

Tuesday, January 14, 2014  
"ג שבט תשע"ד

# מסכת יומא דף סז

# DAF YOMI 4 KIDS

## Inside the Daf

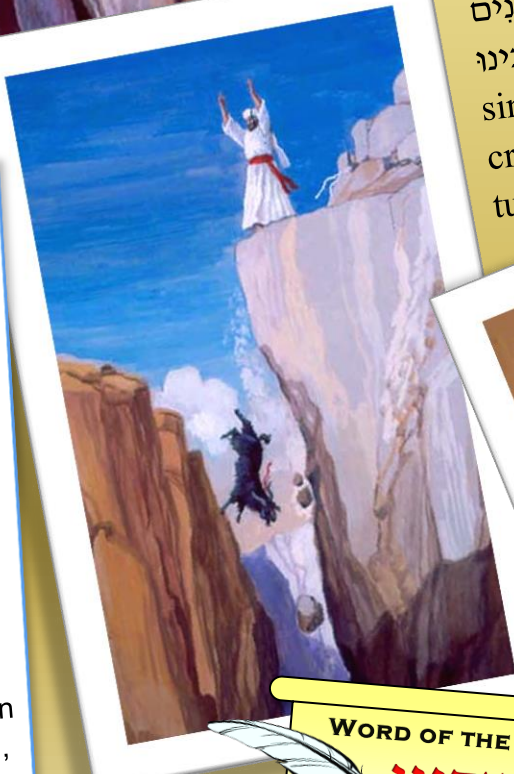
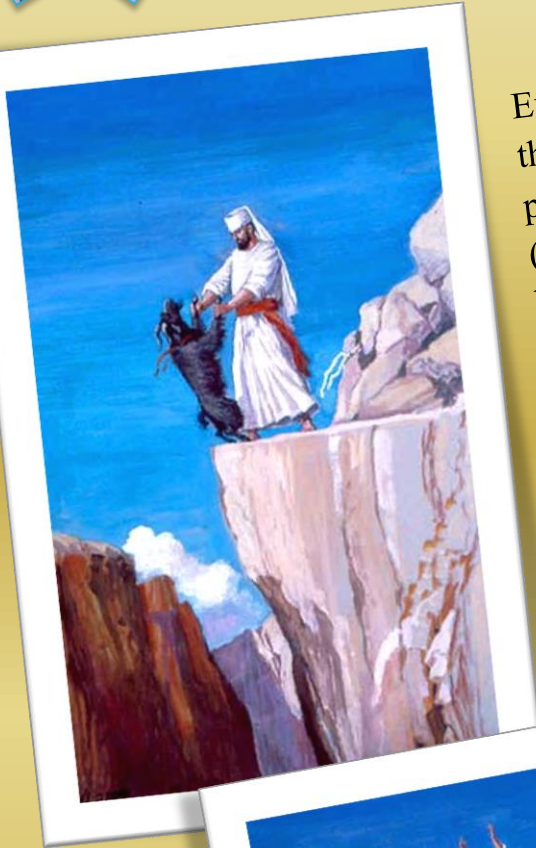
Excited. Nervous. These were the feelings of the Jewish people as the **שְׁעִיר הַמִּשְׁתַּלַּח** (Scapegoat) was on its way to be pushed off the cliff like snow" (ישעיה א, יח), Isaiah 1:18).

We have learned (41b) that a red string was tied to the **שְׁעִיר הַמִּשְׁתַּלַּח**'s head. If the sins of the Jewish people were forgiven, this string would turn white after the goat was thrown from the cliff. As the

**אָם** (verse) says, " **יְהִיו חַטָּאֵיכֶם כַּשָּׁנִים כַּשֶּׁלֶג יִלְבְּנוּ**", "If your sins will be like red crimson, they will turn white

Right before it was pushed off the cliff, the red thread was divided into two. One half was tied to a rock and the other half was tied between the goat's horns. After the goat was pushed, the red thread on the rock would turn white if the Jewish people's sins had been forgiven.

The **גְּמָרָא** asks why we don't tie the *entire* red thread on the rock instead of just half of it. The answer is, because sometimes the thread would turn white even *before* the goat had been pushed from the cliff. The person who was supposed to push the goat might become so excited seeing the Jewish people's sins were forgiven that he would forget to actually push the Scapegoat off the cliff!



### Did You Know...

The cliff the **שְׁעִיר הַמִּשְׁתַּלַּח** (Scapegoat) is thrown from must be steep. The **מִשְׁנָה** tells us that by the time it was half way down the mountain, the goat was already torn to pieces.

WORD OF THE DAY:

**עֲדִיין**

"STILL"

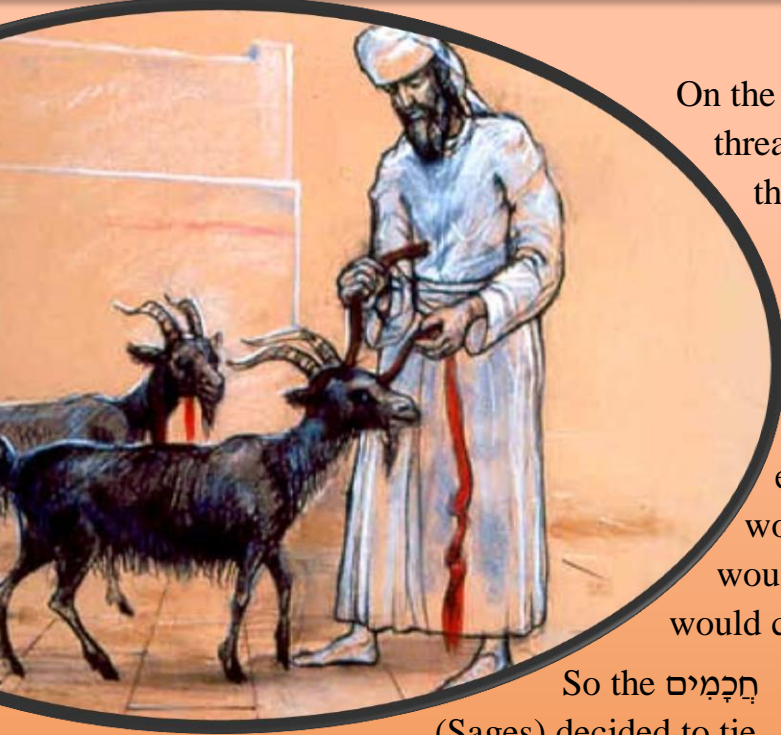


## By a Thread

On the last page we learned that half of the שְׁעִיר הַמִּשְׁתַּלַּח's red thread was tied to a rock and the other half was tied between the goat's horns.

But this wasn't always the way it was.

In the past, the thread was tied at the entrance to the אוֹלָם (Antechamber) of the הֵיכָל (Sanctuary). When the goat was pushed off the cliff, the thread at the אוֹלָם's entrance would turn white if the Jewish people's sins would be forgiven. The problem was, sometimes their sins would not be forgiven and the thread would remain red. This would cause the onlookers to become sad and embarrassed.



So the חֲכָמִים (Sages) decided to tie

the thread *inside* the אוֹלָם where it was harder for the people to see instead of at its entrance. But, as you know, if something is really interesting to you you'll find a way to take a peek. That's exactly what the people did; they still peeked inside the אוֹלָם and became sad if the thread didn't turn white.

So, in the end, the Sages decided to tie half the thread to a rock near the cliff the Scapegoat would be thrown from and half between the Scapegoat's horns. This way the people would not be able to see if the thread had turned white or not since only one person was with the Scapegoat at the time of its death.

### A מְדוּת Moment

All summer long Chana had been looking forward to her first day of Junior Kindergarten. But the night before the big day she had butterflies in her stomach.

"Zechariah," she said to her older brother, "I'm scared about starting school tomorrow."

"Well Chana," Zechariah said, "you don't have to worry about a thing. You know why? Because I'm in the classroom right above yours and if you have any problems, you can come get me."

"Thank you," Chana smiled and went to be tucked into bed by her mother.

When Zechariah and Chana's mother came back, she looked relieved.

"You knew just what to say to your sister, Zechariah," their mother said. "Chana just told me she's not worried now at all!"

"It wasn't my idea, Mom," Zechariah said. "It's from the גְּמָרָא. You see, on יוֹם כְּפוּר when a messenger went from Jerusalem to push the Scapegoat off the cliff, people along the way offered him food. The גְּמָרָא says that no messenger actually ate the food since it was יוֹם כְּפוּר, but, knowing food was available was enough to comfort the messenger. I guess we learn that it's easier to do something hard if you know there's help nearby."

Zechariah's mother smiled. "I see. So if Chana just knows you're nearby, she'll feel more relaxed. Good thinking, Zechariah! *Daf yomi* teaches you a lot."

### Games

#### Review Questions – יוֹמָא דף 28

1. Where are the two halves of the red string tied to?

2. Name a place the red string was tied to in the past inside the בַּיִת הַמִּקְדָּשׁ (Holy Temple).

3. Describe the cliff the Scapegoat was thrown from.

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| G | O | A | T |
|   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |
| F | A | L | L |

Change the word **GOAT** into **FALL** by changing only one letter at a time. Follow the clues for help.

(score!)

(hand, paw or claw)

(chutzpah!)