

1. The truth is every **כֶּהֵן** (ישראל or) who is חטאת מי מזה **מַזָּה** does not become טמא! Yes, this is a trick question but I felt compelled to bring out this point after asking numerous Yidden who consider themselves knowledgeable in all התורה & didn't know this ענין! We all know that מטהרת טמאים ומטמאת טהורים! Either it should be a מטהר or a מטמא! How could it be both? Hence, it's a חוק! This is what גוזר ד' was & we accept it wholeheartedly! Most people seem to think that מטמא טהורים is equivalent with מטהרת טמאים! The person that gets sprayed with the מי חטאת becomes טהור & the כֶּהֵן that sprayed the מי חטאת becomes טמא! Many many ספרים have written to explain this ordeal & rave about the כהנים willing to become טמא just in order to be another Yid! They write that this is the epitome of ואהבת לרעך כמוך! But this is all NOT TRUE! The מַזָּה does not become טמא! This טעות stems from the wording of the פסוק which reads (ט' כ"א) הערב יטמא עד הערב וכבס בגדיו והנוגע במי הנדה יטמא עד הערב (ט' כ"א) which explains that the פסוק is telling us that if someone unnecessarily carries enough מי חטאת, they become טמא! What is the שיעור? The amount needed for הזאה & therefore the תורה wrote the לשון to inform us of the שיעור! So what does מטהרת טמאים ומטמאת טהורים mean? It means, those that were busy in the preparation of the burning of the פר become טמא! But the מַזָּה himself remains טהור (עי"ש התוס' שם). Some want to say that this was the concept that שלמה המלך couldn't understand! How could it be that the מַזָּה stays טהור & someone who needlessly touches the מי חטאת, does become טמא? The רמב"ם פט"ו ה"א is also very clear about this הלכה as he writes, ק"ו שיהיה הוא טהור, ראשי גבעולים של אזוב במים מי חטאת שיעור הזאה someone who carried the הזאה of שיעור מי חטאת which is ראשי גבעולים של אזוב במים! And yes, רש"י says this clearly on this פסוק! In regard to what we wrote that the מַזָּה can be ישראל technically, one of the תנאים of the הזאה is that the מַזָּה has to be ודאי טהור as it says (י"ט ט') What if he once became טמא & the הפרה wasn't prepared properly & therefore he never became טהור? Then whoever he sprays, doesn't become טהור! So what's the עצה? Zugt der רמב"ם ה"ז in פרק אדומה פ"ב הל' that we get someone who *never became טמא in his life!* There actually were כהנים that were born & raised on rocks that had no חשש underneath them & they were the ones who prepared the new פר אדומה & were also available to be the מַזָּה of the חטאת מי!

If you have any comments or answers to the חידות or the תורה דבר, please fax them to 732-363-4947 or email me at ichudbchidud@gmail.com. If we receive a good answer from you, your name will be placed in a גורל for a trip to ישראל. If you would like the English or Hebrew בחידוד איחוד e-mailed to you at no charge, please send us a request at ichudbchidud@gmail.com. If you have a great חידה on a future פרשה, you may submit it with the answer & we will try to include it in the paper.