

BARCHU

Leader

בְּרַכּוּ אֶת הַיְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ.

Blessed (Praised) is Adonai, Who is to be praised.

Congregation; Then Leader must repeat:

בְּרוּךְ הַיְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Blessed (Praised) is Adonai, Who is to be praised forever.

Reading #1

A story is told of a father waking his son up to go to shul on Shabbat morning. To his chagrin the son seems to be in a comatose state of Shabbos Menucha , the father exclaims, “You had better be in shul by Barchu”. The father arrives to shul, he davens Psukei Dzimra and does not see his son, Shacharit begins and the son is nowhere to be found, Barchu comes and goes and the son has not arrived. Thirty minutes later during the latter section of the Torah Reading the son walks proudly into shul, sits down joyfully next to his father only to find his father disgruntled and frustrated. The father turns angrily towards the son and says, “Where were you? I told you that you had to be here by Barchu.” The son answers, “You did not say which Barchu – there are still a few Barchus left in the Torah Reading.”

SHEMA AND ITS BLESSINGS

- This section contains the main principles of Jewish faith.
 - **G-d as the continuous creator. (Yotzeir)**
 - **His love of Israel (Ahava Raba)**
 - **The Unity of G-d. (Shema)**
 - **The love and devotion to G-d.
(First Paragraph of Shema)**
 - **Reward and Punishment in this world
(Second Paragraph of Shema)**
 - **The duty of observing G-d's commandments
(Third Paragraph)**
 - **G-d as the Redeemer and Protector of Israel
(G'ula)**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה הִי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
יוֹצֵר אוֹר וּבוֹרֵא חֹשֶׁךְ, עֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם וּבוֹרֵא אֶת הַכֹּל.

*Praised are You Adonai our God, who rules the universe,
Creating light and fashioning darkness,
ordaining the order of all creation.*

(Who makes peace and creates everything [evil])