

Holy Spirit

Dear Jamima,

I have wanted to write to you for so long. So often you come to my mind. I remember so well the wonderful time I had with you while we were eating lunch at the Dwelling last year. Even though it wasn't long, my time with you really blessed me. I will always remember that pleasant afternoon in the midst of some very dark days for me. Jamima, I was also really touched when Joy and David brought the little hat and booties that you had labored to make for Zakar Immanuel. I could hardly believe the precious time you and others had put into making gifts for the women here. I never wrote to thank you and I feel awful about this. I really repent. Please forgive me. Because I never responded to your love by overcoming to write and express my appreciation for your labor of love, it must have seemed to you as though it didn't really mean anything to me, or that I didn't really care. But I really do care Jamima. I love you and am grateful for your kind thoughts towards me. Last week in a teaching, Elbert was speaking about this very thing, how our Father is looking for those who are responding to His love. Elbert read an old English version of Isa 41:8-14. It was so beautiful how some of the phrases read. It even gave us more understanding in some cases. Elbert said that although mistakes have been made, due to man's ignorance in the translating of the scriptures, our Father uses it for the good because He watches over His Holy Word. Elbert said that all of chapter 41 was very significant. Where he started the teaching in verse 8 "Abraham My friend" in his Bible, read "Abraham, My loving one." Even though "My loving one" is very beautiful and meaningful, "My friend" is also good, because we know in Pr 17:17 and Pr 18:24, it speaks of a "friend" that is closer than a brother is. A loving one is someone who is responding to love. Our Father wants those who respond to Him. He loves all, but the blessing is only for those who are His friends, those who respond. Verse 9, "You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called from its remotest parts, and said to you, you are My servant, I have chosen you and not rejected you," is prophetic.

It is to be fulfilled in the end of time, in these last days. The old English Bible reads, "You whom I have taken hold of."

YHWH has taken hold of us. How comforting these words are to me. Elbert said that YHWH first took hold of us when His Spirit first came into our spirit. We are one spirit with Him. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit and this knowing carries us through even our darkest hours. At one time in each of our lives, we will need to put whatever is Isaac in our life, our most dearest possession on the altar, and still believe that YHWH is good, otherwise we are not worthy. The seed of Abraham will be like Abraham and follow him like he did when he offered up Isaac. In verses 10-14, YHWH called Jacob a worm. A worm has no backbone, no structure, and is timid. Christianity today is like the worm of Jacob waiting to come out to be made Israel. Jacob was a worm until he took hold of YHWH. YHWH has taken hold of us but have we taken hold of Him? Have we laid hold of His will and purpose for calling and choosing us? Like Jacob, we, in many ways, are still a worm.

Acts 5:32, verse 29, Acts 4:32 – All the way through the scriptures you can see that the people who have received the Holy Spirit can see things others can't see. Acts 5:29. No one but these who have received the Holy Spirit can obey YHWH rather than man. He only gives His Spirit to those who have surrendered their life. (1 Cor 6:17; Acts 3:23). If we don't obey the Holy Spirit after we've received Him, we'll be cut off from among His people (1 Cor 12:12-13). You only receive the Holy Spirit in order to come into the Body. He is only given to form the Body. Our spirit lives in our body, or better yet, our spirit is in our soul, our soul is in our body, our body is in Messiah and Messiah is in YHWH and all together we are in the world as a witness. We are a corporate man, His Body in the world, therefore we are not of the world. In Jn 7:38, should it read, or be interpreted, "He who believes in Me, as the scriptures said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water,'" or should it read, "He who believes in Me as the scriptures say, 'From his...'"

We must believe in Him according to how the scriptures tell us to believe, for only then, from our

innermost being shall flow streams of living water. Many people in Christianity are trying to believe in Him apart from how the scriptures tell us to believe. The Word was written so that it must be interpreted by men and women who are filled with the Holy Spirit. It is written so that all men would stumble, except the Body of Messiah. Someone outside might understand some things, but he is bound to go off. All those outside Messiah are deceived by the light of a false anointing. The world cannot possibly receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is only given in connection with the Body. Those in the world cannot be contained or restrained by the Holy Spirit except by a legal thing. Protestants, Catholics, Darbites (followers of John Darby's interpretations), they all look religious but they are only straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel. The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth in the Body and brings unity if we see the Body.

To get back to Jn 7:37-39, the river that Yahshua was talking about, that He promised would flow from the innermost being of anyone who would believe in Him as the scriptures say, is not merely describing a sensation or feeling, but certainly our emotions are affected. If it doesn't affect our emotions, then we are full and foolish. He was talking about the Spirit of the truth, that a person who received Him would be the water of life to others – the Comforter, the Helper, the Counselor, the Paraclete, the Encourager – you just can't interpret the Holy Spirit in only one word. To my delight, Elbert devoted most of the teaching describing the Holy Spirit and expounding on who He is. I always love to hear more about this precious gift that has been given to us and who actually lives inside of us. Because one word is not enough to interpret all that the Holy Spirit is, different translations use different words – Paraclete, Helper, Comforter, Encourager, Intercessor – which word was used depended on what the translator felt the Holy Spirit was to him. Elbert asked Yerusha, "What is the Holy Spirit to you?"

"A Comforter," she answered.

Yahshua is the Mediator between man and YHWH — the man Yahshua. He is the Advocate for believers, advocate meaning one who pleads the cause of another. "Is the Holy Spirit also our Advocate or is only Yahshua our Advocate?"

Elbert asked. "Which one is it?"

Both are right. The Holy Spirit is our Advocate and Yahshua is our Advocate. Yahshua the Messiah stands in heaven in His personal body before the Father, continually defending the saints day and night. Elbert reassured us that He will never fail in His job, so we don't need to expect any personal appearances

Right now He needs to be there because we are here in this world where Satan is roaming around like a roaring lion. Yahshua pleads our cause. Because He took on human flesh, He has become our Mediator and Savior. In our restoration, will we be a little lower than divine nature or angelic nature? Divine nature! It's not the angels (Heb 2:16, Phil 2:12, Isa 41) He has grabbed hold of, but the seed of Abraham.

In this present age, we have both Yahshua the Messiah in heaven, until we put all His enemies under our feet, making them a footstool Heb 10:13, and the Holy Spirit within us as our Advocate and Paraclete, the one who comes alongside and takes care of our affairs. Paraclete also means advocate, one called to aid or support, hence He is the Counselor, Helper, Comforter, Intercessor, and Consoler. He is in all of us, and in order to have all of the Holy Spirit, we need each other (1 Cor 2:14). Whatever spiritual gift we have received is not only to stimulate in each other a desire for Him, as was mentioned in a previous teaching, but also our gifts are used to bring comfort to one another.

The Holy Spirit is also a Helper – the one who helps, aids, and assists. He furnishes someone else's lacks. It's through the gifts that we experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Therefore we need to "seek spiritual gifts, especially prophecy" because this gift ministers comfort, edification, encouragement, and exhortation. This is to the Body, not to individuals – the Holy Spirit was given to the Body. Paul exhorted the Corinthians to seek spiritual gifts, for they were spiritual babes – carnal. Evidently no one was really prophesying in Corinth.

The Holy Spirit is also our Counselor. A Counselor is a person who advises but not coerces, forces, or dominates. The Holy Spirit will never, never coerce or manipulate us. People filled with the Holy Spirit

will receive.

The Holy Spirit is our Intercessor or Mediator – the one who pleads for another on their behalf. It is the one who interposes or goes between two parties that are at variance or at odds with one another, to reconcile them. The Holy Spirit prays for us or intercedes for us (Rom 8). Yahshua prayed for Peter. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. We must intercede for one another. If you plead for someone, your heart is in it.

The Holy Spirit can also be described as a Comforter or a Counselor, meaning one whom gives comfort. Nehemiah brought peace. He built the walls of Jerusalem, a protection of peace. Blessed are the peacemakers or peace breakers, "Which one are you?"

Elbert asked. We must take this question to heart. There wasn't even one peacemaker at Corinth, and how do we know that? Because there wasn't one wise man among them! Zachariah and Nehemiah were praying for the consolation of Israel. Yahshua was the Consolation of Israel. He brought peace when the First Church was formed out of chaos, just like Nehemiah who built the walls out of chaos, rubble, and ruin. A comforter is one who strengthens or revitalizes. Vigor is life. We need to be invigorated through the gift of comfort. When you're comforted, you are strengthened. In Acts 14:22 the souls of the saints were strengthened when Paul and Barnabas told them that it is through many tribulations that we enter the Kingdom of YHWH. Because we are also suffering, our souls are strengthened like theirs were when we hear this.

We need the full ministry of the Holy Spirit in the Body, but if it wasn't for the Holy Spirit in your own heart, you couldn't be strengthened by your brothers and sisters. There wouldn't be any witness in your heart. The Holy Spirit is so intelligent, just how He forms the Body!

Isa 62:6 – “On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; all day and all night, they will never keep silent. You who remind YHWH, take no rest for yourselves.”

Only those particular people can remind Him. We must remind Him to build His church. We need to remind Him of what He said He is going to do. It's not that He's forgotten, but it's that He is waiting for a people who have not forgotten (Isa 40:27-31; Lk 18). We must be like the persistent widow, taking no rest for ourselves day and night. If we faint, it's because we don't remind Him. Those who have the Holy Spirit must take heed and remind Him to build up the walls of Jerusalem even by pleading, with Him, the cause of our brother and sister with earnest tears because we love them, just like the Holy Spirit pleads our cause. We must remind YHWH of His Word – we must move His hands. Like Jacob, we must be bold and hang on until we receive the promise. The Holy Spirit will not act in variance or in opposition to the brothers and sisters. He won't give you "everything you need" just through Him alone, without the Body. He'll answer your prayers through the ministry of the Body, being administered through the gifts. We must be ministered to by the least. If we are too proud to receive the least of the brethren, we won't receive the Holy Spirit's ministry. We also need to minister to the least.

The Holy Spirit promised by Yahshua is the same Spirit referred to in Jn 7:37-39. First, you have to be thirsty. This is the Spirit of life. Everyone who believes in this river of life will have life. We didn't receive Him merely so that the whole Body can go to heaven. But the Spirit of life is given to every person so that the whole Body can be prepared and built up first. This Spirit of life is to impute to others this continual source of strength. We are living for no other reason except to strengthen others through the Holy Spirit. Elbert repeated, we are living for no other reason than to minister the Spirit to others--this is the river of Life.

Words can hardly express, Jamima, how thankful I am for the gifts that are in the Body! I'm so glad that when we came to Yahshua, we weren't just handed a Bible and told we could come to Wednesday night prayer meetings. We have come into the living Body of Messiah! How often is it that you or some other brother or sister are burdened down with something you are not able to overcome on your own, and then go to share your heart with another brother or sister and afterwards you feel revitalized, as if you could go on again? It happens over and over again. We are connected to a source of Life, which has no end!

Oh, how thankful I am for my Salvation, that now I have been brought into the commonwealth of Israel, a partaker of such a rich life. Because the world cannot receive the Comforter, there is never any true comfort

for people in the world. He only comforts and helps the seed of Abraham. He is our Encourager. He is our Edifier.

One other thing that spoke to me in these teachings about the Holy Spirit, was when Elbert explained about the divinity, how the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit have three different ministries, yet for all one purpose. God is not three manifestations, but is actually three persons with three personalities! It just really struck me how they all have a special function like three people all earnestly working towards the same goal. Corporate. The one man, mankind, man, was made in this likeness, image. Yahshua has become the temple of the Godhead.

The Body will contain the Spirit of the Godhead. I don't really know how to explain what it did to me except that it gave me a great respect for the blessed Holy Spirit whose whole aim in this age is to perfect us, meaning to restore and save our soul completely, that He may at last present us in white before the Father and the Son, who is waiting to marry us! Martin shared one night last week how our Sovereign Yahshua is not slow about His coming as some count slowness (2 Pet 3:9), but is patient toward us, because He really desires that we would make it. He really wants for us all to come to full repentance, having our soul, mind, and body completely restored, because He loves us. In the Old Covenant, the Holy Spirit would leave a person after He was grieved. David pleaded with YHWH, "do not take Thy Holy Spirit from me!" (Ps 51). One of the most wonderful promises of the New Covenant is that He will never take His Holy Spirit away from us. We can grieve the Holy Spirit, but He will never, never leave us. If the Holy Spirit still left us when we grieved Him, like in the Old Covenant, I know He would have left me long ago. Oh, what mercy! Elbert said that once YHWH has taken hold of our spirit, he's gonna get us! He will eventually take hold of the whole man; it's just a matter of time. What good news! If you love me, you will obey me. We must use our wills to obey Him. He has never been so close as when you think He is so far away. We have to remember the story of the baby eagle.

Gen 22, Lk 1:70-75 – Finally YHWH would have a people in Messiah that would possess the gate of their enemies, something He has never had. A few individuals down through history have loved Him, but He's never had a people. Stephen shared after the meeting tonight about what a horribly sad thing that is, that the Creator can't find anybody to love Him.

The AMEN of the Body

There's just one last thing I want to tell you, and that's a little bit about the wonderful celebration we had this morning. The prophets really spoke today, making our Father's message to us very clear. Much was said about the finality of our "Amen." Last week in one of the teachings, Elbert said that the word "AMEN" expresses faith to the highest degree. It means, you can depend upon it, trust in it, it's the absolute truth. It binds YHWH to do something here on earth. He can't help but act, if everyone says it, filled with the Holy Spirit and standing in unity. That's why it's so important that every person in the Body must come together filled with the Holy Spirit. There are great consequences to our "Amen."

Elbert said that the reason why the prayer prayed by the whole Body couldn't be answered is because some people in Island Pond had reserve. Yoceph shared in celebration, in 1 Cor 5:5, about how Paul, though absent in body but present in spirit, judged a brother who had committed immorality it says of such a kind as does not even exist among the gentiles, deciding to deliver him over to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, that his spirit could be saved in the day of the Sovereign. "Now do you think," Yoceph asked, "that the destruction of this man's flesh could come about if they were not all standing in unity with Paul's judgement and praying in one accord? No! Our Father can only cooperate with our prayers if we are all of the same heart and mind."

Yoceph said that the true test of unity is if we are receiving the anointing. Stephen shared how the anointing connects us to our Father, or to the Source. How foolish it would be for us to ever think that we can outgrow the anointing. Evidently the Corinthians did. They, being grapes, began to question what kind of sap was coming to them from the branch. If we're not in fellowship with the one who brings the Holy Spirit, how can we think we have the Holy Spirit? The important thing is that we are in fellowship with the apostles. Mt 28:20 – "Lo, I am with you, meaning the apostles, even unto the end of the age."

He is with the apostles forever, and with their ministry. Our Father wants to accomplish much in these last days through the unity of the Body. What happened at Corinth was recorded for our instruction, because we'll have the opportunity to do this very thing, one day, when Elbert is not here. May it never be that we would, one day, spurn the very one who has connected us to the Source of Life. The manifestation that those in Acts had received the Holy Spirit, is that they devoted themselves to the apostles' teachings and to fellowship with the apostles. Stephen shared some of the most wonderful words about the lofty cedar tree in Eze 17:22-24. In order for the apostles to be able to see where YHWH wants to take us, they must stand on a high mountain. It's their ministry. They have been anointed to lead Israel. How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news! Oh, how content we are, just knowing that we are under the shade of that lofty cedar.

Kirsten

Please greet your wonderful husband for me.