

Havdalah

הַבְּדֵלָה

*At the conclusion of Festivals, begin with blessing over wine
(middle of page 672).*

The name Havdalah is derived from the Hebrew word meaning "to divide." The ceremony takes place at the conclusion of the Sabbath or Festival, "dividing" the special or holy day from the mundane or "ordinary" weekdays.

As the Sabbath is ushered in with candlelight and a blessing over wine, so too is its departure accompanied by candlelight, wine, and prayer.

We inhale the fragrance of the spices in the Besamim Box, to symbolize our wish that the sweetness of Shabbat may linger with us, and our hope that the week ahead will be sweet and pleasant.

Preludes to Havdalah

KAREYV YOM

קָרֵב יוֹם. אֲשֶׁר הוּא לֹא יוֹם וְלֹא לַיְלָה.
רֵם הַיּוֹדֵעַ. כִּי לֵךְ הַיּוֹם. אִף לֵךְ הַלַּיְלָה.
שׁוֹמְרִים הַפְּקֹד לְעִירָךְ. כָּל-הַיּוֹם וְכָל-הַלַּיְלָה.
תָּאִיר כְּאוֹר יוֹם. חֲשַׁכַת לַיְלָה:

Kareyv yom, asher hu lo yom v'lo laila,
Ram hoda, ki l'ha ha-yom, af l'ha ha-laila;
Shom-rim haf-keyd l'irha, kol ha-yom v'hol ha-laila,
Ta-ir k'or yom, hesh-hat laila.

May the day soon come which is neither day nor night;
May the darkness of night be transformed into light!

ELIYAHU HANAVI

אֵלֵיָהוּ הַנָּבִיא. אֵלֵיָהוּ הַתְּשֻׁבִי.
אֵלֵיָהוּ אֵלֵיָהוּ אֵלֵיָהוּ הַגִּלְעָדִי:
בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ יָבֵא אֵלֵינוּ
עִם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד. עִם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד:

Eliyahu ha-navi, Eliyahu ha-tishbi,
Eliyahu, Eliyahu, Eliyahu ha-gil-adi.
Bi-m'heyra v'ya-meynu yavo ey-leynu
Im ma-shi-ah ben david, im ma-shi-ah ben david.

May the prophet Elijah soon come
And bring peace and joy to the world.

Reader (or other celebrant), by the light of the Havdalah candle:

Our God and God of our ancestors, we thank You for the joy and rest which this Sabbath day has brought. May the coming week bring us gladness and peace, health and achievement.

As we inhale the fragrance of the Besamim, we pray that the days ahead may bring sweetness to our lives and to the lives of our dear ones. May the blessed influence of Shabbat remain with us until we greet her again next week. Amen.

Havdalah

AT THE END OF A FESTIVAL, begin with the blessing over wine (#1) and omit blessings #2 & #3 (over spices and candle). Conclude with blessing #4. ON SATURDAY NIGHT, recite all lines. Begin here while holding wine cup:

הִנֵּה אֵל יְשׁוּעָתִי אֲבֹטָח וְלֹא אֶפְקֹד.
כִּי עָזִי וְזַמְרָת יְהוָה יְיָ וַיְהִי־לִי לִישׁוּעָה:
וּשְׂאֲבָתָם מִיָּמִים בְּשִׁשׁוֹן מִמַּעַיְנֵי הַיְשׁוּעָה:
לִי הַיְשׁוּעָה עַל־עַמֶּךָ בְּרִכְתְּךָ סֵלָה:
יְיָ צְבָאוֹת עֲמָנוּ מִשְׁנֵב לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב סֵלָה:
יְיָ צְבָאוֹת אֲשֶׁר־י אָדָם בְּטַח בְּךָ:
יְיָ הוֹשִׁיעָה הַמֶּלֶךְ יַעֲנֵנוּ בְיוֹם־קָרְאָנוּ:
לְיְהוּדִים הַיְתֵם אֹרֶה וְשִׂמְחָה וְשִׁשׁוֹן וְיִקָּר:
כֵּן תְּהִיָּה לָנוּ:
כּוֹס יְשׁוּעוֹת אֲשָׂא וּבָשֵׂם יְיָ אֶקְרָא:

(1) בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן:

After the following blessing, inhale the spices:

(2) בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. בּוֹרֵא מִיְנֵי בְשָׂמִים:

Hands are cupped and extended toward the Havdalah candle:

(3) בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. בּוֹרֵא מְאוּרֵי הָאֵשׁ:

(4) בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם.

הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל

בֵּין אֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים.

בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי לְשִׁשְׁתַּיִם הַמַּעֲשֶׂה.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל:

(HAMAVDIL, p. 674)

Drink from the wine cup.

Havdalah

UPON THE CONCLUSION OF SABBATH AND FESTIVALS

(See instructions on facing page)

Behold, God is my unfailing help,
In whom I will trust and be not afraid.
The Lord is my strength and song,
And is truly my Deliverer.
With joy shall you draw water
Out of the wells of salvation.
The Eternal is our source of help,
And will surely bless our people.
The Lord of the universe is with us;
The God of Jacob is our protection.
Happy are those who trust in You.
O our Deliverer, answer us when we call.
Then there was light and joy,
Gladness and honor, for our people.
So too may we be granted
The abundance of God's blessings!
I raise the Cup of Salvation,
And call upon the name of the Lord.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
Creator of the fruit of the vine.

After the following blessing, inhale the spices.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
Creator of the various spices.

Hands are cupped and extended toward the Havdalah candle:
Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
Creator of the light of the flames.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who makes a distinction between the holy and the ordinary,
between light and darkness,
between the people Israel and the heathens,
between the Seventh Day and the six ordinary weekdays.
Praised are You, O Lord,
who has made a distinction between the holy and the ordinary.

Drink from the wine cup.

Hamavdil

הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל. חַטָּאתֵינוּ הוּא יִמְחַל.
זְרַעֲנוּ וְכִסְפֵּנוּ יִרְבֶּה בְּחֹל. וְכַכּוֹכְבִים בְּלַיְלָה:

יוֹם פָּנָה כְּצֵל הַמָּר. אֶקְרָא לְאֵל עָלַי גּוֹמֵר.
אָמַר שׁוֹמֵר. אַתָּא בְּקֹר וְגַם לַיְלָה:

הַמְבַדִּיל...

צְדָקָתְךָ כְּהַר תְּבוֹר. עַל־חַטָּאי עֲבוֹר תַּעֲבוֹר.
כַּיּוֹם אַתְמוֹל כִּי יַעֲבוֹר. וְאַשְׁמוּרָה בְּלַיְלָה:

הַמְבַדִּיל...

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נִחְנוּ בְיָדְךָ בְּחֹמֵר. סֶלַח נָא עַל־קַל וְחֹמֵר.
יוֹם לַיּוֹם יִבְיַע אָמַר. וְלַיְלָה לְלַיְלָה:

הַמְבַדִּיל...

Intermediate Verses **

חִלָּפָה עֹנֶת מְנַחֵתִי. מִי יִתֵּן מְנוּחָתִי.

יִגְעֵתִי בְּאַנְחָתִי. אֲשַׁחֶה בְּכָל־לַיְלָה:

קוֹלִי שִׁמְעָה בַּל יִטַּל. פֶּתַח לִי שַׁעַר הַמְּנוּטָל.

שְׂרָאשִׁי נִמְלֵא טַל. קוֹצוֹתַי רְסִיסֵי לַיְלָה:

הַעֲתֵר נֹרָא וְאִוִּים. אֲשַׁנֵּעַ תְּנֵה פְדִיּוֹם.

בְּנֶשֶׁף בְּעֶרֶב יוֹם. בְּאִישׁוֹן לַיְלָה:

קְרֵאתִיךָ יְהִי הוֹשִׁיעֵנִי. אֲרַח חַיִּים תּוֹדִיעֵנִי.

מִדְּלָה תִּבְצָעֵנִי. מִיּוֹם עַד לַיְלָה:

טְהַר טְנוּף מַעֲשֵׂי. פֶּן יֵאמְרוּ מְכַעֲסֵי.

אִיִּה אֱלוֹהֵ עֲשֵׂי. נִתְּנָן וְמִרוֹת בְּלַיְלָה:

Ha-mavdil beyn kodesh l'hol,

Hato-teynu hu yim-hol,

Zareynu v'has-peynu yarbeh ka-hol,

V'ha-kohavim ba-lailah.

(Stanzas on facing page.)

שָׁבוּעַ טוֹב! SHAVUA TOV!

HAMAVDIL: A night-fall hymn

You who divide the sacred and mundane,
Forgive our sins, we ask now, once again.
As the sands, our seed may You increase,
As the stars in a night-sky of peace.

Like the palm tree's shade has passed the day,
To You I turn, in trust and awe, and say—
The watchman's word has set my mind aright:
"Dawn shall dispel the dark of night."

Your Law is lofty as Mount Tabor's peak;
Grant the pardon which from You I seek.
Help to put my many sins to flight,
That they may pass into the dark of night.

In Your hand, O Lord, we are but clay;
Light or grave, our faults do not weigh.
May day proclaim Your Word to day,
And night declare Your Truth to night.

Adina N. Samuelson
(Based on Hebrew of Isaac ibn Ghayat)

Although widely known as a post-Havdalah hymn, *Hamavdil* originated in 11th-century Spain, as part of the Neilah Service for the conclusion of Yom Kippur ("the Sabbath of Sabbaths"). Hence the multiple references to Divine forgiveness and the night.

Selected stanzas of *Hamavdil*

Yom panah k'tzeyl to-mer, ekra la-Eyl alai go-meyr,
Amar shomeyr, ata voker v'gam lailah. Hamavdil ...

Tzid-kat-ḥa k'har tavor, al ḥa-ta-ai avor ta-avor,
K'yom etmol ki ya-avor, v'ash-murah va-lailah. Hamavdil ...

Nahnu v'yad-ḥa ka-ḥomer, s'lah na al kal va-ḥomer,
Yom l'yom yabia omer, v'lailah l'lailah. Hamavdil ...