

מצוות
עשה
#217

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

וְחִלְצָה נַעֲלוֹ מֵעַל רַגְלוֹ

In *Sefer Hamitzvos* today, we learn a new *mitzvah*: *Chalitzah*. We learned yesterday about the *mitzvah* of *Yibum* (if a man passes away without having any children, his brother should marry his wife). But if the brother doesn't want to, the *almanah* needs to do the *mitzvah* of *Chalitzah*.



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

Rambam: Hilchos Yibum V'Chalitzah

PERAKIM GIMMEL, DALED, AND HEY

Today's Rambam explains exactly how the *mitzvah* of *Chalitzah* is done.

If a woman's husband passed away before they had any children, his brother has a *mitzvah* (*yibum*) to marry the woman so that they can have a baby to name after his brother. If the brother (the *yavam*) doesn't want to marry her, she is not allowed to marry another person until they do the *mitzvah* of *chalitzah*.

The woman and her brother-in-law need to go to *Beis Din*. The *yevama* (the *almanah*) announces with certain words taken from the Torah that her husband's brother doesn't want her husband's name to be remembered, because he doesn't want to marry her.

The *yavam* needs to answer, "I don't want

to marry her."

The *yavam* then puts on a special *chalitzah* shoe (which will fall apart once it is untied) on his right foot and stands. The *yevama* sits on the floor, unties the shoe, and throws it on the floor. Then she spits on the ground.

After this, the *yevama* says the words of the *posuk*, "Such shall be done to a man who doesn't build his brother's house! His family should be called the house of the one whose shoe was taken off (*'chalutz hanaal'*)!"

Everyone who is there says, "*Chalutz Hanaal! Chalutz Hanaal! Chalutz Hanaal!* — the shoe was taken off."

Then the *almanah* is allowed to get married to someone else.