

**MOB VIOLENCE ERUPTS IN PAKISTAN: CHURCHES** BURNED AMID Blasphemy claims

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# I SHALL NOT WANT; BECAUSE...!



BLESSIN JOHN MALAYIL Chief Editor

re you crying over a need at these moments? You as well as numerous others are struggling with various needs today! Since there are no individuals on earth without needs!

Various letters arrive at our offices from different parts of the world with many needs! Some need a home; educational assistance for others and therapeutic help for some!! A sister from Africa wrote us the last day - "My sibling is confronting death; no money for treatment; please help!"

In this context there is a scripture that comes to my mind. "Jehovah is my shepherd; I shall not want!" (Ps. 23:1,ASV), a verse which is very familiar even for our kids!

Have you thought that how could David, the writer of this Psalm, say this? Has he never once in his life been in need? Has he not lived in the forest with the sheep? Has he not run for his life from the presence of King Saul? How many times has he wandered for food? How can such a person say these words with his hand on his chest? David declares: "Jehovah is my Shepherd!" Jehovah is not only a Shepherd but also my King! He is the commander! He is full of love! He is a loving father!

So, do you have the thought in your heart today that you are the son or daughter of a wealthy king?

David had that conviction! So David is saying: I have many needs; But God is strong enough to fulfill. I trust in that God! So I don't lack anything!

May we also have the conviction that God who is the ruler of everything is our Father!

Reading these lines, dear brethren, your needs may be huge. However, God is powerful to fulfill all your needs! So don't be afraid; we are in God's hands!

Do not be succumbed to the current crisis; Don't be crushed; instead believe more! God will do a miracle. It's sure!

God is going to do something in your life today! Some new stuff that hasn't happened till date! Surely you will witness it! Don't forget to write us about the miracles that happen in your life these days...! We are waiting to hear from you!!

# COVER STORY

PASTOR STEPHNESS MUNIR WOH correspondent, Pakistan

# MOB VIOLENCE ERUPTS IN PAKISTAN: Churches Burned Amid Blasphemy Claims



Pakistan(Faisalabad): In a distressing incident unfolding in a city in Pakistan, thousands of Muslims have unleashed violence, setting fire to multiple churches and vandalizing Christian homes over allegations



of Quran desecration. The tragic events have left the religious minority community in turmoil and ignited concerns over rising intolerance.

The city of Jaranwala, located in eastern Punjab, has become a focal point of the recent outbreak of violence. Police report that at least four churches have been set ablaze and homes belonging to Christians have been ransacked. Shockingly, buildings connected to as many as a dozen churches have been damaged. Authorities have taken more than 100 protestors into custody and have launched a full-fledged investigation into the matter.

Tensions continue to grip Jaranwala as authorities work to restore order. Amidst the chaos, police have also lodged a report against two local Christian residents under the



country's stringent blasphemy law, which carries the threat of the death penalty. Although no executions have occurred under this law, numerous individuals have previously fallen victim to mob violence after being accused of blasphemy.

The roots of this appalling incident trace back to allegations of Quran desecration by two men. Reports of these allegations circulated on social media, inciting outrage within the



Muslim community. Authorities discovered torn pages of the Quran with alleged blasphemous content near a Christian community. The ensuing violence saw mobs attacking Christian homes, looting private properties, and ruthlessly vandalizing churches.

Yassir Bhatti, a Christian resident who fled his home, recounted the brutality of the attack. He described how mobs "broke the windows, doors, and took out fridges, sofas, chairs, and other household items to pile them up in front of the Church to be burnt." Heartbreakingly, Bibles were also burned and desecrated in the midst of the chaos.

Videos circulating on social media depict the shocking >> PAGE 5









## Terrorists Kill 37 Christians in Benue State, Nigeria

**ABUJA, Nigeria:** Fulani herdsmen and other terrorists on Sunday killed six Christians in Benue state, Nigeria, the latest of 37 Christians slain the past three weeks in the state, sources said.

The assailants arrived on motorcycles at the predominantly Christian villages of Igba-Ukyor and Tse Baka villages, Ushongo County, at about 8 p.m. on Sunday, said Ushongo resident Bemgba Iortyom.

"The terrorists, who accompanied armed herdsmen, first attacked Igba-Ukyor village, where they killed five Christians, and then proceeded to a second village, Tse Baka, where they killed one Christian," Iortyom told Morning Star News in a text message.

Two other predominantly Christian communities were attacked in Ukum County on July 8, resulting in the massacre of 30 Christians, area residents said. Zaki Akpuuna and Diom villages were attacked at 11 a.m., said Kartyo Tyoumbur, the Ukum council chairman.

"The band of terrorists was made up of about 20 who were armed with deadly weapons," Tyoumbur told Morning Star News. "They burned down several houses. Thirty corpses of Christians killed were recovered, while searching for missing Christians is ongoing."



Saying victims were members of the Universal Reformed Christian Church (NKST) and the Roman Catholic Church, he identified some of the slain in Zaki Akpuuna as Kator Terwase, Aondowase Kator, Albert Tsavnongo, Mbaalumunga Felix, Terzungwe Kartyo, Hangeior Agudu, Terkimbi Umough, Ushahemba Akerchi, Friday Ezekiel, Terwase Mkoholga, Ayu Ageva Vaakaa, John Ikpor, Bem Shima, Vanger Kwaghkaa, Shaagee Tyokaa, Mfedoo Mamfe, Koholga Sase, Iorlumun Dai, Kwaghmande Mngueorga, Msugh Terwase, Ngutor Oraduen, Iortange Uye and Aker Orgema.

On June 30 in Tse Anwhwan village, Logo County, one Christian was killed and two others wounded in an ambush at about 8 p.m., said Council Chairperson Salome Tor. "The armed men ambushed and opened fire on the victims and murdered one Mr. Saater Apera, a member of the NKST church, and also shot and injured two other Christians," Tor told Morning Star News. "The incident was reported to the police, and the corpse of the murdered Christian was recovered, while the two injured victims were taken to the hospital for treatment

Catherine Anene, spokesperson for the Benue State Command, said security personnel were deployed to the areas.

"Terrorists have been invading some communities in some local government areas of Benue state," she said. "Police teams, in collaboration with other security agencies, have been deployed to affected areas in order to engage these bandits. We believe that these unprovoked attacks would be contained."

Benue state officials said they have appealed to the federal government to take urgent steps to end the atrocities. The Rev. Hyacinth Alia, a Roman Catholic priest who was elected governor of the state in May, said in a statement that the attacks were a grievous sin against God and mankind.

## **CHURCHES BURNED IN PAKISTAN**

#### Contd... from Page 4

scenes of destruction and unrest. While the mob was reportedly comprised mainly of individuals associated with the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), an Islamist political party, the TLP denies any involvement.

The incident has sent shockwaves throughout Pakistan's Christian community. Bishop Azad Marshall of Lahore expressed the community's distress and called for swift justice. "We cry out for justice and action from law enforcement and those who dispense justice, and the safety of all citizens to intervene immediately and assure us that our lives are valuable in our own homeland," he posted on social media.

As the aftermath of this tragic incident continues to unfold, there is a pressing need for unity, tolerance, and justice to prevail. The global community watches with concern, urging authorities to take swift action against those responsible and to protect the fundamental rights and safety of all citizens, regardless of their beliefs.

## Tragedy Strikes Dagestan: Fire and Explosion Claim Lives at Petrol Station



**Russia (Dagestan):** In a heart-wrenching incident that has left a community reeling, a devastating fire and explosion at a petrol station in the southern Russian region of Dagestan has claimed the lives of at least 35 individuals, including three children. The catastrophe

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unfolded with rapid and tragic force, leaving scores injured and prompting a profound outpouring of grief and mourning. The incident unfolded on Monday night, with a fire igniting at an auto repair shop located alongside a highway in the capital city of Dagestan, Makhachkala, which rests on the shores of the Caspian Sea. This initial blaze soon escalated, leading to a series of catastrophic blasts that engulfed a nearby petrol station. The aftermath has left behind a scene of devastation and despair.

Local officials and news reports indicate that the toll of this tragedy is heartbreakingly high. A total of 115 people were injured, including 16 children, according to Russia's Emergency Ministry.

# HONOUR BELONGS TO THE LORD

ong time ago people decided to build a tower reaching upto the heavens, so they could make a name for themselves. There was no God in that picture. They ended up being confused and scattered over the earth.

King Saul was the first king of Israel, but he lost his place as king when he disobeyed God. His place was given to another.

When King Herod gave a speech and the people exalted him as God, he didn't give glory to God and was struck down by an angel of the Lord.

In all these situations, people thought they were better than God or didn't need him. They failed to give glory to God and lost their way. They trusted more in their power and intelligence, not remembering that every good gift comes from God alone.

On the other hand, when God healed a man through Paul, people thought that Paul and Barnabas were gods. When they heard this, they were troubled and immediately pointed them to the living God and gave glory to him.

Let us learn from Paul and Barnabas and be quick to give God the glory in everything we do, lest we lose our way like the people in the former examples. Is God on the throne of our hearts today, or have we placed ourselves there? The bible says that whether we eat or drink or whatever we do, we should do it all for the glory of God. Let us remind each other gently that, "Honour belongs to the LORD".





Long time ago people decided to build a tower reaching upto the heavens, so they could make a name for themselves. There was no God in that picture. They ended up being confused and scattered over the earth.

B. 14 14





ELOY RODRIGUEZ, UAE

# Apple or ?

he Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. For after he says: This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, the Lord says, I will put my laws on their hearts and write them on their minds, and I will never again remember their sins and their lawless acts. Now where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer an offering for sin." (Hebrews 10:15-18) CSB In today's world, there is a continual hot debate amongst younger people. Apple or Android? People will argue about each operating system until they are blue in the face. There is one thing they can agree on; an apple is not the same as an android. Fundamentally on the surface, they both appear the same and can do the same external things (take photos, make calls, send messages etc.). On the inside and from a programming point of view, they are different. One last thing they would most likely agree on is that the Nokia operating system is well..... Not helpful or great. If you have a Nokia, you will most likely need several other devices such as an mp3 player and sat nav to cover up the multitude of sins found with a Nokia phone.

Before someone is born again, they are a Nokia phone,

not helpful, and many things are required to cover up the "sins" of the flawed operating system. But, when you encounter Jesus, He "will put my laws on their hearts and write them on their minds". Consider this like getting a new operating system. Jesus takes that useless Nokia and puts a great and perfect Apple operating system (we will assume Apple is perfect for argument's sake). Because the phone has a new operating system, there is no longer a need for those other devices to cover the multitude of errors found in a Nokia. Those errors are now gone forever.

Do you see and understand how our sins are forgiven and Jesus never again remembers them? Because His ways become our mind and His ways are in our heart, there is never a need for a sin sacrifice because now it is not in our nature to sin. We desire to walk in His ways, and it has become our nature, so we no longer need those extra coverings to fill our gaps.

If you are still running on a Nokia operating system, ask Jesus to make you an Apple (or Android if you prefer Android) operating system.Yield to Him and let Him perfect you.Today is the day for your salvation!



Because the phone has a new operating system, there is no longer a need for those other devices to cover the multitude of errors found in a Nokia. Those errors are now gone forever.



TIMOTHY K. BEOUGHER, USA

## WHAT EVERY PASTOR SHOULD LEARN FROM THE LIFE OF BILLY GRAHAM

Billy Graham definitive pronouncements about a person's legacy are best left to future historians, but in the case of Billy Graham, certain reliable observations can be made now.As I both mourn his passing and rejoice that he is now with the Savior whom he deeply loved, I offer these reflections on his enduring legacy.

#### I. BELIEVE IN THEAUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE

After struggling with a season of doubt, prompted by his friend Charles Templeton's skepticism, Graham made a bedrock commitment to affirm the Bible as God's certain and trustworthy Word. The signature phrase in his preaching became, "The Bible says."

#### 2. EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF PRAYER

He repeatedly said, "There are three secrets to my ministry. The first is prayer; the second is prayer; and the third is prayer." He pled with God for the souls of people. In his 2006 book, The Journey, Graham gives this advice: "Every man or woman whose life has ever counted for God has been a person of prayer. A prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian.

#### **3.KNOW THE FULLNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The great Welsh preacher Stephen Olford helped Graham understand what it meant to have the fullness of the Holy Spirit fueling one's life and one's preaching. In his 1978 book, The Holy Spirit, Graham enunciates what was the heart of the matter for him: "It is not how much of the Spirit we have, but how much the Spirit has of us."

#### **4.FOCUS ON THE CROSS**

Like the Apostle Paul, he "determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified" (I Cor 2:2). In the midst of growing secularism and skepticism, when other so-called "evangelists" might shy away from preaching the cross, Billy Graham made clear that without the cross (and the resurrection) we have no gospel message.

#### 5. PRIORITIZE PERSONAL EVANGELISM

He realized that God had called him to be a preaching evangelist to millions, but he also understood that the majority of people who come to Christ would be brought through the witness of faithful believers. Over the years, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has sponsored hundreds of training opportunities.

#### **6. PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE**

He knew that should the Lord's return not happen in his lifetime, the need for ongoing gospel ministry would continue after he was no longer preaching. Graham loved the Billy Graham School (the only graduate school in the world to carry his name) and was thrilled for the ongoing gospel training that men and women would receive here long after he was gone.

#### **7.LIVE A LIFE OF HOLINESS**

Throughout his remarkable ministry, spanning some eight decades, there has never been a hint of scandal. Early in his ministry Graham set high standards for both financial accountability and sexual morality. Perhaps his wife Ruth said it best when asked how to explain his worldwide impact. She observed, "Billy isn't a great preacher – but he is a holy man."

During one of his extended crusades, Billy had his brotherin-law, Leighton Ford, preach one evening so Billy could rest his ailing voice. Billy wanted to be there to pray for Leighton as he preached, so he put on large sunglasses and pulled a baseball cap down low on his forehead, and went out and sat in the audience that night.

Billy sensed that the man sitting next to him had come under conviction during the message, and when Ford gave the invitation, Billy asked this man if he wanted to go forward to commit to following Christ. The man looked at him and said, "No, I think I'll wait until tomorrow night when the 'big gun' shows up."

The world has lost a gospel champion today. But Billy Graham would want to say to every believer, "Don't wait for the next 'big gun' to come along. Go share Christ with your family member, coworker, classmate, neighbor, friend or acquaintance today."

**Timothy K.Beougher** is the Professor of Evangelism and Church Growth in the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Ministry. et Jesus alone be glorified as you are reading this message. In 1994, I faced a period of depression where l could not sleep, did not have an appetite, and felt very

hopeless. I also did not have a close relationship with the Lord during that time. I was living in the ways of this world trying to find peace and fill the vacuum I felt deep within me. I was young, had a career, and wanted to enjoy my life. However, I continued to feel hopeless and helpless, and even thoughts of ending my life started to pop in my head. I felt as though I was a burden to my friends and family and could not go on. I reached out to people that I thought were religious and would help me get out of depression, that was no avail. One day as I was walking by myself, I heard the voice of God telling me, "Surrender to me and I will give you abundant life." I was in shock to feel Gods presence and I immediately felt the heaviness leave me and I felt like a cloud. After surrendering to Jesus on that spot, I felt freedom for the first time in a very long time. I was free in my spirit, body, and soul, the thoughts of suicide and all depression left me. Praise God! I am free. In John 10:10, the scripture says,"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." Satan is a liar, and the father of lies.

As a born again Christian, we have to understand his only goal is to butcher, and kill the God give life, so we do not have everlasting life. Eternal life means a life without death, endless life, that lives on eternally, it is everlasting. We are raised to a new life, which is the eternal life or the everlasting life."For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:6)." Eternal life is the life that God has, He is eternal. Once we accept Jesus into our heart, we are delivered from the Kingdom of darkness and conveyed into the kingdom of the Son of His love (Colossians 1: 13). We are in Christ now and Christ lives in us. Its simple, once you are born again, Jesus lives in you. Galatians 2:20 states,"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,

who loved me and gave Himself for me."The life that I live in my body (flesh), I live by faith (relying on, completely trusting) in Jesus Christ (The Messiah, The Anointed One). When we were dead (spiritually) and separated from Him because of our sins, He made us alive (spiritually) together with Christ (by His grace, the undeserved favor and mercy); And He raised us up together with Him [when we believed], and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, [because we are] in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:5,6).

When the enemy puts our focus on a defeated, painful life with no hope and no future, I want you to know that Jesus came to give you a life that overflows with fullness of joy, peace, love, and everlasting abundance. You have to see yourself as living in the post-resurrection life of Christ (James Stewart). Romans 8:2 says, "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" which means we are no longer living the old vicious circle of sin and death. I John 5:11 – 13 says, "God has given us eternal life [we already possess it], and this life is in His Son [resulting in our spiritual completeness, and eternal companionship with Him]. 12 He who has the Son [by accepting Him as Lord and Savior] has the life [that is eternal]; he who does not have the Son of God [by personal faith] does not have the life. I 3 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God [which represents all that Jesus Christ is and does], so that you will know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that you [already] have eternal life."

Do not take it lightly that life that we possess through His son Jesus Christ. I lived life not understanding what I could have in Christ, through his crucifixion and resurrection. Once my spiritual eyes were opened, I took in everything

God's life offered me to live the life to the fullest. Accept the life of abundance and overflow and live by FAITH. May God bless you.



#### Evg. PAUL MATHEW

lives in Dallas, TX and is the founder of Run to Win Global Ministries.

Evg. PAUL MATHEW

When the enemy puts our focus on a defeated, painful life with no hope and no future, I want you to know that Jesus came to give you a life that overflows with fullness of joy, peace, love, and everlasting abundance.

THE ABUNDAN

#### AKWU JONATHAN NIGERIA



# Be free from the FLESH

O you flesh! Your demands always fresh! It can never be satisfied, puts it's victim on arrest! Don't you think it's time to rest? Come on, put this thought on a test See, here is only what breaks us free from it's chains It's Christ, in Him our faith acclaim No matter how weak, He makes us strong No matter how fallen, He lifts us up Accept Christ, be free from the flesh For it's desires crush and puts us in a mess

### Judson: first American missionary to Burma

At the age of 25, Adoniram Judson was the first American missionary to Burma. He and Ann married two weeks before they boarded a ship bound for India, from which they eventually

were able to make their way to Burma. Judson would spend the next nearly forty years of his life living among and witnessing to the Burmese people. Until her death, Ann was the friend of many and even more fluent in the Burmese language than her academically inclined husband. Judson's efforts were slow-going.

He was imprisoned and tortured, but he never gave up on his God-given calling to reach Burma for Christ. Before his death, Adoniram Judson had not only established several churches in Burma, but he had also given Burma one of the greatest gifts: the Bible in their own language.

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# Mind & Heart

he mind is a very important component of the human make-up (body, soul, and spirit), perhaps just as important as your heart. Proverbs 4:23 tells us that "all the issues of life flow out of the heart", so why would the mind be just as important?

It's because whatever fills the mind is what fills the heart.

Paul tells us in 2 Timothy that we have received a "sound mind" from the Lord. Now look at the context: Paul is saying that he has a "pure conscience" (2 Timothy 1:3). That's an incredible statement when you consider Paul's background. He was the most vehement persecutor of Christians and ordered many to be put to death. So how can Paul have a pure conscience?

The answer to this question is also the key to a sound mind.

Paul understood what Christ had done for him. 2 Timothy 1:2 reveals the gospel is about grace, mercy, and peace. And when you understand that you have received the grace of God through His mercies, His peace will guard and protect your mind and heart (Philippians 4:6-7).

Many of God's promises are past tense. "I have blessed you...". "I am worthy...". "I have surrounded you with favor as a shield...".All of these are past tense and our role is to bring our thinking into agreement with God. But because we might not feel blessed, or feel surrounded with God's favor, we have a tendency to think and speak about what we feel rather than what God says.

When God placed Ezekiel in the valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37), He told him to prophesy over those bones commanding "life" to come into them. Ezekiel was surrounded by dry bones. But rather than describe the deadness of the circumstances that surrounded him, he agreed with God and declared what God said.

Likewise, we need to learn to agree with God and declare what God's Word says about us.

This is the posture of a "sound mind". It agrees with God. It is a mindset that doesn't go to fear, but goes to faith saying;

If God's Word says I am blessed, then I am, regardless of my surroundings.

If God's Word says I am worthy, then I am, regardless of my surroundings. If God's Word says I am surrounded by God's favor, then I am. Today rise up with that sound mind and agree with God's Word.



Pr.WAYNE SIMPSON CHINA

Many of God's promises are past tense. "I have blessed you." "I am worthy..." "I have surrounded you with favor as a shield...".All of these are past tense and our role is to bring our thinking into agreement with God

1

### KIDZ

# Pioneers of SUNDAY SCHOOL

DAVID MCKNIGHT

Restablished a Sunday school for the poor and orphaned in Gloucester in 1780. Although there were earlier Sunday schools, Raikes and Stock have become the recognized originators. Their efforts led clergy and laypeople to establish similar schools throughout England, thus setting in motion the Sunday School Movement. By 1800, 200 000 children were enrolled in English Sunday schools, and by 1850, this number had risen to 2 million.

Lending Rules of the Library

An example of the lending rules that students were expected to follow.

The Sunday schools were organized by people who found that working-class children required some form of discipline. Sunday and evening schools were established to teach reading, writing, arithmetic and catechsim to the 'deserving' poor: enrollment was decided upon by visits with parents,

nominations from subscribers, and individual student applications. Students were expected to attend school four to five hours per week, and was the only schooling that most working class children ever received. Although originally hailed as a great and noble achievement, Sunday schools constantly struggled for survival: there was often ecclesiastical pressure to not teach writing on a Sunday debates raged as to whether teaching the lower classes was, in fact, a good idea; there were worries that such education would lead them to forget their station in life the Church of England was often unable to support the schools, or provide them with adequate space or funds. Consequently, the schools were financed by

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The **Sunday schools** caught on quickly and were effective because they were simple, became a diversion for the children, and a means for parents to socially elevate the family as a whole.

subscribers, who were encouraged to nominate children for enrollment. They were also encouraged to visit the schools in order to hear the children repeat their lessons; these subscribers, as such, were the forerunners of school inspectors. The teachers (men and women) were paid, and classes were often held in a person's home, or in rented rooms. Hannah More, for example, held such a school in Blagdon, in 1795. She later became even more influential to the Sunday school movement with the establishment of her Cheap Repository

Tracts.

The Sunday schools caught on quickly and were effective because they were simple, became a diversion for the children, and a means for parents to socially elevate the family as a whole. They were often also a means of education for adults, who occasionally attended the schools: children were actively encouraged to take lessons and books home to share with their parents.

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The Sunday school also became an important hub of social interaction for a class of children and parents who were rapidly moving away from small, close-knit, rural communities to large, over-populated, urban centres. Lastly, the schools taught catechism to a population that, until that time, only learned it via a rote memorization system with the priest reciting the Lord's Prayer one line at a time, once a week, during the service. As the schools gained in popularity and effectiveness, the Church of England started to actively provide them with facilities and finances. This also meant a tighter control over their management and curriculum, rather than allowing lay people to continue running the schools.





#### SIERRA HALL, USA

It's easy to become careless with the things we say. So much so that James claimed that the tongue was an "unruly evil full of deadly poison"

# WATCH YOUR WORDS

Once you know what good things

God has to say about you, it's

important to claim those qualities

with the words you speak about

vourself. Positive self-talk has

been determined to be a

remarkable tool in helping people

reduce symptoms of anxiety,

depression, and even personality

disorders.

eath and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit. Proverbs 18:21 NKJV

What do you say about yourself? What about others? Do the things you say reflect that each of us is an exquisite work of art created by the most talented artist there has ever been and ever will be? Are you speaking life or death?

It's easy to become careless with the things we say. So much

so that James claimed that the tongue was an "unruly evil full of deadly poison"(James 3:8). He also stated that the tongue was a fire capable of defiling the whole body (James 3:6). That means that the words we choose have an effect on every portion of our bodies. So, shouldn't we choose good ones?

Choosing the right things to say about yourself begins with believing the right things about yourself. You are fearfully and wonderfully made

(Psalm 139:14) with a sound mind and a spirit of power and love (2Timothy 1:7).There are dozens of these accolades to God's creation of human life throughout the Bible.We just need to believe them.

Once you know what good things God has to say about you, it's important to claim those qualities with the words you speak about yourself. Positive self-talk has been determined to be a remarkable tool in helping people reduce symptoms of anxiety, depression, and even personality disorders. It can improve your body image, increase confidence, and produce higher levels of motivation.

Unfortunately, scads of us have abandoned what God says we are and filled in the gaps with whatever we are fighting against. It's clear that we have fallen victim to our own bad habits. It's become commonplace to voice our most derogatory self-evaluations. Some even seem to use the

> negative views they have of themselves as a distorted form of bragging rights. God, however, has given every one of us so much more to glorify Him with than the mere ability to survive our shortfalls.With Him, all things are possible (Matthew 19:26).

> So, how do you break the shame cycle society has normalized? Step one is catching yourself "redhanded", engaging in a negative thought pattern. Then, check it. Does it reap any benefit? Does that benefit

justify the way this self-observation makes you feel? If the answer to either one of these questions is "no", then CHANGE IT. These three Cs give you the power to abolish any negative thought patterns you have adopted and embrace the empowering truths God has spoken over you.

Start today! Speak life into yourself and others. Acknowledge who God says you are.







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To ensure freedom to worship Jesus Christ in India

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