

הלכות ברכת המזון (סימן רא: מי הוא המברך)

רא:א

Outline

1. Today's Topics
 - a. Who should lead the זימון
2. גדול מברך (רא:א)
 - a. The person of greatest stature leads the זימון, even if he arrives at the end of the meal, but if he wishes to give the right to lead to one of lesser stature, he may. This is true when there is no guest, but if there is a guest, then the guest leads even if the head of the household is of greater stature so that he can bless the head of the household the ברכה of "יה"ר שלא יבוש ולא יכלם בעל הבית הזה וכו'"
 - i. Q: Who is the "greatest" person?
 1. The one of greatest wisdom (משנ"ב א)
 - ii. Q: Does this הלכה apply even nowadays when everyone benches to himself?
 1. Yes; it determines who is the מזמן (משנ"ב שם)
 - iii. Q: What is the case?
 1. Everyone eats from his own food, but if there is one head of the meal, then he decides who leads the זימון, and he can choose a guest or even one of his children (משנ"ב שם)
 - iv. Q: What are the exceptions to this הלכה?
 1. If the person of greatest stature emits phlegm and will stop often since it is not befitting for others to have to wait for him (משנ"ב שם)
 - v. Q: To whom else is the right to lead given?
 1. Some have the practice to give it to an אבל within his first year of mourning if everyone eats his own food, but if they eat from the food of the head of the household, then the head decides to whom to give the right or to lead himself (משנ"ב שם)
 - vi. Q: In what case does the גדול lead when coming at the end?
 1. As long as the others would theoretically continue to eat if they were given food (משנ"ב ב)
 - vii. Q: What if the גדול delays the meal for a while?
 1. The group need not wait for him to finish for him to lead but rather someone else can lead, and the גדול will answer (משנ"ב שם)
 - viii. Q: In what case does the guest lead?
 1. If he ate from the food of the head of the household (משנ"ב ג)
 - ix. Q: What if there are multiple guests?
 1. The head of the household may choose who will lead, even if the leader is of lesser stature (משנ"ב ד)
 - x. Q: Does the ברכה that we say mirror the text recorded in ש"ס?
 1. No, which is curious (לחם המודות מובא במשנ"ב ה)
 - xi. Q: What if there are two ת"ח of equal stature but one is the son of a great ת"ח? (הע' 1)
 1. The son of the great ת"ח takes precedence (כף החיים קסז:צז)
 - xii. Q: If there are two ת"ח and one is a great lamdan while the other is a great poseik, who takes precedence? (שם)
 1. The poseik (כף החיים שם)
 - xiii. Q: Do students in a yeshiva say the ברכת האורה? (הע' 3)
 1. Yes, but they substitute "בעל הבית" for "בעל הסעודה" (אור לציון ב:מו)
 2. No (רב אלישיב)
 - xiv. Q: When is ברכת האורה said? (הע' 5)
 1. After the הרחמן's and before "במרום ילמדו" (מחזור ויטרי פג)
 2. Immediately after הטוב והמטיב (אבן האזל ברכות ב:ז, גרי"ז) הטוב והמטיב
 - xv. Q: Nowadays, who says ברכת האורה? (הע' 7)
 1. Everyone should say it (ערה"ש, רב אלישיב)