



## Overview

### Siman 429 Seif 1:

We inquire about the *halachos* of Pesach thirty days before Pesach. The custom is to purchase wheat to distribute to the poor for Pesach. Once a person has lived in town for twelve months he is considered a citizen and must contribute towards this fund.

- ❖ There is a disagreement whether the obligation to study the halachos thirty days in advance applies to other *Yomim Tovim* but all opinion agree that there is an obligation to study the *halachos* of the *Yom Tov* on the *Yom Tov*. (M.B. 1)
- ❖ We begin to study the laws of Pesach on Purim. (M.B. 2)
- ❖ There is a custom for the rabbi to give a *drosha* on *Shabbos HaGadol* and *Shabbos Shuva* to teach people the relevant *halachos*. (M.B. 2)
- ❖ Nowadays we distribute flour rather than wheat kernels and each needy person should be given what he needs for all the days of Pesach. (M.B. 4)
- ❖ If a person moved to town he is considered a resident immediately and the same halacha is true for a poor person who moves permanently to town. (M.B. 5)
- ❖ Even *talmidei chachamim* must give *maos chitim* and each person is assessed according to his means. One who does not contribute has sinned. (M.B. 6)

## Stories to Share

### Preparing for the Festival

ש"ע ס' ל"ג, : " ומתחילין מיום הפורים עצמו..."

On today's amud we find that it is incumbent upon every Jew to learn the laws of Pesach and that he should begin thirty days before Pesach. The Mishnah Berurah points out that according to this calculation, every Jew should begin learning *hilchos* Pesach on Purim day.

The thirty days just before Pesach is a period that presents unique challenges for both the layman readying his home for the festival, as well as the rav responsible for making sure that his community knows the appropriate *halachos*.

One year, well in advance of Pesach, the rav of a large city came to visit with the renowned Tiferes Shlomo of Radomsk, zt"l. He had come to receive a brachah from the great tzaddik.

"Rebbe," he said, "Please bless me so that I won't stumble in any of the halachic rulings that I am going to have to make regarding Pesach. So many people come to me with difficult questions about chometz, and I am so in need of

## Halacha Highlight

### Studying the halachos of the upcoming Yom Tov thirty days in advance

Shulchan Aruch Siman 429 Seif 1

שואלין בהלכות פסח קדם לפסח שלשים יום

#### We ask about the halachos of Pesach thirty days in advance of Pesach

Bais Yosef (בית יוסף או"ח סי' תכ"ט ד"ה תניא) is of the opinion that it is only in anticipation of Pesach that one must prepare by studying its laws thirty days in advance. In anticipation of Sukkos and Shavuos the halachos are not so numerous and it is sufficient to prepare only minimally. For Sukkos only a day or two of preparation are needed, and since there are no halachos unique to the day of Shavuos it is sufficient to study them on the day of Shavuos itself. Although there are many laws related to the building of a sukkah and the four species, nevertheless, since proper fulfillment of these mitzvos is easy, a sukkah only needs two walls and a little bit for the third and most times one can easily obtain a kosher set of the four species, it is unnecessary to study all of the halachos in depth so far in advance of the Yom Tov. Another reason is that it is clear from the Gemara that the reason thirty days are needed is to allow people to examine the animals to be used for the Korban Pesach for blemishes. That is necessary only for Pesach when every person will offer a korban in contrast to other Yomim Tovim where only communal korbanos are brought.

Bach (מג"א שם סק"א) and Magen Avrohom (ב"ח שם ד"ה תניא) disagree and maintain that even for Shavuos and Sukkos one must study the relevant halachos thirty days in advance. They cite, for example, the Mishnah in Bechoros (57b) that refers to *פרס החג* and the Gemara explains that the term *פרס* refers to half of the thirty days which were spent studying the laws of Yom Tov in anticipation of the coming Yom Tov. Clearly, in the time of the Mishnah people would study the laws of the upcoming Yom Tov thirty days in advance. Mishnah Berurah (סק"א) cites the different opinions and does not give a definitive ruling.

siyatta d'shemaya!"

The Radomsker Rebbe answered his visitor, "The greatest possible segulah for success in your rulings is to review all of the relevant halachos very, very thoroughly. As you well know, we begin our real study of the laws of Pesach from thirty days before the festival. If you'll follow the words of chazal and delve into the halachah as you should, you will merit to receive all of the *siyatta d'shemaya* that you need!"