

## The Victory Cup (Letters from Shuah)

Dear Tabitha,

My promised letter to you has been a long time in coming – but since you are in Winnipeg by now I really want to make an effort to share some of the things Yoneq has been speaking to us about – especially since he exhorted us at the Breaking of Bread last night to write to Gad about what we heard last night.

Quite some weeks ago Yoneq started talking to us in the Breaking of Bread about how we need to judge *ourselves* rightly first. And this is how we judge *ourselves*:

**HOW AM I NOT LIKE OUR MASTER?**

Just like the judge on Judgment Day, we actually have the opportunity now, every morning and every evening, to examine ourselves, how we were not like our Master... so that we won't have to be judged later on.

I was so amazed to hear this at first, because I realized how in my thinking before I had rather reasoned, "How was I doing good today?" I was kind of accounting the "good" or completed deeds I did or how I didn't say anything back when I really had a hard time or... or how I really lost it when... I saw I was trying to balance out the evil with the good. But trying to find something good in ourselves is just the evil reasoning to flesh trying to preserve its life... and has nothing to do with proper self judgment.

If we properly judge ourselves we judge *where we are not like Him* – unless we say we are already perfect now that would make Him a liar (1 Jn 1:8). Gal 5:22-23 tells us how He is and how we fall short. We need to be as gentle as He is, *full of gentleness, full of goodness (and generosity, always having a heart to give, in abundance)*. If we are not, we judge it, we come to our Father and say, "Father, I'm not like Yahshua. I don't like to give, help me, change me..."

The second we don't have self control, we confess it, tell it to our Father, we judge ourselves and bring it to our Father and He will say, "Yes, that's right, that's how you are. Good! Finally you can see it!" And we cry out to be changed, to be filled again with His Spirit.

**That's the way we change.**

**We only change if we judge ourselves rightly and we go to the throne of grace asking our Father to change us... Gal 5 – He had peace like a river. How much peace has a river? Did you ever sit next to a river? He had joy inexpressible, He had absolute love.**

**Our Father is totally for us. He will always give grace to the humble and oppose the proud.**

17 January 1995

**He is actually so merciful that He doesn't just passively stand by, if we are not humble, looking for His will alone, but His angels actually oppose us. They put obstacles in our way that don't allow us to do what we want to do... until we finally break and give up going on in our own strength... finally we turn and go to Him, seeking His will and His grace.**

Even if we fall we have liberty of speech before our Father, because of our Master Yahshua who is our advocate, our interpreter. We can just express where we are at, scream or blurt it out, or not even formulate all our words out. He will express it clearly for us, He speaks for us, we come to the Father on His faith, not in our own (the enemy might tell you that you don't even have any faith).

**Why We Judge Ourselves**

**Our Father wants us to come to Him, He wants to hear from us, if we know where we need to change. He knows already, but do we know it or are we blind?**

**Now, we have to judge ourselves. Why? In order not to be judged. He who destroys the Temple will be destroyed (1 Cor 3:17). If we don't judge the things that cause us to destroy and tear down the Body we will die. (Many for this reason have fallen asleep... first they die spiritually and later, physically.)**

**When we drink the Victory Cup we're saying, "This week I suffered in order to bear the fruit of peace, love, patience, kindness..." We're saying, "I received grace to suffer against the flesh and didn't cause divisions being harsh, reacting, being unkind, unmerciful, unforgiving."**

**Eating the Bread**

**When we eat the Bread we say, "This week I participated, I had a part in building up the Body."**

Participating = you had a part in encouraging someone. You saw someone engaged in deeds of the flesh and you *considered*, thought about how to stimulate him on to good deeds.

What if you didn't do that?

What if you saw someone with a long face and didn't *make sure* you encouraged him? (That is why we seek our Father – we ask Him earnestly for spiritual gifts, especially that *you* would prophesy, because prophecy = the utterance of YHWH which *builds* up, strengthens, encourages, gives vision...) It means that you just don't care, you pass by, ignoring your sister. You are guilty of destroying the Body. You are a murderer, and no murderer has a part in the Kingdom. you didn't meet your brother's need.

Only those who build up the Body this week can eat the Bread – or else you judged yourself, you confessed your sin. That means the Holy Spirit convicted you and you can clearly *name how* you didn't build up the Body and you are forgiven. Then you can eat.

Yoneq talks so much about encouraging the one another, speaking, sharing, participating, building – our Father hates the clergy laity system where everyone is asleep except one professional teacher.

### **Worshipping Idols**

**Ha Emeq said in a story about Gidon last time that this was/ways** the downfall of Israel, the enemy that they never overcame and that also tries to overcome us – they always fell into worshipping idols; other gods. Those poles in the backyard promised them whatever *they* wanted, *when* they wanted it – rain, sun, money, success... those idols made life so much easier for them than the God of Israel who sometimes wanted them to suffer for some reason.

And today the evil one stands right at the gate and wants too, that we would just all worship and adore that one preacher, just like in Christianity.

### **Bonding our Children to Us**

**Dear Tabitha,**

**There would be so much more to say – I just read a wonderful letter that Yacob wrote to Yaqarah about our children and I see even more how this all pertains to our children what I've written to you.**

**The past weeks and months I've come to see a lot my true condition in how I relate and respond negatively to my children and it caused me to cry out more and more to have my heart fully towards them. I see more the awesome calling we have and how much we have to overcome. I am so thankful our Father changed our direction about younger training in order to bond our children to us. The last two teachings I realized more the *evil – evil* schemes of the adversary in the thinking of the educational system. Education in the world trains a person to be independent, scrupulous, irresponsible – a fool, really, for it “liberates” people from the pain of living by the Second Covenant and even from believing there is a God. The fruit of that is death and a judgment and an *eternal* condemnation to the Lake of Fire. This is what the world's educational system gives instead of bringing man into fellowship with God (what the true gospel does). It “liberates” man from God's law – only to bring him to death. The same thing can so subtly work in the Edah, if we don't learn to train our little children to be right by our side, in the way to please us, to have fellowship with us, but instead allow them to occupy themselves with “constructive toys or activities,” things that really have “educational value” (not just fantasy toys)... for while your little ones sit in the corner so content with his blocks and books and word puzzles and they really learn to develop in an “orderly,” “controlled,” manner their manual skills that will help them later to “learn writing or reading faster.” But nothing is imprinted on their spirits that will bond them to you.**

So, do we prepare them for the academic training or for being trained in the obedience of the Word of God? It looks like control when a little child sits for an hour behind some “educational activities” while you get all your laundry folded and put away, the room cleaned and this sister's problems solved who came to talk to you on and on... but did we really control their will, was their soul bent to us, what did they hear in all this time that will give them the desire and motivation to follow us, confess their sins to us, share their heart, please us?

I've so much to learn... it's a slow and painful progress, but I know it's wonderful to bear the fruit of the Spirit – Shamar's face is beaming when he shows me how He wants to please me by folding his hands and sitting still. My children are different as night and day, so I have to properly encourage and discipline them.

## News From Reuben, Germany, and Shimon

19 January 1995

Dear Tabitha,

The days are passing by, I think I want to close this letter with some encouraging news from the land of the 10 Kings. The iron is trying to close in on us in Reuben as far as the state goes: They are piling up accusations against us on the prosecutor's desk. The even told us that this time, "They're going to get us..." – about our status, our work, the cabins – even that we have marriages in the lodge. Some higher officials don't even want to talk to us because we're such a hot case. It's just like in Psalms 2 – the nations rage... but we trust our God, the deliverer of Israel. As long as we guard our unity and keep our garments clean, no enemy could ever cause Israel to be defeated. I can see how our Father is speaking so much to us about judging ourselves, because He wants us to be prepared and ready to stand on the rock when the storm hits. I'm so thankful for His merciful, patient work in us. I want my heart to be sincere and fully turned to receive this grace. What we do can only please Him if we do it by faith – but faith we only receive because of grace. Grace is the lubricant to be able to receive faith. And we know how to get grace – we go to the throne of grace.

In Germany our Father is putting our brothers more and more in the public eye. Just recently the local television station brought a film report about us and our situation with our children. Caleb was very encouraged. Despite the many things that go around about sects they never once mentions this word with us, but brought all the really good scenes – they even contrasted us with the local public school in a way that shed a rather negative light on them. (It showed the teacher in a miniskirt, and the moderator commented at the end, "it's a nice school, but still of the world.") In a short interview with a law specialist covering our case, the man stated that there is no provision in the law for us and that the state will threaten to take the child away. He added that this would interfere though with the child's rights, since the children are neither abused or neglected.

Altogether it sounds encouraging what we hear from them – they are going out, meeting people, printing and handing out things and many people are responding. They expect soon people to be baptized... and you probably know that Tahar Takif and Cephas live now also up there with their families.

In Spain they are baking bread. David Israel and Ma'aminah live now together with the Labeshu's, Ben Hased and Obed and Carlos [The new baptized friend of Yitzchaq (Isaac – formerly Alex – did you hear how Yoneq gave him his new name at a Breaking of Bread).]

### More News of Reuben

We keep praying for a big house there so people can move. We are very crowded here since we baptized quite some French people (first Martinne and Bruno with four children – but four got taken recently and now they just have a baby). Then Marilyn with her 4 teenaged daughters and a 3-year-old boy. She is black – with lots of freckles. And she is a very wonderful disciple, down to earth and practical minded, receiving and totally giving herself. Two of her daughters are already baptized, Virginia and Maria.

She sings like Valerie and wrote some nice songs already. Then there are Christopher and Silvie with her 3 older boys and 1 girl (from another man), and 2 little ones from him. They are not married, but want to be. They actually got their amen, but now we're going to wait a little in order to prepare them. Silvie needs a lot of help. She has a wonderful heart, but is so messed up and robbed by the world emotionally and not very healthy physically – she basically needs someone to be with her all the time.

Right now there is an English couple visiting. Pray for them, it seems like they are the way to England... Rich and Maggy have 8 children (3 already out of the house) and they remind me a lot of John Imperial and David Zerubbabel. For nearly 30 years they have been in and out of all kinds of church groups and communities, never finding the life and love of the "Jesus" and the early communities that they read about in the Bible. Finally two years ago they settled on a little farm in Wales, with no hope left to ever realize their dreams in a practical life. He works hard to "Community Foods." They are a big distributor of natural foods, organized and owned by a man called John Law, who is himself (a Christian?) though not very much into the religious groups that most other members are into. What got Rich involved was

that he found Yochanan Abraham (who is now been 1½ months in England, working for Community Foods) sleeping outside on a pallet in the cold. Realizing from some talks before that he was someone like an elder, Rich was so amazed to find him doing what he did “because God wanted him to.” Rick felt compelled to offer him his own van, that he himself usually to sleep in when he drives the 5 hours to London to work, for their use. He knew it was going to mean more involvement with Yochanan than he thought, but eventually Yochanan ended up taking care of his farm for a while, so he could come to Sus to see for himself. Now Rich is realizing more and more the cost. Many people are watching to see what he is going to do with his life. There are many people groping for something real.

(Of course we recently heard that Rich and Maggy were baptized in England!)

More News of Germany

About Germany, there is a couple that wants to be baptized, Michel and Dagmar. They have a farm in South Germany and also Harry, who visited Sus before with his girl friend Claire. He was a mechanic – very gifted – well, finally he came to his end, too. Nahum accompanied him on some trip to Rumania and now he came back and started giving up everything – a truck, everything the brothers wanted from his garage business and the rest they are selling. He wants to be baptized also. Sus Shimini Yom had a baby two days ago. Almah had a baby boy last night, both are doing good – everything is TIGHT. We’re being pulled and stretched and squeezed... but what awaits us on the horizon!

I can hardly stop writing; but I do now to get up Shamar and to finally send this off. I hope this letter encourages you and spurs you on to endure for the sake of our Master Yahshua’s Kingdom being built. I love Yahshua and the people. I love you and Jonathan Eleazar. You are so precious.

May the grace of our Master be upon you for the encouragement of all the saints in Winnipeg. Please greet warmly Phinehas and Mizpah, David ben Berith and Shelem. David Saylor and Hadassah and all the wonderful brothers and sisters there. Greetings also from Tsel Shaddai to Qinah Kabor. She misses him and talks quite often of him.

In the name of our Master Yahshua,

Shuah, wife of Yacob

P.S. (From a personal note to Racham at the end of her letter:) There is so much more to communicate and we have questions, too, about how you are training. Our biggest problem, though, is that there are so many children (about 50 altogether) not only in different levels, but also with different, sometimes very individual language problems – and there are only 4 teachers taking care of all of them. But we feel our Father is helping us step by step to gain ground. Right now we teach Proverbs, Math, French, English, History, Geography, Music, and Handwriting. Wow! That’s actually amazing...

I only have a few minutes, my children are waking up – I’d love to write more on a personal level, but for right now I just want to add that I love and appreciate you and your wife very much. Please give her a big hug from us and also greet Khemdah and Jonathan from us and Chavivah and all our precious friends in your household.

May our Father continue to increase you in grace and wisdom. Thank you for your poured out life.