

This is the rule

זה הכלל –

OVERVIEW

The משנה teaches that if one forgets a bundle in front of him it is not שכחה, but if he forgets the bundle behind him it is שכחה.¹ The משנה concludes; 'if he will transgress בל תשוב (by returning to retrieve the bundle) it is שכחה; if he does not transgress בל תשוב (he need not return in order to retrieve the bundle), it is not שכחה'. The question תוספות addresses is why the need for the משנה to add זה הכלל, etc.

זה הכלל added משנה explains the תוספות -

לאתווי קרן זוית:

to include a corner-point.²

SUMMARY

If one missed the corner going forward (so that the corner is behind him), it is שכחה.

THINKING IT OVER

Why was it necessary for תוספות to say לאתווי קרן זוית, he could have just said שכחה.³ That if he skipped the beginning of a row, it is שכחה.⁴ Why was it necessary to mention that he skipped the bundle in the corner?!

	1	2	3	4	5	
א	*	*	*	*	*	א
ב	*	*	*	*	*	ב
ג	*	*	*	*	*	ג
ד	*	*	*	*	*	ד
ה	*	*	*	*	*	ה
	1	2	3	4	5	

Each * represents a bundle

¹ In the grid above assume he started picking up 1א and 3א skipping 2א (going from left to right), he then picked 4א and skipped to 1ב (omitting 5א). The rule is that 2א is שכחה since it is behind him when he continued to 3א and 4א; however 5א is not שכחה for it was never behind him. We assume he will collect 5א when he harvests in a different row from bottom to top; 5ה to 5א (or top to bottom).

² If he started from 2א and continued to 5א, then 1א is considered שכחה since it is behind him (when he is harvesting 2א-5א). We do not say that intends to harvest 1א in a new row from 1ה to 1א. The important factor is if at a certain point he would have to be תשוב לקחתו then it is שכחה; when he was going from 2א to 5א he would have to turn back to harvest 1א.

³ If he began 2ב towards 3ב and skipped 1ב it is שכחה. Why concentrate on 1א.

⁴ See מבין שמועה and נח"מ.