

# SUVISESHA DHWANI

Suvishesha Dhvani Reg. No. RN 29475/78

31 October 2009

## Forsake All for Christ

While presenting the conditions of true discipleship, the Lord Jesus declared in no uncertain terms that we have to forsake all for Christ to be His true disciples. Let's listen to His words: "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple" (Luke 14:33). Hard saying? Yes, in the first hearing. Impractical? No. Probably, this is one of the very unpopular verses in the New Testament and something that is not understood accurately.

What does our Lord really mean by this condition? Is it something possible? Is it not contrary to the general teaching of the New Testament? Hundreds of such questions will rise in our minds when we read His words. To discover the correct meaning of this

condition for discipleship we have to examine other passages in the Scripture too. Since the Bible never contradicts itself, this verse must be understood in the light of other passages dealing with similar issues.

The first question we have to answer is this: Does this condition teach asceticism? The answer is an emphatic No. In fact, the Bible condemns an ascetic life imposed on others (1Tim. 4:2-4). In addition to that the Bible commands and always commends family life. As far as we know all the apostles except Paul were family men (1Corinthians 9:5). Therefore, by the expression, "forsake all", our Lord never meant His disciples to forsake their family life. Does this condition of discipleship prohibit ownership of private property and saving

for our present and future needs? The answer again is an emphatic No. Let's survey the plain teaching of the Bible in this regard:

"... the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children" (2Cor.12:14). The Bible commands the parents to save for their children.

"But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever" (1Tim.5:8) Here Paul denounces those who do not provide for their household.

..... If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat" (2Thess. 3:10). The practical principle laid down here is that one

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## YMEF (ND) Punjab Campaign Fathegad Saheb District

The evangelisation programme that has started in Fathegad District has come to the end. Now the work is going on Fathegad District. Four brothers reached Punjab to join this campaign. They left Kerala on September 30. We got the protection of the Lord throughout the journey. We remember it with thanks. We got the care of the Lord. The natural calamity which affected the railway journey God enabled us to pass through that route without any problem. We reached the Ludhiana railway station on October 2 in

the night. Our fellow brothers were at the station to receive us and we reached the place where staying. From the next day onwards we started the work.

This is the smallest district in Punjab. This place known as Fathegad Saheb is a famous pilgrimage of the sikhs. Thus the place got this name. But we are flying high the flag of the unique gospel of Jesus Christ who is the lion of the Jewish tribe and the root of David. We were able to present this gospel in 61 places in the last week without any hindrance and we proclaimed the gospel openly. The people of

this place is very religious. Moreover almost all of them are rich and very much affluent people. Maybe because of these they are not interested in gospel. "In whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God should shine unto them." So nobody showed any interest to listen to the message or songs and also to buy any books. Usually the people of North India gather together to us when they hear the songs. But here the people just ignore us and are without any feeling

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## Gospel Meeting Kottayam

If it be the will of the Lord, a gospel meeting will be conducted under the auspices and in co operation with the Brethren Assemblies in and around Kottayam from 30.11.09 to 06.12.09 at the Thirunakkara Maidan, Kottayam. Evening meetings will be held from 6 to 8.30pm. Along with this meeting a variety of meetings like sisters meeting, Sunday School Meet, Youth Meeting will be held during day time. The main speakers are **M M Zachariah, Varghese Kurian, Chandapilla Philip, George Chacko and Joy John.** Kindly pray for the spiritual blessings of the programme

**Abraham Thomas Convenor**

**NB:** Office of Suvishesha Dhvani will be working in the convention ground on Friday and Saturday evenings. Kindly utilize the opportunity pay of the the arrears, and to give the subscription and also new enlistment

## The Brethren Community Falling in to the Sharp Claws of the Imperialists?

The inner meaning in some of the advertisements which has appeared in some of our publications recently should not be ignored. The Brethren Assembly in Kerala has crossed 100 plus. The YMEF was formed approximately 40 years after the formation of the Brethren Assembly in Kerala. The main purpose of the YMEF was the growth of the local assemblies, edification of the saints and evangelisation. This movement was not started for any personal gains or personal motives. No selfish and personal motives were behind it in the beginning of the YMEF. Even today it remains the same by the grace of the Lord. Many other organisations came in to existance later on for common interest. They all continue for the benefit of the brethren community in general. The audited accounts of them itself is a clear cut manifestation of it and the transparency of the account of them are commentable. But the spiritual men can discern the motives behind the personal trust and ministries which came in to being because of the inflow of the foreign funds. Most of them are for personal gains and selfish motives. The funds for the aid of the saints should be through the local assembly or general funds like KEMF or BRT, when the distribution is done by personal ministries the way and means may not be proper and cannot be justified. Many may not be able to handle it faithfully. Moreover such distributors will be little godsthe donor when the real donor is some where in the world who will never be in the picture. Even the evangelisation programme is also under the evil influence of money.

Dear saints think about this under the proper guidance of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord enable everyone to take a proper decision according the Our Lords will and according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

## ***Editorial* THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL ASSEMBLIES**

The New Testament has given very importance for the local assemblies. The last message of our Lord given to Apostle John is written in the book of Revelation. Lord gives separate messages to the 7 local Churches those were present in those days (Rev 2&3). Our Lord only used the word 'Church' first time (Mat 16:18). Approximately 106 times we can the word Church in the New Testament. The last usage of the word is seen in Rev 22:16, "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the Churches, ———". We should not forget that the Church has got very important role in God's plan.

Some evangelist will keep on visiting other assemblies on Sundays and will be present in their parent assembly only very rarely. This is not a good practice. An evangelist has to keep permanent fellowship with his parent assembly. We have a great responsibility towards our own assemblies and the evangelists have more. And they and youngsters should be submissive to the elders (1Pet 5:5). Every thing in the Church will not be according to their will and pleasure. God has entrusted the elders to pasture the sheep (1Pet 5:2). An evangelist should work as per the guidance of the Church. The church has the responsibility to support the evangelist in all respect. This is the order seen in the scripture. The church of Antioch prayed and sent Paul and Barnabas for the first missionary journey (Acts 13:3). They came back and gave report to the same assembly (Acts 14:27). Especially the young evangelist should be very submissive to the elders so that they can learn the practices of the local Churches and will get the practical knowledge of solving the day to day problems. A young evangelist once went to north India for the gospel work after his graduation at a Bible college. But he failed in his career due to the lack of practical knowledge and finally he chose a secular job for survival. The group work should not be a hindrance for the assembly. Recently there is a complaint heard that the organizations are controlling the Churches. This should not happen. The assemblies are to be edified by all group works. YMEF is a good example for this. All camps of the northern division are completed by Saturday afternoon. So young brothers can go back to their parent assemblies on Sundays and do their duties. During the first meeting of YMEF at Kuriyannoor in 1941 Bro. M.E.Cheryan wrote like this "The activities of the local assemblies are very less on recent days. So the young people have to work with the guidance of the local assemblies. Restart the Sunday school classes, prepare a Sunday school syllabus, visit all church members to encourage them spiritually and conduct Bible camps to encourage young people for gospel work and spiritual values. These were the main decisions made in that gathering".

In Eph 1:23 we read that the church is the body of the glorified Christ. From the day of Pentecost to the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ all saved people are included in the church. We are not supposed to do any activity against the church that fades the importance of the church. The church is very important for Christ, which He has purchased by His own blood. Let all our activities to be for the edification of the church. If anybody does anything against the church, God will deal severally to that person. Let us work above our ability with the knowledge of the power of the church and with much fear for its benefit, so that the CHURCH will grow. Let God help us for that work.

**E.J.Paily**

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or interest. They are like people "like those are blind and deaf and failed to understand they remained unrepented and I did not heal them. Their heart is much hardened."

But there is nothing that cannot be received through prayer. Until the time the hands of Moses were lifted up the victory was on the part of Israel but if the hand fell down they will fail. If Joshua was able to have victory over the Amalek we can have victory if we do pray fervently. Let us use this golden time to save the millions who are nearing the hell of eternal fire through our incessant and fervant prayer.

Summer is passing by and the signs of winter is on the horizon. So the change of weather can affect the health condition of the people. God has protected us until now physically and spiritually. Continue to pray for us.

**Contd from Page 1 Forsake All ...**

should work and earn his food.

"Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, not to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy (1Tim. 6:17). Here Paul recognizes that there are certain rich disciples in the Church. Paul is not asking them to divest themselves of their riches. Instead commanding them not to trust in their riches, but to trust in God who is the giver of riches. He also writes that God has given all riches for our enjoyment too.

"The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets" (Prov. 21:20 - The Living Bible). The wise man in the book of Proverbs is a godly man (Prov. 1: 7).

Sometimes Acts 2:45 is quoted to support that the Bible teaches all believers should give up their private property. John Mac Arthur Jr. makes an illuminating comment about this verse based on the original meaning of this verse: The verbs "sold" and "parted" are both in the imperfect tense, which means it was a continuous action... It simply means that all the believers were selling their goods and giving money to those who had need as the needs arose. It was a picture of self-sacrifice for the need of another, not of pooling everything. Nowhere does the Bible advocate that all money be put into a common pot to be dolled out by some hierarchy".

## New Office Bearers for Karnataka YMEF

The YMEF unit which started functioning in Karnataka before 4 years is going smoothly. This is a new experience for Karnataka. It has become a spiritual blessing for the believers in Karnataka.

A special committee meeting was convened on 24.07.09 at Karkala under the chairmanship of brother Jose Mathews. Brother Allan Manohar from Uduppi has been elected as the President and brother Joy Chacko Mangalore has been elected as the Secretary. A one day retreat meet is planned on 5.11.09 at Hubli in the Hubli Samdaya Hall. Brother Jose Mathews will deliver the main message. The theme of the retreat is **Christian Family and Society**. Kindly remember this unit of the YMEF in your prayer.

**Joy Chacko Secretary**

### Gospel Meetings

Venue: In front of the Perumbavoor Brethren Assembly Hall (Near the Asramam Higher Secondary School)

Date: 2009 November 26,27,28, 29 (Thursday to Sunday)

Time: Every 6 to 8

Speakers: **Chandapilla Philip and Varghese K Kurian**

Thrissur

Venue: Nellikunnu, Kura, Thrissur

Date: 2009 December 3 Thursday to 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Time: Evening 6.30 to 8.30

Speakers: **Sajeev Varghese, Regi K Thomas**

Kalanjoor

Venue: Kalanjoor Brethren Assembly Hall

Date: 2009 December 9 Wednesday to 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Time: Evening 6.30 to 8.30

Speakers: **K V George, John P Thomas, George Chacko and Dr Varghese John**

### Youth Meeting

**Neyyantinkara:** For school and college students of the age group between 13 to 23 a special programme is arranged by the Neyyantinkara (Gramam) Brethren Assembly on January 26,2010 at the Logos Pastoral Centre. Brother George Koshy, Reji Jacob and Philip K Andrews will lead the programme. Along with classes and discussions gospel will be proclaimed. We request the youth to come and participate in it.

**V K Johnny**

### Monthly Outreach and Meeting

**Ettumanoor:** By the grace of the Lord the monthly outreach and meeting were held under the auspices of the Ettumanoor Brethren Assembly. If it be the will of the Lord the outreach and meeting for the month of November will be held under the responsibility of the Perumbavoor Brethren Assembly from 11.11.09 to 14.11.09.

### Prayer Meeting

Prayer Meetings are regularly held in the last Saturday of every month at 10am in the Thrissur East Fort Assembly and in the last Sunday evening of every month at the Kadamattom Brethren Assembly.

**Joy Varghese**

## Sisters Meeting

**Kottarakkara:** If it be the will of the Lord the next meeting of the Kottarakka Centre sisters meeting will be held on November 14 at 10am at the Kollam Brethren Assembly Hall. All sisters are requested to attend the meeting with prayer.

**Chinnamma Varghese Secretary**

### Sisters Camp Kottayam

Venue: Kottayam Brethren Assembly Hall

Date: 2009 December 28, 29,30

Camp Theme: Strengthen in Grace

Classes: Santhosh Thomas Jharkand

Kindly pray for it.

**Marykutty Alexander**

### Name & Address of Evangelists

1. O Georgekutty, P O Box No.18, ARTC P O, Nagaland 797 115
2. Dilbagh Massi, Gospel Hall A/F Gate Goroimari, Tezpur 784 104, Assam
3. Biharilal Benjamin, Bible Mandal, Dakpather, Dehradun, 248 125
4. Thomas P A, 99/6 Kishempur, Rajpur P O, Dehradun 248 009, Uttaranchal
5. Abey Joseph, Suvatha Sadan, 148 Lajpat Nagar Alwar 301001 Rajasthan
6. Ashok Kumar Meena, Nichola Goyara Village, Barapal Post, Udaipur 313801, Rajasthan
7. Jailal Patel, Pharagoan P O, Village Baster District 492 228, Chatisgarh
8. Shaji Varghese, 35 Subash Nagar, P O Box 24, Ganesh Thali Road, Near Khedapathi Hanuman Mandir, Khandwa 450 001, MP
9. John P T, A/704 Panchavathi Complex, Plot 10, Sector 34, Kamote Navi Mumbai 410 209
10. John Varghese, D/316, National Park, Taka Village, Old Panaveli, Raigad 410 206, MH
11. Thomson B Thomas, 19 Ebenezer, Nahur Road, Muland West, Mumbai, 400 080
12. Vijaya Simon, Gospel Centre, Nehru Nagar, Divalipally, Nawapur, MH 425 418.

# PRAYER OR PREACHING?

## Testimony

The witnessing people should not repeat the same sentences always. They should share the new experiences and should not waste time by telling other matters. The new believers have to share the experience of accepting Christ as their personal savior. Some times people may say some thing for a long time but others will understand nothing. The time for the word ministry can not be wasted. If the testimony is clear and

short others will enjoy that experience.

## Prayer

We should have some discipline in public prayers. Some of us have the temptation for preaching when we see the gathering. Prayer is also like that. Many people over come this by prayer. But others will pray in their mind like this "Lord how nice it was if this man didn't pray this time". The public prayers should be louder so that the gathered one could hear clearly. Those who do not have

proper voice should not try for public prayer. The prayer on the knees should be heard by everybody to say Amen. The public prayer should be short and sweet of maximum 3 minutes. In private prayer we can take enough time. But in assembly gathering and public meetings where even gentiles are present praying for 10 to 15 minutes is very bad. Even though flexibility is needed the prayer should be shorter, without

## Jesus Christ Made us Free for Freedom



Man always like freedom. He did not like anyone to indulge into his freedom. But the world has many stories to tell about man whose thoughts always lead him to trouble. The same thing happened in Eden also. One feels that his ways are right. He thinks that his deeds and words are perfect. God made the man to stand on this freedom and he tried to learn the full version of it. But what happened? He fell into the trap of another- Satan. Suddenly his eyes were opened. He understood that the things are in danger.

Once a Chinese lady named Nobijo went to the top of a hill and when she was praying there, she got a revelation from God. That was the plan of God for her in future.

But she got a very different thing in her revelation from what she desired in her mind. Then she asked God reluctantly; "God why you always want me to take your ways? What is wrong in my decisions?" Lord answered her very humbly, "dear its not because that your ways are wrong, but you should understand that I planned a better way for you. Therefore you should become a shelter for those who are leading their life in distress and those who are planning to commit suicide."

This message made her to think a lot. She took that message on her. She thought what foolishness she asked to God? She surrendered herself to Lord so that God's will shall be fulfilled. Thus she tried to search for

those who are depressed and want to commit suicide. She opened a counseling centre for them so that she can talk to them and change their mind. God used her in a mighty way so that many were saved and were brought back to normal life.

The person who lives according to God's will is the one who feels the exact freedom. Because he is dying everyday to the traps of Satan. When we are submitting ourselves to the hands of God, we are starting our journey towards eternity with complete freedom. That is the greatest freedom that we receive from God.

## In TV Channels

### Sathgamagamaya 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

questioning the patience of others. After a blessed message if we hear an improper long prayer how sad it will be? When one elder call for prayer through the loud speaker and somebody from the audience pray away from it, who will hear that prayer? These type acts will spoil the order and sweetness of the gathering. **Sleep:** - Just like appointing people for prayer and preaching, people for sleeping are not to be appointed. They will do their duty. They may claim the act of Uthicos from the Acts of Apostles. Any how we can see some followers of Uthicos in every meeting. Apart from night meetings even in day time some people will sleep and it is very bad. Some important people at stage also will close their eyes. Those who are not able to control due to tiredness have to get up from the place for a while. There are some permanent sleep lovers in the meetings. Within 10 minutes they will start to expose their gift. There may be many reasons behind this. But if we are away from the heavenly fellowship, the 'goddess of sleep' will overcome us. But remember that to sleep at the presence of God when Lord's servants are sharing the word of God is a crime.

-by K.G.Kurien (old publication)

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