

Use these words to fill in the blanks:

*** actions * existence * names * sent ***

IN THE PARSHAH:

משה said to Hashem: When I come to the בני ישראל and tell them that Hashem _____ me, they will ask, "What is His Name?" What should I tell them?

Hashem responded: אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה (pronounced *Eh-keh*) – "I will be that I will be".

QUESTION:

When the רמב"ם teaches about the prohibition of erasing any of the names of Hashem, he lists seven _____ for which one would be punished with מלקות, yet he does not include the name אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה.

Why not?

ANSWER:

This name of Hashem is unlike the other names.

The other names of Hashem describe Hashem's powers or _____.

However, this name of Hashem describes Hashem's _____, His very *being*.

אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה – "I will be that I will be". Hashem's existence is permanent and eternal.

Since this name of Hashem describes the very *existence* of Hashem Himself, not only something that He *does*, the רמב"ם doesn't include this name with the other names.

Further discussion:

Why can't this name be described as a **holy** name?

(See שיחה ז אות ז)

