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of the Week הַלְכָּה

~ Preparing for תָּפִילָה (2) ~

Preparing oneself for prayer includes dressing in a respectable way. One should wear the type of clothing that people wear when they go to meet an important person. One who usually wears a hat when going out should wear one when praying. Even when one prays at home he should be dressed appropriately.

This is the way to prepare to stand before the King of the universe and to help yourself realise the importance of prayer.

It is praiseworthy to give to צְּדָקָה before praying. Can you think of a reason why?

of the Week פְּרְקֵי אָבוֹת

בֶּרֶק ב

י"ג אָמַר לָהֶם, צְאוּ וּרְאוּ אֵיזוֹהִי דֶרֶךְ יְשָׁרָה שֶׁיִּדְבַּק בָּה הָאָדָם. רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר אוֹמֵר, עֵין מוֹכָה. רַבִּי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אוֹמֵר, הָבֵר מוֹב. רַבִּי יוֹמֵי אוֹמֵר, שָׁכֵן מוֹב. רַבִּי שִׁמְעוֹן אוֹמֵר, הָרוֹאֶה אֶת הַנּוֹלָד. רַבִּי אֶלְעָזָר אוֹמֵר, לֵב מוֹב. אָמַר לָהֶם, רוֹאֶה אֲנִי אֶת דְּבְרֵי אֵלְעַזָר בֵּן עַרָךְ מִדְּבָרֵיכֶם, שֵּבְּכִלַל דְּבָרָיו דְבָרִיכֶם.

He (Rabban Yochonon Ben Zakkai) said to them (his students):

"Go out and see if you can discover what is the good path on which a person should remain."

Rabbi Eliezer says, "A good eye."

Rabbi Yehoshuo says, "A good friend."

Rabbi Yose says, "A good neighbour."

Rabbi Shimon says, "A person who foresees (and thinks about) the consequences of his actions."

Rabbi Elozor says, "A good heart."

He (Rabban Yochonon Ben Zakkai) said to them (his students): "I prefer the words of Elozor Ben Aroch (that is, "a good heart") to your words, for your words are included in his words."