



Come, Let us Adore Him

What is the good news of Christmas for you and what relevance it brings to you in your day to day struggles? Many times we limit the worship to Church or family / personal prayer. This Christmas brings a message from the throne of grace that Worship is not an event or performance but it is our whole life (Word, action and growth). Holy Spirit is giving a call to the people of God '**Come let us adore Him**'.

Luke 2:8-12 says, that the first announcement of Christmas went to the shepherds. It just amazing matter, when there were so many teachers of the law, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, Temple priests, and so on but the Angels brought the message of Christ's birth only to the Shepherds. Jesus is the savior of the whole world. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. These shepherds were insignificant men. They knew the law. They prepared the sheep as per the law for sacrifice. They also knew the Messiah would come. Their little faith mattered to God and God gave them the good news.

* Who were these shepherds of Christmas?

In the temple at Jerusalem every morning and evening an unblemished lamb was offered as a sacrifice to God. To see that the supply of perfect offerings was always available the Temple authorities had their own private sheep flocks and history says that these flocks were pastured near Bethlehem. The sheep were raised and sent to the temple by these shepherds. Jesus was born in the very birthplace where tens of thousands of lambs, which had been sacrificed to prefigure Him. (Luke 2:8)

* There are 3 reasons why God chose Shepherds :

1. To show that He cares for those overlooked by the world.
2. To show that, everyone is important in the presence of God.
3. To show that God chooses anyone who responds in faith.

Remember God knows you, loves you, and he cares for you. This Christmas is good news for you 'Jesus Knows You' just come to Him -'Worship Him' alone. The shepherds were insignificant people of Bethlehem, yet God remembered them when Jesus was born.

The Shepherds had nothing but their faith. There is only one thing you can give unto Jesus in exchange for His love and acceptance. Let this Christmas change your life forever...! Cheer up God loves you and understand Christmas is to announce 'the good news of Salvation' wherever you are...!. Your greatest gift is a life of worship! That's the journey we are all called to embark on!

- Pastor Shalom

Christmas Celebration

Friday, December 10th at
Indian Community School,
Amman Branch, Salmiya
9:30 am to 4 pm

Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 24th at
Hall of Hope, NECK Com-
pound 10 PM onwards ...

New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31 at
NECK Compound, 10 PM
onwards.



Family & Church Growth



Philippians 1:6 “.... He who began a good work in you [us] will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus”.

The true meaning of the word ‘family’, in simple words is husband, wife, children, grandparents under one roof and Christ as the centre of the family. As Christians we as a family play an indispensable role in the world.

‘Family’ as the main key in the growth of the church may sound simple but many times the failure of the church is because of the failure of its families. We as family must be in constant prayer relationship with God and also as individuals. As a family we need to pray for the pastor and his /her family.

Our speech must be gracious, polite, compassionate, and filled with humility. It is always good to resolve all matters with frank and open dialogue. In all this we should be careful not to allow any kind of boasting or self centered talk.

The second part of this is the law of relationship in the family.

While we may not be able to change others, our efforts should be to change ourselves in every aspect of our life. How do we respond to others in our family?. Our attitude should show love and concern for others so that we can win over them through our behaviour. The other main key of living a better life that is peaceful is to fill our hearts with a positive attitude.

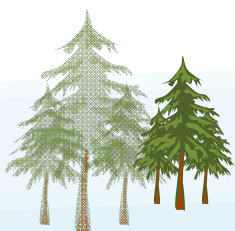
- By Karen Daniel

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(See Luke 2:1-16) 12-23-2004

EACH YEAR AT XMAS THOSE XIANS CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF X



Clothes, Carols, special dishes, festive moods, Greeting cards, Bright lights, stars, Christmas trees, Church plays, turkey, wine, dances, music, special services, gifts, parties, celebrations ...

..... Everything is Empty if Christ is forgotten at Christmas



Knowing The Will of God This Christmas



Come December month we are all geared up for celebrating Christmas especially children, as they look forward eagerly to receive gifts and all around a festive atmosphere prevails. As every year, this year also we are celebrating the birth of our dear Lord Jesus Christ, born in a manger, preached the gospel, demonstrated that He is the son of God, died on the cross to redeem the sins of His people And all of this because He had to fulfill the will of His Father who had sent Him to this world.

In our daily lives as Christians, knowing the will of our Father is equally important. So what is the will of our Father in heaven this Christmas season? The Bible has a simple explanation in 1Thessalonians 5:18 "in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you".

Paul provides us a simple explanation of the will of God in that we should give thanks in everything - everything whether it is a pleasant experience or not, as we journey this world. God expects us to be thankful to Him in our prayers, praise and worship and in our total dedication to Him while serving humanity. As Christians, one of our important calling is preaching the gospel, bringing people to experience salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Are we faithful and to what extent, in doing this exercise, we need to examine ourselves in our daily life.

When the time came for our Lord Jesus Christ to be offered as a living sacrifice on the cross of Calvary, our Lord departed to a lonely place and prayed thus "Father if it is Your will, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless not My will but Yours be done". He said this prayer loudly with tears and with great agony in his heart. His submission to the will of His Father enabled Him to accomplish His mission on this planet and he died on the cross, paying for our salvation, saying "It is finished".

How many of us this Christmas have the courage to claim that we are doing the will of our Father?? Let us introspect and judge ourselves this Christmas season!!! - **Samuel G Prakash**

Preach It Preacher

Down in the south, there are many churches known as "answer back" churches. When the preacher says something, the congregation naturally replies.

One Sunday, a preacher was speaking on what it would take for the church to become better.

He said, "If this church is to become better, it must take up its bed, and walk."

The congregation said, "Let it walk, Preacher, let it walk."

Encouraged by their response, he went further, "If this church is going to become better, it will have to throw aside its hindrances and run!"

The congregation replied, "Let it run, preacher, let it run!"

Now really into his message, he spoke stronger.

"If this church really wants to become great, it will have to take up its wings and fly!"

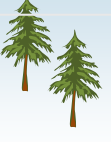
"Let it fly, Preacher, let it fly!" the congregation shouts.

The Preacher gets louder, "If this church is going to fly, it will cost money!"

The congregation replied, "Let it walk, Preacher, let it walk."

(Submitted by Maxwell Francis)





ತಕ್ಕ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ



‘ಒಂದೊಂದು ವಸ್ತುವನ್ನು ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಹಾಗೆ ಅಂದವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದ್ದಾನೆ’ – ಪ್ರಸಂಗಿ ೩:೧೧

ನಮ್ಮ ತಂದೆಯಾದ ಯೇಸು ಸ್ವಾಮಿಯು ಒಂದೊಂದನ್ನು ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಹಾಗೆ ಅಂದವಾಗಿ ಮಾಡುವಂತನಾಗಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಆತನು ಯಾವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಅವಸರವಾಗಿ ಅಥವಾ ನಿಧಾನವಾಗಿಯೂ ಮಾಡುವವನಾಗಿರದೆ, ತಕ್ಕ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಶ್ಚರ್ಯಕರವಾಗಿಯೂ ಅತಿಶಯವಾಗಿಯೂ ಕರ್ತನು ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ಅಂದವಾಗಿ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಅನೇಕರು ಅವರ ಆಲೋಚನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳು ನಡೆಯದಿದ್ದಾಗ ವ್ಯಥೆ ಪಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಕೂ ದೇವರ ಸಮಯವಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಆಲೋಚಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸತ್ಯವೇದವು ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ, ‘ಕೋರಿದಕ್ಕೆ ತಡವಾದರೆ ಮನಸ್ಸು ಬಳಲುವುದು ಕೈಗೂಡಿದ ಇಷ್ಟಾರ್ಥವು ಜೀವವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ’ ಜ್ಞಾನೋಕ್ತಿ 13:12, ಆದರೆ ಕಾದಿರುವ ಸಮಯಗಳು ಸೋಲುವಿಕೆಯನ್ನೂ ವಿರಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನೂ ಉಂಟುಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಕರ್ತನು ನನ್ನ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥನೆಯನ್ನು ಕೇಳಲಿಲ್ಲ, ನನಗೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕೊಡಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ನೆನಸುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಆದರೆ ನಮ್ಮೊಳಗೆ ಕರ್ತನು ಬೇಕೆಂದು ನಿಧಾನ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾನೆಂದು ಎಂದಿಗೂ ಯೋಚಿಸಬೇಡಿರಿ. ಆತನ ಸಮಯ ಬರುವಾಗ ಆತನ ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದವು ಜೀವವ್ಯಕ್ತದ ಹಾಗೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ – ಹಲ್ಲೆಲೂಯ.

ಕ್ರಿಸ್ತನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಿಯರಾದ ನನ್ನ ಸಹೋದರ/ರಿಯೇ, ನನ್ನ ಕೌಟಂಬಿಕ ಜೀವತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಒಂದು ಘಟನೆಯನ್ನು ಸಾಕ್ಷಿರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಡಲು ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತೇನೆ. ನಾವು ಕುವೈಟ್‌ಗೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವೇತನದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂದ ಹೊಸದರಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವ ಕೊರತೆಯು ನಮಗಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಮಗನನ್ನು ಕರೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬರುವ ಹಂಬಲವಿದ್ದು, ವಿಸಾ ತೆಗೆಯುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನನ್ನ ಪತಿಯ ವೇತನ ಮಿತಿಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಒಬ್ಬ ಸಹೋದ್ಯೋಗಿಯ ಸಲಹೆ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ನಾವು ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಪೇಪರ್ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡು ಹೋದೆವು. ಆದರೆ ಕುವೈಟ್ ನನ್ನ ಜೊತೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಗೆಳತಿ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದು ‘ನಿನ್ನ ಪತಿಯ ವೇತನಕ್ಕೆ ಮಗನನ್ನು ಕರೆತರಲು ಅಸಾಧ್ಯ’ ಸಾಧ್ಯವೇ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದಾಗಿ ಹೇಳಿದಳು. ಕುಗ್ಗಿ ಹೋಗುವಂತ ಸಮಯ ಆದರೆ ನನ್ನ ತಂದೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇಟ್ಟಿರುವ ನಂಬಿಕೆ ನಾನು ಕಳಕೊಳ್ಳಲಿಲ್ಲ; ಅಲ್ಲಿ ನನ್ನ ನಂಬಿಕೆ ಬಲವಾಗುವಂತೆ ಪವಿತ್ರಾತ್ಮನು ಸ್ಪೂರ್ತಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟನು. ಮಗನ ವೀಸಾಕ್ಕಾಗಿಯೂ, ನನ್ನ ಪತಿಯ ವೇತನವು ನನ್ನ ಸ್ನೇಹಿತ ಪತಿಯ ವೇತನಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಇಮ್ಮಾಡಿ ಮಾಡು ತಂದೆಯೇ ಎಂದು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸಿದೆನು. ದೇವರ ವಾಕ್ಯ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ, “ನಂಬಿದರೆ ಮಹಿಮೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾಣುವೆ” ನಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವಾಮಿಗೆ ಯಾವುದು ಅಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಆತನು ಅಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದದ್ದನ್ನು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಮಾಡುವ ದೇವರು ಆತನಾಗಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಅದೇ ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧ್ಬುತ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನನ್ನ ಇಷ್ಟಾರ್ಥವನ್ನು ನೇರವೇರಿಸಿದನು. ಕುವೈಟ್ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ಕಾನೂನು ಬಂದಿತು, ಅದರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಸಂಬಳ ಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲದೆ ವೀಸಾ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿತ್ತು ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಮಗನನ್ನು ಕರೆಕೊಂಡು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಯಿತು. ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲದೆ ನನ್ನ ಪತಿಯ ಸಂಬಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಾ ಬಂದಿತು. ಇಂದು ನನ್ನ ಪತಿಯ ವೇತನ ನಾನು ಕೇಳಿದಕ್ಕಿಂತಲೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಅನುಗ್ರಹಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ನಾವು ಆರಾಧಿಸುವ ದೇವರು ಆತ್ಮಸ್ವರೂಪನು, ಜೀವ ಸ್ವರೂಪಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ಪ್ರೀತಿಪೂರ್ಣನು ಮಹಾ ಕರುಣೆಯು ಉಳ್ಳವನು ಆಗಿದ್ದಾನೆ-ಹಲ್ಲೆಲೂಯ.

ಮನುಷ್ಯರಾದರೋ ಕರ್ತನು ಸಮಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕಾಯದೆ, ಅವಸರ ಪಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಸಮಯ ಬರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮೊದಲೇ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲು ಆರಂಭಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕೊನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವೇದನೆಯನ್ನು ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಕಾನಾ ಊರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಾರಸವು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಗೊತ್ತಾದಾಗ, ಯೇಸುವಿನ ತಾಯಿ ಆತನ ಬಳಿಗೆ ಬಂದು ಸಹಾಯವನ್ನು ನೀರಿಕ್ಕಿಸುತ್ತಾಳೆ. ಆದರೆ ಯೇಸು ಸ್ವಾಮಿಯಾದರೋ ತಂದೆ ದೇವರ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕಾದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆತನು ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನು ಆಯಾ ಸಮಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಂದರವಾಗಿ ಮಾಡುವ ದೇವರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಆತನು ಬಹಳ ಕಾಲ ಕಾಯಿಸುವವನು ಆಗಿರದೆ ಆತನ ಸಮಯ ಬಂದಾಗ ನೀರನ್ನು ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಾರಸವನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಿದಂತನಾಗಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಅದು ರುಚಿಕರವಾಗಿ ಇತ್ತು.

ಕರ್ತನಲ್ಲಿ ನನ್ನ ಅತಿ ಪ್ರಿಯರೇ, ಯಾರ್ಯಾರೂ ಆತನ ಮರೆಹೊಕ್ಕು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸಿ ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕಾಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ ಕಳವಳಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಡಿ, ಎದೆಗುಂದಬೇಡಿ, ನಿರಾಶರಾಗಬೇಡಿ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯಿಂದ ಆತನ ಸನ್ನಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟು ಆತನ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕಾಯಿರಿ. ಆಗ ನೀವು ಹೊಂದುವ ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದವು ಜೀವವ್ಯಕ್ತದ ಹಾಗೆ ಇರುವುದು. ಸತ್ಯವೇದವು ಕೊಡುವ ಆಲೋಚನೆ ‘ತಡವಾದರು ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾದಿರು’ ಹಬಕ್ಕೂಕ ೨:೯.



‘ದೇವರ ತ್ರಾಣವುಳ್ಳ ಹಸ್ತದ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಿಮ್ಮನ್ನು ತಗ್ಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿರಿ; ಆತನು ತಕ್ಕ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಮೇಲಕ್ಕೆತ್ತುವನು’ ೧ ಪೇತ್ರ ೫:೬. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ನನ್ನ ಪ್ರಿಯರೇ ಅತಿ ಸುಂದರವಾದ ಅಮೂಲ್ಯವಾದ ಆತನ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕಾದು ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದ ಹೊಂದೋಣವೇ? ಬನ್ನಿರಿ, ಕರ್ತನಲ್ಲಿ ಆನಂದಿಸಿರಿ, ಆತನ ಜೀವವೆಂಬ ಜಯಮಾಲೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊಂದೋಣ,

– ಸಹೋದರಿ ಪ್ರಭಾ ನ್ಯೂಟನ್

Why Me Lord ???



Cried to the Lord why this is happening to me? Lord its' not your will, but still why I am in this critical situation? I am not able to get any answer from the Lord ... many people gave hundred's of reasons, stil I was not satisfied with their opinions.

The Word of God gives an assuring promise ... "He who calls you faithful who also will do it" (1Thes 5:24). However a strange thought passed in my mind, but unable to give self explanatory words.

God gave His grace (in knowledge and wisdom) to look at his faithfulness. At first I was boasting in relationships which I had with people around me and trying to see God's faithfulness in their kindness and all the while thinking that in this was real happiness in the world. But one fine day, suddenly realized that I was standing all alone and no one stood with me. Then I saw that all the things of which I used to boast had completely disappeared; from hero I became a zero. I could only cry out to God WHY ME GOD...?

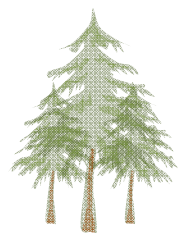
I was now crying out & pleading to God for His mercy to come and fill me up and to open my eyes to see His glory and favour. He took away all my sorrow, and turned my defeat into victory. I was placed on the rock of salvation (Jesus) to trust and to depend on Him alone. His promise is powerful.

As the children of Israel reached the red sea they might have thought that God had abandoned them, (Ex 14: 10-31) but God made impossible things possible for his Children. Even though we can't realise how God works in our present situations but when we trust in him and cry out, he makes a way to escape and helps us to lean on His faithfulness (Prov3: 5-6)

Jesus was left alone to hang on the cross to take away our pain, defeat and loneliness. Loneliness and betrayal, pain, and tough situations may try to break us, but it's time to hold on to the promises of God seeking guidance of the Holy Spirit to overcome such situations. Thank You JESUS for YOUR grace and mercy which endures forever...

- Isaac Jathanna

☪ Come Let Us Adore Him
'ഓരാളൻ കർമ്മം'
We Cordially Invite On...
Christmas Celebration -2010
Date: 10th December 2010
TIME: 9:30 AM TO 4:30 PM
VENUE: INDIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL
(Amman Street Branch)
COME! PARTICIPATE!! BE BLESSED!!!



Happy birthday



Sunil Joshua - 1st

Karthik Soans - 2nd

Sneha Varghese - 8th

James Newton - 13th

Jenifer Joseph - 23rd

Jenny DSouza - 23rd

Wedding Anniversaries in December

1st - Clifford & Lily D'Souza

17th - Isaac & Sandra Jathanna

21st - James & Prabha Newton

29th—Vilas & Leena Kunder

Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas.

Dale Evans Rogers

I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.

Charles Dickens

There are three stages of man: he believes in Santa Claus; he does not believe in Santa Claus; he is Santa Claus.

Bob Phillips

Peace on earth will come to stay, When we live Christmas every day.

Helen Steiner Rice

By Jaeni Varghese

JESUS BORN IN STABLE

