墨爾本華人基督徒以勒團契

〈聖經神學〉

(三)「從聖經認識神的救恩」

「所以,我們當越發鄭重所聽見的道理,恐怕我們隨流失去.那藉著天使所傳的話既是確定的; 凡干犯悖逆的都受了該受的報應.「我們若忽略這麼大的救恩,怎能逃罪呢?這 救恩起先是主親自講的,後來是聽見的人給我們證實了.」」 (來2:1-3)

「論 到 這 救 恩 , 那預先說你們要得恩典的眾先知 , 早已「詳細」的「尋求」「考察」, 就是考察在他們心裏基督的靈 , 預先「證明」基督受苦難 , 後來得榮耀 , 是指著甚麼時候 , 並怎樣的時候 . 他們得了啟示 , 知道他們所「傳講」的一切事 , 不是為自己 , 乃是為你們 . 那「靠著從天上差來的聖靈」傳福音給你們的人 , 現在將這些事「報給你們」, 天使也願意詳細察看這些事 . 」(彼前1:10-12)

2) 「脱離罪惡綑鎖的救恩」

「她將要生一個兒子,你要給祂起名叫耶穌,因祂要將自己的百姓從罪惡裏救出來.」 (太1:21)

「 ... 衪 愛 我 們 , 用 自 己 的 血 使 我 們 脱 離 罪 惡 . 」 (啓1:5)

「因為神救眾人的恩典已經顯明出來,教訓我們除去不敬虔的心和世俗的情慾,在今世自守,公義,敬虔度日」(多2:11-12)

「因為知道我們的舊人和祂同釘十字架,使罪身滅絕,叫我們不再作罪的奴僕,因為已死的人是脱離了罪.」(羅6:6-7)

(一) 「脱離罪惡綑鎖的動機」

1) 「感謝神的動機」 (羅6:15-18)

「 這卻怎麼樣呢 ? 我們 「 在 恩 典 之 下 」 ,不在律法之下 ,就可以犯罪麼 ? 斷乎不可 ! 豈不曉得你們 「 獻 上 自 己 」作奴僕 ,順從誰 ,就作誰的奴僕麼 ? 或作罪的奴僕 ,以至於死 ;或 「 作順 命 的 奴 僕 」 ,以至成義 . 「 感 謝 神 ! 」 因為你們從前雖然作罪的奴僕 , 現今卻 「 從 心 裏順 服 」了所傳給你們道理的模範 . 你們既從罪裏得了釋放 , 就 「 作 了 義 的 奴 僕 」 . 」

2) 「敬畏神的動機」 (來10:26-31)

「因為我們得知真道以後,若「故意犯罪」,贖罪的祭就再沒有了;惟有「戰懼等候審判」和那燒滅眾敵人的烈火.人干犯摩西的律法,憑兩三個見證人,尚且「不得憐恤」而死,何況人踐踏神的兒子,將那使他成聖之約的血當作平常,又褻慢施恩的聖靈,你們想,他「要受的刑罰該怎樣加重呢!」因為我們知道誰說:伸冤在我,我必報應.又說:「主要審判祂的百姓」.落在永生神的手裏,「真是可怕的」.」

3) 「見證神的動機」 (羅13:11-14)

「再者,你們曉得現今就是該趁早睡醒的時候,因為我們得救,現今比初信的時候更近了.黑夜已深,白畫將近;我們就當「脱 去 暗 昧 的 行 為 」,「帶 上 光 明 的 兵 器 」.「行 事 為 人 要 端 正 」,「好 像 行 在 白 畫 」.不可荒宴醉酒,不可好色邪蕩,不可爭競嫉妒;「總要 披 戴 主 耶 穌 基 督 」,不要為肉體安排,去放縱私慾.」

4) 「事奉神的動機」 (提後2:20-21)

「「在大戶人家」,不但「有金器銀器」,也有木器瓦器;「有作為貴重的」,有作為卑賤的.「人若自潔,脱離卑賤」的事,就「必作貴重的器皿」,「成為聖潔,合乎主用」,預備行各樣的善事.」

(二) 「脱離罪惡綑鎖的態度」

1) 「懼怕犯罪」(彼後2:4-6)

「就是天使犯了「罪」,「神也沒有寬容」,曾把他們丟在地獄,交在黑暗坑中,等候「審判」.神也「沒有寬容」上古的世代,曾叫洪水臨到那不敬虔的世代,卻保護了傳義道的挪亞一家八口.又判定所多瑪,蛾摩拉,將二城「傾覆」,「焚燒成灰」,「作為後世不敬虔人的鑑戒」.」

「 約 瑟 的 榜 樣 」: - 「 ... 我 怎 能 作 這 大 惡 , 得 罪 神 呢 ? 」(創 39:9)

2) 「憤恨犯罪」(林後11:2-3)

「我為你們起的「憤恨」,原是「神那樣的憤恨」,因為我曾把你們許配一個丈夫,要把你們如同貞潔的童女,獻給基督.我只怕你們的「心或偏於邪」,「失去」那向基督所存「純一清潔的心」,就像蛇用詭詐誘惑了夏娃一樣.」

「摩西的榜樣」: - 「摩西挨近營前,就看見牛犢,又看見人跳舞,便發烈怒,把兩塊版扔在山下摔碎了.」 (出32:19)

3) 「羞愧犯罪」(林前15:33-34)

「「你們不要自欺」,濫交是「敗壞」善行.你們要醒悟為善,不要「犯罪」,因為有人不認識神.我說這話「是要叫你們羞愧」.」

「以斯拉的榜樣」: - 「...我的神啊,我抱愧蒙羞,不敢向我神仰面;因為我們的罪孽滅頂,我們的罪惡滔天.」 (拉9:6)

4) 「痛悔犯罪」 (林前5:1-2)

「風聞在你們中間 「有淫亂的事」,這樣的淫亂,連外邦人中也沒有,就是有人收了他的繼母.你們還是自高自大,並不「哀痛」,把行這事的人從你們中間趕出去.」

「大衛的榜樣」:-「…神啊,憂傷痛悔的心,祢必不輕看.」(詩51:17)

(三) 「脱離罪惡綑鎖的行動」

「不從惡人的計謀,不站罪人的道路,不坐褻慢人的座位,惟喜愛耶和華的律法, 晝夜思想,這人便為有福.他要像一棵樹栽在溪水旁,按時候結果子,葉子也不枯乾,凡他所作的盡都順利.」 (詩1:1-3)

親愛的弟兄姊妹 , 主耶穌基督藉著十字架敗壞了掌死權的魔鬼撒旦 , 更藉著十字架拯救我們脫離罪惡的權勢和綑鎖 , 但是我們必須謹記 , 神的恩典並沒有排除了人當盡的責任 , 所以我們不單要有脫離罪惡綑鎖的正確動機 , 更要有脫離罪惡綑鎖的正確態度 , 更重要的是必須要有以下五方面脫離罪惡綑鎖正確的行動 , 以致我們不再作罪的奴僕 , 乃是成為主耶穌基督的奴僕 , 成為義的奴僕 , 並且結出生命仁義的果子:-

1) 不從惡人計謀

「惡人計謀」就是魔鬼撒旦在人類歷史中所散播的各種各樣朽曲的,敗壞的,邪惡的思想和觀念,當人被這些思想和觀念所污染時,就會產生犯罪的念頭,以致身不由己,成為犯罪作惡的人.所以我們必須首先藉著神聖潔的真理來潔淨,清除,及更新過往不正確的扭曲思想和觀念.

2) 不站罪人道路

世上許多的人站在「罪人道路」上,過著犯罪作惡,享受罪中之樂的人生,基督聖徒仍然生活在世界裏,不可能脱離世界,但是卻必須跟那些一直犯罪作惡,不知悔改的人保持距離,與他們分別出來,否則我們必然會受影響,必然會被污染,甚至乎成為同流合污,一同犯罪作惡的人.

3) 不坐褻慢座位

世界上許多的地方,許多的團體,許多的場合,都是羞辱神,褻瀆神的地方,例如酒吧,賭場,色情場所,廟宇,拜祭偶像的場合,同性戀遊行等等;都是「褻慢座位」,都是神所不喜悦及心惡痛絕的地方和場合,若是基督聖徒常常處身這些環境中,不單招致神的憤怒,更必然成為「褻慢人」,成為犯罪作惡的人.

4) 恆常與主親近

基督聖徒若要脱離罪惡綑鎖,除了消極方面的行動:-「不從惡人計謀」,「不站罪人道路」,「不坐褻慢座位」之外,更須要有積極方面的行動,其中最重要的就是「惟喜愛耶和華」,相同意義就是「恒常與主親近」,惟有恆常與主親近,我們纔能夠有足夠的生命力量,能夠脱離罪惡的綑鎖,能夠抗拒罪惡的試探誘惑.

5) 晝夜思想主道

基督聖徒若要脱離罪惡綑鎖,若要結出生命仁義的果子,除了必須「恆常與主親近」,同樣必須有的行動就是「畫夜思想主道」,因為主耶穌基督的道就是靈,就是生命;主耶穌基督的道帶著能力,真理的聖靈透過主的道賜予屬天的能力,屬靈的力量,以致我們能夠不單脫離罪惡的綑鎖,更能夠結滿仁義的果子.

「牧者心聲」: -

「但我覺得肢體中另有個律和我心中的律交戰,把我擴去,叫我附從那肢體中犯罪的律.我真是苦啊!誰能救我脱離這取死的身體呢?感謝神,靠著愛我們的主耶穌基督就能脱離了...」(羅7:23-25)

Melbourne Chinese Christian Jireh Fellowship Bible Theology

3) Understanding God's salvation from the Bible

"We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him." (Hebrews 2:1-3)

"Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things. (1 Peter 1:10-12)

2. Salvation that liberates us from the bondage of sin

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

"... To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood," (Revelation 1:5)

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age," (Titus 2:11-12)

"For we know that our old self so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been freed from sin." (Romans 6:6-7)

(A) Our motivation for being liberated from the bondage of sin

1) Motivation for giving thanks to God (Romans 6:15-18)

"What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey — whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teachings to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness."

- 2) Motivation for honoring God (Hebrews 10:26-31)
- "If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."
- 3) Motivation for testifying for God (Romans 13:11-14)
- "And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of sinful nature."
- 4) Motivation for serving God (2 Timothy 2:20-21)
- "In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work."
- (B) Our attitude towards being liberated from the bondage of sin
- 1) Fear of sinning (2 Peter 2:4-6)
 - "For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; if he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly."
 - The example of Joseph: "... How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9)
- 2) Hate of sinning (2 Corinthians 11:2-3)
 - "I am **jealous** for you with **a godly jealousy**. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him. But I am afraid that **just as Eve was deceived** by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be **led astray from your sincere and pure devotion** to Christ."
 - The example of Moses: "When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain." (Exodus 32:19)

3) Ashamed of sinning (1 Corinthians 15:33-34)

"Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God — I say this to your shame."

The example of Ezra: "...O my God, I am too ashamed and disgraced to lift up my face to you, my God, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens." (Ezra 9:6)

4) Contriteness towards sinning (1 Corinthians 5:1-2)

"It is actually reported that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: a man has his father's wife. And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have been **filled with grief** and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this?"

The example of David: "...A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." (Psalm 51:17)

(C) Our actions towards being liberated from the bondage of sin

"Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

(Psalms 1:1-3)

Dear brothers and sisters, the Lord Jesus Christ through the cross, defeated the devil, Satan who has power over death. Also through the cross, he has rescued us and freed us from the power and bondage of sin. But we must remember, that God's grace does not eliminate the duty and responsibility of man. Therefore we must not only have the correct motivation to be liberated from the bondage of sin, but also have the correct attitude towards being liberated from the bondage of sin. Most importantly, we must also have the following 5 correct actions towards being liberated from the bondage of sin, so that we are no long slaves to sin, but become slaves to our Lord Jesus Christ, to be slaves to righteousness, and to bear fruit of righteousness:

1) Do not walk in the counsel of the wicked

The **counsel of the wicked** is the twisted, corrupt and wicked thoughts and perspectives that the devil Satan has spread throughout the history of mankind. When the thoughts and perspectives of man have been tainted, the idea to sin is planted, so that involuntarily, they become a person who sins and does evil. Therefore, we must, through God's holy truths, be cleansed, purified and renewed from our past incorrect and twisted thoughts and perspectives.

2) Do not stand in the way of sinners

In the world, many people **stand in the way of sinners**, to live sinful and evil lives that enjoy the pleasures of sin. Christian saints continue to live in the world, and cannot leave the world, but they must keep a distance and be separated from those who continue to sin and do evil, and who do not repent. Otherwise, we will be influenced, and will be tainted, or even become complicit and people who sin and do evil.

3) Do not sit in the seat of mockers

In the world, there are many places, many groups and many situations, where God is mocked and blasphemed. For example, bars, casinos, vice establishments, temples, places that worship idols, parades of homosexuals, etc. These are **the seats of mockers**, and these do not please God and are places and situations that He detests and abhors. If Christian saints often find themselves in these environments, they not only incur God's wrath, but become mockers, and people who sin are do evil.

4) Consistently draw near to the Lord

For a Christian saint to be liberated from the bondage of sin, other than the avoidance of negative influences: "Do not walk in the counsel of the wicked", "do not stand in the way of sinners" and "do not sit in the seat of mockers", they must also have positive actions. Of these, the most important is to "delight in the Lord", which has the same meaning as "consistently draw near to the Lord". For when we consistently draw close to the Lord, then we can have enough strength of life, can be liberated from the bondage of sin, and can resist the temptation and deception of sin.

5) On His law, meditate day and night

If a Christian saint wants to be liberated from the bondage of sin, or to bear the fruit of righteousness, other than "consistently drawing close to the Lord", they must also have an action of "meditating on His law day and night". Because the law of the Lord Jesus Christ is spirit and is life. The law of the Lord Jesus Christ has power, and the Spirit of truth, through the law of the Lord, gives us heavenly strength and spiritual strength, so that we can not only be liberated from the bondage of sin, but can bear the fruit of righteousness.

Pastor's reflection:

"but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord!..." (Romans 7:23-25)