



Pshats for Shots: A project of JewishDrinking.com

{continued from previous page}

(but not the billies).

While this convergence is curious from Rashi's perspective, the clever thing that he does is to connect these liquids to answer the question: "why these two?" However, Rashi gets it from the following story: "רמי בר יחזקאל איקלע לבני ברק חזנהו" להנהו עיזי דקאכלן תותי תאיני וקנטיף דובשא מתאיני וחלבא טייף מנייהו ומיערב בהדי הדדי אמר היינו זבת חלב ודבש Rami bar Yehezkel visited B'nei B'rak and saw goats grazing beneath a fig tree with honey oozing from the figs and milk dripping from them, and they were mixing together with each other. He said, 'This is flowing with milk and honey'" (*Ketubot 111b*).

Beyond what the phrase can mean for the goodness of the land, this story shows a fascinating insight into understanding the connection between these two liquids!

 New Podcast/Video Episode 



featuring Professor Roger Horowitz

Drinking Halakhah of the Week

Continuing on from Rabbi Moshe Isserles' (1530-1572) gloss last week discussing blessing upon wine amidst a meal (שו"ע או"ח קעד:ח), he discusses why one would use the language of "Pay attention" rather than "With permission": "ויאמר סברי רבותי רוצה לומר סוברים אתם לצאת בברכה זו ולא יאמר ברשות רבותי וכן כל מקום שמברכין על היין משום ברכת היין שבתוך הסעודה אין אומרים ברשות אלא סברי מטעם שנתבאר And one says 'Pay attention, my masters', which means 'You should pay attention to be covered with this blessing', and one shouldn't say 'With permission, my masters.' And similarly, every time that one blesses upon wine on account of wine amidst the meal, one doesn't say 'With permission', but with 'Pay attention', from the reason that was explained.



Rabbi Yisrael Meir Kagan (1838-1933) provides a distinction between when we do and don't say "Pay attention" prior to drinking wine (משנה ברורה קעד:מו): רוצה לומר כשאחד מוציא חבירו כמו קידוש והבדלה וכה"ג. ובחופה" וברית מילה שאין נוהגין לומר סברי כלל הוא משום דרק במקום שצריך נטילת רשות אומרים על היין סברי במקום רשות אבל בחופה ומילה Which means to say that one covers his fellow's blessing, such as with *kiddush*, *havdallah*, and other similar circumstances. But with a wedding or a *bris milah* where we are not accustomed to say 'Pay attention' at all is because it is only in a situation where one needs to ask permission that we say over wine 'Pay attention' in a place of volition, but at a wedding or a *bris milah*, where we are not asking permission, there is no need to say 'Pay attention' at all."

"Because man does not live on bread alone" (Deut. 8.3)

JewishDrinking.com is a new project, begun in the fall of 2019 to serve as the #1 resource for texts, wisdom, and more on drinking in the Jewish tradition. With source sheets, weekly parashah sheets, weekly podcast/video episodes with guests, articles, and more, JewishDrinking.com seeks to shed light on this human activity. If you have comments, questions, suggestions, on either this parashah sheet and/or the website, please email Drew@JewishDrinking.com – ideas are welcome! לחיים!