I thank.....

My parents, for their belief in me, for all their love and care and for being a constant source of persuasion for the successful completion of this thesis.

My supervisor Dr. Chitra Panikkar, for her able guidance, affection and support, and (as during the M.Phil period), for creating a space that allowed me to vibe well and express myself.

The librarian and library staff of:
Old Theological Seminary, Kottayam; St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Karmelgiri; St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, Mangalapuzha; St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Vadavathoor; United Theological College, Bangalore; Dharmaram College, Bangalore, Gospel Asia Biblical Seminary, Tiruvalla, Indira Gandhi Memorial Library, University of Hyderabad; the manager and staff of Fellowship House, Alwaye; and the warden and staff of P.G. Hostel, Dharmaram College, Bangalore.

The following individuals, who have, in their own unique ways, (academically/personally), played a part in the making of this thesis: Appachen and Ammachy, Prof. K.M.Tharakan, Fr. Roy P. Thomas, Sajan Chettan and Visaka Chechi, Abey, Fr. John Peter, Fr. Biju Panikkar, Vineet, Boby, Fr. Thomas Yohannan, Shanti and Geo, Simon Sir and Leela Teacher, Hemachandran, Vinu, Thomas Uncle and Ethamma Aunty, Laly, Dr. Shivarama Padikkal, Fr. T.J. Joshua, Dr. Geevarghese Mar Osthathios Metropolitan, Fr. Felix Wilfred, Fr. John Mathew, Dr. Sanjay Palshekar, Dr. Dilip Menon, Srinivas, Koshy, K. C. Varghese, Paul Zachariah and others whose names I may have missed.

Silbi, who entered my life towards the twilight of this PhD 'chapter', for enabling me to start life afresh.

The Almighty, for being there in His own 'peculiar' ways and seeing me through times turbulent and calm.

Binu