

הלכות ברכות הודאות (סימן רכא: ברכת הודאת הגשמים)

רכא:א

Outline

1. Today's Topics
 - a. The ברכה on rainfall
2. ברכת הגשמים (רכא:א)
 - a. If people were in distress because of shortage of rain and then rain fell, they say a ברכה even if the amount of rain for the first rainy season did not yet fall, as long as there is an accumulation of rain on the ground that produces bubbles that crawl towards each other (שו"ע)
 - i. Q: Must the people be in distress?
 1. Perhaps, in א"י, where there is much dryness and when rain fails at its time, everyone is happy, then everyone must say the ברכה on the first rain, and the שו"ע mentions distress to exclude the second, third, etc. rains that follow the first (משנ"ב א)
 2. Yes; no ברכה is made if rains follow their seasons (פרמ"ג)
 - b. Nowadays, we don't practice this ברכה because rain is constant in our locations and does not pause so much (רמ"א)
 - i. Q: What is the meaning of this reason?
 1. Since rain falls constantly, there is not much joy at its fall; however, even in those places, if there is a shortage of rain and then rain falls, the ברכה would be required (משנ"ב ב)
 - ii. Q: In practice, does this ברכה apply nowadays? (הע' 1)
 1. No, because we don't fast for shortage of rain (גר"ח קניבסקי)
 2. Yes (גר"מ שטרנבוך)