

Rambam Hilchot Tshuva 3:4

Accordingly, throughout the entire year, a person should always look at himself as equally balanced between merit and sin and the world as equally balanced between merit and sin. If he performs one sin, he tips his balance and that of the entire world to the side of guilt and brings destruction upon himself.

[On the other hand,] if he performs one mitzvah, he tips his balance and that of the entire world to the side of merit and brings deliverance and salvation to himself and others. This is implied by [\[Proverbs 10:25\]](#) "A righteous man is the foundation of the world," i.e., he who acted righteously, tipped the balance of the entire world to merit and saved it.

Answer the following questions:

1. What important idea about a person's value in this world is Rambam halacha trying to teach the reader?
2. Based on the Rambam, what is a person obligation to themselves?
3. Based on the Rambam, compose a reflective essay on the impact a person's actions can have on the world in which they live.