

WAY TO LIBERATION

GOSPEL MESSAGES

Prof. M. Y. Yohannan
(Former Principal, St. Peter's College, Kolenchery)

Publisher

PHELIO BOOKS
Kolenchery 682 311, South India

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Gospel Messages

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Cover Design

Swaminathan, Computer Park

Typeset & Print

Bethesda Printers Pvt. Ltd., Edappally, Cochin- 682 024

Publisher

Phelio Books, Kolenchery 682 311

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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 beloved 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, Kolenchery and continued there for the next thirty-three years. He was appointed Principal of the same college in 1995 and retired after a stint of 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 the Voluntary Missionary Society, which, in the local tongue, was known as '*Swamedhaya Suvishesha Sangham*'. As a result of its earnest effort on evangelisation, a large number of people got revived in the Jacobite/Orthodox church and other churches.

In the year 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, 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 ministry. He also visited Great Briton and many of the Gulf countries in the Middle East and addressed several Gospel conventions.

In the year 1997, Prof. Yohannan commenced the '**Amruthadhara**' Radio Ministry on all Tuesday evenings. It is due to the wholehearted encouragement of the listeners, a second programme, meant for the Gulf countries, was started on all Friday nights. Since October 2001, another programme on all Saturdays, from 7:45 PM to 8:00 PM is being transmitted. All these radio programmes helped to preach the Gospel to the unreached and remote areas and segments of people, like in prisons, armed forces' barracks, hostels, etc.

Later, Prof. Yohannan realised the potential of television, one of the most influential media today, to preach the Gospel. In the year 2000, the '**Amruthadhara**' TV programme was started. Presently, the thirty-minute programme is being telecast on '*Asianet News*', '*Soorya TV*' and '*Jeevan TV*' networks on Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings respectively.

As requested by his ever-increasing listeners and dear friends, Prof. Yohannan has started publishing his inspiring Gospel messages, studies and devotions in book form. So far, as on February 2007, he has published forty books, excluding this. Most

of them are out-of-print within a short period. Few more books are getting ready for release.

Prof. Yohannan is fully and deeply engaged in the activities of the Christian Revival Fellowship (CRF), a registered inter denominational charitable and religious trust, as its founder president, 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 that **“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 in his LORD’S ministry from his wife, Alice, a retired teacher. The Yohannans have three sons and a daughter, all married. The family is blessed with nine grandchildren.



P R E F A C E

(For Malayalam Edition)

It is an unforgettable experience in my life to write a preface to '*Mukthimargam*', the new book of dear M Y Yohannan Sir. Malayalam literature is a mirage to me even though Malayalam is my mother tongue. Since I am not having the least aptitude in literature, I am unworthy to write a preface to a book of Yohannansir, who is a scholar as well as an authority in Malayalam literature of this generation. Nevertheless, I am happily taking that responsibility as desired by my spiritual master, who is spirit filled to discern the ways of Holy Spirit.

Since the time God inspired Scripture was given, God also commanded man to write and preserve them for the future generations. It could be inferred that the God himself initiated the Spiritual literature in Mount Sinai by writing on stone tablets by his own fingers. Prophets and disciples of Jesus Christ continued this through the ages. Thus the Holy Bible is given to mankind. During the Old Testament period, each king in Israel was commanded to write for himself a copy of the Law in a book, from the one before the priests (Deuteronomy 17:18). The Holy Bible

was the first book ever printed on Johann Guttenberg's first modern printing press.

When Prof. Yohannan sir took up the radio transmission programme of '*Amruthadhara*' Gospel ministry through FEBA Radio for the world wide Malayalees, Christian Revival Fellowship did pray for guidance to implement it. It was God's will to present it in the form of brief messages including testimonies, as being heard today. Even, the sound Engineer in FEBA Radio, who records Prof. Yohannan sir's messages, had told me that the style of Yohannan sir's fluent messages, which never required any retake, is wonderful. The letters received from the many listeners of this radio Gospel programme, who had received consolation, healing and faith are proof for the God's blessings they received through this programme.

There is wheat and chaff in today's gospel messages; that is, with and with out specific messages from God. The Holy Bible says that many messages are mere eloquence, which only white wash, instead of giving conviction of sin and faith. However, Yohannan sir's messages in '*Mukthimargam*' as well as in his other books are giving conviction of sin and especially are comforting. This servant of God had practiced in his life the commandment of God that those who preach Gospel should receive God's messages from the Council of God. Hence those who hear these messages or read these books experience that these messages are given to them after really seeing their heart's conditions. Every person who reads this book could experience how God uses the pen of Yohannan sir, who had dedicated his entire noble life for Jesus Christ, as 'the pen of a ready writer'.

There are eleven such messages in this book. '*Mukthimargam*', which is a skilful compilation of various subjects under the inspiration of Holy Spirit, is an invaluable creation in Christian Literature. This book teaches the way to attain salvation as per God's Word. A charismatic worker, who had bought sir's first book, said, while buying enthusiastically all his subsequent books, that the parables and teachings of the Holy Bible are narrated in this book in an unprecedented manner. It is not a wonder that the explanation of God's Word that the God did not favoured Cain's offering not because of its theological shortcomings, instead, the God did not find favour with the person Cain, would set ablaze the heart of anybody who seek the sanctification of heart.

Love is the indication of fullness of Holy Spirit. I have heard with amazement sir's teaching that a real devotee's love should flow towards born again spiritual children rather than to own children! I, a disciple, who had experienced this very much from him, is presenting '*Mukthimargam*' the sixth book of Yohannan sir, my loving spiritual master, for my Malayalee brothers, who love the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

How many junctions have to be crossed by a traveller to reach his destination! I wish that '*Mukthimargam*' be a pathfinder to every body to reach the kingdom of heaven with out getting lost in various junctions in life.

U T George
Executive Engineer, KSEB,
Thiruvamkulam.

F O R E W O R D

(For Malayalam Edition)

'Mukthimargam' is the sixth compilation of Radio messages. The aim of this book is to reveal the way to quench the thirst for deliverance.

Once, Oliver Wendel Holms was traveling in a train. He was worried when he couldn't find his ticket as the ticket examiner was approaching. The ticket examiner told Mr. Holm, who was still searching his ticket:

"Never mind Sir. We know you well. We believe you."

Holms replied, "I am not worried about my ticket. But how will I know where to alight with out my ticket?" This incident may look bit exaggerated. But it points to a truth: Never travel with out the sense of destination.

Most of the people are living with out knowing the purpose of life! Those who are aware of the purpose are living in wrong direction. Blessed are those who had fixed their target, found the way to reach the target and moving fast with out straying.

We should acquire both materialistic and spiritual salvation. That is external and internal salvation. That is earthly and heavenly salvation.

It says in *Esavasyopanishath 1:3*:

*“Asuranamathe loka
Andhenathamasavrutha:
Tham stheyprethyathigachandhi
Yekechathmahatho jana.”*

“Man would reach the hell engulfed in spiritual darkness after his death if he does not strive for the salvation of his soul during his valuable life time.”

Swamy Nihilanandan, in his book ‘The Realistic Aspect of Indian Spirituality’ says that, “The prime aim of life is to attain the salvation, which is ever lasting life.”

Swamy Vivekananda in his discourse on *Esavasyopanishath* has said,

“However we tried, most part of our life would be filled with inevitable sins. This heap of sin is limitless in man’s life.”

The noble sage, acknowledging his helplessness, prays in *Mythriupanishadth 1:4*, with the same meaning, “O! God, I am like a frog in a blind well. Deliver me out of this deep pit!”

The hermits of ancient times used to chant in their morning prayer:

*“Papoham, papakarmoham,
Papatma papasmbhava:*

*Thrahimam pundareekaksha
Sarvajneswarohari:*

“I am a sinner; I have sinful acts. I was born in sin. I am wholly sinner. Entirely sin.”

The prayer in *“Bruhadaranyakopinishath (1:3,28)* is more relevant in this aspect:

*“Asathoma sathgamaya
Thamasoma jyothirgamaya
Mruthyorma amrutham gamaya.”*

The prime aim of human life is to attain peace both here in this world and in the world to come. Jesus Christ will grant both internal and external peace in this world. Jesus Christ will also grant the eternal peace in heaven.

Aim and destination is Christ; the way also is Christ. If we live as Jesus did, that is the way of Christ and the way of salvation. That is the path, which Jesus treaded. That is the way of the Cross. That is the way of love. That is the way of sacrifice. That is the way of holiness. That is the way of faith. That is the way of humility. That is the way of forgiveness. That is the way of prudence, standing steady, when misunderstood by others. That is the way of facing accusations with smile, not trying to establish them as false. That is the way of endurance, letting oneself meekly to unjust with out pleading or arguing for justice when one was denied justice in his generation.

“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,

despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him, who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.” Hebrew 12:2,3.

This is the way of Salvation. This is the way of eternal peace both in this world and in the world to come.

I presume that the eager reception and the loving recognition given to my previous books will be granted to ‘*Mukthimargam*’ also. Let me express my boundless gratitude to Mr. U T George, Executive Engineer, KSEB for writing a resplendent preface. I am not forgetting my obligation to Mr. Anji N.Kollemparamp, Senior Consultant, KITCO, Mr. C T Thampy, Christian Book Centre and Mr. A J Aby, Manager, TCM, my beloved brothers, who helped in proof reading and other works.

I am handing over this book to the loving hands of my respected friends, with out any distinction on religion, cast or denomination, with a humble prayer that by reading this book, let the Omnipotent God grant eternal peace to all.

M.Y.Yohannan

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

1. AMRUTHADHARA
2. AANTHARIKA SAANTHI
3. SUBHA BHAVI
4. SAANTHI THEERAM
5. MADHU MOZHI
6. MUKTHI MARGAM
7. NITHYA VISRANTHI
8. NIRAPARA
9. JAYA JEEVITHAM
10. VISWASA JEEVITHAM
11. VADAMALAR
12. DIVYARADHANA
13. ENIKKU KUDIPPAN THARUMO?
14. NEETHIMAN AAKUNNATHENGANE?
15. THURANNA VATHIL
16. VARAVUM CHELAVUM
17. DAIVARAJYAM
18. AMRUTHADHARA (ENGLISH)
19. ORTHUKOLVIN
20. KRISTHUVIL
21. PARISUDHATHMAVU
22. PARISUDHATHMA VYAPARAM
23. PARISUDHATHMA SAKTHI
24. UTHAMA GEETHAM
25. SANKETHA NAGARANGAL
26. MARUBHOOMIYILE NEERPOIKA

27. YONA
28. PACHAVELLAM VEENJAKKI
29. KEREETHINTE VAKKIL
30. ETHRATHOLAM RANDU THONIYIL?
31. ELIYAVINTE DAIVAM EVIDE?
32. PRAVACHAKANALLA, PRAVACHAKA SISHYANUMALLA
33. MUDRAMOTHIRAMAKKUM
34. ENIKKU KAZHCHA PRAPIKKENAM
35. ENIKKU ASAKKU VAKAYUNDO?
36. INNER PEACE (ENGLISH)
37. AVARKKU BHAKSHIPPAN KODUPPIN
38. GLITTERING FUTURE (ENGLISH)
39. EKANTHATHAYUDE ANDHATHA
40. STREAMS IN THE DESERT (ENGLISH)

PREFACE

(For the English Translation)

Most Rev. Bishop Dr. Thomas Dabre,

I had the good fortune of attending a prayer meeting addressed by Prof. M Y Yohannan. I was touched by his passion and enthusiasm for our LORD. The present day world is increasingly becoming materialistic and hedonistic. The world needs to hear the message of the Holy Bible to attain peace, happiness and salvation. The present book of Prof. Yohannan 'WAY TO LIBERATION' gives a relevant message, renewal and fulfilment.

The Word of God is spirit and life. The Word of God heals. The Word of God is power. The Word of God forgives. Our attitude should be that of Samuel who said, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." This is precisely what Prof. Yohannan makes the reader of this book to listen to the healing and saving Word of God.

In this book Prof. Yohannan explains primarily the Word of God in relations to David and Zacchaeus. His explanation is lucid, simple and convincing. The tragedy of modern man is that

he has lost the sense of sin. People do not feel guilt nor the need of repentance. This is the main reason for tensions, problems and frustrations inspite of material progress. Our LORD taught us, 'Repent and believe in the Gospel.' This is the important and relevant message of this book. We will be more spiritual, more happy and better Christians if we have keen sense of our sinfulness. His reflections are not negative. They are positive. They inspire hope. They give courage. They show God's fatherly and compassionate love.

The more we are centred on the Word of God the more we shall be united as human beings and as Christians. I am greatly interested in ecumenism. The Word of God, ie, the final prayer of Jesus inspires us, disciples of Him to be united among ourselves so that the world may believe in Him as Son of God whom the Father sent for our salvation. For this reason I am glad to write this appreciation of Prof. Yohannan's book. I admire him for his love of the Holy Bible, ie, the Word of God.

I pray that this book may bring its readers to a better understanding of the Word of God.

Bishop Dr. Thomas Dabre

February 3, 2007.

FOREWORD

It is with immense joy that I write these introductory words to the translation of my Malayalam book “*Mukthimargam*”. Wide range of Malayalees from different parts of the world had sent me high appreciation of the book. They had asked me to give a translated copy to English language for their children who don't know Malayalam.

First of all, I feel proud of getting a very valuable preface from Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Dabre, who is the Bishop of Vasai (Mumbai) diocese of Roman Catholic Church. I think it is a prestigious matter to have his words in my book as a heartfelt appreciation. He is a very well known figure not only in Christian Missions, but also in various fields of social, cultural and serviceable activities. His Doctoral Thesis, “*The God Experience of Sant Tukaram – A Study in Religious Symbolism*” is an exemplarory work which was commended in various journals, publications and seminars. He had presented very thought provoking articles in different Seminars in Manila, Philippines, Jerusalem, Moscow, Bolivia, Thailand, Taiwan, Germany, Rome and in various parts of India. His articles including FOCOLARE, TEIL HARD DE CHARDIN, Ethical Relativism and Veritatis Splendor, Who is a Guru, Ministry of Diocesan Priests in India Today, Tolerance of Cultures – Culture of Tolerance, A New Way

of Being Church in the New Millennium, On Christianity and Sufi Sect, Tukaram – A Person of Peace for a Disturbed World, etc, are based on very important subjects. I am so much grateful for his kindness to go through my book and to give me such a valuable appreciation for the book.

I am indebted to Mrs. Mercy Cherian, Lecturer in English in Stella Maris College, Munnar for taking the hazardous work of the translation. She has done a heavy task to fulfill the entire work.

Dr. Isac John, my eldest son, inspite of his busy official duties took the tedious responsibility to go through each word and to give sufficient changes in the translation.

Mr. Anji N.Kollemparamp, my beloved co-worker in the Christian Revival Fellowship, Jt. General Manager, Kitco, Ernakulam, has extended his skill and talents to make the book a reality by correcting, taking the DTP, etc. I must thank Mr. A J Aby, Retd. General Manager, TCM, Kalamassery, for printing and publishing the book.

I am specially thankful towards my co-workers who did very strenuous work in editing, re-writing, correcting and publishing the book.

With great expectation of a revival among our dear people, I present the book at the precious hands of all.

Thanking you all,

Your humble servant,

M Y Yohannan

Chapter – 1

“Be sure your sin will find you out.” Numbers 32:23(KJV)

“Be sure your sin will find you out.” The meaning of the verse is that wherever you hide or how secret your sin is, your sin will certainly find you out.

The Eternal God is giving the warning to the man. It's God's stern warning that there is punishment for sin. God is not cursing man when He says, “Be sure your sin will find you out.” Instead, it is God's eternal love speaking fondly to the man.

Suppose we have a little child in our home. Only seven or eight months old. A lighted candle is in the room. Attracted by its flame, the child crawls towards it. The child is about to catch it. Won't we shout immediately, “Don't touch it! You will burn your hands.”

Aren't because we don't want the hands to get burned that we say so? Do we curse the child? Never. Isn't it because of our love and concern for the child that we tell so?

If that child is about to take a very sharp knife, won't we say, “Ah! Dear, don't touch it. You will cut your fingers”? Don't we

say so because we see the danger that may befall if it takes the knife? Isn't because we fondly desire that the danger should never befall the child that we say so?

Similarly, it is the deep love of the merciful God that tells us, "Be sure your sin will find you out."

There are many verses in the Holy Bible that expresses the same idea.

*"Even as I have seen,
Those who plow iniquity
And sow trouble reap the same." Job 4:8*

*"If I sin, then You mark me,
And will not acquit me of my iniquity." Job 10:14*

*For He repays man according to his work,
And makes man to find a reward according to his
way." Job 34:11*

*"They sow the wind,
And reap the whirlwind." Hosea 8:7*

*"You have plowed wickedness;
You have reaped iniquity.
You have eaten the fruit of lies." Hosea 10:13*

*"...as I have done, so God has repaid me."
Judges 1:7*

*"If you say, 'Surely we did not know this,'
Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it?"*

*He who keeps your soul, does He not know it?
And will He not render to each man according to his
deeds?" Prov.24:12*

*"As you have done, it shall be done to you;
Your reprisal shall return upon your own head."
Obadiah:15*

*"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a
man sows, that he will also reap." Galatians 6:7*

Be sure, your sin will find you out.
As you sow, so you reap.

There are three laws for sowing and reaping.

One: **As you sow, so you reap.** If you sow paddy, you will reap paddy. For the sin we commit, we will have to receive punishment in itself. As you sow, so you reap.

The second law of sowing: **Sow and reap more than what you sow.** If we sow one bushel of seed, it is not one bushel of paddy that we get; or should get. For one bushel, twenty bushels, thirty bushels or more we get.

For the sin we commit, we have to suffer more punishment. We will have to receive two fold or ten fold punishment.

Three: **Sow, and reap after many days.** If we sow today, we don't reap today. Each seed has its own time to get ripe. Some may take ninety days. Some hundred, hundred and ten or hundred and twenty five days. Thus each seed has its own time to get ripe.

Sin is also like this. It is not necessary that the sin should be punished immediately. Ecclesiastes says:

“Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the hearts of sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.” Ecclesiastes 8:11

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

As you sow, so you reap.

Man can hide from his wife, children and parents. But it is not possible for him to hide from the Omniscient and Omnipresent God.

What does the Scripture say:

*“O LORD, You have searched me and known me.
You know my sitting down and my rising up;
You understand my thought afar off.
You comprehend my path and my lying down,
And you are acquainted with all my ways.
For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.
You have hedged me behind and before,
And laid Your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
It is high, I cannot attain it.
Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
If I ascend into heaven, You are there;*

*If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.
If I take the wings of the morning,
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there Your hand shall hold me.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me,"
Even the night shall be light about me;
Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You,
But the night shines as the day;
The darkness and the light are both alike to You"*
Psalm 139:1-12 (KJV)

*"For the righteous God tests the hearts and minds."
Psalm 7:9*

*"For the LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent
of the thoughts." 1 Chronicles 28:9*

*"And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are
naked and open to the eyes of Him."
Hebrews 4:13*

*"And all churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds
and hearts." Revelation 2:23*

No one can hide himself from the Eternal God.

I have heard a story. One good family. Pious family. Prayerful family. A family that honour the Scripture. A prosperous family, where the parents and children live in harmony and love.

Father, mother and four children. The eldest two are boys. The third is a girl. The fourth is also a boy.

One day, the mother called the children near. “Children, I am going to give you a test. The one who wins shall get a very good prize.”

Children were enthusiastic. “What is the test?”

“I shall tell. I will give you one piece of cake each. You must go and eat it unseen by the God. If so, I will give you the prize.”

Children ran in four directions. After some time, the eldest son came. “Mum, I ate the cake. Give me the prize.”

“Dear son, did you eat the cake unseen by God?”

“Yes, unseen by the God.”

“Alright, where did you sit and ate the cake?”

“I climbed up into the mango tree at the back of our house, hiding myself behind the branches and leaves, ate the cake.”

“Son, you have failed. Don’t you remember, when Zacchaeus climbed up into the sycamore tree and hid there, the LORD saw him, and said, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down!”

The second one came, “Son, did you eat the cake unseen by God?”

“Yes, I dived into our pond. Lying under the water, I ate the cake.”

“Son, you too have failed. LORD saw Prophet Jonah lying in the belly of the fish under the water. LORD heard Jonah’s prayer. You didn’t remember this portion?”

The third one is a girl. She came with great enthusiasm. “Mum, give me the prize. I ate the cake hiding, unseen by God.”

“Where did you sit and ate the cake?”

“I went into our cellar, stepped down into the innermost room. Very dark! Sat there and ate the cake.”

“Daughter, haven’t you heard, ‘What you have spoken in the inner rooms will be proclaimed on the house tops’? You too have failed”

The fourth is the youngest son. He is not to be seen after a long time. Then he comes. He comes very much exhausted. The least active!

He said, “I don’t want the prize and the cake. I didn’t eat the cake. Wherever I hide, I have the feeling that ‘God sees me’. So I couldn’t eat the cake.”

Mother embraced him and patted him. “Son, the prize is yours. You have won. No one can hide from God.”

Mother taught all her children the verse, “*You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees*”, from the Bible. (Genesis 16:13)

Dear friend, do you know your very life is naked and open before the eternal God? Do you understand nothing remains secret

in the presence of God? Do you understand the truth that every sin in your thoughts, dreams and attitudes is open in the presence of God?

Friend, do you know that your sin will find you out? “Be sure your sin will find you out. As you sow, so you reap. What you sow, that you reap. You will reap more when you sow. If you sow, you will reap after many days.

Before sin finds you out, find out, confess and give up your sin and start a new life (or turn over new leaf). With out wasting a moment, dedicate yourself at the feet of Jesus, who is the atonement of sin. Experience the forgiveness the Holy Blood of Christ gives. Tell Christ, “LORD, from today onwards, I am yours.”

Let us pray. Loving God, we praise you for the grace that reminded us again that there is punishment for sin. We praise you for the forgiving Blood of Christ that spoke good. We praise you for giving the exhortation for a new life. Sustain us till the end. In the royal name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



Chapter – 2

“Be sure your sin will find you out.” Numbers 32:23(KJV)

In the previous chapter we have meditated some serious things based on the verse “Be sure your sin will find you out.”

Sin is horrible. Sin is poison. Sin produces far reaching evil results.

Sin is transgressing the bounds set by God. Sin is lawlessness. Sin is unrighteousness. The wages of sin is death.

The hermits of ancient times used to chant in their morning prayer:

*“Papoham, papakarmoham,
Papatma papasmbhava:
Thrahimam pundareekaksha
Sarvayajneswarohari:”*

I am a sinner; I have sinful acts. I was born in sin. I am wholly a sinner. Entirely sin, the hermits chanted so.

Prophet Isaiah describes the agony of God in the Holy Bible about man, who sins:

“Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: ‘I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me;

“The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master’s crib; but Israel does not know, My people do not consider.”

Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward.

Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints.

From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; they have not been closed or bound up, or soothed with ointment.”
Isaiah 1:2-6

One thinker has said, “Always ‘I’ in the middle of sin.” The middle letter of the word ‘SIN’ is I. The meaning of this saying is that I am in the middle of sin.

Prophet Isaiah was a blessed man who proclaimed the Word of God. Yet, when the Prophet saw the fiery Angels praising the Great Holy God, uttering “Holy, Holy, Holy” in great festivity, he got conviction of his sin. When Isaiah saw the Holy God, he became aware of his own sinful state. Isaiah says crying:

“Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips; and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.” *Isaiah 6:5*

Job was a blameless and upright man who shunned evil and feared God. Job was righteous. Affliction, agony, woe, loss and hardship mounted up in his life. Job was troubled. Then Job said boldly:

“The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.” Job 1:21

“Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?” Job 2:10

“In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong. Job 1:22

“In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” Job 2:10

“My lips will not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit..... till I die I will not put away my integrity from me.” Job 27:4,5

“I have made a covenant with my eyes; why then should I look up a young woman.” Job 31:1

Job had great boldness that he had led a spotless life. The forty verses in Chapter 31 are the testimonies of Job’s confidence and boldness of his righteous life.

But when Job heard the Word of the Eternal God, he got conviction of sin. When God spoke to Job, he humbled with conviction.

Job says to God:

“Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth. Once I have spoken, but I will not answer; yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.” Job 40:4-6

“... I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know... I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eyes sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes,” Job 42:3-6

The work of the Holy Spirit is giving conviction of sin. *“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.” John 16:8*

What is sin?

The word ‘*Hamartia*’ is used for sin in Greek language. It means missing the goal. Whatever misses the goal is sin.

The real goal that man should achieve is Eternal Life. Everything that leads to eternal torture instead of eternal life is sin.

Christ is the Eternal Life. *“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” John 10:10*

In the first Epistle of John, verse seventeen of chapter five, we see, *“All unrighteousness is sin.” (NIV)*

“Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness.” 1John 3:4

“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law, for sin is the transgression of the law.” (Authorised Version)

In the New International Version, we see “*Sin is lawlessness.*”

Transgressing the Godly law is sin. Overstepping the boundaries set by God is sin. Not obeying the laws of God is sin.

“Whatever is not from faith is sin.” Romans 14:23.

God recognises everything that comes from faith and conviction but not blamed by conscience. Everything else is sin.

God created man as sinless. There was a time when man rejoiced in the friendship of God. Satan, who was jealous in the happiness and peace of man, urged the first man to transgress the law of God.

The Scripture says that Satan, who is clever at applying cunningness and slyness, deceived Eve. Through the question, “*Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’*”, Satan sowed the poisonous seeds of unbelief into the heart of man. “*When you eat of it you shall surely die*” is God’s command. “*When you eat of it, you will be like God*”, is the Satanic word.

By creating disbelief in the Word of God, the devil urged man to hear the word of Satan.

Thus sin originated from Satan. We see in Isaiah 14: 12-14:

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened

the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'

In order to destroy man, the beautiful creation of God, Satan, who rebelled against God, enticed man into sin. Thus, *through one man, sin entered the world, and death through sin. By one man's disobedience many were made sinners.*" Romans 5:12, 19

Through the one man Adam, all men were made sinners. Romans 3:10 says, *"There is none righteous, no, not one; They have all gone out of the way"*

Apostle Paul says in Romans 3:23, *"For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*

Christ died on the Cross to give back man the glory and the image of God, which was lost by him.

That is why Paul says, *"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous."* Romans 5:19

Anyone who believes in the Crucifixion of Christ, which is the atonement sacrifice, will get justification freely.

Justification is judging the guilty that he is not guilty, when his guilt is proved.

"... being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth to be a propitiation by His blood, through faith." Romans 3:24,25

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

As you sow, so you reap. What you sow, that you reap. Sow, and reap more than what you sow. Sow, and reap after many days. There is punishment for sin.

But, there is Christ, who struggled and died on the Cross bearing our punishment. The sinless Christ died on the Cross, to lift us up from sin. Prophet Isaiah prophesied seven hundred and fifty years before the birth of Jesus Christ, *“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities.”* Christ tasted death, the wage of sin on the Cross. Bearing the defamation, mockery and humiliation, Jesus cried and prayed on the Cross, *“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”* That love on the Cross has been transforming many people for centuries. It has been transforming cannibals into man lovers. It has been transforming many a sinners into holy!

Respected friend, would you believe Jesus has borne the punishment in order to exempt you from the punishment of sin? Do you believe that the blood of Christ cleanses every sin? If so, find out your sin and forsake it before your sin finds you out and dedicate yourself at the feet of Jesus. Say to Christ: “LORD, from today onwards, I am yours”

Let us pray, loving and merciful God, we praise you for the time you have given us to meditate on the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, Your Son and our LORD. Grant us the grace to live as Christ’s own till the end. In the miraculous name of Jesus Christ! Amen.



Chapter – 3

“Be sure your sin will find you out.” Numbers 32:23(KJV)

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

As you sow, so you reap.

What you sow, that you reap.

Sow, and reap more than what you sow.

Sow and reap after many days.

Thinkers have said:

Sow a thought, reap an action;

Sow an action, reap a habit;

Sow a habit, reap a character;

Sow a character, reap your destiny.

Sin originates in thought. Gradually it turns into an action. When the same action is continued, it becomes a habit. When a habit is repeated, it becomes a character, and character determines one’s destiny.

Benjamin Disreli said, “Nurture your mind with great thoughts, for you will never go any higher than you think.”

Benjamin Disraeli was a person, who suffered very much for lack of words when he stood in the British Parliament for his maiden speech as a people's representative. Opponents howled at him and mocked him down. Then he said, "Though I sit down, the time will come when you will all hear me." True were those words. His critics sank into oblivion. But his words live in the hearts of men today.

Jesus Christ, in His first sermon, the Sermon on the Mount, said:

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."
Matthew 5:8

Prophet Jeremiah, who lived seven hundred years before the birth of Christ said:

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked;" Jeremiah 17:9

"The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure."
(New International Version)

Jeremiah continues, "... who can know it? I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give everyman according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings." *Jeremiah 17:10*

True victorious living is the one which gains victory over thoughts and emotions. Most of the people often lose their ground and wander in the gush of unbridled thoughts. It is a blessing to realise the truth that thoughts will lead to actions and horrible

experiences. Earnestly desiring to escape from a sinful life is also a blessing.

Getting deliverance from the gordian knots of sin is by the wonderful grace of God. Mr. Cherian, who is residing at Pandappilly, near Muvattupuzha is a person, who was subjected to sinful thoughts and sinful deeds from the very beginning of his youth.

Let us ask Mr. Cherian the experiences of his life.

What reminiscence do you have about your college life?

“When I was studying in St. Peter’s College, Kolenchery, I had been staying in a nearby lodge. I used to drink liquors with my friends almost everyday. I feel ashamed when I recollect the many things, which I did then. In an intoxicated mood, I danced, sang and did many waggish things.”

From where did you get the money to drink like this?

“With out the knowledge of my father, I have taken things like pepper, aracanut, etc and got money by selling them. I have also stolen money from my father’s table. My friends encouraged me as they enjoyed my intoxicated frolic very much.

I used to bunk classes often. I used to run about drunk like an insane person and lived like an aimless rogue. I have talked haughtily to my teachers and mocked them.”

Is there any reason for becoming worse this much?

The thought that there is no God got into me from my very young days itself. I read some books, which reared rationalistic thoughts. By their influence, I turned into a blasphemer. I had the thought to live as much a detestable life as I could. I opposed and set myself against my father and teachers.

How did all these attitudes change?

I attended a meeting of the Christian Revival Fellowship at Kolenchery. The sermon that I heard that day touched me deeply. I committed my life to Christ. Christ came into my heart as my Master. I got an inexpressible peace. I, who thought there is no God, could experience God with out anyone telling me.

What is your experience after that?

As I renounced all my sins, I could experience great peace and joy today. My debts and burdens have lessened very much. I live praying and longing ardently for getting the thoughts and desires of my heart sanctified. As I attend the Gospel Ministries of the Christian Revival Fellowship regularly, I am able to see myself and experience sanctification deeply. I praise Christ for knowing that Christian life is so beautiful.

Dear friend, LORD Jesus Christ who removed the sins from Mr. Cherian's life and had given him a tranquil and peaceful life will transform you too!

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

As you sow, so you reap.

What you sow, that you reap.
Sow, and reap more than what you sow.
Sow, and reap after many days.

Few years ago, I have read a news item in the newspaper. It is about a double-headed snake in South Africa. Many people came to see it in the zoo, where it was kept.

It had two heads, two necks and only one trunk. It could take food through both the mouths. One day, it was a bit late to feed it. Because of the extreme hunger, one of the heads began swallowing the other. The keeper rushed to save that head with strokes and knocks.

But the head suffered some slight injury, which cured after a few days caring.

Snake is a malicious creature. The injured head kept its malice. One day, when the opportunity came, the injured head struck hard the other head. Shortly, with in minutes, the stricken head was dead! The intention of the head that had struck the other accomplished. However, something undesired also happened. The venom from the bitten head spread to its body and then to the other head through its neck! The head that had struck the other head also died.

Whatever be the probability and logic behind the incident narrated in the newspaper, it gives us a good moral. When we hurt some one, it will boomerang upon us.

Sin is a horrible danger that destroys man ever. Sin is the origin of all problems. When the first man sinned in Eden, all the present problems in the world originated.

Food problem in the world originated with the sin of the first man. God spoke to the man:

“In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken;” Genesis 3:17-19

It is the food problem of man that shadows in these words.

Secondly, the problem of increasing birth rate. God spoke to the woman:

“I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children;” Genesis 3:16

Thirdly, the problem of enmity and vengeance. God said to the serpent:

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed.” Genesis 3:15

The problem of enmity also began with the sin in Eden.

Fourthly, quarrel and wars arise through blaming and accusing each other. The beginning of that is also in the sin of the first man in Eden.

Adam said, *“The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.” Genesis 3:12*

Self-justification is seen here. Adam puts the responsibility of the sin on God and his wife. If I did not eat the fruit, which the woman, whom you gave to be with me, gave, we will be in two places. *“... for in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die.”*(Genesis 2:17) The woman will die. If I do not eat, I will not die. Then how can this woman be with me? All these arguments are in Adam’s reply. Not only that. Adam charges God with the responsibility of his sin: “Isn’t it because you gave this woman to be with me that I fell into this disaster?”

Fifthly, the beginning of death is also with sin. God said, *“For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”* Genesis 3:19.

All problems and curses came with the sin of the first man in Eden. That is why the Scripture says, *“through one man sin entered the world and death through sin.”* Romans 5:12

Thus we all became sinners. It is not because I committed sin that I became sinner. Being a sinner, I commit sins. Even if man does not commit sin, he is a sinner.

Righteousness is necessary for the sinful man’s entry into heaven. The righteous Christ bore the punishment for the sin to justify the sinner.

“As through one man’s offence, judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so, through one Man’s righteous act, the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.”
Roman’s 5:18

The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit 1Cor. 15:45

Dear friend, will you receive this Christ as your LORD and Saviour? Will you avoid eternal punishment and eternal torment? Will you earn the forgiveness and eternal peace, which Christ gives? Will you find your sin out and confess and give up your sin before your sin finds you out?

If so, tell Christ: LORD, from now onwards, I will be a new person. LORD, from now onwards, I will be a new person.

Let us pray, merciful God, we praise You for the gift of Words. We praise You for informing us that a sinner can become righteous. Sustain us in the inheritance of eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ! Amen.



Chapter – 4

“Be sure your sin will find you out.” Numbers 32:23(KJV)

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

As you sow, so you reap.

What you sow, that you reap.

Sow, and reap more than what you sow.

Sow, and reap after many days.

In what all ways will sin find us out?

One: Be sure your sin will find you out by human laws.

Punishment for sin will be given by man himself. There are penal laws to give punishment for crime. There is Crime Department. From very old times, man established laws to give punishment for guilt.

There are people, who keep away from sin just because of the mental punishment they have to suffer before men, like humiliation, shame, alienation, mockery and ex-communication.

Today's criminal laws and actions are punishments, which men have to face because of sin. Human laws give punishment

to one who steals. At government level, the Police and Anti Corruption Department give punishment for offence by means of human laws.

Suppose somebody had committed a murder. The police will investigate and find the criminal out. He could be awarded even a death sentence.

In Gulf countries, crimes are relatively few. This is mainly due to the severe criminal laws prevailing in such countries and the non-compromise implementation of punishment.

As there is punishment for sins by human laws, calamities like financial loss and disgrace may befall on those who commit sin.

Be sure, your sin will find you out by human laws.

Two: Be sure, your sin will find you out in your body.

Sin will find you out in body. That means there will be illness because of sin. How many diseases affect man because of sin! The origin and spreading of AIDS, which is now a threat to mankind, was through loose sexual life. How fast does it spread! Now, AIDS can transmit even with out sexual perversion.

One can contract AIDS by way of blood transfusion. It can also be transmitted through a syringe used in an AIDS patient. However, during the initial period, AIDS was transmitted through sexual contact.

AIDS was first detected in India in the year 1986. It was a person in Pune, a returnee from America, who had contracted

this disease through blood transfusion after a surgery. How fast it had spread over a period of twenty years!

Learned men, quoting statistical records, had estimated that by the year 2000, AIDS would have affected a quarter of the Indian population!

Those countries, which once had AIDS patients, will not be having any of them now as most of them would be dead. Such countries had already taken precautionary measures to check spread the disease.

In the meantime, our country is going to be under the severe attack of this dreadful disease.

Medical science says that habitual drunkards are prone to liver ailments. This could even lead to health hazards such as dementia, insanity and infertility.

The probability of contracting lung cancer is very high in chain smokers and they are easily susceptible to cardiac diseases.

I have read recently that in smokers, the toxin from the tobacco would reach the nerve ends in their limbs within seconds. This toxin would affect both the active and passive smokers.

The chances of becoming infertile are very high among those who lead perverted sexual life. Even though children are born, they would be physically and or mentally challenged.

What does the Scripture say? We read in Psalm 38, verse three onwards:

*“There is no soundness in my flesh
Because of Your anger,
Nor is there any health in my bones
Because of my sin.
For my iniquities have gone over my head;
Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.
My wounds are foul and festering
Because of my foolishness.
I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly;
I go mourning all the day long.
For my loins are full of inflammation,
And there is no soundness in my flesh.
I am feeble and severely broken;
I groan because of turmoil of my heart.
My heart pants, my strength fails me;
As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me.
My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague,
And my kinsmen stand afar off.*

Be sure, your sin will find you out in your body.

*“For my life is spent with grief,
And my years with sighing;
My strength fails because of my iniquity,
And my bones waste away.” Psalm 31:10*

Four men brought a paralytic patient on a bed to Jesus Christ. Jesus said to him, *“Man your sins are forgiven you.”*
Luke 5:20.

After that He said, " *Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.*" *Luke 5:24*

He received healing when his sins were forgiven. Sin was the cause of his illness.

In the fifth chapter of the Gospel according to John, we see that Jesus healed a person, who had been a paralytic for thirty eight years. Jesus tells him later:

"See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." *John 5:14*

Jesus said that he became invalid because of his sin and that if he sin again, a more fatal illness will come upon him.

Be sure, your sin will find you out in your body.

Three: Be sure, your sin will find you out in your conscience. Mental disorder or hallucination can occur as a result of sin.

It is certain that your sin will find you out in your conscience. Sin can cause mental disabilities. Mental disorders are caused by sin. Even it can affect the mental stability.

There is a famous novel called 'Crime and Punishment', written by Dostoevsky. There is a character named Reskolnikov in the novel. He had committed a great crime and is in jail. Some times he will gaze at the outside world through the iron bars. Some times, he would run around the jail room in fright as if somebody is coming to catch him. He is under hallucination. The terrible crime that he had committed haunts him.

Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' is a famous play. By killing king Duncan, Macbeth became the king and Lady Macbeth, the queen. Lady Macbeth was behind the plotting and execution of the assassination.

Lady Macbeth always had a thought that her hands smelt blood. She never killed anybody and there is no blood in her hands. Yet, she has a feeling that her hands stink of blood. There is a dialogue in which she utters, "All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten my little hands."

More pathetic is the condition of Macbeth. He thinks that there is bloodstain on his hands. He washes his hands again and again to remove the stain. He thinks that the stain is not removed. He lost his mental stability. He says, "All the Neptune's oceans can not cleanse the blood stains from my hands." The sin once committed haunts him.

Pilate the Governor sentenced to crucify Jesus. He had ignored the advice, "Have nothing to do with that just Man", given by his wife. Pilate said, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You take Him and crucify Him."

Pilate washed his hands. When Joseph of Arimathea asked for the permission for Jesus' funeral, Pilate was shocked. He asked, "Is He already dead?" He immediately rose and washed his hands. He came back and sat. Again, he rose up and washed his hands. Then he went to sleep. But he could not. Repeatedly, he washed his hands. Tradition says that he became insane and died after leading a miserable life.

Be sure, your sin will find you out in your conscience.

Sin is dreadful. The disasters of sin are horrible. Man will have to face the terrible result of sin both in this world as well as in the eternal world. Christ died on the Cross to make atonement for sin. Before sin finds us out, we should find our sin out, confess and forsake them.

“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

“He who covers his sins will not prosper,

But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.” Proverbs 28:13

Dear friend, will you confess and forsake your sins? Are you willing to be a new creation, giving up your sins for ever? Behold, the merciful LORD, feeling pity in your pathetic condition, is standing near you, holding out his pierced hands. Will you say now to Jesus Christ, “LORD, from now onwards, I will live as a new creation. LORD, from now onwards, I will live as a new person.”

Let us pray. O God, our everlasting love, we praise You for telling us that there is punishment for sin. We praise You for informing us that Jesus Christ shed his Holy Blood to evade the punishment of sin. Grant us Your grace to live unto the end experiencing the salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ! Amen.



Chapter – 5

“Be sure your sin will find you out.” Numbers 32:23(KJV)

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

In the previous chapter, we have noted three ways in which the sin will find us out.

One: Be sure your sin will find you out by human laws.

Two: Be sure, your sin will find you out in your body. Because of sin, there will be illness in your body.

Three: Be sure, your sin will find you out in your conscience. Your conscience will prick you of your sins and you may become a mental patient.

Four: Be sure your sin will find you out in future generations. Your children will have to suffer punishment for your sins.

“For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me.” Exodus 20:5

“Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation” Exodus 34:7

“But He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation.” Numbers 14:18

“For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me.” Deuteronomy 5:9

“You show loving kindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them.” Jeremiah 32:18

These Scriptural verses give us a clear warning that our children, grand children and their posterity will have to suffer for our sins.

We long for the prosperity and welfare of our children and strive for it. We want them to be well off. We work hard for them. Yet, if we deposit miseries and hardships for them in advance, how dreadful it is!

We see sin and curse being transferred to generations in this world. Don’t we see the persistence of sin in lives around us?

Be sure, your sin will find you out in future generations.

Five: Be sure, your sin will find you out in eternity. You will have to suffer for your sins in eternity.

Eternity is a reality. As death is a reality, so also is eternity

All human beings enter into an eternity after death. There is death. After that there is a judgment. After the judgment, there is an eternity. The eternity will either be the great Heavenly bliss or the hellish torture.

Jesus will sit on the throne of Judgment as the Judge of judges. Jesus, who is now on the throne of Grace will then be on the throne of Judgement.

The Scripture says about this, "And if you call on the Father, who with out partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your sojourning here in fear." 1Peter 1:17

"For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." 2 Corinthians 5:10

Those who lived together and worked together in the same field will get separated after death. Today, the bride of Christ and the bride of Antichrist are being prepared. Today, the Godly as well as Satanic people are together. Today, paddy and weed grow together in the same field.

We see the Master saying in the Scripture, *"Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.""* Matthew 13:30

Today, the grain and chaff are gathered together on the threshing floor. The One who has the 'winnowing fan' in hand will thoroughly purge the threshing floor one day. Then "He will gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire." (Luke 3:17)

A day will come. On that day He will separate as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats and set them on the right and left. The One on the throne of glory will say to those on His right hand:

"Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" Matthew 25:34

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."” Matthew 25:41

The Book of Revelation gives a clear picture of the last judgement in chapter 20, verse 11 onwards:

"Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things, which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:11-15

The sins not forgiven will follow us after our death. We go to the land on the other shore leaving everything. The sins that are not washed in the blood of Jesus Christ will follow us and bring us before the last Judgement.

That is why it is said that forgiveness should be received today itself. If forgiveness is not received, it would be an irreparable loss.

Jesus died on the Cross to atone for our sins. He bore all our punishment.

He was punished so that we could receive forgiveness. (Isaiah 53:4-6)

He was bruised for our healing. He was afflicted. (Isaiah 53:3-5)

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

He received death voluntarily so that we could experience the life of Jesus Christ. He tasted death.

He took over our poverty and became poor so that we might be partakers of his wealth.

He bore our humiliation so that we could share His radiant glory.

He was rejected to reconcile us to the Eternal Father.

Christ took over our curses to lead us to the abundance of blessing.

Be sure, your sin will find you out.

As you sow, so you reap.

What you sow, that you reap.

Sow, and reap more than what you sow.

Sow, and reap after many days.

1. Be sure your sin will find you out by human laws
2. Be sure your sin will find you out in your body.
3. Be sure your sin will find you out in your conscience.
4. Be sure your sin will find you out in future generations.
5. Be sure your sin will find you out in eternity.

However, the Scripture says again, *“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:1*

Sin has condemnation. But those who are in Christ Jesus have no condemnation.

This is a very comfortable verse. If you be in Jesus Christ today, you will be free from all condemnation. All sins and curses will be burnt away.

The pierced side of LORD Jesus Christ is the fountain that opened for sin and uncleanness. (Zechariah 13:1) Man’s sin is forgiven through the blood that flowed from that fountain.

Prophet Micah wrote eight hundred years before the birth of Christ:

*“Who is a God like You,
Pardoning iniquity
And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His
heritage?*

*He does not retain His anger forever,
Because He delights in mercy.
He will again have compassion on us,
And will subdue our iniquities.
You will cast all our sins
Into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:18, 19*

*“There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ
Jesus.”* How do we know that one is in Christ?

*“Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation;
old things have passed away; behold, all things have become
new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Jesus Christ transforms human heart. He changes the character. Old anger is no more today. Old blind zeal and vengeance are no more today. Old impure life is no more. Old evil practices are no more today. Old quarrels and hatred are no more today. Behold, Christ has made every thing new.

Dear friend, how many people are living in the same experience! How many families, that were once restless with quarrels and strife every day, are leading a comfortable life full of

harmony and love! Dear friend, before sin finds you out, do you desire to find sin out and forsake it? If so, tell Christ, who is standing beside you, "LORD, from now onwards, I am a new creation. From today onwards, I will be a new person."

Let us pray. Living God, we praise You for telling us that there is punishment for sin. We praise You for informing us that Jesus Christ bore my punishment on the Cross. I am dedicating myself at your feet to live as a new creation from now onwards. Sustain me unto the end. In the Royal name of Jesus Christ! Amen.



Chapter – 6

*“Today, salvation has come to this house,
because he is also a son of Abraham” Luke 19:19(KJV)*

Zacchaeus was the chief among tax collectors. Tax collectors were considered as the agents of Roman government. The right to collect tax was auctioned. The tax collectors need to remit only the auctioned amount to the government. But they always collected much more than this amount.

The Jews had no right to protest or to complain against the tax collectors. They were not aware of the amount, which they had to pay as the tax.

In Palestine, three types of taxes prevailed in those days.

One, Land tax. They are required to pay, among agricultural crops, one-tenth of the grains and one-fifth of fruits and roots towards land tax.

Second, Income tax. It was one percent of one's income.

Third, Personal tax (Poll tax). All men above fourteen years and women above twelve years, up to the age of sixty five are required to pay this tax.

Besides these, there were several other taxes, such as tax to use main roads, to buy and sell things in markets, entry tax for towns and bridges.

In Palestine, there were many taxes like these at that time. The tax collectors had become rich by collecting more than what they are required to collect.

The Jews considered these tax collectors as traitors and deceivers, who squeezed money out of them for the Roman government. The Jews hated and alienated the tax collectors like anti social elements. People viewed the tax collectors the same way as murderers and robbers.

Zacchaeus was such a tax collector. He had heard much about Jesus Christ. Jericho was the most crowded city. Zacchaeus had heard many opinions about Jesus made by the many people coming to the city.

Jesus Christ was a subject of discussion at that time. Some said that Jesus has sumptuously fed the multitude with five loaves of bread. He had healed the leper; raised the dead; healed the blind; a woman, who was bleeding for the past twelve years was healed the moment she touched the hem of Jesus' garment; a crippled woman, who was bent over for eighteen years was made straight when Jesus touched her; a man who was paralysed for thirty eight years was made well, took up his bed and walked away. What a relief in the body and mind when somebody comes near Jesus and hears His voice! How many had got their nature changed! How many families attained peace! Zacchaeus heard all these from the common people.

Some others were saying the opposite also. As the One who is against the Jewish religion; One who criticizes the priests; One who dishonours the temple at Jerusalem; One who breaks the Laws; a revolutionary, who plots against the Roman authorities; One who blasphemes; One who does not respect the traditions and forefathers. Like this, Zacchaeus heard many accusations and scandals against Jesus Christ.

At that time, Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was passing through Jericho. He decided to make use the opportunity. He longed to see Jesus Christ.

Zacchaeus came out closing his tax office. He walked through the crowd. But he could not see Jesus. How much he tried, he could not see Jesus as he was of short stature!

Zacchaeus ran ahead. He climbed up a sycamore tree. He sat on a branch, which was extending to the road. He camouflaged himself behind the branches and leaves. Now he could see the people passing under him; but they could not see him.

Here comes Jesus! Zacchaeus curiously gazed at Him. Jesus had stopped below the tree. Zacchaeus was pleased. Now Jesus is looking up. Very good! Zacchaeus could see the face of Jesus clearly. Suddenly, a voice echoed, *“Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.”*

Dear friend, now you are sitting in certain high plains. You are hiding yourself behind some branches and leaves. Aren't you hiding behind some of your virtues and righteousness?

Don't you think that Jesus sees you? My dear, Jesus sees you. You cannot hide yourself from the presence of Jesus. Jesus calls you. Jesus who called Zacchaeus, who was hiding above, by his name, in the streets of Jericho two thousand years ago, is calling you. Jesus says, "Dear Son, come down quickly, I shall dwell in your heart."

The first man, who committed sin in the Garden of Eden, sewed fig leaves together to cover their nakedness. When sin came, they were aware of their nakedness. When they heard the foot-steps of God, they were afraid and hid themselves.

When God, who used to come down in the cool of the day regularly seeking the friendship of man, came that day, couldn't find him, His delight. God called man, "Where are you?"

The same voice, the voice that called with the pangs of love, that called Adam, who hid himself, desperate and frightened because of the sin he had committed, calls you dear son and daughter. The same voice that called, "Zacchaeus make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house", calls you. Dear friend, Jesus calls you.

Zacchaeus came down at once. Both Jesus and Zacchaeus were walking ahead.

Jesus never asked, "Aren't you greedy?" Jesus never uttered, "Haven't you earned unjustly?" Jesus never reminded, "Isn't your past life filled with corruption, greed and deceit?" That is Christ's love! Jesus didn't think what kind of a person Zacchaeus was. Jesus only loved him!

Friend, Jesus only loves you. Jesus never asks any of your past deeds. Jesus gives you the sublime presence of love. That is Godly love!

But the multitude, who walked with Jesus Christ, along the streets of Jericho, questioned. They murmured. Though they were walking with Christ, they don't understand Christ's love. Even though they are moving with Jesus, they didn't know Jesus.

Isn't it like this with many Christians today? They walk with Jesus, but do not know Him! They are interested and enthusiastic about the miracles He performs. But murmur against receiving sinners.

It was a little ago that Jesus performed a miracle in the street of Jericho. Christ gave sight to Bartimaeus, the blind man sitting there. In Luke 18, verse 43, we read, *“And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.”*

It is great joy for people to see miracles. But it ends there. They are unable to accept God's love towards sinners. They are unable to see that the greatest miracle is the repentance of the sinner!

“They all murmured, saying, “He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.”” Luke 19:7

The next verse, *“Then Zacchaeus stood”*, is having wide meaning.

Zacchaeus heard people murmuring. Till now, he was alienated as a traitor, robber or murderer. So far, none of them had come to his house; nor will they come.

Dear friend, are you isolated in society? Are you being ignored by others pointing out your drawbacks and short comings? Do those around you scorn and blame you?

Those who were with Jesus till then began to murmur when they saw Him going to Zacchaeus' house. Zacchaeus understood that Jesus is scoffed off because of him. It is because of him that they are murmuring against Jesus.

Zacchaeus resolved that God's name should not be blasphemed because of him. Dear friend, is God's name being blasphemed because of you? Have others got the opportunity to murmur against LORD Jesus Christ looking at your life?

Zacchaeus stood. Zacchaeus tells certain clear decisions to the LORD.

Dear friend, while reading these words, have you got anything to tell Jesus? Are you able to take some serious decisions in your life?

Zacchaeus told the LORD some sure and steadfast decisions:

"LORD, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four-fold." Luke 19:8

The decision to compensate for the wrong doings that he had committed in life is inevitable for the success of Christian life. Jesus had said, *"A tree is known by its fruit."* A repentance is not real if the deeds are not worthy of repentance.

To have a mind to correct oneself is an inevitable fruit of repentance. Dear friend, do you have the desire to correct yourself and to make remedy for them?

Will you long to have the great blessing of Jesus Christ by saying about you, *“Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham.”*?

If so, let us pray by taking a new decision and dedication. Living God, LORD, our eternal love, we praise You for giving us Your life-giving Word. Open my inner eyes to see the eternal love that proceeded along the Jericho streets to transform the greedy Zacchaeus. Bless me to lead a holy life unto the end loving You. We pray in the saving name of Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers graciously. Amen.



Chapter – 7

*“Today, salvation has come to this house,
because he is also a son of Abraham” Luke 19:19(KJV)*

In the previous chapter, we have seen the repentance of Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus, who had been hated by the masses and his own countrymen, was desperate and lonely. He wished only to see Jesus. Jesus went to his house. Christ felt pity for him. Christ did not point out the irregularities and cut-throat policies in his life. Jesus only gave him the free love.

By the wonderful influence of that love, Zacchaeus told Christ, *“LORD, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four-fold.” Luke 19:8*

He had amassed his wealth through unjust means causing distress to many. But he cannot recollect who all they are. Therefore, he decides to give half of his wealth to the poor. He had decided to compensate four-fold to whom he remembers and have account of. This is what he had intended.

The rules for making atonement are clearly stated in the Law.

If a burglary was pre-planned and done in a brutal manner causing destruction, the Law requires it to be restituted four-fold.

“If a man steals an ox or a sheep and slaughters it or sells it, he shall restore five oxen for an ox and four sheep for a sheep.” Exodus 22:1

Though the burglary was done, but no damages were caused, only two-fold need to be restituted.

“If the theft is certainly found alive in his hand, whether it is an ox or donkey or sheep, he shall restore double.” Exodus 22:4

“If a man delivers to his neighbour money or articles to keep, and it is stolen out of the man’s house, if the thief is found, he shall pay double.” Exodus 22:7

If a person confesses his guilt willingly and is ready to make the atonement voluntarily, he shall restore the full value adding one-fifth more to it as commanded by the Law.

“...what he has stolen, or the thing which he has deceitfully obtained ... or all that about which he has sworn falsely. He shall restore its full value, add one fifth more to it.” Leviticus 6:4,5

“When a man or woman commits any sin that men commit in unfaithfulness against the LORD, and that person is guilty, then he shall confess the sin which he has done. He shall make

restitution for his trespass in full value plus one-fifth of it, and give it to the one he has wronged.” Numbers 5:6,7

Zacchaeus decided to make reparation much more beyond all these rules. He proved that he was a repented man by his deeds.

Do you remember when did the fondness of God come towards the people of Nineveh? When was the judgment removed from them?

“Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.” Jonah 3:10

The main theme of the sermon of John the Baptist was, *“Bear fruits worthy of repentance” Luke 3:8*

St. Paul states that he spoke thus, *“... they should repent, turn to God and do works befitting repentance.” Acts.26:20*

There are many people who are contented that they have repented but having no change in their lives befitting their repentance. The enemies of Christian belief are really not the non-Christians; instead, those who pretend to be Christians and not having any resemblance to the character of Jesus Christ.

Dr. E C Dewick, a Christian philosopher, once visited Dr. S Radhakrishnan, the then President of India. Then Dr. Radhakrishnan told him:

“Christians are ordinary people with extra-ordinary claims”

Dr. Dewick replied,

“These claims are not for our sake, but in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ.”

Even though Dr. Dewick had replied like that, the words of Dr. Radhakrishnan should make the Christian world to think seriously.

Dr. Borham had told a story. A meeting of testimonies was going on. Many of the women eloquently narrated their life testimonies. One lady among them was sitting very seriously and silent. She did not yield to the compulsion to give her testimony. When she was asked the reason, she replied:

“Four women among those who had witnessed owe money to me. They haven’t returned the money, which they had borrowed, from me. Having no means to buy food, my family and I are half-starving.

Not only words, but the life also should change. Not only the behaviour, but the life’s deeds also should change. Our character should also change along with our attitude and mentality. Then only it would become true repentance.

Mother Basilea Schlink had said, “The need of the hour is the repentance of the repented.” This means, “Repentance of the believers is highly essential today for the revival.”

John Wesley said, “I went to America to convert the Indians there; but who will convert me?” There is no wonder that an amazing revival flamed up through Mr. Wesley!

Zacchaeus decided to make reparation. Even today, there are people who have made reparation befitting repentance. One among them is Mr. Saju, who is managing a Dental Lab at Muvattupuzha. Let us ask Mr. Saju, his experiences of life.

Mr. Saju, would you please tell us about your repentance?

“I was born in a poor family. My father and mother were labourers. Most of the time, we were be starving. I remember a time when I had craved for food!”

“One day, in the house where my father worked, he had an attack of mental sickness. Some people there forcefully took him in a taxi to the Mental Hospital at Trichur. He was treated there for some time. At that time, my mother had the opportunity to attend a Gospel Convention of Christian Revival Fellowship at Kolenchery. My mother, who had decided to commit suicide due to the burdens and despair, returned to our home as a new person. This incident made us to think seriously.”

“Subsequently, we three brothers attended the meetings of this fellowship. The LORD performed miracle in our lives also and we all repented. With that, our father was healed completely. Now our father leads a perfectly peaceful life with out taking any medicine.”

Mr. Saju, do you have any particular incidents in your life after your conversion?

“Yes, many incidents! I was leading a shameful life while I was studying for my degree course in Mar Athanasius College,

Kothamangalam. At that time, I was staying in a lodge. I got entangled in some very bad company. At nights, after the second show cinema, we used to steal coconut, banana, fowl, etc from the neighbouring houses. In addition, we would have toddy and spent the time as drunkards. Now I feel ashamed of those days!”

Okay, after your conversion, what did you do?

“I confessed all my sins. I pledged not to commit sins any more. Even then I couldn’t experience true peace. I went to each and every house, from where I had stolen things. I confessed my guilt and begged forgiveness. I paid back an amount almost the double value of things that I had stolen. Some people accepted the amount. Some others refused to take it; instead, they appreciated and blessed me. After I had completely made the restitution, I had an experience of peace beyond words. This gave me more joy, hope and confidence.”

What prompted you to make compensation like this?

“I was greatly influenced by what I have read in the Scripture and the Gospel messages I have heard about the conversion of Zacchaeus. I longed for the experience the LORD had declared. “Today, salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham.””

“Today, fortunately, we lead a peaceful family life. We experience what is said that salvation has come to this house. The Heavenly God has blessed us both spiritually and worldly. Today, we are deeply involved in the LORD’s Ministries by closely associating with Christian Revival Fellowship.”

Jesus Christ, who granted a true conversion to Mr. Saju and an urge to make compensation is still living. Dear friend, Jesus Christ is standing beside you. He is telling you, 'Son, bear fruits befitting repentance'. The LORD says that He would make your life fruitful. Jesus Christ is assuring you that He would completely blot out your past life. He is promising you that He would completely cleanse your past sinful life and make you a new creation. Will you dedicate your sinful life at the Cross of Jesus Christ? Will you believe that Jesus will cleanse all your stains of sins with His Holy Blood? If so, tell Jesus, "LORD, from now onwards, I am your slave."

Let us pray. Our loving Holy Father, we praise You for giving us the Word. We praise You for Your Eternal love. We praise You for the promise that You will grant salvation for persons and homes. Sustain us unto the end. We pray in the Living name of Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers mercifully. Amen.



Chapter – 8

“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption” Acts 13:36(KJV)

David is a shining character in the Bible. A person, who gained the blessing to influence the generations. A fortunate person who received the blessings of the Living God!

St. Paul, who lived about thousand years after David, wrote about him:

“For David after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption” Acts 13:36

The Eternal God speaks about David, *“A man after my own heart” Acts 13:22*

In 1 Samuel 13:14 and Psalm 89:20, we read:

“A man after my heart”

David was so worthy of God’s blessing that the omniscient God spoke of him, *“A man after my own heart.”*

God's eternal love is displayed by appointing anointed Pastors after God's own heart. Later, God declared through Prophet Jeremiah:

"And I will give you shepherds according to my heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding." Jeremiah 3:15

"I will give you leaders after my own heart, who will guide you with wisdom and understanding" (Living Bible)

Dear friend, how does God see you? Will he say about you – "A man after my own heart"? Does the Divine character shine and glitter in you?

How is your life before the God, who sees secrets? Is God sad seeing your life?

Don't we all have just one life? We don't have another life to correct and live. We don't have another lifetime to please God.

David expended his lifetime to please God. During his generation, David served the God according to His will.

There are only two kinds of people in the world. Those who serve according to the will of God and others, who serve by the will of Satan. One group belonging to the 'servants of Christ'; and the other, the 'agents of ant-Christ'. One group tread the path of Eternal Life whereas the other, those who follow the path of eternal torture. One belongs to the children of light while the other belongs to offsprings of darkness.

The people of God, who experience holiness and God's love as part of their life, serve their generation by the will of God.

Those who live under the bondage of sin are serving by the will of the devil. Dear brother, dear sister, will you search your heart? Does any sin come in your thoughts, words and actions?

So many people are there, who dance to the tune of Satan! So many are there, who are caught in the gordian knot of sin! So many are there, who fall into sin again and again even when they desire to escape from sins!

“David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God fell asleep, was buried with his fathers and saw corruption”

Have you heard the famous words of C T Studd?

“Just one life, it will soon, soon be past. That which is done for Christ will last.”

C T Studd said these words while standing by the deathbed of his own brother. His brother, a famous cricketer, who filled the playground two weeks before, is now on the deathbed. How fast that well-built body came under the grip of disease! How fast that energetic body had become lean and dry! Studd said these words with whimpering voice.

Dear friend, who serve by the will of Satan, surrender yourself immediately to serve by the will of God. Set apart yourself for the will of the Living God.

I have heard a simple story. It's about a little girl. She is very clever. The pet child of the parents! One day her mother went to the market in the town. When she was about to go, the girl asked her father:

‘Dad, may I go with Mum?’

‘What for?’

‘To see the town.’

‘Okay, but don’t be late.’

Her father gave her one rupee when they started off to the town.

By the time they had finished shopping, it was late. Then the girl reminded her mother:

‘I should buy some thing with Dad’s money.’

‘Buy what ever you like’, said her mother.

She walked around the whole place. So many, many things; ribbon, hair band, slide, etc. It was getting late and the mother hurried the child.

Then the girl said, “Mum, only one rupee I have.”

The meaning of what she said was- She has only one rupee with her and with that she should buy the best thing!

Dear friend, there is only one life. Not many lives. Try to utilise the lifetime for the most valuable purpose.

“David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God fell asleep, was buried with his fathers and saw corruption”

Let us divide David’s life into four stages:

One: **David’s selection.** God selected David.

*“He also chose David His Servant,
And took him from the Sheepfolds;
From following the ewes that had young
He brought him,
To shepherd Jacob His people,
And Israel His inheritance.” Psalm 78:70,71*

God gave the golden sceptre in the hands of the shepherd. Placed the royal crown on the head of a cattleman. Gave the luxury of royal living for the one who slept at the door of the sheepfold. Gave the royal throne to the country lad who tended the sheep and sat in the tree shade, on the rock and beside the wild stream.

Who lifted David up? Who did groom David? The ‘Ever Holy’, the ‘Ever High’ and the ‘Ever Loving’ God!

David was born and brought up in an uncivilised rural home. Jesse had eight children. The eldest two were in Saul’s army. The others had no particular job. David was the youngest.

David tended the sheep. Sheep farming maintained the family. Poverty and all other difficulties were there. Poor Jesse laboured very hard to make the both ends meet.

One day, Jesse received an intimation. God is pleased to ordain one of his children as the King of Israel! Prophet Samuel was at Shiloh. All were invited for the sacrifice there. Jesse was told to bring his sons. One of them will be anointed as the King at the place of sacrifice.

Jesse's joy knew no bounds. One of his sons is going to be the King! Poverty and misery are coming to an end. There was great rejoicing in the house.

Jesse prepared all his sons. To David, he said, "You go to keep the sheep. We are going to Shiloh and would come back."

David took the sheep and went to the hillside. His father knew that this son is not fit to be made the King. David was neither haughty nor stout. He was neither strong nor intelligent.

Jesse and his children had arrived at the place of sacrifice. Eliab was the eldest son. God had revealed to Samuel, *"Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as the man sees; for the man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."* 1Sam. 17:6

The second and third sons came. None were chosen. All the seven sons came-no one was chosen!

Samuel then asked, "Are all the young men here?"

Jesse answered, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep."

"Send and bring him"

When David came, God told Samuel, "Arise, and anoint him; for this is the one!"

Father did not mind him. Brothers did not consider him. Those of his household as well as his countrymen did not count him worthy. But the Heavenly God chose him.

Dear sister, you may not be reckoned by the world. Own husband and children may not have any respect for you. Your colleagues may mock at you. But the Heavenly God cares for you. He loves you. He chooses you.

Jesus Christ said, *“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain.” John 15:16*

Do you believe that the God, who chose David, chooses you? When you read these words, will you tell Jesus, filled with gratitude, “LORD, since You have chosen this silly, unworthy sinner, from now on wards, I will live as your servant.”

Let us pray. Our ever loving God, we praise You for having chosen me through Your sacrificial death on the Cross. We praise You for having chosen me through the Holy Blood of Jesus Christ, Your Son and my LORD. Sustain me unto the end. We pray in the Life-giving name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



Chapter – 9

“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption” Acts 13:36(KJV)

In the previous chapter, we have meditated about the first stage in David's life.

One: **David's selection.** God selected David.

God selected David when his relatives and kinsmen did not consider him. When everyone ignored David, God considered David.

When Apostle Paul wrote his Epistle to Corinthians, he said:

“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God had chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has

chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are 1Corinthians 1:26-28

God selected David. Dear friend, God has selected you too. In the Epistle to Ephesians, Chapter 1, verse 4, we see that the Eternal God chose us in LORD Jesus before the foundation of the world.

Why were we chosen? To be holy and with out blame before him (Ephesians 1:4). God chose man born in iniquities to be made holy. God selected man, who was stained with many blemishes and impurities to be made innocent.

Dear friend, look at your status! How great is God's love towards you!

David understood that love. That is the next stage, **Decision.**

One: **Selection**

Two: **Decision**

Evening and morning and at noon

I will pray, and cry aloud,

And He shall hear my voice" Psalm 55:17

David decided to keep the relationship with God through prayer. He took ce rtain specific decisions

"At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You,

Because of Your righteous judgments."

Psalm 119:62

*"I will keep Your testimonies.
I rise before the dawning of the morning
And cry for help." Psalm 119:146,147*

*"Seven times a day I praise You,
Because of Your righteous judgments."
Psalm 119:164*

David took certain definite and specific decisions. When I realize that God cares for me; God keeps me; God loves me freely, my heart will be filled with gratitude and joy. Deep commitments are taken from such joy and love towards God.

The one, who was forgiven more, loves more. One, who realizes that God has forgiven his countless sins, loves God.

We see in Luke, chapter 7, verse 42, *"And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both."*

It is out of the gratitude that God had freely given me the status, which I am unworthy, that I am able to love God with an innocent conscience. When this gratefulness and love filled David's heart, he sang:

*"Who remembered us in our lowly state,
For His mercy endures forever." Psalm 136:23*

*"To Him who alone does great wonders,
For His mercy endures forever." Psalm 136:4*

Dear friend, do you feel an innocent love toward Christ? Do you believe that Jesus shed His innocent blood to forgive your countless sins? Do you realize Jesus had cleared all your

debts, which you were unable to repay? If so, then certain specific and definite decisions will come out of your heart.

The Scripture says that Daniel took a definite decision.

“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself.” Daniel 1:8

The decision Daniel took at the beginning of his youth! The decision the young man took when he was living in a foreign country, away from his dear and near ones! It was a decision that brought forth far-reaching results.

God honoured the decision Daniel took. God lifted Daniel up to higher levels. There were one hundred and twenty states in the Persian Empire of Darius. There were one hundred and twenty Governors for those one hundred and twenty states. For over the one hundred and twenty Governors, there were three Presidents. Daniel was first among the three.

God will honour good decisions. God will reward. God honours those who honour God.

Dear friend, do you like to take any decisions before God now? Would you tarry again to take strong decisions like David and Daniel?

The third stage in David’s life is his downfall – **Decline**.

David, the hero of faith, deteriorated. The mighty man of God degenerated. The anointed one of God fell into sin.

David, the man of God, who once lamented over the failure and death of Saul, *“How the mighty have fallen!”*, did fall. David, who lamented looking at the slain body of Saul, *“How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle!”*, did fall. (2 Samuel 1:19 to 25)

Satan led David to this great fall step by step. In the eleventh chapter of the second book of Prophet Samuel, it is seen that, *“at the time when David’s army went out to battle, David remained at Jerusalem.”*

It started with the sin, **Laziness**.

It is seen in 2 Samuel, chapter 11, verse 2 that, *“one evening, David arose from his bed.”* When his army had been fighting against the enemy in the battlefield, David was asleep during the daytime!

One evening, he arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the palace. Won’t anyone think that he, who is a man of God, who in the presence of God had taken a vow that, *“Evening and morning and at noon I will pray and cry aloud”*, had arisen in the evening to pray?

But his determination failed. He deviated from his vow. He is walking on the roof! The fortress of decision and devotion crumbles.

Then he saw a woman bathing at a distance. Sin came in his look! See the step-by-step attack of sin!

Subsequently, the anointed one of God fell in to the most horrible sin! (2 Samuel 11:2-5)

The fall of Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah, is really a fall. But the fall of David is very grave. Because David is the anointed one

of God. The anointing oil had fallen on his head. David had killed Goliath. David was a nightmare to his enemies. Thus, the fall was horrible.

But the tide of sin does not end there. David is planning crafts and tricks in his mind. He summoned Uriah to show before the people that he is righteous. Making Uriah happy, David sent him to his wife.

David strove hard to appear good before men by putting the responsibility of the child in Bathsheba's womb on Uriah, her husband. But those tricks did not bear fruit. Even though David made Uriah drunk, he did not go to his wife. (Verse thirteen)

Uriah was sent to Joab, the Commander, with a letter in his hand. Uriah sincerely thought that it was his "Promotion Order" from the King for remaining responsible in the battle even without going home to be with his wife! Promotion for the sense of responsibility!

The letter read, "*Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die.*" 2 Samuel 11:15

Uriah was killed. Bathsheba, the widow, became the wife of David. David did not commit murder. He did nothing unjust in the sight of men. But God, who sees everything, was seeing all.

Decline – "*But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.*" Terrific decline! Pathetic failure in life!

The fall in David's life is a moral lesson to believers. Dear, we too tread the path, where many heroes of faith had perished. It is a path, where we may fall. It is a slippery path. You may slip. You may stumble.

But it is not necessary that we should fall. Though the heroes of faith perished, it is a path, which the fishermen gained. Those who cling to the God's love can win. Fighting the evil spirit, you will be able to give encouragement of victory to those who follows. You can stimulate those who come longing for the arduous path.

We could lead many to the harbour of life by advising those who follows that there is possibility to fall to evil path due to slightest laziness, and encouraging those who tread the narrow and arduous path by the testimony of victory and voice of rejoicing.

Dear friend, are you fallen today? Do you believe that the God, who toiled hard to give conviction of sin to David by sending Prophet Nathan to his palace, lives today?

God's love that raises the fallen is pleading with you now. This Eternal love is the God's love displayed on the Cross of Calvary. It is the unique love that brings back the one led astray to the right path. It is the precious love that carries the wounded on the shoulder. It is the great love that remoulds the broken anew. It is the love that makes the unholy, holy. Dear friend, now, when this love knocks at your heart, tell Christ, "LORD, from now onwards, I will be holy."

Let us pray. Our Heavenly Father, we praise You for assuring us that, even if we fall, You will keep us from perishing. We praise You LORD for giving the Word to stand alert. Help us to stand with out fall unto the end. We pray in the precious name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Chapter – 10

“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption” Acts 13:36(KJV)

David was a man after God’s own heart. David was the sweet psalmist of Israel. David was the anointed one of God. David was the valiant King of Israel. David pleased God and had served his own generation by the will of God.

In the previous chapters, we have meditated about three stages in David’s life.

One: **Selection**. God selected David.

Two: **Decision**. David took decisions in the presence of God.

Three: **Decline**. David fell from his dedication.

Four: **Return**. David returned. He was restored.

God never discards His beloved servant in his fall. The Living God never leaves the one whom He has called out on the way.

God is compassionate and gives all comforts. God is long forgiving. God is extremely merciful. God is the sources of Grace. God is sea of mercy. God is the embodiment of love. God is the synonym of long forgiveness.

God sent Prophet Nathan to David's palace to give him conviction of sin and repentance with the Word of Life. The Prophet told him an incident that had happened in the country.

“Once there was a rich man and a poor man. They were neighbours. The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. But the poor man had only one little ewe lamb. To the poor man, the lamb was life.

One day, a guest came to the rich man's house. Shouldn't he entertain the guest giving him delicious food? The rich man did not take one lamb from his fold, instead caught the ewe lamb of the poor man, killed it, prepared it and entertained the guest.”

David jumped up from his throne. David's sense of morality was aroused. With moral indignation, David said, “The man who has committed this atrocity shall surely die. And shall restore four fold of the lamb.”

The Prophet stood up. Pointed his finger towards the King. “*You are the man!*” You are the ungodly man who killed Uriah and took his wife your own.

The Prophet is like that. The prophet never honours the face of men. With out considering the aftermaths, he will point out sin severely and stand against sin from top to bottom.

David came to his sense. The man of God, who had no conviction of his sins all this time since he committed sin, got conviction when he heard the Prophetic voice. That is the power of The Word. That is the grace of the Holy Spirit. That is the glory of the prophetic ministry.

“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness and of judgment.” John 16:8

Dear friend, when you hear these words, will you look back into your life? Do you believe the Spirit of God is advocating with you through His Word to give you conviction and repentance?

David got conviction of sin. David got down from his throne. He started to cry and pray repenting. Psalm 51 is the prayer of that repentance:

*“Have mercy upon me, O God,
According to Your loving kindness;
According to the multitude of Your tender mercies,
Blot out my transgressions;
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
And cleanse me from my sin”* The prayer that opens

thus started to flow from his broken heart.

David says, *“My sin is ever before me.”*

David had said before, *“I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand. I shall not be moved.”*
Psalm 16:8

Today, whether he shuts or opens his eyes, what stands before his eyes is sin.

The child of God understood that he had lost the joy of Salvation. So he prays, *“Restore to me the joy of Your Salvation.”* He admitted that the lips that praised continuously had been closed. David burst into tears and prayed with pain because he had lost the praise and communion with God:

“O LORD, open my lips,

And my mouth shall show forth your praise” Psalm 51:15

David understood that the horrible sin of blood guiltiness was haunting him. David said crying, *“Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, The God of my salvation. And my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.”* Psalm 51:14

David admitted and confessed that only because of him the walls of Jerusalem had crumbled. *“Build the walls of Jerusalem”* he prayed.

With a broken and penitent heart, David confessed his sins and started praying for forgiveness.

David prayed taking a firm resolution:

“LORD, remember David

And all his afflictions;

How he swore to the LORD,

And vowed to the Mighty God of Jacob:

“Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house,

*Or go up to the comfort of my bed;
I will not give sleep to my eyes
Or slumber to my eyelids,
Until I find a place for the LORD,
A dwelling place for the Mighty God of Jacob.”
Psalm 132:1-5*

With this discipline and dedication, David ardently waited praying for God's mercy. Then God forgave David's curse. God brought David out of the deep pit and out of the miry clay of despair. That is what David sings in Psalm 40:

*“I waited patiently for the LORD;
And He inclined to me,
And heard my cry.
He also brought me up out of a horrible pit,
Out of the miry clay,
And set my feet upon a rock,
And established my steps.
He has put a new song in my mouth-
Praise to our God;
Many will see it and fear,
And will trust in the LORD. Psalm 40:1-3*

What a great peace did David get then! The peace when sins are forgiven. A feeling that a burning fire is extinguished. Blessedness of being filled with an inward peace.

David describes it in Psalm 32:

“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,

Whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity,

And in whose spirit there is no guile” Psalm 32:1,2

“There was a time when I wouldn’t admit what a sinner I was. But my dishonesty made me miserable and filled my days with frustration. All day and all night your hand was heavy on me. My strength evaporated like water on a sunny day, until I finally admitted all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide the.” Psalm 32:3-5(Living Bible)

God reinstated David. David attained peace once again. David experienced the happiness of forgiveness. Out of that joy, gratitude and praise, David took certain decisions:

“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire;

My ears You have opened;

Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.

Then I said, “Behold, I come;

In the scroll of the Book it is written of me.

I delight to do Your will. O my God,

And Your law is within my heart.”” Psalm 40:6-8

The child of God pledges here to serve the LORD as an ear-pierced slave. When we read the Book of Exodus, Chapter 21, verse 1 to 7, we will understand the importance of the saying ‘ear-pierced slave’. If a Hebrew servant is bought, after serving six years, he could go free in the seventh year.

“If the servant says, ‘I will not go free’, he shall bring him to the Judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the door post, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him for ever.” Exodus 21:6, Deuteronomy 15:12-17.

David took such a decision in his re dedication. That is why the Holy Spirit of God, after two thousand years spoke through the tongue of Apostle Paul:

“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption” Acts 13:36

Dear brother, dear friend, when you read these words, the God, who restored David stands by your side. This is the time to confess your sins to God with repentance and contrition and make new dedication.

*“O Israel, return to the LORD your God,
For you have stumbled because of your iniquity;
Take words with you,
And return to the LORD.
Say to Him,
“Take away all iniquity;
Receive us graciously, (Hosea 14:1-3)*

If so, let us pray. God, our loving treasure, we praise You for the unique love that stood behind David in the different stages of his life, as selection, decision, decline and return. Grant us to remain in that eternal Love unto the end. We pray in the lofty name of Jesus Christ. Kindly hear our prayers. Amen.



Chapter – 11

“Stand in awe, and sin not” Psalm 4:4 (KJV)

David sang fourth Psalm when he wandered about unseen, through the forest and caves for fear of Absalom.

Absalom was the beloved son of David. But he was a son who gave David pain and misery ever. He is said to be the ‘*Prodigal Son*’ of Old Testament in the Bible.

Among all the Biblical characters, Absalom is the most handsome. Like fragrance to gold, Absalom was a heroic man in whom extra-ordinary intellectual ability, strength, courage and strategy had assembled.

But he utilised his talents to attack his own father. King David had to flee from the palace to the forest for life. In his conspiracy, he enticed those who were in his father’s side to his side and prepared the army. David knew that *“the hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom.”* So David said to all his servants:

“Arise, and let us flee; or else we shall not escape from Absalom. Make haste to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly

and bring disaster upon us, and strike the city with the edge of the sword.” 2 Samuel 15:13-15.

The Scripture describes the flight of David: *“So David went up by the ascent of the Mount of Olives, and wept as he went up; and he had his head covered and went barefoot. And all the people who were with him covered their heads and went up, weeping as they went up.” 2 Samuel 15:30*

Absalom’s soldiers were pursuing David. They may kill him any time. David was quite exhausted by treading the forest unseen. He was very tired. It was evening. He is so tired that he can’t even make another step. He longed to sit and take some rest. He feared that while taking rest, would his son and his soldiers find him and kill him?

Then he saw a cave. He got into it. He hadn’t eaten any thing the whole day! He is too tired. He swept away the stones and pebbles from the cave floor and made a bed out of some dry leaves. He was about to lie. Then a thought came to his mind to pray first.

He is not sure whether he would be killed before the dawn. Let every thing be in the hands of the LORD before sleeping. It was then that David sang the fourth Psalm. At its close, David sings,

*“I will both lie down in peace, and sleep;
For You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.”*

Psalm 4:8

No danger happened to him that night. The Almighty God kept him. Next morning, he woke up safe and sound. He is happy that the hands of the most High had supported him. He then sang the third Psalm. David says in it:

*“I lay down and slept;
I awoke, for the LORD sustained me.
I will not be afraid of ten thousand people,
Who have set themselves against me all around.”
Psalm 3:5,6*

How did David get this courage? When we go through the fourth Psalm, we will understand.

One: Righteousness.

David calls God, God of my righteousness. The righteousness of God enveloped David. David was once caught as an offender. How many sins had come in his life; laziness, retreat from the battle field, prayerlessness, vulgarity in look, lust, adultery, drunkenness, hypocrisy, murder, longing for man’s honour, non conviction of sin, hardened heart, etc, came about in David’s life! Yet, God, after having seen every thing, acquitted David, the convict. That is righteousness.

The love of God is that acquits the guilty, when his guilt is proved. That is the righteousness of God! Found guilty before men, but God took over the punishment for that guilt. That is the supreme sacrifice on the Cross. Man was justified like that.

“For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His Grace through the redemption that is in the Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:23-24

“But of Him, you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God - and righteousness and sanctification and redemption -” 1 Corinthians 1:30

“For He made Him, who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

I have heard an anecdote: A criminal was taken to the court for trial. The Judge happened to be his friend and class mate. But before the Law he had to accept the punishment for he was found guilty. He was fined one lakh rupees. If he failed to remit the fine, in lieu, he has to undergo five years rigorous imprisonment. As he could not remit the fine, he has no other choice but to go to the jail. When he had arrived at the gate of the Jail, an officer told him, “The Judge has paid the entire amount of fine. Now you are free to go.”

This is righteousness. This is what Jesus had accomplished on the Cross.

One: **Righteousness**

Two: **Prayerfulness**

“Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness!... Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.”

The greatest blessing in David's life was that he always had a longing for prayer. He always relied on God and lived in constant communion with God.

*"This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him,
And saved him out of all his troubles." Psalm 34:6*

*"O LORD my God, I cried out to You,
And You have healed me." Psalm 30:2*

*"As the deer pants for the water brooks,
So pants my soul for You O God." Psalm 42:1*

David was a man of prayer. David was a hero of prayer.

Robert Murray Mc Chain was a famous evangelist of Scotland. Before he was 29 years old, he stirred up Scotland for God. One day an evangelist visited his church. In order to know the secret of his ministry's success, he asked his assistant, "Would you mind showing me the room where this exalted inspiring preacher reads?"

When they reached the room, the guest was asked to sit on the chair where Robert Murray sat. Very reluctantly, he sat on it. There was an open Bible on the table in front of him. The assistant told him:

"Place your head in the Book and cry with sobs, for Robert Murray Mc Chain does the same before each sermon."

One: **Righteousness**

Two: **Prayerfulness**

Three: **Sinlessness**

“Stand in awe, and sin not”

David shudders at the remembrance of sin. The most horrible sins came in David’s life. David heard the voice of Prophet Nathan and repented.

“I have sinned against the LORD” David confessed with ardent repentance.

“*The LORD has also put away your sins*”, Nathan replied to King David.

Yet, certain words uttered by Nathan reverberated in David’s heart.

“*Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house. Thus says the LORD.*”

“*Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house*” (2 Samuel 12:9-13)

Again we see in the 13th chapter that Amnon, David’s son, brought disgrace to Tamar, David’s daughter. Subsequently, Absalom, Tamar’s brother, killed Amnon.

Absalom, the haughty, proud and prodigal son plotted against his father.

David says meditatively, “*Stand in awe, and sin not.*” Sinlessness.

Four: **Peacefulness**

David says, "I will both lie down in peace and sleep." The very foundation of peace is the assurance that sin is forgiven. The thought that whatever miseries and dangers befall, his sin was forgiven and that he was reconciled to God, gave David peace.

Dear friend, have you gained the assurance that your sin is forgiven? Have you attained the faith that every sin is washed away by the shed Blood of Jesus on the Cross?

Five: **Fearlessness**

"For You alone O LORD, make me dwell in safety"

Psalm 4:8

*"I will not be afraid of ten thousand of people
Who have set themselves against me all around."*

Psalm 3:6

*"The LORD is my light and my salvation,
Whom shall I fear?"*

*The LORD is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?"*

*Though war should rise against me,
In this I will be confident." Psalm 27:1-3*

Child of God, how did David get this courage? Trust and faith on the eternal God was his asset. Fear left David when he confessed his sin in remorse and decided to live without sin thereafter.

Friend, is your life in fear, depression and restlessness now? If you experience the righteousness of God and renounce

your sins and keep away from sin, you too will get the rest, peace and fearlessness. Let the verse *“Stand in awe, and sin not”* always echo in your mind and heart.

Do you desire this calm and serene life for you? If so, tell Jesus, “LORD, wash away my sin; sanctify me with Your Blood from now onwards”

If so, let us pray. LORD, we praise You for the Words given to us today. We praise you for the exhortation to keep away from sin. Grant me the blessing to stand among the holy when you return to gather them. We pray in the most high name of Jesus Christ. Kindly hear our prayers. Amen.

