

גר שנתגייר בין הנכרים –

A convert who converted (while living) amongst the gentiles

OVERVIEW

The גמרא gives as an example of one who does not know the essence of שבת, if he was a גר שנתגייר בין הנכרים. One may have the mistaken impression that the גר converted on his own without a בית דין officiating, for if there were a בית דין, then how come he did not know the essence of שבת, seemingly the בי"ד would have told him. תוספות corrects this misconception.

בפני ג' ולא הודיעוהו מצות שבת –

The conversion took place **in the presence of three Jews¹** and these three Jews **did not inform him²** about **מצות שבת³** -

דאי נתגייר בינו לבין עצמו לא הוי גר כדאמרין בהחולץ (יבמות דף מז, ב):

For had he converted on his own⁴, not in the presence of three Jews **he would not be** considered as a valid **convert**, as the גמרא **states in** מסכת יבמות **in פרק החולץ**.

SUMMARY

For a גיר to be valid it must be performed in front of a שלשה של בי"ד. They, however, are not required to inform him of all the הלכות התורה (even שבת).

THINKING IT OVER

Is the requirement of ג' בפני ג', a דאורייתא or a דרבנן?

¹ This is one of the requirements for a valid conversion.

² The בי"ד is not required to inform the גר of all מצות, תרי"ג, only certain חמורות.

³ He did not become aware of it later either, since he lived among the נכרים.

⁴ This, on one hand, would explain why he did not know שבת עיקר.