Shailos with Rabbi Willig #170

Follow ups

1. After I discussed the laws of hearing aides on shabbos and yom tov, a baal habus approached me and said that for the past 2 years he has set up a timer for his mother in law's hearing aide so she could put it on the base before it was on, it then turns on when she is sleeping and recharges overnight. The timer turns it off so when she wakes up, she can take her fully recharged hearing aide off the based when it is off. Rebbe seemed to have been told that the metzius is different now. But assuming that a timer would work, is that preferable to a shinuy?

2. a. Rebbe said that since the tzedaka organization must pay a percentage for credit card donations, that percentage amount must be deducted from your maaser amount. And then Rebbe said to deduct the amount you value the dinner from your donation to the yeshiva. I did not understand- why not subtract the amount it cost the yeshiva to pay the caterer for your plate?

b. If a yeshiva sends a sefer in the mail and asks for a donation, does one have to deduct the value of the sefer- how much it is sold for in the stores? What if you were not planning on buying it? What if they say you can keep it even if you do not give a donation?

c. Is the halacha different if the yeshiva's fundraising letter says that if you donate a certain amount, it will send you a sefer or recordings of shiurim of your choice?

d. What if a tzedaka organization sends a calendar or a memo pad?

e. If one mails back a check in a pre paid postage envelope, should he deduct the amount the organization pays for that as well?

3. a. Rebbe said that if you do it right, you can count what you hear from the baal koreh as one of your shnayim mikra. What did Rebbe mean?

b. Must the second mikra precede the rashi or can/should I just read once mikra with rashi and hear the second mikra from the baal koreh after?

New Questions

1) are there any leniencies regarding the zecher lchurban regarding סימן תקס אמה על אמה

A) if one bought a house from a yid that didn't do it must he pull off the paint and plaster

B) what about if one built a house and wasn't aware of this Halacha must he do it now

C) if one redoes his kitchen or bedroom must he do it or rather this only applies when building a house from scratch

D) can one rely on the opinions that if sand is mixed into the plaster it's ok ? Would this help for the paint as well

2) a. one taking anti biotics that the medicine says it should be taken with food is one aloud to eat on tisha bav if yes does he need to do shiurium or can eat regular

b. if not can he eat and drink the rest of the day being that he anyway isn't fasting ?

3) this year are haircuts washes permitted Thursday evening after tisha bav

4) Can Rebbe discuss whether there is a special mitzvah to visit graves of close family on the yahrtziet? Can you help explain what is the purpose of visiting?

5) Many times in different question, Rebbe has noted that this or that custom comes from kabbalah and then notes that one does not have to always keep such customs. Can Rebbe explain why mystical customs are less binding?

6) Can Rebbe explain the rules related to asking a non-Jew or even a Jew when one accepts early Shabbat?

A) Can non-Jewish help do melacha then, as part of their job, whether asked or not?
B) Can a Jew who is accepting Shabbat at zman do melacha for a Jew who has accepted shabbat early?
C) Is the rule the same for people who end Shabbat very late as a chumra?

7) What is the halacha regarding *sheimos*, *pesukim, a*nd *divrei Torah* that appear on electronic screens such as phones, tablets, computer monitors, and projectors? Specifically, do the *halachos* of *mechikas Hashem*, *geniza*, and *kavod haTorah* apply to them? For example, is there an issue with deleting such text or allowing it to disappear, placing the device on a seat and sitting on it, or bringing the device into a bathroom?

8) a) Are non dissolvable stitches a chatitzah ?

b) Is there a minimum amount of time the stitches need to remain after immersion

c) moreover is there a difference between בית הסתרים vs regular גוף

9) a) Casts that will remain more than 7 days after immersion, are there any leniencies to allow a woman to be tovel ?

b) if the cast needs to be covered to avoid damage inevitably the covering will extend a few centimeters beyond the cast is the tevilah valid

10) If a women after tevilah found something between her teeth and what she ate afterwards does not resemble the item stuck between her teeth can we say today where some floss and brush their teeth whatever remained is a מיעוט שאינו מקפיד ?

11) Our shul is considering purchasing haftorah klafs and starting to read the haftorah's from the klafs. Some members of our shul think this is a wonderful hiddur, and others oppose it as it will make bar-mitzvah's much harder and limit who can say haftorah's all the time. Does Rabbi Willig have a view on whether this is a good hiddur to institute?

12) a. May one open up bottle caps on shabbos? Is there a halachic difference between a metal [like sparkling grape juice] and plastic cap and why?

b. Assuming that one does not open up caps on shabbos, may he ask a goyish waiter to open it for him? [if yes, must he hint?]

c. May he ask someone who paskens that it is permissible to open it for him?

d. In general, if one's psak is that something is not allowed [for example but not limited to carrying in an eiruv], may he ask someone who holds it is muttar to do it for him?

13) A smart phone has a clear protective case. A teenage boy placed a card with nusach brachos [al hamichya etc.] on it between the phone and under his debit card which is under the case. May he walk into the bathroom with his phone in his pocket? In his hand?

14)a. On shabbos, is it is a problem having a digital picture frame on in his home with constantly changing pictures?

b.Is the halacha different if there is writing on the bottom of the pictures [added titles or names of people in the picture etc.]

c. On Shabbos, is it acceptable to have the shul digital bulletin board on with changing pictures and information?

d. A modern baal habus asked me the following. He is a big sports fan and feels like he has to know what is going on. He has a sports ticker [like the old stock tickers] which constantly updates all the latest news. Is he allowed to leave it on on shabbos? How should I answer him? Is there anything more than just saying it is not shabbosdik?

15) a. My nephews came for Shabbos and they love "freeze pops". Unfortunately, I noticed on Shabbos morning that I had forgotten to put them in the freezer before Shabbos. May I place them in the freezer on Shabbos? [the liquid changes into a slushy solid]

b. Assuming I have a bunch of them in the freezer that are attached, is it permissible to detach them from one another?

c. What if the flavor that is desired is in the middle- is that a borer issue?

16) a.During the year aveilus for a parent, what are the guidelines regarding wearing new clothing?

b. Does this halacha apply to: a. suit b. a shirt c. pants d. sweatpants e. underwear f. a pair of new shoes?

c. Can one have someone else wear it first and if yes, for how long?

d. If someone bought a few shirts on sale and they have been sitting in his closet still in the original packaging for a year, does that still have the status of new clothing?

17) A doctor has the night shift and sleeps during the day. Does he say krias shema al hamita?

18) a. Reuven's father was niftar and he is in yud beis chodesh. Boruch Hashem, two of his married sons had daughters and are making a kiddush on shabbos. It is a close knit family and Reuven has not missed a simcha yet.

b. May Reuven attend the kiddush?

c. Is the halacha different if he went to his son's community for shabbos and it would be very noticeable if he does not attend the kiddush?

19) a. The father of a tight knit family passed away and during the year of aveilus, one of the sons is making a chasuna for his son. The chosson is very close with his uncles. May they participate [and are there any limitations] in the aufruf, chasuna, shabbos sheva berachos?

b. Usually, the siblings host a sheva berachos in one of their houses. Can they do this? Are there any limitations on their participation?

c. One of the children emotionally said, there is no way our father would want us not to participate. How should I respond?

20) a. How do we pasken regarding the correct nusach for the bracha on toiveling one kli [we are planning on putting up a sign in our keilim mikveh with the bracha]-like the shulchan aruch [kli] or like the aruch hashulchan [keilim]? b. Assuming like the shulchan aruch, what is to be said when toiveling a pot with its cover?

21) a.Is one allowed to learn shnayim mikra v'echad Rashi on Tisha b'av?

b. Would the halacha be different if he learns 1 aliyah each day ?

c. What about reciting tehillim that one says every day ?

22) a. On motzei tisha b'av, must one switch out of his non leather footwear into leather shoes to say kiddush levana?

b. What if he generally wears non leather footwear during the week?

23) a. I am going to a camp for shabbos where my wife works. There is only minyan in camp on Friday night and it is set around the plag of the Mogen Avraham. I don't know if I will be able to daven mincha gedola; assuming that I can not, what should I do as far as mincha and maariv?

b. Additionally, they start the public seuda right after they finish which is shortly after shkiya. May we eat right away or must we wait to first say krias shema?

c. If we must wait, what is the earliest time to say krias shema [how long after shkiya]?

24) How would Rebbe answer a baal habus who asks - what is all the excitement of Shabbos Nachamu if we still don't have the beis hamikdash?

25) With Tishe B'Av being Thursday some of the restrictions end right after the fast lichavod shabbos, others end in the morning and even others chatzos. Where does shaving and haircut fit in there?

26) What does Rebbe think of using spray deodorant on Tishe B'Av?