



Parashat Ki Tissa

March 2023

2 Conversations

When asked about this week's portion of Ki Tissa, four yeshiva guys said they want to talk about the sin of the golden calf and the breaking of the tablets with the Ten Commandments on them. They said that the sages compared the giving of Torah of the Ten Commandments at Har Sinai, they compare it to a wedding and you can go through various aspects of a wedding and various aspects of the giving of the Ten Commandments and find comparables. The giving of the Ten Commandments was like a wedding and the four guys said that the sages said that what actually happened was like a bride who committed an act of prostitution on the day of her wedding. And it was that on a day that should have been the most glorious, that the worst thing happened.

And so the four guys said that the sages say that what happened was that when Moses saw the golden calf, he was upset and he broke the tablets. And the tablets are compared to the Ketuba of the wedding that finalizes the wedding and the bride has to read it. So in comparison to the wedding, when Moses broke the tablets and called off the giving, it was like a bride calling off the wedding.

And Moses, according to the four guys, the sages thought that Moses acted with great wisdom. Because he called off the wedding at that point. He saw that the bride, the people of Israel who had made the golden calf, were not a worthy bride on that wedding day. And by breaking the tablets, it was like tearing up the Ketuba and prevented the wedding from happening under those conditions. And with that, the four guys proceeded on their hike.

A man and his wife said Ki Tissa, there's a commandment to count the B'nei Israel. But against the evil eye we don't count directly, but instead we use the Machatzit half shekel. Everybody gives and then we can figure out from that how many B'nei Israel there are.

But then the couple said in Hassidut they have a different approach. That in the words Ki Tissa you lift up, when you're counting or when you're relating to the B'nei Israel

Weekly~Portion



פרשת~השבוע

you're lifting them up, you're counting
valuable, and that's in Hassidut the interpretation of Ki Tissa.

them. They count for something