

## **AA44. Knowing & Doing What is Right & Good.**

*We are to know & do what is right & good.*

AA44a: *We are to know what is right & good*

AA44b: *We are to do what is right & good..*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

### **Key New Testament Scriptures**

#### Acts 10:34-35

*Then Kefa addressed them: "I now understand that God does not play favorites, but that whoever fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him, no matter what people he belongs to.*

#### Romans 2:7

*To those who seek glory, honor and immortality by perseverance in doing good, he will pay back eternal life.*

#### Romans 12:17

*Repay no one evil for evil, but try to do what everyone regards as good.*

#### Romans 13:3-4

*For rulers are no terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you like to be unafraid of the person in authority? Then simply do what is good, and you will win his approval; for he is God's servant, there for your benefit. But if you do what is wrong, be afraid! Because it is not for nothing that he holds the power of the sword; for he is God's servant, there as an avenger to punish wrongdoers.*

#### Romans 16:19

*For everyone has heard about your obedience; therefore I rejoice over you. However, I want you to be wise concerning good, but innocent concerning evil.*

#### Galatians 6:9-10

*So let us not grow weary of doing what is good; for if we don't give up, we will in due time reap the harvest. Therefore, as the opportunity arises, let us do what is good to everyone, and especially to the family of those who are trustingly faithful.*

#### Titus 2:6-8

*Similarly, urge the young men to be self-controlled, and in everything set them an example yourself by doing what is good. When you are teaching, have integrity and be serious; let everything you say be so wholesome that an opponent will be put to shame because he will have nothing bad to say about us.*

#### Titus 3:14

*And have our people learn to apply themselves to doing good deeds that meet genuine needs, so that they will not be unproductive.*

1 Peter 2:15

*For it is God's will that your doing good should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people.*

1 Peter 3:11-12

*„ turn from evil and do good, seek peace and chase after it. for ADONAI keeps his eyes on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayers; but the face of ADONAI is against those who do evil things.*

1 John 3:7

*Children, don't let anyone deceive you- it is the person that keeps on doing what is right who is righteous, just as God is righteous.*

3 John 1:11

*Dear friend, don't imitate the bad, but the good. Those who do what is good are from God; those who do what is bad are not from God.*

**Additional New Testament Scriptures**

Matthew 5:13-16, 6:1-4, 19:16-21

Luke 12:57

Romans 2:10, 6:12-13, 19, 12:9, 21

2 Corinthians 9:8

Ephesians 5:8-9

Colossians 1:10

1 Thessalonians 5:21

1 Timothy 2:10, 5:10, 25, 6:18

2 Timothy 2:19, 3:3

Titus 2:14, 3:1, 8

Hebrews 10:24

James 2:26, 3:13, 4:17

1 Peter 2:12, 4:19

1 John 3:10-11

**Related New Testament Mitzvot**

DA03 Not Harming Our Neighbor

DA05 Serving One Another

DA24 Loving Our Brother & Neighbor

DA69 Exhorting One Another to Love & Good Deeds

DA80 Being Good to One Another

GB07 Living in a Way That is Good

GB71 Being Zealous for What is Good

## **Supportive Tanakh Scriptures**

### Nehemiah 13:14

*My God, remember me for this; don't wipe out my good deeds which I have done for the house of my God and for his service!*

### Psalms 34:14(13)-15(14)

*keep your tongue from evil and your lips from deceiving talk; turn from evil, and do good; seek peace, go after it!*

### Psalms 37:3

*Trust in ADONAI, and do good; settle in the land, and feed on faithfulness.*

### Psalms 37:27

*If you turn from evil and do good, you will live safely forever.*

### Proverbs 3:27

*Don't withhold good from someone entitled to it when you have in hand the power to do it.*

### Isaiah 1:17

*learn to do good! Seek justice, relieve the oppressed, defend orphans, plead for the widow.*

### Jeremiah 13:23

*Can an Ethiopian change his skin? or a leopard its spots? If they can, then you can do good, who are so accustomed to doing evil.*

## **Comment**

Whereas the term “works” is not used in the text of this *Mitzvah*, “works” is what we are usually addressing when talking about “doing right and good.” James 2:26 tells us that “*faith without actions (works) is dead*” and the “works” it is speaking of are, of course, “good” works. It is also not possible to distinguish between works that are right and those that are good. All of *Torah* and, in fact, all things godly, are both right and good.

This *Mitzvah* #AA44 is closely related to several others but especially to *Mitzvah* #DA80: “Being Good to One Another.” Actions that are good are often so because they are good to and for people, although some are good for animals, other aspects of God’s creation, and God Himself. It may seem presumptuous that we can do anything good for God, but we can by caring for His creation, and by connecting to Him through prayer and obedience.

## **Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2**

B01 Lending Money without Interest to Our Poor Brother

- B04 Giving Financial Help to Persons in Need
- B05 Setting Aside Part of Our Increase for the Poor
- B06 Gleanings and Part of Life-Sustaining Commodities Left for the Poor & Disadvantaged
- C01 Being Fair & Honest in Business
- N01 Loving Our Neighbor, the Stranger, and Even Our Enemy
- N03 Helping Our Neighbor Who Is In Need
- N04 Forgiving Our Neighbor
- N09 Helping a Person Who Needs Rescue
- N11 Being Hospitable
- N14 Serving Our Neighbor
- N18 Being Compassionate & Merciful Toward Our Neighbor