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# Havdalah

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## Introduction

*As Shabbat ends, the Havdalah candle is kindled.  
(You may read one of the following.)*

If we take joy in the fullness of its spiritual pleasure, Shabbat is a taste of the messianic days. As Shabbat comes to an end and we confront darkness, we kindle light and speak words of confidence. We shall speak of *salvation*, deliverance from darkness; *salvation*, triumph of the work of redemption.



Legend tells us: As night descended at the end of the world's first Shabbat, Adam and Eve feared and wept. Then God showed them how to make fire and, by its light and warmth, to dispel the darkness and its terrors.

Kindling flame is a symbol of our first labor upon the earth. As Shabbat departs and the work week resumes, we kindle our own fire. We begin to separate ourselves from Shabbat by lighting the way into a new week with this candle.



*(The following biblical verses may be read or chanted  
along with the English version of the text. It is customary to lift the cup of wine  
high when the last sentence in the Hebrew or English is read  
and then proceed directly to the blessing for wine.)*

*Hi-nei Eil ye-shu-a-ti,  
ev-tach, ve-lo ef-chad.  
Ki o-zi ve-zim-rat Ya A-do-nai,  
va-ye-hi li li-shu-a.*

*U-she-av-tem ma-yim be-sa-son  
mi-ma-ai-nei ha-ye-shu-a.  
La-do-nai ha-ye-shu-a,  
al am-cha bir-cha-te-cha, se-la.*

הִנֵּה אֵל יְשׁוּעָתִי,  
אֲבֹטָח וְלֹא אֶפְחָד.  
כִּי עֲזִי וְזִמְרַת יְהוָה יִי,  
וַיְהִי־לִי לִישׁוּעָה.

וּשְׂאֲבֹתֶם מַיִם בְּשִׂשׁוֹן  
מִמַּעַיְנֵי הַיְשׁוּעָה.  
לַיְי הַיְשׁוּעָה,  
עַל־עַמְּךָ בְּרַכְתָּךְ, סֵלָה.

A-do-nai tse-va-ot i-ma-nu,  
 mis-gav la-nu E-lo-hei Ya-a-kov,  
 se-la. A-do-nai tse-va-ot,  
 ash-rei a-dam bo-tei-ach bach!  
 A-do-nai, ho-shi-a;  
 ha-me-lech ya-a-nei-nu  
 ve-yom kor-ei-nu.

La-ye-hu-dim ha-ye-ta o-ra  
 ve-sim-cha, ve-sa-son vi-kar;  
 kein ti-he-yeh la-nu.  
 Kos ye-shu-ot e-sa,  
 u-ve-sheim A-do-nai e-ke-ra.

God is my deliverance; I will be confident and unafraid. God is my strength, my song and my salvation. In joy we shall drink from the wells of salvation. God will rescue and bless our people. The God of all creation is with us; the God of Israel is our refuge. Happy are those who trust in God. The Jews had light, joy, delight, and honor; so may it be for us. I lift up the cup of deliverance and call upon the Holy One.

יְיָ צְבָאוֹת עִמָּנוּ,  
 מִשְׁגֵּב לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב,  
 סֵלָה. יְיָ צְבָאוֹת,  
 אֲשֶׁרֵי אָדָם בִּטַּח בְּךָ!  
 יְיָ, הוֹשִׁיעָה;  
 הַמֶּלֶךְ יַעֲנֵנוּ  
 בְּיוֹם-קִרְאָנוּ.

לְיְהוּדִים הִיְתָה אוֹרָה  
 וְשִׂמְחָה, וְשִׁשׁוֹן וְיִקָּר;  
 בֵּן תִּהְיֶה לָנוּ.  
 כּוֹס יְשׁוּעוֹת אֲשָׂא,  
 וּבִשְׁם יְיָ אֶקְרָא.

Blessing for Wine

*The leader raises the cup of wine.*

Wine gladdens the heart. In our gladness, we see beyond the injustice and violence which stain our world. Our eyes open to unnoticed grace, blessings till now unseen, and the promise of goodness we can bring to flower.

‡ See page 118

Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai  
 E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech ha-o-lam,  
 bo-rei pe-ri ha-ga-fen.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ  
 אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
 בּוֹרֵא פְרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

*(The leader does not drink the wine until after the final blessing when Havdalah is fully complete.)*

**Blessing for Spices**

*The leader holds up the spice box.*

The added soul Shabbat confers is leaving now, and these spices will console us at the moment of its passing. They remind us that the six days will pass, and Shabbat return. Their scent makes us yearn for the sweetness of rest, and the dream of a world healed of pain, pure and wholesome as on the first Shabbat, when God, finding all things good, rested from the work of creation.

♫ See page 118

*Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai  
E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech ha-o-lam,  
bo-rei mi-nei ve-sa-mim.*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
בוֹרֵא מִיְּנֵי בְשָׂמִים.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who creates varieties of fragrant spices.

*The leader shakes the spices, smells them, and passes them on so that everyone present may enjoy the fragrance.*

**Blessing for Light**

*Raise the Havdalah candle*

The Havdalah candle is a unique candle. Its multiple wicks remind us that all qualities can be joined together. We have the power to create many different fires, some useful, others destructive. Let us be on guard never to let this gift of fire devour human life, sear cities and scorch fields, or foul the pure air we breathe. Let the fire we kindle be holy; let it bring light and warmth to all humanity.

♫ See page 118

*Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai  
E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech ha-o-lam,  
bo-rei me-o-rei ha-eish.*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
בוֹרֵא מְאוּרֵי הָאֵשׁ.

We praise You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the lights of fire.

*Cup the hands and extend them palms up toward the candle.*

**Blessing of Separation**

Havdalah is not for the close of Shabbat alone;  
it is for all the days.

Havdalah means: separate yourself from the unholy;  
strive for holiness.

Havdalah means: separate yourself from fraud and exploitation,  
be fair and honest with all people.

Havdalah means: separate yourself from indifference to the poor  
and the deprived, the sick and the aged;  
work to ease their despair and their loneliness.

Havdalah means: separate yourself from hatred and violence;  
promote peace among people and nations.

May God give us understanding to reject the unholy and  
to choose the way of holiness.

May the One who separates the holy from the profane  
inspire us to perform these acts of Havdalah.

♫ See page 118

*Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai  
E-lo-hei-nu, me-lech ha-o-lam,  
ha-mav-dil bein ko-desh le-chol,  
bein or le-cho-shech,  
bein Yis-ra-eil la-a-mim,  
bein yom ha-she-vi-i  
le-shei-shet ye-mei ha-ma-a-seh.  
Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai,  
ha-mav-dil bein ko-desh le-chol.*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
הַמְבַדֵּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחוֹל,  
בֵּין אֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ,  
בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים,  
בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי  
לְשֵׁשֶׁת יְמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה.  
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי,  
הַמְבַדֵּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחוֹל.

We praise You, Adonai our God, who separates the holy from the ordinary, light from darkness, who has called the people of Israel to a destiny and purpose separate and distinct, and who separates between the seventh day and the six weekdays. We praise You, Adonai, who separates between the holy and the ordinary.

*Sip the wine.*

Conclusion

Extinguish the Havdalah candle in the remaining wine  
while the following passages are sung or said.

♫ See page 119

Ha-mav-dil bein ko-desh le-chol,  
cha-to-tei-nu hu yim-chol,  
zar-ei-nu ve-chas-pei-nu  
yar-beh ka-chol,  
ve-cha-ko-cha-vim ba-lai-la.

הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל,  
חַטֹּאתֵינוּ הוּא יִמְחֹל,  
זְרַעֲנוּ וְכַסְפֵּנוּ  
יִרְבֶּה כְּחֹל,  
וְכַבֹּכְבֵּים בְּלַיְלָה.

May God who separates the sacred from profane, forgive our sins  
and make us secure and as numerous as the sands on the shore of  
the sea and as the stars of night.

Sha-vu-a tov...

שָׁבוּעַ טוֹב...

A good week. A week of peace.  
May gladness reign and joy increase.



♫ See page 120

Ei-li-ya-hu ha-na-vi,  
Ei-li-ya-hu ha-tish-bi;  
Ei-li-ya-hu, Ei-li-ya-hu,  
Ei-li-ya-hu ha-gil-a-di.  
Bi-me-hei-ra ve-ya-mei-nu,  
ya-vo ei-lei-nu;  
im ma-shi-ach ben Da-vid,  
im ma-shi-ach ben Da-vid.  
Ei-li-ya-hu...

אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַנָּבִיא,  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַתִּשְׁבִּי;  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ,  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַגִּלְעָדִי.  
בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ,  
יָבֹא אֱלֵינוּ;  
עַם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד,  
עַם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד.  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ...

Elijah the prophet, Elijah the Tishbite. Elijah of Gilead. Soon, in  
our days, Elijah will come with the Messiah, the son of David.