

Ten Moral Axioms for the New Year

Rabbi A. Brian Stoller

Simchat Torah 5787 / October 2, 2026

Personal and public morality was the theme I focused on during the High Holidays this year. As we head into Simchat Torah, the end of the Jewish holiday season, I wanted to recap 10 moral axioms that I aimed to convey in my sermons during the Days of Awe:

1. Protesting oppression of the stranger is a Jewish moral imperative.
2. Stand up for what is right even when the physical and social risks are high.
3. Humility is the antidote to anger.
4. Focus on who you help people become, not on what they get done.
5. When you have conflict, put in the work to find no-lose solutions.
6. Changing yourself is an indicator of strength and authenticity.
7. The expectations that matter most are the ones you have of yourself.
8. To love someone unconditionally is not to defend or ignore their actions; it is to love them in spite of their actions.
9. Do not avert your eyes from the suffering of others around you.
10. Zionism does not demand that we condone immorality by the state.

I hope this list will be a helpful reminder of things we can all do to be better!

High Holidays Sermons

Friday, September 11, 2026: Erev Rosh Hashanah/Rabbi Stoller

[Click to read](#)

[Click to view](#)

Saturday, September 12, 2026: Rosh Hashanah Day 1/Rabbi Stoller

[Click to read](#)

[Click to view](#)

Friday, September 18, 2026: Shabbat Shuvah/Rabbi Stoller

[Click to read](#)

[Click to view](#)

Sunday, September 20, 2026: Kol Nidre/Rabbi Stoller

[Click to read](#)

[Click to view](#)

Monday, September 21, 2026: Yom Kippur/Rabbi Stoller sermon

[Click to read](#)

[Click to view](#)