

The Weekly Daf



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Kiddushin 75-82

Week of 6-13 Adar 5754/17-24 February 1994

In August 1923, the First International Congress of Agudath Israel World Movement met in Vienna, at which Rav Meir Shapiro proposed uniting people worldwide through the daily study of a page of Talmud. The project is currently in its 10th cycle, and is engaged in the study of Tractate Kiddushin.

Each week, Rav Weinbach will be providing us with his insights on the seven pages of the Daf Yomi study. Rav Weinbach's background as a Rosh Yeshiva, author and lecturer, is sure to guarantee interesting reading.

Presented here are sample "nuggets" based on this week's Daf Yomi study.

The Virtue of Vulnerability

The requirement for a *Kohen* to check into the ancestry of the woman he wishes to marry—to ascertain that there is nothing in her family history to disqualify her as a marriage partner—is suspended in the case where there were charity wardens in her family. The background for this is the power of these wardens, appointed by the community to collect charity assessments imposed on members of the community, to enforce their collection by confiscating property from reluctant individuals even at such a tense time as *Erev Shabbos*. This would inevitably bring them into conflict with these individuals and would have led to their being humiliated with the mention of any family blemish. If such vulnerability never led to exposure, it is a guarantee that there were no skeletons in the family closet.

Kiddushin 76b

Merits and Livelihood

Rabbi Meir declared:

One should always teach his son a clean and simple trade and pray to He who is the source of all wealth and property, for there is no trade which cannot lead to poverty and wealth; for poverty and wealth are not determined by trade alone but rather by merit.

Kiddushin 82a

Rabbi Shimson ben Elazar declared:

I have never seen a deer drying fruit, a lion porter, or a fox shopkeeper and yet they are all provided with their food without pain. They were created only to serve me and I was created to serve my Master. If those who were created to serve me are provided with their livelihood without pain then certainly I, who was created to serve my Master, should be provided with my livelihood without pain - but I have corrupted my actions and complicated my livelihood.

Kiddushin 82b

Kiddushin 75-82

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Issue #2