

18 May 2006

# A New Day, A Better Future

Good morning teachers and students,

Today, I begin my speech with a verse from the Holy Bible :

“ This is the day the LORD (God) has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. ” (Psalm 118:24)

In the beginning God created heaven and earth. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day”, and the darkness He called “night”. And there was evening, and there was morning --- the first day.

In our lives, God has made every day for us to grow. Now, this is a new day God has given us. Though the sun rises today just as it rose yesterday morning, and it will rise again tomorrow, yet, today is a completely new day. No day has been like it before, and no day will be like it again. Today is so good and different from other days that we must rejoice and be glad in it.

You must rejoice and be glad in today because today is a gift from God. Today, God has given you a hope and a new beginning. You have been given a chance to start your lives over again, hoping for a better future.

Today, you wake up in good health, ready for new studies or duties, though you may have felt weary (exhausted / very tired) before you went to bed yesterday. Today, you wake up refreshed and ready for new opportunities or experiences, though you may have thought that you did not do well yesterday. It has been God’s work in your lives that He uses the hours of darkness and sleep to restore you (bring you back to your good condition). God has done many different good things in your lives day after day. He has provided everything you need to start again. (For example, you need strength, intelligence, perseverance, etc.) You also need a new beginning and today God is offering one to you. So, thank God from your heart and pray that He will walk with you today.

May I read several verses from the Holy Bible for you again:

“My brothers, I really do not think that I have already won the prize; the one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and do my best to reach what is ahead. So I run straight towards the goal in order to win the prize.” (Philippians 3:13,14)

Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus, wrote this message to the people in the first century. They advised the people in their time not to remember or mourn for their past. Instead, they had to rise up and move on towards a better future.

Here is your choice : you can keep remembering or mourning for the past, or you can live in the present and plan for the future.

Today, God has offered you a new beginning. So, take all your time, all your love, and all your energy and give them to your future. In other words, forget what is in the past, live in the present and plan for a better future.

Dear teachers and students, it is time to move on, with great rejoicing and gladness, and a hope for a better future.

Let us pray.

Thank you, God, for each new day. We thank you again for loving us and having mercy upon us.

We now pray as Jesus taught us, saying, “Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.” God, walk with us and help us to move on towards a better future.

In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Have a nice day !

Have a better future !

Thank you very much.