

A SHORT VORT

BY RABBI CHANOKH YERES
RAV, BEIT KNESSET BEIT YISRAEL, YEMIN MOSHE

In Memory of my mother-in law, Rabbanit Shlomit Fass zt"l whose Yartzheit is this Shabbat

לא עברתי ממצותיך ולא שכחתי (כו:יג)

"I have not transgressed any of Your commandments, neither have I forgotten them" (26:13)

Once the Pasuk states that I have not transgressed any of the commandments, is it not clear that I have not forgotten to comply with them? Why the need to underscore not forgetting them?

The Sefat Emet (Rabbi Yehuda Aryeh Leib Alter Admor M'Gur 1847-1905, Poland) answers with an idea connected to our human psyche. It is extremely easy to seem to fulfill a Mitzvah functionally, yet do it lack any attention or awareness. Our reflections are focused on something else and not on serving the Almighty. Therefore, the Pasuk is instructing us to declare "Lo Avarti MiMitzvotecha" - I have completed all the Mitzvot and moreover, "V'Lo Shochachti" - I have fulfilled the Mitzvot with true intentions and with correct mind and purpose to serve G-d with my fullest.

Shabbat Shalom

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