

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）

3) 「生命出死入生的救恩」

「我實實在在的告訴你們，那聽我話，又信差我來者的，就有永生；不至於定罪，是已經「出死入生」了。我實實在在的告訴你們，時候將到，現在就是了，「死人」要聽見神兒子的聲音，聽見的人就「要活了」。因為父怎樣在自己有生命，就賜給祂兒子也照樣在自己有生命。」（約5:24-26）

「因為「罪的工價乃是死」，惟有「神的恩賜」，在我們的主基督耶穌裏，「乃是永生」。」（羅6:23）

「當「我們死在過犯中」的時候，便叫「我們與基督一同活過來」，你們「得救是本乎恩」。」（弗2:5）

(一) 「生命出死入生的意義」

「耶和華的靈降在我身上，耶和華藉著祂的靈帶我出去，將我放在平原中；這「平原遍滿骸骨」。祂使我從骸骨的四圍經過，誰知在平原的骸骨甚多，「而且極其枯乾」。祂對我說：人子啊，「這些骸骨能復活麼？」我說：主耶和華啊，祢是知道的。祂又對我說：你向這些骸骨發預言說：枯乾的骸骨啊，要聽耶和華的話。主耶和華對這些骸骨如此說：我必使氣息進入你們裏面，你們就「要活了」。我必給你們加上筋，使你們長肉，又將皮遮蔽你們，使氣息進入你們裏面，你們就「要活了」；你們便知道我是耶和華。」

「於是，我遵命說預言，「氣息就進入骸骨，骸骨便活了」，並且站起來，成為極大的軍隊。主對我說：人子啊，「這些骸骨就是以色列全家」...」（結 37：1-6，10-11）

親愛的弟兄姊妹，自從人類的始祖阿當夏娃犯罪以後，神公義的審判臨到世上每一個人身上，因為「罪的工價乃是死」，所以世上每一個人在神的眼光中都是一個「活死人」，都是生命扭曲敗壞，不斷犯罪作惡，與神生命隔絕，等待永恆滅亡的「活死人」：-「生命死，生活死，人生死，永恆死」。所以，聖經形容世上的人都是死在過犯罪惡之中，就如神的僕人先知以西結的屬靈看見：「平原遍滿骸骨」-「而且極其枯乾」。

但是，神藉著先知以西結賜下寶貴的應許：「要活了」-「氣息就進入骸骨，骸骨便活了」，道成肉身的主耶穌基督再一次宣告這個應許：「死人」-「要活了」，當每一個基督聖徒蒙恩得救的時候，便得以從死亡中「活過來」，成為一個「真活人」：-「生命活，生活活，人生活，永恆活」。親愛的弟兄姊妹，這真是何等奇異的拯救恩典，深深盼望每一個主耶穌基督所愛的基督聖徒，都能夠完完全全得著其中的福分。

(二) 「生命出死入生的內容」

1) 「肉體生命出死入生」 (林前 15:35-36, 42-44)

「或有人問：「死人怎樣復活」，帶著甚麼「身體」來呢？無知的人哪，你所種的，若不死就不能生... 死人「復活」也是這樣，所種的是必朽壞的，復活的是「不朽壞」的；所種的是羞辱的，復活的是「榮耀」的；所種的是軟弱的，復活的是「強壯」的；所種的是血氣的身體，復活的是「靈性的身體」。若有血氣的身體，也必有靈性的身體。」

2) 「屬靈生命出死入生」 (羅 6:3-8)

「豈不知我們這受浸「歸入基督耶穌的人」，是受浸歸入祂的死麼？所以，我們藉著浸禮「歸入死」，和祂一同「埋葬」，原是叫我們一舉一動有新生的樣式，像基督藉著父的榮耀「從死裏復活」一樣。我們若在祂死的形狀上與祂聯合，也要在祂復活的形狀上與祂聯合，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」；因為已死的人是脫離了罪。我們若是「與基督同死」，就信必與祂「同活」。」

3) 「地上生活出死入生」 (弗 5:6-15)

「不要被人虛浮的話欺哄；因這些事，神的忿怒必臨到那悖逆之子。所以，你們不要與他們同夥。「從前」你們是「暗昧」的，但「如今」在主裏面是「光明」的，「行事為人」就當像「光明」的子女。光明所結的果子，就是一切「良善，公義，誠實」。總要「察驗」何為主所喜悅的事。那暗昧無益的事，「不要與人同行」，倒要「責備行這事的人」；因為他們暗中所行的，就是提起來，也是「可恥」的。凡事受了責備，就被光顯明出來，因為一切能顯明的就是光。所以主說：「你這睡著的人當醒過來，從死裏復活！基督就要光照你了」。你們要謹慎行事，不要像愚昧人，當像智慧人。」

4) 「世上人生出死入生」 (羅 14 : 6 - 9)

「守日的人是「為主」守的；吃的人，是「為主」吃的，因他「感謝神」；不吃的人，是為主不吃的，也「感謝神」。我們沒有一個人為自己活，也沒有一個人為自己死。我們若活著，是「為主而活」；若死了，是「為主而死」，所以，我們或活或死，總是主的人。因此基督「死了」，「又活了」，為要作死人並活人的主。」

5) 「永恆歸宿出死入生」 (帖前 4 : 15 - 18 , 啓 21 : 3 - 5)

「我們現在照主的話告訴你們一件事；我們這活著還存留到主降臨的人，斷不能在那已經睡了的人之先。因為「主必親自從天降臨」，有呼叫的聲音和天使長的聲音，又有神的號吹響；那「在基督裏死了的人必先復活」。以後我們這活著還存留的人，必和他們一同被提到雲裏，在空中與主相遇。這樣，我們就要和主永遠同在。所以，你們當用這些話彼此勸勉。」

「我聽見有大聲音從寶座出來說：看哪，神的帳幕在人間。祂要與人同住，他們要作祂的子民。「神要親自與他們同在」，作他們的神。神要擦去他們一切的眼淚；「不再有死亡」，也「不再有悲哀，哭號，疼痛」，因為以前的事都過去了。坐寶座的說：看哪，我將一切都更新了！又說：你要寫上；因這些話是可信的，是真實的。」

牧者心聲：-

「願賜平安的神親自使你們全然成聖！又願你們的靈與魂與身子得蒙保守，在我主耶穌基督降臨的時候，完全無可指摘！那召你們的本是信實的，祂必成就這事。」 (帖前 5 : 23 - 24)

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)*

3. Salvation that leads us to cross over from death into life

*"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he **has crossed over from death to life**. I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when **the dead** will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear **will live**. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself."*

(John 5:24-26)

*"For **the wages of sin is death**, but **the gift of God is eternal life** in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)*

*"**made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions** – it is **by grace you have been saved**" (Ephesians 2:5)*

(A) The purpose of crossing over from death into life

*“The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was **full of bones**. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that **were very dry**. He asked me, “Son of man, **can these bones live?**” I said, “O Sovereign Lord, you alone know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you **will come to life**. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you **will come to life**. Then you will know that I am the Lord.’”*

*“So I prophesied as he commanded me, and **breath entered them; they came to life** and stood up on their feet – a vast army. Then he said to me: “Son of man, **these bones are the whole house of Israel...**” (Ezekiel 37: 1-6, 10-11)*

Dear brothers and sisters, since the ancestors of mankind, Adam and Eve, first sinned, God’s righteous judgment has fallen on each and every person on earth. Since the **“wages of sin is death”**, therefore, each person on earth is, according to God, **“alive yet dead”**; twisted and corrupt, continuously sinning and doing evil, alienated from the life of God and waiting for eternal perishing: people who are **“alive yet dead”**. Their lives are dead, their way of living is dead and they are eternally dead. Therefore the Bible describes the people of earth as dead in their transgressions and sins, just as a servant of God, Ezekiel’s spiritual insight: **“the valley was full of bones”, “bones that were very dry”**.

However, God, through the prophet Ezekiel, gave a very precious promise: **“will come to life” – “breath entered them; they came to life”**. The Word became flesh, the Lord Jesus Christ again proclaimed this promise: **“The dead” – “will live”**. When each Christian Saint is saved by grace, they will from death, **“come to life”**, to be a **“truly alive person”**: Their lives are alive, their living is alive and they are eternally alive. Dear brothers and sisters, this is a truly amazing salvation and grace, may each of the Christian Saints, who our Lord Jesus Christ loves, completely attain this blessing.

(B) The contents of crossing over from death into life

1. The body crossing over from death into life (1 Corinthians 15:35-36, 42-44)

*“But someone may ask, **“How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?”** How foolish! What you sow does not come to life until it dies..... So it will be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised **imperishable**; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised **in glory**; it is sown in weakness, it is raised **in power**; it is sown in a natural body, it is raised **a spiritual body**. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.”*

2. The spiritual life crossing over from death into life (Romans 6:3-8)

*“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized **into Christ Jesus** were baptized **into his death**? We were therefore **buried** with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was **raised from the dead** through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been reunited with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be reunited with him in his resurrection. For we know that **our old self was crucified with him** 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. Now if **we died with Christ**, we believe that we will also **live with him.**”*

3. The life on earth crossing over from death into life (Ephesians 5:6-15)

*“Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore, do not be partners with them. For you were **once darkness**, but **now** you are **light** in the Lord. **Live** as children of **light** (for the fruit of the light consists in all **goodness, righteousness and truth**) and **find out** what pleases the Lord. **Have nothing to do** with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather **expose them**. For it is **shameful** even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: **“Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”** Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise.”*

4. The living on earth crossing over from death into life (Romans 14:6-9)

*“He who regards one day as special, does so **to the Lord**. He who eats meat, eats **to the Lord**, for he **gives thanks to God**; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and **gives thanks to God**. For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. If we live, we **live to the Lord**; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ **died** and **returned to life** so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.”*

5. The eternal dwelling place of crossing over from death into life

(1 Thessalonians 4:15-18, Revelation 21:3-5)

*“According to the Lord’s own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For **the Lord himself will come down from heaven**, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and **the dead in Christ will rise first**. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.”*

*“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and **God himself will be with them** and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be **no more death or mourning or crying or pain**, for the old order of things has passed away.” He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”*

Pastor’s reflection:

“May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.” (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)