Active reading night chapters 3 through 5 answers

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Elie Wiesel's Evolving Relationship with God in "Night"**

In Elie Wiesel's memoir "Night," the protagonist's perception of God undergoes significant transformations during his harrowing experiences in Nazi concentration camps.

Chapter 3 and 4: Loss of Innocence and Faith

In Chapter 3, Elie witnesses the horrors of the "selection" process, where Nazi guards separate the weak and elderly from the able-bodied. His belief in a benevolent God is shattered as he realizes that God could allow such atrocities to occur. In Chapter 4, he is forced to watch his father suffer and eventually succumb to death, leading him to question God's presence and justice.

Chapter 5: Indifference and Disbelief

As Elie witnesses the further dehumanization and suffering of the prisoners, his faith continues to erode. He starts to doubt God's ability to respond to human suffering and decides that he no longer believes in him.

Symbol of Loss of Faith

The image of his father's body hanging from the gallows in Chapter 3 serves as a potent symbol of Elie's loss of faith. The sight of a once-revered figure reduced to such a state destroys his belief in a higher power.

Importance of Religion in Early Life

Elie's childhood was marked by a strong connection to Judaism. However, the horrors of the Holocaust challenge his faith and lead to a profound shift in his relationship with God.

Elie's Transformation

Throughout the narrative, Elie's faith transforms from one of deep devotion to complete disbelief. He initially sees God as a source of comfort and meaning but eventually concludes that God is indifferent to human suffering.

Contrasting God with Man

Elie contrasts the actions of the Nazi perpetrators with his perception of God. While man is revealed to be capable of immense cruelty, he sees God as absent or uncaring.

Changing Identity

Elie's loss of faith leads to a change in his identity. He no longer identifies as a devout Jew and instead becomes a survivor, defined by his experiences and the horrors he has witnessed.

Current Status of Elie Wiesel

Elie Wiesel passed away in 2016, leaving behind a legacy of advocacy for human rights and remembrance of the Holocaust.

Literary Devices

In Chapter 3, Wiesel employs a metaphor to describe the selection process as a "competition" for survival, highlighting the cruelty and inhumanity of the Nazis.

Conclusion

Elie Wiesel's experiences in "Night" profoundly altered his relationship with God. His journey from faith to disbelief serves as a powerful testament to the devastating consequences of human suffering and the challenges it poses to our belief in a benevolent higher power.

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