

WORK OUT THY OWN SALVATION

GINSUAN GUITTE

I vividly recollected one incident that I had experience during my college days. It was an occasion before my degree exam, being a student having practical paper we were required to finish the practical work within a specific time. However some of my friends whom I doubted, not that they cannot do the work but rather were too lazy and could not accomplish the said work in time for fear of being blacklisted asked for my assistance. unfortunately I happen to be the wrong person for them to help and knowing them well, I blankly refuse to help. I have mentioned the above incident because, we humanbeing(s) find it is irksome to see our colleagues run into trouble not because of their incapacity but because of their laziness. The same is with God. He will not be happy to see us in life begging others for help for what we ourselves can do. This thus also contradicts a Christian ethics

Every Christian must work together to facilitate growth. However the reality is that we Christian must work out our own salvation. My father for instance because of his knowledge and understanding of the Bible and pious life cannot save me at will. As thus can be seen from Ezekiel 18:2 "*The father's eat sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge*"? vs 4 *the soul who sins is the one on whom judgment is to be pronounced upon*. It is the father who eats the sour grapes and whose teeth are set on edge. This thus proves that the father's sin cannot be accounted upon his children nor a child's sin to their parents. Therefore the one who sin is the one on whom judgment is to be pronounced upon.

Every Christian must not depend too much on the work of others as the Bible says *if a man will not work he shall not eat* (2Thes. 3:10) if one is too lazy to work he may not have enough of what is need and more so he will remain sedentary. This remind of the English saying "if you stay there you will remain there." On the contrary, if all struggle and work hard to do something constructive with vigor or if all raise their hands not to beg but to offer helping hands for good cause it would have made a vital impact on Christianity and may leverage growth to a greater extent.

Christian life as we can see in day to day life is not so easy as one thought it to be, but again it is not a herculean task to follow and accomplish what is written in the Bible. An education starts from cradle to the grave, Christianity likewise as well starts from the date of baptism to death and if one is ready to follow Christ's footsteps then he will be confronted with innumerable problems to test his resilience. Moreover if one feels he had been tested let him be happy that he did not kick the bucket as yet. Bad and good things are deemed to happen in life and one should not be driven away or be enticed by it as the book of Matthew speaks (5:45) *that God causes his sun to rise on the evil and good*. It will be naïve on our part if we cannot balance it. It is also

note worthy that good and bad things are like two sides of a same coin, without one the other cannot exist. It exists to teach us a lesson worthy following. The real question then is whether we are all aware of it?

FOR WORKING OUT ONES SALVATION THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO BE HEEDED UPON. SOME OF WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Reading and learning the Bible. It is in fact true to say that reading makes a man more learned and give him the ability to think rational. If all Christian be ready to learn the ways of God, then this will pay greater dividend. Hosea 4:6 says *that my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge*. Where does knowledge comes from if we may say, the answer is obvious i.e from learning.

Following what the Bible says. The above line is very clear and lucid in itself to be understood even by laymen. However knowing and doing is a different task when it comes to practicability. Christian life cannot be complete and satisfactory if it is devoid of deeds. The verse in James 2:20 goes, *a faith without deeds is useless*. Who would like to have a dead faith out of ignorance, if this is the case it would have been worth undoing. Even in a world of materialism, if a law is made without proper implementation it will have no impact. The law will exist only to be despised later on because the law exists for the sake of itself and a law is passed to be followed, but never does it not serve its purpose and expectations it deserves to be despised.

Equipping with the amour of truth. Equipping has its own significance and importance. If one goes to the battlefield without arms he will find himself in complete awe. His chances of survival will be very bleak unless he is saved by miraculous power which as we all know in today's time is not practicability. Paul in Ephesus 6:10-18 urge the Christian to put all the amour of God so as to resist and hamper all the evils schemes that can abridge our salvation. ►►

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'KHRIS' SUANGPHUM, A WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR THE MEMBERS
OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, DELHI, ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK'

Enkaitu: Jamson Guite | Panpihtu: Kham Minthang | Jangthang

BIBLE CLASS

| Class | Teacher |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| Adult | : B.Thawngsiandong, Jamson |
| Junior | : L.James Guite, Kham Minthang |
| Beginner | : Rosely, Mary, |

TUNI BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME

Thumna Hun-uk : Joseph Vaiphei
Lapitu : Lianminthang
Thilpiak : Pauminthang
Theihgigena : Khenpi
Thuhilhtu : Jamson
Thumna : Ginsuan

Last Sunday (20/05/2012)

Offerings - Rs. 8859 /-

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

HIAI LEITUNG A MI HOIhte KIPAHMAN PIAK A A-OM

ULEH, MIGILOU LEH MIKHALTE THUK IN NAAK

OM SEMNA UN CHIA! (PAUNAKTE 11:31)

THU TUAMTUAM**KALNAWN BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME**

Thumna Hun-uk : Jangthang
Lapitu : Thangdouliau
Thilpiak : Khamminthang
Theihgigena : Thongginlian
Thuhilhtu : Janglet
Thumna : Paolon

ZINKHIA:

Kal paita seppatni in sepna toh ki-sai in unaupa Kamkhenthang Nagaland lam ah ana zinkhia a, kal paita sung mah ningani in damtak in Delhi hongtung kiknawn hi.

HONGTUNG:

Suti mang diing a tumalam a Lamka lam pai unaupa Thanglianxhup leng nipi kal bangzah hiam huailam a ava om nung in kal paita nilaini in damtak in Delhi hongtung kiknawnta hi.

KIKNAWNTA UH:

Unaunu Khanching leh unaunu Zamlamching-te leng Delhi a bang tan hiam a om nung un kal paita nilaini in Lamka lam zuan in ana paikik nawnta uh hihtuak hi.

PAWL SAWM ZOU:

Kal paita sung in pawl sawmte result suak a, huai ah unaupa B. Thawngsiandong tapa nihna Paul Thangnou in first division (64 o/o) in ana zou chihthu kiza hi. A lochinna unaute'n i kiphaphi mahmah uhi. Congrats!

MEIMATUM NEI:

Unaunu Niangboi in leng meimatum nasatak mai khat a nakvang sung ah nei in nasa mahmah in office bang leng kizoulou hihtuak hi. Tunbel a damlam hita a theih ahi.

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Work with perseverance and in firm faith. Perseverance and firm faith goes hand in hand and is the quality of a true Christian one should imbibe upon himself. For complete salvation one should be vigilant enough so as to identify what is evil, resist and rectify and always be on guard (1 Cor. 16:13). So long as one is well guarded he will be safe, prompt to take action, not to lose or be overwhelmed and overtaken by Satan. James 4:7 says *resist devil and he will flee from you*. Without perseverance and firm faith it will be impossible to resist Satan as the latter is an offensive force who is always in the lookout for a suitable opportunity.

Doing good to others. It is very easy to think of good things but doing it is something easier said than done. Christians are urged to give a helping hand to others, the sense of helping others indeed is a quality which should be possessed by Christians. If we cannot make a good demeanour in our conduct of life we will never serve the purpose we are called for. We Christians are the children of God, the holy Priest; nothing is too small to have an impact in Christian life, they are vital in their own way and are deemed to be accountable at the end.

Overcoming evil desire. The real challenges and greatest achievement of man can be nothing but conquering himself. The real hindrance and challenges of man is overcoming his desire. The Bible James 1:14 says, *"But each one is tempted when by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed."* Here, in this context man's greatest enemy is his desire being constantly sucked from within. One has to overcome the evil that is in him. Never did the Bible speak of men being tempted by things he does not want. This is in tune with the saying that a man's movement is limited by the thought he had. One has to overcome the evil desire which is a tool to Satan. The book of Matthew says 17:20 *"If you have a faith as little as the seed of mustard seed, you can say to this mountain move from here to there and it will move. Nothing will be impossible to you."* Do we really have a faith as small as a mustard seed??

Conclusion. God never did impose upon his children what they would not be able to do and even if the temptation is strong he would still have a way out for us. 1 Cor. 10:23 says *"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you cannot bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."* So, it is clear in the verse itself that we are not tested beyond our capacity to endure. God is not so unwise to not know his children's needs and capacity but rather he wants us to play our parts, giving us a fair choice and the decision of which lie with us. He also wants us to play our part and give us the choice to play the part productively. Then, will we choose to condemn ourselves to eternal doom. If we are too foolish to exercise the conscience given to us and still choose to live with things of little and short duration which in the long run is just bait of destruction; and if such be the nature of Christianity, I am afraid we will be rather lacking!!

SINTAWPNI BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME

A Mun : Jangthang Inn.

Mohammadpur, New Delhi.

A Hun - 7:00 pm

Hun-uk : James

Lapitu : Timothy

Thuhilhtu : Thangbiaklun

Thumna : John