

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

YEAR OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, 2024 AUGUST

No.08



THE HOLY BIBLE
Please memorize this portion
PSALMS 85:1-9

1. Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.
2. Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.
3. Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine anger.
4. Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.
5. Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?
6. Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?
7. Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.
8. I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.
9. Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

THE LORD OF BREAKTHROUGHS!

BAAL PARAZIM! (2 samuel 5:20)

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

Greetings to all my Echo of His Call extended family. It is always a great joy to connect with you all through these pages. As summer draws to a close, we are stepping into a new season. Each season possesses its unique beauty. We require both the heat and the rain for growth. The Bible teaches us that **God makes all things beautiful in His time** (Ecclesiastes 3:11). As Solomon said, there is a time and a season for everything under the sun. I am unsure of the season you have experienced thus far this year, but remember, the best is yet to come. The crucial aspect is learning to embrace God's promises. Often, we are aware of God's promises but struggle to make them our own.



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



from your dearly beloved brother...



**Blessed be God, Who has not turned away
my prayer, Nor His mercy from me! - Psalm 66:20**



Dearly beloved brothers and sisters,

Warm greetings to you and your loved ones from the headquarters of **Echo of His Call** in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We wish to express how truly special you are to us! Over the years, you, along with your parents and grandparents, have embarked on the spiritual journey with us at **Echo of His Call** since its inception in 1969. It brings us great joy to reflect on the grace of God that has been with us all this time.

As we enter the 56th year of **Echo of His Call** and its diverse ministries on August 10th, we join hands with you to celebrate the victory and faithfulness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, throughout the years. We deeply appreciate and thank you for your unwavering kindness towards us, despite our perceived insignificance in the eyes of man and God. Your prayers, contributions, and support have meant the world to us. My earnest prayer is that God will open the windows of heaven and shower His abundant blessings upon you as well.

God willing, we will hold our 56th Anniversary Gospel meeting from August 9th to 11th this year in a modest manner. The program will include evening gospel meetings, youth activities, and children's programs at our Main Church. If you happen to be visiting Chennai, we cordially invite you to attend.

While we may not have the means for extravagant celebrations, we are dedicated to preaching the glory of our Faithful Master, Jesus Christ, during these days with the resources available to us.

As we embark on visiting our mission centers, we recently journeyed to two remote villages named Dumda and Akirpada in the State of Gujarat, North India, from June 28th to 30th, 2024. We have plans to visit many more locations in India and beyond. Your prayers for our endeavors are greatly appreciated.

Through the grace of God, we continue to spread the gospel, nurture leaders, and establish churches wherever we go, all for the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Despite facing various trials and temptations in our families and ministries, we are grateful for your unwavering support. We march forward hand in hand with you. Please keep us in your thoughts and act as the Lord guides you. We hold you dear in our hearts and offer our prayers for you.

With love and blessings,

Your servants in Christ Jesus,

Pr. Alex Samson Sam

Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj

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

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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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.

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- Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj

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It may take weeks, months, years, or even decades to witness God's promises manifest in our lives. David waited more than 15 to 20 years to see the prophecy over his life fulfilled, from Samuel anointing him to becoming the King of Israel. God does not rush nor delay; He operates according to His perfect timing. We must patiently wait to see how He unfolds His plan in His appointed time. David understood this, which is why he frequently reminds himself in the Psalms to "wait upon the Lord." This theme recurs in many of his Psalms. David's descriptions of God's attributes are unparalleled in the Bible: a God who answers prayers, stores our tears, a shepherd, refuge, shelter, guide, friend, mother, father, husband, companion, rock, shade, shadow, and shepherd. His names reflect his life experiences uniquely. One name that resonates with me is "Baal Parazim," found in 2 Samuel chapter 5:20, meaning "God of Breakthroughs." Just as water bursts forth and breaks obstacles in its path, God will shatter barriers and bring about breakthroughs. It is a profoundly powerful name.

The naming of individuals, businesses and homes in accordance with a vision is a practice that carries significant meaning and power. When assigning names, it is advisable to seek wisdom from God, as names are believed to bear a special anointing. In the Bible, names often hold profound significance.

Valley of Rephaim!

Let me provide some background on the name Baal Perazim.

In 2 Samuel Chapter 5, David's anointing as the King of Israel marked a crucial season in his life. Despite enjoying the goodness of God and experiencing fulfillment akin to a tree of life (Proverbs 13:12), David faced immediate challenges. The devil, portrayed as a liar and a roaring lion, sought to disrupt David's peace, happiness, and joy, aiming to undermine the blessings bestowed upon him.

The Philistines, upon learning of David's anointing, positioned themselves in the Valley of Rephaim, symbolizing a battleground where giants roamed.

**(1) BEING IN THE CENTRE
OF GOD'S PLAN WILL INVITE
SATAN'S ATTENTION!**

This strategic move by the enemy forces illustrates the opposition faced when aligned with God's will. David, recognizing the impending threat, sought divine guidance before engaging in battle, demonstrating a reliance on God's plan.

Despite feeling surrounded and trapped, believers are encouraged to remember that God, the Lord of hosts, is omnipresent. The Valley of Rephaim, perceived as an enemy stronghold, became a

site of divine intervention as God shattered the opposition like a breakthrough of water. This victory underscored God's role as Baal Parazim, the God of breakthroughs, capable of turning apparent defeats into resounding triumphs.

Dear friends, wherever you may be, whatever circumstances you find yourself in, I encourage you to be of good cheer, bold, and strong, for we serve a God of breakthroughs! He assures us that He will go before us and defeat our enemies. The victory that God granted David over the Philistines was remarkable, akin to a powerful gush of water breaking through all obstacles. This is why David named the place of this victory as the Place of Breakthroughs.

Dear friends, remember, this is your place of breakthroughs! Pray, claim it, confess it, and declare with confidence, "This is my season of breakthroughs. Baal Perazim will lead me, destroying every weapon formed against me, my family, my marriage, my business, my children, my ministry... He is Baal Perazim." Say it aloud with unwavering faith. Do not focus on the current situation; trust in the Lord's plan. Just as it seemed illogical for the Israelites to march around Jericho's walls for seven days, we must not rely on our own understanding. It would have made no sense for Moses to believe that God could deliver His people with nothing more than a staff in his hand. Look at things through the eyes of faith, believing that God, as Baal Perazim, is going ahead to conquer our enemies. Amen!

(2) WHEN AMBUSHED, GO TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD!

When faced with ambushes and trapped in a cycle of sin or stagnation, where progress feels unattainable, we must seek the presence of God for a breakthrough. David, upon realizing he was surrounded by enemies, turned to the Lord for guidance. Do we bring our problems to the Lord as our first response? Pause your activities, retreat to the stronghold of God, and pray fervently. Approach His presence with humility, asking, seeking, and knocking on His doors. The Name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous find safety within it.

David seeks God's counsel when he finds himself surrounded, humbly kneeling in prayer for divine intervention. In 2 Samuel 5:19 of the Bible, it is written: "**God responded.**" We worship a God who hears and answers prayers, but our approach must be earnest. To achieve a breakthrough, one must demonstrate seriousness by setting aside distractions, focusing intently, and persistently seeking God's guidance without wavering until His response is clear. The greater the gravity of the situation, the more fervent our prayers should be. Strengthening one's bond with the community of believers is also crucial.

(3) MOVING FROM THE VALLEY OF REPHAIM TO BAAL PARAZIM - A TRANSFORMATIVE SHIFT!

The Philistines lurked in the Valley of Rephaim, plotting harm and seeking to thwart David. Symbolically, the Valley of

Rephaim signifies a place where Satan positions himself to hinder, harm, and obstruct God's purpose in one's life, including their children and calling. While some may find themselves in this valley of failure, defeat, and despair, it shall be the very place where their adversaries will be vanquished, fleeing in fear. Despite the daunting presence of enemies akin to roaring lions, it is precisely where God will orchestrate a remarkable triumph—a field of game-changing victory.

Baal Perazim!

Baal Parazim is a location named by David after the Philistine god. Baal, signifies a pivotal site where the enemy's apparent strength is shattered by God's intervention. It serves as a testament to God's power prevailing over the enemy's strongholds. Today, God desires to grant us breakthroughs precisely in

the areas where we perceive the enemy to have a grip. Just as David exemplified, we often fail to grasp the full extent of God's plans for our lives due to our limited perception of His unseen workings on our behalf. Trusting in the Lord's faithfulness leads to triumphant outcomes even in the most challenging battlegrounds of life.

Even as God's angelic armies led the host of Israel, He is actively working in your life to bring about the tremendous victory you have long awaited. This principle holds great significance because often, when God is quietly orchestrating events in our lives, we may mistakenly perceive His absence, feeling abandoned.

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, proclaim this boldly, "This is my breakthrough moment. Today marks the beginning of my victory." Just as God transformed the valley of Rephaim into Baal Perazim for David, He stands ready

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TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2)

SUPPORT (Romans 12:13)

SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From August 19 To September 18, 2024

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



✚ PRAISE GOD FOR...

- August 19** ⇒ Blessing our **Nehemiah Bible College** faculty and their family members.
- August 20** ⇒ His mercy towards our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners and Great Commission Partners and their families.
- August 21** ⇒ Blessing our ministry with dedicated Associate Editors who support **Echo of His Call** magazine ministry.
- August 22** ⇒ Blessing us with dedicated employees who carry out their duties with oneness of mind.
- August 23** ⇒ Blessing our **Echo of His Call** ministries with external support from plate makers, plate grinders, printing ink suppliers, screen printers, etc.
- August 24** ⇒ Blessing us with partners who support us morally and financially.
- August 25** ⇒ Blessing our **St. Paul's Matriculation School** principal, staff and students.
- August 26** ⇒ His blessings on our **St. Paul's Matriculation School, Nehemiah Bible College and Correspondence Courses**.
- August 27** ⇒ The great commitment from the Mission workers.
- August 28** ⇒ Blessing our 56th Anniversary Celebrations held on the 10th of August 2024.
- August 29** ⇒ His care towards our Senior Pastor and his family.
- August 30** ⇒ Missions visit to Surat, Gujarat by Rev. S. Sam Selva Raj and team.
- August 31** ⇒ Meeting out our needs last month.
- September 01** ⇒ Addition of new members to our Churches.

September 02 ⇒ New Admissions at **St. Paul's Matriculation School**.

September 03 ⇒ Protecting all our staff members and their families. .

✚ PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

September 04 ⇒ Our Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj to be blessed with new visions for his multifarious ministries.

September 05 ⇒ Welfare of **Echo of His Call** believers and their families belonging to main Church and branches.

September 06 ⇒ The blessing and protection upon all Christian Organisations and Churches.

September 07 ⇒ Our ministerial expansions and worldwide propagation of the gospel.

September 08 ⇒ Christian preachers to preach the gospel perfectly without adulteration.

September 09 ⇒ Unity and peace of all nations.

September 10 ⇒ Our Printer, Assistant Printer and all the staff in the Printing Press.

September 11 ⇒ The safety of our Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj and his family members from all evil forces.

September 12 ⇒ Our ministerial activities and expansions.

September 13 ⇒ Enabling us to reach the unreached places of India.

September 14 ⇒ The safety of all women and children all over the World.

September 15 ⇒ The Lord to meet every alcoholic and evil doers to commit into repentance.

September 16 ⇒ More new students to join in our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.

September 17 ⇒ The well being of our State Co-ordinators and their families.

September 18 ⇒ God to meet out our needs of this month.

....Contd. from page 4

to do the same for each one of us today.

In 2 Samuel 5:21, we witness the **Philistines fleeing, relinquishing what was rightfully theirs, as David's forces burned and destroyed it all.**

I pray that the Lord will go ahead of you, turning your valleys of struggle into places of abundant blessing, empowering you to eradicate all that the enemy has left behind. Remember, when you find yourself under relentless attack by the enemy, take heart, for you are in

the right place—God is performing marvelous works in your life.

Our adversaries are in retreat, shattered by God's intervention. David's soldiers set ablaze all that opposed them, leaving nothing but ashes in their wake.

THE LORD SHALL BE WITH THE GOOD!

(2 CHRONICLES 19:11)

(Message given by Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj to the Church)

The reward of leading a faithful life is not seen outwardly often. We may see men living in lies and vanity prospers greatly. This may make us think, "What is the use of living a faithful life?" But as days pass by, those who are faithful, receive divine help abundantly. **"A faithful man shall abound with blessings: ..."** (Proverbs 28:20).

1. GOD will immediately listen to their prayers.
2. GOD will approve their applications.
3. The angel of the Lord will be always ready to help them while they are in danger.

King Hezekiah was righteous before God: **"He trusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him. For he clave to the LORD, and departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses. And the LORD was with him; and he prospered whithersoever he went..."** (2 Kings 18:5-7).

In 2 Kings chapter 20, we find the same King caught in serious illness. He turned his face toward the wall and prayed to the LORD saying, **"I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth**

and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight..." (2 Kings 20:3).

Earlier, we were printing our magazine in a Christian press. Once the supervisor of that press told me, "Pastor, when we undertake some orders for the people of the world, we are sure of receiving money for that. But when we do some work for the servants of GOD, it is very difficult to get the

money from them. Though they have the money, they are unwilling to pay. I wonder how they work for GOD!"

In the Bible we find people who are 'faithful' and people who are 'upright'. There is a close relation between being 'faithful' and being 'good'. In 2 Chronicles 19:11, we read, **"... the LORD shall be with the good (upright)"**. In Psalm 15:1, 2 we read, **"He that**

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3. **BIBLECOR** - Basic Bible Courses (English, Tamil & Hindi)
4. Theological Correspondence Courses: English & Tamil
5. Nehemiah Bible Colleges (Chepauk, Santhoshapuram & Velachery)
6. Great Commission Partners (Network of Pastors)
7. Training Programmes – Seminars & Retreats
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 (Chepauk) : 10.30 a.m. Sunday & (Velachery, Balaji Nagar & Santhoshapuram) 3.00 p.m. Sunday
13. **Early Morning Service** : 5.30 a.m. Sunday
14. **Preliminary Service** : 8.00 a.m. Sunday
15. **Tamil Service** : 8.30 a.m. Sunday
16. **Youth Meeting** : 11.00 a.m. Sunday
17. **Fellowship Lunch** : 1.00 p.m. Sunday
18. **Hindi Service** : 4.00 p.m. Sunday
19. **Telugu Service** : 5.00 p.m. Sunday
20. **English & Hindi Service** : 6.00 p.m. Sunday
21. Feedback Time : 7.30 p.m. Sunday
22. Women's Prayer : 5.30 p.m. Wednesday
23. Men's Prayer : 7.00 p.m. Friday
24. Discipleship Meeting : 6.00 p.m. Saturday
25. House Meetings : 6.30 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday
26. Special Holy Communion : 6.00 a.m. 1st day of each month
27. Ministers' Meeting : 6.00 p.m. First Saturday
28. Parents' Prayer : 4.00 p.m. First Sunday
29. Night Prayer : 9.30 p.m. Third Friday
30. Fasting Prayer : 9:30 a.m. Second Saturday
31. Holy Communion : Second Sunday Services
32. Youth / Kid Prayer : 10.00 p.m. daily (over phone)
33. Staff Devotion : 9.00 a.m. daily
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- Editor

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PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

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



**... THOSE WHO WAIT ON THE LORD SHALL
RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; ... AND NOT FAINT. - ISAIAH 40:31.**



During my very early days in the year 1972, I was prompted by the Spirit of the Lord to conduct an evangelistic crusade in a place called Saidapet, Chennai. We had given enough advertisement through wall posters, hand bills etc, inviting people for the crusade. I, with the help of my fellowmen tried as much as possible to bring people.

Plenty of prayers were offered exclusively for this programme. Some of my friends brought their musical instruments and special song sheets. At the time of the commencement of the crusade, we were not able to see any people coming over there. But we had been waiting for a long time. Finally two brothers came to attend the crusade. All my fellow brethren who worked hard for the crusade felt very sad. They asked me why God has not answered our sincere prayers and honoured our hard work. I told them that God may have His answer in His own way. I did not really lose hope. **I strengthened myself in the Lord my God** (1 Samuel 130:6).

However, we conducted the worship service and I preached a powerful message and one among the two participants gave his life to the Lord and later he committed himself to work for the Lord with me.

Now God has raised me to preach in crusades where thousands of people gather in India and outside the country of India. God's name is glorified. For this, I had to wait for several years with much patience and faith.

Dear brothers and sisters, are you sailing in boat of failure? Do you think that all your hard works and fasting prayers are not yielding fruits? Sometimes God is silent when we are very active with great and immediate expectation, to test our faith and patience towards Him.

“That the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 1:7.

God bless you.

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walketh uprightly shall climb on GOD'S Holy Hill”. **“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect (upright) toward Him...”** (2 Chronicles 16:9). GOD needs an upright generation (Luke 1:17). **“... He is a buckler to them that walk uprightly”** (Proverbs 2:7). **“... Noah was a just (upright) man and perfect in his generations...”** (Genesis 6:9). **“... I am the Almighty God; walk before Me,**

and be thou perfect (upright)” (Genesis 17:1). **... the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered My servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil”** (Job 1:8).

“Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God, and die” (Job 2:9). **“... as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever”** (Psalm 41:12). **“Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: ...”** (1 Timothy 1:2).

Firstly, Noah could be singled out in his generation. We should also be able to thank God for having stood alone uprightly in our evil generation. GOD gives each of us different talents, different voice, grace and chances. When I am alone in my room I pray GOD, “I praise You that You are with me. I could not have done all these things, if You are not with me”. It is because of His divine power and anointing we are able to do such great things. We get healing. God could see Noah an upright man in his evil generation. We should also

be upright and enjoy the privilege of walking with GOD.

When we are not covetous, truthful in all dealings and fear GOD always, GOD will walk with us. We can experience the presence of GOD when we are alone.

Secondly, GOD called Noah and asked him to build an ark. Many say, "Let GOD call me alone and tell me specifically. Then I'll obey Him". If God should speak to us, our ears should be sharp and the heart should be clean and open. He never anoints us or speaks to us when we are one with the world involving in all deceptions and having stained consciences. If we live as GOD's children, we can hear His voice. If we fear God and lead a righteous life, He will remove all diseases, problems and sorrows and enable us to hear His voice.

I have heard the voice of God very clearly three times in my life. It is a very sweet voice. Once I could hear Him calling my name. Another time, He called me for His ministry. The third time, He gave me a promise while I was lying sick. It is very difficult to safeguard these experiences.

Dear children of GOD, He is not an unjust GOD to forget all the good things and the charities you have done (Hebrews 6:10). He is a righteous GOD. If you are righteous before Him and turn yourselves as 'able persons' before Him, He will surely walk with you. You can also hear His voice. Above all these, He will grant you the grace to fulfill His will.

GOD's blessings depend upon the commitment we have in His work. We can surely hear His voice.

Thirdly, Noah also got a job from GOD. We should not remain as servants who have not received the orders from GOD. When you surrender yourself totally, you begin to see GOD walking with you. It is because we are not in His grace and in His love, we fail to do His work efficiently. When we do things on our own, we meet with failures. But when we work within GOD's will, it gives great power to us.

Next, GOD qualifies us. So we develop skills. He also rewards us in our work. Sometimes we had heard the words of the parents of some ministers as, "My son has taken up the LORD's ministry. I wonder how he is going to live". Those who work for the LORD's kingdom are the greatest persons in this world. GOD wants to bless those who work for His Kingdom. Noah was also able to complete all the work given by GOD.

Many a times, we are unable to accept the plans given by GOD. If it is beyond our ability we begin to wonder. GOD expects each one of us to do what He wants us to do. We should do what exactly He asks us to do, whatever it may be.

Finally we read, Noah did "... according to all that God

commanded him, so did he" (Genesis 6:22). GOD will complete all that He has started. What He has started in your life, He will fulfill. With what purpose He called you, He will surely accomplish it. **You have to only change yourselves to fear GOD always. Be truthful before GOD's sight.** Don't tell lies. Many want to speak the truth. But before that they will utter a lie. **GOD will not use liars.** Change yourselves as people who are not covetous. Try to hate covetousness.

"... the Lord shall be with the good" (2 Chronicles 19:11).

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- Editor

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