

*Recently several promising business propositions I had been working on for months and had davened for, have fallen through. Every path to success seems to have closed in upon me. I'm devastated and feel as if my tefillos have been rejected. How can I cope with this?*

Your reaction is understandable, however in truth, you should be happy because if you react correctly this may be a sign of imminent success.

The *passuk* says: Hashem will answer you on the day of calamity. Chazal explain: This is analogous to a father and son who were traveling on the road when the son became exhausted and asked his father, "Where is the city? His father responded, "My son, remember this sign, when you see a cemetery before you know that the city is near." So too Hashem said to *klal Yisroel*, if you see the tragedies are overwhelming you know that at that moment you will be redeemed.

Why is this so? Why, at times, does our loving Father only save us when we are devastatingly hopeless? The following *passuk* explains this phenomenon.

**Yet I will look to Hashem, I will wait for the God who saves me, My God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy! Because I have fallen, I have risen; When I sit in darkness, Hashem is my light. (Michah 7:7,8)**

Hashem's love for us is infinite and he wants to grant us what we seek more than we want it ourselves but many times as He sets in motion all the factors leading up to our success we simply don't let Him finish the job. How so? The *Chovos HaLevavos* writes: "One must place his trust in Hashem, for one who does not place his trust in Hashem places his trust in something other than Him. And when one places his trust in something other than Him, Hashem removes His special conduct of *hashgacha* from upon him and places him under the natural abilities of what he has placed his trust in..." (This too is for our ultimate good so that we do not get confused regarding who runs the world which would be the greatest possible disaster.) We daven for success but as Hashem begins to set it into motion under the guise of *derech hateva* we begin to think, "It looks like I really can do this." At that moment despite Hashem's burning desire to do just that He must step back from His plans for Your success.

How can He still fulfill what He so desperately wants to? He makes everything crash. When every natural path to your success shuts down you begin to realize: It's only Hashem Who can save me! And as soon as that occurs, He can!

**Yet I will look to Hashem, I will wait for the God who saves me, My God will hear me.**

How did this come about? **Because I have fallen**, I have realized only He can help me therefore **I have risen; When I sit in darkness**, when all other lights and paths to success have dimmed, I can realize **Hashem is my light**.

When *you see the tragedies are overwhelming you* know it is not the time to despair. To the contrary, *know that at that moment*, if you realize that only Hashem can help you, *you will be redeemed*.

*Established By:*