

ECHO OF HIS CALL



India's National Spiritual Newspaper

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Editor : S. SAM SELVA RAJ

16 Languages

Associate Editor : SIS. SAJINI CHERIAN

Vol. XXXI

MARCH 2024

No. 03



THE HOLY BIBLE

Please memorize this portion

Psalm 31:17-24

17. Let me not be ashamed, O Lord; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, and let them be silent in the grave.
18. Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.
19. Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!
20. Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.
21. Blessed be the Lord: for he hath shewed me his marvellous kindness in a strong city.
22. For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.
23. O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.
24. Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

UNCERTAIN TIMES WITH THE CERTAINTY OF GOD!

Hon. Editor-in-Chief, Rev. Angeline Selvakumari

You are the God who does wonders. You have declared Your strength among the nations - Psalm 77:14

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

Once again, it is a great joy to connect with you through this article. We have already completed 2 months of this year 2024. Time seems to fly by so quickly! Psalm 77 declares that the God we believe in, is a God who performs wonders, and He is delighted to display His strength among His people. He eagerly waits to do the impossible and delights in our unwavering trust in Him throughout this journey.

Our life's journey is filled with numerous unexpected twists and turns, such as speed bumps, blind spots, curves, sudden dips, and more, making it highly uncertain. Navigating through these unknown roads, filled with constant changes, poses a significant challenge.

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Echo of His Call

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



from your dearly beloved brother...



"Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who only does wondrous things." - Psalm 72:18.



Dearly beloved in the Lord,

We greet you in the matchless name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord has led our ministries in a wonderful way in the last few months. The Lord has reached many people who are far away through His



Watch Night New Year Service

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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YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Echo of His Call



Pr P. Arokiadas with Senior Pastor

loving messages released through our YouTube Channel and through our **Echo of His Call** monthly magazines. The Lord blessed the Watch Night New Year Service held on 31st December 2023 in a very blessed manner.

Pastor P. Arokiadas, who studied at **Nehemiah Bible College**, is now in Valasaravakkam. He came to our Main Administrative Office and shared his powerful testimony. He has started a new ministry there.



Bro. Suresh Tirge and his son Avinash Tirge with Senior Pastor

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

Bro. Suresh Tirge and his son Avinash Tirge from the State of Chattisgarh came to our Main Church along with his relatives. He glorified the name of our Lord Jesus Christ as he had been blessed by reading our **Echo of His Call** magazine in Hindi.



One day retreat held at Mahabalipuram

Kindly pray for our frontline co-workers of the Lord as they serve in multifarious activities of our Main Church.

The Lord blessed the one-day retreat held at Mahabalipuram for 60 people, including our **Nehemiah Bible College** students and Main Church youth on 26.01.2024.

The Lord helped us to develop a long-term plan for our Residential Hindi **Nehemiah Bible College** students and for bringing the Gospel to the migrant employees from North India with our loving brother Lawyer Dharmaraj, Pastor Franklin, and Pastor Devadas who



have committed themselves to the North Indian ministry in recent days.

Kindly pray for all the ministries and all the ministers of God of **Echo of His Call** ministry. May the grace of God be with you all. Amen.

Your servants in Christ Jesus,

Pr. Alex Samson Sam
Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj

(+91) 98412 71858 / 98410 71858,
E.mail : sam@echoofhiscall.org

Kind Attention: Echo of His Call Readers

Our 5 minute **Echo of His Call** YouTube messages are being broadcasted from 2.00 A.M. in Tamil, Telugu, English and Hindi (everyday). You can receive the Grace of God by watching the messages.

Moreover, save my mobile numbers (+91) 98410 71858, (+91) 98412 71858 (personal) in your mobile phones.

- Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj

....Contd. from page 1

When I drive, I always rely on navigation. Firstly, to ensure that I reach my destination without getting lost, and secondly, and most importantly, to understand the nature of the road ahead. I live in a mountainous area and that means I encounter a lot of ups and downs. Applications like Google Maps help me drive more safely by providing a visual of the road ahead. For example, I can anticipate curves and avoid overtaking, prepare for straight roads to overtake, slow down at blind spots, and drive cautiously even on unfamiliar roads. With GPS(Global Positioning System), I am better prepared for the

uncertainties of the road. Often, I wish life came with a GPS too! It would be helpful to see the end from the beginning.

I don't know about you, but personally, I prefer knowing the end before starting anything. Not knowing where I am heading

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I, **S. Sam Selva Raj** hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

March 2024

S. Sam Selva Raj.

makes it difficult for me to work. I tend to think about the result first and then work backward. However, life does not operate that way. It throws unexpected challenges at us when we least expect them. A sudden loss of a loved one, a job change, financial difficulties, or unexpected storms in relationships are some examples of things one could never have imagined.

How do we deal with such uncertainties? I recall a couple who were married for 27 years, had 3 beautiful children, and were known for being an understanding and caring couple. Suddenly, I heard they were going through a separation, which was shocking. When I asked the wife about it, she said, "It hit me at the least expected time. I never thought this would happen in my life."

It is hard and painful, nevertheless the truth remains the same. In all these situations, one thing is for sure: God is faithful! In the midst of fear, pain, suffering, failures, defeat, happiness, and joy, God is faithful.

The Bible says in Psalm 77:14, **You are the God Who does wonders; You have declared Your strength among the peoples.** - that is, in every situation.

As individuals and as a Church, we want to know what the Lord is going to do in our Church and in our families in these uncertain times.

Above all, the huge question is, "Where is God in all these situations?" This is the most common and frightful question.

The Bible teaches that He does wonderful things when people are stranded, not knowing where to go, how to go, and not sure of the next line of their future. Uncertain times! I do not know how many of us are going through uncertain

times. Will my life ever change? Even when you are experiencing challenging times, God is still on the throne. He is still reigning. He allows certain situations in life so that we can look up to Him, and He will be exalted through these situations.

There is no other example than the life of the Israelites. They were praying for 400 years for deliverance from the bondage of slavery. Finally, the Lord did wonders and declared his strength among the Egyptians. Plagues, death, parting of the Red Sea, sinking the Egyptian soldiers in the same sea that led them safely to the shore. All the 10 plagues were to declare the strength of God to the Egyptians. God could have taken them out just like that. He wanted not just the Egyptians to know, but also the people of God to understand who this Jehovah is! What kind of God He is! How powerful He is! To stand the test of Time. So that we are talking about it even now in 2024!

How do we deal with uncertain times?

During uncertain times, the kind of feelings that we experience are: confusion, doubt, questioning, fear, anxiety, blaming others for the current situation, anger, frustration, annoyance, bitterness, disappointment, discouragement, sadness, loneliness, worry, and anxiety that goes on endlessly! So, should we "SHUT DOWN" or "CONTROL ALT DELETE" and pretend nothing is going to happen and go with the flow?

What should we do in those times?

1. HOLD ON TO THE PROMISE OF GOD! FOR HE KNOWS OUR FUTURE!!

Give your unknown future into the hands of the known God.

In other words, cling to God. It is crucial to pray before beginning or planning anything, seeking guidance from the Lord rather than from any human source. Seek confirmation from the word of

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NEHEMIAH BIBLE

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GREAT COMMISSION PARTNERS

TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2)

SUPPORT (Romans 12:13)

SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From March 19 To April 18, 2024

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



✠ PRAISE GOD FOR...

- March 19** ⇒ Blessing our **BIBLECOR** and **Theological Correspondence Courses**.
- March 20** ⇒ His blessing towards our **ONE DAY RETREAT** at Mahabalipuram for our **Nehemiah Bible College** students and Main Church Youth held on the 26th January.
- March 21** ⇒ Safeguarding our Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj and his family from all evil dominions.
- March 22** ⇒ His continued blessings upon our unwavering commitment to the Magazine Ministry, which we have upheld since 1969.
- March 23** ⇒ Our Senior Pastor's dedication in spreading the gospel through diverse ministries.
- March 24** ⇒ Blessing on our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners, and Great Commission Partners, as well as their families.
- March 25** ⇒ We seek divine favor for the new believers who have been anointed into our Church, that they may grow in faith and wisdom.
- March 26** ⇒ Blessing our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.
- March 27** ⇒ Blessing all our Associate Editors and their family members.
- March 28** ⇒ Blessing our **Global Vision for Youth and Kid Care ministry**.
- March 29** ⇒ Blessing our **St. Paul's Matriculation School**, with dedicated Christian Teachers and Principal.
- March 30** ⇒ The great commitment from the Mission workers.
- March 31** ⇒ Blessing our State Co-ordinators and their families.
- April 01** ⇒ Meeting our needs for the previous month.
- April 02** ⇒ Thriving our Christian ministries in the midst of political and religious opposition.
- April 03** ⇒ Divine protection over all countries, especially in the midst of chaos and the fear of war, asking for peace and stability.

✠ PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

- April 04** ⇒ God to grant us many more visions to build His Kingdom on earth.
- April 05** ⇒ Protection against viral fever and new contagious diseases for all people.
- April 06** ⇒ The expansion of our Ministries in all possible ways and measures, for the benefit of all.
- April 07** ⇒ Presidents, Prime Ministers, and all Government Authorities of the World to have wisdom and guidance in their leadership.
- April 08** ⇒ Our supporters, well-wishers, and friends who uphold our ministries through prayer and financial support, to be blessed and strengthened.
- April 09** ⇒ Our Associate Editors and their family members.
- April 10** ⇒ The youth and children of the world to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.
- April 11** ⇒ All the countries to have unity, progress, and peace in all aspects and planning.
- April 12** ⇒ God's mercy towards our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners, and Great Commission Partners and their families.
- April 13** ⇒ Updating **Nehemiah Bible College** Library books in KOHA software to be successful.
- April 14** ⇒ The needs of all people of the world.
- April 15** ⇒ The financial needs of our ministry to be met.
- April 16** ⇒ Economic recession prevailing in the world to come to an end, bringing relief to those affected.
- April 17** ⇒ God's grace to be showered once again upon the people, bringing comfort and strength.
- April 18** ⇒ Safety of our Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj and his family members from all sorts of evil forces.

....Contd. from page 4

God before embarking on anything new.

In times of uncertainty, God's people have the promise of God to turn to, to claim and to hope in. Where is your hope today? Who is our hope today? Is it in our paycheck, job security? If we were to lose our job tomorrow, can we still declare, "I LACK NOTHING; MY GOD SHALL SUPPLY ALL MY NEEDS, THE GOODNESS OF GOD SHALL SATISFY ME"?

During uncertain times, seek the presence of the faithful God and ask Him, for He knows our future, our tomorrows, and our yesterdays. Hold on to Him and His words.

In Exodus 4:2, we see God asking Moses, ... **"What is that in your hand?" And he said, "A rod."** The miracle occurred when Moses chose to place his old, wooden rod in the hand of God; it became "The rod of God." Witness the power of that rod as it transformed into the Rod of God!

In Exodus 17:9, ... **Moses said to Joshua, Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.** With the Rod of God, they were able to engage in battle.

Looking at the life of Moses, we see an unwilling participant who made excuses and was reluctant to return to Egypt. Uncertain times raised questions about the welfare of his family, his lost connection to leadership, the skills he had acquired as a prince, his lack of eloquence to address the Pharaoh, and the fear of returning to a place where he was not valued by his own people.

Despite his doubts and fears, when Moses surrendered what was in his hand, it became something extraordinary through

which God could work wonders and display His strength.

Are you willing to surrender what is in your hand today to God so that He can use it to perform wonders? Give Him your fears, worries, questions, confusion, doubt, anxiety, blaming others for the present situation, anger, frustration, and other such negative emotions.

LET IT BECOME THE ROD OF GOD!"

2. SURROUND YOURSELF WITH GODLY PEOPLE SO THAT THEY CAN WALK WITH YOU!

This is one of the reasons why we have a Church and a Church family. When you are going through an uncertain period in your life, have godly people walk alongside you, strengthen you, pray with you, and uphold you in your lonely walk. We need to develop relationships with people who can walk and pray with us, and provide spiritual counseling.

Today, choose someone with whom you can pray on a regular basis! Choose someone who can bless you with their spiritual expertise or choose

someone to whom you can be a spiritual blessing with your experience and expertise. If you can do both, that is even better.

There can be a period in the life of Daniel - uncertainty as a teenager, leaving his family, friends, birthplace, relatives, and freedom, going as a bonded servant to an unknown land (unwilling participants).

He finds God's favor in the first chapter – all seems to go well and suddenly in the second chapter, Daniel is faced with a serious dilemma.

The King sees a dream and "his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him"; his mind was troubled, and he could not sleep (NIV, Daniel 2).

Verse 12: **The King was angry and very furious, and he gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon, who seeking Daniel and his companions to kill them.** Everything was going well, suddenly he was going to lose his job, fame, responsibility, and recognition of everything. All the things he had worked hard for so far were all in vain.

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NEHEMIAH BIBLE COLLEGE

Graduation Service, 2023-2024

Venue : BKN Hall, Vepery, Chennai - 07.

Date : 1st June, 2024 (Saturday)

Time : 5.00 P.M.



About 50 students will complete their studies and will be sent to the mission field.

We need 75 students for the Tamil and Hindi courses for the academic year 2024-2025. Please pray for this request.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MINISTRIES AT THE HEAD QUARTERS

1. Prayer Service : 24 hours
2. **ECHO OF HIS CALL** - Monthly Magazines :
English, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Hindi, Kannada,
Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Odiya, Nepali, Assamese,
Punjabi, Urdu, Sinhala & Afrikan.
3. Nehemiah Bible Colleges (Three Centres) (Evening / Residential)
4. **BIBLECOR** - Basic Bible Courses
(English, Tamil & Hindi)
5. Theological Correspondence Courses: English & Tamil
6. Great Commission Partners (Network of Pastors)
7. Training Programmes
8. Crusades
9. Literature Distribution and Follow Up
10. Gospel Printing Press - Publications
11. St. Paul's Matriculation School - Village English High School
12. Sunday Schools : 10.30 a.m. & 4.00 p.m. Sunday
13. **Tamil Service** : **8.30 a.m. Sunday**
14. **Hindi Service** : **4.00 p.m. Sunday**
15. **Telugu Service** : **5.00 p.m. Sunday**
16. **English & Tamil Service** : **6.00 p.m. Sunday**
17. Women's Prayer : 5.30 p.m. Wednesday
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23. Parents' Prayer : 4.00 p.m. First Sunday
24. Night Prayer : 9.30 p.m. Third Friday
25. Fasting Prayer : 9:30 a.m. Second Saturday
26. Holy Communion : Second Sunday Services
27. Youth / Kid Prayer : 10.00 p.m. daily
28. Staff Devotion : 9.00 a.m. daily
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(except Sundays)

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PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

“Whoever reads, let him understand” (Matthew 24:15)

**I WILL GIVE YOU THE
LAND YOU TREAD ON!**

Every place that the sole of your foot will tread
upon I have given you ... (Joshua 1:3)

It was the year 1973, during the hot summer season in April/May, a 'Three Day Retreat' was arranged for the young men and women at Corley High School in Tambaram, Chennai. Bro. R. Stanley, the Founder of 'Blessing Youth Mission', a revival fellowship for young men, was preaching powerful and challenging messages. He has been a significant leader in the Christian Ministry till date, and I too participated in those meetings. At that time, I was 23 years old and already engaged in God's work alongside my government position. I received a challenging experience in my life during this period.

The 'Three Day Retreat' concluded on the third day after lunch. Everyone was in a hurry to catch the bus and train back home. However, due to the move of the Holy Spirit, I couldn't leave the place. I found myself standing at the gate of Corley High School for nearly an hour. Every word spoken by Bro. R. Stanley, the servant of God, was appearing before my spiritual eyes.

The Holy Spirit spoke to me in His soft and gentle voice, and I felt compelled to remain in the area. Instead of returning to my lodging, I was led to walk on Tambaram – Velachery Main Road in Chennai on that hot sunny day.

The young men and women who were with me at the meeting thought that I was walking because I had no money to buy a bus or train ticket. They looked at me sadly from their vehicles through the windows.

I didn't worry about anything as I walked and distributed gospel tracts to the people I encountered along the way and those residing in the houses on either side of the road. I had covered a distance of more than 12 kilometers that day, feeling hungry and thirsty, and my sandal strap had snapped. Passersby looked at me with great pity and sympathy as I, a young boy, walked under the scorching sun carrying books and damaged sandals. Although the day was

very hot, there was a sudden downpour of rain in the evening and also the night started to come.

Upon reaching Velachery, I had run out of gospel tracts, and the number of people on the road had dwindled.

I felt as though the heavens had opened, two eyes from heaven and countless eyes were watching me and my difficult situation. Physically tired but spiritually strong, I finally arrived at my destination in Chepauk, Chennai, late at night.

Days turned into years, and the Lord blessed me with spiritual connections in the areas I had walked that day. I formed a deep relationship with the family of Bro. Durai and his wife, Sister Fennela, as well as with the Pastors of the Advent Mission Church along the way. In 1997, the Lord blessed me with a Church and an English Medium High School (**St. Paul's Matriculation School**) in Santhoshapam, the very area I had walked through. In Velachery, where I had stopped walking that day, the Lord enabled me to construct a Church and establish our Full-Time Residential Hindi **Nehemiah Bible College**.

The Lord spoke to a man of God, Bro. Edwin, to donate his property to my ministry, allowing me to use it for the Church and **Nehemiah Bible College**.

These two ministries now operate as the two pillars of our **Echo of His Call Ministries**.

The Lord led me to obey the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and helped me to go through those hard experiences. The path was rough, but the end was a great victory.

Dear brothers and sisters, have you ever heard the Lord speaking to you like this? Have you ever obeyed immediately? Have you ever worked according to God's directions? Or, instead of doing the ministry that God has given you, are you like Jonah, doing some other ministry that gives you joy, satisfaction, and protection? Are you one among

many people doing a ministry according to their convenience and thinking it is God's will?

The Lord who promised Joshua that He would give him the land where his foot had trodden fulfilled his promise (Joshua 14:9). He will do the same thing for you also. The Lord who called you is faithful!

Obey Him and do His will. Come forward to take this living God to the world. Surely there is victory!

....Contd. from page 6

What did he do? Daniel was in a very chilling time of uncertainty. What did he do? **He shared it with his friends, and they prayed. Immediately, he surrounded himself with people of similar faith who could walk with him and understand the path he was going through.** (Daniel 2:17,18) They prayed, and we know what happened. God revealed his future plans to them.

Great is our God. So, surround yourself with Godly people.

3.BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD!

Psalm 46:10

Feeling of uncertainty can lead to the prefrontal cortex in your brain "shutting down," impairing your ability to solve problems, pay attention, and stay flexible. This increases your chances of engaging in irrational behavior and makes you more prone to anxiety, depression, and stress.

That is why it is important to focus your mind on what matters by concentrating your heart on God's truths.

Stillness is a discipline that takes continual, conscious practice.

The act of stillness sharpens our senses and makes us more aware of God's presence in our present circumstances (unknown).

Whenever we are confused, we should look up to the hills from where our help comes, the Maker of

the heavens and earth. He who shakes the earth and makes the sea tremble, He who opens and shuts the door.

Be still in the presence of the Lord, which means to go and sit in the presence of the Lord and don't speak. Don't tell Him, just wait until you hear from Him, the Author and the Finisher of your faith. **Don't try to take the battle of God to be yours.**

When you go into the presence of the Lord:

- 1) Acknowledge your limitations -- Name your feeling
- 2) Give God what you have – the rod, and let it become God's rod/God's problem to deal with.
- 3) Start confessing the promises of God - you need to memorize if you want to confess it!
- 4) **The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.** Exodus 14:14.

Dear Friends,

Please ask God to show you trusted people who can walk alongside you. Ask God to teach you to be still in His presence and to learn from Him in quietness as Isaiah 30:15, NIV - ... **in quietness and trust is your strength ...** Remember, no matter what happens and how bleak your situation looks, trust in the Almighty. He will make all crooked paths straight because **He is a God of wonders** – (Psalm 77:14).

URGENT

We require approximately 1000 Hindi Christian books for our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**. Kindly inform us about the possibility of obtaining theological Hindi books.

Please stop sending books in English and Tamil languages. Thank you.

- Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj, Editor
+91-98412 71858

URGENT NEED

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for

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- Editor

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IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249
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