

מִצְוֹת
לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה
#253

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

וְגֵר לֹא תוֹנֶה

Today's *mitzvah* is the same as yesterday's: That we're not allowed to cheat a *Ger*, to sell him something for more money than it is really worth, or buy something from him for too little. (Of course, we can't cheat ANYONE! But if someone *chas veshalom* cheats a *Ger*, they did TWO *aveiros*, and need to do *teshuvah* for each one.)

Rambam: Hilchos Mechirah

PEREK CHOF-BEIS

In today's Rambam, we learn more *halachos* of how a person can make something belong to him in the Torah way. We see from these *halachos* how important it is to stay away from cheating by being very clear about exactly what we are selling.

In this *perek*, we learn about selling something that isn't there yet, like selling "whatever will grow on this tree." A person isn't allowed to do that, because it didn't grow yet! But the Rambam says that if someone says that "whatever grows in this field" belongs to *tzedakah*, he needs to keep his promise!

PEREK CHOF-GIMMEL

This *perek* teaches us more about selling something that isn't there yet. We learn that the *halacha* is different if a person sells someone the chance to grow things in their field, it IS fine to sell it. Because he is letting him use the field, which IS there!

PEREK CHOF-DALED

In this *perek*, the Rambam tells us that if we sell someone trees, we need to also sell him enough room in the field so he can take care of them.

We also learn more *halachos* about what to do when it isn't so clear what a person is selling.