

ECHO OF HIS CALL



India's National Spiritual Newspaper

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16 Languages

Associate Editor: Bro. M. Paulraj

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No. 5

THE HOLY BIBLE



Please memorize this portion

PROVERBS 19:1-10

1. Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than one who is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.
2. Also it is not good for a soul to be without knowledge, and he sins who hastens with his feet.
3. The foolishness of a man twists his way, and his heart frets against the LORD.
4. Wealth makes many friends, but the poor is separated from his friend.
5. A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies will not escape.
6. Many entreat the favor of the nobility, and every man is a friend to one who gives gifts.
7. All the brothers of the poor hate him; how much more do his friends go far from him! He may pursue them with words, yet they abandon him.
8. He who gets wisdom loves his own soul; he who keeps understanding will find good.
9. A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies shall perish.
10. Luxury is not fitting for a fool, much less for a servant to rule over princes.



God's new covenant with us can be summed up in one powerful statement. It is His irrevocable promise to deliver His people from the dominion of sin through the power of the Holy Ghost!

This New Covenant does away with all of our puny efforts to please God through our flesh. It is the end of all our striving to overcome sin, whether through determination, strength, and reasoning of any other works of the flesh. In short, God's New Covenant takes the pressure off of us – and places it all on Him!

Through this covenant, the Lord says, “I will no longer ask you to bring me a self-made heart. Instead, I will remove your heart of stone and I'll put in you a new heart, one that has a desire for me. I will cause you both to will and to do my good pleasure, through the power of my spirit!

In simple terms, the New Covenant is the end of the “can do”

man. This is the man in us who says, “I can do it all, in my own power and strength. If I can just spend enough time in prayer and Bible study – if I can just think through my problems – I'll be able to make changes in my life”.

God's New Covenant says good-bye to this old, “can do” man – and it introduces the “new man”, who says I can't do anything in my own strength. I don't have the power to effect any kind of godly change in my life. But I can do everything through the power of the Holy Spirit!

One of the most important things I have learned from my study of the New Covenant is that it is the secret to having an overcoming life in the last days. As the time of Christ's return draws near, the devil is going to open up the floodgates of hell against God's people. He will let loose wild, demonic power such as the world has never seen.

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ECHO OF HIS CALL - (1969-2019 GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR)



(ECHO GROUP)

from your dearly beloved brother...



... the LORD your God will set you high above
all nations of the earth. Deu.28:1



OUR MISSION POLICY

We should expound and teach the contemporary generation the undiluted teachings of the ancient and early Apostles. It is the need of the hour.

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Dearly beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord,

Choice greetings to you in the sweet name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

We do hope that you and your loved ones are doing good by the grace of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

God really blessed us during the last month with many ministries inside and outside the city of Chennai. Our Church Services are changed to three every Sunday i.e., 8:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. I preach in 8:00 A.M. Service, Pr. Alex Samson Sam preaches in the 10:30 A.M. Service and our Church Leaders preach in the 6:00 P.M. Service. Our Hospital Team members are gathering each Sunday, and praying for getting an opening in the hospitals for visiting the patients.

Our Ladies' Meetings, Men's Meetings, Workers' Meetings are going on as usual. Sunday Schools for children are yet to start. We have appointed new leaders to lead young men and young women.

Our Branch Churches are functioning as usual. All our workers are working very hard, with newly renewed mind and dedication.

In order to cover the unfinished lessons in the Bible College due to COVID-19, we have arranged to conduct crash courses. The Graduation of the Bible Colleges for the year

2019-2020 will be conducted on the 22nd of May, 2021. Our Correspondence Courses are going on well.

God willing, our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** for the year 2021-2022 will start from the 1st of June this year. We are receiving applications from dedicated candidates for our following Bible Colleges.

1. Residential College in Hindi & English languages, at Velechery.
2. Evening College at our Headquarters in Tamil language and
3. Evening College in our premises at Santhoshapuram near Tambaram, Chennai. We will finalise the selection of deserving students shortly.

If you come to know of any dedicated and suitable candidates, please direct them to apply at our Colleges. Minimum fee only will be collected. Lesson Notes are issued at free of cost. It is our vision to produce more and more Gospel workers and leaders to take the gospel into India and neighbouring countries. We expect you also to be a partner with us in this great venture through prayer and support.

We solicit your sincere prayers for the Associate Editors of **Echo of His Call**, as they are doing the translation and connected

Our Ministries: ❖ ECHO OF HIS CALL Monthly Magazines (16 languages) ❖ BIBLECOR - Postal Courses (3 languages)
❖ Theological Correspondence Courses (2 languages) ❖ Church Planting ❖ Nehemiah Bible Colleges ❖ Gospel Printing Press
❖ Great Commission Partners ❖ St. Paul's Matriculation School ❖ Crusades ❖ Community Development

works every month within the time frame. Our Printers and workers of the printing press work hard and help to publish our magazines in **17 languages** every month without any hitch.

Classes are conducted in our **St. Paul's Matriculation School** for higher classes only, as per Government regulations. The construction as well as repairing works are still pending as we do not have sufficient funds.

We are glad that in these hard days too, the Lord is using us to send forth the Gospel in India and abroad by various means. Now the cost of stationeries, printing paper, etc., have gone up. Most of the time we are under great financial stress as we do not have regular income for all our activities and we live by faith on each day. Hence, as a partner,

kindly consider us as your servants and co-workers in the vineyard of the Lord and keep us in your prayers and send small financial assistance every month. This will enable us to move forward in reaching the unreached people of the world. God will certainly reward you.

We love you so much and pray for you each day, as we receive many prayer requests from all over the world, especially from various language speaking people of India.

Thanking you for reading this long letter.

God bless you.

Your servants in Christ Jesus,

Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj &

Alex Samson Sam.

...Contd. from page 1

We see this happening already within the walls of the Church. Satan has infiltrated God's house with subtle lies, false doctrines, demonic teachings –and undiscerning Christians are swallowing it all. At this moment, multitudes of deceptions and heresies are swirling through the Church. I ask you – how will believers be able to stand in such times?

The Lord answers us by promising to take on the problem Himself. He assures us, “Don't be afraid. I'm going to take this matter into my own hands. I will empower you against every onslaught of the enemy. And will do it through My New Covenant with you!”

As soon as I began studying the New Covenant, I saw its glorious truths leaping out of God's Old Testament dealings with Israel. Paul states, “**All these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world have come**” (1Corinthians 10:11). I sensed the Lord asking me, “Do you want the keys to Victory? Do you want to know how to overcome sin, flesh

and the devil? Do you want to know how to do battle with the enemy? Then go to my Old Testament and you will learn from the examples there. I have recorded them all for you, so you can learn the lesson of godliness”!

THE FIRST LESSON WE DRAW FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT IS JUST HOW SAFE A CHILD OF GOD IS WHEN HE TRUSTS IN THE BLOOD!

On the night of Passover, not a single Israelite was in danger from the death angel who swept through Egypt. Every man, woman and child of God rested safely and securely under the blood covering that was spread on the doorposts of their homes. This picture of safety in the Old Testament represents the protective power of our Lord's blood over His children today. As Christians, we are to be a believing, trusting people who have the blood of Christ sprinkled on the doorposts of our hearts.

Israel's trust in the blood of the slain lamb accomplished many things in their lives. It not only protected them from the death

angel, but it also brought them out of Egypt and delivered them from the bondage of Pharaoh. Yet, there were other enemies from which Israel needed deliverance. And likewise today, our trust in the blood of Christ is about much more than obtaining salvation for eternity. It also involves relying on God's power to deliver us from every stronghold of the enemy.

Please don't mistake me here. If you are saved-living under the covering of Christ's blood, secured by faith in His work on the cross for you – that is absolutely wonderful. But what about your ongoing battle with the power of sin, which rages inside you? What about your besetting habit? What about the roaring lion who seeks to devour you? What power do you have to do battle with these enemies of your soul?

The fact is, even if we have been saved and secured by Christ's blood, we are still engaged in a battle with overwhelming principalities, satanic powers, and demonic strongholds. And we are to claim the power that is available to us through God's New Covenant. But that power comes only by faith!

ISAIAH DELIVERED A STRONG MESSAGE TO THE BLOOD SECURED CHILDREN OF ISRAEL

The prophet Isaiah warned Israel that there was no possibility of victory for them, if they attempted to fight their adversary in their own strength. Isaiah 31 paints a perfect picture of the futility of trying to do battle with the enemy in our human ability. I believe this chapter is a type and shadow of the ineffectiveness of our attempt today to defeat lusts, habits and besetting sins by relying on human ideas and aids.

At the time Isaiah wrote this message of warning, King Sennacherib and the Assyrian army had already marched through Judah. They had captured most of the cities in their path and now they planned to besiege Jerusalem. In Hebrew, the word "Sennacherib" means "successful". An "Assyria" means "sin on the increase". Put together these two words provide an image of an evil enemy who was having great success against God's people.

Indeed, Assyria represents every sinful, demonic, lustful spirit that comes against us. And Sennacherib is the devil himself, convinced he will succeed in defeating us and bringing us into despair. I believe God wants to show us through this chapter how the devil and his demonic hordes are bringing waves of temptations against the Church – with increasing intensity and much success!

This chapter is also an example to us of how sin will increase in the last days. Scripture says society will wax worse and worse and the Church will be

inundated with deceptions and doctrines of demons. I believe we're seeing that happen right now. Demonic hordes have infiltrated all media and every form of technology, flooding our culture with sexuality, nudity, perversions of all kinds. As prophesied in Revelation 12, satan has "...Cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the women..." (Revelation 12:15).

Hezekiah was king in Israel at the time Sennacherib and the Assyrians approached. And as he looked down on the huge army surrounding the city, his old "can do" man kicked in. The king reasoned that with just a little time, thought about some outside help, the Israelites could deliver themselves from this awful circumstance.

So Hezekiah sent an envoy of ambassadors to Egypt, bearing gifts of silver and gold, in an attempt to hire their army for support. He thought that with the Egyptian horses, chariots and infantry, Israel could push the Assyrians back.

Now, you may think Israel simply lacked faith in the midst of the situation. But God called their actions outright rebellion! Isaiah writes "**Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in**

horseman because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy one of Israel, neither seek the Lord!" (Isaiah 31:1). God was saying, "you have revolted against me! You know I am your only source of victory. Yet you have refused to turn to me!"

Israel here represents the believer who puts his trust in the flesh. Isaiah writes: "**Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses are flesh, and not spirit**" (Isaiah 31:3). The prophet is saying, in essence, "You think you are able to deliver yourselves from this enemy by your own power. You think victory lies in your own strength, intellect and abilities. Yet you are trusting mere flesh! Return now to the Lord. He is your only hope of deliverance!"

THE CHURCH TODAY HAS ITS OWN VERSIONS OF EGYPTIAN CHARIOTS!

Like Israel, many Christians today quickly turn to man-made things in an attempt to achieve victory over the flesh. One glaring example is the vast number of self-help books found on the shelves of Christian bookstores. Literally thousands of books promise sure fire ways of improving our flesh, appeasing our flesh, subduing our flesh. Indeed, everywhere we turn,

....Contd. to page 6

A Loving Request To Our Dear Brothers & Sisters

As you all know we are hard-pressed to meet several needs like the salary of the staff, expenses for the purchase of paper and also the travel expenses. Generally we never ask others to meet our financial needs. But we request those who truly love this ministry to send their offerings through **Money Orders, Cheque or Demand Draft, NEFT, Paypal, PhonePe, Gpay** (98410 71858) or through any other methods and support us in this Ministry. When you send your support please give an intimation to us by SMS, WhatsApp or Phone. We are so thankful to those who are supporting us. **The Lord will surely bless you.**

"... A brother is born for adversity".
Proverbs 17:17

- Editor, Echo of His Call
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TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2), SUPPORT (Romans 12:13) SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From 2021 April 19 To May 18

(Please take this sheet out, fold it and keep it in your Bible and pray continuously)



POINTS FOR PRAISE

- April 19:** God blessed our **ECHO OF HIS CALL** Publications (17 Languages) and Printing Press during March 2021.
- April 20:** Let us praise God for our **St. Paul's Matriculation School** and online classes.
- April 21:** Let us praise God for having gifted new Principal at St. Paul's School.
- April 22:** Let us praise God for our Associate Editors and their Families.
- April 23:** Let us Praise for our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners & Life Partners and Great Commission Partners and their families.
- April 24:** Praised be the Lord for gifting us the State Co-ordinators and their families.
- April 25:** Gratefully we praise God for having blessed our ministerial travelling.
- April 26:** Let us praise God for our Main Church Services being conducted regularly again.
- April 27:** God blessed all the activities of our **Echo of His Call Ministries, Gospel Press**, during the COVID-19 period.
- April 28:** God be praised for blessing our **BIBLE COR** and Theological Correspondence Courses.
- April 29:** Praised be the Lord for having gifted new missionaries to our **Echo of His Call Ministries**.
- April 30:** We wholly praise God for blessing our St. Paul's Matriculation School's teachers and staff.
- May 01:** God blessed our branch churches in various parts of Chennai.
- May 02:** Praise the Lord our God for having safeguarded our ministerial activities during the COVID-19 period in the year 2020.

May 03: God our Lord is safeguarding our **Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj** and his family from all evil dominions.

POINTS FOR PRAYER

- May 04:** Pray committedly for the sooner recovery of our Marathi Associate Editor, **Rev. Shashi Tiwari** from his sufferings.
- May 05:** To pray for our North India's Missionaries and their benevolence.
- May 06:** Let us pray to God for the benefit of our Organization, all staff and their families.
- May 07:** To earnestly pray for integrity among all nations towards God.
- May 08:** Let us pray towards the Lord, for blessing the Gospel Printing Press and its continuous functioning.
- May 09:** For praying in for all missionaries and believers stand united in the ministry.
- May 10:** Let us pray to God for our plan to reopen **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** from **June 01, 2021** onwards.
- May 11:** To pray for the expansion of our Ministries in every ways and measures.
- May 12:** Let us humbly pray to God for all drug addicts, for getting relieved of.
- May 13:** Pray for this year's expenditure and God's hand on it.
- May 14:** Let us pray for our English Associate Editor, **Bro. M. Paulraj** to get healed wholly and lead peaceful life.
- May 15:** Pray towards God for keeping our Gospel Press safe and neat.
- May 16:** Let us pray for our Manipuri language Associate Editor, Rev. Dr. Rishikanta Sorokhaibam and his family.
- May 17:** To commit into prayers for the sooner eradication of Corona Virus from the World.
- May 18:** Commit into prayers for the safer living of our **Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj** and his family members from all sorts of evil forces.

....Contd. from page 4

we're offered fleshly options to all our needs. Churches promise anointed revival meetings where we can have all our spiritual needs fulfilled by prayer or a touch. Evangelists offer instant deliverance, instant healing, and instant words from God.

The truth is, God gave Israel the option of choosing himself or the flesh in the midst of their situation. He said, "Go ahead and exercise your own will. Dig deeply into your inner man and pull out all of your strengths and abilities. Study your books, plan your strategies, do everything you know how to do. But you'll still be leaning on the arm of the flesh! Nothing you try will work. None of your efforts will bring you one moment of victory"!

Marshall Apple White, the leader of the Heaven's Gate cult that committed mass suicide in March of 1997, had expected to be taken on a space ship to a "higher level" of existence. I ask you - why would anyone ever believe such a fantasy? I believe there was a very tragic reason behind it all.

This man grew up the son of a Presbyterian minister. As an adult, he became active in the church himself, serving as a choir director. He got married, had two children and was considered a wonderful family man by all who knew him. But Apple White had a problem that wouldn't go away – a strong homosexual drive.

He lived with guilt, fear and condemnation, all raging inside him. He consulted doctors and psychiatrists, saying his urge was a "beast" that had total control over him. He even checked himself into

a hospital once, in the hope of being "cured". This man tried everything he could to rid himself of his desires. But nothing ever brought him deliverance.

Years later, after Apple White had left his family, he started a group called "The Overcomers". This group taught sexual abstinence and Apple White hoped that the kind of lifestyle they preached would free him. But it never did. One news account said he eventually castrated himself in order to "evict" his demon. Of the thirty-eight others who died in the Heaven's Gate suicide, one-third had submitted to castration in a desperate attempt to find freedom from the dominion of "sin".

We may be repulsed by Apple White's cultic practices and the mass suicide he orchestrated. But sadly, multitudes of Christians today also fight losing battles against life-controlling habits and lusts. Sin has taken dominion over many in the Church, even those who weep and plead for deliverance. Their cry is loud and clear. **"O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"** (Romans 7:24). **"...What I hate, that I do"** (Romans 7:15).

The more I study God's word, the clearer it becomes to me. All human striving for deliverance from sin is doomed to fail. And God will let us go through the wringer time after time, until we're totally convinced we must die to all efforts of the flesh.

When Israel attempted to defeat their powerful enemy through human power, God immediately denounced the effort: **"...both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is helped shall fall down, and they all shall fall**

together" (Isaiah 31:3). God's word declares in very clear language that all victory depends on Him alone. Only He has the power to deliver us from our enemies.

You may have a godly will, a solid moral background, and an unpolluted mind. In fact, you may be one of the godliest people walking on this earth. But none of these things is an effective weapon when it comes to battling the powers of hell. The Bible says none of your human gifts or abilities will ever work against the devil. You will always fail by your own efforts!

ISAIAH MAKES IT CLEAR – OUR ENEMIES WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED BY THE WORD OF MAN!

If you are in the midst of an overwhelming struggle, you must learn the Word God gave to Zechariah: **"...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord"** (Zechariah 4:6). Your victory will never come through the sword of man – not even your own sword!

Isaiah writes: **"Then shall the Assyrian fall with the sword, not of a mighty man; and the sword, not of a mean man, shall**

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devour him: but he shall flee from the sword and his young men shall be discomfited" (Isaiah 31:8). The prophet is saying a sword will indeed defeat the Assyrians. But what kind of sword will this be, if not Israel's.

In the book of Revelation, the apostle John mentions a holy sword of the Lord: **"And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations..."** (Revelation 19:15). John is speaking of Christ here, saying, "A piercing, victorious sword will come out of our Lord's mouth"!

By associating this sword with Christ's mouth, John is saying that our effective weapon in battle against all our enemies will be the voice of the Lord. Indeed, this is the very image Isaiah uses to describe how God will overthrow the Assyrians. **"For through the voice of the Lord shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod"** (Isaiah 30:31).

Isaiah is saying, "Your Lord promises to fight for you. He will make his voice know and it will put all your enemies to chase"! **"The Lord shall cause His glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of His anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering and tempest and hailstones"** (Isaiah 30:30).

Next, Isaiah uses the image of birds to illustrate God's protective power over his people: **"As birds flying, so will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also He will deliver it; and passing over He will preserve it"** (Isaiah 31:5). The Hebrew meaning of this verse is, "As the hen-birds flutter over their young, so shall Jehovah, God of hosts spread out

His wings over Jerusalem".

God was telling Israel, "If you want to be protected from the onslaught of the enemy, then hide under my wings. I will secure you, covering you the way a mother hen covers her chicks. You don't have to live in fear of your enemies any longer"!

Let me ask you: Are you in a great warfare right now? Are you facing an enemy that is too powerful for you? If so, how do you expect to remain pure, faithful, Christlike, while others around you are falling left and right? How will you gain victory over your lusts and temptations, when satan comes against you like a roaring lion?

God asks simply that you lay down your sword – and that you trust Him to take up His sword on your behalf. He wants you to come to the point where you say, "Lord, I know the battle is not mine anymore. I've failed so many times. Now I come to You in simple faith. Help me, God. Deliver me from these overwhelming foes"!

GOD LET ISRAEL DO THINGS THEIR OWN WAY – AND THEY FAILED!

Egypt never responded to Israel's request for help. That once-mighty nation had become a broken reed. Meanwhile, Sennacherib and the Assyrian army had surrounded Jerusalem. And at that point, Hezekiah decided, "we're not going to lean on the arm of the flesh this time. We're going to do it all God's way"!

The king immediately humbled himself and sought God in prayer: **"And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth**

and went into the house of the Lord" (Isaiah 37:1). Hezekiah confessed, "Lord, I know I have nothing on myself to give you except my faith. I can't fight Sennacherib. I'm helpless in my own strength. It all has to come from you, Lord. So, what should we do now? We're surrounded by our enemies. Please give us your direction"!

Hezekiah knew that Isaiah would have God's word of guidance. So this time he sent his envoy to the prophet. These men said to Isaiah, **"...the children are come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring forth"** (Isaiah 37:3). In other words: "This time we want to do everything God's way. But you've got to know, we're totally weak. Our defenses are depleted, with not strength left. What should we do"?

Isaiah did have God's word from them. The prophet said **"...Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard... I will cause (Sennacherib) to fall by the sword..."** (Isaiah 37:6-7). God was saying, "Any enemy of yours is an enemy of mine now-because you have turned the battle over to me! If anyone talks against you, hurts you

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Thousands of friends like you are being blessed by reading Echo of His Call in 17 languages throughout the world. Now we need **Honorary Co-ordinators** in your language to evaluate the standard of messages published in Echo of His Call and give suggestions to improve each month.

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or abuses you, it is an attack against me. And I will take care of that enemy, whether human or demonic"! "...**He Shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it**" (Isaiah 37:33). God says, "Others may be falling all around you, but that doesn't mean a thing. You are walking in covenant with me. And I have promised to do battle against every enemy that assails you"!

I think God must have incredible sense of humor because he sent just one angel to put the entire Assyrian army to fight. Scripture says, "**Then the angel of the Lord went forth and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses**" (Isaiah 37:36).

What an amazing sight that must have been. That morning the

Assyrians awoke to find more than 1,85,000 of their fellow soldiers slain – yet not a mark was found on any of them. And it all happened because the Israelites merely humbled themselves and sought God!

The Bible tells us the Assyrians quickly hightailed it out of Judah: "**So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed...**" (Isaiah 37:37). Yet, not only were Israel's enemies scattered, but God made sure they were destroyed as well. Scripture tells us that soon afterward Sennacherib was slain by his own sons while worshipping in his pagan temple (Isaiah 47:38).

What a wonderful picture God has given us of His power to deliver us from our enemies in our flesh. The enemy may shoot fiery arrows at us, but they will not strike. Satan may noisily attack us with a huge army of lusts and temptations, but in the end he will turn and run. God has declared, "I will defend every child of mine who believes in

me enough to lay down his own sword"!

Dear saint, the Lord is urging you: "Cling to me in the midst of your battle. Your victory is all a matter of faith in God's power and willingness to deliver you. When the enemy has overwhelmed you, come to me and pour out your soul. Seek Me with all your heart and I will do battle for you. I'll protect you as you walk in covenant with me. Your part is simply to humble yourself, truly believe in my covenant promise and seek my face. Then you will receive my word of direction. And you will see all your enemies put to fight! Your only way to full and complete victory is to faith your way out of your crisis".

The battle is never ours. It is always the Lord's! Faith and faith alone. Faith in God's promise to keep you from falling to put in you a will to want to do right – this is the way to glorious freedom. **Amen.**

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**Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj, Founder - President
Nehemiah Bible College**

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PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

“whoever reads, let him understand” Matthew 24:15

GOD CAN CHANGE YOUR OPPOSITIONS INTO OPPORTUNITIES!

From the year 1971, I have been in the habit of distributing gospel tracts to the people who sit alone in the Marina Beach area near our Main Church and Office and meeting them personally and praying for them to find solution for their problems. In this way, God enabled me to bring several people to the saving grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. On seeing my success in this effort, some people rose against me, followed me and threatened me and started giving severe mental agony to me. Some times, I had to undergo fearful and restless nights. The people of those days did not understand that I was rescuing the people from mental depression and the spirit of suicide; but they thought that I was converting them to Christianity.

One evening, as usual while I was meeting people, I found a crowd was watching an young man who was afflicted by evil spirit. He was running here and there and trying to attack the people and finally he fell down and suffered like a person attacked by the decease, epilepsy (fits). I was also watching that young man. Some of the people who were giving trouble to me for my gospel work also were standing in the crowd.

Suddenly the Spirit of God came upon me and He very clearly

spoke to me, “My son, this is the opportunity for you to enter into this scene and exalt MY name by healing the young man.” I got a new strength at that time and I went near the young man who was suffering. The people gathered there looked at me in a different way. I laid my hand upon his head and straight away commanded the evil spirit to depart from the body of that young man in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Immediately, he was healed and stood on his feet and spoke the following words: “Where am I now? Who are you all? Where are my school books and bag? Where is my school?” This was the very clear indication that he was possessed by the evil spirit when he was going to school few years ago. The good news is that he was released from the clutches of the evil spirit through the power of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He came back to senses and went home. He accepted the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as his own Saviour and God. What a wonderful God we have!

From that day onward, the people who opposed and hated me started saluting me and they became my friends. Even few of them accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and God and started working with me.

The Lord God helped me to establish His Ministry in the present area which was considered to be unreachable.

Dear reader, do you experience oppositions in your field of ministry, family or workspot? Are you discouraged? Are you experiencing sleepless and fearful nights? Do not give up. Go forward. If you are faithful to God, He will be also faithful to you. God is able to touch weak persons and transform them into courageous people. Once I was also very weak and fearful; but the Lord Jesus Christ made me a bold and courageous person to face any kind of challenges in the ministry. I pray that God will give you the same grace.

“Your sorrow will be turned into joy”. (John 16:20).

**“Whoever is wise will observe these things...”
Psalm 107:43**

PRAYING ALWAYS!

**“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints”
(Ephesians 6:18).**

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To

GOD BLESS YOU!