

POEMS OF THE MONTH

നീ മാത്രം

-സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

അഴുക്കലക്കവാൻ മണ്ണാത്തി മാത്രം
പാടു പാടുവാൻ പക്ഷി വണ്ണാത്തി മാത്രം
കറി അരിയുവാൻ ചെറു പിച്ചാത്തി മാത്രം
കരുണ കാട്ടുവാൻ നീ ഒരുവൻ മാത്രം

അയൽക്കാരനോടു നീ കരുണ കാട്ടണം
വിശക്കുന്നവനു നീ അറിഞ്ഞു നൽകണം
വിധവക്കും അനാഥനും നീ തുണയാകേണം
എല്ലാം കാണുന്നവൻ ചൊല്ലി "നീ ചെയ്യണം"

കാര്യം അറിവുള്ളവൻ നീ ആകയാൽ,
അടുത്തുള്ളവൻ അവർക്കു നീ ആകയാൽ,
അവശ്യം പണവും സമയവും നിനക്കുള്ളതാൽ,
ധൈര്യം ദൈവം നിനക്കു നൽകുന്നതാൽ,

ഒട്ടും ഒഴിഞ്ഞു മാറാൻ നിനക്കാകില്ല കേട്ടോ!
ഒന്നുമറിയാതെയല്ല നിന്നെ ആക്കിവെച്ചതും!

Have you forgotten?

- Simon Zachariah

How can I forget the boy who pinched me?
How can I forget the boy who bit me?
How can I forget the friend who pushed me?

I can't remember who gives without asking!
I can't remember who give what is excess!
I can't remember who give me daily!

Remember God who gave you everything!

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A Newsletter

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NANMA .S. BABY

“Sharing joy”-

-Nanma S.Baby.



Channels of Glory – Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

We are happy to come to your homes once again to chat with you about what we really have with us. Recently I heard a sermon on the internet. The preacher said that one time he met an old man of strong faith and beliefs. When he explained his beliefs about the bodies we receive when we reach eternity, the old man said with a smile "I have no worries about that... when we came to this world, we were only one cell...The same God who gave us everything what we have now, is able to provide new!" I read another quote from a Hindu Maharishi. He said, "People who have reached great height of wealth, fame, position, and power should occasionally look down, just to understand the depth of their fall." Every one may not fall, but everyone should leave everything which we earned from this world and go empty handed. Another quotation I read was like this: "The real freedom one will enjoy is only when one loses everything". Long time ago I heard this

story of a shepherd boy who played the flute very well. The princess heard this music and wanted to encourage him by giving a present. After he got this nice present from the princess, he was so happy and started to admire it in between the music playing. The princess was still waiting to hear the music. But it was interrupted by long silence. Finally the princess sent people to find out what was happening. What they found was interesting. Every time when he started to play his beautiful music, he would remember the present he received from princess and he would stop the music and start admiring the present! This is the exact story of many of us. When God give us material blessings, we forget to do what God wants us to do, rather we just spend our time admiring and enjoying His gifts. We should remind ourselves the famous quotation which says, "The gift without the giver is bare!" When I was a small boy my mother used to give me small tasks which 'obviously' she could not do. One task was to crawl down under the table to pick up things from underneath the table. Another one was to wash the "puttu kudam" a vessel which has a narrow neck. I was so proud to help her because I was the only one who could do those tasks. In the same way, God wants us to do certain tasks which even angels can't do. I heard from somewhere, that angels cannot feel sorrow or pain so they cannot comfort the people who are going through pain. Only human beings can do certain things. Since we are their neighbor, since we have gone through the same experience, since he/she is in your workplace, since we have some spare time, since we have some money to help, since we have some time to pray, since we have the

knowledge and expertise,...God wants to use us to do His will. People whom God has used in the past are not different than all of us. They had their own weakness, fears, and doubts. But when we make ourselves available to God, He will use us to do His will. He will give us resources, and send the right people to work with us. We may not complete the task, or we may not live to see the completed task, but it is God's work, He will send the right people to complete His tasks. Sometime ago I met an old man who came to give some suggestions to the man who was cutting one of our trees in the yard. This old man used crutches to walk, but he was still useful to others to give advice. When I talked to him, I understood, several buildings in Indiana University was built by him. He was a 'brick layer' by profession. But he hasn't visited any of those beautiful buildings after they were finished. He did his part and someone else came to work on the other buildings. In the same way we are all a part of the building process. We may be the brick layers, painters, electricians, etc. God has the master plan and let us look unto His face for directions and obey His desires. I heard about a bishop visiting the site where his cathedral was being built. He asked many workers, what they were doing. One said, "I am shaping the stones," another said, "I am bending the metal wires" another said, "I am preparing the paint" etc. Finally he found one old man feeding the animals which was tired of pulling heavy stones. He said with a smile, "Even though right now I am feeding these animals, ultimately I am also involved in building the cathedral!" Whatever we do, everything should be done for the Glory of the Lord!