



From the teachings of the Rosh Yeshiva of Ateret Yerushalayim  
**Ha-Rav Shlomo Aviner Shlit" a**

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Text Message Q&A #162     Ask Rav Aviner: [toratravaviner@yahoo.com](mailto:toratravaviner@yahoo.com)

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Ha-Rav answers hundreds of text message questions a day. Here's a sample:

Ashkenazi eating at Sefardi's House

Q: I am Ashkenazi. Is it permissible for me to spend Seder night at the house of a Sefardi, who eats Kitniyot?

A: Yes, but don't eat Kitniyot. It is permissible, however, to eat: food which touched Kitniyot, food which absorbed Kitniyot, food in which the Kitniyot are no longer recognizable and are nullified in a majority, and food cooked in Kitniyot pots and pans (Shut She'eilat Shlomo 3:141).

Breaking a Glass under the Chuppah

Q: Why do we break a glass under the Chuppah?

A: A Remembrance of the destruction of the Temple in order to show that our joy is still incomplete. Berachot 31a. Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim 560:2.

Q: Should the glass be expensive or perhaps inexpensive to avoid "Bal Tashchit" (wantonly destroying items)?

A: An argument can be made both ways: Expensive to bring a bit of sadness, or inexpensive to avoid "Bal Tashchit". Sedei Chemed, Asifat Dinim Marechet Zayim #12. One should therefore take a regular glass. Shut Yabia Omer 4:19.

Selling Chametz over the Internet

Q: Is it possible to sell Chametz over the internet?

A: Yes. It is a form of appointing an agent.

Precedence in Granting a Furlough

Q: I am an officer in Tzahal. If I am able to grant some of the soldiers a furlough, should I give precedence to married soldiers?

A: Definitely. A married soldier has a great need (see Shut Keshet Nechushah Vol. 1, p. 136).

#### Wrapping the Tefillin

Q: When one wraps the Tefillin around his arm 7 times, do 2 half loops combine and count as one of them?

A: It is a dispute (Petach Ha-Dvir 27:2. Kaf Ha-Chaim 27:35).

#### Hand-Made or Machine-Made Matzah

Q: According to Ha-Rav Tzvi Yehudah Kook, which is preferable: hand-made or machine-made Matzah?

A: Our Rabbi was particular to use machine-made Matzah since it was decided by the halachic authorities that machine-made Matzah is Kosher, and there is, in fact, greater care regarding the concern of Chametz than with hand-made Matzah (and once when our Rabbi was asked this question, he answered: In the same amount of time that we exert ourselves to make one hand-made Matzah it is possible to make Reb Noson's [our Rabbi's brother-in-law], his own and many other people's Matzah for the entire holiday).

#### Korban Pesach

Q: Should one sign up for the Korban Pesach in anticipation of the coming of the Mashiach?

A: No. There is no need. We anticipate the coming of the Mashiach every day, but the building of the Temple will not be today. See Rambam, Melachim 1:2.

#### Davening in the Wrong Direction

Q: If I began Davening in the wrong direction, i.e. not towards Yerushalayim. May I turn around?

A: Yes, walking for the needs of Davening without speaking is not considered an interruption (Mishnah Berurah 104:2. Piskei Teshuvot ibid.).

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