

3.5.6

(מפני שהן של תורה) → 58b (משנה ד) 57b

1. ארץ החצר מאה באמה ורחב המשיים בהמשיים וקמה חמש אמות שש משזר ואדניהם נחשת. שמת כו'זח
 2. ואשא עיני וארא והנה איש ובגדו חבל מדה: זכריה ב, ה
 3. והנה חומה מחוץ לבית סביב סביב ובגד האיש קנה המדה שש אמות באמה וטפח וימד את רחב הבגין קנה אחד וקומה קנה אחד: יחזקאל מ, ה

I. ד משנה: methods of measuring

a. Length: 50 אמה- rope, surveyors holding it against chest

- i. Source: v. 1 – in addition to דרשה of חצר, means “use 50 אמה measure”
- ii. Reason: for exactly 50 – a shorter one will be pulled taught; a longer (heavier) one will sag
- iii. Material: from a particular plant

1. In spite of: יהושע 'ר's observation that the best for measuring is iron chains, due to v. 2

- a) Challenge: v. 3 indicates use of reeds for measuring
- b) Answer: that is for measuring gate-widths, for which a small reed is sufficient

2. רב יוסף: 3 types of rope– reeds (for tying אדומה – פרה ג:ט:פרה), wicker for סוטה's basket, flax for מדידה

b. Ravine or hill: if gap is <50 and chasm can be bridged, measure “as the crow flies” (“הבלעה”)

- i. But if: chasm cannot be bridged (e.g. wall) – eyeball the width
- ii. And if: gap is >50

1. If: within תחום there is a narrower chasm, walk laterally, measure there and walk laterally back

- a) תוספתא עירובין דטו supports read of משנה – if can't bridge gap, use estimation and return
 - i. Difference: between wall (estimate) and valley/mountain (walk around)- convenience
 - b) מדידה יפה: שמואל only if a slope < 90°; if straight down, we measure across at ravine floor (מדידה יפה)
 - c) אמות 2000 of הבלעה is subject to רב יוסף (version 1): maximum depth of ravine
 - i. Challenge (“אבי”): only allows up to 100 אמות of depth
 - ii. Defense: רב יוסף was following אחרים who explicitly allow up to 2000 אמות
 - d) רב יוסף (version 2): maximum depth is even more than 2000 אמות
 - i. Challenge: this follows neither ת”ק nor אחרים (above)
 - ii. Answer: ת”ק ואחרים were disputing a case with a slope; רב יוסף was referring to a sheer cliff

1. Width of slope: 4 אמות – else, considered sheer cliff and even deeper is allowed (w/ מדידה יפה)

2. Limitation of הבלעה (רבא 1): only if slope is 22° (rises 10 טפחים within 4 אמות) or more

- a) If more obtuse: entire length is measured

3. Limitation of הבלעה (רבא 2): only if slope rises 10 טפחים within 5 אמות (or more)

- a) If more acute: estimate and continue

c. Condition: as long as he doesn't leave the תחום to measure

- i. Reason: to not mislead people as to breadth of תחום

d. If: no chasm narrow enough within תחום, we employ “מקדין/מקדין בהרים” (per ר”מ)

- i. Method of קידוד: upper person holds rope at feet, lower at chest – measure horizontally
- ii. Note: we do not employ קידוד for עגלה ערופה or ערי מקלט

1. Because: these distances are mandated by the תורה

2. (And because: these measures relate to distance, not to space)