

Righteousness and Charity from the Same Purse by Jon "Yoni" Gerrish

How can a person perform acts of righteousness? One way is by giving to charity. Even though there was no special term for charity in the Hebrew scriptures, rabbis during the New Testament or Second Temple period, enlarged the biblical Hebrew word for righteousness, (tzdek-תְּצַדֵּק and tzdakah-תְּצַדִּיק) to include the notion of charity. The following are some examples of this development: Commenting on Proverbs 21:3, "To do what is right (tzdakah) and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice," Rabbi Assi said, "A man should never neglect to give the third of a shekel for charity (tzdakah) in a year...charity (tzdakah) is as important as all the other commands." And, commenting on Isaiah 32:17, R. Eleazar said: "He who causes others to do good is greater than the doer, as it says, And the work of righteousness [or charity, tzdakah] shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness (tzdakah) quiet and confidence for ever" (both quotes from Babylonian Talmud, Baba Bathra 9a). We also see this development linking righteousness and charity in the Gospels: "Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them...so when you give to the needy do not announce it with trumpets as the hypocrites do in the streets and synagogues to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full" (Matthew 6:1,2).

This is a traditional Ethiopian dish, introduced to Israel by immigrants that is eaten with injera, a spongy -pancake bread or with rice.

Ethiopian *Doro We't* Spicy Chicken Stew (pronounced doro wot)

Ingredients:

1 whole chicken, skinned and cut into serving pieces (or 6 legs & 6 thighs)
12 (twelve) cups of red onions, chopped very fine,
1/2 cup of mashed garlic, 1/4 cup mashed ginger,
1 cup of Ethiopian chili powder (bere bere)
1 lb of butter or preferably butter ghee,
1 hard-boiled egg per person,
Salt and cardamom.

Directions:

Wash chicken pieces well-slit slightly. Let stand in salted lemon water. Cook onions with no oil or fat over low heat for a long time, stirring constantly until all the water inside the onions is evaporated and they turn brown.

Add butter, ginger, garlic and bere bere; cook about 15-20 minutes over low heat. Add 1 tbsp hot water from time to time (texture should be kind of pasty). take the chicken pieces which have been drained from lemon water and add to the sauce. Cook on medium low heat until meat is very tender, about an hour and a half. Stir occasionally. Add salt and cardamom to taste just before removing from stove. Peel hard-boiled eggs-add to sauce for the last ten minutes of cooking. Serve with injera or rice.

Next newsletter, recipe for Injera.

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Shevet Achim (Dwelling Brothers)

under the leadership of Jonathan Miles, this program secures the right of passage for Muslim children who are desperately ill from Gaza, the West Bank and Arab countries into Israeli hospitals for life-saving operations. These acts of mercy help to neutralize the politically and religiously polarized groups in the region and open doors towards reconciliation. *Funds needed:* hospital and surgery costs, staff support. Operations Expense—everyday expenses of the ministry.

Personal Support there are no salaries in Jerusalem Cornerstone at this point, and everyone is responsible for their own support. If you want to designate a specific individual or family, please indicate name on the coupon. *Funds needed:* printing and mailing costs, office equipment and supplies, rent and utilities in Jerusalem.

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