

Amruthadhara

(Flow of Nectar)

GOSPEL MESSAGES

Prof. M. Y. Yohannan

(Former Principal, St. Peter's College, Kolenchery)

----- Publisher -----

Alice Yohannan

Phelio Healthcare, Kolenchery 682 311, South India

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

*“I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet’s son;
But I was an herdsman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit.
And the LORD took me as I followed the flock,
And the LORD said to me,
Go, prophesy unto my people Israel”*

-Amos 7:14, 15.

Prof. M.Y.Yohannan was born in a middle class agricultural family in Kadayiruppu, Kolenchery, Kerala. Three of his brothers died before his birth. He lost his father at the infant age of one and his surviving brother when he was two years old. He could not continue his education after passing out from the tenth standard as he was forced to take up the responsibility of managing his family affairs and working in the farm desolate and desperate.

This young man with a shattered life accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour and LORD at the age of seventeen while attending a Gospel meeting at his local church.

Prof. Yohannan started his career as a teacher in the school where he had studied. During his nine-year tenure in the school, he took his graduation and post graduation, as a private student, in arts with first ranks from the Kerala University. Later, he took B Ed degree also with University rank. In 1964, he joined St. Peter’s College and continued there for the next thirty-three

years. He was appointed Principal of the same college in 1995 and retired after two years.

Even as a young teacher, he was an active member of a voluntary gospel missionary group in Kerala. Many well reputed and respected clergy as well as laymen sincerely participated in the activities of this Voluntary Missionary Society, which in Malayalam, was known as “*Swamedhaya Suvisesha Sangham*”. As a result of its earnest effort on evangelisation, a large number of people got revived in the Jacobite/Orthodox and other churches.

In 1973, a great spiritual revival swept over Kerala. Prof. Yohannan was in the forefront of this movement. The revival was based on the following divine words:

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

-2 Chronicles 7:14

“Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.”

-Matthew 5:8

“Without holiness, no one will see the LORD.”

-Hebrews 12:14

When a man gets the born again experience, his deeds and words are changed. But the transformation of the inner-man, thoughts, attitudes, the old nature, etc. is the genuine sign of a true Christian.

Prof. Yohannan preached the Gospel throughout Kerala and many big cities in India. Later, he visited the United States of America several times in connection with the LORD's service. He also visited Great Britain and some of the Gulf countries in the Middle East and addressed several conventions.

In 1997, Prof. Yohannan commenced the '**Amruthadhara**' Radio Ministry on all Tuesday evenings. It is the wholehearted encouragement of the listeners, a second programme, meant for the Gulf countries, was started on all Friday nights. In October 2001, another programme on all Saturdays, from 7:30 P.M. to 7:45 P.M. has been started. These programmes helped to preach the Gospel to unreached and remote areas and segments of people, like in prisons, armed forces' barracks, hostels, etc.

Prof. Yohannan utilized the facilities of television, one of the most influential media today, to preach the Gospel. In 2000, the '**Amruthadhara**' TV programme was started. Presently, the

thirty-minute programme is telecast on all Saturday mornings through the 'Soorya TV' at 6:30 A.M.

As requested by his ever-increasing listeners and dear friends, Prof. Yohannan has published his radio messages in book form. So far, as on May 2002, he had published sixteen books. Most of them are out-of-print with in a short period. Few more books are getting ready for release.

Prof. Yohannan is fully engaged in the activities of the CRF by addressing massive Gospel meetings, Bible classes, prayer meetings, counselling sessions, etc. He strongly believes that the need of the hour is **'the repentance of the repented'**. He advocates:

"It's the soul that needs change, not the religion; It's the inner-man (heart) that needs change, not the church"

Prof. Yohannan gets whole-hearted support from his wife, Alice, a retired teacher, in his LORD's service. The Yohannans have three sons and a daughter, all married. The family is blessed with eight grandchildren.

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

1. Amruthadhara
2. Aantharikasaanthi
3. Subha Bhavi
4. Saanthitheeram
5. Madhumozhi
6. Mukthi Margam
7. Nithya Visranthi
8. Nirapara
9. Jaya Jeevitham
10. Viswasa Jeevitham
11. Vada Malar
12. Divyaradhana
13. Enikku Kudippan Tharumo
14. Neethimanakunnathengane
15. Thuranna Vathil
16. Varavum Chilavum

FOREWORD

It is with immense pleasure that I publish the English translation of my first book, 'Amruthadhara' (*Flow of Nectar*). Having materialised a long-cherished wish, I kneel before the sweet feet of my Saviour, Jesus Christ and I once again dedicate myself into His mighty hands with boundless gratitude.

Francis Bacon has said:

*“Reading maketh a full man,
Writing an exact man,
And conference a ready man.”*

We can fill ourselves with knowledge and wisdom by reading good books. The thirst for amassing more knowledge is a true sign of a refined mind. Knowledge and wisdom influence the mind and the entire personality, which in turn, lead to soundness and sublimeness.

I do hope and pray that the readers might be fully blessed with happiness and peace while reading this book.

I am indebted to Dr. Sunil Abraham, Department of Medicine, Christian Medical College, Velloor for taking pain to translate this book into English from Malayalam. Even though he is very busy with his duties in the hospital, he has undertaken this tedious job because of his utmost sincerity towards the Word of God. Let my Living LORD give him the reward.

There are many people who had rendered whole-hearted help for rewriting, proof-reading, printing and publishing the book. Among them, I would like to specially mention Prof. K.P. Kuriakose, who was my colleague in St. Peter's College, Kolenchery. My thankfulness towards him knows no bounds.

Now let me place this book into your kind hands for your earnest reading and appreciation.

With lots of love and prayers,

M. Y. Yohannan

Kadayiruppu
01-05-2002

Chapter-1

Christ our peace - Ephesians. 2: 14

1945, July 16th, 5-30 in the morning. It was then that the first experimental nuclear explosion was conducted in the Mexican wilderness. A scientist watching the explosion far away in a plane cried out, "My God! Alas! We have created a hell!"

Today many are living hellish torments. There is no peace in their hearts. They are grieved, unable to free themselves from the troubles that crush them. Tears and deep sighs are everywhere. Societies, institutions and even nations are deprived of peace. Man is being tormented in his search lack of for a peaceful life. Let us, in the light of the Scriptures, look at some ways of enjoying peace.

"Christ our peace", says Apostle Paul (Eph.2: 14). Many people are experiencing the peace that is given by the resurrected Christ in to their burning hearts. When we receive Jesus Christ

into our hearts, we could experience this divine peace in our hearts.

Dear friend, have you ever experienced this wonderful peace? Is your heart in deep despair without any hope for the future? Are you restless, disappointed, thinking of committing suicide, telling yourself, "There is no body to love me; why should I live?" Hear then, "Christ our peace."

The last message of Christ was to His beloved disciples. It begins like this, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me." (John 14:1-*KJV*). Again Jesus Christ said: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27- *KJV*).

Two thousand years ago, while Christ was doing His public ministry in Galilee, many came to Him and received peace. Those, with doomed future, bonded in sin, stricken with incurable diseases, demon possessed and insane, hearts burdened by the ordeals of life; all of them came with hope to Jesus. All received peace. Christ proclaimed: "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt.11:28 –*KJV*).

Consider the number of suicides in the modern world. We hear of people who commit suicide after killing their spouse and even their children. A report appeared in the newspaper recently about the daughter of a famous Malayalam poet and her children who had committed suicide. 'How to stop worrying and start a Pleasant Life', is a famous book by Dale Carnegie. Millions of copies of this book have been sold. But the author himself committed suicide, totally dejected and frustrated.

Many people are burning inwardly, due to anxiety and worry. We hear such words as 'tension' and 'frustration', which express the horrible condition of man.

Many such people, desperate and depressed, have found peace at the feet of Jesus Christ.

Let us hear how this heavenly peace came to Mrs. Susamma Joseph, of Vellathooval in High Range, the wife of Mr. Joseph, the first person to be killed by the Naxalite group attack in Kerala.

Q: "Can you describe that day's events?"

A: "I cannot forget the night of July 21st, 1970. It was about 10 o'clock in the night. None of us, including my husband and three children, had slept. We heard a knock on the door and I opened the door. Suddenly a group of people rushed into the house, shouting aloud. We all were dumbstruck with fear. They cut and removed the gold ornaments that I was wearing. They took the money and jewellery from the almirahs. Then they dragged my husband outside. I tried to stop them, but they pushed me aside. They stabbed and killed him in the courtyard."

Q: "What was the state of your life after this?"

A: "I became a widow at the age of 38. My heart got hardened, with no emotions; not even able to cry. I could not sleep during day or night. I lived in constant fear and fright. The thought of suicide came to me many times. The only reason I decided to live was for the sake of my children."

Q: "How did you come out of this state?"

A: "When I was 41, I attended a prayer meeting at Kolenchery. On hearing the Word of God, I committed my heart to Christ. A great peace and comfort flowed to my heart. I tasted a

heavenly peace. I experienced and understood how Jesus takes care of a destitute and a widow like me. Praise be to God. I became a new person on that day. I could sleep in peace that day.”

Dear brother, sister; this Jesus is knocking at the door of your heart to give you peace. Will you open your heart, with its sorrow and remorse for Jesus to get in?

Will you believe that the blood shed by Jesus on the cross will wash all your sins and give you a blessed new life? Will you entrust your future into the bruised hands of Christ? If you will, let us pray together.

“O Jesus, Who loves us with an immeasurable love, we praise You for the words of peace we could hear today. I believe that there is an answer for every problem at the feet of the Saviour Who died on the cross. Because You died for me, I decide to live for You from today onwards. Guide me till the end. Hear this prayer as I ask this in the excellent Name of Jesus.

Chapter-2

Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction - St. Mark 5:34

The gospel of Christ gives peace to the grieving hearts. The greatest need of the man of today is a peaceful life. There are three attributes to peace:

- 1) Peace of God,
- 2) Peace with God,
- 3) Peace with all.

Let us think together the story of a woman who had the fortune to experience the peace of God and was healed of her incurable disease by Jesus Christ.

In the gospel according to Mark, chapter 5, verse 34, Jesus Christ tells a woman, "Go in peace and be healed of your

affliction.” See the affection with which Christ tells her, “Daughter, you faith has made you well.”

In the Holy Bible, this is the only woman, whom Christ has called “daughter”. Other women, even His own mother, He calls “woman”. Who was this woman who received such a great affection? She was a poor woman, afflicted with an incurable disease for about twelve years. Her illness was that of excessive bleeding. She did take treatment for it. The Scriptures say, “She had suffered many things from many physicians.” She was weary and tired because she had spent all that she had and was not healed. As the treatments were ineffective, the disease ravaged her body and she became thin and horrible to look at.

She is physically tired and mentally exhausted. She has lost all hope and is full of despair and sadness. Is there anyone here like this woman who hears these words, who has been hopeless and under the bondage of some disease for a long time?

Dear sister, beloved brother, listen! Jesus, the Healer is still alive. The psalmist David said,

“The Lord will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed.” - Psalm 41:3.

In Exodus, chapter 15, verse 26, the Lord said, *“I am the LORD, Who heals you.”*

Dear brother, will you come to this God? Will you pray with faith to the Eternal Saviour? Will you tell Him about your disease? Christ will give you healing.

At the time of her distress, she once heard that Jesus was passing by that way. She had already heard about Jesus, but had never come to Him. Many are like that today. They have heard many things about Jesus, but have no personal experience. Dear friend, today, while you hear these words, pray for a personal experience.

She believed that she would be relieved of distress if she came to Jesus. She tried hard to come near Jesus who was walking in the midst of the crowd. She could not come near Him because of the multitude thronging Him. The crowd was pressing all around Him. Somehow she managed to come behind Him, pushing her way through the crowd. Unable to come in front of Him or to plead anything, she wondered what to do next. But she believed that she would be healed if she could just touch the fringes of His garments. She leaned herself and touched the fringes of Christ's garments, which were hanging low behind Him.

What a wonder! She felt as if an electric current had passed through her whole body. She knew that she was healed of her illness. Praise the Lord.

She was turning back with her heart overflowing with great joy. All of a sudden, Jesus stopped in the middle of the road. “Who touched Me?” Jesus asked. “Is not the multitude thronging You?” asked the disciples. “No, *somebody* touched Me; power flowed out from Me”, said Jesus.

Yes, these days there are many who touch, but only few receive power from Christ.

The woman told everything that happened in front of the crowd. While she stood there with her heart full of gratitude towards her Master, Jesus said, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.”

Is there anyone listening to this message, who is under the bondage of an incurable illness like this woman? Christ, Who healed this lady with bleeding two thousand years ago, is still alive today. Dear friend, do you believe that Christ will heal your incurable illness?

Let me introduce Dr. Geogi K.Ninan to you, who received miraculous healing after he was diagnosed to have a serious type of cancer. Dr. Geogi, after taking his BDS degree from the Trivandrum Medical College, is now practising in his own clinics in Muvattupuzha and Thodupuzha. Let us now listen to Dr. Geogi.

Q: *“What was your reaction on knowing that you are affected by cancer?”*

A: “Now I am forty-four years old. Five years back, at the age of thirty-nine, it was detected that I had cancer in my lymph nodes. I was shocked when the doctor informed my biopsy report. I felt my future doomed when I knew that I am going to die at the prime age. All doors have closed before of me. I kept on imagining myself lying in a coffin. Everything had come to a close. The very thought of my dear wife, my two young children, becoming destitute made me gloomy.

Q: *“How did you come out of this?”*

A: “At the age of twenty-two, I had repented of my sins and committed myself to the Lord. But I had never understood or

experienced the depth of Christian life or the seriousness of sanctification. However, my association with the Christian Revival Fellowship at Kolenchery and the fellowship I had with its members strengthened me deeply.

Q: *"How did this happen?"*

A: "I realised that if I had died at that time, I would not reach the place where Christ wanted me to be. I had short temperedness, ill feeling and animosity towards many. I asked unconditional forgiveness from each of them in the fellowship. I realised that even though I was not sinning outwardly, my heart was full of sinful thoughts. I repented of my sins and confessed them earnestly and prayed for God's mercy. When I was assured that my sins were forgiven, my sickness was not at all a problem for me. With that, the Lord healed me miraculously. Praise the Lord."

Q: *"What do you think of your illness now?"*

A: "Well, I feel, it was a good thing for me. The sickness enabled me to realise that the Christian life means it is a constant and ever vigilant watch against sin. Today, I am a fortunate man to

experience all this. As far as I am concerned, to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. Praise the Lord.”

Dear friend, like Dr. Geogi, have you experienced Jesus as the solution for sin and sickness? Prophet Isaiah prophesied the crucifixion and death of Jesus 750 years before His birth. We read thus in Isaiah 53:4:

*“Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows;
But He was wounded for transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement of our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed.”*

Do you believe that Christ’s blood will save you from all your sins? Do you believe that Christ’s stripes will heal you?

Now Christ is standing beside you with compassion and loving heart. He is extending His wounded hands towards you with kindness and mercy. Pray to Him, “Lord, please heal all my sin and sickness.” If you are willing to give your life to Jesus, tell Him your decision: “Jesus, because You died for me, I will live for You from today.” Praise the Lord. Let us pray:

“Jesus, our eternal Love, we praise you for dying on the cross to give us healing in spirit, mind and body. Bless all those who had heard this message. Sanctify all with Your precious blood. Grand healing to all those who believe. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Chapter –3

*Woman, your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you.
Go in peace – St. Luke 7:48,50*

Previously, we considered the subject, “**Peace of God**”. We saw how the peace of God comes through physical healing.

Now, let us meditate, in the light of the Scriptures, the subject “**Peace with God.**”

We read in the Epistle to the Romans, chapter 5, verse 1: “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (*KJV*)

The just God reckoning an unjust person just or sinless is justification. It is by the forgiveness of his sins that a sinner is recognised sinless.

We see this in Romans 3:23,24: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” (KJV) Praise the Lord.

The experience that the Lord gave to the sinful lady was a living example of this truth. The Lord told the sinful lady, “Woman, your sins are forgiven, go in peace.” She received peace with God. That is, she got reconciled with God. Thus she received inner peace.

Dear friend, do you live a reconciled life with God? Do you experience inner peace? Do you know why you don't have the peace of God? It is because you don't have peace with God?

Man does not have peace with God because of His sin.
The Scriptures say:

*“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened,
That it cannot save;
Nor His ear heavy,
That it cannot hear.”
But your iniquities have separated you from your God;
And your sins have hidden His face from you,
So that He will not hear. – Isaiah 59: 1,2. (KJV)*

2 Chronicles 24:20 says:

“Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken Him, He also has forsaken you.” (KJV)

It is sin that separates man from God. It is to reconcile sinful man with a just God that Jesus, Who was just, took the sin of man and died on the cross.

The eternal God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ. Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.’ 2 Corinthians 5:18-21.

The sinful lady left her sinful life and got reconciled with God. Thus she experienced true peace. Christ forgave her countless sins. She came to the feet of Jesus and cried for her sins with true repentance and remorse. Seeing her repentance, Christ gave her forgiveness of sins. With that tremendous joy flowed in to her heart.

“Go in peace, your sins are forgiven”, Christ said.

Dear friend, are you experiencing the healing that forgiveness of sins brings? Have you tasted the peace and calm that flow to your heart like a waterfall when your sins are forgiven?

Mr. U.T. George, who is working as an Executive Engineer in Kerala State Electricity Board, had given away a good portion of his youth to Satanic forces, being addicted to alcohol and movies. Let us hear how he obtained this peace of forgiveness of sins in his life.

Q: *“When did you acquire the habit of drinking?”*

A: “I started to drink when I was in the first year of my studies at Kothamangalam Engineering College. From the fourth standard in school, I was an altar boy in our parish church. I have completed tenth class in Sunday school. I got the second rank in the tenth class examination of the All Kerala Malankara Jacobite Sunday School Association. Later I became a teacher in Sunday school. But I was an addict to alcohol.”

Q: *“Do you remember any specific experience of the period when you were addicted to alcohol?”*

A: “Yes. As I was a student I could not afford expensive liquor. So I used to take the locally brewed alcohol, which was very strong and freely available near Kothamangalam. I celebrated

my pass in the engineering exam by drinking a cocktail of toddy and arrack at the 'Toddy Parlour' at Ernakulam. Following this, I was lying unconscious in the vomit for hours near the M.G. Road."

Q: *"How did you get out this bad habit?"*

A: "I neither expected nor desired that it should go. But my wife had received Jesus into her heart. This I did not know before marriage.

Leela kept on earnestly praying for me for ten long years with tears without giving up hope! Reluctantly yielding to her, I used to attend the meetings of Kolenchery Christian Revival Fellowship. But I was a mere spectator, an observer, resisting God's Words in my heart.

But one day, the Spirit of Christ caught hold of me. I prayed for Jesus to come into my heart. I dedicated my life to Jesus.

My entire life changed from that day. For the past fourteen years I have been living as a new person. Christ transformed

me from the one who resisted the Word to the one who preaches the Word. “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” Praise the Lord.”

Mr. U.T. George had said that Christ gave him inner transformation. Today, he experiences the comfort, freedom and peace of mind that comes with forgiveness of sins.

Have you heard of the great literary work Macbeth? Shakespeare portrays Macbeth and Lady Macbeth as troubled and distressed by their guilt. To wash away the stain of murder and the smell of blood, the insane Lady Mac Beth repeatedly applied expensive perfume on her hands. She laments in the end:

“All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.”

Is anyone, caught in the web of sin, listening to these words? Dear friend, beloved sister, is your heart tormented by the bitter fruits of your past sins? Are the deadly fruits of sin haunting you today?

If so, come at once to the holy blood of Jesus. “The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sins.”

Jesus loves you. Jesus calls with compassion. Will you hear the sweet voice of Jesus and come into His presence? Will you decide to bid farewell to sin and to begin a new life?

If you will, tell Jesus, Who is standing beside you, "Jesus, I will love You and live for You from today, because You loved me and died for me."

Let us pray, "Merciful God, we praise You for your love and care. Bless all those who had heard the Word. Give them the blessing of a new peaceful life. In the Name of Jesus. Amen.

Chapter – 4

Pursue peace with all men, and holiness - Hebrews 12: 14

- 1) Peace of God,
- 2) Peace with God,
- 3) Peace with all.

As we continue with the subject 'peace', today, let us consider the aspect, 'Peace with all.'

"Pursue peace with all men, and holiness." Heb. 12: 14(KJV)

If the peace of Christ is to dwell in our hearts, we must have peace with Christ; and peace with everyone.

I know a couple who were separated for almost three years because of the quarrels they had. It all started with misunderstandings, doubts and differences of opinion; which finally ended in their separation. Their only son stayed with the

father. Because of her resentment towards her husband, the mother did not even feel like seeing her son.

Fortunately, they happened to hear the Word of Christ. The love of Christ caught hold of them. Being convinced of their sin, they repented, asked forgiveness to each other and got reconciled. Today they live together in peace, oneness of mind and happiness.

My dear friend, who hears these words, is there resentment, ill feeling or anger towards anyone in your heart? Have you failed to forgive someone who has wronged you?

If so, just see the love and forgiveness of Christ on the cross.

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” How great is the love with which He prayed for those who crucified Him!

It is the same prayer that Stephen prayed when he was stoned to death, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.”

It is only when you receive and experience Christ that you are filled with love for all. It is only through the love of Christ that you can forget and forgive.

Christ taught us to pray, “Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”

Christ tells us, “If you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses.” Matt.6: 15 *(KJV)*.

There are many who are broken physically, mentally and spiritually, because of dissensions, disputes and quarrels. But many, who were without any peace, restless in mind and tormented are experiencing the amazing peace after receiving Jesus as their Saviour and Lord.

Friend, how about you?

“Pursue peace with all people, and holiness.”

Dear brother, beloved sister, are you able to maintain harmony and peace with all? Has not bitterness, ill feeling, resentment and anger piled up in your heart? Don't you have hatred in your heart towards somebody, though you don't show it

outside? Is there not dissent and disharmony between daughter-in-law and mother-in-law even now? Are you not losing your peace because of this?

My wife, Alice, was one mentally separated and tormented due to the resentment once she had towards my mother. Let us hear how peace came to Alice's life.

Q: *“What do you remember about the period when you had resentment towards your mother?”*

A: “I had absolutely no peace at all during that time. My only aim in life was to wear expensive clothes and live in style and pomp in the world. But, as you know, the situation in our house would not allow all that. I struggled inside, like a fish out of water. *Amma* used to scold me and find fault with me constantly.

I got disheartened, thinking that I had lost the good old days when I was a pet for all and lived comfortably in my house, receiving the love and affection of all. To express my resentment towards *Amma*, I used to beat our children unnecessarily.

I used to attend the church regularly, hear sermons and take part in the rituals and practices. But the fact is that I did not have Jesus in my heart. I did not have any peace of mind. Now I realise that I did not behave properly loving others. Actually, I was the root cause of the quarrels and absence of peace in the house.”

Q: *“Do you remember how a change came to this?”*

A: “Yes. For thirteen years since our marriage, I had been living with a tormented heart. At the age of twenty-nine, when we went to Ernakulam for shopping, I heard a gospel message. The message was about ‘happiness’; and that was what I too wanted. I prayed that day with a broken heart, “Lord, please give me this happiness.” Lifting up both hands, I submitted my life to the Lord right there.

I returned home with an amazing experience of happiness. From that day onwards, all the difficulties I had with *Amma* went away. We came to harmony. Soon, *Amma* also repented of her sins, and with that she had also great love, affection and oneness with me.”

Q: *“Now you are a mother-in-law of four. What is your advice to our listeners?”*

A: “Well, I consider all of them as if they are my own children. I have perfect harmony, happiness and peace with them. They also have the same attitude towards me.

When Christ comes into your life, you can forget and forgive through His love. He will give you patience and a tolerant heart.”

I strongly believe that these words of my wife will surely open the eyes of many daughters-in-law.

I have heard a very touching true story. There were some Christian monks, very holy and pious men, staying in a monastery. It happened long ago. One day, two of them went to market to buy provisions. They came back very late.

The other monks asked them why they were so late. Then they replied: “We saw men fighting in the market. Since it was new to us, we were watching it for a long time.”

“How did they fight?”

“We don’t know how to describe it, but we can demonstrate it.”

“Okay, let us see it.”

“One of you stand on one side of the table, another on the other side. This basket is kept in the middle of the table. First man should say: ‘This basket is mine’. Then the other should say: ‘No, it’s not yours, it’s mine’. Then there will be fight.”

“Okay, stand.”

They stood.

One man said: “This basket is mine.”

Immediately the other person said, “If it is so, then keep it.”

Then those who went to the market told them: “No, no. If you say like this, there won’t be any fight. When one man says it is his, the other should say assertively – ‘That’s not yours, but mine’. Then there will be a fight.”

Again they stood

One person said, "That basket is mine."

Again the other one immediately said, "If it is yours, please keep it."

The natural response was love.

Dear friend, how is your heart? Are you able to reconcile yourself with others? Is there division and dissension in the family because children are not taking care of their aged parents? Are brothers and neighbours living in hatred and dissensions? Dear friend, don't you know that you have to leave this world one day? Jesus is calling you to leave behind all vengeance, wickedness and hatred, and to begin a new life.

If you are submitting the rest of your life to Jesus, say this in your heart: "Jesus, because You died for me, I will live for You from today onwards." Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, we praise You for the divine thoughts. We praise You for teaching us to love. Bless all those who heard the Word. Hear this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter- 5

*“O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be to you as you desire.” – Matthew 15:28*

I read in a newspaper about a tragedy that occurred in a National park near Hyderabad. Tourists used to visit the park in armoured vehicles to have a close look at the wild animals. It helped them to watch the animals in their natural habitat.

One day, a group of tourists arrived there. As they were moving in their vehicle, they saw a group of tigers roaming around the forest.

The children shouted excitedly in the bus. A boy of six or seven was sitting in the lap of his grandfather and enjoying himself.

It happened all of a sudden. A tiger jumped and hit the side window glass of the bus; caught hold of the child and went away. The little boy struggled in the jaws of the tiger and cried aloud to the grandfather. No one could rescue him. All they could do was just cry. As they watched anxiously, the tiger went into the forest with the child. For some more time, they could hear his loud cries, and then faint moans.

Like the boy caught in the jaws of the tiger, many are bound in the hands of the Devil, the evil 'roaring lion'. They want to come out, but are unable to. Because of some sort of sins, evil habits and evil dispositions, Satan is crushing them in his mouth. There are many who are caught in the tangle of sins. People could not utter them openly and suffer under the slavery of Satan.

The most sinful woman in town, having lived an adulterous life, had given herself to Satan and was under the bondage of seven evil spirits. When she confessed her sins and opened her heart to Jesus, the evil spirits left her. We understand this when we read the gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 7, verses 36 to 51 and chapter 8, verses 1 to 3.

The Scripture gives the record of three families that had lost peace due to demon possession.

The first is the demon-possessed man in the country of the Gadarenes, seen in the fifth chapter of St. Mark. He was strong and ruthless and lived in the tombs shouting at and howling. He was not aware of his nakedness and did not wear any clothes. He used to bruise himself with stones. His family was in great distress; his wife and children lived day and night in fear and despair.

Jesus saw him and said: “Come out of the man, unclean spirit!”

The man, who was possessed by a legion, six thousand demons, came to his senses. In his right mind, as a transformed person, he returned to his house. He told his wife and children what Jesus had done and together they praised Almighty God.

We read in St. Matthew, chapter fifteen, verses 21 to 28 about a girl, who was tormented by demon possession. She was not in her right senses to come near Jesus.

Her mother came to Jesus and cried out: “My daughter is severely demon possessed.”

She kept on pleading to Jesus to have mercy on her. When Jesus saw her faith in Him, He said, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.”

That moment she was healed. The demon possession left her.

We read the third incident in St. Matthew, chapter seventeen, verses fourteen onwards. One man tells Jesus about his son’s demon possession. Very often, the demon used to push that boy into fire and water. Sometimes, he would fall unconscious on the floor, roll and thrash about. He would also froth at the mouth. In this pitiful state, that man asked Jesus to have mercy on his son. Jesus showed mercy. He rebuked the demon. He healed the boy.

Dear friend, is there someone in your family distressed by similar ordeal? Are you in the tangle of Satan today? The Lord Jesus, who came to destroy the works of the devil, lives even today. Jesus will remove the demonic oppression in you and your family. He will give you peace.

Mr. Kuriakose, staying near Marygiri Church, Aroor, who was in Thrissur Mental Hospital for quite a long time as he was

demon possessed and out of senses, is a sheer example of the wonderful deliverance by the Lord, who gave peace and relief to him. Let us ask about the wonderful things that had happened in the life of Mr. Kuriakose, who, with his whole family is actively taking part in the Christian Revival Fellowship:

Q: *“Mr. Kuriakose, do you remember the time or the incident when you had lost your senses?”*

A: “Yes, I remember it very well. I was born and brought up in a poor Jacobite family. We were day-labourers and had to do labour-work to earn our livelihood. Both my wife and I had to go for the work daily. The three children we had used to go to the school.

One day, while I was working in a nearby house, I felt some sort of uneasiness for no reason known to me. I was shouting and making noises as if I were out of senses. Since my father and younger brother were insane for some time, I heard the people, who were working with me, saying that I was also insane.

With great difficulty, my relatives and others took me in a taxi and admitted me in the Thrissur Mental Hospital.”

Q: *“Was there any relief as a result of the treatment?”*

A: “I was treated there for a long time. They tried various types of medicines. Seeing no effect, they even tried electric shock treatment several times. Finally, seeing no result, they gave me some tablets and sent me out along with my relatives.”

Q: *“How was the insanity gone?”*

A: “After I was admitted in the hospital, my wife had an opportunity to attend one of the Gospel Conventions of this Fellowship. She went there because a servant-of-God near our house gave her a notice and invited her to attend the convention at Kolenchery. That day, she gave her life to the Lord.

My wife was so desperate that she was planning to commit suicide. I was in the hospital; our three children were in utter poverty finding it difficult even to fill their empty stomachs. If she alone goes for working, how much can she bring in? Poor lady! On that day Christ touched her heart. The despair went away from her life. She came back with a new hope.

When I came back from hospital, she lovingly insisted me to attend the Gospel meetings in your house. I regularly attend the meetings. Lord had done a great miracle in me. The mental problem had completely gone. For the last fourteen years I am very comfortable even with out a tablet.”

Q: *“What is your present experience?”*

A: “Now I am living in complete peace. Lord had taken away all the poverty and hardship. My children had established a dental lab in Muvattupuzha. They are maintaining the lab prosperously by giving training and job to about fifty persons.

The most important thing that the Lord had done in my life is, He had taken away the innumerable sins and curses from my life. He has given the grace to experience deep sanctification. Daily, he is guiding me by giving the realisation of sin and deep experiences.”

God gave Mr. Kuriakose a sober mind. Will you receive that Jesus as your Saviour and Lord?

If so, pray: Lord, though I look sober outwardly, there are lot of demons in my heart as there are many sins in my life. Lord, be merciful to me and rebuke all evil spirits in me by the blood on Your Cross and make me Yours. I hereby confess that I will lead a new life from today onwards. Have mercy on me. Hear my prayer. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter-6

“If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace!” - Luke 19: 42

We have been thinking about peace. We have already seen that to have the peace of God, we must have peace with God and peace with all.

We had considered how our heart is destroyed by Satan and his evil spirits and how the amazing grace of Christ liberates us from them. Today let us look at the heavenly advice that reminds us not to reject the opportunity that God makes for us to receive this divine peace. Let me read Luke 19: 42 as the basis for this:

“If you had known, even you, the especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace!” Jesus is weeping when He tells this. He is weeping because man is ignoring the peace that is at his doorstep pleading with him. Jesus is weeping looking at the city of Jerusalem. Jesus is weeping because Jerusalem

had rejected the Word – the fountain of life, from the Saviour himself with out knowing its value, which was given to them for the past three-and-a-half years. Jesus is weeping with pain because the people of that generation had rejected the divine blessing even though the heaven had come down to the earth.

Voltaire was on his deathbed. He was an atheist and a great philosopher. He had many disciples and followers. But he became very depressed when he came close to his death. He realised that atheism was a mistake.

He pleaded to the doctor who was treating him, “Can my life be extended to at least six months more?”

“No, as per medical science, you won’t live for even six more weeks. Tell me, why do you want to live for six more months?”

Voltaire replied: “To tell the world that Jesus Christ is God and that the whole world must receive Him as Saviour.”

“Dear friend, you are too late.” The doctor’s reply sent Voltaire into deeper depression.

He told his disciples who were near his deathbed: “Can you bring a Christian minister who will pray for me?”

They did not go.

With great despair he lamented: “God forsook me; alas, you also have forsaken me.”

That renowned thinker was drifting towards death. When he became conscious in between, he looked at the people around him and cried sobbing: “Oh! I am sinking deep, deep into the fire of hell. Who can rescue me from this fire of hell?”

Dear friends, he spent the years when he was in good health insulting, mocking and opposing Christ. He could not have hope in his deathbed. He did not do what was needed for his peace. Dear friend, are you wasting away time, not listening to the word of life, which comes to you?

Are you still rejecting Christ, who is knocking at your heart, telling that He will forgive all the sins of your past and give you a new peace?

Apostle Paul says: “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” 2 Corinthians 6:2. (KJV)

*“In an acceptable time I have heard you,
And in the day of salvation I have helped you.”
2 Corinthians 6: 2, Isaiah 49:8. (KJV)*

And the LORD said, “My Spirit must not forever be disgraced in man, wholly evil as he is. I will give him 120 years to mend his ways.” Genesis 6: 3. (*Living Bible*)

The LORD had said this in the time of Noah. Noah believed the Word of God, obeyed and built an ark. He opened the door of the ark and invited the people saying, “A great flood is coming. Make haste, come into ark and escape.” No one entered the ark except for a few.

The people, who had never seen it rain, did not believe that it would rain and that there would be flood. When the flood came, they were bewildered. They rushed to the ark to escape and pleaded for their lives. But the door of the ark was already closed.

“He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens”, whose hands had already shut the door. Every body was perished in the God’s judgement.

Even now, Christ is inviting everyone with his open heart. The day will come, when Christ, Who is now sitting in the mercy seat, will sit in the judgment throne. Receive Christ as your Lord and Saviour and receive eternal life so that you will not be dismayed on that day. Please do not waste even a moment.

In the incident of Lazarus and the rich man in Luke 16, we read that the rich man died and was buried. Though he had a decent burial, his soul is tormented in hell. Even though he is looking up and pleading, it is too late.

“Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears” Hebrews 12: 16, 17 (*KJV*).

“If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace!” Jesus invites you to give you peace and eternal rest.

Dear friend, will you listen to the loving call of Christ? If so, come immediately; receive Jesus, the Ark of grace. May God help you for that. Let us pray.

Merciful God, thank You for dying on the cross to give us divine peace, which surpasses all understanding. Help us to enjoy the peace that comes by Your hand in this world and in the world to come. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Chapter – 7

*Then He arose and rebuked the wind and
said to the sea, "Peace, be still!"
And the wind ceased and
there was a great calm – St. Mark 4:39*

Dear brother who is distressed by the storm, is your heart raging like the turbulent sea? Are giant waves of the tumultuous sea lashing against your heart and churning it? Are you about to drown in the waves of the sea, without receiving peace?

If so, ask Jesus. Jesus will rebuke the wind and the sea. Jesus is able to suppress the opposing forces. He is the Amazing Man, Who can suppress the forces of nature to His command. Jesus Christ is the Son of God, Who has the authority to bring the waves to submission.

"The wind ceased; and there was a great calm."

The unexpected death of the husband or the accidental death of the wife, or the heavy burden of debt, or the unforeseen

loss in business, the unexpected failure in exams, children going astray and behaving without prudence, the loss of a job which was almost at hand, the unexpected loss of ways of income, the lack of understanding between husband and wife because of some misunderstanding or suspicion in either of them, facing severe competition or backbiting in the office or place of work, sorrowful and frustrated because there are no children after many years of marriage - how many are hearing these words whose lives are tossed about by one or more of these storms and are drifting, broken and shattered, in the endless sea?

Friend, dear sister, invite Jesus to your lifeboat. If He is in your heart, he will take care of you.

“Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”

- 1 Peter 5: 7

Jesus rebuked the forces of nature. Today many are looking at astrology and horoscopes, which tell them about their ‘stars’ and ‘time’, causing them a lot of anxiety.

There are many who live in great apprehension, fearful of their ‘evil times’ due to movement of Saturn. Many lament that it is time of ‘*rahu*’, which is causing losses. Many live in dread,

counting the days of evil influence of the sun and the unfavourable planets.

Dear friend, if the Sun of righteousness rises in your life, no *star* or horoscope can do any harm to you. No sorcery will touch you.

“No plague shall come near you.”

“The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.”

*“For there is no sorcery against Jacob,
Nor any divination against Israel.”* - Numbers 23: 23 (KJV)

Sorcery, witchcraft, black magic; none of these things, which you think others have done against you will touch you.

But only one condition. As it is written in Numbers 23: 21, “He has not observed iniquity in Jacob.” “The Lord his God is with him.” We must forsake sin.

Can you lead a holy life, not grieving the Lord, Who sees the secret things?

*Then surely, "Your light shall break forth like the morning,
Your healing shall spring forth speedily,
And your righteousness shall go before you;
The glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you will call and the Lord will answer;
You shall cry and He will say, 'Here I am.'*

- Isaiah 58: 8-9.(KJV)

Ammini, wife of Jose, who is a mason, had decided to end her life because of the sorrow and disappointment she underwent. Let us ask Ammini, who lives in the High Ranges near Thokkupara, how the storms in her life were calmed.

Q: *"What was the cause for the disappointment in your life?"*

A: "There was absolutely no harmony between us. Several times we came to the conclusion that we could not live together. I don't know why, but we never got separated. We did not have any children, even though many years had passed since we got married. We were poor and struggled hard even to have food. Both of us were quite depressed."

Q: *"With all these disappointments, what did you decide to do?"*

A: "I had decided to end my life. One day when my husband went for work, I decided, 'I should put an end to my life today

itself.' I decided to use one of my saris, like a rope; tie it on the rafter and hang myself on it. I closed the door and windows and started twisting the sari.

Then I heard a knock at the door. When I opened the door, my husband was standing there. He was looking quite tired and exhausted. He said that he decided not to go to work as he was very tired. So he came back after going some distance."

Q: *"How did you receive peace after all this?"*

A: "Both of us went to a house for a Christian Revival Fellowship prayer meeting. The message that we heard there touched our hearts. When the call came to submit our lives to Jesus' hands, we both gave our lives into the hands of Jesus. With that, great peace came to our lives."

Q: *"What is your experience now?"*

A: "After repentance, we both experienced great joy in your hearts. In one delivery the Lord gave us twin-boys. What

tremendous peace we have now! What a calm! We just want to live without grieving the Lord. Praise the Lord!”

The Christ, Who transformed the lives of José and Ammini, lives even today. Do you want the peace that Christ gives? Dear brother, do you desire to live a peaceful family life?

If so, give your life into the hands of Christ. Tell Him, “From today onwards I belong to You.”

Let us pray together. Lord Jesus, I submit my life into Thy hands. Wash my countless sins by Your precious blood and make me Your son and heir. Hear this prayer as I say this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Chapter- 8

“When shall I also provide for my own house?”

- Genesis 30:30.

It is Jacob, the son of Isaac and the grand-son of Abraham, who is asking this question with disappointment, “When shall I also provide for my own house?”

Jacob, who had lived the past twenty years in the in his uncle Laban’s house in Haran, far away from his own home, separated from his parents, his father’s house and his country; laments that his years have been wasted.

He served Laban seven years, but only got Leah and another seven years for Rachel’s sake. The following six years he spent for Laban’s cattle.

Looking back, Jacob realised that he did not store up anything for himself. It is at the time of great disappointment and grief, that causes him to say, “When shall I also provide for my own house?” - Genesis 30:30.

Years back, Jacob had heard the testimonies of Abraham, his grandfather, sitting beside him. Isaac's wedding was at the age of forty and his children Esau and Jacob were born at the age of sixty. When Jacob was born, Abraham was 160 years old. Abraham died at the age of 175.

Till the age of fifteen, Jacob had grown up with his grandfather. During that period, Abraham used to tell his grandchild how he took Isaac for sacrifice and other such incidents. The grandfather, after describing these events, had taught him that *Jehovah Jireh* -God sees and God cares.

Here, the grandson of that grandfather is sobbing and saying, "When shall I also provide for my house?" Today, there are many like Jacob, who look to the future with deep sighs unable to have the experiences of their forefathers.

He has Leah and Rachel as wives. There are eleven children. Joseph is also born. But nothing satisfies him. He was not satisfied with the things that he had received and Jacob is troubled by lack of peace and discontentment. He has forgotten all that his grandfather has taught him. Where are the experiences of *Jehovah Jireh* -God Provides-, which he had heard from Abraham's own lips?

Dear friends, beloved sisters, are you also grieved, anxious and disappointed about your future? Are you troubled, your heart broken and in turmoil? Are you living in unhappiness and dissatisfaction?

Then listen: about two thousand years after Jacob had asked this question, apostle Peter said on the basis of his own experience, “Cast all your care upon Him for He cares for you.” Thus the answer for the question, “When shall I also provide for my own house?” was given by Simon Peter centuries later. Jesus will provide for you. Praise the LORD.

Peter remembers the day when he sat in disappointment, unable to catch even a single fish from the Sea of Galilee. It was a day of hunger for the house of the poor fisherman. Peter remembers Jesus walking into his boat when he sat there weary and depressed, with his chin resting on his hand. Jesus got into the boat. Praise the Lord.

A miracle happens in that boat. A huge catch of fish when they lowered the net into the sea, heeding the words of Jesus. Where did these fish come from? Hearing the voice of their Creator all the fish of the Sea of Galilee rush to the boat. ‘Jesus

the Master got into the boat, Jesus provided for me.’ That was Peter’s testimony.

Dear child of God who is murmuring, “When shall I also provide for my house?” Jesus will provide for you.

The psalmist David said, “Cast your burden upon the LORD, and He shall sustain you; He shall never allow the righteous to be moved.” Praise the Lord.

Yes friend, experience the free justification that Jesus offers; wash your past sins in the precious blood of Christ and live a justified life from today. Christ will care for you.

*“Praise be to the LORD, to God our Saviour, Who daily bears our burdens. Our God is a God Who saves.”
- Psalms 68:19-20.*

The psalmist sang again, “I will cry out to God most high, to God who performs all things for me.” Psalms. 57:2

Personally speaking, I had lived a disappointed and disheartened life. I was born in a little village called Kadayiruppu, near Kolenchery, in a middle class agricultural family. When I was one year old, my father died at the age of 33. Two other children

had also died. One year after I was born, my father died and two years later my brother also died; a family with a history of four consecutive deaths.

With no one to do the cultivation and attend the farm, everything became desolate. My mother, sister and I were in great despair and distress. I remember the days when we were restless and hopeless.

But when I was seventeen years of age, I had attended a prayer meeting in our parish church. The word of God spoken by a servant of God on that day broke my heart.

I realised that my spirit was dead because of sin and that just like Lazarus was lying in the tomb decayed and stinking, my heart was defiled by sinful thoughts and filthy passions. When the speaker said that Lazarus' tomb had no bad smell outside, but it was inside that everything had become rotten, I realised that it too was my condition. Externally I had prayer, piety, church, worship and rituals all in order. Without getting involved in wrong activities or bad company, I led a disciplined life externally. But my heart was fully rotten. Unclean desires, dirty thoughts and pride of life filled my heart.

That day I pleaded to Jesus with an open heart, “Lord, resurrect me. As You gave life to Lazarus, give life to me also.”

How wonderful! I got up from that place with measureless peace. I remember just one thing; I said, “Lord, from today onwards I am yours.” Christ filled me with peace.

From that day, He cared for me spiritually and materially. God provided for me. I passed B.A, B.Ed and M.A with rank from Kerala University. When I retired as the principal on May 31, 1997, I praised God with gratitude and love. I praised Christ with a grateful heart for taking care of me.

Dear friend, beloved sister, do you believe that Jesus will care for you? Do you believe that to remove all your sins and to redeem you, He had shed innocent blood on the cross?

If so, let us pray, “LORD, I consecrate myself today as Your possession at your wounded feet. Make me Your child. Give me the grace to love, serve and worship Jesus, Who cares for me; and to live in expectation of His Second Coming. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Chapter -9

“How long will you falter between two opinions?”

- 1Kings 18: 21.

Elijah was a prophet who lived 2700 years ago. He treasured greatly the fear of God and purity of life.

It was the time when people left true worship and started worshipping idols of Baal. Idol worship increased because of the support and encouragement of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. Those who were concerned with worship in truth, were hiding; they lived in constant fear for their lives and were afraid of persecution.

Elijah alone was ready to oppose idol worship and to stand for truth and justice. Elijah asked the multitude at Mount Carmel, “How long will you falter between two opinions?”

Standing against the power of evil is often dangerous. It is really a blessing if one is able to stand against the authority of darkness. That is a wonderful grace. Elijah knew that the eternal

God was with him. He was confident that he was taking each step according to the command of God.

See how earnestly he was saying,, “The Lord Almighty Whom I serve.” With great boldness Elijah asks all the people, the prophets of Baal and the prophets of Asherah, to come together on Carmel.

It is always the brave who hate evil and stand for good; but they will be a minority. When all the people had gathered, Elijah asks them, “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is good follow Him, if Baal, follow him.”

Dear friend, do you think that you can follow the world and God at the same time? If you are following the pride of the world, you cannot pursue the reproach of Christ.

See what the Lord says about Moses in the epistle to the Hebrews:

“Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt.” Heb.11: 24-27 (*KJV*).

If he desired, Moses could have become the next Pharaoh. He could have acquired the great treasures, the glorious riches and the power and authority of ancient Egypt. Moses decided to move on leaving all that, his eyes on the eternal God. Dear friend, are you able to count all the greatness that the world offers as futile?

Look at the life of apostle Paul. He threw away all earthly honour, which he was proud of, for the sake of Christ!

“Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.” Philippians 3: 5-7(*KJV*).

It is because he could count all the glories of the world as rubbish that Apostle Paul could shake the first century Asia and Europe with the gospel.

But unfortunately, today many are trying to take God and the world together. They are trying to be godly and worldly at the same time. In the spiritual field also we see such children of God. We see them in the areas of worldly greatness and also in spiritual circles. They don't realise the danger of travelling with their feet on two boats.

Dr. K. T. Paulose was a person who travelled with his feet on two boats. Let us find out the experience of Dr. K.T.Paulose, who is a famous Orthodontist who got his B.D.S and M.D.S from Trivandrum Medical College with high rank.

Q: *“Doctor, could you please describe the spiritual aspect of your life?”*

A: “I was born and brought up in the ancient Nechupadam family of Kolenchery, which has an Orthodox tradition. We had very disciplined prayers, rituals, church attendance, fasting etc. I strived to create an impression that I was a good person. But I did not have the understanding that Christ was not in me and that I would go into hell if I passed away.

Q: *“When did that true understanding come to you?”*

A: "I happened to have a talk with a holy man of God. It was when he asked me to examine whether my personal life was holy, that I was aware of my spiritual state. Till then, I used to fast according to the custom of the church. But on the last day of the fast, we all used to drink together in our house. I used to drink on the days without the fast. I used to get toddy from the palm tress in our house.

I used to have a prominent place in the Lion's club, Y.M.C.A, church managing committee, Orthodox Medical Students' Association and church choir.

I used to listen to gospel messages and preach the gospel myself. I was actively involved in the voluntary gospel association of the church.

But my heart was full of filth. I was a slave to many evil habits and evil practices, which are shameful to be mentioned in public. Since I seemed to be decent and noble in my public life, I thought that my soul had no problems at all.

My prime aim in life was to become great in the world, to win the accolades of the world and to amass a lot of money. My sole aim in life was the world and self-exaltation. Since I

received all the worldly things I prayed for, I believed that Christ was in me.

When that holy man of God asked me what Christ did for me, I said God gave me all that I prayed for. He gave me good education, a decent job, healthy children, healing, wealth, and many other things.

Aren't all these, things of the world? When that man of God told me that Christ died on the cross to give eternal life to the soul from slavery of Satan and sin, I realised that my piety was not sincere and that it was just a way to get the things done for me. Thus that holy servant of God made me realise that I was standing on two boats."

Q: *"What did you do when you understood this truth?"*

A: "I realised that my secret life was unholy and that only if my heart was very pure, Christ- the Holy God- would come and dwell there. From that day I began to look at my personal life and to repent. True repentance broke my heart. I realised that I was a whitewashed sepulchre.

That child of God told me that the blood of Jesus Christ was sufficient to cleanse my heart. He reminded me that our sanctification was the will of God. I resolved not to keep my feet on two boats.

That moment, a great peace rushed into my heart. Christ became the Helmsman of my boat. I discovered with wonder how happy and sweet the Christian life was. Today I experience a tremendous peace in my life. Praise be to God.”

Is there anyone reading these words with the same experience of Dr. K.T. Paulose? Dear friend, who is standing in two boats, desiring both God and the world, make a definite decision today. Christ living in your heart is an investment for eternity.

Christ said in His sermon on the mount, “No man can serve two masters.”

Dear friend, are you standing with your feet on two boats? Enter the boat of life without a moment’s delay. Behold the ark of life is kept open. Enter the ark of life before the great flood comes.

“Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.” Is. 55:6

Dear friend, do not waste this time of blessing. Behold the sacred heart of Jesus is kept open. Any sinner can enter there. Take a firm pledge that I will not keep my feet on two boats from now. Stick close to Christ and stand on His side. Bid farewell to the ethics, standards and glory of the world.

Let us pray together. Dear Jesus, who sacrificed Your life on the cross for our life and salvation, we come to You taking refuge in Your precious blood. I vow that henceforth I will not keep my feet on two boats. Revive me, bless me. Enable me to inherit eternal life. In Jesus' name. Amen. Praise the Lord.

Chapter – 10

*“Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband?
Is it well with the child?” - 2 Kings 4:26.*

It is comforting if there is someone to be with us during the time of distresses, pains, troubles and sufferings. What a comfort it is if there is someone to speak to us to soothe our hearts and inquire of our well being. If the one who comforts us seeing our agony is a noble person, our hearts definitely will be thrilled.

But if the eternal God comes down to our personal life and inquires about our well being and cares for us, what a tremendous blessing it is. We see in 2 Kings chapter 4, verse 26, how in an amazing way God saw the crisis in the family and personal life of a woman, enquired about her welfare and provided a solution for her problem.

“Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?”

The Shunammite's house was host to the prophet Elisha. It is a privilege, a blessing, to honour God and the children of God. The rich Shunammite woman invited the prophet to her house. Gave him food. Made a room in the upper floor for him and honoured him. It is recorded in our Lord's Scriptures in Matt. 10:40-42:

“He who receives you receives Me and he who receives Me receives Him who sent me. He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”(KJV)

As the Shunammite testifies, Elisha was a holy man of God. When they received him into their house, God gave the solution to a crucial problem in their family.

When Martha received Jesus into their little house in Bethany, an amazing peace, calm and blessing came to that house.

At the wedding of Cana also, a solution came for the problem when Jesus was invited in.

Dear brother, have you received Jesus as your Saviour and Lord? Have you invited Jesus into your life? Have you welcomed into the inner chambers of your heart? If you have done so, it is a great blessing.

When each one went to his own house, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus, Who had no one to invite him and no one to receive Him, went to the Mount of Olives. Dear friend, Jesus is standing at the door of your heart. Receive Him, accept Him, invite Him, persuade Him, welcome Him and make yours the peace and well being He offers.

The Shunammite did not have a child. The prophet committed the need of the family into the hands of God. The eternal God had mercy on that woman. Within a year she became the mother of a sweet child.

There, the child grew. There is great rejoicing in the house. Praise is pouring forth continually in the house.

But the rejoicing did not last for long. One day, early in the morning, there was an unexpected calamity. The boy had a severe headache. The boy, who was rejoicing himself in the field in the company of his father, suddenly cried out, “My head, my head.” The child was brought to the house quickly. The Shunammite laid her son on her lap and kept praying for her child. But the child lived only till noon.

When the child had woken up in the morning, he had no sickness at all. He had gone to the field with his father all excited and full of energy. But by noon he was no more. Was the mother perplexed? Was she shocked? The Scriptures did not mention anything.

Soon she regained her courage. She did not lose hope and stood firm in her faith. She laid the child’s body on the prophet’s bed.

Dear child of God, when you are caught in the whirlpool of troubles, when you are lost and weary in the endless sea, when all the doors before you are shut, when fear and panic fills up in you, run to the foot of the cross. Rush to His divine feet. Open your heart. Tell everything openly to Him.

“Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you shall glorify Me.” - Psalm 50: 15 (KJV).

When the woman came running, the prophet asked her tenderly, “Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with your child?” How kind a voice it is! How soothing the words are!

What will she reply? Well with her? Well with her husband? Her beloved child is dead. She is filled with gloom. Yet the Shunammite told her problem openly. She removed the burden from her shoulder. The prophet came to her house.

When Elisha came into the house, he saw the boy lying dead on his bed. He went in; shut the door so that he was alone with the boy; and prayed to the Lord. God saw the tears of his devotee. The Lord heard the pleading of his servant.

Amazing! The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. The man of God told the Shunammite, “Pick up your son.” We read, ‘she went in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground; then she picked up her son and went out.’ Praise be to God.

Is there anyone listening to this voice whose soul is dead?

“The wages of sin is death.” - Rom. 6: 23

“The soul who sins shall die.” - Ezek. 18: 14

*“In the day that you eat of it (sin) you shall surely die.”
- Gen. 2: 17*

“Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.” - James 1: 15

Let the one who is conscious that his soul is dead, plead to the creator of souls.

“I have come that they may have life, and that you may have it more abundantly.” - John 10: 10.

Christ died on the cross to give life to us who are dead in our sins.

*“The dead do not praise the Lord,
Nor any who go down into silence.” - Psalm 115: 17.*

Praise is the heart beat of the soul. That is the worship.

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.” - Ps 150:6

The forefathers, who experienced this, prayed:

“Keep us Lord, from being silent in praising You or refraining from exalting You.”

The greatest miracle is the dead in spirit becoming live.

Dear friend, Christ can give you forgiveness of sins and life in your spirit. Will you call upon Jesus? Will you despise and forsake your sinful life and plead with Jesus for life?

The Almighty, Who resurrected the Shunammite’s son, will also give you life. Believing this, tell to Jesus, “Lord, since You gave Your life for me, I will live for You.”

Let us pray, “Our Lord in heaven, merciful Jesus, we praise You that there is solution for all problems at Your feet. O, Jesus, Who seeks the welfare of man and Who died a very painful death on the cross for the man, I submit myself at Your feet. Accept me, bless me. Bless all those heard the message. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Chapter – 11

*“Loose the bonds of wickedness; undo the bonds of the yoke;
break every yoke.” - Isaiah 58: 6*

This is the fiftieth anniversary of India's independence. We heard about and saw some of the Jubilee celebrations. The twentieth century witnessed many nations gaining independence. It is true that many external bondages of political and social life had gone. But when we consider whether man's inner bondage is broken, we stand speechless before the truth. Man is trapped in many internal conflicts from which he cannot escape.

750 years before the birth of Christ, that is, 2750 years ago, the eternally holy God exhorted mankind through the prophet Isaiah:

“Loose the bonds of wickedness” – Isaiah 58: 6.

God is telling to a group of people, who are self satisfied, believing that they are leading a noble life of rituals and traditions, “Loose the bonds of wickedness.”

They ask God, “Lord, we fast regularly, but You don’t see it. We do acts of penance, remain watchful, repent, pray. But You don’t see any of these. Why?”

God says, ‘Pleasing God is not doing some rituals.’

*“Indeed you fast for strife and debate,
And to strike with the fist of wickedness.
You will not fast as you do this day,
To make your voice heard on high.” - Isaiah 58: 4(KJV).*

That means you have wicked bondages within you. Disputes, fights, litigation, evil thoughts, materialism, jealousy, slothfulness, falsehood, hypocrisy, drunkenness, prostitution; there are a number of such bondages in the soul. God says in this portion that unless such bondages are loosened, no prayer or good works will be pleasing in His presence. This is what David says in the psalm, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.”

Different types of bondages keep men enslaved.

First, the bondage of sin or wickedness.

In Acts 8: 23, apostle Peter tells Simon the sorcerer, “For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity,”

In the Living Bible it says, “I can see that there is jealousy and sin in your heart.”

In the New International Version it says, “Your heart is not right before God. Repent of this wickedness and pray to the LORD; for I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin.”

The apostle sees the heart of Simon, who was a sorcerer, in the bondage of sins of self exaltation, desire for power, and position, jealousy and bitterness.

Dear friend, who is hearing these words, what are the sins to which your heart is enslaved? Do you believe the verse, “The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin?”

The song writer says,

“Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power,
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?”

The Bible says, *“He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.”* - Proverbs 28: 13.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” - 1John 1: 9

Jesus died on the cross, taking all the sin of man on Himself. The Christ Who was just, shed His innocent blood on the cross like an unjust man, so that the sinful man can be justified.

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become the children of God, to those who believed in His Name.” - John 1: 12.

Second, the bondage of Satan.

In St. Luke 13: 16, we see, “So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound - think of it - for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond?”

She was bent over because Satan had bound her for eighteen years. Jesus had compassion on her. Immediately, she was made straight and she glorified God.

Many are bound by Satan. Jesus removed the bondage from Mary Magdalene, who was bound with seven demons.

The Lord approached the demonised man in the region of Gadarenes, who was bound by six thousand demons and released him from his bondage and gave him a sober mind.

Even today the Lord is loosening the bondages of many. There are many who have been set free from the bondages of alcohol, marijuana, drugs and various other evil habits and evil addictions.

“The Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the work of the devil.” 1John 3: 8

Dear friend, will you have a look at your life today? Are you under the bondage of anger, stubbornness, vengeance, hatred, displeasure, impure passions, desires, wicked thoughts and unclean fantasies from which you cannot come out, even though you have attempted again and again? Believe that Christ can loosen your bondage. Take refuge at His feet.

Experience the washing by the blood of Jesus. Decide that you will not give in to sin again. Bid forever to sinful habits and practices.

Third, the bondage of sickness.

In St. Luke 13: 12, Jesus tells the hunchbacked lady that she is loosed from her infirmity. She was under the infirmity of being bent over. Jesus saw her and had compassion on her. The Creator looked with pity at the created one walking over, unable to straighten up at all. Jesus kept His hand on the poor woman who suffered, unable to stand up straight. Immediately she was made straight and she glorified God.

Dear brother, beloved sister, if you are troubled and anxious about any illness, Jesus is merciful, He is the God of comforts.

"I am the LORD who heals you." - Exodus 15: 26

*"Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases." - Psalm 103:3.*

*"The LORD will strengthen him on his bed of illness,
You will sustain him on his sickbed." - Psalm 41: 3.*

In the 'Arabian Nights', there is the story of Sinbad the Sailor. He came ashore an island after a shipwreck. Though he

thought that it was an uninhabited island, he saw an old man sitting there.

Sinbad took that invalid old man on his shoulder as requested by him and walked on all fours. When he saw that the old man was not getting down even after a long time, Sinbad tried to shake him off. It was only then that he realised the strength of the old man.

When Sinbad realised that he was a demon known as '*Old man of the sea*', he became afraid. He realised the old man of the sea was sitting in his shoulder so that he could eat Sinbad when he gets weak and tired. The story says that Sinbad managed to shake him off and ran away when the old man got drunk with a wild fruit.

In the same way, Satan is sitting on the shoulders of many and crushing them. Satan is playing with the lives of many youngsters, destroying them and rendering them useless.

Dear friend, is this your state? Is Satan taking you through forbidden paths?

Loosen the bondages of wickedness. Submit your life at the foot of the cross. Take refuge in the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross. Receive the Lord Jesus as your personal Saviour in your heart. Bid farewell to the sinful life forever.

If you are willing, say thus, "Jesus, Lord, from today onwards I belong to You."

Let us pray. Merciful God. Jesus, Who died for me on the cross, I praise You for calling me to take refuge in Your holy blood. Thank You for binding yourself on the cross by three nails to loosen me from all bondages of Satan. Lord, sanctify me. Bless all those who have heard the Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter -12

“Let My people go, that they may worship Me.” - Exodus 8: 1

We looked at God’s command to loosen the wicked bonds. Let us meditate why the bonds should be loosened.

The Lord says, “Let My people go, that they may worship Me.”-Exodus 8:1

“Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.” - Exodus 5: 1

The people of Israel are under the slavery of Pharaoh in Egypt. They had come to Egypt in chariots in celebration and joy. 430 years later, they leave Egypt crushed and broken after slavery under Pharaoh. Moses, who God used to deliver them from Egypt, tells Pharaoh,

“Let My people go, that they may worship Me.”

The people of God spent more than four hundred years without worshipping God. Later the prophet Hosea said,

“For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim. Afterward the children of Israel shall return, seek the LORD their God and David their king, and fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.” Hosea 3: 4-5(KJV).

A period, when the people, who had once known the God, lived without acknowledging Him. A period, when the people, who had once worshipped the God, lived without worship.

Apostle Paul reminded the Christians in Ephesus about their earlier days.

“At that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.” Ephesians 2: 12(KJV).

Dear friend, do you have the fortune of knowing God and worshipping Him with the people of God? Do you have the blessed experience of worshipping God in spirit and in truth? Jesus is able to restore worship in your life. Jesus is willing to do it.

There is no worship when under slavery of Pharaoh. It is not possible to worship under bondage of Satan. That is why God tells Pharaoh, “Let My people go, that they may worship Me.”

David prays, *“Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Your Name.” - Psalm 142: 7*

Pharaoh is unwilling to release the people of God from his grip. Dear friend, Satan is making you do bonded labour. Satan’s strategy is to entice you towards sin and the world and to enslave you to sin.

Satan, who deceived man in the Garden of Eden is trying to take you away from fellowship with God by the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life.

God revealed His amazing power to Pharaoh. There were signs and wonders. But Pharaoh did not allow the people to leave. Pharaoh used four ploys.

One. *“Go, sacrifice to your God in the land.” - Exodus 8: 25*

Satan gives us with the thought that we can worship God even when remaining in his territory. Most of the worships, which are carried out as rituals, which are caught up in certain customs, are made with out getting released from Satan’s bondage.

When Pharaoh saw that Moses did not yield, he used a second ploy. Pharaoh says, “I will let you go, that you may

sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away.” Exodus 8: 28.

Satan will try to keep many children of God from leaving his sphere of control.

When Pharaoh saw that Moses did not yield even to this, he used a third ploy, “Go now, you who are men, and serve the Lord.” Exodus 10:11

A fourth ploy is also tried by Pharaoh, “Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back.” Exodus 10:24

Pharaoh calculates that if they left their belongings there, they will return. Satan’s strategy is that people would return to his hands even though they have left them for the time being.

If, like Moses, we don’t yield to all these with courage and faith, we can worship in truth. Praise be to God.

Worship is celebration; worship is sacrifice. We see this when we read Exodus 5:1-3

“Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness” – Exodus 5:1

“Let us go three days’ journey into the desert and sacrifice to the LORD our God.” – Exodus 5:3

Offering oneself as a sacrifice in joyful Spirit-filled celebration makes life a blessing. That is true consecration.

When the Lord tells about the man who sells all that he has and buys a field with hidden treasures, He says that he sells all that he has out of joy.

Dear friend, it is not with hesitation, fear, shyness and faltering steps that one denies himself and chooses the way of the cross. Sacrifice is recognising Christ’s love on the cross and loving that love in return. That is worship. Without such sacrifice, there is no worship.

Christ offered Himself as the supreme sacrifice. It is a blessing to consecrate oneself at the feet of Jesus, counting all as rubbish for the sake of love towards Jesus, just as Jesus died on the cross for man’s remission of sins. This involves a sacrifice. There is celebration because this involves liberation from the

bondage to Satan with loosening of the bonds of sin. There is also the song of praise there.

Why this loosening of the bonds? Not just for worship.

“If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you loosing it?’, thus you shall say to them, ‘Because the Lord has the need of it.’” – Luke 19: 31

The donkey was tied to break its neck and to kill it. Exodus 13:13, 34:20.

See the incomparable love of Christ, Who loosened the one who was tied up by Satan to be pushed into eternal damnation, so that he could carry the King of Kings.

Yes, dear friend, Jesus needs you, whom nobody wants. You may think, ‘I am sick, I don’t have education, I have no money, I have no one.’

Friend, Jesus tells you, “Jesus needs you.” Will you stand in humility before Christ? Believe that Christ is beside you right now. Submit yourself to the feet of Christ right now.

“Lord, the donkey is a dirty animal, it is the most stupid of animals, it is terrible, it is very ugly. I am also like that. Lord, I submit myself to you.”

Friend, say in your heart, “Bearing Christ, I will walk along the paths that He travels.” If such a commitment comes to your heart, a great thing will happen. You know what it is?

Children will cry out before you, throw flowers, spread clothes. You can walk into the Jerusalem Temple, which you have never seen before.

Do not forget this; the flowers were not thrown seeing you, the clothes were not spread seeing you. You will receive a portion of the honour that Jesus, Who rides on you receives.

At that time a thought will blossom in your heart: ‘Lord, I do not deserve anything, it is all Your grace. Then praise will resound in your heart and tongue. That is worship. “Let My people go, that they may worship Me.”

Let us pray. Lord, thank You for the Scriptures. We praise You for the divine message. We praise You for releasing us

from Satanic bondage and leading us to true worship. Bless all those who heard the Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Chapter - 13

“Loose him, and let him go” – St. John 11: 44

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. I am the Good Shepherd. I am the Light of the world, I am the door, I am the way, the truth and the life.” These claims that Jesus declared about Himself reveal the uniqueness of Christ.

Jesus, Who is the resurrection and the life, resurrected Lazarus to life. Even while Lazarus was bedridden with his illness, his sisters Mary and Martha had informed Jesus. But Jesus came four days after Lazarus was buried.

Martha received Jesus with tears and sobs. Saying, “Where is he kept”, Jesus walked to the tomb. He asked them to remove the stone. They removed it. Jesus looked up.

Then Jesus turned His face to the tomb and cried out, “Lazarus come forth!” He, who was dead regained life and came out. He, who was stinking after four days in the tomb, rose from

the dead. He, who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

"The wages of sin is death." - Rom.6: 23

"The soul who sins shall die." - Ezekiel 18:14

"In the day that you sin, you shall die." - Gen. 2:17

"Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is fully grown, brings forth death." - James 1:15

When Adam and Eve sinned, they did not die physically. They were cast out from the relationship with God. That is, they died spiritually.

It was to resurrect man, who died spiritually, that Christ gave His life on the cross. The resurrection of Lazarus by Jesus was symbolic work of resurrecting man, who is spiritually dead.

Man has body, soul and spirit. The Lord will resurrect the soul only if the body and mind plead together to Him. Martha is the symbol of the body, Mary of the soul and Lazarus of the spirit.

Even though Martha welcomed Jesus, He is still standing at the door. Even if the body says prayers and does rituals, the spirit will not be resurrected. When Mary also received Christ, He came inside. He walks with them to the grave.

It is when we plead with a broken, contrite and repentant heart, that Jesus comes to the grave with compassion and pity. Open your life with its stinking soul and body to Jesus without any shame. Roll away the stone from the door of the tomb. Then Jesus will resurrect what is dead and stinking. Praise the Lord.

Those who have received the new life also have bondages. Even when visible sins and sinful acts are removed from them, they still have bondages.

“He who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Loose him and let him go.’” There are many children of God who have made a decision in life, received new life in the spirit, but live without experiencing sanctification.

The Word of God says, *“This is the will of God, your sanctification.”* - *1Thessalonians 4:3*

Jesus has said, *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”* - Matthew 5:8

“For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness.”
- 1 Thessalonians 4:7

“Pursue peace with all people, and holiness.”
- Hebrews 12: 11

Those children with a born-again experience also have bondages. They need a deep process of sanctification. Even if the deeds or words of sin are removed, the thoughts of sin, sinful character and sinful nature should change.

Not just the change of actions, but of reactions. Not the change of sinful deeds, but of sinful nature. That is why Jesus has said, *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”* Those who are justified must be sanctified. *“Justification by faith and sanctification by the constant discipline of the Holy Spirit.”*

I was saved at the age of seventeen; I gave my life into the hands of Jesus. It was definitely my experience that Jesus had come into my heart. But I became increasingly cold in my faith and first-love. I untiringly did the Lord’s ministry for nineteen years. My motives were sincere and I had an attraction for the pure gospel.

But I did not realise that my heart had turned cold. I did not commit any obvious external sins. But I did not have a deep experience of sanctification.

At the age of thirty-six, Jesus gave me a deep conviction of sin in my heart. I saw my state. I had evil thoughts, pride and desire for the world's glory in my heart. There was ill feeling and feelings of vengeance towards others.

Fortunately, the Holy Spirit took me into true repentance. I tasted the joy of sanctification. Jesus loosened my inner bonds. The Holy Spirit flowed and overflowed into my heart.

Mrs. Molly Paulose, wife of Dr. K.T. Paulose, is one who had a genuine born-again experience. Let us hear how she lived for a long time without sanctification.

Q: *"At what age did you get saved?"*

A: "I gave my heart to the Lord at the age of 25. Till that time, I had strictly followed the prayers, rituals and Sunday-services. But it was when I heard the Gospel through a servant of God that I had a conviction that I had many sins in my life. I gave my life to Jesus."

Q: *“What was your experience following this?”*

A: “I received an indescribable peace and happiness. But gradually that diminished. Ill feeling and bitterness towards my mother-in-law kept up in my heart. I could not tolerate anyone correcting or scolding me. Even though I did not say anything back, anger and resentment was boiling inside me.

But beyond this, there were lot of evil thoughts coming through my heart. Without my desire or knowledge, impure passions and thoughts kept coming into my heart. I was really distressed by my evil thoughts.”

Q: *“How did this change?”*

A: “That was a big miracle. A child of God told me that I must have a deep sanctification, for which I have to plead for the grace of God and take a deep commitment in my life. I prayed earnestly, “Avenge me of my adversary.” Then the Holy Spirit came into me with great power. The sinful thoughts stopped coming to me. Praise the Lord. Today I enjoy a very peaceful family life.”

Dear friend, do you wish to be loosed from your bonds and enjoy inner freedom? Dear sister, do you want to have the blessing of being set free from the inner bondages? Then pray for a deep cleansing. Jesus says, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." If you long to be washed of your sins and receive complete sanctification, tell Jesus Who is standing near you, "Lord wash me. Transform my personality completely by Your precious blood. I am committing myself to Your pierced hands to live like an unknown saint from today onwards. Bless me. In Jesus' name. Amen.
