

POEMS OF THE MONTH

Why & What

-Simon Zachariah

Mr. Why thinks, he is always right!
He always has reasons to go his way.
Nobody really wants to follow Mr. Why.
Because he doesn't trust anyone else!

His brothers and sisters are the same way,
Their names are Who, Where, and When.
His sister is Whom; just like her brothers!
If one of them comes, there comes all!

Mr. What is their neighbor, very friendly,
He never asks anyone for a reason.
He always asks people "What can I do"
His moto is "Ask no questions, just Help!"

എനിക്കു വയ്യ!

_സൈമൺ സബറിയ

കഴിയില്ലെന്നിട്ട് വെറുത്തിടാനാരെയും,
എന്നെക്കാൾ മെച്ചമാണെല്ലാവരും!
ഒരമ്മയായാൽ ഏറെ ക്ഷമിക്കണം,
ഒരച്ഛനായാൽ കൂടെ കൂടെ പൊറുക്കണം.

കൂടെ ജനിച്ചോരെ അകറ്റുവാനാകുമോ?
വീണാൽ താങ്ങുവാൻ കൂടപ്പിറപ്പു വേണ്ടേ?
എനിക്കു വയ്യേ വെറുത്തിടാനാരെയും,
പാവമാമെന്നെയും ആരും വെറുത്തിടല്ലേ!

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Contribution deductibility: Yes

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Channels of Glory Newsletter
May, 2023



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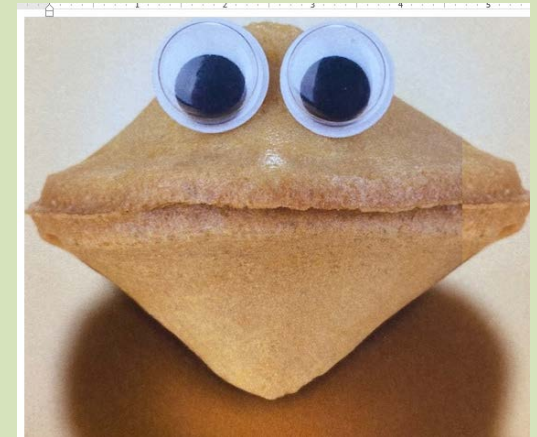
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(Est. 2005)

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A Newsletter

Vol. 18 No. 1 2023



What is fortune?

-Simon Zachariah



Channels of Glory – Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

Have you ever participated in a competition? I have participated in a few competitions. Each of them had its own criteria to win. Who made those rules? I don't know. Some of them existed for years. But those who participate in those competitions should agree to abide by these rules. In some bicycle races, speed is the criteria to win; but in certain others, slowness is the requirement to win. But in any case they all have to abide by the rules and they all should accept the final judgement of the jury. Rules, regulations, instructions, recipes, protocols, are all there for a reason and hence we have to follow. But my father used to say:, "Rules are for fools!" He never meant not to follow the rules; but he was trying to teach us that the laws are made for the people; and an intelligent or smart person should asses the situation and should decide for himself whether he should blindly follow the rules or break the rules for the betterment of humanity. In this case the jury is oneself. Everyone has to take the responsibility for

his own actions. And he should be ready to face the consequences of his actions.

In history, all great and smart leaders were ready to break the rules and laws existed in their life time as and when it was needed. They knew those laws existed in specific situations at certain time. So they have crossed the double yellow lines as and when it was needed and saved their followers. That was the reason they were elevated to a level of 'LEADERS'.

I have heard an ancient Buddhist story. Let me narrate it in my own words. There was once a very young active cat which lived in a monastery. One night while all the monks were trying to concentrate during an evening meditation time, the naughty cat started to make noise. The leader of the monastery asked his followers to bring the cat and put the cat under a bamboo basket till the prayers were over. The disciples obeyed what was asked and there was enough tranquility and peace for prayer time. Next day when the prayer time came one of the monks reminded others about the cat. So in order to avoid the noise made by the naughty cat, they carefully repeated the same procedure done on the previous day. This practice was followed for many years and the new monks who joined the monastery never knew the reason for the practice. One day the old cat died. There was a big confusion among the monks at the monastery. They all thought that keeping a cat under the basket is also a ritual for a proper prayer! Then a young monk informed that he had seen a kitten out there in the

village. They all decided to go and purchase that kitten and the same practice was done in the monastery. The prayers were offered properly from there on! There is no reason to explain the moral of the story. But my question is how do we get the courage to break a wrong rule?

It is always easy to follow others without thinking or asking questions. It may be easy for the ones who going ahead. But the younger generations who are following, may not find them so easy. So they disagree and break the rules. It's ok to change the rules. Rules are written for our own betterment in that particular times. But as the time changes, we should change the rules for the betterment of the society.

Our organization 'Channels of Glory' is also facing new challenges. Let us look unto God who has guided us thus far. Governments are changing and the rules are changing. Let us open our eyes and ears and see where our God is leading us. Our God who called us for this commission is able to guide us wherever He is leading us. Still many people are being helped for their treatment and young people in their studies. Let us remember the sick and old people who are bedridden for years. Let us also pray that God will give Grace to those who take care of the sick and elderly. We will never know the burdens that people carry, unless we walk in their shoes.

Always remember, wounds are to be taken care of; but the scars are the ones to remind us about our wounded days!