

Ukuhamba Phambili Kwesithembiso



SABATHA EMVA KWEMINI

Fundela le Veki:

Gal. 3:15–20, Gen. 9:11–17, Mat. 5:17–20, Eks. 16:22–26, Gen. 15:1–6.

Indima Yenkumbulo:

“Kuba ilifa elo, ukuba liphuma emthethweni, loba alisaphumi edingeni; ke yena uThixo umbabale uAbraham ngedinga” (Galati 3:18).

Omnye wakha wabuza kusopolitiki, “Ingaba uzigcine zonke izithembiso owazenza ngexesha ukhankasa?” Waphendula, “Ewe, . . . kakuhle, kodwa zonke izithembiso endandizimisele ukuzigcina” Ngubani kuthi ongazange, ngethuba elithile, abe namava ezithembiso ezaphuliweyo? Ngubani ongazange ibe nguye owaphula isithembiso okanye ibe nguye ekwaphulwa isithembiso esasenziwe kuye?

Maxa wambi abantu bayasenza isithembiso, bezimisele ngokupheleleyo ukusigcina, kodwa kuthi kamva, bangakwenzi oko, abanye benze isithembiso, besazi—ukuba ngeli xesha amazwi ephuma emlonyeni okanye iminwe ibhala amagama—ukuba bubuxoki bonke. Ngethamsanqa kuthi, izithembiso zikaThixo ziluhlobo olwahluke mpela. ILizwi likaThixo liqinisekile, aliguquki. “Nditshilo, ewe, ndiya kukufeza; ndiyilile, ewe, ndiya kukwenza,” utsho uYehova (Isa. 46:11, ESV).

Kwisifundo sale veki, uPawulos ukhokhelela ingqondo yethu kubudlelwane phakathi kwesithembiso sikaThixo noAbraham kunye nomthetho owanikwa uSirayeli kuma-430 eminyaka kamva. Kunokuqondwa njani ukuhambelana phakathi koku kokubini, kwaye kuthetha kunagalelo lini ekushunayelweni kwevangeli?

**Funda isifundo sale veki ukulungisela iSabatha ka-Agasti 5.*

Umthetho Nokholo (Gal. 3:15–18)

Nokuba abachasana naye bangavuma ukuba ubomi buka-Abraham babubonakaliswa kuqala lukholo, uPawulos wayesazi ukuba babesenayo imibuzo ngokuba kwakutheni ukuze uThixo amnike uSirayeli umthetho kwisithuba seenkulungwane ezine emva kuka-Abraham. Ingaba ukunikelwa komthetho kwakungachithi konke ekwakuvunyelwene ngako ngaphambili?

Yintoni ajonge kuyo uPawulos ngokuthelekisa intando yomntu yokugqibela netestamente [umyolelo obhaliweyo] kunye nomnqophiso kaThixo noAbraham? Galati 3:15–18.

Umnqophiso nomyolelo zikhohisa ukwahluka. Umnqophiso uye ube sisivumelwano phakathi kwesibini okanye ngaphezulu sabantu, ubizwe ngokuthi “sisivumelwano” okanye “ukuthethana” kwelinye icala, umyolelo yinto ethethwa ngumntu omnye. Inguqulelo yesiGrike yeTestamente eNdala, iSeptuagint, ayize iguqule umnqophiso kaThixo noAbraham ngegama lesiGrike elisetyenziswa kwizivumelwano kumaqela [amabini nangaphezulu] okanye izibophelelo (syntheke). Endaweni yoko, isebenzisa igama letestamente okanye umyolelo (diatheke). Kuba kutheni? Kunokwenzeka ukuba kungokuba abaguquli beqonda ukuba umnqophiso kaThixo noAbraham wawungesiso isivumelwano phakathi kwababini, apho kwakusenziwa izithembiso ezibophelela amacala omabini. Ngokuchaseneyo noko, umnqophiso kaThixo wawakhelwe kuphela phezu kwentando yaKhe. Babengekho oo-“ukuba, nawe, kodwa” ababefakiwe. Kwakufuneka uAbraham amkele nje akholelwe koko uThixo wayekuthetha. UPawulos ususela kule ntsingiselo imbono-mbini “yomyolelo” no“mnqophiso” ukuze abalule iimpawu ezizodwa zomnqophiso kaThixo noAbraham. Njengokuba kunjalo kumyolelo womntu, isithembiso sikaThixo sijonge kwindlalifa eqinisekileyo, uAbraham nenzala yakhe (Gen. 12:1–5, Gal. 3:16); ukwabandakanya nelifa (Gen. 13:15, 17:8, Rom. 4:13, Gal. 3:29). Okubaluleke kakhulu kuPawulos, yimo engaguqukiyo yesithembiso sikaThixo. Kwangaloo ndlela ifanayo yokuba umyolelo womntu ungenako ukuguqulwa ngako nje ukuba uphunyezwe, kunjalo nokunikwa komthetho ngoMoses ukungabi nako ukuwucima umnqophiso wangaphambili kaThixo noAbraham. Umnqophiso kaThixo usisithembiso (Gal. 3:16), kwaye uThixo akanguye umaphuli wesithembiso nangayiphi indlela (Isa. 46:11, Heb. 6:18).

Sebenzisa igama isithembiso endaweni kamnqophiso kwezi ndawo zilandelayo. Injani imo yo“mnqophiso” kwindawo nganye? Indlela yokuwuqonda umnqophiso kaThixo njengesithembiso inceda njani ekuwuqondeni ngcono into oyiyo umnqophiso? (Gen. 9:11–17, 15:18, 17:1–21). Kusifundisa ntoni oku, nathi, ngesimilo sikaThixo, nendlela esinokumthemba ngayo?

Ukholo Nomthetho (Roma 3:31)

UPawulos ubuxoxele ngamandla ubukhulu bokholo kubudlelwane bomntu noThixo. Uphindaphindile ukuxela ukuba asilulwaluko kungeyiyo neminye “imisebenzi yomthetho” efunekayo ukuze kubekho ukusindiswa, “ngokokuba akuyi kugwetyelwa mntu ngokwasemisebenzini yomthetho” (Gal. 2:16). Ukudlula apho, asiyomisebenzi yomthetho kodwa lukholo oluluphawu lwekholwa (Gal. 3:7). Oku kulandula kuphindaphindwayo kwemisebenzi yomthetho kuzisa umbuzo, “Ingaba, ke ngoko, umthetho awunalo konke ixabiso? Ingaba uThixo wawususa umthetho?”

Kuba usindiso lungokholo lungengamisebenzi, angaba uPawulos uthetha ukuthi ukholo luyawucima umthetho? Zisixelela ntoni ezi ndima zilandelayo? Thelekisa umaRoma 3:31 nomaRoma 7:7, 12; 8:3 kunye noMateyu 5:17–20.

Ingxoxo kaPawulos kumaRoma 3 ihambelana nengxoxo yakhe ngokholo kunye nomthetho kumaGalati. Wathi ngokuqonda ukuba iintetho zakhe zingakhokelela abanye ukuba bagqibe ekuthini uphakamisa ukholo athobe umthetho, wasuka uPawulos wabuza umbuzo-buciko, “Umthetho ngoko siyawuphuthisa na ngalo ukholo?” Igama eliguqulwe “phuthisa” kumaRoma 3:31 ngu-katargeo. UPawulos ulisebenzisa rhoqo eli gama, kwaye linokuguqulwa ngokuthi “ukucima” (Roma 3:3, ESV), “bhangisa” (Efese 2:15), “enza ingabi nto” (Rom. 6:6, ESV), okanye “tshabalalisa” (1 Kor. 6:13, NKJV). Ngokucacileyo, ukuba uPawulos wayefunda ukubethelela ingcamango yokuba umthetho ngandlela ithile uchithiwe emnqamlezweni, njengoko abanye namhlanje besithi wafundisa loo nto, eli ibiya kuba lilo ixesha. UPawulos yena kodwa akaneli kuyiphika loo ngcinga ngo-hayi ocinezelweyo – NAKANYE?!, ude athi, igospile “iyawumisa” umthetho! “Icebo lokugwetyelwa ngokholo lityhila ukuwuxabisa kukaThixo umthetho waKhe ngokufuna nokwenza umsindleko wombingelelo wocamagusho. Ukuba ukugwetyelwa bekuwuchitha umthetho, kwakungayi kubakho mfuneko yokufa kukaKristu ukuze akhulule umoni ezonweni zakhe, aze abe ngolo hlobo umbuyisela eluxolweni noThixo. “Ngapha koko, ukholo lwenene lona ngokwalo luthetha intumekelelo epheleleyo yokufezekisa intando kaThixo ebomini bokuthobela umthetho waKhe. . . . Ukholo olululo, lwakhelwe ekuthandeni uMsindisi ngentliziyo yonke, lukhokelela ekuthobeleni.”—*The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 6, p. 510.

Cinga ngokuba kwakuya kuba yintoni ukuba uPawulos ngokwenene wayethetha ukuba ukholo luyawubhangisa umthetho. Bekungaba, umzekelo, ukukrexeza akusesiso isono, okanye ukuba, okanye nokubulala? Cinga ngosisi, intlungu, ukubulaleka ongaba uzisindisa kuko ukuba nje ubungathobela umthetho kaThixo. Bungakanani ubunzima othe wena okanye abanye ekuphunyelwa kubo nje ngenxa yesiphumo sokungathobeli umthetho kaThixo?

Injongo Yomthetho

KumaGalati 3:19–29 uPawulos uthetha kaninzi “ngomthetho.” Nguwuphi umthetho uPawulos abhekisa kuwo kakhulu kule ndawo yamaGalati?

Abanye, bekholelwa ukuba igama ukude kwindima ye-19 libonisa ukuba lo mthetho wawungowexeshana, bacinga ukuba le ndawo imele ukuba ibhekisa kumthetho wamadini, kuba injongo yaloo mthetho yazalisekiswa emnqamlezweni waba ufikelela esiphelweni. Nangona le nto ivakala yona ngokwayo, ayibonakali iyinto athetha yona uPawulos kumaGalati. Nangona yomibini imithetho, owamadini nowokuziphatha, “yongezwa” eSinayi ngenxa yesikreqo, siya kuphawula, ngokuqwalasela umbuzo olandelayo ukuba uPawulos ukhangeleka enomthetho wokuziphatha engqondweni.

Ingaba uPawulos uthi umthetho wongezwa? Ingaba wongezwa entweni, ngokuba kutheni? Thelekisa umaGalati 3:19 nomaRoma 5:13, 20.

UPawulos akathi umthetho wongezwa emnqophisweni kaThixo noAbraham, ngokungathi luhlobo lwesihlomelo esithile emyolelweni esathi saguqula imimiselo yokuqala. Umthetho ukade ukho kwakudala ngaphambi kweSinayi (bona kwisifundo sangomso). Endaweni yoko, uPawulos uthetha ukuba umthetho wanikelwa kuSirayeli ngenjongo eyahluke ngokupheleleyo. Wawuza kubuyisela abantu bakaThixo emva kuThixo nakubabalo alunika bonke abeza kuYe ngokholo. Umthetho utyhila kuthi imeko yesono esikuyo kunye nokudinga kwethu ubabalo lukaThixo. Umthetho wawungamiselwanga ukuba ube luhlobo oluthile lwenkqubo yoku“zuza” usindiso. Ngokuchaseneyo noko, wanikwa, uthi uPawulos, “ukuze isiphoso sande” (Rom. 5:20); oko kukuthi, ukuze sisibone ngokucace ngakumbi isono ebomini bethu (Rom. 7:13). Njengoko imithetho yamadini yayisalatha kuMesiya icinezela ngobungcwele nokufuneka koMsindisi, ngumthetho wokuziphatha, noo“Uze unga. . .” bawo otyhila isono, osibonisa ukuba isono asiyonxalenye nje yemo yemvelo yethu, kodwa, ngokwenene, sikukwaphulwa komthetho kaThixo (Roma 3:20; 5:13, 20; 7:7, 8, 13). Yiyo le nto uPawulos esithi, “Ke apho kungekho mthetho, akukho sigqitho” (Roma 4:15). “Umthetho usebenza njengeglasi eyenza nkulu izinto. Eso sixhobo asilandisi inani lamabala amdaka ahlambela ingubo, kodwa yenza ukuba abonakale kakhulu ngokucacileyo ide ibonakalise namanye amaninzi kunokuba umntu enokuwabona ngeliso lakhe nje.”— William Hendriksen, *New Testament Commentary, Exposition on Galati (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Book House, 1968)*, p. 141.

Ubude Bexesha Lobukho Bomthetho

Ingaba intetho kaPawulos ngomthetho owongezwa eNtabeni yeSinayi ithetha ukuba wawungekho ngaphambili? Ukuba ayithethi loo nto, wawuyintoni umahluko ngaphambili nangasemva kweNtaba yeSinayi? Funda: Genesis 9:5, 6; 18:19; 26:5; 39:7–10; Eksodus 16:22–26.

Kwakungekho sidingo sokuba uThixo awutyhile umthetho waKhe kuAbraham ngendudumo, imibane, nesohlwayo sokufa (Exod. 19:10–23). Kwakutheni, ke ngoko, ukuze uThixo amnike uSirayeli umthetho ngolo hlobo? Kwakungokuba, ngexesha lobukhoboka babo eYiputa, uSirayeli walahlekwa ngumbono wobukhulu bukaThixo nokuphakama kwemigangatho yaKhe yendlela yokuziphatha. Ngenxa yoko, babedinga ukwenziwa baqonde ukunaba kwemeko yabo yesono, nobungcwele bomthetho kaThixo. Intyilelo eSinayi yenza kanye loo nto.

Uthetha ukuthini uPawulos xa athi umthetho wongezwa “ukude ifike imbewu leyo yayibekwe ngedinga”? Galati 3:16–19.

Abaninzi bayibona le ndima ukuba ithetha ukuthi umthetho owanikwa eSinayi wawungowexeshana. Wangena kungama-430 yeminyaka emva kuka-Abraham yaza yaphela akufika uKristu. Le nguqulelo, phofu, iyakhabana nento ethethwa nguPawulos ngomthetho kumaRoma, nakwezinye iindawo eBhayibhileni, njengoMateyu 5:17–19. Impazamo eyenziwa ngabafundi ngale ndawo ukucinga ukuba igama ukude lisoloko lithetha ixesha elide kangaka. Akunjalo. Ichaza umntu owoyika uYehova, iNdumiso 112:8 ithi, “Izimasekile intliziyo yakhe, akoyiki; “uya kuda” ababonele ababandezeli bakhe.” Ingaba oku kuthetha ukuba xa esoyisa uya koyika? KwisiTyhilelo 2:25 uYesu uthi, “Oko ninako kubambeni nikuqinise, ndide ndifike.” Ingaba uYesu uthetha ukuba, ngako nje ukuba afike, akusafuneki sibe sanyaniseka? Indawo yomthetho ayizange iphele ngokufika kukaKristu. Uya kuhlala usalatha isono lonke ixesha usekho umthetho. Akuthethayo uPawulos kukuba, ukufika kukaKristu kuphawula ukuguquka kwembali yoluntu. UKristu unokwenza oko umthetho ungenako ukukwenza—ukunika isisombululo esiqinisekileyo sesono, oko kukuthi, ukugwebela aboni athi ngoMoya waKhe awuzalise umthetho kubo (Rom. 8:3, 4).

Ingaba ukhe uthi xa uzicingela, Ukuba iNkosi ingandenzela oku noku nokuya, andinakube ndiyithandabuze? Cinga, kodwa, ngoko kwenzeka eSinayi, ngendlela awabonakala ngamandla ngayo amandla kaThixo awabonwa ngamaSirayeli—kodwa, enza ntoni? Inokuxelela ntoni le nto ngokuba luyintoni ukholo lwenene nendlela esilufumana ngayo nesithi silugcine ngayo? (Bona umaKolose 2:6).

Ukongama Kwesithembiso

“Nguye lowo owayephakathi kwalo ibandla entlango, ndawonye nesithunywa sezulu, ebesithetha naye entabeni yeSinayi, noobawo bethu, owamkelayo izihlabo zobomi, ukuze azinikele kuthi” (IZenzo 7:38).

KumaGalati 3:19, 20, uPawulos uyaqhubeka nendlela acinga ngayo ngomthetho ongawucimiyo umnqophiso wobabalo; oku kubalulekile kuba, ukuba ukwazi ngoThixo kwabachasi bakhe kwakulungile, umthetho wawuya kwenza loo nto kanye. Cinga, ngoko, ukuba ibiya kuthini imeko yethu njengaboni ukuba besiza kuxhomekeka ekugcineni umthetho, ngokuchasene nobabalo, ukuze sisindiswe. Ekugqibeleni, besingayi kubanathemba. Nangona imininingwana ngentetho kaPawulos kumaGalati 3:19, 20 inzima, eyona nto ayithethayo icacile: umthetho uyinto encedisayo kwisithembiso, kuba wangeniswa ngezithunywa kunye noMoses. Ukuhlangana kwezithunywa ekunikweni komthetho akuthethwanga ngako kuEksodus, kodwa kuyafumaneka kwiindawo eziliqela esiBhalweni (Dut. 33:2; IZenzo 7:38, 53; Heb. 2:2). UPawulos usebenzisa igama mlamli ku-1 Timoti 2:5 ngokubhekiselele kuKristu, kodwa iintetho zakhe ziyinika ngamandla ingqondo ethi noDuteronomi 5:5 engqondweni, apho uMoses athi, “Ndema phakathi koYehova nani ngelo xesha, ukuze ndinixelele ilizwi likaYehova.” Kusoyikeka ngobukhulu kunjalo ukunikwa komthetho eSinayi, kukho inyambalala yeengelosi, ebaluleke enjalo noMoses njengomniki womthetho, ukunikwa komthetho kwakungathanga ngqo. Ngokwahluke kakhulu, isithembiso sikaThixo senziwa ngqo kuAbraham (ngoko ke, kubo bonke abakholwayo), kuba kwakungekho sidingo somlamli. Ekugqibeleni, nokuba ubaluleke kangakanani umthetho, awumi endaweni yesithembiso sosindiso ngobabalo olufumaneka ngokholo. Ngokuchaseneyo, umthetho usinceda ukuba siyiqonde ngcono indlela esingummangaliso ngayo ngokwenene isithembiso eso.

Chaza imo yokuhlangana ngqo kuka-Abraham noThixo. Yintoni eyayintle apho koko kusondelelana noThixo? Cingisisa uGenesis 15:1–6, 18:1–33, 22:1–18.

Cinga ngabanye abantu eBhayibhileni abakha bahlangana noThixo—uAdam noEva e-Eden (Genesis 3); ileli kaYakobi (Genesis 28); uPawulos endleleni esinga eDamasko (IZenzo 9). Mhlawumbi akuzange ube nento eyothusa ngolo hlobo, kodwa zeziphi iindlela athe uThixo wazityhila kuwe? Zibuze nawe ukuba, ingaba ikho na into kobakho ubomi ethintela ukuba ungabi nalo olu hlobo lokusondelelana nokwayama awayenako uAbraham kuThixo. Ukuba kunjalo, manyathelo mani onokuwathabatha ukuyiguqula?

Ingcamango Eyongeziweyo:

“Ebukhobokeni babo, kakhulukazi abantu balahlekwa kukumazi uThixo kunye nemithetho-siseko yomnqophiso ka-Abraham. Ekubakhululeni kwabo eYiputa, uThixo wafuna ukubatyhilela amandla aKhe nenceba yaKhe, ukuze bakhokelelwe ekubeni bamthande bamthembe. Wabazisa kuLwandle oluBomvu, apho bathi besukelwa ngamaYiputa, kwabonakala ukuba abanako ukusinda, ukuze bakuqonde ukungabi nakuzinceda kwabo, nendlela abadinga ngayo uncedo lwezulu; ngelo xesha wabazisela ukuhlangulwa kwabo. Ngenxa yoko, bazaliswa luthando nombulelo kuThixo nakukuthembela kumandla aKhe ukuba abancede. Wabaqamangela kuYe njengomhlanguli kubukhoboka basemhlabeni. “Noko kunjalo, yayisekho inyaniso enkulu ekwakufuneka ibethelelekile ezingqondweni zabo. Njengoko babephila phakathi konqulo lwezithixo nenkohlakalo, babengenalo ulwazi olululo lobungcele bukaThixo - ukuzaliswa sisono ngokugqithisileyo kweentliziyo zabo, ukungabi nako, bona ngokwabo, ukuthobela umthetho kaThixo ngokupheleleyo, kunye nokudinga kwabo uMsindisi. Konke oku, kufuneka bekufundisiwe.”—Ellen G. White, *Amanyange Nabaprofeti*, iph. 371. “Umthetho kaThixo, owavakaliswa ngokukhulu eSinayi, yayikukuvakaliswa kokugwetywa kumoni. Ngumhlaba womthetho ukugweba, nangona kuwo apho engekho amandla okuxolela okanye okuhlangula.”—Ellen G. White Comments, *The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 6, p. 1094.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. Cinga ngawo wonke lo mba wezithembiso, ngakumbi ezaphukileyo. Weva njani wena ngabo baya baphula izithembiso zabo kuwe? Kwenza umahluko ongakanani kuwe ukuba umntu ebenenjongo yokusigcina mhlawumbi kamva akakwazi okanye wayijika ingqondo yakhe, okanye xa usuke waqonda wena ukuba ebengakhange azimisele ukusigcina kakade? Kwenzeka ntoni kwizinga lokumthamba emva kokwaphuka kwesithembiso, nokuba kungasiphi na isizathu? Kuthetha ntoni kuwe ukwazi ukuba unakho ukuwathemba amadinga kaThixo? Okanye, mhlawumbi umbuzo ungathi, Ungakufunda njani ukuwathemba amadinga kaThixo zisuka nje?
2. Zeziphi iindlela esisengozini yokonakaliswa kokusingqongileyo side silahlekwe kukubona iinyaniso ezibalulekileyo asinike zona uThixo. Singenza njani ukuze siziqaphele ukuba ziyintoni ezo mpembelelo zonakalisayo, nokuba singenza njani ukuzithintela?

Isishwankathelo:

Ukunikelwa komthetho eSinayi akuzange kusenze singabi nto isithembiso sikaThixo kuAbraham, kanti nomthetho awuzange uyiguqule imisindleko yesithembiso. Umthetho wanikelwa ukuze abantu babuqaphele ubanzi bokuba ngaboni kwabo, baze bakuqonde nokusidinga kwabo isithembiso sikaThixo kuAbraham kunye nenzala yakhe.

