

## Did you know that G-d gave all Gentiles a special covenant to guide their lives?

The Noahide Code of Seven Divine Commandments was given to Noah and his descendants after the Flood. It was also given as part of the Torah that Moses received from G-d at Mount Sinai, which then became the eternal source that obligates its continuing observance by all mankind. When studied properly, these laws are found to encompass a wealth of ethics and spirituality, which gives meaningful purpose to life.

[AskNoah.org](http://AskNoah.org) is a website where we can join together to learn about these laws in the light of Chassidic teachings. It features insights on the nature of creation, and our important roles as individuals and members of wider communities. We provide networking for further information about Noahide families and groups worldwide.

Please visit our web site or write to us at:

**Ask Noah International**  
P. O. Box 1, Pittsburgh, PA 15230  
[AskNoah.org](http://AskNoah.org) and [AskNoah.com](http://AskNoah.com)

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Noah's Covenant of the Rainbow is a living heritage for all Gentiles. When we fulfill our potential by living within this covenant, the Creation is spiritually elevated to realize its intended goal. This makes the world into a beautiful gem – a place where G-d can dwell!

**1. BELIEVE IN G-D:** Do Not Worship Idols. The essence of life is to acknowledge and believe in the Supreme Being, the Creator of the universe, accepting His laws with awe and love. He is aware of our deeds, and His Providence is over all of creation. (Gen. 2:16)

**2. RESPECT AND PRAISE G-D:** Do Not Blaspheme. Trust and loyalty are crucial in life. Know that G-d is just, but humans can't comprehend our Creator, Who is infinite. One shouldn't extend his "freedom of speech" to the extreme of blasphemy. (Leviticus 24:15)

**3. RESPECT HUMAN LIFE:** Do Not Murder. This edict protects us from extremes of selfishness and the violent tendencies that may lie within. (Genesis 9:5-6)

**4. RESPECT THE FAMILY:** Do Not Commit Forbidden Relations. Wholesome families are a basis of healthy communities, nations and societies. Sexual transgressions lead to inner spiritual decay. (Genesis 2:24)

**5. RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS:** Do Not Steal. Since income and property are granted by G-d, we should seek to acquire these honestly, and not by theft. (Genesis 21:25)

**6. RESPECT ALL CREATURES:** Don't Eat Meat Taken From a Living Animal. Humans are given dominion over the world, but we are also its caretakers. We should respect animals and not be cruel to them. This law prohibits eating meat that was taken from an animal while its heart was still beating. (Genesis 9:4)

**7. PURSUE JUSTICE:** Set Up Courts of Law. A fair and effective legal system creates a society that is worthy of G-d's blessings. It brings G-d's ideals for our personal life into a formal order for society, and completes the other six commandments. (Genesis 31:37)

## The 7 Universal Commandments

teach acts of peace, goodness and kindness throughout the world!



Gentiles who truly live by and fulfill the Torah's 7 Laws of Noah are granted a reward forever.

**A message to the world from Rabbi  
Menachem M. Schneerson ("the Rebbe"),  
Lubavitch International, Vol. 2, '90, p. 3.**

We find ourselves now at a turning point in history. Changes have swept the world as dissolving repressive regimes have given way to a climate of increased moral consciousness. It is thus an appropriate time to reflect upon the dynamics of these changes and thereby draw encouragement and guidance to effect them fully. In explaining the purpose of Creation, our sages say that G-d, the Essence of all good, created the world as a result of His desire to do good. As it says in Ps. 145, "The L-rd is good to all, and His mercies are over all His works." For as it is the nature of good to do good unto others, the creation of the universe was a Divine expression of goodness. In this way, the universe and all life are recipients and objects of Divine goodness.

Hence, everything that occurs in the world, even the apparent bad, such as natural disasters, must ultimately have redeeming good. Similarly, the negative inclination within human beings, who essentially desire to do good, is but a "mechanism" by G-d's design, to establish free choice. For had G-d created a world that is totally and exclusively good, without any efforts on the part of mankind to achieve it, there would be no or little appreciation of goodness.

In the individual's struggle with evil, within the world at large or within one's self, the approach should not be one of confrontation. By emphasizing that which is good in people and in the world, and by bringing the positive to the fore, the evil is superseded by the good, until it eventually disappears. Although G-d created the world giving people free choice, He nevertheless has given us the tools and the guidance we need to encourage us to choose the good: a Divine moral code, one that

predates all human codes, and the only one that has timeless and universal application for a good, moral civilization. This Divine code, known as **the 7 Laws of Noah**, establishes an objective definition of "good" - one that applies to all people. For as recent history has proven, a morality that is based on human ideas of good is relative, subjective and essentially not persuasive. Furthermore, as is abundantly clear to educators and law-enforcement agents, neither intimidation nor threat of punishment can foster a deep sense of moral obligation. This can only come from the knowledge through education that there is an "Eye that sees and an Ear that hears" to Whom we are accountable.


**The Noahide Code of seven basic Divine laws was given to Noah and his children after the deluge. These laws would assure Noah and his children, the forebears of the new human race, that humanity would not degenerate into a jungle again. The laws, which command the establishment of courts of justice and prohibit idolatry, blasphemy, homicide, incest, robbery, and eating the limb of a live animal (cruelty to animals), are the foundation of all morality. And they extend, by laws derived from these, into all aspects of moral behavior.**

A particular task [is] to educate and to encourage the observance of the Seven Laws among all people. The religious tolerance of today, and the trend towards greater freedom gives us the unique opportunity to enhance widespread observance of these laws. For it is by adherence to these laws, which are in and of themselves an expression of Divine goodness, that all humankind is united and bound by a common moral responsibility to our Creator. This unity promotes peace and harmony among all people, thereby achieving the ultimate good. As the Psalmist said: "How good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity."

## **Why be a Righteous Gentile?**

**What difference does it make what kind of a Gentile you are, and who cares?  
After all, look at all the chaos in the world today. And look at all the people there are in the world!**

A great leader of our generation said that it does make a difference whether you are a Righteous Gentile. It does mean something and someone does care. The Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, told the world that we will soon see the coming of the righteous redeemer Moshiach (the Messiah descended from King David) as promised in Deuteronomy and books of the Prophets. He urged all people to prepare by strengthening observance of their commandments. For Gentiles, he said this means strengthening their observance of the commandments from Mt. Sinai that apply to them - the 7 Laws that had been given to Noah for all his descendants. For Jews, this is strengthening their observance of the commandments that apply to them, as found in the Torah and their Oral Tradition given by G-d to Moses, the Faithful Shepherd. The Divine rewards for observing these 7 Laws, learning their details, and encouraging their acceptance are an inheritance for all Gentiles. This advance will be made by all people, Jews and Gentiles, working in concert along their respective paths in a spirit of kindness, goodness and charity.



**The 7 Biblical Laws of Noah: SevenLaws@AskNoah.org**

- Don't worship any idols; place your belief and trust in G-d
- Don't blaspheme His Name; respect G-d and praise Him
- Don't murder or injure; respect the sanctity of human life
- Don't engage in forbidden relations; G-d defined marriage
- Don't steal or embezzle; respect the property of others
- Set up courts of law; justice is the foundation of peace
- Don't eat meat that was taken from a live animal; avoid cruelty