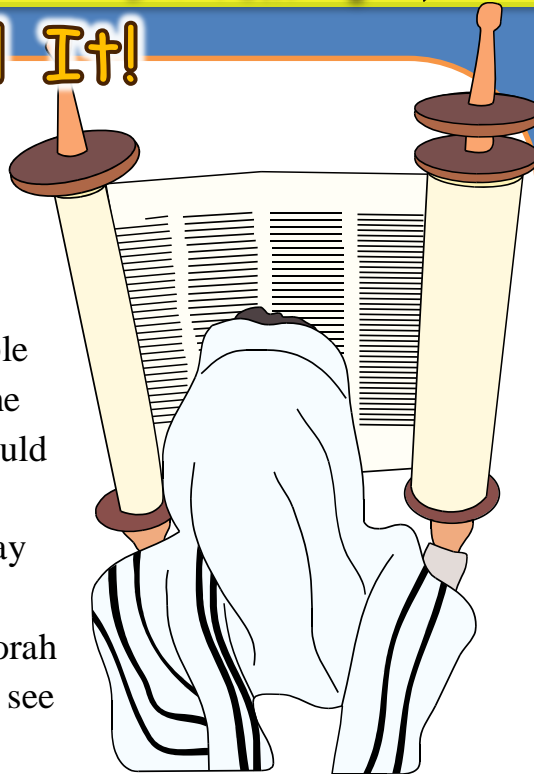
רַבִּי עוֹלָא explains the רַבִּי מְאִיר's reason for ruling that the Torah blessing is made over a closed scroll. If the Torah scroll is left open during the blessing, people will think that the blessings themselves are written in the Torah. It will appear as if the person reciting the blessings is reading them from inside the scroll. The reader should therefore close the scroll so that onlookers don't make this mistake.



רַבִּי יְהוּדָה says that the Torah scroll should stay open for the blessings because everyone knows they are not written inside the scroll.

The גְּמָרָא ends by quoting רַבִּי זִיְרָא (in the name of רַב מְתֵנָה) that the correct procedure is to open the scroll, look at the section that will be read and recite the blessing without closing the scroll.

Roll It!



A מְדוּת Moment

"Hey Thomas," said Nathan, "do you wanna come over tonight and study for tomorrow's גְּמְרָא test with me?"

"That's okay, Nathan," said Thomas, "I think I'll study for the test by myself."

"You know," said Nathan, "the גְּמְרָא says that two Torah scholars who live in the same town should discuss matters of Jewish law with each other. By studying together we sharpen each other and benefit from each other's insights. Who knows? If we review for the test together, maybe I'll remember something you forgot, or you'll remember something I forgot."

After the Torah is read in the synagogue, it is opened, lifted up for all to see and rolled closed.

רַב שְׁפָטִיָּה says when ten people gather for a Torah reading, the greatest one among them should be honored with rolling the Torah scroll closed. (Some say that רַב שְׁפָטִיָּה means that the greatest one should *lift* the Torah scroll for the congregation to see [see משנה ברורה קמז,ה]).

In fact, says רַב שְׁפָטִיָּה, the one who rolls the Torah scroll closed receives a Heavenly reward equal to everyone together who had a part in reading from the Torah that day.

רַב שְׁפָטִיָּה also teaches that when the scroll is rolled back together, the seam that connects one piece of Torah parchment to the other should be positioned right at the center between the two rolls of the Torah scroll. This makes sure the scroll is tightened well.

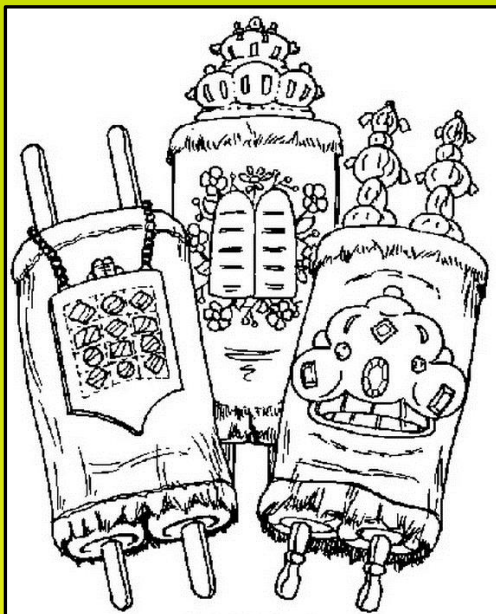


Did You Know...

מֹשֶׁה (Moses) made a decree for the Jewish people that they should ask about and study about each Festival on its day (for example, to study about Passover on Passover, etc.)

Games

תְּדַרְדְּרוּ עִלְדָּךְ מִסֵּכֶת מִגִּילָה



Find 'em!

- 4 tablets
- 7 flowers
- 2 crowns
- Breastplate
- A chain
- 18 jewels
- 4 rolls
- 10 Commandments

Review Questions – מגילה דף ל"ב

1. According to רַבֵּי זִינְרָא should the Torah scroll be opened or closed when the blessings are made?

2. Which honor should be given to the greatest person at a Torah reading?

3. At what time did מֹשֶׁה (Moses) decree to study about each Festival?