Isifundo 5

**24–30 Mbaso*

Abantwana Besithembiso

ISABATHA NTAMBAMA

Kuleliviki Funda:
Genesis 15:1–3, Isaya. 25:8, 1 Kor. 2:9, Sambulo 22:1–5, 1 Petro 2:9, Genesis 11:4, Gen. 12:2.

Indimana Yekhanda:
“Bhekani, mina nginani izinsuku zonke kuze kube sekupheleni kwezwe” *(Matthew 28:20)*.

UBaba nendodakazi yakhe eneminyaka eyishumi babechitha amaholide ngasolwandle. Ngelinye ilanga bahamba bebhukuda olwandle futhi, nakuba bobabili babekwazi kahle ukubhukuda, ibanga elithile ukusuka ogwini behlukana. Ubaba, ebona ukuthi babemuka nomsinga wolwandle, wamemeza ingane yakhe: ‘Mary, ngiyofuna usizo ogwini. Uma ukhathala, phenduka ulale ngomhlane. Ungantanta usuku lonke ngaleyondlela. Ngizobuya ngize kuwe’ “Kungekudala, abahlengi abaningi kanye nezikebhe babematasa emanzini befuna imtombazanyana eyodwa encane. Amakhulu abantu esihlabathini bazizwa izindaba futhi balinda benamaxhala. Kwaba ngamahora amane ngaphambi kokuba bamthole, ekude nogu, kodwa ezothile entanta ngomhlane futhi engethukile nhlobo. Injabulo nezinyembezi kanye nokukhululeka kwamukela abatakuli ngenkathi befika ogwini nomthwalo wabo oyigugu, kepha ingane yakwamukela konke lokhu ngokuzotha. Kwakungathi ubuka ngokwexwaya indlela abantu ababenza ngayo. Wathi, ‘Ubaba uthe ngingantanta usuku lonke ngomhlane nokuthi uzobuya angilande, ngalokho ngibhukude ngantanta, ngoba bengazi ukuthi uzobuya.’ ”—H. M. S. Richards, “When Jesus Comes Back,” *Voice of Prophecy News*, March 1949, p. 5.

Ukubuka Iviki: Kungani uJehovah abhekisa Kuye njengesihlangu sikaAbram na? “Imindeni yonke yomhlaba” yayizobusiwa kanjani ngoAbrahama na? Yisiphi okuyisona sivumelwano sesithembiso esikhulu kunazo zonke na?

**Fund isifundo saleliviki ukulungiselela iSabatha, May 1.*

Isihlangu Sakho

“Emva kwalokho kwafika izwi likaJehova ku-Abram ngombono, lithi: “Ungesabi, Abrama, ngiyisihlangu sakho; umvuzo wakho uyakuba mkhulu kakhulu” (Gen. 15:1). Funda uGenesisi 15:1-3. Cabanga ngengqikithi yalamazwi. Kungani into yokuqala uJehovah ayisho kuAbram ibe ngu “Ungesabi” na? Kwakuzomele asabe ini uAbram na?

Okuthathekisa kakhulu lapha ngukuthi uJehovah uthi kuAbram “Ngiyisihlangu sakho.” Ukusetshenziswa kwesabizwana sobuntu kubonisa isimo sobudlelwane bobuntu. UNkulunkulu uzodlelana naye umuntu nomuntu, ngendlela azokwenza ngayo nathi sonke. Lokhu kubizwa kukaNkulunkulu njenge“sihlangu” kuqhamuka lapha okokuqala Ebhayibhelini futhi yilesisikhathi kuphela uNkulunkulu alisebenzisa ukuzembula Yena, nakuba abanye ababhali BeBhayibheli belisebenzisa leligama ukukhuluma ngoNkulunkulu (Dut. 33:29, Hub. 18:30, Hub. 84:11, Hub. 144:2).

Lapho uNkulunkulu ezibiza Yena ngesihlangu, Kuchaza ukuthini na? Ngabe kwakusho okuthile kuAbram okungase kungakusho kithina na? Singazibizela lesosithembiso thina na? Ngabe kusho ukuthi akukho Ngozi yenyama engafika kithina na? Kungaziphi izindlela ayisihlangu ngazo uNkulunkulu na? Uwuqonda kanjani lowomfanekiso na?

“UKristu akanako ukuthatheka okuntenteke kithina kepha unokuthatheka okuqinile kunobukamana enganeni yakhe. . . . UMsindisi wethu usithenge ngokuhlupheka kwesintu nokudabuka, ngokuthukwa, ukuhlambalazwa, ukugconwa, ukulahlwa kanye nangokufa. Ukubhekile wena ngane kaNkulunkulu. Uyakukulonda ngaphansi kokuvikela Kwakhe. . . . Ubuthakathaka bethu besintu ngeke kwavimbela ukufinyelela kwethu kuBaba osezulwini, ngokuba Yena [uKristu] wafela ukusinxusela thina.”—Ellen G. White, *Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 77.

U-Ronaldo wayekade, ngokubonakala ngaphandle, engumlandeli othembekileyo KaJehovah. Ngokuphazima, wafa. Kwenzekani kuNkulunkulu njengesihlangu sakhe na? Noma kumele siqonde lomqondo kaNkulunkulu njengesihlangu sethu ngendlela ehlukileyo na? Chaza. Yini athembisoa ukusivikela kuyo ngasosonke isikhathi na? (buka u-1 Kor. 10:13.)

Isithembiso SikaMesiya: Isigaba 1

"Ngawe nangenzalo yakho iyakubusiswa imindeni yonke yomhlaba" (Gen. 28:14). "Kepha uma ningabakaKristu, seniyinzalo ka-Abrahama, niyizindlalifa ngokwesithembiso" (Gal. 3:29).

Ngaphezu kwesihlandlu esisodwa uJehovah wathi kuAbrahama kwinzalo yakhe, zonke izizwe zomhlaba ziyobusiswa (buka futhi Gen. 12:3, Gen. 18:18, Gen. 22:18). Lesisithembiso sesivumelwano esimangalisayo siyaphindwa, ngoba kuzo zonke izithembiso, lesi sibaluleke kunazo zonke, futhi singesesikhathi eside, senza zonke ezinye zisho utho. Ngamqondo othile, lesi kwakuyisithembiso sokuvuka kwesizwe samaJuda, ngaso uJehovah ayefuna ukufundisa "yonke Imindeni yomhlaba" ngoNkulunkulu weqiniso kanye necebo Lakhe losindiso. Kepha, isithembiso sifezeka ngokuphelele kuphela kuKristu, oweza ngenzalo kaAbrahama, Yena okwakuzothi Esiphambanweni ahlawule izono "zayo yonke Imindeni yomhlaba."

Cabanga ngesithembiso sesivumelwano esenziwa ngemuva kukaZamcolo (lapho uJehovah athembisa ukungaphinde abhubhise umhlaba ngamanzi). Yibuphi Ubuhle lokhu okwakuzoba nako ngaphandle kwesithembiso sosindiso olutholakala kuJesu na? Yibuphi Ubuhle izithembiso zikaNkulunkulu ezinabo ngaphandle kwesithembiso sokuphila okuphakade okutholakala kuKristu na?

Uwuqonda kanjani umqondo wokuthi kuAbrahama, ngoJesu, "yonke Imindeni yomhlaba" izobusiswa na? Kuchaza ukuthi lokho na?

Ngokungangabazi, isithembiso sesivumelwano soMsindisi wezwe yisona esikhulu kunazo zonke izithembiso zikaNkulunkulu. UMsindisi Uqobo uba yindlela ngayo izibopho zesivumelwano ezifezekayo futhi zonke izithembiso ziyagcwaliseka. Bonke, amaJuda nabeZizwe, abangena ebunyeni Naye babalwa njengomndeni weqiniso kaAbrahama kanye nezindlalifa zesithembiso (Gal. 3:8, 9, 27–29), Okungukuthi—isithembiso sokuphila okuphakade endaweni engenasono lapho ububi, ubuhlungu, kanye nokuhlupheka kungeke kuphinde kubekhona. Ungacabanga ngesithembiso esingcono kunalesi na?

Yini le emayelana nesithembiso sokuphila okuphakade emhlabeni ongenasono nokuhlupheka esiheha kangaka na? Kungenzeka yini ukuthi silangazelela kona ngoba yikona esasidalelwe kona ekuqaleni futhi ngokulangazelela kona silangazelela okuthile okuyingxenye yemvelo yethu yesintu na?

Isithembiso SikaMesiya: Isigaba 2

"Ukujabulela intokozo yeqiniso kumele siye ezweni elikude, nangaphandle kwethu."—Thomas Browne. Buka isicaphuno esingenhla, esabhalwa kuma-1600. Uyavumelana naso noma cha? Sifunde ngokwengqikithi ka 1 Thesalonika 4:16-18 neSambulo 3:12.

U-Augustine wabhala ngesimo sesintu: "Lokhu kuphila kwethu—uma ukuphila okugcwele ububi obukhulu kangaka bungabizwa ngokuphila—kufakaza ngeqiniso lokuthi, kusukela ekuqaleni, isizwe Sabantu abanokufa yisizwe esilahliweyo. Cabanga, okokuqala, ngokungazi okujulile lapho khona kugeleza amanga futhi kwengamela amadodana kaAdamu esizibeni esimnyama kuso okungaphunyuki muntu ngaphandle komthwalo wokukhandleka nezimnyembezi nokwesaba. Bese, Uthatha uthando lwethu lwazo zonke lezizinto eziyize futhi ziwushevu futhi zikhiqiza ubuhlungu bezinhliziyo, izinkinga, umunyu, nokwesaba; lokhu kujabulela ukungezwani, ukuxabana, kanye nezimpi; ukukhwabanisa okunje nobusela nobulelesi; inkohliso enje kanye nokuzidla, umhawu nokulangazelela, Ukubulala, inkohlakalo nonya, ukweqa umthetho nokufisa; zonke izinkanuko zehlazo—ukuhlobonga nokuphinga, ukulalana nowakini kanye nezono ezingeyona imvelo, ukudlwengula kanye nezinye ezingenakubalwa ezingcolile; izono ngakwinkolo—ukungcolisa okungcwele nokufundisa ize, ukuhlambalaza nokufungela amanga; izono ngakomakhelwane bethu—ukuhleba nokuqili, amanga nokufakaza ngamanga, udlame kubantu nempahla; ukungalungi ezinkantolo kanye nobuhlungu obungebalwe kanye nezifo ezigcwele izwe, akunakwa."—*Augustine of Hippo, City of God,* Gerald G. Walsh, S. J. trans. (New York: Doubleday & Co., 1958), book 22, chap. 22, p. 519.

Isicaphuno sika-Augustine singabhekisa kumadolobha amaningi anamuhla; kepha wasibhala eminyakeni eyevile ku-1500 edlule. Kuncane ngesintu okuguqukile, okuyingakho abantu befuna ukuhamba. Ngenhlanhla, nakuba isimo sethu silukhuni manje, ikusasa liqhakazile, kodwa kuphela ngenxa yalokho uNkulunkulu asenzele kona ngempilo, ukufa, ukuvuka, kanye nangomsebenzi wobupristi obukhulu bukaJesu Kristu—ukugcwaliseka okukhulu kwesithembiso sesivumelwano esenziwa kaAbrahama sokuthi, kwinzalo yakhe, zonke izizwe zomhlaba ziyobusiswa.

Buka umbhalo ka-Augustine. Bhala okuthile ngamazwi akho okuchaza isimo esidabukisayo emhlabeni namuhla. Kusenjalo, funa izindimana Ebhayibhelini ezikhuluma ngalokho uNkulunkulu asithembisa kona kuJesu Kristu (izibonelo, Isa. 25:8, 1 Cor. 2:9, Rev. 22:2–5). Gxila kulezozithembiso. Zenze kube ngezakho. Kungalokho kuphela ongakwazi ukuqonda ukuthi isivumelwano simayelana nani.

Isizwe Esikhulu Nesinamandla . . . .

UNkulunkulu akamthembisanga nje uAbrahama kuphela ukuthi kuye zonke izizwe zomhlaba ziyobusiswa; uJehovah wathi uzokwenza ngaye "isizwe esikhulu nesinamandla" (Gen. 18:18; buka futhi Gen. 12:2, Gen. 46:3)—sikhulu lesisithembiso esenziwa kumuntu oshade nowesifazane osedlulile esigabeni Sokuthola abantwana. Ngalokho-ke, ngenkathi uAbrahama engenazo izizukulwane, yeka okwendodana, uNkulunkulu wamthembisa kokubili. Kepha, leisithembiso asifezekanga ngokuphelele uAbrahama esaphila. Futhi uIsaka noJakobe abazange bakubone ukufezeka kwaso. UNkulunkulu wasiphinda kuJakobe, ngenkathi ethayisela ngolwazi lokuthi isithembiso sasiyogcwaliseka eGibhithe (Gen. 46:3), nakuba uJakobe engazange asibone, naye. Nembala, ekugcineni, isithembiso safezeka.

Kungani uJehovah afuna ukwenza isizwe esikhethekileyo kwinzalo kaAbrahama na? Ngabe uJehovah wayefuna nje elinye izwe lesizwe esithile na? Yiziphi izinhloso okwakumele zifezwe yilesisizwe na? Funda uEksodusi 19:5, 6; Isaiah 60:1–3; no Duteronomi 4:6–8; emigqeni engezansi, bhala impendulo yakho:

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Kubukeka kusobala Ezibhalweni ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayehlose ukudonsela izizwe zomhlaba Kuye ngobufakazi bukaIsrayeli, okwakuzothi, ngokubusiswa Nguye, babe ngabantu abathokozile, abanempilo, futhi abangcwele. Isizwe esinjena sasizokhangisa izibusiso ezihambisana nokulalela intando yoMdali. Izixuku zomhlaba zazizodonseleka ekukhonzeni uNkulunkulu weqiniso (Isa. 56:7). Ngalokho-ke, ukubheka kwesintu kwakuyoba ngakuIsrayeli, uNkulunkulu wabo, kanye noMesiya, owayezoqhamuka phakathi kwabo, uMsindisi wezwe.

"Abantwana bakwaIsrayeli kwakumele bagcwalise sonke isifunda ababesabelwe nguNkulunkulu. Lezozizwe ezazingakuvumi Ukukhonza nokusebenzela uNkulunkulu weqiniso kwakumele ziphucwe izwe. Kodwa kwakuyinhloso kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ngokwembulwa kwesimilo Sakhe ngoIsrayeli abantu badonseleke kuYena. Kuwo wonke umhlaba isimemo sevangeli kwakumele sinikezwe. Ngokufundisa ngohlelo lwemihlatshelo uKristu kwakumele aphakamiswe phambi kwezizwe, futhi bonke ababheka Kuye baphile."—Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 290.

Kukhona yini ukuhambisana okubonayo phakathi kwalokho uJehovah ayefuna ukukwenza ngoIsrayeli kanye nalokho afuna ukukwenza ngebandla lethu na? Uma kunjalo, yikuphi lokhu kuhambisana na? Funda 1 Petro 2:9.

“Ngenze Igama Lakho Libe Likhulu”

“Ngiyakukwenza isizwe esikhulu, ngikubusise, ngenze igama lakho libe likhulu, wena ube yisibusiso” (Gen. 12:2). Ku Genesisi 12:2, izithembiso zikaNkulunkulu zokwenza igama likaAbram libelikhulu—okungukuthi, ukumenza achume. Kungani uJehovah ayefuna ukwenza lokhu enzela noma Yisiphi isoni, nakuba silalela noma sithembeke kangakanani na? (buka Rom. 4:1–5, Jakobe 2:21–24.) Ngabe uNkulunkulu wabeka ubukhulu kuAbram ukuze azuze yena, noma kwakumele okuthile okungaphezulu na? Chaza.

Qhathanisa uGenesisi 11:4 no Genesisi 12:2. Yimuphi umehluko omkhulu kulezizindimana zombili na? Kungaziphi izindlela lapho enye yazo imele “ukusindiswa ngemisebenzi” kuthi enye imele “ukusindiswa Ngokholo” na?

Nakuba icebo losindiso lincike kakhulu emisebenzini kaKristu esikhundleni sethu, thina—njengabamukeli bomusa kaNkulunkulu—nokho, siseneqhaza. Sinendima okumele siyidlale; ilungelo lethu lokukhetha ligqama lapha. Umbukiso wezikhathi, impi phakathi kukaKristu noSathane, isaliwa kithina nangathi. Isintu nezingelosi babukele lokho okwenzekayo ngathi kulempi (1 Kor.4:9). Ngalokho, lokho esiyikona, lokho esikukhulumayo, lokho esikwenzayo, ngaphandle nje kokubaluleka kakhulu ngale kwendawo yethu, kunemithelela engase ithinte izwe lonke. Ngamazwi ethu, ngezenzo zethu, ngemimoya yethu, singasiza ekuletheni udumo kuJehovah, osenzele okukhulu, noma singaletha ihlazo phezu Kwakhe nakwigama Lakhe. Ngalokho, ngenkathi uJehovah ethi kaAbrahama uyakwenza igama lakhe lichume, ngeqiniso wayengakhulumi ngalo ngendlela izwe elikhuluma ngayo ngothile onegama elichumile. Okwenza igama lichume emehlweni kaNkulunkulu yisimilo, ukholo, ukulalela, ukuzithoba, kanye nokuthanda abanye, izimpawu okuthi nakuba zivama ukuhlonishwa ezweni kodwa azivamile ukuba yizinto izwe elizibuka njengezinto ezenza igama lomuntu lichume.

Buka abanye besilisa nabesifazane abanamagama “achumile” emhlabeni namuhla, kungaba ngabalingisi, osopolitiki, abadwebi, abanothile, noma ngobani. Yini ngalababantu ebenze baduma na? Qhathanisa lokho nokuchuma kukaAbrahama. Lokhu kusithelani ngendlela umqondo wezwe wokuchuma omubi ngayo na? Kungakanani okomhlaba okuthinta indlela esibuka ngayo ukuchuma na?

Umcabango Obanzi:

Funda u-Ellen G. White, "Abraham in Canaan," pp. 132–144 and "The Test of Faith," pp. 145–155, in *Patriarchs and Prophets*. "Kwakungesona nje isivivinyo esincane esabekwa kaAbrahama, kungewona nomhlatshelo omncane owafuneka kuye. . . . Kepha akazange anqikaze ekulaleleni ubizo. Akabuzanga mibuzo mayelana nezwe lesithembiso. . . . UNkulunkulu usekhulumile, futhi inceku Yakhe kumele ilalele; okuyiyona ndawo enokuthokoza kunazo zonke emhlabeni kuye kwakuyileyo uNkulunkulu ayefuna abe kuyo."–Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 126. Ngenkathi uAbrahama engena eKanana, uJehovah wabonakala kuye futhi wakwenza kwaba sobala ukuthi nakuba kwakumele ahlale kulelizwe lalizonikezwa izizukulwane zakhe (Gen. 12:7). UNkulunkulu wakuphinda lokhu izikhathi eziningana (buka Gen. 13:14, 15, 17; Gen. 15:13, 16, 18; Gen. 17:8; Gen. 28:13, 15; Gen. 35:12). Eminyakeni engamakhulu amane alandelayo, ngokugcwalisa isithembiso (Gen. 15:13, 16), uJehovah wamemezela kuMose ukuthi aayezokhipha uIsrayeli eGibhithe amfake ezweni eligeleza ubisi kanye noju (Exod. 3:8, 17; Exod. 6:8). UNkulunkulu wasiphinda isithembiso kuJoshuwa (Josh. 1:3), futhi ngesikhathi sikaDavide, sagcwaliseka ngokubanzi, nakuba singaphelelanga (Gen. 15:18–21; 2 Sam. 8:1–14; 1 Kings 4:21, 1 Chron. 19:1–19). Manje funda AmaHeberu 11:9, 10, 13-16. Lezizindimana zikwenza kube sobala ukuthi uAbrahama kanye nezinye izingqalabutho ezithembekileyo zalibona iKanana njengophawu, noma ibika lekhaya lokugcina labantu bakaNkulunkulu abasindisiweyo. Esimweni sesono, alikho ikhaya laphakade. Impilo iyadlula, njenge "nkungu ebonakala izikhashana bese inyamalala" (Jakobe 4:14, RSV). Njengesizukulwane sesikamoya SikaAbrahama, nathi, futhi, kumele siqonde ukuthi "lapha asinawo umuzi waphakade, kepha sifuna lowo muzi ozayo" (Heb. 13:14, NIV). Isiqiniseko sempilo Ezayo noKristu sisigcina simile kulomhlaba wenguquko nokubola.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxisana:

1. Yimuphi umthelela isithembiso sikaNkulunkulu wezwe elisha okumele ube nawo kumava ethu obuKristu na? (Qhathanisa Mat. 5:5; 2 Kor. 4:17, 18; Samb. 21:9, 10; Samb. 22:17.)

2. "Ukuchuma kweqiniso kwakumele kube ngumphumela wokuthobela imiyalelo kaNkulunkulu kanye nokuhambisana nenhloso Yakhe engcwele."—SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 1, p. 293. Xoxani ngokuthi lomusho uchaza ukuthini.

Isiqoqo: Izithembiso! Ziyigugu kakhulu kwikholwa! Ngabe zizogcwaliseka na? Ukholo luphendule, Yebo.