

DA35. Not Extorting Our Neighbor.

We are not to extort our neighbor.

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

Key New Testament Scriptures

1 Corinthians 5:10-11 (NKJ)

Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner-- not even to eat with such a person.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 (NKJ)

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God...

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Luke 18:11 (NKJ)

Related New Testament Mitzvot

DA27 Not Intimidating Our Neighbor Unnecessarily

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Leviticus 5:21(6:2)-24(6:5)

If someone sins and acts perversely against ADONAI by dealing falsely with his neighbor in regard to a deposit or security entrusted to him, by stealing from him, by extorting him, or by dealing falsely in regard to a lost object he has found, or by swearing to a lie- if a person commits any of these sins, then, if he sinned and is guilty, he is to restore whatever it was he stole or obtained by extortion, or whatever was deposited with him, or the lost object which he found, or anything about which he has sworn falsely. He is to restore it in full plus an additional one-fifth; he must return it to the person who owns it, on the day when he presents his guilt offering.

Psalms 62:11(10)

Don't put your trust in extortion, don't put false hopes in robbery; even if wealth increases, don't set your heart on it.

Isaiah 16:4

Let our outcasts live with you! Protect Mo'av from the attacks of robbers!" For when the extorting ends, the spoiling ceases, and those trampling on the land are destroyed,

Isaiah 30:12-13

Therefore here is what the Holy One of Isra'el says: "Because you reject this word, trust in extortion and rely on deceit, this sin will become for you a crack bulging out high on a wall, showing signs it is ready to fall; then suddenly, all at once, it breaks.

Isaiah 33:15

He whose life is right and whose speech is straight, he who scorns getting rich by extortion, he who shakes his hands free of bribes, stops his ears against talk of bloodshed and shuts his eyes against looking at evil.

Jeremiah 22:17

In contrast, your eyes and heart are controlled entirely by your greed, your desire for shedding innocent blood, oppressing and extorting.

Ezekiel 22:12

In you, people take bribes to shed blood; you demand and accept interest on loans; in greed you make profits off your neighbors by extorting them; and you have forgotten me,' says Adonai ELOHIM.

Ezekiel 22:29

The people of the land have extorted, robbed, wronged the poor and needy and unjustly oppressed foreigners.

Amos 5:11-12

Therefore, because you trample on the poor and extort from them levies of grain; although you have built houses of cut stone, you will not live in them; and though you have planted pleasant vineyards, you will not drink their wine. For I know how numerous are your crimes and how outrageous your sins- bullying the innocent, extorting ransoms pushing the poor aside at the gate.

Comment

Extortion is obtaining something from another through force, threats, or other coercive means. That which is acquired need not be money or property but can also be actions such as favors. Blackmail is a form of extortion where the extorter threatens to release damaging information about a person unless the person acquiesces to the extorter's will in some way.

The New Covenant Scriptures supporting this *Mitzvah* #DA35 were selected due to the word "extortion" appearing in the NKJ and KJV translations of the Bible. The CJB and other translations employ other words but the meaning is clear from Scriptures of the *Tanakh*.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

N02 Wronging One Another through Our Speech

N06 Exploiting a Neighbor's Weakness