

H7. Talmud Bavli, Shabbat 150b, An Abbreviated Havdalah

Mishnah: . . . One may not wait for nightfall at the edge of the Sabbath boundary to hire workers or bring in produce. But one may wait for nightfall at the edge of the Sabbath boundary to guard [his crops after the Sabbath] and bring home [some] produce in his hand . . .

[Citation of mishnah:] "But one may wait for nightfall [at the edge of the Sabbath boundary]."
[Stam (anonymous editor asks:)] [May he perform labor when the Sabbath ends] if he has not [yet] recited Havdalah?! Did not R. Eleazar b. Antigonos (JA 2) say in the name of R. Eliezer b. Ya'akov (T 5): A person is prohibited from attending to his needs [i.e., performing labor after the Sabbath ends] until he recites Havdalah?!

[Stam asks further:] And if you say he recited Havdalah in the Amidah [of Ma'ariv], did not R. Judah (BA 2) say that Shmuel (BA 1) said, one who recites Havdalah in the Amidah must also recite it over a cup [of wine]?

[Stam asks even further:] And if you say he [already] recited Havdalah on a cup [of wine], can one [find] a cup [of wine] in the field? [No!]

R. Natan bar Ammi (BA 5) explained in the presence of Rava (BA 4): It was the time of wine pressing [that the mishnah was referring to].
R. Abba (BA 6) said to R. Ashi (BA 6): In the West, [it is our practice] to say thus, "hamavdil bein qodesh lehol" [i.e., He who distinguishes between holiness and the profane] and we [then] attend to our needs [i.e., perform labor].

R. Ashi said: when we were at the home of R. Kahana (BA 5), [at the end of the Sabbath] he would say "hamavdil bein qodesh lehol" and we would [then] chop up wood.

משנה. . . אין מחשיכין על התחום לשכור לו פועלים ולהביא פירות, אבל מחשיך הוא לשמור, ומביא פירות בידו.

"אבל מחשיכין."

ואף על גב דלא אבדיל? והאמר רבי אלעזר בן אנטיגנוס משום רבי אליעזר בן יעקב: אסור לו לאדם שיעשה חפציו קודם שיבדיל!

וכי תימא דאבדיל בתפלה, והאמר רב יהודה אמר שמואל: המבדיל בתפלה צריך שיבדיל על הכוס.

וכי תימא דאבדיל על הכוס, כוס בשדה מי איכא?!

אמר רבי נתן בר אמי קמיה דרבא: בין הגיתות שנו.

אמר ליה רבי אבא לרב אשי: במערבא אמרינן הכי המבדיל בין קודש לחול ועבדינן צורכין.

אמר רב אשי: כי הוינא בי רב כהנא הוה אמר המבדיל בין קודש לחול ומסלתינן סילתי.

New rule: one cannot perform labor until after reciting H both in prayer and at home, for benefit of family. If one is not at home at the end of the Sabbath, he can recite a very short place-holder Havdalah and then a full Havdalah when he arrives home.