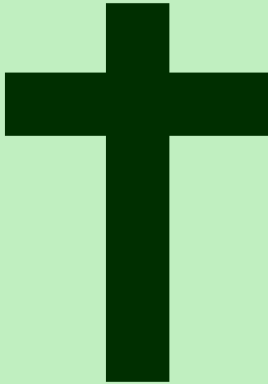


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Ivangeli LikaMatewu

Usendo LukaJesu Khristu

¹ Umbhalo wosendo lukaJesu Khristu indodana kaDavida, indodana ka-Abhrahama:

² U-Abhrahama wayenguyise ka-Isaka,
u-Isaka uyise kaJakhobe,

uJakhobe uyise kaJuda labafowabo,

³ uJuda uyise kaPherezi loZera, unina owayenguThamari,
uPherezi uyise kaHezironi,

uHezironi uyise kaRamu,

⁴ uRamu uyise ka-Aminadabi,

u-Aminadabi uyise kaNashoni,

uNahishoni uyise kaSalimoni,

⁵ uSalimoni uyise kaBhowazi, unina owayenguRahabi,

uBhowazi uyise ka-Obhedi, unina owayenguRuthe,

u-Obhedi uyise kaJese,

⁶ uJese uyise wenkosi uDavida.

UDavida wayenguyise kaSolomoni, unina owayeke waba
ngumka-Uriya,

⁷ uSolomoni uyise kaRehobhowami,

uRehobhowami uyise ka-Abhija,

u-Abhija uyise ka-Asa,

⁸ u-Asa uyise kaJehoshafathi,

uJehoshafathi uyise kaJehoramamu,

uJehoramamu uyise ka-Uziya,

⁹ u-Uziya uyise kaJothamu,

uJothamu uyise ka-Ahazi,

u-Ahazi uyise kaHezekhiya,

¹⁰ uHezekhiya uyise kaManase,

uManase uyise ka-Amoni,

u-Amoni uyise kaJosiya,

¹¹ uJosiya owayenguyise kaJekhoniya labafowabo nge-
sikhathi bethunjwe eBhabhiloni.

¹² Emva kokuthunjwa eBhabhiloni:

uJekhoniya wayenguyise kaSheyalithiyeli,

uSheyalithiyeli uyise kaZerubhabheli,

¹³ uZerubhabheli uyise ka-Abhiyudi,

u-Abhiyudi uyise ka-Eliyakhimu,

u-Eliyakhimu uyise ka-Azori,
¹⁴ u-Azori uyise kaZadokhi,
 uZadokhi uyise ka-Akhimu,
 u-Akhimu uyise ka-Elihudi,
¹⁵ u-Elihudi uyise ka-Eliyazari,
 u-Eliyazari uyise kaMathani,
 uMathani uyise kaJakhobe,
¹⁶ uJakhobe uyise kaJosefa, umkaMariya, owazala uJesu
 obizwa ngokuthi nguKhristu.

¹⁷ Ngokunjalo-ke, kwakulezizukulwane ezilitshumi
 lane sezizonke kusukela ku-Abhrahama kusiya
 kuDavida, ezilitshumi lane kusukela kuDavida
 kusiya ekuthunjweni yiBhabhiloni njalo ezil-
 itshumi lane kusukela ekuthunjweni kusiya
 kuKhristu.

Ukuzalwa KukaJesu Khristu

¹⁸ UJesu Khristu wazalwa kanje: Unina uMariya
 wayethembise ukuthi uzakwendela kuJosefa kodwa kwathi
 bengakahlangani wabonakala esezithwele kwenziwe ngo-
 Moya oNgcwele. ¹⁹ Ngoba umkakhe uJosefa wayeyin-
 dodana elungileyo emthethweni, njalo engafuni ukumyangisa
 ebantwini, wacabanga ukumala ngasese.

²⁰ Uthe esekucabangile lokhu, kwafika kuye ingilosi
 yeNkosi ephutsheni yathi, “Josefa ndodana kaDavida,
 ungesabi ukuthatha uMariya ukuba abe ngumkakho
 ngoba lokhu akhulelwe ngakho kuvela kuMoya oNgcwele.
²¹ Uzabeletha indodana ozayetha ibizo uthi nguJesu ngoba
 uzasindisa abantu bakhe ezonweni zabo.”

²² Konke lokhu kwenzakala ukuze kugcwaliseke okwat-
 shiwo yiNkosi ngomphrofethi ukuthi: ²³ “Intombi egcwe-
 leyo izakhulelwa izale indodana, bayibize ngokuthi ngu-
 Emanuweli”* (okutsho ukuthi, “uNkulunkulu ulathi”).

²⁴ UJosefa esevukile ebuthongweni wenza lokho ingilosi
 yeNkosi eyayimlaye khona, wamthatha uMariya waba
 ngumkakhe. ²⁵ Kodwa kazange embathe laye waze wa-
 beletha indodana. Wayetha ibizo wathi nguJesu.

2

Izazi Zethekelela UKhristu

¹ UJesu esezelwe eBhethilehema laseJudiya ngesikhathi
 sokubusa kwenkosi uHerodi, kwafika eJerusalema iZazi

* 1:23 1.23 U-Isaya 7.14

zivela empumalanga, ² zabuza zathi, “Ungaphi lowo ozalwe ukuba yinkosi yamaJuda na? Sibone inkanyezi yakhe empumalanga ngakho size ukuzamkhonza.”

³ Kwathi inkosi uHerodi isikuzwile lokhu yakhat-hazeka, kanye leJerusalema lonke. ⁴ Kwathi esebizele ndawonye abaphristi abakhulu bonke labafundisi bom-thetho, wababuza ukuthi uKhristu wayezazalelwa ngaphi. ⁵ Baphendula bathi, “EBhethilehema laseJudiya, ngoba lokhu yikho okwalotshwa ngumphrofethi ukuthi:

⁶ ‘Kodwa wena Bhethilehema, elizweni lakoJuda, kawumncinyane kulabo bonke ababusi bakoJuda; ngoba kuzavela umbusi kuwe,

ozakuba ngumelusi wabantu bami bako-Israyeli.’*”

⁷ UHerodi wasezibiza iZazi ngasese wadingisisa kuzo isikhathi inkanyezi eyaphuma ngaso ngqe. ⁸ Wabathuma eBhethilehema wathi, “Hambani liyemdinga umntwana. Lingamfumana lingazise masinyane ukuze lami ngihambe ngiyemkhonza.”

⁹ Sezizwile okwatshiwo yinkosi, zasuka zahamba, inkanyezi leyo ezaziyibonile empumalanga yahamba phambi kwazo yaze yayakuma lapho umntwana ayekhona. ¹⁰ Zathi ziyibona inkanyezi zagcwala intokozo. ¹¹ Zangena endlini zambona umntwana lonina uMariya, zakhothama zamkhonza. Zasezivula impahla zazo eziligugu zamkhunga ngezipho zegolide lempepha lemure. ¹² Kwathi ngoba zixwayisiwe ephutsheni ukuthi zingabuyeli kuHerodi, zaqonda elizweni lakibo ngenye indlela.

Ukubalekela EGibhithe

¹³ Kwathi sezihambile, ingilosi yeNkosi yabonakala ku-Josefa ngephupho. Yathi, “Vuka uthathe umntwana lonina libalekele eGibhithe. Lihlale khonale ngize ngilitshela ngoba uHerodi uzamdinga umntwana efuna ukumbulala.”

¹⁴ Ngakho wavuka wathatha umntwana lonina ebusuku waya eGibhithe ¹⁵ lapho abahlala khona uHerodi waze wafa. Ngakho kwagcwaliseka lokho iNkosi eyayikutshilo ngomphrofethi ukuthi, “Indodana yami ngayikhupha eGibhithe.”†

¹⁶ Kwathi ukuba uHerodi ananzelele ukuthi iZazi zaz-imphelele wazonda kakhulu, wasekhupha umlayo wokuthi kubulawe bonke abantwana abangabafana eBhethilehema lasemangweni wonke oseduze, bonke ababeleminyaka emibili kusehla, kuhambelana lesikhathi leso ayesitshelwe yiZazi. ¹⁷ Ngakho lokho okwakutshiwo ngumphrofethi uJeremiya kwagcwaliseka ukuthi:

* 2:6 2.6 UMikha 5.2 † 2:15 2.15 UHosiya 11.1

18 “Ilizwi lizwakala eRama,
ukukhala lesililo esikhulu,
uRasheli ekhalela abantwana bakhe njalo
wala ukududuzwa,
ngoba kabasekho.”[‡]

Ukubuyela ENazaretha

19 UHerodi esefile, ingilosi yeNkosi yabonakala ngephupho kuJosefa eseGibhithe ²⁰ yathi, “Sukuma uthathe umntwana lonina liye elizweni lako-Israyeli ngoba labo ababefuna ukubulala umntwana sebefile.”

²¹ Ngakho wasukuma wathatha umntwana lonina waya elizweni lako-Israyeli. ²² Kodwa wathi ngokuzwa ukuthi u-Akhelasi wayebusa eJudiya esikhundleni sikayise uHerodi wesaba ukuya khona. Kwathi esexwayisiwe ephutsheni wahamba wayahlala eGalile, ²³ edolobheni elalithiwa yiNazaretha. Ngalokho kwagcwaliseka okwatshiwo ngabaphrofethi ukuthi: Uzabizwa ngokuthi ngoweNazaretha.

3

UJohane UMbhaphathizi Ulungisa Indlela

¹ Ngalesosikhathi kwafika uJohane uMbhaphathizi etshumayela enkangala yaseJudiya ² esithi, “Phendukani ngoba umbuso wezulu ususondele.” ³ Nguye lo okwakhulunywa ngaye ngumphrofethi u-Isaya kwathiwa:

“Ilizwi lomemezayo enkangala lithi,
‘Lungiselani iNkosi indlela,
yenzani izindlela zayo ziqonde.’^{*"}

⁴ Izigqoko zikaJohane zazenziwe ngoboya bekamela, elebhanti lesikhumba okhalweni lwakhe. Ukudla kwakhe kwakuzintethe loluju lwenyosi zeganga. ⁵ Abantu baphuma baya kuye bevela eJerusalema lakulo lonke elaseJudiya lemangweni wonke waseJodani. ⁶ Bevuma izono zabo, babhaphathizwa nguye emfuleni uJodani.

⁷ Kodwa wathi ebona abaFarisi labaSadusi abanengi besiza lapho ayebhaphathizela khona wathi kubo, “Lina nzalo yezinyoka! Lilimukiswe ngubani ukuthi libalekele ulaka oluzayo na? ⁸ Thelani izithelo ezihambelana lokuphenduka. ⁹ Njalo lingacabangi ukuthi lingazitshela ukuthi, ‘Silo-Abhrahama ongubaba wethu.’ Mina ngilitshela ukuthi kuwonala amatshe uNkulunkulu angamenzela u-Abhrahama abantwana. ¹⁰ Ihloka selivele selisezimpandeni zezihlahla

njalo zonke izihlahla ezingatheli izithelo ezinhle zizaganyulwa, ziphoselwe emlilweni.

¹¹ Mina ngilibhaphathiza ngamanzi okutshengisa ukuphenduka. Kodwa ngemva kwami kuza olamandla kulami njalo kakungilingananga ukuthwala amanyathela akhe. Uzalibhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele langomlilo. ¹² Isitsha sakhe sokwela sisesandleni sakhe njalo uzathanyela isiza sakhe, abuthele amabele akhe wonke esiphaleni, kuthi amakhoba awatshise ngomlilo ongacitshekiyo.”

Ukubhaphathizwa KukaJesu

¹³ UJesu weza eJodani evela eGalile ukuba abhaphathizwe nguJohane. ¹⁴ Kodwa uJohane wazama ukwenqaba ngokuthi, “Yimi engidinga ukubhaphathizwa nguwe, kanti pho ungeza njani kimi?”

¹⁵ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Yekela kube njalo okwakhathi ngoba kufanele ukuba sikwenze lokhu ukuze sigwalise konke ukulunga.”** Ngakho uJohane wasevuma.

¹⁶ Masinyane nje uJesu eqeda kubhaphathizwa waphuma emanzini. Khonokho nje izulu lavuleka, wasebona uMoya kaNkulunkulu usehla njengejuba njalo usehlela phezu kwakhe. ¹⁷ Ilizwi elavela ezulwini lathi, “Lo yiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngayo.”

4

Ukulingwa KukaJesu ENkangala

¹ UJesu wasekhokhelwa nguMoya wamusa enkangala ukuthi ayingwa nguSathane. ² Emva kokuzila ukudla okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane lobusuku obungamatshumi amane wayeselambile. ³ Umlingi weza kuye wathi, “Nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu tshela amatshe la aphen-duke abe yisinkwa.”

⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Umuntu kayikuphila ngesinkwa kuphela kodwa ngelizwi lonke eliphuma emlonyeni kaNkulunkulu.’*”**

⁵ USathane wasemthatha wamusa emzini ongcwele, wamisa engqongweni yethempeli. ⁶ Wathi kuye, “Nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu, ziphosele phansi. Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

‘Uzalaya izingilosi zakhe ngawe,
zikuqage ngezandla zazo,

ukuze ungatshayeki ngonyawo lwakho elitsheni.’†”

* 4:4 4.4 UDutheronomi 8.3 † 4:6 4.6 AmaHubo 91.11-12

⁷ UJesu wamphendula wathi, **“Kulotshiwe ukuthi, ‘Ungayilingi iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho.’‡”**

⁸ Waphinda njalo uSathane wamusa entabeni ephakemeyo kakhulu, wamtshengisa yonke imibuso yomhlaba lokucwebezela kwayo. ⁹ Wathi, “Ngizakunika konke lokhu nxa ungangikhothamela, ungikhonze.”

¹⁰ UJesu wathi kuye, **“Suka kimi Sathane! Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Khonza iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho njalo usebenzele yena yedwa.’§”**

¹¹ USathane wasemtshiya, izingilosi zabuya zazomkhonza.

UJesu Uqalisa Ukutshumayela

¹² UJesu wathi esizwa ukuthi uJohane wayesevalelwe entolongweni, wabuyela eGalile. ¹³ Wasuka eNazaretha wayahlala eKhaphenawume eyayisokhunjini lomfula emangweni wakoZebhuluni lakoNafithali, ¹⁴ ukugcwalisa lokho okwatshiwo ngomphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi:

¹⁵ “Lizwe likaZebhuluni lelizwe likaNafithali,
iNdlela eya oLwandle, phetsheya kweJodani,
iGalile yabeZizweni,

¹⁶ abantu ababehlezi emnyameni
sebonebe ukukhanya okukhulu;
kulabo abahlezi elizweni lethunzi lokufa,
ukukhanya sekufikile.”*

¹⁷ Kusukela ngalesosikhathi uJesu waqalisa ukutshumayela esithi, **“Phendukani ngoba umbuso wezulu usondele.”**

Ukubizwa Kwabafundi Bakuqala

¹⁸ Kwathi uJesu ehamba okhunjini loLwandle lwaseGalile wabona izelamani ezimbili, uSimoni owayethiwa nguPhethro lomfowabo u-Andreya. Babephosela umambule olwandle ngoba bengabagoli benhlanzi. ¹⁹ UJesu wathi, **“Wozani lingilande, †ngizalenza abagoli babantu.”**

²⁰ Masinyane nje batshiya omambule babo bamlandela.

²¹ Esuka lapho wabona ezinye izelamani ezimbili, uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya lomfowabo uJohane. Babephakathi kwesikepe loyise uZebhediya, belungisa omambule babo. UJesu wababiza, ²² baphanga batshiya isikepe kanye loyise bamlandela.

UJesu Usilisa Abagulayo

‡ 4:7 4.7 UDutheronomi 6.16 § 4:10 4.10 UDutheronomi 6.13 * 4:16 4.16 U-Isaya 9.1-2 † 4:19 4.19 UJesu ebabiza ukuthi bamlandele, wayebabizela ukuthi bazidele, balingise impilo yakhe.

23 UJesu wahamba kulolonke iGalile efundisa emasinagogweni abo, etshumayela izindaba ezinhle zombuso, esilisa zonke izifo lemikhuhlane ebantwini. 24 Udumo lwakhe lwagcwala kulolonke elase-Asiriya, abantu baletha kuye bonke ababegula belezifo ezehlukeneyo, labo ababesebuhlungwini obukhulu, ababephethwe ngamadimoni, ababelezithuthwane lababeyizilima, bonke wabasilisa. 25 Amaxuku amakhulu ayevela eGalile, eDekhapholisi, eJerusalema, eJudiya lasemangweni ongaphetsheya kweJodani amlandela.

5

Intshumayelo Yasentabeni

1 Kwathi ebona amaxuku wakhwela entabeni wahlala phansi. Abafundi bakhe beza kuye.

Izibusiso

2 Waseqalisa ukubafundisa esithi:

3 **“Babusisiwe abampofu emoyeni ngoba umbuso wezulu ungowabo.**

4 **Babusisiwe labo abakhalayo ngoba bazakududuzwa.**

5 **Babusisiwe abathobekileyo ngoba bazakuba zindlalifa zomhlaba.**

6 **Babusisiwe labo abalambela labomela ukulunga ngoba bazakusuthiswa.**

7 **Babusisiwe abalesihawu ngoba bazakuhawukelwa.**

8 **Babusisiwe abahlanzekileyo enhliziyweni ngoba bazabona uNkulunkulu.**

9 **Babusisiwe abagcina ukuthula ngoba bazathiwa ngamadodana kaNkulunkulu.**

10 **Babusisiwe abahlukunyezwayo ngenxa yokulunga, ngoba umbuso wezulu ungowabo.**

11 **Libusisiwe lina nxa abantu belithuka, belihlukumeza njalo beligcona ngobubi bonke ngenxa yami.**

12 **Thokozani lijabule ngoba mkhulu umvuzo wenu ezulwini, njengoba bahlukunyezwa ngaleyondlela abaphrofethi ababephambi kwenu.”**

Itswayi Lokukhanya

13 **“Lina lilitswayi lomhlaba. Kodwa nxa itswayi lingalahlekelwa yibumonyu balo, lingavuselelwa njani na? Kaliselamsebenzi ngaphandle kokuthi lichithelwe phandle linyathelwe ngabantu.**

14 **Lina liyikukhanya kwezwe. Idolobho elakhelwe entabeni kalisitheki.** 15 **Njalo abantu kabalumathisi**

isibane basibeke ngaphansi kwesitsha. Kodwa basibeke phezu koluthi lwaso ukuze sikhanyisele bonke abasendlini. ¹⁶ Ngokunjalo, yenzani ukukhanya kwenu kukhanye phambi kwabantu ukuze babone izezo zenu ezinhle baze badumise uYihlo osezulwini.”

Ukugcwalisa Umthetho

¹⁷ “Lingacabangi ukuthi ngilande ukuzadiliza uMthetho kumbe abaPhrofethi. Kangilandanga ukuzediliza kodwa ukuzogcwalisisa. ¹⁸ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kuze kunyamalale izulu lomhlaba kakuyikususwa lutho eMthethweni, loba libadlana kumbe lichatshana elilotshiweyo, kuze kupheleliswe konke. ¹⁹ Loba ngubani owephula owodwa nje wale imilayo emincinyane, afundise abanye ukwenzanjalo uzathiwa mncinyane embusweni wezulu kodwa loba ngubani olandela njalo afundise imilayo le njengokuba, uzathiwa mkhulu embusweni wezulu. ²⁰ Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi ngaphandle kokuthi ukulunga kwenu kwedlule okwabaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho, ngempela kalizukuwungena umbuso wezulu.”

Ukubulala Umuntu

²¹ “Lezwa ukuthi kwathiwa kwabasendulo, ‘Ungabulali; lowo obulalayo uzakwahlulelwa.’* ²² Kodwa ngilitshela ngithi loba ngubani ozondela umfowabo loba udadewabo uzakwahlulelwa emthethwandaba. Njalo lowo othi kumfowabo loba kudadewabo, ‘Raca,’ okutsho ukuthi ‘Silimandini,’ uzathonisiswa emphakathini. Njalo lowo othi, ‘Wena siwula!’ uzakuba sengozini yomlilo wesihogo.

²³ Ngakho-ke, nxa uletha isipho sakho e-alithareni ubusukhumbula ukuthi umfowenu kumbe udadewenu ulesikhwili lawe, ²⁴ tshiya khonapho isipho sakho phambi kwe-alithari. Qala uyebuyisana laye umfowenu kumbe udadewenu andubana ubuye uzonikela umnikelo wakho.

²⁵ Phangisa uqedelane lalowo okumangalelayo lisahamba lisiya emthethwandaba funa akunikele kumahluleli ozakunikela kumlindijele ukuthi akuphosele entolongweni. ²⁶ Ngilitshela iqiniso, kawusoze uphume uze uhlawule kanye lohlamvana lokucina lwemali.”

Ukuphinga

* 5:21 5.21 U-Eksodasi 20.13

27 **“Lezwa ukuthi kwathiwa, ‘Ungaphingi.’† 28 Kodwa ngilitshela ukuthi lowo okhangela owesifazane amfise usephinge laye enhliziyweni yakhe. 29 Nxa ilihlo lakho lokunene likwenzisa isono, likopole, ulikhuphe ulilahlele khatshana. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ulahlekelwe ngesisodwa isitho somzimba wakho kulokuthi umzimba wakho wonke uphoselwe esihogweni somlilo. 30 Njalo nxa isandla sakho sokunene sikwenzisa isono, siqume usiphosele khatshana. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ulahlekelwe ngesisodwa isitho somzimba wakho kulokuthi umzimba wakho wonke uye esihogweni somlilo.”**

Ukwehlukana

31 **“Kwathiwa, ‘Lowo owehlukana lomkakhe kamuphe incwadi yokuquma umtshado.’‡ 32 Kodwa mina ngilitshela ngithi lowo ohlukana lomkakhe, ngaphandle kokuba ehlobongile, umenza afebe, njalo lowo othatha umfazi ohlukene lomkakhe uyaphinga.”**

Izifungo

33 **“Njalo selezwa ukuthi kwathiwa kwabendulo, ‘Ungephuli isifungo sakho kodwa gwalisa izifungo zakho ozenzileyo eNkosini.’ 34 Kodwa mina ngithi, lingafungi loba sokutheni, kumbe ngezulu ngoba liyisihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu; 35 loba ngomhlaba ngoba uyisinyathelo sakhe loba ngeJerusalema ngoba lidolobho leNkosi enkulu. 36 Njalo ungafungi ngekhandla lakho ngoba ungeke wenze lalunye unwele lube mhlophe kumbe lube mnyama. 37 Okumele likutsho yikuthi ‘Yebo’ kumbe ‘Hatshi’; okunye okungasilokhu kuvela komubi.”**

Ilihlo Ngelihlo

38 **“Selezwa ukuthi kwathiwa, ‘Ilihlo ngelihlo njalo izinyo ngezinyo.’§ 39 Kodwa mina ngiyalitshela ngithi, lingamelani lomuntu omubi. Nxa omunye angakutshaya esihlathini sokunene, muphe njalo esinye isihlathi. 40 Njalo nxa omunye efuna ukukumangalela ukuze akuthathele isigqoko sakho, myekele athathe lejazi lakho njalo. 41 Nxa omunye ekubamba ngamandla ukuthi uhambe ikhilomitha elilodwa, hamba laye abe mabili. 42 Muphe lowo ocela kuwe njalo ungamfulatheli lowo ofuna ukweboleka kuwe.”**

† 5:27 5.27 U-Eksodasi 20.14 ‡ 5:31 5.31 UDutheronomi 24.1 § 5:38 5.38 U-Eksodasi 21.24; ULevi 24.20; UDutheronomi 19.21

Ukuthanda Izitha

⁴³ “Selezwa ukuthi kwathiwa, ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho, uzonde isitha sakho.’”^{*} ⁴⁴ Kodwa mina ngilitshela ukuthi, thandani izitha zenu, libakhulekele labo abalihlukuluzayo, ⁴⁵ ukuze libe ngamadodana kaYihlo osezulwini. Wenza ilanga lakhe liphume kwababi labalungileyo njalo anise izulu kwabalungileyo lakwabangalunganga. ⁴⁶ Nxa lithanda labo abalithandayo kuphela, lizazuza mvuzo bani na? Kabenzi njalo na labathelisi? ⁴⁷ Nxa libingelela abafowenu bodwa, kuyini elikwenzayo okwedlula abanye na? Kabenzi lokho labahedeni na? ⁴⁸ Ngakho wobani ngabapheleleyo njengalokhu uYihlo osezulwini ephelele.”

6*Ukupha Abaswelayo*

¹ “Qaphelani ukuthi lingenzi izenzo zokulunga phambi kwabantu ukuze balibone. Nxa lisenza njalo kaliyikuba lomvuzo ovela kuYihlo ezulwini.

² Ngakho nxa lisipha abaswelayo, lingamemezeli indawo yonke njengokwenziwa ngabazenzisi emasinagogweni lasezitaladini ukuze badunyiswe ngabantu. Ngilitshela iqiniso, sebewemukele owabo umvuzo ngokugcweleyo. ³ Kodwa nxa lina lisipha abaswelayo isandla senu sokhohlo kasingakwazi lokho esikwenzayo esokunene, ⁴ ukuze ukupha kwenu kube sensitha. Ngakho uYihlo obona okwenziwa ensitha uzalipha umvuzo wenu.”

Umkhuleko

⁵ “Nxa likhuleka lingabi njengabazenzisi ngoba bona bathanda ukukhuleka bemi emasinagogweni lasemakhoneni ezitalada ukuze babonwe ngabantu. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi sebewutholile owabo umvuzo ngokugcweleyo. ⁶ Nxa likhuleka, ngenani ezindlini zenu, livale iminyango beselikhuleka kuYihlo ongabonakaliyo. Ngakho uYihlo obona okwenziwa ensitha uzalipha umvuzo wenu. ⁷ Njalo nxa likhuleka lingenzi ubugabazi, linqongolozwa njengabahedeni ngoba bacabanga ukuthi bazezwakala ngenxa yamazwi abo amanengi. ⁸ Lingabi njengabo ngoba uYihlo uyakwazi elikuswelayo loba lingakakuceli kuye.”

Umkhuleko WeNkosi

⁹ “Kumele likhuleke kanje:

* 5:43 5.43 ULevi 19.18

**'Baba wethu osezulwini,
kalidunyiswe ibizo lakho,
10 umbuso wakho kawuze,
intando yakho kayenziwe emhlabeni
njengalokhu isenziwa ezulwini.
11 Siphe lamuhla isinkwa sethu sansukuzonke.
12 Njalo usithethelele izono zethu,
njengoba lathi sibathethelela abasonelayo.
13 Njalo ungasingenisi ekulingweni,
kodwa usisindise komubi.'**
14 Ngoba nxa libathethelela abayabe belonile, uY-
ihlo osezulwini laye uzalithethelela. 15 Kodwa nxa
lingabathetheleli abantu izono zabo, uYihlo kayikuli-
thethelela lani izono zenu."

Ukuzila Ukudla

16 "Lapho lizila ukudla, lingabonakali linyukubele
njengalokhu okwenziwa ngabazenzisi ngoba
bakhangeleka bedanile ebusweni babo ukuze
abantu babone ukuthi bazilile. Ngilitshela iqiniso
ngithi sebewutholile owabo umvuzo ngokugcweleyo.
17 Kodwa lina nxa lizila, gcobani amafutha emakhanda
enu, ligeze ubuso benu, 18 ukuze kungabonakali
ebantwini ukuthi lizilile, kodwa kuYihlo kuphela
ongabonakaliyo njalo yena obona okwenziwa ensitha
uzalipha umvuzo wenu."

Inotho Ezulwini

19 "Lingazibutheleli inotho emhlabeni lapho okub-
hubhisa khona inondo lokuthomba njalo lapho
okugqokeza khona amasela. 20 Kodwa zibuthele-
leni inotho ezulwini lapho kungabhujiswa khona
linondo lokuthomba njalo lapho okungagqokezi khona
amasela. 21 Ngoba lapho okulenotho yakho khona
kulapho inhliziyoy yakho ezakuba khona.

22 Ilihlo liyisibane somzimba. Nxa amehlo
akho elungile umzimba wakho wonke uzagcwala
ukukhanya. 23 Kodwa nxa amehlo akho engahlam-
bulukanga umzimba wakho wonke uzagcwala
ubumnyama. Nxa ukukhanya okungaphakathi kwakho
kungumnyama, pho mkhulu kanganani lowomnyama!

24 Kakulanceku engakhonza amakhosi amabili. Funa
izonde enye kodwa ithande enye, kumbe izinikele
kwenye yeyise enye. Lingezake likhonze uNkulunkulu
lemali."

25 “Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi lingakhathazeki ngokuphila kwenu, ukuthi lizakudlani loba lizanathani; kumbe ngemizimba yenu, ukuthi lizagqokani. Impilo kayiqakathekanga ukwedlula ukudla na, lomzimba ukwedlula izigqoko na? 26 Khangelani izinyoni zasemoyeni; kazihlanyeli, kazivuni kumbe ukubuthela eziphaleni kodwa uYihlo osezulwini uyazipha ukudla. Lina kaliqakathekanga ukwedlula zona na? 27 Ngubani kini othi ngokukhathazeka angezelele ihola elilodwa empilweni yakhe na?”

28 Kanti lizihluphelani ngezigqoko na? Ake libone ukuthi amaluba eganga akhula njani. Kawasebenzi njalo aweluki. 29 Kodwa ngilitshela ukuthi laye uSolomoni ekucwebezeleni kwakhe kazange acece njengawo. 30 Nxa kuyiyo indlela uNkulunkulu ahlobisa ngayo utshani beganga, obukhona namuhla kodwa kusasa sebuphoselwa emlilweni, pho lina kazukuligqokisa ngcono yini, lina bokukholwa okuncinyane? 31 Ngakho lingazihluphi lisithi, ‘Sizakudlani?’ kumbe ‘Sizanathani?’ loba ‘Sizavunulani na?’ 32 Ngoba abezizweni bagijimela zonke lezizinto kodwa uYihlo osezulwini uyakwazi ukuthi liyazidinga. 33 Kodwa funani kuqala umbuso wakhe lokulunga kwakhe, kuzakuthi-ke zonke lezizinto liziphiwe lazo. 34 Ngakho lingazihluphi ngelakusasa ngoba ikusasa lizazingqinekela lona. Usuku lunye ngalunye luhhlupho zalo oluzaneleyo.”

7

Ukwahlulela Abanye

1 “Lingahluleli funa lani lahlulelwe. 2 Ngoba ngaleyondlela elahlulela ngayo abanye lani lizakwahlulelwa ngayo, langalesosilinganiso elisisebenzisayo lani lizalinganiselwa ngaso.

3 Kungani ukhangela uvava lokhuni oluselihlweni lomfowenu unganqinekeli ukhuni olukwelakho ilihlo na? 4 Ungatsho kanjani kumfowenu ukuthi, ‘Wothi ngikukhuphe uvava oluselihlweni lakho,’ wena ulokhu ulokhuni kwelakho ilihlo? 5 Wena mzenzisi, qala ukhuphe ukhuni oluselihlweni lakho ukuze ubone kuhle nxa usukhupha uvava oluselihlweni lomfowenu.

6 Linganiki izinja okungcwele, lingaphoseli imiceciso ezingulubeni, ngoba lingakwenza lokhu zizayinyathela ngezinyawo ziphinde ziphenduke ziyidabudabule.”

Celani, Dingani, Qoqodani

⁷ “Celani lizaphiwa; dingani lizafumana; qoqodani lizavulelwa. ⁸ Ngoba wonke ocelayo uyaphiwa; odingayo uyafumana; lalowo oqoqodayo uzavulelwa umnyango.

⁹ Ngubani kini bobaba okuthi nxa indodana yakhe icela isinkwa ayiphe ilitshe na? ¹⁰ Loba ithi icela inhlanzi yena ayiphe inyoka? ¹¹ Nxa lina elibabi likwazi ukupha abantwabenu izipho ezilungileyo, pho uYihlo osezulwini uzabapha kangakanani izipho ezinhle labo abacela kuye! ¹² Kuzozonke izinto, yenzani kwabanye lokho elifuna bakwenze kini, ngoba lokhu yikho okugoqela uMthetho labaPhrofethi.”

Amasango Anciphileyo Labanzi

¹³ “Ngenani ngesango elincinyane ngoba isango elikhulu lendlela ebanzi iholela ekubhujisweni njalo abanengi bangena ngalo. ¹⁴ Kodwa isango elincinyane lendlela yalo encinyane iholela ekuphileni, njalo balutshwana abayifumanayo.”

Isihlahla Lezithelo Zaso

¹⁵ “Qaphelani abaphrofethi bamanga abeza kini bezigqokise isikhumba semvu kodwa ngaphakathi bezimpisi ezifohlozayo. ¹⁶ Lizabazi ngezithelo zabo. Abantu bayawakha na amavini esihlahleni sameva kumbe amakhiwane edolofiyeni na? ¹⁷ Kanjalo-ke, sonke isihlahla esihle sithela izithelo ezinhle kodwa isihlahla esibi sithela ezimbi. ¹⁸ Isihlahla esihle ngeke sithele izithelo ezimbi njalo lesihlahla esibi kasingethеле izithelo ezinhle. ¹⁹ Zonke izihlahla ezingatheli izithelo ezinhle ziyaganyulwa ziphoselwe emlilweni. ²⁰ Ngakho-ke, lizabazi ngezithelo zabo.”

Abafundi Bamanga Labeqiniso

²¹ “Kakusibo bonke abathi kimi, ‘Nkosi, Nkosi’ abazangena embusweni wezulu, kodwa ngulowo kuphela owenza intando kaBaba osezulwini. ²² Abanengi bazakuthi kimi ngalolosuku, ‘Nkosi, Nkosi, kasiphrofithanga ngebizo lakho, njalo ngebizo lakho sakhupha amadimoni, senza lezimangaliso na?’ ²³ Lapho-ke, ngizabatshela kakuhle ngithi, ‘Ngivele kangilazi. Sudulukani kimi, lina benzi bobubi!’ ”

Umakhi Ohlakaniphileyo Loyisiwula

²⁴ “Ngakho lowo owezwayo amazwi ami la awenze unjengendoda ehlakaniphileyo eyakhela indlu yayo

edwaleni. ²⁵ **Latheleka izulu, izifula zagcwala, wavunguza umoya watshaya phezu kwaleyondlu; kodwa kayiwanga ngoba yayigxiliswe isisekelo sayo edwaleni.** ²⁶ **Kodwa lowo owezwayo amazwi ami la angawenzi unjengendoda eyisiwula eyakhela indlu yayo etshebetshebeni.** ²⁷ **Latheleka izulu, izifula zagcwala, umoya wavunguza watshaya phezu kwendlu leyo yawa yabhidlika."**

²⁸ UJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma lezizinto, amaxuku abantu amangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe, ²⁹ ngoba wafundisa njengomuntu olamandla, hatshi njengabafundisi babo bomthetho.

8

Indoda Eyayilobulephero

¹ Kwathi esehlile entabeni amaxuku abantu amlandela. ² Indoda eyayilobulephero yeza yaguqa phambi kwakhe yathi, "Nkosi nxa uthanda ungangenza ngihlambuluke."

³ UJesu welula isandla sakhe wayithinta wathi, "**Ngiyathanda, hlambuluka!**" Masinyane nje yasila ebulepherweni bayo. ⁴ UJesu wasesithi kuyo, "**Zwana, ungatsheli muntu ngalokhu. Kodwa hamba uyeziveza kumphristi, unikele ngesipho esamiswa nguMosi njengobufakazi ebantwini."**

Ukholo LweNduna YeKhulu

⁵ UJesu esengenile eKhaphenawume, kwafika kuye induna yekhulu izocela uncedo. ⁶ Yathi, "Nkosi, inceku yami ilele phansi endlini, yome umhlubulo, isebuhlungwini obukhulu."

⁷ UJesu wathi kuyo, "**Ngizakuza ngizeyisilisa."**

⁸ Induna yekhulu yaphendula yathi, "Kakungilingananga ukuthi ungeza ungene ngaphansi kophahla lwami. Kodwa tshono ilizwi nje kuphela, inceku yami izasila. ⁹ Ngoba mina ngokwami ngingumuntu ongaphansi komthetho, ngilamabutho angaphansi kwami. Lo ngimtshele ngithi, 'Hamba,' ahambe; ngithi kuloyana, 'Buya,' lakanye abuye. Ngithi encekwini yami, 'Yenza lokhu,' ikwenze."

¹⁰ UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wamangala wathi kulabo ababemlandela, "**Ngilitshela iqiniso, kangikamboni loyedwa ko-Israyeli olokukholwa okukhulu kangaka.** ¹¹ **Ngithi kini abanengi bazavela empumalanga lentshonalanga, bahlale edilini lo-Abhrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe embusweni wezulu.** ¹² **Kodwa abanini bombuso bazaxotshelwa phandle emnyameni lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo."**

¹³ UJesu wasesithi enduneni yekhulu, **“Hamba! Kuzakwenziwa njengalokhu ukholwa ukuthi kuzakwenziwa.”** Inceku yayo yahle yasila ngalesosikhathi.

UJesu Usilisa Abanengi

¹⁴ Kwathi lapho uJesu esengenile endlini kaPhethro, wabona uninazala kaPhethro elele embhedeni ephethwe ngumkhuhlane woqhuqho. ¹⁵ Wamthinta esandleni umkhuhlane wahle waphuma kuye, wavuka waqala ukumphakela.

¹⁶ Sekuntambama abanengi ababelamadimoni balethwa kuye wayikhupha imimoya ngelizwi njalo wasilisa bonke abagulayo. ¹⁷ Lokhu kwakugcwalisa okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi: “Wathatha ubuthakathaka bethu wathwala izifo zethu.”*

Ubunzima Bokulandela UJesu

¹⁸ Wathi uJesu ebona amaxuku abantu abanengi bambuthanele, wathi akuchaphelwe ngaphetsheya ngakuleliyana icele lechibi. ¹⁹ Kwasekusiza kuye umfundisi womthetho wathi, “Mfundisi, ngizakulandela ungaze uye ngaphi.”

²⁰ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Amakhanka alemilindi lezinyoni zemoyeni zilezidleke, kodwa iNdodana yoMuntu kayilandawo yokufihla ikhanda layo.”**

²¹ Omunye umfundi wathi kuye, “Nkosi, akuthi ngiqale ngihambe ngiyengcwaba ubaba.”

²² Kodwa uJesu wamtshela wathi, **“Ngilandela, uyekele abafileyo bangwabe abafileyo babo.”**

UJesu Uthulisa Isiphepho

²³ UJesu wasengena esikepeni abafundi bakhe bamlandela. ²⁴ Masinyane nje kwaphakama isiphepho esesabekayo echibini, amagagasi atshaya phezu kwesikepe. Kodwa uJesu wayelele. ²⁵ Abafundi bahamba bayamvusa besithi, “Nkosi, sihlenge, Sesigalula!”

²⁶ Waphendula wathi, **“Lina bokukholwa okuncinyane, kungani lisesaba kangaka?”** Wasephakama wawukhuza umoya kanye lamagagasi, kwasekuthula cwaka.

²⁷ Amadoda amangala abuza athi, “Ngumuntu bani lo? Oze alalelwe ngumoya kanye lamagagasi!”

Ukusiliswa Kwamadoda Amabili Alamadimoni

²⁸ Wathi ekufikeni kwakhe ngakwelinye icele emangweni wamaGadarini wahlangabezwa ngamadoda amabili

* 8:17 8.17 U-Isaya 53.4

ayelamadimoni eqhamuka emathuneni. Ayelodlakela, kungasadluli muntu ngaleyondlela. ²⁹ Amemeza athi, “Ufunani kithi, Ndodana kaNkulunkulu? Uze lapha ukuzasihlupha singakafiki isikhathi esimisiweyo na?”

³⁰ Bucwala kwawo umhlambi omkhulu wengulube wawusidla. ³¹ Amadimoni amncenga uJesu athi, “Nxa usikhupha, sithumele emhlambini wengulube.”

³² Wathi kuwo, **“Hambani!”** Aphuma ayangena engulubeni, umhlambi wonke waphaphatheka waqonda eliweni wangena echibini, wafela emanzini. ³³ Labo ababezelusile baphaphatheka baqonda edolobheni bayabika konke lokhu, besitsho lalokho okwenzakala kulawomadoda ayelamadimoni. ³⁴ Khonapho idolobho lonke laphuma ukuyahlangana loJesu. Bathi sebembonile bamncenga ukuba asuke emangweni wakibo.

9

UJesu Usilisa Umuntu Owome Umhlubulo

¹ UJesu wangena esikepeni wachaphela ngasedolobheni lakibo. ² Amanye amadoda aletha kuye indoda eyayome umhlubulo ilele ecansini. UJesu ebona ukholo lwawo wathi kweyome umhlubulo, **“Woba lesibindi, ndodana; izono zakho sezithethelelwe.”**

³ Bekuzwa lokho abanye abafundisi bomthetho bahleba bodwa bathi, “Umuntu lo uyahlambaza!”

⁴ Esazi imicabango yabo uJesu wathi kubo, **“Kungani licabanga izinto ezimbi ezinhliziyweni zenu na? ⁵ Yikuphi okulula ukuthi, ‘Izono zakho sezithethelelwe’ kumbe ukuthi, ‘Sukuma uhambe’?”**

⁶ Kodwa ngifuna lazi ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu ilamandla okuthethelela izono emhlabeni.” Wasesithi kweyome umhlubulo, **“Sukuma uthathe icansi lakho uhambe uye ekhaya.”** ⁷ Indoda yasukuma yaqonda ekhaya. ⁸ Ixuku labantu lathi likubona lokhu lesaba kakhulu; lamdumisa uNkulunkulu owayenike amandla la ebantwini.

Ukubizwa KukaMatewu

⁹ Kwathi uJesu eseqhubeka esuka lapho, wabona indoda eyayithiwa nguMatewu ihlezi endaweni yokuthelisa. UJesu wathi kuyo **“Ngilandela,”** uMatewu wahle wasukuma wamlandela.

¹⁰ Kwathi uJesu esidla endlini kaMatewu kweza abathelisi abanengi lezoni bonke bezokudla laye kanye labafundi bakhe. ¹¹ Kuthe abaFarisi bekubona lokho babuza abafundi

bakhe bathi, “Kungani umfundisi wenu esidla labathelisi lezoni na?”

¹² UJesu wakuzwa lokho wathi, **“Abaphilileyo kabayidingi inyanga kodwa idingwa ngabagulayo.**

¹³ **Kodwa hambani liyefunda ukuthi kutshoni lokhu ukuthi, ‘Ngoba ngifuna isihawu hatshi umhlatshele.*Ngoba kangilandanga ukubiza abalungileyo, kodwa izoni.”**

UJesu Ubuzwa Ngokuzila

¹⁴ Kwasekufika abafundi bakaJohane bambuza bathi, “Kungani thina labaFarisi sizila kodwa abafundi bakho kabazili?”

¹⁵ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Izethekeli zomyeni zingalila kanjani esekhona phakathi kwazo na? Sizafika isikhathi lapho umyeni ezasuswa kuzo; kulapho-ke ezizazila khona.**

¹⁶ **Kakho umuntu othungela isichibi selembu elitsha elingakafinyeli esigqokweni esidala, ngoba isichibi sidadonsa esigqokweni ukudabuka kuqhele ngamandla.** ¹⁷ **Futhi abantu kabatheli iwayini elitsha emigodleni emidala. Bangenzenjalo imigodla izadabuka, iwayini lichitheke lemigodla ihle iguge iphele. Kodwa, bathela iwayini elitsha emigodleni emitsha besekulondolozeka kuhle kokubili.”**

Intombazana Efileyo Lomfazi Ogulayo

¹⁸ Wathi esakhuluma lokhu kwafika umbusi waguqa phambi kwakhe wathi, “Indodakazi yami isanda kufa. Kodwa ngicela uzebeka isandla sakho phezu kwayo, iza-phila.” ¹⁹ UJesu wasuka wahamba laye kanye labafundi bakhe.

²⁰ Khonokho owesifazane owayehlutshwa ngumopho okweminyaka elitshumi lambili weza ngemva kwakhe wabamba umphetho wesembatho sakhe. ²¹ Wazitshela wathi, “Nxa ngingathinta nje isembatho sakhe kodwa lokhu, ngizasila.”

²² UJesu wanyemukula wambona. Wathi kuye, **“Mana isibindi ndodakazi, ukholo lwakho lukusilisile.”** Lakanye owesifazane lowo wasila ngalesosikhathi.

²³ UJesu wathi esengenile endlini yombusi wesinagogu wabona ababetshaya imihubhe kanye lexuku elalixokozela, ²⁴ wathi kubo, **“Phumani. Intombazana kayifanga kodwa ilele.”** Kodwa bamhleka usulu. ²⁵ Ixuku labantu selikhutshelwe phandle, wangena wayibamba ngesandla

* 9:13 9.13 UHosiya 6.6

intombazana yaphakama. ²⁶ Indaba yesehlakalo lesi yamemetheka kuwo wonke umango wakuleyondawo.

UJesu Usilisa Isiphofu Lesimungulu

²⁷ Kwathi uJesu esuka lapho amadoda ayiziphofu amabili amlandela ememeza esithi, "Sihawukele, Ndodana kaDavida!"

²⁸ Esengenile endlini iziphofu lezo zeza kuye wazibuza wathi, "**Liyakholwa na ukuthi ngingakwenza lokhu?**"

Zamphendula zathi, "Yebo Nkosi."

²⁹ Wasezithinta amehlo wathi kuzo, "**Kuzakwenziwa kini njengokukholwa kwenu**"; ³⁰ zasiliswa zabona. UJesu waziqongosela wathi, "**Akungabi lomuntu ozakwazi ngalokhu.**" ³¹ Kodwa zasuka lapho zafakaza ngaye indawo yonke yelizwe lelo.

³² Ekuphumeni kwalezoziphofu, kwaletswa kuJesu indoda eyayiledimoni iyisimungulu. ³³ Kwathi idimoni selikhutshiwe indoda leyo eyayiyisimungulu yakhuluma. Ixuku labantu lamangala, abantu bathi, "Akukaze kubonakale okunje ko-Israyeli."

³⁴ Kodwa abaFarisi bathi, "Amadimoni uwakhupha ngenkosi yamadimoni."

Izisebenzi Zimbalwa

³⁵ UJesu wangena kuwo wonke amadolobho lemizi efundisa emasinagogweni abo, etshumayela izindaba ezinhle ezombuso njalo eselapha zonke izifo lemikhuhlane.

³⁶ Wathi ebona amaxuku abantu wawazwela usizi ngoba ayehlukuluzekile njalo ephelwe, enjengezimvu ezingelamelusi. ³⁷ Wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, "**Isivuno sinengi kodwa izisebenzi zimbalwa.** ³⁸ **Ngakho celani iNkosi yokuvuna ukuba ithumele izisebenzi ensimini yokuvuna.**"

10

UJesu Uthumela Abalitshumi Lambili

¹ UJesu wabizela ndawonye abafundi bakhe abalitshumi lambili wabapha amandla okukhupha imimoya emibi lokusilisa zonke izifo lemikhuhlane.

² Amabizo abafundi abalitshumi lambili ayeyila:

Owokuqala wayenguSimoni, othiwa nguPhethro lomfowabo u-Andreya;

uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya loJohane umfowabo;

³ uFiliphu, uBhatholomewu;

uThomasi, uMatewu umthelisi;

uJakhobe indodana ka-Alifewu, uLabhewu osibongo sakhe sasinguThediyasi;

⁴ uSimoni umZilothi loJudasi Iskariyothi onguye owamnikelayo.

⁵ Laba abalitshumi lambili uJesu wabathuma, wabalaya wathi, **“Lingayi phakathi kwabeZizwe futhi lingangeni lakuliphi idolobho lamaSamariya.** ⁶ Kodwa hambani liyebutha izimvu ezilahlekileyo zako-Israyeli. ⁷ Ekuhambeni kwenu, litshumayele lelizwi: ‘Umbuso wezulu ususondele.’ ⁸ Silisani abagulayo, livuse abafileyo, lihlambulule abalobulephero, likhuphe amadimoni. Lamukelisiwe kungelambadalo ngakho lani phanini kungelambadalo.

⁹ Lingaphathi igolide loba isiliva loba ithusi emixhakeni yamabhanti enu; ¹⁰ lingathwali izikhwama ekuhambeni kwenu loba isigqoko sokuntshintsha, loba amanye amanyathela kumbe olunye udondolo ngoba osebenzayo kufanele aphiwe okokuziphilisa. ¹¹ Loba yiliphi idolobho kumbe umuzi elingena kuwo, dingani umuntu ofaneleyo ukuba lihlale endlini yakhe kokuphela lize lisuke khona. ¹² Akuthi nxa lingena kulowomuzi, liwunxusele ukuthula. ¹³ Nxa lowomuzi ufanele, ukuthula kwenu akube kuwo, kodwa nxa lingemukelwa aginyeni amazwi enu okuthula. ¹⁴ Nxa engekho olamukelayo kumbe olalela amazwi enu, sukani kulowomuzi kumbe idolobho lithintithe uthuli ezinyaweni zenu. ¹⁵ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, kuzakuba ngcono elizweni leSodoma leGomora ngelanga lokwahlulelwa kulokuzakwehlela lelodolobho.

¹⁶ Ngilithuma linjengezimvu phakathi kwempisi. Ngakho qaphani njengezinyoka kodwa libemsulwa njengamajuba. ¹⁷ Libalimuke abantu; bazalimangalela ezinkundleni zamacala, balibhaxabule emasinagogweni abo. ¹⁸ Ngenxa yami lizamiswa phambi kwababusi lamakhosi ukuze libe ngofakazi kubo lakwabeZizwe. ¹⁹ Kodwa nxa belibopha lingazihluphi ngokuthi lizakuthini lokuthi likutsho kanjani. Ngalesosikhathi lizakwambulelwa okumele likutsho, ²⁰ ngoba akuzukuba yini elikhulumayo kodwa kuzakuba nguMoya kaYihlo ozabe ukhuluma ngani.

²¹ Umuntu uzanikela umfowabo ukuthi abulawe, loyise anikele umntanakhe; abantwana bazahlamukela abazali babo bababulale. ²² Bonke abantu bazalizonda ngenxa yebizo lami kodwa lowo oma aqine kuze kube sekupheleni uzasindiswa. ²³ Nxa

lihlukuluzwa endaweni ethile, balekelani kwenye. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kaliyikuqeda ukuwahambela wonke amadolobho ako-Israyeli iNdodana yoMuntu ingakafiki.

²⁴ Umfundi ungaphansi kombalisi wakhe, lenceku ingaphansi kwenkosi yayo. ²⁵ Kwenele kumfundi ukuba njengombalisi wakhe, lenceku ukuba njengenkosi yayo. Nxa umnimumuzi kungathiwa nguBhelizebhubhi pho kuzathiwani ngabendlu yakhe na?

²⁶ Ngakho lingabesabi. Ngoba kakukho okuthukuziweyo okungayi kubekwa obala, lokufihliweyo okungayikwaziwa. ²⁷ Lokhu engilitshela khona emnyameni kukhulumeni ekukhanyeni kwemini, okunyenyezwa ezindlebeni zenu kumemezeleni lisophahleni lwezindlu. ²⁸ Lingabesabi labo ababulala umzimba kodwa bengeke babulale umphefumulo. Kodwa yesabani lowo ongabhuhisa kokubili, umphefumulo lomzimba esihogweni. ²⁹ Intaka ezimbili kazithengiswa ngendibilitshi na? Kodwa kayikho leyodwa yazo ewela phansi ingavunyelwanga nguYihlo.

³⁰ Kwala zona inwele zamakhanda enu zibaliwe. ³¹ Ngakho lingesabi; liligugu elidlula intaka ezinengi.

³² Loba ngubani ongivuma phambi kwabantu lami ngizamvuma phambi kukaBaba ezulwini. ³³ Kodwa lowo ongiphikayo phambi kwabantu lami ngizamphika phambi kukaBaba ezulwini.

³⁴ Lingakhumbuli ukuthi ngilethe ukuthula emhlabeni. Kangilandanga ukuzeletha ukuthula kodwa inkemba. ³⁵ Ngoba ngize ukuxabanisa 'indoda loyise,

indodakazi lonina
umalukazana loninazala,

³⁶ izitha zomuntu zizakuba ngabendlu yakhe.*

³⁷ Lowo othanda uyise loba unina kulami kangifanelanga; lowo othanda indodana yakhe loba indodakazi yakhe kulami kangifanelanga; ³⁸ njalo lowo ongathathi isiphambano sakhe angilandeke kangifanelanga. ³⁹ Loba ngubani ozuza impilo yakhe izamlahlekela njalo lalowo olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami uzayizuza.

⁴⁰ Lowo olamukelayo wamukela mina, lalowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo. ⁴¹ Loba ngubani owamukele umphrofethi ngoba engumphrofethi uzazuza umvuzo womphrofethi njalo lalowo

⁴² Lowo olamukelayo wamukela mina, lalowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo. ⁴³ Loba ngubani owamukele umphrofethi ngoba engumphrofethi uzazuza umvuzo womphrofethi njalo lalowo

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⁵⁰ Lowo olamukelayo wamukela mina, lalowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo. ⁵¹ Loba ngubani owamukele umphrofethi ngoba engumphrofethi uzazuza umvuzo womphrofethi njalo lalowo

* 10:36 10.36 UMikha 7.6

owamukela umuntu olungileyo ngoba engumuntu olungileyo uzakwamukela umvuzo womuntu olungileyo. ⁴² Njalo nxa ekhona onika iloba yinkezo yamanzi aqandayo komunye walaba abancinyane ongumfundi wami, ngilitshela iqiniso, lowomuntu akayikulahlekelwa ngumvuzo wakhe.”

11

UJesu LoJohane UMbhaphathizi

¹ UJesu wathi eseqedile ukulaya abafundi bakhe abalishumi lambili wasuka kuleyondawo ukuyafundisa lokutshumayela emadolobheni aseGalile.

² UJohane esentolongweni wathi esizwa ukuthi uKhristu wayesenzani, wathuma abafundi bakhe ³ ukuba bayembuza bathi, “Unguye yini ozayo kumbe silindele omunye na?”

⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Buyelani liyebikela uJohane lokhu elikuzwayo lelikubonayo ukuthi** ⁵ **Iziphofu zenziwa zibone, abaqhugezelayo bayahamba, abalobulephero bayahlanjululwa, izacuthe ziyezwa, abafileyo bayavuswa, levangeli liyatshunyayelwa kubayanga.** ⁶ **Ubusisiwe umuntu ongakhubekiyo ngenxa yami.**”

⁷ Kwathi abafundi bakaJohane sebesuka, uJesu waqala ukukhuluma labantu ngoJohane esithi: “**Laphuma lisiyabonani enkangala na? Umhlanga owazunguzwa ngumoya na? ⁸ Nxa kungayisikho, pho lalisiyabonani? Indoda eyayicecile na? Hatshi, labo abagqoka izigqoko ezinhle basezigodlweni zamakhosi.** ⁹ **Pho laphuma lisiyabonani na? Umphrofethi? Yebo, ngiyalitshela, odlula umphrofethi.** ¹⁰ **Lo nguye okulotshwe ngaye ukuthi:**

‘Ngizathuma isithunywami sami phambi kwakho, esizalungisa indlela yakho phambi kwakho.’*

¹¹ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, phakathi kwabo bonke abazelwe ngabesifazane akukaveli loyedwa omkhulu kuloJohane uMbhaphathizi ikanti lowo ongomncinyane kakhulu embusweni wezulu mkhulu kulaye. ¹² Kusukela ensukwini zikaJohane uMbhaphathizi kuze kube khateshi, umbuso wezulu wala uqhubeka ngamandla ngoba abantu abalamandla hawubambile. ¹³ Ngoba bonke abaPhrofethi kanye loMthetho baphrofitha kwaze kwafika uJohane. ¹⁴ Ngakho nxa likwamukela lokhu, ungu-Elija okwathiwa uyeza. ¹⁵ Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa, kezwe.

* 11:10 11.10 UMalaki 3.1

16 Kambe ngingasifanisa lani isizukulwane lesi na? Banjengabantwana abahlezi emikambo bememeza abanye besithi:

**17 'Salitshayela umhubhe,
kodwa kaligidanga;
salihlabelela ingoma yesililo
kodwa kalililanga.'**

18 Ngoba uJohane wafika engadli njalo enganathi basebesithi, 'Uledimoni,'¹⁹ INdodana yoMuntu yafika yadla, yanatha, bathi, 'Nansi isidli lesidakwa, umngane wabathelisi lezoni.' Kodwa, ukuhlakanipha kuziveza ukuthi kuqondile ngemisebenzi yakho."

Maye Kuleyomizi Engaphendukanga

20 UJesu waseqalisa ukuwasola amadolobho lawo lapho izimangaliso zakhe ezinengi ezazenziwe khona ngoba kabazange baphenduke: ²¹ "Maye kuwe Khorazini! Maye kuwe Bhethisayida! Aluba izimangaliso lezo ezenziwa kuwe zazenziwe eThire leSidoni, ngabe kudala baphenduka begqoke izigqoko zamasaka, bazibhuqa lemlotheni. ²² Kodwa ngiyalitshela, kuzakuba ngcono eThire leSidoni ngosuku lokwahlulelwa kulalokho okuzalehla lina. ²³ Lawe Khaphenawume, kambe uzaphakanyiselwa emazulwini na? Hatshi, uzatshona phansi uye eHadesi. Ngoba aluba izimangaliso ezenziwa kuwe zazenziwe eSodoma ngabe ikhona lanamuhla. ²⁴ Kodwa ngiyalitshela ukuthi kuzakuba ngcono elizweni leSodoma ngelanga lokwahlulelwa kulakuwe."

Ukuphumula Kwabakhatheleyo

25 Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wathi, "Ngiyakubonga Baba, Nkosi yezulu lomhlaba ngoba uzifihlile lezizinto kwabahlakaniphileyo labafundileyo, wazambulela abantwana abancinyane. ²⁶ Yebo Baba, lokhu kwaba yikuthanda kwakho.

27 Zonke izinto zethulwe kimi nguBaba. Kakho oyaziyo iNdodana ngaphandle kukaBaba, njalo kakho omaziyo uBaba ngaphandle kweNdodana lalabo iNdodana ekhethe ukuba imveze kubo.

28 Wozani kimi lina lonke elikhatheleyo lelisindwayo, ngizaliphumuza. ²⁹ Zithwaliseni ijogwe lami, lifunde kimi, ngoba ngimnene futhi ngithobekile enhliziyweni njalo lizazuza ukuphumula kwemiphefumulo yenu. ³⁰ Ngoba ijogwe lami lilula, lomthwalo wami kawusindi."

12

INkosi YeSabatha

¹ Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wadabula phakathi kwamasimu amabele kulilanga leSabatha. Abafundi bakhe basebelambile, basebekhwebula izikhwebu zamabele badla.

² AbaFarisi bakubona lokhu, bathi kuye, “Khangela! Abafundi bakho benza okuphambene lomthetho ngeSabatha.”

³ Waphendula wathi, **“Kalifundanga yini okwenziwa nguDavida lapho yena labakhula bakhe sebelambile? ⁴ Wangena endlini kaNkulunkulu, yena labakhula bakhe, badla isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo, into eyayingavunyelwa ngomthetho ukuba bayenze, kodwa ivunyelwe abaphristi kuphela. ⁵ Kumbe kalifundanga yini eMthethweni ukuthi ngeSabatha abaphristi ethempelini bayalungcolisa lolusuku kodwa kabalacala. ⁶ Ngiyalitshela ukuthi lowo omkhulu kulethempeli ukhona lapha. ⁷ Kube lalikhwazile ukuthi amazwi la atshoni, ‘Ngifuna isihawu hatshi umhlatshelo’*belingasoze libalahle abangelacala. ⁸ Phela iNdodana yoMuntu iyiNkosi yeSabatha.”**

⁹ Esuka lapho wayangena esinagogweni labo, ¹⁰ khonapho kulendoda eyayitshwabhene isandla. Kwathi ngoba bedinga indlela yokubeka uJesu icala bambuza bathi, “Kuyavunyelwa emthethweni ukusilisa ngeSabatha na?”

¹¹ Wathi kubo, **“Nxa omunye wenu engaba lemvu esuka iwele egodini ngeSabatha, kazukuyibamba ayikhuphe na? ¹² Pho umuntu uligugu elinganani kulemvu! Yikho-ke, kusemthethweni ukwenza okuhle ngeSabatha.”**

¹³ Wasesithi kuleyondoda, **“Yelula isandla sakho.”** Ngakho yaselula sahle sabuyela ngokupheleleyo, sesiqinile njengesinye. ¹⁴ Kodwa abaFarisi basuka lapho bayakwakha icebo lokuthi bangambulala njani uJesu.

Inceku kaNkulunkulu Ekhethiweyo

¹⁵ UJesu esekunanzelele lokho wasuka kuleyondawo. Abanengi bamlandela, wasilisa bonke abagulayo babo, ¹⁶ ebalaya ukuthi bangakhulumi ukuthi ungubani. ¹⁷ Lokhu kwakuyikugcwalisa lokho okwakukhulunye ngumphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi:

¹⁸ “Nansi inceku yami engiyikhethileyo,
yona engiyithandayo, engithokoza ngayo;
ngizabeka uMoya wami phezu kwayo,
izamemezela ukulunga phakathi kwezizwe.

¹⁸ “Nansi inceku yami engiyikhethileyo,
yona engiyithandayo, engithokoza ngayo;
ngizabeka uMoya wami phezu kwayo,
izamemezela ukulunga phakathi kwezizwe.

* 12:7 12.7 UHosiya 6.6

- 19 Kayiyikuphika inkani loba imemeze;
kakho ozalizwa ilizwi layo emigwaqweni.
- 20 Umhlanga ofecekileyo kayiyikuwephula
lentambo yesibane ethunqayo kayiyikuyicima,
ize ilethe ukunqoba kokulunga.
- 21 Izizwe zizabeka ithemba lazo ebizweni layo.”†

UJesu LoBhelizebhubhi

22 Basebeletha kuye indoda eyayiledimoni, iyisiphofu njalo iyisimungulu. UJesu wayisilisa yakwazi ukukhuluma lokubona. 23 Bonke abantu bamangala bathi, “Kambe lo angabe eyiNdodana kaDavida na?”

24 Kodwa kwathi abaFarisi bekuzwa lokhu bathi, “Nga- mandla kaBhelizebhubhi inkosi yamadimoni amenza enelise ukuxotsha amadimoni.”

25 UJesu wayeyazi imicabango yabo wasesithi kubo, **“Loba yiwuphi umbuso odabuke phakathi kwawumi njalo idolobho kumbe indlu edabuke phakathi kayimi.** 26 Nxa uSathane exotsha uSathane, wehlukene phakathi. Pho umbuso wakhe ungema kanjani? 27 Nxa ngikhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizebhubhi, pho abalandeli benu bawakhupha ngobani? Ngakho bazakuba ngabahluleli benu. 28 Kodwa nxa ngixotsha amadimoni ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu, kutsho ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu usufikile kini.

29 Umuntu angangena kanjani endlini yesiqhwaga aphanje impahla zaso ngaphandle kokuba aqale asibophe isiqhwaga leso? Lapho-ke usengayiphanga indlu yaso.

30 Lowo ongemanga lami uphikisana lami, lalowo ongabuthi lami uyachithiza. 31 Ngakho ngiyalitshela ngithi imihlobo yonke yezono lezithuko izathethelelwa, kodwa ukuthuka uMoya akuyi kuthethelelwa. 32 Lowo okhuluma okubi ngeNdodana yoMuntu uzathethelelwa kodwa lowo othuka uMoya oNgcwele akayikuthethelelwa kulesisikhathi kumbe esizayo.

33 Ungenza isihlahla sibe sihle lezithelo zaso zizakuba zinhle loba ungenza isihlahla sibe sibi lezithelo zaso zizakuba zimbi ngoba isihlahla saziwa ngezithelo zaso. 34 Lina nzalo yezinyoka, lingakukhuluma kanjani okuhle lina libabi na? Ngoba lokho okusenzelisiyweni yikho umlomo okukhulumayo. 35 Umuntu olungileyo uveza izinto ezinhle azigcine ngaphakathi kwakhe njalo lomuntu omubi ukhhliza izinto ezimbi azigcine

ngaphakathi kwakhe. ³⁶ **Kodwa ngiyalitshela ukuthi umuntu munye ngamunye uzaziphendulela ngosuku lokwahlulelwa ngawo wonke amazwi ayize awakhulumayo.** ³⁷ **Ngoba lizakhululwa ngamazwi enu njalo lizalahlwa ngamazwi enu."**

Isibonakaliso SikaJona

³⁸ Abanye abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho basebesithi kuye, "Mfundisi, sifuna ukubona isibonakaliso esivela kuwe."

³⁹ Waphendula wathi, **"Isizukulwane esixhwalileyo lesiphingayo sicela isibonakaliso! Kodwa kasisoze sisiphiwe ngaphandle kwesibonakaliso somphrofethi uJona.** ⁴⁰ **NjengoJona owahlala insuku ezintathu lobusuku obuthathu esiswini senhlanzi enkulu, kanjalo iNdodana yoMuntu izahlala insuku ezintathu lobusuku obuthathu phansi komhlabathi.** ⁴¹ **Abantu baseNiniva bazasukuma kanye lalesi sizukulwane ngosuku lokwahlulelwa basilahle ngoba bona baphenduka ekutshumayeleni kukaJona, kodwa khathesi lowo omkhulu kuloJona uselapha.** ⁴² **INdlovukazi yaseNingizimu izavuka mhla wokwahlulelwa kanye lalesi isizukulwane isilahle; ngoba yeza ivela emaphethelweni omhlaba izolalela uSolomoni; pho manje omkhulu kuloSolomoni usekhona.**

⁴³ **Nxa umoya omubi uphuma emuntwini, uyazula enkangala udinga ukuphumula kodwa uyakuswela.** ⁴⁴ **Ubususithi, 'Ngizabuyela endlini engaphuma kuyo.'** **Uthi ufika uthole leyondlu ingelamuntu, ithanyelwe yahlanzeka, konke kumi kuhle.** ⁴⁵ **Ubusuhamba uyethatha eminye imimoya eyisikhombisa exhwale okudlula wona, ingene ihlale khona. Isiphetho salowomuntu sizakuba sibi kulasekuqaleni. Kuzakuba njalo kulesisizukulwane esixhwalileyo."**

Unina KaJesu Labafowabo

⁴⁶ UJesu elokhu esakhuluma lamaxuku abantu, unina labafowabo babemi phandle befuna ukukhuluma laye. ⁴⁷ Omunye wamtshela wathi, "Unyoko labafowenu bemi phandle, bafuna ukukhuluma lawe."

⁴⁸ Wamphendula wathi, **"Ngubani umama njalo ngobani abangabafowethu na?"** ⁴⁹ **Wakhomba abafundi bakhe wathi, "Nampa abangumama labangabafowethu.** ⁵⁰ **Loba ngubani owenza intando kaBaba osezulwini ungumfowethu, ungudadewethu njalo ngumama."**

13

Umzekeliso Womhlanyeli

¹ Ngalolosuku uJesu waphuma endlini wayahlala eceleni kwechibi. ² Amaxuku abantu aminyezelana kuye waze wangena esikepeni wahlala kuso, abantu bonke bona babemi okhunjini. ³ Wasebatshela izinto ezinengi esebenzisa imizekeliso, wathi, **“Umlimi waphuma wayahlanyela inhlanyelo yakhe.** ⁴ Kwathi eyihaza inhlanyelo, eyinye yawela endleleni, izinyoni zafika zayidobha yonke. ⁵ Eyinye yawela okhetheni lapho okwakungela mhlabathi owaneleyo. Yaphanga yamila ngoba umhlabathi wawungatshoni. ⁶ Kodwa kwathi ilanga seliphumile yahanguleka yabuna ngoba yayingelampande. ⁷ Eyinye yawela phakathi kwameva, asuka akhula ayiminya inhlanyelo. ⁸ Eyinye inhlanyelo yawela emhlabathini omuhle lapho eyathela khona izithelo eziphindwe okungabalikhulu, kumbe okungamatshumi ayisithupha loba okungamatshumi amathathu ukudlula leyo eyayihlanyelwe. ⁹ Lowo olendlebe kezwe.”

¹⁰ Abafundi beza kuye bambuza bathi, “Kungani ukhuluma ebantwini ngemizekeliso na?”

¹¹ Waphendula wathi, **“Ulwazi lwemfihlakalo yombuso wezulu luphiwe lina hatshi bona.** ¹² Lowo olakho, uza-phiwa kwengezelelwe abesesiba lokunengi kakhulu. Lowo ongelakho, lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa. ¹³ Lokhu yikho okungenza ngikhulume kubo ngemizekeliso:

Ngoba loba bekhangele kababoni;

loba belalele kabezwa njalo kabaqedisisi.

¹⁴ Kubo isiphrofethi sika-Isaya siyagcwaliseka, esokuthi:

‘Lizahlala lisizwa kodwa lingaqedisisi;

lizahlala libona kodwa lingabonisisi.

¹⁵ Ngoba inhliziyo zalababantu sezaba lukhuni;

kabasezwa ngezindlebe zabo

njalo sebawavala amehlo abo.

Funa babone ngamehlo abo,

bezwe ngezindlebe zabo,

baqedisise ngezinhliziyo zabo,

baphenduke bese ngibasilisa.’*

¹⁶ Kodwa abusisiwe amehlo enu ngoba ayabona lezindlebe zenu ziyezwa. ¹⁷ Ngoba ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi abaphrofethi abanengi lamadoda alungileyo

* 13:15 13.15 U-Isaya 6.9-10

balangazela ukukubona lokhu elikubonayo kodwa kabakubonanga, lokuzwa lokhu elikuzwayo kodwa kabakuzwanga.

18 Lalelani-ke lizwe ukuthi utshoni umzekeliso womhlanyeli: 19 Nxa umuntu esizwa ilizwi ngombuso kodwa engabambisisi, omubi uyeza ahwithe lokho obekuhlanyelwe enhliziyweni yakhe. Yiyo le inhlanyelo eyahlanyelwa endleleni. 20 Inhlanyelo eyawela okhetheni ngumuntu olizwayo ilizwi aphange alamukele ngentokozo. 21 Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi kalampande, nxa okwesikhatshana kuphela. Nxa kufika uhlupho lokuhlukunyezwa ngenxa yelizwi uphanga akhubeke. 22 Inhlanyelo eyawela phakathi kwameva ngumuntu olizwayo ilizwi kodwa lisuke landelwe yizinhlopheko zale impilo lenkohliso yenotho, lingabe lisaba lezithelo. 23 Kodwa leyonhlanyelo eyawela emhlabathini ovundileyo ngumuntu olizwayo ilizwi alizwisise. Lo nguye othela izithelo ezinengi ngekhulu, ngamatshumi ayisithupha loba ngamatshumi amathathu okudlula lokho okwahlanyelwayo.”

Umzekeliso Wokhula

24 UJesu wabatshela omunye umzekeliso wathi, “Umbuso wezulu unjengomuntu owahlanyela inhlanyelo enhle ensimini yakhe. 25 Kodwa kwathi ngesikhathi wonke umuntu elele, isitha sakhe seza sahlanyela ukhula phakathi kwengqoloyi, sahamba. 26 Kwathi ingqoloyi isikhahlele yabumba izikhwebu, ukhula lalo lwavela.

27 Izinceku zomnisisivini zeza kuye zathi, ‘Nkosi, kanti kawuhlanyelanga yini inhlanyelo enhle ensimini yakho na? Pho ukhula luvele ngaphi?’

28 Waphendula wathi, ‘Kwenziwe yisitha lokhu.’

Zambuza izinceku zathi, ‘Uyafuna yini ukuthi siyelusiphuna na?’

29 Waphendula wathi, ‘Hatshi, ngoba lizakuthi lisi-phuna ukhula liqabuke selisiphuna amabele kanye lalo. 30 Kuyekeleni kukhule ndawonye kuze kube yisikhathi sokuvuna. Lapho-ke, ngizakuthi kubavuni, Qalani ngokuqoqa ukhula lilubophe izinyanda ukuba lutshiswe, beseliqoqa amabele liwalethe esiphaleni sami.’”

Umzekeliso Wentanga Yemastadi Lemvubelo

31 Wabatshela omunye umzekeliso wathi, “Umbuso wezulu ufana lentanga yemastadi eyathathwa ngenye indoda yayihlanyela ensimini yayo. 32 Lanxa incinyane kulentanga yenhlanyelo zonke, kodwa ithi ingakhula

ibe yisihlahla esikhulu kulazo zonke, izinyoni zezulu zibuye, zithole ukuphumula ezingatsheni zaso."

³³ Waphinda wabatshela omunye umzekeliso wathi, **"Umbuso wezulu ufana lemvubelo eyathathwa ngowesifazane wayixubanisa lempuphu enengi, yabila yagcwala inhlama yonke."**

³⁴ UJesu wakhuluma zonke lezizinto exukwini labantu ngemizekeliso; kazange akhulume lutho kubo engasebenzisanga umzekeliso. ³⁵ Ngakho kwagcwaliseka okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi ukuthi:

"Ngizavula umlomo wami ngemizekeliso, ngizakutsho izinto ezifihliweyo selokhu kwadatshulwa umhlaba."†

Umzekeliso Wokhula Uyachasiswa

³⁶ Wasesuka exukwini waya endlini. Abafundi bakhe beza kuye bathi, "Sichazele umzekeliso wokhula ensimini."

³⁷ Waphendula wathi, **"Lowo owahlanyela inhlanyelo enhle yiNdodana yoMuntu. ³⁸ Insimu ngumhlaba njalo inhlanyelo enhle imele abantu bombuso. Ukhula lungabantu bomubi ³⁹ njalo isitha esiluhlanyelayo nguSathane. Isivuno siyikuphela kwesikhathi njalo abavuni yizingilosi.**

⁴⁰ **Njengalokhu ukhula lusitshunwa lutshiswe emlilweni, kuzakuba njalo ekupheleni kwesikhathi.**

⁴¹ **Indodana yoMuntu izathuma izingilosi zayo, zikhuphe konke okuyizikhubekiso embusweni wayo, labo bonke abenza ububi. ⁴² Zizabaphosela esihogweni somlilo ovuthayo okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo. ⁴³ Lapho-ke, abalungileyo bazakhazimula njengelanga embusweni kaYise wabo. Lowo olendlebe, kezwe."**

Umzekeliso Wenotho Efihliweyo Lowephareli

⁴⁴ **"Umbuso wezulu unjengenotho efihliweyo esivandeni. Kwathi indoda isiyitholile yayifihla njalo, kwathi ngoba iphakathi kokuthokoza, yahamba yayathengisa konke eyayilakho yayathenga lesosivande.**

⁴⁵ **Njalo umbuso wezulu ufana lomthengi edinga amaphareli amahle. ⁴⁶ Kwathi esefumene elinye elalilentengo ephezulu wahamba wayathengisa konke ayelakho walithenga."**

Umzekeliso Womambule

⁴⁷ **"Futhi umbuso wezulu ufana lomambule owehliselwa phansi echibini wagola zonke inhlobo**

zezinhlanzi. ⁴⁸ **Wathi usugcwele, abagoli bezinhlanzi bawudonsela okhunjini. Basebhlala phansi, baqoqela ezitsheni zonke inhlanzi ezinhle kodwa ezimbi bazilahla.** ⁴⁹ **Lokhu yikho okuzakwenzakala ekupheleni kwesikhathi. Izingilosizizakuza zehlukanise ababi kwabalungileyo,** ⁵⁰ **zibaphosele esihogweni somlilo ovuthayo, lapho okuzakuba khona lokukhala kanye lokugedla kwamazinyo."**

⁵¹ **UJesu wababuza wathi, "Selizizwisile zonke lezizinto na?"**

Bathi, "Yebo."

⁵² **Wathi kubo, "Ngakho wonke umfundisi womthetho osephenduke waba ngumfundi wombuso wezulu unjengomnini wendlu okhupha esipheleni sakhe amagugu amatsha lamadala."**

Umphrofethi Ongeladumo

⁵³ UJesu eseqedile imizekeliso le wasuka lapho wahamba. ⁵⁴ Wafika edolobheni lakibo waqalisa ukufundisa abantu esinagogweni labo, bamangala. Babuza bathi, "Indoda le yayithatha ngaphi inhlakanipho le lamandla la ayisimangaliso kangaka?" ⁵⁵ Kanti lo kayisiyo indodana yombazi na? Ibizo likanina kasuMariya na, labafowabo kakusiJakhobe, uJosefa, uSimoni loJudasi na? ⁵⁶ Odadewabo kabakho lapha kanye lathi na? Pho indoda le yazizuka ngaphi izinto zonke lezi?" ⁵⁷ Bakhubeka ngaye.

Kodwa uJesu wathi kubo, **"Umphrofethi kaladumo edolobheni lakibo lasendlini yakwabo."**

⁵⁸ Kasenzanga izimangaliso ezinengi khona ngenxa yokusilela kwabo ekukholweni.

14

UJohane Umbhaphathizi Uqunywa Ikhandla

¹ Ngalesosikhathi uHerodi umbusi wezwa imibiko ngo-Jesu, ² wasesithi ezincekwini zakhe, "Lo nguJohane uMbhaphathizi; usevukile kwabafileyo! Yikho izimangaliso zisenziwa nguye."

³ UHerodi wayembophile uJohane, wamfaka insimbi, wamphosela entolongweni ngenxa kaHerodiyasi, umkamfowabo uFiliphu, ⁴ ngoba uJohane wayelokhu esithi kuye, "Kungaphandle komthetho ukuthi umthathe." ⁵ UHerodi wayefuna ukumbulala uJohane kodwa wayesesaba abantu ngoba babesithi ungumphrofethi.

⁶ Ngelanga lesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kukaHerodi indodakazi kaHerodiyasi yasinela izethekeli, yamjabulisa

kakhulu uHerodi ⁷ waze wathembisa ngesifungo ukuyipha loba yini eyayingayicela. ⁸ Isicetshiswe ngunina yathi, “Ngipha ikhanda likaJohane uMbhaphathizi lisemganwini.” ⁹ Inkosi yadana kakhulu kodwa kwathi ngenxa yezifungo zayo langenxa yezethekeli zayo yalaya ukuba isicelo lesenzo senziwe, ¹⁰ uJohane wahle waqunywa ikhanda entolongweni. ¹¹ Ikhanda lakhe lalethwa lisemganwini laphiwa intombazana eyalithwalela kunina. ¹² Abafundi bakaJohane beza bathatha isidumbu sakhe bayasingcwaba. Basebamba bayatshela uJesu.

UJesu Upha Izinkulungwane Ezinhlanu Ukudla

¹³ UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokho okwenzakalayo wathi nyelele ngesikepe waya endaweni engelabantu. Amaxuku athi ekuzwa lokhu asuka emadolobheni amlandela ngenyawo. ¹⁴ UJesu uthe esehla esikepeni wabona ixuku labantu elikhulu walizwela usizi ngakho wasesilisa abagulayo babo.

¹⁵ Kwathi selithambeme abafundi beza kuye bathi, “Le yindawo ekhatshana kakhulu njalo sekuntambama. Wothi lababantu bahambe ukuze bayozithengela ukudla emizini.”

¹⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kakudingeki ukuthi bahambe. Bapheni lina ukudla.”**

¹⁷ Baphendula bathi, “Thina esilakho lapha yizinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili.”

¹⁸ Wathi, **“Kuletheni lapha.”** ¹⁹ Waselaya abantu ukuthi bahlale phansi phezu kotshani. Wathatha izinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili wakhangelela ezulwini wabonga, wasehlephuna izinkwa. Waseziqhubela abafundi, bazinika abantu. ²⁰ Bonke badla basutha, abafundi bakhe babutha okuseleyo bagcwalisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili. ²¹ Inani lalabo abadlayo lalingaba ngamadoda azinkulungwane ezinhlanu kungabalwa abesifazane labantwana.

UJesu Uhamba Phezu Kwamanzi

²² Masinyane nje uJesu wathi abafundi bakhe bangene esikepeni bamandulele ngakwelinye iphetsheya, yena esavalelisana labantu. ²³ Esebakhulule, waya ewatheni lwentaba ukuyakhuleka eyedwa. Sekuhlwile ngalobobusuku wayekhonale eyedwa, ²⁴ kodwa isikepe sasesihambe umango ukusuka okhunjini, siyaluziswa ngamagasi ngoba sasiphikisana lomoya.

²⁵ Kwathi ngomlindo wesine ebusuku uJesu waya kubo ehamba phezu kwechibi. ²⁶ Kwathi abafundi bembona ehamba phezu kwechibi besaba kakhulu. Bakhala ngokwesaba bathi, “Lithonga.”

²⁷ Kodwa uJesu waphanga wathi kubo, **“Manini isibindi! Yimi. Lingesabi.”**

²⁸ UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, nxa kunguwe, tshono ukuba ngize kuwe phezu kwamanzi.”

²⁹ Wathi, **“Woza.”**

Khonapho uPhethro wasephuma esikepeni, wahamba phezu kwamanzi weza kuJesu. ³⁰ Kodwa wathi ebona umoya wesaba, kwathi eseqala ukutshona wakhala wathi, “Nkosi, akungisize!”

³¹ Khonokho uJesu welula isandla sakhe wambamba. Wathi kuye, **“Wena olokholo oluncinyane, kungani uthandabuzile?”**

³² Bonela ukungena esikepeni umoya wathula. ³³ Kwathi labo ababesikepeni bamkhonza bathi, “Ngempela uyindodana kaNkulunkulu.”

³⁴ Bathi sebechaphile, bafikela eGenesaretha. ³⁵ Kwathi amadoda akuleyondawo semnanzelele uJesu athumela ilizwi kuwo wonke umango wakulelo dolobho. Abantu baletha bonke abagulayo babo kuye ³⁶ bamncenga ukuthi avumele labo abagulayo ukuthi bathinte nje umphetho wesigqoko sakhe, kwathi bonke labo abamthintayo basiliswa.

15

Okuhlanzekileyo Lokungahlanzekanga

¹ Ngalesosikhathi abanye abaFarisi labafundisi bomphetho beza kuJesu bevela eJerusalema bambuza bathi, ² “Kungani abafundi bakho besephula isiko labadala na? Kabagezi izandla zabo bengakadli!”

³ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kungani lina lisephula umlayo kaNkulunkulu ngenxa yamasiko enu na? ⁴ Phela uNkulunkulu wathi, ‘Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko’* njalo ‘Lowo othuka uyise loba unina ufanele ukubulawa.’† ⁵ Kodwa lina lithi nxa umuntu esithi lokho obekungaba lusizo kuyise kumbe unina kuphawulelwe uNkulunkulu, ⁶ akasamelanga ahloniphe uyise lonina ngakho. Ngaleyondlela lichitha ilizwi likaNkulunkulu ngenxa yesiko lenu. ⁷ Lina bazenzisi! U-Isaya wayeqin-isile aze aphrofithe ngani esithi:**

⁸ **‘Lababantu bangidumisa ngezindebe zabo, kodwa inhliziyo zabo zikhatshana lami.**

⁹ **Bangikhonza ngeze; imfundiso yabo yimithetho yabantu.’‡”**

* 15:4 15.4 U-Eksodasi 20.12; UDutheronomi 5.16 † 15:4 15.4 U-Eksodasi 21.17; ULevi 20.9 ‡ 15:9 15.9 U-Isaya 29.13

¹⁰ UJesu wabizela ixuku labantu kuye wathi, **“Lalelani lizwisise. ¹¹ Lokho okungena emlonyeni womuntu ‘kakumngcolisi’ kodwa lokho okuphuma emlonyeni wakhe yikho ‘okumngcolisayo.’”**

¹² Abafundi basebesiza kuye bambuza bathi, “Uyakwazi yini ukuthi abaFarisi kubakhubile ukuzwa lokhu?”

¹³ Waphendula wathi, **“Zonke izihlahla ezingahlanyelwanga nguBaba osezulwini zizasitshunwa lezimpande zazo. ¹⁴ Bayekeleni; ngabakhokheli abazimpumpithe. Nxa impumpithe ihola impumpithe zombili zizawela egodini.”**

¹⁵ UPhethro wathi, “Sichasisele umzekeliso lowo.”

¹⁶ UJesu wababuza wathi, **“Lilokhu lingelakuqedisa na? ¹⁷ Kaliboni yini ukuthi noma yini engena emlonyeni iya esiswini besekuphuma emzimbeni? ¹⁸ Kodwa lezozinto eziphuma emlonyeni womuntu zivela enhliziyweni yizo ezenza umuntu angcole. ¹⁹ Ngoba enhliziyweni kuphuma imicabango emibi, ukubulala, ukufeba, ukuhlobonga, ubusela, ukufakaza amanga, ukunyeya lokuhlambaza. ²⁰ Lokhu yikho okwenza umuntu angcole, kodwa ukudla ngezandla ezingagezwanga kakumenzi angcole.”**

Ukholo Lowesifazane WaseKhenani

²¹ Esuka kuleyondawo uJesu waya emangweni waseThire leSidoni. ²² Umfazi ongumKhenani wakuleyondawo weza kuye ezokhala esithi, “Nkosi, Ndodana kaDavida, ake ungihawukele! Indodakazi yami ithwele nzima, ihlutshwa ngamadimoni.”

²³ UJesu kazange amphendule. Ngakho abafundi bakhe beza kuye bamkuthaza bathi, “Mxotshe, nangu uselokhu ememeza esilandela.”

²⁴ Waphendula wathi, **“Ngathunywa kuphela ezimvini ezilahlekileyo zako-Israyeli.”**

²⁵ Owesifazane lowo weza waguqa phambi kwakhe wathi, “Nkosi, ake ungisize.”

²⁶ Waphendula uJesu wathi, **“Kakulunganga ukuthatha isinkwa sabantwana usiphosele izinja.”**

²⁷ Owesifazane wathi, “Yebo Nkosi, angithi izinja ziyayidla imvuthu eziwa etafuleni yabaninizo.”

²⁸ UJesu wasephendula wathi, **“Nkosazana, ulokukholwa okukhulu! Isicelo sakho sesamukelwe.”** Indodakazi yakhe yahle yasila ngalesosikhathi.

²⁹ UJesu wasuka lapho wehla egudlana loLwandle lwaseGalile. Wasekhwela entabeni wahlala phansi. ³⁰ Kweza kuye amaxuku amakhulu abantu eletha abaqhulayo, iziphofu, izigoga, izimungulu labanye abanengi, bababeka phambi kwakhe; wabasilisa. ³¹ Abantu bamangala ukubona izimungulu sezikhuluma, izigoga sezitshwaphulukile, abaqhuzelayo sebezihambela leziphofu sezibona. Bamdumisa uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli.

³² UJesu wabiza abafundi bakhe wathi, **“Ngibazwela usizi lababantu; sebehlale lami insuku ezintathu bengadlanga lutho. Angifuni kubakhulula belambile funa bayathe endleleni.”**

³³ Abafundi bakhe bamphendula bathi, “Singakuthatha ngaphi ukudla okwaneleyo endaweni ekhatshana kanje ukuba sisuthise ixuku elingaka na?”

³⁴ UJesu wabuza wathi, **“Lilezinkwa ezingaki?”**

Bathi, “Eziyisikhombisa lenhlanzi ezincane ezimbalwa.”

³⁵ Wasetshela ixuku labantu ukuba lihlale phansi. ³⁶ Wasethatha lezozinkwa eziyisikhombisa lenhlanzi, kwathi esebongile, wazihlephula waziqhubela abafundi, labo bazinika abantu. ³⁷ Bonke badla basutha. Ngemva kwalokho abafundi babutha imvuthu kwagcwala izitsha eziyisikhombisa. ³⁸ Inani lalabo abadlayo lalizinkulungwane ezine kungabalwa abafazi labantwana. ³⁹ UJesu eselikhulule ixuku labantu, wangena esikepeni waya emangweni waseMagadani.

16

Abafuna Isibonakaliso

¹ AbaFarisi labaSadusi beza kuJesu bamlinga ngokumcela ukuthi abatshengise isibonakaliso esivela ezulwini.

² Waphendula wathi, **“Nxa kufika ukuhlwa lithi, ‘Umkhathi uzakuba muhle ngoba isibhakabhaka sibomvu,’ ³ ekuseni lithi, ‘Lamuhla kuzaqubuka isiphepho ngoba isibhakabhaka sibomvu njalo kugubuzele.’ Liyakwazi ukuchaza umumo womkhathi kodwa kalenelisi ukuchaza izibonakaliso zesikhathi. ⁴ Isizukulwane esixhwalileyo lesiphingayo sifuna isibonakaliso kodwa kasisoze sisiphiwe ngaphandle kwesibonakaliso sikaJona.”** UJesu wasebatshiya wahamba.

Imvubelo YabaFarisi LabaSadusi

⁵ Bathi sebekhuphukele ngaphetsheya kwechibi, abafundi babekhohliwe ukuza lesinkwa. ⁶ UJesu wathi

kubo, **“Limukani. Liqaphele imvubelo yabaFarisi labaSadusi.”**

⁷ Bakhulumisana ngalokhu bathi, “Kungenxa yokuba kasizanga lesinkwa.”

⁸ UJesu wakwazi abakukhulumayo wasebuza wathi, **“Lina elilokholo oluncinyane, kungani likhulumisana ngokungabi lasinkwa na?”**

⁹ Lilokhu lingaqedisisi yini? **Kalikhumbuli na izinkwa ezinhlanu eza-suthisa abantu abazinkulungwane ezinhlanu, lokuthi laqoqa izitsha ezingaki?**

¹⁰ **Kumbe izinkwa eziyisikhombisa ezasuthisa abantu abazinkulungwane ezine lokuthi laqoqa izitsha ezigcweleyo ezingaki?**

¹¹ **Kungani lingezwisisi ukuthi bengingakhulumi lani ngesinkwa? Kodwa qaphelani imvubelo yabaFarisi labaSadusi.”**

¹² Basebezwisisa ukuthi wayengabatsheli ukuqaphela imvubelo esetshenziswa esinkweni kodwa ukunanzelela imfundiso yabaFarisi labaSadusi.

Ubufakazi BukaPhethro NgoKhristu

¹³ Kwathi uJesu esefike emangweni waseKhesariya Filiphu wabuza abafundi bakhe wathi, **“Abantu bathi iNdodana yoMuntu ingubani na?”**

¹⁴ Baphendula bathi, “Abanye bathi nguJohane uMb-haphathizi; abanye bathi ngu-Elija; abanye njalo bathi nguJeremiya loba omunye nje wabaphrofethi.”

¹⁵ Wabuza wathi, **“Lina-ke, lithi ngingubani?”**

¹⁶ USimoni Phethro waphendula wathi, “UnguKhristu iNdodana kaNkulunkulu ophilayo.”

¹⁷ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ubusisiwe wena Simoni, ndodana kaJona ngoba lokhu kawukwambulel-wanga ngumuntu wegazi lenyama kodwa nguBaba osezulwini.**

¹⁸ **Ngakho ngiyakutshela ukuthi unguPhethro* njalo phezu kwalelidwala ngizakwakha ibandla lami, futhi amasango eHadesi akayikulehlula.**

¹⁹ **Ngizakupha izihluthulelo zombuso wezulu; loba yini oyibophayo emhlabeni izabotshwa lasezulwini njalo loba yini oyithukululayo emhlabeni izathukululwa lasezulwini.”**

²⁰ Waseqongosela abafundi bakhe ukuba bangatsheli muntu ukuthi wayenguKhristu.

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokufa Kwakhe

²¹ Kusukela ngalesosikhathi uJesu waqalisa ukuchazela abafundi bakhe ukuthi kumele aye eJerusalema ayehlupheka ngezinto ezinengi ezandleni zabadala bebandla, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho

* 16:18 16.18 Ibala lesiGrikhi elithi Phethro litsho idwala.

njalo lokuthi kumele abulawe, kuthi ngelanga lesithathu avuswe kwabafileyo.

²² UPhethro wamdonsele eceleni waqalisa ukumkhuza wathi, “Ngeke kwenzeka Nkosi! Lokhu kakusoze kwafa kwenzeka kuwe!”

²³ UJesu waphendula wathi kuPhethro, **“Suka emva kwami Sathane! Uyisikhubekiso kimi; engqondweni yakho kawulazo izinto zikaNkulunkulu kodwa uca-banga ezabantu.”**

²⁴ UJesu wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, **“Nxa ekhona ofuna ukungilandela, kazidele athathe isiphambano sakhe angilandele. ²⁵ Ngoba lowo ofuna ukusindisa impilo yakhe izamlahlekela kodwa lowo olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami uzayizuza. ²⁶ Kuzamsiza ngani umuntu ukuzuza wonke umhlaba kodwa alahlekelwe ngumphfumulo wakhe na? Kambe umuntu angaphani esikhundleni sempilo yakhe na? ²⁷ Phela iNdodana yoMuntu izakuza ngobukhosi bukaYise kanye lezingilosi zakhe, ibisisipha umvuzo emuntwini munye ngamunye ngalokho akwenzileyo.**

²⁸ **Ngilitshela iqiniso, abanye abemiyo khonapha kabayikukuzwa ukufa bengakayiboni iNdodana yoMuntu isiza embusweni wayo.”**

17

Ukukhazimuliswa KukaJesu

¹ Ngemva kwensuku eziyisithupha, uJesu wathatha uPhethro, loJakhobe loJohane umfowabo kaJakhobe wakhwela labo entabeni ephakemeyo lapho ababa bodwa khona. ² Bekhona lapho waguquka isimo emehlweni abo. Ubuso bakhe bakhazimula njengelanga lezigqoko zakhe zaba mhlophe njengokukhanya. ³ Khonokho kwasekubonakala uMosi lo-Elija bekhuluma loJesu.

⁴ UPhethro wathi kuJesu, “Nkosi, kuhle kithi ukuba lapha. Nxa uthanda ngizakwakha izihongo ezintathu, esakho, esinye esikaMosi lesinye esika-Elija.”

⁵ Wathi elokhe esakhuluma, iyezi elikhazimulayo labagubuzela, ilizwi elavela eyezini lathi, “Le yiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngayo. Ilaleleni!”

⁶ Abafundi bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathi mbo phansi ngobuso, besaba. ⁷ Kodwa uJesu weza wabathinta. Wathi, **“Sukumani. Lingesabi.”** ⁸ Bathi bevusa amehlo kabasabonanga muntu ngaphandle kukaJesu.

⁹ Bathi sebesehla entabeni, uJesu wabalaya wathi, **“Lingatsheli muntu ngalokhu elikubonileyo iNdodana yoMuntu ize ivuswe kwabafileyo.”**

¹⁰ Abafundi bambuza bathi, “Kungani pho abafundisi bomthetho besithi u-Eliza kumele aqale afike?”

¹¹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngeqiniso, u-Eliza uyeza azolungisa kutsha izinto zonke.** ¹² **Kodwa ngiyalitshela ngithi u-Eliza uvele sewafika njalo kabamazanga kodwa bazenzela kuye konke ababekufuna. INdodana yoMuntu bazayihlukuluza ngaleyondlela.”** ¹³ Lapho-ke abafundi basebezwisisa ukuthi wayekhuluma labo ngoJo-hane uMbhaphathizi.

Ukusiliswa Komfana Owayeledimoni

¹⁴ Bathi sebefike exukwini labantu, indoda ethile yamqonda uJesu yaguqa phambi kwakhe. ¹⁵ Yathi, “Nkosi, ake uhawukele indodana yami. Ilezithuthwane njalo iyahlupheka kakhulu. Kanengi iwela emlilweni kumbe emanzini. ¹⁶ Ngiyilethile kubafundi bakho kodwa behlulekile ukuyisilisa.”

¹⁷ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Oh, lina sizukulwane esingakholwayo lesonakeleyo. Ngizahlala lani kuze kube nini na? Ngizalibekezelela kuze kube nini na? Mletheni lapha kimi umfana lowo.”** ¹⁸ UJesu walikhuza idimoni laphuma emfaneni wahle wasila ngalesosikhathi.

¹⁹ Abafundi basebesiza kuJesu ngasese bambuza bathi, “Kungani sehlulekile ukulikhupha idimoni na?”

²⁰ Waphendula wathi, **“Ngoba ukhoho lweni luncinyane. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi nxa lingaba lokukholwa loba kukuncinyane njengentanga yemastadi, lingathi entabeni le, ‘Suduluka lapha uye laphayana’ izasuduluka. Kakukho kini okungasoze kwenzeke. [²¹ Kodwa uhlobo olunje aluphumi ngaphandle kwangomkhuleko lokuzila ukudla.]”***

Ukuphrofitha Kwesibili KukaJesu Mayelana Lokufa Kwakhe

²² Bathi sebephele eGalile wathi kubo, **“INdodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ezandleni zabantu. ²³ Bazayibulala, kuthi ngosuku lwesithathu izavuswa kwabafileyo.”** Abafundi badabuka kakhulu.

Umthelo WeThempeli

²⁴ UJesu labafundi bakhe sebefikile eKhaphenawume, abaqoqi bomthelo wamadrahima amabili beza kuPhethro

* **17:21** 17.21 Imibhalo ekholekayo yekuqaleni lobunye ubufakazi bendulo kabulayo livesi UMakho 9.29.

babuza bathi, “Umfundisi wenu kawuhlawuli yini umthelo wethempeli?”

²⁵ Wathi, “Yebo, uyawuthela.”

Kwathi uPhethro engena endlini, uJesu nguye owakhuluma kuqala, wabuza wathi, **“Ucabangani kambe Simoni? Amakhosi omhlaba ayithatha kubani inkongozelo lemithelo, emadodaneni abo na loba kwabanye abantu?”**

²⁶ UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Kwabanye abantu.”

UJesu wasesithi kuye, **“Ngakho-ke amadodana akhululekile. ²⁷ Kodwa ukuze singabakhubi, yana echibini uphosele iwuka yakho khona. Ubothatha inhlanzi yokuqala ozayibamba, uvule umlomo wayo uzafumana khona uhlamvu lwemali engamadrakhima amane. Uyithathe ubaphe ibe ngumthelo wami lowenu.”**

18

Omkhulu Kulabo Bonke Embusweni Wezulu

¹ Ngalesosikhathi abafundi beza kuJesu babuza bathi, “Ngubani omkhulu kulabo bonke embusweni wezulu na?”

² Wabiza umntwana omncinyane wamisa phakathi kwabo. ³ Wasesithi, **“Ngiqinisile ngithi kini, ngaphandle kokuba liguquke libe njengabantwana abancinyane, kalisoze lafa langena embusweni wezulu. ⁴ Ngakho lowo ozithobayo njengomntwana lo nguye omkhulu kulabo bonke embusweni wezulu. ⁵ Njalo lowo owamukela umntwana omncane njengalo ebizweni lami wamukela mina.”**

Ukukhubekisa

⁶ **“Nxa umuntu ekhubekisa oyedwa walaba abancinyane abakholwa kimi ukuthi enze isono, kungabangcono kuye ukuthi kulengiswe entanyeni yakhe inkalakatha yembokodo yokuchola agaluliswe enzikini yolwandle. ⁷ Maye kuwo umhlaba ngenxa yezinto ezenza abantu benze isono! Izinto ezinjalo zivele ziyafika kodwa maye kulowomuntu ezifika ngaye! ⁸ Nxa isandla sakho loba unyawo lwakho kukwenzisa isono, kuqume ukulahle. Kungcono kuwe ukuba ungene ekuphileni uyingini kumbe ugogekile kulokuba lezandla zombili kumbe inyawo zombili uphoselwe emlilweni ongapheliyo. ⁹ Nxa ilihlo lakho likwenzisa isono, likopole ulilahle. Kungcono kuwe ukungena ekuphileni ulelihlo elilodwa kulokuba lamehlo amabili kodwa uphoselwe esihogweni somlilo.”**

Umzekeliso Wemvu Elahlekileyo

10 **"Nanzelelani ukuthi lingeyisi lamunye walaba abancinyane. Ngoba ngilitshela ukuthi izingilosu zabo zezulu zihlezi zibona ubuso bukaBaba ezulwini. [**
 11 **INdodana yoMuntu yalanda ukusindisa okwaku-**
lahlekile.]*

12 **Kambe likhumbulani? Nxa indoda ilezimvu ezi-**
likhulu, enye iqambuke kwezinye, kayiyikuzitshiya
yini lezo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasi-
ficamunwemunye ezintabeni iyedinga leyo eqambuki-
leyo? 13 Ithi ingayithola, ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, iy-
athokoza ngaleyo ukwedlula lezo ezingamatshumi ay-
isificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye ezingazange
zilahleke. 14 Ngokufanayo, uYihlo osezulwini kafisi
ukuthi lamunye walaba abancinyane abhubhe."

Umfowenu Owenza Isono Kuwe

15 **"Nxa umfowenu ekona, yana kuye umtshengise**
isiphambeko sakhe lilodwa lobabili. Nxa ekulalela
usumzuzile umfowenu. 16 Kodwa nxa engakulaleli,
biza omunye loba ababili ukuze 'indaba yonke ivele
obala ilabofakazi ababili loba abathathu.'† 17 **Nxa**
esala ukubalalela, tshela ibandla, nxa esala ukulilalela
lalo ibandla mthatheni njengomhedeni kumbe njen-
gomthelisi.

18 **Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, loba yini eliyibophayo**
emhlabeni izabotshwa lasezulwini njalo lokho
elikuthukululayo emhlabeni kuzathukululwa
lasezulwini.

19 **Njalo ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi nxa ababili kini**
emhlabeni bevumelana loba ngalutho bani abaluce-
layo bazalwenzelwa nguBaba osezulwini. 20 Ngoba
lapho okuhlangana khona ababili loba abathathu nge-
bizo lami, ngizabe ngikhona lami."

Umzekeliso Wenceku Engelasihawu

21 **UPhethro weza kuJesu wabuza wathi, "Nkosi, um-**
fowethu loba udadewethu ngizamthethelela kangaki nxa
elokhu engona na? Kuze kube kasikhombisa na?"

22 **UJesu waphendula wathi, "Ngithi hatshi kasikhom-**
bisa kodwa okwezikhathi ezingamatshumi ayisikhom-
bisa lesikhombisa.

23 **Ngakho umbuso wezulu unjengenkosi eyayifuna**
ukuqeda izikwelede zayo lezincekulo zayo. 24 Yathi

* 18:11 18.11 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu. † 18:16
 18.16 UDutheronomi 19.15

isiqalisa ukuthonisa kwa lethwa kuyo indoda eyayile-sikwelede samathalenta azinkulungwane ezilitshumi.

²⁵ Kwathi ngoba ingelamandla okuhlawula inkosi yalaya ukuthi yona, umkayo, abantwana lakho konke eyayilakho kuthengiswe ukuze kuqedwe umlandu.

²⁶ Inceku yaguqa phambi kwenkosi yayincenga yathi, 'Ake ungibekezelele, ngizahlawula konke.' ²⁷ Inkosi yenceku leyo yayizwela usizi, yayithethelela, yawesula umlandu yayiyekela yahamba.

²⁸ Kodwa leyo yonela ukuphuma, yafumana eyinye inceku eyayilesikwelede sayo samadenari alikhulu. Yayibamba ngomphimbo, yayiklinya, yathi ngolaka, 'Hlawula isikwelede sami!'

²⁹ Leyonceku layo yawa ngamadolo yayincenga yathi, 'Ake ungibekezelele, ngizakuhlawula.'

³⁰ Kodwa yona yala. Endaweni yalokho, yahamba yenza ukuba leyondoda iphoselwe entolongweni ize iqale ihlawule isikwelede. ³¹ Kwathi ezinye izinceku sezibonile okwakwenzakele, zathukuthela kakhulu zayaceba enkosini ngalokho okwenzakeleyo.

³² Inkosi yayibiza leyonceku, yathi, 'Wena nceku embi. Ngikuthethelele, ngasesula sonke isikwelede sakho ngoba ungincengile. ³³ Kungani pho ungazwela ngalanga omunye wakho isihawu njengalokhu ngenzile kuwe?' ³⁴ Inkosi yayo yathukuthela kakhulu, yayinikela kubaphathi bejele ukuthi bayihlukuluze ize isihlawule sonke isikwelede.

³⁵ Yiyo le indlela uBaba osezulwini azaphatha ngayo lowo lalowo wenu nxa lingathetheleli abazalwane kuphuma enhliziyweni."

19

Ukuchitha Umtshado

¹ UJesu eseqedile ukutsho lezizinto, wasuka eGalile waya emangweni waseJudiya ngaphetsheya kweJodani.

² Walandelwa ngamaxuku amakhulu abantu, wabasilisa khona lapho.

³ Abanye abaFarisi beza kuye ukuzamlinga. Bambuza bathi, "Kusemthethweni yini ukuthi indoda ilahle umkayo loba kungasiphi isizatho?"

⁴ Waphendula wathi, "Kalikubalanga yini ukuthi ekuqaleni uMdali 'wabenza baba ngowesilisa lowesifazane,'* ⁵ wathi, 'Ngalesi isizatho indoda izatshiya uyise lonina ihlanganiswe lomkayo, kuthi laba ababili

* 19:4 19.4 UGenesisi 1.27

bazakuba nyamanye?’† 6 Ngakho kabasebabili, kodwa sebenyamanye. Ngakho, lokho uNkulunkulu asekuhlanganisile akungehlukaniswa muntu.”

7 Babuza bathi, “Kungani pho uMosi walaya ukuthi indoda imuphe umkayo incwadi yokuquma umtshado ibisimxotsha?”

8 UJesu waphendula wathi, “UMosi walivumela ukuthi lilahle omkenu ngobulukhuni bezinhliziyu zenu. Kodwa kwakungenjalo ekuqaleni. 9 Ngilitshela ukuthi lowo ohlukana lomkakhe, ngaphandle kokuba ehlobongile, athathe omunye umfazi, uyaphinga.”

10 Abafundi bathi kuye, “Nxa kumi kanjalo phakathi kwendoda lomkayo kungcono ukungathathi.”

11 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Akusibo bonke abangalemukela lelizwi, kodwa labo kuphela abaliphileyo. 12 Ngoba abanye bangabathenwa ngenxa yokuthi bazalwa benjalo, abanye benziwa ngabantu njalo abanye bakudela ukutshada ngenxa yombuso wezulu. Lowo ongakwamukela lokho kakwemukele.”

Abantwana Abancane LoJesu

13 Kwasekulethwa abantwana abancinyane kuJesu ukuba ababeke izandla lokubakhulekela. Kodwa abafundi babakhuza labo ababa lethayo.

14 UJesu wathi, “Yekelani abantwana beze kimi, lingabavimbeli ngoba umbuso wezulu ungowabanjengalaba.” 15 Esebabekile izandla wasuka lapho wahamba.

Insizwa Enothileyo

16 Kweza enye insizwa kuJesu yabuza yathi, “Mfundisi, ngingenzani okulungileyo ukuze ngizuze ukuphila okungapheliyo na?”

17 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ungibuzelani ngokulungileyo na? Munye kuphela olungileyo. Nxa ufuna ukungena ekuphileni, landela imilayo.”

18 Insizwa yabuza yathi, “Yiphi na?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, “‘Ungabulali, ungaphingi, ungatshontshi, ungafakazeli amanga, 19 hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko,’ njalo ‘thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena.’§”

20 Insizwa yathi, “Yonke le ngiyigcinile. Pho ngisaswelani na?”

21 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Nxa ufuna ukuthi uphelele, thengisa yonke inotho yakho uphe abampofu,

† 19:5 19.5 UGenesisi 2.24 ‡ 19:19 19.19 U-Eksodasi 20.12-16; UDutheronomi

5.16-20 § 19:19 19.19 ULevi 19.18

lapho-ke inotho yakho izakuba sezulwini. Ubusubuya ungilandele."

²² Kwathi insizwa ikuzwa lokho, yasuka idanile ngoba yayilenotho enengi kakhulu.

²³ UJesu wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, **"Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kunzima emuntwini onothileyo ukuthi angene embusweni wezulu. ²⁴ Njalo ngiyalitshela ukuthi kungaba lula ukuthi ikamela lingene embotsheni yenalithi kulokuthi umuntu onothileyo angene embusweni kaNkulunkulu."**

²⁵ Kwathi abafundi sebekuzwile lokhu bamangala kakhulu babuza bathi, "Pho ngubani ongasindiswa na?"

²⁶ UJesu wabakhangela wathi, **"Ngokwabantu, lokhu kakwenzeki kodwa ngoNkulunkulu zonke izinto ziyenzeka."**

²⁷ UPhethro wamphendula wathi, "Sesitshiye konke ukuze sikulandele! Pho sizazuzani na?"

²⁸ UJesu wathi kubo, **"Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, emhlabeni omutsha, lapho iNdodana yoMuntu isihlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, lina elingilandelayo lani lizahlala ezihlalweni zobukhosi ezilitshumi lambili, lahlulele izizwana ezilitshumi lambili zako-Israyeli.**

²⁹ Njalo bonke labo abatshiye izindlu zabo, loba abafowabo, loba odadewabo kumbe uyise loba unina kumbe abantwana loba amasimu ngenxa yami bazakwamukeliswa okwandiswe ngekulu njalo bazakudla ilifa lokuphila okungapheliyo. ³⁰ Kodwa abanengi abangabokuqala bazakuba ngabokucina njalo abanengi abangabokucina bazakuba ngabokuqala."

20

Umzekeliso Wezisebenzi Esivinini

¹ "Ngoba umbuso wezulu unjengomlimi owaphuma ekuseni kakhulu wayaqhatsha amadoda okusebenza esivinini sakhe. ² Wathembisa ukubaholisa idenari okwalolosuku wasebathumela esivinini sakhe.

³ Waphuma njalo ngehola lesificamunwemunye ekuseni wabona abanye bezimele nje emsikeneni benzenzi lutho. ⁴ Wabatshela wathi, 'Lani hambani liyesebenza esivinini sami, ngizalihalisa okufaneleyo.'

⁵ Ngakho bahamba.

Wabuye waphuma emini sekubanga ihola lesithathu emini wenza okufanayo. ⁶ Sekusondele ihola lesihlanu waphuma wafumana abanye bezimele nje khonapho. Wababuza wathi, 'Kungani belilokhu limi lapha ilanga lonke lingenzi lutho na?'

⁷ **Bamphendula bathi, 'Ngoba kakho osiqhatshileyo.'**
Wathi kubo, 'Lani hambani liyesebenza esivinini sami.'

⁸ **Kwathi sekuntambama, umninisivini wathi enduneni yezinceku, 'Biza izinceku uzipe iholo lazo, uqalise ngabokucina usehla usiya kwabokuqala.'**

⁹ **Izinceku ezaqhatshwa sekubanga ihola lesihlanu ntambama zeza ngamunye zaphiwa idenari.** ¹⁰ **Kwathi sekufike labo abaqhatshwa kuqala balindela ukuphiwa okwedlulayo. Kodwa ngamunye wabo waphiwa idenari.** ¹¹ **Bonela ukuyamukela baqalisa ukumsola umnininsimu besithi,** ¹² **'Lababantu abaqhatshwe ekucineni basebenze ihola elilodwa kuphela kodwa usubalinganise lathi thina esithwale kanzima ngomsebenzi sitshiswa lilanga usuku lonke.'**

¹³ **Kodwa waphendula omunye wabo wathi, 'Mnakwethu, angikudlelezezi ngalutho. Kawuvumanga yini ukusebenzela idenari?'** ¹⁴ **Thatha umholo wakho uhambe. Mina ngithanda ukupha indoda leyo eqhatshwe muva okulingana lalokho engikunike khona.** ¹⁵ **Kangilalungelo na lokwenza loba yini engiyithandayo ngemali yami? Kumbe ulomhawu ngokuphana kwami na?'**

¹⁶ **Ngakho owokucina uzakuba ngowokuqala, lowokuqala abe ngowokucina."**

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokufa Kwakhe Njalo

¹⁷ **Kwathi uJesu esesiya eJerusalema wathatha abafundi abalitshumi lambili wema labo eceleni wathi kubo,** ¹⁸ **"Sesisiya eJerusalema lapho iNdodana yoMuntu ezanikelwa khona kubaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho. Bazayigwebela ukufa,** ¹⁹ **bayinikele kwabeZizwe ukuba iyangiswe, itshaywe njalo ibethelwe. Ngosuku lwesithathu izavuswa kwabafileyo!"**

Isicelo Somzali Wesifazane

²⁰ **Kwasekufika unina wamadodana kaZebhediya kuJesu elamadodana akhe waguqa phansi wacela ukuthi enzelwe umusa.**

²¹ **UJesu wabuza wathi, "Kuyini okufunayo?"**

Yena wathi, "Tshono ukuthi omunye wala amadodana ami amabili uzahlala kwesokunene sakho kuthi omunye laye ahlale kwesokhohlo sakho embusweni wakho."

²² **UJesu wathi kubo, "Kalikwazi elikucelayo. Lingayinatha na inkezo engizayinatha?"**

Bathi, "Yebo singayinatha."

²³ UJesu wathi kubo, **“Yebo lizanatha kuyo inkezo yami kodwa ukuhlala kwesokunene kumbe kwesokhohlo kwami kakusikho kwami ukukumvela. Izindawo lezi ngezalabo abazilungiselwe nguBaba.”**

²⁴ Kwathi abalitshumi bekwazwa lokhu bazithukuthelela lezozelamani. ²⁵ UJesu wasebabizela ndawonye wathi, **“Liyakwazi ukuthi ababusi beZizwe bazibusa kalukhuni, kuthi lezikhulu zazo zikhonye phezu kwazo. ²⁶ Kakunjalo kini. Kodwa loba ngubani ofuna ukuba mkhulu phakathi kwenu kabe yinceku yenu, ²⁷ lalowo ofuna ukuba ngowokuqala kabe yinceku yenu, ²⁸ njengalokhu iNdodana yoMuntu ingezanga ukuzokhonza kodwa ukuzokhonza lokunikela impilo yayo njengenhlawulo yabanengi.”**

Iziphofu Ezimbili Zenziwa Zibone

²⁹ Kwathi uJesu labafundi bakhe sebesuka eJerikho ixuku elikhulu labantu lamlandela. ³⁰ Amadoda amabili ayiziphofu ayehlezi eceleni komgwaqo athi esizwa ukuthi uJesu wayesedlula khonapho amemeza athi, “Nkosi, Ndodana kaDavida, sihawukele!”

³¹ Ixuku labantu lawakhuza lathi kawathule kodwa amemeza ngamandla athi, “Nkosi, Ndodana kaDavida, sihawukele!”

³² UJesu wema wawabiza, wawabuza wathi, **“Lifuna ukuba ngilenzeleni?”**

³³ Aphendula athi, “Nkosi, sifuna ukuthi sibone.”

³⁴ UJesu wawazwela isihawu wawathinta emehlweni. Masinyane nje ahle abona asemlandela.

21

UJesu Uza EJerusalema NjengeNkosi

¹ Bathi sebesondela eJerusalema, bafika eBhethifage eNtabeni yama-Oliva, uJesu wathuma abafundi ababili, ² wathi kubo, **“Yanini emzini ophambi kwenu, khonapho lizabona inkonyane kababhemi lobabhemi eboshelwe khonapho. Libakhulule libuye labo kimi. ³ Nxa kungaba lozalibuza, limtshela ukuthi iNkosi yiyo ebafunayo, uzahle abayekele bahambe masinyane.”**

⁴ Lokhu kwenzeka ukuze kugcwaliseke okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi ukuthi:

⁵ “Tshela iNdodakazi yaseZiyoni ukuthi,
‘Khangela, inkosi yakho iyeza kuwe,
imnene igade ubabhemi,

iphezu kwenkonyane, inkonyane kababhemi.’*”

* 21:5 21.5 UZakhariya 9.9

⁶ Abafundi bahamba benza njengokulaywa kwabo ngu-Jesu. ⁷ Baletha inkonyane kababhemi lobabhemi, bendlala amajazi abo phezu kwabobabhemi ukuze uJesu ahlale phezu kwawo. ⁸ Ixuku elikhulu lendlala amajazi alo endleleni, kukanti abanye bephula ingatsha ezihlahleni bazendlala endleleni. ⁹ Amaxuku aye hamba phambi kwakhe lalawo ayelandela amemeza athi, "Hosana kuyo iNdodana kaDavida!"[†]

"Ubusisiwe lowo obuya ngebizo likaThixo!"

"Hosana ezulwini eliphezulu!"

¹⁰ Kwathi uJesu esengenile eJerusalema, umuzi wonke wanyakazela, abantu babuzana bathi, "Kanti ngubani lo?"

¹¹ Amaxuku aphenyula athi, "Lo nguJesu, umphrofethi waseNazaretha eGalile."

UJesu EThempelini

¹² UJesu wangena egumeni lethempeli wabaxotsha bonke ababethenga lababethengisa khona. Wagenqula amatafula alabo ababentshintshela abanye izimali lezihlalo zabathengisa amajuba. ¹³ Wathi kubo, "**Kulotshiwe ukuthi, 'Indlu yami izabizwa ngokuthi yindlu yokukhuleka,'[‡]kodwa lina seliyenza 'ubhalu lwabaphangi.'**"[§]

¹⁴ Iziphofu laba qhuzelayo beza kuye ethempelini wabasilisa. ¹⁵ Kodwa kwathi abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho bebona izimanga ayezenza labantwana bememeza egumeni lethempeli besithi, "Hosana kuyo iNdodana kaDavida," banengeka.

¹⁶ Bambuza bathi, "Uyabezwa nje abantwana laba ukuthi bathini?"^{*}

Waphendula uJesu wathi, "**Yebo, kalikaze lifunde ukuthi,**

'Ezindebeni zabantwana lensane wena Nkosi uyimisile indumiso'?"

¹⁷ Wasebatshiya waphuma edolobheni waya eBethani lapho alala khona.

Isihlahla Somkhiwa Siyabuna

¹⁸ Ekuseni kakhulu esebuyela edolobheni wezwa eselambile. ¹⁹ Wabona isihlahla somkhiwa eceleni kwendlela, waqambukela kuso kodwa wathola kungelalutho kuso

[†] 21:9 21.9 AmaHubo 118.26 [‡] 21:13 21.13 U-Isaya 56.7 [§] 21:13 21.13

UJeremiya 7.11 ^{*} 21:16 21.16 AmaHubo 8.2

ngaphandle kwamahlamvu nje. Wasesithi kuso, **“Un-gaphindi uthele izithelo lanini!”** Khonapho nje isihlahla sahle sabuna.

²⁰ Abafundi bathi bekubona lokhu bamangala kakhulu. Babuza bathi, “Kwenzeke kanjani ukuthi isihlahla somkhiwa sibune masinyane kangaka?”

²¹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi nxa lilokukholwa njalo lingathandabuzi, kalisoze lenze okwenziwe kulesi isihlahla somkhiwa kuphela kodwa njalo lingathi kule intaba, ‘Suka, uziphosele olwandle,’ lakanye kuzenzeka. ²² Nxa likholwa, liza-phiwa loba yini eliyicelayo ngomkhuleko.”**

Kubuzwa Ngemvelo Yamandla KaJesu

²³ UJesu wangena ethempelini, kwathi elokhu efundisa abaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu beza kuye. Bambuza bathi, “Izinto lezi uzenza ngawaphi amandla na? Ngubani okunike amandla la?”

²⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Lami ngizalibuza um-buzo owodwa. Lingangiphendula, ngizalitshela ukuthi ngizenza ngawaphi amandla lezizinto. ²⁵ Ubhaphathizo lukaJohane lwavela ngaphi na? Lwavela ezulwini loba ebantwini na?”**

Bangunguna bodwa ngalokho bathi, “Nxa singathi, ‘Lwavela ezulwini,’ uzakuthi, ‘Pho kungani lingazange limkholwe na?’ ²⁶ Kodwa singathi, ‘Lwavela ebantwini,’ sesaba abantu ngoba bonke uJohane bamthatha njengom-phrofethi.”

²⁷ Ngakho bamphendula uJesu bathi, “Kasikwazi.”

Ngakho wasesithi, **“Lami kangiyikulitshela ukuthi iz-into lezi ngizenza ngamandla bani.”**

Umzekeliso Wamadodana Amabili

²⁸ **“Likhumbulani kambe? Kwakulendoda eyayila-madodana amabili. Yaya kweyokuqala yathi, ‘Ndo-dana, lamuhla hamba uyesebenza esivini.’**

²⁹ Yaphendula yathi, ‘Kangisoze ngiye mina,’ kodwa yaphinde yazisola yahamba.

³⁰ Uyise wasesiya kwenye indodana watsho oku-fanayo. Yaphendula yathi, ‘Ngizahamba, baba,’ kodwa kayihambanga.

³¹ **Yiphi phakathi kwawo womabili eyenza lokho okwakufunwa nguyise na?”**

Baphendula bathi, “Ngeyakuqala.”

UJesu wathi kubo, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi abathe-lisi lezifebe bazangena embusweni kaNkulunkulu**

kuqala kulani. ³² Ngoba uJohane weza kini ukuzal-itshengisa indlela yokulunga kodwa kalimkholwanga ikanti abathelisi lezifebe bamkholwa. Kwathi lokuba selikubonile konke lokhu kalimkholwanga.”

Umzekeliso Wabalimi Esivini

³³ “Zwanini omunye umzekeliso: Kwakukhona umnini wesiqinti owahlanyela isivini. Wasihonqolozela ngomduli, wagebha isikhamelo sewayini phakathi, wasesakha isilindo. Waseqhatshisa isivini leso kubalimi wasuka wathatha uhambo. ³⁴ Kuthe sekufika isikhathi sokuvuna wathuma izinceku zakhe kulabobalimi ukuyathatha izithelo.

³⁵ Abalimi bazibamba izinceku zakhe; eyinye bayitshaya, eyinye bayibulala kwathi eyesithathu bayikhanda ngamatshe. ³⁶ Wasethuma ezinye izinceku kubo, ezinengi kulezakuqala, njalo abalimi baziphatha ngendlela efanayo. ³⁷ Ekucineni wasethumela indodana yakhe kubo. Wathi, ‘Bazayihlonipha indodana yami.’

³⁸ Kodwa kwathi abalimi beyibona indodana batshelana bathi, ‘Lo yindlalifa. Wozani simbulale sithathe ilifa lakhe.’ ³⁹ Ngakho bamdumela bamphosela ngaphandle kwesivini bambulala.

⁴⁰ Ngakho-ke nxa umninisivini esesiza uzabathini abalimi labo na?”

⁴¹ Baphendula bathi, “Uzababonisa into yamehlo, abeseqhatshisa isivini sakhe kwabanye abalimi abazamnika ingxenye yakhe yezithelo ngesikhathi sokuvuna.”

⁴² UJesu wathi kubo, “Kalibalanga yini emibhalweni ukuthi:

**‘Ilitshe elalahlwa ngabakhi
seliyilona ilitshe lensika;**

**iNkosi ikwenzile lokhu,
njalo kuyamangalisa emehlweni ethu?’†**

⁴³ Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu lizawuthathelwa uphiwe abantu abazathela izithelo zawo. ⁴⁴ Lowo ozawela phezu kwalelilitshhe uzavatlaka kodwa lowo elizawela phezu kwakhe uzafihlizwa.”

⁴⁵ Kwathi abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi besizwa imizekeliso kaJesu, bakwazi ukuthi wayekhuluma ngabo. ⁴⁶ Badinga indlela yokumbopha kodwa besaba ixuku labantu ngoba abantu bambona njengomphrofethi.

† 21:42 21.42 AmaHubo 118.22-23

22

Umzekeliso Wedili Lomthimba

¹ UJesu wakhuluma kubo njalo ngemizekeliso wathi:
² **“Umbuso wezulu unjengenkosi eyalungisela indodana yayo idili lomthimba. ³ Yathuma izinceku zayo kulabo ababenzusiwe edilini ukuba beze kodwa bala ukuza.**

⁴ **Yaphinda yathuma ezinye izinceku yathi, ‘Batsheleli labo abanxusiweyo ukuthi sengililungisile idili. Ngihlabe inkabi lenkomo ezinonisiweyo, konke sekulungile. Wozani edilini lomthimba.’**

⁵ **Kodwa kabakunanzanga lokho, bazihambela, omunye waya ensimini yakhe, omunye emsebenzini wakhe. ⁶ Abanye bazibamba izinceku zayo, bazihlukuluza bazibulala. ⁷ Inkosi yathukuthela. Yathumela impi yayo yababhuqa labobabulali yatshisa idolobho labo.**

⁸ **Yasisithi ezincekwini zayo, ‘Idili lomthimba selilungile kodwa labo engibanxusileyo beben-gasafanele ukuza. ⁹ Hambani liye emahlanganweni ezindlela linxuse loba ngubani elimbonayo.’ ¹⁰ Ngakho izinceku zangena ezitaladini zabutha bonke abantu ezababonayo, abalungileyo lababi, indlu yomthimba yagcwala izethekeli.**

¹¹ **Kodwa kwathi inkosi ingena ukuzabona izethekeli, yananzelela khonapho indoda eyeyingavunulanga zigqoko zomthimba. ¹² Yabuza yathi, ‘Mngane, ungene njani lapha ungelazigqoko zomthimba?’ Indoda yatsha amathe.**

¹³ **Inkosi yasitshela izinceku zayo yathi, ‘Mbopheni izandla lezinyawo limphosele ngaphandle ebumnyameni, lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo.’**

¹⁴ **Ngoba banengi ababiziweyo kodwa balutshwana abakhethiweyo.”**

Ukuthela KuKhesari

¹⁵ **Lapho-ke abafarisi basuka baphuma bayaceba ukuthi bambambe ngamazwi akhe. ¹⁶ Bathuma abafundi babo kuye behamba lamaHerodiya. Bathi, “Mfundisi, siyazi ukuthi uyindoda eqotho lokuthi ufundisa indlela kaNkulunkulu ngokweqiniso. Kawusuye uthathekile ngoba kawulani lokuthi bangobani. ¹⁷ Sitshele-ke, uthini ngalokhu? Kusemthethweni na ukuthela kuKhesari kumbe hatshi?”**

¹⁸ **UJesu ngokwazi inhloso yabo embi wathi, “Lina bazenzisi, lenzani lizama ukungithiya na? ¹⁹ Ake lingitshengise uhlamvu lwemali okuthelwa ngayo.”**

Bamlethela idenari, ²⁰ wasebabuza wathi, **“Ngumfanekiso kabani lo? Njalo luphawu lukabani lolu?”**

²¹ Baphendula bathi, “NgokukaKhesari.”

Wasesithi kubo, **“Phanini uKhesari okungokukaKhesari loNkulunkulu okungokukaNkulunkulu.”**

²² Bathi besizwa lokhu bamangala. Ngakho basuka kuye bahamba.

Ukuthathana Ekuvukeni Kwabafileyo

²³ Ngalelolanga abaSadusi, abathi kakukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo, beza kuye belombuzo. ²⁴ Bathi, “Mfundisi, uMosi wasitshela wathi, nxa indoda ingafa ingazalanga mntwana, umfowabo kamthathe umfelokazi amzalele abantwana. ²⁵ Kwakulabafowabo abayisikhombisa phakathi kwethu. Wathatha owakuqala wasesifa, kwathi ngoba engazuzanga mntwana watshiyela umkakhe umfowabo. ²⁶ Kwaphinda lokho kowesibili lowesithathu njalo kwaze kwaba ngowesikhombisa. ²⁷ Ekucineni wafa lowomfazi. ²⁸ Pho-ke, ekuvukeni kwabafileyo uzakuba ngumkabani phakathi kwabayisikhombisa njengoba bonke babemthethe?”

²⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Liyalahleka ngoba kaliyazi imibhalo lamandla kaNkulunkulu.**

³⁰ **Ekuvukeni kwabafileyo abantu kabayikuthatha loba bendiswe; bazakuba njengezingilosi ezulwini.**

³¹ **Kodwa mayelana lokuvuka kwabafileyo, kalibalanga yini lokho uNkulunkulu akutsho kini ukuthi,**

³² **‘NginguNkulunkulu ka-Abhrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka loNkulunkulu kajakhobe’*? KasuNkulunkulu wabafileyo kodwa owabaphilayo.”**

³³ Kwathi amaxuku abantu esizwa lokhu amangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe.

Umlayo Omkhulu Kulayo Yonke

³⁴ AbaFarisi sebezwise ukuthi uJesu wayesebathulisile abaSadusi, bahlangana ndawonye. ³⁵ Omunye wabo owayeyisazi somthetho wamlinga ngombuzo wathi,

³⁶ “Mfundisi, yiwuphi umlayo omkhulu kulayo yonke eMthethweni?”

³⁷ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke langomphefumulo wakho wonke langengqondo yakho yonke.”†**

³⁸ **Yiwo owokuqala njalo odlula yonke imilayo.**

³⁹ **Owesibili unjengawo: ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena.’‡** ⁴⁰ **Wonke uMthetho**

* **22:32** 22.32 U-Eksodasi 3.6 † **22:37** 22.37 UDutherfordoni 6.5 ‡ **22:39** 22.39 ULevi 19.18

labaPhrofethi kweyeme kuyonale imilayo emibili.”

UKhristu UyiNdodana Kabani?

⁴¹ Kwathi abaFarisi behlangene ndawonye uJesu wababuza wathi, ⁴² “Licabangani ngoKhristu? Uyindodana kabani?”

Baphendula bathi, “Yindodana kaDavida.”

⁴³ Wathi kubo, “Kungani pho uDavida wathi ekhuluma ngoMoya umbiza athi ‘Nkosi’? Ngoba uthi,

⁴⁴ ‘INKosi yathi eNkosini yami:

“Hlala ngakwesokunene sami
ngize ngibeke izitha zakho

ngaphansi kwenyawo zakho.” §

⁴⁵ Pho, nxa uDavida esithi kuye, ‘Nkosi,’ angaba yindodana yakhe njani?” ⁴⁶ Kakho loyedwa owaba lelizwi lokumphendula. Kwathi-ke kusukela ngalolosuku kakho owaqunga isibindi sokumbuza eminye imibuzo.

23

Izixwayiso Eziyisikhombisa

¹ UJesu wasesithi emaxukwini abantu lakubafundi bakhe:

² “Abafundisi bomthetho labaFarisi bahlezi esihlalweni sikaMosi. ³ Ngakho kumele libalalele lenze konke abalitshela khona. Kodwa lingakwenzi abakwenzayo, ngoba kabakulandeli lokho abakutshumayelayo.

⁴ Baqoqa imithwalo enzima bayetshate emahlombe abantu kodwa bona bengafuni lokulokotha bayithwale.

⁵ Konke abakwenzayo bakwenzela ukuba babonwe ngabantu, benza imicwatsho yabo yemibhalo ibe banzi lezintshaka zezigqoko zabo zibe zinde; ⁶ bathanda izindawo eziphezulu emadilini lezihlalo eziqakathekileyo emasinagogweni, ⁷ bathanda ukubingelelwa emisikeni lokuthi abantu bababize ngokuthi ‘Rabi.’

⁸ Kodwa lina nxa lingabizwa kuthiwe ‘Rabi,’ ngoba munye kuphela oyiNkosi yenu njalo lina lonke liyizinini. ⁹ Futhi lingabizi muntu emhlabeni ngokuthi ‘baba,’ ngoba liloYihlo oyedwa, yena osezulwini.

¹⁰ Njalo lingabizwa ngokuthi bafundisi, ngoba liloMfundisi oyedwa, uKhristu. ¹¹ Omkhulu kulani lonke phakathi kwenu uzakuba yinceku yenu. ¹² Ngoba lowo oziphakamisayo uzathotshiswa, lalowo ozithobayo uzaphakanyiswa.”

Inhlupheko Eziyikhombisa Kubafundisi Bomthetho LakubaFarisi

13 **“Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakubaFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Livalela abantu umbuso wezulu. Lina ngokwenu kalingeni liphinde livimbele labo abazama ukungena. [14 Maye kini bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Liphanga izindlu zabafelokazi, beselizenzisa lisenza imikhuleko emide, ngalokho lizakwamukeliswa ukulahlwa okukhulu.]***

15 **Maye kini bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Lidabula ilizwe lihambe laphezu kolwandle lidinga ukuphendula oyedwa zwi, lithi selimzuzile limphendule abe yindodana yesihogweni okuphindwe kabili kulani.**

16 **Maye kini, baholi abayiziphofu! Lithi, ‘Nxa umuntu efunga ngethempeli kakutsho lutho; kodwa nxa umuntu efunga ngegolide lethempeli usezibophile ngesifungo sakhe.’ 17 Lina ziphofundini! Yikuphi okukhulu kulokunye: igolide kumbe ithempeli elenza igolide libengcwele? 18 Lithi njalo, ‘Nxa umuntu efunga nge-alithare, akusilutho; kodwa nxa umuntu efunga ngesipho esikulo usezibophile ngesifungo sakhe.’ 19 Lina ziphofu zabantu! Yikuphi okudlula okunye: isipho langabe i-alithari elenza isipho sibe ngcwele? 20 Ngakho lowo ofunga nge-alithare ufunga ngalo langakho konke okukulo. 21 Njalo lowo ofunga ngethempeli ufunga ngalo njalo langaye lowo ohlala kulo. 22 Njalo lalowo ofunga ngezulu ufunga ngesihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu langaye ohlezi phezu kwaso.**

23 **Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, bazenzisi! Linika okwetshumi okweziyoliso zenu, iminti ledili lekhamini. Kodwa liyekethise izinto ezimqoka emthethweni, eziyikulunga, isihawu kanye lokwethembeka. Bekufanele lithi likwenza lokhu lingawuyekethisanga umthetho. 24 Lina baholi abayiziphofu! Liyacenga ukukhupha ubuyane kodwa liginye ikamela.**

25 **Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Ligezisa inkezo lomganu ngaphandle kodwa ngaphakathi kugcwele ubuhwaba lokuzisuthisa. 26 MFarisi oyisiphofu! Qala uhlambulule ingaphakathi yenkezo lomganu, ukuze ingaphandle layo ihlambuluke.**

27 **Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Linjengamathuna aconjiweyo, akhanya**

* 23:14 23.14 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

ebukeka ngaphandle, kodwa ngaphakathi agcwele amathambo abantu abafuleyo lakho konke okungcolileyo.
²⁸ **Kanjalo, ngaphandle libonakala ebantwini linjengabalungileyo, kodwa ngaphakathi ligcwele ukuzenzisa lobubi.**

²⁹ **Maye kini, bafundisi bomthetho lakini baFarisi, lina bazenzisi! Lakhela abaphrofethi amathuna njalo licecise amathuna abalungileyo.** ³⁰ **Beselisithi, 'Ngabe saphila ngezinsuku zabokhokho bethu sasingeyikulanganyela labo ekuchitheni igazi labaphrofethi.'**

³¹ **Ngalokho yini elipha ubufakazi bokuthi liyisizukulwane salabo ababulala abaphrofethi.** ³² **Nanko-ke, wohlani liqedise lesosono sabokhokho benu!**

³³ **Lina zinyoka! Lina nzalo yezinhlanguana! Lizaphepha kanjani ukuba lilahlelwe esihogweni na?** ³⁴ **Ngakho ngilithumela abaphrofethi lamadoda ahlakaniphileyo labafundisi. Abanye babo lizababulala libabethele; abanye lizababhaxabula emasinagogweni enu, lilandelelane labo kuleli laleliyana idolobho.**

³⁵ **Ngakho-ke, lonke igazi elilungileyo elachithwayo emhlabeni kusukela egazini lika-Abheli owayelungile kusiya egazini likaZakhariya indodana kaBherekhiya elambulala phakathi laphakathi kwethempeli lealithari lizakwehliselwa phezu kwenu.** ³⁶ **Ngilitshela iqiniso, konke lokhu kuzakuba phezu kwalesi isizukulwane.**

³⁷ **Jerusalema, Jerusalema, wena obulala abaphrofethi, ubakhande ngamatshe labo abathunywe kuwe, sekukanengi ngiloyisa ukuqoqa ndawonye abantwabakho, njengesikhukhukazi siqoqa amatsiyane aso ngaphansi kwamaphiko aso, kodwa wena wawungathandi.** ³⁸ **Khangela, indlu yakho isitshiywe ilunxiwa.** ³⁹ **Ngoba ngiyalitshela, kalisayikungibona futhi lize lithi, 'Ubusisiwe lowo obuya ngebizo likaThixo.'**[†]

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Ukubhidlizwa KweThempeli Lezibonakaliso Zokucina Kwesikhathi

¹ UJesu wathi esuka ethempelini esehamba abafundi bakhe beza kuye bathi kake ananzelele izakhiwo zalo.

² Wathi, **"Liyazibona na zonke lezizinto? Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi akulalitse lapha elizasala liphezu kwelinye; wonke azabhidlizwa."**

[†] 23:39 23.39 AmaHubo 118.26

³ Kwathi uJesu ehlezi eNtabeni yama-Oliva abafundi bakhe beza kuye ngasese bathi, “Sitshele, kuzakwenzakala nini lokhu na, njalo kuzakuba lesibonakaliso bani sokuza kwakho lokuphela kwesikhathi na?”

⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Qaphelani ukuze lingakhohliswa muntu.** ⁵ Ngoba abanengi bazakuza ngebizo lami besithi, ‘NginguKhristu,’ bakhohlise abanengi. ⁶ Lizakuzwa ngezimpi lamahungahunga azo, kodwa lingaze lethuka. Izinto ezinjalo zizakwenzeka, kodwa ukucina kulokhu kuseza. ⁷ Isizwe sizavukela isizwe, lombuso uvukele umbuso. Kuzakuba lendlala lokuzamazama komhlaba ezindaweni ezitshiyeneyo. ⁸ Konke lokhu kuyikuqalisa kobuhlungu bokuhelelwa.

⁹ Lapho lizanikelwa ukuba lihlutshwe njalo libulawe, futhi lizazondwa yizizwe zonke ngenxa yami. ¹⁰ Ngalesosikhathi abanengi bazadela ukukholwa banikelane njalo bazondane, ¹¹ kuvele abaphrofethi bamanga abanengi abazakhohlisa abantu abanengi. ¹² Ngenxa yokwanda kobubi, uthando lwabanengi luzaphola, ¹³ kodwa lowo oma aqine kuze kube sekupheleni uzasindiswa. ¹⁴ Njalo lelivangeli lombuso lizatshunayelwa kuwo wonke umhlaba njengobufakazi kuzozonke izizwe, besekufika ukuphela.

¹⁵ Nxa libona kumi endaweni engcwele ‘amanyala aletha incithakalo,’* okwakhulunywa ngomphrofethi uDanyeli, ofundayo kezwisise. ¹⁶ Lapho-ke akuthi labo abaseJudiya babalekele ezintabeni. ¹⁷ Akungabikhona osophahleni lwendlu ozakwehla phansi ukuyathatha ulutho endlini. ¹⁸ Lowo osemasimini kangabuyeli ngekhaya ukuyathatha ijazi lakhe. ¹⁹ Yeka ubulukhuni obuzakuba khona ngalezonsuku kwabesifazane abakhulelweyo labangabadlezane! ²⁰ Khulekelani ukuba ukuphaphatheka kwenu kungabi sebusika loba ngeSabatha. ²¹ Ngoba ngalesosikhathi kuzakuba lokuhlupheka okukhulu, okungazange kube khona kulokhu kwadabuka umhlaba kuze kube manje, njalo kakusoze kube khona futhi.

²² Aluba lezinsuku bezingaphungulwanga, kakho obezaphepha, kodwa ngenxa yabakhethiweyo lezinsuku zizaphungulwa. ²³ Nxa ngalesosikhathi omunye esithi kini, ‘Khangela, nangu uKhristu!’ loba ‘Ulaphaya!’ lingakukholwa lokho. ²⁴ Ngoba oKhristu bamanga labaphrofethi bamanga bazavela benze izibonakaliso lezimangaliso ezinkulu ukukhohlisa kanye

* 24:15 24:15 UDanyeli 9.27; 11.31; 12.11

labakhethiweyo, nxa lokho kungenzeka. ²⁵ Zwanini, sengihle ngalitshela mandulo kwesikhathi.

²⁶ Ngakho-ke, nxa umuntu elitshela esithi, 'Nanguyana, laphayana egangeni,' lingayi khona loba athi, 'Nangu lapha ezindlini ezingaphakathi,' lingaze lakukholwa lokho. ²⁷ Ngoba njengombane osuka empumalanga uhle ubonakale lasentshonalanga, kuzakuba njalo ukufika kweNdodana yoMuntu. ²⁸ Lapho okulesidumbu khona kulapho amanye abuthana khona.

²⁹ Masinyane ngemva kokuhlupheka kwalezonsuku, 'ilanga lizafiphala

lenyanga kayiyikukhanya;
izinkanyezi zizakuwa esibhakabhakeni,
izisekelo zasezulwini zizazanyazanyiswa.'†

³⁰ Kulesosikhathi isibonakaliso seNdodana yoMuntu sizavela emkhathini, kuthi zonke izizwe zomhlaba zilile. Zizabona iNdodana yoMuntu isiza ngamayezi esibhakabhakeni, ilamandla lobukhosi obukhulu. ³¹ Njalo izathumela izingilosi zayo zitshaya icilongo ngomsindo omkhulu, beseziqoqa abakhethiweyo bayo emagumbini womane omhlaba, kusukela ngapha kwamazulu kusiya ngale kwawo.

³² Manje-ke, fundani lesisifundo esihlahleni somkhiwa: Amahlumela aso angaqalisa ukuba buthakathaka lamahlamvu aso ahlume, lihle lazi ukuthi ihlobo selisondele. ³³ Kanjalo-ke, nxa lingabona zonke lezizinto, lazi ukuthi sekusondele, khonapho emnyango. ³⁴ Ngilitshela iqiniso, lesisizukulwane kasiyikudlula zize zenzakale zonke lezizinto. ³⁵ Izulu lomhlaba kuzedlula, kodwa amazwi ami kawayikwedlula lanini."

Usuku Lehola Kakwaziwa

³⁶ "Kodwa kakho olwaziyo lolosuku lehola, loba izingilosi zasezulwini, kumbe iNdodana, kodwa uBaba kuphela. ³⁷ Njengoba kwakunjalo ensukwini zikaNowa, kuzakuba njalo ekufikeni kweNdodana yoMuntu. ³⁸ Ngoba ensukwini ezandulela uzamcolo, abantu babesidla, benatha, bethatha njalo besenda, kwaze kwafika usuku uNowa angena ngalo emkhunjini; ³⁹ futhi babengazi lutho ngalokho okwakuzakwenzeka uzamcolo waze wafika wabatshabalalisa. Kuzakuba njalo ekufikeni kweNdodana yoMuntu. ⁴⁰ Kuzakuthi amadoda emabili esensimini, eyodwa izathathwa,

† 24:29 24.29 U-Isaya 13.10; 34.4

eyinye isale. ⁴¹ Kuzakuthi abesifazane bebabili bechola ngembokodo, oyedwa uzathathwa omunye asale.

⁴² Ngakho, lindani ngoba kalikwazi ukuthi iNkosi yenu izafika ngaluphi usuku. ⁴³ Kodwa zwisisani lokhu: Kube umninindlu wayekwazile ukuthi isela lizafika ngasiphi isikhathi sobusuku ngabe walinda kaze avumela ukuthi indlu yakhe igqekezwe. ⁴⁴ Ngakho lani hlalani lilindile, ngoba iNdodana yoMuntu izafika ngesikhathi leso elizabe lingayikhumbuleli sona.

⁴⁵ Ngubani kambe oyinceku ethembekileyo lehlakaniphileyo umninimuzi ayibeke esikhundleni sokukhangela izisebenzi zalapha ekhaya ukuthi azinike ukudla kwazo ngesikhathi esifaneleyo?

⁴⁶ Kuzakuba kuhle kuleyo nceku inkosi ezayifika isenza njalo ekuphendukeni kwayo. ⁴⁷ Ngilitshela iqiniso, izakumbeka ukuthi apha the yonke impahla yayo.

⁴⁸ Kodwa cabanga mhlawumbe inceku leyo ikhohlakele njalo ingazitshela ithi, 'Inkosi yami isesekhatshana ukubuya,' ⁴⁹ ibisiqalisa ukutshaya ezinye izinceku njalo lokudla inatha lezidakwa. ⁵⁰ Inkosi yaleyonceku izabuya ngosuku engacatshangelwa khona langesikhathi inceku engasaziyo. ⁵¹ Izayiqumaquma, iyiphe indawo kanye labazenzisi, lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo."

25

Umzekeliso Wezintombi Ezilitshumi

¹ "Kulesosikhathi umbuso wezulu uzakuba njengezintombi ezigcweleyo ezilitshumi ezathatha izibane zazo zaphuma ukuyahlangabeza umyeni.

² Ezinhlanu zazo zaziyiziwula, ezinhlanu zihlakaniphile. ³ Eziyiziwula zathatha izibane zazo, kodwa kazithathanga amafutha. ⁴ Kodwa ezihlakaniphileyo zathwala imbodlela zamafutha kanye lezibane zazo. ⁵ Umyeni waphuza ukufika zonke zaze zawozela zajunywa yibuthongo.

⁶ Phakathi kobusuku kwamenyenzelwa kwathiwa, 'Nangu umyeni! Phumani limhlangabeze!'

⁷ Zasezivuka zonke izintombi zalumathisa izibane zazo. ⁸ Lezo ezaziyiziwula zathi kwezihlakaniphileyo, 'Ake lisiphe lathi amanye amafutha enu; izibane zethu sezicitsha.'

9 Zaphendula ezihlakaniphileyo zathi, 'Hatshi, kakulamafutha angasanela thina lani. Hambani liye kulabo abathengisa amafutha liyezithengela awenu.'

10 Kodwa kwathi besayathenga amafutha umyeni wafika. Izintombi ezazizilungiselele zangena laye edilini lomthimba. Umnyango wasuvalwa.

11 Ngemva kwesikhathi ezinye lazo zatsho sezifikile. Zathi, 'Nkosi! Nkosi! Ake usivulele umnyango!'

12 Kodwa waphendula wathi, 'Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, kangilazi.'

13 Ngakho lindani ngoba kalilwazi usuku loba ihola."

Umzekeliso Wamathalenta

14 "Njalo unjengendoda eyathatha uhambo, yabiza izinceku zayo yazigcinisa impahla yayo. ¹⁵ Oyedwa yamupha amathalenta amahlanu emali, omunye amabili omunye njalo ithalenta elilodwa, ngulowo kusiya ngamandla akhe. Yasisuka ingena uhambo lwayo.

¹⁶ Leyondoda eyayiphiwe amathalenta amahlanu yahle yasuka yayayisebenzisa leyomali yazuza amanye amahlanu. ¹⁷ Yenza njalo laleyo eyayiphiwe amabili, yazuza amanye amabili. ¹⁸ Kodwa indoda eyayiphiwe ithalenta elilodwa yasuka yemba igodi emhlabathini yayifihla imali yenkosi yayo.

¹⁹ Ngemva kwesikhathi eside umnini walezozinceku wabuya wafisa ukwazi ukuthi babehambise njani ngaleyomali. ²⁰ Leyondoda eyayiphiwe amathalenta amahlanu yaletha amanye amahlanu. Yathi, 'Nkosi, wangethemba ngamathalenta amahlanu. Khangela, sengizuze amanye amahlanu.'

²¹ Umnini wayo waphendula wathi, 'Wenze kuhle, nceku elungileyo lethembekileyo! Uthembekile ezintweni ezilutshwane; ngizakugcinisa izinto ezinengi. Woza uzojabula kanye lenkosi yakho!'

²² Indoda eyayilamathalenta amabili layo yeza. Yathi, 'Nkosi, wangethemba ngamathalenta amabili; khangela, sengizuze amanye amabili.'

²³ Umniniyo waphendula wathi, 'Wenze kuhle, nceku elungileyo lethembekileyo! Uthembekile ngezinto ezilutshwane; ngizakugcinisa izinto ezinengi. Woza uzojabula kanye lenkosi yakho!'

²⁴ Kwasekusiza leyondoda eyayiphiwe ithalenta elilodwa. Yathi, 'Nkosi, bengikwazi ukuthi uyindoda elukhuni, evuna lapho engahlanyelanga khona njalo ibuthe lapho engazange ihaze khona inhlaneyelo.

25 Yikho ngesaba ngasuka ngayafihla ithalenta lakho emhlabathini. Khangela, nanku okungokwakho.'

26 Inkosi yaphendula yathi, 'Wena nceku embi le-livila! Utsho ukuthi wazile ukuthi ngivuna lapho engingahlanyelanga khona njalo ngibuthe lapho engingahazanga khona inhlanyelo?' 27 Kube imali yami uyifake ebhanga, ukuze kuthi ekubuyeni kwami ngiyizuze isizele.

28 Mthatheleni ithalenta lelo liliphe lowo olamathalenta alitshumi. 29 Ngoba lowo olakho uzaphiwa okunye njalo abesesiba lokunengi. Lowo ongelakho, lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa. 30 Manje-ke, iphoseni ngaphandle inceku engelamsebenzi, ebumnyameni lapho okuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo.'"

Izimvu Lembuzi

31 "Nxaxa iNdodana yoMuntu isisiza ngenkazimulo yayo, ikanye lezingilosi zonke, izahlala esihlalweni sayo sobukhosi ilenkazimulo yasezulwini. 32 Zonke izizwe zizabuthaniswa phambi kwayo, ibe isisahlukanisa abantu omunye komunye njengomelusi esehlukanisa izimvu embuzini. 33 Izabeka izimvu ngasekwe-sokunene kwayo lembuzi ngakwesokhohlo.

34 Lapho-ke iNkosi izakuthi kulabo abangakwe-sokunene sayo, 'Wozani, lina elibusiswe nguBaba; thathani ilifa lenu, umbuso owalungiselwa lina kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba. 35 Ngoba ngangilambile, langinika ulutho oludliwayo, ngangomile langipha okunathwayo, ngangiyisihambi langinxusela endlini, 36 ngangiswele izembatho langigqokisa, ngangigula langonga, ngangisentolongweni lazongibona.'

37 Abalungileyo bazamphendula bathi, 'Nkosi, sakubona nini ulambile sakupha ukudla na, kumbe womile sakunathisa? 38 Sakubona nini uyisihambi sakunxusela endlini na, kumbe uswele izembatho sakugqokisa? 39 Sakubona nini ugula kumbe usentolongweni seza sazakubona na?'

40 INkosi izaphendula ithi, 'Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi loba yini elayenzela loba ngomncinyane kanganani walaba abazalwane bami, lakwenzela mina.'

41 INkosi izakuthi kulabo abakwesokhohlo sayo, 'Xekani kimi lina eliqalekisiweyo liye emlilweni ongapheliyo owalungiselwa uSathane lezingilosi zakhe. 42 Ngoba ngangilambile, kalingiphanga lutho

lokudla, ngangomile kalingiphanga lutho lokunatha,
⁴³ **ngangiyisihambi kalinginxuselanga endlini,**
ngangiswele izembatho kalingigqokisanga, ngangigula
njalo ngisentolongweni kalizange lingethekelele.'

⁴⁴ **Labo bazaphendula bathi, 'Nkosi, sakubona nini**
ulambile kumbe womile kumbe uyisihambi kumbe un-
gelazigqoko kumbe ugula noma usentolongweni asaze
sakunceda na?'

⁴⁵ **Izaphendula ithi, 'Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi, loba**
kuyini elingakwenzelanga oyedwa nje omncinyane ku-
labo bonke walaba, kalikwenzelanga mina.'

⁴⁶ **Bazasuka baye ekujezisweni kwaphakade, kodwa**
abalungileyo baye ekuphileni okungapheliyo."

26

Icebo Elibi NgoJesu

¹ UJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma zonke lezi izinto, wathi
kubafundi bakhe, ² **"Njengoba lisazi, sekusele insuku ez-**
imbili ukuba iPhasika lifike, njalo iNdodana yoMuntu
izanelwa ukuba ibethelwe."

³ Abaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu basebeqo-
qana egumeni lomphristi omkhulu owayethiwa nguKhay-
ifasi, ⁴ baceba ukubopha uJesu ngasese bambulale.
⁵ Bathi, "Kakungabi ngesikhathi somkhosi funa kube
lesiphithiphithi ebantwini."

UJesu Uyagcotshwa EBhethani

⁶ Kwathi uJesu esebhethani endlini yendoda eyayithiwa
nguSimoni owayelobulephero, ⁷ kweza kuye owesifazane
ephethe imbodlela yamakha adula kakhulu wawathela
ekhanda likaJesu owayeyeme etafuleni.

⁸ Abafundi bathi bekubona lokho bacasuka. Basebebuza
bathi, "Adlaliselwani kanje na? ⁹ Amakha la abengath-
engiswa ngemali ephezulu leyomali iphiwe abampofu."

¹⁰ UJesu esekunanzelele lokhu wathi kubo, **"Limkhat-**
hazelani owesifazane lo na? Wenze into enhle
kimi. ¹¹ Abampofu lizahlala lilabo kokuphela, kodwa
kalisoze libe lami kokuphela. ¹² Uthe ethululela
amakha la emzimbeni wami ubesenzela ukungilungise-
lela ukungcwatshwa. ¹³ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi
langaphi lapho okuzatshunyayelwa ivangeli leli emh-
labeni wonke, lokhu akwenzileyo kuzakhulunywa,
kube yisikhumbuzo ngaye."

UJudasi Uvuma Ukunikela UJesu

¹⁴ Kwathi omunye wabalitshumi lambili, lowo
owayethiwa nguJudasi Iskariyothi, waya kubaphristi

abakhulu ¹⁵ wabuza wathi, “Lizangiphani nxa ngimnikela kini?” Base bembalela inhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu. ¹⁶ Kusukela khonapho uJudasi wadinga ithuba lokuba amnikele.

Isidlo SeNkosi

¹⁷ Ngosuku lokuqala loMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo abafundi beza kuJesu bambuza bathi, “Ufuna senzele ngaphi amalungiselelo okuthi udle iPhasika na?”

¹⁸ Waphendula wathi, “**Ngenani edolobheni komunye umuntu limtshela lithi, ‘UMfundisi uthi: Isikhathi sami esimisiweyo sesiseduze. Ngizakudla iPhasika labafundi bami endlini yakho.’**” ¹⁹ Ngakho abafundi benza njengokulayelwa kwabo nguJesu balungisa iPhasika.

²⁰ Kwathi kusihlwa, uJesu wayehlezi eyeme etafuleni elabalitshumi lambili. ²¹ Kwathi besidla wathi, “**Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi omunye wenu uzanginikela.**”

²² Badana kakhulu basebesithi kuye ngamunye, “Pho kawutsho mina Nkosi?”

²³ UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Lowo odle kanye lami emganwini uzanginikela.**” ²⁴ **INdodana yoMuntu kwenzaka kuyo njengoba kulotshiwe ngayo. Kodwa maye kulowomuntu ozanikela iNdodana yoMuntu! Bekungaba ngcono kuye ngabe wayengazalwanga.**”

²⁵ Wasesithi uJudasi, lowo owayezamnikela, “Pho kawutsho mina, Rabi?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Yebo, nguwe okutshoyo.**”

²⁶ Bathi besadla uJesu wathatha isinkwa wabonga, wasihlephula wasipha abafundi bakhe esithi, “**Thathani lidle; lokhu kungumzimba wami.**”

²⁷ Wasethatha inkezo, esebongile, wabanika esithi, “**Nathani kuyo, lonke.**” ²⁸ **Leli ligazi lami lesivumelwano, elichithelwe abanengi ekuthethelelweni kwazono.** ²⁹ **Ngiyalitshela, angisayikuphinda nginathe okwesithelo sevini, kusukela manje kuze kube yilolosuku lapho engizakunatha khona kabutsha lani embusweni kaBaba.**”

³⁰ Bathi sebehlabele ihubo baphuma baya eNtabeni yama-Oliva.

UJesu Ubonisa Ngokuphika KukaPhethro

³¹ UJesu wasebatshela wathi, “**Ngabona lobubusuku lizakwenyela ngami, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Ngizatshaya umelusi izimvu zomhlambi zizahlakazeka.’***”

* 26:31 26.31 UZakhariya 13.7

32 Kodwa ngemva kokuba sengivukile kwabafileyo, ngizalandulela ukuya eGalile."

33 UPhethro waphendula wathi, "Loba bonke bangaze benyele ngenxa yakho, mina kimi ngezake kwenzeke."

34 UJesu waphendula wathi, "**Ngikutshela iqiniso ukuthi ngabona lobubusuku, iqhude lingakakhali uzangiphika kathathu."**

35 Kodwa uPhethro wala wagomela wathi, "Loba kungenzeka ukuba ngife lawe, ngeke lanini ngikuphike." Abanye abafundi labo batsho njalo.

EGetsemane

36 UJesu wasehamba labafundi bakhe endaweni eyayithiwa yiGetsemane, wasesithi kubo, "**Hlalani lapha, mina ngisaya laphayana ukuyakhuleka."**

37 Wathatha uPhethro lamadodana kaZebhediya womabili wahamba labo, waseqala ukuhlulukelwa lokukhathazeka. **38** Wasesithi kubo, "**Umphefumulo wami ugajelwa lusizi kuze kuthi ngife. Hlalani lapha lilinde lami."**

39 Wahamba ibanganyana, wazilahla phansi wathi mbo ngobuso wakhuleka wathi, "**Baba, nxa kungenzeka, sengathi inkezo le ingasuswa kimi. Kodwa akungabi yintando yami, kodwa kube yintando yakho."**

40 Wasephenduka kubafundi bakhe wabafica belele. Wabuza uPhethro wathi, "**Lina madoda kambe kulehlule ukulinda kanye lami okwehola elilodwa nje?** **41** Lindani likhuleke ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni. Umoya uyathanda kodwa umzimba ubuthakathaka."

42 Wahamba njalo okwesibili wakhuleka wathi, "**Baba wami, nxa kungenzeki ukuthi linkezo isuswe ngaphandle kokuthi ngiyinathe, intando yakho mayenziwe."**

43 Wathi esebuya wabafica njalo sebelele, ngoba amehlo abo ayenzima. **44** Ngakho wasebatshiya waphinda wahamba njalo wayakhuleka okwesithathu ephinda into yinye.

45 Wasebuyela kubafundi wathi kubo, "**Lilele, liyaphumula na? Khangelani, isikhathi sesisondele, iNdodana yoMuntu isizanikelwa ezandleni zezoni.** **46** Phakamani! Kasihambeni! Nangu usesiza onginkelayo."

Ukubotshwa KukaJesu

47 Wathi esakhuluma, uJudasi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili wafika. Wayehamba lexuku elikhulu lihlomile ngezinkemba lezinduku lithunywe ngabaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu. **48** Omnikelayo wayelungisile labo isiboniso wathi: "Lowo engizamanga nguye; mbopheni."

49 UJudasi wahle waqonda kuJesu wathi, “Sabona, Rabi!” wamanga.

50 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Mfowethu, yenza lokho okulandileyo.”**

Asesondela amadoda, amdumela uJesu ambopha. 51 Khonapho omunye wabaphelekezeli bakaJesu wakhokha inkemba yakhe wagadla encekwini yomphristi omkhulu, wayiquma indlebe.

52 UJesu wathi kuye, **“Buyisela inkemba yakho endaweni yayo, ngoba bonke abakhokha inkemba bazakufa ngenkemba.** 53 **Ucabanga ukuthi ngingaze ngacela kuBaba, masinyane nje angiphe amaviyo alitshumi lambili ezingilosi?** 54 **Kodwa phela ibingagcwaliseka kanjani imibhalo ethi kumele kwenzeke ngale indlela na?”**

55 Khonapho uJesu wathi exukwini labantu, **“Kanti ngikhokhela umvukela yini lize lihlome ngezinkemba lezinduku ukuzangibamba na? Insuku zonke ngangihlala emagumeni ethempeli ngifundisa, kodwa kalin-gibophanga.** 56 **Kodwa lokhu kwenzeke ukuze kugcwaliseke imibhalo yabaphrofethi.”** Khonapho abafundi bonke bamtshiya babaleka.

UJesu Phambi KweSanihedrini

57 Labo abambophayo uJesu bamusa kuKhayifasi, umphristi omkhulu, lapho okwasekubuthene khona abafundisi bomthetho labadala. 58 Kodwa uPhethro wayemlandela ehambela khatshana waze wayangena egumeni lomphristi omkhulu. Wangena wahlala phansi lamanxusa efuna ukubona okwakuzakwenzakala.

59 Abaphristi abakhulu leSanihedrini yonke babedinga ubufakazi bamanga ngoJesu ukuze bambulale. 60 Kodwa babuswela, lanxa abanengi ofakazi bamanga bavela.

Ekucineni ababili beza phambili 61 bathi, “Umfokazi lo wathi, ‘Ngilamandla okulidiliza ithempeli likaNkulunkulu ngiphinde ngilakhe kutsha ngezinsuku ezintathu.’”

62 Umphristi omkhulu wasesukuma wathi kuJesu, “Kawuyikuphendula na? Kuyini kanti lokhu okufakazwa ngamadoda la ngawe na?” 63 Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethule.

Umpthristi omkhulu wathi kuye, “Ngiyakulaya, ngifunga ngoNkulunkulu ophilayo ngithi: Sitshele ingabe unguKhristu, iNdodana kaNkulunkulu.”

64 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Yebo, kunjengoba usitsho. Kodwa ngithi kini lonke: Ngesikhathi esizayo lizayibona iNdodana yoMuntu ihlezi kwesokunene sikaMninimandla isehla ngamayezi ezulwini.”**

⁶⁵ Khonapho umphristi omkhulu wadabula izigqoko zakhe wathi, “Uyahlambaza! Sisafunelani abanye ofakazi na? Khangelani, manje selikuzwile ukuhlambaza. ⁶⁶ Lithini ngakho?”

Baphendula bathi, “Ufanele ukufa.”

⁶⁷ Basebemkhafulela emehlweni njalo bamdutshuza ngenqindi. Abanye bamakala ⁶⁸ bathi, “Phrofitha kithi, wena Khristu. Ngubani okutshayileyo?”

UPhethro Ulandula UJesu

⁶⁹ UPhethro wayehlezi phandle egumeni, kwasekusiza kuye intombazana eyincekukazi yathi kuye, “Lawe njalo wawuloJesu waseGalile.”

⁷⁰ Kodwa walandula phambi kwabo bonke. Wathi, “Angikwazi lokho okhuluma ngakho.”

⁷¹ Wasesuka ephuma entubeni lapho abonwa khona ngenye intombazana eyathi ebantwini khonapho, “Um-fokazi lo wayeloJesu waseNazaretha.”

⁷² Walandula njalo efunga esithi, “Kangiyazi indoda leyo!”

⁷³ Ngemva kwesikhatshana labo ababemi khonapho baya kuPhethro bathi, “Ngempela ungomunye wabo ngoba indlela okhuluma ngayo iyakuceba.”

⁷⁴ Wasekhihliza iziqalekiso phezu kwakhe wafunga kubo wathi, “Angimazi mina lowomuntu!”

Masinyane iqhude lakhala. ⁷⁵ UPhethro waselikhumbula ilizwi elakhulunywa nguJesu esithi: **“Iqhude lingakakhali uzangilandula kathathu.”** Waphumela ngaphandle wakhala kabuhlungu.

27

UJudasi Uyazibophela

¹ Ekuseni ngovivi bonke abaphristi abakhulu labadala babantu benza isinqumo sokumbulala uJesu. ² Bambopha, bamqhuba, bamnikela kuPhilathu umbusi.

³ Kwathi uJudasi, owayemnikele, esebona ukuthi uJesu wayesegwetshiwe, wadabuka ngokuzisola, wabuyisela inhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu kubaphristi abakhulu labadala. ⁴ Wathi, “Ngenze isono, ngoba nginikele igazi elingelacala.”

Baphendula bathi, “silani lalokho thina? Lokho kungumlandu wakho.”

⁵ Ngakho uJudasi wayiphosela ethempelini leyomali wahamba. Wasuka lapho wayazibophela.

⁶ Abaphristi abakhulu bazidobha inhlamvu zemali lezo bathi, “Kungaphandle komthetho ukufaka imali

le esitsheni somnikelo ngoba yimali yegazi.”⁷ Ngakho basebemisa ukuyisebenzisa ukuthenga isiqinti sombumbi sibe yindawo yamangcwaba abantu bezizweni.⁸ Yikho yabizwa ngokuthi yiNsimu yeGazi kuze kube namuhla.⁹ Kwasekugcwaliseka okwakhulunywa nguJeremiya umphrofethi ukuthi: “Bathatha inhlamvu zesiliva ezingamatshumi amathathu, intengo eyamiswa ngaye ngabantu bako-Israyeli,¹⁰ bazisebenzisa ukuthenga insimu yombumbi, njengokulaywa kwami yiNkosi.”*

UJesu Ephambi KukaPhilathu

¹¹ Ngalesikhathi uJesu wamiswa phambi kombusi, umbusi wasebuza wathi, “Uyinkosi yamaJuda na?”

“Njengoba usitsho,” kuphendula uJesu.

¹² Wayesithi nxa ethoniswa ngabaphristi abakhulu labadala angaze aphenhula.¹³ UPhilathu wasembuza wathi, “Awubuzwa yini ubufakazi abakwethesa bona?”

¹⁴ Kodwa uJesu wathula, kazaphendula lamlandu munye, okwamangalisa umbusi kakhulu.

¹⁵ Kwakungumkhuba wakhe umbusi ukuthi ngomkhosi akhulule isibotshwa esikhethwe lixuku labantu.¹⁶ Ngalesosikhathi kwakulesibotshwa esasigange kubi, sithiwa nguJesu isibongo saso singuBharabhasi.¹⁷ Kuthe abantu sebebuthene uPhilathu wababuza wathi, “Lifuna ngilikhululele wuphi na, uBharabhasi loba uJesu othiwa nguKhristu?”¹⁸ Ngoba wayesazi ukuthi kwakungenxa yomhawu okwenza banikela uJesu kuye.

¹⁹ Kwathi uPhilathu esahlezi esihlalweni sakhe sokwahlulela, umkakhe wamthumela ilizwi wathi: “Ungayinjeni indaba yomuntu lowo ongelacala, ngoba lamuhla ngihluphekile kakhulu ngaye emaphutsheni.”

²⁰ Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu labadala bakhuthaza abantu ukuthi bacele uBharabhasi, bathi uJesu kabulawe.

²¹ Wabuza umbusi wathi, “Lifuna ngilikhululele wuphi phakathi kwalaba ababili na?”

Baphendula bathi, “UBharabhasi.”

²² UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Pho ngenzeni ngoJesu othiwa nguKhristu?”

Bonke bamphendula bathi, “Mbethele!”

²³ UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Yindaba? Woneni?”

Kodwa bamemeza ngamandla bathi, “Mbethele!”

²⁴ Kwathi uPhilathu esebona ukuthi akusela enye indlela, kwasekuzavuka isiyaluyalu, wathatha amanzi wageza

* 27:10 27.10 UZakhariya 11.12-13; UJeremiya 19.1-13; 32.6-9

izandla zakhe phambi kwexuku wathi, "Angilacala ngegazi lalumuntu. Ngumlandu wenu!"

²⁵ Bonke abantu bamphendula bathi, "Yekela igazi lakhe libe phezu kwethu laphezu kwabantwabethu!"

²⁶ Wasebakhululela uBharabhasi. Wathi uJesu katshaywe, wasemnikeza ukuba abethelwe.

Amabutho Aklolodela UJesu

²⁷ Amabutho ombusi asemthatha uJesu amngenisa ePhritoriyamu, inkundla yombusi, wabuthanelwa liviyo lonke lamabutho. ²⁸ Bamkhulula izigqoko zakhe bamgqokisa ijazi elibomvu, ²⁹ basebeseluka umqhele wameva bamethesa wona. Bamphathisa intonga kwesokunene sakhe baguqa phambi kwakhe bamklolodela. Bathi, "Bayethe, Nkosi yamaJuda!" ³⁰ Bamkhafulela, bamthathela lowomqwayi bamtshaya bempindaphinda ekhanda. ³¹ Sebemklolodele, bamhlabula ijazi bamgqokisa ezakhe. Basebemqhuba besiya mbethela.

Ukubethelwa Kwakhe

³² Bathi sebephumela ngaphandle bahlangana lendoda yaseKhureni, ethiwa nguSimoni, bayibamba ngamandla ukuthi ithwale isiphambano. ³³ Bafika endaweni ethiwa kuseGoligotha (okutsho ukuthi "Indawo yoKhakhayi"). ³⁴ Khonapho uJesu bamupha iwayini ukuba anathe, lixutshaniswe lenyongo; kodwa wonela ukulinambitha wasesala ukulinatha. ³⁵ Kwathi sebembethele behlukaniselana izigqoko zakhe ngokwenza inkatho. ³⁶ Bahlala phansi bamlinda khonapho. ³⁷ Phezu kwekhanda lakhe babeka umbhalo wecala lakhe owawusithi,

Lo nguJesu, iNkosi yamaJuda.

³⁸ Izigebenga ezimbili zabethelwa kanye laye, esinye ngakwesokunene sakhe, esinye ngakwesokhohlo. ³⁹ Labo ababesedlula lapho babemhlambaza, benikina amakhanda besithi, ⁴⁰ "Wena ozadiliza ithempeli ulakhe ngezinsuku ezintathu, zisindise! Yehla esiphambanweni nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!" ⁴¹ Ngokunjalo abaphristi abakhulu, labafundisi bomthetho kanye labadala bamklolodela. ⁴² Bathi, "Wasindisa abanye, kodwa uyehluleka ukuzisindisa yena! UyiNkosi yako-Israyeli! Kehle manje esiphambanweni ukuze simkholwe. ⁴³ Uthembele kuNkulunkulu. UNkulunkulu kamsindise phela manje nxa emfuna, ngoba wathi, '**NgiyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.**'" ⁴⁴ Ngaleyondlela izigebenga ezazibethelwe kanye laye lazo zamthethisa ngenhamba.

Ukufa KukaJesu

⁴⁵ Kusukela emini kwaze kwaba liholo lesithathu emini ubumnyama bembesa lonke ilizwe. ⁴⁶ Ngehola lesithathu emini uJesu wamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, **“Eloyi, Eloyi, lamasabakithani?”**[†] (okutsho ukuthi, **“Nkulunkulu wami, Nkulunkulu wami, kungani usungidelile na?”**).

⁴⁷ Kwathi abanye kwababemi lapho bekuzwa lokho bathi, “Ubiza u-Eliza.”

⁴⁸ Masinyane omunye wabo wagijima wathatha isipontshi. Wasicwilisa phakathi kwewayini elimunyu, wasixhuma oluthini wasidlulisela kuJesu ukuthi anathe. ⁴⁹ Abanengi bathi, “Myekele. Ake sibone ingabe u-Eliza uzakuza azomsindisa.”

⁵⁰ UJesu esephindile ukumemeza ngelizwi elikhulu, umoya wakhe waphuma.

⁵¹ Ngalesosikhathi ikhetheni lethempeli laqhekezeka kabili kusukela phezulu kusiya phansi. Umhlaba wamazama lamatshe aqhekezeka. ⁵² Amathuna avuleka, izidumbu zabantu abanengi abangcwele abafayo zavuswa kwabafileyo. ⁵³ Baphuma emathuneni, kwathi ngemva kokuvuka kukaJesu kwabafileyo baya edolobheni elingcwele bavela ebantwini abanengi.

⁵⁴ Kwathi ukuba induna yekhulu kanye lalabo ababelinde uJesu bebona ukuzamazama komhlaba kanye lakho konke okwakwenzakele, besaba kakhulu, bababaza bathi, “Ngempela ubeyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!”

⁵⁵ Kwakulabesifazane abanengi, bebukele bebucwala. Babelandele uJesu besuka eGalile ukuthi banakekele izinswelo zakhe. ⁵⁶ Phakathi kwabo kwakuloMariya Magadalini, loMariya unina kaJakhobe loJosefa kanye lonina wamadodana kaZebhediya.

Ukungcwatshwa KukaJesu

⁵⁷ Kwathi ilanga selithambeme, kwafika indoda enothileyo yase-Arimathiya, eyayibizwa ngokuthi nguJosefa, yena owayesengumfundi kaJesu. ⁵⁸ Waya kuPhilathu wayacela isidumbu sikaJesu, uPhilathu walaya ukuba asiphiwe. ⁵⁹ UJosefa wasithatha isidumbu wasigoqela ngelembu elihlanzekileyo lelineni, ⁶⁰ wayasibeka ethuneni lakhe elitsha ayeligubhe edwaleni. Wagiqela ilitsho elikhulu emlonyeni wethuna wasehamba. ⁶¹ UMariya Magadalini lomunye uMariya babehlezi khonapho malungana lethuna.

Abalindi Ethuneni

[†] 27:46 27.46 AmaHubo 22.1

⁶² Ngosuku olulandelayo, oluza ngemva kosuku loku-Lungisela, abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi baya kuPhilathu. ⁶³ Bathi, “Nkosi, siyakhumbula ukuthi esaphila umkhohlisi loyana wathi yena, ‘**Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu ngizavuka kwabafileyo.**’ ⁶⁴ Ngakho yenza ukuthi ithuna lilindwe kuze kube lusuku lwesithathu. Engxenye abafundi bakhe bangeza bantshontshe isidumbu sakhe, batshela abantu ukuthi usevukile kwabafileyo. Inkohliso le ingabambi kakhulu kuleyakuqala.”

⁶⁵ UPhilathu waphendula wathi, “Thathani abalindi. Hambani liyevikela ithuna njengokubona kwenu.” ⁶⁶ Basebehamba ukuyalinda lokuqinisa ithuna ngokubeka uphawu phezu kwelitshe njalo bamisa abalindi.

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Ukuvuka Ekufeni

¹ Ngemva kweSabatha, ekuseni ngovivi losuku lokuqala lweviki, uMariya Magadalini lomunye uMariya baya ethuneni besiyakhanga.

² Kwaba lokuzamazama komhlaba okukhulu ngoba ingilosi yeNkosi yehla ivela ezulwini, yaya ethuneni yaligiqela ilitshela eceleni yahlala phezu kwalo. ³ Ukubonakala kwayo kwakunjengombane, lezigqoko zayo zimhlophe nke njengongqwaqwane. ⁴ Abalindi besaba baze bathuthumela baba njengabafileyo.

⁵ Ingilosi yathi kwabesifazane, “Lingesabi, ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi lidinga uJesu obebethelwe. ⁶ Kakho lapha; usevukile kwabafileyo njengoba watsho. Wozani libone indawo abelele kuyo. ⁷ Hambani masinyane liyetshela abafundi bakhe lithi: ‘Usevukile kwabafileyo, uselandulele ukuya eGalile. Kulapho elizambona khona.’ Mina sengilitshelile manje.”

⁸ Ngakho abesifazane basuka ngokuphangisa ethuneni, besesaba kodwa begcwele intokozo, bagijima ukuyatshela abafundi bakhe. ⁹ Khonokho uJesu wahlangana labo. Wathi, “**Salibonani.**” Beza kuye, bamnamathela ngezandla ezinyaweni zakhe bamkhonza. ¹⁰ UJesu wasesithi kubo, “**Lingesabi. Hambani liyetshela abafowethu ukuthi baye eGalile; kulapho abazangibona khona.**”

Umbiko Wabalindi

¹¹ Kwathi abesifazane sebehambile besendleleni, abanye babalindi bangena edolobheni bayabika kubaphristi abakhulu ngakho konke okwakwenzakele. ¹² Kwathi abaphristi abakhulu sebehlangene labadala babopha icebo,

bafumbathisa abalindi imali ezwayo, ¹³ babatshela bathi, “Libokuthi, ‘Abafundi bakhe beze ebusuku bamntshontsha thina silele.’ ¹⁴ Nxa lelilizwi lifika kumbusi, sizamsuthisa ukuze lani lingangeni enkathazweni.” ¹⁵ Ngakho amabutho ayithatha imali enza njengokulaywa kwawo. Yikho indaba le seyandiswa yakhula phakathi kwamaJuda kuze kube lamuhla.

Umlayo Omkhulu

¹⁶ Abafundi abalitshumi lanye basuka baya eGalile, baqonda entabeni uJesu ayethe baye kuyo. ¹⁷ Bathi ukumbona bamkhonza; kodwa abanye bathandabuza. ¹⁸ UJesu weza kubo wathi, **“Wonke amandla ezulwini lasemhlabeni aphiwe mina. ¹⁹ Ngakho hambani lenze abafundi ezizweni zonke, libabhaphathize ebizweni likaBaba, leleNdodana lelikaMoya oNgcwele, ²⁰ njalo libafundise ukulalela konke engililaye ngakho. Ngempela ngilani kokuphela, kuze kube sekupheleni kwe-sikhathi.”**

Ivangeli LikaMakho

UJohane Umbhaphathizi Ulungisa Indlela

¹ Ukuqala kwevangeli ngoJesu Khristu, indodana kaNkulunkulu. ² Kulotshiwe kumphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi:

“Ngizathuma isithunywa sami phambi kwakho,
esizalungisa indlela yakho”*:

³ “ilizwi lalowo omemezayo enkangala,
‘Lungiselani iNkosi indlela,
yenzeleni izindledlana eziqondileyo.’†”

⁴ Kwasekufika uJohane Umbhaphathizi, etshumayela emangweni wasenkangala ubhaphathizo lokuphenduka ukuze kuthethelelwe izono. ⁵ Umango wonke waseJudiya kanye labantu bonke baseJerusalema baphuma baya kuye. Bevuma izono zabo, babhaphathizwa nguye eMfuleni uJodani. ⁶ UJohane wayevunula izigqoko ezazenziwe ngoboya bekamela, elebhanti lesikhumba okhalweni lwakhe, esidla intethe loluju lwezinyosi zeganga. ⁷ Intshumayelo yakhe yayisithi: “Ngemva kwami kuzafika omunye ozaba lamandla kulami, imichilo yamanyathela akhe akungilingananga ukuthi ngikhothame ngiyithukulule. ⁸ Mina ngilibhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa yena uzalibhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele.”

Ukubhaphathizwa Lokulingwa KukaJesu

⁹ Ngalesosikhathi uJesu weza evela eNazaretha eseGalile wabhaphathizwa nguJohane kuJodani. ¹⁰ UJesu ephuma emanzini wabona izulu livuleka uMoya usehlela phezu kwakhe unjengejuba. ¹¹ Kwafika ilizwi livela ezulwini lathi: “Wena uyiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngawe.”

¹² Masinyane uMoya wamthumela enkangala, ¹³ wahlala khona enkangala insuku ezingamatshumi amane elingwa nguSathane. Wayehlala lezinyamazana zeganga, izingilosi zazomnakekela.

UJesu Uqala Ukutshumayela

¹⁴ UJohane esvalelwe entolongweni, uJesu waya eGalile ememezela izindaba ezinhle zikaNkulunkulu. ¹⁵ Wathi, **“Isikhathi sesifikile. Umbuso kaNkulunkulu ususe-
duze. Phendukani likholwe izindaba ezinhle!”**

* 1:2 1.2 UMalaki 3.1 † 1:3 1.3 U-Isaya 40.3

Ukubizwa Kwabafundi Bokuqala

¹⁶ Kwathi uJesu ehambahamba okhunjini loLwandle lwaseGalile wabona uSimoni lomfowabo u-Andreya bephosa umambule olwandle ngoba babengabagoli benhlanzi. ¹⁷ Wathi kubo, **“Wozani lingilandele, ngizalenza abagoli babantu.”** ¹⁸ Bahle batshiya omambule babo bamlandela.

¹⁹ Wathi esehambile elinye ibanga wabona uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya elomfowabo uJohane besesikepeni, belungisa omambule babo. ²⁰ Wahle wababiza, batshiya uyise uZebhediya esikepeni kanye lezisebenzi bamlandela.

UJesu Ukhupha Umoya Omubi

²¹ Baya eKhaphenawume, kwathi iSabatha selifikile, uJesu waya esinagogeni waqalisa ukufundisa. ²² Abantu bamangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe ngoba wayefundisa njengomuntu olamandla, hatshi njengabafundisi bomthetho. ²³ Khonokho nje indoda eyayisesinagogeni labo eyayiphethwe ngumoya omubi yamemeza yathi, ²⁴ “Ufunani kithi, Jesu waseNazaretha? Ulande ukuza sibhubhisa na? Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ungubani, ungoNgcwele kaNkulunkulu!”

²⁵ UJesu wakhwaza wathi kuye **“Thula! Phuma kuye!”** ²⁶ Umoya omubi wayidlu kuza ngamandla indoda waphuma kuyo uklabalala.

²⁷ Abantu bamangala baze babuzana bathi, “Kuyini lokhu? Yikufundisa okutsha njalo okulamandla! Ngoba ulaya imimoya emibi imlalele.” ²⁸ Izindaba ngaye zamemetheka ngokuphangisa kuwo wonke umango waseGalile.

UJesu Usilisa Abanengi

²⁹ Bonela ukusuka esinagogeni bahamba loJakhobe loJohane baya emzini kaSimoni lo-Andreya. ³⁰ Uninazala kaSimoni wayelele phansi ephethwe ngumkhuhlane, basebetshela uJesu ngaye. ³¹ Ngakho wasesiya kuye, wambamba isandla wasemvusa. Umkhuhlane waphuma kuye, wahle waqalisa ukubaphakela.

³² Ngaleyontambama ilanga selitshonile abantu baletha kuJesu bonke abagulayo labaphethwe ngamadimoni. ³³ Idolobho lonke lagcwala emnyango, ³⁴ uJesu wasilisa abanengi ababelezifo ezehlukeneyo. Njalo wakhupha amadimoni amanengi, kodwa kaze awavumela amadimoni ukuthi akhulume ngoba ayemazi ukuthi ungubani.

UJesu Ukhuleka Ekusithekeni

35 Ekuseni kakhulu, kusesempondozankomo, uJesu wavuka, waphuma endlini waya endaweni esekusithekeni, lapho akhuleka khona. 36 USimoni labakhula bakhe bahamba ukuyamdinga, 37 sebembonile, bathi, “Abantu bonke bayakudinga!”

38 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kasiyeni kwenye indawo, emizini eseduze ukuze ngiyetshumayela lakhona. Yikho engakulandayo.”** 39 Kanjalo walibhoda lonke elase-Galile etshumayela emasinagogweni abo njalo ekhupha amadimoni.

UJesu Usilisa Indoda Elobulephero

40 Kweza kuye indoda eyayilobulephero yamncenga iguqo phansi ngamadolo yathi, “Nxa uthanda ungangihlambulula.”

41 UJesu eyizwela isihawu welula isandla sakhe wayibamba indoda. Wathi, **“Ngiyathanda. Hlanzeka!”**

42 Masinyane ubulephero baphela, wahlambuluka.

43 UJesu wahle wathi kahambe, wamqonqosela wathi, 44 **“Zwana, ungatsheli muntu ngalokhu. Kodwa hamba uyeziveza kumphristi ubusunikela umhlathshelo wokuhlanjululwa kwakho owamiswa nguMosi ukuze kube yibufakazi kubo.”** 45 Kodwa wasuka wahle wavula isifuba sakhe wayisakaza indaba. Ngenxa yalokho uJesu wayengabe esangena obala edolobheni, kodwa wasehlala ngaphandle endaweni eziyinkangala. Loba kunjalo abantu babelokhu bethululeka besiza kuye beqhamuka inxa zonke.

2

UJesu Usilisa Umuntu Oyisilima

1 Ngemva kwezinsukwana, uJesu esengenile njalo eKhapphenawume, abantu bezwa ukuthi wayesebuyile ekhaya. 2 Bathi cwi ndawonye kwaze kwasweleka indawo langasemnyango, watshumayela ilizwi kubo. 3 Kwafika amadoda amane ethwele eyayome umhlabulo. 4 Kwathi ngoba bengafinyeleli kuJesu ngenxa yexuku, bavula isikhala ephahleni malungana loJesu, emva kokuphendla ngaso, behlisela umendlalo owawulele indoda eyome umhlabulo. 5 Kwathi uJesu ebona ukholo lwawo wathi endodeni eyome umhlabulo, **“Ndodana, izono zakho sezithethelelwe.”**

6 Khonapho kwakuhlezi abanye abafundisi bomthetho, benakana besithi, 7 “Umuntu lo ukhulumeleni kanjalo? Uyahlambaza! Ngubani ongathethelela izono ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu yedwa?”

⁸ Masinyane uJesu wakwazi emoyeni wakhe ukuthi yilokho ababekucabanga ezinhliziyweni zabo, wasesithi kubo, **“Kungani linakana izinto ezinje ezinhliziyweni zenu? ⁹ Yikuphi okulula: ukuthi kowome umhlubulo: ‘Izono zakho sezithethelelwe,’ loba ukuthi, ‘Phakama, thatha icansi lakho uhambe’? ¹⁰ Kodwa ukuze lazi ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu ilamandla emhlabeni ukuthethelela izono.”** Wathi kowome umhlubulo, ¹¹ **“Ngiyakutshela, phakama, thatha icansi lakho uye ekhaya.”** ¹² Waphakama wathatha icansi lakhe waphuma wahamba bonke bemkhangele. Lokho kwaman-galisa umuntu wonke, bamdumisa uNkulunkulu besithi, “Kasikaze sikubone okunje!”

Ukubizwa KukaLevi

¹³ UJesu waphinde wayahambahamba eduzane lechibi. Ixuku elikhulu labantu leza kuye, wasebafundisa. ¹⁴ Wathi elokhu ehambahamba wabona uLevi indodana ka-Alifewu ihlezi endaweni yokuthelisa. UJesu wathi kuye, **“Ngilandela,”** ULevi wasukuma wamlandela.

¹⁵ Kwathi uJesu esidla okwakusihlwa endlini kaLevi kwakulabathelisi abanengi “lezoni” zisidla laye kanye labafundi bakhe, ngoba babebanengi ababemlandela. ¹⁶ Kuthe abafundisi bomthetho ababe ngabaFarisi bembona esidla “lezoni” labathelisi babuza abafundi bakhe bathi, “Wenzelani ukudla labathelisi kanye ‘lezoni’?”

¹⁷ Wathi ekuzwa lokho uJesu wathi kubo, **“Abaphilayo kabamdingi umelaphi, kodwa abagulayo bayamdinga. Kangilandanga ukuzobiza abalungileyo, kodwa izoni.”**

UJesu Ubuzwa Ngokuzila

¹⁸ Ngalesosikhathi abafundi bakaJohane labaFarisi babezila. Abanye abantu beza babuza uJesu bathi, “Kungani abafundi bakaJohane labafundi babaFarisi bezila, kodwa abakho kabazili?”

¹⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Izethekeli zomyeni zingazila kanjani eseselazo na? Zingeke, nxa elokhu eseselazo. ²⁰ Kodwa sizafika isikhathi lapho umyeni ezasuswa kuzo, zizazila mhlalokho-ke.**

²¹ **Kakho othungela isichibi selembu elitsha esigqokweni esidala. Nxa ekwenza lokho, isichibi esitsha sizadonsa esidala, ukudabuka kuqhele ngamandla. ²² Njalo kakho othela iwayini elitsha emigodleni yezikhumba emidala. Angakwenza lokho iwayini lizaziqhekeza izikhumba kuthi iwayini kanye lemigodla leyo yezikhumba kuhle konakale. Hatshi, uthela iwayini elitsha emigodleni yezikhumba emitsha.”**

INkosi YeSabatha

²³ Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayedabula emasimini amabele, kwathi abafundi bakhe belokhu behamba bakha izikhwebu zamabele. ²⁴ AbaFarisi bathi kuye, “Khangela, bakwenzelani ukwephula umthetho ngokwenza lokhu ngeSabatha na?”

²⁵ Waphendula wathi, **“Kalifundanga yini okwenziwa nguDavida labakhula bakhe lapho basebelambile sebeswele? ²⁶ Ngezinsuku zika-Abhiyatha umphristi omkhulu wangena endlini kaNkulunkulu wadla isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo, esivunyelwe ukudliwa ngabaphristi kuphela. Futhi wasabela abakhula bakhe.”**

²⁷ Wasesithi kubo, **“ISabatha lenzelwa abantu, hatshi ukuthi umuntu wenzelwa iSabatha. ²⁸ Yikho iNdodana yoMuntu iyiNkosi njalo yeSabatha.”**

3*UJesu Usilisa NgeSabatha*

¹ Ngesinye isikhathi uJesu wangena esinagogweni, kukhona lapho indoda elesandla esitshwabheneyo.

² Abanye babo babedinga izaba lokubeka uJesu icala, yikho bamlinda ukubona ingabe wayezasilisa ngeSabatha. ³ UJesu wathi endodeni yesandla esitshwabheneyo, **“Sukuma ume phambi kwabo bonke.”**

⁴ UJesu wasebabuza wathi, **“Kuyini okusemthethweni ngeSabatha; ukwenza okuhle loba ukwenza okubi, ukusindisa impilo kumbe ukubulala?”** Kodwa bathula zwi.

⁵ Wabakhangela ngolaka, ehlotshwa yibuqholo bezinhliziyi zabo, wasesithi kuleyondoda, **“Yelula isandla sakho.”** Yaselula, isandla sesilunge saphelela. ⁶ AbaFarisi basebephuma bayacebisana lamaHerodiya ukuthi bangambulala njani uJesu.

Amaxuku Alandela UJesu

⁷ UJesu wasuka labafundi bakhe baya ngasechibini, ixuku elikhulu labalandela lisuka eGalile. ⁸ Bathi ngokuzwa konke ayekwenza abantu abanengi beza kuye besuka eJudiya, eJerusalema, e-Idumiya lemimangweni engaphetsheya kweJodani lezindaweni zeThire leSidoni. ⁹ Ngenxa yobunengi babantu watshela abafundi bakhe ukuba bamlungisele isikepe esincane ukuze angaminyezelwa ngabantu. ¹⁰ Phela wayesesilise abanengi, yikho labo ababelezifo babeminyezela befuna ukumthinta. ¹¹ Kwakusithi imimoya emibi ingambona iguqe phambi kwakhe imemeze

ithi, “UyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.” ¹² Kodwa wayiqon-qosela ukuthi ingaze yakhuluma ukuthi ungubani.

Ukukhethwa Kwabapostoli Abalitshumi Lambili

¹³ UJesu wakhwela waya ewatheni lwentaba wabiza labo ayebafuna, beza kuye. ¹⁴ Wakhetha abalitshumi lambili ukuthi babelaye ukuze abathume ukuyatshumayela ¹⁵ lokuthi babelamandla okuxotsha amadimoni.

¹⁶ Yilaba abalitshumi lambili abakhethayo:

uSimoni (ametha ibizo wathi nguPhethro),

¹⁷ uJakhobe indodana kaZebhediya lomfowabo uJohane (laba wabetha ibizo wathi bango Bhowanegesi, okutsho ukuthi Amadodana Omdumo),

¹⁸ u-Andreya,

uFiliphu,

uBhatholomewu,

uMatewu,

uThomasi,

uJakhobe indodana ka-Alifewu,

uThediyasi,

uSimoni umZilothi

¹⁹ loJudasi Iskariyothi onguye owamnikelayo.

UJesu LoBhelizebhubhi

²⁰ UJesu wangena kwenye indlu kwaphinda njalo kwabuthana kuye ixuku, yena labafundi bakhe baze behluleka ukudla. ²¹ Kwathi abendlu yangakwabo bekuzwa lokho bamlanda ukuyambuyisa ngoba bathi, “usephambene.”

²² Kwathi abafundi bomthetho abehla bevela eJerusalema bathi, “Ungenwe nguBhelizebhubhi! Ukhupha amadimoni ngenkosi yamadimoni.”

²³ Ngakho uJesu wasebabiza wakhuluma labo ngemizekeliso wathi, “**Kambe uSathane angamkhupha kanjani uSathane?** ²⁴ **Nxa umbuso udabuke phakathi, uvukelana, lowombuso ngeke ume.** ²⁵ **Nxa indlu ingabambananga, ivukelana, leyondlu ngeke ime.** ²⁶ **Njalo nxa uSathane eziphikisa, edabuke phakathi, ngeke ame; useyatshabalala.** ²⁷ **Ngempela, akakho ongangena endlini yesiqhwaga, abuthe impahla zaso ngaphandle kokuthi aqale asibophe lesosiqhwaga, andubana aphanje indlu yaso.** ²⁸ **Ngeqiniso ngithi kini, abantu bazakuthethelelwa zonke izono lokuhlambaza kwabo,** ²⁹ **kodwa loba ngubani othuka uMoya oNgwele akayikuthethelelwa; ulecala lesono saphakade.”**

³⁰ Wakutsho lokhu ngoba babesithi, “Ulomoya omubi.”

Unina kaJesu Labafowabo

³¹ Kwasekufika unina kaJesu labafowabo. Bema phandle bathuma omunye umuntu ukuyambiza. ³² Abantu abanengi babehlezi bemhanqile, basebemtshela bathi, “Unyoko labafowenu baphandle bayakudinga.”

³³ Wabuza wathi, “**Ngobani abangumama labafowethu na?**”

³⁴ Wasekhangela labo ababehlezi laye bemhanqile wathi, “**Nampa abangumama labangabafowethu!**”

³⁵ **Loba ngubani owenza intando kaNkulunkulu ungumfowethu, ungudadewethu njalo ngumama.”**

4

Umzekeliso Womhlanyeli

¹ UJesu waphinda njalo wafundisa okhunjini lwesiziba. Ixuku labantu elaqoqana labuthana kuye laba likhulu kakhulu waze wangena esikepeni wahlala kuso siphakathi kwamanzi, kodwa abantu bonke bona bethe gwaqa okhunjini ekucineni kwamanzi. ² Wabafundisa izinto ezinengi ngemizekeliso, ekufundiseni kwakhe wathi: ³ “**Lalalani! Umlimi waphuma wayahlanyela inhlanyelo yakhe.** ⁴ **Kwathi eyihaza inhlanyelo, enye yawela endleleni, kwafika izinyoni zayidobha.** ⁵ **Eyinye yawela okhetheni lapho okwakungela mhlabathi owaneleyo. Yamila masinyane ngoba umhlabathi wawungatshoni.** ⁶ **Kodwa kwathi ilanga seliphumile, yahanguka yabuna ngoba yayingelampande.** ⁷ **Enye inhlanyelo yawela emeveni asuka akhula aminya leyohlanyelo yaze yehluleka ukuthela izikhwebu.** ⁸ **Eyinye inhlanyelo yawela emhlabathini omuhle. Yamila, yakhula, yathela amabele yanda ngamatshumi amathathu, ayisithupha ngitsho langekhulu.”**

⁹ UJesu wasesithi, “**Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa kezwe.”**

¹⁰ Kwathi eseyedwa, abalitshumi lambili labanye ababeseduze laye bambuza mayelana lemizekeliso leyo. ¹¹ Wabatshela wathi, “**Imfihlakalo yombuso kaNkulunkulu seliyambulelwe. Kodwa kulabo abangaphandle konke kukhulunywa ngemizekeliso** ¹² **ukuze,**

‘bazahlala bebona kokuphela

kodwa bengabonisisi, njalo bahlale besizwa

kodwa bengaqedisisi funa baphenduke bathethelelewe!*"

¹³ UJesu wasesithi kubo, "Kaliwuzwisisi na umzekeliso lo? Pho lizawuzwa kanjani loba yiwuphi umzekeliso? ¹⁴ Umlimi uhlanyela ilizwi. ¹⁵ Abanye abantu bafana lenhlanyelo esendleleni okuhlanyelwe khona ilizwi. Bonela ukuthi balizwe uSathane uyafika alithathe ilizwi elihlanyelwe kubo. ¹⁶ Abanye, njengenhlaneyelo eyahlanyelwa okhetheni bayalizwa ilizwi bahle balamukele ngentokozo. ¹⁷ Kodwa ngenxa yokuthi kabalampande bema okwesikhatshana kuphela. Kungafika uhlupho loba ukhulukuluzwa komhlaba baphanga bawe. ¹⁸ Kunjalo abanye, njengenhlaneyelo ehlanyelwe emeveni, bayalizwa ilizwi; ¹⁹ kodwa ukuphisekela izinto zalumhlaba, inkohliso yenotho kanye lezinkanuko zezinye izinto konke kuyeza kuliminyanise ilizwi, kulenze lingatheli. ²⁰ Abanye, njengenhlaneyelo ehlanyelwe emhlabathini omuhle, bayalizwa ilizwi, balamukele, bathele izithelo, bedlule okwakuhlanyelwe ngamatshumi amathathu, ayisithupha loba ngekholu."

Isibane Oluthini

²¹ Wathi kubo, "Uyalumathisa isibane usifake ngaphansi kwesitsha kumbe ngaphansi kombhedana? Kawusibeki oluthini lwaso yini? ²² Ngoba loba yini efihliweyo kumele yambulwe, lalokho okuthukuziweyo kumele kuvezwe obala. ²³ Nxa ekhona olendlebe zokuzwa kezwe."

²⁴ Waqhubeka wathi, "Kuqapheliseni lokho elikuzwayo. Ngaleso isilinganiso elisisebenzisayo lizalinganiselwa ngaso kumbe kuze kwedlulise. ²⁵ Lowo olakho uzakwengezelelwa; lowo ongelakho lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa."

Umzekeliso Wenhlamvu Ekhulayo

²⁶ Waphinda wathi, "Umbuso wezulu ufana lalokhu. Indoda ihaza inhlanyelo emhlabathini. ²⁷ Ebusuku lemini ingabe ilele loba ikhangele inhlanyelo iyamila ikhule loba yona ingakwazi ukuthi kwenzeka njani. ²⁸ Umhlabathi uyiwo wodwa uthela amabele, kuqala ikhaba kuze isikhwebu besekusiza inhlamvu ezikhwetshini. ²⁹ Kuthi amabele angavuthwa iwavune ngesikela ngoba ukuvuna sekufikile."

Umzekeliso Wentanga Yemastadi

* 4:12 4.12 U-Isaya 6.9-10

³⁰ Waphinde wathi, **“Sizakuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu unjengani, kumbe sizasebenzisa umzekeliso bani ukuwuchaza? ³¹ Unjengentanga yemastadi encinyane kulazo zonke intanga ezihlanyelwa emhlabathini. ³² Kodwa nxa ihlanyeliwe iyakhula ibe yisihlahla esikhulu kulazo zonke esivandeni, sibe lengatsha ezinkulu ezihlalwa emthunzini waso yizinyoni zezulu.”**

³³ UJesu walikhuluma ilizwi kubo ngemizekeliso eminengi enjalo ukuze bazwisise. ³⁴ Kazange atsho ulutho kubo engasebenzisanga umzekeliso. Kodwa nxa wayeyedwa labafundi bakhe wachaza konke.

UJesu Uthulisa Isiphepho

³⁵ Ngalelolanganga sekuntambama wathi kubafundi bakhe, **“Kasihambeni sichaphele ngaphetsheya.”** ³⁶ Batshiya ixuku, bahamba laye esikepeni enjalo. Zazikhona njalo ezinye izikepe zihamba laye. ³⁷ Kwaqubuka isiphepho esesabekayo, amagagasi atshaya esikepeni kwaze kwangathi sesitshona. ³⁸ UJesu wayengemuva ezilalele emendlalweni obuthakathaka. Abafundi bamvusa bathi, “Awu, mfundisi kawunanzi yini nxa sigalula?”

³⁹ Waphakama wawukhuza umoya wathi emagagasini, “Thulani lithi cwaka!” Ngakho umoya wadeda, kwasekuthula cwaka.

⁴⁰ Wathi kubafundi bakhe, **“Kungani lisesaba kangaka? Lilokhu lingakholwa na?”**

⁴¹ Babethuthumela babuzana bathi, “Ungubani lo na? Kambe aze alalelwe ngumoya lamagagasi!”

5

Ukusiliswa Kwendoda Eyayilamadimoni

¹ Bawela ichibi bafika emangweni wamaGerazini. ² Kwathi uJesu ephuma esikepeni, kwaqhamuka indoda elomoya omubi ivela emathuneni yamhlangabeza. ³ Indoda le yayihlala emathuneni, kungaselamuntu ongayibopha loba langeketane. ⁴ Ngoba yayihlezi ibotshiwe izandla lenyawo, kodwa iqamule amaketane lezinsimbi ezinyaweni zayo. Kwakungekho muntu owayelamandla okuyinqoba. ⁵ Ubusuku lemini yayihlaba umkhosi isemathuneni lasezintabeni, izisike ngamatshe.

⁶ Yathi ibona uJesu esesebucwala, yagijima yafika yazi-lahla phansi ngamadolo phambi kwakhe. ⁷ Yaklabalala ngelizwi elikhulu yathi, “Ufunani ngami, Jesu, Ndodana kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke? Ngegama likaNkulunkulu ungangihlukuluzi!” ⁸ Ngoba uJesu wayesethe kuyo, **“Phuma kuyo indoda le, wena moya omubi!”**

⁹ UJesu waseyibuza wathi, **“Ungubani ibizo lakho?”**

Yaphendula yathi, “Ibizo lami nguLigiyoni, ngoba sibanengi.” ¹⁰ Yamncenga uJesu futhifuthi ukuthi angabaxotshi kulowomango.

¹¹ Umhlambi omkhulu wengulube wawusidla ewatheni lwentaba eduzane. ¹² Amadimoni amncenga uJesu athi, “Sithumele ezingulubeni; sivumele singene kuzo.” ¹³ Wawavumela, omoya ababi baphuma bayangena ezingulubeni. Umhlambi wazo, owawungaba zinkulungwane ezimbili, wagijima usehlela eliweni lodonga wangena echibini wagalula.

¹⁴ Labo ababezelusile babaleka bayabika lokho edolobheni kanye lasemaphandleni, yikho abantu baqubuka bayabona lokho okwakwenzakele. ¹⁵ Bathi befika kuJesu bayibona indoda eyayikade ilamadimoni ngobunengi bawo, ihlezi khonapho, igqokile njalo ingqondo isibuyile, besaba kakhulu. ¹⁶ Labo ababekubonile kusenzakala batshela abantu okwenzakalayo endodeni eyayilamadimoni, balandisa njalo langezingulube. ¹⁷ Abantu basebemncenga uJesu ukuthi asuke emangweni wakibo.

¹⁸ Kwathi uJesu esengena esikepeni indoda leyo eyayikade ilamadimoni yamncenga ukuthi ahambe layo. ¹⁹ UJesu kayivumelanga, kodwa wathi kuyo, **“Hamba ekhaya kwabakini ubatshela ukuba iNkosi ikwenzele okunganani, lokuthi ibe lesihawu kuwe.”** ²⁰ Ngakho indoda yasihamba yabatshela eDekhapholisi konke uJesu ayeyenzele khona. Bonke abantu bamangala.

Intombazana Efileyo Lomfazi Ogulayo

²¹ Kwathi lapho uJesu esewele njalo ngesikepe waya ngakuleliyana iphetsheya lechibi, kwabuthana kuye ixuku elikhulu ekhonapho eceleni kwechibi. ²² Kwasekufika omunye wabaphathi besinagogu okwakuthiwa nguJayirosi, wathi ebona uJesu wazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe. ²³ Wamncenga kakhulu wathi, “Indodakazi yami encinyane iyafa. Ngicela ubuye uzobeka izandla zakho phezu kwayo ukuze isile njalo iphile.” ²⁴ UJesu wahamba laye.

Ixuku elikhulu lamlandela laminyezela. ²⁵ Kwakulowesifazane khonapho owayephethwe yikopha sekumhluphe iminyaka elitshumi lambili. ²⁶ Wayesehlupheke kakhulu loba wayeselatshwa ngabelaphi, njalo esechithe konke ayelakho, kodwa ekubeni abe ngcono kwakusiya phambili. ²⁷ Wathi esezwile ngoJesu, weza ngemva kwakhe phakathi kwexuku labantu wabamba isembatho sakhe, ²⁸ ngoba wacabanga wathi, “Nxaxaxa ngingathinta izigqoko zakhe kodwa nje,

ngizasila.” ²⁹ Masinyane nje ukopha kwakhe kwaphela njalo wezwa emzimbeni wakhe ukuthi wayesekhululekile ekuhluphekeni kwakhe.

³⁰ Khonokho uJesu wananzelela ukuthi amandla ayephumile kuye. Waphendukela exukwini labantu wabuza wathi, **“Ngubani othinte izigqoko zami?”**

³¹ Abafundi bakhe bamphendula bathi, “Lawe uyababona abantu beminyezelana kuwe, kodwa uyabuza uthi, ‘Ngubani ongithintileyo?’ ”

³² Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethalaza ukuze abone ukuthi ngubani okwenzileyo lokho. ³³ Ngakho owesifazane owayekwazi okwasekwenzakele kuye weza wazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe eqhaq hazela ngokwesaba wahle wafakaza iqiniso. ³⁴ Wathi kowesifazane, **“Ndodakazi, ukholo lwakho lukusilisile. Hamba ngokuthula ukhululeke ekuhluphekeni kwakho.”**

³⁵ UJesu elokhu esakhuluma kweza amanye amadoda ephuma endlini kaJayirasi, umphathi wesinagogu. Athi, “Indodakazi yakho isifile. Kambe usamhluphelani umfundisi na?”

³⁶ Akaze akunaka lokho ababekutsho uJesu, wasetshela induna yesinagogu wathi, **“Ungesabi, kholwa nje kuphela.”**

³⁷ Kavumelanga muntu ukuba amlandele ngaphandle kukaPhethro, loJakhobe loJohane umfowabo kaJakhobe. ³⁸ Bathi befika emzini wenduna yesinagogu uJesu wabona isiphithiphithi abantu bekhala benqongoloza. ³⁹ Wangena wathi kubo, **“Ngesani isiphithiphithi sonke lesi lomkhosi wonke lo? Umntwana kafanga, kodwa ulele.”** ⁴⁰ Kodwa bamhleka usulu.

Esebakhuphele phandle bonke wathatha uyise womntwana lonina kanye labafundi ayelabo wangena lapho umntwana ayekhona. ⁴¹ Wambamba ngesandla wathi kuye, **“Thalitha khumi!”** (okutsho ukuthi, **“Ntombazana, ngithi kuwe, sukuma!”**) ⁴² Masinyane intombazana yasukuma yahambahamba (wayemdala okweminyaka elitshumi lambili). Lokhu kwabamangalisa baphela amandla. ⁴³ Wabaqongosela wathi bangazisi muntu ngalokho, wasesithi kabamuphe ukudla untombazana.

6

Umphrofethi Ongeladumo

¹ UJesu wasuka lapho waya edolobheni lakibo, ehamba labafundi bakhe. ² Kwathi ngeSabatha wafundisa esinagogweni, abanengi abamuzwayo bamangala.

Babuzana bathi, “Indoda le yazithatha ngaphi izinto zonke lezi? Yinhlakanipho enganani le ayiphiwayo aze akwazi lokwenza imimangaliso! ³ Kanti angithi nguye yini umbazi lo? Kayisindodana kaMariya yini le, umnewabo kaJakhobe, loJosefa, loJuda loSimoni? Odadewabo angithi bakhona khonapha?” Lokho kwenza bamsola.

⁴ UJesu wathi kubo, **“Umphrofethi kalalo udumo kuphela edolobheni lakibo, phakathi kwezihlobo zakhe lendlini yakwabo.”** ⁵ Wayengeke enze izimangaliso khona, ngaphandle kokubeka izandla ebantwini abalutshwana abagulayo ukuba abasilise. ⁶ Njalo wamangaliswa yikusilela kwabo ekukholweni.

UJesu Uthumela Abalitshumi Lambili

UJesu wasenquma efundisa imizi ngemizi. ⁷ Wabiza abalitshumi lambili beza kuye, wabathumela ngababili wabapha amandla phezu kwemimoya emibi.

⁸ Imilayo yakhe yayiyile: **“Lingathwali lutho kululuhambo ngaphandle kwentonga, lingathwali isinkwa, isikhwama loba yimali emabhantini enu. ⁹ Ligqoke amanyathela kodwa lingathwali esinye isigqoko. ¹⁰ Lapho lingena endlini ethile, hlalani khona lize lisuke kulelodolobho. ¹¹ Nxa indawo ethile ingalamukeli loba ingalilaleli, dlulani kuleyondawo lithintithe uthuli ezinyaweni zenu kube yibufakazi bokubalahla.”**

¹² Basuka bahamba betshumayela ukuthi abantu kabaphenduke. ¹³ Bakhupha amadimoni amanengi njalo bagcoba abantu abanengi abagulayo ngamafutha babasilisa.

UJohane Umbhaphathizi Uqunywa Ikhandla

¹⁴ Inkosi uHerodi yezwa ngalokhu, ngoba ibizo likaJesu laselisaziwa kakhulu. Abanye babesithi, “UJohane uMbhaphathizi uvukile kwabafileyo, yikho amandla amangalisayo esebenza kuye.”

¹⁵ Abanye bathi, “Ungu-Elija.”

Kwabuye njalo abanye bathi, “Ungumphrofethi, njengomunye wabaphrofethi basendulo.”

¹⁶ Kodwa kwathi uHerodi ekuzwa lokhu wathi, “UJohane, indoda engayiquma ikhandla usevukile kwabafileyo!”

¹⁷ Ngoba uHerodi yena ngokwakhe wayekhuphe ilizwi lokuthi uJohane abanjwe, wathi kabotshwe aphoselwe entolongweni. Wakwenza lokho ngenxa kaHerodiyasi, umfazi womfowabo uFiliphu ayesemthethe. ¹⁸ Ngoba uJohane wayelokhu esithi kuHerodi, “Kawuvunyelwa ukuthi uthathele umfowenu umfazi.” ¹⁹ Ngakho

uHerodiyasi wahlala elesikhwili loJohane efuna ukumbulala. Kodwa waswela indlela yokumbulala, ²⁰ ngoba uHerodi wayemesaba uJohane emvikela, ngokumazi ukuthi wayeyindoda elungileyo njalo engcwele. Nxa wayemuzwa uJohane, wayedideka kakhulu, kodwa ethanda ukumlalela.

²¹ Ekucineni lafika elingaliyo. Ngelanga lesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kwakhe uHerodi wenza idili lezikhulu zakhe labalawuli bempi kanye labakhokheli abaziwayo eGalile.

²² Kuthe indodakazi kaHerodiyasi isifikile yagida kamnandi yathokozisa uHerodi lezethekeli zakhe edilini.

Inkosi yasisithi entombazaneni, “Ngicela loba yini, ngizakupha.” ²³ Wamthembisa wafunga wathi, “Loba yini oyicelayo ngizakupha kungaze kube yingxenye yombuso wami.”

²⁴ Yaphuma intombazana yayakuthi kunina, “Kambe ngiceleni?”

Waphendula wathi, “Ikhanda likaJohane uMb-haphathizi.”

²⁵ Masinyane intombazana yatheleka enkosini isilesicelo leso, yathi: “Ngifuna ukuthi ungiphe khathesi nje ikhanda likaJohane uMb-haphathizi lisemganwini.”

²⁶ Inkosi yakhathazeka kakhulu, kodwa ngenxa yezifungo zayo langenxa yezethekeli zayo kayithandanga ukusala isicelo. ²⁷ Ngakho yahle yathumela umbulali ukuba alethe ikhanda likaJohane. Yahamba indoda yamquma ikhanda uJohane entolongweni, ²⁸ yaliletha ikhanda lisemganwini. Yalithula entombazaneni, yona yalipha unina.

²⁹ Bathi bekuzwa lokho abafundi bakaJohane beza bathatha isidumbu bayasingcwaba ethuneni.

UJesu Upha Izinkulungwane Ezinhlanu Ukudla

³⁰ Abapostoli babuthana kuJesu bambikela konke ababekwenzile labakufundisayo. ³¹ Kwathi ngoba kwakufika abantu abanengi kakhulu abanye besuka baze baswele ithuba lokudla, wathi kubo, “**Ngilandelani lodwa siye endaweni ethuleyo ukuze siphumule.**”

³² Yikho bahamba bebodwa ngesikepe baya endaweni esithekileyo. ³³ Kodwa abanengi abababonayo besuka babananzelela babaxhuma begijima ngezinyawo bevela kuwo wonke amadolobho babaqalela ukuyafika. ³⁴ UJesu uthe esehla esikepeni wabona ixuku labantu elikhulu wabazwela usizi ngoba babenjengezimvu ezingelamelusi. Ngakho wasebafundisa izinto ezinengi.

³⁵ Ngalesi isikhathi kwasekusemini kakhulu, ngakho abafundi bakhe beza kuye bathi, “Le yindawo esesikhaleni,

njalo sekusemini kakhulu. ³⁶ Tshela abantu bahambe ukuze baziyele emadolobheni lasemizini bayezithengela abangakudla.”

³⁷ Kodwa waphendula wathi, **“Bapheni lina ukudla.”**

Bathi kuye, “Lokho kungathatha umholo wendoda owenyanga eziyisificaminwembili! Uthi sihambe siyochitha imali engako sithenge isinkwa sibaphe badle?”

³⁸ Wabuza wathi, **“Lilezinkwa ezingaki na? Ake liyokhangela.”**

Sebezibonile bathi, **“Zinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili.”**

³⁹ UJesu wasebalaya ukuthi bahlalise bonke abantu phansi etshanini ngamaxuku. ⁴⁰ Yikho bahlala phansi ngamaxuku alikhulu. Abanye ngamatshumi amahlanu. ⁴¹ Ethatha izinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili wakhangela ezulwini, wabonga, wasehlephuna izinkwa. Waseziqhubela abafundi bakhe ukuba bazabele abantu. Waphinda wabehlukanisela inhlanzi zombili. ⁴² Bonke badla basutha, ⁴³ abafundi basebebutha imvuthu zezinkwa lenhlanzi bagcwalisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili. ⁴⁴ Abadlayo babengamadoda azinkulungwane ezinhlanu.

UJesu Uhamba Phezu Kwamanzi

⁴⁵ Masinyane uJesu wenza ukuthi abafundi bakhe bange esikepeni bahambe bamandulele eBhethisayida, yena esavalelisana labantu. ⁴⁶ Eshlukene labo, waya ewatheni lwentaba ukuyakhuleka.

⁴⁷ Kwathi sekuhlwile isikepe sasiphakathi laphakathi kwechibi, yena eyedwa emhlabathini. ⁴⁸ Wabona abafundi begwedla ngamandla emagagasini ngoba umoya wawuphambana labo. Kwathi ngomlindo wesine ebusuku waya kubo ehamba phezu kwechibi. Wayengathi usesedlula kubo ⁴⁹ kodwa bathi bembona ehamba phezu kwesiziba bacabanga ukuthi lithonga. Bahlaba umkhosi ⁵⁰ ngoba bonke bambona besaba.

Masinyane wabakhulumisa wathi, **“Manini isibindi! Yimi. Lingesabi.”** ⁵¹ Wasengena kubo esikepeni umoya wahle wathula. Bamangala kakhulu, ⁵² ngoba babengazwisanga ngezinkwa; inhliziyi zabo zazilukhuni.

⁵³ Bathi sebecaphile, bafikela eGenesaretha bamisa khonapho. ⁵⁴ Bonela ukuphuma esikepeni abantu bahle bamnazelela uJesu. ⁵⁵ Bagijima indawana yonke kulowomango bethwala abagulayo ngamacansi bebasa kuzozonke indawo ababemzwela khona. ⁵⁶ Loba wayengaze aye ngaphi, emizini, emadolobheni loba emaphandleni, babeka abagulayo ezindaweni zokuthengisela. Bamncenga ukuthi

abavumele bathinte nje umphetho wesigqoko sakhe, kwathi bonke labo abamthintayo basila.

7

Ukuhlanzeka Lokungahlanzeki

¹ AbaFarisi labanye abafundisi bomthetho ababesuka eJerusalema babuthana kuJesu ² babona abanye abafundi bakhe besidla ukudla ngezandla ezazingahlanzekanga, okutsho ukuthi zazingagezwanga. ³ (AbaFarisi labaJuda bonke kabadli bengagezanga izandla zabo ngokomthetho, belandela isiko labadala. ⁴ Nxa bevela emsikeneni kabadli bengaqalanga bageza. Balandela amasiko amanengi, njen-gokugezisa amankomitsho, indiwo lamagedlela.)

⁵ Ngakho abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho bambuza uJesu bathi, “Kungani abafundi bakho bengalandeli amasiko abadala kulokudla ukudla kwabo ngezandla ‘ezingahlanzekanga na’?”

⁶ Waphendula wathi, **“U-Isaya wayeqinisile aze aphrofithe ngani lina bazenzisi; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:**

‘Lababantu bangidumisa ngezindebe zabo, kodwa inhliziyo zabo zikhatshana lami.

⁷ **Bangikhonza ngeze; imfundiso yabo yimithetho kuphela evela ebantwini.’***

⁸ **Seliyekele imilayo kaNkulunkulu labambelela emasikweni abantu.”**

⁹ Wasesithi kubo, **“Lilendledlana yenu yokufuqela eceleni imilayo kaNkulunkulu ukuze lilandele amasiko enu!** ¹⁰ Phela uMosi wathi, **‘Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko’†njalo, ‘Lowo othuka uyise loba unina kumele abulawe.’‡** ¹¹ Kodwa lina lithi nxa umuntu esithi lokho obekungaba lusizo kuyise kumbe unina liKhobhani (okutsho ukuthi yisipho esabelwe uNkulunkulu), ¹² beselisithi angamenzeli lutho uyise loba unina. ¹³ Ngaleyondlela lichitha ilizwi likaNkulunkulu ngamasiko enu eliwedlulisela kuzizukulwane zenu. Futhi lenza izinto ezinengi ezinjalo.”

¹⁴ UJesu waphinda wabiza ixuku labantu wathi, **“Lalalani kimi lonke, lizwisise lokhu. ¹⁵ Kakulalutho olungaphandle komuntu olungamenza ‘angahlanzeki’ ngokungena kuye. Kodwa yilokho okuphuma phakathi**

* 7:7 7.7 U-Isaya 29.13 † 7:10 7.10 U-Eksodasi 20.12; UDutheronomi 5.16

‡ 7:10 7.10 U-Eksodasi 21.17; ULevi 20.9

komuntu okuyikho okumenza 'angahlanzeki.' [16 Nxa ekhona olendlebe zokuzwa kezwe.]"§

¹⁷ Esesukile exukwini labantu wangena endlini abafundi bakhe bambuza ngomzekeliso lo. ¹⁸ Wabuza wathi, **"Kaliqedisisi ngani na? Kalikuboni yini ukuthi kakalutho olungena emuntwini lusuka ngaphandle olungamenza 'angahlanzeki'?"** ¹⁹ Ngoba kalungeni enhliziyweni yakhe kodwa luya esiswini sakhe luphinde luphume emzimbeni wakhe." (Ngokutsho lokhu uJesu waphawula ukuthi konke ukudla kuhlanzekile.)

²⁰ Waqhubeka wathi: **"Okuphuma phakathi komuntu yikho okumngcolisayo. ²¹ Ngoba okusuka ngaphakathi, okusuka enhliziyweni, kuphuma imicabango emibi, ukuhlobonga, ubusela, ukubulala, ukufeba, ²² ubuhwaba, umona, ubuqili, ukuxhwala, umhawu, ukugcona, ubuqholo lobuthutha. ²³ Zonke lezi izono ziphuma ngaphakathi zenze umuntu angcole."**

Ukholo lomfazi WomSirofenikhe

²⁴ UJesu wasuka kuleyondawo waya emangweni waseThire. Wangena endlini kodwa kafunanga ukuthi kwaziwe; kodwa wayengeke azifihle ukuthi ukhona. ²⁵ Owesifazane owayelendodakazi yakhe encinyane eyayilomoya omubi wonela ukuzwa ngaye weza wayazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe. ²⁶ Umfazi lo wayengumGrikhi, owazalelwa eFenikhe yaseSiriya. Wancenga uJesu ukuthi akhuphe idimoni endodakazini yakhe.

²⁷ Wamtshela wathi kuye, **"Qala wekele abantwana bandle basuthe, ngoba kakulunganga ukuthatha isinkwa sabantwana usiphosele izinja."**

²⁸ Wathi owesifazane, "Yebo, Nkosi, kodwa izinja lazo ezingaphansi kwetafula ziyadla imvuthuluka."

²⁹ UJesu wamtshela wathi, **"Ngenxa yempendulo enhle kangaka usungahamba; idimoni seliphumile endodakazini yakho."**

³⁰ Owesifazane wabuyela ekhaya wafumana umntanakhe elele embhedeni, idimoni selihambile.

Ukusiliswa Kwendoda Eyisacuthe, Eyisimungulu

³¹ UJesu wasesuka endaweni yeThire wadabula eSidoni waze wayafika oLwandle lwaseGalile wehla waya emangweni waseDekhabholisi. ³² Khonale abantu bamlethela

indoda eyayiyisacuthe isehluleka lokukhuluma, bamcela ukuthi abeke isandla sakhe phezu kwayo.

³³ UJesu wayisusela eceleni kwexuku labantu wasefaka iminwe yakhe ezindlebeni zaleyondoda. Wasekhafula wathinta ulimi lwayo indoda. ³⁴ Wakhangela ezulwini wakhokha umoya wathi kuyo, **“Efifatha!”** (okutsho ukuthi, **“Vuleka!”**). ³⁵ Ngalokhu indlebe zendoda zavuleka, ulimi lwayo lwatshwaphuluka yahle yaqalisa ukukhuluma kuhle.

³⁶ UJesu wabaqonqosela ukuthi bangatsheli muntu. Kodwa wathi ngokwenza njalo baqhubeka ngamandla befakaza ngakho. ³⁷ Abantu bamangala baphela amandla. Bathi, **“Konke asekwenzile kuhle. Uyenza futhi lezacuthe zizwe, lezimungulu zikhulume.”**

8

UJesu Usuthisa Abazinkulungwane Ezine

¹ Ngalezonsuku kwaphinde kwabuthana elinye ixuku labantu. Kwathi ngoba bengelalutho lokudla uJesu wabiza abafundi bakhe wathi kubo, **“Ngilosizi ngalaba abantu; sebebe lami okwensuku ezintathu, kodwa bengadli lutho. ³ Ngingababuyisela emakhaya belambile bazay-atha endleleni ngoba abanye babo bavela khatshana.”**

⁴ Abafundi bakhe baphendula bathi, **“Kodwa kungaphi endaweni emi yodwa kanje umuntu angathola khona izinkwa ezanele ukubapha?”**

⁵ UJesu wababuza wathi, **“Lilezinkwa ezingaki na?”**

Bathi, **“Eziyisikhombisa.”**

⁶ Wasetshela ixuku labantu ukuthi lihlale phansi. Wathi esezithethe izinkwa eziyisikhombisa njalo esebongile, wazihlephula waziqhubela abafundi bakhe ukuba baqhubele abantu. Lakanye benza khonokho. ⁷ Njalo babelenhlanzi ezincane ezimbalwa, wazikhulekela lazo wathi abafundi bazabele abantu. ⁸ Abantu badla basutha. Ngemva kwalokho abafundi badobha invuthu kwagcwala izitsha eziyisikhombisa. ⁹ Ababekhona kwakungamadoda azinkulungwane ezine. Esebabuyisele emakhaya, ¹⁰ wangena esikepeni labafundi bakhe baya emangweni waseDali-manutha.

¹¹ AbaFarisi beza baqalisa ukumbuza uJesu. Balinga ngokuthi kabatshengise isibonakaliso esivela ezulwini. ¹² Wakhokha umoya ngamandla wathi, **“Kungani isizukulwane lesi sicela isibonakaliso? Ngiqinisile**

ngithi kini, kakulasibonakaliso esizakuphiwa lesi-sizukulwane.” ¹³ Wasesuka kubo wabuyela esikepeni wachaphela ngakwelinye iphetsheya.

Imvubelo YabaFarisi LoHerodi

¹⁴ Abafundi bakhohlwa ukuza lesinkwa ngaphandle kwesisodwa ababelaso esikepeni. ¹⁵ UJesu wabaxwayisa wathi, **“Limukani, liqaphele imvubelo yabaFarisi leka-Herodi.”**

¹⁶ Bakhulumisana ngalokhu bathi, “Utsho ngoba singelasinkwa.”

¹⁷ UJesu wakunanzelela ababekukhuluma, wasebabuza wathi, **“Kungani likhuluma ngokungabi lasinkwa na? Lilokhu lingaboni njalo lingazwisisi na? Inhliziyo zenu sezintunyile na? ¹⁸ Kungani lithi lilamehlo lehluleke ukubona, lilezindlebe lehluleke ukuzwa? Kalikhumbuli yini? ¹⁹ Ngize ngihlephunele abazinkulungwane ezinhlanu izinkwa ezinhlanu labutha izitsha ezingaki zemvuthu?”**

Bathi, “Ezilitshumi lambili.”

²⁰ **“Ngize ngihlephunele abazinkulungwane ezine izinkwa eziyisikhombisa labutha imvuthu kwaba yizitsha ezingaki na?”**

Baphendula bathi, “Eziyisikhombisa.”

²¹ Wasesithi kubo, **“Lilokhu lingezwisisi yini?”**

Ukusiliswa Kwesiphofu EBhethisayida

²² Bafika eBhethisayida, abanye abantu baletha indoda eyayiyisiphofu bancenga uJesu ukuba ayibeke izandla. ²³ Wasithatha isiphofu lesu wasibamba ngesandla wasiholela ngaphandle komuzi. Esekhafulele emehlweni aso wasibeka izandla uJesu wabuza wathi, **“Kukhona okubonayo na?”**

²⁴ Sathalaza sathi, “Ngibona abantu; bakhangeleka njengezihlahla ezihambahambayo.”

²⁵ UJesu waphinde wabeka izandla zakhe emehlweni ayo indoda leyo. Amehlo ayo avuleka, yabona kuhle, isibona zonke izinto kakuhle. ²⁶ UJesu wayibuyisela ekhaya layo wathi, **“Ungayi edolobheni ukuyakhuluma ngale indaba.”**

Ubufakazi BukaPhethro NgoKhristu

²⁷ UJesu labafundi bakhe baya emizini eduze leKhesariya Filippi. Besendleleni wababuza wathi, **“Kambe abantu bathi ngingubani?”**

²⁸ Baphendula bathi, “Abanye bathi unguJohane uMbaphathizi; abanye bathi ungu-Elija; njalo abanye bathi ungomunye wabaphrofethi.”

29 Wasebabuza wathi, **“Kodwa lina-ke? Lithi ngin-gubani?”**

UPhethro waphendula wathi, “UnguKhristu.”

30 UJesu wabaqonqosela ukuthi bangatsheli muntu ngaye.

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokufa Kwakhe

31 Waqalisa ukubafundisa ngokuthi iNdodana yoMuntu imele ihlupheke kakhulu, yaliwe ngabadala bebandla, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho, njalo lokuthi kumele ibulawe kuthi ngemva kwensuku ezintathu ivuke njalo. 32 Wakukhuluma kamhlophe lokho, uPhethro wamdonsela eceleni waqalisa ukumkhuza.

33 Kodwa waphenduka wakhangelela abafundi bakhe, wasemkhuza uPhethro wathi, **“Suka emuva kwami, Sathane! Kawunakani ngezinto zikaNkulunkulu, kodwa ngezinto zabantu.”**

Indlela Yesiphambano

34 Wasebiza ixuku labantu kanye labafundi bakhe wathi, **“Nxa umuntu efuna ukungilandela, kumele azidele athathe isiphambano sakhe angilandele.**

35 **Ngoba yilowo ofuna ukulondoloza impilo yakhe izamlahlekela, kodwa olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami kanye levangeli uzayilondoloza.**

36 **Kumsizani umuntu ukuzuza wonke umhlaba, kodwa alahlekelwe ngumphefumulo wakhe? 37 Loba, kuyini umuntu angakunika kube yinhlawulo yomphefumulo wakhe na? 38 Nxa umuntu eyangeka ngami kanye lamazwi ami kulesi isizukulwane esifebayo lesonayo, iNdodana yoMuntu izakuyangeka ngaye nxa isifika enkazimulweni kaYise lezingilosi ezingcwele.”**

9

1 Wasesithi kubo, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi abanye abemiyo lapha kabayikukuzwa ukufa bengakawuboni umbuso kaNkulunkulu ufika ngamandla.”**

Ukuguquka Isimo

2 Ngemva kwensuku eziyisithupha uJesu wathatha uPhethro, loJakhobe loJohane wakhwela labo entabeni ephakemeyo lapho ababa bodwa khona. Bekhona lapho waguquka isimo emehlweni abo. 3 Izigqoko zakhe zaba mhlophe njengokukhanya, zaba mhlophe okungazake kwenziwe muntu emhlabeni. 4 Khonapho kwabonakala u-Elija loMosi bekhuluma loJesu.

5 UPhethro wathi kuJesu, “Rabi, kumnandi kithi ukuba lapha. Kasakhe izihongo ezintathu esakho, esinye

esikaMosi lesinye esika-Elija.”⁶ (Wayengazi ukuthi athini, babesesaba kakhulu.)

⁷ Kwabuya iyezi labagubuzela, ilizwi labuya livela eyezini lisithi, “Lo yiNdodana yami, engiyithandayo. Ilaleleni!”

⁸ Khonokho nje bathi bayakhangela kababe besabona muntu eduze kwabo ngaphandle kukaJesu.

⁹ Bathi sebesehla entabeni uJesu wabanika imilayo yokuthi bangatsheli muntu ngabakubonileyo iNdodana yoMuntu ize iqale ivuke kwabafileyo.¹⁰ Indaba le bayigcina ezifubeni zabo, bebuzana ukuthi, “ukuvuka kwabafileyo” kwakusitshoni.

¹¹ Bambuza bathi, “Kungani abafundisi bomthetho besithi u-Elija kumele afike kuqala?”

¹² UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngeqiniso u-Elija uza kuqala abuyisele izinto zonke esimeni sazo. Kungani pho kulotshiwe ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu imele ihlupheke kakhulu yaliwe? ¹³ Kodwa ngiyalitshela, u-Elija usefikile, sebemenze konke ababekufisa kuye njengoba kulotshiwe ngaye.”**

Ukusiliswa Komfana Olomoya Omubi

¹⁴ Bathi befika kwabanye abafundi babona bebuthanelwe ngabantu abanengi kulabafundisi bomthetho bephikisana labo.¹⁵ Abantu bonke bonela ukubona uJesu bamangala kakhulu bamgijimela besiyambingelela.

¹⁶ Wabuza wathi, **“Kuyini eliphikisana labo ngakho na?”**

¹⁷ Kwaphendula indoda ethile exukwini yathi, “Mfundisi, ngikulethele indodana yami ilomoya oyenza ibe yisimungulu.¹⁸ Uthi ungayibamba uyilahlele phansi. Isuka ibhubhudle amagwebu, igedle amazinyo, yome qha umzimba. Ngibacelile abafundi bakho ukuthi bawukhuphe umoya, kodwa behluleka.”

¹⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Oh, lina sizukulwane esingakholwayo, ngizahlala lani kuze kube nini na? Ngilibekezelele kuze kube nini? Mletheni kimi umfana.”**

²⁰ Basebemletha kuye. Umoya wonela ukumbona uJesu wamlahla phansi umfana wazigiqagiqqa ekhhliza amagwebu ngomlomo.

²¹ UJesu wabuza uyise womfana wathi, **“Sekulesikhathi esingakanani enje umfana?”**

Wathi, “Kusukela ebuntwaneni.²² Kuhlezi kumphosela emlilweni loba emanzini kufuna ukumbulala. Kodwa nxa kukhona ongakwenza ake usihawukele usisize.”

23 UJesu wathi, **“Uthi ‘engingakwenza?’ Yonke into iyeneliseka kulowo okholwayo.”**

24 Masinyane uyise womfana wamemeza wathi, “Ngiyakholwa; ake ungisize ngehlule ukungakholwa kwami!”

25 UJesu esebona ukuthi ixuku laligijimela kuye wawukhuza umoya omubi wathi, **“Wena moya oyisacuthe lesimungulu, ngiyakulaya mina, ngithi phuma kuye ungaphindi ungene kuye futhi.”**

26 Umoya waklabalala, wamgiqa phansi umfana, waphuma emva kokumhlukuluza okukhulu. Umfana wathi daca, waba njengesidumbu, abanengi bathi, “Usefile.”

27 Kodwa uJesu wambamba ngesandla wamdonsa wamisa ngezinyawo wema.

28 UJesu esesukile wayangena endlini abafundi bakhe bambuza ngasese bathi, “Kungani sehlulekile ukuwuxotsha na?”

29 Waphendula wathi, **“Lolu uhlobo luphuma ngomkhuleko kuphela.”**

UJesu Ukhuluma Okwesibili Ngokufa Kwakhe

30 Basuka kuleyondawo badabula eGalile. UJesu kazange afune ukuthi kube khona owaziyo ukuthi babengaphi,

31 ngoba wayefundisa abafundi bakhe. Wathi kubo, **“INdodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ezandleni zabantu. Baza-yibulala, kuthi ngemva kwensuku ezintathu izavuka.”**

32 Kodwa kabezwisisanga ukuthi wayesitshoni njalo besaba ukumbuza ngakho.

Ngubani Omkhulu Kulabo Bonke?

33 Bafika eKhaphenawume. Wathi esendlini wababuza wathi, **“Beliphikisana ngani endleleni?”** 34 Kodwa bathula zwi ngoba endleleni babephikisana ngokuthi ngubani omkhulu kulabanye bonke.

35 Wahhlala phansi uJesu wabiza abalitshumi lambili wathi kubo, **“Nxa ekhona ofuna ukuba ngowokuqala, kabe ngosekucineni, abe yisisebenzi sabo bonke.”**

36 Wathatha umntwana omncinyane wamisa phakathi kwabo. Wamthatha wamanga wathi kubo, 37 **“Yilowo owamukela oyedwa walababantwana abancinyane ebizweni lami wamukela mina; njalo lowo ongamukelayo kemukeli mina, kodwa wamukela lowo owan-githumayo.”**

38 UJohane wathi, “Mfundisi, sibone indoda ikhupha amadimoni ngebizo lakho, sayenqabela ngoba ingayisuye omunye wethu.”

39 UJesu wathi, **“Lingamaleli. Kakho ongenza umangaliso ngebizo lami aphinde masinyane ajike akhulume okubi ngami, 40 ngoba lowo ongamelani lathi ukanye lathi. 41 Ngilitshela iqiniso, lowo olipha inkezo yamanzi ngebizo lami ngoba lingabakaKhristu ngempela akayikulahlekelwa ngumvuzo wakhe.”**

Ukwenzisa Isono

42 **“Nxa umuntu ekhubekisa oyedwa walaba abancinyane abakholwa kimi ukuba enze isono, bekungaba ngcono kuye ukuthi aphoselwe olwandle ebotselwe ilitshela elikhulu entanyeni yakhe. 43 Nxa isandla sakho sikwenza wone, siqume. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ungene ekuphileni ungunyini kulokuya esihogweni ulezandla ezimbili, lapho umlilo wakhona ongacitshiyo, [44 lapho ‘impethu yakhona engafiyo**

lomlilo wakhona ongacitshiyo.’]*

45 **Njalo nxa unyawo lwakho lukwenzisa isono, luqume. Kungcono kuwe ukuthi ungene ekuphileni uyisilima kulokuthi ulenyawo ezimbili uphoselwe esihogweni, [46 lapho**

‘impethu zakhona ezidlayo zingafi

lomlilo ongacitshiyo.’]†

47 **Njalo nxa ilihlo lakho likwenza wone, likopole liphume. Kungcono kuwe ukungena embusweni kaNkulunkulu ulelihlo elilodwa kulokuba lamehlo amabili kodwa uphoselwe esihogweni, 48 lapho**

‘impethu zakhona ezidlayo zingafi,

lomlilo ongacitshiyo.’‡

49 **Umuntu wonke uzakuvuzelwa itswayi ngomlilo.**

50 **Itswayi lilungile, kodwa nxa lingalahlekelwa yibumnyu balo, ungalivuselela njani na? Wobani letswayi ngaphakathi kwenu, lihlalisane ngokuthula.”**

10

Ukuchitha Umtshado

1 UJesu wasesuka kuleyondawo waya emangweni waseJudiya langaphetsheya kweJodani. Njalo kweza kuye

* 9:44 9.44 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu. † 9:46 9.46 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu. ‡ 9:48 9.48 U-Isaya 66.24

amaxuku abantu, kwathi njengenjayelo yakhe wabafundisa.

² Abanye abafarisi beza bamlinga ngokumbuza bathi, “Kusemthethweni yini ukuthi indoda imale umfazi wayo na?”

³ Waphendula wathi, **“UMosi walilaya wathini?”**

⁴ Bathi, “UMosi wayivumela indoda ukuthi ibhale incwadi yokuquma umtshado ibisimxotsha.”

⁵ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kwakungenxa yokuthi zazilukhuni inhliziyo zenu okwenza uMosi walibhalela umthetho lo. ⁶ Kodwa ekuqaleni kwendalo uNkulunkulu ‘wabenza baba ngowesilisa lowesifazane.’* ⁷ ‘Ngalesisizatho indoda izatshiya uyise lonina imanyane lomfazi wayo, ⁸ kuthi labo bobabili babe nyamanye.’†Yikho kabasebabili, sebemunye. ⁹ Ngakho, lokho uNkulunkulu asekuhlanganisile akungehlukani swa muntu.”**

¹⁰ Bathi sebengenile endlini njalo, abafundi bambuza uJesu ngalokhu. ¹¹ Waphendula wathi, **“Loba ngubani olahla umfazi wakhe athathe omunye umfazi uyafeba kuye. ¹² Laye nxa elahla indoda yakhe endeke kwenye, uyafeba.”**

Abantwana Abancinyane LoJesu

¹³ Abantu babeletha abantwana abancinyane kuJesu ukuze ababeke izandla, kodwa abafundi babakhuza. ¹⁴ UJesu wathi ekubona lokho wacaphuka. Wathi kubo, **“Yekelani abantwana abancane beze kimi, lingavaleli, ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu ungobanjengalaba. ¹⁵ Ngiqinisile ngithi kini, lowo ongayikwemukela umbuso kaNkulunkulu njengomntwana omncane kayikungena kuwo.” ¹⁶ Wasebathatha abantwana ebaphatha, wababeka izandla wababusisa.**

Ijaha Elalinothile

¹⁷ UJesu wathi esesuka ehamba, indoda yagijimela kuye yafika yazilahla ngamadolo phambi kwakhe. Yabuza yathi, “Mfundisi olungileyo, ngingenzani ukuze ngizuze ilifa lokuphila kwaphakade na?”

¹⁸ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ungibizelani ngokuthi ngilungile na? Kakho olungileyo ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu kuphela. ¹⁹ Uyayazi imilayo: ‘Ungabulali, ungafebi, ungebi, ungaphi ubufakazi bamanga, ungadlelezi, hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko.’‡”**

* 10:6 10.6 UGenesisi 1.27 † 10:8 10.8 UGenesisi 2.24 ‡ 10:19 10.19 U-Eksodasi 20.12-16; UDutheronomi 5.16-20

²⁰ Wachaza wathi, “Mfundisi zonke lezi izinto ngiyazigcina kusukela ngisesengumfana.”

²¹ UJesu wamkhangela wamthanda. Wathi, **“Usilela ngento eyodwa. Hamba uyethengisa konke olakho uphe abampofu, lapho-ke inotho yakho izakuba sezulwini. Ubusubuya ungilandele.”**

²² Isizwa lokhu indoda yathelwa ngamanzi. Yasukuma yahamba isidanile ngoba yayinothile kakhulu.

²³ UJesu wathalaza wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, **“Kobanzima kakhulu ukuthi isinothi singene embusweni kaNkulunkulu!”**

²⁴ Abafundi bamangaliswa ngamazwi akhe lawo. Kodwa uJesu waphinda wathi, **“Bantwana, kunzima kangani ukungena embusweni kaNkulunkulu! ²⁵ Kulula ukuba ikamela lingene embotsheni yenalithi kulokuba umuntu onothileyo angene embusweni kaNkulunkulu.”**

²⁶ Abafundi bamangala okwedlulayo, bathi omunye komunye, “Pho ngubani ongasindiswa na?”

²⁷ UJesu wabakhangela wathi, **“Ngokwabantu kakwenzeki, kodwa hatshi ngoNkulunkulu; zonke izinto ziyenzakala ngoNkulunkulu.”**

²⁸ Uphethro wathi kuye, “Sesitshiye konke ukuba sikulandele!”

²⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi kakho osetshiye ikhaya kumbe abafowabo, loba odadewabo, kumbe unina loba uyise, loba umntwana kumbe amasimu ngenxa yami levangeli ³⁰ ozakwehluleka ukwamukeliswa okuphindwe ngekhulu kuso lesi isikhathi samanje: amakhaya, abafowabo, odadewabo, onina, abantwana lamasimu, kwengezwe ukuhlukunyezwa, lasesikhathini esizayo, ukuphila kwaphakade. ³¹ Kodwa abanengi abangabokuqala bazakuba ngabokucina, abokucina babe ngabokuqala.”**

UJesu Ufanisa Ukufa Kwakhe Njalo

³² Babesendleleni besiya eJerusalema, uJesu ekhokhele, abafundi bedidekile, kwathi labo ababelandela babesesaba. Waphinda njalo wathatha abalithumi lambili wabadonsela eceleni wabatshela lokho okwakuzakwenzakala kuye.

³³ Wathi, **“Sesisiya eJerusalema, iNdodana yoMuntu izanikelwa kubaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho. Bazayigwebela ukufa bayinikele kwabeZizwe,**

³⁴ **abazaiyangisa, bayikhafulele, bayitshaye njalo bayibulale. Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu izavuka.”**

Isicelo SikaJakhobe LoJohane

³⁵ Kwathi uJakhobe loJohane, amadodana kaZebhediya, beza kuye. Bathi, “Mfundisi, sifuna ukuthi usenzele loba yini esiyicelayo.”

³⁶ Wababuza wathi, “**Lifuna ukuthi ngilenzeleni?**”

³⁷ Baphendula bathi, “Wothi omunye wethu ahlale ngakwesokunene kwakho, kuthi omunye kwesokhohlo ebukhosini bakho.”

³⁸ UJesu wathi, “**Kalikwazi elikucelayo. Lingayinatha na inkezo engiyinathayo kumbe libhaphathizwe ngobhaphathizo engibhaphathizwa ngalo, na?**”

³⁹ Baphendula bathi, “Singakwenza.”

UJesu wathi kubo, “**Lizayinatha inkezo engiyinathayo njalo libhaphathizwe ngobhaphathizo engibhaphathizwa ngalo,** ⁴⁰ **kodwa ukuhlala kwesokunene kumbe kwesokhohlo kwami kakusikho kwami ukukuvumela. Izindawo lezi ngezalabo abazilungiselweyo.**”

⁴¹ Kwathi abalitshumi bekuzwa lokhu bazondela uJakhobe loJohane. ⁴² UJesu wababizela ndawonye wathi, “**Liyakwazi ukuthi labo abangababusi kwabeZizwe bababusa kalukhuni, lezinduna zabo ezinkulu zitshengisa amandla phezu kwabo.** ⁴³ **Akunjalo kini. Kodwa lowo othanda ukuba mkhulu phakathi kwenu kumele abe yinceku yenu,** ⁴⁴ **lalowo ofuna ukuba ngowokuqala kabe yisigqili senu lonke.** ⁴⁵ **Ngoba leNdodana yoMuntu kayibuyelanga ukuzokhonza, kodwa ukuzokhonza lokunikela impilo yayo njengenhlawulo yabanengi.**”

Isiphofu UBhatholomewu Uvulwa Amehlo

⁴⁶ Basebefika eJeriko. Kwathi uJesu labafundi bakhe kanye lexuku elikhulu sebesuka edolobheni, indoda eyisiphofu, uBhathimewu (kutsho indodana kaThimewu) yayihlezi eceleni kwendlela icela. ⁴⁷ Yathi isizwa ukuthi kwakunguJesu waseNazaretha yamemeza yathi, “Jesu, Ndodana kaDavida, ake ungihawukele!”

⁴⁸ Abanengi bayikhuza bathi kayithule, kodwa yaqhubeka yamemeza ngamandla isithi, “Ndodana kaDavida, ake ungihawukele!”

⁴⁹ UJesu wema wathi, “**Mbizeni.**”

Basebeyibiza indoda eyisiphofu bathi, “Thokoza ndoda! Phakama! Uyakubiza.” ⁵⁰ Walahla ijazi lakhe phansi wasukuma weza kuJesu.

⁵¹ UJesu wambuza wathi, “Ufuna ngikwenzeleni na?”

Indoda eyisiphofu yathi, “Rabi, ngifuna ukuthi ngibone.”

⁵² UJesu wathi, “Hamba-ke, ukukholwa kwakho sekukusil-isile.” Masinyane yahle yabona yasilandela uJesu endleleni.

11

Ukungena Ngobukhosi EJerusalema

¹ Bathi sebesondele eJerusalema bafika eBhethifage leB-hethani eNtabeni yama-Oliva. UJesu wathuma abafundi bakhe ababili ² wathi kubo, **“Yanini emzini ophambi kwenu, okuzakuthi nxa lingena kuwo liz-abona inkonyane kababhemi engakaze igadwe muntu ibotshelwe khonapho. Ikhululeni liyilethe lapha. ³ Nxa kungaba lozalibuza ukuthi, ‘Likwenzeleni lokho na?’ limtshele ukuthi, ‘INkosi iyalifuna, izalibuyisa masinyane.’”**

⁴ Bahamba bathola inkonyane kababhemi phandle maqondana lomnyango ibotshelwe. Bayikhulula, ⁵ abantu ababemi khonapho babuza bathi, “Lenzani, liyikhululelani inkonyane leyo na?” ⁶ Baphendula njengoba uJesu wayebatshele, abantu basebeyekela bahamba. ⁷ Sebelilethile ithole kuJesu bendlala amajazi abo phezu kwalo uJesu waseligada. ⁸ Abantu abanengi bendlala amajazi abo endleleni, kukanti abanye bendlala ingatsha abaziqamula emasimini. ⁹ Labo ababehamba phambili lalabo ababelandela bamemeza besithi, “Hosana!”*

“Ubusisiwe lowo obuya ngebizo leNkosi!”

¹⁰ “Ubusisiwe umbuso ozayo okababa wethu uDavida!”

“Hosana ezulwini eliphezulu!”

¹¹ UJesu wangena eJerusalema waya ethempelini. Wathalaza wakhangelela konke, kodwa kwathi ngoba kwasekuhlwile wehlela eBhethani labalitshumi lambili.

UJesu Uhlambulula IThempeli

¹² Ngelanga elilandelayo bathi besuka eBhethani uJesu wayeselambile. ¹³ Wabona bucwadlana isihlahla somkhiwa sihlumile amahlamvu, wasondela ukuyabona ingabe sasilezithelo yini. Wafika wabona kungamahlamvu kuphela ngoba kwakungasiso isikhathi sezithelo zomkhiwa. ¹⁴ Wasesithi esihlahleni, **“Akungabi lamuntu lanini ozaphinda adle izithelo zakho.”** Abafundi bakhe bamuzwa esitsho lokho.

* 11:9 11.9 AmaHubo 118.25-26

15 Bathi befika eJerusalema uJesu wangena egumeni lethempeli wafika wabaxotsha labo ababethenga laba-bethengisa khona. Wagenqula amatafula abantshintshi bezimali lezihlalo zababethengisa amajuba, ¹⁶ kaze avumela muntu ukungenisa okuthengiswayo ezindlini zethempeli. ¹⁷ Wathi esabafundisa wathi, **“Kakulotshwanga yini ukuthi: ‘Indlu yami izabizwa ngokuthi yindlu yokukhuleka ezizweni zonke’†? Kodwa lina seliyenze ‘ubhalu lwabaphangi.’‡”**

¹⁸ Abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho bakuzwa lokhu basebeqalisa ukudinga indlela yokumbulala, ngoba babemesaba ngoba ixuku lonke lalimangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe.

¹⁹ Kusihlwa baphuma edolobheni.

Umkhiwa Obunileyo

²⁰ Ekuseni babehambahamba basebebona isihlahla somkhiwa esasibunile kusukela empandeni. ²¹ UPhethro wakhumbula wasesithi kuJesu, “Rabi, khangela! Isihlahla somkhiwa owasiqalekisayo sibunile!”

²² UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Woba lokholo kuNkulunkulu. ²³ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi nxa omunye esithi entabeni le, ‘Suka, ziphosele olwandle,’ engelakuthandabuza enhliziyweni yakhe, kodwa ekholwa ukuthi lokho akutshoyo kuzakwenzakala, kuzakwenziwa kuye. ²⁴ Ngakho ngiyalitshela ukuthi loba kuyini elikucelayo ngomkhuleko, kholwani ukuthi selikwamukele, sekuzakuba ngokwenu. ²⁵ Njalo nxa lisima likhuleka, nxa lilesikhwili komunye, mthetheleleni, ukuze uYihlo ezulwini alithethelele izono zenu. [²⁶ Kodwa nxa lingathetheleli, loYihlo osezulwini kazukulithethelela izono zenu.]”**§

Amandla KaJesu Ayathandabuzisa

²⁷ Bafika njalo eJerusalema, kwathi uJesu ezihambela emagumeni ethempeli kweza kuye abaphristi abakhulu, labafundisi bomthetho kanye labadala. ²⁸ Bambuza bathi, “Konke lokhu ukwenza ngawaphi amandla na? Ngubani owakupha amandla okwenza lokhu?”

²⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngizalibuza umbuzo owodwa. **Lingangiphendula ngizalitshela ukuthi ngizenza ngawaphi amandla lezizinto. ³⁰ Ukubhaphathiza kukaJohane, kwakuvela ezulwini loba ebantwini? Ngitshelani!”****

† 11:17 11.17 U-Isaya 56.7 ‡ 11:17 11.17 UJeremiya 7.11 § 11:26 11.26
Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

³¹ Bahlanganisa amakhanda bathi, Singathi, “ ‘Kwakuvela ezulwini,’ uzabuza athi, ‘Kungani lingazange limkholwe?’
³² Kodwa singathi, ‘Kwakuvela ebantwini’ ...” (Besaba abantu ngoba bonke babesithi ngeqiniso uJohane wayengumphrofethi.)

³³ Ngakho bamphendula uJesu bathi, “Kasikwazi.”

UJesu wathi, **“Lami kangisalitsheli ukuthi izinto lezi ngizenza ngawaphi amandla.”**

12

Umzekeliso Wabaqhatshi Besivini

¹ Wasekhuluma kubo ngemizekeliso wathi, **“Indoda yahlanyela isivini. Yakha umduli yasihonqolozela, yemba igodi lesihluzo yasisakha umphotshongo wesilindo. Yasiqhatshisa isivini kubalimi abathile yona yasuka yathatha uhambo.** ² Ngesikhathi sokuvuna yathuma isisebenzi kubaqhatshi besivini ukuthi siyothatha ingxenywe yezithelo zesivuno.

³ Kodwa basidumela basitshaya basixotsha singaphathanga lutho. ⁴ Yathuma esinye isisebenzi kubo; leyondoda bayitshaya ekhanda bayiphatha kubi.

⁵ Yaphinde yathuma esinye njalo isisebenzi, leso bahle basigongoda basibulala. Yathuma ezinye ezinengi; ezinye zazo bazitshaya, ezinye bazibulala.

⁶ Kwasekusele oyedwa wokuthuma, indodana, ayeyithanda. Wayithuma ekucineni kwabo bonke esithi, ‘Bazayihlonipha indodana yami.’

⁷ Kodwa abaqhatshi besivini batshelana bathi, ‘Lo yindlalifa. Wozani, simbulale, ilifa libe ngelethu.’

⁸ Ngakho bamthatha bambulala bamphosela ngaphandle kwesivini.

⁹ Kambe kuyini azakwenza umnini wesivini na? Uzakuba afike ababulale labo baqhatshi besivini, isivini leso asinike abanye abalimi. ¹⁰ Kalibalanga yini umbhalo lo othi:

‘Ilitshe elalahlwa ngabakhi

seliyilona ilitshe lekhoneni;

¹¹ **iNkosi ikwenzile lokhu,**

kuyamangalisa emehlweni ethu’*?”

¹² Basebedinga iqinga lokumbopha ngoba babesazi ukuthi wayekhulume umzekeliso lowo eqonde bona. Kodwa besaba ixuku labantu; basebemtshiya bahamba.

Ukuthela KuKhesari

* 12:11 12.11 AmaHubo 118.22-23

¹³ Muva basebethumela abanye babaFarisi lamaHerodiya kuJesu ukuthi bambambe ngamazwi akhe. ¹⁴ Beza kuye bathi, “Mfundisi, siyakwazi ukuthi uyindoda eqotho. Kawugugulwanga ngabantu ngoba kawulandeli ukuthi bangobani; kodwa ufundisa indlela kaNkulunkulu mayelana leqiniso. Kulungile yini ukuthela kuKhesari, kumbe hatshi? ¹⁵ Sithele yini kumbe hatshi?”

Kodwa uJesu wayekubona ukuzenzisa kwabo, wathi, **“Lizamelani ukungithiya na? Ake lingiphe idenari ngibone.”** ¹⁶ Baluletha uhlamvu lolo, wasebabuza wathi, **“Ngumfanekiso kabani lo? Lombhalo ngokabani?”**

Baphendula bathi, “NgokaKhesari.”

¹⁷ UJesu wasesithi kubo, **“Phanini uKhesari okukaKhesari loNkulunkulu okungokukaNkulunkulu.”**

Bamangala kakhulu ngaye.

Ukuthathana Lokuvuka Ekufeni

¹⁸ Kwasekusithi abaSadusi abathi kakukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo, beza kuye belombuzo. ¹⁹ Bathi, “Mfundisi, uMosi wasibhalela ukuthi nxa umfowabo wendoda angafa atshiye umfazi, kodwa bengelabantwana, leyondoda kayimthathe umfelokazi izalele umfowabo abantwana. ²⁰ Manje-ke, kwakulabafowabo abayisikhombisa. Owokuqala wathatha wasesifa engazalanga. ²¹ Owesibili wamthatha umfelokazi waphinda laye wafa engelamntwana. Kwabanjalo lakowesithathu. ²² Iqiniso yikuthi kakho kubo bonke beyisikhombisa owaba labantwana. Ekucineni kwafa yena umfazi. ²³ Ekuvukeni kwabafileyo uzakuba ngumkabani njengoba bonke boyisikhombisa babemthethe?”

²⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kalilahleki yini ngoba lingayazi imibhalo loba amandla kaNkulunkulu? ²⁵ Nxa abafileyo sebevuka kabayikuthatha loba bende; bazakuba njengezingilosu ezulwini. ²⁶ Mayelana lokuvuka kwabafileyo, kalibalanga yini encwadini kaMosi, emlandweni wesixuku esasibhebha umlilo ukuthi uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, ‘NginguNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka loNkulunkulu ka-Jakhobe’?” ²⁷ KasuNkulunkulu wabafileyo, kodwa owabaphilayo. Lilahlekile kakhulu!”**

Umlayo Omkhulu Kulayo Yonke

²⁸ Omunye wabafundisi bomthetho wafika wabezwa bephicana ngamazwi. Ngokubona ukuthi uJesu wayebaphe impendulo enhle, wabuza wathi, “Phakathi kwayo yonke imilayo yiwuphi oqakatheke okudlula yonke?”

²⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, “Oqakatheke kakhulu yilo: **‘Zwana, wena Israyeli, iNkosi uNkulunkulu wethu, iNkosi yinye.** ³⁰ **Thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke langomphefumulo wakho wonke langengqondo yakho yonke langamandla akho wonke.’**‡ ³¹ **Owesibili yilo: ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda.’**§**Kawukho umlayo omkhulu kulale.”**

³² Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Utsho kuhle, mfun-disi. Uqondile nxa usithi uNkulunkulu munye, kakho omunye ngaphandle kwakhe. ³³ Ukumthanda ngenhliziyo yakho yonke, ngokuzwisisa konke kwakho langamandla akho wonke, lokuthanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda wena kuqakathekile kulayo yonke iminikelo yokutshiswa lemihlatshelo.”

³⁴ UJesu wathi ebona ukuthi uphendule kuhle wathi kuye, **“Kawukho khatshana kombuso kaNkulunkulu.”** Kusukela kulesosikhathi kakusabanga khona owaba lesi-bindi sokumbuza eminye imibuzo.

UKhristu UyiNdodana Kabani

³⁵ Kwathi uJesu efundisa emagumeni ethempeli wabuza wathi, **“Kungani abafundisi bomthetho besithi uKhristu uyindodana kaDavida na? ³⁶ UDavida yena ngokwakhe ekhuluma ngoMoya oNgcwele wathi: ‘iNkosi yathi eNkosini yami:**

“Hlala ngakwesokunene sami ngize ngibeke izitha zakho ngaphansi kwenyawo zakho.”*

³⁷ UDavida yena ngokwakhe umbiza athi **‘Nkosi.’ Phoke angaba yindodana yakhe kanjani?’**

Ixuku labantu elikhulu lamlalela ngokuthokoza.

Ukulimukisa NgabaFundisi BoMthetho

³⁸ Wathi elokhu efundisa, uJesu wathi, **“Libananzelele abafundisi bomthetho. Bathanda ukuhambahamba becece ngezembatho ezinde eziphephezelayo lokube bebingelelwa emisikeni, ³⁹ futhi bathatha izihlalo eziphakemeyo emasinagogweni lezindawo zabahlonitshwa emadilini. ⁴⁰ Bahuquluza izindlu zabafelokazi njalo bazibonakalisa ngokwenza imikhuleko emide. Abantu abanjalo bazajeziswa kabuhlungu.”**

Umnikelo Womfelokazi

‡ 12:30 12.30 UDutheronomi 6.4-5 § 12:31 12.31 ULevi 19.18 * 12:36 12.36
AmaHubo 110.1

⁴¹ UJesu wahlala phansi malungana lendawo yokunikela wakhangela inengi lifaka imali yalo esitsheni somnikelo ethempelini: Izikhulu ezinengi zazifaka imali ezwayo. ⁴² Kodwa kweza umfelokazi ongumyanga wafaka okuzinhlamvana kwethusi okubili okulingana lengxenyana yendibilitshi.

⁴³ Esebizele kuye abafundi bakhe uJesu wathi kubo, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi umfelokazi lo ongumyanga ufake okunengi esitsheni somnikelo kulabo bonke.**

⁴⁴ **Bona bonke baphe ngokwenotho yabo, kodwa yena, ebuyangeni bakhe ufake konke abelakho ukuthi kumphilise.”**

13

Ukubhidlizwa KweThempeli Lezibonakaliso Zokucina Kwesikhathi

¹ Wathi esuka ethempelini omunye wabafundi wathi kuye, “Khangela, Mfundisi! Amatshe anganani! Bona ubuhle bezindlu!”

² UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Liyazibona yini zonke lezi izindlu ezinkulu kangaka? Kakuyikusala litshe phezu kwelinye; wonke azaphoselwa phansi.”**

³ Kwathi uJesu ehlezi eNtabeni yama-Oliva malungana lethempeli uPhethro, loJakhobe, loJohane lo-Andreya bambuza ngasese bathi, ⁴ “Sitshela, zizakwenzakala nini izinto lezi? Njalo kuzakuba lesibonelo bani ukuthi sezizagcwaliseka?”

⁵ UJesu wathi kubo: **“Qaphelani ukuze lingakhohliswa muntu.** ⁶ **Banengi abazakuza ngebizo lami, besithi, ‘Nginguye,’ bakhohlise abanengi.** ⁷ **Nxa lisizwa ngezimpi lamahungahunga ngezimpi, lingaze lethuka. Lezozinto kumele zenzakale, kodwa ukucina kulokhu kuseza.** ⁸ **Isizwe sizavukela isizwe, lombuso uvukele umbuso. Kuzakuba lokuzamazama komhlaba ezindaweni ezinengi, lezindlala. Lezi ziyikuqala kokuhelelwa.**

⁹ **Libohlala liqaphele. Bazalimangalela ezinkundleni zamacala njalo balibhaxabule emasinagogweni abo. Ngenxa yami lizamiswa phambi kwababusi lamakhosi libe ngofakazi kubo.** ¹⁰ **Njalo ivangeli kufanele liqale litshunyayelwe ezizweni zonke.** ¹¹ **Lapho libotshwa njalo lilethwa emthethwandaba lingaze lazihlupha ngokuthi lizakuthini phambi kwabo. Khulumani ingqe yini eliyiphiwa ngalesosikhathi, ngoba kakusini elikhulumayo, kodwa nguMoya oNgcwele.**

¹² Umfowabo uzanikela umfowabo ukuthi abulawe, loyise anikele umntanakhe. Abantwana bazahlamukela abazali babo bababulalise. ¹³ Bonke abantu bazalizonza ngenxa yami, kodwa lowo oma aqine kuze kube sekupheleni uzasindiswa.

¹⁴ Kodwa nxa libona 'amanyala aletha incithakalo'* kumi lapho okungesikwakhona, ofundayo kezwisise, lapho-ke akuthi labo abaseJudiya babalekele ezintabeni. ¹⁵ Akungabikhona osephahleni lwendlu yakhe ozakwehla loba angene endlini ukuthatha ulutho. ¹⁶ Akungabi loyedwa osensimini ozabuyela emuva ukuyathatha ijazi lakhe. ¹⁷ Yeka ubulukhuni obuzakuba khona ngalezonsuku kwabesifazane abakhulelweyo labangabadlezane! ¹⁸ Khulekani ukuthi lokhu kungenzakali ebusika, ¹⁹ ngoba lezo zizakuba yizinsuku zokuhlukuluzeka okungakaze kube khona kwasekuqaleni, lapho uNkulunkulu adala umhlaba, kuze kube manje, njalo kakuzukubuye kube khona.

²⁰ Nxa iNkosi yayingaziphungulanga lezinsuku, kwakungeyi kuphepha muntu. Kodwa ngenxa yabakhethiweyo, eyabakhethayo, iziphungulile. ²¹ Ngalesosikhathi nxa umuntu esithi kini, 'Khangalani, nangu uKhristu!' loba 'Khangalani, nanguya,' lingamkholwa. ²² Ngoba oKhristu bamanga labaphrofethi bamanga bazavela benze izibonakaliso lezimangaliso ukukhohlisa abakhethiweyo, nxa lokho kungenzeka. ²³ Ngakho lilimuke; sengilitshelile konke ngaphambili.

²⁴ Kodwa ngalezonsuku, kulandela lokho kuhlukuluzeka,

'ilanga lizafiphala,
lenyanga kayiyikukhanya;

²⁵ izinkanyezi zizakuwa esibhakabhakeni,
lezisekelo zasezulwini zizazanyazanyiswa.†

²⁶ Ngalesosikhathi abantu bazayibona iNdodana yoMuntu isiza emayezini ilamandla amakhulu lobukhosi. ²⁷ Izathuma izingilosi zayo ziqoqe abakhethiweyo bayo kumagumbi womane omhlaba, kusukela emikhawulweni yomhlaba kusiya emikhawulweni yamazulu.

²⁸ Manje-ke, fundani lesisifundo esihlahleni somkhiwa: Amahlumela aso angaqalisa ukuba

* 13:14 13.14 UDanyeli 9.27; 11.31; 12.11 † 13:25 13.25 U-Isaya 13.10; 34.4

buthakathaka lamahlamvu aso ahlume, lihle lazi ukuthi ihlobo selisondele. ²⁹ **Kanjalo-ke nxa lingabona lezizinto sezisenzakala, lazi ukuthi sekusondele, khonapho emnyango.** ³⁰ **Ngilitshela iqiniso, lesisizukulwane kasiyikudlula zize zenzakale zonke lezizinto.** ³¹ **Izulu lomhlaba kuzedlula, kodwa amazwi ami kawayikwedlula lanini."**

Usuku Lesikhathi Kakwaziwa

³² **"Kodwa kakho olwaziyo lolosuku lehola, loba izingilosi zasezulwini, kumbe iNdodana, kodwa uBaba kuphela.** ³³ **Lindani! Qaphelani! Kalikwazi ukuthi sizafika nini lesosikhathi.** ³⁴ **Kunjengomuntu ezathatha uhambo: utshiya indlu yakhe ayinikele izisebenzi zakhe ukuba ziyilinde, yilesa sabelwe owaso umsebenzi, atshele lowo olinda emnyango ukuthi aqaphele.**

³⁵ **Ngakho lindani ngoba kalikwazi ukuthi umninindlu uzabuya nini, mhlawumbe kusihlwa, kumbe phakathi kwamabili, loba inkukhu sezikhala kumbe emathathakusa.** ³⁶ **Nxa efika masinyane, akangalifici lilele.** ³⁷ **Engikutshoyo kini ngikutsho emuntwini wonke: 'Lindani!'** "

14

UJesu Uyagcotshwa EBhethani

¹ Kwasekusele insuku ezimbili kuphela ukuba ufike uMkhosi wePhasika loMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo. Abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho babedinga indlela ecatshileyo yokubopha uJesu ukuze bambulale. ² Kodwa bathi, "Kakungabi ngesikhathi somkhosi, funa abantu benze isiphithiphithi."

³ Kwathi eseBhethani eyeme etafuleni emzini wendoda eyayithiwa nguSimoni owayelobulephero, owesifazane weza ephethe imbodlela yamakha adulayo kakhulu, enziwe ngenadi elipheleleyo. Wayivula imbodlela wathela amakha ekhanda likaJesu.

⁴ Abanye balabo ababekhona bacaphuka babuzana bathi, "Udlaliselani amakha la? ⁵ Abengathengiswa ngokudlula umholo womnyaka wonke imali leyo iphiwe abampofu." Bamkhuza ngokumkahlameza kakhulu.

⁶ UJesu wathi, **"Myekeleni. Limkhathazelani kanti? Wenze into enhle kimi.** ⁷ **Abampofu lizahlala lilabo, yikho lingabasiza noma yisiphi isikhathi elisifunayo. Kodwa kalisoze libe lami kokuphela.** ⁸ **Wenze lokho abe lamandla okukwenza. Uthele amakha emzimbeni wami mandulo ukulungisela ukungcwatshwa kwami.**

**⁹ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi loba kungaphi okuzatshun-
yayelwa ivangeli emhlabeni wonke, lokho akwenzileyo
kuzakhulunywa, kube yisikhumbuzo ngaye.”**

¹⁰ Yikho uJudasi Iskariyothi, omunye wabalitshumi
lambili waya kubaphristi abakhulu ukuyanikela uJesu
kubo. ¹¹ Bathokoza kakhulu bekuzwa lokhu, bathembisa
ukumupha imali. Yikho walindela ithuba lokumnikela.

Isidlo SeNkosi

¹² Ngelanga lokuqala loMkhosi weSinkwa esinge-
laMvubelo, lapho kwakungumkhuba ukwenza umhlatshelo
wezinyane lePhasika, abafundi bakaJesu bambuza bathi,
“Ufuna ukuthi seyekwenza ngaphi amalungiselelo okuthi
udle iPhasika na?”

¹³ Ngakho wathuma ababili kubafundi bakhe wabat-
shela wathi, **“Yanini edolobheni, kuzakuthi indoda
ezabe ithwele isigubhu samanzi izalihlangabeza. Ilan-
deleni. ¹⁴ Libokuthi kumninindlu ezangena kuyo,
'UMfundisi uyabuza uthi: Ingaphi indlu yezethekeli
lapho engingadlela khona iPhasika labafundi bami?’
¹⁵ Izalitshengisa ikamelo laphezulu elikhulu, elilungisi-
weyo. Senzeleni amalungiselelo khonapho.”**

¹⁶ Abafundi basuka baya edolobheni bafica izinto zimi
njengoba uJesu wayetshilo. Yikho basebelungisela iPhasika.

¹⁷ Kwathi kusihlwa uJesu wafika labalitshumi lambili.
¹⁸ Bathi beyeme etafuleni besidla wathi kubo, **“Ngilitshela
iqiniso ukuthi omunye wenu uzanginikela, odla lami
khonapha.”**

¹⁹ Badana, bathi kuye ngamunye, “Pho kawutsho mina?”

²⁰ Waphendula wathi, **“Ngomunye wabalitshumi
lambili, omunye otsheba lami isinkwa emganwini.
²¹ Indodana yoMuntu izahamba njengokulotshiweyo
ngayo. Kodwa maye kuleyondoda enikela iNdodana
yoMuntu! Kwakungaba ngcono kuyo aluba
yayingazalwanga.”**

²² Bathi belokhu besidla uJesu wathatha isinkwa,
wabonga, wasihlephula, wasipha abafundi bakhe esithi,
“Sithatheni; lo ngumzimba wami.”

²³ Wasethatha inkezo, esebongile, wabanika, bonke ba-
natha kuyo.

²⁴ Wathi kubo, **“Leli ligazi lami lesivumelwano, eli-
chithelwa abanengi. ²⁵ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi
angisayikuphinda nginathe okwesithelo sevini njalo,
kuze kube yilolosuku lapho engizakunatha khona
kabutsha embusweni kaNkulunkulu.”**

26 Bathi sebhlabela ihubo, baphuma baya eNtabeni yama-Oliva.

UJesu Ubonisa Ngokuphika KukaPhethro

27 UJesu wabatshele wathi, **“Lonke lizachitheka, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Ngizatshaya umelusi,**

izimvu zihlakazeke.’*

28 **Kodwa ngemva kokuba sengivukile kwabafileyo, ngizalandulela ukuya eGalile.”**

29 UPhethro walandula wathi, “Loba bonke bengahlakazeka, mina kangisoze ngikwenze.”

30 UJesu wamphendula wathi, **“Ngikutshela iqiniso ukuthi lamuhla lokhu, ngobusuku balamuhla, iqhude lingakakhali kabili, wena ngokwakho uzangiphika kathathu.”**

31 Kodwa uPhethro waphika wagomela wathi, “Loba kungabe ngifanele ngife lawe, kangisoze ngikuphike.” Bonke abanye labo batsho khona lokho.

EGetsemane

32 Baya endaweni eyayithiwa yiGetsemane, uJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe, **“Hlalani lapha mina ngisayakhuleka.”**

33 Wathatha uPhethro, uJakhobe loJohane wasuduluka labo, waseqala ukuhlulukelwa kakhulu lokukhathazeka. 34 Wathi kubo, **“Umphefumulo wami udabukile kakhulu kuze kuthi ngife. Hlalani lapha lilinde.”**

35 Wahamba ibanganyana, wazilahla phansi wakhuleka ukuthi aluba kungenzeka lelohola lingedlula kuye. 36 Wathi, **“Abha, Baba, konke kuyeneliseka kuwe. Ake ususe inkezo le kimi. Kodwa kakungabi yintando yami, kodwa kube yintando yakho.”**

37 Wasephenduka kubafundi bakhe wabafica belele. Wathi kuPhethro, **“Simoni, ulele? Wehlulekile ukulinda ihola elilodwa kuphela? 38 Lindani likhuleke ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni. Umoya uyathanda, kodwa umzimba ubuthakathaka.”**

39 Waphinda wahamba wayakhuleka umkhuleko munye. 40 Wathi ekubuyeni wabafica njalo sebelele, ngoba ubuthongo babubaphethe. Baswela ukuthi bathini kuye.

41 Esebuya okwesithathu wathi kubo, **“Lilokhu lilele liphumula? Sekwanele! Isikhathi sesifikile. Khangelani, iNdodana yoMuntu isinikelwe ezandleni zezoni. 42 Phakamani! Kasihambeni! Nangu usesiza onginike layo.”**

* 14:27 14.27 UZakhariya 13.7

Ukubotshwa KukaJesu

⁴³ Esakhuluma, uJudasi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili, wafika. Wayehamba lexuku behlomile ngezinkemba lezinduku, bethunyiwe ngabaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho kanye labadala.

⁴⁴ Umthengisi wayelungise isiboniso sokubatshengisa wathi: “Lowo engizamanga nguye; limbophe lihle lihambe laye elindiwe.” ⁴⁵ UJudasi wahle waqonda kuJesu wathi, “Rabi!” wamanga. ⁴⁶ Amadoda ahle amdumela uJesu ambopha. ⁴⁷ Kwasekusithi omunye owayemi khonapho wakhokha inkemba yakhe wagalela inceku yomphristi omkhulu wayiquma indlebe yayo.

⁴⁸ UJesu wathi, **“Ngingumkhokheli womvukela yini, selingaze lize lihlomile ngezinkemba lezinduku ukuzangibamba? ⁴⁹ Bengilani insuku zonke ngifundisa emagumeni ethempeli, kodwa kalingibophanga. Kodwa iMibhalo kufanele igcwaliseke.”** ⁵⁰ Khonokho bonke bamtshiya babaleka.

⁵¹ Ijaha elalingagqokanga lutho ngaphandle kwelembu lelineni lalimlandela uJesu. Balibamba, ⁵² kodwa labaleka laze latshiya isembatho salo.

Phambi KoMphakathi ISanihedrini

⁵³ UJesu bamthatha bamusa kumphristi omkhulu, kwathi bonke abaphristi abakhulu, labadala labafundisi bomthetho babuthana ndawonye. ⁵⁴ Uphethro wamlandela ehambela khatshana, waze wayangena egumeni lomphristi omkhulu. Wahlala khonapho labalindi esotha umlilo.

⁵⁵ Abaphristi abakhulu leSanihedrini yonke babedinga ubufakazi obumlahlayo uJesu ukuze bambulale, kodwa babuswela. ⁵⁶ Abanengi bafakaza amanga ngaye, kodwa amazwi abo kawavumelananga.

⁵⁷ Kwasekusukuma abanye bethula lobu ubufakazi bamanga ngaye, bathi, ⁵⁸ “Samuzwa esithi, ‘Ngizalibhidliza ithempeli leli, elakhiwe ngabantu ngakhe elinye ngezinsuku ezintathu, elizabe lingasakhiwanga ngumuntu.’” ⁵⁹ Lakulokhu kabuvumelananga ubufakazi babo.

⁶⁰ Umphristi omkhulu wasesukuma phambi kwabo wabuza uJesu wathi, “Kawuyikuphendula na? Kuyini kanti lokhu okufakazwa ngamadoda la ngawe na?” ⁶¹ Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethule njalo kazange aphenndule.

Umphristi omkhulu waphinde wambuza wathi, “Unguye uKhristu, iNdodana yoBusisiweyo na?”

⁶² UJesu wathi, “**Nginguye. Njalo lizayibona iNdodana yoMuntu ihlezi kwesokunene salowo Olamandla isehla ngamayezi ezulu.**”

⁶³ Umphristi omkhulu wadabula izigqoko zakhe wabuza wathi, “Sisabadingelani abanye ofakazi? ⁶⁴ Selikuzwile ukuhlambaza. Lithini manje?”

Bonke bamlahla bathi ufanele ukufa. ⁶⁵ Abanye basebeqalisa ukumkhafulela; bamvala amehlo ngokumbopha, bamdutshuza ngenqindi bathi, “Phrofitha!” Abalindi basebemthatha bayamtshaya.

UPhethro Ulandula UJesu

⁶⁶ UPhethro wayengaphansi egumeni, enye yaman-tombazana ayeyizincekukazi zomphristi omkhulu yeza khonapho. ⁶⁷ Yathi ibona uPhethro esotha umlilo yamkhangelisisa.

Yathi, “Lawe wawulomNazarini lowaya, uJesu.”

⁶⁸ Walandula. Wathi, “Angikwazi njalo kangikuzwisisi lokho okhuluma ngakho.” Wahle waphuma waya esangweni.

⁶⁹ Kuthe intombazana leyo isimbona khona lapho yathi kwababemi lapho, “Indoda le ingomunye wabo.”

⁷⁰ Walandula njalo.

Ngemva kwesikhatshana ababemi lapho eduze kukaPhethro bathi, “Ngeqiniso ungomunye wabo, ngoba ungumGalile.”

⁷¹ Watshinga uPhethro, waziqalekisa wabuye wafunga kubo wathi, “Kangiyazi indoda le elikhuluma ngayo.”

⁷² Masinyane lakhala iqhude ngokwesibili. Khonapho uPhethro waselikhumbula ilizwi uJesu ayelitshilo kuye, ukuthi: “**Iqhude lingakakhali kabili uzangiphika kathathu.**” Ngakho waphihlika wakhala.

15

UJesu Ephambi KukaPhilathu

¹ Ekuseni kakhulu abaphristi abakhulu, labadala, labafundisi bomthetho kanye leSanihedrini yonke bavumelana ngesinqumo sabo. Bambopha uJesu bamqhuba bayamethula kuPhilathu.

² UPhilathu wambuza wathi, “Uyinkosi yamaJuda na?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Usukutshilo lokho.**”

³ Abaphristi abakhulu bamethesa amacala amanengi.

⁴ Ngakho uPhilathu wambuza njalo wathi, “Kanti kungani ungaphenduli na? Khangela, bakubeka amacala amanengi.”

⁵ Kodwa uJesu wala elokhu ethule, uPhilathu wamangala.

⁶ Kwakungumkhuba ukuthi ngomkhosi kukhululwe isibotshwa esasizabe sicelwe ngabantu. ⁷ Indoda eyayithiwa nguBharabhasi yayisentolongweni kanye labahlamuki ababebulele abantu kulowomvukela. ⁸ Ixuku labantu leza kuPhilathu ukuthi abenzele leyo nhlalayenza.

⁹ “Lifuna ukuthi ngilikhululele inkosi yamaJuda na?” UPhilathu wabuza, ¹⁰ esazi ukuthi kwakungenxa yomhawu okwenza abaphristi abakhulu banikela uJesu kuye. ¹¹ Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu badunga abantu babakhuthaza ukuthi bacele uPhilathu abakhululele uBharabhasi.

¹² UPhilathu wasebabuza wathi, “Pho ngithini ngalo elimbiza ngokuthi uyinkosi yamaJuda na?”

¹³ Bamemeza bathi, “Mbethele!”

¹⁴ UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Yindaba? Woneni?”

Kodwa bamemeza ngamandla bathi, “Mbethele!”

¹⁵ UPhilathu wasebakhululela uBharabhasi ngoba wayefuna ukusuthisa ixuku labantu. Wathi uJesu katshaywe, ngemva kwalokho wasebapha ukuba bambethele.

Amabutho Ahoza UJesu

¹⁶ Amabutho amqhuba uJesu amusa esigodlweni (kutshiwo iPhrethoriyamu) basebebiza iviyo lonke lamabutho laqoqana ndawonye. ¹⁷ Bamgqokisa ijazi eliyibubende, basebeseluka umqhele wameva bamethesa wona. ¹⁸ Basebememeza besithi kuye, “Bayethe, nkosi yamaJuda!” ¹⁹ Bamtshaya ekhanda ngomqwayi baphindaphinda, bamkhafulela. Baguqa phansi ngamadolo bamkhonza. ²⁰ Sebemhozile, bamhlubula ijazi eliyibubende bamgqokisa ezakhe izigqoko. Basebephuma laye bamqhuba ukuba bayombethela.

Ukubethelwa

²¹ Indoda ethile yaseKhureni, eyayithiwa nguSimoni, uyise ka-Alekizanda loRufasi, wayezedlulela khonapho evela emaphandleni, basebembamba ngamandla ukuthi athwale isiphambano. ²² Baletha uJesu endaweni eyayithiwa yiGoligotha (okutsho ukuthi, “Indawo yoKhakhayi”). ²³ Basebemupha iwayini elihlanganiswe lemure, kodwa wala ukulinatha. ²⁴ Basebembethela. Bahlukanisa izigqoko zakhe basebesenza inkatho ukuze babone ukuthi ngulowo athathe kuphi.

²⁵ Kwakulihola lesithathu isikhathi abambethela ngaso. ²⁶ Umbhalo wecala lakhe wawusithi:

INKOSI YAMAJUDA.

²⁷ Babethela kanye laye abaphangi ababili, omunye kwe-sokunene sakhe, omunye kwesokhohlo. [²⁸ Kwagcwaliseka

umbhalo othi, “Wabalwa ndawonye lezephulamthetho.”]*
²⁹ Labo ababedlula lapho babemthuka benikina amakhanda abo besithi, “Ehe! Wena ozadiliza ithempeli ulakhe ngezinsuku ezintathu, ³⁰ yehla esiphambanweni uzisindise!”
³¹ Ngaleyondlela labaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho bamklolodela behlekisana ngaye phakathi kwabo. Bathi, “Wasindisa abanye, kodwa uyehluleka ukuzisindisa yena! ³² Ake kuthi uKhristu lo, iNkosi le yako-Israyeli, yehle esiphambanweni ukuze sibone, sikholwe.” Lalabo ayebethelwe kanye labo, labo babemhlambaza.

Ukufa KukaJesu

³³ Ngehola lesithupha ubumnyama bembesa ilizwe lonke kwaze kwaba lihola lesificamunwemunye. ³⁴ Kwathi ngehola lesithathu emini uJesu wakhala ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, “**Eloyi, Eloyi, lamasabakithani?**”† (okutsho ukuthi, “**Nkulunkulu wami, Nkulunkulu wami, ungitshiyelani na?**”).

³⁵ Kwathi abanye balabo ababemi eduzane bekuzwa lokho bathi, “Zwanini, ubiza u-Elia.”

³⁶ Enye indoda yagcwalisa uziphlo ngewayini elimunyu, yaluxhumela oluthini, yasiluqhubela uJesu ukuthi anathe. Yasisithi, “Ake simyekele manje, kesibone ingabe u-Elia uzakuza azomehlisa.”

³⁷ Ngomkhosi omkhulu, uJesu waphfumula okokucina.

³⁸ Ikhetheni lethempeli ladabuka kabili lisuka phezulu kusiya phansi. ³⁹ Kwathi induna yekhulu eyayimi khonapho phambi kukaJesu isizwa ukukhala kwakhe njalo ikubonile ukuthi ufe kanjani yathi, “Ngeqiniso indoda le ibe iyiNdo-dana kaNkulunkulu!”

⁴⁰ Abanye abesifazane babebukele bebucwala. Phakathi kwabo kwakuloMariya Magadalini loMariya unina ka-Jakhobe omncinyane lokaJosefa loSalome. ⁴¹ Laba abesifazane babemlandele bemsebenzela eseGalile. Labanye abesifazane abanengi ababeze laye eJerusalema labo babekhona.

Ukungcwatshwa KukaJesu

⁴² Kwakulusuku lokuLungiselela (kutsho usuku olwandulela iSabatha). Kwathi sekuntambama ⁴³ uJosefa wase-Arimathiya indoda elesithunzi eNkundleni, yona ngokwayo eyayilindele umbuso kaNkulunkulu, yaqunga isibindi yaya kuPhilathu yacela isidumbu sikaJesu. ⁴⁴ UPhilathu wamangala ukuthi wayesefile. Wabiza induna yekhulu wayibuza ukuthi uJesu wayesefile yini. ⁴⁵ Wathi esezwile

* **15:28** 15.28 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu. † **15:34** 15.34 AmaHubo 22.1

ngenduna yekhulu ukuthi kwasekwenzakele, wamupha uJosefa isidumbu. ⁴⁶ Ngakho uJosefa wasethenga amalembu elineni, wathatha isidumbu wasigoqela ngelineni wasibeka ethuneni elaligujwe edwaleni. Wasegiqela ilitshe emlonyeni wethuna. ⁴⁷ UMariya Magadalini loMariya unina kaJosefa babona lapho abekwa khona.

16

Ukuvuka KukaJesu

¹ Kwathi iSabatha seledlule, uMariya Magadalini, loMariya unina kaJakhobe loSalome bathenga amakha ukuze bayeqhola ngawo isidumbu sikaJesu. ² Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku lokuqala lweviki, ilanga liphuma basebesendleleni besiya ethuneni, ³ babuzana bathi, “Ngubani ozasigiqela ilitshe lisuke emlonyeni wethuna na?”

⁴ Kodwa bathi bayakhangela babona ilitshe, elalilikhulu kakhulu, seligiqelwe eceleni. ⁵ Bathi bengena ethuneni babona ijaha ligqoke isembatho esimhlophe lihlezi ngakwesokunene, bethuka kakhulu.

⁶ Lathi, “Lingaze lethuka. Lidinga uJesu umNazarini obebethelwe. Usevukile! Kakho lapha. Bonani, nansi indawo lapho bebembeke khona. ⁷ Kodwa hambani liyotshela abafundi bakhe loPhethro lithi, ‘Usehamba phambi kwenu ukuya eGalile. Lizambona khonale, njengoba walitshela.’”

⁸ Ngokuthuthumela langokudideka, abesifazane baphuma bebaleka ethuneni. Kabakhulumanga lutho lakubani ngoba babesesaba.*

[⁹ UJesu esevukile ekuseni ngelanga lokuqala evikini waqala wabonakala kuMariya Magadalini yena lowo ayekhuphe kuye amadimoni ayisikhombisa. ¹⁰ Yena wahamba wayabikela labo uJesu ayephile labo ababesililweni sakhe. ¹¹ Bathi besizwa ukuthi uJesu uyaphila lokuthi uMariya wayembonile, kabazange bakukholwe.

¹² Ngemva kwalokho uJesu wabonakala ngesinye isimo kwababili babo abafica behamba kulelilizwe emaphandleni. ¹³ Labo babuyela bayabikela abanye, kodwa labo kabazange babakholwe.

* **16:8** 16.8 Eminye imibhalo iphetha ngovesi 8 lo 9 njalo umbhalo owodwa ulovesi 8 (kodwa weqa uvesi 9-20): Ngakho baphanga babika zonke izeluleko lezo kuPhethro labanye ayelabo. Emva kwalokho uJesu ngokwakhe wabathuma ukuyatshumayela ivangeli elingcwele lelingapheliyo njalo elilensindiso yaphakade kusuka empumalanga kusiya entshonalanga. Amen.

¹⁴ Ngemva kwalokho uJesu wabonakala kwabalitshumi lane besidla; wabakhuza ngokungakholwa kwabo langobulukhuni benhliziyo zabo bengabakholwa labo ababembonile ngemva kokuvuka kwakhe.

¹⁵ Wathi kubo, **“Hambani emhlabeni wonke litshumayele ivangeli kukho konke okwadalwayo.**

¹⁶ **Loba ngubani okholwayo abhaphathizwe uzasindiswa, kodwa lowo ongakholwayo uzalahlwa.**

¹⁷ **Lezizibonakaliso zizabalandela labo abakholwayo: Ngebizo lami bazakhupha amadimoni; bazakhuluma ngendimi ezintsha; ¹⁸ bazadobha izinyoka ngezandla zabo; bazakuthi banganatha okubulalayo kungaze kwabalimaza lakancinyane; bazabeka izandla zabo phezu kwabantu abagulayo, basile.”**

¹⁹ Ngemva kokuba iNkosi uJesu esekhulume labo, wenyukiselwa ezulwini, wahlala ngakwesokunene sikaNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Abafundi bahamba bayatshumayela ezindaweni zonke iNkosi yasebenza labo yaqinisa ilizwi layo ngezibonakaliso ezazilisekela.]

Ivangeli LikaLukha

Isingeniso

¹ Banengi asebazimisela ukuqoqa umlando wezinto es-
ezigcwalisekile phakathi kwethu, ² njengokwedluliselwa
kwazo kithi yilabo ababekhona ekuqaleni bengabafakazi
lezinceku zelizwi. ³ Ngakho-ke, njengoba mina ngok-
wami sengichwayisisile konke kusukela ekuqaleni, lami
ngikubone kufanele ukuthi ngikulobele umlando oqondi-
leyo, komkhulu ohloniphekayo uTheyofelasi ⁴ ukuze wazi
iqiniso lezinto lezo ozifundisiweyo.

Ukubikwa Kokuzalwa KukaJohane UMbhaphathizi

⁵ Ngesikhathi sikaHerodi inkosi yaseJudiya kwakulom-
phristi okwakuthiwa nguZakhariya, owaye ngowesigaba
sika-Abhija, umkakhe u-Elizabethi laye wayengowosendo
luka-Aroni. ⁶ Bobabili babelungile emehlweni kaNku-
lunkulu beyilandela yonke imilayo leziqondiso zeNkosi ben-
gasoleki. ⁷ Kodwa babengelabantwana ngoba u-Elizabethi
wayeyinyumba njalo bobabili basebeluphele.

⁸ Kwenzakala ukuthi isigaba sikaZakhariya siyiso
esasimiselwe umsebenzi wethempeli ngalesosikhathi,
⁹ wadliwa yinkatho ngokomkhuba wobuphristi, ukuthi
angene ethempelini leNkosi ayetshisa impepha. ¹⁰ Kwathi
isikhathi sokutshisa impepha sesifikile, wonke amakholwa
ayebuthene lapho ayekhuleka ephandle.

¹¹ Kwasekubonakala kuye ingilosi yeNkosi imi ngakwe-
sokunene kwe-alithari lempepha. ¹² UZakhariya wathi
eyibona wethuka wesaba kakhulu. ¹³ Kodwa ingilosi
yathi kuye, “Ungesabi, Zakhariya; umkhuleko wakho
usuzwakele. Umkakho u-Elizabethi uzakuzalela indodana
kufanele uyinike ibizo elithiwa nguJohane. ¹⁴ Uzakuba
yintokozo lenjabulo kuwe njalo abanengi bazathokoza
ngenxa yokuzalwa kwakhe, ¹⁵ ngoba uzakuba mkhulu
emehlweni eNkosi. Kakumelanga anathe iwayini lanini
loba yini ebilisiweyo enathwayo, njalo uzagcwaliswa ngo-
Moya oNgcwele kusukela ekuzalweni kwakhe. ¹⁶ Uzaletha
abantu bako-Israyeli abanengi eNkosini uNkulunkulu wabo.
¹⁷ Uzahamba phambili kweNkosi ngomoya langamandla
ka-Eliza, ukuguqulela inhliziyi zaboyise ebantwaneni babo
labayiziqholo elwazini lwabalungileyo, ukuqondisa abantu
abalungiselelwe iNkosi.”

18 UZakhariya wabuza ingilosi wathi, “Ngingaba leqiniso lakho njani lokho? Sengilixhegu njalo lomkami useluphele.”

19 Ingilosi yaphendula yathi, “NginguGabhuriyeli mina. Ngima phambi kukaNkulunkulu, ngithunywe ukuzokhuluma lawe ngikutshela ngalezi izindaba ezinhle. 20 Okwamanje uzakuba yisimungulu wehluleke ukukhuluma kuze kufike lolosuku okuzakwenzakala ngalo lokhu, ngoba kawuzange uwakholwe amazwi ami, wona azagcwaliseka ngesikhathi sawo esifaneleyo.”

21 Sonke lesisikhathi abantu babelokhu bemlindele uZakhariya sebemangele ukuthi kungani wayethethe isikhathi eside kangako ethempelini. 22 Waphuma esesehluleka ukukhuluma labo. Babona ukuthi wayebone umbono ethempelini ngoba wayelokhu eqhweba ngezandla, kodwa esehluleka ukukhuluma.

23 Izopha lakhe seliphelile wabuyela ekhaya. 24 Ngemva kwalokhu umkakhe u-Elizabethi wazithwala wasezifihla okwezinyanga ezinhlanu, 25 esithi, “INKosi ingenzele lokhu. Kulezi insuku ilutshengisile uthando Lwayo yasusa ihlazo lami ebantwini.”

Ukubikwa Kokuzalwa KukaJesu

26 Ngenyanga yesithupha yokuzithwala kuka-Elizabethi, uNkulunkulu wathuma ingilosi uGabhuriyeli eNazaretha, idolobho elaliseGalile, 27 ukuya entombini egcweleyo eyayithembise ukutshada lendoda eyayithiwa nguJosefa, owesizukulwane sikaDavida. Ibizo lentombi egcweleyo le kwakunguMariya. 28 Ingilosi yaya kuye yathi, “Sabona wena othole umusa kakhulukazi INkosi ilawe.”

29 Amazwi ayo amhlupha kakhulu uMariya wamangala ukuthi kanti kwakuyikubingelela bani lokhu. 30 Kodwa ingilosi yathi kuye, “Ungesabi Mariya, uthole umusa kuNkulunkulu. 31 Uzakhulelwa ubelethe indodana, uyethe ibizo uthi nguJesu. 32 Uzaba ngumuntu omkhulu abizwe ngokuthi yiNdodana yoPhezukonke. INkosi uNkulunkulu izamupha isihlalo sikayise uDavida, 33 njalo uzabusa phezu kwendlu kaJakhobe laphakade; umbuso wakhe kawuyikuphela.”

34 UMariya wayibuza ingilosi wathi, “Lokho kuzakwenzakala njani njengoba mina ngimsulwa ngingayazi indoda?”

35 Ingilosi yaphendula yathi, “UMoya oNgcwele uzakwehlela phezu kwakho, lamandla akhe oPhezukonke azakusibekela. Ngakho ongcwele ozazalwa uzathiwa yiNdodana kaNkulunkulu. 36 Lo-Elizabethi isihlobo sakho uzakuba lomntwana ekuluphaleni kwakhe, yena okwakuthiwa yinyumba usesenyangeni yakhe yesithupha. 37 Ngoba kakukho okwehlulayo kuNkulunkulu.”

³⁸ UMariya waphendula wathi, “Ngiyincekukazi yeNkosi. Kakwenzeke kimi njengoba utshilo.” Ingilosi yasisuka kuye.

UMariya Wethekelela U-Elizabethi

³⁹ Ngalesosikhathi uMariya waphanga wenza amalungiselelo waya edolobheni elizweni lamaqaqa eJudiya, ⁴⁰ lapho angena khona emzini kaZakhariya wabingelela u-Elizabethi. ⁴¹ Kwathi u-Elizabethi esizwa ukubingelela kukaMariya, umntwana weqa esiswini sakhe, u-Elizabethi wagcwala ngoMoya oNgcwele. ⁴² Wakhuluma ngelizwi eliphezulu wathi, “Ubusisiwe wena phakathi kwabesifazane, njalo ubusisiwe umntwana ozamzala! ⁴³ Kodwa kungani ngithole umusa ongaka mina, ukuba ngethekelelwe ngunina weNkosi yami? ⁴⁴ Ngonele ukuzwa ukubingelela kwakho, umntwana osesiswini sami weqa ngentokozo. ⁴⁵ Ubusisiwe lowo osekholiwe ukuthi lokho iNkosi ethe kuzakwenzeka kuye kuzagcwaliseka!”

Ingoma KaMariya

⁴⁶ UMariya wathi:

“Umphefumulo wami uyayidumisa iNkosi

⁴⁷ lomoya wami uyathokoza kuNkulunkulu uMsindisi wami,

⁴⁸ ngoba ukunanzile

ukuzehlisa kwencekukazi yakhe.

Kusukela manje zonke izizukulwane zizakuthi ngibusisiwe,

⁴⁹ ngoba uSomandla ungenzele izinto ezinkulu, lingcwele ibizo lakhe.

⁵⁰ Isihawu sakhe sifinyelela kulabo abamesabayo, kulandela isizukulwane ngesizukulwane.

⁵¹ Uyenzile imisebenzi emikhulu ngengalo yakhe:

ubachithizile labo abaziqakisa ngemicabango yez-inhliziyo zabo.

⁵² Uwethule amakhosi ezihlalweni zawo, kodwa wabaphakamisa abantukazana.

⁵³ Ubasuthisile abalambileyo ngezinto ezinhle,

kodwa abanothileyo ubaxotshe bengaphathanga lutho.

⁵⁴ Uyisizile inceku yakhe u-Israyeli,

wakhumbula ukuba lesihawu

⁵⁵ ku-Abhrahama lezizukulwane zakhe laphakade, njengoba wakutsho kubokhokho bethu.”

⁵⁶ UMariya wahlala lo-Elizabethi izinyanga ezazingaba ntathu wasebuyela ekhaya.

Ukuzalwa KukaJohane UMBhaphathizi

⁵⁷ Kwathi isikhathi sika-Elizabethi sesiphelele esokubeletha wazala indodana. ⁵⁸ Omakhelwane bakhe

lezihlobo bezwa ukuthi iNkosi yayimzwele isihawu esikhulu bathokoza kanye laye.

⁵⁹ Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili beza ukuzasoka umntwana, bafuna ukuthi bamethe ibizo likayise uZakhariya, ⁶⁰ kodwa unina wala wathi, "Hatshi! Kathiwe nguJohane."

⁶¹ Bathi kuye, "Kakho ebantwini bakini olebizo lelo."

⁶² Bakhuluma ngezandla kuyise bedinga ukuthi yena uthanda ukuthi umntwana aphiwe liph i ibizo.

⁶³ Wacela isibhebhedu sokulobela, wamangalisa wonke umuntu ngoba waloba ukuthi, "Ibizo lakhe nguJohane."

⁶⁴ Masinyane umlomo wakhe wavuleka lolimi lwakhe lwatshwaphuluka, waqalisa ukukhuluma edumisa uNkulunkulu. ⁶⁵ Omakhelwane bonke bamangala kakhulu, kwathi elizweni lonke lamaqaqa eJudiya abantu babekhuluma ngalezizinto. ⁶⁶ Wonke owezwayo ngalokho wamangala ebuza esithi, "Kambe uzakuba yini umntwana lo?" Ngoba isandla seNkosi sasilaye.

Ingoma KaZakhariya

⁶⁷ Uyise uZakhariya wagcwala ngoMoya oNgcwele waphrofitha wathi:

⁶⁸ "Udumo kalube seNkosini, uNkulunkulu ka-Israyeli, ngoba ubuyile ukuzahlenga abantu bakhe.

⁶⁹ Iluphakamisile uphondo lwensindiso yethu endlini yenceku yayo uDavida

⁷⁰ (njengoba yatsho ngabaphrofethi bayo abangcwele ekadeni),

⁷¹ ukusindiswa ezitheni zethu lesandleni sabo bonke abasizondayo,

⁷² ukuze atshengise isihawu kubokhokho bethu lokukhumbula isivumelwano sakhe esingcwele,

⁷³ isifungo asifunga kubaba wethu u-Abhrahama:

⁷⁴ ukusikhulula esandleni sezitha zethu, size siyikhonze singelakwesaba

⁷⁵ ngobungcwele langokulunga phambi kwayo ngazozonke insuku zethu.

⁷⁶ Wena mntanami, uzathiwa ungumphrofethi woPhezukonke;

ngoba uzahamba phambili kweNkosi uyilungisele indlela,

⁷⁷ ukunika abantu bayo ukwazi insindiso ngokuthethelelwa kwezono zabo,

⁷⁸ ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu wethu, ilanga liphuma lize kithi livela ezulwini,

79 likhanyise kulabo abahlezi ebumnyameni
lasethunzini lokufa,
ukukhokhelela inyawo zethu endleleni yokuthula.”

80 Umntwana wakhula waqina emoyeni; waphila enkan-
gala waze wavela obala ku-Israyeli.

2

Ukuzalwa KukaJesu

1 Ngalezonsuku uKhesari Agastasi wakhupha
isimemezelo sokuthi abantu babalwe kulolonke ilizwe
lombuso wamaRoma. 2 (Lokhu kwakuyikubalwa kwabantu
kokuqala okwenzakala uKhwirinu engumbusi wase-
Asiriya.) 3 Wonke umuntu waya edolobheni lakibo
wayabhalisa.

4 UJosefa laye wahamba esuka edolobheni leNazaretha
eseGalile waya eJudiya, eBhethlehem idolobho lika-
Davida, ngoba wayengowendlu losendo lukaDavida. 5 Waya
khona ukuyabhalisa eloMariya, owayesethembise ukwen-
dela kuye, esekhulelwe. 6 Bathi bekhonale safika
isikhathi sokubelethwa komntwana, 7 wazibula ngendo-
dana. Wayigoqela ngamalembu, wayilalisa emkolweni
wokudlela izifuyo ngoba babengelandawo endlini yezi-
hambi.

Abelusi Lezingilosi

8 Kwakulabelusi ababehlala emlageni eduze kwalapho,
belinda imihlambi yabo yezimvu ebusuku. 9 Ingilosi
yeNkosi yabonakala kubo, inkazimulo yeNkosi yakhanya
ibazingelezile, ngakho besaba kakhulu. 10 Kodwa ingilosi
yathi kubo, “Lingesabi. Ngizolitshela izindaba ezinhle
ezizaletha intokozo enkulu ebantwini bonke. 11 Lamuhla
lizalelwe uMsindisi emzini kaDavida; unguKhristu iNkosi.
12 Lokhu kuzakuba yisibonakaliso kini: Lizathola umnt-
wana egoqelwe ngamalembu elele emkolweni.”

13 Masinyane kwaqhamuka ixuku lebandla lasezulwini
lengilosi lidumisa uNkulunkulu lisithi,

14 “Udumo kuNkulunkulu emazulwini aphezulu,
lokuthula emhlabeni kulabo abathole umusa kuye.”

15 Kwathi izingilosi sezibatshiyile zabuyela ezulwini,
abelusi bakhulumisana bathi, “Kasihambeni siye eBhethile-
hema siyobona into le esiyenzakele, iNkosi esisitshela
ngayo.”

16 Bahle basuka ngokuphangisa, bafica uMariya lo-
Josefa losane olwalulele emkolweni wokudlela izifuyo.
17 Bathi sebembonile umntwana, batshela abanengi nga-
lokho ababekutshelwe mayelana lomntwana lo, 18 kwathi

bonke abalizwayo bamangaliswa yilokho abakuzwa nga-belusi. ¹⁹ Kodwa uMariya wazenza igugu zonke lezizinto wazishicilela enhliziyweni yakhe. ²⁰ Abelusi babuyela, bedumisa njalo bebabaza uNkulunkulu ngezinto zonke ababezizwile njalo bazibona, zaba yikho kanye ababekutsheliwe.

²¹ Ngosuku lwesificaminwembili, sekuyisikhathi sokuthi asokwe, wethiwa ibizo elithi nguJesu, ibizo ayelithiwe yingilosi engakabunjwa esiswini.

UJesu Uyethulwa EThempelini

²² Kwathi lapho sesiphelile isikhathi sabo sokuhlanjululwa ngokomthetho kaMosi, uJosefa loMariya bamusa eJerusalema ukuyamnikela eNkosini ²³ (njengokulotshiweyo eMthethweni weNkosi ukuthi, “Lonke izibulo lesilisa kumele linikelwe eNkosini”*), ²⁴ njalo kwenziwe umhlatshelo kulandelwa lokho okutshiwo nguMthetho weNkosi othi: “amajuba amabili loba inkwilimba ezisesezincane ezimbili.”†

²⁵ Kwakukhona eJerusalema indoda eyayithiwa nguSimiyoni, yayilungile njalo ikholwa. Yayilindele ukududuzwa kuka-Israyeli, njalo uMoya oNgcwele wawuphezu kwayo. ²⁶ Kwakwambuliwe kuye nguMoya oNgcwele ukuthi wayengayikufa engakaboni uKhristu weNkosi. ²⁷ Waholwa nguMoya wangena emagumeni ethempeli. Kwathi abazali sebemlethile umntwana uJesu ukumenzela lokho okwakufunwa ngumkhuba woMthetho, ²⁸ uSimiyoni wamgona ngezingalo zakhe wadumisa uNkulunkulu esithi:

²⁹ “Thixo, Nkosi, njengoba wavele wathembisa,
manje-ke iyekele ihambe ngokuthula inceku yakho.

³⁰ Ngoba amehlo ami aseiyonile insindiso yakho,

³¹ oyilungisileyo phambi kwezizwe zonke,

³² ukukhanya kokwambulela abeZizwe

lokwenkazimulo yabantu bakho bako-Israyeli.”

³³ Oyise lonina womntwana bamangala kakhulu ngalokho okwakukhulunywa ngaye. ³⁴ USimiyoni wasebabusisa, wathi kuMariya unina: “Umntwana lo umiselwe ukuwa lokuvuka kwabanengi ko-Israyeli, lokuba yisibonakaliso esizagconwa, ³⁵ ukwenzela ukuthi imicabango yabanengi ivele obala. Njalo inkemba izawugwaza umphefumulo wakho lawe.”

* 2:23 2.23 U-Eksodasi 13.2, 12 † 2:24 2.24 ULevi 12.8

³⁶ Kwakukhona njalo umphrofethikazi, u-Ana, indodakazi kaFanuveli, owesizwana sika-Asheri. Wayesem-dala kakhulu: wayephile lomkakhe okweminyaka eyisikhombisa ngemva kokwenda kwakhe, ³⁷ wasesiba ngumfelokazi waze waba leminyaka engamatshumi ayisifcaminwembali lane. Kazange lanini asuke ethempelini kodwa wayekhonzwa ubusuku lemini, ezila njalo ekhuleka. ³⁸ Wabuya kubo ngalesosikhathi wabonga kuNkulunkulu, wakhuluma ngomntwana kubo bonke ababelindele ukuhlengwa kweJerusalema.

³⁹ Kwathi lapho uJosefa loMariya sebekwenzile konke okwakufuneka ngoMthetho weNkosi babuyela eGalile, edolobheni lakibo elaseNazaretha. ⁴⁰ Umntwana wakhula, waqina; wagcwala inhlakanipho, njalo umusa kaNkulunkulu waba phezu kwakhe.

Umfana UJesu EseThempelini

⁴¹ Iminyaka yonke abazali bakhe baya eJerusalema belanda uMkhosi wePhasika. ⁴² Kwathi eseleminyaka elitshumi lambili baya emkhosini njengenjayelo. ⁴³ Kwathi uMkhosi usuphelile, abazali bakhe sebuyela ekhaya, umfana uJesu wasala eJerusalema, kodwa bona belibele. ⁴⁴ Bazihambela ilanga lonke bona becabanga ukuthi ukhona edwendweni lwabo. Basebeqalisa ukumdinga phakathi kwezihlobo zabo labangane. ⁴⁵ Bathi sebemswele babuyela eJerusalema bayamdinga. ⁴⁶ Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu bamfumana emagumeni ethempeli ehlezi phakathi kwabafundisi elalele njalo eabuza imibuzo. ⁴⁷ Wonke umuntu owamuzwayo wamangala ngokuzwisisa kwakhe kanye lempendulo zakhe. ⁴⁸ Abazali bakhe bathi bembona bamangala kakhulu. Unina wathi kuye, “Ndodana, kungani usinqinekisa kangaka? Uyihlo lami besesikhathazekile sikudinga.”

⁴⁹ Yena wabuza wathi, **“Belivele lingidingelani kanti? Belingazi yini ukuthi bekumele ngibe sendlini kaBaba?”** ⁵⁰ Kodwa kabazwisisanga lokho ayekutsho kubo.

⁵¹ Wasehamba labo eNazaretha wahlala ebalalela. Kodwa unina wazenza igugu zonke lezi izinto enhliziyweni yakhe. ⁵² UJesu wakhula ngenhlakanipho, langomzimba langokuthandwa nguNkulunkulu labantu.

3

UJohane UMbhaphathizi Ulungisa Indlela

¹ Ngomnyaka wetshumi lanhlanu wokubusa kukaThiberiyasi Khesari ngesikhathi uPhontiyasi Philathu engumbusi eJudiya, uHerodi engumbusi eGalile, umfowabo

uFiliphu engumbusi wase-Ithuriya leThrakhonithi, njalo loLisaniya engumbusi wase-Abhilene ² ngesikhathi leso u-Anasi loKhayifasi bengabaphristi abakhulu, kwafika ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kuJohane indodana kaZakhariya esenkangala. ³ Wawuhamba wonke umango waseJodani, etshumayela ubhaphathizo lokuphenduka ukuze izono zithethelelwe. ⁴ Njengoba kulotshiwe encwadini yamazwi ka-Isaya umphrofethi:

“Ilizwi lalowo omemezayo enkangala,
‘Lungisani indlela kaThixo,
yenzani indlela zakhe ziqonde.

⁵ Zonke izigodi zizagcwaliswa,
izintaba zonke lamaqaqa kuzakwehliselwa phansi.
Izindlela zonke ezimazombe zizaqonda,
izindlela ezimakhilikithi zizakuba butshelezi.

⁶ Abantu bonke bazayibona insindiso kaNkulunkulu.’*”

⁷ UJohane wathi emaxukwini abantu ababuya ukuzobhaphathizwa nguye, “Lina nzalo yezinyoka! Lilimukiswe ngubani ukuthi libalekele ulaka oluzayo na? ⁸ Thelani izithelo ezihambelana lokuphenduka. Njalo lingaqali ukuzitshela ukuthi, ‘Silo-Abhrahama ongubaba wethu.’ Ngoba ngilitshela ukuthi kuwonala amatshe uNkulunkulu angamenzela u-Abhrahama abantwana. ⁹ Ihloka selivele selisezimpandeni zezihlahla, njalo zonke izihlahla ezingatheli izithelo ezilungileyo zizaganyulwa, ziphoselwe emlilweni.”

¹⁰ Abantu bambuza bathi, “Pho kumele senzeni?”

¹¹ UJohane waphendula wathi, “Leyondoda elamajazi amabili kayimuphe ongelalo elinye lalowo olokudla kenze njalo.”

¹² Labathelisi labo beza ukuzabhaphathizwa. Babuza bathi, “Mfundisi, kumele senzeni?”

¹³ Wabatshela wathi, “Lingathelisi ledlulise okufunekayo.”

¹⁴ Abanye abebutho bambuza bathi, “Thina-ke senzeni?”

Waphendula wathi, “Lingancindezeli ukuthi liphiwe imali njalo lingabeki muntu umlandu wamanga njalo lisuthiseke ngomholo wenu.”

¹⁵ Abantu babehlezi belindele njalo bonke babezibuza ezinhliziyweni zabo ingabe uJohane wayenguye yini uKhristu.

¹⁶ UJohane wabaphendula bonke wathi, “Mina ngilibhaphathiza ngamanzi. Kodwa yena olamandla kulami uyeza, akungilingananga ukuthukulula imichilo yamanyathela akhe. Uzalibhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele langomlilo. ¹⁷ Isitsha sakhe sokwela sisesandleni sakhe

* 3:6 3.6 U-Isaya 40.3-5

ukuba athanyele isiza sakhe njalo abuthele amabele akhe esiphaleni, kodwa uzatshisa amakhoba ngomlilo ongacitshekiyo.”¹⁸ Waphinda walaya abantu ngamanye amazwi amanengi njalo watshumayela kubo ivangeli.

¹⁹ Kodwa kwathi uJohane esekhuze uHerodi umbusi ngenxa kaHerodiyasi, umkamfowabo, langezinye izinto ezimbi ayezenzile,²⁰ uHerodi wakuhlanganisa lokhu konke: Wamvalela uJohane entolongweni.

Ukubhaphathizwa KukaJesu Lembali Yosendo Lwakhe

²¹ Kwathi bonke abantu bebhaphathizwa, loJesu laye wabhaphathizwa. Wathi ekhuleka izulu lavuleka²² uMoya oNgcwele wehlela kuye elesimo sejuba. Kweza ilizwi livela ezulwini lathi: “Wena uyiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngawe.”

²³ UJesu wayeseleminyaka engaba ngamatshumi amathathu eqalisa umsebenzi wakhe wokutshumayela. Kwakukhunjulwa ukuthi uyindodana kaJosefa,

indodana kaHeli,²⁴ indodana kaMathathi,

indodana kaLevi, indodana kaMeliki,

indodana kaJanayi, indodana kaJosefa,

²⁵ indodana kaMathathiyasi, indodana ka-Amosi,

indodana kaNahumi, indodana ka-Esili,

indodana kaNagayi,²⁶ indodana kaMahathi,

indodana kaMathathiyasi, indodana kaSemeyini,

indodana kaJoseki, indodana kaJoda,

²⁷ indodana kaJohanani, indodana kaResa,

indodana kaZerubhabheli, indodana kaSheyalithiyeli,

indodana kaNeri,²⁸ indodana kaMeliki,

indodana ka-Adi, indodana kaKhosamu,

indodana ka-Elimadami, indodana ka-Eri,

²⁹ indodana kaJoshuwa, indodana ka-Eliyezeri,

indodana kaJorimu, indodana kaMathathi,

indodana kaLevi,³⁰ indodana kaSimiyoni,

indodana kaJuda, indodana kaJosefa,

indodana kaJonami, indodana ka-Eliyakhimu,

³¹ indodana kaMeleya, indodana kaMena,

indodana kaMathatha, indodana kaNathani,

indodana kaDavida,³² indodana kaJese,

indodana ka-Obhedi, indodana kaBhowazi,

indodana kaSalimoni, indodana kaNashoni,

³³ indodana ka-Aminadabi, indodana kaRamu,

indodana kaHezironi, indodana kaPherezi,

indodana kaJuda,³⁴ indodana kaJakhobe,

indodana ka-Isaka, indodana ka-Abhrahama,

indodana kaThera, indodana kaNahori,

³⁵ indodana kaSerugi, indodana kaRewu, indodana kaPhelegi, indodana ka-Ebha, indodana kaShela, ³⁶ indodana kaKhayinani, indodana ka-Ariphazadi, indodana kaShemu, indodana kaNowa, indodana kaLameki, ³⁷ indodana kaMethusela, indodana ka-Enoki, indodana kaJaredi, indodana kaMahalaleli, indodana kaKhenani, ³⁸ indodana ka-Enoshi, indodana kaSethi, indodana ka-Adamu, indodana kaNkulunkulu.

4

Ukulingwa KukaJesu

¹ UJesu egcwele uMoya oNgcwele wasuka evela eJodani wasekhokhelwa nguMoya wamusa enkangala, ² lapho alingwa khona nguSathane okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane. Kadlanga lutho ngalezonsuku, ekupheleni kwazo, wayeselambile.

³ USathane wathi kuye, “Nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu, tshela ilitshe leli ukuthi liphenduke libe yisinkwa.”

⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Umuntu kaphili ngesinkwa kuphela.’*”**

⁵ USathane wamholela endaweni ephakemeyo wamtshengisa ngesikhathi esifitshane yonke imibuso yomhlaba. ⁶ Wasesithi kuye, “Ngizakunika amandla lenkazimulo yayo yonke ngoba kuphiwe mina njalo ngingapha loba ngubani engifuna ukumupha. ⁷ Ungangikhonza konke kuzakuba ngokwakho.”

⁸ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Khonza iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho njalo usebenzele yena yedwa.’†”**

⁹ USathane wamholela eJerusalema wayamisa engqonjeni yethempeli. Wathi kuye “Nxa uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu, ziphosele phansi usuka lapha. ¹⁰ Kalokho kulotshiwe ukuthi:

‘Uzayala izingilosi zakhe ngawe
ukuthi zikulondoloze ngokunanzelela;

¹¹ zizakuphakamisa ezandleni zazo,
ukuze ungatshayeki ngonyawo lwakho elitsheni.’‡”

¹² UJesu waphendula wathi **“Kuthiwa khona, ‘Ungayilingi iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho.’§”**

¹³ Kwathi uSathane eseqedile ukumlinga konke wamtshiya walindela ukuzamlinga njalo ngesinye isikhathi.

* 4:4 4.4 UDutheronomi 8.3 † 4:8 4.8 UDutheronomi 6.13 ‡ 4:11 4.11

AmaHubo 91.11-12 § 4:12 4.12 UDutheronomi 6.16

UJesu Uyaliwa eNazaretha

¹⁴ UJesu wabuyela eGalile elamandla kaMoya, izindaba ngaye zanda kuwo wonke umango. ¹⁵ Wafundisa emasinagogweni abo, abantu bonke bamdumisa.

¹⁶ Waya eNazaretha lapho akhulela khona kwathi ngeSabatha waya esinagogweni njengenjayelo yakhe. Wasukuma wabala. ¹⁷ Umqulu womphrofethi u-Isaya wedluliselwa kuye. Wawutshombulula wafumana indawo okulotshwe khona kwathiwa:

¹⁸ **“Umoya kaThixo uphezu kwami,
ngoba uThixo ungigcobile ukuba
ngitshumayele izindaba ezinhle kwabampofu.
Ungithumile ukuba ngimemezele ukukhululwa kwa-
bathunjiweyo
lokusiliswa kweziphofu ukuthi zibone,
ukukhululwa kwabancindezelweyo,**

¹⁹ **lokumemezela umnyaka womusa kaThixo.”***

²⁰ Wasewugoqa, wawubuyisela esikhonzini sebandla, wahlala phansi. Amehlo abo bonke esinagogweni athi nhlo kuye, ²¹ waseqalisa ngokuthi kubo, **“Lamhla umbhalo usugcwalisekile lizizwela.”**

²² Bonke bakhuluma kuhle ngaye bemangaliswa ngamazwi amnandi ayephuma emlonyeni wakhe. Babuzana besithi, “Kanti lo kasindodana kaJosefa na?”

²³ UJesu wathi kubo, **“Ngeqiniso lizasitsho kimi lesi isaga esithi: ‘Nyanga, zelaphe! Yenza lapha edolobheni lakini lokho esizwa kuthiwa wakwenza eKhapenawume.’”**

²⁴ Waqhubeka wathi, **“Ngiqinisile ngithi kakulamphrofethi oyamukelekayo edolobheni lakibo. ²⁵ Ngiyaqinisa kini ukuthi babebanengi abafelokazi ko-Israyeli ngesikhathi sika-Elija, lapho umkhathi wavaleka okweminyaka emithathu elengxenye kwaba lendlala enzima elizweni lonke. ²⁶ Kodwa u-Elija kazange athunywe lakoyedwa wabo, ngaphandle komfelokazi waseZarefathi emangweni waseSidoni. ²⁷ Babebanengi ko-Israyeli ababelobulephero ngesikhathi sika-Elisha umphrofethi, kodwa munye kuphela phakathi kwabo owahlanjululwayo, uNamani waseSiriya.”**

²⁸ Bonke abantu ababesinagogweni bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathukuthela kakhulu. ²⁹ Basukuma, bamtshovela phandle kwedolobho bamusa eliweni loqaqa okwakwakhelwe kulo idolobho beqonde ukumsunduzela phansi

* 4:19 4.19 U-Isaya 61.1-2

edongeni. ³⁰ Kodwa wasuka wahamba wadabula phakathi kwexuku labantu.

UJesu Ukhupha Umoya Omubi

³¹ Wasesiya eKhapenawume, idolobho elaliseGalile, kwathi ngeSabatha wafundisa abantu. ³² Bamangaliswa yikufundisa kwakhe ngoba intshumayelo yakhe yayile-sisindo.

³³ Esinagogweni lapho kwakulendoda eyayiphethwe lidingoni, umoya ongcolileyo. Yaklabalala ngelizwi layo lonke yathi, ³⁴ "Hamba khatshana! Ufunani kithi, Jesu wase-Nazaretha? Ulande ukuza sibhubhisa na? Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ungubani, ungoNgcwele kaNkulunkulu!"

³⁵ UJesu wamkhuza wathi, **"Thula! Phuma kuye!"** Idimoni layilahla phansi indoda phambi kwabo bonke laphuma lingayilimazanga indoda.

³⁶ Bonke abantu bamangala kakhulu bakhulumisana besithi, "Yikufundisa bani lokhu? Ulaya imimoya emibi ngegunya langamandla layo iphume!" ³⁷ Zamemetheka izindaba ngaye kuwo wonke umango walapho.

UJesu Uphilisa Abanengi

³⁸ UJesu wasuka esinagogweni waya emzini kaSimoni. Uninazala kaSimoni wayegula ebanjwe ngumkhuhlane woqhusho onzima basebecela uJesu ukuthi amsize. ³⁹ Wasekhotshamela kuye wakhuzisa umkhuhlane lowo wahle waphuma kuye. Yena wathi lothu, waqalisa ukubaphakela.

⁴⁰ Kwathi ilanga selitshona abantu baletha kuJesu bonke ababe lemikhuhlane eyehlukeneyo, wabasilisa ngokubeka izandla phezu kwalowo lalowo ngamunye. ⁴¹ Phezu kwalokho amadimoni aphuma kwabanengi ememeza esithi, "Wena uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu!" Kodwa wawakhuzisa kazawavumela ukuthi akhulume ngoba ayemazi ukuthi unguKhristu.

⁴² Emadabukakusa uJesu wasuka waya endaweni ethuleyo. Abantu babemdinga bathi sebefike lapho ayekhona, bazama ukumvimba ukuthi angabatshiyi. ⁴³ Kodwa wathi, **"Kumele ngitshumayele izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu kwamanye amadolobho, ngoba yikho engakulandayo."** ⁴⁴ Waqhubeka etshumayela emasinagogweni aseJudiya.

5

Ukubizwa Kwabafundi Bokuqala

¹ Ngelinye ilanga uJesu emi eduze kweChibi laseGenezaretha abantu beminyezelana kuye belalela

ilizwi likaNkulunkulu, ² wabona ekhunjini lechibi izikepe ezimbili zitshiywe khonapho ngabagoli benhlanzi ababegezisa omambule babo. ³ Wangena kwesinye isikepe esasingesikaSimoni, wamcela ukuthi akathi gudlu asuke kancane okhunjini. Wasehlala phansi wafundisa abantu ehlezi esikepeni.

⁴ Esegedile ukukhuluma wathi kuSimoni, **“Gwedla ungene enzikini uphosele omambule bakho ukuze ubambe inhlanzi.”**

⁵ USimoni waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, sisebenze gadalala ubusuku bonke, kodwa kasibambanga lutho. Kodwa njen-goba usitsho njalo ngizabehlisha omambule.”

⁶ Kwathi sebenze njalo babamba inhlanzi ezaba zinengi kwaze kwaqalisa ukudabuka omambule. ⁷ Basebebiza abakhula babo kwesinye isikepe ukuthi bazobekelelela. Beza abakhula babo kwesinye isikepe ukuthi bazobekelelela. Beza bazigcwalisa zombili izikepe zathi phamu zaze zaqalisa ukutshona.

⁸ Kwathi uSimoni Phethro ekubona lokhu wazilahla phansi phambi kukaJesu wathi, “Suka kimi, Nkosi; ngingumuntu oyisoni!” ⁹ Ngoba yena labakhula bakhe babemangele ngenhlanzi ababezibambile, ¹⁰ kwamangalisa njalo uJakhobe loJohane amadodana kaZebhediya, ababe phathisana loSimoni.

UJesu wasesithi kuSimoni, **“Ungesabi; kusukela manje usuzagola abantu.”** ¹¹ Basebedonsela izikepe zabo okhun-jini batshiya konke bamlandela.

Indoda Eyayilobulephero

¹² Kwathi uJesu ekwelinye lamadolobho kweza indoda eyayigcwele ubulephero. Yathi ibona uJesu yathi mbo phansi ngobuso yamncenga yathi, “Nkosi, nxa uthanda ungangihlambulula.”

¹³ UJesu welula isandla sakhe wayithinta indoda leyo. Wathi, **“Ngiyathanda. Hlambuluka!”** Masinyane nje ubulephero bahle baphela.

¹⁴ UJesu waseyilaya wathi, **“Ungatsheli muntu kodwa hamba uyeziveza kumphristi ubusunikela umhlatshelo wokuhlanjululwa kwakho owamiswa nguMosi ukuze kube yibufakazi kubo.”**

¹⁵ Kodwa udumo lwakhe lwanda ngamandla, yikho amaxuku abantu eza ukuzamuzwa lokusiliswa emikhuhlaneni yabo. ¹⁶ Kodwa kanengi uJesu wayesithi nyelele ayesithela ezindaweni ezithuleyo ayekhuleka.

UJesu Usilisa Umuntu Owome Umhlubulo

¹⁷ Ngelinye ilanga elokhu efundisa, kwakuhlezi khonapho abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho ababephuma emizini yonke yaseGalile abanye bevela eJudiya laseJerusalema. Amandla eNkosi ayekhona kuye ukuze asilise abagulayo. ¹⁸ Kwafika amanye amadoda ethwele indoda eyayome umhlubulo ngecansi efuna ukungena laye endlini ambeke phambi kukaJesu. ¹⁹ Athi esehlulekile ngenxa yokuminyana kwabantu, akhwela ephahleni, amehlisela phansi ngesikhala amuthi qithi phakathi laphakathi kwabantu phambi kukaJesu.

²⁰ Kwathi uJesu ebona ukholo lwawo wathi, **“Mngane, izono zakho sezithethelelwe.”**

²¹ AbaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho bakhonona bathi, “Ungubani yena lo umuntu okhuluma ehlambaza na? Ngubani ongathethelela izono ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu kuphela?”

²² UJesu wayekwazi abakucabangayo wasebuza wathi, **“Kungani linakana izinto ezinje ezinhliziyweni zenu?”**

²³ **Yikuphi okulula: ukuthi, ‘Izono zakho sezithethelelwe,’ loba ukuthi, ‘Sukuma uhambe’?** ²⁴ **Kodwa ukuze lazi ukuthi iNdodana yoMuntu ilamandla okuthethelela izono emhlabeni.**” Wasesithi kuyo indoda eyome umhlubulo, **“Sukuma, thatha icansi lakho uhambe uye ekhaya.”** ²⁵ Masinyane wathi lothu phambi kwabo, wabutha ayekade elele phezu kwakho waya ekhaya edumisa uNkulunkulu. ²⁶ Wonke umuntu wamangala, badumisa uNkulunkulu. Bamangala kakhulu bathi, “Lamuhla sibone izimanga.”

Ukubizwa KukaLevi

²⁷ Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu waphuma wasebona umthelisi owayethiwa nguLevi ehlezi endaweni yakhe yokuthelisa. UJesu wathi kuye, **“Ngilandela,”** ²⁸ uLevi wasukuma watshiya konke wamlandela.

²⁹ ULevi wasesenzela uJesu idili elikhulu endlini yakhe kukhona ixuku labathelisi labanye besidla labo. ³⁰ Kodwa abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho abeqembu labo basola kubafundi bakhe bathi, “Lenzelani ukudla linathe labathelisi kanye lezoni na?”

³¹ UJesu wabaphendula wathi, **“Kakusibo abaphilayo abaswela umelaphi, kodwa ngabagulayo.**

³² **Kangilandanga ukubiza abulungileyo, kodwa ukubiza izoni ukuba ziphenduke.”**

³³ Bathi kuye, “Abafundi bakaJohane bazila kanengi bekhuleka njalo labafundi babaFarisi labo benza njalo, kodwa abakho bahlala besidla, benatha.”

³⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kungenzeka yini ukuzilisa izethekeli zomyeni emthimbeni umyeni eseselazo na?”**
³⁵ **Kodwa sizafika isikhathi lapho umyeni ezasuswa kuzo; zizazila ngalezonsuku.”**

³⁶ Wabatshela umzekeliso lo: **“Kakho odabula isichibi esigqokweni esitsha asithungele esigqokweni esidala. Angenzenjalo, uzakuba esesidabule isigqoko esitsha, ikanti isichibi sesitsha kasiyikufanela esidala.** ³⁷ **Njalo kakho othela iwayini elitsha emigodleni yezikhumba emidala. Angenza njalo iwayini elitsha lizaziqhekeza izikhumba iwayini livuze kuthi lemigodla yezikhumba leyo ihle yonakale.** ³⁸ **Hatshi, iwayini elitsha lithelwa emigodleni yezikhumba emitsha.** ³⁹ **Njalo kakho othi eseqale wanatha iwayini elidala afune elitsha, ngoba uthi, ‘Elidala lingcono.’”**

6

INKosi YeSabatha

¹ Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayedabula emasimini alamabele, abafundi bakhe basebekhwebula izikhwebu zama-bele, bakha bazihlikihlela ezandleni, badla inhlamvu zakhona. ² Abanye abaFarisi babuza bathi, “Kungani lisenza okungaphandle komthetho ngeSabatha na?”

³ UJesu wabaphendula wathi, **“Kalifundanga yini okwenziwa nguDavida lapho yena labakhula bakhe sebelabile?”** ⁴ **Wangena endlini kaNkulunkulu wathatha isinkwa esingcwelisiweyo wadla lokho umthetho owawusithi kudliwe ngabaphristi kuphela. Futhi okunye wakupha abakhula bakhe.”** ⁵ UJesu wasesithi kubo, **“INDodana yoMuntu iyiNkosi yeSabatha.”**

⁶ Ngelinye iSabatha waya esinagogweni wafundisa, khonapho kulendoda elesandla sokudla esitshwabheneyo. ⁷ AbaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho babedinga izaba lokubeka uJesu icala, yikho bamlinda ukubona ingabe wayezasilisa ngeSabatha. ⁸ Kodwa uJesu wakwazi ababekucabanga, wasesithi endodeni yesandla esitshwabheneyo, **“Sukuma ume phambi kwabantu bonke.”** Lakanye yasukuma yema khonapho.

⁹ UJesu wasesithi kubo, **“Ngiyalibuza, kuyini okusemthethweni ngeSabatha: ukwenza okuhle loba ukwenza okubi, ukusindisa impilo kumbe ukuyibhubhisa?”**

¹⁰ Wabakhangela wababhoda bonke, wasesithi endodeni leyo, **“Yelula isandla sakho.”** Yenza njalo, isandla sayo sasiliswa ngokupheleleyo. ¹¹ Kodwa bazonda babheda basebecebisana ukuthi benzeni ngoJesu.

AbaPostoli Abalitshumi Lambili

¹² Ngelinye ilanga uJesu waphuma waya ewatheni lwentaba esiya khuleka, waba khonale ubusuku bonke ekhuleka kuNkulunkulu. ¹³ Kwathi sokusile wasebiza abafundi bakhe wakhetha kubo abalitshumi lambili, wasebaphawula ngokuthi ngabapostoli:

¹⁴ uSimoni (owambiza ngokuthi Phethro), lomfowabo u-
 Andreyu,
 uJakhobe,
 uJohane,
 uFiliphu,
 uBhatholomewu,
¹⁵ uMatewu,
 uThomasi,
 uJakhobe umfoka-Alifewu,
 uSimoni owayethiwa ngumZilothi,
¹⁶ uJudasi umfokaJakhobe
 loJudasi Iskariyothi, owaba ngumthengisi.

Izibusiso Lezixwayiso

¹⁷ Wehla labo bema esigcawini. Kwakubuthene ixuku elikhulu elabafundi bakhe njalo kulabantu abanengi bevela kulolonke elaseJudiya, leJerusalema lasemakhunjini olwandle eThire leSidoni, ¹⁸ ababeze ukuzamuzwa lokuzakwelatshwa izifo zabo. Labo ababehlutshwa yimimoya emibi basiliswa, ¹⁹ bonke abantu bazama ukumthinta ngoba amandla ayephuma kuye ayebasilisa bonke.

²⁰ Wakhangela abafundi bakhe wathi:

**“Libusisiwe lina elimpofu,
 ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu ngowenu.**

²¹ **Libusisiwe lina elilambileyo manje,
 ngoba lizasuthiswa.**

**Libusisiwe lina elililayo manje,
 ngoba lizahleka.**

²² **Libusisiwe lina nxa abantu belizona,
 nxa belibandlulula njalo belichothoza,
 bephika ibizo lenu besithi lingcolile,
 ngenxa yeNdodana yoMuntu.**

²³ **Thokozani ngalolosuku liqolotshe ngokuthokoza ngoba mkhulu umvuzo wenu ezulwini. Ngoba yiyo indlela okhokho babo abaphatha ngayo abaphrofethi.**

- 24 **Kodwa maye kini lina elinothileyo, ngoba livele selikwamukele ukuhlala kuhle kwenu.**
- 25 **Maye kini lina elidla kamnandi manje, ngoba lizalamba.**
- Maye kini lina elihlekayo manje, ngoba lizakhala lilile.**
- 26 **Maye kini nxa bonke abantu belincoma, ngoba yiyo indlela okhokho benu abaphatha ngayo abaphrofethi bamanga.”**

Ukuthanda Izitha

27 **“Kodwa ngiyalitshela lina elingizwayo, ngithi: Thandani izitha zenu, lenze okuhle kwabalizondayo, libusise labo abaliqalekisayo, libakhulekele labo abalihlukuluzayo. 29 Umuntu angakutshaya esihlathini, muphe esinye. Umuntu angakwemuka ijazi lakho ungamaleli ukuthatha leyembe. 30 Phanini loba ngubani ocela kini, njalo nxa umuntu ethatha ulutho lwakho ungaluthonisi. 31 Yenza kwabanye lokho ofuna ukuthi bakwenze kuwe.**

32 **Nxa lithanda labo abalithandayo kuphela, lizazuzani kulokho? Lezoni lazo ziyabathanda abazithandayo. 33 Njalo nxa lisenza okuhle kulabo abalungileyo kini, lizazuzani kulokho? Lezoni ziyakwenza lokho. 34 Njalo nxa liseboleka labo elizazuza imbadalo kubo, lizazuzani kulokho? Lezoni ziboleka izoni zilindele ukubhadalwa ngokugcweleyo. 35 Kodwa thandani izitha zenu, lizenzele okuhle, njalo lizeboleke lingalindeli lutho kuzo. Lapho-ke umvuzo wenu uzakuba mkhulu, njalo lizakuba ngamadodana akhe oPhezukonke, ngoba ulomusa kwabangabongiyo labayizigangi. 36 Wobani lesihawu njengoYihlo olesihawu.”**

Ukwahlulela Abanye

37 **“Lingahluleli ukuze lani lingahlulelwa. Lingahlahli omunye ukuze lani lingahlahla. Thethelelani ukuze lani lithethelelwe. 38 Phanini, lani lizaphiwa. Kuzathiwa qithi kini kugcwaliswe phamu, kwagqitshwa, kwakhuhluzwa kwaze kwaphuphuma. Ngoba ngesilinganiso elisisebenzisayo, lani lizalinganiselwa ngaso.”**

39 **Waphinde wabatshela umzekeliso lo, “Isiphofu kambe singakhokhela isiphofu na? Kazizukuwela emgodini zombili na? 40 Umfundi ungaphansi kombalisi wakhe, kodwa wonke osefundiswe ngokupheleleyo usenjenombalisi wakhe.**

41 Kungani ukhangela uvava lokhuni oluselihlweni lomfowenu, unganqinekeli ukhuni olukwelakho ilihlo na? 42 Ungatsho kanjani kumfowenu ukuthi, 'Mfowethu, wothi ngikukhuphe uvava oluselihlweni lakho,' kodwa wena usehluleka ukubona ukhuni oluselihlweni lakho na? Wena mzenzisi, qala ukhuphe ukhuni oluselihlweni lakho ukuze ubone kuhle nxa usukhupha uvava oluselihlweni lomfowenu."

Isihlahla Lezithelo Zaso

43 "Kakulasihlahla esihle esithela izithelo ezimbi njalo lesihlahla esibi kasitheli izithelo ezinhle. 44 Isihlahla sinye ngasinye saziwa ngezithelo zaso. Abantu kabakhi umkhiwa ezihlahleni zameva loba amagrebisi esingeni. 45 Umuntu olungileyo uveza izinto ezinhle eziphuma kokuhle okugcinwe enhliziyweni yakhe, njalo lomuntu omubi uphihliza ububi obugcinwe enhliziyweni yakhe. Ngoba umlomo ukhuluma lokho okuphuphuma enhliziyweni."

Omakhi Abahlakaniphileyo Labayiziwula

46 "Kungani lingibiza lisithi, 'Nkosi, Nkosi,' kodwa lingakwenzi engikutshoyo? 47 Lowo oza kimi ezwe amazwi ami akwenze akutshoyo, ngizalitshela ukuthi unjengani. 48 Unjengendoda eyakha indlu, yagebha yatshona phansi, yasibeka isisekelo sayo phezu kwedwala. Kwathi kufika isikhukhula, isiphepho sayitshaya indlu, kodwa asaze sayizamazamisa, ngoba yayakhiwe kuhle. 49 Kodwa lowo owezwayo amazwi ami, kodwa angakwenzi akutshoyo, unjengomuntu owakha indlu emhlabathini kungelasisekelo. Umsinga wonela ukuyitshaya leyondlu, yabhidlika yaphela du."

7

Ukholo Lwenduna Yekhulu

1 Kwathi uJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma konke lokhu abantu labo besizwa wayangena eKhaphenawume. 2 Khonapho inceku yenduna yekhulu eyayiligugu kakhulu enkosini yayo, yayigula isibangwa lezibi. 3 Induna yekhulu yezwa ngoJesu yathuma kuye abanye abadala bamaJuda icela ukuba eze azosilisa inceku yayo. 4 Bafika kuJesu bamncenga kakhulu bathi, "Indoda le ifanele ukuthi uyenzele lokhu, 5 ngoba iyasithanda isizwe sakithi njalo yiyo eyakha isinagogu yethu." 6 Ngakho uJesu wahamba labo.

Wayengasekhatshana lendlu lapho induna yekhulu yathuma abangane bayo ukuyakuthi kuye, "Nkosi,

ungazihluphi, akungifanelanga mina ukuthi ungene ngaphansi kophahla lwami. ⁷ Yikho okwenze ngazibona ngingafanele ukuthi ngize kuwe. Kodwa tshono ilizwi nje inceku yami izasila. ⁸ Ngoba mina ngokwami ngingumuntu ongaphansi komthetho, ngilamabutho angaphansi kwami. Lo ngimshela ngithi, 'Hamba,' ahambe; ngithi kuloyana, 'Buya,' lakanye abuye. Ngithi encekwini yami, 'Yenza lokhu,' ikwenze."

⁹ UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wamangala ngaye, wasephendukela exukwini labantu ababemlandela wathi, **"Ngiyalitshela, kangikaluboni ukholo olukhulu kangaka kanye lako-Israyeli."** ¹⁰ Abantu ababethunyiwe babuyela endlini bafica inceku isiziphilela.

UJesu Uvusa Indodana Yomfelokazi

¹¹ Kungakabi yisikhathi eside ngemva kwalokhu, uJesu waya edolobheni okwakuthiwa yiNayini, abafundi bakhe kanye lexuku labantu elikhulu babehamba laye. ¹² Wathi esebanga entubeni yedolobho, khonapho umuntu ofileyo wayethwelwe ekhutshelwa ngaphandle. Indodana eyiyo yodwa kunina njalo unina engumfelokazi. Ixuku elikhulu labantu bedolobheni lalilaye. ¹³ Kwathi uJesu embona umfelokazi, wamhawukela wathi kuye, **"Ungakhali."**

¹⁴ Wasesondela wathinta ithala elalilesidumbu, kwathi labo ababelithwele bema mpo. Wathi, **"Jaha, ngithi kuwe, vuka!"** ¹⁵ Indoda efileyo yavuka yahlala, yasikhuluma, uJesu wayinika unina.

¹⁶ Bonke bamangala kakhulu badumisa uNkulunkulu. Bathi, "Umphrofethi omkhulu usevelile phakathi kwethu. UNkulunkulu usefikile ukuzasiza abantu bakhe." ¹⁷ Udumo lukaJesu lwamemetheka kulolonke elaseJudiya lemangweni wakhona.

UJesu LoJohane UMbhaphathizi

¹⁸ Abafundi bakaJohane bamtshela ngazonke lezizinto. Wabiza ababili babo ¹⁹ wabathuma eNkosini ukuyabuza ukuthi, "Unguye yini ozayo, kumbe silindele omunye?"

²⁰ Amadoda lawo athi efika kuJesu athi, "UJohane uMbhaphathizi usithumile kuwe ukuthi sizobuza sithi, 'Unguye yini ozayo kumbe silindele omunye?'"

²¹ Ngalesosikhathi uJesu wasilisa abanengi ababelezi-ifo, lemikhuhlane lemimoya emibi, wazivula amehlo iziphofu ezinengi. ²² UJesu waphendula wathi, **"Buyelani liyebikela uJohane lokhu elikubonayo lelikuzwayo ukuthi iziphofu zenziwa zibone, abaqhugezelayo bayahamba, abalobulephero bayahlanjululwa, izacuthe**

**ziyezwa, abafileyo bayavuswa, levangeli liyatshun-
yayelwa kubayanga. ²³ Ubusisiwe lowomuntu on-
gakhubekiyo ngenxa yami.”**

²⁴ Sezihambile izithunywa zikaJohane uJesu waqala ukukhuluma labantu ngoJohane esithi: **“Laphuma lisiyabonani enkangala na? Umhlanga owazunguzwa ngumoya na? ²⁵ Nxa kwakungenjalo, pho lalisiyabonani? Indoda eyayicecile na? Hatshi, labo abagqoka izigqoko ezidulayo bazitike ngezinto ezinhle basezigodlweni. ²⁶ Kodwa kanti kuyini elaphuma lisiyakubona? Umphrofethi yini? Yebo, ngiyalitshela, omkhulu kulomphrofethi. ²⁷ Lo nguyey okulotshwe ngaye ukuthi:**

**‘Ngizathuma isithunywa sami phambi kwakho,
esizalungisa indlela yakho phambi kwakho.’***

²⁸ **Ngiyalitshela ukuthi kubo abazalwa ngabesifazane kakho omkhulu kuloJohane; ikanti lowo omncinyane kakhulu embusweni kaNkulunkulu mkhulu kulaye.”**

²⁹ (Bonke abantu, kanye labathelisi, bathi sebewazwile amazwi kaJesu bavuma ukuthi indlela kaNkulunkulu yayilungile, ngoba babebhaphathizwe nguJohane. ³⁰ Kodwa abaFarisi lezazi zomthetho bayala injongo kaNkulunkulu ngabo, ngoba babengabhaphathizwanga nguJohane.)

³¹ UJesu waqhubeka wathi, **“Pho ngingabafanisa lani abantu besizukulwane lesi? Bafanana lani? ³² Banjengabantwana behlezi emkambo bememeza abanye besithi:**

**‘Salitshayela umhubhe,
kodwa kaligidanga,
salihlabelela ingoma yesililo,
kodwa kalililanga.’**

³³ **Ngoba uJohane uMbhaphathizi weza engadli isinkwa njalo enganathi iwayini, lina lithi, ‘Uledimoni.’**

³⁴ **INDodana yoMuntu yafika yadla, yanatha, laselisithi, ‘Nansi isidli lesidakwa, umngane wabathelisi lezoni.’**

³⁵ **Kodwa ukuhlakanipha kuziveza ukuthi kuqondile ebantwaneni bakho bonke.”**

UJesu Ugcotshwa Ngumfazi Oyisoni

³⁶ Omunye wabaFarisi wanxusa uJesu ukuzakudla laye isidlo sakusihlwa, ngakho waya endlini yalowo mFarisi wahlala etafuleni. ³⁷ Kwathi owesifazane othile owayephila impilo yesono kulelodobho esezwile ukuthi uJesu wayesidla endlini yomFarisi weza ephethe imbodlela yamakha, ³⁸ kwathi esemi ngemva kukaJesu

* 7:27 7.27 UMalaki 3.1

ngasezinyaweni ekhala, wamanzisa inyawo zakhe ngezinyembezi. Wasezesula inyawo zikaJesu ngenwele zakhe, wazanga wasethela amakha kuzo.

³⁹ Kwathi lowomFarisi owayemnxusile ekubona lokho wazitshela wathi, “Aluba indoda le ibingumphrofethi, ibizakwazi ukuthi ngubani oyibambabambayo lokuthi umfazi lo uyisoni.”

⁴⁰ UJesu wamphendula wathi, **“Simoni, kukhona engifuna ukukutshela khona.”**

Wathi, “Ngitshela, mfundisi.”

⁴¹ **“Amadoda amabili ayelesikwelede semali kumeboleki wemali. Oyedwa wayelesikwelede samadenari angamakhulu amahlanu, omunye esamatshumi amahlanu. ⁴² Bobabili babengelayo imali yokumbhadala, ngakho wasewesula umlandu wabo bobabili. Manje nguphi wabo ozamthanda okudlula omunye na?”**

⁴³ USimoni waphendula wathi, “Ngibona kungathi ngulowo owesulelwa isikwelede esikhulu.”

UJesu wathi, **“Wahlulele kuhle.”**

⁴⁴ Wasephendukela kowesifazane wathi kuSimoni, **“Uyambona na owesifazane lo? Ngifikile endlini yakho, kawungiphanga amanzi okugeza inyawo zami, kodwa yena uthambise inyawo zami ngezinyembezi zakhe, wazesula ngenwele zakhe. ⁴⁵ Kawunganganga, kodwa owesifazane lo selokhu ngingenileyo lapha akemanga ukwanga inyawo zami. ⁴⁶ Kawuthelanga amafutha ekhanda lami, kodwa yena uthethelele amakha ezinyaweni zami. ⁴⁷ Yikho-ke ngiyakutshela ukuthi izono zakhe ezinengi sezithethelelewe, ngoba utshengise uthando olukhulu. Kodwa lowo othethelelewe okuncinyane uthanda kancinyane.”**

⁴⁸ UJesu wasesithi kowesifazane, **“Izono zakho sezithethelelewe.”**

⁴⁹ Ezinye izethekeli zasezibuzana zisithi, “Ungubani kanti yena lo oze athethelele izono na?”

⁵⁰ UJesu wasesithi kowesifazane, **“Ukukholwa kwakho kukusindisile; hamba ngokuthula.”**

8

Umzekeliso Womhlanyeli

¹ Ngemva kwalokho uJesu wahambahamba engena kuleli laleli idolobho lemizi, ememezela izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu. Abalitshumi lambili babelaye, ² kanye

labesifazane ababesiliswe emimoyeni emibi lemikhuhlani: uMariya (owayethiwa nguMagadalini) okwakuphume kuye amadimoni ayisikhombisa; ³ uJowana umkaTshuza, umlawuli wendlu kaHerodi; uSusana labanye abanengi. Abesifazane laba babebasiza ngabakuswelayo.

⁴ Kwathi sekubuthana ixuku labantu elikhulu labantu besiza kuJesu beqhamuka emadolobheni atshiyeneyo wabatshele lo umzekeliso: ⁵ **“Umlimi waphuma wayahlanyela. Wathi elokhu eyihaza inhlanyelo, eyinye yawela endleleni; yanyathelwa, izinyoni zemoyeni zayidobha. ⁶ Eyinye yawela edwaleni, yathi isathi iyakhula yabuna ngoba yayingelabumanzi. ⁷ Eyinye inhlanyelo yawela phakathi kwameva, akhula kanye layo ayiminyezela. ⁸ Eyinye inhlanyelo yawela emhlabathini ovundileyo. Yakhula yathela amabele, yanda ngekhulu.”**

Wathi esetsho lokhu wamemeza wathi, **“Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa, kezwe.”**

⁹ Abafundi bakhe bambuza ukuthi umzekeliso lowo wawusitshoni. ¹⁰ Wathi, **“Ulwazi lwemfihlo yombuso kaNkulunkulu seluphiwe lina, kodwa kwabanye ngikhuluma kubo ngemizekeliso, ukuze kuthi, ‘loba bekhangele, bangaboni;**

loba besizwa, bengaqedisisi.’*

¹¹ Nansi ingcazelo yomzekeliso: Inhlanyelo iyilizwi likaNkulunkulu. ¹² Labo abasendleleni ngabalizwayo, kodwa uSathane eze ali hluthune ilizwi ezinhliziyweni zabo, ukuze bangakholwa basindiswe. ¹³ Labo abasokhetheni ngabemukela ilizwi ngentokozo nxa belizwa, kodwa kabalampande. Bayakholwa okwesikhatshana, kodwa kuthi ngesikhathi sobunzima bawe. ¹⁴ Inhlanyelo eyawela emeveni imele labo abezwayo, kodwa baqhubeke ngeyabo indlela bakhanywe yizihlupheko zempilo, inotho kanye lezikhosisayo, bangabe besakhula baphelele. ¹⁵ Kodwa inhlanyelo esemhlabathini ovundileyo imele labo abalenzizwayo enhle, elungileyo, abalizwayo ilizwi, baligcine bathi ngokubambelela bathele izithelo.”

Isibane Phezu Kwesiqobane

¹⁶ **“Kakho olumathisa isibane asifihle ngaphansi kwe-sitsha kumbe asibeke ngaphansi kombheda. Kodwa usibeka esiqobaneni ukuze labo abangenayo babone ukukhanya. ¹⁷ Ngoba kakukho okufihliweyo okungayi kudazululwa, njalo akukho okuthukuziweyo okungayikwaziwa kumbe kuvezwe obala. ¹⁸ Ngakho**

* 8:10 8.10 U-Isaya 6.9

nanzelelani ukuthi lilalela kanjani. Lowo olakho uza-kwengezelelwa; lowo ongelakho lalokho athi ulakho uzakwemukwa.”

Unina kaJesu Labafowabo

¹⁹ Unina kaJesu labafowabo beza ukuzambona, kodwa behluleka ukufinyelela kuye ngenxa yokuminyana kwa-bantu. ²⁰ Omunye wamtshela wathi, “Unyoko labafowenu bakulindele phandle, bafuna ukukubona.”

²¹ Waphendula wathi, **“Umama labafowethu yilabo abalizwayo ilizwi likaNkulunkulu balenze.”**

UJesu Uthulisa Isiphepho

²² Ngelinye ilanga uJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe, **“Kasiyeni ngaphetsheya kwechibi.”** Basebengena esikepeni bahamba. ²³ Bathe belokhu behamba yena walala. Kwafika isiphepho echibini isikepe saqalisa ukugalula, baba sengezini embi.

²⁴ Abafundi bahamba bayamvusa besithi, “Nkosi, Nkosi, sesigalula bo!”

Wavuka wawukhuza umoya kanye lamagagasi; isiphepho sadeda, kwasekuthula cwaka. ²⁵ Wababuza abafundi bakhe, wathi, **“Kungaphi ukukholwa kwenu?”**

Babuzana ngokumangala lokwesaba bathi, “Kanti ungubani lo? Ukhuza kanye lomoya lamanzi kumlalele.”

Ukusiliswa Kwendoda Ephethwe Lidimoni

²⁶ Bagwedla isikepe baya emangweni wamaGerazini, okungaphetsheya kwechibi kusuka eGalile. ²⁷ Kwathi uJesu esehla okhunjini wahlangabezwa yindoda eyayiledimoni iqhamuka ngasedolobheni. Indoda le yayisilesikhathi eside ingavunuli zigqoko, ingahlali endlini, kodwa ihlala emathuneni. ²⁸ Yathi ibona uJesu yahlaba umkhosi yazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe iklabalala ngelizwi elikhulu isithi, “Ufuna ukungenzani, Jesu, Ndodana kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke? Ngiyakuncenga, ungaze wangihlukuluza!”

²⁹ Ngoba uJesu wayeseyale umoya omubi ukuthi uphume kuleyondoda. Izikhathi ezinengi wawumbamba, kuthi loba ebotshe ngamaketane ezandleni lezinyaweni njalo elindiwe, wayewaqamula amaketane idimoni limuse enkangala.

³⁰ UJesu wambuza wathi, **“Ungubani ibizo lakho?”**

Waphendula wathi, “NginguLigiyoni,” ngoba amadimoni amanengi ayengene kuye. ³¹ Amncenga ukuthi angawalayi ukuthi ayewolokohlela emgodini ongelamkhawulo.

³² Umhlambi omkhulu wengulube wawusidla khonapho eceleni koqaqa. Amadimoni amncenga uJesu ukuthi

awavumele ukuyangena engulubeni, laye wawavumela. ³³ Amadimoni aphuma endodeni ayangena ezingulubeni, umhlambi wathi zimu usehlela eliweni lodonga wangena echibini wagalula.

³⁴ Labo ababezelusile bonela ukubona okwasekwenzakele babaleka bayabika edolobheni lemangweni wakhona, ³⁵ abantu basebegonda khonale ukuyabona okwasekwenzakele. Bathi befika kuJesu bayifumana indoda okwakukhutshwe kuyo amadimoni ihlezi ezinyaweni zikaJesu, igqokile njalo ingqondo isibuyile; besaba kakhulu. ³⁶ Labo ababebonile kusenzakala batshela abantu ukuthi indoda eyayiphethwe lidimoni yasiliswa njani. ³⁷ Kwasekusithi bonke abantu bomango wamaGerazini bamcela uJesu ukuthi kasuke kubo ngoba babekhulelwa yikwesaba. Ngakho wangena esikepeni wahamba.

³⁸ Indoda leyo eyakhutshwa amadimoni yamncenga ukuthi ahambe layo, kodwa uJesu wala wathi, ³⁹ **“Buyela ekhaya uyefakaza ukuthi uNkulunkulu ukwenzeleni.”** Yikho indoda yahamba yafakaza kulolonke idolobho konke uJesu ayeyenzele khona.

Intombazana Efileyo Lowesifazane Ogulayo

⁴⁰ Kwathi uJesu esebuyile wahlangabezwa lixuku labantu elikhulu, ngoba bonke babemlindele. ⁴¹ Indoda eyayithiwa nguJayiroso, umbusi wesinagogu, yeza yazilahla ezinyaweni zikaJesu, imncenga ukuthi eze endlini yayo ⁴² ngoba indodakazi yayo eyodwa zwi, intombazana eyayileminyaka elitshumi lambili, yayisifa.

Kwathi uJesu esesiya khona abantu baminyezela ingathi bazampatshaza. ⁴³ Khonapho kwakulowesifazane owayeseleminyaka elitshumi lambili esopha kodwa kungekho owayengamelapha. ⁴⁴ Weza ngemva kukaJesu wathinta umphetho wesembatho sakhe, masinyane nje ukopha kwahle kwaphela.

⁴⁵ UJesu wabuza wathi, **“Ngubani ongithintileyo?”**

Kwathi ngoba bonke bephika uPhethro wathi, “Nkosi, abantu bayaminyezelana besondela kuwe.”

⁴⁶ Kodwa uJesu wathi, **“Ukhona ongithintileyo; ngiyazi ukuthi amandla aphumile kimi.”**

⁴⁷ Owesifazane esebone ukuthi uzacina eboniwe weza ethuthumela wazilahla ezinyaweni zakhe. Wachaza phambi kwabantu bonke ukuthi kungani wayemthintile uJesu lokuthi wasiliswa njani masinyane. ⁴⁸ UJesu wasesithi kuye, **“Ndodakazi, ukholo lwakho lukusilisile. Hamba ngokuthula.”**

⁴⁹ Kwathi uJesu elokhu esakhuluma omunye weza evela endlini kaJayirasi umphathi wesinagogu, wafika wathi, “Indodakazi yakho isifile. Ungabe usamhlupha umfundisi.”

⁵⁰ UJesu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wathi kuJayirasi, **“Ungesabi, kholwa nje kuphela, izasiliswa.”**

⁵¹ Wathi esefikile endlini kaJayirasi, kavumelanga muntu ukuthi angene laye ngaphandle kukaPhethro, uJohane loJakhobe, kanye loyise womntwana lonina.

⁵² Ngalesosikhathi abantu bonke babeqinqa isililo bekhalela intombazana. UJesu wathi kubo, **“Thulani, lingakhali. Kafanga kodwa ulele.”**

⁵³ Bamhleka usulu uJesu ngoba besazi ukuthi intombazana yayisifile. ⁵⁴ Kodwa wayibamba ngesandla wathi, **“Mntanami, vuka!”** ⁵⁵ Umoya wayo wabuya, masinyane yasukuma yathi lothu! UJesu wasesithi kabamnike ukudla. ⁵⁶ Abazali bakhe bamangala, kodwa wabalaya ukuthi bangatsheli muntu ngalokho okwakwenzakele.

9

UJesu Uthuma Abalitshumi Lambili

¹ UJesu wabizela ndawonye abalitshumi lambili wabapha amandla lemvumo yokuthi baxotshe wonke amadimoni, belaphe lemikhuhlane, ² njalo wasebathuma ukuyatshumayela umbuso kaNkulunkulu lokuphilisa abagulayo, ³ Wabatshela wathi, **“Lingathwali lutho kuloluhambo, loba udondolo, isikhwama, loba isinkwa, imali loba isigqoko sokuntshintsha.** ⁴ **Loba yiphi indlu elingena kuyo, hlalani kuyo lize lisuke kulelodobho.** ⁵ **Nxa abantu bengalemukeli, sukani kulelodobho lithintithe uthuli ezinyaweni zenu, kube yibufakazi bokubalahla.”** ⁶ Basebesuka bangena imizi ngemizi, betshumayela ivangeli njalo besilisa abantu ezindaweni zonke.

⁷ Ngalesosikhathi uHerodi umbusi wakuzwa konke lokho okwakusenzakala. Wakhathazeka kakhulu ngoba abanye babesithi uJohane wayesevusiwe kwabafileyo, ⁸ abanye labo bathi u-Elija wayebonakele, kanti abanye njalo bathi omunye wabaphrofethi bekadeni wayesevukile waphila. ⁹ Kodwa uHerodi wathi, “UJohane ngamquma ikhanda. Pho ungubani-ke lo engizwa izinto ezinje ngaye?” Wazama ukuthi ambone.

UJesu Unika Abantu Abazinkulungwane Ezinhlanu Ukudla

¹⁰ Abapostoli sebebuyile babika kuJesu ngakho konke ababekwenzile. Wasebathatha waya labo edolobheni elalithiwa yiBhethisayida beyibo bodwa, ¹¹ kodwa amaxuku

abantu ezwa ukuthi ukhonale basebemandela. Wabemukela wabatshela ngombuso kaNkulunkulu, wasilisa labo ababekuswela ukusiliswa.

¹² Emini abalitshumi lambili beza kuye bathi, "Wothi abantu bahambe ukuze baye emadolobheni lasemizini bayezidingela ukudla lezindawo zokulala ngoba lapha sisendaweni ekhatshana eyisikhala."

¹³ Waphendula wathi, "**Bapheni lina ukudla.**"

Baphendula bathi, "Thina silezinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili kuphela, ngaphandle kokuthi sihambe siyothenga ukudla kwabantu bonke laba." ¹⁴ (Kwakulamadoda angaba zinkulungwane ezinhlanu khonapho.)

Kodwa wathi kubafundi bakhe, "**Bahlaliseni phansi ngamaxuku abantu abangamatshumi amahlanu ngalinye.**" ¹⁵ Benza njalo abafundi, wonke umuntu wahlala phansi. ¹⁶ Ethatha izinkwa ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili wakhangela ezulwini, wabonga wazihlephula. Waseziqhubela abafundi ukuba bazabele abantu. ¹⁷ Bonke badla basutha, abafundi basebebutha bagcwalisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili invuthu ezasalayo.

UPhethro Uvuma Ukuthi UJesu NguKhristu

¹⁸ Ngesinye isikhathi uJesu wathi ekhuleka ekusithekeni, abafundi bakhe belaye, wabuza wathi, "**Kanti abantu abanengi bathi ngingubani na?**"

¹⁹ Baphendula bathi, "Abanye bathi unguJohane uMbaphathizi; abanye bathi ungu-Elija; kuthi abanye njalo bathi ungomunye wabaphrofethi bekadeni osephila njalo."

²⁰ Wabuza bona wathi, "**Pho lina-ke? Lithi ngingubani?**"

Waphendula uPhethro wathi, "UnguKhristu kaNkulunkulu."

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokufa Kwakhe

²¹ UJesu wabaqoqosela ukuthi lokhu bangakutsheli muntu. ²² Wasesithi, "**iNdodana yoMuntu kumele ihlupheke kakhulu, yaliwe ngabadala bebandla, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho, njalo lokuthi kumele ibulawe, kuthi ngelanga lesithathu ivuswe kwabafileyo.**"

²³ Wasesithi kubo bonke: "**Nxa ekhona ofisa ukungilandela kufanele azidele athwale isiphambano sakhe insuku zonke angilande. ²⁴ Ngoba lowo ofisa ukulondoloza impilo yakhe izamlahlekela, kodwa lowo olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe ngenxa yami uzayiphephisa. ²⁵ Kumsizani umuntu ukuzuzwa wonke umhlaba, kodwa alahlekelwe loba ancitshwe ubunguye bakhe**

na? ²⁶ Lowo oyangeka ngami kanye lamazwi ami, iNdodana yoMuntu izayangeka ngaye nxa isifikile ngenkazimulo yayo langenkazimulo kaYise lezingilosi ezingwele.

²⁷ Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi abanye abemi khonapha kabayikukuzwa ukufa bengakawuboni umbuso kaNkulunkulu.”

Ukukhazimuliswa KukaJesu

²⁸ Emva kwensuku eziyisificaminwembali uJesu ekukhulumile lokho, wathatha uPhethro loJohane loJakhobe waya entabeni ukuyakhuleka. ²⁹ Wathi ekhuleka isimo sobuso bakhe saguquka lezigqoko zakhe zakhazimula njengokuphazima kombane. ³⁰ Amadoda amabili, uMosi lo-Elija, ³¹ abonakala ecwebezela ngenkazimulo, ekhuluma loJesu. Babekhuluma ngokufa kwakhe okwasekusondele ukuthi kugcwaliseke eJerusalema. ³² UPhethro labakhula bakhe babe lobuthongo kakhulu, kodwa sebephapheme, bayibona inkazimulo yakhe lamadoda amabili ayemi laye. ³³ Kwathi amadoda lawo esesuka kuJesu uPhethro wathi kuye, “Nkosi, kumnandi kithi ukuba lapha. Kasakhe izihonqo ezintathu, esakho, esinye esikaMosi lesinye esika-Elija.” (Wayengakwazi lokho ayekutsho.)

³⁴ Wathi esakhuluma, iyezi labuya labagubuzela, baba lokwesaba ekungeneni kwabo eyezini. ³⁵ Ilizwi labuya livela eyezini lisithi, “Le yiNdodana yami engiyikhethileyo; ilaleleni.” ³⁶ Ilizwi selikhulumile, uJesu bambona esyedwa. Abafundi bakugcina ezifubeni zabo lokhu kabaze batshela muntu ngalesosikhathi ngababekubonile.

Ukusiliswa Komfana Owayelomoya Omubi

³⁷ Ngosuku olulandelayo sebehilile entabeni, wahlangabezwa lixuku labantu abanengi. ³⁸ Enye indoda exukwini yamemeza yathi, “Mfundisi, ngiyakuncenga, khangela indodana yami yiyo yodwa umntwana engilaye. ³⁹ Umoya uyamjuma abeseklabalala; uyamgiqa abhinqike abuye abhubhudle amagwebu emlonyeni. Usuhlezi udlala ngaye nje usufuna ukumbulala. ⁴⁰ Bengicele abafundi bakho ukuthi bawuxotshe, kodwa behlulekile.”

⁴¹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Oh, sizukulwane esingakholwayo, esixhwalileyo, ngihlale lani kuze kube nini ngilokhu ngilibekezelela na? Ilethe lapha indodana yakho.”**

⁴² Kwathi lapho umfana elokhu esalethwa kuye idimoni lambhuqa phansi ebhinqika. Kodwa uJesu wawukhuza

umoya omubi, wamsilisa umfana wambuyisela kuyise.
 43 Bonke bamangala kakhulu ngobukhulu bukaNkulunkulu.

UJesu Ukhuluma Okwesibili Ngokufa Kwakhe

Kwathi wonke umuntu esamangele ngalokho uJesu ayekwenzile, wathi kubafundi bakhe, 44 **“Likulalele kuhle lokhu esengizalitshela khona: Indodana yoMuntu izanikelwa ezandleni zabantu.”** 45 Kodwa kabezwisisanga ukuthi lokhu kwakusitshoni. Kwakufihliwe kubo, yikho kabakubambisisanga, kodwa besaba ukumbuza ngakho.

Ngubani Ozabamkhulu Kulabanye?

46 Kwaba lokuphikisana kubafundi ngokuthi ngubani kubo owayezabamkhulu kulabanye. 47 UJesu eyazi imicabango yabo wathatha umntwana omncinyane wamisa eceleni kwakhe. 48 Wasesithi kubo, **“Lowo owamukela lo umntwana omncane ngebizo lami wamukela mina, lalowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo. Ngoba lowo onguye omncinyane kulani lonke phakathi kwenu lonke, nguye omkhulu kini lonke.”**

49 UJohane wathi, “Nkosi, sibone indoda ikhupha amadimoni ngebizo lakho sazama ukuyenqaba ngoba ingayisuye omunye wethu.”

50 UJesu wathi, **“Lingamaleli ngoba lowo ongamelani lani ukanye lani.”**

Ukwaliwa ESamariya

51 Kwathi isikhathi sesisondele ukuthi athathwe aye ezulwini, uJesu wazimisela ukuthi aye eJerusalema. 52 Wasethuma izithunywa phambi kwakhe zaya eSamariya emzini othile ukumlungisela ukufika kwakhe; 53 kodwa abantu bakhona kabamemukelanga ngoba wayesedlulela eJerusalema. 54 Kwathi abafundi uJakhobe loJohane bekubona lokho bathi, “Nkosi, uyafuna na ukuthi sibize umlilo uvele ezulwini uzobabhubhisa?” 55 Kodwa uJesu waphenduka wabakhuza 56 Yikho yena labafundi bakhe basebesiya komunye umuzi.

Ubunzima Bokulandela UJesu

57 Bathi belokhu behamba endleleni, enye indoda yathi kuye, “Ngizakulandela loba ungaze uye ngaphi.”

58 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Amakhanka alemilindi lezinyoni zemoyeni zilezidleke, kodwa iNdodana yoMuntu kayilandawo yokufihla ikhanda layo.”**

59 Wathi kwenye indoda, **“Ngilandela.”**

Kodwa indoda yaphendula yathi, “Nkosi, akuthi ngiqale ngihambe ngiyengcwaba ubaba wami.”

60 UJesu wathi kuyo, “Yekela abafileyo bangcwabe abafileyo babo, kodwa wena hamba uyememezela umbuso kaNkulunkulu.”

61 Kwathi omunye njalo wathi, “Ngizakulandela, Nkosi, kodwa akuthi kengiyevalelisa abakithi.”

62 UJesu waphendula wathi, “Kakho othi angabamba ikhuba elima athalaze emuva owufaneleyo umsebenzi oqondane lombuso kaNkulunkulu.”

10

UJesu Uthumela Abangamatshumi Ayisikhombisa Lambili

1 Ngemva kwalokhu iNkosi yakhetha abanye abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili ukuba bamandulele baye kuwo wonke amadolobho lezindawo lezo ayesezazihambela. **2** Wabatshela wathi, “**Isivuno sinengi, kodwa izisebenzi zimbawo. Ngakho celani iNkosi yesivuno ukuthi ithumele izisebenzi ensimini yayo yokuvuna.**

3 Hambani! Ngilithuma linjengamazinyane ezimvu phakathi kwempisi. **4** Lingathwali isikhwama kumbe umxhaka loba amanyathela; njalo lingabingeleli muntu endleleni.

5 Nxa lingena endlini, qalani lithi, ‘Ukuthula akube kule indlu.’ **6** Nxa kulomuntu woxolo lapho, ukuthula kwenu kakube kuye; nxa kungenjalo kuzabuyela kini.

7 Hlalani kuleyondlu, lidle njalo linathe loba yini abalinika khona ngoba osebenzayo ufanele aphiwe iholo lakhe. Linganqumi ngezindlu lihlala lapha lalapha.

8 Nxa lifika edolobheni lamukelwe khona, dlanini lokho elikuphiwayo. **9** Silisani abagulayo abayabe belapho, njalo libatshela ukuthi, ‘Umbuso kaNkulunkulu useduze kwenu.’ **10** Kodwa nxa lingafika edolobheni lingemukelwa, yanini emigwaqweni yalo lithi, **11** ‘Lalo uthuli lwedolobho lenu olunamathele ezinyaweni zethu siyaluthintithela kini. Kodwa yazini lokhu: Umbuso kaNkulunkulu ususeduze.’ **12** Ngiyalithshela, okweSodoma kuzakuba ngcono ngalelolanga kulokwalelodobho.

13 Maye kuwe Khorazini! Maye kuwe Bhethisayida! Aluba izimangaliso lezo ezenziwa kuwe zazenziwe eThire leSidoni ngabe kudala baphenduka begqoke izigqoko zamasaka bazithela ngomlotha. **14** Kodwa

kuzakuba ngcono okweThire leSidoni mhla wokwahlulela kulokuza kuwe. ¹⁵ Lawe, Khaphenawume, kambe uzaphakanyiselwa amazulwini na? Hatshi, uzatshona phansi uye eHadesi.

¹⁶ Lowo olalela lina ulalela mina; lowo olahla lina ulahla mina; kodwa lowo ongalayo wala yena owangithumayo."

¹⁷ Abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa lambili babuya bethokoza bathi, "Nkosi, lamadimoni ayasithobela ngebizo lakho."

¹⁸ Waphendula wathi, "**Ngimbonile uSathane esiwa njengombane esuka ezulwini. ¹⁹ Ngiliphile amandla okugxoba izinyoka lenkume lokunqoba wonke amandla esitha; kakukho okuzalilimaza. ²⁰ Kodwa lingathatshiswa yikuthi imimoya iyazithoba kini, kodwa thokoziswani yikuthi amabizo enu alotshiwe ezulwini."**

²¹ Ngalesosikhathi uJesu egcwele intokozo ngoMoya oNgcwele wathi, "**Ngiyakudumisa, Baba, Nkosi yasezulwini lasemhlabeni, ngoba uzifihlile lezizinto kwabahlakaniphileyo labafundileyo wazambula ebantwaneni abancinyane. Yebo, Baba, ngoba lokhu kwakuyikuthanda kwakho okuhle.**

²² **Zonke izinto zethulwe kimi nguBaba. Kakho owaziyo ukuthi ingubani iNdodana ngaphandle kukaBaba, njalo kakho omaziyo uBaba ukuthi ungubani ngaphandle kweNdodana lalabo iNdodana ekhethe ukuba imveze kubo."**

²³ Wasephendukela kubafundi bakhe wathi kubo ngase, "**Abusisiwe amehlo abona lokhu elikubonayo lina. ²⁴ Ngoba ngiqinisile ukuthi abaphrofethi abanengi lamakhosi babefisa ukubona lokhu elikubonayo, kodwa kabakubonanga, lokuzwa lokhu elikuzwayo, kodwa kabakuzwanga."**

Umzekeliso WomSamariya Olesihawu

²⁵ Ngesinye isikhathi isazi somthetho saphakama samlinga uJesu. Sabuza sathi, "Mfundisi, ngingenzani ukuze ngizuze ilifa lempilo engapheliyo na?"

²⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, "**Kubhalweni emthethweni, uwufunda njani?"**

²⁷ Waphendula wathi, "'Thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngenhliziyo yakho yonke, langomphefumulo wakho wonke, langamandla akho wonke, njalo langengqondo

yakho yonke* ; njalo, ‘Thanda umakhelwane wakho njen-goba uzithanda wena.’†”

²⁸ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Uphendule kuhle. Kwenze lokhu, uzaphila.”**

²⁹ Kodwa wayefuna ukuzigeza, wasebuza kuJesu, wathi, “Kanti ngubani ongumakhelwana wami na?”

³⁰ UJesu waphendula ngokuthi: **“Indoda yayihamba iphuma eJerusalema isiya eJerikho, yaqabuka isihlaselwa ngabaphangi. Bayihlubula izigqoko zayo, bayitshaya basebehamba, beyitshiya iqalekile.**

³¹ Kwakulomphristi owayehamba ngaleyondlela, owathi eyibona indoda leyo waceza kwelinye icele.

³² Wenza njalo lomLevi, wafika kuleyondawo wayibona indoda wakhekheleza wedlula. ³³ Kodwa umSamariya,

wathi ezihambela wafika lapho indoda eyayikhona, wathi eyibona wayizwela usizi. ³⁴ Waya kuyo, wabopha amanxeba ayo, wawathela amafutha lewayini.

Waseyikhweza kubabhemi wakhe, wayisa endlini yezihambi, wayinakekela. ³⁵ Ngosuku olulandelayo

wakhupha inhlamvu ezimbili zamadenari wazinika umphathi wendawo. Wathi, ‘Mgcine, kuzakuthi nxa sengibuya ngizabhadala lezondleko eziyabe zisele.’

³⁶ Ngubani pho kulaba abathathu ombona ukuthi wayengumakhelwane wendoda leyo eyahlaselwa ngabaphangi na?”

³⁷ Isazi somthetho saphendula sathi, “Ngulowo owaba lesihawu kuyo.”

UJesu wamtshela wathi, **“Hamba wenzenjalo.”**

Ekhaya LaboMatha LoMariya

³⁸ Kwathi uJesu labafundi bakhe besekuhambeni kwabo, wafika emzini okwakukhona owesifazane othiwa nguMatha, owamamukela ngesihle emzini wabo.

³⁹ Wayelodadewabo owayethiwa nguMariya, owahlala ezinyaweni zeNkosi elalele lokho eyayikukhuluma.

⁴⁰ Kodwa uMatha waphazanyiswa yikulungiselela konke okwakumele kwenziwe. Wabuya kuJesu wabuza wathi, “Nkosi, kawukhathali na ukuthi udadewethu ungitshiye ukuba ngenze ngedwa umsebenzi? Mtshele ukuthi angincedise!”

⁴¹ INkosi yaphendula yathi, **“Matha, Matha, uh-lutshwa njalo ukhathazeke ngezinto ezinengi, ⁴² kodwa kusweleka into eyodwa. UMariya ukhethe okungcono, okungasoze akwemukwe futhi.”**

* 10:27 10.27 UDutheronomi 6.5 † 10:27 10.27 ULevi 19.18

11

UJesu Ufundisa Ukukhuleka

¹ Ngelinye ilanga uJesu wayekhuleka kwenye indawo. Wathi eseqedile, omunye wabafundi bakhe wathi kuye, “Nkosi, sifundise ukukhuleka, njengoJohane owafundisa abafundi bakhe.”

² Wathi kubo, “Nxa likhuleka, alibokuthi:

‘Baba,*

kalidunyiswe ibizo lakho,

umbuso wakho kawuze.†

³ Siphe ukudla kwethu kwansukuzonke usuku ngosuku.

⁴ Sithethelele izono zethu,

njengoba lathi sibathethelela bonke abasonelayo.

Njalo ungasingenisi ekulingweni.’”

⁵ Wasesithi kubo, “Akesithi omunye wenu ulomngane, aye kuye phakathi kobusuku athi, ‘Mfowethu, akungeboleke izinkwa ezintathu, ⁶ kulomngane wami ophakathi kohambo ozofihla ikhanda kwami, kodwa kangilalutho engingamupha lona.’ ⁷ Besekusithi osendlini aphenyule athi, ‘Ungangikhathazi. Umnyango usukhiyiwe njalo mina labantwabami sesilele. Ngingezake ngivuke ngikuphe loba yini.’ ⁸ Ngiyalitshela ukuthi loba ubengafuni ukuvuka amuphe isinkwa ngoba engumngane, kodwa ngenxa yokuphikelela kwendoda uzaze avuke amuphe konke akufunayo.

⁹ Ngakho ngithi kini: Celani lizaphiwa; dingani lizafumana; qoqodani lizavulelwa. ¹⁰ Ngoba wonke ocelayo uyaphiwa; lowo odingayo uyafumana; lalowo oqoqoda emnyango uzavulelwa.

¹¹ Ngubani kini bobaba, okuthi nxa indodana yakhe icela inhlanzi yena ayiphe inyoka? ¹² Loba icela iqanda ayiphe inkume na? ¹³ Nxa lina, elithi loba libabi likwazi ukupha abantwabenu iziphos ezilungileyo, pho uYihlo osezulwini uzabapha ngokwengezwe kangakanani uMoya oNgcwele labo abacela kuye!”

UJesu LoBhelizebhubhi

¹⁴ UJesu wayexotsha idimoni elaliyisimungulu. Lathi idimoni seliphumile, indoda eyayiyisimungulu yakhuluma, ixuku labantu lamangala. ¹⁵ Kodwa abanye bathi, “Ukhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizebhubhi inkosi yamadimoni.” ¹⁶ Abanye bamlinga ngokumcela isibonakaliso esivela ezulwini.

* 11:2 11.2 Eminye imibhalo ithi Baba wethu osezulwini † 11:2 11.2 Eminye imibhalo ithi kawuze. Intando yakho kayenziwe emhlabeni njengasezulwini.

¹⁷ UJesu wayeyazi imicabango yabo wasesithi kubo: **“Umbuso ongabambananga uyadilika, lendlu engabambananga iyawa.** ¹⁸ Nxa uSathane engabambananga, umbuso wakhe ungema kanjani na? Ngikutsho lokhu ngoba lithi mina ngikhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizehubhi. ¹⁹ Nxa ngikhupha amadimoni ngoBhelizehubhi, pho abalandeli benu bawakhupha ngobani? Ngakho, bazakuba ngabahluleli benu. ²⁰ Kodwa nxa ngikhupha amadimoni ngomunwe kaNkulunkulu, kutsho ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu usufikile kini.

²¹ Nxa indoda eyisiqhwaga ihlome yaphelela, ilinde indlu yayo, impahla zayo zivikelekile. ²² Kodwa kungahlasela umuntu olamandla kulayo ayehlule, uyayemuka izikhali ebikade izithembile, abesezehlukanisela impango.

²³ Lowo ongemanga lami uphikisana lami, lalowo ongabuthi lami uyachithiza.

²⁴ Lapho umoya omubi uphuma emuntwini, uyazula enkangala udinga ukuphumula, kodwa nxa ungakuswela, uyathi ‘Ngizabuyela endlini engaphuma kuyo.’ ²⁵ Uthi ufika, uthole leyondlu ithanyelwe yahlanzeka konke kumi kuhle. ²⁶ Ubusuhamba uyethatha eminye imimoya eyisikhombisa exhwale ukwedlula wona, ingene ihlale khona. Isiphetho salowomuntu sizakuba sibi kulasekuqaleni.”

²⁷ Kwathi uJesu elokhu esakhuluma lezizinto, owesifazane wamemeza exukwini wathi, “Ubusisiwe lowomama owakuzalayo wakondla.”

²⁸ Waphendula wathi, **“Kungenani, ababusisiweyo yilabo abalizwayo ilizwi likaNkulunkulu baliphile.”**

Isibonakaliso SikaJona

²⁹ Kwathi amaxuku esanda uJesu wathi, **“Lesi yisizukulwane esixhwalileyo. Sidinga isibonakaliso kodwa kasisoze sisiphiwe ngaphandle kwesibonakaliso sikaJona.**

³⁰ NjengoJona owaba yisibonakaliso kwabaseNiniva, ngokunjalo iNdodana yoMuntu izakuba njalo kulesisizukulwane. ³¹ INdlovukazi yaseNingizimu izavuka ekwahlulelweni kanye labantu balesi sizukulwane ibalahle ngoba yeza ivela emaphethelweni omhlaba izokuzwa inhlakanipho kaSolomoni kodwa manje lowo omkhulu kuloSolomoni usekhona lapha. ³² Abantu baseNiniva bazasukuma kanye lalesi sizukulwane ngosuku lokwahlulelwa basilahle ngoba bona baphenduka ekutshumayeleni kukaJona, kodwa khathesi lowo omkhulu kuloJona uselapha.”

Isibane Somzimba

³³ **“Kakho olumathisa isibane abesesibeka ekusithekeni kumbe ngaphansi kwesitsha. Kodwa usibeka esiqobaneni ukuze labo abangenayo babone ukukhanya. ³⁴ Ilihlo lakho liyisibane somzimba. Nxa amehlo akho elungile umzimba wakho wonke ugcwele ukukhanya. Kodwa nxa emabi, umzimba wakho lawo ugcwele ubumnyama. ³⁵ Qaphelani-ke ukuthi ukukhanya okuphakathi kwenu kakusibumnyama. ³⁶ Ngakho-ke, nxa umzimba wakho wonke ugcwele ukukhanya kungekho ingxenye esemnyameni, wonke uzagcwala ukukhanya njengokukhanya kwesibane kukukhanyisa.”**

Izixwayiso KubaFarisi Lezazi Zomthetho

³⁷ UJesu eseqedile ukukhuluma umFarisi othile wamnxusa ukuthi azokudla laye; wasehamba wayahlala etafuleni. ³⁸ Kodwa umFarisi wananzelela ukuthi uJesu kaqalanga ngokugeza engakadli, kwamangalisa.

³⁹ Inkosi yathi kuye, **“Lina baFarisi lizezisa inkezo lomganu ngaphandle kodwa ngaphakathi ligcwele ubuhwaba lobubi. ⁴⁰ Lina bantu abayiziwula! Lowo owenza ingaphandle kenzanga lengaphakathi na? ⁴¹ Ngakho-ke, mayelana lokungaphakathi kwenu, wobani lomusa kwabampofu, lapho-ke konke kuzabe sekuhlanzekile kini.**

⁴² **Maye kini baFarisi, ngoba lipha uNkulunkulu okwetshumi kweminti, lazozonke izithelo zesivande senu, kodwa lidele ukwenza okulungileyo kanye lokuthanda uNkulunkulu. Kumele likwenze konke okulungileyo, ukuthanda uNkulunkulu lokukhipha lokwetshumi.**

⁴³ **Maye kini baFarisi, ngoba lithanda izihlalo ezinqathekileyo emasinagogweni njalo lithanda lokubingelelwa ezindaweni zokuthengisela.**

⁴⁴ **Maye kini, ngoba linjengamathuna angakhelwanga, abantu abahamba phezu kwawo bengazi ukuthi akhona.”**

⁴⁵ Omunye wezazi zomthetho wamphendula wathi, **“Mfundisi, nxa usitsho njalo uyasithuka lathi.”**

⁴⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Lani zazi zomthetho, maye kini, ngoba lethesa abantu ngemithwalo abangeke bayithwale, ikanti lani livele kalithi thika lokuyithwala.**

⁴⁷ **Maye kini, ngoba lakha amathuna abaphrofethi, bona ababulawa ngokhokho benu. ⁴⁸ Lifakaza ukuthi**

liyakuvuma lokho okhokho benu abakwenzayo; bababulala abaphrofethi, lina-ke selisakha amangcwaba abo. ⁴⁹ Ngenxa yalokhu, uNkulunkulu wathi, ngokuhlakanipha kwakhe, 'Ngizabathumela abaphrofethi labapostoli, abanye bazababulala abanye babaphathe ngochuku.' ⁵⁰ Ngakho-ke, lesisizukulwana yiso esizathwala umlandu wegazi labaphrofethi bonke elachithwa kusukela ekudabukeni komhlaba, ⁵¹ kusukela egazini lika-Abheli kusiya egazini likaZakhariya owabulawa phakathi laphakathi kwe-alithari lendlu engcwele. Yebo, ngiyalitshela, isizukulwane lesi sizakwetheswa umlandu wakho konke.

⁵² **Maye kini zazi zomthetho, ngoba seliyivalile intuba yolwazi. Lina ngokwenu kalingenanga, laphinda lavimbela labo abebefuna ukungena."**

⁵³ UJesu wathi esesuka lapho, abaFarisi labafundisi bomthetho baqala ukuphikisana laye kubi, bemthela ngemibuzo, ⁵⁴ bezama ukumgcona ngokunye ayengakutsho.

12

Izixwayiso Lenkuthazo

¹ Ngalesosikhathi sekubuthene ixuku lezinkulungwane zabantu, sebenyathelana, uJesu waqala ukukhuluma kubafundi bakhe esithi, "Qaphelani imvubelo yabaFarisi, iyikuzenzisa. ² Kakukho okufihliweyo okungayi kuvezwa obala, lokufihliweyo okungayikwaziwa. ³ Lokho okukhulume emnyameni kuzazwakala emini lithe bha, lalokho obukunyenyezela endlebeni ezindlini zangaphakathi kuzamenyenzelwa phezu kophahla lwezindlu.

⁴ Ngiyalitshela bangane, lingabesabi labo ababulala umzimba kungabikhona okunye abangakwenza ngemva kwalokho. ⁵ Kodwa ngizalitshengisa lowo okumele limesabe: Mesabeni lowo, othi esebulele umzimba, abe lamandla okuwuphosela esihogweni. Yebo, ngithi mesabeni. ⁶ Intaka ezinhlanu kazithengiswa ngendibilitshi ezimbili na? Kodwa kayikho lanye yazo uNkulunkulu ayilibalayo. ⁷ Ngempela, inwele zekhanda lakho zibaliwe. Lingesabi; lina liligugu ukwedlula intaka ezinengi.

⁸ Ngiyalitshela, lowo ongivuma phambi kwabantu, iNdodana yoMuntu layo izamvuma phambi kwezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu. ⁹ Kodwa lowo ongiphikayo phambi kwabantu uzaphikwa phambi kwezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu. ¹⁰ Njalo wonke

umuntu okhuluma okubi ngeNdodana yoMuntu uzathethelelwa kodwa lowo ohlambaza uMoya oNgcwele akayikuthethelelwa.

¹¹ Nxa limiswa phambi kwamasinagogu, phambi kwababusi labaphathi, lingazihluphi ngokuthi lizazivikela lisithini kumbe ukuthi lizakuthini, ¹² ngoba uMoya oNgcwele uzalifundisa ngalesosikhathi lokho elifanele likutsho.”

Umzekeliso Wesinothi Esiyisiwula

¹³ Omunye emphakathini wathi kuye, “Mfundisi, tshela umfowethu ukuthi angabele ilifa lami.”

¹⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, “Ndoda, ngibekwe ngubani ukuba ngumahluleli kumbe umlamuli wenu?” ¹⁵ Wasesithi kubo, “Qaphelani! Limukani inhlobo zonke zobuhaga; isiqokoqela sempilo yomuntu kasikho ebunengini benotho yakhe.”

¹⁶ Wasebatshela umzekeliso wathi, “Insimu yenye indoda eyayinothile yaba lenala eyesabekayo. ¹⁷ Yasinakana yathi, ‘Kambe ngenzeni? Angilandawo yokubeka amabele ami.’

¹⁸ Yasisithi, ‘Nanku engizakwenza. Ngizazidiliza iziphala zami ngakhe ezinkulu kulalezi, besengithela khona wonke amabele ami kanye lezinye impahla zami. ¹⁹ Ngizazitshela ngithi, “Usulezinto ezinengi ezinhle njalo ezizakwanela iminyaka eminengi. Kholisa impilo, udle, unathe uthokoze.”’

²⁰ Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, ‘Wena siwula ndini! Ngalobubusuku impilo yakho izathathwa. Pho ngubani ozazuza lokhu obusuzilungisele khona na?’

²¹ Yikho lokhu okuzakwenzeka kulowo ozibekela inotho kodwa enganothanga kuNkulunkulu.”

Lingakhathazeki

²² UJesu wasesithi kubafundi bakhe: “Ngakho ngilithela ukuthi lingakhathazeki ngokuphila kwenu, ukuthi lizakudlani kumbe ngomzimba wenu, ukuthi lizagqokani. ²³ Impilo iyakudlula ukudla, lomzimba uyazedlula izembatho. ²⁴ Khumbulani amawabayi, kawahlanyeli, kawavuni, kawalaso isiphala kodwa uNkulunkulu uyawapha ukudla. Manje lina liqakatheke okwedlula izinyoni! ²⁵ Ngubani kini othi ngokukhathazeka angezelele ihola elilodwa empilweni yakhe na? ²⁶ Njengoba lingeke liyenze linto encinyane kangaka, lizihluphelani na ngokunengi?”

²⁷ **Ake libone ukuthi amaluba eganga akhula njani. Kawasebenzi njalo aweluki. Kodwa ngilitshela ukuthi laye uSolomoni ekucwebezeleni kwakhe kazange acece njengawo.** ²⁸ **Nxa uNkulunkulu ececisa kanjalo utshani beganga, obukhona namuhla, kusasa sebuphoselwa emlilweni, kambe uzalicecisa kanganani na, lina bokukholwa okuncinyane!** ²⁹ **Lingazihluphi ezinhliziyweni zenu ngokuthi lizakudlani kumbe lizanathani; lingakhathazeki ngalokho.** ³⁰ **Ngoba umhlaba wabezizwe uxotshana lezinto ezinjalo, ikanti uYihlo uyazi ukuthi liyazidinga.** ³¹ **Kodwa funani umbuso wakhe, zonke lezizinto lizaziphiwa lazo.**

³² **Lingesabi, mhlambi omncane, ngoba uYihlo uthandle ukulipha umbuso.** ³³ **Thengisani impahla yenu liphe abampofu. Zidingeleni izikhwama ezin-gagugiyi, inotho ezulwini engayikuphela, lapho okun-gasondeli khona isela loba impehlane engabhubhisi khona.** ³⁴ **Ngoba lapho okulenotho yakho khona, inhliziyi yakho layo ilapho."**

Ukuhlala Ulindile

³⁵ **"Gqokani lilindele inkonzo lezibane zenu zih-lale zibhebha** ³⁶ **njengamadoda elindele inkosi yawo ukuba ibuye edilini lomthimba ukuze kuthi nxa ifika iqoqoda aphange ayivulele umnyango.** ³⁷ **Kuzakuba kuhle kulezozinceku inkosi yazo ezazifika zilindile nxa ifika. Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi yona iza-gqokela ukubaphakela, bona bahlale etafuleni, yona ibaphakele.** ³⁸ **Kuzakuba kuhle kulezozinceku inkosi yazo ezazifika zilindile loba ingabe ifika ngomlindo wesibili loba owesithathu ebusuku.** ³⁹ **Kodwa zwisani lokhu: Aluba umninindlu ubesazi ukuthi isela lizafika ngasiphi isikhathi ubengasoze ayekele indlu yakhe igqekezwe.** ⁴⁰ **Lani hlalani lilindile ngoba iNdo-dana yoMuntu izafika ngesikhathi elingayilindelanga ngaso."**

⁴¹ **UPhethro wabuza wathi, "Nkosi, umzekeliso lo uwuqondise kithi kumbe ebantwini bonke na?"**

⁴² **INKosi yaphendula yathi, "Ngubani kambe ongumphathi othembekileyo, ohlakaniphileyo, othi inkosi yakhe imbeke ukukhangela izisebenzi zayo ukuba aziphe isabelo sazo sokudla ngesikhathi esifaneleyo?"** ⁴³ **Kuzakuba kuhle kuleyo nceku inkosi ezayifika isenza njalo ekuphendukeni kwayo.** ⁴⁴ **Ngilitshela iqiniso, izakumbeka ukuthi apha the yonke impahla yayo.** ⁴⁵ **Kodwa**

cabanga nxa inceku ingazitshela ithi, 'Inkosi yami isiphuzile ukubuya,' ibisiqalisa ukutshaya ezinye izisebenzi zesilisa lezesifazane, ibisisidla, inatha idakwe. ⁴⁶ Inkosi yaleyonceku izabuya ngosuku engacatshangelwa khona langesikhathi inceku engasaziyo. Izayiqumaquma iyiphe indawo phakathi kwabangakholwayo.

⁴⁷ Leyonceku ethi ikwazi okufunwa yinkosi yayo kodwa ingalindi kumbe ingalungisi lokho inkosi yayo ekufunayo izatshaywa okuzwayo. ⁴⁸ Kodwa lowo ongaziyo njalo owenza izinto eziholela ekubhujisweni uzatshaywa mbijana. Kulowo ophiwe okunengi, kuzafuneka okunengi kuye; lakulowo ogciniswe okunengi, kuzafuneka okunengi kulalokho."

Hatshi Ukuthula Kodwa Ukwehlukana

⁴⁹ "Ngilande ukuzalumathisa umlilo emhlabeni, ngize ngifise ukuthi ngabe uvele usungunguma! ⁵⁰ Kodwa ngiseselobhaphathizo okusamele ngilungene, kodwa ngikhathazekile kakhulu kuze kugcwaliseke lokho! ⁵¹ Licabanga ukuthi ngalanda ukuletha ukuthula emhlabeni na? Hatshi, zwanini, ngalanda ukuzehlukana. ⁵² Kusukela manje bazakuthi bebahlanu emulini behlukane, abathathu hexabana lababili, lababili hexabana labathathu. ⁵³ Bazakwehlukana, uyise axabane lendodana, indodana ixabane loyise, unina lendodakazi, indodakazi ixabane lonina, uninazala axabane lomalukazana, umalukazana loninazala."

Ukuzwisisa Izikhathi

⁵⁴ Wathi exukwini labantu: "Lithi lingabona iyezi liqhamuka entshonalanga liphange lithi, 'Izulu lizakuna,' lakanye line. ⁵⁵ Kuthi kungavunguza umoya weningizimu lithi, 'Kuzatshisa,' lakanye kube njalo. ⁵⁶ Bazenzisi! Liyakwazi ukuchaza izibonakaliso zomhlaba lezomkhathi. Kungani pho lingakwazi ukuchaza isikhathi lesi esikuso na?

⁵⁷ Kungani kanti lingaziboneli lina ngokwenu okuyikho okulungileyo na? ⁵⁸ Nxa uhamba lalowo okumangalelayo lisiya kumahluleli, zama ngamandla ukuthi liqedelane lisesendleleni, funa akudonsele kumahluleli, lomahluleli abesekudlulisela enxuseni lona inxusa likuthele entolongweni. ⁵⁹ Ngiyakutshela, kawusoze uphume uze uhlawule kanye lohlamvana lokucina lwemali."

13

Phendukani Kumbe Libhubhe

¹ Bakhona ababelapho ngalesosikhathi abatshela uJesu ngamaGalile uPhilathu axubanisa imihlatshelo yawo legazi lawo. ² UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kambe likhumbula ukuthi amaGalile lawo ayeyizoni kulamanye amaGalile ngoba ahlupheka kanjalo na? ³ Ngithi, hatshi! Kodwa, ngaphandle kokuba liphenduke lani lonke lizabhubha. ⁴ Kumbe labo abalitshumi lasificaminwembili abafayo baze bawelwe ngumphotshongo waseSilowami, lica-banga ukuthi babonile okudlula bonke ababehlala eJerusalema na? ⁵ Ngithi, hatshi! Kodwa, ngaphandle kokuba liphenduke lani lonke lizabhubha.”**

⁶ Wasebatshela umzekeliso lo wathi, **“Indoda ethile yayilesihlahla somkhiwa uhlanyelwe esivini sayo, yasisiyacinga izithelo kuwo, kodwa yaziswela. ⁷ Yasisithi kuleyondoda eyayigcina isivini, ‘Sekuyiminyaka emithathu ngilokhu ngisiza ngizofuna izithelo kulesihlahla somkhiwa kodwa ngingatholi lutho. Sigamule! Senzani kambe siqeda ukudla emhlabathini?’**

⁸ Indoda yaphendula yathi, **‘Nkosi, ake usiyekele nje okomnyaka owodwa, kengisihlakulele kuhle ngithele umvundiso. ⁹ Singathela ngomnyaka ozayo, kuzabe kulungile! Kodwa singangatheli, usungasigamula.’”**

UJesu Usilisa Owesifazane Oyisilima NgeSabatha

¹⁰ Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayefundisa kwelinye isinagogu, ¹¹ khonapho kulowesifazane owangenwa ngumoya wamenza waba yisilima okweminyaka elitshumi lasificaminwembili. Wayegogekile esehluleka ukuhlala aqonde. ¹² Kwathi uJesu embona wambizela phambili wathi kuye, **“Mama, usukhululwe ekugogekeni kwakho.”** ¹³ Wasebeka izandla zakhe phezu kwakhe, masinyane nje owesifazane watshwaphuluka, waqonda, wasedumisa uNkulunkulu.

¹⁴ Umphathi wesinagogu wacunuka ngoba uJesu wayesilise ngeSabatha, wathi ebantwini, **“Ziyisithupha insuku zokwenza umsebenzi. Ngakho libobuya lizosiliswa ngalezonsuku, hatshi ngeSabatha.”**

¹⁵ INkosi yamphendula yathi, **“Lina bazenzisi! Kalizikhululi yini lonke lapha izifuyo zenu ngeSabatha esibayeni liyezinathisa na? ¹⁶ Manje-ke, owesifazane lo oyindodakazi ka-Abhrahama, obebotshwe nguSathane okweminyaka eminengi, elitshumi lasificaminwembili,**

lithi kangakhululwa yini ngeSabatha kulokho obekumbophile?"

¹⁷ Wathi esekutshilo lokhu, bonke ababephikisana laye bayangeka, kodwa abantu babethokoza ngazonke izinto ezimangalisayo ayezenza.

Umzekeliso Wentanga Yemastadi Lowemvubelo

¹⁸ UJesu wasebuza wathi, **"Umbuso kaNkulunkulu ufana lani na? Kambe ngiwulinganise lani?"**

¹⁹ **Unjengentanga yemastadi eyathathwa ngenye indoda yayihlanyela esivandeni sayo. Yamila yakhula yaba yisihlahla, izinyoni zemoyeni zahlala engatsheni zaso."**

²⁰ Waphinda wabuza wathi, **"Ngiwufanise lani umbuso kaNkulunkulu na? ²¹ Unjengemvubelo eyathathwa ngowesifazane wayixubanisa lempuphu enengi, yabila yagcwala inhlama yonke."**

Umnyango Omncinyane

²² UJesu wasehamba engena emadolobheni lemizini efundisa, ejonge ukuya eJerusalema. ²³ Omunye wambuza wathi, **"Nkosi, ngabalutshwana kuphela abazasindiswa na?"**

Wathi kubo, ²⁴ **"Zamani ngamandla ukuthi lingene ngomnyango omncinyane, ngoba ngiyalitshela ukuthi abanengi bazazama ukungena kodwa bazakwehluleka."**

²⁵ **Angavele aphakame umninindlu avale umnyango lizakuma phandle liqoqode lincenga lisithi, 'Nkosi, sivulele umnyango.'**

Kodwa uzaphendula athi, 'Kangilazi, kangazi njalo ukuthi livela ngaphi.'

²⁶ **Lapho lizakuthi, 'Sadla lawe, sanatha sonke, njalo wafundisa emigwaqweni yakithi.'**

²⁷ **Kodwa uzaphendula athi, 'Kangilazi, njalo kangikwazi ukuthi livela ngaphi. Sukani kimi, lonke lina benzi bobubi!'**

²⁸ **Kuzakuba khona ukukhala lokugedla kwamazinyo nxa selibona u-Abhrahama, u-Isaka loJakhobe labo bonke abaphrofethi embusweni kaNkulunkulu, kodwa lina ngokwenu lilahlelwe phandle. ²⁹ Abantu bazavela empumalanga lasentshonalanga kanye lasenhla laseningizimu, bathathe izindawo zabo edilini lombuso kaNkulunkulu. ³⁰ Ngempela bakhona labo abangabokucina abazakuba ngabokuqala, labangabokuqala abazakuba ngabokucina."**

UJesu Uzwela IJerusalema Usizi

³¹ Ngalesosikhathi abanye abafarisi beza kuJesu bathi kuye, “Suka lapha uye kwenye indawo. UHerodi ufuna ukukubulala.”

³² Waphendula wathi, “**Hambani liyotshela ikhanka lelo lithi, ‘Ngizawaxotsha amadimoni, ngisilise abantu, lamuhla lakusasa langosuku lwesithathu ngize ngiyiphethe indima yami.’** ³³ Loba kunjani kumele ngiqhubeke ngohambo lwami lamuhla lakusasa langelanga elilandelayo, ngoba ngempela kakho umphrofethi ongafela ngaphandle kweJerusalema!

³⁴ Jerusalema, Jerusalema, wena obulala abaphrofethi, ubakhande ngamatshe labo abathunywe kuwe, sekukanengi ngiloyisa ukuqoqa ndawonye abantwabakho, njengesikhukhukazi siqoqa amatsiyane aso ngaphansi kwamaphiko aso, kodwa wawulokhu unga-funi! ³⁵ Khangela, indlu yakho isitshiywe ilunxiwa. Ngiyalitshela, kalisayikungibona futhi lize lithi, ‘Ubusiwe lowo obuya ngebizo leNkosi.’*”

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UJesu Endlini YomFarisi

¹ Ngelinye iSabatha uJesu wayakudla endlini yomFarisi owayedume kakhulu, babemkhangele kakhulu.

² Phambi kwakhe khonapho kwakulendoda eyayilesifo sikambizankulu, esivuvukisa izitho. ³ UJesu wasebuza abafarisi lezazi zomthetho wathi, “**Kusemthethweni yini ukusilisa ngosuku lweSabatha kumbe hatshi?**” ⁴ Kodwa bathula. Ngakho waseyibamba indoda leyo wayisilisa wathi kayihambe.

⁵ Wasebabuza wathi, “**Nxa omunye wenu elendodana loba inkabi yakhe ewele emgodini ngeSabatha, kayikuphanga ayikhuphe masinyane na?**” ⁶ Baswela ukuthi bathini.

⁷ Wanzelela ukuthi izethekeli zazikhetha izindawo eziqakathekileyo etafuleni wasebatshela umzekeliso wathi:

⁸ “**Nxa omunye ekunxusa edilini lomthimba, ungaze wathatha indawo eqakathekileyo funa kunxuswe umuntu omkhulu kulawe.** ⁹ Nxa kunjalo umalinxusa uzakuza athi kuwe, ‘Ake uxekele lo omunye isihlalo sakho.’ Uzabe usuyangekile ususiyahlala endaweni ephansi kakhulu. ¹⁰ Kodwa nxa unxusiwe, hlala endaweni ephansi kakhulu ukuze kuthi nxa umakunxusa efika kuwe athi, ‘Mngane, sukuma uye endaweni engcono.’ Lapho-ke, uzabe uphakanyisiwe phambi

* 13:35 13.35 AmaHubo 118.26

kwabo bonke abanxuswe kanye lawe. ¹¹ Ngoba wonke umuntu oziphakamisayo uzakwehliswa, kuthi lowo ozehlisayo aphakanyiswe.”

¹² UJesu wasesithi emanxuseni, “Nxa usenza idili emini loba kusihlwa unganxusi abangane bakho loba abafowenu kumbe izihlobo kumbe omakhelwane aban-othileyo; ungenza njalo labo bangakunxusa, kuthi-ke lawe usuwenanisiwe. ¹³ Kodwa nxa usenza idili, nxusa abayanga, izilima, izigoga, iziphofu, ¹⁴ lapho uzabusiwa. Loba bengasoze bakwenanise lawe, uza-kwenaniswa ekuvukeni kwabalungileyo.”

Umzekeliso Wedili Elikhulu

¹⁵ Kwathi omunye walabo abahlezi etafuleni laye esekuzwile lokhu, wathi kuJesu, “Ubusisiwe lowomuntu oza-kudla edilini embusweni kaNkulunkulu.”

¹⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, “Umuntu othile wayesenza idili elikhulu ngakho wanxusa abantu abanengi. ¹⁷ Sekuyisikhathi sedili wathuma isisebenzi sakhe ukuyatshela ababenxusiwe ukuthi, ‘Wozani, konke sekulungile.’

¹⁸ Kodwa bonke baqala ukuxolisa. Owokuqala wathi, ‘Ngisanda kuthenga isivande ngakho kusamele ngiye-sibona. Ngicela ungixolisele.’

¹⁹ Omunye wathi, ‘Khathesi nje ngisanda kuthenga izipani ezinhlanu zenkabi, ungifica ngivele ngisendleleni yokuyazihlola. Ngicela ungixolisele.’

²⁰ Omunye njalo wathi, ‘Ngisanda kutshada nje khathesi ngakho angingeke ngize.’

²¹ Inceku yabuya yakubika konke lokhu enkosini yayo. Inkosi yathukuthela yasilaya inceku yayo yathi, ‘Hamba khathesi, uye ezitaladini lemikotweni yedolobho umeme abayanga, abagokekileyo, iziphofu labaqhulayo.’

²² Inceku yathi, ‘Nkosi, lokho okulayileyo sokwenziwe kodwa indawo isesekhona.’

²³ Inkosi yatshela inceku yayo yathi, ‘Hamba uye emigwaqweni lasezindleleni zemaphandleni uze labo ukuze indlu yami igcwale. ²⁴ Ngiyalitshela kakho loyedwa walabo bantu ababenxusiwe ozalizwa idili lami.’”

Umvuzo Wokuba Ngumfundi

²⁵ Abantu abanengi babehamba loJesu, wasephendukela kubo wathi: ²⁶ “Nxa umuntu esiza kimi, kodwa engeke azonda uyise lonina, umkakhe labantwana, abafowabo labodadewabo, kanye lempilo yakhe uqobo, ngeke abe

ngumfundi wami. ²⁷ Lowo ongathwali isiphambano sakhe angilandele ngeke abe ngumfundi wami.

²⁸ Akesithi omunye wenu afune ukwakha umphotshongo. Kambe kazukuqala ahlale phansi abalise indleko ukuze abone ingabe ulayo yini imali yokuwuqeda na? ²⁹ Ngoba engakha isisekelo, kodwa ehluleke ukusiqeda, wonke okubonayo uzamhleka, ³⁰ esithi, 'Indoda le yaqalisa ukwakha, kodwa yehluleka ukuqeda.'

³¹ Kumbe sithi inkosi ilungisela ukuya empini isilwa lenye inkosi. Kayizukuqala ihlale phansi yini ihluzisise engqondweni ingabe yona ngamabutho ayo azinkulungwane ezilitshumi ingaqondana laleyo elezinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili na? ³² Nxa ingeyikuma, izathuma amanxusa kuleyana isesekude icele uxolo. ³³ Ngaleyondlela, loba ngubani phakathi kwenu ongadeli konke alakho ngeke abe ngumfundi wami.

³⁴ Itswayi lilungile kodwa lingalahlekelwa yibumnyu balo, lingavuselelwa kanjani na?

³⁵ Kaliwulungelanga lomhlabathi loba inqumbi yomvundiso kodwa liyalahlwa.

Lowo olendlebe zokuzwa, kezwe."

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Umzekeliso Wemvu Elahlekileyo

¹ Ngalesosikhathi kwasekubuthana kuye abathelisi lezoni ukuzokuzwa imfundiso yakhe. ² Kodwa abafarisi labafundisi bomthetho bakhonona bathi, "Umuntu lo wemukela izoni adle lazo."

³ UJesu wasebatshela umzekeliso lo, wathi: ⁴ "Ake kuthiwe omunye wenu ulezimvu ezilikhulu besekulahleka eyodwa kuzo. Kazukuzitshiya yini lezo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye khonale egangeni ayidinge leyo elahlekileyo aze ayithole na? ⁵ Kuthi lapho eseyitholile ayithwale emahlombe ngokuthokoza ⁶ aye layo ekhaya. Abesebiza abangane bakhe labomakhelwane athi, 'Thokozani lami; sengiyitholile imvu yami ebilahlekile.' ⁷ Ngilitshela ukuthi ngaleyondlela kuzakuba lokuthokoza ezulwini ngokuphenduka kwesoni esisodwa okudlula labobantu abalungileyo abangamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye lasificamunwemunye abangakudingiyo ukuphenduka."

Umzekeliso Wemali Elahlekileyo

8 “Kumbe kuthi owesifazane elenhlamvu zesiliva ezilitshumi kulahleke uhlamvu olulodwa. Kalumathisi yini isibane, athanyele endlini, adingisise kuhle aze aluthole na? ⁹ Kuthi eselutholile abize abangane bakhe labomakhelwane, athi kubo, ‘Thokozani lami; sengilutholile uhlamvu lwami lwesiliva obelulahlekile.’ ¹⁰ Ngiyalitshela ukuthi ngaleyondlela kulokuthokoza phambi kwezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu ngokuphenduka kwesoni esisodwa.”

Umzekeliso Wendodana Yolahleko

¹¹ UJesu waqhubeka wathi: “Kwakukhona indoda eyayilamadodana amabili. ¹² Encinyane yathi kuyise, ‘Baba, ngipha esami isabelo selifa.’ Ngakho uyise wabehlukanisela impahla yakhe bobabili.

¹³ Ngemva kwesikhatshana indodana encane yabutha konke okungokwayo yasuka yaya elizweni elikhatshana, yafika khonale yayichitha inotho yayo ngempilo yokuxhwala. ¹⁴ Isitshaye yachitha konke, kwaba lendlala enkulu kulolonke ilizwe, yasiswela kakhulu. ¹⁵ Yasisiyadinga umsebenzi komunye umuntu wakulelolizwe owayisa esiqintini sakhe ukuyagcina ingulube. ¹⁶ Yabona kungcono kuyo ukuthi ixotshe iphango ngokudla okwakudliwa zingulube, kodwa kayizange iphiwe lutho langubani.

¹⁷ Kwathi lapho ingqondo yayo isicabanga kuhle, yathi, ‘Kambe zingaki izinceku zikababa ezidla zizezishiye kodwa nanku mina ngifa ngendlala! ¹⁸ Ngizasuka ngibuyele kubaba ngifike ngithi kuye: Baba, ngenze isono phambi kwezulu lakuwe. ¹⁹ Kangisafanelanga ukuthiwa ngiyindodana yakho; ngenza ngibe njengomunye wezinceku zakho.’ ²⁰ Ngakho yaphakama yaya kuyise.

Kodwa yathi isesebucwala uyise wayibona wayizwela isihawu; wagijimela kuyo indodana yakhe, wayigona, wayanga.

²¹ Indodana yathi kuye, ‘Baba, ngenze isono phambi kwezulu lakuwe. Kangisafanelanga ukuthiwa ngiyindodana yakho.’

²² Kodwa uyise wathi ezincekwini zakhe, ‘Phangisani! Lethani isembatho esihle ukwedlula ezinye limgqokise. Lifake indandatho emunweni wakhe, limgqokise lamanyathela ezinyaweni zakhe.

²³ Beseliletha ithole elinonisiweyo lilihlabe. Asenzeni idili sithokoze. ²⁴ Ngoba indodana yami le yayisifile, kodwa isiphila njalo; yayilahlekile manje isifunyenwe.’ Waqalisa manje umkhosi wokujabula.

²⁵ **Sonke lesisikhathi indodana endala yayisensimini. Yathi isibanga endlini yezwa kuhlatshelwa njalo kugidwa.** ²⁶ **Yasibiza omunye wezinceku yambuza ukuthi kwakusenzakalani.** ²⁷ **Waphendula wathi, 'Um-fowenu usebuyile, ngakho uyihlo usemhlabelle ithole elinonisiweyo ngoba ubuye ephilile, ephelele.'**

²⁸ **Umnewabo wazonda kakhulu, wala ukungena ngekhaya. Uyise wasephuma esiya kuye ukuyamn-cenga.** ²⁹ **Kodwa waphendula uyise wathi, 'Khangela! Iminyaka yonke le bengikusebenzela kanzima njalo kangizange ngeqe imilayo yakho. Kodwa kawuzange ungiphe lokulizinyane kodwa lokhu ukuthi lami kengithokoze labangane bami.** ³⁰ **Kodwa lokhu kuthi nxa indodana yakho le esitshaye yathintitha inotho yakho lezifebe, isibuyile ekhaya uyihlabelle ithole elinonisiweyo!'**

³¹ **Uyise wathi, 'Ndodana yami, uhlezi ulami sonke isikhathi njalo konke engilakho ngokwakho.** ³² **Kodwa bekufanele sithokoze sijabule ngoba umfowenu lo wayesefile, manje usephila njalo; ubelahlekile, usefunyenwe.' "**

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Umzekeliso Womphathi Oliqili

¹ **UJesu watshela abafundi bakhe wathi, "Kwakulendoda eyayinothile ilomphathi owetheswa icala lokuthi wayechithachithe inotho yayo.** ² **Yambiza yambuza yathi, 'Kuyini lokhu engikuzwayo ngawe? Landisa kuhle ukuthi uhambisa njani izinto ngoba ungeke usaba ngumphathi njalo.'**

³ **Umphathi wazibuza wathi, 'Ngizakuthini? Inkosi yami isingithathela umsebenzi wami. Kangilamandla okugebha, njalo ngilenhloni zokucela.** ⁴ **Ngiyazi engizakwenza ukuthi nxa ngilahlekelwa ngumsebenzi wami abantu bangamukele ezindlini zabo.'**

⁵ **Ngakho yasibiza labo ababelezikwelede enkosini yayo munye ngamunye yathi, kowokuqala, 'Isikwelede sakho enkosini yami singakanani?'**

⁶ **Wathi, 'Ngamalitha amafutha e-oliva azinkulungwane ezine.'**

Umphathi wamtshela wathi, 'Phangisa, thatha incwadi yakho yesikwelede ubhale izinkulungwane ezimbili.'

⁷ **Yasibuza owesibili yathi, 'Wena ulesikwelede esingakanani?'**

Wathi, 'Yimigodla yengqoloyi eyinkulungwane.'

Yamtshela yathi, 'Thatha incwadi yakho yesikwelede ubhale amakhulu ayisificaminwembili.'

⁸ Inkosi yamncoma lowomphathi owayeliqili ngoba wayenze ukuhlakanipha. Ngoba abantu balumhlaba balezindledlana zabo zokuhlakanipha ekuphathaneni kwabo ukwedlula abantu bokukhanya. ⁹ Ngiyalitshela ngithi, sebenzisani inotho yomhlaba ukuzuza abangane ukuze kuthi nxa isiphelile lamukeleke ezindlini ezimi laphakade.

¹⁰ Lowo othembeke kokuncinyane uzakwethembeka njalo kokunengi, ikanti lowo ongathembekanga kokuncinyane angeke njalo athembeke kokunengi.

¹¹ Ngakho-ke, nxa lingathembekanga ekuphatheni inotho yasemhlabeni, pho ngubani ongalithemba ngenotho yeqiniso na? ¹² Njalo nxa belingathembekanga ngempahla yomunye umuntu, ngubani kambe ozalipha impahla ibe ngeyenu na?

¹³ Kakulanceku engakhonza amakhosi amabili. Funa izonde enye kodwa ithande enye, kumbe izinikele kwenye yeyise enye. Ngezake likhonze uNkulunkulu lemali ngokufanayo."

¹⁴ AbaFarisi ababethanda imali bakuzwa konke lokhu, bamklolodela uJesu. ¹⁵ Wathi kubo, "Yini elizigezayo emehlweni abantu kodwa uNkulunkulu uyazazi inhliziyo zenu. Lokho okuligugu ebantwini kuyisinengiso kuNkulunkulu."

Eyinye Imfundiso

¹⁶ "UMthetho labaPhrofethi kwatshunyayelwa kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sikaJohane. Kusukela kulesosikhathi izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu ziyatshunyayelwa njalo bonke abantu bazifugela kuwo. ¹⁷ Kungaba lula ukuthi izulu lomhlaba kunyamalale kulokuthi kucitshe ichatha loMthetho elilodwa nje.

¹⁸ Loba ngubani olahla umkakhe athathe omunye umfazi uyafeba njalo lendoda ethatha umfazi owalahlwayo iyafeba."

Indoda Enothileyo LoLazaro

¹⁹ "Kwakulendoda enothileyo eyayigqoka izigqoko zombala oyibubende lezelembu lelineni, iphakathi kobutifitifi insuku zonke. ²⁰ Entubeni yomuzi wayo kwakuhlezi isiceli esasithiwa nguLazaro, sigcwele

izilonda emzimbeni, ²¹ siloyisa ukudla lokho okwakukhithika etafuleni yalesosicebi. Izinja zazifika zikhothe izilonda zaso.

²² Kwafika isikhathi lapho isiceli esafa khona, izingilosi zasithwala zasisa eceleni lika-Abhrahama. Lesicebi laso safa, sabekwa. ²³ Esihogweni lapho esasisitsha khona; savusa ubuso sabona u-Abhrahama ekude le, kuloLazaro eceleni kwakhe. ²⁴ Sasesimemeza sathi, 'Baba Abhrahama, ake ungihawukele uthume uLazaro agxamuze umunwe wakhe emanzini athambise ulimi lwami, ngoba ngisebuhlungwini emlilweni lo.'

²⁵ Kodwa u-Abhrahama waphendula wathi, 'Ndozana, khumbula ukuthi ngesikhathi usaphila wazuza izinto zakho ezinhle kodwa uLazaro wemukela izinto ezimbi, khangela manje useduduzwa lapha, ikanti wena ususebuhlungwini. ²⁶ Njalo ngaphandle kwakho konke lokhu, phakathi kwethu lawe kulodonga olukhulu, ukwenzela ukuthi labo abafisa ukuza ngapho besuka lapha behluleke, futhi kakho ongapho ongachaphela ngakithi.'

²⁷ Saphendula sathi, 'Nxa kunjalo-ke, ngiyakuncenga, baba, thuma uLazaro endlini kababa, ²⁸ ngoba ngilabafowethu abahlanu. Ayebaxwayisa ukuze labo bangezi kule indawo yobuhlungu.'

²⁹ U-Abhrahama waphendula wathi, 'BaloMosi labaPhrofethi; kabalalele bona.'

³⁰ Sathi, 'Hatshi, baba Abhrahama, kodwa nxa kusuka umuntu kwabafuleyo aye kubo bazaphenduka.'

³¹ Wathi kuso, 'Nxa bengalaleli uMosi labaPhrofethi, kabasoze bavume loba omunye angaze avuke kwabafuleyo.'"

17

Isono, Ukholo, Umlandu

¹ UJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe: "Izinto ezenza abantu benze isono zizakuba khona kodwa maye kulowomuntu ezizafika ngaye. ² Bekungaba ngcono kuye ukuphoselwa olwandle kubotshelwe imbokodo entanyeni yakhe kulokuba yena akhubekise omunye walaba abancinyane ukuthi enze isono. ³ Ngakho lina ziqapheleni.

Nxa umfowenu esenza isono, mkhuze, kuthi nxa ezisola, mthethelele. ⁴ Nxa engakonela kasikhombisa ngosuku lunye, ebuye kuwe kasikhombisa esithi, 'Ngiyaxolisa,' mthethelele."

⁵ Abapostoli bathi eNkosini, “Yengeza ukholo lwethu!”

⁶ Waphendula wathi, “**Nxa lilokukholwa loba kukuncinyane njengentanga yemastadi, lingathi kulesisihlahla somabhulosi, ‘Quphuka lapha uyowela olwandle,’ sizalilalela.**

⁷ Kesithi omunye wenu ulesisebenzi, silima loba siselusa izimvu. Kambe kungenzeka yini ukuthi nxa isisebenzi singena sivela emasimini athi kuso, ‘Kulungile, hlala phansi udle’? ⁸ Kambe kayikuqala athi, ‘Lungisa ukudla kwami, ulungele ukungiphakela ngize ngidle, nginathe; ngemva kwalokho lawe usungadla, unathe’? ⁹ Angasibonga na isisebenzi ngoba senze lokho ebesikuyaliwe na? ¹⁰ Kunjalo lani nxa selenzile konke okuthiwe likwenze kufanele lithi, ‘Siyizinceku ezingafanelanga; sesenze kuphela lokho okungumlandu wethu.’”

UJesu Usilisa Abalitshumi Abalobulephero

¹¹ Ngalesosikhathi eseqonde ukuya eJerusalema, uJesu wahamba ngendlela esemngceleni phakathi kweSamariya leGalile. ¹² Wathi efika komunye umuzi, wahlangabezwa ngamadoda alitshumi ayelobulephero. Ema bucwala, ¹³ amemeza ngelizwi elikhulu athi, “Jesu, Nkosi, sihawukele!”

¹⁴ Wathi ewabona wathi kuwo, “**Hambani liyoziveza kubaphristi.**” Athi esahamba ahlambuluka.

¹⁵ Omunye wawo wathi ngokubona ukuthi usesilile waphenduka, edumisa uNkulunkulu ngelizwi elikhulu. ¹⁶ Wazilahla phansi ezinyaweni zikaJesu wambonga, yena wayengumSamariya.

¹⁷ UJesu wabuza wathi, “**Kanti kabahlanjululwanga bonke abalitshumi yini? Bangaphi abanye abayisifcamunwemunye na? ¹⁸ Ubengekho yini obengabuya azoletha udumo kuNkulunkulu ngaphandle kwalo owezizweni na?” ¹⁹ Wasesithi kuye, “Phakama uhambe; ukukholwa kwakho kukusilisile.”**

Ukuza Kombuso kaNkulunkulu

²⁰ Ngesinye isikhathi uJesu ebuzwe ngabaFarisi ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu wawuzafika nini, waphendula wathi, “**Umbuso kaNkulunkulu kawuzi ngendlela yokucubungula kwenu ukuma kwezinto, ²¹ njalo abantu kabayikutsho bathi, ‘Nanku lapha,’ loba bathi, ‘Nanko laphaya,’ ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu uphakathi kwenu.**”

²² Wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, **“Siyeza isikhathi lapho elizaloyisa khona ukubona olunye lwezinsuku zeNdodana yoMuntu kodwa kalisoze lilubone.** ²³ Abantu bazalitshela bathi, **‘Nanguyana laphaya!’** kumbe, **‘Nangu lapha!’** Lingathatheki ngabo. ²⁴ Ngoba ngosuku lwayo iNdodana yoMuntu izakuba njengombane ophazima ukhanyise umkhathi kusukela ngapha kusiyafika ngale. ²⁵ Kodwa kumele iqale ihlupheke ezintweni ezinengi njalo ilahlwe yilesisizukulwane.

²⁶ Njengoba kwakunjalo ensukwini zikaNowa, kuzakuba njalo ensukwini zeNdodana yoMuntu. ²⁷ Abantu babesidla, benatha, bethathana njalo besendiselana kwaze kwafika usuku uNowa angena ngalo emkhunjini. Kwasekufika uzamcolo wababhubhisa bonke.

²⁸ Kwakunjalo futhi ngezinsuku zikaLothi. Abantu babesidla, benatha, njalo bethenga, bethengisa, behlanyela njalo besakha. ²⁹ Kodwa ngosuku uLothi aphuma ngalo eSodoma, umlilo lesalufa kwathululeka kuvela ezulwini kwababhubhisa bonke.

³⁰ Kuzakuba njalo langosuku lapho iNdodana yoMuntu ifika. ³¹ Ngalolosuku kakho ozakuthi ephezulu ophahleni lwendlu yakhe, impahla zakhe ziphakathi, ehle ukuyazithatha. Njalo kakho osensimini ozakuyathatha loba yini. ³² Khumbulani umkaLothi! ³³ Lowo ozama ukulondoloza impilo yakhe izamlahlekela, lalowo olahlekelwa yimpilo yakhe uzayilondoloza. ³⁴ Ngiyalitshela, kuzakuthi ngalobobusuku abantu bebabili embhedeni omunye uzathathwa, kodwa omunye atshiywe. ³⁵ Abesifazane ababili bazabe bechola elitsheni ndawonye; omunye uzathathwa omunye atshiywe. [³⁶ Ababili bazabe besensimini; oyedwa uzathathwa omunye atshiywe.]”*

³⁷ Babuza bathi, “Ngaphi, Nkosi?”

Waphendula wathi, **“Lapho okulesidumbu khona, kulapho okuqoqana khona amanje.”**

18

Umzekeliso Womfelokazi Ophikelelayo

¹ UJesu wasetshela abafundi bakhe umzekeliso ukubatshengisa ukuthi kumele bakhuleke kokuphela bangadinwa. ² Wathi, **“Kwelinye idolobho kwakulomahluli owayengamesabi uNkulunkulu njalo engakhathaleli muntu.** ³ Kwakukhona umfelokazi kulelodobho

* 17:36 17.36 Livesi kayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

owayehlezi esiza kuye kokuphela emncenga esithi, 'Akungincede ngalowo engixabana laye.'

⁴ Okwesikhathi eside umahluli wayesala. Kodwa wacina esithi, 'Loba ngingamesabi uNkulunkulu njalo ngingakhathali ngomuntu, ⁵ kodwa ngenxa yokuthi umfelokazi lo usengijinge kakhulu sengizamlungisela ukuthi angaze abuya anginenge ngoba elokhu engilanda!' "

⁶ Njalo iNkosi yasisithi, "Likuzwisise lokho okutshiwo ngumahluli ongalunganga. ⁷ Kambe uNkulunkulu kayikubalwela yini abakhethiweyo bakhe, abakhuleka kuye imini lobusuku? Uzabe elokhu ebanina yini? ⁸ Ngiyalitshela, uzabalwela, njalo masinyane. Kodwa, nxa iNdodana yoMuntu isifika, izakufumana ukukholwa emhlabeni na?"

Umzekeliso WomFarisi LoMthelisi

⁹ Kulabo ababezethemba ngokulunga kwabo beseyisa abanye, uJesu wakhuluma umzekeliso lo wathi: ¹⁰ "Amadoda amabili aya ethempelini ukuyakhuleka, omunye engumFarisi njalo omunye engumthelisi. ¹¹ UmFarisi wasukuma wakhuleka ngalokho ayeyikho khona wathi: 'Nkulunkulu, ngiyakubonga ukuthi kanginjengabanye abantu, izigebenga, izixhwali, izifebe njalo kangifani lomthelisi lo. ¹² Ngizila kabili ngeviki njalo nginikela okwetshumi okwenzuzo yami yonke.'

¹³ Kodwa umthelisi wema bucwadlana laye. Wesaba lokukhangela ezulwini kodwa wazehlisa kakhulu wathi, 'Nkulunkulu, woba lesihawu kimi, ngiyisoni.'

¹⁴ Ngiyalitshela ukuthi indoda le, hatshi leyana enye, yabuyela ekhaya isilungisiwe phambi kukaNkulunkulu. Ngoba lowo oziphakamisayo uzakwehliswa, lozehlisayo uzaphakanyiswa."

Abantwana Abancinyane LoJesu

¹⁵ Abantu njalo babeletha abantwana kuJesu ukuthi ababeke izandla. Abafundi bonela ukukubona lokhu babakhuza. ¹⁶ Kodwa uJesu wabizela kuye abantwana wathi, "Yekelani abantwana beze kimi, lingabavimbeli ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu ungowabanjengalaba. ¹⁷ Ngiqinisile ngithi kini, lowo ongayikwemukela umbuso kaNkulunkulu njengomntwana omncane kayikungena kuwo."

18 Umbusi othile wambuza wathi, “Mfundisi olungileyo, ngingenzani ukuze ngizuze ilifa lokuphila kwaphakade na?”

19 UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Ungibizelani ngokuthi ngilungile na? Kakho olungileyo ngaphandle kukaNkulunkulu kuphela.** 20 **Uyayazi imilayo: ‘Ungafebi, ungabalali muntu, ungebi, ungaphi ubufakazi bamanga, hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko.’***”

21 Wathi umbusi, “Yonke le ngiyigcine kusukela ebutsheni bami.”

22 UJesu esekuzwile lokho wathi kuye, “**Usasilele into eyodwa. Thengisa konke olakho uphe abampofu, lapho-ke inotho yakho izakuba sezulwini. Ubusubuya ungilandele.**”

23 Wathi esezwe lokhu wadana kakhulu ngoba wayeyindoda eyayinothe kakhulu. 24 UJesu wamkhangela wathi, “**Koba nzima kakhulu ukuthi isinothi singene embusweni kaNkulunkulu! 25 Ngempela kulula ukuthi ikamela lingene embotsheni yenalithi kulokuthi umuntu onothileyo awungene umbuso kaNkulunkulu.**”

26 Labo abakuzwayo lokho babuza bathi, “Ngubani pho ongasindiswa?”

27 UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Lokho okungenzekiyo emandleni abantu kuyenzakala kwakaNkulunkulu.**”

28 UPhethro wathi kuye, “Sesadela konke esasilakho sakulandela!”

29 UJesu wathi kubo, “**Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi kakho osetshiye ikhaya loba umfazi kumbe abafowabo loba abazali kumbe abantwana ngenxa yombuso kaNkulunkulu 30 ozakwehluleka ukuzuza ngokuphindwe kanengi esikhathini samanje lesikhathini esizayo, ukuphila okungapheliyo.**”

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokufa Kwakhe Njalo

31 UJesu wasebizela abalitshumi lambili eceleni wabatshela wathi, “**Sesisiya eJerusalema lapho konke okulotshwe ngabaphrofethi ngeNdodana yoMuntu sekusiyi gwaliseka. 32 Izanikelwa kwabeZizwe. Bazayihoya, bayithuke, bayikhafulele, bayibhule njalo bayibulale. 33 Ngosuku lwesithathu izavuka.**”

34 Abafundi kabazange bakuzwisise konke lokhu. Ingcazelo yakho yayifihlakele kubo yikho kabazanga ukuthi wayekhuluma ngani.

Isiceli Esiyisiphofu Senziwa Sibone

* 18:20 18.20 U-Eksodasi 20.12-16; UDutheronomi 5.16-20

³⁵ UJesu esebanga eJerikho kwakulendoda eyisiphofu eyisiceli ihlezi eceleni kwendlela icela. ³⁶ Yathi isizwa kudlula ixuku labantu yabuza ukuthi kuyini okwakusenzakala. ³⁷ Bayitshela bathi, “UJesu waseNazaretha uyedlula khonapha.”

³⁸ Yamemeza yathi, “Jesu, Ndodana kaDavida, ake ungihawukele!”

³⁹ Labo ababehamba phambili bayikhuza bathi kayithule, kodwa yona yasimemeza ngamandla yathi, “Ndodana ka-Davida ake ungihawukele!”

⁴⁰ UJesu wema wathi indoda leyo ilethwe kuye. Isifikile uJesu wayibuza wathi, ⁴¹ **“Ufuna ukuthi ngikwenzeleni?”**

Yaphendula yathi, “Nkosi, ngifuna ukuthi ngibone.”

⁴² UJesu wathi kuyo, **“Kuzuze-ke ukubona; ukukholwa kwakho kukusindisile.”** ⁴³ Masinyane yahle yabona, yasimlandela uJesu idumisa uNkulunkulu. Kwathi bonke abantu bekubona lokho, labo bamdumisa uNkulunkulu.

19

UZakhewu Umthelisi

¹ UJesu wangena eJerikho kodwa esedlula. ² Kwakulendoda eyayithiwa nguZakhewu; wayeyinduna yabathelisi njalo enothile. ³ Wayefuna ukubona uJesu ukuthi wayengumuntu onjani, kodwa ngenxa yokuthi wayengumuntu omfitshane, wehluleka ngenxa yesiminyeminye. ⁴ Wasegijimela phambili, wakhwela phezu komkhiwa wesikhamore ukuze ambone njengoba uJesu wayesiza ngaleyondlela.

⁵ Kwathi uJesu esefikile kuleyondawo, wakhangelela phezulu wathi kuye, **“Zakhewu, yehla masinyane. Ngizakwethekelela endlini yakho lamuhla.”** ⁶ Wasesehla uZakhewu masinyane wamamukela ngokuthokoza.

⁷ Bonke abantu bakubona lokhu bangunguna besithi, “Useyekuba yisethekeli sesoni.”

⁸ Kodwa uZakhewu wasukuma wathi eNkosini, “Khangela, Nkosi! Okwamanje senginika ingxenye yenotho yami kwabampofu njalo nxa ngike ngadlelezela omunye umuntu loba ngakuphi, ngizambhadala ngokuphindwe kane lokho engakuthathayo.”

⁹ UJesu wasesithi kuye, **“Lamuhla insindiso isifikile kulindlu ngoba indoda le layo iyindodana ka-Abhrahama.”** ¹⁰ Ngoba iNdodana yoMuntu yalanda ukudinga lokusindisa lokho okwakulahlekile.”

¹¹ Bathi besalalele lokhu, wabatshela omunye umzeke-liso, ngoba wayesesondele eJerusalema, abantu sebeka-banga ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu wawusuzahle uvele masinyane. ¹² Wathi, **“Indoda ethile yasesikhosini ngokuzalwa yaya elizweni elikhatshana isiyagcotshwa ukuba yinkosi andubana iphenduke.** ¹³ Yasibiza iz-inceku zayo ezilitshumi yazinika imali engamamina alitshumi. Yathi, ‘Isebenziseni imali le ngize ngiphen-duke.’

¹⁴ Kodwa labobantu ayezababusa babemzonda lu-muntu, bathumela izithunywa ukuthi zimlandele ziyekuthi, ‘Kasimfuni lumuntu ukuthi abe yinkosi yethu.’

¹⁵ Lanxa kunjalo wagcotshwa waba yinkosi, waphen-duka ekhaya. Wasebiza izinceku lezo ayezinike imali ukuze ezwe ukuthi zazithole nzuzo bani ngayo.

¹⁶ Owokuqala weza wathi, ‘Nkosi, imali yakho isizele amanye amadola alitshumi.’

¹⁷ Inkosi yayo yathi, ‘Wenze kuhle, nceku yami elungileyo! Ngenxa yokuthi uthembekile entweni encinyane, usuzabusa amadolobho alitshumi.’

¹⁸ Owesibili weza wathi, ‘Nkosi, imali yakho isizele amanye amadola amahlanu.’

¹⁹ Inkosi yayo yaphendula yathi, ‘Busa phezu kwa-madolobho amahlanu.’

²⁰ Kwasekusiza enye inceku yathi, ‘Nkosi, nansi imali yakho; bengiyigoqele ngelembu. ²¹ Bengikwesaba wena ngoba uyindoda elukhuni. Ucupha lapho ongathe-langa khona njalo ubuye uvune lapho ongahlanyelanga khona.’

²² Inkosi yayo yaphendula yathi, ‘Ngizakwahlulela ngamazwi akho wena nceku exhwalileyo! Angithi ubukwazi ukuthi ngingumuntu olukhuni, ocupha lapho angathelanga khona lovuna lapho angahlanye-langa khona? ²³ Kungani pho ungabekanga imali yami ebhanga ukuze kuthi ekubuyeni kwami ngiyithathe isilenzuzo na?’

²⁴ Yasisithi kwababemi khonapho, ‘Mthatheleni lelo alalo liliphe lowo olalitshumi.’

²⁵ Basebesithi, ‘Nkosi, angithi uvele uselalitshumi?’

²⁶ Yaphendula yathi, ‘Ngithi kini, lowo olakho uza-phiwa okunye okunengi kodwa lowo ongelalutho, lalokho alakho uzakwemukwa. ²⁷ Kodwa izitha zami lezo ebezingafuni ukuthi ngizibuse, ziletheni lapha lizibulalele phambi kwami.’”

28 UJesu esezitshilo zonke lezizinto wahamba wabandulela eqonda eJerusalema. 29 Wathi esebanga eBhethifage kanye leBhethani entabeni eyayithiwa yiNtaba yama-Oliva wathuma abafundi bakhe ababili wathi kubo: 30 **“Yanini emzini ophambi kwenu, lizakuthi lingena kuwo libone inkonyane kababhemi ibotshelwe khonapho, engakaze igadwe muntu. ‘Ikhululeni liyilethe lapha. 31 Nxa kungaba lozalibuza ukuthi, Liyikhululelani na?’ kumele lithi, ‘INKosi iyayifuna.’”**

32 Labo ababethunyiwe bahamba njalo bathola kunjengoba ebetshilo. 33 Besayikhulula inkonyane kababhemi, abanini bayo bababuza bathi, “Liyikhululelani na?”

34 Baphendula bathi, “INKosi iyayifuna.”

35 Bayiletha kuJesu, baphosela amajazi abo phezu kwenkonyane, bagadisa uJesu phezu kwayo. 36 Wathi eseqhubeka, abantu bendlala amajazi abo endleleni.

37 Esefikile eduze kwalapho indlela eyehla khona isuka eNtabeni yama-Oliva abafundi lexuku lonke lasuka ngokuthokoza ladumisa uNkulunkulu ngamazwi amakhulu ngenxa yemimangaliso yonke ababeyibonile, bathi:

38 “Ibusisiwe inkosi ebuya ngebizo likaThixo!”*

“Ukuthula ezulwini lodumo kweliphezulu!”

39 Abanye abaFarisi exukwini bathi kuJesu, “Mfundisi, khuza abafundi bakho!”

40 Waphendula wathi, **“Ngiyalitshela ngithi nxa bethula amatshe azamemeza.”**

41 Wathi esebanga eJerusalema ekhangele idolobho, walikhalela 42 wathi, **“Nxa wena, wena ngokwakho, ubukwazi namhla lokho obekungakulethela ukuthula kodwa okwamanje kufihliwe emehlweni akho.**

43 **Zizafika insuku kuwe lapho izitha zakho zizakwakha umthangala zikuhonqolozele njalo zikuphahle inxa zonke. 44 Zizakusakazela phansi emhlabathini, wena kanye labantwana abaphakathi kwemiduli yakho. Kaziyikutshiya lalinye ilitshe phezu kwelinye ngoba kawusinanzelelanga isikhathi sokuza kukaNkulunkulu kuwe.”**

UJesu EThempelini

45 Wasengena ethempelini wadudula ababethengisa khona 46 esithi kubo, **“Kubhaliwe ukuthi, ‘Indlu yami iyindlu yokukhuleka,’ kodwa lina seliyenze ubhalu lwabaphangi.”**‡

* 19:38 19.38 AmaHubo 118.26 † 19:46 19.46 U-Isaya 56.7 ‡ 19:46 19.46 UJeremiya 7.11

47 Insuku zonke wayefundisa ethempelini. Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho kanye labakhokheli ababephakathi kwabantu babezama ukumbulala. 48 Kodwa kabayizuzanga indlela yokukwenza lokho ngoba abantu bonke babewakholwa amazwi akhe.

20

Ukuthandabuza Ngamandla KaJesu

1 Ngelinye ilanga kwathi efundisa abantu ethempelini, etshumayela ivangeli, abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho, kanye labadala bebandla beza kuye. 2 Bathi, “Ake usitshele ukuthi uwathatha ngaphi amandla okwenza lezizinto. Ngubani okunike amandla la?”

3 Waphendula wathi, **“Lami ngizalibuza umbuzo. Ngitshelani, 4 ukubhaphathiza kukaJohane kwakuvela ezulwini loba ebantwini na?”**

5 Bahlanganisa amakhanda bathi, “Singathi, ‘Kwakuvela ezulwini,’ uzabuza athi, ‘Kungani lingazange limkholwe?’

6 Kodwa singathi, ‘Kwakuvela ebantwini,’ abantu bonke bazasikhanda ngamatshe ngoba bakholwa ukuthi uJohane wayengumphrofethi.”

7 Ngakho baphendula bathi, “Kasikwazi ukuthi kwakuvela ngaphi.”

8 UJesu wathi, **“Lami kangizukulitshela ukuthi lezizinto ngizenza ngawaphi amandla.”**

Umzekeliso Wabalimi Besivini

9 Waseqhubeka ngokutshela abantu umzekeliso lo wathi:

“Indoda yahlanyela isivini yasiqhatshisa abanye abalimi, yasihamba okwesikhathi eside. 10 Ngesikhathi sokuvuna yathuma inceku yayo kubaqhatshi besivini ukuze bayiphe ingxenye yezithelo zesivini. Kodwa abalimi bayitshaya, bayixotsha ingaphathanga lutho.

11 Yathuma enye inceku kodwa laleyo bayitshaya bayiphatha kabuhlungu, bayixotsha ingaphathanga lutho. 12 Waphinda wathuma eyesithathu, bayilimaza bayiphosela phandle.

13 Umninisivini wasesithi, ‘Ngenzeni? Ngizathuma indodana yami engiyithandayo; mhlawumbe bazayihlonipha.’

14 Kodwa kwathi abaqhatshi besivini beyibona, bahlanganisa amakhanda ngaleyondaba. Bathi, ‘Le yindlalifa. Kasiyibulaleni, ilifa libe ngelethu.’

15 Basebeyikhuphela ngaphandle kwesivini, bayibulala.

Kambe umnisisivini uzabathini? ¹⁶ Uzakuza afike ababulale labo baqhatshi besivini, isivini lesi asinike abanye abalimi."

Abantu bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathi, "Sengathi lokhu kungaze kwafa kwenzeka!"

¹⁷ UJesu wabathi nhlo, wabuza wathi, **"Pho kutshoni lokho okubhalwe ukuthi: 'Ilitshe elalahlwa ngabakhi**

seliyilona ilitshe lekheneni?'"*

¹⁸ **Wonke owela phezu kwalelolitshe uzachobozeka abe yizicucu, kodwa lowo eliwela phezu kwakhe uzahli-fizwa."**

¹⁹ Abafundisi bomthetho labaphristi abakhulu badinga indlela yokumbopha masinyane ngoba babesazi ukuthi wakhuluma umzekeliso lo eqonde bona. Kodwa babesesaba abantu.

Ukuthela KuKhesari

²⁰ Bamthumela inhloli ezazizitshaya ezithembekileyo ukuze zingolombe. Babefisa ukumbeka icala kokunye ayengakukhuluma ukuze bamedlulisele emandleni ombusi.

²¹ Ngakho inhloli zambuza zathi, "Mfundisi, siyazi ukuthi wena ukhuluma njalo ufundisa okuqondileyo lokuthi kawubandlululi kodwa ufundisa indlela kaNkulunkulu ngeqiniso elipheleleyo. ²² Kufanele yini ukuthi sithele imithelo kuKhesari loba hatshi?"

²³ Wabubona ubuqili babo wathi kubo, ²⁴ **"Ngitshengisani idenari. Kulomfanekiso kabani lombhalo kabani kuyo?"**

Baphendula bathi, "NgokaKhesari."

²⁵ Wathi kubo, **"Ngakho nikani uKhesari okungokukaKhesari, linike uNkulunkulu okungokukaNkulunkulu."**

²⁶ Behluleka ukumbamba ngalokho akutshoyo lapho obala. Sebemangaliswe yimpendulo yakhe bathula zwi.

Ukuvuka Kwabafileyo Lokwendiselana

²⁷ Amanye amaSadusi athi kakukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo eza kuJesu elombuzo. ²⁸ Athi, "Mfundisi, uMosi wasibhalela ukuthi nxa umfowabo wendoda angafa atshiye umfazi, kodwa bengelabantwana, umfowabo kumele amngene umfelokazi ukuze azalele umfowabo abantwana. ²⁹ Manje kwakulabafowabo abayisikhombisa. Owokuqala wathatha umfazi kodwa wafa engelamntwana. ³⁰ Owesibili ³¹ njalo lowesithathu laye wamthatha, bonke boyisikhombisa benza

* 20:17 20:17 AmaHubo 118.22

njalo bafa bengatshiyanga bantwana. ³² Ekucineni umfazi laye wafa. ³³ Pho-ke, ekuvukeni kwabafileyo uza-kuba ngumkabani njengoba bonke boyisikhombisa babemthethe?"

³⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **"Abantu balesisikhathi bayathatha njalo bayendiswa. ³⁵ Kodwa labo abazabe befanele ukuba lengxenye kulesosikhathi lasekuvukeni kwabafileyo kabazukuthatha loba bendiswe, ³⁶ njalo kabasayikufa ngoba sebenjengezingilosi. Bangabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, ngoba bengabantwana bokuvuka kwabafileyo.**

³⁷ **Kodwa emlandweni wesixuku esasibhebha umlilo, uMosi laye wakuveza ukuthi abafileyo bayavuka, ngoba ubiza uThixo ngokuthi 'uNkulunkulu ka-Abhrahama, uNkulunkulu ka-Isaka, loNkulunkulu kaJakhobe.'**† ³⁸ **KasuNkulunkulu wabafileyo, kodwa owabaphilayo, ngoba kuye bonke bayaphila."**

³⁹ Baphendula abanye abafundisi bomthetho bathi, "Utsho kahle Mfundisi!" ⁴⁰ Kasabanga khona owaba lesibindi sokumbuza eminye imibuzo.

UKhristu UyiNdodana Kabani Na?

⁴¹ UJesu wasesithi kubo, **"Kungani besithi uKhristu uyiNdodana kaDavida na? ⁴² UDavida yena ngokwakhe uyakufakaza eNcwadini yamaHubo uthi:**

'INKosi yathi eNkosini yami:

"Hlala ngakwesokunene sami,

⁴³ **ngize ngenze izitha zakho**

zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho."‡

⁴⁴ **UDavida umbiza athi 'Nkosi.' Pho angaba yindodana yakhe njani?"**

Iseluleko Ngabafundisi Bomthetho

⁴⁵ Kwathi bonke abantu besalalele, uJesu wathi kubafundi bakhe, ⁴⁶ **"Limukani abafundisi bomthetho. Bathanda ukuhambahamba becece ngezembatho ezinde eziphephezelayo njalo bathanda ukubingelelwa emisikeni, futhi bathatha izihlalo eziphakemeyo emasinagogweni lezindawo zabahlonitshwa emadilini. ⁴⁷ Bahuquluza izindlu zabafelokazi njalo bazibonakalisa ngokwenza imikhuleko emide. Abantu abanjalo bazajeziswa kabuhlungu."**

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Umnikelo Womfelokazi

¹ UJesu wathi ekhangela wabona izinothi zifaka iminikelo yazo esitsheni somnikelo. ² Wabona njalo umfelokazi ongumyanga efaka okuzinhlamvana kwethusi okubili. ³ Wathi, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi umfelokazi lo ongumyanga unikele okudlula bonke abanye. ⁴ Bonke lababantu banikele izipho zabo ngokwenotho yabo, kodwa yena ebuyangeni bakhe ufake konke abelakho.”**

Ukubhidlizwa KweThempeli Lezibonakaliso Zokucina Kwesikhathi

⁵ Abanye abafundi bakhe babekhuluhluma ngokubalazwa kwethempeli ngamatshe amahle langezipho ezazinikelwe kuNkulunkulu. Kodwa uJesu wathi, ⁶ **“Mayelana lalokhu elikubona lapha, sizafika isikhathi lapho okungeyikutshiywa ilitshe phezu kwelinye; wonke azaphoselwa phansi.”**

⁷ Babuza bathi, “Mfundisi, izinto lezi zizakwenzakala nini? Njalo sizakuba yini isibonakaliso sokuthi sezizakwenzeka na?”

⁸ Waphendula wathi, **“Qaphelani lingakhohliswa. Ngoba abanengi bazakuza ngebizo lami besithi, ‘Nginguye,’ njalo bathi, ‘Isikhathi sesisondele.’ Lingabalandeli. ⁹ Nxa lisizwa ngezimpi lezikhukhulambuso, lingethuki. Lezizinto kuzamele zenzeke kuqala, kodwa isiphetho kasizukufika ngalesosikhathi.”**

¹⁰ Wasesithi kubo: **“Isizwe sizavukela isizwe, lombuso uvukele umbuso. ¹¹ Kuzakuba lokuzamazama komhlaba okukhulu, indlala lezifo ezindaweni ezinengi, izehlakalo ezesabekayo lezibonakaliso ezinengi zivela emkhathini.**

¹² Kodwa kungakenzakali konke lokhu bazalibamba, balihlukuluze. Bazalinikela emasinagogweni baliphosele lasezintolongweni njalo lizamiswa phambi kwamakhosi lababusi ngenxa yebizo lami.

¹³ Lokhu kuzalenza libe ngofakazi kimi. ¹⁴ Kodwa bekani amaphaphu phansi, lingazihluphi ngokuthi lizazivikela lisithini. ¹⁵ Ngoba ngizalinika amazwi lokuhlakanipha ukuze angabikhona ezitheni zenu ozalehlula loba aliphikise. ¹⁶ Lizanikelwa ngabazali, ngabafowenu layizihlobo labangane njalo abanye benu bazalibulala. ¹⁷ Bonke abantu bazalizonda ngenxa yami. ¹⁸ Kodwa kakuyikubhubha lanwele olulodwa emakhanda enu. ¹⁹ Bekezelani, lizasindiswa.

²⁰ Lingabona iJerusalema isihonqolozelwe yizimpi lizakwazi ukuthi incithakalo isisondele. ²¹ Lapho-ke akuthi labo abaseJudiya babalekele

ezintabeni, abasedolobheni kabaphume, kuthi labo abasemaphandleni bangangeni edolobheni.
²² Ngoba lesi yisikhathi sokujeziswa ukugcwalisa konke okwalotshwayo. ²³ Yeka ubulukhuni obuzakuba khona ngalezonsuku kwabesifazane abakhulelweyo labangabadlezane! Kuzakuba khona ukuhlukuluzeka okukhulu elizweni lolaka phezu kwabantu. ²⁴ Bazakuwa ngenkemba babuthwe babe yizibotshwa zezizwe zonke. IJerusalema izagidagidwa ngabeZizwe kuze kugcwaliseke izikhathi zabeZizwe.

²⁵ Kuzabakhona izibonakaliso elangeni, enyangeni lasezinkanyezini. Emhlabeni izizwe zizakuba phakathi kosizi lokudideka ngenxa yokuhuba lokukhaphaza kolwandle. ²⁶ Abantu bazaphela amandla ngokwesaba, behlutshwa yilokho okuzayo emhlabeni, ngoba izisekelo zasezulwini zizazanyazanyiswa. ²⁷ Ngalesosikhathi bazayibona iNdodana yoMuntu isiza ngeyezi ilamandla lenkazimulo enkulu. ²⁸ Nxa lezizinto seziqala ukwenzakala manini liqine, liphakamise amakhanda enu, ngoba ukuhlengwa kwenu sekusondela.”

²⁹ Wabatshela umfanekiso lo wathi, “Khangelani esihlahleni somkhiwa kanye lezinye zonke izihlahla. ³⁰ Nxa zihluma lizazibonela lani njalo lazi ukuthi ihlobo selisondele. ³¹ Kanjalo-ke, nxa lingabona lezizinto sezisenzakala, lazi ukuthi umbuso kaNkulunkulu ususondele.

³² Ngilitshela iqiniso, lesisizukulwane kasiyikudlula zize zenzakale zonke lezizinto. ³³ Izulu lomhlaba kuzedlula, kodwa amazwi ami kawayikwedlula lanini.

³⁴ Nanzelelani funa inhliziyu zenu zithundubale ngokuzitika lokudakwa lokunqineka ngezinto zalimpilo, ngoba lolosuku luzalijuma njengomjibila.

³⁵ Ngoba luzafikela bonke labo abahlala kuwo wonke umhlaba. ³⁶ Hlalani lilindile, likhulekele ukuthi liphephe kukho konke osekuzakwenzeka masinyane, lokuthi libe lamandla okuma phambi kweNdodana yoMuntu.”

³⁷ Insuku zonke uJesu wayefundisa ethempelini kuthi kusihlwa aphume ayechitha ubusuku eqaqeni olwaluthiwa yiNtaba yama-Oliva, ³⁸ njalo abantu bonke babesiza ekuseni kakhulu ukuzamuzwa ethempelini.

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1 UMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo owawubizwa ngokuthi liPhasika wawususondele, 2 njalo abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho babedinga enye indlela yokumsusa uJesu, ngoba babesesaba abantu. 3 USathane wasengena kuJudasi owayethiwa ngu-Iskariyothi, omunye wabalitshumi lambili. 4 UJudasi waya kubaphristi abakhulu lezikhulu zabavikeli bethempeli wabonisana labo ukuthi amnikele njani uJesu. 5 Bathokoza kakhulu, basebevuma ukumupha imali. 6 Wavuma, wasemelela ithuba lokunikela uJesu kubo ngesikhathi kungelaxuku labantu.

Isidlo Sokucina

7 Lwaselufika usuku lweSinkwa esingelaMvubelo okwakusenziwa ngalo umhlatshelelo wewundlu lePhasika. 8 UJesu wathuma uPhethro loJohane wathi, **“Hambani liyesilungisela ukuthi siyekudla iPhasika.”**

9 Babuza bathi, “Ufuna siyelilungisela ngaphi?”

10 Waphendula wathi, **“Lizakuthi nje lingena edolobheni, lizahlangana lendoda iphethe inkonxa yamanzi. Liyilandele kuleyondlu ezangena kuyo, 11 beselisithi kumninindlu, ‘Umfundisi uyabuza uthi: Ingaphi indlu yezethekeli, lapho engingadlela khona iPhasika labafundi bami?’ 12 Izalitshengisa ikamelo laphezulu elikhulu, elilungisiweyo. Yenzani amalungiselo khonapho.”**

13 Bahamba bayafica izinto zimi njengokutshelwa kwabo nguJesu. Ngakho balilungisa iPhasika.

14 Kwathi isikhathi sesifikile uJesu wahlala etafuleni labapostoli bakhe. 15 Wasesithi kubo, **“Bengitshiseka kakhulu ukudla iPhasika leli lani ngingakahlupheki. 16 Ngoba ngiyalitshela ukuthi kangisoze ngiphinde ngilidle njalo lize lizuze ukugcwaliseka embusweni kaNkulunkulu.”**

17 Esethethe inkezo wabonga wasesithi, **“Kuthatheni lokhu likwabelane. 18 Ngoba ngiyalitshela ukuthi angiyikuphinda nginathe okwesithelo sevini umbuso kaNkulunkulu uze ufike.”**

19 Wasethatha isinkwa, wabonga wasesihlephuna wabapha, wathi, **“Lo ngumzimba wami ophiwe lina; kwenzeni lokhu kube yisikhumbuzo sami.”**

20 Ngaleyondlela, ngemva kokudla kwakusihlwa wathatha inkezo, esithi, **“Inkezo le iyisivumelwano esitsha egazini lami, elichithelwa lina. 21 Kodwa isandla sakhe lowo ozanginikela sikanye lesami etafuleni. 22 INdodana yoMuntu izahamba njengoba kumisiwe, kodwa maye kulowomuntu oyinikelayo.”**

23 Baqala ukubuzana ukuthi kambe ngabe ngubani kubo owayezakwenza lokhu.

24 Njalo kwaba lokuphikisana phakathi kwabo mayelana lokuthi ngubani kubo owayebonakala emkhulu kulabo bonke. 25 UJesu wathi kubo, **“Amakhosi abeZizwe azitshengisela amandla awo kulabo ababusayo; leziphathamandla zakhona zibizwa ngokuthi Mcoli.**

26 **Kodwa akumelanga libe njalo. Endaweni yalokho, lowo omkhulu kulani lonke kabe njengomncinyane kini lonke, lalowo obusayo abe nguye okhonza abanye.**

27 **Kambe ngubani omkhulu kulomunye, lowo ohlezi etafuleni yokudla loba lowo ophakayo na? Kakusilowo osetafuleni na? Kodwa mina ngiphakathi kwenu njengalowo oliphakelayo.** 28 **Liyilabo abame lami ebunzimeni bami.** 29 **Ngakho ngiyalinika umbuso njengoba uBaba wanginika lami,** 30 **ukuze lidle njalo linathe etafuleni lami embusweni wami njalo lihlale ezihlalweni zobukhosi, lisahlulela izizwana zika-Israyeli ezilitshumi lambili.**

31 **Simoni, Simoni uSathane usecele ukulihlungula lonke njengengqoloyi.** 32 **Kodwa sengikukhulekele wena Simoni, ukuthi ukholo lwakho lungaze lwawela phansi. Ubokuthi nxa usuphendukile uqinise abafowenu.”**

33 Kodwa waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, ngizimisele ukuhamba lawe entolongweni lasekufeni.”

34 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngiyakutshela, Phethro, ukuthi iqhude lingakakhali lamuhla, uzaphika kathathu ukuthi uyangazi.”**

35 UJesu wasebabuza wathi, **“Ngize ngilithume lingelamxhaka, loba isikhwama kumbe amanyathela, kukhona yini elake lakusilela?”**

Baphendula bathi, “Akubanga lalutho.”

36 Wathi, kubo, **“Kodwa manje nxa ulesikhwama semali, sithathe, kanye lomgodla; njalo nxa ungelankemba, thengisa isigqoko sakho uyithenge.**

37 **Kulotshiwe ukuthi, ‘Wabalwa ndawonye lezoni’*; njalo ngiyalitshela ukuthi lokhu kumele kugcwaliseke kimi. Yebo, lokho okubhaliweyo ngami sekufika ekugcwalisweni kwakho.”**

38 Abafundi bathi, “Khangela, Nkosi, nanzi inkemba ezimbili.”

Waphendula uJesu wathi, **“Kwanele.”**

UJesu Ukhuleka ENtabeni Yama-Oliva

* 22:37 22.37 U-Isaya 53.12

³⁹ UJesu wahamba njengenjayelo waya eNtabeni yama-Oliva, abafundi bakhe bamlandela. ⁴⁰ Esefikile kuleyondawo, wathi kubo, **“Khulekani ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni.”** ⁴¹ Watsheda kubo okwebanga lokuphosa ilitshhe, waguqa phansi wakhuleka wathi, ⁴² **“Baba, nxa uthanda susa inkezo le kimi; kodwa akungabi yintando yami, kodwa kwenziwe eyakho.”** ⁴³ Ingilosi yabonakala kuye ivela ezulwini yamqinisa. ⁴⁴ Kwathi edabukile kakhulu, wakhuleka ngokutshiseka, izithukuthuku zakhe zangathi ligazi lithontela phansi.

⁴⁵ Wathi esephakeme ekukhulekeni wabuyela kubafundi bakhe wabafica belele, bekhathele ngenxa yosizi. ⁴⁶ Wababuza wathi, **“Kungani lilele na? Vukani likhuleke ukuze lingaweli ekulingweni.”**

UJesu Uyabotshwa

⁴⁷ Kwathi elokhu esakhuluma kwafika ixuku labantu, indoda ethiwa nguJudasi omunye wabalitshumi lambili, wayebahola. Wasondela kuJesu ukumanga, ⁴⁸ kodwa uJesu wambuza wathi, **“Judasi, uyayinikela na iNdodana yoMuntu ngokuyanga?”**

⁴⁹ Kwathi abalandeli bakaJesu sebebona okwasekuzakwenzeka bathi, “Nkosi, sigalele yini ngenkemba zethu?” ⁵⁰ Omunye wabo wayigalela inceku yomphristi omkhulu, wayiquma indlebe yayo yokunene.

⁵¹ Kodwa uJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kakufuneki lokhu!”** Waseyibamba indlebe yalowomuntu wamsilisa.

⁵² UJesu wasesithi kubaphristi abakhulu, lezikhulu zabalindi bethempeli kanye labadala bebandla ababemlandile, **“Ngikhokhela umvukela yini lize liphethe izinkemba lenduku? ⁵³ Zonke insuku bengilani emagumeni ethempeli, kodwa kalizange lingithinte. Kodwa lesi yisikhathi senu, lapho kubusa umnyama.”**

UPhethro Ulandula UJesu

⁵⁴ Bamdumela, bamusa endlini yomphristi omkhulu. UPhethro wayemlandela ebucwala. ⁵⁵ Kodwa kwathi sebase umlilo phakathi kweguma bahlala phansi ndawonye, uPhethro wahlala phansi labo. ⁵⁶ Intombazana eyisisebenzi yambona ehlezi khonapho ekukhanyeni komlilo. Yamkhangelisisa yathi, “Indoda le yayilaye.”

⁵⁷ Kodwa yena waphika wathi, “Ntombazana, kangimazi.”

⁵⁸ Ngemva kwesikhathshana omunye wambona wathi, “Lawe ungomunye wabo.”

UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Ndoda, angisuye.”

⁵⁹ Sekudlule phose ihola omunye wagcizelela wathi, “Ngeqiniso umuntu lo wayelaye, ngoba ungumGalile.”

⁶⁰ Waphendula uPhethro wathi, “Ndoda, angikwazi okhuluma ngakho!” Elokhu esakhuluma, iqhude lakhala. ⁶¹ INkosi yatshibilika, yamkhangela yamuthi nhlo uPhethro. UPhethro waselikhumbula ilizwi iNkosi eyayilikhulumile kuye isithi: **“Iqhude lingakakhali lamuhla, uzangiphika kathathu.”** ⁶² Ngakho wasephumela ngaphandle wakhala kabuhlungu.

Amabutho Ahoza UJesu

⁶³ Amadoda ayelinde uJesu aqalisa ukumhoza lokumtshaya. ⁶⁴ Amvala amehlo athi kuye, “Phrofitha! Ngubani okutshayileyo?” ⁶⁵ Amthuka ngezindlela ezinengi.

UJesu Phambi KukaPhilathu LoHerodi

⁶⁶ Emadabukakusa inkundla yabakhokheli babantu, kanye labaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho yahlangana ndawonye, uJesu wa lethwa phambi kwabo. ⁶⁷ Bathi, “Nxa unguKhristu sitshele.”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngingaze ngilitshele kalisoze lingikholwe, ⁶⁸ njalo nxa bengingalibuza belingeke liphendule. ⁶⁹ Kodwa kusukela khathesi iNdodana yoMuntu izahlala kwesokunene sikaNkulunkulu olamandla amakhulu.”**

⁷⁰ Bonke babuza bathi, “Kutsho ukuthi-ke uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu na?”

Waphendula wathi, **“Liqondile ukuthi ngiyiyo.”**

⁷¹ Basebesithi, “Sisabudingelani obunye ubufakazi na? Sesikuzwe kuphuma kowakhe umlomo.”

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¹ Ibandla lonke laseliphakama lamqhuba lamusa kuPhilathu. ² Basebemethesa icala besithi, “Indoda le siyifice ixhwalisa isizwe sakithi. Iphikisana lokuthela imithelo kuKhesari njalo izenza uKhristu, inkosi.”

³ Ngakho uPhilathu wasembuza uJesu wathi, “Uyinkosi yamaJuda na?”

“Kunjengoba usitsho,” waphendula uJesu.

⁴ UPhilathu wasebikela abaphristi abakhulu kanye lexuku labantu wathi, “Kangiboni lutho lokwethesa umuntu lo icala.”

⁵ Kodwa bagcizelela bathi, “Udunga abantu kulolonke elaseJudiya ngemfundiso yakhe. Waqalisa eGalile, usehambe wonke umango waze wazafika lapha.”

⁶ Esezwe lokhu uPhilathu wabuza ingabe indoda leyo yayingumGalile na. ⁷ Esezwile ukuthi uJesu

wayengaphansi kombuso kaHerodi wamthumela kuHerodi owayeseJerusalema ngalesosikhathi.

⁸ UHerodi wathi embona uJesu wathaba kakhulu ngoba wayevele etshisekela ukumbona. Ethathela kulokho ayekuzwile ngaye, wayelindele ukumbona esenza omunye umangaliso. ⁹ Wamjinga ngemibuzo, kodwa uJesu akaze amphendula. ¹⁰ Abaphristi abakhulu labafundisi bomthetho labo babemi khonapho bemangalela ngokuthukuthela. ¹¹ UHerodi lamabutho akhe basebemchothoza njalo bamhoza. Bamgqokisa isigqoko esihle, basebembuyisela kuPhilathu. ¹² Ngalelolanga uHerodi loPhilathu babangabangane kodwa mandulo kwalokhu babeyizitha.

¹³ UPhilathu wabizela ndawonye abaphristi abakhulu lababusi kanye labantu ¹⁴ wathi kubo, “Lingilethele umuntu obekhuthaza abantu ukwenza umvukela. Sengimhlolile phambi kwenu, kodwa kangifumananga lutho kulokhu elimangalela khona. ¹⁵ LoHerodi kafumananga lutho, ngoba usemphendukisile kithi; njengoba libona, kenzanga lutho olufanele ukuthi abulawe. ¹⁶ Ngakho ngizamjezisa nje besengimkhulula.” [¹⁷ Kwakumele akhulule isibotshwa esisodwa esiyabe sikhethwe ngabantu mhla wedili.]*

¹⁸ Bamemeza ngalizwi linye bathi, “Msusele khatshana umuntu lo! Sikhululele uBharabhasi!” ¹⁹ (UBharabhasi wayephoselwe entolongweni ngenxa yokuvusa isiphithiphithi edolobheni langenxa yokubulala.)

²⁰ Kwathi ngoba efuna ukumkhulula uJesu, uPhilathu waphinda wathi kabake bacabange njalo. ²¹ Kodwa baqhubeka bememeza besithi, “Mbethele! Mbethele!”

²² Waphinda wakhuluma labo okwesithathu wathi, “Ngani na? Umuntu lo wenze cala bani? Angiboni lutho kuye olungafanela isigwebo sokuthi abulawe. Ngakho-ke, ngizakuthi kajeziswe besengimkhulula.”

²³ Kodwa baklabalala beqinisa ukuba kabethelwe, lakanye ukugcizelela kwabo kwaphumelela. ²⁴ Ngakho uPhilathu wasemisa ukwemukela izifiso zabo. ²⁵ Wayikhulula indoda leyo eyayiphoselwe entolongweni ngenxa yesiphithiphithi lokubulala, eyiyo abayicelayo, wanikela uJesu kubo ukuthi benze intando yabo.

Ukubethelwa Esiphambanweni

²⁶ Bathi sebemqhuba babamba uSimoni waseKhureni owayesuka emaphandleni, bamethesa isiphambano bathi kasithwale ngemva kukaJesu. ²⁷ Walandelwa ngabantu

* **23:17** 23.17 Livesi kayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

abanengi kakhulu, kanye labesifazane ababemkhalela bebubula. ²⁸ UJesu wanyemukula wathi kubo, **“Mado-dakazi aseJerusalema, lingangikhaleli; zikhaleleni lina kanye labantwabenu.** ²⁹ Ngoba sizafika isikhathi lapho elizakuthi, **‘Babusisiwe abafazi abazinyumba, lezibeletho ezingazange zithwale kanye lamabele angazange amunyise!’** ³⁰ Lapho-ke **‘bazakuthi ezintabeni, “Sembeseni!”†**

Lakuwo amaqqa bathi, “Welani phezu kwethu!” ’

³¹ **Ngoba nxa abantu bezenza lezizinto lapho isihlahla simanzi, kuzakwenzakalani pho nxa sesomile?”**

³² Amanye amadoda amabili, onke ayeyizigebenga, lawo aqhutshwa kanye laye esiyabulawa. ³³ Bathi sebefike endaweni ethiwa luKhakhayi bambethela esiphambanweni kanye lezigebeza lezo, omunye ngakwesokunene kwakhe, omunye ngakwesokhohlo. ³⁴ UJesu wathi, **“Baba, baxolele, ngoba kabakwazi abakwenzayo.”** Njalo basebesabelana izigqoko zakhe ngokutshaya inkatho.

³⁵ Abantu bema bakhangela, ababusi bona bamklolodela. Bathi, **“Wasindisa abanye, laye kazisindise nxa enguKhristu kaNkulunkulu, oKhethiweyo.”**

³⁶ Amabutho lawo eza amklolodela. Amnika iwayini elimunyu ³⁷ athi, **“Nxa uyinkosi yamaJuda, zisindise.”**

³⁸ Kwakulombhalo wokwazisa ngaphezulu kwakhe owawusithi:

Lo yiNkosi yamaJuda.

³⁹ Omunye wezigebeza owayelenga khonapho wamthuka wathi, **“Kanti kayisuwe uKhristu? Zisindise wena kanye lathi!”**

⁴⁰ Kodwa esinye isigebeza samkhuza sathi, **“Kawumesabi na uNkulunkulu, njengoba ulesigwebo sinye laye.** ⁴¹ Thina sijeziwa ngokusifaneleyo ngoba sizuzo lokho okufanele izenzo zethu. Kodwa umuntu lo kenzanga lutho olungalunganga.”

⁴² Wasesithi, **“Jesu, ungikhumbule nxa ungafika embusweni wakho.”**

⁴³ UJesu wamphendula wathi, **“Ngiyakutshela iqiniso ngithi, lamuhla uzakuba lami epharadise.”**

Ukufa KukaJesu

⁴⁴ Kwasekuyisikhathi esingaba liholo lesithupha, ubumnyama bembesa lonke ilizwe kwaze kwaba liholo lesifcamunwemunye, ⁴⁵ ngoba ilanga lema ukukhanya. Ikhetheni lethempeli ladabuka kabili. ⁴⁶ UJesu wamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, **“Baba, ezandleni zakho nginikela**

† 23:30 23.30 UHosiya 10.8

umphefumulo wami.” Esekutshilo lokhu waphefumula okokucina.

⁴⁷ Induna yekhulu isibonile okwenzakeleyo yadumisa uNkulunkulu yathi, “Ngeqiniso lo ubeyindoda elungileyo.”

⁴⁸ Kwathi bonke abantu ababebuthene ukuzabona isiga lesi sebonile okwakwenzakele, bababuhlungu, babalozizi, babuyela emizini yabo. ⁴⁹ Kodwa bonke ababemazi, kanye labesifazane abamlandela besuka laye eGalile, bema bucwala babukela okwakusenzakala.

Ukungcwatshwa KukaJesu

⁵⁰ Kwakukhona indoda eyayithiwa nguJosefa, elilunga loMphakathi, eyindoda elungileyo njalo eqondileyo, ⁵¹ owayengakuvumanga lokho abakuqumayo labakwenzayo. Yena wayevela edolobheni lakoJuda okwakuthiwa yi-Arimathiya, njalo wayelindele umbuso kaNkulunkulu. ⁵² Waya kuPhilathu wayacela isidumbu sikaJesu. ⁵³ Wasesethula wasigoqela ngelembu lelineni, wasibeka ethuneni elaligujwe edwaleni lingakaze lilale muntu. ⁵⁴ Kwakulusuku lokuLungiselela, iSabatha selizaqalisa.

⁵⁵ Abesifazane ababebuye loJesu esuka eGalile bamlandela uJosefa balibona ithuna lokuthi isidumbu sakhe salaliswa njani kulo. ⁵⁶ Basebubuyela ekhaya bayalungisa amagcobo lamakha. Kodwa baphumula ngeSabatha bethobela umlayo.

24

Ukuvuka KukaJesu

¹ Ngosuku lokuqala lweviki ekuseni kakhulu abesifazane bathatha amakha ababewalungisile baya ethuneni. ² Bafumana ilitshe ligiqiwe, lasuswa ethuneni, ³ kodwa bathi bengena kabaze basithola isidumbu seNkosi uJesu. ⁴ Bathi belokhu besathithibele ngakho, masinyane kwema eduze labo amadoda amabili egqoke izigqoko ezazikhazimula njengombane. ⁵ Bethuka abesifazane bathi mbo phansi ngobuso, kodwa amadoda lawo athi kubo, “Lidingelani ophilayo kwabafuleyo na? ⁶ Kakho lapha; usevukile! Khumbulani ukuthi walitshelani eseselani eGalile: ⁷ **‘INDODANA YO MUNTU kumele inikelwe ezandleni zezoni, ibethelwe esiphambanweni kuthi ngosuku lwesithathu ivuswe njalo.’**” ⁸ Basebewakhumbula amazwi akhe.

⁹ Kwathi sebebuyile bevela ethuneni, zonke lezizinto bazibikela abalitshumi lanye labanye bonke.

¹⁰ KwakunguMariya Magadalini, loJowana, loMariya unina kaJakhobe labanye ababelabo abatshela abapostoli

ngalokhu. ¹¹ Kodwa kababakholwanga abesifazane laba, ngoba amazwi abo ayengathi yikuwumana kubo. ¹² Kodwa uPhethro wasukuma wagijimela ethuneni. Walunguza wabona amaqhele elineni ethe qekele wodwa, wasebuyela emangele ukuthi kambe kwakwenzakaleni.

Endleleni Eya E-Emawusi

¹³ Kwathi ngalelolanganga ababili babo babehamba besiya emzini owawuthiwa yi-Emawusi, ongaba ngamakhilomitha alitshumi lanye usuka eJerusalema. ¹⁴ Babekhulumisana ngakho konke okwakwenzakele. ¹⁵ Bathi belokhu bekhumama bebonisana ngazo lezizinto, uJesu yena ngokwakhe wabaxhuma wasehambisana labo; ¹⁶ kodwa abaze bamnazelela ukuthi nguye.

¹⁷ Wababuza wathi, **“Likhuluma ngani kanti lilokhu liphakathi kohambo lwenu?”**

Bema mpo, ubuso babo bubunile. ¹⁸ Omunye wabo owayethiwa nguKlophasi wambuza wathi, “Kanti wena uyisihambi yini eJerusalema ukhanya ungazazi izinto ezenzakele kuzolezi insuku?”

¹⁹ Wabuza wathi, **“Yizinto bani na?”**

Baphendula bathi, “Mayelana ngoJesu waseNazaretha. Wayengumphrofethi; elomfutho ngokukhuluma langezenzo phambi kukaNkulunkulu lasebantwini bonke. ²⁰ Abaphristi abakhulu lababusi bethu bamnikela ukuba agwetshelwe ukufa, basebembethela; ²¹ kodwa thina sasithembe ukuthi nguye owayezahlenga u-Israyeli. Futhi okunye yikuthi sekulusuku lwesithathu kulokhu kwenzakala konke lokhu. ²² Phezu kwalokhu, abanye besifazane bethu basimangalisile. Bahambe ethuneni ekuseni kakhulu lamuhla, ²³ kodwa kabasifumananga isidumbu sakhe. Babuyile bazasitshela ukuthi babone umbono wezingilosi ezithe uyaphila. ²⁴ Kwasekusithi abanye babakhula bethu baya ethuneni bathola kunjengokuba abesifazane betshilo, kodwa yena kabamtholanga.”

²⁵ Wathi kubo, **“Uthi liyizithutha ezinjani, njalo lilezinhliziyi ezithundubeleyo ekukholweni konke lokho okwakhulunywa ngabaphrofethi!** ²⁶ UKhristu wayengamelanga ahlupheke yini zonke lezi izinto an-dubana angene ebukhosini bakhe na?” ²⁷ Wasesukela kuMosi kanye labaPhrofethi bonke wabachazela okwathiwo emibhalweni mayelana laye.

²⁸ Bathi sebebanga emzini lowo ababesiya kuwo uJesu wenza ingathi wayesedlula. ²⁹ Kodwa bamncenga kakhulu bathi, “Hlala lathi ngoba sekusihlwa; usuku luphose selwedlule.” Wasengena ukuthi ayehlala labo.

³⁰ Wathi esehlezi labo etafuleni wathatha isinkwa wabonga, wasesihlephuna wasebaqhubela. ³¹ Kwathi dlwe emehlweni abo, bamazi, yena wasenyamalala kubo. ³² Babuzana bathi, “Konje inhliziyo zethu bezingatshiseki yini lapho abe ekhuluma lathi endleleni esivulela imibhalo na?”

³³ Bahle bathi lothu masinyane babuyela eJerusalema. Khonale bathola abalitshumi lanye kanye lalabo ababelabo bebuthene ndawonye ³⁴ besithi, “Kuliqiniso! INkosi isivukile kwabafuleyo yabonakala kuSimoni.” ³⁵ Kwathi labo ababili balandisa ngalokho okwakwenzakele endleleni, lokuthi uJesu bamnanzelela njani lapho aze ahlephune isinkwa.

UJesu Ubonakala KubaFundi

³⁶ Bathi belokhu besakhuluma ngakho lokhu, uJesu yena ngokwakhe wema phakathi kwabo wathi, **“Ukuthula kakube kini.”**

³⁷ Bethuka besaba, bekhumbula ukuthi babebona ithonga ³⁸ Wathi kubo, **“Kungani lihluphekile, njalo kungani kulokuthandabuza ezingqondweni zenu? ³⁹ Khangelani izandla zami lezinyawo zami. Yimi mina ngokwami! Ngithintani libone; ithonga kalilanyama lamathambo njengoba libona ukuthi mina ngilakho.”**

⁴⁰ Esetshilo lokhu wabatshengisa izandla lezinyawo zakhe. ⁴¹ Kwathi belokhu bengakholwa ngenxa yokuthaba lokumangala wababuza wathi, **“Lilakho okokudla lapha na?”** ⁴² Bamupha iqatha lenhlanzi exatshiweyo, ⁴³ wayithatha wayidla phambi kwabo.

⁴⁴ Wathi kubo, **“Lokhu yikho engalitshela khona ngiseselani ukuthi: Konke kumele kugcwaliseke okwalotshwa ngami eMthethweni kaMosi labaPhrofethi lamaHubo.”**

⁴⁵ Wasebavula ingqondo zabo ukuze bakwazi ukuzwisisa imibhalo. ⁴⁶ Wabatshela wathi, **“Nanku okulotshiweyo: UKhristu uzahlupheka aphinde avuke kwabafuleyo ngosuku lwesithathu, ⁴⁷ njalo ukuphenduka lokuthethelelwa kwezono kuzatshunyayelwa ebizweni lakhe ezizweni zonke, kuqala eJerusalema. ⁴⁸ Lingofakazi balezizinto. ⁴⁹ Ngizalithumezela lokho uBaba akuthembisileyo; kodwa libohlala edolobheni lize liphiwe amandla avela phezulu.”**

Ukwenyukela Ezulwini

⁵⁰ Kwathi esebakhokhele waya labo eduze leBhethani waphakamisa izandla zakhe wababusisa. ⁵¹ Uthe elokhu esababusisa, wabatshiya, wenyukiselwa ezulwini. ⁵² Basebemkhonza, babuyela eJerusalema bethokoza

kakhulu. ⁵³ Bahlala kokuphela ethempelini bedumisa uNkulunkulu.

Ivangeli LikaJohane

ULizwi Waba Yinyama

¹ Ekuqaleni wayekhona uLizwi, uLizwi wayeloNkulunkulu, njalo uLizwi wayenguNkulunkulu.

² WayeloNkulunkulu ekuqaleni. ³ Izinto zonke zenziwa ngaye; ngaphandle kwakhe kube akukho okwenziwayo. ⁴ Kwakukhona ukuphila kuye, lokho kuphila kwakuyikukhanya kwabantu. ⁵ Ukukhanya kukhanya emnyameni, kodwa umnyama awukakuzwisisi.

⁶ Kwafika umuntu ethunywe nguNkulunkulu, ibizo lakhe wayenguJohane. ⁷ Weza njengomfakazi ezoqinisa mayelana lalokho kukhanya ukuze kuthi ngaye bonke abantu bakholwe. ⁸ Yena qobo lwakhe wayengesi lokho kukhanya; weza nje njengomfakazi wokukhanya lokho.

⁹ Ukukhanya okuliqiniso okunika ukukhanya emuntwini wonke kwakusiza emhlabeni. ¹⁰ Wayesemhlabeni, kodwa lanxa umhlaba wenziwa ngaye, umhlaba kawumazanga. ¹¹ Weza kulokho okwakungokwakhe, kodwa khona kakumemukelanga. ¹² Ikanti kulabo bonke abamamukelayo, kulabo abakholwayo ebizweni lakhe, wabapha ilungelo lokuba ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, ¹³ abantwana abangazalwanga ngokwemvelo, kumbe ngokukhetha komuntu, loba ngokufuna kwendoda kodwa bezelwe nguNkulunkulu.

¹⁴ ULizwi waba yinyama, wahlala phakathi kwethu. Siyibonile inkazimulo yakhe; inkazimulo yeNdodana eyiyo yodwa, eyavela kuYise, igcwele umusa leqiniso.

¹⁵ UJohane wafakaza ngayo. Wamemeza esithi, "Lo nguye engangikhuluma ngaye ngisithi, 'Lowo oza ngemva kwami usengedlule ngoba wayevele ephambi kwami.'" ¹⁶ Ngenxa yokujula komusa wakhe sonke sesamukele umusa emuseni esasivele siwuphiwe. ¹⁷ Ngoba umthetho walethwa ngoMosi; umusa leqiniso kweza ngoJesu Khristu. ¹⁸ Kakho os-ewake wambona uNkulunkulu, kodwa iNdodana eyiyo yodwa, yona enguNkulunkulu njalo eseceleni eduze kukaYise, isimenze waziwa.

UJohane UMbhaphathizi Ulandula Ukuthi UnguKhristu

¹⁹ Lobu yibo ubufakazi bukaJohane lapho abakhokheli bamaJuda aseJerusalema abathuma khona abaphristi labaLevi ukuyambuza ukuthi wayengubani.

²⁰ Kehlulekanga ukuzichaza, kodwa wazichaza ekhululekile wathi, “Kangisuye uKhristu.”

²¹ Bambuza bathi, “Pho ungubani na? Ungu-Elija yini?”

Wathi, “Kangisuye.”

“Ungumphrofethi na?”

Waphendula wathi, “Hatshi.”

²² Bacina ngokuthi, “Ungubani? Siphendulo esizayisa kulabo abasithumileyo. Uzibiza ngokuthi ungubani na?”

²³ UJohane wabaphendula ngamazwi ka-Isaya umphrofethi wathi, “Ngiyilizwi lalowo omemezayo enkangala lisithi, ‘Lungiselani iNkosi indlela iqonde.’*”

²⁴ Kwasekusithi abafarisi ababethunyiwe ²⁵ bambuza bathi, “Kungani pho ubhaphathiza nxa ungasuye uKhristu, kumbe u-Elija loba umphrofethi na?”

²⁶ UJohane waphendula wathi, “Mina ngibhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa phakathi kwenu kumi elingamaziyo.

²⁷ Nguye lowo ozayo ngemva kwami, mina engingafanelanga ukuthukulula imichilo yamanyathela akhe.”

²⁸ Konke lokhu kwenzeka eBethani ngaphetsheya kwe-Jodani lapho uJohane ayebhaphathiza khona.

UJohane Ufakaza NgoJesu

²⁹ Ngelanga elilandelayo uJohane wabona uJesu esiza kuye wathi, “Khangalani, nanti iWundlu likaNkulunkulu elisusa isono somhlaba! ³⁰ Nguye lo engangimutsho ngize ngithi, ‘Umuntu ozayo ngemva kwami usengedlule ngoba wayevele ephambi kwami.’ ³¹ Mina ngokwami bengingamazi, kodwa okwenze ngeza ngibhaphathiza ngamanzi kwakuyikwenzela ukuthi abonakaliswe ku-Israyeli.”

³² UJohane waseletha lobubufakazi: “Ngabona uMoya esehla evela ezulwini enjengejuba wahlala phezu kwakhe.

³³ Lami uqobo lwami ngangingamazi, kodwa lowo owangithumayo ukubhaphathiza ngamanzi wathi, ‘Lowomuntu ozabona uMoya usehla uhlala kuye nguye kanye ozabhaphathiza ngoMoya oNgcwele.’ ³⁴ Sengibonile yikho sengifakaza ukuthi lo ungoKhethiweyo kaNkulunkulu.”

Abafundi Bokuqala Bakajesu

³⁵ Ngelanga elilandelayo uJohane wayekhona pho, elabafundi bakhe ababili. ³⁶ Wathi ebona uJesu esedlula lapho wathi, “Khangalani, nanti iWundlu likaNkulunkulu!”

³⁷ Abafundi ababili labo bathi bekuzwa lokhu basebelandela uJesu. ³⁸ UJesu wathi enyemukula wababona bemlandela, wababuza wathi, “**Lifunani na?**”

* 1:23 1.23 U-Isaya 40.3

Bathi, “Rabi” (okutsho ukuthi “Mfundisi”), “uhlala ngaphi?”

³⁹ Waphendula wathi, **“Wozani, lizabona.”**

Ngakho bahamba bayabona lapho ayehlala khona, batshona laye mhlalokho. Kwakungaba lihola letshumi.

⁴⁰ U-Andreya, umfowabo kaSimoni Phethro wayengomunye wababili abezwayo okwakukhulunywa nguJohane njalo abayibo abalandela uJesu. ⁴¹ Into yokuqala ayenzayo u-Andreya yikudinga umfowabo uSimoni wantshela wathi, “Sesimfumene uMesiya” (okutsho uKhristu). ⁴² Wasemletha kuJesu.

UJesu wamkhangela wathi, **“UnguSimoni indodana kaJohane. Usuzathiwa unguKhefasi”** (okuchasiswa ngokuthi, nguPhethro).

UJesu Ubiza UFiliphu LoNathaneli

⁴³ Ngelanga elilandelayo uJesu wafuna ukusuka aye eGalile. Wabona uFiliphu wathi kuye, **“Ngilandela.”**

⁴⁴ UFiliphu wayengowedolobheni lase-Bhethisayida, njengo-Andreya loPhethro. ⁴⁵ UFiliphu wadinga uNathaneli wantshela wathi, “Sesimfumene lowo uMosi aloba ngaye eMthethweni, njalo abaphrofethi labo abaloba ngaye, uJesu waseNazaretha, indodana kaJosefa.”

⁴⁶ UNathaneli wabuza wathi, “ENazaretha! Kulolutho oluhle olungavela khona na?”

UFiliphu wathi, “Woza uzebona.”

⁴⁷ Kwathi uJesu ebona uNathaneli eqhamuka laphaya wathi ngaye, **“Nangu um’Israyeli oqotho, okungekho nkohliso kuye.”**

⁴⁸ UNathaneli wambuza wathi, “Ungazela ngaphi na?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngikubonile usahlezi ngaphansi kwesihlahla somkhiwa uFiliphu engakakubizi.”**

⁴⁹ UNathaneli wasefakaza wathi, “Rabi, uyindodana kaNkulunkulu; uyiNkosi ka-Israyeli.”

⁵⁰ UJesu wathi, **“Ukholwa ngoba ngithe ngikubone ngaphansi kwesihlahla somkhiwa. Usazobona izinto ezinkulu kulalokho.”** ⁵¹ Waphinda wengeza wathi, **“Ngikutshela iqiniso, uzabona izulu livuleka, lezingilosi zikaNkulunkulu zikhwela zisehlela eNdodaneni yoMuntu.”**

2

UJesu Uphendula Amanzi Abe Liwayini

¹ Ngosuku lwesithathu kwaba khona umthimba eKhana laseGalile. Unina kaJesu wayekhona, ² loJesu labafundi bakhe labo babenxusiwe emthimbeni. ³ Kwathi iwayini seliphelile unina kaJesu wathi kuye, “Sebephelelwe liwayini.”

⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Mama, mina lawe singena njani kulokho na? Isikhathi sami kasikafiki.”**

⁵ Unina wasesithi ezincekwini, “Libokwenza loba kuyini azalitshela khona.”

⁶ Eduze kwalapho kwakumi imbiza zamatshe eziyisithupha, uhlobo lolo amaJuda ayelusebenzisa enkonzweni yokuzihlambulula, imbiza yinye ingagcwala amalitha alikhulu kusiya ekhulwini elilamatshumi amahlanu.

⁷ UJesu wathi ezincekwini, **“Zigcwaliseni amanzi imbiza lezi”**; ngakho bazigcwalisa zathi phamu.

⁸ Wasezitshela wathi, **“Khanini-ke liphe umphathi wedili.”**

Benza njalo, ⁹ umphathi wedili wahubula wawanambitha amanzi ayesephendulwe abaliwayini. Kakwazanga ukuthi lavela ngaphi, kodwa izinceku ezaziwakhile amanzi zazisazi. Wasebizela umyeni eceleni ¹⁰ wathi, “Wonke umuntu uletha iwayini elimnandi kuqala, kuthi nxa izethekeli sezinathe kakhulu abesekhupha elibi; kodwa wena ugodle elimnandi kuze kube khathesi.”

¹¹ Lo waba ngumangaliso wakhe wokuqala, uJesu awenza eKhana laseGalile. Wabonakalisa kanjalo inkazimulo yakhe, abafundi bakhe basebebeka ukholo lwabo kuye.

¹² Ngemva komthimba wasuka waya eKhaphenawume wayahlala insukwana ezimbalwa elonina, labafowabo labafundi bakhe.

UJesu Uhlambulula IThempeli

¹³ Kwasekuyisikhathi sePhasika lamaJuda eleminyaka yonke, uJesu wasesiya eJerusalema. ¹⁴ Emagumeni ethempeli wafumana abantu bethengisa inkomo, izimvu lamajuba, labanye behlezi ematafuleni bentshintsha izimali.

¹⁵ Waseseluka izintambo wenza isaswebhu wabadudula bonke emagumeni ethempeli, konke izimvu lenkomo; wayichithiza imali yabantshintshi bayo, wagenqula lamatafula abo. ¹⁶ Wathi kulabo ababethengisa amajuba, **“Akhupheni lapha! Likuthatha ngaphi ukwenza indlu kaBaba umsika wokuthengiselana na?”**

¹⁷ Abafundi bakhe bakhumbula ukuthi kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ukunqinekela indlu yakho kuzangidla ngaphakathi.”*

* 2:17 2.17 AmaHubo 69.9

18 Lapho amaJuda asemncindezela ngokuthi, “Ungasitshengisa simangaliso bani ukubonisa amandla akho okwenza zonke lezizinto?”

19 Wabaphendula uJesu wathi, **“Dilizani ithempeli leli, kodwa mina ngizalimisa njalo ngezinsuku ezintathu.”**

20 AmaJuda aphenndula athi, “Sekuthethe iminyaka engamatshumi amane lesithupha ukwakha ithempeli leli, kodwa wena ungalivusa ngezinsuku ezintathu na?”

21 Kodwa ithempeli ayekhulume ngalo kwakungumzimba wakhe. 22 Ngemva kokuvuswa kwabafuleyo abafundi bakhe bakukhumbula lokho ayekukhulumile. Ngakho bawukholwa uMbhalo kanye lamazwi uJesu awakhlumayo.

23 Kwathi ngesikhathi eseMkhosini wePhasika eJerusalema, abantu abanengi bayibona imimangaliso ayeyenza basebekholwa ebizweni lakhe. 24 Kodwa uJesu kazange azidele kubo, ngoba wayebazi bonke abantu. 25 Wayengabudingi ubufakazi bomuntu ngoba wayekwazi okungaphakathi komuntu munye ngamunye.

3

UJesu Ufundisa UNikhodimasi

1 Kwakulendoda engumFarisi eyayithiwa nguNikhodimasi, ililunga lomphakathi wamaJuda abusayo. 2 Yaya kuJesu ebusuku yathi, “Rabi, siyazi ukuthi ungumfundisi ovela kuNkulunkulu. Ngoba kakho obengayenza imimangaliso oyenzayo wena nxa uNkulunkulu engelaye.”

3 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngempela ngiqinisile ngithi kini, akakho ozawubona umbuso kaNkulunkulu ngaphandle kokuba azalwe kutsha.”**

4 UNikhodimasi wathi, “Kanti umuntu angazalwa kanjani yena esemdala na? Ngeqiniso, angazake angene ngokwesibili esiswini sikanina ukuze azalwe!”

5 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngempela ngiqinisile ngithi, ngaphandle kokuthi umuntu azalwe ngamanzi langoMoya, angeke awungene umbuso kaNkulunkulu.”**

6 Inyama izala inyama, kodwa uMoya uzala umoya.

7 Ungamangaliswa yikuthi ngithi, ‘Kumele lizalwe kutsha.’ 8 Umoya uphephethela loba kungaphi lapho othanda khona. Ungakuzwa ukuvunguza kwawo, kodwa ungeke utsho ukuthi uvela ngaphi loba ukuthi uya ngaphi. Ngakho kunjalo emuntwini wonke ozelwe ngoMoya.”

9 UNikhodimasi wabuza wathi, “Lokhu kungenzeka kanjani na?”

¹⁰ UJesu wathi, “**Ungumfundisi wako-Israyeli, phokungani ungazwisisi izinto lezi na?** ¹¹ **Ngiqinisile ngithi sikhuluma ngesikwaziyo njalo sifakaza ngesikubonileyo, kodwa lina bantu kalibamukeli ubufakazi bethu.** ¹² **Ngikhulume kini ngezinto zalapha emhlabeni, kodwa kalikholwa; pho lizakholwa kanjani nxa ngingakhuluma ngokwasezulwini?** ¹³ **Kakho osewake waya ezulwini ngaphandle kwalowo owavela ezulwini, iNdodana yoMuntu.** ¹⁴ **NjengoMosi owaphakamisa inyoka enkan-gala, ngokunjalo iNdodana yoMuntu kumele iphakanyiswe,** ¹⁵ **ukuze kuthi lowo lalowo okholwa kuyo abe lokuphila okungapheliyo.”**

¹⁶ UNkulunkulu walithanda ilizwe kangaka waze wanikela iNdodana yakhe eyiyo yodwa ukuze kuthi loba ngubani okholwa kuyo angabhubhi, kodwa abe lokuphila okungapheliyo. ¹⁷ Ngoba uNkulunkulu kathumanga iNdodana yakhe emhlabeni ukuze iwulahle umhlaba, kodwa ukuze umhlaba usindiswe ngayo. ¹⁸ Loba ngubani okholwa kuyo kalahlwa, kodwa ongakholwayo uvele uselahliwe ngoba kakholwanga ebizweni leNdodana eyiyo yodwa kaNkulunkulu. ¹⁹ Nanku ukuqunywa kwecala: Ukukhanya sekufikile emhlabeni, kodwa abantu bathanda ubumnyama kulokukhanya ngoba imisebenzi yabo yayimibi. ²⁰ Wonke umuntu owenza ububi uyakuzonda ukukhanya, njalo kezi ekukhanyeni ngoba esesaba ukuthi izenzo zakhe zizabekwa obala. ²¹ Kodwa loba ngubani ophila ngeqiniso uyeza ekukhanyeni ukuze kubonakale kamhlophe ukuthi lokho akwenzileyo ukwenze ngoNkulunkulu.

Ubufakazi BukaJohane NgoJesu

²² Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu labafundi bakhe basuka baya emaphandleni aseJudiya lapho ahlala labo okwesikhathi esithile ebhaphathiza. ²³ Ngalesosikhathi uJohane laye wayebhaphathiza e-Ayenoni eduze leSalimi ngoba kwakulamanzi amanengi njalo abantu babethululeka kokuphela bezobhaphathizwa. ²⁴ (Lokhu kwakumandulo kokuphoselwa kukaJohane entolongweni.) ²⁵ Kwavuka ukuphikisana phakathi kwabanye abafundi bakaJohane lomunye umJuda mayelana lomkhuba wokuzihlambulula. ²⁶ Beza kuJohane bathi kuye, “Rabi, indoda leyana eyayilawe ngaphetsheya kweJodani; yona leyana owafakaza ngayo; iyabhaphathiza bonke abantu sebesiya kuyo.”

²⁷ Waphendula uJohane wathi, “Umuntu wamukela kuphela lokho akuphiwayo kuvela ezulwini. ²⁸ Lina ngokwenu lingakufakaza ukuthi ngathi, ‘Kangisuye

uKhristu, kodwa ngithunyiwe ukumandulela.’
 29 Umtshakazi ngowomyeni. Umkhaphi womyeni uyamnakekela, amlalele, abelokuthokoza nxa esizwa ilizwi lomyeni. Lokho kuthokoza ngokwami njalo okwamanje sekuphelele. 30 Yena ufanele abemkhulu; mina kufanele kunciphe ukuqakatheka kwami.”

31 Lowo ovela phezulu ungaphezulu kwakho konke; lowo ovela emhlabeni ungowomhlaba, ukhuluma njen-galowo ovela emhlabeni. Lowo ovela ezulwini un-gaphezu kwakho konke. 32 Ufakaza ngalokho akubonileyo lakuzwileyo, kodwa kakho owamukela ubufakazi bakhe. 33 Lowomuntu obamukelayo usegcizelele ukuthi uNku-lunkulu uqinisile. 34 Ngoba lowo uNkulunkulu amthu-mileyo ukhuluma amazwi kaNkulunkulu; yena uNku-lunkulu umupha umoya kungelakulinganiswa. 35 UYise uyayithanda iNdodana njalo useyiphe amandla phezu kwezinto zonke. 36 Loba ngubani obeke ithemba lakhe eN-dodaneni ulokuphila okungapheliyo, kodwa loba ngubani oyilahlayo iNdodana kazukuyibona leyompilo ngoba ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lohlala luphezu kwakhe.

4

UJesu Ukhuluma Lomfazi WaseSamariya

1 UJesu wezwa ukuthi abaFarisi basebekuzwile ukuthi usebhaphathize abantu wabuye waba labafundi abanengi kuloJohane, 2 loba nje iqiniso kuyikuthi kwakungasuye uJesu owayebhaphathiza, kodwa kubhaphathiza abafundi bakhe. 3 Kwathi esekuzwile lokho, wasuka eJudiya wabuyela futhi eGalile.

4 Manje kwakumele adabule eSamariya. 5 Ngakho wafika emzini waseSamariya owawuthiwa yiSikhari, eduzane lesiqinti uJakhobe ayesinike indodana yakhe uJosefa. 6 Umthombo kaJakhobe wawukhonapho, uJesu wathi ese-diniwe ngohambo, wahlala phansi malungana lomthombo. Kwakusemini enkulu.

7 Kwathi umfazi waseSamariya efika ukuzakukha amanzi uJesu wathi kuye, **“Ake unginathise.”** 8 (Abafundi bakhe babeye emzini ukuyathenga ukudla.)

9 Umfazi waseSamariya wathi kuye, “UngumJuda, mina ngingumfazi waseSamariya. Pho ungacela kanjani ukuthi unathiswe yimi?” (Phela amaJuda kawadlalani lamaSamariya.)

10 UJesu wamphendula wathi, **“Aluba ubusazi isipho sikaNkulunkulu lokuthi ungunani lowo ocela**

ukuthi umnathise, ngabe umcelile wakupha amanzi okuphila."

¹¹ Umfazi wathi, "Nkosi, wena kawulakho okokukhisa amanzi, futhi umthombo uyatshona. Ungawathatha ngaphi lawomanzi okuphila na? ¹² Wena umkhulu na kulobaba uJakhobe owasipha umthombo lo laye wanatha kuwo kanye lamadodana akhe lezimvu zakhe kanye lezifuyo zakhe?"

¹³ UJesu waphendula wathi, "**Wonke umuntu onatha amanzi la uzaphinda ome futhi, ¹⁴ kodwa lowo onatha amanzi engimnika wona, kasoze abuye ome lanini. Ngempela amanzi engimnika wona azakuba ngumfula ogelezela ekuphileni okungapheliyo."**

¹⁵ Umfazi wathi kuye, "Nkosi, ngipha lawomanzi ukuze ngingaphindi ngome, ngingabi ngilokhu ngisiza lapha ngizokukha amanzi."

¹⁶ Wathi kowesifazane, "**Hamba uyebiza umkakho uze laye lapha."**

¹⁷ Waphendula wathi, "Kangilandoda."

UJesu wathi kuye, "**Uqondile nxa usithi kawulandoda. ¹⁸ Iqiniso yikuthi usube lamadoda amahlanu, futhi indoda le olayo khathesi kayisiyakho. Lokho okutshiloyo kuliqiniso."**

¹⁹ Owesifazane wathi, "Nkosi, sengibona ukuthi ungumphrofethi. ²⁰ Okhokho bethu babekhonza phezu kwentaba le, kodwa lina maJuda lithi indawo okumele sikhonzele kuyo iseJerusalema."

²¹ UJesu wathi, "**nkosazana, ngikholwa, siyeza isikhathi lapho elingezukumkhonza uBaba entabeni kumbe eJerusalema. ²² Lina maSamariya likhonza elingakwaziyo; thina sikhonza lokho esikwaziyo, ngoba insindiso ivela kumaJuda. ²³ Kodwa siyeza isikhathi, yebo manje sesifikile lapho abakhonzi beqiniso bezamkhonza uBaba ngomoya langeqiniso, ngoba yibo abakhonzi abanjalo uBaba abadingayo. ²⁴ UNkulunkulu ungumoya, labo abamkhonzayo kumele bamkhonze ngomoya langeqiniso."**

²⁵ Owesifazane wathi, "Ngiyakwazi ukuthi uMesiya (othiwa nguKhristu) uyeza. Esefikile uzasichazela konke."

²⁶ UJesu wasesithi, "**Mina engikhuluma lawe nginguye."**

Abafundi Bahlangana Njalo LoJesu

²⁷ Ngalesosikhathi abafundi bakhe baphenduka, baman-gala ukufumana uJesu ekhuluma lowesifazane. Kodwa kakho owabuzayo wathi, "Ufunani na?" kumbe athi, "Kungani ukhuluma lowesifazane na?"

²⁸ Owesifazane watshiya inkonxa yakhe wabuyela emzini wakibo wathi ebantwini, ²⁹ “Wozani lizobona indoda engitshela konke esengake ngakwenza. Kambe angaba nguye yini uKhristu?” ³⁰ Baphuma emzini lowo baqonda kuye.

³¹ Kusenzakala konke lokhu abafundi bakhe bamncenga bathi, “Rabi, ake udle ulutho.”

³² Kodwa wathi kubo, **“Ngilokudla engikudlayo elingakwaziyo lina.”**

³³ Abafundi babuzana bathi, “Kambe ngabe ukhona omlethele ukudla na?”

³⁴ UJesu wathi, **“Okwami ukudla yikwenza intando yalowo ongithumileyo lokuphelelisa umsebenzi wakhe. ³⁵ Kanti angithi lithi, ‘Kusele izinyanga ezine ukuthi kufike isikhathi sokuvuna’? Ngithi vulani amehlo enu likhangele amasimu! Amabele aselungele ukuvunwa. ³⁶ Khathesi lokhu, umvuni uvele usehle ezuya iholo lakhe, usebuthela amabele ekuphileni kwaphakade, ukuze umhlanyeli lomvuni bajabule ndawonye. ³⁷ Ngakho ilizwi elithi, ‘Omunye uyahlanyela, omunye avune’ liliqiniso. ³⁸ Ngalithuma ukuyavuna lokho elingakusebenzelanga. Abanye bawenzile umsebenzi onzima, lina selivune umvuzo womsebenzi wabo.”**

AmaSamariya Amanengi Ayakholwa

³⁹ AmaSamariya amanengi akulowomuzi akholwa kuye ngenxa yobufakazi bowesifazane owathi, “Ungitshela konke esengake ngakwenza.” ⁴⁰ Ngakho amaSamariya esefike kuye amcela ukuthi ahlale labo, wasehlala insuku ezimbili. ⁴¹ Ngenxa yamazwi akhe abanengi baba ngamakholwa.

⁴² Bathi kowesifazane, “Kasisakholwa kuphela ngenxa yalokho okutshiloyo; manje sesizizwele thina ngokwethu, ngakho sesisazi ukuthi umuntu lo ngeqiniso unguMsindisi womhlaba.”

UJesu Usilisa Indodana Yesikhulu

⁴³ Ngemva kwalezonsuku ezimbili, uJesu wasuka waya eGalile. ⁴⁴ (Phela uJesu yena ngokwakhe wayetshilo ukuthi umphrofethi kalalo udumo elizweni lakibo.) ⁴⁵ Wathi efika eGalile, amaGalile amamukela ngokumthakazelela. Ayekubonile konke lokho akwenzayo eJerusalema, eMkhosini wePhasika, ngoba lawo ayekhona khonale.

⁴⁶ Wabuya njalo wethekelela eKhana laseGalile, lapho aphenyula khona amanzi abaliwayini. Kwakukhona lapho isiphathamandla sasesikhosini esasigulelwa yindodana yaso eKhaphenawume. ⁴⁷ Kwathi indoda leyo isizwile ukuthi uJesu wayesefikile eGalile evela eJudiya, yaya kuye

yamncenga ukuthi eze azosilisa indodana yayo eyayisi-bangwa lezibi.

⁴⁸ UJesu wasitshela wathi, **“Ngaphandle kokuthi lina bantu libone izibonakaliso ezididayo lezimangaliso kalisoze lafa lakholwa.”**

⁴⁹ Sathi isiphathamandla sasesikhosini, “Nkosi, woza umntanami engakafi.”

⁵⁰ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Usungahamba. Indodana yakho izaphila.”**

Indoda yalikhholwa ilizwi likaJesu yahamba. ⁵¹ Yathi ilokhu isesendleleni, izinceku zayo zayihlangabeza zayibikela ukuthi indodana yayo yayisiluleme. ⁵² Isibuzile ukuthi kwakuyisikhathi bani lapho indodana yayo eyasila ngaso, zathi kuyo, “Umkhuhlane uyixolele izolo ngehola lakuqala emini.”

⁵³ Uyise wananzelela ukuthi leso yiso kanye isikhathi uJesu atsho kuye ukuthi, **“Indodana yakho izaphila.”** Ngakho yena kanye labendlu yakhe bonke bakholwa.

⁵⁴ Lo kwakungumangaliso wesibili uJesu awenzayo esefikile eGalile evela eJuduya.

5

Ukusilisa Echibini

¹ Emva kwesikhathi esithile uJesu waya eJerusalema emkhosini wamaJuda. ² EJerusalema kukhona ichibi eduze lesango leZimvu, elithiwa ngesi-Aramu yiBhethisayida, elalihonqolozelwe ngensika ezinhlanu ezibiyelweyo.

³ Khonapho abantu abayizilima abanengi babandise ukuhlala khona, iziphofu, abaqhulayo, abome imihlubulo [belindele ukudungwa kwamanzi; ⁴ ngoba kwakusithi ngezikhathi ezithile ingilosi yeNkosi yayisehlela echibini, idungadunge amanzi besekusithi umuntu oqalayo ukungena emanzini ngemva kokudungeka kwawo asiliswe loba kuwuphi umkhuhlane owawumbambile].* ⁵ Omunye owayelapho wayeyisigoga okweminyaka engamatshumi amathathu lesificaminwembali. ⁶ Kwathi uJesu embona elele khonapho njalo esetsheliwe ukuthi kade abanjalo okwesikhathi eside, wambuza wathi, **“Uyafuna na ukusila?”**

⁷ Oyisilima waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, kangilamuntu wokungisiza angingenise echibini lapho amanzi edungwa. Ngithi lapho ngizama ukungena omunye angingenele kuqala.”

* 5:4 5.4 Livesi kayakho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

⁸ UJesu wasethi kuye, **“Sukuma! Thatha icansi lakho uhambe.”** ⁹ Khonokho nje indoda yasila; yathatha icansi layo yahamba.

Lokhu kwenzakala ngelanga leSabatha, ¹⁰ amaJuda as-esithi endodeni eyayisilisiwe, “KuliSabatha; umthetho uyakwalela ukuthi uthwale icansi lakho.”

¹¹ Kodwa yaphendula yathi, “Umuntu ongisilisileyo uthe, **‘Thatha icansi lakho uhambe.’**”

¹² Aseyibuza athi, “Ngubani yena lowo okutshela ukuthi uthathe icansi uhambe?”

¹³ Indoda leyo eyasiliswayo yayingafanisi lakufanisa ukuthi kambe ngabe wayengubani, ngoba uJesu wayesethe nyelele wangena phakathi kwabantu.

¹⁴ Emva kwalokho uJesu wayifumana ethempelini indoda leyo wathi kuyo, **“Khangela-ke ususile njalo. Khawula ukwenza isono funa okubi ukwedlula okokuqala kukwehlele.”** ¹⁵ Indoda leyo yasuka yayatshela amaJuda ukuthi kwakunguJesu owayeyisilisiwe.

Ukuphila NgeNdodana

¹⁶ Ngakho amaJuda amkhahlameza uJesu ngoba wayesenza izinto lezi ngeSabatha. ¹⁷ UJesu wathi kubo, **“UBaba uhlezi esemsebenzini wakhe kuze kube namuhla, lami njalo ngiyasebenza.”** ¹⁸ Ngalesisizatho amaJuda azama kakhulu ukumbulala; wayengephuli iSabatha kuphela kodwa wayebiza uNkulunkulu ngokuthi nguYise, ezenza yena olingana loNkulunkulu.

¹⁹ UJesu wabanika impendulo le: **“Ngiqinisile ngithi iNdodana ingeke yenze lutho ngokwayo; ingenza kuphela lokho ebona uYise ekwenza, ngoba loba kuyini uYise akwenzayo leNdodana iyakwenza.** ²⁰ Ngoba uYise uyayithanda iNdodana, uyitshengisa konke akwenzayo. Yebo, lizamangala ukuthi uzayitshengisa izinto ezinkulu kulalezi. ²¹ Njengalokhu uYise evusa abafuleyo abaphe ukuphila, kanjalo iNdodana inika ukuphila kulabo ethanda ukubanika khona. ²² Okunye njalo, uYise kahluleli muntu, kodwa usebeke konke ukwahlulela ezandleni zeNdodana, ²³ ukuze bonke bayidumise iNdodana njengalokhu bedumisa uYise. Lowo ongayidumisiyo iNdodana kamdumisi uYise oyithumileyo.

²⁴ **Ngiqinisile ngithi lowo owezwayo amazwi ami amkholwe lowo ongithumileyo ulokuphila okungaphe-lyo njalo kazukulahlwa; usechaphile wasuka ekufeni waya ekuphileni.** ²⁵ **Ngiqinisile ngithi, isikhathi**

siyeza njalo sivele sesifikile lapho abafileyo bezal-
lizwa ilizwi leNdodana kaNkulunkulu, kuthi bonke
abezwayo baphile. ²⁶ Njengoba uYise elokuphila kuye
yena ngokwakhe, ngakho useyinikile iNdodana ukuba
ibe lokuphila kuyo yona ngokwayo. ²⁷ Njalo useyiphile
amandla okwahlulela ngoba iyiNdodana yoMuntu.

²⁸ Kakungalimangalisi lokhu ngoba siyeza isikhathi
lapho bonke abasemathuneni abo bezalizwa ilizwi layo
²⁹ baphume, labo abenze okuhle bazavuka baphile,
lalabo abenze ububi bazavuka balahlwe. ³⁰ Mina ngok-
wami ngingeke ngenze lutho; ngahlulela njengokut-
shelwa kwami, futhi ukwahlulela kwami kuqondile,
ngoba kangidingi kuzithabisa, kodwa ukuthabisa lowo
ongithumileyo.”

Ubufakazi NgoJesu

³¹ “Nxa ngizifakazela mina ngokwami ubufakazi
bami kabuqinisekanga. ³² Ukhona omunye ofakaza
kuhle ngami njalo ngiyazi ukuthi ubufakazi bakhe
ngami buqinisekile.

³³ Selike lathumela kuJohane yena walifakazela
iqiniso. ³⁴ Kakutsho ukuthi ngamukela ubufakazi
bomuntu; kodwa ngikuthinta lokhu ukuze lisindiswe.
³⁵ UJohane wayeyisibane esabhebhayo sanika
ukukhanya, lakhetha ukuthokoza ngokukhanya
kwakhe okwesikhatshana.

³⁶ Ngilabo ubufakazi obulesisindo esikhulu ku-
lobukaJohane. Ngoba umsebenzi uBaba anginike wona
ukuba ngiwuqedise, wona engiwezayo uyafakaza
ukuthi uBaba ungithumile. ³⁷ Njalo uBaba ongithu-
mileyo usefakazile yena ngokwakhe ngami. Kalikaze
lilizwe ilizwi lakhe kumbe libone isimo sakhe ³⁸ njalo
ilizwi lakhe kalihlali kini ngoba kalimkholwa lowo
amthumileyo. ³⁹ Liphenyisisa imibhalo liyihlola ngoba
licabanga ukuthi ngayo lilakho ukuphila okungaphe-
liyo. Yiyo le imibhalo efakaza ngami, ⁴⁰ ikanti liyala
ukuza kimi lizozuza ukuphila.

⁴¹ Kangilwamukeli udumo olusuka ebantwini,
⁴² kodwa ngiyalazi lina. Ngiyazi ukuthi kalilalo
uthando lukaNkulunkulu ezinhliziyweni zenu.
⁴³ Ngibuye ngebizo likaBaba kodwa kalingamukeli;
kodwa nxa omunye efika ngebizo lakhe,
lizamamukela. ⁴⁴ Lingakholwa kanjani nxa lisamukela
udumo elizipha lona kodwa lingenzi mizamo yokuzuza
udumo oluvela kuNkulunkulu onguye yedwa na?

45 Kodwa lingacabangi ukuthi ngizalethesa icala phambi kukaBaba. Umangaleli wenu nguMosi, okukuye elibeke khona amathemba enu. 46 Kube lamkholwa uMosi, ngabe liyangikholwa ngoba wabhala ngami. 47 Kodwa njengoba lingakukholwa lokho akubhalayo, lizakukholwa kanjani lokho engikutshoyo na?"

6

UJesu Usuthisa Abazinkulungwane Ezinhlanu

¹ Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu wachaphela ngaphetsheya koLwandle lwaseGalile (kutshiwo uLwandle lwaseThiberiyasi), ² njalo walandelwa lixuku elikhulu labantu ngoba babona imimangaliso ayeyenzile kwababegula. ³ UJesu wasesiya eceleni kwentaba wahlala khona labafundi bakhe. ⁴ UMkhosi wePhasika wamaJuda wawusondele.

⁵ UJesu wathi uyakhangelela wabona ixuku labantu elikhulu lisiza kuye, wathi kuFiliphu, **"Singasithenga ngaphi isinkwa ukuze abantu laba badle?"** ⁶ Wabuza lokhu emlinga nje kuphela ngoba wayevele esekwazi ayeza-kwenza.

⁷ UFiliphu wamphendula wathi, "Amadenari angamakhulu amabili ngeke athenge isinkwa esenela ukuthi umuntu munye nje azuze ucezwana!"

⁸ Omunye wabafundi bakhe, u-Andreya, umfowabo kaSimoni Phethro wakhuluma wathi, ⁹ "Nangu umfana olezinkwa zebhali ezinhlanu lenhlanzi ezimbili ezincinyane, kodwa zingafika ngaphi ebantwini abanengi kangaka na?"

¹⁰ UJesu wathi, **"Hlalisani abantu phansi."** Kwakulotshani obunengi kuleyondawo, asehlala phansi (amadoda ubunengi bawo bungaba zinkulungwane ezinhlanu). ¹¹ UJesu wasezithatha izinkwa, wakhuleka, wasezabela labo abasebehlezi phansi, wabapha njengokufuna kwabo. Wenza njalo langenhlanzi.

¹² Kwathi bonke sebesuthi, wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, **"Buthani imvuthu eziseleyo. Kakungalahlwa lutho."**

¹³ Ngakho bazibutha bagcwalisa izitsha ezilitshumi lambili ngemvuthu zezinkwa zebhali ezatshiywa yilabo ababedlile.

¹⁴ Abantu sebewubonile umangaliso awenzayo uJesu baqalisa ukuthi, "Ngeqiniso lo nguyeyo uMphrofethi ozafika emhlabeni." ¹⁵ UJesu esazi ukuthi babeqonde ukuzomenza inkosi ngenkani, wathi nyelele wabuyela entabeni yedwa.

UJesu Uhamba Phezu Kwamanzi

¹⁶ Kwathi kusihlwa abafundi behlela esizibeni, ¹⁷ lapho abawela khona isikepe bachapha isiziba baya

eKhaphenawume. Ngalesosikhathi kwasekuhlwile, uJesu elokhu engakabuyi kubo. ¹⁸ Kwakuvunguza umoya omkhulu amanzi asequbuka kubi. ¹⁹ Sebegwedle okwamakhilomitha amahlanu loba ayisithupha bambona uJesu esiza esikepeni ehamba phezu kwamanzi; bethuka kakhulu. ²⁰ Kodwa wathi kubo, **“Yimi; lingesabi.”** ²¹ Babefuna ukumngenisisa esikepeni, kwathi masinyane isikepe sahle safika ekhunjini lapho ababeqonde khona.

²² Ngelanga elilandelayo ixuku labantu elalisele ekhunjini elinganeno lananzelela ukuthi kwakukade kulesikepe esisodwa, lokuthi uJesu kangenanga kuso kanye labafundi bakhe, kodwa babehambe bodwa. ²³ Kwasekufika ezinye izikepe zivela eThibheriyasi zamiswa eduze lalapho abantu ababedlele khona isinkwa ngemva kokuba iNkosi isiqale yakhuleka. ²⁴ Ixuku lonela ukunanzelela ukuthi uJesu kanye labafundi bakhe babengasekho lapho, bangena ezikepeni baya eKhaphenawume ukuyadinga uJesu.

UJesu Yisinkwa Sokuphila

²⁵ Bathi sebemfumene ngaphetsheya kwechibi bambuza bathi, “Rabi, kanti ufike nini lapha?”

²⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngiqinisile ukuthi kalingidingi ngoba libone imimangaliso, kodwa ngoba lidle izinkwa lasutha. ²⁷ Lingasebenzeli ukudla okubolayo, kodwa sebenzelani ukudla okuhlala okwempilo engapheliyo elizakuphiwa yiNdodana yoMuntu. UBaba uNkulunkulu usebeke kuyo uphawu lwakhe.”**

²⁸ Basebembuza bathi, “Kumele senzeni ukuze senze umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu na?”

²⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu yilo: ukukholwa kulowo amthumileyo.”**

³⁰ Basebembuza bathi, “Uzasitshengisa simangaliso bani esizasibona ukuze sikukholwe na? Kuyini ozakwenza?”

³¹ Okhokho badla imana enkangala; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Wabapha isinkwa sivela ezulwini ukuba badle.’*”

³² UJesu wathi kubo, **“Ngiqinisile ngithi, kakusuye uMosi olinike isinkwa sivela ezulwini, kodwa nguBaba olinika isinkwa seqiniso sivela ezulwini. ³³ Ngoba isinkwa sikaNkulunkulu singulowo owehla ezulwini anike ukuphila emhlabeni.”**

³⁴ Bathi, “Nkosi, kusukela manje siphe lesisinkwa sokuphila.”

* 6:31 6.31 U-Eksodasi 16.4; UNehemiya 9.15; AmaHubo 78.24-25

³⁵ UJesu wachaza wathi, “Ngiyisinkwa sokuphila. Lowo ozayo kimi kasoze afa alamba, lalowo okholwa kimi kasoze aphinde ome. ³⁶ Kodwa njengoba ngilitshelile selingibonile, kodwa lokhe lingakholwa. ³⁷ Konke lokho uBaba anginika khona kuzakuza kimi njalo lowo oza kimi kangisoze ngimlahle. ³⁸ Ngoba ngehlile ezulwini, hatshi ukuzokwenza eyami intando kodwa ukwenza intando yalowo ongithumileyo. ³⁹ Intando yakhe ongithumileyo yile, ukuthi ngingalahlekelwa langokukodwa kwalokho anginike khona, kodwa ngibavuse ngosuku lokucina. ⁴⁰ Ngoba intando kaBaba iyikuthi bonke abakhangela eNdodaneni bakholwe kuyo bazakuba lokuphila okungapheliyo njalo ngizabavusa ngosuku lokucina.”

⁴¹ Esizwa lokhu amaJuda aqalisa ukukhonona ngaye ngoba wathi, “Ngiyisinkwa esehlayo sivela ezulwini.”

⁴² Athi, “Kanti kasuJesu lo indodana kaJosefa na? Oyise lonina kasibazi na? Pho angakutsho kanjani manje ukuthi, ‘Ngehla ngivela ezulwini?’”

⁴³ UJesu wathi, “Yekelani ukukhonona phakathi kwenu. ⁴⁴ Kakho ongeza kimi ngaphandle kokuthi uBaba ongithumileyo amsondeze, mina-ke ngizamvusa ngosuku lokucina. ⁴⁵ Kulotshiwe kubaphrofethi ukuthi: ‘Bonke bazafundiswa nguNkulunkulu.’†Wonke lowo olalela uBaba afunde kuye uyeza kimi. ⁴⁶ Kakho osewake wambona uBaba ngaphandle kwalowo ovela kuNkulunkulu; nguye kuphela ombonileyo uBaba. ⁴⁷ Ngiqinisile ukuthi lowo okholwayo ulokuphila okungapheliyo. ⁴⁸ Ngiyisinkwa sokuphila. ⁴⁹ Okhokho benu bayidla imana enkangala, kodwa bafa. ⁵⁰ Kodwa nansi isinkwa esehla sivela ezulwini, umuntu angasidla angabe esafa. ⁵¹ Ngiyisinkwa esiphilayo esehlela phansi sivela ezulwini. Nxa umuntu angasidla lesisinkwa, uzaphila laphakade. Lesosinkwa siyinyama yami engizayinikela ukuphila komhlaba.”

⁵² Lapho-ke, amaJuda aseqalisa ukuphikisana ngamandla esithi, “Umuntu lo angasipha kanjani inyama yakhe ukuba siyidle na?”

⁵³ UJesu wathi kubo, “Ngiqinisile ngithi, ngaphandle kokuba lidle inyama yeNdodana yoMuntu, linathe igazi layo, kalilakuphila phakathi kwenu. ⁵⁴ Lowo odla inyama yami njalo anathe igazi lami ulokuphila okungapheliyo njalo ngizamvusa ngosuku lokucina. ⁵⁵ Ngoba inyama iyikhona kudla okuqotho legazi lami

† 6:45 6.45 U-Isaya 54.13

liyikunatha okuqotho. ⁵⁶ **Lowo odla inyama yami njalo anathe igazi lami uhlala kimi, lami kuye.** ⁵⁷ **Njengoba uBaba ophilayo wangithuma njalo ngiphila ngenxa kaBaba, kanjalo lowo odla mina uzaphila ngenxa yami.** ⁵⁸ **Lesi yiso isinkwa esehla sivela ezulwini. Okhokho benu badla imana, kodwa bafa, kodwa odla lesisinkwa uzaphila lanininini.”** ⁵⁹ Wakutsho lokhu efundisa esinagoweni eKhaphenawume.

Abafundi Abanengi Bahlamukela UJesu

⁶⁰ Bathi bekuzwa lokhu abafundi bakhe abanengi bathi, “Le yimfundiso enzima. Kambe ngubani ongayamukela na?”

⁶¹ UJesu wathi ngokunanzelela ukuthi abafundi bakhe babekhonona ngalokhu wathi kubo, “**Lokhu kuyalikhuba yini?** ⁶² **Kungaba njani pho nxa lingayibona iNdo-dana yoMuntu isenyuka ibuyela lapho eyayikhona ngaphambilini!** ⁶³ **UMoya unika ukuphila; inyama kayisizi lutho. Amazwi engiwakhulume kini angumoya njalo ayikuphila.** ⁶⁴ **Kodwa bakhona abanye benu abangakhulwayo.”** Ngoba uJesu wayevele esazi kusukela ekuqaleni ukuba yibaphi phakathi kwabo ababengakhulwa lokuthi ngubani owayezamnikela. ⁶⁵ Waqhubeka wathi, “**Yikho ngalitshela ngathi kakho ongeza kimi ngaphandle kokuba ephiwe amandla nguBaba.”**

⁶⁶ Kusukela kulesosikhathi abafundi bakhe abanengi bamdela ababe besamlandela.

⁶⁷ UJesu wabuza abalitshumi lambili wathi, “**Lina kali-funi kudela lihambe na?**”

⁶⁸ USimoni Phethro wamphendula wathi, “Nkosi, siza-kuya kubani na? Wena ulamazwi okuphila okungaphe-liyo. ⁶⁹ Thina siyakhulwa njalo siyazi ukuthi ungoNgcwele kaNkulunkulu.”

⁷⁰ UJesu wasephendula wathi, “**Kangilikhethanga yini, lina elilitshumi lambili na? Ikanti omunye wenu unguSathane!**” ⁷¹ (Wayesitsho uJudasi, indodana kaSimoni Iskariyothi, owathi loba engomunye wabalitshumi lambili wamnikela.)

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UJesu Uya Emkhosini WeziHonqo

¹ Ngemva kwalokhu uJesu wahambahamba eGalile, kaza-thanda ukuya eJudiya ngoba amaJuda alapho ayefuna indlela yokumbulala. ² Kwathi uMkhosi wamaJuda weziHonqo ususondele ³ abafowabo bakaJesu bathi kuye, “Sekumele usuke lapha uye eJudiya ukuze abafundi bakho

babone imimangaliso oyenzayo. ⁴ Kakho umuntu othi efuna ukuba lodumo asebenzele ensitha. Njengoba usenza izinto lezi ziveze emhlabeni.” ⁵ Ngoba labafowabo babengakholwa kuye.

⁶ Ngakho uJesu wabatshela wathi, **“Kasikafiki isikhathi sami salokho; kini loba yisiphi isikhathi sililungele. ⁷ Umhlaba ngeke ulizonde, kodwa mina uyan-gizonda ngoba ngiveza ukuthi lokho okwenzayo kubi. ⁸ Hambani lina emkhosini. Mina kangikayi emkhosini lowo ngoba kimi kasikafiki isikhathi esifaneleyo.”**

⁹ Esetsho lokhu wazihlalela eGalile.

¹⁰ Kodwa ngemva kokuba abafowabo sebehambile emkhosini laye waya khona, hatshi obala kodwa wahamba ensitha. ¹¹ Khonapho emkhosini amaJuda ayemlindele ebuza esithi, “Ingaphi indoda leyana?”

¹² Phakathi kwamaxuku abantu kwakulokunyenyezelana ngaye. Abanye bathi, “Ungumuntu olungileyo.”

Abanye baphendula bathi, “Hatshi, ukhohlisa abantu.”

¹³ Kodwa kakho owakhuluma ngaye obala ngokwesaba amaJuda.

UJesu Ufundisa Emkhosini

¹⁴ Kwathi isikhathi somkhosi sesiphakathi laphakathi uJesu wasesiya egumeni lethempeli waqalisa ukufundisa. ¹⁵ AmaJuda amangala, abuza athi, “Indoda le yaluzuzuka kanjani ulwazi olungaka yona ingafundanga?”

¹⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Imfundiso yami kayisiyami. Ivela kulowo ongithumileyo. ¹⁷ Nxa umuntu ekhetha ukwenza intando kaNkulunkulu uzabona ingabe imfundiso yami ivela kuNkulunkulu loba ngiyazikhulumela. ¹⁸ Lowo ozikhulumelayo wenzela ukuzizuzela udumo, kodwa lowo osebenzela udumo lwalowo omthumileyo ngumuntu weqiniso; kakulankohliso kuye. ¹⁹ UMosi kalinikanga yini umthetho? Kodwa kakho lamunye kini owugcinayo umthetho. Kungani lifuna ukungibulala na?”**

²⁰ Ixuku labantu laphendula lathi, “Ulamadimoni wena. Ngubani ofuna ukukubulala?”

²¹ UJesu wathi kubo, **“Ngenza umangaliso owodwa lamangala kakhulu lonke. ²² Kodwa ngoba uMosi walipha ukusoka (loba iqiniso liyikuthi kakuvelanga kuMosi kodwa kubokhokho), liyamsoka umntwana ngeSabatha. ²³ Manje-ke, nxa umntwana engasokwa ngeSabatha kungabi yikuwephula umthetho kaMosi, pho mina lingizondelani ngokuthi ngisilise umuntu ngokupheleleyo ngeSabatha na? ²⁴ Khawulani ukusola**

ngokubona kwamehlo kodwa yahlulelani ngokuqondileyo.”

Impikiswano Ngokuthi UJesu Ungubani

²⁵ Ngalesosikhathi abanye abantu baseJerusalema babuza bathi, “Kanti kasuye yini umuntu lo abafuna ukumbulala na? ²⁶ Nangu phela ekhuluma egcekeni kodwa kabatsho lutho kuye. Kambe iziphathamandla zingabe sezibone ukuthi nguye uKhristu na? ²⁷ Kodwa siyakwazi thina lapha indoda le edabuka khona; nxa uKhristu esefika, kakho ozakwazi lapho avela khona.”

²⁸ Kwathi uJesu elokhu esafundisa egumeni lethempeli, wamemeza wathi, **“Yebo, liyangazi njalo liyakwazi lapho engivela khona. Kangizibuyelanga lapha kodwa lowo ongithumileyo uqinisile. Kalimazi ²⁹ kodwa mina ngiyamazi ngoba ngivela kuye, nguye ongithumileyo.”**

³⁰ Besizwa lokhu bazama ukumbamba kodwa kakho owambeka isandla ngoba isikhathi sakhe sasingakafiki. ³¹ Loba kunjalo, abanengi exukwini labantu bakholwa kuye. Bathi, “Nxa uKhristu angafika, kambe uzakwenza imimangaliso okwedlula umuntu lo?”

³² AbaFarisi bezwa abantu benyenyeza izinto ezinjalo ngaye. AbaFarisi labaphristi abakhulu basebethuma amaxusa ethempelini ukuba ayembopha.

³³ UJesu wathi, **“Ngilani okwesikhathi esifitshane, besengihamba ngisiya kuye ongithumileyo. ³⁴ Lizangidinga kodwa lingangifumani; lalapho engikhona lingeke lifike.”**

³⁵ AmaJuda abuzana athi, “Umuntu lo ufuna ukuya ngaphi lapho esingeke samfumana khona na? Uzakuya ebantwini bakithi abahlakazekileyo abahlala phakathi kwamaGrikhi, afundise amaGrikhi na? ³⁶ Ubesitshoni esithi, **‘Lizangidinga, kodwa lingangifumani,’** njalo wathi, **‘Lapho engikhona lingeke lifike?’**”

³⁷ Ngelanga lokucina elaliqakatheke kakhulu emkhosini, uJesu wasukuma wakhuluma ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, **“Nxa ekhona owomileyo keze kimi azonatha. ³⁸ Loba ngubani okholwa kimi njengoba uMhalo utshilo, imifula yamanzi aphilayo izageleza ngaphakathi kwakhe.”**

³⁹ Ngalokhu wayesitsho uMoya, okwakuzakuthi labo abakholwa kuye bamamukele ngesikhathi esizayo. Kuze kube yilesosikhathi uMoya wawungakathelwa ebantwini, njengoba uJesu wayengakakhazimuliswa.

⁴⁰ Sebewazwile amazwi akhe abanye bathi, “Ngeqiniso umuntu lo nguye umphrofethi.”

⁴¹ Abanye bathi, “Nguye uKhristu.”

Abanye njalo babuza bathi, “Kungenzeka kanjani ukuthi uKhristu avele eGalile na? ⁴² UMbhalo kawutsho yini ukuthi uKhristu uzavela kusendo lukaDavida, eBhethlehem, umuzi lapho uDavida ayehlala khona.” ⁴³ Kanjalo abantu badabukana phakathi ngenxa kaJesu. ⁴⁴ Abanye babefuna ukumbamba, kodwa kakho owambeka isandla.

Ukungakholwa Kwabakhokheli BamaJuda

⁴⁵ Amanxusa ethempelini acina esebuyela kubaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi athi, “Kungani lingezanga laye?”

⁴⁶ Amanxusa afakaza athi, “Kakho osewake wakhuluma njengaloyamuntu.”

⁴⁷ AbaFarisi bakhwaza bathi, “Litsho ukuthi lani use-likhohlisile? ⁴⁸ Ukhona na kubabusi loba kubaFarisi osebeke ithemba lakhe kuye? ⁴⁹ Hatshi! Kodwa inkunkuma yabantu le engazilutho ngezomthetho, iqalekisiwe.”

⁵⁰ UNikhodimasi owayeye kuJesu mandulo, owayengomunye wabo wabuza wathi, ⁵¹ “Kanti umthetho wakithi uyamlahla na umuntu engaqaqalanga wabuzwa ukuthi yena uthini ngokwakhe?”

⁵² Baphendula bathi, “Lawe uvela eGalile yini? Ake ukudingisise, uzabona ukuthi kakulamphrofethi ongaphuma eGalile.”*

[⁵³ Ngakho bonke basuka baya emizini yabo.

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¹ Kodwa uJesu waya eNtabeni yama-Oliva.

² Kwathi kusisa wabonakala njalo emagumeni ethempeli, abantu bonke babuthana kuye, wahlala phansi wabafundisa. ³ Abafundisi bomthetho labaFarisi baletha owe-sifazane owayebanjwe ephinga. Bamisa phambi kwabantu ⁴ bathi kuJesu, “Mfundisi, owesifazane lo ukhandwe efeba. ⁵ EMthethweni uMosi wasilaya ukuthi abesifazane abanjalo kabakhandwe ngamatshe. Manje wena uthini?” ⁶ Umbuzo lo wawungumjibila wabo ukuze bazuze izaba lokumbeka icala.

Kodwa uJesu wakhothama waseloba phansi ngomunwe.

⁷ Kwathi ngoba belokhu bephikelela ngokumbuza wabakhangela wathi kubo, **“Nxaxekhona phakathi kwenu ongelasono kaqale ukumkhanda ngamatshe.”**

⁸ Waphinda wakhothama waloba phansi emhlabathini.

⁹ Esetshonjalo labo abezwayo baqala ukuthi nyelele munye ngamunye bahamba, kwaqala ngabadala bakhona,

* **7:52** 7.52 Ingwalo ezaqalayo kanye labanye ofakazi kabala UJohane 7.53 – 8.11. Ingwalo ezimbalwa zigoqela indinyana lezi, kungaba yingxenyeyazo kumbe ngokugcweleyo UJohane 7.36, UJohane 21.25, ULukha 21.38 kumbe ULukha 24.53.

kwaze kwasala uJesu yedwa lowesifazane lowo elokhu emi khonapho. ¹⁰ UJesu wamkhangela wambuza wathi, **“Mama, kanti sebeye ngaphi? Kasekho yini okwethesa icala?”**

¹¹ Owesifazane wathi, “Kabasekho, nkosi.”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Lami-ke, kangikulahli, zihambele, kodwa ungaphindi wenze isono futhi.”**]

Ubuqotho Bobufakazi BukaJesu

¹² Kwathi uJesu esekhuluma ebantwini njalo wathi, “Ngiyikukhanya komhlaba. Loba ngubani ongilandelayo kasoze ahambe ebumnyameni lanini kodwa uzakuba lokukhanya kokuphila.”

¹³ AbaFarisi bahle bamqaga bathi, “Nanko-ke, wena uyazifakazela; ubufakazi bakho kabulaqiniso.”

¹⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Loba ngizifakazela mina, ubufakazi bami buqinisile ngoba ngiyakwazi lapho engavela khona lalapho engiyakhona. Kodwa lina kumnyama nje kini ukuthi ngivela ngaphi lokuthi ngiya ngaphi.** ¹⁵ Lina lahlulela ngendlela yabantu; mina kangahluleli muntu. ¹⁶ Kodwa ngithi nxa ngingehlulela, izinqumo zami zilungile ngoba kangingedwa. Ngimi loBaba ongithumileyo. ¹⁷ Emthethweni wenu kulotshiwe ukuthi ubufakazi babantu ababili buqinisile. ¹⁸ Yimi ngokwami engizifakazelayo; omunye umfakazi nguBaba ongithumileyo.”

¹⁹ Basebembuza bathi, “Ungaphi uyihlo?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kalingazi mina kanye loBaba. Aluba belingazi, belizamazi loBaba njalo.”**

²⁰ Wawakhuluma amazwi la efundisa egumeni lethempeli eduze lalapho okwakubekwa khona iminikelo. Kodwa kakho owambambayo ngoba isikhathi sakhe sasingakafiki.

Imibuzo NgoJesu

²¹ Waphinda njalo uJesu wathi kubo, **“Ngiyasuka lapha, futhi lizangidinga, kodwa lizafela esonweni senu. Lapho engiyakhona alingeke lize khona.”**

²² AmaJuda asebuzana athi, “Uzazibulala yini? Yikho yini esithi, ‘Lapho engiyakhona lingeke lize khona?’”

²³ Kodwa waqhubeka wathi, **“Lina lingabalapha phansi; mina ngivela phezulu. Lingabomhlaba; mina kangisiwalo umhlaba.** ²⁴ Ngilitshelele ukuthi lizafela ezonweni zenu; nxa lingakholwa ukuthi nginguye engithi nginguye, ngempela lizafela ezonweni zenu.”

²⁵ Bambuza bathi, “Uvele ungubani?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Khonokho ebengivele ngikutsho sonke lesisikhathi. ²⁶ Kunengi engingahlulela ngakho. Kodwa lowo ongithumileyo uthembekile njalo lokho engikuzwileyo kusuka kuye ngikutshela umhlaba.”**

²⁷ Kabazange bazwisise ukuthi wayebatshela ngoYise.

²⁸ Ngakho uJesu wasesithi, **“Lapho seliyiphakamisile iNdodana yoMuntu lizakwazi ukuthi ngingubani lokuthi kangenzi lutho ngokwami kodwa ngikhuluma kuphela lokho uBaba angifundise khona. ²⁹ Lowo ongithumileyo ulami; kangitshiyanga ngingedwa ngoba ngihlezi ngisenza lokho okumthokozisayo.”** ³⁰ Wathi esakhuluma lokhu abanengi bakholwa kuye.

Abantwana Baka-Abhrahama

³¹ UJesu wathi kumaJuda amkholwayo, **“Nxa libambelela emfundisweni yami lingabafundi bami ngempela. ³² Ngakho lizalazi iqiniso, njalo iqiniso lizalikhulula.”**

³³ Amphendula athi, “Siyinzalo ka-Abhrahama futhi kasisizange lanini sibe yizigqili zamuntu. Ukutsho kanjani pho ukuthi sizakhululwa?”

³⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngiqinisile ngithi wonke owenza isono uyisigqili sesono. ³⁵ Phela isigqili kasilandawo emiyo emulini, kodwa oyindodana ungowakhona lanininini. ³⁶ Ngakho-ke, nxa iNdodana ilikhulula, lizakhululeka ngempela. ³⁷ Ngiyakwazi ukuthi lingabosendo luka-Abhrahama. Kodwa selizimisele ukungibulala ngoba ilizwi lami kalilandawo kini. ³⁸ Ngilitshela lokho engikubone phambi kukaBaba kodwa lina lenza lokho elikuzwileyo ngoyihlo.”**

³⁹ Apendula athi, “U-Abhrahama nguye ubaba.”

UJesu wathi, **“Aluba belingabantwana baka-Abhrahama ngabe lenza izinto ezenziwa nguye u-Abhrahama. ⁴⁰ Kodwa kunje nje lizimisele ukungibulala, mina muntu oselitshela iqiniso engilizwileyo livela kuNkulunkulu. U-Abhrahama kazenzanga izinto ezinjalo. ⁴¹ Lenza izinto ezenziwa ngowenu uyihlo.”**

Amvukela athi, “Kasisibantwana abazuzwa ngobufebe thina. UBaba esilaye kuphela nguNkulunkulu ngokwakhe.”

Abantwana BakaSathane

⁴² UJesu wathi kuwo, **“Kube uNkulunkulu ubenguYihlo, belizangithanda ngoba ngavela kuNkulunkulu, okwamanje sengilapha. Kangizibuyelanga kodwa uNkulunkulu wangithuma. ⁴³ Kungani lingaluzwisisi**

ulimi engilukhulumayo na? Ngoba liyehluleka ukuzwa engikutshoyo. ⁴⁴ **Lingabakayihlo uSathane ngakho lifuna ukusenza isifiso sikayihlo. Wavele waba ngumbulali mdabuko wakhe, kemanga eqinisweni ngoba uvele engelalo iqiniso. Uthi nxa ewaqamba amanga, akhulume ulimi lomdabuko wakhe ngoba ungusomangase loyise wamanga.** ⁴⁵ **Kodwa kalingikholwa ngoba ngilitshela iqiniso!** ⁴⁶ **Ukhona na kini ongaveza ukuthi ngilecala lesono? Nxa ngikhuluma iqiniso kunгани lingangikholwa na?** ⁴⁷ **Lowo ongokaNkulunkulu uyakuzwa lokho uNkulunkulu akutshoyo. Isizatho sokuthi lingezwa yikuthi kalisibo bakaNkulunkulu."**

UJesu Akutshoyo Ngaye

⁴⁸ AmaJuda aphenhula athi, "Siyalahleka yini nxa sisithi ungumSamariya njalo ulamadimoni?"

⁴⁹ UJesu wathi, "**Kangiladimoni mina, kodwa ngidumisa uBaba ikanti lina liyangigcona.** ⁵⁰ **Kangizidingeli udumo mina kodwa ukhona olufunayo, yena ungumahluleli.** ⁵¹ **Ngiyaqinisa ngithi, nxa umuntu egcina ilizwi lami kasoze akubone ukufa lanini."**

⁵² Esizwa lokhu amaJuda ababaza athi, "Khathesi sesisazi ukuthi uledimoni! U-Abrahama wafa kanye labo abaphrofethi kodwa wena uthi nxa umuntu egcina ilizwi lakho kasoze akuzwe ukufa lanini. ⁵³ Wena umkhulu kulobaba u-Abrahama na? Wafa, kanye labo abaphrofethi. Wena uzenza bani na?"

⁵⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, "**Nxa ngizidumisa mina ngokwami, luyize udumo lwami. UBaba, elithi unguNkulunkulu wenu nguye ongidumisayo.** ⁵⁵ **Lanxa lina lingamazi, mina ngiyamazi. Ngabe ngithe kangimazi, bengizabe ngingumqambi wamanga njenгани kodwa ngiyamazi njalo ngiyaligcina ilizwi lakhe.** ⁵⁶ **Uyihlo u-Abrahama wathakazelela umnakano wokulubona usuku lwami; walubona wathokoza."**

⁵⁷ AmaJuda athi kuye, "Kawukafikisi iminyaka engamatshumi amahlanu obudala, kodwa uthi usumbonile u-Abrahama!"

⁵⁸ UJesu waphendula wathi, "**Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi u-Abrahama engakazalwa, mina ngasengikhona!"** ⁵⁹ Besizwa lokhu badobha amatshe befuna ukumkhanda kodwa uJesu wasithela, waphunyuka wasuka emagumeni ethempeli.

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UJesu Usilisa Indoda Eyazalwa Iyisiphofu

¹ UJesu wathi elokhu ehamba wabona indoda eyayiyisiphofu kusukela ekuzalweni kwayo. ² Abafundi bakhe bambuza bathi, “Rabi, ngubani owenza isono, indoda le loba abazali bayo ukuze izalwe iyisiphofu na?”

³ UJesu wathi, **“Kakusikho ukuthi abazali bayo loba yona indoda le yenza isono kodwa lokhu kwenzaka ukuze umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu ubonakaliswe empilweni yayo.** ⁴ Nxa kulokhu kusemini kumele siwenze umsebenzi wakhe ongithumileyo. **Ubusuku buyeza lapho kungelamuntu ongasebenza khona.** ⁵ Nxa ngisesemhlabeni, **ngiyikukhanya komhlaba.”**

⁶ Esekutshilo lokhu wakhafulela emhlabathini, wavuba udaka ngamathe walunameka emehlweni endoda.

⁷ Wayitshela wathi, **“Hamba uyegeza esizibeni saseSilowami”** (ibizo leli litsho ukuthi “Ukuthunywa”). Ngakho indoda yahamba yayageza, yabuyela ekhaya esibona.

⁸ Omakhelwane bayo lalabo abahlezi beyibona icela babuza bathi, “Kakusiyo yini indoda le eyayihlala icela?”

⁹ Abanye baqinisa ukuthi kwakuyiyo. Abanye bathi, “Hatshi, lo ufana layo nje kuphela.”

Kodwa yona yagcizelela yathi, “Ngiyiyo leyondoda.”

¹⁰ Bamjinga ngemibuzo bathi, “Pho amehlo akho avuleke kanjani?”

¹¹ Waphendula wathi, “Indoda abayithi nguJesu ivube udaka yalunameka emehlweni ami. Ingitshele yathi kangiyi eSilowami ngiyegeza. Ngakho ngiyile ngayageza, ngasengibona.”

¹² Bayibuza bathi, “Ingaphi leyondoda?”

Wathi, “Kangazi.”

AbaFarisi Badingisisa Ngalokho Kusiliswa

¹³ Indoda leyo eyayikade iyisiphofu ya lethwa kubaFarisi.

¹⁴ Usuku uJesu enza ngalo udaka wavula amehlo endoda leyo lwaluyiSabatha. ¹⁵ AbaFarisi baphinde bayibuzisisa ukuthi kwenziwani ukuze ibone. Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Uninde udaka emehlweni ami, ngegeza, manje sengibona.”

¹⁶ Abanye abafarisi bathi, “Umuntu lo kaveli kuNkulunkulu ngoba kaligcini iSabatha.”

Kodwa abanye babuza bathi, “Isoni singayenza kanjani imimangaliso enje na?” Kanjalo adabukana.

¹⁷ Bacina sebephendukela endodeni eyayiyisiphofu njalo bathi, “Wena uthini ngaye? Ngamehlo akho awavulileyo.”

Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Ungumphrofethi.”

18 AmaJuda kawazange akholwe ukuthi indoda le yayikade iyisiphofu lokuthi yayisiyenziwe yabona kwaze kwabizwa abazali bayo. 19 Bababuza bathi, “Lo yindodana yenu yini? Nguye lo elithi wazalwa eyisiphofu? Sekwenzeke kanjani ukuthi khathesi usebona?”

20 Abazali baphendula bathi, “Thina sazi ukuthi uyindodana yethu, njalo siyakwazi ukuthi wazalwa eyisiphofu. 21 Kodwa ukuthi khathesi usebona lokuthi amehlo akhe avulwe ngubani kasikwazi. Mbuzeni. Usekhulile; uzazikhulumela.” 22 Abazali bakhe bakutsho lokhu ngoba babesesaba amaJuda, ngoba amaJuda ayesevele aquma ukuthi loba ngubani owayezakuthi uJesu nguKhristu wayezaxotshwa esinagogweni. 23 Yikho abazali bakhe bathi, “Usekhulile; mbuzeni yena.”

24 Aphinda ayibiza okwesibili indoda eyayiyisiphofu athi, “Nika udumo kuNkulunkulu. Siyakwazi ukuthi umuntu lo uyisoni.”

25 Yaphendula yathi, “Ukuthi uyisoni kumbe hatshi kangikwazi. Mina kunye engikwaziyo. Bengiyisiphofu kodwa manje sengibona!”

26 Aseyibuza athi, “Wenzi kuwe na? Uwavule njani amehlo akho?”

27 Yaphendula yathi, “Sengilitshelile kodwa kalifunanga ukuzwa. Lifunelani ukukuzwa njalo? Lani lifuna ukuba ngabafundi bakhe na?”

28 Khonapho asemthuka esithi, “Ungumfundi walumuntu! Thina singabafundi bakaMosi! 29 Siyakwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu wakhuluma kuMosi, kodwa umfokazi lo kasimazi lokuthi uvela ngaphi.”

30 Indoda yaphendula yathi, “Manje lokhu kuyamangalisa! Kalimazi lapho avela khona kodwa uwavulile amehlo ami. 31 Siyakwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu kazilaleli izoni. Ulalela umuntu olobunkulunkulu, owenza intando yakhe. 32 Kakho osewake wezwa ngokuvulwa kwamehlo omuntu owazalwa eyisiphofu. 33 Aluba umuntu lo ubengaveli kuNkulunkulu ubengasoze enze lutho.”

34 Aphendula lokhu ngokuthi, “Wazalwa ucwile nya esonweni; ngeke sifundiswe nguwe thina!” Asemxotshela phandle.

Ubuphofu KokwakoMoya

35 UJesu wakuzwa ukuthi ayemxotshela phandle, wathi esembonile wathi kuye, **“Uyakholwa eNdodaneni yoMuntu na?”**

36 Indoda yabuza yathi, “Ingubani na, nkosi? Ngitshela ukuze ngikhohle kuyo.”

³⁷ UJesu wathi, **“Khathesi usuyibonile; iqiniso yikuthi yiyo le ekhuluma lawe.”**

³⁸ Indoda yasisithi, “Nkosi, ngiyakholwa,” yasimkhonza.

³⁹ UJesu wathi, **“Ngeza lapha emhlabeni ukuzakwahlulela, ukuze iziphofu zibone kuthi labo ababonayo babonakale beyiziphofu.”**

⁴⁰ Abanye abaFarisi ababelaye bamuzwa uJesu esitsho lokhu babuza bathi, “Uthini? Lathi siyiziphofu yini?”

⁴¹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kube beliyiziphofu ngabe kalilamlandu wesono. Kodwa umlandu wenu umi ngoba lizenza abakwaziyo abakwenzayo.”**

10

Umelusi Olungileyo Lomhlambi Wakhe

¹ **“Ngikhuluma iqiniso ukuthi umuntu ongangeni ngesango esibayeni sezimvu kodwa akhwele kwenye indawo ulisela lomphangi. ² Umuntu ongena ngesango nguye umelusi wezimvu. ³ Umlindi wesango uyamvulela, lezimvu ziyalilalela ilizwi lakhe. Izimvu zakhe uzibiza ngamabizo azikhokhele. ⁴ Nxa esezivulele zonke ezakhe, uhamba phambi kwazo, izimvu zakhe zimlandele ngoba ziyalazi ilizwi lakhe. ⁵ Kodwa kazisoze zilandele owemzini; iqiniso yikuthi zizambalekela ngoba kazilazi ilizwi lowemzini.” ⁶ UJesu wasebenzisa umzekeliso lo kodwa kabakuzwisisanga lokho ayebatshela khona.**

⁷ Ngakho uJesu waphinda wathi, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi mina ngiyilo isango lezimvu. ⁸ Bonke asebake bafika phambi kwami babengamasela labaphangi kodwa izimvu kazibalalelanga. ⁹ Mina ngiyilo isango; loba ngubani ongena ngami uzasindiswa. Uzangena, aphume, afumane idlelo. ¹⁰ Isela lilanda ukweba lokubulala lokubhubhisa kuphela; mina ngilande ukuze zibe lokuphila, zibe lakho ngokugcweleyo.**

¹¹ Ngingumelusi olungileyo. Umelusi olungileyo unikela ukuphila kwakhe izimvu zakhe. ¹² Oqhatshiweyo kasuye umelusi ongumnini wezimvu. Yikho nxa ebona iganyana lisiza, uyazitshiya izimvu abaleke. Iganyana beseliwuhlasela umhlambi liwuhlakaze. ¹³ Umuntu lo ubaleka ngoba eyisiqhatshwa, kazikhathaleli izimvu.

¹⁴ Mina ngingumelusi olungileyo; ngiyazazi izimvu zami njalo lezimvu zami ziyangazi ¹⁵ njengoba uBaba engazi lami ngiyamazi, nginikela ukuphila kwami

ezimvini zami. ¹⁶ Ngilazo ezinye izimvu ezingasizo zalumhlambi. Lazo kumele ngizilethe. Lazo futhi zizalilalela ilizwi lami ukuze kube lomhlambi owodwa lomelusi oyedwa. ¹⁷ Isizatho sokuba uBaba angithande yikuthi ngiyayinikela impilo yami, ngizaphinde ngiyithathe futhi. ¹⁸ Kakho ongithathela yona kodwa ngiyinikela ngokufisa kwami. Ngilalo ilungelo lokuyinikela lelungelo lokuphinde ngiyithathe. **Umlayo lo ngawamukela uvela kuBaba."**

¹⁹ Amazwi aphinda enza amaJuda adabuka phakathi. ²⁰ Amanengi kuwo athi, "Uledimoni, uyawumana njalo uyahlanya. Limlalelalani?"

²¹ Kodwa amanye athi, "La kayisiwo mazwi omuntu oledimoni. Idimoni lingawavula njani amehlo esiphofu?"

Ukungakholwa KwamaJuda

²² Kwafika uMkhosi Wokuzinikela eJerusalema. Kwakusebusika, ²³ uJesu esemagumeni ethempeli ezihambela eKhususini likaSolomoni. ²⁴ AmaJuda ayembuthanele athi kuye, "Kuzaze kube nini ulokhu usitshiya silengile na? Nxa unguye uKhristu, sitshele kuhle."

²⁵ UJesu waphendula wathi, **"Ngalitshela kodwa kalikholwa. Imimangaliso engiyenzayo ngebizo likaBaba iyangifakazela,** ²⁶ **kodwa kalikholwa ngoba kalisizo zimvu zami.** ²⁷ **Ezami izimvu ziyalilalela ilizwi lami; ngiyazazi lazo ziyangilandela.** ²⁸ **Ngizipha ukuphila okungapheliyo, kazisoze zabhubha; kakho ongazihlwitha esandleni sikaBaba.** ²⁹ **UBaba wami yena ongiphe zona mkhulu kulakho konke, kakho ongazihlwitha esandleni sikaBaba** ³⁰ **Mina loBaba simunye."**

³¹ Aphinda njalo amaJuda adobha amatshe ukuba amkhande, ³² kodwa uJesu wathi kuwo, **"Ngilitshengisile imimangaliso emikhulu eminengi evela kuBaba. Yiwuphi phakathi kwayo elingikhandela wona ngamatshhe?"**

³³ "Kasikukhandeli misebenzi emihle oyenzileyo kodwa sikukhandela ukuhlambaza, ngoba wena, umuntu nje, uzenza uNkulunkulu."

³⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, **"Kakulotshwanga yini emthethweni wenu ukuthi, 'Ngitshilo ukuthi 'lingonkulunkulu?'"*** ³⁵ **Nxa wababiza ngokuthi 'ngonkulunkulu,' bona labo ilizwi elafika kubo, njalo uMbhala kawepulwa** ³⁶ **pho-ke kungathiwani kulowo uBaba**

* 10:34 10.34 AmaHubo 82.6

amkhetheleyo ukuba ngowakhe wamthumela emhlabeni na? Kungani pho lingibeka icala lokuhlambaza ngoba ngithe ngiyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu?
³⁷ **Lingangikholwa ngaphandle kokuba ngenze okwenziwa nguBaba.** ³⁸ **Kodwa nxa ngikwenza, lanxa lingangikholwa, kholwani ubufakazi bemimangaliso ukuze lifunde njalo lizwisise ukuthi uBaba ukimi, lami ngikuBaba.”** ³⁹ Baphinda njalo bazama ukumbamba kodwa waphunyuka.

⁴⁰ UJesu wabuyela ngaphetsheya kweJodani kuleyondawo lapho uJohane ayebhaphathizela khona ensukwini ezedlulayo. Wahhala khona, ⁴¹ abantu abanengi beza kuye. Bathi, “Lanxa uJohane engazange enze umangaliso, kodwa konke lokho uJohane akutshoyo ngomuntu lo kwakuliqiniso.”
⁴² Kuleyondawo abanengi bakholwa kuJesu.

11

Ukufa KukaLazaro

¹ Kwakulendoda eyayithiwa nguLazaro eyayigula. YayingeyaseBhethani, umuzi okwakuhlala khona uMariya lodadewabo uMatha. ² (UMariya lo olomnewabo uLazaro owayephethwe ngumkhuhlane nguye owathela amakha ezinyaweni zeNkosi wazesula ngenwele zakhe.) ³ Ngakho odadewabo laba bathumela ilizwi kuJesu bathi, “Nkosi, lowo omthandayo uyagula.”

⁴ UJesu esekuzwile lokhu wathi, **“Ukugula lokhu kakuzukucina ngokufa. Kodwa kungokodumo lukaNkulunkulu ukuze iNdodana kaNkulunkulu idunyiswe ngakho.”** ⁵ UJesu wayemthanda uMatha lodadewabo kanye loLazaro. ⁶ Kodwa loba esezwile ukuthi uLazaro wayegula wazihlalela khona lapho ayekhona okwezinye insuku ezimbili. ⁷ Wasesithi kubafundi bakhe, **“Kasibuyeleni eJudiya.”**

⁸ Bathi, “Oh, Rabi, muvana nje amaJuda ake azama ukukukhanda ngamatshe kodwa wena usubuyela khona futhi?”

⁹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kakusikho yini ukuthi kulamahola alitshumi lambili okukhanyisa kwelanga na? Umuntu ohamba emini kayikukhubeka ngoba ebona ngokukhanya kwalapha emhlabeni.** ¹⁰ **Ukhubeka nxa ehamba ebusuku ngoba kalakho ukukhanya.”**

¹¹ Esekutshilo lokhu wasebatshela wathi, **“Umngane wethu uLazaro uselele kodwa ngiya khonale ukuyamvusa.”**

¹² Abafundi bakhe baphendula bathi, “Nkosi, nxa kuvuma ukuthi alale, uzabangcono.” ¹³ UJesu wayekhuluma ngokufa kwakhe kodwa abafundi bakhe babesithi kumbe utsho ukulala okujayelekileyo.

¹⁴ Wasebatshela ephumela egcekeni wathi, **“ULazaro usefile, ¹⁵ kodwa ukuze lina likholwe, ngiyathaba ukuthi bengingekho lapho. Kodwa kasiyeni khona.”**

¹⁶ UThomasi (othiwa nguDidimasi) wathi kwabanye abafundi, “Lathi kasihambeni ukuze siyekufa laye.”

UJesu Ududuza Odadewabo BakaLazaro

¹⁷ Ekufikeni kwakhe uJesu uLazaro wayesehlale ethuneni okwensuku ezine. ¹⁸ EBhethani kwakungaphansi kwamkhilomitha amathathu usuka eJerusalema, ¹⁹ yikho amaJuda amanengi ayebuyile ukuzakhalela uMatha loMariya ngokulahlekelwa kwabo ngumnewabo. ²⁰ Kwathi uMatha esizwa ukuthi uJesu wayesiza, waphuma wamhlangabeza kodwa uMariya wasala ngekhyaya.

²¹ UMatha wathi kuJesu, “Nkosi, aluba ubukhonapha ngabe umnewethu kafanga. ²² Kodwa ngiyazi ukuthi lamanje uNkulunkulu uzakunika loba yini oyicelayo.”

²³ UJesu wathi kuye, **“Umfowenu uzavuka njalo.”**

²⁴ UMatha waphendula wathi, “Ngiyazi ukuthi uzavuka futhi ekuvukeni kwabafuleyo ngosuku lokucina.”

²⁵ UJesu wathi kuye, **“Mina ngiyikuvuka kwabafuleyo lokuphila. Lowo okholwa kimi uzaphila loba engafa; ²⁶ njalo lowo ophilayo ekholwa kimi kasoze afa lanini. Uyakukholwa lokhu na?”**

²⁷ Waphendula wathi, “Yebo Nkosi, ngiyakholwa ukuthi unguye uKhristu, iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, ozabuya emhlabeni.”

²⁸ Esekutshilo lokho wabuyela ngekhyaya wabizela udadewabo uMariya eceleni wathi, “UMfundisi usekhona, uyakucela.” ²⁹ UMariya wathi ekuzwa lokhu wasuka masinyane waya kuJesu. ³⁰ UJesu wayelokhu engakangeni phakathi komuzi elokhu elapho ayehlangane khona loMatha. ³¹ Kwathi amaJuda ayeloMariya endlini emduduza esebonile ukuthi wasukuma masinyane njani ephuma, amlandela ecabanga ukuthi mhlawumbe wayesiya ethuneni ukuyakhalela khona.

³² UMariya wonela ukufika lapho uJesu ayekhona, wambona, wazilahla phansi ezinyaweni zakhe wathi, “Nkosi, kube ubukhona lapha, umnewethu ngabe kafanga.”

³³ UJesu embona ekhala kanye lamaJuda ayemlandele wadabuka kakhulu emoyeni, wakhathazeka. ³⁴ **Wabuza wathi, “Limbeke ngaphi na?”**

Baphendula bathi, “Woza uzobona Nkosi.”

³⁵ UJesu wakhala.

³⁶ AmaJuda asesithi, “Liyabona ukuthi wayemthanda njani!”

³⁷ Kodwa amanye awo athi, “Kanti yena lo owavula amehlo endoda eyayiyisiphofu wehlulekile ukwenza ukuthi umuntu lo angafi na?”

UJesu Uvusa ULazaro Kwabafleayo

³⁸ UJesu waphinda njalo wadabuka, wasondela ethuneni. Ithuna lalilubhalu, kulelitshe elalivale intuba. ³⁹ Wathi, **“Lisuseni ilitshe.”**

UMatha, udadewabo wendoda efileyo wathi, “Nkosi, khathesi sekulephunga elibi ngoba selensuku ezine simbekile.”

⁴⁰ UJesu wasesithi, **“Kangikutshelanga ukuthi nxa ukholwa uzabona inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu na?”**

⁴¹ Ngakho balisusa ilitshe. UJesu wasekhangela phezulu wathi, **“Baba ngiyakubonga ukuthi ungizwile. ⁴² Mina bengisazi ukuthi uhlala ungizwa, kodwa ngikutshela lokhu ngisenzela abantu abemi lapha ukuze bakholwe ukuthi ungithumile.”**

⁴³ Esekutshilo lokhu uJesu wamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu wathi, **“Lazaro, phuma!”** ⁴⁴ Umuyi waphuma, izandla lenyawo zakhe zithandelwe ngamaqhele elineni, kulelinye ilembu elalembese ubuso bakhe.

UJesu wathi kubo, **“Khuphani izivunulo zokungcwaba limyekele ahambe.”**

Icebo Lokubulala UJesu

⁴⁵ Ngakho amaJuda amanengi ayeze ukuzakhalela uMariya esekubonile uJesu akwenzayo, amkholwa.

⁴⁶ Kodwa amanye aya kubaFarisi bayabatshela lokho okwakwenziwe nguJesu. ⁴⁷ Abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi basebebiza umhlangano weSanihedrini.

Babuzana bathi, “Kanti sivele senzani? Nangu phela umuntu lo esenza imimangaliso eminengi. ⁴⁸ Singamyekela aqhubeke ngalindlela, wonke umuntu uzakholwa kuye njalo amaRoma azakuza athathe indawo yethu lesizwe sethu.”

⁴⁹ Kwasekusithi omunye wabo owayethiwa nguKhayifasi, owayengumphristi omkhulu ngalowomnyaka, wakhuluma wathi, “Kalazi lutho! ⁵⁰ Kalikuboni lina ukuthi kungcono ukuba umuntu oyedwa afele abantu kulokuthi kubhubhe isizwe sonke.”

⁵¹ Lokhu kazikhulumelanga yena ngokwakhe, kodwa njengomphristi omkhulu kwabanye ngalowomnyaka

waphrofitha ukuthi uJesu wayezafela isizwe samaJuda, ⁵² kungasisizwe leso sodwa, kodwa labantwana bakaNkulunkulu abahlakazekileyo ukuze baletshwe ndawonye, benziwe babemunye. ⁵³ Kusukela ngalesosikhathi bakha amacebo okumbulala.

⁵⁴ Ngakho uJesu wayengasahambahambi obala phakathi kwamaJuda. Wasuka lapho waya emangweni owawuse-duze kwenkangala, emzini owawuthiwa yi-Efrayimu, lapho ahlala khona labafundi bakhe.

⁵⁵ Kwathi sekuzakuba yisikhathi sePhasika lamaJuda, abanengi baqubuka elizweni baya eJerusalema ukuyahlanjululwa ngokomkhuba kungakabi yiPhasika. ⁵⁶ Babelokhu bethalaza befuna uJesu, kwathi bemi egumeni lethempeli babuzana bathi, “Licabangani? Ukuthi angaphutha yini emkhosini?” ⁵⁷ Kodwa abaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi basebelayele ukuthi nxa ekhona owayekwazi ukuthi uJesu wayengaphi, ahle abike ukuze bambophe.

12

UJesu Uyagcotshwa EBhethani

¹ Kwasekusele insuku eziyisithupha ukuthi kufike iPhasika, uJesu waya eBhethani, lapho okwakuhlala khona uLazaro owayevuswe kwabafuleyo nguJesu. ² Kwaphekwa ukudla kwakusihlwa kuhlonitshwa yena uJesu. UMatha nguye owayedidizela, uLazaro ehlezi labanye etafuleni loJesu. ³ UMariya wasethatha amafutha enadi acengekileyo njalo adulayo kakhulu, ayengaba yingxenye yelitha, wawathela ezinyaweni zikaJesu wasezesula ngenwele zakhe. Indlu yagcwala ngephunga elimnandi lamakha lawo.

⁴ Kodwa omunye wabafundi bakhe, uJudasi Iskariyothi owayezamnikela wasola wathi, ⁵ “Kungani amakha la engathengiswanga imali yaphiwa abampofu? Intengo yawo ibinganela umholo womnyaka wonke.” ⁶ Kakutshongo lokhu ngoba ebanakekela abampofu, kodwa ngoba elisela; njengomgcinisikhwama wayandise ukuzisiza ngalokho okwakufakwa phakathi kwaso.

⁷ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Myekele. Kwakuqondwe ukuthi amakha la awabekele usuku lokungcwatshwa kwami. ⁸ Lizahlala lilabo abampofu phakathi kwenu kodwa mina kaliyikuhlala lilami.”**

⁹ Ngalesosikhathi ixuku elikhulu lamaJuda lezwa ukuthi uJesu wayelapho, leza lingalandanga yena kuphela kodwa lokuthi libone uLazaro ayemvuse kwabafuleyo. ¹⁰ Ngakho

abaphristi abakhulu benza amacebo okuba bambulale laye uLazaro,¹¹ ngoba ngenxa yakhe amaJuda amanengi ayesiya kuJesu ebeka ukholo lwawo kuye.

Ukungena Ngobukhosi

¹² Ngosuku olulandelayo ixuku elikhulu elalize emkhosini lezwa ukuthi uJesu wayesendleleni esiza eJerusalema. ¹³ Lathatha amagatsha elala laphuma ukuyamhlangabeza, limemeza lisithi,
“Hosana!”*

“Ubusisiwe lowo obuya ngebizo likaThixo!”

“Ubusisiwe oyiNkosi ka-Israyeli!”

¹⁴ UJesu wathola inkonyane kababhemi wayigada njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

¹⁵ “Ungesabi, Oh Ndodakazi yeZiyoni;
khangela, inkosi yakho iyeza,
ihlezi phezu kwenkonyane kababhemi.”†

¹⁶ Kuqala abafundi bakhe kabakuzwisisanga konke lokhu. Kwaze kwaba ngemva kokuba uJesu esekhazimulisiwe lapho abananzelela khona ukuba izinto lezi zazilotshwe ngaye lokuthi babezenzile kuye lezozinto.

¹⁷ Ngalesosikhathi ixuku elalilaye mhla ebiza uLazaro ethuneni wabuye wamvusa ekufeni laqhubeka lilifakaza ilizwi. ¹⁸ Abantu abanengi bahamba ukuyamhlangabeza ngoba basebezwile ukuthi wayewenzile umangaliso lo. ¹⁹ AbaFarisi bakhulumisana besithi, “Liyabona, into le izasitshiya esikhaleni. Khangelani ukuthi umhlaba wonke usuthe zalezale kuye!”

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokufa Kwakhe

²⁰ Kwakukhona amaGrikhi phakathi kwalabo abayakhonza emkhosini. ²¹ Beza kuFiliphu owayevela eBethisayida eGalile lesicelo esithi, “Nkosi, sifuna ukubona uJesu.” ²² UFiliphu wayatshela u-Andreya; u-Andreya loFiliphu basebemtshela uJesu.

²³ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Sesifikile isikhathi sokuba iNdodana yoMuntu ikhazimuliswe.** ²⁴ **Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi ngaphandle kokuthi uhlamvu lwengqoloyi luwele emhlabathini lufe, lusala lulokhu luluhlamvu olulodwa. Kodwa lungaze lufe luthela inhlamvu ezinengi.** ²⁵ **Umuntu othanda impilo yakhe izamlahlekela ikanti umuntu ozonda impilo yakhe kulo umhlaba uzayilondolozela**

* 12:13 12.13 AmaHubo 118.25-26 † 12:15 12.15 UZakhariya 9.9

ingunaphakade. ²⁶ **Lowo ongikhonzayo kumele angilandele, lalapho engikhona lesikhonzi sami sikhona. UBaba uzamdumisa lowo ongikhonzayo.**

²⁷ **Khathesi inhliziyo yami ikhathazekile. Kambe ngingatsho na ngithi, 'Baba, ngihlenga singafiki lesosikhathi'? Hatshi, kwakungenxa yalesisizatho ukuze ngingene kulesisikhathi.** ²⁸ **Baba, khazimulisa ibizo lakho!"**

Kwasekufika ilizwi livela ezulwini lisithi, "Sengilikhazimulisile, ngizaphinda ngilikhazimulise." ²⁹ **Ixuku labantu elalilapho elalizwayo ilizwi lathi kube lomdumo wezulu; abanye bathi ingilosi yayikhulume laye.**

³⁰ **UJesu wathi, "Ilizwi leli belingelokusiza lina, hayi mina.** ³¹ **Manje sekuyisikhathi sokwahlulela kulo umhlaba; manje inkosi yalo umhlaba isizaxotshwa.** ³² **Kodwa mina nxa sengiphakanyisiwe ngisuswa emhlabeni, ngizabadonsela kimi bonke abantu."** ³³ **Wakutsho lokhu eveza ukuthi wayezakufa ukufa okunjani.**

³⁴ **Ixuku labhoboka lathi, "Sezwa eMthethweni ukuthi uKhristu uzahlala kokuphela, pho ukutsho kanjani ukuthi, 'iNdodana yoMuntu imele iphakanyiswe na'? Ingubani yona 'iNdodana yoMuntu' le?"**

³⁵ **UJesu wabatshela wathi, "Lizakuba lakho ukukhanya okwesikhatshana esithile. Hambani liseselakho ukukhanya, ubumnyama bungakaligubuzeli. Umuntu ophumputha emnyameni kakwazi lapho aya khona.** ³⁶ **Bekani ithemba lenu ekukhanyeni liseselakho ukuze libe ngamadodana okukhanya."** Wathi eseqedile ukukhuluma uJesu wasuka kubo wayazifihla.

Ukukholwa Lokungakholwa KwamaJuda

³⁷ **Lanxa uJesu wayeseyenze yonke imimangaliso le emehlweni abo babelokhu bengakholwa kuye.** ³⁸ **Lokhu kwakugcwalisa ilizwi lika-Isaya umphrofethi elithi:**

"Nkosi, ngubani olikholiweyo ilizwi lethu na, njalo amandla eNkosi ambulelwe ubani na?"‡

³⁹ **Ngalesisizatho babengeke bakholwa ngoba u-Isaya uyatsho komunye umbhalo ukuthi:**

⁴⁰ **"Uwafiphazile amehlo abo wathundubeza inhliziyo zabo ukuze bangaboni ngamehlo abo njalo bangezwisisi ngenhliziyo zabo, loba baphenduke, ukuze ngibasilise."**§

‡ 12:38 12.38 U-Isaya 53.1 § 12:40 12.40 U-Isaya 6.10

⁴¹ U-Isaya waktsho lokhu ngoba wayibona inkazimulo kaJesu njalo wayekhuluma ngaye.

⁴² Kodwa loba kunjalo, abanengi labanye abakhokheli bakholwa kuye. Kodwa ngenxa yabaFarisi kabalufakazanga ukholo lwabo besesaba ukuthi bazaxotshwa esinagogweni; ⁴³ ngoba babethanda ukubukwa ngabantu okwedlula ukubukwa okuvela kuNkulunkulu.

⁴⁴ UJesu wasememeza wathi, **“Nxa umuntu ekholwa kimi, kakholwa kimi kuphela kodwa kuye lowo ongithumileyo. ⁴⁵ Nxa ekhangela mina ubona yena lowo ongithumileyo. ⁴⁶ Ngibuye emhlabeni ngiyikukhanya ukuze angabikhona okholwa kimi ozahlala ebumnyameni.**

⁴⁷ **Nxa umuntu ewezwa amazwi ami kodwa angawagcini, angimahluleli mina. Phela kangilandanga ukuzowahlulela umhlaba kodwa ukuzowusindisa.** ⁴⁸ Ukhona umahluleli walowo ongalayo, ongawemukeliyo amazwi ami; lawomazwi engawakhulumayo uqobo azamlahla ngosuku lokucina.

⁴⁹ **Ngoba kangizikhulumelanga ngokwentando yami kodwa uBaba owangithumayo wangilaya ukuthi ngithini lokuthi ngikutsho kanjani. ⁵⁰ Ngiyazi ukuthi umlayo wakhe uholela ekuphileni kwaphakade. Ngakho loba kuyini engikutshoyo yikho lokho uBaba angitshele khona ukuthi ngikutsho.”**

13

UJesu Ugezisa Inyawo Zabafundi Bakhe

¹ Kwakuyisikhathi lapho uMkhosi wePhasika ususondele. UJesu wayekwazi ukuthi isikhathi sokuthi asuke kulumhlaba aye kuYise sasesisondele. Wayehlezi ebathanda abakhe abasemhlabeni, lesi kwasekuyisikhathi sokubatshengisa ukujula kothando lwakhe.

² Kwathi kudliwa ukudla kwakusihlwa, uSathane wayevele esemtshutshisile uJudasi Iskariyothi, indodana kaSimoni, ukuthi anikele uJesu. ³ UJesu wayekwazi ukuthi uYise wayenikele zonke izinto emandleni akhe, lokuthi yena wayevela kuNkulunkulu njalo wayebuyela kuNkulunkulu, ⁴ ngakho wasukuma ekudleni, wakhulula isembatho saphezulu, wabophela ithawulo ekhalweni lwakhe. ⁵ Ngemva kwalokho, wathela amanzi enditshini waseqalisa ukugezisa inyawo zabafundi bakhe, wazesula ngethawulo leyo ayezibophe ngayo.

⁶ Wafika kuSimoni Phethro owathi kuye, “Nkosi, kambe wena nguwe ongagezisa inyawo zami na?”

⁷ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kawukuzwisisi lokhu engikwenzayo khatesi kodwa uzakuzwisisa ngesikhathi esizayo.”**

⁸ UPhethro wathi, “Hatshi, kawusoze lanini ugezise inyawo zami.”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Nxa ngingakugezisi kawula-budlelwano lami.”**

⁹ UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Nkosi, nxa kunjalo, kakungabi zinyawo zami zodwa kodwa lezandla zami kanye lekhandla lami!”

¹⁰ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Lowo ogeze umzimba udinga ukugeza inyawo zakhe kuphela, ngoba umzimba wakhe wonke uhlanzekile. Njalo lina lihlanzekile loba nje kungayisini lonke elihlanzekileyo.”** ¹¹ Ngoba wayemazi lowo owayezamnikela, yikho wathi kakusibo bonke ababehlanzekile.

¹² Eseqedile ukubagezisa inyawo, wagqoka isembatho saphezulu wasebuyela endaweni yakhe. Wababuza wathi, **“Liyakuzwisisa na esengilenzele khona?”** ¹³ **Lingibiza lithi ‘Mfundisi’ lokuthi ‘Nkosi,’ lisitsho liqondile, ngoba ngiyikho lokho.** ¹⁴ **Manje-ke njengoba mina, iNkosi yenu loMfundisi, sengigezise inyawo zenu, lani kumele lizezise inyawo.** ¹⁵ **Sengilenzele isibonelo ukuthi lenze njengoba ngilenzele mina.** ¹⁶ **Ngempela ngiqinisile ngithi kini kakulanceku enkulu kulenkosi yayo, njalo isithunywa kasisikhulu kulalowo osithumileyo.** ¹⁷ **Lingaze lizazi lezizinto lizabusiwa nxa lizenza.”**

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokunikelwa Kwakhe

¹⁸ **“Kangikhulumi ngani lonke; ngiyabazi labo esengibakhethile. Kodwa lokhu kuyikugcwalisa umbhalo othi: ‘Lowo obesidla lami isinkwa usengihlamukele.’”***

¹⁹ Ngilazisa khatesi kungakenzakali, ukwenzela ukuthi lapho sekusenzakala, likholwe ukuthi ngiN-guye. ²⁰ Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi lowo owamukela loba ngubani engimthumayo wamukela mina njalo lowo owamukela mina wamukela lowo ongithumileyo.”

²¹ UJesu esatsho lokhu wakhathazeka kakhulu wafakaza wathi, **“Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi omunye wenu uzanginikela.”**

²² Abafundi bakhe bakhangelana bedidekile ukuthi kambe angabe esitsho wuphi kubo. ²³ Omunye wabo owayethandwa nguJesu wayeyeme etafuleni eduzane laye.

* 13:18 13.18 AmaHubo 41.9

²⁴ USimoni Phethro wasemqhwaba lowomfundi wathi kuye, “Mbuze ukuthi utsho bani.”

²⁵ Waseseyama kuJesu wambuza wathi, “Nkosi, ngubani?”

²⁶ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kungulowo engizamupha ucezu lwesinkwa nxa sengisitshebile emganwini.”** Kwathi esesitshebile isinkwa wasiqhubela uJudasi Iskariyothi, indodana kaSimoni. ²⁷ Wonela ukusithatha isinkwa uJudasi uSathane wasengena kuye.

UJesu wathi kuye, **“Lokho osufuna ukukwenza, kwenze masinyane.”** ²⁸ Kodwa kakho etafuleni owazwisayo ukuthi kungani uJesu watsho njalo kuye. ²⁹ Ngenxa yokuthi uJudasi nguye owayephatha imali, abanye bacabanga ukuthi uJesu wayemtshela ukuthi athenge lokho okwakuzafuneka emkhosini kumbe ukuthi anike okuthile kwabampofu. ³⁰ Wonela ukuthi athathe isinkwa waphuma. Kwasekusebusuku.

UJesu Ukhuluma Ngokuphikwa Kwakhe NguPhethro

³¹ Esehambile uJesu wathi, **“Khathesi iNdodana yoMuntu isikhazimulisiwe njalo uNkulunkulu ukhazimulisiwe kuyo. ³² Nxa uNkulunkulu ekhazimulisiwe kuyo, uNkulunkulu laye uzayikhazimulisa iNdodana kuye njalo uzayikhazimulisa masinyane.**

³³ **Bantwabami, ngizakuba lani okwesikhatshana esincane. Lizangidinga kodwa njengoba ngawatshela amaJuda, lani sengilitshela khathesi ukuthi: Lapho engiyakhona, alingeke lifike.**

³⁴ **Ngilinka umlayo omutsha: Thandanani. Kumele lithandane njengoba lami ngilithandile. ³⁵ Bonke abantu bazakwazi ukuthi lingabafundi bami nxa lithandana.”**

³⁶ USimoni Phethro wambuza wathi, “Nkosi, kanti uya ngaphi na?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Lapho engiyakhona ungazake ungilandele khathesi kodwa uzangilandela ngesikhathi esizayo.”**

³⁷ Wabuza uPhethro wathi, “Nkosi, kungani ngingahle ngikulandele khathesi? Ngizanikela ukuphila kwami kuwe.”

³⁸ UJesu wasemphendula wathi, **“Kambe uzinikele ukuphila kwakho ngenxa yami? Ngiqinisile ngithi uzangiphika kathathu iqhude lingakakhali!”**

1 **“Inhliziyo zenu kazingakhathazeki. Kholwani kuNkulunkulu; likholwe lakimi. 2 Emzini kaBaba kulezindlu ezinengi; aluba kwakungenjalo ngabe ngalitshela. Ngiya khona ukuyalilungisela indawo. 3 Njalo nxa sengiyile ukulilungisela indawo ngizabuya ngizolithatha ukuthi libe lami, ukuze libe lami lapho engikhona. 4 Liyayazi indlela eya lapho engiyakhona.”**

UJesu Yindlela Eya KuBaba

5 UThomasi wathi kuye, “Nkosi, kasikwazi lapho oya khona, pho singayazi kanjani indlela na?”

6 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Mina ngiyiyo indlela njalo ngiliqiniso lokuphila. Kakho oza kuBaba ngaphandle kwami. 7 Aluba belingazi ngempela, belizamazi loBaba. Kusakela khatesi, selimazi njalo selimbonile.”**

8 UFiliphu wathi, “Nkosi, sitshengise uBaba ngoba yikho lokho okuzasanelisa.”

9 UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Lokhe ungangazi na Filiphu, emva kwesikhathi eside kangaka ngilani? Lowo ongibonileyo usembonile uBaba. Ungatsho kanjani ukuthi, ‘Sitshengise uBaba’? 10 Kawukholwa yini ukuthi ngikuBaba lokuthi uBaba ukimi? Amazwi engiwakhulumayo kini akusiwami. Kodwa nguBaba ophila kimi owenzayo umsebenzi wakhe. 11 Kholwani kimi nxa ngisithi ngikuBaba loBaba ukimi; loba ukukholwa ubufakazi bemimangaliso ngokwayo nje zwi. 12 Ngilqinisele ukuthi lowo okholwa kimi uza-kwenza lokho ebengikwenza. Uzakwenza izinto ezinkulu kulalezi ngoba ngiya kuBaba. 13 Njalo ngizakwenza noma yini eliyicelayo ngebizo lami ukuze iNdodana ilethe inkazimulo kuBaba. 14 Lingacela noma yini ngebizo lami, ngizakwenza.”**

UJesu Uthembisa UMoya ONgcwele

15 **“Nxa lingithanda, gcinani imilayo yami. 16 Ngizacela kuBaba ukuthi alinike omunye umeli ukuthi alisize abe lani kuze kube laphakade, 17 uMoya weqiniso. Ilizwe ngeke limamukele ngoba kalimboni njalo kalimazi. Kodwa lina liyamazi ngoba uhlala lani njalo uzakuba lani. 18 Kangisoze ngilitshiye lizintandane, ngizabuya kini. 19 Kakusekhatshana ukuthi umhlaba ungabe usangibona njalo kodwa lina lizangibona. Ngenxa yokuthi ngiyaphila, lani lizaphila futhi. 20 Ngalolosuku lizakunanzelela ukuthi ngikuBaba, lina likimi, lami ngikini. 21 Lowo olayo imilayo yami, ayigcine, nguye ongithandayo.**

Lowo ongithandayo uzathandwa nguBaba njalo lami ngizamthanda ngiziveze kuye.”

²² Ngakho uJudasi (hatshi uJudasi Iskariyothi) wathi, “Kodwa Nkosi, kungani ujonge ukuziveza kithi, hatshi emhlabeni na?”

²³ UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Lowo ongithandayo uzalalela imfundiso yami. UBaba uzamthanda njalo sizakuza kuye sakhe umuzi wethu kanye laye.** ²⁴ **Lowo ongangithandiyo kayikulalela imfundiso yami. Amazwi la eliwezwayo kayisiwo wami, ngakaBaba ongithumileyo.**

²⁵ **Konke lokhu ngikukhulume ngiseselani.** ²⁶ **Kodwa uMeli, uMoya ONgcwele, uBaba azamthumela ebizweni lami, uzalifundisa zonke izinto njalo uzalikhumbuza konke engikukhulume kini.** ²⁷ **Ukuthula ngikutshiya kini; ukuthula kwami ngilinika khona. Kangiliniki njengokunika komhlaba. Lingakhathazeki ezinhliziyweni zenu njalo lingesabi.**

²⁸ **Langizwa ngisithi, ‘Ngiyahamba njalo ngizabuya kini.’ Kube belingithanda, ngabe liyathokoza ukuthi ngiya kuBaba, ngoba uBaba mkhulu kulami.**

²⁹ **Sengilitshelile manje kungakenzakali ukuze kuthi nxa sekusenzakala likholwe.** ³⁰ **Kangisayikukhuluma okunengi kini ngoba inkosi yalo umhlaba isisiza. Kayilamandla phezu kwami,** ³¹ **kodwa umhlaba umele wazi ukuthi ngiyamthanda uBaba lokuthi ngenza khona kanye uBaba angilaye khona.**

Wozani manje; kasisukeni lapha.”

15

Ivini Lamagatsha

¹ **“Mina ngilivini eliqotho, uBaba ungumlimi.** ² **Zonke ingatsha ezingatheli izithelo uyaziquma, kuthi zonke ingatsha ezithelayo uyazithena kuhle ukuze zithele kakhulu.** ³ **Lina selihlambulukile ngenxa yelizwi esengilikhulume kini.** ⁴ **Hlalani kimi, lami ngizahlala kini. Kalukho ugatsha olungathela izithelo ngokwalo kodwa kumele luhlale lusevinini. Lani lingeke lithele izithelo ngaphandle kokuthi luhlale kimi.**

⁵ **Mina ngilivini; lina lizingatsha. Nxa umuntu ehlala kimi lami kuye, uzathela izithelo ezinengi; ngaphandle kwami kakukho elingakwenza.** ⁶ **Nxa lingahlali kimi, lizabe lifana logatsha olulahliweyo lwabuna; ingatsha ezinjalo ziyathezwa, zibaswe besezisitsha.** ⁷ **Nxa lih-lala kimi lamazwi ami ehlala kini, celani loba yini**

eliyifunayo, lizayiphiwa. ⁸ Lokhu kungokwenkazimulo kaBaba ukuze lithela izithelo ezinengi, lizitshengisa ukuthi lingabafundi bami.

⁹ Njengoba uBaba engithanda, lami ngilithande ngendlela angithanda ngayo. Ngakho-ke, hlalani ethandweni lwami. ¹⁰ Nxa ligcina imilayo yami, lizahlala lisethandweni lwami, njengoba lami ngilalele imilayo kaBaba ngihlala ngisethandweni lwakhe. ¹¹ Ngilitshele lokhu ukuze ukuthokoza kwami kube kini lokuthi ukuthokoza kwenu kuphelele. ¹² Umlayo wami yilo: Thandanani njengoba ngilithandile lani. ¹³ Kakho olothando olukhulu kulonikela ukuphila kwakhe ngenxa yabangane bakhe. ¹⁴ Lingabangane bami nxa lisenza lokho engililaya khona. ¹⁵ Kangisalibizi ngokuthi liyizinceku ngoba inceku kayiwazisisi umsebenzi wenkosi yayo. Kodwa ngithe kini lingabangane ngoba konke engakufunda kuBaba ngilazisile. ¹⁶ Kalingikhetanga, kodwa yimi engalikhethayo, ngalibeka ukuze liyethela izithelo, izithelo ezizahlala isikhathi eside ukuze kuthi konke elikucela ngebizo lami uBaba alinike khona. ¹⁷ Nanku umlayo wami: Thandanani.”

Umhlaba Uzonda Abafundi

¹⁸ “Nxa umhlaba ulizonda, khumbulani ukuthi wangizonda kuqala. ¹⁹ Ngabe belingabomhlaba, ubuzalithanda njengabantu bawo. Njengoba kunje, kalisibo abomhlaba, kodwa ngilikhethe lisemhlabeni. Yikho umhlaba ulizonda. ²⁰ Khumbulani amazwi engawakhuluma kini ngisithi: ‘Kakulanceku enkulu kuleNkosi yayo.’* Nxa bangihlukuluza, lani bazalikhulukuluza. Nxa balalela imfundiso yami, bazayilalela leyenu. ²¹ Bazaliphatha ngaleyondlela ngenxa yebizo lami, ngoba kabamazi lowo ongithumileyo. ²² Aluba bengingezanga ngakhuluma kubo bebengayikuba lomlandu wesono. Kodwa manje kabaselaxolo ngesono sabo. ²³ Lowo ozonda mina uzonda loBaba. ²⁴ Aluba angenzanga umangaliso ongenziwanga ngomunye wabo phakathi kwabo, babengayikuba lomlandu wesono. Kodwa khatesi sebeyibonile imimangaliso le, kodwa baphinde bangizonde mina kanye loBaba. ²⁵ Kodwa lokhu kwenzeka ukuze kugcwalise okulotshiweyo eMthethweni wabo ukuthi: ‘Bangizonda kungelasizatho.’”†

* 15:20 15.20 UJohane 13.16 † 15:25 15.25 AmaHubo 35.19; 69.4

Umsebenzi KaMoya OyiNgcwele

²⁶ “Angaze afike uMeli engizamthumela kini evela kuBaba, uMoya weqiniso ophuma kuBaba, uzafakaza ngami; ²⁷ Iani kumele lifakaze, ngoba laba lami kusukela ekuqaleni.”

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¹ “Ngilitshela konke lokhu ukuze ukhohlo lweni lunganyikinyeki. ² Bazalixotsha esinagogweni; ngempela siyeza isikhathi lapho abazalibulala khona bezitshela ukuthi benzela uNkulunkulu into enhle. ³ Bazakwenza lokhu ngoba kabamazanga uBaba loba mina. ⁴ Ngilitshela lokhu ukuze kuthi isikhathi lesi sifika likhumbule ukuthi ngalixwayisa ngaso. Kangilitshelanga lokhu ekuqaleni ngoba ngangilani.”

Umsebenzi KaMoya ONgcwele

⁵ “Kodwa khathesi sengisiya kuye ongithumileyo. Kakho kini ongibuzayo ukuthi, ‘Uya ngaphi na?’ ⁶ Kodwa ngenxa yokuba sengizitshilo lezizinto, selihlulukelwe. ⁷ Ngilitshela iqiniso ngithi: Kulungele lina ukuba ngihambe. Ngaphandle kokuthi ngihambe, uMeli akayikuza kini; kodwa nxa ngihamba, ngizamthuma kini. ⁸ Lapho efika uzatshengisa umhlaba ukuthi ulahlekile ngesono, ngokulunga langokwahlulelwa: ⁹ ngokwesono, ngoba abantu kabakhohwa kimi; ¹⁰ ngokulunga, ngoba ngiya kuBaba, lapho elingasayi kungibona khona njalo; ¹¹ langokwahlulelwa, ngoba umbusi walo umhlaba usemiselwe ukulahlwa.

¹² Kusasekunengi engingakutsho kini, kodwa kungalisinda. ¹³ Kodwa yena uMoya weqiniso nxa esefikile uzalikhokhelela kulolonke iqiniso. Kazukuzikhulumela yena; uzakhuluma lokho akuzwayo kuphela, njalo uzalitshela lokho okusazobuya. ¹⁴ Uzaletsa inkazimulo kini ngokuthatha kulokho okungokwami akwenze kwazakale kini. ¹⁵ Konke okungokukaBaba ngokwami. Yikho ngithe uMoya uzathatha kokungokwami akwenze kwazakale kini.”

Usizi Lwabafundi Luzakuba Yintokozo

¹⁶ UJesu waqhubeka esithi, “Ngesikhatshana aliya kungibona, kodwa ngemva kwesikhatshana lizangibona.”

¹⁷ Abanye babafundi bakhe bakhulumisana bathi, “Utshoni ngokuthi, ‘Ngemva kwesikhatshana kalisayikungibona,’ njalo athi, ‘Kuthi ngemva kwesikhatshana lizangibona njalo, Ngoba ngiya kuBaba’ na?” ¹⁸ Babelokhu

bebuza besithi, “Utshoni nxa esithi **‘isikhatshana’**? Kasikuzwisisi lokho akutshoyo.”

¹⁹ UJesu wabona ukuthi babefuna ukumbuza ngalokhu, wasesithi kubo, **“Liyabuzana ukuthi bengisitshoni ngize ngithi, ‘Ngemva kwesikhatshana kalisayikungibona’?**
²⁰ **Ngilitshela iqiniso ukuthi lizakhala lilile kodwa umhlaba wona uthokoza. Lizakuba losizi, kodwa usizi lwenu luzakuba yintokozo.** ²¹ **Owesifazane nxa ebeletha uzwa ubuhlungu ngoba isikhathi sakhe sesifikile; kodwa nxa umntwana esezelwe uyabukhohlwa ubuhlungu lobo ngenxa yentokozo yokuthi sekuzelwe umntwana emhlabeni.** ²² **Kunjalo lakini: Manje yisikhathi senu sosizi, kodwa ngizaphinda ngilibone beselithokoza, njalo kakho ozaphinda alemuke intokozo yenu.** ²³ **Ngalolosuku kaliyi kungibuza lutho. Ngqiqinisile ngithi kini, uBaba wami uzalinika loba yini eliyicela ngebizo lami.** ²⁴ **Kuze kube manje kalikaceli lutho ngebizo lami. Celani, lizakwamukeliswa, ukuze ukuthokoza kwenu kuphelele.**

²⁵ **Lanxa bengikhuluma ngemizekeliso, siyeza isikhathi lapho ngingasayikukhuluma ngaleyondlela, kodwa engizalitshela khona kamhlophe ngoBaba.** ²⁶ **Ngalelolanga lizacela ngebizo lami. Kangitsho ukuthi ngizalicelela kuBaba.** ²⁷ **Hatshi, uBaba yena ngokwakhe uyalithanda ngoba lingithandile, lakukholwa ukuthi ngavela kuNkulunkulu.** ²⁸ **Ngavela kuBaba ngangena emhlabeni; okwamanje sengiwutshiya umhlaba sengibuyela kuBaba.”**

²⁹ Abafundi bakaJesu basebesithi, “Khatesi usukhuluma kamhlophe ungasazekelisi. ³⁰ Khatesi sesibona ukuthi uyazazi izinto zonke lokuthi kakudingeki ukuthi ubuzwe imibuzo. Lokhu kwenza ukuthi sikhohlwe ukuba wavela kuNkulunkulu.”

³¹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Khatesi selikhohlwa na?**
³² **Kodwa siyeza isikhathi, sesifikile, lapho elizachitheka khona, ngulowo aye ngakibo. Lizangitshiya ngedwa lonke. Ikanti kangingedwa ngoba uBaba ulami.**

³³ **Ngilitshela izinto lezi ukuze libe lokuthula kimi. Kulumhlaba lizahlupheka. Kodwa wobani lesibindi! Sengiwunqobile umhlaba.”**

¹ UJesu esekutshilo lokhu, wakhangela ezulwini wakhuleka wathi:

“Baba, isikhathi sesifikile. Khazimulisa iNdodana yakho, ukuze iNdodana yakho ikukhazimulise. ² Ngoba wayinika amandla phezu kwabantu bonke ukuthi ibaphe ukuphila okungapheliyo kubo bonke labo obanike yona. ³ Manje-ke yilokhu ukuphila okungapheliyo: ukuthi bakwazi wena, onguwe wedwa uNkulunkulu weqiniso, loJesu Khristu omthumileyo. ⁴ Sengikulethele inkazimulo emhlabeni ngokuphelelisa umsebenzi owanginika wona ukuthi ngiwenze. ⁵ Manje, Baba, akungikhazimulise phambi kwakho ngaleyonkazimulo esasilayo sobabili umhlaba ungakabi khona.”

UJesu Ukhulekela Abafundi Bakhe

⁶ “Ngikuvezile kulabo owangipha bona emhlabeni. Babengabakho; wangipha bona njalo labo balilalele ilizwi lakho. ⁷ Khathesi sebesazi ukuthi konke lokho onginike khona kuvela kuwe. ⁸ Ngoba ngabanika amazwi owanginika wona bawemukela. Bakwazi ngeqiniso ukuthi ngavela kuwe njalo bakholwa ukuthi ungithumile. ⁹ Ngikhulekela bona. Kangikhulekeli umhlaba kodwa labo onginike bona ngoba bangabakho. ¹⁰ Konke engilakho ngokwakho, lakho konke olakho ngokwami. Lenkazimulo isikimi ngabo. ¹¹ Kangisayikuhlala emhlabeni kusukela khathesi ngoba sengisiza kuwe, kodwa bona balokhu besemhlabeni. Baba Ongcwele, bavikele ngamandla ebizo lakho, ibizo owanginika lona ukuze babe-munye njengalokhu thina simunye. ¹² Ngesikhathi ngiphakathi kwabo ngabavikela, ngabagcina bephephile ngalelobizo owanginika lona. Kakulahlekanga loyedwa ngaphandle koyedwa owayefanele ukubhubha ukuze kugcwaliseke uMhalo.

¹³ Sengisiza kuwe manje, kodwa ngiyazitsho lezizinto ngisesemhlabeni ukuze babe lentokozo yami ngokugcweleyo ngaphakathi kwabo. ¹⁴ Ngibaphile ilizwi lakho ngakho umhlaba usubazonda ngoba bengaseyibo bomhlaba njengoba lami ngingasuye womhlaba. ¹⁵ Umkhuleko wami kawusi wokuthi ubasuse emhlabeni, kodwa ukuthi ubavikele komubi. ¹⁶ Kabasibo bomhlaba, njengoba lami ngingasiwawo. ¹⁷ Bangcwelise ngalo iqiniso; ilizwi lakho liliqiniso. ¹⁸ Njengalokhu wangithuma emhlabeni, lami

ngibathumile emhlabeni. ¹⁹ Ngenxa yabo ngiyazingcwelisa ukuze labo bangcweliswe ngobuqotho.”

UJesu Ukhulekela Wonke Amakholwa

²⁰ **“Umkhuleko wami kawusiwabo bodwa. Ngikhulekela njalo labo abazakholwa kimi ngenxa yobufakazi babo, ²¹ ukuthi bonke babemunye Baba njengoba wena ukimi lami ngikuwe. Sengathi labo bangaba kithi ukuze umhlaba ukholwe ukuthi ungithumile. ²² Ngibaphile inkazimulo owangipha yona ukuze babemunye njengalokhu thina simunye: ²³ mina ngibe kubo lawe ukimi. Sengathi bangaba lokumanyana okupheleleyo ukutshengisa umhlaba ukuthi ungithumile njalo ubathandle njengalokhu ungithandle lami.**

²⁴ **Baba, ngifuna ukuthi labo ongiphe bona babe lami lapho engikhona njalo bayibone inkazimulo yami, inkazimulo onginike yona ngoba wangithanda umhlaba ungakadalwa.**

²⁵ **Baba olungileyo, loba umhlaba ungakwazi, mina ngiyakwazi, njalo bayakwazi ukuthi ungithumile. ²⁶ Ngikuvezile wena kubo njalo ngizaqhubeka ukwenza ukuthi waziwe ukuze kuthi uthando olalo kimi lube ngolwabo njalo lokuthi mina ngokwami ngibe kubo.”**

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UJesu Uyabotshwa

¹ Wathi eseqedile ukukhuleka, uJesu wasuka kanye labafundi bakhe bakhuphuka iSigodi seKhidroni. Ngaphetsheya kwakulensimu yama-Oliva lapho angena khona labafundi bakhe.

² UJudasi owamnikelayo wayeyazi leyondawo ngoba uJesu wayehlezi esiyahlangana khona labafundi bakhe.

³ Ngakho uJudasi weza ensimini leyo, ehola ixuku lamanxusa kanye lezinye izikhulu ezazivela kubaphristi abakhulu labaFarisi. Babephethe izibane lezikhali.

⁴ UJesu esazi konke okwakuzakwenzakala kuye waya phambili wababuza wathi, **“Lifuna bani na?”**

⁵ Baphendula bathi, “uJesu waseNazaretha.”

UJesu wathi, **“Nginguye.”** (UJudasi, umthengisi wayemi khonapho labo.) ⁶ UJesu esethe, **“Nginguye,”** batsheda bawela phansi.

⁷ Wababuza njalo wathi, **“Lifuna bani na?”**

Bathi, **“UJesu waseNazaretha.”**

⁸ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngilitshelile ngathi ngin-guye. Nxa lidinga mina, yekelani amadoda la aziham-bele.”** ⁹ Lokhu kwenzakala ukuze amazwi awakhulumayo athi: **“Kangilahlekelwanga lamunye walabo ongiphe bona agcwaliseke.”***

¹⁰ Kwasekusithi uSimoni Phethro owayelenkamba, wayikhokha wagalela inceku yomphristi omkhulu, wayiquma indlebe yayo yakwesokunene. (Ibizo lenceku leyo lalinguMalikhusi.)

¹¹ UJesu wamkhalimela uPhethro wathi, **“Beka khat-shana inkemba yakho! Ngingayinathi inkezo uBaba asengiphe yona na?”**

UJesu Usiwa Ku-Anasi

¹² Kwasekusithi iqembu lamanxusa lomlawuli walo kanye lezikhulu zamaJuda bambamba uJesu. Bam-bopha, ¹³ bamusa ku-Anasi kuqala owayenguyisezala kaKhayifasi owayengumphristi omkhulu ngalowomnyaka. ¹⁴ UKhayifasi nguye owayecebise amaJuda ukuthi kwakuz-aba kuhle ukuthi indoda eyodwa ifele abantu.

Ukuphika Kwakuqala KukaPhethro

¹⁵ USimoni Phethro lomunye umfundi babemlandela uJesu. Kwathi ngoba lowomfundi wayesaziwa ngumphristi omkhulu wangena loJesu egumeni lomphristi omkhulu, ¹⁶ kodwa uPhethro yena walinda ngaphandle komnyango. Lowomfundi owayesaziwa ngumphristi omkhulu wabuya wakhuluma lentombazana eyayilindle khonapho, wasen-genisa uPhethro.

¹⁷ Intombazana eyayilinde emnyango yambuza uPhethro yathi, “Konje wena lawe ungomunye wabafundi bendoda le?”

Waphendula wathi, “Kangisuye.”

¹⁸ Kwakuqanda, ngakho izinceku lezikhulu zazimi zisotha umlilo ezaziwubasile. UPhethro laye wayemi lazo esotha umlilo.

Umphristi Omkhulu Uthetha Icala LikaJesu

¹⁹ Ngalesosikhathi umphristi omkhulu wayebuzabuza uJesu mayelana labafundi bakhe langemfundiso yakhe.

²⁰ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Ngikhulume obala kuwo umhlaba. Kokuphela ngangifundisa emasinagogweni kumbe ethempelini lapho amaJuda onke abuthana khona. Kangikhulumanga lutho ensitha.** ²¹ **Libuzelani mina? Buzani labo abangizwayo. Ngiqinisile bayak-wazi engakukhulumayo.”**

* 18:9 18.9 UJohane 6.39

²² UJesu esetshonjalo, omunye wezikhulu ezaziseduze kwakhe wamhlankala ebusweni, wambuza wathi, “Yiyo indlela yokuphendula umphristi omkhulu leyo na?”

²³ UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Nxa ngikhulume okun-gafanelanga kutsho. Kodwa nxa ngikhulume iqiniso, ungitshayelani na?**” ²⁴ U-Anasi wasemedlulisela kuKhayifasi umphristi omkhulu elokhu ebotshiwe.

Ukuphika KukaPhethro Kwesibili Lokwesithathu

²⁵ USimoni Phethro wayelokhu emi esotha umlilo, abanye bambuza bathi, “Kakusiqiniso yini ukuthi ungomunye wabafundi bakhe na?”

Waphika wathi, “Kangisuye.”

²⁶ Omunye wezinceku zomphristi omkhulu, owayeyisihlobo sendoda eyaqunywa indlebe nguPhethro yamqonda yathi, “Kangikubonanga yini ulaye esivandeni sama-oliva na?” ²⁷ UPhethro waphika njalo, khonokho nje iqhude lakhala.

UJesu Phambi KukaPhilathu

²⁸ AmaJuda asemthatha uJesu kuKhayifasi amusa esigodlweni sombusi ongumRoma. Khonapho kwasekusem-pondozankomo njalo ukuze angazingcolisi ngokwenkonzo yawo amaJuda kawangenanga esigodlweni; ayefuna ukuthi akulungele ukudla iPhasika. ²⁹ Ngakho uPhilathu waphuma weza kuwo wawabuza wathi, “Limbeka cala bani lumuntu na?”

³⁰ Apendula athi, “Kube ubengesiso isikliwi besingasoze simlethe kuwe.”

³¹ UPhilathu wathi, “Mthatheni lina limahlulele ngokom-thetho wenu.”

AmaJuda atshinga athi, “Phela thina kasilawo amandla okuquma umuntu.” ³² Lokhu kwenzakala ukuze amazwi uJesu ayewakhulumile ngendlela ayezakufa ngayo agcwaliseke.

³³ UPhilathu wasengena njalo esigodlweni, wabiza uJesu wambuza wathi, “Wena uyinkosi yamaJuda na?”

³⁴ UJesu waphendula wathi, “**Lowo ngumcabango wakho yini kumbe kulabanye abake bakhuluma lawe ngami?**”

³⁵ UPhilathu waphendula wathi, “Ucabanga ukuthi ngingumJuda na? Ngabantu bakini labaphristi abakhulu abakulethe lapha kimi. Kanti uvele woneni?”

³⁶ UJesu wathi, “**Umbuso wami kawusi walumhlaba. Aluba kwakunjalo izinceku zami bezizakulwa ukwen-qabela ukuthi ngingabotshwa ngamaJuda. Kodwa hatshi, umbuso wami uvela kwenye indawo.**”

³⁷ UPhilathu wathi, “Ngakho uyinkosi phela?”

UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Uqondile ukuthi ngiyinkosi. Ngeqiniso ngazalelwa lokho njalo ngalanda khona emhlabeni, ukuzafakaza iqiniso. Bonke abemi eqin-isweni bayangilalela.”**

³⁸ UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Yiliphi iqiniso?” Esekutshilo lokhu waphinda waphuma waya kumaJuda wathi, “Angifumani lutho lokumbeka icala. ³⁹ Kodwa kungumkhuba wenu ukuthi ngilikhululele esinye isibotshwa ngesikhathi sePhasika. Lifuna ukuthi ngilikhululele inkosi yamaJuda na?”

⁴⁰ Amemeza athi, “Hatshi, hayi lo! Siphe uBharabhasi!” UBharabhasi wayephatheke ekukhokheleni umvukela.

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UJesu Ugwetshelwa Ukubethelwa

¹ UPhilathu wasemthatha uJesu wathi katshaywe ngemvubu. ² Amabutho eluka umqhele wameva awubeka ekhanda lakhe. Amgqokisa isigqoko esiyibubende ³ aya kuye aphindaphinda ememeza esithi, “Bayethe! Nkosi yamaJuda!”

⁴ UPhilathu waphinda waphuma wathi kumaJuda, “Khangelani, sengimkhupha ngimlethe kini ngilazisa ukuthi kangifumani sizatho sokumethesa icala.” ⁵ Kwathi uJesu ephuma eggoke umqhele wameva, eggoke isigqoko esiyibubende, uPhilathu wathi kubo, “Iboneni-ke, nansi indoda!”

⁶ Abaphristi abakhulu lezikhulu zabo bonela ukumbona bamemeza bathi, “Mbethele! Mbethele!”

Kodwa uPhilathu waphendula wathi, “Mthatheni limbethele lina. Mina, kangifumani sizatho sokumethesa icala.”

⁷ AmaJuda aphikelela athi, “Thina silomthetho, ngakho mayelana lalowomthetho kumele afe ngoba uzithi uyiNdo-dana kaNkulunkulu.”

⁸ UPhilathu wathi ekuzwa lokhu wesaba kakhulu, ⁹ wasebuyela esigodlweni. Wabuza uJesu wathi, “Ungowangaphi wena?” Kodwa uJesu kamphendulanga. ¹⁰ UPhilathu wathi, “Kawufuni kukhuluma lami? Awuboni yini ukuthi mina ngilamandla okukukhulula lawokukubethela?”

¹¹ UJesu waphendula wathi, **“Kawulawo amandla phezu kwami ongawaphiwanga evela phezulu. Ngakho-ke, lowo onginikele kuwe ulecala lesono esikhulu kakhulu.”**

¹² Kusukela lapho uPhilathu wazama ukukhulula uJesu, kodwa amaJuda aqhubeka ememeza esithi, “Nxaxaxa uyekela

umuntu lo ahambe, kawulabungane loKhesari. Lowo ozitshaya inkosi uphikisana loKhesari.”

¹³ UPhilathu esezwe lokhu, wamletha phandle uJesu, yena wasehlala esihlalweni sakhe sokwahlulela endaweni eyayithiwa yisiGcawu Esigandelwe Ngamatshe (okuthiwa ngesiHebheru yiGabatha). ¹⁴ Kwakulusuku lokuLungisela iViki yePhasika, ngeholala lesithupha.

UPhilathu wathi kumaJuda, “Nansi inkosi yenu.”

¹⁵ Kodwa amemeza athi, “Msuse! Msuse! Mbethele!”

UPhilathu wabuza wathi, “Ngibethele inkosi yenu na?”

Abaphristi abakhulu bamphendula bathi, “Kasilankosi ngaphandle kukaKhesari.”

¹⁶ Ekucineni uPhilathu wamnikela kubo ukuba abethelwe.

Ukubethelwa KukaJesu

Ngakho amabutho amthatha uJesu. ¹⁷ Wathwala isiphambano, wasuka waya endaweni yoKhakhayi (okuthiwa ngesiHebheru yiGoligotha). ¹⁸ Bambethela khona lapho kanye labanye ababili, ngapha langapha kwakhe, uJesu waba phakathi.

¹⁹ UPhilathu waloba umbhalo wananyathiselwa esiphambanweni. Wawubhalwe ukuthi:

UJesu waseNazaretha, iNkosi yamaJuda.

²⁰ AmaJuda amanengi awufunda umbhalo lowo ngoba lapho uJesu ayebethelwe khona kwakuseduze ledolobho, umbhalo lowo wawulotshwe ngesiHebheru, ngesiLathini langesiGrikhi. ²¹ Abaphristi abakhulu bamaJuda basola kuPhilathu bathi, “Ungalobi uthi ‘iNkosi yamaJuda,’ kodwa umuntu lo wayezibiza ngokuthi uyinkosi yamaJuda.”

²² UPhilathu waphendula wathi, “Esengikulobile, sengikulobile.”

²³ Kwathi amabutho esembethele uJesu, athatha izigqoko zakhe azabelana, zaba zingxenywe ezine, zilingene ibutho linye ngalinye, kwasala isigqoko sangaphansi. Sona sasingelamthungo, silukwe sonke kusukela phezulu kusiya phansi.

²⁴ Bacebisana bathi, “Kasingasidabuli. Kasikhetheni ngenkatho ukuthi sibe ngesikabani.”*

Lokhu kwenzakala ukuze kugcwaliseke umbhalo owathi: “Babelana izembatho zami

benza inkatho ngezigqoko zami.”

Yikho lokhu amabutho akwenzayo.

²⁵ Eduze kwesiphambano sakhe uJesu kwakumi unina, udadewabo kanina, uMariya umkaKlopasi loMariya Magadalini. ²⁶ UJesu wathi ebona unina lapho lomfundi

* 19:24 19.24 AmaHubo 22.18

ayemthanda emi lapho eduze, wathi kunina, **“Mama, nansi indodana yakho,”** ²⁷ wathi kumfundi, **“Nangu unyoko.”** Kusukela kulesosikhathi umfundi lowo wamthatha unina wamusa ekhaya lakhe.

Ukufa KukaJesu

²⁸ Ngemva kwalesosikhathi, uJesu esesazi ukuthi konke kwasekuphelele njalo ukuze umbhalo ugcwaliseke, wathi, **“Ngomile.”** ²⁹ Kwakubekwe imbodlela yewayini yeviniga khonapho, basebegxamuza kuyo uzipho baluxhuma eluthini lwesihlahlakazana sehisophi, baluphakamisela endebezi zikaJesu. ³⁰ Esenathile wathi, **“Sekuphelile.”** Esetshonjalo wagobisa ikhanda lakhe wafa.

³¹ Lolo kwakulusuku lokuLungiselela, ngosuku olulan-delayo kwakuzakuba liSabatha eliqakathekileyo. Ngenxa yokuthi amaJuda ayengafuni izidumbu zisale eziphambanweni ngeSabatha, acela uPhilathu ukuthi kwepfulwe amalunga emilenze lezidumbu zethulwe. ³² Yikho amabutho eza ephula imilenze yendoda yakuqala eyayibethelwe loJesu, aphinda lakweyinye. ³³ Kodwa athi efika kuJesu ebona ukuthi wayevele esefile, kawasazepfulanga izitho zakhe. ³⁴ Endaweni yalokho elinye ibutho lamciba uJesu ngomkhonto ohlangothini, kwantshaza igazi lamanzi. ³⁵ Umuntu owakubonayo usebulethile ubufakazi, njalo ubufakazi bakhe buliqiniso. Uyazi ukuthi ukhuluma iqiniso njalo ufakazela ukuthi lani libe lokukholwa. ³⁶ Lezizinto zenzakala ukuze kugcwaliseke umbhalo othi: “Kalikho lalinye ithambo lakhe elizakwepfulwa,”[†] ³⁷ lomunye umbhalo uthi, “Bazakhangele kulowo abamgwazayo.”[‡]

Ukungcwatshwa KukaJesu

³⁸ Ngemva kwalokho, uJosefa wase-Arimathiya wacela isidumbu sikaJesu kuPhilathu. UJosefa lo wayengumfundi kaJesu kodwa wayekufihla ngoba wayesesaba amaJuda. Eselemvumo kaPhilathu weza wasithatha isidumbu. ³⁹ Wayephathiswa nguNikhodimasi, indoda leyana eyayike yeza kuJesu ebusuku. UNikhodimasi weza lamakha emure lenhlaba engaba lesisindo samaphawundi angamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu. ⁴⁰ Bobabili bathatha isidumbu sikaJesu basigcoba ngalawomakha njalo basigoqela ngamaqhele elineni. Lokhu kwakungumkhuba wamaJuda wokungcwaba. ⁴¹ Endaweni lapho uJesu abethelwa khona kwakulesivande, esivandeni kulethuna elitsha okwakungakaze kungcwatshwe muntu kulo. ⁴² Ngenxa yokuthi

[†] **19:36** 19.36 U-Eksodasi 12.46; AmaNani 9.12; AmaHubo 34.20 [‡] **19:37** 19.37 UZakhariya 12.10

kwakulusuku lokulungiselela lwamaJuda njalo ngenxa yokuthi ithuna laliseduze, bamngcwaba khonapho uJesu.

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Ithuna Elingelalutho

¹ Ekuseni kakhulu ngosuku lokuqala lweviki, kulokhu kusemnyama, uMariya Magadalini waya ethuneni wafumana ukuthi ilitshe laselisiwe emlonyeni wethuna.

² Ngakho wafika egijima kuSimoni Phethro elomunye umfundi, lowo uJesu ayemthanda, wathi, “Sebeyithethe iNkosi ethuneni, kodwa kasazi ukuthi bayise ngaphi!”

³ Yikho uPhethro lalowomfundi omunye baqonda ethuneni. ⁴ Bobabili babegijima, kodwa lowo omunye umfundi wamtshiya uPhethro wayafika kuqala ethuneni.

⁵ Wakhothama walunguza phakathi wabona amaqhele elineni ekhonapho, kodwa kangenanga. ⁶ Khonokho uSimoni Phethro owayengemuva kwakhe wafika wangena ethuneni.

Wawabona amaqhele elineni ethe qekele khonapho, ⁷ kanye lelembu lokungcwaba elalithandele ikhanda likaJesu. Ilembu lelo laseligoqiwe lodwa lingekho kwawelineni. ⁸ Ekucineni lowo omunye umfundi owayefike kuqala ethuneni laye wangena. Wabona, wakholwa.

⁹ (Babelokhu bengezwisisi emibhalweni ukuthi uJesu wayemele avuke kwabafileyo.) ¹⁰ Abafundi basebebuyela emizini yabo.

UJesu Ubonakala KuMariya Magadalena

¹¹ Kodwa uMariya wasala emi ngaphandle kwethuna ekhala. Wathi elokhu ekhala wakhothama walunguza ethuneni ¹² wabona izingilosi ezimbili zigqoke okumhlophe zihlezi lapho isidumbu sikaJesu sasikade sikhona, enye ngasemakhanda, enye ngasezinyaweni.

¹³ Zambuza zathi, “Mama, ukhalelani na?”

Wathi, “Bayisusile iNkosi yami, kangazi ukuthi bayibeke ngaphi.” ¹⁴ Wasephenduka wabona uJesu emi khonapho, kodwa kananzelelanga ukuthi kwakunguJesu.

¹⁵ Wathi, **“Mama, ukhalelani na? Ufuna ubani na?”**

UMariya wayesithi kumbe ngumlimi, wasesithi, “Nkosi, nxa kunguwe omthetheyo, ngitshela ukuthi umbeke ngaphi ukuze ngiyemthatha.”

¹⁶ UJesu wathi, **“Mariya.”**

Waphendukela kuye wamemeza ngesiHebheru wathi, *“Rabhoni!”* (okutsho ukuthi “Mfundisi”).

¹⁷ UJesu wathi, **“Ungangibambi, ngoba kangikabuyeli kuBaba. Kodwa hamba kubafowethu ubatshela uthi,**

'Sengibuyela kuBaba njalo uYihlo, kuNkulunkulu wami, uNkulunkulu wenu.'"

¹⁸ UMariya Magadalini waya kubafundi elombiko othi, "ngiyibonile iNkosi!" Njalo wabatshela ukuthi wayekutshilo lokhu kuye.

UJesu Uziveza Kubafundi

¹⁹ Kusihlwa ngalolosuku lokuqala lweviki, abafundi babendawonye behluthulele iminyango ngoba besesaba amaJuda, uJesu wafika wema phakathi kwabo wathi, **"Ukuthula kakube kini!"** ²⁰ Esekutshilo lokhu wabatshengisa izandla zakhe lohlangothi lwakhe. Abafundi bathaba kakhulu beyibona iNkosi.

²¹ UJesu waphinda wathi, **"Ukuthula kakube kini! Njengoba uBaba engithumile, lami ngiyalithuma."**

²² Esitsho lokho wabaphefumulela wathi, **"Yamukelani uMoya oNgcwele. ²³ Nxa lithethelela loba ngubani izono zakhe, zizathethelelwa lezenu, kodwa nxa lingathetheleli ezabanye kazisoze zithethelelwe lezenu."**

UJesu Uziveza KuThomasi

²⁴ UThomasi (othiwa nguDidimasi), omunye wabalitshumi lambili, wayengekho kwabanye abafundi uJesu aze afike. ²⁵ Kwathi lapho abanye abafundi bemtshela bathi "sesiyibonile iNkosi," wathandabuza wathi, "Ngaphandle kokuthi ngibone amanxeba ezipikili ezandleni zakhe ngibeke umunwe wami emanxebeni ezipikili, ngifake isandla sami ehlangothini lwakhe, kangisoze ngikholwe."

²⁶ Sekudlule iviki abafundi bakhe babesendlini njalo, loThomasi elabo. Njengoba iminyango yayihluthulelwe uJesu wafika wema phakathi kwabo wathi, **"Ukuthula kakube kini!"** ²⁷ Wasesithi kuThomasi, **"Faka umunwe wakho lapha; bona izandla zami. Yelula isandla sakho usibeke ehlangothini lwami. Yekela ukuthandabuza ukholwe."**

²⁸ UThomasi wathi kuye, "Nkosi yami, Nkulunkulu wami!"

²⁹ UJesu wasemtshela wathi, **"Usukholiwe ngoba usungibonile; babusisiwe labo abathi bengabonanga, kodwa sebekholiwe."**

Injongo YeVangeli LikaJohane

³⁰ UJesu wenza eminye imimangaliso eminengi abafundi bakhe bekhangele, kodwa engabhalwanga kule incwadi.

³¹ Kodwa le ibhaliwe ukuze likholwe ukuthi uJesu unguKhristu, iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, njalo ukuze kuthi ngokukholwa libe lokuphila ngebizo lakhe.

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UJesu Lomangaliso Wokubamba Inhlanzi

¹ Ngemva kwesikhathi uJesu waphinda waziveza kuba-fundi bakhe oLwandle lwaseThibheriyasi. Kwenzakala kanje: ² USimoni Phethro, loThomasi (othiwa nguDidimasi) loNathaneli waseKhana eseGalile, lamadodana kaZeb-hediya labanye abafundi ababili babendawonye. ³ USimoni Phethro wabatshela wathi, “Ngisayagola inhlanzi” bona bathi, “Sizahamba lawe.” Ngakho baphuma bayangena esikepeni kodwa kababambanga lutho ngalobobusuku.

⁴ Ekuseni kakhulu uJesu wema ekhunjini kodwa abafundi kabananzelelanga ukuthi kwakunguJesu.

⁵ Wabamemeza wathi, **“Bangane, lilokhu lingabam-banga nhlanzi yini?”**

Baphendula bathi, “Hatshi.”

⁶ Wathi, **“Phoselani umambule wenu ngakwe-sokunene kwesikepe lizagola khona.”** Bathe sebenze njalo behluleka ukudonsa umambule ngenxa yobunengi benhlanzi.

⁷ Lowomfundi owayethandwa nguJesu wathi kuPhethro, “YiNkosi!” USimoni Phethro wonela ukuzwa esithi, “YiNkosi,” wazembathisa ngesigqoko sakhe sejazi (ngoba wayesikhulule) weqela emanzini. ⁸ Abanye abafundi balan-dela ngesikepe bedonsa umambule ugcwele inhlanzi ngoba babengakhatshana lasokhunjini, kwakungaba yizinyathelo ezilikhulu. ⁹ Ekufikeni kwabo okhunjini babona umlilo wamalahle uvutha kulenhlanzi phezulu kanye lesinkwa.

¹⁰ UJesu wathi kubo, **“Lethani ezinye inhlanzi elizibam-bileyo.”** ¹¹ USimoni Phethro wagada esikepeni, wadonsela umambule okhunjini. Wawugcwele inhlanzi ezinkulu, zilikhulu lamatshumi amahlanu lantathu (153), kodwa loba zinengi kangaka umambule kawudabukanga. ¹² UJesu wathi kubo, **“Wozani lizokudla.”** Kakho kubafundi owaqunga isibindi sokumbuza ukuthi, “Ungubani wena?” Bakwazi ukuthi yiNkosi. ¹³ UJesu weza, wathatha isinkwa wabanika, wenza njalo langenhlanzi. ¹⁴ Lesi kwasekuy-isikhathi sesithathu uJesu ezibonakalisa kubafundi bakhe ngemva kokuvuswa kwabafuleyo.

UJesu Ukhuthaza UPhethro

¹⁵ Sebeqedile ukudla, uJesu wathi kuSimoni Phethro, **“Simoni, ndodana kaJohane, ungithanda ngeqiniso na okudlula laba abanye?”**

Wathi, “Yebo, Nkosi, uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyakuthanda.”

UJesu wathi, **“Phana amawundlu ami ukudla.”**

¹⁶ UJesu waphinda wathi, **“Simoni, ndodana kaJohane, uyangithanda ngeqiniso na?”**

Waphendula wathi, “Yebo, Nkosi, uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyakuthanda.”

UJesu wathi, **“Gcina izimvu zami.”**

¹⁷ Wasesithi kuye okwesithathu, “Simoni, ndodana kaJohane, uyangithanda na?”

UPhethro wadabuka ngoba uJesu wambuza okwesithathu wathi, **“Uyangithanda na?”** Wathi, “Nkosi, uyazazi izinto zonke; uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyakuthanda.”

UJesu wathi, **“Phana izimvu zami ukudla. Ngikutshela iqiniso ngithi, usesemutsha wawuzigqokisa, uziyele lapho othanda khona; kodwa nxa usuluphele, uzakwelula izandla zakho, ugqokiswe ngomunye, akuhole akuse lapho ongafuni ukuya khona.”** ¹⁹ UJesu wakatsho lokhu ebonisa indlela yokufa uPhethro ayezadumisa uNkulunkulu ngayo. Wasesithi kuye, **“Ngilandela!”**

²⁰ UPhethro wanyemukula wabona umfundi uJesu ayemthanda ebalandela. (Nguye lowo oweyama ku-Jesu esidlweni, owabuzayo wathi, “Nkosi, ngubani ozakuthengisa?”) ²¹ UPhethro wathi embona wathi, “Nkosi, kanti lo-ke?”

²² UJesu waphendula wathi, “Nxa ngifuna ukuthi asale ephila ngize ngibuye kulani lawe lokho? Wena kumele ungilandele.” ²³ Ngenxa yalokhu, kwaba lehungahunga phakathi kwabazalwane lokuthi umfundi lo wayengezukupha. Kodwa uJesu katshongo ukuthi wayengezukupha; wathi nje kuphela, **“Nxa ngifuna ukuthi asale ephila ngize ngibuye, kulani lawe lokho?”**

²⁴ Lo nguye umfundi ozifakazayo lezizinto, onguye owazibhala phansi. Siyazi ukuthi ubufakazi bakhe buqotho.

²⁵ UJesu wenza ezinye izinto ezinengi njalo. Aluba zonke zazingabhalwa phansi, ngibona ingathi lomhlaba wonke wawuzaswela indawo yezincwadi ezazingabhalwa.

Imisebenzi YabaPostoli

UJesu Wenyukiselwa Ezulwini

¹ Encwadini yami yakuqala, Theyofelasi, ngalandisa ngakho konke uJesu akwenzayo lakufundisayo ² kwaze kwafika usuku enyukiswa ngalo esiya ezulwini, esenike izeluleko ngoMoya oNgcwele kubapostoli ayebakhethile. ³ Ngemva kokuhlupheka kwakhe, waziveza kubo, wabapha iziqiniseko ezinengi njengobufakazi bokuthi wayephila. Wabonakala kubo okwensuku ezingamatshumi amane, ekhuluma ngombuso kaNkulunkulu. ⁴ Wathi esidla labo ngelinye ilanga wabalaya wathi, **“Lingasuki eJerusalema, lilindele isipho esathenjiswa nguBaba, elangizwa ngikhuluma ngaso. ⁵ Ngoba uJohane wabhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa ngemva kwensuku ezimbalwa lizabhaphathizwa ngoMoya oNgcwele.”**

⁶ Basebesithi gwaqa ndawonye bambuza bathi, “Nkosi, khathesi usuzabuyisela umbuso ko-Israyeli na?”

⁷ Wathi kubo: **“Kakusikho kwenu ukwazi izikhathi loba insuku uBaba azimisileyo ngamandla akhe. ⁸ Kodwa lina lizakwamukela amandla nxa uMoya oNgcwele esefikile kini, njalo lizakuba ngofakazi bami eJerusalema lakulo lonke eleJudiya laseSamariya kanye lasemikhawulweni yomhlaba.”**

⁹ Esekutshilo lokhu, wenyukiswa phambi kwamehlo abo, iyezi lamfihla, abazabe besambona.

¹⁰ Babejolozele esibhakabhakeni ngesikhathi esenyuka, masinyazana nje kwema amadoda amabili eduze kwabo egqoke okumhlophe. ¹¹ Athi kubo, “Madoda aseGalile, limeleni lapha lijolozele esibhakabhakeni na? UJesu lo osethethwe kini wasiwa ezulwini uzabuya ngayonale indlela elimbone esenyuka ngayo esiya ezulwini.”

UMathiyasi Ukhethelwa Ukuba Sesikhundleni SikaJudasi

¹² Basebebuyela eJerusalema besuka eNtabeni yama-Oliva, okungumango ongaba likhilomitha kusuka edolobheni. ¹³ Ekufikeni kwabo bakhuphukela endlini ephezulu lapho ababehlala khona. Ababelapho babebalisa:

uPhethro, uJohane, uJakhobe lo-Andreya;
 uFiliphu loThomasi;
 uBhatholomewu loMatewu;
 uJakhobe indodana ka-Alifewu, uSimoni umZilothi, loJudasi indodana kaJakhobe.

¹⁴ Bonke laba bahlangana kokuphela bekhuleka, bendawonye labesifazane loMariya unina kaJesu kanye labafowabo baJesu.

¹⁵ Ngalezonsuku uPhethro wasukuma phakathi kwamakholwa (ixuku elalingafika ikhulu elilamatshumi amabili) ¹⁶ wathi, “Bazalwane, uMbhalo kwakumele ugcwaliseke, lokho okwakhulunywa nguMoya oNgcwele endulo ngomlomo kaDavida mayelana loJudasi owaba ngumkhokheli walabo ababopha uJesu. ¹⁷ Wayengomunye wenani lethu njalo waba lengxenye emsebenzini wethu wobuvangeli.”

¹⁸ (Ngomvuzo awuzuzayo ngenxa yobubi bakhe, uJudasi wathenga isiqinti; khonapho wawa ngekhandu, isidumbu sakhe sadubuka, amathumbu akhe wonke agcwala phansi. ¹⁹ Bonke eJerusalema bezwa ngalokho, yikho babiza isiqinti leso ngolimi lwabo bathi yi-Akhelidama, okutsho isiqinti seGazi.)

²⁰ UPhethro wathi, “Ngoba kulotshiwe encwadini yamaHubo ukuthi:

‘Sengathi indawo yakhe ingaba ngamanxiwa;

kungabi lamuntu ozahlala kuyo,’*

njalo,

‘Kakube lomunye ozathatha isikhundla sakhe sobukhokheli.’†

²¹ Ngakho kufanele ukuba sikhethe omunye wamadoda abekade elathi isikhathi sonke iNkosi uJesu isesephakathi kwethu, ²² kusukela ekubhaphathizweni kwakhe nguJohane kuze kufike esikhathini lapho uJesu athathwa khona kithi. Ukuze omunye wabo laba abe ngufakazi kanye lathi ngokuvuka kwakhe kwabafuleyo.”

²³ Ngakho basebemisa amadoda amabili, uJosefa owayethiwa nguBhasabhasi (esaziwa njalo ngokuthi nguJustusi) loMathiyasi. ²⁴ Basebekhuleka bathi, “Nkosi, uyayazi inhliziyi yomuntu munye ngamunye. Sitshengise ukuthi nguphi phakathi kwalaba ababili omkhethileyo ²⁵ ukuba athathe lesisikhundla sobupostoli, uJudasi asitshiyayo esiya lapho ayefanele khona.” ²⁶ Basebesenza inkatho, yadla uMathiyasi, wasesengezwa kubapostoli abalitshumi lanye.

2

UMoya ONgcwele Uyehla NgePhentekhosti

* **1:20** 1.20 AmaHubo 69.25 † **1:20** 1.20 AmaHubo 109.8

¹ Kwathi kufika usuku lwePhentekhosti, bonke babendawonye. ² Masinyane nje kwabakhona umsindo onjengokuvunguza komoya wesiphapho wehla uvela ezulwini, wagcwala indlu yonke ababehlezi kuyo. ³ Babona okwakungathi zinlimi ezingamalangabi omlilo ezehlukana zahlala komunye lomunye wabo. ⁴ Bonke bagcwaliswa ngoMoya oNgcwele, basebeqalisa ukukhuluma ezinye izindimi njen-gokwaneliswa kwabo nguMoya.

⁵ Ngalesosikhathi kwakuhlala amaJuda ayemesaba uNkulunkulu eJerusalema, evela kuyo yonke imibuso yomhlaba. ⁶ Athi ngokuzwa umsindo lo, kwabuthana ixuku labantu bemangele ngoba omunye lomunye wabezwa bekhuluma ngolimi lwakhe. ⁷ Ngokumangala okukhulu babuza bathi, “Kanti bonke laba abakhulumayo kabasimaGalile na? ⁸ Pho kungani omunye lomunye wethu ebezwa bekhuluma ngolimi lwethu na? ⁹ AmaPhathiya, amaMede, ama-Elamu; izakhamizi zaseMesophothamiya, lezeJudiya leKhaphadokhiya, lePhontusi le-Ezhiya, ¹⁰ leFirigiya lePhamfiliya, leGibhithe lezingxenye zeLibhiya eduze leKhureni; izethekeli ezivela eRoma ¹¹ (amaJuda lamakholwa aphendukele enkolweni yesiJuda); amaKhrethe lama-Arabhu, sibezwa befakaza izimangaliso zikaNkulunkulu ngendimi zethu!” ¹² Babedidekile bengelankani, babuzana bathi, “Kutshoni lokhu?”

¹³ Kodwa abanye benza inhlekisa ngabo bathi, “Banathe iwayini enengi bedlulisa.”

UPhethro Ukhuluma Phakathi Kwexuku Labantu

¹⁴ UPhethro wasesukuma labalitshumi lanye, waphakamisa ilizwi lakhe wakhuluma emphakathini wathi, “Bantu bakithi elingamaJuda, lani lonke eliseJerusalema, kahleni ngilichasisele lokhu; lalelisisani lokhu engikutshoyo. ¹⁵ Amadoda la kawadakhwanga njengokucabanga kwenu. Kuseselihola lesificamunwemunye nje ekuseni! ¹⁶ Hatshi, lokhu yikho okwakhulunywa ngumphrofethi uJoweli ukuthi:

¹⁷ ‘Ngezinsuku zokucina, uNkulunkulu uthi,
Ngizathululela uMoya wami kubo bonke abantu.

Amadodana lamadodakazi enu azaphrofitha,
izinsizwa zenu zizabona imibono,
lamaxhegu enu azaphupha amaphupho.

¹⁸ Lasezincekwini zami, ezesilisa lezesifazane,
ngizawuthulula uMoya wami ngalezonsuku,
njalo bazaphrofitha.

¹⁹ Ngizatshengisa izimanga ezulwini phezulu,
lezibonakaliso emhlabeni phansi,

igazi lomlilo lezikhatha zentuthu.

²⁰ Ilanga lizaphendulwa libe yibumnyama,
lenyanga ibeligazi
phambi kokuba kufike usuku olukhulu lukaThixo, oluk-
hazimulayo.

²¹ Njalo wonke obiza

ibizo likaThixo uzasindiswa.*

²² Bantu bako-Israyeli, lalelani lokhu: UJesu waseNazaretha wayeyindoda eyamiswa nguNkulunkulu kini, ngezimangaliso lezibonakaliso uNkulunkulu azenzayo phakathi kwenu ngaye, njengoba lina ngokwenu lisazi. ²³ Umuntu lo wanikelwa kini ngecebo likaNkulunkulu ayelimisile langolwazi lokuzayo; njalo lina lincediswa ngabantu ababi,† lambulala ngokumbethela esiphambanweni. ²⁴ Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, wamkhulula ebuhlungwini bokufa ngoba ukufa kwakungelamandla okumncindezela. ²⁵ UDavida wathi ngaye:

'Ngayibona iNkosi iphambi kwami kokuphela.

Njengoba isesandleni sami sokunene,
angiyi kunyikinywa.

²⁶ Ngakho inhliziyo yami iyathaba

lolimi lwami luyathokoza;
umzimba wami lawo uzahlala ulethemba,

²⁷ ngoba kawuzukungidela ukuba ngiye endaweni yabaf-
leyo,

njalo kawusoze wekele ongcwele wakho
ukuthi abone ukubola.

²⁸ Ungazisile izindlela zempilo;

uzangigcwalisa ngentokozo phambi kwakho.‡

²⁹ Bazalwane, ngilitshela ngilesibindi ukuthi ukhokho uDavida wafa wangcwatshwa, njalo ithuna lakhe likhona khonapha kuze kube lamuhla. ³⁰ Kodwa wayengumphro-fethi, ekwazi ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayemthembisile nge-sifungo ukuthi wayezabeka omunye wesizukulwane sakhe esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. ³¹ Ngoba ebona okwakupham-bili, wakhuluma ngokuvuka kukaKhristu kwabafileyo, ukuthi kazange atshiywe endaweni yabafileyo njalo umz-imba wakhe kawukubonanga ukubola. ³² UNkulunkulu usemvusile uJesu lo waphila, thina sonke singofakazi balokho. ³³ Njengoba esekhutshulelwe ngakwesokunene

* **2:21** 2.21 UJoweli 2.28-32 † **2:23** 2.23 kumbe ngabantu abangelamthetho (okutsho abaZizwe) ‡ **2:28** 2.28 AmaHubo 16.8-11

sikaNkulunkulu, usamukele kuYise uMoya oNgcwele owa-thenjiswayo njalo usekuthulule lokho elikubonayo lelikuzwayo khathesi. ³⁴ Ngoba uDavida kenyukanga ukuya ezulwini, kodwa wathi,

'INkosi yathi eNkosini yami:

"Hlala ngakwesokunene sami

³⁵ ngize ngenze izitha zakho

zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho."§'

³⁶ Ngakho-ke, u-Israyeli wonke kaqiniseke ngalokhu: uNkulunkulu usenze uJesu lo elambethelayo waba yiNkosi loKhristu."

³⁷ Abantu bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathinteka kakhulu ezinhliziyweni, bathi kuPhethro labanye abapostoli, "Bazalwane, senze njani na?"

³⁸ Uphethro waphendula wathi, "Phendukani libhaphathizwe lonke, ebizweni likaJesu Khristu ukuze lithethelelwe izono zenu. Njalo lizakwamukela isipho soMoya oNgcwele. ³⁹ Isithembiso ngesenu labantwabenu labo bonke abakude, lesabo bonke iNkosi uNkulunkulu wethu ezababiza."

⁴⁰ Wabaxwayisa langamanye amazwi amanengi; njalo wabancenga wathi, "Zisindiseni kulesisizukulwane esonakeleyo." ⁴¹ Labo abalemukelayo ilizwi lakhe babhaphathizwa, kwengezwa enanini labo mhlalokho abangaba zinkulungwane ezintathu.

Ubudlelwano Bamakholwa

⁴² Bayikhuthalela imfundiso yabapostoli kanye lokudlelana, lokuhlephuna isinkwa lokukhuleka. ⁴³ Wonke umuntu wagcwala ukwesaba ngezimanga lezibonakaliso ezenziwa ngabapostoli. ⁴⁴ Wonke amakholwa ayendawonye, ehlanganyela kukho konke. ⁴⁵ Athengisa izinto zawo lempahla zawo anika loba ngubani oswelayo. ⁴⁶ Insuku zonke aqhubeka ehlangana emagumeni ethempeli njalo ehlephuna isinkwa emakhaya awo esidla ndawonye ngezinhliziyo ezimhlophe lezithobekileyo, ⁴⁷ edumisa uNkulunkulu njalo ethakazelelwa ngabantu bonke. Njalo iNkosi yengeza inani lawo insuku zonke ngalabo abasebesindisiwe.

3

UPhethro Usilisa Isiceli Esigogekileyo

¹ Ngelinye ilanga uPhethro loJohane babesiya ethempelini ngesikhathi sokukhuleka, ngehola lesithathu emini.

² Indoda eyayigogekile kusukele ekuzalweni kwayo,

yayithwalwa isiwe esangweni lethempeli elalibizwa ngokuthi liSango Elihle, lapho eyayibekwa khona nsuku zonke ukuthi icele kulabo ababengena emagumeni ethempeli. ³ Yathi ibona uPhethro loJohane bengena yabacela imali. ⁴ UPhethro loJohane bayijolozela. UPhethro wasesithi, "Sikhangelala!" ⁵ Ngakho indoda yabakhangelala, ithembe ukuthi izazuza ulutho kubo.

⁶ UPhethro wasesithi, "Isiliva kumbe igolide kangilakho, kodwa engilakho ngiyakunika. Ebizweni likaJesu Khristu waseNazaretha, sukuma uhambe." ⁷ Wambamba ngesandla sokudla wamsukumisa, masinyane nje inyawo lenqagala zakhe kwaqina. ⁸ Wathi lothu ngezinyawo zakhe wahle wahamba. Wasehamba labo ethempelini, ezihambela, eseqa njalo edumisa uNkulunkulu. ⁹ Kwathi abantu bonke bembona ehamba edumisa uNkulunkulu, ¹⁰ bamnanzelela ukuthi nguye owayehlala ecela esangweni lethempeli lelo, bamangala baphela amandla ngalokho okwakwenzakele kuye.

UPhethro Ukhuluma Lababukeleyo

¹¹ Isiceli sisathe sece kuPhethro loJohane, bonke abantu bamangala beza kubo begijima endaweni eyayithiwa liKhusi likaSolomoni. ¹² UPhethro wathi ekubona lokhu wathi kubo, "Bantu bako-Israyeli, kungani kulimangalisa lokhu na? Kungani lisijolozela sengathi ngamandla ethu loba ukholo lwethu okwenze umuntu lo wahamba na?" ¹³ UNkulunkulu ka-Abrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe, uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu useyikhazimulisile inceku yakhe uJesu. Lamnikela ukuba abulawe, lamphika phambi kukaPhilathu, loba yena wayesemise ukuthi amyekele ahambe. ¹⁴ Lamphika oNgcwele njalo oLungileyo, lacela ukuthi likhululelwe umbulali. ¹⁵ Lambulala umsunguli wokuphila, kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafuleyo. Singofakazi bakho lokhu. ¹⁶ Ngokukholwa ebizweni likaJesu, indoda le eliyibonayo, eliyaziyo, yenziwe yaqina. Kungenxa yebizo likaJesu lokukholwa okuza ngaye okulethe ukusila okupheleleyo kuyo njengoba lonke libona.

¹⁷ Manje-ke bazalwane, ngiyazi ukuthi lakwenza ngokungazi, njengoba labakhokheli benu labo babengazi. ¹⁸ Kodwa yiyo indlela uNkulunkulu agcwalisa ngayo lokho ayekutshilo ngaphambilini ngabo bonke abaphrofethi, esithi uKhristu wakhe wayezahlupheka. ¹⁹ Ngakho phendukani, libuyele kuNkulunkulu ukuze izono zenu zesulwe, ukuze kufike izikhathi zokuhlambulula okuvela eNkosini, ²⁰ lokuthi ithumele uKhristu omiselwe lina, yena uJesu. ²¹ Kumele ahlale ezulwini kuze kufike

isikhathi lapho uNkulunkulu azaqondisa konke ngaso, njengokuthembisa kwakhe endulo ngabaphrofethi bakhe abangcwele. ²² Ngoba uMosi wathi, 'INKosi uNkulunkulu wenu uzalivusela umphrofethi phakathi kwabafowenu njengami; libokulalela konke alitshela khona. ²³ Loba ngubani ongayikumlalela uzakususwa ngokupheleleyo ebantwini bakibo.'*

²⁴ Ngempela, bonke abaphrofethi kusukela kuSamuyeli, bonke abaphrofethi baphrofitha ngazo insuku lezi. ²⁵ Lina lizindlalifa zabo abaphrofethi kanye lesivumelwano uNkulunkulu asenza labokhokho benu. Wathi ku-Abhrahama, 'Bonke abantu bomhlaba bazabusiwa ngesizukulwane sakho.'† ²⁶ Kuthe uNkulunkulu eseyimisile inceku yakhe, wayithumela kuqala kini ukuba ilibusise ngokuphendula omunye lomunye wenu ezindleleni zenu zobubi."

4

UPhethro LoJohane Phambi KweSanihedrini

¹ Abaphristi lomlawuli wabalindi bethempeli kanye lamaSadusi beza kuPhethro loJohane belokhu besakhuluma labantu. ² Bakhathazeka kakhulu ngoba abapostoli babe-fundisa abantu betshumayela ukuthi kuJesu kulokuvuka kwabafileyo. ³ Babamba uPhethro loJohane, kwathi ngenxa yokuthi kwasekuntambama, babafaka entolongweni kwaze kwaba kusasa. ⁴ Kodwa abanengi abalizwayo ilizwi bakholwa, inani lamadoda lakhula okungaba zinkulungwane ezinhlanu.

⁵ Ngosuku olulandelayo ababusi, abadala, labafundisi bomthetho babuthana eJerusalema. ⁶ U-Anasi umphristi omkhulu, uKhayifasi, uJohane, u-Alekizanda labanye abendlu yomphristi omkhulu. ⁷ Bathi uPhethro loJohane balethwe, baqala ukubathonisa besithi, "Lokhu likwenze ngamandla bani kumbe ngaliphi ibizo na?"

⁸ UPhethro egcwele uMoya oNgcwele wathi kubo, "Babusi labadala babantu! ⁹ Nxa sibekwa umlandu lamuhla ngesenzo somusa owenzelwe indoda ebiyisigoga, besesibuzwa ukuthi isiliswe njani, ¹⁰ yazini lokhu, lina kanye labo bonke abantu bako-Israyeli; kungenxa yamandla kaJesu Khristu waseNazaretha elambethelayo kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, yiwo enza indoda le ime phambi kwenu isilile ngokupheleleyo. ¹¹ Yena uyilo 'ilitshe lina abakhi elalilahlayo,

khatesi seliyilona ilitshe lekhoneni.'*

* **3:23** 3.23 UDutheronomi 18.15, 18, 19 † **3:25** 3.25 UGenesisi 22.18; 26.4

* **4:11** 4.11 AmaHubo 118.22

12 Kakho omunye okulensindiso kuye; phela kalikho elinye ibizo ngaphansi kwezulu elaphiwa abantu ukuthi sisindiswe ngalo.”

13 Bathi ngokubona isibindi sikaPhethro loJohane njalo benanzelela ukuthi ngabantu makhaza, ababengafundanga, batsha amathe, bakunanzelela ukuthi amadoda la ake aphila loJesu. 14 Kodwa njengoba babeyibona indoda eyayisilisiwe imi khonapho labo, baswela ukuthi bangathini. 15 Ngakho kwathiwa kabasuke emphakathini we-Sanihedrini, umphakathi wasala uhlanganisa amakhanda. 16 Babuzana bathi, “Kambe senzeni ngamadoda la? Bonke abahlala eJerusalema bayakwazi ukuthi benze umangaliso obabazekayo, lathi asingeke sikulandule lokho. 17 Kodwa ukuze into le siyimise ukuthi ingasabalali phakathi kwabantu, kasibaqonqoseleni ukuthi bangaphindi bakhulume lakubani ngebizo leli.”

18 Basebebabiza njalo, babalaya ukuthi bangaqali ukukhuluma loba ukufundisa ngebizo likaJesu. 19 Kodwa uPhethro loJohane baphendula bathi, “Yikuphi okuqondileyo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu ukulalela lina kumbe ukulalela uNkulunkulu? Kwahluleleni lokho. 20 Thina ngokwethu asingeke siyekele ukukhuluma ngalokho esikubonileyo lesikuzwileyo.”

21 Sebebaqonqosele njalo babakhulula. Baswela ukuthi babengabajezisa njani, ngoba abantu bonke babemdumisa uNkulunkulu ngalokho okwakwenzakele. 22 Ngoba leyondoda eyasiliswa ngesimanga yayileminyaka engamatshumi amane ubudala.

Umkhuleko Wamakholwa

23 Ekukhululweni kwabo uPhethro loJohane babuyela ebantwini bakibo, bababikela konke okwakukhulunywe kibo ngabaphristi abakhulu labadala. 24 Sebekuzwile lokhu, baphakamisa amazwi abo bonke bakhuleka kuNkulunkulu. Bathi, “Thixo Nkosi, wena wenza amazulu lomhlaba, lolwandle lakho konke okukuwo. 25 Wena wakhuluma ngoMoya oNgcwele ngomlomo wenceku yakho, ubaba wethu uDavida wathi:

‘Kungani izizwe zixokozela,
labantu besakha amacebo ngeze?

26 Amakhosi omhlaba ayahloma ajame
lababusi bahlangana ndawonye

bemelana loThixo
lalowo Ogcotshiweyo wakhe.’†

27 Ngempela uHerodi loPhontiyasi Philathu bahlangana labeZizwe kanye labantu bako-Israyeli baceba ngenceku

yakho engcwele, uJesu owamgcobayo. ²⁸ Benza lokho okwakumiswe ngaphambilini ngamandla akho layintando yakho ukuthi kwakuzakwenzakala. ²⁹ Ngakho, Nkosi, zwana ukusonga kwabo, uphe izinceku zakho amandla ukuthi zilikhulume ilizwi lakho ngesibindi esikhulu. ³⁰ Yelula isandla sakho ukusilisa lokwenza imimangaliso lezimanga ngebizo lenceku yakho engcwele uJesu.”

³¹ Sebekhulekile, indawo ababekuyo yazamazama. Bonke bagcwaliswa ngoMoya oNgcwele, balikhuluma ngesibindi ilizwi likaNkulunkulu.

Amakholwa Ayahlanganyela Kuyo Yonke Impahla Yawo

³² Wonke amakholwa ayehliziyo nye njalo engqondo nye. Kakho owathi okwakhe ngokwakhe yedwa kodwa babelana konke ababelakho. ³³ Abapostoli baqhubeka ukufakaza ngamandla amakhulu ngokuvuka kweNkosi uJesu kwabafileyo, bonke babusiseka kakhulu. ³⁴ Kakho owayeswela phakathi kwabo. Kwakusithi izikhathi ngezikhathi labo ababe leziqinti loba izindlu bazithengise balethe imali abathengise ngayo ³⁵ bayethule ebapostolini, yabelwe loba ngubani ngokuswela kwakhe.

³⁶ UJosefa, umLevi waseSiphrazi, abapostoli ababem-biza ngokuthi nguBhanabhasi (okutsho ukuthi, iNdodana yeNkuthazo), ³⁷ wathengisa isivande sakhe waletha imali wayethula phambi kwabapostoli.

5

U-Ananiya LoSafira

¹ Indoda eyayithiwa ngu-Ananiya ilomkayo uSafira labo bathengisa isiqinti sabo. ² Wavumelana lomkakhe ukuthi afihle enye imali ibe ngeyabo, kwathi enye wayethula kubapostoli.

³ UPhethro wasesithi, “Ananiya, kungani uSathane esegabhele inhliziyi yakho usuze uqamba amanga kuMoya oNgcwele, wazigcinela ingxenye yemali eliyizuzileyo ngesiqinti senu na? ⁴ Kanti besingesisenu yini singakathengiswa? Njalo lapho sesithengisiwe, imali ibingaqondananga lani na? Kuyini okubangele ukuthi ucabange ukwenza into enje na? Kawuqambelanga muntu lawo manga, kodwa uwaqambebe uNkulunkulu.”

⁵ U-Ananiya wonela ukukuzwa lokhu, wawela phansi wafa. Bonke abezwa ngalesisehlakalo bangenwa yikwesaba okukhulu. ⁶ Kwasekungena amajaha agoqela isidumbu sakhe amthwalela phandle, ayamngcwaba.

⁷ Ngemva kwamahola amathathu umkakhe laye wangena engazi okwasekwenzakele. ⁸ UPhethro wambuza wathi, “Ake ungitshele, yiyo yini le intengo eliyizuzileyo wena lo-Ananiya esiqintini senu?”

Wathi, “Yebo, yiyo intengo yaso.”

⁹ UPhethro wathi kuye, “Kungani livumelane ukulinga uMoya weNkosi na? Lalela! Yizisinde zamadoda asengcwabe umkakho esezisemnyango, bazakuthwala lawe futhi.”

¹⁰ Khonokho wasakazeka phansi eduze kukaPhethro, wafa. Asengena amajaha yena esefile, amthwala aphuma laye ayamngcwaba malungana lomkakhe. ¹¹ Ibandla lonke lafikelwa yikwesaba okukhulu kanye labo bonke abazizwayo lezizehlakalo.

AbaPostoli Basilisa Abanengi

¹² Abapostoli benza imimangaliso lezimanga ezinengi ebantwini. Amakholwa wonke ayevame ukuhlangana ndawonye eKhulusini likaSolomoni. ¹³ Kakho omunye owaqunga isibindi wahlangana labo, lanxa kunjalo babalodumo ebantwini. ¹⁴ Lanxa kunjalo, amadoda labafazi abanengi bakholwa eNkosini, bengezelela ubunengi babo. ¹⁵ Kwathi ngenxa yalokho, abantu baletha abagulayo ezitaladini, babalalisa emibhedeni lemacansini ukuze isithunzi sikaPhethro sisithe abanye babo lapho esedlula kuphela nje. ¹⁶ Amaxuku abantu abuthana eqhamuka emizini eyayise-duze kweJerusalema, eletha abagulayo lalabo ababehlukuluzwa yimimoya emibi, bonke basiliswa.

Ukuhlukuluzwa Kwabapostoli

¹⁷ Kwasekusithi umphristi omkhulu kanye leqembu lakhe elalingelexuku labaSadusi bangenwa ngumhawu. ¹⁸ Bababopha abapostoli babaphosela entolongweni yomuntu wonke. ¹⁹ Kodwa ebusuku ingilosi yeNkosi yavula iminyango yentolongo yabakhupha. ²⁰ Yathi, “Hambani liyekuma emagumeni ethempeli, litshele abantu lonke ilizwi lempilo entsha.”

²¹ Kwathi emadabukakusa bahle bangena emagumeni ethempeli, bafundisa abantu njengokutshelwa kwabo.

Ekufikeni komphristi omkhulu leqembu lakhe bahle babiza iSanihedrini; inkundla yonke yabadala bako-Israyeli bathumela ilizwi entolongweni lokuthi kulethwe abapostoli, ²² kodwa izithunywa zathi zifika entolongweni zafumana bengasekho. Ngakho zasezibuyela zayabika zathi, ²³ “Sifumane intolongo ivalwe kuhle labalindi bemi eminyango; kodwa sithe siyivula kasibonanga

muntu phakathi.” ²⁴ Induna yabalindi bethempeli kanye labaphristi abakhulu bathi bekuzwa lokhu batsha amathe, bamangala ukuthi into le yayikhombani.

²⁵ Kwasekufika omunye umuntu wathi, “Zwanini! Amadoda eliwaphosele entolongweni emi emagumeni ethempeli afundisa abantu.” ²⁶ Besizwa lokho, induna yahle yasuka lamanxusa ayo bayabuya labapostoli. Kabasebenzisanga udlakela ngoba besesaba ukuthi abantu babengabakhanda ngamatshe.

²⁷ Sebeba lethile abapostoli, babamisa phambi kwe-Sanihedrini ukuthi bathonisiswe ngumphristi omkhulu. ²⁸ Wathi, “Saliqonqosela ukuthi lingafundisi ngebizo leli. Kodwa seligcwalise iJerusalema ngemfundiso yenu njalo lizimisele ukuthesha umlandu ngegazi lomuntu lo.”

²⁹ UPhethro labanye abapostoli baphendula bathi, “Kumele silalele uNkulunkulu kulokulalela abantu! ³⁰ UNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu wamvusa uJesu kwabafileyo, yena elalimbulele ngokumlengisa esiphambanweni. ³¹ UNkulunkulu wamphakamisela kwesokunene sakhe waba yiNkosana loMsindisi ukuze anike ukuphenduka lokuthethelelwa kwezono ku-Israyeli. ³² Thina singofakazi balezizinto, njengaye uMoya oNgcwele, uNkulunkulu amnike kulabo abamlalelayo.”

³³ Bathi bekuzwa lokhu bathukuthela kakhulu, ba-funa ukuthi babulawe. ³⁴ Kodwa umFarisi owayethiwa nguGamaliyeli, engumfundisi womthetho, ehlonitshwa ngabantu bonke, wasukuma wema phambi kweSanihedrini wathi amadoda lawo ake amiswe phandle kancane. ³⁵ Wasesithi emphakathini weSanihedrini, “Madoda ako-Israyeli, cabangani kuhle ngalokhu elifuna ukukwenza emadodeni la. ³⁶ Ngesikhathi esadlulayo kwafika uThewuda ezitshaya umuntu oqakathekileyo, wahuga amadoda angaba ngamakhulu amane. Wabulawa, bonke abalandeli bakhe bahlakazeka, konke kwaphelela emoyeni. ³⁷ Ngemva kwakhe, uJudasi umGalile laye wavela ngezinsuku zokubalwa kwabantu, wakhokhela ixuku labantu ukuba lihlamuke. Laye wabulawa, labalandeli bakhe bonke bahlakazeka. ³⁸ Ngakho, mayelana lalindaba yamanje ngixwayisa lokhu: Bayekeleni abantu laba! Kabahambe! Ngoba nxa inhloso yabo kumbe umkhankaso wabo uvela ebantwini, uzakuba yize. ³⁹ Kodwa nxa uvela kuNkulunkulu, kalisoze libe lamandla okubamisa lababantu; lizazifumana seliphikisana loNkulunkulu.”

⁴⁰ Inkulumo yakhe bayamukela. Bababiza abapostoli bangeniswa kwathiwa kabatshaywe. Basebeqonqoselwa

ukuthi bangaqali ukukhuluma ngebizo likaJesu, basebekhululwa.

⁴¹ Abapostoli basuka eSanihedrini bethokoza ngoba basebebonakalisile ukuthi bangalimela ihlazo lokulihluphekela iBizo. ⁴² Insuku ngensuku, emagumeni ethempeli, njalo behamba bengena indlu ngendlu, kabazange bame ukufundisa lokutshumayela izindaba ezinhle ukuthi uJesu unguKhristu.

6

Ukukhethwa Kwabayisikhombisa

¹ Ngalezonsuku inani labafundi lisanda, amaJuda esiGrikhi ayephakathi kwabo akhonona kulabo ababengamaHebheru ngoba abafelokazi babo babengananzwa nxa kusabiwa ukudla ngezinsuku zonke. ² Ngakho abalithshumi lamibili bahlanganisa bonke abafundi ndawonye bathi, “Kuyabe kungalunganga kithi ukuthi siyekethise ukutshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu silibale ngokulungiselana ukudla. ³ Bazalwane, khethani amadoda ayisikhombisa phakathi kwenu aziwayo ukuthi agcwele uMoya lokuhlakanipha. Umlandu lo sizawubekela wona ⁴ thina siqinise ukukhuleka lokutshumayela ilizwi.”

⁵ Umbono lo walithokozisa ixuku lonke. Bakhetha uStefane, indoda eyayigcwele ukukholwa loMoya oNgcwele; uFiliphu, uPhrokhorusi, uNikhanori, uThimoni, uPhamenasi loNikholasi wase-Antiyokhi, ikholwa elaphendukela enkolweni yesiJuda. ⁶ Amadoda la ethulwa kubapostoli, abakhuleka bawabeka izandla.

⁷ Ngakho ilizwi likaNkulunkulu lamemetheka. Inani labafundi eJerusalema landa ngokuphangisa, kwathi lenani elikhulu labaphristi layilandela inkolo.

UStefane Uyabotshwa

⁸ Kwathi uStefane, indoda eyayigcwele umusa kaNkulunkulu, lamandla, yenza izimanga lemimangaliso phakathi kwabantu. ⁹ Kwasekuvela umona usuka emalungeni eSinagogu yabaKhululekileyo (njengokubizwa kwakhona) bengamaJuda aseKhureni le-Alekizandriya kanye lasemikhonweni yaseSilisiya le-Ezhiya. Abantu laba basuka basebephikisana loStefane, ¹⁰ kodwa behluleka ukumelana lenhlakanipho yakhe kumbe uMoya ayekhuluma ngawo.

¹¹ Basebefunza abanye abantu amazwi ngasese ukuthi bathi, “Simzwile uStefane ekhuluma amazwi ahlambaza uMosi kanye loNkulunkulu.”

¹² Ngaleyondlela badungulula abantu labadala kanye labafundisi bomthetho. Bambopha uStefane bamletha

phambi kweSanihedrini. ¹³ Baveza ofakazi bamanga abafakaza bathi, “Indoda le kayikhawuli ukukhuluma kubi ngendawo engcwele langomthetho. ¹⁴ Ngoba sesimuzwe esithi uJesu lo waseNazaretha uzayibhidliza indawo le njalo aguqule imikhuba uMosi asipha yona.”

¹⁵ Bonke ababehlezi phakathi kweSanihedrini bamnazelela uStefane babona ukuthi ubuso bakhe babufana lobuso bengilosi.

7

Inkulumo KaStefane ESanihedrini

¹ Ngakho umphristi omkhulu wasembuza wathi, “Ukumangalelwa konke lokhu kuliqiniso na?”

² Kulokhu waphendula wathi: “Bafowethu labobaba ake lingilalele! UNkulunkulu wenkazimulo waziveza kubaba wethu u-Abhrahama esahlala eMesophothamiya, engakahlali eHarani. ³ UNkulunkulu wathi, ‘Tshiya ilizwe lakini labantu bakini uye elizweni engizakutshengisa lona.’* ”

⁴ Ngakho wasuka elizweni lamaKhaladiya wayahlala eHarani. Ngemva kokufa kukayise, uNkulunkulu wamletha kuleli ilizwe lapho eselihlala khona manje. ⁵ Kamuphanga lifa lapha loba nje isiqintshana somhlabathi. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamthembisa ukuthi yena lezizukulwane zakhe ngemva kwakhe babezalizuza ilizwe lelo libe ngelabo, loba nje ngalesosikhathi u-Abhrahama wayengelamntwana. ⁶ UNkulunkulu wakhuluma laye kanje: ‘Izizukulwane zakho zizakuba ngabezizweni elizweni elingayisilo lazo okweminyaka engamakhulu amane, njalo zizagqilazwa, zihlukuluzwe. ⁷ Ngizasijezisa lesosizwe esibagqilazayo,† kusitsho uNkulunkulu, ‘emva kwalokho bazaphuma kulelizwe bangikhonze kuyonale indawo.’ ⁸ Wasenika u-Abhrahama isivumelwano sokusoka. U-Abhrahama waba nguyise ka-Isaka, wamsoka ngemva kwensuku eziyisificaminwembili ezelwe. Ngemva kwalokho u-Isaka waba nguyise ka-Jakhobe, uJakhobe yena waba nguyise wabokhokho abalithumi lambili.

⁹ Ngenxa yokuthi okhokho babalomhawu ngoJosefa, bamthengisela eGibhithe njengesigqili. Kodwa uNkulunkulu waba laye ¹⁰ wamephula kuzozonke inhlupho zakhe. Wanika uJosefa inhlakanipho, wamenza wathandwa nguFaro, inkosi yaseGibhithe. Yona yasimenza umbusi eGibhithe lakuso sonke isigodlo sakhe.

* 7:3 7.3 UGenesisi 12.1 † 7:7 7.7 UGenesisi 15.13-14

¹¹ Indlala yasihlasela lonke elaseGibhithe leleKhenani, kwaba lobunzima obukhulu ngoba okhokho bethu bakuswela ukudla. ¹² UJakhobe esezwile ukuthi amabele ayekhona eGibhithe, wathuma okhokho bethu ekuhambeni kwabo kwakuqala. ¹³ Sebesiya khona okwesibili, uJosefa wabatshela abanewabo ukuthi wayengubani, njalo uFaro waziswa ngabakibo kaJosefa. ¹⁴ Ngemva kwalokho uJosefa wasebiza uyise uJakhobe ukuthi eze labendlu yakhe bonke, kungabantu abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa lanhlanu sebebonke. ¹⁵ Ngakho uJakhobe wasesehlala kweleGibhithe lapho afela khona yena kanye labokhokho bethu. ¹⁶ Izidumbu zabo zabuyiswa eShekhemu zabekwa ethuneni elathengwa ngu-Abrahama emadodaneni kaHamori eShekhemu ngemali ethile.

¹⁷ Kwathi isikhathi sesisondele esokuthi uNkulunkulu agcwalise isithembiso sakhe ku-Abrahama, inani labantu bakithi eGibhithe landa ngamandla. ¹⁸ Kwasekusiba 'lenye inkosi eyayingazi lutho ngoJosefa yaba ngumbusi eGibhithe.'[‡] ¹⁹ Yaba lesihluku ebantwini bakithi, yancindezela okhokho bethu ngokubabamba ngamandla ukuthi balahlele khatshana insane zabo ezisanda kuzalwa ukuthi zife.

²⁰ Ngalesosikhathi uMosi wazalwa, njalo engasumntwana makhaza. Okwezinyanga ezintathu wondliwa endlini kayise. ²¹ Kwathi esebekwe phandle, indodakazi kaFaro yamthatha yamkhulisa njengomntanayo. ²² UMosi wafundiswa kuyo yonke inhlakanipho yamaGibhithe, eligagu lokukhuluma lokwenza.

²³ Kwathi uMosi eseleminyaka engamatshumi amane obudala, wacabanga ukuya kwethekelela abantu bakibo, abako-Israyeli. ²⁴ Wabona omunye wabo ehluukuluzwa ngumGibhithe, ngakho wayamlamulela, wenanisa ngokubulala umGibhithe lowo. ²⁵ UMosi wakhumbula ukuthi abantu bakibo babezakunanzelela ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayemsebenzisa ukuthi abakhulule, kodwa kabakunanzelelanga. ²⁶ Ngosuku olulandelayo uMosi wawela phezu kwabako-Israyeli ababili ababesilwa. Wazama ukubalamula ngokuthi, 'Madoda, liyizinini; kungani lihluukuluzana kangaka na?'

²⁷ Kodwa leyondoda eyayihlukuluza eyinye, yamfuqela eceleni uMosi yathi, 'Ngubani okwenze umbusi lomahluli phezu kwethu?' ²⁸ Ufuna ukungibulala njengomGibhithe ombuleleyo izolo?'[§] ²⁹ UMosi wathi ekuzwa lokho wabalekela eMidiyani, lapho ahlala khona njengesizwe, wazala khona amadodana amabili.

[‡] 7:18 7.18 U-Eksodasi 1.8 [§] 7:28 7.28 U-Eksodasi 2.14

³⁰ Sekwedlule iminyaka engamatshumi amane, ingilosi yavela kuMosi iselangabini lesixuku esibhebhayo enkangala eduze kweNtaba iSinayi. ³¹ Wathi ekubona lokhu wamangala kakhulu ngalowombono. Wathi uyasondela ukuthi abonisise, wezwa ilizwi likaThixo lisithi: ³² 'NginguNkulunkulu waboyihlo, uNkulunkulu ka-Abhrahama, lo-Isaka loJakhobe.*' UMosi wathuthumela ngokwesaba wehluleka ukukhangela.

³³ INkosi yasisithi kuye, 'Khupha amanyathela akho, ngoba indawo omi kuyo ingumhlabathi ongcwele. ³⁴ Ngempela sengikubonile ukuhlukuluzeka kwabantu bami eGibhithe. Sengikuzwile ukububula kwabo, ngakho sengibuyile phansi lapha ukuzebakhulula. Manje-ke zwana, ngizakubuyisela eGibhithe.†

³⁵ Nguye kanye uMosi lo ababemalile ngamazwi athi, 'Ngubani okwenze umbusi lomahluli na?' Wathunyelwa ukuba ngumbusi lomkhululi nguNkulunkulu mathupha, ngengilosi eyabonakala kuye isesixukwini. ³⁶ Wabakhokhela baphuma elizweni laseGibhithe, wenza izimanga lemimangaliso eGibhithe lasolwandle olubomvu kanye lasenkangala okweminyaka engamatshumi amane enkangala.

³⁷ Nguye lo uMosi owatshela abako-Israyeli wathi, 'UNkulunkulu wenu uzalivusela umphrofethi phakathi kwabafowenu njengami.‡ ³⁸ Wayephakathi kwebandla enkangala, elabokhokho bethu njalo elayo ingilosi eyakhluma kuye eNtabeni yaseSinayi; njalo wemukela amazwi okuphila ukuthi awedlulisele kithi.

³⁹ Kodwa okhokho bethu bala ukumlalela. Bamala, kwathi ezinhliziyweni zabo babuyela eGibhithe. ⁴⁰ Batshela u-Aroni bathi, 'Yenza onkulunkulu abazasikhokhela. UMosi lo owasikhupha eGibhithe asisakwazi ukuthi usedliwe yini!§ ⁴¹ Yiso lesosikhathi abenza ngaso isithombe esasile-imo sethole. Baletha imihlatshelo kulo, benza umkhosi wokuthakazelela lokho okwenziwa yizandla zabo. ⁴² Kodwa uNkulunkulu wabafulathela, wabakhalala ukuba bakhonze ilanga, inyanga lezinkanyezi. Lokhu kuvumelana lalokho okulotshiweyo encwadini yabaphrofethi ukuthi:

'Wena ndlu ka-Israyeli,
langilethela na imihlatshelo leminikelo
ngeminyaka engamatshumi amane enkangala?

⁴³ Hatshi, lathwala isikhonzelo sikaMoleki
lenkanyezi kankulunkulu wenu uRefani,

* 7:32 7.32 U-Eksodasi 3.6 † 7:34 7.34 U-Eksodasi 3.5, 7, 8, 10 ‡ 7:37 7.37

UDutheronomi 18.15 § 7:40 7.40 U-Eksodasi 32.1

izithombe elazenzayo ukuthi lizikhonze.

Ngakho-ke, ngizalixotshela ekuthunjweni^{*} ngale kweBhabhiloni.

⁴⁴ Okhokho bethu babelalo ithabanikeli lobufakazi enkan-gala. Lalenziwe njengokuqondiswa kukaMosi nguNku-lunkulu elandela isimo ayesibonile. ⁴⁵ Sebelamukele ithala okhokho bethu bengaphansi kukaJoshuwa beza lalo ekuthumbeni kwabo izizwe. Lahlala elizweni kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sikaDavida, ⁴⁶ owathandwa nguNkulunkulu, wacela ukuthi alungisele uNkulunkulu kaJakhobe indawo yokuhlala. ⁴⁷ Kodwa kwaba nguSolomoni owamakhelayo leyondlu.

⁴⁸ Lanxa kunjalo, oPhezukonke kahlali ezindlini ezakhiwe ngabantu. Njengoba esitsho umphrofethi ukuthi:

⁴⁹ 'Izulu liyisihlalo sami sobukhosi,
lomhlaba uyisenabelo sami.

Lizangakhela ndlu bani?

kutsho iNkosi.

Kambe izaba ngaphi indawo yami yokuphumula na?

⁵⁰ Izinto zonke lezi kazenziwanga yisandla sami na?[†]

⁵¹ Lina ziqholo zabantu, abanhliziyo lezindlebe ezin-gasokanga! Lifuze oyihlo: Lihlezi lijamelene loMoya oNgcwele! ⁵² Kambe kwake kwabakhona umphrofethi oyihlo abangazange bamhlukuluze na? Baze bababulala lalabo abaphrofetha ngokuza koLungileyo. Khathesi selimnikele lambulala, ⁵³ lina eseliwemukele umthetho oweza ngingingilosi kodwa kaliwulandelanga."

UStefane Ukhandwa Ngamatshe

⁵⁴ Amalunga eSanihedrini esekuzwile lokhu azonda, afuthelana, amgedlela amazinyo. ⁵⁵ Kodwa uStefane egcwele uMoya oNgcwele wakhangela ezulwini wabona inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu loJesu emi esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. ⁵⁶ Wathi, "Khangalani, ngibona izulu livuliwe leNdodana yoMuntu imi esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu."

⁵⁷ Besizwa lokhu bagcika indlebe zabo, baklabalala, bam-dumela ⁵⁸ bamhudulela phandle kwedolobho, bamkhanda ngamatshe. Ofakazi babeka izigqoko zabo phambi kwejaha elalithiwa nguSawuli.

⁵⁹ Kwathi belokhu bemkhanda uStefane wakhuleka wathi, "Nkosi Jesu, yamukela umoya wami." ⁶⁰ Wathi vutshalala ngamadolo phansi wamemeza wathi, "Nkosi, ungababekeli mlandu ngalesisono." Kuthe esetsho lokho, walala.

^{*} **7:43** 7.43 U-Amosi 5.25-27 † **7:50** 7.50 U-Isaya 66.1-2

8

¹ LoSawuli wayekhona evumelana lokubulawa kwakhe.

Ukuhlukuluzwa Lokuhlakazeka Kwebandla

Ngalelolanga kwaqalisa isiphithiphithi esibi sokuhlukuluza ibandla eJerusalema, kwathi bonke ngaphandle kwabapostoli bahlakazeka kulolonke iJudiya leSamariya. ² Abantu abakholwa kuNkulunkulu bamngcwaba uStefane bamlilela kabuhlungu. ³ Kodwa uSawuli waqalisa ukulichitha ibandla. Wahamba engena izindlu ngezindlu ephuthuma abesilisa labesifazane esiyabaphosela entolongweni.

UFiliphu EseSamariya

⁴ Labo ababehlakazekile balitshumayela ilizwi loba kungaphi abaya khona. ⁵ UFiliphu wehlela edolobheni elithile eSamariya watshumayela ngoKhristu khonale. ⁶ Kwathi amaxuku abantu emuzwa uFiliphu njalo ebona izibonakaliso ayezenza bonke bakulalelisisa lokho ayekukhuluma. ⁷ Omoya ababi baphuma ebantwini abanengi beklabalala njalo abanengi ababome imihlubulo labayizilima basiliswa. ⁸ Ngakho kwaba lentokoza enkulu kulelodolobho.

USimoni Umenzi Wamasalamusi

⁹ Okwesikhathi esithile indoda eyayithiwa nguSimoni yayisenza amasalamusi edolobheni lelo yamangalisa bonke abantu baseSamariya. Wayezikhukhumeza ezitshaya umuntu omkhulu, ¹⁰ njalo bonke abantu, abaphakemeyo labantukazana bambuthanela bababaza bathi, "Indoda le kuqondile ibizwa ngokuthi ingaMandla amakhulu kaNkulunkulu." ¹¹ Bamlandela ngoba wayebamangalisile okwesikhathi eside ngamasalamusi akhe. ¹² Kodwa kwathi sebekholwe uFiliphu etshumayela izindaba ezinhle zombuso kaNkulunkulu kanye lebizwa likaJesu Khristu, babhaphathizwa, abesilisa labesifazane. ¹³ USimoni laye ngokwakhe wakholwa wabhaphathizwa. Walandela uFiliphu zonke indawo, emangaliswa yizibonakaliso ezinkulu lemingaliso ayibonayo.

¹⁴ Kwathi abapostoli eJerusalema sebezwiwe ukuthi iSamariya yase ilamukele ilizwi likaNkulunkulu, bathuma uPhethro loJohane kubo. ¹⁵ Sebefikile babakhulekela ukuthi bemukele uMoya oNgcwele, ¹⁶ ngoba uMoya oNgcwele wawulokhu ungakehleri lakubani kubo; babehaphathizelwe ebizweni leNkosi uJesu kuphela. ¹⁷ Ngakho uPhethro loJohane bababeka izandla, basebewemukela uMoya oNgcwele.

18 Kwathi uSimoni ebona ukuthi uMoya wawuphiwa ngokubekwa izandla ngabapostoli wabahuga ngemali
 19 esithi, “Ngiphani lami lawomandla ukuze kuthi wonke lowo engimbeka izandla azuze uMoya oNgcwele.”

20 UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Sengathi imali yakho ingabhubha kanye lawe ngoba ucabanga ukuthi ungasithenga isipho sikaNkulunkulu ngemali!

21 Kawulangxenye loba isabelo kulinkonzo ngoba inhliziyi yakho kayilunganga phambi kukaNkulunkulu.

22 Phenduka kulobububi ukhuleke eNkosini. Mhlawumbe izakuthethelela ngokuba lomcabango onje enhliziyweni yakho. 23 Ngoba ngiyabona ukuthi ugcwalelene ngomona njalo ugqilazwe yisono.”

24 USimoni wasephendula wathi, “Ngikhulekelani eNkosini ukuze ngingehlelwa laloba yikuphi lwalokho okutshiloyo.”

25 Kwathi sebefakazile njalo balitshumayela ilizwi leNkosi, uPhethro loJohane babuyela eJerusalema, bahamba betshumayela ivangeli emizini eminengi yaseSamariya.

UFiliphu LomTopiya

26 Ingilosi yeNkosi yathi kuFiliphu, “Yehlela ezansi emgwaqweni, umgwaqo wenkangala, osuka eJerusalema usiya eGaza.”

27 Ngakho wasesuka, kwathi endleleni leyo wahlangana lomTopiya ongumthenwa, eyisikhulu esiqakathekileyo esasiphethe ingcebo kaKhandaki, indlovukazi yamaTopiya. Indoda le yayikade iye eJerusalema ukuyakhonza, 28 isisendleleni yokubuyela ekhaya ihlezi enqoleni yayo ibala incwadi ka-Isaya umphrofethi. 29 UMoya watshela uFiliphu wathi, “Hamba usondele enqoleni leyana walele eduze kwayo.”

30 UFiliphu wasegijimela kuyo inqola wezwa indoda leyo ibala u-Isaya umphrofethi. UFiliphu wayibuza wathi, “Uyakuzwisisa yini lokho okubalayo?”

31 Yathi, “Ngingakuzwisisa kanjani kungekho muntu ongichazelayo na?” Yasicela uFiliphu ukuthi agade azohlala layo.

32 Indoda engumthenwa yayibala indima yombhalo ethi: “Waghutshwa njengemvu isiwa esilaheni, njengezinyane lemvu elithula zwi phambi komgundi, kanjalo kazange awuvule umlomo wakhe.

33 Ekugconweni kwakhe wancitshwa ukwahlulelwa okulungileyo.

Ngubani ongakhuluma ngezizukulwane zakhe na?

Ngoba ukuphila kwakhe kwasuswa emhlabeni.”*

³⁴ Indoda engumthenwa yabuza uFiliphu yathi, “Ake ungitshele bakithi, umphrofethi ukhuluma ngobani, yena ngokwakhe kumbe ngomunye umuntu?” ³⁵ UFiliphu wahle waqalisa ngaleyondima yoMbhala, wayitshela izindaba ezinhle ngoJesu.

³⁶ Bathi belokhu behamba ngomgwaqo bafika lapho okwakulamanzi khona, indoda engumthenwa yathi, “Khangela, nanka amanzi. Kulani ukuthi ngihle ngibhaphathizwe na?” [³⁷ UFiliphu wathi, “Nxa ukholwa ngenhliziyo yakho yonke ungabhaphathizwa.” Isikhulu saphendula sathi, “Ngiyakholwa ukuthi uJesu Khristu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.”]† ³⁸ Isikhulu sathi inqola kayimiswe. Ngakho bobabili, uFiliphu lendoda engumthenwa baya emanzini uFiliphu wayibhaphathiza. ³⁹ Bathi bephuma emanzini uMoya weNkosi wahle wamthatha uFiliphu, indoda engumthenwa ayabe isambona njalo, kodwa yaqhubeka ngendlela yayo ithokoza. ⁴⁰ Kodwa uFiliphu wabonakala e-Azotha, walidabula ilizwe etshumayela ivangeli kuyo yonke imizi waze wayafika eKhesariya.

9

Ukuphenduka KukaSawuli

¹ Kusenjalo, uSawuli wayelokhu esonga ngomvamvithi ukubulala abafundi beNkosi. Waya kuMphristi omkhulu ² wayacela izincwadi zokuya emasinagogweni aseDamaseko, ukuze kuthi nxa engafumana khonale labo abangabeNdlela, abesilisa loba abesifazane, abalethe eJerusalema beyizibotshwa. ³ Wathi esebanga eDamaseko ngohambo lwakhe, masinyane kwaphazima ukukhanya kuvela ezulwini kwamzingelezela. ⁴ Wawela phansi, wezwa ilizwi lisithi kuye, “**Sawuli, Sawuli, ungihlukuluzelani na?**”

⁵ USawuli wabuza wathi, “Ungubani, Nkosi?”

Ilizwi lathi, “**NginguJesu omhlukuluzayo.** ⁶ **Manje phakama uye edolobheni lapho ozatshelwa khona omele ukwenze.”**

⁷ Amadoda ayehamba loSawuli ema lapho esetshe amathe; balizwa ilizwi, kodwa kababonanga muntu. ⁸ USawuli wavuka phansi, kodwa wathi evula amehlo akhe wayen-gasaboni lutho. Ngakho bamhola ngesandla bangena

* **8:33** 8.33 U-Isaya 53.7-8 † **8:37** 8.37 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

laye eDamaseko. ⁹ Waba yisiphofu okwensuku ezintathu, engadli njalo enganathi lutho.

¹⁰ EDamaseko kwakulomfundi owayethiwa ngu-Ananiya. INkosi yambiza ngombono yathi, **“Ananiya!”**

Waphendula wathi, “Yebo, Nkosi.”

¹¹ INkosi yamtshela yathi, **“Hamba uye endlini kaJuda si eMgwaqweni oQondileyo, ubuze khona ngendoda yaseThasasi ethiwa nguSawuli, ngoba iyakhuleka.**

¹² **Usebelombono wabona indoda ethiwa ngu-Ananiya ifika imbeka izandla ibuyisa ukubona kwakhe.”**

¹³ U-Ananiya waphendula wathi, “Nkosi sengiyizwile indumela yalumuntu mayelana lokubi konke akwezayo ebantwini bakho eJerusalema. ¹⁴ Uze lapha ngamandla awaphiwe ngabaphristi abakhulu ukuzabopha bonke ababiza ibizo lakho.”

¹⁵ Kodwa iNkosi yathi ku-Ananiya, **“Hamba! Indoda le iyisitsha sami engisikhethileyo ukuthwala ibizo lami phambi kwabeZizwe lamakhosi abo laphambi kwabantu bako-Israyeli. ¹⁶ Ngizamshengisa ukuthi uzahlupheka kanganani ngenxa yebizo lami.”**

¹⁷ U-Ananiya wasehamba esiya kuleyondlu wafika wangenana. Wabeka izandla zakhe phezu kukaSawuli wathi, “Mzalwane, Sawuli, iNkosi uJesu obonakale kuwe endleleni usiza lapha ungithumile ukuze ukwazi ukubona njalo futhi ugcwaliswe ngoMoya oNgcwele.” ¹⁸ Masinyane, kwakhithika okwakungathi zinkwethu emehlweni kaSawuli, wasebona njalo. Wasukuma wabhaphathizwa, ¹⁹ kwathi esedlile, wathola amandla.

USawuli EseDamaseko LaseJerusalema

USawuli wahlala insuku ezithile labafundi eDamaseko. ²⁰ Waseqalisa ukutshumayela emasinagogweni ukuthi uJesu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu. ²¹ Bonke labo abamuzwayo bamangala babuza bathi, “Kasuye yini umuntu lo owenza isihluku eJerusalema kulabo abalibizayo lelibizo na? Njalo kabuyanga yini lapha ukuzabathatha beyizibotshwa abese kubaphristi abakhulu na?” ²² Kodwa uSawuli wasebenza ngamandla amakhulu wadidekisa amaJuda ayehlala eDamaseko ngokubonisa kamhlophe ukuthi uJesu unguKhristu.

²³ Sekudlule insuku ezinengi amaJuda abumba icebo lokumbulala, ²⁴ kodwa uSawuli walizwa icebo labo. Em-ini lebusuku bamlindela emasinagogweni edolobho ukuze bambulale. ²⁵ Kodwa abalandeli bakhe bamthatha ebusuku bamehlisa ngesilulu esikhaleni esasisemdulini.

²⁶ Wathi esefikile eJerusalema wazama ukuhlangana labafundi, kodwa bonke babemesaba, bengakholwa ukuthi ngempela wayesengumfundi. ²⁷ Kodwa uBhanabhasi wamthatha wamusa kubapostoli. Wabatshela ngokuthi uSawuli wayibona njani iNkosi esendleleni esiya eDamaseko lokuthi watshumayela njani ngesibindi ngebizo lika-Jesu. ²⁸ USawuli wasehlala labo, wazihambela ekhululekile eJerusalema, ekhuluma ngesibindi ngebizo leNkosi. ²⁹ Wakhuluma njalo waphikisana lamaJuda esiGrikhi, kodwa azama ukumbulala. ³⁰ Kwathi abazalwane bekuzwa lokhu, bambalekisola eKhesariya bafika bamedlulisela eThasasi.

³¹ Ngalesosikhathi ibandla kulolonke elaseJudiya leGalile leSamariya laba lesikhathi esihle sokuthula. Laqina, njalo ngokukhuthazwa nguMoya oNgcwele landa ngobunengi, lahlala liyesaba iNkosi.

U-Eniyasi LoDokhasi

³² Kwathi uPhethro ebhoda phakathi kwelizwe wayakwethekelela abangcwele eLida. ³³ Wafumana khonale indoda eyayithiwa ngu-Eniyasi, eyayiyisigulane esome umhlubulo sihlezi silele okweminyaka eyisificaminwembili. ³⁴ UPhethro wathi kuye, "Eniyasi, uJesu Khristu uyakusilisa. Vuka uthathe icansi lakho." Masinyane u-Eniyasi wasukuma. ³⁵ Bonke labo ababehlala eLida laseSharoni bambona baphendukela eNkosini.

³⁶ EJopha kwakulomfundi owayethiwa nguThabitha (ngesiGrikhi ibizo lakhe nguDokhasi), owayehlala esenza okuhle esiza abaswelayo. ³⁷ Ngalesosikhathi wagula wafa, isidumbu sakhe sageziswa, sabekwa endlini ephezulu. ³⁸ ILida yayiseduze kweJopha; yikho abafundi sebezwile ukuthi uPhethro wayeseLida, bathuma amadoda amabili kuye bamncenga bathi, "Sicela ukuthi uze ngokuphangisa!"

³⁹ UPhethro wahamba labo, wathi ekufikeni kwakhe wasiwa endlini ephezulu. Bonke abafelokazi bema bemhanqile, bekhala, bemtshengisa izembatho lezinye izigqoko ezazithungwe nguDokhasi esaphila.

⁴⁰ UPhethro wabakhupha bonke endlini; waseguqa ngamadolo wakhuleka. Wasephendukela esidunjini sowesifazane wathi, "Thabitha, vuka!" Owesifazane wasevula amehlo akhe, wathi ebona uPhethro wahlala. ⁴¹ Wambamba ngesandla wamsukumisa. Wasebiza amakholwa labafelokazi wamethula kubo esephila. ⁴² Lokhu kwasuka kwaziwa kulolonke iJopha, abantu abanengi bakholwa eNkosini. ⁴³ UPhethro wahlala okwesikhathi eJopha loSimoni umtshuki wezikhumba.

10

UKhonestiyasi Unxusa UPhethro

¹ EKhesariya kwakulendoda eyayithiwa nguKhonestiyasi, yayingumlawuli webutho lekhulu elalithiwa liViyo lase-Ithaliya. ² Yena lendlu yakhe yonke babekhonzwa njalo bemesaba uNkulunkulu. Wayenika ngesihle labo abasweleyo njalo ekhuleka kuNkulunkulu kokuphela. ³ Ngelinye ilanga, sokungaba lihola lesithathu emini waba lombono. Wabona kamhlophe ingilosi kaNkulunkulu, eyeza kuye yathi, “Khonestiyasi!”

⁴ UKhonestiyasi wayiqhuzulela amehlo ngokwesaba. Wabuza wathi, “Kuyini, Nkosi?”

Ingilosi yaphendula yathi, “Imikhuleko yakho lezipho zakho kwabasweleyo sekufinyelele kuNkulunkulu kwaba yisikhumbuzo. ⁵ Ngakho-ke, thumela amadoda eJopha ayebuya lendoda ethiwa nguSimoni owaziwa ngokuthi nguPhethro. ⁶ Ihlala loSimoni ongumtshuki wezikhumba, olendlu okhunjini lolwandle.”

⁷ Ingilosi eyakhuluma laye isihambile, uKhonestiyasi wabiza izinceku zakhe ezimbili kanye loyedwa owayengumncedisi webutho owayeyindoda ekhonzayo. ⁸ Wabatshela konke okwakwenzakele, wasebathuma eJopha.

Umbono KaPhethro

⁹ Sekungaba phakathi laphakathi kwemini sebebanga edolobheni, uPhethro wakhwela ophahleni ukuyakhuleka. ¹⁰ Wezwa eselambile esefuna ulutho lokudla, kwathi ukudla kusalungiswa wehlelwa yisiyephipho. ¹¹ Wabona izulu livulekile, kusehliselwa emhlabeni ulutho olwalunjengelembu elikhulu libanjwe ngamagumbi alo womane. ¹² Lalithwele yonke imihlobo yezinyamazana ezilenyawo ezine, kanye lezinanakazana ezihuquzelayo emhlabeni lezinyoni zemoyeni. ¹³ Ilizwi laselintshela lathi, “**Vuka Phethro. Hlaba udle.**”

¹⁴ UPhethro waphendula wathi, “Hatshi, Nkosi! Kangikaze ngidle lutho olungahlanzekanga lolungcolileyo.”

¹⁵ Laphinda ilizwi lakhuluma okwesibili kuye lathi, “**Ungabokuthi ulutho oseluhlanjululwe nguNkulunkulu kaluhlanzekanga.**”

¹⁶ Lokhu kwenzakala kathathu, kwasekusithi masinyane ilembu labuyiselwa ezulwini.

¹⁷ Kwathi uPhethro esamangele ngokuthi umbono lowo wawusitshoni, amadoda ayethunywe nguKhonestiyasi ayibona indlu kaSimoni, ema entubeni. ¹⁸ Akhuleka

abuza ingabe uSimoni owayethiwa nguPhethro wayehlala khonapho yini.

¹⁹ Kwathi uPhethro elokhu esacabanga ngombono, uMoya wathi kuye, “Simoni, kulamadoda amathathu akudingayo. ²⁰ Ngakho-ke, phakama wehlele phansi. Ungathandabuzi ukuhamba lawo, ngoba ngiwathumile.”

²¹ UPhethro wehla wathi emadodeni lawo, “Nginguye lowo elimdingayo. Lilandeni?”

²² Amadoda aphenhla athi, “Sivela kuKhoneliyasi umlawuli wekhulu lamabutho. Ungumuntu olungileyo owesaba uNkulunkulu, ohlonitshwa yibo bonke abangama-Juda. Ingilosi engcwele imtshele ukuthi kakulethe endlini yakhe ukuze ezwe lokho ongabe uyakutsho.” ²³ UPhethro wasewangenisa endlini amadoda lawo njengezethekeli zakhe.

UPhethro Endlini KaKhoneliyasi

Ngosuku olulandelayo uPhethro wasuka labo, kwathi labanye abazalwane beJopha bahamba laye. ²⁴ Ngelanga elilandelayo wafika eKhesariya. UKhoneliyasi wayesebalindele esebize izihlobo zakhe labangane abaseduze. ²⁵ Kuthe uPhethro engena, uKhoneliyasi wamhlangabeza, wazilahla phansi ezinyaweni zakhe ngenhlonipho. ²⁶ Kodwa uPhethro wamsukumisa. Wathi, “Sukuma, mina ngingumuntu nje.”

²⁷ UPhethro wangena endlini elokhu ekhuluma laye, wafumana ixuku labantu elikhulu. ²⁸ Wathi kubo, “Liyakwazi ukuthi kungaphandle komthetho wethu ukuthi umJuda ahlanganyele loweZizwe loba ukuthi amethekelele. Kodwa uNkulunkulu usengitshengisile ukuthi kanginakutsho ukuthi omunye umuntu kahlanzekanga loba uncolile. ²⁹ Yikho kuthe lapho ngibizwa lapha, ngahle ngeza ngingazange ngibalise lokhu lalokhuyana. Sengibuza-ke manje, ungibizelani?”

³⁰ UKhoneliyasi waphendula wathi, “Ensukwini ezintathu ezedluleyo bengisendlini yami ngikhuleka ngasonalesi isikhathi, ngehola lesithathu emini. Masinyane indoda ebigqoke izigqoko ezikhazimulayo yema phambi kwami, ³¹ yathi, ‘Khoneliyasi, uNkulunkulu usewuzwile umkhuleko wakho wakhumbula lezipho zakho kwabaswe-layo. ³² Thumela ilizwi eJopha ubize uSimoni owaziwa ngokuthi nguPhethro. Wethekelele emzini kaSimoni umtshuki wezikhumba, ohlala malungana lolwandle.’ ³³ Yikho ngihle ngathuma abantu kuwe ngokuphangisa, kwaba kuhle ukuthi lawe uze. Manje sonke sesikhona lapha phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi sizwe konke iNkosi ekuyale ukuthi usitshela khona.”

³⁴ UPhethro waseqalisa ukukhuluma wathi: “Sengibona khathesi ukuthi ngeqiniso uNkulunkulu kalabandlululo, ³⁵ kodwa wamukela abantu benhlanga zonke abamesabayo, abenza okulungileyo. ³⁶ Yilo leli ilizwi uNkulunkulu alithumela ebantwini bako-Israyeli, elikhuluma ngezindaba ezinhle zokuthula ngoJesu Khristu oyiNkosi yabo bonke. ³⁷ Liyakwazi osekwenzakele kulolonke elaseJudiya, kusukela eGalile ngemva kobhaphathizo olwatshunyayelwa nguJohane, ³⁸ ukuthi uNkulunkulu wamgcoba kanjani uJesu waseNazaretha ngoMoya oNgcwele langamandla, lokuthi wahamba izindawana zonke esenza ubuhle njalo esilisa bonke ababesemandleni omubi, ngoba uNkulunkulu wayelaye.

³⁹ Singofakazi bakho konke akwenzayo elizweni lamaJuda laseJerusalema. Bambulala ngokumlengisa esiphambanweni, ⁴⁰ kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo ngosuku lwesithathu, wakwenza ukuthi abonakale. ⁴¹ Kabonwanga ngabantu bonke, kodwa ngofakazi uNkulunkulu ayevele esebakhethile, yithi thina esadla sanatha laye ngemva kokuvuka kwakhe kwabafileyo. ⁴² Wasilaya ukuba sitshumayele ebantwini bonke njalo sifakaze ukuthi unguye uNkulunkulu ambekayo ukuba ngumahluleli wabaphilayo labafileyo. ⁴³ Bonke abaphrofethi bafakaza ngaye ukuthi bonke abakholwa kuye baphiwa ukuthethelelwa kwezono ngebizo lakhe.”

⁴⁴ UPhethro elokhu esakhuluma amazwi la uMoya oNgcwele wehlela kubo bonke abalizwayo ilizwi. ⁴⁵ AmaJuda, amakholwa asokiveyo ayeze loPhethro amangaliswa yikuthi uMoya oNgcwele wawuthululelwe lakwabeZizwe. ⁴⁶ Ngoba babezwa bekhuluma ngendimi bedumisa uNkulunkulu.

UPhethro wasesithi, ⁴⁷ “Kambe ukhona yini umuntu ongalela abantu laba ukuba babhaphathizwe ngamanzi na? Sebemukele uMoya oNgcwele njengathi.” ⁴⁸ Wasesithi kababhaphathizwe ebizweni likaJesu Khristu. Basebecela uPhethro ukuthi ahlale labo okwensukwana ezithile.

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UPhethro Uchaza Ukwenza Kwakhe

¹ Abapostoli labazalwane kulolonke elaseJudiya bezwa ukuthi abeZizwe labo basebelamukele ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. ² Yikho kwathi uPhethro esebuyele eJerusalema, amaJuda, amakholwa asokileyo, amsola ³ athi, “Wangena endlini yabantu abangasokanga wadla labo.”

⁴ UPhethro wabalondela konke kusukela ekuqaleni, wakuchasisa njengokwenzakala kwakho, wathi,

⁵ “Ngangisedolobheni laseJopha ngikhuleka, ngehlelwa yisiyephupho ngaba lombono. Ngabona ulutho olwalunjengelembu elikhulu lisehliselwa phansi ngamagumbi alo womane livela ezulwini, lehlela phansi lapho engangikhona. ⁶ Ngakhangela phakathi kwalo ngabona izinyamazana zomhlaba zezinyawo ezine, izilo zeganga, izinanakazana ezihuquzelayo lezinyoni zemoyeni. ⁷ Ngasengisizwa ilizwi lingitshela lisithi, **‘Vuka Phethro. Hlaba udle.’**

⁸ Ngaphendula ngathi, ‘Hatshi bo, Nkosi! Kowami umlomo kakukaze kungene ulutho olungahlanzekanga loba olungcolileyo.’

⁹ Ilizwi lakhuluma okwesibili livela ezulwini lathi, **‘Ungabokuthi ulutho oseluhlanjululwe nguNkulunkulu kaluhlanzekanga.’** ¹⁰ Lokhu kwenzakala kathathu, konke kwase kubuyiselwa njalo ezulwini.

¹¹ Ngalesosikhathi amadoda amathathu ayethunywe kimi evela eKhesariya afika endlini engangihlala kuyo. ¹² UMoya wangitshela ukuthi ngingathandabuzi ukuhamba lawo. Laba abazalwane abayisithupha labo bahamba lami sayangena endlini yendoda leyo. ¹³ Yasitshela ukuthi yabona ingilosi endlini yayo isithi, ‘Thumela eJopha ubize uSimoni owaziwa ngokuthi nguPhethro. ¹⁴ Uzakulethela ilizwi eliyilo elizakusindisa wena kanye lendlu yakho.’

¹⁵ Kwathi ngiqalisa nje ukukhuluma, uMoya oNgcwele wehlela phezu kwabo njengoba wehlela kithi ekuqaleni. ¹⁶ Ngakho ngasengikhumbula okwatshiwo yiNkosi isithi, **‘UJohane wabhaphathiza ngamanzi, kodwa lina lizabhaphathizwa ngoMoya oNgcwele.’** ¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, nxa uNkulunkulu wabanika sona lesosipho asinika sona thina esakholwa eNkosini uJesu Khristu, ngangingubani mina engangingakhumbula ukuthi ngingamelana loNkulunkulu na?”

¹⁸ Bathi sebekuzwile lokhu, kababe besaba lansolo, badumisa uNkulunkulu besithi, “Ngakho-ke, uNkulunkulu usebanikile labo abeZizwe ukuphendukela ekuphileni.”

Ibandla E-Antiyokhi

¹⁹ Kwathi labo ababehlakazekile ngenxa yokuhlukunyezwa okwaqala ngokufa kukaStefane bahamba baze bayafika eFenikhiya, leSiphraasi le-Antiyokhi betshumayela ilizwi kumaJuda kuphela. ²⁰ Kodwa abanye babo, amadoda ayevela eSiphraasi laseKhureni, aya e-Antiyokhi atshumayela lakumaGrikhi, ebatshele ngezindaba ezinhle ngeNkosi uJesu. ²¹ INkosi yaba labo, ngakho abantu abanengi bakholwa baphendukela eNkosini.

²² Ibandla eliseJerusalema lakuzwa lokhu laselithumela uBhanabhasi e-Antiyokhi. ²³ Ekufikeni kwakhe wazibona izithelo zomusa kaNkulunkulu, wathokoza njalo wabakhut-haza bonke ukuthi baqhubeke ngobuqotho eNkosini ngez-inhliziyo zabo zonke. ²⁴ Wayeyindoda elungileyo, egcwele uMoya oNgcwele lokukholwa. Abantu abanengi kakhulu balethwa eNkosini.

²⁵ UBhanabhasi wasesiya eThasasi ukuyadinga uSawuli. ²⁶ Esemfumene wahamba laye e-Antiyokhi. Ngakho okomnyaka wonke uBhanabhasi loSawuli babehlangana lebandla befundisa abantu abanengi kakhulu. Abafundi baqalisa ukubizwa ngokuthi ngamaKhristu e-Antiyokhi.

²⁷ Ngalesosikhathi abanye abaphrofethi bafika e-Antiyokhi bevela eJerusalema. ²⁸ Omunye wabo owayethiwa ngu-Agabhasi wasukuma ehlowa nguMoya wabonisa ukuthi kwakuzakuba lendlala embi eyayizakubakhona kulolonke ilizwe lombuso wamaRoma. (Lokhu kwenzakala ngesikhathi sokubusa kukaKlawudiyasi.) ²⁹ Abafundi bazimisela ukunika usizo kubazalwane ababehlala eJudiya, ngulowo enika ngokwenelisa kwakhe. ³⁰ Bakwenza lokhu, bathumeza iziphzo zabo ebadaleni ngoBhanabhasi loSawuli.

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Umangaliso Wokuphuma KukaPhethro Entolongweni

¹ Kungaba yisikhathi lapho iNkosi uHerodi eyabopha khona abanye ababe ngabebandla eqonde ukubahlukumeza. ² Wabulalisa uJakhobe umfowabo kaJohane ngenkamba. ³ Wathi esebone ukuthi lokho kwakuwathabisa amaJuda, wabopha loPhethro njalo. Lokho kwenzakala ngezinsuku zoMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo. ⁴ Esembophile wamphosela entolongweni, wamnikela ukuba alindwe ngamaviyo amane amabutho, ngalinye lilamabutho amane. UHerodi wayefuna ukuthi ngemva kwePhasika amkhuphele obala athonisiswe phambi kwabantu.

⁵ Ngakho uPhethro wagcinwa entolongweni, kodwa ibandla lamkhulekela njalonjalo kuNkulunkulu.

⁶ Ngobusuku obandulela ukuthonisiswa kukaPhethro nguHerodi, uPhethro wayelele ephahlwe ngamabutho amabili, ebotshe ngamaketane amabili, kumi abalindi emnyango wentolongo. ⁷ Masinyane ingilosi yeNkosi yavela, kwabakhona ukukhanya kulelokamela lentolongo. Yathinta uPhethro ohlangothini, yamvusa yathi, "Phangisa, vuka!" Amaketane akhithika ezingalweni zikaPhethro.

⁸ Ingilosi yasisithi kuye, “Gqoka, ufake lamanyathela akho.” UPhethro wenzenjalo. Ingilosi yamtshela yathi, “Yembatha ijazi lakho ungilandele.” ⁹ UPhethro wayilandela ngaphandle kwentolongo, kodwa wayedidekile engakwazi ukuthi lokho ingilosi eyayikwenza kwakusenzakala ngempela; wayekhumbula ukuthi ubona umbono. ¹⁰ Bedlula kubalindi, owokuqala lowesibili bafika esangweni lensimbi elaliphumela edolobheni. Lazivulekela baphuma. Kwathi sebehambe baphutsha umgwaqo wedolobho, ingilosi yamtshiya.

¹¹ Kwayikhona uPhethro enanzelela, wathi, “Khathesi sengisazi kungelakuthandabuza ukuthi iNkosi ithume ingilosi yayo yangihlenga ezibotshweni zikaHerodi lakukho konke obekufiswa ngamaJuda.”

¹² Sekumkhanyekele kuhle lokhu, waqonda endlini kaMariya unina kaJohane, owayethiwa nguMakho njalo, khona lapho abantu abanengi babebuthene bekhuleka. ¹³ UPhethro waqoqoda entubeni yangaphandle, kwathi incekekazi eyayithiwa nguRoda yayabuza ukuthi ngubani owayesemnyango. ¹⁴ Isilizwile ilizwi likaPhethro yathaba kakhulu, yagijimela phakathi ingasawuvulanga, yabika yathi, “UPhethro usemnyango!”

¹⁵ Bathi, “Uyahlanya wena.” Kwathi ngoba wala elokhu ephikelela ukuthi liqiniso, bathi, “Kutsho ukuthi yingilosi yakhe.”

¹⁶ Kodwa uPhethro wala elokhu eqoqoda, bathi bevula umnyango bambona, bamangala kakhulu. ¹⁷ UPhethro wabatshengisa ngesandla ukuthi bathule, wasebalandisela ukuthi iNkosi imkhuphe kanjani entolongweni. Wathi, “Libotshela uJakhobe labazalwane ngalokhu.” Wasesuka waya kwenye indawo.

¹⁸ Ekuseni kwaba lokunyakazela okukhulu phakathi kwabebutho. Babuza bathi, “Kambe ngabe uPhethro wenzenjani?” ¹⁹ Kwathi uHerodi esemthungathe waze wabeka phansi, wathonisisa abalindi wasesithi kababulawe.

Ukufa KukaHerodi

UHerodi wasuka eJudiya waya eKhesariya wayahlala khona okwesikhathi esithile. ²⁰ Wayekade exabana labantu beThire labeSidoni; basebehlangu ndawonye bacela ukukhuluma laye. Sebezuzwe ukusekelwa nguBhlantu inceku ethembekileyo enkosini, bacela ukuthula ngoba ukudla kwabo babekuthola elizweni lenkosi.

²¹ Ngosuku olumisiweyo, uHerodi wagqoka izigqoko zobukhosi wahlala esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi, wasekhuluma ebantwini. ²² Bamemeza bathi, “Leli yilizwi likaNkulunkulu, hatshi elomuntu.” ²³ Masinyane nje, ngenxa yokuthi uHerodi wayengamkhonzi uNkulunkulu, ingilosi yeNkosi yamtshaya yamhlala phansi, wadliwa zimpethu wafa.

²⁴ Kodwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu laqhubeka likhula njalo lisanda.

UBhanabhasi loSawuli Bayabuyela

²⁵ Kwathi uBhanabhasi loSawuli sebewuqedile umlandu wabo, babuyela besuka eJerusalema, bahamba loJohane, owayethiwa nguMakho.

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¹ Ebandleni elalise-Antiyokhi kwakulabaphrofethi labafundisi: uBhanabhasi, loSimiyoni owayethiwa nguNigeri, loLusiya waseKhureni, loManayeni (owayekhuliswe loHerodi umbusi) kanye loSawuli. ² Kwathi beyikhonza iNkosi njalo bezilile uMoya oNgcwele wathi, “Ngahlukaniselani uBhanabhasi loSawuli baye emsebenzini engibabizele wona.” ³ Ngakho bathi sebezilile njalo sebekhulekile, bababeka izandla babakhupha.

Kuyiwa ESiphraasi

⁴ Bonke bobabili baholwa nguMoya oNgcwele, behlela eSulusiya lapho abawela khona ngomkhumbi baya eSiphraasi. ⁵ Bathi sebefikile eSalami, balitshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu emasinagogweni amaJuda. UJohane wayelabo engumsizi wabo.

⁶ Basibhoda sonke isihlengi baze bafika ePhafosi. Khonapho bafumana umJuda oyisanuse, njalo engumphrofethi wamanga owayethiwa nguBha-Jesu, ⁷ wayeyinceku kasibalukhulu, uSegiyasi Phawuli. Usibalukhulu lowo, indoda ekhaliphileyo, yathumela ukuthi kubizwe uBhanabhasi loSawuli ngoba wayefuna ukuzwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. ⁸ Kodwa u-Elima isanuse (phela yikho ibizo lakhe elikutshoyo) waphikisana labo wazama ukuphambula usibalukhulu ekukholweni. ⁹ Kwasekusithi uSawuli, owayethiwa njalo nguPhawuli, egcwele uMoya oNgcwele, wamjolozela u-Elima wathi, ¹⁰ “Wena ungumntakaSathane lesitha sakho konke okulungileyo! Ugcwele zonke inhlobo zenkohliso lokudlelezela. Kawuyikufa wakhawula yini ukuhlinikeza izindlela eziqondileyo?” ¹¹ Khathesi-ke, isandla seNkosi sizakutshaya. Uzakuba yimpumpu, awuzukubona ukukhanya kwelanga okwesikhathi esithile.”

Masinyane wehlelwa yinkungu lomnyama, waphumputha, waswela umuntu wokumhola ngesandla.
¹² Kwathi usibalukhulu esekubonile lokho okwakwenzakele wakholwa, ngoba wamangaliswa yimfundiso ngeNkosi.

E-Antiyokhi YasePhisidiya

¹³ Besuka ePhafosi uPhawuli labaphelekezeli bakhe bawela ngomkhumbi baya ePhega esePhamfiliya lapho uJohane abatshiya khona esebuyela eJerusalema. ¹⁴ Besuka ePhega baya e-Antiyokhi yasePhisidiya. NgeSabatha bangena esinagogweni bahlala phansi. ¹⁵ Sekubaliwe eMthethweni labaPhrofethi, abaphathi besinagogu bedlulisela ilizwi kubo lisithi, "Bazalwane, nxa lilelizwi lokukhuthaza abantu, khulumani."

¹⁶ UPhawuli wasukuma welekelela ngesandla wathi, "Madoda ako-Israyeli kanye lani abeZizwe elimesabayo uNkulunkulu, ngilalelani! ¹⁷ UNkulunkulu wabantu bako-Israyeli wakhetha okhokho bethu wenza abantu baphumelela ngesikhathi behlezi eGibhithe. Ngamandla amakhulu wabakhupha kulelolizwe ¹⁸ wababekezelela ekuhambeni kwabo okweminyaka engamatshumi amane besenkangala. ¹⁹ Wachitha izizwe eziyisikhombisa eKhenani wanika ilizwe lazo abantu bakhe laba yilifa labo. ²⁰ Konke lokho kwathatha iminyaka engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amahlanu (450).

Ngemva kwalokhu uNkulunkulu wababekela abahluleli kwaze kwaba yisikhathi sikaSamuyeli umphrofethi. ²¹ Abantu bacela inkosi, wabanika uSawuli indodana kaKhishi, owesizwana sikaBhenjamini, wabusa iminyaka engamatshumi amane. ²² Ngemva kokuba esemsusile uSawuli, wabeka uDavida waba yinkosi. Wafakaza ngaye wathi, 'Sengifumane uDavida indodana kaJese, indoda ethandwa yinhliziyi yami; uzakwenza konke engifuna ukuba akwenze.'

²³ Esizukulwaneni salindoda uNkulunkulu uselethe ko-Israyeli uMsindisi uJesu njengokuthembisa kwakhe. ²⁴ Mandulo kokufika kukaJesu, uJohane watshumayela ukuphenduka lokubhaphathizwa kubo bonke abantu bako-Israyeli. ²⁵ UJohane esewuphetha umsebenzi wakhe wathi, 'Licabanga ukuthi ngingubani na? Kangisuye lowo. Hatshi, kodwa uyeza ngemva kwami, omanyathela akhe akungilingananga ukuthi ngiwathukulule.'

²⁶ Bazalwane, bantwana baka-Abhrahama lani beZizwe elimesabayo uNkulunkulu, lelizwi lensindiso selithunyelwe kithi. ²⁷ Abantu baseJerusalema kanye lababusi

babo kabamamukelanga uJesu, ikanti kwathi ngokumlahla bagcwalisa amazwi abaphrofethi afundwayo ngamaSabatha wonke. ²⁸ Lokuba bengazange bafumane ubufakazi obuqondileyo ukuthi agwetshelwe ukubulawa, bacela uPhilathu ukuthi abulawe. ²⁹ Bathi sebekwenzile konke lokho okwakulotshwe ngaye, bamethula esiphambanweni bamlalisa ethuneni. ³⁰ Kodwa uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, ³¹ Wabonwa okwensuku ezinengi yilabo abahamba laye besuka eGalile besiya eJerusalema. Manje yibo asebe ngofakazi ebantwini bakithi.

³² Silitshela izindaba ezinhle ukuthi: Lokho uNkulunkulu akuthembisa okhokho bethu ³³ usesigcwalisele khona, thina abantwababo, ngokumvusa uJesu kwabafileyo. Njengalokhu kulotshiwe eHubeni lesibili ukuthi:

‘UyiNdodana yami;

lamhla sengibe nguYihlo.’*

³⁴ Lokho ukuthi uNkulunkulu wamvusa kwabafileyo, engasoze abole lanini, kucacisiwe emazwini la:

‘Ngizakunika izibusiso ezingcwele eziqinisekileyo ezathenjiswa uDavida.’†

³⁵ Kanjalo kulotshiwe kwenye indawo ukuthi:

‘Kawusoze wekele oNgcwele wakho abone ukubola.’‡

³⁶ Ngoba kwathi uDavida eseyifezile injongo kaNkulunkulu ngalesosikhathi aphila kuso, walala; wangcwatshwa labokhokho bakhe, umzimba wakhe wabola. ³⁷ Kodwa lowo uNkulunkulu amvusayo kwabafileyo kazange akubone ukubola.

³⁸ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, ngithanda ukuba lazi ukuthi ngoJesu ukuthethelelwa kwezono kuyatshunayayelwa kini. ³⁹ Ngaye bonke abakhulwayo sebhlanjululwe ezonweni zonke abebengeke bahlanjululwe kuzo ngomthetho kaMosi. ⁴⁰ Qaphelani ukuthi lokho okwakhulunywa ngabaphrofethi kungenzakali kini, ukuthi:

⁴¹ ‘Khangelani, lina bachothozi,
mangalani libhubhe,

ngoba ensukwini zenu ngizakwenza into
elingasoze liyikhholwe

lanxa kube lalingakutshelwa ngubani.’§”

⁴² Kwathi uPhawuli loBhanabhasi sebesuka esinagogweni abantu babacela ukuthi babuye bazokhuluma njalo ngalezizinto ngeSabatha elilandelayo. ⁴³ Abantu sebecithekile amaJuda amanengi lamakhulwa ayephendukele enkolweni

* **13:33** 13.33 AmaHubo 2.7 † **13:34** 13.34 U-Isaya 55.3 ‡ **13:35** 13.35

AmaHubo 16.10 § **13:41** 13.41 UHabhakhukhi 1.5

yesiJuda balandela uPhawuli loBhanabhasi, bona bakhuluma labo bebakhuthaza ukuthi baqhubeke bebambelele emuseni kaNkulunkulu.

⁴⁴ NgeSabatha elilandelayo phose lonke idolobho labuthana ukuzakuzwa ilizwi leNkosi. ⁴⁵ Kwathi amaJuda ebona amaxuku abantu, aba lomona, akhuluma ehlambaza lokho okwakutshiwo nguPhawuli.

⁴⁶ Uphawuli loBhanabhasi basebewaphendula ngesibindi bathi, "Bekumele silikhulume kini ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kuqala. Kodwa njengoba lililahla ngoba lizibona lina lingakufanelanga ukuphila okungapheliyo, khathezi sesiphendukela kwabeZizwe. ⁴⁷ Phela nanku iNkosi esisiyale khona yathi:

'Sengilenze isibane sabeZizwe,

ukuthi lilethe insindiso emikhawulweni yomhlaba.'*

⁴⁸ Kwathi abeZizwe bekuzwa lokhu bathaba, balidumisa ilizwi leNkosi; kwathi bonke ababemiselwe ukuphila okungapheliyo bakholwa.

⁴⁹ Ilizwi leNkosi landa umango wonke. ⁵⁰ Kodwa amaJuda athela umoya omubi kwabesifazane abahlonitshwayo ababekholwa lamadoda ayengabakhokheli bedolobho. Akhwezela ukuhlukuluzwa kukaPhawuli loBhanabhasi, abaxotsha emangweni wakibo. ⁵¹ Ngakho bathintitha uthuli ezinyaweni zabo njengesixwayiso, baqonda e-Ikhoniyamu. ⁵² Abafundi bagcwala ngentokozo langoMoya oNgcwele.

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E-Ikhoniyamu

¹ E-Ikhoniyamu uPhawuli loBhanabhasi baya esinagoweni yamaJuda njengenjayelo yabo. Khonapho bakhuluma kwazwela kwaze kwathi amaJuda amanengi lamaGrikhi akholwa. ² Kodwa amaJuda ayengafuni ukukholwa adunga abeZizwe, abathela umoya omubi ngabazalwane. ³ Uphawuli loBhanabhasi bahlala isikhathi eside khona lapho bekhulumela iNkosi ngesibindi. INkosi yaqinisa ilizwi lomusa wayo ngokubapha amandla okwenza imimangaliso lezimanga. ⁴ Abantu bedolobho lelo badabukana phakathi; abanye bema lamaJuda, kwathi abanye basekela abapostoli. ⁵ AbeZizwe lamaJuda ndawonye labakhokheli babo bakha icebo lokubahlukumeza lokubakhanda ngamatshe. ⁶ Kodwa balizwa icebo lelo basebebalekela emadolobheni aseLikhawoniya, eListra leDebhe lasemangweni yakhona, ⁷ lapho abaqhubeka khona ukutshumayela izindaba ezinhle.

EListra LaseDebhe

* 13:47 13.47 U-Isaya 49.6

⁸ EListra kwakulendoda eyayiyisigoga ikwazi ukuhlala kuphela, ilokhu yazalwayo ingakaze ihambe. ⁹ Yamlalela uPhawuli lapho ekhuluma. UPhawuli wayijolozela wabona ukuthi yayikholwa ukuba ingasiliswa ¹⁰ wasememeza wathi, “Sukuma ngezinyawo zakho!” Ngalokho indoda yathi lothu yahle yahamba.

¹¹ Kwathi ixuku labantu selikubonile okwakwenziwe nguPhawuli, lamemeza ngolimi lwesiLikhawoniya lathi, “Onkulunkulu sebehlele kithi belesimo sabantu!”

¹² UBhanabhasi bambiza bathi nguZewusi, uPhawuli bathi nguHemesi ngoba nguye owayekhokhela ekukhulumeni.

¹³ Umphristi kaZewusi owayelethempeli eduze ngaphandle kwedolobho, waletha inkunzi lemigaxo emasangweni edolobho ngoba yena kanye lexuku labantu babefuna ukwenza imihlatshelo kubo.

¹⁴ Kodwa kwathi abapostoli, uBhanabhasi loPhawuli bekuzwa lokhu, badabula izigqoko zabo bazithela phakathi kwabantu bememeza besithi: ¹⁵ “Madoda, likwenzelani lokhu? Lathi singabantu njengani. Sililethela izindaba ezinhle, silitshela ukuthi litshiye izinto lezi eziyize liye kuNkulunkulu ophilayo owenza amazulu lomhlaba, lolwandle lakho konke okukuwo. ¹⁶ Endulo waziyekela izizwe zonke zahamba ngezindlela zazo. ¹⁷ Ikanti kazange ekele ukuzifakazela: Utshengisile umusa ngokulipha izulu laphezulu lamabele ngesikhathi sawo; ulipha ukudla okunengi njalo agcwalise inhliziyo zenu ngentokoza.” ¹⁸ Loba sebetsho lamazwi baba lobunzima ukuthi bekelise abantu bonke ukuba babenzele umhlatshelo.

¹⁹ Kwasekufika amaJuda evela e-Antiyokhi lase-Ikhoniyamu afika adunga abantu. UPhawuli bamkhanda ngamatshe bamhudulela ngaphandle kwedolobho, becabanga ukuthi wayesefile. ²⁰ Kodwa ngemva kokuba abafundi sebembuthanele, waphaphama wabuyela edolobheni. Ngosuku olulandelayo yena loBhanabhasi basuka baya eDebhe.

Babuyela E-Antiyokhi Ese-Asiriya

²¹ Bazitshumayela izindaba ezinhle kulelodolobho bazuza inani elikhulu labafundi. Basebebuyela eListra, le-Ikhoniyamu le-Antiyokhi ²² beqinisa abafundi njalo bebakhuthaza ukuthi babambelele ekukholweni. Bathi, “Kufanele sedlule ezinhlungwini ezinengi ukuze singene embusweni kaNkulunkulu.” ²³ UPhawuli loBhanabhasi babakhethela abadala kulelo lalalo bandla, babanikela eNkosini ngomkhuleko langokuzila ngoba bebeke ithemba labo kuyo iNkosi. ²⁴ Sebehambe bedlula ePhisidiya,

bafika ePhamfiliya, ²⁵ kwathi sebetshumayele ilizwi ePhega basebesiya e-Athaliya.

²⁶ Besuka e-Athaliya bawela ngomkhumbi babuyela e-Antiyokhi, lapho ababenikelwe khona emuseni kaNkulunkulu ukwenza umsebenzi lowo abasebewufezile. ²⁷ Ekufikeni kwabo khona, balihlanganisa ndawonye ibandla balibikela konke lokho uNkulunkulu ayekwenzile ngabo, lokuthi wayesevulele abeZizwe umnyango wokukholwa. ²⁸ Bahlala khona isikhathi eside labafundi.

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Umhlangano Omkhulu EJerusalema

¹ Amadoda athile eza e-Antiyokhi evela eJudiya, afika afundisa abazalwane esithi: “Ngaphandle kokuthi lisokwe ngendlela yomkhuba eyafundiswa nguMosi lingeke lisindiswe.” ² Lokhu kwenza uPhawuli loBhanabhasi baphikisana labo kakhulu. Ngakho uPhawuli loBhanabhasi bakhethwa kanye lamanye amakholwa ukuthi baye eJerusalema ukuyabona abapostoli labadala ngaloludaba. ³ Ibandla labavalelisa. Bathi bedabula eFenikhiya leSamariya balandisa ngokuthi abeZizwe basebephendukile. Indaba le yathokozisa bonke abazalwane. ⁴ Bafika eJerusalema bemukelwa kuhle libandla langabapostoli labadala, bababikela konke uNkulunkulu ayekwenzile ngabo.

⁵ Kwasekusithi amanye amakholwa ayengawoluhlu lwabaFarisi asukuma athi, “AbeZizwe kumele basokwe njalo batshelwe ukuthi balandele umthetho kaMosi.”

⁶ Abapostoli labadala bahlangana bakhuluma ngalindaba. ⁷ Ngemva kokuphikisana okukhulu uPhethro wasukuma wakhuluma kubo wathi: “Bazalwane, liyakwazi ukuthi esikhathini esedluleyo uNkulunkulu wangikhetha phakathi kwenu ukuthi abeZizwe bezwe kwezami izindebe ilizwi levangeli bakholwe. ⁸ UNkulunkulu owazi inhliziyo watshengisa ukuthi uyabemukela ngokubapha uMoya oNgcwele, njengalokhu akwenzayo kithi. ⁹ Kenzanga umahluko phakathi kwethu labo, ngoba wahlanza inhliziyo zabo ngokukholwa. ¹⁰ Pho-ke lizamelani ukulinga uNkulunkulu ngokwethesa abafundi beZizweni ijogwe thina labokhokho bethu esehluleka ukulithwala? ¹¹ Hatshi! Sikholwa ukuthi sisindiswa ngomusa weNkosi uJesu, njengabo labo.”

¹² Wonke umhlangano wathula zwi balalela uBhanabhasi loPhawuli belandisa ngemimangaliso lezimanga uNkulunkulu ayezenzile kwabeZizwe ngabo. ¹³ Bathi sebeqedile uJakhobe wakhuluma wathi: “Bazalwane, ake lingilalele. ¹⁴ USimoni usesilandisele ngokuthi ekuqaleni uNkulunkulu watshengisa njani ukunakekela kwakhe abeZizwe ngokukhetha phakathi kwabo abantu ukuba babe ngabakhe. ¹⁵ Amazwi abaphrofethi ayavumelana lalokhu, njengalokhu kulotshiwe ukuthi:

¹⁶ ‘Ngemva kwalokhu ngizabuya
ngakhe kutsha indlu kaDavida ewileyo.

Amanxiwa ayo ngizawavuselela,
njalo ngizayimisa kutsha,

¹⁷ ukwenzela ukuthi lonke uluntu luyidinge iNkosi,
kanye labeZizwe abaziwa ngebizo lami,

kutsho iNkosi eyenza lezizinto*:

¹⁸ ezivele zisaziwa kusukela endulo.

¹⁹ Ngokubona kwami, kakumelanga sikwenze kube lukhuni kwabeZizwe abaphendukela kuNkulunkulu.

²⁰ Esikhundleni salokho, kasibalobeleni sibatshela ukuthi baxwaye ukudla okungcoliswe yizithombe, lokuhlobonga, lenyama yenyamazana ekhanyiweyo lobubende. ²¹ Phela uMosi sekwatshunyayelwa ngaye kuwo wonke amadolobho kusukela ekuqaleni njalo kufundwa ngaye emasinagogweni amaSabatha wonke.”

Incwadi Yomhlangano Omkhulu Kumakholwa AbeZizwe

²² Abapostoli labadala kanye lebandla lonke bamisa ukukhetha abanye babo ukuthi babathume e-Antiyokhi loPhawuli loBhanabhasi. Bakhetha uJudasi owayethiwa nguBhasabhasi, loSayilasi, la engamadoda amabili ayengabakhokheli kubazalwane. ²³ Babaphathisa incwadi le:

Abapostoli labadala, abazalwane benu,
KwabeZizwe abakholwayo e-Antiyokhi, lase-Asiriya
laseSilisiya:

Siyalibingelela.

²⁴ Sesizwile ukuthi bakhona abasuka kithi benge-lamvumo yethu bafika balidunga, bedida ingqondo zenu ngalokho ababekutsho. ²⁵ Ngakho sivumelene sonke ukukhetha amadoda athile ukuthi siwathumele kini la-bangane bethu abathandekayo, uBhanabhasi loPhawuli,

²⁶ amadoda adele impilo zawo ngenxa yebizo leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. ²⁷ Ngakho sithumela uJudasi loSayilasi ukugcwalisa ngomlomo lokhu esikulobayo.

* 15:17 15.17 U-Amosi 9.11-12

²⁸ Kubonakale kufanele kuMoya oNgcwele lakithi ukuthi singalethesi omthwalo omkhulu ngaphandle kwezimiso lezi: ²⁹ Xwayani ukudla okunikelwe ezithombeni, ububende, inyama yenyamazana ekhanyiweyo kanye lokuhlobonga. Lizabe lenze kuhle nxa lizixwaya lezizinto.

Salani kuhle.

³⁰ Bawavalelisa amadoda ahamba aya e-Antiyokhi, lapho afika ahlanganisa ibandla ndawonye ethula incwadi. ³¹ Abantu bayibala bathokoza ngenxa yamazwi ayo akhuthazayo. ³² UJudasi loSayilasi, bona ngokwabo ababengabaphrofethi, bakhuluma okunengi ukukhuthaza lokuqinisa abazalwane. ³³ Sebehlale isikhathi esithile khonapho, abazalwane babavalelisa ngesibusiso sokuthula sebuyela kulabo ababathumayo. [³⁴ Kodwa uSayilasi wakhetha ukusala khona.]† ³⁵ Kodwa uPhawuli loBhanabhasi basala e-Antiyokhi, lapho bona kanye labanye abanengi bafundisa njalo batshumayela ilizwi leNkosi.

Ukungavumelani KukaPhawuli LoBhanabhasi

³⁶ Emva kwesikhatshanyana uPhawuli wathi kuBhanabhasi, “Kasibuyele emuva siyebona abazalwane emadolobheni wonke esitshumayele khona ilizwi leNkosi ukuthi baqhuba njani.” ³⁷ UBhanabhasi wayefuna ukuthi bahambe loJohane, owayethiwa nguMakho, ³⁸ kodwa uPhawuli wakubona kungafanele ukuhamba laye ngoba wayeke wabafulathela besePhamfiliya kaze aqhubeka labo emsebenzini. ³⁹ Baphikisana kakubi baze bacina betshiyana. UBhanabhasi wamthatha uMakho bawelela eSiphra, ⁴⁰ kodwa uPhawuli wakhetha ukuhamba loSayilasi, basuka bebewe ngabazalwane emuseni weNkosi. ⁴¹ Wahamba phakathi kwe-Asiriya leSilisiya eqinisa amandla.

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UThimothi Usebenza LoPhawuli LoSayilasi

¹ Wafika eDebhe wedlulela eListra lapho okwakhulala khona umfundi owayethiwa nguThimothi, olonina owaye ngumJudakazi, elikholwa, kodwa uyise engumGrikhi. ² Abazalwane baseListra lase-Ikhoniyamu babemncoma. ³ UPhawuli wayefuna ukuhamba laye, ngakho wasemsoka ngenxa yamaJuda akuleyondawo ngoba bonke babekwazi ukuthi uyise wayengumGrikhi. ⁴ Ekuhambeni kwabo kulelo lalelodolobho, babezethula izinqumo ezenziwa ngabapostoli labadala eJerusalema ukuze abantu

† **15:34** 15.34 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

bazilandele. ⁵ Ngakho amabandla aqiniswa ekukholweni abantu banda mihla yonke.

Umbono KaPhawuli Ngendoda YeMasedoniya

⁶ UPhawuli labaphelekezeli bakhe bayibhoda yonke imango yaseFirigiya laseGalathiya, uMoya oNgcwele esemalele ukuthi atshumayele ilizwi edolobheni lase-Ezhiya. ⁷ Bathi sebefike emngceleni waseMisiya, bazama ukungena eBhithiniya, kodwa uMoya kaJesu kawubavumelanga. ⁸ Ngakho bedlula eceleni kweMisiya behlela eTrowasi. ⁹ Ebusuku uPhawuli wehlelwa ngumbono wendoda yaseMasedoniya imi imncenga isithi, “Woza eMasedoniya uzo-sisiza.” ¹⁰ UPhawuli esebone umbono lowo, sahle salungisa masinyane ukuthi siye eMasedoniya, sibona ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayesibizile ukuba sitshumayele ivangeli kubo.

Ukuphenduka KukaLidiya eFiliphi

¹¹ Sasuka eTrowasi sawela ulwandle santsheza saqonda eSamathrake, ngosuku olulandelayo sedlulela eNiyapholi. ¹² Sesisuka lapho saya eFiliphi, elaliyilona idolobho elikhulu lesiqinti seMasedoniya eyayibuswa ngamaRoma. Sahlala lapho okwensuku ezinengi.

¹³ NgeSabatha saphumela ngaphandle kwamasango omuzi saya emfuleni sifuna indawo yokukhuleka. Sahlala phansi saqalisa ukukhuluma labesifazane ababebuthene khonapho. ¹⁴ Omunye walabo ababelalele ngowesifazane owayethiwa nguLidiya, umthengisi welembu eliyibubende evela edolobheni laseThiyathira, ekhonza uNkulunkulu. INkosi yayivula inhliziyo yakhe ukuba emukele ilizwi likaPhawuli. ¹⁵ Kwathi yena kanye labendlu yakhe sebebhaphathiziwe, wasinxusela emzini wakhe. Wathi, “Nxa lingemukela njengekholwa eNkosini, wozani lizohlala endlini yami.” Wasincenga savuma.

UPhawuli LoSayilasi Entolongweni

¹⁶ Ngelinye ilanga sathi sisiya endaweni yokukhuleka sahlanguana lentombazana eyayiyisigqili, ilomoya wobungoma. Yayizuzela abanini bayo imali enengi ngalokho kulahlula. ¹⁷ Intombazana le yalandela uPhawuli lathi sonke imemeza isithi, “Amadoda la ayizinceku zikaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke, alitshela indlela yokusindiswa.” ¹⁸ Yakwenza lokhu okwensuku ezinengi. Ekucineni uPhawuli kwamcaphula lokho waphenduka wathi kuwo umoya, “Ngiyakulaya ngebizo likaJesu Khristu ukuthi uphume kuyo!” Umoya wahle waphuma kuyo khonapho.

¹⁹ Abanikazi bentombazana bathi ngokunanzelela ukuthi ithemba labo lokuzuzisa imali laselinyamalele, bababamba,

uPhawuli loSayilasi babadonsela enkundleni yokuthengisa ukuba bayeqondana leziphathamandla. ²⁰ Babamisa phambi kwabomantshi bathi, “Amadoda la angamaJuda asedunge idolobho lakithi ²¹ ngokukhuthaza imikhuba engaphandle komthetho ukuthi thina amaRoma siyamukele kumbe siyilandele.”

²² Ixuku layingenela indaba yokuhlasela uPhawuli loSayilasi, ngakho omantshi bathi kabakhululwe izigqoko batshaywe. ²³ Sebebatshaye kabuhlungu babaphosela entolongweni kwathiwa umlindijele abakhangele aqinisisa. ²⁴ Esezwe lowomlayo wabafuqela endlini yentolongo ephakathi wababopha inyawo, wazibophela ensikeni.

²⁵ Sekungaba phakathi kwamabili ebusuku uPhawuli loSayilasi bakhuleka bahlabela amahubo kuNkulunkulu, ezinye izibotshwa zibalalele. ²⁶ Masinyane kwaba lokuzamazama komhlaba kwaze kwanyikinyeka lezisekelo zentolongo. Izivalo zentolongo zathi gwabu zavuleka, amaketane ezibotshwa athukuluka. ²⁷ Umlindijele waphaphama, wathi ngokubona iminyango yentolongo ivulekile, wakhokha inkemba yakhe esefuna ukuzibulala ngoba ekhumbula ukuthi izibotshwa zasezibalekile. ²⁸ Kodwa uPhawuli wamemeza wathi, “Ungazilimazi bo! Sikhona sonke!”

²⁹ Umlindijele wathi kakulethwe izibane, wangena wazilahla phambi kukaPhawuli loSayilasi eqhaqhazela. ³⁰ Wasebakhuphela phandle wababuza wathi, “Madoda, ngenzeni ukuze ngisindiswe na?”

³¹ Baphendula bathi, “Kholwa eNkosini uJesu, uzasindiswa; wena kanye lendlu yakho.” ³² Basebemtshumayeza ngelizwi leNkosi kanye labanye abendlu yakhe. ³³ Ngaleloholo lebusuku umlindijele wabathatha wabagezisa imvimvinya zabo; kwasekusithi khonokho nje yena labendlu yakhe bahle babhaphathizwa. ³⁴ Umlindijele wahamba labo endlini yakhe, wabapha ukudla. Indlu yakhe yonke yaba lokuthokoza ngoba basebekholwa kuNkulunkulu.

³⁵ Kwathi sokusile, omantshi bathuma amaxusa abo kumlindijele lomlayo othi: “Bakhulule abantu labo.” ³⁶ Umlindijele watshela uPhawuli wathi, “Omantshi sebethe wena loSayilasi likhululwe. Selingahamba. Lihambe ngokuthula.”

³⁷ Kodwa uPhawuli wathi emanxuseni: “Basibhaxabule phambi kwabantu singazange sithonisiswe thina singamaRoma agcweleyo, basiphosela entolongweni. Kanti manje sebefuna ukusikhupha ngasese na? Hatshi! Kababuye bona ngokwabo basesikhupha.”

³⁸ Amanxusa akubika lokhu kubomantshi abathi ngokuzwa ukuthi uPhawuli loSayilasi babengamaRoma agcweleyo, bethuka. ³⁹ Beza ukuzabancenga, babakhupha entolongweni, babacela ukuthi basuke kulelodobho. ⁴⁰ UPhawuli loSayilasi sebephumile entolongweni baya endlini kaLidiya lapho abahlangana khona labazalwane babaqinisa. Basebesuka bahamba.

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EThesalonika

¹ Bathi sebedlule e-Amfipholi le-Apholoniya, bafika eThesalonika lapho okwakulesinagogu yamaJuda khona. ² Njengenjayelo yakhe uPhawuli waya esinagogweni, kwathi ngamaSabatha amathathu wabonisana labo ngeMibhalo, ³ echaza njalo eveza obala ukuthi uKhristu wayemele ahlupheke njalo avuke kwabafileyo. Wathi, “UJesu lo engitshumayela ngaye kini unguye uKhristu.” ⁴ Amanye amaJuda akukholwa lokho asehlanganyelana loPhawuli loSayilasi, njengalokho okwenziwa linani elikhulu lamaGrikhi abesaba uNkulunkulu, kugoqela lehlekanyana labesifazane abahloniphekayo.

⁵ Kodwa amaJuda aba lomona; ngakho asehuga izixh-wali endaweni yokuthengisa, abalixuku elithile asevusa umsindo edolobheni. Aphuthumela endlini kaJasoni edinga uPhawuli loSayilasi efuna ukuba letha phambi kukazulu. ⁶ Kodwa kwathi sebaswele basebedonsela uJasoni labanye abazalwane abathile kubaphathi bedolobho bememeza besithi: “Amadoda la abekade edala uhlupho emhlabeni wonke manje aseze lapha, ⁷ uJasoni yena wawemukela endlini yakhe. Bonke bahlinikeza imithetho kaKhesari besithi kulenye inkosi ethiwa nguJesu.” ⁸ Bathi bekuzwa lokhu abantu labaphathi bedolobho bazonda kakhulu. ⁹ Kwasekuthiwa uJasoni labanye bakhe kabakhuphe isibambiso ngemali ethile, kwayikhona bekhululwa ukuthi bahambe.

EBheriya

¹⁰ Konela ukuthi kuhlwe abazalwane babasusa uPhawuli loSayilasi babasa eBheriya. Ekufikeni kwabo khona baya esinagogweni yamaJuda. ¹¹ AmaJuda eBheriya wona ayelesimilo esingcono kulaleso esamaThesalonika, ngoba alemukela ilizwi ngomfutho omkhulu njalo ayihlola iMibhalo insuku zonke ukuze abone ukuthi lokho uPhawuli ayekutsho kwakuliqiniso na. ¹² AmaJuda amanengi akholwa, kanye labesifazane abanengi bamaGrikhi abahloniphekayo lamadoda amanengi amaGrikhi.

¹³ Kwathi amaJuda aseThesalonika esezwile ukuthi uPhawuli wayesetshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu eBheriya, aya khona futhi, athela abantu umoya omubi abadunga. ¹⁴ Abazalwane bahle bathumela uPhawuli ngasokhunjini lolwandle, kodwa uSayilasi loThimothi basala eBheriya. ¹⁵ Amadoda ayephelekezela uPhawuli amtshiya e-Athene asebuyela lomlayezo wokuthi uSayilasi loThimothi bamlandele ngokuphangisa.

E-Athene

¹⁶ UPhawuli esabamelele e-Athene, wakhathazeka kakhulu ngokubona ukuthi idolobho lelo laligcwele izithombe. ¹⁷ Ngakho wabonisana lamaJuda kanye lamaGrikhi ayemesaba uNkulunkulu esinagogweni lasendaweni yokuthengisa zonke insuku lalabo ababekhonapho. ¹⁸ Ixuku lezazi zama-Ephikhuri lamaStoyikhi laphikisana laye. Abanye babo babuza bathi, “Uwumani lolu luzama ukuthini kanti?” Abanye bathi, “Kungathi utshumayela ngonkulunkulu bezizweni.” Bakutsho lokhu ngoba uPhawuli wayetshumayela izindaba ezinhle ngoJesu langokuvuka kwabafileyo. ¹⁹ Basebehamba laye enkundleni ye-Ariyophagasi, bafika bathi kuye, “Ake usitshale ukuthi imfundiso le entsha oyethulayo iyini. ²⁰ Uletha ezindlebeni zethu imibono engajayelekanga, ngakho sifuna ukwazi ukuthi itshoni.” ²¹ (Wonke ama-Atheni labezizwe ababehlala khona babechitha isikhathi sabo bengenzi lutho ngaphandle kokukhuluma lokulalela imibono emitsha.)

²² UPhawuli wasukuma enkundleni ye-Ariyophagasi wathi, “Madoda ase-Atheni! Ngiyabona ukuthi kukho konke lingabantu abakhonzayo. ²³ Ngoba ngithe ngihambahamba, ngabona izithombe zenu, ngaze ngafumana ialithari elilombhalo othi:

Kukulunkulu Ongaziwayo.

Manje-ke lokho elikukhonza njengolutho olungaziwayo yikho engizakutshumayela kini.

²⁴ UNkulunkulu owenza umhlaba lakho konke okukuwo uyiNkosi yezulu lomhlaba, njalo kahlali emathempelini akhiwe ngezandla. ²⁵ Njalo kancediswa yizandla zabantu ingathi kukhona akuswelayo, ngoba yena ngokwakhe upha bonke abantu impilo, umphefumulo lokunye konke. ²⁶ Ngomuntu oyedwa wenza zonke izizwe zabantu, ukuthi zakhe emhlabeni wonke; njalo wamisa izikhathi abazilungiselweyo lazo kanye izindawo abamele bahlale kuzo. ²⁷ UNkulunkulu wakwenza lokhu ukuze abantu bamdinge lokuthi mhlawumbe bamfinyelele bamfumane, loba nje uvele engakhatshana komunye lomunye wethu.

28 'Ngoba siphila kuye, sihambe ngaye njalo siphelaliswe nguye.' Njengokutsho kwezinye izimbongi zakini ukuthi, 'Singabantwabakhe.'

29 Ngakho-ke njengoba singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, kasingacabangini ukuthi ubuNkulunkulu bunjengegolide, loba isiliva kumbe ilitsho; umfanekiso obunjwe ngobungcitshi bomuntu. 30 Endulo uNkulunkulu kakunakanga ukungazi lokhu, kodwa khathesi uselaya bonke abantu ezindaweni zonke ukuba baphenduke. 31 Ngoba uselumisile usuku lapho azakwahlulela khona umhlaba ngokulunga ngaye umuntu amkhetheleyo. Usebuvezile ubufakazi balokhu kubo bonke abantu ngokumvusa kwabafuleyo."

32 Bathi besizwa ngokuvuka kwabafuleyo, abanye babo bamklolodela, kodwa abanye bathi, "Sifuna ukuphinda sikuzwe ukhuluma ngale indaba njalo." 33 Ngalokho-ke, uPhawuli wasesuka enkundleni. 34 Abantu abathile baba ngabalandeli bakaPhawuli, bakholwa. Phakathi kwabo kwakuloDiyonisiyu owayelilunga le-Ariyophagasi, njalo lowesifazane okwakuthiwa nguDamari kanye labanye abalinani elithile.

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EKhorinte

1 Ngemva kwalokho uPhawuli wasuka e-Athene waya eKhorinte. 2 Khonapho wahlangana lomJuda owayethiwa ngu-Akhwila, owasePhontusi ngomdabuko, owayesanda kufika lapho evele e-Ithali lomkakhe uPhrisila ngoba uKlawudiyasi wayekhuphe isinqumo sokuthi amaJuda wonke aphume eRoma. UPhawuli wahamba wayababona, 3 kwathi ngoba engumenzi wamathente njengabo wasehlala labo, wasebenza labo. 4 NgamaSabatha wonke wayesiya esinagogweni ebonisana lamaJuda lamaGrikhi ezama ukuwaphendula.

5 Kwathi uSayilasi loThimothi sebefikile bevela eMasedoniya, uPhawuli wasenikela isikhathi sakhe sonke ekutshumayeleni kuphela efakaza kumaJuda ukuthi uJesu wayenguKhristu. 6 Kodwa kwathi lapho amaJuda emphikisa njalo emchothoza, wathintitha izembatho zakhe phambi kwawo wathi, "Igazi lenu kalibe phezu kwamakhanda enu! Mina sengiwenzile owami umlandu. Kusukela manje sengisiya kwabeZizwe."

7 UPhawuli wasesuka esinagogweni waya endlini eseceleni, eyayingekaThithu Justusi, owayekhonzisa uNkulunkulu. 8 UKhripasi, umphathi wesinagogu, kanye lendlu yakhe

yonke bakholwa eNkosini; kwathi labanengi bamaKhorinte abamuzwayo bakholwa, babhaphathizwa.

⁹ Ngobunye ubusuku iNkosi yakhuluma kuPhawuli ngombono yathi: **“Ungesabi; qhubeka utshumayela, ungathuli.** ¹⁰ **Ngoba mina ngilawe, kakho ozakuhlasela akulimaze, ngoba ngilabantu abanengi kulelidolobho.”**

¹¹ Ngakho uPhawuli wahlala khona okomnyaka olengxenye, ebafundisa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu.

¹² UGaliyo esangusibalukhulu wase-Akhayiya, amaJuda eKhorinte amanyana ahlasele uPhawuli, amletha emthethwandaba, ¹³ amangalela esithi, “Indoda le idonsela abantu ekukhonzeni uNkulunkulu ngezindlela eziphambene lomthetho.”

¹⁴ Kwathi uPhawuli esathi uyakhuluma, uGaliyo wathi kumaJuda, “Kube lina maJuda libika ngokona okuthile loba icala lokuganga okubi, bekufanele ukuthi ngililalele.

¹⁵ Kodwa njengoba kuphathelane ngezinto zamazwi lamabizo, langomthetho wenu; kulungiseni lina. Mina kangiyikuba ngumahluleli wezinto ezinjalo.” ¹⁶ Wasesithi kabaxotshwe enkantolo. ¹⁷ Bonke basebephendukela uSosithene, umphathi wesinagogu, bamtshaya phambi kwenkantolo. Kodwa uGaliyo kazange athi thiki lakancane.

UPhrisila Lo-Akhwila Lo-Apholo

¹⁸ UPhawuli waphinda wahlala njalo okwesikhathi esithile eKhorinte. Wasetshiya abazalwane waya e-Asiriya, ephelekezelwa nguPhrisila lo-Akhwila. Engakaweli ulwandle waqala wagela inwele zakhe eKhenkireya ngenxa yesifungo ayesenzile. ¹⁹ Bafika e-Efesu lapho uPhawuli atshiya khona uPhrisila lo-Akhwila. Yena waya esinagogweni wayabonisana lamaJuda. ²⁰ Bamcela ukuthi ahlale okwesikhathi eside kodwa wala. ²¹ Wathi esesuka wathembisa wathi, “Ngizaphenduka nxa kuyintando kaNkulunkulu.” Wasewela ulwandle esuka e-Efesu. ²² Wakhuphukela eKhesariya wahamba wayabingelela ibandla eJerusalema, wasesehlela e-Antiyokhi.

²³ UPhawuli eseke wahlala e-Antiyokhi wasuka lapho wabhoda indawo ngendawo kuwo wonke umango waseGalathiya lowaseFirigiya eqinisa bonke abafundi.

²⁴ Kusenjalo, umJuda owayethiwa ngu-Apholo, owe-Alekizandriya ngomdabuko, weza e-Efesu. Wayeyindoda efundileyo, elolwazi olukhulu ngeMibhalo. ²⁵ Yayifundisiwe ngendlela yeNkosi, ikhuluma ngomfutho njalo ifundisa okuqondileyo ngoJesu, isazi ngobhaphathizo lukaJohane kuphela. ²⁶ Yakhuluma ngesibindi esinagogweni. Kwathi

uPhrisila lo-Akhwila beyizwa, bayinxusa emzini wabo, bayichazela ngokugcweleyo indlela kaNkulunkulu.

²⁷ U-Apholo wayefuna ukuya e-Akhayiya, abazalwane basebemkhuthaza, babhalela abafundi khonale ukuthi bamamukele. Wathi efika khona waba luncedo olukhulu kulabo ababekholwe beholwa ngumusa. ²⁸ Ngoba watshukana lamaJuda ewaphikisa enkundleni, ebonisa obala eMibhalweni ukuthi uJesu wayenguKhristu.

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UPhawuli E-Efesu

¹ Kwathi u-Apholo eseKhorinte uPhawuli wathatha indlela ehamba phakathi kwelizwe waze wayafika e-Efesu. Khonapho wafumana abafundi abathile, ² wababuza wathi, “Lamamukela na uMoya oNgcwele ngesikhathi liqalisa ukukholwa?”

Baphendula bathi, “Hatshi, kasizwanga lokuzwa ukuthi kuloMoya oNgcwele.”

³ Ngakho uPhawuli wasebuza wathi, “Pho lathola luphi ubhaphathizo?”

Baphendula bathi, “Ubhaphathizo lukaJohane.”

⁴ UPhawuli wathi, “Ubhaphathizo lukaJohane lwalubhaphathizo lokuphenduka. Watshela abantu ukuthi bakholwe kulowo owayezakuza ngemva kwakhe, esitsho ukuthi kuJesu.” ⁵ Sebekuzwile lokhu babhaphathizelwa ebizweni leNkosi uJesu. ⁶ UPhawuli esebeke izandla zakhe phezu kwabo uMoya oNgcwele wehlela kubo, bakhuluma ngendimi njalo baphrofitha. ⁷ Babengamadoda ayengaba litshumi lambili bebonke.

⁸ UPhawuli wangena esinagogweni wakhuluma ngesi-bindi khona okwezinyanga ezintathu, echaza okusuthisayo ngombuso kaNkulunkulu. ⁹ Kodwa abanye babo baba yiziqholo; bala ukukholwa, bakhuluma kubi obala ngeNdlela. Ngakho uPhawuli wabatshiya. Wathatha abafundi wasuka wayahlangana labo baxoxisana nsuku zonke esikolweni sikaThiranu. ¹⁰ Lokhu kwaqhubeka okweminyaka emibili, kwaze kwathi wonke amaJuda lamaGrikhi ayehlala kulesosifunda sase-Ezhiya alizwa ilizwi leNkosi.

¹¹ UNkulunkulu wenza imimangaliso engajayelekanga ngoPhawuli, ¹² izifinyo lamathawulo okwakuthintiswe kuye kwakusiwa kwabagulayo bahle basile emikhuhlaneni yabo lemimoya emibi iphume kubo.

¹³ Amanye amaJuda ayebhoda exotsha imimoya emibi azama ukubiza ibizo leNkosi uJesu kulabo ababelamadi-moni. Ayesithi, “Ngebizo likaJesu uPhawuli atshumayela

ngaye, ngikulaya ukuthi uphume.”¹⁴ Ababesenza lokhu ngamadodana ayisikhombisa kaSkeva umphristi omkhulu wamaJuda.¹⁵ Kwelinye ilanga umoya omubi waphendula wathi, “UJesu ngiyamazi, loPhawuli ngiyamazi, kodwa lina lingobani na?”¹⁶ Kwasekusithi indoda eyayilomoya omubi yabeqela, yabehlula bonke. Yabatshaya okuzwayo baze baphuma endlini bebaleka benqunu njalo besopha igazi.

¹⁷ Kwathi lokhu sekuzwakele kumaJuda lamaGrikhi ayehlala e-Efesu, onke ethuka ngokwesaba, ibizo leNkosi uJesu laselihlonitshwa kakhulu.¹⁸ Abanengi balabo abasebekholwa beza baphumela egcekeni, bevuma iziphambeko zabo.¹⁹ Abanengi ababehlalula baletha ndawonye inqulu yabo bayitshisa obala. Bathi sebehlolele izindleko zaleyomiqulu kwabonakala kungaba ngamadrakhima azinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amahlanu.²⁰ Ngaleyondlela ilizwi leNkosi landa kabanzi njalo lakhula laba lamandla.

²¹ Ngemva kwakho konke lokhu sekwenzakele, uPhawuli wazimisela ukuya eJerusalema, ezadlula eMasedoniya lase-Akhayiya. Wathi, “Nxa sengike ngaya khona, kuzamele ngethekelele laseRoma.”²² Wathuma ababili abasizi bakhe eMasedoniya, uThimothi lo-Erastu, yena esasele okwesikhatshana esifundeni sase-Ezhiya.

Isiyaluyalu E-Efesu

²³ Ngalesosikhathi kwaba lokudungeka okukhulu ngeNdlela.²⁴ Umkhandi wesiliva owayethiwa nguDemetriyasi owayesenza izikhonzelo zokukhonzela u-Athemisi ngesiliva, wayengenisa imali ezwayo kubakhandi.²⁵ Wababizela ndawonye kanye lezinye izisebenzi zemisebenzi efananayo wathi kubo, “Madoda, liyakwazi ukuthi sizuzwa imali enengi ngomsebenzi lo.²⁶ Liyabona njalo liyezwa ukuthi uPhawuli lo usenze abantu abanengi bakholwa njalo uzadukisa abantu abanengi lapha e-Efesu lakuso sonke isifunda sase-Ezhiya. Uthi yena onkulunkulu ababunjwe ngumuntu kabasibo onkulunkulu lakancinyane.²⁷ Kulengozi-ke yokuthi kakuyikuba ngumsebenzi wethu kuphela ozalahlekelwa libizo lawo elihle, kodwa lethempeli likankulunkulukazi omkhulu u-Athemisi lizadunyazwa, laye unkulunkulukazi ngokwakhe, yena okhonzwa kusosonke isifunda sase-Ezhiya lasemhlabeni wonke, uzakwemukwa ubukhosi bakhe.”

²⁸ Bathi bekuzwa lokhu bafuthelana ngokuzonda, bahle bamemeza besithi, “Mkhulu u-Athemisi wama-Efesu!”²⁹ Masinyane nje idolobho lonke laphithizela. Abantu badumela uGayiyasi lo-Aristakhasi ababe ngabaphelekezeli bakaPhawuli, bengabeMasedoniya,

babahudulela enkundleni yemidlalo bonke bayakuthi cwi khona. ³⁰ UPhawuli wayefuna ukuzithela emphakathini, kodwa abafundi bamalela. ³¹ Labanye abaphathi besifunda, ababengabangane bakaPhawuli, labo bamthumela ilizwi bathi angaqali ukuyavela enkundleni yemidlalo.

³² Kwakungasaqondakali enkundleni: Abanye babeklabalala besitsho lokhu, abanye labo besitsho okunye. Abantu abanengi babevele bengazi lokuthi babelandeni lapho. ³³ AmaJuda afuqela u-Alekizanda phambili esithi kawakhulumele. Waphakamisa isandla ukuwathulisa ukuze achasisise kuhle indaba ebantwini. ³⁴ Kodwa athi ngokunanzelela ukuthi wayengumJuda, onke ahlaba umkhosi kanyekanye okwaphose kwathatha amahola amabili, besithi, "Mkhulu u-Athemisi wama-Efesu!"

³⁵ Unobhala wedolobho walithulisa ixuku wathi, "Madoda ase-Efesu, akusikho yini ukuthi umhlaba wonke uyakwazi ukuthi idolobho lase-Efesu yilo elingumlondolozisi wethempeli lika-Athemisi omkhulu, kanye lomfanekiso wakhe owehla uvela ezulwini?" ³⁶ Pho-ke njengoba lokhu kuyinto engaphikiswayo, thulani lingenzi izinto zamawala. ³⁷ Selilethe amadoda la lapha, kodwa wona engagqokezanga emathempelini kumbe athuka unkulunkulukazi wethu. ³⁸ Ngakho nxa uDemetriyasi lalabo akhanda labo belensolo loba ngobani, imithethwandaba ivuliwe, njalo labahluleli bakhona. Bangamangala. ³⁹ Nxa kukhona njalo okunye elifuna ukukutsho, kakuyethoniswa ngomthetho enkundleni. ⁴⁰ Njengoba kunje nje sisengozini yokubekwicala lokuvusa isiyaluyalu ngenxa yezehlakalo zalamuhla. Kungenzeka lokho sizakwehluleka ukuchaza imbangela yalesisiphithiphithi, ngoba ngempela kungekho sizatho." ⁴¹ Eqeda kukhuluma lokhu, wawuchitha umhlangano.

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Udlula EMasedoniya LaseGrisi

¹ Kwathi umsindo usuphelile uPhawuli wabiza abafundi, wathi esebaqinisile wabavalelisa waqonda eMasedoniya. ² Wahamba wadabula kulowomango, ekhuluma amazwi amanengi okukhuthaza abantu, wacina esefike eGrisi ³ lapho ahlala khona okwezinyanga ezintathu. AmaJuda abumba icebo ngaye eselungele ukuwela aye e-Asiriya yikho wacabanga ukuthi abuyele ngendlela yase-Masedoniya. ⁴ Wayephelekezelwa nguSophatha indodana kaPhirusi waseBheriya, lo-Aristakhasi, loSekhundu waseThesalonika, loGayiyasi waseDebhe, loThimothi laye,

kwasekusiba nguThikhikhasi loThrofimasi abesifunda sase-Ezhiya. ⁵ Amadoda la asandulela ayasimelela eTrowasi. ⁶ Kodwa sawela ulwandle sisuka eFiliphi ngemva koMkhosi weSinkwa esingelaMvubelo, kwathi ngemva kwensuku ezinhlanu sahlangu labanye eTrowasi lapho esahlala khona insuku eziyisikhombisa.

UYuthikhasi Uvuswa Ekufeni ETrowasi

⁷ Ngosuku lokuqala lweviki sahlangu ukhulephuna isinkwa. UPhawuli watshumayela ebantwini, kwathi ngoba efuna ukusuka kusisa, wakhuluma kwaze kwaba phakathi kobusuku. ⁸ Endlini ephezulu lapho esasihlanganele khona kwakulezibane ezinengi. ⁹ Kwakulejaha elalithiwa nguYuthikhasi lihlezi ewindini, labanjwa yibuthongo uPhawuli elokhu ekhuluma engaqedi. Lathi selijumekile, lawela phansi lisuka esitezi sesithathu labuthwa selifile. ¹⁰ UPhawuli wehla, wazilahla phezu kwejaha lelo waligona wathi, "Lingethuki, liyaphila!" ¹¹ Wasebuyela phezulu esitezi wahlephuna isinkwa wadla. Esekhulume kwaze kwasa, wasuka. ¹² Abantu balisa ekhaya ijaha liphila, bona baduduzeka kakhulu.

UPhawuli Uvalelisa Abadala Base-Efesu

¹³ Sathungamela ukuya emkhunjini sagwedla sisiya e-Asosi lapho esasizathatha khona uPhawuli awele lathi. Lokhu wayekulungiselele ngoba wayezahamba ngenyawo esiya khonale. ¹⁴ Wathi ngokuhlangana lathi e-Asosi samngenisa saqonda eMithilene. ¹⁵ Ngosuku olulandelayo sawela sisuka lapho sayafika eKhiyosi. Kwathi ngosuku olulandelayo sachaphela eSamosi, ngosuku olulandelayo sayafika eMilethusi. ¹⁶ Uphawuli wayezimisele ukuwela edlule eceleni kwe-Efesu engafuni ukuchitha isikhathi esifundeni sase-Ezhiya, ngoba wayejahe ukuyafika eJerusalema, nxa kusenzeka kube ngosuku lwePhentekhosti.

¹⁷ EseMilethusi uPhawuli wathumela ilizwi e-Efesu ebiza abadala bebandla. ¹⁸ Sebefikile wathi kubo, "Liyakwazi ukuthi ngaphila njani ngesikhathi sonke ngilani, kusukela ngosuku engafika ngalo esifundeni sase-Ezhiya. ¹⁹ Ngayikhonza iNkosi ngokuzithoba okukhulu langezinyembezi, loba ngangilingwa kabuhlungu ngamacebo amaJuda. ²⁰ Liyakwazi ukuthi kangizange ngithikaze ukutshumayela loba yikuphi obekungaba luncedo kini kodwa ngalifundisa obala njalo ngingena izindlu ngezindlu. ²¹ Ngitshumayele kumaJuda lakumaGrikhi ukuthi kumele baphendukele kuNkulunkulu ngokuphenduka, bakholwe eNkosini yethu uJesu.

²² Okwamanje ngiqhutshwa nguMoya ukuthi ngiye eJerusalema loba ngingazi ukuthi kuzakwenzakalani kimi khonale. ²³ Ngazi kuphela ukuthi kuwo wonke amadolobho uMoya oNgcwele ungixwayisa ukuthi ukubotshwa lobunzima kungimelele. ²⁴ Kodwa eyami impilo ngiyibona ingasilutho kimi, injongo yami emqoka yikuqeda loluhambo lokufeza lumsebenzi engiwuphiwe yiNkosi uJesu, umsebenzi wokufakaza ivangeli lomusa kaNkulunkulu.

²⁵ Khathesi ngiyazi ukuthi kakho kini engihambe ngitshumayela khona umbuso ozaphinda angibone futhi. ²⁶ Ngakho ngiyafakaza kini lamuhla ukuthi kangilacala ngegazi labantu bonke. ²⁷ Ngoba kangingabazanga ukutshumayela kini yonke intando kaNkulunkulu. ²⁸ Zigcineni lina kanye lawo wonke umhlambi uMoya oNgcwele olenze laba ngabathungameli. Wobani ngabelusi bebandla likaNkulunkulu, owalithenga ngegazi lakhe. ²⁹ Ngiyazi ukuthi nxa sengisukile lapha, impisi eziphangayo zizakuza phakathi kwenu ziwungenele umhlambi. ³⁰ Laphakathi kwenu kuzavela abantu abazalihanekela iqiniso ukuze abanye abafundi babalandele. ³¹ Ngakho lihale liqaphele! Khumbulani ukuthi okweminyaka emithathu kangizange ngiphumule ukuxwayisa omunye lomunye wenu ubusuku lemini ngezinyembezi.

³² Khathesi ngilinkela kuNkulunkulu laselizwini lomusa wakhe elilamandla okulakha lokulipha ilifa phakathi kwabo bonke abangcwelisiweyo. ³³ Kangihawukelanga siliva samuntu, loba igolide kumbe izembatho. ³⁴ Lina ngokwenu liyakwazi ukuthi izandla zami lezi zagcwalisa zonke izinswelo zami lezabakhula bami. ³⁵ Kukho konke engakwenzayo ngalibonisa ukuthi ngalindlela yokusebenza nzima kumele sisize ababuthakathaka, sikhumbula amazwi eNkosi uJesu athi, **'Kubusiseke kakhulu ukupha ukwedlula ukwamukela.'** "

³⁶ Esekutshilo lokhu waguqa phansi kanye labo bonke, wakhuleka. ³⁷ Bonke bakhala lapho bemgona lokumanga. ³⁸ Okwabadanisa kakhulu kwaba yilizwi lakhe lokuthi babengasayikuphinde babubone njalo ubuso bakhe. Basebemphelekezela emkhunjini.

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Ukuya EJerusalema

¹ Sathi sesizehlukanise kubo ngobuhlungu, sawela ulwandle saqonda nta eKhosi. Ngosuku olulandelayo saya eRodi, sasuka khona saya ePhathara. ² Safumana umkhumbi owawuchaphela eFenikhiya, sangena kuwo,

sahamba. ³ Sayithi tshazi iSiphrazi, sedlula ngeningizimu kwayo, saya e-Asiriya. Sakhuphukela eThire lapho umkhumbi wethu wawuzakwethula khona umthwalo wawo. ⁴ Safumana abafundi khona, sahlala labo insuku eziyisikhombisa. Baholwa nguMoya ukuthi bamncenge uPhawuli ukuthi angayi eJerusalema. ⁵ Kodwa isikhathi sethu sesifikile, sasuka saqhubeka ngohambo lwethu. Bonke abafundi lamakhosikazi abo kanye labantwana basiphelekezela basikhupha edolobheni, safika okhunjini saguqa sakhuleka. ⁶ Sesivalelisene, sangena emkhunjini, bona babuyela emakhaya.

⁷ Saqhubeka ngohambo lwethu sisuka eThire sayakhuphukela ePhetholemayi, lapho sabingelela abazalwane, sahlala labo usuku lonke. ⁸ Sasuka ngelanga elilandelayo safika eKhesariya sayahlala endlini kaFiliphu umvangeli, engomunye wabayisiKhombisa. ⁹ Wayelamadodakazi amane angendanga njalo ephrofitha.

¹⁰ Sesihlale insuku ezimbalwa kwafika umphrofethi owayethiwa ngu-Agabhasi evela eJudiya. ¹¹ Weza kithi, wathatha ibhanti likaPhawuli, wazibopha izandla lezinyawo zakhe ngalo, wathi, "UMoya oNgcwele uthi, 'Ngayonale indlela amaJuda aseJerusalema azabopha umninibhanti leli abesemnikela kwabeZizwe.'"

¹² Sathi sikuzwa lokhu sonke labantu bakhonapho sancengana loPhawuli ukuthi angayi eJerusalema. ¹³ UPhawuli waphendula wathi, "Likhalelani lingidabula inhliziyo yami na? Kangilungelanga ukubotshwa kuphela, kodwa lokufa eJerusalema ngifela ibizo leNkosi uJesu." ¹⁴ Kwathi ngoba engancengeki sadela sathi, "Mayenzeke intando yeNkosi."

¹⁵ Ngemva kwalokhu, salungisa sasesisiya eJerusalema. ¹⁶ Abafundi abathile abaseKhesariya basiphelekezela basisa emzini kaMnasoni lapho esasizahlala khona. Wayeyindoda edabuka eSiphrazi, engomunye wabafundi bakuqala.

Ukufika KukaPhawuli EJerusalema

¹⁷ Ekufikeni kwethu eJerusalema abazalwane basamukela ngokuthokoza. ¹⁸ Ngosuku olulandelayo uPhawuli lathi sonke sahamba ukuyabona uJakhobe, bonke abadala babekhona. ¹⁹ UPhawuli wababingelela, wabika ngokugcweleyo konke uNkulunkulu ayekwenzile kwabeZizwe ngokusebenza kwakhe.

²⁰ Bathi sebekuzwile lokhu bamdumisa uNkulunkulu. Ngakho basebesithi kuPhawuli, "Uyabona mzalwane ukuthi izinkulungwane ezinengi zamaJuda sezikholiwe njalo wonke atshisekela umlayo. ²¹ Sebetshelwe ukuthi wena ufundisa wonke amaJuda ahlala phakathi kwabeZizwe

ukuthi afulathele uMosi, ubatshela ukuthi angasoki abantwababo lokuthi angalandeli amasiko ethu. ²² Pho senzeni? Ngeqiniso bazakuzwa ukuthi usufikile, ²³ ngakho yenza lokhu esikutshela khona. Kulamadoda amane phakathi kwethu asenze isifungo. ²⁴ Hamba lawo amadoda la, ubambisane lawo emkhutsheni wokuzihlambulula, uwabhadalele izindleko zawo zakhona ukuze aphuce amakhanda awo. Ngakho umuntu wonke uzakwazi ukuthi akulaqiniso kulimibiko ngawe, kodwa babone ukuthi wena ngokwakho uphila ngokulandela umlayo. ²⁵ AbeZizwe bona abakholwayo sesibalobele ngesinqumo sethu ukuthi kabaxwaye ukudla okunikelwe ezithombeni, bangadli ububende, lenyama yenyamazana ekhanyiweyo lokuhlobonga.”

²⁶ Ngosuku olulandelayo uPhawuli wawathatha lawomadoda wayazihlambulula kanye lawo. Wasesiya ethempelini ukuyakwazisa ngosuku lokuphela kwensuku zokuhlambulula lokuthi umnikelo walowo lalowo wabo wawuzakwenziwa nini.

UPhawuli Uyabotshwa

²⁷ Kwathi lezinsuku eziyisikhombisa sezizaphela, amaJuda athile esifunda sase-Ezhiya abona uPhawuli ethempelini. Alidunga lonke ixuku ambamba ²⁸ ehlaba umkhosi esithi, “Madoda ako-Israyeli; sibambiseni! Yiyo le indoda efundisa abantu bonke ezindaweni zonke okuphambene labantu bakithi lomlayo wakithi kanye lendawo le. Ngaphandle kwalokho, usengenise amaGrikhi emagumeni ethempeli wangcolisa indawo le eNgcwele.” ²⁹ (Mandulo babebone uThrofimasi wase-Efesu edolobheni eloPhawuli basebekhumbula ukuthi uPhawuli wayeze laye emagumeni ethempeli.)

³⁰ Idolobho lonke laphithizela, abantu beza begijima beqhamuka inxa zonke. Bamdumela uPhawuli bamhudula bemsusa ethempelini, amasango alo ahle avalwa. ³¹ Bathi besazama ukumbulala, umbiko wafika kumlawuli wamabutho amaRoma ukuthi idolobho lonke laseJerusalema laseliphithizela. ³² Khonokho nje wathatha abanye abaphathi kanye lamabutho wagijimela esiphithiphithini leso. Kwathi labo ababevusa uthuli bebona umlawuli lamabutho akhe bema ukutshaya uPhawuli.

³³ Umlawuli weza wafika wambopha wathi kabotshwe ngamaketane amabili. Wasembuza ukuthi wayengubani lokuthi wayoneni. ³⁴ Abathile exukwini bamemeza lokhu, abanye bamemeza okunye, kwasekusithi ngoba umlawuli engalizwa iqiniso ngenxa yokuxokozela waselaya ukuthi

uPhawuli kasiwe enkambeni yamabutho. ³⁵ Esefikile ezinyathelweni zokuqansela endlini, abantu baphithizela ngamandla waze wathwalwa ngamabutho. ³⁶ Ixuku elalilandela laphikelela limemeza lisithi, “Msusele amanqe!”

UPhawuli Ukhuluma Lexuku Labantu

³⁷ Amabutho esathi amngenisa ngaphakathi, uPhawuli wacela kumlawuli wathi, “Ngingaba lelizwi lawe na?”

Yena waphendula wathi, “Uyasikhuluma yini isiGrikhi? ³⁸ Kawusuye yini umGibhithe owaqala umvukela, wakhokhela izinkulungwane ezine zamathekulambuso enkangala?”

³⁹ Uphawuli waphendula wathi, “NgingumJuda waseThasasi eSilisiya, isakhamuzi sedolobho elihloniphekayo. Ngicela ukuthi kengikhulume labantu laba.”

⁴⁰ Esethole imvumo kumlawuli, uPhawuli wema ezinyathelweni zokuqansela endlini wathulisa ixuku ngesandla. Kwathi bonke sebethule wakhuluma kubo ngesiHebheru wathi,

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¹ “Bazalwane labobaba, manje lalelani lizwe ukuzivikela kwami.”

² Bathi bemuzwa ekhuluma kubo ngesiHebheru bathula zwi.

UPhawuli wasesithi, ³ “Mina ngingumJuda owazalelwa eThasasi eseSilisiya, kodwa ngakhulela kulonaleli idolobho. Ngafunda ngaphansi kukaGamaliyeli, ngafundiswa okugcweleyo ngomlayo wabokhokho, lami ngakhuthalela uNkulunkulu njengani lamuhla. ⁴ Ngabahlukuluza abalandeli bale iNdlela baze bafa, ngibopha abesilisa labesifazane ngibaphosela entolongweni, ⁵ into engafakazwa ngumphristi omkhulu kanye lenkundla. Ngaze ngathola izincwadi kubo zisiya kubazalwane babo eDamaseko, ngaya khona ngifuna ukubaletha labobantu beyizibotshwa eJerusalem ukuthi bazojeziswa.

⁶ Kwathi sekungaba yimini enkulu sengisondela eDamaseko, masinyane kwaphazima ukukhanya kuvela ezulwini kwangizingelezela. ⁷ Ngawela phansi, ngezwa ilizwi lisithi kimi, **‘Sawuli! Sawuli! Ungihlukuluzelani na?’**

⁸ Ngabuza ngathi, ‘Ungubani, Nkosi?’

Waphendula wathi, **‘NginguJesu waseNazaretha omhlukuluzayo.’** ⁹ Ababengiphelekezela bakubona ukukhanya, kodwa kabalizwanga ilizwi lalowo owayekhuluma lami.

¹⁰ Ngabuza ngathi, ‘Kumele ngenzeni Nkosi?’

INkosi yathi, **'Phakama uye eDamaseko. Khonale uzatshelwa konke osumiselwe ukuthi ukwenze.'**
¹¹ Abaphelekezeli bami bangihola ngesandla bangisa eDamaseko ngoba inkazimulo yokukhanya yayingenze ngaba yisiphofu.

¹² Indoda eyayithiwa ngu-Ananiya yeza yazangibona. Yayingumlandeli omkhulu womlayo njalo ihlonitshwa kakhulu yiwo wonke amaJuda ayehlala khona. ¹³ Wema eceleni kwami wathi, 'Mzalwane Sawuli, bona njalo!' Ngalesosikhathi ngahle ngazuza amandla okumbona.

¹⁴ Wasesithi, 'UNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu usekukhethile ukuthi uyazi intando yakhe lokuthi umbone oLungileyo lokuba uzwe amazwi aphuma emlonyeni wakhe. ¹⁵ Uzakuba ngufakazi wakhe ebantwini bonke ngalokho okubonileyo lokuzwileyo. ¹⁶ Pho usalindeni? Sukuma ubhaphathizwe, ugeze izono zakho, ubiza ibizo lakhe.'

¹⁷ Ngithe sengibuyile eJerusalema ngikhuleka ethempelini, ngafikelwa yisiyeziphupho, ¹⁸ ngabona iNkosi ikhuluma isithi kimi, **'Phangisa! Suka masinyane eJerusalema ngoba kabayikubamukela ubufakazi bakho ngami.'**

¹⁹ Ngaphendula ngathi, 'Nkosi, lababantu bayakwazi ukuthi nganginquma lamasinagogu ngibabopha njalo ngibatshaya labo abakholwa kuwe. ²⁰ Lalapho kuchithwa igazi lomfakazi wakho uStefane ngangimi khonapho ngivumelana labo njalo ngilinde izigqoko zalabo ababembulala.'

²¹ INkosi yasisithi kimi, **'Hamba; ngizakuthumela kude kwabeZizwe.'**"

UPhawuli UngumRoma

²² Abantu bamlalela uPhawuli sonke isikhathi, kodwa esetsho lokhu bavungama bamemeza bathi, "Kasuswe emhlabeni lo umuntu! Kamelanga aphile!"

²³ Bathi sebeklabalala, behlubula amajazi abo, njalo bephosa uthuli emoyeni, ²⁴ umlawuli wamabutho walaya ukuthi uPhawuli kangeniswe enkambeni yamabutho. Wayala ukuthi atshaywe njalo abuzisiswe ukuthi kungani abantu bemvukela kanje. ²⁵ Bathi sebemlalisa phansi ukuthi bambhaxabule bembophile, uPhawuli wathi kumphathi wekhulu owayemi khonapho, "Kusemthethweni yini ukuthi utshaye umuntu ongumRoma ongetheswanga cala na?"

²⁶ Umphathi wekhulu esekuzwile lokho wayabikela umlawuli wamabutho wathi, "Usuzathini manje? Indoda le ingumRoma."

27 Umlawuli wamabutho waya kuPhawuli wambuza wathi, “Ake ungitshela, kanti ungumRoma na?”

Wathi, “Yebo, nginguye.”

28 Umlawuli wamabutho wasesithi, “Mina ngahlawula imali ukuthi ngithole ilungelo lokuba ngumRoma.”

UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Kodwa mina nginguye ngokuzalwa.”

29 Labo abasebelungele ukumbuzisisa bahle batshedela emuva masinyane. Umlawuli webutho ngokwakhe wethuka esenanzelela ukuthi wayebophe uPhawuli, um-Roma, ngamaketane.

Phambi KweSanihedrini

30 Ngosuku olulandelayo, njengoba umlawuli wamabutho wayefuna ukwazi isibili ukuthi kungani uPhawuli wayebekwa icala ngamaJuda, wamkhulula walaya abaphristi abakhulu leSanihedrini yonke ukuthi bahlangane. Wasemletha uPhawuli wamisa phambi kwabo.

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1 UPhawuli wawujolozela umphakathi weSanihedrini wathi, “Bazalwane, sengiwugcwalisile umlandu wami kuNkulunkulu ngenhliziyo eqotho kuze kube lamuhla.”

2 Umphristi omkhulu, u-Ananiya, kwamcunula lokhu, watshela labo ababemi eduze kukaPhawuli ukuthi bamukule umlomo. 3 UPhawuli wathi kuye, “UNkulunkulu uzakumukula, wena mduli oconjwe ngekalaga emhlophe! Lapha uhlalele ukungahlulela ngomthetho, ikanti wena ngokwakho uyaweqa umthetho ngokulaya ukuthi ngitshaywe!”

4 Labo ababemi eduze kukaPhawuli bathi, “Ulesibindi sokuthuka umphristi omkhulu kaNkulunkulu wena?”

5 UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Bazalwane, bengingazi ukuthi ungumphristi omkhulu; ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: ‘Ungakhulumi okubi ngombusi wabantu bakini.’*”

6 UPhawuli wayesazi ukuthi abanye babo babe ngamaSadusi, abanye bengabaFarisi, wasememeza phakathi kweSanihedrini wathi, “Bazalwane, mina ngingumFarisi, indodana yomFarisi. Ngithoniselwa ukuthi ngilethemba lokuvuka kwabafileyo.” 7 Wathi ngokutsho lokhu, kwavuka umsindo phakathi kwabaFarisi lamaSadusi, umphakathi wasudabukana phakathi. 8 (AmaSadusi athi kakulakuvuka ekufeni, lokuthi kakulazingilosi loba imimoya, kodwa abaFarisi bayakuvuma konke lokho ukuthi kukhona.)

* 23:5 23.5 U-Eksodasi 22.28

⁹ Kwaba lokuxokozela okukhulu, kwathi abanye abafundisi bomthetho ababe ngabaFarisi basukuma bayidaza inkani. Bathi, “Kasiboni lutho olubi ngendoda le. Mhlawumbe umoya kumbe ingilosi ikhulume kuye ke?”
¹⁰ Yavutha inkani umlawuli webutho waze wesaba ukuthi uPhawuli sebengamdabudabula. Waselaya amabutho ukuthi ahle amsuse kubo ngamandla amlethe enkambeni yamabutho.

¹¹ Ngobusuku obulandelayo iNkosi yema eduze kukaPhawuli yathi, **“Iba lesibindi! Njengoba usufakaze ngami eJerusalema, kusamele njalo uyofakaza eRoma.”**

Icebo Lokubulala UPhawuli

¹² Ngosuku olulandelayo amaJuda abumba icebo njalo enza isifungo sokuthi kawayikudla kumbe anathe engakambulali uPhawuli. ¹³ Kwakungamadoda edlula amatshumi amane ayehambisana lalelocebo. ¹⁴ Baya kubaphristi abakhulu labadala bathi, “Sesifunge ijoyi lokuthi kasiyikudla lutho size simbulale uPhawuli. ¹⁵ Ngakho-ke lina leSanihedrini khalazani kumlawuli webutho ukuthi amlethe kini ngenhloso yokuthi lifuna ubufakazi obugcweleyo ngecala lakhe. Thina sesilungisile ukuthi simbulale engakafiki lapha.”

¹⁶ Kodwa kwathi ukuba indodana kadadewabo kaPhawuli isilizwile lelicebo, yaya enkambeni yamabutho yayamtshela uPhawuli.

¹⁷ UPhawuli wasebiza omunye umphathi wekhulu wathi, “Hamba lejaha leli kumlawuli wamabutho; kukhona elifuna ukukutsho kuye.” ¹⁸ Ngakho wasemusa kumlawuli.

Umphathi wekhulu wathi, “Isibotshwa esinguPhawuli singibizile sangicela ukuthi ngilethe ijaha leli kuwe ngoba kukhona elifuna ukukutshela khona.”

¹⁹ Umlawuli wamthatha lowojaha, wambamba ngesandla waya laye eceleni, wambuza wathi, “Kuyini ofuna ukungitshela khona?”

²⁰ Wathi: “AmaJuda asevumelene ukuthi akucele wena ukuthi ulethe uPhawuli phambi kweSanihedrini kusasa ngenhloso yokuthi afuna ingcazelo epheleleyo mayelana laye. ²¹ Ungabavumeli ngoba abeqa amatshumi amane bawo bazamcathamela. Asenze isifungo sokuthi angadli njalo anganathi engakabulali uPhawuli. Kunje nje sebelungile, sebelindele imvumo yakho ngesicelo sabo.”

²² Umlawuli wathi kahambe umfana, wamqonqosela wathi, “Ungatsheli muntu ukuthi usungazisile ngalokhu.”

²³ Wasebiza abaphathi bebutho ababili wabalaya wathi, “Lungisani ixuku lamabutho angamakhulu amabili, abagadi bamabhiza abangamatshumi ayisikhombisa labangamakhulu amabili abahlome ngemikhonto ukuthi baye eKhesariya lamuhla ebusuku ngehola lesithathu. ²⁴ Lilungisele loPhawuli amabhiza ukuze asiwe kuMbusi uFelikhe evikelekile.”

²⁵ Wabhala incwadi kanje:

²⁶ Klawudiyasi Lisiya,
Kumhlekazi, uMbusi uFelikhe:
Ngiyabingelela.

²⁷ Indoda le yabanjwa ngamaJuda, okwathi esezama ukuyibulala ngafika lamabutho ami sayilamulela ngoba ngasengizwile ukuthi ingumRoma. ²⁸ Ngadinga ukwazi ukuthi ayesithi yoneni, yikho ngayiletha phambi kwe-Sanihedrini yawo. ²⁹ Ngezwa ukuthi icala layo laliphathelene lomlayo wawo, kodwa kwasweleka icala elingafanela ukufa loba ukugwethelwa entolongweni. ³⁰ Ngithe sengilunywe indlebe ngecebo lokuyibulala ngahle ngayedlulisela kuwe. Ngiphinde ngatshela omayimangalela ukuthi bazokwethula kuwe abamangalela ngakho.

³¹ Ngakho amabutho azilandela lezo ziqondiso amthatha uPhawuli ebusuku ayamfikisa e-Antiphatri. ³² Ngosuku olulandelayo amabutho amtshiya leqembu labagade amabhiza ukuthi liqhubeke laye, bona babuyela enkambeni. ³³ Kwathi abamabhiza sebefikile eKhesariya bayethula incwadi kumbusi loPhawuli laye bamnikela kuye. ³⁴ Umbusi wayibala incwadi wambuza ukuthi wayedabuka kusiphi isifunda. Esezwile ukuthi wayengoweSilisiya, ³⁵ Wathi, “Icala lakho ngizalhlola nxa labo abakumangalelayo sebefikile lapha.” Waselaya ukuthi uPhawuli agcinwe elindiwe esigodlweni sikaHerodi.

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Icala Lithethwa NguFelikhe

¹ Ngemva kwensuku ezinhlanu umphristi omkhulu u-Ananiya wehlela eKhesariya labadala abathile kanye lomeli owayethiwa nguThethula, bafika beneka ukumangalela kwabo uPhawuli kumbusi. ² Uphawuli esebiziwe, uThethula walethula icala kuFelikhe wathi: “Mhlekazi! Ngaphansi kombuso wakho sesikholise isikhathi sokuthula eside, ikanti lombono wakho usulethe intuthuko kulesisizwe. ³ Yonke indawo, ngazonke izindlela, mhlekazi omuhle Felikhe, siyakwamukela konke lokhu ngokubonga okukhulu. ⁴ Kodwa ukuthi ngingakuchitheli isikhathi, ngiyakucela ukuthi uke usizwe kancinyane esikutshoyo.

⁵ Indoda le siyifumane ukuthi iluhlupho, ivusa isiphithiphithi phakathi kwamaJuda kuwo wonke umhlaba. Ingumholi wequla lamaNazarini ⁶ futhi yazama njalo ukungcolisa ithempeli; yikho sayibamba. Sasifuna ukumahlulela ngokomlayo wethu. [⁷ Kodwa umlawuli uLisiya weza wazamthatha ngodlakela ezandleni zethu, wathi obamangalelayo kabeze phambi kwakhe].*
⁸ Ngokumhlola wena ngokwakho uzalibona iqiniso ngazonke lezizinto esimangalela ngazo.”

⁹ AmaJuda lawo ayingenela indaba eqinisa ukuthi lezizinto zaziliqiniso.

¹⁰ Kwathi umbusi esemphile ithuba lokuthi akhulume uPhawuli waphendula wathi: “Ngiyazi ukuthi usube ngumahluli walesisizwe okweminyaka eminengi; ngakho ngizivikela ngesibindi langentokozo. ¹¹ Ungalithola iqiniso lokuthi kakudluli insuku ezilitshumi lambili ngiyile eJerusalema ukuyakhonza. ¹² Abangimangalelayo kabazange bangifumane ngiphikisana lomuntu ethempelini, loba ngitshotshozela amaxuku emasin-agogweni kumbe ngaphi edolobheni. ¹³ Bangezake balethe ubufakazi kuwe balezizinto abangimangalela ngazo. ¹⁴ Kodwa ngiyavuma ukuthi ngikhonza uNkulunkulu wabokhokho bethu, njengomlandeli weNdlela abayibiza ngokuthi ngumvukela. Ngiyakukholwa konke okuvumelana loMlayo lokubhaliweyo kubaphrofethi, ¹⁵ njalo ngilethemba elifana lelamadoda la kuNkulunkulu, ukuthi kuzakuba lokuvuka kwabafuleyo, abalungileyo lababi. ¹⁶ Ngakho ngiyazama kokuphela ukuba isazela sami sihlale sihlanzekile phambi kukaNkulunkulu laphambi kwabantu.

¹⁷ Ngemva kweminyaka eminengi ngingekho, ngeza eJerusalema ukuletha izipho zabaswelayo ebantwini bakithi lokwethula iminikelo. ¹⁸ Ngangihlanzekile ngokomkhuba baze bangifumane ethempelini ngisenza lokhu. Kwakungelaxuku labantu elalilami, kumbe ukuthi ngangiphazamisa ngokuthile. ¹⁹ Kodwa kukhona amaJuda athile avela esifundeni sase-Ezhiya, okufanele ukuthi ngabe akhona lapha phambi kwakho, angethese icala nxa kukhona akusolayo ngami. ²⁰ Kumbe wonala akhona kawachaze ukuthi licala bani alifumanayo kimi mhlazana ngimi eSanihedrini, ²¹ ngaphandle kwalokhu kodwa engakumemezayo ngimi phambi kwawo ukuthi: ‘Kungenxa yokuvuka kwabafuleyo okwenza ngithonisiswe phambi kwenu lamuhla.’”

* 24:7 24.7 Livesi ayikho kwamanye amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

²² Ngakho uFelikhe, owayesazi kakhulu ngeNdlela walimisa icala. Wathi, “Kuzakuthi nxa uLisiya umlawuli angafika ngizaliquma icala lenu.” ²³ Walaya umphathi wekhulu ukuthi agcine uPhawuli elindiwe kodwa amvumele ukukhululeka okuthile kanye labangane bakhe ukuthi bamuphe lokho akuswelayo.

²⁴ Ngemva kwensuku ezinengi uFelikhe wafika lomkakhe uDrusila owaye ngumJudakazi. Wathi kakubizwe uPhawuli, wamlalela echaza ngokukholwa kuJesu Khristu. ²⁵ UPhawuli wathi esebalisa ngokulunga, langokuzithiba langokwahlulelwa okuzayo uFelikhe wesaba wathi, “Sekwanele okwamanje! Usungahamba. Kungaze kulunge njalo ngizakubiza.” ²⁶ Yena wayecabanga ukuthi uPhawuli uzamupha imali yokumfumbathisa, yikho wayembiza futhi-futhi ekhuluma laye.

²⁷ Isidlule iminyaka emibili, uFelikhe walandelwa esikhundleni nguPhokhiyu Festasi, kodwa ngoba uFelikhe wayefuna ukuthabisa amaJuda, watshiya uPhawuli elokhu esentolongweni.

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Ukuthonisiswa Phambi KukaFestasi

¹ Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu efikile esifundeni uFestasi, wasuka eKhesariya waya eJerusalema ² lapho abaphristi abakhulu labakhokheli bamaJuda bema phambi kwakhe beneka amacala kaPhawuli. ³ Bamcela ngokuphangisa uFestasi, ukuba abenzele umusa, abalethele uPhawuli eJerusalema, ngoba babeceba ukumcathamela bambulale endleleni. ⁴ UFestasi waphendula wathi, “UPhawuli uvalelwe eKhesariya, njalo mina ngokwami Ngiya khona masinyane. ⁵ Akuthi abanye abakhokheli bakini bahambe lami bafike bamethese amacala khonale, nxa kukhona akonileyo.”

⁶ Eshlale insuku eziyisificaminwembili loba ezilitshumi labo, wehlela eKhesariya, kwathi ngosuku olulandelayo wangenisa inkundla wathi kalethwe uPhawuli phambi kwakhe. ⁷ Esefikile uPhawuli amaJuda ayebuyile evela eJerusalema ambuthanela, ethula amacala amanengi esabekayo ngaye, kodwa engelabufakazi ngawo.

⁸ UPhawuli wasezivikela wathi, “Angenzanga lutho oluphikisa umlayo wamaJuda kumbe ukudumaza ithempeli, kumbe oluphikisa uKhesari.”

⁹ UFestasi wayefuna ukwenzela amaJuda umusa, wathi kuPhawuli, “Uyavuma na ukuya eJerusalema ukuthi ngiyekuthonisela khona amacala la?”

¹⁰ Waphendula uPhawuli wathi, “Khathezi sengisiyakuma phambi kwenkundla kaKhesari, lapho engifanele ukuthonisiswa khona. Kangonanga lutho kumaJuda, njengoba lawe usazi kakuhle. ¹¹ Kodwa, nxa ngilecala lokwenza loba yini efanele ukufa kangali ukubulawa. Kodwa nxa lawomacala engiwetheswa ngamaJuda la engasiqiniso, kakho olelungelo lokunginikela kuwo. Ngilidlulisele kuKhesari!”

¹² UFestasi esehlenganise amakhanda lomphakathi wakhe, wathi, “Usulidlulisele kuKhesari. Uzakuya-ke kuKhesari!”

UFestasi Ubonisana LeNkosi U-Agripa

¹³ Sekuyizinsuku ezimbalwa ngemva kwalokho iNkosi u-Agripa loBhenikhe bafika eKhesariya ukuyaqinisa ubudlelwano laye uFestasi. ¹⁴ Njengoba babezachitha insuku ezinengi khona, uFestasi wakhuluma leNkosi ngendaba kaPhawuli. Wathi, “Kulendoda lapha eyatshiywa nguFelikhe iyisibotshwa. ¹⁵ Ngathi ngiseJerusalema, abaphristi abakhulu labadala bamaJuda bayimangalela ngamacala athile, bacela ukuthi ibulawe.

¹⁶ Ngabatshela ukuthi kakusimkhuba wamaRoma ukunikela umuntu engakahlanganiswa labamangaleli bakhe, waphiwa ithuba lokuzivikela kulawo macala abambeka wona. ¹⁷ Bathi sebefikile lapha behamba lami, ngahle ngalingenisa icala, kodwa inkundla ngayihlanganisa ngosuku olulandelayo, ngathi indoda leyo kayingeniswe. ¹⁸ Sebephakamile ukuba bakhulume, kabasambekanga lawomacala engangiwakhumbula. ¹⁹ Kodwa, kulezinto ezithile ababephikisana ngazo laye mayelana lenkolo yabo langenye indoda eyafayo ethiwa nguJesu, uPhawuli athi yena iyaphila. ²⁰ Ngisuke ngadideka ukuthi ngizicubungule njani izindaba ezinjalo; yikho ngimbuzile ukuthi angavuma yini ukuya eJerusalema ayethonisiswa khona ngamacala la. ²¹ Kuthe uPhawuli esethe ucela icala lakhe limiswe liyoqunywa nguMbusi oMkhulu, ngathi kagcinwe entolongweni ngize ngimdlulisele kuKhesari.”

²² U-Agripa wasesithi kuFestasi, “Ngifuna ukuthi kengiyizwe mina ngokwami indoda leyo.”

Waphendula wathi, “Uzayizwa kusasa.”

UPhawuli Phambi Kuka-Agripa

²³ Kusisa u-Agripa loBhenikhe bafika ngodumo olukhulu bangena emthethwandaba lezikhulu zakhona ezaziwayo kanye labakhokheli bedolobho. UFestasi wathi uPhawuli kalethwe. ²⁴ UFestasi wasesithi, “Nkosi Agripa, lani lonke elikhona lathi lapha, liyayibona indoda le! Sonke isizwe samaJuda eJerusalema lakhona lapha eKhesariya

senza isikhalazo kimi bememeza ukuthi kayisafanelanga ukuthi ibe ilokhu iphila. ²⁵ Ngafumana ukuthi kwakunge-lalutho alwenzayo olufanele ukufa, kodwa ngenxa yokuthi wacela ukudluliselwa kuMbusi oMkhulu, ngakhetha ukuthi ngimdlulisele eRoma. ²⁶ Kodwa kakulalutho olubambekayo engizalulobela uMhlekazi ngaye. Ngakho sengimlethe lapha phambi kwenu lonke, ikakhulu phambi kwakho wena Nkosi Agripha, ukuze kuthi ngemva kokumhlola hlezi ngithole ulutho engingaluloba. ²⁷ Ngibona kungaba liphutha elikhulu ukuthumela isibotshwa ngingacacanga ngamacala esiwetheswayo.”

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¹ U-Agripha wasesithi kuPhawuli, “Ulemvumo yokuzikhuluma.”

Ngakho uPhawuli wasephakamisa isandla sakhe waqalisa ukuzivikela, wathi, ² “Nkosi Agripha, ngizibona ngilenhlanhla ukuma phambi kwakho lamuhla ngisethula ukuzivikela kwami kuwo wonke amacala engiwetheswa ngamaJuda, ³ ikakhulu njengoba wena uwazi amasiko amaJuda kanye lokuphikisana kwawo. Ngakho ngiyakucela ukuthi ungilalele ngokubekezela.

⁴ AmaJuda wonke ayayazi impilo engiyiphilileyo kusukela ebuntwaneni bami, ekuqaleni kokuphila kwami elizweni lakithi njalo laseJerusalema. ⁵ Sebengazi okwesikhathi eside njalo bangafakaza nxa bethanda, ukuthi ngenhlelo zenkolo yethu eqinileyo, ngangiphila ngingumFarisi. ⁶ Manje sekungenxa yethemba lami kulokho uNkulunkulu akuthembisa okhokho bethu okwenza ngithonisiswe lamuhla. ⁷ Lesi yiso isithembiso esilindelwe yizizwana zakithi ezilitshumi lambili ukuthi zizasibona sigwaliseka zilokhu zimkhonza uNkulunkulu ngokutshiseka emini lebusuku. Mhlekazi, kungenxa yalo lelithemba engimangalelwa lona ngamaJuda. ⁸ Kungenzakala kanjani ukuthi phakathi kwenu kube yinto engakholekiyo ukuthi uNkulunkulu uyabavusa abafileyo na?

⁹ Lami ngokwami ngangizimisele ukuthi ngenze yonke imizamo yokuphikisana lebizu likaJesu waseNazaretha. ¹⁰ Lakanye yikho lokho engakwenzayo eJerusalema. Ngaphiwa amandla ngabaphristi abakhulu ngaphosela abanengi abangcwele entolongweni, kwathi ekubulaweni kwabo lami ngasekela ukubalahla. ¹¹ Izikhathi ezinengi ngangihamba ngingquma lamasinagogu ngisithi kabajeziswe, ngazama njalo ukubabamba ngamandla ukuthi bahlambaze uJesu. Ngathi ngihlanyiswa

yikubazonda ngaya lakwamanye amadolobho aseziweni ukuyabahlukuluza khona.

¹² Kolunye uhambo lwami ngalubangisa eDamaseko ngilamandla lomlayo engawuphiwa ngabaphristi abakhulu.

¹³ Kwathi sekungaba yimini enkulu ngisendleleni Mhlekezi Agripha, ngabona ukukhanya kuvela ezulwini, kukhazimula ukwedlula ilanga, kungizingezelele kanye labakhula bami. ¹⁴ Sonke sawela phansi, ngezwa ilizwi lisithi kimi, ngesiHebheru, **'Sawuli, Sawuli ungihlukuluzelani na? Kubuhlungu kuwe ukukhahlela izinciji.'**

¹⁵ Ngasengibuza ngathi, 'Ungubani, Nkosi?'

INKosi yaphendula yathi, **'NginguJesu omhlukuluzayo.'**

¹⁶ **Phakama khatesi ume ngezinyawo zakho. Ngizibonise kuwe ukuthi ngikukhethe ukuba yinceku njalo ube ngufakazi walokho osukubonile ngami, lalokho engisazakutshengisa khona.**

¹⁷ **Ngizakuphephisa ebantwini bakini lakwabeZizwe. Ngikuthuma ¹⁸ ukuthi uvule amehlo abo, ubaphendule basuke ebumnyameni baye ekukhanyeni, njalo basuke emandleni kaSathane baye kuNkulunkulu ukuze bemukele ukuthethelelwa kwezono lendawo phakathi kwalabo abangcweliswe ngokukholwa kimi.'**

¹⁹ Ngakho-ke, Nkosi Agripha, kangiqholozelanga umbono ovela ezulwini. ²⁰ Ngaqala ngaba seDamaseko, kwalandela abaseJerusalema laseJudiya lonke, kwalandela labeZizwe labo, ngatshumayela ukuthi kumele baphenduke babuyele kuNkulunkulu njalo babonise ukuphenduka kwabo ngezenzo zabo. ²¹ Kungaleso isizatho okwenza amaJuda angibamba ngisemagumeni ethempeli azama ukungibulala. ²² Kodwa uNkulunkulu ungiphephisile kuze kube namuhla, yikho ngimi lapha ngifakaza kwabancinyane labakhulu ngokufananayo. Kakulalutho engilutshoyo ngaphezu kwalokho abaphrofethi loMosi abathi kuzakwenzakala, ²³ ukuthi uKhristu wayezahlupheka, njalo njengowokuqala ukuvuka kwabafuleyo, atshumayele ukukhanya ebantwini bakibo lakwabeZizwe."

²⁴ Khonapho uFestasi wasemphazamisa esazivikela wathi, "Phawuli, usangene ingqondo! Ukufunda kwakho okukhulu sekukuphambanise ingqondo."

²⁵ Waphendula uPhawuli wathi, "Kangihlanyi, Mhlekezi omkhulu Festasi. Engikutshoyo kuliqiniso njalo kulengqondo. ²⁶ Inkosi izijaye lezizinto yikho ngikhuluma kuyo ngikhululekile. Ngiyakholwa ukuthi kakukho lokukodwa kukho okuyeqileyo inkosi, ngoba kakwenziwanga ejikweni ngokucatshelana. ²⁷ Nkosi

²⁷ Nkosi

Agripha, uyabakholwa na abaphrofethi? Ngiyazi ukuthi uyabakholwa.”

²⁸ U-Agripha wasesithi kuPhawuli, “Kambe ucabanga ukuthi ngesikhatshana esifitshane kangaka ungangiphendula ngibe ngumKhristu?”

²⁹ UPhawuli waphendula wathi, “Singaba sisifitshane loba sibeside, ngiyakhuleka kuNkulunkulu ukuthi kakungabi nguwe kuphela kodwa bonke abangizwayo lamuhla bangaba yilokho engiyikho khona, ngaphandle kwala amaketane.”

³⁰ Inkosi yaphakama kanye lombusi loBhenikhe lalabo ababehlezi labo. ³¹ Baphuma endlini, bathi sebekhuluma bodwa, bathi, “Indoda le kakulalutho elwenzayo olufanele ukufa loba ukuvalelwa entolongweni.”

³² U-Agripha wathi kuFestasi, “Indoda le ibizakhululwa kube ibingedluliselanga icala layo kuKhesari.”

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UPhawuli Uya ERoma

¹ Sekumisiwe ukuthi sizakuya e-Ithali, uPhawuli kanye lezinye izibotshwa banikelwa ezandleni zomphathi wekhulu owayethiwa nguJuliyasi owaye ngoweButho leSikhosini.

² Sagada umkhumbi e-Adramithiya owawusulungele ukuya emathekwini asemakhunjini esifunda sase-Ezhiya, sahle salungena ulwandle. Sasilo-Aristakhasi, owayesuka eThesalonika.

³ Kusisa sakhuphukela eSidoni; uJuliyasi watshengisa umusa kuPhawuli, wamvumela ukuthi aye kubangane bakhe bamenzele lokho ayengabe ekuswela. ⁴ Sesisuka lapho saluqonda ulwandle njalo sagudla ethunzini laseSiphrazi ngoba ukuvunguza komoya kwakuphambana lathi.

⁵ Sathi sesiwele sadabula ulwandle olubanzi malungana lasokhunjini lweSilisiya lePhamfiliya, sakhuphukela eMira eseLikhiya. ⁶ Khonapho umphathi wekhulu wafumana umkhumbi wase-Alekizandriya uwelela e-Ithali, wasingenisa kuwo.

⁷ Sahamba sitotoba okwensuku ezinengi, sathwala nzima ukuyafika eKhinidu. Kwathi ngoba umoya usivalela ukuthi sihambe ngendlela yethu, sawela sayagudla ethunzini laseKhrethe, malungana leSalimoni. ⁸ Sahamba siceza okhunjini kanzima, safika endaweni ethiwa kuseMathekumahle, eduze ledolobho laseLaseya.

⁹ Sasesilahlekelwe yisikhathi esinengi kakhulu, lokuhamba olwandle kwasekuyingozi kabi ngoba ngalesisikhathi kwasekungemva kwesikhathi sokuzila.

Yikho uPhawuli wabaxwayisa wathi, ¹⁰ “Madoda, ngibona ukuthi uhambo lolu luzakuba lengozi lomonakalo omkhulu, kubhidlike umkhumbi lempahla, lempilo zethu lathi.” ¹¹ Kodwa umphathi wekhulu, esikhundleni sokulalela lokho okwakutshiwo nguPhawuli, walandela iseluleko somtshayeli womkhumbi kanye lomnikazi wawo. ¹² Njengoba itheku lalingelihle ukuthi simise khona ebusika, abanengi bakhetha ukuthi siqhubeke ngohambo, bethemba ukuthi sizafika eFenikhe simise khona ebusika lobo. Leli kwakulitheku eliseKhrethe, elalikhangele eningizimu yentshonalanga njalo lenyakatho yentshonalanga.

Isiphepho

¹³ Kwathi ngokuphephetha komoya opholileyo waseningizimu, banakana ukuthi basebekutholile ababekudinga; ngakho bawukhulula umkhumbi wawela ugudle iKhrethe. ¹⁴ Masinyazana nje, umoya olamandla esivunguvungu owawuthiwa “yiNhlampumalanga” wavunguza usuka esihlengeni. ¹⁵ Umkhumbi watshaywa yilesosiphepho wehluleka ukuqondana lomoya; ngakho wasehlula sasesindenda nje siwulandela. ¹⁶ Sathi lapho sidlula ekusithekeni kwesihlenge esincane esithiwa yiKhawuda, kwasekusala lokuthi simise kuhle isikepe sokuphephela siqonde. ¹⁷ Kwathi amadoda esesidonsele phezulu emkhunjini, basebethandela izintambo bebopha umkhumbi ngokwawo ukuze uqine wonke. Bathi ngoba besesaba ukuthi bazatshayeka emhlabathini wetshebetshebe laseSithisi, behlisa iseyili bayekela umkhumbi wazindendela nje. ¹⁸ Isiphepho sasizunguza kabuhlungu kwaze kwathi ngosuku olulandelayo saqalisa ukujikela umthwalo olwandle. ¹⁹ Ngosuku lwesithathu baphosela phandle ngezabo izandla izintambo lezinye impahla zokuhambisa umkhumbi. ²⁰ Kwathi sekuyizinsuku ezinengi singaliboni ilanga loba izinkanyezi, kodwa isiphepho silokhu sisidla ubhedu, sapheliswa lithemba lokuthi sizaphepha.

²¹ Amadoda ayesehlale isikhathi eside engadlanga, uPhawuli wasesima phambi kwabo, wathi, “Madoda, ngabe lingilalele sangasuki eKhrethe; ngabe kalizifakanga phakathi kwale inhlekenhleke lokulahlekelwa lokhu. ²² Kodwa manje ngiyalikhuthaza ukuthi lime isibindi, ngoba kakukho lamunye wenu ozakufa; ngumkhumbi kuphela ozabhidlika. ²³ Izolo ebusuku ingilosi kaNkulunkulu engingowakhe mina njalo lengimkhonzayo ime phambi kwami ²⁴ yathi, ‘Ungesabi, Phawuli. Kumele uyethonisiswa nguKhesari; njalo uNkulunkulu usebe lomusa wokukunika

impilo zabo bonke owela labo.’²⁵ Ngakho manini isibindi, madoda, ngoba ngiyamethemba uNkulunkulu ukuthi kuzakwenzakala njengokungitshela kwakhe.²⁶ Kodwa phela sisezake sitshayeke phansi sikhaphazelwe esihlengeni esithile.”

Ukubhidlika Komkhumbi

²⁷ Ngobusuku betshumi lane sasilokhu siyaluziswa oLwandle lwe-Adriyathi, lapho okwathi phakathi kobusuku abaqhubi bomkhumbi bezwa kungathi basebesondela emhlabathini.²⁸ Baphosa izintambo zokulinganisa bafumana ukuthi amanzi ayezike okwezingalo ezilikhulu elilamatshumi amabili. Ngemva kwesikhatshana baphinda baziphosa njalo bafumana izingalo ezingamatshumi ayisificamunwemunye ukuzika.²⁹ Bathi ngoba besesaba ukuthi sasizasakazeka ematsheni basebesehlisa insika zokumisa umkhumbi ngemuva bekhalela ukuthi kuse.³⁰ Abaqhubi bomkhumbi bazama ukunyanya babaleke emkhunjini ngokwehlisela isikepe sokusinda olwandle bezenza abafuna ukuyakwehlisa ezinye insika ngaphambili komkhumbi.³¹ Uphawuli wasesithi kumphathi wekhulu lasemabuthweni, “Nxa amadoda la engahlali emkhunjini, ngeke lisinde.”³² Ngakho amabutho asequma izintambo ezazibambe isikepe sokusinda asiyekela sayagxumukela emanzini.

³³ Sekubanga emathathakusa, uPhawuli wabakhuthaza bonke ukuthi badle. Wathi, “Okwensuku ezilitshumi lane ezidluleyo belihlezi libambe amaphaphu enu; lisehluleka lokudla; kalizange lidle lutho.³⁴ Okwamanje ngilicela ukuthi lidle. Kumele lidle ukuze liphile. Kakho loyedwa wenu ozalahlekelwa lalunwele ekhanda lakhe.”³⁵ Esekutshilo lokhu, wathatha isinkwa wabonga kuNkulunkulu phambi kwabo bonke. Wasesihlephuna wadla.³⁶ Bonke baqunga isibindi basebesidla labo.³⁷ Sisonke sasingabantu abangamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisikhombisa lesithupha (276) emkhunjini.³⁸ Bathi sebedlile basutha, baphungula ukusindwa komkhumbi ngokuchithela amabele olwandle.

³⁹ Kwathi sokusile kabawunanzelelanga umhlabathi, kodwa babona itheku elaligcwele itshebetshebe, basebezimisela ukuthi umkhumbi bayewumisa khona nxa kuvuma.⁴⁰ Baquma insika bazitshiya zicwila olwandle, baphinda banyomula lezintambo ezazibambe okokugwedlisa. Basebephakamisa iseyili yaphambili beyiqondisa emoyeni, basebeqonda ekhunjini.⁴¹ Kodwa umkhumbi watshayelela esidulini setshebetshebe olwandle wahle wabhajwa. Isihloko

sawo sathi ngxi phansi asabe sisanyikinyeka, ingemuva yona yahlakazeka itshaywa ngamagagasi.

⁴² Amabutho asesithi kungcono abulale izibotshwa ukuze kungabikhona esizantsheza sibaleke. ⁴³ Kodwa umphathi wekhulu wayefuna ukuvikela impilo kaPhawuli, yikho wabalela ukuthi bakwenze lokho abasebekumisile. Walaya labo ababelamandla okuntsheza ukuba bazithele olwandle bona kuqala baqonde emhlabathini. ⁴⁴ Inengi lalizandenda ngamapulanka liye khona loba ngasiqa bani somkhumbi. Ngale indlela wonke umuntu wafika emhlabathini ephephile.

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Emhlabathini EMalitha

¹ Sathi sesiphephile safika emhlabathini, sezwa ukuthi isihlenge leso sasithiwa yiMalitha. ² Abantu bakhona basiphatha ngomusa ongajayelekanga. Basemukela kuhle sonke, basibasela umlilo wekhanka ngoba izulu lalisina njalo kumakhaza. ³ Uphawuli watheza umnyaba wenkuni, wathi ebasela kwaphuma inhlanguwana isixotshwa ngumlilo yahle yamthandela esandleni. ⁴ Abahlali besihlengeni bathi bebona inyoka ilenga esandleni sakhe bakhulumisana besithi, "Indoda le iyisigebenga; ngoba loba isindile olwandle, unkulunkulukazi uKulunga kayivumelanga ukuthi iphile." ⁵ Kodwa uPhawuli wayithintitha inyoka wayilabhulela emlilweni yena akaze alimala lakancane. ⁶ Abantu babelinde okwesikhathi eside bengaboni lutho olubi lusenzakala kuye, baguqula imicabango yabo basebesithi ungukulunkulu.

⁷ Eduze kwalapho kwakulepulazi likaPhabhiliyasi, owayeyisikhulu esiphethe isihlenge. Wasemukela ngesihle emzini wakhe, wasihlalisa khona okwensuku ezintathu esiphethe kuhle. ⁸ Uyise wayegula elele phansi ephethwe luqhuqho lesihudo. Uphawuli wayambona, kwathi esekhulekile, wambeka izandla wamsilisa. ⁹ Kwathi sekwenzakele lokhu, bonke abagulayo esihlengeni beza basiliswa. ¹⁰ Basidumisa ngeziphos ezinengi, kwasekusithi sesilungela ukuwela basilungisela umphako owaneleyo.

Ukufika ERoma

¹¹ Ngemva kwezinyanga ezintathu sangena olwandle sigade umkhumbi owawuchithe ubusika khona lapho. Wawungumkhumbi wase-Alekizandriya owawulophawu lwamakhanda amaphahla abonkulunkulu uKhasto loPholukhi. ¹² Sakhuphukela eSirakhusi sahlala khona okwensuku ezintathu. ¹³ Sesisuka lapho sawela sayafika

eRegiyumi. Ngakusasa kwaphetha umoya weningizimu, kwathi ngelanga elilandelayo sayafika ePhuthewoli. ¹⁴ Lapho safumana abazalwane abasicela ukuthi sikhale khona okweviki silabo. Sasesifika eRoma. ¹⁵ Abazalwane balapho basebezile ukuthi siyeza, ngakho bahamba baze bayafika eNkundleni yase-Aphiya laseziNkantini eziNtathu besihlangabeza. Wathi ebabona lababantu uPhawuli wabonga uNkulunkulu njalo waqiniswa. ¹⁶ Sithe sesifikile eRoma, uPhawuli wavunyelwa ukuhlala yedwa, elindwe ngelilodwa ibutho.

UPhawuli Utshumayela eRoma Elindiwe

¹⁷ Ngemva kwensuku ezintathu uPhawuli wabiza abakhokheli bamaJuda. Bathi sebehlangene wathi kubo, “Bazalwane bami, loba ngingenzanga lutho olubi ebantwini bakithi kumbe olwephula imikhuba yabokhokho bethu, ngabotshwa eJerusalema nganikelwa kwabaseRoma. ¹⁸ Wona esengihlolile afisa ukungikhulula ngoba ngangingelacala loba elakuphi ukuganga okwakungafanela ukufa. ¹⁹ Kodwa kwathi ngoba amaJuda ekwala lokho ngabona sekufanele ukuthi ngikhalaze kuKhesari; kungayisikho ukuthi ngasengimangalela abantu bakithi. ²⁰ Ngalesisizatho ngicelile ukuthi ngilibone, ngikhulume lani. Kungenxa yethemba lika-Israyeli okwenza ngibotshwe ngale iketane.”

²¹ Baphendula bathi, “Kasitholanga zincwadi ezivela eJudiya mayelana lawe, njalo kakho umzalwane ovela khonale oke wabika kumbe wakhuluma ulutho olubi ngawe. ²² Kodwa sifuna ukuzwa imibono yakho, ngoba siyakwazi ukuthi ezindaweni zonke abantu bakhuluma kubi ngaloluhlelo lwenkolo.”

²³ Balungiselela ukuhlangana loPhawuli ngelanga elithile elalibekiwe, njalo kweza abantu abanengi endaweni ayehlala kuyo. Kusukela ekuseni kwaze kwaba ntambama echaza umbuso kaNkulunkulu njalo efakaza ngokuseMthethweni kaMosi lakubaPhrofethi. Wazama njalo ukubazisa ngoJesu ²⁴ Abanye basuthiseka ngalokhu ayekutsho, kodwa abanye kabazange bakholwe. ²⁵ Baphikisana bona bodwa basebesuka ngemva kokuba uPhawuli esephetha inkulumo yakhe ngokuthi, “Nxaxa uMoya oNgcwele wakhuluma iqiniso kubokhokho benu aze ukhulume ngomphrofethi u-Isaya ukuthi:

²⁶ ‘Hamba kulababantu uyekuthi,
“Lizahlala lisizwa kokuphela, kodwa lingaqedisisi;
lizahlala libona kokuphela kodwa lingabonisisi.”

²⁷ Ngoba inhliziyoyalababantu isibuthundu;

kabasezwa ngezindlebe zabo,
 njalo sebevale amehlo abo;
 ngoba bangaqabuka bebona ngamehlo abo,
 bezwe ngezindlebe zabo,
 baqedisise ngezinhliziyo zabo,
 baphenduke, lami ngibasilise.*

²⁸ Ngakho ngithanda ukuthi lazi ukuba insindiso kaNkulunkulu isithunyelwe kwabeZizwe, njalo bona bazalalela!"
 [²⁹ Ngemva kwalokhu, amaJuda asuka, ephikisana wodwa kakhulu.]†

³⁰ UPhawuli wahlala khona okweminyaka emibili egcweleyo, ehlala endlini yakhe ayeloje kuyo, njalo esemukela ngesihle bonke ababesiza bezombona.
³¹ Watshumayela ngombuso kaNkulunkulu, wafundisa ngeNkosi uJesu Khristu ngesibindi njalo engaphazanyiswa muntu.

* **28:27** 28.27 U-Isaya 6.9-10
 amaBhayibhili esiLungu.

† **28:29** 28.29 Livesi kayikho kwamanye

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 ngoJesu Khristu ngilibongela lani, ngoba ukukholwa kwenu kubikwa umhlaba wonke. ⁹ UNkulunkulu engimkhonza ngenhliziyo yami yonke ngokutshumayela ivangeli leNdodana yakhe, ungufakazi 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 siqin-iswe 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 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 lezinhliziyi zabo eziyiziwula zaba mnyama. ²² Lanxa bazenza abahlakaniphileyo baba yizithutha ²³ benana inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ongafiyo ngemfanekiso eyenziwa yafana labantu abalokho ukufa lezinyoni lezinyamazana kanye lezinanakazana ezihuquzelayo.

²⁴ Ngakho uNkulunkulu wabanikela esonweni sezinkanuko zezinhliziyi 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 isijeziso 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

* 1:17 1.17 UHabhakhukhi 2.4

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 en-gaphendukiyo, 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 abazin-qinekelayo labala iqiniso balandele ububi, kuzakuba lolaka lokuthukuthela. ⁹ Kuzakuba lokuhlupheka losizi emuntwini wonke owenza okubi, kuqala kumJuda kulandele koweZ-izweni, 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

* 2:6 2.6 AmaHubo 62.12; Izaga 24.12

izinto ezifunwa ngumthetho, bangumthetho bona ngokwabo, lanxa bengelawo umthetho, ¹⁵ njengoba bebonakalisa ukuthi okufunwa ngumthetho kulotshiwe ezinhliziyweni zabo, izazela zabo ziyafakaza, imicabango yabo ibasola iphinde ibavikele.) ¹⁶ Lokhu kuzakwenzakala ngosuku uNkulunkulu azakwahlulela imfihlo zabantu ngoJesu Khristu, njengokutsho kwevangeli lami.

AmaJuda LoMthetho

¹⁷ Khathezi-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 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 lenyameni 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 ekusokeni na? ² Kukhulu ngezindlela zonke. Okokuqala amaJuda aphathiswe wona kanye amazwi kaNkulunkulu.

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

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 kusenxa ukulunga kukaNkulunkulu kucace kakhulu, 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 “Kasenzeni okubi ukuze kuvele okulungileyo na?” Ukuhlahlwa 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 busezindebene zabo.”§

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 komthetho, ukuze imilomo yonke ithuliswe lomhlaba wonke ube lomlandu

* **3:4** 3.4 AmaHubo 51.4 † **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 * **3:14** 3.14 AmaHubo 10.7 † **3:17** 3.17 U-Isaya 59.7-8 ‡ **3:18** 3.18 AmaHubo 36.1

kuNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Ngakho-ke, kakho okuzathiwa ulungile emehlweni akhe ngokugcina umthetho; kodwa ngomthetho siba lakho ukwazi isono.

Ukulunga Ngokukholwa

²¹ Kodwa khathesi 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 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-Abhrahama Walungiswa Ngokukholwa

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

⁴ Nxa umuntu esebenza, umholo wakhe kawubalwa kuye njengesipho, kodwa njengomlandu. ⁵ Ikanti emuntwini ongasebenziyo kodwa ethemba uNkulunkulu owenza ababi

* 4:3 4.3 UGenesisi 15.6

balunge, ukukholwa kwakhe kubalwa njengokulunga.
 6 UDavidida 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 abakhulwayo, 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 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

† 4:8 4.8 AmaHubo 32.1-2 ‡ 4:17 4.17 UGenesisi 17.5 § 4:18 4.18 UGenesisi 15.5

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 kwethu, thina esikholwa kuye, yena owavusa uJesu iNkosi yethu kwabafileyo. 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.

* 4:22 4.22 UGenesisi 15.6

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 saletsa ukulungisiswa. ¹⁷ Ngoba nxa ngesiphambeko salowomuntu oyedwa, ukufa kwabusa ngalowomuntu oyedwa, labo abamukela umusa omnengi kaNkulunkulu kanye lesipho sokulunga bazabusa kakhulu okungakanani ekuphileni ngalowomuntu oyedwa uJesu Khristu.

¹⁸ Ngakho-ke, njengoba okwalandela isiphambeko esisodwa kwaba yikulahlwa kwabantu bonke, ngokunjalo isenzo sokulunga esisodwa saletsa 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, ngemela 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 ngezinhliziyo 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 sathelala ukufa izithelo. ⁶ Kodwa khateshi, ngokufela kulokho okwake kwasibopha, sesikhululiwe emthethweni ukuze sikhonze ngendlela entsha yoMoya hatshi ngendlela endala yezimiso ezilotshiweyo.

Umthetho Lesono

⁷ Ngakho sizakuthini na? Umthetho uyisono na? Ngempela kawusiso! Ngeqiniso mina ngangingasoze ngazi ukuthi isono siyini kungesiwo umthetho. Ngoba ngangingayikwazi ukuthi ukuhawukela ngempela kuyini aluba umthetho ungatshongo ukuthi, "Ungahawukeli."* ⁸ Kodwa isono, sathatha ithuba elaletswa 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 ukuletha ukuphila waletha ukufa. ¹¹ Ngoba isono sathatha ithuba elaletswa ngumlayo, sangikhohlisa, kwathi ngomthetho sangibulala. ¹² Ngakho-ke, umthetho ungawe, lomlayo ungawe, 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

* 7:7 U-Eksodasi 20:17; UDutheronomi 5:21

engifuna ukukwenza angikwenzi, kodwa lokho engikuzon-dayo 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 osenzayo ezithweni zami. ²⁴ Yeka isinothongwana esengiyiso sona. Ngubani ozangihlenga kulo umzimba wokufa? ²⁵ Kabongwe uNkulunkulu ngoJesu 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 yileyomvelo, kodwa labo abaphila ngokwakoMoya ingqondo zabo zigxile kulokho okufiswa nguMoya. ⁶ Ingqondo yomuntu olesono yikufa, kodwa ingqondo ebuswa nguMoya yikuphila lokuthula; ⁷ ingqondo 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 bangamaddana kaNkulunkulu. ¹⁵ Ngoba kalamukelanga umoya olenza libe yizigqili, ukuze liphile ngokwesaba, kodwa lamukela uMoya wobundodana. 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 ezinhluphekweni 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 bokuhelwa kuze kube khathesi. ²³ Akunjalo kuphela, kodwa lathi uqobo esilezithelo zakuqala zikaMoya, siyabubula ngaphakathi silindile ngokutshiseka ukwamukelwa njengamaddana, 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 ozasehlukanisa 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 ukuphila, loba yizingilosi kumbe amadimoni, loba khatesi 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

* 8:36 8.36 AmaHubo 44.22

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-Abhrahama. 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, watselwa 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 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

* 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

ngabanje na?"‡ 21 Umbumbi kalalo yini ilungelo lokuba ngengxenye yebumba efanayo enze okunye okubunjiweyo okomsebenzi omuhle lokomsebenzi ojayekekileyo 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,

'Kalisibo bantu bami,'*
bazabizwa ngokuthi
'ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu ophilayo.' "

27 U-Isaya uyamemezela ngo-Israyeli esithi:

"Lanxa inani labako-Israyeli linjengetshebetshebe 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:

"Khangalani, ngibeka eZiyoni ilitshe elikhubekisa abantu ledwala elibenza bawe,

‡ 9:20 9.20 U-Isaya 29.16; 45.9 § 9:25 9.25 UHosiya 2.23 * 9:26 9.26 UHosiya 1.10 † 9:28 9.28 U-Isaya 10.22-23 ‡ 9:29 9.29 U-Isaya 1.9

njalo lowo okholwa kuye kazukuyangiswa.”[§]

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, lisehlonyeni 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 usindiswe. ¹¹ Njengoba uMbhala 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 Njaloangatshumayela 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,

¹⁶ Kodwa akusibo bonke abako-Israyeli abazamukelayo izindaba ezinhle. Ngoba u-Isaya uthi, “Nkosi, ngubani olikholiweyo ilizwi lethu na?”[§] ¹⁷ Ngakho-ke,

[§] 9:33 9.33 U-Isaya 8.14; 28.16 * 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 * 10:11 10.11 U-Isaya 28.16 † 10:13 10.13 UJoweli

2.32 ‡ 10:15 10.15 U-Isaya 52.7 § 10:16 10.16 U-Isaya 53.1

ukukholwa kuvela ekuzweni ilizwi, lelizwi lizwakala nge-
lizwi 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 kaqedisisanga na?
Kuqala uMosi uthi,

“Mina ngizalenza libe lomona kulabo abangasiso sizwe;
ngizalenza lithukuthelele isizwe esingelakho ukuqedis-
isa.”†

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 wa-
balahla 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, babab-
ulele abaphrofethi bakho, badiliza lama-alithare akho;
yimi ngedwa engiseleyo, njalo bafuna ukungibulala?”*

⁴ Impendulo kaNkulunkulu kuye yathini na? Yathi,
“Ngizigoddele mina ngokwami abazinkulungwane eziy-
isikhombisa abangamkhotamelanga uBhali.”† ⁵ Ngakho
futhi, ngalesisikhathi kulensalela ezakhethwa 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 wokozela,

lamehlo ukuze bangaboni,

lendlebe ukuze bangezwa,

kuze kube lamhla.”‡

* **10:18** 10.18 AmaHubo 19.4 † **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 ‡ **11:8** 11.8 UDutheronomi 29.4; U-Isaya
29.10

⁹ Njalo uDavida uthi:

“Sengathi itafula yabo ingaba ngumjibila lesifu,
isikhubekiso kanye lesijeziso 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 ngingavusa umona ebantwini bakithi ngisilise abanye babo. ¹⁵ Ngoba nxa ukulahlwa kwabo kuyikubuyisana komhlaba, ukwamukelwa kwabo kuza-kuba yini na ngaphandle kokuphila okuvela kwabafileyo?

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, usuxhunyelelwe 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 ngixhunyelelwe.” ²⁰ Yebo. Kodwa zephulwa ngenxa yokungakholwa, kodwa lina limi ngokukholwa. 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 ngokungakholwa, bazaxhunyelelwa, ngoba uNkulunkulu uyenelisa ukubaxhumelela futhi. ²⁴ Phezu kwalokho, nxa laliqunywe esihlahleni som’oliva weganga ngemvelo, kwathi ngokuphambene lemvelo laxhunyelelwa esihlahleni se-oliva esilinywayo,

pho kuzakuba lula kakhulu okunjani kulezi, ingatsha zemvelo, ukuba zixhunyelwe 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!

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

* **11:27** 11.27 U-Isaya 59.20-21; 27.9; UJeremiya 31.33-34 † **11:34** 11.34 U-Isaya 40.13 ‡ **11:35** 11.35 UJobe 41.11

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 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.

* 12:19 12.19 UDutheronomi 32.35

Ngokwenza lokhu, lokhela amalahle avuthayo ekhanda laso.”†

²¹ Linganqotshwa ngokubi, kodwa nqobani 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 isijeziso kowenza okubi. ⁵ Ngakho, kuyaswelakala ukuzithoba kubabusi, hatshi kuphela ngenxa yokujeziswa okungenzakala, 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 ungahlawulwanga, 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;

† **12:20** 12.20 Izaga 25.21-22 * **13:9** 13.9 U-Eksodasi 20.13-15, 17; UDutheronomi 5.17-19, 21 † **13:9** 13.9 ULevi 19.18

ukusa sekusondele. Ngakho kasilahlani imisebenzi yobumnyama sigqoke isivikelo sokukhanya. ¹³ Kasiziphatheni kuhle, njengasemini, hatshi emadilini okuminza lokudakwa, hatshi ekuhlobongeni lentokozo yobugangi, hatshi ngokuxabana langomona. ¹⁴ Kodwa zigqokiseni 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 olokhlo 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 yabafuleyo labaphilayo. ¹⁰ Pho wena, kungani usahlulela umzalwane wakho na? Loba kungani useyisa umzalwane wakho na? Ngoba sonke sizakuma phambi kwesihlalo sikaNkulunkulu sokwahlulela.

¹¹ Kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“ ‘Ngeqiniso njengoba ngikhona, ngiphila,’* kutsho UThixo, ‘amadolo wonke azaguqa phambi kwami; ulimi lunye ngalunye luzavuma kuNkulunkulu.’ ”

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

¹³ Ngakho kasiyekeleni ukwahlulelana. Esikhundleni salokho zimisele engqondweni yakho ukuba unabeki

* 14:11 14.11 U-Isaya 45.23

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 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 kuhlanzekile, 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 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 njengalokhu uKhristu walamukela, ukuze kudunyiswe uNkulunkulu.

* 15:3 15.3 AmaHubo 69.9

⁸ Ngoba ngiyalazisa ukuthi uKhristu waba yinceku yama-Juda emele iqiniso likaNkulunkulu, ukuba aqinise izithembiso ezenziwa 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,

lihlabelale indumiso kuyo, lonke lina bantu.”[§]

¹² Njalo, u-Isaya uthi,

“Impande kaJese izavela,

lowo ozavuka ukuba abuse izizwe;

abeZizwe bazathembela kuye.”^{*}

¹³ Sengathi uNkulunkulu wethemba angaligcwalisa ngenetokozo 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 Ngililobebe ngesibindi mayelana leminyane 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 asekuzeze ngami ekukhokheleni abeZizwe ukuba balalele uNkulunkulu ngalokhu engakutshoyo lengakwenzayo, ¹⁹ ngamandla ezibonakaliso lezimangaliso, langamandla kaMoya kaNkulunkulu. Ngakho indlela yonke kusukela eJerusalema kusiya e-Iilirikhumu, sengilitshumaye 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,

[†] 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

lalabo abangakezwa bazaqedisisa.”†

²² Yikho-nje kade ngixakeka ekubeni ngize kini.

Icebo LikaPhawuli Lokwethekelela ERoma

²³ Kodwa khathesi njengoba kungaselandawo engingasebenza kuyo kulezizigaba, njalo njengoba bengifisa okweminyaka eminengi ukulibona, ²⁴ ngiceba ukwenzanjalo lapho sengisiya eSpeyini. Ngithemba ngizalibona ngisedlula lokuba lingisize ngohambo lwami lokuya khonale, emva kokuba sengithokoze ukuba lani okwesikhatshana. ²⁵ Kodwa khathesi ngisendleleni yokuya eJerusalema emsebenzini 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, 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. Amen.

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-Ampiliyathasi, engimthandayo eNkosini.

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

¹⁰ Bingelelani u-Aphele, owahlolwayo wamukelwa kuKhristu.

Bingelelani labo abangabendlu ka-Aristobhulasi.

¹¹ Bingelelani uHerodiyoni, isihlobo sami.

Bingelelani labo abasemzini kaNakhisu abaseNkosini.

¹² Bingelelani uTrayifina loTrifosa, abesifazane labo abasebenza kakhulu eNkosini.

Bingelelani umngane wami othandekayo, uPhesisi, 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 sebezwiwe 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 siyangijabulisa 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. Ameni.]*

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.

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

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yakuqala KwabaseKhorinte

¹ Uphawuli, obizelwe ukuba ngumpostoli kaJesu Khristu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, kanye lomzalwane wethu uSosithene.

² Ebandleni likaNkulunkulu eKhorinte, kulabo abangcweliswe kuJesu Khristu babizelwa ukuba ngabangcwele bakhe kanye labo bonke abasezindaweni zonke abakhuleka ebizweni leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, iNkosi yabo leyethu:

³ Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu kakube kini.

Ukubonga

⁴ Ngihlezi ngimbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu wami ngani, ngenxa yomusa wakhe eliwuphiweyo kuJesu Khristu. ⁵ Ngoba kuye linothiswe ngezindlela zonke, ekukhulumeni kwenu konke lasekwazini konke, ⁶ ngoba ubufakazi bethu ngoKhristu baqiniswa kini. ⁷ Ngakho kalisileli lakusiphi isipho somoya lapho lilindele ngokutshiseka ukuba iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ibonakaliswe. ⁸ Izaligcina liqinile kuze kube sekupheleni ukuze lingabi lasici ngosuku lweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. ⁹ UNkulunkulu olibizele ekuhlanganyeleni leNdodana yakhe uJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu, uthembekile.

Ukudabukana Ebandleni Ngenxa Yabathungameli

¹⁰ Ngiyalincenga bazalwane, ngebizo leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, ukuba lonke livumelane ukuze kungabi lokwehlukana phakathi kwenu kanye lokuthi libe ngabamanyeneyo engqondweni lasemcabangweni. ¹¹ Bazalwane bami, abanye abendlu yakoKlowe bangitshela ukuthi kulezingxabano phakathi kwenu. ¹² Engikutshoyo yilokhu: Omunye wenu uthi, “Mina ngilandela uPhawuli”; omunye uthi, “Mina ngilandela u-Apholo”; omunye uthi, “Mina ngilandela uKhefasi”; omunye laye uthi, “Mina ngilandela uKhristu.”

¹³ Kambe uKhristu wehlukene na? Uphawuli wake wabethelwa ngenxa yenu na? Labhaphathizwa ngebizo likaPhawuli na? ¹⁴ Ngibonga uNkulunkulu ngokuthi kangibhaphathizanga lamunye wenu ngaphandle kukaKhrispasi

loGayiyasi, ¹⁵ ngakho kakho ongathi labhaphathizwa ngebizo lami. ¹⁶ (Yebo ngabhaphathiza abendlu KaStefane, ngaphandle kwalokho angikhumbuli ngibhaphathiza omunye.) ¹⁷ Ngoba uKhristu kangithumanga ukuba ngibhaphathize kodwa ukuba ngitshumayele ivangeli, hatshi ngamazwi enhlakanipho yabantu, funa isiphambano silahlekelwe ngamandla aso.

UKhristu Owabethelwayo UyiNhlakanipho LaMandla KaNkulunkulu

¹⁸ Ngoba ilizwi lesiphambano liyibuthutha kulabo ababhubhayo, kodwa kithi abasindisiweyo lingamandla kaNkulunkulu. ¹⁹ Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Ngizachitha inhlakanipho yabahlakaniphileyo;

ukwazi kwezazi ngizakunqunda.”*

²⁰ Ungaphi umuntu ohlakaniphileyo na? Singaphi isifundiswa somthetho na? Singaphi isazi salesisikhathi na? UNkulunkulu kenzanga ukuhlakanipha kwasemhlabeni kwaba yibuthutha na? ²¹ Ngoba ekuhlakanipheni kukaNkulunkulu, umhlaba ngokuhlakanipha kwawo kawumazanga, uNkulunkulu wathokoza ngobuthutha balokho okwatshunyayelwayo ukuze kusindise abakhholwayo ²² AmaJuda afuna izibonakaliso lezimangaliso lamaGrikhi adinga ukuhlakanipha, ²³ kodwa thina sitshumayela uKhristu owabethelwayo: isikhubekiso kumaJuda lobuthutha kwabeZizwe, ²⁴ kodwa kulabo ababizwe nguNkulunkulu, amaJuda lamaGrikhi, uKhristu ungamandla lokuhlakanipha kukaNkulunkulu. ²⁵ Ngoba ubuthutha bukaNkulunkulu buhlakaniphile kulokuhlakanipha komuntu, lobuthakathaka bukaNkulunkulu bulamandla kulamandla omuntu.

²⁶ Bazalwane, khumbulani ngalokho elaliyikho ekubizweni kwenu. Kababanengi phakathi kwenu ababehlakaniphile ngesilinganiso sabantu; kababanengi ababelamandla; kababanengi ababezalwa yizikhulu. ²⁷ Kodwa uNkulunkulu wakhetha izinto zasemhlabeni eziyizithutha ukuba ayangise izihlakaniphi; uNkulunkulu wakhetha izinto zasemhlabeni ezibuthakathaka ukuba ayangise abalamandla. ²⁸ Wakhetha izinto zalo umhlaba eziphansi lezinto ezeyisekayo kanye lezinto ezingekho ukuba achithe okukhona, ²⁹ ukuze kungabi lamuntu ozazincoma phambi kwakhe. ³⁰ Ngenxa yakhe lina likuKhristu uJesu, yena osebe yikuhlakanipha okuvela kuNkulunkulu esenzela thina, okuyikulunga kwethu, ubungcwele lokusindiswa. ³¹ Ngakho-ke, njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Lowo ozincomayo kazincome eNkosini.”†

* 1:19 1.19 U-Isaya 29.14 † 1:31 1.31 UJeremiya 9.24

2

1 Ekufikeni kwami kini bazalwane, kangifikanga lobugabazi bokukhuluma kumbe ukuhlakanipha okukhulu lapho ngitshumayela kini ubufakazi ngoNkulunkulu. 2 Ngoba ngazimisela ukungazi lutho ngiseselani ngaphandle kukaJesu Khristu yena owabethelwayo. 3 Ngafika kini ngibuthakathaka, ngisesaba njalo ngithuthumela kakhulu. 4 Ilizwi lami lentshumayelo yami akubanga ngamazwi okuhlakanipha lahugayo, kodwa kubonakalisa amandla kaMoya, 5 ukuze ukukholwa kwenu kungeyami ekuhlakanipheni kwabantu, kodwa emandleni kaNkulunkulu.

Ukuhlakanipha Okuvela KuMoya

6 Kodwa siyalikhuluma ilizwi lokuhlakanipha kulabo asebekhulile, belo kungasikho kuhlakanipha kwalesisikhathi loba okwababusi balesisikhathi, asebezakuba yize. 7 Hatshi, sikhuluma ngokuhlakanipha kukaNkulunkulu okufihlakeleyo, ukuhlakanipha obekukade uNkulunkulu akumisela inkazimulo yethu isikhathi singakaqalisi. 8 Kakho kubabusi balesisikhathi owakuzwisayo ngoba aluba kwakube njalo, babengasoze bayibethele iNkosi yenkazimulo. 9 Kodwa kunjengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Akulalihlo eselibonile,
akulandlebe esizwile;

njalo akulangqondo yomuntu esicabangile

ngalokho uNkulunkulu akulungisele labo abamthandayo,”*

10 kodwa uNkulunkulu ukuvezile kithi ngoMoya.

UMoya uyazihlolisisa izinto zonke, kanye lezinto ezizikileyo zikaNkulunkulu. 11 Kambe ngubani phakathi kwabantu oyaziyo imicabango yomuntu ngaphandle komoya walowomuntu ongaphakathi kwakhe na? Ngokufanayo, kakho oyaziyo imicabango kaNkulunkulu ngaphandle kukaMoya kaNkulunkulu. 12 Kasamukelanga umoya wasemhlabeni, kodwa uMoya ovela kuNkulunkulu ukuze siqedisise ngalokho uNkulunkulu asiphe khona ngesihle. 13 Lokhu yikho esikukhulumayo, hatshi ngamazwi esawafundiswa yikuhlakanipha kwabantu kodwa ngamazwi esawafundiswa nguMoya. 14 Umuntu ongelaMoya kazamukeli izinto ezivela kuMoya kaNkulunkulu ngoba kuye ziyibuthutha njalo angeke aziqedisise ngoba zibonakaliswa ngomoya. 15 Umuntu womoya uyazahlulela izinto zonke kodwa yena ngokwakhe akukho muntu ongamaahlulela, 16 ngoba,

* 2:9 2.9 U-Isaya 64.4

“Ngubani owake wayazi ingqondo yeNkosi
ukuba ayeluleke na?”†
Kodwa thina silengqondo kaKhristu.

3

Ibandla Labathungameli Balo

¹ Bazalwane, ngangingeke ngikhulume lani njengabaphila ngomoya, kodwa njengabomhlaba, insane nje kuKhristu. ² Ngalinika uchago, hatshi ukudla okuqinileyo, ngoba lalin-gakakulungeli. Impela lilokhu lingakakulungeli. ³ Lilokhu lingabomhlaba. Kalokho njengoba kulomona lokuxabana phakathi kwenu, kambe kalisibo bomhlaba na? Kalenzi njengabantu nje na? ⁴ Ngoba nxa omunye esithi, “Mina ngilandela uPhawuli,” omunye laye athi, “Mina ngilandela u-Apholo,” kambe kalisibantu nje na?

⁵ Kanti u-Apholo uvele uyini na? LoPhawuli uyini na? Bazinceku nje kuphela lina elakholwa ngazo, njengoba iNkosi imisele omunye lomunye umsebenzi wakhe. ⁶ Mina ngahlanyela inhlangano, u-Apholo wayithelela, kodwa nguNkulunkulu owayikhulisayo. ⁷ Ngakho lowo ohlanyelayo, loba othelelayo, akasilutho, kodwa nguNkulunkulu kuphela owenza izinto zikhule. ⁸ Umuntu ohlanyelayo lomuntu othelelayo banhlosonye, njalo lowo lalowo uzanikwa umvuzo wakhe njengokusebenza kwakhe. ⁹ Ngoba thina siyizisebenzi emsebenzini kaNkulunkulu; lina liyinsimu kaNkulunkulu, isakhiwo sikaNkulunkulu.

¹⁰ Ngomusa uNkulunkulu angipha wona, ngabeka isisekelo njengengcitshi yomakhi, njalo abanye bakha phezu kwaso. Kodwa omunye lomunye kumele ananzelele ukuthi wakha njani. ¹¹ Ngoba kakho ongabeka esinye isisekelo ngaphandle kwaleso esivele sesibekiwe, esinguJesu Khristu. ¹² Nxa umuntu esakhela phezu kwalesisisekelo ngegolide, ngesiliva, ngamatshe adulayo, ngezigodo, ngotshani loba ngamahlanga, ¹³ umsebenzi wakhe uzabonakaliswa unjalo, ngoba usuku luzawubeka ekukhanyeni. Uzavezwa obala ngomlilo, njalo umlilo uzahlola umsebenzi womuntu ngamunye ukuthi unjani. ¹⁴ Nxa lokho okwakhiweyo kuzasala kukhona, umakhi uzakwamukela umvuzo wakhe. ¹⁵ Kodwa nxa kusitsha kuphele du, umakhi uzalahlekelwa kodwa yena ngokwakhe uzaphepha, loba nje kunjengomuntu ophunyuka edabula phakathi kwamalangi.

† 2:16 2.16 U-Isaya 40.13

¹⁶ Kanti kalazi yini ukuthi lina ngokwenu lilithempeli likaNkulunkulu kanye lokuthi uMoya kaNkulunkulu uh-lala phakathi kwenu? ¹⁷ Nxa umuntu echitha ithempeli likaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu uzamchitha ngoba ithempeli likaNkulunkulu lingcwele njalo lina lonke liyilelothempeli.

¹⁸ Lingazikhohlisi. Nxa omunye wenu ecabanga ukuthi uhlakaniphile ngokwesilinganiso salesisikhathi kabe yisithutha ukuze ahlakaniphe. ¹⁹ Ngoba ukuhlakanipha kwalo umhlaba kuyibuthutha phambi kukaNkulunkulu. Njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Ubamba abahlakaniphileyo ebuqilini babo,”* ²⁰ lokuthi, “UTHixo uyakwazi ukuthi imicabango yabahlakaniphileyo iyize nje.”† ²¹ Ngakho, Akungabikhona ukuzincoma ngabathungameli abangabantu. Izinto zonke ngezenu, ²² loba nguPhawuli kumbe u-Apholo loba uKhefasi kumbe umhlaba loba ukuphila kumbe ukufa loba kukhathesi kumbe kwelizayo, konke ngokwenu, ²³ njalo lina lingabakaKhristu, loKhristu un-gokaNkulunkulu.

4

AbaPostoli Beqiniso

¹ Ngakho abantu kumele basibone njengezisebenzi zikaKhristu lanjengalabo abagciniswe izinto ezifihlakeleyo zikaNkulunkulu. ² Kuyadingeka ukuthi labo abagcinisiweyo babonakalise ukuthi bathembekile. ³ Kanginaki kakhulu nxa ngahlulelwe yini loba omunye umthethwandaba wabantu; impela, kangizahluleli lami. ⁴ Isazela sami simsulwa, kodwa lokho kakungenzi ngingabi lacala. INkosi yiyo engahlulelayo. ⁵ Ngakho-ke, lingahluleli lutho isikhathi esimisiweyo singakafiki; manini iNkosi ize ifike. Yona izakubeka ekukhanyeni okufihlwe emnyameni, njalo izaziveza obala injongo zezinhliziyo zabantu. Ngalesosikhathi omunye lomunye uzakwamukela ukubongwa kwakhe kuNkulunkulu.

⁶ Bazalwane, izinto lezi ngizisebenzisile kimi laku-Apholo ngenxa yenu ukuze lifunde kithi okutshiwo yisitho esithi, “Lingenzi okudlula okulotshiweyo.” Lapho-ke, kaliyikuzigqaja ngomunye umuntu komunye. ⁷ Kambe ngubani olenza lehluke omunye komunye na? Kuyini elilakho elingakwamukelanga na? Njalo nxa lakwamukela, pho kungani lizincoma kungathi alikwamukelanga?

⁸ Livele selilakho konke elikufunayo! Selinothile! Selibe ngamakhosi, njalo ngaphandle kwethu! Yeka ukufisa

* 3:19 3.19 UJobe 5.13 † 3:20 3.20 AmaHubo 94.11

kwami ukuthi ngabe laba ngamakhosi ukuze lathi sibe ngamakhosi kanye lani! ⁹ Ngoba kini kukhanya angathi thina abapostoli uNkulunkulu usibeke embukisweni ekucineni kodwendwe, njengalabo abagwetshelwe ukufa enkundleni. Senziwe umbukiso emhlabeni wonke, ezingilosini kanye lasebantwini. ¹⁰ Thina siyizithutha ngenxa kaKhristu, kodwa lina lihlakaniphe kangaka kuKhristu! Thina sibuthakathaka lina lilamandla! Liyahlonitshwa, thina siyadelelwa. ¹¹ Kuze kube yilesisikhathi, siyalamba njalo some, simanikiniki, siyahlukuluzwa ngolunya, kasilamakhaya. ¹² Sisebenza nzima ngezandla zethu. Nxa siqalekiswa, thina siyabusisa; lapho sihlukuluzwa, thina siyaqinisela; ¹³ lapho sinyeywa, siphendula kuhle. Kuze kube yilesisikhathi sesibe ngamanyala omhlaba, izibi zomhlaba.

Ukuncenga Lokuxwayisa KukaPhawuli

¹⁴ Kangilobi lokhu ukuba ngiliyangise kodwa ukulixwayisa njengabantwabami abathandekayo. ¹⁵ Lanxa lilabondli abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi kuKhristu, kalilabo oyihlo abanengi, ngoba kuJesu Khristu ngaba nguyihlo ngevangeli. ¹⁶ Ngakho ngiyalicela ukuba lenze njengami. ¹⁷ Ngenxa yalesisizatho, ngilithumela uThimothi, indodana yami ethandekayo, ethembekileyo eNkosini. Uzalikhumbuza indlela yokuphila kwami kuJesu Khristu, evumelana lalokho engikufundisayo ezindaweni zonke, emabandleni wonke.

¹⁸ Abanye benu sebezikhukhumeza, kungazathi kangizi kini. ¹⁹ Kodwa ngizakuza kini masinyane, nxa iNkosi ithanda, njalo lapho-ke angizukudinga kuphela ukwazi ukuthi lababantu abazikhukhumezayo bakhulumani, kodwa ukuba balamandla anjani. ²⁰ Ngoba umbuso kaNkulunkulu kawusindaba yokukhuluma kodwa eyamandla. ²¹ Likhetha kuphi? Ngize kini lomqwayi wokuliqondisa, kumbe gothando kanye lomoya othobekileyo na?

5

Ukuphatha Umzalwane Oxhwalileyo!

¹ Kuyabikwa impela ukuthi kulokuhlobonga phakathi kwenu njalo obohlobo olungenzakaliyo laphakathi kwabangakholwayo: Umuntu uthatha umkayise. ² Njalo lina liyazigqaja! Kwakungamelanga libe buhlungu kakhulu yini limsuse enhlanganweni yenu umuntu owenze lokhu na? ³ Lanxa mina ngingekho mathupha, ngilani emoyeni. Njengomunye olani endaweni enje, sengimahlulele lowo owenze lokhu ebizweni lenkosi yethu uJesu. ⁴ Lapho libuthene ebizweni leNkosi yethu uJesu ngilani ngomoya,

lamandla eNkosi yethu uJesu akhona, ⁵ umuntu lo mnikeleli kuSathane ukuze umzimba wakhe wesono uchithwe lomoya wakhe usindiswe ngosuku lweNkosi.

⁶ Ukuzincoma kwenu akulunganga. Kalikwazi yini ukuthi imvubelo encane ibilisa inhlama yonke? ⁷ Susani imvubelo endala ukuze libe yinhlama entsha engelamvubelo, njen-goba linjalo impela. Ngoba uKhristu, iwundlu lethu leP-hasika, lihlatsiwe. ⁸ Ngakho, kasigcineni uMkhosi, hatshi kulemvubelo endala, imvubelo yenzondo lobubi, kodwa lesinkwa esingelamvubelo, isinkwa sobuqotho leqiniso.

⁹ Ngalilobela encwadini yami ukuba lingahlanganyeli labantu abayizixhwali ngobufebe, ¹⁰ ngingatsho abantu bakulo umhlaba abangangileyo, loba abayizihwaba lamaqili, loba abakhonza izithombe. Nxa kunjalo kuzamele li-wutshiye umhlaba lo. ¹¹ Kodwa khatshi ngililobela ukuba lingahlanganyeli lomuntu ozibiza ngokuthi ngumzalwane, kodwa exhwalile, eyisifebe, isihwaba, umkhonzi wezithombe loba onyeyayo, isidakwa loba iqili. Umuntu onjalo lingalokothi lidle laye.

¹² Kungumlandu wami na ukuba ngahlulele abangaphandle kwebandla? Akumelanga lahlulele labo abaphakathi na? ¹³ UNkulunkulu uzakwahlulela labo abangaphandle. "Mxotsheni umuntu omubi phakathi kwenu."*

6

Ukumangalelana Phakathi Kwabakholwayo

¹ Nxa owakini elombango lomunye uyahamba ayemangalela kwabangakholwayo endaweni yokuya kwabakholwayo na? ² Kalazi yini ukuthi abantu bakaNkulunkulu bazakwahlulela umhlaba na? Nxa lizakwahlulela umhlaba, kalenelisi ukwahlulela amacala amancane na? ³ Kalazi yini ukuthi sizakwahlulela izingilosi? Pho sizakwehlulwa yini ukwahlulela izindaba zalimpilo! ⁴ Ngakho-ke, nxa lilembango yezindaba ezinje, lidinga ukwahlulelwa ngabantu abalempilo ezisolekayo ebandleni na? ⁵ Ngitsho lokhu ukuze libelenhloni. Kungenzakala yini ukuthi akulamuntu phakathi kwenu ohlakaniphe okwaneleyo ukuba ahlulele umbango phakathi kwabazalwane na? ⁶ Kodwa esikhundleni salokho, omunye umzalwane uya emthethweni ukuyamangalela omunye, njalo lokhu ekwenza phambi kwabangakholwayo!

⁷ Khona lokhu ukuthi impela kulokumangalelana phakathi kwenu kutsho ukuba selehlulwe ngokupheleleyo. Kakungcono yini ukwamukela ukoniwa? Kakungcono yini

* 5:13 5.13 UDutheronomi 17.7; 19.19; 21.21; 22.21, 24; 24.7

ukwamukela ukuqilibezelwa? ⁸ Esikhundleni salokho, lina ngokwenu liyaqilibezela njalo lone, futhi lokhu likwenza kubazalwane benu. ⁹ Kalazi yini ukuthi abonayo kabayikuba zindlalifa zombuso kaNkulunkulu? Lingakhohliswa. Akulazifebe ezixhwalileyo loba abakhonza izithombe kumbe iziphingi loba izitabane ¹⁰ kumbe amasela loba izihwaba kumbe izidakwa loba abanyeyayo kumbe amaqili azakudla ilifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu. ¹¹ Njalo lokho yikho abanye benu ababeyikho. Kodwa selageziswa, selangcweliswa, selungiswa ngebizo leNkosi uJesu Khristu langoMoya kaNkulunkulu wethu.

Ukuhlobonga

¹² Lithi “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini,” kodwa akusikho konke okusizayo. “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini” kodwa angiyikubuswa lutho. ¹³ Lithi “Ukudla kwesisu lesisu sokudla, kodwa uNkulunkulu uzakuchitha kokubili.” Umzimba kawusiwokuhlobonga, kodwa ngoweNkosi, leNkosi ngeyomzimba. ¹⁴ Ngamandla akhe uNkulunkulu wayivusa kwabafuleyo iNkosi, lathi futhi uzasivusa. ¹⁵ Kalazi yini ukuthi imizimba yenu iyizitho zikaKhristu uqobo na? Kambe ngingathatha izitho zikaKhristu ngizihlanganise lesiphingi na? Hatshi! ¹⁶ Kalazi yini ukuthi lowo ozihlanganise lesiphingi uba munye laso emzimbeni? Ngoba kuthiwa, “Labo ababili bazakuba nyamanye.”* ¹⁷ Kodwa lowo ozihlanganisa leNkosi munye layo emoyeni.

¹⁸ Balekelani ukuhlobonga. Zonke ezinye izono umuntu azenzayo zingaphandle komzimba wakhe, kodwa lowo owenza isono sobufebe wenza isono emzimbeni wakhe. ¹⁹ Kalazi yini ukuthi umzimba wenu ulithempeli likaMoya oNgcwele, ophakathi kwenu, elamamukela kuNkulunkulu na? Kalisibo benu, ²⁰ lathengwa ngentengo. Ngakho-ke, dumisani uNkulunkulu ngemizimba yenu.

7

Okuphathelane Lokuthathana

¹ Mayelana lezindaba elaloba ngazo: “Kuhle ukuba indoda ingabi lobudlelwano bemacansini lowesifazane.” ² Kodwa njengoba kulokuhlobonga okungaka, indoda yinye kumele ibe lobudlelwano bemacansini lomkayo, lomfazi munye abe lendoda yakhe. ³ Indoda kumele igcwalise umlandu wayo wokuthathana kumkayo, kube njalo lomfazi endodeni yakhe. ⁴ Umfazi kalamandla ngomzimba wakhe

* 6:16 6.16 UGenesisi 2.24

kodwa uwunikela kumkakhe. Ngokufanayo, lendoda kayilamandla ngomzimba wayo kodwa iwunikela kumkayo. ⁵ Lingancitshani ngaphandle kokuba kungokokuvumelana njalo okwesikhatshana, ukuze lizinikele ekukhulekeni. Libuye lihlangane futhi ukuze uSathane angalilingi ngenxa yokusilela kokuzithiba kwenu. ⁶ Lokhu ngikutsho njen-gokuvumela, hatshi njengomlayo. ⁷ Sengathi ngabe lonke linjengami. Kodwa umuntu ngamunye ulesipho sakhe esivela kuNkulunkulu, omunye ulalesi isipho, omunye laye ulalesiyana.

⁸ Kwabangendanga labafelokazi ngithi: Kuhle kubo ukuba bahlale bengendanga, njengami. ⁹ Kodwa nxa bengeke bazithiba, kabende, ngoba ukwenda kungcono kulokutshiseka ngokufisa.

¹⁰ Abathatheneyo ngibapha umlayo lo (hatshi mina, kodwa iNkosi): Umfazi akumelanga ehlukane lendoda yakhe. ¹¹ Kodwa nxa ekwenzile, kahlale engendanga loba abuyisane lendoda yakhe. Lendoda akumelanga imlahle umkayo.

¹² Kwabanye ngithi (mina, hatshi iNkosi): Nxa umzalwane elomfazi ongasilokholwa kodwa evuma ukuhlala laye, akumelanga amlahle. ¹³ Njalo nxa owesifazane elendoda engakholwayo ivuma ukuhlala laye, akumelanga ayilahle. ¹⁴ Ngoba indoda engakholwayo isingcweliswe ngomkayo, lomfazi ongakholwayo usengcweliswe ngendoda yakhe ekholwayo. Kungenjalo ngabe abantwana benu bangcolile, kodwa okwamanje bangcwele.

¹⁵ Kodwa nxa ongakholwayo etshiya, myekeleni enze njalo. Owesilisa kumbe owesifazane okholwayo phakathi kabotshelwanga phakathi komumo onje; uNkulunkulu usibizele ukuhlala ngokuthula. ¹⁶ Wazi njani, mfazi, mhlawumbe uzasindisa indoda yakho? Loba, wazi njani ndoda, mhlawumbe uzasindisa umkakho?

Mayelana Lokuguquka Kwesimo

¹⁷ Lanxa kunjalo, lowo lalowo ekuphileni kumele agcine leyondawo iNkosi emuphe yona njalo abizelwe kuyo nguNkulunkulu. Lo ngumlayo engiwubeka emabandleni wonke. ¹⁸ Indoda yayivele isisokile ekubizweni kwayo na? Kayingabi ngengasokanga. Indoda yayingasokanga ekubizweni kwayo na? Akumelanga isokwe. ¹⁹ Ukusoka lokungasoki konke kuyize. Ukugcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu yikho okuqakathekileyo. ²⁰ Lowo lalowo kahlale kulesosimo ayekuso ekubizweni kwakhe nguNkulunkulu.

²¹ Wawuyisigqili na ekubizweni kwakho? Kakungakukhathazi, lanxa ungathola ukukhululeka kwakho,

yenza njalo. ²² Ngoba lowo owayeyisigqili ekubizweni kwakhe yiNkosi, ungokhululekileyo weNkosi; ngokufanayo, lowo owayekhululekile ekubizweni kwakhe uyisigqili sikaKhristu. ²³ Lathengwa ngentengo; kalingabi yizigqili zabantu. ²⁴ Bazalwane, umuntu munye ngamunye, njengolomlandu kuNkulunkulu, kumele ahlale ekulesosimo uNkulunkulu ambizela kuso.

Mayelana Labangendanga Kumbe Abangathathanga

²⁵ Mayelana lezintombi ezigcweleyo: Kangilamlayo ovela eNkosini, kodwa ngahlulela njengothembekileyo ngomusa weNkosi. ²⁶ Ngenxa yokukhathazeka kwakhathesi, ngicabanga ukuthi kuhle kini ukuba lihlale linjengoba linjalo. ²⁷ Uthethe na? Ungadingi ukwehlukana. Kawuthathanga na? Ungathathi. ²⁸ Kodwa nxa uthatha, kawenzanga sono njalo nxa intombi egcweleyo isenda kayonanga. Kodwa labo abathathanayo bazabona inhlupho ezinengi kulokhukuphila, njalo ngifuna ukuliphephisa kulokhu.

²⁹ Engikutshoyo, bazalwane, yikuthi isikhathi sifitshane. Kusukela khathesi kusiya phambili labo abalabafazi kabaphile kungathi kabalabo: ³⁰ labo abakhalayo, kube sengathi kabakhali; labathokozayo babe njengabangathokoziyo; labo abathenga ulutho, kube sengathi kalusilo lwabo ukuba balugcine; ³¹ labo abasebenzisa izinto zasemhlabeni, kube sengathi kabathathekanga kuzo. Ngoba umhlaba lo kulesisimo sawo sakhathesi uyedlula.

³² Ngifuna ukuba linganqineki. Umuntu ongathathanga unqinekela izindaba zeNkosi, ukuba angayithokozisa kanjani iNkosi. ³³ Kodwa umuntu othetheyo unqinekela izindaba zalo umhlaba, ukuba angamthokozisa kanjani umkakhe, ³⁴ lezifiso zakhe zehlukene phakathi. Umfazi ongendanga loba intombi egcweleyo inqinekela izindaba zeNkosi: Isifiso sayo yikuzinikela eNkosini ngakho kokubili umzimba lomoya. Kodwa umfazi owendileyo unqinekela izindaba zalo umhlaba, ukuba angamthokozisa kanjani umkakhe. ³⁵ Ngitsho lokhu ukuba kube lusizo kini, hatshi ukulivimbela. Ngifuna ukuba liphile ngendlela eqondileyo ngokuzinikela okupheleleyo eNkosini.

³⁶ Nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuthi uziphatha ngokungafanelanga entombini egcweleyo athandana layo, esilokhu isiba ndala, njalo esizwa kusithi kufanele athathe, kenze njengokuthanda kwakhe. Kenzi sono. Kumele bathathane. ³⁷ Kodwa umuntu osenze isinqumo engqondweni yakhe

engancindezelwanga kodwa elamandla okuzibamba esifisweni sakhe, njalo osemise engqondweni yakhe ukungayithathi intombi leyo, umuntu lo laye wenza into eqondileyo. ³⁸ Ngakho-ke, lowo othatha intombi egcweleyo wenza okuqondileyo, kodwa lowo ongayithathiyo wenza okungcono kakhulu.

³⁹ Owesifazane ubotshelwe endodeni yakhe nxa isaphila. Kodwa indoda yakhe ingafa, ukhululekile ukwendela kwenye ayithandayo, kodwa kumele ibe seNkosini. ⁴⁰ Ngokubona kwami, uyathokoza kakhulu nxa ehlala enjalo, njalo ngiyakholwa ukuthi ngiloMoya kaNkulunkulu.

8

Okuphathelane Lokudla Okunikelwe Ezithombeni

¹ Mayelana lokudla okunikelwe ezithombeni: Siyakwazi ukuthi sonke silolwazi. Ulwazi luyakhukhumeza, kodwa uthando luyakha. ² Umuntu ocabanga ukuthi wazi ulutho kakazi lutho njengoba efanele ukwazi. ³ Kodwa umuntu othanda uNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu uyamazi lowomuntu.

⁴ Ngakho-ke, mayelana lokudla okunikelwe ezithombeni: Siyakwazi ukuthi "Isithombe kasisilutho emhlabeni" kanye lokuthi "uNkulunkulu munye kuphela kakho omunye." ⁵ Ngoba lanxa kulabonkulunkulu abatshiwoyo, langabe ezulwini loba emhlabeni (njengoba impela kulabonkulunkulu abanengi lamakhosi amanengi), ⁶ kodwa kithi kuloNkulunkulu oyedwa kuphela, uYise, okwavela kuye izinto zonke njalo okunguye esiphilelayo; njalo kuleNkosi eyodwa kuphela, uJesu Khristu, izinto zonke zeza ngaye njalo esiphila ngaye.

⁷ Kodwa akusimuntu wonke okwaziyo lokhu. Abanye abantu balokhu bejayele izithombe kuze kuthi lapho besidla ukudla okunjalo, bacabange ukuthi kunikelwe esithombeni njalo njengoba isazela sabo sibuthakathaka, siyangcoliswa. ⁸ Kodwa ukudla akusisondezi eduzane loNkulunkulu; kasilahlekelwa yilutho nxa singadli, njalo kasizuzi lutho nxa sisidla.

⁹ Kodwa qaphelani ukuba ukusebenza kwamalungelo enu akubi yisikhubekiso kwababuthakathaka. ¹⁰ Ngoba nxa umuntu olesazela esibuthakathaka ebona lina elilalolulwazi lisidla ethempelini lesithombe, kambe kazukuba lesibindi sokudla okunikelwe ezithombeni na? ¹¹ Ngakho umzalwane lo, uKhristu amfelayo, uchithwa yikwazi kwenu. ¹² Nxa lisenza isono kubazalwane benu kanje lilimaza isazela sabo esibuthakathaka, lenza isono kuKhristu. ¹³ Ngakho-ke, nxa

engikudlayo kusenza umzalwane wami awele esonweni, angiyikudla inyama futhi, ukuze ngingamwisi.

9

Amalungelo KaPhawuli NjengomPostoli

¹ Kangikhululekanga na? Kangisumpostoli na? Kanje kangimbonanga uJesu iNkosi yethu na? Kalisizithelo zomsebenzi wami eNkosini na? ² Lanxa ngingasuye umpostoli kwabanye, impela nginguye kini! Ngoba lina liluphawu lobupostoli bami eNkosini.

³ Lokhu kuyisivikelo sami kulabo abazangahlulela. ⁴ Kasilalungelo lokudla lokunatha na? ⁵ Kambe silelungelo bani lokuthatha owesifazane okholwayo owendileyo sihambe laye njengokwenziwa ngabanye abapostoli labafowabo beNkosi kanye loKhefasi na? ⁶ Kumbe yimi loBhanabhasi kuphela esingelalo ilungelo lokusebenzela impilo?

⁷ Ngubani osebenza njengebutho ngendleko zakhe na? Ngubani olima isivini angadli izithelo zaso na? Ngubani owelusa umhlambi anganathi uchago lwawo na? ⁸ Lokhu ngikutsho ngokwengqondo yabantu na? Umthetho kawutsho okufanayo na? ⁹ Ngoba kulotshiwe emthethweni kaMosi ukuthi: “Inkabi ungayifaki isayeke nxa ibhula amabele.”* UNkulunkulu ukhathazeka ngenkabi na? ¹⁰ Impela uyasikhulumela lokhu; akunjalo na? Yebo, lokhu kwalotshelwa thina, ngoba nxa umlimi elima lobulayo ebhula kumele benzenjalo belethemba lokwabelana isivuno. ¹¹ Nxa sahlanyela inhlanyelo yakomoya kini, kambe kunengi kakhulu yini nxa sivuna isivuno sempahla kini na? ¹² Nxa abanye belaleli ilungelo losizo oluvela kini, thina akumelanga sibe lalo kakhulu na?

Kodwa thina kasilisebenzisanga ilungelo leli. Esikhundleni salokho sibekezelele konke kulokuthi sivimbele ivangeli likaKhristu.

¹³ Kalazi yini ukuthi abasebenza ethempelini bathola ukudla kwabo ethempelini, lokuthi labo abakhonza e-alithareni babelana lokho okunikelwe e-alithareni na? ¹⁴ Ngokufanayo iNkosi ilaye ukuthi labo abatshumayela ivangeli kumele bathole ukuphila kwabo evangelini.

¹⁵ Kodwa mina angisebenzisanga lalinye lala amalungelo. Njalo kangilobi lokhu ngethemba lokuthi lizangenzela izinto ezinjalo. Ngingakhetha ukufa kulokuthi umuntu

* 9:9 9.9 UDtheronomi 25.4

angemuke ukuzincoma lokhu. ¹⁶ Ikanti lapho ngitshumayela ivangeli, angingeke ngizincome ngoba kumele ngitshumaye! Maye kimi nxa ngingatshumayeli ivangeli! ¹⁷ Nxa ngitshumayela ngokuzithandela, ngithola umvuzo; nxa ngingazithandeli, ngifeza umlandu obekwe kimi. ¹⁸ Pho umvuzo wami uyini na? Uyilokhu nje: ukuthi lapho ngitshumayela ivangeli, ngilitshumayela kungekho mbadalo, kalokho ngingasebenzisi malungelo ami ekulitshumayeleni.

Ukusebenzisa KukaPhawuli Amalungelo Akhe

¹⁹ Lanxa ngikhululekile ngingasuye womunye umuntu, ngizenza isigqili ebantwini bonke, ukuze ngizuze abanengi nxa kusenzeka. ²⁰ KumaJuda ngaba njengomJuda, ukuba ngizuze amaJuda. Kulabo abangaphansi komthetho ngaba njengongaphansi komthetho (lanxa nje mina ngingekho ngaphansi komthetho), ukuba ngizuze labo abangaphansi komthetho. ²¹ Kulabo abangelamthetho ngaba njengongelamthetho (lanxa ngingakhululekanga emthethweni kaNkulunkulu ngingaphansi komthetho kaKhristu), ukuba ngizuze labo abangelamthetho. ²² Kwababuthakathaka ngababuthakathaka, ukuba ngizuze ababuthakathaka. Sengibe yizinto zonke ebantwini bonke ukuze kuthi ngazonke izindlela ezingenzakala ngisilise abanye. ²³ Ngenza konke lokhu ngenxa yevangeli, ukuze lami ngihlanganyele ezibusisweni zalo.

Indingeko Yokuziphatha

²⁴ Kalazi yini ukuthi emncintiswaneni wokugijima abagijimi bayagijima bonke, kodwa ngoyedwa kuphela othola umvuzo? Gijimani ngendlela ezakwenza ukuthi lithole umvuzo. ²⁵ Umuntu wonke oncintisayo emidlalweni uba sekufundisweni okulukhuni. Bakwenzela ukuzuzwa umqhele wamaluba ongasoze uhlale isikhathi eside, kodwa thina sikwenzela ukuba sithole umqhele ozahlala ukhona kuze kube laphakade. ²⁶ Ngakho kangigijimi njengomuntu ogijima engahlose lutho; kangilwi njengomuntu obindana lomoya. ²⁷ Hatshi, ngitshaya umzimba wami ngiwenze isigqili sami ukuze kuthi lapho sengitshumayele kwabanye, mina uqobo ngingemukwa ilungelo lokuthola umvuzo.

10

Izixwayiso Ezivela Emlandweni Ka-Israyeli

¹ Ngoba, bazalwane, kangifuni ukuthi lingalazi iqiniso lokuthi okhokho babengaphansi kweyezi kanye lokuthi bonke badabula phakathi kolwandle. ² Bonke babhaphathizelwa kuMosi eyezini kanye lasolwandle. ³ Bonke

badla kudla kunye komoya ⁴ banatha okunathwayo kunye komoya, ngoba banatha edwaleni lomoya elalihamba labo, njalo lelodwala lalinguKhristu. ⁵ Kodwa uNkulunkulu kathokozanga ngenengi labo, ngakho imizimba yabo yahlakazwa enkangala.

⁶ Lezizinto zenzakala njengezibonelo, ukuba zisingabele ekubekeni inhliziyo zethu ezintweni ezimbi njengalokhu abakwenzayo. ⁷ Lingakhonzi izithombe, njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo; njengoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Abantu bahlala phansi badla, banatha, basukuma bagida.”* ⁸ Akumelanga sihlobonge njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo, njalo ngosuku olulodwa kwafa abazinkulungwane ezingamatshumi amabili lantathu. ⁹ Akumelanga silinge uKhristu njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo, babulawa zinyoka. ¹⁰ Lingakhononi, njengokwenziwa ngabanye babo, babulawa yingilosi ebhubhisayo.

¹¹ Izinto lezi zenzakala kubo njengezibonelo njalo zalotshwa njengezixwayiso kithi, osekufike kubo ukugcwaliseka kwezikhathi. ¹² Ngakho nxa licabanga ukuthi limi liqinile, qaphelani ukuba lingawi. ¹³ Akulazilingo ezilehleleyo ngaphandle kokwejayelekileyo ebantwini. Njalo uNkulunkulu uthembekile; akayikuvumela ukuba lilingwe ngokwedlula lokho elingakumela. Kodwa lapho lilingwa, uzalinika indlela yokuphunyuka ukuze limelane lakho.

AmaDili Ezithombe Lesidlo SeNkosi

¹⁴ Ngakho-ke, bangane bami abathandekayo, balekelani ukukhonza izithombe. ¹⁵ Ngikhuluma labantu abalengqondo; zenzeleni esenu isinqumo ngalokho engikutshoyo. ¹⁶ Konje inkezo yokubonga esiyibongelayo kayisikuhlanganyela egazini likaKhristu na? Lesinkwa esisihlephunayo kasisisokuhlanganyela emzimbeni kaKhristu na? ¹⁷ Njengoba kulesinkwa sinye, thina abanengi, singumzimba munye, ngoba sonke sihlanganyela lesosinkwa sinye.

¹⁸ Khumbulani abantu bako-Israyeli: Kakusikho yini ukuthi labo abadla imihlatshelo balokuhlanganyela ealithareni na? ¹⁹ Pho ngitsho ukuthi umhlatshelo onikelwe esithombeni uyilutho, loba ukuthi isithombe siyilutho na? ²⁰ Hatshi, kodwa imihlatshelo yabangakholwayo inikelwa emadimonini hatshi kuNkulunkulu, njalo kangifuni ukuba libe ngabahlanganyela lamadimoni. ²¹ Kalingeke linathe inkezo yeNkosi lenkezo yamadimoni njalo, alingeke libe

* 10:7 10.7 U-Eksodasi 32.6

lokuhlanganyela etafuleni yeNkosi lasetafuleni yamadi-moni. ²² Sizama ukuvusa umona weNkosi na? Kambe silamandla kulayo na?

Inkululeko Yekholwa

²³ “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini,” kodwa akusizinto zonke ezilosizo. “Ngilelungelo lokwenza loba yini,” kodwa akusizinto zonke ezakhayo. ²⁴ Akulamuntu omele azidingele okuhle, kodwa okuhle kwabanye.

²⁵ Dlanini konke okuthengiswa lapho okuthengiswa khona inyama kungekho kubuza imibuzo yesazela, ²⁶ ngoba, “Umhlaba ngokaThixo, lakho konke okukuwo.”†

²⁷ Nxa omunye wabangakholwayo elibizela ukudla njalo lifuna ukuhamba, dlanini loba kuyini okubekwe phambi kwenu kungekho kubuza imibuzo yesazela. ²⁸ Kodwa nxa omunye esithi kini, “Lokhu kunikelwe njengomhlatshelo,” lokho-ke lingakudli, ngenxa yomuntu lowo olitshelileyo langenxa yesazela, ²⁹ ngitsho isazela salowomuntu, hatshi esenu. Kungani ukukhululeka kwami kumele kwahlulelwe ngesazela somunye na? ³⁰ Nxa ngihlanganyela ekudleni ngokubonga, kungani ngisolwa ngolutho engilubongela iNkosi na?

³¹ Ngakho ingabe liyadla kumbe liyanatha, loba kuyikuphi elikwenzayo, kwenzeleni udumo lukaNkulunkulu. ³² Lingakhubekisi muntu, loba kungamaJuda, amaGrikhi loba ibandla likaNkulunkulu, ³³ lalapho ngizama ukuthokozisa abantu bonke ngezindlela zonke. Ngoba kangidingi okuhle kwami, kodwa okuhle kwabanengi, ukuze basindiswe.

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¹ Landelani isibonelo sami, njengalokhu lami ngilandela isibonelo sikaKhristu.

Imfanelo Ekukhonzeni

² Ngiyalibonga ngokungikhumbula ezintweni zonke langokubambelela emfundisweni njengokuyethula kwami kini. ³ Kodwa ngifuna ukuba likwazi ukuthi inhloko yamadoda wonke nguKhristu, lenhloko yowesifazane yindoda, lenhloko kaKhristu nguNkulunkulu. ⁴ Yonke indoda ekhuleka loba iphrofithe ikhanda layo limboziwe ihlayaza ikhanda layo. ⁵ Lowesifazane wonke okhuleka loba aphrofithe ikhanda lakhe lingembozwanga uhlayaza ikhanda lakhe, kufana lokuthi ikhanda lakhe liphuciwe. ⁶ Nxa owesifazane engambozi ikhanda lakhe, angagela inwele zakhe; kodwa nxa kulhlazo ukuthi owesifazane

† 10:26 10.26 AmaHubo 24.1

agele loba aphuce inwele zakhe, kumele alimboze ikhanda lakhe.

⁷ Indoda akumelanga imboze ikhanda layo, ngoba ingumfanekiso lodumo lukaNkulunkulu kodwa owesifazane uludumo lwendoda. ⁸ Ngoba indoda kayivelanga kowesifazane kodwa owesifazane wavela endodeni ⁹ njalo indoda kayidalelwanga owesifazane kodwa owesifazane wadalelwa indoda. ¹⁰ Ngakho-ke, njalo ngenxa yezingilosi, owesifazane kumele abe lophawu lwamandla ekhanda lakhe. ¹¹ Kodwa eNkosini, owesifazane weyeme endodeni, lendoda yeyeme kowesifazane. ¹² Ngoba njengoba owesifazane wavela endodeni, ngokunjalo indoda layo izalwa ngowesifazane. Kodwa izinto zonke zivela kuNkulunkulu.

¹³ Zahluleleni ngokwenu: Kulungile yini ukuba owesifazane akhuleke kuNkulunkulu ikhanda lakhe lingembozwanga? ¹⁴ Imvelo yezinto uqobo kayilifundisi yini ukuba nxa owesilisa elenwele ezinde, kulihlazo kuye, ¹⁵ kodwa owesifazane nxa elenwele ezinde, kuludumo lwakhe? Ngoba waphiwa inwele ezinde njengesimbozo. ¹⁶ Nxa umuntu efuna ukuba lenkani ngalokho, kasilawo omunye umkhuba, lamabandla kaNkulunkulu kawalawo.

Ukuqondisa Ukungaphathwa Kuhle Kwesidlo seNkosi

¹⁷ Kuziqondiso ezilandelayo angilincomi, ngoba imihlangano yenu yenza ububi obunengi kulobuhle. ¹⁸ Okokuqala, ngizwa kuthiwa nxa libuthene njengebandla, kulokwahlukana phakathi kwenu, njalo ngiphosa ngikholwe. ¹⁹ Akuthandabuzeki ukuthi kufanele kube lokungavumelani phakathi kwenu ukuba kubonakale ukuthi yibaphi abenu abamukelwe nguNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Lapho libuthene, akusiSidlo seNkosi elisidlayo, ²¹ ngoba ekudleni kwenu, lowo lalowo wenu uyaqhubeka engamelelanga omunye. Omunye usala elambile, omunye adakwe. ²² Kanti kalilamakhaya yini okudlela lokunathela kuwo? Kumbe liyaleyisa yini ibandla likaNkulunkulu lidumaza lalabo abangelalutho na? Ngizakuthini kini na? Ngingalincoma ngenxa yalokhu na? Impela hatshi!

²³ Ngoba eNkosini ngamukela lokho lami engakudlulisela kini ukuthi: INkosi uJesu, ngalobobusuku eyanikelwa ngabo, yathatha isinkwa, ²⁴ kwathi isibongile, yasihlephuna yathi, **“Lokhu kungumzimba wami, ongowenu; yenzani lokhu njengesikhumbuzo sami.”** ²⁵ Ngokunjalo, emva kokudla yathatha inkezo, yathi, **“Inkezo le iyisivumelwano esitsha egazini lami; yenzani lokhu izikhathi zonke lapho liyinatha, njengesikhumbuzo**

sami.” ²⁶ Ngoba lapho lisidla isinkwa lesi linatha lenkezo le, litshumayela ukufa kweNkosi ize ibuye.

²⁷ Ngakho-ke, lowo odla isinkwa loba anathe inkezo yenkosi ngokungafanelanga uzakuba lecala lokwenza isono ngomzimba langegazi leNkosi. ²⁸ Umuntu kumele azihlole phambi kokuba adle isinkwa loba anathe inkezo. ²⁹ Ngoba lowo odlayo anathe engawukholwa umzimba kaKhristu udla anathe ukwahlulelwa kwakhe. ³⁰ Yikho-nje abanengi phakathi kwenu bebuthakathaka begula, njalo labanye benu sebebele. ³¹ Kodwa nxa sizahlulela kasiyik-wahlulelwa. ³² Lapho sisahlulelwa yiNkosi, siyajeziswa ukuze singalahlwa lomhlaba.

³³ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, nxa libuthene ukuba lidle, kumele lidle ndawonye. ³⁴ Nxa omunye elambile, kabokudla ekhaya, ukuze kuthi lapho selibuthene kungabi lokwahlulelwa.

Ekufikeni kwami ngizalipha ezinye iziqondiso.

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Izipho Zikamoya

¹ Mayelana lezipho zikamoya, bazalwane, kangifuni ukuba lingaze lazi. ² Liyakwazi ukuthi ngesikhathi lingakabi ngabakholwayo, ngezinye indlela laholelwa njalo ledukiselwa ezithombeni eziyizimungulu. ³ Ngakho ngiyal-itshela ukuthi kakho okhuluma ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu othi, “UJesu kathukwe,” njalo kakho ongathi, “UJesu yiNkosi,” ngaphandle kokuba kungoMoya oNgcwele.

⁴ Kulenhlobo ezehlukeneyo zezipho zikamoya kodwa uMoya munye. ⁵ Kulezindlela ezehlukeneyo zokukhonza, kodwa iNkosi yinye. ⁶ Kulezindlela ezehlukeneyo zokukhonza kodwa uNkulunkulu munye njalo uzisebenza zonke ebantwini bonke.

⁷ Emuntwini ngamunye ukubonakaliswa kukaMoya kwenzelwa ukusiza umuntu wonke. ⁸ Omunye ngoMoya uphiwa amandla okukhuluma ngokuhlakanipha, omunye amandla okukhuluma ngokwazi ngaye uMoya munye lowo, ⁹ omunye uphiwa ukukholwa ngoMoya munye lowo, omunye uphiwa izipho zokusilisa ngawona lowo Moya munye, ¹⁰ omunye uphiwa amandla okwenza izimangaliso, omunye uphiwa ukuphrofitha, omunye uphiwa amandla okuhlola omoya, omunye njalo aphiwe ukuchasisa izindimi. ¹¹ Konke lokhu kungumsebenzi kaMoya munye, njalo ukupha umuntu ngamunye, njengokuthanda kwakhe.

Umzimba Munye, Izitho Ezinengi

¹² Umzimba munye lanxa ubunjwe ngezitho ezinengi; njalo lanxa izitho zawo zonke zinengi, zibumba umzimba owodwa. Kunjalo ngoKhristu. ¹³ Ngoba sonke sabhaphathizwa ngoMoya munye kulowomzimba munye, loba singamaJuda kumbe abeZizwe, izigqili loba abakhululekileyo, sonke saphiwa uMoya munye ukuba siwunathe. ¹⁴ Umzimba kawenziwanga ngesitho esisodwa kodwa ezinengi.

¹⁵ Nxa unyawo lungathi, "Njengoba ngingasisandla, kangisingxenye yomzimba," ngalesosizatho alungeke lwekele ukuba yingxenye yomzimba. ¹⁶ Njalo nxa indlebe ingathi, "Njengoba ngingasilihlo, kangisingxenye yomzimba," ngalesosizatho ayingeke yekele ukuba yingxenye yomzimba. ¹⁷ Aluba umzimba wonke wawulilihlo, pho ukuzwa kwakuzakuba ngaphi na? Aluba umzimba wonke wawuyindlebe, pho kwakuzanukwa ngani na? ¹⁸ Kodwa okuyikho yikuthi uNkulunkulu wabeka izitho zomzimba, zonke, njengayefune ukuba zibe yikho khona. ¹⁹ Aluba zonke zaziyesitho sinye, pho umzimba wawuzakuba ngaphi na? ²⁰ Njengoba kunjalo, kulezitho ezinengi, kodwa umzimba munye.

²¹ Ilihlo alingeke lithi esandleni, "Kangikudingi!" Lekhanda alingeke lithi enyaweni, "Kangikudingi!" ²² Kodwa, lezozitho zomzimba ezikhanya zibuthakathaka ziyadingeka, ²³ lezitho thina esicabanga ukuthi kazihlonipheki kakhulu siziphatha ngokuhlonipha okuthize. ²⁴ Izitho ezihloniphisayo siziphatha ngokuhlonipha kakhulu. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wahlanganisa izitho zomzimba njalo usenike udumo olukhulu kulezozitho ezazingelalo, ²⁵ ukuze kungabi lokwehlukana emzimbeni, kodwa ukuba izitho zawo zibe lokuzwelana okufananayo. ²⁶ Nxa esinye isitho sibongwa, izitho zonke zithokoza laso.

²⁷ Lina lingumzimba kaKhristu njalo omunye lomunye wenu uyingxenye yawo. ²⁸ Ebandleni uNkulunkulu wabeka abapostoli kuqala kulabo bonke, okwesibili abaphrofethi, okwesithathu abafundisi, kwaba labenza izimangaliso, lalabo abalezipo zokusilisa, abalezokusiza abanye, abalezipo zokuthungamela, kanye lalabo abakhuluma inhlobo zezindimi ezehlukeneyo. ²⁹ Bonke bangabapostoli na? Bonke bangabaphrofethi na? Bonke bangabafundisi na? Bonke bayazenza izimangaliso na? ³⁰ Bonke balezipo zokusilisa na? Bonke bakhuluma ngendimi na? Bonke bayachasisa na? ³¹ Kodwa zifuneni ngokutshiseka iziphokuzinkulu.

Uthando Lubalulekile

Khathesi-ke ngizalitshengisa indlela eyiyo enhle kakhulu.

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¹ Loba ngikhuluma ngendimi zabantu lezezingilosi, kodwa ngingelalo uthando, ngiyinsimbi nje ekhalayo loba izenge elincencethayo. ² Loba ngilesipho sokuphrofitha, ngingaqedisisa imfihlakalo zonke kanye lokwazi konke, njalo nxa ngilokukholwa okungasusa izintaba, kodwa ngingelalo uthando, kangisilutho. ³ Loba nginganika abayanga konke engilakho nginikele lomzimba wami emalangabini, kodwa ngingelalo uthando, kangizuzi lutho.

⁴ Uthando luyabekezela, uthando lulomusa. Kalulamona, kaluzincomi, kaluzigqaji. ⁵ Kalusisosiqholo, kaluzifuneli okwalo, kaluphangisi ukuthukuthela, kalubambeli zikhwili. ⁶ Uthando kaluthokozeli okubi, kodwa luthokozela iqiniso. ⁷ Luhlezi luvikela, luhlezi lukholwa, luhlezi lusehemba, luhlezi lubekezela.

⁸ Uthando kalupheli. Kodwa lapho okuleziphrofethi khona, zizaphela, lapho okulezindimi khona, zizathuliswa; lapho okulokwazi khona, kuzakwedlula. ⁹ Ngoba sazi ingxenye, njalo siphrofitha ingxenye, ¹⁰ kodwa lapho ukuphelela kufika, ukungapheleli kuyanyamalala. ¹¹ Ngisesengumntwana, ngakhuluma njengomntwana, ngacabanga njengomntwana, nganakana njengomntwana. Sengiyindoda, ngaziyekela izindlela zobuntwana. ¹² Khathesi sibona kalufifi esibukweni; sizabuye sibone ubuso ngobuso. Khathesi ngazi ingxenye; ngizabuye ngazi okupheleleyo, njengoba lami ngisaziwa ngokupheleleyo.

¹³ Okuthathu lokhu kuma kunjalo: ukukholwa, ithemba lothando. Kodwa okukhulu kwalokhu luthando.

14*Izipho Zokuphrofitha Lezezindimi*

¹ Landelani indlela yothando lizifune ngokutshiseka izipho zikamoya ikakhulu isipho sokuphrofitha. ² Ngoba okhuluma ngendimi kakhulumi ebantwini kodwa kuNkulunkulu. Impela kakho obezwayo, bakhuluma imfihlakalo ngoMoya. ³ Kodwa umuntu wonke ophrofithayo ukhuluma ebantwini ukuba abaqinise, abakhuthaze njalo abaduduze. ⁴ Lowo okhuluma ngolimi oluthile uyazakha kodwa lowo ophrofithayo wakha ibandla. ⁵ Ngifisa ukuba lonke likhulume ngendimi kodwa ikakhulu ukuba liphrofitha. Ophrofithayo mkhulu kulalowo okhuluma ngendimi, ngaphandle kokuba echasisa, ukuze ibandla lakheke.

⁶ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane, nxa ngifika kini ngikhulume ngendimi, ngilosizo bani kini, ngaphandle kokuba ngililethele ukwambulwa okuthile loba ukwazi loba isiphrofethi kumbe imfundiso, na? ⁷ Lezizinto ezingaphiliyo ezenza umsindo njengomhubhe loba ichacho, umuntu angalazi njani iculo elikhaliswayo ngaphandle kokuba kulomahluko empawini zomculo? ⁸ Njalo nxa icilongo lisitsho umbiko ongacacanga, ngubani ozalungela impi na? ⁹ Kunjalo-ke lakini. Nxa lingakhulumi amazwi azwakalayo ngolimi lwenu, umuntu uzakwazi njani elikutshoyo? Liza-kuba likhuluma lomoya nje. ¹⁰ Akuthandabuzwa ukuthi kulenhlobonhlobo zezindimi emhlabeni kodwa zonke zilomutsho. ¹¹ Nxa ngingakuzwa okutshiwo ngomunye, ngingowezizweni kulowo okhulumayo, laye ngowezizweni kimi. ¹² Kunjalo-ke lakini. Njengoba litshisekela izipho zikamoya, zamani ukwenza okuhle kakhulu ngezipho ezakha ibandla.

¹³ Ngakho-ke, umuntu okhuluma ngendimi kumele akhulekele ukuba achasisa lokho akutshoyo. ¹⁴ Ngoba nxa ngikhuleka ngendimi, umoya wami uyakhuleka kodwa ingqondo yami kayilazithelo. ¹⁵ Pho ngenzeni na? Ngizakhuleka ngomoya wami njalo ngizakhuleka langengqondo yami; ngizahlabela ngomoya wami njalo ngizahlabela langengqondo yami. ¹⁶ Nxa libonga uNkulunkulu ngomoya wenu, angatsho kanjani ozithola esephakathi kwalabo abangazwisisiyo ukuthi, "Ameni" ekubongeni kwenu, yena engakwazi elikutshoyo na? ¹⁷ Lingabe libonga kuhle sibili kodwa omunye umuntu kabusisekanga.

¹⁸ Ngiyabonga uNkulunkulu ngoba mina ngikhuluma ngendimi ukudlula lina lonke. ¹⁹ Kodwa ebandleni ngithanda ukukhuluma amazwi amahlanu azwakalayo ngifundisa abanye kulamazwi azinkulungwane ezilitshumi ngendimi.

²⁰ Bazalwane, yekelani ukucabanga njengabantwana. Mayelana lobubi, wobani zingane kodwa ekucabangeni kwenu wobani ngabadala. ²¹ Emthethweni kulotshiwe ukuthi:

"Ngabantu bezindimi ezingaziwayo
 langezindebe zabezizweni
 ngizakhuluma lalababantu,
 kodwa loba kunjalo kabayikungilalela,
 kutsho iNkosi."*

²² Ngakho-ke, izindimi ziyisibonakaliso, hatshi kwabakholwayo, kodwa kwabangakholwayo; kodwa ukuphrofitha ngokwabakholwayo hatshi abangakholwayo.

* 14:21 14.21 U-Isaya 28.11-12

²³ Ngakho nxa ibandla lonke libuthene umuntu wonke akhulume ngendimi, kuthi abanye abangezwayo loba abangakholwayo bangene, kambe kabazukuthi ingqondo zenu ziphambene na? ²⁴ Kodwa nxa ongakholwayo loba omunye ongaqedisisiyo engena lapho abantu bonke bephrofitha, uzavunyiswa yibo bonke ukuthi uyisoni njalo ahlulelwe yibo bonke, ²⁵ lezimfihlo zenhliziyo yakhe zizavezwa obala. Ngakho uzakhothamela phansi akhonze uNkulunkulu esithi, “UNkulunkulu impela uphakathi kwenu!”

Ukukhonza Okuhlelwe Kuhle

²⁶ Pho sizakuthini, bazalwane? Lapho libuthana ndawonye, umuntu wonke ulehubo loba ilizwi lokufundisa, lokwambula, lezindimi, loba ukuchasisa. Konke lokhu kumele kwenziwe ukuze ibandla lakheke. ²⁷ Nxa omunye ekhuluma ngendimi, ababili loba kungabangadluli abathathu, kumele kukhulume oyedwa ngasikhathi sinye, njalo omunye kumele achasisa. ²⁸ Nxa kungelamchasisi, okhulumayo kumele athule ebandleni, azikhulumele yedwa, kuye lakuNkulunkulu.

²⁹ Kumele kukhulume abaphrofethi ababili loba abathathu, kuthi abanye bakhulolisise ngokunanzelela okutshiwoyo. ³⁰ Njalo nxa ukwambulelwa kufika komunye ohlezi phansi, okhulume kuqala kumele athule. ³¹ Ngoba lonke lingaphrofitha lintshintshana ukuze umuntu wonke afundiswe njalo akhuthazwe. ³² Imimoya yabaphrofethi iphathwa ngabaphrofethi. ³³ Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasuye Nkulunkulu wengxabangxoza kodwa ungowokuthula. Njengasemabandleni wonke abantu beNkosi.

³⁴ Abesifazane kumele bathule emabandleni. Kabavunyelwa ukukhuluma kodwa kumele bazithobe njengokutsho komthetho. ³⁵ Nxa befuna ukubuza ngolutho oluthile, kumele babuze omkabo emakhaya ngoba kulihlazo ukuthi owesifazane akhulume ebandleni.

³⁶ Konje ilizwi likaNkulunkulu lavela kini na? Kumbe lafika kini kuphela? ³⁷ Nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuthi ungumphrofethi loba ukuthi ulesipho sikaMoya, kavume ukuthi lokhu engililobela khona kungumlayo weNkosi. ³⁸ Nxa lokhu engakunaki, laye akayikunakwa.

³⁹ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, tshisekelani ukuphrofitha njalo lingenqabeli ukukhuluma ngendimi. ⁴⁰ Kodwa izinto zonke kumele zenziwe ngendlela efaneleyo lehlelwe kuhle.

¹ Bazalwane, ngithanda ukulikhumbuza ngevangeli engalitshumayela kini, elalamukelayo njalo eselimi ngalo. ² Ngalelivangeli liyasindiswa, nxa libambelela elizwini engalitshumayela kini. Nxa kungenjalo, selikholwe ize.

³ Ngoba engakwamukelayo lami ngakudlulisela kini njengokuqakatheke kakhulu: ukuthi uKhristu wafela izono zethu mayelana lemibhalo, ⁴ lokuthi wangcwatshwa, lokuthi wavuswa kwabafileyo ngosuku lwesithathu njen-gokutsho kwemibhalo, ⁵ kanye lokuthi wabonakala kuKhe-fasi, wasebonakala kwabalitshumi lambili. ⁶ Emva kwalokho wabonakala kubazalwane abadlula amakhulu amahlanu sikhathi sinye, inengi labo lilokhu lisaphila, lanxa abanye sebalala. ⁷ Wabuya wabonakala kuJakhobe, wasebonakala kubapostoli bonke, ⁸ kwathi ekucineni wabonakala kimi futhi, njengalowo ozelwe ngendlela en-gajayelekanga.

⁹ Ngoba mina ngingomncane kubapostoli njalo kangi-fanelanga lokuthiwa ngingumpostoli ngoba ngahluku-luza ibandla likaNkulunkulu. ¹⁰ Kodwa ngenxa yomusa kaNkulunkulu ngiyilokhu engiyikho njalo umusa wakhe kawubanga yize kimi. Hatshi, mina ngasebenza kakhulu kulabo bonke, kungayisimi belo kodwa kungumusa kaNku-lunkulu owawukimi. ¹¹ Ngakho langabe kwakuyimi loba kuyibo, lokhu yikho esikutshumayelayo njalo lokhu yikho elakukholwayo.

Ukuvuka Kwabafileyo

¹² Kodwa nxa kutshunyayelwa ukuthi uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo, pho bangakutsho kanjani abanye benu ukuthi akukho ukuvuka kwabafileyo na? ¹³ Nxa kungekho uku-vuka kwabafileyo, loKhristu kavuswanga phela. ¹⁴ Njalo nxa uKhristu engavuswanga, ukutshumayela kwethu aku-sizi lutho njalo lunjalo lokholo lwenu. ¹⁵ Phezu kwalokho, singatholakala singofakazi bamanga ngoNkulunkulu ngoba sifakaze ngoNkulunkulu ukuthi wavusa uKhristu kwabafi-leyo. Kodwa kamvusanga nxa ngempela abafileyo bengayi kuvuswa. ¹⁶ Nxa abafileyo bengayi kuvuswa, ngakho loKhristu kavuswanga. ¹⁷ Nxa uKhristu engavuswanga kwabafileyo ukholo lwenu luyize; lilokhu lisezonweni zenu. ¹⁸ Lalabo abafa bekuKhristu balahlekile phela. ¹⁹ Nxa sithembele kuKhristu kulokhukuphila kuphela, sizazwelwa usizi kakhulu kulabantu bonke.

²⁰ Kodwa ngempela uKhristu wavuswa kwabafileyo, izith-elo zakuqala zalabo asebelele. ²¹ Ngoba njengoba ukufa

kweza ngomuntu, ukuvuka kwabafileyo lakho kuza ngomuntu. ²² Ngoba njengoba ku-Adamu bonke besifa, ngokunjalo kuKhristu bonke bazaphiliswa. ²³ Kodwa yilowo lalowo ngethuba lakhe: UKhristu, oyizithelo zakuqala; kuzakuthi ekubuyeni kwakhe, kuvuke labo abangabakhe. ²⁴ Lapho-ke isiphetho sizafika esenikela umbuso kaNkulunkulu uBaba emva kokuba esechithe imibuso yonke, ubukhosi kanye lamandla. ²⁵ Ngoba kumele abuse uNkulunkulu aze azibeke zonke izitha zakhe ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe. ²⁶ Isitha sokucina esizachithwa, yikufa. ²⁷ Ngoba uNkulunkulu “usebeke izinto zonke ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe.”* Kodwa nxa kuthiwa “izinto zonke” sezibekwe ngaphansi kwakhe, kusobala ukuthi lokhu akugoqeli uNkulunkulu yena ngokwakhe, owabeka izinto zonke ngaphansi kukaKhristu. ²⁸ Lapho esekwenzile lokhu, iNdodana uqobo izakuba ngaphansi kwakhe yena owabeka izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe, ukuze uNkulunkulu abe yikho konke, kukho konke.

²⁹ Nxa kungelakuvuka ekufeni, pho bazakwenzani labo ababhaphathizelwe abafileyo na? Nxa abafileyo bengavuswa, pho kungani abantu bebhaphathizwa ngenxa yabo na? ³⁰ Thina-ke, sizifakelani engozini isikhathi sonke na? ³¹ Mina ngifa nsuku zonke, ngitsho khonokho bazalwane, ngeqiniso engiziqhenya ngalo ngani kuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu. ³² Nxa ngalwa lezilo zeganga e-Efesu ngenxa yabantu, ngazuzani na? Nxa abafileyo bengavuswa, “Kasidleni sinathe, ngoba kusasa sizakufa.”†

³³ Lingedukiswa: “Abangane ababi bayasona isimilo esihle.” ³⁴ Khumbulani ngengqondo zenu njengokumele likwenze, licine ukwenza izono; ngoba kulabanye abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu, ngitsho lokhu ukuze libelenhloni.

Umzimba Wokuvuswa Ekufeni

³⁵ Kodwa omunye angabuza athi, “Abafileyo bavuswa njani na? Bazabuya belemizimba enjani na?” ³⁶ Yeka ubuwula! Elikuhlanyelayo akuphili ngaphandle kokuba kufe. ³⁷ Lapho lihlangela, kalihlangeli umzimba ozakuba khona kodwa inhlangela nje, mhlawumbe eyengqoloyi loba okunye lakho. ³⁸ Kodwa uNkulunkulu uyinika umzimba njengokuthanda kwakhe njalo uhlobo ngalunye lwenhlangela ulunika umzimba walo. ³⁹ Inyama yonke kayifanani: Abantu balohlobo lunye lwenyama, izinyamazana

* 15:27 15.27 AmaHubo 8.6 † 15:32 15.32 U-Isaya 22.13

zilolunye, izinyoni olunye lenhlanzi olunye. ⁴⁰ Njalo kulezidalwa zasezulwini lezidalwa zasemhlabeni; kodwa inkazimulo yezidalwa zasezulwini ingolunye uhlobo, lenkazimulo yezidalwa zasemhlabeni ingolunye. ⁴¹ Ilanga lilolunye uhlobo lwenkazimulo, inyanga olunye lezinkanyezi olunye; njalo inkanyezi iyehluka kwenye inkanyezi ngokukhazimula.

⁴² Kuzakuba njalo-ke ngokuvuka kwabafileyo. Umzimba ohlanyelwayo uyabola, uvuswa ungasaboli; ⁴³ uhlanyelwa useyiswa, uvuswe ngenkazimulo; uhlanyelwa ubuthakathaka, ⁴⁴ uvuswe usungumzimba olamandla.

Nxa kulomzimba wemvelo, ukhona njalo lomzimba womoya. ⁴⁵ Ngakho kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Umuntu wakuqala u-Adamu waba yisidalwa esiphilayo”[‡]; kodwa u-Adamu wokucina waba ngumoya ophilisayo. ⁴⁶ Owomoya kafikanga kuqala, kodwa owemvelo, emva kwalokho kwafika owomoya. ⁴⁷ Umuntu wakuqala wayenziwe ngothuli lomhlabathi; umuntu wesibili wavela ezulwini. ⁴⁸ Njengoba wayenjalo umuntu wasemhlabeni, banjalo lalabo abangabomhlaba; njalo njengoba enjalo umuntu ovela ezulwini, banjalo labo abangabasezulwini. ⁴⁹ Njalo njengoba silesimo somuntu wasemhlabeni, ngokunjalo sizakuba lesimo somuntu ovela ezulwini.

⁵⁰ Bazalwane, ngithi kini inyama legazi akungeke kudle ilifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu, lokubolayo akulidli ilifa lokungaboliyo. ⁵¹ Lalelani, ngilitshela imfihlakalo: Kasiyikufa sonke, kodwa sonke sizaguqulwa, ⁵² ngesikhatshana, ngokucwayiza kwelihlo, ngecilongo lokucina. Ngoba icilongo lizakhala, abafileyo bazavuswa bengabolanga, njalo sizaguqulwa. ⁵³ Ngoba okubolayo kumele kuzigqokise ngokungaboliyo, lokufayo ngokungafiyo. ⁵⁴ Nxa okubolayo sekugqokiswe okungaboliyo, lokufayo okungafiyo, kuza-gwaliseka isitsho esilotshiweyo esithi: “Ukufa kuginyiwe ekunqobeni.”[§]

⁵⁵ “Kungaphi, we kufa, ukunqoba kwakho?

Lungaphi udonsi lwakho, we kufa?”^{*}

⁵⁶ Udonsi lokufa yisono, lamandla esono ngumthetho.

⁵⁷ Kodwa kabongwe uNkulunkulu! Uyasinika ukunqoba ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu.

⁵⁸ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami abathandekayo, manini liqine. Akungabi lalutho olulinyikinyayo. Zinikeleni ngokupheleleyo emsebenzini weNkosi izikhathi zonke

[‡] 15:45 15.45 UGenesisi 2.7 § 15:54 15.54 U-Isaya 25.8 * 15:55 15.55 UHosiya 13.14

ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi ukusebenza kwenu eNkosini akusilo ize.

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Umnikelo Onikelelwa Abantu BakaNkulunkulu

¹ Mayelana lomnikelo onikelelwa abantu bakaNkulunkulu: Yenzani lokhu engatshela amabandla aseGalathiya ukuba akwenze. ² Ngosuku lwakuqala maviki wonke, yilowo lalowo wenu kabeke eceleni imali ethile kusiya mayelana leholo lakhe, ayigcine, ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami kungabi lokuqoqa okwenziwayo. ³ Ngakho-ke, ekufikeni kwami ngizabapha izincwadi zokubaveza labobantu elibakhethileyo ngibathume eJerusalema lesipho senu. ⁴ Kungabonakala kufanele ukuba ngihambe labo, bazangiphelekezela.

Izicelo ZikaPhawuli

⁵ Sengidlule eMasedoniya ngizakuza kini, ngoba ngizadlula eMasedoniya. ⁶ Mhlawumbe ngizahlala lani okwesikhatshana, mhlawumbe ubusika bonke, ukuze lingisize ohanjweni lwami, ezindaweni zonke engiya kuzo. ⁷ Kangifisi ukulibona khathesi ngilethekelela okwesikhatshana nje; ngithemba ngizahlala lani okwesikhathi esithile, nxa iNkosi ivuma. ⁸ Kodwa ngizahlala e-Efesu kuze kufike iPhentekhosti, ⁹ ngoba ngivulelwe umnyango omkhulu womsebenzi ophumelelayo, njalo banengi abangiphikisayo.

¹⁰ UThimothi angafika, libone ukuthi akulalutho alwesabayo eseselani ngoba uqhubeka ngomsebenzi weNkosi njengami. ¹¹ Ngakho akungabi lomuntu owalayo ukumamukela. Medluliseni ngokuthula ukuze abuye kimi. Ngimlindele kanye labazalwane.

¹² Mayelana lomzalwane wethu u-Apholo: Ngamncenga kakhulu ukuba eze kini labazalwane. Ubengafisi ukuhamba khathesi kodwa uzahamba lapho eselethuba.

¹³ Lindani; qinani ekukholweni kwenu; libe ngabantu abalesibindi, wobani lamandla. ¹⁴ Yenzani konke ngothando.

¹⁵ Liyakwazi ukuthi abendlu KaStefane baba ngamakholwa akuqala e-Akhayiya njalo sebazinikela emsebenzini wabantu beNkosi. Ngiyalincenga, bazalwane, ¹⁶ ukuba lizinikele kwabanjengalaba lakubo bonke abahlanganyela emsebenzini basebenze khona. ¹⁷ Ngathokoza ekufikeni kukaStefane loFothunathu kanye lo-Akhayikhu ngoba balethe obekusilela kuvela kini. ¹⁸ Ngoba bavuselela umoya wami kanye lowenu. Abantu abanjalo bafanele ukuqakathekiswa.

Ukuvalelisa

¹⁹ Amabandla asesifundeni sase-Ezhiya ayalibingelela.

U-Akhwila loPhrisila ngokuthokoza eNkosini bayalibingelela kakhulu, lenza njalo lebandla elihlanganela endlini yabo.

²⁰ Bonke abazalwane abalapha bayalibingelela.

Bingelelanani ngokwangana okuncwewe.

²¹ Mina, Phawuli, ngiloba ukubingelela lokhu ngesami isandla.

²² Nxa umuntu engayithandi iNkosi, kehlelwe yisithuko. Woza, awu Nkosi!

²³ Umusa weNkosi uJesu kawube lani.

²⁴ Uthando lwami kini lonke kuKhristu uJesu. Ameni.

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yesibili KwabaseKhorinte

¹ UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu.

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

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

UNkulunkulu Wenduduzo Yonke

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

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

UPhawuli Uguqula Amalungiselelo

¹² Thina sizincoma ngokuthi izazela zethu ziyafakaza ukuthi siziphathe kuhle emhlabeni, ikakhulu phakathi kobudlelwano bethu lani, ngobungcwele langobuqotho

obuvela kuNkulunkulu. Lokhu kasikwenzanga sigxile ekuhlakanipheni kwasemhlabeni, kodwa ngomusa kaNkulunkulu. ¹³ Ngoba kasililobeli ngolutho elingeke lilubale loba liluqedisise. Njalo ngiyathemba ukuthi, ¹⁴ njengoba seliqedisisa okunye ngathi, lizaqedisisa ngokupheleleyo lizincome ngathi njengoba lathi sizazincoma ngani ngosuku lweNkosi uJesu.

¹⁵ Ngoba ngangilethemba kulokhu, ngangifuna ukwethekelela lina kuqala ukuze lisizakale kabili. ¹⁶ Ngangifuna ukulethekelela ekuyeni kwami eMasedoniya, ngedlule kini futhi sengivela eMasedoniya, beselingithumake eJudiya. ¹⁷ Ngakunakana ngingabaza yini lokhu? Kumbe ngenza amalungiselelo ami ngendlela yasemhlabeni okokuthi ngasikhathi sinye ngithi, "Yebo, yebo," ngibuye ngithi, "Hatshi, hatshi," na?

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

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

2

¹ Ngakho ngenza isinqumo engqondweni yami ukuba ngingenzi olunye uhambo olubuhlungu lokuza kini. ² Ngoba nxa ngilibangela usizi, ngubani omunye ozangithokozisa ngaphandle kwenu lina esengilibangele usizi? ³ Ngaloba ngokunjalo ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami ngingadaniswa yilabo obekumele bangithokozise. Ngalethemba lonke, ukuba lonke lizathokoza kanye lami. ⁴ Ngoba ngalilobela ngokukhathazeka okukhulu lobuhlungu benhliziyo njalo langezinyembezi ezinengi, hatshi ukuba ngilizwise ubuhlungu kodwa ukuba ngilazise ngokuzika kothando lwami kini.

Ukuthethelelwa kwesoni

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

Izisebenzi Zesivumelwano Esitsha

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

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

3

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

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

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

Inkazimulo Yesivumelwano Esitsha

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

¹² Ngakho, njengoba silethemba elinje, silesibindi. ¹³ Thina kasinjengoMosi owamboza ubuso bakhe ukuze abako-Israyeli bangabukhangeli lapho inkazimulo yayisifiphala. ¹⁴ Kodwa ingqondo zabo zathundubezwa, ngoba kuze kube lamhla lesosembeso sisala sikhona lapho isivumelwano esidala sibalwa. Kasisuswanga ngoba sisuswa ngoKhristu kuphela. ¹⁵ Langalolosuku nxa kubalwa umlayo kaMosi, isembeso sembesa inhliziyiyo zabo. ¹⁶ Kodwa nxa umuntu ephendukela eNkosini, "isembeso siyasuswa." ¹⁷ INkosi inguMoya njalo lapho okuloMoya weNkosi khona, kulokukhululeka. ¹⁸ Njalo thina, sonke esibonakalisa inkazimulo yeNkosi ngobuso obungembeswanga, siguqulwa ekufananeni layo ngenkazimulo ekhula kokuphela, evela eNkosini, enguMoya.

4

Ubuthakathaka Bakhathesi Lokuvuswa Kwabafileyo

¹ Ngakho, njengoba ngomusa kaNkulunkulu silale imfundiso, kasiphelelwa lithemba. ² Kodwa-ke sizilahlile izindlela zangasese lezilahlazo; kasisebenzisi buqili loba ukuhlanekela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu. Kodwa ngokubeka iqiniso obala, sizinikela kunembeza womuntu wonke phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ³ Lanxa ivangeli lethu lembeswe, lembeswe kulabo ababhuhayo. ⁴ Unkulunkulu walesikhathi usephumputhekise ingqondo zabangakholwayo, ukuze bangakuboni ukukhanya kwevangeli lenkazimulo

kaKhristu, ongumfanekiso kaNkulunkulu. ⁵ Ngoba kasizitshumayeli thina ngokwethu, kodwa uJesu Khristu njengeNkosi, njalo thina njengezinceku zenu ngenxa kaJesu. ⁶ Ngoba uNkulunkulu owathi, "Ukukhanya kakube khona emnyameni,"* wenza ukukhanya kwakhe kwakhanya ezinhliziyweni zethu ukuba asiphe ukukhanya kokwazi inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ebusweni bukaJesu Khristu.

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

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

¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, kasililahli ithemba. Lanxa ngaphandle sicikizeka kodwa ngaphakathi senziwa sibe batsha insuku zonke. ¹⁷ Ngoba ukukhanya kwethu lezinhlupheko zethu zesikhatshana zisilethela inkazimulo elaphakade, enkulu kulazo zonke. ¹⁸ Ngakho amehlo ethu kasiwakhangelisanga kokubonakalayo, kodwa kokungabonakaliyo, ngoba okubonakalayo kuyedlula, kodwa okungabonakaliyo kuyahlala laphakade.

5

Ukulindela Umzimba Omutsha

¹ Siyakwazi ukuthi nxa ithente lethu lasemhlabeni lidilizwa, silesakhiwo esivela kuNkulunkulu, indlu yaphakade ezulwini, engakhiwanga ngezandla zabantu. ² Okwakhatesi siyabubula, sifisa ukwembeswa ngekhaya lethu lasezulwini, ³ ngoba nxa sesembesiwe

* 4:6 4.6 UGenesisi 1.3 † 4:13 4.13 AmaHubo 116.10

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

⁶Ngakho sihlezi silethemba njalo siyakwazi ukuthi nxa sisesekhaya emzimbeni, sikhathshana leNkosi. ⁷Ngoba siphila ngokukholwa hatshi ngokubona. ⁸Ngithi silethemba njalo ngingakhetha ukuba khatshana lomzimba ngisekhaya kanye leNkosi. ⁹Ngakho sikwenza kube yinjongo yethu ukuyithokozisa, langabe sisekhaya emzimbeni loba kude lawo. ¹⁰Ngoba sonke kumele sime phambi kwesihlalo sokwahlulela sikaKhristu ukuze lowo lalowo amukele okumfaneleyo, okwezinto azenzayo esemzimbeni, langabe ngezinhle loba ezimbi.

Imfundiso Yokubuyisana

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

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

6

¹ Njengezisebenzi zikaNkulunkulu siyalincenga ukuba lingamukeli umusa kaNkulunkulu ngeze. ² Ngoba uthi:

“Ngesikhathi esifaneleyo kimi ngalizwa,
langosuku lokusindiswa ngalisiza.”*

Zwanini, khathesi sekuyisikhathi esifaneleyo, khathesi lusuku lokusindiswa.

Inhlupheko ZikaPhawuli

³ Kasibeki zikhubekiso endleleni yomuntu ukuze imfundiso yethu ingasolwa. ⁴ Kodwa, njengezinceku zikaNkulunkulu sizethula ngazonke izindlela: ngokubekizela okukhulu; ekuhluphekeni, ebunzimeni kanye lasezinsizini; ⁵ ekutshayweni, ekuvalelweni entolongweni laseziphithiphithini; ukusebenza nzima, ukungalali ebusuku kanye lendlala; ⁶ ukuhlambuluka, ukuqedisisa, ukubekizela kanye lomusa, ngoMoya oNgcwele langothando oluqotho, ⁷ ngokukhuluma iqiniso langamandla kaNkulunkulu; ngezikhali zokulunga esandleni sokudla lesenxele; ⁸ ngodumo langehlazo, ukukhulunyelwa kubi lokukhulunyelwa kuhle; siqotho, kodwa sikhangelwa njengabakhohlisi; ⁹ siyaziwa kodwa sikhangelwa njengabangaziwayo, abafayo, kodwa siqhubeka siphila; siyatshaywa kodwa kasibulawa, ¹⁰ sisosizini kodwa sihlezi sijabula; simpofu kodwa sinothisa abanengi; kasilalutho kodwa silezinto zonke.

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

Lingadlalani Labangakholwayo

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

“Ngizahlala labo

ngihambe phakathi kwabo
njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo

* 6:2 6.2 U-Isaya 49.8

bona babengabantu bami.”†

17 Ngakho,

“phumani kubo
lehlukane labo,
kutsho iNkosi.

Lingathinti lutho olungcolileyo,
mina ngizalemukela.”‡

18 Njalo,

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

7

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

Intokozo KaPhawuli

2 Sivuleleni inhliziyo zenu. Kasonelanga muntu, kasixhwalisanga muntu, kasenzanga nzuzo ngomuntu.

3 Kangitsho lokhu ukuba ngililahle; ngitshilo ngaphambilini ukuthi likhona ezinhliziyweni zethu okungenza siphile kumbe sife lani. 4 Ngilethemba elikhulu ngani; ngiyazigqaja kakhulu ngani. Ngiduduzekile kakhulu; kuzozonke inhlupho zethu intokozo yami kayilamikhawulo.

5 Ngoba ekufikeni kwethu eMasedoniya, umzimba wethu lo wawungelakuphumula kodwa sasikhathazwa ezindaweni zonke, ingxabano ngaphandle, lokwesaba ngaphakathi. 6 Kodwa uNkulunkulu oduduza abadani-leyo wasiduduza ngokufika kukaThithu, 7 kungayisikho ngokufika kwakhe nje kuphela kodwa langokumduduza kwenu. Wasitshela ngokungikhumbula kwenu, usizi lwenu olukhulu, lokutshiseka kwenu likhathazeka ngami, ukuthokoza kwami kwaze kwaba kukhulu kakhulu.

8 Lanxa ngalibangela usizi ngencwadi yami, angizisoli ngayo. Lanxa ngazisola ngayo, ngiyabona ukuba incwadi yami yalikhuba, kodwa okwesikhatshana nje, 9 ikanti khatesi ngiyathokoza, hatshi ngoba ladaniswa kodwa ngoba usizi lwenu lwalenza laphenduka. Ngoba laba lusizi njengokujonga kukaNkulunkulu njalo thina kasizange sililimaze langayiphi indlela. 10 Usizi lokwesaba uNkulunkulu luletha ukuphenduka okuholela ekusindisweni

† 6:16 6.16 ULevi 26.12; UJeremiya 32.38; UHezekhiyeli 37.27 ‡ 6:17 6.17

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

kungatshiyi nsolo, kodwa usizi lwasemhlabeni luletha ukufa. ¹¹ Khangelani ukuba usizi lokwesaba uNkulunkulu lolu selufezeni kini: ukutshisekela okungaka, lokufisa okungaka ukuba lizigeze, lentukuthelo engaka, lokwethuka okungaka ekuboneni ukulunga kusenziwa. Kukho konke libonakalise ukuthi lina limsulwa kule indaba. ¹² Ngakho lanxa ngalilobela, ngangingajonganga owonayo loba lowo owonelwayo kodwa ukuba phambi kukaNkulunkulu lizibonele ngokwenu ukuthi lizimisele kangakanani kithi. ¹³ Konke lokhu thina kuyasikhuthaza.

Phezu kokukhuthazwa kwethu, sijabuliswa ikakhulu yikubona uThithu ethokoza ngoba lonke lasiza ngokwenza ukuthi umoya wakhe ube lokuthula. ¹⁴ Ngangizincomile kuye ngani njalo kalingiyangisanga. Kodwa njengoba konke esakutshoyo kini kwakuliqiniso, ngakho ukuzincoma kwethu kuThithu ngani lakho kubonakale kuliqiniso. ¹⁵ Njalo ukulithanda kwakhe kukhulu kakhulu lapho ekhumbula ukuthi lonke lalilalela, limamukela ngokwesaba langokuthuthumela. ¹⁶ Ngiyathokoza ngoba ngilethemba elipheleleyo ngani.

8

Ukuphana Kwabantu BeNkosi

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

⁸ Angilibekeli mlayo kodwa ngifuna ukuhlola ubuqotho bothando lwenu ngokuluqathanisa lokuzimisela kwabanye. ⁹ Ngoba liyawazi umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ukuthi lanxa wayenothile kodwa waba ngumyanga ngenxa yenu, ukuze kuthi ngobuyanga bakhe lina linothe.

¹⁰ Njalo nansi iseluleko sami mayelana lalokho okuhle kakhulu kini kule indaba: Nyakenye libe ngabokuqala kungayisikho ekupheni nje kuphela kodwa lekubeni lesifiso sokwenza njalo. ¹¹ Khathesi-ke uqediseni umsebenzi ukuze ukutshiseka kokufuna kwenu ukwenza kungalingana lokuwuqeda kwenu, kusiya ngalokho elilakho. ¹² Ngoba nxa isifiso sikhona, isipho siyamukeleka kusiya ngalokho umuntu alakho hatshi ngalokho angelakho.

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

UThithu Uthunywa EKhorinte

¹⁶ Kabongwe uNkulunkulu owabeka enhliziyweni kaThithu ukukhathazeka kunye engilakho ngani. ¹⁷ Ngoba uThithu kamukelanga isicelo sethu nje kuphela kodwa uyeza kini ngokutshiseka okukhulu njalo ngokuzithuma kwakhe. ¹⁸ Njalo kanye laye sithuma umzalwane obatshazwa ngamabandla wonke ngenxa yomsebenzi wakhe wokutshumayela ivangeli. ¹⁹ Phezu kwalokho, wakhethwa ngamabandla ukuba asiphelekezele sithwele umnikelo esiwuphetheyo ukuze sidumise iNkosi uqobo lokuba sibonakalise ukutshisekela kwethu ukusiza. ²⁰ Sifuna ukuxwaya insolo ngendlela esiphatha ngayo lesisipho sokuphana. ²¹ Ngoba siyalwisa kakhulu ukuba senze okulungileyo, kungasikho emehlweni eNkosi kuphela, kodwa lasemehlweni abantu.

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

9

¹ Akudingeki ukuba ngililobele mayelana lalokhukusebenzela abantu beNkosi. ² Ngoba ngiyakwazi

* 8:15 8.15 U-Eksodasi 16.18

ukutshisekela kwenu ukuba lize njalo kade ngizincoma ngakho kwabaseMasedoniya, ngibatshela ukuthi kusukela nyakenye lina e-Akhayiya belizimisele ukunikela; njalo ukutshiseka kwenu kukhuthaze inengi labo ukuba baphathise. ³ Kodwa ngithuma abazalwane ukuze ukuzincoma kwethu ngani ngale indaba kungabi yize kodwa ukuba libe ngabalungiseleleyo, njengoba ngatsho ukuthi lizakuba lilungiselele. ⁴ Ngoba nxa abanye baseMasedoniya besiza lami, bengathola lingalungiselanga, singayangeka ngokulethemba ebesilakho. ⁵ Ngakho ngibone kufanele ukukhuthaza abazalwane ukuba balethekelele mandulo baqedise amalungiselelo esipho esihle elasithembisa sona. Ngalesosikhathi sizakuba sesilungile njengesipho esihle hatshi esinikelwe ngomona.

Ukuhlanyela Okunengi

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

“Uchithele izipho zakhe kubayanga ezindaweni zonke; ukulunga kwakhe kumi laphakade.”*

¹⁰ Lowo onika umhlanyeli inhlanyelo lesinkwa sokudla uzanika njalo aqhelise isiphala senu senhlanyelo, andise lesivuno sokulunga kwenu. ¹¹ Lizanothiswa ngezindlela zonke ukuze liphane ngezikhathi zonke, kuthi ngathi ukupha kwenu kulethe ukubongwa kukaNkulunkulu.

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

10

UPhawuli Uvikela Imfundiso Yakhe

* 9:9 9.9 AmaHubo 112.9

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

⁷ Lina likhangela kuphela lokho okubonakalayo. Nxa umuntu ekholwa ukuthi ungokaKhristu, kakhumbule njalo ukuthi lathi singabakaKhristu njengaye. ⁸ Ngoba lanxa ngiz- incoma kancane ngamandla iNkosi eyasinika wona ukuba lakhiwe kulokuba lichithwe, angiyikuyangeka ngakho. ⁹ Kangifuni ukuba kube sengathi ngiyalethusela ngez- incwadi zami. ¹⁰ Ngoba abanye bathi, “Izincwadi za- khe zilesisindo lomfutho kodwa yena uqobo uyeyiseka lakukhulumayo kufana leze.” ¹¹ Abantu abanjalo kumele bakwazi ukuthi lokho okukhanya siyikho ezincwadini zethu nxa singekho, sizakuba yikho kanye ngezenzo zethu nxa sesikhona.

¹² Kasenelisi ukuzilinganisa loba ukuziqathanisa la- banye abazibabazayo. Nxa bezilinganisa bona ngok- wabo babuye baziqathanise bona ngokwabo, kabahlaka- niphanga. ¹³ Kodwa thina kasizincomi kudlule imikhawulo efaneleyo. Kodwa ukuzincoma kwethu sikukhawulisa ebangeni uNkulunkulu asibekele lona, ibanga elifikayo lakini. ¹⁴ Kasedlulisi malawulo ekuzincomeni kwethu, njengokuba kungenzakala lapho kungabe kasizanga kini, ngoba safinyelela ukuzafika kini levangeli likaKhristu. ¹⁵ Njalo kasedluli mikhawulo yethu ngokuzincoma ngom- sebenzi owenziwe ngabanye. Ithemba lethu yikuthi lapho ukukholwa kwenu kuqhubeka kukhula, indawo yethu yokusebenza phakathi kwenu izaqhela kakhulu, ¹⁶ sitshumayele ivangeli ezigabeni ezingale kwenu. Ngoba kasifuni kuzincoma ngomsebenzi ovele usuyenziwe en- daweni yomunye umuntu. ¹⁷ Kodwa, “Lowo ozincomayo kazincome eNkosini.”* ¹⁸ Ngoba akusimuntu ozibabazayo

* 10:17 10.17 UJeremiya 9.24

onguye ovunyawo, kodwa umuntu onconywa yiNkosi.

11

UPhawuli LabaPostoli Bamanga

¹ Ngithemba lizabezelela okuncane kobuthutha bami; kodwa livele selikwenza lokho. ² Mina ngilobukhwele ngani ngobukhwele bokukholwa. Ngathembisa ukulendisela endodeni eyodwa, uKhristu, ukuze ngilethule kuyo liyintombi egcweleyo. ³ Kodwa ngiyesaba ukuthi njengo-Eva owakhohliswa yibuqili benyoka, ingqondo zenu zingaphanjulwa kancane ekuzinikeleni kwenu kuKhristu okuqotho lokungelasici. ⁴ Ngoba nxa umuntu angafika kini atshumayele uJesu ongasuye esamtshumayelayo thina, loba nxa lisamukela umoya ohlukene lalowo elawamukelayo, loba ivangeli elehlukileyo kulelo elalivumayo, likubezezelele lula kakhulu.

⁵ Kodwa kangicabangi ukuthi ngiyeyiseka okokucina kulabo “bapostoli abaphezulu.” ⁶ Ngingaba yisikhulumi esingafundiswanga kodwa ulwazi ngilalo. Lokhu sesikwenze kwacaca ngokupheleleyo kini ngezindlela zonke. ⁷ Kambe kwakuyisono yini ukuba ngizehlise ukuze ngiliphakamise ngokutshumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu kungekho mbadalo na? ⁸ Ngaphanga amanye amabandla ngokwamukela usizo kuwo ukuze ngilisebenzele. ⁹ Njalo lalapho ngikini kulolutho engangilufuna, kangibanga ngumthwalo lakubani ngoba abazalwane ababesuka eMasedoniya bangipha engangikuswela. Ngizithibile ekubeni ngumthwalo kini langayiphi indlela njalo ngizaqhubeka ngisenza njalo. ¹⁰ Ngeqiniso elinjengoba iqiniso likaKhristu likhona kimi, akulamuntu ezigabeni zase-Akhayiya ozangalisa ukuzincoma kwami lokhu. ¹¹ Kungani na? Ngoba angilithandi na? UNkulunkulu uyakwazi ukuthi ngiyalithanda!

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

UPhawuli Uyazincoma Ngokuhlupheka Kwakhe

¹⁶ Ngiyaphinda ngithi: Akungabi lamuntu ongithatha njengesithutha. Kodwa nxa lisenza njalo, ngamukelani

ngendlela elingamukela ngayo isithutha ukuze ngizincome kancane. ¹⁷ Ngalokhu kuzincoma kwami ngesibindi, angikhulumi njengeNkosi kodwa njengesithutha. ¹⁸ Njengoba abanengi bezincoma ngendlela eyenziwa ngumhlaba, lami-ke ngizazincoma. ¹⁹ Labekezelela izithutha ngentokozo ngoba lihlakaniphe kangaka! ²⁰ Ngeqiniso, lina libekezelela loba ngubani oligqilazayo loba ethola inzuzo ngani loba ezisiza ngani loba ezikhukhumeza loba elimakala ngempama ebusweni. ²¹ Ngivuma ngilenhloni ukuthi thina sasibuthakathaka kakhulu kulokho!

Lokho omunye umuntu angaba lesibindi sokuzincoma ngakho, ngikhuluma njengesithutha, lami ngilesibindi sokuzincoma ngakho. ²² BangamaHebheru na? Lami nginguye. Bangama-Israyeli na? Lami nginguye. Bayinzalo ka-Abhrahama na? Lami ngiyiyo. ²³ Bazinceku zikaKhristu na? (Sengiphambene ingqondo ukuba ngikhulume kanje.) Mina ngedlula lokho. Sengisebenze nzima, ngibe sentolongweni kanengi, ngabhaxabulwa kakhulukazi, ngabekwa engozini yokufa njalonjalo. ²⁴ Kahlanu ngatshaywa ngamaJuda imvimvinya ezingamatshumi amathathu lesificamunwemunye. ²⁵ Kathathu ngatshaywa ngemiqwayi, kanye ngatshaywa ngamatshe, ngafelwa ngumkhumbi kathathu, ngachitha ubusuku losuku ngindenda olwandle, ²⁶ kade ngihlezi ngingohambayo njalonje. Ngike ngaba sezingozini zemifula, ezingozini zezigebenga, ezingozini zabantu bakithi, ezingozini zabeZizweni, ezingozini edolobheni, ezingozini emaphandleni, ezingozini elwandle; lasezingozini zabazalwane bamanga. ²⁷ Ngasebenza nzima, ngatshikatshika njalo kanengi ngingalali; ngezwa indlala lokoma, ngaswela lokudla kanengi; ngagodola njalo ngahamba nqunu. ²⁸ Langaphandle kwezinye zonke izinto; ngibhekane lokuncindezelwa yikukhathazeka kwami ngamabandla wonke. ²⁹ Ngubani obuthakathaka, mina ngingabuzwa lobo buthakathaka na? Ngubani oholelwa esonweni, ngingatshi ngaphakathi kwami na?

³⁰ Nxa kumele ngizincome, ngizazincoma ngezinto ezibonakalisa ubuthakathaka bami. ³¹ UNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi uJesu, ozadunyiswa okungulaphakade, uyakwazi ukuthi kangiqambi manga. ³² EDamaseko umbusi ongaphansi kweNkosi u-Aretha walaya ukuba idolobho laseDamaseko lilindwe ukuze ngibotshwe. ³³ Kodwa ngehliswa ngesilulu ewindini elalisemdulini, ngaphunyuka ezandleni zakhe.

12

Umbono KaPhawuli Lameva Akhe

¹ Kumele ngiqhubeke ngizincoma. Lanxa kungelalutho oluzuzwayo, mina ngizaqhubeka ngemibono langezambulo ezivela eNkosini. ² Mina ngazi umuntu okuKhristu okwathi ngeminyaka elitshumi lane eyedlulayo wathathwa wasiwa ezulwini lesithathu. Langabe kwakuphakathi komzimba loba ngaphandle komzimba kangikwazi, kwazi uNkulunkulu. ³ Mina ngazi ukuthi umuntu lo loba phakathi komzimba kumbe ngaphandle komzimba, kangikwazi, kodwa uNkulunkulu uyazi, ⁴ wahlwithwa wasiwa ePharadise. Wezwa izinto ezingakhulumekiyo, izinto umuntu angavunyelwa ukuzitsho. ⁵ Ngazincoma ngomuntu onjalo, kodwa mina angiyikuzincoma, ngaphandle kwangobuthakathaka bami. ⁶ Lanxa ngingakhetha ukuzincoma, ngiyabe ngingesisithutha ngoba ngiyabe ngikhuluma iqiniso. Kodwa ngiyazibamba ukuze kungabikhona ozacabanga okunengi ngami kulalokho okufanele engikwenzayo loba engikutshoyo. ⁷ Ukuze ngenqabele ukuzikhukhumeza ngenxa yalezizambulo ezinkulu kakhulukazi, ngahlatshwa ngameva emzimbeni wami, ayisithunywa sikaSathane, ukuba angihluphe. ⁸ Ngalabhela eNkosini kathathu ukuba iwasuse kimi. ⁹ Kodwa yathi kimi, **“Umusa wami ukwanele ngoba amandla ami apheleliswa ebuthakathakeni.”** Ngakho ngizazincoma kakhulu-ke ngokuthokoza ngobuthakathaka bami, ukuze amandla kaKhristu ahlale phezu kwami. ¹⁰ Yikho-nje, ngenxa kaKhristu, ngithokozela ubuthakathaka, izithuko, inhlupho, ukuhlukuluzwa lokukhathazeka. Ngoba nxa ngibuthakathaka, kulapho-ke ngilamandla.

Ukunqineka KukaPhawuli NgabaseKhorinte

¹¹ Sengenze ubuthutha, kodwa yini elingingenise kubo. Kade kufanele ngingonywe yini ngoba kangiphansi okokucina “kubapostoli abaphezulu,” lanxa nje ngingasilutho. ¹² Izinto eziphawula umpostoli zigoqela izibonakaliso, izimanga kanye lezimangaliso ezenziwa phakathi kwenu ngokubekezela okukhulu. ¹³ Laliphansi okunjani kulamanye amabandla, ngaphandle kokuthi angizange ngibe ngumthwalo kini. Ngithethelelani kulokhu!

¹⁴ Khathesi sengilungele ukuba ngilethekelele okwesithathu njalo angiyikuba ngumthwalo kini ngoba engikufunayo akusimpahla yenu kodwa lina. Ikanti belo abantwana akumelanga banakekele abazali babo kodwa abazali yibo okumele banakekele abantwababo. ¹⁵ Ngakho

ngizathokozela kakhulu ukuchitha konke engilakho ngenxa yenu lami futhi ngizinikele. Ngingalithanda kakhulu, lina lizangithanda kancane na? ¹⁶ Loba kunjalo, mina angibanga ngumthwalo kini. Kodwa mina njengomuntu ohlakaniphileyo, ngalibamba ngobuqili! ¹⁷ Ngaliqilibezela yini ngomunye wabantu engabathuma kini na? ¹⁸ Ngacela uThithu ukuba eze kini njalo ngathuma lomzalwane wethu kunye laye. UThithu kazange aliqilibezele, waliqilibezela na? Kasisebenzanga ngamoya munye salandela indlela yinye na?

¹⁹ Isikhathi sonke lesi kade licabanga ukuthi besizivikela kini na? Kade sikhuluma phambi kukaNkulunkulu njengabakuKhristu; njalo konke esikwenzayo, bazalwane abathandekayo, ngokokuliqinisa. ²⁰ Ngoba ngiyesaba ukuthi ekufikeni kwami angiyikulifica liyilokho engifuna libe yikho, mhlawumbe lani lingangifumani ngiyilokho elifuna ngibe yikho. Ngiyesaba ukuthi kungaba khona ukuxabana, umona, ukuthukuthela, imibango, isinyeyo, ukuhleba, ukuzikhukhumeza kanye lokuphithizela. ²¹ Ngiyesaba ukuthi ekufikeni kwami futhi uNkulunkulu wami uzangithoba phambi kwenu njalo ngizakuba lusizi ngabanengi abenze izono ngaphambilini njalo bengaphendukanga kulokho kungcola, isono sokufeba kanye lamanyala abangena kuwo.

13

Izixwayiso Zokucina

¹ Ukuza kwami kini lokhu kuzakuba ngokwesithathu. "Izindaba zonke kumele ziqiniswe yibufakazi babantu ababili loba abathathu."* ² Ngavela ngalixwayisa lapho ngilani okwesibili. Ngiyakuphinda njalo ngingekho: Ekubuyeni kwami futhi angiyikubayekela labo abenza izono ngaphambilini loba nguphi wabanye, ³ njengoba lifuna ubufakazi bokuthi uKhristu ukhuluma ngami. Yena kabuthakathaka ekuliphatheni kwakhe kodwa ulamandla phakathi kwenu. ⁴ Ngoba ngeqiniso, wabethelwa ebuthakathakeni, ikanti uyaphila ngamandla kaNkulunkulu. Ngokufanayo, sibuthakathaka kuye, ikanti ngamandla kaNkulunkulu sizaphila laye ukuba silisebenzele.

⁵ Zihloleni ukuba libone ingabe lisekukholweni, zihloleni. Kaliboni yini ukuthi uKhristu uJesu uphakathi kwenu, ngaphandle nje kokuba lehluleke ekuhlolweni? ⁶ Ngithemba ukuba lizafumana ukuthi thina kasisibo

* 13:1 13.1 UDtheronomi 19.15

abehlulekileyo ekuhlolweni. ⁷ Siyakhuleka kuNkulunkulu ukuba lingenzi lutho olubi. Kungayisikho ukuba abantu babone ukuthi sifanele kodwa ukuba lina lenze okulungileyo lanxa singakhanya singabehlulekileyo. ⁸ Ngoba asingeke senze lutho oluphambene leqiniso kodwa olweqiniso kuphela. ⁹ Siyathokoza lapho singabe sibuthakathaka kodwa lina liqinile njalo umkhuleko wethu ngowokuba lipheleliswe. ¹⁰ Yikho-nje ngiloba izinto lezi ngingekho ukuze kuthi ekufikeni kwami ngingabi lukhuni ekusebenziseni kwami amandla, amandla okulakha engiwaphiwe yiNkosi hatshi ukulidiliza.

Ukuyalelisa

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

¹² Bingelelanani ngokwangana okungcwele.

¹³ Abantu bakaNkulunkulu bonke bayalibingelela.

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

Incwadi KaPhawuli KwabaseGalathiya

¹ Uphawuli umpostoli ongathunywanga evela ebantwini loba ngumuntu, kodwa nguJesu Khristu loNkulunkulu uBaba, owamvusayo kwabafileyo, ² labo bonke abazalwane abalami.

Emabandleni aseGalathiya:

³ Umusa lokuthula akube kini kuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba wethu leNkosini uJesu Khristu, ⁴ owazinikela ngenxa yezono zethu ukuthi asihlengi kulesisikhathi esibi, ngenxa yentando kaNkulunkulu uBaba wethu, ⁵ udumo kalube kuye kuze kube laphakade. Amen.

Kalikho Elinye Ivangeli

⁶ Ngiyamangala ukuthi limdela masinya kangaka lowo owalibiza ngomusa kaKhristu njalo liphendukela evangelini elehlukileyo, ⁷ elingasivangeli langempela ngitsho. Kusobala abanye abantu bayaliphambanisa njalo bazama ukungcolisa ivangeli likaKhristu. ⁸ Kodwa lanxa thina loba ingilosi evela ezulwini ingatshumayela elinye ivangeli ngaphandle kwalelo esalitshumayela kini, kasilahlwe kuze kube nini lanini! ⁹ Njengoba sesivele sitshilo, lakhathesi ngiyatsho futhi ngithi: Lanxa kungaba ngubani otshumayela kini elinye ivangeli ngaphandle kwalelo elalamuke- layo, kaqalekiswe nguNkulunkulu!

¹⁰ Kambe sengizama ukuzuza ukwamukelwa ngabantu loba nguNkulunkulu na? Kumbe njalo ngizama ukuthokozisa abantu na? Aluba lokhe ngizama ukuthokozisa abantu, bengingayikuba yinceku kaKhristu.

Ukubizwa KukaPhawuli NguNkulunkulu

¹¹ Ngithanda ukuthi lazi bazalwane, ukuthi ivangeli en- galitshumayelayo kaliveli ebantwini. ¹² Kangilamukelanga emuntwini njalo kangilifundiswanga; kodwa ngalamukela ngokwambulelwa nguJesu Khristu.

¹³ Selizwile ngokuhamba kwami kwakuqala enkolweni yesiJuda, ukuthi ngalihlukuluza ngaliphatha ngochuku ibandla likaNkulunkulu njalo ngazama lokulichitha. ¹⁴ Ngangisiya phambili ngokholo lwesiJuda ukwedlula amaJuda amanengi ayintanga yami njalo ngangitshisekela imikhuba yabokhokho bami kakhulu. ¹⁵ Kodwa kwathi

uNkulunkulu owangiphawula ngisesesiswini sikamama engibiza ngomusa wakhe, wathokoza ¹⁶ ukuthi aveze iNdodana yakhe kimi, ukuze ngitshumayeke phakathi kwabeZizwe, kangibuzanga muntu. ¹⁷ Angizange ngiye eJerusalema ukuyabona labo ababengabapostoli ngingakabi nguye, kodwa ngahle ngaya e-Arabhiya. Emva kwalokho ngabuyela eDamaseko.

¹⁸ Emva kweminyaka emithathu, ngaya eJerusalema ukuze ngijayelane loKhefasi, ngahlala laye insuku ezilithumi lanhlano. ¹⁹ Kangibonanga lamunye wabanye abapostoli ngaphandle kukaJakhobe umfowabo weNkosi kuphela. ²⁰ Ngikugcizelela kini lokhu phambi kukaNkulunkulu ukuthi lokhu engililobela khona akusimanga.

²¹ Ngasengisuka ngaya e-Asiriya kanye laseSilisiya. ²² Mina ngokwami ngangingaziwa emabandleni aseJudiya akuKhristu. ²³ Ayesizwa umbiko nje kuphela usithi: “Umuntu owayesihlukuluza kuqala khathesi usetshumayela ukholo ake wazama ukuluchitha.” ²⁴ Amdumisa uNkulunkulu ngenxa yami.

2

UPhawuli Wamukelwa NgabaPostoli

¹ Emva kweminyaka elitshumi lane ngaya eJerusalema futhi, ngalesisikhathi ngangiloBhanabhasi. Ngathatha loThithu futhi. ² Ngaya khona njengokwambulelwa ngethula phambi kwabo ivangeli engilitshumayela kwabeZizweni. Kodwa lokhu ngakwenza ngasese kulabo ababekhanya bengabakhokheli. Ngangifuna ukuba lesiqiniseko sokuthi angigijimeli ize. ³ Ikanti loThithu owayelami kazange abanjwe ngamandla ukuba asoke lanxa wayengumGrikhi. ⁴ Indaba le yavela ngoba abanye abazalwane bamanga basebengene phakathi kwethu ukuba bahlale ukukhululeka esilakho kuKhristu uJesu ukuze basenze izigqili. ⁵ Kasibavumelanga lakancane ukuze iqiniso levangeli lihale likhona kini.

⁶ Labo ababeqakathekiswa, loba beyilokho ababeyikho khona akwenzi mahluko kimi; uNkulunkulu kahluleli ngokubonakala ngaphandle, labobantu kabengezanga lutho elizwini lami. ⁷ Esikhundleni salokho babona ukuthi ngangiphiwe umsebenzi wokutshumayela ivangeli kwabeZizweni njengoPhethro owaphiwa umsebenzi wokutshumayela ivangeli kwabasokiweyo. ⁸ Ngoba uNkulunkulu, owayesebenza kuPhethro njengompostoli kwabasokiweyo, wayesebenza kimi futhi ekutshumayeleni kwami njen-gompostoli kwabeZizweni. ⁹ UJakhobe, loKhefasi kanye

loJohane, abadume njengensika, banika mina loBhanabhasi ilungelo lokuhlanganyela labo lapho sebebene umusa engawuphiwayo. Bavuma ukuthi siye kwabeZizweni, bona baye kwabasokiweyo. ¹⁰ Abakucelayo kuphela nje yikuthi siqhubeke sikhumbula abayanga, yona kanye into engangitshisekela ukuyenza.

UPhawuli Uphikisa UPhethro

¹¹ Ekufikeni kukaKhefasi e-Antiyokhi ngamphikisa sikhangelene ngoba wayesoleka. ¹² Ngaphambilini kwafika abantu abathile bevela kuJakhobe owayevame ukudla labeZizweni. Kodwa sebefikile waqalisa ukuhlelela emuva, wazehlukanisa labeZizweni ngoba wayesesaba ababengabegembu lokusoka. ¹³ Amanye amaJuda lawo ahlanganyela laye kulokhukuzenzisa kwakhe, kwaze kwathi ngenxa yokuzenzisa kwawo uBhanabhasi waholelwa ekulahlekeni.

¹⁴ Kwathi lapho ngibona ukuba babengenzi okuhambelana leqiniso levangeli, ngathi kuKhefasi phambi kwabo bonke, “Wena ungumJuda kodwa uphila njengoweZizweni hatshi njengomJuda. Pho kwenzeka njani ukuba ubambe ngamandla abeZizweni ukuba balandele imikhuba yamaJuda na?”

¹⁵ Thina esingamaJuda ngokuzalwa hatshi ‘izoni zeZizweni’ ¹⁶ siyakwazi ukuthi umuntu kalungisiswa yikugcina umthetho kodwa yikukholwa kuJesu Khristu. Ngakho-ke, lathi futhi, sibeke ukukholwa kwethu kuKhristu uJesu ukuba silungiswe yikukholwa kuKhristu hatshi ngokugcina umthetho ngoba kakho ozalungisiswa ngokugcina umthetho.

¹⁷ Kodwa nxa sisafuna ukulungisiswa kuKhristu, kube sokubonakala ukuthi thina ngokwethu siyizoni, lokho kutsho ukuthi uKhristu usekela isono na? Akunjalo lakan-cane! ¹⁸ Nxa ngikwakha kutsha lokho engakudilizayo, ngibonakalisa ukuthi ngiyisaphulamthetho.

¹⁹ Ngoba ngomthetho ngafa emthethweni ukuze ngiphilele uNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Sengibethelwe kanye loKhristu, akuseyimi engiphilayo, kodwa uKhristu uphila phakathi kwami. Ukuphila engikuphila emzimbeni, ngikuphila ngokukholwa eNdodaneni kaNkulunkulu, eyangithandayo njalo yazinikela ngenxa yami. ²¹ Kangiwudeli umusa kaNkulunkulu ngoba nxa ukulunga kuzuzwa ngomthetho, uKhristu wafela ize.”

3

Ukukholwa Kumbe Ukugcinwa Komthetho

¹ Lina maGalathiya ayizithutha! Ngubani oliloyileyo? Phambi kwamehlo enu uJesu Khristu wabonakaliswa obala ebethelwe. ² Mina ngifuna ukwazi into eyodwa nje kini: UMoya lamamukela ngokugcina umthetho loba ngokukholwa lokho elakuzwayo na? ³ Kanti liyizithutha kangaka? Emva kokuqalisa ngoMoya, khathesi selizama ukuzuza ukuphelela ngemizamo yabantu na? ⁴ Kanti lihlupheke kangaka lihluphekela ize na, nxa impela kwakungokweze? ⁵ Kanti uNkulunkulu ulinika uMoya wakhe abuye enze izimangaliso phakathi kwenu ngoba ligcina umthetho loba ngoba likholwa lokho elakuzwayo na? ⁶ Khumbulani u-Abhrahama: “Wamkholwa uNkulunkulu, kwabalelwa kuye njengokulunga.”*

⁷ Ngakho zwisisani ukuthi labo abakholwayo bangabantwana baka-Abhrahama. ⁸ Umbhalo wabona ngaphambili ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayezalungisa abeZizweni ngokukholwa, wahle wamemezela ivangeli ngaphambili ku-Abhrahama esithi: “Zonke izizwe zizabusiwa ngawe.”† ⁹ Ngakho labo abalokholo babusiwa kanye lo-Abhrahama, umuntu wokholo.

¹⁰ Bonke abathembe umthetho bangaphansi kwesiqalekiso ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Uqalekisiwe umuntu wonke ongaqhubeki esenza konke okulotshwe eNcwadini yoMthetho.”‡ ¹¹ Kusobala ukuthi akakho olungisiswa ngomthetho phambi kukaNkulunkulu ngoba, “Abalungileyo bazaphila ngokukholwa.”§ ¹² Umthetho kaweyamanga ekukholweni; kodwa, “Umuntu owenza izinto lezi uzaphila ngazo.”* ¹³ UKhristu wasihlenga esiqalekisiweni somthetho ngokuba yisiqalekiso ngenxa yethu, ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Uqalekisiwe umuntu wonke olengiswa esihlahleni.”† ¹⁴ Wasihlenga ukuze isibusiso esaphiwa u-Abhrahama sifike kwabeZizweni ngoKhristu uJesu, ukuze samukele isithembiso sikaMoya ngokukholwa.

Umthetho Lesithembiso

¹⁵ Bazalwane, ake ngithathe isibonelo sokuphila kwan-sukuzonke. Njengoba engekho ongabeka eceleni loba engeze kusivumelwano sabantu esenziwe ngemfanelo, kunjalo-ke lakule indaba. ¹⁶ Izithembiso zatshiwo ku-Abhrahama lakunzalo yakhe. Umbhalo kawuthi “kwabenzalo,”‡ usitsho abantu abanengi, kodwa uthi, “lakunzalo yakho,” usitsho umuntu oyedwa, lowo kunguKhristu.

* **3:6** 3.6 UGenesisi 15.6 † **3:8** 3.8 UGenesisi 12.3; 18.18; 22.18 ‡ **3:10** 3.10

UDutheronomi 27.26 § **3:11** 3.11 UHabhakhukhi 2.4 * **3:12** 3.12 ULevi 18.5

† **3:13** 3.13 UDutheronomi 21.23 ‡ **3:16** 3.16 UGenesisi 12.7; 13.15; 24.7

¹⁷ Engikutshoyo yilokhu: Umthetho owabekwa eminyakeni engamakhulu amane lamatshumi amathathu (430) muva, kawusibeki eceleni isivumelwano esamiswa ngaphambili nguNkulunkulu ngalokho wesule isithembiso. ¹⁸ Ngoba nxa ilifa leyame emthethweni, ngalokho kaliseyamanga esithembisweni; kodwa uNkulunkulu ngomusa wakhe, walinika u-Abhrahama ngesithembiso.

¹⁹ Pho, yayiyini-ke injongo yomthetho? Wengezelelwa ngenxa yeziphambeko kwaze kwafika iNzalo eyayitshiwo yisithembiso. Umthetho wenziwa wasebenza ngezingilosi lomeli. ²⁰ Kodwa umeli kameli icele elilodwa; kodwa uNkulunkulu munye.

²¹ Kambe ngalokho umthetho uphambene lezithembiso zikaNkulunkulu na? Akunjalo lakancane! Ngoba nxa kwakubekwe umthetho onika ukuphila, ukulunga impela kwakuzavela ngomthetho. ²² Kodwa umbhalo uvalele konke ngaphansi kwesono, ukwenzela ukuthi okwakuthenjisiwe, kuphiwa ngokukholwa kuJesu Khristu, sokun-gaphiwa labo abakholwayo.

Abantwana BakaNkulunkulu

²³ Ukholo§ lolu lungakabi khona sasiyizibotshwa zomthetho, sivalelwe ukholo olwaluzakuza luze lubonakaliswe. ²⁴ Ngakho umthetho waphiwa amandla okusiholela kuKhristu ukuba silungisiswe ngokukholwa. ²⁵ Khathesi-ke njengoba ukholo selukhona, kasisekho ngaphansi kwamandla omthetho.

²⁶ Lonke lingabantwana bakaNkulunkulu ngokukholwa kuKhristu uJesu ²⁷ ngoba lonke lina elabhaphathizelwa kuKhristu selizembathise ngoKhristu. ²⁸ AkulamJuda loba oweZizweni, isigqili loba okhululekileyo, owesilisa loba owesifazane, ngoba lonke limunye kuKhristu uJesu. ²⁹ Nxa lingabakaKhristu, ngalokho liyinzalo ka-Abhrahama, lezindlalifa njengokutsho kwesithembiso.

4

¹ Engikutshoyo yikuthi nxa indlalifa isesengumntwana, kayehlukananga lesigqili lanxa nje ingumnikazi welifa lonke. ² Ingaphansi kwabaphathi lababambeli kuze ku-fike isikhathi esabekwa nguyise. ³ Ngokunjalo lathi nge-sikhathi sisesengabantwana sasiyizigqili ngaphansi kwempi yemimoya yalumhlaba. ⁴ Kodwa kwathi lapho isikhathi sesifike ngokupheleleyo, uNkulunkulu wathuma iNdodana yakhe, yazalwa ngowesifazane, izalwa ngaphansi kom-thetho, ⁵ ukuba ihlengi abangaphansi komthetho, ukuze

sithole amalungelo apheleleyo amadodana atholakeleyo. ⁶ Njengokuba lingamadodana, uNkulunkulu wathumela uMoya weNdodana yakhe enhliziyweni zenu, omemezayo usithi, “*Abha, Baba.*” ⁷ Ngakho kawuseyiso isigqili kodwa indodana kaNkulunkulu; njalo njengoba usuyindodana, uNkulunkulu usekwenze waba yindlalifa futhi.

Ukuphatheka KukaPhawuli NgamaGalathiya

⁸ Ekuqaleni, lingakamazi uNkulunkulu laliyizigqili zalabo abangayisibo onkulunkulu ngemvelo. ⁹ Kodwa khathesi uNkulunkulu selimazi, loba ngithi uNkulunkulu uselazi, pho kungani libuyela emuva empini yemimoya yalumlaba ebuthakathaka leyize na? Liyafisa ukuthi ligqilazwe yiyo njalo na? ¹⁰ Lina ligcina insuku ezithile lezinyanga, izikhathi zomnyaka kanye leminyaka! ¹¹ Ngiyalesabela, ukuthi ngenye indlela sengichithe imizamo yami kini.

¹² Ngiyalincenga bazalwane, wobani njengami, ngoba lami ngaba njengani. Kalingenzelanga lutho olubi. ¹³ Njengoba lisazi, ngatshumayela ivangeli kini kuqala ngenxa yomkhuhlane. ¹⁴ Lanxa isimo somzimba wami sasiyisilingo kini, kalizange lingeyise kumbe lingihleke. Kodwa langamukela sengathi ngangiyingilosi kaNkulunkulu, sengathi nganginguKhristu uJesu yena ngokwakhe. ¹⁵ Intokozo yenu yonke isiyengaphi na? Ngingafakaza ukuthi aluba lalingenzanjalo, lalingakopola amehlo enu linginike wona. ¹⁶ Khathesi sengibe yisitha senu ngokulitshela iqiniso na?

¹⁷ Labobantu batshisekela ukulenza abazalwane babo, kodwa hatshi ngobuhle. Abakufunayo yikulehlukanisa lathi ukuze litshisekele bona. ¹⁸ Ukutshiseka kulungile nxa injongo inhle, lokuba kube njalo kokuphela, hatshi kuphela nxa ngilani. ¹⁹ Bantwabami abathandekayo, lina engilomhelo ngani futhi uKhristu aze abunjwe phakathi kwenu, ²⁰ ngiyafisa kakhulu ukuba lani khathesi ngiguqule isimo sami, ngoba ngikhathazekile ngani!

UHagari LoSara

²¹ Ngitshelani lina elifuna ukuba ngaphansi komthetho, kalikwazi yini ukuthi umthetho uthini? ²² Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi u-Abrahama wayelamadodana amabili, enye ingeyesigqilikazi lenye ingeyowesifazane okhululekileyo. ²³ Indodana yakhe yesigqilikazi yazalwa ngokwenyama; kodwa indodana yakhe yowesifazane okhululekileyo yazalwa kulandela isithembiso.

²⁴ Izinto lezi zingathathwa njengomzekeliso; ngoba abesifazane ababili bamele izivumelwano ezimbili. Esinye

isivumelwano sivela eNtabeni yeSinayi e-Arabhiya njalo sizala abantwana abazakuba yizigqili: Lo nguHagari.²⁵ UHagari umele iNtaba yeSinayi e-Arabhiya njalo uhambelana ledolobho lakhathesi eleJerusalema, ngoba lisebugqilini kanye labantwana balo. ²⁶ Kodwa iJerusalema ephezulu ikhululekile, njalo ingumama wethu. ²⁷ Ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi:

“Thokoza mfazi oyinyumba,
wena ongazange uzale umntwana;
umemeze ngenjabulo ukhale kakhulu,
wena ongakaze uhelelwe;
ngoba abantwana bomfazi olahliweyo banengi
kulabalowo olendoda.”*

²⁸ Ngakho lina bazalwane, njengo-Isaka, lingabantwana besithembiso. ²⁹ Ngalesosikhathi indodana eyazalwa ngokwenyama yahlukuluza indodana eyazalwa ngamandla kaMoya. Kunjalo lakhathesi. ³⁰ Kodwa umbhalo uthini na? Uthi: “Susa isigqilikazi lendodana yaso, ngoba indodana yesigqilikazi kayiyikwabelana ilifa lendodana yowesifazane okhululekileyo.”† ³¹ Ngakho, bazalwane, thina kasisibo bantwana besigqilikazi, kodwa abowesifazane okhululekileyo.

5

Ukukhululeka KuKhristu

¹ UKhristu wasikhululela ukuthi sibe lenkululeko. Ngakho manini liqine, lingavumeli ukuthi libotshelwe futhi ejogeni lobugqili.

² Qaphelani amazwi ami! Mina Phawuli, ngiyalitshela ukuthi lingavuma ukusoka, uKhristu kayikuba lusizo kini. ³ Njalo ngiyaqinisa ebantwini bonke abavumayo ukusoka ukuthi balomlandu wokulalela umthetho wonke. ⁴ Lina elizama ukulungisiswa ngomthetho selehlukane loKhristu; selehlukane lomusa. ⁵ Kodwa ngokukholwa siholwa nguMoya silindele ithemba lokulunga ngokutshiseka. ⁶ Ngoba kuKhristu uJesu ukusoka loba ukungasoki akulasizo. Into kuphela eyiyo eqakathekileyo yikukholwa okuzibonakalisa ngothando.

⁷ Kade lihamba kuhle. Ngubani olikhuphe ekulandeleni iqiniso na? ⁸ Ukuncenga okunjalo kakaveli kulowo olibizayo. ⁹ “Imvubelo encinyazana ibilisa inhlama yonke.” ¹⁰ Ngiyathemba eNkosini ukuthi kaliyikwamukela omunye umnakano. Lowo olibeka phakathi kwenyakanyaka uza-jeziswa, loba egubani. ¹¹ Bazalwane, nxa ngisatshumayela

* 4:27 4.27 U-Isaya 54.1 † 4:30 4.30 UGenesisi 21.10

ngokusoka, pho kungani ngilokhu ngihlukuluzwa? Nxa kunjalo isikhubekiso sesiphambano sesisusiwe. ¹² Labo abahluphayo, ngifisa ukuthi ngabe bayaqhubeka bazithene!

Ukuphila NgoMoya

¹³ Lina bazalwane bami, labizelwa ukuthi likhululeke. Kodwa lingasebenzisi inkululeko yenu ukuthokozisa inyama*; kodwa sizanani omunye lomunye lizehlisa ngothando. ¹⁴ Umthetho wonke uhlanganiswa ngumlayo owodwa othi: "Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengoba uzithanda."† ¹⁵ Nxa lighubeka lilumana lokudlanana, qaphelani hlezi liqedane du.

¹⁶ Ngakho ngithi philani ngoMoya, kaliyikuthokozisa izinkanuko zenu zenyama. ¹⁷ Ngoba imvelo yesono ikhanuka okuphambene loMoya, loMoya ufuna okuphambene lemvelo yesono. Kuyaphikisana ukuze lingenzi elikuthandayo. ¹⁸ Kodwa nxa likhokhelwa nguMoya, kalikho ngaphansi komthetho.

¹⁹ Izenzo zenyama zisobala: ukuhlobonga, lokungesabi ukujeziswa, lokuxhwalwa; ²⁰ ukukhonza izithombe lobuthakathi; inzondo lokuxabana, umona lentukuthelo, lobuhwaba, ukungezwani lokungavumelani ²¹ lomhawu; ukudakwa lokuzitika ngamanyala kanye lokunye okunjalo. Ngiyalixwayisa, njengoba lami ngaphila phakathi kwakho ukuthi abaphila kanje kabayikulidla ilifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu.

²² Kodwa izithelo zikaMoya luthando, lokuthokoza, lokuthula, lokubekezela, lomusa, lokulunga, lokuthembeka, ²³ lobumnene kanye lokuzithiba. Ezintweni ezinje akulamthetho. ²⁴ Labo abangabakaKhristu uJesu sebayibethela esiphambanweni imvelo yabo yesono lokufutheka kwayo kanye lezinkanuko. ²⁵ Njengoba siphila ngoMoya, kasenzeni okuhambelana loMoya. ²⁶ Kasingazikhukhumezi, singaqalani kumbe senzelande umona.

6

Ukwenza Okulungileyo Kubo Bonke

¹ Bazalwane, nxa umuntu ethunjwe yisono esithile lina eliphila ngokoMoya kumele limbuyise kakuhle. Kodwa lizinanzelele ukuthi lani futhi lingalingwa. ² Thwalani imithwalo yomunye lomunye, ngalokho lizagcwalisa umthetho kaKhristu. ³ Nxa umuntu ezitshaya ulutho yena

* 5:13 5.13 ibala elithi inyama ngesiGrikhi litsho imvelo yesono okuyindlela yokona koluntu okuphambene lokwenza intando kaMoya; lelibala litholakala lakuvesi 16, 17, 19 lo 24 kanye laku 6.8. † 5:14 5.14 ULevi 19.18

engasilutho, uyazikhohlisa. ⁴ Umuntu munye ngamunye kahlole izenzo zakhe. Ngalokho angaziqhenya, kungekho ukuziqathanisa lomunye, ⁵ ngoba lowo lalowo kumele athwale umthwalo wakhe. ⁶ Loba ngubani othola ukufundiswa ngelizwi umele abelane zonke izinto ezinhle lalowo omfundisayo.

⁷ Lingakhohliswa: UNkulunkulu kahlekwa. Umuntu uvuna lokho akuhlanyelayo. ⁸ Lowo ohlanyela ukuthokozisa inyama yakhe, kuleyonyama uzavuna ukuchitheka; lowo ohlanyela ukuthokozisa uMoya, kuMoya uzavuna ukuphila okulaphakade. ⁹ Kasingadinwa yikwenza okuhle ngoba ngesikhathi esifaneleyo sizavuna isivuno nxa singadeli. ¹⁰ Ngakho-ke, njengokuba silethuba kasenzeni okulungileyo ebantwini bonke ikakhulu kulabo abangabemuli yabakholwayo.

Hatshi Ukusoka Kodwa Indalo Entsha

¹¹ Khangelani ukuthi makhulu kanganani amabala engiwasebenzisayo lapho ngililobela ngesami isandla!

¹² Labo abafuna ukubukwa enyameni bazama ukulincindezela ukuba lisoke. Isizatho sokuba benze lokhu yikuba babalekele ukuhlukuluzelwa isiphambano sikaKhristu kuphela. ¹³ Lalabo abasokileyo kabawulaleli umthetho kodwa bafuna ukuba lisoke ukuze bazincome ngemizimba yenu. ¹⁴ Mina kangingazincomi lanini ngaphandle kwangesiphambano seNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, umhlaba wonke owabethelwa ngaso kimi, lami njalo emhlabeni. ¹⁵ Ukusoka loba ukungasoki akutsho lutho; okuqakathekileyo yikudalwa kutsha. ¹⁶ Ukuthula lesihawu kubo bonke abalandela umthetho lo, kanye laku-Israyeli kaNkulunkulu.

¹⁷ Okokucina, akungabi lamuntu ongibangela uhlupho, ngoba emzimbeni wami ngilempawu zikaJesu.

¹⁸ Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kawube lomoya wenu bazalwane. Amen.

Incwadi KaPhawuli Kwabase-Efesu

¹ UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu,

Lakwabangcwele bakaNkulunkulu abase-Efesu, abathembekileyo kuKhristu uJesu:

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

Izibusiso ZikaMoya KuKhristu

³ Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, osibusise ebukhosini basezulwini ngezibusiso zonke zakomoya kuKhristu. ⁴ Ngoba wasikhetha umhlaba ungakadalwa ukuthi sibe ngcwele lokuthi singabi lasici ebusweni bakhe. Ngothando ⁵ wasimisela ukuba senziwe amadodana akhe ngoJesu Khristu, ngokwentokozo yakhe kanye lentando yakhe, ⁶ ukuze kudunyiswe umusa wakhe omangalisayo asiphe wona ngesihle kuLowo amthandayo. ⁷ Kuye silokuhlangwa ngegazi lakhe lokuthethelelwa kwazono ngokwenotho yomusa kaNkulunkulu ⁸ awuthululele phezu kwethu ngenhlakanipho yonke langokuqedisisa. ⁹ Wasazisa imfihlakalo yentando yakhe mayelana lentokozo yakhe elungileyo ayiceba kuKhristu, ¹⁰ ukuba kuhlangukanye ndawonye zonke izinto ezisezulwini lasemhlabeni ngaphansi kwenhloko yinye enguKhristu.

¹¹ Sakhethwa kuye,* simiselwe lokho ngokwecebo lakhe yena osebenza izinto zonke ngokuvumelana lenjongo yentando yakhe, ¹² ukuze kuthi thina esaba ngabokuqala ukubeka ithemba lethu kuKhristu sibe ngabokubonga udumo lwakhe. ¹³ Lani labalwa kanye loKhristu lapho selizwe ilizwi leqiniso, levangeli lokusindiswa kwenu. Selikholwe kuye, labekwa uphawu, uMoya oNgcwele owa-thenjiswayo, ¹⁴ oyisibambiso esiyisiqinisele selifa lethu kuze kufike ukuhlangwa kwalabo abangabakaNkulunkulu ukuba kudunyiswe udumo lwakhe.

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

¹⁵ Ngenxa yalokhu, sekulokhu ngezwa ngokukholwa kwenu eNkosini uJesu kanye lothando lwenu kubo

* **1:11** 1.11 kumbe saba zindlalifa

bonke abantu bakaNkulunkulu abangcwele, ¹⁶ angikaze ngiyekele ukulibongela lokulikhumbula emikhulekweni yami. ¹⁷ Ngियाqhubeka ngicela ukuba uNkulunkulu weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, uYise oyinkazimulo, alinike uMoya wokuhlakanipha lokwambulelwa ukuze limazi ngcono. ¹⁸ Ngikhulekela njalo lokuthi amehlo ezinhliziyi zenu akhanyiselwe ukuze lilazi ithemba alibizela kulo, inotho yelifa lakhe elimangalisayo kwabangcwele, ¹⁹ lamandla akhe amakhulu angelakulinganiswa kithi thina esikholwayo. Amandla lawo afana lokusebenza kwamandla akhe amakhulu ²⁰ awasebenzisa evusa uKhristu kwabafileyo, emhlalisa esandleni sakhe sokunene ebukhosini basezulwini ²¹ phezu kokubusa konke lobukhosi, amandla kanye lombuso, lamabizo wonke angatshiwo, kungayisikho kwalesisikhathi kuphela kodwa lakuleso esizayo. ²² UNkulunkulu wabeka izinto zonke ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe wamketha ukuba abeyinhloko yezinto zonke zebandla, ²³ lona elingumzimba wakhe, ukuphelela kwakhe yena ophelalisa izinto zonke ngazingdla zonke.

2

Senziwa Saba Ngabaphilayo KuKhristu

¹ Lina lalifile eziphambekweni lasezonweni zenu, ² elaliphila kuzo ngesikhathi lisalandela izindlela zalo umhlaba lezombusi wombuso wasemoyeni, umoya osebenzayo lakhathesi kulabo abangalaleliyo. ³ Lathi sonke sake saphila phakathi kwabo ekuqaleni, sithokozisa izinkanuko zemvelo yethu yesono, silandela lezifiso kanye lemicabango yazo. Njengabanye, ngokwemvelo sasifanele ulaka. ⁴ Kodwa ngenxa yothando lwakhe olukhulu kithi, uNkulunkulu olesihawu esikhulu, ⁵ wasenza saba ngabaphilayo loKhristu lanxa sasifile eziphambekweni, ngomusa selisindisiwe. ⁶ UNkulunkulu wasivusa ekufeni kanye loKhristu wasihlalisa laye ebukhosini basezulwini kuKhristu uJesu ⁷ ukuze kuthi ezikhathini ezizayo atshengise inotho yomusa wakhe engeke ilinganiswe, ebalulwe yibubele bakhe kithi kuKhristu uJesu. ⁸ Ngoba ngomusa lisindisiwe, kungokukholwa njalo lokhu akuveli kini, kuyisipho sikaNkulunkulu, ⁹ hatshi ngemisebenzi, ukuze kungabi lozazincoma. ¹⁰ Ngoba siyibuciko bukaNkulunkulu, sidalelwe kuKhristu uJesu ukuba senze imisebenzi emihle, uNkulunkulu ayilungisa ngaphambili ukuba siyenze.

UmJuda LoweZizweni Babuyiswa NgoKhristu

¹¹ Ngakho, khumbulani ukuthi kuqala lina elingabeZizweni ngokuzalwa njalo elibizwa ngokuthi “ngabanga-sokanga” yilabo abazibiza ngokuthi “ngabokusoka” (lokho okwenziwa emzimbeni ngezandla zabantu), ¹² khumbulani ukuthi ngalesosikhathi lahleluka loKhristu, lingabalelwa enzalweni yako-Israyeli njalo lingabezizweni kusivumelwano sesithembiso, lingelathemba njalo lingelaye uNkulunkulu emhlabeni. ¹³ Kodwa khathesi kuKhristu uJesu lina elake laba khatshana le selisondezwe eduzane ngegazi likaKhristu.

¹⁴ Ngoba yena uqobo uyikuthula kwethu, yena owenza ababili baba munye, wadiliza uthango olungumdule wobutha owehlukanisayo, ¹⁵ ngokuchitha emzimbeni wakhe umthetho lemilayo yawo kanye lezimiso. Injongo yakhe yayingeyokudala phakathi kwakhe umuntu oyedwa njalo omutsha ngabantu ababili, ngalokho enze ukuthula, ¹⁶ kuthi kulo umzimba munye kube lokubuyisana kwayo yomibili kuNkulunkulu ngesiphambano, achitha ngaso ubutha bayo. ¹⁷ Weza wazatshumayela ukuthula kini elalikhathshana lokuthula kulabo ababeseduzane. ¹⁸ Ngoba ngaye sobabili siyafinyelela kuYise ngoMoya munye.

¹⁹ Ngalokho-ke, kaliseyibo bezizweni lezihambi, kodwa seliyinzalo yakithi labantu bakaNkulunkulu, kanye lamalunga abendlu kaNkulunkulu, ²⁰ lakhelwe phezu kwesisekelo sabapostoli labaphrofethi, uKhristu uJesu yena uqobo eyilitshe elikhulu lekhoneni. ²¹ Indlu yonke ihlanganiselwe kuye njalo ikhula ukuze ibe lithempeli elingcwele eNkosini. ²² Lani futhi lakhelwa ndawonye kuye ukuze libe yindawo yokuhlala uNkulunkulu ahlala kuyo ngoMoya wakhe.

3

Icebo LikaNkulunkulu Elimangalisayo NgabeZizweni

¹ Ngenxa yalesisizatho, mina Phawuli, isibotshwa sikaKhristu uJesu ngenxa yenu lina bantu beZizweni.

² Ngeqiniso selizwile ngokuphathwa komusa kaNkulunkulu engawuphiwayo ngenxa yenu, ³ ukuthi ngaziswa imfihlakalo ngokwambulelwa njengoba sengabhala ngamafitshane. ⁴ Nxa libala lokhu lizenelisa ukuzwisisa umbono wami ngemfihlakalo

kaKhristu, ⁵ engazange yaziswe abantu kwezinye izizukulwane njengoba khathesi isiveziwe nguMoya kubapostoli abangcwele bakaNkulunkulu lakubaphrofethi. ⁶ Imfihlakalo le iyikuthi ngevangeli abeZizweni bazindlalifa bekanye labako-Israyeli, amalunga omzimba munye

ndawonye, labahlanganyeli kuso isithembiso kuKhristu uJesusu.

⁷ Mina ngaba yinceku yevangeli leli ngesipho somusa kaNkulunkulu engasiphiwa ngokusebenza kwamandla akhe. ⁸ Lanxa ngimncane kulabancane bonke babantu bakaNkulunkulu, umusa lo ngawunikwa: ukuba ngitshumayele kwabeZizweni inotho kaKhristu engacubungulekiyo, ⁹ njalo ngikubeke obala ukuphatha kwami imfihlakalo le eyayifihliwe okweminyaka eminengi eyedlulayo kuNkulunkulu, owadala izinto zonke. ¹⁰ Injongo yakhe yayiyikuthi ibandla lazise ababusi leziphathamandla zemibuso yasezulwini ngenhlakanipho emangalisayo kaNkulunkulu, ¹¹ ngokwenhloso yakhe engulaphakade ayifeza kuKhristu uJesusu iNkosi yethu. ¹² Kuye langokukholwa kuye singasondela kuNkulunkulu ngokukhululeka langesibindi. ¹³ Ngakho, ngiyalicela ukuba lingalahli ithemba ngenxa yokulihluphekela kwami, okuludumo kini.

Ukukhulekela Abase-Efesu

¹⁴ Ngenxa yalokhu ngiyaguqa phambi kukaBaba, ¹⁵ lapho yonke imuli yamakholwa asezulwini lasemhlabeni ethola khona ibizo layo. ¹⁶ Ngikhulekela ukuthi ngenotho yobukhosi bakhe aliqinise ngamandla ngoMoya wakhe ezinhliziyweni zenu ¹⁷ ukuze uKhristu ahlale ezinhliziyweni zenu ngokukholwa. Ngikhulekela ukuba ligxile njalo liqine othandweni, ¹⁸ libe lamandla kanye labangcwele beNkosi bonke ukuba liqedisise ububanzi lobude lokujula kanye lokuzika kothando lukaKhristu, ¹⁹ lokuba lilwazi uthando lolu oludlula ukwazi ukuze ligcwaliswe ngesilinganiso sokugcwala okupheleleyo kukaNkulunkulu.

²⁰ Ngakho-ke, kuye lowo oyenza okukhulu kakhulu kulalokho esikucelayo kumbe esikucabangayo, ngokwamandla akhe asebenza phakathi kwethu, ²¹ udumo kalube kuye ebandleni lakuKhristu uJesusu kuzizukulwane zonke kuze kube nini lanini! Ameni.

4

Ukumanyana Emzimbeni KaKhristu

¹ Njengesibotshwa seNkosi, ngiyalincenga ukuba liphile impilo efanele ubizo elalwamukelayo. ² Wobani ngabathobekileyo labamnene ngokupheleleyo; bekezelani, libekezelelane omunye komunye ethandweni. ³ Zamani ngamandla wonke ukugcina ukumanyana kukaMoya ngesibopho sokuthula. ⁴ Kulomzimba munye loMoya munye; njengalokhu labizelwa ethembeni linye ekubizweni kwenu,

⁵ iNkosi yinye, lokholo lunye, ubhaphathizo lunye;
⁶ uNkulunkulu munye uYise wabo bonke, ophezu kwabo bonke njalo okubo bonke.

⁷ Kodwa yilowo lalowo wethu waphiwa umusa ngokwaba kukaKhristu. ⁸ Yikho-nje umbhalo usithi:

“Ekwenyukeleni kwakhe phezulu,
 wahola abathunjiweyo abanengi
 njalo wanika izipho ebantwini bakhe.”*

⁹ (Ukuthi “wenyuka” kutshoni ngaphandle kokuthi njalo wehlela lezigabeni zangaphansi komhlaba na? ¹⁰ Yena lowo owehlela phansi nguye kanye owenyukela phezulu kakhulu kulamazulu wonke ukuze agcwale izindawo zonke emhlabeni lasezulwini.) ¹¹ UKhristu nguye owanika abanye ukuba babe ngabapostoli, abanye babe ngabaphrofethi, abanye babe ngabavangeli, abanye babe ngabaphathi labanye babe ngabafundisi, ¹² ukuba balungisele abantu bakaNkulunkulu imisebenzi yenkonzo, ukuze umzimba kaKhristu wakhiwe ¹³ sonke size sifinyelele ekumanyaneni, ekukholweni lasekwazini iNdodana kaNkulunkulu sikhule ngokupheleleyo, sithole isilinganiso sokuphelela okufunyanwa kuKhristu.

¹⁴ Ngakho kasisayikuba zingane, siphoswa emuva laphambili ngamagagasi, siphetsulwa lapha lalaphaya yimimoya yonke yemfundiso kanye lokuhlakanipha lobuqili babantu ngamazwi abo enkohliso. ¹⁵ Kodwa-ke, sikhuluma iqiniso ngothando, sizakhula ezintweni zonke kuye yena oyiNhloko, yena enguKhristu. ¹⁶ Kusukela kuye umzimba wonke ohlanganiswe wabanjaniswa yimisipha yonke ewusekelayo uyakhula uzakhe ngothando, isitho sinye ngasinye sisenza umsebenzi waso.

Izeluleko Zokuphila KomKhristu

¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, ngilitshela lokhu, ngikugcizelela eNkosini, ukuba akumelanga liphile njengabeZizweni emicabangweni yabo eyize. ¹⁸ Kubamnyama ekuqediseni kwabo njalo behlukene lokuphila kukaNkulunkulu ngenxa yokungazi kwabo okungenxa yobulukhuni bezinhliziyo zabo. ¹⁹ Sebelahlekelwe ngunembeza wonke, sebezinikele ekuthokoziseni inyama ukuze benze inhlobo zonke zokuxhwala, inkanuko iqhubeka ifuna okunengi.

²⁰ Kodwa lina uKhristu kalimazanga ngaleyondlela. ²¹ Impela lezwa njalo lafundiswa ngaye ngokweqiniso elikuJesu. ²² Lafundiswa mayelana lendlela yenu yakuqala yokuphila ukuba lilahle uqobo lweni oludala, olonakaliswa

* 4:8 4.8 AmaHubo 68.18

yizinkanuko zalo zenkohliso; ²³ ukuba lenziwe libe batsha esimeni sengqondo zenu; ²⁴ lifake uqobo lomzimba olutsha, oludalelwe ukuba njengoNkulunkulu ekulungeni okuqotho lobungwele.

²⁵ Ngakho-ke, yilowo lalowo wenu kumele alahle amanga akhulume iqiniso kumakhelwane wakhe ngoba sonke siyizitho zomzimba munye. ²⁶ “Ekuthukutheleni kwenu lingoni”†: Ilanga kalingatshoni lilokhu lithukuthele ²⁷ njalo lingamniki indawo yokugxila uSathane. ²⁸ Lowo obekade entshontsha kangantshontshi futhi kodwa kumele asebenze, enze ulutho oluhle ngezandla zakhe ukuze abe langakwabela abaswelayo.

²⁹ Akungabi lenkulumo embi ephuma emilonyeni yenu kodwa okusizayo ekwakheni abanye ngokwezinswelo zabo, ukuba kusize labo abalalelayo. ³⁰ Njalo lingamdabukisi uMoya oNgcwele kaNkulunkulu elabekwa ngaye uphawu lwelanga lokuhlengwa. ³¹ Susani yonke inzondo, ulaka lokuthukuthela, ingxabano lesinyeyo, kanye lobubi bonke. ³² Wobani lomusa kanye lozwelo komunye lomunye wenu njalo lithethelelane njengalokhu uNkulunkulu walithethelela ngoKhristu.

5

¹ Ngakho-ke, wobani ngabalingiseli bakaNkulunkulu njengabantwana abathandwa kakhulu ² liphile impilo yothando, njengalokhu uKhristu wasithanda wazinikela ngenxa yethu njengomnikelo olephunga eliminandi lomhlatshele kaNkulunkulu.

³ Kodwa phakathi kwenu Akungabikhona umthonselanyana wokuhlobonga loba uhlobo luphi lokungcola kumbe ubuhwaba ngoba lezizinto kazifanelanga ebantwini abangcwele bakaNkulunkulu. ⁴ Njalo akumelanga kube lenhlamba lenkulumo zobuthutha loba ubuphoxo khona okuyizinto ezingafanelanga kodwa kakube lokubonga. ⁵ Ngoba kuliqiniso ukuthi: Akulamuntu oyisixhwali, ongcolileyo loba oyisihwaba, umuntu onjalo ukhonza izithombe, olelifa embusweni kaKhristu lokaNkulunkulu. ⁶ Lingavumi ukukhohliswa ngumuntu ngamazwi ayize ngoba ngenxa yezinto ezinje ulaka lukaNkulunkulu lwehlela phezu kwalabo abangalaleliyo. ⁷ Ngakho lingahlanganyeli labo.

⁸ Ngoba lake laba yibumnyama kodwa kathesi seliyikukhanya eNkosini. Philani njengabantwana bokukhanya ⁹ (ngoba izithelo zokukhanya zikhona kubo bonke ubuhle lokulunga kanye leqiniso) ¹⁰ lidinge

okuthokozisa iNkosi. ¹¹ Lingahlanganyeli ezenzweni zobumnyama ezingelazithelo kodwa zichayeni sobala. ¹² Ngoba kulihlazo lokukutsho nje okwenziwa yizigangi ensitha. ¹³ Kodwa konke okuvezwe obala yikukhanya kuyabonakala, ¹⁴ ngoba yikukhanya okwenza izinto zonke zibonakale. Yikho-nje kuthiwa:

“Phaphama, wena oleleyo,
vuka kwabafuleyo,
uKhristu uzakhanya kuwe.”

¹⁵ Ngakho-ke, qaphelani kakhulu ukuba liphila njani, kungabi njengezithutha kodwa njengabahlakaniphileyo, ¹⁶ liwasebenzise ngokupheleleyo amathuba wonke ngoba insuku zimbi. ¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, lingabi yiziwula kodwa qedisani ukuthi intando kaThixo iyini. ¹⁸ Lingadakwa liwayini okuthungamela ekoneni. Kodwa gcwaliswani ngoMoya, ¹⁹ likhulumisana omunye komunye ngamahubo, amaculo kanye lezingoma zakoMoya. Hlabelani lenzele iNkosi imiculo ezinhliziyweni zenu ²⁰ limbonge kokuphela uNkulunkulu uBaba kukho konke, ngebizo leNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu.

Izeluleko Ezimulini ZamaKhristu

²¹ Zehliseni omunye komunye lihlonipha uKhristu.

²² Bafazi, zehliseni kubomkenu njengaseNkosini. ²³ Ngoba indoda yinhloko yomfazi njengoKhristu eyinhloko yebandla elingumzimba wakhe, yena onguMsindisi walo. ²⁴ Ngakho njengebandla lizehlisa kuKhristu ngokunjalo abesifazane kumele bazehlise kubomkabo ezintweni zonke.

²⁵ Madoda thandani omkenu njengoKhristu owathanda ibandla wazinikela ngenxa yalo ²⁶ ukuba alenze libengcwele, elihlambulula ngokuligezisa ngamanzi esebenzisa ilizwi, ²⁷ kanye lokulethula kuye njengebandla elilenkazimulo, elingelasici loba ukuba mxhilibane kumbe esinye nje isici kodwa lingcwele njalo lingelacala. ²⁸ Ngokunjalo, amadoda kumele athande omkawo njengemizimba yawo. Lowo othanda umkakhe uyazithanda yena ngokwakhe. ²⁹ Belo, kakho owake wazonda umzimba wakhe kodwa uwunika ukudla awulondoloze njengokwenziwa nguKhristu ebandleni, ³⁰ ngoba thina siyizitho zomzimba wakhe. ³¹ “Ngenxa yalokhu indoda izatshiya uyise lonina ihlanganiswe lomkayo njalo ababili laba bazakuba nyamanye.”* ³² Le yimfihlakalo enkulu kodwa mina ngikhuluma ngoKhristu lebandla. ³³ Kodwa omunye lomunye wenu laye kathande

* 5:31 5.31 UGenesisi 2.24

umkakhe njengoba ezithanda, lomfazi kumele ahloniphe indoda yakhe.

6

Abantwana Labazali

¹ Bantwana lalalani abazali benu eNkosini ngoba lokhu kulungile. ² “Hlonipha uyihlo lonyoko,” okungumlayo wakuqala olesithembiso, ³ “ukuze kukulungele lokuba ube lempilo ende emhlabeni.”*

⁴ Bobaba†, lingabathukuthelisi abantwana benu kodwa bondleni ngokufundisa langokulaya kweNkosi.

Izigqili Lamakhosi

⁵ Zisebenzi, lalalani amakhosi enu asemhlabeni ngenhlonipho langokwesaba, langobuqotho benhliziyo, ngendlela elingalalela ngayo uKhristu. ⁶ Lingawalaleli ukuba liwathokozise nje kuphela nxa elikhangele kodwa njengezisebenzi zikaKhristu, lisenza intando kaNkulunkulu kuvela ezinhliziyweni zenu. ⁷ Sebenzani ngenhliziyo yonke kube sengathi lisebenzela iNkosi hatshi abantu ⁸ ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi iNkosi izakupha umuntu wonke umvuzo ngenxa yokuhle akwenzayo loba eyisigqili kumbe ekhululekile.

⁹ Lani makhosi phathani izigqili zenu ngendlela efanayo. Lingazisongeli njengoba likwazi ukuthi lowo oyiNkosi yazo leyenu usezulwini njalo akukho ubandlululo kuye.

Isihlangu SikaNkulunkulu

¹⁰ Ekucineni, qinani eNkosini lasemandleni ayo amakhulu. ¹¹ Fakani isihlangu esipheleleyo sikaNkulunkulu ukuze lenelise ukumelana lamacebo kaSathane. ¹² Ngoba kasilwi lenyama legazi kodwa silwa lababusi, lemibuso kanye lamandla omhlaba lo ogcwele ubumnyama, silwe njalo lamabutho emimoya emibi emibusweni yasamazulwini. ¹³ Ngakho-ke, fakani isihlangu esipheleleyo sikaNkulunkulu ukuze kuthi lapho usuku lobubi lufika libe lamandla okuma kuthi lalapho selenze konke, lime. ¹⁴ Manini liqine, ibhanti leqiniso libotshelwe ngensimbi ezinkalweni zenu, lesihlangu sasesifubeni sokulunga sisendaweni yaso, ¹⁵ lezinyawo zenu ziggokiswe zalungiselelwa ngokuvula evangelini lokuthula. ¹⁶ Phezu kwakho konke lokhu, thathani ihawu lokukholwa elizacitsha ngalo yonke imitshoko yomubi evuthayo. ¹⁷ Thathani ingowane yokusindiswa lenkemba kaMoya eyilizwi likaNkulunkulu.

* 6:3 6.3 UDutheronomi 5.16 † 6:4 6.4 Kumbe Bazali

¹⁸ Khulekani ngoMoya ezikhathini zonke ngezinhlolo zonke zemikhuleko lezicelo. Lilalokhu emicabangweni, qaphelani liqhubeke kokuphela libakhulekela bonke abantu beNkosi abangcwele. ¹⁹ Lami lingikhulekele ukuba kokuphela lapho ngivula umlomo wami, ngiphiwe amazwi ukuze ngitshumayele ngesibindi imfihlakalo yevangeli, ²⁰ engingumeli walo ngibotshwe ngamaketane. Khulekani ukuba ngilitshumayele ngesibindi njengokumele ngikwenze.

Ukuvalelisa

²¹ UThikhikhasi umzalwane othandekayo loyinceku ethembekileyo eNkosini uzalitshela konke ukuze lani lazi ukuba ngenjani kanye lengikwenzayo. ²² Ngimthuma kini ngenjongo yokuthi likwazi ukuthi sinjani lokuthi alikhuthaze.

²³ Ukuthula kakube kubazalwane, lothando lokukholwa okuvela kuNkulunkulu uYise laseNkosini uJesu Khristu.

²⁴ Umusa kawube kubo bonke abayithandayo iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ngothando olungapheliyo.

Incwadi KaPhawuli KwabaseFiliphi

¹ Uphawuli loThimothi, inceku zikaKhristu uJesu,

Lakubo bonke abangcwele kuKhristu uJesu eFiliphi kanye lababonisi labadikoni:

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

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

³ Ngiyambonga uNkulunkulu wami izikhathi zonke lapho ngilikhumbula. ⁴ Emikhulekweni yami yonke ngilikhulekela lonke, ngihlezi ngikhuleka ngokuthokoza ⁵ ngenxa yokuhlanganyela kwenu evangelini kusukela ngosuku lwakuqala kuze kube khathesi, ⁶ ngilethemba lokuthi lowo owaqalisa umsebenzi omuhle kini uzawuqhubekisela phambili kuze kube lusuku lukaKhristu uJesu.

⁷ Kuqondile ukuthi ngicabange ngokunjalo ngenxa yenu lonke, njengoba ngilani enhliziyweni yami njalo lanxa ngibotshiwe kumbe ngivikela ivangeli loba ngiliqinisa, lonke lihlanganyela lami emuseni kaNkulunkulu. ⁸ UNkulunkulu angafakaza ukuthi lonke ngilifiselani gothando lukaKhristu uJesu.

⁹ Umkhuleko wami ngowokuthi uthando lwenu lwande kokuphela ekwazini lasekuzikeni kokuqedisisa ¹⁰ ukuze lenelise ukubona okuhle njalo lihlambuluke lingabi lasici kuze kube lusuku lukaKhristu, ¹¹ ligcwele izithelo zokulunga ezibuya ngoJesu Khristu ekudunyisweni lasekubongweni kukaNkulunkulu.

Ukubotshwa KukaPhawuli Kuqhubekelisa Ivangeli Phambili

¹² Bazalwane, ngifuna ukuba lazi ukuthi okwenzakale kimi kusizile impela ekuqhubekeliseni ivangeli phambili. ¹³ Ngalokho, sekube sobala kubo bonke abalindi besigodlo lakwabanye bonke ukuthi ngibotshelwe uKhristu. ¹⁴ Ngenxa yokubotshwa kwami, abazalwane abanengi sebelethemba eNkosini njalo sebelesibindi esikhulu sokutshumayela ilizwi likaNkulunkulu bengelakwesaba.

¹⁵ Kuliqiniso ukuthi abanye batshumayela uKhristu ngenxa yomona lombango kodwa abanye ngenxa yesifiso

esihle. ¹⁶ Laba benza lokhu ngothando bekwazi ukuthi ngifakwe lapha ukuba ngivikele ivangeli. ¹⁷ Abakuqala batshumayela ngoKhristu ngokuzikhukhumeza, bengeqotho, becabanga ukuthi bangangidalela uhlupho ngisekubotshweni. ¹⁸ Kodwa-ke, kusizani pho? Into eqakathekileyo yikuthi ngezindlela zonke, ingabe kuyinjongo engalunganga loba eyeqiniso, uKhristu uyatshunyayelwa. Njalo ngenxa yalokhu mina ngiyathokoza.

Yebo, ngizaqhubeka ngithokoza, ¹⁹ ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi ngemikhuleko yenu langosizo lukaMoya kaJesu Khristu, okwenzakale kimi kuzaletha ukukhululwa kwami. ²⁰ Ngokutshiseka ngilindele njalo ngithemba ukuthi angiyikuyangeka langayiphi indlela, kodwa ngizakuba lesibindi esaneleyo ukuze kuthi khathesi njengenjwayelo uKhristu uzakudunyiswa emzimbeni wami, loba ngokuphila kumbe ngokufa. ²¹ Ngoba kimi, ukuphila kunguKhristu lokufa kuyinzuzo. ²² Nxa ngingaqhubeka ngiphila emzimbeni, lokhu kuzakutsho umsebenzi olezithelo kimi. Kodwa-ke, kuyini engizakukhetha? Angazi! ²³ Ngiphakathi kwakho kokubili: Ngifisa ukusuka ngibe loKhristu, okungcono kakhulu; ²⁴ Kodwa kuyasweleka kakhulu kini ukuba ngibe ngilokhu ngiphila kulumzimba. ²⁵ Sengikholwe lokhu, ngiyakwazi ukuthi ngizakuba khona, njalo ngizaqhubeka ngilani lonke ngenxa yokuthuthuka kwenu lokuthokoza ekukholweni, ²⁶ ukuze kuthi ngokubalani kwami futhi, ukuthokoza kwenu kuKhristu uJesu kuzakwanda ngenxa yami.

Impilo Efanele Ivangeli

²⁷ Loba kusenzakalani, lina ziphatheni ngendlela efanele ivangeli likaKhristu. Ngakho, langabe ngiyeza ukuzalibona loba ngizwe nje kuphela ngani ngingekho, ngizakwazi ukuba liqinile ngaMoya munye, lilwela ukholo lwevangeli njengomuntu munye, ²⁸ kungekho kwethuswa langayiphi indlela yilabo abaliphikisayo. Lokhu kuyisibonakaliso kubo ukuthi bazachithwa, kodwa lina lizasindiswa nguNkulunkulu. ²⁹ Ngoba kunikelwe kini ngenxa kaKhristu kungasikukholwa kuye kuphela, kodwa lokumhluphekela, ³⁰ njengoba lilwisa hlupho lunye elabona ngilalo, lakhathesi liyezwa ukuba ngilokhu ngilalo.

2

Ukulingisela Ukuthobeka KukaKhristu

¹ Nxa kukhona okukhuthazayo ngokuhlangana loKhristu, nxa kulenduduzo evela ethandweni lwakhe,

nxa kulobudlelwano loMoya, nxa kulozwelo lesihawu,
² phelelisani intokozo yami ngokuba ngqondo nye,
 lilothando lunye, limunye emoyeni njalo linjongo yinye.
³ Lingenzi lutho ngokuzikhukhumeza loba ukuziphakamisa
 okuyize. Kodwa ngokuthobeka khangelani abanye
 njengabangcono kulani ⁴ lingazikhathaleli izifiso zenu
 lodwa kodwa likhathalele lezifiso zabanye.

⁵ Ekuphilisaneni kwenu, isimo sengqondo yenu kumele
 sifanane lesikaKhristu uJesu,

⁶ Yena okwathi ngemvelo enguNkulunkulu,
 kacabanganga ukulingana loNkulunkulu
 kuyilutho olungafinyelelwa,

⁷ kodwa wazithoba,
 wathatha isimo senceku,
 yena elesimo somuntu.

⁸ Wathi ebunjwe wabonakala njengomuntu,
 wazehlisa
 walalela kwaze kwaba sekufeni,
 ukufa kwasesiphambanweni!

⁹ Ngakho-ke, uNkulunkulu wamphakamisela endaweni
 ephezulu kakhulu,

wamnika ibizo elingaphezu kwamabizo wonke,

¹⁰ ukuba amadolo wonke aguqe ebizweni likaJesu,
 ezulwini lasemhlabeni kanye langaphansi komhlaba,

¹¹ lezindimi zonke zivume ukuthi uJesu Khristu uyiNkosi,
 kube ludumo lukaNkulunkulu uYise.

Ukucwebezela Njengezinkanyezi

¹² Ngakho-ke, bangane bami abathandekayo, njengoba
 lihlezi lilalela kungayisikho ukuthi ngikhona kuphela
 kodwa ikakhulu nxa ngingekho, qhubekani liseben-
 zela ukusindiswa kwenu ngokwesaba langokuthuthumela
¹³ ngoba nguNkulunkulu osebenzayo phakathi kwenu
 ukuba lifune njalo lenze okumthokozisayo.

¹⁴ Yenzani konke kungela kusola kumbe ukuphikisana
¹⁵ ukuze libe ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu abangelasici
 labahlambulukileyo, abamsulwa phakathi kwesizukulwane
 esonakeleyo lesixhwalileyo, lina elicwebezela phakathi
 kwaso liletha ukukhanya emhlabeni ¹⁶ ligadlela ilizwi
 lokuphila. Ngalokho ngizazincoma ngosuku lukaKhristu
 ukuthi kangigijimelanga kumbe ngasebenzela ize. ¹⁷ Kodwa
 lanxa ngithululwa njengomnikelo wokunathwa phezu
 komhlathshelo lenkonzo evela ekukholweni kwenu, ngiy-
 athaba ngithokoza lani lonke. ¹⁸ Ngakho-ke, lani njalo
 thabani lithokoze lami.

UThimothi Lo-Ephafrodithusi

¹⁹ Ngiyethemba eNkosini uJesu ukuba ngizathuma uThimothi kini masinyane ukuba lami ngithokoze lapho ngisamukela izindaba ngani. ²⁰ Kangilaye omunye onjengaye, othakazelela inhlalakahle yenu ngobuqotho. ²¹ Ngoba abantu bonke bazifunela okwabo, hatshi okukaJesu Khristu. ²² Kodwa lina liyakwazi ukuthi uThimothi usezifakazele ngoba njengendodana eloyise usesebenze lami emsebenzini wevangeli. ²³ Ngakho-ke, ngithemba ngizamthuma masinyane lapho sengibonile ukuba izinto zingihambela njani. ²⁴ Njalo ngiyathemba eNkosini ukuthi lami uqobo ngizakuza masinyane.

²⁵ Kodwa ngibona kufanele ukuthi ngimthume kini futhi u-Ephafrodithusi, umzalwane wami, obambisane lami umsebenzi lolibutho kanye lami, oyisithunywa senu futhi, elamthumayo ukuthi angisize ngendingeko zami. ²⁶ Ngoba uyalilangatha lonke njalo ukhathazekile njengoba lezwa ukuthi wayegula. ²⁷ Ngempela wayegula njalo waphose wafa. Kodwa uNkulunkulu waba lesihawu kuye, kungayisikho kuye kuphela kodwa lakimi ukuba angiphephise osizini phezu kosizi. ²⁸ Ngakho-ke, ngitshisekela kakhulu ukumthuma ukuze kuthi lapho limbona futhi lithokoze lami ngikhathazeke okunganeno. ²⁹ Mamukeleni eNkosini ngokuthokoza okukhulu njalo libahloniphe abantu abanjengaye ³⁰ ngoba waphosa wafela umsebenzi kaKhristu, wafaka impilo yakhe engozini ukuze angiphe usizo elingangiphanga lona.

3

Akulathemba Emzimbeni

¹ Okokucina, bazalwane, thokozani eNkosini! Akusihlupho kimi ukulilobela ngezinto ezifanayo futhi ngoba lokho kuyisivikelo kini. ² Qaphelani izinja lezo, abantu labo abenza okubi lalabo abalimaza umzimba. ³ Ngoba thina yithi abokusokwa, thina esikhonza uNkulunkulu ngoMoya wakhe, esiziqhenya ngoKhristu uJesu njalo esingabeki ithemba kokwenyama ⁴ lanxa nje mina ngokwami ngilezizatho zethemba elinjalo.

Nxa kulomuntu ocabanga ukuthi ulezizatho zokuthemba okwenyama, mina ngilezinengi: ⁵ ngasokwa ngosuku lwe-sificaminwembili, ngingowako-Israyeli, owesizwana sakoBhenjamini, umHebheru wamaHebheru; ngokomthetho, ngingumFarisi; ⁶ ngokutshiseka, ngahlukuluza ibandla; ngokulunga okugxile emthethweni, angilacala.

⁷ Kodwa loba kuyini okwakuyinzuzo kimi khathesi ngikubala njengokulahlekelwa ngenxa kaKhristu. ⁸ Phezu kwalokho, konke ngikubona kuyize lapho kulinganiswa lobukhulu obumangalisayo bokwazi uKhristu Jesu iNkosi yami esengilahlekelwe yizinto zonke ngenxa yakhe. Ngikubona kuyimfucuza ukuze ngizuze uKhristu ⁹ njalo ngitholakale kuye, ngingelakulunga okungokwami okuvelela emthethweni, kodwa lokho kungenxa yokukholwa kuKhristu, ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu njalo okungokukholwa. ¹⁰ Ngifuna ukumazi uKhristu lamandla okuvuka kwakhe ekufeni lobudlelwano bokuhlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kwakhe, ngibe njengaye ekufeni, ¹¹ ukuze ngenye indlela, ngithole ukuvuka kwabafileyo.

¹² Akusikuthi sengikuzuzile konke lokhu loba ukuthi sengiphelelisiwe kodwa ngilwisa ukuba ngibambe lokho uKhristu Jesu angibambela khona. ¹³ Bazalwane, angikazibali njengosekubambile lokho. Kodwa yinye into engiyenzayo, ngiyakukhohlwa okusemuva ngizama ngamandla ukufinyelela kokuphambili, ¹⁴ ngilwisa ukuthi ngiyefinyelela ekucineni ukuba ngithole umvuzo uNkulunkulu angibizela wona ezulwini ngoKhristu uJesu.

Ukulingisa Isibonelo SikaPhawuli

¹⁵ Sonke thina esesiphelele kumele sikhangele izinto ngengqondo enjalo. Nxa kokunye licabanga ngokwehlukileyo, lalokho uNkulunkulu uzakwenza kucace kini. ¹⁶ Kuphela nje kasiqhubekeni ngalokho esesikuzuzile.

¹⁷ Bazalwane, hlanganyelani labanye ekulandeleni isibonelo sami, libananzelele labo abaphila ngokwesibonelo esalitshengisa sona. ¹⁸ Ngoba, njengoba ngangihlala ngilitshela kuqala lakhathesi ngiyatsho futhi langezinyembezi ukuthi abanengi baphila njengezitha zesiphambano sikaKhristu. ¹⁹ Isiphetho sabo yikubhubha, unkulunkulu wabo yisisu sabo, lodumo lwabo lusehlazweni labo. Inggqondo yabo isezintweni zasemhlabeni. ²⁰ Kodwa elethu ikhaya lisezulwini. Njalo simlindele ngokutshiseka uMsindisi evela khonale, iNkosi uJesu Khristu, ²¹ yena okuzakuthi ngamandla amenza abeke izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe, uzaguqula imizimba yethu elesimo esiphansi ibe njengomzimba wakhe olenkazimulo.

4

Isicelo Sokuma Ngesibindi Lokubambana

¹ Ngakho-ke bazalwane bami, lina engilithandayo lengilikhumbulayo, liyintokozo yami lomqhele wami, kumele liqine kanjalo eNkosini bangane abathandekayo!

² Ngiyamncenga uYuwodiya loSintikhe ukuba bavumelane eNkosini. ³ Ngiyakucela mhlobo wami oqotho, siza abesifazane labo abasebenza lami kanzima ngenxa yevangeli, kanye loKlementi labanye engisebenza labo, abalamabizo abo asencwadini yokuphila.

Ukukhuthaza Kokucina

⁴ Thokozani eNkosini kokuphela. Ngiyatsho futhi ngithi: Thokozani! ⁵ Ukuthobeka kwenu kakubonakale kubo bonke. INkosi isiseduze. ⁶ Lingakhathazeki kodwa ngazo zonke izikhathi bikani izicelo zenu kuNkulunkulu ngokukhuleka, ngokuncenga langokubonga. ⁷ Ukuthula kukaNkulunkulu okudlula ukuqedisisa konke kuzabusa inhliziyu zenu lezingqondo zenu kuKhristu uJesu.

⁸ Okokucina bazalwane, konke okuliqiniso, lokulesithunzi, lokulungileyo, lokuhlambulukileyo, lokuhle, lokubukekayo, nxa ulutho luluhle kakhulu loba lubongeka, cabangani ngezinto ezinje. ⁹ Loba kuyini elikufundileyo loba elikwamukeleyo loba elikuzwileyo kuvela kimi, loba elikubonileyo kimi, kwenzeni. UNkulunkulu wokuthula uzakuba lani.

Ukubonga Izipho Zabo

¹⁰ Ngiyathokoza kakhulu eNkosini ngokuthi khathesi selize lavuselela ukungikhathalela kwenu. Impela kade likhathazeka kodwa lingelalo ithuba lokukubonakalisa. ¹¹ Kangitsho lokhu ngenxa yokuthi ngiyaswela ngoba sengafunda ukwaneliseka kuyo yonke imimo. ¹² Ngiyakwazi ukuba ukuswela kuyini njalo ngiyakwazi ukuba kuyini ukuba lokunengi. Sengafunda imfihlo yokwaneliseka kuzozonke izimo, langabe ngiyasutha loba ngilambile, loba ngilokunengi kumbe ngiswela. ¹³ Ngingazenza zonke izinto ngaye onginika amandla.

¹⁴ Kodwa kwakukuhle ukuthi lihlanganyele lami ekuhluphekeni kwami. ¹⁵ Phezu kwalokho, lina bantu baseFiliphi liyakwazi ukuthi ensukwini elaqala ngazo ukwazi ivangeli ngesikhathi ngisuka eMasedoniya, akukho lalinye ibandla elahlanganyela lami endabeni yokupha lokwamukela ngaphandle kwenu kuphela; ¹⁶ ngoba langesikhathi ngiseThesalonika langithumela usizo kanengi lapho ngidinga uncedo. ¹⁷ Akusikuthi ngifuna isipho kodwa ngifuna okuzakuba yinzuzo kini. ¹⁸ Sengamukele umvuzo ogcweleyo lodlulisileyo; ngiphiwe okwaneleyo njengoba khathesi sengamukele ku-Ephafrodithusi izipho elazithumelayo. Zingumnikelo wephunga elimnandi, umhlatshele owamukelekayo lothokozisa uNkulunkulu.

19 UNkulunkulu wami uzakugcwalisa konke ukuswela kwenu ngenkazimulo yenotho yakhe kuKhristu uJesu.

20 Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uBaba kuze kube nini lanini. Ameni.

Ukuvalelisa

21 Bingelelani bonke abangcwele abakuKhristu.

Abazalwane abalami bayalibingelela.

22 Abangcwele bonke bayalibingelela, ikakhulu labo abangabendlu kaKhesari.

23 Umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu kawube lomoya wenu.

Incwadi KaPhawuli KwabaseKholose

¹ UPhawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngentando kaNkulunkulu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu,

² Lakubazalwane abangcwele labathembekileyo kuKhristu abaseKholose:

Umusa lokuthula kakube kini kuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba wethu.

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

³ Sihlezi simbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu, uBaba weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, nxa silikhulekela, 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 njengebelikwenza phakathi kwenu kusukela nge-
langa elalizwa ngalo lawuqedisisa umusa kaNkulunkulu ngawo wonke amaqiniso alo. ⁷ Lalifundiswa ngu-Ephafrasi oyinceku ethandekayo, ongumfundisi 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 weNdo-dana 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.

2

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 lamamukela 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 kwabaflelo.

¹³ Ngesikhathi lifile ezonweni zenu lokungasoki kwemvelo yenu yesono, uNkulunkulu walenza laba ngabaphilayo kanye loKhristu. Wasithethelela zonke izono zethu ¹⁴ ngokwesula yonke imithetho elotshiwewo 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 izingilosu 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 njen-genhlananipho, ngenkonzo yazo yokuzenzela, ukuzithoba kwamanga lokuphatha umzimba kabuhlungu kodwa kazi-lalo usizo lokuzithiba ezinkanukweni zomzimba.

3

Imilayo Yokuphila Okungcwele

¹ Ngakho-ke njengoba livuswe kanye loKhristu, bekani inhliziyu zenu ezintweni eziphezulu lapho uKhristu ahlezi khona esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. ² Bekani ingqondo zenu ezintweni eziphezulu hatshi ezintweni zasemhlabeni. ³ Ngoba lafa, ukuphila kwenu khateshi 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 Laliyayele ukuhamba kulezizindlela empilweni elake layiphila. ⁸ Kodwa khateshi 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 lezin-goma zakoMoya, lihlabelele 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 bezinhliziyu langokuhlonipha iNkosi. ²³ Konke elikwenzayo kusebenzeni ngenhliziyu yenu yonke njengokusebenzela iNkosi hatshi abantu, ²⁴ njengoba lisazi ukuthi lizathola ilifa eNkosini njen-gomvuzo. YiNkosi uKhristu elimkhonzayo. ²⁵ Loba ngubani oyenza okubi uzaphindiselwa ngobubi bakhe njalo akula kubandlulula.

4

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-Ephafrasi ongomunye wenu lenceku kaKhristu uJesu uyalibingelela. Uhlezi elikhulekela kakhulu ukuba liqine kuyo yonke intando kaNkulunkulu liphelele njalo lithembibile. 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.

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yakuqala KwabaseThesalonika

¹ Uphawuli, uSayilasi kanye loThimothi,

Lebandleni labaseThesalonika abakuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu:

Umusa lokuthula kakube kini.

Ukubongela Ukholo LwabaseThesalonika

² Sihlala silibongela lonke kuNkulunkulu njalo silibeka emikhulekweni yethu. ³ Siyawukhumbula kokuphela phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu uBaba umsebenzi wenu ongenxa yokukholwa lokusebenza kwenu okufuqwa luthando kanye lokubekezela kwenu okuqiniswa yikwethemba eNkosini uJesu Khristu.

⁴ Bazalwane abathandwa nguNkulunkulu, siyakwazi ukuthi ulikhethile ⁵ ngoba ivangeli lethu lafika kini hatshi ngamazwi nje kuphela kodwa langamandla loMoya oNgcwele kanye lokukholwa okujulileyo. Liyakwazi ukuba sahlala njani phakathi kwenu ngenxa yenu. ⁶ Lina laba ngabasingisayo thina kanye leNkosi ngoba lalamukela ilizwi esikhathini esinzima ngokuthokoza okuvela kuMoya oNgcwele. ⁷ Ngakho-ke, laba yisibonelo kuwo wonke amakholwa eMasedoniya kanye le-Akhayiya. ⁸ Ilizwi leNkosi lezwakala livela kini hatshi eMasedoniya lase-Akhayiya kuphela kodwa ukukholwa kwenu kuNkulunkulu sekusaziwa ezindaweni zonke. Ngakho-ke, akudingeki ukuba sikhulume ngakho ⁹ ngoba bona ngokwabo bayabika ukuthi lasamukela njani. Bayatsho ngokuphendukela kwenu kuNkulunkulu lidela ukukhonza izithombe ukuba likhonze uNkulunkulu ophilayo loqotho ¹⁰ lilindele leNdo-dana yakhe evela ezulwini, ayivusayo kwabafuleyo, uJesu osihlenga elakeni oluzayo.

2

Inkonzo KaPhawuli KwabaseThesalonika

¹ Liyakwazi bazalwane ukuthi ukuza kwethu kini akubanga liphutha. ² Sike sahlupheka ngaphambili njalo sathukwa eFiliphi njengoba lisazi kodwa ngosizo lukaNkulunkulu wethu saba lesibindi sokulitshela ivangeli lakhe lanxa nje kwakulobunzima obukhulu. ³ Ngoba isicelo

esisenzayo kasiveli ekuphosiseni loba enjongweni engcolileyo njalo kasizami kulikhohlisa. ⁴ Kodwa sikhuluma njengabantu abavunywe nguNkulunkulu ukuba siphathiswe ivangeli. Kasizami kuthokozisa abantu kodwa uNkulunkulu, yena ohlola inhliziyo zethu. ⁵ Liyakwazi ukuthi kasizange sisebenzise inkohliso loba isisitho ukuba sifihle ubuhwaba njalo uNkulunkulu ungufakazi wethu. ⁶ Kasifuni dumo oluvela ebantwini loba kini kumbe omunye laye.

Njengabapostoli bakaKhristu sasingaba ngumthwalo kini ⁷ kodwa saba mnene kini njengomama esondla abantwana bakhe abancinyane. ⁸ Salithanda kakhulu, sathokoza ukuhlanganyela lani kungayisikho evangelini likaNkulunkulu kuphela kodwa lasekuphileni kwethu ngoba lina laselithandeka kakhulu kithi. ⁹ Impela liyakhumbula bazalwane, ukusebenza nzima lokuhlupheka kwethu; sasebenza ebusuku lemini ukuze singabi ngumthwalo lakubani lapho sitshumayela ivangeli likaNkulunkulu kini. ¹⁰ Lingofakazi kanye loNkulunkulu bokuthi sasingcwele, silungile njalo singasoleki phakathi kwenu lina elalikholwa. ¹¹ Ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi ngamunye wenu saliphatha njengobaba ephatha abantwana bakhe, ¹² siliqinisa, siliduduza kanye lokulikhuthaza ukuthi liphile impilo efanele uNkulunkulu yena olibizela embusweni wakhe lasenkazimulweni.

¹³ Njalo uNkulunkulu siyambonga kokuphela ngoba ekwamukeleni kwenu ilizwi likaNkulunkulu elalizwa ngathi, lalamukela hatshi njengelizwi labantu kodwa njengoba linjalo impela, ilizwi likaNkulunkulu, elisebenzayo kini lina abakholwayo. ¹⁴ Ngoba lina bazalwane laba ngabalingisi bamabandla kaNkulunkulu eJudiya akuKhristu uJesu; abantu belizwe lakini balihluphela izinto ezifana lalezo amabandla lawo azihlutshelwa ngamaJuda, ¹⁵ abulala iNkosi uJesu labaphrofethi, thina asixotsha. Ayamdabukisa uNkulunkulu njalo ayizitha zabantu bonke ¹⁶ ekuzameni kwawo ukusingqabela ukukhuluma labeZizweni ukuba basindiswe. Ngalokho-ke, bandisa izono zabo kakhulu. Ulaka lukaNkulunkulu seluze lwehlela phezu kwabo.

UPhawuli Ulangazelela Ukubona AbaseThesalonika

¹⁷ Kodwa-ke, bazalwane, ekuhlukanisweni kwethu kini okwesikhatshana (uqobo lwethu, hatshi umcabango), kwathi ngokulangazelela okukhulu senza imizamo yonke ukuba silibone. ¹⁸ Ngoba sasifuna ukuza kini, impela mina Phawuli ngazama kanengi kodwa uSathane wasivimbela. ¹⁹ Ngoba liyini ithemba lethu, intokozo yethu loba umqhele

esizazincoma ngawo phambi kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ekufikeni kwakhe na? Akusini na? ²⁰ Ngempela lina liludumo lwethu lentokoza yethu.

3

¹ Ngakho-ke, kwathi singasanelisi ukukumela sabona kungcono ukuba sisale sodwa e-Athene. ² Sathuma uThimothi ongumzalwane wethu lesisebenzi kanye lathi kuNkulunkulu ekutshumayeleni ivangeli likaKhristu, ukuliqinisa lokulikhuthaza ekukholweni kwenu ³ ukuze angabikhona ongayikuhlaliseka ngenxa yalezizilingo. Liyakwazi kakuhle ukuthi samiselwa zona. ⁴ Ngeqiniso, siseselani sasihlala silitshela ukuthi sizahlukuluzwa. Kwabanjalo njengoba lisazi kakuhle. ⁵ Ngenxa yalokhu, kwathi ngingasanelisi ukukumela ngathumela ukuba ngazi ngokholo lwenu. Ngangisesaba ukuthi engxenye umlingi uselilingile lemizamo yethu kayisizanga.

Umbiko KaThimothi Okhuthazayo

⁶ Kodwa uThimothi usanda kufika kithi khathesi evela kini njalo ulethe izindaba ezinhle ngokholo lwenu kanye lothando lwenu. Usitshele ukuthi lihlala lilemikhumbulo emihle ngathi kanye lokuthi lifisa ukusibona njengoba lathi sifisa ukulibona. ⁷ Ngakho bazalwane, kulolonke usizi lwethu kanye lokuhlukuluzwa kwethu, sakhuthazeka ngani ngenxa yokukholwa kwenu. ⁸ Ngoba khathesi sesiphila ngempela, njengoba liqinile eNkosini. ⁹ Singalibongela njani ngokwaneleyo kuNkulunkulu sibuyisela yonke intokozo esilayo phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu ngenxa yenu na? ¹⁰ Ebusuku lemini siyakhuleka ngokuzimisela ukuba silibone futhi silinike okusilelayo ekukholweni kwenu.

¹¹ Sengathi uNkulunkulu wethu loBaba uqobo kanye leNkosi yethu uJesu angasivulela indlela yokuza kini. ¹² Sengathi iNkosi ingandisa uthando lwenu kuthi olomunye lomunye luphumelele komunye kanye lasemuntwini wonke njengokwenziwa ngolwethu kini. ¹³ Kaziqinise inhliziyo zenu ukuze lingasoleki njalo libengcwele phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu loBaba ekufikeni kweNkosi yethu uJesu labangcwele bayo bonke.

4

Ukuphilela Ukuthokozisa UNkulunkulu

¹ Okokucina bazalwane, salifundisa ukuba liphile njani ukuze limthokozise uNkulunkulu njengoba impela liphila. Siyalicela njalo silincenga ngeNkosi uJesu ukuba lokhu

likwenze kokuphela. ² Liyayazi imilayo esalinika yona ngokulaya kweNkosi uJesu.

³ Kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ukuba libengcwele: ukuba lixwaye ukuhlobonga; ⁴ ukuba omunye lomunye wenu afunde ukuthiba umzimba wakhe ngendlela engcwele lehloniphekayo ⁵ hatshi ngomfutho wenkanuko njengabezizweni abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu. ⁶ Njalo kulokhu akukho okumele onele umzalwane wakhe kumbe amzuzele khonapho ekuthini ngumzalwane. INkosi izabajezisa bonke abenza izono ezinje njengoba sesavela salitshela njalo salixwayisa ngazo. ⁷ Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasibizelanga ukuba sibe ngabangcolileyo kodwa ukuba siphile impilo engcwele. ⁸ Ngakho-ke, lowo owalayo umlayo lo kalimuntu kodwa uNkulunkulu, yena olinika uMoya wakhe oNgcwele.

⁹ Mayelana lothando lobuzalwane, akudingeki ukuba sililobele ngoba lina uqobo lafundiswa nguNkulunkulu ukuba lithandane. ¹⁰ Njalo ngempela, liyabathanda abazalwane bonke kulolonke elaseMasedoniya. Kodwa siyalincenga bazalwane ukuthi lenzenjalo kokuphela. ¹¹ Akube yisifiso senu ukuphila impilo yokuthula lokukhathalela umsebenzi wenu kanye lokusebenza ngezandla zenu njen-goba salitshela ¹² ukuze ukuphila kwenu kwansukuzonke kubukwe ngabangaphandle njalo lingathembeli komunye umuntu.

Ukuza KweNkosi

¹³ Bazalwane, kasifuni ukuba libe ngabangaziyo ngalabo abalalayo loba lidabuke njengabanye abantu abangelalo ithemba. ¹⁴ Siyakholwa ukuthi uJesu wafa wabuya wavuka njalo ngalokho siyakholwa ukuthi uNkulunkulu uzabavusa kanye loJesu labo asebelele kuye. ¹⁵ Ngelizwi leNkosi siyalitshela ukuthi thina esisaphila, esasalayo iNkosi ize ifike, kasiyikubaqalela impela labo asebelele. ¹⁶ Ngoba iNkosi uqobo izakwehla ivela ezulwini ngelizwi elikhulu, ngelizwi lengilosi enkulu langokumemeza kwe-cilongo likaNkulunkulu, kuthi abafileyo kuKhristu bavuke kuqala. ¹⁷ Emva kwalokho, thina esisaphila njalo sisele sizahlwithwa kanye labo emayezini ukuba sihlangabeze iNkosi emoyeni. Ngakho sizahlala leNkosi kuze kube ninini. ¹⁸ Ngakho-ke, khuthazanani ngala amazwi.

5

Usuku LweNkosi

¹ Bazalwane, mayelana lezikhathi lezinsuku akudingeki ukuba sililobele ² ngoba likwazi kahle ukuthi usuku lweNkosi luzafika njengesela ebusuku. ³ Abantu besathi,

“Ukuthula lokuvikeleka,” incithakalo izakwehlela phezu kwabo ngokujuma njengomhelo kowesifazane ozithweleyo njalo kabayikuphunyuka.

⁴ Kodwa lina bazalwane, kalikho emnyameni ukuba lolusuku lulijume njengesela. ⁵ Lonke lingamadodana okukhanya lamadodana emini. Kasisibo bobusuku loba abobumnyama. ⁶ Ngakho-ke, kasingafani labanye abaleleyo kodwa kasiphaphameni njalo sizithibe. ⁷ Ngoba labo abalalayo balala ebusuku, lalabo abadakwayo badakwa ebusuku. ⁸ Kodwa njengoba singabemini, kasizithibeni, sembathe ukukholwa lothando njengesihlangu sesifuba, lethemba lokusindiswa njengengowane. ⁹ Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasimiselanga ulaka kodwa ukuba sithole ukusindiswa ngeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. ¹⁰ Wasifela ukuze loba sikhangele kumbe silele, siphile laye. ¹¹ Ngakho-ke, qinisanani njalo lakhane njengoba likwenza.

Iziqondiso Zokucina

¹² Siyalicela bazalwane, ukuba libahloniphe labo abasebenza nzima phakathi kwenu, abalikhathalelayo eNkosini njalo beliqondisa futhi. ¹³ Bahlonipheni kakhulu ngothando ngenxa yomsebenzi wabo. Hlalianani ngokuthula. ¹⁴ Njalo siyalincenga bazalwane, baxwayiseni labo abangamavila, likhuthaze abadele inhliziyi, lize ababuthakathaka njalo libekezelele umuntu wonke. ¹⁵ Qaphelani kungabikhona ophindisela okubi ngokubi kodwa lihlale lizama ukwenzelana okuhle kanye lakwabanye abantu.

¹⁶ Thokozani kokuphela, ¹⁷ likhuleke kokuphela ¹⁸ njalo libonge konke okulehlayo ngoba lokhu kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ngani kuKhristu uJesu.

¹⁹ Lingawucitshi umlilo kaMoya; ²⁰ lingazeyisi iziphrofethi ²¹ kodwa zihloleni zonke; libambebele kokulungileyo, ²² lixwaye konke okubi.

²³ Sengathi uNkulunkulu uqobo, uNkulunkulu wokuthula angalenza libengcwele ngokupheleleyo. Sengathi umoya wenu wonke lomphfumulo kanye lomzimba kungalondolozwa kungelasici ekufikeni kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. ²⁴ Lowo olibizayo uthembekile njalo uzakukwenza lokho.

²⁵ Lisikhulekele bazalwane.

²⁶ Bingelelani abazalwane bonke ngokwangana okungcwele.

²⁷ Ngiyalilaya phambi kweNkosi ukuba incwadi le ibalelwe abazalwane bonke.

²⁸ Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kawube lani.

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yesibili KwabaseThesalonika

¹ Uphawuli, loSayilasi kanye loThimothi,

Lebandleni leThesalonika kuNkulunkulu uBaba
laseNkosini uJesu Khristu:

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

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

³ Kumele sibonge uNkulunkulu kokuphela ngenxa yenu bazalwane njengoba kufanele ngoba ukholo lwenu lukhula kokuphela lothando elilalo komunye lomunye wenu luyanda. ⁴ Ngakho-ke, phakathi kwamabandla kaNkulunkulu thina siyazincoma ngokuqiniseka kwenu lokukholwa phakathi kwakho konke lokhu ukuhlukuluzwa kanye lokuhlupheka elikubekezelelayo.

⁵ Konke lokhu kuyibufakazi bokuthi ukwahlulela kukaNkulunkulu kulungile njalo lizabalwa njengabafanele umbuso kaNkulunkulu eliwuhluphekelayo. ⁶ UNkulunkulu ulungile: Uzaphindiseka inhlupho kulabo abalihluphayo, ⁷ alinike kanye lathi ukuhlaliseka lina elihlutshwayo. Lokhu kuzakwenzakala lapho iNkosi uJesu isibonakaliswa ezulwini phakathi komlilo ovuthayo ilezingilosi zayo ezilamandla. ⁸ Izabajezisa labo abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu labangalilaleliyo ivangeli leNkosi yethu uJesu. ⁹ Bazajeziswa ngokubhujiswa okulaphakade, bavalelwe ngaphandle kobukhona beNkosi lasenkazimulweni yamandla ayo ¹⁰ ngosuku ezafika ngalo ukuba idunyiswe ngabantu bayo abangcwele lokuba ibatshazwe phakathi kwabo bonke abakhulwayo. Lokhu kugoqela lani ngoba labukholwa ubufakazi bethu kini.

¹¹ Nxa sikhumbula lokhu, sihlala silikhulekela kokuphela ukuthi uNkulunkulu wethu alibale njengabafanele ukubizwa nguye njalo kuthi ngamandla akhe afeze injongo yenu elungileyo lakho konke ukwenza kwenu okuthunganyelwa yikukholwa kwenu. ¹² Sikhulekela lokhu ukuze ibizo leNkosi yethu uJesu lidunyiswe kini, lani kuyo, ngokomusa kaNkulunkulu wethu loweNkosi uJesu Khristu.

2

Umuntu Ongelamthetho

¹ Mayelana lokuza kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu lokubuthana kwethu kuyo, siyalicela bazalwane ² ukuthi lingaphangi likhathazeke kumbe lethuswe ngeyinye imfundiso loba isiphrofethi kumbe ilizwi eliphuma emlonyeni loba incwadi okungathiwa ivela kithi kuthiwa usuku lweNkosi selufikile. ³ Lingavumeli muntu elikhohlisa langayiphi indlela ngoba lolosuku kaluyikufika umvukela uze wenzakale, lomuntu ongelamthetho abonakaliswe yena omiselwe ukubhujiswa. ⁴ Uzaphikisa, azikhukhumeze ezintweni zonke ezibiza uNkulunkulu loba ezikhonzwayo, aze azihlalise ethempelini likaNkulunkulu, amemezele ukuthi yena unguNkulunkulu.

⁵ Kalisakhumbuli yini ukuthi ngisesekini ngangijayele ukulitshela izinto lezi? ⁶ Khathesi selikwazi okumvimbelayo ukuze abonakaliswe ngesikhathi esifaneleyo. ⁷ Ngoba amandla afihlakeleyo okungabi lamthetho asesebenza kodwa lowo owavimbelayo khathesi uzaqhubeka esenza njalo aze asuswe endleleni. ⁸ Lapho-ke, lowo ongelamthetho uzabonakaliswa, lowo iNkosi uJesu ezamchitha ngomoya womlomo wayo, imqede ngenkazimulo yokufika kwayo. ⁹ Ukufika kwalowo ongelamthetho kuzakuya ngendlela yemisebenzi kaSathane. Uzasebenzisa inhlobo zonke zokubonakalisa amandla ngezibonakaliso lezimanga zamanga ¹⁰ kanye lezinhlobo zonke zobubi obukhohlisa ababhubhayo. Babhubha ngoba bala ukuthanda iqiniso ukuba basindiswe. ¹¹ Ngenxa yalokhu, uNkulunkulu ubehlisela inkohliso elamandla ukuba bakholwe amanga ¹² ukuze balahlwe bonke abangalikhholwanga iqiniso kodwa bathokoziswa yibubi.

Qinani

¹³ Kodwa kufanele sibonge uNkulunkulu kokuphela ngenxa yenu, bazalwane abathandwa yiNkosi, ngoba uNkulunkulu walikhetha kusukela ekuqaleni ukuba lisindiswe ngomsebenzi ongcwele kaMoya langokukholwa eqinisweni. ¹⁴ Walibizela kulokhu ngevangeli lethu ukuze lihlanganye enkazimulweni yeNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu.

¹⁵ Ngakho-ke bazalwane, qinani libambebele ezifundweni esalinika zona, kungaba ngelizwi lomlomo loba ngencwadi.

¹⁶ Sengathi iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu uqobo kanye loNkulunkulu uBaba owasithandayo kwathi ngomusa wakhe wasinika induduzo engapheliyo lethemba elihle

17 angakhuthaza inhliziyo zenu njalo aliqinise kuzozonke izenzo ezinhle lasemazwini amahle.

3

Ukucela Umkhuleko

1 Okokucina bazalwane, sikhulekeleni ukuba ilizwi leNkosi liqhubeke ngokuphangisa njalo lihlonitshwe njen-galokhu okwenzeka kini. 2 Khulekani njalo ukuba sikhu-lulwe ebantwini abaxhwalileyo lababi ngoba akusimuntu wonke okholwayo. 3 Kodwa iNkosi ithembekile, izaliqinisa ilivikele komubi. 4 Silethemba eNkosini ukuba lenza izinto esalilaya zona njalo lizaqhubeka lizenza. 5 Sengathi iNkosi ingaqondisa inhliziyo zenu ethandweni lukaNkulunkulu lasekubekeleni kukaKhristu.

Isixwayiso Ngokuvilapha

6 Ebizweni leNkosi uJesu Khristu, siyalilaya bazalwane ukuba libaxwaye bonke abazalwane abangamavila, aban-gaphili ngokwemfundiso elayamukela kithi. 7 Ngoba lina ngokwenu liyakwazi ukuba kufanele lisilandele njani isibonelo sethu. Sasingavilaphi lapho siseselani 8 njalo kasidlanga kudla komuntu singakuhlulwulelanga. Kodwa sasebenza ebusuku lemini, sisebenza nzima njalo sitshikat-shika ukuze singabi ngumthwalo lakubani phakathi kwenu. 9 Lokhu sakwenza kungayisikho ukuthi kasilalungelo losizo olunjalo kodwa ukuba sizenze sibe yisibonelo kini ukuba lisilandele. 10 Ngoba langesikhathi silani salinika umlayo othi: "Nxa umuntu engafuni ukusebenza, kangadli."

11 Sizwa kuthiwa abanye phakathi kwenu bayavilapha. Kabenzi lutho, bangenela izindaba zabanye. 12 Ebizweni leNkosi uJesu Khristu, siyabalaya njalo sibakhuthaza abantu abanjalo ukuba bazimisele, basebenzele ukudla abakudlayo. 13 Lina bazalwane, lingadinwa yikwenza okuhle.

14 Qaphelani iloba ngubani ongalaleli imilayo yethu ekule incwadi. Lingadlalani laye ukuze ayangeke. 15 Lingamthathi njengesitha kodwa mxwayiseni njen-gomzalwane.

Ukuvalelisa

16 Sengathi iNkosi yokuthula uqobo ingalinika ukuthula ngezikhathi zonke njalo ngezindlela zonke. INkosi kayibe lani lonke.

¹⁷ Mina Phawuli ngiloba ukuvalelisa lokhu ngesami isandla, okuyilo uphawu oluphawulayo kuzozonke izincwadi zami. Ngiloba kanje.

¹⁸ Umusa weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kawube lani lonke.

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yakuqala KuThimothi

1 Mina Phawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngokulaya kukaNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu lokukaKhristu uJesu ithemba lethu,

2 KuThimothi indodana yami eqotho ekukholweni ngithi:

Umusa lesihawu kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu kakube kuwe.

Isixwayiso Ngabafundisi Bomthetho Abafundisa Inkohliso

3 Njengoba ngakukhuthaza ekuyeni kwami eMasedoniya, hlala khonapho e-Efesu ukuze ulaye abantu abathile ukuba bangafundisi imfundiso yamanga futhi ⁴ loba ukuchitha isikhathi ngezinganekwane langezimballi zensendo ezin-gapheliyo. Lokhu kubanga ukuphikisana hatshi umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu wokukholwa. ⁵ Inhloso yalo umlayo luthando oluvela enhliziyweni emhlophe, lesazela esihle lokholo oluqotho. ⁶ Abanye sebedukile kulokhu baphendukela ekukhulumeni okuyize. ⁷ Bafuna ukuba ngabafundisi bomthetho kodwa kabakwazi abakhuluma ngakho loba lokhu abakuqinisa kangaka ngesibindi.

⁸ Siyakwazi ukuthi umthetho ulungile nxa umuntu ewusebenzisa kuhle. ⁹ Siyakwazi lokuthi umthetho kawenzelwanga abantu abalungileyo kodwa wenzelwa abeqa imithetho labahlamuki, abangamaziyo uNkulunkulu labayizoni, abangalunganga labangakholwayo; wenzelwa ababulala oyise labonina, lababulali, ¹⁰ lezifebe, izitabane, abathengisa izigqili labaqamba amanga kanye labafakazela amanga kanye lokunye okuphambene lemfundiso eqotho ¹¹ evumelana levangeli elilenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu obu-sisekileyo, enginika lona.

Umusa weNkosi KuPhawuli

¹² Ngiyambonga uKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu onginike amandla, wangibona ngithembekile njalo wangibeka emsebenzini wakhe. ¹³ Lanxa ngake ngaba ngumhlambazi, lomhlukuluzi, lesidlwangudlwangu, ngenzelwa isihawu ngoba ngakwenza ngokungazi langokungakholwa. ¹⁴ Umusa weNkosi wathululelwa phezu kwami ngokwanda okukhulu, ndawonye lokukholwa kanye lothando olukuKhristu uJesu.

¹⁵ Nansi isitsho esiqotho esifanele ukwamukelwa esithi: UKhristu uJesu weza emhlabeni ukuba asindise izoni, mina ngingesibi kakhulu kulazo. ¹⁶ Kodwa ngenxa yalesosizatho ngenzelwa isihawu ukuze kuthi ngami isoni esibi kakhulu uJesu Khristu abonakalise ukubekezela kwakhe okungelamkhawulo njengesibonelo kulabo abakholwa kuye bamukele lokuphila okungapheliyo. ¹⁷ Manje kuyo iNkosi yaphakade engafiyo, engabonakaliyo, uNkulunkulu yedwa, udumo lenkazimulo akube kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Ameni.

Icala LikaThimothi Liyavuselelwa

¹⁸ Thimothi ndodana yami, ngikunika umlayo lo ekulondolozeni iziphrofethi ezake zenziwa ngawe ukuze uthi ngokuzikhumbula ulwe ukulwa okuhle, ¹⁹ ubambebele ekukholweni lesazeleni esihle. Abanye bakwalile lokhu, ngakho-ke, babhidliza ukukholwa kwabo. ²⁰ Phakathi kwabo kuloHimeniyasi lo-Alekizanda esengibanikele kuSathane ukuba bafundiswe ukungahlambazi uNkulunkulu.

2

Imilayo Ngokukhonza

¹ Ngakho-ke, phezu kwakho konke ngiyakhuthaza ukuba izicelo, lemikhuleko, lokukhulekela abanye kanye lokubonga kwenzelwe abantu bonke, ² amakhosi labo bonke abaphethe amandla ukuze sihlale ngokuthula empilweni enhle kukho konke ukumesaba uNkulunkulu lobungwele. ³ Lokhu kuhle njalo kuyamthokozisa uNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu ⁴ ofuna ukuba abantu bonke basindiswe njalo balazi iqiniso. ⁵ Ngoba uNkulunkulu munye njalo lomeli munye phakathi kukaNkulunkulu labantu, umuntu uKhristu Jesu, ⁶ owazinikela njengenhlawulo yabantu bonke, ubufakazi obanikwa ngesikhathi sabo esifaneleyo. ⁷ Ngenxa yalokhu mina ngakhethelwa ukuba ngumanduleli lompostoli njalo ngikhuluma iqiniso kangiqambi manga kanye lomfundisi wokholo oluqotho kwabeZizweni.

⁸ Ngakho ngifuna amadoda ezindaweni zonke aphakamise izandla zawo ezingcwele ekhuleka kungela kuthukuthela kumbe ukuphikisana. ⁹ Ngifuna ukuba abesifazane bagqoke ngokuzothileyo, okuhle lokufaneleyo, kungabi ngenwele ezelukiweyo loba igolide loba amangqongqo loba izigqoko ezidulayo ¹⁰ kodwa ngezenzo ezinhle ezifanele abesifazane abathi bayamkhonza uNkulunkulu.

¹¹ Owesifazane kumele afunde ethule langokuzithoba okupheleleyo. ¹² Kangivumeli ukuba owesifazane afundise loba ukuba lamandla phezu kowesilisa; kumele athule. ¹³ Ngoba u-Adamu wabunjwa kuqala; kwalandela u-Eva. ¹⁴ Njalo u-Adamu kasuye owakhohliswayo; ngowesifazane owakhohliswayo wasesiba yisoni. ¹⁵ Kodwa abesifazane bazasindiswa ngokuzala abantwana nxa beqhubeka ngokukholwa, ngothando kanye lobungcwele ngokufaneleyo.

3

Abathungameli Lamadikoni

¹ Nansi isitsho esiqotho esithi: Lowo ofuna ukuba ngumthungameli ufisa umsebenzi olesithunzi. ² Umthungameli akumelanga abengosolekayo njalo kumele abeyindoda elomfazi oyedwa, ezithibayo, elamandla okuzibamba, ehloniphekayo, ephatha kuhle izihambi, eyenelisa ukufundisa, ³ engayisiso sidakwa, engeladlakela kodwa emnene, engathandi ingxabano, engathandi imali. ⁴ Kayibe ngephatha kuhle umuzi wayo njalo ibone ukuba abantwana bayo bayayilalela ngenhlonipho efaneleyo. ⁵ (Nxa umuntu engakwazi ukuphatha umuzi wakhe angaliphatha njani ibandla likaNkulunkulu na?) ⁶ Akumelanga kube ngosanda kuphenduka hlezi azikhukhumeze abe ngaphansi kokwahlulelwa kunye loSathane. ⁷ Njalo kumele abe ngodume ngokuhle kwabangaphandle ukuze angaweli ehlazweni lasemjibileni kaSathane.

⁸ Ngokunjalo, amadikoni lawo kumele kube ngabantu abahloniphekayo, abaqotho, abanganathi iwayini elinengi, abangadingi inzuzo ngobuqili. ⁹ Kumele babambelele eqinisweni elizikileyo kanye lasekukholweni ngesazela esihlanzekileyo. ¹⁰ Kumele baqale bahlolwe; nxa kungekho lutho olubi ngabo, kabasebenze njengamadikoni.

¹¹ Ngokunjalo, labomkabo kumele babe ngabesifazane abahloniphekayo, abangahlebiyo kodwa abazithibayo labathembekileyo ezintweni zonke.

¹² Umdikoni kabe lomfazi oyedwa kuphela njalo ophatha kuhle abantwana bakhe kanye labendlu yakhe. ¹³ Labo abasebenze kuhle bazusa isithunzi lesithembiso esikhulu ekukholweni kwabo kuKhristu uJesu.

Izizatho Zeziqondiso ZikaPhawuli

¹⁴ Lanxa ngikhangelele ukuza kuwe masinyane, ngikulobela iziqondiso lezi ukuze kuthi ¹⁵ nxa ngibambeka, ukwazi ukuthi abantu kumele baziphathe njani endlini

kaNkulunkulu elibandla likaNkulunkulu ophilayo, insika lesisekelo seqiniso. ¹⁶ Kungekho kuthandabuza imfihlakalo yokwesaba uNkulunkulu inkulu:

Wabonakaliswa emzimbeni,
wafakazelwa nguMoya,
wabonwa yizingilosi,
watshunyayelwa phakathi kwezizwe,
umhlaba wakholwa kuye,
wenyukiselwa phezulu ngenkazimulo.

4

Iziqondiso KuThimothi

¹ Umoya utsho ngokucacileyo ukuthi ngezikhathi zokucina abanye bazalahla ukukholwa balandele imimoya ekhohlisayo lezinto ezifundiswa ngamadimoni.

² Ukufundisa okunjalo kuza labaqambi bamanga abangabazenzisi abalezazela ezingathi zahaqazwa ngensimbi etshisayo. ³ Balela abantu ukuba bathathane njalo babalaye ukuba bazile ukudla okuthize, uNkulunkulu akudalela ukuthi kwamukelwe ngokubonga yilabo abakholwayo labalaziyo iqiniso. ⁴ Ngoba konke uNkulunkulu akudalayo kulungile njalo akulalutho okumele lulahlwe nxa lusamukelwa ngokubonga ⁵ ngoba kungcweliswa yilizwi likaNkulunkulu lomkhuleko.

⁶ Nxa lezizinto uziphawula kubazalwane, uzakuba ngumfundisi omuhle kaKhristu uJesu, owondliwe phakathi kwamaqiniso okukholwa lemfundiso enhle oyilandelayo.

⁷ Ungazinaki izinganekwane ezikhohlakeleyo kanye lezindaba eziyize kodwa wena zifundise ukumesaba uNkulunkulu. ⁸ Ngoba imisebenzi yokuqinisa umzimba ilosizo oluthile kodwa ukwesaba uNkulunkulu kulosizo ezintweni zonke, kulesithembiso ekuphileni kwakhathesi lasekuphileni okuzayo. ⁹ Lesi yisitsho esiqotho okumele samukelwe ngokupheleleyo ¹⁰ njalo lokhu siyakusebenzela sikutshikatshikele ngoba ithemba lethu silibeke kuNkulunkulu ophilayo, onguMsindisi wabantu bonke, ikakhulu owalabo abakholwayo.

¹¹ Laya njalo ufundise ngalezizinto. ¹² Ungavumeli muntu ukuba akweyise ngenxa yokuthi usasemutsha kodwa woba yisibonelo kwabakholwayo ngokukhuluma, ngokuphila, ngothando, ngokukholwa kanye langokuhlambuluka. ¹³ Zinikele ekufundeleni uzulu imibhalo, ekutshumayeleni kanye lasekufundiseni ngize ngifike. ¹⁴ Ungasideli isipho sakho owasiphiwa ngelizwi lesiphrofethi ngesikhathi ibandla labadala libeka izandla zalo phezu kwakho.

¹¹ Laya njalo ufundise ngalezizinto. ¹² Ungavumeli muntu ukuba akweyise ngenxa yokuthi usasemutsha kodwa woba yisibonelo kwabakholwayo ngokukhuluma, ngokuphila, ngothando, ngokukholwa kanye langokuhlambuluka. ¹³ Zinikele ekufundeleni uzulu imibhalo, ekutshumayeleni kanye lasekufundiseni ngize ngifike. ¹⁴ Ungasideli isipho sakho owasiphiwa ngelizwi lesiphrofethi ngesikhathi ibandla labadala libeka izandla zalo phezu kwakho.

¹⁵ Khuthalela izinto lezi; zinikele ngokupheleleyo kuzo ukuze umuntu wonke abone ukuqhubeka kwakho. ¹⁶ Qaphela kakhulu ukuphila kwakho kanye lemfundiso. Bamelela kuzo ngoba nxa usenza njalo uzazisindisa wena ngokwakho kanye labakuzwayo.

5

Izeluleko Ngabafelokazi Labadala Kanye Lezigqili

¹ Ungamkhuzi ngolaka umuntu omdala kodwa mncenge ngokungathi nguyihlo. Amajaha aphanthe njengabafowenu, ² abesifazane abadala njengonyoko, abesifazane abatsha njengodadewenu ngokuhlambuluka okupheleleyo.

³ Woba lonanzelelo olufaneleyo kubafelokazi abasweelayo kakhulu. ⁴ Kodwa nxa umfelokazi elabantwana kumbe abazukulu, kumele bafunde kuqala kulakho konke ukusebenzisa ukholo lwabo ngokukhathalela abendlu yakwabo langokusiza abazali babo labazali babazali babo ngoba lokhu kuyamthokozisa uNkulunkulu. ⁵ Umfelokazi oswelayo kakhulu njalo esele eyedwa ubeka ithemba lakhe kuNkulunkulu njalo uqhubeka ebusuku lemini ekhuleka ecela usizo kuNkulunkulu. ⁶ Kodwa umfelokazi ophilela intokozo ufile lanxa esaphila. ⁷ Banike labo abantu izeluleko lezi ukuze angabikhona ongasoleka. ⁸ Nxa umuntu enganakekeli izihlobo zakhe ikakhulu abendlu yakwabo, uselulahlile ukholo lwakhe njalo mubi kakhulu kulongakholwayo.

⁹ Akulamfelokazi ozabekwa eluhlwini lwabafelokazi ngaphandle kokuba eseleminyaka edlula engamatshumi ayisithupha, obengokade ethembekile kumkakhe ¹⁰ njalo edumile ngezenzo zakhe ezinhle, ezinjengokondla abantwana, lokuphatha kuhle izihambi, lokugezisa inyawo zabanqwele, lokusiza abahluphekayo kanye lokuzinikela kuzozonke izenzo ezinhle.

¹¹ Abafelokazi abasesebatsha ungababeki eluhlwini olunjalo. Ngoba lapho izinkanuko zabo zomzimba sezikhulela ukuzinikela kwabo kuKhristu bafuna ukwenda. ¹² Ngalokho-ke, bazilethela ukwahlulelwa phezu kwabo ngoba bephule isithembiso sabo sokuqala. ¹³ Langaphandle kwalokho, basuka babe lomkhuba wokuvilapha batshone benquma ngemizi. Njalo kababi ngamavila nje kuphela kodwa bangabanyeyayo labathandi bezindaba zabanye besitsho izinto okungafanelanga bazitsho. ¹⁴ Ngakho, abafelokazi abasesebatsha ngibacebisa ukuba bende, babelabantwana, baphathe izindlu zabo njalo banganiki

isitha ithuba lokuba kube lokuhleba. ¹⁵ Abanye bavele sebedukile balandela uSathane.

¹⁶ Nxa umuntu okholwayo elabafelokazi emzini wakhe, kumele abasize hatshi ukuyekela besinda ibandla ukuze ibandla lisize abafelokazi abaswela kakhulu.

¹⁷ Abadala abaqhuba kühle imisebenzi yebandla bafanele ukuhlonitshwa okuphindiweyo ikakhulu labo abasebenza ukutshumayela lokufundisa. ¹⁸ Ngoba umbhalo uthi:

“Inkabi ungayifaki isayeke nxa ibhula amabele,”* njalo uthi, “Isisebenzi sifanele umholo waso.”† ¹⁹ Ungalamukeli icala eletheswa umuntu omdala ngaphandle kokuba li-mangalwa ngabafakazi ababili loba abathathu. ²⁰ Abenza izono kumele bakhuzwe phambi kwabantu ukuze labanye baxwayiseke. ²¹ Ngiyakulaya phambi kukaNkulunkulu loKhristu uJesu lezingilosi ezikhethiweyo ukuba ugcine iziqondiso lezi kungekho bandlululo njalo ungenzi lutho ngokukhetha.

²² Ungaphangisi ukubeka izandla emuntwini njalo un-gahlanganyeli ezonweni zabanye. Zigcine uhlambulukile.

²³ Yekela ukunatha amanzi kuphela kodwa sebenzisa lewayini elincinyane ngenxa yesisu sakho lokuhlala kwakho ugula.

²⁴ Izono zabanye abantu zisobala, zifika endaweni yok-wahlulela kuqala kulabo; kodwa abanye ezabo izono zi-landela ngemva kwabo. ²⁵ Ngokufanayo, izenzo ezinhle zisobala njalo lalezo ezingenjalo azingeke zihlale zifihliwe.

6

¹ Bonke abangaphansi kwejogwe lobugqili kumele bakhangele amakhosi abo ngokuthi afanele ukuhlonitshwa ukuze ibizo likaNkulunkulu kanye lokufundisa kwethu kungadunyazwa. ² Labo abalamakhosi akholwayo kaban-gawadeleli ngoba angabazalwane. Kodwa kabawasebenzele ngcono kakhulu ngoba labo abasizakala ngokubasebenzela kwabo ngabakholwayo labathandekayo kubo.

Abafundisi Bamanga Lokuthanda Imali

Lezi yizinto okumele uzifundise njalo uzigcizelele. ³ Nxa umuntu efundisa imfundiso yamanga njalo engawuvumi umlayo oqotho weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu lemfundiso yokwesaba uNkulunkulu, ⁴ uyazikhukhumeza njalo akula-lutho aluzwisisayo. Ulezifiso ezimbi enkanini lasekuphik-isaneni ngamazwi okudala umona, lombango, lezinkulumo ezilimazayo, ukucabangelana okubi ⁵ kanye lokuxabana

* 5:18 5.18 UDtheronomi 25.4 † 5:18 5.18 ULukha 10.7

kokuphela kwabantu abalengqondo ezixhwalileyo, asebalahlekelwa liqiniso labacabanga ukuthi ukulalela uNkulunkulu kuyindlela yokuzuza imali.

⁶ Kodwa-ke, ukulalela uNkulunkulu ngokusuthiseka kuyinzuzo enkulu. ⁷ Ngoba akulalutho esalulethayo emhlabeni njalo akulalutho esingasuka lalo kuwo. ⁸ Kodwa nxa silokudla lezigqoko kumele sisuthiseke ngalokho. ⁹ Abantu abafuna ukunotha bawela ezilingweni lasemijibileni lasezinkanukweni ezinengi zobuthutha ezilimazayo leziwisela abantu ekufeni lasekubhujisweni. ¹⁰ Ngoba ukuthanda imali kuyimpande yezinhlobo zonke zobubi. Abanye abantu ngokutshisekela imali baphambuka ekukholweni bazibangele insizi ezinengi.

UPhawuli Ulaya UThimothi

¹¹ Kodwa wena muntu kaNkulunkulu, kubalekele konke lokhu ufune ukulunga lokulalela uNkulunkulu, lokukholwa, lothando, lokubekezela kanye lobumnene. ¹² Ilwa ukulwa okuhle kokukholwa. Bamblela ekuphileni okulaphakade owabizelwa kukho ekuvumeni kwakho okuhle owakwenza kulabafakazi abanengi. ¹³ Phambi kukaNkulunkulu onika izinto zonke ukuphila laphambi kukaKhristu uJesu owathi efakaza phambi kukaPhontiyasi Philathu wenza ukuvuma okuhle, ngiyakulaya ¹⁴ ukuba ugcine umlayo lo kungelasici loba ukusoleka kuze kube sekubonakaleni kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu, ¹⁵ okuzalethwa nguNkulunkulu ngesikhathi sakhe, uNkulunkulu obusisekileyo njalo onguye uMbusi kuphela, iNkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi, ¹⁶ onguye kuphela ongafiyo lohlala ekukhanyeni okungafinyelelekiyo, okungekho owake wambona loba ongambona. Udumo lamandla akube kuye kuze kube laphakade. Amen.

¹⁷ Balaye labo abanothileyo kulo umhlaba wakhathesi ukuba bangazikhukhumezi loba babeke ithemba labo enothweni engathembekanga kodwa ukuba babeke ithemba labo kuNkulunkulu osinika kakhulu konke okwentokozo yethu. ¹⁸ Balaye ukuba benze okuhle, bande ngezenzo ezinhle, baphane njalo bathande ukwaba okungokwabo. ¹⁹ Ngalokhu-ke, bazazibekela inotho njengesisekelo esiqinileyo sesizukulwane esizayo ukuze babambe ukuphila okuyikuphila okuqotho.

²⁰ Thimothi, londoloza lokho okuphathisiweyo. Xwaya inkulumo zokweyisa uNkulunkulu, lemibono ephikisana leqiniso ebizwa ngokuthi lulwazi, ²¹ njalo abanye sebekuvumile, bathi ngokwenza njalo baphambuka ekukholweni.

Umusa kawube kuwe.

Incwadi KaPhawuli Yesibili KuThimothi

¹ Mina Phawuli, umpostoli kaKhristu uJesu ngen-tando kaNkulunkulu, mayelana lesithembiso sokuphila okukuKhristu uJesu,

² KuThimothi, indodana yami ethandekayo ngithi:

Umusa lesihawu kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuKhristu uJesu iNkosi yethu.

Ukubonga

³ Ngiyambonga uNkulunkulu engimkhonzayo njengok-wenziwa ngokhokho bami ngesazela esimsulwa lapho ngikukhumbula kokuphela emikhulekweni yami ebusuku lemini. ⁴ Lapho ngikhumbula inyembezi zakho, ngi-fisa ukukubona ukuze ngibe lokuthokoza okukhulu. ⁵ Ngikhunjuzwe ngokukholwa kwakho okuqotho okwaqala kugogo wakho uLoyisi lakunyoko uYunisi njalo ngiyath-empa ukuba khathesi kukhona lakuwe futhi.

Inkuthazo Yokuthembeka KuPhawuli Levangelini

⁶ Ngenxa yalokhu ngiyakukhumbuza ukuba sihlale sivutha isipho sikaNkulunkulu owasamukela ngokubekwa kwezandla zami phezu kwakho. ⁷ Ngoba uNkulunkulu kasiphanga umoya wobugwala kodwa umoya wamandla, lowothando kanye lowokuzithiba. ⁸ Ngakho-ke, ungabi lenhloni ukufakaza ngeNkosi yethu loba ube lenhloni ngami isibotshwa sayo. Kodwa hlanganyela lami ekuhluphekeleni ivangeli ngamandla kaNkulunkulu ⁹ owasisindisayo, wasi-bizela ekuphileni okungcwele kungayisikho kuthi kukhona esakwenzayo kodwa ngenxa yenjongo yakhe langomusa wakhe. Umusa lo sawunikwa ngoKhristu uJesu ngaphambi kokuqala kwesikhathi ¹⁰ kodwa khathesi usubonakaliswe ngokubonakala koMsindisi wethu uKhristu Jesu, osechithe ukufa waletha ekukhanyeni ukuphila lokungafi ngevangeli. ¹¹ Njalo ivangeli leli mina ngabekwa ukuba yisithunywa lompostoli kanye lomfundisi walo. ¹² Yikho-nje ngihlupheka njengoba nginje. Kodwa kangilanhloni ngoba ngiyamazi engikholwa kuye njalo ngiyakholwa ukuthi ulamandla okulondoloza lokho engikubeke kuye ngalolosuku.

¹³ Lokho owakuzwa ngami kugcine njengesibonelo sem-fundiso epheleleyo, ngokukholwa langothando kuKhristu

uJesu. ¹⁴ Londoloza isibambiso osiphathisiweyo usilon-doloze ngosizo lukaMoya oNgcwele ohlala phakathi kwethu.

Izibonelo Zokuthembeka Lokungathembeki

¹⁵ Uyakwazi ukuthi abantu bonke esabelweni sase-Ezhiya sebangidela, kubalwa loFigelusi kanye loHemogenesi.

¹⁶ Sengathi iNkosi ingaba lomusa kwabendlu ka-Onesiforosi ngoba wayehlala engivuselela njalo wayengelanhloni ngezibopho zami. ¹⁷ Kodwa kwathi eseRoma wangidinga kakhulu waze wangithola. ¹⁸ Sengathi iNkosi ingenza ukuba athole umusa eNkosini ngalolosuku! Uyakwazi kakuhle ukuba wangisiza ngezindlela ezinengi kangakanani e-Efesu.

2

Isikhalazo Siyavuselelwa

¹ Ngakho-ke, wena ndodana yami, qina emuseni okuKhristu uJesu. ² Izinto owangizwa ngizitsho phambi kwabafakazi abanengi ziphathise abantu abathembekileyo abazafanela ukuba labo bafundise abanye. ³ Hlanganyelana lathi ebunzimeni njengebutho likaKhristu uJesu elifaneleyo. ⁴ Kakho osebenza njengebutho ongenela ezindabeni zabangasibo bebutho kodwa ufuna ukuthokozisa umlawuli wakhe. ⁵ Ngokufanayo, nxa umuntu encintisa njengomdlali kawutholi umqhele wokunqoba ngaphandle kokuba encintisa ngokusemthethweni. ⁶ Umlimi osebenza kakhulu kumele kube nguye oqala ukuthola isabelo sezilimo. ⁷ Nakana ngalokho engikutshoyo ngoba iNkosi iza-kupha umbono kukho konke lokhu.

⁸ Khumbula uJesu Khristu owavuka kwabafileyo, wadabuka kuDavida. Leli yilo ivangeli lami ⁹ engilihluphekelayo ngize ngibotshwe ngamaketane njengesigangi. Kodwa ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kalibotshwanga. ¹⁰ Ngakho-ke, ngibekezelela konke ngenxa yabakhethiweyo ukuze labo bazuze ukusindiswa okukuKhristu uJesu lenkazimulo engapheliyo.

¹¹ Nansi isitsho esiqotho:

Nxa safa laye

sizaphila laye futhi;

¹² nxa sibekezela

sizabusa laye futhi.

Nxa simphika,

laye futhi uzasiphika;

¹³ nxa singelalo ithemba

yena uzaqhubeka ethembekile,

ngoba angeke azidele.

Isisebenzi Esivunywe NguNkulunkulu

¹⁴ Qhubeka ubakhumbuzo abantu bakaNkulunkulu ngalezizinto. Baxwayise phambi kukaNkulunkulu ngokuxabana ngamazwi; akulasizo, kuchitha labo abalaleleyo. ¹⁵ Yenza ubungcono bakho ukuba uzethule kuNkulunkulu njengohloliweyo, isisebenzi esingadingi ukuba sibe lenhloni njalo esiliphatha kuhle ilizwi leqiniso. ¹⁶ Xwaya inkulumo zokweyisa uNkulunkulu ngoba abazikholisayo baqhubeka kokuphela besiba ngabangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu. ¹⁷ Imfundiso yabo izaqhela njengesilonda esibhibhidlayo. Phakathi kwabo kuloHimeniyasi loFilethosi, ¹⁸ abaphambukayo eqinisweni. Bathi ukuvuka kwabafuleyo sekwenzakala njalo bachitha ukukholwa kwabanye. ¹⁹ Noma kunjalo isisekelo sikaNkulunkulu esiqinileyo sigxilile, sibekwe uphawu lombhalo othi: “UTHixo uyabazi labo abangabakhe,”* lokuthi, “Bonke abalivumayo ibizo likaThixo kumele badele ububi.”

²⁰ Endlini enkulukazi akulazitsha zegolide lezesiliva nje kuphela kodwa lezezigodo kanye lezebumba; ezinye ngezemisebenzi encomekayo njalo ezinye ngezokusebenzisa nje. ²¹ Nxa umuntu ezihlambulula kokulihlazo, uzasetshenziswa emisebenzini encomekayo, angcweliswe, abe luncedo eNkosini yakhe njalo elungele ukwenza loba yiwuphi umsebenzi omuhle.

²² Xwaya izinkanuko ezimbi zobutsha ufuno ukulunga, lokukholwa, lothando kanye lokuthula, ukanye lalabo abakhuleka eNkosini ngezinhliziyi ezimhlophe. ²³ Xwaya ukuphikisana kobuthutha lobuwula ngoba uyakwazi ukuthi kudala ingxabano. ²⁴ Inceku yeNkosi kumele ixwaye ingxabano; kodwa kumele ibe lomusa ebantwini bonke, yenelise ukufundisa, ingabi lenzondo. ²⁵ Abaphikisayo kumele belulekwe kuhle, ngethemba lokuthi uNkulunkulu uzabaguqula inhliziyi baholelwe ekwazini iqiniso ²⁶ lokuthi baphaphame, baphunyuke emjibileni kaSathane obathumbele ukuba benze intando yakhe.

3

Ukweyisa UNkulunkulu Ensukwini Zokucina

¹ Kodwa nanzelela lokhu: Ensukwini zokucina kuzakuba lezikhathi ezinzima. ² Abantu bazakuba ngabazithandayo, labathanda imali, labazikhukhumezayo, labazigqajayo, labathukayo, labangalaleli abazali babo,

* 2:19 2.19 AmaNani 16.5

labangabongiyo, labangcolileyo, ³ labangelathando, labangathetheleliyo, labahlebayo, labangazikhuziyo, labalesihluku, labangakuthandiyo okuhle, ⁴ labalamacebo amabi, labacaphuka ngeze, labaziphakamisayo, labathanda injabulo kulokuthanda uNkulunkulu, ⁵ belesimo sokukholwa kuNkulunkulu kodwa belandula amandla okukholwa. Ungahlanganyeli labo.

⁶ Yibo laba abanyenyela emakhaya bazuze amandla phezu kwabesifazane ababuthakathaka, abasindwa yizono njalo bebuswa zinhlobo zonke zezinkanuko ezimbi, ⁷ behlezi befunda kodwa besehluleka ukufinyelela elwazini lweqiniso. ⁸ NjengoJanesi loJambiresi abaphikisa uMosi, ngokunjalo abantu laba baphikisa iqiniso. Abantu bengqondo ezonakeleyo, abalahliweyo ngokokholo. ⁹ Kodwa kabayikufika ndawo ngoba njengokwalawo madoda, ubuthutha babo buzakuba sobala ebantwini bonke.

UPhawuli Ulaya UThimothi

¹⁰ Kodwa wena wazi konke ngemfundiso yami, lem-pilo yami, lenjongo yami, lokukholwa, lokubekezela, lothando, lokuqiniseka, ¹¹ lokuhlukuluzwa, inhlupheko zonke engahlangana lazo e-Antiyokhi, lase-Ikhoniyamu, laseListra kanye lokuhlukuluzeka engangena phakathi kwakho. Kodwa iNkosi yangihlenga kukho konke lokhu. ¹² Ngempela umuntu wonke othanda ukuphila impilo yokulalela uNkulunkulu kuKhristu uJesu uzahlukuluzwa, ¹³ kukanti abantu ababi labakhohlisi bazakonakala ngokud-lulisayo, bekhohlisa labo bekhohliswa. ¹⁴ Kodwa wena qhubeka ngalokho okufundileyo njalo wakukholwa ngoba uyabazi labo okufunde kubo, ¹⁵ lokuthi kusukela ebunt-waneni wayazi njani imibhalo eNgcwele engakwenza uh-lakaniphele ukusindiswa ngokukholwa kuKhristu uJesu. ¹⁶ IMibhalo yonke yaphefumulelwa nguNkulunkulu njalo ilosizo ekufundiseni, lokukhuza, lokuqondisa, lokufundisa ngokulunga, ¹⁷ ukuze umuntu kaNkulunkulu ayilungisele ngokupheleleyo yonke imisebenzi emihle.

4

¹ Phambi kukaNkulunkulu loKhristu uJesu ozathonisisa abaphilayo labafuleyo njalo mayelana lokubonakala kwakhe kanye lombuso wakhe ngikunika lumlayo: ² Tshumayela iLizwi; lungiselela isikhathi esifaneleyo lesikhathi esingafanelanga; lungisa, ukuze njalo ukhuthaze ngokubekezelela okukhulu langokulaya ngokunanzelela. ³ Ngoba isikhathi sizafika lapho abantu

abangayikuyivuma khona imfundiso eqotho. Kodwa ukuze basuthise izinkanuko zabo, bazaziqoqela abafundisi abanengi ukuba batsho lokho indlebe zabo ezilumela ukukuzwa. ⁴ Indlebe zabo bazazisusa eqinisweni baphambukele ezinganekwaneni. ⁵ Kodwa wena lulamisa ikhanda kuzozonke izehlakalo, ubekezele ebunzimeni, wenze umsebenzi womvangeli, uyifeze yonke imisebenzi yenkonzo yakho.

⁶ Ngoba mina sengilungele ukuthululwa njengomnikelo onathwayo njalo lesikhathi sokusuka kwami sesifikile. ⁷ Ngilwile ukulwa okuhle, sengiliqedile ibanga lami lokukholwa ngikulondolozile. ⁸ Khathesi ngigcinelwe umqhele wokulunga iNkosi uMahluleli olungileyo ezanginika wona ngalelolanga njalo kungayisimi kuphela kodwa kubo bonke abatshisekela ukubonakala kwayo.

Amazwi Aqondene Laye

⁹ Zama ngamandla akho wonke ukuba uze kimi ngokuphangisa ¹⁰ ngoba uDemasi ngenxa yokuthi ubethanda umhlaba lo, usengibalekele waya eThesalonika. UKhrisensi useye eGalathiya, uThithu waya eDalmathiya. ¹¹ ULukha nguye kuphela olami. Thatha uMakho ubuye laye ngoba ulusizo kakhulu enkonzweni yami. ¹² UThikhikhasi ngamthuma e-Efesu. ¹³ Lapho usubuya ubuye lejazi engalitshiya kuKhaphusi eTrowasi lengwalo zami ikakhulu leziyana ezemibhalo elotshwe ezikhumbeni.

¹⁴ U-Alekizanda umkhandi wensimbi wenza okubi kakhulu kimi. INkosi izaphindisela kuye lokhu akwenzi-leyo. ¹⁵ Lawe futhi kumele umqaphela ngoba ilizwi lethu waliphikisa kakhulu.

¹⁶ Ekuzivikeleni kwami kwakuqala kakho owangisekelayo kodwa abantu bonke bangihlamukela. Kabangabi lamlandu ngalokho. ¹⁷ Kodwa iNkosi yema phansi kwami yangipha amandla ukuze kuthi ngami ilizwi litshunyayelwe ngokupheleleyo njalo labeZizweni bonke balizwe. Ngempela ngasindiswa emlonyeni wesilwane. ¹⁸ INkosi izangihlenga kukho konke ukuhlaselwa okubi ingilethe kungekho bubi embusweni wayo wasezulwini. Udumo kalube kuyo kuze kube nini lanini. Ameni.

Ukuvaelisa

¹⁹ Bingelela uPhrisila lo-Akhwila kanye labendlu ka-Onesiforosi.

²⁰ U-Erastusi wasala eKhorinte, kwathi uThrofimasi ngamtshiya egula eMilethusi. ²¹ Zama ngamandla akho wonke ukuba ufike lapha ubusika bungakafiki.

UYubhulasi, loPhudeni, loLino, loKlawudiya kanye labazalwane bonke bayakubingelela.

²² INkosi kayibe lomoya wakho. Umusa kawube lawe.

KuThithu

¹ Mina Phawuli inceku kaNkulunkulu lompostoli kaJesu Khristu wokukholwa kwabakhethiweyo bakaNkulunkulu lokwazi iqiniso eliholela ekwesabeni uNkulunkulu, ² ukukholwa lokwazi okweyame ethembeni lokuphila okulaphakade okwathenjiswa ekudatshulweni komhlaba nguNkulunkulu ³ njalo ngesikhathi sakhe esimisiweyo wabonakalisa ilizwi lakhe ngentshumayelo engayiphathiswa ngomlayo kaNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu,

⁴ KuThithu indodana yami ngokukholwa kwethu sonke ngithi:

Umusa lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuKhristu uJesu uMsindisi wethu.

Ukubeka Abadala Bebandla Abathanda Okuhle

⁵ Engakutshiyela khona eKhrethe yikuthi uqondise lokho okwasala kungaphelanga njalo ubeke abadala bebandla emizini yonke njengokukulaya kwami. ⁶ Umdala webandla kumele abe ngongasolekiyo, indoda elomfazi oyedwa, indoda elabantwana abakholwayo njalo abangelacala lobudlwangu dlwangu loba ukwedelela. ⁷ Njengoba umthungameli ephathiswe umsebenzi kaNkulunkulu, kumele angabi lasici, angazikhukhumezi, ongazondi masinyane, ongasisodakwa, ongathandi ukulwa, ongadingi inzuzo ngobuqili. ⁸ Kodwa kumele abe ngophatha kuhle izihambi, othanda okuhle, ozikhuzayo, oqondileyo, ongcwele lozithibayo. ⁹ Kumele abambelele elizwini eliqotho njengokufundiswa kwalo ukuze akhuthaze abanye ngemfundiso eqotho njalo amelane lalabo abayiphikisayo.

Ukukhuza Abehluleka Ukwenza Okuhle

¹⁰ Ngoba banengi abantu abahlamukayo, abakhulumayo nje kanye labakhohlisi ikakhulu abeqembu lokusoka. ¹¹ Kumele bathuliswe ngoba bachitha imizi epheleleyo ngokufundisa izinto okungamelanga bazifundise besenzela ukuthola inzuzo ngobuqili lenkohliso. ¹² Omunye wabaphrofethi babo wathi, "AbaseKhrethe ngabantu bamanga, izilo ezimbi, izihwaba ezingamavila." ¹³ Ubufakazi lobu buliqiniso. Ngakho-ke, bakhuze ngamandla ukuze baqine ekukholweni ¹⁴ bangalaleli

izinganekwane zamaJuda loba imilayo yalabo abadela iqiniso. ¹⁵ Kwabahlambulukileyo izinto zonke zihlambulukile kodwa kulabo abaxhwalileyo njalo bengakholwa akulalutho oluhlambulukileyo. Ngempela, ingqondo lezazela zabo konke kuxhwalile. ¹⁶ Bathi uNkulunkulu bayamazi kodwa ngezenzo zabo bayamphika. Bayenyanyeka, bayadelela njalo kabafanelanga ukwenza loba kuyini okuhle.

2

Ukwenza Okuhle Ngenxa Yevangeli

¹ Kumele ufundise okuvumelana lemfundiso eqotho.

² Fundisa amadoda amadala ukuzithiba, afanele ukhlonitshwa, azikhuze, njalo aqine ekukholweni, ethandweni kanye lasekubekeleni.

³ Ngokunjalo, fundisa abesifazane abadala ukuba babe ngabahloniphayo ekuphileni kwabo, bangabi ngabahlebayo kumbe ababuswa liwayini kodwa ukuba bafundise okulungileyo. ⁴ Ngakho-ke, bangafundisa abesifazane abatsha ukuba bathande omkabo labantwana babo ⁵ ukuba bazikhuze njalo bahlambuluke, lokuba bakhuthale emakhaya, lokuba lomusa, lokuba bazehlise ngaphansi kwabomkabo ukuze kungabikhona ogcona ilizwi likaNkulunkulu.

⁶ Ngokunjalo, khuthaza abesilisa abatsha ukuba bazikhuze. ⁷ Kukho konke babekele isibonelo ngokwenza okuhle. Ekufundiseni kwakho tshengisa ubuqotho lokuzimisela ⁸ kanye lokukhuluma okulengqondo okungeke kusolwe ukuze kuthi labo abakuphikisayo bayangeke ngoba bengelalutho olubi abangalutsho ngathi.

⁹ Fundisa izisebenzi ukuba zizehlisele ngaphansi kwamakhosi azo ezintweni zonke, zizame ukuwathokozisa, zingawaphenduli, ¹⁰ zingawantshontsheli, kodwa zibonakalise ukuthi zingathembeka okupheleleyo ukuze kuthi ngakho konke zenze imfundiso ngoNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu ibe ngubukekayo.

¹¹ Ngoba umusa kaNkulunkulu oletha insindiso usubonakele ebantwini bonke. ¹² Uyasifundisa ukuthi "Hayi" ekweyiseni uNkulunkulu lasezinkanukweni zasemhlabeni njalo siphile ngokuzikhuza, ngokuqonda empilweni yokulalela uNkulunkulu ngesikhathi samanje, ¹³ lapho sisalindele ithemba elibusisiweyo lokubonakala ngenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu wethu omkhulu longuMsindisi uJesu Khristu ¹⁴ owazinikela ngenxa yethu ukuba asihlengi ebubini bonke

kanye lokuthi azihlambululele abantu abangabakhe, abatshisekela ukwenza okuhle.

¹⁵ Ngakho lezi yizinto okumele uzifundise. Khuthaza njalo ukhuze ngamandla wonke. Ungavumeli muntu ukuthi akweyise.

3

Lisindisiwe Ukuze Lenze Okuhle

¹ Khumbuza abantu ukuba bazehlisele ngaphansi kwababusi, labaphathi, lokuba balalele, lokuba balungele ukwenza loba kuyini okuhle, ² lokunganyeyi muntu, lokuba lokuthula kanye lozwelo, kanye lokubonakalisa ukuzithoba okuqotho ebantwini bonke.

³ Ngesinye isikhathi lathi sake saba yiziwula, singalaleli, sikhohliswa njalo sithunjwe zinhlobo zonke zenkanuko kanye lenjabulo. Saphila phakathi kwenzondo lomhawu, sizondwa njalo sizondana. ⁴ Kodwa kwathi umusa lothando lukaNkulunkulu uMsindisi wethu sekubonakele, ⁵ wasisindisa, hatshi ngenxa yezinto ezilungileyo esisenzile kodwa ngenxa yesihawu sakhe. Wasisindisa ngokugeziswa kokuzalwa kutsha kanye lokuvuselelwa ngu-Moya oNgcwele ⁶ amthela kakhulu phezu kwethu ngo-Jesu Khristu uMsindisi wethu ⁷ ukuze kuthi sesilungiswe ngumusa wakhe, sibe zindlalifa silethemba lokuphila okulaphakade. ⁸ Leli yilizwi eliqotho. Njalo ngithanda ukuba izinto lezi uzigcizelele ukuze kuthi labo abathembele kuNkulunkulu bananzelele ukuzinikela ekwenzeni okuhle. Izinto lezi zihle kakhulu njalo zilosizo ebantwini bonke.

⁹ Kodwa xwaya impikiswano yobuwula lezindaba zosendo kanye lemibango lengxabano mayelana lomthetho ngoba lokhu akulasizo njalo kuyize. ¹⁰ Umuntu oxabanisayo mlaye kanye, uphinde umlaye okwesibili. Emva kwalokho mxwaye. ¹¹ Ungaba leqiniso ukuthi umuntu onjalo uxhwalile njalo uyisoni; nguye ozilahlayo yena ngokwakhe.

Amazwi Okucina

¹² Ngingaze ngithumele u-Athemasi kumbe uThikhikhasi kuwe, kumele uzame ngamandla akho wonke ukuza kimi eNikhopholisi ngoba sengizimisele ukuhlala khona ebusika. ¹³ Yenza konke ongakwenza ukuba usize uZenasi igqwetha kanye lo-Apholo ohanjweni lwabo ubone ukuba balakho konke abakuswelayo.

¹⁴ Abantu bakithi kumele bafunde ukuzinikela ekwenzeni okuhle ukuze bagcwalise izinswelo zansuku zonke njalo bangaphili impilo eyize.

¹⁵ Bonke abalami bayakubingelela.
Bingelela labo abasithandayo ekukholweni.

Umusa kawube lani lonke.

UFilimoni

¹ Mina Phawuli, isibotshwa sikaKhristu uJesu, loThimothi umzalwane wethu,

KuFilimoni umngane wethu othandekayo loyisisebenzi kanye lathi, ² ku-Afiya udadewethu, ku-Akhiphasi olibutho kanye lathi, lasebandleni elihlanganela ekhaya lakho ngithi:

³ Umusa kawube kuwe kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba leNkosini uJesu Khristu.

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

⁴ Ngihlezi ngimbonga kokuphela uNkulunkulu wami lapho ngikukhumbula emikhulekweni yami ⁵ ngoba ngiyezwa ngothando lwakho lokukholwa eNkosini uJesu kanye lothando lwakho kubo bonke abangcwele. ⁶ Ngikhulekela ukuba ukuhlanganyela kwakho kanye lathi ekukholweni kube lomfutho ngokujula ekuqedisiseni kwakho konke ukulunga esikwabelana ngenxa kaKhristu. ⁷ Uthando lwakho lungiphe ukuthokoza okukhulu lokududuzeka ngoba wena, mzalwane, uvuselele inhliziyi zabangcwele.

Isikhalazo SikaPhawuli Ngo-Onesimasi

⁸ Ngakho-ke, lanxa kuKhristu ngingaba lesibindi ngikulaye ukuba wenze lokho okumele ukwenze ⁹ kodwa ngiyakuncenga ngenxa yothando. Ngakho-ke, mina Phawuli, umuntu omdala khathesi oyisibotshwa sikaKhristu uJesu futhi, ¹⁰ ngiyakuncenga ngenxa yendodana yami u-Onesimasi owaba yindodana yami ngibotshiwe. ¹¹ Kuqala wayengelasizo kuwe kodwa khathesi uselusizo kuwe lakimi.

¹² Ngimthuma kuwe yena othandwe yinhliziyi yami. ¹³ Kade ngingathanda ukuhlala laye ukuze athathe indawo yakho yokungisiza ngisabotshelwe ivangeli. ¹⁴ Kodwa angithandanga ukwenza lutho kungelamvumo yakho ukuze kuthi loba ngumusa owenzayo ube ngowokuzithandela hatshi ukubanjwa ngamandla. ¹⁵ Mhlawumbe isizatho sokwehlukaniswa lawe okwesikhatshana sasiyikuthi ube laye futhi kokuphela ¹⁶ engaseyiso sigqili kodwa esengcono kulesigqili njengomzalwane othandekayo. Uyathandeka kimi kodwa uthandeka kakhulu kuwe njengomunye wakho lanjengomzalwane eNkosini.

¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, nxa ungithatha njengohlanganyela lawe, mamukele ngendlela obuzangamukela ngayo. ¹⁸ Nxa kulokubi akwenze kuwe kumbe elesikwelede kuwe, kubalele kimi. ¹⁹ Mina Phawuli, ngiloba lokhu ngesandla sami. Ngizahlawula ngingabali ukuthi lawe ulomlandu kimi wena ngokwakho. ²⁰ Ngiyafisa, mzalwane, ukuba ngithole usizo oluthile kuwe eNkosini; uvuselele inhliziyo yami kuKhristu. ²¹ Ngileqiniso ngokulalela kwakho, ngikulobela ngisazi ukuthi uzakwenza okudlula engikucelayo.

²² Okunye njalo yilokhu: Ngilungisela indlu yezihambi ngoba ngithemba ukuba ngizabuyiselwa kuwe ngenxa yemikhuleko yakho.

²³ U-Ephafraasi oyisibotshwa kanye lami ngenxa kaKhristu uJesu, uyakubingelela.

²⁴ UMakho, lo-Aristakhasi, loDemasi kanye loLukha abayizisebenzi kanye lami bayakubingelela.

²⁵ Umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu kawube lomoya wakho.

KumaHebheru

ILizwi Lika Nkulunkulu Lokucina: INdodana Yakhe

¹ Kudala uNkulunkulu wakhuluma kubokhokho kanengi-nengi ngabaphrofethi langezindlela ezehlukeneyo ² kodwa ngalezizinsuku zokucina ukhulume kithi ngeNdodana yakhe, ayibeka ukuba yindlalifa yezinto zonke, yona adala ngayo izulu lomhlaba. ³ INdodana iyikubenyezela kwenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu kanye lomfanekiso wokuba nguye kwakhe uqobo, iqinisa izinto zonke ngelizwi layo elilamandla. Emva kokuba isikufezile ukuhlanjululwa kwezono, yahlala phansi esandleni sokunene sobukhosi ezulwini. ⁴ Ngakho yaba ngaphezu kwezingilosi ngoba ibizo eyalithola njengelifa lilikhulu kulelazo.

INdodana Ingaphezulu Kwezingilosi

⁵ Ngoba kukuyiphi ingilosi uNkulunkulu ake wathi kuyo: "Wena uyiNdodana yami;

lamhla sengibe nguYihlo"*?

Kumbe njalo wathi,

"Ngizakuba nguYise,

yona izakuba yiNdodana yami"†?

⁶ Njalo, lapho uNkulunkulu eletha izibulo lakhe emhlabeni, uthi:

"Zonke izingilosi zikaNkulunkulu kazimkhonze."‡

⁷ Lapho ekhuluma ngezingilosi uthi,

"Wenza izingilosi zakhe zibe yimimoya,

izinceku zakhe zibe ngamalangabi omlilo."§

⁸ Kodwa ngeNdodana uthi,

"Isihlalo sakho sobukhosi, Oh Nkulunkulu,

sizakuma nini lanini,

intonga yokwahlulela okulungileyo

izakuba yintonga yombuso wakho.

⁹ Ukuthandle ukulunga wazonda ububi;

ngakho uNkulunkulu,

uNkulunkulu wakho

usekubeke ngaphezu kwabakhula bakho

ngokukugcoba ngamafutha entokozo."*

¹⁰ Njalo uthi,

"Ekuqaleni, Oh Nkosi, wabeka izisekelo zomhlaba,

lamazulu angumsebenzi wezandla zakho.

* 1:5 1.5 AmaHubo 2.7 † 1:5 1.5 2 USamuyeli 7.14; 1 ImiLando 17.13 ‡ 1:6

1.6 UDutheronomi 32.43 § 1:7 1.7 AmaHubo 104.4 * 1:9 1.9 AmaHubo 45.6-7

- 11 Kuzabhubha kodwa wena uzasala;
konke kuzaguga njengesigqoko.
- 12 Uzakugoqa njengesembatho;
kuzantshintshwa njengesigqoko.
- Kodwa wena uhlala unjalo,
leminyaka yakho kayiyikuphela.”†
- 13 Kukuyiphi ingilosi uNkulunkulu ake wathi kuyo:
“Hlala ngakwesokunene sami;
ngize ngenze izitha zakho
zibe yisinyathelo senyawo zakho”‡?
- 14 Izingilosi kazisimimoya esebenzayo yini, ethunywe
ukukhonza labo abazakudla ilifa lokusindiswa na?

2

Isixwayiso Sokuba Kunanzelelwe

1 Ngakho kufanele siqaphelelisise lokho esikuzwileyo ukuze singaduki. 2 Ngoba nxa ilizwi elakhulunywa yizingilosi liqinisa njalo konke ukona lokungalaleli kut-hole isijeziso sakho esifaneleyo, 3 pho thina sizaphepha njani nxa singanaki insindiso enkulu kangaka na? Lokhu kusindiswa okwabikwa kuqala yiNkosi, kwafakazwa kithi yilabo abayizwayo. 4 LoNkulunkulu wakufakaza ngezi-bonakaliso langezimangaliso ezithile, langezipho zikaMoya oNgcwele ezabiwa ngokwentando yakhe.

UJesu Wenziwa Waba Njengabafowabo

5 Akusikho ezingilosini abeka khona ngaphansi kwazo ilizwe elizayo esikhuluma ngalo. 6 Kodwa ikhona indawo lapho omunye ofakaza khona esithi:

- “Uyini umuntu osungaze uzihluphe ngaye na,
loba indodana yomuntu ukuba uyinanse na?”
- 7 Wamenza waba mncinyazana kulezingilosi;
wamethesa umqhele wodumo lobukhosi,
8 wabeka lezinto zonke ngaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe.”*

Ekubekeni izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe uNkulunkulu katshiyanga lutho olungekho ngaphansi kwakhe. Kodwa khathesi kasiboni zinto zonke zingaphansi kwakhe. 9 Kodwa sibona yena, owenziwa waba ngaphansanyana kwezingilosi okwesikhatshana, uJesu, ebekwa umqhele wobukhosi lodumo ngoba wavuma ukufa ukuze kuthi ngomusa kaNkulunkulu ezwe ukufa ngenxa yabantu bonke. 10 Ekuletheni amadodana amanengi enkazimulweni, kwakufanele ukuba uNkulunkulu, yena owenza zonke

† 1:12 1.12 AmaHubo 102.25-27 ‡ 1:13 1.13 AmaHubo 110.1 * 2:8 2.8
AmaHubo 8.4-6

izinto njalo zabakhona ngenxa yakhe, enze umsunguli wokusindiswa kwabo aphelele ngokuhlupheka kwakhe. ¹¹ Ngoba lowo owenza abantu babengcwele kanye lalabo abenziwe baba ngcwele ngabendlunye. Ngakho uJesu kakumyangisi ukuba athi bangabafowabo. ¹² Uthi, “Ngizamemezela ibizo lakho kubafowethu; ngizahlabelela udumo lwakho phambi kwebandla.”†

¹³ Njalo uthi, “Ngizabeka ithemba lami kuye.”‡
Uphinda athi, “Mina ngilapha, kanye labantwana uNkulunkulu angiphe bona.”§

¹⁴ Njengoba abantwana belomzimba legazi, laye wahlanganyela ebuntwini babo ukuze kuthi ngokufa kwakhe amchithe lowo ophethe amandla okufa okutsho uSathane, ¹⁵ abakhulule ababesebugqilini impilo yabo yonke ngenxa yokwesaba kwabo ukufa. ¹⁶ Ngoba impela akusizo ingilosi azisizayo kodwa inzalo ka-Abrahama. ¹⁷ Ngenxa yalokhu kwakumele enziwe afane labafowabo kukho konke ukuze abe ngumphristi omkhulu olesihawu lothembekileyo enkonzweni kaNkulunkulu, lokuba abeyinhlawulo yezono zabantu. ¹⁸ Njengoba laye wahlupheka lapho elingwa, uyenelisa ukubasiza abalingwayo.

3

UJesu Ungaphezu KukaMosi

¹ Ngakho-ke, bafowethu abangcwele, abahlanganyela ekubizweni ezulwini, bekani imicabango yenu kuJesu, umpostoli lomphristi omkhulu esimvumayo. ² Wathembeka kulowo owambekayo, njengomosi owayethembekile kuyo yonke indlu kaNkulunkulu. ³ UJesu ufunyenwe efanele udumo olukhulu kuloMosi njengomakhi wendlu elodumo olukhulu kulendlu yona ngokwayo. ⁴ Ngoba yileyo lalayondlu yakhiwa ngumuntu othize kodwa uNkulunkulu ungumakhi wezinto zonke. ⁵ “UMosi wayethembekile njengeceku kuyo yonke indlu kaNkulunkulu,”* efakaza lokho okwakuzatshiwo ensukwini ezizayo. ⁶ Kodwa uKhristu uthembekile njengendodana endlini kaNkulunkulu. Njalo thina siyindlu yakhe nxa sibambelela ngesibindi langethemba lethu esizincoma ngakho.

Isixwayiso Ngokungakholwa

† **2:12** 2.12 AmaHubo 22.22 ‡ **2:13** 2.13 U-Isaya 8.17 § **2:13** 2.13 U-Isaya 8.18 * **3:5** 3.5 AmaNani 12.7

- ⁷ Ngakho, njengoba uMoya oNgcwele esithi:
 “Lamuhla nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe,
⁸ lingazenzi zibe lukhuni inhliziyo zenu,
 njengelakwenza ekuhlamukeni,
 ngesikhathi sokulingwa enkangala,
⁹ lapho okhokho benu abangihlola khona bangilinga,
 babona engakwenzayo okweminyaka engamatshumi
 amane.
¹⁰ Yikho-nje ngasithukuthelela isizukulwane lesa,
 njalo ngathi, ‘Inhliziyo zabo zihlezi ziduka,
 njalo kabazazanga izindlela zami.’
¹¹ Ngakho ngamemezela ngesifungo ekuthukutheleni
 kwami ngathi,
 ‘Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.’†”
¹² Bonani bazalwane ukuthi kakho omunye wenu
 olenhliziyo yokona lokungakholwa, ephambukayo
 kuNkulunkulu ophilayo. ¹³ Kodwa khuthazanani
 insuku zonke kusabizwa ngokuthi lamuhla, ukuze
 angabikhona owenu oba lukhuni ngenxa yokukhohliswa
 yisono. ¹⁴ Ngoba sesingabahlanganyelayo kuKhristu nxa
 sibambelele ngokuqina kuze kuphele ithemba esasilalo
 kuqala. ¹⁵ Njengoba kutshiwo ukuthi:
 “Lamuhla nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe,
 lingazenzi zibe lukhuni inhliziyo zenu
 njengelakwenzayo ekuhlamukeni.”‡
¹⁶ Babengobani labo abezwayo basebehlamuka na?
 Akusibo yini bonke labo uMosi abakhupha eGibhithe na?
¹⁷ Njalo ngobani ayebathukuthelele okweminyaka engamatshumi
 amane na? Akusibo yini labo abonayo, abazidumbu
 zabo zawela enkangala na? ¹⁸ Ngobani uNkulunkulu abafungela
 ukuthi kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwakhe nxa
 kungayisibo labo abangalalelanga na? ¹⁹ Ngakho siyabona
 ukuthi babengeke bangene ngenxa yokungakholwa kwabo.

4

Ukuphumula Kwabantu BakaNkulunkulu NgeSabatha

¹ Ngakho-ke, njengoba isithembiso sokungena ekuphumuleni kwakhe silokhu sikhona, kasiqapheleni ukuba kakho phakathi kwenu otholakala engafinyeleli kuso. ² Ngoba ivangeli latshunyayelwa kithi njengakubo; kodwa ilizwi abalizwayo lalingelasizo kubo ngoba labo abalizwayo kabalihlanganisanga lokholo. ³ Thina esakholwayo siyangena kulokho kuphumula njengoba uNkulunkulu etshilo ukuthi:
 “Ngakho ngamemezela ngesifungo

† 3:11 3.11 AmaHubo 95.7-11 ‡ 3:15 3.15 AmaHubo 95.7-8

ekuthukutheleni kwami ngathi,

‘Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.’*”

Kodwa umsebenzi wakhe waphelaliswa ekudalweni komhlaba. ⁴ Ngoba kwenye indawo ukhulume ngosuku lwe-sikhombisa ngala amazwi athi: “Ngakho ngosuku lwe-sikhombisa uNkulunkulu waphumula kuwo wonke umsebenzi wakhe.”† ⁵ Njalo endimeni engaphezulu uthi, “Kabayikungena ekuphumuleni kwami.”‡

⁶ Kulokhu kunjalo ukuthi abanye bazangena kulokho kuphumula, lalabo ivangeli elatshunyayelwa kubo kuqala kabangenanga ngenxa yokungalaleli kwabo. ⁷ Ngakho uNkulunkulu wabuya wamisa olunye usuku, elubiza ngokuthi Lamuhla, lapho kwathi emva kwesikhathi eside wakhuluma ngoDavida, njengokwaktshiwo mandulo ukuthi:

“Lamuhla nxa lisizwa ilizwi lakhe,

lingazenzi zibe lukhuni inhliziyo zenu.”§

⁸ Ngoba aluba uJoshuwa wayebanikile ukuphumula, ngabe uNkulunkulu kakhulumanga muva ngolunye usuku.

⁹ Ngakho kulokhu kukhona ukuphumula kweSabatha kwabantu bakaNkulunkulu; ¹⁰ ngoba loba ngubani ongena ekuphumuleni kukaNkulunkulu uyaphumula lakowakhe umsebenzi njengokwenziwa nguNkulunkulu kowakhe. ¹¹ Ngakho-ke, kasenzeni imizamo yonke ukuba singene kulokho ukuphumula, ukuze angabikhona ozawiswa yikulandela isibonelo sakhe sokungalaleli.

¹² Ilizwi likaNkulunkulu liyaphila njalo liyasebenza. Libukhali kulenkemba esika inxa zombili, ingena ize yehlukanise umphefumulo lomoya, amalunga lomnkantsho; lahlulela imicabango lomumo wenhliziyo.

¹³ Kukho konke okudaliweyo akulalutho olufihlakeleyo emehlweni kaNkulunkulu. Konke kwambuliwe kwabekwa obala phambi kwamehlo akhe yena okumele sizibike kuye.

UJesu UmPhristi Omkhulu

¹⁴ Ngakho-ke, njengoba silomphristi omkhulu kakhulu osengene emazulwini, uJesu iNdodana kaNkulunkulu, kasibambeleleni kakhulu okholweni esiluvumayo.

¹⁵ Ngoba kasilamphristi omkhulu onganelisiyo ukusizwela ebuthakathakeni bethu kodwa silaye oseke walingwa ngezindlela zonke njengathi kodwa akazange one.

¹⁶ Kasisondeleni esihlalweni sobukhosi somusa ngesibindi ukuze samukele isihawu njalo sithole umusa wokusisiza ezikhathini zokuswela kwethu.

* 4:3 4.3 AmaHubo 95.11 † 4:4 4.4 UGenesisi 2.2 ‡ 4:5 4.5 AmaHubo 95.11

§ 4:7 4.7 AmaHubo 95.7-8

5

¹ Wonke umphristi omkhulu ukhethwa ebantwini abekwe ukuba abamele ezindabeni ezimayelana loNkulunkulu, ukunikela izipho lemihlatshelo yezono. ² Ulakho ukubaphatha ngesineke labo abangaziyo abadukayo, njengoba laye uqobo ephethwe yikuba buthakathaka. ³ Yikho-nje kumele anikele imihlatshelo yezono zakhe kanye leyezono zabantu. ⁴ Kakho ozethesa udumo lolu phezu kwakhe; kumele abizwe nguNkulunkulu njengo-Aroni.

⁵ Ngakho loKhristu kazethesanga udumo lokuba ngumphristi omkhulu. Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathi kuye, "Wena uyiNdodana yami; lamuhla sengibe nguYihlo."*

⁶ Njalo kwenye indawo uthi, "Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini, emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi."†

⁷ Ngensuku zokuphila kukaJesu emhlabeni, wakhuleka wacela ngokukhala kakhulu langezinyembezi kuye lowo owayengamphaphisa ekufeni njalo wezwakala ngenxa yokuzehlisa kwakhe okuhloniphekayo. ⁸ Lanxa wayeyindodana wafunda ukulalela kulokhu ahlupheka ngakho, ⁹ kwathi lapho esephelelisiwe, waba ngumthombo wokusindiswa okulaphakade wabo bonke abamlalelayo ¹⁰ wasekhethwa nguNkulunkulu ukuba abe ngumphristi omkhulu, emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi.

Isixwayiso Ngokuhlamuka

¹¹ Kunengi esingakutsho ngalokho kodwa kunzima ukuc-haza ngoba liyaphuza ukufunda. ¹² Ngeqiniso, lanxa ngale-sisikhathi lifanele ukuba ngabafundisayo, liswela omunye ukuba alifundise amaqiniso okuqala elizwi likaNku-lunkulu. Lifuna uchago, hatshi ukudla okuqinileyo! ¹³ Lowo ophila ngochago, ulokhu elusane, kayazi im-fundiso emayelana lokulunga. ¹⁴ Kodwa ukudla okuqinileyo ngokwabakhulileyo asebazifundisa ukwehlukana okuhle kokubi.

6

¹ Ngakho kasiyekeleni imfundiso elula ngoKhristu siqhubeke siye ekukhuleni. Kasingasibeki futhi isisekelo sokuphenduka ezenzweni eziholela ekufeni, lezokukholwa kuNkulunkulu, ² lemfundiso ngemibhaphathizo, lokubekwa kwezandla, lokuvuka kwabafuleyo kanye lokwahlulelwa

* 5:5 5.5 AmaHubo 2.7 † 5:6 5.6 AmaHubo 110.4

okulaphakade. ³ Njalo nxa uNkulunkulu evuma sizakwenza njalo.

⁴ Akwenzakali kulabo asebake bakhanyiselwa, asebenambithe isipho sasezulwini, asebehlanganyele kuMoya oNgcwele, ⁵ asebenambithe ubumnandi belizwi likaNkulunkulu kanye lamandla esikhathi esizayo, ⁶ njalo nxa behlamuka ukuba babuyiselwe ekuphendukeni ngoba ekuhlalekelweni kwabo bayayibethela futhi esiphambanweni iNdodana kaNkulunkulu beyethesa ihlazo phambi kwa bantu bonke. ⁷ Umhlabathi onatha izulu elihlezi lisina phezu kwawo loveza isilimo esilusizo kulabo abawulimayo uthola isibusiso sikaNkulunkulu. ⁸ Kodwa umhlabathi oveza ameva lokhula kawulasizo njalo usengozini yokuqalekiswa. Ekucineni uzatshiswa.

⁹ Kodwa lanxa sikhuluma kanje bazalwane abathandekayo, silethemba lezinto ezingcono ngani, izinto ezilokwenza lokusindiswa. ¹⁰ UNkulunkulu ulungile, kasoke awukhohlwe umsebenzi wenu lothando elamtshengisa lona njengoba lasiza abantu bakhe njalo liyaqhubeka libasiza. ¹¹ Sifuna omunye lomunye wenu abonakalise ukukhuthala lokhu kuze kube sekupheleni ukuze ithemba lenu liqiniseke. ¹² Kasifuni ukuba libe ngamavila kodwa ukuba lilingisele labo okwathi ngokukholwa langokubekezela bathola ilifa lalokhu okwakuthenjisiwe.

Ubuqotho Besithembiso SikaNkulunkulu

¹³ Lapho uNkulunkulu esenza isithembiso sakhe ku-Abrahama, njengoba wayengekho omkhulu ayengafunga ngaye, wafunga ngaye yena ngokwakhe ¹⁴ esithi, “Ngempela ngizakubusisa njalo ngikuphe inzalo enengi.”* ¹⁵ Ngakho emva kokulinda ngokubekezela, u-Abrahama wathola okwakuthenjisiwe.

¹⁶ Abantu bafunga ngomunye omkhulu kulabo njalo isifungo siqinisa lokho okutshiwoyo siqede lokuphikisana konke. ¹⁷ Njengoba uNkulunkulu wathanda ukuba enze ukungaguquki kwesimo senhloso yakhe kube sobala kuzindlalifa zalokho okwathenjisiwayo, wakuqinisa ngesifungo. ¹⁸ UNkulunkulu wenza lokhu ukuze kuthi ngezinto ezimbili ezingaguqulekiyo, uNkulunkulu angeke aqambe amanga ngazo, thina esibaleke sabambelela ethembeni esiliphiwayo sikhuthazeke kakhulu. ¹⁹ Silethemba leli njengensika yemiphefumulo yethu, eliqinileyo njalo eligxilileyo. Lingena endaweni engcwele yangaphakathi ngemva kwamakhetheni ²⁰ lapho uJesu owahamba phambi kwethu

* 6:14 6.14 UGenesisi 22.17

angena khona ngenxa yethu. Usebe ngumphristi omkhulu emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi kuze kube nini lanini.

7

UMelikhizedekhi Umphristi

¹ UMelikhizedekhi lo wayeyinkosi yaseSalemu lomphristi kaNkulunkulu oPhezukonke. Wahlangabeza u-Abrahama evela kwehlula amakhosi, wambusisa, ² u-Abrahama wamnika okwetshumi kwakho konke. Okwakuqala, ibizo elithi Melikhizedekhi litsho ukuthi “Nkosi yokulunga”; lokuthi futhi, “Nkosi yaseSalemu” kutsho ukuthi “Nkosi yokuthula.” ³ Engelayise loba unina, engelamdabuko, engelakuqala kwensuku loba ukuphela kokuphila njengeNdodana kaNkulunkulu uhlezi engumphristi nini lanini.

⁴ Ake licabange ukuthi wayemkhulu kangakanani: Lokhokho u-Abrahama wamnika okwetshumi kwempango! ⁵ Khathesi umthetho ufuna abenzalo kaLevi ababa ngabaphristi ukuba baqoqe okwetshumi ebantwini, lokhu kutsho abafowabo lanxa abafowabo beyinzalo ka-Abrahama. ⁶ Umuntu lo kazange alonde umdabuko wakhe usukela kuLevi kodwa waqoqa okwetshumi ku-Abrahama njalo wambusisa yena lowo owayelezithembiso. ⁷ Kakulakuthandabuza ukuthi umuntu omncinyane ubusiswa ngomkhulu. ⁸ Kwesinye isehlakalo, okwetshumi kuthathwa ngabantu abafayo kodwa kwesinye isehlakalo kube ngulowo okuthiwe uyaphila. ⁹ Umuntu angatsho lokuthi uLevi oqoqa okwetshumi, wanikela okwetshumi ngo-Abrahama ¹⁰ ngoba lapho uMelikhizedekhi ehlangabeza u-Abrahama uLevi wayelokhu esesemzimbeni kakhokho wakhe.

UJesu NjengoMelikhizedekhi

¹¹ Nxa ukuphelela kwakungatholakala ngobuphristi baLevi njalo ngempela umthetho owaphiwa abantu wasungula lobobuphristi, pho kungani kwakulokhu kudingeka ukuba omunye umphristi abuye evela emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi, engasiwemkhondweni ka-Aroni na? ¹² Ngoba lapho kulokuguqulwa kobuphristi, kufanele kube lokuguqulwa komthetho futhi. ¹³ Yena lowo okutshiwo lezizinto ngaye ngowesinye isizwana njalo kakho owalesosizwana owake wakhonza e-alithareni. ¹⁴ Ngoba kusobala ukuba iNkosi yethu yadabuka ko-Juda njalo mayelana lalesosizwana uMosi katshongo lutho ngabaphristi. ¹⁵ Njalo lokhu esesikutshilo kucace kakhulu nxa omunye umphristi onjengoMelikhizedekhi evela, ¹⁶ omunye obe ngumphristi kungayisikho komthetho

ngokosendo lwakhe kodwa ngokumayelana lamandla okuphila okungeke kuchithwe. ¹⁷ Ngoba kumenyazelwe ukuthi:

“Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini,

emkhondweni kaMelikhizedekhi.”*

¹⁸ Umthetho wakuqala ubekwe eceleni ngoba wawubuthakathaka njalo ungelasizo ¹⁹ (ngoba umthetho kawenzanga lutho olupheleleyo) ngakho kulethwa ithemba elitsha esisondela ngalo kuNkulunkulu.

²⁰ Njalo kwakungayisikho ngaphandle kwesifungo! Abanye babangabaphristi kungekho sifungo, ²¹ kodwa yena waba ngumphristi ngesifungo lapho uNkulunkulu athi kuye:

“INKosi ifungile

njalo kayiyikuguqula ingqondo yayo:

‘Wena ungumphristi kuze kube nini lanini.’†”

²² Ngenxa yesifungo lesi, uJesu usebe yisiqiniso sesivumelwano esingcono.

²³ Abaphristi labo sebebani njengoba babevinjelwa yikufa ukuba baqhubeke besezikhundleni; ²⁴ kodwa uJesu uphila kuze kube laphakade, ulobuphristi obuyisimakade. ²⁵ Ngakho ulamandla okubasindisa ngokupheleleyo labo abeza kuNkulunkulu ngaye ngoba uhlezi ephilela ukubancengela.

²⁶ Umphristi omkhulu onjalo wagcwalisa izinswelo zethu, ongongcwele, ongelasici, lohlanzekileyo, lowehlukaniswe lezoni, lophakanyiselwe ngaphezu kwamazulu. ²⁷ Hatshi njengabanye abaphristi abakhulu, yena kadingi kunikela imihlatshelo insuku zonke, kuqala eyezono zakhe, kulandele owezono zabantu. Wabenzela umhlatshelo wezono zabo kwaba kanye kuphela lapho ezinikela. ²⁸ Ngoba umthetho ubeka abantu ababuthakathaka ukuba ngabaphristi abakhulu kodwa isifungo eseza emva komthetho sabeka iNdodana eyenziwe yaba ngepheleleyo kuze kube nininini.

8

Umphristi Omkhulu Wesivumelwano Esitsha

¹ Isiqoqoqela salokho esikutshoyo yilesi: Silaye umphristi omkhulu onjalo, owahlala phansi esandleni sokunene kwe-sihlalo sobukhosi soMkhulu ezulwini, ² okhonzayo endaweni engcwele, ithabanikeli eliqotho elamiswa yiNkosi hatshi ngabantu.

³ Umphristi omkhulu ngamunye ubekelwe ukunikela iziphopho lemihlatshelo, ngakho kwakufanele ukuba lalo abe

* 7:17 7.17 AmaHubo 110.4 † 7:21 7.21 AmaHubo 110.4

lolutho alunikelayo. ⁴ Aluba wayesemhlabeni wayen-
gayikuba ngumphristi ngoba bevele bekhona abantu
abanikela izipho eziphawulwa ngumthetho. ⁵ Bakhonza
endaweni engcwele engumfanekiso lesithunzi salokho
okusezulwini. Yikho-nje uMosi waxwayiswa lapho eseza-
kwakha ithabanikeli ngokuthi: “Qaphela ukuba wenze
konke njengalokhu owakutshengiswa entabeni.”* ⁶ Kodwa
inkonzo uJesu ayemukeleyo ingcono kuleyabo njenge-
sivumelwano yena angumeli waso singcono kulesidala
njalo sakhelwe phezu kwezithembiso ezingcono.

⁷ Ngoba aluba kwakungelalutho olungalunganga ku-
sivumelwano sakuqala leso, akulasizatho esasingadingelwa
esinye. ⁸ Kodwa uNkulunkulu wathola isici ebantwini
wasesithi:

“Isikhathi siyeza, kutsho iNkosi,
lapho engizakwenza khona isivumelwano esitsha
lendlu ka-Israyeli
kanye lendlu kaJuda.

⁹ Kasiyikufana lesivumelwano
engasenza labokhokho babo
lapho engababamba khona ngesandla
ukuba ngibakhuphe eGibhithe,
ngoba kabaqhubekanga bethembekile esivumelwaneni
sami,
ngasengibadela,
kutsho iNkosi.

¹⁰ Nansi isivumelwano engizasenza lendlu ka-Israyeli,
ngemva kwalesosikhathi, kutsho iNkosi.
Ngizabeka imithetho yami ezingqondweni zabo,
ngiyilobe ezinhliziyweni zabo.
Ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wabo,
bona babengabantu bami.

¹¹ Umuntu kasayikufundisa umakhelwane wakhe,
kumbe umfowabo, esithi, ‘Yazi iNkosi,’
ngoba bonke bazangazi,
kusukela komncinyane wabo kusiya komkhulu.

¹² Ngoba ngizabathethelela ububi babo,
njalo angiyikukhumbula izono zabo futhi.”†

¹³ Ngokuthi isivumelwano lesi “sitsha” wenze esakuqala
sangasasebenzi; futhi okungasasebenzi lokugugileyo
kuzanyamalala masinyane.

9

Inkonzo Ethabanikeleni Lasemhlabeni

* 8:5 8.5 U-Eksodasi 25.40 † 8:12 8.12 UJeremiya 31.31-34

¹ Isivumelwano sakuqala sasilezimiso zokukhonza kanye lendawo engcwele yasemhlabeni. ² Kwakhiwa ithabanikeli. Ekamelweni lalo lakuqala kwakuloluthi lwesibane, letafula kanye lesinkwa esingcwelisiweyo; lokhu kwakubizwa ngokuthi yiNdawo eNgcwele. ³ Ngemva kwekhethezi lesibili kwakulekamelolo elalithiwa yiNdawo eNgcwelengcwele, ⁴ eyayile-alithare lokutshisela impepha elalihluqwe ngegolide kanye lomtshokotsho wesivumelwano owawuhluqwe ngegolide. Umtshokotsho wakhona wawulembizanyana yemana, lentonga ka-Aroni eyahlumayo kanye lezibhebhedu zamatshe esivumelwano. ⁵ Phezu komtshokotsho kwakulamakherubhi eNkazimulo enze ithunzi phezu kwendawo yomhlatshelo. Kodwa khathezi asingeke silandise okugcweleyo ngalezozinto.

⁶ Kwathi konke sekulungisiwe kanje, abaphristi bangena njalonjalo ekamelweni langaphandle ukuba benze inkonzo yabo. ⁷ Kodwa umphristi omkhulu nguye kuphela owayengena ekamelweni langaphakathi kanye ngomnyaka, njalo kungeke kwenzeke engelagazi alinikelela yena kanye lezono abantu abazenza bengazi. ⁸ UMoya oNgcwele wayetshengisa ngalokho ukuthi indlela eya eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele yayingabonakaliswa nxa ithabanikeli lakuqala lilokhu likhona. ⁹ Lokhu kungumfanekiso walesisikhathi, okubonakalisa ukuthi izipho lemihlatshelo okwakunikelwa kwakunganelisi ukuhlambulula izazela zabakhonzayo. ¹⁰ Kuyindaba yokudla lokunatha kuphela kanye lemikhuba eyehlukeneyo yokugeza imilayo yangaphandle komzimba esebenza kuze kufike isikhathi sezimiso ezintsha.

Igazi LikaKhristu

¹¹ Kwathi lapho uKhristu esefikile njengomphristi omkhulu wezinto ezinhle esezikhona, wadabula phakathi kwethabanikeli elikhulu elipheleleyo elingenziwanga ngabantu, okuyikuthi, kalisingxenye yale indalo. ¹² Kangenanga ngokusebenzisa igazi lembuzi loba elamathole; kodwa wangena kanye kuphela eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele ngegazi lakhe, esethole ukuhlengwa okulaphakade. ¹³ Igazi lembuzi lelenkunzi lemilotha yamathokazi okufafazwa ebantwini abangahlambulukanga ngokomkhuba kuyabangcwelisa ukuba babe ngabahlambulukileyo ngaphandle. ¹⁴ Pho igazi likaKhristu, owazinikela engelasici kuNkulunkulu ngomoya olaphakade, lizazihlambulula kakhulu okungakanani izazela zethu emisebenzini edonsela ekufeni, ukuze sikhonze uNkulunkulu ophilayo!

¹⁵ Ngenxa yalokhu uKhristu ungumeli wesivumelwano esitsha ukuze kuthi labo ababiziweyo bathole ilifa elingapheliyo elathenjiswa njengoba sewafa njengenhlawulo ukuba abakhulule ezonweni abazenzayo esivumelwaneni sakuqala.

¹⁶ Mayelana lentando yokwaba ilifa, kuyadingakala ukuba kufakazwe ukufa kwalowo owakwenzayo, ¹⁷ ngoba intando yokwaba ilifa isebenza kuphela lapho kukhona ofileyo; kayisebenzi nxa lowo owayenzayo elokhu esaphila. ¹⁸ Yikho-nje lesivumelwano sakuqala kasifezwanga kungekho gazi. ¹⁹ Kwathi uMosi esememezele imilayo yonke yomthetho ebantwini bonke, wathatha igazi lamathole lelempongo ndawonye lamanzi, lewulu ebomvu kanye lezingatsha zehisophi, wachela umqulu kanye labantu bonke. ²⁰ Wathi, "Leli ligazi lesivumelwano uNkulunkulu alaye ukuba lisigcine."* ²¹ Ngendlela efanayo wachela ithabanikeli ngegazi kanye lezinto zonke ezisetshenziswa emikhosini yalo. ²² Ngempela umthetho uphose ufuno ukuba izinto zonke zihlanjululwe ngegazi, njalo kungekho kuchithwa kwegazi akukho ukuthethelela.

²³ Ngakho kwakufanele ukuba imifanekiso yezinto zazesulwini zihlanjululwe ngemihlatshelo le kodwa izinto zazesulwini uqobo kube ngemihlatshelo engcono kulale. ²⁴ Ngoba uKhristu kangenanga endaweni engcwele eyenziwa ngabantu eyayingumfanekiso waleyo eqotho kuphela; yena wangena ezulwini uqobo, ukuba asimele phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ²⁵ Kangenanga ezulwini ukuba azinikele njalonjalo, njengomphristi omkhulu engena eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele minyaka yonke legazi elingayisilo lakhe. ²⁶ Ngakho uKhristu wayezahlupheka kanengi kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba. Kodwa khathesi usebonakale kanye kuphela ekupheleni kwezikhathi ukuba asuse isono ngomhlatshelo onguye. ²⁷ Njengalokhu umuntu wamiselwa ukufa kanye, kuthi emva kwalokho abhekane lokwahlulelwa, ²⁸ ngokunjalo uKhristu wanikelwa kanye ukuba asuse izono zabantu abanengi; njalo uzabonakala okwesibili, hatshi ukuthwala isono, kodwa ukuletha ukusindiswa kulabo abamlindeleyo.

10

Umhlatshelo KaKhristu Kanye Kuphela

¹ Umthetho uyisithunzi nje sezinto ezinhle ezizayo kodwa hatshi lokho okuyikho uqobo. Ngenxa yemihlatshelo efanayo ephindwaphindwa kokuphela iminyaka leminyaka

* 9:20 9.20 U-Eksodasi 24.8

ayingeke ibenze baphelele labo abasondela ekukhonzeni.
² Aluba wawusanelisa, imihlatshelo yayingayikuyekelwa ukunikelwa na? Ngoba abakhonzayo babezahanjululwa kube kanye kuphela, njalo babengasayikuzizwa belecala lezono zabo. ³ Kodwa imihlatshelo iyisikhumbuzo sezono zeminyaka yonke, ⁴ ngoba akwenzakali ukuba igazi lenkunzi lelembuzi lisuse izono.

⁵ Ngakho-ke, uKhristu esefikile emhlabeni wathi:
 "Umhlatshelo lomnikelo kawukufunanga,
 kodwa wena wangilungisela umzimba;

⁶ kawuthokozanga
 ngeminikelo yokutshiswa leminikelo yesono.

⁷ Ngasengisithi, 'Ngilapha,
 kulotshiwe ngami emqulwini,
 ngilande ukuzokwenza intando yakho,

Oh Nkulunkulu.'*"

⁸ Kuqala wathi, "Imihlatshelo leminikelo, iminikelo yokutshiswa kanye leminikelo yesono kawuyifunanga, njalo kayikuthokozisanga" (lanxa umthetho usithi kayenziwe).

⁹ Wabuya wathi, "Ngilapha, ngilande ukuzokwenza intando yakho." Ususa okokuqala ukuze amise okwesibili. ¹⁰ Njalo ngaleyontando senziwe saba ngcwele ngomhlatshelo womzimba kaJesu Khristu kanye kuphela.

¹¹ Insuku zonke umphristi uyema enze imisebenzi yakhe yenkonzo, anikele njalonjalo imihlatshelo minye, engeke isuse izono. ¹² Kodwa kwathi umphristi lo esenikelele izikhathi zonke umhlatshelo owodwa wezono, wahlala phansi esandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu. ¹³ Kusukela ngalesosikhathi ulindele izitha zakhe ukuba zibe yisenabelo sakhe, ¹⁴ ngoba ngomhlatshelo owodwa usephelelise nini lanini labo abenziwayo ukuba ngcwele.

¹⁵ LoMoya oNgcwele uyafakaza kithi ngalokho. Kuqala uthi:

¹⁶ "Lesi yisivumelwano engizasenza labo emva kwalesosikhathi, kutsho iNkosi. Ngizafaka imithetho yami ezinhliziyweni zabo ngiyilobe lasezingqondweni zabo."†

¹⁷ Wabuya wengeza wathi:
 "Izono zabo lezenzo zokungabi lomthetho,
 angiyikukhumbula futhi."‡

¹⁸ Nxa lezi sezithethelelwe, kawusekho umhlatshelo wesono.

Inkuthazo Yokubekezela

* **10:7** 10.7 AmaHubo 40.6-8 † **10:16** 10.16 UJeremiya 31.33 ‡ **10:17** 10.17 UJeremiya 31.34

¹⁹ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane, njengoba silethemba lokungena eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele ngegazi likaJesu, ²⁰ ngendlela entsha ephilayo, esiyivulelwe ekhethenini, okuyikuthi umzimba wakhe, ²¹ njalo njengoba silomphristi omkhulu ophethe indlu kaNkulunkulu, ²² kasisondeleni kuNkulunkulu ngezinhliziyi eziqotho ngethemba elipheleleyo lokholo; sibe lezinhliziyi ezicheliweyo ukuba sihlanjululwe isazela secala lemizimba yethu igeziswe ngamanzi ahlanzekileyo. ²³ Kasibambeeleni ngokuqina kulo ithemba esilikholwayo, ngoba lowo owathembisayo uthembekile. ²⁴ Njalo kasicabangeni ukuba singakhuthazana njani ethandweni lasezenzweni ezinhle. ²⁵ Kasingakudeli ukuhlangana, njengalokhu abanye abajayele ukukwenza kodwa kasikhuthazaneni ikakhulu njengoba sibona uSuku lusondela.

²⁶ Nxa siqhubeka sisenza izono ngabomu emva kokuba iqiniso sesilazi, kawusekho umhlatshelo wezono, ²⁷ kodwa umlindelo owesabekayo wokwahlulelwa kuphela kanye lomlilo ovuthayo ozaqothula izitha zikaNkulunkulu. ²⁸ Owawalayo umthetho kaMosi wafa kungela sihawu ngobufakazi babafakazi ababili kumbe abathathu. ²⁹ Pholicabanga ukuthi ufanele ukujeziswa kakhulu kangakanani umuntu owanyathela iNdodana kaNkulunkulu ngaphansi konyawo, ophathe igazi lesivumelwano elamenza waba ngcwele njengento engangcwele, lohlabaza uMoya womusa na? ³⁰ Ngoba thina siyamazi lowo owathi, "Ukuphindisela ngokwami; ngizabuyisela,"[§] njalo wathi, "INkosi izakwahlulela abantu bayo."* ³¹ Kuyinto eyesabekayo ukuwela ezandleni zikaNkulunkulu ophilayo.

³² Khumbulani insuku zakuqala leziyana emva kokuba selamukele ukukhanya, lapho elaqinisela khona ebunzimeni obukhulu phakathi kokuhlupheka. ³³ Ngezinye izikhathi lenziwa umbukiso wokuhlanjazwa lokuhlukuluzwa; kwathi ngezinye izikhathi lamanyana lalabo ababephathwa kanjalo. ³⁴ Laba lozwelo kulabo ababesentolongweni, lamukela ngentokozo ukuthunjwa kwempahla yenu, ngoba lalikhwazi ukuthi lina lilempahla engcono engapheliyo. ³⁵ Ngakho lingalilahli ithemba lenu; lizavuzwa ngokunengi.

³⁶ Kuyadingeka ukuba libekezele ukuze kuthi lapho seliyenzile intando kaNkulunkulu, lamukele lokho akuthembisayo. ³⁷ Ngoba,
lowo ozayo uzafika

§ 10:30 10.30 UDutheronomi 32.35
AmaHubo 135.14

* 10:30 10.30 UDutheronomi 32.36;

njalo kasoze aphuze.”

³⁸ Kodwa,

“Olungileyo wami uzaphila ngokukholwa.

Angahlehlela emuva,

kangiyikuthokoza ngaye.”†

³⁹ Kodwa thina kasisibo balabo abahlehlela emuva babhujiswe, kodwa labo abakholwayo basindiswe.

11

Imisebenzi Yokukholwa

¹ Ukukholwa yikuba leqiniso lalokhu esikulindeleyo njalo kuqinisekile ngalokho esingakuboniyo. ² Lokhu yikho abendulo abanconywa ngakho.

³ Ngokukholwa siyezwisisa ukuthi izulu lomhlaba kwadalwa ngokulaya kukaNkulunkulu, ngoba okubonakalayo kakwenziwanga ngalokho okwakubonakala.

⁴ Ngokukholwa u-Abheli wanikela kuNkulunkulu umnikelo omuhle kulokaKhayini. Ngokukholwa wanconywa njengomuntu olungileyo, ngesikhathi uNkulunkulu ekhuluma kuhle ngeminikelo yakhe. Njalo ngokukholwa ulokhu ekhuluma, lanxa sewafa.

⁵ Ngokukholwa u-Enoki wasuswa kulumhlaba ephila ukuze angakuzwa ukufa: “Kabonakalanga ngoba uNkulunkulu wayesemthethe.”* Engakathathwa, wayenconywe njengowayethokozise uNkulunkulu. ⁶ Kungelakukholwa akweneliseki ukumthokozisa uNkulunkulu ngoba oza kuye kumele akholwe ukuthi ukhona lokuthi uyabanika umvuzo labo abamdinga ngobuqotho.

⁷ Ngokukholwa uNowa esexwayisiwe ngezinto ezazingakabonakali, ngokwesaba okungcwele wakha umkhumbi ukuba ahlenge abendlu yakhe. Ngokukholwa kwakhe wawulahla umhlaba waba yindlalifa yokulunga okuza ngokukholwa.

⁸ Ngokukholwa u-Abhrahama esebizelwe ukuba aye endaweni ayezayamukela muva njengelifa lakhe, walalela wahamba, lanxa wayengakwazi lapho ayesiya khona.

⁹ Ngokukholwa wahlala elizweni lesithembiso njengeshambi, elizweni elingayisilo lakibo; wahlala emathenteni, njengokwenziwa ngu-Isaka lojakhobe, ababezindlalifa zalolizwe lesithembiso kanye laye. ¹⁰ Ngoba wayelindele idolobho elilezisekelo, elimcandi walo lomakhi walo nguNkulunkulu.

¹¹ Ngokukholwa, lanxa u-Abhrahama wayeseluphele loSara eyinyumba, wanikwa amandla okuba

† 10:38 10.38 UHabhakhukhi 2.3-4

* 11:5 11.5 UGenesisi 5.24

lomntwana ngoba wambona njengothembekileyo lowo owayenze isithembiso. ¹² Ngakho-ke, kusukela kulumuntu oyedwa, owayefana lofileyo, kwavela inzalo enengi njengezinkanyezi emkhathini njalo engeke ibalwe njen-genhlabathi ekhunjini lolwandle.

¹³ Abantu bonke laba bafa belokhu bephila ngokukholwa. Kabazamukelanga izinto ezathenjiswa; bazibona nje kuphela bazithakazelela zikude. Njalo bavuma ukuthi bona babeyizizwe lezihambi emhlabeni. ¹⁴ Abantu abakhuluma izinto ezinje babonakalisa ukuthi bafuna ilizwe elingelabo. ¹⁵ Aluba babecabanga ngelizwe abasuka kulo, babezabakuba lethuba lokubuyela. ¹⁶ Kodwa-ke bona babefuna ilizwe elingcono, lona elisezulwini. Ngakho uNkulunkulu akumyangisi ukubizwa ngokuthi unguNkulunkulu wabo, ngoba usebalungisele idolobho.

¹⁷ Ngokukholwa, kwathi u-Abhrahama ehlolwa nguNkulunkulu, wanikela u-Isaka njengomhlatshe. Yena owayamukele izithembiso wayeseseduze ukuba anikele indodana yakhe eyodwa njalo eyiyo kuphela, ¹⁸ lanxa uNkulunkulu wayethe kuye, "isizukulwane sakho sizabalwa ngo-Isaka."† ¹⁹ U-Abhrahama wanakana ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayengabavusa abafuleyo, njalo nxa kuzekeliswa, wamamukela u-Isaka evela ekufeni.

²⁰ Ngokukholwa u-Isaka wabusisa uJakhobe lo-Esawu ngokusasa labo.

²¹ Ngokukholwa uJakhobe, esesifa wawabusisa wonke amadodana kaJosefa, wasekhonza eyame phezu kwentonga yakhe.

²² Ngokukholwa uJosefa, isiphetho sakhe sesisondele, walandisa ngokuphuma kwabako-Israyeli eGibhithe njalo walayezela ngamathambo akhe.

²³ Ngokukholwa abazali bakaMosi bamfihla izinyanga ezintathu emva kokuzalwa kwakhe, ngoba babona ukuthi wayengasumntwana nje ojayelekileyo, njalo babengawesabi umthetho wenkosi.

²⁴ Ngokukholwa uMosi esekhulile, wala ukuba aziwe njengendodana yendodakazi kaFaro. ²⁵ Wakhetha ukuphathwa kubi kanye labantu bakaNkulunkulu kulokuba akholise injabulo yesono okwesikhathi esifitshane. ²⁶ Wakhetha ihlazo ngenxa kaKhristu njengegugu elikhulu kulenotho yaseGibhithe ngoba wayekhangelele umvuzo phambili. ²⁷ Ngokukholwa wasuka eGibhithe, engalwesabi ulaka lwenkosi; wabekezela ngoba wambona lowo ngabonakaliyo. ²⁸ Ngokukholwa wagcina iPhasika

† 11:18 11.18 UGenesisi 21.12

lokuchelwa kwegazi, ukuze umbulali wamazibulo angawathinti amazibulo ako-Israyeli.

²⁹ Ngokukholwa abantu badabula phakathi koLwandle oluBomvu njengasemhlabathini owomileyo, kodwa kwathi amaGibhithe ezama ukwenzanjalo agalula.

³⁰ Ngokukholwa imiduli yaseJerikho yadilika emva kokuba abantu beyibhode okwensuku eziyisikhombisa.

³¹ Ngokukholwa uRahabi isifebe, ngoba wamukela inhloli, kabulawanga kanye lalabo ababengalaleli.

³² Kuyini okunye engingakutsho? Kangilasikhathi soku-landisa ngoGidiyoni, loBharakhi, loSamsoni, loJeftha, lo-Davida, loSamuyeli kanye labaphrofethi, ³³ abanqoba imibuso ngokukholwa benza okulungileyo njalo bathola okwakuthenjisiwe; bona abavala imilomo yezilwane, ³⁴ bacitsha ukuvutha kwamalangabi, baphepha lasebukhalini benkemba; ubuthakathaka babo baphenduka baba ngamandla; njalo baba lamandla empini bawachitha amabutho ezizweni. ³⁵ Abesifazane bamukela abafayo babo sebevuselwe ekuphileni futhi. Abanye bahlukuluzwa njalo bala ukukhululwa, ukuze bathole ukuvuka ekufeni okuhle.

³⁶ Abanye bahozwa batshaywa, kwathi abanye babotshwa ngamaketane bafakwa entolongweni. ³⁷ Batshaywa ngamatshe, baqunywa ngesaha baba yiziqo ezimbili; babulawa ngenkemba. Bahamba begqoke izikhumba zezimvu lezikhumba zembuzi, beswela, behlukuluzwa, bephathwa kubi, ³⁸ umhlaba kubo wawungabafanele. Bantula enkan-gala lasezintabeni lasezimbalwini kanye lasemilindini emhlabathini.

³⁹ Bonke laba banconywa ngokukholwa kwabo, kodwa kakho phakathi kwabo owathola okwakuthenjisiwe.

⁴⁰ Thina uNkulunkulu wayesimisele okuhle ukuze kuthi sebe kanye lathi bapheleliswe.

12

¹ Ngakho-ke, njengoba sihanqwe lixuku elikhulu kangaka labafakazi, kasikulahlani konke okusivimbelayo kanye lesono esisibopha lula njalo kasigijimeni ngokubekezela kulo umjaho ophawulelwe thina. ² Kasikhangeleni kuJesu, uMqalisi loMphelelisi wokukholwa kwethu, okwathi ngen-tokozo eyayibekwe phambi kwakhe wabekezelela isiphambano, engananzi ihlazo laso, wahlala phansi esandleni sokunene sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu. ³ Cabangani ngaye owabekezelela ukuphikiswa okungaka ngabantu abayizoni ukuze lingabi buthakathaka lilahle ithemba.

UNkulunkulu Ulaya Abantwana Bakhe

4 Ekulweni kwenu lesono, kalimelananga laso kwaze kwaba sebangeni lokuchitha igazi lenu. 5 Njalo selilikhohliwe lelizwi lokulikhuthaza elikhuluma kini njengamadodana elithi:

“Ndodana yami, ungeyisi ukulaya kweNkosi.

Njalo ungalahli ithemba lapho ikukhuza,

6 ngoba uThixo ulaya labo abathandayo,

abuye ajezise bonke abamukela njengendodana.”*

7 Bekezelelani ukuhlupheka njengokulaywa; uNkulunkulu uliphatha njengabantwana bakhe. Kambe yibaphi abantwana abangalaywa nguyise na?

8 Nxa lingalaywa (umuntu wonke uyalaywa), liyabe lingabantwana abazalwa ngokungekho emthethweni njalo abangasiwo amadodana lamadodakazi uqobo.

9 Phezu kwalokho, sonke sake saba labobaba abasilayayo njalo sabahlonipha ngenxa yalokho. Pho kufanele sizehlise kakhulu okungakanani kuBaba wemimoya yethu njalo siphile!

10 Obaba basilaya okwesikhatshana ngababekubona kukuhle, kodwa uNkulunkulu usilaya ukuba sisizakale, ukuba sihlanganye ebungcweleni bakhe.

11 Akukho kulaywa okukhanya kukuhle ngalesosikhathi, kodwa kubuhlungu. Kodwa muva, kuletha isivuno sokulunga lokuthula kulabo abafundiswa yikho.

12 Ngakho-ke, qinisani izingalo zenu ezibuthakathaka lamadolo enu axegayo.

13 “Lungiselani inyawo zenu izindlela ezibekekileyo,”† ukuze abaqhulayo bangagokeki, kodwa basiliswe.

Isixwayiso Ngokwala UNkulunkulu

14 Zamani kakhulu ukuhlalisana ngokuthula labantu bonke lokuba ngcwele; kungekho bungcwele kakho ozayibona iNkosi. 15 Bonani ukuthi kakho oswela umusa kaNkulunkulu kanye lokuthi akulampande ebabayo ekhulayo ukuba idale uhlupho ingcolise abanengi. 16 Bonani ukuthi kakho oyisifebe, loba ongakhonzi uNkulunkulu njengo-Esawu okwathi ngenxa yokudla kunye wathengisa amalungelo elifa lakhe okuba lizibulo. 17 Muva, njengoba lisazi, lapho esefuna ukuzuza isibusiso lesi waliwa. Wayengeke enze kube lokuguquka kwengqondo, lanxa wafuna isibusiso lesi ngezinyembezi.

Intaba Yokwesaba Lentokozo

18 Kalizanga entabeni engathintwayo njalo ebhebha umlilo; ebumnyameni lasekufiphaleni lesiphepho; 19 ekukhaleni kwecilongo loba ilizwi elinjalo elikhulumayo,

* 12:6 12.6 Izaga 3.11-12 † 12:13 12.13 Izaga 4.26

okwenza labo abalizwayo bacela ukuba kungabi lelizwi elikhulunywa kubo futhi, ²⁰ ngoba babengeke bakumele ukulaywa okwakusithi: “Lenyamazana ingathinta intaba, kumele itshaywe ngamatshe.”[‡]
²¹ Okwabonwayo kwakusesabeka kakhulu uMosi waze wathi, “Ngiyathuthumela ngenxa yokwesaba.”§

²² Kodwa lina lize eNtabeni iZiyoni, iJerusalema lasezulwini, umuzi kaNkulunkulu ophilayo. Lize kuzinkulungwane lezinkulungwane zezingilosi ezihlangane ngentokozo ²³ ebandleni lezibulo, ezimabizo azo alotshiwe ezulwini. Lize kuNkulunkulu, umahluleli wabantu bonke, emimoyeni yabantu abalungileyo abaphelelisiweyo, ²⁴ kuJesu umeli wesivumelwano esitsha, lasegazini elicheliweyo elikhuluma ilizwi elihle kulegazi lika-Abheli.

²⁵ Bonani ukuthi kalimenqabeli lowo okhulumayo. Nxa bengaphephanga lapho benqabela lowo owabaxwayisa emhlabeni, koba kuncane kangakanani kithi, nxa sidela lowo osixwayisa ezulwini na? ²⁶ Ngalesosikhathi ilizwi lakhe lanyikinya umhlaba, kodwa khathesi usethembisile wathi: “Ngizaphinda njalo futhi nginyikinye, hatshi umhlaba kuphela, kodwa lamazulu futhi.”* ²⁷ Amazwi la “njalo futhi” atsho ukususwa kwalokho okunganyikinyiswa, okuyikuthi izinto ezadalwayo, ukuze kuthi lokho okungeke kunyikinyiswe kusale.

²⁸ Ngakho-ke, njengoba sisamukela umbuso ongeke unyikinywe, kasibongeni njalo sikhonze uNkulunkulu ngokufaneleyo ngenhlonipho langokwesaba, ²⁹ ngoba “uNkulunkulu wethu ungumlilo oqothulayo.”†

13

Izixwayiso Zokucina

¹ Qhubekani lithandana njengabazalwane.
² Lingakhohlwa ukwamukela izihambi ngoba ngokwenza njalo abanye abantu bamukela izingilosi bengazi.
³ Khumbulani abasentolongweni ngokungathi lani liyizibotshwa kanye labo, kanye lalabo abaphethwe kubi ngokungathi lani uqobo liyahlupheka.

⁴ Ukuthathana kumele kuhlonitshwe ngumuntu wonke, kuthi lomendlalo wokuthathana uhlale uhlambulukile ngoba uNkulunkulu uzakwahlulela isifebe labo bonke abahlobongayo. ⁵ Ekuphileni kwenu xwayani ukuthanda

‡ 12:20 12.20 U-Eksodasi 19.12-13 § 12:21 12.21 UDutheronomi 9.19

* 12:26 12.26 UHagayi 2.6 † 12:29 12.29 UDutheronomi 4.24

imali lisuthiseke ngalokho elilakho, ngoba uNkulunkulu wathi:

“Kangisoze ngilitshiye;
kangisoze ngilidele.”*

⁶ Ngakho siyatsho ngethemba sithi:

“INkosi ingumsizi wami; kangiyikwesaba.

Umuntu angenzani kimi na?”†

⁷ Khumbulani abakhokheli benu, abakhuluma ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kini. Cabangani okwavela endleleni yokuphila kwabo lilingisele ukukholwa kwabo. ⁸ UJesu Khristu uyafana izolo lanamhla kanye laphakade.

⁹ Lingathatheki ngazonke inhlobo zemfundiso engaziwayo. Kuhle ukuba inhliziyi zethu ziqiniseke ngumusa, hatshi yikudla komkhuba okungelasizo kulabo abakudlayo. ¹⁰ Thina sile-alithare lapho labo abakhonza ethabanikeleni bengelalungelo lokudlela kulo.

¹¹ Umphristi omkhulu uletha igazi lezifuyo eNdaweni eNgcwelengcwele njengomnikelo wesono kodwa izidumbu zazo ziyatshiswa ngaphandle kwezihonqo. ¹² Ngokunjalo uJesu laye wahlupheka ngaphandle kwesango ledolobho ukuba enze abantu bakhe babengcwele ngegazi lakhe. ¹³ Ngakho-ke, kasiyeni kuye ngaphandle kwezihonqo silehlazo alithwalayo. ¹⁴ Ngoba lapha kasiladolobho elimiyo njalo, kodwa sidinga idolobho elizayo.

¹⁵ Ngakho, ngoJesu kasinikeleni njalonjalo kuNkulunkulu umhlathshelo wokubonga, isithelo sezindebe ezivuma ibizo lakhe. ¹⁶ Njalo lingakhohlwa ukwenza okulungileyo kanye lokwabela abanye ngoba uNkulunkulu uyathokoza ngemihlatshelo enje.

¹⁷ Lalelani abakhokheli benu njalo lithobeke amandla abo. Bayalilinda njengabantu okumele balandise ngani. Balaleni ukuze umsebenzi wabo uthokoze njalo ungasindi ngoba lokho akungeke kube lusizo kini.

¹⁸ Sikhulekeleni. Sileqiniso ukuthi silesazela esihle njalo sifisa ukuhlala ngobuqotho ngezindlela zonke. ¹⁹ Ikakhulu ngiyalincenga ukuba likhuleke ukuze ngibuyiselwe kini masinyane.

Izibusiso Lokuvalelisa

²⁰ Sengathi uNkulunkulu wokuthula, owavusa iNkosi yethu uJesu kwabafuleyo ngegazi lesivumelwano esingapheliyo, lowoMalusi omkhulu wezimvu, ²¹ angalihlomisa ngakho konke okulungele ukwenza intando yakhe, njalo sengathi angasebenza phakathi

* 13:5 13.5 UDtheronomi 31.6 † 13:6 13.6 AmaHubo 118.6-7

kwethu lokho okumthokozisayo ngoJesu Khristu, udumo kalube kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Ameni.

²² Bazalwane, ngiyalincenga ukuba libekezelele ilizwi lami lokuqonqosela kwami ngoba ngililobele incwadi emfitshane nje.

²³ Ngithanda ukuba likwazi ukuthi umzalwane wethu uThimothi usekhululwe. Angafika masinyane ngizakuza laye sizelibona.

²⁴ Bingelelani bonke abakhokheli benu kanye labantu bakaNkulunkulu bonke. Abavela e-Ithali bayalibingelela.

²⁵ Umusa kawube lani lonke.

UJakhobe

¹ UJakhobe inceku kaNkulunkulu leyeNkosi uJesu Khristu,

Kuzo izizwana ezilitshumi lambili ezihlakazekele phakathi kwezizwe:

Ngiyalibingelela.

Ukuhlolwa Lezilingo

² Bazalwane bami, lapho lisehlelwa yizilingo ezitshiyeneyo, kubaleni njengentokozo epheleleyo ³ ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi ukuhlolwa kokholo lwenu kukhulisa ukubekezela. ⁴ Ukubekezela kufanele kuwugede umsebenzi wakho ukuze lina likhule njalo liphelele, lingasileli ngalutho. ⁵ Nxa omunye wenu eswela ukuhlakanipha kumele acele kuNkulunkulu onika bonke ngesihle engadinganga sici, ngempela uzakuphiwa. ⁶ Kodwa lapho ecela kumele akholwe angathandabuzi ngoba othandabuzayo unjengegagasi lolwandle eliphethshulwa ngumoya uliphose. ⁷ Umuntu lowo akumelanga acabange ukuthi kulolutho azaluthola eNkosini; ⁸ ungumuntu ongqondombili, kazinzanga kukho konke akwenzayo.

⁹ Umzalwane olesimo esiphansi kumele aziqhenye ngesikhundla sakhe esiphezulu. ¹⁰ Kodwa lowo onothileyo kumele aziqhenye ngesikhundla sakhe esiphansi, ngoba uzadlula njengeluba leganga. ¹¹ Ngoba ilanga liphuma litshisa okuhangulayo libunise ihlumela, umqhakazo walo uwohloke lobuhle balo buphele. Ngokufanayo umuntu onothileyo uzanyamalala elokhu esawenza umsebenzi wakhe.

¹² Ubusisiwe umuntu oqiniselayo ekulingweni, ngoba lapho esephumelele ekuhlolweni, uzaphiwa umqhele wokuphila, ukuphila uNkulunkulu akuthembisa labo abamthandayo.

¹³ Ekulingweni, kakho okumele athi, “UNkulunkulu uyangilinga.” Ngoba uNkulunkulu angeke alingwe yibubi, futhi kalingi muntu; ¹⁴ kodwa lowo lalowo ulingwa yinkanuko yakhe embi, lapho edonselwa kude ehugwa. ¹⁵ Ngakho-ke, nxa inkanuko isidaliwe izala isono; njalo isono lapho sesikhulile okugcweleyo, sizala ukufa.

¹⁶ Lingakhohliswa bazalwane bami abathandekayo. ¹⁷ Zonke iziphopho ezinhle lezipheleleyo zivela phezulu, zehlele

phansi zivela kuYise wezibane zasezulwini, ongaguqukiyo njalo ongelathunzi lokuphenduka. ¹⁸ Wakhetha ukusizala ngelizwi leqiniso ukuze sibe luhlobo lwezithelo zakuqala kukho konke akudalayo.

Ukulalela Lokwenza

¹⁹ Bazalwane bami abathandekayo, qaphelani lokhu: Umuntu wonke kumele aphange alalele, aphuze ukukhuluma, njalo aphuze lokuthukuthela ²⁰ ngoba ukuthukuthela komuntu kakulethi ukuphila okulungileyo okufiswa nguNkulunkulu. ²¹ Ngakho-ke, lahlani amanyala wonke lobubi obande kangaka, lilamukele ngokuthobeka ilizwi elahlanyelwa kini, elingalisindisa.

²² Lingalaleli ilizwi nje kuphela, beselizikhohlisa ngalokho. Yenzani lokho elikutshoyo. ²³ Loba ngubani olalela ilizwi kodwa angaze enza elikutshoyo unjengomuntu okhangela ubuso bakhe esibukweni ²⁴ kuthi esezibukile asuke ahle akhohlwe ukuthi unjani. ²⁵ Kodwa umuntu owukhangela ngenjongo umthetho opheleleyo oletha ukukhululeka, njalo aqhubeke esenza lokhu engakhohlwa asekuzwile, kodwa ekwenza, uzabusiwa kulokho akwenzayo.

²⁶ Nxa umuntu ecabanga ukuthi uyakholwa kodwa engabambi ulimi lwakhe okuqinileyo, uyazikhohlisa njalo lokholo lwakhe luyize. ²⁷ Ukukholwa okwamukelwa nguNkulunkulu uBaba okuhlambulukileyo njalo kungelasici yilokhu: ukugcina izintandane labafelokazi ekuhluphekeni kwabo, kanye lokuzigcina thina ngokwethu ekungcolisweni ngumhlaba.

2

Ukubandlulula Akuvunyelwa

¹ Bazalwane bami, njengabakholwayo eNkosini yethu elenkazimulo uJesu Khristu, lingabandlululi. ² Kasithi umuntu ufika emhlanganweni wenu eggqize indandatho yegolide, eggoke lezigqoko ezinhle, besekungena umyanga eggoke izigqoko ezinithizelayo. ³ Nxa limnaka kakhulu lowo ogqoke izigqoko ezinhle lithi kuye, "Nansi isihlalo esingcono," kodwa kongumyanga lithi, "Wena mana laphayana," kumbe lithi, "Hlala phansi eduze kwezinyawo zami," ⁴ Kambe kalibandlululanga njalo laba ngabahluleli abalemicabango emibi na?

⁵ Lalelani, bazalwane bami abathandekayo: Kanti uNkulunkulu kabakhethanga yini labo abangabayanga emehlweni omhlaba ukuba babengabanothileyo ekukholweni kanye lokudla ilifa lombuso awuthembisa labo

abamthandayo na? ⁶ Kodwa lina libathukile abayanga. Abanothileyo akusibo yini abadinga inzuzo ngani? Akusibo yini abalihudulela emithethwandaba? ⁷ Akusibo yini abahlambaza ibizo lobukhosi elalowo lina elingabakhe na?

⁸ Nxa liwugcina sibili umthetho wobukhosi otholakala eMbalweni othi, "Thanda umakhelwane wakho njengalokhu uzithanda,"* lenza okulungileyo. ⁹ Kodwa nxa libandlulula lenza isono njalo lilahlwa ngumthetho njengabephuli bomthetho. ¹⁰ Ngoba loba ngubani ogcina umthetho wonke, kodwa akhubeke endaweni eyodwa, ulecala lokuwephula wonke. ¹¹ Ngoba yena owathi, "Ungafebi,"† wathi futhi, "Ungabulali."‡ Nxa ungamebi, kodwa ubulala, usube yisaphulamthetho.

¹² Khulumani njalo lenze njengalabo abazakwahlulelwa ngumthetho onika ukukhululeka, ¹³ ngoba ukwahlulela okungelasihawu kuzakuba kulowo obengelasihawu. Isihawu sinqoba ukwahlulela!

Ukukholwa Lezenzo

¹⁴ Kusizani bazalwane bami, nxa umuntu esithi ulokholo kodwa engelazenzo? Ukhohlo olunjalo lungamsindisa na? ¹⁵ Kasithi umfowenu loba udadewenu kalazigqoko lokudla kwansukuzonke. ¹⁶ Nxa omunye wenu esithi kuye, "Hamba, ngikufisela okuhle; hlala ufudumala njalo usutha," kodwa angenzi lutho ngalezi zinswelo zakhe zomzimba, kusizani na? ¹⁷ Ngokunjalo, ukukholwa nje kuphela, nxa kungelamisebenzi kufile.

¹⁸ Kodwa omunye uzakuthi, "Wena ulokukholwa; mina ngilezenzo."

Ngitshengisa ukukholwa kwakho kungelazenzo, njalo mina ngizakutshengisa ukukholwa kwami ngalokho engikwenzayo. ¹⁹ Uyakhohla ukuthi kuloNkulunkulu oyedwa. Kulungile! Lamadimoni ayakukholwa lokhu njalo ayathuthumela.

²⁰ Wena ndoda eyisiwula, ufuna ubufakazi bokuthi ukukholwa okungelamisebenzi kuyize na? ²¹ Kanje ukhokho wethu u-Abrahama kabalwanga njengolungileyo ngenxa yalokhu akwenzayo lapho anikela indodana yakhe u-Isaka e-alithareni na? ²² Liyabona ukuthi ukukholwa kwakhe lezenzo zakhe kwakusebenza ndawonye, njalo ukukholwa kwakhe kwaphelileswa yilokho akwenzayo. ²³ Njalo umbhalo wagcwaliseka othi, "U-Abrahama wakholwa uNkulunkulu, njalo kwabalwa kuye njengokulunga,"§ njalo wabizwa ngokuthi ngumngane

* 2:8 2.8 ULevi 19.18 † 2:11 2.11 U-Eksodasi 20.14; UDutheronomi 5.18

‡ 2:11 2.11 U-Eksodasi 20.13; UDutheronomi 5.17 § 2:23 2.23 UGenesisisi 15.6

kaNkulunkulu. ²⁴ Liyabona ukuthi umuntu ulungiswa yilokho akwenzayo hatshi ngokukholwa kuphela.

²⁵ Ngokunjalo, loRahabi isifebe konje kabalwanga njen-golungileyo ngalokho akwenzayo lapho anika inhloli indawo yokulala wabuya wazikhupha ngenye indlela na? ²⁶ Njengoba umzimba ongelamoya ufile, ngokunjalo ukukholwa okungelamisebenzi kufile.

3

Ukuthambisa Ulimi

¹ Bazalwane bami, abanengi benu akumelanga babe ngabafundisi ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi thina esifundisayo sizakwahlulelwa kalukhunikazi. ² Sonke siyakhubeka ngezindlela ezinengi. Nxa umuntu engakaze abelesici kulokho akutshoyo, ungumuntu opheleleyo, oyenelisayo ukuwubamba wonke umzimba wakhe.

³ Lapho sifaka amatomu emilonyeni yamabhiza ukuba asilalele, ibhiza singaliphendula lonke. ⁴ Kumbe lithathe imikhumbi njengesibonelo. Lanxa imikhulu kangaka njalo iqhutshwa ngumoya olamandla, iqondiswa ngophinyana oluncane loba kungaphi lapho umtshayeli afuna ukuya khona. ⁵ Ngokufanayo ulimi luyisitho esincane somzimba kodwa luyazincoma kakhulu. Cabangani ngehlathi elikhulu elithungelwa yinhansi encane yomlilo. ⁶ Ulimi lalo lungumlilo, umhlaba wobubi phakathi kwezitho zomzimba. Lungcolisa lonke uqobo lomuntu, luyithungele ngomlilo yonke impilo yakhe, lalo luthungelwe yisihogo somlilo.

⁷ Zonke inhlobo zezinyamazana, izinyoni, lezihuquzelayo kanye lezidalwa zasolwandle ziyathanjiswa njalo sezathanjiswa ngumuntu, ⁸ kodwa akulamuntu ongathambisa ulimi, luyibubi obuyaluzelayo, lugcwele itshefu ebulalayo.

⁹ Ngolimi siyayibonga iNkosi uBaba, njalo ngalo sithuka abantu abenziwa ngomfanekiso kaNkulunkulu. ¹⁰ Emlonyeni munye kuphuma ukubonga lokuthuka. Bazalwane bami, lokhu akufanelanga. ¹¹ Kambe amanzi amnandi lamanzi aletswayi angagobhoza mthombo munye na? ¹² Bazalwane bami, umkhiwa ungathela ama-oliva na, kumbe ivini lithela imikhiwa na? Lomthombo oletswayi awungeke ukhuphe amanzi amnandi.

Imihlobo Emibili Yokuhlakanipha

¹³ Ngubani ohlakaniphileyo loqedisisayo phakathi kwenu na? Kakubonakalise ngokuphila kwakhe kuhle, langezenzo ezenziwa ngokuzithoba okuvela ekuhlakanipheni. ¹⁴ Kodwa nxa ligcine umhawu lokulangazela kobukhwele ezinhliziyweni zenu, lingazincomi ngakho kumbe liphike

iqiniso. ¹⁵ “Ukuhlakanipha” okunjalo kakwehli kuvela ezulwini, kodwa ngokwasemhlabeni, akusikomoya, ngokwamadimoni. ¹⁶ Ngoba lapho okulomhawu khona lokutshisekela kokuzisuthisa kulapho okutholakala khona ingxabangxoza kanye lezenzo zonke ezimbi.

¹⁷ Kodwa ukuhlakanipha okuvela ezulwini kuqala ngokuhlambuluka; besekuthanda ukuthula, kulozwelo, kuyazehlisa, kugcwele isihawu lezithelo ezinhle, kakukhethi njalo kuqotho. ¹⁸ Abalamuli abahlanyela ukuthula bathola isivuno sokulunga.

4

Zehliseni KuNkulunkulu

¹ Kuyini okubangela ukulwa lengxabano phakathi kwenu na? Kakuveli ezinkanukweni zenu ezilwayo phakathi kwenu na? ² Lifuna ulutho oluthile, kodwa kalilutholi. Liyabulala njalo lihawukele kodwa kalingeke likuthole lokho elikufunayo. Liyaxabana lilwe. Kalilalutho ngoba kaliceli kuNkulunkulu. ³ Lapho licela, kaliphiwa ngoba licela ngenjongo embi, ukuba lichithe lokho elikuzuzayo enjabulweni yenu.

⁴ Lina zifebe zabantu, kalikwazi yini ukuthi ubungane lomhlaba kuyikuzonda uNkulunkulu na? Umuntu okhetha ukuba ngumngane womhlaba uba yisitha sikaNkulunkulu. ⁵ Kumbe licabanga ukuthi umbhalo utsho kungelasizatho ukuthi umoya awenza ukuba uhlale phakathi kwethu ugebela ebukhweleni? ⁶ Kodwa yena usinika umusa owengeziweyo. Yikho-nje umbhalo usithi: “UNkulunkulu umelana labazigqajayo,

kodwa abe lomusa kwabathobekileyo.”*

⁷ Ngakho-ke, zehliseni kuNkulunkulu. Menqabeleni uSathane, uzalibalekela. ⁸ Sondelani phansi kukaNkulunkulu laye uzasondela kini. Gezani izandla zenu lina zoni, lihlambulule lezinhliziyo zenu, lina abangqondombili. ⁹ Dabukani, lilile, likhale. Guqulani ukuhleka kwenu kube yikukhala, kuthi ukuthokoza kwenu kube yikudana. ¹⁰ Zithobeni phambi kweNkosi, izaliphakamisa.

¹¹ Bazalwane, lingachothozani. Umuntu okhuluma kubi ngomzalwane wakhe, loba amahlulele, ukhuluma kubi ngomthetho awahlulele. Lapho lisahlulela umthetho, kaliwugcini kodwa liyawahlulela. ¹² KuloMenzi wemithetho loMahluleli oyedwa kuphela, lowo olamandla okusindisa lokubhubhisa. Kodwa lina lingobani ukuba lahlulele omakhelwane benu na?

* 4:6 4.6 Izaga 3.34

Ukuzincoma Ngekusasa

¹³ Lalelani lina elithi, “Lamhla loba kusasa sizakuya kuleli loba kuleliyana idolobho, siqede umnyaka khona, senze imisebenzi sizuze imali.” ¹⁴ Kungani ngoba phela kalikwazi okuzakwenzakala kusasa. Ukuphila kwenu kuyini na? Liyinkungu ebonakala okwesikhatshana ibe isinyamalala. ¹⁵ Kodwa kumele lithi, “Nxa kuyintando yeNkosi sizaphila senze lokhu loba lokhuyana.” ¹⁶ Okwakhathesi liyazincoma lizikhukhumeza. Konke ukuzincoma okunje kubi. ¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, loba ngubani okwaziyo okulungileyo okumele akwenze kodwa angakwenzi, wenza isono.

5

Isixwayiso Kubancindezeli Abanothileyo

¹ Lalelani lina bantu abanothileyo, khalani lilile ngenxa yosizi oluzayo phezu kwenu. ² Inotho yenu isibolile, lezigqoko zenu sezidliwe linondo. ³ Isiliva legolide lenu sekuthombile. Ukuthomba kwakho kuzafakaza kubi ngani, kudle inyama yemizimba yenu njengomlilo. Libuthelele inotho ensukwini zokucina. ⁴ Khangelani! Imiholo elingayibhadalanga izisebenzi ezavuna amasimu enu iyalikhalela. Ukukhala kwabavuni sekufikile ezindlebeni zeNkosi uSomandla. ⁵ Emhlabeni lihlale ngentokozo langokuminza. Selikhuluphele ngenxa yokuhlaba imihla ngemihla. ⁶ Libagwebile lababulala abantu abamsulwa, ababengamelani lani.

Ukubekwezela Phakathi Kokuhlupheka

⁷ Ngakho, bazalwane, bekezelani iNkosi ize ifike. Khangelani ukuthi umlimi uyilindela njani insimu ukuba ithele izilimo zayo eziligugu kanye lokuthi ukubekezelela njani ukuna kwezulu lentwasa. ⁸ Lani futhi, bekezelani liqine ngoba ukufika kweNkosi sekusondele. ⁹ Lingasolani bazalwane hlezi lahlulelwe. UMahluleli umi emnyango!

¹⁰ Bazalwane, njengesibonelo sokubekwezela ekuhluphekeni, khumbulani abaphrofethi abakhuluma ngebizo leNkosi. ¹¹ Njengoba lisazi, labo ababekezelayo sibabala njengababusiweyo. Selezwa ngokubekwezela kukaJobe njalo selikubonile okwalethwa yiNkosi ekucineni. INkosi igcwele isihawu esikhulu lomusa.

¹² Phezu kwakho konke, bazalwane bami, lingafungi, kungaba ngezulu loba ngomhlaba kumbe ngolunye ulutho. “U-Yebo” wenu kabe nguyebo, lo “Hatshi” wenu abenguhatshi, hlezi lilahlwe.

Umkhuleko Wokukholwa

¹³ Ukhona phakathi kwenu ohluphekayo na? Kakhuleke. Ukhona othokozayo na? Kahlabele izingoma zokudumisa. ¹⁴ Ukhona kini ogulayo na? Kumele abize abadala bebandla bamkhulekele njalo bamgcoke ngamafutha ebizweni leNkosi. ¹⁵ Umkhuleko owenziwe ngokukholwa uzakwenza lowomuntu ogulayo asile; iNkosi izamvusa. Nxa enze isono, uzathethelelwa. ¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, vumani izono zenu omunye komunye njalo likhuleke-lane ukuze lisiliswe. Umkhuleko womuntu olungileyo ulamandla njalo uyasebenza.

¹⁷ U-Elija wayengumuntu njengathi. Wakhuleka ngokutshiseka ukuba izulu lingani, lakanye kalinanga elizweni iminyaka emithathu lengxenye. ¹⁸ Wakhuleka futhi, amazulu aletha izulu, kwathi umhlaba lawo wathela izilimo zawo.

¹⁹ Bazalwane bami, nxa omunye wenu ephambuka eqinisweni, omunye ambuyisele, ²⁰ khumbulani lokhu: Lowo onqanda isoni ekoneni kwaso uzasisindisa ekufeni, agubuzele izono ezinengi.

Incwadi Yakuqala KaPhethro

¹ UPhethro, umpostoli kaJesu Khristu,

Kwabakhethiweyo bakaNkulunkulu, lasezihambini emhlabeni labahlakazekileyo kulolonke elasePhontusi, laseGalathiya, laseKhaphadokhiya, lase-Ezhiya kanye laseBhithiniya, ² abakhethwe ngokumayelana lokwazi mandulo kukaNkulunkulu uBaba, ngomsebenzi ongcwelisayo kaMoya, ngokulalela uJesu Khristu langokuchelwa ngegazi lakhe:

Umusa lokuthula kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo.

Ukudumisa UNkulunkulu Ngenxa Yethemba Eliphilayo

³ Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu! Ngenxa yesihawu sakhe esikhulu usinike ukuzalwa kutsha ethembeni eliphilayo ngokuvuka kwabafileyo kukaJesu Khristu, ⁴ kanye laselifeni elingasoze libole, lonakale loba libune njalo eliligcinelweyo ezulwini. ⁵ Ngokukholwa livikelwe ngamandla kaNkulunkulu kuze kufike ukusindiswa okulungiselwe ukubonakaliswa ngesikhathi sokucina. ⁶ Liyathokoza kakhulu ngalokhu lanxa like lahlupheka okwesikhatshana ngezinsizi zezinhlobo zonke zezilingo. ⁷ Zifikile ukuze ukukholwa kwenu okulinganisiweyo, okuqakatheke kakhulu kulegolide, elonakalayo lanxa licengwe ngomlilo kubonakaliswe kuqotho njalo kulethe ukubonga, lenkazimulo kanye lodumo lapho uJesu Khristu esebonakaliswa. ⁸ Lanxa lingambonanga, liyamthanda; njalo lanxa lingamboni khatesi, liyakholwa kuye njalo ligcwele intokozo engakhulumekiyo lemangalisayo, ⁹ ngoba lamukela umvuzo wokukholwa kwenu, ukusindiswa kwemiphefumulo yenu.

¹⁰ Mayelana lokusindiswa lokhu, abaphrofethi abakhluma ngomusa owawuzakuza kini, badingisisa ngesineke esikhulu, ¹¹ bezama ukwazi isikhathi lomumo okwakutshiwo nguMoya kaKhristu owayekubo lapho atsho mandulo ngezinhlopheko zikaKhristu lenkazimulo eyayizalandela.

¹² Kwabonakaliswa kubo ukuthi bona babengazisebenzeli kodwa besebenzela lina lapho babekhuluma ngezinto khathesi eselizitshelwe yilabo abatshumayele ivangeli kini ngoMoya oNgcwele owathunywa evela ezulwini. Lezingilosi ziyafisa ukuzibona lezizinto.

Wobani Ngcwele

¹³ Ngakho-ke, lungiselani ingqondo zenu okungenziwa; zithibeni; bekani ithemba lenu ngokupheleleyo emuseni elizawuthola lapho uJesu Khristu esebonakaliswa. ¹⁴ Njengabantwana abalalelayo lingavumeli izinkanuko ezimbi elalilazo lingakazi. ¹⁵ Kodwa njengoba lowo owalibizayo engcwele, ngakho wobani ngcwele kukho konke elikwenzayo; ¹⁶ ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Wobani ngcwele ngoba mina ngingcwele.”*

¹⁷ Njengoba likhuleka kuYihlo owahlulela imisebenzi yomuntu ngamunye kungekho bandlululo, philani impilo yenu lapha njengezihambi ngokuhlonipha. ¹⁸ Ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi kalihlengwanga ngezinto ezifayo ezinjengegolide lesiliva endleleni yokuphila eyize elakutshiyelwa ngokhokho benu, ¹⁹ kodwa ngegazi eliligugu likaKhristu imvana engelacala loba isici. ²⁰ Wakhethwa umhlaba ungakadalwa, kodwa wabonakaliswa ngalezi izikhathi zokucina ngenxa yenu. ²¹ Ngaye liyakholwa kuNkulunkulu, owamvusa kwabafuleyo wamnika inkazimulo, ngakho ukukholwa kwenu lethemba kukuNkulunkulu.

²² Njengoba khathesi selizihlambulule ngokulalela iqiniso ukuze libe lothando oluqotho kubazalwane benu, thandanani kakhulu, kusuka enhliziyweni. ²³ Ngoba selizelwe kutsha, kungasikho ngenhlanyelo ebolayo, kodwa ngengaboliyo, ngelizwi eliphilayo eliqinileyo likaNkulunkulu. ²⁴ Ngoba,

“Abantu bonke banjengotshani,

bonke ubukhosi babo bunjengamaluba eganga;
utshani buyabuna njalo amaluba ayakhithika,

²⁵ kodwa ilizwi leNkosi limi kuze kube nini lanini.”†
Njalo leli yilo ilizwi elatshunyayelwa kini.

2

¹ Ngakho-ke, lahlani ububi bonke lenkohliso yonke, lokuzenzisa, lomona, kanye lesinyeyo senhlobo zonke. ² Njengabantwana abasanda kuzalwa, funani uchago lwakomoya oluhlambukileyo, ukuze likhuliswe yilo

* **1:16** 1.16 ULevi 11.44-45; 19.2 † **1:25** 1.25 U-Isaya 40.6-8

ekusindisweni kwenu, ³ njengoba selibonile ukuthi iNkosi ilungile.

ILitshe Eliphilayo Kanye Labantu Abakhethiweyo

⁴ Lapho lisiza kuye, iLitshe eliphilayo, elalahlwa ngabantu, kodwa elakhethwa nguNkulunkulu njalo liligugu kuye, ⁵ lani futhi, njengamatshe aphilayo lakhiwa laba yindlu yakomoya ukuba libe ngabaphristi abangcwele, linikela imihlatshelo yakomoya eyamukelekayo kuNkulunkulu ngoJesu Khristu. ⁶ Ngoba emibhalweni kuthiwa:

“Khangelani, ngibeka ilitshe eZiyoni,
ilitshe lekhoneni elikhethiweyo eliligugu,
njalo lowo okholwa kuye
akayikuyangiswa.”*

⁷ Kini lina abakhholwayo, ilitshe leli liligugu. Kodwa kulabo abangakhholwayo,

“Ilitshe elalahlwa ngabakhi
seliyilona ilitshe lekhoneni,”†

⁸ njalo,

“Ilitshe elikhubekisa abantu
ledwala elibenza bawe.”‡

Bayakhubeka ngoba badelela ilizwi okuyikho njalo abakumiselweyo.

⁹ Kodwa lina lingabantu abakhethiweyo, ubuphristi bobukhosi, isizwe esingcwele, abantu abangabakaNkulunkulu, ukuba limemezele indumiso yakhe yena owalibiza lisemnyameni ukuba lize ekukhanyeni kwakhe okumangalisayo. ¹⁰ Lake langabi ngabantu, kodwa khathesi selingabantu bakaNkulunkulu; lake laswela isihawu; kodwa khathesi selithole isihawu.

Ukuphila Ngokulunga Emphakathini Ongakhohwayo

¹¹ Bangane abathandekayo, ngiyalincenga, njengabezizweni lezihambi emhlabeni ukuba lizile izinkanuko zesono ezilwa lemiphefumulo yenu. ¹² Philani impilo elungileyo phakathi kwabangakhohwayo ukuze kuthi lanxa besithi lenza okubi, babone izenzo zenu ezilungileyo badumise uNkulunkulu mhla esiza kithi.

Ukuzehlisa Kubabusi Lasemakhosini

¹³ Zehliseni ngenxa yeNkosi emibusweni yonke ebekwe phakathi kwabantu: loba enkosini, njengamandla amakhulu, ¹⁴ loba kubabusi abathunywe yiyo ukuba bajezise labo abenza okubi kanye lokubonga labo abenza okulungileyo. ¹⁵ Ngoba kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ngokwenza okulungileyo lizaqeda inkulumo

* 2:6 2.6 U-Isaya 28.16 † 2:7 2.7 AmaHubo 118.22 ‡ 2:8 2.8 U-Isaya 8.14

yokungazi yabantu abayiziwula. ¹⁶ Philani njengabantu abakhululekileyo, kodwa lingasebenzisi inkululeko yenu njengezaba lokufihla ububi; philani njengezinceku zikaNkulunkulu. ¹⁷ Tshengisani inhlonipho eqondileyo kwabanye. Thandani izimuli zabazalwane, lihloniphe umuntu wonke, mesabeni uNkulunkulu, lihloniphe umbusi.

¹⁸ Zigqili, zehliseni emakhosini enu ngenhlonipho yonke, hatshi kuphela kulawo alungileyo lalozwelo, kodwa lakulawo alolaka. ¹⁹ Ngoba kuyabongeka nxa umuntu eqinisela ebuhlungwini bokuhlupheka okungafanelanga ngoba uyazi ngoNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Kodwa kuba ludumo njani kini nxa litshayelwa ukwenza okungalunganga njalo likubekezelela? Kodwa nxa lihlukuluzelwa ukwenza okuhle njalo likubekezelela, lokhu kuyancomeka phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ²¹ Labizelwa lokhu, ngoba uKhristu walihluphekela, walitshiyela isibonelo ukuba lilandele ezinyathelweni zakhe.

²² "Yena kenzanga sono, njalo akukho nkohliso eyatholakala emlonyeni wakhe."§

²³ Kwathi bemthethisa, yena kaphindiselanga; lapho ehlupheka, kazange asonge. Kodwa wathembeka kulowo owahlulela ngokulunga. ²⁴ "Yena ngokwakhe wathwala izono zethu"* emzimbeni wakhe esiphambanweni ukuze siphophe ezonweni njalo siphilele ukulunga; "lisilisiwe ngamanxeba akhe."† ²⁵ Ngoba "lina lalinjengezimvu ezilahlekileyo,"‡ kodwa khathesi selibuyele kuMalusi loMbonisi wemiphefumulo yenu.

3

Abesifazane Labomkabo

¹ Ngokunjalo, bafazi zehliseni kubomkenu ukuze kuthi lanxa abanye babo bengalikholwa ilizwi, baphenduke ngokuziphatha kwabomkabo kungekho kukhuluma, ² lapho bebona ukuhlanzeka lenhlonipho yokuphila kwenu. ³ Ubhle benu kabungaveli ekuzicaciseni kwangaphandle, okunjengenwele ezelukiweyo lokugqiza izigqizo zegolide kanye lokugqoka izigqoko ezinhle. ⁴ Kodwa kumele bube ngobangaphakathi kwenu, ubhle obungapheliyo bomoya omnene lothuleyo, oligugu elikhulu emehlweni kaNkulunkulu. ⁵ Ngoba le yiyo indlela abesifazane abangcwele bakudala ababethembe uNkulunkulu bejayele ukuzicola ngayo. Babezehlisa kubomkabo, ⁶ njengoSara

§ 2:22 2.22 U-Isaya 53.9 * 2:24 2.24 U-Isaya 53.5 † 2:24 2.24 U-Isaya 53.5

‡ 2:25 2.25 U-Isaya 53.6

owalalela u-Abhrahama wambiza ngokuthi yinkosi yakhe. Lingamadodakazi kaSara nxa lisenza okulungileyo njalo lingavumeli ukwesaba.

⁷ Ngokufanayo, madoda ekuphileni kwenu labomkenu wobani lozwelo, libaphathe ngenhlonipho njengababuthakathaka labazindlalifa kanye lani zesipho sokuphila esomusa, ukuze kungabi lalutho oluzavimbela imikhuleko yenu.

Ukuhluphekela Ukwenza Okulungileyo

⁸ Okokucina lonke hlalisanani ngokuthula; wobani lozwelo, lithandane njengabazalwane, libe lesihawu kanye lokuthobeka. ⁹ Lingaphindiseli okubi ngokubi loba inhlamba ngenhlamba, kodwa ngesibusiso, ngoba labizelwa ukuze lizuze ilifa lokubusiswa. ¹⁰ Ngoba,

“Lowo othanda ukuphila

abone lensuku ezinhle

kumele anqande ulimi lwakhe kokubi

lezindebe zakhe ekukhulumeni inkohliso.

¹¹ Kumele batshiye ububi benze okulungileyo;

kumele bafune ukuthula njalo bakunxwanele.

¹² Ngoba amehlo kaThixo akhangele abalungileyo

lezindlebe zakhe ziyezwa, imikhuleko yabo,

kodwa ubuso bukaJehova bumelana lalabo abenza okubi.”*

¹³ Ngubani ozalilimaza nxa litshisekela ukwenza okulungileyo na? ¹⁴ Kodwa lanxa lingahlupheka ngenxa yokulungileyo, libusisekile. “Lingakwesabi lokho abakwesabayo; kalingethuswa.”† ¹⁵ Kodwa yamukelani uKhristu ezinhliziyweni zenu njengeNkosi engcwele. Hlalani lilungele ukuphendula loba ngubani olibuza isizatho ngethemba elilalo. ¹⁶ Kodwa lokhu kwenzeni ngobumnene langenhlonipho, lilesazela esihle, ukuze kuthi labo abakhuluma okubi ngokuziphatha kwenu okuhle kuKhristu bayangeke ngokuhlambaza kwabo. ¹⁷ Ngoba kungcono nxa kuyintando kaNkulunkulu, ukuhlupheka ngenxa yokwenza okulungileyo kulokwenza okubi. ¹⁸ Ngoba uKhristu wafela izono zenu kwaba kanye, olungileyo efela abangalunganga, ukuze alise kuNkulunkulu. Wabulawa emzimbeni, kodwa wavuswa nguMoya, ¹⁹ wahamba ngaye wayatshumayela emimoyeni eyayisentolongweni yona ²⁰ engalalelanga kudala lapho uNkulunkulu alinda khona ngokubekezela ensukwini zikaNowa umkhumbi usakhiwa. Phakathi kwawo abantu abalutshwana nje kuphela, abayisificaminwembili bebonke, basindiswa ngamanzi, ²¹ njalo amanzi la afanekisa umbhaphathizo osusilisa lani futhi, kungayisikho kususa

* 3:12 3.12 AmaHubo 34.12-16 † 3:14 3.14 U-Isaya 8.12

ingcekeza emzimbeni kodwa kuyisibambiso sesazela esihle kuNkulunkulu. Siyalisilisa ngokuvuka kwabafileyo kukaJesu Khristu, ²² oseye ezulwini njalo usesandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu, lezingilosi, leziphathamandla kanye lezikhulu ekuzehliseni kuye.

4

Ukuphilela UNkulunkulu

¹ Ngakho, njengoba uKhristu wahlupheka emzimbeni wakhe, lani hlomani ngesimo esifanayo, ngoba lowo owahluphekayo emzimbeni wakhe usehlule isono. ² Ngakho-ke, ukuphila kwakhe kwasemhlabeni okuseleyo kakuphileli izinkanuko ezimbi zabantu, kodwa intando kaNkulunkulu. ³ Ngoba selichithe isikhathi esaneleyo ngaphambili lisenza lokho abahedeni abakhetha ukukwenza, impilo yobudlova, inkano, lokudakwa, ukuzitika, ukuzivusa amadlabuzane kanye lezithombe eziyisinengiso. ⁴ Bakubona kumangalisa ukuthi kalibhudlukeli kanye labo kusikhukhula sinye sencithakalo, njalo bayalithuka kakhulu. ⁵ Kodwa kuzamela baziphendulele kuye olungele ukwahlulela abaphilayo kanye labafileyo. ⁶ Ngoba lesi yiso isizatho esenza kwatshunyayelwa ivangeli lakulabo khathezi asebefile, ukuze bahlulelwe ngokwabantu ngokomzimba, kodwa baphile ngokukaNkulunkulu ngokomoya.

⁷ Ukuphela kwezinto zonke sekusondele. Ngakho-ke, kumele liqedisise njalo lizithibe ukuze likhuleke. ⁸ Phezu kwakho konke, thandanani ngokupheleleyo, ngoba uthando lugqibela izono ezinengi. ⁹ Yamukelanani emakhaya enu kungekho kukhonona. ¹⁰ Lowo lalowo kumele asebenzise loba yisiphi isipho somoya asamukelayo ekusizeni abanye, njengenceku ezithembekileyo zomusa kaNkulunkulu ngesimo sawo olezimo ezehlukeneyo. ¹¹ Nxa umuntu ekhuluma, kumele akhulume njengokhuluma amazwi kaNkulunkulu wona ngokwawo. Nxa umuntu ekhonza, kumele akhonze ngamandla awaphiwa nguNkulunkulu, ukuze kuthi ezintweni zonke uNkulunkulu adunyiswe ngoJesu Khristu. Udumo lamandla kakube kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Amen.

Ukuhlupheka Ngenxa Yokuba NgumKhristu

¹² Bangane bami abathandekayo, lingamangaliswa yibuhlungu besilingo elibuzwayo, kungathi kwenzakala into engaziwayo kini. ¹³ Kodwa thokozani ngokuthi liyahlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kukaKhristu, ukuze lithokoze kakhulu lapho inkazimulo yakhe isibonakaliswa.

14 Nxa lithukwa ngenxa yebizo likaKhristu, libusisiwe, ngoba uMoya wenkazimulo lokaNkulunkulu uhlezi phezu kwenu. ¹⁵ Nxa lihlupheka, akungabi njengombulali loba isela kumbe olunye uhlobo lwesigebenga loba lanjengongenelayo ezindabeni zabanikazi. ¹⁶ Kodwa-ke, nxa lihlupheka njengomKhristu, lingayangeki, kodwa dumisani uNkulunkulu ngebizo lakhe. ¹⁷ Ngoba kuyisikhathi sokuthi ukwahlulela kuqalise ngabendlu kaNkulunkulu; njalo nxa kuqalisa ngathi, isiphetho sizakuba yini kulabo abangalaleli ivangeli likaNkulunkulu na? ¹⁸ Njalo,

“Nxa kunzima ukuba abalungileyo basindiswe,
pho kuzakuba njani kwabangakholwayo labayizoni
na?”*

¹⁹ Ngakho-ke, labo abahlupheka ngokwentando kaNkulunkulu kumele bazinikele kuMdali wabo othembekileyo njalo baqhubeke besenza okulungileyo.

5

Ebadaleni Lemhlambini

¹ Ebadaleni abaphakathi kwenu, ngiyakhalaza njengomunye wabadala, ufakazi wezinhlupheko zikaKhristu lomunye laye ozahlanganyela enkazimulweni ezabonakaliswa: ² Wobani ngabelusi bomhlambi kaNkulunkulu eliwugcinayo, lisebenze njengababonisi, kungasikubanjwa ngamandla, kodwa ngenxa yokuthanda kwenu, njengoba uNkulunkulu efuna ukuba libe njalo; lingelamhawu wemali, kodwa lifisa ukusiza; ³ hatshi ukubusa ababekwe ezandleni zenu, kodwa liyisibonelo emhlambini. ⁴ Lapho uMalusi oMkhulu evela, lizakwamukela umqhele wenkazimulo engayikufiphala.

⁵ Majaha, ngokunjalo zehliseni ebadaleni. Lonke zembathiseni ngokuthobeka omunye komunye, ngoba,
“UNkulunkulu umelana labazigqajayo,
kodwa abe lomusa kwabathobekileyo.”*

⁶ Ngakho-ke, zithobeni ngaphansi kwesandla sikaNkulunkulu esilamandla, ukuze aliphakamise ngesikhathi esifaneleyo. ⁷ Yethulani kuye konke ukukhathazeka kwenu ngoba yena uyalikhathalela.

⁸ Zithibeni, liqaphele. Isitha senu uSathane, siyazulazula njengesilwane esibhongayo sidinga esingamudla. ⁹ Menqabeni, liqine ekukholweni ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi abazalwane benu emhlabeni wonke baphakathi kwalezo zinhlupeko.

* 4:18 4.18 Izaga 11.31 * 5:5 5.5 Izaga 3.34

¹⁰ Njalo uNkulunkulu womusa wonke, yena owalibizela enkazimulweni kaKhristu engulaphakade, emva kokuba lihlupheke okwesikhatshana, yena uqobo uzalivuselela alenze libe lamandla, liqine njalo lithembeke. ¹¹ Amandla kawabe kuye kuze kube nini lanini. Ameni.

Ukuvalelisa

¹² Ngosizo lukaSayilasi, engimthanda njengomzalwane othembekileyo, ngililobele ngamafitshane ngilikhuthaza njalo ngifakaza ukuthi lo ngumusa oqotho kaNkulunkulu. Bamelelani kuwo.

¹³ Lowo oseBhabhiloni, owakhethwa kanye lani, uyalibingelela, loMakho indodana yami iyalibingelela.

¹⁴ Binglelanani ngokwangana kothando.

Ukuthula kakube kini lonke elikuKhristu.

Incwadi Yesibili KaPhethro

¹ USimoni Phethro, inceku lompostoli kaJesu Khristu,

Kulabo abamukele ukhoho oluligugu njengolwethu ngokulunga kukaNkulunkulu wethu loMsindisi uJesu Khristu:

² Umusa lokuthula kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo ngokumazi uNkulunkulu loJesu iNkosi yethu.

Ukwenza Ukubizwa Lokukhethwa Komuntu Kuqiniseke

³ Amandla akhe obuNkulunkulu asesinike konke esikudingayo ekuphileni kanye lokumesaba uNkulunkulu ngokumazi kwethu yena owasibiza ngenkazimulo yakhe langokulunga. ⁴ Ngalokhu-ke usesinike izithembiso zakhe ezinkulu kakhulu eziligugu, ukuze kuthi ngazo lihlanganyele esimeni sobuNkulunkulu njalo liphephe ekonakaleni kwasemhlabeni okubangelwa yizinkanuko ezimbi.

⁵ Ngenxa yalesisizatho, yenzani imizamo yonke ukuba lengeze ukulunga ekukholweni kwenu; lekulungeni lengeze ukwazi; ⁶ ekwazini lengeze ukuzithiba; ekuzithibeni lengeze ukubekezela; ekubekezeleni lengeze ukumesaba uNkulunkulu; ⁷ ekumesabeni uNkulunkulu lengeze umusa wobuzalwane; lasemuseni wobuzalwane lengeze uthando. ⁸ Ngoba nxa lilalezizinto ngokwanda kwazo, zizalinqanda ekubeni ngabangafezi lutho labangelazithelo ekwazini kwenu iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. ⁹ Kodwa nxa umuntu engelazo ubona kalufifi njalo uysisiphofu, ekhohlwa ukuthi usehlanjululwe ezonweni zakhe zakudala.

¹⁰ Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, tshisekelani kakhulu ukwenza ukubizwa lokukhethwa kwenu kuqiniseke. Ngoba nxa lisenza lezizinto kalizukuwa, ¹¹ njalo lizakwamukelwa ngokupheleleyo embusweni olaphakade weNkosi loMsindisi wethu uJesu Khristu.

Isiphrofethi SoMbhalo

¹² Ngakho ngizahlala ngilikhumbuza lezizinto, lanxa lizazi njalo liqinile ngokupheleleyo eqinisweni eselilalo. ¹³ Ngibona kufanele ukuba ngilikhumbuze nxa ngisaphila kulelithente lomzimba lo, ¹⁴ ngoba ngiyakwazi ukuthi ngizaphanga ngilibeke eceleni, njengoba iNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu isikwenze kwabasobala kimi. ¹⁵ Njalo ngizakwenza

imizamo yonke ukubona ukuthi emva kokusuka kwami lizahlala lizikhumbula lezizinto.

¹⁶ Sasingalandeli izinganekwane ezaqaliswa ngokuhlakanipha lapho silitshela ngamandla langokuza kweNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu kodwa sasingofakazi bobukhosi bakhe.

¹⁷ Ngoba wamukela udumo lenkazimulo kuNkulunkulu uBaba lapho ilizwi lifika kuye livela eNkazimulweni yoBukhosi, lisithi, "Le yiNdodana yami engiyithandayo; ngiyathokoza kakhulu ngayo."* ¹⁸ Thina ngokwethu salizwa ilizwi lelo elavela ezulwini silaye phezu kwentaba engcwele.

¹⁹ Njalo ilizwi labaphrofethi seliqiniswe kakhulu, futhi kuzakuba kuhle kini ukuba lilinake njengesibane esikhanyise endaweni emnyama, kuze kuse lendonsakusa ize iphume ezinhliziyweni zenu. ²⁰ Phezu kwakho konke, kumele liqedisise ukuthi akukho siphrofethi soMbhalo esavela ngokuchasisa okungokomphrofethi. ²¹ Ngoba isiphrofethi kasizange sivele entandweni yomuntu, kodwa abantu bakhuluma kuvela kuNkulunkulu beholwa nguMoya oNgcwele.

2

Abafundisi Bamanga Lokubhujiswa Kwabo

¹ Kodwa phakathi kwabantu kwakulabaphrofethi bamanga futhi, njengoba kuzakuba labafundisi bamanga phakathi kwenu. Ngasese bazangenisa inkolo yamanga echithayo, baze bamphike loThixo iNkosi yobukhosi eyabathengayo, bazilethele ukubhujiswa ngokuphangisa.

² Abanengi bazalandela izindlela zabo eziluhlazo benze lendlela yeqiniso idumazeke. ³ Ngobugovu babo abafundisi laba bazakwenza inzuzo ngani ngezinganekwane zokuzibumbela. Ukulahlwa kwabo kubengamile, lokubhujiswa kwabo akuzange kukhohlakale.

⁴ Ngoba nxa uNkulunkulu engaziyekelanga izingilosi ekwenzeni kwazo isono, kodwa wazisa egehena, wazifaka emigodini emnyama ukuba zigcinelwe ukwahlulelwa.

⁵ Nxa engayekelanga umhlaba wasendulo lapho aletha khona uzamcolo ebantwini bawo ababengamesabi uNkulunkulu, kodwa wamvikela uNowa, umtshumayeli woku-lunga, labanye abayisikhombisa. ⁶ Nxa watshabalalisa amadolobho aseSodoma leGomora ngokuwatshisa aba ngumlotha, wawenza aba yisibonelo salokho okuzakwenzakala kwabangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu. ⁷ Njalo nxa wahlenga uLothi, umuntu olungileyo, owayekhathazekile

* 1:17 1.17 UMatewu 17.5; UMakho 9.7; ULukha 9.35

ngokuphila okungcolileyo kwabantu ababengamelathetho⁸ (ngoba lowomuntu olungileyo, wayehlala phakathi kwabo insuku zonke, ehlutshwa emoyeni yizenzo zabo ezimbi ayezibona layezizwa).⁹ Nxa lokhu kunjalo, uThixo uyakwazi ukuhlenga abantu abamesabayo ekulingweni kanye lokugcinela abangalunganga usuku lokwahlulela, eqhubeka ngokujeziswa kwabo.¹⁰ Lokhu kuliqiniso ikakhulu kulabo abalandela izinkanuko ezonakeleyo zenyama njalo besezisa umthetho.

Ngesibindi lokuzikhukhumeza, abantu laba kabakwesabi ukuhlambaza izidalwa zasezulwini;¹¹ ikanti lezingilosi, lanxa ziqinile njalo zilamandla amakhulu, kazizethesi macala ngokuhlambaza izidalwa ezinjalo phambi kukaThixo.¹² Kodwa abantu laba bahlambaza ngezindaba abangaziqedisisiyo. Banjengezinyamazana ezinganakaniyo, izidalwa ezibuswa yimvelo, ezazalelwa ukubanjwa lokubulawa kuphela, labo njalo njengezilo bazabhubha.

¹³ Bazaphindiselwa ngokubi ngenxa yokubi abakwenzileyo. Umcabango wabo ngenjabulo yikuminza emini libalele. Bayizixhwali lezoni, bezitika enjabulweni yabo besidla lani edilini.¹⁴ Ngamehlo agcwele ubufebe kabayekeli ukwenza isono; baxhwalisa abangaqinanga; bazingcitshi zobugovu, inzalo eqalekisiweyo!¹⁵ Bayitshiyile indlela eqondileyo, baduka belandela indlela kaBhalamu indodana kaBheyyori owayethanda inzuzo yobubi.¹⁶ Kodwa wakhuzwa ngezenzo zakhe ezimbi ngubabhemi, inyamazana eyisimungulu, eyakhuluma ngelizwi lomuntu yanqanda ukuphambana komphrofethi.

¹⁷ Abantu laba bayimithombo engelamanzi lenkungu eqhutshwa yisiphepho. Ubumnyama obukhulu bugcinelwe bona.¹⁸ Ngoba bakhuluma amazwi okuzikhukhumeza ayize, njalo ngokulangatha izinkanuko zemizimba yabantu elesono, bahuga abantu abasanda kuphunyuka kulabo abahlala ekoneni.¹⁹ Babathembisa inkululeko, bona beyizigqili zobuxhwali, ngoba umuntu uyisigqili salokho okumbusayo.²⁰ Nxa bebalekele ukonakala komhlaba ngokwazi iNkosi yethu loMsindisi uJesu Khristu baphinde bahitsheleke kukho behlulwe, isiphetho sabo sibi njalo siyesabeka kulasekuqaliseni kwabo.²¹ Kwakuzakuba ngcono kubo ukungayazi indlela yokulunga, kulokuthi sebeyazi bafulathele imilayo engcwele ababeyiphiwe.²² Izaga ziqinisele ngabo ukuthi: "Inja iyawabuyelela amahlanzo ayo,"* njalo ukuthi, "Ingulube egezisiweyo iyabuyela iyezibhixa edakeni."

* 2:22 2.22 Izaga 26.11

3

USuku LukaThixo

¹ Bangane abathandekayo, le yincwadi yami yesibili kini. Ngizilobe zombili njengezikhumbuzo ukuba ngivuselele kini ukucabanga kuhle. ² Ngithanda ukuba likhumbule amazwi akhulunywa kudala ngabaphrofethi abangcwele lomlayo owaphiwa yiNkosi loMsindisi ngabapostoli benu.

³ Phezu kwakho konke, kumele liqedisise ukuthi ngezinsuku zokucina kuzafika abaklolodayo baklolode belandela izinkanuko zabo ezimbi. ⁴ Bazakuthi, “Kungaphi ‘ukuza’ lokhu akuthembisayo? Selokhu obaba bafayo, konke kuqhubeka njengokwakuvele kusenzakala kusukela ekuqaleni kwendalo.” ⁵ Kodwa bakhohlwa ngabomo ukuthi endulo ngelizwi likaNkulunkulu amazulu abakhona lomhlaba wavela emanzini njalo ngamanzi. ⁶ Ngamanzi futhi umhlaba wakulezozinsuku wakhukhulwa wachitheka. ⁷ Ngelizwi elifanayo amazulu akhathesi kanye lomhlaba kugcinelwe umlilo, kulindele usuku lokwahlulelwa lokubhujiswa kwabantu abangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu.

⁸ Kodwa, bangane abathandekayo, lingakhohlwa into le eyodwa ukuthi: KuThixo usuku lunjengeminyaka eyinkulungwane leminyaka eyinkulungwane injengosuku olulodwa. ⁹ INkosi kayiphuzi ukugcwalisa isithembiso sayo, njengoba abanye bekuqedisisa njengokuphuza. Iyalibekezelela, ingafuni ukuba lamunye abhubhe, kodwa ukuba umuntu wonke aphenduke.

¹⁰ Kodwa usuku lweNkosi luzafika njengesela. Amazulu azanyamalala ngokuhlokoma; imimoya izaqothulwa ngomlilo, lomhlaba lakho konke okukuwo kuzatshabalaliswa.

¹¹ Njengoba izinto zonke zizachithwa ngale indlela, lina kumele libe ngabantu abanjani na? Kumele liphile impilo engcwele leyokumesaba uNkulunkulu ¹² lisalindele usuku lwakhe liphangisise ukufika kwalo. Lolosuku luzaletha ukuchithwa kwamazulu ngomlilo, njalo imimoya izancibilikiswa yikutshisa. ¹³ Kodwa mayelana lesithembiso sakhe silindele izulu elitsha lomhlaba omutsha, ikhaya lokulunga.

¹⁴ Ngakho-ke, bangane abathandekayo, njengoba lokhu likulindele, yenzani imizamo yonke ukuba litholakale lingelasici, lingelacala njalo lihlalisane laye ngokuthula. ¹⁵ Khumbulani ukuthi ukubekezela kweNkosi yethu kutsho ukusindisa, njengalokhu umzalwane wethu othandekayo uPhawuli walilobela ngenhlakanipho uNkulunkulu amupha yona. ¹⁶ Uloba ngendlela efanayo kuzozonke izincwadi zakhe, ekhuluma lezizindaba kuzo. Izincwadi

zakhe zimumethe ezinye izinto okunzima ukuzizwisisa, okuthi abantu abangaziyo labangaqinanga bazihlanekele, njengabakwenzayo kweminye iMibhalo, okuzaletha ukubhujiswa kwabo.

¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, bangane abathandekayo, njengoba selike lenqatshelwa, qaphelani ukuze lingedukiswa yibubi babantu abangelamthetho beselisiwa ezindaweni zenu ezinqinileyo. ¹⁸ Kodwa khulani emuseni lasekwazini iNkosi yethu loMsindisi uJesu Khristu.

Inkazimulo kayibe kuye khathesi lanininini! Ameni.

Incwadi Yakuqala KaJohane

ILizwi Lokuphila

¹ Lokho okwakukhona kusukela ekuqaleni, esesikuzwile, esesikubone ngamehlo ethu, esesikukhangele lezandla zethu zakuthinta, lokhu siyakutshumayela mayelana leLizwi lokuphila. ² Ukuphila kwabonakala; sikubonile njalo siyakufakaza, njalo sitshumayela kini ukuphila okulaphakade okwakukhona kuBaba njalo sekubonakele kithi. ³ Sitshumayela kini esikubonileyo lesikuzwileyo ukuze lani libe lokuhlanganyela lathi. Ukuhlanganyela kwethu kuloBaba kanye leNdodana yakhe, uJesu Khristu. ⁴ Siloba lokhu ukuze ukuthokoza kwethu kuphelele.

Ukuhamba Ekukhanyeni

⁵ Leli yilizwi esilizwe kuye esilitshumayela kini elokuthi: UNkulunkulu uyikukhanya; kuye akukho ubumnyama. ⁶ Nxa sisithi silokuhlanganyela laye, kodwa sihamba ebumnyameni, siqamba amanga, njalo leqiniso kasilenzi. ⁷ Kodwa nxa sihamba ekukhanyeni, njengoba esekukhanyeni, silokuhlanganyela omunye lomunye legazi likaJesu iNdodana yakhe liyasihlambulula ezonweni zonke.

⁸ Nxa sisithi kasilasono, siyazikhohlisa njalo kasilaqiniso. ⁹ Nxa sivuma izono zethu, yena uthembekile njalo ulungile, uzasithethelela izono zethu, asihlambulule kukho konke ukungalungi kwethu. ¹⁰ Nxa sisithi akulasono esasenzayo, simenza abe ngumqambi wamanga, njalo ilizwi lakhe kalilandawo kithi.

2

¹ Bantwabami abathandekayo, ngililobela incwadi le ukuze lingenzi izono. Kodwa nxa umuntu enze isono, silaye osimelayo kuBaba esivikela yena uJesu Khristu oLungileyo. ² Ungumhlatsshelo wenhlawulo yezono zethu, kungasizono zethu kuphela kodwa lezono zomhlaba wonke.

Uthando Lenzondo Yabazalwane

³ Siba leqiniso ukuthi siyamazi nxa silalela imilayo yakhe. ⁴ Umuntu othi, “Ngiyamazi,” kodwa angagcini imilayo yakhe uqamba amanga, leqiniso kalalo. ⁵ Kodwa nxa umuntu elalela ilizwi lakhe, uthando lukaNkulunkulu luyapheleliswa sibili kuye. Yikho esikwazi ngakho ukuthi

sikuye: ⁶ Lowo othi uhlala kuye kumele aphile njengokwenziwa nguJesu.

⁷ Bangane abathandekayo, kangililobeli umlayo omutsha, kodwa omdala, elalizwayo kusukela ekuqaleni. Umlayo lo omdala uyilizwi elalizwayo. ⁸ Ikanti ngililobela umlayo omutsha; iqiniso lawo libonakala kuye lakini, ngoba ubumnyama buyedlula lokukhanya kweqiniso sekukhanya.

⁹ Lowo othi usekukhanyeni kodwa ezonda umzalwane wakhe ulokhu esebumnyameni. ¹⁰ Othanda umzalwane wakhe uhlala ekukhanyeni njalo akulalutho kuye olungamenza akhubeke. ¹¹ Kodwa lowo ozonda umzalwane wakhe usebumnyameni njalo uyazula ebumnyameni. Kakwazi lapho aya khona ngoba ubumnyama sebumenze waba yisiphofu.

Izizatho Zokuloba

¹² Ngiyalilobela bantwana abathandekayo, ngoba izono zenu zithethelelwe ngenxa yebizo lakhe.

¹³ Ngiyalilobela bobaba, ngoba selimazi yena okhona kusukela ekuqaleni. Ngiyalilobela majaha, ngoba limnqobile omubi.

¹⁴ Ngiyalilobela, bantwana abathandekayo, ngoba liyamazi uBaba.

Ngiyalilobela bobaba, ngoba selimazi yena okhona kusukela ekuqaleni. Ngiyalilobela majaha, ngoba lilamandla lelizwi likaNkulunkulu lihlala kini, njalo limnqobile omubi.

Lingawuthandi Umhlaba

¹⁵ Lingawuthandi umhlaba loba olunye ulutho olusemhlabeni. Nxa umuntu ethanda umhlaba, uthando lukaBaba kalukho kuye. ¹⁶ Ngoba izinto zonke ezisemhlabeni, izinkanuko zabantu abalezono, ukulangazela kwamehlo abo kanye lokuzigqaja ngempahla akuveli kuBaba, kodwa emhlabeni. ¹⁷ Umhlaba lezinkanuko zawo kuyadlula, kodwa umuntu owenza intando kaNkulunkulu uphila kuze kube nininini.

Isixwayiso Ngabaphika UKhristu

¹⁸ Bantwana abathandekayo, lesi yisikhathi sokucina; njalo njengoba lizwile ukuthi umphikuKhristu uyeza, lakhathesi abanengi abaphika uKhristu sebekhona. Yikho esikwazi ngakho ukuthi lesi yisikhathi sokucina. ¹⁹ Baphuma besuka kithi, kodwa impela babengasibo

bakithi. Ngoba aluba babengabakithi, babezahlala lathi; kodwa ukusuka kwabo kwatshengisa ukuthi kakho kubo owayengowakithi.

²⁰ Kodwa lina ligcotshwe ngoNgcwele, njalo lonke liyalazi iqiniso.* ²¹ Kangililobeli ngoba iqiniso kalilazi, kodwa ngoba liyalazi langenxa yokuthi akulamanga aphuma eqin-isweni. ²² Umqambi wamanga ngubani? Ngumuntu ophikayo ukuthi uJesu unguKhristu. Umuntu onjalo ngumphikuKhristu, uphika uYise leNdodana. ²³ Kakho ophika iNdodana oloYise; lowo owamukela iNdodana uYise futhi.

²⁴ Bonani ukuthi lokho elakuzwayo kusukela ekuqaleni kuyahlala kini. Nxa kuhlala, lani lizahlala likhona eNdodaneni lakuYise. ²⁵ Njalo nanku asithembisa khona, ukuphila okulaphakade.

²⁶ Ngililobela ngalezizinto mayelana lalabo abazama ukulidukisa. ²⁷ Ukugcotshwa kwenu elakwamukela kuye, kuhlezi kukini, njalo kalisweli muntu wokulifundisa. Kodwa njengoba ukugcoba kwakhe kulifundisa izinto zonke njalo njengoba ukugcoba lokho kuqotho, akusinkohliso njengoba kulifundisile, hlalani likuye.

Abantwana BakaNkulunkulu

²⁸ Ngakho-ke, bantwana abathandekayo, qhubekani likuye ukuze kuthi lapho esebonakala sibe lesibindi njalo singabi lenhloni phambi kwakhe ekufikeni kwakhe.

²⁹ Nxa likwazi ukuthi ulungile, liyakwazi ukuthi umuntu wonke oyenza okulungileyo uzelwe ngaye.

3

¹ Yeka ubukhulu bothando uBaba asinika lona, ukuba sibizwe ngokuthi singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu! Njalo lokho yikho esiyikho! Okwenza umhlaba thina ungasazi yikuthi laye kawumazanga. ² Bangane abathandekayo, khatesi singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu, njalo lokho esizakuba yikho akukaziwa. Kodwa siyakwazi ukuthi lapho ebonakala sizakuba njengaye ngoba sizambona njengoba enjalo. ³ Wonke umuntu olemthamba leli ngaphakathi kwakhe uyazihlambulula njengoba laye ehlabulukile.

⁴ Umuntu wonke owenza izono wephula umthetho; ngempela isono yikungabi lomthetho. ⁵ Kodwa liyakwazi ukuthi wabonakala ukuze asuse izono zethu. Njalo kuye akulasono. ⁶ Kakho ohlala kuye oqhubeka esona. Kakho oqhubeka esona owambonayo kumbe omaziyo.

* 2:20 2.20 Eminye imibhalo ithi njalo liyazazi zonke izinto

⁷ Bantwana abathandekayo, lingavumeli muntu eledukisa. Lowo oyenza okulungileyo ulungile, njengoba laye elungile. ⁸ Lowo owonayo ngokaSathane ngoba uSathane wona kusukela ekuqaleni. INdodana kaNkulunkulu yabonakala ukuze ichithe imisebenzi kaSathane. ⁹ Kakho ozelwe ngokukaNkulunkulu ozaqhubeka esona, ngoba inhlanyelo kaNkulunkulu ihlala ikubo, abasoze baqhubeke besona ngoba bazelwe nguNkulunkulu. ¹⁰ Sibazi ngalokhu ukuthi abantwana bakaNkulunkulu ngobani kanye lokuthi abangabantwana bakaSathane ngobani. Lowo ongenzi okulungileyo kasuye mntakaNkulunkulu, loba lowo ongamthandiyo umfowabo lodadewabo.

Thandanani

¹¹ Leli yilizwi elalizwa kusukela ekuqaleni: Kumele sithandane. ¹² Lingabi njengoKhayini, owayengokaSathane wasebulala umfowabo. Wambulalelani na? Ngoba ezakhe izenzo zazizimbi ezomfowabo zilungile. ¹³ Lingamangali bazalwane bami nxa umhlaba ulizonda. ¹⁴ Siyakwazi ukuthi sesidlulile ekufeni saya ekuphileni, ngoba siyabathanda abazalwane bethu. Lowo ongathandiyo ulokhu esekufeni. ¹⁵ Lowo ozonda umzalwane wakhe ungumbulali, njalo liyakwazi ukuthi akulambulali olokuphila okungaphe-liyo kuye.

¹⁶ Nanku esazi ngakho ukuthi uthando luyini: UJesu Khristu wadela ukuphila kwakhe ngenxa yethu. Lathi kufanele sidele ukuphila kwethu ngenxa yabazalwane bethu. ¹⁷ Nxa umuntu enothile abone umzalwane wakhe oswelayo, kodwa angabi lesihawu kuye, uthando lukaNkulunkulu lungaba kuye kanjani na? ¹⁸ Bantwana abathandekayo, kasingathandi ngamazwi loba ulimi kuphela kodwa ngezenzo langeqiniso.

¹⁹ Ngalokhu sazi kanje ukuthi singabeqiniso lokuthi sizibeka njani inhliziyo zethu ekuphumuleni phambi kwakhe ²⁰ lapho inhliziyo zethu zisilahla. Ngoba uNkulunkulu mkhulu kakhulu kulezinhliziyo zethu njalo wazi izinto zonke. ²¹ Bazalwane abathandekayo, nxa inhliziyo zethu zingasilahli, silesibindi phambi kukaNkulunkulu ²² njalo samukela kuye konke esikucelayo ngoba siyayilalela imilayo yakhe senze okumthokozisayo. ²³ Nanku umlayo wakhe: ukukholwa ebizweni leNdodana yakhe, uJesu Khristu, lokuthandana njengokusilaya kwakhe. ²⁴ Labo abalalela imilayo yakhe bahlala kuye, laye kubo. Njalo sikwazi ngalokhu ukuthi uhlala kithi: Sikwazi ngoMoya asinika yena.

4

Hlolani Omoya

¹ Bazalwane abathandekayo, lingaze labakholwa omoya bonke, kodwa bahloleni omoya ukuba libone bangabe bevela kuNkulunkulu na ngoba abaphrofethi bamanga abanengi sebekhona emhlabeni. ² Lingamazi kanje uMoya kaNkulunkulu: Umoya wonke ovumayo ukuthi uJesu Khristu weza esenyameni uvela kuNkulunkulu, ³ kodwa wonke umoya ongamvumiyo uJesu kawuveli kuNkulunkulu. Lowo ngumoya womphikuKhristu, elezwa ukuthi uyeza njalo osukhona khathesi emhlabeni.

⁴ Lina, bantwana abathandekayo, lingabakaNkulunkulu njalo selibanqobile ngoba lowo okini mkhulu kulalowo os-emhlabeni. ⁵ Bona bangabasemhlabeni, ngakho bakhuluma ngokwengqondo yasemhlabeni njalo umhlaba uyabalalela. ⁶ Thina singabakaNkulunkulu njalo lowo omaziyo uNkulunkulu uyasilalela, kodwa lowo ongasuye kaNkulunkulu kasilaleli. Simbona ngalokhu uMoya weqiniso lomoya wamanga.

Uthando LukaNkulunkulu Lolwethu

⁷ Bangane abathandekayo kasithandaneni, ngoba uthando luvela kuNkulunkulu. Umuntu wonke othandayo uzelwe ngoNkulunkulu njalo uyamazi uNkulunkulu. ⁸ Lowo ongathandiyo kamazi uNkulunkulu, ngoba uNkulunkulu uluthando. ⁹ UNkulunkulu walubonakalisa kanje uthando lwakhe kithi: Wathumela emhlabeni iNdodana yakhe eyiyo yodwa ukuba siphile ngayo. ¹⁰ Lolu luthando: kungayisikuthi sasimthanda uNkulunkulu kodwa ukuthi yena wasithanda wathumela iNdodana yakhe njengomhlatshelo wenhlawulo yezono zethu. ¹¹ Bangane abathandekayo, njengoba uNkulunkulu wasithanda kangaka, lathi kumele sithandane. ¹² Kakho owake wabona uNkulunkulu; kodwa nxa sithandana, uNkulunkulu uhlala kithi lothando lwakhe luyapheleliswa kithi.

¹³ Sikwazi ngalokhu ukuthi sihlala kuye laye uhlala kithi ngoba usinike okukaMoya wakhe. ¹⁴ Sibonile njalo siyafakaza ukuthi uBaba uyithumele iNdodana yakhe ukuba ibe nguMsindisi womhlaba. ¹⁵ Nxa umuntu evuma ukuthi uJesu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu uhlala kuye laye kuNkulunkulu. ¹⁶ Ngakho siyazi njalo sithembe uthando uNkulunkulu alalo kithi.

UNkulunkulu uluthando. Ohlala ethandweni, uhlala kuNkulunkulu, loNkulunkulu kuye. ¹⁷ Uthando luyapheleliswa kithi ukuze sibe lesibindi ngosuku lokwahlulelwa, ngoba kulumhlaba lathi sinjengaye.

18 Ethandweni akulakwesaba. Uthando olupheleleyo luyaxotsha ukwesaba, ngoba ukwesaba kukhumbuza isijeziso. Umuntu owesabayo kapheliswa ethandweni.

19 Siyathanda ngoba yena wasithanda kuqala. 20 Nxa umuntu esithi, "Mina ngiyamthanda uNkulunkulu," kodwa ezonda umfowabo, ulamanga. Ngoba umuntu ongamthandiyo umfowabo ambonayo, angeke amthande uNkulunkulu angakaze ambone. 21 Njalo wasinika umlayo lo: Lowo othanda uNkulunkulu kumele athande lomfowabo.

5

Ukukholwa ENdodaneni kaNkulunkulu

1 Umuntu wonke okholwayo ukuthi uJesu nguKhristu uzelwe nguNkulunkulu, njalo umuntu wonke othanda uBaba uyamthanda lomtanakhe. 2 Sikwazi ngalokhu ukuthi siyabathanda abantwana bakaNkulunkulu: ngokuthanda uNkulunkulu sigcina imilayo yakhe. 3 Ukuthanda uNkulunkulu yilokhu: ukulalela imilayo yakhe. Njalo imilayo yakhe kayinzima, 4 ngoba umuntu wonke ozelwe nguNkulunkulu uwunqobile umhlaba. Lokhu yikunqoba okwehlule umhlaba, okuyikukholwa kwethu. 5 Ngubani lowo onqoba umhlaba? Ngulowo kuphela okholwayo ukuthi uJesu uyiNdodana kaNkulunkulu.

6 Lo nguye oweza ngamanzi langegazi, uJesu Khristu kabuyanga ngamanzi kuphela, kodwa ngamanzi langegazi. Njalo nguMoya ofakazayo, ngoba uMoya uliqiniso. 7 Ngoba bathathu abafakazayo*: 8 uMoya, lamanzi kanye legazi; njalo bobathathu laba bayavumelana. 9 Siyabamukela ubufakazi babantu, kodwa ubufakazi bukaNkulunkulu bukhulu ngoba yibufakazi bukaNkulunkulu abunikayo ngeNdodana yakhe. 10 Lowo okholwayo eNdodaneni kaNkulunkulu ulobufakazi lobu enhliziyweni yakhe. Lowo ongamkholwayo uNkulunkulu umenze waba ngolamanga ngoba engabukholwanga ubufakazi uNkulunkulu abunike ngeNdodana yakhe. 11 Ubufakazi lobo yilobu: UNkulunkulu usinike ukuphila okulaphakade njalo lokhu kuphila kuseNdodaneni yakhe. 12 Lowo oleNdodana yakhe ulokuphila; lowo ongelayo iNdodana kaNkulunkulu kalakho ukuphila.

Amazwi Okucina

* 5:7 5.7 Imibhalo yeVulgate yamuva bayafakaza ezulwini: uBaba, uLizwi loMoya oyiNgcwele, njalo laba bobathathu bamunye. 8 Njalo bathathu abafakaza emhlabeni: (okungatholakali emibhalweni yesiGrikhi eyayikhona kusiya ekuqaleni kwesentshuri yetshumi lane)

¹³ Ngililobela lezizinto lina abakholwayo ebizweni leNdo-dana kaNkulunkulu ukuze lazi ukuthi lilokuphila oku-laphakade. ¹⁴ Silesiqinisele lesi ekusondeleni kuNku-lunkulu: ukuthi nxa sicela ulutho ngokwentando yakhe, uyasizwa. ¹⁵ Nxa sisazi ukuthi uyasizwa loba kuyini esikucelayo siyakwazi ukuthi sesilakho esikucele kuye.

¹⁶ Lapho umuntu ebona umzalwane wakhe esenza isono esingakhokheleli ekufeni, kumele akhuleke, uNku-lunkulu uzamnika ukuphila. Ngitsho kulabo abasono sabo kasikhokheleli ekufeni. Kulesono esikhokhelela ekufeni. Kangitsho ukuthi akhuleke ngaleso. ¹⁷ Konke ukwenza okubi kuyisono, njalo kulesono esingakhokheleli ekufeni.

¹⁸ Siyakwazi ukuthi umuntu ozelwe nguNkulunkulu kaqhubeki esenza izono; lowo owazalwa nguNkulunkulu uyamvikela, loSathane kamthinti. ¹⁹ Siyakwazi ukuthi singabantwana bakaNkulunkulu kanye lokuthi umhlaba wonke ungaphansi kwamandla omubi. ²⁰ Siyakwazi lokuthi iNdodana kaNkulunkulu yeza yasinika ukuqedisisa, ukuze siyazi yona eqotho. Njalo sikuye yena oqotho kanye laseNdodaneni yakhe uJesu Khristu. Yena unguNkulunkulu oqotho kanye lokuphila okulaphakade.

²¹ Bantwana abathandekayo, xwayani izithombe.

Incwadi Yesibili KaJohane

¹ Mina omdala,

Ngilobela inkosikazi ekhethiweyo labantwana bayo, engibathandayo eqinisweni, kungayisimi kuphela, kodwa labo bonke abalaziyo iqiniso, ² ngenxa yeqiniso elikhona kithi njalo elizakuba lathi kuze kube nininini:

³ Umusa, lesihawu kanye lokuthula okuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba lakuJesu Khristu, iNdodana kaBaba, kuza-kuba lathi ngeqiniso langothando.

⁴ Kungithokozise kakhulu ukufumana abanye babantwana benu bephila ngeqiniso njengokulaywa kwethu nguBaba. ⁵ Khathesi-ke, nkosikazi ethandekayo, ngikulobela umlayo omutsha, kodwa esasilawo kusukela ekuqaleni. Ngicela ukuba sithandane. ⁶ Uthando yilolu: ukuba siphile ngokulalela imilayo yakhe. Njengoba uzwile kusukela ekuqaleni, umlayo wakhe yikuthi uphile impilo yothando.

⁷ Ngitsho lokhu ngoba abakhohlisi abanengi abangavumiyo ukuthi uJesu Khristu weza engumuntu sebekhona emhlabeni. Lowomuntu onjalo ungumkhohlisi lomphikuKhristu. ⁸ Qaphelani ukuba lingalahlekelwa yilokho elakusebenzelayo, kodwa ukuba liphawe umvuzo ngokupheleleyo. ⁹ Lowo odlulela phambili angabe esaqhubeka ngemfundiso kaKhristu kalaye uNkulunkulu; lowo oqhubekayo ngemfundiso uloBaba leNdodana. ¹⁰ Nxa umuntu esiza kini engalethi imfundiso le, lingamngenisi ezindlini zenu njalo lingamamukeli. ¹¹ Lowo omamukelayo uyahlanganyela emisebenzini yakhe emibi.

¹² Ngilokunengi engingalilobela khona, kodwa angifuni ukusebenzisa iphepha le-inki. Kodwa ngithemba ukuthi ngizalethekelela ngikhulume lani sikhangelene ukuze intokozo yethu iphelele.

¹³ Abantwana bakadadewenu okhethiweyo bayakubingelela.

Incwadi Yesithathu KaJohane

¹ Mina omdala,

Ngilobela umngane wami othandekayo uGayiyasi, engimthanda ngeqiniso.

² Mngane wami othandekayo, ngiyakhuleka ukuba ube lempilo enhle lokuthi konke kukuhambele kuhle njengalokhu umphefumulo wakho uphila kuhle. ³ Kwangithokozisa kakhulu ukuba labanye abazalwane abafika bafakaza ngokuthembeka kwakho eqinisweni kanye lokuthi uyaqhubeka uphila ngeqiniso. ⁴ Angilakuthokoza okukhulu okudlula ukuzwa ukuthi abantwabami baphila ngokweqiniso.

⁵ Mngane othandekayo, uthembekile kulokho okwenzela abazalwane, lanxa nje kuwe bengabemzini. ⁶ Sebetshele ibandla ngothando lwakho. Ngicela ubathume ngendlela edumisa uNkulunkulu. ⁷ Baphuma ngenxa yeBizo, abaze bathola usizo kwabangakhulwayo. ⁸ Ngakho kufanele sitshengise ukuphana ebantwini abanjalo ukuze sisebenzele ndawonye iqiniso.

⁹ Ngalobela ebandleni kodwa uDiyothrefasi othanda ubukhulu akasoze asemukela. ¹⁰ Ngakho-ke, ngingeza ngizakukhangelisisa lokhu akwenzayo, ekhuluma kakubi ngathi. Kasuthiseki ngalokho, uyala ukwamukela abazalwane. Labafuna ukwenzanjalo uyabalela abaxotshe ebandleni.

¹¹ Bangane abathandekayo, lingalingiseli okubi, kodwa lingisani okuhle. Lowo oyenza okuhle ngokaNkulunkulu. Lowo oyenza okubi kakamboni uNkulunkulu. ¹² UDemetriyasi unconywa ngabantu bonke kanye laliqiniso uqobo. Lathi sikhuluma okuhle ngaye njalo liyakwazi ukuthi ubufakazi bethu buliqiniso.

¹³ Ngilokunengi engingalilobela khona, kodwa angifuni ukusebenzisa usiba le-inki. ¹⁴ Ngithemba ukuthi ngizalibona masinyane lapho esizakhuluma khona ubuso ngobuso.

¹⁵ Ukuthula kakube kini.

Abangane abalapha bayalibingelela. Binglelela abangane abangapho munye ngamunye.

UJuda

¹ UJuda, inceku kaJesu Khristu lomfowabo kaJakhobe,

Kulabo ababiziweyo, abathandwa nguNkulunkulu uBaba belondolozwa nguJesu Khristu:

² Isihawu, lokuthula kanye lothando kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo.

Isono Lokubhubha Kwabantu Abangalunganga

³ Bangane abathandekayo, lanxa kade ngitshisekela kakhulu ukulilobela mayelana lensindiso esilayo, kodwa ngibone kufanele ukuthi ngilobele ukulikhuthaza ukuba lilwele ukholo lolu olwaphiwa abangcwele bakaNkulunkulu ⁴ Ngoba abantu abathile abokulahlwa kwabo okwalotshwa ngakho endulo sebengene phakathi kwenu ngasese. Bangabantu abangamesabiyo uNkulunkulu abaguqulela umusa kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ubeyimvumo yokuganga bamphike loJesu Khristu onguye kuphela iNkosi yethu Yobukhosi.

⁵ Lanxa likwazi konke lokhu, ngithanda ukulikhumbuza ukuthi iNkosi yakhupha abantu bayo eGibhithe, kodwa muva yababhubhisa labo abangakholwanga. ⁶ Lezingilosi ezingagcinanga izikhundla zazo zamandla, kodwa zadela ikhaya lazo, lezi wazigcina ebumnyameni, zibotshwe ngamaketane angaqamukiyo zilindele ukwahlulelwa ngoSuku olukhulu. ⁷ Ngokunjalo, iSodoma leGomora lamadolobho aseduzane azinikela ekuxhwaleni kobufebe lokonakala. Ayisibonelo salabo abezwa isizejiso somlilo waphakade.

⁸ Ngokunjalo, ngamandla okuphupha kwabo lababantu abangalunganga bangcolisa imizimba yabo, baphike ubukhokheli, bachothoze lezidalwa zasezulwini. ⁹ Kodwa lengilosi enkulu uMikhayeli lapho ephikisana loSathane ngesidumbu sikaMosi kazange alokothe ukumthuka ngenhlamba, kodwa wathi, "iNkosi kayikukhuze!" ¹⁰ Kodwa abantu laba bakhuluma behlambaza lokho abangakuzwisisiyo; njalo lezozinto abazizwisisayo ngokwemvelo njengezinyamazana ezingacabangiyo, lezi yizo kanye izinto ezizababhubhisa.

¹¹ Maye kubo! Balandela indlela kaKhayini; baphuthuma inzuzo besona njengoBhalamu; babhujiswa emvukeleni kaKhora.

¹² Abantu laba bayisinengiso emadilini enu abantu abathetheneyo besidla lani bengelanhloni lakancane, abelusi

abazitika ngokudla bona bodwa. Bangamayezi angelazulu, aphetshulwa ngumoya; izihlahla zasekwindla ezingelazithelo njalo ezisitshuniweyo, ezife kabili. ¹³ Bangamagagasi olwandle alamandla, bebhuhhudla ihlazo labo; izinkanyezi ezintulayo, ezilobumnyama obukhulu obugcinelwe zona kuze kube nininini.

¹⁴ U-Enoki, owesikhombisa kusukela ku-Adamu waphrofitha ngabantu laba wathi: “Khangelani, iNkosi iza lezinkulungwane lezinye izinkulungwane zabangcwele bayo ¹⁵ ukwahlulela abantu bonke, lokubalahla ngenxa yamacala abawenzayo ebubini babo, langenxa yamazwi wonke okudelela, izoni ezingamesabiyo uNkulunkulu ezawakhuluma ngaye.” ¹⁶ Abantu laba bangabakhononi labachothozi; balandela izinkanuko zabo ezimbi; bayazikhukhumeza, bancome abanye ngamanga ukuze bazitholele inzuzo.

Isimemezelo Sokubekezela

¹⁷ Kodwa-ke, bangane abathandekayo, khumbulani okwatshiwo ngaphambilini ngabapostoli beNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu. ¹⁸ Bathi kini, “Ngezikhathi zokucina kuzakuba labaklolodayo, belandela izinkanuko zabo zokungalungi.” ¹⁹ Laba yibo abantu abalehluhanisayo, abalandela isazela semvelo nje bengelawo uMoya.

²⁰ Kodwa lina, bangane abathandekayo, zakheni ekukholweni kwenu okungcwele kakhulu likhuleke kuMoya oNgcwele, ²¹ lizigcine lisothandweni lukaNkulunkulu lisalindele isihawu seNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu ukuba ilingenise ekuphileni okulaphakade.

²² Yibani lesihawu kulabo abathandabuzayo; ²³ lenyule abanye emlilweni libasilise; kwabanye bonakalisani isihawu, kuhlangele lokwesaba, lizonde lezigqoko ezingcoliswe yimizimba exhwalileyo.

Ihubo Lokubonga

²⁴ Kuye olamandla okuligcina ukuba lingawi, lokulibeka phambi kwenkazimulo yobukhona bakhe kungelasici njalo ngentokozo enkulu, ²⁵ kuye yedwa uNkulunkulu onguM-sindisi wethu, kakube lodumo, ubukhosi kanye lamandla ngoJesu Khristu iNkosi yethu, mandulo kwezikhathi zonke, khathesi kanye lanininini! Ameni.

Isambulo

Isandulelo

¹ Isambulo esivela kuJesu Khristu, asiphiwa nguNkulunkulu ukuba atshengise izinceku zakhe okufanele kwenzakale masinyane. Wakwenza kwazakala ngokuthuma ingilosi yakhe encekwini yakhe uJohane ² ofakaza konke akubonayo, lona ilizwi likaNkulunkulu kanye lobufakazi bukaJesu Khristu. ³ Ubusisiwe lowo ofunda amazwi alesisiphrofethi njalo babusisiwe lalabo abakuzwayo bakugcine ezinhliziyweni okulotshwe kuso ngoba isikhathi sesisondele.

Ukubingelela Lehubo Lokubonga

⁴ Johane,

Emabandleni ayisikhombisa esifundeni sase-Ezhiya:

Umusa lokuthula kakube kini okuvela kuye okhona, lowayekhona, lozakubakhona, lokuvela kubomoya abayisikhombisa phambi kwesihlalo sakhe sobukhosi, ⁵ lokuvela kuJesu Khristu, ongufakazi othembekileyo, izibulo kwabafuleyo, lombusi wamakhosi asemhlabeni.

Kuye osithandayo lowasikhululayo ezonweni zethu ngegazi lakhe, ⁶ njalo osenze saba ngumbuso labaphristi ukuba sisebenzele uNkulunkulu wakhe loYise, kakube kuye udumo lamanhla kuze kube nininini! Ameni.

⁷ "Khangelani uyeza ngamayezi, amehlo wonke azakumbona,

lalabo abamgwazayo"*;

labantu bonke abasemhlabeni "bazalila ngenxa yakhe."†

Kuzakuba njalo! Ameni.

⁸ "Ngingu-Alfa lo-Omega," kutsho iNkosi uNkulunkulu, "okhona, lowayekhona, lozakubakhona, uSomandla."

Umbono KaJohane NgoKhristu

⁹ Mina Johane, umzalwane wenu lomkhula wenu ekuhluphekeni lasembusweni kanye lekubekezeleni

* 1:7 1.7 UDanyeli 7.13 † 1:7 1.7 UZakhariya 12.10

ngesineke okungokwethu kuJesu, ngangisesihlengeni sasePhathimosi ngenxa yelizwi likaNkulunkulu lobufakazi bukaJesu. ¹⁰ NgoSuku lweNkosi ngangenwa nguMoya kwathi ngemva kwami ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu kungathi licilongo, ¹¹ elathi: **“Loba emqulwini lokhu okubonayo uwuthumele emabandleni ayisikhombisa: kwelase-Efesu, lelaseSimina, lelasePhegamami, lelaseThiyathira, lelaseSadisi, lelaseFiladelifiya kanye lelaseLodikheya.”**

¹² Ngatshibilika ukuze ngimbone lowo owayekhuluma lami. Sengiphendukile ngabona izinti zezibane zegolide eziyisikhombisa, ¹³ njalo phakathi kwezinti zezibane kwakulomuntu owayenjengendodana yomuntu,‡ egqoke isembatho esasifika phansi ezinyaweni zakhe, ibhanti legolide libophe isifuba sakhe. ¹⁴ Ikhanda lakhe lezinwele zakhe kwakumhlophe njengotshinda, kumhlophe nke njengongqwaqwane, lamehlo akhe ayenjengomlilo ovuthayo. ¹⁵ Inyawo zakhe zazinjengethisi elikhazimulayo emvuthweni, ilizwi lakhe linjengokuhuba kwamanzi agelezayo. ¹⁶ Esandleni sakhe sokunene wayephethe izinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa, emlonjeni wakhe kwaphuma insingo. Ubuso bakhe babunjengelanga likhanyisa ngenkazimulo yalo yonke.

¹⁷ Kwathi ngimbona ngawela ezinyaweni zakhe njen-gofileyo. Wabeka isandla sakhe sokunene phezu kwami, wathi: **“Ungesabi. Mina ngiyisiQalo lesiPhetho. ¹⁸ NgingoPhilayo; ngangifile njalo khangela ngiyaphila kuze kube nininini! Njalo ngiphethe izihluthulelo zokufa kanye leHadesi.**

¹⁹ Ngakho-ke, loba lokhu okubonileyo, okukhona khathesi kanye lokuzakwenzakala muva. ²⁰ Imfihlakalo yezinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa ozibone esandleni sami sokunene kanye lezinti zezibane zegolide eziyisikhombisa yile: **Izinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa yizingilosi zamabandla ayisikhombisa, izinti zezibane ngamabandla ayisikhombisa.”**

2

Ebandleni Lase-Efesu

¹ **“Ingilosi yebandla lase-Efesu ilobele uthi:**

La ngamazwi akhe lowo ophethe izinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa esandleni sakhe sokunene ehamba

phakathi kwezinti zezibane zegolide eziyisikhombisa.

² Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho lokusebenza kwakho nzima kanye lokubekezela kwakho. Ngiyakwazi ukuthi awungeke ubabekezelele abantu abaxhwalileyo lokuthi ubahlolile labo abathi bangabapostoli, kodwa bengayisibo, njalo wabafumana bengabalamanga. ³ Ubekezele waqinisela ebunzimeni ngenxa yebizo lami, kawaze wadinwa. ⁴ Kodwa ngilale insolo ngawe: Usuludelile uthando lwakho obulalo kuqala. ⁵ Khumbula isiqongo owe kuso! Phenduka wenze izinto owawuzenza kuqala. Nxa ungaphenduki, ngizakuza kuwe, ngisuse uluthi lwakho lwesibane endaweni yalo. ⁶ Kodwa ulalokhu okuhle ngawe: Uyayizonda imikhuba yamaNikholayitha, engiyizondayo lami. ⁷ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni. Lowo onqobayo ngizamnika ilungelo lokudla esihlahleni sokuphila esisepharadise kaNkulunkulu.”

Ebandleni LaseSimina

⁸ “Ingilosi yebandla laseSimina ilobele uthi:

La ngamazwi akhe yena oyisiQalo lesiPhetho, owafayo wabuya wavuka.

⁹ Ngiyazazi inhlupheko zakho kanye lobuyanga bakho, kanti-ke unothile! Ngiyakwazi ukuhlambaza kwalabo abathi bangamaJuda bengayisiwo, kodwa beyisinagogu kaSathane. ¹⁰ Ungazesabi inhlupheko esezizakwehlela. Ngiyakutshela ukuthi uSathane uzabeka abanye benu entolongweni ukuba alilinge njalo lizahlukuluzwa okwensuku ezilitshumi. Thembeka, lanxa kuselungeni lokufa, mina ngizakupha umqhele wokuphila. ¹¹ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni. Lowo onqobayo kasoze alinyazwe lakancane yikufa kwesibili.”

Ebandleni LasePhegamumi

¹² “Ingilosi yebandla lasePhegamami ilobele uthi:

La ngamazwi akhe lowo ophethe insingo.

¹³ Ngiyakwazi lapho ohlala khona, lapho uSathane alesihlalo sakhe. Ikanti wena uqhubeke uqotho ebizweni lami. Kawukuphikanga ukukholwa kwakho

kimi, lasezinsukwini zika-Antiphasi, ufakazi wami othembekileyo, owabulawayo edolobheni lakini, lapho uSathane ahlala khona. ¹⁴ Kodwa-ke, kulezinto ezimbalwa engilensolo ngazo kuwe: Kula bantu khonapho ababambelele emfundisweni kaBhalamu, owafundisa uBhalaki ukhugela abako-Israyeli ekwenzeni isono ngokudla ukudla okwakunikelwe ezithombeni kanye langokuxhwala kobufebe. ¹⁵ Njalo ulabanye ababambelele emfundisweni yamaNikholayitha. ¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, phenduka! Hlezi ngize kuwe ngilwe labo ngenkemba yomlomo wami. ¹⁷ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo ngu-Moya emabandleni. Lowo onqobayo, ngizamupha enye yemana efihliweyo. Ngizamupha lelitshe elimhlophe okulotshwe kulo ibizo elitsha, elaziwa ngulowo kuphela olamukelayo.”

Ebandleni LaseThiyathira

¹⁸ “Ingilosi yebandla laseThiyathira ilobele uthi:

La ngamazwi eNdodana kaNkulunkulu, emehlo ayo anjengomlilo ovuthayo lezinyawo zayo zinjengethusi elikhazimulayo.

¹⁹ Ngiyayazi imisebenzi yakho, uthando lokholo lwakho, kanye lokuthi khathesi ususenza okunengi kulakuqala. ²⁰ Kodwa-ke, ngilale insolo ngawe: Uyambekezelela owesifazane lowana uJezebhelu, ozibiza ngokuthi ngumphrofethikazi. Ngemfundiso yakhe udukisela izinceku zami ekuxhwaleni kobufebe lekudleni ukudla okunikelwe ezithombeni. ²¹ Ngimnike isikhathi ukuba aphenduke ekuxhwaleni kwakhe, kodwa kafuni. ²² Ngakho ngizamphosela phezu kombheda wokuhlupheka, njalo labo afeba labo ngizabenza bahlupheke kakhulu, ngaphandle kokuba baphenduke ezindleleni zakhe. ²³ Abantwabakhe ngizabatshaya bafe. Ngakho-ke, amabandla wonke azakwazi ukuthi mina nginguye ohlola inhliziyo lezingqondo njalo ngizavuzwa omunye lomunye wenu ngemisebenzi yenu. ²⁴ Manje-ke, ngithi kwabanye benu eThiyathira, kini elingabambelelanga emfundisweni yakhe njalo lingafundanga okuthiwa zimfihlo ezizikileyo zikaSathane, ‘Kangiyikulethesa omunye umthwalo, ²⁵ lina bambelelani kuphela kulokho elilakho ngize ngifike.’ ²⁶ Lowo onqobayo esenza

intando yami kuze kube sekupheleni ngizamnika amandla phezu kwezizwe, ²⁷ ‘Uzazibusa ngentonga yensimbi; aziphahlaze zibe yizicucu njengokwenziwa ngebumba,’* njengalokhu ngiphiwe amandla avela kuBaba. ²⁸ Ngizamupha lendonsakusa. ²⁹ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni.”

3

Ebandleni LaseSadisi

¹ “Ingilosi yebandla laseSadisi ilobele uthi:

La ngamazwi akhe lowo ophethe omoya abayisikhombisa bakaNkulunkulu kanye lezinkanyezi eziyisikhombisa.

Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho; ulodumo lokuba ngophilayo, kodwa ufile. ² Vuka! Qinisa okuseleyo osekuseduze lokufa, ngoba izenzo zakho angizifumananga ziphelele emehlweni kaNkulunkulu. ³ Ngakho, khumbula okwamukeleyo lokuzwileyo; kulalele, uphenduke. Kodwa nxa ungavuki, ngizakuza njengesela njalo kawusoze wazi ukuthi ngizafika kuwe ngasiphi isikhathi. ⁴ Kodwa ulabantu abalutshwana eSadisi abangangcolisanga izigqoko zabo. Bazahamba lami begqoke ezimhlophe, ngoba bazifanele. ⁵ Lowo onqobayo uzagqoka ezimhlophe njengabo. Ibizo lakhe kangisoze ngilesule encwadini yokuphila, kodwa ibizo lakhe ngizalivuma phambi kukaBaba lezingilosi zakhe. ⁶ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni.”

Ebandleni LaseFiladelifiya

⁷ “Ingilosi yebandla laseFiladelifiya ilobele uthi:

La ngamazwi akhe lowo ongcwele loqotho, ophethe isihluthulelo sikaDavida. Akuvulileyo kakho ongakuvala; lakuvalileyo kakho ongakuvula.

⁸ Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho. Khangela phambi kwakho sengibeke umnyango okungelamuntu ongawuvala. Ngiyakwazi ukuthi ulamandla amancinyane, kodwa ilizwi lami uligcinile njalo ibizo lami kawuliphikanga. ⁹ Ngizakwenza labo abangabesinagogu likaSathane, abathi bangamaJuda

* 2:27 2.27 AmaHubo 2.9

bona bengayisiwo, kodwa beqamba amanga beze kuwe bawele phansi ngasezinyaweni zakho bavume ukuthi ngikuthandle. ¹⁰ Njengoba ugcine umlayo wami ukuba ubekezele ngesineke, lami ngizakugcina esikhathini sokulingwa esizafika emhlabeni wonke ukuhlola labo abahlala emhlabeni. ¹¹ Ngiyeza masinyane. Bamblela kulokho olakho, ukuze kungabikhona othatha umqhele wakho. ¹² Lowo onqobayo ngizamenza abe yinsika ethempelini likaNkulunkulu. Kasoze asuke kulo futhi. Ngizaloba phezu kwakhe ibizo likaNkulunkulu wami kanye lebizu ledolobho likaNkulunkulu wami, iJerusalema elitsha, elehlela phansi liphuma ezulwini livela kuNkulunkulu wami; njalo ngizaloba phezu kwakhe lebizu lami elitsha. ¹³ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni.”

Ibandla LaseLodikheya

¹⁴ “Ingilosi yebandla laseLodikheya ilobele uthi:

La ngamazwi ka-Ameni, ufakazi othembekileyo loqotho, umbusi wendalo kaNkulunkulu.

¹⁵ Ngiyazazi izenzo zakho, ukuthi kawuqandi njalo kawutshisi. Ngifisa ukuthi ngabe uyilokhu loba lokhuyana. ¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, njengoba ubuthukuthuku, ungatshisi njalo ungaqandi, sekuse-duze ukuba ngikukhafule emlonyeni wami. ¹⁷ Wena uthi, ‘Nginothile; sengazuza inotho njalo kangisweli lutho.’ Kodwa kawunanzeleli ukuthi uyahlupheka, ulusizi, ungumyanga, uyisiphofu njalo unqunu. ¹⁸ Ngiyakucebisa ukuba uthenge kimi igolide elihlanjululwe emlilweni ukuze unotho; ugqoke izigqoko ezimhlophe ukuze uvale ubunqunu bakho obulihlazo, lamafutha okugcoba amehlo akho ukuze ubone. ¹⁹ Labo engibathandayo ngiyabakhuza ngibajezise. Ngakho-ke, woba lokutshiseka uphenduke. ²⁰ Mina ngilapha! Ngimi emnyango ngiqoqoda. Nxa kukhona ozwa ilizwi lami avule umnyango, ngizangena ngidle laye, laye adle lami. ²¹ Lowo onqobayo, ngizamnika ilungelo lokuhlala lami esihlalweni sami sobukhosi, njengoba lami nganqoba ngasengihlala loBaba esihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. ²² Lowo olendlebe, akezwe okutshiwo nguMoya emabandleni.”

4

Isihlalo Sobukhosi Ezulwini

¹ Emva kwalokhu ngakhangela, ngabona umnyango phambi kwami uvulekile ezulwini. Ilizwi engangilizwe kuqala lingikhulumisa kungathi licilongo lathi, **“Woza lapha ngikutshengise okuzakwenzakala emva kwalokhu.”** ² Khonokho nje ngahle ngehlelwa nguMoya, kwathi phambi kwami ngabona isihlalo sobukhosi ezulwini kulomuntu owayehlezi kuso. ³ Lowo owayehlezi lapho wayefana lejaspa lekhaneliya. Umchilowamakhosikazi owawufana le-emeralidi wawuzingeleze isihlalo sobukhosi. ⁴ Kwakulezinye izihlalo zobukhosi ezingamatshumi amabili lane ezazizingelezele isihlalo sobukhosi leso, kuzo kuhlezi abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane. Babegqoke okumhlophe njalo belemiqhele yegolide emakhanda abo. ⁵ Esihlalweni sobukhosi kwaba lokuphazima kombane, lokundindizela kanye lokukhwaza kwezulu. Phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi kwakuvutha izibane eziyisikhombisa. Lezi zazingomoya abayisikhombisa bakaNkulunkulu. ⁶ Phambi kwesihlalo futhi kwakulokungani lulwandle lwengilazi, kucwebezela njengelitshe elikhazimulayo.

Phakathi, emaceleni wonke esihlalo sobukhosi, kwakulezidalwa ezine eziphilayo, zilamehlo phambili langemuva. ⁷ Isidalwa sakuqala esiphilayo sasinjengesilwane, esesibili sinjengenkabi, esesithathu sasilobuso obunjengobomuntu, esesine sasinjengokhozi oluphaphayo. ⁸ Esinye lesinye salezozidalwa eziphilayo sasilempiko eziyisithupha njalo sigcwele amehlo amacele wonke, kanye langaphansi kwempiko. Emini lebusuku kazizange zithule ukuthi:

“ ‘Ingcwele, Ingcwele, Ingcwele,
iNkosi uNkulunkulu uSomandla,’*
owayekhona, okhona, njalo ozabuya.”

⁹ Kuthi lapho izidalwa eziphilayo zimdumisa, zimhlonipha njalo zimbonga lowo ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi njalo ophila kuze kube nininini, ¹⁰ abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane bawela phansi phambi kwakhe ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, bamkhonza yena ophila kuze kube nininini. Babeka imiqhele yabo phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi bathi:

¹¹ “Ufanele, Nkosi yethu loNkulunkulu wethu,
ukwamukela udumo lenhlonipho kanye lamandla,
ngoba wena wadala izinto zonke,
njalo zadalwa ngentando yakho,
njalo zilabo ubukhona bazo.”

* 4:8 4.8 U-Isaya 6.3

5

Umqulu LeWundlu

1 Esandleni sokunene salowo owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi ngabona umqulu ulombhalo emaceleni womabili ungcinwe ngempawu eziyisikhombisa. ² Ngabuya ngabona ingilosi elamandla imemeza ngelizwi eliphakemeyo isithi, “Ngubani ofanele ukuqhaqha impawu avule umqulu na?” ³ Kodwa kakho ezulwini loba emhlabeni loba ngaphansi komhlaba owayengawuvula umqulu kumbe akhangele phakathi kwawo. ⁴ Ngakhala, ngakhala ngoba kakho owatholakala efanele ukuwuvula umqulu loba ukukhangela phakathi kwawo. ⁵ Omunye wabadala wathi kimi, “Ungakhali! Khangela, iNgonyama yesizwe sakoJuda, iMpande kaDavida, singobile. Sizakwanelisa ukuwuvula umqulu lezimpawu zawo eziyisikhombisa.”

⁶ Ngabona iWundlu, kukhanya angathi lalibulewe, limi phakathi laphakathi kwesihlalo sobukhosi, lizingelezwe yizidalwa eziphilayo ezine labadala. Lalilempondo eziyisikhombisa lamehlo ayisikhombisa, okungomoya abayisikhombisa bakaNkulunkulu abathunywe emhlabeni wonke. ⁷ Leza lathatha umqulu esandleni sokunene salowo owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi. ⁸ Esewuthethe, izidalwa ezine eziphilayo labadala abangamatshumi amabili lane bawela phansi phambi kweWundlu. Omunye lomunye wabo wayelechacho njalo babephethe imiganu yegolide igcwele impepha, eyimikhuleko yabangcwele. ⁹ Bahlabela ingoma entsha besithi:

“Wena ufanele ukuwuthatha umqulu
lokuvula impawu zawo,

ngoba wahlatshwa,

kwathi ngegazi lakho wahlengela uNkulunkulu
abantu bezizwana zonke lezindimi labantu kanye lezizwe.

¹⁰ Usubenze baba ngumbuso labaphristi ukuba bakhonze uNkulunkulu wethu,
njalo bazabusa emhlabeni.”

¹¹ Ngakhangela ngasengisizwa amazwi ezingilosi ezinengi, ezaziyizinkulungwane lezinkulungwane, lezinkulungwane ezilitshumi ziphindwe okuzinkulungwane ezilitshumi. Zazizingezelele isihlalo sobukhosi lezidalwa eziphilayo kanye labadala. ¹² Zahlabela ngamazwi aphezulu zisithi:

“Lifanele iWundlu, elahlatshwayo,

ukwamukela amandla lenotho lenhlakanipho lokuqina lodumo lenkazimulo kanye lokudunyiswa!”

¹³ Ngezwa izidalwa zonke ezulwini lasemhlabeni langaphansi komhlaba lasolwandle lakho konke okukukho, kuhlabela kusithi:

“Kuye ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi lakulo iWundlu
kakube lenhlonipho lodumo lenkazimulo kanye
lamandla kuze

kube nininini!”

¹⁴ Izidalwa ezine eziphilayo zathi, “Ameni,” kwathi abadala bawela phansi bakhonza.

6

Impawu

¹ Ngakhangela iWundlu livula uphawu lwakuqala kweziyisikhombisa. Ngasengisizwa esinye sezidalwa ezine eziphilayo sisithi, ngelizwi elinjengomdumo wezulu, “Woza!”

² Ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza elimhlophe! Umgadi walo wayephethe idandili njalo waphiwa umqhele, wasuka wahamba njengomnqobi ehlose ukunqoba.

³ Kwathi iWundlu selivula uphawu lwesibili, ngezwa isidalwa sesibili esiphilayo sisithi, “Woza!” ⁴ Kwaphuma elinye ibhiza; libomvu okomlilo. Umgadi walo wanikwa amandla okususa ukuthula emhlabeni lokuthi abantu babulalane. Waphiwa inkemba enkulu.

⁵ Kwathi iWundlu livula uphawu lwesithathu, ngezwa isidalwa sesithathu esiphilayo sisithi, “Woza!” Ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza elimnyama! Umgadi walo wayephethe isikali sokulinganisa.

⁶ Ngasengisizwa okwakungathi yilizwi phakathi kwezidalwa ezine eziphilayo lisithi, “Ikhilogramu elilodwa lamabele umholo wosuku, lamakhilogramu amathathu ebhali umholo wosuku njalo ungoni amafutha lewayini!”

⁷ Kwathi iWundlu livula uphawu lwesine, ngezwa ilizwi lesidalwa sesine esiphilayo lisithi, “Woza!” ⁸ Ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza eliliganu! Umgadi walo wayethiwa nguKufa, leHadesi lalimlandela eduzane emva kwakhe. Babephiwe amandla phezu kwengxenye yesine yomhlaba ukuba babulale ngenkemba langendlala langezifo kanye langezilo zeganga zasemhlabeni.

⁹ Kwathi livula uphawu lwesihlanu ngabona ngaphansi kwe-alithari imiphefumulo yalabo ababebulewe ngenxa yelizwi likaNkulunkulu lobufakazi abema ngabo.

¹⁰ Yamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu yathi, “Koze kube nini, Thixo wobukhosi, engcwele legotho ukuze wahlulele abasemhlabeni uphindisele igazi lethu na?”

¹¹ Lapho-ke omunye lomunye wayo waphiwa isembatho esimhlophe ukuba alinde okwesikhatshana, inani lezincedu ezingabakhula bayo labazalwane ababezabulawa njengayo lize liphelele.

¹² Ngakhangela lapho livula uphawu lwesithupha. Kwaba lokuzamazama okukhulu komhlaba. Ilanga laphenduka laba mnyama tshu njengesigqoko samasaka esenziwe ngoboya bembuzi, inyanga yonke yaphenduka yaba bomvu okwegazi, ¹³ izinkanyezi emkhathini zawela emhlabeni njengemikhiwa yamuva ikhithika esihlahleni somkhiwa lapho sinyikinywa ngumoya olamandla. ¹⁴ Umkhathi wahlehla wagoqeka njengomqulu, kwathi izintaba zonke lezihlenge kwasuswa ezindaweni zakho.

¹⁵ Amakhosi omhlaba lamakhosana lezinduna zamabutho lezinothi labalamandla lezigqili zonke kanye labantu bonke abakhululekileyo bacatsha ezimbalwini kanye lasemadwaleni ezintaba. ¹⁶ Babiza izintaba lamadwala besithi, "Welani phezu kwethu lisifihle ebusweni balowo ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi kanye lasolakeni lweWundlu! ¹⁷ Ngoba usuku olukhulu lolaka lwabo selufikile, pho ngubani ongema na?"

7

Abazinkulungwane Ezilikhulu Lamatshumi Amane Lane Bafakwa Uphawu

¹ Emva kwalokhu ngabona izingilosi ezine zimi emagumbini womane omhlaba, zivimbele imimoya emine yomhlaba zisenqabela loba yiwuphi umoya ukuvunguza elizweni loba olwandle loba kwesinye isihlahla. ² Ngabuya ngabona enye ingilosi isiza ivela empumalanga, ilophawu lukaNkulunkulu ophilayo. Yamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu ezingilosini ezine ezaziphiwe amandla okulimaza umhlaba lolwandle, isithi: ³ "Lingawulimazi umhlaba loba ulwandle loba izihlahla size sibeke uphawu emabunzini ezincedu zikaNkulunkulu wethu." ⁴ Ngasengisizwa inani lalabo ababekwa uphawu: Abazinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144,000) abezizwana zonke zako-Israyeli.

- ⁵ Abesizwana sakoJuda abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000) bafakwa uphawu,
- abesizwana sakoRubheni abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
- abesizwana sakoGadi abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),

- ⁶ abesizwana sako-Asheri abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
 abesizwana sakoNafithali abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
 abesizwana sakoManase abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
⁷ abesizwana sakoSimiyoni abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
 abesizwana sakoLevi abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
 abesizwana sako-Isakhari abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
⁸ abesizwana sakoZebhuluni abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
 abesizwana sakoJosefa abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000),
 abesizwana sikaBhenjamini abazinkulungwane ezilitshumi lambili (12,000).

Ixuku Elikhulukazi Elabembethe Ezimhlophe

⁹ Emva kwalokhu ngakhangela khonapho phambi kwami kwakulexuku elikhulukazi elingela kubalwa livela ezizweni zonke lezizwaneni lasebantwini kanye lasezindimini zonke limi phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi laphambi kweWundlu. Babegqoke izembatho ezimhlophe bephethe ingatsha zelala ngezandla zabo. ¹⁰ Bamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu besithi:

“Ukusindisa ngokukaNkulunkulu wethu, ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi, kanye lokweWundlu.”

¹¹ Izingilosi zonke zazimi zizingeleze isihlalo sobukhosi njalo zizingeleze abadala kanye lezidalwa ezine eziphila. Zathi mbo phansi ngobuso bazo phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi zakhonza uNkulunkulu ¹² zisithi:

“Ameni!

Udumo lobukhosi
 lokuhlakanipha lokubongwa lokuhlonitshwa
 lamandla kanye lokuqina
 kakube kuNkulunkulu wethu nini lanini.
 Ameni!”

¹³ Emva kwalokho omunye wabadala wangibuza wathi, “Laba abezembatho ezimhlophe ngobani, njalo bavele ngaphi?”

¹⁴ Ngaphendula ngathi, “Nkosi, uyakwazi.”

Wasesithi, “Laba yibo abaphume ekuhluphekeni okukhulu; bagezise izembatho zabo egazini leWundlu bazenza zaba mhlophe. ¹⁵ Ngakho-ke, baphambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu bemkhonza emini lebusuku ethempelini lakhe;

njalo yena ohlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi
uzakubavikela ngobukhona bakhe.

16 'Kabasoze balambe futhi;
njalo kabasoze bome futhi.

Ilanga kalisayikuhlaba phezu kwabo'*
loba ukutshisa okuhangulayo.

17 Ngoba iWundlu elingaphakathi kwesihlalo sobukhosi
lizakuba ngumelusi wabo;
lizabaholela emithonjeni yamanzi okuphila.

'UNkulunkulu uzazesula zonke
inyembezi emehlweni abo.'†"‡

8

Uphawu Lwesikhombisa Lomganu Wegolide Wokutshisela Impepha

1 Kwathi lapho iWundlu livula uphawu lwesikhombisa kwaba lokuthula ezulwini okwesikhathi esasingaba yingx-enye yehola.

2 Ngasengibona izingilosi eziyisikhombisa ezima phambi kukaNkulunkulu ziphiwa amacilongo ayisikhombisa.

3 Enye ingilosi eyayilomganu wegolide wokutshisela impepha yeza yema ngase-alithareni. Yanikwa impepha enengi ukuba iyinikele lemikhuleko yabangcwele bonke e-alithareni legolide phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi.

4 Intuthu yempepha kanye lemikhuleko yabangcwele kwaya phezulu phambi kukaNkulunkulu kusuka esandleni sengilosi leyo. 5 Ingilosi yasithatha umganu wokutshisela impepha yawugcwalisa ngomlilo osuka e-alithareni yasiwuphosela emhlabeni kwasekusiba lokukhwaza kwezulu lokundindizela lokuphazima kombane kanye lokuzamazama komhlaba.

Amacilongo

6 Izingilosi eziyisikhombisa ezazilamacilongo ayisikhombisa zalungisela ukuwakhalisa.

7 Ingilosi yokuqala yakhalisa icilongo layo kwasekusiba lesiqhotho lomlilo kuhlangene legazi kwasekuphoselwa phansi emhlabeni. Ingxenyeye yesithathu yomhlaba yatsha lotshani bonke obuluhlaza batsha.

8 Ingilosi yesibili yakhalisa icilongo layo, kwathi ulutho olwalunjengentaba enkulu olwalubhebha, lwaphoselwa olwandle. Ingxenyeye yesithathu yolwandle yaphenduka yaba ligazi, 9 kwathi ingxenyeye yesithathu yezidalwa eziphilayo

* 7:16 7.16 U-Isaya 49.10 † 7:17 7.17 U-Isaya 49.10 ‡ 7:17 7.17 U-Isaya 25.8

olwandle yafa, kwathi lengxenye yesithathu yemikhumbi yatshabalaliswa.

¹⁰ Ingilosi yesithathu yakhalisa icilongo layo, kwathi inkanyezi enkulukazi eyayivutha njengesibane yawa ivela emkhathini yawela phezu kwengxenye yesithathu yemifula lasemithonjeni yamanzi, ¹¹ ibizo lenkanyezi leyo nguMhlonyane. Ingxenye yesithathu yamanzi yaphenduka yababa, abantu abanengi bafa ngenxa yamanzi ayesebaba.

¹² Ingilosi yesine yakhalisa icilongo layo, kwathi ingxenye yesithathu yelanga yatshaywa, lengxenye yesithathu yenyanga kanye lengxenye yesithathu yezinkanyezi, okwenza ingxenye yesithathu yalokhu yaphenduka yaba mnyama. Ingxenye yesithathu yemini yayingelakukhanya, kanye lengxenye yesithathu yobusuku.

¹³ Kwathi ngilokhu ngikhangele ngezwa ingqungqulu iphapha emkhathini imemeza ngelizwi elikhulu isithi, "Maye! Maye! Maye kwabahlezi emhlabeni ngenxa yokukhala kwamacilongo asezakhaliswa ngezinye izingilosi ezintathu!"

9

¹ Ingilosi yesihlanu yakhalisa icilongo layo ngasengibona inkanyezi eyavela emkhathini iwela emhlabeni. Inkanyezi leyo yayiphiwe isihluthulelo soMgodi ongelamkhawulo. ² Isivule umgodi ongelamkhawulo kwa-phuma kuwo izikhatha zentuthu ezazifana leziphuma esihogweni somlilo esikhulukazi. Ilanga lomkhathi kwaba mnyama ngenxa yezikhatha lezi ezaphuma emgodini ongelamkhawulo. ³ Entuthwini leyo kwaphuma izintethe zehlela phansi emhlabeni ziphiwe amandla anjengawezinkume zasemhlabeni. ⁴ Zazitshelwe ukuthi zingalimazi tshani basemhlabeni loba olunye ulutho olwamilayo loba isihlahla, kodwa kuphela labobantu ababengelalo uphawu lukaNkulunkulu emabunzini abo. ⁵ Zazingaphiwanga amandla okubabulala, kodwa ukubazwisa ubuhlungu okwezinyanga ezinhlanu. Ubuhlungu ababuzwayo babufana lobuhlungu benkume lapho intinyela umuntu. ⁶ Ngalezonsuku abantu bazadinga ukufa, kodwa bazakuswela; bazafisa ukufa, kodwa ukufa kuzababalekela.

⁷ Izintethe lezo zazifana lamabhiza alungele impi. Emakhanda azo zazigqoke ulutho olwalunjengemiqhele yegolide, ubuso bazo babufana lobuso babantu. ⁸ Uboya bazo babunjengenwele zabesifazane, amazinyo azo enjengamazinyo esilwane. ⁹ Zazilezivikelo zesifuba ezinjengezivikelo zensimbi njalo umdumo wempiko zazo wawunjengomdumo wamabhiza amanengi lezingqola

zempi zigijimela empini. ¹⁰ Zazilemisila elobuhlungu njengezinkume, njalo emisileni yazo zazilamandla okuzwisa abantu ubuhlungu okwezinyanga ezinhlanu. ¹¹ Inkosi yazo ezazilayo yingilosi yoMgodi ongelamkhawulo, ebizo layo ngesiHebheru lalingu-Abhadoni, ngesiGrikhi lingu-Apholiyoni (okuyikuthi, uMtshabalalisi).

¹² Uhlupho lwakuqala selwedlule; ezinye inhlupho ezimbili zisazobuya.

¹³ Ingilosi yesithupha yakhalisa icilongo layo ngasengizwa ilizwi livela empondweni ze-alithare legolide eliphambi kukaNkulunkulu. ¹⁴ Lathi engilosini yesithupha eyayiphethe icilongo, “Khulula izingilosi ezine ezibotshiweyo emfuleni omkhulu uYufrathe.” ¹⁵ Ngakho izingilosi ezine lezo ezazigcinwe zilindele lesisikhathi losuku lenyanga kanye lomnyaka zakhululelwa ukubulala ingxenye yesithathu yoluntu. ¹⁶ Inani lamabutho ayegade amabhiza laliyizigidi ezingamakhulu amabili. Ngalizwa inani lawo.

¹⁷ Amabhiza labagadi engakubona embonweni wami kwakukhanya kunje: Inqaba zabo zesifuba zazibomvu okomlilo, ziluhlazanyana njalo zilithanga njengesolufa. Amakhanda amabhiza ayenjengamakhanda ezilwane njalo emilonyeni yawo kwaphuma umlilo lentuthu kanye lesolufa. ¹⁸ Ingxenye yesithathu yoluntu yabulawa yizifo ezintathu zomlilo lentuthu kanye lesolufa okwaphuma emilonyeni yawo. ¹⁹ Amandla amabhiza ayesemilonyeni yawo lasemisileni yawo ngoba imisila yawo yayinjengezinyoka ilamakhanda elimaza ngawo.

²⁰ Abanengi boluntu ababengabulawanga yizifo lezi kabazange baphenduke emisebenzini yezandla zabo; kabayekelanga ukukhonza amadimoni lezithombe zegolide lezesiliva lezethusi, lezamatshhe kanye lezezigodo, izithombe ezingeke zibone loba zizwe loba zihambe. ²¹ Njalo kabaphendukanga ezenzweni zabo zokubulala, lasebuthakathini babo, ekuxhwaleni kwabo kobufebe loba ebuseleni babo.

10

Ingilosi Lomqulu Omncane

¹ Ngabuya ngabona enye ingilosi elamandla isehla ivela ezulwini. Yayembethe iyezi kulomchilo wamakhosikazi ngaphezu kwekhanda layo; ubuso bayo babunjengelanga; imilenze yayo injengensika zomlilo. ² Yayiphethe umqulu omncane, uvulekile usezandleni zayo. Yagxilisa unyawo lwayo lokwesokunene olwandle kwathi unyawo lwayo

lwesokunxele lwaba semhlabathini ³ njalo yamemeza ngezizwi elikhulu njengokubhonga kwesilwane. Ekumemezeni kwayo imidumo eyisikhombisa yakhuluma. ⁴ Kwathi imidumo eyisikhombisa ikhuluma ngasengilungele ukuloba kodwa ngezwa ilizwi elavela ezulwini lisithi, “Vala lokho okutshiwo yimidumo eyisikhombisa njalo ungakulobi.”

⁵ Ingilosi engangiyibone imi olwandle lasemhlabathini yaphakamisela isandla sayo sokunene ezulwini. ⁶ Yafunga ngaye ophilayo kuze kube nini lanini, owadala amazulu lakho konke okukuwo, lomhlaba lakho konke okukuwo lolwandle lakho konke okukulo, yathi, “Kakusayikuba khona ukuphuza futhi! ⁷ Kodwa ngezinsuku lapho ingilosi yesikhombisa isizakhalisa icilongo layo imfihlakalo kaNkulunkulu izafezeka njengokutsho kwakhe ezincekwini zakhe abaphrofethi.”

⁸ Ilizwi engangilizwe livela ezulwini lakhuluma lami futhi lathi: “Hamba uyethatha umqulu ovulekileyo esandleni sengilosi emi olwandle lasemhlabathini.”

⁹ Ngakho ngaya kuleyongilosi ngacela ukuba ingiphe lowomqulu omncane. Yathi kimi, “Uthathe uwudle. Uzaqubula isisu sakho ngokubaba, kodwa emlonyeni wakho uzakuba mnandi njengoluju.”* ¹⁰ Ngawuthatha umqulu omncane esandleni sengilosi ngawudla. Emlonyeni wami wanambitheka mnandi njengoluju, kodwa sengi wudlile isisu sami saqubuka, sababa. ¹¹ Ngasengitshelwa ukuthi, “Kumele uphrofitha futhi ngabantu abanengi, langezizwe, langezindimi kanye langamakhosi.”

11

Ofakazi Ababili

¹ Ngaphiwa umhlanga njengomqwayi wokulinganisa, ngasengitshelwa ukuthi, “Hamba uyelinganisa ithempeli likaNkulunkulu le-alithari, ubale labakhonza khona. ² Kodwa utshiye iguma langaphandle ungalilinganisi ngoba liphawe abeZizweni. Bazanyathela idolobho elingcwele izinyanga ezingamatshumi amane lambili (42). ³ Ofakazi bami ababili ngizabanika amandla njalo bazaphrofitha insuku eziyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisithupha (1,260), begqoke izigqoko zamasaka.” ⁴ Laba “bayizihlahla ezimbili zama-oliva”* lezinti ezimbili zezibane “ezimi phambi kweNkosi yomhlaba.” ⁵ Umuntu angazama ukuzilimaza, kuphuma umlilo emilonyeni yazo uqothule izitha zazo. Le yiyo

* **10:9** 10.9 UHezekhiyeli 3.3 * **11:4** 11.4 UZakhariya 4.3, 11, 14

indlela umuntu ofuna ukuzilimaza afa ngayo. ⁶ Abantu laba balamandla okuvala umkhathi ukuba izulu lingani lapho bephrofitha njalo balamandla okuphendula amanzi abe ligazi lawokutshaya umhlaba ngezinhlobo zonke zezifo kanengi njengokuthanda kwabo.

⁷ Kuzakuthi lapho sebeqedile ukufakaza kwabo isilo esiphuma eMgodini ongelamkhawulo sizabahlasela sibehlule sibabulale. ⁸ Izidumbu zabo zizalala emgwaqweni wedolobho elikhulu okuthi ngokufaniswa libizwe ngokuthi yiSodoma leGibhithe lapho leNkosi yabo eyabethelwa khona esiphambanweni. ⁹ Okwensuku ezintathu lengxenyeye yosuku abantu abavela emihlotsheni yonke yabantu lasezizwaneni zonke lasezindimini zonke kanye lasezizweni zonke bazakhangela izidumbu zabo bale ukuba zingcwatshwe. ¹⁰ Abantu basemhlabeni bazazikhangela ngokuthokoza bazijabulise ngokuthumela izipho ngoba abaphrofethi ababili laba babebahluphile abahlala emhlabeni.

¹¹ Kodwa emva kwalezonsuku ezintathu lengxenyeye yosuku umoya wokuphila owavela kuNkulunkulu wabangena, basebesima ngezinyawo zabo, kwathi labo abababonayo besaba kakhulu. ¹² Bezwa ilizwi elikhulu livela ezulwini lisithi kubo, "Wozani phezulu lapha." Baya phezulu ezulwini bephakathi kweyezi izitha zabo zilokhu zikhangele.

¹³ Ngalesosikhathi kwaba lokuzamazama okukhulu komhlaba kwathi ingxenyeye yetshumi yedolobho yabhidlika. Abantu abazinkulungwane eziyisikhombisa bafa ekuzamazameni komhlaba, abaphephayo, besaba kakhulu bamdumisa uNkulunkulu wasezulwini.

¹⁴ Uhlupho lwesibili selwedlule; uhlupho lwesithathu luyeza masinyane.

Icilongo Lesikhombisa

¹⁵ Ingilosi yesikhombisa yakhalisa icilongo layo kwasekusiba lamazwi amakhulu ezulwini, ayesithi:

"Umbuso wasemhlabeni usube
ngumbuso weNkosi yethu loKhristu wayo,
njalo izabusa kuze kube nininini."

¹⁶ Abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane ababehlezi ezihlalweni zobukhosi phambi kukaNkulunkulu bathi mbo phansi ngobuso babo bakhonza uNkulunkulu, ¹⁷ besithi:

"Siyakubonga Nkosi Nkulunkulu Somandla,
onguye okhona lowayekhona,
ngoba usuwathethe amandla akho amakhulu
njalo usuqalisile ukubusa.

18 Izizwe zazithukuthele;
 lolaka lwakho selufikile.
 Isikhathi sokwahlulela abafileyo sesifikile
 kanye lesokuvuza izinceku zakho abaphrofethi
 labangcwele bakho kanye lalabo abalihloniphayo ibizo
 lakho,
 abancinyane labakhulu
 kanye lesokuchitha labo abachitha umhlaba.”

19 Emva kwalokho ithempeli likaNkulunkulu lavulwa ezulwini phakathi kwethempeli lakhe kwabonakala umtshokotsho wesivumelwano sakhe. Kwasekusiba lokuphazima kwemibane lokundindizela lokukhwaza kwezulu lokuzamazama komhlaba kanye lesiqhotho esikhulu.

12

Owesifazane Lomgobho

1 Isibonakaliso esikhulu lesimangalisayo sabonakala ezulwini: owesifazane egqoke ilanga, inyanga ingaphansi kwezinyawo zakhe, umqhele wezinkanyezi ezilitshumi lambili usekhanda lakhe. 2 Wayezithwele njalo ekhala ngobuhlungu bomhelo ngoba wayesezabeletha. 3 Kwabuya kwabonakala esinye isibonakaliso ezulwini: umgobho omkhulukazi obomvu olamakhanda ayisikhombisa lempondo ezilitshumi kanye lemiqhele eyisikhombisa emakhanda awo. 4 Umsila wawo wakhucula ingxenye yesithathu yezinkanyezi emkhathini waziphosela emhlabeni. Umgobho wema phambi kowesifazane owayesezabeletha ukuze kuthi umntwana angazalwa uhle umtshwabadele. 5 Wazala indodana, “eyayizabusa izizwe zonke ngentonga yensimbi.”* Umntanakhe wahluthunelwa phezulu kuNkulunkulu lasesihlalweni sakhe sobukhosi. 6 Owesifazane wabalekela enkangala endaweni ayeyilungiselwe nguNkulunkulu lapho ayezagcinakala khona okwensuku eziyinkulungwane lamakhulu amabili lamatshumi ayisithupha (1,260).

7 Kwaba lempi ezulwini. UMikhayeli lezingilosi zakhe balwa lomgobho kwathi umgobho kanye lezingilosi zawo lawo walwa labo. 8 Kodwa wawungelamandla kangako njalo wona lezingilosi zawo balahlekelwa yindawo yabo ezulwini. 9 Umgobho omkhulu waphoselwa phansi, inyoka leyana endala ethiwa ngoMubi loba uSathane odukisa umhlaba wonke. Waphoselwa emhlabeni ekanye lezingilosi zakhe.

10 Ngasengisizwa ilizwi elikhulu ezulwini lisithi:

* 12:5 12.5 AmaHubo 2.9

“Khathesi ukusindiswa sekufikile lamandla
kanye lombuso kaNkulunkulu wethu
kanye lobukhosi bukaKhristu wakhe.

Ngoba umangaleli wabazalwane bethu,
obamangalelayo
phambi kukaNkulunkulu wethu emini lebusuku,
usephoselwe phansi.

¹¹ Bamngobile
ngegazi leWundlu
langelizwi lobufakazi babo;
kabakuthandanga kakhulu ukuphila kwabo
ukuba besabe ukufa.

¹² Ngakho-ke, thokozani lina mazulu
kanye lani elihlala kuwo!
Kodwa maye kuwo umhlaba lolwandle
ngoba omubi useze phansi kini!

Ugcwele intukuthelo
ngoba uyakwazi ukuthi isikhathi sakhe sifitshane.”

¹³ Kwathi umgobho ubona ukuthi wawusuphoselwe emhlabeni wamdinga owesifazane owayebelethe umntwana wesilisa. ¹⁴ Owesifazane lowo wayephiwe amaphiko amabili okhozi olukhulu ukuze andizele endaweni ayilungiselwayo enkangala lapho ayezagcinwa khona okwesikhathi lezikhathi lengxenye yesikhathi lapho inyoka eyayingeke ifike khona. ¹⁵ Inyoka yasikhupha amanzi emlonyeni wayo angathi ngumfula ukuze ifice owesifazane imkhucule ngesikhukhula. ¹⁶ Kodwa umhlaba wasiza owesifazane ngokuvula umlomo wawo wasuginya umfula owawukhutshwe ngumgobho emlonyeni wawo. ¹⁷ Ngakho-ke, umgobho wamthukuthelela owesifazane wasusuka usiyakulwa impi lenzalo yonke yowesifazane, labo abagcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu bebambelele kubo ubufakazi bukaJesu. Umgobho wema okhunjini lolwandle.

13

Isilo Siphuma Olwandle

¹ Ngabuya ngabona isilo siphuma olwandle. Sasilempondo ezilitshumi lamakhanda ayisikhombisa silemiqhele elitshumi phezu kwempondo zaso njalo ekhanda ngalinye kulebizo elihlambazayo. ² Isilo engasibonayo sasinjengengwe, kodwa silenyawo ezifana lezebhele lomlomo onjengowesilwane. Umgobho wanika isilo leso amandla awo lesihlalo sawo sobukhosi kanye lamandla amakhulu. ³ Elinye lamakhanda esilo leso lalingathi lalike laba lenxeba elibulalayo, kodwa inxeba elibulalayo lelo laselipholile.

Umhlaba wonke wamangala wasilandela isilo. ⁴ Abantu bawukhonza umgobho ngoba wawunike isilo amandla, lesilo basikhonza bebuza besithi, “Ngubani onjengesilo? Ngubani ongalwa impi laso na?”

⁵ Isilo saphiwa umlomo ukuba sikhulume amazwi okuzigqaja lokuhlambaza kanye lokuthi sisebenzise amandla aso okwezinyanga ezingamatshumi amane lambili. ⁶ Savula umlomo waso ukuba sihlambaze uNkulunkulu lokuba sichothoze ibizo lakhe lendawo yakhe yokuhlala kanye lalabo abahlala ezulwini. ⁷ Sasiphiwe amandla okulwa impi labangcwele kanye lokubangoba. Saphiwa lamandla phezu kwezizwana zonke labantu lezindimi kanye lezizwe zonke. ⁸ Bonke abantu abahlala emhlabeni bazasikhonza isilo leso, bonke abalamabizo abo angalotshwanga encwadini yokuphila yeWundlu elahlatshwayo kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba.

⁹ Lowo olendlebe, akezwe.

¹⁰ “Nxa umuntu kumele aye ekuthunjweni, uzakuya ekuthunjweni.

Nxa umuntu kumele abulawe ngenkemba, uzabulawa ngayo inkemba.”*

Lokhu kufuna ukubekezela okuqinileyo lokuthembeka kwabangcwele.

Isilo Siphuma Emhlabeni

¹¹ Ngabuya ngabona esinye isilo siphuma emhlabeni. Sasilempondo ezimbili njengewundlu, kodwa sikhuluma njengomgobho. ¹² Sasisebenzisa wonke amandla esilo sakuqala esikhundleni saso njalo senza umhlaba labahlezi kuwo bakhonze isilo sakuqala, esinxeba laso eselapholayo. ¹³ Njalo senza izibonakaliso ezinkulu lezimangalisayo, kanye lokwenza ukuthi umlilo wehlele phansi usuka ezulwini usiza emhlabeni abantu bezibonela. ¹⁴ Ngenxa yezibonakaliso saphiwa amandla okumela isilo sakuqala, sakhohlisa abahlezi emhlabeni. Sabalaya ukuba bamise umfanekiso wokuhlonipha isilo esalinyazwa ngenkemba, kodwa saphila. ¹⁵ Saphiwa amandla okuba umfanekiso wesilo sakuqala siwunike umphefumulo ukuze sikhulume njalo sibangele ukuthi bonke abala ukukhonza umfanekiso babulawe. ¹⁶ Njalo sabamba abantu bonke ngamandla, abancane labakhulu, abanothileyo labayanga, abakhululekileyo kanye lezigqili ukuba babekwe uphawu ezandleni zabo zokudla loba emabunzini abo ¹⁷ ukuze angabikhona ozathenga kumbe athengise ngaphandle kokuba elophawu lolu olulibizo lesilo leso loba inombolo yebizo laso.

* **13:10** 13.10 UJeremiya 15.2

18 Lokhu kufuna inhlakanipho. Umuntu olombono lengqondo ebonayo, kayidingisise inombolo yesilo ngoba yinombolo yomuntu. Inombolo yaso ngamakhulu ayisithupha lamatshumi ayisithupha lesithupha (666).

14

IWundlu Kanye Labazinkulungwane Ezilikhulu Lamatshumi Amane Lane (144,000)

1 Ngabuya ngakhangela, khonapho phambi kwami kwakuleWundlu, limi phezu kweNtaba iZiyoni, lilabazinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144,000) ababelotshwe ibizo lalo lelikaYise emabunzini abo. 2 Ngezwa umdumo ovela ezulwini ufana lokuhuba kwamanzi agelezayo lanjengokukhwaza okukhulu kwezulu. Umdumo engawuzwayo wawunjengowabatshayi bamachacho betshaya amachacho abo. 3 Bahlabela ingoma entsha phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi laphambi kwezidalwa ezine eziphilayo kanye laphambi kwabadala. Kakho owayengayifunda ingoma leyo ngaphandle kwaba zinkulungwane ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144,000) ababehlengwe emhlabeni. 4 Laba yilabo abangazingcolisanga ngabesifazane ngoba bazigcina behlambulukile. Balandela iWundlu loba kungaphi lapho eliya khona. Bahlengwa phakathi kwabantu banikelwa njengezithelo zakuqala kuNkulunkulu laseWundlwini. 5 Akulamanga atholakala emilonyeni yabo; kabalasici.

Izingilosi Ezintathu

6 Ngabuya ngabona enye ingilosi indiza emoyeni ilevangeli elingapheliyo ukuba ilitshumayeke kulabo abahlezi emhlabeni lasezizweni zonke lasezizwaneni lasezindimini kanye lasebantwini. 7 Ngelizwi elikhulu yathi, "Mesabeni uNkulunkulu limdumise ngoba isikhathi sokwahlulela kwakhe sesifikile. Mkhonzeni yena owadala amazulu, lomhlaba, lolwandle kanye lemithombo yamanzi."

8 Ingilosi yesibili yalandela yathi, "Liwile! Liwile iBhabhiloni eliKhulu elenza izizwe zonke zanatha iwayini layo elihlanyisayo ngobufebe balo."*

9 Ingilosi yesithathu yazilandela yathi ngelizwi elikhulu, "Nxa umuntu angakhonza isilo lomfanekiso waso afakwe uphawu lwaso ebunzini loba esandleni, 10 laye uzanatha iwayini lentukuthelo kaNkulunkulu elithelwe ngamandla agcweleyo enkezweni yolaka lwakhe. Uzahlukuluzwa ngesolufa elitshisayo phambi kwezingilosi ezingcwele laphambi kweWundlu. 11 Intuthu yokuhlukuluzwa kwabo ithunqa

* 14:8 14.8 U-Isaya 21.9

kuze kube nininini. Akukho suku loba ubusuku boku-phumula kulabo abakhonza isilo lomfanekiso waso loba lowo owemukela uphawu lwebizo laso.”¹² Lokhu kufuna ukubekezela okuqinileyo kwabangcwele abagcina imilayo kaNkulunkulu baqhubeke bethembekile kuJesu.

¹³ Ngasengisizwa ilizwi livela ezulwini lisithi, “Loba ukuthi: Babusisiwe abafuleyo befela eNkosini kusukela khathesi kusiya phambili.”

“Yebo,” kutsho uMoya, “bazaphumula ekutshikatshikeni kwabo ngoba izenzo zabo zizabalandela.”

Ukuvuna Emhlabeni

¹⁴ Ngakhangela khonapho phambi kwami kwakuleyezi elimhlophe njalo phezu kweyezi lelo kwakuhlezi ofana lendodana yomuntu† elomqhele wegolide ekhanda lakhe lesikela ebukhali esandleni sakhe. ¹⁵ Enye ingilosi yaphuma ethempelini yamemezela ngelizwi elikhulu kulowo owayehlezi phezu kweyezi isithi, “Thatha isikela uvune ngoba isikhathi sokuvuna sesifikile kalokho isivuno emhlabeni sesivuthiwe.” ¹⁶ Ngakho-ke, lowo owayehlezi phezu kweyezi watshibilikisela isikela yakhe emhlabeni, umhlaba wayunwa.

¹⁷ Enye ingilosi yaphuma ethempelini ezulwini layo futhi yayilesikela ebukhali. ¹⁸ Enye njalo ingilosi eyayilamandla phezu komlilo yeza ivela e-alithareni yamemezela ngelizwi elikhulu kulowo owayelesikela ebukhali isithi, “Thatha isikela yakho ebukhali ubuthe amahlukuzo amavini esivinini somhlaba, ngoba amavini aso asevuthiwe.” ¹⁹ Ingilosi leyo yatshibilikisela isikela yayo emhlabeni yabutha amavini awo yawaphosela esikhamelweni sewayini solaka lukaNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Avoxwa phakathi kwesikhamelo sewayini ngaphandle kwedolobho, igazi lageleza liphuma esikhamelweni, laphakama okufika ematomini ebhiza okwebanga elingaba ngamakhilomitha angamakhulu amathathu (300).

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Izingilosi Eziyisikhombisa Lezifo Eziyisikhombisa

¹ Ezulwini ngabona esinye isibonakaliso esikhulu lesimangalisayo: Izingilosi eziyisikhombisa zilezifo zokucina eziyisikhombisa, ezokucina ngoba ngazo ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luyapheleliswa. ² Ngabuya ngabona okwakungathi lulwandle lwamangilazi axutshaniswe lomlilo njalo eceleni kolwandle kwakumi labo ababesinqobile isilo lomfanekiso waso kanye lenombolo yebizo laso. Babephethe amachacho

† 14:14 14.14 UDanyeli 7.13

ababewaphiwe nguNkulunkulu ³ behlabela ingoma kaMosi incekú kaNkulunkulu kanye lengoma yeWundlu besithi:

“Mikhulu iyamangalisa imisebenzi yakho

Nkosi Nkulunkulu Somandla.

Zilungile njalo ziqotho izindlela zakho,

Nkosi yezikhathi zonke.

⁴ Ngubani ongayikukwesaba wena Nkosi,

adumise ibizo lakho na?

Ngoba nguwe kuphela ongcwele.

Zonke izizwe zizakuza

zikhonze phambi kwakho,

ngoba imisebenzi yakho elungileyo isibonakalisiwe.”

⁵ Emva kwalokhu ngakhangelá ngabona ezulwini ithempeli, okulithabanikeli lobufakazi livuliwe.

⁶ Ethempelini kwaphuma izingilosi eziyisikhombisa zilezifo eziyisikhombisa. Zazigqoke ilembu elihlanzekileyo, elicazimulayo njalo zibophe izifuba zazo ngamabhanti egolide.

⁷ Esinye sezidalwa ezine eziphilayo sanika izingilosi eziyisikhombisa imiganu yegolide eyisikhombisa igcwele ulaka lukaNkulunkulu ophila kuze kube nininini.

⁸ Ithempeli lagcwala intuthu evela enkazimulweni kaNkulunkulu lasemandleni akhe, njalo kakho owayengangena ethempelini izifo eziyisikhombisa zezingilosi eziyisikhombisa zingakapheli.

16

Imiganu Eyisikhombisa Yolaka LukaNkulunkulu

¹ Ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu livelela ethempelini lisithi ezingilosini eziyisikhombisa, “Hambani, lithululele emhlabeni imiganu eyisikhombisa yolaka lukaNkulunkulu.”

² Ingilosi yakuqala yahamba yathululela umganu wayo emhlabeni kwasekuphihlika izilonda ezenyanyekayo njalo ezibuhlungu ebantwini ababelophawu lwesilo njalo bekhonza umfanekiso waso.

³ Ingilosi yesibili yathululela umganu wayo olwandle lwaphenduka lwaba ligazi elinjengelomuntu ofileyo, kwathi yonke into ephilayo esolwandle yafa.

⁴ Ingilosi yesithathu yathululela umganu wayo emifuleni lasemithonjeni yamanzi yaba ligazi. ⁵ Ngasengisizwa ingilosi eyayingumphathi wamanzi isithi:

“Ulungile ngalezizahlulelo, wena oNgcwele

wena okhona lowayekhona,

⁶ ngoba bachitha igazi labangcwele bakho lelabaphrofethi, ngakho ubanike igazi ukuba balinathe njengokubafaneleyo.”

⁷ Ngezwa i-alithari liphendula lisithi:

“Yebo, Nkosi Nkulunkulu Somandla,
ziqutho njalo zilungile lezi zahlulelo zakho.”

⁸ Ingilosi yesine yathululela umganu wayo elangeni, ilanga laseliphiwa amandla okutshisa abantu ngomlilo. ⁹ Bosiwa yikutshisa okukhulu kwelanga njalo balithuka ibizo likaNkulunkulu, owayelamandla phezu kwezifo lezi, kodwa bala ukuba baphenduke bamdumise.

¹⁰ Ingilosi yesihlanu yathululela umganu wayo phezu kwesihlalo sobukhosi sesilo, umbuso waso wembeswa yibumnyama. Abantu baxhanxatha inlimi zabo ngobuhlungu, ¹¹ bamthuka uNkulunkulu wasezulwini ngenxa yobuhlungu bezilonda zabo, kodwa bala ukuphenduka kulokho ababekwenzile.

¹² Ingilosi yesithupha yathululela umganu wayo emfuleni omkhulu uYufathe, amanzi awo asesitsha ukuba kulungiswe indlela yamakhosi avela empumalanga. ¹³ Ngabuya ngabona imimoya emibi emithathu eyayifana lamaxoxo eyaphuma emlonyeni womgobho lasemlonyeni wesilo kanye lasemlonyeni womphrofethi wamanga. ¹⁴ Yimimoya yamadimoni eyenza izibonakaliso ezimangalisayo njalo iyahamba iye emakhosini omhlaba wonke iwaqoqela impi ngosuku olukhulu lukaNkulunkulu uSomandla.

¹⁵ “Khangelani, ngiza njengesela! Ubusisiwe lowo ohlala elindile egcina izigqoko zakhe zikuye ukuze angahambi nqunu abelihlazo.”

¹⁶ Basebeqoqela amakhosi ndawonye endaweni ethiwa yi-Amagedoni ngesiHebheru.

¹⁷ Ingilosi yesikhombisa yathululela umganu wayo emoyeni kwasekuphuma ilizwi elikhulu ethempelini livela esihlalweni sobukhosi, lisithi, “Sokwenziwe!” ¹⁸ Kwasekusiba lokuphazima kwemibane lemidumo lokukhwaza kwezulu kanye lokuzamazama okukhulu komhlaba. Akulakuzamazama komhlaba okunjengakho okwake kwenzeka selokhu umuntu waba semhlabeni, kwakukhulu kakhulu lokho kuzamazama komhlaba. ¹⁹ Idolobho elikhulu lehlukana laba yizigaba ezintathu, amadolobho ezizwe abhidlika. UNkulunkulu wakhumbula iBhabhiloni eliKhulu walinika inkezo yewayini egcwele ukuvutha kolaka lwakhe. ²⁰ Izihlenge zonke zabaleka kwathi izintaba zanyamalala. ²¹ Emkhathini kwehla amatshe amakhulukazi esiqhutho, lilinye lingaba ngamakhilogramu angamatshumi amathathu, awela phezu

kwabantu. Bamthuka uNkulunkulu ngenxa yohlupho lwesiqhotho ngoba uhlupho lolo lwalusesabeka.

17

Owesifazane Phezu Kwenyamazana

¹ Enye yezingilosi eziyisikhombisa ezazilemiganu eyisikhombisa yeza kimi yathi, “Woza ngikutshengise ukujeziswa kwesiphingi esikhulu esihlezi phezu kwamanzi amanengi. ² Amakhosi omhlaba afeba laso njalo abahlezi emhlabeni badakwa yiwayini yobufebe baso.”

³ Ingilosi yasingithatha ngiseMoyeni yangisa enkan-gala. Khonapho ngabona owesifazane ehlezi phezu kwesilo esibomvu gebhu sigcwele amabizo ahlambazayo njalo yayilamakhanda ayisikhombisa lempondo ezilitshumi. ⁴ Owesifazane lowo wayegqoke okuyibubende lokubomvu gebhu njalo wayekhazimula ngegolide langamatshe aligugu kanye langobuhlalu. Esandleni sakhe wayephethe inkezo igcwele izinto ezenyanyekayo kanye lamanyala obufebe bakhe. ⁵ Umbhalo owawulotshwe ebunzini lakhe wawusesabeka:

iBhabhiloni eliKhulu
uNina weziPhingi

kanye lamaNyala wonke oMhlaba.

⁶ Ngabona ukuthi owesifazane lowo wayedakwe ligazi labangcwele, igazi lalabo abalobufakazi bukaJesu.

Ekumboneni kwami ngamangala kakhulu. ⁷ Ingilosi yasisithi kimi, “Kungani umangala? Ngizakuchazela imfihlakalo yowesifazane lesilo asigadileyo esilamakhanda ayisikhombisa lempondo ezilitshumi. ⁸ Isilo osibonileyo sake saba khona, kodwa khathesi kasisekho njalo sizaphuma eMgodini ongelamkhawulo siye ekubhujisweni kwaso. Abahlezi emhlabeni abalamabizo abo angalotshwanga encwadini yokuphila kusukela ekudalweni komhlaba bazamangala lapho besibona lesosilo ngoba sake saba khona, kodwa khathesi kasisekho, kodwa sizabuya sivele.

⁹ Lokhu kufuna ingqondo elokuhlakanipha. Amakhanda ayisikhombisa ngamaqaqa ayisikhombisa owesifazane ahlezi phezu kwawo. ¹⁰ Njalo angamakhosi ayisikhombisa. Amahlanu kudala awa, eyodwa ikhona, enye kayikaveli, kodwa nxa isisiza kumele ihlale isikhatshana. ¹¹ Isilo esake saba khona njalo khathesi esingasekho yinkosi yesificaminwembili. Ngenye yalawo ayisikhombisa njalo isisiya ekubhujisweni kwayo.

¹² Impondo ezilitshumi ozibonileyo ngamakhosi alitshumi angakatholi mbuso, kodwa azathola amandla obukhosi okwehola elilodwa kanye lesilo. ¹³ Alenjongo yinye njalo azakupha isilo amandla awo kanye lelungelo. ¹⁴ Azakulwa impi leWundlu, kodwa iWundlu lizawanqoba ngoba liyiNkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi, njalo lizabe lilababiziweyo balo abangabalandeli abakhethiweyo labathembekileyo.”

¹⁵ Ingilosi yabuya yathi kimi, “Amanzi owabonileyo lapho isiphingi esihlezi khona ngabantu bemihlobo yonke, amaxuku lezizwe kanye lezindimi. ¹⁶ Isilo lempondo ezilitshumi ozibonileyo kuzasizonda isiphingi. Zizasichitha zisitshiye size; zizakudla inyama yomzimba waso zisitshise ngomlilo. ¹⁷ Ngoba uNkulunkulu ubeke ezinhliziyweni zazo ukuba afeze injongo yakhe ngokuvuma ukunika isilo amandla azo okubusa amazwi kaNkulunkulu aze agcwaliseke. ¹⁸ Owesifazane ombonileyo lidolobho elikhulu elibusa amakhosi omhlaba.”

18

Ukudilika KweBhabhiloni

¹ Emva kwalokhu ngabona enye ingilosi isehla ivela ezulwini. Yayilamandla amakhulu njalo umhlaba wakhanyiswa yikukhazimula kwayo. ² Yamemeza ngelizwi elikhulu yathi: “Liwile! Liwile iBhabhiloni eliKhulu!”*

Selibe likhaya lamadimoni

lomango wabomoya ababi,

lomango wezinyoni zonke ezingcolileyo
lezenyanyekayo.

³ Ngoba izizwe zonke zinathe
iwayini elihlanyisayo lobufebe balo.

Amakhosi omhlaba afeba lalo,
labathengisi basemhlabeni banothiswa yinotho yalo
edlulisileyo.”

Izixwayiso Zokwahlulelwa KweBhabhiloni

⁴ Ngabuya ngezwa elinye ilizwi livela ezulwini lisithi: “Bantu bami, phumani kulo,†

ukuze lingahlanganyeli ezonweni zalo
ukuze lingehlelwa yizifo zalo;

⁵ ngoba izono zalo ziyinqwaba efika ezulwini,
njalo uNkulunkulu usekhumbule amacala alo.

⁶ Lipheni njengokupha kwalo;
buyiselani ngokuphindiweyo kulokho elikwenzileyo.
Thelani kabili isilinganiso enkezweni yalo.

⁷ Lizwiseni uchuku olukhulu losizi

* 18:2 18.2 U-Isaya 21.9 † 18:4 18.4 UJeremiya 51.45

okulingana inkazimulo lenotho elizipha khona.”‡
 Enhliziyweni yalo liyazincoma lisithi,
 ngihlezi njengendlovukazi; kangisumfelokazi,
 njalo kangisoze ngilile.

⁸ Ngakho-ke, ngosuku olulodwa izifo zalo zizalifica:
 ukufa lokukhala kanye lendlala.

Lizahangulwa ngumlilo
 ngoba ilamandla iNkosi uNkulunkulu olahlulelayo.

Izixwayiso Ezintathu Ngokuwa KweBhabhiloni

⁹ Lapho amakhosi asemhlabeni afeba lalo njalo abelana lalo inotho yalo ebona intuthu yokutsha kwalo azalikhalela alililele. ¹⁰ Azesaba ngenxa yokuhlukuluzwa kwalo eme khatshana akhale esithi:

Maye! Maye, Oh dolobho elikhulu,
 Oh Bhabhiloni, dolobho lamandla!

Ngehola linye nje incithakalo yakho ifikile!

¹¹ Abathengisi basemhlabeni bazalikhalela balililele ngoba kungasekho othenga impahla yabo, ¹² imithwalo yegolide leyesiliva leyamatshe aligugu leyobuhlalu; eyeleneni elihle leliyibubende, ilembu lesilika lelembu elibomvu gebhu; inhlobo zonke zezigodo zesithironi lezinhlobo zonke zezinto ezenziwe ngempondo zendlovu lezigodo ezidulayo lethusi lensimbi kanye lelitshhe elimhlophe; ¹³ imithwalo yesinamoni leyeziyoliso, eyempepha leyemure kanye leyamakha, eyewayini lamafutha e-oliva, eyefulawa ecolekileyo kanye lengqoloyi; inkomo lezimvu; amabhiza lezinqola lezigqili kanye lemiphefumulo yabantu.

¹⁴ Bazakuthi, “Izithelo owawuzilangathela zisukile kuwe. Yonke inotho yakho lenkazimulo sekunyamalele, kakuyikutholakala futhi.” ¹⁵ Abathengisi ababethengisa lezizinto bezuza inotho yabo kuyo bazakuma khatshana, besesaba ngokuhlukuluzwa kwalo. Bazalila babubule ¹⁶ njalo bakhale kakhulu besithi:

“Maye! Maye, Oh dolobho elikhulu,
 eligqoke ilineni elihle, okuyibubende lokubomvu,
 elikhazimulayo ngegolide langamatshe
 aligugu kanye lobuhlalu!

¹⁷ Ngehola linye nje inotho enengi kangaka isichithiwe!”

Izinduna zonke zemikhumbi labo bonke abahamba ngayo labatshayeli labo bonke abazuza ukuphila kwabo olwandle bazakuma khatshana. ¹⁸ Lapho bebona izikhatha zokutsha kwalo bazachaza bathi, “Kambe kwake kwaba ledolobho elinjengaleli idolobho elikhulu na?” ¹⁹ Bazathela uthuli emakhanda abo balile babubule bekhala besithi:

“Maye! Maye, Oh dolobho elikhulu,
 lapho bonke ababelemikhumbi olwandle
 abanothiswa khona yinotho yalo!
 Ngeholo linye nje selichithiwe!”

²⁰ Thokoza ngalo, Oh Zulu!
 Thokozani bangcwele labapostoli kanye labaphrofethi!
 UNkulunkulu uselahlulele
 ngendlela elaliphatha ngayo.”

Isinqumo Sokubhujiswa KweBhabhiloni

²¹ Ingilosi elamandla yasidobha ilitshe elingangembokodo
 enkulu yaliphosela olwandle, yathi:

“Idolobho elikhulu laseBhabhiloni lizaphoselwa phansi,
 ngodlakela olunje,
 lingaphindi libonakale futhi.

²² Umculo wabatshayi bamachacho labahlabeleli labatshayi
 bemihlanga lamacilongo,
 kawusoze uzwakale kuwe futhi.
 Akukho sisebenzi lesawuphi umsebenzi
 esizatholakala kuwe futhi.

Umsindo wembokodo
 kawusoze uzwakale kuwe futhi.

²³ Ukukhanya kwesibane
 akusoze kukhanye kuwe futhi.

Ilizwi lomyeni lelobokazi
 kalisoze lizwakale kuwe futhi.

Abathengisi bakho babeyizikhulu zomhlaba.
 Izizwe zonke zadukiswa yibuthakathi bakho.

²⁴ Kuwe kwafunyanwa igazi labaphrofethi lelabangcwele,
 kanye lelabo bonke ababulawayo emhlabeni.”

19

Haleluya Ngokuwa KweBhabhiloni!

¹ Emva kwalokhu ngezwa umsindo onjengokuhlokoma
 kwexuku elikhulu ezulwini limemeza lisithi:

“Haleluya!

Ukusindisa lodumo lamandla ngokukaNkulunkulu wethu
² ngoba ukwahlulela kwakhe kuqotho njalo kulungile.

Usilahlele isiphingi esikhulu
 esaxhwalisa umhlaba ngobufebe baso.

Uphindisele kuso igazi lezinceku zakhe.”

³ Bamemeza njalo bathi:

“Haleluya!

Intuthu yokutsha kwaso ithunqa kuze kube nininini.”

⁴ Abadala abangamatshumi amabili lane lezidalwa ezine eziphilayo bawela phansi bakhonza uNkulunkulu owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi. Bamemeza njalo bathi: “Ameni, Haleluya!”

⁵ Kwasekuzwakala ilizwi elavela esihlalweni sobukhosi, lisithi:

“Dumisani uNkulunkulu wethu,
lonke lina zinceku zakhe,
lina elimesabayo,
abancane labakhulu!”

⁶ Ngabuya ngezwa okwakungathi lixuku elikhulu, kunjengokuhlokoma kwamanzi agelezayo lanjengokukhwaza kwezulu besithi: “Haleluya!

Ngoba iNkosi yethu uNkulunkulu uSomandla uyabusa.

⁷ Kasithokozeni sijabule
simuphe udumo.

Ngoba umthimba weWundlu usufikile,
lomlobokazi walo usezilungisele.

⁸ Ilineni elihle elicazimulayo
elihlanzekileyo uliphiwe ukuba agqoke.”

(Ilineni elihle limele imisebenzi emihle yabangcwele.)

⁹ Ingilosi yasisithi kimi, “Loba ukuthi: Babusisiwe labo abanxusiweyo edilini lomtshado weWundlu!” Yengeza yathi, “La ngamazwi aqotho kaNkulunkulu.”

¹⁰ Ngawela ezinyaweni zayo ngayikhonza. Kodwa yathi kimi, “Ungakwenzi lokhu! Mina ngiyinceku kanye lawe kanye labazalwane bakho abalobufakazi bukaJesu. Khonza uNkulunkulu! Ngoba ubufakazi bukaJesu bungumoya wesiphrofethi.”

Umgadi Webhiza Elimhlophe

¹¹ Ngabona izulu livulekile njalo khonapho phambi kwami kwakulebhiza elimhlophe, umgadi walo ethiwa nguThembekile loQiniso. Wahlulela ngokulunga alwe impi.

¹² Amehlo akhe anjengomlilo ovuthayo njalo ekhanda lakhe kulemiqhele eminengi. Ulebizo elilotshwe kuye elingaziwa muntu ngaphandle kwakhe yena ngokwakhe.

¹³ Ugqoke isembatho esigxanyuzwe egazini njalo ibizo lakhe nguLizwi likaNkulunkulu. ¹⁴ Amabutho asezulwini ayemlandela egade amabhiza amhlophe njalo egqoke ili-

neni elihle elimhlophe njalo lihlanzekile. ¹⁵ Emlonyeni wakhe kuphuma inkemba ebukhali agalela ngayo izizwe. “Uzazibusa ngentonga yensimbi.”* Unyathela isikhamelo

* 19:15 19.15 AmaHubo 2.9

sewayini sentukuthelo yolaka lukaNkulunkulu uSomandla.
¹⁶ Esambathweni sakhe lasemlenzeni wakhe kulotshwe ibizo leli elithi:

INkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi.

¹⁷ Ngasengibona ingilosi imi elangeni eyamemezela ngelizwi elikhulu ezinyonini zonke ezazindiza emoyeni isithi, “Wozani libuthanele idili elikhulu likaNkulunkulu
¹⁸ ukuze lidle inyama yemizimba yamakhosi, eyezinduna zempi, eyamadoda alamandla, eyamabhiza labagadi bawo kanye leyabantu bonke abakhululekileyo lezigqili, abancane labakhulu.”

¹⁹ Ngabuya ngabona isilo lamakhosi asemhlabeni lamabutho awo ebuthanele ukulwa impi lomgadi webhiza kanye lebutho lakhe. ²⁰ Kodwa isilo sathunjwa ndawonye lomphrofethi wamanga owayenze izibonakaliso ezimangalisayo emele sona. Ngalezi zibonakaliso wabedukisa labo ababebekwe uphawu lwesilo bakhonza umfanekiso waso. Sona lomphrofethi wamanga baphoselwa bephila echibini lomlilo wesolufa ovuthayo. ²¹ Abanye babo babulawa ngenkemba eyaphuma emlonyeni womgadi webhiza njalo izinyoni zonke zazitika ngenyama yemizimba yabo.

20

Iminyaka Eyinkulungwane

¹ Ngasengibona ingilosi isehlela phansi isuka ezulwini ile-sihluthulelo soMgodi ongelamkhawulo iphethe ngesandla sayo iketane enkulu. ² Yabamba umgobho, inyoka leyana endala, engoMubi loba uSathane, yambopha okweminyaka eyinkulungwane. ³ Yamphosela eMgodini ongelamkhawulo, yawuhluthulela, yawuvala silikici, ukumvimbela ukuba angakhohlisi izizwe futhi kuze kuphele iminyaka eyinkulungwane. Emva kwalokho kumele akhululwe okwesikhatshana.

⁴ Ngabona izihlalo zobukhosi okwakuhlezi kuzo labo ababephiwe amandla okwahlulela. Ngabona imiphfumulo yalabo ababequnywe amakhanda ngenxa yobufakazi buka-Jesu langenxa yelizwi likaNkulunkulu. Babengasikhonzanga isilo loba umfanekiso waso njalo bengabekwanga uphawu lwaso emabunzini abo loba ezandleni zabo. Bavuka baphila njalo babusa loKhristu iminyaka eyinkulungwane. ⁵ (Inengi labafuleyo kalivukanga kwaze kwaphela iminyaka eyinkulungwane.) Lokhu yikuvuka ekufeni kwakuqala. ⁶ Babusisiwe njalo bangcwele labo abahlanganyela ekuvukeni kwakuqala. Ukufa kwesibili akulamandla phezu kwabo, kodwa bazakuba ngabaphristi bakaNkulunkulu

labakaKhristu njalo bazabusa laye okweminyaka eyinkulungwane.

Ukulahlwa KukaSathane

⁷ Iminyaka eyinkulungwane isidlule uSathane uzakhululwa entolongweni yakhe ⁸ aphume ukuyakhohlisa izizwe emagumbini womane omhlaba, uGogi loMagogi, ukuba abaqoqele empini. Ngobunengi bangangenhlabathi okhunjini lolwandle. ⁹ Badabula phakathi komhlaba bahongolozela izihonqo zabantu bakaNkulunkulu, idolobho alithandayo. Kodwa kwehla umlilo uvela ezulwini wabaqothula. ¹⁰ Omubi owayebakhohlisile waphoselwa echibini lesolufa elivuthayo, lapho okwakuphoselwe khona isilo lomphrofethi wamanga. Bazakutsha emini lebusuku kuze kube nininini.

Ukwahlulelwa Kwabafileyo

¹¹ Ngabuya ngabona isihlalo sobukhosi esikhulu kanye lalowo owayehlezi kuso. Umhlaba lomkhathi kwabaleka phambi kwakhe, akwaze kwaba lendawo yakho. ¹² Ngasengibona abafileyo, abancane labakhulu, bemi phambi kwesihlalo sobukhosi, kwasekuvulwa izincwadi. Kwavulwa enye incwadi, eyincwadi yokuphila. Abafileyo bahlulelwa mayelana lalokho ababekwenzile okwakulotshwe ezincwadini. ¹³ Ulwandle lwakhupha abafileyo ababekulo, ukufa leHadesi kwakhupha abafileyo ababekukho, umuntu ngamunye wahlulelwa mayelana lalokho akwenzayo. ¹⁴ Ukufa leHadesi kwaphoselwa echibini lomlilo. Ichibi lomlilo liyikufa kwesibili. ¹⁵ Nxa umuntu ibizo lakhe lalitholakala lingalotshwanga encwadini yokuphila wayephoselwa echibini lomlilo.

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Izulu Elitsha Lomhlaba Omutsha

¹ Ngabuya ngabona “izulu elitsha lomhlaba omutsha,”* ngoba izulu lakuqala lomhlaba wakuqala kwasekudlule njalo ulwandle lwalungasekho. ² Ngabona iDolobho elingcwele, iJerusalema elitsha, lisehlela phansi liphuma ezulwini kuNkulunkulu lilungiswe njengomlobokazi ecele umkakhe. ³ Ngezwa ilizwi elikhulu livela esihlalweni sobukhosi lisithi, “Khathezi ikhaya likaNkulunkulu selisebantwini, uzahlala labo. Bazakuba ngabantu bakhe njalo uNkulunkulu yena uqobo uzakuba labo abe nguNkulunkulu wabo. ⁴ Uzazesula zonke inyembezi emehlweni abo.

* 21:1 21.1 U-Isaya 65.17

Akusayikuba khona futhi ukufa loba ukulila loba ukukhala loba ubuhlungu ngoba umumo omdala wezinto usudlule.”†

⁵ Lowo owayehlezi esihlalweni sobukhosi wathi, “Ngenza izinto zonke zibe zintsha!” Wabuya wathi, “Kulobe lokhu ngoba amazwi la aqotho njalo aliqiniso.”

⁶ Wasesithi kimi, “Sekwenzakele. Ngingu-Alfa lo-Omega, isiQalo lesiPhetho. Lowo owomileyo ngizamnathisa emthonjeni wamanzi okuphila kungekho mbadalo. ⁷ Lowo onqobayo uzakudla ilifa lakho konke lokhu njalo ngizakuba nguNkulunkulu wakhe yena abe yindodana yami. ⁸ Kodwa amagwala, abangakholwayo, abaxhwalileyo, ababulali, iziphingi, abathakathi, abakhonza izithombe labo bonke abaqamba amanga; indawo yabo izakuba sechibini lomlilo wesolufa ovuthayo. Lokhu yikufa kwesibili.”

IJerusalema Elitsha, Umlobokazi LeWundlu

⁹ Enye yezingilosi eziyisikhombisa eyayilemiganu eyisikhombisa eyayigcwele izifo zokucina eziyisikhombisa yeza yathi kimi, “Woza, ngizakutshengisa umlobokazi, umkaWundlu.” ¹⁰ Yangithwala ngiseMoyeni yangisa entabeni enkulu ende yangitshengisa iDolobho eliNgcwele, iJerusalema lisehla liphuma ezulwini kuNkulunkulu.

¹¹ Lakhanyisa ngenkazimulo kaNkulunkulu, ukucwebezela kwalo kwakufana lokwelitshe eliligugu, njengejaspa, licwebezela njengelitshe elikhanyisayo. ¹² Lalilomduli omkhulu, ophakemeyo lamasango alitshumi lambili kanye lezingilosi ezilitshumi lambili emasangweni. Emasangweni kwakulotshwe amabizo ezizwana ezilitshumi lambili zako-Israyeli. ¹³ Kwakulamasango amathathu ngasempumalanga, lamathathu ngasenyakatho, lamathathu ngaseningizimu, kanye lamathathu ngasentshonalanga. ¹⁴ Umduli wedolobho wawulezisekelo ezilitshumi lambili njalo phezu kwazo kwakulamabizo abapostoli beWundlu abalitshumi lambili.

¹⁵ Ingilosi eyakhuluma lami yayilomqwayi wegolide owokulinganisa idolobho, amasango alo lomduli walo. ¹⁶ Idolobho lalaxhiwe lalingana inxa zonke, lilide okungangobubanzi balo. Yalilinganisa idolobho ngomqwayi yathola lingaba ngamakhilomitha azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili (2,200) ubude njalo libanzi liphakeme okulingana lobude balo. ¹⁷ Yalinganisa umduli walo isebenzisa isilinganiso sabantu, wawuzingalo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144) ubuqatha bawo. ¹⁸ Umduli wawaxhiwe ngejaspa, idolobho laxhiwe ngegolide elicengeke njengengilazi. ¹⁹ Izisekelo

¹⁵ Ingilosi eyakhuluma lami yayilomqwayi wegolide owokulinganisa idolobho, amasango alo lomduli walo. ¹⁶ Idolobho lalaxhiwe lalingana inxa zonke, lilide okungangobubanzi balo. Yalilinganisa idolobho ngomqwayi yathola lingaba ngamakhilomitha azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili (2,200) ubude njalo libanzi liphakeme okulingana lobude balo. ¹⁷ Yalinganisa umduli walo isebenzisa isilinganiso sabantu, wawuzingalo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144) ubuqatha bawo. ¹⁸ Umduli wawaxhiwe ngejaspa, idolobho laxhiwe ngegolide elicengeke njengengilazi. ¹⁹ Izisekelo

¹⁵ Ingilosi eyakhuluma lami yayilomqwayi wegolide owokulinganisa idolobho, amasango alo lomduli walo. ¹⁶ Idolobho lalaxhiwe lalingana inxa zonke, lilide okungangobubanzi balo. Yalilinganisa idolobho ngomqwayi yathola lingaba ngamakhilomitha azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili (2,200) ubude njalo libanzi liphakeme okulingana lobude balo. ¹⁷ Yalinganisa umduli walo isebenzisa isilinganiso sabantu, wawuzingalo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144) ubuqatha bawo. ¹⁸ Umduli wawaxhiwe ngejaspa, idolobho laxhiwe ngegolide elicengeke njengengilazi. ¹⁹ Izisekelo

¹⁵ Ingilosi eyakhuluma lami yayilomqwayi wegolide owokulinganisa idolobho, amasango alo lomduli walo. ¹⁶ Idolobho lalaxhiwe lalingana inxa zonke, lilide okungangobubanzi balo. Yalilinganisa idolobho ngomqwayi yathola lingaba ngamakhilomitha azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili (2,200) ubude njalo libanzi liphakeme okulingana lobude balo. ¹⁷ Yalinganisa umduli walo isebenzisa isilinganiso sabantu, wawuzingalo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144) ubuqatha bawo. ¹⁸ Umduli wawaxhiwe ngejaspa, idolobho laxhiwe ngegolide elicengeke njengengilazi. ¹⁹ Izisekelo

¹⁵ Ingilosi eyakhuluma lami yayilomqwayi wegolide owokulinganisa idolobho, amasango alo lomduli walo. ¹⁶ Idolobho lalaxhiwe lalingana inxa zonke, lilide okungangobubanzi balo. Yalilinganisa idolobho ngomqwayi yathola lingaba ngamakhilomitha azinkulungwane ezimbili lamakhulu amabili (2,200) ubude njalo libanzi liphakeme okulingana lobude balo. ¹⁷ Yalinganisa umduli walo isebenzisa isilinganiso sabantu, wawuzingalo ezilikhulu lamatshumi amane lane (144) ubuqatha bawo. ¹⁸ Umduli wawaxhiwe ngejaspa, idolobho laxhiwe ngegolide elicengeke njengengilazi. ¹⁹ Izisekelo

zamiduli yedolobho zaziceciswe ngezinhlobo zonke zamatshe aligugu. Isisekelo sakuqala sasiyijaspera, esesibili kuyisafire, esesithathu kuyikhalisedoni, esesine kuyi-amaralidi, ²⁰ esesihlanu kuyisadonikisi, esesithupha kuyikhaneliyani, esesikhombisa kuyikhrisolithe, esesificaminwembili kuyibherili, esesificamunwemuyeye kuyithophazi, esetshumi kuyikhrisophirase, esetshumianye kuyijasinti, esetshumi lambili kuyi-amethisithi. ²¹ Amasango alitshumi lambili ayengamatshe obuhlalu alitshumi lambili, isango ngalinye lenziwe ngelitshe elilodwa lobuhlalu. Umgwaqo omkhulu wedolobho wawuligolide elicengekileyo njengengilazi elibonisa okungale kwalo.

²² Kangibonanga thempeli edolobheni ngoba iNkosi uNkulunkulu uSomandla leWundlu balithempeli lalo. ²³ Idolobho kalisweli langa loba inyanga yokukhanyisa kulo ngoba inkazimulo kaNkulunkulu ilinika ukukhanya leWundlu liyisibane salo. ²⁴ Izizwe zizahamba ekukhanyeni kwalo lamakhosi omhlaba azaletsa ubukhazikhazi bawo kulo. ²⁵ Akulasuku lapho amasango alo azake avalwe ngalo ngoba akuyikuba lobusuku khona. ²⁶ Inkazimulo lodumo lwezizwe kuzalethwa kulo. ²⁷ Akulalutho olungcolileyo oluzake lungene kulo, loba ngubani owenza amanyala kumbe inkohliso, kodwa labo kuphela abalamabizo abo alotshwe encwadini yokuphila yeWundlu.

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Umfula Wokuphila

¹ Ingilosi yasingitshengisa umfula wamanzi okuphila acengekileyo kakhulu egeleza evela esihlalweni sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu leseWundlu ² esehla ephakathi komgwaqo omkhulu wedolobho. Eceleni ngalinye lomfula kwakulesihlahla sokuphila sithela izithelo ezilitshumi lambili, sithela izithelo zaso nyanga zonke. Amahlamvu esihlahla leso ngawokwelapha izizwe. ³ Akusoze kube lesiqalekiso futhi. Isihlalo sobukhosi sikaNkulunkulu leseWundlu zizakuba sedolobheni njalo izinceku zakhe zizamkhonza. ⁴ Zizabubona ubuso bakhe lebizu lakhe lizakuba semabunzini azo. ⁵ Akusayikuba lobusuku futhi. Kaziyikukuswela ukukhanya kwesibane loba okwelanga ngoba iNkosi uNkulunkulu izazikhanyisela. Njalo zizabusa kuze kube nininini.

UJesu Uyeza

⁶ Ingilosi yasisithi kimi, "Amazwi la aqotho njalo aliqiniso. INkosi, uNkulunkulu wemimoya yabaphrofethi wathuma

ingilosi yakhe ukuba itshengise izinceku zakhe izinto okumele zenzakale masinyane.”

7 “Khangelani, ngiyeza masinyane! Ubusisiwe lowo ogcina amazwi esiphrofethi asencwadini le.”

8 Mina Johane, yimi engazibonayo njalo ngazizwa izinto lezi. Kwathi lapho sengizwile njalo ngazibona, ngawela phansi ukuba ngikhonze ezinyaweni zengilosi eyayingitshengisa zona. **9** Kodwa yathi kimi, “Ungakwenzi lokhu! Mina ngiyinceku njengawe kanye labazalwane bakho abaphrofethi labo bonke abagcina amazwi encwadi le. Khonza uNkulunkulu!”

10 Yabuya yathi kimi, “Ungawagciki amazwi esiphrofethi sencwadi le, ngoba isikhathi sesiseduze. **11** Owenza okubi kaqhubeke esenza okubi; oxhwalileyo kaqhubeke ngokuxhwala; olungileyo kaqhubeke esenza okulungileyo; njalo ongcwele kaqhubeke engcwele.”

Isiphetho: Unxuso Kanye Lesixwayiso

12 “Khangelani, ngiyeza masinyane! Ngilomvuzo wami, njalo ngizakupha umuntu munye ngamunye ngalokho akwenzayo. **13 Ngingu-Alfa lo-Omega, ngiyiKuqala loKucina, isiQalo lesiPhetho.**

14 Babusisiwe labo abagezisa izembatho zabo ukuze babe lelungelo esihlahleni sokuphila njalo bangu ngesango edolobheni. **15 Ngaphandle kulezinja, labo abenza imisebenzi yobuthakathi, izifebe ezixhwalileyo, lababulali, labakhonza izithombe labo bonke abathanda inkohliso njalo beyenza.**

16 Mina Jesu, ngithume ingilosi yami ukuba ilinike ubufakazi lobu emabandleni. NgiyiMpande leNzalo kaDavida, kanye leNdonsakusa ekhanyayo.”

17 UMoya lomlobokazi bathi, “Woza!” Ozwayo katsho athi, “Woza!” Loba ngubani owomileyo, keze; njalo loba ngubani ofisayo, kathathe isipho esingahlawulelwayo samanzi okuphila.

18 Ngiyabaxwayisa bonke abezwa amazwi esiphrofethi sencwadi le: Nxa umuntu ezakwengeza olunye ulutho kuwo, uNkulunkulu uzazengeza kuye izifo ezibaliswe kule incwadi. **19** Njalo nxa umuntu esusa amazwi kule incwadi

yesiphrofethi, uNkulunkulu uzamthathela isabelo sakhe esihlahleni sokuphila laseDolobheni eliNgcwele, okubaliswe kule incwadi.

²⁰ Yena lowo ofakaza izinto lezi uthi, **“Yebo, ngiyeza masinyane.”**

Ameni. Woza, Nkosi Jesu.

²¹ Umusa weNkosi uJesu kawube sebantwini bakaNkulunkulu. Amen.