What is he informing us

– מאי קא משמע לן

OVERVIEW

The גמרא cites a dispute between [רבה] אביי and אביי regarding the נותנין לו α משנה of נותנין לו מוצ"ש ד' לילות ברייתא (and רב חסדא) the ברייתא is (also) teaching us that ברייתא is (also) teaching us that בתחלה However בתחלה maintains that he was already בעיל (a complete ברייתא before שבת. The גמרא asks, if he was בעיל, what is the ברייתא teaching us. גמרא qualifies the question of the גמרא.

When the מאי asked מאי it did not mean what the ברייתא in general is teaching us, but rather what is it teaching us -

 2 במאי דנקט עד מוצאי שבת דלענין רצופים ליכא למימר כדפרישית

With the fact that it mentioned 'עד מוצאי שבת'; why did the ברייתא find it necessary to mention this, for we cannot say that the ברייתא mentions עד מוצאי שבת, regarding that the four nights must be consecutive, as I previously explained.

SUMMARY

The question of מאי קמ"ל is, why mention עד מוצ"ש.

THINKING IT OVER

Why does the גמרא ask this question (מאי קמ"ל) which according to תוספות means why does the עד מוצ"ש', now. Seemingly this was the whole proof of and for some reason ר"ח did not accept it, so why ask it?

 $^{^1}$ The ברייתא in general is teaching us that we can attribute all the blood during the first four nights to דם בתולים; that she is טהורה.

 $^{^2}$ If it is only teaching us the דם בתולים (see footnote # 1), it should have merely stated עד, omitting עד מוצ"ש

 $^{^3}$ See ו,א תוס' ד"ה מאי (TIE footnote # 4). The נדה in ברייתא teaches that we do not require רצופים.

⁴ See תוס' ו_גא ד"ה מאי.

⁵ Ibid. רבא maintains that עד מוצ"ש teaches us רצופין and he either did not know of the אליבא or felt it was not אליבא so what is the גמרא asking again?!

⁶ Or at least (if רבא did not know of the ברייתא [see footnote # 5]) mention the גדה in ברייתא.

 $^{^7}$ See מהרש"א הארוד.