传福音(参)

Preaching the Gospel (III)

贰 五种另外的说法(续)

II. Five Expressions Related to Preaching the Gospel (continued)

四 收割庄稼

D. Reaping a Harvest

(一) '要收的庄稼多,作工的人少;所以你们当求庄稼的主,打发工人出去,收祂的庄稼。'马太 九章三十七至三十八节。

1. "The harvest is great, but the workers few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest that He would thrust out workers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38).

傅福音,一面说是撒种,一面说又是收割庄稼。撒种,是重在把主的福音传出去;收割庄稼,是重在把人的灵魂收进来。把人的灵魂收进来,就像把五谷收到仓里一样。主所要拯救的人,就是主所要收割的庄稼。我们传福音,就是去把这些人收割进来。所以收割庄稼,也是传福音一种另外的说法。

On the one hand, preaching the gospel is a sowing, but on the other hand, it is a reaping of the harvest. Sowing emphasizes preaching the gospel. Reaping emphasizes gathering in people's souls. Gathering in people's souls is like reaping grain and bringing it into a storehouse. Those whom the Lord wants to save are the harvest He wants to reap. Our preaching of the gospel is for harvesting these people. Thus, reaping a harvest is another expression for preaching the gospel.

主在这里说,要收的庄稼多,去传福音作收割工作的人少,所以当求主打发工人去收割庄稼。如果在当日主说这话的时候,要收的庄稼多,当求主打发工人去收割庄稼,就在两千年后的今天,要收的庄稼必是更多,更当求主打发工人去收祂的庄稼。要这样去收主的庄稼,必须去传主的福音,所以这样去收主的庄稼,也就是去传主的福音。

In these verses the Lord spoke of the harvest being great, but the workers who preach the gospel to reap the harvest being few. Therefore, we should beseech the Lord of the harvest that He would thrust out workers into His harvest. If the harvest was great when the Lord spoke this word, the harvest must be even greater now. Therefore, we must beseech the Lord even more to thrust out workers into His harvest. If we want to reap the Lord's harvest, we must preach the Lord's gospel. Reaping a harvest requires the preaching of the gospel.

- (二) '举目向田观看,庄稼已经熟了,可以收割了。···那人撒种,这人收割,···我差你们去收你们 所没有劳苦的。'约翰四章三十五至三十八节。
- 2. "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are already white for harvest...One sows and another reaps. I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored" (John 4:35, 37-38).

主在这里说, '庄稼已经熟了,可以收割了。'哦,弟兄姊妹,若是在主说这话的时候,庄稼就已经熟了,就在今天庄稼更是已经熟。就着中国人说,今天许多人的心都已经熟了,真是可以收割了!但是谁肯去呢?

According to the Lord, the fields are white for harvest. Brothers and sisters, if the fields were white when the Lord spoke these words, they are even whiter today. Speaking only of the Chinese people, there are many whose hearts are ripe for harvesting. But who is willing to go?

我们今天去传福音,也常是去收割别人所撒的种,去收我们所没有劳苦的,正如主在这里所说的一样。主的福音种子,已经由教会在地上撒过两千年之久了,就是在中国也由许多布道者和信徒最少撒过一二百年了。所以到今天有许多的庄稼的确是熟了,等候我们去收割!但愿我们因着主的怜悯,能'举目向田观看',也靠着主的恩典,能接受主的'差遣',去收割已熟的庄稼。

When we preach the gospel, we will harvest what has already been sown. According to the Lord's word, we should expect to reap where we have not labored. The seeds of the gospel have been sown on the earth by the church for two thousand years. Even in China many seeds have been sown over the last few centuries.

Therefore, the harvest truly is ripe and waiting for us to reap. By the Lord's mercy, may we lift up our eyes and look on the fields, and by the Lord's grace, may we receive His sending to go and reap this ripened harvest.

五 还债

E. Repaying a Debt

- (一) '无论是希利尼人,化外人,聪明人,愚拙人,我都欠他们的债。所以情愿尽我的力量,将福音也传给你们。'罗马一章十四至十节。
- 1. "I am debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to foolish; so, for my part, I am ready to announce the gospel to you also" (Rom. 1:14-15).

保罗说,无论什么人,他都欠他们的债,所以尽他的力量将福音传给他们。他这话给我们看见,传福音也是还债。这可以说是传福音第五种另外的说法。凭这说法,我们若不把福音传给我们的亲人、朋友,以及一切我们所能接近的人,我们就是欠他们的债,所以该尽我们所能的,起码向我们所认识所接近的人,把福音传遍传够,还清我们福音的债。

Paul said that he was a debtor to every type of person. Therefore, he endeavored to preach the gospel to everyone. This word shows that preaching the gospel is the repayment of a debt, which is the fifth expression for preaching the gospel. According to this expression, preaching the gospel to our relatives, friends, and those to whom we are close is the repayment of a debt. Therefore, we should preach the gospel in order to repay our debt to the gospel.

参 福音的灵—说出福音的态度

III. The Spirit of the Gospel Producing a Proper Attitude toward the Gospel

我们传福音,必须有福音的灵。什么是福音的灵?就是我们里面的灵满有传福音的负担,成了我们里面的一种能力,叫我们有一个劲头,不能不传福音,也叫我们有一种心情,非传福音不可,以至于使我们像着了迷,什么也不顾,什么也不怕,只顾传福音,只怕人沉沦。我们在里面有了这种福音的灵,自然就叫我们在外面对福音有了该有的态度。这是我们应该追求,而向主要的。

When we preach the gospel, we must have the spirit of the gospel. When our spirit is full of burden, it becomes a power within us and causes us to be so driven that we cannot help but preach the gospel. This is the spirit of the gospel. This spirit causes us to be eager to preach the gospel, to be consumed with preaching the gospel to the point that we care for nothing else and fear nothing else. Our only care is for preaching the gospel, and our only fear is that people would perish. When we have such a spirit of the gospel, we spontaneously have a proper attitude toward the gospel outwardly. We should pursue and ask the Lord for such a spirit.

一 灵里火热

A. Being Fervent in Spirit

- (一) '灵里火热,将耶稣的事,详细讲论。'行传十八章二十五节原文。
- 1. "Being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus" (Acts 18:25).

福音的灵,第一该是火热的灵。要传福音,就必须灵里火热。当初的亚波罗就是这样。他灵里火热,对人详细讲论主耶稣的事。我们要叫福音从我们得着释放,不被我们扣住,我们就必须灵里火热,热到一个地步,如同疯狂了一样,成了一个'耶稣迷',不顾一切的传扬主耶稣。

The spirit of the gospel reflects a fervent spirit. If we want to preach the gospel, we must be fervent in spirit. Apollos was fervent in spirit, and he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus. If we want the gospel to be released and not be held back by us, we must be fervent in spirit. We must be fervent even to the extent that we appear to be crazy. We should become a "fanatic of Jesus" to the extent that we do not care for anything but announcing the Lord Jesus.

- (二) '看见满城都是偶像, 就心里着急。'行传十七章十六节。
- 2. "His spirit was provoked within him as he beheld that the city was full of idols" (Acts 17:16).

福音的灵,第一不只该是火热的灵,并且该有着急的心,看见人在黑暗中犯罪沉沦,就心里着急。使徒保罗当日在雅典的时候,就是这样。他看见那大城中满了偶像,就心里着急,于是在会堂里,在街市上,到处如疯似狂的传讲福音,将福音释放出去。

The spirit of the gospel involves not only a fervent spirit but also a spirit that can be provoked when we see people sinning and perishing in darkness. When he was in Athens, the apostle Paul was provoked in his spirit because he saw that the whole city was full of idols. With his provoked spirit, he preached and released the gospel in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there, as if he were crazy (v. 17).

二 不以福音为耻

B. Not Being Ashamed of the Gospel

(一) '我不以福音为耻;这福音本是神的大能,要救一切相信的。'罗马一章十六节,参看提后一章八节,十二节,马可八章三十八节。

1. "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16; see also 2 Tim. 1:8, 12; Mark 8:38).

有一件顶希奇的事,就是一个人无论对人讲什么学说或科学,都觉得顶光荣,但一向人题起主耶稣和 池的福音,就感觉羞耻。这无疑是撒但所使然的,叫人不能自由的传福音。但是你若有了福音的灵, 你就不以主和福音为耻,反而对人讲起主和福音来,越讲越感觉光荣。我们要传福音,就得脸皮厚; 要脸皮厚,就必须有福音的灵。有了福音的灵,我们传起福音来,不但能脸皮厚,不感觉羞耻,反而 能感觉光荣。

It is quite strange that a person can feel glorious when speaking to others about a theory of science but be ashamed to speak of the Lord Jesus and the gospel. Without a doubt, this is the work of Satan to hinder people from preaching the gospel. However, if we have a spirit of the gospel, we will not be ashamed of the Lord and the gospel. On the contrary, the more we speak of the Lord and the gospel, the more glorious we will feel. If we want to preach the gospel, we must be "thick-skinned"; if we want to be thick-skinned, we must have the spirit of the gospel. With the spirit of the gospel and "thick skin," we will feel glorious rather than ashamed when we preach the gospel.

参读: 圣经要道, 二十八题: 传福音

Reference: Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, Vol. 3, Ch. 28 Preaching the Gospel