

# רצה הקב"ה לזכות את ישראל לפיכך הרבה להם תורה ומצוות



Hakadosh Baruch Hu wanted to give merits to בני ישראל;  
therefore, He gave them מצוות and תורה in abundance.

*Hashem gave us so many מצוות to do so that we can earn reward. In His infinite kindness, He makes it appear as though we are working for Him, giving us the dignity of feeling as though we earn our reward by providing a service. In truth, Hashem has nothing to gain from our מצוות. They are all purely for our benefit.*

משל:

There once was a successful contractor who employed an outstanding carpenter to work on his building projects. One day, the carpenter came to the contractor to inform him that he had decided to retire. He explained that he was very grateful for all the work the contractor has given him all the years, but his wife very much wants him to retire so he could spend time with the family.

The contractor asked the carpenter to agree to work on one final project before retiring.

The carpenter, knowing that building this home could take a year, went home and talked it over with his wife, who urged him to decline. The carpenter felt torn between his family and his commitment to his employer, and in the end, with a heavy heart, the carpenter decided he would agree to work on this final project.

He began the work, but proceeded without much patience or eye for detail. Rushing to finish the project so he could retire, the carpenter did his work sloppily, and the project that should have taken a year was completed after only seven months. The roof was crooked, there were cracks in the floor and leaks from the windows, and some of the tiles were the wrong size.

He returned to the contractor to inform him that the job was done. The contractor handed him the keys to the house and said, "Here - this is your going away present."



The carpenter was stunned - and infuriated with himself! Had he known that he was building this house for himself, he would have worked with such diligence and done everything to perfection. But he didn't. And so he ended up with a house with leaks and cracks and mismatched tiles.

נמשל: If we knew that the mitzvos we perform are for ourselves and not for Hashem, that we are "building our own palace", we would invest so

much more into our עבודת ה'! The next time we feel that mitzvos are a burden, we must remember that we are building our own home, and we are working not for Hashem, but for ourselves.