

Mitzvah Power

There's No Such Thing As a Small Mitzvah: More Than 36 (2 X Chai) Easy Ways
To Make a BIG Difference With Just a Little Tzedakah Money
And/or a Minimum of Time, Effort, Stamina, Talents and Personal Strengths and
Preferences

Mitzvahs and The Cycle of Life

What do Bruce Springsteen, Steven Spielberg, Paul Newman, David
Copperfield, Ben & Jerry, and Liz Taylor Know About Mitzvahs That We Don't Know? —
How To Be a Mitzvah Hero

Where, When, Why, and How You Can Do Your Own Best Tikkun Olam:
45 Ways to Choose the Kind of Tikkun Olam that Is the *Very* Best for You

Kid Mitzvah Power: Amazing Tikkun Olam Done By Our Young, Medium-
Young and Very Young Kinderlach

Everyday Miracles: Using Your Mitzvah Power

How To Solve All the World's Problems by Making Just One Phone Call,
Sending One E-mail, Or Surfing One Website

116 Practical Mitzvah Suggestions: Variety in Your Personal Mitzvah Work

Tikkun Olam and Life

1 + 1 = 3 and Many Other Mitzvah Principles For a Meaningful Jewish Life Mitzvahs Are Real
Life: Near-Life and Real-Life Experiences

Mitzvah Heroes and You

Mitzvah DVD Extravaganza: DVD's and Discussions about Mitzvah Heroes and What We Have
in Common with Them

Women Mitzvah Heroes: One From The Old Old Days and A Few

From Nowadays (Some of Whom You Might Have Wanted as a Grandmother-Mother-Sister-
Aunt-Daughter): The Great Ones-It Would Be good, Wise, Useful, and Uplifting to
Know About

The (Unknown) Famous Five-Minute Speech That Changed Thousands of Lives

Parents and Children

My Parents Say They Want Me To Be Happy, Healthy, a Mensch, and a Jew, But All They
Really Want From Me Is For Me to Get Good Grades Mitzvah Man and Mitzvah Woman: Every
Possible Thing You Need to Know

About to Make a Bar or Bat Mitzvah A True and Meaningful Mitzvah Event.

Just Exactly What Do We [Our Kids and Ourselves] Want to Be When We Grow Up?

Your Tzedakah Money

Giving Your Money Away — How Much, How to, Why, When, and to Whom Is It Enough That
They Are Doing Good Things? — What You Need to Know

Before You Donate to Any Tzedakah Organization.

What It Feels Like to Have \$6,543.99/Day to Give Away to Tzedakah

Torah Study and Jewish Values

Jewish Jewish Values for Ourselves, Our Families, and Our Communities So You Fell Asleep During Services — Do You Still Count For a Minyan? (And Other Little-Studied Jewish Laws and Customs) Even More Unusual Texts: Judaism with Emotion, Yiddishkeit from the Gut –

Rarely Taught, Often Ignored, Often Distinctly Off-beat Torah

From the Great Rabbis

Nu? Feed the Cat and *Then* Enjoy Your Waffles

The Angels Every Moment in Our lives

Practical Menschlichkeit: Jewish Values and Character Education

1. The Awesomeness of Being Human: Where Heaven and Earth Touch

2. Menschlichkeit, Edelkeit, Ziesskeit, Shaynkeit, Feinkeit, and Ehrlichkeit:
Human Qualities in Jewish Tradition

Additional Topics

What's Jewish About Jewish Leadership: Jewish Texts For Professionals, Lay People, or for Professionals and Lay People

Retirement — Now Is the Time for Big-Time Tikkun Olam Girl Scout Cookies| and Jewish Tradition

Readings from the Author's Poetry and Prose

Doing Good

Foreward (by Avshalom Beni)

Introduction #1

Introduction #2

- A. Creating This Anthology Of **דברי תורה/Divray Torah**
 - A1. Definitions and Terminology
 - A2. The Origin and Process of Creating this Anthology
- B. ***Individuals Who Would Find These Divray Torah Unnecessary***
- C. Individuals with Little or No Background in Text Study
- D. An important stylistic note about the texts
- E. Physically navigating this anthology — a special note:
- F. An absolutely critical resource for anything having to do with Tzedakah and Caring Mitzvahs
- G. A final, general comment

***Moshe Rabbeynu, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Jonah, Amos,
and (at least) 10 others
received Their Messages Directly From God***

Making It Easier To Read My Divray Torah

- 1. One Additional *Potentially* Productive, Meaningful,

- And Entirely Permissible Method of Studying Torah
2. How Sherlock Holmes Helped Me Get All A's in Bible
At The Jewish Theological Seminary
 3. Five Crucial Yiddish Words To Keep In Mind When Doing Mitzvahs

Mitzvahs, Tzedakah, and Gemillut Chassadim

A Prayer of Responsibility for Children

4. Unquestionably The Greatest Salad Dressing in Human History

The Wise Words of an Old Washerwoman from Mississippi

5. The Four Questions We Might Want to Ask Ourselves
Before We Continue to Engage in More Mitzvahs
6. It Wouldn't Hurt
7. From Perlman's Stradivarius to The Bösendorfer-Mitzvah

All Red White and Blue, We American Kids

8. "There's No Such Thing as a Small Mitzvah"
9. *Sometimes It Takes So Little To Make Some People Happy*
Simple Happiness and Fun Mitzvahs
10. DC3s, Cessnas, and Air Force One
11. Why All Your Mitzvahs Should *NOT* Be Done Secretly
12. From Hacky Sacks to *Kippot*:
On the Importance of Always Thinking Mitzvahs
13. My Principles of Tzedakah and Mitzvahs

1 + 1 = 3: The Mathematics of Mitzvahs

14. If You Are Planting, and You are Informed that
The **משיח/Mashiach** Has Arrived

*The Tree and The **משיח/Mashiach-Messiah** A Rabbi's Proverb*

15. The Benefits of Doing Mitzvahs with Your Personal Effort,
a Percentage of Your Money, or a Combination of Both

Anthropology

16. Mazikin-**מזיקין**
17. Three Things to Remember When Performing Caring Mitzvahs
18. There Are 929 Chapters in The **תנ"ך/Tanach**
19. The Meaning of **גדול/Gadol** and Other Significant Talmudic Descriptives
20. Paho'eho'e and A'a
21. Steven Spielberg, Einstein, Beethoven, and Rabbah Bar Bar Channah

The Road to Paradise

22. From Babylonia to Stockholm

Living a Life of טוב

23. Maimonides Explains the Jewish Position about
“Beggars {‘People in Need’} Can’t Be Choosers.”
24. Mitzvah-Hyphens:
How We Can Expand Our Mitzvah-Consciousness
And Vary, Improve, and Increase Our Mitzvah-Actions

The Restaurant of Broken Dreams

25. No **ברכה/Bracha-blessing** for Tzedakah
26. Some Things I Missed
27. **פיינשמעקער/Feinshmecker**-Mitzvahs
28. An Astonishing and Difficult Jewish Text
29. **עבודה/Avodah**
30. Bar/Bat Mitzvah Re-Visited: The Dictionary Scorecard

My Shift Away From Using the Term “תקון עולם/Tikkun Olam”

Mitzvah Heroes And “Regular” Heroes

31. My Eema’s Heroes
32. Eleanor Roosevelt
33. Lis Hartel
34. My Kind Of **אושפיזין/Ushpizin**
35. The 39,000 Most Popular Songs in the World
36. The Angel Pilot
37. Why Young Chileans Are 6 Inches Taller
Than Their Parents and Grandparents Were in The 1950’s
38. The Long (Miraculous) Life of Irving “Buzz” Burrows

Biblical Women Mitzvah Heroes

39. General **דבורה/Devorah**, **שרה/Sarah**, and Wonder Woman
40. Princess **רות/Ruth**
41. **שפרה/Shifrah** and **פועה/Pu’ah**
42. Pharaoh’s Daughter **בתיא/Betia**, The First Great First Responder/בתיא
43. The Many Names of Moses
44. **אלישבע/Elisheva**:
פיקוח נפש/Pikuach Nefesh—Saving Lives BIG TIME
(As Told Humbly to Danny Siegel by *The Hero of Our Story*)
45. **חנה/Chana** Wants a Child
46. **שרח בת אשר/Serach Bat Asher**, The Grande Dame of The Exodus
And **אסתר/Esther**

47. Our Jewish Women and The Golden Calf Incident
48. From 5 to 99: Mitzvah-Lemonade and Organ Recital

Concluding Thoughts

Jewish VIPs-Values, Ideals, and Pinciples

Table of contents

Preface by Arnie Draiman

Foreward by Beth Huppin

Two Stories

Introduction #1

Introduction #2

American Values, Ideals And Pinciples

And How Some Of Them are Actualized in American Society

Refining and Expanding Our Understanding of

Jewish and Secular VIP's-Values, Ideals, and Pinciples

Making It Easier To Read My Divray Torah

1. One Additional *Potentially* Productive, Meaningful, And Permissible Method Of Studying Torah
2. How Sherlock Holmes Helped Me Get All A's in Bible At The Jewish Theological Seminary
3. Five Crucial Yiddish Words To Keep In Mind When Studying Torah And Searching for Jewish VIPs-Values, Ideals, and Pinciples

Some Texts About

Jewish VIP's — Values, Ideals, and Pinciples

- (Aleph) Our Jewish Values — Talmudic, Midrashic, and Halachic texts
(Bet) In the Halachah
(Gimel) Some Misunderstood and Misplaced Jewish values
(Dalet) Our Jewish values — Biblical texts

Torah and Mitzvahs — Comparison and Contrast

Halachah and Jewish Values

4. The Jewish Bookmark
5. The Jewish Value of **כבוד/Kavod-Dignity - #1**
A Few Simple Halachic Adjustments
6. The Jewish Value of **כבוד/Kavod-Dignity #2**
Two Simple Suggestions for the Synagogue:
Dr. Maurice Raynaud and the Jews
And **ברכת המזון/Birkat HaMazon** for Yom Kippur
7. Before Breakfast
The Jewish Value of **צער בעלי חיים/tza'ar Ba'alay chaim-**
The Caring Treatment of Animals
8. Selling a **ספר תורה/Sefer Torah: A Devaluation of Our Most Sacred Text?**
9. Ancient, Big Changes
10. Four Jewish Topics I've Been Thinking About
11. Precedence: An Unexpected Talmudic Opinion
12. **שהחינו/Shehecheyanu**
13. **שהחינו/Shehecheyanu** and Beyond
14. Preparing and Parting Jewishly
15. Greeting Other People
16. **שכחה/Sheechecha**
17. An American Jewish Breakthrough of the First Order:
The Adult Bat Mitzvah

Jewish Values
From The Bible, Talmud, Midrash, and Halachah

18. The Six Questions
19. AlephBet
20. Three Brief Words of Torah
21. Something Old, Something New
22. Just Exactly What Happened On Mount Sinai?
23. On Being a Teacher
24. Meltdown and *Tchatchkas*
25. "Making" Rabbis and "Buying" Friends
26. Talents

Why a Jerusalem Street's Name Was Changed Twice

27. Two things to Consider When Thinking About Your Self-Image
28. Lost and Found
29. Maggie Kuhn, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and the Talmud
30. Unquestionably The Greatest Love Line in The Midrash
(Some Jewish Aspects of Blessings and Loss)
31. The Flashlight in Rabbinic Literature
32. The Speed Of Light, Nikolai Ivanovich Lobachevsky, And You
33. **סימנים/Simanim**-Memory Aids
34. Boker Tov, Lylah Tov
35. Seven Years and 153 Days (1-4)

Biblical Texts

*(As Often Interpreted [And Sometimes Rewritten]
By the Talmud and Midrash)*

36. How A Sheepdog Helped Save The Jewish People
37. Nobody Asked Me To, But If They Had,
I Would Have Written These Love Stories Differently
38. Two Things Most Of Us Didn't Know About Father Abraham
39. Amos and Moses
40. Fire By Us and By Them
41. Uncle Walt, Jacob's Daughter Dinah, Esther, and Job
42. A Particularly Challenging Verse In The Book of Psalms
43. A Specific Contemporary Situation Where The Torah-Lesson Is Crucial
44. On Why It Is So Important To Keep
Your Annual Appointment With Your Optometrist
45. Orpah, Ruth's Sister-in-Law

*Concluding Thoughts
Ezekiel's Vision of the Dry Bones*