

## Prayer before reading Parshat Zakor

Before reading *Parshat Zakor* this is said:

For the sake of the revelation of the Unity of the Holy One blessed-be-He and His *Shekhinah*, with awe and with love, with love and with awe; for the unification of the letters *Yod* and *Heh* with the letters *Vav* and *Heh*, in a complete unification (Y-H-V-H), by the power of the light of the *Ein Sof* that shines into them and unifies them, in the name of all Yisrael:

Behold we are about to fulfill the positive commandment זָכוֹר, אֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה לָךְ עַמְלֵק "Remember what Amalek did to you." "Remember" means to say it outloud, to rectify its root in the highest place, and to arouse the angels on high to the supernal Chariots who are tasked with the commandment of this portion to avenge the vengeance of Hashem upon the descendants of Amalek, and also upon the Mixed Multitude who are from the evil progeny. Now prosper, send, and embolden thoroughly Your strength in Your angels to raise up and to recall the sin of his [Amalek's] ancestors against Hashem, וַיִּכָּרַת יְהוָה נֶגֶד-יְהוָה תָּמִיד; וַיִּכָּרַת מֵאֶרֶץ זָכָרָם "Let them be before Hashem continually, that He may cut off the memory of them from the earth," עַד-בְּלֹתֵי הַשָּׂאִיר-לוֹ שָׂרִיד "until there is none of him left remaining," and אֱלֹהִים--יִמְחַץ, רֹאשׁ אֹיְבָיו "Gd will smite the head of His enemies", אָדָם בְּלִיעֵל, a base person. Remove the shade from upon them in the Host on high [so that they will die in 30 days, according to the intentions of meditating on one's shadow at midnight on Hoshanah Rabbah] to remove detestable idolatry from the earth as well as the rule of the malicious, as it says from the mouth of Your Glory וַאֲשַׁמֵּיד פְּרִיו מִמַּעַל, וְשָׂרְשָׁיו מִתַּחַת "And I destroyed his fruits from above and his roots from below" and וַיְהִי יְהוָה לְמֶלֶךְ, עַל-כָּל-הָאָרֶץ; בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, יְהִי יְהוָה אֶחָד--וְשָׁמוֹ אֶחָד "Hashem will be the only King over the entire earth, in the day (when Mashiah comes) Hashem will be One (everyone will recognize His unity) and His Name (will) be One."

On Shabbat Zakor, some Sefardim sing this before the

Maftir: <http://www.piyut.org.il/textual/english/257.html>

שִׁמְנֵי רֹאשׁ עַל כָּל אוֹיְבֵי	וּתְשַׁמְחֵנִי
כִּימֵי מִרְדְּכֵי בֶן יֵאִיר	אֶל חֲנוּן וְחֲנֻנִי
	מַחֵה תְּמַחֵהוּ לְאָדָם, הַכֹּהֵן אִם עַל בָּנִים
לְבַשְׁתָּ מַלְכוּת לַהֲדָסָה	וְהִצַּלְתָּנִי
בְּקוֹם הַמֶּן הָאֲגָגִי	כְּתַנִּין לְבַלְעֵנִי
	מַחֵה תְּמַחֵהוּ לְאָדָם, הַכֹּהֵן אִם עַל בָּנִים
מִמְרוֹם רוּחַ שְׁלַחַת	וּתוֹשִׁיעֵנִי
יִסֹר יִסְרֵנִי יְהוָה	לְמוֹת לֹא נִתְּנֵנִי

מַחֵה תִּמְחָהוּ לְאָדוֹם, הִכְהוּ אִם עַל בָּנִים

וּלְהַשְׁמִידֵנִי

וַיִּי עֲזָרֵנִי

מַחֵה תִּמְחָהוּ לְאָדוֹם, הִכְהוּ אִם עַל בָּנִים

וְאִמְצָנִי

הַשִּׁיבֵנִי עַל כְּנִי

הַשִּׁיבֵנִי עַל כְּנִי

הַשִּׁיבֵנִי עַל כְּנִי

הִמֵּן חָשַׁב לְאִבְדֵנִי

דָּחָה דְחִיתֵנִי לְנֶפֶל

חֲזַק לֵב עֲבֹדְךָ כְּקֶדֶם

בְּזָכוֹת יִצְחָק עֲקֹדְךָ

בְּזָכוֹת אֲבָרָהֶם אֲהוּבְךָ

בְּזָכוֹת יַעֲקֹב תְּמִימְךָ