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# SATHTHIYA VAARTHAI

IBT Founder (Late) Rev. Prof. S. Panneer Selvam

**WORD OF TRUTH -**  
**PUBLICATION OF INDIAN BIBLE TRANSLATORS**

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## DETERMINATIONS OF THE HEART

### INTRODUCTION

Daniel and his friends are in a strange land. Israel has been divided into two kingdoms after the reign of Solomon. The northern kingdom was called Israel and the southern kingdom was called Judah. The northern kingdom was captured by the Assyrians and the southern kingdom by the Babylonians. Daniel and his friends belong to the southern kingdom which was captured by king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. The Babylonian king was keen on using wise and intelligent people from his kingdom to help him rule. He had chosen Daniel and his three friends to the court. It must have been difficult for Daniel to learn a new language and to make it even more difficult, because his name was changed to a Babylonian name. He was named Belteshazzar, while his friends were called Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego. Their names were also changed. The culture, religion and way of life in Babylon were different. Daniel and his friends

had to make many decisions while in Babylon, and later, for Daniel in Persia.

When people stand at a forked road, a decision has to be taken to choose one of the roads. These decisions are weighed in by those who have to make a decision, and a final determination is made. Determinations are made from the heart. It is made and then, sticking to it may sometimes pose a problem. Good decisions lead to success and bad decisions lead to misery. All through life, we are constantly faced with having to make decisions. I am sure that some of our decisions were right, and some were not, and some were 'not sure'. In this article I want to talk about decisions that people made, and how we can learn from it to help make the right decision with God's help. These decisions are the determinations of the heart. In other words, our heart is involved in the decisions we make.

### Indecision

During the time of Elijah, the king of Israel was Ahab and his wife was Jezebel. The Bible says that Ahab "did more evil" than all those who were before him. He had succeeded to turn all Israel into worshipping Baal. His wife ate with 400 prophets of Baal. The God of Israel, who had created the land of Israel for the children of Israel, was forgotten completely. God's laws were trampled upon. Elijah, the Tishbite, a prophet of the Lord, appeared at this time. Israel was in a backslidden state - created 400 prophets of Baal!. The events at Mt. Carmel were to challenge them. Elijah asked "How long will ye falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him". The Bible says : "But the people answered him not a word"!! If I understand this correctly, there must have been a deafening silence. Imagine that there are 400 prophets of Baal and perhaps 450 other false prophets serving Jezebel, plus all the people who came to see the challenge, and none spoke a word! They could not make up their minds as to who they would serve. It should have been an easy decision, having known the wonderful way that God brought them through the wilderness, and led them as a pillar of fire by night, and as a pillar of cloud by day, and finally gave them the land "flowing with milk and honey".

They had forgotten the wonderful things God had done for them. In Deut. 32:18 it says, "Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful, and have forgotten the God who fathered you". Constantly, God, through His prophets, had to remind the children of Israel, not to forget God or His laws that He gave them. Continual state of living in a

backslidden life, results either in making a wrong decision, or failing to take a decision - among a lot of other failures in life. One of the costliest decisions is indecision, because we now allow things to take its course, or someone else took the decision and we end up blaming others instead of ourselves. Pilate was faced with either exonerating Jesus, or condemning Him. Regarding Jesus, he told the crowd, "I find no fault in this Man at all". On the one hand, he claimed that he had the power to crucify or the power to release Jesus. Yet, he succumbed to the crowd and was not sure of himself as to what to do. He went and washed his hands, revealing that he was not capable of taking a decision and said, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person: you see to it".

This resulted in the crowds making their decision. Andrew Carnegie, known as the world's first billionaire said, "Most people will lose more to indecision, than they will to a bad decision." I am sure, that most of us can relate to times of indecision that has cost us. Having once tasted the wonderful works of God in your life and the peace and joy it has brought you, then you slowly went into a backslidden state. Jesus lovingly calls us back to Him. He wants to revive you and to do mightier things through Him, if you return to Him. The Lord called the children of Israel, when in their backslidden state, to return to Him. It should be an easy decision, because He says in Is. 55: 7, "Let the wicked forsake his ways and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him: and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon".

**Not my decision**

Moses was with God on the top of Mount Sinai for forty days and nights. This is when God gave him the Ten Commandments written by Him on tables of stones. The children of Israel had been delivered by the Lord from slavery in Egypt, having suffered for four hundred years. In the absence of Moses while he was on Mount Sinai, (This incident is found in Ex. 32), the people called on Aaron to "make us gods", and that was all Aaron needed. He asked the people for all the gold jewelry that were on them. Aaron then, "received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf." Furthermore, Aaron built an altar before the image. They then ate and drank and rose up to play". The Lord sent Moses down and told him what was happening in the camp. Moses confronted Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?" Now came the answer from Aaron, in fact he tried to tell Moses, "this is not my decision", and that the people were to blame, and that all he did was to get the gold from the people, "and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out".

Does this sound familiar to you? People do something wrong and then put the finger at you, or you could have done something wrong and try to blame someone else. Nevertheless, it resulted in the loss of a lot of lives. In fact this type of "blame-game" is as old as the garden of Eden. If we could just go back and read Gen. 3, we will find out that God had given a command to eat of all the trees in the garden (including the Tree of Life), except the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil". Satan came along and

tempted Eve and the Bible says that to Eve, the fruit looked good for food, pleasant looking and that eating it would also make her wise, so she ate of it. She then gave to Adam and he took of it as well. When God questioned Adam, here is his response: "The woman You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I ate". Eve says, "The serpent deceived me, and I did eat". It is clear that Adam blamed Eve and God for this, and Eve blamed the serpent. This type of blame-game continues to this day - "not my decision." It is so easy to blame someone else for our failures and sins. The Bible does not call upon others to repent for our sins, but, the Lord calls each one of us to repent of our sins. The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God". It also says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness". We cannot live a Christian life by blaming others for what we do; however, the Lord by His grace has provided for us a way of escape through the cross. That is the reason why He died in our place, that we might have forgiveness and thus have everlasting life.

### **Wrong Decision**

Jesus tells us the story of two brothers living with their father in Lk. 15: 12-32. Neither of them had to worry about food, clothing or any other thing they needed in those days. Their father provided for them and also for the servants living in their father's house. In spite of this, the younger son thought that he was missing some 'wonderful' things in the world outside and wanted to get out into the world. The younger of the two was probably attracted by the world outside the father's

home. He decided to make a living on his own, with his portion of the inheritance. He demanded that his father give him his portion of the inheritance. His father gave him his portion of the inheritance. A few days later, the young man left home and ventured out "into a far country". We all know how quickly money can be spent - no surprise there. Soon, this youngster had spent all his inheritance in "riotous" or "prodigal" living. He was expecting to enjoy himself for the rest of his life with worldly pleasures. He thought that he could find real close friends who can love him better than his father back home. Unfortunately for him, he did not find true friends, nor did the worldly pleasures last too long. He probably thought that if he spent his money on his friends, then they will get closer to him. Having recognized that the world had let him down and finding that he had no more money to take care of himself, he had to search for a job, just to survive! This is typical of anyone who thinks that they can abandon the Lord Jesus and His love, and make friends with the world. Jesus said that the thief (devil) comes to steal, kill and destroy, but that He came to give eternal life. The younger son had made the wrong decision to leave his father's house. Praise the Lord that the story did not end there! He decided to return to his father's home. His father lovingly embraced him and there was joy and feasting in the home. The only One who will not fail you, is Jesus Himself. Here is the first verse of an old hymn that puts it in perspective.

*Earthly friends may prove untrue,  
Doubts and fears assail;  
One still loves and cares for you;*

*One who will not fail.  
Jesus never fails, Jesus never fails;  
Heav'n and earth may pass away,  
But Jesus never fails.*

Of course this young man is called the 'prodigal son', but, there was a prodigal at home. Take a look at the reaction of the older son. He could not imagine that his father could forgive the riotous living brother of his. Instead of welcoming the lost son, he was upset at the welcome he received. The question is, which one of the two prodigals are you? Both can be forgiven and healed by the One, Jesus, who gave Himself on the cross for all.

### **Back to Daniel**

I want to get back to Daniel where we started from. Daniel and his three friends were being groomed by the king of Babylon, to become important leaders in his kingdom, because he found them to be wise and intelligent compared to the rest in his kingdom. One of the issues they faced was, that they had to eat of the king's "delicacies". Daniel seemed to be troubled by this, perhaps it was offered to their gods before they were given to eat. In Dan. 1:8 it says, that "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself .." Daniel made a very difficult decision, because he had rejected the food that would supposedly make them healthy and wise. In verse 15, it says that in ten days, they seemed to be healthier and "fatter in flesh" than all the others that ate the king's meat. The Lord further gave them "knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams". God honored them

because they honored Him (1 Sam. 2:30). This was three-year training but at the end of it all, they were found to be ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers in the whole realm!! Daniel and his friends continued to honor God, whenever they were faced with a challenge. For example, his three friends were faced with being cast into a fiery furnace, if they did not fall down and worship the image set up by king Nebuchadnezzar. They had determined in their hearts to only honor God. The result was that the Lord stood beside them in the fiery furnace, and the king exclaimed, "the form of the fourth is like the Son of God"! Daniel defied the king's decree and continued to worship God three times a day, and was cast into the lion's den. We find that Daniel was unharmed by the lions, because God shut the lion's mouth. All these examples indicate that when Daniel and his friends determined in their heart to follow the Lord, the Lord extended His arm to deliver them when faced with evil. Someone said, "When we honor God in the customary, He honors us in the critical issues". What kind of determinations have you made in serving and following the Lord? We are faced constantly with issues where we have to make decisions, do we take the advice from those who are evil, or do we take godly counsel? Are you honoring God at work, at social gatherings, at home?

*Standing by a purpose true,  
Heeding God's command,  
Honor them, the faithful few!  
All hail to Daniel's band!  
Dare to be a Daniel,  
Dare to stand alone!  
Dare to have a purpose firm!*

*Dare to make it known.*

### **Make your decision**

Jesus spoke some of the most profound words that anyone on earth has ever spoken. We read in Mt. 6, his exhortation to lay up treasure in heaven rather than on earth. For he said "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also". If our heart is towards heaven, we will do the things that the Lord would ask us to do. On the other hand, when all of our focus is on worldly things, we will be working towards making more money, becoming famous, raising our social status, and soon discover that we have no time for godly things, or to spend time helping to further the cause of Christ. We have a choice to balance our Christian life. It is easy to give our tithe to the Lord and say, "I have done my duty to the Lord". How much time do you spend in studying the Bible and following God's commands? How much time do we spend in prayer before the Lord? Some will run to Him when there is trouble, and forget God until the next trouble comes. Jesus said, "You cannot serve God and mammon".

In Lk. 8, we have the story of Jesus casting out demons from a man who was possessed for a long time. He could break the chains with which he was bound. Jesus drives out the demons from him and the demons enter a herd of swine. They run down the steep slope into the lake and get drowned. The herdsmen then went into the city and told the people what had happened. The people then came and saw the man sitting at the feet of Jesus and the Bible says, "clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid." Now comes the interesting part. They

could have asked Jesus to stay and heal others too who lived among them; instead, they took the decision to ask Jesus to leave their town. Jesus got into the boat and returned to the place from where he came. Lk. 8: 40 says, "the multitude welcomed Him, for they were all waiting for Him". What a contrast from the crowd that asked Jesus to leave!

If you are reading this article, what would be your decision? Would you reject Jesus or would you welcome Him into your heart and life? The Bible says in Ps. 95, "Today if you will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." What is your decision? The Hymn writer said "I have decided to follow Jesus". Are you willing to follow Him all the days of your life?

(Dr. Sam Russell)

### **CHRISTMAS GIFT**

We are in need of Rs.5 lakhs for Christmas Gifts to be given to the employees of IBT and to the children at our Home in Bappenpalli. X-mas Covers are being sent to you through our Representatives/Promotional staff. In case you have not received the cover, you may please send your contribution direct to the IBT Office.

We request you to contribute liberally and generously to encourage the IBT workers.

- **Treasurer**

### **NEEDS OF THE IBT MINISTRIES**

Dear readers of "Saththiya Vaarthai", we need in our IBT Office 5 Computers urgently. Estimated cost of a computer is about Rs. 36,000/-. We also need a two-wheeler urgently for our missionary couple in our Children's Home at Bappenpalli - Odisha, estimated around Rs. 65,000/-. Those of you, who are called by God to bear this, may please come forward to sponsor the same.

**Those who are desirous of supporting our varied ministries are requested to send their offerings to the following banks through ECS.**

1) **STATE BANK OF INDIA**

A/c. No. : 30008395600  
Name : Indian Bible Translators  
Branch Code : 7231  
Branch : Peelamedu  
IFS Code : SBIN0007231

2) **INDIAN BANK**

A/c. No. : 475742259  
Name : Indian Bible Translators  
Branch Code : S107  
Branch : Peelamedu  
IFS Code : IDIB000S107

**(We request you to send the details of the offerings sent by you to our IBT Office. Cell Phone No. 90470 57414. This will help us to send our receipt to you)**

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## EDITORIAL

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Dear readers in Christ,

Greetings to you in the Sweet name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the same, yesterday, today and forever.

"In the multitude of my thoughts within me, thy comforts delight my soul". (Psa.94:19)

In our lives, it is our experience that situations do not remain the same at all times. Each one of us have faced various problems such as hardships, failure, distress, tribulations, diseases etc, at one time or the other. Do we get dismayed - who will relieve me from this? Who will protect me? Who will support me? Let us not forget that there is One who will comfort us, heal us and embrace us with His loving hands. God alone knows our lives entirely.

Our God is always looking at us - not only at our troubles - but also to see how much we love Him, are true before Him and place our faith on Him. Whenever we are tossed up and down by the situations we confront, even to the extent of losing our faith, His living Word alone, gives us hope, encourages us and comforts us. We must love the Word of God and read it regularly. In difficult times, the promises contained in His Word restore our faith and comfort us. That is what the Psalmist says, "Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction". (Psa. 119:92) Those who love and read the Word have great peace; let us receive the same peace. That alone will heal and comfort us.

During the months of September and October, IBT translators had been to the Bible Society of India, Bangalore, for exegetical checking of some of the books of the Old Testament translated in Bhojpuri, Sourashtra, Badaga and Chhattisgarhi languages. Please

pray that the Lord may give much more knowledge and patience for His servants in this ministry. Bro.D.Vasu gave God's message on 24th August 2017 in Paraloga Mahimai Church at Kallikkudi, Odaippatti and on 9th September 2017 in the Saturday Fasting Prayer in the CSI Church at Koilpatti. 11 sisters completed their 6 month training in our Tailoring Training Centre. They were given certificates at the hands of Pastor Ebinezar at Kallikkudi. Brother Marshall Alexander, our representative at Thirumangalam was of great help for this training programme.

On 2nd October 2017, the Fourteenth One Day Family Blessing Meet of IBT was convened at the Parish Hall of CSI Brough Church at Erode, in a grand manner. Rev. A. Stanley Kumar, Rev. Jeyachandran, and Rev. Immanuel Vezavendan, graced the occasion by their presence. Rev.V.Stalin Raj gave the message of God. We thank all our IBT representatives at Erode for their efforts and nice arrangements. On 15th October 2017, Bro. Simon gave God's message at in the Silovam Church at Mettur. On the same day Bro. S. Timothy gave God's message in the TELC at Sular. On 28th October 2017, Bro. Simon shared the Word of God in the Missionaries' Fasting Prayer Meet, organized by TELC Church at Erode, and Bro. Vanaraj shared word of God in the Sunday Service of that Church on 29th October 2017.

Please pray for IBT Ministries to accomplish its goal for translating Bible into Bible-less languages. Please pray for our Translators, Missionaries, Promotional Staff, Representatives, and Office - bearers. We also pray for you all. May God Bless you All!

Yours in His service  
**Sister D.Sudhandhira Devi**

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## LATEST POSITION OF TRANSLATION BY IBT

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### TAMIL NADU

In "**Sourashtra**" language, we have already published and distributed 4 Gospel Books, New Testament, Book of Psalms and Book of Proverbs. Translation of all the books of the Old Testament has been completed. Of these, BSI has completed exegetical checking of 12 books.

In "**Badaga**" language, 4 Gospel Books, New Testament, Book of Psalms and Book of Proverbs have already been published and distributed. Translation of all the books of the Old Testament has been completed. Of these, BSI has completed exegetical checking of 12 books.

In "**Toda**" language, Gospel of Mark has already been published. Recently, on 27th August 2017, New Testament in Toda language was dedicated, released and is being distributed. Translation in Old Testament from the Book of Genesis up to the Book of Proverbs has been done.

In "**Pania**" language, Gospel of Mark, Gospel of Luke, Gospel of John as well as New Testament have already been published and are being distributed. In the Old Testament, translation as well as key - in work, from the Book of Genesis up to the Book of Numbers, has been done.

In "**Kota**" language, Gospel of Mark has already been published and is being distributed. Translation of New Testament is complete, but key-in work is yet to be done. Translation of Old Testament from the Book of Genesis up to the Book of II Samuel has been done.

In "**Irula (Kunjappanai)**" language, Gospel of Matthew, Gospel of Mark and Gospel of Luke have been published and are being distributed. Translation of New Testament is completed and key-in work is being done. Exegetical Checking by BSI of New Testament is to take place this year. Translation in the Old Testament from the Book of Genesis to Isaiah, and also from the Book of Amos to Malachi, has been completed.

In "**Irula (Velliyangadu)**" language, Gospel of Mark and Gospel of Luke have already been published and are being distributed. Translation of all the books of the New Testament as well as the Old Testament, has been completed. Key-in work and language checking are in Progress.

### KARNATAKA

In "**Yerawa**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and distributed. Gospel of Luke has also been published and is being distributed. Translation as well as key-in work in New Testament has been completed. Language checking is in progress. In Old Testament, except for the Book of Deuteronomy, translation has been completed in 18 books from Genesis to Proverbs.

In "**Kodavathak**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and distributed. In New Testament, translation as well as key-in work has been completed and the relevant CD has been sent to BSI for checking. Translation in the Old Testament has commenced.

In "**Vagri**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and is being distributed. In New Testament, translation as well as key-in work has been completed. Language checking is in progress.

In "**Lambani**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and is being distributed. Translation of New Testament has been completed. Except for the Epistles to Galatians and Ephesians, key-in work of 25 books has been completed. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed in all the books, except the Books of Job and Proverbs.

In "**Siddik**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and is being distributed. Translation in New Testament has been completed and key-in work has been done in respect of 11 books.

In "**Bovi**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and is being distributed. In the New Testament, translation as well as key-in work has been completed. In the Old Testament, Translation has been completed from the Book of Genesis to the Book of II Samuel.

In "**Jenukurumba**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and is being distributed. In the New Testament, translation has been completed. Key-in work and language checking of Gospel of Luke is completed.

#### **RAJASTHAN**

In "**Hadoti**" language, Gospel of Matthew has been published and is being distributed. In the New Testament, translation has been completed and language checking is in progress. In the Old Testament, translation is being done for the Book of Psalms.

In "**Dundani**" language, Gospel of Matthew has been published and is being distributed, Translation of the New Testament is completed. In the Old Testament, 5 books, i.e. Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs, have been completed.

In "**Wagri**" language, all four Gospel Books have been published and are being distributed.

Translation of the New Testament has been completed. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed from the Book of Genesis up to be Book of II Kings.

In "**Dingal**" language, Gospel of Matthew and Gospel of Mark have been published and are being distributed. Translation of the New Testament has been completed. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed from the Book of Genesis up to be Book of Job.

In "**Mewari**" language, Gospel of Matthew has been published and is being distributed. Translation of the New Testament is completed, Key-in work has started. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed from the Book of Genesis up to the Book of Psalms.

In "**Marwari**" language, Gospel of Matthew has already been published and distributed. At present, we do not have a Translator for this language.

#### **UTTAR PRADESH**

In "**Bhojpuri**" language, Gospel of Mark, Gospel of John and New Testament have already been published and distributed. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed. Key-in work as well as exegetical checking by BSI, has been completed in respect of the Books of Genesis, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs.

#### **CHHATTISGARH**

In "**Chhattisgarhi**" language, Gospel of Mark, Gospel of John and New Testament have already been published and distributed. In the Old Testament, translation work has been completed and language checking is in progress.

In "**Kuduk**" language, Gospel of Matthew, Gospel of Mark and Gospel of John have been published and are being distributed. Translation

of the New Testament is completed and language checking is being done. It is proposed to publish New Testament in this language next year. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed from Genesis to Deuteronomy and also from Job to Song of Songs.

In "**Halbi**" language, Gospel of Matthew and Gospel of John have been published and are being distributed. . In the New Testament, translation has been completed and language checking is being done. It is proposed to publish New Testament in this language next year. In the Old Testament, translation of the Book of Psalms has begun.

### **ODISHA**

In "**Deshia**" language, Gospel of Mark, Gospel of Luke, Gospel of John as well as New Testament have been published and distributed. In the Old Testament, translation and language checking have been completed. Exegetical checking by BSI in respect of the Book of Genesis has been carried out.

In "**Mirgan**" language, Gospel of Matthew, Gospel of Mark, Gospel of John as well as New Testament have been published and distributed. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed and key-in work in respect of the Books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes has been completed. Exegetical checking by BSI in respect of the Books of Genesis, Psalms and Proverbs is also completed.

In "**Boda Porja**" language Gospel of Luke and New Testament have been published and distributed. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed and key-in work has also been completed in respect of 5 books and language checking in respect of the Book of Psalms has also been completed.

In "**Kalahandia**" language, Gospel of Luke and New Testament have been published and are being distributed. Translation work in respect of Old Testament has been completed, and key-in work is in progress. Exegetical checking by BSI in respect of the Book of Genesis is also completed.

In "**Sambalpuri**" language, Gospel of Mark and Gospel of Luke have been published and are being distributed. In the New Testament, translation has been completed and the relevant CD has been sent to BSI for checking. In the Old Testament, translation in respect of 36 books has been completed.

In "**Mundari**" language, Gospel of Mark and Gospel of John have been published and are being distributed. In the New Testament, translation and key-in work have been completed. Exegetical checking by BSI has been completed in respect of 11 books - Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, I and II Corinthians, Philippians, Colossians and I and II Thessalonians.

In "**Gadaba**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and distributed. Translation work has been completed in both the New Testament and the Old Testament. Key-in work in respect of New Testament is nearing completion.

In "**Sora**" language, translation of the New Testament has been completed. Language checking in respect of the Gospel of John is in progress.

In "**Koya**" language, translation of the New Testament has been completed. Language checking in respect of the Gospel of Matthew is in progress.

In "**Konda Porja**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and distributed. Translation work has been completed in the New Testament and language checking is in progress. 18 books of the Old Testament have also been translated.

In "**Kuvi**" language, translation of the New Testament, with the exception of the Book of Revelation, has been completed. Language checking is in progress. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed from the Book of Genesis up to the Book of Daniel.

### **MADHYA PRADESH**

In "**Bageli**" language, Gospel of Mark and Gospel of Matthew have been published and are being distributed. Translation in the New Testament has been completed. In the Old

Testament, translation has been completed in respect of the Books of Job, Psalms and Proverbs.

In "**Bundeli**" language, Gospel of Mark has been published and is being distributed. Translation in the New Testament has been completed and language checking is in progress. In the Old Testament, translation has been completed in respect of the Books of Job, Psalms and Proverbs.

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## **FIELD NEWS**

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### **Missionary : Bro. Rajendra Masih Mission Field : Jalalpur (Uttar Pradesh)**

I praise the Lord for giving me good health and for enabling me to do my ministry well during the last month. I visited 50 villages and met more than 350 persons, distributing 360 tracts and 90 copies of the New Testament, along with preaching the Gospel. I met new believers - Ramses, Ramkumar, Jayshankar, Ramnath, Jeevan Ram, Subhash and Ramesh and encouraged them to grow in the Lord. Seven persons - Manojkumar, Ashok, Jayram, Sanjay, Sunil, Prem Nath, and Sister Priya - expressed their willingness to take Baptism. Sunday Worship Service, Fasting Prayer on Second Saturday and Cottage Prayers were carried on regularly. 30 children attended the Sunday School. Family Prayers were conducted in five villages. We prayed for IBT Ministries. Please pray for my missionary work and for my family.

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### **Promotional Staff : Bro. J. Ramalingam Mission Field : Ooty (Tamil Nadu)**

Greetings in the sweet name of our Lord Jesus Christ! In connection with my promotional

- cum - missionary work, last month I visited many villages - Coonoor, Kethi, Ooty, Kukkalduurai, Solurmattam, Thooneri, Kunjappanai, Karikkaiyur, Samaandam Kethi, Salamori, etc. - preaching and distributing the Gospel books. With the help of Pastor Muthuraj from Solur Mattam, I distributed the Gospel of Luke translated in Irula language, among Irula-speaking people living in Karakkaiyur, Vikkinapuram, Samakoodam, Mudiyyuru and Kunjappanai. I also distributed Gospel books and New Testament translated into Badaga, Irula, Kotha and Toda languages (published by IBT), to people speaking these languages. Along with our Pania language translators Bro. Thambi Durai and Sis. Elizabeth, 100 copies of books translated into Pania language, were distributed with the help of the Pastor of Gudalur. The parents of Sister Preethi, who is a Computer teacher in our IBT's Training Centre - having frequently heard my preaching the Gospel - are now willing to accept Jesus Christ in their lives. I visited our Tailoring and Computer Training Centre at Rohini (Ooty) and Coonoor. Those who have completed their training here are being given Certificates in October 2017. Please pray for my ministry and for my family.

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## PRAY AND PRAISE

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1. By the abundant grace of the Lord, exegetical checking of some of the books of the Old Testament translated into Bhojpuri, Badaga, Sourashtra, and Chhattisgarhi languages was carried out by IBT translators with the Bible Society of India, at Bangalore. Please pray for the early completion of this work and for the compiling and publishing of Full Bible in all these languages.
2. Language checking in respect of New Testament translated in Irula (Velliyangadu) language was carried out for two weeks at the mission station, Vattalakki. Praise the Lord. Please pray for the early completion and publication of New Testament in this language.
3. Construction of our IBT Churches at mission stations Attigan and Nanganal in Odisha state, are facing some hindrances. Please pray for the removal of all obstacles, so that the churches can be constructed.
4. Praise the Lord for getting opportunities to hold promotional meetings at Sulur, Mettur and Erode, for sharing the Word of God as well as for introducing IBT ministries. Please pray that all those who heard the messages, stabilize themselves in the Lord and grow in His Word.
5. Praise the Lord for enabling us to get sponsors to bear part of the expenses for constructing Compound Wall, and to carry out repairs to the kitchen, toilets, bathrooms and shelter for our missionary couple in our Children's Home at Bappenpalli, Odisha. Please pray God for meeting the requirements still to be met, and for the early completion of the necessary construction and repairs work. Also pray for the protection, health, care, education and future of these children, salvation of their parents and for the family of the dedicated missionary couple, taking care of the Home.

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