

**EMUNAH - FAITH
BULLETIN # 18**

**WHO IS WEALTHY? THE ONE WHO
IS HAPPY WITH HIS PORTION (PIRKE AVOT)**

**THE CHARACTER TRAITS OF THE PERSON ARE NOT PART
OF THE 613 MITZVOT BUT THEY ARE THE MAIN
DETERMINANTS OF THE 613 MITZVOT, WHETHER THE
PERSON WILL PERFORM THEM OR NOT**

...Therefore bad character traits are very much worse than sins themselves. And now you will understand what our Sages said (Zohar I 27, II 182, III 179, 234, Tikkunim 89, Zohar Chadash Noach) "Anyone who becomes angry is as if he worships idols which is the equivalent of all the 613 Mitzvot", and our Sages also said (Sotah 4: 5) "He who has haughtiness of spirit is as if he reneges on Hashem and he should be cut down like an Ashera..." and many things similar to this. And understand this very well, for being the character traits so important and fundamental they were not counted among the 613 Mitzvot. Therefore a person needs to be more careful regarding evil character traits than in fulfilling the positive or negative Mitzvot, for if a person has good character traits he, they will lead them to observe all the Mitzvot without difficulty." Rabbi Chayim Vital Shaare Kedusha Chelek Alef, Shaar Beit

"Do not make silver and gold gods for yourselves" (Ex. 20:20): G-d said to Israel, "Do not conduct yourselves with Me the way idolaters conduct themselves with their gods. When good fortune comes their way, they honor their gods... and when suffering befalls them, they curse their gods... You, however, should give thanks whether I bring good fortune or suffering." As King David said, "I will lift up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the L-rd." "I found trouble and sorrow, but I called upon the name of the L-rd" (Ps. 116:13,3-4) Yalkut Shimoni (Isaiah, 8:4)

"Everything Hashem does, He does for good." (Berachot 60b)