

Abiding
(Letter from Zerah)

Dear Yoneq:

I wanted to write you this letter because since the teaching you gave to us about "abiding" a lot of things are happening in me. I was so encouraged and thankful that finally the word came about. The first time I heard it I felt for the first time in my life that we were truly cutting ourselves off from Christianity and all the false teachings and deceits. After I heard of the teaching, I had the desire to reach the unbroken fellowship, looking and seeking for it every day. I found myself overcoming my enemies with much grace provided by our Father through my brethren. I also realized that many times I was falling into many sins because I had allowed the evil one to break off my fellowship or my unity with my brothers and sisters. It was like one small act of disobedience or resistance in my heart was leading me to all kinds of sins, often because I wasn't expressing my heart when I didn't have peace about something or someone in the body. I kept in thoughts that sometimes I didn't know if they were true or not. That way, I was losing all my peace trying to discern in my own self if it was a word coming from the Holy Spirit or not. The only things I had to do was to walk in the light and go to my brothers and share my burden. That's what I'm learning right now, speaking the truth in love according to the grace that is given to me in the right order. When I walk in the light, when I expose the things that don't give me peace, I find grace to overcome all my enemies and all things. Where there is no peace and a hint of dissention in my fellowship with my brethren I cannot overcome and my mind becomes full of accusations, evil thoughts, suspicions, doubts, and not long after I find myself in the pit tasting the death of my soul, quenched without any life, bad countenance, bad feelings or emotions, no joy, not being able to look at my brothers in the eye, totally restless. To me this is a sign that I didn't abide, I didn't strive the good fight to be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit between my brethren and I because I didn't hate my life enough to put it to death, but I let the old man rise up again, the one who couldn't speak the truth in love. The one who was afraid to love. I'm encouraged by what our Father is showing me lately. More and more I'm seeing that our greatest enemy is the one who causes us to be silent. I'm seeing also that where there is silence, this is where the evil one can plant seeds of accusations to divide us from one another. I saw that I must stand firm against that temptation to not go and find out. What's going on between a brother and me. I pray everyday that I can have the strength to overcome my fear to communicate my heart with my brothers. This is vital for me and the body also. Right now this is the most important thing to me. This is where all my energies all focus on. I desire to be faithful to cry out day and night at all times to be able to pass the test when the evil one tempts me. I'm thankful for your life and love for us.

