# Cleaving to G-d

# Letters and Numbers of Torah - Re'eh

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#### **Deuteronomy 13:5**

You shall follow the Lord, your G-d, fear Him, keep His commandments, heed His voice, worship Him, and *cleave to Him*.

וּבוֹ תִּדְבַּקוּן - cleave, (or adhere) to Him

#### **Deuteronomy 11:22**

For if you keep all these commandments which I command you to do them, to love the L-rd, your G-d, to walk in all His ways, and to *cleave to Him*,

cleave to Him - וּלְדַבְקַה בוֹ

## **Deuteronomy 10:20**

You shall fear the L-rd, your G-d, worship Him, and *cleave to Him* and swear by His Name.

רבוֹ תִּדְבָּק - cleave to Him

## Mishneh Torah, Positive Mitzvah 6

To mingle with Torah scholars, to associate with them, to sit constantly among them, and to participate with them wherever possible – in eating and drinking, in buying and selling, so that we thereby come to emulate their deeds and to subscribe to the true ideas contained in their words, as the Exalted One has said (*Deuteronomy* 11:22): "And to cleave to Him." This commandment, too, is repeated, viz. (Ibid 10:20): "And to Him shall you cleave." Our sages have explained (Sifrei, Ibid 11:22): And to cleave to Torah scholars and to their disciples." And they have similarly deduced proof of the obligation to marry the daughter of a Torah scholar and to wed one's daughter to a Torah scholar, and to benefit Torah scholars and engage in dealings with them from "And to Him shall you cleave," asking (*Ketubot* 111b): "Is it possible for one to cleave to the Shechinah (Divine Presence)? Is it not written (*Deuteronomy* 4:24): 'For the L-rd your G-d is a consuming fire'? But all who marry the daughter of a Torah scholar, and wed their daughter to a Torah scholar, and benefit him from their belongings, it is as if they cleave to the Shechinah."

