

Daf Review – Berachos 14

Gemara:

- We continue the conversation of “*hefseyk*” (interruption) during and between the paragraphs of *Shema*.
- Discussion of interruptions during *Hallel* and reading of the *Megillah*.
- **Halachos** of “tasting”
 - a. One may taste food during a fast day.
 - b. One may taste food without reciting a beracha.
 - c. Tosfos quoting Rabbeinu Chananel qualifies these rulings and explains that the aforementioned laws are only in effect if a person spits out what they are tasting. The moment a person swallows the food, a beracha must be made and it is considered an act of eating for Fast Day purposes.
- A person should not attend to his own needs prior to davening.
- One should not interrupt between “*Elokeychem*” and “*Emes*”
- One does not repeat the word “*Emes*.”
- Discussion regarding the order the paragraphs of *Shema*. 2 approaches:
 - a. Rabbi Yehoshua ben Karcha – first paragraph discusses relationship with God, the second paragraph discusses the performance of *Mitzvos* and last paragraph only applies by day (therefore it is last). **See Daf Review Berachos 13 for further explanation.**
 - b. Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai – the first paragraph discusses the need to learn, teach and perform *mitzvos*. Second paragraph discussed the need to teach and perform. Last paragraph only discusses performance.

Inspiration:

The Gemara states, “*Whoever sleeps for 7 days and does not dream is called evil ...*” There is nothing more important than having dreams and aspiration. Without them life is empty and hollow. *If a person sleeps for 7 days, 7 is the unit of creation, it represents a significant portion of life. If you go through a significant part of life and you don’t dream, you are called “evil.”* We often think that the worst offense we can commit is something negative or illegal. In reality the worst crime we commit, is the crime committed against our self and that is the failure to dream. When I give up on myself, when I throw in the towel, when I tell myself I am failure who will never amount to anything; when I stop expecting great things of myself – this is the greatest evil. We must dream every day and every night. We must create expectations and aspirations. We must strive to become great.