

Ukugwetywa KweBhabheli



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Fundela Isifundo Sale Veki:

IsiTyhilelo 17:1–18; Yer. 51:13; IsiTy. 13:1–10; Eks. 28:2:20–23; 13:5–8.

Indima Yenkumbulo:

“Ndeva elinye izwi liphuma emazulwini lisithi, ‘Phumani kuyo, bantu bam, ukuze ningadlalani nayo ngezono zayo, nokuze ningamkeliswa kwizibetho zayo. Ngokuba izono zayo ziye zafikelela emazulwini, nezinto zayo zokungalungisi uzikhumbule uThixo’ ” (IsiTyhilelo 18:4, 5).

Sabona ukuba isibetho sesithandathu seze umfuziselo wokoma kwe-Efrata, ngeli xesha abantu abalahlekisiweyo behlabathi beyirhoxisa inkxaso yabo eqhelekileyo kwiBhabheli yokuphela kwexesha. Noko kunjalo, ukuwa kwayo kuya kukhatshwa zizenzo ezikhulu zeedemon zilinganisa umsebenzi kaThixo, zisenza imiqondiso engummangaliso, owona obonakala kakhulu ikukuhlisa umlilo ezulwini, mhlawumbi ukuvuka kwenkolo yobuxoki (IsiTy. 13:13). Ukusebenza kweedemon kuphumelela ekumanyeni lonke ihlabathi ukulungiselela imfazwe yeArmagedon echasa isisalela sikaThixo esinyanisekileyo. Ekuqalekeni kwalo nje idabi lokugqibela, kubakho inyikima enkulu eyinxalenye yesibetho sesixhenxe. Inyikima ichitha ubunye beBhabheli iyahlule ibe ziingceba ezintathu (IsiTy. 16:18, 19). IBhabheli yesiphelo izotywa njengomzi, into ebonisa umanyano lwexesha elifutshane lwesithathu [ubutriniti] senkohlakalo—inamba, irhamncwa laselwandle, nerhamncwa lasemhlabeni—kulwalamano namagunya enkolo ehlabathi ekuchaseni abantu bakaThixo. Obu bunye buchithiwe, nto leyo eyenza ukuqhekeka kweBhabheli yexesha lokuphela. Kufuneka sihlale sikhumbula ukuba isiTyhilelo 16:19 sivakalisa kuphela ukuwa kweBhabheli yexesha lokuphela. Izahluko 17–18 zisixelela nendlela oku kuwa kuya kwenzeka ngayo. Phambi kokuchaza ukuwa kweBhabheli yexesha lokuphela nezizathu zokuwa kwayo (IsiTy. 17:12–18:24), IsiTyhilelo 17 sichaza olu hlelo lokrefo lwenkolo lexesha lokuphela, ngeli xesha kusetyenziswa ihenyukazi elikhwele phezu kwerhamncwa elithi, lihlangene neentombi zalo, lilukuhle ilizwe ukuba lichase uThixo (IsiTy. 17:1–11).

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IBhambeli Elihenyukazi

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:1. UYeremiya 51:13 ubonisa ukuba “amanzi amaninzi” ehleli phezu kwawo iBhambeli ngumlambo umEfrati. NgokwesiTyhilelo 17:15, afuzisela ntoni amanzi amaninzi?

Umfazi eBhayibhileni ufuzisela abantu bakaThixo. KwisiTyhilelo, ibandla likaThixo lenene lizotywa njengomfazi onyulu (IsiTy. 12:1, 22:17). Ihenyukazi ke ngoko limele abantu abakreqileyo nabanganyanisekanga. KwisiTyhilelo 17:5, eli henyukazi libonwa njengeBhambeli eNkulu. Njengokuba iBhambeli yakudala yayixhomekeke kumlambo umEfrata ngobukho bayo, kuya kuba njalo nakwiBhambeli yexesha lokuphela ukuxhomekeka kwinkxaso yabantu ukunyanzelisa amacebo ayo.

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:2 kunye nesiTyhilelo 14:8 nesiTyhilelo 18:2, 3. Ngawaphi amaqela amabini akhankanyiweyo njengabandakanyeka kulwalamano olungekho mthethweni kunye, nalukuhlwa yiBhambeli yexesha lokuphela?

Iqela lokuqala ngokumkani bomhlaba, amagunya alawulayo opolitiko. Bazotywe bexakeke kulwalamano lokrexezo neBhambeli ehenyuzayo. KwiTestamente eNdala, intetho yombulo isetyenziswa lonke ixesha kuchazwa indlela uSirayeli okreqileyo athe wemka kuThixo waya ekunquleni izithixo (Isa. 1:21, Yer. 3:1–10). Ulwalamano olunokrexexo phakathi kookumkani bomhlaba nehenyukazi kufuzisela umanyano olungekho mthethweni phakathi kweBhambeli yexesha lokuphela namagunya alawulayo opolitiko. Iqela lesibini kulwalamano olungekho mthethweni neBhambeli elihenyukazi ngabemi bomhlaba, izihlewe ezilawulwayo. Aba baye banxiliswa ngokwasemoyeni yiwayini yohenyuzo lweBhambeli. Ngokungafaniyo namagunya alawulayo opolitiko, uluntu jikelele lunxile ziimfundiso nezenzo ezikhohlisayo zeBhambeli, lucinga ngendlela engeyiyo ukuba inako ukulukhusela. Xa abantu benxilile, abakwazi ukucinga ngokusezingqondweni kwaye balawuleka lula (bona uIsa. 28:7). Umhlaba wonke, ngaphandle kwesisalela esithembekileyo, uya kulahlekiswa.

Kanye ekupheleni, njenganamhla, nanjengokuba kwakuhleli kunjalo, izihlewe zabantu ziyayiphosa eyona nto. Kumele ukusixelela ntoni oku ngengozi yokulandela okuthandwa sisininzi, nokuba kunjani oko?

Ihenyukazi Lihleli Phezu Kwerhamncwa

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:3. Nangona uYohane waxelelwa ukuba ihenyukazi lihleli phezu kwamanzi amaninzi, ulibona eyona nto liyenzayo liqabele irhamncwa. **Zeziphi iindlela ethi imifuziselo yamanzi nerhamncwa ichaze ngokufaneleyo abaxhasi beBhabeli?**

Wathi uYohane akuba esiwe esembonweni entlango, wabona umfazi phezu kwerhamncwa elibomvu, kungakho phezu kwamanzi. Nangona ihenyukazi lumele inkolo ekhoyo, irhamncwa lifuzisela igunya lopolitiko. Umfanekiso wenkolo uqabele phezu kwamagunya omhlaba nopolitiko walatha kwizinto ezikhoyo ezimbini nezahlukeneyo, into eyayingenjalo kwixesha eladlulayo, xa kwakuhlangene inkolo nopolitiko. Isiprofeto, phofu, sibonisa ukuba esi sibini siya kumanyana kunye ngexesha lokuphela. Imbono yokuqatyelwa kwerhamncwa ithetha ukugunya; oku kubonisa ukuba uhlelo lwenkolo yexesha lokuphela iya kugunya phezu kwamagunya omhlaba nawopolitiko.

Zeziphi iimpawu zehenyukazi ezalatha kwinqanaba, kwirhamncwa laselwandle, nakwirhamncwa eliphuma emhlabeni kwisiTyhilelo 12 ne-13?

Isivatho sehenyukazi sikhumbuza ngesinxibo soMbingeleli omKhulu kwiTestamente eNdala, esasiquka imibala—omfusa, obomvu, nogolide (Eks. 28:5, 6). Umbhalo osebunzini lalo ukwafana nombhalo wobubingeleli, “UBUNGCWELE KUYEHOVA” elunkontshweni lombingeleli omkhulu (Eks. 28:36–38). Ngendebe esesandleni salo kukhutshelwe umfanekiso womnikelo oselwayo engcweleni (Eks. 30:9). Ngembonakalo yalo ekhwankqisayo, olu hlelo lwenkolo luthi lube sisixhobo esinamandla sikaSathana ekuwexuleni umhlaba ukuba umke kuThixo. Sekunjalo, nokuba injani imbonakalo yalo, olu hlelo lwenkolo lulihenyukazi nonina wamahenyukazi. IBhabeli elihenyukazi iphinda ukuchazwa njengenxilileyo ligazi labangcwele nabafelukholo bakaYesu abafayo ngenxa yobungqina babo ngoKristu. Oku kuhlenganisa iBhabeli yexesha lokuphela kunye nobuKristu obukreqileyo bexesha eliphakathi [medieval] lobuKristu beNtshona Yurophu, obabukhokelwa bubupopi nobunobutyala bokufa kwezigidini zamaKristu awahlala ethembekile kwigospile.

Inkcazo yeBhabeli elihenyukazi ibonisa umfanekiselo kaJezebele webandla laseTiyatira (bona IsiTy. 2:20–23). Oko kuhambelanayo phakathi kwaba bafazi babini kuyichaza njani imo yeBhabeli yexesha lokuphela?

Ukufaniswa Kwerhamncwa

KwisiTyhilelo 17:6, 7, uYohane uyakhwankqiswa xa ebona ihenyukazi, mhlawumbi kuba ephawula kulo ukufana okuthile nerhamncwa laselwandle lesiTyhilelo 13, elalwa laboyisa abantu bakaThixo (IsiTy. 13:5–7). Le ntshutshiso yenza ukuba umfazi abalekele entlango ngexesha lethuba eli-1 260 yeminyaka yexesha eliphakathi (Middle Ages) (IsiTy. 12:13, 14). Nangona kwixesha lokukhula kwamabandla, ubuProtestanti babuza kulungisa ukuyikhumbula intshutshiso eyoyikekayo yexesha eladlulayo, ngokwesiprofeto, into efanayo, kodwa embi kakhulu, iza kwenzeka kwakhona.

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:8. Thelekisa intetho yale ndima nesiTyhilelo 13:8. IsiTyhilelo 13:3 sizicacisa njani izigaba zobukho kunye nemisebenzi yerhamncwa?

Irhamncwa elibomvu libonwa ilelo lalikho, nelingekhoyo, neliya kuhla liphuma emhadini onzulu liye entshabalweni. Esi sigaba sinxa-ntathu, phambi kwako konke, singunomgogwana wegama elingcwele, Yahweh [Yehova]—“lowo ukhoyo, wayekho, uzayo” (IsiTy. 1:4; bona nakwisiTy. 4:8). Sikwalatha phambili kwizigaba ezithathu elikhule ladlula kuzo irhamncwa:

- (1) Irhamncwa “lalikho,” kuba lalikho kwixesha eladlulayo. Oku kubhekisa kwimisebenzi yerhamncwa nexesha lesiprofeto seentsuku ezili-1 260 (bona IsiTy. 13:5).
- (2) “Elingekhoyo.” Linenxeba lalo elibanga ukufa (bona IsiTy. 13:3), irhamncwa lafika kwisigaba sokuba lingabikho, njengomtshutshisi, ngowe-1798. Lathi shwaka umzuzwana kumboniso womhlaba; kodwa lasinda, laphila.
- (3) Ekugqibeleni, lithe ngokuphiliswa kwenxeba elibanga ukufa, irhamncwa labuyela ebomini ngengqumbo yenkohlakalo evuthayo.

IsiTyhilelo 17 silichaza irhamncwa lesiTyhilelo 13:1–8 ngexesha lokuphiliswa kwenxeba lalo elibanga ukufa. Phezu kweli rhamncwa livukileyo, kukwahleli iBhabheli elihenyu. Kwakhona kuza kubakho umanyano lwekhesana lwenkolo nopolitiko, njengoko lwalukho ngexesha laphakathi [Middle Ages], ize iphinde ibekho intshutshiso.

“Inkcaso mayivuke, iinkani nokunganyamezeli makulawule, intshutshiso ibaswe, kuze kuthi, ukuba nentliziyo engaphelelisanga nokuhanahanisa kuthingaze kuluyeke ukholo; kodwa umKristu wenene uya kuma aqine njengeliwa, ukholo lwakhe lomelele ngakumbi, ithemba lakhe likhanye ngakumbi, kunangemihla yempumelelo.”—Ellen G. White, *Imbambano Enkulu*, iph. 602. Sisilumkiso esithini esimele ukusithabatha kula mazwi ngoko amava wethu obuKristu adinga ukuba abe kuko ngeli xesha, kanye kwaphambi kokutyhileka kweziganeko zokugqibela?

Iintloko Ezisixhenxe Zerhamncwa

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:9–11 kunye nesiTyhilelo 13:18. Okufunekayo ukuze kube nokuqonda iintloko ezisixhenxe yingqondo yobulumko. Bubulumko obunjani obubonakalayo apha? Umntu ubufumana njani obu bulumko bunikwa lizulu? (bona uYakobi 1:5)?

Ingelosi ichaza ukuba iintloko ezisixhenxe zintaba ezisixhenxe. Abanye abaguquli bacinga ukuba ezi zirhesha kwiinduli ezisixhenxe esimi phezu kwaso isixeko saseRoma, ibe sisizathu eso beguqula igama lesiGrike uoroi (“iintaba”) ngokuthi “iinduli.” Basixhenxe ookumkani, nabo, abafuziselwe ngeentaba ezisixhenxe. Kanti ke, ezi ntaba ziyalandelelana, azikho ngaxesha nye.

Ezi ntaba azifuziseli ookumkani ngabanye, kodwa IsiTyhilelo asithethi ngabantu abazimeleyo kodwa ngamahlelo. EBhayibhileni, iintaba zikhulisa ukufuzisela amagunya omhlaba okanye izikumkani (Yer. 51:25; Hez. 35:2, 3). Esiprofetweni seBhayibhile, “ookumkani” bathetha izikumkani (bona kuDan. 2:37–39, 7:17). Ngoko ke, iintaba ezisixhenxe zibonakala zimele izikumkani ezisixhenxe ezilandelelanayo ezoyisa umhlaba kuyo yonke imbali, nathi ngazo uSathana achase uThixo onakalise abantu baKhe. Ngokwembono kaYohane, ezihlanu kwezi zikumkani ziye zawa, obunye bumi, obunye abukafiki. Isihlanu esiwileyo zizikumkani ezikhulu ezathi ngamaxesha eTestamente eNdala zagunya athi (ngamanye amaxesha) zabonakalisa abantu bakaThixo: iYiputa, iAsiriya, iBhabheli, iPersi, neGrike. Ubukumkani “obunye obukhoyo” yayibubukumkani baseRoma bexesha likaYohane.

Ubukumkani besixhenxe “obungekafiki” lirhamncwa lesiTyhhilelo 13—ibandla lexesha laphakathi [medieval] elakhokelwa bubupopi, nobagunyayo labonakalisa nabantu bakaThixo—elaliza kuza emva kwexesha likaYohane nasemva kokuwa kobukumkani beRoma yobuhedeni. Imbali inobungqina obunamandla kwinyaniso yesi siprofeto, obabhalwa kwiinkulungwane phambi kokuba zityhileke ezi ziganeke.

UYohane uphinda axelelwe ukuba, irhamncwa elibomvu likwisigaba sentloko yesibhozo, nangona ikwayenye yesixhenxe. Eyiphi kwezisixhenxe? Ngenxa yokuba iintloko ziyalandelelana ngokwexesha, eyesibhozo inokuba yeyesixhenxe eyafumana inxeba elibanga ukufa. Kungexesha lale ntloko yesibhozo elithi irhamncwa elibomvu lithwale iBhabheli elihenyukazi. Namhlanje, sihla kwixesha lokuphiliswa kwenxeba elibanga ukufa. Intloko yesibhozo iza ubonakala embonisweni kanye phambi kokuphela lize liye entshabalalweni.

Ukuwa KweBhabheli

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:12–15 kunye nesiTyhilelo 16:12–16. Ufunda ntoni kule ndima “ngookumkani abalishumi”?

linguqulelo ezahlukeneyo ziye zanikwa ngokubhekiselele ekuboniseni oookumkani abalishumi. Noko kunjalo, IsiTyhilelo asisixeleli ukuba bangoobani. Esinokukuzuzwa kwindima yinto yokuba lumanyano lopolitiko lwexesha elifutshane oluvela kanye phambi kokuphela laye lixhasa ihenyukazi. Inani labo libonisa ukuphelela kwamagunya omhlaba aya kulinika intlonipho yawo irhamncwa. IsiTyhilelo 17:13, 14 siphinda ngokushwankathela idabi leArmagedon—elivezwe kwisiTyhilelo 12:12–17. Lulukuhlwe bubutriti benkohlakalo, umanyano lopolitiko lwezwe lonke luya kulwa neMvana. Oku kubonisa ukuba idabi lokugqibela alulilo idabi lomkhosi woMbindi-Mpuma kodwa phakathi kukaSathana enomanyano lwakhe kunye noKristu ekunye nabantu baKhe abathembekileyo.

Funda: IsiTyhilelo 17:16–18. Koko sesikubonile kwisiTyhilelo 16:2–12, yintoni eqhuba ukuba kubekho ukutshintsha kwengqondo ngakwiBhabheli kookumkani abalishumi? Ngubani osemva kwako konke okwenzeka kwiBhabheli?

Uwonke lo mboniso uyenye inkcazo yokoma komlambo umEfrati (IsiTy. 16:12). Iimpondo ezilishumi, ezizaliswe yintyo, ngequbuliso ziyayijikela iBhabheli elihenyukazi, liyenze ukuba ixhwaleke ibe ze; bayidle inyama yayo, bayitshise ngomlilo. Ekuchazeni lo mboniso, uYohane usebenzisa intetho yeTestamente eNdala ezoba izohlwayo kwiYerusale eyayikrexeza (Yer. 4:30). Ukutshisa ngomlilo yaysisohlwayo sentombi yombingeleli omkhulu eyayibandakanyeka kuhenyuzo (Lev. 21:9). Njengoko sibonisa IsiTyhilelo 16:10–12, amagunya opolitiko akhohlisiweyo aye alahlekiseka ngenxa yokungabi namandla kweBhabheli ukuwakhuselela ezibethwei. Aziva ekholisekile, aza athi, ngobundlongondlongo, ayihlasela. Olu hlelo lwenkolo yexesha lokuphela lifumana isigwebo sezulu ezizelelo likunye nabo bonke abo bakhetha ukuzayamisa nalo.

Imfumba yemibuzo ngeziganeko zexesha lokuphela isahleli ingaphendulwanga, ngenxa yoko, inako ukubonakala iphazamisa kuthi ngoku. Sithini isithembiso esiqinisekileyo esinikwa kwisiTyhilelo 17:14, iyintoni intsingiselo yesi sithembiso kuthi?

Ingcamango Eyongeziweyo:

Phambi kokuwa kweBhabelil, ilizwi eliphuma ezulwini labakhuthaza abantu bakaThixo abaseseBhabeli, lathi, “Phumani kuyo, bantu bam” (IsiTy. 18:4). Baninzi abanquli bakaThixo abaseseBhabeli ngezizathu ezahlukeneyo. Kubo, uThixo usebenzisa ibandla lexesha lokuphela ukuba ababize aba bantu ukuba baphume kolu hlelo lwenkolo lukreqileyo bangadlalani nayo ngezono zayo. Kufuneka baphume kuyo ukuze basinde kwisiphelo sayo. UThixo akafuni nokuba abe mnye oseBhabeli atshabalale. IsiTyhilelo 19:1–10 sibonisa ukuba abantu abaninzi abamoyikayo uThixo eBhabeli baya kulusabela ubizo. Cinga ke ngoko ngomthwalo omkhulu ophezu kwethu silibandla likaThixo lesisalela. Kunokusixelela ntoni oku ngokudinga kwethu amandla kaThixo ebomini bethu?

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. Njengokuba IsiTyhilelo 18:4 sibonisa, baninzi abantu abamoyikayo uThixo abo uThixo ababiza ngokuthi, “abantu bam.” Cingani ngale ntetho ilandelayo: Esi sigidimi kufuneka sinikiwe, kodwa nangona kufuneka sinikiwe, kufuneka silumkele ukuphosa, nokufumba nokugweba abo bangenako ukukhanya esinako. Akufuneki siphume endleleni yethu sihlasele ngamandla amaKatolika. Phakathi kwamaKatolika baninzi abangamaKristu asezingqondweni kakhulu, abahamba kuko konke ukukhanya okukhanya phezu kwabo, kwaye uThixo uza kubasebenzela. Abo babe namalungelo namathuba amakhulu, baza basilela ukuphuhlisa amandla omzimba, ingqondo, nokuziphatha, . . . basengozini engaphezulu nokugwetywa okukhulu phambi kukaThixo kunabo bakwimpazamo ngeendawo zemfundiso, babe bezama ukuphila ukwenzela abanye okulungileyo.”—Ellen G. White, *Evangelism*, p. 575. Kusixelela ntoni oku ngeendlela esimele ukubaphatha ngayo abanye?
2. IsiTyhilelo 17 sichaza ihenyukazi phezu kwerhamncwa elibomvu. Njengokuba umfazi okwisiTyhilelo 12 efuzisela ibandla likaThixo elithembekileyo, lo ukwisahluko 17 ubhekisa kwibandla elikreqileyo elilukuhlela ihlabathi kude kuThixo. Kweyakho imbomo ziintoni ezifanayo nezahlukeneyo phakathi kwawo?
3. Iindima zale veki zizobe umfanekiso omfiliba kakhulu wemo yehlabathi yenkolo nopolitiko ngexesha lamabakala okugqibela phambi kokubuya ngoloyiso kukaKristu. Kumele ukusixelela ntoni oku ngokuba kutheni kubalulekile nje ukuba sihlale sithembekile, sinyanisekile, sinyulu kanye ngoku kwisigidimi uThixo asinike sona?
4. Funda: IsiTyhilelo 16:15, isimemo sokunyaniseka phakathi kokuchazwa kokreko lwezwe lonke. Singasisebenzisa njani kuthi esi silumkiso njengangoku?