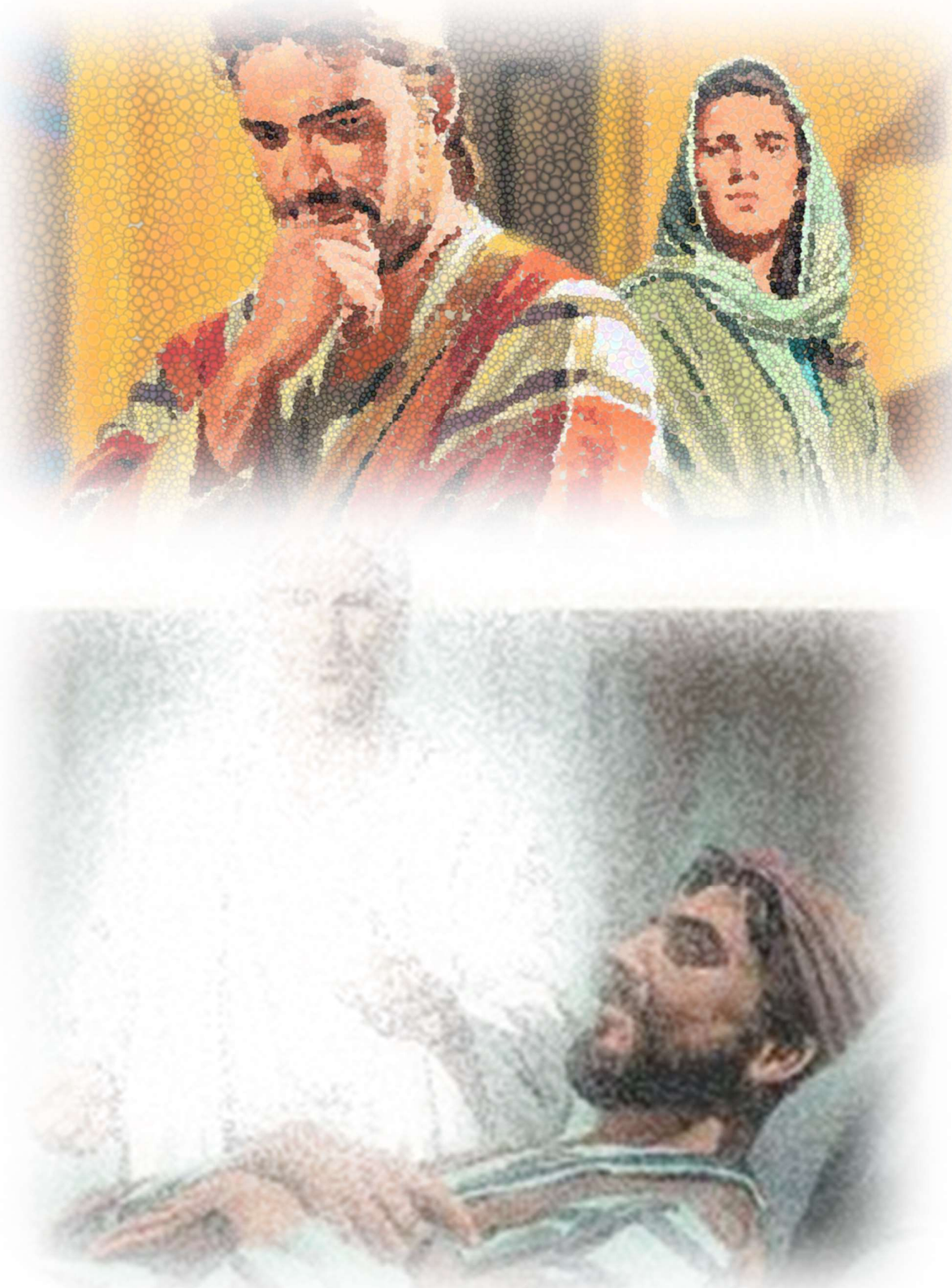


剑桥华人基督教会

Cambridge Chinese Christian Church

月刊 **Monthly Bulletin**

12/2018



在圣诞节主耶稣诞生的事件当中，约瑟是一个常常被忽略却其实很重要的人物，原因是他在主耶稣出生前后作出了几个关键的抉择。

约瑟第一个关键的抉择是如何处理马利亚的未婚怀孕。当时，从人的任何角度看，约瑟都是一个「被伤害」的人，因此他是绝对可以对「伤害」他的人——马利亚进行报复的，但约瑟却「不愿意明明地羞辱她，想要暗暗地把她休了」（马太福音 1:19）。事实是当时约瑟「明明地羞辱」马利亚倒是一件比较容易及根据律法规定是应当做的事，反而「暗暗地把她休了」却是一件比较困难及可能会落人话柄的事。但是，约瑟的过人之处就在于他有这种以德报怨的想法，就是正如后来主耶稣所说的「要爱你们的仇敌，为那逼迫你们的祷告」（马太福音 5:44），甚至自己受到亏损也在所不惜。所以，当主的使者向约瑟讲明一切的时候，他便毫不犹豫地按吩咐把马利亚娶了过来，只是在孩子还没有生下来前，没有和她同房。

有没有想过约瑟既然已经把马利亚娶了过来，为什么不和她同房呢？有人认为这是约瑟主动配合上帝的救恩计划，因为先知的预言是「必有童女怀孕生子」，假如他们在主耶稣出生时已经同房了，「生子」的便不再是「童女」了。无论这是否约瑟当时的想法，但这点倒值得我们思考。事实上，很多时候上帝的计划都是透过祂所感动的人配合去成就的，例如我们如何可以在教会中心仍未卖出之前，已经有足够能力购买教堂及开始目前的装修？岂不也是有人被上帝的灵感感动后，主动作出金钱奉献或借出贷款？

约瑟第二个关键的抉择是要不要一家人离乡别井，跑到老远的陌生地方去。当时，有主的使者吩咐约瑟要一家人逃难到埃及，因为希律要除灭婴孩耶稣，而我们看到约瑟仍是非常顺服，即晚就出发了。也许当时约瑟不一定明白上帝为什么要他们前往埃及——除了应验先知的预言（参马太福音 2:15）外，还有其他原因吗？今天，历史学家告诉我们：埃及当时是由罗马皇帝直接管辖的地方，所以希律

是不可能到那里寻找甚至伤害约瑟一家的，因此埃及当时可以说是一个最安全的地方。

有时候上帝的安排是我们未必可以马上理解的，就好像旧约中的另一个约瑟(雅各的儿子)被兄长们出卖，之后上帝同样「安排」他去到埃及，后来他竟然成了宰相，还要再次遇上前来余粮的兄长们。这时候约瑟才明白过来，便跟兄长们说：「…这是上帝差我在你们以先来，为要保全生命。…上帝差我在你们以先来，为要给你们存留余种在世上，又要大施拯救，保全你们的生命。这样看来，差我到这里来的不是你们，乃是上帝。」(创世记 45:4-8)

相比于这两个约瑟，我们又如何？我们又能相信自己今天来到英国剑桥这地方(或是世界上的任何角落)也是有上帝的美意在其中吗？

约瑟最后一个关键的抉择是应否回归故里。本来在希律死后，主的使者吩咐约瑟带着家人回归以色列地，但当时约瑟因为听见比希律更残暴的亚基老作了犹太王，于是心中害怕。不过，上帝能体恤人的软弱，便指示约瑟改往加利利境内去。最后，他们到了拿撒勒，就住在那里，不单应验了先知的预言(参马太福音 2:19-23)，更因为拿撒勒是一个没有人看得上眼的地方(参约翰福音 1:43-51)，所以主耶稣可以在那里安全地、不出事故地生活了差不多 30 年，直到他出来传道的时候。

也许我们今天都是比约瑟软弱许多的人，但上帝同样都能体恤我们的软弱，同样也可以使用我们去完成祂的计划。正如使徒保罗在哥林多后书 12:9 所说的「祂对我说：『我的恩典够你用的，因为我的能力是在人的软弱上显得完全。』所以，我更喜欢夸自己的软弱，好叫基督的能力覆庇我。」事实上，上帝所要求的，只是我们有好像约瑟一样的顺从，其他的一切，祂都可以搞定。

求主帮助我们，让我们在这个圣诞节都能从约瑟如何抉择中学到功课。阿门。

In the event of the birth of the Lord Jesus in Christmas, Joseph was an often overlooked but actually very important character, all because he had made several critical decisions before and after the birth of the Lord Jesus.

Joseph's first critical decision was on how he deals with Mary's unmarried pregnancy. At that time, from any point of human views, Joseph was someone who "got hurt", so he could definitely retaliate against the one who "hurt" him, but Joseph "*yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.*" (Matthew 1:19) The fact is that at the time, "*to expose her to public disgrace*" was a relatively easy and also the right thing to do according to the law, but on the contrary "*to divorce her quietly*" was relatively more difficult and something that might bring gossips from others. But what Joseph outshined others was that he had this thinking of returning good for evil, that is, as the Lord Jesus said later, to insist to "*love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you*" (Matthew 5:44) even if you may suffer losses. Therefore, when the angel of the Lord explained everything to Joseph, he did not hesitate to immediately take Mary home as wife, but he did not have sex with her.

Have you ever thought that Joseph had already taken Mary home as wife, why didn't he have sex with her? Some people think that this was Joseph's initiative to cooperate with God's salvation plan, because the prophet's prophecy was "*the virgin will conceive and give birth to a son*", so if they have sex before the Lord Jesus was born, the one who "*conceive and give birth to a son*" will no longer be a "*virgin*". Whether or not this was Joseph's idea at the time, it's worth thinking about. In fact, very often God's plans are accomplished through the cooperation of the people He touches. For example, how can we be capable to buy a church building and to start the current renovation even before the church centre is sold? Isn't it that peoples are being touched by God to take the initiative to give money offerings or to provide the loans?

Joseph's second critical decision was whether the family should leave the homeland and go to a strange place far away. At that time, the angel of the Lord commanded Joseph to flee to Egypt with the family, because Herod wanted to destroy baby Jesus, and we saw that Joseph was still so obedient that he set off immediately that night. May be Joseph didn't necessarily understand why God asked them to go to Egypt – is there any other reason besides fulfilling the prophet's prophecy (refers to Matthew 2:15)? Today, historians tell us that Egypt was directly under the jurisdiction of the Roman emperor, so it was impossible for Herod to find or even harm the family of Joseph, and therefore Egypt could be said as the safest place for them.

Sometimes God's arrangement is not something we can understand right away, just as another Joseph in the Old Testament (the son of Jacob) who was being sold by his elder brothers, God also 'arranged' him to go to Egypt where he later became ruler over Egypt and he also had the chance to meet his brothers who came to buy food. At that time,

Joseph finally understood and he said to his brothers, "because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you... But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God." (Genesis 45:4-8)

What about us compared to these two Josephs? Can we believe that there are God's good intentions for us to be here in Cambridge, England (or anywhere in the world)?

Joseph's last critical decision was whether they should return to his hometown. Originally after Herod's death, the angel of the Lord commanded Joseph to return to the land of Israel with his family, but at that time Joseph was afraid as he heard that Archelaus who was even more cruel than Herod had become the Jewish King. However, God is sympathetic to the weakness of man, and He instructed Joseph to change to the territory of Galilee. Finally, when they arrived in Nazareth, they stayed to live there, not only was this fulfilled the prophecy of the prophet (refers to Matthew 2:19-23), but also because Nazareth was a place where no one cared (refers to John 1:43-51), the Lord Jesus can then live there safely and without any incident for almost 30 years until He came out to preach.

May be today we are all weaker than Joseph, but God is also sympathetic to our weakness, and He can also use us to complete His plan. As the apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 12:9, "But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." In fact, what God requires is that we have the same obedience as Joseph, and He can then handle everything else.

May our Lord help us, and let us learn some lessons in this Christmas from how Joseph made his decisions. Amen.



Brothers and sisters are welcomed to contribute personal testimonies, stories, or articles to this monthly bulletin. Comments and suggestions regarding the contents of this bulletin are also welcomed. Please communicate directly to Pastor Stanley Wong in person or write an email to stanley.wong@cccc.org.uk.

本月刊欢迎弟兄姊妹们投稿，内容可以是个人见证、故事或文章等。另外，也欢迎对本月刊的内容提出意见和建议。请直接与黄日强传道沟通或电邮至 stanley.wong@cccc.org.uk。

中文崇拜 Chinese Service

日期	主席	讲员	讲题 (经文)	翻译
2/12	黄传道	黄日强传道 (普)	圣灵果子(七)：信实 (加拉太书 5:22-23、希伯来书 11:1-6)	--
		黄虹青牧师 (广)	你预备好了没有? (路加福音 3:1-6)	--
9/12	张国梁	黄日强传道 (普)	义人的抉择 (马太福音 1:18-25)	黄牧师
16/12	杜志俊	韦焜墀牧师 (普)	圣诞老人 (路加福音 2:21-39)	曾长老
23/12	Joseph	柯哲辉牧师 (普)	主顾念卑微的人 (路加福音 2:1-14)	曾长老
30/12	黄传道	柯哲辉牧师 (普)	扩张你的帐幕 (以赛亚书 54:1-3)	--
	Winnie	黄虹青牧师 (广)	忘记背后，努力面前 (腓立比书 3:12-14)	--

日期	敬拜赞美		回应诗		音响	招待/司事	读经
	领唱	司琴	领唱	司琴			
2/12	Wendy	邓婉珊	黄传道	邓婉珊	Kevin、Paul、Daniel	任真、Emily	Emily
			黄牧师	Samantha		Danny、李佩华	李佩华
9/12	Amy	以琳	黄传道	以琳	Paul、Kevin、国梁	梦良、杨帆、Daniel、Viana	杨帆
16/12	玉词	Natalie	韦牧师	Natalie	Daniel、Peter、Paul	Peter、Paul、Daniel、Candis	Paul
23/12	Joseph	Melody	Joseph	Melody	Peter、黄展、Andy	李力、黄展、Andy、Venus	黄展
30/12	黄传道	Samantha	柯牧师	Samantha	Peter、Paul、孟言	柯太、亚萍	亚萍
	Winnie	Vivian	黄牧师	Vivian		Walfred、Polly	Polly

英文崇拜 English Service

Date	Speaker	Worship Leader	Service Leader	Musicians
2/12	Julian Williams	Holy Communion Combined Service		
	Sermon Title & Passage: <i>A Tale of Two Fields (Acts 15:36-41)</i>			
9/12	Pastor Daniel Eng	Angela Huang	Joseph Ng	Samantha Wong (Keys)
	Sermon Title & Passage: <i>Opportunity Not (Acts 16:1-10)</i>			
16/12	William Zong	Angela Huang	Joseph Ng	Samantha Wong (Keys)
	Sermon Title & Passage: <i>The light of hope (Isaiah 9:2-6)</i>			
23/12	Rev. Simon Quah	Wendy Zong	Joseph Ng	Angela Huang (Keys)
	Sermon Title & Passage: <i>The Lord cares for people of low position (Luke 2:1-14)</i>			
30/12	Joseph Ng	Mary Lau	Joseph Ng	Melody Wong (Keys)
	Sermon Title & Passage: <i>TBC (Acts 16:11-40)</i>			

圣餐 Holy Communion

日期 Date	主礼人 Minister	理事 Council Members
2/12	黄虹青牧师 Rev Helen Wong	Joseph、功奇、国梁、Mary

茶点 Refreshment

日期 Date	负责人 Responsible Persons
2/12	陈念柔
9/12	陈念柔、Iris
16/12	吴东方、柯太
23/12	茶水 Drink：杨帆 / 聚餐 Meal：夏梦良、杜志俊
30/12	OIC 团契



Sunday-school Rota December 2018



Date	Worship	Class Joy		Class Love		Class Hope	Class Faith	Remarks
		Teacher	TA	Teacher	TA	Teacher	Teacher	
2-Dec	---	Jane	Xiangjun	Yvonne	Viana	Carmen	---	
9-Dec	Carmen	Jane	Yaping	Danny	Dingming	Mary	Carmen	
16-Dec	---	Amy	Emily	Aimee	Wenting	Mary	---	Class Love n Faith join EM worship, then usual class lesson
23-Dec	---	Julia	Hongmei	Carmen	Iris	Winnie	---	All classes join MainHall worship. Class Love n Faith (tbc) make Christmas craft (with message) at St Columba's Hall
30-Dec	Mary	Xiangjun	Helen Cheng	Yvonne	Daniel	Mary	Mary	Usual Sunday School worship and class lesson

彼得堡华人教会 Peterborough Chinese Christian Church

日期	讲题/内容	讲员/负责人	儿童活动	备注
4/12 (二)	圣餐 + 事奉训练：敬拜及查经带领 (二)	黄牧师 + 黄传道	Samantha + Kevin	团契
9/12 (日)	信息分享	苟玉词弟兄	May	崇拜
11/12 (二)	事奉训练：敬拜及查经带领 (三)	黄牧师 + 黄传道	Samantha + Kevin	团契
18/12 (二)	信息分享	柯哲辉牧师	Samantha	团契
23/12 (日)	往剑桥参加圣诞崇拜	柯哲辉牧师	--	崇拜
25/12 (二)	暂停一次	--	--	团契

2018 教会财政简报 CCCC Financial Briefing

£	收入 Income (包括)		支出 Expenditure
	奉献 Offering	Gift Aid/ Other Income	
一月 Jan	3,121.93		5,055.09
二月 Feb	4,647.15	5,076.70	4,712.88
三月 Mar	3,598.70		11,104.97
四月 Apr	4,350.65		6,891.51
五月 May	3,329.12		6,465.21
六月 Jun	3,960.00		5,400.03
七月 Jul	4,050.65		7,256.50
八月 Aug	2,845.05		9,466.15
九月 Sep	4,926.41		10,098.42
十月 Oct	3,420.50		10,231.81
十一月 Nov	5,873.50		7,608.13
总和 Total	44,123.66	5,076.70	84,290.70
	结余/不敷 Balance/Inadequate		-35,090.34

Remarks 备注: 如对数目有疑问, 欢迎向会计查询。 *If you have questions about these figures, please contact the Treasurer.*

万军之耶和華說：「你們要將當納的十分之一全然送入倉庫，使我家有糧，以此試試我，是否為你們敞開天上的窗戶，傾福與你們，甚至無處可容。」(瑪拉基書 3:10) “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” (Malachi 3:10)

购堂筹款情况 Fundraising for Church Building Purchase (截至 as of 21/12/2018)

教会购买教堂计划的最新财政情况如下 The latest financial situation for the purchase of church building :

已收认献 Pledge offering received	£ 325,261.00
已收免息贷款 Interest-free loans received	£ 277,000.00
已收总额 Total received	£ 602,261.00
减去Minus：购堂费用 Church Building Purchase cost	- £ 510,800.00
减去Minus：其他费用 Other costs	- £ 19,102.13
尚余 Remaining amount	£ 72,358.87
*装修/其他费用 Renovation/Other costs (预算Budget)	£ 289,200
*欠债Debts (2/2019 开始归还 Repayment started)	£ 277,000

注Remarks：教会目前所有银行存款总数 Total Savings of all bank accounts £ 136,025

分期付款 installments £ 16,925.06 (按月收取 monthly payments)

筹款仍在进行，请大家尽力奉献及祈祷纪念 The fundraising is still carry on, please do your best for offering and continue to pray.

如何聯絡我們 How to contact us

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