

**Ako Tohitapu 2
Fakatoukatea 2018**

**“Langa Lotu ‘i Vaha”
(Building Churches on a Hyphen)**

**Selemaia 29:4-7
Tali & Fakaalāanga**

Fakatapu

Mālō ‘etau ma’u ‘a e pongipongi ni, pea ‘oku ou kole ke u unga atu he fakatapu kuo tala mo aofaki, kae fakakakato ‘a e fatongia ako tohitapu ko eni.

‘I he ‘aho ‘aneafi na’a tau tokanga ki he Sāme 137, pea na’a tau kamata talanoa ai ki he kaveinga ‘o e “Langa Lotu ‘I Vaha,” pehē foki ki he ngaahi fakakaukau ‘o e hiki mo e tu’uta, fetukutuku mo e fakanofonofa, ta’anga mo hono feitu’u, kae’uma’ā ‘a e fa’ahinga kehekehe ‘o e manatu mo ‘ene ‘aonga/ta’e’aonga ki he’etau mo’ui mo e ngāue ‘oku tau fakahoko. ‘Oku mahino pē foki ne to e tānaki ‘e he faifekau mei Lennox (Loni Veikoso) mo e ngaahi tala kehe ‘o e manatu ‘oku loloto ange he “manatu vale” na’a tau laaulea ki ai, ka ko e kaveinga ia ke toki tālanga’i ‘amui.

Selemaia 29:4-7

Ko e ako tohitapu ki he pongipongi ni te u hoko atu mo e kaveinga tatau ne u fokotu’u ‘aneafi, ka ‘e fakama’unga e tokanga kia Selemaia 29:4-7.

Moulton	NRSV
4 Ko hono anga eni: 5 Ko e folofola eni ‘a Sihova Sapaoti, ko e ‘Otua ‘o ‘Isileli, ki he kau pōpula, ‘a ia na’a ku o’i ke ‘ave pōpula mei Selusalema ki Papilone: 6 <i>Mou langa fale, ‘o nofo ai; ‘o tō ngouetapu, ‘o kai hono fua; ma’u uaiifi, pea fakatupu fānau tangata mo fānau fefine; pea ma’u uaiifi ma’a ho’omou fānau tangata, pea ‘ange ho’omou fānau fefine ke nonofo mo ha kau tangata. ke nau fā’ele’i ha fānau tangata mo ha fānau fefine; pea mou tupu ‘i he potu ko ena, ‘o 7 ‘oua ‘e faka’au ki mui. Pea mou mamahi’i ‘a e tu’umālie ‘o e kolo kuo u ‘ave pōpula kimoutolu ki ai, pea mou hūfia ia kia Sihova: he ko ‘ene tu’umālie ko ho’omou tu’umālie ia.</i>	4 Thus said the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, to the whole community which I exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 <i>“Build houses and live in them, plant gardens and eat their fruit. 6 Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters. Multiply there, do not decrease. 7 And seek the welfare of the city to which I have exiled you and pray to the LORD in its behalf; for in its prosperity you shall prosper.”</i>

Fakataukei

‘Oku ou fili ‘a e potutohi ko eni mei a Selemaia koe’uhi ‘oku fakanofonofa ia ‘i he ‘ātakai tatau mo ia ‘oku ‘i ai ‘a e Sāme 137: ko e fakahē mo nofo pōpula ‘i Papilone. Hangē ko ia na’a tau tokanga ki ai ‘aneafi, ko e vaa’i taimi ne kaupō’uli mo ‘ao’aofia, pea kūmoa ‘a e mo’ui ‘a e kāinga Siuta ne taki pōpula mei Selusalema ‘e he ‘amanakinoa mo e puputu’u. ‘Oku pau ne nau ‘eke:

- Ko e hā e me’a kuo hoko?
- ‘Ikai ko e kakai fili kitautolu ‘a e ‘Otua?
- Ko e hā kuo tō ai ‘a e kolo ‘oku ‘afio ai ‘a Sihova?
- ‘Oku ‘i ai nai ha ‘amanaki ki he kaha’u pe ‘ikai?
- ‘Oku ‘i ai nai ha faingamālie ki ha foki ki ‘api pe ‘ikai?
- ‘Oku fakatau ki fē ‘a e fononga ko eni ‘oku tau fai?

Ko e Sāme 137 ko e le’o ia ‘o e ni’ihi ne taki pōpula; ko Selemaia 29:4-7 ko e le’o ia ‘o Sihova ko e ‘Otua ‘o kinautolu ne taki pōpula. Ko ia ‘oku fakafongonga ‘e he ongo potutohi ‘oku tefito ki ai ‘etau ako tohitapu ‘a e ongo vakai kehekehe ki he tūkunga kuo ‘i ai ‘a e kāinga Siuta.

‘I he Sāme 137 ‘oku tau ongona e lau’aitu mo e mamahi, fakafisifisi mo e taliteke’i ‘a e me’a kuo nau a’usia ‘i he potu fo’ou kuo nau tu’uta ai, ka ‘ia Selemaia 29 ‘oku uki kinautolu ‘e Sihova ke fakanofonofa ai mo langa honau ‘api (Whereas in Psalm 137 the call is for exclusion, non-conformity and violence, Jeremiah 29 urges immersion, integration, and co-existence).

‘I he Sāme 137 ‘oku kei foki e tokanga ki Saione, fai ki ai e manatu, ka ‘ia Selemaia 29 ‘oku uki e kāinga ke fakama’unga e tokanga ki Papilone, ‘a e potu ‘oku nau lolotonga ‘i ai (Whereas Psalm 137 puts emphasis on the memory of Zion, their homeland, Jeremiah 29 encourages the building of new homes in their new host-land regardless of what happened).

‘I he Sāme 137, ko ‘api ko e potu ke manatu mo foki ki ai, ka ‘ia Selemaia 29 ko ‘api ko e potu ‘oku malava ke tau langa ‘i ha feitu’u pe ‘oku fou ai ‘etau fehikitaki, pea ‘oku ‘ikai ko ha potu ‘oku tau ala foki ki ai (Whereas in Psalm 137, home is a place to remember and return to, home in Jeremiah 29 is something you negotiate on the move, and not a place of return).

‘I he Sāme 137, ‘oku fai e tautapa kia Sihova mo e loto tāngia ke ne tautea ‘a Papilone, pea laiki ‘ene fānau ‘i he makatu’u. Ka ‘ia Selemaia 29, ko e fale’i ‘a Sihova: “*mou mamahi’i ‘a e tu’umālie* ‘o e kolo kuo u ‘ave pōpula kimoutolu ki ai, pea mou *hūfia* ia kia Sihova: *he ko ‘ene tu’umālie ko ho’omou tu’umālie ia*” (“*And seek the welfare of the city to which I have exiled you and pray to the LORD in its behalf; for in its prosperity you shall prosper*”). Ko hono fakalea ‘e taha: sai, tuku ā e tangi mo e manatu; ngāue leva ke langa ha nofo’anga; tō ha ngoue; kumi ha uaifi mo ha husepāniti ma’a homou fānau; lotua pea poupou ki he lelei fakalukufua ‘a e fonua—he ka nau ka tu’umālie, te mou tu’umālie ai foki mo kimoutolu!

Fokotu’u Fakakaukau

Mei he maama ‘o e fekau ‘oku talaki ‘e he palōfita ko Selemaia, ‘oku ne hulu’i ha ngaahi fehu’i mahu’inga ke tau fakakaukau mo toki talanoa ki ai:

- *Ko e hā e hala heni kuo tofa ma’a e langa lotu ‘oku tau fai ‘i vaha?*
- *‘Oku uki nau ‘a e pōpula ke ne tali ‘a e tufakanga ‘o ‘ene pōpula? ‘Oku ‘i fē ‘a e veteange mo fakatau’atāina ‘i he ‘ātakai ko ia?*
- *Ko e hā e tala ‘oku tau ala ohi mei heni ‘o fekau’aki mo e kakai ‘oku hikifonua (migrants) hangē ko kitautolu, pea mo kinautolu ‘oku kumifonua (refugees), hangē ko e ni’ihi ‘oku kumi hūfanga mai ki hotau ngaahi loto fale/fonua?*
- *Ko e hā e ngafa ‘o ‘etau lotu ‘i he ‘ātakai hangē ko ia ne fehangahangai mo e kau Siuta ‘aunofo ‘i Papilone?*

‘Oku lahi e ngaahi tali te tau fai ki he ngaahi fehu’i kuo fokotu’u, ka ‘oku ou fakaafe’i kitautolu ke tokanga ki he ongo fakakaukau lalahi ‘e ua:

- Ko e fehikitaki ko hotau tala ia! (Migration is our story!)
- Ko hotau ‘api ‘oku langa ‘i vaha! (Home is built enroute!)

Ko e Fehikitaki Ko Hotau Tala Ia (Migration is our story)

Ko e anga ‘etau mo’ui tau fou he ‘alunga ‘oku lākanga ‘e tolu, pea ‘oku takamilo ‘o ‘ikai tu’u: hikifonua, kumifonua/fononga, taufonua! (departure, travel, arrival). Pē ‘oku tau tui ki ai pe ‘ikai, pe ‘oku tau ‘ilo ki ai pe ‘ikai, ‘oku fakatakamilo pehē ‘etau mo’ui.

- Ko e tala ia ‘o e fa’ahinga kotoa pe ‘oku mo’ui, kau ai ‘akitautolu fa’ahinga ‘o e tangata—‘oku tau hiki, fononga, tu’uta; ka ko e tu’uta ‘oku ‘ikai ko e ngata’anga, ka ko e kamata’anga fo’ou ia ke fai mei ai ‘a hiki-fononga. Ko e fehikitaki ko eni ‘oku ‘ikai fakangatangata pe ki he fe’unuaki faka-siokalafi, ka ‘oku faka-hisitōlia he ‘oku tau hiki mei he kuonga ki he kuonga; ‘oku faka-‘atamai, he ‘oku tau hiki mei he fakakaukau ‘e taha ki he fakakaukau ‘e taha; ‘oku faka-sōsiale, he ‘oku tau hiki mei he tākanga ‘e taha ki he tākanga ‘e taha; ‘oku faka-lotu foki, e ‘oku tau hiki mei he tui/lotu ‘e taha ki he tui/lotu ‘e taha, pea fakatatau ki he tui ‘a e tokolahi, ‘oku tau pilikimi mei he mo’ui ‘e taha ki he mo’ui ‘e taha ‘oku fungani hake! ‘Oku ‘ikai tu’u pea ‘ikai ngata ‘etau hiki, fononga, mo e tu’uta. ‘Oku tau toki takitaha hifo kitautolu he ngaahi tau’anga-lelue/pasi kehekehe, ka ‘oku ‘ikai tu’u ai e lēlue/pasi ‘oku tau heka ai. ‘Oku toki kehekehe mo e ‘uhinga ‘oku fai ai ‘etau hiki, ka ko hotau tala ‘oku tau fehikitaki ‘o ‘ikai tu’u.
- Ko e ngaahi talanoa ‘oku hā he tohitapu, tautefito ki he Fuakava Motu’a, ‘oku lau fehikitaki mo ia:
 - Ko e tala ‘o e kakai na’a nau hiki ke kumi hūfanga
 - Ko e tala ‘o e kakai na’a nau kumi ki ha mo’ui fo’ou
 - Ko e tala ‘o e kakai na’a nau hopo ki he ta’e’iloa ke vakai ha ngaahi faingamālie fo’ou
 - Ko e tala ‘o e kakai na’e fekau’i ke hiki, neongo ‘enau ta’efiehiki
 - Ko e tala ‘o e kakai na’e pau ke nau hiki mei he fale pōpula ke kumi ‘a e tau’atāina.

Ko hono fungani ‘o ‘etau fehikitaki, ko ‘etau felōngoaki ai mo e ‘Otua ‘oku fehikitaki mo ia (Migrant God). Pea ko e tala ‘o e ‘Otua Fehikitaki—ko e ‘Otua ‘oku hiki mo hono kakai, ‘oku fononga mo hono kakai, ‘oku taufonua mo hono kakai, ‘oku ne holoki kau’ā mo hono kakai, ‘oku fakaivia ‘a hono kakai ke taliteke’i ‘a e ngaahi mafai fakamālohi mo e ngaahi tukufakaholo ‘o e holoki mo’ui, ‘oku ne pakipaki mā mo hono kakai, nonofo mo e si’i taha ‘i hono kakai, pea ko hono taupotu ko ‘ene pekia mo ikuna mo’ui ma’a hono kakai! Ko e

naunau ia ‘o e ‘Otua Fehikitaki, pea ko e ākenga ia ke muimui ki ai ‘akitautolu ‘oku hikifonua, kumifonua mo langa lotu ‘oku tau fai (cf. Jacob at Bethel & Peniel).

‘I he tu’unga ko ia, kapau ko ‘etau mo’ui ko e fehikitaki ‘oku ‘ikai ngata, *ko e fē leva ai ‘a ‘api? Ko e fē potu te tau ala humuaki ai hotau ngaahi palepale pea lau ko ‘api? ‘E langa fēfē ai ‘etau lotu?*

Langa Lotu ‘I Vaha (Home is built *en route*)

‘Oku mālie mo mohu ‘a ‘etau lea ko ia ko e *fonua* (Samoan *fanua*; Maori *whenua*; Fijian *vanua*)! Pea ‘oku kātōi ‘e hono ‘uhinga ‘a e ngaahi fakakaukau kuo u toki fakahoha’a ki ai:

- *Fonua ko e kelekele* (fonua as land/earth) mo e potu ‘oku tau fetā’utu’i ai. Ka ‘oku lahi hake ‘a e fonua he kelekele mōmoa ‘oku tau ‘i ai.
- *Fonua ko e manava* (fonua as womb/placenta). Ko e potu ‘oku tu’itu’ia, tupu mo fou mei ai ha mo’ui fo’ou ‘oku tau ui mo ia ko e fonua. ‘Oku ‘o’ofaki ‘a e fonua ko ia ‘i he manava ‘o e ngaahi fa’ē. Ko hono mālie ‘o e fonua ko eni, he ‘oku tau hiki mei ai, ka ‘oku ‘ikai lava ke tau to e foki ki ai (cf. fehu’i ‘a Nikotimasi). ‘Oku fai mei fonua hono tohi e mape ‘o ‘etau mo’ui ka ko e kamata’anga ia ‘o ‘etau fehikitaki ‘i he mo’ui. ‘Oku ‘i ai lea ‘a e kau pālangi, ‘oku ‘ikai malava ke te a’a tu’o ua ‘i ha vai tatau (cannot step into the same river twice); ‘oku anga pehē mo e tala ‘o e fonua ko e manava—we cannot return to the same fonua twice! Ko ha feinga ke fai pehē ‘e lahi ange ‘a e maumau te ne fakahoko, pea ‘e fakatu’utāmaki.
- *Fonua ko e kakai* (fonua as people). ‘Oku ‘i ai ‘etau lea Tonga ko e *fonua pe tangata*, ‘a ia ‘oku ne hiki e tokanga mei he kelekele ki he kakai, ko kitautolu ‘a e fonua! Ko e fē potu ‘oku tau ‘i ai, ‘oku ‘i ai foki mo e fonua. ‘Oku tau felupe ‘a e fonua mo kitautolu ki he potu kotoa pe ‘oku fou ai ‘etau fehikitaki (cf. Friend’s comment about Samoa in his house). Pea ‘oku ta’emavete ‘a e fekau’aki ko ia. Ko e hā e me’a ‘oku ne uesia e taha, ‘oku ne uesia ‘a e taha. Ka uesia e kakai, ‘oku uesia e fonua; ka uesia e fonua, ‘oku uesia e kakai!
- *Fonua ko e mālōlō’anga/fa’itoka* (fonua as grave/resting place). ‘Oku tau ui ‘a e potu ‘oku telio ai ‘etau kau pekia ko e fonua mo ia. ‘I he’ene pehē, ‘oku kātōi ‘e he fakakaukau ‘o e fonua ‘a e fehikitaki ‘etau mo’ui, mei manava ki tānekinanga!

‘Oku tu’unga ki he ngaahi fakakaukau ko ia ‘a e ohi lea ‘oku tau fai, hange ko e *tala-e-fonua* (ways of the land), *hiki-fonua* (leaving, or departing from, one’s land), *tau-fonua* (arriving and settling in an-other land), pea mo e *langa-fonua* (building place/land). ‘Oku tau langa hotau ‘api ‘i he vaa’i fononga ‘o ‘etau fehikitaki, pea ‘ikai tu’uma’u. ‘Oku pehē foki mo e potu ‘oku tau langa lotu ai. Pea ‘oku ‘ikai ha foki ki ‘api!

Na’a ku hiki mei Tonga he ta’u ‘e 14 kuo hili. Ko e taimi kotoa pe ‘oku ou folau ai ki Tonga, ko e Tonga kehe ia mei he Tonga na’a ku maheni mo ia. Na’a mo e kolo ne u tupu ai, ko e kolo kehe ia—kehe hono kakai, kehe hono talanoa, etc. ‘Ikai ia ko ia pe, ka ko e lotu ne u maheni mo ia mo hono angafai he taimi ne u hiki ai, kuo kehe mo ia. Ko e laufānō ‘o kapau ‘oku ou kei ‘amanaki ke u foki ki he Tonga tatau, pe ko ha’aku feinga ke fakafoki hoku kolo mo e lotu ki he kolo mo e lotu ne u anga ki ai.

Ka ko e pole ia ‘oku tau fehangahangai mo ia he langa lotu ‘oku tau fai ‘i he ngaahi feitu’u kehekehe ‘oku tau ngāue ai. ‘Oku tau feinga ke he taimi lahi ke langa e lotu na’a tau anga ki ai ‘i Tonga he taimi na’a tau hikifonua ai. Ko e me’a ‘oku puli meiate kitautolu, kuo nga’unu e lotu ia ‘i Tonga mei he me’a na’a tau anga ki ai. Pea koe’uhi ‘oku tau vilitaki ke foki ki he Tonga mo e lotu ko ia, ‘oku tau fa’a tōmui ai pea ‘apulu ‘etau ngāue.

Ko e fakakaukau ‘oku tau ma’u mei a Selemaia 29, langa hotau ‘api mo ‘etau lotu he potu ‘oku tau ‘i ai, fengāue’aki mo e kakai ‘oku ‘i ai, pou pou ki he fonua, koe’uhi ke tau ‘inasi mo kinautolu ‘i he lelei te nau ma’u (cf. Methodist Church, Tiriti o Waitangi).

Ngaahi Fehu’i:

- Ko e hā e ngaahi me’a te tau ala fai ke pouaki e lelei ‘a e ngaahi feitu’u ‘oku tau langa lotu ai?
- Ko e hā e ngaahi me’a ‘oku tau ala fakatatafe mei he tukufakaholo kuo tau tauhi kae lava ke mānava lelei ‘a e langa lotu ‘oku tau fai?
- Ko e hā ‘etau vīsone ki he langa lotu ‘oku tau fai (ta’u ‘e 10 nai mei heni)?