Shabbat Sh'kalim

תלמוד בבלי מסכת מגילה דף כט עמוד א

משנה. ראש חדש אדר שחל להיות בשבת - קורין בפרשת שקלים.

Mishnah: When Rosh Hodesh Adar falls on Shabbat, we read Parashat Sh'kalim.

תלמוד בבלי מסכת מגילה דף כט עמוד ב

אמר רבי יצחק נפחא: ראש חודש אדר שחל להיות בשבת מוציאין שלש תורות וקורין בהן, אחד בעניינו של יום, ואחד בשל ראש חודש, ואחד בכי תשא.

R. Yitzhak the blacksmith said: When Rosh Hosedh Adar falls on Shabbat, we remove three Torah scrolls and read from them: One—the [scheduled] day's reading; two—Rosh Hodesh; and three—from Ki-Tisa'.

It is noteworthy that "the four *shabbatot*" were established even before the weekly Torah readings they accompany, to the extent that the Amorain were divided on the question of whether these readings were supplementary or replacements. The ruling, as per Rambam, was supplementary.

רמב"ם הלכות תפילה ונשיאת כפים פרק יג:כב

בֶּל פָּרָשָׁה מֵאַרְבַּע פָּרָשִׁיּוֹת הָאֵלּוּ אֶחָד קוֹרֵא אוֹתָהּ בְּסֵפֶּר שֵׁנִי אַחַר שֶׁקּוֹרִין סֵדֶר אוֹתָהּ שַׁבָּת בַּסֵפֶּר שֵׁנִי אַחַר שֶׁקּוֹרִין סֵדֶר אוֹתָהּ שַׁבָּת בַּסֵפֶּר שֶׁהוֹצִיאוּ רָאשׁוֹן. חָל רֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר לִהְיוֹת בְּשֵׁבָּת וְהָיָה סֵדֶר אוֹתָה שֵׁבָּת בִּז סֵדֶר לִיח (״וְעָשִׂית כִּיּוֹר נְחשֶׁת״ וְהַשְּׁבִיעִי חוֹזֵר וְקוֹרֵא מִכִּי תִשָּׂא עַד שִׁמוֹת לִיח (״וְעָשִׂית כִּיּוֹר נְחשֶׁת״ וְהַשְּׁבִי תִשָּׂא עַד)שִׁמוֹת לֹה אַ (״וַיַּקְהֵל״ וְעָשִׂית כִּיּוֹר נְחשֶׁת מִבּי חוֹזֵר וְקוֹרֵא בָּסֵבֶר שֵׁנִי מִכִּי תִשָּׂא עַד וְעַשִׂית כִּיּוֹר נְחשֵׁת:

Each of these four special sections is read in a second scroll, after the portion for the week has been read in the scroll first taken out. If the first of Adar falls on a Sabbath, and the portion for the week was that commencing, "And thou shalt command" (Exodus 27:20-30:10), six persons are called to the Law and read in the weekly portion up to (but not including) the section beginning, "Thou shalt also make a laver" (ibid. 30:17). The seventh person reads the section beginning, "When thou takest the sum" till that beginning, "Thou shalt also make a laver" (ibid 30:11-16). If the portion of the week for that Sabbath is that beginning, "When thou takest the sum" (ibid. 30:11), six persons are called to the Law and read this portion, till the next beginning, "And Moses assembled" (ibid. 35:1). The

seventh person reads in the second scroll the section beginning, "When thou takest the sum" till "Thou shalt make also a laver" (ibid. 30:11-16).

משנה שקלים א:א

בְּאֶחָד בַּאֲדָר מַשְׁמִיעִין עַל הַשְּׁקָלִים וְעַל הַכִּלְאַיִם. בַּחֲמִשָּׁה עָשֶׂר בּוֹ קוֹרִין אֶת הַמְּגִלָּה בַּכְּרַכִּין, וּמְתַקְּנִין אֶת הַדְּרָכִים וְאֶת הָדְרָכִים וְאֶת הָקְבָרוֹת, וְיוֹצְאִין בָּל צָרְכֵי הָרַבִּים, וּמְצַיְּנִין אֶת הַקְּבָרוֹת, וְיוֹצְאִין אֶת הַדְּרָכִים וְאֶת הָרְחוֹבוֹת וְאֶת מִקְוְאוֹת הַמַּיִם, וְעוֹשִׁין כָּל צָרְכֵי הָרַבִּים, וּמְצַיְּנִין אֶת הַקְּבָרוֹת, וְיוֹצְאִין אַר הכּלָאֵים :

On the first of Adar they make a public announcement about the shekels and concerning kilayim. On the fifteenth: they read the Megillah [Esther] in walled cities, and they fix the roads and the streets and the ritual water baths, and they perform all public duties, and they mark the graves, and [messengers] go forth also concerning kilayim.

Megillah 29a-b

GEMARA. We have learnt in another place: 'On the first of Adar proclamation is made with regard to the shekels and with regard to diverse seeds.1 I can understand it being made for diverse seeds, because it is the time for sowing. But what is the ground for making it for the shekels? — R. Tabi said in the name of R. Josiah: Because Scripture says, "This is the burnt-offering of each new moon in its renewal." (עולת חדש בחדשו) The Torah herein says to us: As you renew the month, bring an offering from the new contributions. And since it is in Nisan that we have to bring from the new contributions, we read beforehand on the first of Adar so that shekels should be brought [in time] to the Sanctuary.

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שמות ל׳

Hashem." (11) Hashem spoke to Moses, saying, (12) "When you take a census of the children of Israel. who according to those numbered among them, then each man shall give a ransom for his soul to Hashem, when you number them; that there be no plague among them when you number them. (13) They shall give this, everyone who passes over to those who are numbered, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary; the shekel is twenty gerahs; half a shekel for an offering to Hashem. (14) Everyone who passes over to those who are numbered, from twenty years old and upward, shall give the offering to Hashem. (15) The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less, than the half shekel, when they give the offering of Hashem, to make atonement for your souls. (16) You shall take the atonement money from the children of Israel, and shall

קֹדֵשׁ קַדַשִּׁים הוּא לַי״י. (יאּ) וַיִּדַבֶּר י"י אַל משָה לָאמר. (יב) כִּי תִשָּא אַת ראש בַּנִי יִשְראַל לפַקדִיהַם ונתנו איש כפר נפשו לי"י בפקד אֹתַם וָלֹא יָהֵיָה בַהֶּם נָגַף בִּפָּלְד אתם. (יג) זה יתנו כַּל הַעבר עַל מחצית השקל בשקל הַקֹּדֵשׁ עֲשִׂרִים גָּרַה הַשָּׁקֵל מַחֲצִית השקל תרומה לי"י. (יד) כל העבר עַל הַפָּקדִים מָבֵּן עֵשִׂרִים שַׁנַה וַמַעַלָּה יָתֵּן תְּרוּמַת י״יַ. (טוּ) הֶעַשִּׁיר לא יַרבָּה וְהַדַּל לא יַמְעִיט מַמַּחצִית השקל לתת את תרומת י"י לכפר עַל נפשתיכם. (טז) וַלַקַחָתַ אֶת כַּסף הכפרים מאת בני ישראל ונתת אֹתוֹ עַל עַבֹדַת אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְהָיָה לִבְנֵי ישראל לזכרון לפני י"י לכפר על נפשתיכם. (יז) וידבר י״י אל משה לאמר. (יח) ועשית כיור נחשת וכנו לַרַחְצַה וְנַתַתַּ אתוֹ בֵּין אהַל

Samson Raphael Hirsch

However, the contribution required of each individual is symbolized by מָּחָצִיח הַשֶּׁקֵל, [not one whole shekel but only] one half-shekel. Viewed objectively, not even the most complete and perfect contribution of any one individual can accomplish the whole of the work that must be done. The effort of any individual can be only a fragment of the whole. An equally selfless sacrifice of his brother is required in order to produce the whole. In fact, it is not expected of any one individual to accomplish the entire task. לא עליך הַמְּלָאכָה לְגִמוֹר ["It is not expected of you to complete the entire task . . . " (Avoth 2:21)]. But the individual is indeed expected to make his personal contribution to the whole, weighed by the standard of the Sanctuary. One shekel was equivalent to 20 gerahs, of which the individual was expected to contribute ten; thus, viewed subjectively, one rounded whole. Let it be his whole contribution as far as he is concerned. Let him weigh it out with scrupulous accuracy, no matter how small a fraction his own contribution represents in relation to the whole of the task to be accomplished. Let him leave nothing undone, let him not withold any effort, any talent, any ability that could help promote the welfare of the whole. Although you are not expected to complete the entire task, "you are not free to desist from it" (Avoth 2:21). Let his halfshekel comprise a complete unit by the standard of the Sanctuary.

2 Kings 11:17-20 The Covenant and elimination of Ba'al

Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and the people, that they should be the Lord's people; between the king also and the people. (18) And all the people of the land went to the house of Baal, and broke it down; his altars and his images broke they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the Lord. (19) And he took the captains over hundreds, and the Carites, and the guard, and all the people of the land; and they brought down the king from the house of the Lord, and came by the way of the gate of the guard unto the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings. (20) So all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet; and they slew Athaliah with the sword at the king's house.

הָמֶלֶה וַתּוּמַת שָׁם. (יז) וַיִּיכְרֹת יְהוֹיָדָע אֶת הַבְּרִית בֵּין י״י וּבִין הַמֶּלֶהְ וּבִין הָעָם לְהִיוֹת לְעָם לִי״י וּבִין הַמֶּלֶהְ וּבִין הָעָם. (יח) וַיָּבֹאוּ כְל עַם הָאָרֶץ בֵּית הַבַּעַל וַיִּהְצֵהוּ אֶת מִזְבְּחֹתוּ וְאֶת הַבַּעַל הָרְגוּ לִפְנֵי הַמִּזְבְּחוֹת וַיָּשֶׂם הַבְּעַל הָרְגוּ לִפְנֵי הַמִּזְבְּחוֹת וַיָּשֶׁם הַבְּלֵים וְאֵת בְּלֹעם הָאָרֶץ וַיִּרִידוּ אֶת הָבָעִרם בִּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּבוֹאוּ דֶּרֶךְ שַׁעַר הָבְעִרם בִּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁמַח בְּל עַם הָאָרֶץ הְבָעִר שָׁקְטָה וְאֶת עֲתַלְיָהוּ הַמְּיתוּ וְהָעִיר שָׁקְטָה וְאֶת עֲתַלְיָהוּ הַמִּיתוּ

נוסח המקרא מבוסס על מהדורת מקרא על פי המסורה (CC BY-) מקרא על פי המסורה (SA 3.0), המבוססת על כתר ארם צובה וכתבי יד נוספים

רד"ק מלכים ב י"א:י"ז

בין ה' ובין המלך מתחלה כרת ברית בין ה' והמלך והעם שיהיו כלם לעבודת ה' ולהסיר הבעלים. ואחר כך כרת ברית בין המלך והעם. "Between God and the king:" Initially, he forged a covenant between God, the king, and the people for them all to serve God and to remove the Ba'al idols. Subsequently, he forged a [second] covenant between the king and the people.

12:1-4 Evaluating King Jehoash

מלכים ב י"ב

(1) Jehoash was seven years old when he began to reign. (2) In the seventh year of Jehu began Jehoash to reign; and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba. (3) And Jehoash did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him. (4) Howbeit the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and offered in the high places. (5) And

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(א) בֶּן שֶׁבַע שָׁנִים יְהוֹאָשׁ בְּמְלְכוֹ. (ב)
בִּשְׁנַת שֶׁבַע לְיֵהוּא מְלַדְּ יְהוֹאָשׁ
וְאַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה מְלַדְּ בִּירוּשָׁלָם וְשֵׁם
וְאַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה מְלַדְּ בִּירוּשָׁלָם וְשֵׁם
אָמּוֹ צִבְיָה מִבְּאֵר שָׁבַע. (ג) וַיִּעַשׂ
יְהוֹאָשׁ הַיִּשָּׁר בְּעֵינֵי י״י כְּל יָמִיו אֲשֶׁר
הוֹרְהוּ יְהוֹיִדְע הַכֹּהֵן. (ד) רְק הַבְּמוֹת
לֹא סָרוּ עוֹד הָעָם מְזַבְּחִים וּמְקַשְּׁיִרִים
בַּבְּמוֹת. (ה) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹאְשׁ אָל
הבֹּתְנִים כֹּל כָּסֶף הַבְּּדְשִׁים אֲשֶׁרּ

12:5-9 Repairing the Temple

Jehoash said to the priests: 'All the money of the hallowed things that is brought into the house of the Lord. in current money, the money of the persons for whom each man is rated, all the money that cometh into any man's heart to bring intothe house of the Lord, (6) let the priests take it to them, every man from him that bestoweth it upon him; and they shall repair the breaches of the house, wheresoever any breach shall be found.' (7) But it was so, that in the three and twentieth year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house. (8) Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and for the other priests, and said unto them: 'Why repair ye not the breaches of the house? now therefore take no longer money from them that bestow it upon you, but deliver it for the breaches of the house.' (9) And the priests consented that they

בבמות. (ה) ויאמר יהואש אל הַבֹּהַנִים כֹּל כָּסֵף הַקַּדַשִּׁים אֲשֵׁר יוּבַא בֵית י״י כֵּסֶף עוֹבֵר אִישׁ כַּסף נַפְשׁוֹת עֶרְכּוֹ כָּל כָּסֶף אֲשֶׁר יַעֲלֶה עַל לֶב אִישׁ לְהַבִיא בֵּית י״י. (ו) יִקְחוּ לַהֶם הַכּּהָנִים אִישׁ מֵאֵת מַכַּרוֹ וָהֶם יחזקו אַת בַּדֶק הַבַּיִת לְכֹל אֲשֶׁר יָמַצֵא שַׁם בַּדַק. (ז) וַיְהִי בִּשְׁנַת עשְׂרִים וְשָׁלשׁ שָׁנָה לַמֵּלֶךְ יִהוֹאַשׁ לא תזקו הַכּהַנִים אַת בֵּדֵק הַבַּיִת. וַיָּקָרָא הַמֶּלֶדְ יִהוֹאֲשׁ לִיהוֹיַדַע (ח) הַכַּהָן וַלְכַּהָנִים ויֹאמֶר אַלֶהֶם מדוּע אינכם מחזקים את בדק הבית ועתה אל תקחו כסף מאת מכריכם בִּי לְבַדֵק הַבַּיִת תַתְּנָהוֹ. (ט) ויֵאתוּ הַכּּהַנִים לִבְלִתִּי קְחַת כֶּסֶף מֵאֵת העם וּלְבַלְתִּי חזַק אָת בַּדֶק הבּיַת. ויִּקָּח יָהוֹיַדע הַכַּהֶן אַרוֹן אָחַד (יַ) ויקב חר בדלתו ויתן אתו אצל [מימיז] (בימין) בבוא איש

רד"ק מלכים ב פרק יב

לפיכך היה צריך חזוק. כי לולי זה היה עדיין קיים הבנין כי מיום שנבנה הבית עד שבדקו יואש לא היה אלא מאה וחמשים וחמש שנה ובנין חזק כאותו בנין היה עומד יותר ויותר לולא שפרצוהו עתליהו...

As a result [of the actions of Athaliah] it needed repair. Otherwise, it would have been sustained, since only 150 years had elapsed since it was built and a sturdy edifice such as this would have stood even longer [unimpaired] had Athaliah and her children not damaged it...

X

daughters. (4) And it came to pass after this, that Joash was minded to restore the house of the Lord. (5) And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them: 'Go out unto the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year, and see that ye hasten the matter.' Howbeit the Levites hastened it not. (6) And the king called for Jehoiada the chief, and unto him: 'Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the tax of Moses the servant of the Lord, and of the congregation of Israel, for the tent of the testimony?' (7) For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken up the house of God; and also all the hallowed things of the house of the Lord did they bestow upon the Baalim. (8) So the king commanded, and they made a chest, and set it

שתים ויולד בנים ובנות. (ד) ויהי אַחֶרֵי כָן הַיָה עָם לֶב יוֹאַשׁ לְחַדָּשׁ אָת בֵּית י״י. (ה) וַיִּקבֹּץ אֶת הַכֹּהָנִים והַלְוַיָם וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם צָאוּ לְעַרֵי יְהוּדַה וַקבצו מַבַּל ישראַל כַּסַף לְחַזֶּק אָת בַּית אֱלֹהֵיכֶם מַדֵּי שַׁנָה בִּשַׂנָה וְאַתֵּם תַּמַהַרוּ לַדַבַר וַלֹא מָהַרוּ הַלְוַיָּם. (וּ) ויָקרא המַלֶּדְ לִיהוידע הראש ויאמר לו מדוע לא דרשת על הלוים ומירושלם את מיהודה עבד משה לִישַראַל לִאהַל הַעֲדוּת. (ז) עתליהו המרשעת בניה פרצו את בית האלהים וגם כַּל קדשׁי בית י״י עשוּ לבַּעלִים. (ח) ויאמר המַלֶּדְ ויעשו אַרון אַחד ויִתנהו בשער בית י"י חוּצַה. (ט) וַיִּתְנוּ קוֹל בִּיהוּדָה ובירושלם להביא לי"י משאת משה עבד האלהים על ישראל במדבר (י) וַיִּשְמָחוּ כַל הַשַּׁרִים וְכַל הַעַם וַיַּבִיאוּ

12:10-17 Repairing the Temple: Revenue and Expenditure

should take no longer money from the people, neither repair the breaches of the house. (10) And Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of the Lord; and the priests that kept the threshold put therein all the money that was brought into the house of the Lord. (11) And it was so, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they put up in bags and counted the money that was found in the house of the Lord. (12) And they gave the money that was weighed out into the hands of them that did the work, that had the oversight of the house of the Lord; and they paid it out to the carpenters and the builders, that wrought upon the house of the Lord,

י) וַיִּקַּח יְהוֹיָדָע הַכֹּהֵן אֲרוֹן אֶחַד וַיָּקֹב חֹר בַּדַלָתוֹ וַיָּתֵן אֹתוֹ אֶצֵל הַמְּזָבֶּחַ [מִיָמִין] (בימין) בְּבוֹא אִישׁ בֵּית י״י וָנַתְנוּ שַׁמַה הַכֹּהַנִים שֹׁמְרֵי הַסַּף אָת כַּל הַכָּסַף הַמּוּבַא בֵית י״י. וְיָהִי כָּרָאוֹתֵם כִּי רַב הַכֵּסֶף (אי) בַּאַרוֹן וַיַּעַל סֹפֵר הַמֵּלֶדְ וְהַכּּהֵן הַגַּדוֹל וַיַּצָרוּ וַיִּמְנוּ אֶת הַכֵּסֶף הַנִּמְצַא בִית י״י. (בי) וְנַתְנוּ אֵת הַכֵּסֶף הַמְתָכַּן עַל [יַדִי] (יד) עשׁי הַמְּלַאכַה [הַמַּפְקָדִים] (הפקדים) בֵּית הַעֵץ וְלַבֹּנִים לְחַרַשֵׁי ויוציאהו יָּעִשִּׁים בֵּית י״י. (יג) וְלַגֹּדְרִים וּלְחֹצְבֵי הַאֶבֶן וִלְקנוֹת עֵצִים וַאֲבָנֵי מַחָצֵב לְחַזָּק אָת בַּדָק בֵּית י״י וּלְכֹל אֲשֵׁר יֵצֶא עַל הַבַּיָת לְחַזְקָה. (יד) אַדְּ לֹא יַעשה בֵּית י״י סְפּוֹת כֵּסֶף מְזָמְרוֹת מְזָרַקוֹת חֵצֹצְרוֹת כֵּל כִּלִי זַהַב וּכַלִי כַסֶף מָן הַכַּסֶף הַמּוּבַא בֵית י״י. (טו)

תלמוד בבלי מסכת בבא בתרא דף ח עמוד ב

תנו רבנן: קופה של צדקה נגבית בשנים ומתחלקת בשלשה, נגבית בשנים שאין עושים שררות על הצבור פחות משנים, ומתחלקת בשלשה כדיני ממונות.

The rabbis taught: The charity box is collected by two and divided by three. Collected by two—because no public authority is exercised by fewer than two, and divided by three—as in all civil cases.

Yiddish Word of the Week

פושקע - Pushke

Pushke - פושקע \PUSH-ke\ Noun:

A tin can, particularly an alms box.

Pronunciation: Click <u>here</u> to hear a native Yiddish speaker use this word in conversation. Alternative pronunciations: PUSH-kee, PISH-ke.

German equivalent: Apparently, there is no German equivalent for this word. In fact, it would seem that very few languages have a single word for a container set aside for collecting charity. It is, of course, an outgrowth of Jewish religious practice and observe of the *mitzveh* of *tzedoke*. (Incidentally, I wonder if there is an Arabic word for such a box. Anyone know?) The closest we can get in German, I think, is "der Almosenkasten," but I'm not even sure if that quite catches it.

Etymology: There seems to be a dispute about etymology here. Leo Rosten, in his *Joys of Yiddish* (p. 296; unfortunately not available online), argues that it derives from the Polish word for can, "puszka." Thus, a *pushke* is simply "a little can or container kept in the home, often in the kitchen, in which money to be donated to a charity is accumulated." While this would seem to be the simplest explanation, I am intrigued by another, which I found https://expurply.org/hepstate/ a carrier is according to the Jastrow dictionary), the Aramaic word pushka (אַרְשִׁדְּשִׁרָּ), means "handsbreadth, palm." As such, the word, in its Yiddish context, refers to the stretching out of the hand to receive alms. When taken together, the two sources form a whole: One stretches out one's pushka with a pushka in it in order to receive tzedoke.

Conclusion

(13) and to the masons and the hewers of stone, and for buying timber and hewn stone to repair the breaches of the house of the Lord, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair it. (14) But there were not made for the house of the Lord cups of silver, snuffers, basins, trumpets, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver, of the money that was brought into the house of the

פִּי לְעֹשֵׁי הַמְּלָאכָה יִתְּנָהוּ וְחִזְּקוּ בּוֹ אֶת בֵּית י״י. (טז) וְלֹא יְחַשְׁבּוּ אֶת הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר יִתְּנוּ אֶת הַכֶּסֶף עַל יָדָם לָתֵת לְעֹשֵׁי הַמְּלָאכָה כִּי בֶּאֱמֻנָה הַם עֹשִׁים. (יז) כָּסֶף אָשָׁם וְכֶסֶף הַם עֹשִׁים. (יז) כָּסֶף אָשָׁם וְכֶסֶף חַטְאוֹת לֹא יוּבָא בֵּית י״י לַכֹּהְנִים יִהְיוּ. בְּיִם עַל גַּת וַיִּלְכְּדָה וַיָּשֶׁם חְזָאֵל הַּנִים עַל גַּת וַיִּלְכְּדָה וַיָּשֶׂם חְזָאֵל פַּנֵיו לַעַלוֹת עַל יִרוּשַׁלַם. (יט) וַיִּקָּח