

הלכה of the Week

~ קדושת בית-הכנסת (3) ~

~ The Holiness of the Synagogue (3) ~

It is forbidden to eat, drink or sleep a בית-כנסת and בית-מדרש.

The only exception to this rule is a תלמיד חכם (Torah Scholar) who studies in a בית-מדרש regularly. This person may eat and sleep there, since leaving in order to eat or sleep causes him to lose precious study time.

פירקי אבות of the Week

פרק ב

כא הוא היה אומר, לא עליך המלאכה לגמור, ולא אתה בן חורין לבטל ממנה. אם למדת תורה הרבה, נותנים לך שכר הרבה. ונאמן הוא בעל מלאכתך שישלם לך שכר פעלתך. ודע, מתן שכרן של צדיקים לעתיד לבוא:

He (Rabbi Tarfon) also taught:

- a) You are not expected to complete the task,* but you are not free to give up;
- b) If you have learned much תורה you will be given a great reward;
- c) Your Master can be trusted to pay you for your work;
- d) Be aware that a צדיק receives his reward in the World to Come.

* “**The task**” refers to gaining as much knowledge of the תורה as we can and serving ה' by performing His מצוות. It is a very big task, because the תורה is endless and there are many מצוות.

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