

מִצְוֹת
לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה
#291



We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Masei: (במדבר לה:ל)

וְעַד אֶחָד לֹא יַעֲנֶה בְּנֶפֶשׁ לְמוֹת

In today's *Sefer Hamitzvos*, we learn the *mitzvah* that a witness can't say if he thinks someone is wrong or right in *Beis Din* if the person might be *chayav misa*. They are only allowed to say what they heard or saw, not their opinion.

Rambam: Hilchos Eidus

PEREK HEY

The Rambam tells us a few more details about today's *mitzvah*: If the witness starts to explain why he thinks the person is wrong or right, the *Beis Din* makes him be quiet! We

also learn *halachos* about tomorrow's *mitzvah* in *Sefer Hamitzvos*, not to listen to one witness in court.

PEREK VOV AND PEREK ZAYIN

We learn how the *Beis Din* can accept information from a *shtar* (a document) without the *eidim* being there. Why are they allowed to do that? We learned the reason yesterday — the *Beis Din* wants to make sure that people are comfortable giving loans, so they don't make it too hard to get money back in *Beis Din*.

So in a case where someone is trying to get

back money that another person owes him, he can bring a proof from something the *eidim* wrote, even if they aren't there! Of course there are many *halachos* explaining just how this is done, and we learn them in these two *perakim* (and also in the first *perek* of tomorrow's Rambam).