

Moshiach's Letter through the Shliach Shim'on Kefa to the Brit Chadasha Kehillah (II)

¹ Shim'on Kefa, an eved and Shliach of Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua:

to the ones having obtained, with us,* equally precious† emunah (*faith*)‡ in the Tzedek HASHEM§ of Eloheinu and Moshieinu Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua.

² Chesed HASHEM and Shalom HASHEM to you abundantly in the da'as (*personal, saving knowledge*) of HASHEM and Adoneinu Yehoshua.

³ As the gevurat HASHEM(*the power of G-d*) has given us everything for Chayyim (*life*) and chasidus through the da'as (*personal, saving knowledge*) of the One Who bestows on us the kri'ah (*calling*) to His own Kavod (*Glory*) and Tzidkanut (*Righteousness*),*

⁴ So HASHEM has given us precious havtachot gedolot†(*great promises*) that through these promises you might become [regenerate] deveykus participants with the life of the teva haelohi‡(*divine nature*), having escaped the [degenerate] Olam Hazeh's lust engendered corruption.

* **1:1** Shlichim of Moshiach † **1:1** orthodox Jewish ‡ **1:1** the Emunah of the true Dat HaYehudit § **1:1** Dan 9:24 * **1:3** See 1:5-7; 2:5,21; 3:13 † **1:4** 3:4,9,13 cf. 2:19 ‡ **1:4** cf. Yn 1:13

⁵ For this very reason, you must apply all zerizut (*diligence*) to supply emunah with midah hatov (*the attribute of virtue*), and midah hatov with da'as (*knowledge*),

⁶ And da'as with shlitah atzmit (*self-control*), and shlitah atzmit with chozek (*fortitude*) and chozek with chasidus (*piety*),

⁷ And chasidus with ahavah shel achvah (*brotherly love*), and ahavah shel achvah with ahavah (*agape*).

⁸ For if these midos are in you increasingly, they will forestall you from being batlanim (*idlers*) and lo poreh (*unfruitful*) in the da'as (*personal saving knowledge*) of Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach Adoneinu Yehoshua.

⁹ For the one with whom these middos chasidus (*qualities of piety*) are not present is an ivver (*blind man*), being shortsighted, having forgotten the tohorah (*cleansing*) of his past averos.

¹⁰ Therefore, Achim b'Moshiach, be eagerly diligent to make your kri'ah (*summons*) and bechirah (*election*) sure, for, if you do these things, you will never fall over a michshol (*stumbling block*).

¹¹ For thus will be richly provided for you the entrance into the Malchut Olam of Adoneinu and Moshieinu Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua.

¹² Therefore, it is my tachlis (*purpose, final end*) always to remind you concerning these things, even though you have da'as of them and have been stabilized in HaEmes that you have.

¹³ But I consider it befitting, as long as I am in this ohel, to arouse you with a tizkoret (*reminder*),

¹⁴ Als (*since*) I know that the putting off of my

mishkan is imminent, as indeed Adoneinu Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua made clear to me.

¹⁵ And also I am eager to cause you to always possess the zichron (*memory*) of these things after my exodus. §

¹⁶ For we had not followed cleverly crafted aggadot or doichek (*farfetched*) bubbemeises or reid (*hearsay*) when we made known to you the gevurah (*miraculous power*) of Adoneinu Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua and the Bi'as HaMoshiach of him; no, we had been edei re'iyah (*eyewitnesses*) of Moshiach's majestic gedulah (*greatness*).

¹⁷ For having received from Elohim HaAv kavod va'oz, the bat kol was conveyed to Moshiach by the Majestic Glory, ZEH BENI AHUVI ASHER BO CHAFATSTI* (*This is my Son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased*).

¹⁸ And this bat kol we heard out of Shomayim, having been brought with Moshiach upon the Har HaKodesh.

¹⁹ And we have the Dvar HaNevu'ah (*Word of Prophecy*) made more sure, to which you do well in giving heed as to a menorah shining in a place of choshech until HaYom† [of Olam Habah] dawns and the Kochav‡ (*Star*) haNogah (*of Brightness, Venus*) rises in your levavot (*hearts*).

²⁰ Knowing this first: that every nevu'ah

§ 1:15 T.N. Written shortly before his death al kiddush ha-Shem for his Moshiach. See Bodmer papyrus p72 showing early attestation of this authentic last will and testament of Kefa whom Nero caused to be killed. * 1:17 Ps 2:7; Gn 22:2; Isa 42:1 † 1:19 3:18

‡ 1:19 Num 24:17

(*prophecy*) of the Kitvei Hakodesh is not of the prophet's own explanation.

²¹ For no nevu'ah was at any time brought by the ratzon HaBnei Adam (*will of Man*), but men being carried along by the Ruach Hakodesh spoke from HASHEM.

2

¹ But there were also nevi'ei sheker (*false prophets*) among Am Yisroel just as also there will be morei sheker among you. These false teachers will secretly bring in heretical doctrines of koferim ba-ikkarim (*deniers of fundamentals*), producing machshelah (*ruin*), as these heretics even become meshummad, denying the Ribbono Shel Olam who redeemed them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

² And many will follow them in walking in darchei zimah (*the ways of licentiousness*), and because of them the Derech HaEmes will be libeled with lashon hora.

³ And in their chomed (*covetous*) greed, they will exploit you with deceptive words. For them the Mishpat (*Judgment*) of old is not drei (*idle*) and their churban (*ruin*) does not slumber.

⁴ For if HASHEM did not spare malachim that sinned, but cast them into Gehinnom, consigning them to the sharsherot (*chains*) of choshech to be kept for Mishpat;

⁵ And if HASHEM, when he brought a mabbul (*flood*) upon the world of resha'im (*evildoers*), did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noach, the eighth of the nefashot* and a maggid of Tzid-

* 2:5 in the Teva (Ark)

kanut (*Righteousness*);

⁶ And if HASHEM judged the cities of S'dom and Amora, reducing them to ashes by a churban catastrophe, making them a mofet (*an example*) for the ones intending to be resha'im;

⁷ And if HASHEM delivered Lot, a tzaddik distressed by the hitnahagut (*conduct*) of the mufkarim[†](*lawless*) walking in darchei zimah (*the ways of licentiousness*)

⁸ — For that tzaddik, living among them day after day, was tortured in his nefesh hayesharah (*honest soul*) by the darchei mufkarim (*the ways of lawless ones*) that he saw and heard

⁹ — Then HASHEM knows how to rescue the chasidim from trial and how to preserve the anshei resha (*men of wickedness*) for punishment for the Yom HaDin,

¹⁰ Especially the ones going after the basar (*flesh*) in ta'avah (*lust*) producing tum'a (*defilement*) and the ones despising kol samchut.[‡] Bold and self-willed, these have no yirat Shomayim and therefore commit Chillul HASHEM as they slander the glorious ones,

¹¹ Whereas malachim, being greater b'oz and koach (*in strength and power*), al kol panim (*nevertheless*) do not bring against them a slanderous judgment before HASHEM.

¹² But these men, like irrational beasts born b'derech hatevah (*naturally*) to be caught and killed, commit Chillul HASHEM in matters where they lack da'as. In the destruction of [the beasts], they also will be destroyed,

[†] 2:7 2:8,10; 3:17 [‡] 2:10 Mt 28:18

¹³ Suffering harm as onesh (*penalty*) for harm done. They actually think there is ta'anug (*pleasure*) in reveling in broad daylight. They are mumim (*defects*) and spots reveling in their ta'nugot (*evil pleasures*) even while they sit at seudot (*banquet dinners*) with you.

¹⁴ Having eyes full of ni'uf (*adultery*), ceaselessly committing averos (*sins*), enticing unstable nefashot (*souls*), having levavot trained in chomed (*covetous*) greed — banim mekulalim (*accursed children*)!

¹⁵ Forsaking the Derech HaYashar (*Straight Way*), they went astray, having followed the Derech HaBil'am Ben-B'or, who loved the sachar haresha (*reward of unrighteousness*).

¹⁶ But he had tochachah (*reproof*) for his own peysha (*transgression*): a dumb chamor (*donkey*), having spoken in a man's voice, hindered the madness of the meshuga navi.

¹⁷ These men are mikva'ot without mayim and mists being driven by storms, for whom has been reserved the gloom of choshech (*darkness*).

¹⁸ Using high sounding words of hevel, they entice, with licentious ta'avot of the basar, the ones barely escaped from those living in toyus (*error*) and delusion.

¹⁹ They offer them the havtachah (*promise*) of cherut (*freedom*), but they themselves are avadim (*slaves*) of shachat (*corruption*), for whatever defeats a man also enslaves him.

²⁰ For if, having escaped the tumot (*defilements*) of Olam Hazei by da'as of Adoneinu and Moshieinu Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua,

they are again entangled in these, then their last state is worse for them than their first.

²¹ For better it was for them not to have da'as of the Derech HaTzidkanut (*the Way of Righteousness*) than, having known it, to turn away from the mitzvah hakedosha handed down to them.

²² The word of the true mashal (*proverb*) has overtaken them: KECHELEV SHAV AL KE'OS (As a dog having returned to its own vomit), and a “chazir (swine) is washed only to wallow in the mud.”

3

¹ Chaverim, this now is the second iggeret I am writing to you; in these iggrot my tachlis is to arouse your sincere levavot by way of tizkoret (*reminder*):

² Remember the divrei torah having been previously spoken by the Nevi'im HaKedoshim and the mitzvot of* Adoneinu and Moshieinu spoken by your Shluchim.

³ Knowing this first, that during the acharit hayamim there will come leitzim (*mockers, scorners*) mocking, going after their own ta'avot (*lusts*),

⁴ And saying, “Where is the havtachah (*promise*) of the Bias HaMoshiach? From the time Avoteinu fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of HaBri'ah (*Creation*).”

⁵ For this is hidden from them (*but they want it that way*): that the Shomayim existed from long ago and ha'Aretz out of mayim and through

§ 2:22 Prov 26:11 * 3:2 Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach

mayim BIDVAR HASHEM NA'ASU[†] (*By the word of the L-rd were made*).

⁶ Through this very mayim, the tevel (*world*) of that time perished in the mabbul (*flood*).

⁷ But the present Shomayim v'ha'Aretz are being reserved by the same Dvar HASHEM, being kept for Eish (*Fire*) for Yom HaDin and for the destruction of anshei resha (*men of wickedness*).

⁸ Chaverim, let not this one thing escape your notice, that "A thousand years in the eyes of HASHEM is like one day"[‡] and one day like a thousand years.

⁹ But HASHEM is not slow concerning his havtachah (*promise*), as some consider slowness, but is demonstrating savlanut (*patience*)[§] toward you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to teshuva (*repentance*).

¹⁰ But the Yom HASHEM will come as a ganav (*thief*), in which the Shomayim with great suddenness will pass away and the elements, burning up, will be destroyed, and the Olam Hazeh and its ma'asim will be found out.*

¹¹ Als (*Since*) all these things will thus be destroyed, what kinds of persons ought you to be in hitnahagut (*conduct*) that is characterized by kedushah and chasidus,

¹² Awaiting and hastening the Bias HaMoshiach of the Yom HASHEM, because of which the Shomayim will be turned into Eish (*Fire*) and destroyed, and the elements set ablaze and melted.

[†] 3:5 Ps 33:6 [‡] 3:8 Ps 90:4 [§] 3:9 3:15 * 3:10 Num 32:23

¹³ But SHOMAYIM CHADASHIM VA'ARETZ CHADASHA[†] according to the havtachah (*promise*) of HASHEM we await, in which Tzidkanut (*Righteousness*) dwells.

¹⁴ Chaverim, als you await these things, be eager to be found in shalom by him TAMIM U'MUM[‡] (*unblemished and unspotted*).

¹⁵ And regard the savlanut (*patience*) of Adoneinu as Yeshu'at Eloheynu. So also our Chaver and Ach b'Moshiach Sha'ul, according to the chochmah (*wisdom*) having been given to him, wrote to you.

¹⁶ As also in all his iggrot speaking in them concerning these things, in which are some things lomdish (*intricate and complicated to understand*), which those unstable and without da'as, twist, as also the other Kitvei Hakodesh, to their own churban (*destruction*).

¹⁷ Chaverim, you therefore, knowing beforehand, be shomer over yourselves lest with the toyus (*error*) of the mufkarim (*lawless ones*) having been led away, you fall from your own stability.

¹⁸ But grow in the Chen v'Chesed and Da'as of Adoneinu and Moshieinu, Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach Yehoshua. Lo HaKavod Gam HaYom V'Gam L'Yom HaOlam. Omein. (*To him be glory both now and to the day of eternity. Omein.*)

[†] **3:13** Isa 65:17 cf. Isa 66:22 [‡] **3:14** Ex 12:5; Lv 22:20; Isa 53:7,9

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Language: English

Contributor: Artists for Israel International

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2025-05-01

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