

DA41. Being Friends with Brothers & Friendly to Outsiders.

We are to continue in brotherly friendships but be friendly to neighbors and outsiders as well.

DA41a: *We are be friends with brothers.*

DA41b: *We are to be friendly to our outsiders.*

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

Key New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 5:47

And if you are friendly only to your friends, are you doing anything out of the ordinary? Even the Goyim do that!

Hebrews 13:1-2

Let brotherly friendship continue; but don't forget to be friendly to outsiders; for in so doing, some people, without knowing it, have entertained angels.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Mark 12:31

John 15:12-15

2 Corinthians 6:14

Titus 3:1-2

Related New Testament Mitzvot

DA08 Befriending Persons Who Are Humble

DA24 Loving Our Brother and Neighbor

JA07 Loving Our Enemies

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Exodus 33:11

ADONAI would speak to Moshe face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. Then he would return to the camp; but the young man who was his assistant, Y'hoshua the son of Nun, never left the inside of the tent.

Job 6:14

A friend should be kind to an unhappy man, even to one who abandons Shaddai.

Proverbs 17:9

He who conceals an offense promotes love, but he who harps on it can separate even close friends.

Proverbs 17:17

A friend shows his friendship at all times- it is for adversity that [such] a brother is born.

Proverbs 18:24

Some "friends" pretend to be friends, but a true friend sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 22:24

Don't associate with an angry man; make no hot-tempered man your companion.

Proverbs 27:6

Wounds from a friend are received as well-meant, but an enemy's kisses are insincere.

Proverbs 27:9

Perfume and incense make the heart glad, [also] friendship sweet with advice from the heart

Comment

Hebrews 13:1-2 distinguishes between having friendships with brothers and being friendly (hospitable) to outsiders. Friendship is covenantal and implies a deeper commitment to one another than just being friendly. Proverbs 18:24 says: “Some ‘friends’ pretend to be friends, but a true friend sticks closer than a brother.” One can, however, be friendly to a person who is a mere acquaintance – not a brother, not a friend, and one who is even an enemy.

In my opinion, the Hebrews 13 requirement that we be friendly to outsiders should be understood to mean persons outside of faith in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. 2 Corinthians 6:14 says: “Do not yoke yourselves together in a team with unbelievers. For how can righteousness and lawlessness be partners? What fellowship does light have with darkness?” For that reason, some would say that the Hebrews 13 Scripture means that we cannot have friendships outside of faith in Yeshua and the New Testament. I am, however, of the opinion that, unlike the covenant of marriage, the biblical covenant of friendship can be achieved so long as both parties believe in, and adhere to, the principles taught in the *Tanakh*.

Now, why the emphasis on being friendly to outsiders? It is because we are responsible for sharing the Good News of Yeshua to those who do not know him as Messiah and, without being friendly to outsiders, we cannot minister to persons who are outside the faith. As for the reference in Hebrews 13 to entertaining angels, I believe it is referring to persons who have been specially blessed to have had an encounter with God.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

N01 Loving Our Neighbor, the Stranger, and Even Our Enemy