

Circumcision — Letter from Haggai

Dear Nun,

Our Sovereign and Savior Yahshua really works in our hearts and enriches us with His greatest love, in order that we could, by His grace, accomplish the will of our Creator (that is, we, upon whom the end of the age has come). I am really encouraged to see the restoration of the people, which our Father always desired, come to birth. He is doing a work in us that no one will be able to destroy. We are united by His Spirit and we are united one to another in peace. I really want to appreciate one more time this love which you poured out on us, and which was for us a foretaste of the salvation that was placed before us in the Body our Sovereign and King Yahshua, the beloved Son of our Heavenly Father.

I also want to share with you what is on my heart lately, and is encouraging me to continue in the course that has been set before me.

I am really thankful to our Father for the wonderful plan that He has established from the beginning of all things. It is He who searches the heart. He has set a time for the restoration of all things. Our Father wants us to come back to our original state, that is to say, entirely dependent upon Him. In order to be dependent upon Him we cannot live individually, but we must be dependent upon one another as the members of the human body are. In order to return to this original state, it is also necessary that we would be able to hear the voice of our Father in our hearts. And it is because of this that He has sent His Son, our Savior Yahshua, who gave us His Spirit.

Our Father wants to restore our entire being — spirit, soul, and body. The good news that is preached to us by the Spirit penetrates our hearts. (This is the first cut of the circumcision.) This engenders in us the faith that guides us to the waters of baptism, introducing us into the Body of Messiah, upon whom the Holy Spirit came down from the Father. And it is this very Spirit which Yahshua, the Head of the Body, has sent to us from the Father (Jn 15:26). He is the one who consoles, the counselor, the comforter who encourages, edifies, the one who helps Abraham's seed (Heb 2:16), and we are from this seed if we belong to Messiah and will inherit the promises (Gal 3:29). The promise spoken of in this verse is based upon a covenant between YHWH, our Father, and Abraham and his seed. By faith in Messiah, we are this seed.

This covenant which YHWH had made with Abraham was broken by his physical descendants (Israel, who did not have the same faith). But our Father was seeing ahead when He made this promise to Abraham. He was looking to His Son Yahshua, who is a physical descendant of Abraham, and who is also engendered by Himself divinely, so that in Messiah we can keep spiritually this covenant in the flesh. The covenant made with Abraham was that he would be the father of many nations (Gen 17:4-5). The purpose of our Father was that all mankind would be able to be submitted to one and the same God, and in that way be blessed in Abraham. Now we can understand that this blessing only took place when Yahshua, his seed (Gal 3:16), gave His life to reconcile all men to one another and to YHWH, our Father. "For you are all sons of YHWH through faith in Messiah Yahshua. For all of you who were baptized into Messiah have clothed yourselves with Messiah. There is neither Jew nor Greek. There is neither slave nor free man. There is neither male nor female. For you are all one in Messiah Yahshua. And if you belong to Messiah, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise."

In this promise is included the restoration of Israel (Jacob), even before his father was born. YHWH knew the heart of men, and that it needed to be changed. That is why, in all of His plans, He based everything, founded everything, upon Yahshua, the Chief Cornerstone. The heart of our Father is to have a people for Himself who love Him with all of their heart, soul, and strength. We can see the ministry of our sovereign Messiah, Yahshua, in Jn 11:52, who came to accomplish the will of His heavenly Father, yet without breaking the covenant that had been made with His earthly father, Abraham. And thus we see the full extent and value of the promise that was made to Abraham.

Abraham was a man of faith, and it is only by faith that we can be his seed (descendants) — only if we have faith in his Seed, Messiah (Gal 3:16-19). Abraham bore in his flesh the sign of this covenant, which

he made by the faith that was from his heart. This promise, made 400 years before the law, accentuates the obedience by faith (and not under the condemnation of the law) of our father Abraham. There is no justification in the act of circumcision. Our justification is granted to us for free by His grace through the redemption that is in our Savior Yahshua (Rom 3:24). We are justified by faith (Rom 3:26; Rom 4:5). Justification was accounted to Abraham while in his uncircumcised state (“Abraham believed YHWH and it was reckoned to him as righteousness”), because he believed (Rom 4:10). In the same way, we, his descendants in Messiah, are not justified by some deed, but by faith in the One who binds us to the promise. Our justification comes through faith (Rom 3:30). The promise could only be accomplished by faith. For if it was by the law, it would have been canceled at the first act of disobedience (Rom 4:14). Abraham’s part in this covenant of promise was that he would bear a sign in his flesh, he and his descendants, made by the faith which is from the heart. The sign of the New Covenant is the love from our heart (Rom 5:5).

Circumcision is a sign and uncircumcision is another sign. Each child who is born bears in himself the sign that shows the corruption within him, and that he is a fallen creature. This sign is the sign of an impenetrable heart. The sign of circumcision shows that there is a real work going on in the heart. This is the sign of restoration. This is the beginning of hope — it is a sign of hope.

The restoration which YHWH is bringing upon the earth by the blood of His Son Yahshua is the gathering of all the tribes of Israel which are scattered in all the nations which have been engendered by Abraham to make out of them a “holy nation.” We were once far away, but now we are close. We were strangers to the covenants of promise, excluded from the Commonwealth of Israel, without hope and without God in the world (Eph 2:12-13). Now we can participate in the covenants of promise (Gen 17:8).

We were without Messiah — that means we were without unction, not having the presence of the One whom YHWH, our Father, had chosen. We were not for Him; we were against Him. We were part of a system of anti-unction, anti-Christ. This system is the one that rejected Messiah come in the flesh, which rejected all manifestation or visible demonstration of a body representing what the will of YHWH is for men. We rejected this system, cutting the ties that were binding us to it. In our flesh we can bear this sign of separation from the corruption which represents this system from which we have been delivered.

Our hope is in Him now and we can bear the sign of it in our flesh — the hope that He started a work in us and that He is going to finish it. The flesh is what binds us to the world. Elbert was saying the other day that if we have something to do with the world then we are touching that which crucified Messiah. It is for this reason also that I wanted to bear this sign of hope in me, this sign of restoration, and not bear any longer this flesh which covered the corruption in me for so long. I want to have an open heart.

The hope I have also is that when the work of circumcision is started (physically) we cannot turn back, and I know that our Father is going to continue this work in me, through the Holy Spirit, to take away all that is from the world in me.

In the restoration of all things circumcision is important because YHWH wants our whole being — spirit, soul, and body. At our baptism He regenerated our spirit. He also restores our soul in bringing us to submit our will to His and not live in a selfish way, only for ourselves. The selfish part of man is the flesh, and the flesh must be cut off. In being circumcised in my body, I am bringing my being more into harmony with YHWH’s plan. I mean by this that if the circumcision is already started in my heart, and YHWH is restoring my soul in the cutting off of the selfishness that is bound to it, and along with that I am circumcised in my body, then the three parts of my being all bear the sign of the restoration which YHWH wants to bring to men.

He also wants us to love Him with all our heart, soul, and strength. When He says “heart, soul, and strength,” He is talking about the whole being — spirit, soul and body. How can we love Him with all of our strength if the corruption still surrounds us?

If we benefit from the promise made to Abraham, being in Messiah, why shouldn’t we bear the sign of the covenant of this promise? It is not possible to disassociate the covenant with the promise to which it is bound.

There is another encouraging thing that happened lately, and which has been a subject of edification, exhortation, and consolation. Two days ago, December 17, my firstborn daughter, Elisheba (six years old), through messenger (Marsha) who brought the good news of salvation to her, for the first time has received faith which could open her heart and allow her to listen to Yahshua calling her to be forgiven for her sins by calling upon His Name. From this moment to the coming out of the water of baptism, the Holy Spirit that our Savior sent to us from the Father, revealed much to us about His ministry in a situation such as this one. Marsha and Netser have written in detail about the whole event. I am really thankful for the revelation that we could receive in this occasion, and am full of thankfulness for our Savior Yahshua, for the salvation of my daughter, Elisheba.

I really desire with all of my heart to be able to see your smiling faces again. I was happy anyway to see a picture of you with Zakar David. I really love you and wait for the day when I will be able to hug you.

When I was writing this I remembered one time in Steinenberg when you and Arthur came three times to me to hug me before we left. This remained in my heart like a warm souvenir (memory).

I love you from my heart,

Haggai