

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yesibili KwabaseKhorinte

¹ UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngen-tando kaNkulunkulu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu.

Ebandleni likaNkulunkulu eKhorinte, kanye lakubangcwele bonke kulolonke elase-Akhayiya:

² Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba wethu leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini.

UNkulunkulu Wenduduzo Yonke

³ Makabongwe uNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, uBaba wesihawu loNkulunkulu wenduduzo yonke, ⁴ osiduduzayo kuzozonke inhlupheko zethu ukuze lathi siduduze abasekuhluphekeni ngenduduzo esiduduzwe ngayo nguNkulunkulu. ⁵ Njengoba inhlupheko zikaKhristu zigelezela ekuphileni kwethu, ngakho ngokunjalo futhi induduzo yethu iyaphuphuma ngoKhristu. ⁶ Nxa sihlupheka, kungenxa yenduduzo lokusindiswa kwenu; nxa siduduzekile, kungenxa yokududuzwa kwenu okulenza liqinisele ekubekezeleleni zona lezo zinhhlupheko ezisihluphayo. ⁷ Ithemba lethu ngani liqinile ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi njengoba lahlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kwethu,

ngokunjalo liyahlanganyela ekududuzweni kwethu.

⁸ Kasithandi, bazalwane, ukuba libe ngabangaziyo ngobunzima esabuzwayo esabelweni sase-Ezhiya. Sasilokuncindezeleka okukhulu, okungaphezu kwamandla ethu okuqiniseka, saze sapheliswa lalithemba lokuphila. ⁹ Impela isigwebo sokufa sasizwa ezinhliziyweni zethu. Kodwa lokhu kwenzakala ukuze singazithembi thina ngokwethu kodwa uNkulunkulu, ovusa abafuleyo. ¹⁰ Wasihlenga engozini ebulalayo, njalo uzasikhulula. Ithemba lethu silibeke kuye ukuba uzaqhubeka esihlenga, ¹¹ lapho lisisiza ngemikhuleko yenu. Abanengi bazasibongela ngomusa omangalisayo esiwuphiweyo kuyimpendulo yemikhuleko yabanengi.

UPhawuli Uguqula Amalungiselelo

¹² Thina sizincoma ngokuthi izazela zethu ziyafakaza ukuthi siziphathe kuhle emhlabeni, ikakhulu phakathi kobudlelwano bethu lani, ngobungcwele langobuqotho obuvela kuNkulunkulu. Lokhu kasikwenzanga sigxile ekuhlakanipheni kwasemhlabeni, kodwa ngomusa kaNkulunkulu. ¹³ Ngoba kasililobeli ngolutho elingeke lilubale loba liluqedisise. Njalo ngiyathemba ukuthi, ¹⁴ njengoba seliqedisisa okunye ngathi, lizaqedisisa ngokupheleleyo lizincome ngathi njengoba lathi sizazincoma ngani ngosuku lweNkosi uJesu.

¹⁵ Ngoba ngangilethemba kulokhu, ngangifuna ukwethekelela lina kuqala ukuze lisizakale kabili. ¹⁶ Ngangifuna ukulethekelela ekuyeni

kwami eMasedoniya, ngedlule kini futhi sen-
givela eMasedoniya, beselingithuma-ke eJudiya.
17 Ngakunakana ngingabaza yini lokhu? Kumbe
ngenza amalungiselelo ami ngendlela yasemh-
labeni okokuthi ngasikhathi sinye ngithi, “Yebo,
yebo,” ngibuye ngithi, “Hatshi, hatshi,” na?

18 Kodwa ngeqiniso njengoba uNkulunkulu
ethembekile, ilizwi lethu kini kalisikuthi “Yebo,”
lokuthi, “Hatshi.” 19 Ngoba iNdodana kaNku-
lunkulu, uJesu Khristu, eyatshunyayelwa kini
yimi, uSayilasi kanye loThimothi, yayingasi
“Yebo” lo “Hatshi,” kodwa kuyo kokuphela
kwakungu “Yebo.” 20 Ngoba lanxa zizinengi
kangakanani izithembiso uNkulunkulu azenzi-
leyo zingu “Yebo” kuKhristu. Ngakho ngaye
ibizo elithi “Ameni” litshiwo yithi sidumisa uN-
kulunkulu. 21 Njalo nguNkulunkulu owenza
thina kanye lani siqine kuKhristu. Wasigcoba,
22 wasibeka uphawu lwakhe lokuba ngabakhe,
wabeka loMoya wakhe ezinhliziyweni zethu
njengesibambiso, esipha isiqiniseko sokuzayo.

23 Ngibiza uNkulunkulu njengomfakazi wami
ukuthi kangibuyanga eKhorinte ukuze nginga-
likhathazi. 24 Akusikuthi silibamba ngamandla
ekukholweni kwenu kodwa sisebenza lani ukuze
lithokoze, ngoba liqiniswa lukholo.

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1 Ngakho ngenza isinqumo engqondweni
yami ukuba ngingenzi olunye uhambo olubuh-
lungu lokuza kini. 2 Ngoba nxa ngiliban-
gela usizi, ngubani omunye ozangithokozisa
ngaphandle kwenu lina esengilibangele usizi?

³ Ngaloba ngokunjalo ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami ngingadaniswa yilabo obekumele bangithokozise. Ngaletumba lonke, ukuba lonke lizathokoza kanye lami. ⁴ Ngoba ngalilobela ngokukhathazeka okukhulu lobuhlungu benhliziyo njalo langezinyembezi ezinengi, hatshi ukuba ngilizwise ubuhlungu kodwa ukuba ngilazise ngokuzika kothando lwami kini.

Ukuthethelelwa kwesoni

⁵ Nxa kukhona obange usizi, kalubanganga kimi kangako, kodwa ngenye indlela ulubange kini lonke, ukuze kungedlulisi amalawulo. ⁶ Isijeziso asinikwe ngabanengi simlingene. ⁷ Esikhundleni salokhu, kumele limthethelele njalo limduduze, ukuze angagajelwa lusizi olukhulu. ⁸ Ngakho ngiyalincenga ukuba liluqinise futhi uthando lwenu kuye. ⁹ Isizatho sokulilobela kwakuyikuba ngibone ukuthi lingamelana lobunzima njalo lilalele ezintweni zonke. ¹⁰ Nxa lithethelela omunye umuntu, lami ngiyamthethelela. Njalo lokho esengikuthethelele, nxa kwakukhona okwakumele kuthethelelwe, ngithethelele phambi kukaKhristu ngenxa yenu, ¹¹ ukuze uSathane angasiqilibezeli. Ngoba amacebo akhe siyawazi.

Izisebenzi Zesivumelwano Esitsha

¹² Ekuyeni kwami eTrowasi ukuyatshumayela ivangeli likaKhristu njalo ngathola ukuthi iNkosi yayingivulele umnyango, ¹³ ngangilokhe ngingelakho ukuthula emoyeni wami ngoba ngingamtholanga umzalwane wami uThithu

khonale. Ngakho ngavalelisa ngasengisedlulela eMasedoniya.

¹⁴ Kodwa-ke, kabongwe uNkulunkulu, yena osikhokhelela kokuphela njengabathunjiweyo ekunqobeni kukaKhristu njalo esenza sithele iphunga elimnandi lokumazi ezindaweni zonke. ¹⁵ Ngoba kuNkulunkulu siliphunga elimnandi likaKhristu phakathi kwalabo abasindiswayo lalabo ababhuhayo. ¹⁶ Komunye siliphunga elibi lokufa; komunye siliphunga elimnandi lokuphila. Ngubani olingene umsebenzi lo na? ¹⁷ Thina kasihambi sithengisa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu njengabanengi. Kodwa kuKhristu siyakhuluma phambi kukaNkulunkulu ngobuqotho, njengabantu abathunywe nguNkulunkulu.

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¹ Kanti sesiqala futhi ukuzethula na? Kumbé njengabanye abantu kumele sibe lezincwadi zokusikhulumela kini kumbé ezivela kini na? ² Lina ngokwenu liyizincwadi zethu ezibhalwe ezinhliziyweni zethu, ezaziwayo lezifundwa ngumuntu wonke. ³ Liyabonakalisa ukuba liyincwadi evela kuKhristu, isithelo sokutshumayela kwethu, engabhalwanga nge-inki kodwa ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu ophilayo, hatshi ezibhebhedwini zamatshe kodwa ezibhebhedwini zezinhliziyo zabantu.

⁴ Ithemba elinjengaleli ngelethu ngoKhristu phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ⁵ Kungayisikho ukuthi siyenelisa ukwahlulela konke esikwenzayo kodwa ukwenelisa kwethu kuvela

kuNkulunkulu. ⁶ Usiphe amandla okuba zinceku zesivumelwano esitsha, kungayisiso sokulotshiweyo kodwa esikaMoya; ngoba okulotshiweyo kuyabulala kodwa uMoya uletha ukuphila.

Inkazimulo Yesivumelwano Esitsha

⁷ Nxa imfundiso eyaletha ukufa eyayibhalwe ngamabala elitsheni, yeza lenkazimulo, ukuze abako-Israyeli bangabukhangeli kokuphela ubuso bukaMosi ngenxa yenkazimulo yabo, lanxa nje yayisifiphala, ⁸ kambe imfundiso kaMoya kayiyikuba lenkazimulo enkulu na? ⁹ Nxa imfundiso elahla abantu ilenkazimulo, pho inkulu kangakanani inkazimulo yemfundiso eletha ukulunga. ¹⁰ Ngoba okwakulenkazimulo khathesi akuselayo inkazimulo kuqathaniswa lenkazimulo enkulu. ¹¹ Njalo nxa okwakufiphala kwaletsa inkazimulo, pho inkulu kangakanani inkazimulo yalokho okungulaphakade!

¹² Ngakho, njengoba silethemba elinje, silesibindi. ¹³ Thina kasinjengoMosi owamboza ubuso bakhe ukuze abako-Israyeli bangabukhangeli lapho inkazimulo yayisifiphala. ¹⁴ Kodwa ingqondo zabo zathundubezwa, ngoba kuze kube lamhla lesosembeso sisala sikhona lapho isivumelwano esidala sibalwa. Kasisuswanga ngoba sisuswa ngoKhristu kuphela. ¹⁵ Langanalolosuku nxa kubalwa umlayo kaMosi, isembeso sembesa inhliziyi zabo. ¹⁶ Kodwa nxa umuntu ephendukela eNkosini, “isembeso siyasuswa.” ¹⁷ INkosi inguMoya njalo lapho okuloMoya

weNkosi khona, kulokukhululeka. ¹⁸ Njalo thina, sonke esibonakalisa inkazimulo yeNkosi ngobuso obungembeswanga, siguqulelwa ekufananeni layo ngenkazimulo ekhula kokuphela, evela eNkosini, enguMoya.

4

Ubuthakathaka Bakhathesi Lokuvuswa Kwabafileyo

¹ Ngakho, njengoba ngomusa kaNkulunkulu silale imfundiso, kasiphelelwa lithemba. ² Kodwa-ke sizilahlile izindlela zangasese lezilihlo; kasisebenzisi buqili loba ukuhlanekela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. Kodwa ngokubeka iqiniso obala, sizinikela kunembeza womuntu wonke phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ³ Lanxa ivangeli lethu lembesiwe, lembeswe kulabo ababhubhayo. ⁴ Unkulunkulu walesisikhathi usephumputhekise ingqondo zabangakholwayo, ukuze bangakuboni ukukhanya kwevangeli lenkazimulo kaKhristu, ongumfanekiso kaNkulunkulu. ⁵ Ngoba kasizitshumayeli thina ngokwethu, kodwa uJesu Khristu njengeNkosi, njalo thina njengezinceku zenu ngenxa kaJesu. ⁶ Ngoba uNkulunkulu owathi, "Ukukhanya kakube khona emnyameni,"* wenza ukukhanya kwakhe kwakhanya ezinhliziyweni zethu ukuba asiphe ukukhanya kokwazi inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ebusweni bukaJesu Khristu.

* **4:6** 4.6 UGenesisi 1.3

7 Kodwa inotho le silayo ezimbizeni zebumba ukubonakalisa ukuthi amandla amakhulukazi la avela kuNkulunkulu hatshi kithi. 8 Sincindezelwe kalukhuni enhlangothini zonke kodwa kasifihlizeki; sididekile kodwa kasilahlanga ithemba; 9 siyahlukuluzwa kodwa kasidelwanga; sitshayeelwa phansi kodwa kasibhujiswanga. 10 Sikuthwele njalonje emzimbeni yethu ukufa kukaJesu, ukuze ukuphila kukaJesu lakho kubonakaliswe emizimbeni yethu. 11 Ngoba thina abaphilayo sihlezi sinikelwa ekufeni ngenxa kaJesu, ukuze ukuphila kwakhe kubonakaliswe emizimbeni yethu efayo. 12 Ngakho ukufa kuyasebenza kithi kodwa ukuphila kuyasebenza kini.

13 Kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngakholwa; ngakho ngasengikhuluma.”† Ngalowomoya wokukholwa lathi siyakholwa, yingakho siyakhuluma, 14 ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi lowo owavusa iNkosi uJesu kwabafuleyo lathi uzasivusa loJesu asethule kanye lani phambi kwakhe. 15 Konke lokhu ngokokusiza lina, ukuze kuthi umusa ofika ebantwini abanengi ungenza ukubonga kwande ukuze kudunyiswe uNkulunkulu.

16 Ngakho-ke, kasililahli ithemba. Lanxa ngaphandle sicikizeka kodwa ngaphakathi senziwa sibe batsha insuku zonke. 17 Ngoba ukukhanya kwethu lezinhlupheko zethu ze-sikhatshana zisilethela inkazimulo elaphakade, enkulu kulazo zonke. 18 Ngakho amehlo ethu kasiwakhangelisanga kokubonakalayo, kodwa

† 4:13 4.13 AmaHubo 116.10

kokungabonakaliyo, ngoba okubonakalayo kuyedlula, kodwa okungabonakaliyo kuyahlala laphakade.

5

Ukulindela Umzimba Omutsha

¹ Siyakwazi ukuthi nxa ithente lethu lasemhlabeni lidilizwa, silesakhiwo esivela kuNkulunkulu, indlu yaphakade ezulwini, engakhiwanga ngezandla zabantu.

² Okwakhathesi siyabubula, sifisa ukwembeswa ngekhaya lethu lasezulwini, ³ ngoba nxa sesembesiwe kasiyikutholakala sinqunu.

⁴ Ngoba nxa sisesekeleli ithente, siyabubula njalo siyasindwa ngoba kasifisi ukwembulwa kodwa ukwembeswa ngekhaya lethu lasezulwini ukuze okufayo kuginywe yikuphila. ⁵ UNkulunkulu nguye owasidala ngenxa yale injongo njalo wasinika uMoya njengesibambiso, eqinisa okuzayo.

⁶ Ngakho sihlezi silethemba njalo siyakwazi ukuthi nxa sisesekhaya emzimbeni, sikhatshana leNkosi.

⁷ Ngoba siphila ngokukholwa hatshi ngokubona. ⁸ Ngithi silethemba njalo ngingakhetha ukuba khatshana lomzimba ngisekhaya kanye leNkosi.

⁹ Ngakho sikwenza kube yinjongo yethu ukuyithokozisa, langabe sisekhaya emzimbeni loba kude lawo. ¹⁰ Ngoba sonke kumele sime phambi kwesihlalo sokwahlulela sikaKhristu ukuze lowo lalowo amukele okumfaneleyo, okwezinto azenzayo esemzimbeni, langabe ngezinhle loba ezimbi.

Imfundiso Yokubuyisana

¹¹ Ngakho njengoba sikwazi ukuthi ukwesaba iNkosi kuyini, siyazama ukubancenga abantu. Lokhu thina esiyikho kusobala kuNkulunkulu njalo ngithemba kusobala lakuzazela zenu. ¹² Kasizami ukuzibika kini futhi kodwa silinika ithuba lokuba lizigqaje ngathi, ukuze lenelise ukubaphendula labo abazigqaja ngokubonakalayo endaweni yalokho okusenhliziyweni. ¹³ Nxa sesiphambene ingqondo, kungenxa yokwenzela kwethu uNkulunkulu; nxa siphelele engqondweni, senzela lina. ¹⁴ Ngoba uthando lukaKhristu luyasifuqa, ngoba siyakholwa ukuba oyedwa wafela bonke, ngakho bonke bafa. ¹⁵ Wafela abantu bonke ukuze abaphilayo bangaziphileli bona ngokwabo kodwa lowo owabafelayo wavuswa njalo.

¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, kusukela khathesi kusiya phambili kasikhangeli muntu ngengqondo yasemhlabeni. Lanxa sake sakhangelela uKhristu ngale indlela, kasisakwenzi. ¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, nxa umuntu ekuKhristu, uyisidalwa esitsha; okudala akusekho, sekufike okutsha. ¹⁸ Konke lokhu kuvela kuNkulunkulu owasibuyisela kuye ngoKhristu wasinika imfundiso yokubuyisana: ¹⁹ ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayebuyisa umhlaba kuye ngoKhristu, abantu engababaleli izono zabo. Njalo usesinike ilizwi lokubuyisana. ²⁰ Ngokunjalo, singabameli bakaKhristu, ngokungathi uNkulunkulu wenza isikhalazo sakhe ngathi. Siyalincenga simele uKhristu sithi: Buyisanani loNkulunkulu. ²¹ UNkulunkulu

wamenza waba yisono owayengelasono ngenxa yethu ukuze kuthi kuye sibe yikulunga kukaNkulunkulu.

6

¹ Njengezisebenzi zikaNkulunkulu siyalincenga ukuba lingamukeli umusa kaNkulunkulu ngeze. ² Ngoba uthi: “Ngesikhathi esifaneleyo kimi ngalizwa, langosuku lokusindiswa ngalisiza.”*

Zwanini, khathesi sekuyisikhathi esifaneleyo, khathesi lusuku lokusindiswa.

Inhlupheko ZikaPhawuli

³ Kasibeki zikhubekiso endleleni yomuntu ukuze imfundiso yethu ingasolwa. ⁴ Kodwa, njengezinceku zikaNkulunkulu sizethula ngazonke izindlela: ngokubekezela okukhulu; ekuhluphekeni, ebunzimeni kanye lazezinsizini; ⁵ ekutshayweni, ekuvalelweni entolongweni lazeziphithiphithini; ukusebenza nzima, ukungalali ebusuku kanye lendlala; ⁶ ukuhlambuluka, ukuqedisisa, ukubekezela kanye lomusa, ngoMoya oNgcwele langothando oluqotho, ⁷ ngokukhuluma iqiniso langamandla kaNkulunkulu; ngezikhali zokulunga esandleni sokudla lesenxele; ⁸ ngodumo langedhlazo, ukukhulunyelwa kubi lokukhulunyelwa kuhle; siqotho, kodwa sikhangelwa njengabakhohlisi; ⁹ siyaziwa kodwa sikhangelwa njengabangaziwayo, abafayo, kodwa siqhubeka siphila; siyatshaywa kodwa kasibulawa,

* 6:2 6.2 U-Isaya 49.8

¹⁰ sisosizini kodwa sihlezi sijabula; simpofu kodwa sinothisa abanengi; kasilalutho kodwa silezinto zonke.

¹¹ Sikhulume kini sikhululekile, maKhorinte, sazivula ngokupheleleyo inhliziyo zethu kini. ¹² Kasilugodli uthando lwethu kini kodwa lina liyalugodla olwenu kithi. ¹³ Okungaba yikuphana okuhle, ngikhuluma njengasebantwaneni bami, lani zivuleni ngokupheleleyo inhliziyo zenu kithi.

Lingadlelani Labangakholwayo

¹⁴ Lingahlanganyeli labangakholwayo. Ngoba ukulunga lobubi kulokuhambelana bani na? Loba yibudlelwano bani obungaba khona phakathi kokukhanya lobumnyama na? ¹⁵ Yikuzwana bani okukhona phakathi kukaKhristu loBheliyali na? Yikuhambelana bani okholwayo alakho longakholwayo na? ¹⁶ Yisivumelwano bani esikhona phakathi kwethempeli likaNkulunkulu lezithombe na? Ngoba thina silithempeli likaNkulunkulu ophilayo. Njengoba uNkulunkulu wathi:

“Ngizahlala labo
ngihambe phakathi kwabo
njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo
bona babengabantu bami.”†

¹⁷ Ngakho,
“phumani kubo
lehlukane labo,
kutsho iNkosi.
Lingathinti lutho olungcolileyo,

† **6:16** 6.16 ULevi 26.12; UJeremiya 32.38; UHezekhiyeli 37.27

mina ngizalemukela.”‡
 18 Njalo,
 “mina, ngizakuba nguYihlo,
 lina lizakuba ngamadodana lamadodakazi
 ami,
 kutsho iNkosi uSomandla.”§

7

1 Njengoba silezithembiso lezi, bazalwane abathandekayo, kasizihlambululeni ezintweni zonke ezingcolisa umzimba lomoya, siphelalise ubungcwele ngokwesaba uNkulunkulu.

Intokozo KaPhawuli

2 Sivuleleni inhliziyo zenu. Kasonelanga muntu, kasixhwalisanga muntu, kasenzanga nzuzo ngomuntu. 3 Kangitsho lokhu ukuba ngililahle; ngitshilo ngaphambilini ukuthi likhona ezinhliziyweni zethu okungenza siphile kumbe sife lani. 4 Ngilethemba elikhulu ngani; ngiyazigqaja kakhulu ngani. Ngiduduzekile kakhulu; kuzozonke inhlupho zethu intokozo yami kayilamikhawulo.

5 Ngoba ekufikeni kwethu eMasedoniya, umzimba wethu lo wawungelakuphumula kodwa sasikhathazwa ezindaweni zonke, ingxabano ngaphandle, lokwesaba ngaphakathi. 6 Kodwa uNkulunkulu oduduza abadanileyo wasiduduza ngokufika kukaThithu, 7 kungayisikho ngokufika kwakhe nje kuphela kodwa langokumduduza kwenu. Wasitshela ngokungikhumbula kwenu,

‡ 6:17 6.17 U-Isaya 52.11; UHezekhiyeli 20.34, 41 § 6:18 6.18
 2 USamuyeli 7.14; 7.8

usizi lwenu olukhulu, lokutshiseka kwenu likhat-hazeka ngami, ukuthokoza kwami kwaze kwaba kukhulu kakhulu.

⁸ Lanxa ngalibangela usizi ngenchwadi yami, angizisoli ngayo. Lanxa ngazisola ngayo, ngiyabona ukuba incwadi yami yalikhuba, kodwa okwesikhatshana nje, ⁹ ikanti khathesi ngiyathokoza, hatshi ngoba ladaniswa kodwa ngoba usizi lwenu lwalenza laphenduka. Ngoba laba lusizi njengokujonga kukaNkulunkulu njalo thina kasizange sililimaze langayiphi indlela. ¹⁰ Usizi lokwesaba uNkulunkulu luletha ukuphenduka okuholela ekusindisweni kungatshiyi nsolo, kodwa usizi lwasemhlabeni luletha ukufa. ¹¹ Khangelani ukuba usizi lokwesaba uNkulunkulu lolu selufezeni kini: ukutshisekela okungaka, lokufisa okungaka ukuba lizigeze, lentukuthelo engaka, lokwethuka okungaka ekuboneni ukulunga kusenziwa. Kukho konke libonakalise ukuthi lina limsulwa kule indaba. ¹² Ngakho lanxa ngalilobela, ngangingajonganga owonayo loba lowo owonelwayo kodwa ukuba phambi kukaNkulunkulu lizibonele ngokwenu ukuthi lizimisele kangakanani kithi. ¹³ Konke lokhu thina kuyasikhuthaza.

Phezu kokukhuthazwa kwethu, sijabuliswa ikakhulu yikubona uThithu ethokoza ngoba lonke lasiza ngokwenza ukuthi umoya wakhe ube lokuthula. ¹⁴ Ngangizincomile kuye ngani njalo kalingiyangisanga. Kodwa njengoba konke esakutshoyo kini kwakuliqiniso, ngakho ukuzincoma kwethu kuThithu ngani lakho

kubonakale kuliqiniso. ¹⁵ Njalo ukulithanda kwakhe kukhulu kakhulu lapho ekhumbula ukuthi lonke lalilalela, limamukela ngokwesaba langokuthuthumela. ¹⁶ Ngiyathokoza ngoba ngilethemba elipheleleyo ngani.

8

Ukuphana Kwabantu BeNkosi

¹ Bazalwane, sithanda ukuba lazi ngomusa uNkulunkulu awunike amabandla aseMasedoniya. ² Ekulingweni kwawo okunzima kakhulu lokuthokoza kwawo okukhulu kanye lobuyanga bawo bokucina kugcwele ukuphana okumangalisayo. ³ Ngoba ngiyafakaza ukuthi anikela okunengi njengayengakwanelisa, kanye lokudlula amandla awo. Bona ngokwabo, ⁴ basincenga ngokuphangisa ukuba babe lethuba lokuhlanganyela kulokhukusebenzela abantu beNkosi. ⁵ Kabenzanga njengesasikulindele kodwa bazinikela eNkosini kuqala, muva bazinikela kithi kuvumelana lentando kaNkulunkulu. ⁶ Ngakho-ke, samncenga uThithu, njengoba wayeseqalisile ngaphambilini, ukuba lawo awuqede umsebenzi womusa lo kini. ⁷ Kodwa njengoba lisenza kuhle ezintweni zonke, ekukholweni, ekukhulumeni, ekwazini, ekuzimiseleni okupheleleyo kanye lakukho ukusithanda kwenu, bonani ukuthi liyaqhubeka futhi kulumusa wokuphana.

⁸ Angilibekeli mlayo kodwa ngifuna ukuhlola ubuqotho bothando lwenu ngokuluqathanisa lokuzimisela kwabanye. ⁹ Ngoba liyawazi

umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ukuthi lanxa wayenothile kodwa waba ngumyanga ngenxa yenu, ukuze kuthi ngobuyanga bakhe lina linothe.

¹⁰ Njalo nansi iseluleko sami mayelana lalokho okuhle kakhulu kini kule indaba: Nyakenye libe ngabokuqala kungayisikho ekupheni nje kuphela kodwa lekubeni lesifiso sokwenza njalo.

¹¹ Khathesi-ke uqediseni umsebenzi ukuze ukutshiseka kokufuna kwenu ukwenza kungalingana lokuwuqeda kwenu, kusiya ngalokho elilakho.

¹² Ngoba nxa isifiso sikhona, isipho siyamukeleka kusiya ngalokho umuntu alakho hatshi ngalokho angelakho.

¹³ Isifiso sethu akusikuthi abanye bakhululwe lina lilokhu lincindezelekile kodwa ukuba kube lokulingana. ¹⁴ Ngenala yenu yalesisikhathi lizabanika abakuswelayo, ukuze kuthi labo ngenala yabo baliphe elikuswelayo. Lapho-ke kuzakuba lokulingana, ¹⁵ njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Lowo owabutha okunengi kabanga lokunengi kakhulu, lalowo owabutha okulutshwana kabanga lokulutshwana kakhulu.”*

UThithu Uthunywa EKhorinte

¹⁶ Kabongwe uNkulunkulu owabeka enhliziyweni kaThithu ukukhathazeka kunye engilakho ngani. ¹⁷ Ngoba uThithu kamukelanga isicelo sethu nje kuphela kodwa uyeza kini ngokutshiseka okukhulu njalo ngokuzithuma kwakhe. ¹⁸ Njalo kanye laye sithuma umzalwane obatshazwa ngamabandla wonke ngenxa

* **8:15** 8.15 U-Eksodasi 16.18

yomsebenzi wakhe wokutshumayela ivangeli. ¹⁹ Phezu kwalokho, wakhethwa ngamabandla ukuba asiphelekezele sithwele umnikelo esiwuphethayo ukuze sidumise iNkosi uqobo lokuba sibonakalise ukutshisekela kwethu ukusiza. ²⁰ Sifuna ukuxwaya insolo ngendlela esiphatha ngayo lesisipho sokuphana. ²¹ Ngoba siyalwisa kakhulu ukuba senze okulungileyo, kungasikho emehlweni eNkosi kuphela, kodwa lasemehlweni abantu.

²² Phezu kwalokho, sithuma kanye labo umzalwane wethu ohlezi ebonakalisa kithi ngezindlela ezinengi ukuthi ukhuthele, ikakhulu khathesi ngenxa yethemba lakhe elikhulu kini. ²³ UThithu yena-ke ungohlanganyela lami loyisisebenzi kanye lami phakathi kwenu; abazalwane bethu bona-ke bangabameli bamabandla lodumo kuKhristu. ²⁴ Ngakho-ke, tshengisani abantu laba ubufakazi bothando lwenu kanye lesisusa sokuzigqaja kwethu ngani, ukuze amabandla wonke alubone.

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¹ Akudingeki ukuba ngililobele mayelana lalokhukusebenzela abantu beNkosi. ² Ngoba ngiyakwazi ukutshisekela kwenu ukuba lisize njalo kade ngizincoma ngakho kwabaseMasedoniya, ngibatshela ukuthi kusukela nyakenye lina e-Akhayiya belizimisele ukunikela; njalo ukutshiseka kwenu kukhuthaze inengi labo ukuba baphathise. ³ Kodwa ngithuma abazalwane ukuze ukuzincoma kwethu ngani ngale indaba kungabi yize kodwa ukuba libe

ngabalungiseleleyo, njengoba ngatsho ukuthi lizakuba lilungiselele. ⁴ Ngoba nxa abanye baseMasedoniya besiza lami, bengathola lingalungiselanga, singayangeka ngokulethemba ebesilakho. ⁵ Ngakho ngibone kufanele ukukhuthaza abazalwane ukuba balethekelele mandulo baqedise amalungiselelo esipho esihle elasithembisa sona. Ngalesosikhathi sizakuba sesilungile njengesipho esihle hatshi esinikelwe ngomona.

Ukhlanyela Okunengi

⁶ Khumbulani lokhu: Lowo ohlanyela okunengi uvuna okunengi. ⁷ Umuntu ngamunye kanike lokho amise ukunikela enhliziyweni yakhe, kungabi ngokudonda loba ukubanjwa ngamandla ngoba uNkulunkulu uthanda onikela ngokuthokoza. ⁸ Njalo uNkulunkulu ulamandla okwenza umusa wande kini ukuze kuthi ezintweni zonke ngezikhathi zonke, lilakho konke elikuswelayo, lizakuba lokunengi kuyo yonke imisebenzi emihle. ⁹ Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Uchithele izipho zakhe kubayanga ezindaweni zonke;

ukulunga kwakhe kumi laphakade.”*

¹⁰ Lowo onika umhlanyeli inhlanyelo lesinkwa sokudla uzanika njalo aqhelise isiphala senu senhlanyelo, andise lesivuno sokulunga kwenu.

¹¹ Lizanothiswa ngezindlela zonke ukuze liphane ngezikhathi zonke, kuthi ngathi ukupha kwenu kulethe ukubongwa kukaNkulunkulu.

* **9:9** 9.9 AmaHubo 112.9

¹² Umsebenzi lo eliwenzayo kawuqedi zinswelo zabantu bakaNkulunkulu kuphela kodwa ugcwele amazwi amanengi okubonga uNkulunkulu. ¹³ Ngenxa yomsebenzi eselizibonakalise ngawo, abantu bazamdumisa uNkulunkulu ngenxa yokulalela lokuvuma kwenu ivangeli likaKhristu, kanye lomusa wenu ekwabelananeni labo kanye labanye futhi. ¹⁴ Ekulikhulekeleni kwabo, inhliziyo zabo zizakuba kini ngenxa yomusa ongelamkhawulo uNkulunkulu alinike wona. ¹⁵ Kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngenxa yesipho esingeke sichazwe.

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UPhawuli Uvikela Imfundiso Yakhe

¹ Ngenxa yokuthobeka lobumnene bukaKhristu ngiyalincenga, mina Phawuli “owethukayo” nxa ngilani ubuso ngobuso kodwa ngilesibindi nxa ngikude! ² Ngiyalicela ukuthi ekufikeni kwami kungaze kwadingeka ukuba ngize ngibe lesibindi njengalokhu engikhangelele ukuba laso mayelana labanye abantu abacabanga ukuthi siphila ngokwezilinganiso zomhlaba lo. ³ Ngoba lanxa sihlala emhlabeni, kasilwi mpi njengokwenziwa ngumhlaba. ⁴ Izikhali esilwa ngazo akusizo zikhali zasemhlabeni. Kodwa zilamandla kaNkulunkulu okudiliza izingaba. ⁵ Sichitha inkani lokuzazisa konke okuzibekayo kumelane lokwazi uNkulunkulu njalo siyayithumba yonke imicabango ukuba siyenze ibe ngemlalelayo uKhristu. ⁶ Njalo sizakuba silungele ukujezisa

zonke izenzo zokungalaleli nxa ukulalela kwenu kungaphelela.

⁷ Lina likhangela kuphela lokho okubonakalayo. Nxa umuntu ekholwa

ukuthi ungokaKhristu, kakhumbule njalo ukuthi lathi singabakaKhristu njengaye.

⁸ Ngoba lanxa ngizincoma kancane ngamandla iNkosi eyasinika wona ukuba lakhiwe kulokuba lichithwe, angiyikuyangeka ngakho.

⁹ Kangifuni ukuba kube sengathi ngiyalethusela ngezincwadi zami. ¹⁰ Ngoba abanye bathi,

“Izincwadi zakhe zilesisindo lomfutho kodwa yena uqobo uyeyiseka lakukhulumayo kufana leze.” ¹¹ Abantu abanjalo kumele bakwazi

ukuthi lokho okukhanya siyikho ezincwadini zethu nxa singekho, sizakuba yikho kanye ngezenzo zethu nxa sesikhona.

¹² Kasanelisi ukuzilinganisa loba ukuziqathanisa labanye abazibabazayo. Nxa bezilinganisa bona ngokwabo babuye baz-

iqathanise bona ngokwabo, kabahlakaniphanga. ¹³ Kodwa thina kasizincomi kudlule imikhawulo efaneleyo.

Kodwa ukuzincoma kwethu sikukhawulisa ebangeni uNkulunkulu asibekele lona, ibanga elifikayo lakini. ¹⁴ Kasedlulisi

malawulo ekuzincomeni kwethu, njengokuba kungenzakala lapho kungabe kasizanga kini,

ngoba safinyelela ukuzafika kini levangeli likaKhristu. ¹⁵ Njalo kasedluli mikhawulo

yethu ngokuzincoma ngomsebenzi owenziwe ngabanye. Ithemba lethu yikuthi lapho

ukukholwa kwenu kuqhubeka kukhula, indawo yethu yokusebenza phakathi kwenu izaqhela

kakhulu, ¹⁶ sitshumayele ivangeli ezigabeni ezingale kwenu. Ngoba kasifuni kuzincoma ngomsebenzi ovele usuyenziwe endaweni yomunye umuntu. ¹⁷ Kodwa, “Lowo ozincomayo kazincome eNkosini.”* ¹⁸ Ngoba akusimuntu ozibabazayo onguye ovunywayo, kodwa umuntu onconywa yiNkosi.

11

UPhawuli LabaPostoli Bamanga

¹ Ngithemba lizabekezelela okuncane kobuthutha bami; kodwa livele selikwenza lokho. ² Mina ngilobukhwele ngani ngobukhwele bokukholwa. Ngathembisa ukulendisela endodeni eyodwa, uKhristu, ukuze ngilethule kuyo liyintombi egcweleyo. ³ Kodwa ngiyesaba ukuthi njengo-Eva owakhohliswa yibuqili benyoka, ingqondo zenu zingaphanjulwa kancane ekuzinikeleni kwenu kuKhristu okuqotho lokungelasici. ⁴ Ngoba nxa umuntu angafika kini atshumayele uJesu ongasuye esamtshumayelayo thina, loba nxa lisamukela umoya ohlukene lalowo elawamukelayo, loba ivangeli elehlukileyo kulelo elalivumayo, likubekezelele lula kakhulu. ⁵ Kodwa kangicabangi ukuthi ngiyeyiseka okokucina kulabo “bapostoli abaphezulu.” ⁶ Ngingaba yisikhulumi esingafundiswanga kodwa ulwazi ngilalo. Lokhu sesikwenze kwacaca ngokupheleleyo kini ngezindlela zonke. ⁷ Kambe kwakuyisono yini ukuba ngizehlise

* **10:17** 10.17 UJeremiya 9.24

ukuze ngiliphakamise ngokutshumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu kungekho mbadalo na? ⁸ Ngaphanga amanye amabandla ngokwamukela usizo kuwo ukuze ngilisebenzele. ⁹ Njalo lalapho ngikini kulolutho engangilufuna, kangibanga ngumthwalo lakubani ngoba abazalwane ababesuka eMasedoniya bangipha engangikuswela. Ngizithibile ekubeni ngumthwalo kini langayiphi indlela njalo ngizaqhubeka ngisenza njalo. ¹⁰ Ngeqiniso elinjengoba iqiniso likaKhristu likhona kimi, akulamuntu ezigabeni zase-Akhayiya ozangalisa ukuzincoma kwami lokhu. ¹¹ Kungani na? Ngoba angilithandi na? UNkulunkulu uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyalithanda!

¹² Njalo ngizaqhubeka ngisenza lokhu en-gikwenzayo ukuze amacebo alabo abafuna ithuba lokuba bakhangelwe njengabalingana lathi ezintweni abazincoma ngazo abe liphutha. ¹³ Ngoba abantu abanjalo bangabapostoli bamanga, izisebenzi ezikhohlisayo, ezizenza abapostoli bakaKhristu. ¹⁴ Akumangalisi ngoba loSathane uqobo uzenza ingilosi yokukhanya. ¹⁵ Ngakho akumangalisi nxa izinceku zakhe zizenza izinceku zokulunga. Isiphetho sazo sizakuba ngokufanele izenzo zazo.

UPhawuli Uyazincoma Ngokuhlupheka Kwakhe

¹⁶ Ngiyaphinda ngithi: Akungabi lamuntu ongithatha njengesithutha. Kodwa nxa lisenza njalo, ngamukelani ngendlela elingamukela ngayo isithutha ukuze ngizincome kancane.

17 Ngalokhu kuzincoma kwami ngesibindi, angikhulumi njengeNkosi kodwa njengesithutha.

18 Njengoba abanengi bezincoma ngendlela eyenziwa ngumhlaba, lami-ke ngizazincoma.

19 Labekezelela izithutha ngentokozo ngoba lihlakaniphe kangaka!

20 Ngeqiniso, lina libekezelela loba ngubani oligqilazayo loba ethola inzuzo ngani loba ezisiza ngani loba ezikhukhumeza loba elimakala ngempama ebusweni. 21 Ngivuma ngilenhloni ukuthi thina sasibuthakathaka kakhulu kulokho!

Lokho omunye umuntu angaba lesibindi sokuzincoma ngakho, ngikhuluma njen- gesithutha, lami ngilesibindi sokuzincoma ngakho. 22 BangamaHebheru na? Lami nginguye. Bangama-Israyeli na? Lami nginguye. Bayinzalo ka-Abrahama na? Lami ngiyiyo.

23 Bazinceku zikaKhristu na? (Sengiphambene ingqondo ukuba ngikhulume kanje.) Mina ngedlula lokho. Sengisebenze nzima, ngibe sentolongweni kanengi, ngabhaxabulwa kakhulukazi, ngabekwa engozini yokufa njalonjalo. 24 Kahlanu ngatshaywa ngamaJuda invimvinya ezingamatshumi amathathu lesificamunwemunye. 25 Kathathu ngatshaywa ngemiqwayi, kanye ngatshaywa ngamatshe, ngafelwa ngumkhumbi kathathu, ngachitha ubusuku losuku ngindenda olwandle, 26 kade ngihlezi ngingohambayo njalonje. Ngike ngaba sezingozini zemifula, ezingozini zezigebenga, ezingozini zabantu bakithi, ezingozini zabeZizweni, ezingozini edolobheni, ezingozini emaphandleni, ezingozini elwandle;

lasezingozini zabazalwane bamanga.
²⁷ Ngasebenza nzima, ngatshikatshika njalo kanengi ngingalali; ngezwa indlala lokoma, ngaswela lokudla kanengi; ngagodola njalo ngahamba nqunu. ²⁸ Langaphandle kwezinye zonke izinto; ngibhekane lokuncindezelwa yikukhathazeka kwami ngamabandla wonke. ²⁹ Ngubani obuthakathaka, mina ngingabuzwa lobo buthakathaka na? Ngubani oholelwa esonweni, ngingatshi ngaphakathi kwami na?
³⁰ Nxa kumele ngizincome, ngizazincoma ngezinto ezibonakalisa ubuthakathaka bami. ³¹ UNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi uJesu, ozadunyiswa okungulaphakade, uyakwazi ukuthi kangiqambi manga. ³² EDamaseko umbusi ongaphansi kweNkosi u-Aretha walaya ukuba idolobho laseDamaseko lilindwe ukuze ngibotshwe. ³³ Kodwa ngehliswa ngesilulu ewindini elalisemdulini, ngaphunyuka ezandleni zakhe.

12

Umbono KaPhawuli Lameva Akhe

¹ Kumele ngiqhubeke ngizincoma. Lanxa kungelalutho oluzuzwayo, mina ngizaqhubeka ngemibono langezambulo ezivela eNkosini.
² Mina ngazi umuntu okuKhristu okwathi ngeminyaka elitshumi lane eyedlulayo wathathwa wasiwa ezulwini lesithathu. Langabe kwakuphakathi komzimba loba ngaphandle komzimba kangikwazi, kwazi uNkulunkulu. ³ Mina ngazi ukuthi umuntu lo loba phakathi komzimba kumbe ngaphandle

komzimba, kangikwazi, kodwa uNkulunkulu uyazi, ⁴ wahlwithwa wasiwa ePharadise. Wezwa izinto ezingakhulumekiyo, izinto umuntu angavunyelwa ukuzitsho. ⁵ Ngazincoma ngomuntu onjalo, kodwa mina angiyikuzincoma, ngaphandle kwangobuthakathaka bami. ⁶ Lanxa ngingakhetha ukuzincoma, ngiyabe nginge-sisithutha ngoba ngiyabe ngikhuluma iqiniso. Kodwa ngiyazibamba ukuze kungabikhona ozacabanga okunengi ngami kulalokho okufanele engikwenzayo loba engikutshoyo. ⁷ Ukuze ngenqabele ukuzikhukhumeza ngenxa yalezizambulo ezinkulu kakhulukazi, ngahlatshwa ngameva emzimbeni wami, ayisithunywa sikaSathane, ukuba angihluphe. ⁸ Ngalabhela eNkosini kathathu ukuba iwasuse kimi. ⁹ Kodwa yathi kimi, **“Umusa wami ukwanele ngoba amandla ami apheleliswa ebuthakathakeni.”** Ngakho ngizazincoma kakhulu-ke ngokuthokoza ngobuthakathaka bami, ukuze amandla kaKhristu ahlale phezu kwami. ¹⁰ Yikho-nje, ngenxa kaKhristu, ngithokozela ubuthakathaka, izithuko, inhlupho, ukuhlukuluzwa lokukhathazeka. Ngoba nxa ngibuthakathaka, kulapho-ke ngilamandla.

Ukunqineka KukaPhawuli NgabaseKhorinte

¹¹ Sengenze ubuthutha, kodwa yini elingin-genise kubo. Kade kufanele ngingconywe yini ngoba kangiphansi okokucina “kubapostoli abaphezulu,” lanxa nje ngingasilutho. ¹² Izinto eziphawula umpostoli zigoqela izibonakaliso, izimanga kanye lezimangaliso ezenziwa phakathi

kwenu ngokubekezela okukhulu. ¹³ Laliphansi okunjani kulamanye amabandla, ngaphandle kokuthi angizange ngibe ngumthwalo kini. Ngithethelelani kulokhu!

¹⁴ Khathesi sengilungele ukuba ngilethekelele okwesithathu njalo angiyikuba ngumthwalo kini ngoba engikufunayo akusimpahla yenu kodwa lina. Ikanti belo abantwana akumelanga banakekele abazali babo kodwa abazali yibo okumele banakekele abantwababo. ¹⁵ Ngakho ngizathokozela kakhulu ukuchitha konke engilakho ngenxa yenu lami futhi ngizinikele. Ngingalithanda kakhulu, lina lizangithanda kancane na? ¹⁶ Loba kunjalo, mina angibanga ngumthwalo kini. Kodwa mina njengomuntu ohlakaniphileyo, ngalibamba ngobuqili!

¹⁷ Ngaliqilibezela yini ngomunye wabantu engabathuma kini na? ¹⁸ Ngacela uThithu ukuba eze kini njalo ngathuma lomzalwane wethu kunye laye. UThithu kazange aliqilibezele, waliqilibezela na? Kasisebenzanga ngamoya munye salandela indlela yinye na?

¹⁹ Isikhathi sonke lesi kade licabanga ukuthi besizivikela kini na? Kade sikhuluma phambi kukaNkulunkulu njengabakuKhristu; njalo konke esikwenzayo, bazalwane abathandekayo, ngokokuliqinisa. ²⁰ Ngoba ngiyesaba ukuthi ekufikeni kwami angiyikulifica liyilokho engifuna libe yikho, mhlawumbe lani lingangifumani ngiyilokho elifuna ngibe yikho. Ngiyesaba ukuthi kungaba khona ukuxabana, umona, ukuthukuthela, imibango, isinyeyo, ukhleba, ukuzikhukhumeza kanye

lokuphithizela. ²¹ Ngiyesaba ukuthi ekufikeni kwami futhi uNkulunkulu wami uzangithoba phambi kwenu njalo ngizakuba lusizi ngabanengi abenze izono ngaphambilini njalo bengaphendukanga kulokho kungcola, isono sokufeba kanye lamanyala abangena kuwo.

13

Izixwayiso Zokucina

¹ Ukuza kwami kini lokhu kuzakuba ngokwesithathu. “Izindaba zonke kumele ziqiniswe yibufakazi babantu ababili loba abathathu.”*

² Ngavela ngalixwayisa lapho ngilani okwesibili. Ngiyakuphinda njalo ngingekho: Ekubuyeni kwami futhi angiyikubayekela labo abenza izono ngaphambilini loba nguphi wabanye, ³ njengoba lifuna ubufakazi bokuthi uKhristu ukhuluma ngami. Yena kabuthakathaka ekuliphatheni kwakhe kodwa ulamandla phakathi kwenu.

⁴ Ngoba ngeqiniso, wabethelwa ebuthakathakeni, ikanti uyaphila ngamandla kaNkulunkulu. Ngokufanayo, sibuthakathaka kuye, ikanti ngamandla kaNkulunkulu sizaphila laye ukuba silisebenzele.

⁵ Zihloleni ukuba libone ingabe lisekukholweni, zihloleni. Kaliboni yini ukuthi uKhristu uJesus uphakathi kwenu, ngaphandle nje kokuba lehluleke ekuhlolweni? ⁶ Ngithemba ukuba lizafumana ukuthi thina kasisibo abehlulekileyo ekuhlolweni. ⁷ Siyakhuleka kuNkulunkulu ukuba lingenzi lutho olubi.

* **13:1** 13.1 UDutheronomi 19.15

Kungayisikho ukuba abantu babone ukuthi sifanele kodwa ukuba lina lenze okulungileyo lanxa singakhanya singabehlulekileyo. ⁸ Ngoba asingeke senze lutho oluphambene leqiniso kodwa olweqiniso kuphela. ⁹ Siyathokoza lapho singabe sibuthakathaka kodwa lina liqinile njalo umkhuleko wethu ngowokuba lipheleliswe. ¹⁰ Yikho-nje ngiloba izinto lezi ngingekho ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami ngingabi lukhuni ekusebenziseni kwami amandla, amandla okulakha engiwaphiwe yiNkosi hatshi ukulidiliza.

Ukuvaelisa

¹¹ Okokucina, bazalwane, salani kuhle. Funani ukuphelela, lilalele isicelo sami, libe ngqondo yinye, lihlale ngokuthula. UNkulunkulu wothando lokuthula uzakuba lani.

¹² Bingelelanani ngokwangana okungcwele.

¹³ Abantu bakaNkulunkulu bonke bayalibingelela.

¹⁴ Sengathi umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu, uthando lukaNkulunkulu lokuhlanganyela kukaMoya oNgcwele kungaba lani lonke.

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Note that in addition to the rules above, revising and adapting God's Word involves a great responsibility to be true to God's Word. See Revelation 22:18-19.

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