

What kind of food?

1. Bereishit 6:21

וְאַתָּה קַח לָךְ מִכָּל־מֵאֲכָל אֲשֶׁר יֹאכַל וְאַסַּפְתָּ אֵלֶיךָ וְהָיָה לְךָ וְלָהֶם לְאֹכֶלָהּ:

And you shall take for yourself from every food which will be eaten, and you shall gather to yourself, and it shall be for you and for them to eat.

2. Midrash, Bereishit Rabbah 31:19a

וְאַתָּה קַח לָךְ וּגו'

- רבי אבא בר כהנא אמר הכניס עמו דבילה
 - תני משום רבי נחמיה רוב מכנסו דבילה
 - רבי אבא בר כהנא אמר הכניס עמו זמורות לפילים, חצובות לצבאים, זכוכית לנעמיות.
 - רבי לוי אמר הכניס עמו זמורות לנטיעות, יחורים לתאנים, גרופית לזיתים.
- [פירוש הדבר:]

- על דעתיה דרבי אבא בר כהנא "והיה לך ולהם" דבר שהוא לך ולהם
- ועל דעתיה דרבי לוי "והיה לך ולהם", אתה עיקר והם טפלים לך. "ואספת אליך", אין אדם כונס דבר שאינו צריך לו.

"And you shall take for yourself, etc."

- Rabbi Abba bar Kahana said: He brought with him pressed figs.
 - It was taught in the name of Rabbi Nechemiah: [This means that] most of what he brought in was pressed figs.
 - Rabbi Abba bar Kahana said: He brought with him vines for elephants, *chatzuvah* for deer, glass for ostriches.
- Rabbi Levi said: He brought with him vines for planting trees, fig branches for figs, olive branches for olives.

[Meaning:]

- Per Rabbi Abba bar Kahana: "And it shall be for you and for them" – that which is for you and for them.
- Per Rabbi Levi: "And it shall be for you and for them" – you are the essence, they are subsidiary to you. "And you shall gather them to you" – One does not gather that which he does not need.

3. Talmud, Bava Batra 56a

מאי חצובא? אמר רב יהודה אמר רב: שבו תיחם יהושע לישראל את הארץ

What is *chatzuva*? Rav Yehudah cited Rav: This is what Yehoshua used to mark the boundaries of Israel in the land.

4. Talmud, Shabbat 128a

מטלטלין את החצב [בשבת] מפני שהוא מאכל לצביים, ואת החרדל מפני שהוא מאכל ליונים, רבן שמעון בן גמליאל אומר: אף מטלטלין שברי זכוכית, מפני שהוא מאכל לנעמיות.

One may move *chatzav* [on Shabbat] because it is food for deer, and mustard seed because it is food for doves. Rabban Shimon ben Gamliel said: One may also move broken glass, because it is food for ostriches.

5. Linda March, *Ostriches – a Curious Bird Indeed*, University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine

Ostriches require intensive management. They are very curious creatures and will peck at anything shiny. This behavior is especially apparent when the ostriches are young. Owners should be careful about what they wear when around these birds.

"Don't wear jewelry, watches, or rings when taking care of your birds," cautions Dr. Walker. "They can snatch glasses from your face and swallow them before you have time to react."

Their constant running in the pen also works debris up from the soil. It is important to walk the pen every few days to pick up the bits of broken glass, wire, bolts or nuts that can come up to the surface from the movement of their feet.

6. Midrash, Bereishit Rabbah 36:3

ומהיכן היה לו [כרם]? א"ר אבא בר כהנא הכניס עמו זמורות ונטיעות, ויחורים של תאנה, וגרופיות לזיתים, הה"ד (בראשית 1) ואספת אליך, אין אדם כונס דבר אא"כ היה צריך לו.

From where did he have [the means to plant a vineyard]? Rabbi Abba bar Kahana said: He brought with him vines and saplings, and fig branches and olive branches. Thus it says, "And you shall gather to you" – One does not gather something unless he needs it.

7. Midrash, Avot d'Rabbi Natan 7:1

את שדרכו לאכול פת חטים האכלתו פת חטים, את שדרכו לאכול בשר האכלתו בשר, את שדרכו לשתות יין השקיתו יין
You feed wheat bread to one who normally eats wheat bread. You feed meat to one who normally eats meat. You give wine to one who normally drinks wine.

He did it! He did what?

8. Bereishit 6:22

ויעש נח ככל אשר צוה אתו אלקים כן עשה:

And Noah did; according to all that Gd had commanded him, so he did.

9. Bereishit 7:5

ויעש נח ככל אשר צוהו ד':

And Noah did, according to all that Gd had commanded him.

10. Midrash, Bereishit Rabbah 31:19b

"ויעש נח ככל אשר צוה אתו אלקים כן עשה", זה שיכון לעשיית התיבה.

"And Noah did; according to all that Gd had commanded him, so he did." This is neighbouring the construction of the boat.

11. Midrash, Bereishit Rabbah 32:5

"ויעש נח ככל אשר צוהו ד'", זה שיכון לכינוס בהמה חיה ועוף.

"And Noah did, according to all that Gd had commanded him." This is neighbouring bringing in the domesticated animals, wild beasts and birds.

Summary of messages

- Care for each species individually
- Plan to plant
- Value each accomplishment