

That a *kohain* read before him

שקרא לפניו כהן –

OVERVIEW

לוי was מעלה a person to לוי based on the testimony that he read in the תורה after a כהן. Our תוספות qualifies this ruling.

פירוש¹ פעם אחת:

The explanation why this proof is valid is because the כהן read **only one time**; he had only one עליה. If there would be no לוי, the כהן would have read twice (received two עליות).

SUMMARY

If a כהן receives one עליה we can be certain that the following עליה was given to a לוי.

THINKING IT OVER

Why was it necessary for תוספות to tell us that כהן read one time (only) and not twice, when the גמרא clearly states that the עד said "בניהכנ"ס"; indicating that he received the second עליה; obviously the כהן read only once?!

¹ (פירוש by saying תוספות) is seemingly negating (בד"ה שקרא לפניו) פירש"י, who maintains that if he was not a לוי they would have called up two כהנים (for the first two עליות). תוספות disagrees for we do not call up two כהנים, but rather the same כהן receives the first two עליות. Therefore תוספות writes 'פעם אחת'; the כהן, preceding this לוי, read only once (he only received the עליה of the כהן), indicating that the second עליה was for a לוי. See מהרש"א.