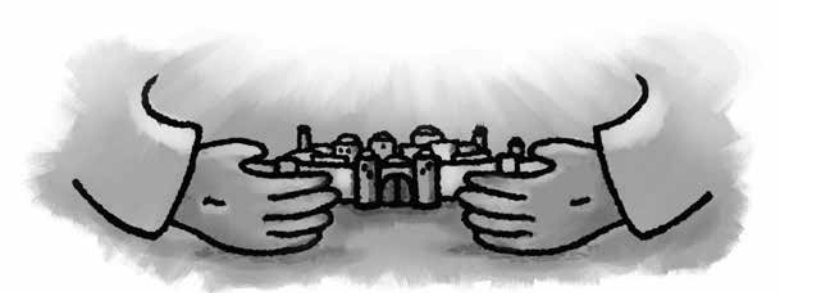
Isifundo 8

** 13–19 Februwari*

“Bathuthuzele Abantu Bam”



SABATHA EMVA KWEMINI

Fundela Isifundo Sale Veki:
Isa. 40:1, 2; Isa. 40:3–8; Isa. 40:9–11; Isa. 40:12–31.

Indima Yenkumbulo:
“Nyuka uye entabeni ephakamileyo; wena Yerusalem, mshumayeli wendaba ezilungileyo, liphakamise ngamandla ilizwi lakho, phakamisa ungoyiki. Yithi kwimizi yakwaYuda, Nanko uThixo wenu!” *(Isaya 40:9)*.

Imfazwe yesibini yehlabathi yayiphelile ngowe-1945 ngexesha isoldati laseJapan uShoichi Yokoi wayezimele kwisiqithi iGuam. Amaphetshana awayephoswa zinqwelo-moya zaseMelika ayevakalisa uxolo, kodwa uYokoi wacinga ukuba yinkqatho. Isoldati elithembekileyo, ithanda-zwe likakumkani, lalifungile ukuba alisokuze lizinikele. Ngenxa yokuba lalingenalo uqhagamshelano nempucuko, laphila ngoko lalikufumana ehlathini, kunqongophele, kunzima ukuphila, ngokwenene. Ngowe-1972, ama-27 yeminyaka emva kokuphela kweMfazwe yeHlabathi II, abazingeli bahlangana noYokoi eloba, waqala ngoko ukwazi ukuba isigidimi soxolo sasinyanisile. Lo gama abanye abantu bakhe babonwabele uxolo iminyaka, uYokoi wayenyamezele iminyaka yengcinezelo noxinzeleko.—Roy Gane, *Altar Call* (Berrien Springs, Mich.: Diadem, 1999), p. 304, adapted. Kwiinkulungwane ezininzi ezadlulayo, ngomprofeti uIsaya, uThixo wavakalisa ukuba ixesha loxinzelelo lwabantu baKhe, ngokwenene, lalidlule: “Thuthuzelani, bathuthuzeleni abantu bam, utsho uThixo wenu. Thethani kakuhle neYerusalem nimemeze kuyo, nithi kuzalisekile ukuphuma kwayo umkhosi; nithi, buhlawulelwe ubugwenxa bayo; nithi, yamkeliswe esandleni sikaYehova okuphindwe kabini kwizono zayo zonke” (Isa. 40:1, 2). Makhe siqwalasele kokuthethwa koku.

**Funda isifundo sale veki ulungiselela iSabatha kaFebruwari 20.*

Cawa

14 Februwari

Intuthuzelo Yexesha Elizayo (Isa. 40:1, 2)

KuIsaya 40:1, 2, uThixo uthuthuzela abantu baKhe. Ixesha lokohlwaywa kwabo lalide laphela. Sisohlwayo esinjani eso?

Zininzi iimpendulo kulo mbuzo. Kwakukho ukohlwaywa okwakusenziwa yiAsiriya, intonga yomsindo kaThixo (Isaya 10), awamsindisayo kuyo uThixo uYuda ngokutshabalalisa umkhosi kaSenakeribhe ngowama-701 B.C. (Isaya 37). Sasikho isohlwayo esenziwa yiBhabheli, esasiza kumka neempahla nabantu kwaYuda ngenxa kaHezekiya owabonisa ubutyebi bakhe kubathunywa abavela kuMerodach-baladan (Isaya 39, NRSV). Sasikho nesohlwayo esenziwa sesinye sezizwe awabhala izigidimi ngokuchasene naso uIsaya (Isaya 14–23). Lo gama phofu kukhankanywe "iAsiriya" nama"Asiriya" amaxesha angama-43 kuIsaya 7:17 ukuya kuma-38:6, esi sizwe sibonakala kube kanye kuyo yonke incwadi kaIsaya, apho uIsaya 52:4 abhekisa kwingcinezelo edlulileyo yiYiputa emva koko ibe yeyeAsiriya." Kwindawo esekupheleni kukaIsaya, ukuhlangulwa ekugxothweni eBhabheli ikhankanyiwe (Isa. 43:14; Isa. 47:1; Isa. 48:14, 20), nalapho nguKoreshi, umPersi owoyisa iBhabheli ngowama-539 B.C., owayeza kukhulula abagxothwa bakwaYuda (Isa. 44:28, Isa. 45:1, Isa. 45:13). UIsaya 1–39 Ucinezela iziganeko ezikhokelela ekuhlangulweni kuma-Asiriya ngowama-701 B.C., kodwa ekuqalekeni kwesahuko sama-40, incwadi itsibela phambili kangangenkulungwane enesiqingatha ekupheleni kweBhabheli, ngowama-539 B.C., nasekubuyeni kwamaYuda kungekudala emva koko.

Ingaba umxholo wokubuya eBhabheli unento ohlangene ngayo ngaphambili kuIsaya? Ukuba ikho, yintoni?

UIsaya 39 usebenza njengebhulorho yokuwelela kwizahluko ezilandelayo ngokuxela kwangaphambili ukuthinjwa kwaseBhabheli, abanye benzala kaHezekiya (Isa. 39:6, 7). Ukudlula apho, izihlabo zikaIsaya 13, 14, nama-21, zikuxela kwangaphambili ukuwa kweBhabheli nenkululeko eya kuza noku kuwa kubantu bakaThixo: "ngokuba uYehova uya kuba nemfesane kuYakobi, abuye awanyule amaIsrayeli, awahlalise emhlabeni wakowawo. . . . Kuya kuthi, mini uYehova aniphumzayo ekwaphukeni kwenu, nasekugungqeni kwenu, nasekukhonzeni okunzima, enakhonziswa ngako, nihlabe lomzekeliso ngokumkani waseBhabheli" (Isa. 14:1-4, NRSV). Qaphela uqhagamshelano olusondeleyo noIsaya 40:1, 2, apho uThixo athembisa abantu baKhe apho ukuba sikhona isiphelo sokuphatheka kakubi kwabo.

Zithetha ntoni izithembiso zeBhayibhile ngokuphela kokutsala nzima kuwe ngoku, phakathi kokubulaleka kweli xesha? Beluya kunceda ntoni ukholo lwethu ngaphandle kwezo zithembiso? Kutheni ke ngoko, le nto kubaluleke kakhulu ukubambelela kuwo, nokuba kwenzeka ntoni?

Ubukho, ILizwi, Ukusetyenzwa Kwendlela
(Isa. 40:3–8)

Bayifumana njani abantu bakaThixo intuthuzelo? Isa. 40:1–8.

Umvakalisi [weendaba] ongabizwanga ngegama wazisa ukuba uThixo uyeza ukuba atyhile ubuqaqawuli baKhe (Isa. 40:3–5). Elinye ilizwi livakalisa ukuba, nangona abantu bedlula njengamagqabi, "ilizwi likaThixo wethu liya kuma ngonaphakade" (Isa. 40:8). Emva kokugxothwa, abantu bakaThixo bakuzuza kwakhona oko babekufumene kwiNtaba yeSinayi baza bakwala konke ngokukreqa kwabo, abaya bohlwaywa ngenxa yako: Ubukho bukaThixo nelizwi laKhe. Ezi zizihlanganiswa ezisisiseko somnqophiso noIsrayeli, ezagcinwa engcweleni yaKhe phakathi kwabo (Eks. 25:8, 16). Ngenza yokuba balaphula ilizwi laKhe, uThixo wayishiya itempile yaKhe (Hezekile 9–11), kodwa uyabuya. Ubukho bakhe nokuxhomeka kwaphakade neLizwi laKhe elithembeke ngonaphakade zizisa intuthuzelo, ukuhlangulwa, nethemba.

Lulungiselelo luni olufunekayo ukuhlangabezana nokufika kweNkosi? Isa. 40:3–5.

Akufanelekanga ukuba ukumkani aphoswe ngapha nangapha yindlela enezigingqi. Ngoko ke, ukuza kwakhe kukhokelwa kukusetyenzwa kwendlela. Kungaphezulu koko kuKumkani wookumkani, ukuza kwaKhe, ingathi ngaseMpuma, apho wayebhacele khona nabantu baKhe eyingcwele kubo (Hez. 11:16), ukufuna okukhulu ukumiswa ngenye indlela komhlaba. Ukwakhiwa kukahola wendlela lo uqhelekileyo, owayeza kunqumla iinduli ezinamatye kwimpuma yeYerusalem kwakuza kuba nzima kakhulu nokuba kwakungakho idamanethi neenqwelo ezinamandla zokuqhekeza amatye. UThixo kuphela kwaKhe onokuwenza loo msebenzi; nguYe ojika "iindawo ezimagqagala zibe zithabazi" (Isa. 42:16). Phofu akadingi zindlela zihanjwa nenyawo ukuhamba kuba unenqwelo yomoya yeekherubhi (Hezekile 1, 9–11). ITestamene eNtsha isibhekisa ngokuphandle isiprofeto sikaIsaya kulwakhiwo lwendlela yasemoyeni eyafezwa kukushumayela kukaYohane umBhaptizi (Mat. 3:3). Isigidimi sakhe sasisithi: "Guqukani, kuba ubukumkani bamazulu busondele" (Mat. 3:2) nobhaptizo awayelwenza "[lwalulolwe]nguquko ukuze kuxolelwe izono" (Marko 1:4). Ngokunjalo, umsebenzi wendlela yayikukuguquka, intumekelelo yokubuya esonweni, ukuze kufunyanwe intuthuzelo yoxolelo lukaThixo nobukho baKhe. UYeremiya 31:31–34 wavakalisa isigidimi esinye ixesha elininzi kwiimbacu zakwaYuda ukuze ziyiqonde imo yasemoyeni yomsebenzi wendlela kaThixo. Kule ndawo, uYehova uthembisa abo banentumekelelo yokuqala ngokutsha: "umnqophiso omtsha" abeke kuwo umthetho wakhe ezintliziyweni zabo aze abhambathise ukuba nguthixo wabo. Bayamazi nesimilo saKhe, kuba ubaxolele.

Lwesibini

16 Februwari

Ukuzalwa Kovangelo (Isa. 40:9–11)

Sisiganeko esiluhlobo luni esichazwe kuIsaya 40:9–11?

Kamva kuIsaya kubonakala indoda ethwele iindaba ezilungileyo zeYerusalem (Isa. 41:27, Isa. 52:7). Noko kunjalo, kuIsaya 40:9 umvakalisi othi "Nanko uThixo wakho!" esentabeni ulibhinqa, inyaniso evezwa kwisiHebhere.

KwiNumiso 68, uDavide udumisa uThixo "abangenabani ubenzela izihlobo, amabanjwa uwakhokelela enyhwebeni" (Iind. 68:6, IBHAYIHILE). Nangona apha la mazwi esebenza ekuPhumeni ebukhobokeni baseYiputa, uIsaya usebenzisa ingcamango enye ngokubhekiselele ekuvakalisweni "kokuPhuma" kwesibini: ukubuya ekuthinjweni kwaseBhabheli. Ngeli xesha linye, iTestamente eNtsha usebenzisa uIsaya 40:3–5 kuYohane umBhaptizi, owayelungisa indlela kaKristu, iLizwi elingunaphakade elaba bubukho beNkosi isenyameni phakathi kwabantu baYo (Yohane 1:14). Kanti nangaphambi kukaYohane, abanye bathetha neendaba ezilungileyo zokufika kwaKhe. Phakathi kwabokuqala kwaba kwakukho osele ekhulile, uSimon noAna. Abahlangana nosana uYesu xa wayenikelwa etempileni (Luka 2:25–38). Njengabavakalisi bakaIsaya, yaye iyindoda nenkazana. USimon wayekhangele phambili kwintuthuzelo kaIsrayeli kwimo kaMesiya (Luka 2:25, 26).

Ngokwesiprofeto sikaIsaya, akubonakali kwenzeke ngengozi ukuba uAna, umprofetikazi, waba ngowokuqala ngqa ukuvakalisa ekuhleni entabeni yetempile kubantu baseYerusalem ukuba iNkosi ifikile: "Wasondela ke ngelo lixa . . . , wathelela ekudumiseni uThixo. Wayethetha ngoMntwana lowo kubo bonke ababelindele ukukhululwa kweJerusalem" (Luka 2:38, IBHAYIBHILE). Oku yayikukuzalwa kovangelo lobuKristu njengoko silwazi: ukwaziswa kwegospile, iindaba ezilungileyo, zokuba uYesu Kristu ufikile ukuzisa usindiso. Kamva, uKristu wanikela komnye umfazi, uMariya waseMgadala, iindaba zokuqala zokuvuka kwaKhe okoyisileyo (Yohane 20:17, 18), nto leyo eyaqinisekisa ukuba ukuthunywa kwaKhe iindaba ezilungileyo kuplaneti uMhlaba kwakufeziwe. Inyama ifana nengca, kodwa iLizwi likaThixo owaba yinyama limi ngonaphakade (bona uIsa. 40:6–8)!

Khangela uIsaya 40:11. Ngumfanekiso onjani onikiweyo apha? Zibhalele isiqendu ngendlela wena ngokwakho, okuxhamle ngayo ukwaluswa yiNkosi. Kulunge ngokuba kutheni ukuphinda uyibalise engqondweni indlela iNkosi ekukhokele ngayo?

Lwesithathu

17 Februwari

UMdali Onenceba (Isa. 40:12–31)

UIsaya 40 uwuphuhlisa njani umxholo wenceba namandla kaThixo?

Kuso sonke esi sahluko, inceba namandla kaThixo zithungelene (bona ezantsi) kwaye zihlangene kunye kakuhle, ngenxa yokuba zombini ziyafuneka ukuze uThixo abasindise abantu baKhe. Ufuna ukubasindisa, kuba uzele yinceba; uyakwazi ukubasindisa, kuba unamandla.
Inceba: (Isa. 40:1–5): intuthuzelo, ukufika kweNkosi ukuza kuhlangula.
Amandla: (Isa. 40:3–8): ubuqaqawuli, ukuzinza ngokuchasene nobuthakathaka bomntu.
Inceba: (Isa. 40:9–11): iindaba ezilungileyo zokuhlangulwa, uMalusi wabantu baKhe.
Amandla: (Isa. 40:12–26): UMdali ongenakulinganiswa.
Inceba: (Isa. 40:27–31): NjengoMdali, ubanika abatyhafileyo amandla.

Akuba eveze amandla kaThixo ngokubhekiselele kubuqaqawuli baKhe nokuma ngonaphakade (Isa. 40:3–8), uIsaya uyanaba ngamandla nobukhulu bobulumko baKhe obenza ukuba umhlaba nabasemhlabeni babonakale bebancinane (Isa. 40:12–17). Apha, isimbo sikaIsaya, ngemibuzo-buciko nemifuziselo ecacileyo ebhekisa emhlabeni nakwiindawo zawo, kuvakala ngokungathi uThixo uphendula uYobhi (Yobhi 38–41).

Ithini impendulo kumbuzo buciko kaIsaya: "Niya kumfanisa nabani na uThixo" (Isa. 40:18)?

KuIsaya, njengakuYobhi, impendulo kungekho kuthetha, ithi: Akakho. UThixo akanakuthelekiswa. UIsaya ususela kumbuzo wakhe abhekise kwimpendulo abantu abaninzi bakudala ababeyenza ngezenzo zabo, ethi, uThixo ufana nesithixo (Isa. 40:19, 20). Kule ngcamango, uIsaya uyaphendula. Kubonakala kububudenge kakade ukusebenzisa isithixo njengomfanekiselo kaThixo, kodwa ukuqinisekisa ukuba abantu bayiqonda into ayithethayo, uyanaba ngokungabi nakuqheleka kukaThixo aze azise, ngentetho engenako ukuphenduleka, ukuba unguMdali ongcwele (Isa. 40:21–26).

Indima yama-27 iyiveza njani ingqondo yabantu esithetha kubo isigidimi sikaIsaya? Kungaziphi iindlela nathi esinobutyala ngokuthi sibe nengqondo enye?

Zikhangele zonke ezi ndima zanamhlanje. Azithethi kuphela ngenceba namandla kaThixo kodwa zikwathetha nangenyaniso yokuba unguMdali. Kutheni le nto le nyaniso ibaluleke kakhulu ukuba iqondwe? ISabatha yeveki nganye, inceda njani ukuyibethelela le ngongoma?

Lwesine

18 Februwari

Ingxaki Yonqulo Lwezithixo (Isa. 40:19, 20)

Unqulo lwezithixo lutshabalalisa ububodwa kobudlelane obusondeleyo noThixo, ngokubeka endaweni yaKhe enye into (Eks. 20:4, 5; Isa. 42:8). ngoko, abaprofeti babhekisa kunqulo lwezithixo ngokuthi "kukukrexeza (Yer. 3:6–9, Hez. 16:15–19).

Funda uIsaya 41:29. Uyichaza njani uIsaya izithixo? Uyiqonda njani into ayithethayo ngazo? Kutheni le nto ichane kakhulu ngaso nasiphi isithixo, nokuba siyintoni na?

Abanquli bezithixo bakudala babekholelwa kwimifanekiso okanye ngemifuziselo yabo. Unqulo lwesithixo okumele abanye oothixo kwaphula umthetho wokuqala: "Uze ungabi nathixo bambi ngaphandle kwam" (Eks. 20:3). Ukuba ke, isithixo silungiselwe ukuba simele uthixo oyinyaniso, njengoko lalinjalo ithole legolide (Eks. 32:4, 5), uYehova uyasala njengomfanekiselo waKhe, kuba akakho umntu okwaziyo ukumzoba (Dut. 4:15–19), kwaye ingekho nento enokumela ubuqaqawuli baKhe obungenakulinganiswa kwanobukhulu baKhe. Ngoko ke, isithixo ngokwaso sisebenza njengomnye uthixo, kwaye ukusinqula kwaphula umthetho wokuqala nowesibini. Abantu bakaThixo abazidingi izithixo, kuba baneShekina yobukho baKhe uqobo kunye nabo engcweleni. Ukunqula isithixo kukusibeka endaweni yaKhe, kuze ngoko, kukhanyele ubukho baKhe ngenene.

Zeziphi iintlobo zonqulo lwezithixo esijongene nalo njengebandla namhlanje? Ingaba unqulo lwezithixo luyabonakala ngeendlela ezirhubuluza kakhulu ebandleni namhlanje? Ukuba kunjalo, kanjani?

"Abaninzi abanegama lokuba bangamaKristu bakhonza abanye oothixo ingenguye uYehova. UMdali wethu ufuna ukuzinikela kwethu okuphezulu, ukumthobela okuphambili. Yonke into ekekelele ekuthothiseni uthando lwethu ngakuThixo, okanye ephazamisa inkonzo efanele Yena, iba sisithixo."—Ellen G. White Comments, *The SDA Bible Commentary,* vol. 2, pp. 1011-1012. Siyazi ngokwemibhalo yakudala ukuba unqulo lwezithixo lwalunomtsalane, kuba lwalungento ephathekayo. Ngokusebenzisa iindlela zonqulo abantu abanokuqhelana nazo, abanquli bezithixo bazukisa imikhosi ababekholwa ukuba inokubanika ubutyebi nempumelelo. Yayiyinkolo yokuzinceda. Ivakala iqhelekile le nto? Kanye phambi kokuba iNkosi ibuye kwakhona, yakuba indlela yayo ilungisiwe, ngumsebenzi wendlela wesigidimi sokugqibela sikaEliya soxolelaniso (Malaki 4), ukunyula kuya kufana njengemihla kaIsaya: Niya kunqula uMdali, okanye niya kunqula enye into (IsiTyhilelo 13, 14), kuba ekupheleni, siya kusoloko sinento esiyinqulayo.

Ingcamango Eyongeziweyo:

Funda: Ellen G. White, "Nanko uThixo Wakho!" kuAbaprofeti Nookumkani, amaph. 311–321. "Ngemihla kaIsaya, ulwazi lwasemoyeni loluntu lwalumnyama ngenxa yokungamazi uThixo. Kudala uSathana wazama ukubakhokelela abantu ekumboneni uMdali wabo njengembangi yesono, ubuhlungu nokufa. Abo waya wabakhohlisa ngolo hlobo, bacinga ukuba uThixo ulukhuni kwaye ungqongqo. Bamthabatha ngokungathi ulindele ukubachasa nokubagweba, engenayo intumekelelo yokwamkela umoni lo gama kusekho isizathu ngokwasemthethweni sokuba angamncedi. Umthetho wothando elilawulwa ngawo izulu uvezwe kakubi ngumkhohlisi omkhulu njengesithintelo sokonwaba komntu, idyokhwe engumthwalo onzima ekufuneka bavuye ukuba bangasinda kuyo. Wavakalisa ukuba imimiselo yawo inokungathotyelwa, watsho esithi, izohlwayo zokugqitha umthetho zinikwa ngokukhetha ubuso."—Ellen G. White, Abaprofeti Nookumkani, iph. 311.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxwa:

1. Shwankathela ngamazwi wakho isigidimi sikaIsaya 40:12–31. Sibhale usebenzisa imifanekiso yeli xesha, njengokwesayensi okufunyenweyo kwangoku okubonisa ngokomzobo amandla awoyikekayo kaThixo. Yabelana neklasi isishwankathelo sakho.

2. Ithetha njani nokoyika kwakho ukufa inkcazo kaIsaya yokuhlala ngonaphakade kwelizwi likaThixo xa lithelekiswa nobomi bomntu obudlulayo (Isa. 40:6–8)? Ihambelana njani nethemba lakho lovuko (Yobhi 19:25–27, Dan. 12:2, 1 Kor. 15:51–57, 1 Tes. 4:13–18)?

3. Ngokumfaka entliziyweni uIsaya 40:12–31, umntu angaphiliswa njani kwikratshi nokuziphakamisa?

Isishwankathelo: NgoIsaya, uThixo wazisa intuthuzelo kwabo babebulaleka. Ixesha labo lembandezelo laliphelile, waye uThixo ebuyela kubo. Kunokuba batyhafe baphazamiseke, babe nokuthembela kuThixo ukuba asebenzise amandla waKhe adalayo ngenxa yabo.