

Is the path of Bitachon contingent upon one's merits?

Absolutely not! As the Chofetz Chaim writes (Nefutzos Yisroel chap. 8) in the name of the Vilna Gaon zt"l: Bitachon is not contingent upon ones merits, for even one who is improper, but he strengthens his trust in Hashem, the power of Bitachon protects him and performs kindness with him... as the passuk states, "Behold the eye of Hashem is towards those who fear Him, [and] towards those who await His kindness to save their souls from death and to keep them alive during famine. Our souls await Hashem, He is our help and our shield." From the wording of the passuk which does not state, "Those who fear Him that await His kindness." Rather it states, "Those who Fear Him [and] towards those who await His kindness," we see that these are two different types of people, that even one who has not reached the level of, "one who fears Hashem," rather he merely "awaits His kindness," the eye of Hashem is upon Him to keep him alive.

We see from here that one who relies upon Hashem's kindness is not treated according to the dictates of strict justice. Rather, his fate is decided according to Hashem's infinite mercy towards Him.

*Established By:*



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