

I will cut off, etc.

אקפה<sup>1</sup> את כולי -

### Overview

ר' remarked on the ruling of the משנה with which he vehemently disagreed that אקפה את בני שזו הלכה מקופחת. There is a dispute between רש"י and תוספות how to explain this expression.

לשון שבועה הוא כלומר<sup>2</sup> אקפה את בני אם אין זה דבר אמת שהלכה זו מקופחת -

This is an expression of an oath; meaning, 'I will cut off my sons if what I am saying 'that this ruling is wrong', is not true' -

וכענין<sup>3</sup> זה מצינו במקרא (בראשית מב') חי פרעה אם תצאו מזה כלומר<sup>5</sup> שלא תצאו מזה:

And we find a similar type of expression like this one in the פסוק, where יוסף says to his brothers, 'by the life of פרעה if you will leave from here', meaning that he was swearing by the life of פרעה that you will not leave from here.

### Summary

An expression can mean the opposite of what it seems to be.

### Thinking it over

1. How can תוספות compare the two expressions; יוסף said אם תצאו מזה, however ר"ט said שזו הלכה מקופחת?

2. What are the relative advantages of פרש"י and תוספות?

<sup>1</sup> This תוספות is referencing the גמרא on the very beginning of ז.

<sup>2</sup> תוספות is disagreeing with רש"י who seems to be saying that ר"ט was so distraught by this ruling that he said (cursing himself) I will bury my sons because this הלכה is so מקופחת. See 'Thinking it over' # 2.

<sup>3</sup> See 'Thinking it over' # 1..

<sup>4</sup> מקץ פסוק טו.

<sup>5</sup> Just as יוסף, when he said אם תצאו מזה חי פרעה which can be interpreted to mean that he is swearing by the life of פרעה that you will leave here, but nevertheless the true meaning is the exact opposite that he is swearing that they will not leave, similarly here when ר"ט said שזו הלכה מקופחת אקפה את בני שזו הלכה מקופחת he meant he will be מקפה his sons if this הלכה is not מקופחת.