

MITZVAH 74: RESTING ON SUKKOS

by Rabbi Moshe Goldberger

"The fifteenth day of the seventh month shall be the holiday of Sukkos... The first day shall be a holy day." (Vayikra 23:34-35)

We are commanded to refrain from work (except for food preparation) on the first day of Sukkos (two days in *chutz la'aretz*).

Sukkos is called "*zeman simchaseinu*," the time of our joy. It is the culmination of the *shalosh regalim*, the three major holidays of Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkos, which correspond to the three *avos*. This holiday brings us close to Hashem, as when we were in the desert surrounded by the Clouds of Glory. The Clouds of Glory are commemorated by the sukkos (booths) we dwell in on this holiday.

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