神的爱一救恩的根源(贰)

The Love of God — the Source of Salvation (II)

叁 神的爱使我们得着救恩

III. The love of God causes us to obtain salvation.

(一) "一切都是出于神,祂借着基督使我们与祂和好,又···劝人与祂和好。···"—"求你们与神和好。"林后五 18~20。

1. "All things are out from God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Christ...reconciling the world to Himself...We beseech you...Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:18-20).

神的爱不但为我们作成救恩,并且为我们想法子,叫我们得着救恩。你看,神的爱是多么俯就我们,一面为我们作成救恩,一面又用方法叫我们得着救恩。如果神只替我们少作一点,我们就不能得着救恩。

God's love not only accomplished our salvation but also **gave us a way to obtain salvation**. How condescending God's love is toward us! It accomplished our salvation and devised a way for us to obtain salvation. If God had done less than this, we would not have been saved.

神把救恩作成之后,就来劝人与祂和好,就来劝我们这些远离祂的人,不要祂的人,项撞祂、与祂为仇为敌的人,与祂和好。我想很多听道的人都能说,到这里,他碰着人劝他信耶稣,到那里,他也碰着人劝他信耶稣。那就是说出神的爱。为什么这些信耶稣的人这样劝你呢?不是他们自己要这样作,乃是他们里面有神的爱催促他们来劝你。各位朋友,若是你还没有信主,你有什么亲戚朋友劝你信耶稣,那就是证明神爱你,要借着他们使你得着祂的救恩。

Having accomplished our salvation, God entreated us to be reconciled to Himself. We were far off from God, we had rejected and opposed Him, and we were His enemies. Nevertheless, He entreated us to be reconciled to Him. Many who have heard the preaching of the Word testify that they met many people who beseeched them to believe in Jesus. This demonstrates God's love. Believers do not entreat people to be reconciled to God out of themselves; rather, they do it because the love of God within them urges them to do so. Many who have not yet believed in the Lord have been entreated by relatives and friends to do so. This entreaty is a proof that God loves the unbelievers and desires that they obtain His salvation through those who believe.

(二) "打发仆人去,请…人来赴席。"太二二3。

2. "He sent his slaves to call those who had been called to the wedding feast" (Matt. 22:3).

神预备救恩,如同预备丰美的筵席。预备好了,就打发仆人出去请人来赴,请人来享受祂的救恩。神头一批打发出来的仆人,就是当日的使徒们。以后历世历代神不断地打发仆人出来,请人去赴祂救恩的筵席。近二百年来,神打发很多仆人到非洲野人地方,打发很多仆人到太平洋各荒岛,也打发很多仆人到亚洲各国来传福音。虽然有各种艰难,有很多危险,他们还是要去把神的福音传给人。我读了几个到中国来的西教士的故事。他们到中国来,各样的难处都遇见过。但他们还是要来。这是为什么呢?因为神的爱打发催促他们来!

God prepared salvation as a rich feast. After it was prepared, He sent His slaves to call people to attend the feast and enjoy His salvation. The first group of servants God sent were the apostles. Since the time of the apostles, God has never ceased sending His slaves to call people to His feast of salvation. In the past two centuries God sent many servants to uncivilized places in Africa, to various Pacific islands, and to Asian countries to preach the gospel. Despite abundant hardships and dangers, these servants still went to preach the gospel to others. I have read the stories of some of the Western missionaries who came to China. Although they encountered every kind of difficulty in China, they still came because God's love urged and sent them.

我们亲近主的时候,常常莫名其妙有一个力量推动我们,非去传福音不可。什么时候你对主说,我愿到边荒去传福音,你就顶快乐。为什么呢?因为神喜欢作这件事。神喜欢用祂的爱催促人出去,请人来接受祂的救恩。

When we draw near to the Lord, a mysterious force pushes us to preach the gospel. God loves the gospel; thus, if we tell the Lord that we are willing to go to the ends of the earth to preach the gospel, we will become

extremely happy. God delights in urging people by means of His love to go out to invite others to receive His salvation.

(三)"神赐…圣灵…作见证。"徒五 32。

3. "We are witnesses...so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given" (Acts 5:32).

神的爱不只是叫祂打发祂的仆人出来传福音,并且还叫祂赐下圣灵,随着祂的仆人,在人心中作工。若不然,就没有人肯信,就没有人肯接授主。你知道我们所传的福音,里头顶重的几点,都是叫人非常难信的。福音里面的重点是:第一,主耶稣是神。第二,主耶满是童贞女生的。第三,主耶稣钉十字架替人死。第四,主耶稣从死里复活。第五,主耶稣升天。第六,主耶稣今天坐在天上,也住在人心里。第七,主耶稣还要再来。这七点就是福音的中心。这七点都是叫人非常难信的,是一个读科学,头脑现实的人,所没有法子相信的。但是当我们讲的时候,传的时候,圣灵就工作,人就非信不可。越说主耶稣是神,他越痛快。越说主耶稣替人死,他越相信。越说主耶稣住在人心里,他越释放。这个奇妙,就在圣灵。圣灵随着我们证明神的福音,在人的心中感动人,叫人非信不可。神不只把祂的儿子赐给我们,来为我们作成救恩,也把祂的灵赐给我们,来把祂的救恩放在我们里面,叫我们经历祂的救恩。这是神的爱。

Because of His love, God not only sends His slaves to preach the gospel but also sends the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of men. Without the work of the Holy Spirit, no one would believe, and no one would receive the Lord. The most important points of the gospel that we preach today are very difficult for man to believe in. These points include the Lord Jesus being God and being born of a virgin, crucified for man, resurrected from the dead and ascended to the heavens, seated in the heavenlies and dwelling in the hearts of men, and returning one day. These seven points are the center of the gospel. They are extremely difficult to believe in; in fact, it is impossible for someone with a practical mind who has studied science to believe in these points. However, when we preach, the Holy Spirit works until man believes. The more we declare that the Lord Jesus is God, the more people are delighted. The more we speak of the Lord Jesus dying for man, the more they believe. The more we say regarding the Lord Jesus living in the hearts of men, the more they are released. We obtain these wonderful results because of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit follows our speaking, confirming the gospel and touching man's heart until he is compelled to believe. God gave us His Son for the accomplishment of our salvation, and He also gave us the Spirit, who puts God's salvation into us; the Spirit causes us to experience God's salvation. This is the love of God.

(四)"圣灵和大能的明证。"林前二14,帖前一5。

4. "Demonstration of the Spirit and of power" (1 Cor. 2:4; see also 1 Thes. 1:5).

神不只用圣灵证明祂的福音,也用大能证明祂的福音。许多时候,当我们对人传福音,神的大能就叫我们所传的福音非常有能力,叫人不能不信。许多心中非常刚硬的人,许多顶撞神非常厉害的人,若不是神用大能攻破他们刚硬的心,折服他们倔强的意志,他们就永远不会悔改相信,接受救恩。但是当神的大能作工的时候,无论多刚硬、多倔强的人,也没有法子不悔改,没有法子不相信。这也是神的爱。

God sends the Holy Spirit to witness to the gospel; He also uses power to testify to the gospel. Many times when we preach the gospel, God's power makes the gospel extremely powerful so that people are compelled to believe. Those who have a stubborn heart or who strongly oppose God will never repent and believe in order to receive salvation unless God uses His power to penetrate their hard heart and break their stubborn will. But when God's power operates, even the hardest and most stubborn person will repent and believe. This also is the love of God.

- (五) "用神迹奇事,和百般的异能,并圣灵的恩赐···作见证。"来二4。
- 5. "God bearing witness with them both by signs and wonders and by various works of power and by distributions of the Holy Spirit" (Heb. 2:4).

神也用神迹奇事和百般的异能,并圣灵的恩赐,向人证明祂的福音。在许多地方,当神的仆人们传福音的时候,神借着医病赶鬼证实福音,叫人相信。这也是神的爱所作的。神因着爱人,要叫人相信得救,许多时候就照着人所需要的,行神迹奇事,使那些多疑难信的人,相信福音,接受救恩。

In addition to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, God also uses signs, wonders, and works of power to confirm the gospel. When His servants preach the gospel, God confirms the gospel through healings and the casting out of

demons, thus causing people to believe. This also is the result of His love. Because God loves man, He often works signs and wonders according to man's need in order to cause the doubting ones to believe in the gospel and to receive salvation.

(六) "圣经能使你…有得救的智慧。"提后三15。

6. "The sacred writings, which are able to make you wise unto salvation" (2 Tim. 3:15).

若没有这本圣经,我们对于神的救恩,还是模糊不清。这本圣经将神的救恩,清清楚楚的告诉我们,叫我们有智慧,能明白神的救恩。这也是神的爱为我们预备的。

Without the Bible we would not be clear regarding God's salvation. The Bible shows God's salvation clearly so that we may have the wisdom to understand such a salvation. This is another provision of God's love.

神为着要叫我们明白祂的救恩,就用一千五百多年的工夫,借着三四十人,在许多不同的地方,写成这本完备的圣经。并且祂历代还用祂大能的手,保存这本圣经。不只如此,祂还用祂主宰的权能,使这本圣经翻成各种文言,使各种人都能阅读,都能明白。为着要使人能接受祂的救恩,祂的爱为人所预备的,真是全备,真是到了极处。

Because God wants us to understand His salvation, He used more than forty people in many different places over a period of approximately sixteen hundred years to write the complete Scriptures. He also preserved the Bible throughout the ages by His mighty hand. In His sovereignty He brought about the translation of the Scriptures into many different languages so that people could read and understand them. What God's love has prepared for man in order that man may receive His salvation is altogether complete and absolute.

参读: 圣经要道, 第二题: 神的爱一救恩的根源

Reference: Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, Vol. 1, Ch. 2