The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
Wed, Jul 12 2023 ■ כ"ג תמוז תשפ"ג
סימן רפ"ה סעיף א'-ב'

Overview

Siman 285 Seif 1:

Even though a person will hear the entire Torah read each week with the tzibbur there is a mitzvah for one to read the parsha each week, reading the pesukim twice and the targum once even the words עטרות ודיבן.

- In other words, one should not read the parsha before its week or afterwards. Someone who finishes the parsha with the tzibbur merits length of days and years. (M.B. 1)
- Listening to the ba'al koreh does not count towards reading the pesukim unless one reads together with him. There is a disagreement whether one fulfills his obligation, b'dieved, if he listened to the ba'al koreh. Some people read each pasuk twice and then the targum whereas others read each paragraph twice and then the targum for that paragraph. Either approach is acceptable. If one could read with the trup he should read from a sefer Torah. (M.B. 2)
- Pesukim that do not have a translation should be read three times. Some people read Targum Yerushalmi when available on pesukim that do not have Onkelos. (M.B. 3)

Siman 285 Seif 2:

If one studied a parsha with Rashi it is considered as though it was read with targum. Someone who is G-d fearing will read targum and Rashi.

- Reading a translation in another language does not satisfy one's obligation since targum also explains things not clear from the pesukim. (M.B. 4)
- Those pesukim upon which Rashi did not comment one should read three times. One who cannot understand Rashi should read a commentary like צאינה וראינה which explains the pesukim in accordance with Rashi and other comments of Chazal. (M.B. 5)
- The advantage of targum is that it was given at Sinai and the advantage of Rashi is that he explains matters that targum does not and every person should make an effort to study the parsha with Rashi in addition to targum. The pesukim should be read in order. It is preferable not to stop while reviewing the parsha. (M.B. 6)

Halacha Highlight

Reviewing the weekly parsha

Shulchan Aruch Siman 285 Seif 1

שנים מקרא ואחד תרגום

Pesukim twice and the targum once

Shulchan Aruch (סעי' א') introduces the obligation for each person to personally review the weekly parsha. This obligation is fulfilled when a person reads the pesukim twice and the targum once. Mishnah Berurah (סק"א) cites the Gemara in Berachos (8b) that relates that one who one who finishes the parsha with the tzibbur will experience length of days and years. Kabbalists emphasize the importance of reviewing the parsha and discuss the positive effect it has on a person in terms of his general spiritual state and specifically as a preparation for Shabbos (פסקי תשובות אות א'). Mishnah Berurah presents two different procedures for reviewing the parsha to fulfill this obligation and writes that each approach is valid and acceptable. The first approach is to read each pasuk twice followed by the targum for that pasuk. Some authorities find support for this approach since this is the way the Torah was read and translated for the tzibbur in the time of Chazal. Others maintain that the parsha should be reviewed by reading a paragraph two times followed by the targum for that paragraph.

Kaf HaChaim (אות ה') writes that when reviewing the aseres hadibros one should use the ta'am tachton which breaks the section down by pesukim rather than with the ta'am elyon which breaks down the section by dibros and is the way that it is read for the tzibbur. Although there are paragraph breaks in the middle of some of the pesukim, one need not pay attention to those breaks when reviewing the parsha. The same is true any time there is a paragraph break in the middle of a pasuk. This applies, however, only for those who review the parsha one pasuk at a time. For those who review the parsha a paragraph at a time, other than for the aseres hadibros, when one reaches a break in the middle of a pasuk one should stop and reread the paragraph a second time followed by the targum before continuing with the remainder of the pasuk.