

מסכת  
 סוּפָה  
 דף מג

# DAF YOMI 4 Kids

## Inside the Daf

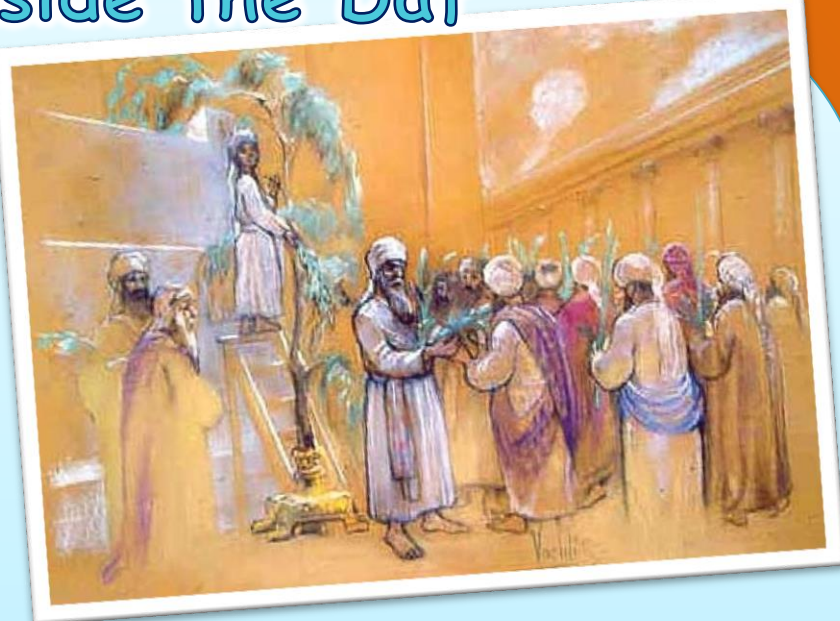
In the days of the בית המקדש (Holy Temple), עֲרֵבוֹת (willow branches) were carried around the Temple altar every day of the סוּפּוֹת festival. On the seventh day of the holiday, the עֲרֵבוֹת circled the altar seven times.

Were the עֲרֵבוֹת carried around the altar on the Sabbath? First we must understand that something that is not a כְּלִי, or utensil, may not be carried on the Sabbath. Since עֲרֵבוֹת are not "utensils" we should not be allowed to carry them on the Sabbath. However, the Sages decreed that we carry עֲרֵבוֹת around the altar when the seventh day of סוּפּוֹת falls on the Sabbath because this ceremony is so important.

The בְּיִיתוּסִים (Boethusians, see sidebar) did not agree with the circling ceremony and did what they could to stop it. They took the willow branches and hid them under rocks which may not be moved on the Sabbath because they are not "utensils."

Nevertheless, some local people unfamiliar with the prohibition of moving rocks on the Sabbath, removed the rocks and took out the עֲרֵבוֹת branches underneath.

The כֹּהֲנִים of the Temple took the branches, waved them and circled the altar with them on the Sabbath. When they finished this ceremony, they stood up the branches at the Altar's side.



### בְּיִיתוּסִים (Boethusians)

Followers of the heretic Boethus in the Second Temple era. The Boethusians did not believe in תּוֹרָה שְׁבֻעַל פִּי (Oral Torah) and did not accept the Rabbis' authority.

WORD OF THE DAY:

דחי

"PUSH IT ASIDE"

### Did You Know...



Our גְּמָרָא gives two other examples of holiday מִצְוֹת (commandments) we do not perform on the Sabbath: רֵאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה at שׁוּפָר (New Year) and reading the מְגִלָּה scroll at Purim.

# עֲרְבוֹת on the Sabbath

On the last page we learned that the עֲרְבוֹת were used to circle the altar in the בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ (Holy Temple) when the seventh day of סוכות fell on the Sabbath. Yesterday we learned that the לולב (palm branch) was not used on the Sabbath in the בֵּית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ.

Why do we perform the עֲרֵבָה ceremony on the Sabbath but do not use the לולב?

רבי יוחנן explains we want to make it known

that the עֲרֵבָה ceremony is a Torah law – not a rabbinic one. A Torah law may override the Sabbath but a rabbinic law may not.

The גמרא points out that לולב is a Torah law, too! So we should use it in the Temple on the

Sabbath! We answer that we are worried people will carry the לולב to the Temple through a public area on the Sabbath to take it to an expert to study its laws (carrying something in a public area is not allowed on the Sabbath.)

We are not worried עֲרְבוֹת will be taken to an expert through a public area on the Sabbath because, on Friday, the עֲרְבוֹת are given directly to the Temple כֹּהֲנִים who are knowledgeable of its laws.



## A Moment

"My dad gives a class to assimilated Jews who barely even know they're Jewish," said Uri to his friend Shemarya.

"Why would he waste his time doing that?" asked Shemarya.

"It's important to never abandon our assimilated brethren. The עֲרְבוֹת, which have no smell or good taste, represent Jews with no Torah knowledge or מִצְוָה observance. Nevertheless on the seventh day of סוכות we circle the Temple altar with these branches to show that they can reach great heights despite their shortcomings."

(מספר ארץ הצבי מהרב אריה צבי פרומר ז"ל)

## Games

### סוכה דף מ"ג – Review Questions

1. Who did not agree with taking עֲרְבוֹת on the Sabbath?

2. According to רבי יוחנן, why do we take עֲרְבוֹת on the Sabbath?

3. Give an example of מִצְוֹת we don't do on the Sabbath.

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