



31.5.2014

*To my friends*

*from the self-help organization of Holocaust survivors in Jerusalem*

*Attention Chairman Mr Mikhail Shteinman*

On June 5th, 2013, my mother died after a short time of suffering. In Switzerland it is common to bring flowers in memory of the deceased or donate money for flowers to decorate the grave. We didn't want this and asked instead of flower gifts to donate money for survivors of the Holocaust. We were very surprised about the amount we could raise this way, so we could transfer about 7,000 NIS each for the Holocaust survivors in Jerusalem and Ashdod.

In September my husband and I got to know a quite young self-help organisation of Holocaust survivors in Jerusalem. On their weekly meeting they thanked us for our donation. For the money they got some warm blankets and food for the needy. At this meeting I shared my testimony with them: My mother was Italian and the oldest child of simple factory workers. Because her mother had to work to support the family of seven, my mother had to care for her sibling while still in school. During WW II the family suffered of tremendous poverty and had to go to bed sometimes starving. My mother was educated in the Catholic Church but always felt that she has no real connection to the Catholic Church and that this kind of faith and identity was not hers.

With her marriage she converted to Protestantism. Both of my parents found great strength and meaning in their life through their faith in the God of Israel, the Prince of Peace (Sar Shalom), Immanuel, Yeshua HaMashiach. I was educated in this faith. The love to Israel, the people of God's priests, was part of their faith life. At the age of 21 (1980) I travelled the first time to Israel and wrote into my diary:

„I returned home“ – without knowing the deep meaning of it. The kibbutzniks confirmed to me that I have a Jewish soul and that I am one of them. On my second journey someone said to me: „Don't ask what it means to be Jewish. It is deep down in your being. Just let it happen.“ So I let go the long painful inner journey to find my true identity.

I didn't talk about it with nobody else except my heavenly father. He showed me in his word, dreams and inner revelation that my ancestors from both genealogical lines have been Jewish but left the Abrahamic and Mosaic covenant with God. Because of this they came under the curse of Devarim 28, 15-68. But I am very grateful that I know deep down in my heart that the true Pessach lamb, Jeshua HaMashiach, died on my behalf and made atonement through his blood for my sins so that I can stay in righteousness in front of my heavenly father, Adonai Eloheinu. So I confessed all guilt that he revealed to me. The guilt Israel's as well as my individual. More and more I

realized that my feelings being different has to do with my Jewish descent. Very often in my life I felt to be an irritant. I got exploited and excluded by others. My skills were welcome but not my personality. Our family names originate from old Jewish family lines:

Schai (schin-jud) – Morez (mem-waw-resch-zade) and Vogel - Vogel (fe-waw-gimel-lamed).

After years of internal processing, I started to talk about this sometimes. In the meantime my mother found out that Schai is a Jewish name. So she took my impressions seriously. My father needed a bit more time, even a close friend brought it several times to his awareness. Sadly, my mother was afraid of flying, so to travel to Israel was not possible for her. But both of my parents accepted their Jewish inheritance in their old age as a fact. Also now my youngest brother.

In May 2013 my mom suffered of cerebral hemorrhage which caused the paralyzing of motor-actuated control system in the brain, so the only way of communicating was to smile, cry or move the left arm. But the time of her suffering and her death were a great testimony of Gods' presence, of Adonai, Eloheinu, Melech HaOlam.

Until the very end, my mother was a a pleasing fragrance to God and people. The personnel in the hospital and the Doctors experienced and felt a deep peace in all the suffering, not just in my mother but in our whole family. They asked about the secret of the love they saw in our family. All of you, who are more than 80 years old and who have suffered great pain in your life, I want to ask you to follow the example of my mother! Get reconciled with God and forgive in his power those who have sinned against you. I know, this may feel to you as you are guilty of the Holocaust. The Thora tells us that Adonai will scatter us among the Gentiles for education if we don't follow the laws of his covenant. And that's what happened in the history of the Jewish people. But God will make the Gentiles accountable for what they have done to you and us a people group. This is written in his scriptures. But to become free of bitterness in our hearts, which makes us depressed and sick, we have to repent and to return to a heart relationship with the God of the covenant who is our true father. My mother got reconciled with him, though she experienced a lot of suffering in her life she could never fully understand. She reconciled with the family of her descent who have expelled her from the family. And she got reconciled with other people in her life. In her suffering was no bitterness nor accusation but peace and love. Why could she do this? In her heart she has made Alyjah: She returned to the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. First, we Jews became guilty towards our God, because we left the covenant of his blood to worship and serve other Gods.

We wanted to be like all the other nations and didn't accept his calling to be a holy people of priests to him. We wanted to become independent from the eternal one.

As prophesied by Moses, we got under a curse. And the other nations have misused this for their own sake. But God, the Almighty is faithful!

Devarim 30, 1-6

My mother received the ,circumcision of the heart'. She could recognize that God sacrificed himself as the true Pessach lamb as it is written in Jescha'jahu

53,5-7. Yeshua HaMashiach was crucified on the first day of Pessach at the

time of slaughtering the lambs on the day of preparation. God in his grace and mercy reconciled us with himself. The Messiah came into this world in the appearance of a lamb, and He will return in power and glory als Melech Hamelachim. Then all Israel will recognize that he is the one they have pierced

Zacharja 12,10

My mother lived in all quietness. She was not a women of great words. She loved the living God, who has made heaven and earth and who gave her life. She loved her savior and redeemer Yeshua HaMashiach, who brought her out of the slavery of sin (Egypt) and was led by Gods Holy Spirit Ruach Hakavod.

She was a tool of Gods' love and mercy. So my mother became not just a blessing to us a family but also to other people as well as to you survivors of the Shoa. We are filled with a deep hope to see her again in our eternal home. Deep in our heart we believe in the ressurection of the dead. She is already in his eternal presence, the One she believed in. We, who are still walk in transitoriness are supposed to become here on earth a Sukkah for him, the eternal God, for his presence, to be a living witness of his reality. To become light and salt for the people around us so that they can find revelation and find the way to God. This cannot happen through laws and rituals but through a love relationship and true priestly commitment to Him.

My dear friends, I wish to all of you to experience the Aliyjah of the Heart to the One, who is alone holy and capable to heal all the deep wounds in your hearts as well as your physical diseases, to the father of all fathers, who alone is God and the middleman, Yeshua HaMashiach

Jeremiah 31, 31-34 and Jeremiah 32, 37-42

**Thank you for all! With many blessings and Shalom Shalom... See you next year in Jerusalem!**

**Susanne Baumann**