

“Lord, If You Had Been Here”

— Michael D. Rankins

Yesterday my wife and I attended a memorial service honoring a member of my chorus who passed away recently. Dave was in declining health for all of the six years that I knew him, and indeed for many years before that. He lost one lung to cancer in the 1970s, and underwent numerous heart surgeries and procedures in later years. Yet, he always maintained an enthusiasm for life and an active sense of humor that touched everyone who met him.

As we listened to the memories shared by others who had known Dave, I couldn't help but recall the occasion recorded in the eleventh chapter of John's gospel, when Jesus came to the grave of His recently deceased friend Lazarus. As He approached the tomb, Jesus encountered both of Lazarus' sisters, first industrious Martha (verses 21-28), then faithful Mary (verse 32). Both sisters had the same thought on their minds and lips as Christ came near: "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

How often have we mourned a loved one or friend and thought the same thing? "Lord, if You really cared about me, my [enter relationship here] would not have died." We often wonder, when tragedy strikes in our lives, why the Lord who loves us allows such terrible things to happen to us and to those we love. If we examine Jesus' interactions with the sisters of Lazarus, we learn some vital truths about the way He works on our behalf.

To Martha Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die" (verses 25-26). Christ is more concerned about our spiritual lives than with the narrow parameters of our physical lives. He knows that we will all die physically. Only two men among all the millions who have lived escaped this conclu-

sion. Jesus Himself died and was buried, only to rise again, nevermore to die.

Jesus did not come to earth to spare us from physical death, but rather to give us the promise of what lies beyond death. If He preserved our physical lives even until the day of judgment, of what real advantage would that be to us? We would still have to put off this material body in order to inherit everlasting life: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Corinthians 15:50-53). So death is inevitable.

As Mary in her grief confronts Jesus, the inspired apostle records two of the most profound words ever written: "Jesus wept" (verse 35). Jesus understands that even the promise of life after death does not completely remove our sense of pain and loss over the deaths of those we love. Even as He prescribes the remedy for death, He is moved by our suffering — suffering He will one day end forever. What a Savior!



CONTACT ADDRESS

Church Of Christ, Delhi,
Rz-2008/25, House No, 13, S.F.
Tuglakabad Extension, New Delhi-110019
Phone No. : 9953968807
email: khriissuangphum@gmail.com

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

Enkaitu: Jamson Guite | Panpithu: 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 : Thangzalam
Lapitu : Pauliansiam
Thilpiak : Janglet
Theihgigena : Jangthang
Thuhilhtu : Jamson
Thumna : Ginsuan

Last Sunday (18/03/12)**Offerings - Rs. /-****DAMLOU:**

-Unaunu Hatzaching leng tumalam a kawng na a om pen dam thei nailou in omden lai hi. Zan in leng damdoi inn ah ana kik ensak nawn uh hihtuak hi. Amah ahileh lupna ngak in omden phial a, dinkhiak leh paivel bang leng sikhop sim mahmah hi. A hong damna diing in thumna ah phawk nihang.

KIKNAWNTA :

- Unaupa Jamson te nau-neih diing ziak a hong zin unaunu Nemzachiin leh unaunu Hauman ten hun bang tan hiam Delhi a azat nung un kal paita seppatni in Lamka lam zuan in honna kiksaw nawnnta uhi.

NAUMIN PHUAK UH :

- Kal paita Toupani in unaupa Jamson ten a tapa uh min-phuahna a tenna inn uh Mohamadpur ah ana nei uh hi in thu kiza hi. A min diing in Thanglemlal ana sa uhi. A min dungzui a mite lemna ahong hih i lam en ua ideihsak mahmah uhi.

NILAINI BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME

A Mun : Unaupa Khenpi inn.
Mayur Vihar, Phase II, H.no. 634
A Hun - 7.00 pm
Hun-uk : Lianminthang
Lapitu : Thawnkhansang
Thuhilhtu : Thangdoulia
Thumna : John

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Huchi in, saptuamte tuh Judia gam khawng, Galili gam khawng leh Samaria gam kjim tengteng ah muangtak in a omta ua; fihhat a om in, Toupa laudan siam leh khia siangthou khiamuan a om in a hong pung deuhdeuh uhi. (Nasepte 9:31)

THU TUAMTUAM**I Need More Time**

In today's rushed living and extra busy and hectic schedules, there is never enough time to adequately finish the myriad of tasks set for us to do. We jokingly speak of working 36 hour days and 9 days a week. Do you suppose anyone in God's Bible had such a problem, or was there time enough to finish a battle, or live one's life?

Look in your Bible at Joshua chapter 10. Joshua and the people of God were battling for the right to own the promised-land. Joshua has put the Canaanite, Amorite, and other armies in flight. He knows he cannot finish this fight because "there are not enough hours in the day". On the spot, at that time, he pauses in prayer and God answers his prayer and extends the day by having the sun stand still. The Bible says the sun did not go down for about a whole day. Long story short; Joshua defeated the enemies. Joshua was a man of God, a leader of His people. He was in a right relationship with God and his prayers were answered immediately.

In II Kings, chapter 20, Hezekiah, King of Judah was sick and near death. Isaiah, the prophet, went to him and told him to put his house in order, for he would not live. Hezekiah prayed to God and told Him how he had done what was good in God's sight. God listened to Hezekiah's prayer and told him he would get well and live 15 more years. Hezekiah asked for a sign that the Lord would heal him. The Lord said he would either have the sun go forward or backward 10 degrees. Hezekiah chose for the sun to go backward 10 degrees. Because of his godliness and faith, God not only made his day 40 minutes longer, but lengthened his life 15 years.

God has given each of us a life, numbered in years and days. Each of us has time enough to do the work He has given us, if we choose to do so. The question is, will you choose to do so?

As a side-note, these two events amount to 24 hours, a day proven to be missing in the history of time.

KALNAWN BIAKKHAWMNA PROGRAMME

Thumna Hun-uk : Thawngsuanlal
Lapitu : Lianminthang
Thilpiak : Timothy
Theihgigena : Lambiaksang
Thuhilhtu : Joseph Vaiphei
Thumna : Mangkholen

KISAN MAHMAH UH:

-Khanawn Chiang a suahkhiak theih ngeingei diing in Khanamsau saituten buaipih in hahpan mahmah uhi. Article a kizam diing teng leng kaikhawm khin diamta uh hihtuak hi. Hoih chih mahmah. A sim kal ngak-lah huai mahmahta. Lemlouhna dang a omkei leh April ni khat a honkhiak theih diing hi in a saitute akipan in thu kingah hi. Thumna ah phawk nihang.

LOHCHING:

-Sinlai naupangte result tamzawte suakta in theihphak tan ah Mungsuan, Sarah, Niangboi, Lunsang te pass vek un pawl suan thei diing in om uhi. A kum-khat sepgahte uh thawnlou a maban sawnthei diing a a om man un lungdam huai isa uhi. Maban ahong sutzop touhna diingte ua leng a hong lohchin touh zel uh ideihsak uhi. Congrats!

HONGTUNG NAWNTA:

-Saptuam in tumlam gam a unaute magazine bawl christian women kichi i lak sek pen uh January leh February kha issue hongtung nawnta hi. Article hoih taktak a diak in numeite a diing tuang a, a sim utten khel theih diing hi.