

KASHRUT BULLETIN # 26

WHOEVER GUARD HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE, GUARDS
AS WELL HIS SOUL FROM SUFFERING (Mishle 21:23)

There is no sin so severe as forbidden foods, since entire Jewish communities were lost and turned to evil ways because of eating treifos and neveilos.

(Divrei Chayim-Yoreh Deah)

THE MOST UPRIGHT BUTCHER IS A PARTNER OF AMALEK

See further the last chapter of Kiddushin (82a): "The most upright butcher is a partner of Amalek." Rashi explains that many cases of questionable kashrut come to his hand, and in trying to save money, declares them kosher, and - sell them as such. We can see to what extent the Rabbis evaluate the pitfalls resulting from the butchers, that they did not hesitate to use the sharpest epithet when referring to them. The expression, "partner of Amalek," is, by far, the sharpest epithet used in the Talmud. One's hair can stand on end when one thinks about how far this matter extends. For a question of doubtful kashrut the Rabbis called him such a name, and not only a usual butcher, but "the most upright butcher " so that no one can be confident in himself and say that since he appointed a reliable butcher, no pitfalls can result from him, and it is accepted that a Torah scholar does not allow any pitfall to result from his doings, especially if the butcher is really learned, since the Rabbis say that a Torah scholar will commit a minor infraction in order to prevent an ignorant person from committing a major infraction.

Isn't that language just an exaggeration of the Rabbis?

Let it be made clear that people's thoughts and reasoning do not coincide with the thoughts and reasoning of the Rabbis o.b.m., who enjoyed the presence of the Shechinah in their study hall, and everything recorded in the Mishnah or in the Gemara is hallowed with all kinds of sanctity. No one ever found fault with them except apostates and sectarians, who left the Jewish fold. See how the Geonim and the Rishonim toiled to reconcile the presence of a single word and built piles and piles of halachos upon it. Now,

when they called the butcher "a partner of Amalek," the Shechinah was actually speaking from their throats, and they were agents of the All-merciful, and if we are human beings, they were veritable angels and seraphim, and all their words are like fiery coals. Let no man be tempted to say that the Rabbis meant only the butcher but not the shochet, because if you look at Rosh on Chullin p. 18, and in Maggid Mishneh, Laws of Shechitah 1:26, you will see that the usual butcher in Talmudic times was also a shochet and an inspector.

It should be plain that not everything a person imagines is true, and even if he feels that he has all sorts of conclusive proofs that this butcher is perfectly reliable, and no one need investigate his practices, all these proofs are null and void against the testimony of our Rabbis o.b.m., who stated unequivocally that the most upright of the butchers is the partner of Amalek. Moreover, any sensible person knows that our generation is surely not better than previous ones, and the most upright butcher of this generation is immeasurably inferior to the average butcher of those times, surely to the most upright.

Therefore, whoever wishes to follow the paths of our holy Torah and its pleasant rulings and ways, must abandon his own ideas in view of the ideas of the Rabbis of the Talmud, and must literally quake before bringing any meat into his house. See what the holy Shaloh (Shne Luchot Ha Brit) writes, he saw religious men who did not eat any meat except from animals they themselves had slaughtered. He was very puzzled concerning the origin of the practice of eating meat from any shochet without first knowing clearly that the meat is kosher.

***So what's the connection between the Butcher and Amalek?
Is the butcher killing us? Just like Amalek would?***

In the story of Purim we are told that Hamman (A descendant of Amalek) got the strength to issue the decree to annihilate all Jews from the fact that Jews sinned when they enjoyed forbidden foods in the banquet of Achashverosh.

I am sure that the reason there are shechitah gezeros (Jews being slaughtered by the Goyim) in our times is because we did not keep our eyes on the schochtim as we should. (Tiyul bapardes, concerning shechitah, by Shamlauer Rav)

The Cause of Increasing Daily Catastrophes

We read in Sefer Imrei Tzaddikim, (Divrei Geonim p 5): Where the shochet is honest, the shechitah is good and Elijah the prophet is in town. But, if the shochet feeds the people neveilos and trefos, he causes the Angel of Death to come to town [And Jews suffer tragic deaths, G-d save us]

From the aforementioned books we see that all catastrophes that befall us today are caused by shoachim who feed Nevelot (see also Shabbos 33b, Or Hachaim Shmini 11:43, Warnings of Mahartza, Mikdash Melech, Zivchei Shelamim, Darchei Teshuvah 60:5).

But it's the our enemies that kill us, What does the non Kosher foods have to do with the Jews that are killed?

The Satan gets his strength to harm the Jews from our sins in general and especially when we eat forbidden foods, just like the story of Purim when Haman got permission to kill the Jews through their transgression of Kashrut.

Now you have to know that the angel of death has many willing emissaries and when you see an Arab blowing up himself you should know that from heaven he was given permission to harm Jews otherwise he would have no power to do anything to the Jews. But can you blame everything on that Arab?

It's written in the Talmud: "It's not the serpent that kills but it's sin that kills". In the book Simcha ba Bassar it says that it is amazing to see all the Rabbonim that are engaged and support those who are involved in the Shechita Terefah and those same Rabbis are the ones who are guilty for the tragedies that befall the Jews.

We live in a world of lies and deceit. And due to our many sins these Rabbis deceive the people and blame the tragedies on the lack of Torah study and the lack of Tzeddaka, but in reality it should be the community who should scream at those Rabbis for they are the ones who are really supporting the Shochatim and causing the Jews to suffer tragic deaths.

WARNING

At first look you may wonder why we are writing on the situation of the Shechita in The United States and the world in general, aren't there many great Rabbonim and people fearful of Hashem in many cities and for sure the Shechita today is better than what it could have been back in Europe, and the Shochatim today are well versed and know the laws and have Yirat Shamaim. And if ever there were any problems with the Shechita in past years it has already been corrected by now so basically we should have nothing to worry about.

We feel compelled to let everyone who cares for his life and that of his household to be wary of the excuses many times heard on the street when people start talking about the problems of Kashrut of meat. Some of the excuses are:

All the problems occur in other communities or in other countries but not here in our community.

All the problems have been already fixed.

All the Great Rabbonim are careful to check all the details.

How can it be that everybody is eating Nevelot and terefot?

We must warn the public that not only is the situation not better than what it was in Europe in the distant past but it's many times worse with the problems growing more severe with the passing of time.

The foundation of the laws of Kashrut is the Shechita and all other problems when compared to those of Shechita are minimal. When the shechita is not Kosher, we run the risk of eating Nevelot and Terefot, also we run the risk of eating the blood of the animal and we run the risk of eating forbidden fats (Chelev) and you surely know that the punishment for eating blood or Chelev is Karet (Same as eating on Yom Kippur or eating Chametz on Passover and the punishment consists on untimely death and that the soul is cut off from the world to Come, G-d forbid).

There are many pitfalls that occur in the Shechita, and they occur even in the Shechitot that are more careful and observant, and it's the same whether it's a shechita for large animals or for fowl. Don't fool yourself into thinking that the Shechita from which you eat doesn't have any problems.

AN IGNORANT PERSON IS FORBIDDEN FOR HIM TO
EAT MEAT (PESACHIM 49b)

WHO CAN CONTRADICT THE WORDS OF THE PELE YOETZ?

It is extremely difficult to find meat that is kosher according to all views. I, therefore, derive much pleasure from the pious that are careful not to eat meat. (Pele Yoetz, taref).

Whoever wishes to avoid all risks, should be smart to eat only fowl (poultry) and not bovine meats - because the pitfalls are all too common and numerous with them. [And for eating the forbidden fat of bovine meat we become liable to the punishment of karet and this punishment does not apply to the consumption of poultry] (Shulchan Hatahor, Rabbi Aaron Roth o.b.m. (author of Shomer Emunim, Tohoras HaKodesh, etc)

ARE YOU REALLY WILLING TO RISK YOUR LIFE BY CONSUMING FOODS THAT ARE NOT KOSHER ACCORDING TO ALL OPINIONS, AND ARE BASED ON ALL POSSIBLE LENIENCIES IN KASHRUT LAWS USED BY THOSE WHO MANUFACTURE THEM? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE RABBIS OF THE EREV RAV ARE IMMERSSED IN THE BUSINESS OF ISSUING KASHRUT CERTIFICATES TO ALL KINDS OF FOODS? DO YOU KNOW THAT A LOT OF MONEY AND CORRUPTION EXISTS IN THE FIELD OF KASHRUT? PURE AND SIMPLE JEWS HAVE FALLEN PREY TOO MANY TIMES TO THE WRONGDOINGS OF THE EREV RAV! SAVE YOUR SOULS AND WATCH WHAT YOU EAT SO THAT YOUR EMUNA IN HASHEM WILL BE LEFT PURE AND NOT BE CONFUSED BY FOOLISH NOTIONS THAT ARE TOO PREVALENT IN OUR TIMES. MAY HASHEM GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO AVOID ALL THE DAMAGE THAT THE RABBANIM OF THE EREV RAV TRY TO INFLICT ON THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AMEN