Isifundo 10

**Agasti 26-Septemba 1*

Iminqophiso Emibini

SABATHA EMVA KWEMINI

Fundela le Veki:
Gal. 4:21–31; Gen. 1:28; 2:2, 3; 3:15; 15:1–6; Eks. 6:2–8; 19:3–6.

Indima Yenkumbulo:
"Ke yona ephezulu iYerusalem ikhululekile, enguma wethu leyo" (Galati 4:26).

AmaKristu alalayo igunya leTestamente eNdala akholisa ukukubona ukunikwa komthetho eSinayi kungahambelani negospile. Agqiba kwelithi umnqophiso owanikwa eSinayi umele ixesha lolawulo oluthile, kususela kwixesha lembali yoluntu xa usindiso lwaluxhomekeke ekuthobeleni umthetho. Kuthi kuba abantu basilela ukuphila ngokokufunwa ngumthetho, uThixo (bathi) wangenisa umnqophiso omtsha, umnqophiso wobabalo ngokuhle kukaYesu Kristu. Le, ngoko, yindlela abaqonda ngayo iminqophiso emibini: omdala osekwe phezu komthetho, nomtsha osekwe phezu kobabalo.

Nokuba iqheleke kangakanani loo mbono, ayilungile. Usindiso aluzange lube ngokuthobela umthetho; ubuYuda beBhayibhile, kwasekuqaleni, babusoloko buyinkolo yobabalo. Uqononondiso-mthetho awayejongene nako uPawulos eGalatiya, yayikukugqwetha, kungekuko kodwa ubuKristu kodwa kweTestamente eNdala ngokwayo. Iminqophiso emibini ayibangakho ngenxa yexesha; endaweni yoko, ibonisa iingqondo zobuntu. Imele iindlela ezimbini zokuzama ukudlelana noThixo, iindlela ezisuka kude kuKayin noAbheli. Umnqophiso omdala umele abo bathi, njengoKayin, baphazama ngokuxhomekeka kokwabo ukuthobela njengendlela yokukholisa uThixo; kwelinye icala, umnqophiso omtsha umele amava abo abathi, njengoAbheli, baxhomekeke kubabalo lukaThixo ukwenza konke oko akuthembisileyo.

**Funda isifundo sale veki ukulungiselela iSabatha kaSeptemba 2.*

Iziseko Zomnqophiso

Abaninzi bakuthabatha ukuchaza kukaPawulos imbali kaSirayeli kumaGalati 4:21–31 njengeyona ndawo yakha yanzima kwileta yakhe. Oko kungokuba ingxoxo yakhe inzima kakhulu kangangokuba ifuna ulwazi olubanzi lwabantu neziganeko zeTestamente eNdala. Inyathelo lokuqala ekuyiqondeni le ndawo kukuba nesiseko solwazi lwengcamango yeTestamente eNdala esembindini wengxoxo kaPawulos: ingqiqo yomnqophiso. Igama lesiHebhere eliguqulwe "umnqophiso" ngu-berit. Livela phantsi amaxesha angamakhulu amathathu kwiTestamente eNdala laye libhekisa kwisivumelwano esibophelelayo, isivumelwano. Kumawaka eminyaka, iminqophiso yayidlala indawo eyinxalenye yokuchaza ubudlelwane phakathi kwabantu nezizwe kuyo yonke iMpuma eKufuphi (Near East). Iminqophiso yayikholisa ukubandakanya ukuxhelwa kwezilwanyana njengenxalenye yenkqubo yokwenza (ngokuthe gca "yokusika") umnqophiso. Ukubulawa kwezilwanyana kwakufuzisela okuya kwenziwa kulowo uye wasilela ukuzigcina izithembiso nezinyanzelo zomnqophiso. "Kususela kuAdam kuse kuYesu, uThixo wayesebenza noluntu ngendlela yothotho lwezithembiso zomnqophiso eyayimi kuMhlanguli ozayo neyafikelela kumnqophiso kaDavide (Gen. 12:2, 3; 2 Sam. 7:12–17; Isa. 11). KuSirayeli ekuthinjweni kwaseBhabheli, uThixo wathembisa "umnqophiso omtsha" onempumelelo kakhulu (Yer. 31:31–34) ngokuhlangene nokufika kukaMesiya ngoDavide (Hez. 36:26–28; 37:22–28)." — Hans K. LaRondelle, *Our Creator Redeemer (Berrien Springs, Mich.: Andrews University Press, 2005)*, p. 4.

Sasiyintoni isiseko somnqophiso kaThixo wokuqala kuAdam egadini yase-Eden phambi kokungena kwesono? Gen. 1:28; 2:2, 3, 15–17.

Nangona umtshato, umsebenzi ophathwayo, kunye neSabatha kwakuyinxalenye yemisindleko yomnqophiso endalweni, eyona ndawo yayijonge kuyo yayingumyalelo kaThixo wokuba kungatyiwa kumthi owalelweyo. Imvelo esisiseko yomnqophiso yayisithi, "thobela uze uphile!" Ngendalo eyadalwa yahambelana noThixo, uYehova wayengafuni nto ingenako ukwenzeka. Ukuthobela kwakulapho imvelo yomntu yayikekelele khona; kodwa, uAdam noEva bakhetha ukwenza into engeyiyo imvelo, kwaza kwathi kweso senzo, abanela nje ukuwaphula umnqophiso wendalo, koko benza ukuba izigqibo zawo zingabi nakwenzeka kubantu abaya bonakaliswa sisono. NguThixo ngokwaKhe owayenokubuyisela ubudlelwane obalahlwa nguAdam noEva. Wakwenza oku ngokumisela umnqophiso wobabalo osekelwe kwisithembiso esingunaphakade soMsindisi (Gen. 3:15).

Funda: Genesis 3:15, isithembiso sokuqala eBhayibhileni. Yintoni kule ndima oyibona njengofifi olukhoyo lwethemba esinalo kuKristu?

Umnqophiso Ka-Abraham

Zithini izithembiso zomnqophiso awawenzayo uThixo noAbram kuGenesis 12:1–5? Waphendula njani uAbram?

Izithembiso zokuqala zikaThixo kuAbram siyenye yeendawo ezibaluleke ngamandla kwiTestamente eNdala. Ezi ndima zonke zingobabalo lukaThixo. NguThixo, hayi uAbram, owenza izithembiso. UAbram wayengenanto anokuyamkela okanye afanele ukuthandwa, yaye ingekho nento ebonisa ukuba uThixo noAbram bakha basebenza kunye ukuze beze nesi sivumelwano. NguThixo owenza konke ukuthembisa. UAbram, kwelinye icala, ubizelwa ukuba akholwe kukuqiniseka kwesithembiso sikaThixo, ingabi yinto nje eyekeyeke "yokholo" kodwa ukholo olubonakaliswa ngokushiya usapho lwakhe lonke (eminyaka ingama-75!) aye kwilizwe uThixo amthembise lona. "Nge'ntsikelelo' evakaliswe kuAbraham nangaye kulo lonke uluntu, uMdali wayihlaziya injongo yaKhe esindisayo. Wayeba'sikelele' uAdam noEva eParadesi (Gen. 1:28, 5:2) waphinda waba'sikelela' uNowa noonyana bakhe emva koNogumbe (9:1). Ngale ndlela uThixo wasicacisa isithembiso sangaphambili soMhlanguli owayezakuhlangula uluntu, atshabalalise ububi, abuyisele iParadesi (Gen. 3:15). UThixo wasiqinisekisa isithembiso saKhe sokusikelela 'bonke abantu' ekufikeleleni kwaKhe kuyo yonke indalo."—Hans K. LaRondelle, *Our Creator Redeeme*r, pp. 22, 23.

Emva kweshumi leminyaka yokulindela ukuzalwa konyana wesithembiso, mibuzo mini awaba nayo uAbram ngesithembiso sikaThixo? Gen. 15:1–6.

Kukholisa ukubalula ukuphakamisa uAbram njengendoda yokholo engazange ibe nemibuzo neentandabuzo. IsiBhalo, phofu, sizoba umfanekiso owahlukileyo. UAbram wakholwa, kodwa waba nayo imibuzo endleleni. UKholo lwakhe lwalukhula. Njengotata okuMarko 9:24, uAbram wathi kuThixo, kuGenesis 15:8, "Ndiyakholwa, . . . siza ususe ukungakholwa kwam." Ukuphendula, uThixo wamqinisekisa ngobabalo uAbram ngokuqiniseka kwesithembiso sakhe ngokungena ngokusemthethweni emnqophisweni naye (Gen. 15:7–18). Into emangalisa kakhulu apha asikuba uThixo engene emnqophisweni noAbram kodwa indlela uThixo awayekulungele ngayo ukuhla enze oko. Ngokungafaniyo nabanye abalawuli bakwiNear East, ababeyivalela ingcamango yokwenza umnqophiso nezicaka zabo, uThixo akanelanga nje ukunika ilizwi laKhe, kodwa, ngomfuziselo wokunqumla phakathi kwamacala esilwanyana esibuleweyo, wabeka obaKhe ubomi emngciphekweni. Phofu ke, uYesu ekugqibeleni, unikela ubomi baKhe eKalvari ukwenza isithembiso saKhe sibe yinyaniso.

Zeziphi iindawo okhe wafikelela kuzo ngokholo wakholwa kwinto engenakwenzeka? Ungakufunda njani ukuhlala ubambelele, nokuba kuhla ntoni?

Lwesibini

Agasti 29

UAbraham, USarah, NoHagare

Kutheni le nto uPawulos enembono esijongela phantsi kangaka isiganeko esinoHagare? Gal. 4:21–31, Genesis 16. Ithini ingongoma ebalulekileyo ayenzayo uPawulos ngosindiso ngokusebenzisa kwakhe eli ibali leTestamente eNdala?

Indawo kaHagare ebalini leGenesis lihambelana ngqo nokusilela kuka-Abraham ukukholelwa kwisithembiso sikaThixo. Njengekhoboka lomYiputa endlwini ka-Abraham, uHagare kunokuba wafika ukuba abe ngoka-Abraham njengesinye sezipho awazinikwa nguFaro endaweni kaSarayi, isiganeko esihlangana nesenzo sokuqala sokungakholwa kuka-Abraham sisithembiso sikaThixo (Gen. 12:11–16). Emva kokulinda iminyaka elishumi ukuba umntwana wesithembiso azalwe, uAbram noSarayi bahlala bengenamntwana. Ngokugqiba ukuba uThixo udinga uncedo lwabo, uSarayi wanikela uHagare kuAbram abe lishweshwe. Nangona ingaqhelekanga kuthi namhlanje, icebo likaSarayi lalilumkile kakhulu. Ngokwezithethe zakudala, ngokusemthethweni, ikhoboka elilibhinqa lalinako ukudlala indawo kamama omi endaweni yomfazi ongafumani bantwana. Ngoko ke, uSarayi wayenokumbala nawuphi umntwana womyeni wakhe noHagare njengowakhe. Nangona icebo lamenza wakho umntwana, yayingenguye umntwana wesithembiso sikaThixo. Kweli bali, sinomzekelo onamandla wendlela athi, xa ejongene neemeko ezihluphayo, noyena mkhulu umntu kaThixo, wayebuyelwa umva lukholo. KuGenesis 17:18, 19, uAbraham wacengana noThixo ukuba amamkele uIshmayeli njengendlalifa yakhe; uYehova, kodwa, wawala loo mnikelo. Into ekuphela kwayo "engummangaliso" ekuzalweni kukaIshmayeli yayikukuba nentumekelelo kukaSara ukwabelana ngomyeni wakhe nomnye umfazi! Kwakungekho nto ingaqhelekanga ngokuzalwa komntwana yile nkosikazi, umntwana ozelwe "ngokwenyama." Ukuba uAbraham wayethembele koko uThixo wayemthembise kona endaweni yokuyekela ukuba iimeko zikoyise oko kuthemba, into elolu hlobo ngeyingazange yenzeke, kwaye intlungu eninzi ngeyayiphetshiwe.

Ngokuchasene nokuzalwa kukaIshmayeli, khangela iimeko ezingqonge ukuzalwa kukaIsake. Gen. 17:15–19; 18:10–13; Heb. 11:11, 12. Zilufunela ntoni ezi meko ukholo oluninzi kangako kuAbraham noSara?

Kungaziphi iindlela ekuthe ukuswela kwakho ukholo kwizithembiso zikaThixo kwakwenzela iintlungu ezithile. Ungafunda njani kwezi mpazamo ukulithabatha linjalo ilizwi likaThixo, nokuba kuhla ntoni? Kokuphi ukukhetha onokukwenza okunokukunceda ekukwazini ukuba nokuzithemba izithembiso zikaThixo?

UHagare Nentaba YeSinayi (Gal. 4:21–31)

Ngumnqophiso onjani awayefuna ukuwenza nabantu baKhe uThixo eSinayi? Wawufana ngantoni nalowo uThixo wawenza noAbraham? Exod. 6:2–8, 19:3–6, Dut. 32:10–12.

UThixo wayelangazelela ukuba nobudlelwane obunye nabantwana baka"Sirayeli eSinayi nobo wayenabo noAbraham. Kona, ukufana kukhona phakathi kwamazwi kaThixo kuAbraham kuGenesis 12:1–3 namazwi aKhe kuMoses kuEksodus 19. Kwezi meko zombini, uThixo ucinezela oko aya kubenzela kona abantu baKhe. Akawaceli amaSirayeli ukuba athembise ukwenza nto ukuze azuze iintsikelelo; endaweni yoko, kufuneka athobele, indlela yokuphendula kwawo kwezo ntsikelelo. Igama lesiHebhere eliguqulwe "ukuthobela" kuEksodus 19:5 lithetha "ukuva." Amazwi kaThixo awathethi ubulungisa ngemisebenzi. Ngokuchasene noko, wayefuna ukuba uSirayeli abe nokholo olunye olwabonakala kwimpendulo ka-Abraham kwizithembiso zaKhe, (ubuncinane, amaxesha amaninzi).

Ukuba ubudlelwane bomnqophiso uThixo awawunika uSirayeli esinayi bufana nobo balowo wanikwa uAbraham, kungani ukuba uPawulos afanise iNtaba yeSinayi namava achasileyo kaHagare? Exodus 19:7–25; Hebhere 8:6, 7.

Umnqophiso waseSinayi wawujonge ukwalatha ubume boluntu kunye nechiza lobabalo oluninzi lukaThixo, olwalufaniswe neenkonzo zasengcweleni. Ingxaki ngomnqophiso waseSinayi yayingekho kwicala likaThixo kodwa kwizithembiso zabantu ezazinemposiso (Heb. 8:6). Endaweni yokuphendula kwizithembiso zikaThixo ngokuzithoba nokholo, amaSirayeli asuka aphendula ngokuzithemba. "Konke akuthethileyo uYehova sokwenza" (Eks. 19:8). Emva kokuphila bengamakhoboka eYiputa ngaphezu kwamakhulu amane eminyaka, ayengenalo ulwazi olululo ngobungangamsha bukaThixo, kwanobukhulu bokuba nesono kwabo. Ngale ndlela uAbraham noSara bazama ngayo ukunceda uThixo ukuzalisekisa izithembiso zaKhe, amaSirayeli afuna ukujika umnqophiso kaThixo wobabalo ube ngumnqophiso wemisebenzi. UHagare ufuzisela iSinayi kuba bobabini [uSirayeli noHagare] baveza ukuzama komntu usindiso ngemisebenzi. UPawulos akabangi ukuba umthetho owanikelwa eSinayi wawumbi okanye wabhangiswa. Ukhathazwa kukungakuqondi kwamaGalati ukuqononondisa umthetho. "Endaweni yokuba usebenze ukuboyisela ukuba bakuqonde ukungabi nakho komthetho ukumkholisa uThixo ngokuwugcina umthetho, umthetho wakhulisa kubo ukuzimisela okunzulu ekuxhomekekeni kwezabo izixhobo ukuze bamkholise uThixo. Ngoko ke, umthetho awuzange uzifeze iinjongo zobabalo ekukhokeleni abobuYuda ubase kuKristu. Endaweni yoko, wabavalela ngaphandle kuKristu."—O. Palmer Robertson, *The Christ of the Covenants (Phillipsburg, N.J.: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1980),* p. 181.

UIshmayeli NoIsake Namhlanje

Ingxelo emfutshane kaPawulos ngembali kaSirayeli yalungiselwa ukuthintela iingxoxo ezazisenziwa ngabachasi bakhe ababebanga ukuba babeyinzala yoqobo ka-Abraham nokuba iYerusalem—iziko lobuKristu bamaYuda kunye nomthetho—yayingunina. IiNtlanga, bathi, zaziyimigqakhwe; ukuba zifuna ukuba ngabalandeli benene bakaKristu, kufuneka kuqala zibe ngoonyana baka-Abrahan ngokuzinikela emthethweni wolwaluko. Inyaniso, uthi uPawulos, ichasene noko. Abaqononondisi bomthetho abangabo oonyana baka-Abraham kodwa bayimigqakhwe njengoIshmayeli. Ngokubeka ithemba labo ekwalukeni, babexhomekeka "enyameni," njengoko wenzayo uSara noHagare nanjengoko enzayo amaSirayeli ngomthetho kaThixo eSinayi. Amakholwa eeNtlanga, kunjalo, ayengoonyana baka-Abraham, kungenganzala yemvelo kodwa, njengoIsake, ngemvelo yangasentla (yezulu). "NjengoIsake, zazikukuzaliseka kwesithembiso esenziwa kuAbraham. . . .; njengoIsake, ukuzalelwa kwawo enkululekweni kwakusisiphumo sobabalo lwezulu; njengoIsake, ayengawomlibo womnqophiso wesithembiso."—James D. G. Dunn, *The Epistle to the Galati (London: Hendrickson Publishers, 1993),* p. 256.

Iya kujongana nantoni kulo mhlaba inzala yenene ka-Abraham? Gal. 4:28–31, Gen. 21:8–12.

Ukuba ngumntwana wesithembiso, kwazisa kuIsake, kungekuphela iintsikelelo zodwa, kodwa nenkcaso nentshutshiso. Ekuthetheni ngentshutshiso, uPawulos engqondweni unenkonzo ekuGenesis 21:8–10, apho uIsake azukiswayo aza uIshmayeli avele ehlekisa ngaye. Igama lesiHebhere kuGenesis 21:9 lithetha "ukuhleka," kodwa ukuphendula kukaSara kunika ingqondo yokuba uIshmayeli wayegxeka ehlekisa ngoIsake. Nangona ukuziphatha kukaIshmayeli kungavakali kubaluleke kakhulu kuthi namhlanje, kuveza ubutshaba obunzulu obufumaneka kwimeko yexesha ubuzibulo bosapho busemngciphekweni. Abalawuli abaninzi kudala bazama ukukhusela isikhundla sabo ngokubulala bonke ababenokuchasana nabo, uquka abazalwa nabo (Abagwebi 9:1–6). Nangona uIsake wayejongene nenkcaso, wayekwawonwabele onke amalungelo othando, inkuseleko, nokuthandwa okwakuhambelana nokuba yindlalifa kayise. Njengenzala kaIsake, asimele kumangaliswa xa sisiva ubunzima nenkcaso, nokuba iphuma ngaphakathi kusapho lwebandla ngokwalo.

Zeziphi iindlela okhe watshutshiswa ngazo ngakumbi ngabo basondele kakhulu kuwe ngenxa yenkolo yakho? Okanye zibuze lo mbuzo unzima: ungaba unetyala lokutshuthisa abanye ngenxa yenkolo yabo? Yicinge le nto.

Ingcamango Eyongeziweyo:

Read Ellen G. White, "Umthetho NemiNqophiso," amaph. 363–373, *ku-Amanyange NabaProfeti*. "Ukuba ke ngoko umnqophiso ka-Abraham wawunesithembiso sokuhlangulwa, wenzelwa ntoni omnye umnqophiso eSinayi? . . . "UThixo wabazisa eSinayi; wabonakalisa ubuqaqawuli baKhe; wabanika umthetho waKhe, nesithembiso seentsikelelo ezinkulu xa bathe bathobela: "Ukuba nithe naliphulaphula okunene izwi lam, nawugcina umnqophiso wam, noba . . . bubukumkani bababingeleli kum, nohlanga olungcwele." Eksodus 19:5, 6. Abantu abazange bakuqonde ukuba nesono kwentliziyo zabo, nokuba, ngaphandle kukaKristu babenganako ukuwugcina umthetho kaThixo; bakhawuleza bangena emnqophisweni noThixo. . . . Kodwa kwathi emva kweeveki nje ezimbalwa, bawaphula umnqophiso wabo noThixo, bathoba phantsi banqula umfanekiso oqingqiweyo. Babengenakulindela ukuthandwa nguThixo ngomnqophiso abawaphuleyo; ngoku, xa bezibona ukuba nesono kwabo nokudinga kwabo uxolelo, bafikelela ekubeni bazive ukudinga kwabo uMsindisi owayetyhilwa emnqophisweni ka-Abraham nosithunzi saKhe sasibonakala kwiminikelo yemibingelelo. Ngoku, ngokholo nothando, babopheleleka kuThixo njengomhlanguli wabo ebukhobokeni besono. Ngoku, babekulungele ukuxabisa iintsikelelo zomnqophiso omtsha.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. Ingaba olwakho uhambo neNkosi kakhulukazi luhlobo lo"mnqophiso omdala" okanye "umnqophiso omtsha"? Ungakwazi njani ukuwuxela umahluko?

2. Yeyiphi imiba ethile ebandleni lakho eyenza ukuba umoya ungabi mhle ebandleni? Yintoni eyenziwayo ukuyilungisa? Nangona unokuzifumana ulixhoba le "ntshutshiso," ungaqinisekisa njani, phofu, ukuba asinguwe otshutshisayo? Ubonakala uphi umgca owahlulayo apho? (Bona nakuMateyu 18:15–17.)

3. Kukangaphi usenza izithembiso eNkosini zokuba, akuyi kuyenza le nto okanye leya, koko usuke uyenze le naleya? Le nyaniso ilusizi, ikunceda njani ukuba ukuqonde okuthethwa lubabalo?

Isishwankathelo:

Ibali likaHagare, uIshmayeli, nabantwana bakaSirayeli eSinayi libubonisa njani ubudenge bokuzama ukuxhomekeka kweyethu imizamo ukuba sizuze oko uThixo ekuthembisileyo? Le ndlela yobethu ubulungisa kuthiwa ngumnqophiso omdala. Umnqophiso omtsha ngumnqophiso wobabalo ongunaphakade owenziwa kuqala noAdam noEva emva kokuba bonile, wahlaziywa noAbraham, ekugqibeleni wazalisekiswa kuKristu.

Notes