

DA11. Bearing the Weaknesses of Those Who Are Not Strong

We are to bear the weaknesses of those who are not strong.

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

Key New Testament Scriptures

Romans 15:1

So we who are strong have a duty to bear the weaknesses of those who are not strong, rather than please ourselves.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 8:17, 22:39

Luke 10:34

John 15:13

Acts 20:35

Romans 8:26, 14:1, 21, 15:1-3

Galatians 6:1-2

1 Thessalonians 5:14

Related New Testament Mitzvot

DA04 Being Hospitable & Welcoming to Our Brother and Neighbor

DA05 Serving One Another

DA06 Showing Respect for One Another

DA07 Being Sensitive to Each Other's Needs

DA12 Being Good & Kind to One Another

DA16 Encouraging and Supporting One Another

DA24 Loving Our Brother and Neighbor

DA29 Being Merciful and Not Cruel, Brutal, Heartless, or Ruthless

DA46 Comforting Our Neighbor

DA50 Bearing with One Another in Love & Forgiveness

DA51 Not Being Mean to One Another

DA64 Not Speaking Badly or Critically of Our Brother or Neighbor

DA65 Not Insulting Our Neighbor

DA75 Not Provoking Our Neighbor

DA76 Bearing One Another's Burdens

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Leviticus 19:18

Don't take vengeance on or bear a grudge against any of your people; rather, love your neighbor as yourself; I am ADONAI.

Comment

The meaning in Scripture of not being strong is not referring to muscular strength. It is referring to lack of spiritual strength – weakness of faith that results in sin and personal unfulfillment. One can also argue that Romans 15:1 applies to widows, orphans, and others who are not strong due to a handicap, disability, or circumstance. Supporting widows and orphans is the subject of *Mitzvah* BB3 in this compilation.

This *Mitzvah* #DA11 instructs us to bear (i.e., carry – not bear with or condone) the weaknesses of those who are not spiritually strong or are handicapped with a disability; this means taking upon ourselves the weight (the responsibility) of ministering comfort, godly direction, and sometimes physical helps and provisions to such persons provided, of course, they are willing to receive it. It is a weight on us because it is easier to avoid such people and their problems, and yet we are called to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39); in doing so, however, we must always remember that although we serve our fellow man, it is ultimately the Holy Spirit that helps us overcome our weaknesses (Romans 8:26).

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

- N01 Loving Our Neighbor, the Stranger, and Even Our Enemy
- N03 Helping Our Neighbor Who is in Need
- N09 Helping a Person Who Needs Rescue
- N11 Being Hospitable
- N14 Serving Our Neighbor
- N18 Being Compassionate & Merciful Toward Our Neighbor