The Chicago Center
Digest
Mishna Berura
THE DAILY RESOURCE FOR MISHNA BERURA YOMI
Shabbos, Aug 5 2023 ■ י"ח אב תשפ"ג
סימן רצ"ד סעיף א'-ה'

Overview

Siman 294 Seif 1:

We recite havdala in the beracha of חונן הדעת. If one errs and does not recite havdala he may complete the amida and is not required to go back since he will recite havdala on a cup of wine. If one ate before reciting havdala on a cup of wine, he must repeat the amida and include havdala.

- Even if one already recited havdala on a cup of wine he must recite havdala in the amida as well. (M.B. 1)
- Common custom is to insert אתה חוננתנו after the phrase לאנש בינה but if one began the beracha with אתה חוננתנו his obligation is fulfilled. If one did not daven ma'ariv but recited havdala on a cup of wine he recites the amida twice but does not add אתה חוננתנו. If he did not even recite havdala on a cup of wine he should add havdala into the second amida that he recites and then recite havdala with a cup of wine. (M.B. 2)
- It is prohibited to perform melacha until he recites havdala on wine or at least until he declares המבדיל בין קדש לחול. (M.B. 3)
- Although the halacha is that one who ate before havdala may still recite havdala, in this circumstance since one forgot to daven as well he is penalized and must repeat the amida with havdala. (M.B. 4)

Siman 294 Seif 2:

If one forgot to recite havdala and does not have a cup of wine nor does he expect to have one the following day, he must repeat the amidah.

- If he already stepped back he must repeat the amidah but if he hasn't, he goes back to the beracha of חונן הדעת. If he realized before the beracha of שומע תפלה he may insert it there. If he has a cup of wine he should recite havdala on the cup of wine rather than insert it in the beracha of שומע תפלה. (M.B. 6)

Siman 294 Seif 3:

When Tisha B'Av falls on Sunday and one forgot to include havdala in his amidah he does not have to repeat it since he will recite havdala with a cup of wine Sunday night after Tisha B'Av.

Siman 294 Seif 4:

When the halacha is that he is not required to go back, as soon as he completed the beracha he does not go back even if he did not begin the following beracha.

Siman 294 Seif 5:

Halacha Highlight

The recitation of havdala in tefila

Shulchan Aruch Siman 294 Seif 1

אומרים הבדלה בחונן הדעת

We recite havdala in the beracha of חונן הדעת

Shulchan Aruch (סע' א') writes that one must include havdala in the beracha of חונן הדעת. Mishnah Berurah (סק"ב) explains that it was incorporated into this beracha since it is prohibited for one to request his needs before he recites havdala. Rashba (ח"א סי' תשל"ט) further elaborates by explaining that just like it is prohibited for one to perform weekday activities before the recitation of havdala, so too, it is prohibited for one to ask for personal needs before the recitation of havdala. Shulchan Aruch HaRav (סע' א') explains that one may not make personal requests before the recitation of havdala similar to the prohibition against making personal requests on Shabbos. For this reason Rav Chaim Kanievski (אשי ישראל פל"ו הע' רנ"ב) writes that if one forgot to add havdala in the amidah he should not add any personal requests that are not part of the standard wording of the amidah. Sha'ar HaTziyun (סק"ב) suggests a second explanation and that is that since this is the beracha of wisdom which is necessary to differentiate between that which is holy and that which is mundane, it makes sense to recite havdala in this beracha.

Mishnah Berurah (סק"ב) also notes that common custom is to first recite the phrase אתה חונן... לאנוש בינה and then add the paragraph אתה חוננתנו before concluding the beracha with the words וחננו מאתך וכו'. Vilna Gaon suggests that the rationale behind this practice is to satisfy both explanations why havdala is added to this beracha. According to the reason cited by Sha'ar HaTziyun that it was added specifically to the beracha of wisdom it makes sense to begin the beracha to create a context of wisdom and then add into that context the paragraph of havdala. According to Mishnah Berurah's explanation that one may not ask for personal needs until first reciting havdala, one begins the beracha but before one reaches the first personal request of וחננו מאתך we recite havdala.

When it is unnecessary for a person to repeat the amidah, if one wishes to be stringent and go back and he completed the amida, he may repeat it but if he is still in the middle of the amida he may not go back to חונן הדעת.

- It is repeated as a volunteer tefila but one should not recite a volunteer beracha unless he knows that he will be able to concentrate on his prayer. (M.B. 8)