

UJeremiya

¹ La ngamazwi kaJeremiya indodana kaHilikhiya, omunye wabaphristi base-Anathothi elizweni lakoBhenjamini. ² Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuye ngomnyaka wetshumi lantathu ekubuseni kukaJosiya indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda, ³ njalo ekubuseni kukaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwaze kwaba yinyanga yesihlanu emnyakeni wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, ngesikhathi sokuthunjwa kwabantu base-Jerusalem.

Ubizo LukaJeremiya

- ⁴ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi lisithi,
⁵ “Ngingakakubumbi esiswini ngakwazi,
 ungakazalwa ngakukhetha
 ngakubeka ukuba ngumphrofethi ezizweni.”
⁶ Mina ngathi, “Awu THIXO Somandla; ukukhuluma angikwazi, ngoba ngingumntwana nje.”
⁷ Kodwa UTHIXO wathi kimi, “Ungaze wathi, ‘Ngingumntwana nje.’ Kumele uye kubo bonke engikuthuma kubo njalo utsho loba kuyini engikulaya khona. ⁸ Ungabesabi, ngoba mina ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga,” kutsho UTHIXO.
⁹ UTHIXO waseselula isandla sakhe wathinta umlomo wami wathi kimi, “Khathesi, sengifake amazwi ami emlonyeni wakho. ¹⁰ Khangela, lamhla ngikubeka phezu kwezizwe lemibuso

ukuba usiphune udilize, ubhubhise njalo uchithe; ukuba wakhe njalo uhlanyeke.”

¹¹ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi lathi, “Kuyini okubonayo, Jeremiya?”

Ngaphendula ngathi, “Ngibona ugatsha lwe-sihlahla se-alimondi.”

¹² UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Ubone kuhle, ngoba ngilindele ukubona ukuthi ilizwi lami ligcwalisekile.”

¹³ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi futhi: “Kuyini okubonayo?”

Mina ngaphendula ngathi, “Ngibona imbiza ebilayo, ithambeke ifulathele inyakatho.”

¹⁴ UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Incithakalo evela enyakatho izakwehliselwa phezu kwabo bonke abahlala elizweni. ¹⁵ Sekuseduze ukuba ngibize bonke abantu bemibuso yasenyakatho,” kutsho UTHIXO.

“Amakhosi abo azakuza amise izihlalo zawo
zobukhosi
emasangweni aseJerusalema;
bazakumelana lemiduli yalo yonke eligom-
bolozeleyo
kanye lamadolobho wonke akoJuda.

¹⁶ Ngizamemezela ukwahlulela kwami
ebantwini bami
ngenxa yobubi babo bokungidela,
betshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha,
langokukhonza lokho okwenziwa ngezandla
zabo.

¹⁷ Wena zilungiselele! Sukuma ubatshela lokho engizakulaya khona. Ungathuthumeliswa yibo hlezi ngikwenze uthuthumele phambi

kwabo. ¹⁸ Lamhla sengikwenze waba lidolobho elivikelweyo, insika yensimbi lomduli wethusi ukuba umelane lelizwe lonke, umelane lamakhosi akoJuda, izikhulu zakhona, abaphristi bakhona kanye labantu bakhona. ¹⁹ Bazakulwa lawe, kodwa kabayikukwehlula, ngoba ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga," kutsho uTHIXO.

2

U-Israyeli Udela UNkulunkulu

¹ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi lisithi, ² "Hamba umemezele iJerusalema lisizwa uthi:

Lokhu yikho okutshiwo NGU^{THIXO}:
 'Ngiyakukhumbula ukuzinikela kwasebutsheni bakho,
 ukungithanda kwakho njengomlobokazi ungilandela enkangala,
 phakathi kwelizwe elingahlanyelwanga.

³ U-Israyeli wayengcwele KU^{THIXO},
 eyizithelo zakuqala zesivuno sakhe,
 bonke abamtshwabadelayo baba lecala,
 behlelwa yincithakalo,' "
 kutsho u^{THIXO}.

⁴ Zwana ilizwi LIKATHIXO, we ndlu kaJakhobe, lani lonke sendo lwendlu ka-Israyeli.

⁵ U^{THIXO} uthi:
 "Yibubi bani okhokho benu ababubona kimi,
 baze bedukele khatshana kangaka lami?
 Balandela izithombe eziyize,
 labo ngokwabo baba yize.

⁶ Kababuzanga ukuthi, 'Ungaphi u^{THIXO},

owasikhupha elizweni laseGibhithe
wasikhokhela emagangeni alugwadule
phakathi kwelizwe lezinkangala lezindonga,
ilizwe lokoma lobumnyama,
ilizwe elingahanjwa muntu lelingelamuntu
ohlala kulo?’

⁷ Ngaliletha elizweni elivundileyo
ukuba lidle izithelo zalo lezilimo ezinhle.
Kodwa lina lafika langcolisa ilizwe lami,
lenza ilifa lami langakhwabitheki.

⁸ Abaphristi kababuzanga ukuthi,
‘Ungaphi UTHIXO?’

Labo abaphatha umthetho abangazanga;
abakhokheli bangihlamukela.
Abaphrofethi baphrofetha ngoBhali
balandela izithombe eziyize.

⁹ Ngakho-ke ngilethesa amacala futhi,”
kutsho UTHIXO.
“Labantwana babantwana benu
ngizabethesa amacala.

¹⁰ Welani liye ngasemakhunjini aseKhithimi
likhangele,
thumelani eKhedari lihlolisise kuhle,
libone langabe sekwake kwaba lento enjen-
gale:

¹¹ Isizwe sake santshintsha onkulunkulu baso
na?
(Belo bavele kabasibo onkulunkulu.)
Kodwa abantu bami bantshintshe inkazimulo
yabo
ngenxa yezithombe eziyize.

¹² Mangalani lokhu, lina mazulu,
lithuthumele ngokwesaba okukhulu,”

kutsho UTHIXO.

13 “Abantu bami benze izono ezimbili:
Bangidelile,

mina mthombo wamanzi okuphila,
bagebha eyabo imithombo,
imithombo evuzayo engagcini manzi.

14 Kambe u-Israyeli yisisebenzi, isigqili
ngokuzalwa na?
Pho kungani eseyimpango na?

15 Izilwane zibhongile;
sezihwabhile kuye.

Zilichithile ilizwe lakhe;
amadolobho akhe atshisiwe, atshiywa en-
gaselamuntu.

16 Njalo, labantu baseMemfisi leThahiphanesi
baphuce ikhanda lakho.

17 Lokhu kawukwehliselanga phezu kwakho
ngokudela UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho
lapho ekukhokhela endleleni na?

18 Khateshi kungani usiya eGibhithe
ukuba unathe amanzi eShihori na?

Njalo kungani usiya e-Asiriya
ukuba unathe amanzi eYufrathe na?

19 Ububi bakho buzakujezisa;
ukutshedela kwakho emuva kuzakukhuza.

Ngakho cabanga ubone ukuthi kubi
njalo kubuhlungu kanjani
lapho udela UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho
njalo ungelavalalo ngami,”
kutsho iNkosi UTHIXO uSomandla.

20 “Endulo wephula ijogwe lakho,
waquma izibopho zakho;
wathi, ‘Kangiyikukukhonza!’

Lakanye, phezu kwamaqaqa wonke
 langaphansi kwazo zonke izihlahla eziluh-
 laza
 walala phansi njengesifebe.

21 Ngikuhlanye njengevini elikhethiweyo
 elohlobo oluqinileyo loluthembekileyo.

Pho kwenzakala njani ukuba ungiphendukele
 ube livini elibolileyo, leganga?

22 Lanxa ugeza ngesepa
 usebenzisa lesepa enengi,
 ichatha lobubi bakho
 lilokhu likhona phambi kwami,”
 kutsho UTHIXO Wobukhosi.

23 “Ungatsho kanjani na uthi, ‘Kangingcolanga,
 kangibalandelanga oBhali’?

Khangela ukuthi waziphatha njani esigodini,
 khumbula osukwenzile.

Ulikamela elisikazi elilesiqubu
 eligijima lapha lalaphaya,

24 ubabhemi weganga ojwayele inkangala,
 ophembela umoya enkanukweni yakhe,
 ngubani ongamenqabela
 ekukhanukeni kwakhe?

Abaduna abamxotshayo bangazidini ukuxot-
 shana labo;

bazamthola ngesikhathi sezinsikazikhwela.

25 Ungagijimi inyawo zakho zize zihlubuke
 lomphimbo wakho uze wome.

Kodwa wena wathi,
 ‘Akusizi lutho!

Ngiyabathanda onkulunkulu bezizweni,
 kumele ngibalandele.’

26 Njengokuyangeka kwesela nxa selibanjiwe,

ngokunjalo abantu bako-Israyeli bayangekile,
bona kanye lamakhosi abo lezikhulu zabo,
abaphristi babo labaphrofethi babo.

27 Bathi esigodweni, 'Wena ungubaba wami,'
elitsheni bathi, 'Nguwe owangizalayo.'

Bangifulathele,
hatshi ngobuso babo nje;
kodwa nxa sebhlopheka bathi,
'Woza usihlenge.'

28 Pho bangaphi onkulunkulu elazenzela bona?
Kabeze nxa bengakuhlenga
lapho usuphakathi kokuhlupheka!
Ngoba wena Juda ulabonkulunkulu abanengi
njengobunengi bamadolobho akho.

29 Kungani lingethesa umlandu?
Lonke lingihlamukele,"
kutsho UTHIXO.

30 "Ukubajezisa kwami abantu bakho kwaba
yize;
kabakuvumanga ukuqondiswa.

Inkemba yakho isibatshwabadele abaphrofethi
bakho
njengesilwane esiphangayo.

31 Wena owalesisizukulwane, khumbula ilizwi
LIKATHIXO:

Ngibe ngiyinkangala ku-Israyeli
kumbe ilizwe lomnyama omkhulu na?
Kungani abantu bami besithi,
'Sikhululekile ukuba sizulazule;
kasiyikuza kuwe futhi'?

32 Intombi ingazikhohlwa iziceciso zayo na,

lomlobokazi akhohlwe izembatho zakhe na?
Kodwa abantu bami bangikhohliwe,
okwensuku ezingeke zibalwe.

³³ Yeka ukuhlakanipha kwakho ekufuneni
uthando!

Labesifazane ababi kakhulu
bangafunda ezindleleni zakho.

³⁴ Ezigqokweni zakho
abantu bathola igazi lokuphila elabayanga
abangelacala lanxa ungababambanga be-
fohlela phakathi.

Kodwa kukho konke lokhu

³⁵ uthi, 'Kangilacala;
kangithukuthelelanga.'

Kodwa mina ngizakwahlulela,
ngoba uthi, 'Angonanga.'

³⁶ Kungani uqhubeke kangaka,
untshintsha izindlela zakho?
IGibhithe izakuyangisa njengalokhu
owakwenziwa yi-Asiriya.

³⁷ Uzasuka kuleyondawo
izandla zakho zisekhanda lakho,
ngoba UTHIXO ubalahlile labo obathembayo;
kabayikukusiza."

3

¹ "Indoda ingehlukana lomkayo
ayitshiye endeke kwenye indoda,
kufanele imbuyise futhi na?

Kambe ilizwe lingeke langcoliswa kakhu-
lukazi na?

Kodwa wena usuphile njengesifebe
 esilezithandwa ezinengi,
 kambe khathesi ungabuyela kimi na?"
 kutsho UTHIXO.

² "Khangela emiqolweni elugwadule ubone.
 Kungaphi lapho ongazange udlwangululwe
 khona?

Emigwaqweni wahlala ulindele izithandwa,
 wahlala njengomhambuma enkangala.

Ulingcolisile ilizwe ngobufebe bakho
 langobubi bakho.

³ Ngalokho imikhizo imisiwe,
 lezulu lentwasa kalinanga.

Ikanti wena uziphethe okwesifebe,
 awulanhloni.

⁴ Kawungibizanga khathesi nje wathi,
 'Baba, mngane wami kusukela ebutsheni
 bami,

⁵ uzahlala uzondile kokuphela na?
 Ulaka lwakho luzaqhubeka kokuphela na?'

Le yindlela okhuluma ngayo,
 kodwa wenza konke okubi ongakwenza."

U-Israyeli Ongathembekanga

⁶ Ekubuseni kwenkosi uJosiya, UTHIXO
 wathi kimi, "Ukubonile yini okwenziwe ngu-
 Israyeli ongathembekanga? Usekhwele phezu
 kwamagaqa wonke aphakemeyo langaphansi
 kwezihlahla zonke eziluhlaza wafebela khona.

⁷ Ngacabanga ukuthi emva kokuba esenze konke
 lokhu uzaphinda eze kimi, kodwa kabuyanga,
 lodadewabo ongathembekanga uJuda wakubona
 lokho. ⁸ U-Israyeli ongathembekanga ngamnika
 incwadi yakhe yesehlukaniso ngamxotsha

ngenxa yobufebe bakhe bonke. Kodwa ngabona ukuthi udadewabo ongathembekanga, uJuda, kesabanga, laye wasuka wayafeba. ⁹ Ngenxa yokuthi ububi buka-Israyeli babungatsho lutho kuye, wangcolisa ilizwe wakhonza amatshe lezihlahla. ¹⁰ Kukho konke lokhu, udadewabo ongathembekanga uJuda kabuyelanga kimi ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke, kodwa ngokuzenzisa nje kuphela,” kutsho UTHIXO.

¹¹ UTHIXO wathi kimi, “U-Israyeli ongathembekanga ungcono kuloJuda ongelaqiniso. ¹² Hamba, uyememezela ilizwi leli ngasenyakatho:

‘Phenduka Israyeli ongathembekanga,’ kutsho UTHIXO,

‘Kangisayikukuhwaqela futhi, ngoba ngilesihawu,’ kutsho UTHIXO.

‘Kangiyikuthukuthela kokuphela.

¹³ Vuma icala lakho nje kuphela, wahlamukela UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho, uzihlakazelele kubonkulunkulu bezizweni ngaphansi kwezihlahla zonke eziluhlaza, njalo kawaze wangilalela,’” kutsho UTHIXO.

¹⁴ “Phendukani, bantu abangathembekanga,” kutsho UTHIXO, “ngoba ngingumyeni wenu. Ngizalikhetha, oyedwa edolobheni lababili emulini ngililethe eZiyoni. ¹⁵ Lapho-

ke ngizalinika abelusi abathandwa yimi, abazalikhokhela ngokwazi langokuqedisisa.

¹⁶ Ngalezonsuku, ubunengi benu sebande kakhulu elizweni,” kutsho UTHIXO, “abantu kabasayikuthi, ‘Ibhokisi lesivumelwano

SIKATHIXO.’ Kaliyikufika emicabangweni yabo kumbe likhunjulwe; kaliyikudingakala, njalo akuyikwenziwa elinye futhi. ¹⁷ Ngalesosikhathi iJerusalema bazalibiza ngokuthi yisiHlalo Sobukhosi SIKATHIXO, njalo izizwe zonke zizabuthana eJerusalema ukuba zihloniphe ibizo LIKATHIXO. Kabasayikulandela inkani yezinhliziyi zabo ezimbi. ¹⁸ Ngalezonsuku indlu kaJuda izahlangana leka-Israyeli, njalo ndawonye, zivela elizweni elisenyakatho, zizakuza elizweni engalinika okhokho benu ukuba libe yilifa labo.

¹⁹ Mina ngokwami ngathi,
 ‘Kade ngingathaba kakhulu
 ukuliphatha njengamadodana,
 ngilnike ilizwe elifunekayo,
 ilifa elihle kakhulu ezizweni zonke.’
 Bengicabanga ukuthi lizangibiza ngokuthi
 ‘Baba’
 njalo lingaphambuki ekungilandeleni.

²⁰ Kodwa njengowesifazane ongathembekanga kumkakhe,
 ubungathembekanga kimi wena ndlu ka-Israyeli,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

²¹ Ilizwi liyezwakala emiqolweni elugwadule,
 ukukhala lokuncenga kwabantu bako-Israyeli,
 ngoba izindlela zabo bazonile
 bakhohlwa LOTHIXO uNkulunkulu wabo.

²² “Phendukani, bantu abangathembekanga,

ngizalelapha ukungathembeki kwenu.”

“Yebo, sizakuza kuwe,

ngoba UNGUTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu.

23 Impela umsindo wokukhonza izithombe
emaqaqeni

lasezintabeni uyinkohliso,

ngempela KUTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu

kulensindiso ka-Israyeli.

24 Kusukela ebutsheni bethu onkulunkulu abal-
ihlazo

badlile izithelo zamandla abobaba,

imihlambi yezimvu zabo leyezinkomo zabo,

amadodana abo lamadodakazi abo.

25 Kasilaleni phansi silenhloni,

siphathwe lihlazo lethu.

Ngoba sonile KUTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu,

thina sonke kanye labokhokho bethu;

kusukela ebutsheni bethu kuze kube lamhla,

kasimlalelanga UTHIXO uNkulunkulu

wethu.”

4

1 “Nxa uphenduka, wena Israyeli, buyela kimi,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

“Ungasusa phambi kwami izithombe zakho
ezenyanyekayo

ungabe usaphambuka futhi,

2 njalo nxa uzafunga ngobuqotho,

ngokulunga langokuqonda, uthi,

‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba UTHIXO ekhona,’

ngakho izizwe uzazibusisa

ziziqhenye ngaye.”

³ Ebantwini bakoJuda labeJerusalema uTHIXO uthi:

“Qhathani ingqatho yenu,
lingahlanyeli phakathi kwameva.

⁴ Zisokeleni kuTHIXO,
lisoke inhliziyo zenu,
lina bantu bakoJuda lani bantu base-
Jerusalema,

hlezi ulaka lwami luvuke luvuthe njengomlilo
ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo,
lutshise kungekho muntu ongalucitsha.”

Umonakalo Ovela Enyakatho

⁵ “Bikani koJuda limemezele laseJerusalema lithi:

‘Tshayani icilongo elizweni lonke!’

Klabalalani lithi,

‘Buthanani ndawonye!

Kasibalekeleni emadolobheni avikelweyo!’

⁶ Phakamisani uphawu lokuya eZiyoni!

Balekelani ekusileni ngokuphangisa!

Ngoba ngiletha umonakalo ovela enyakatho,
lencithakalo embi kakhulu.”

⁷ Isilwane sesiphumile esikhundleni saso,
umchithi wezizwe usephumile.

Usesukile endaweni yakhe

ukuba achithe ilizwe lenu.

Amadolobho enu azakuba ngamanxiwa
engelamuntu ohlala kuwo.

⁸ Ngakho gqokani amasaka,
khalani lilile,

ngoba ulaka LUKATHIXO olwesabekayo
kalususwanga kithi.

⁹ UTHIXO uthi,
 “Ngalolosuku inkosi lezikhulu bazaphelelwa
 lithemba,
 abaphristi bazathuthumela,
 abaphrofethi bazakwesaba.”

¹⁰ Lapho-ke mina ngathi, “Awu, THIXO
 Wobukhosi, ubakhohlisile sibili abantu laba
 kanye leJerusalema ngokuthi, ‘Lizakuba
 lokuthula,’ inkemba yona isemiphinjeni yethu!”

¹¹ Ngalesosikhathi abantu laba leJerusalema
 kuzathiwa kubo, “Umoya otshisayo ovela enkan-
 gala emiqolweni elugwadule uvunguza usiya
 ebantwini bami, kodwa kungayisikwela kumbe
 ukuhlungula, ¹² umoya olamandla kakhulu uvela
 kimi. Khathesi-ke sengimemezela ukwahlulela
 kwami kubo.”

¹³ Khangela! Uyeza njengamayezi,
 izinqola zakhe zempi zibuya njengesivun-
 guzane,
 amabhiza akhe alesiqubu esedlula
 esengqungqulu.
 Maye! Sesiphelile!

¹⁴ We Jerusalema, geza ububi obusenhliziyweni
 yakho usindiswe.
 Koze kube nini ugcine imicabango emibi na?

¹⁵ Ilizwi elivela koDani liyamemeza,
 libika umonakalo ovela emaqaqeni ako-
 Efrayimi

¹⁶ Izizwe zitshela lokhu,
 ukubike laseJerusalema,
 “Ibutho elivimbezelayo liyeza livela elizweni
 elikhatshana,

limemezela umkhosi wempi emadolobheni
akoJuda.

17 Balihanqile njengabantu abalinda insimu,
ngoba langihlamukela,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

18 “Ukuziphatha kwakho lezenzo zakho
kwehlisele lokhu phezu kwakho.

Lesi yisijeziso sakho.
Sibuhlungu kakhulu!
Sihlaba enhliziyweni!”

19 Maye, ngobuhlungu, ubuhlungu engibuzwayo.
Ngiyazitshila ngenxa yobuhlungu.

Maye, ngokufuthelwa kwenhliziyo yami!
Inhliziyo yami iyatshaya ngaphakathi
kwami,
angingeke ngithule,

ngoba ukukhala kwecilongo sengikuzwile,
umkhosi wempi sengiwuzwile.

20 Incithakalo ilandela incithakalo,
ilizwe lonke selingamanxiwa.

Ngesikhatshana nje amathente ami adiliziwe,
lamakhetheni ami ngomzuzwana nje.

21 Koze kube nini ngibona uphawu lwempi
ngisizwa lokukhala kwecilongo na?

22 “Abantu bami bayiziwula,
kabangazi.

Bangabantwana abangelangqondo,
kabalakho ukuqedisisa.

Bahlakaniphele ukwenza okubi,
kabakwazi ukwenza okulungileyo.”

- 23 Ngakhangela umhlaba,
wawungelasimo njalo ungelalutho;
lasemazulwini,
ukukhanya kwawo kwakungasekho.
- 24 Ngakhangela ezintabeni,
zazinyikinyeka,
lamaqaqa wonke ayezunguzeka.
- 25 Ngakhangela, kwakungelabantu,
izinyoni zonke zasezisukile emkhathini.
- 26 Ngakhangela, ilizwe elithelayo laseliyinkanga,
amadolobho alo wonke ayesengamanxiwa
phambi KUKATHIXO,
phambi kolaka lwakhe olwesabekayo.
- 27 UTHIXO uthi:
“Ilizwe lonke lizachitheka
lanxa ngingayikulitshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo.
- 28 Ngakho umhlaba uzalila
iphezulu libe mnyama,
ngoba sengikhulumile njalo angiyikuyekethisa,
sengenze isinqumo angiyikubuyela emuva.”
- 29 Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wabagadi bamabhiza
labemitshoko
amadolobho wonke ayabaleka.
Abanye bangena ezixukwini,
abanye bakhwele emadwaleni.
Amadolobho wonke atshiyiwe,
akulamuntu ohlala kuwo.
- 30 Wenzani na, wena ohlutshwe kakhulu?
Kungani ugqoka okubomvu gebhu

ufaka lezigqoko zegolide na?
Kungani ucoma amehlo akho ngomphendulo
na?

Uzicecisele ize.
Izithandwa zakho ziyakweyisa,
zifuna ukukubulala.

³¹ Ngizwa ukukhala okunjengokowesifazane
ohelelwayo,
ukububula okufana lozuza umntwana
wakhe wakuqala,
ukukhala kweNdodakazi yaseZiyoni ikhefuzela,
yelule izandla zayo isithi,
“Maye mina! Amandla ami asephela,
ukuphila kwami sekunikelwe kubabulali.”

5

Kakho Loyedwa Olungileyo

¹ “Yehla ukhwele ngemigwaqo yaseJerusalema,
ukhangele emaceleni wonke, ucabange,
uhlolisise wonke amagceke ayo.

Nxa ungathola umuntu oyedwa nje
oqhuba ngobuqotho efuna iqiniso,
ngizalithethelela idolobho leli.

² Lanxa nje besithi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba
uTHIXO ekhona,’
bajinge befunga amanga.”

³ Awu THIXO, amehlo akho kawadingi qiniso na?
Wabatshaya, kodwa kabezwanga buhlungu,
wabahlifiza, kodwa bala ukuqondiswa.
Benza ubuso babo baba lukhuni kulamatshe,
bala ukuphenduka.

4 Ngacabanga ngathi, “Laba ngabayanga nje,
 bayizithutha,
 ngoba indlela KATHIXO kabayazi,
 lemilayo kaNkulunkulu wabo.

5 Ngakho-ke ngizakuya kubakhokheli
 ngikhulume labo,
 ngeqiniso indlela KATHIXO bayayazi,
 lemilayo kaNkulunkulu wabo.”

Kodwa nganhliziyonye labo balephula ijogwe
 baqamula lezibopho.

6 Ngakho isilwane esivela ehlathini
 sizabahlasela,
 lempisi evela enkangala ibadlwengule,
 ingwe izabacathamela eduze lamadolobho abo
 ukudabudabula loba ngubani ophumayo,
 ngoba iziphambeko zabo zinkulu,
 lokuhlehlela kwabo emuva kunengi.

7 “Ngingalithethelela ngenxa yani na?
 Abantwana benu bangidelile,
 bafunga ngabonkulunkulu abangasibonku-
 lunkulu,
 ngabanika konke abakuswelayo,
 kodwa bona bafeba
 baminyana ezindlini zezifebe.

8 Bangamabhiza amaduna asuthayo, agcwele
 inkanuko,
 omunye lomunye ekhalela umfazi wenye
 indoda.

9 Ngingabajezisi kulokhu na?”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

“Ngingaphindiseli esizweni
 esinjengalesi na?”

- 10 Ngenani lidabule phakathi kwezivini zaso
lizidlwengule,
kodwa lingazitshabalalisi ngokupheleleyo.
Phundlani ingatsha zalo,
ngoba abantu laba kabasibo BAKATHIXO.
- 11 Indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda
kazithembekanga impela kimi,”
kutsho UTHIXO.
- 12 Baqambe amanga NGOTHIXO
bathi, “Kasoze enze lutho!
Akulabubi obuzasehlela,
kasiyikubona impi loba indlala.
- 13 Abaphrofethi bangumoya nje,
lelizwi kalikho kubo,
ngakho abakutshoyo kakwenziwe kubo.”
- 14 Ngakho-ke UTHIXO uNkulunkulu uSomandla
uthi:
“Njengoba abantu sebekhulume amazwi la,
ngizakwenza amazwi ami emlonyeni wakho
abe ngumlilo
labantu laba babe zinkuni oziqothulayo.”
- 15 UTHIXO uthi, “Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli,
ngizaletha isizwe esivela khatshana ukuba
sikuhlasele,
isizwe esidala esiqinileyo,
isizwe ulimi lwaso ongalwaziyo,
lenkulumo yaso ongayizwayo.
- 16 Imixhaka yaso ifana lengcwaba elivulekileyo,
bonke bangamabutho alamandla.
- 17 Bazatshwabadela amabele enu lokudla kwenu,
batshwabadele amadodana enu kanye
lamadodakazi enu,

bazatshwabadela izimvu zenu kanye lenkomo
zenu,
bazatshwabadela amavini enu kanye
lemikhiwa yenu.

Amadolobho avikelweyo eliwathembileyo
bazawachitha ngenkamba.

¹⁸ Ikanti langalezozinsuku,” kutsho UTHIXO,
“angiyikuliqeda du. ¹⁹ Lapho abantu bebuza
besithi, ‘Kungani UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu
enze konke lokhu kithi?’ Batshele uthi, ‘Njen-
goba lingilahlile lakhonza onkulunkulu bez-
izweni elizweni lenu, ngokunjalo khathesi liza-
sebenzela abezizweni elizweni elingayisilo lenu.’

²⁰ Memezela lokhu endlini kaJakhobe
njalo ukubike lakoJuda uthi:

²¹ Zwanini lokhu, lina zithutha zabantu abange-
langqondo,
abalamehlo kodwa kababoni,
abalezindlebe kodwa kabezwa:

²² Akumelanga lingesabe na?”

kutsho UTHIXO.

“Kaliyikuthuthumela phambi kwami na?

Ngenza itshebetshebe laba ngumngcele wolwan-
dle

umkhawulo wanini lanini olungeke luweqe.

Amagagasi angavinqoza, kodwa awangeke ed-
lule,

angahlokoma, kodwa awangeke aweqe.

²³ Kodwa abantu laba balezinhliziyoy ezilukhuni
ezihlamukayo,

baphambukile, balahleka.

²⁴ Kabatsho ezinhliziyweni zabo ukuthi,

‘Kasimesabeni UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu,
onisa izulu ngesikhathi salo ekwindla lentwasa,

- osithembisa amaviki amiselwe ukuvuna.’
 25 Ukona kwenu kukuvimbele lokhu,
 izono zenu zilemuka okuhle.
- 26 Phakathi kwabantu bami kulabantu ababi
 abacathama njengabantu abathiya izinyoni,
 lanjengalabo abathiya imijibila yokubamba
 abantu.
- 27 Njengezitsha ezigwele izinyoni,
 izindlu zabo zigwele inkohliso;
 sebenothile njalo sebelamandla
 28 sebezimukile njalo babancwaba.
 Izenzo zabo ezimbi kazilamkhawulo,
 kabakudingi ukulunga.
 Izintandane kabazikhulumeli ukuba zinqobe,
 amalungelo abayanga kabawavikeli.
- 29 Akumelanga ngibajezisele lokhu na?”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 “Akumelanga ngiphindisele esizweni
 esinjengalesi na?
- 30 Into eyesabekayo leyethusayo
 isiyenzakele kulelizwe:
- 31 Abaphrofethi baphrofitha amanga,
 abaphristi babusa ngamandla abo,
 labantu bami bakuthanda kunjalo.
 Kodwa lizakwenzani ekucineni?”

6

IJerusalema Livinjezelwe

- 1 “Balekani ukuze liphephe, bantu bakoBhen-
 jamini!
 Balekani eJerusalema!
 Tshayani icilongo eThekhowa!

Phakamisani uphawu phezu kweBhethi-
Hakheremi.
Ngoba umonakalo uyabonakala ngasenyakatho,
kanye lencithakalo eyesabekayo.

² Indodakazi yaseZiyoni
enhle kangaka lebuyayi ngizayibhubhisa.

³ Abelusi lemihlambi yabo bazakuza bamelane
layo;
bazamisa amathente abo eyihanqile,
lowo lalowo elinde indawo yakhe.”

⁴ “Lungelani ukulwa layo!
Vukani, kasihlaseleni emini!
Kodwa, habe, ukukhanya sekufiphala,
lamathunzi okuhlwa asesiba made.

⁵ Ngakho vukani, kasihlaseleni ebusuku
sidilize izinqaba zayo!”

⁶ UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
“Gamulani izihlahla liziwise
lakhe imiduli yokuvimbezela iJerusalema.
Idolobho leli kumele lijeziswe,
ligcwele ukuncindezela.

⁷ Njengomthombo ugobhoza amanzi awo,
ngokunjalo lalo ligobhoza ububi balo.
Udlakela lokubhubhisa kuyezwakala phakathi
kwalo,
umkhuhlane walo lamanxeba ngihlezi
ngikukhangele.

⁸ Xwayiseka, we Jerusalema,
hlezi ngikutshiye,
lelizwe lakho ngilichithe,
kungabi lomuntu ohlala kulo.”

⁹ UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
“Kababuthe izinsalela zako-Israyeli

ngokupheleleyo njengevini,
dlulisa futhi isandla sakho phezu kwezingatsha,
njengomuntu ovuna amavini.”

10 Ngubani engingakhuluma laye ngimxwayise
na?

Ngubani ozangilalela na?

Indlebe zabo zivalekile*
ngakho abangeke bezwe.

Ilizwi LUKATHIXO liyisinengiso kubo.

Kabafumani ntokozi kulo.

11 Kodwa mina ngiyafuthelana ngolaka
LUKATHIXO,
ngingeke ngibe ngisalugodla ngaphakathi.

“Lwehlisele phezu kwabantwana emgwaqweni
laphezu kwamajaha abuthene ndawonye,
bobabili indoda lomkayo luzabehlela,
kanye labadala, labo abakhulelwa
yiminyaka.

12 Izindlu zabo zizanikwa abanye,
konke lamasimu abo kanye labafazi babo,
lapho ngiselula isandla sami
ngimelana lalabo abahlala elizweni,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

13 “Kusukela kwabancane kusiya kwabakhulu,
bonke bayizihwaba ezifuna inzuzo,
banjalo abaphrofethi kanye labaphristi,
bonke benza inkohliso.

14 Babopha inxeba labantu bami
kungathi kalilibi kakhulu.

Bathi, ‘Ukuthula, ukuthula,’

* 6:10 6.10 NgesiHebheru kutsho ukuthi abasokwanga

khona ukuthula kungekho.

15 Bayayangeka na ngokuziphatha kwabo okwenyanyekayo?

Hatshi, bavele kabalazo inhloni lokuyangeka kabakwazi.

Ngakho bazawela phakathi kwabawileyo, bazakwehliselwa phansi lapho sengibajezisa,”

kutsho UTHIXO.

16 UTHIXO, uthi:

“Manini emahlanganweni emigwaqo likhangele, libuze izindledlana ezindala, libuze lapho okulendlela enhle khona, lihambe ngayo,

lizathola ukuphumula kwemiphefumulo yenu.

Kodwa lina lithe, ‘Kasiyikuhamba ngayo.’

17 Ngalibekela abantu bokulilinda ngathi,

‘Lalelani ukukhala kwecilongo!’

Kodwa lina lathi, ‘Kasiyikulalela.’

18 Ngakho zwanini, lina zizwe,

khangelani, lina elingofakazi,

libone okuzakwenzakala kubo.

19 Zwana, wena mhlaba,

ngiletha umonakalo phezu kwabantu laba,

izithelo zamaqhinga abo,

ngoba kabawalalelanga amazwi ami

njalo bawalile lomthetho wami.

20 Ngilani lempepha yaseShebha

loba imfe evela elizweni elikude na?

Iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa kayamukeleki,

imihlatshelo yenu kayingithokozisi.”

21 Ngakho UTHIXO uthi:

“Ngizabeka imigoqo phambi kwalababantu.

Abazali labantwana bazakhubeka kuyo,
omakhelwane labangane bazabhubha.”

22 UTHIXO uthi:

“Khangelani, ibutho liyeza
livelya elizweni lasenyakatho,
isizwe esikhulu siyadungwa
kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.

23 Bahlome ngamadandili langemikhonto,
balesihluku kabalasihawu.
Bezwakala njengolwandle oluhlokomayo
lapho begade amabhiza abo,
beza njengabantu abalungele impi ukuba bakuh-
lasele,
wena Ndodakazi yaseZiyoni.”

24 Sesizwe imibiko ngabo,
njalo izandla zethu zilenga zingelamandla.
Usizi lusibambile,
ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazane
ohelelwayo.

25 Lingayi phandle egangeni,
loba lihambe emigwaqweni,
ngoba isitha silenkemba,
njalo silencithakalo emaceleni wonke.

26 Awu bantu bami, gqokani amasaka,
lizibhuqe emlotheni,
khalani lilile kabuhlungu
njengokwendodana eyiyo yodwa,
ngoba masinyane nje umchithi
uzafika kithi.

27 “Ngikwenze umhloli wezinsimbi

labantu bami babayilitshe elixubene
 lensimbi
 ukuba ukhangele ubone
 ube usuhlola izindlela zabo.
 28 Bonke bangabahlamuki abalukhuni,
 abahamba behleba.
 Balithusi lensimbi,
 bonke benza ukuxhwala.
 29 Imvutho ivutha okwesabekayo
 incibilikisa umnusu ngokutshisa komlilo
 kodwa ukucenga kuqhubeka kuyize,
 ababi kabakhutshwanga.
 30 Kuthiwa bayisiliva esilahliweyo,
 ngoba UTHIXO usebalahlile.”

7

Ukholo Lwamanga Luyize

¹ Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuUTHIXO lisithi: ² “Mana esangweni lendlu KATHIXO umemezele ilizwi leli ukhonapho uthi:

‘Zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO, lonke lina bantu bakoJuda abangena ngala amasango ukuzakhonza UTHIXO. ³ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Lungisani izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu, ukuze ngilivumele ukuba lihlale kule indawo. ⁴ Lingathembi amazwi akhohlisayo lithi, “Leli lithempeli LIKATHIXO, ithempeli LIKATHIXO, ithempeli LIKATHIXO!” ⁵ Lingalungisa izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu sibili liphathane ngokulunga, ⁶ nxa lingancindezeli owezizweni, izintandane loba umfelokazi njalo lingachithi gazi elingelacala kule indawo, njalo nxa lingalandeli abanye

onkulunkulu okuzalilimaza, ⁷ ngizalivumela ukuba lihlale kule indawo, elizweni engalinika okhokho benu ukuba libe ngelabo kuze kube nini lanini. ⁸ Kodwa khangelani, lina lithemba amazwi akhohlisayo angasizi lutho.

⁹ Kambe lizantshontsha njalo libulale, lifebe, lifunge amanga, litshisele uBhali impepha njalo lilandele abanye onkulunkulu elingakaze libazi, ¹⁰ beselisizakuma phambi kwami kuyonale indlu, eleBizo lami, lithi, “Sivikelekile,” livikeleka ukuba lenze zonke lezizinto ezenyanyekayo na? ¹¹ Indlu le, eleBizo lami, seyaba lubhalu lwabaphangi na? Kodwa kade ngikhangele! kutsho UTHIXO.

¹² Hambani khathesi endaweni yami eShilo lapho engenza khona kuqala indawo yokuhlala iBizo lami, libone engakwenza kuyo ngenxa yobubi babantu bami bako-Israyeli. ¹³ UTHIXO uthi, kwathi lapho lisenza lezizinto, mina ngakhuluma lani futhifuthi, kodwa kalingilalelanga, ngalibiza, kalaze lasabela. ¹⁴ Ngakho-ke, lokho engakwenza eShilo khathesi ngizakwenza kule indlu eleBizo lami, ithempeli elilithembileyo, indawo engalinika yona lina kanye labokhokho benu. ¹⁵ Ngizalixotsha phambi kwami, njengalokho engakwenza abafowenu bonke, abantu bako-Efrayimi.’

¹⁶ Ngakho abantu laba ungabakhulekeli loba ubakhulumele kumbe ubenzele isicelo; ungangincengi ngoba angiyikukulalela. ¹⁷ Abakwenzayo emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yase-Jerusalem kawukuboni na? ¹⁸ Abantwana

batheza inkuni, oyise babasa imililo, labesifazane baxova inhlama benzele iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini isinkwa. Bathelela abanye onkulunkulu iminikelo yokunathwayo ukuba bangithukuthelise. ¹⁹ Kodwa yimi abangithukuthelisayo na? kutsho UTHIXO. Kabazilimazi bona ngokwabo na, okulihlazo kubo?

²⁰ 'Ngakho UTHIXO Wobukhosi uthi: Ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami kuzakwehliselwa kule indawo, phezu kwabantu lasezinyamazani, phezu kwezihlahla zeganga laphezu kwezithelo zomhlabathi; njalo kuzakutsha kungacitsheki.

²¹ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Qhubekani, fakani iminikelo yenu yokutshiswa kweminye imihlatshelo yenu lidle inyama lina ngokwenu! ²² Ngoba ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe ngikhuluma labo, angizange ngibanike imilayo nje kuphela ngeminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, ²³ kodwa ngabanika umlayo lo othi: Ngilalelani, njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wenu lina libe ngabantu bami. Hambani ngezindlela zonke engililaye zona, ukuze kulilungele. ²⁴ Kodwa kabazange balalele kumbe banake; esikhundleni salokho, bona balandela inkani yentando yezinhliziyi zabo ezimbi. Baya emuva hatshi phambili. ²⁵ Kusukela ngesikhathi okhokho benu besuka eGibhithe kuze kube khathesi, usuku ngosuku, njalonjalo ngalithumela izinceku zami abaphrofethi. ²⁶ Kodwa kabangilalelanga kumbe banake. Babelentamo ezilukhuni njalo benza ububi obudlula obabokhokho babo.'

²⁷ Lapho ubatshela konke lokhu, kabayikukulalela; lalapho ubabiza, kabayikusabela.
²⁸ Ngakho batshele uthi, 'Lesi yisizwe esingalalelanga UTHIXO uNkulunkulu waso kumbe sivume ukuqondiswa. Iqiniso selifile; kalisekho ezindebeni zabo.

²⁹ Gelani inwele zenu lizilahlele khatshana; lenze isililo emiqolweni elugwadule, ngoba UTHIXO usesalile wasidela isizukulwane lesi esingaphanasi kolaka lwakhe.' "

ISigodi Sokubulala

³⁰ " 'Abantu bakoJuda benze ububi phambi kwami, kutsho UTHIXO. Bamise izithombe zabo ezenyanyekayo endlini eleBizo lami balingcolisa. ³¹ Sebakhe izindawo eziphakemeyo zaseThofethi esigodini saseBheni-Hinomu ukuba batshisele khona amadodana lamadodakazi abo ngomlilo, into engingabalayanga yona, engazange ifike engqondweni yami. ³² Ngakho qaphelani, insuku ziyeza, kutsho UTHIXO, lapho abantu bengayikuyithi yiThofethi kumbe iSigodi saseBheni-Hinomu, kodwa iSigodi sokuBulala, ngoba abafuleyo bazabangcwaba eThofethi kuze kusweleke indawo. ³³ Lapho ke izidumbu zabantu laba zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zomhlaba, njalo akuyikuba lomuntu ozazethusa. ³⁴ Ngizaqeda imisindo yokuthokoza leyenjabulo emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema, lokuthaba lelizwi lomlobokazi lelomyeni, ngoba ilizwe lizachitheka.' "

8

Ukona Lobuqili Bukajuda

¹ “Ngalesosikhathi, kutsho uTHIXO, amathambo amakhosi akoJuda lawezikhulu zakhona, amathambo abaphristi lawabaphrofethi, kanye lamathambo abantu baseJerusalema azakhutshwa emangcwabeni awo. ² Azachaywa elangeni lasenyangeni lakuzo zonke izinkanyezi zasemazulwini, abakuthandayo bakukhonza njalo abakulandelayo bakubuza bakudumisa. Kawayikubuthwa loba angcwatshwe, kodwa azakuba njengezibi phezu komhlabathi. ³ Loba kungaphi engibaxotshela khona, bonke abasilayo balesisizwe esibi bazakhetha ukufa kulokuphila, kutsho uTHIXO uSomandla.’”

Isono Lesijeziso

⁴ “Wothi kubo, ‘UTHIXO uthi:
Abantu bangawa, kabavuki na?
Omunye angaphambuka, kaphenduki na?
⁵ Pho kungani abantu laba bedukile?
Kungani iJerusalema lihlala liseduka?
Bayanamathela enkohlisweni,
bayala ukuphenduka.
⁶ Ngilalele ngesineke,
kodwa kabatsho okulungileyo.
Kakho ophenduka ebubini bakhe,
esithi, “Kuyini engikwenzileyo na?”
Yilowo lalowo ulandela indlela yakhe
njengebhiza lizithela empini.
⁷ Lengabuzane emoyeni
liyazazi izikhathi zalo zomnyaka,
lejuba, lenkonjane lohemu

kuyasigcina isikhathi sakho sokuthutha.
Kodwa abantu bami kabakwazi
okufunwa NGUTHIXO.

⁸ Lingatsho kanjani ukuthi, “Sihlakaniphile,
ngoba silomthetho KATHIXO,”
lona iqiniso kuyikuthi amanga alotshwe ngosiba
lwababhali
asenze umthetho wangabi liqiniso?

⁹ Abahlakaniphileyo bazayangiswa,
bazakwesaba bathiyeke.

Njengoba belalile ilizwi LIKATHIXO,
balenhlakanipho bani na?

¹⁰ Ngakho abafazi babo ngizabapha amanye
amadoda
lamasimu abo abe ngawabanye abatsha.
Kusukela kwabancane kusiya kwabakhulu,
bonke bayizihwaba ezifuna inzuzo,
banjalo abaphrofethi kanye labaphristi,
bonke benza inkohliso.

¹¹ Babopha inxeba labantu bami
kungathi kalilibi kakhulu.

Bathi, “Ukuthula, ukuthula,”
khona ukuthula kungekho.

¹² Kambe bayayangeka na ngokuziphatha kwabo
okunengisayo?

Hatshi, bavele kabalazo inhloni,
lokuyangeka kabakwazi.

Ngakho bazawela phakathi kwabawileyo,
bazakwehliselwa phansi lapho sebejeziswa,
kutsho UTHIXO.

¹³ Ngizabemuka isivuno sabo,
kutsho UTHIXO.

Akuyikuba lezithelo ezivinini zabo.
 Akuyikuba lezithelo zomkhiwa esihlahleni,
 lamahlamvu aso azabuna.
 Engibanike khona
 kuzathathwa kubo.’ ”

14 Pho sihlaleleni lapha?
 Buthanini!
 Kasibalekeleni emadolobheni avikelweyo
 siyebhubhela khona!
 Ngoba UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu usesilahlele
 ekubhubheni
 wasinika amanzi aletshefu ukuba sinathe,
 ngoba sonile kuye.

15 Sathemba ukuba lokuthula
 kodwa akubanga lobuhle obukhona,
 ekubeni kube yisikhathi sokwelatshwa
 kwaba lokwesaba.

16 Ukuthimula kwamabhiza esitha
 kuyezwakala kuvelela koDani,
 ekukhaleni kwamabhiza amaduna
 ilizwe lonke liyaqhaqhaazela.

Zilande ukuzatshwabadela
 ilizwe lakho konke okukulo,
 idolobho labo bonke abahlala kulo.

17 “Khangelani, ngizathumela phakathi kwenu
 izinyoka ezilobuhlungu,
 izinhlangwana ezingeke zithakathwe, njalo
 zizaliluma,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

18 Awu Mduduzi wami osizini,
 inhliziyo yami isiqaleka phakathi kwami.

19 Lalela ukukhala kwabantu bami

okuvela elizweni elikhatshana besithi:
 “UTHIXO kakho eZiyoni na?
 INkosi yalo kayisekho lapho na?”

“Kungani bevuse ulaka lwami ngezifanekiso
 zabo,
 langezithombe zezizweni eziyize na?”

20 “Ukuvuna sekwedlule,
 ihlobo seliphelile,
 kodwa kasihlengwanga.”

21 Njengoba abantu bami benqotshiwe lami ng-
 inqotshiwe,
 ngiyalila njalo ukwesaba kungiphethe.

22 Akulamuthi yini eGiliyadi?
 Kakho yini lomelaphi khona?
 Pho kungani kungekho kwelatshwa
 kwenxeba labantu bami na?

9

1 Awu, sengathi ngabe ikhanda lami
 lingumthombo wamanzi,
 lamehlo ami angumthombo wezinyembezi!
 Kade ngizakhala emini lebusuku
 ngikhalela abantu bami ababuleweyo.

2 Awu, sengathi ngabe enkangala
 ngilendawo engahlala izihambi,
 ukuba ngisuke ebantwini bami
 ngisuke kubo,
 ngoba bonke bayizifebe,
 ixuku labantu abangathembekanga.

- 3 “Benza izindimi zabo zilunge
 njengesavutha ukuba batshoke amanga,
 ukuthi bayanqoba elizweni
 akusikho ngeqiniso.
 Basuka kokunye ukona baye kokunye;
 kabangamukeli,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- 4 “Qaphela abangane bakho,
 ungabathembi abafowenu.
 Ngoba wonke umfowenu ungumkhohlisi,
 njalo wonke umngane ungumhlebi.
- 5 Umngane ukhohlisa umngane,
 njalo kakho okhuluma iqiniso.
 Sebefundisa izindimi zabo ukuqamba amanga,
 bayazidinisa ngokona.
- 6 Lihlala phakathi kwenkohliso,
 ngenkohliso yabo bayala ukungamukela,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- 7 Ngakho UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
 “Khangelani, ngizabacolisa ngibahlole,
 ngoba kuyini okunye engingakwenza
 ngenxa yesono sabantu bami?
- 8 Ulimi lwabo lungumtshoko olobuthi,
 lukhuluma inkohliso.
 Lowo lalowo ukhuluma kuhle kubomakhelwane
 bakhe,
 kodwa enhliziyweni zabo be bathiya ngemi-
 jibila.
- 9 Kakufanele ngibajezisele lokhu na?”
 kubuza UTHIXO.
 “Kakufanele ngiphindisele
 esizweni esinjengalesi na?”
- 10 Ngizakhala ngililele izintaba

ngibuye ngililele lamadlelo asenkangala.
 Atshabalele njalo kakho ohambela kuwo,
 lokubhonsa kwezinkomo akuzwakali.
 Izinyoni zasemoyeni sezibalekile,
 lezinyamazana kazisekho.

11 “IJerusalema ngizalenza libe yinqumbi
 yonxiwa,
 isikhundla samakhanka,
 njalo ngizawadiliza amadolobho akoJuda
 ukuze kungabikhona ohlala kuwo.”

12 Nguphi umuntu ohlakaniphileyo ukuba
 akuzwise lokhu? Ngubani ofundiswe
 NGUTHIXO ongakuchaza? Kungani ilizwe
 litshabalalisiwe lachithwa njengenkangala
 ukuze kungadluli muntu kulo?

13 UTHIXO wathi, “Kungenxa yokuthi sebe-
 lahle umthetho wami engababekela wona; ka-
 bangilalelanga, lomthetho wami kabawulande-
 langa. 14 Esikhundleni salokho, bona ba-
 landele ubulukhuni bezinhliziyo zabo; balan-
 dele oBhali, njengokufundiswa kwabo ngoyise.”

15 Ngakho-ke, UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu
 ka-Israyeli uthi: “Khangalani, abantu laba
 ngizabadlisa ukudla okubabayo ngibanathise
 lamanzi alobuthi. 16 Ngizabahlakazela ezizweni
 bona kanye laboyise abangazange bazazi, njalo
 ngizabalandela ngenkemba ngize ngibaqede
 du.”

17 UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
 “Cabangani khathesi! Bizani abesifazane
 abalilayo beze,
 libize labo abalobuciko obumangalisayo.

- 18 Kabeze ngokuphangisa,
 bazesililela amehlo ethu aze ehlise inyem-
 bezi
 lempophoma zamanzi zigeleze,
 ziphuma enkopheni zethu.”
- 19 Ilizwi lokukhala liyezwakala livela eZiyoni:
 “Yeka kunganani ukuchithakala kwethu!
 Yeka ubukhulu behlazo lethu!
 Kumele sisuke elizweni lethu
 ngoba izindlu zethu zidiliziwe.”
- 20 Khathesi, lina abesifazane, zwanini ilizwi
 LIKATHIXO,
 vulani indlebe zenu lizwe amazwi omlomo
 wakhe.
 Fundisani amadodakazi enu ukulila,
 lifundisane amazwi okukhala.
- 21 Ukufa kukhwele kwangena ngamafastela ethu,
 njalo kungenile lasezingabeni zethu,
 sekususe abantwana emigwaqweni
 kanye lamajaha ezindaweni zikazulu.
- 22 Tshono uthi, UTHIXO uthi,
 “‘izidumbu zabafuleyo zizalala
 njengezibi egangeni,
 njengamabele aqunywe ngemva kovunayo,
 okungekho ozawabutha.’”
- 23 UTHIXO uthi:
 “Ohlakaniphuleyo kangazincomi ngokuhlaka-
 nipha kwakhe,
 loba indoda elamandla izincome ngamandla
 ayo,
 loba indoda enothileyo izincome ngenotho
 yayo,
- 24 kodwa lowo ozincomayo,

kazincome ngokuthi uyaqedisisa njalo
uyangazi,
ukuthi mina NGINGUTHIXO, osebenzisa umusa,
imfanelo lokulunga emhlabeni,
ngoba lezizinto ziyangithokozisa,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

²⁵ UTHIXO uthi, “Insuku ziyeza, lapho en-
gizabajezisa khona bonke abasoke enyameni
kuphela, ²⁶ iGibhithe, loJuda, lo-Edomi, lo-Amoni
loMowabi labo bonke abahlala enkangala ezin-
daweni ezikhatshana. Ngoba izizwe zonke lezi
kazisokanga, njalo lendlu yonke ka-Israyeli kay-
isokanga enhliziyweni.”

10

UNKulunkulu Lezithombe

¹ Zwana okutshiwo NGUTHIXO kuwe, wena
ndlu ka-Israyeli. ² UTHIXO uthi:

“Lingazifundi izindlela zezizwe
kumbe ukwethuswa yizibonakaliso
zasemkhathini,
lanxa nje izizwe zisethuswa yizo.

³ Ngoba imikhuba yabantu iyize,
bagamula isihlahla ehlathini,
ingcwethi isibaze ngetshizela yayo.

⁴ Bayasicecisa ngesiliva langegolide,
basibethele ngesando langezipikili
ukuze singanyikinyeki.

⁵ Njengezinto zokwethusa endimeni yamajodo,
izithombe zabo azikhulumi,
kumele zithwalwe
ngoba azingeke zihambe.

Lingazesabi,

azingeke zenze okubi,
lokuhle azingeke zikwenze.”

⁶ Kakho ofana lawe, wena THIXO,
wena umkhulu,
lebizo lakho lilamandla amakhulu.

⁷ Ngubani ongeke akwesabe,
wena Nkosi yezizwe?
Lokhu kukufanele.

Phakathi kwabantu bonke abahlakaniphileyo
bezizwe
lakuyo yonke imibuso yabo,
kakho onjengawe.

⁸ Bonke kabalangqondo njalo bayizithutha,
bafundiswa yizithombe zezigodo eziyize.

⁹ Isiliva esikhandiweyo siya lethwa sivela
eThashishi
legolide livela e-Ufazi.

Okwenziwe yingcwethi lomkhandi wegolide
kugqokiswa okuluhlaza lokuyibubende,
njalo konke kwenziwe zingcitshi.

¹⁰ Kodwa uTHIXO unguNkulunkulu oqotho,
unguNkulunkulu ophilayo, iNkosi
yanininini.

Lapho ethukuthele, umhlaba uyagedezela,
izizwe azingeke zimelane lolaka lwakhe.

¹¹ “Batshela lokhu uthi, onkulunkulu laba,
abangawenzanga amazulu lomhlaba, bazab-
hubha emhlabeni langaphansi kwamazulu.”

¹² Kodwa uNkulunkulu wenza umhlaba nga-
mandla akhe,
wamisa umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe,

njalo wendlala lamazulu ngokuqedisisa kwakhe.

- 13 Lapho evungama, amanzi asemazulwini ayahlokoma, wenza amayezi aphakame evela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.

Uthumela umbane ulezulu njalo akhuphe umoya eziphaleni zakhe.

- 14 Abantu bonke kabalangqondo njalo kabalalwazi, wonke umkhandi wegolide uyangiswa yizithombe zakhe.

Izithombe zakhe azenzayo ziyinkohliso, kazilamphefumulo phakathi kwazo.

- 15 Ziyize, izinto zenhlekisa nje, lapho ukwahlulelwa kwazo sekufikile, zizabhubha.

- 16 Lowo oyiNgxenye kaJakhobe kafani lalaba, ngoba unguMenzi wezinto zonke, kubalwa lo-Israyeli, isizwe selifa lakhe, ibizo lakhe nguTHIXO uSomandla.

Ukubhujiswa Okuzayo

- 17 Qoqani impahla yenu ukuba lisuke elizweni, lina elihlezi livinjezelwe.

- 18 Ngoba uTHIXO uthi,
 “Ngalesisikhathi ngizabaphosela phandle labo abahlala kulelizwe, ngizabehlisela usizi ukuze bathunjwe.”

- 19 Maye mina ngenxa yokulimala kwami!

Inxeba lami kalelapheki!
Ikanti ngazitshela ngathi,
“Lo ngumkhuhlane wami, njalo kumele ngi-
wubekezelele.”

20 Ithente lami lidiliziwe,
izintambo zalo zonke ziqumekile.
Amadodana ami asukile kimi njalo kawasekho,
kakho oseleyo ukuba angimisele ithente
lami,
loba ongangilungisela amakhethehi ami.

21 Abelusi kabalangqondo
njalo kabambuzi UTHIXO,
ngakho kabaphumeleli,
njalo lemihlambi yabo yonke ihlakazekile.

22 Lalelani! Umbiko uyeza,
ukuxokozela okukhulu okuvela elizweni
lenyakatho!

Kuzakwenza amadolobho akoJuda achitheke,
abe yizikhundla zamakhanka.

Umkhuleko KaJeremiya

23 Ngiyazi, Oh THIXO, ukuthi ukuphila komuntu
akusikho kwakhe,
umuntu akusikho kwakhe ukuthi aqondise
izinyathelo zakhe.

24 Ngiqondise THIXO, kodwa kube ngokulunga,
kungabi ngolaka lwakho,
hlezi ungenze ngibe yize.

25 Yehlisela ulaka lwakho phezu kwezizwe
ezingakwamukeliyo,
phezu kwabantu abangakhuleki ebizweni
lakho.

Ngoba bamdlile uJakhobe,
bamdile waphela bachitha lelizwe lakhe.

11

Isivumelwano Siyephulwa

¹ Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO lisithi: ² “Zwana izimiso zesivumelwano lesi uzitshela abantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalema. ³ Batshele uthi UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Uqalekisiwe umuntu ongalandeli izimiso zesivumelwano lesi, ⁴ izimiso engalaya ngazo okhokho benu ekubakhupheni kwami eGibhithe, esasiyisithando sokuncibilikisa insimbi.’ Ngathi, ‘Lalelani ilizwi lami lenze konke engililaya khona, lizakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu. ⁵ Lapho-ke ngizagcwalisa isifungo sami engasifunga kubokhokho benu, ukubanika ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju,’ ilizwe elihlezi kulo khathezi.”

Ngaphendula ngathi, “Akube njalo THIXO.”

⁶ UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Memezela wonke amazwi la emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema uthi: ‘Zwanini izimiso zesivumelwano lesi lizilande. ⁷ Kusukela ekukhupheni kwami okhokho benu eGibhithe kuze kube lamhla, ngabalaya njalonjalo ngisithi, “Lalelani ilizwi lami.” ⁸ Kodwa kabazange balalele kumbe banake; esikhundleni salokho, bona balandela inkani yezinhliziyi zabo ezimbi. Ngakho ngabehlisela zonke izithuko zesivumelwano engangibalaye ukuba basilandele kodwa kabaze basigcina.’”

⁹ UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Kulokuhlamuka okukhona ebantwini bakoJuda lakulabo abahlala eJerusalema. ¹⁰ Sebuyele ezonweni

zabokhokho babo, abalayo ukulalela amazwi ami. Balandele abanye onkulunkulu ukuba babakhonze. Indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda, zombili zisephule isivumelwano engasenza labokhokho bazo. ¹¹ Ngakho nanku akutshoyo UTHIXO: 'Ngizabehlisela umonakalo abangeke baphephe kuwo. Lanxa sebekhala kimi kangiyikubalalela. ¹² Amadolobho akoJuda labantu baseJerusalema bazakuyakhala kubonkulunkulu ababatshisela impepha, kodwa kabasoze babasize ngalutho lapho uhlupho selubehlela. ¹³ Wena Juda ubunengi babonkulunkulu bakho bunjengobamadolobho akho, njalo lama-alithare owakhele ukutshisela impepha kulowonkulunkulu olihlazo, uBhali, ubunengi bawo bunjengobemigwaqo yaseJerusalema.'

¹⁴ Abantu laba ungabakhulekeli kumbe ubakhulumele loba ubacelele, ngoba angiyikulalela lapho bekhala kimi esikhathini sokuhlupheka kwabo.

¹⁵ Othandekayo wami wenzani ethempelini lami eceba amaqhinga amabi labanengi? Kambe inyama ebusisiweyo ingaphuthisa ukujeziswa kwakho na? Lapho uphatheka ngobubi bakho, uyajabula."

¹⁶ UTHIXO wakubiza ngokuthi uyisihlahla se-oliva esihlumileyo esilezithelo ezinhle. Kodwa ngokuhlokoma kwesiphepho esikhulu uzasithungela ngomlilo,

ingatsha zaso zephuke.

17 UTHIXO uSomandla, owakuhlanyelayo, usememezele umonakalo kuwe, ngoba indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda zenze okubi zangithukuthelisa ngokutshisela uBhali impepha.

Icebo Lokubulala UJeremiya

18 Ngenxa yokuthi UTHIXO waveza icebo labo kimi, ngalazi, ngoba ngalesosikhathi wangitshengisa ababekwenza. ¹⁹ Ngangifana lewundlu elithambileyo lisiwa ekuhlatshweni; ngangingazi ukuthi basebebumbe icebo ngami, besithi,

“Kasiqumeni isihlahla kanye lezithelo zaso; kasimsuseni elizweni labaphilayo, ukuze ibizo lakhe lingakhunjulwa futhi.”

20 Kodwa, wena, THIXO Somandla, wena owahlulela ngokulunga njalo uhlola inhliziyo lengqondo, yenza ngibone ukuphindisela kwakho kubo, ngoba isisusa sami ngisinikela kuwe.

21 Ngakho-ke nanku okutshiwo nguThixo mayelana labantu base-Anathothi abafuna ukukubulala besithi, “Ungaphrofethi ngebizo LIKATHIXO funa sikubulale” ²² ngakho UTHIXO uSomandla uthi: “Ngizabajezisa. Amajaha akibo azabulawa yinkemba, amadodana lamadodakazi abo abulawe yindlala. ²³ Akuyikuba khona osalayo kubo, ngoba ngizaletha incithakalo ebantwini base-Anathothi ngomnyaka wokujeziswa kwabo.”

12

Insolo KaJeremiya

- ¹ Wena ulungile izikhathi zonke,
 Oh THIXO, lapho ngiletha indaba kuwe.
 Ikanti ngingakhuluma lawe ngokulunga
 kwakho:
 Kungani indlela yababi iphumelela na?
 Kungani abangathembekanga behlezi kuhle
 na?
- ² Ubahlanye, njalo sebemilile;
 bayakhula bathele izithelo.
 Bahlezi bekhuluma ngawe,
 kodwa ezinhliziyweni zabo ukhatshana.
- ³ Kodwa mina, Oh THIXO, uyangazi;
 uyangibona uhlole imicabango yami ngawe.
 Bahudule njengezimvu eziyahlatshwa!
 Bamisele usuku lokubulawa!
- ⁴ Koze kube nini ilizwe lomile
 lotshani iganga lonke bubunile?
 Ngenxa yokuthi labo abahlala kulo babi,
 izinyamazana lezinyoni sezibhubhile.
 Kanti futhi abantu bathi,
 “Kasoze akubone okwenzakala kithi.”

Impendulo KaNkulunkulu

- ⁵ “Nxa ugijime labantu ngezinyawo
 bakudinisa,
 ungancintisana njani lamabhiza na?
 Nxa ukhubeka elizweni elingelangozi,
 pho uzakwanelisa njani ezixukwini zaseJo-
 dani na?
- ⁶ Abafowenu, abendlu yakwenu
 labo futhi bakunikele;
 baklabalale batsho okubi ngawe.

Ungabathemi,
lanxa bekhuluma kuhle ngawe.

⁷ Indlu yami ngizayitshiya,
ngilidele ilifa lami;
lowo engimthandayo
ngizamnikela ezandleni zezitha zakhe.

⁸ Ilifa lami kimi selibe
njengesilwane ehlathini.

Liyangihwabhela;
ngakho ngiyalizonda.

⁹ Ilifa lami kimi kaselibe
njengenyoni emabalabala edla inyama ehan-
gwa
ngezinye izinyoni ezidla inyama, ziyihlasela
na?

Hamba uyebutha zonke izinyamazana zeganga;
uzilethe ukuba zidle.

¹⁰ Abelusi abanengi bazasichitha isivini sami
bagandele insimu yami;
bazaguqula insimu yami enhle
ibe lugwadule oluphundlekileyo.

¹¹ Izakwenziwa ugwadule,
yome iphundlekile phambi kwami;
ilizwe lonke lizachitheka
ngoba kakho olinakayo.

¹² Emiqolweni yonke engelalutho enkangala
abachithi bazaphithizela,
ngoba inkemba KATHIXO
izakudla kusukela komunye umkhawulo
welizwe kusiya komunye;
kakho ozavikeleka.

¹³ Bazahlanyela ingqoloyi kodwa bavune ameva;
bazazidinisa kodwa bangazuzi lutho.

Ngakho wobani lenhloni ngesivuno senu
ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo LUKATHIXO.”

¹⁴ UTHIXO uthi: “Bonke omakhelwane bami ababi abathumba ilifa engalinika abantu bami bako-Israyeli, ngizabasusa emazweni abo ngisuse lendlu kaJuda phakathi kwabo.

¹⁵ Kodwa emva kokubasusa kwami, ngizaphinda ngibe lesihawu ngibuyisele omunye lomunye wabo endaweni eyilifa lakhe elizweni lakhe.

¹⁶ Bangazifunda kuhle izindlela zabantu bami njalo bafunge ngebizo lami besithi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba UTHIXO ephila’ lanxa nje bake bafundisa abantu bami ukufunga ngoBhali, bazahlaliswa phakathi kwabantu bami.

¹⁷ Kodwa nxa isizwe singalaleli, ngizasisusa nokupheleleyo ngisibhubhise,” kutsho UTHIXO.

13

Ibhanti LeLineni

¹ UTHIXO wathi kimi: “Hamba uyethenga ibhanti lelineni ubophe ukhalo lwakho ngalo, kodwa lingathinti amanzi.” ² Ngakho ngathenga ibhanti, njengokulaya KUKATHIXO, ngabopha ukhalo lwami ngalo.

³ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO labuya lafika kimi ngokwesibili lathi: ⁴ “Thatha ibhanti olithengileyo obophe ngalo ukhalo lwakho, uye eYufrathe, khathesi nje ulifihle khona eminkenkeni yamatshe.” ⁵ Ngakho ngahamba ngayalifihla eYufrathe, njengokutsho KUKATHIXO kimi.

6 Sekudlule insuku ezinengi uTHIXO wathi kimi, “Hamba khathesi eYufathe uyethatha ibhanti engathi lifihle khona.” 7 Ngakho ngaya eYufathe ngagebha lapho engangifihle khona ibhanti, kodwa laselonakele impela lingaselasizo.

8 Lapho-ke kwafika ilizwi LIKATHIXO kimi lisithi: 9 “UTHIXO uthi: ‘Ngendlela efanayo ngizakuchitha ukuzigqaja kukaJuda lokuzigqaja okukhulu kweJerusalema. 10 Lababantu abangalunganga, abalayo ukulalela amazwi ami, abalandela ubulukhuni bezinhliziyo zabo badinge abanye onkulunkulu ukuba babasebenzele njalo babakhonze, bazakuba njengebhanti leli, bengelasizo loluncane! 11 Ngoba njengebhanti libopha ukhalo lomuntu, ngayibophela kanjalo kimi yonke indlu ka-Israyeli layo yonke indlu ka-Juda, kutsho uTHIXO, ukuba babengabantu bami ngenxa yodumo lwami, ukubongwa lokudunyiswa. Kodwa kabalalelanga.’”

Izikhumba Zewayini

12 “Batshela uthi, ‘UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, zonke izikhumba zewayini kumele zigcwaliswe ngewayini.’ Bona bangathi kuwe, ‘Kanti thina kasikwazi yini ukuthi izikhumba zonke kumele zigcwaliswe ngewayini?’ 13 wena uthi kubo, ‘UTHIXO uthi: Ngizabenza badakwe bonke abahlala kulelizwe, kanye lamakhosi ahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida, abaphristi, abaphrofethi labo bonke abahlala eJerusalema. 14 Ngizabamahlaza omunye komunye, oyise lamadodana ngokufananayo, kutsho uTHIXO. Angiyikuvumela isihawu loba

umusa kumbe uzwelo ukuba kungivimbele ukubabhuhisa.’ ”

Isisongo Sokuthunjwa

- 15 Zwanini lilalele,
lingazigqaji,
ngoba UTHIXO usekhulumile.
- 16 Dumisani UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu
engakalethi ubumnyama,
inyawo zenu zingakakhubeki
emaqaqeni asesembeswa yibumnyama.
Lilindele ukukhanya,
kodwa yena uzakwenza kube yibumnyama,
akuphendule kube yibumnyama
obesabekayo.
- 17 Kodwa nxa lingalaleli,
ngizakhalela ensitha
ngenxa yokuzigqaja kwenu;
amehlo ami azalila kabuhlungu,
ageleze inyembezi,
ngoba umhlambi KATHIXO uzathunjwa.
- 18 Tshono enkosini lasendlovukazini uthi,
“Yehlani ezihlalweni zenu zobukhosi lize
phansi,
ngoba imiqhele yenu emihle kakhulu
izakuwa emakhanda enu.”
- 19 Amadolobho aseNegebi azavalwa,
njalo akuyikuba khona ozawavula.
UJuda wonke uzathathwa asiwe ekuthunjweni,
uzasiwa ekuthunjweni ngokupheleleyo.
- 20 Phakamisani amehlo enu libone
labo abavela enyakatho.

Ungaphi umhlambi ababewugcinisiwe,
izimvu elalizazisa ngazo na?

21 Lizakuthini lapho UTHIXO esebabeka phezu
kwenu
labo elabenza babangabangane benu
abaqakathekileyo na?

Kaliyikubanjwa yibuhlungu
obufana lobowesifazane ehelelwa na?

22 Njalo nxa uzibuza usithi,
“Kungani lokhu kwenzakele kimi na?”

Kungenxa yezono zakho ezinengi
ukuthi izidwaba zakho zidatshulwe
lomzimba wakho waphathwa kubi.

23 UmTopiya angaliguqula yini ijwabu lakhe
loba ingwe iguqule amabala ayo na?

Lani lingeke lenze okuhle
lina selajwayela ukwenza okubi.

24 “Ngizalihlakaza njengamakhoba
ephetshulwa ngumoya wasenkangala.

25 Lokhu yikho okungokwenu,
isabelo engilimisele sona,” kutsho UTHIXO,
“ngoba lingikhohliwe
lathemba onkulunkulu bamanga.

26 Ngizaphekulela izidwaba zakho ebusweni
bakho

ukuba kubonakale ihlazo lakho,
27 ubufebe bakho lokububuliswa yisigwebo,
ukufebe kwakho ungelanhloni!

Ngizibonile izenzo zakho ezenyanyekayo
phezu kwamaqafa lasegangani.

Maye kuwe, wena Jerusalema!
Koze kube nini unghlambulukanga na?”

14

Ukoma, Indlala, Inkemba

¹ Leli yilizwi LIKATHIXO elafika kuJeremiya mayelana lokoma elizweni lisithi:

² “UJuda uyalila,
amadolobho akhe ayahlupheka;
alilela ilizwe,
njalo isililo siyaqonga sivela eJerusalema.

³ Izikhulu zithuma izinceku zazo ukuyafuna amanzi;
ziya emithonjeni
kodwa zifice amanzi engekho.
Ziyabuyela lemigqomo yazo ingelalutho;
zithithibele njalo zidanile,
zemboze amakhanda azo.

⁴ Umhlabathi uqhekezekile
ngoba akulazulu elizweni;
abalimi bathithibele
njalo bemboze amakhanda abo.

⁵ Lenyamazana ensikazi egangeni
iyabalekela inkonyane layo elizelweyo
ngoba akulatshani.

⁶ Obabhem i beganga bema emiqolweni elugwad-
ule
bakhefuzele njengamakhanka;
amehlo abo asefiphele
ngenxa yokuswela amadlelo.”

⁷ Lanxa izono zethu zifakaza kubi ngathi,
Oh THIXO, ake wenze okunye ngenxa yebizo
lakho.
Ngoba ukuhlehlela kwethu emuva kunengi;
sonile kuwe.

8 Oh Themba lika-Israyeli,
 uMhlengi wakhe ezikhathini zokuhlupheka,
 kungani usiba njengowezizweni elizweni,
 njengesihambi esihlala ubusuku obubodwa
 kuphela?

9 Kungani usiba njengomuntu ojunyiweyo,
 lanjengebutho elingelamandla okusiza na?
 Ukhona phakathi kwethu, wena THIXO,
 njalo sibizwa ngebizo lakho;
 ungasilahli!

10 Nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO ngalababantu:
 “Bayakuthanda kakhulu ukuntula;
 kabazibambi inyawo zabo.
 Ngakho UTHIXO kayikubamukela;
 khathesi uzakhumbula ububi babo
 abajezisele izono zabo.”

11 UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Ungakhulekeli
 inhlalakahle yabantu laba. 12 Lanxa bezila
 ukudla, ukukhala kwabo angiyikukulalela;
 loba benikela iminikelo yokutshiswa kanye
 leminikelo yamabele, angiyikuyamukela.
 Esikhundleni salokho, ngizabaqeda du
 ngenkemba, ngendlala langezifo.”

13 Kodwa mina ngathi, “Awu THIXO
 Wobukhosi, abaphrofethi bahlezi bebatshela
 besithi, ‘Kaliyikubona inkemba loba libulawe
 yindlala. Impela, ngizalipha ukuthula
 okungapheliyo kule indawo.’”

14 UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Abaphrofethi
 baphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami.
 Angibathumanga njalo angibakhethanga kumbe
 ngikhulume labo. Baphrofetha imibono
 yamanga kini, ukuhlahlula, ukukhonza

izithombe lenkohliso yezingqondo zabo.

¹⁵ Ngakho-ke, nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO ngabaphrofethi abaphrofetha ngebizo lami ukuthi: Kangizange ngibathume, kodwa bona bathi, 'Akulankemba kumbe indlala ezathinta ilizwe leli.' Bona labo abaphrofethi bazabhujiswa ngenkemba langendlala.

¹⁶ Abantu abaphrofetha kubo bazaphoselwa phandle emigwaqweni yaseJerusalema ngenxa yendlala lenkemba. Akulamuntu ozabangcwaba kumbe omkabo, amadodana abo loba amadodakazi abo. Ngizabehlisela ingozi ebafaneleyo.

¹⁷ Khuluma ilizwi leli kubo uthi:

'Amehlo ami kawehlise inyembezi
ebusuku lemini zingomi;

ngoba indodakazi yami egcweleyo, labantu bami
balimele kakhulu,
balinyazwe yikutshaywa okwesabekayo.

¹⁸ Nxa ngingena elizweni,

ngibona labo ababulawa ngenkemba;

nxa ngingena edolobheni

ngibona umonakalo owenziwa yindlala.

Bobabili umphrofethi lomphristi

sebeye elizweni abangalaziyo.' "

¹⁹ UJuda usumlahle kokuphela na?

IZiyoni uyaleyisa na?

Usitshayeleni kangaka

size singelapheki na?

Sasilindele ukuthula

kodwa akulabuhle obaba khona,

isikhathi sokwelatshwa

kodwa kulokwesaba kuphela.

²⁰ Awu THIXO, siyakuvuma ukona kwethu
kanye lokona kwabokhokho bethu;
impela sonile kuwe.

²¹ Ngenxa yebizo lakho ungasenyanyi;
ungasigconi isihlalo sakho sobukhosi esihle
kakhulu.

Khumbula isivumelwano sakho lathi
ungasephuli.

²² Zikhona yini izithombe eziyize zezizwe ezin-
ganisa izulu na?

Imikhathi yona ngokwayo iyalinisa izulu na?

Hatshi, nguwe, THIXO Nkulunkulu wethu.

Ngakho ithemba lethu likuwe,
ngoba nguwe owenza konke lokhu.

15

¹ UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Lanxa uMosi
loSamuyeli bengema phambi kwami, inhliziyo
yami ingeke iphendukele kulababantu. Basuse
phambi kwami! Kabahambe! ² Bangakubuza
bathi, ‘Sizakuya ngaphi na?’ uthi kubo, UTHIXO
uthi:

‘Abamiselwe ukufa, baya ekufeni;
abenkemba, enkembeni;
abendlala, endlaleni;
abokuthunjwa, ekuthunjweni.’

³ Ngizabathumela imihlobo emine yabachithi,”
kutsho UTHIXO, “inkemba yokubulala lezinja
zokuhudulela khatshana njalo lezinyoni
zasemoyeni kanye lezinyamazana zeganga
ukuba zidle zibhuqe. ⁴ Ngizabenza banengeke
emibusweni yonke yasemhlabeni ngenxa

yalokho okwenziwa eJerusalema nguManase indodana kaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda.

⁵ Ngubani ozakuba lesihawu kuwe wena Jerusalema?

Ngubani ozakukhalela na?

Ngubani ozakuma abuze ukuthi unjani na?

⁶ Ungalile,”

kutsho UTHIXO.

“Uqhubeka uhlehlela emuva.

Ngakho ngizabeka izandla phezu kwakho ngikuchithe;

ngingeke ngibe lesihawu futhi.

⁷ Ngizabahlungula ngefologwe

yokwela emasangweni amadolobho elizwe.

Ngizaletha ukufelwa lokuchitheka ebantwini bami,

ngoba kabaguqulanga izindlela zabo.

⁸ Ngizakwenza abafelokazi babo bande kakhulu kuletshebetshebe lasolwandle.

Emini ngizakwehlisela umbulali

phezu kwabonina bamajaha akibo;

khonokho ngizabehlisela

usizi lokwesaba.

⁹ Unina wabayisikhombisa uzaqaleka

aphefumule okokucina.

Ilanga lakhe lizatshona kusesemini;

uzayangiswa njalo eyiswe.

Izinsalela ngizaziqeda ngenkamba

phambi kwezitha zazo,”

kutsho UTHIXO.

¹⁰ Maye, wena mama, ngokuthi wangizala,

mina muntu ilizwe lonke elibangisana laye
njalo liphikisana laye!

Kangikaze ngebolekise loba ngeboleke,
kodwa bonke bayangithuka.

¹¹ UTHIXO wathi,

“Ngeqiniso ngizakukhulula ngenjongo enhle;
ngeqiniso ngizakwenza izitha zakho zikun-
cenge
ezikhathini zomonakalo lezokuhlupheka.

¹² Umuntu angayiqamula insimbi,
insimbi evela enyakatho kumbe ithusi na?

¹³ Inotho yakho lamatshe akho aligugu
ngizakwenza kube yimpango, yamahala,
ngenxa yezono zakho
kulolonke ilizwe lakini.

¹⁴ Ngizakwenza ube yisigqili sezitha zakho
elizweni ongalaziyo,
ngoba ulaka lwami luzabhebha
umlilo ozakutshisa.”

¹⁵ Uyazwisisa wena THIXO;
ngikhumbula ungikhathalele.
Ungiphindiselele kwabangihluphayo.
Uyabekezela, ungangigudluli;
khumbula ukuthi ngithukwa njani ngenxa
yakho.

¹⁶ Ekufikeni kwamazwi akho, ngawadla;
ayeyintokozo yami lenjabulo yenhliziyo
yami,
ngoba mina ngibizwa ngebizo lakho,
wena THIXO Nkulunkulu Somandla.

17 Kangizange ngihlale enhlanganisweni
yabazithokozisayo,
kumbe ngijabule labo;
ngahlala ngedwa ngoba isandla sakho sasiphezu
kwami njalo
wawungenze ngagcwala intukuthelo.

18 Kungani ubuhlungu engibuzwayo bungapheli
lenxeba lami lilibi kakhulu njalo linge-
lapheki na?

Kimi uzakuba njengesifula esikhohlisayo,
lanjengomthombo ongelamanzi na?

19 Ngakho UTHIXO uthi:

“Ungaphenduka, ngizakubuyisela
ukuze ungikhonze;
nxa ukhuluma amazwi afaneleyo, hatshi anga-
sizi lutho,
uzakuba yisikhulumeli sami.
Abantu laba kabaphendukele kuwe,
kodwa wena akumelanga uphendukele
kubo.

20 Ngizakwenza ube ngumduli kulababantu,
umduli ovikelweyo wethusi;

bazakulwa lawe
kodwa kabayikukwehlula,
ngoba mina ngilawe
ukuba ngikuhlenge ngikusize,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

21 “Ngizakuhlenga ezandleni zababi
ngikukhulule ezandleni zabalesihluku.”

16

Usuku Lwencithakalo

¹ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi futhi lisithi:
² “Ungathathi mfazi ube lamadodana loba amadodakazi kule indawo.” ³ Ngoba mayelana lamadodana lamadodakazi azalelwe kulelilizwe kanye labesifazane abangonina lamadoda angoyise UTHIXO uthi: ⁴ “Bazakufa bebulawa yimikhuhlane eyesabekayo. Kabayikukhalelwa loba bangcwatshwe, kodwa bazakuba njengezibi emhlabathini. Bazabhubha ngenkamba langendlala, njalo izidumbu zabo zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga.”

⁵ Ngoba nanku akutshoyo UTHIXO: “Ungangeni endlini elokudla kwesililo; ungayilila kumbe utshengisele uzwelo, ngoba isibusiso sami, lothando lwami kanye lesihawu sami, sengikususile kulababantu,” kutsho UTHIXO.
⁶ “Bonke abaphakemeyo labantukazana bazakufa kulelilizwe. Kabayikungcwatshwa kumbe bakhalelwe, njalo kakho ozazisika kumbe aphuce ikhanda lakhe ngenxa yabo. ⁷ Kakho ozabanika ukudla ukuba abaduduze labo abalilela ofileyo, loba kunguyise kumbe unina, kakho lozabanika amanzi ukuba abaduduze.

⁸ Njalo ungangeni endlini eledili ukuba uh-lale phansi udle unathe. ⁹ Ngoba UTHIXO uSo-
 mandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Phambi kobuso bakho njalo ensukwini zakho ngizawuqeda umsindo wentokozo lokuthaba kanye lamazwi abalobokazi labayeni kule indawo.

¹⁰ Lapho abantu laba ubatshela konke lokhu besebekubuza besithi, ‘Kungani UTHIXO esemise ukusehlisela inkemenkeme engaka na? Senze

bubi bani na? Sono bani esisenze kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu?’ ¹¹ wena wothi kubo, ‘Kungenxa yokuthi okhokho benu bangifulathela,’ kutsho uTHIXO, ‘njalo balandela abanye onkulunkulu babasebenzela, babakhonza. Bangifulathela njalo kabayigcinanga imithetho yami. ¹² Kodwa lina selenze okubi kakhulu kulabokhokho benu. Khangelani ukuthi lowo lalowo wenu uyilandela njani inkani yenhliziyoyakhe embi esikhundleni sokuthi angilalele. ¹³ Ngakho ngizalilahlela ngaphandle kwalelizwe elizweni lina loba oyihlo abangazange balazi, lapho elizakhonza khona abanye onkulunkulu emini lebusuku, ngoba angiyikuba lomusa kini.’ ”

¹⁴ UTHIXO uthi, “Kodwa insuku ziyeza lapho abantu bengayikuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi uTHIXO ukhona, yena owakhupha abako-Israyeli eGibhithe,’ ¹⁵ kodwa bazakuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi uTHIXO ukhona, yena owakhupha abako-Israyeli elizweni lasenyakatho lakuwo wonke amazwe ayebaxotshele kuwo.’ Ngoba ngizababuyisela elizweni engalinika okhokho babo.”

¹⁶ UTHIXO uthi, “Kodwa khathesi ngizathumela abagoli benhlanzi abanengi, bazababamba. Emva kwalokho ngizathumela abazingeli abanengi, bazabazingela ezintabeni zonke lasemaqaneni wonke njalo lasezingoxweni zamadwala. ¹⁷ Amehlo ami akuzo zonke izindlela zabo; kabafihlakalanga kimi, lesono sabo kasiwacatshelanga amehlo ami. ¹⁸ Ngizaphindisela ngokuphindiweyo ububi babo lesono sabo, ngoba bangcolise ilizwe

lami ngezinto ezingaphiliyo zezifanekiso zabo ezingamanyala, bagcwalisa lelifa lami ngezithombe zabo ezinengekayo.”

¹⁹ Awu THIXO, mandla ami lenqaba yami, siphephelo sami ngesikhathi sokuhlupheka, izizwe zizakuza kuwe zivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba zithi, “Okhokho babengelalutho kodwa onkulunkulu bamanga, izithombe eziyize ezingabasizanga ngalutho.

²⁰ Kambe abantu bayazenzela onkulunkulu babo na? Ye, kodwa kayisibo onkulunkulu!”

²¹ “Ngakho ngizabafundisa, khathesi ngizabafundisa amandla ami lobukhulu bami. Lapho-ke bazakwazi ukuthi ibizo lami NGUTHIXO.”

17

Inhliziyo Iyakhohlisa

¹ “Isono sikaJuda sidwetshwe ngensimbi, sabhalwa ngomcijo wedayimani ezicecedwini zenhliziyi zabo lasempondweni zama-alithare abo.

² Labantwababo bayawakhumbula ama-alithare abo lezinsika zika-Ashera phansi kwezihlahla eziluhlaza laphezu kwamaqaqa aphakemeyo.

³ Intaba yami eselizweni lenotho yenu kanye lemfuyo yenu yonke

ngizakunikela kube yimpango,
 ndawonye lezindawo zenu eziphakemeyo,
 ngenxa yokona kulolonke ilizwe lenu.

⁴ Ngenxa yezici zenu lizalahlekelwa
 yilifa engalinika lona.

Ngizalenza libe yizigqili zezitha zenu
 elizweni elingalaziyo,
 ngoba livuse ulaka lwami,
 njalo luzavutha kuze kube nininini.”

⁵ UTHIXO uthi:

“Uqalekisiwe lowo othemba umuntu,
 othembe ukuthi amandla akhe asenyameni,
 onhliziyo yakhe ihlamukela UTHIXO.

⁶ Uzakuba njengesihlahlanyana enkangala;
 ukuphumelela kayikukubona ekufikeni
 kwakho.

Uzahlala ezindaweni ezomileyo enkangala,
 elizweni letswayi elingahlali muntu.

⁷ Kodwa ubusisiwe umuntu othemba UTHIXO,
 othemba lakhe likuye.

⁸ Uzakuba njengesihlahla esihlanyelwe eduze
 lamanzi
 esinabisela impande zaso esifuleni.

Kasesabi lapho ukutshisa kufika;
 amahlamvu aso ahlala eluhlaza.
 Kasikhathazeki ngomnyaka wokoma;
 kasiphuthi ukuthela izithelo.”

⁹ Inhliziyo iyakhohlisa okudlula izinto zonke
 njalo imbi kakhulu.
 Ngubani ongayizwisisa na?

- 10 “Mina THIXO ngiyayihlola inhliziyo
ngihlole lengqondo,
ukuba umuntu ngimnike okufanele ukwenza
kwakhe mayelana
lalokho okufanele izenzo zakhe.”
- 11 Umuntu ozuza inotho ngezindlela ezimbi
unjengesikhwehle esichamisela amaqanda
esingawaqandelanga.
Lapho ingxenye yokuphila kwakhe isidlule, iza-
phela,
kuthi ekucineni abonakale eyisithutha.
- 12 Isihlalo sobukhosi, esikhazimulayo
esaphakanyiswayo kusukela ekuqaleni,
siyindawo yethu yokuphephela.
- 13 Awu THIXO, themba lika-Israyeli,
bonke abakudelayo bazayangiswa.
Labo abakuhlamukelayo bazabhalwa othulini
ngoba bedele UTHIXO,
umthombo wamanzi okuphila.
- 14 Ngisilisa, THIXO, njalo ngizasiliswa;
ungikhulule, ngizakhululeka,
ngoba nguwe engimdumisayo.
- 15 Bahlala besithi kimi,
“Lingaphi ilizwi LIKATHIXO na?
Kaligcwaliseke khathesi!”
- 16 Angibalekanga ekubeni ngumelusi wenu;
liyakwazi ukuthi
angilufisanga usuku lokuphela ithemba.
Okudlula endebeeni zami kusobala kini.
- 17 Ungabi ngowesabekayo kimi;

uyisiphephelo sami ngosuku lokuhlupheka.
¹⁸ Abangihluphayo kabayangiswe,
 kodwa mina ungivikele ehlazweni;
 kababe lokwesaba,
 kodwa mina ungivikele ekwesabeni.
 Balethele usuku lobubi.
 Ubabhubhise ngokuqothula okuphindiweyo.

Ukugcina ISabatha Lingcwele

¹⁹ UTHIXO wathi kimi: “Hamba uyekuma esangweni labantu, amakhosi akoJuda angena ngalo njalo aphume ngalo; ume futhi lakuwo wonke amanye amasango aseJerusalema. ²⁰ Uthi kubo, ‘Zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO, lina makhosi akoJuda labo bonke abantu abahlala koJuda kanye labantu bonke abahlala eJerusalema abangena ngala amasango. ²¹ UTHIXO uthi: Qaphelani lingathwali mthwalo ngosuku lweSabatha loba liwungenise ngamasango aseJerusalema. ²² Lingaphumisi mthwalo ezindlini zenu kumbe lenze loba yiwuphi umsebenzi ngosuku lweSabatha, kodwa ligcine iSabatha lingcwele, njengokulaya kwami okhokho benu. ²³ Kodwa kabalalelanga loba banake; izintamo zabo zazilukhuni njalo kabalalelanga kumbe bamukele ukulaywa. ²⁴ UTHIXO uthi: Kodwa nxa liqaphele ukungilalela, lingangenisi mthwalo ngamasango edolobho leli ngeSabatha, kodwa ligcina usuku lweSabatha lungcwele ngokungenzi msebenzi ngalo, ²⁵ lapho-ke amakhosi ahlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida azangena lezikhulu zawo ngamasango edolobho leli.

Wona lezikhulu zawo bazafika begade izingqola zempi lamabhiza, belabantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalema; bahlale kulo idolobho kuze kube nininini. ²⁶ Abantu bazakuza bevela emadolobheni akoJuda lasemizini egqagqele iJerusalema, bevela elizweni lakoBhenjamini lasezintatshaneni zangasentshonalanga, bevela elizweni lamaqaqa laseNegebi, beletha iminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo, iminikelo yamabele, impepha kanye leminikelo yokubonga endlini KATHIXO. ²⁷ Kodwa nxa lingangilaleli ekuthini ligcine usuku lweSabatha lungcwele ngokungathwali mthwalo lapho lingena ngamasango aseJerusalema ngosuku lweSabatha, lapho-ke ngizaphemba umlilo ongacitshekiyo emasangweni eJerusalema ozaqothula izingaba zalo.’”

18

Endlini Yombumbi

¹ Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO lisithi: ² “Suka wehlele endlini yombumbi, lapho engizakutshelela khona ilizwi lami.” ³ Ngakho ngehlela endlini yombumbi, ngambona esebenza ngevili. ⁴ Kodwa imbiza ayeyibumba ngebumba yonakala ezandleni zakhe; ngakho umbumbi wayenza yaba ngenye imbiza, ngendlela ayibona ingcono kuye.

⁵ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO laselifika kimi lisithi; ⁶ “Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli, ngingeze ngenza kuwe njengokwenziwa ngumbumbi lo na?” kutsho uTHIXO. “Njengebumba esandleni sombumbi

lawe unjalo esandleni sami, wena ndlu ka-Israyeli. ⁷ Nxa ngimemezela langasiphi isikhathi ukuthi isizwe loba umbuso uzasuswa udilizwe, uchithwe, ⁸ kuthi isizwe leso engisixwayisileyo siphenduke ebubini baso, ngizaxola ngingabe ngisasehlisela ebesengimise ukusehlisela khona. ⁹ Njalo nxa ngesinye isikhathi ngimemezela ukuthi isizwe kumbe umbuso ngizawakha ngiwumise, ¹⁰ ube ususenza ububi emehlweni ami njalo ungangilaleli, ngizacabanga kutsha ngokuhle ebesengicebe ukukwenzela khona.

¹¹ Ngakho khathezi tshela abantu bakoJuda lalabo abahlala eJerusalema uthi, 'Nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO: Khangelani! Ngilungisela ukulehlisela umonakalo njalo ngibumba lecebo ngani. Ngakho phendukani ezindleleni zenu ezimbi, omunye lomunye wenu, lilungise izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu.' ¹² Kodwa bazaphendula bathi, 'Akusizi lutho. Sizaqhubeka ngamacebo ethu; lowo lalowo wethu uzalandela ubulukhuni benhliziyo yakhe embi.' "

¹³ Ngakho UTHIXO uthi:

"Buzani phakathi kwezizwe ukuthi:

Ngubani owake wezwa okunjengalokhu na?
Kwenziwe into eyesabekayo kakhulu,
yenziwe yintombi egcweleyo u-Israyeli.

¹⁴ Ungqwaqwane waseLebhanoni

uyake unyamalale emithezukweni yayo elamatshe na?

Amanzi akhona aqandayo avela kude
ayake eme ukugeleza na?

¹⁵ Kodwa abantu bami sebengikhohliwe;

batshisela izithombe eziyize impepha,

ezabenza bakhubeka ezindleleni zabo
lasemikhondweni yasendulo.

Zabenza bahamba ngezindledlana zeganga
lasemigwaqweni engalungiswanga.

¹⁶ Ilizwe labo lizatshabalaliswa,
into yokuhlekwa usulu;

bonke abadlula khona bazakwethuka
banyikinye amakhanda abo.

¹⁷ Njengomoya ovela empumalanga,
ngizabahlakaza phambi kwezitha zabo;
ngizabafulathela ngibancitshe ubuso bami
ngosuku lokuhlupheka kwabo.”

¹⁸ Bona bathi, “Wozani sicebe amacebo amabi
ngoJeremiya; ngoba ukufundisa kwabaphristi
umthetho akusoze kuphutha, kumbe ukweluleka
kwezihlakaniphi, loba ilizwi elivela kubaphro-
fethi. Ngakho wozani, simhlasele ngemilomo
yethu singananzi lutho alutshoyo.”

¹⁹ Ake ungizwe, awu THIXO;
ulalele okutshiwo yizitha zami!

²⁰ Okuhle kuphindiselwa ngokubi na?
Ikanti sebengimbele igodi.

Khumbula ukuba ngema phambi kwakho
ngabakhulumela
ukuba ususe ulaka lwakho kubo.

²¹ Ngakho-ke abantwababo banikele endlaleni;
ubaqhubele emandleni enkemba.

Abafazi babo kabangabi labantwana njalo babe
ngabafelokazi;
amadoda abo kawabulawe,
amajaha akhona abulawe ngenkemba
empini.

²² Kakuzwakale ukukhala ezindlini zabo,

lapho usulethe abahlaseli ukuba babajume,
ngoba sebegebhe igodi ukuba bangithumbe
njalo bathiya inyawo zami ngemijibila.

²³ Kodwa uyawazi, wena THIXO,
wonke amaqhinga abo okungibulala.
Ungabathetheleli amacala abo
loba ucitshe izono zabo phambi kobuso
bakho.
Kabachithwe phambi kwakho;
bahlasele ngesikhathi sokuthukuthela
kwakho.

19

¹ Lokhu yikho akutshoyo uTHIXO: “Hamba uyethenga udiwo kumbumbi wezimbiza. Thatha abanye abadala babantu labanye babaphristi ² uhambe labo esigodini seBheni-Hinomu, eduze lentuba yeSango loDengezi. Umemezele amazwi engikutshela wona, ³ uthi, ‘Zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO, lina makhosi akoJuda lani bantu abahlala eJerusalema. UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Lalelani! Ngizaletha umonakalo kule indawo ozabanda indlebe zomuntu wonke owuzwayo. ⁴ Ngoba bangidelile kwathi indawo le bayenza eyabonkulunkulu bezizweni; kuyo batshisele imihlatshelo onkulunkulu abangabaziyo, bona labokhokho babo kanye lamakhosi akoJuda, njalo indawo le sebayigcwalisa igazi labantu abangelacala. ⁵ Sebakhele uBhali izindawo eziphakemeyo ukuba batshise amadodana abo emlilweni njengeminikelo yokutshiswa kuBhali, into engingazange ngibalaye kumbe

ngitsho ukuthi bayenze, kumbe ukuthi ike ifike engqondweni yami. ⁶ Ngakho qaphelani, insuku ziyeza, kutsho UTHIXO, lapho abantu bengayikubiza indawo le ngokuthi Thofethi loba iSigodi seBheni-Hinomu kodwa iSigodi sokuBulala.

⁷ Kuyonale indawo ngizawachitha amacebo kaJuda laweJerusema. Ngizabenza bafe ngenkemba phambi kwezitha zabo, lasezandleni zalabo abafuna ukubabulala, njalo ngizanikela izidumbu zabo ukuba zibe yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga. ⁸ Idolobho leli ngizalichitha ngilenze libe yinto yokwesatshwa lenhleka; bonke abadlula khona baza-thuthumela njalo baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba alo wonke. ⁹ Ngizabenza badle inyama yamadodana abo leyamadodakazi abo, njalo labo bazadlana inyama ngesikhathi esinzima sokuvinjezelwa kwabo yizitha ezifuna ukubabulala.'

¹⁰ Emva kwalokho bulala udiwo labo abahamba lawe bekhangele, ¹¹ ubususithi kubo, 'UTHIXO uSomandla uthi: Ngizasiphahlaza isizwe lesi kanye ledolobho leli njen-gokuphahlazwa kodiwo lombumbi lolu olungeke lulungiswe futhi. Abafileyo bazabangcwaba eThofethi kuze kusweleke indawo. ¹² Lokhu yikho engizakwenza kule indawo lakulabo abahlala lapha, kutsho UTHIXO. Idolobho leli ngizalenza lifanane leThofethi. ¹³ Izindlu zaseJerusema kanye lezamazakosi akoJuda zizangcoliswa njengale indawo, iThofethi, zonke izindlu lapho abazatshisela khona impepha phezu kwezimpahla kuwo wonke amaxuku

ezinkanyezi, bathelela abanye onkulunkulu umnikelo wokunathwayo.’ ”

¹⁴ UJeremiya wabuya evela eThofethi, lapho UTHIXO ayemthume ukuyaphrofetha khona, wasesima egumeni lethempeli LIKATHIXO wathi ebantwini bonke, ¹⁵ “UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Lalelani! Ngizakwehlisela kulelidolobho lasemizini elizungezileyo wonke umonakalo engawutshoyo, ngoba izintamo zabo zilukhuni njalo bayala ukulalela amazwi ami.’ ”

20

UJeremiya LoPhashuri

¹ Kwathi uPhashuri umphristi indodana ka-Imeri, induna enkulu ethempelini LIKATHIXO, ezwe uJeremiya ephrofitha lezizinto, ² wenza ukuthi uJeremiya umphrofethi atshaywe njalo wamvalela esitokisini eSangweni laPhezulu koBhenjamini ethempelini LIKATHIXO. ³ Ngosuku olwalandelayo, uPhashuri esemkhupha esitokisini, uJeremiya wathi kuye, “Ibizo lakho oliphiwe NGUTHIXO akusiPhashuri, kodwa uMagori-Misabibi, ⁴ ngoba UTHIXO uthi: ‘Ngizakwenza ubelucuku ngokwakho lakubo bonke abangane bakho; uzababona ngamehlo akho besiwa ngenkemba yezitha zabo. UJuda wonke ngizamnikela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, ezabathumba ibase eBhabhiloni loba ibabulale ngenkemba. ⁵ Yonke inotho yedolobho leli ngizayipha izitha zabo lazozonke izithelo zalo, zonke izinto zalo eziligugu kanye lemfuyo yonke yamakhosi akoJuda zizayithumba

njengempango ziyithwalele eBhabhiloni. ⁶ Wena Phashuri, labo bonke abahlala endlini yakho lizathunjwa liye eBhabhiloni. Uzafela khonale, ungcwatshwe khonale, wena kanye labangane bakho bonke ophrofetha amanga kubo.’”

Insolo KaJeremiya

⁷ Awu THIXO, wangiyenga, ngayengeka;
wangehlula wanqoba.

Ngiyahlekwa insuku zonke;
bonke bayangiklolodela.

⁸ Zonke izikhathi lapho ngikhuluma, ngiyakhala
ngimemezela ukuba kube lodlakela loku-
chitheka.

Ngakho ilizwi LIKATHIXO selingilethele
isithuko lensolo ilanga lonke.

⁹ Kodwa nxa ngisithi, “Kangiyikumqamba
loba ngikhulume ngebizo lakhe futhi,”
ilizwi lakhe lisenhliziyweni yami njengomlilo,
umlilo ovaletwe emathanjeni ami.

Sengidiniwe ngokuligodla ngaphakathi;
impela, ngingeke nganelise.

¹⁰ Ngizwa abanengi benyenyeza besithi,
“Kulokuthuthumela indawo yonke!
Mmangaleleni! Kasimangalele!”

Abangane bami bonke
balindele ukuwa kwami, besithi,
“Mhlawumbe uzakhohliseka;
besesimehlula
siphindisele kuye.”

¹¹ Kodwa UTHIXO ulami njengebutho elila-
mandla;

ngakho abangihluphayo bazakuwa banganqobi.

Bazakwehluleka njalo bayangeke kakhulu;
ihlazo labo kaliyikukhohlakala lanini.

¹² Awu THIXO Somandla, wena ohlola abalungileyo,
uhlole inhliziyo lengqondo,
kangibone ukuphindisela kwakho kubo,
ngoba indaba yami ngiyinikele kuwe.

¹³ Hlabelani UTHIXO!
Limdumise UTHIXO!
Uhlenga impilo yabaswelayo
ezandleni zababi.

¹⁴ Kaluqalekiswe usuku engazalwa ngalo!
Usuku umama angizala ngalo kalungabusiswa!

¹⁵ Kaqalekiswe umuntu owayabikela ubaba izindaba,
owamemeza wathaba, esithi,
“Uzalelwe indodana!”

¹⁶ Lowomuntu kabe njengamadolobho
UTHIXO awachitha kungekho sihawu.
Kezwe ukulila ekuseni,
lomkhosi wempi emini.

¹⁷ Ngoba kangibulalelanga esiswini,
umama enjengengcwaba lami,
isisu sakhe sikhukhumele kokuphela.

¹⁸ Ngaphumelani esiswini
ukuba ngibone uhlupho losizi
njalo akuthi ngiphethe insuku zami
ngiphakathi kwehlazo?

21

UNkulunkulu Uyasala Isicelo SikaZedekhiya

¹ Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO lapho uZedekhiya inkosi wayethume kuye uPhashuri indodana kaMalikhija lomphristi uZefaniya indodana kaMaseya. Bathi: ² “Ake usibuzele kuTHIXO khathesi nje, ngoba uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni uyasihlasela. Mhlawumbe uTHIXO angasenzela izimanga njengasezikhathini ezedlulayo ukuze asuke kithi.”

³ Kodwa uJeremiya wathi kubo, “Tshelani uZedekhiya lithi: ⁴ ‘UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi ngiziphendulele kuwe izikhali zempi ezisezandleni zakho, ozisebenzisayo ekulweni lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lamaKhaladiya angaphandle komduli ekuvimbezele. Njalo ngizawaqoqa phakathi kwalelidolobho. ⁵ Mina uqobo ngizakulwa lawe ngesandla eseluliweyo langengalo elamandla ngentukuthelo langokufuthelana kanye lolaka olukhulu. ⁶ Ngizabatshaya abahlala kulelidolobho, abantu lezifuyo njalo bazabulawa yisifo esesabekayo. ⁷ Emva kwalokho, kutsho uTHIXO, uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labantu bakulelidolobho abaphepha emkhuhaneni, enkembeni lasendlaleni, ngizabanikela kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lasezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala. Uzababulala ngenkemba; kayikuba lomusa kumbe uzwelo loba isihawu.’

⁸ Phezu kwalokho, abantu batshele uthi, ‘UTHIXO uthi: Khangelani, ngiyalimisela phambi

kwenu indlela yokuphila lendlela yokufa.
⁹ Loba ngubani osala kulelidolobho uzabulawa ngenkemba, yindlala loba ngumkhuhlane. Kodwa loba ngubani ophumayo kulo ayezunikela kumaKhaladiya alivimbezeleyo uzasila, aphunyuke lokuphila kwakhe. ¹⁰ Sengiqonde ukwenza okubi kulelidolobho hatshi okuhle, kutsho UTHIXO. Lizanikelwa ezandleni zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ezalitshabalalisa ngomlilo.’

¹¹ Phezu kwalokho, wothi endlini yenkosi yakoJuda, ‘Zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO; ¹² lina abendlu kaDavida, UTHIXO uthi:

Yenzani ukulunga insuku zonke ekuseni;
 mhlengeni esandleni somncindezeli wakhe lowo ophangiweyo,
 hlezi ulaka lwami luqubuke, lutshise njengomlilo ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo,
 lutshise engekho ongalucitsha.

¹³ Ngimelane lawe, Jerusalema,
 wena ohlala ngaphezu kwalesisigodi, emagcekeni alamadwala, kutsho UTHIXO,
 lina elithi, “Ngubani ongazasihlasela na?
 Ngubani ongangena esiphephelweni sethu na?”

¹⁴ Ngizalijezisa njengokufanele izono zenu, kutsho UTHIXO.
 Ngizaphemba umlilo emahlathini enu ozalobisa konke okuseduze lani.’”

22

Ukwahlulelwa Kwamakhosi Angalunganga

¹ Nanku akutshoyo UTHIXO: “Hamba wehlele endlini yenkosi yakoJuda umemezele khona

ilizwi leli uthi, ² ‘Zwana ilizwi LIKATHIXO, we nkosi yakoJuda, wena ohlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida, wena lezikhulu zakho kanye labantu bakho abangena ngamasango la. ³ UTHIXO uthi: Yenzani okulungileyo lokuqondileyo. Mhenge esandleni somncindezeli wakhe lowo ophangiweyo. Lingenzi okubi loba udlakela kowezizweni, intandane loba umfelokazi, njalo lingachithi igazi elingelacala kule indawo. ⁴ Ngoba nxa linanzelela ukulandela imilayo le, amakhosi ahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sika-Davida azangena ngamasango ale indawo, egade izingqola zempi lamabhiza, elezikhulu zawo kanye labantu bawo. ⁵ Kodwa nxa imilayo le lingayilaleli, kutsho UTHIXO, ngifunga ngami ukuthi indawo le izakuba lunxiwa.’ ”

⁶ Ngoba mayelana lendawo yenkosi yakoJuda UTHIXO uthi:

“Lanxa unjengeGiliyadi kimi,
lanjengengqongo yeLebhanoni,
ngeqiniso ngizakwenza ufane lenkangala,
lanjengamadolobho angahlali muntu.

⁷ Ngizakuthumela abachithi,
indoda nganye ilezikhali zayo,
njalo bazaquma imijabo yenu emihle yemisedari bayiphosele emlilweni.

⁸ Abantu abavela ezizweni ezinengi bazadlula kulelidolobho babuzane besithi, ‘Kungani UTHIXO enze into enje kulelidolobho elikhulu na?’ ⁹ Impendulo izakuthi: ‘Ngoba basidelile isivumelwano SIKATHIXO uNkulunkulu wabo bakhonza abanye onkulunkulu njalo babasebenzela.’ ”

10 Lingayikhaleli inkosi efleyo loba lililele
 ukulilahlekela kwayo;
 kodwa, khalelani kakhulu othunjiweyo,
 ngoba kasayikubuya
 njalo loba abone ilizwe lakibo futhi.

11 Ngoba mayelana loShalumi indodana kaJosiya,
 owangena esikhundleni sikayise esiba yinkosi
 yakoJuda kodwa osesukile kule indawo: UTHIXO
 uthi, “Kasoze abuye futhi. 12 Uzafela kuleyon-
 dawo asiwa kuyo ethunjiwe; ilizwe leli kasoze
 alibone futhi.”

13 “Maye kuye owakha indlu yakhe yobukhosi
 ngokungalungi,
 lezindlu zakhe zangaphezulu ngokun-
 gafanelanga,
 esenza abantu bakibo basebenzele ize,
 engabaholisi lutho ngokusebenza kwabo.

14 Uthi, ‘Ngizazakhela indlu enkulu yobukhosi
 elezitezi ezibanzi.’
 Ngakho uyenza ibe lamawindi amakhulu,
 ayinameke ngemisidari,
 ayicombe ngokubomvu.

15 Ukuba lemisedari eminenginengi
 kukwenza ube yinkosi na?
 Uyihlo kazange abe lokudla lokunathwayo na?
 Wenza okuqondileyo lokulungileyo,
 ngakho konke kwamlungela.

16 Wavikela amalungelo abayanga labaswelayo,
 ngakho konke kwamlungela.
 Lokho akusikho okutsho ukungazi na?”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

17 “Kodwa amehlo akho lenhliziyo yakho

kukhangele inzuzo yenkohliso,
lokuchitha igazi elingelacala,
ukuncindezela kanye lodlakela.”

18 Ngakho mayelana loJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya, inkosi yakoJuda, uTHIXO uthi:

“Kabayikumkhalela besithi:

‘Maye ngomfowethu!

Maye ngodadewethu!’

Kabayikumkhalela besithi:

‘Maye ngenkosi yami!

Maye ngobuhle bayo obukhulu!’

19 Uzangcwatshwa njengobabhemi,

ahudulwe aphoselwe

ngaphandle kwamasango aseJerusalema.”

20 “Qansa uye eLebhanoni umemeze,

wenze ilizwi lakho lizwakale eBhashani;

memeza use-Abharimi,

ngoba bonke abamanyane lawe banqotshiwe.

21 Ngakuxwayisa uzibona uvikelekile,

kodwa wena wathi, ‘Angiyikulalela!’

Le ibe iyindlela yakho kusukela ebutsheni bakho;

kawungilalelanga.

22 Umoya uzabaxotshela khatshana bonke abelusi bakho,

labamanyene lawe bazathunjwa.

Lapho-ke uzayangeka ube lenhloni

ngenxa yobubi bakho bonke.

23 Lina abahlala ‘eLebhanoni,’

eligcineke kuhle ezindlini zemisedari,

lizabubula kakhulu lapho inhlungu zilehlela,

ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazane
ehelwa!”

²⁴ UTHIXO uthi, “Ngeqiniso njengoba ngikhona, lanxa ngabe wena, Jehoyakhini ndodana ka-Jehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda, wawuyindandatho ebukekayo esandleni sami sokunene, ngangizakukhupha. ²⁵ Ngizakunikela kulabo abafuna ukukubulala, labo obesabayo, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lakumaKhaladiya. ²⁶ Wena kanye lonyoko owakuzalayo ngizaliphosela kwelinye ilizwe, lapho elingazalwanga khona, lapho elizafela khona lobabili. ²⁷ Kaliyikuphinda libuye elizweni elifisa ukuza kulo.”

²⁸ Umuntu lo, uJehoyakhini, uyimbiza efileyo, edelelwayo, into engafunwa muntu na? Kungani yena labantwabakhe bezaphoselwa ngaphandle, balahlelwe elizweni abangalaziyo na?

²⁹ Wena lizwe, lizwe, lizwe, zwana ilizwi LIKATHIXO!

³⁰ UTHIXO uthi:
“Bhalani umuntu lo njengongelabantwana, umuntu ongayikuphumelela empilweni yakhe, ngoba kakho owenzalo yakhe ozaphumelela, kakho ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sika-Davida loba abuse futhi koJuda.”

23

Ugatsha Olulungileyo

¹ “Maye kubelusi abachitha izimvu zedlelo lami njalo bezihlakaza!” kutsho UTHIXO.

² Ngakho UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi kubelusi abelusa abantu bami: “Ngenxa yokuthi lina lihlakaze umhlambi wami lawuxotshela khatshana kalaze lawunaka, ngizakwehlisela isijeziso phezu kwenu ngenxa yobubi elibenzileyo,” kutsho UTHIXO.

³ “Mina ngokwami ngizabutha insalela zezimvu zami emazweni wonke engangizixotshela kuwo ngizibuyisele edlelweni lazo, lapho ezizazalana khona zande.

⁴ Ngizazilethela abelusi abazazelusa, njalo kazisayikwesaba loba zithuthumele, loba enye yazo ilahleke,” kutsho UTHIXO.

⁵ UTHIXO uthi, “Ziyeza insuku, lapho uDavida ngizamvusele uGatsha olulungileyo,

iNkosi ezabusa ngokuhlakanipha, yenze okulungileyo, lokufaneleyo elizweni.

⁶ Ensukwini zayo uJuda uzasindiswa, lo-Israyeli ahlale evikelekile.

Ibizo azabizwa ngalo yileli elithi: UTHIXO Oyikulunga Kwethu.”

⁷ UTHIXO uthi, “Ngakho-ke, insuku ziyeza, lapho abantu bengasayikuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba UTHIXO ekhona, yena owakhupha u-Israyeli eGibhithe,’ ⁸ kodwa bazakuthi, ‘Ngeqiniso elinjengoba UTHIXO ekhona, yena owakhipha izizukulwane zika-Israyeli elizweni elisenyakatho lakuwo wonke amazwe abaxotshela kuwo.’ Lapho-ke bazahlala elizweni labo.”

Abaphrofethi Abaqamba Amanga

⁹ Mayelana labaphrofethi:

Inhliziyo yami idabukile ngaphakathi kwami;
wonke amathambo ami ayaqhaq hazela.

Ngifana lomuntu odakiweyo,
lanjengomuntu owehlulwa liwayini,
ngenxa KATHIXO
lamazwi akhe angcwele.

¹⁰ Ilizwe leli ligcwele izifebe;
ngenxa yesiqalekiso ilizwe lomile
lamadlelo enkangala abunile.

Abaphrofethi balandela indlela embi,
basebenzisa amandla abo ngokungalungi.

¹¹ “Umprofethi lomphristi kabakholwa kunku-
lunkulu;
lasethempelini lami ngiyabufumana ububi
babo,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

¹² “Ngakho indlela yabo izatshela;
bazaxotshelwa emnyameni
njalo lapho bazakuwa.

Ngizabehlisela umonakalo ngomnyaka woku-
jeziswa kwabo,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

¹³ “Phakathi kwabaphrofethi baseSamariya
ngabona into eyenyanyekayo:

Baphrofetha ngoBhali
njalo baholela abantu bami ekulahlekeni.

¹⁴ Lakubaphrofethi baseJerusalema
sengibone into eyesabekayo:
Bayafeba baphile ngamanga.

Baqinisa izandla zabenza okubi,
ukuba kungabikhona oguquka ebubini
bakhe.

Kimi bonke banjengeSodoma;
abantu baseJerusalema banjengeGomora.”

¹⁵ Ngakho, mayelana labaphrofethi UTHIXO
uSomandla uthi:

“Ngizabenza badle ukudla okubabayo,
banathe lamanzi aletshefu,
ngoba kusukela kubaphrofethi baseJerusalema
ukungakholwa kuNkulunkulu sekugcwele
ilizwe lonke.”

¹⁶ UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
“Lingalaleli okuphrofethwa ngabaphrofethi kini;
balenza lithembe amanga.

Bakhuluma imibono evela ezingqondweni zabo,
engaveli emlonyeni KATHIXO.

¹⁷ Bahlala besithi kulabo abangidelelayo,
‘UTHIXO uthi: Lizakuba lokuthula.’
Lakubo bonke abalandela inkani yezinhliziyo
zabo
bathi, ‘Akulabubi obuzalehlela.’

¹⁸ Kodwa nguphi wabo owake wema emhlangan-
weni KATHIXO
ukuba abone kumbe ezwe ilizwi lakhe na?
Ngubani olilaleleyo walizwa ilizwi lakhe?

¹⁹ Khangelani, isiphepho SIKATHIXO
sizaphutsha silulaka,
isavunguzane esibhoda ngolaka
phezu kwamakhanda ababi.

²⁰ Ulaka LUKATHIXO kaluyikuphela
aze azifeze ngokupheleleyo
injongo zenhliziyoyakhe.

Ensukwini ezizayo

- lizakuzwisisa kuhle lokhu.
 21 Abaphrofethi laba angibathumanga;
 kodwa bagijima lemibiko yabo;
 kangizange ngikhulume labo,
 kodwa sebephrofethile.
- 22 Kodwa aluba babekhona emhlanganweni
 wami,
 ngabe bamemezela amazwi ami ebantwini
 bami
 njalo ngabe babaphendula ezindleleni zabo ez-
 imbi
 lasezenzweni zabo ezimbi.”
- 23 UTHIXO uthi,
 “NginguNkulunkulu oseduze kuphela,
 uNkulunkulu ongekho khatshana na?
- 24 Umuntu angacatsha endaweni efihlakeleyo
 ukuba ngingamboni na?”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 “Angithi ngigcwele ezulwini lasemhlabeni na?”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- 25 “Ngikuzwile okutshiwo ngabaphrofethi
 abaphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami. Bathi,
 ‘Ngiphuphile! Ngiphuphile!’ 26 Koze kube
 nini lokhu kuqhubeka ezinhliziyweni zalaba
 abaphrofethi abalamanga na? 27 Bacabanga
 ukuthi amaphupho abawatshelanayo
 azakwenza abantu bami bakhohlwe ibizo
 lami, njengabokhokho babo abakhohlwa ibizo
 lami ngenxa yokukhonza uBhali. 28 Akuthi
 umphrofethi ophupha iphupho kalitsho, kodwa
 lowo olelizwi lami kalikhulume ngobuqotho,
 ngoba amakhoba angenzani lamabele na?”
 kutsho UTHIXO. 29 “Ilizwi lami kalinjengomlilo,”

kutsho UTHIXO, “lanjengesando esidabula idwala libe yizicucu na?”

³⁰ UTHIXO uthi, “Ngakho, ngimelana labaphrofethi abantshontsha kwabanye amazwi okuthiwa avela kimi. ³¹ Yebo, ngimelana labaphrofethi abasebenzisa indimi zabo kodwa bathi, ‘UTHIXO uthi,’ ³² Ngeqiniso, ngimelana lalabo abaphrofetha amaphupho amanga,” kutsho UTHIXO. “Bayawatsho baholele abantu bami ekulahlekeni ngamanga abo lamawala, ikanti angizange ngibathume kumbe ngibakhethe. Kababasizi ngalutho abantu laba,” kutsho UTHIXO.

Isiphrofethi Samanga

³³ “Nxa abantu laba, loba umphrofethi kumbe umphristi, bebuza besithi, ‘Izilo LIKATHIXO kuyini?’ wothi kubo, ‘Izilo liphi? Ngizakulahla, kutsho UTHIXO.’ ³⁴ Nxa umphrofethi loba umphristi kumbe omunye umuntu esithi, ‘Leli lizilo LIKATHIXO,’ lowomuntu ngizamjezisa kanye labendlu yakhe. ³⁵ Lokhu yikho omunye wenu ohlala ekutsho kumngane wakhe loba isihlobo sakhe ukuthi: ‘Impendulo KATHIXO ithini na?’ loba ‘UTHIXO utheni?’ ³⁶ Kodwa akumelanga lithi ‘izilo LIKATHIXO’ futhi, ngoba umuntu wonke ilizwi lakhe liba lizilo lakhe ngoba liyawahlanekela amazwi kaNkulunkulu ophila, UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu wethu. ³⁷ Lokhu yikho elihlala likutsho kumphrofethi ukuthi, ‘Impendulo KATHIXO kuwe ithini?’ loba ‘UTHIXO utheni?’ ³⁸ Lanxa lina lisithi, ‘Leli lizilo LIKATHIXO,’ UTHIXO uthi: Lasebenzisa

amazwi athi, ‘Leli lizilo LIKATHIXO.’ Lanxa mina ngalitshela ukuthi lingabokuthi, ‘Leli lizilo LIKATHIXO.’ ³⁹ Ngakho, ngeqiniso ngizalikhohlwa ngiliphosele khatshana lami kanye ledolobho engalinika lona lina labokhokho benu. ⁴⁰ Ngizalehlisela ihlazo elingapheliyo lokuyangeka okungayikukhohlakala.”

24

Izitsha Ezimbili Zomkhiwa

¹ Emva kokuba uJekhoniya indodana kaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda lezikhulu, izingcitshi kanye lezisebenzi zakoJuda sebethunjwe eJerusalema basiwa eBhabhiloni nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, UTHIXO wangitshengisa izitsha ezimbili zomkhiwa zibekwe phambi kwethempeli LIKATHIXO. ² Esinye isitsha sasilomkhiwa omuhle kakhulu, njengovuthwa kuqala; esinye isitsha sasilomkhiwa omubi, ubolile ungeke wadleka.

³ UTHIXO wasesithi kimi, “Kuyini okubonayo, Jeremiya?”

Ngathi, “Ngumkhiwa. Omuhle muhle kakhulu, kodwa omubi ubole kakhulu ungeke udliwe.”

⁴ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO laselifika kimi lisithi: ⁵ “UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Njengalo umkhiwa omuhle, ngibathatha njengabalungileyo abathunjwa bakoJuda, engabasusa kule indawo ngabasa elizweni laseBhabhiloni. ⁶ Amehlo ami azabakhangela kokuphela, njalo ngizababuyisa kulelizwe. Ngizabakha ngingabadilizi; ngizabahlanyela ngingabasiphuni. ⁷ Ngizabapha inhliziyoy

yokungazi, ukuthi mina NGINGUTHIXO. Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo, ngoba bazabuyela kimi ngenhliziyo yabo yonke.

⁸ Kodwa njengomkhiwa omubi, obolileyo ongeke udliwe,' kutsho UTHIXO, 'ngizamphatha kanjalo uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labasindayo eJerusalema, langabe basele kulelilizwe loba baseGibhithe. ⁹ Ngizabenza bazondakale njalo babe yisinengiso kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni, insolo lesiga, into yokuhlekwa lokuthukwa, loba kungaphi engibaxotshela khona. ¹⁰ Ngizathumela inkemba, indlala lomkhuhlane baze babhujiswe baphele elizweni engabanika lona kanye labokhokho babo.' "

25

Iminyaka Yokuthunjwa Engamatshumi Ayisikhombisa

¹ Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya mayelana labantu bonke bakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, okwakungumnyaka wokuqala kaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni. ² Ngakho uJeremiya umphrofethi wathi kubo bonke abantu bakoJuda lakubo bonke abahlala eJerusalema: ³ Okweminyaka engamatshumi amabili lantathu, kusukela ngomnyaka wetshumi lantathu kaJosiya indodana ka-Amoni inkosi yakoJuda kuze kube yilolusuku, ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi njalo ngalikhuluma kini njalonjalo, kodwa kalilalelanga.

⁴ Lanxa UTHIXO wathumela zonke izinceku zakhe abaphrofethi kini njalonjalo, kalilalelanga njalo kalinakanga. ⁵ Bathi, “Phendukani khathesi, omunye lomunye wenu, ezindleleni zenu ezimbi lasezenzweni zenu ezimbi, lihlale elizweni UTHIXO alinika lona kanye labokhokho benu kuze kube nininini. ⁶ Lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu ukuba libasebenzele njalo libakhonze; lingangithukuthelisi ngalokho okwenziwa yizandla zenu. Lapho-ke angiyikulehlisela okubi.”

⁷ “Kodwa kalingilalelanga,” kutsho UTHIXO, “njalo lingithukuthelisile ngokwenziwa ngezandla zenu, lazehlisela okubi.”

⁸ Ngakho UTHIXO uSomandla uthi: “Ngenxa yokuthi kalilalelanga amazwi ami, ⁹ ngizabiza bonke abantu basenyakatho lenceku yami uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,” kutsho UTHIXO, “njalo ngizabaletha ukuba bamelane lelizwe leli labahlala kulo kanye lezizwe zonke eziseduze lalo. Ngizababhubhisa ngokupheleleyo ngibenze babe yinto eyesabekayo leyokuklolodelwa, lencithakalo yanini lanini. ¹⁰ Ngizasusa phakathi kwabo imisindo yokuthokoza lokuthaba, lelizwi lomlobokazi lelomyeni, lomsindo wamatshe okuchola kanye lokukhanya kwesibane. ¹¹ Ilizwe leli lonke lizakuba yinkangala ephundlekileyo, lezizwe lezi zizasebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa.

¹² Kodwa lapho iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa isiphelile, ngizayijezisa inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lesizwe sayo, ilizwe

lamaKhaladiya, ngenxa yobubi babo,” kutsho UTHIXO, “njalo ngizalenza lichitheke kokuphela. ¹³ Ngizakwehlisela phezu kwelizwe lelo zonke izinto engazitshoyo ngalo, konke okulotshwe encwadini le okwaphrofethwa nguJeremiya ezizweni zonke. ¹⁴ Lazo uqobo zizathunjwa yizizwe ezinengi lamakhosi amakhulu; ngizaphindisela kubo mayelana lezenzo zabo langemisebenzi yezandla zabo.”

Inkezo Yolaka LukaNkulunkulu

¹⁵ UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli wathi kimi, “Yamukela esandleni sami inkezo le egcwele iwayini lolaka lwami unathise zonke izizwe engikuthuma kuzo. ¹⁶ Zingalinatha, zizadiyazela zihlanye ngenxa yenkemba engizayithumela phakathi kwazo.” ¹⁷ Ngakho ngayithatha inkezo esandleni SIKATHIXO ngazinathisa zonke izizwe ayengithume kuzo:

¹⁸ IJerusalema lamadolobho akoJuda, amakhosi akhona kanye lezikhulu, ukubenza babe yincithakalo lento eyesabekayo yokuklolodelwa lokuqalekiswa, njengoba benjalo lamhla;

¹⁹ uFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe, lezinceku zakhe, lezikhulu zakhe kanye labantu bakhe bonke, ²⁰ labantu bonke bezizweni abakhonale;

wonke amakhosi ase-Uzi;
wonke amakhosi amaFilistiya (awe-Ashikheloni, eGaza, e-Ekroni, labantu abasala e-Ashidodi);

²¹ e-Edomi, leMowabi kanye le-Amoni;

²² wonke amakhosi aseThire, leSidoni;

amakhosi amazwe angasolwandle ngaphetsheya kwalo,

²³ eDedani, leThema leBhuzi labo bonke abasezindaweni ezikhatshana;

²⁴ wonke amakhosi ase-Arabhiya lawo wonke amakhosi abantu bezizweni abahlala enkan-gala;

²⁵ amakhosi wonke aseZimri, le-Elamu leMediya;

²⁶ lawo amakhosi asenyakatho, eduze lakhatshana, elandelana, yonke imibuso esemhlabeni.

Emva kwabo bonke, inkosi yaseSheshaki layo izalinatha.

²⁷ “Lapho-ke batshele uthi, ‘UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Nathani, lidakwe lihlanze, njalo liwe lingavuki futhi ngenxa yenkemba engizayithumela phakathi kwenu.’ ²⁸ Kodwa bangala ukwamukela inkezo esandleni sakho ukuba banathe, batshele uthi, ‘UTHIXO uSomandla

uthi: Kumele liyinathe! ²⁹ Khangelani, sengiqalisile ukuletha umonakalo edolobheni elileBizo lami, njalo lina lizaphutha impela ukujeziswa na? Kaliyikuphutha ukujeziswa ngoba ngizakwehlisela inkemba phezu kwabo bonke abahlala emhlabeni, kutsho UTHIXO uSomandla.’

³⁰ Khathesi-ke phrofetha wonke amazwi la ngabo uthi kubo:

‘UTHIXO uzahlokoma ephezulu;
uzaduma esendaweni yakhe engcwele,

njalo ahlokome kakhulu emelana lelizwe lakhe.

Uzamemeza njengabahluza amavini,
akhwaze ngamandla ekhwazela bonke abahlala emhlabeni.

³¹ Ukuxokozela kuzazwakala emikhawulweni yomhlaba,
ngoba UTHIXO uzazethesa amacala izizwe;
uzakwahlulela abantu bonke ababi ababhubhise ngenkemba,'"
kutsho UTHIXO.

³² Nanku akutshoyo UTHIXO uSomandla:
"Khangelani! Umonakalo uyanda usuka kwesinye isizwe usiya kwesinye; isiphapho esikhulu siyavunguza sivela emikhawulweni yomhlaba."

³³ Ngalesosikhathi labo ababulewe NGUTHIXO bazakuba sezindaweni zonke kusukela komunye kusiya komunye umkhawulo womhlaba. Kabayikukhalelwa loba babuthwe kumbe bangcwatshwe, kodwa bazakuba njengezibi emhlabathini.

³⁴ Khalani lilile lina belusi;
giqikani ethulini lina bakhokheli bomhlambi.

Ngoba isikhathi sokubulawa kwenu sesifikile;
lizakuwa liphohlozeke njengokubunjiweyo.

³⁵ Abelusi laba kabayikuba lalapho abangabalekela khona,
abakhokheli bomhlambi bengelandawo yokubalekela kuyo.

³⁶ Zwanini ukukhala kwabelusi,
ukulila kwabakhokheli bomhlambi,
ngoba UTHIXO uyalichitha idlelo labo.

- 37 Lamadlelo alokuthula azatshabalaliswa ngenxa yolaka olwesabekayo LUKATHIXO.
- 38 Njengesilwane uzaphuma esikhundleni sakhe, njalo ilizwe labo lizakuba yinkangala ngenxa yenkemba yomncindezeli langenxa yolaka LUKATHIXO olwesabekayo.

26

UJeremiya Usongelwa Ukubulawa

¹ Ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwafika ilizwi leli livela kuTHIXO lisithi, ² “UTHIXO uthi: Mana egumeni lendlu KATHIXO ukhulume kubo bonke abantu basemadolobheni akoJuda abeza endlini KATHIXO ukuba bakhonze. Batshela konke engakulaya khona, kungabi lelizwi olitshiyayo. ³ Mhlawumbe bazalalela omunye lomunye wabo aphenduke endleleni yakhe embi. Lapho ke ngizadeda ngingabehliseli umonakalo ebengizawenza kubo ngenxa yobubi ababenzileyo. ⁴ Tshono kubo uthi, ‘UTHIXO uthi: Nxa lingangilaleli lilandele umthetho wami engalibekela wona, ⁵ njalo nxa lingalaleli amazwi ezinceku zami abaphrofethi, engabathuma kini njalonjalo (lanxa lingalalanga), ⁶ ngizakwenza indlu le ibe njengeShilo ledolobho leli libe yinto yokuqalekiswa phakathi kwezizwe zonke zomhlaba.’”

⁷ Abaphristi, labaphrofethi kanye labantu bonke bamuzwa uJeremiya ekhuluma amazwi la endlini KATHIXO. ⁸ Kodwa kwathi uJeremiya eqeda nje ukubatshela bonke abantu konke UTHIXO ayemlaye ukuba akutsho, abaphristi, labaphrofethi kanye labantu bonke

bamphuthuma bathi kuye, “Kumele ufe!
⁹ Kungani uphrofetha ngebizo LIKATHIXO usithi indlu le izakuba njengeShilo ledolobho leli lizachitheka abantu basuke kulo?” Abantu bonke bambuthanela uJeremiya endlini KATHIXO.

¹⁰ Kwathi izikhulu zakoJuda sezizwe ngalezizinto, zaya endlini KATHIXO zisuka esigodlweni senkosi zahlala ezindaweni zazo entubeni yeSango elitsha lendlu KATHIXO.

¹¹ Abaphristi, labaphrofethi basebesithi ezikhulwini lasebantwini bonke, “Umuntu lo kumele agwetshelwe ukufa ngoba uphrofetha kubi ngedolobho leli. Likuzwile ngezindlebe zenu!”

¹² UJeremiya wasesithi ezikhulwini zonke lasebantwini bonke: “UTHIXO ungithumile ukuba ngiphrofethe kubi ngendlu le langedolobho leli zonke izinto elizizwileyo. ¹³ Ngakho lungisani izindlela zenu lezenzo zenu lilalele UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu. Ngalokho UTHIXO uzadeda angabe esalehlisela umonakalo abememezele ukuwehlisela kini. ¹⁴ Kodwa mina, ngisezandleni zenu; yenzani kimi loba kuyini lokho elokubona kukuhle, kufanele. ¹⁵ Kodwa likwazi, impela ukuthi lingangibulala, lizakwehlisela phezu kwenu icala legazi elimsulwa laphezu kwedolobho leli kanye laphezu kwabantu abahlala kulo, ngoba ngeqiniso UTHIXO ungithumile kini ukuba ngikhulume wonke amazwi la lani lisizwa.”

¹⁶ Izikhulu labantu bonke basebesithi kubaphristi lakubaphrofethi, “Umuntu lo

akumelanga abulawe! Ukhulume kithi ngebizo LIKATHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu.”

¹⁷ Abanye babadala baselizweni basondela phambili bakhuluma kulolonke ibandla labantu bathi, ¹⁸ * “UMikha waseMoresethi waphrofitha ensukwini zikaHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. Wabatshela bonke abantu bakoJuda wathi, ‘UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:

IZiyoni izalinywa njengensimu,

ijerusalemazakuba yinqwaba yemfucuzwa,
intaba yethempeli ibe yindunduma eyande izixukwana.’

¹⁹ Kanje uHezekhiya inkosi yakoJuda loba omunye umuntu nje wakoJuda wambulala na? UHezekhiya kamesabanga yini UTHIXO wacela umusa kuye? UTHIXO kadedanga wayekela ukubehlisela umonakalo ayewumemezele kubo na? Sekuseduze ukuthi sizehlisele umonakalo owesabekayo phezu kwethu!”

²⁰ (U-Uriya indodana kaShemaya owaseKhiriyathi-Jeyarimi ungomunye umuntu owaphrofetha ngebizo LIKATHIXO: waphrofitha izinto ezinjalo ngedolobho leli langelizwe leli njengoJeremiya. ²¹ Kwathi inkosi uJehoyakhimi lezinduna zakhe kanye lezikhulu zakhe besizwa amazwi akhe, bafuna ukumbulala. Kodwa u-Uriya wakuzwa lokho wasebalekela eGibhithe esesaba. ²² UJehoyakhimi inkosi, wathuma u-Elinathani indodana ka-Akhibhori lamanye amadoda eGibhithe. ²³ Bamthatha u-Uriya eGibhithe bamusa kuJehoyakhimi inkosi wambulala ngenkamba isidumbu

* **26:18** 26.18 UMikha 3.12

sakhe saphoselwa endaweni yokungcwabela abantukazana.)

²⁴ Phezu kwalokho, u-Ahikhami indodana kaShafani wasekela uJeremiya, ngakho kanikezwanga ebantwini ukuba bambulale.

27

UJuda Uzasebenzela UNebhukhadineza

¹ Ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO lisithi: ² UTHIXO wathi kimi, “Yenza ijogwe ngemichilo langemigoqo uligaxe entanyeni yakho. ³ Ubusuthumela ilizwi enkosini yase-Edomi, leyaseMowabi, leyase-Amoni, eyeThire kanye leyaseSidoni ngezithunywa ezize eJerusalema kuZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda. ⁴ Zinike ilizwi eliya emakhosini azo uthi, ‘UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Tshelani amakhosi enu lokhu ukuthi: ⁵ Ngamandla ami amakhulu langengalo yami eyeluliweyo ngenza umhlaba labantu bawo kanye lezinyamazana ezikuwo, njalo ngiwunika loba ngubani ngokuthanda kwami. ⁶ Khathesi wonke amazwe enu ngizawanikela encekwini yami uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ngizakwenza lezinyamazana zeganga zibe ngaphansi kwakhe. ⁷ Izizwe zonke zizamsebenzela yena lamadodana akhe kanye labazukulu bakhe kuze kufike isikhathi selizwe lakhe lapho azanqotshwa khona yizizwe ezinengi lamakhosi amakhulu.

⁸ Kodwa, loba yisiphi isizwe loba umbuso ongasebenzeli uNebhukhadineza inkosi

yaseBhabhiloni loba ukhothamisele intamo yawo ejogeni lakhe, ngizasijezisa lesosizwe ngenkemba, ngendlala langesifo, ngize ngiwuchithe ngesandla sakhe, kutsho UTHIXO. ⁹ Ngakho lingabalaleli abaphrofethi benu, izanuse zenu, abachazi bamaphupho, izangoma zenu loba izinyanga zenu ezithi kini, kaliyikuyisebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.’ ¹⁰ Baphrofetha amanga kini azasebenza ukulisusa nje kuphela emazweni enu; ngizalixotsha njalo lizabhubha. ¹¹ Kodwa isizwe esizabeka intamo yaso ngaphansi kwejogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni siyisebenzele, lesosizwe ngizasiyekela siselizweni laso ukuba sililime njalo sihlale kulo, kutsho UTHIXO.”

¹² UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ngamnika ilizwi elinjalo; Ngathi, “Beka intamo yakho ngaphansi kwejogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni; isebenzele yona kanye labantu bayo, uzaphila. ¹³ Kungani wena labantu bakho lizabulawa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo UTHIXO ayesongele ngakho isizwe esingayikusebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni na? ¹⁴ Lingawalaleli amazwi abaphrofethi abathi kini, ‘Kaliyikuyisebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni,’ ngoba baphrofetha amanga kini. ¹⁵ ‘Angibathumanga,’ kutsho UTHIXO. ‘Baphrofetha amanga ngebizo lami. Ngakho ngizalixotsha, libhubhe lina kanye labaphrofethi abaphrofetha kini.’”

¹⁶ Ngasengisithi kubaphristi lakubo bonke abantu laba, “UTHIXO uthi: Lingabalaleli abaphrofethi abathi, ‘Masinyane nje izitsha

zasendlini KATHIXO zizabuyiswa zivela eBhabhiloni.’ Baphrofetha amanga kini. ¹⁷ Lingabalaleli. Isebenzeleni inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, lizaphila. Kungani idolobho leli kumele libe lunxiwa na? ¹⁸ Nxa bengabaphrofethi njalo belelizwi LIKATHIXO, kabamncenge UTHIXO uSomandla ukuba izitsha eziseleyo endlini KATHIXO lasesigodlweni senkosi yakoJuda kanye laseJerusalema zingasiwa eBhabhiloni. ¹⁹ Ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo NGUTHIXO uSomandla mayelana lensika, loLwandle, lokokumisa okuphakamisekayo kanye lezinye izitsha eziseleyo kulelidolobho, ²⁰ uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni engahambanga layo ekuthatheni kwakhe uJehoyakhini indodana kaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda emsusa eJerusalema emusa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni, kanye lezikhulu zonke zakoJuda lezeJerusalema, ²¹ yebo, lokhu yikho okutshiwo NGUTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, mayelana lezinto eziseleyo endlini KATHIXO lasesigodlweni senkosi yakoJuda kanye laseJerusalema ukuthi: ²² ‘Zisasiwa eBhabhiloni lapho ezizakuba khona kuze kufike usuku engizazilanda ngalo,’ kutsho UTHIXO. ‘Lapho-ke ngizazibuyisela emuva kule indawo.’”

28

UHananiya Umphrofethi Wamanga

¹ Ngenyanga yesihlanu yawonalowo umnyaka, umnyaka wesine, ekuqaleni kokubusa kukaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda,

umphrofethi uHananiya indodana ka-Azuri, owayevela eGibhiyoni, wathi kimi endlini KATHIXO phambi kwabaphristi labantu bonke: ² “UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Ngizalephula ijogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni. ³ Phakathi kweminyaka emibili ngizazibuyisela kule indawo zonke izitsha zendlu KATHIXO ezathathwa nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wazisa eBhabhiloni. ⁴ Ngizambuyisela kule indawo futhi uJekhoniya indodana kaJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda kanye labanye bonke abathunjwa koJuda baya eBhabhiloni,’ kutsho UTHIXO, ‘ngoba ngizalephula ijogwe lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni.’”

⁵ Umphrofethi uJeremiya waphendula umphrofethi uHananiya phambi kwabaphristi labantu bonke ababemi endlini KATHIXO. ⁶ Wathi, “Ameni! Sengathi UTHIXO angamenzenjalo! Sengathi UTHIXO angagcwalisa amazwi owaphrofethayo ngokubuyisela kule indawo izitsha zendlu KATHIXO labo bonke abathunjelwa eBhabhiloni. ⁷ Lanxa kunjalo, lalela kulokhu engikutsho lawe usizwa kanye labantu bonke besizwa ukuthi: ⁸ Kusukela ezikhathini zakuqala abaphrofethi abandulela wena lami baphrofetha ngempi, ngomonakalo langesifo emazweni amanengi lasemibusweni emikhulu. ⁹ Kodwa umphrofethi ophrofetha ngokuthula uzakwaziwa njengothunywe nguUTHIXO sibili lapho ilizwi lakhe seligcwalisekile.”

¹⁰ Lapho-ke uHananiya umphrofethi wasusa ijogwe entanyeni kaJeremiya umphrofethi

walephula, ¹¹ wasesithi phambi kwabantu bonke, “UTHIXO uthi: ‘Ngizalephula kanjalo ijogwe likaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni entanyeni zezizwe zonke phakathi kweminyaka emibili.’” Ngemva kwalokho umphrofethi uJeremiya wasuka wazihambela.

¹² Masinyane nje emuva kokuba umphrofethi uHananiya ephule ijogwe entanyeni kaJeremiya umphrofethi, kwafika ilizwi LIKATHIXO kuJeremiya lisithi: ¹³ “Hamba uyetshela uHananiya uthi, ‘UTHIXO uthi: Wephule ijogwe lesigodo, kodwa esikhundleni salo uzakuba lejogwe lensimbi. ¹⁴ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizabeka ijogwe lensimbi entanyeni zezizwe zonke lezi ukuba zisebenzele uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, zizamsebenzela. Ngizamnika amandla laphezu kwezinyamazana zeganga.’”

¹⁵ Umphrofethi uJeremiya wasesithi kuHananiya umphrofethi, “Lalela, Hananiya! UTHIXO kakuthumanga, kodwa usuwenze isizwe lesi sathemba amanga. ¹⁶ Ngakho, UTHIXO uthi, ‘Sekuseduze ukuthi ngikususe ebusweni bomhlaba. Ngawonalo umnyaka uzakufa, ngoba uphrofethe ukuhlamukela UTHIXO.’”

¹⁷ Ngenyanga yesikhombisa yalowomnyaka, uHananiya umphrofethi wafa.

29

Incwadi Kwabasekuthunjweni

¹ La ngamazwi encwadi umphrofethi uJeremiya ayithumela eseJerusalema ebadaleni

abasindayo phakathi kwabathunjwayo lakubaphristi, abaphrofethi, lakubo bonke abantu uNebhukhadineza abathatha eJerusalema wabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. ² (Lokhu kwakungemva kokuba inkosi uJekhoniya lendlovukazi engunina, izikhulu zasemthethwandaba kanye labadala bakoJuda labaseJerusalema, izingcitshi lezingcwethi basebeye ekuthunjweni besuka eJerusalema.) ³ Incwadi leyo wayiphathisa u-Eleyasa indodana kaShafani loGemariya indodana kaHilikhiya, abathunywa nguZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kuNebhukhadineza eBhabhiloni. Yathi:

⁴ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi kubo bonke labo engabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni besuka eJerusalema: ⁵ “Yakhani izindlu lihlale phansi; limani izivande lidle izithelo zazo. ⁶ Thathani abafazi lizale amadodana lamadodakazi; dingelani amadodana enu abafazi lendise lamadodakazi enu, ukuze lawo abe lamadodana kanye lamadodakazi; inani lenu lande ngapho; lingehli. ⁷ Funani ukuthula lokuphumelela kwedolobho engilise ekuthunjweni kulo. Likhulekeleni kuUTHIXO, ngoba nxa liphumelela lani lizaphumelela.” ⁸ Ye, UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, “Lingavumeli ukuthi abaphrofethi labahlahluli abaphakathi kwenu balikhohlise. Lingawalaleli amaphupho elibakhuthaza ukuthi bawaphuphe. ⁹ Baphrofetha amanga kini ngebizo lami. Kangibathumanga,” kutsho UTHIXO.

¹⁰ UTHIXO uthi: “Lapho iminyaka engamatshumi ayisikhombisa isiphelile eBhabhiloni, ngizakuza kini ngigcwalise isithembiso sami somusa sokulibuyisela kule indawo. ¹¹ Ngoba ngiyawazi amacebo engilawo ngani,” kutsho UTHIXO, “amacebo okuliphumelelisa hatshi ukulilimaza, amacebo okulinika ithemba kanye lesikhathi esizayo. ¹² Ngalesosikhathi lizangibiza lizekhuleka kimi, njalo ngizalizwa. ¹³ Lizangidinga lingifumane nxa lingidinga ngenhliziyo yenu yonke. ¹⁴ Lizangifumana,” kutsho UTHIXO, “njalo ngizalibuyisa livela ekuthunjweni. Ngizaliquqa ezizweni zonke lasezindaweni zonke engalixotshela kuzo,” kutsho UTHIXO, “njalo ngilibuyise endaweni engalithatha kuyo ngilisa ekuthunjweni.”

¹⁵ Lingatsho lithi, “UTHIXO usesiphe abaphrofethi eBhabhiloni,” ¹⁶ kodwa UTHIXO uthi mayelana lenkosi ehlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida labantu bonke abasala kulelidolobho, abantu bakini abangahambanga lani ekuthunjweni, ¹⁷ yebo, UTHIXO uSomandla uthi, “Ngizabathumela inkemba, lendlala lesifo njalo ngizabenza babe njengomkhiwa obolileyo ongeke udliwe. ¹⁸ Ngizaxotshana labo ngenkemba, ngendlala langesifo njalo ngizabenza benyanyeke kuyo yonke imibuso yasemhlabeni njalo babe yinto yokuqalekiswa lokwesatshwa, ukuklolodelwa lokuthukwa, phakathi kwezizwe zonke engibaxotshela kuzo. ¹⁹ Ngoba kabawalalelanga amazwi ami,” kutsho UTHIXO, “amazwi engawathumela kubo

njalonjalo ngezinceku zami abaphrofethi. Lani abasekuthunjweni kalilalelanga,” kutsho UTHIXO.

²⁰ Ngakho, zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO, lonke lina elisekuthunjweni engalisusa eJerusalema ngalisa eBhabhiloni. ²¹ Mayelana lo-Ahabi indodana kaKholaya loZedekhiya indodana kaMaseya, abaphrofetha amanga kini ngebizo lami, UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: “Ngizabanikela kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ozababulala phambi kobuso benu. ²² Ngenxa yabo, bonke abathunjiweyo abavela koJuda abaseBhabhiloni bazasebenzisa isiqalekiso lesi sokuthi: ‘UTHIXO makenze kini njengalokhu akwenze kuZedekhiya lo-Ahabi, abatshiswa yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngomlilo.’ ²³ Ngoba benze izinto ezimbi kakhulu ko-Israyeli; bafeba labafazi babomakhelwane babo, baqamba amanga ngebizo lami, engingazange ngithi bakwenze. Ngiyakwazi njalo ngingufakazi kukho,” kutsho UTHIXO.

Ilizwi KuShemaya

²⁴ Tshela uShemaya umNehelami uthi, ²⁵ “UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Wathumela izincwadi ngebizo lakho kubo bonke abantu baseJerusalema, lakuZefaniya indodana kaMaseya umphristi, lakwabanye abaphristi bonke.’ KuZefaniya wathi, ²⁶ ‘UTHIXO usekubeke ukuba ngumphristi esikhundleni sikaJehoyada ukuba ube ngumphathi wendlu KATHIXO; umuntu

ohlanyayo ozenza umphrofethi ubomfaka esitokisini umfake lezankosi zentanyeni. ²⁷ Pho kungani ungamkhuzanga uJeremiya wase-Anathothi, ozenza umphrofethi phakathi kwenu? ²⁸ Uthumele ilizwi leli kithi eBhabhiloni elithi: Kuzakuba yisikhathi eside. Ngakho yakhani izindlu lihlale phansi; limani izivande lidle izithelo zazo.’”

²⁹ Kodwa, uZefaniya umphristi incwadi le wayibalela uJeremiya umphrofethi. ³⁰ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi, ³¹ “Thumela ilizwi leli kubo bonke abathunjiweyo uthi, Mayelana loShemaya umNehelami UTHIXO uthi: ‘Njengoba uShemaya esephrofitha kini, lanxa mina ngingamthumanga, walenza lakholwa amanga, ³² ngeqiniso ngizamjezisa uShemaya umNehelami kanye lenzalo yakhe. Kakuyikuba lowakibo ozasala ekhona phakathi kwalababantu, njalo lezinto ezinhle engizazenzela abantu bami kasoze azibone, kutsho UTHIXO, ngoba uphrofetha ukungihlamukela.’”

30

Ukubuyiswa Kuka-Israyeli

¹ Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuUTHIXO lisithi: ² “UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Loba encwadini wonke amazwi engiwakhulume kuwe. ³ Insuku ziyeza,’ kutsho UTHIXO, ‘lapho engizabuyisa abantu bami u-Israyeli loJuda bevela ekuthunjweni ngibabuyisele elizweni engalinika okhokho babo ukuba libe ngelabo,’ kutsho UTHIXO.”

⁴ Amazwi akhulunywa NGUTHIXO ngo-Israyeli loJuda: ⁵ “Wathi:

‘Ukukhala kokwesaba kuzwakele,
ukwesaba okukhulu, hatshi ukuthula.

⁶ Buzani libone:

Indoda ingazala abantwana na?

Pho kungani ngibona wonke amadoda aqinileyo ebambe izisu zawo ngezandla njengowesi-fazane ohelelwayo,

ubuso bonke sebube mhlotshana okokufa?

⁷ Yeka ukwesabeka okuzakuba yilolosuku!

Kalukho oluzakuba njengalo.

Kuzakuba yisikhathi sokuhlupheka kuka-Jakhobe,

kodwa uzahlengwa kukho.

⁸ Ngalolosuku, kutsho UTHIXO uSomandla,

‘ngizalephula ijogwe entanyeni zabo ngiqamule lezibopho zabo;

abezizweni kabasayikubagqilaza futhi.

⁹ Esikhundleni salokho, bazasebenzela UTHIXO

uNkulunkulu wabo,

loDavida inkosi yabo,

engizabavusela yona.

¹⁰ Ngakho ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami;

ungadangali, wena Israyeli,’

kutsho UTHIXO.

‘Ngeqiniso ngizakuhlenga ezindaweni ezikude,

lenzalo yakho elizweni lokuthunjwa kwayo.

UJakhobe uzakuba lokuthula futhi kanye loku-vikeleka,

njalo kakho ozamenza esabe.

¹¹ Ngilawe njalo ngizakuhlenga,’

kutsho UTHIXO.

‘Lanxa ngizichitha ngokupheleleyo zonke izizwe
engikuhlakazela kuzo,
wena angiyikukuchitha ngokupheleleyo.
Ngizakuqondisa kodwa ngokufaneleyo kuphela;
kangiyikukuyekela ungajeziswanga.’

¹² UTHIXO uthi:

‘Isilonda sakho kaselapheki,
ukulimala kwakho akupholi.

¹³ Kakho okhulumela inhloso yakho,
akulamuthi wesilonda sakho,
akukho kuphola kuwe.

¹⁴ Bonke abangane bakho sebekukhohliwe;
kabalandaba lawe.

Ngikutshaye njengokungenziwa yisitha
ngakujezisa njengokungenziwa ngolesih-
luku,

ngoba icala lakho likhulu kakhulu
lezono zakho zinengi kakhulu.

¹⁵ Kungani ukhaliswa linxeba lakho,
ubuhlungu bakho obungelaphekiyo na?

Ngenxa yecala lakho elikhulu lezono ezinengi
ngenze lezizinto kuwe.

¹⁶ Kodwa bonke abakudlayo bazadliwa;
zonke izitha zakho zizathunjwa.

Labo abakuphangayo bazaphangwa;
bonke abakwemukayo ngizabemuka.

¹⁷ Kodwa ngizakusilisa ngipholise lamanxeba
akho,’

kutsho UTHIXO,

‘ngoba kuthiwa ungolahlieweyo,
iZiyoni okungekho olendaba lalo.’

- 18 UTHIXO uthi:
 ‘Ngizavuselela inotho yasemathenteni
 kaJakhobe
 ngibe lesihawu emakhaya akhe;
 idolobho lizakwakhiwa kutsha emanxiweni alo,
 lendlu yobukhosi izakuma endaweni yayo
 uqobo.
- 19 Kubo kuzavela izingoma zokubonga
 kanye lomsindo wokuthokoza.
 Ngizakwandisa amanani abo,
 njalo kabayikuphungulwa;
 ngizabenza bahlonitshwe,
 njalo kabayikweyiswa.
- 20 Abantwana babo bazakuba njengezinsukwini
 zakudala,
 lebandla labo lizamiselwa phambi kwami;
 ngizabajezisa bonke ababancindezelayo.
- 21 Umkhokheli wabo uzakuba ngomunye wabak-
 ibo;
 umbusi wabo uzavela phakathi kwabo.
 Ngizamsondeza eduze, uzakuza phansi kwami,
 ngoba ngubani lowo ongazinikela
 ukuba seduze kwami na?’
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- 22 ‘Ngakho lina lizakuba ngabantu bami,
 mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wenu.’ ”
- 23 Khangelani, isiphepho SIKATHIXO
 sizakhupha ulaka,
 umoya osasivunguzane usehlela
 phezu kwamakhanda ababi.
- 24 Ulaka olwesabekayo LUKATHIXO kaluyikudeda
 aze ayifeze ngokupheleleyo

injongo yenhliziyi yakhe.
 Ensukwini ezizayo
 lizakuzwisisa lokhu.

31

¹ “Ngalesosikhathi ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli, bona bazakuba ngabantu bami,” kutsho uTHIXO.

² UTHIXO uthi:
 “Abantu abasilayo enkembeni
 bazathola umusa enkangala;
 ngizakuzanika u-Israyeli ukuphumula.”

³ UTHIXO wabonakala kithi kudala esithi:
 “Ngikuthandle ngothando olungapheliyo;
 ngikuhole ngesisa esikhulu.

⁴ Ngizakwakha njalo uzakwakhiwa kutsha futhi,
 wena Israyeli Ntombi emsulwa.

Uzathatha amagedla akho futhi uphume
 uyegida labathokozayo.

⁵ Uzalima izivini zakho futhi
 emaqaqeni aseSamariya;
 abalimi bazazilima badle izithelo zazo.

⁶ Kuzakuba losuku lapho abalindi bezamemeza
 phezu kwamaqaca ako-Efrayimi bathi,

‘Wozani, kasiyeni eZiyoni,
 kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu.’ ”

⁷ UTHIXO uthi:
 “Mhlabeleleni uJakhobe ngokuthokoza;
 nqongolozelani izizwe ezidumileyo.
 Yenzani ukudumisa kwenu kuzwakale, lisithi,
 ‘Awu THIXO, bahlenge abantu bakho,
 insalela ka-Israyeli.’

⁸ Khangelani, ngizababuyisa bevela elizweni
 lasenyakatho,

ngibaqoqe emikhawulweni yomhlaba.
Phakathi kwabo kuzakuba leziphofu labaqhulayo;
abesifazane abazithweleyo labahelwayo;
ixuku elikhulu lizabuya.

⁹ Bazabuya bekhala;
bazakhuleka lapho ngibabuyisa.
Ngizabaholela ezihotsheni zamanzi
endleleni eyendlalekileyo lapho
abangayikukhubeka khona,
ngoba nginguyise ka-Israyeli,
njalo u-Efrayimi yindodana yami elizibulo.

¹⁰ Zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO, lina zizwe;
limemezeleni emazweni angaselwandle
khatshana lithi:
'Yena owahlakaza u-Israyeli uzamqoqa
njalo uzakwelusa umhlambi wakhe njen-
gomelusi.'

¹¹ Ngoba UTHIXO uzamhlenga uJakhobe,
abakhulule ezandleni zalabo abalamandla
kulabo.

¹² Bazakuza banqongolozwe ngentokozo ezingqon-
geni zeZiyoni;
bazathokoza ngokuphana KUKATHIXO,
ngamabele, langewayini elitsha kanye lamafutha
e-oliva,
ngamazinyane ezimvu langamathole
enkomo.

Bazakuba njengesivande esithelelwa kuhle,
njalo kabasayikuba losizi futhi.

¹³ Izintombi zizagida njalo futhi zithabe,
enzenjalo amajaha labadala.

Ngizaguqula ukukhala kwabo kube yikuthaba;
 ngizabapha induduzo lentokoza
 esikhundleni sosizi.

14 Ngizasuthisa abaphristi ngokunengi,
 labantu bami bazasutha ngokuphana
 kwami,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

15 Nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO:
 “Ilizwi lizwakala eRama,
 lesililo lokukhala okukhulu,
 uRasheli ukhalela abantwabakhe
 njalo esala ukududuzwa,
 ngoba kabasekho.”

16 Nanku akutshoyo UTHIXO:
 “Bamba ilizwi lakho ungakhali,
 lamehlo akho angehlisi inyembezi
 ngoba umsebenzi wakho uzathola umvuzo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 “Bazabuya bevela elizweni lesitha.

17 Ngakho kulethemba ensukwini zakho ez-
 izayo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 “Abantwabakho bazabuyela elizweni labo.

18 Ngikuzwile impela ukukhala kuka-Efrayimi
 esithi:
 ‘Wangitshaya njengethole elingathambanga,
 njalo sengajeziseka.

Ngibuyisa, njalo ngizabuya,
 ngoba UNGUTHIXO uNkulunkulu wami.

19 Emva kokweduka kwami,
 ngaphenduka;
 emva kokuba sengizwisisile,
 ngazitshaya isifuba.

Ngaba lenhloni ngadumazeka
ngoba ngangilehlazo lasebutsheni bami.'

²⁰ U-Efrayimi kasindodana yami ethandekayo,
umntanami engithokoza ngaye na?

Lanxa ngihlala ngikhuluma kubi ngaye
ngisamkhumbula.

Ngakho inhliziyo yami iyamlangatha;
ngiyamzwela kakhulu,
kutsho UTHIXO.

²¹ Beka izitshengiso zomgwaqo;
umise lezinsika zeziqondiso.

Nanzelela umgwaqo,
indlela ozahamba ngayo.

Phenduka, wena Ntombi egcweleyo Israyeli,
buyela emadolobheni akho.

²² Koze kube nini ulokhu uzulazula,
wena ndodakazi engathembekanga na?

UTHIXO uzadala into entsha emhlabeni,
owesifazane uzavikela indoda."

²³ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli
uthi, "Lapho ngibabuyisa bevela ekuthunjweni,
abantu abaselizweni lakoJuda lasemadolobheni
alo bazawasebenzisa futhi amazwi la athi,
'UTHIXO akubusise wena ndawo yokuhlala
elungileyo, wena ntaba engcwele.'" ²⁴ Abantu
bazahlala ndawonye koJuda lasemadolobheni
akhona wonke, abalimi kanye lalabo abazulazu-
layo lemihlambi yabo. ²⁵ Ngizaqinisa abadini-
weyo ngisuthise abangelamandla."

²⁶ Lapho-ke ngaphaphama ngakhangela in-
dawana yonke. Ubuthongo bami babubemnandi
kimi.

27 “Insuku ziyeza, lapho engizahlanyela khona indlu ka-Israyeli lendlu kaJuda lenzalo yabantu lezinyamazana. 28 Njengoba ngabalinda ukusiphuna lokudiliza, ukuchitha lokubhubhisa kanye lokuletha umonakalo, ngokunjalo ngizabalinda ukwakha lokuhlanyela,” kutsho UTHIXO.

29 “Ngalezonsuku abantu kabasayikutsho ukuthi, ‘Abazali badle amavini amunyu,

ngakho amazinyo abantwana asetshela.’

30 Esikhundleni salokho, umuntu wonke uzafela izono zakhe; loba ngubani odla amavini amunyu amazinyo akhe azatshela.

31 Isikhathi siyeza,

lapho engizakwenza khona isivumelwano esitsha

lendlu ka-Israyeli kanye lekaJuda,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

32 “Kasiyikufana lesivumelwano engasenza labokhokho babo

lapho engababamba khona ngesandla ukuba ngibakhuphe eGibhithe,

ngoba bephula isivumelwano sami, lanxa ngangingumyeni wabo,”

kutsho UTHIXO.

33 “Lesi yiso isivumelwano engizasenza lendlu ka-Israyeli

ngemva kwalesosikhathi,” kutsho UTHIXO.

“Ngizafaka umthetho wami ezingqondweni zabo,

ngiwulobe lasezinhliziyweni zabo.

Ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo,

bona bazakuba ngabantu bami.

34 Umuntu kasayikufundisa umakhelwane
 wakhe,
 kumbe umfowabo esithi, 'Mazi UTHIXO,'
 ngoba bonke bazangazi,
 kusukela komncinyane wabo kusiya
 komkhulu,
 kutsho UTHIXO.

Ngoba ngizabathethelela ububi babo,
 njalo angiyikukhumbula izono zabo futhi."

35 Nanku akutshoyo UTHIXO,
 yena obeka ilanga ukuba likhanyise emini,
 omisa inyanga lezinkanyezi ukuba
 kukhanye ebusuku,

onyakazisa ulwandle
 ukuze amagagasi alo ahlokome,
 UTHIXO uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe, uthi:

36 "Nxaxizimiso lezi zinganyamalala ebusweni
 bami,"

kutsho UTHIXO,
 "kulapho lenzalo ka-Israyeli ezacina khona
 ukuba yisizwe phambi kwami."

37 UTHIXO uthi:
 "Nxamazulu phezulu engalinganiswa
 lezisekelo zomhlaba ngaphansi zihlolwe,
 kulapho engingayilahla khona yonke inzalo ka-
 Israyeli
 ngenxa yakho konke abakwenzileyo,"
 kutsho UTHIXO.

38 "Insuku ziyeza," kutsho UTHIXO, "lapho
 idolobho leli ngizalakhelwa kutsha kusukela
 eMphotshongweni waseHananeli kusiya
 eSangweni leNgosi. 39 Intambo yokulinganisa
 izasukela lapho iqonde eqaqeni lweGarebi

ibe isijikela eGowa. ⁴⁰ Isigodi sonke lapho okulahlelwa khona izidumbu zabafileyo lomlotha, lawo wonke amasimu kusiyafika esigodini seKhidironi ngasempumalanga kusiyafika ejikweni leSango leBhiza, kuzakuba ngcwele kuTHIXO. Idolobho kaliyikusitshunwa futhi loba lidilizwe.”

32

UJeremiya Uthenga Insimu

¹ Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO ngomnyaka wetshumi wokubusa kukaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, owawungumnyaka wetshumi lasificaminwembili wokubusa kukaNebhukhadineza. ² Ngalesosikhathi ibutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lalivimbezele iJerusalema, uJeremiya umphrofethi evalelwe egumeni labalindi phakathi kwesigodlo senkosi yakoJuda.

³ UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda wayemvalele lapho esithi, “Kungani uphrofetha njengalokhu okwenzayo? Uthi: ‘UTHIXO uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo izalithumba. ⁴ UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda akayikuphunyuka ezandleni zamaKhaladiya, kodwa uzanikelwa impela enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo uzakhuluma layo ubuso ngobuso ayibone ngamehlo akhe. ⁵ Izathatha uZedekhiya imuse eBhabhiloni, lapho azahlala khona ngize ngibone engingakwenza kuye, kutsho uTHIXO. Nxa usilwa lamaKhaladiya, kawuyikuphumelela.’”

⁶ UJeremiya wathi, “Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kimi lisithi: ⁷ UHanameli indodana kaShalumi umalumakho uzakuza kuwe athi, ‘Thenga insimu yami e-Anathothi, ngoba njengesinini sami kulilungelo lakho lomlandu wakho ukuba uyithenge.’

⁸ Ngakho, njengokutsho KUKATHIXO, umzawami uHanameli weza kimi egumeni labalindi wathi, ‘Thenga insimu yami e-Anathothi elizweni lakoBhenjamini. Njengoba kulilungelo lakho ukuba uyihlenge ibe ngeyakho, zithengele yona.’

Ngakwazi ukuthi leli laliyizwi LIKATHIXO; ⁹ ngakho ngayithenga insimu ye-Anathothi kumzawami uHanameli, ngamlinganisela amashekeli alitshumi lesikhombisa esiliva. ¹⁰ Ngasayina incwadi yesivumelwano sokuthenga ngayinamathisela, yafakazelwa, ngalinganisa isiliva esikalini. ¹¹ Ngathatha incwadi yokuthenga enanyekiweyo eyayilemithetho lezimiselo, kanye leyayingananyekwangwa, ¹² incwadi yokuthenga le ngayinika uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya, indodana kaMahaseyiya; umzawami uHanameli ekhona kanye labafakazi ababesayine incwadi yokuthenga lamaJuda wonke ehlezi egumeni labalindi.

¹³ Nganika uBharukhi imilayo le labo bekhona ngathi: ¹⁴ ‘UTHIXO uSomandla uNkulunkulu ka-Israeli uthi: Thatha izincwadi lezi zesivumelwano sokuthenga enanyekiweyo langananyekwanga uzifake embizeni yomdaka ukuze zihlale khona isikhathi eside. ¹⁵ UTHIXO uSomandla

uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Izindlu lamasimu lezivini kuzathengwa futhi kulelilizwe.’

¹⁶ Emva kokuba uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya sengimphile incwadi yokuthenga, ngakhuleka kuTHIXO ngathi:

¹⁷ THIXO Wobukhosi, wadala amazulu lomhlaba ngamandla akho amakhulu langengalo yakho eyeluliweyo. Akukho lutho olunzima kuwe. ¹⁸ Ubonakalisa uthando kuzinkulungwane kodwa ulethe isijeziso sezono zaboyise ebantwaneni babo ngemva kwabo. Wena Nkulunkulu omkhulu olamandla, obizo lakho nguTHIXO uSomandla, ¹⁹ zinkulu injongo zakho njalo zilamandla izenzo zakho. Amehlo akho ayazibona zonke izindlela zabantu; unika umuntu wonke umvuzo kusiya ngokuziphatha kwakhe langokufanele izenzo zakhe. ²⁰ Wenza izibonakaliso lezimangaliso eGibhithe, waqhubeka uzenza kwaze kwaba yilolusuku, khona ko-Israyeli laphakathi koluntu lonke, wathola udumo olukhulu lungolwakho lalamhlanje. ²¹ Wakhupha abantu bakho u-Israyeli eGibhithe ngezibonakaliso langezimangaliso; ngesandla esilamandla langengalo eyeluliweyo kanye lokwesaba okukhulu. ²² Wabanika ilizwe leli owawufunge ukulipha okhokho babo, ilizwe eligeleza uchago loluju. ²³ Beza bafika balithatha, kodwa kabakulalelanga kumbe balandele imithetho yakho; kabakwenzanga owawubalaye ukuthi bakwenze. Ngakho wabehlisela wonke umonakalo lo.

24 Khangela ukuthi akhiwe njani amadundulu okuvimbezela ukuba idolobho lihlaselwe. Ngenxa yenkemba, lendlala lesifo idolobho lizanikelwa kumaKhaladiya alihlaselayo. Owakutshoyo sekusenzakala njengoba ubona khatesi. 25 Kodwa lanxa idolobho lizanikelwa kumaKhaladiya, wena THIXO Wobukhosi uthe kimi, 'Thenga insimu ngesiliva kube labafakaza lokho.' "

26 Ilizwi LIKATHIXO laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi: 27 "Mina NGINGUTHIXO, uNkulunkulu woluntu lonke. Kambe kulento engehlulayo na? 28 Ngakho, nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO, uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele kumaKhaladiya lakuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, ozalithumba. 29 AmaKhaladiya ahlasele idolobho leli azangena alithungele ngomlilo; alitshise, kanye lezindlu lapho abantu abangithukuthelisela khona ngokutshisela uBhali impepha phezu kwezimpahla zezindlu langokuthululela abanye onkulunkulu iminikelo enathwayo.

30 Abantu bakoJuda labako-Israyeli benza ububi bodwa emehlweni ami kusukela ebutsheni babo; impela, abantu bako-Israyeli bangithukuthelisa ngalokhu abakwenza ngezandla zabo, kutsho UTHIXO. 31 Kusukela ngosuku elakhiwa ngalo kuze kube khatesi, idolobho leli livusa ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami okwenza kufanele ukuba ngilisuse ebusweni bami. 32 Abantu bako-Israyeli labakoJuda bangithukuthelisile ngobubi bonke ababenzileyo, bona, amakhosi abo

lezikhulu zabo, abaphristi labaphrofethi babo, abantu bakoJuda labantu baseJerusalema. ³³ Bangifulathela kabaze bangipha ubuso babo; lanxa ngabafundisa kanenginengi kabalalelanga njalo kabakunakanga ukukhuzwa. ³⁴ Bamisa izithombe zabo ezinengekayo endlini eleBizo lami bayingcolisa. ³⁵ Bakhela uBhali izindawo eziphakemeyo eSigodini saseBheni-Hinomu ukuba banikele amadodana lamadodakazi abo kuMoleki, lanxa ngingazange ngibalaye, kumbe kufike engqondweni yami, ukuthi babokwenza into eyenyanyeka kangaka ngalokho benze uJuda one.

³⁶ Liyatsho ngedolobho leli lithi, 'Ngenkemba, langendlala kanye langesifo lizanikelwa eNkosini yaseBhabhiloni'; kodwa UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ³⁷ Ngizababuyisa kule indawo ngibenze bahlale ngokuvikelwa. ³⁸ Bazakuba ngabantu bami, mina ngibe nguNkulunkulu wabo. ³⁹ Ngizabenza babemunye enhliziyweni lasezenzweni, ukuze bahlale bengesaba, ukuba kube kuhle kubo lasebantwaneni babo emva kwabo. ⁴⁰ Ngizakwenza labo isivumelwano esingapheliyo: Angiyikuyekela ukwenza okuhle kubo, ngizabafunzelela ukuba bangesabe, ukuze bangangideli. ⁴¹ Ngizathokoza ekubenzeleni okuhle njalo ngibagxumeke ngobuqotho kulelilizwe ngenhliziyo yami yonke langomoya wami wonke.

⁴² UTHIXO uthi: Njengoba ngehlisele inkemenkeme le enkulu kangaka phezu kwalababantu, ngokunjalo ngizabapha

konke ukuphumelela engabathembisa khona. ⁴³ Amasimu azathengwa futhi kulelilizwe lina elithi ngalo, 'Lilugwadule oluphundlekileyo, olungelabantu lezinyamazana, ngoba lanikelwa kumaKhaladiya.' ⁴⁴ Amasimu azathengwa ngesiliva, lezincwadi zokuthenga zisayinwe, zinanyekwe njalo zifakazelwe elizweni likaBhenjamini, lemizini eseduze leJerusalema, lasemadolobheni akoJuda kanye lasemadolobheni elizwe lamaqaqa, asemawatheni asentshonalanga kanye lawaseNegebi, ngoba ngizabuyisela inotho yabo, kutsho UTHIXO."

33

Isithembiso Sokubuyiswa

¹ UJeremiya elokhu esavalelwe egumeni labalindi, ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuye ngokwesibili lisithi: ² "UTHIXO, yena owadala umhlaba, UTHIXO owawenzayo wawumisa, UTHIXO yilo ibizo lakhe, uthi, ³ 'Ngibiza ngizakusabela, ngikutshele izinto ezinkulu ezifihlakeleyo ongazaziyo.' ⁴ Ngoba lokhu yikho okutshiwo NGUTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli mayelana lezindlu ezikulelidolobho langezindlu zobukhosi koJuda ezadilizwayo ukuba zisetshenziswe ekumelaneni lamadundulu okuvimbezela kanye lenkemba ⁵ ekulweni lamaKhaladiya: 'Zizagcwala izidumbu zabantu abafileyo engizababulala ekuthukutheleni kwami langolaka lwami. Idolobho leli ngizalifihlela ubuso bami ngenxa yobubi balo bonke.

⁶ Kodwa, ngizaletha ukuphila lokusiliswa kulo. Abantu bami ngizabasilisa ngibenze bajabulele ukuthula okukhulu kanye lokuvikeleka. ⁷ Ngizabuyisa uJuda lo-Israyeli besuka ekuthunjweni njalo ngizabakha futhi njengalokhu ababeyikho kuqala. ⁸ Ngizabahlambulula kuzozonke izono abazenza kimi njalo ngizabathethelela zonke izono zabo zokungihlamukela. ⁹ Ngakho idolobho leli lizangilethela indumela, ukuthokoza, lokubongwa kanye lodumo phambi kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni ezizwa ngezinto zonke ezinhle engizenzela lona; njalo zizakwesaba ziqhaqhazele ngenxa yokuphumelela okukhulu lokuthula engizakuletha kulo.’

¹⁰ UTHIXO uthi: ‘Liyatsho ngendawo le lithi, “Ilugwadule oluphundlekileyo, olungelabantu kumbe izinyamazana.” Kodwa emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema okwatshiywayo, okungekho muntu kumbe inyamazana ehlala khona, kuzazwakala khona futhi ¹¹ imisindo yokuthokoza lokuthaba, amazwi omlobokazi lomyeni, lamazwi alabo abaletha iminikelo yokubonga endlini KATHIXO besithi, “Bongani UTHIXO uSomandla, ngoba UTHIXO ulungile; uthando lwakhe lumi kuze kube nini lanini.” Ngoba inotho yelizwe ngizayibuyisela njengoba yayinjalo kuqala,’ kutsho UTHIXO.

¹² UTHIXO uSomandla uthi, ‘Kuyo yonale indawo ephundlekileyo, engelabantu kumbe izinyamazana, kuwo wonke amadolobho ayo kuzakuba lamadlelo futhi ukuba abelusi baphumuze imihlambi yabo. ¹³ Emadolobheni elizwe

lamaqaqa, lawemawatheni entshonalanga kanye lawaseNegebi, elizweni lakoBhenjamini, emizini eseduze leJerusalema lasemadolobheni akoJuda, imihlambi izadlula ngaphansi kwesandla salowo oyibalayo,' kutsho UTHIXO.

¹⁴ 'Insuku ziyeza,' kutsho UTHIXO, 'lapho engizagcwalisa isithembiso somusa engasenza endlini ka-Israyeli lasendlini kaJuda.

¹⁵ Ngalezonsuku langalesosikhathi ngizahlumisa uGatsha olulungileyo osendweni lukaDavida; uzakwenza okulungileyo lokufaneleyo elizweni.

¹⁶ Ngalezonsuku uJuda uzasindiswa leJerusalema ihlale ngokuvikeleka.

Ibizo ezabizwa ngalo yileli elithi; UTHIXO oyikuLunga Kwethu.'

¹⁷ Ngoba UTHIXO uthi, 'UDavida kayikuswela umuntu ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi bendlu ka-Israyeli, ¹⁸ labaphristi, abangabaLevi, kabayikuswela umuntu oma phambi kwami kokuphela ukuba anikele iminikelo yokutshiswa, atshise iminikelo yamabele lokwethula imihlatshelo.' "

¹⁹ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuJeremiya lisithi:

²⁰ "Nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO, 'Nxa lingephula isivumelwano sami lemini lesivumelwano sami lobusuku, ukuze imini lobusuku kungabe kusaqalisa ngezikhathi zakho ezamiswayo, ²¹ lapho-ke isivumelwano sami loDavida inceku yami lesivumelwano sami labaLevi abangabaphristi abakhonzayo phambi kwami singephulwa njalo uDavida angeke abe

lenzalo ezabusa esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi.
²² Ngizakwenza inzalo kaDavida incek uYami labalevi abakhonzayo phambi kwami ingabi lakubalwa njengezinkanyezi zasemazulwini njalo ingalinganiseki njengetshebetshebe lasekhunjini lolwandle.’”

²³ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuJeremiya lisithi:
²⁴ “Kawukananzeleli na ukuthi abantu laba bathi, ‘UTHIXO useyilahlele imibuso emibili ayeyikhethile’? Ngakho bayabeyisa abantu bami njalo kabasabanaki njengesizwe. ²⁵ UTHIXO uthi, ‘Nxa ngingamisanga isivumelwano sami lelanga lobusuku kanye lemithetho eqinileyo yasezulwini lasemhlabeni, ²⁶ lapho-ke ngizayilahla inzalo kaJakhobe lekaDavida incek uYami njalo ngingakhethi enye yamadodana akhe ukuba ibuse inzalo ka-Abhrahama, leka-Isaka leka-Jakhobe. Ngoba ngizabuyisela inhlanhla yabo ngibe lesihawu kubo.’”

34

Isixwayiso KuZedekhiya

¹ Kwathi uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lebuthe lakhe lonke kanye lemibuso yonke, labantu basemazweni ayewabusa besilwa leJerusalema lawo wonke amadolobho alo ayeseduzane, ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela kuUTHIXO lisithi; ² “UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Yana kuZedekhiya inkosi yakuJuda uthi kuye, ‘UTHIXO uthi: Sekuseduze ukuthi idolobho leli ngilnikele enkosini yaseBhabhiloni, njalo izalitshisa ngomlilo. ³ Kawuyikuphunyuka esandleni

sayo kodwa uzathunjwa impela unikelwe kuyo. Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni uzayibona ngamehlo akho, njalo izakhuluma lawe ubuso ngobuso. Njalo uzahamba eBhabhiloni.

⁴ Kodwa-ke zwana isithembiso SIKATHIXO, wena Zedekhiya nkosi yakoJuda. Ngawe UTHIXO uthi: Awuyikufa ngenkemba; ⁵ uzakufa ngokuthula. Njengoba abantu babasa umlilo wesililo bekhumbula oyihlo, amakhosi akuqala akwandulelayo, ngokunjalo bazabasa umlilo wokukukhumbula, balile bathi, Maye, Oh Nkosi! Mina ngokwami ngenza isithembiso lesi, kutsho UTHIXO.' ”

⁶ Ngakho uJeremiya umphrofethi wantshela konke lokhu uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, eJerusalema, ⁷ lapho ibutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni lalisilwa leJerusalema lamanye amadolobho akoJuda ayelokhu esaqinisele, iLakhishi le-Azekha. La yiwo kuphela amadolobho ayevikelwe ngezingqaba ayesasele koJuda.

Ukukhululwa Kwezigqili

⁸ Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO emva kokuba inkosi uZedekhiya esenze isivumelwano labantu bonke baseJerusalema sokumemezela ukukhululwa kwezigqili.

⁹ Wonke umuntu kwakumele akhulule izigqili zakhe ezingamaHebheru, ezesilisa lezesifazane; kakho owayezagcina umJuda wakibo ebugqilini.

¹⁰ Ngakho zonke izikhulu labantu bonke abenza isivumelwano lesi bavuma ukuthi babezakhulula izigqili zabo zesilisa lezesifazane bangazigcini ebugqilini futhi. Bavuma,

bazikhulula. ¹¹ Kodwa muva bantshintsha ingqondo zabo bazithumba njalo izigqili zabo ababezikhulule bazenza izigqili futhi.

¹² Ilizwi LIKATHIXO laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi, ¹³ “UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngenza isivumelwano labokhokho benu ekubakhupheni kwami eGibhithe, elizweni lobugqili. Ngathi, ¹⁴ *‘Ngeminyaka yonke yesikhombisa omunye lomunye wenu kumele akhulule umHebheru wakibo ozithengise kuwe. Emva kokuba esekusebenzele iminyaka eyisithupha, kumele umkhulule ahambe.’ Kodwa okhokho benu, kabangilalelanga njalo kabanginakanga. ¹⁵ Ngesikhathi esisanda kudlula laphenduka lenza okulungileyo emehlweni ami: Omunye lomunye wenu wamemezela ukukhululwa kwabantu belizwe lakibo. Laze lenza lesivumelwano phambi kwami endlini eleBizo lami. ¹⁶ Kodwa khathesi seliguquke langcolisa ibizo lami; omunye lomunye wenu usezithumbile futhi izigqili zesilisa lezesifazane elalizikhulule ukuba zizihambele lapho ezifuna khona. Selizibambe ngamandla ukuba zibe yizigqili zenu futhi.

¹⁷ Ngakho, lokhu yikho UTHIXO akutshoyo: Kalingilalelanga; kalimemezela ukukhululwa kwabantu belizwe lakini. Ngakho khathesi ngimemezela ‘inkululeko’ yenu, kutsho UTHIXO, ‘inkululeko’ yokubulawa ngenkemba, yisifo lendlala. Ngizalenza linengeke kuyo yonke imibuso yomhlaba. ¹⁸ Abantu abephula isivumelwano sami kabaze

* **34:14** 34.14 UDutheronomi 15.12

bagcwalisa izimiso zesivumelwano abasenza phambi kwami, ngizabaphatha njengethole abalidabula phakathi basebehamba phakathi kweziqa zalo. ¹⁹ Abakhokheli bakoJuda labeJerusalema, izikhulu zasemthethwandaba, abaphristi labantu bonke abahamba phakathi kweziqa zethole, ²⁰ ngizabanikela ezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala. Izidumbu zabo zizakuba yikudla kwezinyoni zasemoyeni lezinyamazana zeganga.

²¹ UZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kanye lezikhulu zakhe ngizabanikela ezitheni zabo ezifuna ukubabulala, lakubutho lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni eselisukile kini. ²² Ngizakhupha ilizwi, kutsho UTHIXO njalo ngizababuyisa futhi kulelidolobho. Bazakulwa lalo, balithumbe, balitshise ngomlilo. Amadolobho akoJuda ngizawabhidliza ukuze kungabi lamuntu ohlala kuwo.”

35

AmaRekhabi

¹ Leli yilizwi elafika kuJeremiya livela kuTHIXO ekubuseni kukaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, elathi, ² “Yana endlini yamaRekhabi uwabize ukuba eze kwelinye lamakamelo endlu kaTHIXO uwanike iwayini anathe.”

³ Ngakho ngayathatha uJazaniya indodana kaJeremiya, indodana kaHabhaziniya, labafowabo kanye lamadodana akhe wonke lomuzi wonke wamaRekhabi. ⁴ Ngabasa endlini kaTHIXO, ekamelweni lamadodana kaHanani indoda ka-Igidaliya umuntu kaNkulunkulu.

Laliseduze lekamelo lezikhulu elalingaphezu kwelikaMaseya indodana kaShalumi umlindi wesango. ⁵ Emva kwalokho ngabeka imiganu eyayigcwele iwayini lezinkezo phambi kwabantu bomndeneni wamaRekhabi, ngathi kubo, “Nathani iwayini.”

⁶ Kodwa bona baphendula bathi, “Iwayini kasilinathi ngoba ukhokho wethu uJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi wasinika umlayo lo othi: ‘Lina loba inzalo yenu akumelanga linathe iwayini. ⁷ Njalo lingakhi zindlu, lingahlanyeli kumbe lilime izivini; lingabi lokunye kwalezizinto, kodwa kumele lihlale emathenteni kokuphela. Ngalokho lizaphila isikhathi eside elizweni elizinzulane kulo.’ ⁸ Sakulalela konke ukhokho wethu uJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi asilaya khona. Thina labomkethu lamadodana ethu kanye lamadodakazi ethu asikaze silinathe iwayini, ⁹ kumbe sakhe izindlu zokuhlala kuzo loba sibe lezivini, amasimu kumbe amabele. ¹⁰ Sihlala emathenteni njalo siyakulalela konke ukhokho wethu uJehonadabi asilaya khona. ¹¹ Kodwa ekuhlaseleni kukaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ilizwe leli, sathi, ‘Wozani siye eJerusalema sibalekele amabutho amaKhaladiya kanye lawama-Aramu.’ Sahlala kanjalo eJerusalema.”

¹² Ilizwi LIKATHIXO laselifika kuJeremiya lisithi: ¹³ “UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Hamba uyetshela abantu bakoJuda labahlala eJerusalema ukuthi, ‘Kalifundi sifundo lilalele amazwi ami na?’ kutsho UTHIXO. ¹⁴ ‘UJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi walaya

amadodana akhe ukuba anganathi iwayini, njalo umlayo lo wagcinwa. Kuze kube lamhla iwayini kabalinathi ngoba balalela umlayo kakhokho wabo. Kodwa mina sengakhuluma lani njalonjalo, kodwa kalingilalelanga. ¹⁵ Ngathuma izinceku zami abaphrofethi kini kanenginengi. Bathi, “Ngamunye wenu kumele liphenduke ezindleleni zenu ezimbi lilungise lezenzo zenu; lingalandeli abanye onkulunkulu ukuba libakhonze. Ngalokho lizahlala elizweni engalipha lona lina labokhokho benu.” Kodwa kalinakanga, njalo kalingilalelanga. ¹⁶ Inzalo kaJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi iwulandele umlayo eyawuphiwa ngukhokho wayo, kodwa abantu laba mina kabangilalelanga.’

¹⁷ Ngakho uTHIXO, uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi; ‘Lalelani, ngizakwehlisela phezu kukaJuda laphezu komuntu wonke ohlala eJerusalema wonke umonakalo engabathembisa wona. Ngabatshela, kodwa kabalalelanga; ngababiza, kodwa kabasabelanga.’”

¹⁸ UJeremiya wasesithi kwabomdeni wamaRekhabi, “UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, ‘Liwulalele umlayo kakhokho wenu uJehonadabi layilandela yonke imfundiso yakhe njalo lenza konke alilaya khona.’ ¹⁹ Ngakho uTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘UJehonadabi indodana kaRekhabi kayikuswela umuntu wokungikhonza.’”

UJehoyakhimi Utshisa Umqulu KaJeremiya

¹ Ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya livela KUTHIXO, lisithi: ² “Thatha umqulu ulobe kuwo wonke amazwi engawatsho kuwe ngo-Israyeli, uJuda lezinye zonke izizwe kusukela ngiqalisa ukukhuluma kuwe ekubuseni kukaJosiya kuze kube khathesi. ³ Mhlawumbe lapho abantu bakoJuda besizwa ngawo wonke umonakalo engiceba ukuwehlisela phezu kwabo, omunye lomunye wabo uzaphenduka ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi; kulapho-ke ngizabathethelela ububi babo lezono zabo.”

⁴ Ngakho uJeremiya wabiza uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya. Kwathi uJeremiya ewatsho wonke amazwi ayekhulunywe NGUTHIXO, uBharukhi ewaloba emqulwini. ⁵ UJeremiya wasesithi kuBharukhi, “Mina ngivalelwe; ngingeke ngiye ethempelini LIKATHIXO. ⁶ Ngakho yana endlini KATHIXO ngosuku lokuzila ukudla ubalele abantu amazwi KATHIXO asemqulwini owawaloba ngikutshela. Abalele bonke abantu bakoJuda abangena bevela emadolobheni akibo. ⁷ Engxenye bazaletsa isicelo sabo phambi KUKATHIXO, omunye lomunye aphenduke ezindleleni zakhe ezimbi, ngoba intukuthelo lolaka okumenyezalwe kulababantu NGUTHIXO kukhulu.”

⁸ UBharukhi indodana kaNeriya wenza konke ayekutshelwe nguJeremiya umphrofethi ukuba akwenze; ethempelini LIKATHIXO wabala amazwi KATHIXO emqulwini. ⁹ Ngenyanga

yesificamunwemunye yomnyaka wesihlanu kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, kwamenyezelwa isikhathi sokuzila ukudla phambi KUKATHIXO ebantwini bonke baseJerusalema lakulaba ababeze bevela emadolobheni akoJuda. ¹⁰ Esendlini kaGemariya indodana kaShafani umabhalani, eyayisegumeni langaphezulu ekungeneni kweSango eLitsha lethempeli, uBharukhi wawabalela abantu bonke ethempelini LIKATHIXO amazwi kaJeremiya asemqulwini.

¹¹ Kwathi uMikhaya indodana kaGemariya, indodana kaShafani, esezwe wonke amazwi KATHIXO ayesemqulwini, ¹² waya phansi endlini kamabhalani esigodlweni, lapho izikhulu zonke ezazihlezi khona: u-Elishama umabhalani, uDelaya indodana kaShemaya, u-Elinathani indodana ka-Akhibhori, uGemariya indodana kaShafani, uZedekhiya indodana kaHananiya kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu. ¹³ Emva kokuba uMikhaya esebatshele konke ayezwe uBharukhi ekubalela abantu emqulwini, ¹⁴ izikhulu zonke zathuma uJehudi indodana kaNethaniya, indodana kaShelemiya, indodana kaKhushi, ukuba ayekuthi kuBharukhi, “Woza lomqulu owubalele abantu.” Ngakho uBharukhi indodana kaNeriyaya waya kubo lomqulu ewuphethe ngesandla. ¹⁵ Bathi kuye, “Ake uhlale phansi usibalele wona.”

Ngakho uBharukhi wababalela. ¹⁶ Sebezwe wonke amazwi la bakhangelana ngokwesaba, basebesithi kuBharukhi, “Amazwi la kumele siwabike wonke enkosini.” ¹⁷ Babuya bambuza

uBharukhi bathi, “Sitshele, kwenzakale njani ukuthi ubhale konke lokhu? Kukhulunywe nguJeremiya na?”

¹⁸ UBharukhi waphendula wathi, “Ye, amazwi wonke la uwakhulume kimi, mina ngawaloba nge-inki emqulwini.”

¹⁹ Izikhulu zasezisithi kuBharukhi, “Wena loJeremiya hambani liyecatsha. Lingatsheli muntu ukuthi lingaphi.”

²⁰ Sebefake umqulu endlini ka-Elishama umabhalani, baya enkosini egumeni bayibikela konke, ²¹ inkosi yathuma uJehudi ukuba ayethatha umqulu lowo, uJehudi weza lawo ewuthethe endlini ka-Elishama umabhalani wawubalela inkosi lezikhulu zonke ezazimi phansi kwayo. ²² Kwakuyinyanga yesificamunwemunye, njalo inkosi yayihlezi ekamelweni lebusika, kulomlilo ovuthayo eziko phambi kwayo. ²³ Kwakusithi uJehudi angabala izigaba ezintathu loba ezine zomqulu, inkosi iziqume ngengqamu iziphosele eziko umqulu waze watsha wonke emlilweni. ²⁴ Inkosi lezinceku zayo zonke ezawezwayo amazwi la kabesabanga loba badabule izigqoko zabo. ²⁵ Lanxa u-Elinathani loDelaya kanye loGemariya bayincenga inkosi ukuba ingatshisi umqulu, kayibalalelanga. ²⁶ Esikhundleni salokho inkosi yalaya uJerameli, indodana yenkosi, loSeraya indodana ka-Aziriyeli kanye loShelemiya indodana ka-Abhideli ukuba babophe uBharukhi umbhali kanye loJeremiya umphrofethi. Kodwa uTHIXO wayesebafihlile.

27 Inkosi isitshise umqulu owawulamazwi ayebhalwe nguBharukhi ewatshelwa nguJeremiya, ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuJeremiya lisithi, 28 “Thatha omunye umqulu ulobe kuwo wonke amazwi abesemqulwini wakuqala, otshiswe nguJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda. 29 Umtshele uJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda uthi, ‘UTHIXO uthi: Utshise umqulu lowana wathi, “Kungani ulobe kuwo ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni izakuza ngempela ichithe ilizwe leli, iqothule abantu lezinyamazana kulo na?” 30 Ngakho mayelana loJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda, UTHIXO uthi: Akayikuba lomuntu ozahlala esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaDavida; isidumbu sakhe sizaphoselwa phandle sichayeke ekutshiseni kwelanga lakungqwaqwane webusuku. 31 Ngizamjezisa labantwana bakhe kanye lezincku zakhe ngenxa yobubi babo. Ngizakwehlisela phezu kwabo laphezu kwalabo abahlala eJerusalema kanye labantu bakoJuda, wonke umonakalo engawumemezela kubo, ngoba kabalalelanga.’ ”

32 Ngakho uJeremiya wathatha omunye umqulu wawunika umbhali uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya, njalo kwathi uJeremiya emtshela uBharukhi waloba kuwo wonke amazwi omqulu owawutshiswe emlilweni nguJehoyakhimi inkosi yakoJuda. Kwengezelelwa ngamanye amazwi amanengi ayefana lalawo.

37

UJeremiya Esentolongweni

¹ UZedekhiya indodana kaJosiya wabekwa nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abe yinkosi yakoJuda; wabusa esikhundleni sikaJehoyakhini indodana kaJehoyakhimi. ² Yena lezinceku zakhe kanye labantu baselizweni kabawanakanga amazwi KATHIXO ayewakhulume ngoJeremiya umphrofethi.

³ Kodwa uZedekhiya inkosi, wathuma uJehukhali indodana kaShelemiya lomphristi uZefaniya indodana kaMaseya kuJeremiya umphrofethi belaleli ilizwi, elithi, “Ake usikhulekele kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu.”

⁴ Ngalesisikhathi uJeremiya wayesekhululekile ukuza lokuhamba phakathi kwabantu, ngoba wayengakafakwa entolongweni. ⁵ Ibutho likaFaro laseliphumile eGibhithe, kwasekusithi amaKhaladiya ayevimbezele iJerusalema esezwe umbiko ngalo, asuka eJerusalema.

⁶ Kwasekufika ilizwi LIKATHIXO kuJeremiya umphrofethi lisithi: ⁷ “UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi, tshelani inkosi yakoJuda elithume ukuba lizengibuza lithi, ‘Ibutho likaFaro eseliphume ukuba lizelisekela, lizabuyela elizweni lalo eGibhithe. ⁸ Emva kwalokho amaKhaladiya azaphenduka ahlasele idolobho leli; azalithumba alitshise ngomlilo.’

⁹ UTHIXO uthi: Lingazikhohlisi licabange lithi, ‘AmaKhaladiya azasuka kithi impela.’ Kawayikusuka! ¹⁰ Lanxa linganqoba lonke ibutho lamaKhaladiya alihlaselayo, kusale abantu abalimeleyo kuphela emathenteni abo, bazaphuma balitshise idolobho leli ngomlilo.”

11 Kwathi ibutho lamaKhaladiya selisukile eJerusalema ngenxa yebutho likaFaro, 12 uJeremiya wasuka edolobheni ukuba aye elizweni lakoBhenjamini ukuba ayethatha isabelo sakhe selifa phakathi kwabantu khonale. 13 Kodwa kwathi esefikile eSangweni lakoBhenjamini, induna yabalindi ebizo layo lalingu-Irija indodana kaShelemiya, indodana kaHananiya, wambopha wasesithi kuye, “Ubalekela kumaKhaladiya wena!”

14 UJeremiya wathi, “Akusiqiniso lokho! Kangibalekeli kumaKhaladiya.” Kodwa u-Irija kamlalelanga; esikhundleni salokho, wabopha uJeremiya wamusa ezikhulwini. 15 Izikhulu zamthukuthelela uJeremiya zalaya ukuba atshaywe aphinde avalelwe endlini kaJonathani umabhalani, ezaseziyenze yaba yintolongo.

16 UJeremiya wafakwa esitokisini esiyingubhe emgodini oyintolongo lapho ahlala khona okwesikhathi eside. 17 Inkosi uZedekhiya wathi kayethathwa alethwe esigodlweni lapho ambuzela khona ensitha esithi, “Kulelizwi elivela kuTHIXO na?”

UJeremiya waphendula wathi, “Yebo, wena uzanikelwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni.”

18 UJeremiya wabuye wathi kuZedekhiya inkosi, “Ngoneni kuwe loba ezikhulwini zakho kumbe kulababantu, uze ungifake entolongweni nje? 19 Bangaphi abaphrofethi bakho abaphrofetha kuwe besithi, ‘Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni kayiyikukuhlasela wena kanye lelizwe leli’? 20 Kodwa khathesi, nkosi yami, ake ulalele.

Ngivumela ngethule isicelo sami kuwe: Ungangibuyiseli endlini kaJonathani umabhalani, hlezi ngifele khona.”

²¹ UZedekhiya inkosi waselaya ukuba uJeremiya afakwe egumeni labalindi aphiwe isinkwa esivela emgwaqweni wabapheki bezinkwa usuku ngalunye izinkwa zonke zize ziphele edolobheni. Ngakho uJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi.

38

UJeremiya Uphoselwa Emgodini

¹ UShefathiya indodana kaMathani, loGedaliya indodana kaPhashuri, uJewukhali indodana kaShelemiya, loPhashuri indodana kaMalikhija bakuzwa uJeremiya ayekutshela abantu bonke esithi, ² “UTHIXO uthi: ‘Lowo ozasala kulelidolobho uzabulawa yinkemba, yindlala kumbe yisifo; kodwa lowo ozakuya kumaKhaladiya uzasila. Uzaphunyuka lokuphila kwakhe; uzaphila.’

³ Njalo uTHIXO uthi: ‘Idolobho leli lizanikelwa impela ebuthweni lenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ezalithumba.’”

⁴ Izikhulu zasezisithi enkosini, “Umuntu lo kumele abulawe. Wenza amabutho asala kulelidolobho aphelelwe lithemba, kanye labantu bonke, ngenxa yezinto azitshoyo kubo. Umuntu lo kadingi okuhle kwabantu laba, kodwa ukubhujiswa kwabo.”

⁵ UZedekhiya inkosi waphendula wathi, “Usezandleni zenu. Inkosi ingeke yenze lutho ukuba iliphikise.”

⁶ Ngakho bamthatha uJeremiya bamfaka emgodini kaMalikhija, indodana yenkosi, owawusegumeni labalindi. UJeremiya bamehlisela phansi phakathi komgodi ngemichilo; wawungelamanzi, kuludaka kuphela, ngakho uJeremiya watshona edakeni.

⁷ Kodwa u-Ebhedi-Meleki, umKhushi, isikhulu endlini yobukhosi, wezwa ukuthi basebefake uJeremiya emgodini. Kwathi-ke inkosi ihlezi eSangweni lakoBhenjamini, ⁸ u-Ebhedi-Meleki waphuma esigodlweni wathi kuyo, ⁹ “Nkosi yami lombusi wami, abantu laba benze ububi kukho konke abakwenze kuJeremiya umphrofethi. Sebemphosele emgodini lapho azalamba khona aze afe kungaselakudla edolobheni.”

¹⁰ Ngakho inkosi yalaya u-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi yathi, “Thatha amadoda angamatshumi amathathu lapha likhuphe uJeremiya umphrofethi emgodini engakafi.”

¹¹ Ngakho u-Ebhedi-Meleki wathatha amadoda lawo waya lawo endlini engaphansi kwendlu yengcebo esigodlweni. Wathatha amanikiniki amadala lezigqoko ezigugileyo khonapho wakwehlisela phansi kuJeremiya emgodini ngemichilo. ¹² U-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi wathi kuJeremiya, “Faka amanikiniki la amadala lezigqoko lezi ezigugileyo emakhwapheni akho ukuze imichilo ingakulimazi.” UJeremiya wenza njalo, ¹³ basebemdonsele phezulu ngemichilo, bamkhupha emgodini. UJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi.

UZedekhiya Ubuza UJeremiya Futhi

14 Inkosi uZedekhiya wabiza uJeremiya umphrofethi wasiwa entubeni yesithathu yethempeli LIKATHIXO. Inkosi yasisithi kuJeremiya, “Ngizakubuza okuthize. Ungangifihleli lutho.”

15 UJeremiya wathi kuZedekhiya, “Ngingakuphendula kawuyikungibulala na? Loba ngingakweluleka, kawuyikungilalela.”

16 Kodwa inkosi uZedekhiya wafunga isifungo lesi ngasese kuJeremiya, wathi, “Ngeqiniso elinjengoba UTHIXO ekhona, yena owasinika ukuphefumula, angiyikukubulala loba ngikunikele kulabo abafuna ukukubulala.”

17 Lapho-ke uJeremiya wathi kuZedekhiya, “UTHIXO uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: ‘Ungazinikela ezikhulwini zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, impilo yakho izaphepha njalo ledolobho leli kaliyikutshiswa ngomlilo; wena labendlu yakho lizasila. 18 Kodwa nxa ungazinikeli ezikhulwini zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni, idolobho leli lizanelwa kumaKhaladiya azalitshisa ngomlilo; njalo wena uqobo kawuyikuphunyuka ezandleni zawo.’ ”

19 Inkosi uZedekhiya wasesithi kuJeremiya, “Ngiyabesaba abakoJuda asebe kumaKhaladiya, ngoba amaKhaladiya anganginikela kubo bangiphathe kubi.”

20 UJeremiya wathi, “Kabayikunikela. Lalela UTHIXO ngokwenza lokhu engikutshela khona. Lapho-ke kuzakulungela, njalo lempilo yakho izaphepha. 21 Kodwa ungala ukuzinikela, nanku okuvezwe nguUTHIXO kimi: 22 Bonke abesifazane abasele endlini yobukhosi yenkosi yakoJuda

bazakhutshelwa phandle ezikhulwini zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni bathi kuwe:

‘Bakukhohlisile bakwehlula abangane bakho abathenjiweyo.

Inyawo zakho zitshonile edakeni; abangane bakho bakudelile.’

²³ Abafazi bakho kanye labantwana bazakhutshelwa phandle kumaKhaladiya. Lawe uqobo kawuyikuphunyuka ezandleni zawo, kodwa uzathunjwa yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni; njalo idolobho leli lizatshiswa ngomlilo.”

²⁴ UZedekhiya wasesithi kuJeremiya, “Akungabi lomuntu omazisa inkulumo le, hlezi ufe. ²⁵ Izikhulu zingezwa ukuthi ngike ngakhuluma lawe, besezisiza kuwe zithi, ‘Sitshela lokho okutshiloyo enkosini kanye lokutshiwo yinkosi kuwe; ungasifihleli funa sikubulale,’ ²⁶ wena zitshela uthi, ‘Kade ngincenga inkosi ukuthi ingangibuyiseli endlini kaJonathani ukuyafela khona.’”

²⁷ Lakanye izikhulu zonke zaya kuJeremiya zambuza, yena wazitshela konke inkosi eyayimlaye ukuthi akutsho. Ngakho kazisatshongo lutho kuye futhi, ngoba kakho owayeyizwile inkulumo yakhe lenkosi.

²⁸ UJeremiya wahlala egumeni labalindi kwaze kwaba lusuku lokuthunjwa kweJerusalem.

Ukuwa KweJerusalem

IJerusalem lathunjwa kanje:

39

¹ Ngomnyaka wesificamunwemunye kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, ngenyanga yetshumi, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni waya eJerusalema lebuthe lakhe lonke wayivimbezela. ² Ngosuku lwesificamunwemunye lwenyanga yesine, yomnyaka wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya umduli wedolobho wadilizwa. ³ Emva kwalokho zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni zafika zahlala eSangweni laPhakathi: kwakunguNerigali-Shareza oweSamugari, loNebho-Sarisekhimi induna yezikhulu, loNerigali-Shareza, indunankulu kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni. ⁴ Kwathi lapho uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda lamabutho wonke bebabona babaleka. Basuka edolobheni ebusuku ngendlela yasesivandeni senkosi, baphuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli, baqonda e-Arabha.

⁵ Kodwa ibutho lamaKhaladiya laxotshana labo, lafica uZedekhiya emagcekeni aseJerikho. Lamthumba, laselimusa kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, lapho amgweba khona. ⁶ Inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yawabulalela khona eRibhila amadodana kaZedekhiya emehlweni akhe, yabulala lezikhulu zasesikhosini zonke zakoJuda. ⁷ Emva kwalokho uZedekhiya yamkhupha amehlo yasimbopha ngamaketane ethusi ukuba imuse eBhabhiloni.

⁸ AmaKhaladiya atshisa isigodlo ngomlilo lezindlu zabantu, badiliza lemiduli

yeJerusalema. ⁹ UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, wathatha abantu ababesele edolobheni ndawonye lalabo ababebalekele kuye kanye labanye abantu wabasa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. ¹⁰ Kodwa uNebhuzaradani watshiya elizweni lakoJuda abanye babantu abangabayanga ababenge-lalutho olungolwabo; njalo ngalesosikhathi wabapha izivini lamasimu.

¹¹ UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni wayelaye uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini ngoJeremiya wathi, ¹² “Umthathe, umgcine kuhle; ungamlimazi kodwa umenzele konke akucelayo.” ¹³ Ngakho uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi, loNebhushazibhani induna yezikhulu, loNerigali-Shareza indunankulu kanye lezinye zonke izikhulu zenkosi yaseBhabhiloni ¹⁴ bathumela ukuba uJeremiya asuswe egumeni labalindi. Bamnikela kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, ukuba ambuyisele kibo. Ngakho wahlala labantu bak-ibo.

¹⁵ UJeremiya esavalelwe egumeni labalindi, ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuye lathi, ¹⁶ “Hamba ku-Ebhedi-Meleki umKhushi uthi kuye, ‘UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Sekuseduze ukuba ngigcwalise amazwi ami ngedolobho leli ngokulehlisela umonakalo, hatshi ukuphumelela. Ngalesosikhathi azagcwaliseka phambi kwamehlo enu. ¹⁷ Kodwa ngizakuhlenga ngalolosuku, kutsho UTHIXO; kawuyikunikelwa kulabo obesabayo. ¹⁸ Ngizakusindisa, kawuyikubulawa ngenkemba

kodwa uzaphunyuka lokuphila kwakho, ngoba ungithembile, kutsho UTHIXO.’ ”

40

Ukukhululwa KukaJeremiya

¹ Ilizwi lafika kuJeremiya livela kuUTHIXO emva kokuba uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, esemkhulule eRama. Wayefice uJeremiya ebotshwe ngamaketane phakathi kwabo bonke ababethunjwe eJerusalema lakoJuda ababesiwa ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni. ² Umlawuli wabalindi esethole uJeremiya wathi kuye, “UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho wamisela indawo le umonakalo lo. ³ Khathesi uThixo usewulethile; usenze ayethe uzakwenza. Konke lokhu kwenzakala ngoba lina bantu lona kuUTHIXO njalo kalimlalelanga. ⁴ Kodwa lamhla ngiyakukhulula amaketane ezihlakaleni zakho. Hamba lami eBhabhiloni, nxa uthanda, ngizakugcina; kodwa nxa ungafuni, unгахambi. Khangela, ilizwe lonke liphambi kwakho; yana loba kungaphi lapho ofuna khona.” ⁵ Kodwa-ke kwathi uJeremiya engakasuki ukuba ahambe, uNebhuzaradani wengeza wathi, “Buyela kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, osebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abuse amadolobho akoJuda, uhlale laye phakathi kwabantu, kumbe uye loba kungaphi lapho ofuna khona.”

Emva kwalokho umlawuli wamnika umphako lesipho wasesithi kahambe. ⁶ Ngakho uJeremiya

waya kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami eMizipha wahlala phakathi kwabantu ababetshiywe elizweni.

Ukubulawa KukaGedaliya

⁷ Kwathi zonke izikhulu zabalawuli bamabutho lamabutho azo ayesegangeni sebezwe ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayisibeke uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami ukuba abe ngumbusi welizwe njalo imenze waba ngumphathi wamadoda labesifazane kanye labantwana ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni njalo ababengasiwanga ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni, ⁸ baya kuGedaliya eMizipha kungu-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, uJohanani loJonathani amadodana kaKhareya, loSeraya indodana kaThanihumethi, lamadodana ka-Efayi umNethofa, loJezaniya indodana yomMahakhathi kanye labantu babo.

⁹ UGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, wafunga isifungo ebathembisa labantu babo, wathi, “Lingesabi ukusebenzela amaKhaladiya. Hlalani elizweni lisebenzele inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, konke kuzalilungela.

¹⁰ Mina ngokwami ngizahlala eMizipha ukuba ngilimele kumaKhaladiya eza kithi, kodwa lina vunani iwayini lezithelo zasehlobo kanye lamafutha, likufake ezimbizeni zokugcinela, lhlale emadolobheni eseliwaphethe.”

¹¹ Kwathi bonke amaJuda baseMowabi, e-Amoni le-Edomi lawo wonke amanye amazwe sebezwe ukuthi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayitshiye insalela koJuda njalo ibeke uGedaliya indodana

ka-Ahikhami indodana kaShafani, ukuba ngumbusi wabo, ¹² bonke babuyela elizweni lako-Juda, kuGedaliya eMizipha, bevela kuwo wonke amazwe ababehlakazekele kuwo. Bavuna iwayini elinengi lezithelo zasehlobo.

¹³ UJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilokhu zisegangeni, baya kuGedaliya eMizipha ¹⁴ bathi kuye, “Kawazi na ukuthi uBhahalisi inkosi yama-Amoni usethume u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya ukuba akubulale?” Kodwa uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami kakukholwanga lokho.

¹⁵ UJohanani indodana kaKhareya wasekhuluma ngase loGedaliya eMizipha esithi, “Yekela ngihambe ngiyebulala u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, kakho ozakwazi lokho. Kungani kumele akubulale enze ukuba abakoJuda bonke ababuthene kuwe bahlakazeke, lensalela yako-Juda ibhubhe na?”

¹⁶ Kodwa uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami wathi kuJohanani indodana kaKhareya, “Ungenzi into enjalo. Lokhu okutshoyo ngo-Ishumayeli akusiqiniso.”

41

¹ Ngenyanga yesikhombisa u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, indodana ka-Elishama, owayeyinzalo yesikhosini, njalo owayengomunye wezikhulu zenkosi, waya kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami eMizipha ² lamadodana kaNethaniya lamadoda alitshumi ayelaye basukuma bamgwaza ngenkamba uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana

kaShafani, bambulala lowo owayebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ngumbusi welizwe. ³ U-Ishumayeli wabulala lamaJuda wonke ayeloGedaliya eMizipha kanye lamabutho amaKhaladiya ayelapho.

⁴ Ngosuku olwalandela ukubulawa kukaGedaliya, kungakabi lamuntu owayesesazi ngakho, ⁵ kwafika amadoda angamatshumi ayisificaminwembili evela eShekhemu, leShilo leSamariya ayephuce indevu zawo iziggoko zawo zidabukile njalo ezisike imizimba, elethe iminikelo yamabele lempepha endlini KATHIXO.

⁶ U-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wasuka eMizipha ukuyawahlangabeza; wahamba ekhala. Ekuhlanganeni kwakhe labo wathi, “Wozani kuGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami.”

⁷ Kwathi sebengene phakathi kwedolobho u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya kanye lamadoda ayelaye, bawabulala bawaphosela emgodini. ⁸ Kodwa alitshumi awo athi ku-Ishumayeli, “Ungasibulali! Silengqoloyi lebhali, lamafutha loluju, esikufihle egangeni.”

Ngakho wawayekela kaze awabulala lamanye. ⁹ Umgodi ayephosele kuwo zonke izidumbu zamadoda ayewabulele kanye loGedaliya ngowawenziwe yinkosi u-Asa kuyingxenye yokuzivikela kwakhe kuBhasha inkosi yako-Israyeli. U-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wawugcwalisa ngezidumbu.

¹⁰ U-Ishumayeli wabenza baba yizigqili bonke abantu ababeseMizipha kubalisa amadodakazi enkosi kanye labanye bonke ababetshiywe

khona nguNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, owayebeke uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami ukuba ngumbusi wabo. U-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wabathumba, wasuka ukuba achaphele kuma-Amoni.

¹¹ Kwathi uJohanani indodana kaKhareya kanye lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye sebezwe konke okubi okwakwenziwe ngu-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya, ¹² bathatha bonke abantu babo bayakulwa lo-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya. Bamfica phansi kwechibi elikhulu eGibhiyoni. ¹³ Kwathi abantu bonke ababelo-Ishumayeli bebona uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zebutho ezazilaye, bathaba. ¹⁴ Bonke abantu u-Ishumayeli ayebathumbe eMizipha baphenduka baya kuJohanani indodana kaKhareya. ¹⁵ Kodwa u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya labantu bakhe abayisificaminwembali baphunyuka kuJohanani babalekela kuma-Amoni.

Ukubalekela eGibhithe

¹⁶ Emva kwalokho uJohanani indodana kaKhareya, lezikhulu zonke zebutho ezazilaye, wathatha bonke abasilayo ababevele eMizipha ayebahlenge ku-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya emva kokubulala kwakhe uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami. Kwakungamabutho, labesifazane, labantwana kanye lezikhulu zasemthethwandaba ayezithethe eGibhiyoni. ¹⁷ Baqhubeka bahamba, bayakuma eGeruthi Khimihami eduze leBhethilehema, besiya eGibhithe ¹⁸ ukuba

babalekele amaKhaladiya. Babewesaba ngoba u-Ishumayeli indodana kaNethaniya wayebulele uGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami owayebekwe yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba abe ngumbusi welizwe.

42

¹ Zonke izikhulu zebutho, kanye loJohanani indodana kaKhareya loJezaniya indodana kaHoshayiya, labantu bonke kusukela komncane kusiya komkhulu baya ² kuJeremiya umphrofethi bathi kuye, “Ake uzwe isicelo sethu ubakhulekele bonke laba abaseleyo kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho. Ngoba njengoba lawe uzibonela khatesi, lanxa sake saba banengi khatesi kusele abalutshwana kuphela. ³ Khuleka ukuba uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho asitshela lapho okumele siye khona lalokho okumele sikwenze.”

⁴ UJeremiya umphrofethi waphendula wathi, “Ngizwile. Ngizakhuleka impela kuTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu njengoba licelile; ngizalitshela konke uThixo akutshoyo ngingalifihleli lutho.”

⁵ Basebesithi kuJeremiya, “UTHIXO kabe ngufakazi wethu oqotho lothembekileyo nxa singenzi okuvumelana lakho konke uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wakho akuthuma ukuba usitshela khona. ⁶ Lanxa kukuhle kumbe kukubi sizamlalela uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu esikuthuma kuye, ukuze kusilungele, ngoba sizamlalela uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu.”

⁷ Emva kwensuku ezilitshumi ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuJeremiya. ⁸ Ngakho wabiza uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu

zonke zebutho ezazilaye kanye labantu bonke kusukela komncane kusiya komkhulu. ⁹ Wathi kubo, “UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, elingithume ukuba ngiyekwethula isicelo senu kuye, uthi: ¹⁰ ‘Lingahlala kulelizwe ngizalakra, ngingalibhidlizi, ngizalahlanyela ngingalisiphuni, ngoba ngilusizi ngomonakalo engawenza kini. ¹¹ Lingayesabi inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, eliyesabayo khathesi. Lingayesabi, kutsho UTHIXO, ngoba ngilani njalo ngizalhlenga ngilikhulule ezandleni zayo. ¹² Ngizakuba lesihawu kini ukuze layo ibe lesihawu kini ilibuyisele elizweni lakini.’

¹³ Kodwa lina lingathi, ‘Kasiyikuhlala kulelizwe,’ ngalokho lingalaleli UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu, ¹⁴ njalo nxa lisithi, ‘Hatshi, thina sizakuyahlala eGibhithe lapho esingayikubona khona impi loba sizwe icilongo kumbe silambeke ukudla, ¹⁵ zwanini-ke ilizwi LIKATHIXO, lina abasele koJuda.’ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: ‘Nxa liphitshekela ukuya eGibhithe njalo lihambe ukuyahlala khona, ¹⁶ lapho-ke inkemba eliyesabayo izalifica khona, lendlala eliyesabayo izalilandela eGibhithe, njalo lizafela khonale. ¹⁷ Ngempela bonke abaphitshekela ukuya eGibhithe ukuba bahlale khona bazakufa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo; kakho lamunye wabo ozasinda loba aphephe kumonakalo engizabehlisela wona.’ ¹⁸ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi, ‘Njengalokhu ukuthukuthela kwami lolaka lwami kwehliselwa phezu kwabantu abahlala eJerusalema,

ngokunjalo ulaka lwami luzakwehliselwa phezu kwenu lapho lisiya eGibhithe. Lizakuba yinto yokuthukwa lokwesatshwa, ukulahlwa lokuhlekwa; indawo le kaliyikuyibona futhi.’

¹⁹ Lina abasele koJuda, UTHIXO ulitshelile wathi, ‘Lingayi eGibhithe.’ Wobani leqiniso lalokhu ukuthi: Ngiyalixwayisa lamuhla ²⁰ ukuthi lenza iphutha elikhulu kakhulu ngokungithuma KUTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu lisithi, ‘Sikhulekele KUTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu; usitshela konke akutshoyo sizakwenza.’ ²¹ Sengilitshelile lamuhla, kodwa lilokhu lingalaleli lokho UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wenu angithume ukuthi ngilitshela khona. ²² Ngakho khathesi wobani leqiniso ukuthi lizakufa ngenkemba, indlala lesifo endaweni elifuna ukuyahlala kuyo.”

43

¹ Kwathi uJeremiya eseqedile ukutshela abantu wonke amazwi KATHIXO uNkulunkulu wabo, konke UTHIXO ayamthume ukuthi abatshela khona, ² u-Azariya indodana kaHoshayiya, loJohanani indodana kaKhareya labo bonke abantu abazigqajayo bathi kuJeremiya, “Uqamba amanga! UTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu kakuthumanga ukuba uthi, ‘Akumelanga liye eGibhithe ukuyahlala khona.’ ³ Kodwa uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya uyakutshotshozela ukuba usinikele kumaKhaladiya ukuba asibulale kumbe asise ekuthunjweni eBhabhiloni.”

⁴ Ngakho uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lazozonke izikhulu zebutho kanye labantu bonke kabalilalelanga ilizwi LIKATHIXO lokuthi bahlale elizweni lakoJuda. ⁵ Esikhundleni salokho, uJohanani indodana kaKhareya lezikhulu zonke zebutho bathatha bonke ababesele koJuda ababebuyele koJuda ukuyahlala khona bevela ezizweni zonke ababekade behlakazelwe kuzo. ⁶ Bathatha lamadoda wonke, labesifazane bonke kanye labantwana bonke, lamadodakazi enkosi lawo uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi ayewatshiye loGedaliya indodana ka-Ahikhami, indodana kaShafani, loJeremiya umphrofethi kanye loBharukhi indodana kaNeriya. ⁷ Ngakho bangena eGibhithe bedelela uTHIXO, bahamba baze bayafika eThahiphanesi.

⁸ Ilizwi LIKATHIXO lafika kuJeremiya eThahiphanesi lisithi, ⁹ “Thatha amatshe amakhulu uwagqibele enhlabathini endaweni egandelwe ngezitina, amaJuda bekhangele, esangweni lesigodlo sikaFaro eThahiphanesi, ¹⁰ uthi kubo, ‘UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizabiza inceku yami uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, njalo ngizabeka isihlalo sakhe sobukhosi phezu kwamatshe la engiwambele lapha; uzakwendlala ithente lakhe lobukhosi phezu kwawo. ¹¹ Uzakuza ahlasele iGibhithe, alethe ukufa kulabo abamiselwe ukufa, lokuthunjwa kulabo abamiselwe ukuthunjwa, lenkemba kulabo abamiselwe inkemba. ¹² Uzawathungela ngomlilo amathempeli abonkulunkulu bamaGibhithe; uzawatshisa

amathempeli abo athumbe labonkulunkulu bawo. Njengomelusi ezithandela ngesembatho sakhe, ngokunjalo laye uzazithandela ngeGibhithe asuke khona engalimalanga. ¹³ Khonale eGibhithe, ethempelini lelanga, uzadiliza izinsika ezikhonzwayo njalo uzatshisa amathempeli abonkulunkulu beGibhithe.’”

44

Umonakalo Ngenxa Yokukhonza Izithombe

¹ Ilizwi leli lafika kuJeremiya limayelana lamaJuda ayehlala eGibhithe, eMigidoli, leThahiphanesi leMemfisi, lasePhathrosi lisithi, ² “UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Liwubonile umonakalo omkhulu engawehlisela phezu kweJerusalema laphezu kwamadolobho wonke akoJuda. Lamhlanje kawahlali muntu njalo angamanxiwa ³ ngenxa yobubi ababenzayo. Bangithukuthelisa ngokukhonza langokutshisela impepha abanye onkulunkulu abangabaziyo bona, lani kanye labokhokho benu. ⁴ Ngathuma izinceku zami, abaphrofethi, njalonjalo ezathi, ‘Lingayenzi into le enengisayo engiyizondayo!’ ⁵ Kodwa kabalalelanga njalo kabanakanga; kabaphendukanga eubini babo kumbe bayekele ukutshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha. ⁶ Ngakho ulaka lwami olwesabekayo lwaphuphuma; lwavutha emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema, lwakwenza kwaba ngamanxiwa achithekileyo ayikho lamhlanje.

⁷ Khathesi uTHIXO uNkulunkulu uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi: Kungani lizilethela umonakalo omkhulu kangaka ngokususa koJuda amadoda labafazi, abantwana lensane, ngalokho lingazitshiyeli lensalela na? ⁸ Kungani lingithukuthelisa ngokwenziwa yizandla zenu, litshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha eGibhithe, lapho eselayahlala khona? Lizazibhubhisa lina ngokwenu lizenze into yokuthukwa lokuhlekwa phakathi kwezizwe zonke emhlabeni. ⁹ Selibukhohliwe yini ububi obenziwa ngokhokho benu lobubi obenziwa ngamakhosi lamakhosikazi akoJuda, lobubi obenziwa yini labomkenu elizweni lakoJuda, lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema? ¹⁰ Kuze kube lamhla kabazithobanga kumbe batshengise ukuhlonipha, kumbe balandele imithetho yami lezimiso engalibekela zona lina labokhokho benu.

¹¹ Ngakho uTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Ngizimisele ukulehlisela umonakalo ngibhubhise loJuda wonke. ¹² Ngizathatha abaseleyo koJuda ababezimisele ukuya eGibhithe; ukuba bahlale khona. Bonke bazabhubha eGibhithe; bazabulawa ngenkemba loba babulawe yindlala. Bazabulawa yinkemba loba indlala kusukela komncinyane kusiya komkhulu. Bazakuba yinto yokuqalekiswa lokwesaba, eyokulahlwa lokuthukwa. ¹³ Abahlala eGibhithe ngizabajezisa ngenkemba, ngendlala langesifo, njengokujezisa engakwenza iJerusalema. ¹⁴ Kakho owensalela yakoJuda owayahlala eGibhithe ozaphunyuka

kumbe aphephe ukuba abuyele elizweni lakoJuda asebefisa ukubuyela bayehlala kulo, kakho ozabuyela ngaphandle kweziphepheli ezilutshwane.”

¹⁵ Lapho-ke wonke amadoda ayekwazi ukuthi omkawo babetshisela abanye onkulunkulu impepha, kanye labesifazane bonke ababekhona, ixuku elikhulu, labantu bonke ababehlala ePhathrosi elizweni laseGibhithe, bathi kuJeremiya: ¹⁶ “Thina kasiyikulilalela ilizwi olikhulume kithi ngebizo LIKATHIXO! ¹⁷ Impela sizakwenza konke esathi sizakwenza: Impepha sizayitshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini siyithululele leminikelo yokunathwayo njengalokhu esakwenzayo thina labobaba, amakhosi ethu kanye lezikhulu zakithi emadolobheni akoJuda lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema. Ngalesosikhathi sasilokudla okunengi, sinothile kungekho okubi. ¹⁸ Kodwa selokhu sayekela ukutshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha lokuyithululela iminikelo yokunathwayo, kasisabanga lalutho njalo sesilokhu sisifa ngenkamba langendlala.”

¹⁹ Abesifazane bengeza bathi, “Ngesikhathi sitshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha, siyithululela leminikelo yokunathwa, omkethu babengakwazi na ukuthi sasisenza amakhekhe anjengesithombe sayo, siyithululela leminikelo yokunathwayo?”

²⁰ UJeremiya wasesithi ebantwini bonke, abesilisa labesifazane, ababemphendula, ²¹ “UTHIXO kakhumbulanga wanakana ngempepha elayitshisela emadolobheni akoJuda

lasemigwaqweni yaseJerusalema lina laboyihlo, lamakhosi enu, lezikhulu zakini kanye labantu belizweni na? ²² Kwathi uTHIXO engaselakho ukubekezelela izezo zenu ezimbi lezinto ezinengisayo elazenzayo, ilizwe lenu laba yinto yokuqalekiswa logwadule oluphundlekileyo olungahlali muntu njengoba kunjalo lanamhla. ²³ Umonakalo lo wehlele kini njengoba liwubona khathesi ngoba litshise impepha lenza okubi kuTHIXO njalo kalaze lamlalela loba lilandele umthetho wakhe kumbe imithetho yakhe loba izimiso zakhe.”

²⁴ UJeremiya wasesithi ebantwini bonke, kubalwa labesifazane, “Zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO lonke lina bantu bakoJuda abaseGibhithe. ²⁵ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli uthi: Lina labomkenu selitshengisile ngezenzo zenu elathembisa ukukwenza lapho lathi, ‘Impela sizagcwalisa izifungo zethu esazenzayo zokutshisela iNdlovukazi yaseZulwini impepha kanye lokuyithululela iminikelo yokunathwayo.’

Ngakho qhubekani, yenzani elakuthembisayo. Gcwalisani izifungo zenu. ²⁶ Kodwa zwanini ilizwi LIKATHIXO lonke lina baJuda abahlala eGibhithe elithi: ‘Ngifunga ngebizo lami elidumileyo,’ kutsho uTHIXO, ‘ukuthi kakho ovela koJuda ohlala loba kungaphi eGibhithe ozabiza ibizo lami kumbe afunge esithi, “Ngeqiniso elinjen-goba uTHIXO Wobukhosi ekhona.” ²⁷ Ngoba ngilindele ukubenza okubi, hatshi okuhle. Ama-Juda aseGibhithe azabhujiswa yinkemba lend-lala aze aphele wonke. ²⁸ Labo abazaphepha enkembeni babuyele elizweni lakoJuda bevela

eGibhithe bazakuba balutshwana. Lapho-ke bonke abayinsalela yakoJuda abayahlala eGibhithe bazakwazi ukuthi ilizwi elizakuma ngelik-abani, elami kumbe elabo.

²⁹ Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso kini sokuthi ngizalijezisa kuyonale indawo,' kutsho UTHIXO, 'ukuze lazi ukuthi okubi engalisongela ngakho kuzakwenzakala.' ³⁰ UTHIXO uthi: 'Ngizanikela uFaro Hofira inkosi yaseGibhithe ezitheni zakhe ezifuna ukumbulala, njengalokhu nganikela uZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda kuNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, isitha sakhe esasifuna ukumbulala.' "

45

Ilizwi KuBharukhi

¹ Lokhu yikho uJeremiya umphrofethi akutshela uBharukhi indodana kaNeriya ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiya inkosi yakoJuda, emva kokuba uBharukhi elobe emqulwini amazwi ayekhulunywe nguJeremiya esithi, ² "UTHIXO, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, uthi kuwe, Bharukhi: ³ Wena wathi, 'Maye mina! UTHIXO usengezelele usizi ebuhlungwini bami; sengikhathele ngokububula njalo kangikutholi ukuphumula.' ⁴ UTHIXO wathi, Khuluma lokhu kuye uthi: 'UTHIXO uthi: Ngizadiliza esengikwakhile ngiphinde ngisiphune esengikuhlanyele elizweni lonke. ⁵ Lapho-ke uzazifunela izinto ezinkulu na? Ungazidingi, ngoba ngizaletha umonakalo ebantwini bonke, kutsho UTHIXO, kodwa wena loba kungaphi oya khona ngizakwenza uphephe lokuphila kwakho.' "

46

Ilizwi NgeGibhithe

¹ Leli yilizwi LIKATHIXO elafika kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana lezizwe:

² Mayelana leGibhithe:

Leli yilizwi elimayelana lebuthe likaFaro Nekho inkosi yaseGibhithe, elanqotshwayo eKharikhemishi emfuleni iYufrathe nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngomnyaka wesine kaJehoyakhimi indodana kaJosiyah inkosi yakoJuda:

³ “Lungisani amahawu enu, amakhulu laman-cane,

liphume liye empini.

⁴ Bophani amabhiza,

liwagade!

Manini ezindaweni zenu

lilezingowane zenu!

Lolani imikhonto yenu,

ligqoke impahla zempi!

⁵ Kuyini engikubonayo?

Bayesaba,

bahlehlela emuva,

amabutho abo ehlulwe.

Abaleka ngesiqubu

anganyemukuli,

njalo kulokwesaba izindawo zonke,” kutsho UTHIXO.

⁶ “Olejubane kasoze abaleke

kumbe olamandla aphephe.

Ngasenyakatho, emfuleni iYufrathe

bayakhubeka bawe.

- ⁷ Ngubani lo ophakama njengeNayili,
njengemifula elamanzi agubhazelayo na?
- ⁸ IGibhithe liphakama njengeNayili,
njengemifula elamanzi agubhazelayo.
Lithi: 'Ngizaphakama ngembese umhlaba;
ngizachitha amadolobho labantu bawo.'
- ⁹ Hlaselani, lina mabhiza!
Qhubekani ngentukuthelo, lina zinqola
zempi!
Yanini phambili, lina mabutho,
madoda aseKhushi lawePhuthi, aphatha
amahawu,
madoda aseLudi agoba idandili.
- ¹⁰ Kodwa usuku lolo ngolweNkosi, uTHIXO uSo-
mandla,
usuku lokuphindisela, olokuphindisela
ezitheni zakhe.
Inkemba izakudla ize isuthe,
ize icitshe ukoma kwayo ngegazi.
Ngoba iNkosi, uTHIXO uSomandla uzanikela
umhlatshelo
elizweni lasenyakatho ngasemfuleni
iYufrathe.
- ¹¹ Yana eGiliyadi uyethatha umuthi wokwelapha,
wena Ndodakazi egcweleyo yaseGibhithe.
Kodwa imithi uyandisela ize;
akukho kusila kuwe.
- ¹² Izizwe zizakuzwa ngehlazo lakho;
ukukhala kwakho kuzagcwala umhlaba.
Elinye ibutho lizakhubeka kwelinye;
womabili azawela phansi ndawonye."

13 Leli yilizwi uTHIXO alikhuluma kuJeremiya umphrofethi ngokuza kukaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni ukuba ahlasele iGibhithe:

14 “Memezeleni lokhu eGibhithe, likubike laseMigidoli;
kumemezeleni njalo laseMemfisi
laseThahiphanesi lithi:

‘Manini ezindaweni zenu lilunge,
ngoba inkemba idla abakhelene lani.’

15 Amabutho enu azabulawelwani na?
Angeke ame,
ngoba uTHIXO uzawalahlela phansi.

16 Azakhubeka kokuphela;
azakuwa elekane.
Azakuthi, ‘Vukani, kasibuyeleni emuva
ebantwini bakithi lasemazweni akithi,
kude kwenkemba yomncindezeli.’

17 Khonale bazamemeza bathi,
‘UFaro inkosi yaseGibhithe
ingumsindo omkhulu nje kuphela;
uselahlekelwe lithuba lakhe.’

18 Ngeqiniso elinjengokuthi ngikhona,” kutsho
iNkosi,
obizo layo NGUTHIXO uSomandla,
“kuzafika omunye onjengoThabhozi phakathi
kwezintaba,
njengoKhameli ngasolwandle.

19 Lungisani impahla zekuthunjweni,
lina abahlala eGibhithe,
ngoba iMemfisi izadilizwa
ibe lunxiwa olungahlali muntu.

20 IGibhithe ilithokazi elihle,

kodwa isibawu siyeza
silisongela sivela enyakatho.

²¹ Amabutho okuqatshwa aphakathi kwalo
anjengamathole anonisiweyo.

Lawo azaphenduka abaleke endawonye,
kawayikuma,
ngoba usuku lomonakalo luyeza phezu kwabo,
isikhathi sabo sokujeziswa.

²² IGibhithe izakhwaza njengenyoka ebalekayo
lapho isitha sisondele ngobunengi baso;
sizayihlasela ngamahloka
okwabantu abagamula izihlahla.

²³ Sizagamula amahlathi ayo," kutsho uTHIXO,
"lanxa eminyene kanjani.

Banengi kulentethe,
ngeke babalwe.

²⁴ Indodakazi yaseGibhithe izayangiswa,
inikelwe ebantwini basenyakatho."

²⁵ UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli
uthi: "Sekuseduze ukuba ngijezise u-Amoni
unkulunkulu waseThebesi, loFaro, leGibhithe
kanye labonkulunkulu balo lamakhosi alo, lal-
abo abathembe uFaro. ²⁶ Ngizabanikela kulabo
abafuna ukubabulala, kuNebhukhadineza inkosi
yaseBhabhiloni lezikhulu zakhe. Kodwa muva,
iGibhithe lizahlalwa ngabantu futhi njengasezin-
sukwini zakudala," kutsho uTHIXO.

²⁷ "Ungesabi, wena Jakhobe nceku yami;
ungathuthumeli, wena Israyeli.

Impela ngizakukhulula endaweni ekude,
lenzalo yakho elizweni lokuthunjwa kwayo.

UJakhobe uzakuba lokuthula
futhi kanye lokuvikeleka,

njalo kakho ozamthuthumelisa.
 28 Ungesabi wena Jakhobe nceku yami
 ngoba ngilawe,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 “Lanxa ngizachitha ngokupheleleyo izizwe
 zonke
 engakuhlakazela kuzo,
 wena angiyikukuchitha ngokupheleleyo.
 Ngizakujezisa kodwa ngokufaneleyo kuphela;
 angiyikukuyekela nje ungajeziswanga.”

47

Ilizwi Ngamafilistiya

1 Leli yilizwi LIKATHIXO elafika kuJeremiya
 umphrofethi mayelana lamaFilistiya ngesikhathi
 uFaro engakahlaseli iGaza:

2 UTHIXO uthi:
 “Khangela ukuphakama kwamanzi enyakatho;
 azakuba ngumfula okhukhulayo.
 Azakhukhula ilizwe lakho konke okukulo,
 amadolobho lalabo abahlala kuwo.
 Abantu bazakhala,
 bonke abahlala elizweni bazalila
 3 ekuzweni umsindo wamasondo amabhiza agi-
 jimayo,
 lekuzweni umsindo wezingqola zesitha
 lomdumo wamasondo azo.
 Oyise kabayikuphenduka ukuba basize abant-
 wababo;
 izandla zabo zizalenga zingelamandla.
 4 Ngoba usuku selufikile
 ukuba abhujiswe wonke amaFilistiya,
 lokuqeda bonke abasilayo

abangasiza iThire leSidoni.
 Sekuseduze ukuba uTHIXO abhubhise amaFilis-
 tiya,
 insalela emakhunjini eKhafithori.
⁵ IGaza izaphuca ikhanda layo ilila;
 i-Ashikheloni izathuliswa.
 Lina nsalela esemagcekeni,
 lizazisika kuze kube nini na?

⁶ Likhala lisithi, 'Maye, nkemba KATHIXO,
 koba nini ukuze uphumule?
 Buyela emgodleni wakho;
 khawuka ungathi nyiki.'
⁷ Kodwa ingaphumula njani
 yona ilaywe NGUTHIXO,
 ithunywe nguye
 ukuba ihlasele i-Ashikheloni lamakhumbi
 olwandle na?"

48

Ilizwi NgeMowabi

¹ Mayelana leMowabi:

UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli
 uthi:
 "Maye kuyo iNebho ngoba izachithwa.
 IKhiriyathayimi izayangeka njalo ithunjwe;
 inqaba izayangeka ibhidlizwe.
² IMowabi kayiyikudunyiswa futhi;
 eHeshibhoni abantu bazaceba ukumbhidl-
 iza:
 besithi, 'Wozani sitshabalalise isizwe
 lesiyana.'
 Lawe, wena Madimeni uzathuliswa;

inkemba izaxotshana lawe.

³ Zwanini ukukhala okuvela eHoronayimi;
ukukhala komonakalo omkhulu
lencithakalo.

⁴ IMowabi izachitheka;
abancinyane bayo bazakhala.

⁵ Baqansa ngendlela eya eLuhithi,
bahamba belila kabuhlungu,
emgwaqweni owehlela eHoronayimi,
kuzwakala ukukhala okulosizi ngenxa yoku-
chitheka.

⁶ Balekani! Gijimani lizivikele ekufeni;
wobani njengesihlahla enkangala.

⁷ Njengoba lithembe izenzo zenu lenotho yenu,
lani futhi lizathunjwa,
loKhemoshi uzakuya ekuthunjweni,
kanye labaphristi bakhe lezikhulu zakhe.

⁸ Umchithi uzafika emadolobheni wonke,
njalo akukho dolobho elizaphepha.

Isigodi sizatshabalaliswa,
lamagceke azaqothulwa
ngoba uTHIXO usekhulumile.

⁹ Fakani itswayi kuyo iMowabi
ngoba izachitheka;
amadolobho ayo azakuba ngamanxiwa
angayikuba lamuntu ozahlala kuwo.

¹⁰ Yeka isithuko kulowo oyekethisayo ekwenzeni
umsebenzi KATHIXO!
Yeka isithuko kulowo ogodla inkemba yakhe
ekuchitheni igazi!

¹¹ IMowabi ibiphumule kusukela ebutsheni bayo

njengewayini elisele phezu kwezinsipho
zalo,
elingathelwanga kwenye imbiza lisuswa kwenye
kayithunjwanga.

Ngakho inambitheka njengakuqala,
iphunga layo kaliguqukanga.

¹² Kodwa insuku ziyeza,
lapho ngizathuma abantu abathulula okusem-
bizeni,
njalo bazayithululela phandle;
bazachitha okusezimbizeni zayo
bazimahlaze imbiza zayo.

¹³ Lapho-ke iMowabi izayangeka ngoKhemoshi
njengokuyangeka kwendlu ka-Israyeli
lapho babethembe iBhetheli.

¹⁴ Lingatsho kanjani na ukuthi, ‘Singamabutho,
amadoda alesibindi empini na’?

¹⁵ IMowabi izachithwa, amadolobho ayo
ahlaselwe;
amajaha ayo aqinileyo azacakazelwa phansi
abulawe,”
kutsho iNkosi, obizo layo NGUTHIXO uSo-
mandla.

¹⁶ “Ukuwa kweMowabi sekuseduze;
umonakalo wayo uzafika ngokuphangisa.

¹⁷ Ikhaleleni lonke lina elakhelene layo,
bonke abalwaziyo udumo lwayo,
lithi, ‘Yeka ukwephuka kwentonga yobukhosi
elamandla,
yeka ukwephuka kodondolo oluhle
kakhulu!’

- 18 Yehlani ebukhosini benu
 lihlale emhlabathini owomileyo,
 lina elihlala eNdodakazini yaseDibhoni.
 Ngoba lowo ochitha iMowabi
 uzakuzalihlasela
 adilize amadolobho enu avikelweyo.
- 19 Manini emgwaqweni lilinde,
 lina elihlala e-Aroweri.
 Buzani indoda ebalekayo lowesifazane
 obalekayo;
 babuzeni lithi, 'Kwenzakaleni na?'
- 20 IMowabi iyangekile, ngoba ichithekile.
 Lilani likhale!
 Bikani ngase-Arinoni
 ukuthi iMowabi itshabalalisiwe.
- 21 Ukwehlulela sekufikile emagcekeni
 eHoloni, leJahazi laseMefahathi,
 22 eDibhoni, leNebho laseBhethi-
 Dibhilathayimi,
 23 eKhiriyaithayimi, leBhethi-Gamuli laseB-
 hethi Meyoni,
 24 eKheriyothi kanye laseBhozira
 kuwo wonke amadolobho aseMowabi, ase-
 duze lakhatshana.
- 25 Uphondo lweMowabi luqunyiwe,
 ingalo yalo yephuliwe,"
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- 26 "Idakiseni
 ngoba idelele UTHIXO.
 IMowabi kayizibhixe ngamahlanzo ayo;
 kayibe yinto yokuhlekwa.
- 27 U-Israyeli wayengasinto yokuhlekisa kuwe na?
 Watholakala ephakathi kwamasela na,

ukuba unikine ikhanda lakho ngokweyisa
ngasonke isikhathi lapho ukhuluma
ngaye?

28 Tshiyani amadolobho enu lihlale emadwaleni,
lina elihlala eMowabi.

Wobani njengejuba elakhela isidleke salo
emlonyeni wobhalu.

29 Sizwile ngokuzigqaja kweMowabi,
ukuziqakisa kwayo lokuzazisa kwayo!

Ukuzigqaja lokuzikhukhumeza kwayo,
kanye lokuziphakamisa kwenhliziyo yayo.

30 Ngiyakwazi ukudelela kwayo, kodwa kuyize,
lokuzincoma kwayo akusizi lutho," kutsho
UTHIXO

31 "Ngakho-ke ngiyalila ngeMowabi,
ngikhalela iMowabi yonke,
ngililela abantu baseKhiri-Haresethi.

32 Ngiyalikhalela njengokulila kweJazeri,
lina zivini zaseSibhima.

Ingatsha zenu zinaba zifike olwandle,
zafika olwandle lwaseJazeri.

Umchithi usehlele
phezu kwezithelo zakho ezivuthiweyo
laphezu kwamavini.

33 Ukuthokoza lokuthaba akusekho
ezivinini lasemasimini eMowabi.

Ukugeleza kwewayini ezikhamelweni sengiku-
misile;

kakho ozalikhama eklabalala ngentokoza.

Lanxa kulokuklabalala

akusikuklabalala kwentokoza.

34 Umsindo wokukhala kwabo uyaphakama

uvelela eHeshibhoni usiya e-Eliyale laseJa-
hazi,
uvela eZowari usiyafika eHoronayimi le-Egilathi
Shelishiya,
ngoba lamanzi aseNimirimi asecitshile.

³⁵ EMowabi ngizabaqeda
labo abanikela iminikelo ezindaweni
eziphakemeyo
batshisele labonkulunkulu babo impepha,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

³⁶ “Ngakho inhliziyo yami ikhalela iMowabi
njengemfegwana;
iyakhala njengemfegwana ikhalela abantu
beKhiri-Haresethi.
Inotho ababeyizuzile kayisekho.

³⁷ Amakhanda wonke aphuciwe
lezindevu zonke zigeliwe;
izandla zonke zisikiwe
lezinkalo zonke zigqokiswe amasaka.

³⁸ Phezu kwezimpahla zonke zezindlu zase-
Mowabi
lasemagcekeni kazulu,
akulalutho ngaphandle kokukhala,
ngoba iMowabi ngiyibulele
njengembiza engafunwa muntu,” kutsho
UTHIXO.

³⁹ “Yeka ukuphahlazwa kwayo! Yeka ukulila
kwabo!
Yeka ukufulathela kweMowabi ilehlazo!
IMowabi isibe yinto yokuhlekwa;
into yokwesatshwa yibo bonke abakhelane
layo.”

⁴⁰ UTHIXO uthi:
“Khangel! Ukhozi lwehlela phansi ngesiqubu,

- lwelulele impiko zalo phezu kweMowabi.
⁴¹ IKheriyothi izathunjwa,
 lezingaba zithunjwe.
 Ngalolosuku inhliziyo zamabutho aseMowabi
 zizakuba njengehliziyo yowesifazane
 ohelelwayo.
- ⁴² IMowabi izachithwa ingabe isaba yisizwe
 ngoba yadelela UTHIXO.
- ⁴³ Ukwesaba lomgodi kanye lomjibila kulilindele
 lina bantu baseMowabi,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- ⁴⁴ “Loba ngubani obalekela ukwesaba
 uzawela emgodini,
 loba ngubani ophuma emgodini
 uzabanjwa ngumjibila;
 ngoba ngizakwehlisela phezu kweMowabi
 umnyaka wokujeziswa kwayo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- ⁴⁵ “Emthunzini waseHeshibhoni
 ababalekayo bayema kungelasizo,
 ngoba umlilo usuphumile eHeshibhoni,
 ilangabi elivela phakathi kwakoSihoni;
 litshisa amabunzi eMowabi
 inkakhayi zamaqhalaqhala alomsindo.
- ⁴⁶ Maye kuwe! wena Mowabi!
 Abantu baseKhemoshi babhujisiwe;
 amadodana athunjiwe
 lamadodakazi akho athunjiwe.
- ⁴⁷ Kodwa inhlanhla ye-Mowabi ngizayibuyisela
 ensukwini ezizayo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 Ukwahlulelwa kweMowabi kuphelela lapha.

49

Ilizwi Ngama-Amoni

¹ Mayelana lama-Amoni:

Nanku akutshoyo uTHIXO:

“U-Israyeli kalamadodana na?

Kalandlalifa na?

Pho kungani uMoleki esethumbe iGadi na?

Kungani abantu bakhe behlala emadolob-
heni alo na?

² Kodwa insuku ziyeza,

lapho engizahlaba khona umkhosi wempi

wokumelana leRabha yama-Amoni,

izakuba yindunduma yonxiwa;

lemizi eseduze layo izathungelwa ngomlilo.

Ngakho u-Israyeli uzabaxotsha

labo ababemxotshele phandle,” kutsho
uTHIXO.

³ “Lila weHeshibhoni, ngoba i-Ayi ichithekile!

Khalani lina elihlala eRabha!

Gqokani amasaka lilile;

gijimelani lapha lalaphaya phakathi
kwemiduli,

ngoba uMoleki uzathunjwa,

ndawonye labaphristi bakhe kanye

lezikhulu zakhe.

⁴ Lizincomelani ngezigodi zenu,

lizincomelani ngezigodi ezithela kangaka?

Wena ndodakazi engathembekanga,

uthemba inotho yakho uthi,

‘Ngubani ozangihlasela na?’

⁵ Ngizalilethela ukwesaba

okuvela kubo bonke abaseduze lani,”

kutsho iNkosi, uTHIXO uSomandla.
 “Lonke lizaxotshelwa khatshana,
 njalo kakho ozaqoqa ababalekayo.

⁶ Kodwa emva kwalokho
 ngizabuyisela inhlanhla yama-Amoni,”
 kutsho uTHIXO.

Ilizwi Nge-Edomi

⁷ Mayelana le-Edomi:

Nanku akutshoyo uTHIXO uSomandla:
 “Kakuselakuhlakanipha eThemani na?
 Izeluleko sezaphela na kwabahlakaniphi-
 leyo?

Ukuhlakanipha kwabo sekwabola na?

⁸ Phendukani libaleke, licatshe ezimbalwini ezit-
 shonayo,

lina elihlala eDedani,

ngoba ngizaletha umonakalo phezu kuka-Esawu
 ngesikhathi engizamjezisa ngaso.

⁹ Nxa abavuni bamavini befike kuwe,
 kabangeke batshiye amalutshwana na?

Nxa amasela efika ebusuku
 kabayikuntshontsha lokho okwanele abaku-
 funayo kuphela na?

¹⁰ Kodwa u-Esawu ngizamhlubula asale eze;
 ngizakwembula izindawo zakhe zokucatsha,
 ukuze angacatshi.

Amabutho akhe ahlomileyo azabhubha

kanye labomakhelwane bakhe

labahlanganyela laye,

angabikhona khona ozakuthi,

11 “Tshiya izintandane zakho; ngizavikela impilo yazo

labafelokazi bakho bangathemba kimi.’ ”

12 UTHIXO uthi: “Nxa labo abangafanelanga ukunatha inkezo kumele bayinathe, kungani wena ungeze wajeziwa na? Kawuyikuphutha ukujeziwa, kumele uyinathe. 13 Ngifunga ngami, ukuthi iBhozira izakuba lunxiwa lento yokwesatshwa, eyokuthukwa lokuqalekiwa, njalo wonke amadolobho ayo azakuba ngamanxiwa nini lanini,” kutsho UTHIXO.

14 Sengizwe ilizwi elivela kuTHIXO:

Kuthunywe isithunywa ezizweni ukuba sithi,

“Buthanani ukuba liyihlasele!

Vukani lilwe impi!”

15 “Khathesi ngizakwenza ube mncane phakathi kwezizwe, udeleleke ebantwini.

16 Ukuthuthumela okungabangwa nguwe, lokuzigqaja kwenhliziyo yakho kukukhohlisile,

wena ohlala eminkenkeni yamadwala,

wena ohlala ezingqongeni zoqaqa.

Lanxa usakhela isidleke sakho phezulu njen-gengqungqulu,

ukhonapho ngizakwehlisela phansi,”

kutsho UTHIXO.

17 “I-Edomi izakuba yinto yokwesatshwa, bonke abadlula khona bazathuthumela bak-lolode

ngenxa yamanxeba ayo wonke.

18 Njengokuchitheka kweSodoma leGomora,

kanye lamadolobho awo ayesezuze,
 ngakho kakho ozahlala kuyo,
 kakho ozabuye ahlale khona” kutsho
 UTHIXO.

19 “Njengesilwane siphuma emahlathini aseJo-
 dani
 sisiya emadlelweni amahle,
 i-Edomi ngizayixotsha elizweni layo ngesikhat-
 shana.
 Ngubani okhethiweyo engizamkethela
 lokhu na?
 Ngubani onjengami, ngubani ongamelana lami
 na?
 Njalo nguphi umelusi ongajamelana lami
 na?”

20 Ngakho, zwanini lokho UTHIXO asecebe ukuk-
 wenza nge-Edomi,
 asemise ukukwenza kulabo abahlala eThe-
 mani:
 Amazinyane omhlambi azadonselwa le;
 amadlelo awo uzawatshabalalisa
 ngokupheleleyo ngenxa yabo.

21 Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wokuwa kwabo umh-
 laba uzagedezela,
 ukukhala kwabo kuzazwakala eLwandle ol-
 uBomvu.

22 Khangelani! Inggungqulu izaqonga iphinde
 yehlele phansi,
 yelulele impiko zayo phezu kweBhozira.
 Ngalolosuku inhliziyo zamabutho ase-Edomi
 zizakuba njengenhliziyo yowesifazane
 ohelelwayo.

Ilizwi NgeDamaseko

23 Mayelana leDamaseko:

“IHamathi le-Ariphadi athithibele,
ngoba azwe izindaba ezimbi.

Adanile,

akhathazeke njengolwandle olungela ku-
phumula.

24 IDamaseko isibe buthakathaka,
isiphendukile ukuba ibaleke,
isiphethwe layikuphaphazela;

ibanjwe lusizi lobuhlungu,

ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazane
ohelelwayo.

25 Kungani idolobho lodumo lingadelwanga,
idolobho engithokoza ngalo na?

26 Ngeqiniso izinsizwa zayo zizakuwa emg-
waqweni;

amabutho ayo wonke azathuliswa ngalolo-
suku,”

kutsho UTHIXO uSomandla.

27 “Imiduli yaseDamaseko ngizayithungela
ngomlilo;

uzaqothula izinqaba zaseBheni-Hadadi.”

Ilizwi NgeKhedari LeHazori

28 Mayelana leKhedari lemibuso yaseHazori,
eyahlaselwa nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseB-
habhiloni:

UTHIXO uthi:

“Vuka uhlaselwe iKhedari

ubhubhise labantu baseMpumalanga.

29 Amathente abo lemihlambi yabo kuzathun-
jwa;

amakhetheni abo azathathwa
layo yonke impahla yabo kanye lamakamela
abo.

Abantu bazaklabalala besithi kubo,
'Ukwesaba enhlangothini zonke!'

³⁰ Balekani ngokuphangisa!

Hlalani ezimbalwini ezitshonayo, lina elih-
lala eHazori,"
kutsho UTHIXO.

"UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni use-
cebe icebo ngani,
usebumbe icebo ngani.

³¹ Vukani lihlasele isizwe esizinzileyo,
esihlezi ngethemba,"
kutsho UTHIXO,

"isizwe esingelawo amasango kumbe imigoqo;
abantu baso bahlala bodwa.

³² Amakamela aso azakuba yimpango,
lemihlambi yabo emikhulu izakuba yim-
pango.

Ngizabahlakazela emoyeni labo abasezindaweni
ezikude
njalo ngizaletha umonakalo kubo uvelela
enhlangothini zonke,"
kutsho UTHIXO.

³³ "IHazori izakuba yisikhundla samakhanka,
indawo echithekileyo nini lanini.

Kakho ozahlala khona,
akulamuntu ozahlala kuyo."

Ilizwi Nge-Elamu

³⁴ Leli yilizwi LIKATHIXO elafika kuJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana le-Elamu, ekuqaleni kombuso kaZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda, elathi:

³⁵ UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
 “Khangela, idandili le-Elamu ngizalephula,
 insika yamandla abo.

³⁶ Ngizalethela i-Elamu imimoya emine
 ezavela emagumbini amane amazulu,
 ngizabahlakazela emimoyeni emine,
 njalo akuyikuba lesizwe
 abathunjwe e-Elamu abangayikuya kuso.

³⁷ I-Elamu ngizayibhidliza phambi kwezitha
 zayo,
 phambi kwalabo abafuna ukubabulala.

Ngizakwehlisela umonakalo phezu kwabo
 kanye lolaka lwami oluvuthayo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

“Ngizabaxhuma ngenkemba
 ngize ngibaqede bonke.

³⁸ Ngizabeka isihlalo sami sobukhosi e-Elamu
 ngichithe inkosi yayo lezikhulu zayo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

³⁹ “Kodwa inhlanhla ye-Elamu ngizayibuyisa
 ensukwini ezizayo,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.

50

Ilizwi NgeBhabhiloni

¹ Leli yilizwi UTHIXO alikhuluma ngoJeremiya umphrofethi mayelana leBhabhiloni lelizwe lamaKhaladiya:

2 “Memezalani libike phakathi kwezizwe,
 phakamisani uphawu lilubike;
 lingafihli lutho, kodwa lithi,
 ‘Bhabhiloni izathunjwa,
 iBheli izayangiswa,
 iMariduki ibe lokwesaba.
 Izifanekiso zayo zizayangiswa,
 izithombe zayo zibe lokwesaba.’

3 Isizwe esivela enyakatho sizayihlasela
 sitshabalalise ilizwe layo.
 Kakho ozahlala kuyo;
 abantu lezinyamazana kuzasuka kubaleke.

4 Ngalezonsuku, ngalesosikhathi,
 abantu bako-Israyeli ndawonye labantu bako-
 Juda
 bazahamba bekhala bedinga uTHIXO uNku-
 lunkulu wabo.

5 Bazabuza indlela eya eZiyoni
 bakhangelise ubuso babo kuyo.
 Bazakuza bazibophele kuTHIXO
 ngesivumelwano esingapheliyo
 esingayikukhohlakala.

6 Abantu bami bebeyizimvu ezilahlekileyo,
 abelusi babo babebadukisile
 babenza bazulazula phezu kwezintaba.
 Bantula phezu kwezintaba laphezu kwamaqaqa
 bakhohlwa indawo yabo yokuphumula.

7 Loba ngubani owabatholayo wabadla;
 izitha zabo zathi, ‘Kasilacala,
 ngoba benza okubi kuTHIXO, idlelo labo eliqotho,
 uTHIXO, ithemba laboyise.’

- 8 Balekelani ngaphandle kweBhabhiloni;
 sukani elizweni lamaKhaladiya,
 libe njengembuzi ezikhokhela umhlambi.
- 9 Ngoba iBhabhiloni ngizayivusela
 umanyano lwezizwe ezinkulu ezivela
 elizweni lasenyakatho.
 Bazaviva ezindaweni zabo bamelane layo.
 Njalo izathunjwa kuvelelwa enyakatho.
 Imitshoko yabo izakuba njengamabutho alol-
 wazi
 angaphenduki engelalutho.
- 10 Ngakho iBhabhiloni izaphangwa,
 bonke abayiphangayo bazasuthiseka,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
- 11 “Njengoba lithokoza njalo lithabile,
 lizaphanga ilifa lami ngoba
 liyaqolotsha njengethokazi etshanini,
 njalo likhale njengamabhiza amaduna,
- 12 unyoko uzayangeka kakhulu,
 yena owalizalayo uzakuba lenhloni.
 Uzakuba ngowokucina phakathi kwezizwe,
 inkangala, ilizwe elomileyo, ugwadule.
- 13 Ngenxa yolaka LUKATHIXO kayiyikuhlalwa
 muntu kodwa
 izachithwa ngokupheleleyo.
 Bonke abadlula eBhabhiloni bazakwesaba
 baklolode ngenxa yamanxeba ayo wonke.
- 14 Vivani inhlangothi zonke zeBhabhiloni
 lonke lina eliphethe amadandili.
 Itshokeni! Lingatshiyi mitshoko
 ngoba yonile KU^THIXO.

- 15 Klabalalani kuyo ezinhlangothini zonke!
 Iyazinikela, imiphotshongo yayo iyawa,
 imiduli yayo idilikela phansi.
 Njengoba lokhu kuyikuphindisela KUKATHIXO,
 phindiselani kuyo iBhabhiloni;
 yenzani kuyo njengalokhu eyakwenza kwa-
 banye.
- 16 Msuseni eBhabhiloni umhlanyeli,
 lomvuni lesikela yakhe ekuvuneni.
 Ngenxa yenkemba yomncindezeli,
 umuntu wonke kabuyele ebantwini bakibo;
 umuntu wonke kabalekele elizweni lakibo.
- 17 U-Israyeli ungumhlambi ohlakazekileyo
 oxotshwe yizilwane.
 Owaqalayo ukumudla
 yinkosi yase-Asiriya;
 owacinayo ukuqhoba amathambo akhe
 nguNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhab-
 hiloni.”
- 18 Ngakho UTHIXO uSomandla, uNkulunkulu
 ka-Israyeli uthi:
 “Ngizayijezisa inkosi yaseBhabhiloni lelizwe
 layo
 njengoba ngajezisa inkosi yase-Asiriya.
- 19 Kodwa u-Israyeli ngizambuyisela edlelweni
 lakhe,
 uzakudla eKhameli kanye laseBhashani;
 inkanuko yakhe izasuthiswa
 emaqaqeni ako-Efrayimi kanye leGiliyadi.
- 20 Ngalezonsuku, ngalesosikhathi,” kutsho
 UTHIXO,
 “ukona kuka-Israyeli kuzadingwa,

kodwa akuyikuba khona;
 kudingwe lezono zikaJuda
 kodwa kasikho esizafunyanwa,
 ngoba insalela engiyitshiyayo ngizayi-
 thethelela.

21 Hlaselani ilizwe laseMerathayimi
 lalabo abahlala ePhekhodi.
 Xotshanani labo libabulale libaqede du,”
 kutsho UTHIXO.
 “Yenzani konke engililaye khona.

22 Umsindo wempi uselizweni,
 umsindo wencithakalo enkulu!

23 Yeka ukwephuka lokucezuka
 kwesando somhlaba wonke!
 Yeka ukuchitheka kweBhabhiloni
 phakathi kwezizwe!

24 Ngakuthiya ngomjibila, wena Bhabhiloni,
 wabanjwa ungakakwazi lokho;
 waficwa wathunjwa,
 ngoba wamelana LOTHIXO.

25 UTHIXO usevule indlu yakhe yezikhali
 wakhupha izikhali zolaka lwakhe,
 ngoba UTHIXO Wobukhosi, uSomandla
 ulomsebenzi okumele awenze
 elizweni lamaKhaladiya.

26 Wozani kuyo limelane layo livela kude.
 Fohlelani eziphaleni zayo;
 liyibuthelele njengezinqumbi zamabele.
 Ichitheni okupheleleyo
 lingayitshiyeli nsalela.

27 Bulalani zonke inkunzi zayo ezisesengam-
 aguqa;
 ziwiseleni phansi ekuhlatshweni!

Maye kubo!

Ngoba usuku lwabo selufikile, isikhathi sabo sokujeziswa.

28 Lalelani ababalekayo labaphephileyo abavela eBhabhiloni bememezela eZiyoni ngokuphindisela uTHIXO uNkulunkulu wethu asekwenzile, ukuphindisela ngenxa yethempeli lakhe.

29 Bizani abemitshoko bahlasele iBhabhiloni, bonke labo abaphatha amadandili.

Ihanqeni inxa zonke; kungabikhona ophunyukayo.

Iphindiseleni izenzo zayo; yenzani kuyo njengekwenzileyo.

Ngoba idelele uTHIXO, oNgcwele ka-Israyeli.

30 Ngakho izinsizwa zayo zizakuwa emigwaqweni; ngalolosuku wonke amabutho ayo azabulawa,” kutsho uTHIXO.

31 “Khangela, ngimelane lawe, wena oyisiqholo,” kutsho uThixo, uTHIXO uSomandla, “ngoba usuku lwakho selufikile, isikhathi sokujeziswa kwakho.

32 Oyisiqholo uzakhubeka awe, njalo kakho ozamsiza amvuse. Ngizabasa umlilo emadolobheni akhe ozaqothula bonke abakhelene laye.”

33 UTHIXO uSomandla uthi: “Abantu bako-Israyeli bancindezelwe, kanye labantu bakoJuda futhi.

Bonke abathumbi babo babagagadlele,
besala ukubadedela bahambe.

³⁴ Kodwa uMhlengi wabo ulamandla;
UTHIXO uSomandla yilo ibizo lakhe.

Uzavikela imfanelo zabo ngamandla
ukuze alethe ukuthula elizweni labo,
kodwa ukuxokozela kulabo abahlala eBhabhiloni.

³⁵ Inkemba imelana lamaKhaladiya,”
kutsho UTHIXO,
“imelane lalabo abahlala eBhabhiloni
kanye lezikhulu zayo lezihlakaniphi zayo!

³⁶ Inkemba izamelana labaphrofethi balo bamanga!
Bazakuba yizithutha.

Inkemba izamelana lamabutho ayo!
Azakuba lokwesaba okukhulu.

³⁷ Inkemba izamelana lamabhiza ayo lezingqola zempi
labo bonke abezizweni abakuyo!
Bazakuba ngabafazi.

Inkemba izamelana lenotho yayo!
Izaphangwa.

³⁸ Kuzakuba lokoma kwamanzi ayo!
Azacitsha.

Ngoba yilizwe lezithombe,
izithombe ezizahlanya ngenxa yokwesaba.

³⁹ Ngakho izidalwa zasenkangala lezimpisi zizahlala khona,
lesikhova sizahlala khona.
Akusayikwakhiwa kuyo lanini

kumbe kuhlalwe kuyo kusukela kusizukulwane kusiya kusizukulwane.

40 Njengalokhu uNkulunkulu wachitha iSodoma leGomora ndawonye lamadolobho ayeseduzane lawo,” kutsho UTHIXO,
“ngokunjalo kakho ozahlala khona; akulamuntu ozahlala phakathi kwayo.

41 Khangelani! Ibutho liyeza livela enyakatho; isizwe esikhulu lamakhosi amanengi bayadungwa kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.

42 Bahlome ngamadandili langemikhonto; balesihluku, kabalasihawu. Bezwakala njengolwandle oluhlokomayo lapho begade amabhiza abo; beza njengabantu abalungele impi ukuba bakuhlasele, wena Ndodakazi yaseBhabhiloni.

43 INkosi yaseBhabhiloni isiyizwile imibiko ngabo, njalo izandla zayo zilenga zingelamandla. Usizi seluyibambile, ubuhlungu obunjengowesifazane ohelelwayo.

44 Njengesilwane siphuma emahlathini aseJodani sisiya emadlelweni amahle, iBhabhiloni ngizayixotsha elizweni layo ngesikhathshana. Ngubani okhethiweyo engizamkhetela lokhu na? Ngubani onjengami, ngubani ongamelana lami?

Njalo nguphi umelusi ongajamelana lami na?”

⁴⁵ Ngakho, zwanini lokho uTHIXO asecebe ukukwenza ngeBhabhiloni, asemise ukukwenza ngelizwe lamaKhaladiya:

Amazinyane omhlambi azadonselwa le, amadlelo awo uzawatshabalalisa ngokupheleleyo ngenxa yabo.

⁴⁶ Ekuzwakaleni komsindo wokuthunjwa kweBhabhiloni umhlaba uzagedezela; ukukhala kwayo kuzazwakala phakathi kwezizwe.

51

¹ UTHIXO uthi:

“Khangelani, ngizavusa umoya ochithayo umelane leBhabhiloni labantu beLebhi Khamayi.

² Ngizathumela abezizweni eBhabhiloni ukuba bayihlungule njalo batshabalalise lelizwe layo;

bazamelana layo enhlangothini zonke ngosuku lwencithakalo yayo.

³ Lingavumeli mtshoki ebopha idandili lakhe loba limyekele egqoka isigqoko sakhe sensimbi.

Lingazitshiya izinsizwa zayo, liliqede du ibutho layo.

⁴ Bazawela phansi bebulewe eBhabhiloni belinyazwe okokufa emigwaqweni yayo.

⁵ Ngoba u-Israyeli loJuda kabalahlwanga nguNkulunkulu wabo, UTHIXO uSomandla,

lanxa nje ilizwe labo ligcwele ukona
phambi koNgcwele ka-Israyeli.

⁶ Balekani eBhabhiloni!
Sindisani impilo yenu!

Lingabhujiswa ngenxa yezono zayo.
Yisikhathi sokuphindisela KUKATHIXO;
uzaphindisela kuyo ngokufaneleyo.

⁷ IBhabhiloni yayiyinkezo yegolide esandleni
SIKATHIXO;
yenza umhlaba wonke wadakwa.
Izizwe zanatha iwayini layo;
ngakho khathesi sezihlanya.

⁸ IBhabhiloni izakuwa masinyane idilike.
Ilileleni!
Idingeleni umuthi wokupholisa ubuhlungu bayo;
mhlawumbe ingasila.

⁹ 'IBhabhiloni kade singayelapha
kodwa kayelapheki;
kasiyitshiyeni kuthi lowo lalowo aye elizweni
lakibo,
ngoba ukwahlulela kufika emikhathini
kuqonga kuze kufike emayezini.

¹⁰ UTHIXO usebonakalisile ukuthi kasilacala,
wozani sibike eZiyoni
osekwenziwe NGUTHIXO uNkulunkulu
wethu.'

¹¹ Lolani imitshoko;
thathani amahawu!
UTHIXO usevuse amakhosi amaMede
ngoba inhloso yakhe yikuchitha iBhabhiloni.

UTHIXO uzaphindisela,

aphindisele ngenxa yethempeli lakhe.

¹² Phakamiselani imiduli yaseBhabhiloni uphawu!

Qinisani ukulinda,

bekani abalindayo,

lungiselani ukucathamela!

UTHIXO uzafeza inhloso yakhe,

isimiso sakhe ngabantu baseBhabhiloni.

¹³ Lina elihlala ngasemanzini amanengi, njalo lilenotho enengi,

isiphetho senu sesifikile,

isikhathi senu sokuqunywa.

¹⁴ UTHIXO uSomandla usefungile ngayo wathi:

Impela ngizakugcwalisa ngabantu abangesikhongwane,

njalo bazaklabalala ngamacilongo ngaphezu kwakho.

¹⁵ Wenza umhlaba ngamandla akhe;

wamisa umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe njalo wendlala lamazulu ngokuqedisisa kwakhe.

¹⁶ Lapho evungama, amanzi asemazulwini ayahlokoma;

wenza amayezi aphakame evela emikhawulweni yomhlaba.

Uthumela umbane ulezulu njalo

akhuphe umoya eziphaleni zakhe.

¹⁷ Abantu bonke kabalangqondo njalo kabalalwazi;

wonke umkhandi wegolide uyangiswa
yizithombe zakhe.

Izithombe zakhe azenzayo ziyinkohliso;
kazilamphefumulo phakathi kwazo.

18 Ziyize, izinto zenhlekisa nje;
lapho ukwahlulelwa kwazo sekufikile, zizab-
hubha.

19 Lowo oyingxenye yesizwe sikaJakhobe kafani
lalaba,
ngoba unguMenzi wezinto zonke,
kubalwa labantu belifa lakhe,
ibizo lakhe NGUTHIXO uSomandla.

20 Wena uyinduku yami yempi,
isikhali sami sokulwa
ngawe ngitshabalalisa izizwe,
ngawe ngichitha imibuso;

21 ngawe ngihlifiza ibhiza lomgadi walo,
ngawe ngihlifiza inqola yempi lomtshayeli
wayo,

22 ngawe ngihlifiza indoda lomfazi,
ngawe ngihlifiza amaxhegu labatsha,
ngawe ngihlifiza izinsizwa lezintombi,

23 ngawe ngihlifiza abelusi lemihlambi,
ngawe ngihlifiza umlimi lenkabi,
ngawe ngihlifiza ababusi lezikhulu.

24 Emehlweni enu ngizaphindisela kuyo iB-
habhiloni lakubo bonke abahlala kuyo ngenxa
yobubi bonke ababenzileyo eZiyoni," kutsho
UTHIXO.

25 "Ngimelana lawe, wena ntaba echithayo,
wena ochitha umhlaba wonke,"
kutsho UTHIXO.

"Ngizakwelulela isandla sami kuwe,

- ngikugiqe usuka emaweni,
ngikwenze ube yintaba eyatshiswayo.
- 26 Akulalitshe elizasuswa kuwe ukuba libe
ngelekhoneni,
loba elinye ilitsho ukuba ngelesisekelo
ngoba lizachithwa kokuphela,” kutsho
UTHIXO.
- 27 “Phakamisani uphawu elizweni!
Khalisani icilongo phakathi kwezizwe!
Lungisani izizwe ukuba zilwe layo;
ibizeleni imibuso le:
i-Ararathi leMini kanye le-Ashikhenazi.
Ibekeleni umlawuli wokulwa layo;
lithumele amabhiza anjengomtshitshi wen-
tethe.
- 28 Lungisani izizwe ukuba zilwe layo,
amakhosi amaMede,
ababusi bawo lezikhulu zawo,
kanye lamazwe wonke awabusayo.
- 29 Ilizwe liyaqhaq hazela libhinqike
ngoba inhloso KATHIXO yokumelana leBhab-
hiloni imi injalo
ukuchitha ilizwe leBhabhiloni
ukuze kungabikhona ohlala kulo.
- 30 Amabutho aseBhabhiloni aseyekele ukulwa;
ahlezi ezingabeni zawo.
Amandla awo asephelile.
Asebe njengabesifazane.
Izindawo zayo zokuhlala zithungelwe ngomlilo;
imigoqo lamasango kwephukile.
- 31 Esinye isithunywa silandela esinye;
lesithunywa silandela esinye isithunywa
ukuyabika enkosini yaseBhabhiloni

- ukuthi idolobho lonke selithunjiwe,
³² amazibuko emifula athethwe,
 amaxhaphozi atshiswe ngomlilo
 lamabutho ethukile.”
- ³³ Nanku okutshiwo NGUTHIXO uSomandla, uN-
 kulunkulu ka-Israyeli:
 “Indodakazi yaseBhabhiloni injengesiza sokub-
 hulela
 ngesikhathi sokunyathelwa kwaso;
 isikhathi sokuvunwa kwayo sizafika
 masinyane.”
- ³⁴ “UNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni us-
 esidlile,
 usesenze saphambana amakhanda,
 usesenze saba yimbiza engelalutho.
 Usesiginyile njengenyoka,
 wagcwalisa isisu sakhe ngezibiliboco zethu,
 wasesihlanza futhi.
- ³⁵ Udlakela olwenziwe emizimbeni yethu kalube
 phezu kweBhabhiloni,”
 kutsho abahlala eZiyoni.
 “Igazi lethu kalibe phezu kwalabo abahlala
 eBhabhiloni,”
 kutsho iJerusalema.
- ³⁶ Ngakho UTHIXO uthi:
 “Khangelani, imfanelo yenu ngizayivikela,
 ngiliphindiselele;
 ngizacitsha ulwandle lwayo
 ngomise lemithombo yayo.
- ³⁷ IBhabhiloni izakuba yinqumbi yonxiwa,
 isikhundla samakhanka,
 into yokwesatshwa lokuklolodelwa,
 indawo engahlali muntu.

- 38 Abantu bayo bonke bayabhonga njengezilwane ezincane,
bayahwabha njengemidlwane yesilwane.
- 39 Kodwa lapho besesebukhali,
ngizabenzela idili ngibadakise,
ukuze baklabalale ngohleko,
babe sebelala kokuphela bangavuki futhi,”
kutsho UTHIXO.
- 40 “Ngizabehlisela phansi
njengamawundlu esilaheni,
njengenqama lembuzi.
- 41 Yeka ukuthunjwa okuzakwenziwa iSheshaki,
ukuzincoma komhlaba wonke kuthunjiwe!
Yeka ukutshaqisa iBhabhiloni ezakuba yikho
phakathi kwezizwe!
- 42 Ulwandle luzaphakama phezu kweBhabhiloni;
amagagasi alo ahlokomayo ayisibekele.
- 43 Amadolobho ayo azachitheka,
ilizwe elomileyo
leliyinkangala,
ilizwe okungekho ohlala khona,
okungekho muntu odabula phakathi kwalo.
- 44 Ngizamjezisa uBheli eBhabhiloni
ngimenze akuhlanze lokho akuginyileyo.
Izizwe kazisayikujulukela kuye.
Njalo umduli weBhabhiloni uzakuwa.
- 45 Bantu bami, phumani kulo iBhabhiloni!
Balekelani ukufa!
Balekelani ulaka olwesabekayo LUKATHIXO.
- 46 Lingaphelelwa lithemba kumbe lesabe
lapho kuzwakala amahungahunga elizweni;

elinye ihungahunga lifika lonyaka, elinye
kozayo,

amahungahunga odlakela elizweni
awombusi evukela umbusi.

47 Ngoba isikhathi sizafika impela
lapho ngizajezisa izithombe zaseBhabhiloni;
ilizwe layo lonke lizayangeka
lababuleweyo bayo bonke bazawela
phakathi kwayo.

48 Lapho-ke izulu lomhlaba lakho konke
okukukho
kuzamemezela intokozo ngeBhabhiloni,
ngoba abachithi bazayihlasela
bevelela enyakatho,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

49 “IBhabhiloni kumele idilike ngenxa yabako-
Israyeli ababulawayo,
njengokubulawa kwabantu emhlabeni
wonke,
batshabalala ngenxa yeBhabhiloni.

50 Lina eliphephileyo enkembeni,
sukani njalo lingalibali!
Khumbulani UTHIXO elizweni elikude,
licabange langeJerusalema.”

51 “Siyangekile, ngoba siqalekisiwe,
lehlazo lembese ubuso bethu,
ngoba abezizweni bangene
ezindaweni ezingcwele zendlu KATHIXO.”

52 UTHIXO uthi, “Kodwa insuku ziyeza,
lapho engizajezisa khona izithombe zayo,

njalo elizweni layo lonke
abalimeleyo bazabubula.

⁵³ Lanxa iBhabhiloni ingafinyelela emkhathini
iqinise izingaba zayo eziphakemeyo,
ngizathumela abachithi bayihlasele,”
kutsho UTHIXO.

⁵⁴ “Umsindo wokukhala uvela eBhabhiloni,
umsindo wencithakalo enkulu
ovela elizweni lamaKhaladiya.

⁵⁵ UTHIXO uzayichitha iBhabhiloni;
uzathulisa umsindo wayo wenhlokomo.
Amagagasi ezitha azahlokoma njengamanzi
amanengi;
ukuvungama kwamazwi azo kuzazwakala.

⁵⁶ Umchithi uzakuzahlasela iBhabhiloni;
amabutho ayo azathunjwa,
lamadandili awo azakwephuka.

Ngoba UTHIXO unguNkulunkulu wempindiselo;
uzaphindisela ngokugcweleyo.

⁵⁷ Ngizadakisa izikhulu lezihlakaniphi zayo,
kanye lababusi bayo, lezinduna kanye lam-
abutho;
bazalala kokuphela bangavuki futhi,”
kutsho UTHIXO, obizo lakhe NGUTHIXO uSo-
mandla.

⁵⁸ UTHIXO uSomandla uthi:
“Umduli oqatha weBhabhiloni uzabhidlizwa
lamasango ayo aphakemeyo athungelwe
ngomlilo;
abantu bazidinisela ize,
umsebenzi wezizwe ungamafutha
amalangabi nje kuphela.”

⁵⁹ Leli yilizwi uJeremiya umphrofethi alinika induna yamabutho uSeraya indodana kaNeriya, indodana kaMahaseyiya, esesiya eBhabhiloni loZedekhiya inkosi yakoJuda ngomnyaka wesine wokubusa kwakhe. ⁶⁰ UJeremiya wayelobe emqulwini ngomonakalo wonke owawuzakwehlela iBhabhiloni lakho konke okwakubhalwe ngeBhabhiloni. ⁶¹ Wathi kuSeraya, “Lapho usufikile eBhabhiloni ubowafunda wonke amazwi la ngelizwi eliphakemeyo. ⁶² Ube ususithi, ‘Awu THIXO, wathi indawo le uzayichitha ukuze kungabi lamuntu kumbe inyamazana ezahlala kuyo; izaphundleka kuze kube nininini.’ ⁶³ Lapho usuqedile ukubala umqulu lo, ubophele ilitshe kuwo uwuphosele kuYufrathe, ⁶⁴ ubususithi, ‘Izatshona kanje iBhabhiloni ingabe isavumbuluka ngenxa yomonakalo engizayehlisela wona. Labantu bayo bazakuwa.’”

Amazwi kaJeremiya aphelela lapha.

52

Ukuwa KweJerusalema

¹ UZedekhiya waba yinkosi eleminyaka engamatshumi amabili lanye, njalo wabusa eJerusalema okweminyaka elitshumi lanye. Ibizo likanina lalinguHamuthali indodakazi kaJeremiya waseLibhina. ² Wenza okubi

emehlweni KATHIXO, njengalokho okwakwenziwe nguJehoyakhimi. ³ Kwakungenxa yokuthukuthela KUKATHIXO ukuze kwenzakale konke lokhu eJerusalema lakoJuda, njalo ekucineni kwabangela ukuthi UTHIXO abachithe.

Ngalokho uZedekhiya wayihlamukela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni.

⁴ Ngakho ngenyanga yesificamunwemunye yokubusa kukaZedekhiya, ngosuku lwetshumi lwenyanga yetshumi, uNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, waya eJerusalema lebuthe lakhe lonke. Bahlala ngaphandle kwedolobho, bakha izinqaba zokulivimbezela kuzozonke inhlangothi zalo. ⁵ Idolobho lavinjezelwa kwaze kwaba ngumnyaka wetshumi lanye kaZedekhiya inkosi.

⁶ Ngosuku lwesificamunwemunye lwenyanga yesine indlala yayisinzima edolobheni, abantu bengaselakudla. ⁷ Umduli wedolobho wafohlwa, ibutho lonke labaleka. Basuka edolobheni ebusuku bephuma ngesango eliphakathi kwemiduli emibili, phansi kwesivande senkosi, lanxa nje amaKhaladiya ayeligombolozele idolobho. Babaleka beqonde e-Arabha, ⁸ kodwa ibutho lamaKhaladiya laxotshana lenkosi uZedekhiya layamfika emagcekeni aseJerikho. Wonke amabutho akhe ehlukana laye njalo ahlakazeka, ⁹ yena wathunjwa.

Wasiwa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila elizweni laseHamathi, lapho eyamgwebela khona. ¹⁰ Khona eRibhila inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yabulala amadodana kaZedekhiya emehlweni akhe; yabulala lezikhulu zakoJuda zonke.

¹¹ Emva kwalokho, yamkhupha amehlo uZedekhiya, yambopha ngamaketane ethusi, yamusa eBhabhiloni, lapho eyamfaka khona entolongweni kwaze kwafika usuku lokufa kwakhe.

¹² Ngosuku lwetshumi ngenyanga yesihlanu, ngomnyaka wetshumi lasificamunwemunye kaNebhukhadineza inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, uNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi besikhosini, owayesebenzela inkosi yaseBhabhiloni, wafika eJerusalema. ¹³ Wathungela

ithempeli LIKATHIXO ngomlilo, lesigodlo senkosi lezindlu zonke zaseJerusalema. Zonke izindlu eziqathekileyo wazitshisa.

¹⁴ Lonke ibutho laseBhabhiloni elalingaphansi komlawuli wabalindi besikhosini layidiliza yonke imiduli eyayigombolozele iJerusalema.

¹⁵ UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi wathatha abanye babayanga bokucina wabasa ekuthunjweni lalabo ababesele edolobheni, lenengi lezingcwethi kanye lalabo abasebeye enkosini yaseBhabhiloni. ¹⁶ Kodwa

uNebhuzaradani watshiya inengi labantu ababengabayanga bokucina elizweni ukuba basebenze ezivinini lasemasimini.

¹⁷ AbeBhabhiloni baphahlaza izinsika zethusi lezinti zezibane loLwandle lwethusi, okwakusethempelini LIKATHIXO. Bathwalela ithubu lelo eBhabhiloni. ¹⁸ Bathatha njalo

imbiza, lamafotsholo, lezindlawu lemiganu yezichelo, lezinditshi lazozonke izitsha zethusi ezazisetshenziswa enkonzweni yasethempelini.

¹⁹ Umlawuli wabalindi besigodlo wathatha

izinditshi, izitsha zokutshisela impepha, imiganu yezichelo, imbiza, izinti zezibane, izinditshi lemiganu okusetshenziswa eminkelweni yokunathwayo konke okwakwenziwe ngegolide elicengekileyo loba isiliva.

²⁰ Ithusi elalivela ensikeni ezimbili, loLwandle lelenkunzi zethusi ezilitshumi lambili ezazingaphansi kwalo kanye lelezidindi ezisusekayo konke okwakwenzelwe ithempeli LIKATHIXO yinkosi uSolomoni, kwakulesisindo esasingelanganiswe.

²¹ Ubude bensika ngayinye babuzingalo ezilitshumi lasificaminwembili, ubuqatha buzingalo ezilitshumi lambili, uhlonzi luyiminwe emine njalo ilomhome. ²² Isiduku sethushi phezu kwenye insika sasizingalo ezinhlanu ubude baso njalo siceciswe ngomeluko lamaphomegranathi ethusi nxazonke. Enye insika, lamaphomegranathi ayo, layo yayinjalo.

²³ Emaceleni kwakulamaphomegranathi angamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye munye lesithupha; esewonke amaphomegranathi ayengaphezu kobufikifiki obabuzungezile, ayelikhulu.

²⁴ Umlawuli wabalindi wathumba uSeraya induna yabaphristi, loZefaniya umsekeli wakhe kanye labalindi bomnyango abathathu.

²⁵ Kulabo ababelokhu besedolobheni wathatha isikhulu esasiphethe amadoda okulwa, labacebisi besikhosini abayisikhombisa. Wathatha lonobhala owayeyinduna eyayiphethe ukubuthwa kwabantu elizweni kanye labanye abantu bakhe abangamatshumi ayisithupha

ababeficwe edolobheni. ²⁶ UNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabathatha bonke wabasa enkosini yaseBhabhiloni eRibhila. ²⁷ Khonale eRibhila, elizweni laseHamathi, inkosi yathi kabaqunywe.

Ngakho abakoJuda baya ekuthunjweni kude lelizwe labo.

²⁸ Nanka amanani abantu uNebhukhadineza abasa ekuthunjweni:

ngomnyaka wesikhombisa,
amaJuda azinkulungwane ezintathu lamatshumi amabili lantathu (3,023);

²⁹ ngomnyaka kaNebhukhadineza wetshumi lasificaminwembili mibili,
abantu beJerusalema abangamakhulu ayisificamunwemunye lamatshumi amathathu lambili (832);

³⁰ ngomnyaka wakhe wamatshumi amabili lantathu,
amaJuda angamakhulu ayisikhombisa lamatshumi amane lanhlanu (745) asiwa ekuthunjweni nguNebhuzaradani umlawuli wabalindi ekubusweni kwezizwe ezinengi.

Bebonke kwakungabantu abazinkulungwane ezine lamakhulu ayisithupha (4,600).

Ukukhululwa kukaJehoyakhini

³¹ Ngomnyaka wamatshumi amathathu lesikhombisa uJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda esekuthunjweni, ngomnyaka u-Evili-Merodakhi aba yinkosi yaseBhabhiloni ngawo, wakhulula

uJehoyakhini inkosi yakoJuda, wamkhupha entolongweni ngosuku lwamatshumi amabili lanhlanu lwenyanga yetshumi lambili. ³² Wakhuluma laye ngomusa, wamnika isihlalo esihloniphekayo esasingaphezu kwezamanye amakhosi ayelaye eBhabhiloni. ³³ Ngakho uJehoyakhini wakhupha izigqoko zakhe zasentolongweni, wadla lenkosi izikhathi zonke okwempilo yakhe yonke. ³⁴ Nsuku zonke inkosi yaseBhabhiloni yayinika uJehoyakhini isabelo esimisiweyo malanga wonke empilweni yakhe, kwaze kwafika ilanga lokufa kwakhe.

cxk

**Biblica® IBhayibhili Elingwele LesiNdebele
Elifinyelelekayo™
The Holy Bible in the Ndebele language of
Zimbabwe: Biblica® IBhayibhili Elingwele
LesiNdebele Elifinyelelekayo™**

copyright © 2022 Biblica, Inc.

Language: isiNdebele (Ndebele)

Contributor: Biblica, Inc.

Biblica® IBhayibhili Elingwele LesiNdebele Elifinyelelekayo™
Imininingwane Yokukopa © 2003, 2006, 2022 yenziwe yiBiblica, Inc.
Biblica® Open Ndebele Contemporary Bible™
Copyright © 2003, 2006, 2022 by Biblica, Inc.

“Biblica” njalo impawu ze-Biblica zimpawu zokuthengisa ezibhaliswe e-United States ehofisini yezimpawu yi-Biblica, Inc. Lisetshenziswe ngokusemthethweni.

“Biblica” is a trademark registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc. Used with permission.

Creative Commons License

This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License (CC BY-SA). To view a copy of this license, visit creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0 or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

Biblica® is a trademark registered by Biblica, Inc., and use of the Biblica® trademark requires the written permission of Biblica, Inc. Under the terms of the CC BY-SA license, you may copy and redistribute this unmodified work as long as you keep the Biblica® trademark intact. If you modify a copy or translate this work, thereby creating a derivative work, you must remove the Biblica® trademark. On the derivative work, you must indicate what changes you have made and attribute the work as follows: “The original work by Biblica, Inc. is available for free at www.biblica.com and open.bible.”

Notice of copyright must appear on the title or copyright page of the work as follows:

Biblica® IBhayibhili Elingwele LesiNdebele Elifinyelelekayo™
Imininingwane Yokukopa © 2003, 2006, 2022 yenziwe yiBiblica, Inc.
Biblica® Open Ndebele Contemporary Bible™
Copyright © 2003, 2006, 2022 by Biblica, Inc.

“Biblica” njalo impawu ze-Biblica zimpawu zokuthengisa ezibhaliswe e-United States ehofisini yezimpawu yi-Biblica, Inc. Lisetshenziswe ngokusemthethweni.

“Biblica” is a trademark registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc. Used with permission.

You must also make your derivative work available under the same license (CC BY-SA).

If you would like to notify Biblica, Inc. regarding your translation of this work, please contact us at open.bible/contact-us.

This translation is made available to you under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike license 4.0.

You have permission to share and redistribute this Bible translation in any format and to make reasonable revisions and adaptations of this translation, provided that:

You include the above copyright and source information.

If you make any changes to the text, you must indicate that you did so in a way that makes it clear that the original licensor is not necessarily endorsing your changes.

If you redistribute this text, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original.

Pictures included with Scriptures and other documents on this site are licensed just for use with those Scriptures and documents. For other uses, please contact the respective copyright owners.

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.

2023-04-13

PDF generated using Haiola and XeLaTeX on 21 Feb 2024 from source files dated 14 Apr 2023

996f7b89-785a-5269-881d-0464c82010c4