

October 25, 1995

Sus, Frai

The Smooth Way

Concerning the things you wrote about Shimonah and Abel, these are very difficult circumstances. But from your letter it became clear what Abel's heart was. Somehow, these people, who in their teens were zealots, now as old people show their basic lack. They have no revelation of Yahshua. Testing is for this purpose.

1 Sam 2:12 — "no regard for YHWH." *Regard* — to attend to with respect and estimation; to value, as a matter of foremost importance. *Did not esteem* = did not hold in respect and affection. 1 Cor 16:22. Abel was not a person who Yahshua could disclose himself to for obvious reasons. Gal 5:19. Abel, and Eli's sons, did not obey the commandments because they did not fear YHWH. 1 Jn 2:4; Jn 14:21; Rom 8:28.

Yoneq quoted Is 26:7: "The way (*ha derekh*) of the upright is smooth." The community is only the place for those who are totally devoted to Him, and who are selfless as He commanded. It is a joyful habitation for His people, in spite of difficult circumstances. But for the others who find no pleasure here, they must go out. For here the lonely find comfort and love, and live an "abundant life" in peace. But the discontent cannot abide here.

Yoneq also quoted Is 42:16, which also speaks of the *smooth way*, but a way which we cannot live in our own understanding. He said that when Shimonah became hopeless, thinking God had forsaken her, that she was wrong. Perhaps for her, she will only find peace in forsaking all — and returning to her people. For her comment, about Abel doubting if this really is the truth here, surely revealed where Abel stands. For him it is much better that now he would spend his life looking for the truth elsewhere, and make sure he lets us know when he finds it — then maybe we will join. These will not find happiness here, and will ruin our life if they stay. For if the community fills up with discontent adults and rebellious children, there will no longer be a *place* of refuge for the ones seeking Yahshua.

Perhaps with Roger and Joellen, Ray Stevens can also find a happy life together with his children, like they have. That is fine. But as for *us*, we will stay where we have cast our lot, and

endure shoulder to shoulder with our brothers. Our vow was *unto death*, and we will stand by it. It is only for those who can sing with all their heart, like King David, "How lovely is your dwelling place ..." It is a smooth way for the righteous...

Not that it is not filled with difficulties, but it is nonetheless *smooth*. Only a spiritual mind can understand that one!

In the community, as in the nation of Israel of old, men must all live by one law. But for us in the New Covenant, we are no longer under law — so we live a life that looks exactly the same as the one lived under the law, but it is a smooth way. There is grace and revelation for us. Unfortunately, there will be those who live among us who do not have revelation and do not have New Covenant hearts. Those people can stay with us only if they live under the law. They must keep the law of our God. It is a very high standard. The law is everything that is good. It is difficult to do — *but there are only two choices*. Either receive our Master's faith and come into the New Covenant, or live under the law. That is, if you want to live with us. Otherwise, you can just move to the world where you can live by your own law, and do what you want to do.

The world is the place for rebellious sons. But as for *us*, we will touch nothing defiled, nor will we subject our children to defilement.

This is not the place for those who doubt that it is the truth. That is a defiling spirit. We can doubt ourselves, but not the Body of our Master — unless we doubt His headship. This is something that Shimonah never did. She may have doubted herself, but not the anointing. As for the rest of the family — for sure the older ones — this is not the place for them.

Any family that is divided by the sword of the gospel, must be divided. If there is an attempt to hang on to those who have left, and to allow them "visitation," it will only bring defilement into the only clean environment left on this planet. Mt 10:37.

They can dress like everyone in the world, talk like them, shoot like them, walk like them, etc. No problem! Let them do it. But not here. Here we live by the law of YHWH! That

law is perfect. It *is* "strict" ... and it is all that Ps 119 says. We love the law and we love the "principles" of the law. And anyone living among us must live by that law one way or the other.

Love teaches us this: to abstain from all lawlessness. Here we keep the law.

The law says kill a rebellious son. We kill them in another way than with stones, but the end result is the same. The child and his influence are gone — just as if he were dead.

The fear of YHWH must be restored.

Encourage people who are discontent to go where their heart is. We want no one to stay here who does not want to be here. Of course it may be hard for them to find an apartment and a job, but "that is life" in the world. They must realize that this is just one of the problems they will have to face in their newly chosen lifestyle. But they are certainly free to do it.

If they are not for Messiah, they are against Him — so they should leave His dwelling place immediately. But they must count the cost. They will gain the world and all it offers — pleasure *and* problems. And they will lose their family and friends who gladly remain part of another kingdom. There is no fellowship between light and darkness.

All who are in Messiah are devoted to whatever Acts 2:42 means. And if it does not mean the same for everyone in Messiah, we have a divided Messiah. Can this be?

Enclosed is a copy of a similar letter [*Disappointment and Injustice*] which we wrote to a sister who was discontent with the fact that her rebellious children are not allowed to be in the community.

The precious value of our friends who remain loyal is increasing ...

Shalom in the only Name who saves,

ha-emeq (for Yoneq)