By Rabbi Moshe Wolf

"Did G-d Create Evil?"

Talking to a member of our flock one night on the street, and we had the following discussion.
"What is the best defense against temptation? Why do some handle trials and tribulations of life a bit better than others?"

It seems, some walk around content with their lot in life, while others always seem to be bitter and find it difficult to smile.

I responded, "keeping G-d close to the heart always helps in making the load feel not so heavy". It reminded me of the story of the student and the college professor, "Did G-d Create Evil"??..........

Did G-d create evil?
A University professor at a well-known institution of higher learning
challenged his students with this question.

"Did G-d create everything that exists?"

A student bravely replied, "Yes he did!"

"G-d created everything?" The professor asked.

"Yes sir, he certainly did," the student replied.

The professor answered, "If G-d created everything; then G-d created evil.
And, since evil exists, and according to the principal that our works define
who we are, then we can assume G-d is evil."

The student became quiet and did not answer the professor's hypothetical
definition. The professor, quite pleased with himself, boasted to the students
that he had proven once more that faith in the L-rd and religion was a myth.

Another student raised his hand and said, "May I ask you a question, professor?"

"Of course", replied the professor.

The student stood up and asked, "Professor does cold exist?"

"What kind of question is this? Of course it exists. Have you never been cold?"

The other students snickered at the young man's question.

The young man replied, "In fact sir, cold does not exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is in reality the absence of heat. Every body or object is susceptible to study when it has or transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body or matter have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (-460F) is the total absence of heat; and all matter becomes inert and incapable of reaction at that temperature. Cold does not exist. We have created this word to describe how we feel if we have no heat."

The student continued, "Professor, does darkness exist?"

The professor responded, "Of course it does."
The student replied, "Once again you are wrong sir, darkness does not exist either. Darkness is in reality the absence of light. Light we can study, but not darkness. In fact, we can use Newton's prism to break white light into many colors and study the various wavelengths of each color. You! cannot measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into a world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you know how dark a certain space is?

You measure the amount of light present. Isn't this correct? Darkness is a term used by man to describe what happens when there is no light present."

Finally the young man asked! the professor, "Sir, does evil exist?"

Now uncertain, the professor responded, "Of course, as I have already said. We see it everyday. It is in the daily examples of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil.

To this the student replied, "Evil does not exist, sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of G-d. It is just like darkness

and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of G-d.

G-d did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have G-d's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat, or the darkness that comes when there is no light."

The professor sat down. The young man's name, Albert Einstein......The moral of the story,

 A little a little faith, a little prayer, a little spirituality, goes a long way in helping to nurture the heart.

As the saying goes "If you have questions, ask G-d, if you don't, thank G-d".
Some points to ponder....

Maybe, we were supposed to meet the wrong people before meeting the right one so that, when we finally meet the right person, we will know how to be grateful for that gift...

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way...

There are moments in life when you miss someone -- a parent, a spouse, a friend, a child -- so much that you just want to pick them from your dreams and hug them and never let go. So if you are fortunate enough to have them in real life, let them know how much they mean to you and cherish them..

The best kind of friend is the kind you can sit on a porch and swing with, never say a word, and then walk away feeling like it was the best conversation you've ever had...

 Always try to put yourself in others' shoes. If you feel that something could hurt you, it probably will hurt the other person, too....

Remember to do something nice for someone every single day, even if it is simply to leave them alone, we all have a burden to carry.

Also remember, giving someone all your love is never an assurance that they will love you back. Don't expect love in return; just wait for it to grow in their heart; but, if it doesn't, be content that it grew in yours.

Maybe . . . you should try to live your life to the fullest because when you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling but when you die, you can be the one who is smiling and everyone around you crying. And if you don't, don't worry; nothing bad will happen to you. You will just miss out on the opportunity to perhaps brighten someone's day.

On behalf of All your Chaplains, May G-d bless you, keep you safe and always keep you in His loving care. Amen

If you ever need a shoulder to lean on or if you wish some company for a ride-along, don't hesitate to give us a call.

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