

## WHY ME?

### Questions

When a person experiences good things — he has a child, his business deal is successful, he has just purchased a new home — it is natural and expected that he would have joy in his heart and make a blessing with a sense of happiness. But how can the Torah obligate me to have the very same emotion when hearing bad news? Am I obligated to have joy when I hear about a death? When my business collapses, do I have to feel happiness?

**תלמוד בבלי מסכת ברכות דף נד/א**

**משנה** חייב אדם לברך על הרעה כשם שמברך על הטובה

**תלמוד בבלי מסכת ברכות דף ב/ס**

מאי חייב לברך על הרעה כשם שמברך על הטובה אילימא כשם שמברך על הטובה הטוב והמטיב כך מברך על הרעה הטוב והמטיב והתנן על בשורות טובות אומר הטוב והמטיב על בשורות רעות אומר ברוך דיין האמת אמר רבא לא נצרכה אלא לקבולינהו בשמחה

*Mishna: A man is obligated to bless the bad the same way that he blesses the good.*

*Gemara: What is this obligation to bless? If you say that that it means that a person must make the same blessing on the bad as on the good, that cannot be, because we learned, "On good tidings, a person says hatov v'hamtiv, and on sad tidings, he says dayan ha'emes."*

Rav says, "Rather, this teaches us that we much accept the bad with joy," meaning, just as we make the blessing on good news with joy, we are obligated to make a blessing over bad news with joy.