Kungokuqonda nokukholelwa kuphela ukuba uThixo walithanda ihlabathi kangangokuba wancama uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo, apho sinokuba nothando olugqibeleleyo ngoThixo khona. Ngoko ke, kungokwazi nokukholelwa kuphela ukuba uThixo wathumela uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo ehlabathini, apho sinokuyigcina khona imiyalelo yakhe.

Kuya kubakho iqela labantu ngemihla yokugqibela abaya kumthanda uThixo ngentliziyo yabo yonke. Baya kulwazi uthando lukaThixo olungaphaya kolwazi. Baya kuqonda ukuba uThixo uyasithanda kangangokuba wancama uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo. Eli qela labantu laziwa njengaba-144,000. Ngabo abafumana itywina likaThixo. (Bona ISityhilelo 7:1-4) Baya kuba ngabangenatyala. "Ndakhangela, nabo, iMvana imi phezu kwentaba yeSiyon, inamawaka alikhulu elinamashumi amane anesine, enalo igama loYise libhaliwe emabunzini awo. ... Emlonyeni wabo akufunyanwanga nkohliso: kuba bangabangenatyala phambi kwetrone kaThixo." (ISityhilelo 14:1, 5) Abayi kuthobela uphawu lwerhamncwa, kwaye baya kusindiswa kuzo zonke izibetho eziza phezu komhlaba.

Aba bantu baya kuluqonda uthando lukaThixo kangangokuba abayi kona. "Amasalela akwaSirayeli akayi kwenza ubugwenxa, angaxoki; lungafunyanwa ulwimi olukhohlisayo emlonyeni wawo: kuba aya kudla alale phantsi, kungabikho bani uboyikisayo." (Zefaniya 3:13) Aba bangqina kuThixo bokuba umntu unako ukoyisa isono. Ndifuna ukuba yinxalenye yelo nani.

Kuya kubakho elinye iqela ngemihla yokugqibela; iqela eliya kufumana uphawu lwerhamncwa. Kuya kubakho amaqela amabini kuphela. Akuyi kubakho qela laphakathi. Nokuba uya kufumana uphawu lwerhamncwa okanye itywina likaThixo. Iqela elifumana uphawu lwerhamncwa aliyi kuyoyisa isono. Liya kuqhubeka lihlala ezonweni elizikhethileyo. Iya kuba yintoni na isiphelo sabo? "Yabonani, lusuku lukaYehova oluzayo, olunobushushu, nolunoburhalarhume, olunomsindo ovuthayo, ukuba umhlaba ube senkangala, abatshabalalise aboni bawo kuwo." (Isaya 13:9) Aboni baya kutshatyalaliswa xa iNkosi ifika. Baya kukhala ukuba amatye awele phezu kwabo ukubafihlela ubukho beNkosi.

Naziphi na izono ezigcinwe zingatshintshwa, zingaguqukwanga kuzo, ziya kusiwisa ngaloo mini zisitshabalalise. "Ogubungela izono zakhe akabi nampumelelo; ke ozivumayo azishiye uya kufumana inceba." (Imizekeliso 28:13) Nceda ulungele phambi kokuba kudlule ixesha!

Kuya kubakho isibhengezo esiya kuphuma ngaphambi nje kokuba iNkosi ibuye, kwaye onke amatyala aya kugqitywa nokuba alungile okanye amabi. "Ongekho mthethweni makabe engekho mthethweni ngakumbi; nolingcolileyo malibe lingcolile ngakumbi; nolilungisa malibe lilungisa ngakumbi; noyingcwele makabe yingcwele ngakumbi. Yabona, ndiyeza kamsinya; nomvuzo wam unam, ukuba ndimvuze elowo ngokwemisebenzi yakhe." (ISityhilelo 22:11, 12)

Esi sisilumkiso esinzulu. Nceda ulungele!

Ngolwazi oluthe kratya malunga noku, okanye ezinye iinyani zebhayibhile ezibalulekileyo, nceda unxibelelane:

UTHANDO LUKATHIXO

THE LOVE OF GOD



"Khangelani, lunjani na uthando asinike lona uBawo."
— 1 Yohane 3:1

UTHANDO OLUMANGALISAYO

UThixo uBawo usicela ukuba sibone ukuba lunjani na, okanye lungakanani na, uthando analo ngathi. Umongo weBhayibhile iphela ungokuba uThixo uBawo uthanda kangakanani na mntu ngamnye kuthi. Ukungakholelwa uthando lukaThixo ngathi kuthintela ubudlelwane bethu noThixo.

Kukungakholelwa kothando olukhulu lukaThixo okwaqalisa uSathana endleleni yakhe yokwehla. (Bona Hezekiyeli 28:14-17.) Kukungakholelwa kothando olukhulu lukaThixo okweyisela uEva esonweni. (Bona Genesis 3:1-6.) Kukungakholelwa kothando olukhulu lukaThixo okusigcina esonweni. Kungokutyhilwa kuphela kothando lukaThixo olungenakuphela apho siya kuziswa kubudlelwane bothando noThixo obugqitha nabuphi na ebesikhe sabanabo.

Yayiyinjongo kaSathana ukukhohlisa abantu malunga nobuntu benene bukaThixo. USathana angathanda ukuba sikholelwe ukuba uThixo akathandi njengokuba esitsho, kwaye uyazi ukuba ukuba angasoyisela kulo mba asiyi kumthanda uThixo ngentliziyo yethu yonke. Kungomfanekiso wenene kuphela wothando lukaThixo apho sinokumthanda khona ngokwaneleyo ukuba sizalisekise umyalelo uYesu awubize ngokuthi "ngowokuqala nomkhulu umthetho," onokumthanda uThixo ngentliziyo yethu yonke. (Bona Mateyu 22:37, 38.)

SINGALUFIKELELA NJANI OLO THANDO?

UYesu wathi, "Ukuba niyandithanda, yigcinani imithetho yam." (Yohane 14:15) Ingcinga efanayo ivezwa kwivesi ye-23. "Ukuba umntu uyandithanda, uya kuyigcina intetho yam." (Yohane 14:23) KwiBhayibhile yesiGrike, ivesi ye-14 iguqulelwa ngolu hlobo: "Ukuba niyandithanda, niya kuyigcina imithetho yam." (Jay P. Green's Greek Interlinear)

Le vesi yinkcazelo yobudlelwane besizathu nesiphumo, endaweni yomyalelo. UYesu wathi ukuba siyamthanda, isiphumo semvelo solo thando kukuba siya kuyigcina imithetho yakhe. Ukuba asimthandi uThixo,

asinako, kwaye asiyi kuyigcina imithetho yakhe.

UYesu wathi, "Uze umthande iNkosi uThixo wakho ngentliziyo yakho yonke, nangomphefumlo wakho wonke, nangengqondo yakho yonke. Lo ngowokuqala nomkhulu umthetho. Owesibini ke ufana nawo, Uze umthande ummelwane wakho ngokwakho. Kule miyalelo mibini ixhomekeke umthetho wonke nabaprofeti." (Mateyu 22:37-40)

Ukuba sithanda uThixo ngentliziyo yethu yonke, asiyi kuba nabanye oothixo phambi kwakhe. Asiyi kunqula nomfanekiso oqingqiweyo, siyophule iSabatha, okanye silisebenzise igama lakhe ngelize. Ukuba sithanda ummelwane wethu njengokuba sizithanda, asiyi kubabulala, sibase kubo, singqine ubungqina obubuxoki nxamnye nabo, sinqwenele izinto zabo, siphinge, okanye singazihloneli abazali bethu.

Ngesi sizathu uPawulos wayenako ukuthi, ngokuqinisekileyo, la mazwi: "Musani ukuba natyala lanto mntwini, kuphela kwinto yokuthandana; kuba lowo uthandayo omnye uwuzalisekisile umthetho. ... Uthando alwenzi bubi kummelwane; ngoko ke uthando luzalisekiso lomthetho." (Roma 13:8-10)

Ukuthanda uThixo ngentliziyo yethu yonke ngowokuqala nomkhulu umthetho. Ngokucacileyo akunakuwaphula lo uze usithi usayigcina imithetho kaThixo. Njengoko sibona ngokucacileyo, ukuba sizama ukuyigcina imithetho kaThixo injongo yethu yokuqala nephezulu kukuthanda uThixo ngentliziyo, ingqondo, umphefumlo, namandla ethu onke. Kodwa ingenzeka njani le njongo?

UYohane wabhala, "Siyamthanda, ngokuba yena wasithanda kuqala." (1 Yohane 4:19) Isizathu sodwa esinikezwe somntu ukuthanda uThixo, "kukuba yena wasithanda kuqala." Ukuba sinqwenela ukumthanda uThixo kufuneka sibone kuqala uthando lwakhe ngathi. Ngokwelinganiso lokuba siluqonda kangakanani na uthando lukaThixo ngathi, kuya kuba lunjalo uthando lwethu ngoThixo. Ukuba ubona ukuba uThixo ukuthanda kancinane, uthando lwakho ngaye luya kuba luncinane kakhulu. Ukuba ubona ukuba uThixo ukuthanda kangangokuba wancama into eyayinexabiso elikhulu kuye, uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo, uthando lwakho ngaye luya kuba lukhulu.

SINGAZAZI NJANI UTHANDO LUKATHIXO?

"Kwabonakaliswa uthando lukaThixo ngathi, ngokuba uThixo wamthumela uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo ehlabathini, ukuze siphile ngaye. Lukho apha uthando, kungekuba thina samthanda uThixo, koko nguye owasithandayo, wathumela uNyana wakhe, waba yintlawulelo yezono zethu." (1 Yohane 4:9, 10) UThixo ulutyhile uthando lwakhe olukhulu ngokuncama uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo.

"Thina ke, siluze salwazi, salukhulolwa uthando alubanayo uThixo ngathi. UThixo uluthando; ohlala eluthandweni uhlala kuThixo, noThixo uhlala kuye. Ngale nto lugqityiwe uthando lwethu." (1 Yohane 4:16, 17) Uthando lwethu ngoThixo lwenziwa lugqibelele ngokwazi, ngokukholelwa, nangokuhlala eluthandweni lwakhe ngathi ngokuba wancama uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo.

Kufuneka siqonde kuqala indlela esinokuthi silwazi ngayo uthando lukaThixo ukuze sikholwe kulo sihlale kulo, okuzakugqibelelisa uthando lwethu ngaye. "Ngale nto siyalwazi uthando lukaThixo, ngokuba yena wabuncama ubomi bakhe [uYesu] ngenxa yethu." (1 Yohane 3:16) Ukuze silwazi uthando lukaThixo ngathi kufuneka sijonge indlela awamnikela ngayo uNyana wakhe ukuba abuncame ubomi bakhe ngenxa yethu.

UKUBANDEZELEKA KUKAKRISTU

UMarko wabhala ngobusuku obuphambi kokufa kukaKristu: "Beza ke endaweni egama liyiGetsemane; athi kubafundi bakhe, Hlalani apha, ndisathandaza mna.

Uthabatha uPetros noYakobi noYohane, waqala ukuqhiphuka umbilini, ukubandezeleka kunene; athi kubo, Umphefumlo wam ubuhlungu kakhulu, kude kuse ekufeni; hlalani apha nilinde. Waya ngaphambili kancinane, wawa emhlabeni, wathandaza ukuba, ukuba kunokwenzeka, libe lingadluli kuye elo lixa." (Marko 14:32-35) UYesu wacela abafundi bakhe ukuba balinde balubuke oko kwenzekayo kuba wayefuna bazi bakholwe uthando uThixo analo ngabo ukuze uthando lwabo ngoThixo lugqibeleliswe.

Masijongane noko kwenzekayo emyezweni waseGetsemane. Kwakukho okuthile okwenzekayo kuYesu okwambangela ukuba aziva ebuhlungu ngeemvakalelo zakhe, nezo mvakalelo zamoyikisa. Zaziyintoni na ezo mvakalelo?

UIsaya waprofeta, "UYehova wamwisela ubugwenxa [kunye netyala] bethu sonke." (Isaya 53:6) UYesu weva ihlazo esilivayo xa sisona, kuphela iphindwe kaninzi. Oku kwabangela ukwahlukana phakathi kukaThixo noYesu. "Ubugwenxa benu buni bahlukanisa nani noThixo wenu, nezono zenu zamfihlela ubuso bakhe kuni, ukuba angevi." (Isaya 59:2)

UThixo usithanda ngenene ngokwaneleyo ukuba ancame uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo, kwaye ufuna sikhangele, okanye sihlale kule nyani inqabileyo. "Kuba uthando lukaKristu lusixinzela." (2 KwabaseKorinte 5:14) Kufuneka sihlale sizixakekise ngenyani emangalisayo yokuba uThixo walithanda ihlabathi kangangokuba wavumela uNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo ukuba eve ityala lethu nokuva iziphumo zokuba elo tyala libekwe phezu kwakhe.

UIsaya wabhala, "Uya kumgcina enoxolo olugqibeleleyo, lowo ingqondo yakhe ihleli kuwe; ngokuba ekholosa ngawe." (Isaya 26:3) UThixo uyazi ukuba ukuba sihlala sihleli kuthando olumangalisayo analo ngathi luya kusibumba lusimilise njenganto yimbi engenako. Ukuba sisoloko sinolwazi lokwenene lothando uThixo analo ngathi, siluxabise olu thando, ekugqibeleni siya kuba sikruqukile sisono kangangokuba siya kwala ukulivumela ukuba lihlale kuthi. Sinokusoyisa isono ngoncedo lukaThixo.

"Kuba konke okuzelwe nguThixo kuyaloyisa ihlabathi; lulo ke olu uloyiso oluloyisileyo ihlabathi, ukholo lwethu. Ngubani na oloyisayo ihlabathi, ingenguye okholwayo ukuba uYesu unguNyana kaThixo?" (1 Yohane 5:4, 5) Kukho into malunga nokukholelwa ukuba uYesu unguNyana kaThixo esenza sikwazi ukuloyisa ihlabathi, okukuthi soyise isono. (Bona 1 Yohane 2:15-17.)

Ekubeni ukukholelwa ukuba uYesu unguNyana kaThixo kusenza sikwazi ukoyisa isono, ucinga ukuba uSathana uya kuzama ukuyigqwetha inyani yokuba uYesu unguNyana kaThixo? Ngokuqinisekileyo eya kwenjenjalo. Ukuba silindele ukuloyisa ihlabathi kufuneka sikholwe ukuba uYesu ngenene unguNyana kaThixo ekuphela kwamzeleyo (owazalwayo), nokuba uThixo wamncama ngenxa yethu.

"Okholwayo kuNyana kaThixo unobo ubungqina ngaphakathi kwakhe; ongakholwayo kuThixo umenze ixoki; ngokuba engakholwanga kubungqina uThixo abubungqina ngaye uNyana wakhe." (1 Yohane 5:10) UThixo wathi, "Lo nguNyana wam oyintanda, endikholisiwe nguye; mveni yena." (Mateyu 17:5) UThixo wathi uYesu Krestu nguNyana wakhe ekuphela kwamzeleyo, ungavumeli mntu ukuba akuxelele ngenye indlela.

ISIPHO SIKATHIXO SONYANA WAKHE

UYesu, ethetha ngaye ngokwakhe, wathi, "Xa kwakungekabikho manzi anzongonzongo, ndazalwa; xa kwakungekabikho mithombo inzima ngamanzi. Phambi kokuba iintaba zizinziswe, phambi kweenduli ndazalwa." (Imizekeliso 8:24, 25) Igama lesiHebhere eliguqulelwe apha ngokuthi "ndazalwa" lithetha "ukuzalwa" (Gesenius' Hebrew Lexicon). UYesu unguNyana kaThixo ngenene nenyaniso, owazalwa ezulwini phambi kokuba ihlabathi lidalwe.