

BILVAVI

BUILDING A SANCTUARY IN THE HEART

לחיות את הפרשה

ROSH HASHANAH #466

PRACTICAL GUIDANCE FOR THE *AVODAH* OF THE DAY - ROSH HASHANAH

When we come to prepare ourselves for Rosh Hashanah—to crown the Creator, blessed be He, as King and to become His servants—we must understand that if we become servants in the manner of a servant who serves against his will, we have lost the entire purpose of the exalted day of Rosh Hashanah.

The primary *avodah* of the day is to accept servitude upon ourselves in such a way that our entire lives will be directed toward one purpose alone: to serve our King. This will become the sole aim of our lives, and we will have no personal will of our own. This is the profound inner dimension of the *avodah* of Rosh Hashanah.

It is not sufficient merely to recite the prayers slowly and with great concentration. The primary *avodah* is to make a deep inner resolution to transform our entire way of life—to live solely for Him, blessed be He, and not for ourselves.

This *avodah* requires a person to undertake a deep inner clarification within his soul: to determine precisely what he wants to accomplish with his life, and to examine whether his actions are consistent with the purpose he has established for himself.

If a person has truly resolved to accept upon himself the service of the Blessed One, he must examine all of his actions throughout all twenty-four hours of the day and determine whether they are consistent with this resolution.

ORIGINAL HEBREW
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