奉献(壹)

Consecration (I)

壹 奉献的动机

I. The Motive for Consecration

- (一) '基督的爱激励我们;因我们想一人既替众人死,众人就都死了;并且祂替众人死,是叫那些活着的人,不再为自己活,乃为替他们死而复活的主活。'林后五章十四至十五节。
- 1. "The love of Christ constrains us because we have judged this, that One died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all that those who live may no longer live to themselves but to Him who died for them and has been raised" (2 Cor. 5:14-15).

每一个奉献的信徒,都有一个同样的动机,就是主的爱。为什么我们要奉献呢?因为主的爱激励我们。 为什么我们不再为自己活,而为主活呢?因为受了主爱的激激。'激励'在原文有'催迫'的意思。 主的爱在我们心里,会成为一种莫大的能力,催迫我们来爱主,为主活着。主的爱常像洪水冲来,使 我们不能不奉献给主,不能再保留自己和自己的一切。

Every consecrated believer is motivated by the Lord's love. We have a desire to consecrate ourselves because the Lord's love constrains us. We no longer live to ourselves but to the Lord because we have been constrained by the Lord's love. In the original Greek constrain means "to press." The Lord's love in our hearts becomes a great power pressing us to love the Lord and to live to Him. His love is like a rushing flood. We cannot help but consecrate ourselves to Him; we cannot withhold ourselves or what we have from Him.

使徒说,主的爱所以会激励他们,是因为他们想到主替他们死。是的,我们若肯想一想主如何替我们死,我们就要受到主爱的激励。所以我们该用一点工天,默想主如何为我们受苦,如何代我们担罪,如何替我们尝了死味,好让主的爱来激励我们。特别在我们擘饼记念主的时候,我们该想到主替我们受死的爱。我们越想到主这爱,我们的心就越被主摸着,越向主而去。主这爱是宇宙中最大的爱。这爱怎么叫主为我们死,也照样叫我们为主活。

Paul says that the Lord's love constrains us because we judge that the Lord died on our behalf. If we consider how the Lord died on our behalf, we would be constrained by His love. We should take time to consider how the Lord suffered for us, bore our sins, and tasted death on our behalf so that His love could constrain us. We should consider His love in His dying on our behalf, especially when we break bread to remember the Lord. The more we consider His love, the more our hearts will be touched and turned to Him. The Lord's love is the greatest love in the universe. Just as this love caused the Lord to die for us, it also causes us to live to Him.

- (二) '…神的慈悲劝你们,将身体献上,当作活祭。'罗马十二章一节。
- 2. "I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice" (Rom. 12:1).

使徒以神的慈悲劝我们奉送。'劝',也可译作'求'。圣灵常在我们里面藉着神的慈悲、神的爱,求我们将自己奉献给神。神的爱,常是圣灵用以来感动我们的一大能力。

Paul exhorts us through the compassions of God to consecrate ourselves. Exhort may also be rendered as "beg." The Holy Spirit within often begs us through the compassions of God, through God's love, to consecrate ourselves to God. The love of God is a great power used by the Holy Spirit to move us.

- (三) '你爱我(主耶稣)比这些更深么? ···你爱我么? ···你跟从我罢。'约翰二十一章十五至二十 二节。
- 3. "Do you love Me more than these?...Do you love Me?...Follow Me" (John 21:15-22).

这是主当日问彼得的话。彼得曾蒙了主的呼召,来跟随主。但他现在退后,又去打鱼,作起老事业来。 在这时,主再来寻找他。主并不责备他,并不向他表示如何怪他,只问他说,你爱我比这些更深么? 你爱我比这些船、网、海、鱼、炭、饼,更深么?好像主无声的对他说,你在我受人审问的那个夜间, 喜爱炭火而去烤火,以致在人跟前否认了我;你在我有形的同在向你隐藏起来的时候,就来打鱼谋生, 置我的吩咐于不顾。你自己去找火烤,却蒙了羞辱;你自己来打鱼吃,却打个处空。现在我为你预备 了炭火、饼鱼,不必你花力气,不必你作什么;你要烤,有炭火;要吃,有饼鱼。但我要问你,你爱我比这些一比这些炭火、饼鱼,更深么?你爱我么?你跟随我吧!就是主这个爱的问话摸着了彼得,得着了彼得。主的爱叫彼得终身跟随主,直到为主殉身,以死荣耀了神。(据传彼得曾为主被人捉去,临刑时要求倒钉十字架而死。)

Peter was called by the Lord to follow Him, but he backslid and returned to his old profession of fishing. When the Lord came to seek him, He did not rebuke or blame Peter. He only asked, "Do you love Me more than these?" that is, more than his boats, his nets, the sea, the fish, the coals, and the loaves of bread. It is as if the Lord was quietly saying, "On the night that I was accused, you went to warm yourself, and you loved a charcoal fire to such an extent that you denied Me before those people. When I hid My visible presence from you, you went fishing to make a living and did not pay attention to My command. You warmed yourself but were put to shame. You went fishing to get something to eat but came up empty. Now I have prepared a charcoal fire, bread, and fish. You do not need to expend any energy; you do not need to do anything. If you want warmth, here is a charcoal fire. If you want to eat, here are bread and fish. But I want to ask, Do you love Me more than these—more than the charcoal fire, bread, and fish? Do you love Me? Follow Me!" The Lord's questioning in love touched and gained Peter. The Lord's love caused Peter to follow the Lord for his whole life until he was martyred for the Lord and glorified God by his death. (According to tradition, when Peter was arrested for the Lord's sake, he asked to be crucified upside down at the time of his death.)

主现在也同样以祂的爱问我们。祂常在我们里面问我们说,你爱我比世界更深么?你爱我比父母、妻子、(或丈丸、)儿女、兄弟、姐妹、朋友,更深么?你爱我比学问、地位、名利、身家、钱财、生命,更深么?你爱我么?我们也有许多人实在被主这爱的问话征服了,而作了爱主的人,把自己和一切都倒在主身上,让主得着。哦,有谁能在主这爱的问话跟前站住呢?有谁能抵挡主爱的激励呢?当主的爱向我们显示,在我们里面作工的时候,我们真没法逃避,只得将自己和一切都奉献给主。我们一被主的爱摸着,我们就必奉献。这个动力,不是在外面,乃是在里头的,常像烈火焚烧,是任何事由所不能息灭的。

In His love the Lord questions us in the same way. He often asks, "Do you love Me more than the world? Do you love Me more than your father, mother, wife (or husband), children, brothers, sisters, and friends? Do you love Me more than education, position, fame, family background, money, and life? Do you love Me?" Many have been truly conquered by the Lord's loving questioning and have become lovers of the Lord, pouring themselves and all that they have on the Lord for His gain. Oh, who can stand before the Lord's questioning in love? Who can resist the constraining of the Lord's love? When the Lord's love is revealed to us and works in us, we cannot escape. We can only consecrate ourselves and all that we have to the Lord. Once we are touched by His love, we must consecrate ourselves. This motivating power is not outside of us but inside of us. It burns like a raging fire that cannot be quenched.

参读: 圣经要道, 二十三题: 奉献

Reference: Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, Vol. 2, Ch. 23 Consecration