Yom Kippur: The One Day Holiday

The Five Levels of the Soul

Leviticus 16:30

ּכִּי בַיּוֹם הַזֶּה יְכַפֵּר עֲלֵיכֶם לְטַהֵר אֶתְכֶם מִכֹּל חַטֹּאתֵיכֶם לִפְנֵי ה תִּטְהָרוּ

For on this day He shall effect atonement for you to cleanse you. Before the Lord, you shall be cleansed from all your sins.

Maimonides: Positive Commandment #49

And the 49th *mitzvah* is that we are commanded to perform the service of the fast day Yom Kippur — i.e. all the obligatory offerings and confessions — thereby achieving atonement for all transgressions, as stated in Scripture, i.e. all the laws written in the Torah portion *Acharei Mos*.

The proof that the entire service counts as one single commandment is from the end of the 5th chapter of tractate *Kippurim*, "The entire service of Yom Kippur must be performed in the order written; if one action was performed out of order, everything is invalid."

All the details of this *mitzvah* have been explained in the tractate dealing with it exclusively, tractate *Yoma*.