

Texts for 10/20/22 session – I. L. Peretz Secular Jewish Community – Joseph Rosenstein

#1 – Mishnah 1:2. Shimon the Righteous was one of the last members of the Great Assembly. Shimon said: The world stands upon three things: the Torah, the Temple service, and the practice of acts of lovingkindness.

#2 – Mishnah 1:3. Antigonus of Socho said: Do not be like servants who serve the master with the expectation of receiving a reward, but be like servants who serve the master without the expectation of receiving a reward.

#3 – Mishnah 1:14. Hillel said: If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And when I am for myself alone, what am I? And if not now, then when?

#4 – Mishnah 2:5. Hillel said: Do not judge your fellow until you have been in his place.

#5 – Mishnah 2:13. Rabbi Eliezer ben Horcanus said: Let the honor of your chaver be as dear to you as your own. Do not easily become angry. Do teshuvah one day before your death.

#6 – Mishnah 2:15. Rabbi Yose said: Let all your actions be for the sake of Heaven.

#7 – Mishnah 2:19. Rabbi Tarfon said: It is not your obligation to complete the task, but you don't have permission to walk away from it.

#8 – Mishnah 3:19. Rabbi Akiva said: Everything is seen, but freedom of choice is granted.

#9 – Mishnah 4:1. Ben Zoma said:

Who is wise? Those who learn from every person.

Who is mighty? Those who subdue their [evil] inclination.

Who is rich? Those who rejoice in what they have.

Who is honored? Those who honor all people.

#10 – Mishnah 4:24. Shmuel haKatan said: "If your enemy falls, do not rejoice; if he stumbles, do not let your heart be happy."

#11 – Mishnah 5:8. [Anonymous] Seven kinds of disasters come to the world – drought, famine, plague, sword, wild beasts, exile – for seven categories of transgressions [of the social contract described in the Torah].