

## THE 13 MIDDOS EMULATING ה'



Following Hashem's promise not to destroy the Jewish people, after the sin of the Golden Calf, Moshe requested that Hashem make known to him the qualities of Divine mercy. In response Hashem showed Moshe a prophetic vision, in which He was wrapped in a tallis as a shaliach tzibbur while reciting the מידות יי"ג

(Rosh Hashanah 17b). Hashem informed Moshe that in the future whenever the Jewish people sin, they should **perform** the מידות יי"ג and He will forgive them.

In The Gemarah cited above it says

כל זמן שישראל חוטאין יעשו לפני כסדר הזה ואני מוחל להם

*Any time that Yisroel sins, let them perform before me this procedure and i will forgive them.*

Hashem was very precise when establishing the condition of this promise. Hashem did not say let them "recite" but rather let them "perform!!"

*The moshol is given about the owner of a factory who had to go away on a business trip. He decided to ask his manager to take control while he would be away. The owner wrote down a detailed list of all the tasks that needed doing while he would be away thus feeling confident that, upon his return, the company would still be able to run despite his absence.*

*Upon the owner's return, he was horrified to discover that the factory was in total chaos. He immediately summoned his manager and demanded an explanation as to why the factory was in this mess. The manager looked puzzled and answered innocently "I read your list every day I don't know how this mess could have happened". The owner retorted "You are meant to perform the list not just to read it!!"*

In order to activate Hashem's mercy we need to **perform** these מידות יי"ג. In our relationship with our fellow man, we must conduct ourselves in a degree of mercy worthy of emulating Hashem

There are a variety of opinions as to the precise identification of these attributes, this pamphlet has followed the order of the Sefer Tomor Devorah, (As based on Michah) authored by R' Moshe Cordovero, who shows us in great detail how man can follow the example set by Hashem in each of these מידות יי"ג. The מידות יי"ג listed by Micha parallel the original set written down by Moshe Rabbeinu and loosely correspond to them.

**If we try to practice these attributes then we should all be Zoche to all the divine mercy which is stored up in Hashem's treasure house of kindness and none of our Tefilos should go unanswered.**

תפלה קודם התפלה מרבי אלימלך מליזענסק זצ"ל



...ותצילנו מקנאת איש מרעהו, ולא יעלה קנאת אדם על לבנו ולא קנאתנו על אחרים, אדרבה, תן בלבנו שנראה כל אחד מעלת חברינו ולא חסרונם, ושנדבר כל אחד את חברו בדרך הישר והרצוי לפניך, ואל יעלה שום שנאה מאחד על חברו חלילה.....ועל כל זאת מתחננים אנחנו לפניך קל מלא רחמים, שתקבל את תפלתנו ברחמים וברצון. אמן כן יהי רצון.

Protect and shield us from jealousy between fellows.

Let not jealously enter our hearts and may others not be jealous of us. **On the contrary, place in our hearts the ability to see only the good in our friends and not their shortcomings!** May we speak to each other in a way that is straight and desirable in Your eyes. May there be no hatred between Jews, Heaven forbid....

Above all, we beg of You, plead before You, O G-d of Mercy: accept our prayers with compassion and goodwill. Amen, may it be Your will.

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# The 13 middos emulating Hashem



Middoh	13 middos authored by Micha	Practical lesson how man can emulate Hashem
ה' ה' ק' Hashem Hashem G-D	מי-אל כמוך Who is like you?	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> endures human behaviour that is insolent and insulting, and yet gives the person all his needs, <b>SO WE MUST</b> be patient even with people who are unfriendly towards us.
רחום Merciful	נשא עון Who pardons iniquity	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> refuses to allow the destructive angels to harm those who have sinned, <b>SO WE MUST</b> be tolerant and not try to take revenge on those who have hurt us.
והנון And compassionate	ועבר על-פשע And overlooks transgression	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> cleanses the sinner, although Hashem had no part in his sin, <b>SO TO WE MUST</b> look to correct wrongs and damage even if caused by other people.
ארך Slow	לשאירת נחלתו For the remnant of his Heritage	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> does not want to punish his beloved Yidden, for He is close to them, and this would be like punishing Himself, <b>SO WE MUST</b> love our fellow Jew and view him as an extension of ourselves.

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אפים To anger	לא-החזיק לעד אפו He does not retain his wrath eternally	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> does not retain His anger eternally although it would be within His rights to do, <b>SO WE MUST</b> keep calm and not get angry, even if we are in the right.
ורב חסד And abundant in kindness	כי הפץ חסד הוא For he is eager of kindness	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> delights in the good aspects of man, even when there are many negative areas in his behaviour, <b>SO WE MUST</b> look for the good in each person even if he hurts and provokes you.
ואמת And truth	ישוב ירחמנו He will again be merciful to us	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> loves the repentant as if he has never sinned, <b>SO WE MUST</b> help people make amends by showing them kindness and encouragement.
נצר חסד Preserver of kindness	יכבש עונתינו He will dismiss our iniquities	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> rewards for mitzvos and does not cancel them out against aveiros, <b>SO WE MUST</b> try to remember the good deeds that were done to us and forget the bad.
לאלפים To thousands of generations	ותשליך במצלות ים כל חטאותם And you will cast in to the depths of the sea all of their sins	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> separates the evil from Klal Yisroel and casts it faraway to the depths, <b>SO WE MUST</b> realise if we see a person suffering, that the sufferer is a worthwhile person being cleansed by Hashem.

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נשא עון Forgiver of iniquity	תתן אמת ליעקב Grant truth to Yakov	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> acts in total faith and honesty to every person <b>SO WE MUST</b> be true and fair in all dealings with our neighbours.
ופשע Wilful sin	חסד לאברהם Kindness to Avroham	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> acts with extra kindness to the righteous, <b>SO WE MUST</b> be even more fair and patient when dealing with the learned and pious people.
והטאה And error	אשר נשבעת לאבותינו As you have sworn to our forefathers	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> helps the un-deserving because He promised our forefathers that he would care for their descendants, <b>SO WE MUST</b> remember when dealing with bad people that they are still children of the Avos.
ונקה And who absolves	מימי קדם From days of old	<b>JUST AS HASHEM</b> remembers the good a person once did, even if currently he has not done anything praiseworthy, <b>SO WE MUST</b> always consider that even the greatest sinner might have previously done good.