



# Eternal Connections

BUILDING  
OLAM HABA AWARENESS

Mitzvos are opportunities

## Garments for Eternity

A wealthy young man hired a tailor to sew him a custom suit for his wedding. The young man gave the tailor precise instructions: he wanted a navy suit sewn from the finest wool fabric in a very specific style. He even described what kind of buttons to use and the print for the lining; and of course, he gave the tailor the necessary measurements. He left a generous deposit with which the tailor could purchase the required materials and jotted down the date by which the job was to be completed.

When the chassan returned several weeks later, he was in for an unpleasant surprise. The tailor had sewn him a suit using a cheap wool blend, in dark gray, with nondescript buttons. Worst of all, the sleeves were too short! Terribly disappointed with the final product, the young man angrily berated the tailor.

"This is not at all suitable! There's no way I can appear at my wedding wearing this suit!" he cried.

The tailor didn't seem to understand why the customer was making such a fuss.

"It's good enough," he told the chassan. "It's more or less wearable, and even the issue with the sleeves isn't a big deal. You can just pull them down while you are under the chuppah. After all, it's only for one night!"

The Brisker Rav used this *mashal* to explain that Hashem gave us exact instructions for earning and receiving *sechar* in *Olam Haba*, and we need to follow those instructions to the best of our ability. After all, the *mitzvos* we do in this world will be our clothing forever in *Olam Haba*.

**Good enough is not good enough when it comes to the garments we will wear for eternity.**

שלמה בן אהרן

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## Take This Home

We need to have both the will and the knowledge to do *mitzvos* properly. How about trying this? Choose one *mitzvah* to focus on. Find a *sefer*, a friend or another medium through which you can learn the *halachos* related to your *mitzvah*, and try to learn one or two *halachos* at a specific time of day. Likely, you will find that when you undertake to do this, you won't want to cut corners, because you will want to do "your" *mitzvah* in the best way possible.

## In Short

The Imrei Emes of Ger said:

The *sefarim* tell us that every Jew should grab onto at least one *mitzvas aseï* and one *mitzvas lo saseï* that he accepts to fulfill completely, in every situation, even if they need to be done with *mesiras nefesh*.

## It Happened to Me!

### My Olam Haba Moment

Preparing for Shabbos really takes me the whole week. I do a big shopping at the beginning of the week, keeping in mind what I want to make for the coming Shabbos.

I bake and cook different items throughout the week and then shop again at the end of the week for fresh produce, deli and some treats. And that's not to mention the scrubbing and cleaning. Our *oneg Shabbos* is the culmination of all those efforts. I was thinking that if Shabbos is just *me'ein Olam Haba*, a taste of *Olam Haba*, imagine how much we need to prepare for *Olam Haba* itself!

– E.L.

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