

# The Power of Mikvah

## Five Levels of Understanding

### Leviticus 15:16

וַיִּרְחֹץ בַּמַּיִם אֶת כָּל בְּשָׂרוֹ...

...And he shall immerse all his flesh in water...

### Maimonides Positive Commandment # 109

The 109th *mitzvah* is that we are commanded to immerse in the waters of a *mikvah* and thereby be purified from whichever form of *tumah* previously existed.

The source of this commandment is G-d's statement (exalted be He), "He must immerse his entire body in water." The Oral Tradition explains that [the phrase "his entire body" also teaches that] there must be enough water to cover his entire body. This is the minimum size of a *mikvah* unless the water is from a spring, in which case there is no minimum amount, as explained in the laws which deal with this *mitzvah*.