

‘Before You’; this refers to צדקה

לפניך זו צדקה –

Overview

רמב"ם states that the פסוק of לפניך יהיו מוכשלים is referring to the time when they are giving צדקה. Our תוספות will explain where this פסוק indicates that we are discussing the giving of צדקה.

שנאמר והלך לפניך צדקך (ישעיהו נח¹):

As it is written; and your צדקה will go before you. This indicates the connection between the word לפניך and צדקה. Therefore when the פסוק states here 'לפניך' it refers to the giving of צדקה.

Summary

The word לפניך refers to צדקה.

Thinking it over

The word 'לפניך' in the פסוק 'והלך לפניך צדקך' is referring to the person who is giving צדקה; not to 'ה'. How do we derive that the word 'לפניך' in the פסוק of לפניך יהיו מוכשלים (which is referring to 'ה'), is referring to צדקה?²

¹ פסוק ח'.

² כבוד ה' יאספך which states והלך לפניך צדקך פסוק of תוספות is perhaps depending on the end of the פסוק 'והלך לפניך צדקך' which states 'ה' יאספך; that the צדקה will precede you, so that the 'ה' כבוד will gather you in. The word לפניך therefore means that it will go ahead of the person directly to the presence of 'ה'. This allows us to understand the לפניך in ירמיה to refer to צדקה for the צדקה stands before 'ה'.