

DA13. Not Associating with Persons Who Would Deceive Us or Lead Us Astray.

We are not to associate with persons who would deceive us or lead us astray.

BA13a: *We are not to associate with persons who would deceive us.*

BA13b: *We are not to associate with persons who would lead us astray.*

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

Key New Testament Scriptures

Romans 16:17

I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put snares alongside the teaching in which you have been trained- keep away from them.

Ephesians 5:6-7

Let no one deceive you with empty talk; for it is because of these things that God's judgment is coming on those who disobey him. So don't become partners with them!

Colossians 2:8

Watch out, so that no one will take you captive by means of philosophy and empty deceit, following human tradition which accords with the elemental spirits of the world but does not accord with the Messiah.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 16:6-12

Mark 8:11-15

Acts 20:28-32

1 Corinthians 5:11

2 Corinthians 6:17, 11:3

Galatians 1:8-9, 6:1

2 Timothy 3:1-5

2 Peter 3:17

1 John 3:7

Related New Testament Mitzvot

DA17 Staying Away from a Brother Whose Life is Not in Accord with the Teachings and Traditions of the *Shl'chim*

DA19 Not Associating with a Sexually Immoral Brother

DA34 Not Associating with a Divisive Person

DA67 Not Having Fellowship with Ungodly People

DA74 Not Associating with a Brother who is committing immoral sin

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Numbers 16:26

There he said to the assembly, "Leave the tents of these wicked men! Don't touch anything that belongs to them, or you may be swept away in all their sins."

Ezra 10:11

Now, therefore, make confession to ADONAI, the God of your ancestors; and do what will please him by separating yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the foreign women.

Nehemiah 9:2

Those descended from Isra'el separated themselves from all foreigners; then they stood up and confessed their own sins and the iniquities of their ancestors.

Proverbs 13:20

He who walks with the wise will become wise, but the companion of fools will suffer.

Proverbs 22:24

Don't associate with an angry man; make no hot-tempered man your companion

Comment

This *Mitzvah* #DA13 is meant to protect us from persons who would seek to cause us harm through their disingenuous and seductive ways. It is secondarily meant to protect others who observe us having fellowship with such persons and concluding therefrom that they can trust those persons' beliefs and behaviors as it appears that we do. That notwithstanding, [John 17:15-16](#) exhorts us to be in the world but not of the world for the purpose of being able to minister God's Word. We are therefore to not eschew all contact with such persons, but rather to make certain, in our contacts with them, that we keep an appropriate distance, and that we – not they – lead in and maintain control of our relationship.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

N07 Taking Reasonable Steps to Keep Ourselves and Others Safe