

# EMUNAH - FAITH BULLETIN # 22

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

## ***THE RAMCHAL EXPLAINS THE FOUNDATIONS OF EMUNAH IN HIS SEFER DAAT TEVUNOT***

What we must believe is, essentially, what we have just stated; namely, that since the Blessed One is under no compulsion in His deeds, therefore none of His creatures can assert itself and prevail against Him, even through the very laws and ordinances which He Himself established. For it is He who fashioned them, and He can alter or annul them at will. This is the intent of the aforementioned statement (Sanhedrin 67b):

**‘There is none beside Him’ — even as regards witchcraft.”** For even though, in the celestial system which God desired and established, witchcraft “refutes the heavenly retinue” (ibid.), still, whenever He wills it, He can assert His dominance and annul it [the witchcraft], as if it never existed, contrary to the conception of those fools who fancied themselves capable of using His very tools against Him (God forbid) \$ They were made to realize the falsity and ineffectuality of their devices. He is the Lord of all, and there is none beside Him. This we must accept as an article of faith; but it is the affirmation of this truth which is manifest in all of His deeds, creations, and assurances, as heretofore explained. It emerges, then, that the revelation of this oneness is what was desired by the Heavenly Will.

....However, it is dictated by the nature of the Supreme Oneness, in order to manifest the might of its complete sovereign sway, that, as long as He desires, the earth is to be left to the vicissitudes of time, while evil holds sway in the world. And, what is more, He does not constrain this evil from doing all that is in its power to do, even if His creations thereby descend to the nethermost level. In spite of this, however, His world will not go lost; for His alone is the reign. It is He who does and bears and strikes and heals, and there is none beside Him. And this is a strong bolster to the faith of the Jews, that their hearts not weaken, neither from the length of the exile nor from its severe bitterness. For, indeed, the Holy One, Blessed be He, has allowed evil to do all that is in its power to do, as we have explained. And in the end, the more forcefully evil brings itself to bear against men; the more manifest will be the strength of God’s oneness and the omnipotent sway of His reign. And from the very depths of our many sore trials, the salvation will most assuredly spring, in the greatness of His might.

***“Everything Hashem does, He does for good.” (Berachot 60b)***

**Our sages said (Chulin 7b), "A person does not bruise his finger unless it was decreed in Heaven,"**