读 经(拾)

Reading the Bible (X)

伍 如何读圣经(续)

V. How to Read the Bible (continued)

- (七) 查考研究—'查考'—'切心研究。'约翰五章三十九节,但以理十二章四节。
- 7. Searching and Studying "Search"; "Study diligently" (John 5:39; a note in the Chinese Union Version on Daniel 12:4 indicates that here and there can be translated as "search or study diligently").

读经也需要查考研究。这是需要花工夫、用力气的。所以也是需要出代价的。凡不肯出代价花工夫、 用力气,切心查考研究圣经的,都不能明白圣经,就是能明白,也不能明白得多深。我们光轻轻的看 看圣经,不能明白多少;必须用力查考,切心研究,才能明白一些。

The Bible is a book that must be searched and studied. This requires time and effort, so we need to pay the price. Anyone who is not willing to pay the price to spend the time and make the effort to diligently search and study the Bible will not be able to understand much of the Bible, especially its depths.

圣经实在太丰富、太奥妙,真是值得我们查考研究。虽然历代不知有多少人都在这事上花过工夫,但到今天圣经还有许多地方需要研究。许多博学之士,虽穷一生细心研读,仍有以蠡测海之感。历代的人研究圣经所用的方法,也真是特别讲究。就如杨氏汇编(Young's Concordance)的著者,把新旧约里所用的每一个希腊文和希伯来文都数过,并且把每一个原文字(希腊文或希伯来文)在原文圣经中用过多少次,是什么意思,以及在英文钦订本圣经里翻成几种意思,每种翻译又有几次,在某书某章某节,尽都查出来,而照字目的次序编成一本易查易检的汇编。他在这事上所用的工夫和心力,真难说有多少。再如有人把旧约希伯来文,和新约希腊文每一个字的字目所代表的数字(希伯来文和希腊文,每一字目都代表一个数字),都一一算过,结果查出来,圣经新旧约每一个字,其字目所代表的数字总数,都是七所能除得尽的。这样,圣经每一节、每一段、每一章、每一卷,其字目所代表的数字总数,也都是七所能除得尽的。这种研究真是奇妙,也真是花了工夫,用了力气。还有人用许多别的方法研究。但愿我们也肯花工夫研究圣经,我们中间也有人起来用特别的方法,花特别的力气,研究这本奇妙的书。

The Bible is too rich and mysterious. It really is worthy of searching and study. Even though many have spent much time to study the Bible throughout the ages, there are still many portions that need to be studied. Many who have Ph.D.'s, who have spent an entire lifetime carefully studying the Bible, feel as if they are trying to measure the ocean with a dipper. Some very particular and special methods have been used to study the Bible throughout the ages. For example, the author of Young's Concordance counted every Hebrew and Greek word in the Old and New Testaments. Moreover, he counted how many times each word was used in the original language (either Hebrew or Greek), recorded their meaning, and then detailed how these words were translated into English in the King James Version, including how many times each translated word was used and the location of each translated word. Then he compiled these words into an alphabetical concordance so that they could be located easily. It is difficult to say how much time and effort was put into this matter. Others calculated the numbers represented by every letter of every word in the Old Testament Hebrew and the New Testament Greek. (In Hebrew and Greek each letter stands for a number.) They counted the letters one by one and totaled their numerical value; they discovered that in both the Old and New Testaments, the numeric total of all the letters of all the words is divisible by seven. This means that the numeric total of every word in every verse in every chapter in every book of the Bible is divisible by seven. This is a truly marvelous kind of study, and it took much time and effort. Others have also spent much time and effort. May we be willing to take the time to study the Bible. May there be some among us who are willing to rise up and apply special effort to study this marvelous book.

- (八) 思想揣摩一'昼夜思想'一'默想'一'揣摩'。诗篇一篇二节,一百一十九篇十五节,九十五节,马太九章十三节。
- 8. Meditating and Considering "Meditates by day and by night"; "Muse upon"; "Consider" (Psa. 1:2; 119:15, 95; see also Matt. 9:13).

我们读经,也要思想、揣摩。有时也要默想。这都是需要细心花工夫的。也需要安静专心。许多时候, 我们都惦要细心思想揣摩,或安静专心默想,才能明白圣经,才能摸着其中的精意。

When we read the Bible, we need to meditate and consider. Sometimes we need to muse upon the Word. This requires carefulness and time. It also requires quiet concentration. Many times we need to meditate, consider carefully, or concentrate quietly in order to understand the Bible and touch its essence.

(九)相信一'你们的心,信得太迟钝了。'路加二十四章二十五节,约翰二章二十二节。

9. Believing - "Slow of heart to believe" (Luke 24:25; see also John 2:22).

读经也需要相信。有时是先明白了,还需要相信接受。有时是需要先相信接受,而后才明白。无论如何,总必须相信。凡不凭着信心读经的,凡读经而迟于相信的,就不容易明白圣经;就是明白了,也不能得到多少益处。我们必须有信心与圣经的话调和,(来四2,)才能明白圣经,而得到益处。

We must believe when we read the Bible. Sometimes we understand, and then we believe and receive. Sometimes we believe and receive, and then we understand. In any case, we must always believe. Whoever does not read the Bible in faith, whoever is slow of heart to believe, cannot understand the Bible in a clear way. Even if we could understand some portion, we would not receive much benefit. We must mix faith with the word of the Bible in order to understand the Bible and receive the benefit (Heb. 4:2).

(十)配合祷告一'呼求,…仰望。'诗篇一百一十九篇一百四十七至一百四十八节。

10. Adding Prayer - "Cried out...hoped" (Psa. 119:147).

读经也需要配合祷告。读经和祷告是不可分开的。所以从前的诗人,一面呼求主,一面仰望主的话。 我们要读经之先,需要祷告,求主洁净我们,开启我们的心窍,预备我们的心灵,并且打开祂的话, 将祂的光照在其上,用祂的灵将其中的真理启示出来。我们读的时候,有了灵感,也需要把我们所感 到的化作祷告,或为自己,或为别人。等我们读过之后,还需要祷告,求主保守我们所明白领会的, 叫我们用信心和爱心,常常牢牢守着,并给我们恩典和力量,叫我们能实行出来。所以读经,该用祷 告开始,该用祷告陪同,也该用祷告结束。读经必须配上祷告。

Reading the Bible also requires cooperation through prayer. Reading the Bible and prayer cannot be separated. Therefore, the early psalmists called on the Lord on the one hand and hoped in the Lord's word on the other. Before we read the Bible, we should pray and ask the Lord to cleanse us, to open the eyes of our heart, to prepare our spirit, and to open His Word and shine His light upon it to reveal His truth in it by the Spirit. As we read, we should turn the inspiration that we receive into prayer, praying for ourselves and for others. After we finish reading, we need to continue to pray, asking the Lord to preserve what we have understood so that we might keep it in faith and love and to give us strength and grace so that we might practice what we have seen. Thus, reading the Bible should begin with prayer, be accompanied by prayer, and end with prayer. Reading the Bible must be accompanied by prayer.

(十一) 祷读一'凭藉各样的祷告祈求,取用…神的话。'以弗所六章十七至十八节原文。

11. Praying and Reading - "Receive...the word of God, by means of all prayer and petition" (Eph. 6:17-18).

读经不仅需要配上祷告,并且应该和祷告调成一个。圣经上的任何一处、任何一句,我们都可用来作为我们的祷告。这不是读经上的话,而是祷经上的话。这时我们不可用头脑思索探讨那些话,却要用灵品尝咀嚼那些话,将其吃到里面,成为我们的供应。这就是保罗在以弗所六章十七、十八节所说,凭藉各样的祷告祈求,来取用神的话。这样的祷读,不仅会使我们领会圣经中的真实灵意一神的心意,并且能叫我们享受圣经中的实际内涵一神的自己。这是对我们属灵生命长进最有益处的读经。

Our reading of the Bible should not only be with prayer but should be mingled with prayer. Any portion or sentence of the Bible can become our prayer. This is not simply to read the word of the Bible; this is to pray the word of the Bible. We should not use our mind to understand the Word but our spirit to taste and chew a portion of the Word so that it becomes our supply. Paul refers to receiving the word of God by means of all prayer and petition in Ephesians 6:17-18. This kind of praying and reading, that is, pray-reading, enables us to not only understand the true spiritual meaning of the Bible—the will of God—but also to enjoy the reality of the content of the Bible—God Himself. This is the most beneficial way to read the Bible for our spiritual growth.

(十二)存记不忘—'当用各样的智慧,···丰丰富富的存在心里。'歌罗西三章十六节,诗篇一百一 十九篇九十八节。

12. Letting the Word Dwell in Us - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom" (Col. 3:16; see also Psa. 119:98).

我们读经,也当存记不忘。我们若读了就忘,就不容易贯通领会。我们若能把圣经重要的点,重要的章节,重要的真理,存记在心,圣灵就容易使我们领会圣经的意思,并且就能以随时随地向我们启示圣经中的真理。所以我们要用各样的智慧,各种的方法,把圣经的话丰丰富富的存记在心。记圣经、背圣经,是读经所需要的,也是读经的一种方法。我们也该实行这件事—尤其是少年的弟兄姊妹!或是选出圣经一卷书来记来背,或是从每日所读的几章圣经里面,选出像金句那样的话来背。无论怎样记、怎样背,都是有益处的。

We should let the word dwell in us when we read the Bible. If we read it and forget it, it will be difficult for us to thoroughly understand the Word. If we let the important points, the important chapters and verses, and the important truths of the Bible dwell in us, the Holy Spirit can enable us to understand the meaning of the Bible. Moreover, He can reveal the truths of the Bible to us at any time and in any place. Therefore, we must let the word of the Bible dwell in us richly in all wisdom and by all means. Remembering the Bible and memorizing the Bible are necessary to reading the Bible and a way to read the Bible. We should practice this, especially the young brothers and sisters. We should memorize one book of the Bible or choose a few golden verses from our daily reading to remember and memorize. Regardless of how well we remember or memorize the Word, this is always beneficial.

参读: 圣经要道, 三十一题: 读经

Reference: Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, Vol. 3, Ch. 31 Reading the Bible