

信心的基础小组查经之八: (Foundation for Faith -- VIII)

上次我们讨论了神的几个特性，包括他的圣洁、公义及慈爱，从他的这几个特性，让我们来思考一下他会如何对待一个有罪的人。首先出於他的圣洁，他必须远离罪人，因圣洁与罪恶是互不相容的；其次，出於他的公义，他必须惩罚罪恶，只有这样才能体现他的公正；其三，出於他的慈爱，他希望能原谅人的罪，与他重新和好。从表面上看上去，这些都是自相矛盾，不可自圆的。让我们来看一下圣经是怎样解答这个问题的。

Now we know God's characteristics including Holy, Just, and Love. To act in harmony with His own character, God's holiness must say, "Away with you," His justice must punish, but his love would want to forgive, to reconcile. At first glance His attributes seem to demand irreconcilable things. Let us see how the Bible says He solved this seeming dilemma.

问题的答案 The Solution

一个人如何表明他爱其他人？一个很好的衡量标准就是他愿意为所爱的人付出多大的牺牲。在思量神的爱时，我们可以从以下的几段圣经章节中看出神是如何为我们作出牺牲的。

How can a person demonstrate how much he loves someone? One measure is how much he is willing to sacrifice for the person he loves. As we consider God's love, notice in the following verses how much He sacrificed for us.

腓立比书 二：6—8 Philippians 2:6-8

1 为了我们的缘故，耶稣基督放弃了什么？

What did Jesus Christ give up for our sake?

正如经上所说的，耶稣本有神的形象，但他却放弃了，反倒取了人的样式，他从受人服侍的成为服侍人的，不但放弃生命死去，且是死在又痛苦又羞辱的十字架上。人们很自然地会问他为什么要这样做，下面的两段经文很好地解释了这一点。

As you have seen, Jesus gave up being "in the form of God" in order to become human. He gave up being served and became one who served. He gave up His life, not only by dying, but by dying a most painful, ignominious death. It is only natural to wonder why He would do this. The two following references make the reason clear.

彼得前书 二：24

I Peter 2:24

2 根据这节经文，基督在十字架上“担当”了什么？

According to this verse, what was Christ "bearing" on the Cross?

3 在这里他代表了谁？他又替代了谁？

Who, then, was He representing? For whom was He a substitute?

请记住在创世记三：21 中提到的一只无辜的动物被作为替罪品，作为神为亚当和夏娃赎罪的方式。在我们念过的以赛亚书五十三章里也很清楚地描绘了同样的情形。

Remember the pattern of a substitute sacrifice in Genesis 3:21 when an innocent animal was killed to cover the results of Adam and Eve's sin. The same thing is clearly portrayed in Isaiah 53, as we saw.

约翰一书 二：2

I John 2:2

4 根据这节经文，神认为基督的死起到了怎样的功效？

According to this verse, to what extent does God consider the death of Jesus to be effective?

"挽回祭"一词代表了所有神的特性都得到了满足，即使有些人认为这是很愚蠢的方法而不愿意去相信，神却认为基督的死足以替代普天下人的罪。

The word "Expiation" (or "atoning sacrifice" - N.I.V.) means that all the requirements of God's attributes have been satisfied. So even if some people think it a stupid idea or refuse to believe it, God Himself considers Jesus' death to be enough to atone for all the sins of the whole human race.

所以从基督的死可以看到许多的问题得到了解答：

- 把我们与神隔绝的罪得洗清，神的圣洁得到满足；
- 罪得到了惩罚，所以神完成了他公义的审判；
- 神现在可以原谅我们，欢迎我们回天家，体现了他的爱。

神在十字架上所做的一切符合他的标准，他这样做为世人的救赎提供了可能，为所有人开了一条通往他的大道。

So we see that Jesus' death on the cross solved the big problem in this way:

- * The Sins which separated us from God are atoned for and gone, so God's holiness is satisfied.
- * Sin was punished, so the demands of God's justice were satisfied.
- * God can now forgive and welcome us back, so His Love is satisfied.

What God did at the cross met all the requirements of His character. and He did all this to make salvation possible for us, to open the way to Himself.

我们的回应

Our Response

让我们再来读罗马书六：23 Let's again read Romans 6:23 together

1 根据这节经文，我们看到如何能免除死而得到永生？

您看到了其中两个要素吗？ —— 这是神的恩赐；
—— 这是在基督耶稣里的。

According to this verse how does eternal life rather than death become ours?

Did you see both factors? -- that God gives it (it is a gift)
-- and it is through Jesus Christ

请注意这里用词的变化，称耶稣为“我们的主”，如果他也是您的主的话，这永恒的生命也是您的。神在造人的时候赋予了人自由的意志，他不会违背人的意志，强迫人去接受救赎，他把救赎当成是给世人的一份礼物，而他正在等待我们回应。

But notice the modifying words for Jesus: "our Lord." If He is your Lord, life is yours, too. God made us with a free will, however, and he will not violate that will by forcing us to accept this salvation. He offers it as a gift, and He waits for our response.

2A 如果有人把一份礼物放在您面前，您要怎样做才能使这礼物成为自己的所有？

If someone places a gift in front of you, what do you do to make it your own?

B 根据约翰福音一：12，您要怎样做才能拥有神的礼物。

According to John 1:12, what must we do with the gift God is offering in order to make it our own?

3 请阅读约翰福音三：16、三：36及五：24，请留意其中讲到我们应如何运用自由意志去回应神。

Read also John 3:16, 3:36, and 5:24, noticing the words which express what we are to do, and the fact that they involve using our will.

我们由此可以看到，耶稣基督的死为我们预备了道路，是我们通往神的桥梁，如果我们接受他为救主及生命的主，我们的罪就得到了赦免，与神重新和好，成为了他的儿女，且得到了永生。但是，耶稣说：“我是道路、真理、生命，若不籍着我，没有人能到父那里去。”这意味着除了基督以外别无他途，如果我们拒绝他为大家所做的一切，结果只有死亡，为我们自己的罪付上代价。

By what He did at the cross Jesus has become the "way" to God, a bridge from Death over to Life. If we do accept him as Savior and Lord, our sins are forgiven, we are reconciled to God and become His child, and we have eternal life. However, Jesus Himself said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." this means that if we reject Him and what He did for us, there is no other way to God. Apart from Jesus Christ there is only death, paying the penalty for our own sins.

如果您现在想要接受基督，或是想在晚些时候独自一人时这样做的话，以下是一段建议的祷文：

- 1) 我是一个罪人，希望能得到赦免；
- 2) 我相信基督为我而死，我愿意接受他为救主及生命的主；
- 3) 感谢您赦免我的罪，让我成为您的儿女。

祷告是与神交谈，不在乎时间的长短，语句是否精妙，只要是我们的心思，神一定垂听。

If you want to receive Jesus Christ now, or later when you are alone, here is a simple prayer you could use. Any equivalent words will do.

- 1) I am a sinner, needing to be forgiven
- 2) Believing that He died for me, too, I receive Jesus Christ
now as my Savior and Lord.
- 3) Thank you for forgiving me, for making me your child.

To pray is to talk to God, it is not up to how long it is or how carefully we pick our words. As long as it reflects our heart, God will surely listen.

作为结束，让我们一同来念罗马书十：9—10，这是神给我们得救的确据，如果您已经这样做了的话，您可以马上就感谢他救赎了您，将来您还会发现，每当您向他人介绍这福音的时候，您的信心也会得到大大的增强。

In closing, read Romans 10:9-10 together, noticing what this says to do to be saved. If we have believed and told the Lord so, we can immediately thank Him for saving us. And you will find that if you tell someone you have done so, it will strengthen your faith.