

Use these words to fill in the blanks:

*** אלול * צדקה * all * kindness * single ***

IN THE PARSHAH:

In פרשת ראה we learn about the מצוה of _____.

ראה is always read on the שבת before (or the שבת of) ראש חודש אלול, so there must be a connection between the two.

The רמב"ם writes that during ימי תשובה עשרת it is customary to give a lot of צדקה, do many good deeds, and be occupied with מצוות. This will help tip the scale of judgement in our favor.

The Rebbe explains that this applies to the month of _____ as well.

QUESTION:

Since the רמב"ם writes that during this time of the year we increase in מעשים טובים and מצוות, why does he _____ out the מצוה of צדקה?

ANSWER:

A person might think that since he added מצוות and מעשים טובים, he now *earned* whatever Hashem will give him.

In fact, however, the very fact that Hashem even chooses to value our deeds and add them as merits in judgement is a _____ on His part.

This is why – while during this time of the year we increase in _____ matters of good deeds and מצוות – there is special emphasis on צדקה.

Adding in צדקה reminds us that what Hashem does for us – including having our מצוות matter to Him – is a kindness, a צדקה on his part.

Further discussion:

The רמב"ם quoted above is talking about עשרת ימי תשובה. Why does the Rebbe apply this to אלול?
(See שיחה אות א)

