

Intermediate Talmud

Tractate Berachot: Chapter 7, folio 45a

Lesson Two

With Rabbi Mendel Kaplan

Gemara. Whence is this derived? — R. Assi says: Because Scripture says, O magnify you the L-rd with me, and let us exalt His name together. R. Abbahu derives it from here: When I [one] proclaim the name of the L-rd, ascribe ye [two] greatness unto our God.

R. Hanan ben Abba said: Whence do we learn that he who answers Amen should not raise his voice above the one who says the blessing? Because it says, O' magnify you the L-rd with me and let us exalt His name together. R. Simeon ben Pazzi said: Whence do we learn that the one who translates is not permitted to raise his voice above that of the reader? Because it says, Moses spoke and G-d answered him by a voice. The words 'by a voice' need not have been inserted. What then does 'by a voice' mean? [It means], by the voice of Moses. It has been taught similarly: The translator is not permitted to raise his voice above that of the reader. If the translator is unable to speak as loud as the reader, the reader should moderate his voice and read.