

שבת קודש, March 22, 2014
כ"א אדר ב' תשע"ד

מסכת סוּפָה דף מ"ז

DAF YOMI 4 KIDS

Inside the Daf

In the Land of Israel the סוכות holiday is seven days long. The "eighth day" is a separate holiday called "שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת" (literally, the "eighth day of gathering"). Unlike סוכות, on this holiday there is no מְצוּה to sit in a סוּפָה or to take the לולב bundle.



In the days of the מִשְׁנָה the בֵּית דִּין (Court) in Jerusalem would announce when the month began. Since people would know when the first day of the month was, they would know when exactly to celebrate סוכות and שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת (and the other holidays).

Only the people in the Land of Israel would know exactly when the month began. Jews living outside the Land were not sure when the holidays exactly began so they would celebrate each festival day for two days. Because of this, outside the Land of Israel, שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת is celebrated for two days. The first day of שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת may really be the seventh day of סוכות where we must sit in a סוּפָה, or it may be the eighth day that follows סוכות (שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת) where we do not have to sit in a סוּפָה.

Therefore, outside the Land of Israel we sit in a סוּפָה on the first day of שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת, just in case it really is the seventh day of סוכות, but we do not make a blessing for the מְצוּה of sitting in a סוּפָה. Just in case it is really the eighth day after סוכות, we don't want to recite a blessing in vain.

Did You Know...

Once, רַב הוּנָא בַר בִּיזְנָא, and all the great leaders of the generation spent the סוכות holiday in the pastures, far from town, with their grazing animals. When they returned to town for שְׁמִינִי עֶצְרַת, they sat in a סוּפָה but did not recite the blessing over that מְצוּה (commandment).

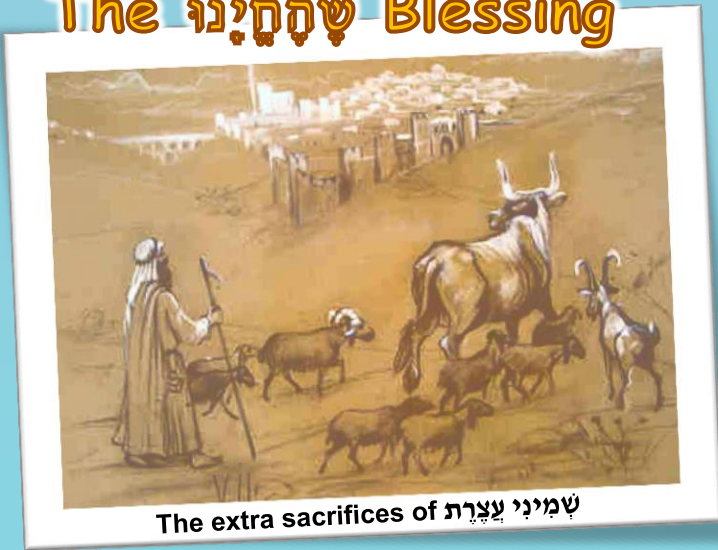


The שְׁהֲחִינוּ Blessing

At the beginning of a new holiday, we recite the "שְׁהֲחִינוּ" blessing. This blessing thanks Hashem for "giving us life and keeping us alive and bringing us to this season."

The sage רַבִּינָא teaches that even though the seventh day of Passover is a holiday, we do not recite the שְׁהֲחִינוּ blessing because it is not a *new* holiday from the rest of Passover. After all, nothing is done differently on the seventh day that hasn't been done on one of the other days of Passover.

On שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת, however, we do recite the שְׁהֲחִינוּ blessing as it is a new festival very different from the סוּכּוֹת holiday that it follows. רַב פָּפָא gives an example of how it is different: On שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת, only a single bull is offered on the Altar. On סוּכּוֹת many bulls are offered. רַב נְחֶמְן בַּר יִצְחָק notes that in the Torah, the days of סוּכּוֹת are introduced with the word "וּבַיּוֹם", "*and on the day*" whereas שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת is introduced with the word "בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁמִינִי", "*the eighth day*." Similarly, רַב אֲשִׁי notes that regarding סוּכּוֹת the Torah lumps all the days together telling us to observe them "כְּמִשְׁפָּטֵם", "*according to their laws*". The Torah separates שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת from סוּכּוֹת by telling us to observe it, "כְּמִשְׁפָּטֵי" "*according to its law*."



שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת The extra sacrifices of

WORD OF THE DAY:
לְמַעוֹטֵי
 "TO EXCLUDE"

A מְדוּת Moment

"Hey, guess what?" said Jared. "My teacher today chose me to tutor Melvin, a boy in our class who needs extra help. Isn't that great?"

"It sure is, Jared," said his mother. "I'm very proud of you. I can see you're happy to."

"I sure am," he said. "This will make my teacher like me more! I'll probably get more privileges."

"Jared," his mother frowned, "Do you remember that שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת is coming up soon? שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת comes from the word 'meaning, 'stop.' On שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת we have to 'stop' and look inside ourselves to make sure everything we do in life is for the sake of Hashem. Now, are you going to help Melvin just so your teacher will like you?"

"No," said Jared. "I'll help him because helping our fellow out is what Hashem wants us to do."

(כתב סופר במדבר כט, לה)

Games

Mystery Word

Use the clues from our *daf* to find the word in blue

"According to their laws"



Hut or booth



רַב _____ בַּר יִצְחָק



Court



Name of a sage



Name of a holiday



Review Questions – מ"ז – סוכה דף

1. In what countries do we sit in a סוּכָה on שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת?

2. Why do we not recite a שְׁהֲחִינוּ blessing on the seventh day of Passover?

3. What did רַב הוּנָא בַּר בִּינְיָאן *not* do when he returned to town for שְׁמִינֵי עֶצְרַת?
