



# 13 Attributes of Hashem

As elucidated by the classic Sefer Tomer Devorah

## 6. כי חפץ חסד הוא

**HASHEM** considers chesed paramount. At times he will overlook iniquity if the transgressor is involved in chesed. The fact that the person who wronged us is involved with chesed should help us view him positively.

## 7. ישוב ירחמנו

When a sinner repents, **HASHEM'S** bond and relationship with him is even stronger than it was prior to the sin. If a person who wrongs us makes amends, we should also continue our relationship with him in an even deeper manner.

## 8. יכבש עונותינו

**HASHEM** doesn't allow the sins we are involved in to impact the reward we receive for our positive actions. When someone who did us a favor then hurts us, we should not let that hurt cloud the sense of gratitude we owe him for the good he bestowed upon us.

## 1. מי ק-ל כמנד

**HASHEM** continues to sustain us, even as we defy him.

**WE** should also continue to act charitable toward those who offend us.

## 2. נושא עון

Besides sustaining us as we defy him, **HASHEM** also bears the load and imbalance created by the sin.

**WE** should also tolerate offense and bear its repercussions.

## 3. עובר על פשע

**HASHEM** forgives our transgressions.

**WE** must also offer complete forgiveness to those who wronged us.

## 4. לשארית נחלתנו

**HASHEM** treats all Jews as close relatives.

**WE** should also relate to every Jew as family and respect them and care for their needs accordingly.

## 5. לא החזיק לעד אפנו

Rid yourself even of justifiable anger as Hashem does.

12. אשר נשבע לאבותינו

Even when dealing with sinners, **HASHEM** takes into account the exalted nature of their forbearers. **WE** too should always consider the lofty origins of the difficult people we encounter.

13. מימי קדם

When the merits of an evildoer's forbearers are not available, **HASHEM** will focus on that person's past merits; so too **WE** should concentrate on a person's past merits and the fact that at one time everyone was worthy of good.

9. ותשליך במצולות ים

**HASHEM** considers human suffering to be an atonement. **WE** should be cognizant of this when relating to sinners who have suffered.

10. תתן אמת ליעקב

**WE** should treat every person with fairness, justice and true compassion as Hashem does.

11. חסד לאברהם

**HASHEM** relates to individuals who go beyond the letter of the law with an extra measure of forgiveness and compassion. **WE** too should be extra forgiving to such exceptional people.

### TRANSFORM YOUR PERSONALITY BY EMULATING HASHEM

DURING YOMIM NORAIM DAVENING, we solemnly invoke the 13 Attributes of Hashem. However, the seforim tell us that it does not suffice to merely recite them, rather we must integrate those attributes into our very beings.

The revered classic sefer Tomer Devorah lifts the veil of mystery surrounding these unique attributes and vividly depicts the attitudes we must develop in order to incorporate them into our personalities.

The Ahavas Olam Weingarden Torah Center of Greater Detroit is pleased to present a condensed English version of sefer Tomer Devorah's illuminations, based on the shiurim of Rav Simcha Klein given at the Torah Center.

*May you and your family be blessed with a happy and healthy New Year!*

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