



# *Selection of Lesser Known Chol HaMoed Halachos*

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**1** On first night of Chol HaMoed, right after Yom Tov, one must remember 4 changes in Shemona Esrei:

- a) Discontinue משיב הרוח ומוריד הגשם (Nusach Sfarad says מוריד הטל)
- b) אתה חוננתנו in the 4th Bracha of Shemona Esrei, as the first step of Havdalah
- c) Substituting ותן ברכה (for the first time) in the 9th Bracha of ברך עלינו
- d) רצה חי יעלה ויבוא

**2** Some people mistakenly think that Maariv of Chol HaMoed is like Rosh Chodesh, where missing יעלה ויבוא in Maariv does not invalidate the Shemona Esrei. This is incorrect. On Chol HaMoed, it does invalidate the Shemona Esrei. Therefore, in the previous Halachos, 3 of the 4 can invalidate the Shemona Esrei, and only אתה חוננתנו is not מעכב.

**3** It is a Mitzvah (preferable conduct, but not an obligation) to have 2 bread (Matza) meals every day of Chol HaMoed.

**4** If one does not have any physical difficulty in drinking a רביעית of wine and eating meat, one should do so each day of Chol HaMoed, once a day.

**5** When possible, one should wear Shabbos clothes, or at least clothing that is better than regular weekday clothing.

**6** Gardening should not be done, even by a gentile gardener. Even watering plants should not be done. If a loss will occur, all these activities are permitted.

**7** Car repairs should not be done, unless waiting until after Yom Tov will cause a loss. 🚗