

הנותן מתנה לחברו צריך להודיעו – One who gives a gift to his friend it is necessary that he inform him

OVERVIEW

qualifies the ruling of רב that one must inform the recipient of a gift, who the benefactor is.

ודוקא במתנה שנותן לו על ידי אהבה שאין המקבל מתבייש –

And this ruling of רב applies specifically to a gift which is given lovingly, where the recipient is not embarrassed to receive the gift -

אבל הנותן צדקה שהמקבל מתבייש מתן בסתר יכפה אף (משלי כא):

However one who gives charity, where the recipient is embarrassed, then we apply the verse ‘a concealed gift covers over the anger’, meaning that it is preferable to give the gift anonymously.

SUMMARY

Gifts to the poor should be given anonymously, since the recipient is embarrassed.

THINKING IT OVER

How does תוספות derive from the פסוק of מתן בסתר that one should give a gift anonymously; perhaps the פסוק is only negating that one should not give charity publicly (for that causes embarrassment), however if he gives it privately, perhaps he should inform the recipient who the benefactor is?¹

¹ See מגדים חדשים.