

ECHO OF HIS CALL



India's National Spiritual Newspaper

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Editor : S. SAM SELVA RAJ

16 Languages

Associate Editor: Bro. M. Paulraj

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No. 3



THE HOLY BIBLE

Please memorize this portion

Psalm 97:1-9

1. The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.
2. Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.
3. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.
4. His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.
5. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
6. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.
7. Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all ye gods.
8. Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD.
9. For thou, LORD, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.

The Vine, the Fig and the Olive!

* Bro. M. Paulraj *



The three plants/trees are intertwined in the lives of the people of Israel like paddy, coconut and plantain in the lives of the people of Tamil Nadu. Israel is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven. But this is not so in the land of Egypt where the Israelites lived for 430 years as slaves. In Egypt, the Israelites sowed their seed and watered it by foot, as a vegetable garden! There the land is fed by River Nile!

(Deuteronomy 11:10,11).

The above three plant/trees are the main stay in the land of Israel. This is evident that in the Book of Habakkuk, the prophet declares that, "**Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, ... Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation**" (Habakkuk 3:17,18). His declaration was that if all that sustain the life and economy of the land including the vine, fig and olive fail, he would rejoice in the Lord. These trees and

plants sustain life in Israel!

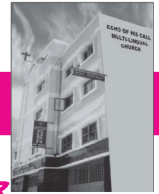
Jesus Christ during His ministry, very often quote these plant/trees in His sermons. Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). Vine was an important recipe in marriage houses of Israel as we see in the marriage held in Cana, where the mother of Jesus, Jesus and His disciples were invited (John 2:1,2). In Matthew 24:32, we see Jesus quotes where the fig tree put forth tender leaves it was a sign of the arrival of summer, is imminent. When Noah sent the dove for the second time, it brought a freshly plucked olive leaf in her mouth, indicating that the pervading waters had abated from the earth! (Genesis 8:11). After taking supper, Jesus and His disciples had sung a hymn and left to the Mount of Olives (Mark 14:26). So, vine, fig and olive are inseparable in the lives of the people of Israel.

....Contd. to page 3



ECHO OF HIS CALL - (1969-2019 GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR)

from your dearly beloved brother...



“... I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.”
- (Isaiah 58:14)



OUR MISSION POLICY

We should expound and teach the contemporary generation the undiluted teachings of the ancient and early Apostles. It is the need of the hour.

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Dear friends in Christ,

Loving greetings in the matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I hope that you and your loved ones are doing well by the grace of God. I and my co-workers are lifting up you and your needs before the Throne of Grace everyday. We know that you need a special protection of God as great disaster is happening all over the world. People of all countries are living under great fear.

Everyday we receive prayer requests from several brothers and sisters. We pray for them without neglecting any prayer request received in our office through a post card, phone call, letter, email etc. God is really at work in the lives of all brothers and sisters like you.

Due to the fear in general and results of the Corona virus prevailing all over the world, a large number of servants of God and believers have reduced their spiritual speed. Do you one among them?

It is not good. You should think of the wonderful things happened in your life through prayer in the past. Someone of you might have affected through prayerlessness and neglecting your Church. You might have saddened or betrayed your Protector Jesus Christ, through neglecting your Pastor, unfaithfulness in your tithes and offerings etc. Now the Lord God is stirring up your spirit to get up from your situation and move forward. Someone of you might have affected without any of these reasons. Sometimes our Lord is allowing honest and wicked people to go through the trials. Has not Job too undergone such trial?

Please re-start your spiritual activities with a grateful heart as God has spared your life from the perils of this world. He will certainly meet all your needs. He will guide you to live a fruitful life in the days to come also. We are backing you up through our prayers.

All the recent happenings of world remind us the second coming of our Lord Jesus very soon to judge the world. Each one of us have to stand before God for judgement. Commit your life to live a faithful life for the Lord Jesus Christ. May the good God give you necessary grace.

Kindly continue to pray and support **Echo of His Call**. Indeed, this is the appropriate time of great need for your prayers and support. Kindly pray for our dear co-workers Bro. M. Paulraj and Pastor M. Muthu for their speedy healing from their ailments.

Our Ministries: ❖ ECHO OF HIS CALL Monthly Magazines (16 languages) ❖ BIBLECOR - Postal Courses (3 languages)
❖ Online Courses ❖ Theological Correspondence Courses (2 languages) ❖ Church Planting ❖ Nehemiah Bible Colleges
❖ Gospel Printing Press ❖ Great Commission Partners ❖ St. Paul's Matriculation School ❖ Crusades ❖ Community Development

Presently our Churches, School and Online Hindi Bible College are functioning in full swing. Further, keeping in mind about the drastic impacts of the pandemic, please pray for the eradication of the virus fever and restoration of the people of all countries of the world.

If you find time, you may watch **Echo of His Call YouTube Channel** to get fresh news from us. We love you so much and interested in your well being.

God bless you.

Your servants in Christ Jesus,

Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj & Alex Samson Sam.

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...Contd. from page 1



You have brought a vine out of Egypt;

You have cast out nations and planted it.

You prepared room for it,

And caused it to take deep root,

And it filled the land.

The hills were covered with its shadow,

And the mighty cedars with its boughs.

She sent out her boughs to the Sea,

And her branches to the River.

Why have You broken down her hedges,

So that all who pass by the way pluck her fruit?

The boar out of the woods uproots it,

And the wild beast of the field devours it.

Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts;

Look down from heaven and see,

And the vineyard which Your right hand has planted,

And the branch that You made strong for Yourself.

(Psalm 80: 8-15)

Here the Lord had brought a vine out of Egypt, drove out nations and planted in Canaan. The Lord expected it to give good fruits. But alas it gave sore fruits! It took deep roots and filled the land. Its influence spread over nations and was reigning supreme. So, the Lord had broken down the hedges and the people passed through plucked the fruits at their will and the bear and

the wild beasts uprooted it as the Lord broken down the hedges. The prophet Asaph beseeched the Lord to see the broken down hedges and also beseeched to Lord to visit it.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel (Isaiah 5:7). The Lord had brought His chosen people from the land of Egypt, where they were in slavery under the leadership of Moses. He drove out the Cananites and settled His people. They multiplied in the land of Canaan and became a strong nation under the leadership of David. He conquered his enemies and made them to pay thrift. Its name spread far and wide and a leader among nations. But the nation's decline started even at the reign of King Solomon as he went after foreign gods due to his foreign wives. The nation was divided into two during the reign of his son, Rehoboam as Israel and Judah.

The people of Israel made Samaria as the Head Quarters and Judah made Jerusalem. Jeroboam the first king of Israel made two

golden Calves and installed one at Dan and another at Beersheba. He maintained that it was their gods which brought them from Egypt, thus rejecting the Lord of hosts who delivered them from the hands of the Pharaoh. Though they were led by Moses and Joshua whom the Lord had chosen, it was the Lord actually led them, drove out kings and planted them at the promised land of Canaan. In course of time they rejected the Almighty God and embraced heathen gods. They planted idols almost under every tree and high places and worshipped them as their gods. In this treachery, Israel was ahead of Judah! The Lord in His anger sold them to alien kings! Israel was carried away by the Assyrians in the year 722 BC and Judah by the Babylonians in 586 BC. These things happened because they rejected the Almighty God and went after alien gods. Asaph, the prophet lamented on seeing the nation which became the heaps of debris as the Lord removed the guard because of their treachery.

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| 4. Nationality | : Indian |

I **S. Sam Selva Raj**, hereby that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

March 2022

S. Sam Selva Raj.

The vine which was expected to give good fruits gave sore fruits!, and found its own destruction.

Even today people come into the fold of God through the blood of Jesus, shine for some time and go out of the fold of God and relish in the company of Satan. They seldom realise that Satan guides them to destruction as he is the thief who steals, kills and destroys (John 10:10). We must be vigilant and guard against the guiles of Satan lest we too face the fate of our ancestors.

The Vine is a lovable and likable crop which yields fruits. It is a season oriented plant. The farmers take strenuous efforts to prepare the land, dig it and manure it. When the plant grows it has to be led to spread over 'pandals!' The branches which won't give fruits are to be pruned and the fruit bearing branches alone are allowed to grow. The farmer correctly identifies the branches. Jesus said, **"I am the true Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit"** (John 15:1,2).

Similar to Vine, betel is grown in various parts of India, especially Tamil Nadu. It also grows like a Vine. A relative of mine had a betel garden. The land for the garden is specially selected and prepared. The top soil is removed upto a depth of 4 to 5 feet and the sub-soil is properly dug and special soil from other places mixed with sand and filled to a height of 2-3 feet. Care is taken that the roots of other trees should not make an inroad into the garden. Straight furrows are dug and filled with good soil mixed with sand. Then the sapling, (a part of the betel branch) is planted at regular

intervals. It is watered properly and much care is taken that the water is not stagnated. The sapling sprouts and begins to grow. The grown up Vine is tethered with a support live stick. The stick is usually branches of light trees viz, Cotton tree, Moringa and wild Moringa. Cotton trees when grown up yields fruits and the fully grown dries up with full of cotton inside. The cotton is used for making pillow and beds. The Moringa is an admired tree gives leaves and fruits. The leaves are used as vegetables (greens) and the tender fruits are harvested before they get dried. The tender fruit (drumstick) is a good recipe in hotels and households. The wild Moringa is used for leaves for manure only and its strong stem is used for making boats and catamarans'. Some people used to plant plantain also which forms an additional source of income.

The young betel leaves are considered as cash crop. They are used for medicinal purposes. People also chew them with arecanut and lime. Usually the old

use it as a habit. Some are even addicted to it!

Atmost purity is maintained. All the people at all times especially ladies are not allowed inside the betel garden.

THE FIG TREE IN THE VINE GARDEN!

Once Jesus cited the presence of a fig tree in a vine garden. He searched for fruits from it. But it had only plenty of leaves. The owner of the vineyard had been watching the fig tree for three years, but there was no fruit in it. The owner asked the keeper of the garden to cut it down as it uses up the ground without results. But the gardener pleaded with the owner to leave it for one more year more and during that period he would dig around it and fertilise it.

Jesus was speaking about the importance of giving results. He underlined this by a parable, of fig tree in the vine garden (Luke 13:6-9). It was too much for the fig

...Contd. to page 6

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TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2)

SUPPORT (Romans 12:13)

SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From 2022 March 19 To April 18

(Please take this sheet out, fold it and keep it in your Bible and pray continuously)



✝POINTS FOR PRAISE

- March 19** ➔ Praise the Lord for taking care of the health of our beloved brother M. Paulraj, Associate Editor and Pastor M. Muthu, Chairman, Nehemiah Bible College.
- March 20** ➔ Let us praise God for blessing our **BIBLECOR** and Theological Correspondence Courses.
- March 21** ➔ Thank God for His blessings on our commitment to Magazine Ministry since 1969.
- March 22** ➔ Praise the Lord for His blessings to spread the gospel to the unreached groups through our magazine ministry.
- March 23** ➔ Praise God for meeting our needs during last month.
- March 24** ➔ Thank God for making our Senior Pastor for his commitment to spread the gospel through multifarious ministries.
- March 25** ➔ Praise God for **Echo of His Call** Associate Editors and their families.
- March 26** ➔ Praise God for blessing our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.
- March 27** ➔ Praise Lord for our Principal, Teachers and other Staff members of **St. Paul's Matriculation School**.
- March 28** ➔ Praise God for our Gospel Printing Press and its continuous functioning with efficient workers.
- March 29** ➔ Praise God for our State Co-ordinators and their families.
- March 30** ➔ God blessing all the activities of our **Echo of His Call Ministries** during the COVID-19 period.
- March 31** ➔ Praise God for our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners and Great Commission Partners and their families.
- April 01** ➔ Let us praise God for having blessed new believers with anointing into our Church.
- April 02** ➔ Praise God for protecting our nation.

- April 03** ➔ Praise God for safeguarding our Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj and his family from all evil dominions.

✝POINTS FOR PRAYER

- April 04** ➔ Pray for the full recovery of our English Associate Editor, Bro. M. Paulraj and Pastor M. Muthu, our Nehemiah Bible College Chairman from their ailments.
- April 05** ➔ Pray for all nations' unity and peace.
- April 06** ➔ Pray to God for His abundant blessings on our Senior Pastor to complete his autobiography, without any hindrance.
- April 07** ➔ Let us pray to God for the benefit of our Organization, all staff and their families.
- April 08** ➔ Pray for our **ONLINE Hindi Theological classes**.
- April 09** ➔ Pray for our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** and their expansion.
- April 10** ➔ Pray to God for His special care to eradicate Covid-19, Omicron viruses from the world.
- April 11** ➔ Pray for total relief of drug addicts and evil doers.
- April 12** ➔ Pray to God to meet all our financial and physical needs.
- April 13** ➔ Pray to God to make our country strong in unity and development.
- April 14** ➔ To pray for our North India's Missionaries and their benevolence.
- April 15** ➔ Pray to God for enabling us to spread gospel to the unreached places.
- April 16** ➔ To commit into prayers for unity among all religions.
- April 17** ➔ To pray for the expansion of our Ministries in every ways and measures.
- April 18** ➔ Pray for our financial needs like salaries of workers, printing papers, postage, and transport with regard to our ministries.

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tree to be planted in a vine garden. But it should produce fruits to justify its existence there.

The vineyard represents the people of Israel. The fig tree is the gentiles who got currency at the expense of the Israelites. God was expecting the gentiles to produce results/fruits. It was the law of the Lord that every tree which did not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire (Matthew 3:10). So, the fig tree/gentiles must give good fruits for their existence.

The gardener, Jesus Christ pleads with the Father one more year to the fig tree and during that period, he would be given more attention, fertilize it and other inputs. Here the special care to the tree represents the pouring out of the Holy Spirit which helps the believer to grow strong and bear fruits. Jesus asks the people to abide in Him to bear more fruits! (John 15:5).

God the Father who sits on His throne in Heaven is watching everyone under the sun and His eyelids tests the sons of men (Psalm 11:4). He is the righteous Judge and will judge the world with righteousness and the people with His truth.

For He is coming for He is coming to judge the earth.

He shall judge the world with righteousness,

And the peoples with His truth (Psalm 96:13).

God has a special plan to bring the people of the world (gentiles) out of darkness. He sent His only begotten Son Jesus Christ to pay the price to Satan and retrieve them from the clutches of Satan. Jesus by shedding His blood paid the price to each and everyone. If anyone looks at the cross and confess that Jesus Christ died at the cross for his/her salvation, He forgives their sin and

make them as His own sons and daughters (John 1:12; 3:16).

And the Lord God's hand picked a rebel, Paul to preach the gospel to the gentiles. Our Lord is concerned with the salvation of everyone so that none should perish. The Israelites, His own people rejected Lord Jesus Christ as the Messiah and went astray. They hardened their heart, thus opening a way for salvation for the gentiles as the fig tree found a place in the Vineyard. Being entered, they should show results!

THE OLIVE TREE!

Olive is an important crop in the land of Israel. Olive grooves and Vineyards are the main crops that are produced in every part of Israel. Olive is a cash crop as its seeds are extracted for oil. The olive oil is very familiar throughout the world.

We have seen olive is a cash crop. We see an incident in the

Holy Bible. A prophet of Israel was dead leaving some debts. His creditors came and harassed the widow to pay the debts or else to give her two sons as slaves. Not knowing what to do, the widow rushed to Prophet Elisha and narrated her story. The prophet said to her, "What shall I do for you? What you have in the house? The poor woman said, she had nothing in the house but a jar of oil. The prophet asked her to borrow empty jars as many as possible and she did it. Elisha asked her to close the door and pour the oil in all the empty vessels and she filled all the vessels and her son said to her there was no more empty vessel! Then the oil ceased. The prophet asked her to sell the oil and pay her debt and live on the rest" (2 Kings 4:1-7). Olive oil came handy to her to pay the debts.

Paul, in Romans 11:17 relates the salvation of the gentiles is at the expense of the Israelites, who rejected the Saviour.

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And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree

(Romans 11:17).

Paul relates the salvation of the gentiles at the expense of the Israelites. For this, some of the branches of the olive tree were broken and in its place the wild olive trees (gentiles) are grafted. Lord Jesus Christ said, "... for salvation is of the Jews..." (John 4:22). Paul said, "... hardening in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in" (Romans 11:25). A part of the people of Israel had hardened their heart and they will be so until the fullness of the Gentiles has come. So, it is for the gentiles to seize the opportunity to grab salvation and make them fit to enter into the Kingdom of God.

God called His people from the world and gave special gifts which are not for others. So, the call and gifts extended by God to His people are irrevocable

(Roman 11:29).

So the Redeemer would come from Zion and would remove disbelief from Jacob.

After rapture, the forsaken Israelites would get a special chance of inheriting the Kingdom of God. As and when the Church was caught up, four angels were seen holding the four winds of the earth that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or any tree. Another angel, having the seal of the living God, cried with a loud voice to the four angels and said, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads". All those sealed were 1,44,000 at the rate of 12,000 per tribe. The tribe of Dan is missing and in its place the tribe of Manasseh has come in taking the

total tribes to 12. These sealed persons will be caught up during the first 3½ years of tribulation where Antichrist would rule the world.

These 1,44,000 persons are special people to the Lord Jesus Christ as they were not defied with women, which means; they are the one not polluted themselves with idol worship of the great whore of Revelation Chapter 17. They sang a new song before the throne and no one could learn that song except the 1,44,000 who are redeemed from the earth. They were not defied with women and followed the Lamb wherever He went. They are the first group of people after the rapture of the Church taken to heaven!

The 1,44,000 were forsaken at rapture as they did not get the standard of purity and dedication. But they were steadfast in the word of God and His statutes and not defied by idol worship. So, God extended a special gesture.

JUDAH'S FINAL CHANCE OF SALVATION!

The Lord is still mindful of saving the rest of Judah who were forsaken at rapture and in the contingent of 1,44,000 special people. The word of God says, "for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable" (Romans 11:29).

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PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

“Whoso readeth, let him understand” (Matthew 24:15)

How I was Brought Up?

I was born on 3rd June, 1949. As I was the first male child in my family, my parents, grandparents and other family members wanted me to become a Christian Priest. So they raised me in prayer and in the knowledge of the Bible.



I was made to take part in the Sunday School for children conducted in the Church. Our Church was in the midst of paddy fields and there were no proper roads to reach the Church. So my maternal uncles used to carry me on their shoulders to Church on Sundays and on other days also. My mother and my aunt were always beside me.

The Sunday School teachers, Rev. Elias, Baby, Daisy, Sis. Rethnam, aunt Gnanaselvam and Grace led me to the Lord Jesus Christ during my childhood days. I was an average child and sick. So my teachers loved me much.

My mother wholeheartedly believed that she was raising a future servant of God. She considered her extra care to me as a ministry to God and so she made sure I took part in the morning,

noon and evening services conducted in the Church.

My mother used to make me sit next to her, encouraged me to sing songs and listen to the Word of God attentively. Rev. I.R.H. Gnanadasan was the Chief Pastor of Neyyoor Main Church in those days. He dedicated me and named me as Sam Selva Raj (Christened). He blessed me saying, “This child will grow like Samuel. He will also be a rich man and be one of the leading servants of God.”

In those days, my parents and I used to be very happy during Christmas. Children used to memorise Bible verses, recite and get prizes every year. I remember the verse I recited at Church in the year 1952:

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God...” (Luke 2:13)

In 1956, when I was 7 years old, I was listening to the Word preached by our Pastor, respectful Mr. Devadas. At that time the Holy Spirit revealed Himself to me powerfully. I could clearly hear the Lord's message that God loves me. As the impact was so strong in me, I started crying loudly. I could feel clearly the presence of God coming into me. My mother was keenly observing me.

When the service was over, I asked my mother, “Mom, will the Pastor go to heaven and see Jesus?” My mother replied, “Yes, son!” I said immediately, “I too want to go to heaven. I want to see Jesus there! Is it possible mom?” “If you trust and accept Jesus in your heart while

you live in this world, your desire will be fulfilled surely,” said my mother.

Thus, my mother helped me accept in my heart the Lord Jesus as my Saviour. From that day onwards, I could sense a different spirit acting within me and I could always feel the presence of God.

I was admitted in the Government Primary School, Kannatuvilai in I Standard (Grade) having Tamil as my first language. My grandma used to take me to School everyday and bring me home safely. My mother used to lay her right hand on my head everyday when I was about to leave for School and used to pray: “Dear God, whatever lessons my son learns in School today, must be helpful for the expansion of your kingdom in future.”

The teachers at the School also believed that I would be a servant of God in future. So, they loved me and gave me the best education. But I was then a mischievous boy. My teachers Mr. Selvamani, Mrs. Thangammal John, Mrs. Dulsy Joseph and Mrs. Rajammal were the important contributors of my growth.

In the year 1957, I was informed by the Head Teacher of our Church Sunday School, Sis. Rethna, that my name was not included in the Bible verse Recitation Competition. She said,

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Thanks. - Editor

“If it is God's will, you will get a chance next year.”

I was heart broken and told the matter to my mother crying. My mother suggested saying, “Reduce your night food on coming Thursday, Friday and Saturday and kneel before God and tell Jesus our Father what you told me just now.” She also taught me 2 songs:

I. *“The child who loves God doesn't fear in trouble
Just like a bird is protected in a cage,
Jesus will protect you for His service...”*

II. *“My beloved Shepherd of my soul!
The delight of my heart!
To draw closer to you
I come forward with passion.*

CHORUS 🎵

*Speak, speak when I pray!
Show me your desire, Ready to act accordingly*

1. *Those who obey the true Redeemer
Have a place of comfort for their soul*

*This place let me also attain
My love, hear my prayer - Speak*

2. *Your love towards sinners
Let me reveal through my conduct
By the Spirit of Calvary anoint me.
So that I win my battles - Speak*

3. *All the days of my life
I will walk in the path you walked
I will give all that is mine willingly
O Redeemer, give me thy power”
- Speak*

I kept singing these songs on those three days and prayed in tears to Jesus that I might get a chance to recite a verse at my Church on the Christmas Day.

For the first time, the Lord God answered my prayer. As our family was going to Church that Sunday early morning, our Pastor Devadas met us on our way. At that time he turned to me suddenly and asked, “Which verse or song have they given to you to perform this Christmas?” My mother said, “Nothing.”

The Pastor told me, “Other children will recite only one verse. But you must recite all the verses in Psalm 23.” I learnt all the six verses of Psalm 23 and recited without any mistake at the service. So, they chose me for the first Prize and gifted me a beautiful soap box.



This incident created great joy and courage in me towards Jesus. I developed great faith and belief in prayer.

“Call to Me...” (Jeremiah 33:3) became my guide post. From that day, I started to have a relationship with God in prayer.

....Contd. from page 7

God was faithful though they rejected the Messiah. The Bible says:

“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they have pierced; they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn” (Zechariah 12:10).

Though the Jews rejected and frowned the Messiah, the Lord was pleased to pour out the spirit of grace and supplication on Judah and they would mourn for their misdeeds. However, in the last days, two-thirds would be cut off and die (may happen during the second 3½ year of the rule of Antichrist) and one-third would be

saved through fire, that is by severe test (Zechariah 13:8,9).

The people, the Jews or non-Jews are the fortunate one, if they are caught up in rapture. After rapture only the Jews are given a chance to enter into the Kingdom of God, that too clings on chance and passing out of severe test! So, today is the day of salvation and right time to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ and live as His own child to get the sure chance of being caught up at rapture.

The Vine is important in the lives of the Israelites. It is a labour intensive industry. Large number of people are involved. The Vine juice is widely used in marriage houses and in other domestic uses.

Fig tree is a high growing tree, spreading branches in all sides. It is grown widely in Israel. It grows in India also. It is used as a

staple food and has medicinal value. It gives fruits in seasons. One day Jesus and His disciples went out of Bethany. Jesus was hungry. He saw a fig free full of leaves. Jesus searched for fruits, but none. Jesus cursed the fig tree that “no one ever eat fruit from you” (Mark 11:12-14).

'Fig tree in a vine garden' symbolises grafting of gentiles along with the Jews. For Salvation is of the Jews; God in His abundant grace, extended it to gentiles. The gentiles should grab the opportunity and give fruits lest they will be put into fire.

Olive is a cash crop. It grows widely in Israel. It is famous for its Oil. It is used for cooking, lighting and other medicinal purposes. When it is applied continuously on face, it will glow!

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“And wine that makes glad the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread (from wheat and fig tree) which strengthen man's heart” (Psalm 104:15).

Let us be useful to the nation as the vine, fig and olive and more than that to our Redeemer and Saviour Jesus Christ! Hallelujah!

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IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249
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Branch : Anna Salai, Chennai-6
Name : Echo of His Call
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IFSC : ICIC 000 6038

3. Bank : State Bank of India

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Branch : Triplicane, Chennai-5
Name : Echo of His Call Educational Trust
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IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249

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JESUS LOVES YOU!

To

GOD BLESS YOU!