



הלכה of the Week

~ זימון ~

~ (בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן) recited in a group ~

Three or more men over the age of thirteen who ate a meal together that included bread are obligated to recite בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן as a group. This is called "זימון". One of the men recites a passage inviting the others to join him in reciting בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן. The others recite another passage in response.

If ten or more men ate together they add the word אֶלְקֵינוּ when reciting the passage.

The text of זימון is printed in the סידור before בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן, as well as in small printed copies of בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן.

The leader recites the first בִּרְכָּה of בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן aloud while the others recite the בִּרְכָּה quietly, word by word. They end the בִּרְכָּה before the leader does, and answer אָמֵן to his בִּרְכָּה. It is proper that the rest of בִּרְכַּת הַמָּזוֹן be recited in the same way.

Among Sephardi Jews everyone ends the בִּרְכָּה together.



פֶּרְקֵי אֲבוֹת of the Week

פֶּרֶק ד'

ט"ו רבי אלעזר בן שמוע אומר, יהי כבוד תלמידך חביב עליך כשלך, וכבוד חברך כמורא רבך, ומורא רבך כמורא שמים:

Rabbi Elozor Ben Shamua says:

- let the honour of your student be as dear to you as your own;
- honour your friend as much as you respect your teacher,
- and the respect you have for your teacher should be just as great as your fear of Heaven.
