

Midrash Genesis Rabba 8:5

Faithfulness and **truth** meet; justice and well-being kiss. **Truth** will flourish from the earth and justice looks down from heaven. (Psalm 85:11-12)

Rabbi Simon said: At the moment the Holy One chose to create the first ADaM the ministering angels broke up into factions. Some of them said, Create him; while others said, Don't do it. Thus it is written: "Lovingkindness and **truth** will meet, righteousness and peace will kiss." (Psalms 85:11) Lovingkindness said: Create him, for he will do acts of lovingkindness. **Truth** said: Don't create him, for he is drenched in lies. Righteousness said: Create him, for he will do much Tzedaka. **Peace** said: Don't do it, for he is essentially quarrelsome.

What did the Holy One do? He took truth and cast it toward the earth. Thus it is written, "And **truth** will be cast to the earth." (Daniel 8:12) The ministering angels said: Sovereign of the Universe, why do You shame the leader of Your court? Let **truth** rise from the earth. As it is written: "**Truth** will arise from the earth." (Psalms 85:12)

Pirke Avot 1:18
Rabban Shimon Ben Gamliel said: The world is sustained by three things, by justice, by **truth** and by peace. As it has been stated: "Speak every man

the **truth** to his neighbor; execute the judgment of **truth** and peace in your gates." (Zechariah 8:16)

Babylonian Talmud, Derech Eretz, The Peace Chapter
Rav Muna said: These three things are actually one. When justice is done, **truth** is served and peace is

achieved, as it is written: "Speak every man the **truth** to his neighbor; execute the judgment of **truth** and peace in your gates." (Zechariah 8:16)

Genesis 1:26

And God said, "Let us **create** Adam in Our own image and in Our own likeness."

Pirke Avot 3:14

Men are created: Rabbi Akiva would say: Beloved is the human for **he was created** in [God's] image. Excessive love is bestowed upon him because he was created in the image, As it is written, "One who spills the blood of another, his blood should be spilled, for In the image of God was the human made." (Genesis 9:6)

Babylonian Talmud, Moed Katan 28a
Rava said: **Life** [length of days], fertility and income are not granted to you by **right**, but by fortune.
Leviticus 25:10
Declare **Liberty** throughout the land and all the inhabitants thereof.
Sefat Emet, on Leviticus 25:10
The essence of being cursed is being enslaved, and the essence of blessing is **liberty**.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

- - From the Declaration of Independence

Avraham Ibn Ezra on Leviticus 25:10

A bird in **liberty** will sing, while in captivity it will refuse to eat and perish.

Pirke Avot 4:1

Who is considered wealthy? One who is **happy** with what he has. As it is written: You shall enjoy the fruit of your labors; you shall be **happy** and you shall prosper.



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