

מִצְוֹת
עֲשֵׂה
#109

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Metzora: (ויקרא טו:טז)

וְרַחֵץ בַּמַּיִם אֶת כָּל בְּשָׂרוֹ

Today we learn the *mitzvah* of *Mikvah* one last time: Dipping in a *mikvah* has the *koach* to make something that used to be *Tomei, Tahor!*

This doesn't mean that a person HAS to go to the *mikvah* when he becomes *tomei*, it is not an *aveira* to be *tomei!* But if he wants to become *tahor*, he needs to follow these *halachos* of going to the *mikvah*.

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara: **Mesechta Mikvaos and Mesechta Tvul Yom**

Staying Tahor in Golus

In a *sicha* to children, the Rebbe explains a lesson we can learn from the *siyum* in today's Rambam, about the *mitzvah* of *mikvah*:

In the time of *Golus*, a child can live near children that are not Jewish, or *lehavdil*, Jewish children who don't know about *Yiddishkeit*. They might end up seeing and hearing not-good ways of thinking, that are not the Torah way.

What should we do if that happens? How do we take away those not-*tahor* ways of thinking?

We need to go to the *mikvah* — the *mikvah* of Torah!

The *Chachomim* say that Torah is compared to water. A *mikvah* is also made of 40 *se'ah* of water, like the Torah which was given over to Moshe for 40 days.

Going to the *mikvah* means that the water goes over your head, reaching every part of your body. When we go into the *mikvah* of Torah, the water also needs to reach our head (*sechel*), our heart (*midos*), and our hands and feet (*maaseh*). This way our entire body will be covered with the pure water of Torah.

Sicha Ohr L'Ner Ches D'Chanukah 5745, to Tzivos Hashem

מִצְוֹת
עֲשֵׂה
#237

📖 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Mishpatim: (שמות כא:כח)

וְכִי יִגַח שׁוֹר וְגוֹי

We also learn a new *mitzvah* from the new *Sefer* in Rambam! This *mitzvah* is that if one of our animals hurts or breaks things, we need to pay for what it broke.

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
First six perakim of Mesechta Bava Kama

Rambam: Hilchos Mikvaos, Hilchos Nizkei Mamon

PEREK YUD-ALEF

This *perek* has the *halachos* about making hands *Tahor*, by dipping them in a *Mikvah* or washing them, which is the *mitzvah* of *Netilas Yodayim*!

The Rambam finishes off this *Sefer* with a lesson in *Avodas Hashem*: He reminds us that a person can also make his *neshama Tahor*, by going in a “*mikvah*” of the *neshama*! What’s a “*mikvah*” for a *neshama*? Learning Torah and deciding to do *Teshuvah*.

Mazel Tov!
We have now
finished *Sefer*
Tahara!

PEREK ALEF

In this first *perek*, we learn some general rules about what happens when an animal breaks something. The amount that the owner has to pay depends on whether he should have known his animal could do something like that (*Mu'ad*) or it was something it doesn't ever do (*Tam*). It also depends how the animal broke it — by fighting, eating, or walking; and where it happened (in public property, or in someone's private property).

PEREK BEIS

The Rambam explains more about the *halacha* that things that break while the animal is walking in public aren't the owner's responsibility, and he doesn't have to pay. We also learn about times when it's partly the owner's fault, and he has to pay half.