



קהילת בני יעקב שערי ציון

Congregation Bnai Jacob Shaarei Zion

SHORT REVIEW OF HALACHOS FOR THIS SHABBOS, EREV TISHA B'AV:

1. Our custom is to wear Shabbos clothes, although to mark the mourning period one may change one garment from his usual Shabbos wear, if it is not an obvious change. Even though Shabbos is actually Tisha B'av, the usual restrictions do not apply other than the limitation on intimacy.
2. Many do not study Torah unrelated to Tisha B'Av beginning on Shabbos afternoon.
3. We Daven Mincha early (6:00 pm) to allow time to go home and have a proper Shalosh Seudos.
4. At Shalosh Seudos one may feast as they wish, including meat dishes.
5. One does not eat the bread and boiled egg on Shabbos Erev Tisha B'Av.
6. One may share Shalosh Seudos with guests, but should avoid significant social gathering, unless the group is accustomed to eating together every week.
7. The meal must end before sunset (8:28 pm), when the fast starts. Nevertheless, one does not change shoes or clean up from the Shabbos meal until Shabbos is actually over.
8. Original custom was for people to walk to Maariv while still *Shabbosdik*, and to remove their shoes after *Barchu*. One who does this should bring their *Tisha B'Av* shoes to shul before Shabbos, to be able to walk home in them after *Eichah*.
9. Alternatively one may say *Baruch HaMavdil* at home when Shabbos is over, change shoes and Shabbos clothes and come (drive) to shul after 9:15 pm for *Maariv* and *Eichah*

HAVDALAH MOTZEI SHABBOS, TISHA B'AV

This *Motzei Shabbos* we are obviously unable to make our usual *Havdalah* over a cup of wine or the like, as it is the beginning of a fast day. As such, the recitation of *Havdalah* may be divided into as many as four parts.

1. *Baruch HaMavdil Bain Kodesh L'Chol*: This simple pronouncement, blessing Hashem who distinguishes between the sacred and the mundane, is said to declare an end to Shabbos. This Shabbos, one who wishes to engage in any non-Shabbos activity before or without *davening Maariv*, must first make this pronouncement. Thus, one who plans to drive to *Maariv* and *Eichah* should make this declaration before changing into their *Tisha B'Av* shoes and driving to shul. Women who do not intend to *daven Maariv* must make this pronouncement before doing any work after Shabbos.
2. *Atah Chonantanu*: This paragraph inserted in the *Maariv Amidah* serves as our single *Birchas Havdalah* for this *Motzei Shabbos*. One who omitted it need not repeat the *Amidah*.
3. *Borei Me'orei Ha'Eish*: The *Bracha* over the light of a fire is made after *Maariv*, ideally before reciting *Eichah*. Because of the somber nature of *Tisha B'Av*, it is customary to make the *Bracha* on two candles held together, rather than on a flaming torch (multi-wicked *Havdalah* candle).
4. *Havdalah* over wine is made on Sunday night, to break the fast. One recites the simple *Havdalah* as made after *Yom Tov*, consisting of only the *Bracha* for wine and the *Bracha* of *Havdalah*, without the introductory paragraph and without fragrant spices. We may make *Havdalah* over wine and need not seek beer or other alternative beverages.

A person who needs to break the fast due to illness, should make *Havdalah* on *Tisha B'Av* itself, before eating. They should not make it over wine, but use another significant beverage such as coffee, tea or soda.

Due to the fact that this year we are fasting on the 10th of Av, all Nine Days activities are permitted immediately after the conclusion of the fast, with the exception of eating meat & drinking wine. These should not be done until Monday.