

Youthful

**The Maggid's
Corner**

One year, there was an issue at hand for Yom Kippur at the Ponovitch yeshiva. The yeshiva was a popular place to daven for the Yomim Neroim. This year, the yeshiva just didn't have enough room. Year after year, they made expansions, but this year, it reached its limit.

The members of the yeshiva proposed a plan: "Let's put a *mechitzah* through the women's section, thereby giving more space to the men's side" But this would be decreasing the Ezras Nashim by half.

The question was taken to Rav Shach. "Do you know what kind of women come to shul on Yom Kippur to daven?" he asked. "Those that come are made up of widows, women who are alone, and so on. And the tefilla (prayers) of the entire yeshiva ascends to heaven on the backs of these women."

Based on this, Rav Shach's answer was: "No, you may not put up a *mechitza*."



גמר חתימה טובה !

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◆ Please, don't read me during tefilla, kadish, etc. ◆

Menucha

A Shabbos table companion
for the whole family

Volume V, Issue No. 1

יילד

Tishrei 6, 5776

Challenges

TOPIC:

**Halacha
Challenge**

**Drinking Water
on Motzei Yom Kippur
before Havdala**



"Mommy—is Yom Kippur over?" asked Chani. "Let me look at the calendar, dear," replied Mrs. Goldman as she looked at the clock and walked to the calendar to check the *z'man* for the 'end of fast'. "Yes—Chani, The fast just ended. Soon, *abba* will come home and make Havdala," said Mrs. Goldman. As she said it, she realized that it will be while before Mr. Goldman returns from shul, since he still needs to *daven* Ma'ariv and say Kiddush Levana. "I really need to drink now," thought Mrs. Goldman. "I wonder if I am allowed to drink water now, just like I am allowed to drink water on *motzei* Shabbos before Havdala," she asked herself.

Question: Can Mrs. Goldman drink water now? *

* **Note:** A woman should hear Havdala from a man. In case of great necessity, a woman can make her own Havdala on *motzei* Yom Kippur [see *Piskei Teshuva* 624].

Dedications:

- *l'ilui nishmas* Shlomo ben Tzvi

Menucha thanks all of the co-sponsors of this week's issue.

Special thanks to *kehillas* **Beis Tefillah Yonah Avraham** for all of their help.



◆ requires geniza ◆

Help: To review from a previous article - Regarding eating and drinking before Havdala on motzei Shabbos, Chazal teach: אַתְּחוּלֵי לֹא מִתְחִילִין - lit. “we don’t begin” [Pesachim 105a]. That is to say - a person may continue his Shalosh Seudos even if it extends into the night, but one may not begin eating and drinking on motzei Shabbos until after Havdala. The Gemora then goes on to relate that there is a dispute between the sages if this restriction applies also to drinking water. It also mentions an important historical observation: *The students of Rav Ashi’s yeshiva were not strict regarding water* - i.e., Rav Ashi held that it is permitted to drink water before Havdala and hence, the students followed his ruling.

The halacha follows Rav Ashi’s opinion: Regarding eating and drinking before Havdala, the Shulchan Aruch in *siman* 299 § 1 states: “...it is prohibited to eat anything, or even to drink wine or other beverages, except for water.”

To solve our challenge, we need to figure out if there any nuances which would make the halacha regarding drinking water before Havdala be more stringent on motzei Yom Kippur.

Menucha’s answer: Yes, Mrs. Goldman may drink water before Havdala. However, she should first say “*Boruch hamavdil bein kodesh l’chol*” (or say “*Ata Chonantanu*” paragraph in Ma’ariv). **Sources:** *Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* ch. 62. See also: *Eleph HaMagen* 624 § 4; *Shu”t Ohr Letzion* part 2, ch. 22 § 7.

In the sefer *Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* [ch. 62, note 59], HaRav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach is quoted saying that the *heter* of drinking water before Havdala applies also to motzei Yom Kippur, with one difference between motzei Shabbos and motzei Yom Kippur: before drinking water on motzei Yom Kippur one should say “*Boruch hamavdil bein kodesh l’chol*” or “*Ata chonantanu*” paragraph in Ma’ariv, where as on motzie Shabbos one does not need to do that. Can you figure out the reason for this difference? For help, see *Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa* 62, note 59.

Riddles



Chaim wanted to know if *Nitzovim* and *Vayelech* will be read together this year. So what did he do? He asked someone: “On which day of the week will be the 1st day of Rosh Hashana?” How will the answer help Chaim?

Answer to the last riddle (What does black pepper and Esrog have in common?) Both the esrog and the pepper share the following characteristic: the taste of the fruit and the taste of the tree’s wood upon which it grows are the same. Since the verse, which teaches about the mitzva of the Arba Minim, says: “*pri eitz*”, Chaza”l teach us that on a level of a *drasha* this tells us that the *pri* (fruit) is the same as the *eitz* (tree) -

i.e., their taste is identical. Chaza”l, therefore, question why we don’t use black pepper for the Arba Minim, whose taste is identical to the taste of its tree [see Gemora Succah 35a].

Sweet & Short

“He Desires Chesed”

In the classic *mussar* sefer Tomer Devora, we are taught that Hashem’s *middos* are ‘awakened’ and are manifested in our world, when we—Bnei Yisroel—interact with each other in a fashion that reflects those *middos*.

The Tomer Devora teaches, based on the prophecy of Micha, that one of Hashem’s *middos* is הַפֶּךְ הַסֵּד - “He desires acts of kindness”. Which means that there are special *malachim* that are appointed to collect the merits from the acts of kindness that a person does in this world. And when *midas hadin* prosecutes a person in Shamayim for his sins, those *malachim* show immediately to the Beis Din in Shamayim those acts of kindness that a person performed. Consequently, the person gets a good judgment.

If we act in the same way towards others—remembering people’s act of kindness and forgive them even if they caused us pain, then we cause Hashem’s *midda* of הַפֶּךְ הַסֵּד shine in the world. It’s especially important to remember this during these 10 Days of Teshuva, so that on Yom Kippur, Hashem will overlook our sins and seal a good year for us, by merely remembering our acts of kindness.

Teshuva

It is taught in the name of the Ariza”l: the main *teshuva* that a person needs to do is עֲסֵק הַתּוֹרָה. The Shem MiShmuel explains that the Ariza”l means the following: the main thing that a person needs to do in Teshuva is to enjoy and take pleasure in learning Torah.

[Shem MiShmuel, Shabbos Shuva 5674]

Eretz Yisroel

Rejoicing living in Eretz Yisroel and having great desire for the Land, has the power to atone for all of the sins that a person did in his entire life.

[based on a supplication found in Bigdei Yesha by Zadok Harofe, 5648]

