

Umthetho Wesivumelwano



ISABATHA NTAMBAMA

Funda Kuleliviki:

Eksod. 19:6, Isa. 56:7, Heb. 2:9, Dut. 4:13, Dut. 10:13, Amos 3:3, Gen. 18:19.

Indimana Yekhanda:

“Yazi-ke ukuthi uJehova uNkulunkulu wakho unguNkulunkulu, uNkulunkulu othembekileyo, ogcina isivumelwano nomusa nabamthandayo abagcina imiyalo yakhe kuze kube sezizukulwaneni eziyinkulungwane” (*Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV*).

Omunye wemisho ebalulekileyo kumaHubo 23 ukhomba lapho uNkulunkulu efisa ukusihola thina. “Ungiholela ezindleleni zokulunga ngenxa yegama lakhe,” kumemezela uDavide kundimana 3. Ngenxa yokuziphatha kahle Kwakhe, uNkulunkulu ngeke asiholela ophathe. Uyakusihlinzeka ngezindlela eziphephileyo zohambo lwethu lwezikamoya empilweni.

Ziyini “izindlela zokulunga” eziphephile na? Umbhali welinye ihubo uyawuphendula lombuzo ngesicelo somkhuleko: “Ngenze ngihambe endleleni yemiyalelo yakho; ngokuba kuyo ngiyathokoza” (Hub. 119:35, emphasis supplied). “Yonke imiyalelo yakho ingukulunga” (Hub. 119:172). Umthetho kaNkulunkulu uyindlela eqinile nephephile exhaphozini eliyimpilo yesintu. Isifundo sethu saleliviki sigxile emthethweni kaNkulunkulu kanye nendawo yawo esivumelwaneni saseSinayi.

Ukubuka Iviki: Kwakuchazani ukuqokwa kukalsrayeli na? Ukuqokwa kukalsrayeli kuhambisana kanjani nokwethu na? Ubaluleke kangakanani umthetho kulesivumelwano na? Ngabe isivumelwano siza ngaphandle kwemibandela na? Kungani ukulalela kuyingxenye enkulu yobudlelwane besivumelwano na?

**Funda isifundo saleliviki ukulungiselela iSabatha, May 22.*

Ukuqokwa KukaIsrayeli (Dut. 7:7)

Inkambiso yamaJuda ifundisa ukuthi uNkulunkulu wenza isivumelwano noIsrayeli ngenxa nje yokuthi ezinye izizwe zasichitha ekuqaleni. Nakuba bungekho ubufakazi beZibhalo zalokho, kepha, kuyalenza iphuzu lokuthi noma ngabe yiziphi izizathu uJehovah akhetha ngazo isizwe samaHeberu, kwakungekona ukuthi babefanelwe yinhlonipho kanye nelungelo uJehovah alibeka phezu kwabo. Kwakungekho ukufaneleka kubo okwakungabenza bafanelwe wuthando lukaNkulunkulu kanye nokubakhetha Kwakhe njengabantu Bakhe. Babeyingcosana ngokwesibalo, beyizizwe eziyizigqila, bebuthakathaka kwezombuso kanye nakwezempi. Futhi, ngokwesiko nenkolo, babexubile, bengakhangisi, futhi bengenalothonya elikhulu. Okuyisona sisekelo sokuqokwa kukaIsrayeli sasilele emfihlweni yothando lukaNkulunkulu nomusa.

Ngesikhathi esifanayo, nokho, kumele siqaphele lapho sibuka umqondo wokuqokwa, ngoba makhulu Amathuba okuthi ungaqondwa ngokwemfundiso. UNkulunkulu wamkhetela ini uIsrayeli na? Ngabe kwangukuba bahlangwe, ngenkathi bonke abanye bekhethelwa ukulahlwa na? Noma babekhethelwe ukuba ngokokuhambisa ezweni lokho ababekunikeziwe na? Izindimana ezilandelayo zisiza kanjani ekuqondeni izimpendolo zalemibuzo na?

Exod. 19:6 _____

Isa. 56:7 _____

Heb. 2:9 _____

Njengama-Seventh-day Adventist, sithanda ukuzibona njengoIsrayeli wanamuhla, sibizwe nguJehovah, hhayi ukuba sibe sodwa ekuhlengweni kodwa ukuba simemezele umbiko wosindiso, ngokwengqikithi yezingelosi ezintathu, ezweni. Kafushane, sikholwa ukuthi sinokuthile esingakusho okungashiwo ngabanye. Lokhu, Empeleni, yisimo sikaIsrayeli wasemandulo, ngokunjalo. Inhloso yokuqokwa kukaIsrayeli kwakungeyona eyokwenza isizwe samaHeberu iqembu elingafaki abanye, elizigodlela isithembiso sosindiso kanye nokuhlangwa. Kunalokho, uma sikholwa ukuthi uKristu wafela sonke isintu (Heb. 2:9), ngalokho, ukuhlengwa uJehovah akunikeza uIsrayeli kwanikezwa izwe lonke ngokunjalo. Kwakumele uIsrayeli abe yinqola okungayo ukuhlengwa kwakungaziswa. Ibandla lethu libizelwe ukwenza into efanayo.

Buka indima yakho Ebandleni. Yini ongayenza ukuthuthukisa umsebenzi esibizelwe ukuwenza na? Khumbula, uma ungasizi, kungenzeka kube ngukuthi uyaphazamisa.

Izibopho Ezihlanganisayo

“Futhi wamemezela kini isivumelwano sakhe, aniyaleza ukuba nisenze, imiyalelo eyishumi; futhi wayiloba ezibhebheni ezimbili zamatshe” (Deut. 4:13). Noma ngabe sigcizelele kangakanani ukuthi isivumelwano siyisivumelwano somusa ngasonke isikhathi, ukuthi singumphumela kuphela kaNkulunkulu ethela umusa abangawufanele labo abangena ebudlelaneni obusindisayo kanye Naye, umusa awuyona invume yokungalaleli. Kunalokho, isivumelwano kanye nomthetho kuhamba ndawonye; empeleni, akwehlukaniseki.

Look at the text quoted above. How tightly does it link the covenant and the law? How Buka kwindimana ecaphunwe ngenhla. Kuqine kangakanani ukuxhumana phakathi kwesivumelwano nomthetho na? Lokhu kukuveza kanjani ukuba yisisekelo komthetho esivumelwaneni na?

Lapho Ucabanga ngokuthi isivumelwano siyini, umqondo wokuthi umthetho uyingxenywe wenza okusile. Uma siqonde isivumelwano njengobudlelwane, imithetho ethile kanye nemikhawulo kumele ibe khona. Umshado noma Ubungani noma ukulingana kwezebhini bekungathatha isikhathi esingakanani uma bekungekho mikhawulo noma imithetho, noma eshiwo obala noma eqondwa njengekhona na? Umyeni anqume ukuba nentombi noma umngani anqume ukuzitika esikhwameni semali somunye, noma umlingani kwezebhini engabikanga komunye ameme Omunye ukuzoba yingxenywe yebhizinisi. Lezizenzo bezingaba ngukuphula imithetho, imiyalelo, kanye nezimiso. Lobudlelwane bebungaphila isikhathi esingakanani phansi kwalezizimo ezingenamthetho na? Yingakho kumele kube khona imingcele, imikhawulo, futhi kubekwe nemithetho. Kungalokho kuphela lobudlelwane bungagcineka. Empeleni, izisho ezahlukene njengo mthetho (Ps. 78:10) izinqumo (Ps. 50:16), ubufakazi (Ps. 25:10), imiyalelo (Ps. 103:18), kanye nezwi likaJehovah (Deut. 33:9) zitholakala zihambisana noma zincikene kakhulu (uma zingenayo incazelo efanayo) negama isivumelwano. “Amazwi alesiisivumelwano” (Jer. 11:3, 6, 8) ngamazwi omthetho, izinqumo, ubufakazi, kanye nemiyalelo kaNkulunkulu. Isivumelwano sikaNkulunkulu nabantu Bakhe uIsrayeli sasiqukethe izimfuno ezahlukene ezazisemqoka ekugcineni lobudlelwane obukhethekile ayebufuna nabantu Bakhe. Ngabe kwehlukile namuhla na?

Cabanga ngothile onobudlelwane obusondelene kanye naye. Manje, cabanga obekungenzeka kulobudlelwane uma ubunomuzwa wokungabi ngaphansi kwezibopho zemithetho, imikhuba, ethile kodwa ukholwa ngokuthi unenkululeko ephelele yokwenza ngokuthanda kwakho. Noma ngabe uthi uyamthanda lowomuntu nokuthi wuthando kuphela oluzonquma indlela odlelana ngayo naye, kungani kusenesidingo semithetho na? Xoxisanani.

Umthetho Phakathi Kwesivumelwano (Dut. 10:12, 13)

Yini efika kuqala engqondweni lapho Ucabanga ngomthetho na? Amaphoyisa, amathikithi omgwaqo, abahluleli, noma ijele na? Noma Ucabanga ngemikhawulo, imithetho, abazali abangozwi labo, kanye nokujeza na? Noma, mhlawumbe, Ucabanga ngokuhleleka, ukuzwana, ukuzinza na? Noma mhlawumbe nalo . . . uthando na? Igama lesiHebru i-torah, lihumushwe ngelo “mthetho” emaBhayibhelini ethu, lichaza “imfundiso” noma “ukuyala.” Leligama lingasetshenziswa ukubhekisa eziyalweni zikaNkulunkulu, noma kungezokuziphatha, ezenhlalakahle, ezomphakathi, noma ngezenkolo. Ligudla zonke izeluleko zobuhlakani uNkulunkulu ngomusa azinikeze abantu Bakhe, ukuze babenamava empilo eningi enyameni nakwezikamoya. Akumangalisi ke ukuthi umhubi athi umuntu ubusisiwe “okuthokoza kwakhe kusemthethweni KaJehovah; futhi ezindla ngomthetho wakhe emini nasebusuku” (Ps. 1:2). Lapho sifunda umthetho noma i-torah—imiyalezo kanye nezimfundiso ezilotshwe ezincwadini zikaMose ezabe ziyingxenywe yesivumelwano sikaIsrayeli—sithintwa wububanzi bezeluleko. Umthetho uthinta zonke izigaba zempilo kaIsrayeli—ezokulima, umbuso, ezenhlalakahle, nokukhonza.

Ucabanga ukuthi kungani uNkulunkulu anikeza uIsrayeli izeluleko ezingaka na? (Deut. 10:13.) zazibalungele ngaziphi izindlela lezeluleko na?

Umsebenzi “womthetho” ngaphakathi kwesivumelwano kwakungukunikeza imigwaqo yempilo entsha Yesivumelwano esinobuntu. Umthetho ungenisa ilungu lesivumelwano entandweni kaNkulunkulu, othile afinyelele ekumazini ngokuphelele ngokulalela Ngokholo imiyalelo Yakhe kanye nezinye izibonakaliso zentando Yakhe. Indima edlalwa ngumthetho phakathi kweqiniso Eliphilayo lobudlelwane besivumelwano yayibonisa ukuthi uIsrayeli wayengakwazi ukulandela izindlela zezinye izizwe. Babengakwazi ukuphila ngemithetho yemvelo, nangezidingo zomnotho kuphela. Babengaqhubeka nokuba yisizwe esikhethekile nesingcwele sikaNkulunkulu, ubupristi bobukhosi, kanye negugu kuphela ngokulalela okuqinile intando eyembuliwe kaNkulunkulu wesivumelwano kuzo zonke izigaba zempilo yabo.

NjengoIsrayeli wasemandulo, ama-Seventh-day Adventist amukele izeluleko ezibanzi mayelana nezigaba zonke zempilo yobuKristu ngesibonakaliso sobuprofethi besikhathi samanje. Kungani kumele sibuke lezeluleko njengesipho esiphuma kuNkulunkulu kunokuba zibe yisithikamezo ekuzicabangeleni nasekwenzeni na? Kusenjalo, Yiziphi izingozi esibhekana nazo ekuguquleni lesosiphi sibe yinto engomthetho, njengalokhu kwenza abakwaIsrayeli ngeziphiso zabo na? (buka uRom. 9:32.)

Ukuzinza KoMthetho KaNkulunkulu

Qiniso lini ngoNkulunkulu uJakobe alethulayo ngomthetho kaNkulunkulu budlelwaneni besivumelwano asifundisa kona ngomongo wesimo Sakhe na? Mal. 3:6, Jakobe 1:17.

Umthetho kaNkulunkulu yisibonakaliso senkulumo noma sokubhaliwe sentando Yakhe (qhathanisa Ihubo 40:8). Ngenxa yokuthi ungokubhaliwe kwesimilo Sakhe, ubukhona bawo esivumelwaneni kusiqinisekisa ngokuba phakade nokuqiniseka kukaNkulunkulu. Nakuba njalo singekwazi ukuqonda Ukusebenza Kwakhe, siyazi uthembekile. Izwe Lakhe lingaphansi kweMithetho engaguqukiyo. Yileliqiniso elisinikeza inkululeko nokuphepha kwangempela. “Isiqinisekiso sokuthi uNkulunkulu uthembekile futhi uqinisekile silele eqinisweni lokuthi unguNkulunkulu womthetho. Intando Yakhe nomthetho Wakhe kunye. UNkulunkulu uthi okuhle kuhle ngoba Kuchaza okuyibona budlelwane obuhle kunabo bonke. Ngalokho-ke umthetho kaNkulunkulu awuhlofuzi noma uncike emizweni. Uyinto ezinze kunazo zonke ezweni.” — Walter R. Beach, *Dimensions in Salvation* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1963), p. 143.

Uma umthetho kaNkulunkulu ungakwazi Ukusindisa muntu esonweni, kungani awenza ingxenye Yesivumelwano na? (Hint: buka uAmos 3:3.)

Ubudlelwano budinga ukuvumelana kanye nokuzwana. Ngenxa yokuthi uNkulunkulu akayena uMdali wezwe kuphela kodwa unguMbusi walo, umthetho usemqoka ekujabuleni kwezidalwa Zakhe ezihlakaniphileyo ukuba ziphile ngokuzwana Naye. Umthetho Wakhe, isibonakaliso sentando Yakhe, ngalokho ungumthetho oyisisekelo sombuso Wakhe. Kuyimvelo noma isibopho sohlelo lwesivumelwano nobudlelwane. Inhloso yawo akuyona eyokusindisa, kodwa ukuchaza Umthwalo wethu ngakuNkulunkulu (imithetho 1-4) kanye nomthwalo wethu ngakwabanye abantu (imithetho 5-10). Ngamanye amazwi, unquma indlela yokuphila uNkulunkulu ayakhele abantwana Bakhe besivumelwano, kanye nenjabulo yabo. Wawuvimbela uIsrayeli ekufakeni enye imfundiso njengendlela yokuphila. Kwakuyinhloso futhi kuyinhloso yesivumelwano sobudlelwane ukuletha ikholwa ngomusa oguqulayo kaNkulunkulu ekuzwaneni nentando Yakhe kanye nesimilo.

Buka okukuzungezile. Awuyiboni yini imiphumela yokungalandeli imithetho na? Nasempilweni yakho, awuziboni ezinye izingozi ezibangwa ngukuphula umthetho kaNkulunkulu na? Kungaziphi izindlela lamaqiniso asiza ngayo ukuqinisa ukulunga komthetho kaNkulunkulu kanye nesizathu sokuba umthetho ube yingxenye ebucayi yobudlelwane bethu Naye na?

Uma . . .

Buka izindimana ezilandelayo. Yiluphi iphuzu elilodwa elifanayo kuzo, futhi lisifundisani ngesimo sesivumelwano na?

Gen. 18:19

Gen. 26:4, 5

Exod. 19:5

Lev. 26:3

Ngokusobala uNkulunkulu uyakuvuma ukulalela kukaAbrahamama “emiyalelweni yami, izinqumo zami, nemithetho yami” (Gen. 26:5). Kuyagudla ukuthi uNkulunkulu wayelindele indlela yokuphila efanayo nakubalingani Bakhe besintu esivumelwaneni. Umbhalo ophelele wesivumelwano seZibhalo eSinayi ukuveza obala ukuthi imibandela yokulalela ngeminye eyisisekelo sesivumelwano. UEksodusi 19:5 wakwenza kwacaca, “Uma nilalela . . . :“ Umabandela wokulalela wesivumelwano awuphikeki; nakuba sinikezwe ngomusa, singazuziwe, nakuba siyisipho kubo, izithembiso zesivumelwano zazinemibandela. Abantu babesenokusilahla isipho, banqabe umusa, futhi bangazamukeli izithembiso. Isivumelwano, njengosindiso, akumelani nentando ekhululekile. UJehovah akabaphoqi abantu ukuba bangene ebudlelwaneni obusindisayo kanye Naye; akasiphonsi nje isivumelwano phezu kwabo. Usinikeza mahala kubo bonke; bonka bayamenywa ukuba basamukele. Lapho umuntu esamukela, izibopho ziyalandela, hhayi njengendlela yokuzuzisa isibusiso sesivumelwano kodwa njengesibonakaliso sokwamukela isibusiso sesivumelwano. UIsrayeli kumele elalele, hhayi ukuze azuze izithembiso kodwa ukuba izithembiso zifezeke kuye. Ukulalela kwakhe kwakuyisibonakaliso sokuthi kunjani ukubusiswa nguJehovah. Ukulalela akuzuzi izibusiso, ngokuthi uNkulunkulu uboshelwe ukuba azilethe; ukulalela kunalokho kudala isimo lapho izibusiso zokholo zingabonakaliswa kukho.

“Niyakuhamba njalo endleleni uJehova uNkulunkulu wenu aniyale ngayo, ukuze niphile, kube kuhle kini, nandise izinsuku zenu ezweni eniyakulidla” (Deut. 5:33). Ngabe uJehovah uthi kuIsrayeli uma belalela bayakuzuzisa izithembiso, nokuthi lezibusiso ziyilokho abantu abakukweletwayo na? Noma ngabe uthi: Uma nilalela, lezibusiso zingaba ngumphumela ngoba ukulalela kuphendula indlela yokuthi Mina ngikwazi ukuletha izibusiso phezu kwenu na? Yimuphi umehluko phakathi kwalemiqondo yomibili na?

Umcabango Obanzi:

Funda u-Ellen G. White, “Controversy,” pp. 607, 608 in *The Desire of Ages*; and “The Law and the Covenants,” pp. 363–373, in *Patriarchs and Prophets*. UMathewu 22:34–40 usisiza kanjani ukuba siqonde kangcono (1) indawo nencazelo yomthetho kaNkulunkulu phakathi kwesivumelwano Sakhe kanye (2) nomqondo wokuthi isivumelwano siyafana nobudlelwane na? “Kumele kubekhona uthando kuqala enhliziyweni ngaphambi kokuba umuntu akwazi, ngamandla nangomusa kaKristu, Ukuqala ukugcina izimiso zomthetho kaNkulunkulu (cf. Rom. 8:3, 4). Ukulalela ngaphandle kothando ngeke kwenzeka njengoba kuyize. Kodwa lapho kukhona uthando umuntu umane ahlele impilo yakhe ukuba ihambisane nentando kaNkulunkulu njengalokhu ibonakaliswe emithethweni Yakhe.”—*The SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 5, p. 484. “Emiyalweni yomthetho Wakhe ongewe, uNkulunkulu unikeze umthetho ophelile wempilo; futhi ukumemezele ukuthi kuze kube sekupheleni kwesikhathi lomthetho, ungaguquliwe nangohlamvu noma uhlamvana olulodwa, uzogcina izimfuno zawo phezu kwesintu. UKristu weza ukuzogqamisa umthetho nokwenza uhlonipheke. Wabonisa ukuthi umi phezu kwesisekelo esibanzi sothando lukaNkulunkulu ngabantu, nokuthi ukulalela imiyalelo yawo kuqukethe wonke Umthwalo wesintu. Empilweni Yakhe wanikeza isibonelo sokulalela umthetho kaNkulunkulu. Entshumayelweni Esentabeni wabonisa indlela izimfuno zawo zazifinyelela ngale kwezenzo ezibonakalayo futhi zifaka imidlinzo kanye nezinhloso zenhliziyo.”—Ellen G. White, *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 505.

Imibuzo Yokuxoxisana:

- 1. Kungani intambo yothando inokudonsa okunamandla kunendophu yokwesaba ekudonseleni isintu kuNkulunkulu na?**
- 2. Kungani umthetho woku “ ‘thanda iNkosi uNkulunkulu wakho ngayo yonke inhliziyi yakho, nangawo wonke umphefumulo wakho, nangayo yonke ingqondo yakho” ’ ” (Matt. 22:37, NIV) ungowokuqala nomkhulu kunayo yonke imithetho na?**
- 3. U-Simone Weil wake wabhala ukuthi, “ ‘Ukuhleleka yisidingo sokuqala sakho konke.’ ” (Quoted in Russell Kirk, *The Roots of American Order* [Washington, D.C.: Regnery Gateway, 1992], p. 3). Uwaqonda kanjani amazwi akhe ngokwengqikithi yesifundo saleliviki, ikakhulu ngokuphathelene nomqondo womthetho na?**

Isiqoqo: Umthetho kaNkulunkulu uyingxenywe enkulu yesivumelwano. Kepha, kwakuyisivumelwano somusa ngempela. Umusa, nokho, awusenzi ize isidingo somthetho. Kunalokho, umthetho yindlela umusa obonakala ngayo empilweni yalabo abamukela umusa.