

We just started Rambam again from the very beginning! Today's *Sefer Hamitzvos* gives us the rules the Rambam used to decide which *mitzvos* are counted in the 613 *mitzvos*. (Besides for the Rambam, there are other *Chachomim* who count the *mitzvos* differently. Here the Rambam shows us why he counts the *mitzvos* specifically this way.)

In today's *Sefer Hamitzvos* we learn the first few rules of how to decide if something is counted as a *mitzvah*:

- 1) It has to be from the Torah. The *mitzvos D'Rabbonon* aren't counted in the 613 *mitzvos*.
- 2) It has to be SAID in the Torah, not something we learn from a hint.
- 3) It has to be a *mitzvah* that is ALWAYS a *mitzvah* (so a *mitzvah* about the *Mishkan* that we don't keep in the *Beis Hamikdash* isn't counted)
- 4) We only count *mitzvos* that are said in a specific way, not things like "do everything Hashem tells you to."

The details of the 14 rules the Rambam uses to count the mitzvos are very long. In the Moreh Shiur, it says that they can be learned over time, even after we already start learning the actual mitzvos.

Rambam: Mitzvos Asei

MITZVOS ASEI

In today's Rambam, we are counting the *mitzvos*! Today we say a list of all 248 *Mitzvos Asei* (those are the *mitzvos* that are about something we need to DO for Hashem — the *mitzvos Lo Saasei* are the things Hashem asks

us NOT to do).

Did you know what the Rambam says is the very first *mitzvah*? To know that there is a Hashem! That's a *mitzvah* that you can do all the time!