

# Rachtzah - Washing of the Hands

Contributed by [Ali Greenberg](#)

Source:

As we now transition from the formal telling of the Passover story to the celebratory meal, we wash our hands to prepare ourselves. In Judaism, a good meal together with friends and family is itself a sacred act, so we prepare for it just as we prepared for our holiday ritual, recalling the way ancient priests once prepared for service in the Temple.

After you have poured the water over your hands, recite this short blessing.

**בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ עַל נְטִילַת יָדַיִם**

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al n'tilat yadayim.

*Blessed are You, Adonai, Ruler of the Universe, who made us holy through obligations, commanding us to wash our hands.*