



**What must I do to be saved?**

**Prof. M.Y. YOHANNAN**

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## Preface

In his book *Treasury of Courage and Confidence*, Norman Vincent Peale wrote about the indomitable spirit of Madame Chiang Kai-Sheck:

“I once sat with Madame Chiang Kai-Sheck and listened in fascination as she recounted the dangers of her life in China. Marveling at her undefeatable spirit, I asked how she retained composure and hope throughout such a difficult life. She said it is the time I spend each morning with Lord. I asked her how much time daily she spent in prayer. She told me it seemed to be from one to two hours every day.”

That great lady had such amazing strength to overcome crises because of her power, fortitude and the talent of prayers.

Man has always been tormented by agonies and tribulations all along the ages. About the turbulent life of man on earth a great man opined: ' Every human being is a walking volcano'. The volcanoes, whose interiors boil up with molten metals, minerals and salts, may erupt any moment. Likewise, human hearts also are swayed by the whirlwinds of intolerable hardships and tribulations.

Man is able to stand firm amid the turbulence of disasters only because of his trust in Christ alone. Man, who is swayed and distressed by the cares and anxieties of this world, finds a refuge in Christ. We must have salvation in this life and in the life after. Personal salvation is inevitable for the desperate man who is looking anxiously at the complexities of life. Along with that one can attain eternal rest only if we have a hope in the salvation of the soul which is life in eternal heaven.

People who have the confidence that Christ grants eternal salvation or eternal life in the earthly life are the really fortunate. The experience of heaven begins in their heart when Christ finds a place in their hearts. We will not inherit eternal heaven in the afterlife if we do not experience heavenly peace on this earth. We find the saying, "thy kingdom come" in the prayer that Christ taught his disciples. We can attain eternal heaven beyond the death's door only if God's kingdom comes into our heart in this life. Heaven that begins in the heart begins at home; it sustains in the home and then it spreads in the region. Then the peace and tranquility of heaven spread out continuously.

There are two ways in front of man: one is the way of life, and the other is the way of death. The majority of the people pursues the way of death and reaches the horrendous eternal hell. But the few who pursue the way of life eventually reach eternal life which is eternal heaven.

*"See, I set before you today life and prosperity,*

*death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live”.*

*Deuteronomy 30: 15-19*

*“See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse”.*

*Deuteronomy 11:26*

Prophet Jeremiah also says the same.

*“See, I am setting before you the way of life and the way of death”.*

*Jeremiah 21: 8*

The way of life is the way of cross revealed through the life of Christ. Only the people who lead a holy life which is completely dedicated to Christ can reach the shores of heaven.

The ideas that distilled as these thoughts and slowly smoldered in my inner soul are the inspiration for the composition of this book titled “What Must I Do to be

Saved.” It is my intense desire that all the readers experience the free salvation prepared by Christ.

I hereby express my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Saleel for spending his valuable time to translate my book.

Many of my brothers in spirit helped me to bring this book into light. I express my heartfelt gratitude to all my brethren who endeavored to shape the message of this book which is to be passed on to the generations to come. I conclude the preface by wishing that all those who practice the precepts of this book attain the peace and eternal salvation granted by Christ.

Your own,  
**M.Y. Yohannan Sir**

## One

*“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”* Luke 2:30, 31

Salvation is fourfold:

1. Personal salvation.
2. Salvation of houses.
3. Salvation of the household.
4. Salvation of the land.

When we think about salvation, we actually aspire to prevail over the agonies, maladies, hardships of the earthly life, worries about the bad habits of our children, the anxieties about their future and such disheartening experiences. Many people say, “I have no hope. All the ways are closed. Appeared for many tests, but there is no hope. I sent many applications, but no hope.”

There is a state of mind that makes people say that a house is lost and hopeless. People say that this house is damned; it is a doomed house etc. There will not be any

peace or tranquility though we may possess everything. When we say that there is no hope for the house, we mean there is no peace in the house. The house may be beautiful, an architectural marvel; the wife and husband are employed; children study well and there is no shortage for anything, but there is no prosperity in the house. The house has no salvation. There is no way. There is no advancement.

Home is the togetherness of the family-folk in delight. But here there is no delight. Every day there is nothing but confrontation, doubt, conflicting opinions, words of insolence and quarrels between the father and the children to list a few. There is no accord or affection at home. One after another, there are crises, problems and a foreboding sense of isolation. Many people are going through miserable circumstances.

These are problems that come into our material life, but we are direly in need of prosperity. All of us yearn for better tomorrows with no shadows of the present. Are we really contented about the present personal or family state of affairs or the condition of our land? No. Somewhere there is a feeling of emptiness! There are needs yet to be fulfilled; there are difficulties, and there are times when we go dumb. At times we sit silently with downcast faces.

But above all these damned realities, Christ lives to give salvation to individuals, households and to the lands in their blighted conditions. Jesus Christ works. Jesus Christ will take over our affairs when we entrust our life





Isaiah prophesied: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son. Simeon stopped writing when he heard this. Prophet Isaiah asked: “why did you stop writing”? Simeon exclaimed: “virgin conceives! A woman untouched by a man gives birth to a child! Can it happen”? The prophet said: “you have not recognized the Holy Spirit. You think that it is told by me. You do not believe that God's Holy Spirit has revealed what is going to happen. You need to write only the things that have been sent by the Holy Spirit from heaven. Since you do not believe what I have told you, and you doubt the Holy Spirit, you will not die before seeing this incident.”

Years rolled on; the prophets and the kings who came after died; more than 700 years passed and Simeon grew very old. One day Simeon went into the temple courts moved by the Holy Spirit. It was the day eagerly awaited by him. The Virgin Mother and the father, Joseph, came there with the infant Jesus – the child conceived and given birth by a virgin – to perform the customary rites. They had brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required. Holy Spirit revealed to Simeon that it was the child about whom Isaiah prophesied some 700 years before. Simeon took the child in his arms and praised God. Carrying the 41 day old child in his arms, Simeon prayed:

*“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation, which  
you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a*

*light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.”*

*Luke 2 : 29 - 32*

It had been a long waiting for Simeon and now the time he could die in peace has come. He had been punished for mistrusting the word of the Holy Spirit. And now he prays: “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.”

My friends, the words spoken by Simeon, carrying Infant Jesus in his hands, have tremendous meaning. Even as you are reading this, you can receive salvation. You can receive infant Jesus, the Savior, in your hands, into your heart.

If you want salvation today, receive Jesus who is beside you. Stretch your hands and embrace him. He will come into your heart; He will pour peace and happiness into your turbulent, unquiet life; He will pour love into your scorched spirit, into your life alien to tender emotions.

He will pour goodness into the hearts of those who have done only evil. He will sanctify the lives of those who are wont to vices alone. Jesus will come into your accursed, despairing life that desired death, death alone. Now hold him close to your heart.

Believe that Jesus has come close to you; He is moving alongside you; He is looking for those who call upon his name, the needy. He is moving around to pour love into your parched life, to console you with the promise that all those who call upon his name will be

saved.

Lord, would you allow me to hold your wounded body, your nail-marked body, your blood-stained body to my bosom. I am ugly, cruel and of dreadful character and the people will spit me if the real man inside me is revealed to the world.

I am arrogant; I am submissive to no one; I have never submitted to my husband. There were always quarrels in my house. I have never loved my wife; I have tortured that poor woman; I have wounded her with my cruel words. I was never obedient to my parents; I never had the impulse to be submissive to them. Lord, feel pity on this despicable man. I commit myself into your hands now.

If you do have the heart to receive that sacred body that fell on the bosom of Joseph from Arimathea, tell your God now: "Jesus, my life is yours, yours alone. You redeemed me. It was you who pulled me out of the mud hole of sins and gave an address to me. I was worthless, but you made me precious. I never had the eligibility to be instructed, but you gave me education. I had no income, but you gave me recourse to make a decent living. I was always ailing, but you healed me with your grace.

Carrying the infant Jesus in his hands, Simeon looked at the face of the child. It was radiant! He felt it like a fountain overflowing with love! The child was love incarnate, the fullness of grace! Looking at the angelic face Simeon said: "Lord, now you leave your servant in

peace. I have found my salvation!"

You should pray earnestly to God that you will not be destined to leave this earth before you gain eternal life, before your soul is redeemed. One should experience the salvation of the spirit before the soul leaves the body. We should experience eternal life, eternal heaven on earth. We should experience our sins washed even as we are alive on earth. I must have the experience of being washed in the holy blood of Jesus, the lamb without defect.

*"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace."*

*Luke 2 : 29*

Simeon can leave in peace because his eyes saw the salvation. Personal salvation! Brethren, have you ever been able to carry this infant Jesus in your arms? Have you ever had the living Jesus in your hands, that great fortune to hold Jesus in the depths of your heart, that great fortune to walk the earth carrying Jesus, that fortunate experience to move about the world as a subject of disgrace carrying Jesus?

Jesus, who was received by Simeon in hands, lived on earth for more than thirty-three years. Despised, abused, insulted and isolated by his kinsfolk, Jesus walked on the face of the earth. He was mercilessly turned out of his own church. Some people booed and shouted insultingly when He climbed Calvary carrying the cross. Some others accused that the incident of giving eyesight

to the blind was only a sham. There were others to allege that the raising of the dead was only a cunning trick. Those derisive comments hurt him more than the slash of the whip.

But no one recognized the one who walked over the place the thirty-three and a half years. The world did not know who was going up the hill bearing a cross. The religious leaders or the high priests of Jerusalem temple did not know Him because their eyes were blind. They were displeased when Christ scorned them: "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites." He called them blind guides: the blind leading the blind. Bluntly calling them a brood of vipers, the Lord revealed their plight. They were displeased at all these.

*"How shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation?"* *Hebrews 2 : 3*

God's children, you will not be saved even though you attend the fellowship regularly without fail. Jesus is the savior. Even the Virgin Mother is not the savior. There is only one savior. Lord Jesus is the only savior. It is only Christ who saves us. You will not be saved even though you visit saints or go on pilgrimages. Visiting pilgrim centers cannot save you. You will receive salvation only if you carry Him in your hands, hold Him close to you and place Him in your heart. What you need to do is to carry Him in your hands. Simeon carried Him in his hands.

Salvation is the experience of getting your inner eye opened. The Lord asks you: "Son, don't you see my body

wounded? Daughter, don't you see the spittle on my face? I was wounded for you. I bore the spittle for you. I was crowned with thorns on account of the sins in your thoughts. Children, don't you see this? I have taken over the punishment for your sins. Do you want salvation today? You receive me.” The blood of Jesus Christ washes us of all our sins and saves us.

Let us pray: “Lord, I renounce Satan and receive Jesus as my savior. Lord, I will be yours from this day.”



## Two

*“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”*                      *Luke 2 : 29 - 32*

Brethren, you too can achieve this personal salvation. Here goes our Lord Christ; accompany Him and willingly accept the disgrace of Jesus Christ. “Lord, I shall follow you carrying my cross. Unhesitant, unashamed and without any fear of disgrace, I take my cross. Carrying the cross of disgrace, I follow you. There are many who mock, rebuke and abuse me, but heedless of all that, I follow you with all my heart.” There will be only a few who will be ready to follow the path of cross. Such are the people who can experience personal salvation.

Are you desirous of this personal salvation? There are people who realize that the souls that leave this life without gaining the salvation that one should attain in this world will fall prey to the terrifying torture of the hell. Such people are the really fortunate. You should attain personal salvation here on earth. It is not the salvation through



fellowships, but the salvation that each person need to attain personally. What does God do to make it happen? Here is God knocking at the door. It is not His wont to call people in groups, but, alone, He knocks at the hearts of individuals. Carrying a lantern, a tired Jesus knocks at the door of this inn. Jesus knocks at the doors of human hearts.

Jesus seeks refuge at the doors of human hearts. He pleads, "I want to lodge in your heart. Tonight I want to stay. Would you give me your heart? Would you let me in?" Jesus knocks, but the door is locked from inside. Jesus will not force it open. It will not open even though one pushes from outside because it is locked from inside. There is a painting by the famous painter Holman Hunt that portrays Jesus knocking at a door carrying a lantern. Jesus Christ is standing outside in the cold knocking at the door of your heart!

Friends, now Jesus knocks at your hearts also. Now you are going to experience some live realities. Jesus is going to step into your life and enter your heart. Your fears are going to fade away; our anxieties and despairs are going to vanish; certain hazards that you are facing in your life are going to be removed.

Troubles are being solved. There will certainly be solutions to the problems troubling you. Heaven is coming down into your heart; the heavenly Prince is going to enter your heart and bless you. You are going to inherit that great fortune. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anybody opens his heart for me, if anyone hears my voice

and opens the door, I will come in to him.”

“You should listen to My voice, My word.” You will be inclined to open the door only if you hear the word of God. It is for that we invite you to the sermons where the word of God is preached. Fellowships are arranged for that. It is because of the love of God that burns in them that many humble servants of God spent money to take people to such meetings. We are going to be saved only if we listen to the word of God.

There are many such blessed servants of God in Christian Revival Fellowship. They work; they spent their money and take people to gospel services. They do this work without any intention of gaining material benefits, and the people come to listen to the voice of Christ knocking at the door. If we open the door, Jesus will come in and sup with us. He will dine with humble human beings.

“This heavenly love that promises to be with the one who knows and practices only sin is beyond my understanding. Lord, I fail to figure out the depth of it. How could you love me, one who is inclined to practice only sin in all my life? This eternal love has seized me by surprise!”

We read in the book of 'Song of Songs': “It is the voice of my beloved knocking at the door”. Hearing her beloved knocking at the door, that virgin awoke. She is one who has taken a decision in her life. Salomy in the 'Song of Songs' is one who has given her word to her beloved shepherd. She has a personal agreement with

her shepherd: she has given her life over to her shepherd.

But she is in confinement in the mansion of King Solomon now. There are many in the same predicament. There are many who have taken a vow to renounce Satan and receive the Messiah on the occasion of baptism. Many of us have promised to give our heart to the beloved. Salomy is in the palace now. She is amidst luxury and pomp, but in captivity.

Standing around her, the daughters of Jerusalem persuade her: “oh Salomy, you are fortunate. It is none other than King Solomon whom you are going to get as your husband. Aren't you only a village girl? Weren't a worthless girl? But King Solomon, who has many wives, is going to make you his queen. He is the most beautiful among the thousands and ten thousands. He is the wisest among the wisest. Become his wife. Don't refuse him.” But Salomy is not a wavering, ungrateful seeker of fortunes; she has a clear reply instead. She doesn't want Solomon. She has given her word to her shepherd. She has given her word to her shepherd in her childhood and set on it still: never to go back on her word.

The daughters of Jerusalem stood around me day  
and night

To steal my love for my beloved.

Beautiful enchanter! This worldly sojourn without you.

Shall I marry the uncouth paramours, my beloved!

I will not give up the ruby for the dirt



*I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride; I have gathered my myrrh with my spice. I have eaten my honeycomb and my honey; I have drunk my wine and my milk. Eat, friends, and drink; drink your fill of love. I slept but my heart was awake. Listen! My beloved is knocking: "Open to me, my sister, my darling, my dove, my flawless one. My head is drenched with dew, my hair with the dampness of the night." I have taken off my robe - must I put it on again? I have washed my feet— must I soil them again? My beloved thrust his hand through the latch-opening; my heart began to pound for him."*                      *Song of Songs 5: 1 - 4*

"His hands hurt when my beloved thrust his loving hand through the latch-opening. The blood from his hand stained the door. I was shocked to see his hand, the wounded hand of my beloved; the hand that seek me; the hand that labors to rouse me from my slumber. I couldn't bear to see his hand wounded. I arose to open for my beloved."

*"I opened for my beloved, but my beloved had left; he was gone."*                      *Song of Songs 5: 6*

"My beloved had left by the time I opened for him. He waited for me for a long time and then left. He knocked, called and then thrust his hand through the latch-opening. His hands wounded. My beloved has left."

Brethren, do not be delayed to get up and open.

Don't waste your time with your justifications. Don't be delayed. Don't say that it is the age to enjoy and wait for some more time. Don't say that you will open for the beloved when everything is all right. Who knows that you will have a next day? Who knows you will not quit this world before this night is over? Who knows that the messenger of death is not beside you? Dear ones, it is a wonder that we open our eyes and move our limbs each day and it is a wonder that we enter our prayer room each morning. We are mortals and this life is fleeting. You should say now," Lord, I will not tarry any longer. I will open my heart for my beloved this very moment."

I have heard a story about Satan's plans to send men off their track. Once, Satan gathered his strongmen and asked them, "Do you have any novel trick to send men astray? Many of them refuse to join us; they listen to the word of Jesus and get converted; they turn over a new leaf and are saved. Do you have plans to trap them into wrong ways?" His bullies had a meeting to discuss dirty tricks. One of them suggested, "I will enchant them by presenting cunning discourses on brainy topics. I shall deliver sermons from Gospels and tell that the things in the Bible are lies. I will tell them that their youth is the right time to celebrate and that they are going to be saved only through satanic worship." Satan laughed at him saying that men are not going to be beguiled with such foolish tricks.

Another thug proposed, "I have another plan." "What is it?" asked Satan. "I will tell them that all that the Bible

says is truth". Everyone laughed at him. Nevertheless he continued saying that he would ask the people not to believe the truth of the Bible. "At least, some people would disbelieve the bible even when they know that the Bible is true." Satan ignored him too. Satan wanted to know if there was any other with more cunning plans. Then another one proposed that he would tell the people that the Bible is true and everybody should believe it, but not for the moment. They could wait for some more time because the present moment is a time to enjoy and that they need to follow Bible only after ravishing all the enjoyments of life to their contentment. Satan was very happy because he knew that the plan would work and chose him to send to earth to deceive human beings.

It is a part of a story. In real life, we know that the Gospel is all true, and we realize the need of conversion, but we wait to enjoy life thinking that the time is not ripe for a conversion. My brethren, understand that we cannot be certain about the next moment. Listen to the voice of the beloved knocking at the door and attain personal salvation today. Accept Jesus Christ as your savior today. His hand is wounded and his blood is on the door. Lord, you have been wounded for my sake.

We have many obligations to fulfill. What are they? "I didn't love my wife as I should have and now she is no more. How can I love her now? I did not respect and take care of my father as I should have and now he has sailed to the other shore. I did not have concern or love for my mother as I should have and that too remains a due. I did

not respect my teachers. I could have expressed a word of gratitude. Instead, I enjoyed when others scorned them. Lord, how can I redeem myself of all that are left undone?" Everyone has dues and obligations.

*"If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back."*

*Philemon 18, 19*

The rich Philemon is on the one side and Onesimus, his slave, is on the other side. Standing between the two St. Paul intervenes for Onesimus. Onesimus had been unjust to Philemon. He had stolen what belonged to Philemon and lived as a scoundrel. He had debts to pay back. But St. Paul asks Philemon to charge it to him and promises to settle the accounts.

Brother, this is the wound on the hand of Jesus, the wound inflicted on Him when He took over our debts. He took over our iniquities, all our dues and all that we owed: rebelliousness towards husband, torturing your wife, the times when you wounded your wife with your words, the disobedience to parents, indifference in studies, irresponsible life, the insincerity in jobs and the discordance created in the work place. "My lord, all was my fault. My sins and debts are many."

Brethren, don't you have debts that you cannot repay? When are you going to fulfill them? But our Lord offers you a chance to redeem your debts saying, "If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it



to me. I will pay it back”, here is Jesus Christ mediating for us.

Crucified between the heavenly Father and men who are sinners, poised between the sky and earth and standing between the eternal Father and men who are sinners, He says, “Father, If these men have done you any wrong or owe you anything, charge it to me. I will pay back. Forgive this man. I shall take over the punishment due to him.”

Brother, can you tell Jesus who is beside you, “Lord, I owe much. There are many sins in my account. My heart breaks when I think about them. I cannot repay what I owe even if my tears make an ocean. I am unable to repay it. Lord, I wish that my head had been water and my eye a spring of tears to weep day and night. Forgive me Lord.”

I come before you now with repentance; forgive my sins; grant me personal salvation; deliver me from hellfire; redeem me from the horror of hell; liberate me from terrible punishments and make me worthy to come before your august presence experiencing this personal salvation. Don't make me a loser in achieving this personal salvation. Make me a worthy being to praise you without losing this salvation.

We can experience this personal salvation by the priceless blood of the Lamb. Simeon said, “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light

for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” Carrying that child in his hands, Simeon praised God. You can receive this Jesus today.

You too can praise accepting Jesus who is knocking at the doors of your heart. He is willing to be lodged in your little heart. He is willing to be a member though He has come as a guest. He is willing to rein your life, to repay your debts and to forgive your sins. Look at his wounded hands.

Lord, I look at those hands pierced by nails to make me wholesome, the hands that carried my sins and the hands that bore my infirmities. “Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.” I believe that now. Lord, I lay this brief life of mine into those venerated hands broken by nails. I hand over my future into your hands. Hereafter, I will lead a life devoid of sins, a life serving Christ in awe. I am yours from this day.



## Three

*“Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”* *Luke 19: 9*

If Jesus comes and lodges, a house will be saved. Today, many houses are hopeless ones without peace. They have everything, but no peace. There is no shortage for anything if you ask, but there is no serenity, peace or harmony. The members fight among themselves. Houses with only a few members do not engage in open and warm interactions. Don't they speak? Certainly, they do. Don't they have food? Yes. The house is fully furnished with beautiful rooms and there is no shortage for facilities. But the members cannot engage in intimate talks. Certain invisible barriers have possessed the house.

It is a case of being plagued by evil spirits. The harmony is lost. There is no love and reliance. The mutual confidence between the wife and the husband is lost. The father loses faith in the children; the children have no faith in their father and the house becomes restless. This is the case of many houses.

We need tranquility in our families. Homes should become heaven. Don't hope to attain paradise after death

if we cannot begin the heavenly experience on earth. The oneness and peace of heaven should begin here on earth. We will not reach God's heavenly abode after death if we don't.

Many people feel suffocated. Fumes rise up from homes: haze of despair, gloom and restlessness, the smoldering fumes of hostility, displeasure and dislike. The atmosphere is not one of love. But God desires to make our homes little heavens.

*“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”* *Matthew 5: 9*

Am I a person who makes peace in my home? What all sorts of stresses are there in many houses? Tensions! Burning minds create an atmosphere of suffocation and sighs. There are restless and silent faces around.

Remember that all the Apostolic Churches conduct the ceremony of consecrating the houses. It will not have any effect just because a priest visits the house and performs the rites. It is we who should change the restless atmosphere in the house. There can be many problems in the houses. There can be many disappointments, gloominess and sadness in the houses. Looking at it, one should decide that he will solve the problems that he has created. If one decides to make such corrections, salvation will come to that house.

Do you really have peace in your home? It may seem to be so when others look at it from outside. But what is the reality? Do you really enjoy the peace to have talks with open hearts? Don't you feel sad, unfriendly and

displeased, at least once in a while? It is the circumstance in almost all the houses.

But our Lord wants to give real peace in the houses of each and every one of you. Believe that our Lord wants to shower blessings in your life and your home tormented by distress, disquiet and lack of peace. Assure yourself saying, "my Lord will bring salvation to my home."

Your house will be saved when you attain salvation. The salvation of one member at the least can lead to the salvation of the house. Salvation is Jesus Christ. Your problem is that you don't have Christ within you. Christ is there around, in prayers, in worships, in prayer meetings, but not in your heart. You will be the fortunate if you humble yourself to confess it.

Your soul is dead. What your dead soul requires is life. Your soul will come alive when you find Christ who is the source of eternal life. My soul will be dead as long as there is sin in my life. Dead souls and the silent ones do not praise God. If my soul is in a dead state, my praise will be the praise of body, but not that of the soul. It is not the praise that will ascend to the august presence of God. My speech will be the speech of body, my bible class will be the bible class of the body and my prayers will be the prayers of the old man within me who is dead in spirit. I remain dead in spirit so that my prayers do not reach the heavenly throne which is within the doors of the upper Jerusalem.

When Adam sinned, his soul died, but Adam walks through the garden afterwards. He hides amid the trees.

He clothes himself sewing up the fig leaves together. Adam died in spirit, but his body did not die. He was stripped off his cloak of the glory of God. He had the image of God before. When Adam sinned, he lost the image and the likeness.

The garment of the spirit is stripped from many of you. You are stripped off that splendid golden robe. You chant your prayers still, you make confessions, you stand holding lighted candles in special prayers of mediation; you have all sorts of prayers, but your soul is dead. Your prayers do not rise above your head and you should realise this first. When you believe that, you confess to the Lord that you are dead in spirit and implore Him to render you alive in spirit.

I understood that my personality was sinful and my spirit was dead as I listened to the word of God when I was seventeen years old. That was how I got converted. I had not done anything forbidden intentionally. I had not done anything objectionable even in my secret life. I had my personal worshiping; attended the mass regularly and participated in all the services except the service inside the altar. I was proud of all these, but I did not realize that my pride was a sin.

I was brought up by my mother and my sister as an obedient boy and our family atmosphere was peaceful. There were no visible problems, but I understood that my soul was dead when I heard the Word of God at the age of seventeen. It was an insight granted by God, the grace of Almighty.

Even when there were no perceptible sins, the feeling of resentment was still there in my heart. Discontentment and jealousy had not gone from my mind. I was still ambitious, desirous of praise, wanted people to respect me and I wanted to place myself above others. Even when there were no noticeable sins, I was stubborn about certain of my opinions. My resentful nature still followed me. There was sin inside me even when I said there were none. There were all sorts of impurities inside me, but God showed me the kindness to make me sensible enough to humble myself.

You should humble yourself before God to acknowledge that you are dead in spirit. Admit that you will not reach God's kingdom if you live on as you are. Own up that you will not reach the heavenly abode prepared by God for you if you die in your present condition though you preach the word of God or make testimonies or help the poor. Lord, I understand this and I plead you. I believe that you died on the cross for me and bore my sins. Henceforth, I will not live for myself but for you since You became a curse for me on the cross.

Every moment that I live from now will be yours and I swear to remain untouched by sin. Jesus, make my home a little heaven and fill it with peace and make me a blessing to many. Let the sins and curses of others be absolved. Let me be a comfort to you. Jesus, I devote myself to you. Cleanse me with your holy blood and redeem me with your holy blood. Jesus, I will be your slave from this moment.



## Four

“Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.”

Our Lord was going to the house of Zacchaeus. It was a great procession and many people joined it because of an incident that had taken place in that street. A blind man named Bartimaeus recovered his sight! For many years he had been a fixture there as a beggar. The people there had been observing him sitting there begging and collecting coins with a blanket spread before him. And now the man was going after Jesus wrapping the blanket with which he used to beg. He could see; he had got his eyesight back; Jesus cured him.

At that time, Jericho was one of the most crowded of all the towns there. Zacchaeus had the inclination to see Jesus when He was coming along that teeming street. Zacchaeus thought it as just an occasion to see the man Jesus as he was passing along. In fact, Zacchaeus did not have any great eagerness to see Jesus. But he had heard many people recounting wonderful feats performed by Jesus: Jesus turned water into wine; Jesus healed a paralyzed man and made him walk and also that Jesus cured the demon-possessed man. As he had heard many things like these, Zacchaeus felt a desire to have a look at



Jesus.

It is the love of Jesus that engenders this desire and it is a plan of God's love. God gave Zacchaeus this yearning to see Jesus, but it was not possible for him to see Jesus as he was short in size. Instead of being disappointed, he ran ahead and climbed on a sycamore-fig tree. Zacchaeus had only one purpose in his heart: he wanted to see Jesus. Jesus was coming that way as he was sitting on the sycamore-fig tree with this desire in his heart. Zacchaeus looked down through the foliage with curiosity. But, in his heart, Zacchaeus wished that no one would see him sitting there.

But the God in heaven had seen Zacchaeus even before he started collecting tax. Jesus had seen him before. Jesus saw us even before we were born on this earth. He called us by name even when we were in our mother's womb. He chose us and decided to entrust his work upon us.

Jesus sees; Jesus cares. A thousand years is like a day to our Lord. Just like a day that has just gone by. Moses says in Psalm 90: "You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations". Psalm 90 is the song that Moses sung during the burial ceremony of Aaron.

*"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals." A*

*thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.”*

*Psalm 90 : 1 - 4*

Times will fly away; we will be removed from this earth and it is inevitable that we also will pass on to the other world through the door of death. But all that will be like a day that has just gone by! Generations will pass on; everything will change and man will go to his eternal abode.

Heavenly God had seen Zacchaeus before he reached there. Jesus knows that he is hiding there. Jesus knows that salvation will come to the house of Zacchaeus. As he is walking through the street of Jericho, Jesus knows that one blind Bartimaeus is going to receive eyesight that day and also that the house of one Zacchaeus is going to be saved through his conversion. Brethren, Jesus is not going to let you go however you resist His will.

Son, He is standing behind you. You will try to get out of His hold; you will hesitate to take a decision, a vow, but God has set his eyes on you and He is going to catch hold of you. Our Lord is not going to let you go wherever you may try to hide. You wish to stand out of this group, but our Lord will not let you go.

It is the amazing love of God that follows you. There is a poem titled 'The Hound of Heaven'. In the poem, we read: “God of heaven follows me like a hound. My Lord doesn't leave me wherever I go.” I have a desire to wriggle out of the hands of Jesus and I do this also, but He doesn't

let go of me. He is the hound of heaven. As I try to run away from Him, He pursues me like a hound that tries to catch a rabbit. My Lord is following me to catch hold of me even as I am trying to run and run away from Him.

Friends, is there anyone among you who has tried to slip out of the His hands, one who chose to do without this spirituality? Is there anyone who feels that he is not the one to be trapped into believing this? Is there anyone who keeps away thinking that he will lose his position and be considered worthless among the parishioners and in the neighborhood? Our Lord is behind you. Is this the day that Jesus has chosen to call you, to conquer you?

“Zacchaeus, came down immediately.” He could not figure out things: “How did Jesus know my name? How did Jesus know that I was sitting on the tree?” Friend, Jesus had known you even though you were unaware of it. Jesus had known you thoroughly: the time when you had your education, the time when you started your official life, the time when you started a business; He was with you always and knew everything though it may come as a surprise to you. You should know that everything that happened in your life was in accordance with the directions of Jesus.

Hearing the call of Jesus, Zacchaeus came down immediately from his hiding place upon the tree. Jesus doesn't ask questions that were due: “Don't you covet money? Aren't you a man who robs others? Don't you know that you have accumulated riches unjustly?” Nothing! Jesus doesn't ask anything.

Do you know the Jesus who has grabbed you without asking anything? Have you given yourself entirely into his hands? You are in the grip of His word: the word that comes to you lovingly; the word that dropped in your heart and awakened you; the word that pierced your heart; the word that wiped your tears; the word that gave peace in your house; the word that gave you a wife, a husband and the children.

What were you short of? Think about it. Is there anything deficient in your life after you listened to the true word of God and started living a holy life? In whatever ways were you prospered? Wasn't there progress in whatever you touched? Lord was giving you blessing in abundance. God guarded you in everything without any shortage.

Zacchaeus came down in a hurry. Jesus was walking ahead without asking anything. People began to murmur among themselves: "we are not coming along if Jesus is going with this tax collector to his house." Zacchaeus observed that the huge crowd along with Jesus was dwindling. Zacchaeus thought, "I am responsible for this; people begins to disperse when I joined Jesus because I don't have a good character; I covet riches and amassed wealth unjustly; it is true that I have arbitrated with people harshly and cruelly to make money and now, the people with Jesus deserts Him because of me."

Zacchaeus hurried ahead and stood before Jesus. Jesus also stopped. Zacchaeus said, "Lord, let me tell you one thing: many people abuse you and desert you

because I am with you. Lord, there is nothing wrong in their deed because I am a bad fellow and I have amassed much wealth unfairly. But now I have decided to give half of my possessions to the poor and I have decided to pay back four times the amount if I have cheated anybody out of anything.” The Lord did not say anything but He was pleased in His heart. The man amends for his transgressions without being dictated. Zacchaeus takes certain resolutions in his life without the Lord pointing out anything.

The lord walked ahead with Zacchaeus alongside him. They reached Zacchaeus' house. The moment they reached his house, Zacchaeus fell before our Lord's feet and his heart filled with gratefulness. He praised the Lord when his heart filled with gratitude ( It is my imagination.). There was heard the sound of weeping along with praise, the cry of gladness, not that of grief. Zacchaeus experiences a great tranquility and peace in his life. “Who is the one who has come into my house? The holiest Son of God has stepped into the house of a wretched sinner that I am. What a great blessing!” Zacchaeus fell before Jesus' feet. Standing him up by holding his hand and placing his hand on Zacchaeus' head Jesus said, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.”

The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. Salvation will come to a house if Jesus comes into it. The curses of a house will vanish if Jesus comes into it. He will set free the house of its evil bondages. Many houses are accursed and in the bondage of Satan. There are people

distressed by curses in life. Curses may be those that have come down through generations or curses in the form of mental illness, incurable diseases, physical disabilities by birth, misfortunes and other losses. Friends, what are the curses in your life?

A few days before, a family came to see me. As I was talking to them, the Lord revealed to me that there were some curses in their house. I asked them if some murder or suicide had taken place in their house. They said that they had no memory of any such incidents that had happened in their lifetime, but they had heard about such incidents having taken place during the lifetime of their forefathers.

I knew that Holy Spirit was touching them as they were telling about things. Relying on the grace of the Holy Spirit, I told them, “don't you want these curses removed? Don't you want the bondages in personality to be removed? If you live on with these curses still clinging to your life, it can be disastrous to your children. Infirmities will haunt your family.” Poor people, they have not given any thought to such perils. They did not know anything about these and they had no one to instruct them about such things.

My God, “aren't these things that the churches and the priests should do? What is the church for then?” The church should support its members who are being fretted about such burning affairs. The church should lead them to Christ, the people who are perishing without Christ. Giving personal salvation and the salvation of the houses

as well should be the prime concern of the churches and its higher authorities.

I had a great desire to tell everyone about the word of God when I got converted at the age of seventeen. I wanted everyone to hear about the true word of God, to know about this truth as I wanted many of my brethren to be saved. I had a strong desire in my heart to do the work of God. The work of God was my first priority even when I worked in a school and college for my livelihood. The work of Jesus was my prime concern.

When I joined the college, I promised my Lord that my duties as a college teacher would be next to my work for Him. When I assumed the charge as the principal of the college, I prayed, "I will be an evangelist the first thing and my concerns as the principal will only be the second." The work of my Lord was happiness to me as it gave me peace beyond words. I enjoy this much of health in body because of the work I do for my Lord. My Lord showers his grace upon me without remembering my weaknesses or my shortcomings. He graces me with health also.

You should come into a strong relationship with Jesus Christ today. Lord Jesus, who crossed the threshold of the house of Zacchaeus two thousand years ago, should enter into your heart also now. If you want Jesus Christ to enter your heart, you should open it first for Him. You need to say just one thing: Lord, I don't understand anything, but kindly come into my heart. Enter into my heart as true light where darkness reigns now, my heart which is superstitious, accursed and one which has

committed many evil deeds. Lord, how greedy was my heart? How many filthy desires were there in my heart? In what all objectionable ways have I travelled? I feel ashamed: how mean a life have I been living? How ugly have been my activities? Giving up all my sins and declaring my faith in your death on the cross, I fall at your feet. You can tell Jesus, "As Zacchaeus accepted Jesus I receive Jesus. Jesus, come to my house, come into my heart as you entered the house of Zacchaeus with your free gift of love."

Brethren, you should get it out of Him with your prayers. You should experience it personally. A great truth has come near you. At this moment you should tell Jesus, "Lord, you have given me this thirst and that is why I read this. It is Your grace that has given me a love for you."

"Lord, it is your great love, your grace that made me read Your Word. I humble myself before Your Word. Jesus, I have come before Your holiness. I have only one wish. I plead You to come into my heart. I am unworthy to ask this of you. I am not eligible even to utter your holy name. You are great and holy; You are the creator and the Lord of this universe; You are the creator of everything beyond the celestial bodies; You are the maker of all the planets, satellites and the galaxies!" I know that you are the eternal God who cannot be contained anywhere. But I plead you to come into my little heart, my selfish and impure heart; come into my heart which hosted all the vices; come into this heart which fondled sins in thought even when there were no deeds of sin.



Friends, you will be benefitted at the second coming of Jesus if you pray. You will fly with him when he comes again if you dedicate yourself and entrust your life into the hands of Jesus today. You will transform and become a spiritual-body. "Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection." Jesus, come into the heart of this insignificant man now. I renounce all the sins I have been carrying all these years. Today, I take leave of all the sins that were ruling me all these years. I give up forbidden love affairs, mean friendships, drunken debauchery, bad films and all my selfish interests.

Lord, walk into my heart now itself. Let the voice of Jesus, who came to the house Zacchaeus and blessed him saying, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham", echo in my heart also. Lord, grant me salvation, bestow salvation to this house and offer me the assurance of eternal life.

Coming into my heart today, make me a new being. I promise you that I will lead a life wholly dedicated to you. Would you deliver this insignificant life into the hands of Jesus? Here is Jesus standing near you. His eyes are wet with compassion. Like fresh pearls of tenderness, tears run down His cheek.

Blood trickles down Jesus' face as they have plucked hairs from His face. Blood flows down His face as they have placed a crown of thorn on his head. Blood mixed with sweat runs down His face. Blood gushes out of his hands and feet pierced by nails. Holy blood trickles down his chest torn by lances. Now you are at the feet of

Lord Jesus. Now is the time when you should implore Him to let that holy blood fall on your head and wash you clean of all sins. "The blood of Jesus cleanses me of all my sins. Make my life as white as snow which is as red as scarlet garment now. Lord, wash me clean and forgive all my past sins; wipe them clean of my life. Cover me with your sacred blood. Deliver me from my foes by wrapping me with your sacred blood." Dedicate yourself and give your word of promise to Jesus.

"My Jesus, I give myself into your hands; I am coming to you; accept me. I am coming to You, my Savior who sacrificed Yourself on the cross and shed Your blood for me. Kindly accept me."



## Five

*“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”*

*Acts 16: 30, 31*

You and your household will be saved. You can be saved by receiving the word of God; you can be saved by accepting the word of God; you can be saved by listening to the word of God. There are people who say that they have no way to be saved. Such people meet with failure wherever they go. They think that they have no one in their favor, no one to love them, no one to see their problems and no one to tell their problems openly. Aren't there many who complain like this?

There will not be any advancement, however they toil. They have nothing but complaints in their life: “I have worked hard and knocked at many doors, but no way. I don't get a job. How shall I live in this house? I have a husband who shouts in anger and beats me every day. Children cannot study their lessons at home. There will be hue and cry always in the evening. Even the neighbors are tuned to this. When they hear the shouts, they know that the husband is home. There is no way. Can I have a better future?”

These are problems of everyday life. There are many who cannot continue their education because of financial crisis; many are troubled with huge debts and wrecked by paying exorbitant interest. People are distressed by many such problems: "I gave a loan to a friend when he was in need of it, but the fellow is unwilling to pay it back and I am in trouble as the time of my daughter's marriage is drawing near. What shall I do? There is no way."

Seek the help of Christ. It is the only way to the progress of the family and the attainment of heights; it is the only way to household salvation. Let Christ come to your house. Let Christ come close to you. If Christ comes, you will progress. Everyone, except those who sin purposefully, will grow and attain heights. Those who demean the word of God will never progress.

You pray to the Lord to grant you good times in life that will bring salvation. If you pray to our Lord, He will give you a different life, a life which is better than your past. He will listen to the voice of your anguished heart: "Lord, don't you see and hear everything? Lord, place your hand in the matter of the studies of my son, about the marriage of my daughter and about the repayment of my bank loan. Lay Your hand on my heart which is tormented by tension."

Believe that it is only you and Jesus and you tell Him, "Lord, I want progress. Lord, give me salvation; give me peace and advancement in material life. There is no hope for my family." There is dislike and detest between the wife and the husband. There is no harmony between the

parents and children, but complaint and grumbling instead. There is always difference of opinions instead of the unity of hearts. A troubled family atmosphere is the result. There are many who are aggrieved in their hearts in like situations. You pray to the Lord to give you hope and salvation.

I am also a man who had once said that I had no hope. Mine was a life so deep in despair. Each one of us has cried in our turn. I have memories of my dejected mother doing her works sullenly. What happiness was there for my mother about future who was widowed when she was only thirty? Her only happiness was to see us, her children, growing up. She toiled to see us growing up. She prepared delicious food for us. But those were times when we cried a lot; they were times when I felt forlorn and distressed. The siblings of my father helped us a lot and did many things to support us. I was always grateful to them for all their support, but the loss of my father was a cause for endless sorrow.

My dear ones, I have something to tell you if there is anyone among you who is orphaned and weighed down: “there is a God who sees you always.” Think about the miserable sight of a certain man who had an infirmity for thirty-eight years. Jesus walked up to that man lying by the pool of Bethesda and asked, “Do you want to get well? Do you want to be made whole?” He says that he has no one; he has no one to help him into the pool when the water is stirred.

Christ is the one who says that He is here to help them who lament that they have no one to help: “You have

Me to help you. It is for that I have come to this pool. Haven't you been crying saying that you have no one to help? I am here to help you." Jesus says that He will be a father to those who lament that they have no hope of salvation. Dear daughter, Jesus will be the protector and lord to you who is crying in pain at the loss of the beloved husband.

I shall tell you about an incident. There was a child crying in desperation and his grandmother held him close to her. She consoled him saying, "son, don't feel hurt. It is true that your father died and your mother left you and married another man". Now, it is his grandmother who brings him up. He is beyond consolation because he loved his father very much and was very close to him. After the death of his father, he used to sit alone and cry. His grandmother would hold him close to her and say, "Son, you are not an orphan. You have a father." But he could not understand her words. She would repeat, "son, God in heaven is your father" and made him say, "God is my father". Then he started saying, "God is my father".

That grandmother prompted him to say that again and again to himself. The child grew up saying that and became a young man of twenty-four, the man who discovered the 'Law of Gravity' at the age of twenty-four. That child who used to cry saying that he had no father became one of the greatest scientists of all time.

You should believe that there is someone to take care of you; there is one for you to depend on. Hand over your problems to Jesus however difficult it is, the problems that no other person know. Dear one, it is only

between you and Jesus. Pass your problems on to Jesus and He will shoulder your problems however huge they are.

When Jesus takes over your burdens, you will be relieved of your burdens and praise Him. You should have such a faith to say, “I have handed over my problems to Jesus; I have told my problems to the one I should say; I have told the problem that no other person understands; Jesus is the one who has come to bear my burdens.” Jesus is here with His word of promise: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest”.

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” You will be saved and your household will be saved. Apostle Paul and Silas had been doing the work of God in Asia Minor. The Holy Spirit had forbidden them from preaching the word in the province of Asia. They thought about going to Bithynia, but the Holy Spirit forbade them from preaching the word of God there also.

*“Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.”*

*Acts 16: 6, 7*

The spirit of Jesus forbade them from preaching the word of God in Asia and Bithynia. Why did the spirit of Jesus say so? Jesus had told them to preach the word of

God to the end of the world. But now the Holy Spirit forbids them from entering Asia and Bithynia! How can one recognize that it is the Holy Spirit that speaks? “Holy Spirit is the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Holy Spirit is the one who is worshiped and glorified with the Father and the Son, the one who spoke through the prophets and Apostles.” This Holy Spirit was there in the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire, and then came down to the temple of God. This radiance of the God came down to man and started speaking to him afterwards. Now the same Holy Spirit is speaking through His saints and prophets.

Apostles Paul and Silas were in a dilemma and confused about their future activities because the Holy Spirit had forbidden them from going to Asia and Bithynia. That night Paul had a vision of a man begging him, “Come over and help us.” “Who are you”, asked the Apostle? “I am from Macedonia in Greece”, the man said. Greece is in Europe. The spirit of God is inviting the Apostles to Europe who have been doing the work of God in Asia, and they obeyed God's command. Complying with what the Holy Spirit says is a noble gesture. There are certain things we should blindly believe in though we cannot understand them using our intelligence. It will never be a loss.

*“From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed*



*there several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.” Acts of Apostles 16: 11 - 13*

It was Personal Evangelization. It is the same principle that works in Christian Revival fellowship also where nothing is spoken about baptism, temple or the church. In the fellowship, one hears about the transformation that comes over in the personal and family life as a result of listening to the Word of God.

*“One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.” Acts of Apostles 16: 14*

Lydia was a dealer in purple cloth and she came there to sell them. Apostles Paul and Silas had been there when she came to the market to sell her wares. She was listening carefully to what Paul and Silas spoke to the women who had gathered there. “The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.” The Lord opened the heart of Lydia. The Word of God entered her heart as Jesus opened her heart that had been locked until then. This is how the Lord opened the way to Europe. First, there was a call to “come over and help us.” Secondly, the Lord opened the heart of Lydia.

Today, you read this because it happens that the Lord has opened the way. We listen to the word of God because the love of Jesus has opened a way for it. We

should be able to feel the presence of Christ always in our life. You can experience Jesus Christ standing close to you always when you are working or preparing food. You can experience Christ caressing you, fondling you or wiping your tears. You can experience the healing of diseases and the alleviation of pains. If it is so, you pray to the Lord to gift you such experiences. You can experience your burdens and tribulations removed. You can experience Jesus Christ touching your heart and opening your heart. The Lord opened the way and opened the heart.

*“When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.”* Acts of Apostles 16: 15

She wanted those children of God to come and stay in her house. Thyatira is not in Philippi, but in the neighboring town and her house was at a distance from there. Receiving and honoring the children of God can be a blessing to any household. I remember with a sense of gratitude that it was a custom for my mother and my dear wife Alice to receive and to feast the evangelists who visited Valamboor Church. You respect the evangelists and never demean or belittle the people who preach the Word of God.

You should never ridicule, scorn or lay blame on the people who preach the Word of God. Leave it up to the God to accuse them of their transgressions if there are

any. Let God pass judgment on them. You should never demean anyone, let alone the gospelers. I treat the people who do the work of God though they do not belong to my church. That is what 'Pappa', my spiritual teacher, taught me. He honored everyone who preached the word of God irrespective of their denomination.

*“When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.”* Acts of Apostles 16: 15

From there they are going to a place of worship. Something wonderful is going to happen. Miracles and signs take place wherever the Apostle reaches: evil spirits leave people, households receive peace, and whole families accept Jesus and obtain blessings.

*“Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.”*

*Acts of Apostles 16: 16, 17*

She is a medium, a fortune teller. It is an evil spirit that works in her. The spirit of God cannot indwell in her, but her fortune telling matches the truth. The people who take her along with them and force her to do such

activities make profit out of it. That woman goes after the Apostles Paul and Silas and calls out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved."

Friends, all those who preach the gospel are not gospelsers. Aren't they speaking the word of God, the teachings of the Bible? Yes. But it is the spirit of the devil that works in them. I have seen certain T.V programs in which some people are pushed down or brought down by simply blowing mouthful of air on them. And they claim that it is the spirit of God that does it. These are only tricks to deceive poor people, gimmicks of many sorts. We should not be deceived by these or fall prey to such tricks.

The woman who had a spirit by which she predicted the future called out, "These men are servants of the Most High God." She is praising St. Paul, but the spirit of God in him discerned the evil spirit. The spirit of God in St. Paul had the discernment to distinguish whether the spirit in the woman was that of the God or of the devil. Though the things that she called out were true, the spirit of God in St. Paul discerned that the woman was in the hands of the devil. This power to realize the truth is what is called discernment.

These days there are beautiful speeches, prayers, beautiful hymns and songs in Syriac also. Everything is good, but it needs the discernment of the Holy Spirit to know if the rituals have the Spirit of God or the presence of God. One requires the discernment of the Holy Spirit to distinguish between the spirit of God and the evil spirit.

There are many people who read these words in whom the evil spirit does its work. You can understand the real condition of your soul only when you come before the spirit of truth. You will understand whether it is the spirit of truth or the evil spirit that move within you only when you come before the spirit of life. The eyes of many are blind these days.

Sitting alone, you should ask the Lord to reveal your real condition: "Lord, what is my condition? How do You see me? Are there evil spirits within me? Have I given place to demons in my life?" You can give your word to God to become a better being: "Lord, I take leave of all evil spirits. Till this moment I lived as a slave of Satan. I lived as a sinner. I lived astray like a mad man and used up everything, lost everything. I lost my good name, my character and honesty. I was fraudulent in my financial dealings. There were many faults in my behavior. Lord, I gave a space for Satan within me. Now I understand that there is the spirit of Satan in me. Lord, show mercy on me. From this moment, Jesus will be my lord and my possessor. I renounce Satan and accept Lord Jesus."



## Six

*He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household."*

*Acts of Apostles 16: 30, 31*

Apostle Paul and his fellow-worker Silas were set to stay in Philippi and do the work of God. When they were going to the place of prayer, a girl, who earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling, followed Paul and Silas shouted: "These men are servants of the Most High God". But Paul realized that she was telling these things in evil spirit. He turned around and rebuked the evil spirit. At that moment the spirit left her and she lost the power of fortune-telling. When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

The servants of God had to face opposition because they caused some malevolent people to lose their chance to make unfair profit. It was the opposition on account of the love of money. Paul and Silas were dragged into the marketplace to face the authorities. They brought Paul

and Silas before the magistrates and said, "These men are Jews; they are throwing our city into chaos by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice."

What happened in the 1<sup>st</sup> century is the same that is happening today also. During these days also there are attempts to destroy and dishonor the work of God as they did with the works of God's righteous children in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. The Apostles did not speak of any ritual, instead they said, "believe in Lord Jesus; Christ is the Savior; there is salvation by the blood of Jesus Christ; you will find peace if you receive Jesus Christ and will attain eternal heaven when you leave this world; He will forgive all the sins you committed until this moment." That was all they said and nothing more.

When the crowd joined in to attack Paul and Silas, the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas began to pray and sing hymns to God when the other prisoners were asleep.

We should think, "shall it be possible to praise when ordeals visit us? Is it possible to praise God in the midst of big problems and crisis? Is it possible to praise God when we are being swallowed by the whirlpool of problems?"

What all things will we say when we praise?" It is possible to praise if we have the presence of God in our heart and it will never be possible otherwise.

Brethren, there are problems in your life, really painful problems that you cannot bear. You are vexed by painful issues about your children: there are dislikes and discordances in the family; there is clash and fight between the members of the family; there are gloomy faces who are dejected within. How many are the problems, one will wonder? Everyone is swayed by problems in one way or other. There are unresolved issues, needs, complaints, sorrows, choking problems and disheartening predicaments.

But if you get the presence of Jesus Christ, you will start praising Him. You will forget everything: your rotten situation, your difficulties and problems. You will forget the complaints that you have. You should always aspire for the presence of Jesus so that His presence never departs you.

There will be people who spread falsehood about you or ridicule you. There will be people to accuse you of things that you are unaware of. People will charge you about things you have not thought about. You will writhe in pain by scandals. But all the time you should pray, "I don't want anything, but your presence, the sweetness of the feeling that you are close to me and the consolation of it."

Friends, you should experience it and then you will praise God without anyone asking you to do it, without



anyone telling you to do it. Praise will start rising from your heart; praises will come out through your tongue and dance about you. You should pray when you are agitated by difficulties and problems and when you throb with pain in distresses: “give me your presence, my Savior who shed His blood on the cross on Golgotha. Was it not to give your presence to me that You resurrected from the dead? Lord, I do believe that you live on even now to come close to the needy. Jesus, you live to wipe the tears of the crying and you live to comfort the minds of the distressed. Jesus, I believe that you are living. Jesus, you are my wealth and the life of my life. It will be a great consolation if you come near me. I will have peace if you come and talk to me. I don't want anyone else but you to be close to me. Jesus, it is enough if you come beside me though no one sees me, considers me or respects me. Jesus, it is enough if you come near me though everyone forsakes me.”

Inside the jail, Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns to God. They were dragged into the marketplace to face the authorities during the day. They had been starving all the day and now it was midnight and they were thirsty. But they are not troubled by any of these. Their bodies were smarting and a burning sensation hurt them. They could not move as the jailor had fastened their feet in the stocks and they could move only their hands. In this condition, they prayed and praised God singing hymns lying inside the jail. Wonderful things will happen when

one praises God from his soul.

*“About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.”*

*Acts of Apostles 16: 25*

Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose and they were freed from stocks. Mental ailments will be cured, people will be set free of bondages, ghosts will fly away and curses will be removed when the praise of the Holy Spirit rises. You will be greatly fortunate as to be absolved of all the sins that have happened in your life by the Holy Blood of Jesus.

When the praise of the Holy Spirit echoes, one obtains deliverance from sins; gets consolation in the heart. Jesus cannot remain silent when two of God's children are lying in prison. God in heaven cannot remain inactive when two of His dear children are being persecuted for no reasons. They came to Europe because God called them and they had no other intention. They started the work of God in accordance with His command and the work went ahead with a clear plan. Now they are lying in prison and God cannot remain silent. And it had results: the earth moved and the foundations of the prison shook.

There will be shocks when evil spirits leave man. One will be moved to tears when gratitude and love fill the

heart. The tears of love have a sort of sweetness about it. The tears of love is the tears of gratitude. A way was opened in prison. Firstly, the way to Macedonia was opened and then the way to the heart of Lydia. Now the gates of the prison are opened. Doors will open where there is the spirit of Jesus Christ.

You can think about your personal problems: “aren't there certain doors in my life that still remain closed? There is no progress in life; business is at a loss; things do not work as expected; all the doors are closed. Everything will be set right if I die. Then I will not have to see or listen to these problems; then I need not to worry about the marriage or delivery of my daughter or about the education of my son. Though I sell all my properties, I will not be able to repay my loans.” There are people who think that it is better to die. But my brethren, there is one who lives to open closed doors and that one is Jesus Christ.

Don't you think that your hopes have a sundown? Jesus Christ can bring forth new buds to your hopes that are perished. Believe that you can tell Jesus who is standing close to you: “Lord, don't you know that there are many closed doors in my life? Kindly work some wonder about those closed doors; open those closed doors and give me a way ahead.”

A son was born to Prince who is working in Kuwait. The child can neither get up nor move or smile, but just lie down where he is and he has to be spoon-fed. It was a

pathetic plight and the doctor said that there was no hope for any improvement. The same would be the condition if they have another child. So the doctor advised them not to have any more children. It was a genetic disability that could not be cured.

They told me about these things when they came to me with a prayer request. I told them to pray to God and I promised to pray on their behalf. I encouraged them saying that we have a God who is able to cure any genetic disability. So, let us leave this matter into His hands. God worked wonder and graced them with two healthy children. Those children were without any problem against the predictions of medical science. Bondages will come loose and the doors will be opened when the foundations shake.

You too can pray: “Lord, if these things are true, I am also a man in need, living with a smoldering heart. I am also tormented by my anxieties and my hopes. I am worried thinking about what my future has in store for me. Lord, there are many chains about me and it is impossible for me to unfasten them. There are the bondages of my bad habits: addiction to alcohol, marijuana, snuff, craze for playing cards, pornography, cinema, my bad friendships and countless others. I want to be set free of them all.”

You should ask God to shake your foundations and rebuild your life: “A miracle should happen in my life. You visit me and shake my foundations. I want all the closed

doors in my life to open and all the closed chapters in my life to open when my foundations shake. I want to be set free of all the bondages today. Lord, I give you my word. Jesus, if I am washed by your holy blood today, I promise to live a life without sins henceforth. Lord, receive me accepting my word and vow. Let me be set free of my fetters.”

The chains came loose when the earth quaked and the foundations of the prison were shaken. When it happened, the chains of all the other prisoners also came loose and they were surprised at it. All the chains came loose at midnight. “Who did it”, they wondered? If the bondage of one of God's children is broken, the chains of many others will come loose. If the chain of one member of a family is loosened, the chains of others also will come loose. It is the value of a servant of God in whom the spirit of Jesus Christ resides. If there is a child of God in a vehicle, it will be saved from accidents. To make wonderful things happen, remain a child of God, remain a blessed daughter of God.

As Paul and Silas happened to be there in the prison, the chains of all other prisoners in other cells also came loose. It happened so not because the other prisoners prayed or praised, but on the contrary, their chains also came loose when the praises of the God's children rose up.

Without realizing what actually happened, the jailor woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he

drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" Don't do any harm to you. There are people here who are graced with Holy Spirit. Don't think that you are alone. Don't think that there is no one to be with you. Disclose your problems and unburden yourselves. Open up the package of your burdens.

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. When you praise, filled with the spirit of God, your opponents will come and stand before you humble and pleading. The jailer then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Paul replied that he needn't do anything in particular, but, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Just believe in Jesus and it is all that is required of you.

Once, a young man started on his way to church and nothing was visible as there was thick fog. He heard church bells when he had walked some distance. There was a chapel somewhere around and he decided to go in there. The pastor had not arrived because of the fog. In the place of the pastor, a young man who was there stood up to preach the word of God. He said, "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other." "Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame."

He repeated, "You needn't do anything else; just

look at Jesus.” You will be saved if you look at Jesus Christ. Your shame will be removed and you will inherit heaven. You needn't go and meditate or do the work of God. Just look at Him and you will be saved. The young man who heard the speech on that day decided, “I will live as a son of Jesus from today.” That young man who had a transformation of the heart listening to the words of the other young man who was not an adept at preaching was Charles Spurgeon, a great evangelist, who was later praised as the prince of preachers.

You look at Jesus. Never look at the fellowships, the servants of God or the one who speaks the word of God. They all may fall down in future like a leaning wall or an unsteady fence. Here we have one who is raised high. Look at Golgotha. You can see the penalty for the sin of humankind if you look at Jesus. He took over all your sins: your bad ways, your drinking habit, persecution of your wife, disobedience to parents, torturing your children and your immoral and life. Young man, He took over your unfaithful life.

Jesus Christ died on the cross taking it all upon Him. He took on Him the punishment for your sins. They are punishments that should have come upon you. Since He has taken it upon Him, you are freed from your sins, your bondages, your dark fate and the chains of Satan. You have been given your freedom and liberation from the evil spirits. Your chains have come loose.

Look at Him. “The blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies

us from all sin.” His holy blood grants you freedom and peace. Holy blood redeems and liberates you. Who is in need of this salvation? Look at Him. He is the redeemer. He is the one who gives salvation. He is the very meaning of salvation. Gain salvation by looking at Jesus who is the redeemer. This will come as an experience to those who believe. “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”





## Seven

*He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”*

*Acts of Apostles 16 : 30, 31*

Paul and Silas had the certainty that Jesus was with them. They were tortured; they had been severely flogged, and blood flowed from their wounds. They are thrown into prison and their feet are fastened in the stocks. Paul and Silas are lying in a prison in Philippi.

At midnight, the praise of God that had been suppressed until then broke out. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. When they started to sing and praise, there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken; the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. Thus, all of them became free.

A wonderful thing happened in the prison of Philippi! Chains came loose! The closed doors will open when the praise of the Holy Spirit rises up, the praise that flows from the depths of heart. It is the praise that comes up when we gratefully think what Jesus Christ has done for us. It is the

praise of acknowledgement thinking that He has brought one into the light of truth from the darkness of sin. It is the praise thinking that He has changed the course of one's life to heaven from the pit of hell. It is the praise thinking that He has taken me out of the pit of the mire of sin and made me stand on the rock. It is the praise that comes when I think that I was hostile by nature and that He has made me a member of a fellowship of countless brothers and sisters in spirit.

It is the praise when I think that I have been transformed into a comforter from a man of rough nature. It is the praise when I think that I have been transformed into a loving wife and an affectionate mother out of an angry woman. I praise God because He has changed my furious nature which I thought I will never be able to alter. I praise because He has removed the impure thoughts that I never hoped to remove from my heart. I praise because He has made it possible for me to live a holy life I never thought to be possible. I praise because He has given peace, tranquility and simplicity to me who was cruel by nature.

Like this, the praise of gratitude should rise up and then the bondages of sins and curses will come loose. The jailor decided to kill himself by drawing his sword.

There are weapons that God has given us to use against enemy. The weapon that God has given us to use against the evil forces is the weapon of love, the weapon of patience and the weapon of purity. These precious weapons are being used to destroy oneself. But Paul

shouted, "We are all here!" you need not to destroy yourself.

Dear ones, you didn't know that you have been destroying yourself until now. But now Lord says that you need not to destroy yourself. Daughter, you need not to think about committing suicide because there is still a peaceful future ahead. Son, there is cure for your disease; you need not to go in despair. Chains come loose; closed doors open; you need not to kill yourself.

*"The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas."*

*Acts of Apostles 16: 27 - 29*

When Paul said that they were all there, a light entered into the heart of the jailor and his hopelessness was removed. When there comes the word of God and the voice of the spirit of God, there is an awakening in the life of the weary man and bitter life becomes sweet.

Many of you are living a life of tensions with a grief stricken mind. There are many whose hearts are burning with painful thoughts. You will find relief when the word of God enters your heart; you will begin to believe that your Lord loves you. When you believe that Jesus loves you, sweetness will begin to enter your heart though your problems remain unsolved, though your diseases are not

cured, your daughter's marriage is yet to take place or your daughter is not being blessed with a child.

The word of God has the power to awaken your heart; it can brighten your heart. The jailor asks, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" The jailor is the very man who dragged Paul and Silas, but now he fell trembling before them. Paul said: "not you alone, but your household also will be saved. For that it is enough that you believe in Lord Jesus. You believe that Jesus loves you, that Jesus knows you. Believe that Jesus still loved you even when you hurt him. Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." What does it mean to believe? What is faith?

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished." Romans 3:23-25*

Salvation is for those who believe. Many people of Israel died when they were bitten by fiery serpents. The fear of death spreads amongst the tents. Fiery serpents fly about like darts of fire. There was heard the lamentations of the crowd. Moses cried: "Lord, these people are in danger. It hurts me seeing them being destroyed by You in the desert." Then the Lord told

Moses: “make a bronze serpent and put it up on a pole”

Those who believed that the command to look at the bronze serpent was the Word of God would be relieved of the pain of the venom of the fiery serpent. Moses said: “no one need to be frightened about the sting of the serpent. Those who were lying paralyzed by the serpent sting would be saved as they had only to look at the bronze serpent put up on the pole even as they were lying on their bed. Those who looked at it were saved.

There is the power of the Word of God behind the bronze serpent put up on the pole. It has life of the Word of God. It was the Word of God that commanded to look at the bronze serpent. The Word of God assumes power when we act in accordance with the command of the God. The people were saved from the venom of the serpent as they looked at the bronze serpent.

Salvation comes when we believe in Jesus Christ. “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross carrying your sins on Him. Your sin is absolved when you believe that Jesus Christ was crucified just as the bronze serpent was put up on the pole, that He hung there nailed to the cross and that He died carrying your sins.

“God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood” This is salvation. I am a sinner even when I do not sin. There is an element of sin behind the good deeds I do. When I do something good to

some person, I want him to be grateful to me. This is the case when I help a poor person and feels bad when I find him ignoring me afterwards. There is an element of self behind all these.

There is the element of self behind it when I feel that I have delivered a good speech. The feeling of my own greatness and my individuality are all immersed in my personality. I should fight with the help of the Lord to get rid of all these. It is possible to attain that experience when Jesus fills our very being emptying my personal self. We need absolute salvation.

We need personal salvation, salvation of the house and the household salvation. Have we attained salvation? We should think about it. Are we in the protection of the heaven as a family? Are we really guarded by heaven? Are we under the protection of Lord Jesus Christ? Jesus is making a fence around to protect us from dangers.

Entrust our children in the hands of Jesus in our everyday prayers. Pray to God entrusting the wife, husband and the parents into the hands of our Lord. Pray to God remembering our brethren and the family folk.

Apostle Paul had painful concerns in his life. Apostle feels aggrieved thinking that none of his kith or kin was ever able to experience the happiness that he had attained.

*“I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of*

*my people, those of my own race.”*

*Romans 9: 2, 3*

Apostle Paul was aggrieved about his kinsfolk: “My folk, who are related to me by blood, are in danger; they have not attained salvation. If they die today, they will never reach God's kingdom. God granted me this great fortune; the Holy Spirit stopped me and granted the experience of conversion on my way to Damascus.”

He was saved though he had many crises. But his kinsmen are people of Israel. They are people who have their prayers and worship; they are very ardent in their spiritual matters; they are not people who go after anything undesirable publically; they have the adoption to sonship, the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises, but they are on the way to destruction without realizing the truth. Apostle is aggrieved by the thought that his kinsmen are perishing.

Imagine that we have dedicated our lives to Christ in accordance with the Word of God and we reach heaven when we die. How can we bear to see our own children, husband, dear wife and brethren wriggling in the fire of hell?

How will it be possible for us to see our children burning in the raging fire of hell? How can we bear it if our dear ones fall prey to eternal torment with no possibility of a coming back? How terrible it will be if our dear children, whom we brought up lavishing all our affection and care,

fall into the hellfire? Have we really attained salvation though we understand all these?

Have I, the person that I am, really attained purification? Have I become holy enough to reach heaven? Has my life transformed? Have I got faith in Jesus Christ? Do I have the certainty that I will inherit God's kingdom? Have I got the assurance that my sins have been forgiven? Shall we have to give account if there is any blemish in the money that we acquire? How shall we stand on that day when the accounts are settled? There is a long list of transgressions: "I poured alcohol into my mouth, smoked cigarettes, smoked marijuana, injected drugs into my body, my eyes enjoyed pornography, entered in many despicable situations." Where shall I reach if these transgressions are not forgiven? Where shall my soul reach if I happen to pass away before my sins are forgiven? We must realize this and feel a constant pang in our heart; a deep sense of repentance should fill our heart.

Many things that should never have happened occurred in my life: "I permitted my body to be used in drunken bouts. I happened to be involved in thefts instigated by my friends. I embezzled money by framing fake accounts at my workplace." Where will we go in the afterlife if we do not rectify where we wronged in life? We should set things right when we are alive on earth.

There are many people who went about many houses and returned money they owed and asked for forgiveness to set things right. As a result, they



experienced spiritual salvation. Have you done anything unjustly to anyone which remains yet to be atoned? Do you have vengeance towards anyone still? Do you still maintain malice and indignation within you towards anyone? Be reconciled to God as fast as you can.

What all vulgarities are the youngsters doing in the name of love? Were you ever responsible for anyone committing suicide? Have you ever been an accomplice in abortion? You should know that it was murder. It is a child that you have killed. You should tremble when you listen to the Word of God. You should plead to God: "Don't remember my sins. Don't count my transgressions." You should ardently pray to God to wipe all your sins.

Jesus is here to listen to you if you pray with a broken heart. You should tell Him with a crushed spirit: "I have committed many mistakes; I have wronged many; done many things trusting muscle power; did many things out of pride and did things out of selfishness." What all things I have done to make money? What shall I say on the day when the Lord takes stock of my affairs? I have nothing to justify my deeds.

Lord, I have come before you as one who has lost everything. Don't count my sins and my transgressions: my defiance of my parents, my deeds that made my children angry in their hearts, my words that hurt my children, my parents and my brethren, my dishonesty in money matters and all such transgressions. I will have to confess all that before my God.

There will come a day when all the books will be opened. Another book will be opened, which is the book of life. All will be judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. There will not be an occasion to change things afterwards. We should repent and cry with a broken heart counting all our sins. Tell Jesus, “my savior who knows my heart, forgive my sins, forgive my transgressions.”

Our forefathers sang:

Look at my distress my Lord!  
 I was mischievous in many ways  
 Angered many, and I have no consolation  
 I visited many a physician  
 They tried medicines, but of no use  
 My sores are painful  
 Oh! Good doctor  
 I heard about you and the goodness of your medicines  
 Surely, those who come to you will be cured.

Lord, I am like one who is ulcerous by sins. I am affected by the leprosy of the soul. I believe that you will touch my sores with your holy hands and cure them when I come to you. I believe that Your holy blood can cure these boils.

I am like a lunatic because of my sins. I fail to remember things. There is a frenzy of religious madness in rampage. These ailments are the leprosy of the soul. Come to me, Jesus, my good doctor. The doctors of this earth cannot cure me or give me ease. Almighty Jesus, my savior who died on the cross, if I continue to live in this

condition, I will die in my sin and inherit eternal darkness.

Jesus, I am coming to you shedding two drops of tears like that woman who lived a sinful life came to the house of Simon and wept at the feet of Jesus. She fell weeping at his feet and wet his feet with her tears. You too should sit at the feet of Jesus and wet His feet without anyone knowing about it. Pray to Jesus, “forgive my sins, I cannot rectify my sins. I believe that You died on the cross to take up the punishment for my sins. Wash my sins with Your holy blood.” When the worst sinner of that town came and wet his feet and wiped them with her tears with remorse, Jesus forgave her sins. If you pray to the Lord for His mercy with deep repentance, He will forgive the sins.

I have heard about an incident: “An enemy force conquered a country. They went about each house and killed all one by one. They were there to destroy that country completely. They were two groups going about and entering the houses. Each group smeared the doorposts of the houses with the blood of the inmates whom they killed. They did it as a sign to the other group, a sign of having done their work, for the other group need not to take the trouble of entering the same house.

A small child observed their activities from a hiding place. He went into a house where there were a number of people and told them that the enemies were marking the houses they entered with blood on the doorposts. He cautioned them to act wisely. He counseled them to kill a lamb and smear its blood on the doorposts. They did accordingly and many people from many houses were

saved from death.”

The destroyer will not come in if we sprinkle the blood of the lamb. “The devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.” Do not be afraid; smear the blood of the lamb on the walls of your heart. Do not touch anyone who has the mark.

*“Then I heard him call out in a loud voice, “Bring near those who are appointed to execute judgment on the city, each with a weapon in his hand.” And I saw six men coming from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with a deadly weapon in his hand. With them was a man clothed in linen who had a writing kit at his side. They came in and stood beside the bronze altar. Now the glory of the God of Israel went up from above the cherubim, where it had been, and moved to the threshold of the temple. Then the LORD called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side and said to him, “Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it.” As I listened, he said to the others, “Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity or compassion. Slaughter the old men, the young men and women, the mothers and children, but do not touch anyone who has the mark. Begin at my sanctuary.” So they*

*began with the old men who were in front of the temple.”* *Ezekiel 9: 1 - 6*

Do not touch anyone who has the mark. The destroyer will not touch if we get the mark. The Holy Spirit goes ahead putting the mark by giving the Word of God. The destroyer comes behind. What should we do to get the mark? Grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in the temple. You grieve and lament for getting the mark. “Jesus, I am unqualified; I have no heritage or long practical experience. Until this moment, this temple had detestable things in it. I plead you to wash them.” Do not be delayed to attain the mark. You attain the mark, attain peace, call the Savior, be saved, get converted and commit yourself into the hands of Jesus.



## **Eight**

A person named Simeon was saved. When Zacchaeus was saved, his house also was saved. Paul and Silas told the jailor, "You and your household will be saved."

It is about the salvation of the household. Everybody in our house should find out Jesus. Today, many households are in the grip of unrest. The children are not in the right path: they do not pray; they do not read the Word of God; they have no interest in prayer meetings; they can't enjoy the sweetness of the Word of God; they neglect their studies; there is no improvement in their character; they meddle in bad friendships; they slide down into immoral relationships. The greatest problem in the families today is the children who are growing up.

The life of the children is damaged as a result of the lack of unity between the parents. There is no love and harmony between the mother and the father. The children grow up amidst the dislikes, disagreements and complaints among the parents. Such children will grow up without a purpose and are likely to lose the values of life. They are tormented by a thought: "Why should we live?"

A girl once told me, "I don't want to get married. Isn't

this the situation if I get married? I find my father and mother quarreling every day. What shall I do if the man whom I marry comes and starts beating me just as my father is doing to my mother?" I told her, "daughter, it need not be the case just because it so happened in a family. The situation may not be the same everywhere. Why can't you get a different life, a fortunate life? You pray to God committing your life unto him. You will get salvation. You will be graced with a blessed life."

There is a disheartening kind of slackening in the family relations during these days. Some children are not God conscious in their life though they are born to loving parents. There was a time when they had great zeal in spiritual matters. They were enthusiastic in their prayers, reading the Bible, and attending church services. Now, they don't seem to be very sincere about these matters. Are they under the influence of some curses from the time of forefathers? Do they come as curses as the consequences of some evil deeds committed during the times of the ancestors? We do not know. There are families ravaged by curses and other troubles. There are many shattered families.

Aren't there people living in distress thinking about imminent divorces? The couple was in great love, but the wife does not want the marital relation now for some reason. The husband's heart throbs with love. He is trying to call her and get in touch with her, but she does not attend the phone. If he tries to call from some other phone, she hangs up the moment she recognizes his voice. He

cannot have even a word with her. That is the lot of some ruined families.

This is the time to give a thought about your progeny. Fortunately, by the grace of God, you happened to hear the Word of God and you are saved. Imagine that you pass away and sit with the host of holy men while your children are tormented in the lake of fire. How will you endure the sight when your dear son or your daughter burn in the fire of hell? The hell is where the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched.

“My wife could not experience the blessing of conversion though she had heard about it all while she was alive. We were very happy and in great love when we were living together. She had great concern in my affairs. Now she is being tormented in the fire of hell.” “My husband loved me and did everything for me, but while I reached the other shore, I found that he could not attain the heavenly happiness that I was able to inherit. I find him standing on the other side of a great chasm which cannot be crossed.”

*“Between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.”*  
*Luke 16:26*

Lazarus suffered a lot on earth, but now there is no sore on his body; there is no discomfort for him. Now he is sitting by the side of Abraham, the father of all who believe, with all the saints. But the rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every



day was in torment in Hades after his death. From there he cries out for a drop of water:

*“So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'”* Luke 16:24

The rich man cannot even imagine about Lazarus dipping his finger in water because he has seen blood and puss flowing from those hands. But now he pleads to send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool his tongue, but it is impossible. “Between us and you a great chasm has been set in place.”

We live together as a family for some years and then we part. Just as the wheat and the chaff grow together, we live here together, eat together and sleep together.

There is great love and unity among us when we are living together on earth, but the truth is revealed only when we pass on to the other shore. One day, we will go to the other side of the curtain called death. On that day, we should be seen in the august presence of the Lord. Lord, I should not be the only one to be with you, but along with all those who are with me now.

We should seriously think about it. Shall we reach the kingdom of god? Don't I possess money with the stain of corruption on it? Don't I possess money which is gained through unfaithful means? Don't I have money with me stolen from the institution I work? There is certainly a day when the account of life is settled.

*“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.”*

*Matthew 25:19*

There is a day when all the accounts will be settled. One man is told on the day of the settling of the accounts: “You wicked, lazy servant! Didn't I give you the talent? Why did you hide the talent? You could have traded it. You should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.” The Lord will ask to some among us: “wicked servant, where did you throw away the talent that I gave you? Didn't you spend it at the liquor shop? Didn't you give it at the brothel? Where did you throw away the gifts I granted you: your health, beauty, education, influence and other talents? You don't seem to have anything left with you.”

God gifted everyone with talents more or less in accordance with their ability. There are some who hid their talent. There are others who threw away their talents. You should not throw away or hide the talents given to you by the Lord. I was afraid to speak the truth: “What would the people say? What would the Bishop or the priest say? What would the parishioners say? Why should I create problems? It is safe to keep mum.” Such were my thoughts that I did not speak anything about spiritual matters. I didn't invite anyone to the fellowship.

Son, you hear from me. What will you say when I settle accounts with you on that day if you have not done what you should have for fear of making problems? You

hid your resources. You were ashamed to speak.

*“Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”* Luke 9 : 26

*“Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven.”* Matthew 10 : 32

There is a life after this life on earth; there is an eternity. When you make your journey to that eternity, you should know that there will be day when our actions will be questioned. There is a day when our Lord Jesus Christ, the supreme judge of all judges, will sit on His throne. All the people, young and old alike, will gather before Him. Everyone will be judged according to what they had done.

*“But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken.”*

*Matthew 12 : 36*

Today, you can rebuke your father or your mother; you can scold your son unreasonably or ridicule and laugh at your teachers. But bear in mind that there is a day to settle accounts.

Is there any blemish in the money in our hands? Is there any blemish about the things we bought? Have you travelled in a bus and got out without paying for the ticket? Have you cheated the grocer without paying for the things you bought? Have you ever been unfaithful? You should

make a reckoning of all that you have done. You should look into the book of life and leaf through it back to the beginning. When you do that, you will find that you have committed mistakes; you have been disloyal; you had not been sincere in your work in the institution where you worked and that you were lazy. You will realize that you had been rebellious while doing your work. You will certainly confess to the Lord that you are guilty of your failings and misdeeds.

Today, no one may know about your deeds; there may not be anyone to question you. Who knows about my deeds? Who is there to question me? But you should know that there are two eyes always watching you.

*“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.”*

*Hebrews 4: 13*

*“But the LORD weighs the heart.”*

*Proverbs 21: 2*

Our Lord is the one who searches hearts and minds, the one who weighs our thoughts and the one who perceives our deliberations. Our God is the one who sees everything.

Household should be saved.

*“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”*

*Acts of Apostles 16: 30, 31*

1. Individual should be saved.
2. House should be saved.
3. Household should be saved.

The jailor kneels before Paul and Silas. That very day they were beaten till they were blood-socked and their bodies were tortured and wounded by the beatings of the jailor, but now he falls prostrate trembling before them. There was the intervention of the spirit of the living God, the holy intervention of Jesus Christ!

There was the holy intervention of Jesus Christ. The jailor had beaten them all the day; their hands were chained; their feet fastened in stocks and the doors were locked. There was a first guard, second guard, a third guard and a fourth to secure their detention. There were multiple guards to prevent them from breaking jail.

They had been silent all the while; there was the pain of beatings; their wounds smarted and they were hungry. These children of God were caught and beaten while they were preaching Gospel along the crowded streets of Philippi. Now they are put in the inner cell.

The praises were heard when the nature was in deep sleep. About midnight, they prayed and sang hymns to God. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. What all wonderful things come to pass? Their chains came loose when they praised. The lights went out and the jailor thought, "the prisoners have escaped. Why

should I stay alive? The authorities will kill me tomorrow.” He drew his sword and tried to kill himself.

*“But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!” Acts of Apostles 16 : 30, 31*

The jailor fell at their feet and cried. He asked, “What should I do to be saved?” There came a quick reply: “Believe in the Lord Jesus. There is Jesus who gave us peace amidst all the troubles; there is a God who grants the grace to sing amidst all the distresses; there is a God who gives inner peace when the body hurts and smarts. Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household. The jailer took them to his house and washed their wounds.

You should become people who wash the wounds of others. You should wash the wounds of those whom you have wounded. Have you ever hurt the hearts of anyone? You might have wounded the heart of your husband, your wife or your children. You might have hurt the hearts of your parents. Let this be the day you wash the wounds.

*“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was*

*filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.”*

*Acts of Apostles 16: 30 – 34*

In the evening there was no peace or serenity in that house. But by midnight there was unity and happiness in that house.

You may be sitting here with heavy burdens. Jesus Christ has come to remove your burdens, your worries and your sad feelings. Lord Jesus knows everything without your telling Him about it. Holy Spirit has come near you. Who are the ones that you have wounded? You should wash those wounds if you have wounded your daughter-in-law or your mother-in-law. If you have wounded your father, you should wash it with your tears and then tell him, “Forgive me.” If you have wounded your mother, fall before her and ask for forgiveness.

You should see that you go about washing the wounds only when you have got your hearts broken with penitence. Your heart should break. What have I done? To whom did I speak in anger? Lord Jesus Christ will forgive you, if you go and ask for forgiveness to those whom you have wronged, but do it in the true spirit of repentance.

The God's children have no quarrel with anyone. Such is the case with Paul and Silas; to forgive is happiness them. There is only love about the God's children in whom the Holy Spirit dwells.

You should go and wash the wounds of those also who do not have a mind to forgive. One person asked me,

“I have a quarrel with a particular person. Shall I go and ask his forgiveness?” “Certainly” I said. “That man is an angry fellow. He may abuse me”, he reasoned. “Don't worry. Be silent, whatever he says”, I said. When he approached and conveyed his apology, the other man said, “I have no intention to pardon you.” The man returned to me dejected and told me what the other fellow had said. I said, “You need not to worry. Your duty is over. Our Lord has forgiven you.” Surprisingly enough, the other man came to his house without being invited when there was a necessity and looked after everything. They became very close afterwards.

Do you have disagreements with anybody? You should wash their wounds. Do you have any rift with anyone? Have you hurt anyone's heart? Have you insulted anyone? Have you tried to spread scandalous remarks about anybody? Have you tried to spread matters that you are not quite sure about? If so, the loss is to the one who has attempted it. You will have to settle accounts when you reach eternity.

You can decide now. Who all are the persons whose wounds you have to wash? Whose hearts have you hurt? Whose hearts have been distressed by your words, actions and your behavior? Go and set things right quickly, before they are heaped on you as curses. Do not be delayed to remove the curses. “If you believe in Lord Jesus Christ, you and your household will be saved.”

Let us and our household be joyous today. Our family should be saved; our children should be saved; the



wife, husband, parents and everyone should be saved; our brethren should be saved. Let us be without malice towards anyone. Let us be washed of every sin. We have the blood of the lamb without blemish to wash ourselves clean. Whatever be our transgressions, the holy blood of the one who has been wounded for us will wash our wounds.

To wash the wounds, you should come to the foot of the cross of Jesus. The one who struggled on the cross is standing close to you stretching His hands bearing those marks of nail. Lord, make me holy by washing the wounds of my heart; I am washing the wounds of the saints; grant salvation to my household. Lord, heal my wounds by sprinkling on me a drop of the holy blood spilled on Golgotha; grant me the grace to be saved along with my household as I refresh the hearts of the saints. I decide to go to everyone and wash the wounds of all those whom I have hurt. Lord, stretch your hands bearing the mark of nail on me and bless me.



## Nine

*“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7: 14*

The land will be healed; the land will be purged of all plagues; the anger of God will be removed from the land. Our house will be saved; our household will be saved; our personal life will be saved.

1. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations.” Simeon received personal salvation, salvation for the individual.

2. “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.” Zacchaeus received Jesus and his house was saved. Zacchaeus coveted money; he was a heartless man; he was a man who amassed money by mercilessly plundering other people. He extracted tax ruthlessly from the people as he possessed a government license. He was such a lover of money and a pitiless person. But Zacchaeus received Jesus in his house, and it was fortunate of him! “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.”

3. “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Salvation for the household! You can see your children being saved if you believe. As a person, you become a believer, and then your wife or your husband as the case may be, will be saved. You accept Jesus and decide to begin an unblemished life and as a result of it the members of your house will be saved. Jesus came and entered this boat, and salvation came to the house.

4. Salvation of the land is the forth to ponder. “If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” John Wesley said once, “I went to America to convert the people there, but who will convert me?” “I go about preaching to convert others. But I am yet to be converted.” Today the evangelists should say with a sigh: “Lord, I preached, I taught and I scolded some. I punished and reprimanded some people, but my life is still ugly. On the day I come in, I will have to listen to the rebuke, “Away from me, I never knew you.”

I do the work of God in great fear. Now and then I ask my Lord, “Is there anything in me that does not please you? Is there anything at work which is not yours? Is there any spiritual work which is not yours? Is there falsehood at work? Does anything come upon me that displease You?” Lord, shall I have to stand away in shame on that day when I come before you to settle accounts? Lord, shall I be a deformed and disgusting figure when my true spirit is

revealed on the day You settle the accounts? Lord, you touch me, you hold me to lead me in your ways.

These are not empty words vainly spoken. We may pass away from this world any moment. If we pass away without the forgiveness of sins, we will go to eternal darkness. I may say that I have preached the Word of God; I have taught the people and may claim that some people at the least have been converted by my speeches. But Lord, shall I be thrown out of your abode? Shall I have to stand outside? Shall I have to stand away?

Apostle Paul said:

*“No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”*

*1 Corinthians 9:27*

I preached to others. But what shall I do if I am disqualified for the prize? What shall I do if there are sins in me not yet forgiven? Shall I not be outside if there are sins yet to be forgiven?

*“Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”*

*Matthew 7:22, 23*

You can teach in the Sunday schools; preach in the prayer meetings or give testimony. They are things easy to do, but it is difficult to live. On an occasion, I told a

person who used to visit houses and give testimony, “you can make house visits and give testimonies; you can do charity works, but keep it in mind that it is difficult to live. It is difficult to maintain your poise in the Holy Spirit.”

You should always remain without being influenced by laziness. You will be driven into inauspicious ways if you become lazy. Your spirit will die. How many people look back into their life and repent? How many of you go fasting in secret? How many of you fast and pray pleading, “Lord, wash me and purify me?”

Fellowships should not be allowed to be extinguished; fellowships should not be allowed to become mere charcoals, but they should remain blazing and glowing instead. Many of God's children responsible to look after the services in their respective areas are lazy in their work; many of them do not purify themselves. There is internal fight among the members in many of the local fellowships. There is feud and evil contrivance between the members.

There was a time when the God's children were like blocks of stones that made a strong wall. But now there are holes in many places in that wall that once used to be strongly cemented together with the love of god. The holes are growing bigger in many places. The paste that used to cement together the stones seems to be lost these days. The Satan has got a passage to creep into the fellowship. Today, Satan has caught hold of our fellowships. Now, our opponents are neither churches nor denominations or political parties, but our enemies are

some people within the fellowships.

There are some people within the fellowship who do not sustain the spirit of the fellowship and that is the greatest danger today. Our fellowship has a culture and a moral fervor. That moral value is lost now. How many among the preachers are sincere these days? How many are enthusiastic about the work of the Lord?

Today, there are people within the fellowship who are unashamed to lie and steal. There are people whose financial dealings are not in order. There are people who do not repay loans; there are many people inside the fellowship who lead immoral lives; there are stony hearted people whose sins still cling to them.

*“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7: 14*

I was converted at the age of seventeen. For nineteen years, I ran about doing the work of God. I preached in many churches until I was thirty-six. I was renowned as a preacher in Christian conventions. I was honored by the bishops. They called me to deliver speeches with great interest and I enjoyed a vain pride about those speeches. It was true that some people were converted and that I had no foul motive in doing the work of God, but I was not really purged of my sins. I had a 'self', my ego within me that craved for the respect and affection of the people. I was blind to see it as a sin.

But at the age of 36 on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May in 1973, something great happened in my life. It was a Thursday and I felt restless when I reached home after my speech at a prayer meeting in Valamboor Church at night. I felt dissatisfied about my life and had a feeling that things should not be allowed to go on in its platitude. I felt that my life was tired and weary. My life seemed to be drained of its vigor. There was no fire in my spirit. I had to make corrections in life and I started to think about many things.

After my supper, I sat for some time before going to bed. I made a scanning of my life and found out many sins. I was indignant towards some people. I decided then to set things right with them and ask for their forgiveness. I owed many things to some: there were books to be returned; there was money to be repaid. Everything should be settled. Nothing should remain unpaid. Nothing should remain as a sin. On that night, I sat for a long time and cried thinking about my sins.

Fortunately for me, there were not any outward sins: no cinema, no smoking, no drinking and no immoral traffic. Mine was a disciplined life outwardly, but my heart was rotten. Inside me, there was malice, bitterness, dislike, displeasure, anger, stubbornness and complaints towards many. I never showed these traits of my character outside.

That night, I slept very late. Let me say, it was a turning point in my life. I put a full stop to the kind of life I lived until then. Truly, it was a repented life, but I stopped it there and I started to pray, "Lord, wash me with your fire and make me a being fully filled with your spirit, an

absolutely spiritual man.”

I prayed to my God. I did not ask anyone's opinion. I had never known that there was such an experience of being washed with fire. I had not learned anything about such a thing. I said just this: “wash me with fire”. By 9 o'clock the next day – a Friday as it happened to be – Holy Spirit came down upon me as fire and set me aflame. I felt the heat and the burning sensation. It burned my 'self' and my spiritual services, and there came a drastic change in my life.

My respected brethren, you can take a decision today. Your land will be awakened; your place of abode will be awakened because of you; your house will be awakened because of you and your church will be awakened because of you. Will you decide to remain a holy man, a lone crusader?

You receive Jesus now and welcome Him into your life. Receive Jesus into your heart and say, “Jesus, I lived all my life without knowing you. Today I come to you with a broken heart.” You willfully decide on one thing: “I will never have any disagreement or displeasure with anyone anymore. I will return the things that I owe. I will return all the things that I have stolen from my workplace.”

Those who remain estranged in their heart within the fellowship should decide to come closer. Who all are the persons with whom you have a rift? Who all are the persons keeping a distance from me?

*Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or*



*sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”*  
*Matthew 5:23, 24*

Look into yourself and find out: “Who all are the persons to whom I should forgive? Towards whom do I remain harsh?”

“Lord, what all sins are there in my heart that grieve you? Aren't there some hidden sins in my heart: certain desires and relations that cannot be disclosed? No one knows them; my wife doesn't know; not known to my husband or my mother. But, my God in heaven, You know everything: certain secret relations, love affairs, certain mobile chatting. Lord, I understand the dangers involved in these. Do not abandon me into hell.” Now you confess to God and decide to renounce everything unholy in your life.

Dear child, if you pass away in your present spiritual condition, you will not see God's kingdom because there is sin you. Do you understand this? What are the sins that have come into your life? Think about it son. Haven't you been an accomplice in thefts? Haven't you aided in murders? Haven't you involved in fornication? Think about them, dear ones. There are so many wrong doings that are heaped on you.

If you want the grace of God to come on your land, your heart should break. If you want your place of abode to be awakened, you need a broken heart. “If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and

pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” What a wonderful promise! God says that He will heal the land.

Now is the time to open your heart and confess to God, “Lord, here is a sinner. Until now, I had been a fraud who gave testimonies of a good life before the people, until now, I showed off before the people and everyone had great respect for me. But Lord, when I come before you, I am a poor man, I am weak and blind.” I have nothing in my hand. When I come before you, I am a despicable sinner. I have nothing but my sins. I have nothing but my stubbornness. I have not respected my parents, I have not loved my wife, but I have tortured her instead. I have hurt her with my words.

I have hurt my husband. Because it was not possible for me to do it with my hands, I have wounded his heart with my words like sharp arrows. I have hurt my daughter-in-law. Lord, I never knew that these were sins. I have enjoyed seeing my daughter-in-law writhing in pain. To bereave her of her husband's love, I have drawn him towards me by harassments. I have hurt my mother-in-law. I have cheated my business partner.

I did not respect others. I did not value them. My family life is on the verge of a divorce and I am the reason for that. If I was willing to forgive, matters would not have been precipitated to such a crisis. I am the culprit because I was telling about her faults, but now I realize that it was entirely my mistake.

Dear ones, each one of you should find out your sins and repent. You should try to find out the damages and loss incurred to your business because of you; the failings because of your laziness and the faults in your character. Make a thorough search of your past deeds and find out each and every mistake. Didn't you rag the poor and helpless fellow students at the hostel? Whatever things have you done like a senseless person? Is there an end to your misdeeds if you count them?

Now it is time for you to cry in earnest, "Lord, I cry my heart out in penitence. My Lord, let me not die in my sin. If I die without my sins forgiven, I will be thrown into the eternal fire of hell. I have nothing to bring before you as an offering. I am a woman who has spoiled everything. I am a man who has destroyed everything."

Lord, give me a sense of repentance. Lord, pierce my heart with arrows, which is the word of God; shatter me with a hammer, which is the word of God; split me with a sword, which is the word of God.

Now I am ready to do anything for you. Until now, I was only an instrument in the hands of the Devil. I was only a doll in his hands and he made me do whatever that pleased him; I was angry when he wanted me to be and I tortured my wife when he asked me to. I was his slave until this moment.

But I separate my life for you today and commit me to do your will. I am ready to do anything for you. Lord, I am coming to you and I give myself into your hands as what I am.

No sin will come into your life if you set apart your heart completely for the Lord. Separate yourself completely for Jesus. There remains nothing for me which is mine. I have given my education, my degree, my bank balance, my family and everything into the hands of Jesus.

Lord Jesus will certainly come again and He will rule all the lands. A king will rule this earth with justice and He will set up a kingdom. Then, we will be with Him as His dear bride in His palace. The church will be with Christ then. "If we endure, we will also reign with him." Today, there are many shortcomings here: we are lesser people; we don't have the strength to stand along with anyone; we are not as educated as others, not rich as others; we don't have the ability, but we will dwell with Christ on that day.

Lord, on that day when I reign with you, at that pleasant time when you smile at me, on that special occasion when you grant me the grace to stand in your august presence, when the angels marvel at my presence, I will look at your face intently in ecstasy. I will be looking at the loving face of my loving Jesus who loved me. I will drink in His affection for me and I will listen to His sweet voice. "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."



## Ten

Salvation is manifold: salvation of the individual, salvation of the house, salvation of the household and the salvation of the land. We should experience salvation. We should attain the assurance that we will reach God's kingdom whenever we pass away from this world. Salvation is the certainty and the courage to believe that we will reach God's kingdom.

*“How shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation.” Hebrews 2 : 3*

When I received the light of the Holy Spirit, I understood that I would not reach the kingdom of God if I pass away from this world in the condition I was in.

*“Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.” Revelation 22: 14, 15*

We should wash our cloths. Otherwise we will be outside. To attain eternal life or eternal salvation, we should wash our cloth which is the cloth of life. Otherwise we will have to stand outside.

It is a reality. Perhaps it may be very close to us or it may be far away. One day we will go out. The spirit that comes out of my body will enter eternity. My spirit that comes out of my body should never be outside the God's kingdom.

1. Anyone who has sinned will be outside. Dogs – it vomited after eating and then again it ate its own vomit. Isn't it the case of many men? One person took a strong decision not to get angry, but he was angry again. One decided not to get drunk anymore. Didn't he drink in spite of his strong decision? One decided to read the Bible every day. Didn't he fail in his decision? Didn't you break the decision not to entertain foul and unholy thoughts in your mind? One decided not to abuse his body, but he went the way of abusing the body. You took back everything that you decided to give up.

2. Sorcerers: those who practice witchcraft and sorcery, those who seek the horoscope, those who interpret omens, those who practice divination and those who look for zodiac signs. These are all various practices related to sorcery. You shouldn't practice any of them.

*“Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists, for you will be defiled by them. I am the LORD your God.”*  
*Leviticus 19: 31*

*“Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead.”*  
*Deuteronomy 18: 10, 11*

The priest of the church handed over a small cross after blessing it. He said that there would never more be any problem in the house if it is buried beneath the stepping stone. One can't help being baffled at such superstitions. One wonders at the amazing number churches that keep the waist-band of Virgin Mary as a holy relic. It is all nonsense. Some say that those who kissed the waist- band of Virgin Mary got salvation; the sick child was cured and things like that. These are only gimmicks to cheat the poor folk who are distressed by their problems.

3. The sexually immoral: There are many youngsters who go after love. There are many who go to live with the ones belonging to other religions. There are husbands who go looking for other women and there are married women who are trapped in the net of other men.

4. The murderers: Now a days there are people who do not consider murder as a crime, but Jesus Christ says, "But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment (Matthew 5: 21)."

The idolaters: There are many who worship idols. Some people worship the photographs and images of saints.

Everyone who loves and practices falsehood: There are some people whose external behavior is good but different in their inner self. There is falsehood in the case of God's children also. Those who do such things will be outside God's kingdom.

Every sinner will be sent outside. To be inside God's

kingdom is salvation. What should we do to be inside God's kingdom? You need not to do any deed in particular or spend money. Just look at the Christ crucified who removes every curse and every sin. Believe in Jesus Christ. If you have faith, you will rely on Him and obey Him. Believe and experience that your sins are forgiven and washed by the crucifixion of Christ.

There are curses in many houses. Curses are transferred to generations as result of sexual immorality, fornication and the practice of witchcraft during the times of forefathers. They may reflect in the form of chronic diseases and the like. No one gives a serious thought to such things. Why is there no progress? Why is it that the family is declining day by day? Why is it that there is no peace? There is definitely a reason. Our Lord is giving us a chance to think seriously about our life. He is transforming everything for the good.

There is the visitation of death repeatedly in some houses. Some die at a very young age. It is heard that in some houses no male member survives after the age of forty; in some houses their cattle do not survive; children are born with handicaps and there are houses where children are not born at all. They are plagued by curses. Seeing those curses, we should look at the cross. We should believe in the cross of Jesus Christ. "Lord, I believe that You have borne all my curses. Kindly remove all these curses from my generation." We should get redemption through prayers. If we are redeemed, we can enter eternal salvation.

It is for the eternal salvation that God has called us.



*“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14*

It is a time when many a land is lying in darkness. Gospel does not enter into those regions. Can you make your home a space where the Gospel can have an entry? Then your land will be saved. Make your house a home where the Gospel is read, a house where the Gospel is respected, a house where the gospel is heard about and a home that works to spread the messages of the Gospel. Then light will come to the land because of your house. The land will be blessed by your home.

1. Personal salvation.
2. Salvation for the house
3. Salvation for the household.
4. Salvation for the land.

*“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. The LORD said to Satan, The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?” Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. The angel said to those who were standing before him, “Take off his filthy clothes.” Then he said to Joshua, “See, I*

*have taken away your sin, and I will put fine garments on you.” Then I said, “Put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the LORD stood by.<sup>6</sup> The angel of the LORD gave this charge to Joshua: “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘If you will walk in obedience to me and keep my requirements, then you will govern my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you a place among these standing here. “Listen, High Priest Joshua, you and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are seven eyes<sup>b</sup> on that one stone, and I will engrave an inscription on it,’ says the LORD Almighty, ‘and I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.” Zechariah 3:1-9*

The sin of the land will be removed in a single day. There is sin over some lands. Have you given a thought to it? Why is it that certain catastrophes take place? There is a curse over the land where the catastrophes take place. Damages can come over the land if you do not remain a people dependent on the power of the blood of Christ. Otherwise the land will be generally dark. Such places are the dwelling places of the Devil; they are places where the evil spirits throng and become the seat of evil spirits. No man knows these things.

There will be losses always in one way or other and tribulations will be a constant companion. . You should

sprinkle the blood of Jesus Christ to get rid of the evil spirits there; you should plant the victorious cross of Jesus Christ there and the feet of Jesus Christ should touch the land.

There is curse over some lands. Certain lands are ruinous. So, we should always hide behind the sacred blood of Jesus Christ. If you visit a house where someone has died, you should see that you cover yourself in the blood of our Lord because the devils gather there to dispute about the body. Devils came to dispute even about the body of Moses. They claimed that the body of Moses belonged to them. It was possible to receive the soul of Moses only after the Lord rebuked them away. To rebuke him on his face, the Lord sent Archangel Michael there.

*“But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not himself dare to condemn him for slander but said, “The Lord rebuke you!”*

*Jude 9*

The devils came there. The devils come near any dead body to take the soul with them. We should not go and stand carelessly in such places. We should not remain there with displeasure or bitterness in our mind. We should not remain on such occasions with malice, vengeance or a feeling of discord. The angels of God will come there to take the soul of the dead man and the devils as well. There will be a war between them. There is a war going on in the heavenly realm. There is a war between the angels of God and the messengers of Satan. If we go and stand carelessly in such places where the war is

going on, we will be smitten.

The person that I am should remain covered by the blood of our Lord and stand hidden behind the victorious cross of Jesus Christ. Then nothing can damage us. It means that the person that I am should always be covered by the blood of the Lord. Otherwise the loss will be mine.

There are occasions when many spiritual men have gone wrong. They will go and stand in such places with certain pre-conceived notions or displeasure. Such actions are all wrong. When you stand in such places, you should be covered by the blood of Jesus. The forces of darkness swallow men; the forces of darkness swallow the land and the forces of darkness swallow individuals. The terrible working of the Satan is destroying many people and many families.

Why do we have quarrels in houses? There are regions fortified by devils without allowing light to come in. These forts will be broken if Jesus comes. The fort of the devil will be destroyed. Can't He break the fort of the devil, the One who broke the fort of Jericho? The Lord Jesus Christ will break the fort of the devil. Jesus Christ will break for us the fort of darkness that encircles the place where we reside.

Do you want your land to be healed? Sprinkle the blood of Jesus Christ. If you sprinkle the blood of Jesus Christ, the land will be healed. You should attain that state of being washed by the blood of Jesus Christ in your life. We should dedicate our life for Jesus Christ.

Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing pow'r?  
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour?

Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Are you washed in the blood,

In the soul-cleansing blood of the Lamb?

Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow?

Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

To remove the influence these evil spirits, there is no remedy other than the sprinkling of the blood of the lamb without blemish. The entire world is under the subjugation of the devil. This world, this earth and everything is in the hands of the Satan. On that day, when the prince of all heavens pushed him out from that mount of angels, the leader of all evil spirits fell down into this heavenly realm, this atmosphere. Satan and his evil spirits roam around in this atmosphere. Man doesn't know this.

The hideous armies of evil spirits roam around over the land. It is them that generate the catastrophic incidents, all sorts of maladies and quarrels. It is those evil spirits that engender squabble between the in-laws, especially the mother-in-law and the daughter-in-law; they create rifts between the wife and the husband; they are responsible for murders, robbery and theft. These are all the endeavors of the same host of evil spirits.

All these will change if the blood Jesus Christ is sprinkled. What should I do for that? I should accept Jesus as my Lord and my Savior. I should decide not to sin hereafter in my life. I should decide in my heart that I will never more willfully go in the ways of sin. I should realize the direness of it. Everyone should realize that it is a personal need to live a sinless life.

I should not work havoc with my life and spoil it. I should not invite the devil into my life; I should never allow him a space in my life because it is my need. If I do not work accordingly, the hosts of evil spirits will swarm around me with loud cries and shouts of joy at the time of my death to take me along with them. There will be nothing for me to do to save myself. The angels will stand bewildered because the evil spirits have their right on me on account of my sins that will render me lost. The evil spirits will take me along with them.

The arrival of a soul in heaven is not a silly thing, but a wonderful thing instead. It is really miraculous a thing that a soul escapes the terrifying darkness of the hell and reaches the eternal light of the heaven. It is to work such a miracle that our Lord died on the cross.

Many are being crushed in the grip of the evil spirits. The evil spirits are persecuting many people; they are sucking the blood of many. The demons have caught hold of many. Dear friend, you are living in wanton ways pursuing your whims and fancies without knowing or thinking anything about these things. Your heart doesn't break with thoughts about sins that destroy you. You don't realize the horror of your life. You don't realize the fact that you are being carried away by the demons. In his book *To Hell and Back*, Dr. Maurice Rawlings, a great author, has written that a huge crowd of evil spirits is crushing human beings.

Don't we want to be saved? Don't we want to reach God's kingdom? Don't we want to be saved from the clutches of the evil spirits? Don't we want our children to

be liberated from the evil spirits that are crushing them? The devil is devastating our children; they are going after marijuana and liquor; they are growing without a sense of God and they are being ruined. They don't pray; they don't meditate the Word of God; they are not God conscious and we find ourselves at a loss as to what to do.

Dear son, you decide to stand as fire; you decide to remain a divinely inspired ball of fire and hand over your life to Christ. Lord, I did not know you until now. I wasted my life away. I did not believe in the Word of God though I had heard them and I lived a life without a thought. Lord, forgive me. I take a vow to live a life thinking about my Lord who died on the cross from this day. Hereafter, I will live a life remembering my Lord who shed innocent blood on the cross for my sake on Calvary.

Seeking refuge in His holy blood, I will live as a new being with certain remembrance of my Jesus who redeemed me. Lord, it so happened that I gave space for the demons in my life and I invited them into my life. Lord, forgive me. I committed many mistakes: there are bondages of sorcery and witchcraft in my life; there were bondages of my desire for high positions and many such mistakes. I allowed the powers of darkness to have their sway in my life.

Lord, now I give my life into your hands. Wash me, sanctify me and prepare me for the eternity.



## Eleven

1. Personal salvation.
2. Salvation for the house
3. Salvation for the household.
4. Salvation for the land.

If we want salvation to come over the land, the people should recognize their sins; they should renounce their sins and turn their mind away from it all. We should turn to God leaving our sins behind and repent for our sins. Salvation will come to visit the land if we turn to God with broken hearts and lamentation.

The land will be healed when God forgives the sins of the inhabitants of the land.

*“I will remove the sin of this land in a single day,  
says the LORD Almighty.”      Zechariah 3 : 9*

Salvation will come to the land in a single day. The curse will be removed from the land. There is a curse on the land and there is darkness in some places. There is the habitation of the Satan in some places and such places are under his sway. There can be many reasons for this: outrageous activities must have taken place in such places; it may be because of murders committed there or it may be that women were raped there. It may be because of other cruelties, horrible activities or robberies



and thefts. It may be because of the persecution of poor people or the practice of sorcery. There may be some reasons. But the land will be healed. The land will be healed if only a servant of God intervene for the land; he should mediate for the land.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of the book of Zechariah, we find that it was Joshua, the high priest, who had to mediate for the land. Joshua was the Bishop who had been giving the spiritual leadership in that land. In the third chapter, we find that Joshua had to be given certain rebuking and correcting. God rebuked and disciplined Joshua.

In the matter of Joshua, Satan accused him. Destruction will come over the land if Satan happens to have claim over the person whom God has appointed to stand and mediate for the land. Same is the case with houses also. There will be a head of the family or a servant of the God who stands with the God or a lady who has dedicated herself to God.

The grace of God will be removed from that house if the person who has taken a vow before God happens to allow a space for the Satan in his or her life. The protection given by God will be removed from that house. The secure fencing that God has given to that house will be broken. God has put a wall around each house.

The head of the house should see that the wall of divine protection is not broken. It is the duty of the person who is responsible for that house. If the head of the house does not assume that responsibility, the mistress of the house should take over that duty. If both of them fail, the children should assume that responsibility.

Have you been faithful in keeping vigil for the protection of your house? Have you been before God mediating for the protection of the members of your family with sacred blood? Have you mediated for your wife, your husband or your children? Have you mediated in such a way that God will give them protection? “Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.” So says the Word of God (Psalm 50: 5).

*“The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets. From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before him, and around him a tempest rages. He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that he may judge his people: “Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”* Psalm 50: 1 - 5

Not everyone can enter boldly into the august presence of God. Only those who have made a covenant with God by sacrifice can enter His presence. God gathers only the consecrated ones: those who have dedicated themselves to God; the ones whose self has been burned up; the ones whose personal self has disappeared; the ones who have committed themselves to God; the ones whose self, body and the love of the world have been sacrificed; the ones whose carnal desires have been subjugated before the will of God and the ones who have made it certain that their only wish is to please Jesus. They take a vow by sacrifice and make a covenant: “I will be Yours until my death. I will be yours

until I breathe my last.”

It is you who is to be accused if your children happen to go the wrong way. If the children fall in love with persons belonging to other castes, it is the parents who should be held responsible. I have read about an incident that happened in China. A case was filed in the court by the local people. Their complaint was that they had no peace on account of a family. There was quarrel, uproar, brawl and dispute every day in that house. It was the children of that house who were creating all the troubles. The judge imprisoned the parents and let go of the children. The parents were imprisoned because they did not bring up their children properly. We are the guardians of our houses; we are responsible for our houses and we will be held responsible if someone in our house is lost. We are people who should take a covenant with God by sacrifice. God will ask us if we do not remain loyal.

It was Joshua, the Bishop, the chosen one whom God had appointed to mediate for the land. The bishop should have been there faithful before God. But he was there as the accused. It was disastrous. Joshua was one who had dedicated himself completely for the service of God. He is one who would never go in objectionable ways. He had never moved in evil ways.

Joshua, the Bishop and Zerubbabel, the governor, were the two who had dedicated themselves for the service of God. When these two dedicated themselves, Ezra the priest, the teacher of the Law of the God and Nehemiah, the food minister also came to the forefront giving support to them. All of them had only one purpose:

the service of God.

Nowadays the people who occupy the seats of power do not support the work of God, but they are a hindrance instead. They hinder the ones who choose to do the work of God and punish them. The land is being ruined. The lambs are not grazed or given food, but they are being slaughtered and feasted upon instead. The lamb is being killed to treat the guest.

Once upon a time, a 40 year old lame fellow was cured of his lameness. He was a poor beggar who had never walked until then. When Peter and John went along that way, he stretched his arms thinking that he would get something as alms.

Then Peter said: "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.

At the temple the people were bewildered. The matter reached the ears of the high priests as the people were talking about it. All the high priests gathered and they had a synod. The subject of discussion was the healing of the beggar: "how did it happen?" These people should not be let off. They called the beggar and questioned him about his whereabouts: "what is your name? Where is your house? Who are your parents? Were you lame? How comes that you walk now? And he answered: "Paul and John asked me to get up and walk in the name of Jesus." But they retorted: "name of Jesus? Isn't Jesus against the temple? Wasn't that the reason why we crucified Him?"

The beggar replied, "I know nothing about such things. I just know that I walk. Peter took me by my right hand and I jumped up and began to walk." They called in Peter and John and questioned them.

Actually, the work that the God's children should do today is to mediate for the people. The people are of many types: those who cannot walk; those who have not walked with Christ, the poor people, the destitute, the hungry ones and the like.

These are times when we should have high priests to mediate for the people. Times have come to its end. Now is the time when we should do the work of God with great zeal and ardor, but we should not hope to get support from anyone.

Was there anyone to support the work of God from the 1<sup>st</sup> century in the history of the Church? The servants of God were always ruthlessly persecuted: St. Peter was crucified upside down; evangelist Mark was tied to a rope attached to a horse cart and it was driven in high speed dragging him behind and Apostle Matthew was wrapped with hide and they laid him in the hot sun. The sound of his bones breaking could be heard when the hide contracted in the heat. He was crushed to his death in the end. From the 1<sup>st</sup> century onwards the Apostles suffered sacrifices for the Lord and they remained unrelenting even when they were in great pains.

St. John was the only Apostle who had a natural death and it was a wonder. He was put in the boiling oil, but he was not hurt. The authorities were perplexed thinking about ways to get him killed. Eventually, he was

exiled to Patmos. There the Apostle had holy visions: The book of Revelations! Apostle Peter was the first Patriarch and Ignatius Nuroño was the second. Ignatius Nuroño was thrown to the lions and they tore him to pieces. The times went ahead. During the time of Hitler they caught a priest named Dietrich Bonhoeffer and took him away to be killed. Bonhoeffer did not show any gesture of panic or anguish. The soldiers asked, "Why don't you show any grief?" "You look at it as the end, but to me, it is a great beginning", replied Bonhoeffer. He accepted his death in all happiness.

The people of true faith of our times are the ones who rose up from the ashes of the pyres where they were burned up after suffering a lot of persecutions. Did you suffer any sacrifice for Jesus Christ? Were you ever abused for the sake Jesus Christ? Were you ever scorned in the name of Jesus Christ? There will certainly be rewards when we pass on to the other world. What we do here is only a brief spell. When it is over, we can live with Jesus in eternity. If you suffer today, you can live with Him in the hereafter.

The man of God who had to stand faithfully in the august presence of God, appeared weary in his filthy cloths. Joshua, the high priest looked weary. Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes. He should have washed his cloths clean.

Imagine that you have a guest and you serve him delicious food in beautiful plates. The next day also you serve him good food, but in the same plates. The plates that you used to serve food the previous day were not

washed and served the next day also in the unwashed plates. On the third day also you serve without washing the plates. The food served was good, but smelt bad for want of washing. The guest made it seem that he had had the food, but got up and left in a hurry. The plates were not washed even on the fourth day; food was served, but it was impossible to eat.

Many evangelists are in the same lot. They serve without washing their plates; they forget to wash their plates. One should wash his plates every day after serving the food. You should make a scanning of your day's activities sitting at the feet of our Lord: "Lord, did I err when I spoke for you? Was I under the sway of some prejudices? Did I hurt anyone with my words? Lord, did any word come out of my mouth that did not please you? Was there anything wrong about my attitude? Lord, wash me with Your sacred blood." We should always pray to have our plates washed clean.

Joshua's dress was filthy. Joshua, the high priest appeared in filthy cloths and it was disastrous for the land. Do you want to have your robes washed?

*"Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed."*

*Revelation 16 : 15*

You should have your cloths washed. You should stay awake and remain clothed.

*"Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they*

*come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."*

*Revelation 7: 13, 14*

They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. Blood is red, but the robe was made white. Do you want to have your robes washed in the blood of the lamb? Do you have the desire to wash the stains off your cloth of life?

Haven't you committed mistakes in your life? Weren't there certain damages, certain things that you are ashamed to think about, certain incidents of thefts that came in your life, certain hideous relations, immoral incidents, drunken bouts, smoking, pun and obscene language, breaking the covenant with the eyes, torturing the wife, misconceptions about the wife and unreasonable doubts about the wife. One should repent about all the failings.

Robes are to be washed. One should wash the cloths of life. We should confess everything to Jesus who stands close to us. Lord, wash my cloths, the cloth of my life. "The blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin." "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Lord, remove all the evil influences from us and make us your good servants.





## Twelve

*“See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are seven eyes on that one stone, and I will engrave an inscription on it,’ says the LORD Almighty, ‘and I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.”* Zechariah 3: 9

I will remove the sin of this land in a single day, says the Lord Almighty. There is a curse on the land. There is curse in some localities. Some places are totally in darkness. Such places will be lighted up only if the Word of God reaches there. There are places where the Word of God has not reached.

There may be people very much attached to church. People with church faith and religious faith are in plenty. There are customs and rites. Superstitions and erroneous customs will be removed when light enters the place; it needs the entry of true light, the light of life. Jesus Christ should come to a place, the source of the light of life.

Light will come to a house when the praise of the spirit comes down on that house. All the darkness will be removed if the Holy Spirit comes. Darkness will be removed if Christ comes. The darkness of the house will be removed when the members of the house receive

Christ, when they accept Christ in their inner self, when they become carriers of Christ.

Joshua is a high priest and Zerubbabel is the governor. Both of them together do the work of God. There happened to have a damage in the life of Joshua. Joshua was dressed in filthy cloths. There was no stain or mud, but the dress was filthy.

There may be slight dust in the lives of many of us. There may not be anything visibly filthy or stains that are seen to the world outside, but there will be an overall filthiness. The dress of the servants of God should not become filthy.

Amidst his busy services, Joshua did not consider it a serious matter that his dress was getting filthy. He was in a hurry doing his services. He was heavily engaged in the task of leading a huge contingent of people from Babylon to Jerusalem. The mammoth task of the building of the temple awaited them once they reached there. They were in a hurry to reinstate the worship of their God there. They were doing everything in connection with their service to God.

It so happens that we grow blind to the selfishness that creeps in while we are busily engaged in the service of God. We fail to recognize the element of pride that grows in us. We fail to realize the element of self admiration growing in us. A bit of impurity gets mixed with our service of God. It does not mean that we moved into bad ways or anything ungodly, but certain impure

emotions flash through our mind; certain filthy thoughts enter our mind and certain improper words come to be used. Some objectionable words creep to our tongue however we set our mind against them. These are all ways that lead to the making of our dress filthy.

Our dress shouldn't be seen filthy. It means that our God does not want our life to be impure however inconsequential it be. God does not want us to be filthy even in the slightest measure. We should not do the work of God if our dress gets filthy. It is the desire of God that the servants of God abstain from even the slightest sin. Boastfulness is a taboo to the children of God. After all, what is there to take pride in? No man can ever save a human being. The crowing of a cock is enough for the conversion of Peter. Zacchaeus will be converted if he climbs a fig tree. These are all incidental happenings, certain coincidences. The man who speaks the Word of God is like a pipe that conveys water. Water comes through it because there is water in the tank. What is there for the pipe to take pride in just because water comes through it? Water flows through it because the tank contains water.

Those who do the work of God should never take pride in anything. We should not allow our dress to get filthy. We will be removed from doing the work of God if our dress gets filthy. We will not be retained in the work of God if our dress gets filthy. Our God is a jealous God. Because our God is merciful, He will point out to us that our dress is filthy, and then we should humble ourselves. There

should never be an objection or question when the Holy Spirit reveals something to us. We should humble ourselves saying, “I don't understand. My little brain cannot comprehend such things. But I know that it is all true because it is revealed to me by the Holy Spirit.”

Faith is an asset. We will be greatly fortunate if we can believe without any doubt. You need not to think about anything else, but humble ourselves: “Lord, I am a sinner. My dress is stained. The cloth of my life is dirty. My life is filthy. I do not know from where it became filthy. I understand that it is stained. Lord, it is impossible for me to wash it myself. No man on earth can wash this stain of sin. Nothing other than Your sacred blood can wash it off the cloth of my life.”

“These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” We should wash our robes and make them white. We should wash it every day. You should wash your robe before you go to sleep; you should attain purification because we do not know whether our soul will pass away when we are asleep. Who knows when death comes? Because of that we should commit ourselves into His hands praying, “Lord, wash me with Your sacred blood.”

*“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan<sup>a</sup> standing at his right side to accuse him.”*

*Zechariah 3:1*

Satan stands accusing Joshua. Joshua, the high priest was dumb as one who was caught red handed. Joshua, who was doing such a glorious service, felt a pride thinking that it was him whom God chose to liberate such a huge contingent of people. Joshua was proud of himself because God had chosen him of all the people to liberate them from exile in Babylon and to lead them to Jerusalem.

God knows that Satan will mark him if a child of God decides to stand in all his purity. Satan will watch for some blemish to make his claim. In the case of sinners, Satan has no botheration because he knows that they are all under his feet. Satan is worried only about those who have freed themselves from his grip. Satan will run to the presence of God with his claim if he finds any blemish or mistake in our life.

What are the things in your life over which the Satan has his claim? Even though you don't understand it now, you will come to know about it on the day when your soul reaches the other shore leaving your body.

“Lord, what are the things in my life over which Satan has his claim? What about my behavior towards my husband? Does Satan make his claim? Does Satan make his claim about my behavior towards my children? Does Satan make his claim about my behavior towards my wife? Does Satan make his claim about the way I respect my parents?

Is there anything that Satan makes claim throughout

the day and night? “Lord, show me my inequities if there is any. Lord, they are all stains on my cloth of life. You have shed Your blood to wash those stains. The blood You shed on Golgotha is sufficient for that. I believe that it is to remove those stains over which Satan has his claim that You shed your sacred blood. Lord, I plead you to remove all that over which Satan has his claim. Lord, kindly cover with Your sacred blood everything over which Satan has his claim: my character, my behavior, my attitude and all the emotions of my heart.

Joshua is the one who leads the people and he is there to lead the people. He is the one who encouraged the people to build the temple after bringing them back from exile in Babylon. Joshua is the one who worked to reinstate worship for the people in ruins.

It was a great work that Joshua had done. Satan made his claim on Joshua who had accomplished such great things. Joshua stands dejected; he has no reply when Satan accused him. Satan can come to the presence of God if he has found something derogatory of accusation in a child of God. Satan ran to the presence of God when he found Joshua in his filthy dress. Zechariah sees it in a vision when Joshua stands helpless.

Salvation will come to the land in a single day. The curse will be removed from the land. There is a curse on the land; there is darkness in some places. There is the habitation of the Satan in some places and such places are under his sway. There can be many reasons for this: outrageous activities must have taken place in such

places. It may be because of murders committed there or it may be that women were raped there. It may be because of other cruelties, horrible activities or robberies and thefts. It may be because of the persecution poor people or the practice of sorcery. There may be some reasons. But the land will be healed. The land will be healed if only a servant of God intervene for the land; he should mediate for the land.

*“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. The LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire? Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel.” Zechariah 3: 1 - 3*

The high priest of God! Servant of God! Joshua, the man who had to mediate for the people; his dress should not be filthy. It is a matter of serious concern if he happens to stand in filthy cloths. Joshua stands there dejected and at a loss for words. God felt compassion and tenderness as He saw the face Joshua. It was unbearable for God because Joshua was His dear servant and a man of faith who worked to fulfill His will. When God saw this, He said: “The Lord rebukes you, Satan!” Using His power, God rebuked Satan away. God has his powers; God has his rights and He rebuked the enemy using those powers.

God will come and rebuke the enemy away when

you sit dumb with a broken and constricted heart in the presence of God thinking about your sins. You may not have anything to say because you have wronged; you were angry; you had displeasures about many. And what could one do now? You can believe this: if you humble yourself and stand in the presence of God, He will rebuke and send the enemy away; He will grant you redemption and His grace will come over you.

What all are the things in your life over which Satan has his claim? You should make a thorough search of yourself every day and present before God those things that you were able to identify. Leave them for His consideration and stand aside in all humility. Tell Him, "Lord, I am ineligible to come before you; you loved me; you had great care for me; you fondled me, and I happened to commit mistakes in my life. Lord, I come to you in all my humility." You can literally have a conversation with Jesus as you talk to your father or talking to a person face to face. It is then that you realize that feeling of true liberation when you talk to our Lord. It is then that you feel relief and comfort in your heart. It is then you feel true liberation from bondages of the spirit. This will bring about such an impact that your way of thinking and attitude will change.

Our house should become heavenly homes that are fountains of heavenly love and heavenly peace. There should be unity and oneness in our homes. We should make it possible that we can open our hearts and talk to each other so that our houses get transformed into



celestial abodes. When a house becomes a heavenly home, your heart will fly to the august presence of God and the spells of prayers will become blessed moments. Then your life will become a blessing filled with happiness.

Humble yourself so that you can open your heart and make a confession, “Lord, I am a sinner; my dress has turned filthy; my dress has become filthy because of my pride; my dress has become filthy because of my pride about my merits; my dress has become filthy as I was proud of my talents; my dress has become filthy as I have been proud of my family nobility. The robe of my life has become filthy; it has become filthy of indignation, displeasure, dislikes, dissatisfaction and the turbidity of my mind.” When you pray like this, you will be freed from the sense of dissatisfaction and inferiority that distract you. That is how you become the children of God and it is then God will be pleased in you.

The Lord said, “The Lord rebuke you, Satan!”

*“The LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you!” Zechariah 3:2*

God has chosen Jerusalem as the place where His people should come and worship Him. They are to build a temple for him there, repair the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down and restore worship. God has chosen Jerusalem and now He rebukes Satan.

*“Is not this man a burning stick snatched from*

*the fire?”*

*Zechariah 3:2*

The fire is burning and there are many sticks in the fire, and one stick that had started to burn was snatched from it. It would have burned out, but it was snatched from the fire.

Each one of us is like a burning stick snatched from the fire that could have had a natural end in hellfire. We would have gone to the hellfire. Personally, I know it well. Though there was no obvious sin in my deeds, my heart was impure. My heart was full of dirty thoughts and unholy emotions: my heart was vengeful; there was displeasure towards many and there was a defeating element of inferiority complex about my constitution. I would have burned up in the hellfire.

I had started to burn up. There was no peace. It was a totally dissatisfied life, a broken life. Fortunately, my God snatched me from the fire of despair, the fire of vengeance, the fire of anger and the burning fire of all sorts of impurities. “Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?”

Is there anyone among you who can say, “I was not burning?” Aren't there people whose lives are still in fire? Aren't there people who are restless and distressed, people who are disheartened to have no advancement in life and people who are in panic? Believe that only Jesus Christ can save you from the eternal fire of hell. Being a frail human being, I cannot save any man who seeks my help because I am also a needy man like you who pleads

for the mercy of God. But Jesus Christ can save you and I have faith in His power to rescue any sinner because it is He who snatched me from fire. It was He who freed me of my despair. It was He who gave me peace and happiness. It was He who raised my bowed head. When I look back in life, I find that He has worked wonders in my life in marvelous ways.

There was no possibility in my life to have this wonderful and fortunate experience of conversion in my life because I foolishly believed that I was righteous. I was a Pharisee and believed that I would reach the presence of God because there were no visible sins about my deeds and I had my prayers, worship and all other rites required of a steadfast Christian.

There are some among you who are complacent as I had been. Such complacency is dangerous because it is a false sense of righteousness. You should see yourself in your present condition and if you weigh yourself with a sense of reality, you will never raise your head in pride with a sense of false righteousness. You will bow your head feeling ashamed: "what a wretched man I am? What a despicable man I am?" You will have reason only to humble yourself before God.

You will certainly realize and confess your true worth: "Lord, I am unworthy of preaching Your Word; Jesus, I am unqualified to utter your name; I am unworthy to call Him God, the one who lives in unapproachable light; I am unworthy to call Him father or my father in heaven." Spiritual humility is such a realization, an

understanding of one's true worth, not the show of holiness. It is a humility that one feels in the inner self. We begin to feel sober and sane instead of pride and vanity. It is only then we will be able leave behind a false sense of vain pride.

Today is the day when you can speak to your Lord, "Lord, I have nothing to be proud of and I have filthy clothes on me, but you rebuked Satan away and freed me. The price you had to pay for my freedom was great; it was your own blood. You had to shed your blood to redeem me; you bought me with your sacred blood. You took over all that I owed and bequeathed me all your riches.

In return for all His wealth, the ever-living Jesus of heaven bartered all that you owed. He took over your sins and curses, your bondages and all the tribulations of your life. He willingly received persecution to redeem you. It was the marvelous love that writhes in pain on the cross! The love on the cross! The love on mount Golgotha! The love of Jesus Christ! The ever splendid love! You will humble yourself if you see this love. You will beseech Him: "Lord, I am a poor sinner, a wretched sinner who has no claims. It is then that God will say, "Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire? The Lord rebukes you, Satan!"

Confess to the Lord that you are a great sinner and that there is nothing of goodness in you. Tell Him, "Lord, I am a poor sinner; rebuke my enemy and redeem me. I will be a new being from this day. The enemy will never more have any claim on me."

Let the sacred blood of Jesus be sprinkled on you; let the sacred blood wrap you; let your transgressions be forgiven; let your sins be covered. May the Almighty give you a new lease of life washing all your sins of the past.

Let us pray. The most holy and merciful God, we praise You for having given us your sacred presence. Our redeemer, who shed His blood on the cross, we praise You for having washed us with your blood. Lord, kindly remove the pains of those who are in pain; remove the bad habits of those who have them and save everyone. Let thy name be praised. We pray in the royal name of Jesus Christ. Let our prayers be answered by your infinite grace. Amen.



## OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

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|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. അമൃതയാര</li> <li>2. ആന്തരികശാന്തി</li> <li>3. ശുഭഭാവം</li> <li>4. ശാന്തിതീരം</li> <li>5. മധുമൊഴി</li> <li>6. മുക്തിമാർഗ്ഗം</li> <li>7. നിത്യവിശ്രാന്തി</li> <li>8. നിരപഹ</li> <li>9. ജയജീവിതം</li> <li>10. വിശ്വാസജീവിതം</li> <li>11. വാടാമലർ</li> <li>12. ദിവ്യാരാധന</li> <li>13. എനിക്ക് കുടിപ്പാൻ തരുമോ?</li> <li>14. നീതിമാനാകുന്നതെങ്ങനെ?</li> <li>15. തുറന്നവാതിൽ</li> <li>16. വരവും ചിലവും</li> <li>17. ദൈവരാജ്യം</li> <li>18. AMRUTHADHARA</li> <li>19. ഓർത്തുകൊൾവിൻ</li> <li>20. ക്രിസ്തുവിൽ</li> <li>21. പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവ്</li> <li>22. പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാവ്യാപാരം</li> <li>23. പരിശുദ്ധാത്മാക്കൾ</li> <li>24. ഉത്തമഗീതം</li> <li>25. സങ്കേത നഗരങ്ങൾ</li> <li>26. മരുഭൂമിയിലെ നീർപ്പൊയ്ക</li> <li>27. യോന</li> <li>28. പച്ചവെള്ളം വീഞ്ഞാക്കി</li> <li>29. കെരീത്തിന്റെ വക്കിൽ</li> <li>30. എത്രത്തോളം രണ്ടുതോണിയിൽ?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31. ഏലിയാവിന്റെ ദൈവം എവിടെ?</li> <li>32. പ്രവാചകനല്ല<br/>പ്രവാചകശിഷ്യനുമല്ല</li> <li>33. മുദ്രാമോതിരമാക്കും</li> <li>34. എനിക്ക് കാഴ്ച പ്രാപിക്കേണം</li> <li>35. എനിക്ക് ആശയ്ക്ക് വകയുണ്ടോ?</li> <li>36. INNER PEACE (English)</li> <li>37. അവർക്ക് ഭക്ഷിപ്പാൻ കൊടുപ്പിൻ</li> <li>38. GLITTERING FUTURE (English)</li> <li>39. ഏകാന്തതയുടെ അന്ധത</li> <li>40. STREAMS IN THE DESERT</li> <li>41. WAY TO LIBERATION</li> <li>42. നിന്റെ മൃതന്മാർ ജീവിക്കും</li> <li>43. വന്നു പ്രാതൽ കഴിച്ചുകൊൾവിൻ</li> <li>44. എന്നെ തൊട്ടതാർ?</li> <li>45. സൗഖ്യമാകുവാൻ മനസ്സുണ്ടോ?</li> <li>46. അത് സഹിക്കാകുന്നവൻ ആർ?</li> <li>47. എന്നെ ആർ വിടുവിക്കും?</li> <li>48. നന്മയുടെ പാനപാത്രം</li> <li>49. പ്രത്യാശയുടെ പ്രഭാതം</li> <li>50. ഇനിയും വൈകണമോ?</li> <li>51. ARE YOU WILLING TO BE HEALED?</li> <li>52. കണ്ണീർപ്പാടം - ഭാഗം ഒന്ന്</li> <li>53. കണ്ണീർപ്പാടം - ഭാഗം രണ്ട്</li> <li>54. BESIDE CHERITH</li> <li>55. യഹോവയുടെ ഭൃജങ്ങൾ</li> <li>56. കണ്ണീർ തോരുമോ?</li> <li>57. കണ്ണീർക്കണങ്ങൾ</li> <li>58. എല്ലാം നന്മയ്ക്ക്</li> <li>59. ആശയിൻ പ്രകാശം</li> <li>60. കഷ്ടങ്ങൾ സാരമില്ല</li> <li>61. നിന്റെ ഗൃഹകാര്യം</li> </ol> |
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(ക്രമത്തിലാക്കുക)

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| <p>62. ഞാൻ എങ്ങനെ കണ്ടു സഹിക്കും?</p> <p>63. ഉത്സവം</p> <p>64. അത്യുന്നതന്റെ മറവിൽ</p> <p>65. ഇനിയും തോൽക്കണമോ?</p> <p>66. മരണാനന്തരാവസ്ഥ</p> <p>67. മരിക്കാത്ത മനുഷ്യനുണ്ടോ?</p> <p>68. ചുളപോലെ കത്തുന്ന ദിവസം</p> <p>69. ഗിരിനിരകൾ</p> <p>70. THE CITIES OF REFUGE</p> <p>71. ഗിരിശൃംഗങ്ങൾ</p> <p>72. THE BLINDNESS OF LONELINESS</p> <p>73. യുദ്ധയുടെ ലേഖനം</p> <p>74. കാറ്റിന്റെ വഴിയേ</p> <p>75. കയ്പിന്റെ മധുരം</p> <p>76. തളിരണിയും കാലം</p> <p>77. ജീവജലത്തിനരികെ</p> <p>78. BEYOND DEATH</p> <p>79. ദാഹജലം</p> <p>80. ആശ്വാസത്തിന്റെ ഉറവ</p> <p>81. പുന്തേനരുവി</p> <p>82. കെണിയും കൂടുക്കും</p> <p>83. അഴിയാക്കുരുക്കുകൾ</p> <p>84. ഭയപ്പെടേണ്ട</p> <p>85. ഭീരുത്വം മാറണമോ?</p> <p>86. പ്രതിസന്ധികളിൽ തളരാതെ</p> <p>87. നെല്ലും പതിരും</p> <p>88. ശാപമോക്ഷം</p> <p>89. അനുഗ്രഹത്തിലേയ്ക്ക്</p> <p>90. HOW LONG IN TWO BOATS?</p> <p>91. കണ്ണീരിലെ മഴവില്ല്</p> <p>92. കിതപ്പും കുതിപ്പും</p> | <p>93. നഷ്ടസൗഭാഗ്യങ്ങൾ<br/>തിരികെ കിട്ടുമോ?</p> <p>94. ശക്തിയെ പുതൂക്കണമോ ?</p> <p>95. ചെറുകുറുക്കന്മാർ</p> <p>96. കൃപയുടെ ഉറവ</p> <p>97. കൃപയുടെ നീർച്ചാലുകൾ</p> <p>98. മടങ്ങി വരുവിൻ</p> <p>99. കാലേബ് ധീരനായ വിശ്വാസ വീരൻ</p> <p>100. IS THERE ANYBODY WHO WILL<br/>NEVER DIE ?</p> <p>101. ഭാഗ്യശാലികൾ</p> <p>102. സ്വർഗ്ഗതീരമണയുന്നവർ</p> <p>103. സ്നേഹത്തിന്റെ രോദനം</p> <p>104. വിശുദ്ധനായോരു ദൈവപുരുഷൻ</p> <p>105. പരിശുദ്ധാത്മപ്രവാഹം</p> <p>106. CALEB - A BRAVE HERO OF FAITH</p> <p>107. രക്ഷ പ്രാപിപ്പാൻ ഞാൻ എന്ത്<br/>ചെയ്യണം?</p> <p>108. ശുമ്മൂദ്ര</p> <p>109. LITTLE FOXES</p> <p>110. വരൾച്ചയും വളർച്ചയും</p> <p>111. മരണമേ, നിന്റെ ജയം എവിടെ?</p> <p>112. സമർപ്പണം</p> <p>113. ON WIND'S WAY</p> <p>114. സന്തോഷത്തിന് വല്ല<br/>വഴിയുമുണ്ടോ?</p> <p>115. भाम्यशाली</p> <p>116. ജയാളികൾ</p> <p>117. സൂര്യനുദിക്കും</p> <p>118. VICTORIOUS LIVING</p> <p>119. DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?</p> <p>120. അഭിവൃദ്ധി പ്രാപിക്കണമോ?</p> <p>121. എഴുന്നേല്ക്കുക</p> |
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# Prof. M.Y. Yohannan

gives Gospel Message



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**SURYA T V**

**MONDAY, TUESDAY 6:30 AM**  
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## MAIN CRF MEETINGS IN KOLENCHERY

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**Ph : 0484 -2689489, 9142 303096**

2nd Saturday	:	9.00 am - 2.00 p.m
2nd Sunday (Followed by 2nd Saturday)	:	12.30 pm - 5.00 pm
3rd Sunday	:	12.30 pm - 5.00 pm
Mondays	:	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
Fridays (Bible Class)	:	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
1st Tuesday (Ladies Meeting)	:	9.00 am - 12.45 pm
1st & 3rd Wednesdays (Young Men's Meet)	:	6.30 pm - 9.00 pm