

# THE Kibbitzer

Issue 73



## Why did they visit their friends? They were told to do Bikurim.

You get it? Bikurim is the first fruits. Also means to 'visit with,' if we're talking Hebrew. The Temple didn't see those fruits, as they misunderstood. Some puns are not meant to be funny. They are meant to be educational.

### RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

**Dear Rabbi. It seems shnurers are everywhere. Ever since I became religious, I cannot avoid these people asking me for money. Is there anyway to avoid them?**

Shalom My Dear Pupil. No. I've tried. You can't avoid them. Once the Jewish community knows you're Jewish, they will find you. And you shouldn't avoid the shnurer. They're making sure you give Tzedaka, to them. Here are some of the many places they've found me.

- *Pizza Shops* \$2.50 for pizza. A buck for the shnurer. You need an extra dollar per-slice. Budgeted. That's the kosher pizza fee. And they count slices. I say 'pizza shops' because they've found me in every pizza shop I ever ate at.
- *Shul* I was Davening. He interrupted me. I felt that was rude, and it killed my Kavanah. I can't have proper intent with my prayers when they guy next to me is jingling coins. Do shnurers realize how much they ruin Kavanah? I thought I was connecting to God, and then he let me know God didn't care until he got more than a dollar. It's just rude. It's almost impossible to focus on asking H' for a decent Parnasah with this guy right there. I even offered to

pray for him to make a living. He didn't want that. He wanted another dollar.

- *My Front Door* I've stopped answering the door. They pop up there. It's either the mail-woman or this guy who somehow figured out I'm Jewish. Either way, I am losing money. Chances are it's the shnurer or a High Holiday appeal. I feel bad lying to them, but I do. 'Do you have money?' 'No.' That's the answer they're getting from me. It's not responsible to tell them I have money. My doors open. They'll break right in. It could be a robbery. Just because the guy has a beard, doesn't make him safe. What's under his bekisha?

- *Anywhere They See me with a Kippah* At the bus stop. I think that guy was trying to chase people away, so he could get a good seat. He asked for money, and everybody ran from that stop. I woke up at a park. He was right there. At the supermarket, I pulled out money for the groceries. He was there. At the airport. How he afforded the flight. They are always there. Next flight, the guy will be there at my seat, blocking the cart. If you have a Kippah they will find you. I left my house, taking a stroll, they knew it was time to shnur.

### SERMON OF REBUKE- KI TAVO

Shabbat Shalom My Entitled Congregants... (Devarim 26:1) 'And it will be, when you come into the land... take from the first fruits...' There are rules. When you come in, there's rules... Shul needs rules. They probably cleaned their feet in Israel. Maybe kissed the ground. On the shul trip to Israel, I was the only one to kiss the ground... It's not dirty. It's Holy Land... I know people walk on it, but it's holy... You don't have to shower if you're holy. Ever been to Jerusalem? Holy people... Take from the first fruits... It's not yours. It's God's. That's the problem. You all think it's yours. The High Holiday seats are not yours. The best thing you can do on Rosh Hashana is give your seat to a poor person... Nobody

wants to come to shul because you flatulate... (26:5-8) After giving it to the Kohen, you talk about how you were slaves... how H' saved you and gave you this opportunity. It's about appreciation. Hakarat HaTov. Acknowledging how amazing your rabbi is...

(26:11) 'And you shall rejoice with all the good God has given you.' After not being selfish like Fran... When you're not selfish, you can rejoice with all. When you don't flatulate, all can rejoice and enjoy. Poor people can get a seat.. Poor people don't deserve Lulavs and Etrogs. Those are expensive...

That's what you have to do Teshuva for. That and flatulating in shul... *It's a land flowing with milk and honey. Not Bernie's gas...*

*Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha:*  
They almost fired the rabbi for suggesting that poor people deserve seats in shul on Yom Kippur.

## SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS

High Holiday seats are being sold right now. First class seats are on sale as well. We're going to be bringing in foot rests for the plush seat section. We will also be serving pastry and alcohol to people with first class seats. Though we pushed for it, the rabbi won't let us serve snacks on Yom Kippur. Even if you pay extra money, he won't allow for it. You must purchase seats, even if you purchased lifetime Yom Kippur seats. It doesn't count anymore. The lifetime is up.

Lulav and Etrog sales are going on now. We suggest everybody pay a lot. This way, you can get heaven, and we can pay for the shul's new Sukkah renovations.

No more flatulating in the middle of the services. People find it hard to concentrate. There have been many complaints about Reuven. If you haven't noticed disturbed congregants sitting in discomfort, you have not been paying attention to the back left of the men's section.



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