

SUVISESHA DHWANI

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My Covenant shall be in your Flesh

— Samuel Abraham

“He that is born in thy house and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant” Genesis 17:13. The Lord God made a covenant with Abraham. We can see its detail in the book of Genesis. The sign of this covenant is circumcision. It was God’s commandment that all

the male of his family should take circumcision. He has made a covenant with the New Testament believers also and we should have that sign in our body, in this age of grace also. This is what God desires from us. Otherwise how people will understand that we belong to God and that we are the children of God.

The New Testament believers should

have this sign in our heart. The transformation that has taken place in the heart should be manifested in our life and our body. The transformation of a heart is just like the transplantation of a heart. A new heart and the part of the old heart is that is to take place. Give the old heart with filth, dirt all other things to the Lord. Lord will give us a new heart as

THE BELIEVER AND THE SOCIETY

JOSE MATHEW MANGALORE

(From the Y M E F General Camp Kumily 2008)

Man is a social animal. He has an obligation towards the society. Every walk of his life is reflected in the society. Moreover we often forget this fact that our life and deeds are always talking to the society. Once a great person said like this: If every Christian in India obey Christ by living just like Him, every Indian would have received Christianity as their religion. How truthful it is ...! Often the society understands that the Christian when they observe is often just like or worse than them. It is sad that Christians became copies of westerners. If society is to observe the Christ in

us, we should live in accordance with the word of God. Perfect dedication and sacrifice is necessary for that. If our life is not entirely different from others we cannot reveal Jesus and live according to the Gospel.

Blessing others regardless of their attitude. (Rom 12:14)

If our deeds are not in accordance with the word of God, our society and community will judge us and evaluate us regularly. What will be the picture or image of us if we go to a court with regard to some case or trial. Once one of our elders and myself had gone to a railway station. We parked our vehicle in the parking lot. When we came

back after finishing our job, the security officer harassed the elder who was with me. He suffered every thing silently. I wondered when I observed his behavior and asked him why he behaved so. His answer is still echoing in my heart. He said, If I come here with a tract or leaflet tomorrow.....!. Dear brethren this thought should always rule us. We have to reject many comforts for the sake of gospel. Apostle James has jotted down the blessings and cursings which are coming from the same mouth. (Jas 3:10). What Christ has taught us is that to bless those who curse us or do evil to us. This is what God want from us.

For the crown of glory that will not fade

Koipuram: Brother P V Varghese (Babychayan 82) went to be with the Lord on 30th October 2008. He was an elder of the Koipuram Brethren Assembly and belonged to the Mattakal family. He was the Secretary of the Steward Association of India Kerala chapter from 1978. He worked for the immediate necessities of the Brethren Assemblies in Kerala. He is an embodiment of selfless service. The mark of his personality was seen any where and every where he went and involved for the good of others. He was the manager of Kumbanadu Brethren English Medium School, a spoke person and ardent worker of the N M Higher Secondary Section and was active in many social movements.

His concern and provision for the evangelist and his encouragement for them was exemplary. His earthly body was buried on 3.11.08 under the auspices of the Koipuram Brethren Assembly in the cemetery of the same assembly. He finished his race ... gone to be with his beloved for receive the crown of glory Let us remember the bereaved family and let us specially uphold dear Ammachi to the throne of grace because she is very sick.

Suvisheshadhvani joins us the sorrow of the family.

Gospel Meeting

Kottayam: God willing a big gospel meeting will be conducted at Thirunakkara Stadium (Maidan) from December 1, 2008 to 7th in the evening from 6PM to 8PM under the auspices of the local Brethren Assemblies in and around Kottayam. The main speakers are **Brothers M M Zachariah, John Kurian, Joy John, Jose Mankudy, Chandapilla Philip, Dr. Koshy Mathew** etc. Kindly pray for the blessing of this great convention.

The Oriyan believers who were tortured by the religious fanatics are poor, illiterate ignorant and uncivilized. They do not know any theology especially in carrying the cross etc. They do not know any root word especially the root from form of the word torture. They are mere ordinary believers. But when they faced death face to face for their they were so bold enough to say that Jess Christ is our Lord. What about you and me?

Obliged

To gain something eternal and everlasting, if a person loses something that he cannot have it for his own then he is not a fool. These are the words of great martyr Jim Elliot who went to work among the Aqua tribes knowing that he will never return alive. What is the fruit of His love for his Master who died for him in the Calvary. It is easy to preach . But can we live for our saviour. The modern brethren people will say that Jim was a fool as they will mock people like him. But the Lord will honour.

Jim Elliot

Why Does Your Face Look So Sad ?

The countenance of many believers are fallen these days because of global economic depression, insecurity of investments, in share markets and banks, deterioration of luxurious lives etc. When both the prime ministers and the finance minister assures repeatedly that our investments and share markets are secure, then also people's faces seem to be fallen; and fear and depression shadows on their faces. Therefore, the perplexed pictures of people who are sitting before sensex board is the daily news of today's media.

If we go after this world, we will become frustrated. How clear is our Lord's words..... "Do not store up treasures for yourself on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But we gave little value to those words and go after the world and its comforts. We do what all things that the world does. Today, believers are not ashamed of adopting any means for their economic growth and investment growth. Our inner eyes has become blurred. Because of that our life fully filled with darkness, face become fainted. The eye is the lamp of the body. If the eye is clear, the whole body becomes full of light. "A joyful heart makes a cheerful face, but when the heart is sad, the spirit is broken (Proverbs 15:13)". If then the light that is in you is darkness how great is the darkness. God asks to Cain "Why you are angry/ and why has your countenance or face fallen? We see this incident in Genesis 4. His face had fallen because of jealous, failure, anger and hatred.

If you do well, will not your countenance be lifted up?" (Genesis 4:7). He could not follow goodness and the sin which is crouching at the door overcame him. He became the murderer of his own brothers. King Artaxerxes asked Nehemiah, who was one of the cup bearers in the citadel of Susa, why his face is sad when he is not ill. Nehemiah's reply was very clear then. He said, "Why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" Nehemiah was not bothered about his salary or job in the Citadel. He took fasting and cried out to Lord by remembering the pathetic condition of Jerusalem. It is written in the New Testament that our Lord Jesus Christ has wept by looking at Jerusalem. He is lamenting about it by foreseeing its emptiness and futility which is to come.

Dear brothers, what is the reason about our sadness in our faces? Is it because of the deterioration or depression of the share market? Or is it because of the destruction caused to the spiritual Jerusalem? Let us cry aloud to God by seeing the emptiness of our churches. Let us be sad by remembering about the lost souls. Let us lament about the youth who are going in the wrong immoral way. Let us weep by remembering the states like Karnataka and Orissa. Let us cry aloud to God by remembering the great judgment that is going to come to the world. The King of Kings asks us "Why your face is sad?" Jesus is coming soon

Samuel Thomas, Cheppadu

(My Covenant Shall ...contd from page 1)

a gift. This is the open heart surgery that should take place. Once a farmer had a pig. He used to give bath to it every day. But after a few hours, it will go to the dirt. It will play in the mud and dirt. This farmer one day took it to a veterinary surgeon. He was asked to transplant its heart with the heart of a lamb. This operation was successful. When the pig was brought back home the change in the behaviour of its behaviour was noticeable. Once it played in the dirt. But now the lamb, the new creature will run away from the dirt and mud. The change that came inside is very clearly manifested in every sphere of its life. Changes occur in its behaviour, attitude, character and conduct. This is what exactly happened in you and me. God gave us a new heart. So our life should reflect all the good qualities of that new

heart. If no change can be seen outside then it is to be doubted about the success of transplantation. Today we do not see any transformation in many of the so called born agains. They do not produce any fruit of the spirit.

If we are the children of God then we should have the conduct and character of Jesus Christ. We have to reflect Jesus Christ through us. We should reflect Jesus Christ through us just as a mirror reflect our image in it. We have to bear this sign of the covenant of the Lord in our body. His yoke should be seen in our neck. One cannot be spiritual inside and natural outside. So if one have entered in to Him with the new Covenant then each and every member of our body should be reflect Him in our life. Many claim that there is no need to think about our eternal appearance or about the way we

live. But it is not so. Our attire, hairstyle, spectacles, watches etc should reflect this change.

We always claim that we are His servants and children. Our claim will reveal that we are mere hypocrites if no real transformation is not seen. If a couple cannot find anything of common interest though they live together, then there is something seriously wrong in their relation. They may begin to talk about divorce. Our Lord has redeemed us because we have to be like Him. and we should be like Him. We should be conformed to His life. Our life should reflect His love meekness, compassion, humility, lifestyle, every thing of His life.

Today we are rather more conformed to money and its wealth. In each and everything of our action the effect and influence of our richness is seen. The con-

sequence of "mamon' is disastrous. Our heart is invested in our wealth and we stick to it as flies stick to sweet things or honey. Dear saints let us kiss the wounded feet of our Lord. Let us lead a Christ like life and let us be small christs.

Once I was waiting with my family in the railway station. A stranger met me and asked about my assembly fellowship. I reminded him that I am a brethren. He too was a fellow brethren. It is good to hear the sign of our Saviour in us. The world should realise that we are children of God. When it happens we should feel proud of it. Many of us might have such eperiences in our life in the past.

Instead of it if our life reveals our secret tie with satan then it is a great sin. It is very unfortunate that

many believers or so called believers are the agents of satan. Their life style and luxury reveal that. How can a person should who leads a wordly life on all six days of a week and becomes a dead dog on the first of the week please the Lord. Let us bear this sign, the sign of the New covenant on our body and lead a life that will glorify His name.

Please Note

Those who wish to send foreign contributions to Y M E F (SD) may kindly send it through **Believers Relief Trust, Secretary, BRT, P B No.46, Brethren Bible Institute, Pathanamthitta Kerala.** All other contribution to the **Treasurer, YMEF (SD), George Samuel, Muttathu House, Omalloor, Pathanamthitta, Kerala, 689 647.**

Assembly News

Holalkere: It was early reported that there is a good assembly fellowship in Holalkere of the Chithradurga district in Karnataka. Assembly gatherings including worship meetings did not take place for two months because of the riots and attack against the christian community in Karnataka. He is asked to vacate the house from where he is staying. Assembly meetings are now conducted in the same premises. The Evangelist is looking for a new house and new hall. Kindly pray and support that he may be able to buy a plot in the name of the Steward Association of India. to construct a hall and get the assembly registered in the Municipality so that he can have regular assembly meetings. His Address: **K V Varghese, Kumbarabedhi, Holakere, Chithradurga, Karnataka 577526.**

Karikarathalu: This is a place in the Neyyatinkara Taluk of the Trivandrum district. An evangelisation programme was started there four years ago by Brother Muraleedharan in association with the Mullalivila Brethren Assembly. An assembly testimony in the New Testament pattern was established there in March. 12 persons take part in the Lords table. They are from eight families. Others also come to attend the other meetings. Now the evangelist is staying in a rental house and the gathering are taking place there. He is looking for a site where a hall is to be constructed. Advance is given to a small plot with a small house which will be registered in the name of Steward Association of India. Kindly pray and support this endeavour there.

Evangelist G Muralidharan

For Prayer

Kadalur: Brother J P Immanuel left Punalur in 1957 and started evangelisation in the villages of Tamilnadu. The Lord of harvest gave fruits and the assembly testimonies were started. This dear brother suffered heart ailments and underwent bypass surgery some 12 years ago. Now he is again suffering from the heart problem. The doctors of Vellore is of the opinion that he should go for another surgery. He is supposed to have a cataract removal surgery also. But he is carrying on with a heavy dosage of medicines. Kindly pray for this dear brother

Evangelist J P Emmanuel

In the Vineyard

Kalikadavu: It is a part in Kasargod and Brother Biju Abraham belongs to this assembly. This dear brother is actively involved in the assembly ministries and also take part in the various evangelisation programme in this district. So the assembly is sure of his call and election for the ministry. So we as an assembly recommend him for the prayer and support of the saints all over.

Bijo Abraham, Mattel House, Beemanadu P O, Neeleswaram, Kasargod 671 314

Change of Address

Address of Evangelist M G Rajan in
an, Sadar Lachit Nagar, Chinnamara
at, Assam 785008

Address of the Kizhakken Muthoor Breth-
nibly, **Ebenezer Brethren Assembly, P
Kuttapuzha P O, Tiruvalla, Kerala**

Say Hi to our Critics

“Who when He was reviled did not revile in return; when He suffered He did not threaten but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously. Nor returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling but on the contrary blessing knowing that you were called to this that you may inherit a blessing 1Peter 3:9. Ralph Waldo Emerson the Lord’s servant once said, “There will be some good in any person which I can learn and imitate and so every man is a teacher for me”.

This statement is true of one who pours indiscriminate criticism on us. They may speak against us with a prejudiced mind and attitude and also biased and exaggerated. Their words to eliminate us can produce wrath and anger in us. But there can be an atom of truth in their statement. To us our behaviour attitude and actions may be honest and sincere. Others may not have the same view of it. It may be blameless for us but not for others. If the criticism of our opponents may remind us at least of the above thought then that is to be appreciated. It will be beneficial for us.

It is our nature to give ‘tit for tat’ reply. We always like to give two words for one. But the scripture teaches us to behave just the opposite. (Matt 5:38-48; Rom 12:17-21). We are to pray for those who hate us and we are to bless those who curse us. We are asked to do likewise not only because that is right but also that can improve our quality and behaviour.

When others criticises it is always wise to listen to it. Sometimes criticism of the most venomous nature could also do good to us. When we are being criticised we get a chance for self examination and self criticism which can evidently give some positive results. The way we respond to our critics and the criticism will reveal our character, attitude and life.

Obligated

Pray for our brethren who are sick

Bahrain: Christina Joby is a 12 year old girl. She is suffering from Aplastic Anemia. She is admitted in C M C Vellore for bone marrow transplantation. Kindly pray for this child.

Piravom: Brother P P Varghese father Evangelist P V Benjamin suffered a severe stroke and is admitted to the Kolencherry Medical College. Kindly pray for a speedy recovery of our dear brother.

USA: Brother Cherian Chacko (Babykutty) is in the intensive Care Unit of a hospital in Oklahoma after the removal of a tumor from brain Kindly pray for his recovery.

Canada: Brother Sunny T Baby is suffering from cancer in his tongue. He is posted for an operation for it on 14th November 2008. Kindly pray for him.

Gospel Meetings

Mannarathara: God willing gospel meetings under the auspices of the Mannarathara Brethren Assembly will be held from December 23, 2008 to 28 at the Mannarathara convention ground. Main speakers are **Varghese Kurian, P G James and P S Thampan.** Kindly pray for this ministry
V K Mathew, T K Chacko

Manjapra: In co operation with the Manjapra Brethren Assembly and Kodakara Brethren Assembly a gospel meeting was held on 8.11.08 from 10AM at Churali and Manjapra area. **Brothers N N Sasi and Surdhan** spoke from the Word

M R Shyju

With the Lord

Mannarakulanji: Chirakadavil Thomas Samuel (86) went to be with the Lord on 31.10.08. His earthly body was buried in the Mylapra Salem brethren Assembly cemetery under the auspices of Mannarakulanji Brethren Assembly on 2.11.08 in the presence of a large gathering of kin and saints from far and near. His two grand children Sam C Abraham and Joe C Abraham (Assam) are in the vineyard. This is a great thing for praise and thanks giving. Kindly pray for the bereaved family.

Pattikadu: Brother Pareekamolayil P O Elias (74) an evangelist who worked for the establishment of the Meempara, Peechi assemblies went to be with the Lord. His earthly belongings were buried on 31.10.08 under the auspices of Pattikadu Karippakkunnu Brethren Assembly in the cemetery of the same assembly. He gave leadership to many ministries when he was in his earthly abode. Kindly pray for the bereaved family

Vennikulam: Malayil Mammen Philip Valankara (72) left his earthly abode for his heavenly abode on 1.11.08. His earthly belongings were buried on 4.11.08 under the auspices of the Narakathani Brethren Assembly in the presence of large gathering. From the Marthomite group. He alone has come to our assembly. Kindly pray for that the rest of his family may

THE BELIEVER AND SOCIETY

Identifying with their emotions Vs 15.

Human beings have different levels of emotions. Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep. Bible reveals that Jesus has done so, when he was on the earth.

Identifying with the humble without partiality. Vs.16.

It is the natural character of a man to make relationship with the highest/richest/esteemed personalities in the society and respect them. But often we fail to love and support those who are lowly and poor. But our Lord Jesus has associated and

mingled with those who are hated, ugly and abandoned. The same has been done by the European missionaries who have come to India in the early periods. The one of the best examples is the life of Noel, the missionary who came and suffered in Kumbanadu.

WE have to understand the society and accept the people, then only we can convey the gospel effectively and fruitfully. Instead of that nothing like our wealth, decorated words or new trends in dress pattern etc will not attract others to Christ. Christ has gone to Samaria..... Are we ready to go outside the camp. Where we have settled ourselves?

Do only good deeds in the sight of all men. Vs 17

We are the disciples of Lord Jesus Christ who taught us to turn our left cheek if somebody slaps on the right. So we should not

have an attitude of vengeance. Normally we can see even in God's people show dual personalities both out side and inside the church. They give tit for tat to others. When Paul writes to Corinthians we see that he became every thing for every body. That is why Jesus had said if anyone wants take your shirt, let him have your coat also. Our deeds should be accepted by both the believers and the society.

Struggling to keep peace with all. Vs 18

We are the disciples of the Lord who said "Blessed are the peacemakers". So we should not only keep peace with all but also make peace with others. This is one of the significant characteristics that should be revealed from us both in society

and church. But what is the condition of the many churches today? Most of the church members try to keep distance with each other and they are not united too. Because of their ego most of the brothers will not forgive each other or beg pardon for their mistakes. We are suffering from its after effects in these days. If such is the condition of our churches how we will become the peace makers of the society? How can we get the gospel reached before others? Can we live according to the gospel before others?

Revenge is mine. Vs 19

When some aggressions or problems are happening in our country, normally the rulers will say no one should fiddle with the law. The same is the matter in the spiritual context. Revenge is God's alone. It is the law and right of God.

God does not allow us to take it and according to our will. Our duty is to submit all the matters to God's will so that God will do whatever He wants to do. David prayed many times to destroy his enemy, but he did not put his arms on God's annointed Saul to destroy him, whenever he got a chance to do so. We should understand this and follow the example.

Overcome evil with good. Vs 20, 21

If we have an enemy-(we shouldn't have such one)- who always tries to torture us, spreading slanders against us, and weakening our spiritual ministry, God wants us to help him and support him if he is in any need. When we do so, we are overcoming evil with good.

If we can arrange our lives in accordance with Romans 12 we can present a life which obey gospel before God and men so that we can win many sows to Christ. Thus our churches will be blessed. May God help us for that.



You were not able to show patience to him!!

Man is created according to God's own image and nature. As a result there are slight hidden evidences of God's character in his life. But he is under the control of leader of darkness i.e. Satan, so that the God's character in the sinful man is not revealed. When he delivered from Satan's hands and become God's servant, he becomes the partaker of God's character with the help of Holy Spirit who has been given by God for our guidance. Still man in his limitation may not be able to reveal the god's character in its fullness. That is not possible as long as he is living in the flesh and not able to defeat the enemy, flesh each day. But still sometimes thinks that he is forgetting that there is a God that sees everything.

In the Jewish book, Talmood, there is a story about Abraham.

Once a guest visited his house. The guest was of the age of 70. He was invited for the food. Before having food, Abraham prayed for it. By seeing the prayer of Abraham, the guest who was a nonbeliever didn't participate in the prayer. Abraham was not able to accept it. Abraham sent that person from his house in the same night. That night God appeared before Abraham. He asked him why he sent that person from his house. Abraham replied, "he didn't believes in you or participate in the prayer". God said to Abraham that what he did is not right. For the last 70 years I was bearing him. But you were not able to bear him for a single day?

Dear brethren, how many such situations were given by God in our lives? Some

times it happens that there may be many such brothers and sisters in our assembly. We should have enough patience to bear such brethren. How we show the patience, just like Abraham or God? At times does our response hurt many? Not only it hurt them but also our God, who loves us as well as our fellow brethren. But God didn't appear before us just as he did to Abraham. Does he speak to our conscience many times? Even though our life style hurts our God and Holy Spirit who abides in us, we come to view as believers. This wont be known to others. But there is a God that watches everything from above. Pain paves the way for patience. Therefore we don't forget to show a little patience.

In TV Channels

Sathgamaya TV Talk Show Programme

People channel of Kairali's News Channel

All Fridays (Malayalam) 4.30-5.00 p.m.

Monday 6.00-6.30 a.m. Zee TV (Hindi)

Jeevamritham Television Program

Every Saturday 9 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. in Power vision channel.by Evg Chandapilla Philip

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