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Good Words - April 1986, no. 161

Brethren in Christ Church in Africa

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April 1986

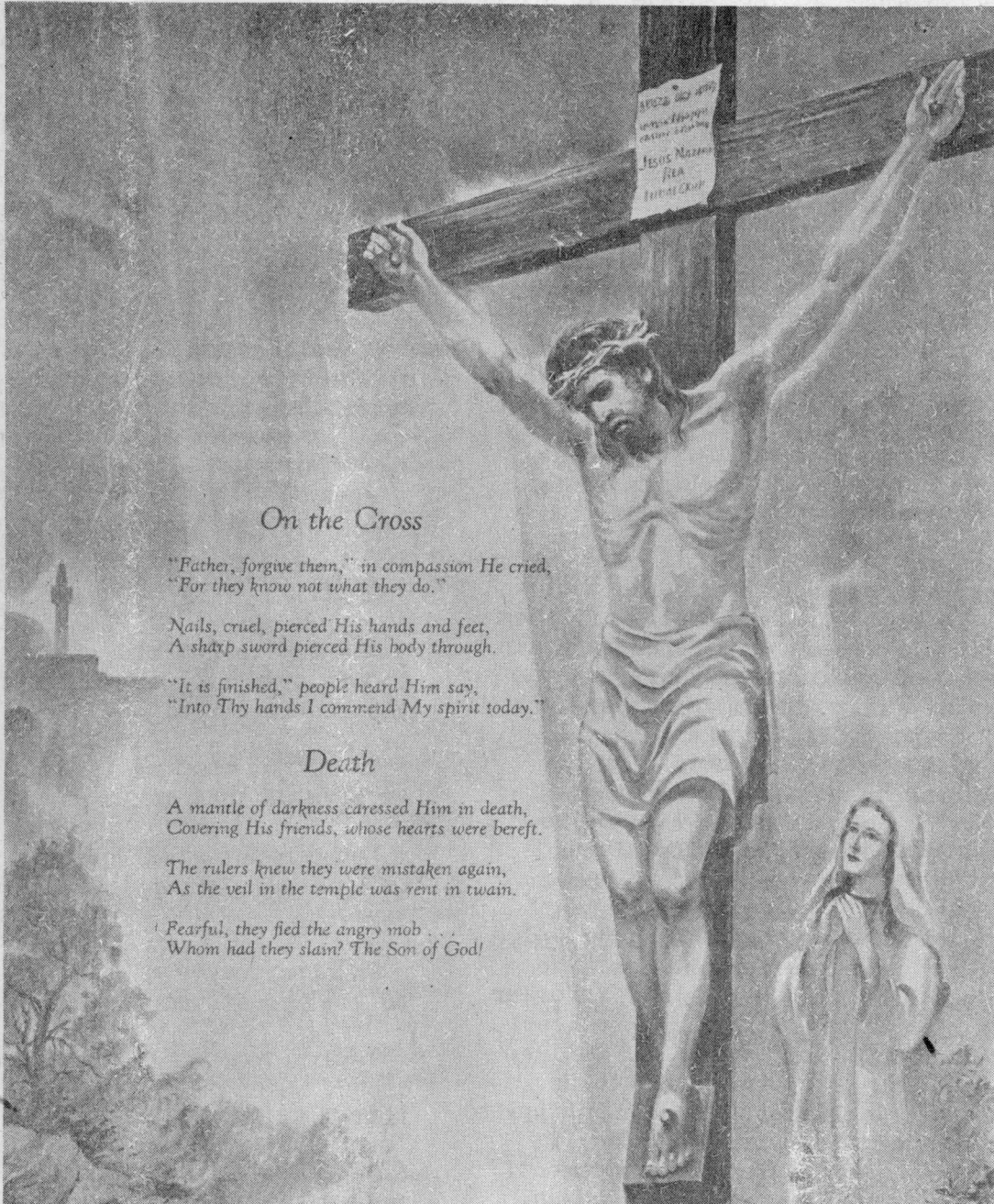
"UJehova wayesehendula ngAMAZWI AMAHLE" Zak. 1:13

Number 161

Registered at GPO as newspaper

KUCHASISWA UKUBETHELWA KWENKOSI
CRUCIFIXION OF THE LORD IS BEING EXPLAINED

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On the Cross

"Father, forgive them," in compassion He cried,
"For they know not what they do."

Nails, cruel, pierced His hands and feet,
A sharp sword pierced His body through.

"It is finished," people heard Him say,
"Into Thy hands I commend My spirit today."

Death

A mantle of darkness caressed Him in death,
Covering His friends, whose hearts were bereft.

The rulers knew they were mistaken again,
As the veil in the temple was rent in twain.

Fearful, they fled the angry mob . . .
Whom had they slain? The Son of God!

"FATHER FORGIVE THEM"

Good Friday and its importance:

J. D. Moyo

To some people Good Friday is just a Holiday during which we can relax and visit friends. While it is a good day of visiting our friends, but to Christians this is the most important day of all the days. Christians all over the world think of Good Friday as a day when our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified.

Jesus was arrested on Thursday at about 9.00, pm, and was tried six times soon after His arrest. He was taken to Annas the former priest, and from there He was taken to Caiaphas. He then went to the Sanhedrin who forwarded Him to Pilate who represented the Roman Government. Pilate sent Him to Herod in Galilee. From here He went back to Pilate who gave Him to the Jews to be crucified. Jesus was humiliated to the most agonizing of deaths that was ever devised for any fellow man. This took place on Friday morning at about 9.00 am. Jesus had to die as this was the plan of God to save the human race.

The old system of approaching God through the blood of animals was not satisfactory to man and God. Jesus therefore was the permanent sacrifice that God had in mind all the time. Sacrifices under the old system were repeated again and again, and year after year, but the feelings of guilt were always there. It was not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin. By one offering He made forever perfect in the sight of God all those whom He is making holy. Hebrews 10:1-14 (Living Bible)

On the cross Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" He was made a sinner on our behalf in order that we might become the righteousness of God in Him 11 Cor 5: 21. Hal Lindsey says, "He was destined by God to be the passover lamb whose blood when applied to the doorposts of our hearts would cause God to pass over us in judgement." Jesus died for us because He loved us. John 15:13, "Greater love has no more

than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. Read also John 3:16. Surely, God can now restore man into fellowship with Him, because propitiation removed the wrath of God from the world. The substitutionary death of Jesus Christ changed God's offended character for all men in the whole world.

Jesus died to reconcile man to God. Romans 5:10. There is no wonder therefore why Good Friday is so important to Christ-

ions all over the world. Let us note that propitiation brings man out from under the wrath of God. Through the death of Jesus Christ man was redeemed from sin and damnation if he will accept or receive Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Saviour of the world. Redemption therefore brings man out of slavery to sin and Satan through the payment of a ransom. He died in our place. Substitutionary Death brings man out from under the penalty of death through the death of Jesus Christ in our place. The death of Christ torn down the barrier that man has built up against God.

*** Good Friday Holiday is a commemoration of the Crucifixion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CROSS-BEARING

The highest bidder for the crown is the lowest bearer of the cross of self-denial.

The way to get rid of your cross is to die upon it. Jesus bore no cross in the resurrection.

It is not what we take up but what we give up that makes us rich.

You can-not steal quietly to Heaven in Christ's company without a cross to bear.

An opportunity to sacrifice is a chance to get acquainted with Christ.

Seeking now to fit our shoulder to the cross, we shall someday find our brow fitted to wear the crown.

We may not be called upon to lose our life for His sake; but enabled by His grace, we can always deny self for His sake.



ITestamente Lisebenza sekufiwe:

Amaheberu 9:17.

nguNkosikazi N. Mlotshwa

Ngokwenkonzo yabaJuda lowo lalowo mnyaka ngelanga lokuhlangana (atonement day) kwakusiba lezimbuli ezimbili. Enye yayihlatshwa kuthi igazi layo lisetshenziswe ukuchelwa esihlalweni somusa endaweni engcwele. Lokhu kwakusenziwa ngumpristi omkhulu emela isizwe. Leli igazi lesivumelwano lalisebenza kuphela nxa imbuzi isifile. Imbuzi yesibili kwakusithi umpristi omkhulu abeke isandla zakhe phezu kwekhanda layo avume izono zesizwe ibesixotshelwa iganga sengathi ukuxotshela izono khatshana labantu. Umpristi lendlu yakhe babenikela ngegazi lenkunzi okwezono zabo. Imbuzi ehlatshelwe isizwe lenkunzi ehlatshelwe umpristi lendlu yakhe zazitshiswa ngaphandle kwekhamu. Igazi lazo kuphela yilo elalisebenza okwesivumelwano sensindiso. Abantu babehlengwa ngaleligazi.

Ngaphandle kokuchitha igazi akukho ukuthethelelwa. Amaheberu 9:22. Njengoba iTestament (isivumelwano) lisebenza kuphela nxa olenzayo esefile kunjalo uJesu kwakumele afe ukuze isivumelwano esitsha sensindiso ngegazi lakhe sisebenze.

"Wahlupheka ngaphandle kwekhamu" (Camp)
Amaheberu 13:20

Ngithinte kancane ngezinyamazana ezazitshiswa ngaphandle kwekhamu lamaJuda ngemva kokuba sekusetshenziswe igazi lazo. Zazikhomba uJesu owayezabethelwa ngaphandle kwekhamu labaJuda eGoligotha.

"Wayedeliwe asamthanda" Isaya 53:3

Okwengezelela ubuhlungu besiphambano uJesu wadelwa. Kambe ungezwa njani nxa

izihlobo lezithandwa zakho zikudela nxa usebuzimani? Abafundi ababeseduze laye kakhulu behluleka ukumqinisa lokuma laye. Zehla izithukuthuku ezifana legazi kungekho owayengakhuluma ngazo amduduze. Lasekubethelweni kwakhe abafundi babaleka. LoPeturo owayethembise ukuthi uzakufa laye wamdela wamphika khangela ukudelwa okungaka!

"Njengemvu ithule phambi kwabagundi"
Isaya 53:7.

Wema phambi komthethwandaba, kuqala egcekeni lompristi omkhulu phambi kuka Filatu, kodwa kawuvulanga umlomo wakhe. Ngubani ilizwe libanzi linje ongamela ukuthukwa, ukweyiswa, ukutshaywa, angatsho lutho. Kusobala ukusithanda kwakhe.

"Wabalwa kanye lezoni. Isaya 53:9

Esefikile endaweni yenhloko, bemi amadlondlongwana abamcalayo bamphanyeka emthini labaphangi ababili. Le yayiyindlelela yokujezisa abaphangi lezikliwi ngaleso sikhathi. Kwakumele isikliwi isigangi siphanyekwe emthini loba esiphambanweni sibonwe yilizwe lonke. Wabethelwa uJesu omunye wangwaza kwaphuma amanzi legazi. Kwangcwaliseka khonapho isivumelwano segazi lakhe. Esefile igazi lesivumelwano lasebenza. Nempela iTestamente elitsha laqala ukusebenza esefile. "Lesi isitsha siyisivumelwano esitsha egazini lami. Luka 22:20. Wasifela ngokufa okubi kodwa kasibongeni ngokuba wavuka. Impilo yakhe esegazini lakhe wasipha lathi ukuze siphile phakade.

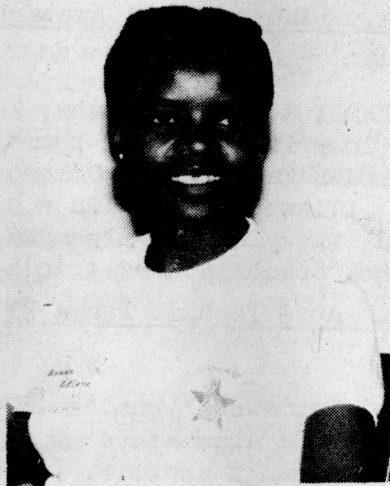
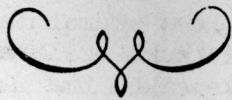
To take up His cross and follow Him is to go right on in the path in which Jesus leads and meet the suffering and shame that lie there.

Faith would soon freeze without a cross. Since Jesus bore the cross and died on it for us, ought we not be willing to take it up for Him?

It is not enough to lighten the crosses of other people, we must bear His cross.

The Lord's church is a church of the cross, a society of crucified hearts.

Fellowship in Christ's sufferings is the qualification for sharing in His dignity.



Experience in the U.S.A.

Suzen Moyo.

" If ever I get home after this experience, I will never leave my family again," I will stay at home as long as I live." Those are the words I said one evening two months after I arrived in in the U.S.A. Looking back I can understand why I said that. I am glad it is not going to be that way. I believe that was due to homesickness and cultural deprivation.

I am glad that Jesus brought me here for a good purpose and cause. I exalt the person of Jesus and I am glad that God is good to me. He embraces all, and it is up to us christians to show the world the incorruptible riches we have in Jesus our Lord. He presents Himself in every field of conflict to encourage me and fight for me during hardships and in periods of dejection. The Lord promised to keep me. He prayed for me and there is nothing I should be afraid of. Romans 8:28. and John 17.

My stay in the U.S.A. has taught me many things despite my anticipation of a wasted year before I came here. Now I think

of it as a year full of adventure and new avenues to explore. One interesting thing I have discovered is the Lord's diversity in creation. I loved to eat foods which no one ate at home like sour milk with bread and butter with porridge, and pumpkins with soup and fresh cream. I think mainly because I was no cook. I am interested in mixing salads and learning many new ways of preparing foods and have already started collecting various recipes. The Lord knew I was no cook and offered up this opportunity for me to learn. This reminds me of a joke I used to share with my family. They teased me as I could not cook two good meals in a row, and that my prospective husband would kick me out of our new home. I replied that I was going to attend Hlekweni Cookery Centre to learn two weeks before I married.

People in the States are sound economically, however everything has its shortcomings. There is ofcourse the darker side of the coin. You can-not afford to be sick because Hospitals are very expensive. The services or treatment are itemised and you are asked to pay for each one. The doctor's examination, the medicine and injections, the food, the toiletery, the laundry and \$ 175,00 for the room as is the case in our local Ephrata General Hospital.

The people in the U.S.A. are about to loose person to person contact because of machinisation and computenisation. Car garadges open and close at the press of automatic button. Telephones are installed with recorded answering machines There are micro wave gadgets that make warm food and a cup of chocolate in no time. It seems to me that very soon packing machines shall be introduced cutting off the chance of talking to sales ladies about Jesus. Because of this kind of luxury, and plenty food, it is hard to convince people that there is starvation and evil in the world today. Many people are still egoistic and not saved.

I have heard people say it's Africa's turn to consolidate Christian fellowship in the U.S.A. Because of terrible things we read in papers and hear in the radio about what is happening at different places in the U.S.A; such as children who go missing daily; and their heads are sometimes found in gutters with only two teeth. I would like the people here to emulate the Spirit and culture and

promote the respect which we live in, in Zimbabwe.

It is now up to Africa to send zealous and enthusiastic missionaries to rekindle the gospel in the U.S.A., As I have said this has been a great year for me. A year of joy and sorrow, hardships and blessings, home sickness and solitude,

I am however looking forward to another challenging experience in my second assignment with great enthusiasm. Believe me I am already counting and cancelling one from each calendar month. I am glad to tell you that I am engaged in self-help Crafts as a stock control clerk. My duties include doing the Manager's and the store's catalogue, jewelry and linen displays. We deal mainly with hand crafts for under developed countries. I also assist in the store room. It is quite enjoyable but naturally there are boring days. So what? That is life and variety.

ESinathi Malunga Hamba kuhle:

Themba Mbasela Ncube.

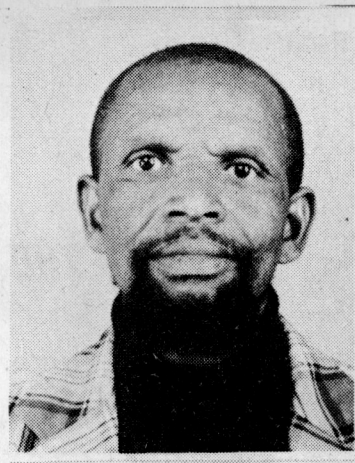
Nguboyenja B.I.C. Youth.

Sikhumbula uEsinathi Malunga wedlula ngoMpalakazi zimatshumi mabili lanhlano, December 25, 1985.

Ukufa kwasithathela udadewethu othangeka kakhulu. Kusasa uzakuba yingoma engingeke ngiyihlebelele khatesi. Siya mkhumbula kakhulu lamuhla njalo siza mkhumbula lakusasa. Kufanele sihlale silindile ngoba elakusasa kalazaziwa. Udadewethu usitshiyile ngokuphangisa, besingakananzelele lokho kodwa wasitshiya uhambile ekhaya.

Udadewethu uEsinathi wakuhlakaniphela lokhu. Akatshongo ukuthi ngizathandaza kusasa ngoba wakwazi ukuthi ikusasa mhlaumbe ingabi ngeyakhe. "Lamuhla nje uJesus ngowami wathandaza langomzuzu wakhe wokucina emhlabeni esezandleni zika mama umaMoyo uNkosikazi Mawunga.

Manje dadewethu Esinathi, ngubani ozathatha indawo yakho lapha eNguboyenja na? Ku Sunday School, kuYouth choir, le Youth Committee lebandleni le Nguboyenja. Imisebenzi yakho eNguboyenja usuhambe layo. "Dube wethu, Esinathi, "Phumula ngokuthula ezandleni zikaBaba uNkulunkulu eparadisi lakhe. Sifisa ukuhamba emanyathelweni akho size sifike lapho ohlezi khona khatesi eparadisi. Sifisa ukwenza imisebenzi obe uyenza ungasuki kuleli ilizwe esikulo."



Ufelani

uJesus

C. M. Ngwenya (Nkulumane Pastor)

Uma sikhangelela empilweni yethu yensuku zonke, singamanzelela ukuthi kuvame ukuba lemibuzo eminengi nxa kungafa umuntu. Omunye wayo le imibuzo yilo, "Kambe ubulewe yini umuntu lo?" Kubeseku bonakala angazathi abantu kabaqondisisi ukuthi kufika isikhathi esithile sokuthi umuntu afe. Amaheberu 9:27. Izikhathi ezinengi kuvela ukuxabana kuze kungathi umuntu akufanelanga ukuthi afe. Kuliqiniso ukuthi ukufa kulendlela ezinengi ezehlukeneyo, kodwa konke kubizwa kuthiwa yikufa kalikho elinye ibizo. Kungavela ukufa abantu bajayele ukuthi baxabane babesebekhohlwa imfundiso ese nwadini kaNkulunkulu iBhayibhili.

Ukufa kweNkosi uJesus kulempendulo enhle eqondileyo. Umhlaba kawulayo impendulo kodwa ilizwi leNkosi lilayo. Kangela ukuthi uNkulunkulu wathini encwadini kaIsaya 53:10. "UNkulunkulu wathanda uku mhlupha lokumdabukisa ukuba umphefumulo wakhe uzakuba ngumhlatshelo wesono." Ukufa kukaJesus kwaba ngokokuphelelisa intando kaNkulunkulu. ukuze umhlaba wonke usindiswe.

Kambe thina njengabantu siyakwazi yini ukuthi uJesus wavuka kwabafileyo na? KwabaseRoma 6:9 uPawuli uthi, "Sazi ukuthi esevusiwe kwabafileyo ukufa kakusela mandla kuye." Kunjalo bonke abakhohlwayo kabasoze babone ukufa okungapheliyo.

Iabo abalalo leli ithemba uma bekhumbula ngokuvuka kweNkosi uJesus babona umusa ka Nkulunkulu omangalisayo. Kuyabaqinisa njalo eNkosini. Umbuzo nanku, kambebangaki aba kwaziyo uma bethokozela ukufa lokuvuka kukaJesus na? Ngiyakhuleka ukuthi UNkulunkulu asisize sibone ukuthi ngokuvuka kukaJesus bazavuka bonke abakhohlwayo, nxa ebonakala uJesus emafini. Yikho lokhu ilanga lokufa lokuvuka kwakhe lilikhulu kakhulu kwabakhohlwayo.



**FROM THE
BISHOP'S
DESK**

Brothers and Sisters in the Lord:

Greetings to you all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. We began the year 1985 with sadness and fears. It was not clear to us how the Lord's work was going to operate. We should be thankful to God for His guidance. We carried out the work of God successfully, preaching and the teaching of His word in five districts.

Church leaders in each district:

- Churches in each district are as follows:
- (a) Wanezi = 44, overseer, one, deacons 7, pastors 36.
 - (b) Matopo = 31, one overseer, deacons 4, pastors 26.
 - (c) Mtshabezi = 36, one overseer, deacons 7, pastors 36.
 - (d) Gwaai = 35, overseer one, deacons 5, pastors 30.
 - (e) Urban Area = 12, overseer one, deacons 5, pastors 11.
 - (f) All churches together = 156, overseers 5, deacons 26, pastors 142.

Church growth in each year:

1983 = 5184, 1984 = 6380, 1985 = 1385 increased membership.

Increased membership is determined by baptism, as follows:-

- (a) Wanezi by baptism = 303, by right hand of fellowship 8, received into the church = 4.
- (2) Matopo by baptism = 289, right hand of fellowship = 22, received into the church = 5.
- (c) Mtshabezi by baptism = 183, right hand of fellowship = 16, received into the church = 4

(d) Gwaai by baptism = 189, by right hand of fellowship = 3, received into the church = 3

(e) Urban churches by baptism = 333, received into the church = 24

By baptism altogether 1297, right hand of fellowship 49, received into the church = 41

These people need to be nursed by the church in the love of Jesus Christ. They need our prayers and the knowledge of the word of God.

District Council meetings:

We express our thanks and praise to God of helping us as His church. Council meetings had some good teachings about the Holy Spirit, and we hope that the church was greatly blessed.

Conference

I wish to thank all those who attended the Conference. It was nice to have with us some people from Zambia and Malawi. I want to specially express my appreciation to the church in Bulawayo for a warm reception which was given to the Zambians at their arrival in Bulawayo.

I must apologize to all of you about the failure to have all church matters discussed at Conference. The Board is now making thorough preparations and arrangements to have all church matters discussed at our General Conference; and that as much as possible confusion and delay shall be avoided. Pray for the Executive Board to be successful in all these preparations and arrangements.

Attendance at General Conference was as follows:-

Please note numbers in brackets stand for 1984 attendances.
Attendance for Wednesday evening = (985) 1685. Attendance for Thursday = (980) morning, 1416, at noon (1266) 1824, evening (1467) 2543. Attendance for Friday morning (977) 1530 at noon, (1499) 1361, evening (1167) 2028. Attendance for Saturday morning (-) 1521, noon (1266) 1454, evening (1773) Attendance for Sunday (1008) 1070 at communion, (2063) worship service 2,500.
Offerings as follows:- 1983 = 648,66c, 1984 = 532,00, 1985 = 1137,16c.

Evangelization

The Rev Philimon Khumalo and Mr Bekithemba Dube and their wives visited Malawi at the invitation by the church in Malawi. After sometime, Rev P.M. Khumalo and Rev J.N. Dlodlo and their wives visited Malawi again on a church mission. At the end of 1985, we were told that the Brethren In Christ Church was approved and registered in Malawi. May the name of God be praised for this achievement!!

Binga

Maria Chuma started the work of the Lord in Binga; and the church growth team followed soon after, and now we have a new church at Chinego in Binga. This is a very remote Area, but we should praise God for the work that is being started there.

Epoch Mine

A new church has been born at Epoch Mine. Some churches have grown by working with the church growth team, and learning the methods of church planting. I want to thank very much the church growth committee and the church growth co-ordinator, the Rev K.Q. Moyo, for their efforts and desire to extend the Kingdom of God in the world and bring many into the fold.

Our goal as a church:

- (a) To bring up the church in the full knowledge of the word of God.
- (b) To teach the word of God to those who have recently joined the church.
- (c) Our offerings should be better this year than last year.
- (d) We want to feed our pastors with the word of God. The pastors should attend all pastors' retreats. They should attend all church growth meetings in their districts.
- (e) We are praying for more ordained ministers as well as licenced ministers. At present we have ten ordained ministers and ten licenced ministers.

*** It is my prayer and desire that we should all be at work until Jesus comes for His church. Lastly I say like the Apostle Paul, 'Pray without ceasing, I Thes. 5:17, & Hebrews 10:25.



Gospel Movers

Evangelism in Matopo District

The Gospel Movers have been on an outreach to Matopo as from Sunday the 15th to Sunday the 22nd of December 1985. The main aim of the outreach was to bring everybody in the Matopo district to the knowledge of Christ, and the theme verse was Matt II: 28. The verse read as follows, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

We went from village to village in pairs spreading the good news. The majority of the people were busy in the fields as the Lord had blessed them with late rains. At first they asked us to go our way as they were as they claimed to be busy, but we were always prepared to help them at the same time witnessing to them. We invited them to accept Jesus Christ as

Lord and Saviour. A good number of them accepted the invitation and were prayed for. That was a good encouragement for us for it was just as Christ pointed out that only a few would find His way acceptable.

Our village visitation programme stretched from 8.00 am to 12.00 noon, and daily at this hour we held services at the church. The attendance from Monday to Saturday ranged from 16 to 37 as wet weather conditions kept people at their homes. On Sunday the 22nd we had the largest turnout of 85 people, and we had visited a total of 68 villages.

One thing that struck me about the Gospel Movers was their willingness to preach the word of God even when it was raining. Sometimes it was so rainy that it became difficult for us to see very well, but we thanked God as we knew that everything works for good to them that love God. Every evening we met together for a time of prayer and Bible Study, worship and praise. Our Bible Study lessons which were conducted by some of us were entitled, 'Who is a Christian?', Forgiveness, Prayer and fasting, Relations, The inspirations of music and Jesus the bread of life.

Something that touched people about the Gospel Movers was the soundness of their views and the clearness of their testimony about the Lord and the work of Jesus Christ for the World.. All Lessons were based on Scripture. " Other foundations can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Finally, we wish to thank Rev. E. Ziduli's family for their contribution to the successful operation of the outreach together with brother Modcai Sibanda, who diligently and tirelessly worked with us throughout the week. We pray that they be strong and of good courage for the Lord our God will be with them where-ever they will serve Him.

May God send out the labourers to the places where we preached so that they may keep the fire of the Gospel burning and nurse up the new believers in those areas.

Olwesihlanu Oluqakathekileyo:

J. D. Moyo

Abantu abanengi kabaqondisisi ukuthi ikhefu leli elikhulu kangaka kuMabasa loba kuMbimbitho ngolwesihlanu ngelani. EBhayibhili kulotshwe ukuthi uNkulunku wenza umuntu ngothuli lomhlabathi, wambeka ensimini yase-Edeni wamnika umthetho. Wamvumela ukuthi adle yonke imithi esensimini kodwa lowo ophakathi kwensimu angawudli. Genesis 2: 15-17.

Inyoka yamkhohlisa umfazi wadla isihlahla ayetsheliwe ngaso ukuthi angasidli, wasithatha isihlahla wasinika indoda yakhe u Adamu loba nje babengathathananga ngengejayedlo. UAdamu ebona umbida ubukeka njalo uphethwe ngumuntu ayemthanda wathatha wawudla. Bobabili kabasalalelanga umthetho kaNkulunkulu ayebaphe wona. Ngenxa yalesi isenzo esibi uNkulunkulu wabaxotsha ensimini yase-Edeni Genesis 3: 24. Isono lesa savezwa yikungalaleli uNkulunkulu, njalo inyoka yamkhohlisa umfazi wasekhohlisa njalo laye umkakhe esithi isihlahla lesa sasimandi. Genesis 3: 4.

Kusukela kuso sonaleso isikhathi kwadingeka indlela engambuyisela umuntu kuNkulunkulu. Indlela kayizange ikhanye. Umuntu ngaleso isenzo wehlukana loMdali. Kwachitheka khonalapho igazi lezinyamazana uNkulunkulu ngesihawu sakhe edinga ukufihla ubunqunu buka Adamu loEva. Ulomusa uNkulunkulu njalo ulothando olungapheliyo. Kukhanya ukuthi igazi lilomsebenzi omkhulu mayelana lokusindiswa kwabantu. Lasebenza abalrayeli bephuma eGibhite njalo lasebenza esiphambanweni. Nxa sikhangelela phambili sibona ukuthi uMosi watshelwa nguNkulunkulu ukuthi ngaphandle kwegazi akulamuntu ongasindiswa. Amaheberu 9:22.

Kwakujayelekile ukuthi abantu banikele ngezimbuzi lezinkomo ukuze bathethelele kodwa leligazi kalizange lisuse isono. Uvalo lwesono kaluzange luphele. Abantu bahlala belokhu behlutshwa ngunembeza wabo. Amaheberu 10: 12-15 Kwakudingeka ukuthi uJesu afele abantu bonke igazi lakhe lichitheke libe yisihlawulelo sezono zabantu bonke Johane 19:34 Kwathi sebembethele esiphambanweni elinye

ibutho lamgwaza ohlangothini igazi lamphuma lamanzi. Konke lokhu kwenzeka ngalo olwesihlanu oluqakathekileyo. Yikholokho ilanga leli lilikhulu kangaka emhlabeni. Insindiso yehlela emhlabeni ngalo leli ilanga. Ekubethelweni kwakhe wezwakala esithi, "Kuphelile" Bonke abakholwa yilo leli igazi bayasindiswa. Nxa ebekhona ongakwaziyo ukuthi kungani leli ilanga liqakathekile khathesi use kwazi.

REPENTANCE:

J. D. Moyo

Repentance: A turning away from the life of sin to the life of the light of Jesus Christ. In other words it is a surrender to the will of God, or it is an inward transformation of the heart which influences the character and the life of a man.

The ceremonial laws of Moses were accepted as good, but they could not save any-one as they had to deal mostly with the outward reformation while the heart remained the same as it was before. How could circumcision change one's heart? It was an outward mark which left the heart unrepented.

In Matthew 5:27-28, Jesus spoke about the ceremonial laws of Moses which, although good at that time, did not change man's heart. The outward change while the heart is not converted is not at all acceptable to God.

Jesus spoke about the inward nature of a christian as the salt, to season and preserve, and that outwardly he is the light of the world. He gives light to the dark world of sin. He also said, "You have heard that it was said by them of old time thou shall not commit adultery! He went on and said, "Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Repentance therefore, is a transformation of the heart inwardly. Outward reformation will not bring peace of heart and mind. It could possibly give one a position and high status, but not peace of

mind and heart and the undying eternal life. Repentance therefore is the turning away from a life of sin and asking for forgiveness of sin from God through Jesus Christ who will give it abundantly. II Cor 7:10 "Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation, not to be repented of but the sorrow of the world worketh death." Paul's epistle in II Cor 18-10 resulted in repentance for evil doors. Read also Jer 50:4, Psalm 25:18 and 34:18. Repentance consists of a broken heart, See Psalms 51:17. David said, "God you will not despise a broken and a contrite heart." Repentance should be in the heart and not on the surface or outside appearance.

The prophet of God, Samuel, was warned not to be deceived by the outside

appearance when he was sent by God to go and anoint from Jesse's house the substitute of Saul as king of Israel. He probably was going to look on the outside, but God looks at the heart. I Samuel 16:7. Heart transformation with God is more important than the outside appearance. Repentance is required of any-one who wishes to be a child of God. Jesus said, "Except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of scribes and pharisees you shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." The scribes and pharisees were very concerned with outward reformation, but Jesus is concerned with the inward transformation. Gal. 6:15 and II Cor 5:17, and this newness of life comes into our heart through repentance which means to yield to the will of God. We have a song which reads as follows: "Surrender confess and obey make Jesus your choice today, salvation and joy He will bring, surrender confess and obey."

Welcome the cross of Christ and bear it triumphantly, but see that it is indeed His cross and not your own.

He should not weary of the cross who is sure of the crown.

The crosses we fear are heavier than the crosses we bear.

The cross is easier to him who takes it up than to him who drags it along.

UKUPHENDUKA

NguMlobi

Kuyini ukuphenduka? Kungatsho izinto ezinengi kakhulu. Unwabu luyaphenduka umbala walo weqiniso kawaziwa. Lungabona into ebomvu khonokho nje masinyazana lalo selusiba bomvu. Kungafika into eluhlaza njengamahlamvu, lalo seluphenduka lubeluhlaza. Ukuphenduka okunje kakubukeki. Kukhanya kungazathi unwabu luligwala yikho nje lufuze izinto zonke, ukuze lube ngumhlobo wakho konke, olukubonayo. Luzama ukufanana lesitha ukuze luphephe engozini, njalo luzama ukuthi lungabonakali. Lokho kuyingozi enkulu ngoba kalwaziwa umbala walo. Okunye ukuphenduka kungenziwa yinkunzi emnyama loba emhlophe. Lezi-zombili zizala amathole afana lazo. Iakho lokhu kuthiwa yikuphenduka komhlobo walezo-nkomo.

Abanye abantu abanengi abakhulwayo bayazama ukufanana labantu bonke ukuze baphephe ekuchothozweni njalo bathandwe ngabantu bonke, ngoba besithi bayizininizinkulu. Abantu abanjengo Danyeli owazimela yedwa kababonakali. Iningi labantu bayaphenduphenduka njengonwabu ngenxa yobugwala.

Nansi indaba enkulu: "Phendukani likholwe ivangeli." Marku I: 15. UJesu wakhuluma la amazwi ngokuba wayekwazi ukuthi abantu bazalwa belezono bafuze ukhokho wabo uAdamu. Ialabo ababesithi bayakhulwa babekhonzwa nje imithetho eyayibekiwe kodwa ukukholwa okusindisayo ngaye uJesu kwakungekho. UJesu wababona abantu belahlekile wasebahawukela yikho wathi phendukani likholwe ivangeli.

IBhayibhili ibonisa ukuthi abantu balahle umuntu omdala oyimvelo yesono ehlala phakathi kwabo babuyele kuNkulunkulu ngokuphenduka ezorweni zabo. Ukuphenduka yikutshiya izindlela ezimbili abantu babuyele kuNkulunkulu bathathe indlela elungileyo. Zikhona izindlela ezimbili enye ngeka Satani enye ngekaNkulunkulu. Singakhangele kwabaseGalathiya 5:19-21, sizazibona izindlela ezimbili ekaNkulunkulu lekaSatani.

Khonapho kwabaseGalathiya kuyakhuluma kakhulu ngemisebenzi yenyama imisebenzi yalabo abangaphendukanga: Ubufebe njalo

lokungcola, lamanyala, lokukhonza izithombe, lokuthakatha, lobutha, lomona, lokulwa, lokuthukuthala. IBhayibhili liyasibonisa ukuthi abenza lokhu kunye lokuxokozela belomhawu njalo bedakwa ithi, kabayikulidla ifa lombuso kaNkulunkulu. Nxa umuntu ephenduka lokhu konke kuyafa enhliziyweni yakhe kuphele nya.

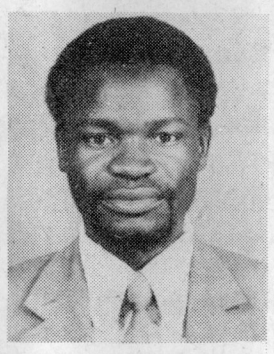
Silobufakazi ngompositoli uPawuli Imisebenzi 8:1-3. Simbona uPawuli echitha ibandla esebenza ngawo wonke amandla akhe. Wayencedisa lasekubulaweni kuka Sitefana. Wenza isono esikhulu ngokukwenza lokho kodwa ngomthetho wabaJuda wayeqondile. Ngomthetho kaKristu wayelahlekile kakhulu. Khangela Imisebenzi isahluko esits'hiya galo lunye --9:3-18. Zama phela ukuthi ufunde ukuze uzwisise. Kuzakusiza ukuthi wazi ukuthi kuyini ukuphenduka. Galathiya I:16. UPawuli uthi, "Ngavuma khona lapho kangiphindanaga ukuthi ngilalele inyama legazi." Waphenduka endleleni embi wathatha indlela elungileyo ethandwa nguJesu. Watshiya izono wakhetha indlela ethandwa nguJesu. Lokhu yikho okuthiwa yikuphenduka. Kutsho ukutshiya indlela kaSatani embi uthathe indlela kaNkulunkulu ekusa ezulwini endaweni yokuphumula engcwele.

Khangela njalo abaseFiliphu 3: 6. UPawuli unika ubufakazi bakhe engaka phenduki. Uthi wayenxanela ukuchitha ibandla likaJesu Kristu, kodwa esephendukile kangela ivesi lika 7 loba lesikhombisa khonapho kwabaseFiliphu 3:, loba isahluko sesithathu. Funda uze ufike evesini lamatshumi amabili lanye, 21. Khathesi usekutshaya indiva ekwenza ize lokho ayekuthanda kakhulu. Kubonakala ukuthi kasakufuni lokho okwakumnika udumo kumenza esatshwe ngabantu njengomuntu omkhulu. Kutsho ukuthi endaweni yokuchitha ibandla likaJesu uselakha usetshiyile indlela embi yesono. Uthi emazwini akhe "Ngilingiseni njengokuba mina ngimlingisa uJesu Kristu. I Korinte II: 1. Kusobala ukuthi uPawuli usephendukile usengumuntu omutsha njalo useyithanda iNkosi le abekade eyizonda.

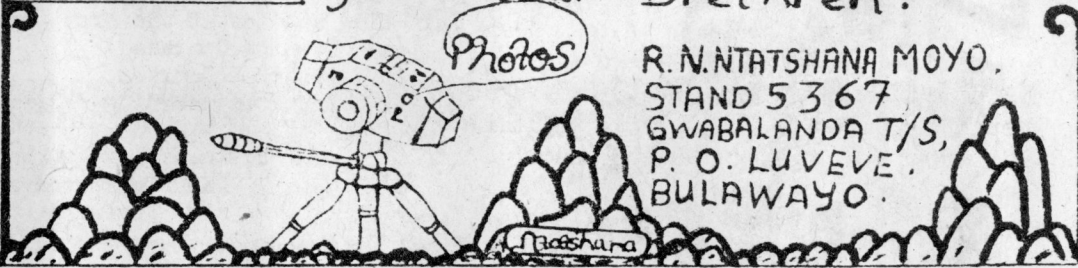
Ukuphenduka kutsho ukudela konke okubi umuntu emukele uJesu enhliziyweni yakhe atshiye indlela yesono enze okulungileyo. Umuntu okwenza lokhu kuthiwa usephendukile endleleni yesono usengumuntu kaNkulunkulu. Khangela lapho esiqalise khona Galathiya 5: Ukhangele njalo ukutsho kukaJesu kuMarku I:15. Wena usuphendukile na? Usungumuntu omutsha? Usulikhulwa sibili elileqiniso? Lokhu yikho ukuphenduka.

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I Peter
3 ÷ 10

Isikhumbuzo ngokufa kukaJesu: Evangelist Oscar Manzini (B.I.C.)

Sekufike isikhathi sokukhumbula ukufa lokuhlupheka kweNkosi uJesu. Siyakhunjuswa kutsha ukuthi kungani kwakufanele ukuthi ahlupheke uJesu na? Iminyaka ngeminyaka wonke amakholwa nxa sekufika kulesi isikhathi bayakhumbula ngokuhlupheka kweNkosi uJesu Kristu okwathi ngokuhlupheka kwakhe savulelwa indlela ye yensindiso. Johane 3:16.

Nxa abantu basebonile ensimini yase Edene uNkulunkulu wabalisa khonapho ukuthi achithe igazi lezimvu lezimvu ukuze afihle ubunqunu buka Adamu loEva abase bonile kuye. UNkulunkulu wayesebenzisa igazi ukubuyisana labantu. Encwadini yaMaheberu kuthi, "Izinto zonke ziblanjululwa ngegazi ngokomthetho, ngaphandle kwegazi akukho ukuthethelelwa. Amaheberu 9:22. UNkulunkulu usebenzisa igazi ukuba asikhulule ezonwoni zethu. Sikhumbula ukufa lokuhlupheka kukaJesu ngenxa yethu ngasolesi isikhathi.

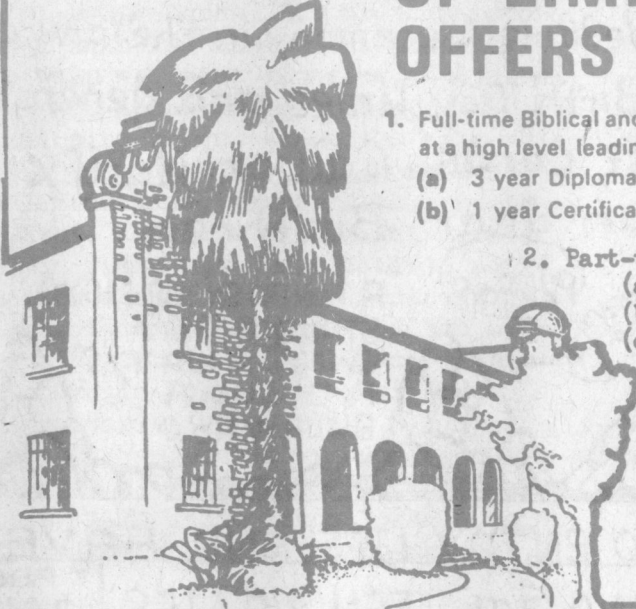
Ulsaya 53:4-5, uyaphrofetha ngokufa loku hlupheka kweNkosi uJesu. Uma wayetshaywa esiba lamanxeba legazi laliphuma. Konke ukhulutshwa kwakhe kwaba ngenxa yethu. Kwakumele edlule ekuhluphekeni ukuze thina ngamanxeba akhe siphilise, sisindiswe ezonwoni zethu. Ngokuhlupheka kwakhe sazuza sazuza ukuthethelelwa izono zethu.

Kwakulusuku lokulungiselela isabatha uJesu esebethelwe abajuda baya banxusa kuPilatu ukuba kwehliswe izidumbu ukuba zingahlali esiphambanweni ngesabatha ngokuba lolosuku lwalulukhulu kakhulu. UJesu wayebethelwe labantu ababili ama sela loba abaphangi. Bayephula imilenze yalabo ababili kodwa bathi sebefika kuJesu wayesefile kabasayaphulanga eyakhe. Elinye lamabutho lam waza ohlangothini kwaphuma igazi lamazwi. Johane 19:35-36. Igazi lelo sasindiswa ngalo. Nxa babefaka umqhele ekhanda kusobala ukuthi igazi njalo laphuma loba nje iBhayibhili linga kutsho lokho.

Ngaloleli igazi elaphuma esiphambanweni sathethelelwa izono zethu nxasivuma izono lezi njalo sisethemba leli igazi ngokukhulwa..

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