

Tanach Text References

1. "That which is hateful to you do not do to others; that is the entire Torah, everything else is commentary; now go and study." (Shabbat 31a)
2. "And God created man in His image. In the image of God He created Him." (Genesis:26-27)
3. "An individual person was created to show the greatness of God. While a human being mints many coins from a single cast, and they are all identical. But the Holy One, Blessed be God strikes us all from the mold of the first human, and each one of us is unique." (Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5)
4. *10: "And Moses said to God: 'Please God, I am not a man of words, nor have I ever been, even since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am of a heavy mouth and a heavy tongue.' 11: And God said to him: 'Who makes a man's mouth? Or makes him dumb, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I God? 12: Now go, and I will be with your mouth, and teach you what you will say.'" (Exodus 4:10-12)*
5. *"One who sees a Cushite or an albino, or [a man] red-spotted in the face, or [a man] white-spotted in the face [a man afflicted with psoriasis or elephantiasis], or a hunchback, or a dwarf (or a deaf man or an imbecile, or a drunk) says (the blessing) "Blessed is the One who created such varied creatures. [One who sees] an amputee, or a lame man, or a blind man, or a man afflicted with boils, says (the blessing) "Blessed Be the True Judge." (Tosefta Brachot 6:6)*
6. *Ben Azzai taught: "Treat no one lightly and think nothing is useless, for everyone has a moment and everything has a place." (Pirkei Avot, 4:3)*
7. Rabbi Yochanan said: Each of the 40 days that Moses was on Mount Sinai, God taught him the entire Torah. And each night, Moses forgot what he had learned. Finally, God gave it to him as a gift. If so, why did God not give the Torah to him as a gift on the first day? In order to encourage the teachers of those who learn in a non-traditional manner. (JerusalemTalmud)
8. *"A student should not say –I have understood when s/he has not understood. Rather, s/he should ask again, even several times. And, if the teacher gets angry and abuses the student verbally, s/he should say to the teacher, –Teacher, this is Torah and I must learn it, even if my capacity is inadequate." Mishneh Torah 4:4*
9. "...Who has a defect, shall not come near to offer up his God's food. For any man who has a defect should not approach: A blind man or a lame one... mis-matching limbs ... a broken leg or a broken arm." Leviticus (21:16–24)
10. "You shall not insult the deaf or place a stumbling block before the blind. You shall fear your God: I am יהוה." (Leviticus 19:14)