

Table of Contents

Tractate Yom Tov 4:2 - a Literal Interpretation - Prof. Yaakov Eliyahu Efrati	9
"Four New Years" - From Whence? - Dr. Yisrael Rosenson	15
Use of Scripture in Mishnah in Hagigah 1:8 - Daniel Raviv	29
Kiddushin Chapter 1 - Arrangement and Structure - Rav Yehudah Shaviv	39
Parallelism in the Mishnah - Rav Avraham Walfish	59
Survey of Publications in the Field of Mishnah- Rav Avraham Walfish	87

Summary of Contents

Professor Yaakov Eliyahu Efrati suggests a novel interpretation of the mishnah *Beitzah* 4:2, based on an analysis of the order of *mishnayot* at the beginning of *Beitzah* Chapter 4. Noting that the standard interpretation of this mishnah, suggested by Rashi and other commentators, derives from the discussion in the Babylonian Talmud, he presents an alternative understanding of the Talmudic passage consonant with his mishnaic interpretation.

Dr. Yisrael Rosenson discusses the source of the tradition, recorded in *Rosh Hashanah* 1:1, that there are four New Years. Noting the tannaitic dispute regarding some of these 'New Year', he contends that the number 'four' represents an artificial construction produced by the author of our mishnah, designed to serve as an alternative to the 'four New Years' observed by the Dead Sea sect and by other non-rabbinic sects of the Second Temple period. The article attempts an analysis of the conceptual roots of the debate over the calendar reflected in this mishnah.

Daniel Raviv discusses the practice, in the Mishnah and the Tosefta of incorporating biblical expressions and motifs into their formulations. He demonstrates the reliance of the list of Oral Law topics in Hagiga 1:8 upon the order in which these topics appear in Scripture. He notes a distinction between the lists of the Mishnah and the Tosefta, and attempts to elucidate the conceptual roots of this distinction .

הוצאת תבונות מכללת הרצוג

Rav Yehudah Shaviv analyzes the arrangement and structure of Mishnah Kiddushin Chapter 1.

Rav Avraham Walfish demonstrates the use of 'parallelism' in the Mishnah, explaining its importance for elucidating the patterns underlying the redaction of the Mishnah and for comprehending the halakhic-conceptual thinking which the Mishnaic redaction was designed to express.

Our survey of recent periodical literature is divided into two parts. The first section contains, as in our previous issues, brief surveys of articles and publications related to Mishnah, including occasional, brief critical comments. In the second section, the author, Rav Avraham Waifish, discusses at greater length selected articles (surveyed in the first section) which raise central issues worthy of deeper investigation.



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