读经(拾壹)

Reading the Bible (XI)

陆 读经实行的作法

VI. Practical Ways to Read the Bible

关于读经,在实行方面,我愿意介绍给弟兄姊妹几点作法:

Reading the Bible also involves some practical points.

(一) 要预备两本完整的新旧约圣经。

1. We should have two copies of the Bible.

一本是为着在其上记载灵感并画线用的,一本是为着清用的。读的时候,是读那本清的。有了灵感,或要画线作记号的时候,就记在画在那专为记画用的一本上。

One copy should be used to record inspiration and to underline important points; the other copy should not contain any of our writing. It should remain clean. When we read, we should read from the clean copy and record inspiration or underline a portion in the writing copy.

(二) 要分两条线读。

2. We should read two lines at the same time.

一条是新约的,也可以说是生命的,注重生命的喂养。这条最好在每天早晨读差不多一章新约,用二、三十分钟就可以。在这一章里面,挑出一、二节,加以祷读。另一条是旧约的,也可以说是知识的,注重圣经的认识。这条可在每天白天或晚上读差不多三章旧约,大概需要三、四十分钟。这样,每天可以新旧两约并读,一年就能把全部圣经读一遍。无论新约,或是旧约,都要按着它们的次序,从起头一卷一卷、一章一章的读。要这样读,最好照着我们福音书房出版的'读经一年一遍'所定规的章数和段落读。

One line should be the New Testament, which can be called the line of life because our emphasis should be on the nourishment of life. It is best to read one chapter of the New Testament every morning for twenty to thirty minutes, choosing one or two verses to pray-read. The other line should be the Old Testament, which can be called the line of knowledge because our emphasis should be on knowing the Bible. We can read from this line every day during the daytime or in the evening for thirty or forty minutes. We should read about three chapters of the Old Testament a day. In this way we can read from both the Old and New Testaments every day, and in one year we will read through the whole Bible. When we read from either the Old or New Testament, it is best to read from the first book to the last, chapter by chapter. It is best if we read it according to the number of chapters and sections laid out in the book Once a Year through the Bible published by the Gospel Book Room (see The Collected Works of Watchman Nee, vol. 2, ch. 10).

(三)读的时候,第一要注意并记住每章的大意。第二,要接受灵感,并要把感觉有灵感的经言随时 化作祷告。第三,要把重要的经言记住背过。

3. We should pay attention to and remember the main points of every chapter. We should receive inspiration and turn this inspiration into prayer as soon as we sense it. We should remember and memorize the important phrases in the Bible.

比方,你读马太第一章。第一,你要看见这章第一段的大意,是讲基督的家谱,第二段的大意,是讲基督的降生,你就把这两点的大意记住。第二,也许你会在二十一节所说'给祂起名叫耶稣,因祂要将自己的百姓从罪恶里救出来'的话上,受了灵感,那么你就该把这话马上化作祷告,求主照着祂名字的意义,把你从你某一个罪里救出来;或求主照着祂名字的意义,把你所关心的一个弟兄或姊妹,从他的罪里救出来。然后第三,也许你觉得二十一节,和二十三节,说到主两个名字的话很宝贵,那么你该把这两节的话记住背过。

For example, when we read Matthew 1, we should see that the first section is on the genealogy of Christ, and the second section is on the birth of Christ. We should remember these two points. Then we may have a feeling about verse 21: "You shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins." We

can immediately turn this inspiration into prayer, asking the Lord to save us from our sins, according to the meaning of His name. We also can ask the Lord to save a brother or sister from their sin, according to the meaning of His name. Finally, if we have a sense of the preciousness of the Lord's names in verses 21 and 23, we should memorize these two verses.

(四)不要太求深解。

4. We should not seek deep explanations.

在我们让经的时候,最容易打岔我们的一件事,就是求其深解。不错,我们读经,是应当求明白。但不要太求深解。太求深解,反而打岔我们读经,拦阻我们明白圣经。这是我们应当提防的。明白圣经,是需要属灵生命的程度的,是和属灵生命的程度成为正比例的。我们在属灵生命上到了何种程度,我们明白圣经就能到何种地步。有的圣经,我们在今天这种属灵生命程度之下,不能明白,等到我们在属灵生命上长进一点的时候,就能明白了。所以在我们读经的时候,能领会多少,就领会多少;不能领会的,暂时可不必领会,不必太求深解,也许等到再一次读的时候,就能领会了。

We can be easily distracted when we read the Bible if we are seeking deep explanations. We should try to understand what we read, but we do not need to seek deep explanations. Such explanations distract and hinder us from understanding. We should guard against this. We need a certain level of spiritual life to understand the Bible because our understanding is proportional to our level of spiritual life. Given the present stage of our spiritual life, some parts of the Bible will not be understandable. However, as our spiritual life grows, we will spontaneously understand more of the Bible. Thus, when we read the Bible, we will have some understanding, but we should not feel the necessity to understand everything that we read at any given moment. We should not seek explanations that are beyond our spiritual comprehension. Instead, we should realize that we may understand a portion the next time we read the Bible.

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