

今世如戏(2) THIS LIFE IS A THEATER

主要经文 The Primary Verses

哥林多前书/ I Corinthians 4:9-13

"人生"信息三部曲 A Trilogy of the Message of Life

- 呼召-我们存在的目的 (1/8, 1/15, 1/22) Calling-The reason of our being
- 把握今世,预备永世 (5/7) Seize this life and prepare for eternity
- 今世如戏 This life is a Theater

今世如戏

This life is a Theater

• 我们都参与这个劇力萬鈞的戏

This theater is filled with plots, in which we are partakers of an unfolding drama.

•我想神把我们使徒明明列在末后,好像定死罪的囚犯;因为我们成了一台戏,给世人和天使观看。(林前/I Cor. 4:9)

"For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men."

这戏的特点 The Characteristics of the Drama

• 男主角大半时间不出场
The leading actor is absent most of the time.

• 结局众所皆知, 剧情天天揭晓
The ending is known, yet the script is revealed daily.

• 剧本为着造就演员
The plots are for the actors, not the other way around.

The Characteristics of the Drama

• 男主角大半时间不出场

The leading actor is absent most of the time

- 之前(before): 自我中心
 - 蚂蟥有两个女儿,常说:"给呀!给呀!"有三样不知足的, 连不说够的共有四样,就是阴间和石胎,浸水不足的地,并 火。(箴言/Proverbs 30:15-16)

The leech has two daughters, "Give," "Give." There are three things that will not be satisfied, four that will not say, "Enough": Sheol, and the barren womb, earth that is never satisfied with water, and fire that never says, "Enough."

The Characteristics of the Drama

• 男主角大半时间不出场

The leading actor is absent most of the time

- 之后 (after): 主为中心
 - 娶新妇的就是新郎,新郎的朋友站着,听见新郎的声音就甚喜乐。故此,我这喜乐满足了。他必兴旺,我必衰微。(约翰/John 3:29-30)

He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full. He must increase, but I must decrease."

The Characteristics of the Drama

•结局众所皆知,剧情天天揭晓

The ending is known, yet the script is revealed daily

- 之前 (before): 紧抓
 - •他在腹中抓住哥哥的脚跟,壮年的时候与神较力。与天使较力,并且得胜。(何西阿/Hosea 12:3-4a)

In the womb he took his brother by the heel, and in his maturity he contended with God. Yes, he wrestled with the angel and prevailed;

The Characteristics of the Drama

•结局众所皆知,剧情天天揭晓

The ending is known, yet the script is revealed daily

- 之后 (after): 交托
 - 约书亚靠近耶利哥的时候,举目观看,不料,有一个人手里有拔出来的刀,对面站立。约书亚到他那里,问他说: "你是帮助我们呢,是帮助我们敌人呢?" 他回答说: "不是的,我来是要做耶和华军队的元帅。"约书亚就俯伏在地下拜,说: "我主有什么话吩咐仆人?" (约书亚/Josh. 5:13-14)

Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?" He said, "No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?"

The Characteristics of the Drama

• 剧本为着造就演员

The plots are for the actors, not the other way around.

原来那为万物所属、为万物所本的,要领许多的儿子进荣耀里去,使救他们的元帅因受苦难得以完全,本是合宜的。(希伯来/Heb. 2:10)

• For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

常见的剧情

Common Elements of the plot

- 苦难 (affliction)
 - 我受苦是与我有益,为要使我学习你的律例。(诗篇/Psalms 119:71)

It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes.

• 我未受苦以先走迷了路,现在却遵守你的话。(诗篇/Psalms 119:67)

Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.

常见的剧情

Common Elements of the plot

- 困境 (predicament)
 - •我们有这宝贝放在瓦器里,要显明这莫大的能力是出于神,不是出于我们。 我们四面受敌,却不被困住;心里作难,却不致失望; (林后/II Cor. 4:7-8)

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

常见的剧情

Common Elements of the plot

- 试炼 (trial)
 - •我的弟兄们,你们落在百般试炼中,都要以为大喜乐,因为知道,你们的信心经过试验就生忍耐。 但忍耐也当成功,使你们成全、完备,毫无缺欠。(雅各/James 1:2-4)

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

为父的心 The Heart of the Father

• 剧本为着造就演员

The plots are for the actors, not the other way around.

因为他预先所知道的人,就预先定下效法他儿子的模样,使他儿子在许多弟兄中做长子。(罗马书/Roamns 8:29)

For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren.

为父的心 The Heart of the Father

• 剧本为着造就演员

The plots are for the actors, not the other way around.

耶和华说: 我知道我向你们所怀的意念是赐平安的意念, 不是降灾祸的意念, 要叫你们末后有指望。(耶利米/Jeremiah 29:11)

For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

为父的心

The Heart of the Father

• 剧本为着造就演员

The plots are for the actors, not the other way around.

我们这至暂至轻的苦楚,要为我们成就极重无比、永远的荣耀。 原来我们不是顾念所见的, 乃是顾念所不见的, 因为所见的是暂 时的, 所不见的是永远的。(林后 4:17-18)

For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

今世如戏 This life is a Theater

- 有的不明白自己的角色(林前/I Cor. 6:2-3)
 Some do not understand their roles
 - •被思虑、钱财、私欲缠住 (Mark 4:19) Snared by worries, riches and desires
 - 吃喝混日子 (林前 15:32) Going with the flow daily
- 但有的愿意忍受这至暂至轻的苦楚 (林后 4:17)
 Some endure the momentary light affliction for the eternal glory
 - =》被召的多,选上的少 (马太 22:14) Many are called, few are chosen

今世如戏 This life is a Theater

• 你当如何称职?

How would you act out of this drama?