The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
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סימן תפ"א סעיף א'-ב'

Overview

Siman 481 Seif 1:

After the four *kosos* one may not drink wine, only water. All beverages are compared to wine. Someone who is delicate or very thirsty may drink a 5th *kos* and recite upon it *hallel hagadol*.

- According to some the reason is so that one does not fall asleep and as a result will not continue to recount Hashem's miracles the rest of the night and according to this reason the restriction is limited to wine and other intoxicating beverages. Others explain that the restriction is rooted in the concern that it appears as though one is adding to the number of *kosos* and would apply even to non-intoxicating beverages. A third concern is that the beverage will remove the taste of *matzah* and this would apply to all beverages even those that are not *chamar medinah*. It seems that Shulchan Aruch and Rema are stringent in accordance with all the opinions. Although *l'chatchila* one should be stringent and avoid all beverages, when there is a great need one could be lenient regarding beverages that are not intoxicating and the second night there is certainly reason to follow the lenient opinion and drink beverages that are not intoxicating. (M.B. 1)
- This is an option if one did not finish the *beracha* and drink the 4th cup of wine but if one did, he should not repeat *hallel* with the *beracha* that follows since the enactment is to recite it only once. (M.B. 3)

Siman 481 Seif 2:

One is obligated to engage in the study of the *halachos* of Pesach and the exodus and to retell the miracles and wonders that הקב"ה did for our ancestors until one is overcome with sleep. All of the *halachos* of the first night apply on the second night. The custom is to read only the paragraph of שמע when going to sleep but not the other passages that are recited for protection since the night is one of protection.

- One must also recite the *beracha* of המפיל. (M.B. 4)

Halacha Highlight

After the *seder*

Shulchan Aruch Siman 481 Seif 2
חיב אדם לעסק בהלכות פסח
A person is obligated to study the laws of Pesach

Shulchan Aruch (סע' ב') rules that a person is obligated to engage in the study of *hilchos* Pesach and the exodus by retelling the miracles and wonders the הקב"ה performed for our ancestors until sleep grabs hold of him. Rav Nissim Karelitz (חוט שני פסח פי"ז ס"ק כ"ז) explains that the phrase עד שתחטפנו שינה means to the point at which one's head feels heavy. Rav Yosef Shalom Elyashiv (הגדה של פסח ע"פ פסקיו עמ' 27) also explains that Shulchan Aruch's intent is not that one must study the *halachos* and continue to retell the story of the exodus until he literally falls asleep since one is obligated to recite at least the first paragraph of Shema and the *beracha* of המפיל. Rather the intent is that one should engage in these activities until he feels so tired that he has to go to sleep. He added further that one should be mindful to make sure that he does not sacrifice his ability to concentrate on his *davening* in the morning by staying up too late at night. Rav Yaakov Emden (סידור יעב"ץ) also emphasized that staying up should not come at the expense of *davening* the next morning. Chasam Sofer writes (דרשות חת"ס עמ' רס"ה ד"ה מצוה ומובא דבריו בשו"ת בצל החכמה ח"ו סי' מ"ז) that the *mitzvah* is not to engage in deep analysis of the *halachos* (פלפולים); rather the intent is for one to study simple straightforward rulings as well as stories that relate to the exodus as retold by Chazal in Midrashim.

Rema writes that since the night of the *seder* is night of protection the custom is to only read the first paragraph of Shema and the *beracha* of המפיל (מ"ב סק"ד). The additional paragraphs that are normally read for protection are not read. Some authorities write that one should also read the passage בידו אפקיד רוחי. Most *Poskim* maintain that the same rules apply concerning the second night although there are some authorities who write that on the second night one should recite Krias Shema al HaMitah as he does every other night of the year (פסקי תשובות אות ב').