JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: WHEN THEY END

Jewish Festivals: When Is

Jewish festivals (and *Shabbat*) end at “dark”: when three medium-sized stars are visible overhead.

NOTE When stars appear in the west (these are “large stars”), medium-sized stars should be visible overhead and the *Jewish festival* (or *Shabbat*) will be over.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: BEFORE HAVDALA

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Before Havdala: Baruch HaMavdil

Say *baruch ha'mavdil bein kodesh l'chol* (without saying God's name!) if:

- It is already “dark” (you can see three medium-size stars--*tzeit ha'kochavim*), and
- You want to end the *Jewish festival* (and *Shabbat*) before saying *ma'ariv's amida* or *havdala*.

NOTE Saying this formula allows you to do *melacha*, but you may not eat or drink until you have said or heard *havdala*.

NOTE Men must still say the *amida* and men and women must say or hear *havdala* later even if they said *baruch ha'mavdil bein kodesh l'chol*. For how late you may say *havdala* after a *Jewish festival*, see *Jewish Festival Havdala* at Night or Next Day.

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Before Havdala: Baruch HaMavdil and Birkat HaMazon

Saying *Baruch ha'mavdil bein kodesh l'chol* after dark at the end of a *Jewish festival* or of *Rosh Hashana* does not affect the additions you will then say in *birkat ha'mazon*.

SITUATION On a *Jewish festival* afternoon, you washed your hands, said *ha'motzi*, and started eating. It is now dark and the end of the *Jewish festival*.

WHAT TO DO You may say *Baruch ha'mavdil bein kodesh l'chol* and do *melacha*, and then

- Continue to eat your meal, or
- Say *birkat ha'mazon* INCLUDING *ya'aleh v'yavo* and *ha'rachaman hu yanchileinu yom she'kulo tov.*

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Before Havdala: Ata Chonantanu

As on *Shabbat*, if you forgot to say *ata chonantanu* after *Jewish festivals,* you do not need to repeat the *amida*. But, if you then ate food before saying *havdala*, you must repeat the *amida* including *ata chonantanu* .

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: HAVDALA

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: HAVDALA: WHEN TO SAY

Jewish Festival Havdala at Night or Next Day

Say *Jewish festival havdala* at night. If this is impossible, say it the next day but only until sunset on the day after the *Jewish festival*.

NOTE This is different from *havdala* after *Shabbat*!

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: HAVDALA: WHO MUST SAY/HEAR

Men and Women Must Say/Hear Havdala

The following must each hear or say *havdala* for themselves:

- Men and boys 13 years old and up, and
- Women and girls 12 years old and up.

NOTE As on *Shabbat*, any male Jew above 13 years old and any female Jew above 12 years old may say *Jewish festival havdala* for himself/herself and for anyone else.

NOTE A husband's or father's hearing *havdala* at *synagogue* does not cover his family's obligation to hear *havdala*. He may say *havdala* for his wife and children even if he fulfilled his personal *havdala* requirement at the *synagogue*. (Men who say *havdala* for their families normally intend not to be covered by the *synagogue's havdala)*.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: HAVDALA: WHAT TO USE

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Havdala: No Candle or Spices

For *Jewish festival havdala*, use only wine (or a substitute, *chamar medina*, beverage); NO candle or spices (unless the *Jewish festival* also coincided with *Shabbat*).

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Havdala: Beverage

Wine or grape juice is the preferred beverage for *havdala*, but you may use any common beverage (*chamar medina*) that is drunk for social reasons.

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Havdala: Filling the Cup

You must pour at least 4 fl. oz. (119 ml--a *revi'it*) of wine or other beverage into the *havdala* cup--this is *halacha*. However, to symbolize that we are blessed *(siman bracha)* with wealth, overfill the cup (non-binding custom).

NOTE Do not drink the overflow, to show that we are so rich that we do not need the spilled beverage.

NOTE Do not overfill a cup containing *shmita* wine!

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Havdala: How Much To Drink

To fulfill the commandment of *havdala* (or *kiddush*), the person making *kiddush* must drink at least 2 fl. oz. (59 ml) within 30 seconds from the *kiddush* cup. However, drinking at least 4 fl. oz. (119 ml--a *revi'it*) from the *havdala* cup within 30 seconds allows you to say *bracha achrona*.

Jewish Festivals: Ending: Havdala: Who Drinks the Beverage

For men: No one should drink the *havdala* beverage except the person saying *havdala*. This is a non-binding custom, not a *halacha*.

For women: This custom does NOT apply to women. Women who say *havdala* for themselves may give their *havdala* beverage to someone else to drink.

JEWISH FESTIVALS: ENDING: HAVDALA: STANDING OR SITTING

Havdala Standing or Sitting

Sitting or standing while drinking *havdala* (or *kiddush)* beverage is a non-binding custom, not a *halacha*.

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