

1 UPhetro

1 UPhetro, umphostoli kaJesu Khristu, Kwabakhethiweyo bakaNkulunkulu, lakuzihambi emhlabeni labahlakazekileyo kulo lonke elasePhontusi, laseGalathiya, laseKhaphadokhiya, lase-Asiya kanye laseBhithiniya, ² abakhethwe ngokumayelana lokwazi mandulo kukaNkulunkulu uBaba, ngomsebenzi ongwelisayo kaMoya, ngokulalela uJesu Khristu langokuchelwa ngegazi lakhe:

Umusa lokuthula kakube ngokwenu ngokwandileyo.

Ukudumisa uNkulunkulu ngenxa yethemba eliphilayo

³ Udumo kalube kuNkulunkulu uYise weNkosi yethu uJesu Khristu! Ngenxa yesihawu sakhe esikhulu usinike ukuzalwa kutsha ethembeni eliphilayo ngokuvuka kwabafileyo kukaJesu Khristu, ⁴ kanye laselifeni elingeke libole, lonakale loba libune – eliligcinelweyo ezulwini. ⁵ Ngokukholwa livikelwe ngamandla kaNkulunkulu kuze kufike ukusindiswa okulungiselwe ukubonakaliswa ngesikhathi sokucina. ⁶ Liyathokoza kakhulu ngalokhu lanxa like lahlupheka okwesikhatshana ngezinsizi zezinhlobo zonke zezilingo. ⁷ Zifikile ukuze ukukholwa kwenu – okuqakatheke kakhulu kulegolide, elonakalayo lanxa licengwe ngomlilo – kubonakaliswe kuqotho njalo kulethe ukubonga, lenkazimulo kanye lodumo lapho uJesu Khristu esebonakaliswa. ⁸ Lanxa lingambonanga, liyamthanda; njalo lanxa lingamboni khathesi, liyakholwa

kuye njalo ligcwele intokozo engakhulumekiyo lemangalisayo, ⁹ ngoba lamukela umvuzo wokukholwa kwenu, ukusindiswa kwemiphefumulo yenu.

¹⁰ Mayelana lokusindiswa lokhu, abaphrofethi, abakhuluma ngomusa owawuzakuza kini, badingisisa ngesineke esikhulu, ¹¹ bezama ukwazi isikhathi lomumo okwakutshiwo nguMoya kaKhristu owayekubo lapho atsho mandulo ngezinhlupheko zikaKhristu lenkazimulo eyayizalandela. ¹² Kwabonakaliswa kubo ukuthi bona babengazisebenzeli, kodwa besebenzela lina lapho babekhuluma ngezinto khathesi eselizitshelwe yilabo abatshumayele ivangeli kini ngoMoya oNgcwele owathunywa evela ezulwini. Lezingilosi ziyafisa ukuzibona lezizinto.

Yibani ngcwele

¹³ Ngakho lungiselani izingqondo zenu okungenziwa; zithibeni; bekani ithemba lenu ngokupheleleyo emuseni elizawuthola lapho uJesu Khristu esebonakalisiwe. ¹⁴ Njengabantwana abalalelayo lingavumeli izinkanuko ezimbi elalilazo lingakazi. ¹⁵ Kodwa njengoba lowo owalibizayo engcwele, ngakho yibani ngcwele kukho konke elikwenzayo; ¹⁶ ngoba kulotshiwe ukuthi: “Yibani ngcwele ngoba mina ngingcwele.”

¹⁷ Njengoba likhuleka kuYihlo owahlulela imisebenzi yomuntu ngamunye kungekho bandlululo, philani impilo yenu lapha njengezihambi ngokwesaba okuhloniphayo. ¹⁸ Ngoba liyakwazi ukuthi kalihlengwanga ngezinto ezifayo ezinjengegolide lesiliva endleleni yokuphila eyize elakutshiyelwa ngokhokho benu, ¹⁹ kodwa ngegazi eliligugu likaKhristu imvana engelacala loba isici.

²⁰ Wakhethwa umhlaba ungakadalwa, kodwa wabonakaliswa ngalezi izikhathi zokucina ngenxa yenu. ²¹ Ngaye liyakholwa kuNkulunkulu, owamvusa kwabafileyo wamnika inkazimulo, ngakho ukukholwa kwenu lethemba kukuNkulunkulu.

²² Njengoba khathesi selizihlambulule ngokulalela iqiniso ukuze libe lothando oluqotho kubazalwane benu, thandanani kakhulu, kusuka enhliziyweni. ²³ Ngoba selizalwe kutsha, kungasikho ngenhlanyelo ebolayo, kodwa ngengaboliyo, ngelizwi eliphilayo eliqinileyo likaNkulunkulu. ²⁴ Ngoba,

“Abantu bonke banjengotshani,
bonke ubukhosi babo
bunjengamaluba eganga;
utshani buyabuna njalo iluba
liyawohloka,

²⁵ kodwa ilizwi leNkosi limi kuze kube nini lanini.”

Njalo leli yilo ilizwi elatshunyayelwa kini.

2 Ngakho lahlani ububi bonke

lenkohliso yonke, lokuzenzisa, lomona, kanye lesinyeyo senhlobo zonke.

² Njengabantwana abasanda kuzalwa, funani uchago lomoya oluhlambukileyo, ukuze likhuliswe yilo ekusindisweni kwenu, ³ njengoba selibonile ukuthi iNkosi ilungile.

ILitshe Eliphilayo kanye labantu abakhethiweyo

⁴ Lapho lisiza kuye, iLitshe eliphilayo – elaliwa ngabantu kodwa elakhethwa nguNkulunkulu njalo liligugu kuye –

⁵ lani futhi, njengamatshe aphilayo lakhiwa ukuba yindlu yokomoya ukuba libe yibuphristi obungcwele, linikela imihlatshelo yokomoya eyamukelekayo

kuNkulunkulu ngoJesu Khristu. ⁶ Ngoba emibhalweni kuthiwa:

“Khangelani, ngibeka ilitshe eZiyoni, ilitshe lengosi elikhethiweyo eliligugu, njalo lowo okholwa kuye akayikuyangiswa.”

⁷ Kini lina abakholwayo, ilitshe leli liligugu. Kodwa kulabo abangakholwayo:

“Ilitshe elaliwa ngabakhi selibe yinhloko yengosi,”

⁸ Njalo,

“Ilitshe elikhubekisa abantu ledwala elibenza bawe.”

Bayakhubeka ngoba badelela ilizwi okuyikho njalo abakumiselweyo.

⁹ Kodwa lina lingabantu abakhethiweyo, ubuphristi bobukhosi, isizwe esingcwele, abantu abangabakaNkulunkulu, ukuba limemezele izindumiso zakhe yena owalibiza lisemnyameni ukuba lize ekukhanyeni kwakhe okumangalisayo.

¹⁰ Lake langabi ngabantu, kodwa khathesi selingabantu bakaNkulunkulu; lake laswela isihawu; kodwa khathesi selithole isihawu.

¹¹ Bangane abathandekayo, ngiyalincenga, njengabezizweni lezihambi emhlabeni, ukuba lizile izinkanuko zesono ezilwa lemiphefumulo yenu. ¹² Philani impilo elungileyo phakathi kwabangakholwayo ukuze kuthi lanxa besithi lenza okubi, babone izenzo zenu ezilungileyo babonge uNkulunkulu mhla esiza kithi.

Ukuzehlisa kuBabusi laseMakhosini

¹³ Zehliseni ngenxa yeNkosi emibusweni yonke ebekwe phakathi kwabantu: loba enkosini, njengamandla

amakhulu, ¹⁴ loba kubabusi abathunywe yiyo ukuba bajezise labo abenza okubi kanye lokubonga labo abenza okulungileyo. ¹⁵ Ngoba kuyintando kaNkulunkulu ukuthi ngokwenza okulungileyo lizaqeda inkulumo yokungazi yabantu abayiziwula.

¹⁶ Philani njengabantu abakhululekileyo, kodwa lingasebenzisi inkululeko yenu njengezaba lokufihla ububi; philani njengezinceku zikaNkulunkulu.

¹⁷ Tshengisani inhlonipho eqondileyo kwabanye. Thandani ubuzalwane babakholwayo, mesabeni uNkulunkulu, lihloniphe iNkosi.

¹⁸ Zigqili, zehliseni emakhosini enu ngenhlonipho yonke, hatshi kuphela kulawo alungileyo lalozwelo, kodwa lakulawo alolaka. ¹⁹ Ngoba kuyabongeka uma umuntu eqinisela ebuhlungwini bokuhlupheka okungafanelanga ngoba uyazi ngoNkulunkulu. ²⁰ Kodwa kuba ludumo njani kini uma litshayelwa ukwenza okulungileyo njalo likubekezelela, lokhu kuyancomeka phambi kukaNkulunkulu. ²¹ Labizelwa lokhu, ngoba uKhristu walihluphekela, walitshiyela isibonelo, ukuba lilandele amanyathelo akhe.

²² “Yena kenzanga sono, njalo akukho nkohliso eyatholakala emlonyeni wakhe.”

²³ Kwathi bemchaphaza ngezinhlamba zabo, yena kaphindiselanga; lapho ehlupheka, kazange asonge. Kodwa wathembeka kulowo owahlulela ngokulunga. ²⁴ Yena ngokwakhe wathwala izono zethu emzimbeni wakhe esiphambanweni ukuze siphephe ezonweni njalo siphilele ukulunga; lisilisiwe ngamanxeba akhe. ²⁵ Ngoba lina lalinjengezimvu ezilahlekileyo, kodwa khathezi selibuyele kuMalusi loMbonisi wemiphefumulo yenu.

Abesifazana labomkabo

3 Ngokunjalo, bafazi zehliseleni

kubomkenu ukuze kuthi uma abanye babo bengalikhholwa ilizwi, bahugeke ngokuziphatha kwabomkabo kungekho kukhuluma, ² lapho bebona ukuhlanzeka lenhlonipho yokuphila kwenu. ³ Ubhle benu kabungaveli ekuziceciseni kwangaphandle, okunjengezinwele ezelukeyo lokugqiza izigqizo zegolide kanye lokugqoka izigqoko ezinhle.

⁴ Kodwa kumele bube ngobangaphakathi kwenu, ubhle obungapheliyo bomoya omnene lothuleyo, oligugu elikhulu emehlweni kaNkulunkulu.

⁵ Ngoba le yiyo indlela abesifazana abangcwele bakudala ababethembe uNkulunkulu ababejwayele ukuzicola ngayo. Babezehlisa kubomkabo,

⁶ njengoSara owalalela u-Abrahama wambiza ngokuthi yinkosi yakhe. Lingamadodakazi kaSara uma lisenza okulungileyo njalo lingavumeli ukwesaba.

⁷ Ngokufanayo, madoda ekuphileni kwenu labomkenu wobani lozwelo, libaphathe ngenhlonipho njengababuthakathaka labayizindlalifa kanye lani zesipho sokuphila esomusa, ukuze kungabi lalutho oluzavimbela imikhuleko yenu.

Ukuhluphekela ukwenza okulungileyo

⁸ Okokucina lonke hlalisanani ngokuthula; wobani lozwelo, lithandane njengabazalwane, libe lesihawu kanye lokuthobeka. ⁹ Lingabuyiseli okubi ngokubi loba inhlamba ngenhlamba, kodwa ngesibusiso, ngoba labizelwa ukuze lizuze ilifa lokubusiswa.

¹⁰ Ngoba,

“Lowo othanda ukuphila abone lezinsuku ezinhle

kumele anqande ulimi lwakhe kokubi lezindebe zakhe ekukhulumeni inkohliso.

¹¹ Kumele aphenduke kokubi enze okulungileyo; kumele adinge ukuthula akulandele.

¹² Ngoba amehlo eNkosi aphezu kwabalungileyo, lezindlebe zayo ziyayilalela imikhuleko yabo, kodwa ubuso beNkosi bumelana lalabo abenza okubi.”

¹³ Ngubani ozalilimaza uma litshisekela ukwenza okulungileyo na?

¹⁴ Kodwa lanxa lingahlupheka ngenxa yokulungileyo, libusisekile.

“Lingakwesabi lokho abakwesabayo; kalingethuswa. ¹⁵ Kodwa yamukelani uKhristu ezinhliziyweni zenu njengeNkosi engcwele. Hlalani lilungele ukuphendula loba ngubani olibuza isizatho ngethemba elilalo. ¹⁶ Kodwa lokhu kwenzeni ngobumnene langenhlonipho, lilesazela esihle, ukuze kuthi labo abakhuluma okubi ngokuziphatha kwenu okuhle kuKhristu bayangeke ngokuhlambaza kwabo.

¹⁷ Kungcono, uma kuyintando kaNkulunkulu, ukuhlupheka ngenxa yokwenza okulungileyo kulangenxa yokwenza okubi. ¹⁸ Ngoba uKhristu wafela izono zenu kwaba kanye, olungileyo efela abangalunganga, ukuze alise kuNkulunkulu. Wabulawa emzimbeni kodwa wavuswa nguMoya,

¹⁹ wahamba ngaye wayatshumayela emimoyeni eyayisentolongweni yona

²⁰ engalalelanga kudala lapho uNkulunkulu walinda ngokubekezela ezinsukwini zikaNowa umkhumbi usakhiwa. Phakathi kwawo abantu abalutshwana nje kuphela, abaficamibili bebonke, basiliswa ngamanzi, ²¹ njalo amanzi la afanekisa umbhaphathizo osusilisa lani futhi – kungayisikho

kususa ingcekeza emzimbeni kodwa kuyisibambiso sesazela esihle kuNkulunkulu. Siyalisilisa ngokuvuka kwabafileyo kukaJesu Khristu, ²² oseye ezulwini njalo usesandleni sokunene sikaNkulunkulu – lezingilosi, leziphathamandla kanye lezikhulu ekuzehliseni kuye.

Ukuphilela uNkulunkulu

4 Ngakho, njengoba uKhristu

wahlupheka emzimbeni wakhe, lani hlomani ngesimo esifanayo, ngoba lowo owahluphekayo emzimbeni wakhe usehlule isono. ² Ngakho-ke, ukuphila kwakhe kwasemhlabeni okuseleyo kakuphileli izinkanuko ezimbi zabantu, kodwa intando kaNkulunkulu. ³ Ngoba selichithe isikhathi esaneleyo ngaphambili lisenza lokho abahedeni abakhetha ukukwenza – impilo yobudlova, inkanuko, lokudakwa, ukuzitika, ukuzivusa amadlabuzane kanye lezithombe eziyisinengiso.

⁴ Bakubona kumangalisa ukuthi kalibhudlukeli kanye labo kusikhukhula sinye sencithakalo, njalo bayalithuka kakhulu. ⁵ Kodwa kuzamela baziphendulele kuye olungele ukwahlulela abaphilayo kanye labafileyo. ⁶ Ngoba lesi yisona sizatho esenza kwatshunyayelwa ivangeli lakulabo khatesi asebefile, ukuze bahlulelwe ngokwabantu mayelana lomzimba, kodwa baphile ngokukaNkulunkulu mayelana lomoya.

⁷ Ukuphela kwezinto zonke sekusondele. Ngakho kumele liqedisise njalo lizithibe ukuze likhuleke. ⁸ Phezu kwakho konke, thandanani ngokupheleleyo, ngoba uthando lugqibela izono ezinengi.

⁹ Yamukelanani emakhaya enu kungekho kukhonona.

¹⁰ Lowo lalowo kumele asebenzise loba yisiphi isipho somoya asamukelayo ekusizeni abanye, ewusebenzisa ngobuqotho umusa kaNkulunkulu ngezimo zawo ezahlukeneyo. ¹¹ Uma umuntu ekhuluma, kumele akhulume njengokhuluma amazwi kaNkulunkulu wona ngokwawo. Uma umuntu ekhonza, kumele akhonze ngamandla awaphiwa nguNkulunkulu, ukuze kuthi ezintweni zonke uNkulunkulu adunyiswe ngoJesu Khristu. Udumo lamandla kakube kuye kuze kube nini nini. Amen.

Ukuhlupheka ngenxa yokuba ngumKhristu

¹² Bangane bami abathandekayo, lingamangaliswa yibuhlungu besilingo elibuzwayo, kungathi kwenzakala into engaziwayo kini. ¹³ Kodwa thokozani ngokuthi liyahlanganyela ekuhluphekeni kukaKhristu, ukuze lithokoze kakhulu lapho inkazimulo yakhe isibonakaliswa. ¹⁴ Uma lithukwa ngenxa yebizo likaKhristu, libusisiwe, ngoba uMoya wenkazimulo lokaNkulunkulu uhlezi phezu kwenu. ¹⁵ Uma lihlupheka, akungabi njengombulali loba isela kumbe olunye uhlobo lwesigebenga loba lanjengongenelayo ezindabeni zabanikazi. ¹⁶ Kodwa-ke, uma lihlupheka njengomKhristu, lingayangeki, kodwa dumisani uNkulunkulu ngokuba lebizolakhe. ¹⁷ Ngoba kuyisikhathi sokuthi ukwahlulela kuqalise ngabendlu kaNkulunkulu; njalo uma kuqalisa ngathi, isiphetho sizakuba yini kulabo abangalaleli ivangeli likaNkulunkulu na? ¹⁸ Njalo,

“Uma kunzima ukuba abalungileyo basindiswe, pho kuyini okuzakwenzakala kwabayizoni kanye labeyisa uNkulunkulu na?”

¹⁹ Ngakho-ke labo abahlupheka ngokwentando kaNkulunkulu kumele bazinikele kuMdali wabo othembekileyo njalo baqhubeke besenza okulungileyo.

Ebadaleni lamajaha

5 Ebadaleni abaphakathi kwenu, ngiyakhalaza njengomunye wabadala, ufakazi wezinhlupheko zikaKhristu lomunye laye ozahlanganyela enkazimulweni ezabonakaliswa: ² Yibani ngabelusi bomhlambi kaNkulunkulu eliwugcinayo, lisebenze njengababonisi – kungasikubanjwa ngamandla, kodwa ngenxa yokuthanda kwenu, njengoba uNkulunkulu efuna ukuba libe njalo; lingelamhawu wemali, kodwa lifisa ukusiza; ³ hatshi ukubusa ababekwe ezandleni zenu, kodwa liyisibonelo emhlambini. ⁴ Lapho uMalusi oMkhulu evela, lizakwamukela umqhele wenkazimulo engayikufiphala.

⁵ Majaha, ngokunjalo zehliseni kwabadala. Lonke zembathiseni ngokuthobeka omunye komunye, ngoba,

“UNkulunkulu umelana labazigqajayo kodwa abe lomusa kwabathobekileyo.”

⁶ Ngakho-ke zithobeni ngaphansi kwesandla sikaNkulunkulu esilamandla, ukuze aliphakamise ngesikhathi esifaneleyo. ⁷ Yethulani kuye konke ukukhathazeka kwenu ngoba yena uyalikhathalela.

⁸ Zithibeni, liqaphele. Isitha senu, uSathane, siyazulazula njengesilwane esibhongayo sidinga esingamudla. ⁹ Menqabeni, liqinile ekukholweni, ngokuba liyakwazi ukuthi abazalwane

benu emhlabeni wonke baphakathi
kwazona lezo izinhlupheko.

¹⁰ Njalo uNkulunkulu womusa
wonke, yena owalibizela enkazimulweni
yakhe kuKhristu, emva kokuba
lihlupheke okwesikhatshana, yena uqobo
uzalivuselela alenze libe lamandla, liqine
njalo lithembeke. ¹¹ Amandla kawabe
kuye kuze kube nininini. Ameni.

Ukuvalelisa

¹² Ngosizo lukaSila, engimthanda
njengomzalwane othembekileyo,
ngililobele ngamafitshane ngilikhuthaza
njalo ngifakaza ukuthi lo ngumusa
oqotho kaNkulunkulu. Bambelelani
kuwo.

¹³ Lowo oseBhabhiloni, owakhethwa
kanye lani, uyalibingelela, loMakho
indodana yami uyalibingelela.
Bingelelanani ngokwangana kothando.

Ukuthula kakube kini lonke
elikuKhristu.