



TORAH VEHA'ARETZ

INSTITUTE

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Bi'ur Ma'aserot Part II

The *halachah* with most relevance to *bi'ur ma'aserot* today is destroying before Pesach the coin to which the sanctity of *ma'aser sheni* and *neta revay* was transferred.

Optimally, we destroy the original coin(s) used to transfer this sanctity (usually NIS 10).

Alternatively, the sanctity of this coin can be transferred onto a half-shekel (some permit 10 *agorot*). To transfer the original coin's sanctity to a smaller coin, say: "כל מטבעות מעשר שני והרבעי, כל דרגת חיוב שברשותי בתוספת רבע מערכם מחוללים, כל דרגת חיוב 'The sanctity of all coins of *ma'aser sheni* and *revay* in my possession, plus a quarter of their worth, is hereby transferred, each level of obligation separately, to this coin.'" In this way, the original coin is no longer sacred and can be used.

Destroying the coin:

The coin (either original or new, smaller coin) with *ma'aser sheni/neta revay* sanctity can be destroyed by throwing it into the sea, melting it, hammering it out, or otherwise defacing it. Note, though, that it is against Israeli law to deface coins (Penal Code, Chapter 12, Coin Defacement, Section 480): "One who obscures the form of a coin by imprinting a

name or word or intentionally melts a coin shall be liable for a prison sentence of one year."

Another option is to redeem the coin's sanctity onto sugar:

Take sugar (of value exceeding 6 *perutot*; 100 g will suffice).

Transfer the sanctity of the coin/coins to this sugar by saying the following formula: המעשר שני והרבעי שבמטבע זה/מטבעות אלו בתוספת רבע מערכם, הרי הם מחוללים על סוכר שלפני, כל דרגת חיוב בנפרד "The sanctity of the coin/coins of *ma'aser sheni* and *revay* in my possession, plus a quarter of their worth, is hereby transferred, each level of obligation separately, onto this sugar before me."

Dissolve the sugar in water and pour it down the drain.

Beit HaOtzar takes care of *bi'ur* for members. ■

Next week – the text of **Viduy Ma'aserot**.

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