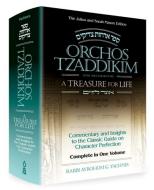


## SAGE ADVICE Orchos Tzaddikim

## The Ways of the Righteous"

Author: Unknown Written: 1430 Original Title: *Sefer Hamiddot* ("The Book of Traits")



Solution Orchos Tzaddikim is a book of *musar*.

See Each character trait is referred to as a 'gate'. The 28 gates in *Orchos Tzaddikim* include:

- The Gate of Haughtiness
- The Gate of Humility
- The Gate of Shame
- The Gate of Arrogance
- The Gate of Love
- The Gate of Hatred
- The Gate of Mercy
- The Gate of **Cruelty**
- The Gate of **Happiness**
- The Gate of Worry
- The Gate of **Regret**
- The Gate of Anger
- The Gate of Acceptance
- The Gate of **Envy**

- The Gate of **Eagerness**
- The Gate of Laziness
- The Gate of **Generosity**
- The Gate of Miserliness
- The Gate of **Remembrance**
- The Gate of Forgetfulness
- The Gate of Silence
- The Gate of **Falsehood**
- The Gate of **Truth**
- The Gate of **Flattery**
- The Gate of **Slander**
- The Gate of **Repentance**
- The Gate of **Torah**
- The Gate of **Fear of Heaven**

## Excerpt from the Introduction of *Orchos Tzaddikim* :

There are traits that must be exhibited often, and there are traits which must be exhibited sparingly. This is analogous to someone cooking a dish and needing vegetables and meat, water, salt, and pepper. He must use all of these ingredients by measure, a little of one, a lot of the other. If he limits the meat, the dish will be too thin. If he is over-generous with salt, it will be too salty to eat... The same is true of character traits. There are those which must be adopted in a large measure, such as humility, shame and the like, and those which must be adopted only sparingly, such as pride, audacity and harshness. Therefore, a man must weigh all of his traits on the balance scale of understanding to use each trait in its proper amount.

## REFERENCES

**Proverbs 1:1-3** The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: To know wisdom and **musar**, to understand words of insight, to receive **musar** in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity.

**Proverbs 1:7-8** The fear of Adonai is the beginning of knowledge. Fools despise wisdom and **musar**. Hear, my son, your father's **musar**, and forsake not your mother's teaching.

**Proverbs 5:12, 23** And you will say, "How I hated **musar** and my heart despised reproof!" ... He will die for lack of **musar** and because of his great folly he is led astray.

**Proverbs 6:23** For the commandment is a lamp and the Torah a light, and the reproofs of **musar** are the way of life.

Proverbs 12:1 Whoever loves musar loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.