

Greetings and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all, my brothers and sisters in the Lord.

My name is Abdulbaqi Saeed, from Yemen.

I came to faith in the Lord Jesus in 2004, believing that light is stronger than darkness, and that faith in my Lord Jesus is not a crime, but eternal life.

In 2014, I lost my wife in Yemen because of her faith in Christ. That loss was deeply painful, a wound that has never fully healed. Yet, it was also a divine calling—a call to save my faith and my children, and to seek a homeland that is safer and more stable.

We fled to Egypt, believing it would be a place of refuge and security. I left behind everything in Yemen: my home, my farms, my job as an Arabic language teacher, which I had worked in for twenty years. I left my car, unable to sell it, and departed with nothing but faith.

However, in Egypt, after years of hardship, I was detained in December 2021 for an entire week underground. No one knew where I was, and I myself did not know where I was. After that, I was transferred to prison under the authority of the Supreme State Security Prosecution.

I clearly remember those moments—being moved from one room to another, from one official to the next. I recalled the cross and remembered the suffering that my Lord Jesus endured before the crucifixion. I was torn between fear and hope, yet the Lord was always with me. He spoke to me—not only to my ears, but to my heart and my deepest being—saying:

“Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.

Do not be afraid, for I am with you.

Do not be afraid—you are Mine.”

There, I experienced true freedom.

True freedom is not found in open doors, but in hearts opened toward the Lord.

As the Lord says:

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

I was free in Christ, even while in prison. I was not bound on the inside. In the midst of pain, I experienced the highest form of freedom—to have a heart continually open to the Lord.

I suffered greatly, yet I was not alone.

In my village in 2004, I was the only believer in Christ. Today, in the surrounding villages, there are dozens. This is the work of the Lord.

I ask you to pray for our brothers and sisters in Yemen, and for those who are persecuted in Nigeria, Syria, Libya, Mauritania, and throughout the world. We are in great need of prayer, because prayer is the key—it is the door to heaven.

I testify to the grace of God that transformed the prison into a school.

I learned, I grew, and I delighted in God’s presence.

Those around me would ask:

“Everyone here is imprisoned—why are you not sad?”

And I would answer:

“I am not sad; I am joyful. Suffering for Christ is a crown upon the head.”

I give thanks to everyone who stood beside me, especially the American human rights organizations, all the lawyers inside and outside Egypt, and everyone who prayed for me. I am fully confident that brothers and sisters were praying for me, and I felt it every day.

Today, I am in the process of writing my story—a novel about my journey with Christ. The working title is:

“Forgiveness in a Time of Persecution.”

I am seeking those who will stand with me and help me write this story, so that it may become a living testimony to the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank you, I bless your gathering, and I pray for you. I ask you to continue praying for us all.

May the Lord bless you and your families, and may He bless your service.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Amen.