

Parshat Acharei Mot-Kedoshim

Everyone Has Their Own Path

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In Parshat Kedoshim, we learn about the Mitzva of loving one's fellow like one loves himself. Rabbi Akiva points out that this is a great rule in the Torah. Ben Azai, on the other hand, says that the generation of man which refers to Torah is the great rule in the Torah. Which one is it? Who is correct? Rav Wolfson explains that there are different paths in life. The Medrash explains that during Kriat Yam Suf, the sea split into twelve different paths, one for each tribe. The Satmar Rebbe points out that everyone has their own path to serve Hashem. Ben Azai took the approach of Moshe Rabeinu who represented Torah. Rabbi Akiva took the approach of Aharon HaKohen who was known to make peace. Rav Wolfson explains that the reason that the Mitzva of loving one's fellow is juxtaposed with the prohibition of Kilayim, planting different seeds is because Kilayim represents the depth of Torah and one who love their fellow will understand the deepness of Torah. It is important to understand (as the expression goes, "different strokes for different folks") that everyone has their own path when it comes to serving Hashem. May we instill this lesson especially at a time when we focus on working on our ben adam l'chaveiro and be respectful of everyone's own path in their serving of Hashem.

Parsha Questions

Parshat Acharei Mot

- 1) What Holiday do we learn about in this week's Parsha? (Yom Kippur)
- 2) Name two things that one is not allowed to do on Yom Kippur. (Eat, drink)
- 3) Who was the first Kohen Gadol? (Aharon)
- 4) When was the only time of year that the Kohen was allowed to go into the Kodesh HaKedoshim? (Yom Kippur)
- 5) How many goats were brought in the Temple on Yom Kippur? (2)
- 6) What happened to the Azazel goat? (It was thrown off the cliff)
- 7) Name a difference between the Chatat and the Olah? (The Chatat is eaten and the Olah is totally burnt)
- 8) What does one have to do after slaughtering a beast or fowl? (Cover its blood with dirt)

Parshat Kedoshim

- 1) What does Kedoshim mean? (To be separate and holy)
- 2) How do we become separate and be holy? (To do Mitzvot and stay away from sins)
- 3) If a farmer drops a stalk of grain on the ground, what happens to the stalk? (He leaves it for the poor people)
- 4) If you tell a person that someone else said something bad about them, what is it called? (Rechilut)
- 5) What is nekama? (Revenge- doing something bad to someone because they did something bad to you first)
- 6) We are not allowed to wear shatnez. What is it? (A mixture of wool and linen)
- 7) When someone plants a fruit tree, how many years is the fruit not allowed to be eaten? (3)

8) What do we do when a Talmud Chachom (Torah scholar) walks into the room we are in? (Stand up)