

Likkutei Sichos

Volume 18 | Naso | Sicha 2 Source Sheet

1. במדבר ה':י"א-כ"ח

וּיִדבֶּר ה' אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵּאמְר: דַּבֶּר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׁרָאֵׁל וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם אִישׁ כִּי־תִשְׁטֶה אִשְׁתֹּה וִמְעַלֶּה בֻּוֹ מְעַל: וְשָׁכַּב אִישׁ אֹתָהֹ שְׁכְבַּת־
זָרַע וְנְעְלֵם מֵעֵינֵי אִישָׁה וְנִסְתְּרָה וְהָיא נִטְמֶאָה וְעֵדֹ אֵין בָּהּ וְהָוֹא לָא נִתְבֶּשְׁה: וְעַבַּר עָלֵיו רְוּם־קְנְאָה וְקְנָּא אֶת־אִשְׁתֹּוֹ וְהָיא לָא נִטְמֶאָה: וְהַבִּיא הֶאִישׁ אֶת־אִשְׁתּוֹ אֶל־הַכּּהָן וְהַבֶּיא אֶת־קּרְבָּנָהֹ...וְלָקֵח הַכּּהָן מֵיִם אוֹ־עַבַּר עָלֵיו רְוּם־קְנְאָה וְקְנָּא אֶת־אִשְׁתֹּוֹ וְהָיא לָא נִטְמֶאָה: וְהַבִּיא הָאִישׁ אֶת־אִשְׁתַּוֹ אֶל־הַכּּהָן וְהַבְּיא אֶת־הַבְּנָה אֲבִרִה אֲשֶר יִהְיֶה אֲם־נְטְמְאָה וֹבְּירְעַל הַפְּלָן יֵקָח הַכּּהָן וְנְתָן אֶל־הַמֶּים... וְהִשְׁקָה אֶת־הַבּּמִים וְהְיְבָה אֲב־לִים לְמָרִים וְצִבְתָה בִּטְלָּה וְנְפָלֶה וְנְפָלָה וְהָיְתָה הָאִשָּׁה לְאָלֶה בְּקֶרֶב עַמֶּהּ: וְאִם־לָּא נִטְמְאָה הָאִשְׁה וּנִזְרְעָה זָּרִים לְמְרִים לְמְרִים וְצְבְתָה בִּטְלָּה וְנְפָלָה וְנְפָלָה הָאִשָּׁה וְנִזְרְבָּה וָּנִבְּלָא הָּיִבְרִים לְמְלִים וְצָבְתָה בִּטְלָּה וְרָכָּה וְנִילְה הָאשָׁה וֹנִזְרְעָה זָּלָה וְנִישְׁ אִהֹי וֹיִבְים הַמְאֲבָרִים לְמְלִים וְצְבְתָה בִּטְלָּה וְנְפֶלָה וְבָּלְבָה הַמִּים הַמְאֲבָרִים לְמְלִים וְצָבְתָה בִּטְלָּה וְנְפְלָה הָאשָׁה וֹנִיְרְה זָב.

Bamidbar 5:11-28

Hashem spoke to Moshe, saying: Speak to the Israelite people and say to them: If any man's wife has gone astray and broken faith with him in that a man has had carnal relations with her unbeknown to her husband, and she keeps secret the fact that she has defiled herself without being forced, and there is no witness against her—but a fit of jealousy comes over him and he is wrought up about the wife who has defiled herself; or if a fit of jealousy comes over one and he is wrought up about his wife although she has not defiled herself—the man shall bring his wife to the priest. And he shall bring as an offering for her... The priest shall take sacral water in an earthen vessel and, taking some of the earth that is on the floor of the Tabernacle, the priest shall put it into the water... Once he has made her drink the water—if she has defiled herself by breaking faith with her husband, the curse-inducing water shall enter into her to bring on bitterness, so that her belly shall distend and her thigh shall sag; and the woman shall become a curse among her people. But if the woman had not become defiled and she is clean, she shall be exempted and bear seed.

2. משנה תורה, הלכות סוטה א':א'-ב'

קְנוּי סָאָמוּר בַּתּוֹרָה "וְקְנֵּא אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ" הוּא שֶׁיּאמֵר לָהּ בִּפְנֵי עֵדִים אַל תִּסְתְרִי עִם אִישׁ פְּלוֹנִי. אֲפָלּוּ הָיָה אָבִיהָ אוֹ אֶחִיהָ אוֹ עַכּוּ"ם אוֹ עֶבָּוּ הוּא שֶׁאִמַר עָם אוֹתוֹ הָאִישׁ שֶׁאָמֵר עֶבֶּד אוֹ שֶׁחוּף הוּא הָאִישׁ שֶׁאִינוֹ מִתְקַשֶּׁה וְאֵינוֹ מוֹלִיד :הַסְּתִירָה הָאֲמוּרָה בַּתּוֹרָה "וְנִסְתְּרָה" הוּא שֶׁתִּסְתֵּר עִם אוֹתוֹ הָאִישׁ שֶׁאָמֵר לָה עַד לָּה אֵל תִּסְתָרי עִמּוֹ בִּפְנִי שְׁנִי עֵדִים. אִם שְׁהָתָה עִמוֹ כְּדִי טַמְאָה שֶׁהוּא כְּדֵי לְצְלוֹת בֵּיצָה וּלְגָמְעָהּ הֲרֵי זוֹ אֲסוּרָה עַל בַּעְלָהּ עַד שָׁתִּים הָבָר. וּבִּזְמַן שָׁאֵין שָׁם מֵי סוֹטָה תַּאָסֵר עָלָיו לְעוֹלָם וְתַצֵא בְּלֹא כְּתָבָּה:

2. Mishneh Torah, Woman Suspected of Infidelity 1:1-2

The warning that is mentioned in the Torah - "And he warned his wife" - is that he tells her in the presence of witnesses, "Do not seclude yourself with Mr. so-and-so," even if that man is her father, her brother, a gentile, a slave, or an impotent person who cannot achieve an erection or produce children." The seclusion mentioned in the Torah - "And she secludes herself" - is that she secludes herself with the same man about whom her husband had told her, "Do not seclude yourself with him," in the presence of two witnesses. If she remained with him long enough to defile herself, which is the time it takes to roast an egg and swallow it, then she is forbidden to her husband until she drinks the bitter waters and the matter is examined. And when there are no Sotah waters, she becomes forbidden to her husband forever and she leaves the marriage without a kesubah.

3. ברכות ס"ג א'

ּתַּנְיָא, רַבִּי אוֹמֵר: לָמָה נִסְמְכָה פָּרָשַׁת נָזִיר לְפָּרָשַׁת סוֹטָה — לוֹמַר לָךְ שֶׁכָּל הָרוֹאֶה סוֹטָה בְּקְלְקוּלָהּ יַזִּיר עַצְמוֹ מִן הַיַּיִּן.

Berakhot 63a

It was taught in a *baraita*, Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi says: Why is the portion of the Nazirite (Bamidbar ch. 6) juxtaposed with the portion of the *sota* (Bamidbar ch. 5)? They are juxtaposed to tell you that anyone who sees a *sota* in her disgrace, her transgression, should renounce wine, as wine is one of the causes of that transgression.

4. סוטה ב׳ א'

גמ׳ מכדי תנא מנזיר סליק (רש"י: כן סדר המשנה סוטה אחר נזיר) מאי תנא דקא תנא סוטה (מאי תנא בנזירות דדמי לסוטה דתנא סוטה בתרה:) כדרבי דתניא רבי אומר למה נסמכה פרשת נזיר לפרשת סוטה לומר לך שכל הרואה סוטה בקלקולה (בניוולה ובבשתה שמנוולין אותה כדקתני מתני' (לקמן סוטה דף ז:) קושר חבל למעלה מדדיה) יזיר עצמו מן היין (שהיין מביא לידי קלות ראש והוא גרם לה).

Sotah 2a

GEMARA: The Gemara questions the placement of this tractate within the mishnaic order of *Nashim*. **Now**, the *tanna* arose from tractate *Nazir*, which is the tractate preceding *Sota* in the order of the Mishna. **What** did he *teach* in *Nazir* that required that he *teach* tractate *Sota* immediately afterward, as at first glance there seems to be no connection between this tractate and *Nazir*? The Gemara answers: This was done in accordance with the statement of Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi with regard to the sequence of passages in the Torah, as it is taught in a *baraita* that Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi says: Why is the portion of a nazirite (Bamidbar, chapter 6) placed adjacent to the portion of a *sota* (Bamidbar, chapter 5)? This was done to tell you that anyone who sees a *sota* in her disgrace as she undergoes the rite of the bitter water should renounce wine, as wine is one of the causes of sexual transgression, as it loosens inhibitions. For the same reason that the Torah teaches these passages one after the other, Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi arranged these tractates one after the other.

5. הקדמת הרמב"ם למשנה

ווסדר אחר נדרים נזירות מפני שהנזירות גם כן מכלל נדרים וכשהאשה נודרת בנזיר יוכל הבעל להפר ולפיכך סדר אחר נדרים נזירות .וכשהשלים לדבר על הנשואין ומה שיתחייב בשבילן מהפרת הנדרים התחיל בענין הגירושין שאחרי נשואין ומה שיתחייב בשבילן מהפרת הנדרים התחיל בענין הגירושין שאחר נזירות .ואחר גיטין סוטה שענינה מענין הגירושין שהסוטה כשתזנה יש לכוף האיש והאשה על הגירושין כמו שאבאר במקומו.

Rambam Introduction to the Mishnah

And after Nedarim, he arranged Nezirut (Nazirite Separation), because 'nezirut' is also in the category of vows, and when a woman vows to be a nazirite, her husband can abrogate [it]. And therefore, he arranged Nezirut after Nedarim. And when he finished speaking about marriages and that which follows from them regarding abrogation of vows, he began the topic of divorce – since divorce comes after marriage. And [so] he arranged Gittin [Divorce Bills] after Nezirut. And after Gittin is Sotah (Wayward Woman), as its subject is from the topic of divorces; as when the sotah is unfaithful, we must coerce the man and the woman regarding divorce, as I will explain in its place.

6. משנה גיטין ט׳:י׳

וּבֵּית שַׁמַּאי אוֹמְרִים, לֹא יְגָרֵשׁ אָדָם אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ אֶלָּא אִם כֵּן מָצָא בָהּ דְּבַר עֶרְוָה, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (דברים כד), כִּי מָצָא בָהּ עֶרְוַת דְּבָר. וּבֵית שַׁמָּאי אוֹמְר, אֲפָלוּ מָצָא אַחֶּרֶת נָאָה הֵימֶנָּה, הָלֵּל אוֹמְרִים, אֲפָלוּ הִקְדִּיחָה תַבְשִׁילוֹ, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שם), כִּי מָצָא בָהּ עֶרְוַת דְּבָר. רַבִּי עֲקִיבָא אוֹמֵר, אֲפָלוּ מָצָא אַחֶּרֶת נָאָה הֵימֶנָּה, שָׁבָּל אוֹמְר, וְהָיָה אָם לֹא תִמְצָא חֵן בְּעֵינִיו:

Mishnah Gittin 9:10

Beit Shammai say: A man may not divorce his wife unless he finds out about her having engaged in a matter of forbidden sexual intercourse [devar erva], i.e., she committed adultery or is suspected of doing so, as it is stated: "Because he has found some unseemly matter [ervat davar] in her, and he writes her a scroll of severance" (Deuteronomy 24:1). And Beit Hillel say: He may divorce her even due to a minor issue, e.g., because she burned or over-salted his dish, as it is stated: "Because he has found some unseemly matter in her," meaning that he found any type of shortcoming in her. Rabbi Akiva says: He may divorce her even if he found another woman who is better looking than her and wishes to marry her, as it is stated in that verse: "And it comes to pass, if she finds no favor in his eyes" (Deuteronomy 24:1).

7. תלמוד ירושלמי סוטה א׳ א

הקינוי. רבי יהושע אמר בשם רבי ליעזר חובה. רבי יושוע אמר רשות. אמר רבי לעזר בן רבי יוסי קומי רבי יסא אתייא דרבי ליעזר כבית שמאי ודרבי יהושע כבית הלל. דרבי ליעזר כבית שמאי דבית שמאי אומרים לא יגרש אדם את אשתו אלא אם כן מצא בה ערוה. מצא בה דברים כאורין לגרשה אינו יכול שלא מצא בה ערוה. לקיימה אינו יכול שמצא בה דברים כאורין. לפום כן הוא אומר חובה... כאן שלא בעדים. ודרבי יהושע כבית הלל דבית הלל אמרי אפי' הקדיחה תבשילו. לפום כן הוא אומר רשות. רצה לקנאות יקנא. רצה לגרש יגרש...

Jerusalem Talmud Sotah 1a

Kinuy - R. Yehoshua said in the name of R. Eliezer, it is an obligation [if one sees his wife secluded with men]. R. Yehoshua [himself] says, it is optional. (R. Lazar ben Yosi, in front of R. Yosa said): R. Eliezer holds like Beis Shamai, and R. Yehoshua holds like Beis Hillel -

R. Eliezer holds like Beis Shamai, who say that one may not divorce his wife unless he found in her a matter of Ervah; - If he found in her abhorrent (immoral) matters, he may not divorce her, for he did not find in her Ervah. He cannot keep her, for he found abhorrent matters. Therefore, [Kinuy] is an obligation... (the discussion here is when there are no witnesses).

And R. Yehoshua holds like Beis Hillel, for Beis Hillel say that even if she burned his food [he may divorce her]. Therefore, they say that [Kinuy] is Reshus. If he wants, he warns her. If he wants, he divorces her....

8. סוטה ג׳ א'

וקנא את אשתו רשות דברי רבי ישמעאל ורבי עקיבא אומר חובה

Sotah 3a

"And he warned his wife," i.e., the warning, is optional; this is the statement of Rabbi Yishmael. And Rabbi Akiva says: It is mandatory.

9. משנה תורה, הלכות אישות ט"ו:י"ז

ּוְחוֹבָה עַל כָּל אִישׁ לְקַנְּאוֹת לְאִשְׁתּוֹ. אָמְרוּ חֲכָמִים אֵין אָדָם מְקַנֵּא לְאִשְׁתּוֹ אֶלָּא אִם כֵּן נִכְנְסָה בּוֹ רוּחַ טָהֶרָה. וְלֹא יְקַנֵּא לָהּ בְּיוֹתֵר מִדַּאי וְלֹא יֵאֲנֹס אוֹתָהּ וַיִּבְעל בָּעַל כָּרָחָהּ אֵלֶא בִּדַעָתָּהּ וּמִתּוֹךְ שִיחָה וְשָׁמְחָה:

Bamidbar 4:1-3

It is an obligation for a man to admonish his wife. Our Sages declared: "A man will not admonish his wife unless a spirit of purity enters his being." [Nevertheless,] he should not admonish her more than necessary. [A man] should never compel [his wife] to engage in sexual relations against her will. Instead, [relations] should be with her agreement, [preceded by] conversation and a spirit of joy.

10. סוטה ב׳ א'

המקנא דיעבד אין לכתחילה לא קסבר תנא דידן אסור לקנאות רש"י: אסור לקנאות - שמביא עצמו לידי תגר ואת אשתו לידי ניוול ואפי' היא טהורה:

Sotah 2a

The Gemara begins clarifying the mishna. The mishna states: **One who issues a warning** to his wife. By employing the descriptive phrase: One who issues a warning, and not the prescriptive phrase: One issues a warning, the *tanna* indicates that **after the fact**, **yes**, it is effective if he issues a warning in this manner, but ideally, **no**, one should not issue a warning to his wife at all **ab initio**. Apparently, **the tanna of our** mishna **holds** that it **is prohibited to issue a warning** to one's wife **ab initio** in a manner that can cause her to become a **sota**, and all the **halakhot** concerning a **sota** are for one who issued a warning when not obligated to do so.

11. יבמות מ״ב ב-מ״ג א'

בּ אמר ליה דרמא לך הא לא חש לקמחיה סתם ואח"כ מחלוקת היא ואין הלכה כסתם דאמר רב פפא ואיתימא ר' יוחנן מחלוקת היא ואין הלכה כסתם הלכה כסתם סתם ואחר כך מחלוקת אין הלכה כסתם מסתמיך ואזיל ר' אבהו אכתפיה דרבי נחום שמעיה מנקיט ואזיל הלכתא מיניה בעא מיניה מחלוקת ואחר כך סתם מאי א"ל הלכה כסתם סתם ואחר כך מחלוקת מאי אמר ליה אין הלכה כסתם סתמא דמתני' ומחלוקת בברייתא מאי א"ל הלכה כסתם מחלוקת במתני' וסתמא בברייתא מאי א"ל וכי רבי לא שנאה ר' חייא מנין לו

Yevamot 42b-43a

When Rabbi Zerika went and asked, Rabbi Abbahu said to him: The one who raised this contradiction to you is clearly not concerned for his flour; this is a case of an unattributed ruling followed by a dispute on that ruling, and in such cases the *halakha* is not necessarily in accordance with the unattributed opinion. As Rav Pappa said, and some say it was Rabbi Yoḥanan who said the following

principle: When the Mishna first records a dispute, and afterward it records only one side of that dispute as an unattributed opinion, then the halakha is in accordance with the unattributed opinion. However, when the Mishna first records an unattributed opinion and afterward records that the ruling is subject to a dispute, the halakha is not necessarily in accordance with the unattributed opinion. In each case, the later reference is considered to be a summary of the matter. § The Gemara relates: Rabbi Abbahu would walk while leaning upon the shoulder of Rabbi Nahum, his attendant, and along the way Rabbi Naḥum would walk and gather halakhic rulings from him. Once, Rabbi Naḥum asked him: When the Mishna first records a dispute, and afterward it records only one side of that dispute as an unattributed opinion, what is the halakha? Rabbi Abbahu said to him: The halakha is in accordance with the unattributed opinion. Rabbi Nahum then asked: When the Mishna first records an unattributed opinion and afterward records that the ruling is subject to a dispute, what is the halakha? Rabbi Abbahu said to him: The halakha is not necessarily in accordance with the unattributed opinion. Rabbi Nahum asked: When a ruling is recorded in the Mishna as unattributed and it is subject to a dispute in a baraita, what is the halakha? Rabbi Abbahu said to him: The halakha is in accordance with the unattributed opinion in the Mishna. Rabbi Nahum then asked: When the Mishna records that a matter is subject to a dispute, and only one side is recorded as an unattributed opinion in a baraita, what is the halakha? Rabbi Abbahu said to him: If Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi had not taught that ruling in the Mishna, from where would Rabbi Hiyya, his disciple and redactor of the baraitot, have known it? Since the source of the unattributed ruling in the baraita is certainly the dispute recorded in the mishna, its lack of attribution in the baraita only reflects the fact that Rabbi Hiyya ruled in accordance with that opinion, but that cannot be used to indicate that it is the accepted *halakha*.

12. תוספות יום טוב על משנה סוטה א':א':א'

המקנא לאשתו . כתב הר"ב אע"ג דהמקנא משמע דיעבד אין לכתחילה לא. לאו מהמקנא דייק .שיכול לפרש הבא לקנאות. אלא כדפירש רש"י. מדלא תני ר"א אומר מקנא אדם לאשתו על פי שנים. תוס'. ולישנא דמקנא לשון כעס הוא שמכעיסה ומקניטתה פירש רש"י כמו הם קנאוני (דברים ל"ב:כ"א) כי קנאה חמת גבר (משלי ו":ל"ד) . ולהלכה שכתב הר"ב שחייב לקנאות. לישנא דהתראה. וכ"ה אומר (יואל ב":י"ח) ויקנא ה' לארצו. גמ'. והא דפסק דלא כמתניתין. וגם הרמב"ם פסק כך נראה לי משום דבברייתא פליגי ר' ישמעאל ור"ע. ר' ישמעאל סבירא ליה רשות. ור"ע סבירא ליה חובה. וכיון דלתרווייהו מיהו לאו איסורא הוא. הלכך לית הלכתא כמתני' ובאנו לכלל הלכה כר"ע מחבירו:

13. משנה תורה, הלכות סוטה ד':י"ח-י"ט

מָצְוַת חָכָמִים עַל בְּנֵי יִשְּרָאֵל לְקַנְּאוֹת לְנְשֵׁיהֶן שֶׁנֶּאֲמַר "וְקְנֵּא אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ". וְכָל הַמְקְנֵּא אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ נְכְנְסָה בּוֹ רוּחַ טְהֵרָה. וְלֹא יְקְנֵּא לְהּ לֹא מִתּוֹךְ שְׁחוֹק וְלֹא מִתּוֹךְ שִׁיחָה וְלֹא מִתּוֹךְ קַלוּת רֹאשׁ וְלֹא מִתּוֹךְ מְרִיבָה וְלֹא לְהַפִּיל עָלֶיהָ אֵימָה. וְאִם עָבַר וְקְנֵּא לָהּ בִּפְנֵי עֵדִים מִתּוֹךְ אֶחָד מִכָּל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלוּ הֲרֵי זֶה קְנוּי :אֵין רָאוּי לְקְפֹּץ וּלְקַנְּאוֹת בִּפְנֵי עֵדִים תְּחַלָּה אֶלֶּא בֵּינוֹ לְבֵינָהּ בְּנָחַת וּבְדֶּרֶךְ טְהֵרָה וְאַזְהָרָה כְּדִי לְהַדְרִיכָהּ בְּדֶרֶךְ יְשָׁרָה וּלְהָסִיר הַמִּכְשׁוֹל. וְכָל מִי שֶׁאֵינוֹ מַקְפִּיד עַל אִשְׁתוֹ וְעַל בָּנִיו וּבְנֵי בֵּיתוֹ וּמִזְהִירָן וּפּוֹקֵד דַּרְכִיהֶן תָּמִיד עַד שָּיֵדע שָׁהֵן שְׁלָמִין מִכָּל חֵטְא וּמָעוֹן הָרֵי זֶה חוֹטֵא שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (איוב ה כד) "וְיָדַעְתָּ כִּי שָׁלוֹם אָהֱלֶךְ וּפְקַדְתָּ נָוְךְ וְלֹא תֶחֶטָא:"

Rambam Hichos Sotah Chapter 4 18-19

It is a mitzvah for Israelites to issue warnings to their wives, [as implied by Bamidbar 5:14] "And he shall warn his wife." [Our Sages said that] whoever issues a warning to his wife has become possessed by a spirit of purity. A warning should not be issued in a spirit of levity, nor in the midst of conversation, nor with frivolity,

nor in the midst of an argument, nor with the purpose of instilling fear. If, however, a man transgressed and issued a warning to his wife under such circumstances, the warning is binding.

It is not proper for a man to rush and at the outset issue a warning in the presence of witnesses. Instead, he should [first speak to his wife] privately and gently, in a spirit of purity and caution, in order to guide her to the proper path and remove obstacles.

Whenever a person is not careful regarding [the conduct of] his wife, his sons and the members of his household, warning them, and scrutinizing their ways at all times so that he knows that they are perfect without sin or transgression, he is himself a sinner, as [implied by Job 5:24]: "And you shall know that your tent is at peace and scrutinize your dwelling, and you shall not sin."

'14. סוטה ג׳ א

וקנא את אשתו רשות דברי רבי ישמעאל רבי עקיבא אומר חובה מ"ט דר' ישמעאל סבר לה כי האי תנא דתניא רבי אליעזר בן יעקב אומר כלפי שאמרה תורה (ויקרא יט, יז) לא תשנא את אחיך בלבבך יכול כגון זו ת"ל ועבר עליו רוח קנאה וקנא את אשתו

Sotah 3a

"And he warned his wife," the warning is optional; this is the statement of Rabbi Yishmael. Rabbi Akiva says: It is mandatory. What is the reason of Rabbi Yishmael? He holds in accordance with the statement of this tanna, as it is taught in a baraita: Rabbi Eliezer ben Ya'akov says: With regard to that which the Torah said: "You shall not hate your brother in your heart" (Leviticus 19:17), one might have thought that this prohibition applies in a case such as this one, when one sees his wife behaving improperly with another man, and the verse would instruct the husband to avoid conflict and strife. Therefore, the verse states: "And the spirit of jealousy came upon him, and he warned his wife" (Bamidbar 5:14), teaching that it is permitted for one to issue a warning to his wife in such a case.

15. סוטה כ״ח א'

תניא (במדבר ה, לא) ונקה האיש מעון והאשה ההיא תשא את עונה בזמן שהאיש מנוקה מעון המים בודקין את אשתו אין האיש מנוקה מעון אין המים בודקין את אשתו.

Sotah 28a

it's taught in a *baraita* that the verse: "And the man shall be clear from iniquity, and that woman shall bear her iniquity" (Bamidbar 5:31), indicates that only when the man is clear of iniquity does the water evaluate the fidelity of his wife, but if the man is not clear of iniquity the water does not evaluate the fidelity of his wife

16. משנה תורה, הלכות סוטה ב׳:ח׳

ּכָּל אִישׁ שֶׁבָּא בִּיאָה אֲסוּרָה מִיָּמִיו אַחַר שֶׁהָגְדִּיל אֵין הַמַּיִם הַמְאָרְרִים בּוֹדְקִין אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ. וַאֲפִלּוּ בָּא עַל אֲרוּסְתוֹ בְּבֵית חָמִיו שֶׁאָסוּר מִדּבְרֵי סוֹפְרִים אֵין הַמַּיִם בּוֹדְקִין אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ שֶׁנָּאֱמֵר)במדבר ה לא" (וְנִקְּה הָאִישׁ מֵעוֹן וְהָאִשָּׁה הַהִיא תִּשָּׁא אֶת עֲוֹנָהּ". בִּזְמֵן שֶׁהָאִישׁ מְנֵקֵּה מֵעוֹן אִשָּׁה נוֹשְׁאָה אֶת עֲוֹנָהּ:

Rambam Hichos Sotah Chapter 2, 8

Whenever a man has engaged in forbidden relations from the time he attained majority onward, the curse-bearing waters do not test [the fidelity of] his wife. Even if he engaged in relations with the woman he Volume 18 | Naso | Sichah 2 projectlikkuteisichos.org - page 6

consecrated while she was living in her father's house - which is a Rabbinic prohibition - the waters do not test [the fidelity of] his wife. [This is derived from Bamidbar 5:31, which] states: "The man will then be free of sin, and the woman will bear [the burden of] her sin." [Implied is that] when the man is "free of sin," "the woman will bear [the burden of] her sin."

17. משנה תורה, הלכות סוטה ג':י"ז-י"ח

בְּאוֹתָהּ שָׁעָה שֶׁתָּמוּת הִיא יָמוּת הַנּוֹאֵף שֶׁהִשְּקָה עַל יָדוֹ בְּכֶל מָקוֹם שֶׁהוּא וְיֶאֶרְעוּ לוֹ מְאֹרָעוֹת שֶׁאֵרְעוּ לָהּ)במדבר ה כב" (לַצְבּוֹת בָּטֶן וְלַנְפָּל יָרַךְ". וְכָל זָה אִם לֹא בָּא בַּעְלָהּ בִּיאָה אֲסוּרָה מֵעוֹלָם. אֲבָל אִם בָּעַל בְּעִילָה שֶׁל אִסוּר אֵין הַמִּיִם בּוֹדְקִין אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ כְּמוֹ שַׁבַּאֵרנוּ:

וְאָם עָבַר וְהִשְּקָה אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ הֲרֵי זֶה מוֹסִיף עַל חַטָּאתוֹ פֶּשַׁע שֶׁגָּרַם לַשֵּׁם הַמְפֹּרָשׁ שֶׁיִּמֶּחֶה בַּמֵּיִם לְבַטֶּלָה וּמוֹצִיא לַעַז עַל מֵי סוֹטָה שָׁאִשְׁתּוֹ אוֹמֶרֶת לַאֲחֵרוֹת שֶׁזִּנְּתָה וְלֹא בָּדְקוּ בָּה הַמֵּיִם וְהִיא לֹא תֵּדַע שֶׁמַּעֲשֵׂי הַבַּעַל גָּרְמוּ שֶׁלֹא בָּדְקוּ בָּהּ:

Rambam Hichos Sotah Chapter 3 17-18

When she dies, the adulterer because of whom she was compelled to drink will also die, wherever he is located. The same phenomena, the swelling of the belly and the rupture of the thigh, will also occur to him. All the above applies provided her husband never engaged in forbidden sexual relations in his life. If, however, her husband ever engaged in forbidden relations, the [bitter] waters do not check [the fidelity of] his wife. If [a husband] transgressed and compelled his wife to drink [the bitter water], although he previously entered into a forbidden relationship, he adds further transgression to his sin. For he causes G-d's name [which is not] pronounced to be blotted out on the waters for no reason and defames the reputation of the waters [used to test] a *sotah*. For his wife will tell others that she committed adultery and that the [bitter] waters did not harm her, without knowing that it was her husband's deeds that prevented the waters from checking her [fidelity].

18. סוטה מ״ט ב'

משמת רבי בטלה ענוה ויראת חטא אמר ליה רב יוסף לתנא לא תיתני ענוה דאיכא אנא אמר ליה רב נחמן לתנא לא תיתני יראת חטא דאיכא אנא

Sotah 49b

The final line of the mishna states that from the time when Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi died, humility and fear of sin ceased. Rav Yosef said to the *tanna* who reviewed the mishna: Do not teach that humility ceased, for there is still one who is humble, namely me. Rav Naḥman similarly said to the *tanna* who reviewed the mishna: Do not teach that fear of sin ceased, for there is still one who fears sin, namely me.

19. ברכות ל"א ב'

דְּתַנְיָא: ״וְנִקְתָה וְנִזְרְעָה זָרַע״ — מְלֹמֵד שֶׁאִם הָיְתָה עֲקָרָה — נִפְקֶדֶת, דּבְרֵי רַבִּי יִשְׁמְעֵאל. אָמַר לֵיהּ רַבִּי עֲקִיבָא: אִם כֵּן, יֵלְכוּ כָּל הָעֲקָרוֹת כּוּלָּן וְיִסְתַּתְרוּ, וְזוֹ שֶׁלֹּא קְלְקְלָה — נִפְקֶדֶת. אֶלָּא מְלַמֵּד שֶׁאִם הָיְתָה יוֹלֶדֶת בְּצַעַר — יוֹלֶדֶת בְּרָים — יוֹלֶדֶת שְׁנִים. שָׁחוֹרִים — יוֹלֵדֶת לְבָנִים, אֶחָד — יוֹלֶדֶת שְׁנִים.

Berakhot 31b

As it was taught in a *baraita* that the *tanna'im* disputed the interpretation of the verse in Bamidbar: "Then she shall be acquitted and she shall conceive" teaches that if she was barren, she will be remembered by G-d and granted children; this is the statement of Rabbi Yishmael. Rabbi Akiva said to

him: If so, all barren women will go and seclude themselves with men who are not their husbands, and any woman who did not commit the sin of adultery will be remembered by G-d and granted children. Rather, the verse teaches that this is merely a promise for greater ease in childbirth; if she has previously given birth with pain, she now gives birth with ease, if she has previously given birth to short children, she gives birth to tall children, if she has previously given birth to black children, she now gives birth to fair children, if she has previously given birth to one child, she now gives birth to two children.