

Yiliphi Ibandla?

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Ngezikhathi ezinengi sihlanguana lalabo ubabuza ngokuma, imfundiso, langengqubo yeFree Presbyterian Church of Scotland. Yile impendulo yokuchayisisa okunjalo njalo lokuncoma ibandla kulabo abangalothando lokuhlanganyela lobudlelwano lalo.

Sekwejwayelekile ngensuku zalamuhla ukuzwa abantu besithi, “Kuyini okuhluphayo ngokuthi yiliphi ibandla okulo?” Bonke bakhonza uNkulunkulu ofananayo. Bakwenza ngendlela ezehlukeneyo. Lokhukuqinisa kuphuma lula endebeni, kodwa iBhayibhili ithini ngalo umbuzo?

Kakukhulunywe kusukela ekuqaleni, ukuthi into eqakathekileyo yikuthi umuntu abe lilunga leBandla ngabakhonzi abaqotho labo abazelwe ngokutsha, abazono zabo zithethelelwe ngokholo kuJesu Kristu njengeNdodana kaNkulunkulu (Mathewu 16:16-18)

KakulaBandla emhlabeni elingazithathela kulo ngokwalo ibango lokuthi yilo lodwa elihlanganise ndawonye abafundi abaqotho beNkosi uJesu Kristu. Ukuthi loba kunjani kakulandaba ukuthi yiliphi iBandla elikhethekileyo umuntu angabakulo kakusiloqiniso. Imibhalo ifuna ukuthi, “Hlolisisani konke”, “Iibambelele kokuhle” (1 AbaseThesalonika 5:21) Ukukhetha iBandla umuntu abakulo kulendaba. Ngokucacileyo iBandla elingatshumayeli ivangeli likaNkulunkulu kakufanelanga silisekele, ngoba uKristu ufuna iBandla ukuthi lifundise, “zonke izinto loba yikuphi engililaye khona”.

Ngakho ukunqineka kwethu yikusekela iBandla elisondela eduze kakhulu lalokho okubhalwe eThestamenteni Elitsha okuyisifanekiso sezinto zaphezulu seBandla likaKristu kulo umhlaba. Nxa siphendukela eBhayibhilini sizathola ukuthi izisekelo zomthetho zendlalwe kuhle mayelana ngengqubo langokubuswa kweBandla emhlabeni. Imithetho le kayisiyo yokhetha ngokuthanda, yokuthi sithathe kumbe siyekele njengokuthanda kwethu. Zidindwe ngesibopho saphezulu. Ngakho sifanele siyamukele. IBandla elenza njalo ngokuthembeka okukhulukazi lisondele duze kakhulu lesibonelo seThestamente Elitsha, njalo liliBandla esifanele ukulithobela lelifanele ukuphakamisa inhlala kuhle yethu yakomoya. Nxa singathathi imiBhalo eNgewele njengesilinganiso sethu, kulokhu lanjengakweminye imibuzo sizaduka kakhulu ekukhetheni kwethu. Kakukhunjulwe ukuthi uNkulunkulu kayisuye umqali wesiphithiphithi. UnguNkulunkulu wokuhlela kuhle, njalo iLizwi lakhe lingevumele imfundiso ephikisayo kunye lenhlelo.

ILizwi likaNkulunkulu lisitshela ukuthi kakulanyama efanele ukudunyiswa ebukhoneni bukaNkulunkulu. Uba kungaba lodumo kumele kudunyiswe eNkosini (1 Kor. 1:29,31). Okulaywayo lapha mayelana loKristu langomunye ngamunye umKristu kungadingeka lokuthi lonke iBandla lamaKristu libe lakho. Kakulandawo yokuziqhenya. KakulaBandla emhlabeni elipheleleyo ukuze likhululeke kukungapheleli.

Silesandulelo esiphezulu emkhumbulweni yethu, sizavuma ukuthi iFree Presbyterian Church of Scotland liyatshengisa ngemfundiso langengqubo ukuthi lililunga eliqotho lelilungileyo leBandla likaKristu elithembekileyo.

Ziyini iziqu zalo? Okokuqala kalivumi loba ngubani ngaphandle kweNkosi uJesu Kristu njengeNhloko leNkosi yalo. Beselithatha ilizwi likaNkulunkulu njengesisekelo semfundiso yalo njalo litshengisa ukuzimisela ukungavumeli imibhalo yabantu kumbe inkolo zabantu zemvelo ukungenela kubunye beMibhalo njengesilinganiso sokholo lengqubo yalo. Liyatshumayela iLizwi lamukelise amasakramente, umbuso walo, lokuziphatha kwalo kuvumelana lengqondo kaKristu okomhlaba, kumbe okokwenza kwabantu, kakuvunyelwa ukungcolisa ukukhonza kwalo. Kusobala ngokuthembeka okukhululekileyo elizwini likaKristu lizakuya lisiba ngelicwengekileyo.

Lezi yizisekelo zezimiso, oKhalvini loKnox, aBalungisi bokholo lobuKristu, ababevumelana lazo, iBandla leFree Presbyterian Church of Scotland elimi kuzo.

Uvumo Lokholo Lwethu

Kumbali yebandla bekuhlezi kusiba khona kuso sonke isikhathi labo abalayo ukusetshenziswa kovumo lokholo. Abaphikisi abanjalo babanga umsindo omkhulu lokuxokozela lamuhla. Bazenza abalenzliziyo yokukhonza uNkulunkulu lokuzinikela okukhula eBhayibhili sekulokuphambuka kusukwa kumbali yovumo lokholo aBalungisi abaPhikisi benkolo yamaRoma ababelumisile. Bayahlwa ngoba abanye beqinisa besithi kuyikwephulwa kweqiniso likaNkulunkulu.

Loba kunjalo injongo eqondileyo yovumo lokholo kuyikubonisa iqiniso leBhayibhili kuhlelo, lokuchaza lokuvikela imfundiso zobuKristu ezisobala ngolimi olucacileyo. Kukhatshana lokuzithathela ngamandla indawo ephezulu yoMbalo, uVumo olusekelwe yiBhayibhili loluluvikelayo kukhatshana lokufiphaza udumo lukaKristi kanye lesiphambano sakhe, ziyayichaza njalo

ziyibonisa. Labo abafuna ukuthi ziyekelwe, kuzatholakala ukuthi kabalalazwi ngokufanela lokuqakatheka kwazo, abafisa ukukhululeka ekuhambeni ngobutshapha mayelana lemibono yeMibhalo, lemibono efipheleyo ngoKholo lamaKristu. IBandla elingelavumo lokholo liyinhlelisa.

IFree Presbyterian Church of Scotland ilondoloza ngenhliziyo yonke inkonzo yoVumo Lokholo lweWestminister - uVumo olungenxa yokuba semibhalweni, lokuqedisiseka, lokuchaza ngolimi olucacileyo kwalo, kaluzange lwenziwe ngcono. Lolugwalo oluyimpumela yeminyaka embalwa yomtshikatshika, lwabunjwa ngabanye abahlakaniphileyo labafunde kakhulu abeZikotshi lamaNgisi ekhulwini leminyaka elitshumi lesikhombisa. Lwavunywa ngoMthetho woMbuthano Jikelele weBandla leziKotshi ngo1647. Ngemva “kokuzindla okupheleleyo” kwaphawulwa “ngokokholo olukhulu olugxile phezu kweLizwi likaNkulunkulu”. Ukubongwa kokuvuma kwenziwa kuNkulunkulu ngenxa yesihawu sakhe esikhulu “ngokuthi uVumo loKholo oluhle kangaka” lwavunywa yiMibuso yomibili lwakhangelwa njengo“kuqiniswa okukhulu kwenkonzo eLungisiweyo imelene lezitha zayo.” Lwavunywa yiPhalamende yeziKotshi ngo1949, njalo futhi ngemva kweNguquko yobukhosi belizwe ngo1960. Ngakho uVumo loKholo lweWestminister lulamandla eSimiso somthetho.

Yiloluvumo oluyisilinganiso esiphansi seBandla lethu, siphansi, yebo, kuleLizwi likaNkulunkulu. Kwake kwaba lesikhathi lapho iPresbyterian Church ilizwe lonke jikelele lahlanganyela loVumo loKholo ngendlela yeLizwi likaNkulunkulu. Siyakholwa ukuthi iBandla lingeke liphumelele ngaphandle kokuthi libuyele kumfundiso eliyinikayo njalo legqubo eliyifunayo.

Izimo Ezehlukileyo

Lanxa ubufakazi beFree Presbyterian Church of Scotland buvumelan kakhulu lemfundiso yonke yoVumo lweWestminister, kulokuthile okwehlukileyo okufika kubalule ubufakazi balo. Lokhukwehluka kakukho ekwengezeleleni kumbe ukuphunguleni kusilinganiso seWestminister. Lihlala ikakhulu ekubambeleleni kumfundiso amanye amaBandla asedelile ngopheleleyo kumbe okuthi ngazo babambelele kumibono angaphelele. Ziyilezi:

1. Ukuba yiNhloko kukaKristu. Uyiyo yodwa iNhloko yeBandla njalo umisile iziphathamandla abaphathi beBandla ukubusa indaba zalo ngokwehlukene labomantshi bezakhamuzi. Laba abalezikhundla balokwahlulela kwakomoya, abahlanganisa ngawo hatshi ngaphansi kweziphathelene lezakhamuzi

ekwahleleni kukamantshi. Kodwa siqhubeka sibamba uKristu kayisiyo iNkosi yabangcwele kuphela kodwa yiNkosi yezizwe zonke, “iNkosi yamakhosi loMbusi wababusi” (bona Jeremiya 10:7; Isihlabelelo 2. Isambulo 17:14, njalonzalo), lokuthi iLizwe kuyadingeka ukuthi livume njalo lisekele imbanga leqiniso lakhe. Sikholwa kulokhu okuthiwa ngu”Mthetho wokuMiswa”.

2. Imfundiso yeBhayibhili ngenhlawula yokuthula njengoba inikezwa kuVumo lokholo lweWestminister. Sikholwa ukuthi uKristu wafela abakhethwa kuphela, siphikisa imfundiso yohlengo lomuntu wonke, losindiso ngemisebenzi emihle. Sigcizelela uBukhosi bobuninimandla bukaNkulunkulu kusindiso, kodwa sigcizelela okumlandu womuntu ngafanele ukukwenza. Ngakho kuvumelana lemiBhalo, simemezela uKristu yena ebethelelwe izoni “ukuthi loba ngubani okholwa kuye angabhubhi kodwa abe lempilo elaphakade (Johane 3:16).

3. Imfundiso ngamazwi omlomo yokuphefumulelwa kwemiBhalo. Silahla yonke ingcazelo zengqondo zokutshelwa nguMoya oNgcwele ezingaphelelanga. Siqinisa ukuthi iBhayibhili yiLizwi likaNkulunkulu eliphefumulelweyo elingaphosisiyo, kusukela ekuqaleni kuze kube sekucineni.

4. Ukucwengeka kokukhonza. Siphikisa ukusetshenziswa kwezinto ezikhaliwayo, ezitshaywayo ekuhlabeleleni kunkonzo esobala endlini kaNkulunkulu, njalo ngasikhathi sinye siqinisa ukuthi uGwalo lweZihlabelelo lumiswe ngokwaphezulu ukuthi lusetshenziswe njengendumiso enkonzweni kaNkulunkulu. Ngenxa yalokho asisisebenzisi ekukhonzeni kwethu okusobala izingoma ezingaphefumelelwanga, kumbe okukhethwe ngokufinqa imiBhalo.

5. Ukusebenzisa isandla esiqinileyo ngoziphatha ngomoya weVangeli. Ukuziphatha okuqinileyo lokhu akusiko kobukhosi kodwa ngokwezikhonzi okwaphathiswa nguKristu kulabo ababusa ibandla (AmaHebheru 13:7,17) Ukudelela ukuziphatha okuqinileyo yikudelela ukugcina iVangeli. Ngaphandle kwalo ukucwengeka kwebandla kube sengozi.

Umbuso Webandla

Akusweleki ukuthi kutshiwo ukuthi ukongamelwa kwebandla lethu yikusebenzisa abadala bebandla. Lanxa siyavuma ukuthi lesisibonakaliso seBandla kasiqakathekanga kusindiso, kodwa lokhe kungumcijo wokwambulwa okwaphezulu, ngakho kungeke kuyekelwe ukukhangelisiswa. Icebo likaNkulunkulu elipheleleyo lingacina njani nxa ukubuswa kwakomoya

kungamiswanga kwalondolozwa? Lanxa sivuma ukuthi ubulukhuni benhlamvu zokuphathwa komsebenzi lokuhlelwa kwawo ngamacebo okwaphawula ibandla leThestamente Elidala kakudingwa kweLitsha, lona elikholisa inkululeko enkudlwana, kodwa siqinisa ukuthi izimiso eziyinhloko zendlela entsha yokongamela zingabonwa kumbali yebandla lamaKristu. Ngakho kumele silandele ingqubo ebonakaliswa kithi kuThestamente Elitsha.

Ukuhlolisisa izimiso ezimqoka ezangena kukuphathwa kweBandla lakuqala labaphostoli litshengisa ukuthi indlela yokubuswa yayiyikubusa kusetshenziswa abadala. Isimo esiphakathi isibili sendlela yokuphathwa kwebandla ngabatshumayeli kunika amandla ukubusa kwebandla ngaphansi kukaKristu kubafundisi kumbe abadala kumbe ekuhlanganyeleni kwabo bonke ndawonye.

Izimiso eziyisithupha ezilandelayo ziveza isimo sokubuswa kweBandla lendulo lamaKristu (bona uWitherowe, iBandla labaPhostoli):

1. Abaphathizikundla bakethwa ngabantu.
2. Isikundla sombonisi lesomdala kwakuyinto-nye.
3. Kwakulabadala abehlukeneyo kuBandla linye.
4. Ukugcotshwa kakusenzwa ngabadala – okuyikuthi abadala abehlukeneyo
5. Kwakulethuba lokudlulisela phambili kumbuthana wabadala; amandla okongamela kwaqhutshwa yibo behlangene bezinkundla.
6. Ongaye yedwa inhloko yebandla kwakuyiNkosi uJesu Kristu.

Ukuqathanisa okuqotho kwezindlela ezintathu zokubuswa kweBandla okulapho ziwela khona - UbuBhishobhi, Ukuzimela ukhululekile, Ukubusa ngabadala - kutshengisa ukuthi ubuBhishobhi kabuvumelani lezimiso eziphezulu, UkuZimela ukhululekile kuvumelana lemithathu, kube kanti ukuBusa ngabadala kuvumelana lakho konke okuyisithupha. Ngakho isiphetho yikuthi ukuBusa ngabadala selokhu ivumelana lemiBhalo ingeyelungelo laphezulu langentando langokumisa kukaJesu Kristu.

Umbiko Webandla

Ingakenyukeli enkazimulweni yayo iNkosi yethu yahle yanika abapostoli bayo umsebenzi oMkhulu wokuThunywa: Ukuya emhlabeni wonke batshumayele

iVangeli kubo bonke abantu endaweni zonke. Selokhu kwaba njalo iBandla kuyadingeka ukuthi liqhube lokhukuthunywa. IVangeli uKristu athanda ukuthi silitshumayele kumele liqondiswe yiLizwi likaNkulunkulu.

1. Lingumbiko, kuqala, olokwenza ngezono zabantu. Imfundiso yokuthi umuntu uyisoni, ukuthi ucalekile phambi kukaNkulunkulu oNgcwele, lokuthi isono sakhe, nxa engaphendukanga kuso sizamletha kuncithakalo ephakade, lokhu ngokukhethekileyo kakunambitheki kumuntu womvelo. IBhayibhili ngokwalo liyakwamukela lokhu. Kodwa loba singacabanga ngani ngakho kuyimfundisi ebhaliweyo eLizwini likaNkulunkulu kungathi njengosiba lwensimbi. INkosi yethu yathi: “Kangizanga ukubiza abalungileyo, kodwa izoni zize ekuphendukeni.” Uba umuntu engeyisiso isoni engekho engozini yesijeziso sikaNkulunkulu, iVangeli kalikhombi lutho. Kulivangeli losindiso ngoJesu Kristu. Kodwa usindiso kukuphi? Ukucaleka komuntu lokulahlwa kuvela emva kokutshunyayelwa. Ngakho isono somuntu kufanele sigcizelelwe.

2. Lingumbiko ogcizelela ukuthi umuntu kalakho ukuzisindisa. Ivangeli elejwayekileyo khathesi lifundisa ukuthi umuntu ngesingakuthi yimisebenzi emihle angazuza ukuthandwa nguNkulunkulu. Le imfundiso ingumnkatsho yobuFarisi - okumelana lalokho uJesu akukhalimelayo. Hatshi! Umuntu kalakho ukuzisindisa. Yena ngokwamandla omuntu langokuhlakanipha kwakhe angezihlenge. “Nxa bekungaba lomthetho ophiweyo obunganika impilo ngiqinisile ukulunga bekungaba ngomthetho” (AbaseGalathiya 3:21). “Ngoba uba ukulunga kungomlayo, ngakho uKristu wafela ize” (AbaseGalathiya 2:21). IBhayibhili ifundisa ukuthi umuntu ufile ngokwakomoya, lokuthi ngamandla oMoya kaNkulunkulu kuphela umuntu angaphiwa impilo, enziwe athemebele kuJesu. Ngaphandle kokuthi umuntu avunyiswe ngokungabi lethemba kwakhe okupheleleyo uKristu Jesu kaqondani laye. “Abaphilileyo kabadingi melaphi kodwa abagulayo. (Marko 2:17).

3. Lanxa kunjalo umbiko weVangeli kawutshiyi muntu ekulahlekeni kwakhe. Liyamlanda lapho akhona. Litshumayela iselapho; likhomba indlela yokukhululwa: “Ngoba uNkulunkulu wawuthanda umhlaba ngokunjalo, ngakho wanika indodana yakhe ezelwe yodwa ukuze wonke okholwa kuyo angabhubhi kodwa abe lempilo elaphakade” (Johane 3:16) Lokhu kutshoni? Kutsho ukuthi uNkulunkulu usenakelele ukulahleka komuntu. UKristu Jesu ngempilo yakhe engcwele engelasono usesuthise amabango omthetho kaNkulunkulu lokulunga ngokufa esiphambenweni, wathwala isijeziso sesoni. Wafa ongelacala ngenxa yolecala. Ngenxa yalokho indlela yokwamukelwa

kuNkulunkulu ingoKristu, yena ebethelwe. Okufunwa liVangeli ukuze sisindiswe luphenduko siye kuNkulunkulu. “Yena okholwa eNdodaneni ulempilo elaphakade kodwa yena ongakholwayo eNdodaneni kayikubona impilo kodwa ulaka lukaNkulunkulu luhlezi phezu kwakhe” (Johane 3:36).

4. IVangeli lifuna impilo engcwele. Labo abathi ngesisa sikaNkulunkulu, baphendule ubizo lweVangeli bakholwe uJesu bazabonakalisa ukuthembela kwabo kuye lothando lwabo kuye ngempilo yokulalela iLizwi lakhe. Loluluhlelo okuluqondileyo ngoba, kuluhlelo lwaphezulu. Isoni siphumula kuKristu kuphela ukuze sisindiswe semukeleke kuNkulunkulu kodwa lokhu sekwenziwe, into entsha ibonakaliswa ebungcweleni ngokuziphatha okulezithelo langobufakazi obuphumelelayo. Isisusa kuluthando kuKristu. Le impendulo kuye sikubiza ngokuthi yikulalela kweVangeli. Abanengi abavuma ukuthi bakholwa kuJesu njengoMsindisi wabo baphikisana lovumo lwabo ngokuphila impilo engeyisiyo yobuKristu. UJesu wathi: “Uba lingithanda londolozani imilayo yami” (Johane 14:15).

Lokhukunamathela kulo lonke iLizwi likaNkulunkulu kumele lokhu iFree Presbyterian Church of Scotland ekumeleyo. Kasikholwa ukunika indawo iBhayibhili ukuthokozisa ukulimala kwabantu. Kasiyekele uMbalo uzikhulumele ngokwawo lalapho usukhulumile sithi: “UNkulunkulu kabe leqiniso kodwa wonke umuntu abe ngumqambimanga” (Roma 3:4).

Siyalinxusa ukuthi lihlanganyele ekukhonzeni kwethu. Sithemba ukuthi lizabusiwa phakathi kwethu, ngoba sithemba ukuthi lizathola lokho elingekuzuze endaweni zonke: “Icebo elipheleleyo likaNkulunkulu.”

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