

## TESTIMONY

*The testimony tonight is from a young man from Lahore, Pakistan. His name is Peter Gill. He will share something about the work of the Lord in his life. He works with Operation Mobilisation based in Lahore.*

I thank God for this opportunity to be with you this evening. I really appreciate the fellowship that God has given us together, although we are from different countries, different families, and different backgrounds. Still in the Lord, we feel unity and I feel at home and feel like I am part of the family here with other believers and friends in the Lord. In Indonesia, I feel that I am in my own home because of their warm welcome; the people are very loving and concerned and I thank you for giving me the privilege to share my testimony. This morning I was really challenged by the word of God through brother Ajith (Fernando). This evening I felt that I should share from my heart what the Lord did in my life with the brothers and sisters. In 1982 I gave my life to the Lord during a Scripture Union Summer Camp in Murree. I then joined the Pakistan Fellowship of Evangelical Students when I was in my University; I now serve with Operation Mobilisation. It is amazing how the Lord uses different para-church movements to do different work in our life. Five years ago we organised a campaign in Karachi, the Good News for Karachi, and in a booklet, we printed a reply card for the Pakistan Bible Course. The people read it and they keep in touch with us. It was a very difficult situation in Karachi and many Christian young people refused to go there; their parents were also reluctant to send them to Karachi. It was very difficult for me to decide whether I should go or stay home. I was praying and the Lord really encouraged me to go. He said, "I am with you," and I felt the Lord saying, "Go with my presence, go with my power, and go with my programme for I am with you." The first day I went into the streets with all these *Good News for Karachi* booklets, I had a full bag with me. A few Muslim priests came and they swore at me and said that if I distributed the booklets they will kill me or break my teeth. They snatched my bag and told me, "Don't do it again otherwise we will kill you." I was praying about what to do and then I remembered a verse from the Scriptures

saying, "If they persecute you in one area, shake the dust off your feet and go to another area but don't stop the work of the Lord." I saw that the people were keen and interested and were asking me for booklets. They kept coming to get the booklets from me, and I did not want to stop. I went to a different area and again started the distribution of the word of God in another area of Karachi. Again I didn't know if the Muslim priests, the Mullahs, would stop looking for me. They sent few people to follow me, to see whether I would stop work or not. When they came, they said, "Our High Priest asked you to stop, why you didn't stop?" I was really shaken and troubled and they asked me to go and talk to him. I prayed and I felt that the Lord wanted me to go and talk to him and perhaps it is time for him to hear the good news. As I travelled, I prayed. When I arrived at the mosque gate, he would not listen to me and he ordered them to beat me up. They had wooden rods in their hands and they started beating me up. I was wearing a white shirt and drops of blood were coming from my forehead to my clothes. They bruised my forehead and I was helpless. They were not listening but were just beating me up. I prayed, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing." I prayed and I knew that the Lord would not put us into a situation that would be too difficult and too hard for us to cope with.

Then the Lord changed the mind of one of those beating me. He asked others to stop beating me and they stopped. He rescued me from them and he took me to the clinic and he paid the 70 to 80 Rupees for the first aid and for anti-tetanus injection and for stitching. When he asked where I lived, I told him about my flat and he brought me there. I wanted to pay back the money he paid for my first aid, but he refused. He said, "I don't want anything from you." But I gave him the word of God and he received that and promised to read it. I remember from the Acts of the Apostles when Stephen was being stoned and Saul was looking after his clothes. When he saw Stephen's face, it was like the face of an angel, and I believe the process of conversion had started in Saul's life. Eventually he became Paul.

Sometimes I feel that through our persecution and through our difficulties, the Lord glorifies his name. I believe that the man was

really touched by the word of God when he saw people beating me up and that I was rejoicing. I was in real pain and it never happened to me before, but still I rejoiced in my heart that the Lord has used me. I went through persecution because of Jesus Christ, because he went to the cross on my behalf. I thank God for that. What happened later came about because of the card we gave out. We had many responses from people coming to the Bible Correspondence School. From the responses, we followed them up, trying to make fellowship groups with our Muslim brothers in Karachi, Lahore, and other parts of Pakistan. One group was formed in Lahore. A brother, Frank Teoh, who is from Singapore, was running that programme in Lahore. The people were really interested and preparing themselves for baptism. Seventeen people were baptised but other young people were keen and interested to know more about the Lord Jesus Christ. And Satan didn't like what was happening.

One day we saw an article in a magazine written by Al Kabir which showed photograph of all the converted people who had been baptised, and of the house where these converts and Frank Teoh were living. They were saying that these missionaries had to be stopped because these missionaries were converting Muslims to Christianity by showing them pornographic movies. We were showing the 'Jesus' film to them. Our brother Frank Teoh received threatening letters from people who said that they would kidnap his son, or kidnap his wife, or beat him up or kill him. Then we suggested that he should leave Pakistan and go back to Singapore until the situation gets better. So for the time being, the work has been stopped, but we thank God again that we are bringing all the church leaders to Jaylem Conference on the 29th November. We are going straight from this Conference to Jaylem to talk about that and organise more fellowship groups and encourage people not to lose heart but continue to serve the Lord because He is with us. We go with his power, we go with his presence, and we go with his programme. It is his work. I appreciate your prayer for us in Pakistan; we are going through a very difficult situation in Pakistan.