

Use these words to fill in the blanks:

*** faithful * one * seen * the * tradition * two ***

IN THE PARSHAH:

In this week's פרשה we learn about the ציץ, which was made of gold, and had the words קודש לדי engraved on it.

In the גמרא we find two opinions about this.

The חכמים said that these words must be engraved in _____ lines; קודש on the lower line, and לדי on the upper line.

But רבי אליעזר the son of רבי יוסי said that he had _____ the ציץ in Rome, and that it had the words קודש לדי engraved on *one* line.

Still, the חכמים maintained that these words must be engraved in *two* line.

QUESTION:

Since רבי אליעזר the son of רבי יוסי said that he actually saw the ציץ in Rome, why did the חכמים not accept his testimony, and agree that the words on the ציץ be engraved on _____ line?

ANSWER:

The חכמים had a _____ passed down to them that the words on the ציץ were written in two lines. Therefore, they maintained their opinion that this is the way it must be written.

Of course, they were not disputing what רבי אליעזר saw.

Rather, they maintained that while he did, in fact, see a ציץ, it was not necessarily _____ ציץ that had been worn by the כהן גדול.

LIFE LESSON:

We must remain _____ to our מסורה, as it has been passed down generation to generation.

Further discussion:

If there was a tradition that the words were written on two lines, why did רבי אליעזר ב"ר רבי יוסי think that what he saw was, indeed, the actual ציץ? (See אות ג in the שיחה)

