

* KIDDUSH FOR PURIM * קידוש לפורים *

Although some authorities deride the *minhag* of making kiddush on Purim as a *minhag shtus*, we follow the opinion of the Altered Rebbe. A long time ago, when the Rebbe was traveling with his Chassidim in the Highlands of Scotland, they walked into a town only to realize that it was midday on Purim, almost time for the *se'udah*. The quick-thinking Rebbe first tried to find if there were any Jews in the town, with whom to celebrate the holiday, but found that the only other Jews in the town were either heretics, or, equivalently, from a different Chassidic sect. This fact meant that they would be alone, in a strange, unknown and dangerous place for the all-important *se'udah*. The Rebbe and the Chassidim entered an inn. After a lively hour-long debate between the Rebbe and his heir about whether wine *hechshered* by the local authorities was kosher, it was decided that the potential *treif*-ness of the wine would have to be diluted. The Chassidim then cleaned out the inn's entire supply of *hechshered* wine and, some say, even the Scotch. But, before they drank, the Altered Rebbe led them in the recitation of the kiddush for Purim. By sunset, they were so drunk, that they did not remember to read the Megillah. Nor did they notice that Purim had ended. To this day, the celebration continues in the *Yeshiva* of the Altered Rebbe.

It is customary to recite the kiddush for Purim during the Purim *se'udah*. The Purim kiddush is recited over a cup of wine and a cup of Scotch whisky, preferably of good quality. The cup of wine is held in the right hand, and the cup of Scotch in the left hand, symbolizing the primacy of the drink that requires the stronger *hechsher*. Following the *beracha*, at each quoted mention of words related to grape products, drink a sip of wine, and, at each mention of liquors, drink a sip of Scotch.

*I hereby prepare my mouth to fulfill the positive commandment that was issued by our Sages, may their memory be blessed: "One is required to become drunk on Purim until one is unable to distinguish between accursed-be-Haman and blessed-be-Mordecai."*¹

הריני מזמן את פי לקיים מצוות עשה שנאמר על ידי חכמינו זכרונם לברכה: "מייחב איניש לבסומי בפוריא עד דלא ידע בין ארור המן לברוך מרדכי."¹

*I raise the cup of salvation and call out in the name of the Lord.
Hear! (Response: "L'chayim!")*

כוס ישועות אשא ובשם ה' אקרא.
סברי! (לחיים!)

(Blessing over wine) Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine.

ברוך אתה ה' א-לקינו מלך העולם בורא פרי הגפן.

Drink some wine.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who sanctified us with Your commandments, and desired that we become drunk as our ancestors did, as written in Your Torah: "Noah, tiller of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard. He drank of the wine and became drunk."² And it is written: "The Lord saw that it was good."³

ברוך אתה ה' א-לקינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצוותיו ורצה שנהיה שיכורים כאבותינו ככתוב בתורתך: "ויחל נח איש האדמה ויטע כרם. וישת מן היין וישכר."² ונאמר: "וירא א-לקים כי טוב."³

1 B.T. Megillah 7:2

2 Gen. 9:20

3 Gen. 1:10

Our God and God of our ancestors, take pleasure in our drunkenness, sanctify us with Your commandments and grant us lots in Your Torah, as written: "You shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation"⁴, as written: "Priest and prophet are muddled by liquor, confused by wine, dazed by liquor; their visions are muddled."⁵

Cause us to rejoice in your salvation, as written: "I will take wine, and we will satiate ourselves with liquor, and tomorrow will be like today, only much better."⁶

Purify our hearts to pursue your commandments, as written: "Those who rise early in the morning pursue liquor."⁷

Grant wine and liquor to everyone, as written: "Grant liquor to the unfortunate and wine to the embittered. Let them drink and forget their poverty and remember their troubles no more."⁸

Help us merit to eat and drink with David, your servant, as written: "And David called for him, and he ate before him and drank, and he made him drunk."⁹

You, Lord our God, have with love granted us this festival of Purim, time of our rejoicing, as a reminder of "accursed-be-Mordecai and blessed-be-Haman." For You have chosen us and given us more to drink than any other nation, and You have allotted us this holy Purim day in light, joy, gladness, and honor.¹⁰

Blessed are You, Lord, who sanctifies Israel and Scotland.

א-לקינו וא-לקי אבותינו רצה בשיכורנו, קדשינו במצוותיך ותן חלקינו בתורתך כאמור: "ואתם תהיו לי ממלכת כהנים וגוי קדוש,"⁴ כמו שכתוב: "כהן ונביא שגו בשכר נבלעו מן היין, תעו מן השכר, שגו בראה."⁵

שמחינו בישועתיך ככתוב: "אקחה יין ונסבאה שכר והיה כזה יום מחר גדול יתר מאד."⁶

טהר לבנו לרדף אחרי מצוותיך כאמור: "משכימי בבקר שכר ירדפו."⁷

תן יין ושכר לכלם ככתוב: "תנו שכר לאובד ויין למרי נפש. ישתה וישכח רישו ועמלו לא יזכר עוד."⁸

זכינו לאכול ולשתות עם דוד עבדיך כאמור: "ויקרא לו דוד, ויאכל לפניו וישת וישכרהו."⁹

ותתן לנו ה' א-לקינו באהבה את חג הפורים הזה, זמן שמחתינו מקרא קודש זכר לארור מרדכי וברוך המן. כי בנו בחרת ואותנו השקית מכל העמים. ופורים קדשך באורה ושמחה וששון ויקר הנחלתנו.¹⁰

ברוך אתה ה' מקדש ישראל וסקוטלנד.

MANY CONGREGATIONS RECITE ALL FIVE BOOKS OF TEHILLIM AT THIS POINT. OTHERS EAT AND DRINK.

4 Ex. 19:6

5 Isa. 28:7

6 Isa. 56:12

7 Isa. 5:11

8 Prov. 31:7

9 2 Sam. 11:13

10 Est. 8:16