EMUNAH - FAITH BULLETIN # 23

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

...The idea of the resurrection, briefly stated, is quite simple. In view of the fact that the Holy One, Blessed be He, created man as body and soul, together, to take upon themselves all of the holy service — the Torah and the mitzvoth which were given to them — it is only fitting that they also be together in the receiving of the eternal reward; for it is inconceivable that the body's labors not redound to its benefit, the Holy One, Blessed be He, not withholding the reward of any creature (Bava Kamma 38b). What does demand reflection are the details of this union of body and soul — in their conjunction, their separation, and their subsequent complete reunification. For the Lord deals so with all men, and it is certainly no vain matter. These details, therefore, demand explanation — broad, adequate explanation.

...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 G-d'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,"