

...Korah made a mockery of Moses and Aaron. What did Korah do? He assembled all the congregation as it said: *And Korah gathered all the congregation against them. He began to speak to them words of scorn, saying:*

There was once a widow in my neighborhood who had two fatherless daughters and one field. When she came to plough, Moses said to her: *Thou shalt not plough with an ox and an ass together*, (Deut. 22, 10). When she came to sow, he said to her: *Thou shalt not sow thy field with diverse seeds*, (Leviticus 19, 19). When she came to reap and stack the corn, he said to her, *Leave gleanings (leket) the forgotten sheaf (shikhehah) and the corner of the field (pe'ah) for the poor*. When she came to thresh, he said to her, Give tithes, priestly dues, the first and second tithes. She justified heaven's pronouncement and gave him.

What did this poor women do? She went and sold her field, and purchased with the proceeds two lambs, to clothe herself from its shearing and enjoy its products. As soon as they gave birth, Aaron came and said to her: Give me the firstborn, since the Holy blessed One said: *Every firstborn that shall be born of thy herd and flock, the male one, shalt thou consecrate to the Lord thy God*. She justified heaven's pronouncement and gave him the offspring.

The time came for shearing and she sheared them - came Aaron and said to her, Give me the first of the shearing since the Holy blessed One said (Deut. 18, 3): *The first of thy grain, thy wine and oil and the first of the shearing of thy flock shalt thou give to him*.

Until she finally said: Since I have no more strength to withstand this man, I shall slaughter the animals and eat them. As soon as she had slaughtered them, Aaron came and said to her: *Give me the shoulder, two cheeks and maw* (Deut. 18, 3). Whereupon she said: Even after I have slaughtered them I am not delivered from his hand. Let them then be forbidden (*herem*) my use. Aaron said to her: In that case it is all mine since the Holy One said: *Every devoted thing (herem - expression of prohibition, exclusion from ordinary usage) in Israel shall be thine*; (Num. 18, 14). He took them, departed and left her weeping with her two daughters.

Such was the lot that befell this unfortunate woman! So much they do in the name of the Holy blessed One!