

AA54. Distinguishing between Good and Evil.

We are to distinguish between good and evil.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Hebrews 5:14

But solid food is for the mature, for those whose faculties have been trained by continuous exercise to distinguish good from evil.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Romans 12:9

1 Peter 3:10-11

Related New Testament Mitzvot

AA13 Fleeing from Sin and Evil

AA17 Not Calling Wrong & Bad That Which Is Right & Good

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

1 Kings 3:9

Therefore, give your servant an understanding heart able to administer justice to your people, so that I can discern between good and bad- for who is equal to judging this great people of yours?

Psalms 37:27

If you turn from evil and do good, you will live safely forever.

Amos 5:14-15

Seek good and not evil, so that you will survive. Then Adonai ELOHEI-Tzva'ot will be with you, as you say he is. Hate evil, love good, and uphold justice at the gate. Maybe Adonai ELOHEI-Tzva'ot will take pity on the survivors of Yosef.

Comment

The Greek word in Hebrews 5:14 that is translated “distinguish” in the CJB is *διάκρισις* (*diakrisis*) and is elsewhere translated “discern.” Distinguishing between good and evil is a matter of spiritual discernment that requires the Holy Spirit.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

None