

מצוות  
עשה  
#247

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Ki Seitzei: (דברים כה:יב)

וְקִצְתָּהּ אֶת כַּפֵּה  
לֹא תַחֹס עֵינֶיךָ

If someone is chasing after another person to kill him (*Rodef*), we need to do whatever we can to stop him! If we can do it by hurting the *Rodef*, we should, but if not, we need to kill him instead of letting him kill the other person.

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara: Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Ches

מצוות  
לא תעשה  
#293

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Ki Seitzei: (דברים כה:יב)

וְקִצְתָּהּ אֶת כַּפֵּה  
לֹא תַחֹס עֵינֶיךָ

We are not allowed to feel bad for the *Rodef* — we need to kill him to stop him from doing what he wants to do. (If he already did the *aveira*, we can't kill him — the *Beis Din* needs to take care of it.)

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara: Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Ches

מצוות  
לא תעשה  
#297

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Kedoshim: (ויקרא יט:טז)

לֹא תַעֲמֹד עַל דַּם רֵעֶךָ

“*Lo Saamod Al Dam Reiacha!*” We are not allowed to ignore when someone is in danger or his things are going to be ruined. We need to try to help!

For example, if someone is drowning, if we know how to swim, we have to jump in and save him! And if a person is being taken to court, if we know the truth, we need to go be a witness to save his money.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara: **Mesechta Sanhedrin**

מצוות  
עשה  
#182

We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Shoftim: (דברים יט:ג)

תִּכְיֶן לְךָ הַדֶּרֶךְ  
וּשְׁלֹשֶׁת אֶת גְּבוּל אֶרְצֶךָ

We need to set up *Arei Miklat* in Eretz Yisroel, and make roads leading to them. These cities are a “safe place” for someone who killed by mistake.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara: **Mesechta Sanhedrin, Mesechta Makos, Mesechta Shekalim, and Mesechta Sotah**

## The Ir Miklat of the Year

If someone kills another person by mistake, he runs away to the *Ir Miklat*, where he will be safe.

When a person does an *aveira* by mistake, it’s like he is “killing” (R”L) the *neshama*. Hashem gives us a chance to go to an “*Ir Miklat*” in the days of *Elul*. Doing the *avodah* of the month of *Elul* keeps us safe, like an *Ir Miklat!*

That’s why the words the Torah uses to teach us about an *Ir Miklat* are “*Ina Leyado Vesamti Lecha*” — If a person killed someone else by mistake,

Hashem gives him a place to go.

These words are also the *Roshei Teivos* of the word *Elul*!

This *posuk* teaches us to learn Torah, which is also like an *Ir Miklat* — like the *Chachomim* say, “*Divrei Torah Koltin*,” the words of Torah save!

If we stay in the *Ir Miklat* by using *Elul* to do *Teshuvah* and learn Torah, it will keep us safe from any not good things, and Hashem will send us a *Shana Tova Umesuka*!

## Rambam: Hilchos Rotzeiach U'Shmiras HaNefesh

### PEREK HEY

This *perek* has the *halachos* about when a person would need to go to an *Ir Miklat*. For a *kohen*, the top of the *Mizbeiach* is also a safe place, just like an *Ir Miklat*!

### PEREK VOV

We learn about three kinds of “accidental killing:”

1. Someone who didn't know that what he was doing would kill someone — a real mistake. He needs to stay in the *Ir Miklat*.

2. When it was a kind of thing that doesn't usually happen — like throwing something heavy into a place where people don't usually go. That person doesn't need to stay in an *Ir Miklat*, and the *Goel Hadam* is not allowed to kill him.

3. Where the person was being careless, we don't consider that an accident. It won't help for him to be in an *Ir Miklat*, and he won't be safe there.

### PEREK ZAYIN

This *perek* teaches us about the *Ir Miklat*. The *Ir Miklat* is a city where a person will be safe from the *Goel Hadam*. Two *Talmidei Chachomim* come run with the person to the *Ir Miklat* where he will be safe. The *Talmidei Chachomim* are there to try to convince the *Goel Hadam* not to kill him.