# SUVISESHA DHWANI

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## **Court Battles and the Believers**

George C Varghese

'Therefore you shall be perfect just as your Father in heaven is perfect." So why heavenly father also will do to you if each of you from his heart does not forgive his brother his trespasses" Some of our forefathers induldged in court battles in their time. Still their children are continuing with the same law suits. I came to know about some such incidents so I wish to pen few words about it. Many of the cases have never any end in view. It goes on without any break. How much time and money had been spend for it? Huge amounts have gone out on this especially to the lawyers and to the expenses of the court. Many have lost their testimony. Some have even left the spiritual realm. On our enquiry of their attainment they may be able to give many answers. The

court battle between two groups of a Christian church is going for quite a long time. Many of their churches are protected by the police. Rivalries and fighting between these groups, the intervention of political parties and the like continues. What will be our in relation to it as we in its midst as witnesses. Who is the real winner in these confrontation? The real winner is the lawyer. Cases will go for years. The fees of the advocates had to be given irrespectative of the failure or success. They will definitely acquire it from the parties. Brother William MacDonald had written an illustration based on a beautiful cartoon. There is a beautiful cow. The plaintiff or petioner

is holding at its head. The defendant holding one of its legs. And there we see the advocate who is milking the cow to the last drop. Another illustration is more interesting. Many of you not know the method of sawing the wood in the past. One day a European was walking through the village. He noticed two people sowing a log. But he could not understand of the two people pulling up and down a sow. He went to them and requested one of them to just release one side. But both of them did not listen to it. Even today the problem is the same. No one is ready to forget and forgive anyone or anything.

To be continued ...

## **OUR WORSHIP MEETINGS**

**M E Cherian** 

Worship is the most important act of spiritual life. It is not a mere Sunday act. In worship, we give glory and respect to God. And it is to bow down in front of God in fear, praise and thanksgiving. It is an individual, family wise and church wise act. When we worship, we bless the Lord and remember all His benefits. Nowadays, individual and family worships are very rare. The family worships are very rare in many families. But the Sunday worship in assemblies is very important. By all means

we should go for Sunday worships. Once upon a time, our worship meetings were very lively. Everybody enjoyed the presence of people worshipped in lost in the worships. spirit and truth.

Today the worship have become almost a ritual. Even though we are not reading any written procedure, we follow the same prayer and praises for the worship always. We follow the same pattern year after year. If we change our pattern, people think that it is very bad. Therefore our

worship meetings will give us only a feeling of ritual. We are not aware of the spiritual freedom. We feel that the comfort of the Holy Spirit and the God. In those days lordship of our Lord is

> There is no hard and fast rule for the worship in the New Testament. There were gatherings to break the bread (Act20:7, Corn16:2). But the pattern is not given, in 1 Corn 14:26, we see a question of Paul "How is it then Brethren and again says that Do everything for the spiritual enrichment. He

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### YMEF(SD) **Cast thy Bread upon the** Waters ...

The testimony of a dear sister has prompted me to give this heading to this report. Y M E F (SD) has started gospel camps right from the day of its formation. From 1995 onwards camps were changed to campaign. The team members stay in a place in co-operation with the Muhamma Brethren Assembly in Alleppy district. The campaign continued in may places. Out of the many places Mampuzhakari was one of them. The team members stayed in a rented house in the midst of water. The first fruit of that place was brother Kunjukutty.

Follow up works were also conducted in many places. The brothers from Punnapra, Ponga, Chertala, Muhamma, Chethi joined their hands and did extensive follow up. It produced results and many souls were added to these assemblies. The dear brother had one mind and one purpose. Then campaigns were conducted in Veliyanadu, Mattur and Edathra. Many souls were added to the local assemblies. So let us praise the Lord for that.

The testimony of the sister whom I heard is a later fruit in Mambuzhakari, so the Veliyanad Campaign. Our Master gives us fruits if we sow the seed honestly. But I wish to write few words with a heavy heart. The gospel camps of those days were attended by the Y M E F workers from every unit. What a rejoicing days were then. The works of every week has sponsored and conducted by each units. But alas to day we do not see dear brethren during gospel camps ever. Then what to say about gospel campaigns. Our brethren of the busiest schedule also used to attend this programme. The responsible hands of Y M E F also were regular in their participation in the campaign. But changes have occurred in everything. Things have changed. This can be because of many reasons. General deterioration in spiritual concept the decrease in the zeal for evangelization the increase in the number of ministries and trusts and personal ministries etc. But if we go the core it can be considered only as the downward trend of our love to our Lord.

If it is the condition in Kerala, the situation in Karnataka is no better. It is too difficult to get ministers in Tamilnadu. When the Karnataka campaign started in 1999 there was even as competition among the servants of the Lord to be in the team. But situation has changed. Brother E V Pailey cited the same issue in an earlier editorial. If a servant of Lord is requested to join the team the answer is 'let/

#### **Editorial**

## WORD MINISTRY AND ELOQUENT MINISTRY

Once I saw an elder approaching silently to a poor believer in the assembly after a wedding. The elder came to the Lord from an Episcopal church. Many were added to that assembly after his coming to that assembly. God used this elder for that addition. But this elder never has done the word ministry in the assembly. When he was asked about it, he replied that 'I am not an orator'. From that day onward, I started re-examining the word ministry after the worship.

At the day of Pentecost when the universal church was formed, our Lord started the church of Jerusalem. During that period the believers got the word of God through the apostles. God's appointed servants gave spiritually enriched through the words to the God's people. At the Old Testament period Almighty God spoke and gave directions to his servants. Sometimes he spoke directly through angels, but mostly He spoke through the prophets His servants. When we read the Old Testament, repeatedly we can see a usage "God spoke like this". The prophets declared the commandments of the King of Kings without any hesitation. The meaning of the word prophet is also the same as above. In the same way God spoke to His people of Israel continually.

But we see in Eph 4 that He gave gifts to the New Testament church. And the aims of those gifts are also mentioned there. In the New Testament churches this ministry should be done by the elders, teachers, evangelists and gifted spiritual brethren. This was the practice of the first century churches. At that time they were not great homeliticians or great theologians. The word ministry of those days were not great speeches filled with rhetoric skill. The flattery was not

appreciated at all. The shepherd who knew the sheep gave the food according to the will of the Holy Spirit. When the word of God was recorded, Bishops, teachers and evangelists studied the scripture and waited in the presence of God for the guidance. And the messages were given in the assemblies filled with and guided by the Holy Spirit. People of God were able to confess their sins because of those messages. They also enjoyed spiritual happiness. In that manner the people were spiritually blessed.

Today we see a sad situation in our churches that the rhetoric skill has conquered the word ministry. And the place of scripture we hear only the liberal theology of human wisdom and Biblical knowledge. In the place of Lord's command, sweet speeches are heard. Human knowledge displaces spirituality. And in our spiritual civilization encourages such things. Good speakers are invited to the assemblies and the elders enjoy without knowing the bitter consequences. The speakers will come speak and they go away without any responsibility. See some of the speakers are uninvited guests. Because of this the sheep are starving and many are weak. Some of them go to other fields for food. The speakers who come from other Christian communities and those who mingle with other denominations knowingly or unknowingly speak false doctrines. Many of the sheep are in a dilemma.

Dear children of God, in the early period, our forefathers studied the scripture in great difficulty and taught it in the church according to the light of the Holy Spirit. Those days believers were spiritually healthy. Today the systematic studies by the help of computers and commentary are not helping much. Not only that, the people are loosing their quality. So let us come back. And let us speak only the command of God. May God help the responsible people of the local assemblies for a revival .

V S Mathew

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never says to follow a typical pattern, but do it for enrichment of the body of Christ.

Normally we follow a pattern like this.

Two songs of praise, consecutive reading of the psalm; giving, praise exhortation and breaking of bread. We can interchange the steps. If any change is brought heaven will not trumble down and it won't be that bad. The patterns of many assemblies should be changed. The praise have songs considerable position in our worship. But during the time when the Table Lord's is observed, a complete meditation is required. And it will increase the spiritual atmosphere. But in some places people start singing while the minister takes the bread. And the congregation will follow. When the sound increases some

people will start talking each other and some elders will discuss about the future program. But this is the climax of worship. Remember if we sit in total silence and meditate our worship will be a great blessing. Beware that it is not a time for personal discussions. There is worship in the songs. But as we sang praises in the beginning, do not compel others by singing to go in the same track of songs while worshiping. The proper silence during the breaking of bread will help individuals to concentrate in meditation.By all means our worship should be lively. It should not be a weekly practice. For that we should change our normal routine. The worship should be under the control of Holy Spirit. The human ministry is only a guidance of worship.

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me pray please wait'. The chapter closes there. Of course to be in the team is not easy. They have to follow the discipline of the team in every respect, punchuality should be observed have to bear a lot of sufferings. No financial gains at all. The gifts from the high will not be available. The sole attainment or gain is that he could honestly serve the one who has called. They can the Lord serve faithfully. If we sow with tears we can have the harvest in victory. We shall be able to persistent many sheaves to the Master of harvest. What a great profit. But who cares for this heavenly bliss and who has this heavenly vision.

S o m e t i m e telephone calls are made for long time to arrange our fellow brethren to the team. Most often the answer on the other end is negative. Sometimes it gives a shock to the

heart. But the Lord does not allow us to fall.

Dear saints we do believe that our court is the centre is favourable for evangelization. But the situation in Karnataka is not at all favourable. So the team is still in Erode. Our team members are in the team facing many problems at home and Erode. May the Lord strengthen them to continue in His ministry. They are at the doors of the houses right from 9am in the morning following the footsteps of our Saviour. They follow the example of the apostles ... from house to house ... We take this opportunity to thank all those who took part in the campaigns in the past and request them to allow the Holy Spirit to talk to them in this regard. Let there be some brave soldiers like Caleb who still had the strength to conquer mighty hills. If anyone is touched as you read it may please contact A J Oommen

## and T Chacko

We need Tamil speaking Brethren. So we request the evangelists who are working in Tamilnadu to join the team or to encourage the fellow brethren from the assemblies to join the team. May God bless us and may His name be glorified

V S Mathew

# **SBS**

# **One Day Meeting**

**Thrissur:** If it be the will of Lord a one day meeting of the SBS Thrissur centre will be held on August 8, 2009 from 9.30 to 4pm at the Nadathara Grama Panchayat Community Hall. Kindly pray for its spiritual blessings and encourage children to attend it. For more information Please contact Prasad David 9846904966

# Centenary Celebration of the N M H S Kariamplavu

Kerala has a smile on his face because of its cent percent achievement in literacy. Kerala can be proud of it. Now let us think of our state and condition of the literacy rate of Kerala 100 years before. When we go for a sincere introspection of it, then it will bring the glory of the present to our mind.

We cannot forget Edwin Hunter Noel who reached India in 1906. He reached here with the money that he acquired by selling his family share. He started 24 schools in places like Kariamplavu. One of the first training schools was Kariamplavu School (1935-1958). The progress of a place depends on the state of the educational level there. Last 100 years of the school was remarkable because it was able to produce doctors engineers, scientists and eminent in all fields. The school is very much proud ot them.

The school was started in 1910. The centenary celebration is a programme of one year. The inauguration will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at 3pm. The school was started from the minimum but now has grown up to the Higher Secondary level. The development and growth of this school is a prestige issue for us. So let us join hands together and play our side in its future growth.

# **Gospel Meeting**

If it be the will of the Lord gospel meetings in the name of Good Tidings will be conducted by the Brethren Assembly Abudhabi at the Evangelical Church Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September and 17<sup>th</sup> at Mussaffali. Brother Sunny Thomas will deliver the message in all these gospel meetings. Kindly pray for this special meetings.

Rajan Thomas

## **Special Camp of the SBS**

The special camp meant for the students and parents who come from abroad will be conducted this year at Charalkunnu Camp from 4pm the 11<sup>th</sup> of August to 8am on 15<sup>th</sup> under the auspices of the SBS Genral. Be Holy for I am Holy is the theme of the Camp. Brother Albert Sunil, Joy John, Dr Johnson C Philip, Dr John Abraham, Dr Charles Abraham, Abraham Thomas and Binu Samuel, Godson will hold the classes. Competitions are arranged for students. For more information Binu Samuel 0468 2323967, 0944735183

# The New Office Bearers of the Pathamthitta Centre SBS

President - Abraham C Sam
Vice President - P G James
Secretary - Shoji George
Joint Secretary - Aby K George
Treasurer - K S John
Organizers - V S Mathew, Monachan
Abraham, Georgekutty, Ravi, Hanok

# The Desires of a Man of Four Score and Above ...

I do pray to the Omnipotent, O m n i s c i e n t **Omnipresent** and creator of all beings to enable to give all good to you as one of your creations has to give. This is my prayer from my heart of hearts. You have created me in Your own image only after creating all that are required for me. Oxygen for me to breath water to drink food to eat light to see etc. If you alone is worthy for my praise and worship. Strengthen me to lead a life that allows me to fulfill all my responsibilities

and obligations to you.

You the Holy and Eternal one likes to have my fellowship. But my disobedience created a hindrance for it. Since there was no others means to restore that relation you gave your only begotten son who was rejoicing in your bosom to die on the Calvary cross as atonement death. Help me continue to shed my tears of gratitude in the eternity too.

Omy groom you are pleased to choose me as your bride. I did not have any eligibility for that. You were pleased for that, that is all. I do wish to lead a life of chastity in the worlds which crucified you. I wish to present myself pure and holy in your presence. Kindly help me to achieve this.

Beloved
Master I have only
a short life in this
world. Give me
sufficient grace to
lead a life pleasing
to you and let me be
able to hear the
sweet sound "Good

### **In TV Channels**

#### Sathgamaya TV Talk Show Programme

People channel of Kairali's News Channel All Fridays (Malayalam) 5.30-6.00 p.m. Monday 6.00-6.30 a.m. Zee TV (Hindi)

### Jeevamritham Television Program

Every Saturday 9 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. in **Power vision** channel.by **Evg Chandapilla Philip** 

and faithful servant ..." As one of your children let be able to reveal your divine character through my life to the world. When I live in such an unholy world give me your strength to lead a holy life.

O Lord you have kept me as a light in this world of darkness. Many gave light like the shinning stars. Through I am like a candle wish to burn to the last. I do not want to become a candle that gives no light at all. Enable be

me to burn and give more light. I wish to be useful weapon in your hand. I do not want to be useless and one that has rust and blunt. I want to be a sharp weapon. I am happy if I am utilized fully.

O Lord you fought good fight and come out victorious in this world. I too am in this battle field. Even if the enemy is much powerful I do not want to run away as a coward. I wish to fight to the end and to get a direct entry to you.

I am one among the thousands who labour in your vineyard. As a farmer give me enough patience to wait for the fruits of the hard labour. Enable me to rejoice at your presence seeing the fruits of my hard work.



## The Importance of a Leaflet

We have often seen people at bus stands, Railway Stations, Hospitals and other common places distributing tracts to people. That is a spiritual ministry. Some will not take one, some others will accept it and keep it in their pocket yet some others will take it and later throw it away. When a lealet is given we can see a small smile of satisfaction on the face of the distributor. Sometimes they will be mocked or scorned or even attacked. But the person who distributes it suffers everything in the name of the Lord. But sometimes a third party will get a leaflet thrown discarded by another. When he reads it the Holy Spirit will talk to him. Either he will be saved or he will be there to enquire more about this subject. But when God opens heart people will come to salvation.

Once a woman gave a telephone call to an evangelist named Hettinger. Her brother,

who had killed his was in jail. He was condemned and his punishment will be executed him soon. So she requested the evangelist to go to the jail and share gospel to him. This was the sum and substance of the telephone call. He rushed to the jail. When he reached there this young man was taken for questioning. He reached the court. He informed the judge the purpose of his arrival. Usually it is not the usual practice to allowed to meet condemned people in the court. But the judge gave permission to evangelist. The evangelist shared gospel to him and requested the young man to confess his sins and accept Christ as his personal savior and Lord. The young man politely informed the evangelist that he had accepted Christ as his personal Saviour and Lord on the previous day itself.

Out of curiosity the evangelist looked at him for an explanation. The youth told him that he read a leaflet named 'What is to be done for salvation' and through that he was able to find Christ as his Saviour. The evangelist was so happy about it and he was much excited because that tract was written by him.

Dear saints the Lord our God will honour even the smallest thing that we do in His honour. The heaven will rejoice over it and will accept it. There are people who has come to the Lord by reading even a bit of a tract thrown away by some one. Even a part of verse is enough for the conversion of a person. That is the Word of God which has life and which is powerful to go in to the joints and ...

TVS

