



IT SAYS WHAT?!

Think Sheet

for episode on August 14th, 2020
with Joe Wolfson

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וַיֵּאסְפוּ כָּל־הָעָם כְּאִישׁ אֶחָד אֶל־הַרְחוֹב אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר־הַמַּיִם וַיֹּאמְרוּ לְעֶזְרָא הַסֹּפֵר לְהָבִיא אֶת־סֵפֶר תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה יְהוָה אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל: וַיָּבִיא עֶזְרָא הַכֹּהֵן אֶת־הַתּוֹרָה לִפְנֵי הַקָּהָל מֵאִישׁ וְעַד־אִשָּׁה וְכָל מִבֵּין לִשְׁמֹעַ בַּיּוֹם אֶחָד לַחֲדָשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי: וַיִּקְרְאוּ בַסֵּפֶר בְּתוֹרַת הָאֱלֹהִים מִפְּרֹשׁ וְשׁוֹם שָׁכַל וַיְבִינוּ בַמִּקְרָא:

...וַיֹּאמֶר נְחֻמְיָה ... לְכֹל־הָעָם הַיּוֹם קִדְשָׁהוּא לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אַל־תִּתְאָבְלוּ וְאַל־תִּבְכּוּ כִּי בּוֹכִים כָּל־הָעָם כְּשָׁמְעִים אֶת־דְּבַר־יְהוָה: וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם לְכוּ אֲכֹלוּ מִשֵּׁי מַנִּים וּשְׁתּוּ מִמֵּתְקִים וּשְׁלְחוּ מְנוֹת לְאֵין נֶכּוֹן לוֹ כִּי־קִדּוֹשׁ הַיּוֹם לְאֲדַנְיָנוּ וְאַל־תִּעְצְבוּ כִּי־חֲדוֹת יְהוָה הִיא מְעַזְכֶּם: ... וַיֵּלְכוּ כָּל־הָעָם לֶאֱכֹל וּלְשָׂתוֹת וּלְשַׂלַּח מְנוֹת וּלְעֲשׂוֹת שְׂמֵחָה גְדוּלָה כִּי הִבִּינוּ בְּדַבְרֵי־אֲשֶׁר הוֹדִיעוּ לָהֶם:

Nehemiah Ch.8

The entire people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the scroll of the Teaching of Moses with which the LORD had charged Israel. On the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the priest brought the Teaching before the congregation, men and women and all who could listen with understanding. They read from the scroll of the Teaching of God, translating it and giving the sense; so they understood the reading...

Nehemiah... said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God: you must not mourn or weep," for all the people were weeping as they listened to the words of the Teaching. He further said to them, "Go, eat choice foods and drink sweet drinks and send portions to whoever has nothing prepared, for the day is holy to our Lord. Do not be sad, for your rejoicing in the LORD is the source of your strength." ... Then all the people went to eat and drink and send portions and make great merriment, for they understood the things they were told.



Talmud Bavli, Masekhet Eirubin 13b

תלמוד בבלי, מסכת עירובין דף יג עמוד ב

תָּנוּ רַבָּנָן: שְׁתֵּי שָׁנִים וּמִחֻצָּה נִחְלְקוּ בֵּית שְׁמַאי וּבֵית הִלֵּל. הִלְלוּ אוֹמְרִים:
נוּחַ לוֹ לְאָדָם שְׁלֹא נִבְרָא יוֹתֵר מִשְׁנִבְרָא, וְהִלְלוּ אוֹמְרִים: נוּחַ לוֹ לְאָדָם
שְׁנִבְרָא יוֹתֵר מִשְׁלֹא נִבְרָא. נִמְנוּ וְגִמְרוּ: נוּחַ לוֹ לְאָדָם שְׁלֹא נִבְרָא יוֹתֵר
מִשְׁנִבְרָא, עֲכָשְׁיוּ שְׁנִבְרָא — יִפְשֵׁשׁ בְּמַעֲשָׂיו. וְאָמְרֵי לֵה: יִמְשֵׁשׁ בְּמַעֲשָׂיו

The Sages taught: For two and a half years, Beit Shammai and Beit Hillel disagreed. These say: It would have been preferable had man not been created than to have been created. And those said: It is preferable for man to have been created than had he not been created. Ultimately, they concluded: It would have been preferable had man not been created than to have been created. However, now that he has been created, he should examine his actions .

Shulchan Arukh, Laws Of Rosh HaShanna

שולחן ערוך אורח חיים הלכות ראש השנה סימן תקצז

אוכלים ושותים ושמחים, ואין מתעניין ברא"ה...יש מקומות
שקבלה בידם שכל מי שרגיל להתענות ברא"ה ומשנה
רגילתו ואינו מתענה, אינו משלים שנתו.

We eat, drink and are merry, and do not fast on Rosh Hashana... And there are places where there have a tradition that anyone whose practise it is to fast on Rosh Hashana, if this person changes their practise and does not fast - they will not see out the year.

