

KWABASEFILIPHI

1 UPhawuli loThimothi, izinceku zikaKhristu uJesu,

Kubo bonke abangcwele kuKhristu uJesu eFiliphi, kanye lababonisi labadikoni:

² Umusa lokuthula kakube kini kuvela kuNkulunkulu uBaba laseNkosini uJesu Khristu.

Ukubonga Lokukhuleka

³ Ngiyambonga uNkulunkulu wami sikhathi sonke lapho ngilikhumbula.

⁴ Emikhulekweni yami yonke ngikhulekela lonke, ngihlezi ngikhuleka ngokuthokoza ⁵ ngenxa yokuhlanganyela kwenu evangelini kusukela ngosuku lwakuqala kuze kube khathesi, ⁶ ngilethemba lalokhu ukuthi lowo owaqalisa umsebenzi omuhle kini uzawuqhubekisela ekupheleni kuze kube lusuku lukaKhristu uJesu.

⁷ Kuqondile ukuba ngizwe kanje ngani lonke, njengoba ngihlezi ngilani enhliziyweni yami, ngoba langabe ngibotshiwe kumbe ngivikela njalo ngiqinisa ivangeli, lonke lihlanganyela lami emuseni kaNkulunkulu.

⁸ UNkulunkulu angafakaza ukuthi lonke ngilikhumbula kangakanani ngothando lukaKhristu uJesu.

⁹ Njalo umkhuleko wami yilo: ukuba uthando lwenu lwande kokuphela ekwazini lasekuzikeni lokuqedisisa, ¹⁰ ukuze lanelise ukubona okuhle njalo lihlambuluke lingabi lasici kuze kube lusuku lukaKhristu, ¹¹ ligcwele izithelo zokulunga eziza ngoJesu Khristu – ukuba adunyiswe njalo abongwe uNkulunkulu.

Ukubotshwa KukaPhawuli Kuqhubela Ivangeli Phambili

¹² Bazalwane, ngithanda ukuba likwazi ukuthi okwenzakale kimi kusizile impela ekuqhubeleni ivangeli phambili.

¹³ Ngalokho, sekube sobala kubo bonke abalindi besigodlo lakwabanye bonke ukuthi ngibotshelwe uKhristu. ¹⁴ Ngenxa yokubotshwa kwami, abazalwane abanengi eNkosini sebelesibindi sokukhuluma ilizwi likaNkulunkulu ngesibindi esikhulu kungelakwesaba.

¹⁵ Kuliqiniso ukuthi abanye batshumayela uKhristu ngenxa yomona lombango, kodwa abanye ngenxa yesifiso esihle. ¹⁶ Laba benza lokhu ngothando, bekwazi ukuthi ngifakwe lapha ukuba ngivikele ivangeli. ¹⁷ Abakuqala batshumayela uKhristu ukuzikhukhumeza, bengeqotho, becabanga ukuthi bangangidalela uhlupho ngisekubotshweni. ¹⁸ Kodwa-ke kuhluphani? Into eqakathekileyo yikuthi ngezindlela zonke, langabe kuyizisusa zamanga loba iqiniso, uKhristu uyatshunyayelwa. Njalo ngenxa yalokhu mina ngiyathokoza.

Yebo, ngizaqhubeka ngithokoza, ¹⁹ ngoba ngiyazi ukuthi ngemikhuleko yenu langosizo lukaMoya kaJesu Khristu, okwenzakale kimi kuzaletha ukukhululwa kwami. ²⁰ Ngokutshiseka ngilindele njalo ngithemba ukuba angiyikuyangeka langayiphi indlela, kodwa ngizakuba lesibindi esaneleyo ukuze kuthi khathesi njengenjwayelo uKhristu uzaphakanyiswa kimi, loba ngokuphila kumbe ngokufa. ²¹ Ngoba kimi, ukuphila kunguKhristu lokufa kuyinzuzo. ²² Uma ngingaqhubeka ngiphila emzimbeni, lokhu kuzakutsho umsebenzi olezithelo kimi. Kodwa-ke kuyini engizakukhetha? Angazi! ²³ Ngiphakathi kwakho kokubili: Ngifisa ukusuka ngibe loKhristu, okungcono

kakhulu; ²⁴ Kodwa kuyasweleka kakhulu kini ukuba ngibe ngilokhu ngiphila kulumzimba. ²⁵ Sengikholwe lokhu, ngiyakwazi ukuthi ngizakuba khona, njalo ngizaqhubeka ngilani lonke ngenxa yokuthuthuka kwenu lokuthokoza ekukholweni, ²⁶ ukuze kuthi ngokubani kwami futhi ukuthokoza kwenu kuKhristu uJesu kuzakwanda ngenxa yami.

²⁷ Loba kusenzakalani, lina ziphatheni ngendlela efanele ivangeli likaKhristu. Ngakho, langabe ngiyeza ukuzalibona loba ngizwe nje kuphela ngani ngingekho, ngizakwazi ukuba liqinile ngamoya munye, lilwela ukholo lwevangeli njengomuntu munye, ²⁸ kungekho kwethuswa langayiphi indlela yilabo abaliphikisayo. Lokhu kuyisibonakaliso kubo ukuthi bazachithwa, kodwa lina lizasindiswa nguNkulunkulu. ²⁹ Ngoba kunikelwe kini ngenxa kaKhristu kungasikukholwa kuye kuphela, kodwa lokumhluphekela, ³⁰ njengoba lilwisa hlupho lunye elabona ngilalo, lakhathesi liyezwa ukuba ngilokhu ngilalo.

Ukulingisela Ukuthobeka KukaKhristu

2 Uma kukhona okukhuthazayo ngokuhlangana loKhristu, uma kulenduduzo evela ethandweni lwakhe, uma kulobudlelwano loMoya, uma kulozwelo lesihawu, ² phelelisani intokozo yami ngokuba ngqondo nye, lilothando lunye, limunye emoyeni njalo linjongo yinye. ³ Lingenzi lutho ngokuzikhukhumeza loba ukuziphakamisa okuyize, kodwa ngokuthobeka. Khangelani abanye njengabangcono kulani. ⁴ Lowo lalowo wenu kangakhathaleli inzuzo yakhe kuphela kodwa akhathalele lenzuzo yabanye.

⁵ Isimo sengqondo yenu kumele sifanane lesikaKhristu uJesu:

⁶ Yena okwathi ngemvelo enguNkulunkulu kacabanganga ukulingana loNkulunkulu kuyilutho olungafinyelelwa ⁷ kodwa wazenza ize, wathatha isimo senceku, yena enziwe ngesifanekiso somuntu. ⁸ Wathi ebunjwe wabonakala njengomuntu, wazithoba walalela kwaze kwaba sekufeni ukufa kwasesiphambanweni.

⁹ Ngakho-ke uNkulunkulu wamphakamisela endaweni ephezulu kakhulu wamnika ibizo elingaphezu kwamabizo wonke, ¹⁰ ukuba amadolo wonke aguqe ebizweni likaJesu, ezulwini lasemhlabeni kanye langaphansi komhlaba, ¹¹ lezindimi zonke zivume ukuthi uJesu Khristu uyiNkosi, kube ludumo lukaNkulunkulu uYise.

Ukucwebezela Njengezinkanyezi

¹² Ngakho-ke, bangane bami abathandekayo, njengoba lihlezi lilalela – kungayisikho nxa ngikhona kuphela, kodwa khathesi ikakhulu nxa ngingekho – qhubekani lisebenzela ukusindiswa kwenu ngokwesaba langokuthuthumela ¹³ ngoba nguNkulunkulu osebenzayo phakathi kwenu ukuba lifune njalo lenze okumthokozisayo.

¹⁴ Yenzani konke kungekho kusola kumbe ukuphikisana, ¹⁵ ukuze libe ngabantwana bakaNkulunkulu abangasolekiyo labahlambulukileyo, abamsulwa phakathi kwesizukulwane esonakeleyo lesixhwalileyo, lina elicwebezela phakathi kwaso njengezinkanyezi emkhathini ¹⁶ lapho liqhuba ilizwi lokuphila – ukuze ngizincome ngosuku lukaKhristu ngokuthi kangigijimelanga kumbe ngasebenzela ize. ¹⁷ Kodwa lanxa ngithululwa njengomnikelo wokunathwa phezu komhlatsshelo lenkonzo evela

ekukholweni kwenu, ngiyathaba ngithokoza lani lonke. ¹⁸ Ngakho lani njalo thabani lithokoze lami.

UThimothi lo-Ephafrodithu

¹⁹ Ngiyathemba eNkosini uJesu ukuba ngizathuma uThimothi kini masinyane, ukuba lami ngithokoze lapho ngisamukela izindaba ngani.

²⁰ Kangilaye omunye onjengaye, othakazelela inhlalakahle yenu ngobuqotho. ²¹ Ngoba abantu bonke bazifunela okwabo, hatshi okukaJesu Khristu. ²² Kodwa lina liyakwazi ukuthi uThimothi usezifakazele, ngoba njengendodana loyise usesebenze lami emsebenzini wevangeli. ²³ Ngakho ngithemba ukumthuma masinyane lapho sengibonile ukuba izinto zingihambela njani. ²⁴ Njalo ngiyathemba eNkosini ukuthi lami uqobo ngizakuza masinyane.

²⁵ Kodwa ngibona kusweleka ukuba ngimbuyisele kini u-Ephafrodithu, umzalwane wami, isisebenzi kanye lami lebutho kanye lami, oyisithunywa senu futhi, elamthumayo ukuba akhangele iziswelo zami. ²⁶ Ngoba uyalikhumbula lonke, njalo ukhathazekile njengoba lezwa ukuthi wayegula. ²⁷ Ngempela wayegula, njalo waphosa wafa. Kodwa uNkulunkulu waba lesihawu kuye, njalo kungayisikho kuye kuphela kodwa lakimi, ukuba angiphephise osizini phezu kosizi. ²⁸ Ngakho ngitshisekela kakhulu ukumthuma, ukuze kuthi lapho limbona futhi lithokoze lami ngibe lokunqineka okuncane. ²⁹ Mamukeleni eNkosini ngokuthokoza okukhulu, njalo libahloniphe abantu abanjengaye, ³⁰ ngoba waphosa wafela umsebenzi kaKhristu, wafaka impilo yakhe engozini ukuze angiphe usizo elingangiphanga lona.

Akukho Themba Emzimbeni

3 Okokucina, bazalwane, thokozani eNkosini! Akusihlupho kimi ukulilobela ngezinto zinye futhi, njalo kuyisivikelo kini.

² Qaphelani izinja lezo, abantu labo abenza okubi, abalimazi bomzimba labo.

³ Ngoba thina yithi abokusokwa, thina esikhonza ngoMoya kaNkulunkulu, esiziqhenya ngoKhristu uJesu, njalo esingabeki ithemba okwenyama – ⁴ lanxa nje mina ngokwami ngilezizatho zethemba elinjalo.

Uma kulomuntu ocabanga ukuthi ulezizatho zokuthemba okwemnyama, mina ngilezinengi: ⁵ ngasokwa ngosuku lwesificamibili, ngingowako-Israyeli, owesizwana sakoBhenjamini, umHebheru wamaHebheru; ngokomthetho, ngingumFarisi; ⁶ ngokutshiseka, ngahlukuluza ibandla; ngokulunga mayelana lomthetho, angilacala.

⁷ Kodwa loba kuyini okwakuyinzuzo kimi khathesi ngikubala njengokulahlekelwa ngenxa kaKhristu. ⁸ Phezu kwalokho, konke ngikubona kuyize lapho kulinganiswa lobukhulu obumangalisayo bokwazi uKhristu Jesu iNkosi yami, esengilahlekelwe yizinto zonke ngenxa yakhe. Ngizibala njengemfucuza, ukuba ngizuze uKhristu ⁹ ngitholakale kuye, ngingelakulunga okungokwami okuvelela emthethweni, kodwa lokho okungenxa yokukholwa kuKhristu – ukulunga okuvela kuNkulunkulu njalo okungokukholwa. ¹⁰ Ngifuna ukumazi uKhristu lamandla okuvuka kwakhe ekufeni lobudlelwano bokuhlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kwakhe, ngibe njengaye ekufeni, ¹¹ ukuze, ngenye indlela, ngithole ukuvuka kwabafuleyo.

Ukulwisela Ukuya Ekucineni

¹² Akusikuthi sengikuzuzile konke lokhu, loba ukuthi sengiphelelisiwe, kodwa ngilwisa ukuba ngibambe lokho uKhristu Jesu angibambela khona.

¹³ Bazalwane, angikazibali njengosekubambile lokho. Kodwa yinye into engiyenzayo: Ngiyakukhohlwa okusemuva ngizama ngamandla ukufinyelela kokuphambili, ¹⁴ ngilwisela ukufinyelela ekucineni ukuba ngithole umvuzo uNkulunkulu angibizela wona ezulwini ngoKhristu uJesu.

¹⁵ Sonke thina esesiphelele kumele sikhangele izinto ngengqondo enjalo. Uma kokunye licabanga ngokwahlukileyo, lalokho uNkulunkulu uzakwenza kucace kini. ¹⁶ Kuphela nje kasiqhubekeni ngalokho esesikuzuzile.

¹⁷ Bazalwane hlanganyelani labanye ekulandeleni isibonelo sami, libananzelele labo abaphila ngokwesibonelo esalitshengisa sona.

¹⁸ Ngoba, njengoba ngangihlala ngilitshela kuqala lakhathesi ngiyatsho futhi langezinyembezi, ukuthi abanengi baphila njengezitha zesiphambano sikaKhristu. ¹⁹ Isiphetho sabo yikubhubha, unkulunkulu wabo yisisu sabo, lodumo lwabo lusehlazweni labo. Inggqondo yabo izezintweni zasemhlabeni. ²⁰ Kodwa elethu ikithi lisezulwini. Njalo simlindele ngokutshiseka uMsindisi evela khonale, iNkosi uJesu Khristu, ²¹ yena okuzakuthi ngamandla amenza abeke izinto zonke ngaphansi kwakhe, uzaguqula imizimba yethu elesimo esiphansi ibe njengomzimba wakhe olenkazimulo.

4 Ngakho-ke, bazalwane bami, lina engilithandayo njalo ngilikhumbula, ntokozi yami lomqhele wami, kumele

liqine kanjalo eNkosini, bangane abathandekayo!

Ukukhuthaza

² Ngiyamncenga uYuwodiya ngincenga loSintikhe ukuba bavumelane eNkosini. ³ Yebo, ngiyakucela, wena esidonsa jogwe linye ngokwethembeka, siza abesifazana laba abasebenza nzima lami ngenxa yesisusa sevangeli, kanye loKlementi labanye abasebenza lami, abamabizo abo akhona encwadini yokuphila.

⁴ Thokozani eNkosini kokuphela.

Ngiyatsho futhi ngithi: Thokozani!

⁵ Akuthi ukubekeka kwenu kubonakale kubo bonke. INkosi iseduze.

⁶ Lingakhathazeki ngalutho, kodwa ezintweni zonke, ngokukhuleka langokuncenga, ngokubonga, bekani izicelo zenu kuNkulunkulu. ⁷ Ukuthula kukaNkulunkulu okudlula ukuqedisisa konke, kuzalinda izinhliziyi zenu lezingqondo zenu kuKhristu uJesu.

⁸ Okokucina, bazalwane, konke okuliqiniso, konke okulesithunzi, konke okulungileyo, konke okuhlambulukileyo, konke okuhle, konke okubukekayo – uma ulutho luluhle kakhulu loba lubongeka – cabangani ngezinto ezinje.

⁹ Loba kuyini elikufundileyo loba elikwamukeleleyo loba elikuzwileyo kuvela kimi, loba elikubonileyo kimi – kwenzeni uNkulunkulu wokuthula uzakuba lani.

Ukubonga Izipho Zabo

¹⁰ Ngiyathokoza kakhulu eNkosini ngokuthi khathesi selize lavuselela ukungikhathalela kwenu. Impela kade likhathazeka, kodwa lingelalo ithuba lokukubonakalisa. ¹¹ Kangitsho lokhu ngenxa yokuthi ngiyaswela, ngoba sengafunda ukwaneliseka loba kuyisimo bani. ¹² Ngiyakwazi ukuba ukuswela

kuyini, njalo ngiyakwazi ukuba kuyini ukuba lokunengi.

Sengafunda imfihlo yokwaneliseka kuzo zonke izimo, langabe ngiyasutha loba ngilambile, loba ngilokunengi kumbe ngiswela. ¹³ Ngingazenza zonke izinto ngaye onginika amandla.

¹⁴ Kodwa kwakukuhle ukuba lihlanganyele lami ekuhluphekeni kwami. ¹⁵ Phezu kwalokho, lina maFiliphi, liyakwazi ukuba ezinsukwini elaqala ngazo ukwazi ivangeli, ekusukeni kwami eMakhedoniya, akukho lalinye ibandla elahlanganyela lami endabeni yokunika lokwamukela, ngaphandle kwenu kuphela; ¹⁶ ngoba lalapho ngiseThesalonika, langithumela usizo njalonjalo lapho ngangingoswelayo. ¹⁷ Akusikuthi ngifuna isipho, kodwa ngifuna okuzakuba yinzuzo kini. ¹⁸ Sengamukele umvuzo ogcweleyo lodlulisileyo; ngiphiwe okwaneleyo, njengoba khathesi sengamukele ku-Ephafroditu izipho elazithumelayo. Zingumnikelo wephunga elimnandi, umhlatshelo owamukelekayo, othokozisa uNkulunkulu. ¹⁹ UNkulunkulu wami uzalinika konke elikuswelayo mayelana lenotho yakhe emangalisayo kuKhristu uJesu.

²⁰ Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uBaba kuze kube laphakade. Ameni.

Ukuvalelisa

²¹ Bingelelani bonke abangcwele abakuKhristu. Abazalwane abalami bayalibingelela. ²² Abangcwele bonke bayalibingelela, ikakhulu labo abangabendlu kaKhesari.

²³ Umusa weNkosi uJesu Khristu kawube lomoya wenu.