

***Bava Metzia 4*****We Try Never to Disqualify a Get**

*Shu”t Maseis Binyamin (siman 51)* was asked about a *get*. Rumors abounded that one of the witnesses on the *get* had misappropriated funds. The story that was told about him was that a person had once deposited a pouch in the witness’s hand to watch. There were no witnesses at the time of the deposit. Some time later, the depositor came and reclaimed his pouch. When he came home and opened the bag, he discovered that his money-filled wallet, which had been in the pouch, was missing. He started screaming, “That man is a thief! He stole my wallet that was filled with money!” The watchman denied everything, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about. You are lying. Nothing is missing from what you gave me.” The dispute came before the community leader. He commanded that the watchman be jailed and his house searched. They searched the house and found the wallet stuck into a crack in a wall. The watchman continued to insist on his innocence: “I never took anything from the pouch. Maybe my children or spouse went through it and stole the wallet. I never knew there was a wallet in the bag. I never opened the bag. I never moved the bag. I am no thief.” They released the watchman. This whole story was told to the rabbi who was looking into the *get*.

He sent emissaries to interview the watchman, who had later