

26.3.1

40b (משנה א') → 41b (על בסיסן)

- I משנה א': status of unsubstantiated statues
- a ר"מ: all statues are forbidden, as they are worshipped once a year
 - b חכמים: only if they are holding a scepter, bird or ball
 - i Scepter: as if ruling the world
 - ii Bird: holds the world in his control as he would a bird
 - iii Ball: holds the world in his hand like he holds a ball
 - 1 Note: they added a sword, a crown and a ring
 - (a) *Sword*: originally thought it represented a thief; realized it meant that he would slaughter the world
 - (b) *Crown*: originally thought it was just an ornament; realized it meant "king of the world"
 - (c) *Ring*: originally thought it was like an agent of the king; realized that he would "seal the world's fate"
 - c אסור: if they are holding anything רשב"ג
 - i Even: a rock or a stick
 - 1 Question: what if he is holding feces –
 - (a) *Does it mean*: that he degrades the entire world (→ אסור)
 - (b) *Or does it mean*: that he is degraded before the world (→ מותר) - תיקו -
- II Analysis:
- a ר' יוחנן: in ר"מ's town they would worship once a year; ר"מ is חושש למיעוט → גוזר on all places
 - i חכמים: aren't חושש למיעוט → aren't גוזר
 - b שמואל: dispute is only regarding busts of kings
 - c ר' יוחנן (version 2): only statues which are at gates of city
 - d רבה: dispute only in re: villages; statues in cities are only decorative
 - i Challenge: no one maintains that the village statues are decorative
 - ii Rather: dispute is re: city status; all agree that statues in villages prohibited
- III משנה ב': if he found broken shards of a פסל – permitted
- a However: if he found broken legs or arms – אסור, as those are worshipped
 - b שמואל: even if he found shards of a worshipped idol – still permitted
 - i And: reason they mentioned צלמים – שברי סיפא (if it looks like a foot or hand – אסור, as that is worshipped)
 - ii Question: why is it prohibited – its just a broken piece?
 - iii Answer: if they are still on their base