

### *Does it matter?*

*W* A disciple came to the rabbi of Kotzk with a problem: "I keep brooding and brooding and I am unable to stop."

"What do you brood about?" asked the rabbi.

"I keep brooding about whether there really is a judgment and a judge."

"Does it matter to you?"

"Rabbi! If there is no judgment and no judge, then what does all creation mean?"

"Does that matter to you?"

"Rabbi! If there is no judgment and no judge, then what do the words of the Torah mean?"

"Does that matter to you?"

"Rabbi! Does it matter to me? What do you think? What else could matter to me?"

"Well, if it matters to you so greatly," said the rabbi of Kotzk, "then you are a good Jew after all! And it is quite all right for a good Jew to brood; nothing can go wrong with such a person."