## EMUNAH - FAITH BULLETIN # 1 WHO IS THE WEALTHY ONE? THE ONE WHO IS HAPPY WITH HIS PORTION (PIRKE AVOT)

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

The Holy One, Blessed he He, has founded His universe on justice and that he conducts it in righteous and faithful justice, you will find to be absolutely clear, beyond any doubt whatsoever. As the faithful shepherd [Moses] has testified (Deuteronomy 32:4): "The Rock, His work is complete. For all His ways are justice; a God of truth, without wrong. He is righteous and just."

The prime foundation, upon which the whole structure stands, is that the Almighty desired that man perfect himself and all that was created for his sake; and this, in itself will be his merit and his reward. His merit — in that he will have labored and striven to attain this perfection, which, when achieved, he will enjoy as the fruit of his labor and the prize all his toil. His reward in that he will finally have attained this perfection and will rejoice in goodliness for all eternity...

...What we can understand here is the following: The blessed Creator is the very essence of good. It is the nature of good to bestow good. This is why Hashem created men so that He could bestow good upon them. For where there is no receiver, there is no bestowal of good. In His sublime wisdom, however, He knew that for this good to be complete it should be received as the fruits of one's labor. For then the recipient would feel himself the proprietor of that good and would not be ashamed in receiving it, as if he were receiving charity. As it is written: "One who does not eat of his own is ashamed to look at his benefactor" (Yerushalmi Orlah 1:3)...

R. Huna said in the name of Rav who quoted R. Meir, and so says R. Akiva: A person should make it a habit always to say:

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