The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
Fri, Jun 14 2024 ■ ח' אייר תשפ"ד
סימן של"ג סעיף א'-ג'

Overview

Siman 333 Seif 1:

Concerning a storehouse of grain or barrels of wine, although it is permitted to take the contents from the containers, one may not move the containers unless it is done for the sake of a *mitzvah*, for example, to remove them to accommodate guests or to transform the room into a *bais midrash*. How does one clear the room? If the storage room is large one may not remove any more than five boxes (each one containing three *seah*). **If there are only five boxes one may remove four of them but may not remove them all out of concern that he will even the ground.** Any Rabbinic restriction that is suspended so that one could fulfill a *mitzvah* is also permitted to accommodate guests. By guests we mean those who stay in one's home or people one invited who are staying elsewhere but inviting a friend for a meal is not an act of *hachnasos orchim* and is a regular meal rather than a *seudas mitzvah*.

- It may be taken for one's self or his animals. It is prohibited to move the boxes at the beginning of the process of clearing the room because it involves exertion or is considered a weekday activity. (M.B. 1)
- The implication is that if one began on *erev* Shabbos it is permitted to remove less than 4 or 5 boxes even if it is not removed for the sake of a *mitzvah*. (M.B. 2)
- It is permitted to make a path with one's feet by pushing aside barrels since that is not considered פנוי. (M.B. 3)
- This is allowed even though it involves exertion. (M.B. 4)
- Even if there are only 3 or 4 boxes it is prohibited. (M.B. 6)
- If one invites a friend to honor a guest, he is also considered a guest and it is permitted to clear boxes for him as well. (M.B. 9)

Siman 333 Seif 2:

When these 4 or 5 boxes are removed their contents should not be poured into smaller containers in order to make it easier to transport since that will increase the number of trips and thereby publicizes the matter.

Siman 333 Seif 3:

4 or 5 boxes may be removed for the sake of a single guest but if one has many guests one may remove this number for each of them provided that one person does not move all of them since that would involve extra exertion, rather each person should move the number of boxes that he needs removed or have someone move them for him. Barrels of wine that were brought by wagon may not be removed from the wagon on Shabbos unless it is done for guests or a *mitzvah* since that would also constitute an act of clearing a storage facility.

- The wagon arrived before Shabbos but nevertheless, it is prohibited to remove the barrels since it is a weekday activity or involves extra exertion. Instead he should take the contents from the barrel as it stands on the wagon. If there is no other way to access the contents, it is permitted to remove the barrels since it is necessary for *kavod Shabbos*. (M.B. 10)
- If a gentile removes the barrel on his own accord, one need not protest. (M.B. 11)

Halacha Highlight

Suspending Rabbinic prohibitions for the sake of a *mitzvah*

Shulchan Aruch Siman 333 Seif 1
אלא לדבר מצוה
Unless it is for the sake of a *mitzvah*

Shulchan Aruch (סעי' א') prohibits clearing out one's warehouse on Shabbos unless it is for the sake of a *mitzvah*. The reason it is prohibited to clear out one's warehouse on Shabbos is either because of the exertion involved or due to the fact that it is considered a weekday activity (מ"ב סק"א). Examples of *mitzvos* that allow one to clear out his warehouse are to make room for guests or to make a *bais midrash* out of the room. When clearing out the room for the sake of a *mitzvah* it is permitted even if considerable exertion is necessary to clear out the room, for example, if it is necessary to lower boxes out the window or to carry them down ladders. When clearing out the warehouse one may only remove up to five boxes and if there are only five boxes in the room one may not remove any more than four of those boxes. Shulchan Aruch below (סעי' ג') explains that the allowance to remove up to five boxes is, per guest, so that if there are five guests each one may remove up to five boxes, totaling 25 altogether.

Rema expands Shulchan Aruch's ruling with the following statement. Any Rabbinic prohibition that is suspended in order to fulfill a *mitzvah* is also suspended in order to accommodate guests. Mishnah Berurah (סק"ח) explains that when a *ba'al habayis* invites guests he is fulfilling a *mitzvah* and thus it is treated the same as other *mitzvos*. Biur Halacha (ד"ה וכל שבות) references Pri Megadim who emphasizes that Chazal did not suspend every Rabbinic prohibition in order to fulfill a *mitzvah*. As a rule it is only a *shvus d'shvus* that Chazal suspend for the sake of fulfilling a *mitzvah* but a single *shvus* is not automatically suspended for the sake of fulfilling a *mitzvah*. It is only Rabbinic prohibitions that are prohibited because they are weekday activities that are suspended for the sake of fulfilling a *mitzvah*.