

Incwadi kaPhawuli KwabaseRoma

¹ UPhawuli, inceku kaKhristu uJesu, owabizelwa ukuba ngumpostoli njalo wahlukaniselwa ivangeli likaNkulunkulu, ² ivangeli alithembisa ngaphambilini ngabaphrofethi bakhe emibhalweni engcwele ³ mayelana leNdodana yakhe, yona okuthi ngokwemvelo yayo yoluntu yayiyinzalo kaDavida, ⁴ njalo ngoMoya wobungcwele yabonakaliswa ngamandla ukuthi iyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu ngokuvuka kwayo kwabafileyo; uJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu. ⁵ Ngaye samukela umusa lobupostoli ukuba sinxusele abantu beZizwe bonke ekulaleleni okuza ngokukholwa ngenxa yebizo lakhe. ⁶ Lani futhi lingabanye babeZizweni ababizelwe ukuba babe ngabakaJesu Khristu.

⁷ Kubo bonke abaseRoma abathandwa nguNkulunkulu njalo ababizelwe ukuba ngabangcwele bakhe:

Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba laseNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini.

UPhawuli Ufisa Ukwethekelela ERoma

⁸ Kuqala ngibonga uNkulunkulu wami ngo-Jesu Khristu ngilibongela lani, ngoba ukukholwa kwenu kubikwa umhlaba wonke. ⁹ UNkulunkulu

engimkhonza ngenhliziyo yami yonke ngokutshumayela ivangeli leNdodana yakhe, ungu-fakazi wami ekuthini ngilikhumbula kokuphela ¹⁰ emikhulekweni yami izikhathi zonke; njalo ngiyakhuleka khathesi ukuthi sengathi ekucineni ngentando kaNkulunkulu ngivulelwe indlela yokuza kini.

¹¹ Ngiyafisa ukulibona ukuze ngilnike isipho somoya sokuliqinisa, ¹² okuyikuthi ngokufananayo lina lami siqiniswe lukholo lomunye wethu. ¹³ Kangifuni ukuba lingaze lazi, bazalwane, ukuthi sengaceba kanengi ukuba ngize kini (kodwa ngisehluleka ukwenzanjalo kuze kube khathesi) ukuze ngibe lesivuno phakathi kwenu, njengalokhu engakwenzayo kwabanye abeZizweni.

¹⁴ Ngilomlandu kumaGrikhi lakwabangasiwo, kwabahlakaniphileyo labayiziwula. ¹⁵ Yikho-nje ngitshisekela ukutshumayela ivangeli lakini eliseRoma.

¹⁶ Kangilanhloni ngevangeli, ngoba lingamandla kaNkulunkulu okusindiswa kwabo bonke abakholwayo: kuqala amaJuda, kulandele abeZizwe. ¹⁷ Ngoba ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu kubonakaliswa evangelini, ukulunga okungokukholwa kusukela ekuqaleni kusiya ekucineni, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Abalungileyo bazaphila ngokukholwa.”*

Ulaka LukaNkulunkulu Ebantwini

¹⁸ Ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luyabonakaliswa luvela ezulwini kulabo abangalunganga kanye

* **1:17** 1.17 UHabhakhukhi 2.4

lobubi babantu abancindezela iqiniso ngobubi babo, ¹⁹ kalokho okungazakala ngoNkulunkulu kusobala kubo, ngoba uNkulunkulu ekwenze kwabasobala kubo. ²⁰ Ngoba kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba isimo sikaNkulunkulu esingabonakaliyo, amandla akhe angapheliyo kanye lobuNkulunkulu bakhe, sekubonakele ngokusobala, kuzwisiseka ngokwenziweyo, ukuze abantu bangabi lasizatho sokuzigeza.

²¹ Ngoba lanxa uNkulunkulu babemazi, kabamdumisanga njengoNkulunkulu loba bambonge, kodwa imicabango yabo yaba yize lezinhliziyiyo zabo eziyiziwula zaba mnyama.

²² Lanxa bazenza abahlakaniphileyo baba yizithutha ²³ benana inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ongafiyo ngemfanekiso eyenziwa yafana labantu abalakho ukufa lezinyoni lezinyamazana kanye lezinanakazana ezihuquzelayo.

²⁴ Ngakho uNkulunkulu wabanikela esonweni sezinkanuko zezinhliziyiyo zabo zobufebe ngokwenza imzimba yabo ihlazo phakathi kwabo.

²⁵ Benana iqiniso likaNkulunkulu ngamanga, badumisa bekhonza izinto ezadalwayo kuloMdali odunyiswa kuze kube nini lanini. Amen.

²⁶ Ngenxa yalokhu, uNkulunkulu wabanikela ezinkanukweni ezilahlazo. Labesifazane bakibo benana imvelo yobudlelwano bemacansini ngokungasikho kwemvelo. ²⁷ Ngokufanayo abesilisa labo badela ukuphathana kwemvelo labesifazane batshiseka ngokukhanukana.

Abesilisa benza izenzo ezilahlazo lamanye amadoda, bazilethela isijejiso esifanele ukuxhwala kwabo.

²⁸ Phezu kwalokho, njengoba bengazange bacabange ukuthi kufanele bagcine ukumazi uNkulunkulu, wabanikela engqondweni yokuxhwala, ukuba benze okungamelanga kwenziwe. ²⁹ Sebegcwele ngokonakala konke, ububi, ubuhaga kanye lokuxhwala. Bagcwele umhawu, lokubulala, lengxabano, lenkohliso kanye lolunya. Bangabanyeyayo, ³⁰ labahlebi, labazonda uNkulunkulu, leziqholo, labazigqajayo kanye labazikhukhumezayo; baqala izindlela zokwenza okubi; badelela abazali babo; ³¹ kabaqedisisi, kabathembekanga, kabalathando njalo kabalamusa. ³² Lanxa besazi isimiso esilungileyo sikaNkulunkulu sokuthi labo abenza izinto ezinje bafanele ukufa, kabaqhubeki nje kuphela besenza zona kanye lezizinto, kodwa bayavumelana njalo lalabo abazenzayo.

2

Ukwahlulela Okulungileyo KukaNkulunkulu

¹ Ngakho-ke, kawulasizatho sokuzigeza wena owahlulela omunye, ngoba loba kungaphi owahlulela khona omunye, uyazigweba wena ngokwakho, ngoba wena owahlulelayo wenza izinto ezifanayo. ² Siyakwazi ukuthi ukubahlulela kwakhe uNkulunkulu labo abenza izinto ezinje kweyame eqinisweni. ³ Ngakho lapho-ke, wena muntu nje, ubahlulela, kodwa usenza izinto ezifanayo, ucabanga ukuthi uzakubalekela ukwahlulela kukaNkulunkulu na? ⁴ Kumbe njalo weyisa ubukhulu bomusa wakhe, ukubekezela kanye lesineke sakhe,

ungananzeleli ukuthi umusa kaNkulunkulu ujonge ukukusa ekuphendukeni na?

⁵ Kodwa ngenxa yobuqholo bakho lenhliziyo yakho engaphendukiyo, uziqoqela ulaka oluzakuhlupha ngosuku lolaka lukaNkulunkulu, lapho okuzabonakaliswa khona ukwahlulela kwakhe okulungileyo.

⁶ UNkulunkulu “uzakupha umvuzo emuntwini munye ngamunye ngokuhambelana lalokho akwenzileyo.”*

⁷ Kulabo abaphikelela besenza okuhle bedinga inkazimulo, udumo kanye lokungabhubhi, uzakubanika ukuphila okulaphakade. ⁸ Kodwa labo abazinginekelayo labala iqiniso balandele ububi, kuzakuba lolaka lokuthukuthela. ⁹ Kuzakuba lokuhlupheka losizi emuntwini wonke owenza okubi, kuqala kumJuda kulandele koweZizweni, ¹⁰ kodwa inkazimulo, udumo kanye lokuthula kuye wonke owenza okulungileyo, kuqala kumJuda kulandele koweZizweni. ¹¹ Ngoba uNkulunkulu kalabandlululo.

¹² Bonke abenza isono ngaphandle komthetho bazabhubha ngaphandle komthetho, njalo bonke abenza isono ngaphansi komthetho bazakwahlulelwa ngomthetho. ¹³ Ngoba akusilabo abezwa umthetho abalungileyo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu, kodwa yilabo abalalela umthetho okuzathiwa balungile. ¹⁴ (Ngempela, nxa abeZizwe, abangelawo umthetho, besenza ngokwemvelo izinto ezifunwa ngumthetho, bangumthetho bona ngokwabo, lanxa bengelawo um-

* **2:6** 2.6 AmaHubo 62.12; Izaga 24.12

thetho, ¹⁵ njengoba bebonakalisa ukuthi oku-
funwa ngumthetho kulotshiwe ezinhliziyweni
zabo, izazela zabo ziyafakaza, imicabango yabo
ibasola iphinde ibavikele.) ¹⁶ Lokhu kuzak-
wenzakala ngosuku uNkulunkulu azakwahlulela
imfihlo zabantu ngoJesu Khristu, njengokutsho
kwevangeli lami.

AmaJuda LoMthetho

¹⁷ Khathesi-ke wena, nxa uzibiza ngokuthi
ungumJuda; nxa uthembe umthetho njalo
uzincoma ngobudlelwane bakho loNkulunkulu;
¹⁸ nxa uyazi intando yakhe njalo uvumela okuhle
ngoba ufundiswe ngumthetho; ¹⁹ nxa ukholwa
ukuthi ungumkhokheli weziphofu, ukukhanya
kwalabo abasemnyameni, ²⁰ umeluleki
wezithutha, lomfundisi wezingane, ngoba
kwezomthetho uhlanganisa ulwazi leqiniso,
²¹ ngakho wena ofundisa abanye, kambe
lawe kawuzifundisi na? Wena otshumayela
ngokungebi, uyeba na? ²² Wena othi abantu
bangafebi, uyafeba na? Wena owenyanya
izithombe, uyawaphanga amathempeli
na? ²³ Wena ozincoma ngomthetho,
uNkulunkulu uyamdelela ngokwephula
umthetho na? ²⁴ Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi,
“Ibizo likaNkulunkulu lihlanjaziwe phakathi
kwabeZizwe ngenxa yakho.”†

²⁵ Ukusoka kuligugu nxa ugcina umthetho,
kodwa nxa usephula umthetho, usufana
lokuthi kawusokanga. ²⁶ Nxa labo

† **2:24** 2.24 U-Isaya 52.5; UHezekhiyeli 36.22

abangasokanga begcina imfanelo zomthetho, kabayikukhangelwa njengabasokileyo na? ²⁷ Lowo ongasokanga ngokwenyama, kodwa elalela umthetho, uzakulahla wena, okuthi lanxa ulomlayo olotshiweyo njalo usokile, ungumephuli womthetho.

²⁸ Umuntu kasumJuda nxa enguye emehlweni kuphela, loba esokile emehlweni lenyamani kuphela. ²⁹ Hatshi, umuntu ungumJuda nxa enguye ngaphakathi, lokusoka yikusoka kwenhliziyo, ngoMoya, hatshi ngomlayo. Ukubongwa komuntu onjalo akuveli ebantwini, kodwa kuNkulunkulu.

3

Ukuthembeka KukaNkulunkulu

¹ Pho yibungcono bani obukhona ekubeni ngumJuda, loba ligugu bani elikhona eku-sokeni na? ² Kukhulu ngezindlela zonke. Okokuqala amaJuda aphathiswe wona kanye amazwi kaNkulunkulu.

³ Kuba njani nxa abanye babo babengathembekanga? Ukungathembeki kwabo kungachitha ukuthembeka kukaNkulunkulu na? ⁴ Akunjalo! UNkulunkulu kabe qotho, umuntu wonke abe ngumqambi wamanga. Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Ukuze ubonakaliswe ukuthi uqondile lapho ukhuluma,
njalo unqobe lapho usahlulela.”*

⁵ Kodwa nxa ukungalungi kwethu kusenza ukulunga kukaNkulunkulu kucace kakhulu,

* **3:4** 3.4 AmaHubo 51.4

thina sizakuthini na? UNkulunkulu kalunganga ngokwehlisela ulaka lwakhe phezu kwethu na? (Mina ngikhuluma njengokubona komuntu.)
⁶ Ngempela akunjalo. Aluba kwakunjalo, uNkulunkulu ubengawahlulela kanjani umhlaba na? ⁷ Omunye angaphikisa athi, “Nxa amanga ami ekhulisa ubuqotho bukaNkulunkulu ngalokho andise udumo lwakhe, kungani lokhe ngilahlwa njengesoni na?” ⁸ Kungani singathi njengoba sigconwa kuthiwa sitsho njalo futhi abanye bathi “Kasenzi okubi ukuze kuvele okulungileyo na?” Ukulahlwa kwabo kufanele.

Kakho Olungileyo

⁹ Pho sizaphetha ngokuthini na? Kambe sesingcono na? Hatshi akunjalo! Sesitshilo ukuthi umJuda loweZizwe bangokufanayo ngaphansi kwamandla esono. ¹⁰ Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Kakho olungileyo, kakho loyedwa;

¹¹ kakho ozwisisayo,
 kakho odinga uNkulunkulu.

¹² Bonke baphambukile,
 bonke kabasasizi ngalutho;
 kakho owenza okuhle,
 kakho loyedwa.”[†]

¹³ “Imiphimbo yabo ingamangcwaba avulekileyo;
 inlimi zabo zisebenza ukukhohlisa.”[‡]
 “Ubuhlungu bezinhlanguwana busezindebeni zabo.”[§]

[†] **3:12** 3.12 AmaHubo 14.1-3; 53.1-3; UMtshumayeli 7.20 [‡] **3:13**
 3.13 AmaHubo 5.9 [§] **3:13** 3.13 AmaHubo 140.3

14 “Imilomo yabo igcwele ukuthuka
lentukuthelo.”*
15 “Inyawo zabo zilesiqubu ekuchitheni igazi;
16 incithakalo losizi kuphawula izindlela
zabo,
17 indlela yokuthula kabayazi.”†
18 “Ukumesaba uNkulunkulu akukho
emehlweni abo.”‡
19 Siyakwazi ukuthi loba kuyini okutshiwo
ngumthetho, ukutsho kulabo abangaphansi kom-
thetho, ukuze imilomo yonke ithuliswe lomhlaba
wonke ube lomlandu kuNkulunkulu. 20 Ngakho-
ke, kakho okuzathiwa ulungile emehlweni akhe
ngokugcina umthetho; kodwa ngomthetho siba
lakho ukwazi isono.

Ukulunga Ngokukholwa

21 Kodwa khatesi ukulunga okuvela
kuNkulunkulu, ngaphandle komthetho,
sekwazisiwe, njalo kwafakazelwa nguMthetho
labaphrofethi. 22 Ukulunga lokhu okuvela
kuNkulunkulu kufika kubo bonke abakholwa
kuJesu Khristu. Akulamehluko phakathi
komJuda loweZizwe, 23 ngoba bonke bonile
njalo bayasilela enkazimulweni kaNkulunkulu,
24 njalo bakhululwa ngomusa wakhe
kudlula ngensindiso eyeza ngoKhristu uJesu.
25 UNkulunkulu wambeka njengomhlatshelelo
wenhlawulo, ngokukholwa egazini lakhe.
Wenza lokhu ukuze abonakalise ukulunga
kwakhe, ngoba ngokubekezela kwakhe wayekela
izono ezenziwe ngaphambilini kungekho

* **3:14** 3.14 AmaHubo 10.7 † **3:17** 3.17 U-Isaya 59.7-8 ‡ **3:18**
3.18 AmaHubo 36.1

kujeziswa, ²⁶ wakwenzela ukubonakalisa ukulunga kwakhe ngalesisikhathi, ukuze abe ngolungileyo njalo onguye obenza babe ngabalungileyo labo abakholwa kuJesu.

²⁷ Pho kungaphi ukuzincoma? Kutshiywe ngaphandle. Ngasimiso bani na? Esokugcina umthetho na? Hatshi, kodwa ngesokukholwa.

²⁸ Ngoba siyaqinisa ukuthi umuntu ulungiswa yikukholwa langaphandle kokugcina umthetho.

²⁹ UNkulunkulu unguNkulunkulu wamaJuda kuphela na? KasuNkulunkulu wabeZizwe njalo na? Yebo, ungowabeZizwe futhi, ³⁰ njengoba uNkulunkulu emunye kuphela, ozalungisa abasokileyo ngokukholwa labangasokanga ngalokho kukholwa okufanayo. ³¹ Pho, siyawuchitha umthetho ngalokhu kukholwa na? Hatshi, akunjalo! Kodwa, okuyikho yikuthi umthetho siyawusekela.

4

U-Abrahama Walungiswa Ngokukholwa

¹ Pho sizakuthi kuyini u-Abrahama, ukhokho wethu, akufumanayo ngokwenyama kule indaba na? ² Nxa, ngempela, u-Abrahama walungiswa ngemisebenzi, wayelakho okokuzincoma ngakho, kodwa hatshi phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ³ Kanje umbhalo uthini na? Uthi, “U-Abrahama wakholwa uNkulunkulu, njalo kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga.”*

* **4:3** 4.3 UGenesisi 15.6

⁴ Nxa umuntu esebenza, umholo wakhe kawubalwa kuye njengesipho, kodwa njengomlandu. ⁵ Ikanti emuntwini ongasebenziyo kodwa ethemba uNkulunkulu owenza ababi balunge, ukukholwa kwakhe kubalwa njengokulunga. ⁶ UDavida utsho okufanayo lapho ekhuluma ngokubusiseka komuntu uNkulunkulu ambalela ukulunga ngaphandle kwemisebenzi, esithi:

⁷ “Babusisiwe labo
 oziphambeko zabo zithethelelwe,
 ozono zabo zisibekelwe.

⁸ Ubusisiwe lowo
 ongasoze abalelwe isono sakhe yiNkosi.”†

⁹ Ukubusiseka lokhu ngokwabasokileyo kuphela, kumbe njalo lakwabangasokanga na? Kade sisithi ukukholwa kuka-Abhrahama kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga. ¹⁰ Kwabalelwa kusiphi isimo na? Kwakungemva kokuba esesokile, loba ngaphambilini na? ¹¹ Wamukela isibonakaliso sokusoka, uphawu lokulunga abalalo ngokulunga engakasoki. Ngakho-ke, unguyise wabo bonke abakholwayo, kodwa bengasokanga, ukuze ukulunga kubalelwe kubo. ¹² Njalo unguyise wabasokileyo futhi, abangasokanga nje kuphela, kodwa abahamba ezinyathelweni zokholo ubaba u-Abhrahama ayelalo engakasoki.

¹³ Akuzanga ngomthetho ukuthi u-Abhrahama lenzalo yakhe amukele isithembiso sokuthi uzakuba yindlalifa yomhlaba, kodwa kweza ngokulunga okuza ngokukholwa. ¹⁴ Ngoba nxa labo abaphila ngomthetho bezindlalifa, ukukholwa

† **4:8** 4.8 AmaHubo 32.1-2

kakulasizo lesithembiso siyize, ¹⁵ ngoba umthetho uletha ulaka. Njalo lapho okungelamthetho khona akukho ukona.

¹⁶ Ngakho, isithembiso siza ngokukholwa, ukuze sifike ngomusa njalo siqiniseke kuyo yonke inzalo ka-Abhrahama, hatshi kulabo abangabomthetho kuphela, kodwa njalo labo abangabokholo luka-Abhrahama. Ungubaba wethu sonke. ¹⁷ Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, “Sengikwenze waba nguyise wezizwe ezinengi.”[‡] Ungubaba emehlweni kaNkulunkulu akholwa kuye, yena onika abafuleyo ukuphila njalo enze izinto ebezingekho zibe khona.

¹⁸ Kungekho themba, u-Abhrahama ngethemba wakholwa waba nguyise wezizwe ezinengi, njengoba kwakutshiwo kuye ukuthi, “Izakuba njalo inzalo yakho.”[§]

¹⁹ Engekethisanga ekukholweni kwakhe, wamelana lobuqotho bokuthi umzimba wakhe wawusufana lofileyo, njengoba wayeseleminyaka ephosa ibe likhulu ubudala kanye lokuthi isibeletho sikaSara laso sasesifile. ²⁰ Waqiniswa ekukholweni kwakhe, wapha udumo kuNkulunkulu,

²¹ ekholwe ngokupheleleyo ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayelamandla okwenza lokho ayekuthembisile.

²² Yikho-nje “kwabalelwa kuye njengokulunga.”^{*}

²³ Amazwi athi “kwabalelwa kuye” kawalotshelwanga yena yedwa, ²⁴ kodwa lathi futhi, uNkulunkulu azabalela ukulunga

[‡] **4:17** 4.17 UGenesisi 17.5 [§] **4:18** 4.18 UGenesisi 15.5 ^{*} **4:22** 4.22 UGenesisi 15.6

kwethu, thina esikholwa kuye, yena owavusa uJesu iNkosi yethu kwabafuleyo. ²⁵ Wanikelwa ekufeni ngenxa yezono zethu njalo wavuselwa ekuphileni ukuze silungisiswe.

5

Ukuthula Lethemba

¹ Ngakho-ke, njengoba silungisiswe ngokukholwa, silokuthula kuNkulunkulu ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, ² esifinyelele ngaye umusa esimi kuwo khathesi ngokukholwa. Njalo siyathokoza ngethemba enkazimulweni kaNkulunkulu. ³ Akunjalo kuphela, kodwa siyathokoza njalo ezinhluphekweni zethu, ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi ukuhlupheka kudala ukuqinisele; ⁴ ukuqinisele, ubuntu; lobuntu, ithemba. ⁵ Njalo ithemba kalisidanisi, ngoba uNkulunkulu usethululele uthando lwakhe ezinhliziyweni zethu ngoMoya oNgcwele, asinike yena.

⁶ Liyabona, ngesikhathi esifaneleyo, lapho sisesebuthakathaka, uKhristu wafela abangakholwa kuNkulunkulu. ⁷ Kulivelakancane ukuthi umuntu afele umuntu olungileyo, lanxa kungaba lolesibindi sokufela umuntu olungileyo. ⁸ Kodwa uNkulunkulu ubonakalisa uthando lwakhe kithi ngalokhu: Siseseyizoni, uKhristu wasifela.

⁹ Njengoba khathesi sesilungisiswe ligazi lakhe, pho sizasindiswa kakhulu kangakanani olakeni lukaNkulunkulu ngaye! ¹⁰ Ngoba ngesikhathi sisaseyizitha zikaNkulunkulu, sabuyiselwa kuye ngokufa kweNdodana yakhe,

kuzakuba kukhulu kangakanani, sesibuyiselwe, sahlengwa ngokuphila kwakhe! ¹¹ Lokhu akunjalo nje kuphela, kodwa siyathokoza njalo kuNkulunkulu ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, khathesi esesithole ngaye ukubuyisana.

Ukufa Ngo-Adamu, Ukuphila NgoKhristu

¹² Ngakho-ke, njengalokhu isono sangena emhlabeni ngomuntu oyedwa, lokufa ngesono, njalo ngale indlela ukufa kwafika ebantwini bonke, ngoba bonke bona.

¹³ Ngeqiniso isono saba khona emhlabeni umthetho ungakaphawulwa, kodwa isono kasibalelwa emuntwini umthetho ungekho.

¹⁴ Lanxa kunjalo, ukufa kwabusa kusukela ngesikhathi sika-Adamu kusiya esikhathini sikaMosi, kanye lakulabo abangazange benze isono ngokweqa umlayo, njengokwenziwa ngu-Adamu, owayengumfanekiso walowo owayezakuza.

¹⁵ Kodwa isipho kasifani lesiphambeko. Ngoba nxa abanengi bafa ngesiphambeko salowomuntu oyedwa, umusa kaNkulunkulu kanye lesipho eseza ngomusa walowomuntu oyedwa, uJesu Khristu, kwaphuphuma kakhulu okungakanani kwabanengi! ¹⁶ Njalo, isipho sikaNkulunkulu kasifani lalokho okudalwa yisono salowomuntu oyedwa. Ukwahlulela kwalandela isono esisodwa kwaletsa ukulahlwa, kodwa isipho salandela iziphambeko ezinengi saletha ukulungisiswa. ¹⁷ Ngoba nxa ngesiphambeko salowomuntu oyedwa, ukufa kwabusa ngalowomuntu oyedwa, labo abamukela umusa omnengi

kaNkulunkulu kanye lesipho sokulunga baz-abusa kakhulu okungakanani ekuphileni ngalowomuntu oyedwa uJesu Khristu.

¹⁸ Ngakho-ke, njengoba okwalandela isiphambeko esisodwa kwaba yikulahlwa kwabantu bonke, ngokunjalo isenzo sokulunga esisodwa saletha ukulungisiswa lokuphila kwabantu bonke. ¹⁹ Ngoba ngokungalaleli kwalowomuntu oyedwa abanengi baba yizoni, ngokunjalo futhi ukulalela kwalowomuntu oyedwa abanengi bazakwenziwa abalungileyo.

²⁰ Umthetho wabekwa ukuze isiphambeko sande. Kodwa lapho okwanda khona isono, umusa wanda kakhulukazi, ²¹ ukuze kuthi njengoba isono sabusa ekufeni, kuthi ngokunjalo umusa lawo ubuse ngokulunga ukuba ulethe ukuphila okungapheliyo ngoJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu.

6

Ukufa Esonweni, Ukuphila KuKhristu

¹ Ngakho, sizakuthini na? Sizaqhubeka sisenza isono ukuze umusa wande na? ² Akunjalo! Safa ngenxa yesono; pho singaphila kanjani kuso futhi na? ³ Kumbe njalo kalazi yini ukuthi sonke thina esabhaphathizelwa kuJesu Khristu sabhaphathizelwa ekufeni kwakhe na? ⁴ Ngakho sangcwatshwa laye ngokubhaphathizelwa ekufeni, ukuze kuthi njengoba uKhristu wavuswa kwabafuleyo ngobukhosi bukaYise, lathi siphile ukuphila okutsha.

⁵ Nxa sihlanganiswe laye kanje ekufeni kwakhe, ngempela sizahlanganiswa laye futhi ekuvukeni kwakhe. ⁶ Ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi ubuntu bethu obudala babethelwa laye ukuze umzimba wesono ulahlwe, khona singezukuba yizigqili zesono futhi, ⁷ ngoba lowo osefile usekhululwe esonweni.

⁸ Nxa safa loKhristu, siyakholwa ukuthi sizaphila laye. ⁹ Ngoba siyazi ukuthi njengoba uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo, angeke afe futhi; ukufa akuselawo amandla phezu kwakhe. ¹⁰ Ukufa akufayo wakufela bonke kanye ngenxa yesono; kodwa ukuphila akuphilayo, ukuphilela uNkulunkulu.

¹¹ Ngokufanayo, zibaleni njengabafileyo esonweni, kodwa abaphilayo kuNkulunkulu ngoKhristu uJesu. ¹² Ngakho lingavumeli isono ukuba sibuse imizimba yenu efayo ukuba livumele izinkanuko zaso ezimbi. ¹³ Linganikeli izitho zemizimba yenu esonweni njengezikhali zobubi, kodwa zinikeleni kuNkulunkulu njengabavuswe kwabafileyo balethwa ekuphileni; linikele izitho zemizimba yenu kuye njengezikhali zokulunga. ¹⁴ Ngoba isono kasiyikuba ngumbusi wenu, ngoba lina kalikho ngaphansi komthetho, kodwa ngaphansi komusa.

Izigqili Zokulunga

¹⁵ Pho-ke, sizakwenza isono ngoba kasikho ngaphansi komthetho, kodwa ngaphansi komusa na? Akunjalo! ¹⁶ Kalazi yini ukuthi nxa lizinikela komunye umuntu ukuba njengezigqili ezilaleyo, liyizigqili kulowo elimlalelayo, langabe

liyizigqili zesono, okuholela ekufeni, loba ezokulalela, okuholela ekulungeni na? ¹⁷ Kodwa-ke, kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngokuthi lanxa laliyizigqili zesono, layilalela ngezinhliziyoz ezipheleleyo indlela yemfundiso elabekwa kuyo. ¹⁸ Lakhululwa esonweni laselisiba yizigqili zokulunga.

¹⁹ Lokhu ngikubeka ngamazwi abantu ngoba libuthakathaka ngokwemvelo yobuntu benu. Njengoba lalinikela izitho zemizimba yenu njengezigqili emanyaleni lekuxhwaleni okwandayo, ngakho khathesi zinikeleni njengezigqili ekulungeni okuholela ebungcweleni. ²⁰ Lapho laliyizigqili zesono, lalikhululekile emandleni okulunga. ²¹ Ngumvuzo bani elawutholayo ngalesosikhathi ezintweni eseliyangeka ngazo khathesi? Lezozinto ziphetha ngokufa! ²² Kodwa njengoba khathesi selikhululwe esonweni laba yizigqili kuNkulunkulu, umvuzo eliwutholayo uholela ebungcweleni, lesiphetho yikuphila okungapheliyo. ²³ Ngoba inhlawulo yesono yikufa, kodwa isipho sikaNkulunkulu siyikuphila okungapheliyo kuJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu.

7

Ukukhululwa Emthethweni, Ukubotshwa KuKhristu

¹ Kalazi yini bazalwane, ngoba ngikhuluma ebantwini abawaziyo umthetho, ukuthi umthetho ulamandla phezu komuntu nxa esaphila kuphela na? ² Njengesibonelo, ngomthetho owesifazane owendileyo ubotshelwe kumkakhe nxa

esaphila, kodwa umkakhe angafa, uyakhululwa emthethweni wokuthathana. ³ Kungakho-ke, angendela kwenye indoda umkakhe esaphila uthiwa yisifebe. Kodwa umkakhe angafa, uyakhululwa kulowomthetho angabi yisifebe, lanxa esesendela kwenye indoda.

⁴ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, lani lafela emthethweni ngomzimba kaKhristu, ukuze libe ngabomunye, kuye owavuswa kwabafileyo, ukuze sithele izithelo kuNkulunkulu. ⁵ Ngoba sisabuswa yimvelo elesono, izinkanuko zesono ezavuswa ngumthetho zazisebenza emzimbeni yethu, okwenza sathelela ukufa izithelo. ⁶ Kodwa khatesi, ngokufela kulokho okwake kwasibopha, sesikhululiwe emthethweni ukuze sikhonze ngendlela entsha yoMoya hatshi ngendlela endala yezimiso ezilotshiweyo.

Umthetho Lesono

⁷ Ngakho sizakuthini na? Umthetho uy-isono na? Ngempela kawusiso! Ngeqiniso mina ngangingasoze ngazi ukuthi isono siyini kungesiwo umthetho. Ngoba ngangin-gayikwazi ukuthi ukuhawukela ngempela kuyini aluba umthetho ungatshongo ukuthi, “Ungahawukeli.”* ⁸ Kodwa isono, sathatha ithuba elalethwa ngumlayo, saveza kimi inhlobo zonke zenkanuko yokuhawukela. Ngoba ngaphandle komthetho, isono sifile. ⁹ Mina ngake ngaphila ngaphandle komthetho; kodwa kwathi ekufikeni komlayo, isono savuka saphila, mina ngafa. ¹⁰ Ngathola ukuthi umlayo lowo owawuhlose

* **7:7** 7.7 U-Eksodasi 20.17; UDutheronomi 5.21

ukuletha ukuphila waletha ukufa. ¹¹ Ngoba isono sathatha ithuba elaletswa ngumlayo, sangikhohlisa, kwathi ngomthetho sangibulala. ¹² Ngakho-ke, umthetho ungcwele, lomlayo ungcwele, ulungile njalo muhle.

¹³ Kanti lokho okuhle kube yikufa kimi na? Akunjalo! Kodwa ukuze isono sibonakale siyisono, saletha ukufa kimi ngalokho okwakukuhle, ukuze kuthi ngomlayo isono sibe yisono esipheleleyo.

¹⁴ Siyakwazi ukuthi umthetho ungokomoya; kodwa mina ngingowenyama, ngathengiswa esonweni njengesigqili. ¹⁵ Engikwenzayo angikuzwisisi. Ngoba lokho engifuna ukukwenza angikwenzi, kodwa lokho engikuzondayo ngiyakwenza. ¹⁶ Ngakho nxa ngisenza lokho engingafuni kukwenza, ngiyavuma ukuthi umthetho ulungile. ¹⁷ Njengoba kunje, akuseyimi uqobo okwenzayo, kodwa isono esihlala kimi. ¹⁸ Ngiyakwazi ukuthi akulalutho oluhle oluhlala kimi, okutsho imvelo yami elesono. Ngoba ngilesifiso sokwenza okuhle, kodwa angingeke ngikufeze. ¹⁹ Ngoba engikwenzayo akusikho okuhle engifuna ukukwenza; hatshi, okubi engingafuniyo ukukwenza, lokhu ngiqhubeka ngikwenza. ²⁰ Nxa ngisenza engingafuni kukwenza, akuseyimi okwenzayo, kodwa yisono esihlala kimi esikwenzayo.

²¹ Ngakho ngithola umthetho lo usebenza ukuthi: Lapho ngifuna ukwenza okuhle, okubi kulami khonapho. ²² Ngoba ebuntwini bami

bangaphakathi ngiyathokoza ngomthetho kaNkulunkulu; ²³ kodwa ngibona omunye umthetho usebenza ezithweni zami, usilwa lomthetho wengqondo yami ungenza ngibe yisibotshwa somthetho wesono osebenzayo ezithweni zami. ²⁴ Yeka isinothongwana esengiyiso sona. Ngubani ozangihlenga kulo umzimba wokufa? ²⁵ Kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngokuJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu!

Ngakho-ke, mina engqondweni yami ngiyisigqili somthetho kaNkulunkulu, kodwa ngokwemvelo yami yesono ngiyisigqili somthetho wesono.

8

Ukuphila NgoMoya

¹ Ngakho, khathesi akusekho ukulahlwa kulabo abakuKhristu uJesu, ² ngoba ngoKhristu uJesu umthetho woMoya wokuphila wangikhulula emthethweni wesono lokufa. ³ Ngoba lokho umthetho owawungelamandla okukwenza ngoba waxegiswa yimvelo elesono, uNkulunkulu wakwenza ngokuthuma iNdodana yakhe ngesimo somuntu olesono ukuba ibe ngumnikelo wesono. Ngakho isono yasilahla emuntwini olesono, ⁴ ukuze izimiso ezilungileyo zomthetho zipheleliswe kithi, thina esingaphili ngokwemvelo yesono, kodwa ngokoMoya.

⁵ Labo abaphila ngokwemvelo yesono ingqondo zabo zigxile kulokho okufiswa yileyo mvelo, kodwa labo abaphila ngokwakoMoya ingqondo zabo zigxile kulokho okufiswa nguMoya.

⁶ Inggondo yomuntu olesono yikufa, kodwa inggondo ebuswa nguMoya yikuphila lokuthula; ⁷ inggondo yimvelo yesono iyamzonda uNkulunkulu. Kayiwuvumi umthetho kaNkulunkulu, njalo ayingeke yenze njalo. ⁸ Labo ababuswa yimvelo yesono abangeke bamthokozise uNkulunkulu.

⁹ Kodwa lina kalibuswa yimvelo yesono, kodwa nguMoya, nxa uMoya kaNkulunkulu ehlala kini. Njalo nxa umuntu engelaye uMoya kaKhristu, kasuye kaKhristu. ¹⁰ Kodwa nxa uKhristu ekini, umzimba wenu ufile ngenxa yesono, kodwa umoya wenu uyaphila ngenxa yokulunga. ¹¹ Njalo nxa uMoya walowo owavusa uKhristu kwabafileyo ehlala kini, yena owavusa uKhristu kwabafileyo, imizimba yenu efayo uzayinika ukuphila ngoMoya wakhe ohlala kini.

¹² Ngakho-ke, bazalwane, silomlandu, kodwa kawungabi yimvelo yesono ukuba siphile ngokwawo. ¹³ Ngoba nxa liphila ngokwemvelo yesono, lizakufa; kodwa nxa kungoMoya libulala izenzo ezimbi zomzimba, lizaphila, ¹⁴ ngoba labo abakhokhelwa nguMoya kaNkulunkulu bangamadodana kaNkulunkulu. ¹⁵ Ngoba kalamukelanga umoya olenza libe yizigqili, ukuze liphile ngokwesaba, kodwa lamukela uMoya wobundo-dana. Njalo siyamemeza ngawo sithi, “*Abha, Baba.*” ¹⁶ UMoya uqobo uyafakaza lomoya wethu ukuthi thina singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu. ¹⁷ Ngakho, nxa singabantwana, sizindlalifa, izindlalifa zikaNkulunkulu lezindlalifa kanye loKhristu, nxa sihlanganyela laye impela ezinhlophekweni zakhe ukuze sihlanganyele laye

njalo enkazimulweni yakhe.

Inhlupheko Zakhathesi Lenkazimulo Ezayo

¹⁸ Ngikholwa ukuthi inhlupheko zethu zakhathesi kazifanelanga ukulinganiswa lenkazimulo ezabonakaliswa kithi. ¹⁹ Indalo ilindile ngokulangazelela okukhulu ukuba abantwana bakaNkulunkulu babonakaliswe. ²⁰ Ngoba indalo ihlezi ihlukuluzekile, kungasintando yayo, kodwa kungentando yalowo oyihlukuluzayo, ngethemba ²¹ lokuthi indalo yona ngokwayo izakhululwa ebugqilini bokonakala ilethwe enkululekweni elenkazimulo yabantwana bakaNkulunkulu.

²² Siyakwazi ukuthi indalo yonke ibubula njengosebuhlungwini bokuhelelwa kuze kube khathesi. ²³ Akunjalo kuphela, kodwa lathi uqobo esilezithelo zakuqala zikaMoya, siyabubula ngaphakathi silindile ngokutshiseka ukwamukelwa njengamadodana, ukuhlengwa kwemizimba yethu. ²⁴ Ngoba ngalelithemba sasindiswa. Kodwa ithemba elibonakalayo kalisilothemba. Ngubani othemba lokho avele eselakho na? ²⁵ Kodwa nxa sithemba lokho esingakabi lakho, siyakulindela ngokubekezela.

²⁶ Ngokufananayo, uMoya uyasisiza ebuthakathakeni bethu. Kasikwazi okumele sikukhulekele, kodwa uMoya uqobo uyasinxusela ububula okungeke kuchazwe ngamazwi. ²⁷ Njalo yena lowo ohlola inhliziyi zethu uyayazi ingqondo kaMoya, ngoba uMoya uyabanxusela abangcwele ngokwentando kaNkulunkulu.

²⁸ Njalo siyakwazi ukuthi ezintweni zonke uNkulunkulu usebenzela okuhle kulabo abamthandayo, ababizwe ngokwenjongo yakhe.

²⁹ Ngoba labo uNkulunkulu abazi ngaphambilini wabamisela ukuba babe lesimo esifana leseNdodana yakhe, ukuze abe lizibulo phakathi kwabazalwane abanengi. ³⁰ Labo abamiselayo, wababiza; labo ababizayo, wabenza balunga; labo abenza balunga, wabanika inkazimulo.

Okwedlula Abanqobi

³¹ Pho sizakuthini ngalokhu na? Nxa uNkulunkulu elathi ngubani ongamelana lathi na?

³² Yena ongayigodlanga iNdodana yakhe, kodwa wayinikelela thina sonke, angayekela kanjani ukusipha ngesihle izinto zonke kanye layo na?

³³ Ngubani ozababeka icala labo abakhethwe nguNkulunkulu na? NguNkulunkulu olungisayo.

³⁴ Ungubani lowo olahlayo? UKhristu Jesu owafayo, okudlula lokho, owavuswayo waphila, usesandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu njalo laye uyasinxusela. ³⁵ Ngubani ozasehlukhanisa lothando lukaKhristu na? Yikuhlupheka kumbe ukudubeka loba ukuhlukuluzwa kumbe indlala loba ukuhamba ze loba ingozi kumbe inkemba na?

³⁶ Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ngenxa yakho, sikhangelane lokufa ilanga lonke;

sithathwa njengezimvu ezizahlatshwa.”*

³⁷ Hatshi, kuzozonke lezizinto singaphezu kokuba ngabanqobi ngaye owasithandayo.

³⁸ Ngoba ngiyakholwa ukuthi loba yikufa kumbe

* **8:36** 8.36 AmaHubo 44.22

ukuphila, loba yizingilosi kumbe amadimoni, loba khathesi kumbe isikhathi esizayo, loba kungamandla bani, ³⁹ loba kuyikuphakama kumbe ukuzika, loba olunye ulutho kukho konke okudaliweyo, akuyikusehlukanisa lothando lukaNkulunkulu olukuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu.

9

Ukukhathazeka KukaPhawuli Ngo-Israyeli

¹ Ngikhuluma iqiniso ngikuKhristu, kangiqambi manga, isazela sami siyakufakaza lokhu ngoMoya oNgcwele, ² Ngilosizi olukhulu lobuhlungu obungapheliyo enhliziyweni yami. ³ Ngoba ngangifisa ukuba ngabe mina uqobo ngiyaqalekiswa ngisuswe kuKhristu ngenxa yabazalwane bami, labo abohlanga lwami ngokwenyama, ⁴ abantu bako-Israyeli. Okwabo yikwamukelwa njengamadodana, ngeyabo inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu, lesivumelwano, lokwamukela umthetho, lenkonzo yasethempelini kanye lezithembiso. ⁵ Okhokho ngababo, njalo lusukela kubo usendo lwenyama lukaKhristu, onguNkulunkulu ophezu kwakho konke, odunyiswa kokuphela! Ameni.

Ukukhetha Kobukhosi KukaNkulunkulu

⁶ Akunjengokuthi ilizwi likaNkulunkulu lehluleka. Ngoba akusibo bonke abayinzalo ka-Israyeli abangama-Israyeli. ⁷ Njalo ngoba yinzalo yakhe akusibo bonke abangabantwana baka-Abrahama. Kodwa-ke, "Isizukulwane sakho

sizabalwa ngo-Isaka.”* 8 Ngamanye amazwi, akusibantwana benyama abangabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, kodwa ngabantwana besithembiso ababalwa njengenzalo ka-Abhrahama. 9 Ngoba isithembiso satshiwo kanje: “Ngesikhathi esimisiweyo ngizaphenduka, njalo uSara uzakuba lendodana.”†

10 Akusilokho kuphela, kodwa abantwana bakaRabheka bazalwa sikhathi sinye ngubaba wethu u-Isaka. 11 Kodwa amaphahla engakazalwa loba ukwenza ulutho oluhle kumbe olubi, ukuba inhloso kaNkulunkulu yokukhetha iqhubeka; 12 hatshi ngemisebenzi kodwa ngaye obizayo, watshelwa ukuthi, “Omdala uzakhonza omncinyane.”‡ 13 Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, “UJakhobe ngamthanda, kodwa u-Esawu ngamzonda.”§

14 Pho sizakuthini na? UNkulunkulu kalunganga na? Akunjalo! 15 Ngoba uthi kuMosi: “Ngizakuba lesihawu kulowo engilesihawu kuye, njalo ngizakuba lozwelo kulowo engilozwelo kuye.”*

16 Ngakho-ke, akuyi ngesifiso somuntu loba umzamo wakhe, kodwa ngesihawu sikaNkulunkulu. 17 Ngoba umbhalo uthi kuFaro, “Ngakuphakamisela injongo yonale kanye, ukuze ngibonakalise amandla ami kuwe lokuthi ibizo lami litshunyayelwe emhlabeni wonke.”† 18 Ngakho uNkulunkulu ulesihawu

* 9:7 9.7 UGenesisi 21.12 † 9:9 9.9 UGenesisi 18.10, 14 ‡ 9:12 9.12 UGenesisi 25.23 § 9:13 9.13 UMalaki 1.2-3 * 9:15 9.15 U-Eksodasi 33.19 † 9:17 9.17 U-Eksodasi 9.16

kulowo athanda ukuba lesihawu kuye, njalo umenza abe lukhuni lowo athanda ukumenza abe lukhuni.

¹⁹ Omunye wenu uzakuthi kimi: “Pho kungani uNkulunkulu esisola? Ngoba ngubani ongamelana lentando yakhe na?” ²⁰ Kodwa ungubani wena, ungumuntu, ukuba uphendule uNkulunkulu na? Kambe okubunjiweyo kungatsho yini kulowo owakubumbayo kuthi, “Kungani wangenza ngabanje na?” ‡ ²¹ Umbumbi kalalo yini ilungelo lokuba ngengxenye yebumba efanayo enze okunye okubunjiweyo okomsebenzi omuhle lokomsebenzi ojayelekileyo na?

²² Kwakungaba njani-ke nxa uNkulunkulu wakhetha ukutshengisa ukubekezela okukhulu ezidalweni zentukuthelo yakhe ezazimiselwe ukubhujiswa etshengisa ulaka lwakhe lokwenza amandla akhe aziwe. ²³ Kube kunjani nxa wenza lokhu ukuze enze ubuhle benkazimulo yakhe bazakale ezintweni zesihawu sakhe, azilungisela inkazimulo ngaphambilini, ²⁴ kanye lathi asibizayo, hatshi kumaJuda kuphela, kodwa lakwabeZizweni? ²⁵ Njengoba esitsho kuHosiya ukuthi:

“Ngizababiza ngokuthi ‘ngabantu bami,’
labo Abangasibantu bami;
njalo ngizambiza ‘sithandwa sami,’
lowo ongasiso isithandwa sami,”

²⁶ njalo,

“Kuzakwenzakala ukuba kuyo kanye indawo
lapho okwathiwa kubo,

‡ **9:20** 9.20 U-Isaya 29.16; 45.9 § **9:25** 9.25 UHosiya 2.23

‘Kalisibo bantu bami,’*
 bazabizwa ngokuthi
 ‘ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu ophilayo.’”
 27 U-Isaya uyamemezela ngo-Israyeli esithi:
 “Lanxa inani labako-Israyeli linjengetshebet-
 shebe ngasolwandle,
 kuzasindiswa insalela kuphela.
 28 Ngoba iNkosi izasifeza
 isigwebo sayo emhlabeni ngesiqubu lan-
 gokuphelelisa.”†
 29 Kunjengoba u-Isaya watsho mandulo ukuthi:
 “Aluba iNkosi uSomandla
 wayengasitshiyelanga inzalo,
 sasizakuba njengeSodoma,
 sasizafana leGomora.”‡

Ukungakholwa Kuka-Israyeli

30 Pho sizakuthini na? Sithi abeZizweni
 abangakudinganga ukulunga, sebekutholile,
 ukulunga okungokukholwa; 31 kodwa u-
 Israyeli owalandela umthetho wokulunga,
 kakutholanga. 32 Kungani na? Ngoba
 kabawulandelanga ngokukholwa, kodwa
 kwakungemisebenzi. Bakhubeka elitsheni
 elikhubayo. 33 Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:
 “Khangelani, ngibeka eZiyoni ilitshe elikhubek-
 isa abantu
 ledwala elibenza bawe,
 njalo lowo okholwa kuye
 kazukuyangiswa.”§

* 9:26 9.26 UHosiya 1.10 † 9:28 9.28 U-Isaya 10.22-23 ‡ 9:29
 9.29 U-Isaya 1.9 § 9:33 9.33 U-Isaya 8.14; 28.16

10

¹ Bazalwane, isifiso senhliziyo yami lomkhuleko wami kuNkulunkulu ngabako-Israyeli yikuba basindiswe. ² Ngoba ngingafakaza ngabo ukuthi batshisekela uNkulunkulu, kodwa ukutshiseka kwabo akugxilanga ekwazini. ³ Njengoba ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu bengakwazanga bafuna ukumisa okwabo, kabavumanga ukuzibeka ngaphansi kokulunga kukaNkulunkulu. ⁴ UKhristu uyisiphetho somthetho ukuze kube lokulunga kubo bonke abakholwayo.

⁵ UMosi ukuchaza ngale indlela ukulunga okungomthetho: “Umuntu owenza izinto lezi uzaphila ngazo.”* ⁶ Kodwa ukulunga okungokukholwa kuthi: “Ungabokutsho enhliziyweni yakho ukuthi, ‘Ngubani ozakwenyukela ezulwini na?’†” (okuyikuthi, ukwehlisa uKhristu) ⁷ “loba, ‘Ngubani ozakwehlela ekuzikeni kolwandle na?’‡” (okuyikuthi, ukuvusa uKhristu kwabafileyo). ⁸ Kodwa kuthini na? “Ilizwi liseduze lawe, lisemlonyeni wakho lasenhliziyweni yakho,”§ lokho yikuthi, ilizwi lokukholwa esilitshumayelayo: ⁹ nxa uvuma ngomlomo wakho usithi, “UJesu uyiNkosi,” njalo ukholwa enhliziyweni yakho ukuthi uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, uzasindiswa. ¹⁰ Ngoba ukholwa ngenhliziyo yakho njalo ulungiswa ngayo, njalo kungomlomo wakho ovuma ngawo

* **10:5** 10.5 ULevi 18.5 † **10:6** 10.6 UDutheronomi 30.12

‡ **10:7** 10.7 UDutheronomi 30.13 § **10:8** 10.8 UDutheronomi 30.14

usindiswe. ¹¹ Njengoba uMbhalo usithi, “Loba ngubani okholwa kuye akayikuyangiswa.”*

¹² Ngoba kawukho umahluko phakathi komJuda loweZizwe, iNkosi yinye iyiNkosi yabo bonke njalo iyababusisa kakhulu bonke abakhuleka kuyo, ¹³ ngoba, “Wonke obiza ibizo likaThixo uzasindiswa.”†

¹⁴ Pho, bangakhuleka kanjani kulowo abangakholwa kuye? Njalo bangakholwa njani kulowo abangakaze bezwe ngaye na? Njalo bangezwa njani kungekho otshumayela kubo na? ¹⁵ Njalo bangatshumayela njani ngaphandle kokuba bethunyiwe na? Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi, “Yeka ubuhle bezinyawo zalabo abaletha izindaba ezinhle!”‡

¹⁶ Kodwa akusibo bonke abako-Israyeli abazamukelayo izindaba ezinhle. Ngoba u-Isaya uthi, “Nkosi, ngubani olikholiweyo ilizwi lethu na?”§

¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, ukukholwa kuvela ekuzweni ilizwi, lelizwi lizwakala ngelizwi likaKhristu.

¹⁸ Kodwa ngiyabuza ngithi: Kabezwanga na? Impela bezwa ukuthi:

“Ilizwi labo liphumile laya kuwo wonke umhlaba,

amazwi abo emikhawulweni yomhlaba.”*

¹⁹ Ngiyabuza njalo ngithi: U-Israyeli kaqedisanga na? Kuqala uMosi uthi,

“Mina ngizalenza libe lomona kulabo abangasiso sizwe;

* **10:11** 10.11 U-Isaya 28.16 † **10:13** 10.13 U-Joweli 2.32

‡ **10:15** 10.15 U-Isaya 52.7 § **10:16** 10.16 U-Isaya 53.1 * **10:18** 10.18 AmaHubo 19.4

ngizalenza lithukuthelele isizwe esingelakho ukuqedisisa.”†

²⁰ Lo-Isaya ukhuluma ngesibindi uthi, “Ngatholwa yilabo ababengangingi; ngazibonakalisa kulabo abangangicelanga.”‡

²¹ Kodwa mayelana lo-Israyeli uthi, “Ilanga lonke ngelulele izandla zami ebantwini abangalaleliyo labayiziqholo futhi.”§

11

Insalela Yako-Israyeli

¹ Lapho-ke ngiyabuza ngithi: Kanti uNkulunkulu wabalahlala yini abantu bakhe? Hatshi akunjalo! Mina uqobo ngingum’Israyeli inzalo ka-Abhrahama, owesizwana sikaBhenjamini. ² UNkulunkulu kabalahlanga abantu bakhe abazi kuqala. Kalikwazi yini ukuthi uMbhalo uthini esahlukwaneni ngo-Elija, ukuthi wakhalaza njani kuNkulunkulu esola u-Israyeli esithi: ³ “Nkosi, bababulele abaphrofethi bakho, badiliza lama-alithare akho; yimi ngedwa engiseleyo, njalo bafuna ukungibulala?”* ⁴ Impendulo kaNkulunkulu kuye yathini na? Yathi, “Ngizigoddele mina ngokwami abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa abangamkhothamelanga uBhali.”† ⁵ Ngakho futhi, ngalesisikhathi kulensalela ezakhethwa

† **10:19** 10.19 UDutheronomi 32.21 ‡ **10:20** 10.20 U-Isaya 65.1

§ **10:21** 10.21 U-Isaya 65.2 * **11:3** 11.3 1 Amakhosi 19.10, 14

† **11:4** 11.4 1 Amakhosi 19.18

ngomusa. ⁶ Njalo nxa kungomusa, ngakho akuseyikho ngemisebenzi; nxa kwakunjalo, umusa wawungeke ube usaba ngumusa.

⁷ Pho-ke? Lokho u-Israyeli akufuna ngokuzimisela kakuzuzanga, kodwa abakhethiweyo bakuthola. Abanye baba lukhuni, ⁸ njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“UNKulunkulu wabanika umoya wokozelela,
lamehlo ukuze bangaboni,
lendlebe ukuze bangezwa,
kuze kube lamhla.”[‡]

⁹ Njalo uDavida uthi:

“Sengathi itafula yabo ingaba ngumjibila lesifu, isikhubekiso kanye lesijeziro kubo.

¹⁰ Sengathi amehlo abo angafiphala ukuze bangaboni,
lamaqolo abo akhokhobe kokuphela.”[§]

Amagatsha Axhunyelelweyo

¹¹ Ngiyabuza njalo ngithi: Kambe bangabe bakhubeka bawa okungangokuthi kakuselakuphepha na? Akunjalo! Kodwa ngenxa yesiphambeko sabo, ukusindiswa sekufikile kwabeZizwe ukuba kwenze u-Israyeli abe lomona. ¹² Kodwa nxa isiphambeko sabo sisitsho inotho emhlabeni, lencithakalo yabo isitsho inotho kwabeZizwe, inkulu kangakanani inotho elethwa yikuphelela kwabo!

¹³ Ngikhuluma lani lina abeZizwe. Njengoba ngingumpostoli wabezizwe, ngikhulisa inkonzo yami ¹⁴ ngethemba lokuthi mhlawumbe

[‡] **11:8** 11.8 UDutheronomi 29.4; U-Isaya 29.10 **§ 11:10** 11.10
AmaHubo 69.22-23

ngingavusa umona ebantwini bakithi ngisilise abanye babo. ¹⁵ Ngoba nxa ukulahlwa kwabo kuyikubuyisana komhlaba, ukwamukelwa kwabo kuzakuba yini na ngaphandle kokuphila okuvela kwabafuleyo? ¹⁶ Nxa ingxenye yenhlama enikelwe njengezithelo zakuqala ingcwele, injalo yonke enye; nxa impande zingcwele, zinjalo lezingatsha.

¹⁷ Nxa ezinye ingatsha zephulwe, njalo wena, lanxa ulihlumela lom'oliva weganga, usuxhunyelwe phakathi kwezinye njalo usuhlanganyela emhluzini okhulisayo ovela empandeni zom'oliva, ¹⁸ ungazincomi ngalezongatsha. Nxa ukwenza, cabanga ngalokhu: Impande kakusuwe oyithwalayo, kodwa impande yiyo ekuthweleyo. ¹⁹ Lapho-ke lina lizakuthi, "Ingatsha zephulwa ukuze mina ngixhunyelwe." ²⁰ Yebo. Kodwa zephulwa ngenxa yokungakhohwa, kodwa lina limi ngokukhohwa. Lingazikhukhumezi, kodwa yesabani. ²¹ Ngoba nxa uNkulunkulu engaziyekelanga ingatsha zemvelo, lani kasoze aliyekele.

²² Ngakho cabangani ngesisa njalo lobulukhuni bukaNkulunkulu: ubulukhuni kulabo abawayo, kodwa isisa kini, nxa liqhubeka esiseni sakhe. Kungenjalo, lani lizaqunywa. ²³ Njalo nxa bengaphikeleli ngokungakhohwa, bazaxhunyelwa, ngoba uNkulunkulu uyenelisa ukubaxhumelela futhi. ²⁴ Phezu kwalokho, nxa laliquywe esihlahleni som'oliva weganga ngemvelo, kwathi ngokuphambene lemvelo laxhunyelwa esihlahleni se-oliva esilinywayo, pho kuzakuba

lula kakhulu okunjani kulezi, ingatsha zemvelo, ukuba zixhunelelwe esihlahleni sazo se-oliva.

U-Israyeli Wonke Uzasindiswa

²⁵ Bazalwane, kangifuni ukuthi lingaze lazi ngale imfihlakalo, ukuze lingazikhukhumezi: U-Israyeli useyibonile ingxenye yokuba lukhuni inani elipheleleyo labeZizwe lize lingene.

²⁶ Ngokunjalo u-Israyeli wonke uzasindiswa, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Umkhululi uzafika eZiyoni:

uzasusa kuJakhobe ukungakholwa.

²⁷ Lesi yisivumelwano sami labo

lapho ngizisusa izono zabo.”*

²⁸ Mayelana levangeli, bayizitha ngenxa yenu; kodwa mayelana lokukhetha, bayathandwa ngenxa yabokhokho, ²⁹ ngoba izipho zikaNkulunkulu lokubiza kwakhe akuguquleki. ³⁰ Njengoba lina elake ladelela uNkulunkulu khathesi selamukele umusa ngenxa yokudelela kwabo, ³¹ ngokunjalo labo, ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu kini, kabasalaleli ukuze labo khathesi bamukele umusa. ³² Ngoba uNkulunkulu ubophele abantu bonke ekudeleleni ukuze abe lomusa kubo bonke.

Ihubo Lokubonga

³³ Yeka ukuzika kwenotho yenhlakanipho kanye lokwazi kukaNkulunkulu!

Yeka ukwahlulela kwakhe okungeke kuhlolwe,

kanye lezindlela zakhe ezingeke zilandelwe!

* **11:27** 11.27 U-Isaya 59.20-21; 27.9; UJeremiya 31.33-34

- 34 “Ngubani owake wayazi ingqondo yeNkosi na? Loba owake waba ngumcebisi wayo na?”†
- 35 “Ngubani owake wanika uNkulunkulu ulutho ukuba uNkulunkulu aluhlawule na?”‡
- 36 Ngoba izinto zonke zivela kuye langaye njalo futhi zikuye.
Udumo kalube kuye kuze kube laphakade!
Ameni.

12

Imihlatshelo Ephilayo

¹ Ngakho-ke, ngiyalincenga bazalwane, ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu, ukuba linikele imizimba yenu njengemihlatshelo ephilayo, engcwele lemthokozisayo uNkulunkulu, okuyikukhonza kwenu ngomoya. ² Lingavumi futhi ukulingisa umhlaba lo, kodwa liguqulwe ingqondo zenu zibe zintsha. Lapho-ke lizakwenelisa ukuhlola lokwamukela lokho okuyintando kaNkulunkulu, intando yakhe elungileyo, ethokozisayo lepheleleyo.

Inkonzo Yokuzehlisa Emzimbeni KaKhristu

³ Ngoba ngomusa engiwuphiweyo ngithi kini lonke: Lingacabangi ngokuzazisa kakhulu ukwedlula okufaneleyo, kodwa lizicabangele ngokuqonda, ngokuhambelana lesilinganiso sokukholwa uNkulunkulu aliphe khona. ⁴ Njengalokhu omunye lomunye wethu elomzimba owodwa olezitho ezinengi, njalo izitho lezi zonke kazenzi

† 11:34 11.34 U-Isaya 40.13 ‡ 11:35 11.35 UJobe 41.11

msebenzi munye, ⁵ Ngokunjalo kuKhristu thina abanengi sibumba umzimba owodwa, njalo ilunga linye ngalinye ngelawamanye wonke. ⁶ Silezipho ezehlukeneyo, kusiya ngomusa esawuphiwayo. Nxa isipho somuntu siyikuphrofitha, kasisebenzise ngokulingana lokukholwa kwakhe. ⁷ Nxa siyikukhonza, kakhonze: nxa siyikufundisa, kafundise; ⁸ nxa singesokukhuthaza, kakhuthaze; nxa siyikupha, kasiphe ngothando; nxa siyibukhokheli, kabuse ngokukhuthala; nxa siyikubonakalisa umusa, kakwenze ngokuthokoza.

Uthando

⁹ Uthando kumele lube qotho. Zondani okubi libambelele kokulungileyo. ¹⁰ Zimiseleni omunye komunye ngothando lobuzalwane. Hloniphanani okudlula ukuzihlonipha kwenu. ¹¹ Lingaphelelwa yikutshiseka, kodwa gcinani ukutshiseka kwenu komoya, likhonza iNkosi. ¹² Thokozani ekwethembeni, libekezele ekuhlukuluzweni, libambelele ekukhulekeni. ¹³ Bapheni abantu bakaNkulunkulu abaswelayo. Zejwayezeni ukuphana.

¹⁴ Babusiseni labo abalihluphayo; busisani lingaqalekisi. ¹⁵ Thokozani lalabo abathokozayo, lilile lalabo abalilayo. ¹⁶ Hlalisani ngokuzwana. Lingazigqaji, kodwa lihlanganyele labantukazana. Lingazikhukhumezi.

¹⁷ Lingaphindiseli muntu okubi ngokubi. Nanzelelani ukwenza okulungileyo phambi kwabantu bonke. ¹⁸ Nxa kusenzakala, kusiya mayelana lokubona kwenu, hlalani

ngokuthula labantu bonke. ¹⁹ Lingaphindiseli, bangane bami abathandekayo, kodwa litshiyele ulaka lukaNkulunkulu ithuba, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ukuphindisela ngokwami; ngizabuyisela,”* kutsho iNkosi. ²⁰ Esikhundleni salokho:

“Nxa isitha sakho silambile, siphe ukudla;
 nxa somile, sinikeni okunathwayo.
 Ngokwenza lokhu, lokhela amalahle avuthayo
 ekhanda laso.”†

²¹ Linganqotshwa ngokubi, kodwa ngobani ububi ngobuhle.

13

Ukuzithoba Kubabusi

¹ Umuntu wonke kumele azithobe kulabo ababusayo, ngoba akukho mbuso ngaphandle kwalowo obekwe nguNkulunkulu. Imibuso ekhona ibekwe nguNkulunkulu. ² Ngakho, lowo ovukela umbuso uvukela okumiswe nguNkulunkulu, njalo labo abenza njalo bazilethela ukwahlulelwa. ³ Ngoba ababusi kabesabeki kulabo abenza okulungileyo, kodwa kulabo abenza okubi. Liyafuna ukukhululeka ekwesabeni lowo obusayo na? Ngakho yenzani okulungileyo yena uzalincoma. ⁴ Ngoba yena uyinceku kaNkulunkulu yokulenzela okuhle. Kodwa nxa lisenza okubi, yesabani, ngoba inkemba kayiphatheli ize. Uyinceku kaNkulunkulu, umeli wentukuthelo ukuba ehlisele isijezi kowenza okubi. ⁵ Ngakho, kuyaswelakala ukuzithoba kubabusi,

* **12:19** 12.19 UDutheronomi 32.35 † **12:20** 12.20 Izaga 25.21-22

hatshi kuphela ngenxa yokujeziswa okungenzaka, kodwa langenxa yesazela.

⁶ Ngenxa yalokhu futhi yikho-nje lithela imithelo, ngoba ababusi bazinceku zikaNkulunkulu, ezinikela isikhathi sazo sonke ekubuseni. ⁷ Phanini abantu bonke okungokwabo: Nxa ungathelanga, thela imithelo, nxa kuyikuqoqwa kwemali, iqoqeni. Nxa kuyikwesaba, yesabani. Nxa kuyikuhlonipha, hloniphani; nxa kuyikudumisa, dumisani.

Uthando Lugcwalisa Umthetho

⁸ Lingayekeli umlandu ungalawulwanga, ngaphandle kokuqhubeka komlandu wokuthandana, ngoba lowo othanda umuntu wakibo usewugcwalisile umthetho. ⁹ Imilayo ethi, “Ungafebi, Ungabulali, Ungebi, Ungahawukeli”^{*} kanye leminyane imilayo engabe ikhona ihlanganiswa ngumthetho lo othi: “Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda.”[†] ¹⁰ Uthando kalwenzi ngozi kumakhelwane. Ngakho uthando luyikugcwaliswa komthetho.

Usuku Selusondele

¹¹ Njalo yenzani lokhu liqedisisa isikhathi sakhathesi. Isikhathi sesifikile ukuba livuke ebuthongweni benu, ngoba ukusindiswa kwethu khathesi sekuseduze kakhulu kulekuqaleni kwethu ukukholwa. ¹² Ubusuku sebuzadlula; ukusa sekusondele. Ngakho kasilahleni

^{*} **13:9** 13.9 U-Eksodasi 20.13-15, 17; UDutheronomi 5.17-19, 21

[†] **13:9** 13.9 ULevi 19.18

imisebenzi yobumnyama sigqoke isivikelo sokukhanya. ¹³ Kasiziphatheni kuhle, njengasemini, hatshi emadilini okuminza lokudakwa, hatshi ekuhlobongeni lentokozo yobugangi, hatshi ngokuxabana langomona. ¹⁴ Kodwa ziggokiseni iNkosi uJesu Khristu, njalo lingacabangi ngokuthokozisa inkanuko yemvelo yenu yokona.

14

Ababuthakathaka Labalamandla

¹ Mamukeleni lowo okholo lwakhe lubuthakathaka, kungekho kwahlulela ezindabeni eziphikisekayo. ² Omunye umuntu ukholo lwakhe luyamvumela ukuba adle izinto zonke, kodwa omunye umuntu olokholo olubuthakathaka, udla imbhida kuphela. ³ Umuntu odla izinto zonke akumelanga eyise lowo ongadli konke, lomuntu ongadli konke akumelanga asole umuntu odla konke, ngoba uNkulunkulu umamukele. ⁴ Ungubani wena ukuba wahlulele inceku yomunye? Ukuma lokuwa kwayo ngokwenkosi yayo. Izakuma, ngoba iNkosi ilamandla okuyimisa.

⁵ Omunye umuntu ubona olunye usuku lungcwele kakhulu kulolunye; omunye umuntu ubona insuku zonke zifanana. Umuntu ngamunye kumele akholwe ngokupheleleyo engqondweni yakhe. ⁶ Lowo obona olunye usuku njengoluqakathekileyo, wenzela iNkosi. Lowo odla inyama, udlela iNkosi, ngoba uyambonga uNkulunkulu; njalo lowo oyekelayo, wenzela iNkosi, njalo uyambonga uNkulunkulu. ⁷ Ngoba

kakho phakathi kwethu oziphilela yena yedwa njalo kakho phakathi kwethu ozifelayo yena yedwa. ⁸ Nxa siphila, siphilela iNkosi; njalo nxa sisifa, sifela eNkosini. Ngakho, loba siphila kumbe sisifa, singabeNkosi.

⁹ Ngenxa yasonalesi isizatho, uKhristu wafa, wabuya waphila ukuze abe yiNkosi yabafileyo labaphilayo. ¹⁰ Pho wena, kungani usahlulela umzalwane wakho na? Loba kungani useyisa umzalwane wakho na? Ngoba sonke siza-kuma phambi kwesihlalo sikaNkulunkulu sok-wahlulela. ¹¹ Kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“‘Ngeqiniso njengoba ngikhona, ngiphila,’* kut-sho UThixo,
‘amadolo wonke azaguqa phambi kwami;
ulimi lunye ngalunye luzavuma kuNku-lunkulu.’”

¹² Ngakho-ke, omunye lomunye wethu uzabika akwenzayo kuNkulunkulu.

¹³ Ngakho kasiyekeleni ukwahlulelana. Esikhundleni salokho zimisele engqondweni yakho ukuba ungabeki isikhubekiso kumbe umgoqo endleleni yomzalwane wakho. ¹⁴ Njengalowo oseNkosini uJesu, ngiyakholwa ngokupheleleyo ukuthi akulakudla okungcolileyo khona ngokwakho. Kodwa nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuba ulutho lungcolile, ngakho kuye lungcolile. ¹⁵ Nxa umfowenu ekhathazeka ngenxa yalokho okudlayo, kawusenzi okothando. Ungachithi umfowenu owafelwa nguKhristu ngokudla kwakho.

¹⁶ Ungavumi ukuba lokho wena ocabanga

* **14:11** 14.11 U-Isaya 45.23

ukuthi kuhle kuthiwe kubi. ¹⁷ Ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu kawusindaba yokudla lokunatha, kodwa ngowokulunga, lokuthula kanye lokuthokoza kuMoya oNgcwele, ¹⁸ ngoba lowo okhonza uKhristu ngale indlela uthokozisa uNkulunkulu abukwe langabantu.

¹⁹ Ngakho kasenzeni imizamo yonke yokwenza okusilethela ukuthula lokusizana ekuphilisaneni koluntu. ²⁰ Ungachithi umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu ngenxa yokudla. Ukudla konke kuhlazekile, kodwa kubi ukuthi umuntu adle ulutho olwenza omunye akhubeke. ²¹ Kungcono ukungadli inyama lokunganathi iwayini loba ukungenzi lutho oluzawisa umfowenu.

²² Ngakho loba kuyini okukholwayo ngalezizinto akube phakathi kwakho loNkulunkulu. Ubusisiwe umuntu ongazisoliyo ngalokho akukholwayo. ²³ Kodwa umuntu olokuthandabuza uyalahlwa nxa esidla, ngoba ukudla kwakhe akuveli ekukholweni; njalo konke okungaveli ekukholweni kuyisono.

15

¹ Thina esilamandla sifanele ukubekezelela ukwehluleka kwababuthakathaka, hatshi ukuba sizithokozise. ² Lowo lalowo wethu kumele athokozise umakhelwane wakhe ngokuhle kuye, ukuze amakhe. ³ Ngoba loKhristu kazithokozisanga, kodwa njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ukuthuka kwalabo abalithukayo kwehlele phezu kwami.”* ⁴ Ngoba konke okwalotshwa kudala kwalotshelwa

* **15:3** 15.3 AmaHubo 69.9

ukusifundisa, ukuze kuthi ngokubekezela langokukhuthazwa yimibhalo sibe lethemba.

⁵ Sengathi uNkulunkulu onika ukubekezela lenkuthazo angalipha umoya wokumanyana phakathi kwenu lapho lilingisa uKhristu Jesu, ⁶ ukuze kuthi Nganhliziyonye langomlomo munye lidumise uNkulunkulu loYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu.

⁷ Ngakho yamukelani omunye lomunye njen-galokhu uKhristu walamukela, ukuze kuduny-iswe uNkulunkulu. ⁸ Ngoba ngiyalazisa ukuthi uKhristu waba yinceku yamaJuda emele iqiniso likaNkulunkulu, ukuba aqinise izithembiso ezen-ziwa kubokhokho, ⁹ ukuze abezizwe badumise uNkulunkulu ngenxa yomusa wakhe, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Ngenxa yalesisizatho ngizakudumisa phakathi kwabeZizwe, ngizahlabela amahubo ebizweni lakho.”†

¹⁰ Njalo, kuthi,

“Thokozani, lina beZizwe, labantu bakhe.”‡

¹¹ Njalo,

“Dumisani iNkosi, lonke lina beZizwe, lihlabelele indumiso kuyo, lonke lina bantu.”§

¹² Njalo, u-Isaya uthi,

“Impande kaJese izavela, lowo ozavuka ukuba abuse izizwe; abeZizwe bazathembela kuye.”*

† **15:9** 15.9 2 USamuyeli 22.50; AmaHubo 18.49 ‡ **15:10** 15.10 UDutheronomi 32.43 § **15:11** 15.11 AmaHubo 117.1 * **15:12** 15.12 U-Isaya 11.10

13 Sengathi uNkulunkulu wethemba angaligcwalisa ngentokozo enkulu langokuthula ekumethembeni kwenu, ukuze libe lethemba elikhaphakayo ngamandla kaMoya oNgcwele.

UPhawuli Isikhonzi KwabeZizweni

14 Mina ngokwami ngiyakholwa bazalwane bami, ukuthi lina ngokwenu ligcwele ukulunga, lilokwazi okupheleleyo njalo liyenelisa ukufundisana. 15 Ngililobele ngesibindi mayelana leminyeye imicijo, njengokungathi ngilikhumbuza yona futhi, ngenxa yomusa uNkulunkulu angiphe wona 16 ukuba yisikhonzi sikaKhristu uJesu kwabeZizwe ngilomlandu wobuphristi wokutshumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu ukuze abeZizwe babe ngumnikelo owamukelekayo kuNkulunkulu, ongcweliswe nguMoya oNgcwele.

17 Ngakho ngiyaziqhenya kuKhristu uJesu emsebenzini wami kuNkulunkulu. 18 Kangiyikuba lesibindi sokukhuluma ngolunye ulutho ngaphandle kwalokho uKhristu asekufeze ngami ekukhokheleni abeZizwe ukuba balalele uNkulunkulu ngalokhu engakutshoyo lengakwenzayo, 19 ngamandla ezibonakaliso lezimangaliso, langamandla kaMoya kaNkulunkulu. Ngakho indlela yonke kusukela eJerusalema kusiya e-Ilirikhumu, sengilitshumayele ngokugcweleyo ivangeli likaKhristu. 20 Bekuhlezi kuyisifiso sami ukutshumayela ivangeli lapho uKhristu ayengaziwa khona, ukuze ngingakhi phezu

kwesisekelo somunye. ²¹ Ikanti kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Labo abangatshelwanga ngaye bazabona, labo abangakezwa bazaqedisisa.”†

²² Yikho-nje kade ngixakeka ekubeni ngize kini.

Icebo LikaPhawuli Lokwethekelela ERoma

²³ Kodwa khathesi njengoba kungaselandawo engingasebenza kuyo kulezizigaba, njalo njen-goba bengifisa okweminyaka eminengi ukuli-bona, ²⁴ ngiceba ukwenzanjalo lapho sengisiya eSpeyini. Ngithemba ngizalibona ngised-lula lokuba lingisize ngohambo lwami lokuya khonale, emva kokuba sengithokoze ukuba lani okwesikhatshana. ²⁵ Kodwa khathesi ngisendleleni yokuya eJerusalema emseben-zini wabantu beNkosi khonale. ²⁶ Ngoba abeMasedoniya labe-Akhayiya kwabathokozisa ukusiza abayanga phakathi kwabantu beNkosi eJerusalema. ²⁷ Kwabathokozisa ukwenza lokho, njalo impela balomlandu walokho kubo. Ngoba nxa abeZizwe bahlanganyela ezibusisweni zakomoya zamaJuda, balomlandu kumaJuda wokuhlanganyela lawo ezibusisweni zokwenyama. ²⁸ Ngakho emva kokuqeda umsebenzi lo, njalo sengibe leqiniso ukuthi sebesamukele isithelo lesi, ngizakuya eSpeyini njalo ngilethekelele ohanjweni lwami. ²⁹ Ngiyakwazi ukuthi lapho ngisiza kini, ngizakuza ngilesibusiso esigcweleyo sikaKhristu.

³⁰ Ngiyalincenga bazalwane, ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu langothando lukaMoya,

† **15:21** 15.21 U-Isaya 52.15

ukuba lihlanganyele lami ekutshikatshikeni kwami ngokungikhulekela kuNkulunkulu. ³¹ Khulekelani ukuba ngihlengwe kwabangakholwayo eJudiya lokuthi umsebenzi wami eJerusalema wamukeleke ebantwini beNkosi khonale, ³² ukuze ngize kini ngentokozo kuthi ngentando kaNkulunkulu ngivuselelwe kanye lani. ³³ UNkulunkulu wokuthula kabe lani lonke. Ameni.

16

Ukubingelela Kwakhe

¹ Ngimethula kini udadewethu uFebhi, isikhonzikazi sebandla eKhenkireya.

² Ngiyalicela ukuba limamukele eNkosini ngendlela efanele abangcwele njalo limsize ngakho konke angakuswela kini, ngoba laye ubelosizo olukhulu ebantwini abanengi, lakimi.

³ Bingelelani uPhrisila lo-Akhwila, abayizisebenzi kanye lami kuKhristu uJesu.

⁴ Babeka impilo yabo engozini ngenxa yami. Akusimi kuphela, kodwa wonke amabandla abeZizwe ayababonga kakhulu.

⁵ Bingelelani lebandla elihlanganela endlini yabo.

Bingelelani umngane wami othandekayo u-Ephenethasi, owaba ngowokuqala ukuphendukela kuKhristu esiqintini sase-Ezhiya.

⁶ Bingelelani uMariya owalisebenzela kanzima.

⁷ Bingelelani u-Andronikhasi loJuniyasi, izihlobo zami ezazisentolongweni kanye lami. Badumile phakathi kwabapostoli, njalo babekuKhristu mina ngingakabi khona.

⁸ Bingelelani u-Ampilyathasi, engimthandayo eNkosini.

⁹ Bingelelani u-Abhanusi, oyisisebenzi kanye lathi kuKhristu, lomngane wami othandekayo uStakhisi.

¹⁰ Bingelelani u-Aphele, owahlolwayo wamukelwa kuKhristu.

Bingelelani labo abangabendlu kaAristobhulasi.

¹¹ Bingelelani uHerodiyoni, isihlobo sami.

Bingelelani labo abasemzini kaNakhisu abaseNkosini.

¹² Bingelelani uTrayifina loTrifosa, abesifazane labo abasebenza kakhulu eNkosini.

Bingelelani umngane wami othandekayo, uP-hesisi, omunye owesifazane osesebenze kakhulukazi eNkosini.

¹³ Bingelelani uRufasi, okhethiweyo eNkosini, lonina, obengumama lakimi.

¹⁴ Bingelelani u-Asinkrithasi, loFilegoni, loHemesi, loPhathirobhasi, uHemasi kanye labazalwane abalabo.

¹⁵ Bingelelani uFilologu, loJuliya, loNerusi lodadewabo, kanye lo-Olimpasi labo bonke abangcwele abalabo.

¹⁶ Bingelelanani ngokwangana okungcwele.

Wonke amabandla kaKhristu ayalibingelela.

¹⁷ Ngiyalincenga, bazalwane, ukuba libaqaphele labo abadala ukwehlukana bebeka

izikhubekiso endleleni yenu, okuphambene lemfundiso elayifundayo. Baxwayeni. ¹⁸ Ngoba abantu abanjalo kabakhonzi Nkosi yethu uKhristu, kodwa izinkanuko zabo. Ngenkulumo emnandi langobuqili bakhohlisa ingqondo zabantu abayiziphukuphuku. ¹⁹ Abantu bonke sebezile ngokulalela kwenu, ngakho ngilokuthokoza okukhulu ngani; kodwa ngifuna ukuba lihlakaniphele okuhle, njalo libemsulwa kokubi.

²⁰ UNkulunkulu wokuthula uzamchoboza masinyane uSathane ngaphansi kwezinyawo zenu.

Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu kawube lani.

²¹ UThimothi, engisebenza laye, uyalibingelela, loLukhiyu, loJasoni kanye loSosiphatha, izihlobo zami.

²² Mina Thethiyasi, engilobe incwadi le, ngiyalibingelela eNkosini.

²³ UGayiyasi, osiphatho sakhe esihle siyangi-jabulisa mina kanye lebandla lonke lapha, uyalibingelela.

U-Erastu, ongumqondisi wemisebenzi yabantu bonke wedolobho, lomzalwane wethu uKhwathu bayalibingelela.

[²⁴ Sengathi umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ungaba lani lonke. Amen.]*

* **16:24** 16.24 Livesi kayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

²⁵ Kuye olamandla okuliqinisa ngevangeli lami langentshumayelo kaJesu Khristu, mayelana lokwambulwa kwemfihlakalo eyayifihlakele okweminyakanyaka eyedlulayo, ²⁶ kodwa khathesi yambulwe yaziswa ngemibhalo yabaphrofethi ngokulaya kukaNkulunkulu waphakade, ukuze abaZizwe bonke bamlalele ngokukholwa, ²⁷ kuNkulunkulu onguye yedwa olenhlakanipho, udumo kalube kuye ingunaphakade ngoJesu Khristu! Ameni.

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2023-04-13

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