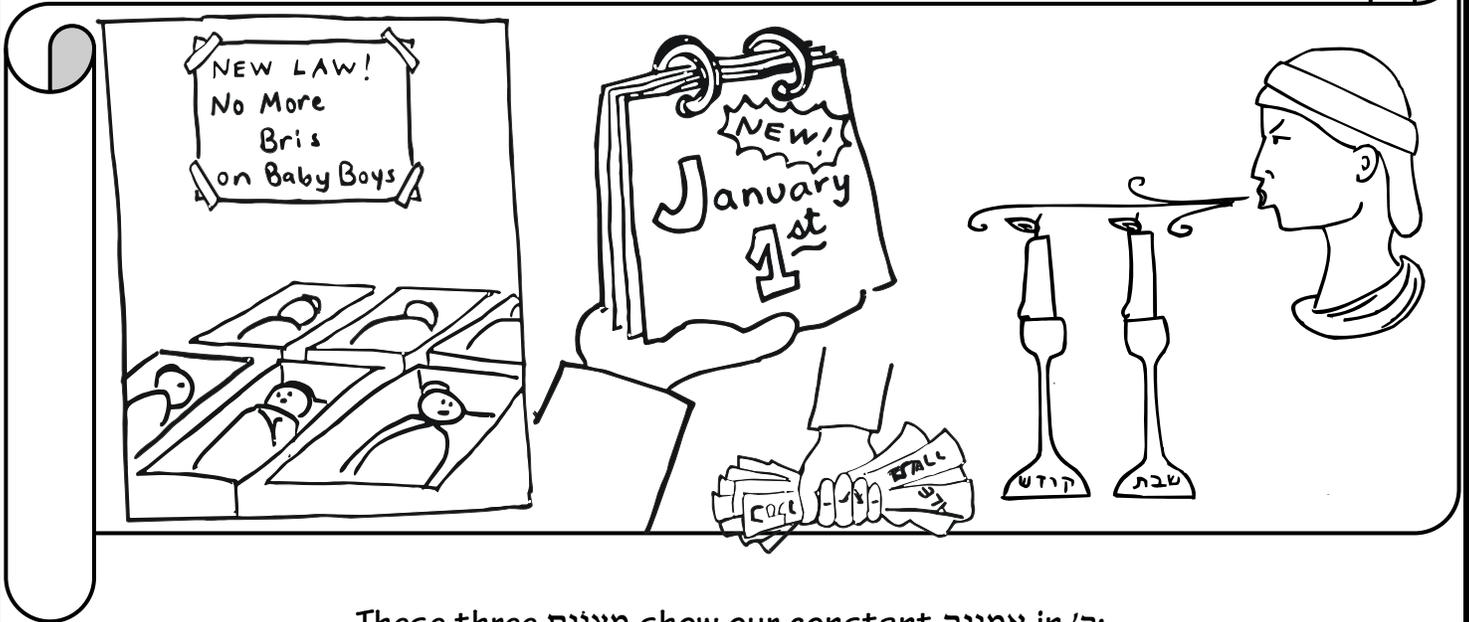




מִצְוֹת made special harsh decrees against three:

1. Jews were forbidden to keep שַׁבָּת,
2. They were not allowed to follow the Jewish calendar - including ראש חודש and the Jewish ימים טובים,
3. Boys were forbidden to have a בְּרִית מִילָה.



These three מִצְוֹת show our constant אֱמוּנָה in ה':

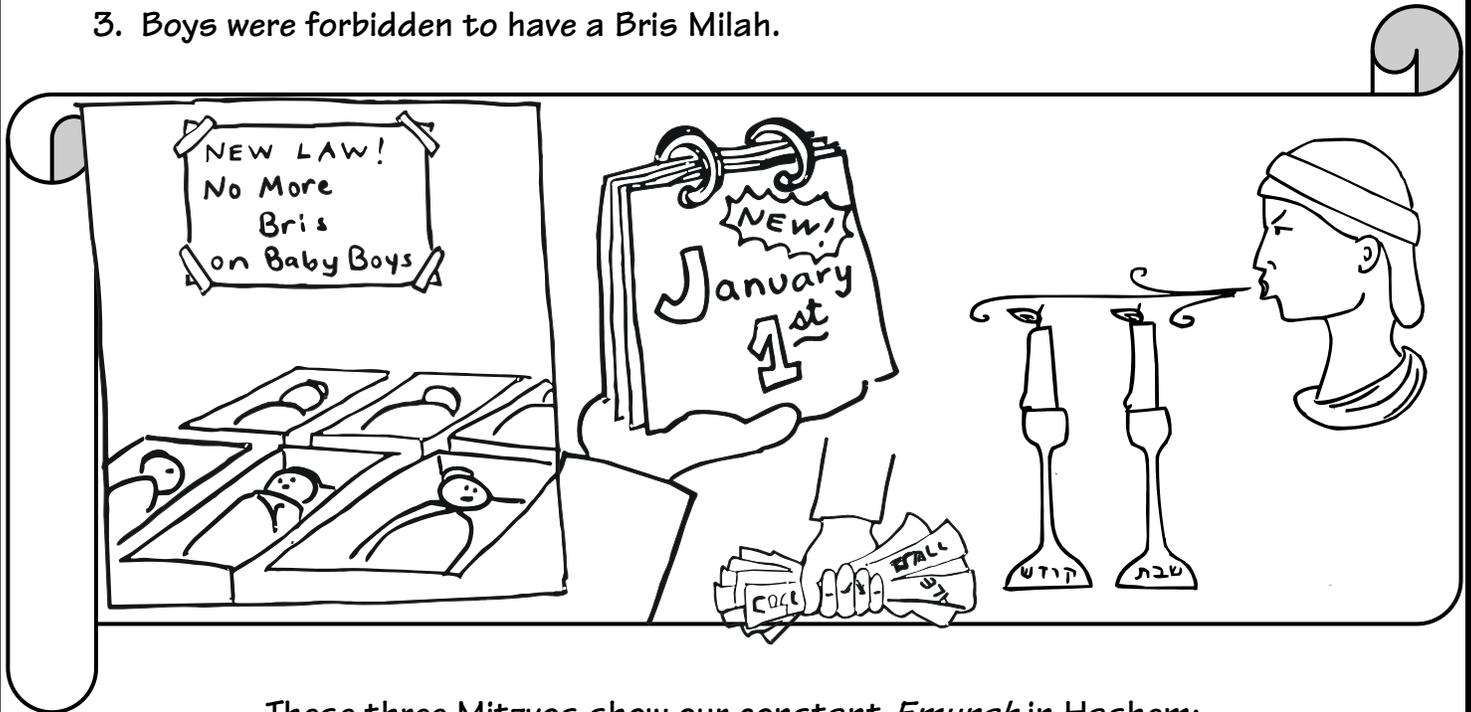
שַׁבָּת	Calendar / ראש חודש	בְּרִית מִילָה
Through resting on שַׁבָּת, we show our אֱמוּנָה that ה' created the world. By keeping שַׁבָּת holy, we demonstrate that ה' still creates and runs the world.	Through ראש חודש we turn ימים טובים, which shows that "time" itself which is a "symbol" of nature can and is - made holy.	Through the בְּרִית מִילָה we show that the physical body is - and needs to be - holy. Holiness is not only in thoughts, ideas, words and discussions, but our bodies are holy, and we must act and be holy.

As time went on, the situation was getting worse. Many סִפְרֵי תוֹרָה were burnt – along with the teachers who taught from them. King אֲנָטִיכוֹס commanded his generals to have the מְתִיוֹנִים publicly demonstrate that they had left their people and were enjoying it. The מְתִיוֹנִים were increasing and influencing others to join them. The Jewish Nation was in trouble.



Antiochus made special harsh decrees against three Mitzvos:

1. Jews were forbidden to keep Shabbos,
2. They were not allowed to follow the Jewish calendar - including Rosh Chodesh and the Jewish Yomim Tovim,
3. Boys were forbidden to have a Bris Milah.



These three Mitzvos show our constant *Emunah* in Hashem:

Shabbos	Calendar / Rosh Chodesh	Bris Milah
<p>Through resting on Shabbos, we show our <i>Emunah</i> that Hashem created the world. By keeping Shabbos holy, we demonstrate that Hashem <i>still</i> creates and runs the world.</p>	<p>Through Rosh Chodesh we turn regular days into Yomim Tovim, which shows that "time" itself which is a "symbol" of <i>nature</i> can and is - made holy.</p>	<p>Through the Bris Milah we show that the <i>physical</i> body is - and needs to be - holy. Holiness is not only in thoughts, ideas, words and discussions, but our bodies are holy, and we must <i>act and be</i> holy.</p>

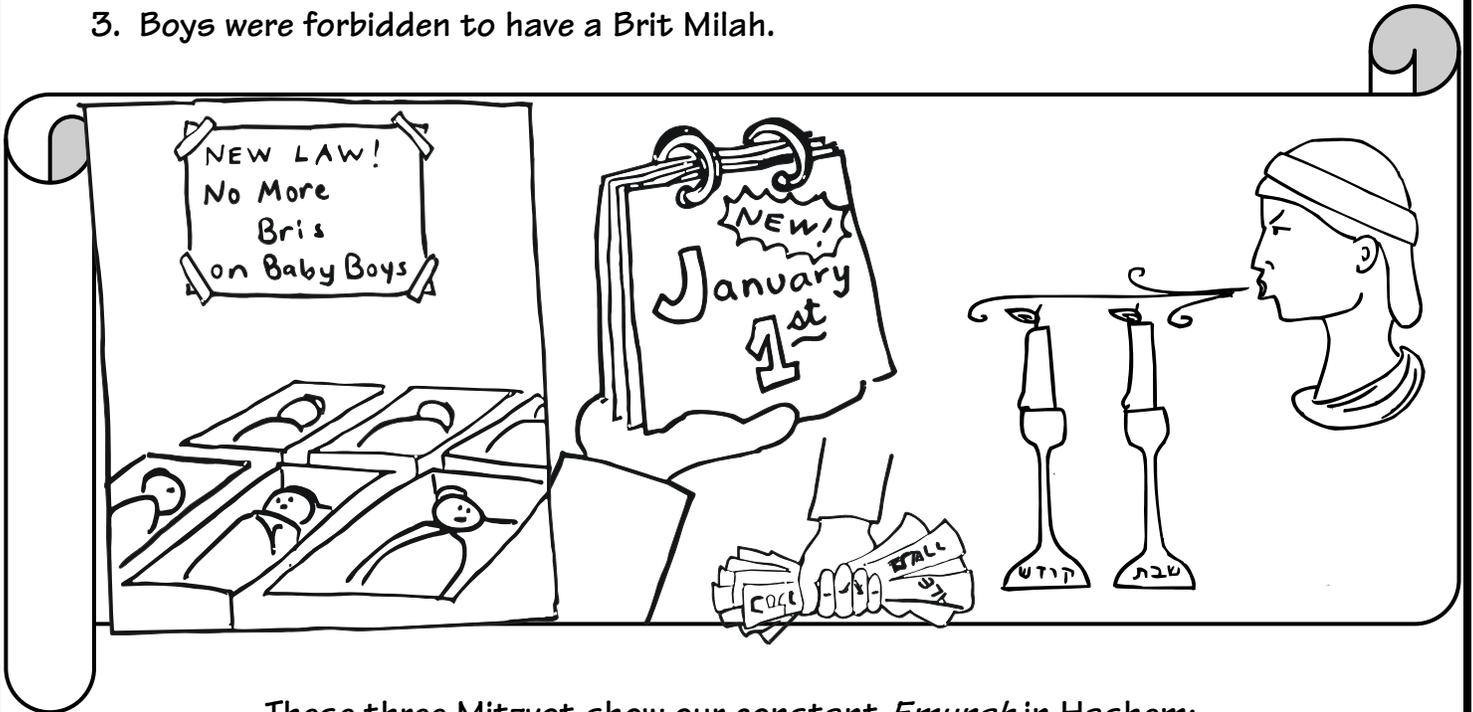
As time went on, the situation was getting worse. Many Sifrei Torah were burnt – along with the teachers who taught it. King Antiochus commanded his generals to have the Misyavnim publicly demonstrate that they had left their people and were enjoying it. The Misyavnim were increasing and influencing others to join them.

The Jewish Nation was in trouble.



Antiochus made special harsh decrees against three Mitzvot:

1. Jews were forbidden to keep Shabbat,
2. They were not allowed to follow the Jewish calendar - including Rosh Chodesh and the Jewish Yamim Tovim,
3. Boys were forbidden to have a Brit Milah.



These three Mitzvot show our constant *Emunah* in Hashem:

Shabbat	Calendar / Rosh Chodesh	Brit Milah
<p>Through resting on Shabbat, we show our <i>Emunah</i> that Hashem created the world. By keeping Shabbat holy, we demonstrate that Hashem <i>still</i> creates and runs the world.</p>	<p>Through Rosh Chodesh we turn regular days into Yamim Tovim, which shows that "time" itself which is a "symbol" of <i>nature</i> can be - and is - made holy.</p>	<p>Through the Brit Milah we show that the <i>physical</i> body is - and needs to be - holy. Holiness is not only in thoughts, ideas, words and discussions, but our bodies are holy, and we must <i>act and be</i> holy.</p>

As time went on, the situation was getting worse. Many Sifrei Torah were burnt – along with the teachers who taught it. King Antiochus commanded his generals to have the Mityavnim publicly demonstrate that they had left their people and were enjoying it. heMityavnim were increasing and influencing others to join them. The Jewish Nation was in trouble.