

ASK THE RABBI

Question: Do Jews and the Torah discriminate against Gentiles?

Answer: A common misconception among the world is that Jews view themselves as privileged, as chosen above and beyond others. While we do think that we are chosen by God, it is not for privilege that we are chosen, but rather for responsibility.

Ultimately, man's worth is determined by the perfection of their soul. If one person is greater than another, it is through their soul that they are greater. Jews are chosen to perfect their soul through 613 methods, the mitzvot, while gentiles through 7, the Noahide laws. Both Jews and Gentiles can perfect their soul, and as the Rambam writes, righteous Gentiles have a place in the next world as well.

While we might treat Jews and Gentiles in different ways, there is never a license to discriminate against anyone, whether Jew or Gentile.