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2019.02.24 (Sunday) Devotion Title: [Prepare Your Heart for God's Word]

Let's say you're a gardener. You've learned that you can take the exact same seed and plant it in three different locations and get three different results. In one spot, you'll get giant tomatoes. In another, you'll get small tomatoes. And in a third, you'll get nothing. What's the difference? It's not the seed; it's the soil. The soil must be prepared for the seed.

The same is true when you hear God's Word. Your heart has to be prepared for the Word. If you get up late, have trouble finding a parking spot, and are irritated as you rush into church, you're probably not going to hear God's voice! You're not in a receptive mood.

That's why you can take two people to church, set them side-by-side, and one will walk out thinking God really spoke to him and the other won't get anything out of the service. The heart of one person was prepared; the other's heart wasn't.

The Bible says, "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you" (James 1:19b-21 NIV).

For good reception, this passage teaches you have to have four attitudes:

- You must be quiet. You can't hear God if you're talking.
- You have to be calm. You can't rush God. If you're frantic, you're not going to hear God. The Bible says, "Be still and know that I am God." My translation of that is: "Sit down and shut up."
- You have to be clean. Before you can meet with God, you need to take out some emotional and spiritual garbage. You need to get rid of the stuff that stinks in your life. You get rid of the garbage

by confessing your sin to God and agreeing with him that what you did was wrong.

• You need to be humble. Be ready to do whatever God tells you from his Word. A prideful attitude won't work.

- Why are silence and active listening such difficult things to practice? What can you do to minimize your distractions so that you are able to listen well?
- What emotional or spiritual garbage is keeping you from hearing God's voice today?
- What new habits can you adopt to help prepare your family to hear from God during church, family or individual devotions, or at any time?

2019.02.24 (週日) 靈修 題目: [為上帝的話語準備你的心]

假設你是園丁。你已經了解到,你可以將完全相同的種子種植在 三個不同的地方,獲得三種不同的結果。在一個地方,你會得到 碩大的西紅柿。在另一個,你會得到小西紅柿。而在第三個地方, 你什麼也得不到。差別在哪裡?這不是種子的問題;這是土壤的 問題。土壤必須為種子作好準備。

當你聽到神的話語時,也是如此。你的心必須為聖言作好準備。 如果你起得很晚,很難找到一個停車位,當你匆匆忙忙衝進教堂 時會感到煩躁,你可能不會聽到上帝的聲音!你沒有一個容易接 受的心情。

這就是為什麼你可以帶兩個人去教堂,並排而坐,一個人走出去 會認為上帝真的和他說了話,另一個人卻不會從崇拜中得到任何 收穫。一個人的心準備好了;另一個則不然。

聖經說: "你們各人要快快地聽,慢慢地說,慢慢地動怒,因為 人的怒氣並不成就神的義。所以,你們要脫去一切的汙穢和盈餘 的邪惡,存溫柔的心領受那所栽種的道,就是能救你們靈魂的 道。"(雅各書 1:19 下-21)

這段經文教導我們,要有受教的心,必須有四種態度:

- 你必須保持安靜。如果你在說話,你就聽不到上帝說話。
- 你的心要平穩。你不能催促上帝。如果你心裡不平穩,你 就不會聽到上帝的聲音。聖經說: "你們要休息,要知道 我是神!"我的翻譯是: "坐下,閉嘴。"
- 你要保持潔淨。在你與神相遇之前,你需要消除一些情感
 和靈裡的垃圾。你需要擺脫生命中散發腐臭的事物。你向

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神認自己的罪,並在你所做的錯事上認同神,這樣就清除 了垃圾。

 你要謙卑。上帝從祂的話語中告訴你的任何事情,你都要 準備好,去行出來。心存驕傲是行不通的。

生命反思

- 默然不語和積極傾聽,為什麼行出來如此困難?你能做些什麼 來減少分心,讓你能夠更好地傾聽?
- 今天有什麼情緒或靈性上的垃圾讓你聽不到上帝的聲音?
- 你可以養成哪些新習慣來幫助你的家人在教會、家庭或個人的 靈修期間,甚至在任何時間聽到上帝對你們說話?

2019.02.25 (Monday) Devotion Title: [Why Should You Memorize Scripture?]

If you're serious about being spiritually strong and mature, the greatest habit you can develop is memorizing Scripture. In fact, the Bible says in James 1:25 that it's one of four habits that leads to a blessed life: "Whoever looks intently into the perfect law . . . and continues in it — not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it — they will be blessed in what they do" (James 1:25 NIV).

- Read your Bible: "Whoever looks intently ..."
- Review the Bible: "...continues in it ..."
- Remember the Bible: "...not forgetting what they have heard ..."
- Respond to the Bible: "... but doing it ..."

You don't want to be a spiritual baby anymore. It's time to grow up and live the blessed life you're meant to live. Hiding God's Word in your heart is an important way to start.

You may not think you have a good memory, but you remember what's important to you. You remember the phone numbers and dates that you care about. I've heard people say they can't memorize anything, but they can quote songs from the 1960s and rattle off the statistics of their favorite baseball players.

Memory is a skill you can learn. It's a muscle you can strengthen. In fact, memorizing Scripture will cause your brain to have a stronger memory in other areas. I guarantee it. Study after study has shown this.

Why is it important to memorize Scripture?

• You'll always have God's Word with you. When you're tempted, you don't have a Bible open or by your side. When you're witnessing to someone who doesn't know Jesus, is under stress, needs comfort, or is in a crisis, there's usually not a Bible around. You need God's Word in your mind so you can remember it and review it right when you need it.

• You can meditate on Scripture wherever you go. You can't review God's Word unless you remember it. If you've memorized Scripture, you can think about it when you get into bed at night or as you drive to an appointment. You can think about the Bible because you've memorized it. That's called meditation. The only promise of prosperity and success that God gives us in the Bible says that meditating on his Word is the key (Joshua 1:8).

Start memorizing Scripture today. Pick a verse a week. In a year, you'll have memorized 52 verses. In two years, you'll have memorized more than 100 verses.

- What changes do you need to make so that you are regularly reading and studying the Bible?
- You already know the ways you learn and memorize best. What tools, tactics, or people can help you memorize Scripture?
- How do you respond when God brings Scripture to mind in certain situations? How should you respond?

2019.02.25 (週一) 靈修 題目: 「你為何應當背誦聖經?1

"我急忙遵守你的命令,並不遲延。"(詩篇 119:60)

你如果真想在屬靈上變得剛強成熟,就當養成一個最棒的習慣, 那就是背誦聖經。事實上,雅各書 1:25 說,這是蒙福人生的四 種習慣之一: "唯有詳細察看那全備、使人自由之律法的,並且 時常如此,這人既不是聽了就忘,乃是實在行出來,就在他所行 的事上必然得福。"(雅各書 1:25)

- · 閱讀聖經: "…詳細察看…"
- •回顧聖經: "…時常如此…"
- ·記住聖經: "…不是聽了就忘…"
- ·回應聖經: "…實在行出來…"

不要再作屬靈的嬰孩。趕快長大,承受當得的祝福。將神的話藏 在你心裡,就是邁出很重要的一步。

你可能認為自己沒有好記性,但是對你來說重要的事情你還是可以記得住。你還記得自己最在意的電話號碼和日期。我聽到有人講他們不能記住任何東西,但是他們可以引用 20 世紀 60 年代的歌曲並且滔滔不絕地說出自己最喜歡的棒球運動員的各項數據。

記憶是你可以習得的技能。這就像運動員的肌肉一樣,你可以鍛 鍊強化。事實上,背誦聖經會使你的大腦在其它方面有更強的記 憶力。種種研究都表明了這一點。

為什麼背誦聖經很重要?

 你將一直有神話語的同在。當你受到誘惑時,你沒有聖經打開 在眼前,也不會有聖經帶在身上。當你想給一個不認識主、壓力 重重、需要安慰、深陷危機的人作見證時,通常不會有聖經擺在 旁邊。你需要有神的話語存在心裡,這樣你才能在你需要的時候 想起這些話、回顧這些話。

• 無論你走到哪裡,你都可以默想聖經。除非你記得,否則你無法復習神的話語。如果你已經記住了經文,你可以在晚上睡覺或開車去約會時思考。你可以思考聖經,因為你已經記住了。這就是所謂的默想或反復思想。上帝在聖經中給我們的唯一承諾是,要晝夜思想祂的話,祂就賜給我們亨通和順利(約書亞記 1:8)。立即開始記聖經。每週挑一節經文。在一年中,你將記住 52 節經文。在兩年內,你將記住超過 100 節經文。

生命反思

- 你需要作出哪些改變才能定期閱讀和學習聖經?
- 你自己已經有一些學習和記憶的好方法。甚麼工具、策略或者 甚麼人可以幫助你記住經上的話呢?
- 當神在某些情況下讓你回想起某節經文時,你如何回應?你應 該怎麼回應?

2019.02.26 (Tuesday) Devotion Title: [Science Points Us Back to God]

"Praise him, you highest heaven and the water above the sky. Let them praise the name of the Lord because they were created by his command. He set them in their places forever and ever. He made it a law that no one can break" (Psalm 148:4-6 GW).

Someone may have told you at one time that the Bible isn't scientifically accurate. That person is wrong. He or she has either never studied the Bible or never studied science.

God set up the laws of science; he made sure that his Word doesn't contradict those laws.

Johannes Kepler, the famous mathematician and astronomer, once said, "Science is simply thinking God's thoughts after him." In other words, God established the laws of physics, and then we discover them.

The Bible wasn't meant to be a scientific textbook. You don't study the Bible to build a rocket. And the Bible doesn't use scientific language. But the Bible never gives bad science! Not once during the 1,600 years in which the Bible was written does it give bad science. In fact, it's always ahead of science.

For example:

• For thousands of years, people believed that the earth was flat. But God said 2,600 years ago in Isaiah 40:22 that God is enthroned above the sphere of the earth.

• For thousands of years, people believed something held the earth up. Hindus believed huge elephants did it. The Greeks believed Atlas did it. The Egyptians believed five columns held the earth up. The Bible never says that anything is holding the planet up.

• For thousands of years, people believed that the number of stars were finite. But Jeremiah 33:22 says the number of stars can't be counted.

In 1861 a very famous book came out called "Fifty-one Incontrovertible Proofs that the Bible is Scientifically Inaccurate." Today, you can't find a single scientist on the planet who would agree with any one of those "incontrovertible facts." They've all been disproved by science.

The Bible says, "Praise him, you highest heaven and the water above the sky. Let them praise the name of the Lord because they were created by his command. He set them in their places forever and ever. He made it a law that no one can break" (Psalm 146:4-6 GW).

You can't say that the second law of thermodynamics works today but not tomorrow. It always works because it is true and made by God.

- What truths from the Bible confirm what you see all around you in nature? Take time to search for those truths today.
- How do you respond when someone says the Bible is scientifically inaccurate? How do you think God wants you to respond?
- Why do you think it's important to be able to argue that the Bible is scientifically accurate?

2019.02.26 (週二) 靈修 題目: [科學指引我們回到上帝]

"天上的天和天上的水,你們都要讚美他!願這些都讚美耶和華 的名,因他一吩咐便都造成。他將這些立定,直到永永遠遠;他 定了命,不能廢去。"(詩篇 148:4-6)

可能有人曾經告訴你說,聖經在科學上並不准確。這個人錯了。 他要麼從未查考過聖經,要麼從未學過科學。

上帝設立了科學定律; 祂確保祂的話語與那些定律並不矛盾。 著 名數學家和天文學家約翰內斯·開普勒曾經說過: "科學只不過是 在順著上帝的想法去想。"換句話說,上帝設定了物理定律,然 後我們發現這些定律。

聖經並不是一本科學教科書。你不會藉著查考聖經來製造火箭。 聖經不使用科學語言。但聖經從來沒有被科學證偽過!聖經在其 撰寫成書的 1600 年中,從未作出不科學的論斷。事實上,聖經 始終超前於科學的認識。

例如:

- 數千年來,人們相信地球是平坦的。但是上帝在以賽亞書
 40:22 中說,"神坐在地球大圈之上"。
- 數千年來,人們相信有些東西負載著這個世界。印度教徒相信 巨大的大象馱著大地。希臘人認為是阿特拉斯。埃及人相信五根 柱子撐起了地球。聖經從未說過任何東西把地球支撐起來的話。
 數千年來,人們認為恆星的數量是有限的。但是耶利米書 33:22 說, "天上的萬象不能數算"。

1861 年出版了一本非常著名的書,名為"聖經在科學上不準確 之五十一個不可辯駁的證據"。今天,在世界上你找不到一個科 學家同意這些"無可辯駁的證據",其中任何一個都已被科學證 明是錯的。

聖經說: "天上的天和天上的水,你們都要讚美他!願這些都讚 美耶和華的名,因他一吩咐便都造成。他將這些立定,直到永永 遠遠;他定了命,不能廢去。"(詩篇 146:4-6)

你不能說熱力學第二定律今天有效但明天無效。它始終有效,因為它是真實的,是由上帝創造的。

生命反思

- 聖經中的哪些真理證實了你在大自然中所看到的一切?現在就 花點時間查找這些真理。
- 當有人說聖經在科學上不準確時,你如何回應?你覺得上帝希 望你如何回應?
- 為什麼你認為能夠論證聖經在科學上的準確性是很重要的事?

2019.02.27 (Wednesday) Devotion Title: [More Than 300 Biblical Prophecies Point to Jesus]

"No prophecy ever originated from humans. Instead, it was given by the Holy Spirit as humans spoke under God's direction" (2 Peter 1:21 GW).

The Bible is the most read book in history. It's also the bestselling book in history and the most translated book in history.

Yet it's more than that. It's also God's Word — God's very breath. Second Timothy 3:16 says, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (NIV).

That means the Bible isn't just a good idea. It is God's Word to us. One of the reasons I can know that the Bible is true and trustworthy is that it has thousands and thousands of prophecies that have come true and will come true in history. Every one of the Bible's prophecies has either come true exactly as God predicted or will come true sometime in the future.

The Bible contains more than 300 prophecies about Jesus alone — all written a thousand years before he was born. The Bible prophesied about when he'd be born, where he'd be born, and how he'd be born. He couldn't have manipulated his birth to fulfill those prophecies.

It also predicted how he would die. A thousand years before Jesus died, David described Jesus' death on the cross in one of the psalms. He didn't use the word "crucifixion" because no one knew that word then. Long before the Romans were even thinking about crucifying people, David described it.

Only God could have known that.

What are the odds that I could make 300 predictions about you and every one of them would come true? It's so astronomical you couldn't write the number down. It takes more faith to believe that the Bible's prophecies were a coincidence than to believe that God planned them.

The Bible says, "No prophecy ever originated from humans. Instead, it was given by the Holy Spirit as humans spoke under God's direction" (2 Peter 1:21 GW).

During Bible times, nobody wanted to be a prophet. The law in Israel was that a prophet of God had to be correct 100 percent of the time. If you were wrong just once, then you were considered a false prophet and would have been put to death. A prophet better be right!

And the biblical prophecies were right — every one of them. You can trust the Bible because what the Bible predicts comes true.

- Biblical prophecies may seem irrelevant or unimportant in your life. Why do you think God wants you to study, understand, and care about them?
- Do you trust that the Bible is true? How does doubt keep you from hearing what God wants to say to you?
- How is the Bible useful in your life? Do you only use it for encouragement, or is it also a tool for rebuking, correcting, and training in your life?

2019.02.27 (週三) 靈修

題目: [聖經超過 300 個預言指向耶穌]

"因為預言從來沒有出於人意的,乃是人被聖靈感動,說出神的 話來。"(彼得後書 1:21)

聖經是歷史上讀者最多的書,是歷史上最暢銷的書,也是有史以 來翻譯為最多種語言的書。

但不止於此,聖經也是上帝的話語——就是上帝的呼出。提摩太後書 3:16 說: "聖經都是神所默示的,於教訓、督責、使人歸 正、教導人學義都是有益的。"

這意味著聖經不是人的某種好想法而已。這是上帝對我們說的話。 我知道聖經是真實可信的,原因之一就是它有成千上萬的預言在 歷史中已經實現並將繼續實現。聖經的每一個預言,要么像上帝 所說的那樣已經成就,要么會在未來的某個時候實現。

聖經中有超過 300 個關於耶穌的預言——都是在祂出生前一千年 寫的。聖經預言祂何時出生,祂將在哪裡出生,以及祂將如何出 生。祂不可能操縱祂的出生來實現那些預言。

聖經還預測了祂將如何受死。在耶穌去世前一千年,大衛在詩篇 中描述了耶穌在十字架上的死。他沒有使用"十字架上釘死" (crucifixion)這個詞,因為當時還沒有人知道這個詞。遠在羅馬人 想出用十字架釘人的刑罰辦法之前,大衛就描述了這種情形。

這只有上帝才能預先知道。

我對你作出 300 次預測並且每一個都準確的機率是多少?這簡直 是天文級的極小數字,數字太小,你難以寫出來。人若不相信上 帝的籌算,反倒相信聖經的預言都是巧合,那可需要更多的信心。 聖經說: "因為預言從來沒有出於人意的,乃是人被聖靈感動, 說出神的話來。"(彼得後書 1:21)

在聖經時代,沒有人想成為先知。按照以色列的律法,神的先知 必須是百分之百正確。如果你錯了一次,那麼你就被認為是假先 知並且會被處死。先知非得準確才行!

聖經中的預言是正確的——每一個都是正確的。你可以相信聖經,因為聖經預言的都在成為現實。

生命反思

- 聖經中的預言在你的生活中似乎不相關或不重要。為什麼你認為上帝要你查考、理解並留意這些預言?
- 你相信聖經所講的都是真的嗎?一點點懷疑如何讓你聽不到上 帝想對你說的話?
- 聖經在你生活中怎樣起作用?你是用它來鼓勵自己而已,還是 真正用來督責、歸正和教導自己學義?

2019.02.28 (Thursday) Devotion Title: [The Whole Bible Guides Us Toward Jesus]

"Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself" (Luke 24:27 NIV).

Only God could have put the Bible together. It contains 66 books written over 1,600 years by 40 authors — and it has one theme.

Having a single unified theme is one of the reasons we know that the Bible is God's Word. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is all about God redeeming humanity. Jesus is its star.

The fact that the Bible has only one theme is nothing short of a miracle. It'd be one thing if one person wrote the Bible. The Koran was written by one person, Mohammed. The Analects of Confucius were written by Confucius. The writings of Buddha were written by Buddha. You'd expect them to be uniform.

The Bible, on the other hand, was written by 40 different people, at every age and in every stage of life, on three continents. And they all wrote the same story: Jesus' story. Prophets and poets, princes and kings, and sailors and soldiers all had the same story. Some were written in homes, others in prisons, and others on ships. You couldn't have put together a more diverse group of authors.

Yet the story is the same.

Imagine if I gave 50 people each a piece of paper, and I told them to tear their pieces of paper into different shapes — but I never said how I'm going to use them. What's the likelihood I'd be able to take those pieces of paper and make a map of the United States out of them? Those odds would be astronomically low. If I did that, most people would think it was a trick.

That's the miracle of how the Bible was put together.

We tend to think that the New Testament is about Jesus and the Old Testament is about Israel. But that's not true. The Bible says in Luke 24:27, "Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, [Jesus] explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself" (NIV). The New Testament wasn't even written then.

The pictures, the metaphors, the analogies, and the illusions — from beginning to end — are about God's plan to redeem people and build a family for eternity. It all began with Jesus. You can see him in every book.

That's a miracle.

- How does your appreciation for the Bible reflect an understanding of the miracle of its cohesiveness?
- If you had to sum up the Bible in one sentence in your own words, what would you say?
- What are some ways you can make the Bible more personal to you?

2019.02.28 (週四) 靈修 題目: [整本聖經將我們導向耶穌]

"於是從摩西和眾先知起,凡經上所指著自己的話,都給他們講 解明白了。"(路加福音 24:27)

只有上帝才能把聖經放在一起編纂成書。它包含了由 40 位作者 於 1600 餘年間撰寫的 66 卷書——但它只有一個主題。

擁有一個統一的主題是我們知道聖經是神的話語的理由之一。從 創世記到啟示錄,聖經都是關於上帝的救贖,而耶穌就是其中的 主角。

聖經只有一個主題,這一事實簡直就是一個奇蹟。如果是一個人 寫聖經就是另一回事了。古蘭經是由穆罕默德一個人寫的。 論語 是孔子言談的記錄。佛陀的著作是佛陀寫的。可想而知,它們各 自的內容是連貫統一的。

另一方面,聖經是由三個大陸上、不同年齡、不同人生階段的 40個不同的人寫的。他們都寫了同樣的故事:耶穌的故事。先 知和詩人,王子和國王,水手和士兵都有同樣的故事。有些是在 家裡寫的,有些是在監獄裡寫的,有些是在船上寫的。將如此多 樣化的作者組合在一起,實在是無出其右了。

然而故事只是一個。

試想一下,如果我給 50 個人每人一張紙,我告訴他們把紙撕成 不同的形狀,但我從未說過我將如何使用它們。我有可能拿起那 些紙片並把它們拼成一張美國地圖嗎?這種可能性非常非常低。 如果我做得到,絕大多數人都會認為這是一個把戲。

這就是聖經如何組合在一起的奇蹟。

我們傾向於認為新約是關於耶穌,而舊約是關於以色列的。但事 實並非如此。聖經在路加福音 24:27 中說: "從摩西和所有的先 知開始,[耶穌]向他們解釋在所有關於他自己的經文中所說的話" (NIV 直譯)。那時候新約甚至還沒有撰寫。

描述、隱喻、類比和想像——從頭到尾都是關於上帝救贖子民和 為永世建立一個家的計劃。這一切都始於耶穌。你可以在每卷書 中看到祂。

這是一個奇蹟。

生命反思

- 你對聖經的認同與珍賞如何反映出你對其奇蹟般連貫性的認識?
- 如果你不得不用自己的一句話來總結聖經,你會說什麼?
- 你可以通過哪些方式使聖經與你的人生更加契合?

2019.03.01 (Friday) Devotion Title: [If Jesus Trusted the Bible, Then You Can, Too]

"For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished" (Matthew 5:18 NIV).

You may have heard someone say, "I trust Jesus, but not the other guys who wrote the Bible." There's a problem with that logic.

Jesus trusted the Bible — every word of it! He taught that the Bible was a unique book, above all the others.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:18, "For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished" (NIV).

Jesus says the Bible will last until the end of time. It will accomplish what God wants to accomplish in this world. In John 10:35a Jesus said, "*We know that Scripture is always true*" (NIRV). Jesus proclaimed the truth of the Bible. And when Jesus talks about the truthfulness of the Bible, we need to listen.

When Jesus talked about the Bible with people, he would often base his argument about the truth of the Bible on a single sentence or even a single word from the Bible. He believed every single sentence, every single word of Scripture. So if I trust Jesus, why wouldn't I trust the Bible?

When Jesus talks about the Bible, he doesn't just talk about it as poetry and history, either. He saw the Bible as something that changes lives. In Luke 11:28 Jesus said, "*Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it*" (NIV). Jesus doesn't just want us to read the Bible. That's what you do with poetry and history. Jesus wants us to obey the Bible. That's what you do with anything the Creator of the universe writes.

When Jesus talked about the Bible, he talked about it as if the people and events in it were real. He talked about all the prophets being real. He talked about Daniel being real. Jesus believed in Noah and everything that happened with the flood. He believed in Adam and Eve. He believed in the tragedy of Sodom and Gomorrah. He believed that Jonah was swallowed by a large fish.

Jesus believed in some of the most disputed stories in the Bible, particularly Noah, Adam and Eve, Sodom and Gomorrah, and Jonah. People who think that the Bible is mostly good stories that didn't really happen always point to those four stories.

If Jesus really believed in Jonah, then I should, too. I don't know how God created a fish that could swallow a guy, but he did.

I trust in the Bible because Jesus trusted in it.

- Is the Bible personal to you? What is the evidence of this in your life?
- Do you have trouble believing some parts of the Bible? Why?
- What do you think God wants to accomplish in your life through his Word?

2019.03.01 (週五) 靈修 題目: [耶穌相信聖經,你也可以]

"我實在告訴你們:就是到天地都廢去了,律法的一點一畫 也不能廢去,都要成全。"(馬太福音 5:18)

你可能聽過有人說,"我信耶穌,但不是那些寫聖經的人"。這 種邏輯存在問題。

耶穌相信聖經,相信經上每一個字!祂教導說,聖經是一本獨特的書,遠超其它書籍。

耶穌在馬太福音 5:18 中說: "我實在告訴你們:就是到天地都 廢去了,律法的一點一畫也不能廢去,都要成全。"

耶穌說聖經將一直存在,直到世界的末了。它將完成上帝在這個 世界上想要完成的事。在約翰福音 10:35 節,耶穌說: "經上的 話是不能廢的。"耶穌宣告了聖經的真理。當耶穌談到聖經的真 實性時,我們需要傾聽。

當耶穌與人們談論聖經時,祂常常會用一句話甚至是聖經中的一 個單詞來論證聖經的真理。祂相信每一句話,每一句經文。所以, 如果我相信耶穌,為什麼我不相信聖經?

當耶穌談論聖經時,祂不僅僅把它稱為詩歌和歷史。祂認為聖經 改變生命。在路加福音 11:28 中,耶穌說: "有福了,就是那些 聽到上帝之道並遵守的人" (NIV 直譯)。耶穌不只是希望我們 讀聖經。這是你對詩歌和歷史書的反應。耶穌希望我們遵守聖經。 而這是你對宇宙創造者的任何著述所當做的。

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當耶穌談論聖經時,祂將其中的人和事都看作是真實的。在祂的 傳道教訓中,所有的先知都是真實的,但以理也是真實的。耶穌 相信挪亞和大洪水時所發生的一切。他相信亞當和夏娃的事。他 相信所多瑪和蛾摩拉的悲劇。他相信約拿被一條大魚吞下。

耶穌相信聖經中一些最有爭議的故事,尤其是挪亞、亞當和夏娃、 所多瑪和蛾摩拉,以及約拿。有些人認為聖經主要就是一些故事; 故事很好,然而並沒有真實發生。他們總是指向這四個故事。

如果耶穌真的相信約拿,那我也應該信。我不知道上帝如何創造 了一條可以活活吞下一個人的魚,但祂做到了。

我信聖經,因為耶穌相信。

生命反思

- 聖經是不是一部契合你個人經歷的書?在你生活中有什麼證據?
- 你難以相信聖經的某些部分嗎?為什麼?
- 你認為上帝希望通過祂的話語在你的人生中實現什麼?

2019.03.02 (Saturday) Devotion Title: [The Bible Always Survives and Always Will]

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (Matthew 24:35 NIV).

The Bible is the most despised, derided, denied, disputed, dissected, and debated book in all of history. This Bible has been under attack for centuries, for everything you can imagine.

Yet the Bible is still the most read, most published, and most translated book in the world. And, most importantly, it's still changing the lives of those who apply what it teaches.

One of the reasons I believe the Bible is God's Word is that it has survived so many attacks throughout history.

Despite all the attacks, today the Bible is the greatest single source of culture. It's the greatest single source for music, art, and architecture. If you take the Bible out of culture, you would destroy most of the major music, artwork, and architecture of the past 2,000 years. Even much of our English language comes from the King James Bible.

The Bible has flourished in spite of unrelenting attacks during the past 2,000 years. Jesus said in Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (NIV). The only item on the planet that will last is the Word of God. Everything else will burn up, because truth is eternal.

Voltaire, the famous French philosopher, was a brilliant atheist. He wrote a number of tracts deriding the Bible. He once made a very bold statement: "One hundred years from today the Bible will be a forgotten book."

Today, everyone has forgotten that quote — not the Bible! After Voltaire died, for nearly 100 years, his homestead was used as the book depository for the French Bible Society. They sold Bibles out of

his house! It's now a museum. People have forgotten Voltaire. Nobody forgets the Bible.

No matter what attacks come the Bible's way, it always survives — and it always will. You can depend on that.

- How has the Bible affected your life? What difference has it made in your life
- Does your perspective on life reflect the knowledge that this earth will one day pass away? How would your life change if you focused your life on the one thing that will never pass away?
- Ask God for the courage to stand up to those who oppose God's Word with grace, gentleness, and wisdom.

2019.03.02 (週六) 靈修 題目: [聖經永遠站立得住]

"天地要廢去,我的話卻不能廢去。"(馬太福音 24:35)

聖經是歷史上最受鄙視、被嘲笑、被否認、有爭議、被剖析和論 辯的書。這部聖經已經遭受了長達幾個世紀、你能想像到的一切 攻擊。

然而,聖經仍然是世界上閱讀量最大、出版最多、翻譯最廣的書。 而且,最重要的是,那些運用其中教導的人,聖經仍在改變他們 的生活。

我相信聖經是上帝的話語,原因之一就是它在歷史上經歷如此多 的攻擊。

儘管遭受了所有攻擊,但今天聖經是最偉大的文化源頭。它是音樂、藝術和建築的最佳單一來源。如果你將聖經從文化中剔除, 你將摧毀過去 2000 年的大部分主要音樂、藝術品和建築。我們 的英語大部分都來自 King James 版的聖經。

儘管在過去 2000 年中不斷遭受攻擊,聖經的流傳仍然蓬勃興旺。 耶穌在馬太福音 24:35 說: "天地要廢去,我的話卻不能廢去。" 這個星球上唯一能夠持久的就是神的話語。其它一切都會消亡, 因為真理是永恆的。

法國著名哲學家伏爾泰是一位才華橫溢的無神論者。他寫了許多 嘲諷聖經的小冊子。他曾經作過一個非常大膽的聲明:"從今天 起一百年後,聖經將成為一本被遺忘的書。"

今天,每個人都忘記了這句話——而不是忘記聖經!伏爾泰去世後,有近 100 年的時間他的家園被用作法國聖經協會的書籍存放

處。人們從他家裡往外出售聖經!那地方現在是個博物館。人們 已經忘記了伏爾泰,卻沒有人忘記聖經。

無論聖經受到什麼樣的攻擊,它總能站立得住——而且它永遠站 立得住。這一點你不必懷疑。

生命反思

- 聖經如何影響你的生活?它讓你的生活有哪些變化?
- 你的人生觀是否反映了你對"天地要廢去"的認知?如果將生命 投入在一件永不廢去的事上,你的生活將如何改變?
- 求上帝賜下勇氣,以恩惠、溫柔和智慧來回應那些反對上帝話 語的人。

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