Editorial

Dear readers,

Should we boast? Most of us would immediately respond, "No, we should not; boasting is wrong!" But are all boastings wrong? Did not the psalmist say, "My soul shall make her boast in the LORD" (Psalm 34:2a)? And did not the apostle Paul declare, "I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that I may boast myself a little" (2 Corinthians 11:16)?

In the Bible, the Hebrew and Greek words translated as "boasting" have both good and bad connotations. In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word *hālal*, which is occasionally translated as "boast", is also translated as "praise". The Hebrew word *Halleluiah* ("Praise ye the LORD") is derived from it. This is likewise the case in the New Testament, where the Greek word for "boast" (*kaucháomai*), is also used in both ways. Thus, the good or bad nature of the boasting is determined by the object of the boasting. When the boasting is about the goodness and greatness of God or the excellence of others, it is proper and honourable. But when the boasting is about oneself, it is condemned as improper and abhorrent.

The articles inside will present to readers the proper, biblical understanding of "boasting", that we may always conduct ourselves in a humble and God-honouring manner. The best remedy for the evil of self-boasting is to boast in the Lord. He who honours the Lord shall be honoured, but he who honours himself shall be condemned.

We pray that you will be nourished by the reading of Bible Witness. Thank you for your prayers and support, which we value very much. Please continue to pray for the efforts of Gethsemane Bible-Presbyterian Church to obtain bigger premises to accommodate Bible Witness Media Ministry and the church activities.

Joyfully in His service,
Prabhudas Koshy