

To Perfect The World: The Lubavitcher Rebbe's Call To Teach The Noahide Code To All Mankind By Rabbi Yehoishphot Oliver and Edited By Michael Schulman

A Jewish adage teaches that "Words that emanate from the heart will penetrate the heart"¹

The Rebbe repeated numerous times that Jews in our day and age should be involved in this effort – whether they be great scholars, community workers, lay readers, or simple laborers – based on the fact that Rambam identifies this obligation as a Torah Law commanded by G-d to Moshe on Mount Sinai.²

Jews who are aware of the importance of this duty should influence other Jews to join them in this campaign, even if it involves pressing them "101 times" to do so.³

Some points were repeated by the Rebbe many times over the years. We have followed the approach of presenting excerpts that are representative of the Rebbe's statements, while referencing in the footnotes further *sichos* that have a similar message. The amount of additional referenced material is at least as that which we selected to present. Many of those referenced *sichos* include instances when the Rebbe spoke forcefully and sharply about the pressing need for greater involvement in promoting the Noahide commandments.⁴

Sefer Chassidim No. 360: A Gentile who is enthusiastic in observing the Seven Noahide Commandments...should be honored more than a Jew who doesn't occupy himself with learning Torah....No. 1124: If one sees a Gentile committing a sin and can object, then one should, for G-d sent Yonah to Nineveh to influence them to abandon their sins.⁵

Baal HaTurim on Shmos 20:14: The 620 [Hebrew] letters of the Ten Commandments correspond to the 613 Commandments for Jews and the Seven Noahide Commandments.⁶

¹ xi

² xii

³ xiv

⁴ xv

⁵ 3

⁶ 3

This is consistent with the Baal Shem Tov's famous teaching on the verse: "You shall go to the place that G-d your L-rd will choose to establish His Name there." The Baal Shem Tov teaches that when a Jew travels to a certain place, it is because individual Divine Providence has brought him there "to establish His Name there" – To publicize G-dliness in the world...Therefore, when G-d sends the Jewish people amongst the Gentile nations, the main intention of this is certainly to publicize G-dliness amongst the Gentiles, by influencing them to observe the Seven Noahide Commandments.⁷

[Lubavitcher Rebbe's letter to Gen. Israel Drazin in 1986]: "There is, of course, no need to emphasize to you the importance of promoting these Seven Noachide Commandments among gentiles. In our day and age, it does not require much imagination to realize that, by way of example, had these Divine Commandments been observed and adhered to by all the "Children of Noah," namely the nations of the world, individually and collectively, there would not have been any possibility, in the natural order of things, for such a thing as a Holocaust...As I surely mentioned it to you during our conversation, the dissemination of the Seven Noachide Laws among non-Jews, is clearly stated in the Rambam as a duty and obligation of Jews, wherever and whenever possible (Code, Hil. Melochim chapters 9 and 10)."⁸

Gentiles can also be brought to recognize and contemplate the notion that since "nothing creates itself," there is surely One Who created them.⁹

The need to strive to influence Gentiles to adhere to the Noahide Code, in accordance with *Rambam's ruling*: "Moshe was commanded by the Almighty to compel the inhabitants of the world to accept the commandments given to Noah's descendants." [Melachim 8:10]¹⁰

The command to "raise up many students" [Avos 1:1] includes teaching the Noahide Code to Gentiles.¹¹

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⁷ 26-27

⁸ 50-51

⁹ 62

¹⁰ 94

¹¹ 166