

מִצְוַת
עֲשֵׂה
#142

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Re'eh: (דברים טו:ג)

אֶת הַנֶּכְרִי תִגַּשׁ

Even though it's a *mitzvah* to let a Yid have longer to pay back money he owes, we are supposed to make sure a *goy* who doesn't believe in Hashem pays back right away. (Since *goyim* do this to each other, they expect us to do the same. If we don't, it would be a loss for a Yid's money.) That is today's *mitzvah* in *Sefer Hamitzvos*.

Rambam: Hilchos Malveh VeLoveh

PEREK DALED

In today's Rambam, we learn about not taking neshech, interest.

We start to learn about interest. What is interest? Let's say Reuven asks Shimon to lend him \$100, and Shimon tells Reuven he has to pay him back \$105 instead of \$100. Any time we want someone to pay us back more than what he borrowed, that's interest and it's *asur*. The Rambam says that this is a big *aveirah*, and someone who does it is like denying Hashem and *Yetzias Mitzrayim!*

PEREK HEY

We learn that it is a *mitzvah* to charge interest to a *goy*, but it's a bigger *mitzvah* to lend another Yid without interest.

Did you know that even WORDS can be interest? If someone gives you a loan, you have to be careful about thanking him — because those words can make him feel good, and that will be like giving him interest! You also can't do him any extra favors because of the loan.

PEREK VOV

Sometimes when a person borrows money, he gives a *Mashkon* to show that he will pay it back. If the *Mashkon* is something that a person could benefit from, like a field that grows fruit, or a house that a person can live in, it can be interest if the person eats the fruit or lives there. This *perek* teaches how to be careful about this kind of interest!