



Mishpatim

Likkutei Sichos Vol 26, Mishpatim 3

With Rabbi Shalom M. Paltiel

Rambam:

- Israel entered Covenant with three things: **Circumcision**, **Immersion**, and **Sacrifice**. Similarly, when a non-Jew converts it requires Circumcision, Immersion and Sacrifice.
- A convert who Circumcised and Immersed but did not bring his Sacrifice, his Sacrifice prevents his becoming a full convert like all kosher Jews. He cannot eat 'holy sacrificial food' as he's not yet like kosher Jews.
- Nowadays there aren't Sacrifices, he requires only **Circumcision** and **Immersion**. When the Temple is built he should bring his **Sacrifice**.

What is the actual status of convert nowadays?

ROGACHOVER:

Nothing is lacking due to lack of Sacrifice.

Since even in Temple days he's incomplete Jew only regarding 'holy food'.



Rebbe's question:

So converts nowadays, regarding 'holy foods', are NOT complete Jews?

Can't be! Rambam says they're higher than born Jews?!



What is the actual status of convert nowadays?

Rebbe's First Explanation

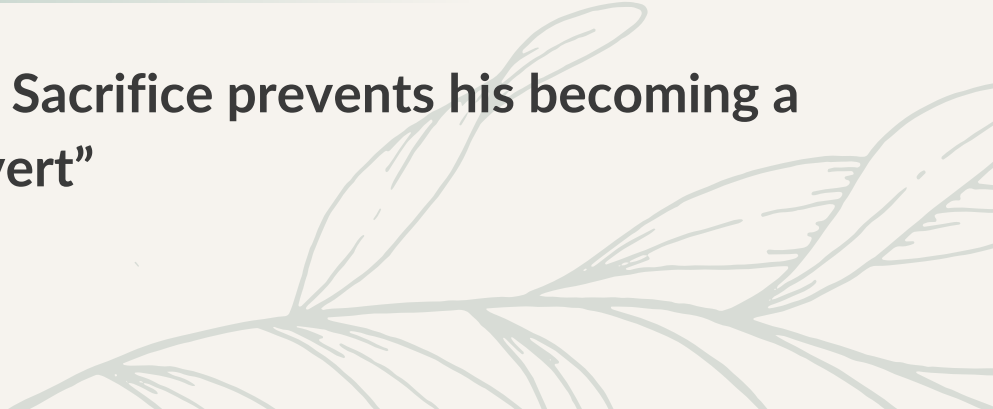
In Temple days - without Sacrifice he's complete Jew.

Sacrifice requirement only for eating 'holy foods'. Not regarding Jewish status.

(Example to illustrate: ritual purity is condition to Pesach offering eligibility. Not judgement of Jewish status).

Nowadays – obviously nothing is lacking without Sacrifice.

BUT: Notice Rambam's language: "his Sacrifice prevents his becoming a full convert"





What is the actual status of convert nowadays?

Rebbe's Final Explanation

In Temple days – Circumcision & Immersion are **requirements** of conversion.

Sacrifice is merely a **condition to lift restriction**. (As per Rambam: “his Sacrifice prevents his becoming a full convert”)

(Example to illustrate: Circumcision of son or slave isn't requirement to Pesach offering; it's a condition necessary to remove restriction.)

Nowadays – Circumcision & Immersion makes him complete convert. He's fulfilled all **requirements**. And Sacrifice is no longer a relevant **condition**.

Based on above – after Temple is rebuilt:

Jewish status remains
intact even before Sacrifice

Sacrifice is separate law

He can even partake in
'holy foods' before Sacrifice

Analyzing Rebbe's Conclusion

Why are Circumcision & Immersion actual requirements, while Sacrifice is merely a condition (binding when relevant)?

The Two Steps of Conversion:

Jewish People @ Sinai	"You shall be my precious people"	"A kingdom of priests & a holy nation"
All converts	Covenant with God; receives holy Neshama	Character development & refinement
Whose doing?	Act of God as result of Circumcision & Immersion	Man's doing through "Korbon" – closeness & refinement
Primarily imperative	Nowadays: commitment & dedication are primary	Temple days: Revealed Godliness; soul's refinement