

Vayera: How the Hazon Ish cared for the Sick

- Submitted by Nisson Shulman. The Chazon Ish shortened the Rosh Hashana Tekia prayer introductions as well as eliminated the pre tekiah recess because he overheard a man with a weak heart telling his son his custom is not to eat till after Tekiot.

We are obliged to visit the sick. Part of the mitzvah is to care for them in any way we can. An interesting story is told about the Hazon Ish, who one Rosh Hashana gave two unusual orders: not to hold the usual recess between Shaharit and the blowing of the Shofar, and that they blow the shofar without reciting Lamnatzeach livney Korach, the paragraph from Psalms we usually recite seven times.

Everyone was puzzled, until they discovered why. The Hazon Ish had heard a son saying to his father, Father, you have a weak heart, you must eat something. But the father refused, saying that it was his custom not to eat before he heard th shofar. The Chazon Ish wanted the man to eat as soon as possible so he hurried the service and shortened it as much as he could....

(Submitted by Nisson Shulman)