

Inside The Daf

The **מִשְׁנֵה** (53b) taught us that the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** would enter the **קֹדֶשׁ הַקְּדוֹשִׁים** (Holy of Holies), stand in front of the **אֲרוֹן קֹדֶשׁ** (Holy Ark) and sprinkle the blood from his bull in the direction of the Ark, once above it, and seven times below it.

Our **גְּמָרָא** tells us that the sprinkling was done in the movement of a "**מַצְלִיף**," a whip. This means that each of the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל**'s sprinklings is a bit lower than the last, just like a whipper working for the Jewish court aims a bit lower each time he whips.

The **גְּמָרָא** also teaches us that when the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** would sprinkle the blood, he wouldn't let the blood land on the Ark or on its cover.

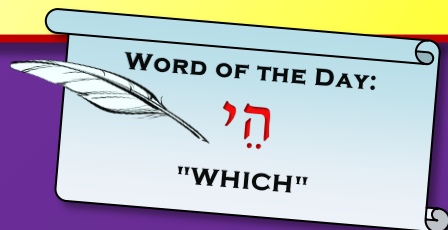
So when the Torah says the blood was sprinkled "**עַל הַכַּפֹּרֶת**," "*on top of the lid of the Ark*" (Lev. 16:15, ויקרא טז:טו), it really means "*above the lid*" with the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** sprinkling in an underhand motion causing the blood to fly a bit above the Ark (ר"ח).

When the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** sprinkled the blood seven times below the Ark, he would sprinkle in an overhand motion. Each of these seven sprinkling would be made lower than the last one.



Did You Know...

According to **רַבִּי אֶלְעָזָר**, the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** would count his sprinkling out loud so he wouldn't make a mistake and lose count. If the **כֹּהֵן גָּדוֹל** forgot to count but performed the sprinklings properly anyway, he does not need to sprinkle again while counting.



Count On It!

Quick - say "21"! Did you say "one and twenty" or "twenty-one"? You probably said "twenty-one." Where we live, we say the "general" part of the number first (20) and the "specific" part of the number (1), second. This was also the custom where רבי מאיר lived. According to him, when the כהן גדול would keep count of his sprinklings, he would count:

"One and one. One and two. One and three."

In רבי יהודה's town, people would count the "specific" part of the number first and the "general" part of the number, second. This means, "21" would be said "one and twenty." According to him, when the כהן גדול would keep count of his sprinklings, he would count: "One and one. Two and one. Three and one."

A מְדוּת Moment

Naftali was coming along well with his *bar mitzvah* practice. So well, in fact, he knew his Torah reading almost by heart. But sometimes he would go too fast and skip words.

"Follow along with your finger, Naftali," his *bar mitzvah* teacher would say. "You're skipping words."

Naftali didn't like following the reading with his finger. He thought that was for babies. He could follow just fine with his eyes.

"It's okay," Naftali would say, "I don't need to."

But Naftali would still skip some words. One day his teacher tried a different approach.

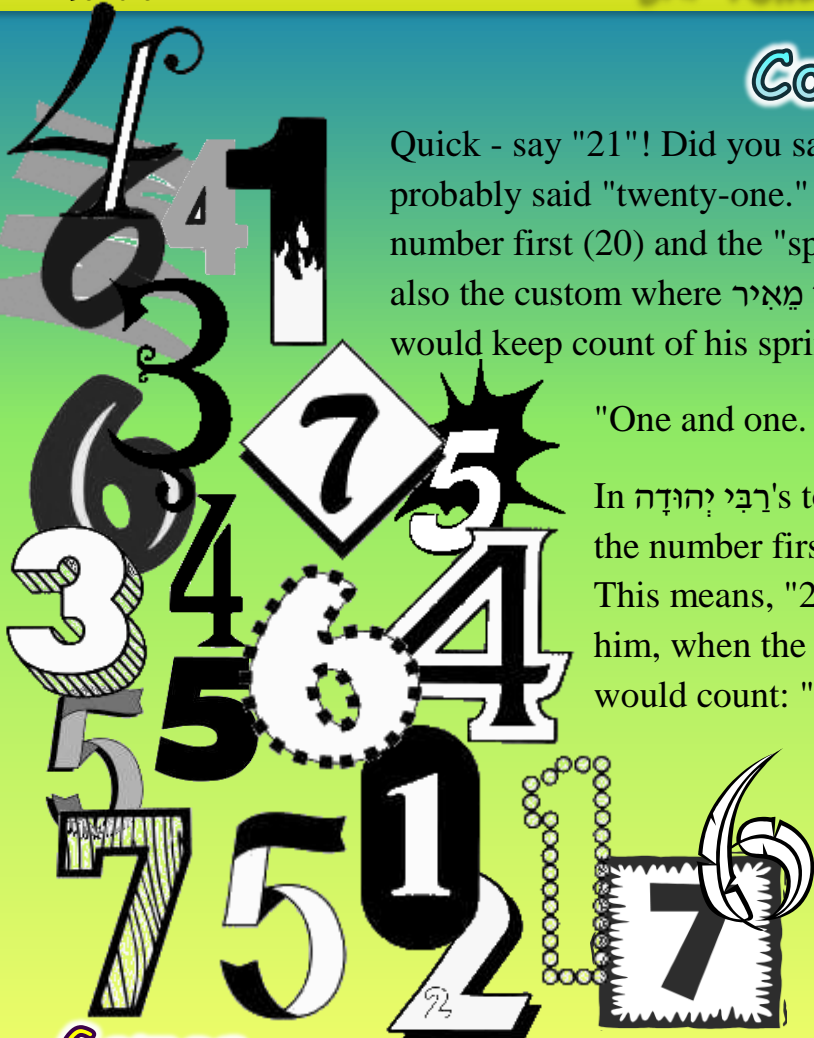
"You know your Torah reading so well, Naftali! You could probably do it in your sleep!"

Naftali blushed a little.

"You know Naftali," his teacher continued, "On כפור יום, the כהן גדול would also know the daily service very well. Still, when it came to sprinkling the blood one time upwards and seven times downwards in front of the ארון, he had to count along. This was so that the כהן גדול wouldn't make a mistake and lose count sprinkling."

Naftali thought about this. He understood the message. If we were worried that the כהן גדול might lose count and not pay enough attention to his sprinkling, surely Naftali could worry he might not be following his Torah reading with enough attention.

"On second thought," Naftali said, "maybe I will follow



Games

On כפור יום, the כהן גדול would sprinkle blood seven times downward. Place the numbers 1-7 in the table below, using each number only once in each row and column

SUDOKU

1				5		
		4				1
			6	7		
	5					
		7	1		3	4
				3		
		2				6

יומא דף נ"ה - Review Questions

1. Was the blood sprinkled on top of the ארון?

2. How did רבי מאיר and רבי יהודה count the sprinkling?

3. According to רבי אלעזר, why did the כהן גדול have to count the sprinkling?
