

NEED TO KNOW

As well as the mitzvot, there are three principles that Jews consider when making decisions. These are **tikkun olam**, **chesed** and **tzedakah**

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

- Know the key moral principles, tikkun olam, tzedakah and chesed
- Understand how these are shown in Jewish lives and how they exist alongside the mitzvot



COVENANT WITH MOSES Judaism Beliefs and Teachings

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

Exodus 20:1-17

Why these were given to the Israelites

KEY MORAL PRINCIPLES



Justice	Healing the world	Kindness to others
example	example	example
Amos 5:24	Genesis 1:31	Leviticus 19:18

Previously

God **promised** to free the Jewish people from slavery, make them a nation of holy priests and make them his **chosen people**

A **promise** made by humankind to God
Humankind would obey the Mitzvot

A **physical sign** to seal each agreement
Keep Shabbat special

You are judged
on your actions
– **free will**

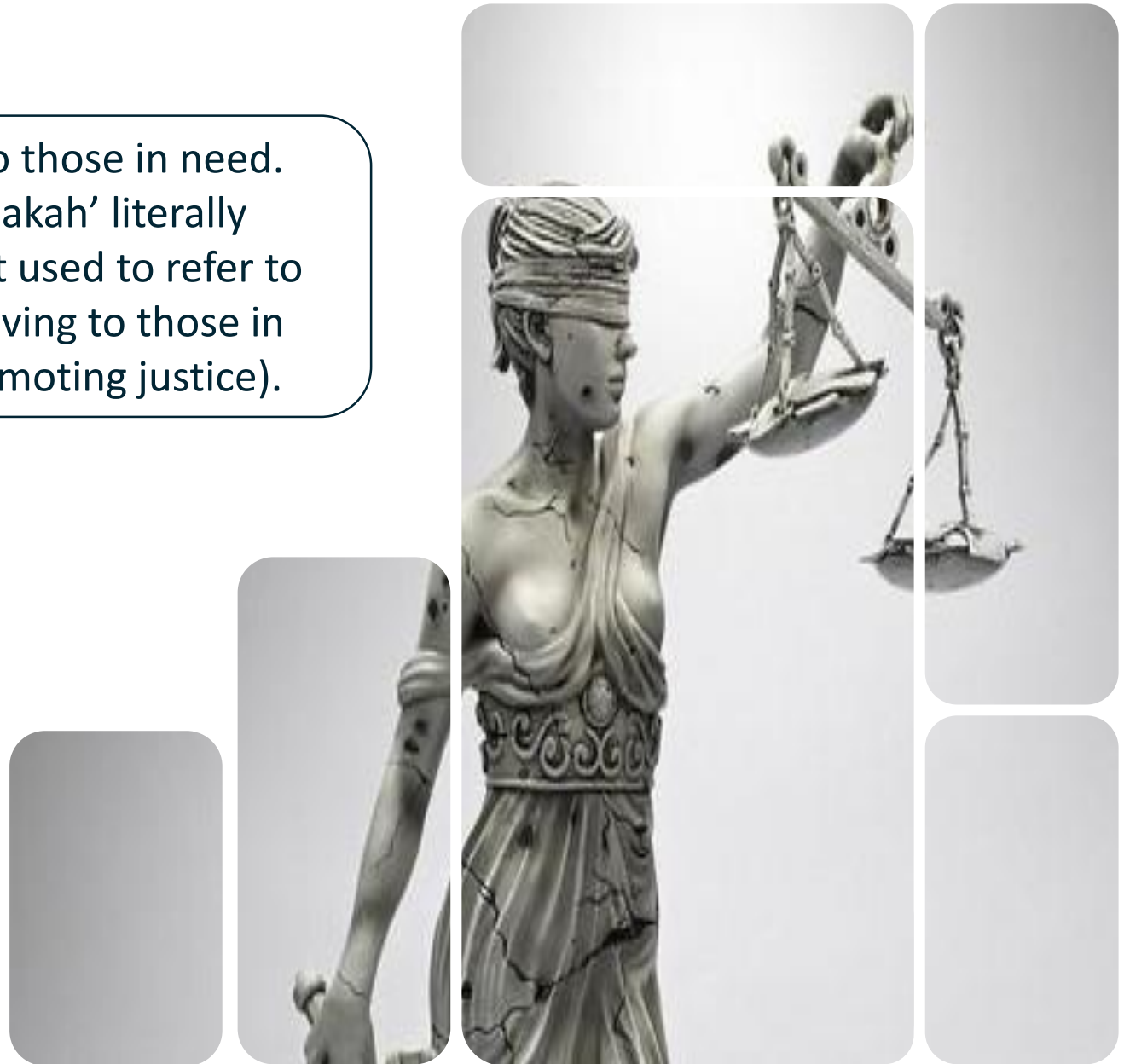


Key moral principles

Judaism

Beliefs and Teachings

Tzedakah: giving to those in need. Hebrew term 'tzedakah' literally means '**justice**' but used to refer to charity (because giving to those in need is part of promoting justice).



Key moral principles

Judaism

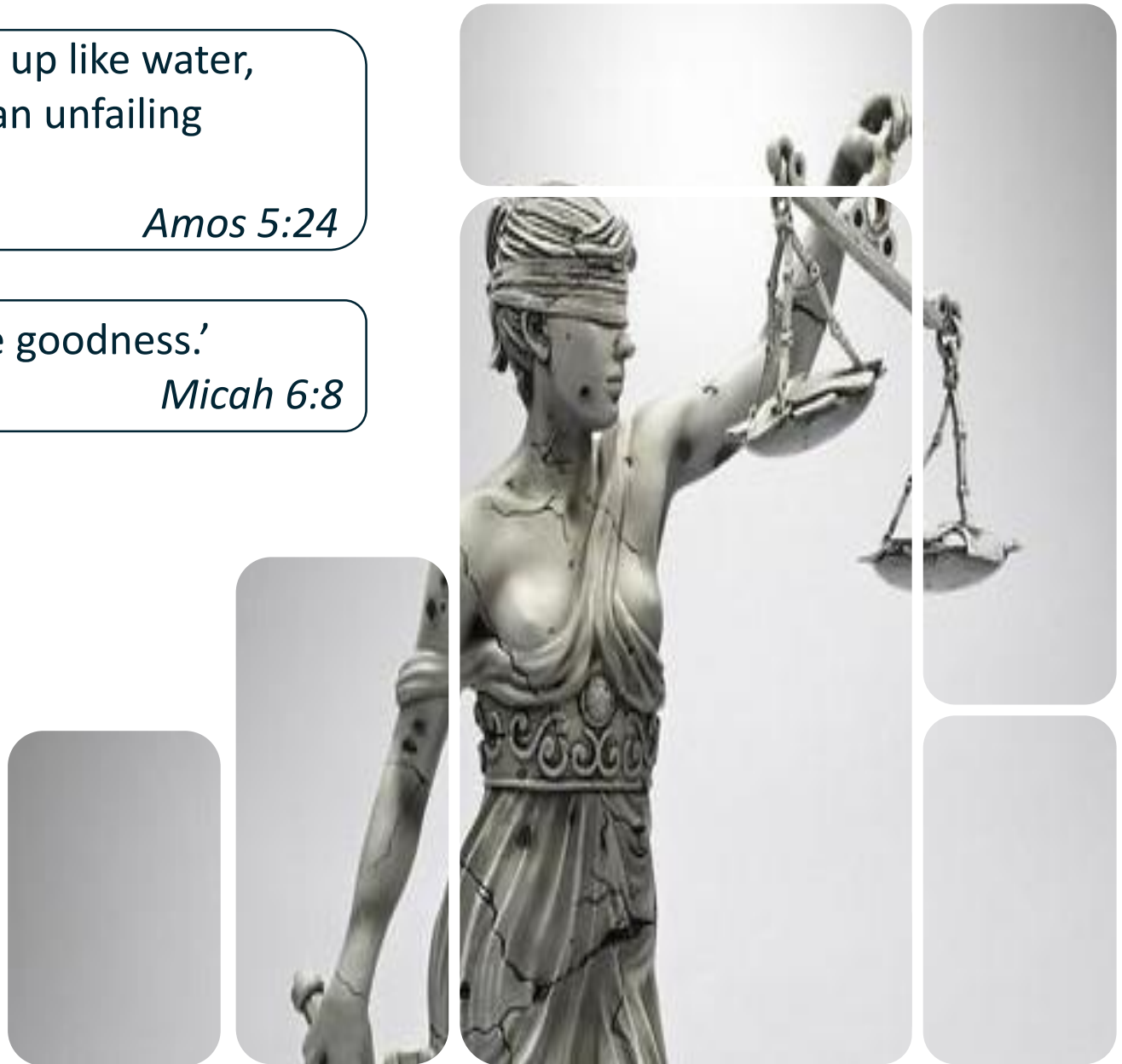
Beliefs and Teachings

‘But let **justice** well up like water,
righteousness like an unfailing
stream.’

Amos 5:24

‘Do **justice** and love goodness.’

Micah 6:8



Key moral principles

Judaism

Beliefs and Teachings

Tikkun Olam: healing the world
Humans have a responsibility for
fixing what is wrong with the world.

Key moral principle related to making
the world a better place.



Key moral principles

'God saw all that he had made, and it was very **good**.'

Genesis 1:31

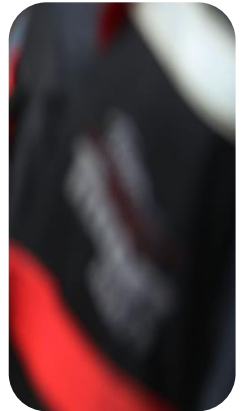
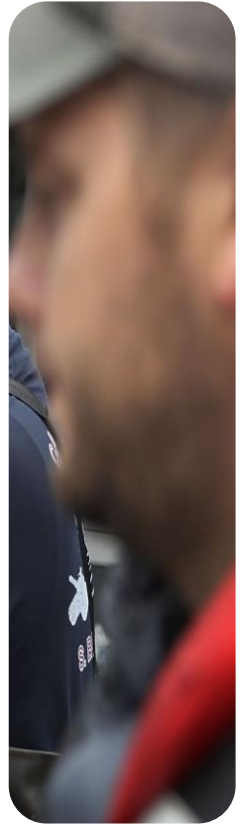


Key moral principles

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings

Chesed: loving kindness

Positive, caring actions that should be shown to all living things.

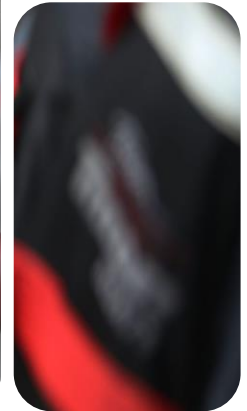
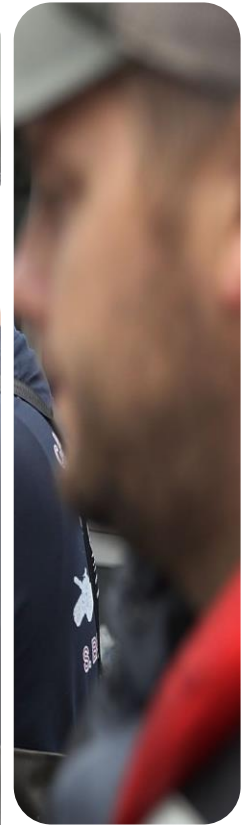
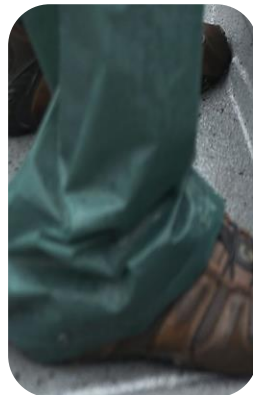


Key moral principles

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings

The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Leviticus 19:34



Key moral principles

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings

‘The world is built on **chesed**.’

Psalm 89:3

It also contributes to **Tikkun Olam** and can be seen as even better than tzedakah, because it can be done for rich or poor, sick or healthy, the living or the dead and can be done with money or actions.

It includes all aspects of life and effects Jew’s relationships with each other, with non-Jews, with the environment and with animals too.

Think 12 mark questions



“**Tzedakah** is the gift of money or its equivalent. But sometimes that is not what we most need. We can suffer emotional as well as physical poverty. We can be depressed, lonely, close to despair. We may need company or comfort, encouragement or support. These too are human needs, no less real for being untranslatable into the language of politics or economics. That is what **chesed** is about: emotional support, loving-kindness, love as compassion. It is what we mean when we speak of God in Psalm 147 as one who *‘heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds’*. It includes hospitality to the lonely, visiting the sick, comforting the bereaved, raising the spirits of the depressed, helping people through crises in their lives, and making those at the margins feel part of the community.”

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

