EMUNAH - FAITH BULLETIN # 17

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

WHOEVER SUFFERS AT FIRST SHALL ULTIMATELY FIND REST

When the righteous dwell in tranquility and seek to continue doing so here on earth, Satan comes and accuses them: "Is it not enough that their future reward is assured, but they seek tranquility here on earth as well?" Be aware that this really occurs. Because Jacob sought tranquility, he was punished with Joseph's disappearance. It says, "Jacob dwelled" (Gen. 37:1), and "I was not at ease, neither was I quiet, neither had I rest, but trouble came" (Job 3:26). "I was not at ease" because of Esau. "Neither was I quiet" because of Laban. "Neither had I rest" because of Dinah. "But trouble came": Yoseph's trouble befell me.

(Bereshit Rabbah, 84:3):

This teaches that whoever suffers at first shall ultimately find rest. No one suffered more than Abraham, who was thrown into a furnace and was exiled from his father's house. Sixteen kings pursued him, he underwent ten trials, he buried Sarah. Yet ultimately he found rest.

(Tanchuma, Ekev, 3)

"Everything Hashem does, He does for good." (Berachot 60b)