

מצות
לא תעשה
#10

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Kedoshim: (ויקרא יט:ד)

אל תפנו
אל האלילים

We are not allowed to learn about or think about *Avodah Zarah*, for example to learn about a religion which is *Avodah Zarah*. We are also not allowed to look at and think about an image of *Avodah Zarah*, like a picture or statue.

מצות
לא תעשה
#47

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Shelach: (במדבר טו:לט)

ולא תתורו אחרי לבבכם
ואחרי עיניכם

“*VeLo Sasuru*” — This is a *mitzvah* for our thinking. We are not allowed to feel free in our mind to think into non-Torah ideas. Our thoughts need to be only according to the way Torah teaches us. The second half of this *mitzvah* is not to let our minds get too busy thinking about *taavos*, enjoying things which won't help our *Avodas Hashem*. (This is one of the 6 *Mitzvos Temidiyos*, the *mitzvos* we need to keep ALL the time.)

מצות
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#60

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Mishpatim: (שמות כב:כז)

אלקים לא תקלל

“*Birchas Hashem*” — We are not allowed to give the opposite of a

bracha to Hashem.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Zayin

מִצְוַת
לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה
#6



We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Yisro: (שמות כ"ה)

וְלֹא תַעֲבֹדִם

We are not allowed to do things to an *Avodah Zara* if that is how it is served, even if it is not bowing down to it or bringing it *korbanos*. So if a certain *Avodah Zarah* is served by throwing a rock at it, we aren't allowed to throw a rock (even though it's okay to throw rocks in other places where they won't hurt anyone!)



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Zayin

מִצְוַת
לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה
#5



We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Yisro: (שמות כ"ה)

לֹא תִשָּׁתַחֲוֶה לָהֶם
וְלֹא תַעֲבֹדִם

We are not allowed to bow to or bring *korbanos* to ANY *Avodah Zarah*, even if that's not how most people worship that *Avodah Zarah*.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Zayin

מצוות
לא תעשה
#2

 We learn mitzvah from Parshas Yisro: (שמות כ"ד)

לֹא תַעֲשֶׂה לָךְ פֶּסֶל
וְכָל תְּמוּנָה

We are not allowed to make an idol ourselves or pay someone else to make an idol, even if we won't use it.

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Avodah Zarah

מצוות
לא תעשה
#3

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Kedoshim: (ויקרא י"ד)

וְאֱלֹהֵי מַסַּכָּה
לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ לָכֶם

We are not allowed to make an idol for someone else who will use it as an *Avodah Zarah*, even for someone who isn't Jewish.

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Avodah Zarah

מצוות
לא תעשה
#4

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Yisro: (שמות כ"ב)

לֹא תַעֲשׂוּן אֶתִּי אֱלֹהֵי כֶסֶף
וְאֱלֹהֵי זָהָב לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ לָכֶם

We can't make a statue of a person, even just because it looks pretty.

 The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Avodah Zarah perek Gimmel

מצוות
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#15

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Mishpatim: (שמות כ"ג)

לא ישמע על פיך

We are not allowed to say things that get a group of people to do *Avodah Zarah*. A person who does this is called a *Madiach*.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Yud

מצוות
עשה
#186

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Re'eh: (דברים י"ז)

ושרפת באש את העיר ואת כל שללה

If there is a city of people who serve *Avodah Zarah*, we need to burn it down! This is called an *Ir Hanidachas*, a city that let themselves be convinced by a *Madiach* to serve *Avodah Zarah*.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin

מצוות
לא תעשה
#23

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Re'eh: (דברים י"ז)

והיתה תל עולם לא תבנה עוד

We can't rebuild an *Ir Hanidachas* after it was burned down.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Yud

מצות
לא תעשה
#24

 We learn this mitzvah from Parshas Re'eh: (דברים יג:ח)

ולא ידבק בידך מאומה מן החרם

We can't take anything from an *Ir Hanidachas* — it ALL needs to be burned.



The details of this mitzvah are explained in Mishnayos & Gemara:
Mesechta Sanhedrin perek Yud

Rambam: Hilchos Avodas Kochavim

PEREK ALEF

In today's Rambam, the Rambam explains how people starting serving *Avodah Zarah* in the first place. Of course Adam *Harishon* knew that Hashem created the world! How did so many people start *davening* to idols?

At first, it was just a little mistake — people thought that since Hashem created the sun and moon, they need to show the sun and moon special *kavod*. Then later, they forgot that Hashem made the sun and moon in the first place...

Later, Avraham *Avinu* thought for a long time and realized that Hashem created the world! He started teaching everyone again to *daven* only to Hashem, and NOT to *Avodah Zarah*.

PEREK BEIS

In *Perek Beis*, the Rambam explains to us why we have so many *mitzvos* to keep us away from *Avodah Zarah*: Because it is easy for a person to make a mistake. We sometimes have questions about Hashem and Torah, but many times we just didn't know enough to really understand. If we just do whatever we think makes sense, it is very easy to end up serving *Avodah Zarah*. So we have many *mitzvos* to keep us from making a mistake!

PEREK GIMMEL

Perek Gimmel teaches us *halachos* about when something a person does is considered *Avodah Zarah*. If a person makes a statue of a person, he gets punished, but it is fine to paint a picture of someone.