

Incwadi KaPhawuli KwabaseKholose

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

² Lakubazalwane abangcwele labathembeki-leyo kuKhristu abaseKholose:

Umusa lokuthula kakube kini kuvela kuNku-lunkulu uBaba wethu.

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

³ Sihlezi simbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu, uBaba weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, nxa si-likhulekela, ⁴ ngoba sizwile ngokukholwa kwenu kuKhristu uJesu langothando elithanda ngalo abangcwele bonke. ⁵ Ukukholwa lothando

okuvela ethembeni eligcinelwe lina ezulwini, eselezwa ngalo elizwini leqiniso, elilivangeli

⁶ eselifikile kini. Emhlabeni wonke ivangeli leli lithela izithelo njalo liyakhula njengebelik-wenza phakathi kwenu kusukela ngelanga elal-izwa ngalo lawuqedisisa umusa kaNkulunkulu ngawo wonke amaqiniso alo. ⁷ Lalifundiswa

ngu-Ephafrasi oyinceku ethandekayo, ongum-fundisi othembekileyo kaKhristu emele thina, ⁸ owasitshela ngothando lwenu kuMoya.

⁹ Ngenxa yalokhu, kusukela mhla sisizwa ngani kasizange siyekele ukulikhulekela sicela

uNkulunkulu ukuthi aligcwalise ngokwazi intando yakhe ngakho konke ukuhlakanipha koMoya kanye lokuqedisisa. ¹⁰ Sikhulekela ukuba liphile impilo efanele iNkosi lokuba liyithokozise ngezindlela zonke, lithele izithelo kuyo yonke imisebenzi emihle, ukwazi kwenu uNkulunkulu kukhule, ¹¹ liqiniswa ngamandla wonke mayelana lamandla akhe amangalisayo ukuze libe lokubekezela kanye lesineke esikhulu, kuthi njalo ngokuthokoza ¹² limbonge ngentokozo uYise owalenza lafanela ukuhlanganyela elifeni labangcwele bakhe embusweni wokukhanya. ¹³ Ngoba wasihlenga embusweni wobumnyama wasiletha embusweni weNdodana yakhe ayithandayo, ¹⁴ okukuyo ukuhlengwa kwethu lokuthethelelwa kwezono.

Ukuphakama KukaKhristu

¹⁵ Indodana ingumfanekiso kaNkulunkulu ongabonakaliyo, izibulo kukho konke okwadalwayo. ¹⁶ Ngoba izinto zonke zadalwa ngayo: izinto ezisezulwini lezisemhlabeni, ezibonakalayo lezingabonakaliyo loba kuyizihlalo zobukhosi kumbe amandla loba ababusi kumbe abaphathi; izinto zonke zadalwa ngayo zidalelwa yona. ¹⁷ Yona iphambi kwezinto zonke njalo kuyo izinto zonke zibambene. ¹⁸ Iyinhloko yomzimba okulibandla; iyikuqala lezibulo elivela kwabafuleyo ukuze yona ibe ngeyokuqala ezintweni zonke. ¹⁹ Ngoba uNkulunkulu wathokoza ukuba ukuphelela kwakhe kube kuyo ²⁰ lokuthi ngayo abuyisane lezinto zonke, loba kuyizinto ezisemhlabeni

kumbe izinto ezisezulwini ngokwenza ukuthula ngegazi layo elachithwa esiphambanweni.

²¹ Lina lake laba ngabehlukane loNkulunkulu, liyizitha ezingqondweni zenu ngenxa yokuziphatha kwenu okubi. ²² Kodwa khathesi uselibuyisile ngomzimba kaKhristu uqobo lwawo ngokufa ukuze alethule lingcwele ebusweni bakhe, lingelasici njalo limsulwa. ²³ Nxa liqhubeka ngokukholwa kwenu ligxile njalo liqinile, lingasuki ethembeni eliliphiwa ngevangeli. Leli yilo ivangeli elalizwayo eselitshunyayelwe kuzozonke izidalwa ngaphansi kwezulu, mina Phawuli esengibe yinceku yalo.

Ukusebenzela Ibandla KukaPhawuli

²⁴ Khathesi ngiyathokoza ngokulihluphekela kwami njalo ngiyagcwalisa emzimbeni okulokhu kusasilela mayelana lezinhlupheko zikaKhristu ngenxa yomzimba wakhe olibandla. ²⁵ Sengaba yinceku yalo ngomsebenzi uNkulunkulu anginika wona ukuba ngililethele ilizwi likaNkulunkulu liphelele, ²⁶ ebeliyimfihlakalo ebifihlakele okweminyakanyaka kanye lezizukulwane ezedluleyo kodwa khathesi isibekwe obala kwabangcwele beNkosi. ²⁷ UNkulunkulu wathanda ukubazisa phakathi kwabeZizweni inotho emangalisayo yemfihlakalo le, enguKhristu phakathi kwenu, ithemba lenkazimulo.

²⁸ Sitshumayela yena, seluleke njalo sifundise abantu bonke ngenhlakanipho yonke ukuze bonke sibalethe kuKhristu bephelele.

²⁹ Ngisebenza nzima ukuba lokhu kufezeke,

ngilwisa ngawo wonke amandla uKhristu asebenza ngawo phakathi kwami.

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¹ Ngifuna ukuba lazi ukuthi ngilizamela kakhulu okunganani lina labaseLodikheya, kanye labo bonke abangakangiboni mathupha.

² Injongo yami yikuthi bakhuthazeke ezinhliziyweni njalo bamanyane ethandweni ukuze babe lenotho egcweleyo yokuqedisisa okupheleleyo, ukuze bayazi imfihlakalo kaNkulunkulu kubalisa uKhristu, ³ okufihlwe kuye yonke ingcebo yokuhlakanipha lokwazi.

⁴ Ngilitshela lokhu ukuze kungabikhona olikhohlisayo ngamazwi amnandi. ⁵ Ngoba lanxa ngingekho kini ngomzimba ngilani ngomoya njalo ngithokozela ukubona ubuntu benu lokuqina kokholo lwenu kuKhristu.

Ukuphelela Kokuphila KuKhristu

⁶ Ngakho-ke, njengoba uKhristu Jesu lama-mukela njengeNkosi, qhubekani liphila kuye, ⁷ ligxile njalo lakhelwe kuye, liqine ekukholweni njengokufundiswa kwenu, liphuphuma ngokubonga.

⁸ Qaphelani kungabikhona olithumbayo ngenhlakanipho eyize lekhohlisayo, eyeyame emdabukweni wabantu lakuzimiso zemvelo yakulo umhlaba kungesikho kuKhristu.

⁹ Ngoba bonke ubuNkulunkulu buhlezi kuKhristu ngesimo somzimba ¹⁰ njalo lina lilakho lokhu kuphelela kuKhristu oyinhloko yamandla wonke kanye lokubusa konke.

¹¹ Lasokelwa kuye ngokususwa kwemvelo yenu yesono, kungayisikho ngokusoka okwenziwa ngezandla zabantu kodwa ngokulahla umzimba wenyama, lokhu kuyikusoka okwenziwa nguKhristu ¹² ngokungcwatshwa laye ngobhaphathizo labuye lavuswa kanye laye ngokukholwa kwenu emandleni kaNkulunkulu owamvusa kwabafileyo.

¹³ Ngesikhathi lifile ezonweni zenu lokungasoki kwemvelo yenu yesono, uNkulunkulu walenza laba ngabaphilayo kanye loKhristu. Wasithethelela zonke izono zethu ¹⁴ ngokwesula yonke imithetho elotshiweyo lezimiso zayo eyayimelane lathi njalo isivimbela. Wayisusa, wayibethela esiphambanweni. ¹⁵ Kwathi eselahlise imibuso lababusi izikhali, wenza umbukiso oyinhlekisa ngabo, wabanqoba ngesiphambano.

Ukukhululeka Emthethweni Yabantu

¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, lingavumeli umuntu elahlulela ngalokho elikudlayo loba elikunathayo loba ngokuphathelane lomkhosi wokholo, ukuthokozela ukuthwasa kwenyanga loba usuku lweSabatha. ¹⁷ Lezizinto ziyisithunzi nje sezinto ezazizakuza kodwa ubuqotho butholakala kuKhristu. ¹⁸ Lingavumeli umuntu othokoziswa yikuzithoba kwamanga lokukhonza izingilosi eliphuthisa umvuzo wenu. Umuntu onjalo ubalisa ngokupheleleyo konke akubonileyo, kuthi ingqondo yakhe engayisiyo yomoya imkhukhumeze ngemicabango eyize. ¹⁹ Usehlukane lenhloko yomzimba wonke wona

ohlanganiswa ndawonye yimisipha lemithambo, okhula ngokuthanda kukaNkulunkulu.

²⁰ Njengoba lafa loKhristu ezimisweni zalo umhlaba, kungani liphila sengathi lilokhu lingabawo, lizibeka ngaphansi kwemithetho yawo yokuthi, ²¹ “Ungabambi! Unganambithi! Ungathinti!”? ²² Konke lokhu kumiselwe ukuqedwa yikusetshenziswa ngoba kweyame phezu kwemilayo yabantu lemfundiso yabo. ²³ Impela izimiso ezinje zibonakala njengehlakanipho, ngenkonzo yazo yokuzenzela, ukuzithoba kwamanga lokuphatha umzimba kabuhlungu kodwa kazilalo usizo lokuzithiba ezinkanukweni zomzimba.

3

Imilayo Yokuphila Okungcwele

¹ Ngakho-ke njengoba livuswe kanye loKhristu, bekani inhliziyo zenu ezintweni eziphezulu lapho uKhristu ahlezi khona esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. ² Bekani ingqondo zenu ezintweni eziphezulu hatshi ezintweni zasemhlabeni. ³ Ngoba lafa, ukuphila kwenu khathesi kufihlwe loKhristu kuNkulunkulu. ⁴ Lapho uKhristu oyikuphila kwenu, ebonakala, lani futhi lizabonakala laye enkazimulweni.

⁵ Ngakho-ke, kubulaleni konke okungokwemvelo yenu yasemhlabeni: okubalisa ukuhlobonga, ukungcola, inkanuko, izifiso ezimbi, ubuhwaba lokukhonza izithombe. ⁶ Ngenxa yalezizinto, ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luyeza. ⁷ Lalijayele ukuhamba kulezizindlela

empilweni elake layiphila. ⁸ Kodwa khathezi zilahleni zonke izinto ezinjengalezi: ulaka, ukuthukuthela, inzondo, ukunyeya lenkulumo ebolileyo. ⁹ Lingaqambelani amanga njengoba selihlubule uqobo lwenu oludala lezenzo zalo ¹⁰ lembatha uqobo lwenu olutsha olwenziwa lube lutsha ekwazini ngomfanekiso kaMdali walo. ¹¹ Lapha akula oweZizwe loba umJuda, osokileyo loba ongasokanga, iqaba, umSikhethiya, isigqili loba okhululekileyo kodwa uKhristu uyikho konke njalo ukubo bonke.

¹² Ngakho, njengabantu bakaNkulunkulu abakhethiweyo, abangcwele labathandwa kakhulu, zembeseni ngesihawu, umusa, ukuzithoba, ubumnene kanye lokubekezela.

¹³ Bekezelelanani, lithethelelane loba kuyinsolo bani omunye angaba layo ngomunye. Thethelelani njengoba iNkosi yalithethelela.

¹⁴ Phezu kwakho konke lokhu yembathani uthando olukubophela ndawonye konke lokhu, kube yikumanyana okupheleleyo.

¹⁵ Ukuthula kukaKhristu kakubuse ezinhliziyweni zenu ngoba njengezitho zomzimba munye labizelwa ukuthula. Njalo bongani. ¹⁶ Ilizwi likaKhristu kalihlale phakathi kwenu ngokupheleleyo lapho lifundisana njalo liselulekana ngenhlakanipho yonke, ngamahubo, amaculo kanye lezingoma zakoMoya, lihlabelale lilokubonga uNkulunkulu ezinhliziyweni zenu. ¹⁷ Njalo kukho konke elikwenzayo, ngelizwi loba ngesenzo, konke kwenzeni ngebizo leNkosi uJesu, libonge

uNkulunkulu uYise ngaye.

Imilayo Yemizi YamaKhristu

¹⁸ Bafazi, zehliseni kubomkenu njengokufanele eNkosini.

¹⁹ Madoda, thandani omkenu njalo lingabi lesihluku kubo.

²⁰ Bantwana, lalelani abazali benu ezintweni zonke ngoba lokhu kuyayithokozisa iNkosi.

²¹ Bazali, lingabathukuthelisi abantwana benu hlezi badumazeke.

²² Zigqili, lalelani amakhosi enu omhlaba ezintweni zonke; likwenze hatshi ngoba elikhangele loba ukuthi alithande kodwa ngobuqotho bezinhliziyi langokuhlonipha iNkosi. ²³ Konke elikwenzayo kusebenzeni ngenhliziyi yenu yonke njengokusebenzela iNkosi hatshi abantu, ²⁴ njengoba lisazi ukuthi lizathola ilifa eNkosini njengomvuzo. YiNkosi uKhristu elimkhonzayo. ²⁵ Loba ngubani oyenza okubi uzaphindiselwa ngobubi bakhe njalo akula kubandlulula.

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¹ Makhosi, nikani izigqili zenu okulungileyo lokufaneleyo ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi lani lileNkosi ezulwini.

Ezinye Iziqondiso

² Zinikeleni ekukhulekeni ngokuqaphela langokubonga. ³ Lisikhulekele lathi futhi ukuba uNkulunkulu avulele ilizwi lethu umnyango ukuze sitshumayele imfihlakalo kaKhristu engayibotshelwayo. ⁴ Khulekelani ukuba ngiyitshumayele ngokucaca okufanele ngikwenze. ⁵ Hlakaniphani

kulokho elikwenzayo kwabangaphandle lisebenzisa amathuba wonke ngokugcweleyo. ⁶ Ingxoxo yenu kayihlale igcwele umusa, ifakwe itswayi ukuze likwazi ukuphendula umuntu wonke.

Ukuvalelisa

⁷ UThikhikhasi uzalitshela izindaba zonke ngami. Ungumzalwane othandekayo, umfundisi othembekileyo loyinceku eNkosini. ⁸ Ngimthuma kini ngenjongo enxwanele ukuthi lazi ngomumo wethu lokuthi akhuthaze inhliziyo zenu. ⁹ Ubuya lo-Onesimasi, umzalwane wethu othembekileyo lothandekayo njalo ongomunye wenu. Bazalitshela konke okwenzakala lapha.

¹⁰ U-Aristakhasi engibotshwe laye loMakho umzawakhe kaBhanabhasi bayalibingelela. (Selamukela iziqondiso ngaye; angabuya kini limamukele.)

¹¹ UJesu othiwa nguJustusi laye uyalibingelela. Laba yibo kuphela abangamaJuda kulabo engisebenzela umbuso kaNkulunkulu labo njalo sebebonakalise ukuthi bayinduduzo kimi.

¹² U-Ephrafrasi ongomunye wenu lenceku kaKhristu uJesu uyalibingelela. Uhlezi elikhulekela kakhulu ukuba liqine kuyo yonke intando kaNkulunkulu liphelele njalo lithembile.

¹³ Ngiyamfakazela ukuthi uyalisebenzela kakhulu lina kanye lalabo abaseLodikheya leHiyerapholisi.

¹⁴ Umngane wethu othandekayo uLukha ongudokotela, loDemasi bayalibingelela.

15 Ngibingelelelani abazalwane abaseLodikheya loNimfa kanye lebandla endlini yakhe.

16 Emva kokuba incwadi le seliyifundelwe, bonani ukuthi iyafundwa lasebandleni laseLodikheya lokuthi lani libale incwadi evela eLodikheya.

17 Tshelani u-Akhiphasi lithi: “Bona ukuba uyawuqeda umsebenzi owamukele eNkosini.”

18 Mina Phawuli, ngiloba ukuvalelisa lokhu ngesami isandla. Khumbulani ukubotshwa kwami. Umusa kawube lani.

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