

Eli Gebhardt

Mr. Pace

DC English

Essay

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Where is God in Eliezer's life

Being alone is a part of human nature, but it is not what we want or need as humans. We do not have enough strength on our own so many people rely on God but throughout Eliezer's life, in *Night* by Elie Wiesel, he feels God has left him. After seeing a man that has to suppose to help him grow in his faith fall, see absolute cruelty from people during the holocaust, and feeling silence from God during it all.

Moishe, the poor man that was God fearing and guided Eliezer to build his faith with God, had an early experience with the Germans in their concentration camps. After this he was no longer had a love for God but was so overwhelmed with his ast and telling people what might happen in the future that he lost all faith in God. "The joy in his eyes was gone. He no longer sang. He no longer mentioned either God or Kabbalah. He spoke only of what he had seen. But people [...] said that he had gone mad [...] Even I did not believe him" (7). He no longer has faith in the man that is suppose to help him the truth about God. After this how he is suppose to grow or even believe anything that he every taught before this point so it is not surprising that after this his faith went down hill.

Not long after Moishe's warnings did things change from going to the gethos to concentration camps and seeing the in human cruelty "Never shall I forget the small faces of the children whose bodies I saw transformed into smoke under a silent sky. Never shall I forget those

flames that consumed my faith forever”(34). After seeing bodies in fires and even later a boy hanging for a half an hour not able to die, it makes sense that these horrific acts lead to his faith being consumed with rage. Eliezer often wonders where God is but is non more memorable than when the boy hangs for a crime he did not comit ““For God’s sake, where is God?’ And from within me, I heard a voice answer: ‘Where He is? This is where -- hanging here from this gallows...’”(65). He thinks that God is dead and can not control the actions that are happening in front of him.

Moishe has lost faith, he sees the worst in human cruelty and can not fine except maybe in the boy hanging from the gallows. So it can be hard to have a definite answer because we are not God and we do not get to decide what he does but it is hard to imagine why he would let this happen.