

כְּשֶׁאֵרַע שְׂאֵלָה בְּבֵית הָאָדָם עַל־יְדֵי תַעֲרֻכַּת אִסּוּר

A Kashrus Question in the Home

THE TEACHING

A short teaching about the kashrus questions (שְׂאֵלוֹת) that come up at home. When something forbidden mixes into something permitted (תַּעֲרֻכַּת אִסּוּר בְּהֵתֵר), and there is not enough of the permitted to nullify it, this shows the person that he has damaged some unification above (יְחוד שֶׁל מַעְלָה).

Why? Because every unification and match (יְחודִים וְזוּגִים) is a nullifying of the forbidden (בְּטוּל אִסּוּר): the forbidden becomes permitted.

MAIN POINTS

- We say it in the blessing at a wedding: “וְאָסַר לָנוּ אֶת הָאָרוּסוֹת וְהֵתִיר לָנוּ אֶת הַנְּשׂוּאוֹת”, “He forbade to us the betrothed, and permitted to us the married.” A bride is forbidden at the betrothal (אָרוּסָה), and the wedding (נִשְׁוּאִין) makes her permitted.
- So even of the match in this lower world the psalm says: “אֱלֹקִים מוֹשִׁיב יְחִידִים בֵּיתָה” (תהלים סח:ז), “Elokim settles the solitary in a home”, which the Sages read about matches (זוּגִים).
- And then: “מוֹצִיא אֲסִירִים בְּכוֹשְׁרוֹת” (תהלים סח:ז), “He brings out the bound into what is fit”: the forbidden (אִסּוּר) becomes kosher and permitted.
- So when the forbidden is not nullified, and the question is ruled forbidden, it is a sign of a flaw in a unification above.

A PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY · OUR OWN REFLECTION

Ask the rav, follow his ruling, and take the moment as a gentle nudge to look inward. Even the kitchen can carry a message from above.

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