BLESSINGS: STORMS

Blessings: Thunder

Say the blessing <u>she'kocho u'gvurato malei olam</u> if you hear thunder. (See Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: Which First)

Blessings: Lightning

Start saying the blessing <u>oseh ma'aseh v'reishit</u> within 2½ seconds of seeing a lightning flash; otherwise, do not say the blessing at all.

NOTE You do not need to see the actual lightning bolt--you must just see the light from lightning, even if reflected from something.

NOTE The lightning must be from a rainstorm, but you may say the blessing on lightning even if it is not raining where you are, as long as you can hear thunder first. (See Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: Which First and Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: How Often)

Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: Which First

Always say <u>she'kocho u'gvurato malei olam</u> (on thunder) before <u>oseh ma'aseh v'reishit</u> (on lightning.) If you see lighting but don't hear thunder, do not say <u>oseh ma'aseh v'reishit</u> at all.

Blessings: Thunder/Lightning: How Often

Say <u>she'kocho u'gvurato malei olam</u> (on thunder) and <u>oseh ma'aseh v'reishit</u> (on lightning) only once per storm. If you hear thunder over telephone or microphone, you may not say <u>kocho u'gvurato</u>.

NOTE If the storm clouds clear and another storm comes along, you may say blessings again, even on the same day.

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