



O my dove, in the cranny of the rocks, hidden by the cliff, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet And your face is comely. (Shir HaShirim 2:14)

Hashem said: Yisroel is sincere with me as doves...I gave them mitzvos and they accepted them. They said, "All that Hashem commanded na'aseh v'nishmah - we will do and we will listen." (Medresh Rabah ibid)

The above Medresh seems to be in complete contradiction with the following Chazal:

When klal Yisroel stood before Har Sinai, they attempted to fool Hashem. As the passuk (Shemos 24:7) states [they said], "All that Hashem commanded na'aseh v'nishmah - we will do and we will listen." (Tosefta Bava Kama 7:3)

According to the Toseftah, klal Yisroel attempted to fool Hashem when they said "na'aseh v'nishmah" and according to our opening medresh, their statement is an example of their sincerity.

Perhaps we can reconcile these two statements of Chazal based upon the words of the Rambam (Hilchos Gittin 2:20). In explanation of the halachah that when beis din forces one into saying that he is divorcing his wife, it is considered as if he has done so of his own free will. For "this man who refuses to divorce his wife, since he wants to be part of klal Yisroel and wishes to fulfill all the mitzvos and to distance himself from aveiros. it is his yetzer hara who is inciting him, after he has been hit until his yetzer hara has been weakened and he said, "I want to do it." In reality he has divorced willingly." We see from here that although a Jew may be certain that he does not want to fulfill Hashem's mitzvos, deep down he yearns to do just that. Based on this idea we can reconcile the two statements of Chazal above as follows: Some among klal Yisroel intended to fool Hashem when they said "na'aseh v'nishmah" for they believed they had no interest in fulfilling Hashem's will. In reality, deep down in their hearts they yearned to do just that to the extent that Hashem says, "Yisroel is sincere with me as doves...I gave them mitzvos and they accepted them... they said, "All that Hashem commanded, na'aseh v'nishmah - we will do and we will listen."

