May 14, 2002 Vista, California

Parents, Know Your Child

To go through a Bar or Bat Mitzvah simply because your child has "arrived at a certain age" is a *curse* — greater than a sin. A sin can be forgiven, but it is a curse to put your child through an *ordeal* that both you and your child *do not have faith* to do. It is both a sin and a curse, since you have *falsely convinced* your child that he is now a vessel that the very Divine Spirit of YHWH dwells in. Age is *not the criteria* to judge whether or not a youth is prepared to "meet" this appointment. It will be nothing more than a useless "ceremony" or ritual.

You say, "This is my beloved son [or daughter] in whom I am well pleased." But is he really? Do you have faith that he has faith, knowing that when you take him to the water he will come out with eternal life, sealed with the Holy Spirit — a son or daughter of the commandment? (Jn 14:21,23). The time comes when, having His commandments, he is able, with the Holy Spirit's help, to keep them and go to the Father. And the Son will love him and He will disclose Himself to him, and also as Jn 12:26, the Father will honor him. That is, he is now able to serve in the strength that He supplies to them (1 Pet 4:11) and speak with the Holy Spirit in him, in the minchah, and he is able to offer his body along with all the others who are members of Messiah and have become one spirit with Him (1 Cor 6:17; Rom 12:1).

The Holy Spirit is given only to the ones who have received faith from the hearing of the Word to be able to make the good confession from the heart (Rom 10:9-10,13), to call upon the only name by which they can be saved (Acts 4:12). Parents are their own child's evangelists. They above all others know their child, having raised him from birth. Pr 22:6 — The parents set his course to keep the Way (Gen 18:19) as a true son of Abraham who will do the works of Abraham (Jn 8:39; Gal 3:26-29).

This child has been loved from the beginning of his life until the time when he is sealed with the Holy Spirit in baptism (Pr 13:24; 23:13-14). Pr 20:30 prepares the child

2002.05.14-T01 040404.1618

to be a son or daughter of the commandments, as a father obeys the instruction to discipline his child. Heb 12:7-9 — Otherwise the "father" proves to be the biggest bastard of all, for he did not do Pr 22:6,15. Heb 12:8 — Partakers or sharers in the chastening with all who are *not* raised to be BASTARDS by parents who are the biggest bastards, not fathers or mothers, but illegitimate parents. The word *chasten* describes corrective discipline used in training a child. Such treatment is administered NOT harshly, but in love, with the well-being of the child in mind, bringing him to spiritual maturity so as to receive the Holy Spirit at his baptism at the celebration of his Bar Mitzvah.

The Holy Spirit is the greatest gift to men – incomparable to any other gifts. With the Holy Spirit comes all the fruit that comes from God the Father (Gal 5:22-23), which of course is dependent upon verses 24-25. The Holy Spirit is the love of Rom 5:5 and 1 Jn 3:17, the love which annuls the love of the world and the things of the world (1 Jn 2:13-16). This fruit is Gal 5:22-23, which qualifies a person to be a disciple – giving up all worldly things for the kingdom to live happily in the Community with all his brothers and sisters – in peace (Eph 4:23; Phil 2:2-4), and to walk worthy of Him (Col 1:10-11), giving thanks in the minchah (verse 12) for his salvation (verse 13-14).

The Holy Spirit does not overwhelm us to force us into obedience, but helps us along the way, as we call upon our Father for deliverance (Heb 4:16) to keep alive the Spirit in the Edah (Heb 3:6,13). The Holy Spirit is useful to us only where we rely upon Him to do His work of 1 Jn 3:1-3, preparing us for the kingdom reign of Messiah. Rev 3:4 — In Sardis only a few were prepared, but verse 5 is our calling and Eph 4:1-3 shows us what we do to qualify for it (1 Cor 3:16-17). Mt 12:30; Jn 12:26 – All who serve Him will be honored now and forever (Gen 12:3). Many have received the Holy Spirit but do not rely upon Him for the purpose He was given to them, besides eternal life, to provide the strength to live in the Body in peace and as Eph 4:16. Instead, they are foolish virgins, without grace to love and employ their gifts for the glory of God (1 Pet 4:10-11).

2002.05.14-T01 040404.1618