

## Does a *Beracha*/Blessing Need a Form?

רָאָה פֶּת וְאָמַר, "כִּפְּמָה נֶאֱחָה פֶּת זֶה בְּרוּךְ הַמָּקוֹם שֶׁבְּרָאָהּ", יֵצֵא. רָאָה  
תְּאֵנָה וְאָמַר, "כִּפְּמָה נֶאֱחָה תְּאֵנָה זֶה בְּרוּךְ הַמָּקוֹם שֶׁבְּרָאָהּ", יֵצֵא. דְּבַר רַבִּי  
מֵאִיר.

רַבִּי יוֹסִי אוֹמֵר: כָּל הַמְּשַׁנֶּה מִמְּטִבֵּעַ שֶׁטְּבָעוּ חֲכָמִים בְּבִרְכוֹת לֹא יֵצֵא יְדֵי  
חוֹבְתוֹ

One who saw a loaf and said, "How lovely is this loaf! *Baruch*/Blessed is *HaMakom*/The Place who created it," has fulfilled his responsibility. One who saw a fig and said, "How lovely is this fig!" *Baruch*/Blessed is *HaMakom*/The Place who created it," that person has fulfilled his responsibility. So says Rabbi Meir.

Rabbi Yosi says: Anyone who deviates from the die for *berachot*/blessings stamped by the sages has not fulfilled his responsibility.

(Babylonian Talmud: *Berachot*/Blessings 40b)

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Sicha, Hebrew for "conversation," is an organization promoting the vital ongoing dialogue  
between classical Jewish texts and lived experience.

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