

UNITY GATHERING
December 13, 2015

Temple Beth Or
Washington Township, New Jersey

Texts of Peace

Matthew 5:3-9

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Quran 49:13

O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other (not that ye may despise each other). Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah (God) is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And Allah (God) has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things). – Quran 49:13

The Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) said, "The best of people are those that bring most benefit to the rest of mankind."

Genesis Rabbah 24:7

“Love your neighbor as yourself.” Rabbi Akiva said: “This is the greatest principle of the Torah.”

Ben Azzai said: “‘This is the book of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings, they were created in the image of God.’ This is an even greater principle.”

You must not say, “Since I have been humiliated, let my neighbor also be humiliated. Since I have been cursed, let my neighbor also be cursed.”

For, as Rabbi Tanhuma pointed out, if you act that way, realize who you are willing to have humiliated—one created in the image of God.