

## A Seed Dies

*"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself, alone; but if it dies it bears much fruit." (Jn 12:23-24)*

*This is to His glory. He is glorified through this. Glory — the inner worth He had in Him that demanded the respect of others, even that our Father would honor Him and love Him because no one took His life from Him but He laid it down willingly. He did it of His own accord; it was a freewill offering, a voluntary offering; it wasn't subjugation, it wasn't that somebody forced Him to do it. And that's how eternal life is. It is totally freewill — you give yourself to our Master of your own volition. You end your life in the world and come into the new social order of the Body of Messiah. Social, meaning living together in unity, in a new way of relating one another. In the world we had our way of relating to others. It was just based on our emotions and how we felt at the moment. But we have a deeper life; we live out of a deep inner man that our Master has renewed in our hearts. He has put His Spirit deep in our hearts.*

He says, the way I'm going to be glorified is this: I'm like a kernel of wheat and it is going to fall on the earth and unless it dies, it will not produce life — it remains only a single seed. It will still have life, but that's not the purpose of the seed. The purpose of the seed is to die in order to produce a harvest. If our Master would die, it would produce a harvest — us. And that's like any one of us — we have to die too. If we remain alone it is not to anyone's glory, but the only way He will be glorified is if we would die as our Master died so it would produce a harvest. And then people could come into salvation through our dying to ourselves, not living for ourselves anymore but living for Him.

Then it goes on to say, *"the man who loves his life will lose it."* If you love your life in the world, you'll lose eternal life. If you hate your life in the world, if you have come to detest living for yourself, your own glory, selfish reasons, your own ambitions (it was worthless to our Father), then you'll keep it for eternal life. *"Whoever serves Me must follow Me."* What He did was He took up His cross and died on it. We have to take *our* cross and die on it in order to have eternal life. In order to have a new existence you have to die to your old life. Baptism symbolizes going into your grave. You bury the old man, who wants to live for yourself and your own desires, and you have a new existence in Yahshua the Messiah. That's why it says, *"Whoever serves me — as a servant — must follow Me and where I am My servant will also be."* I cannot serve my Master in my own natural resources, in my own strength. I have to have a new existence in Him, *"and where I am My servant also shall be."* Where is He? He is in the Body, in the community where people lay their lives down daily for one another in a new existence. It will be a light to the world. You are in *your* body, His Spirit is in *His* body.

So that is how you get eternal life, that you would love Him, see Yahshua and have absolute faith in Him to the point that you would do *anything* He asks of you. You would *die* for Him — a spiritual death of dying to yourself in order to be born into His family.

**ha-emeq:** I was thinking about that verse that you read, "Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground, it remains only a *seed*, but if it dies it produces many *seeds*. Because I'm so far from nature, I grew up thinking the only way you get seeds is to go to the store and buy them. I didn't know that those things inside of apples, bananas, oranges were what you put in the ground to grow another apple tree. If you just have a seed, you just have it and it doesn't do any good because it's just going to be by itself. But if you put it in the ground and it dies, then you get all this good stuff from it to eat. Right away you think about getting fruit to eat. But this is talking about seeds. Because that's what you get right away. But I remember Ahimilech in France, he'd save some of the *really* good stuff he grew to save the seeds for next year. The important thing is that you produce more seeds, not so much that you produce something to make bread with or fruit you can eat right now, but seeds to plant the whole garden next year. That means you are going to be able to spread out your fruit and you're going to produce more and then get more seeds from them. The good news is that there can be more seeds. Because we don't want to just eat right now. Our Father needs *seeds* for the garden — our Father has a garden. And He doesn't need just one or two seeds, He wants a big garden. And it's not just the

seeds He has now, but He needs a lot more. And if the ones He has now don't die, then there will just be the same ones. But if he and she will die, then out of them will come a lot more seeds. If no one will die to themselves, to their own desires, then there will only be those few seeds. For sure He already has some, but if they'll die, there can be *lots* and *lots* of seeds and there can be a big beautiful garden of the kingdom of heaven with love, joy, peace that can grow up on this earth — if we die. I was really encouraged by this.