

Only so that they can be trapped

אלא בכדי שיצודו -

Overview

rules that one cannot set a trap on ע"ש unless he is assured that he will trap the animals מבעו"י. Our תוספות explains how one can know that.

תוספות asks:

ואם תאמר מנא ידע מתי יבא החיה -

And if you will say; how can he know when the animal will come and be trapped –

תוספות answers:

ויש לומר דבירושלמי (בפירקין ה"ז) מוקי לה בפורש בחורשין דמצוין שם חיותא -

And one can say that in ירושלמי תלמוד he establishes this ruling of ע"ש where he casts his trap in a forest, where animals are plentiful, and he can be assured that he will capture it מבעו"י –

תוספות cautions:

ומיירי בענין זה שלא יוכל ללכוד במצודה אלא א' או ב' –

And we are discussing in such a manner that he can only catch in his trap one or two animals, but no more -

דהא מה מועיל שיצודו מבעוד יום אם יכול לצוד גם¹ משחשכה:

For what would it help that they are trapped מבעו"י if he can trap more even after dark (when שבת begins).

Summary

One may trap on ע"ש, if he is (reasonably) assured that he will trap them (and no others) shortly.

Thinking it over

1. According to the תוספות משנה should have said שלא יצודו בשבת (not כדי שיצודו); for the main concern is that his trap does not capture anything² on שבת! מבעו"י

2. Why is it that by the other prohibitions it may continue into שבת, if it was sufficiently completed מבעו"י, however by צידה it cannot continue into שבת?³

¹ See 'Thinking it over'

² See footnote # 1.

³ See שבת של מי.