

He did not mind him

לא אזדקיק ליה –

OVERVIEW

The גמרא relates an incident that there was this עני who was collecting door to door and רב פפא ignored him when the עני came to him. רב סמא said to רב פפא if you ignore him, others will also ignore him, so should he die! תוספות clarifies the story.

רב פפא גבאי היה ולא נתן לו מן הקופה¹ –

עני - רב פפא was a גבאי צדקה and he did not give money from the קופה to this

כדתניא אין נותנין לו מן הקופה כיון שמחזר על הפתחים –

As the ברייתא teaches, ‘we do not give him money from the קופה since he is collecting door to door’ -

ואמר ליה רב סמא אי מר לא אזדקיק ליה לתת לו מן הקופה היינו כדי סעודה² –

So רב סמא said to רב פפא, ‘if the master is not responding to him by giving him money from the קופה (meaning for (at least) one סעודה), then -

כל שכן שגם אחרים לא יתנו לו –

It is certain that others will also not give him (and he may die)³ -

ומסיק הא דתניא אין נזקקין לו מן הקופה היינו כדי סעודה⁴ אבל דבר מועט יתנו לו:

And רב סמא concluded that when the ברייתא states, we do not give him from the קופה, that means we do not give him sufficient funds for a meal, but we give him a paltry sum.

SUMMARY

We do not give from the קופה to an המחזר על הפסחים only a מועט. However privately one should give him.

THINKING IT OVER

If we assume that רב פפא gave a donation משלו (just not הקופה),⁵ why would the others not give?⁶

¹ רב פפא may have given him a personal donation (at home), but when the עני came to collect from the קופה (like the other עניים), רב פפא declined to give him since he was מחזר על הפתחים. See ‘Thinking it over’.

² The הגהות deletes the last three words; היינו כדי סעודה. The מהר"ם amends it to סעודה קטנה. See footnote # 4.

³ The people (when they realize that רב פפא refused to give anything to the עני) may assume that רב פפא refused to give him (even) from his private money. They will therefore also refuse to give him anything.

⁴ This (word סעודה) explains why the ב"ה and the מהר"ם alter the גירסא previously (footnote # 2). Here רב סמא agrees that we do not give him a סעודה, therefore we cannot be גורס previously that he should give him סעודה.

⁵ See footnote # 1 (& # 3).

⁶ See סוכ"ד אות ה.