



呼召-我们存在的目的 (1)

CALLING-THE REASON OF OUR BEING

01/08/2023

主要经文

The Primary Verses

传道书 / Ecclesiastes
3:9-11

一个小孩的困惑与恐惧

A Confused and Scared Kid



- 为什我们活在地球上？
Why are we here on earth?
- 我们死了去哪里？
Where do we go after death?

所罗门王也有同样的困惑

King Solomon Was Confused, too

- 这虚空的人生，我们存在目的是什么？

What is the reason of our being in the vanity of our life?

- “传道者说：虚空的虚空，虚空的虚空，凡事都是虚空。人一切的劳碌，就是他在日光之下的劳碌，有什么益处呢？（传道书/Ecc. 1:2-3）

“Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.”
What advantage does man have in all his work, which he does under the sun?”

所罗门王也有同样的困惑

King Solomon Was Confused, too

- 人死了与禽兽的死差别在哪？

What's the difference between the man and the beast?

- “因为世人遭遇的，兽也遭遇，所遭遇的都是一样。这个怎样死，那个也怎样死，气息都是一样。人不能强于兽，都是虚空。都归一处，都是出于尘土，也都归于尘土。”（传道书/Ecc. 3:19-20）

“For the fate of the sons of men and the fate of beasts is the same. As one dies so dies the other; indeed, they all have the same breath and there is no advantage for man over beast, for all is vanity. All go to the same place. All came from the dust and all return to the dust.”

所罗门王的智慧

The Wisdom of King Solomon

- 所罗门王的智慧超过众人 (His wisdom exceeded all others’)
 - “神赐给所罗门极大的智慧、聪明和广大的心，如同海沙不可测量…他讲论草木，自黎巴嫩的香柏树直到墙上长的牛膝草，又讲论飞禽走兽、昆虫水族。天下列王听见所罗门的智慧，就都差人来听他的智慧话。” (列王记上/I Kings: 4:29, 33-34)

“Now God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment and breadth of mind, like the sand that is on the seashore...He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon even to the hyssop that grows on the wall; he spoke also of animals and birds and creeping things and fish. Men came from all peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.”

所罗门王的追寻

King Solomon's Quest

- 所罗门探索人生的目的 (Solomon explored the purpose of life)
 - 我为自己动大工程，建造房屋，栽种葡萄园，修造园囿，在其中栽种各种果木树，挖造水池，用以浇灌嫩小的树木。我买了仆婢，也有生在家中的仆婢；又有许多牛群羊群，胜过以前在耶路撒冷众人所有的。我又为自己积蓄金银和君王的财宝，并各省的财宝；又得唱歌的男女和世人所喜爱的物，并许多的妃嫔。(传道书/Ecc. 2:4-8)
 - “I enlarged my works: I built houses for myself, I planted vineyards for myself; I made gardens and parks for myself and I planted in them all kinds of fruit trees; I made ponds of water for myself from which to irrigate a forest of growing trees. I bought male and female slaves and I had homeborn slaves. Also I possessed flocks and herds larger than all who preceded me in Jerusalem. Also, I collected for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I provided for myself male and female singers and the pleasures of men—many concubines.”

所罗门王的追寻

King Solomon's Quest

- 所罗门穷尽所有的方法 (Solomon exhausted all options)
 - “这样，我就日见昌盛，胜过以前在耶路撒冷的众人。我的智慧仍然存留。凡我眼所求的，我没有留下不给它的；我心所乐的，我没有禁止不享受的。因我的心为我一切所劳碌的快乐，这就是我从劳碌中所得的份。”。(传道书/Ecc. 2:9-10)
 - “Then I became great and increased more than all who preceded me in Jerusalem. My wisdom also stood by me. All that my eyes desired I did not refuse them. I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure, for my heart was pleased because of all my labor and this was my reward for all my labor.”

所罗门王的结论

King Solomon's Conclusion

- 人生就是虚空、捕风 (life is vanity, chasing after the winds)
 - 后来我察看我的手所经营的一切事和我劳碌所成的功，谁知都是虚空，都是捕风，在日光之下毫无益处。(传道书/Ecc. 2:11)
“Thus I considered all my activities which my hands had done and the labor which I had exerted, and behold all was vanity and striving after wind and there was no profit under the sun.”
- 无目的人生令人厌烦 (He hated a purposeless life)
 - “我所以恨恶生命，因为在日光之下所行的事我都以为烦恼，都是虚空，都是捕风。我恨恶一切的劳碌，就是我在日光之下的劳碌，因为我得来的必留给我以后的人。”(传道书/Ecc. 2:17-18)
 - “So I hated life, for the work which had been done under the sun was grievous to me; because everything is futility and striving after wind. Thus I hated all the fruit of my labor for which I had labored under the sun, for I must leave it to the man who will come after me.”

基督徒也可能有同样的困惑

Christians May Be Confused, too

- 那些未听明白天国道理的信徒

Those who do not understand the word of the kingdom

- “撒在石头地上的，就是人听了道，当下欢喜领受，只因心里没有根，不过是暂时的，及至为道遭了患难，或是受了逼迫，立刻就跌倒了。撒在荆棘里的，就是人听了道，后来有世上的思虑、钱财的迷惑把道挤住了，不能结实。”（马太/Matt. 13:20-22）

“The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful”.

基督徒对人生目的的困惑的表征

Signs of Confused Christian

- 自我为中心的基督徒 (those who self-centered)
 - “因为那时人要专顾自己，贪爱钱财，自夸，狂傲，谤讟，违背父母，忘恩负义，心不圣洁，无亲情，不解怨，好说谗言，不能自约，性情凶暴，不爱良善，卖主卖友，任意妄为，自高自大，爱宴乐不爱神，”（提摩太后书/II Tim. 3:2-4）

For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

基督徒对人生目的的困惑的表征

Signs of Confused Christian

- 随从世上小学的基督徒

Those who follow the elementary principles of the world

- “你们要谨慎，恐怕有人用他的理学和虚空的妄言，不照着基督，乃照人间的遗传和世上的小学，就把你们掳去。”（歌罗西书/Col. 2:8）
“See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.”

基督徒对人生目的的困惑的表征

Signs of Confused Christian

- “闲站”的基督徒 (those who are standing idle)
 - “约在巳初出去，看见市上还有闲站的人，就对他们说：‘你们也进葡萄园去，所当给的，我必给你们。’他们也进去了。约在午正和申初又出去，也是这样行。约在酉初出去，看见还有人站在那里，就问他们说：‘你们为什么整天在这里闲站呢？’” (Matt. 20:3-6)

“And he went out about the third hour and saw others **standing idle** in the market place; and to those he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ And so they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘**Why have you been standing here idle all day long?**’”

基督徒对人生意义困惑的表征

Signs of Confused Christian

- 受苦难灰心而退后的基督徒 (those who are back away in sufferings)
 - “你们要追念往日蒙了光照以后，所忍受大争战的各样苦难。一面被毁谤，遭患难，成了戏景叫众人观看；一面陪伴那些受这样苦难的人。因为你们体恤了那些被捆锁的人，并且你们的家业被人抢去，也甘心忍受，知道自己有更美、长存的家业。所以，你们不可丢弃勇敢的心，存这样的心必得大赏赐。”（希伯来书/Hebrews 10:32-35）

“But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one. Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.”

看哪，在这里有一人比所罗门更大 Behold, A Greater Than Solomon is Here

- “当审判的时候，南方的女王要起来定这世代的罪，因为她从地极而来，要听所罗门的智慧话。看哪，在这里有一人比所罗门更大！”
(马太 12:42)

“The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.”