



The Heart of Torah



"LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR..."

- ° as much as you love yourself
- ° in the same way that you love yourself
- ° love (the good) for your neighbor as you love (the good) for yourself
- ° as someone who is like yourself



R. SIMEON BEN AZZAI

"The great principle of Torah:" Humans are created in God's image (Gen. 5:1)



R. TANCHUMA BAR ABBA

Thus, one should not say, "Since I am scorned, I should scorn my fellow as well; since I have been cursed, I will curse my fellow as well." If you act thus, realize who it is that you are willing to have humiliated -"the one who was made in the likeness of God." If you do so, you should know who are you scorning —"in the likeness of God He created him." (Bereishit Rabba 24:7)

"Love Your Neighbor" in Context

- a. You shall not hate your brother in your heart
- b. Reprove your fellow openly so that you will not share his guilt
- c. You shall not take revenge or harbor a grudge against members of your people
- d. You shall love your fellow as yourself
- e. I YHWH

(Lev. 19:17-18)





"What is an example? Someone was cutting meat and cut his hand with the knife. Would he in turn cut the other hand?"

(Jerusalem Talmud, *Nedarim* 30b)

Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world.

—Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:9; Yerushalmi Talmud, Tractate Sanhedrin 37a.