


מצוות
עשה
#107

 This mitzvah includes all of the halachos of Tumas Meis, and does not have a specific posuk we learn it from.

Today's *mitzvah* is the same one as yesterday:

When a *neshama* leaves a body, the body becomes *Tomei*. Someone who touches or is in the same house as the body gets some of this *Tumah* too, called *Tumas Meis*. There are many *halachos* about what a person who has this kind of *Tumah* is not allowed to do, and how he can become *Tahor* again. Today's *mitzvah* is to follow all of these *halachos*!

Rambam: Hilchos Tumas Meis

PEREK YUD-BEIS

In today's Rambam, we are learning about *Tumas Meis*, and how someone can get this kind of *Tumah*. There are two ways to get *Tumas Meis* — to carry a *Meis*, or to be under the same roof as a *Meis*.

PEREK YUD-GIMMEL

The Rambam teaches us what is called “under the same roof” (*Ohel*). Something strong is counted as a roof — even sturdy branches of a tree! They bring the *tumah* to whatever is underneath it, but keep the *tumah* from spreading to whatever is OVER the *Ohel* (“*Meviin Vechotzetzin*”).

But something that is not strong and will not stay does not become an *Ohel*. For example, snow is not counted as a roof, because it will melt. So an igloo, which is made of ice and snow, would not be counted as an *Ohel* and make things inside it *tomei*.

PEREK YUD-DALED

Tumas Meis that comes from being under the same roof can sometimes spread and go into the next room or the next house!

The Rambam says that if there is an open space that is at least as big as a *tefach*, like a window or door, the *Tumah* can spread.