

5/14/2026 Daily Devotions:

👉 Dr. Venkat Potana

Topic: Brother Bakht Singh — “Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever”

“Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.” — Galatians 6:7

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqIEC2mFFiw>

Brother Bakht Singh — “Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever”

The hall was silent as Brother Bakht Singh slowly opened his Bible to Hebrews 13:8.

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”

Those words were not merely a sermon text to him. They were the testimony of his entire life.

Speaking during a meeting in Australia many years later, Brother Bakht Singh recounted how God had led him from the moment of his conversion in December 1929, through trials, miracles, suffering, revival, and ministry across India and beyond.

Conversion and Hunger for the Word (1929)

After his conversion in December 1929, something extraordinary happened within him. A deep and unusual hunger for the Bible filled his heart.

“No one told me to read the Bible,” he recalled. “But I wanted to spend the whole day with God’s Word.”

He would read from morning until midnight. Other books no longer interested him. Newspapers lost their attraction. The Scriptures became his constant companion.

At that time, he had been suffering from severe nose and throat trouble for more than fourteen years. He had consulted doctors in India, London, and even specialists on Harley Street, but no treatment had cured him.

Then, in January 1930, the verse from Hebrews struck him with power:

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

Suddenly faith rose in his heart.

Alone in his room, he prayed quietly:

“Lord, this is Thy Word. I believe it. Thou art the same. Will You touch my nose and throat?”

It was a simple prayer. Yet instantly he believed he had been healed.

That moment became one of the first great turning points of his life.

The Healing of Edna

Soon afterward, in the same home where he was staying, a twelve-year-old girl named Edna became seriously ill with pneumonia.

A doctor examined her and instructed the family to begin treatment immediately.

Brother Bakht Singh went quietly to his room and prayed:

“Lord, You touched me a few days ago. Please touch her also.”

Moments later, Edna sat up in bed and declared she was completely well.

Her mother thought she was imagining things and called the doctor back. After examining her again, the doctor could find no sign of pneumonia.

These early experiences convinced Bakht Singh that the promises of God were real and living.

Poverty During the Great Depression

Before his conversion, he had never known financial hardship. His father regularly supplied his needs, and he had money in two banks.

But during the Great Depression of 1930, everything changed. His father became involved in a major court case in Punjab, and financial support stopped unexpectedly.

One day, Bakht Singh realized he did not even have enough money to buy postage stamps to write home to his mother.

Rather than ask anyone for help, he prayed.

“Lord, provide just enough money for postage to India.”

Searching his pocket, he found a small coin and casually gave it to a little boy named Edward who was playing nearby.

The boy’s mother immediately returned it.

“Why did you give this to my child?” she asked.

“That was all I had,” he replied.

She stared at him in astonishment.

“This is a gold coin!”

Bakht Singh himself did not realize it was gold. The coin was exchanged, and his needs were met.

Once again, he saw God's provision in a remarkable way.

Learning to Trust God

Unable to find work during the Depression, Bakht Singh walked from farm to farm searching for employment.

Finally, someone asked him:

"Can you cook Indian curry?"

He answered honestly:

"I can cook for two people — for myself."

The man explained that an international medical convention was being organized and suggested he try.

Bakht Singh prayed earnestly for help, asking God even how much salt and spice to use.

The meal was a success.

One woman approached him afterward and asked:

"Who taught you to cook such wonderful curry?"

Soon he was employed as a cook in a large hotel, preparing meals for hundreds of people.

Looking back, he later realized God was teaching him dependence and faith long before he understood his true calling.

God's Call to Ministry

Although he loved the Lord deeply, Bakht Singh never wanted to become a preacher.

He stammered badly, was painfully shy, and could not sing. For two years he prayed:

"Lord, I will give You all my money for Your work, but please do not make me a preacher."

Yet the answer kept coming to his heart:

"I do not want your money. I want you."

In April 1932, while attending a small gathering, a young man asked him to say something about Christian work in India.

Instead of speaking graciously, he criticized many Christian workers.

That night, alone in his room, he sensed God speaking to him:

"Who are you to criticize My servants? What about you?"

Broken before God, he surrendered completely.

"Lord, if You want me, I am ready."

Then the Lord impressed three conditions upon him:

1. Withdraw all claims to property and inheritance in India.
2. Never tell people about personal material needs — tell God alone.
3. Make no personal plans; allow God to guide day by day.

Bakht Singh accepted those conditions without reservation.

Returning to India (1933)

In April 1933, after seven years abroad, Bakht Singh returned to India.

His parents met him in Bombay. His father spoke honestly:

"We have no objection to your becoming a Christian. But when you come home, do not tell people you are a Christian. Our Sikh community will oppose us."

Bakht Singh answered gently:

"How long can a man live without breathing? Christ is my life. I cannot deny Him."

His father replied:

"Then you cannot come home."

Bakht Singh gave all the money he possessed to his father as an act of respect. Left without money or shelter, he survived by distributing gospel tracts on the streets. Sometimes strangers invited him for tea, which became his only meal for the day.

After several weeks, his father saw a dream in which a voice said:

"Your son has found peace. Do not trouble him."

The next day, his father returned and brought him home.

Public Opposition and His Father's Defense

A large public meeting was later organized in his hometown. Many people came prepared for violence, carrying sticks and stones.

During the gathering, one man challenged him publicly:

"Would a God of love tell a son to disobey his father?"

Before Bakht Singh could answer, his father rose to speak.

“Do not drag my name into this,” he declared. “My son has found peace with God. Anyone who has not found peace himself has no right to question him.”

The atmosphere changed immediately.

For ten days Bakht Singh preached freely in his hometown.

Revival in Punjab (1936)

By 1936, Bakht Singh had begun traveling widely across Punjab conducting meetings.

At a place called Pan Court in January 1936, he was scheduled to conduct five meetings in one day. Exhausted, he returned to his room late that night and fell asleep.

Then came a knock at the door.

No one was there.

Again the knock came.

Finally he heard a voice:

“Get up and pray.”

For five nights the same thing happened. He spent entire nights in prayer, burdened for the spiritual condition of the people.

On the fifth day, during an afternoon meeting, he invited anyone with a testimony to speak.

A little girl about ten years old stood up and confessed how God had convicted her of lying, stealing flowers, biscuits, and small things from school. She testified that the Lord had forgiven her sins.

Then more children stood up with similar testimonies.

Suddenly, as prayer began again, the meeting was overwhelmed by deep conviction. People fell to the ground weeping and crying out:

“Lord, have mercy upon me! I am a sinner!”

The meeting continued for seven hours.

That night many people experienced spiritual transformation, and revival began spreading.

The Village Revival of June 1937

In June 1937, Bakht Singh visited a village notorious for drunkenness, division, violence, and immorality.

When he first arrived, elderly men mocked him openly.

“You can pray all night,” they laughed, “but nothing will happen here.”

Deeply discouraged, he spent seven nights in prayer.

On June 14, 1937, during what he intended to be his final meeting there, something extraordinary happened.

As he prayed, one man suddenly fell face down before God. Then another. Soon almost the entire crowd was crying aloud in repentance.

For three hours the meeting continued in tears and confession.

The next day people publicly apologized to one another. Husbands and wives reconciled. Broken relationships were restored.

Within days, more than one thousand villagers joined together in gospel processions through neighboring villages, singing and testifying that Christ had changed their lives.

Walking Tours Across India

Soon Bakht Singh and many believers began traveling from village to village on foot, carrying their belongings on their shoulders and preaching the gospel.

At times more than 170 people traveled together.

They had no fundraising campaigns, no appeals for money, and no financial guarantees.

Yet God continually provided.

Once, during a heavy rainstorm, Bakht Singh prayed simply for tea for the entire group. Immediately a young boy arrived inviting them to his home, where huge vessels of hot tea had already been prepared.

For two full months they walked, preached, prayed, and witnessed God’s provision daily.

The Multiplication of Food

At one large village gathering, food had been prepared for five thousand people.

But over ten thousand arrived.

The organizers panicked.

“What shall we do?” they asked.

Bakht Singh answered calmly:

“Do not worry. We will all eat together.”

After prayer, the food was distributed freely. People were encouraged to eat as much as they wished.

Astonishingly, there was enough for everyone.

God's Provision Through a Gold Chain

Three days after one meeting, Bakht Singh received a letter and a money order for 375 rupees from a man living hundreds of miles away.

The man explained that his fifteen-year-old daughter had been seriously ill and nearly unconscious for two weeks. When she finally opened her eyes, her first words were:

"Daddy, send a gift to Brother Bakht Singh."

The family had no money.

So the girl removed the gold chain from around her neck and asked her father to sell it.

The exact amount received from selling the chain — 375 rupees — was sent to Bakht Singh.

To him, it was another testimony of God's faithfulness.

Faith Through Earthquake and Trial

Bakht Singh also recounted the terrible earthquake in Quetta in 1935, where tens of thousands perished.

The night before the disaster, he had spent hours praying:

"Lord, shake the people and awaken them before it is too late."

When the earthquake struck early the next morning, entire buildings collapsed.

Yet among those who had attended the meetings, only one person died, and many believers were preserved.

For two weeks afterward, he ministered among refugees, praying continually for food, clothing, and shelter.

Again and again, God answered in remarkable ways.

A Life of Simple Faith

Through decades of ministry, Bakht Singh refused to ask people for money or promote himself.

"No appeals. No subscriptions. No fundraising," he said.

He believed that if God truly guided the work, God Himself would provide.

And throughout his life, he testified that He did.

"Behold, I Will Do Marvels"

Toward the end of his message, Bakht Singh recalled a verse God had given him in May 1941:

Exodus 34:10 — "Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people I will do marvels."

He declared that God had fulfilled that promise throughout India, Pakistan, Ceylon, and many other places around the world.

Then, looking at the congregation in Australia, he said quietly:

"God is not looking for great crowds. He is looking for yielded vessels — people willing to obey Him fully and trust Him completely."

For Brother Bakht Singh, Christianity was never merely doctrine or religion.

It was the daily experience of a living Savior — the same yesterday, today, and forever.