Class # 25 **The velvet rope versus "All who are hungry come and eat!"**

Advanced Fellowship Parsha Class - Sponsored in memory of Alice Toby Barbanel Z”l

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# Seinfeld - Newman - Lost in the Mail - The Betrayal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIG9yURzmeQ>

1. Why wasn’t Kramer invited to Newman’s birthday party?
2. Why did Kramer feel bad and need to rebuke Newman?
3. Why does every recognition of people have a dinner associated with it -wedding, reunions, annual gala, ..etc?
4. Who do we invite to exclusive parties and special meals?
5. Why is “dinner with the in-laws” such a classic topic of comedy?
6. Who do we exclude from these parties - why?
7. What is the Halacha for Yom Tov?

**Rambam, Laws of resting on the Holidays, 6:18**

…..When a person eats and drinks [in celebration of a holiday], he is obligated to feed converts, orphans, widows, and others who are destitute and poor. In contrast, a person who locks the gates of his courtyard and eats and drinks with his children and his wife, without feeding the poor and the embittered, is [not indulging in] rejoicing associated with a mitzvah, but rather the rejoicing of his gut.

And with regard to such a person [the verse, [Hoshea 9:4](https://www.chabad.org/16163#v4)] is applied: "Their sacrifices will be like the bread of mourners, all that partake thereof shall become impure, for they [kept] their bread for themselves alone." This happiness is a disgrace for them, as [implied by [Malachi 2:3](https://www.chabad.org/16220#v3)]: "I will spread dung on your faces, the dung of your festival celebrations."

**The beginning of the Magid section:**

**This is the bread of affliction** that our fathers ate in the land of Egypt. Whoever is hungry, let him come and eat; whoever is in need, let him come and conduct the Seder of Passover. This year [we are] here; next year in the land of Israel. This year [we are] slaves; next year [we will be] free people.

1. This text “Ha lachma’anyah -**This is the bread of affliction** ”is written in Aramaic, the language of the Babylonian exile. Why is it not in Hebrew like the rest of our Hagadah?
2. Why are we inviting people after the meal has begun? Isn’t that a little late?
3. Who might Newman invite if he read  “Ha lachma’anyah - **This is the bread of affliction**”  at his Seder party?
4. Both Newman and Kramer are assimilated New York Jews, why are they acting in a gentile fashion?
5. What type of guests do we seek more of? What guests do we avoid?
6. How does the Rambam view a honorable and joyous Yom Tov meal?
7. Why do we do Maggid before we eat our meal? Why does the host ding the glass before we all eat at the festive meal?