

Acts 17:26-28 (NKJV) ²⁶And He has made from one [£]blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, ²⁷so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'

Whenever I read this verse am so glad. If we truly believe this word, then we would really accept our lives as we receive it from God.

I earnestly believe God had determined the boundaries of our dwellings. I believe God had pre appointed our places of birth and even our date of birth. Even the very village, the street and the house number!

God wanted me to be an Indian, with my mother tongue as Tamizh. Am grateful for this. I have seen some of my non Indian friends struggle to learn Tamizh and then am thankful I can speak and write so fluently. To express in a language clearly is a big gift from God. Some of us, sadly spurn our mother tongue, for the charm of English. It's really sad if we cannot pray or read the Bible in the language our ears first heard. Though I teach English, write in English, I carry my Tamizh Bible wherever I go. All the verses I know by heart is in Tamizh. Somehow mother tongue for me is an intimate bridge to the heart of God.

Though internationally there is so much of scorn, heaped on this nation, am still thankful that I was born in India at such and such a place in such and such a time. With all the drawbacks of this nation, I know God loves this nation and He wanted me to be born here. I still remember vividly when I received my passport 10 years ago, I was so overwhelmed as I took it in my hands and knelt in my room and thanked the Lord for making me a citizen of this country.

God will never make a mistake. He places us where He wants to and will accomplish His purposes. For some He may give a command like that to

Abraham, "Go to a land I show..." for some it may be an exiled land, like Joseph and Daniel, yet some like Jesus would be inside the periphery of Judea.

Now the borders of all the nations have become so porous and the world is moving in all directions. It is good we travel and wherever we go, we are supposed to pray for the nation we were born in and the nation we live in. In whatever nation we are born, and whatever nation we live in, we should lift our nations up to the Lord in prayer. However we may rate a nation, first world, second world, third world, fourth world... one underlying fact for believing Christians is that Jesus loves every nation equally and He has ransomed every person on every nation with His precious Blood.

It's really sad that today's world is cut up with narrow parochialisms, yet when we look at nations through the eyes of Jesus we will love all the nations as Christ would love. This is this love, that of yore, missionaries chose to quit the comfort of their developed nations and come to us carrying the love of the Cross.

Let us lift our nations to the throne above so our people may at least grope and know that Jesus is Lord.

Lovely song : You are the God of this city by Chris Tomlin
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d61LamkXfwk>