

Charity in Nisan

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With thanks to [Halacha for Today](#), a most worthwhile site and mailing list.

1. The month of Nisan is a very opportune time to increase one's giving of charity.

Charity given in Nisan helps accelerate God's acceptance of our *tefilot* (prayers). (*Shelah HaKadosh*, beginning of the section *Masekhta Pesachim*. See also *Kav Hayashar* #88.)

2. Giving charity is especially worthwhile on each of the first twelve days of the month, when the reading of the *korbanot* (sacrifices) brought by the twelve *nesiim* (tribal princes) is read. (In many congregations the *nasi's korban* is read publicly [without any blessing, etc.] from a *sefer Torah* on his day. Where it is not so read, individuals read it on their own from a *siddur*.)

According to Kabbalistic sources, it is a proper custom to set aside thirteen (13) coins for charity on Rosh Chodesh (the first day of) Nisan, because thirteen is the numerical value of the words *echad* (one) and *ahavah* (love), signifying the great love that *Hashem Echad* (the One God) has for His beloved children, the Jewish people. We hope thereby to help bring the final *geulah* (redemption) and *Mashiach*, this month (*Moed l'Kol Chai*, Rav Chaim Palagi *zatzal* 1:3, quoting *Sefer Maaseh HaTzedakah* #64). Amen!

