

SEVEN NOAHIDE LAWS

Judaism in addition to the laws that bind its own life also recognises and preserves a more general G-d given, code for all of mankind, known as the 'Seven Noahide Laws'.

- 1) Belief in G-d. This includes the prohibition of idolatry, the imperative to reflect on the Divine inwardness of Existence and the fact that G-d is aware of our actions and even thoughts.
- 2) Trust in Divine Providence. This includes the imperative for faith despite setbacks or tragedy and the prohibition against blasphemy.
- 3) Sanctity of Life. This prohibits murder, abortion and euthanasia.
- 4) Respect for ownership and therefore a prohibition against theft.
- 5) Marriage as a positive ideal. This includes prohibitions on adultery, incest, homosexuality and bestiality. Divorce is permitted.
- 6) Avoidance of wanton cruelty to animals.
- 7) Responsibility to society. Besides charity this category includes the setting up of systems of Justice and Education through which civilisation is sustained.