EMUNAH - FAITH BULLETIN #15

WHO IS THE WEALTHY ONE? THE ONE WHO IS HAPPY WITH HIS PORTION (PIRKE AVOT)

DEAR BROTHER: WHEN THE WISDOMS OF THE WORLD, WHICH ARE FULL OF DOUBTS, QUESTIONS, CONFUSIONS, MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE CREATOR BLESSED BE HE COME UPON YOU, THE MAIN ADVICE IS TO ANNUL YOURSELF COMPLETELY TO THE CREATOR BLESSED BE HE

As Rebbe Nachman said: Sleeping is a great medium to achieve faith, meaning that when all these doubts, questions, confusions, misgivings come upon you, see to it that you go to sleep, and then at the time of your sleep the soul enters into the holy faith and therefore at a time when it is impossible for you to go to sleep, the main advice is to abandon your intellect and knowledge, as if you have no intelligence and understanding whatsoever, just like an empty well, and to believe in the Creator Blessed be He with absolute simplicity without any wisdom and deep thought at all, and to have faith just like that of women and simple folk and to know that there is no such thing as coincidence or natural outcomes. And you must know that nothing is done out of itself but everything happens through the supervision of the Emanator in His simple will and even what the creatures do comes from Him and everything that resembles independence from the Creator Blessed be He was created in order to test us if we will be steadfast in our faith in the Creator Blessed be He. Fortunate he who withstands the test.

FROM SEFER MAALE HA MIDDOT

And what is trust in G-d? Entrusting to Him all of one's affairs accepting all that the L-rd gives him, whether much or little, not worrying about his scant supply of food, and not envying one who is richer than he. They asked a certain sage: "What is trust in G-d?" He answered: "Trusting Him in all of your affairs, and leaving them to Him." Another said: "The wisest of men and the most trusting of them is he who accepts things when they come and when they leave."

Therefore, my sons, let a light, scant meal be sufficient for you, and accustom yourselves to it, so that you are not subservient to others. And thus did our early sages exhort (Shabbath 118a): "Make your Sabbath a weekday, and do not be subservient to others." May G-d prosper us in this in His many mercies.