

מִצְוַת
עֲשֵׂה

#240

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Mishpatim: (שמות כ"ד)

כִּי יִבְעַר אִישׁ שָׂדֵה אוֹ כָרֶם וְגוֹ'

Today's *mitzvah* is the *mitzvah* that if our animal eats from someone else's field, it is our responsibility. We need to pay for the damage!



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Bava Kama perek Beis and perek Vov, and Mesechta Gitin perek Hey

Rambam: Hilchos Nizkei Mamon

PEREK GIMMEL

The Rambam teaches us the *halachos* about when something is hurt or broken because of an animal eating — today's *mitzvah*.

One *halacha* in this *perek* is that if someone's animal ate food that another person brought there, the owner of the food is responsible if it made that animal sick!

The Rambam brings an example from a story in the *Gemara*: Once a woman came to make bread in her neighbor's house, and the neighbor went away so he wouldn't look at her when she was kneading and baking the dough, because of *tznius*. The neighbor's goat ate some of the raw dough and died! The *Beis Din* made the woman pay for the goat, because she shouldn't have let the goat eat the dough, and the neighbor wasn't there to keep the goat away.

PEREK DALED

This *perek* explains the *halachos* of a person's responsibility for making sure his animal doesn't do any damage. Sometimes we say that the person should have been more careful, so it is his responsibility to pay for any damage that the animal did. For example, if a person didn't make sure the fence was strong, he needs to pay for anything his animal broke if it escaped. Another example is if a person left his animal outside in the sun. Then he is also responsible, even if the fence was VERY strong, because the animal wasn't comfortable, so it tried extra hard to escape.

PEREK HEY

Now the Rambam tells us about 10 conditions Yehoshua made when the Yidden came into Eretz Yisroel. Many of them are about when we are allowed to use other people's fields without asking.

One rule is that Yidden are only allowed to raise dogs if they keep them tied up with a strong chain. That's because Eretz Yisroel is special land for GROWING things, and a dog likes to break and ruin things!