

הַלְכָה of the Week

~ בְּרָכוֹת הַתּוֹרָה ~

(The Blessings on Learning Torah, part 4)

Immediately after reciting בְּרָכוֹת הַתּוֹרָה we observe the מְצוּה of Torah study by reciting בְּרַכַּת כְּהֵנִים (the blessing of the כְּהֵנִים, Bemidbar 6:24-26 -

(יְבָרְכֶךָ ה' וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ; יָאֵר ה' פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחַנְדֵּךָ; יִשָּׂא ה' פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וְיִשֶּׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם;

as well as a section from the מְשֻׁנָּה.

These appear in the בְּרָכוֹת הַתּוֹרָה after סִידוּר.

פְּרָקִי אָבוֹת of the Week

פְּרָק ב

א רַבִּי אָמַר, אֵיזוּהִי דֶרֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׂיָבוֹר לּוֹ הָאָדָם, כֹּל שֶׁהִיא תִפְאֶרֶת לְעוֹשֶׂיהָ וְתִפְאֶרֶת לּוֹ מִן הָאָדָם. וְהוּי זְהִיר בְּמִצְוֹת קְלָה כְּבַחֲמוּרָה, שְׂאִין אֶתָּה יוֹדֵעַ מִתֵּן שְׂכָרְךָן שֶׁל מִצְוֹת. וְהוּי מְחַשֵּׁב הַפֶּסֶד מִצְוֹת כְּנֶגֶד שְׂכָרָהּ, וְשֹׁכֵר עֲבָרָה כְּנֶגֶד הַפֶּסֶדָּה. וְהִסְתַּכַּל בְּשִׁלְשָׁה דְבָרִים וְאֵי אֶתָּה בָּא לְיַדֵּי עֲבָרָה, דַּע מָה לְמַעַלָּה מִמֶּךָ, עֵין רוֹאָה וְאֵזֶן שׁוֹמֵעֶת, וְכֹל מַעֲשֶׂיךָ בְּסֵפֶר נִכְתָּבִין:

Rabbi (Yehudah HaNasi) said:

- a. Which is the proper path that a man should choose for himself? He should choose **a path that is good for himself and causes others to admire him.**
- b. Be just as careful in doing a מִצְוָה that you think is not important as you are in doing a מִצְוָה that you think is important, because **you do not know which מִצְוָה will earn you a greater reward.**
- c. Compare the **cost** of doing a מִצְוָה with the **reward** you will receive for doing it; and compare **the amount you gain** by doing a sin with the **punishment** you will receive for doing it.
- d. Think of three things and you will not sin. Know that these three things are above you: **An Eye is watching you; an Ear is listening to you; and whatever you say or do is written in a book.**

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