



The Communiqué

June
2010

The Anglican Church Of India (Affiliated To The Worldwide Traditional Anglican Communion)

“BUT NOW IS CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD,
AND BECOME THE FIRSTFRUITS OF THEM THAT
SLEPT,
FOR SINCE BY MAN CAME DEATH,
BY MAN ALSO THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD,
FOR IN ADAM ALL DIE,
EVEN SO IN CHRIST ALL BE MADE ALIVE”
(1 Cor. 15: 20 -22)

BIBLE STUDY – Part III

*But speak thou the things which become sound Doctrine
(Titus 2:1)*

THE ASSERTED WORD OF GOD

1. The word of God as revealed to man

There are many scholarly writings the world over, but none of them ever claim to have been authorized of God. They are often inconsistent and contradictory. But there is one book which asserts as, “The WORD OF GOD “**The 66 Books in the “ Bible” even though recorded by many, with different life styles over a period of 1400 years in different languages, none contradict each other but corroborates each other. In the book of Isaiah 2:3 we read as “And many people shall go and say, Come ye let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” This book of books is read the world over, and it has stood the test of time and happenings. It records the “Word Of God” with the explicit statement of authority and includes the Genesis of all creation by the Supreme Being, records historical events, places and persons. It has recorded the prophecies made earlier, and the subsequent happenings, which have come to pass as such with divine authority. It also records revelations of what is going to happen in the future with certainty. It is more than 1500 years old. Down the ages many have analyzed this, by scientific, and historical methods, and have made many commentaries. Still none of them were able to authoritatively deny or disprove any of its contents and Divine authoritative statements. A few of those are listed below, to give an idea about details of some of the prophecies made and its subsequent fulfillment. It would also make one to understand that this Book of Books is unique and is entirely different.**

Bible Prophecy

1. Abraham’s descendents to become a great nation

to possess all Palestine - **Predicted in Genesis 12:1-3, B.C.1920** “Now the Lord had said unto Abraham, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy Fathers’ house unto a land that I will show thee ... and I will make of thee a great nation” – **Fulfilled, Joshua 11:23, B.C. 1450** “So Joshua took the whole land according to all that the Lord said unto Moses and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes And the Land rested from war”.

2. Solomon’s kingdom to fall, if the people turn to idolatry – **Predicted in I Kings 9:3-9, B.C.992**, And the Lord said unto him King Solomon) I have heard thy prayer... But if ye shall at all turn from following me, ye your children and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other Gods and worship them, Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them” - **Fulfilled 2 Chronicles 36 : 14,15 B .C 593** “Therefore he brought upon them the King of the Chaldees who slew their young men... And had no compassion upon young men or maiden old man... he gave them all into his hand... All these he (King Nebu chad nezer) brought to Babylon”.
3. The treasures of the Temple and Palace to be taken to Babylon – **Predicted Jeremiah 27:19-22, B.C 607** “For thus saith the Lord of Hosts... Concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the Lord, in the house of the King of Judah... They shall be carried to Babylon” - **Fulfilled 2 Kings 24:13, B.C 598** “And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the Lord, and of the treasures of the Kings house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon had made in the Temple of the Lord as the Lord had said”.
4. God (Jesus Christ) with us, Born of a Virgin - **Predicted in Isaiah 7:14, 9:6,7, B.C. 740**, “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign, Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel” “For unto us a Child is born unto us a Son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace... The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this” - **Fulfilled St Mathew 1:22 -23 B. C 4 ?** “Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the

Prophet saying, Behold a Virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is God with us”.

Note: - The above are just a very few of the many Prophecies in the Bible which have come to pass. The years quoted above are approximate and are generally correlated to accepted Historical records

UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE - Part III

It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God (St. Matthew 4:4)

DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

As cautioned in 2 John verse 9, if we do not have the doctrine of Christ we have no God. Hence we first take up the study of the doctrine of Christ. Jesus Christ declared that **“not one jot or tittle shall in no wise pass from the law (of God the Father) till all be fulfilled” (St. Matthew 5:18)** The doctrine of God was the same as the doctrine of Christ. Saint Paul asserts of this **“for I have received it of the Lord that which also delivered unto you,” (1 Corinthians 11:23)** Thus the doctrine of the apostle are also part of the doctrine of Christ. In 2 John 9 we read, **“He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son”**. Hence it is **God the Father’s doctrine also Principles of the Doctrine of Christ: ...This is referred to as such in the Bible in Hebrews 6:1, 2 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.** St. Paul refers to the same in Hebrews 5:12 as “the first principles of the oracles of God”. Here the reference to “leaving the principles” refers to backsliders and not to all. Read Hebrews 5:12–14 **Always remember that “A text out of context will become a pretext” and so carefully read passages with reference to context in the Bible.**

The principles are (a) repentance from dead works, (b) faith toward God (c) doctrine of baptisms (d) laying on of hands (e) Resurrection of the dead (f) eternal judgment (f) going on to perfection

Repentance:- The experienced Psalmist portrays repentance in Psalm 119:59, 60 **“I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies, I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments”** He just makes it clear as if it’s a road sign on our life’s way **“HALT, RIGHT ABOUT TURN, QUICK MARCH.”** In the book of Judges 10:15,16 we can see clearly the repentance in action. **And the children of Israel said unto the lord, we have sinned; do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee this day. And they put away the strange gods from among them and served the Lord, and his**

soul was grieved for the misery of Israel” There is the (a) understanding of guilt, (b) open confession, (c) committing to Gods mercy, (d) conversion in attitude, (e) confirmative action and (f) serving “The Lord” in faith. We see the immediate response of God – “grieved of the misery”

The importance of repentance could be made out from the following. Our Lord Jesus Christ’s first message was repent (Mark 1:15) The church’s first message was repent (Acts 2:38) The message for the entire world was commanded as “that repentance and remission of sins should be preached” (Luke 24:47)

Sources of repentance: - “The word of God” and “The Spirit of God” are the two sources which lead to repentance. Read the following passages from the Bible. Jeremiah 23:29, Hebrews 4:12 and John 16:8
It is simply the altered condition. (Matthew 3:8, Luke 3:8) But the bible repeatedly teaches that its not by ones own initiative and effort, but is simulated by the initiative of God Himself (Acts 11:18, 2 Timothy 2:25) Hence this is in effect turning from sin to righteousness. Repentance exhibited by regret and sorrow for deeds done is not true repentance. Judas repented of his betrayal of Jesus but did not change his life ((Math 27:8) Also read Acts 24:25. “Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation” That is, Conscious of guilt, followed by changed behaviour towards righteousness (2 Corinthians 7:10) and the first condition for forgiveness is repentance (Acts 5:31) The direction is always toward God.

Note: -- If anyone reminds another of the word of God , he only sows the seed, and his work is over. He does not to make it grow. It is something like handing over a post, but the effect is on the receiver who reads it. God only makes it to grow.

Profitability:- “I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, will heal the land” (2 Chronicles 7:14) “nigh unto them and saveth” (Psalms 34: 14) “I have redeemed thee” (Isaiah 44:22) He will have mercy upon him He will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 55:7)

MEDITATION

Blessed is the man ... But his delight is in the Law of the Lord, and in his law doth he meditate day and night (Psalm 1:1, 2)

The Church celebrates the Trinity Sundays immediately after the Whit Sunday on account of the following promises of our Lord “I go unto my Father” “ ye would rejoice, because I said I go unto my Father” “ Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit: So shall ye be my disciples”.

The following gives us the understanding of the above in our hearts.

“And I will pray the Father and he shall give you another

Comforter, that he may abide with you forever” “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father and ***I will love him and manifest myself to him***” “But Jesus answered and said unto him If a man love me, he will keep my words: ***and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and make our abode with him***”

“But the Comforter which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, ***he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you***” St John 14:16, 21, 24 & 26 ***If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you***” (St John 15:7). This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you (St John 15:12)

Readers are requested to prayerfully study the 14th and 15th Chapters of the Gospel according to St John carefully, to understand in the heart, the context and sequence in the Text and try to question ourselves on the following:

Have we ever enjoyed the blessings promised by our Lord, by the indwelling of the (Trinity) Father Son and Holy Spirit within us?

Have we experienced “asking of what we will” and “it being done” to us?

If it has not been done why did it not happen?

Is it because we have not abided in him?

Or is it because His words have not abided in us?

If we do not have satisfactory answers to the above, then let us meditate on as to what we should do, to enjoy the blessings, by studying the seven steps that are revealed in the Word of God as found in chapters 14, & 15 of St Johns Gospel

First step - Believe in God with the knowledge of whatever has been revealed and acknowledged (St John 14:1)

The second Step - Wait on the Lord (the indwelling of the Holy Spirit), for his teachings,

The third step - Remember all things (Word of God) whatsoever he has said unto us in our mind to have the right perception, and love the same in our hearts.

The fourth Step - Hoping with certainty (Faith) and waiting for the second coming of the Lord with all preparedness, so that on the appointed day, where he is there, we will be with him also (St John 14:2, 3)

The fifth step - Love God, by keeping his words (St John 14:23)

The sixth step - Love one another, as he has loved us

The seventh is to bear much fruit and be His disciples

WORSHIP

I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy, and in thy fear will I worship toward thy Holy Temple “ (Psalm 6:7)

In our worship of God do we acknowledge the following in our hearts?

1. Excellence of character of God - “But the Lord... with great power and stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice” (2 Kings 17:36)

2. Excellence for dignity – “The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever casting their crowns before the throne (Rev 4:10)

3. Excellence for worthiness - “Thou art worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honour and power, : for thou hast created all things for thy pleasure they are, and were created “ (Rev 4 :11)

4. Excellence for adoration - “ Exalt the Lord our God , and worship at his holy hill ; For the Lord our God is holy “ (Psalm 99 :9)

5. Excellence for Sovereignty - “ For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised ... Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness Fear before him” (1 Chronicles 16:25, 29)

6. Excellence owing our submissiveness - “Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling, Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled, but a little (Psalm 2:11, 12)

7. Excellence obligating our obedience – “True worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him God is a Spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth” (St John 4 23, 24)

LIVE WITNESS

Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16)

OUTREACH

The Parish Priest, Christ Church Bangalore visited some of the villages near Chinna Salem in an effort to initiate for evangelical work. An experienced Evangelist/Minister is required there.

Ministering to the congregation at Peria Vedanur near

Krishnagiri has been revived. It is planned to support the same financially from out of Christ Church Parish Funds. Arrangements have been made for receipt of Rs 5,000 every month from the proceeds of utilization of a Taxi.

INFORMATION

The General Council meetings of the Province of the Anglican Church of India previously decided to be held at Bangalore, by the Synod of Bishops at Bangalore held in February last, has now been changed, and is proposed to be held at Delhi. The Primate of the worldwide Traditional Anglican Communion is expected to participate.

Some of the Anglican Churches in Kerala State have expressed their desire to affiliate with the Anglican Church of India

“Freely you have received, freely give” a Xerox copy of this to your neighbour is the request of The Anglican Church of India

FEED BACK

Some who have read the magazine have expressed their desire for regular dispatch to their addresses.

The readers are requested to have the above in mind and to pray for those who are to be sustained in intercessory prayers, and for God's guidance and grace

Readers are informed that copy of the Bible Study and Catechism could be furnished at request, for filing as their personal record for future reference, and also to others for their edification but we require the feedback

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FEED BACK

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The Anglican Church of India for private circulation amongst its members, and for others at their request with the objectives publishes this magazine

To defend the Christian Faith defined in the Holy Scriptures and as enshrined in the Book of Common Prayer

To work for the unity of the Church under Christ, based on sound Doctrine and discipline as exemplified by the Chicago – Lambeth Quadrilateral of 1886 - 88

To restore the Church to her primary mission of proclaiming the Gospel

GENERAL PRINT POLICY

Contributions of articles under the given heads of topics are welcome. The Directors reserve the right to print, all or part, or in any changed manner as it deems fit for them. Contributions by way of donations or in kind for printing publishing and mailing are welcome. They may be sent to the Secretary / Treasurer MDTA Fund of ACI, Canara Bank A/c No.0684101030814 Lal Baugh West Bangalore 560 004 under intimation.

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EXPERIENCED. THAT'S OUR REQUEST...**