

מִצְוֹת
עֲשֵׂה
#171



We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Ki Sisa: (שמות ל"ב)

וְנָתַנוּ אִישׁ כֶּפֶר נַפְשׁוֹ לַה'

In *Sefer Hamitzvos*, we learn the *mitzvah* of giving a half *Shekel* (*Machatzis Hashekel*) every year to the *Beis Hamikdash*. We only keep this *mitzvah* when the *Beis Hamikdash* is standing.



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

Rambam: Hilchos Shekalim

PERAKIM ALEF, BEIS, AND GIMMEL

In today's Rambam, we learn lots of *halachos* about the *Machatzis Hashekel*. Here are some of them:

On *Rosh Chodesh Adar*, they would start to remind people to give the *Machatzis Hashekel*. They had two of a special kind of *pushka* that they used for this — it was shaped like a

shofar! This way you could put money in easily in the small part, but it wasn't easy to take the money out. Every man had to give a half *shekel*, even if he was very poor.

The money from the *Machatzis Hashekel* was used for buying *Korbanos*.