

29.3.15

31b (ע'ג קרקע הוה) → 32b (א"ר זעירא א"ר חננאל אמר רב)

1. למען ירבו ימיכם וימי בניכם על האדמה אשר נשבע ה' לאבותיכם לתת להם כימי השמים על הארץ: דברים יא, כא
 2. פי כגבה שמים על הארץ גבר חסדו על יראיו: תהלים קג, יא

- I ס"ת ruling on mending רב's:
- a If: it tore into 2 rows – may mend; more than 2 – may not mend
 - i Caveat: only if it is “old” (i.e. was processed with עפץ → blackened); else – looks “new” and may be mended
 - ii Qualifier: may only be mended with sinews, not with thread
 - iii Question: may it be mended if it was torn between columns or between lines (i.e. no text was torn)? תיקו
- II רב's ruling regarding width of lines on a מזוזה:
- a If: he wrote the lines with 2 words each (very narrow and long מזוזה) – valid
 - i Question: if he wrote it with 2, then 1, then 3 – is it valid
 - 1 Answer (רנב"י): certainly valid
 - ii Challenge: ruling that if he wrote regular text in שירה-form or vice-versa – invalid
 - 1 Answer: that ruling is in re: ס"ת
 - 2 Support: ר' יוחנן's ruling that 3, 2, 1 is valid, as long as he doesn't shape text like a triangle (or inverted triangle)
- III ר' חסדא's ruling regarding placement of last two words on מזוזה (על הארץ) – v. 1) – on last line
- a Some: interpret – left justified (at end of line) – directly under “שמים” (v. 1) – per v. 2 שמים atop ארץ
 - b Others: interpret – right justified – to keep ארץ as far from שמים as possible (→ longer life – v. 1)
- IV ר' הונא's practice with folding/rolling מזוזה and character of פרשיות
- a ר' חלבנא's report: saw ר' הונא rolling from left (“אחוד”) over right (“שמע”) – and made פרשיות into סתומות
 - i Challenge: רשב"א reported that ר"מ (סופר) would write מזוזה on דוכסוסטוס in one long column, with a margin above and below and new paragraph for אום שמוע (i.e. פרשה פתוחה)
 - 1 When asked: ר"מ explained that they were פתוחות since they are not juxtaposed in תורה
 - ii And: רב ruled in accordance with this report
 - 1 Assumption: his ruling was in re: פתוחות
 - 2 Rejection: his ruling was in re: leaving a margin
 - (a) Note: margin must be width of scribes' holder (that they would place to keep parchment down)
 - 3 Support: רב always accepts common practice as binding (per his ruling re: חליצה with a shoe)
 - (a) And: the common custom is to make סתומות → his ruling must have been re: margins
 - (b) Argument (רנב"י): ideally they are made סתומות, but if made פתוחות – valid
 - (i) And: meaning of רשב"א's report is that they may even be made פתוחות (not exclusively)
 - (c) Proposed support: ruling that תפילין and ס"ת may not be made into מזוזה, as we do not demote in קדושה
 - (i) Inference: without consideration of אין מורדין, we could have used them, but in תפילין all are סתומות
 - (d) Rejection: perhaps the potential allowance was to complete missing lines, not entire פרשיות
 - (i) Challenge: per inference above – but הלמ"מ that תפילין are written on קלף (inside part of pelt – next to flesh), מזוזה written on דוכסוסטוס (outside part – near hair)
 - 1. Answer: that is למצוה
 - 2. Rejection: ruling that if he altered it - invalid
 - a. Answer: that is only re: תפילין (i.e. if he used דוכסוסטוס for תפילין)
 - b. Rejection: states “if he altered either – invalid”
 - i. Answer: if he wrote on קלף in place of hair, or if he wrote on דוכסוסטוס in place of בשר
 - ii. Or: this matter is a מחלוקת, per ברייתא where an authority allows cross-use of pelt
- V Sitting on a bed with a ספר תורה
- a ר' חלבנא reports that he saw ר"ה move a ס"ת off a bed to a כד, which he overturned to place ס"ת, then sat
 - i Reason: he holds that it is אסור to sit on a bed with a ס"ת
 - ii Note: this is contra ruling of ר' יוחנן, who explicitly allows it – and preempts report from ר"א who jumped off the bed when he saw a ס"ת on it –
 - 1 Reason: that ס"ת was on the ground