

## Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?

Right from 12 midnight, I have been getting sms wish for our Independence Day. As I sat thinking and thanking the Lord for allowing me to be born in this wonderful land, I was also deeply concerned about the real situation in our country. On one side, grand festivities regarding independence take up every space in TV or our street corners, while a major chunk of our country folk are unaware of their rights, privileges and even the rulers of this land.

India has a very peculiar and unique history of having secured its independence through non-violence, based on the life of Jesus Christ, when many Christian nations have cruelly guillotined its tyrannical rulers. What then is wrong in this country? Despite getting Independence through the wonderful way of Jesus Christ our country is still in darkness. There are more mouths to be fed, more AIDS orphans day after day, more girl children obliterated in the womb, the list is endless.

The danger lies in applying biblical principles to our life and accomplishing great goals, but denying to allow the Lordship of Jesus Christ in our lives. Formulaic principles can be effective till a certain point, but for a total transformation, Jesus Christ has to be born in every one of us. This land needs Jesus Christ, not just the principles of non-violence, helping the needy and so on. The strongholds of darkness and idolatry can only be broken when Jesus reigns in our mind, soul and body. Complete surrender gives complete victory,

At times we look at the towering population and sit back defeated, believing we are only a minority, shaking our heads with despair we mutter, "what can I do against so much of evil, darkness, misery and poverty." The suggestion of helplessness is only from satan, for the Lord who has chosen us from darkness into His unsearchable light is not concerned with the numerical strength. All He looks for is a heart which believes in the unbelievable wisdom of the Lord. A pinch of salt, a small wick of light is what the Lord expects of us. If we would preserve our savour as Christians in this vast nation, the Lord will surely preserve the souls of our people from eternal hell.

If only we could faithfully keep on lighting, the souls in darkness will behold the God of glory dwelling in dazzling light.

Let Jesus Christ take complete hold of our lives and when we are fully believing there is no end of what God could do through us. He only needs an ordinary wilderness man like Elijah to stir up a mighty nation. There is no greater honour, no higher calling than to work for the Master. When we become obedient to God's call then naturally God will bless and heal our land (II Chronicles 33, 14). God is not looking for a valiant army, but His heart is searching for a young Jeremiah whose eyes overflow for his people, a brave Nehemiah who will resign his job at the King's palace and toil over the walls of a ruined war torn state of Jerusalem, an Ezekiel who would not even cry when God takes the desire of his eyes (wife Ezek24) but confront the sinfulness of his people. Who knows God could have given such glory in our lives only to save our people from the reality of hell? The salvation of this nation will surely come, but we will lose our part when we disregard God's call and misinterpret His material blessings on our lives. Do we hear God's lament, WHOM SHALL I SEND? WHO WILL GO FOR US? Isaiah6, 8. "Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts." Psalm 95, 8.

Dear Jesus, give me your heart of obedience to say "Yes Lord not my will but Yours", your heart of compassion on the multitudes who are scattered with no shepherd and your heart of anguish as you wept over Jerusalem. No matter the cost help us to carry you faithfully till the ends of this earth. Give us your courage, love and obedience. May our land be not desolate but be married to you and may you rejoice over this land when you come back Lord Jesus. Amen.