

הניה בזוית זו ומצא בזוית אחרת פלוגתא דרבן שמעון בן גמליאל ורבנן -

He placed it in this corner and found it in another corner; this is a dispute between רשב"ג and the רבנן

OVERVIEW

The גמרא states that if one placed the חמץ in one corner and found it later in a different corner, this case is comparable to the case of an ax which was lost in a house. In that case (where he placed the ax in one corner and found it in a different corner), the רבנן maintain that the utensils in this house are טמא; for we are concerned perhaps the ax was moved by someone (a stranger) who was טמא. However רשב"ג maintains that the house is טהור, for we assume that the owner himself moved the ax and subsequently forgot about it. The similarity here by חמץ, according to רשב"ג is understood; we assume that it is the same חמץ that was in the original corner (the owner moved it and forgot about it); the house therefore does not require בדיקה. It is not clear however, according to the רבנן what the ruling will be by חמץ.¹ Our תוספות will clarify the position of the רבנן by חמץ.



דלרבנן צריך בדיקה דחוששין שמא עכבר עשה² ולא זהו שהניח -

For according to the רבנן, then בדיקה is required, for we are concerned that perhaps a mouse moved it from the original corner, and this which he finds in another corner is not the one which he placed in the original corner.

ולית להו לרבנן הוא שאבד הוא שנמצא³ -

And the רבנן do not maintain that ‘the one which was lost is the one which was found’ (in which case we would assume that the חמץ in the new corner is the same as the original⁴) -

אלא כרבן שמעון בן גמליאל דאמר תיבדק כל השדה כולה⁵ -

But rather they agree with רשב"ג who maintains ‘the entire field must be searched’. Here too (by חמץ) the entire house must be searched (and it is not sufficient that we

¹ Even if we assume that someone moved the חמץ from one place to the other, this would not require בדיקה.

² The concern is not that a person removed it from its initial place, but rather that a mouse dragged it away. If a person removed it we would assume that he either placed in the other corner or took it out of the house (since he is aware that פסח is approaching), and בדיקה would not be required. See ‘Thinking it over’ # 2.

³ See on 'שדה שאבד בה קבר' רבי ורשב"ג concerning a קבר between מחלוקת עמוד א'.

⁴ A mouse (or another person) brought back the חמץ to this new corner.

⁵ Once a קבר was lost in a field we must search the entire field (no matter how many קברים we find before we finish searching the entire field); the same is by חמץ, the entire house must be searched completely.

cease searching if we find חמץ)

תוספות offers an alternate view:⁶

אי נמי אתי אפילו כרבי –

Or you may **also** say that the רבנן **can even follow** the view of רבי that הוא שאבד הוא - שמצא, and the reason why the house requires (a new) בדיקה is because -

ומיירי כגון שאין יודע כמה ככרות הניח וצריך בדיקה שמא לא מצא כולם:

We are discussing a case where for instance he does not know how many loaves he placed initially in the first corner, and therefore בדיקה of the entire house is required for perhaps he did not find them all. The amount of loaves in the second corner may be less than the original amount (and the same holds true with any amount of loaves that he subsequently finds).

SUMMARY

The רבנן (who argue with רשב"ג) maintain that the whole house must be searched, for we are concerned that mice removed the original חמץ and the new חמץ is different (for these רבנן agree with רשב"ג that הוא שאבד לא הוא שמצא); alternately we do not know the initial amount of loaves set aside.

THINKING IT OVER

1. תוספות maintains that the רבנן agree with רשב"ג (that מה שמצא is not שאבד) and therefore בדיקה is required. What would be the ruling of רשב"ג in this case?

2. If we do not know how many loaves were in the first pile (according to the אי א; why, according to רשב"ג is there no requirement for בדיקה?⁷

⁶ תוספות may find it difficult to accept that the רבנן who disagree with רשב"ג in this issue (of קרדום שאבד בבית), agree with רשב"ג in the case of קבר בה שאבד.

⁷ See footnote # 2.