
The Accessibility of Knowledge

Rabbi Alon Meltzer

*A New Page of Talmud –
Nitzavim 5783*



ipsa sciential potestas est, knowledge itself is power – **Sir Francis Bacon**¹ Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family – **Kofi Annan**² Surely, this Instruction which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond reach. It is

not in the heavens, that you should say, “Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?”

Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?” No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it. –**Devarim 30:11-14**³ it is not concealed from you, just as it is said– **Rashi on Devarim 30:11**⁴

Or its meaning is, wondrous, that is, something that will cause you to grow weary while trying to

accomplish it. – **Ibn Ezra on Devarim 30:11**⁵ Because this thing is not too esoteric or distant for you, but rather is very close to you to do it in every time and in every place.– **Ramban on Devarim 30:11**⁶

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... it should not too baffling for you ...

לא-נפלאת הוא
Devarim 30:11