

## מגילה ז

Every man and woman is חייב in the מצוה of משלוח מנות. This מצוה requires a person to send two separate types of food (not separate ברכות, just separate types; there are שיטות that permit even two pieces of the same food), for example, a piece of meat and a piece of fish, or two types of fruit. A man should send to a man, and a woman to a woman. The משנה ברורה mentions two opinions regarding raw food. One opinion says משלוח מנות must be ready to eat, and one opinion says it needs to be ready to be cooked, which would include raw food, such as raw meat and uncooked potatoes, but would exclude a live animal. The מצוה can be מקוים by contributing two items to someone else's סעודה.

The משנה ברורה brings down the בנין ציון who is מדייק from the לשון of משלוח מנות, that it should be done דוקא with שליח. This is not לעיכובא and only לכתחילה.

The מנות must be חתיכה ראוי להתכבד, i.e., a nice sized piece. פורים משלוח מנות must be done during the day of פורים.

There is a חיוב upon every man and woman to give two gifts of עניים (it can be food or money) on פורים day. It is more important to give money to מתנות לאביונים than it is to spend money on משלוח מנות.

The amount of money given to the עני should be enough to purchase something for a meal.

The מתנות לאביונים must be given on פורים day. The משנה הלכות

writes that if the money is given before פורים with a תנאי that the recipient not use it until פורים, the giver is not יוצא the מצוה of מתנות לאביונים, as the מצוה is תלוי on the שמחה felt by the עני, and the שמחה is only felt when the מתנה is received.

There is a חיוב give מחצית השקל before פורים (the מנהג is to give the מחצית השקל at מנחה of פורים, i.e, תענית אסתר, ערב פורים). The מנהג is to give three halves of the local currency. In the United States, this means three half dollars, in ארץ ישראל, this means three half shekel coins.

The רמ"א notes that only men above the age of twenty must give. The משנה ברורה notes that the מנהג is to give for everyone including women and children.

Although the money from מחצית השקל is generally given to צדקה, it may also be given to the חזן of the בית כנסת writes the ערוך השלחן, as since this is a זכר of the מחצית השקל collected at the time of the בית המקדש and that money went towards the purchase of קרבנות which we do not have anymore today, it can go towards anything (obviously, it must have שייכות to a מצוה, for example, giving it to the person who read the מגילה).

People who do not have money for משלוח מנות can exchange meals, and thus be מקיים the מצוה.

A person is required to become intoxicated on פורים until he cannot tell the difference between מרדכי והמן. The רמ"א says he should drink more than usual, or go to sleep.

The פורים סעודה must be eaten by day. A person who eats the

חיוב at night does not fulfill his סעודה.

Any מלאכה that is אסור on שבת is אסור on יום טוב as well, unless it is need for אוכל נפש.

It is אסור to cook for גוים on יום טוב, and therefore, a person should not invite a גוי to a סעודה יום טוב. It is אסור to cook or bake for animals (even for animals that rely on him for food, all the more so, animals that do not rely on him). He may put food in front of an animal on יום טוב (only if he is responsible for the feeding of the animal, and the animal could not get the food on it's own).

מלאכות that are for אוכל נפש are permissible on יום טוב, provided that if they were done before יום טוב it would affect the taste of the food. מכשירי אוכל נפש are permitted. For example, if a spit broke on יום טוב it may not be fixed, unless, explains the רמ"א, it cannot be used without bending it back into shape, in which case it is מותר because it is מכשירי אוכל נפש (though the רמ"א notes that this הלכה is not taught publicly, so as not to lead to זלזול יום טוב).

Another example, is being טובל a new כלי on יום טוב. On שבת, it is אסור, and if there was opportunity to be טובל the כלי before יום טוב, it is אסור on יום טוב as well. However, if there was no opportunity to be טובל the כלי before יום טוב, then it may be done on יום טוב, as the כלי is אוכל נפש.