

News from the channels



Channels of Glory –

Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

‘Looking deep’ is the subject I want to share with everyone in this newsletter. When we buy fruits, we try and gauge what’s on the inside. Outside it may look shiny and bright colored. There are many ways to see the inside without cutting it open. For instance in the case of a jackfruit we tap on the outside and listen to ‘dhum’ ‘dhum’ sound. For mangoes, we try and smell them. All these show that some way or other, what is inside can be determined without cutting it open. In the same way, if you carefully observe people around us, we will be able to understand what is going on in their life. What we see on the outside is a human being, but that is not their real personality. We have to be careful when we select people to interact. To a certain extent, we may notice big behavioral problems. So we avoid them. We have to remember that we are not perfect people either. Do not think that we can help everyone. You will have your limitations. When you see a stick about to fall, you may be able to put it straight. When you see a pillar about to fall, you may be able to prop it up. But when you see a wall about to fall, it

is best, that you should shout “RUN” and leave the place as soon as possible. We assess people just the way we do for fruits. Try to understand what is inside. Most of the time we go by our past experience. Sometimes we take the recommendations from our parents and friends. Just now I remember my uncle’s story. When he first saw red tomatoes in a distant city, he and his friends thought it will be sweet like honey! Soon they found out that it is just a vegetable. Now a days we hear a lot about adulteration in the consumable products. Apples and oranges get wax coating and some of these make-over products, may increase the shelf life, beauty, but certainly won’t have the benefits of the ‘organic’ effects. We can see these in human beings too. In this new age, it is impossible to find the real people. What I mean is, they even ‘behave artificially’ with a fake smile and sweet talk. Some show fake honesty, fake godliness, fake charity, and fake sympathy. But always remember it is our duty to differentiate the real nature. People in Jesus’s time were also like that. There were fake beggars, as well as fake rich people too. My father used to remember that there was one man who used to pretend that he was filthy rich. One day he was murdered and everyone soon found out that all his walk and talk was fake. One time in India we were conducting a fund raising sale. One rich man and his wife came and selected many things and started to praise our work. But later I heard him telling his wife to leave everything they picked up and left the place. He was trying to give us a artificial impression that he is rich and compassionate! The problem with artificiality is that, it is not real. All the unreal

things will go away and the real ones will be revealed soon. It can be similar to ‘sweeping it under the rug.’ God only requires three things from us. Do justice; be compassionate and be humble before your God

Long time ago a missionary lady told the following story to some Sunday school children. One crow saw a flock of grey pigeons eating some spilled corn. The crow joined the flock from behind. But soon the pigeons recognized the color difference and chased the crow away. The crow took a dip in a stream and rolled itself in some ashes and joined the flock. But again they identified and chased the crow because of its ‘jerky walk.’ The crow didn’t give up his attempts. This time it learned to walk like the pigeons and joined the group. But when a bad smell of a dead animal came in the wind, all the pigeons moved away, but the crow went closer to the smell. Finally the crow learned its lesson. All the fake nature and appearance won’t make a crow into a pigeon. So we should not ‘blow things up’ just to give a wrong impression. A dog or a cat even understand the real things more than human beings. So why do we have to wear artificial behavior? God knows our hearts. May God give us the ability to look deep and the wisdom to differentiate between a silk thread and a strong chain. It is best to plant our feet on solid ground and accept the reality and admit when we are wrong. We also need to correct ourselves in humility, and gracefully give others an opportunity to help us. Above all we need to accept people regardless of their color, ethnicity, religion, and language.

Poem of the month

പാഴ് മരം

-സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

മുളച്ചു വന്നപ്പോൾ ഒരു പാഴ് മരം
തഴച്ചു വളർന്നപ്പോൾ തണൽ മരം
പൂക്കൾ വിരിഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ പൂമരം
തേനീച്ച കൂട്ടു വച്ചപ്പോൾ തേന്മരം
തടികായി അറുത്തപ്പോൾ തടിമരം
കൊമ്പുകൾ ചില്ലുകൾ വിറകുമരം
എല്ലാം പൊയ്ക്കൊയ്ക്കപ്പോൾ കുറ്റിമരം!
വിളിക്കും പേരിലെന്തിരിക്കുന്നു;
കർമ്മം ചെയ്യുക ഏതുകാലത്തും!

A trusted friend.

-Simon Zachariah

Sad to see, hard to listen,
You tell me when it's over!

Difficult to read, afraid to watch,
You tell me when it's over!

Tiring to do, painful to suffer,
You tell me when it's over!

Thank you my loving friend
For being there for me always.

I'll miss you, when you're gone!
Because there's no hypocrisy in you.

Channels of Glory Newsletter December, 2016

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A Newsletter

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"The horse is made ready for the day of battle,
but victory rests with the LORD."



By Mr. Anandh Jayaprakash