

‘Before You’; this refers to צדקה

לפניך זו צדקה –

OVERVIEW

רמב"ם states that the פסוק of יהיו מוכשלים לפניך 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 נח):

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

¹ פסוק ח'.

² כבוד ה' יאספך which states והלך לפניך צדקך of פסוק which states that the צדקה will precede you, so that the כבוד ה' 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'.