读 经(拾贰)

Reading the Bible (XII)

柒 帮助读经的几点解释

VII. A Few Points of Explanation to Help in Reading the Bible

有几点的解释,对于我们读经是有帮助的,所以我也愿意在这里告诉弟兄姊妹。

A few points of explanation will help the brothers and sisters in their reading of the Bible.

(壹) 圣经的分段

A. Sections of the Bible

圣经分为旧约和新约两大部分。而这两大部分,又各分为几段落。

The Bible is divided into two major sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament. Each of these is further divided into several sections.

一 旧约一分三段:

1. The Old Testament Containing Three Sections:

(一)历史一自创世记至以斯帖记,共十七卷

a. The Section of History—from Genesis to Esther—Containing Seventeen Books

圣经称创世记至申命记五卷为'律法'或'摩西'。(路十六 29,31,约五 45~46,罗十 4~5。) 人多称这五卷为摩西五经,称约书亚记至以斯帖记十二卷为历史书。

The five books from Genesis to Deuteronomy are considered as the books of the Law, or the books of Moses (Luke 16:29, 31; John 5:45-46; Rom. 10:4-5). They are commonly referred to as the Pentateuch. The twelve books from Joshua to Esther are called the books of history.

(二)经历一自约伯记至雅歌,共五卷。

b. The Section of Experience—from Job to Song of Songs—Containing Five Books

人也把这五卷,和耶利米哀歌称作诗歌,因为是用诗歌的体裁写的。

Some call these five books and Lamentations books of poetry because they are written in poetic form.

(三)预言一自以赛亚书至玛拉基书,共十七卷。

c. The Section of Prophecy—from Isaiah to Malachi—Containing Seventeen Books

人素称这些为先知书,长者为大先知书,短者为小先知书。

These books collectively are called the Prophets. The longer books are referred to as the major prophets, and the shorter books are referred to as the minor prophets.

圣经在路加二十四章四十四节,也把旧约分为三段:1摩西的律法,即摩西五经;2先知的书,包括历史书;3诗篇,包括诗歌书。

In Luke 24:44 the Old Testament is divided into three sections: (1) the Law of Moses, the Pentateuch; (2) the Prophets, including the books of history; and (3) the Psalms, including the books of poetry.

犹太人或拉比对旧约的分法,是照路加二十四章二十七节。就是把旧约分为律法书、先知书、和 经书。

The Jews and their rabbis divided the Old Testament according to Luke 24:44: the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.

二 新约一也分三段:

2. The New Testament Containing Three Sections

(一) 历史一自马太福音至使徒行传, 共五卷。

a. The Section of History—from the Gospel of Matthew to the Acts of the Apostles—Containing Five Books

头四卷素称为四福音,或福音书。第五卷也简称作行传。

The first four books are called the four Gospels. The fifth book is called Acts.

- (二)经历一自罗马书至犹大书,共二十一卷。
- b. The Section of Experience—from Romans to Jude—Containing Twenty-one Books

这二十一卷素称为书信。

These twenty-one books are called the Epistles.

- (二)预言一启示录,一卷。
- c. The Section of Prophecy—Revelation—Containing One Book

无论旧约或是新约,都是头一段是历史,当中一段是经历,末了一段是预言。这是很有意思的。

In both the Old Testament and the New Testament, the first section is history, the second section is experience, and the third section is prophecy. This is very meaningful.

(贰) 圣经中的预表

B. Types in the Bible

预表是神在旧约的时候所用的图样,预先描写祂新约的真道。这如同幼稚园用图示的方法教儿童一样。 预表可以是:

In the Old Testament God used types as pictures to depict the truths that would be revealed in the New Testament. This is similar to a kindergarten teacher using pictures to teach children. There are many categories of types, including people, things, events, and ceremonies.

- (一)一个人一例如亚当,是基督为新创造元首的预表。罗马五章十四节。
- 1. Adam Being an Example of a Person as a Type (Rom. 5:14)

基督是新创造的元首。在祂未来之先,神用亚当把这件事预表出来。

Christ, as the Head of the new creation, is typified by Adam.

- (二)一件东西—例如圣殿的幔子,是基督身体的预表。希伯来十章二十节。
- 2. The Veil in the Temple Being, an Example of a Thing as a Type (Heb. 10:20)

The veil of the temple, which separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies so that man could not approach God in the Holy of Holies, is a type of the physical body of Christ. After the veil was rent, however, man could come before God. When the Lord Jesus' body was rent on the cross, a new and living way was opened for sinners to approach God. His death on the cross enables us to come to God directly.

圣殿的幔子原是把圣所和至圣所隔开,叫人不能亲近在至圣所里的神。等到幔子裂开了,人就得以 进到神面前。这是表明主耶稣未死之先,罪人没法亲近神,等到祂的身体在十字架上裂开了,就给 我们开了一条又新又活的路,使我们能直接到神面前亲近神。

- (三)一件事迹—例如以色列人出埃及的事迹,是信徒得救的预表。林前十章一至十一节。
- 3. The Children of Israel Leaving Egypt, being an Example of an Event as a Type (1 Cor. 10:1-11)

在神的救恩未显出之先,神用以色列人出埃及的事,把祂的救恩清楚的图示出来。

Before God's salvation was manifested, God typified His salvation through the event of the children of Israel leaving Egypt.

- (四)一种礼节—例如逾越节,是基督被杀献祭的预表。林前五章七节。
- 4. The Passover Being an Example of a Ceremony as a Type (1 Cor. 5:7)

在新约未到,基督未来受死之先,神在旧约的时候,就用逾越节的事,把基督被杀受死的故事活画 出来。

The Passover in the Old Testament is a type, a living picture, of Christ's death. God used this ceremony to point to the death of Christ in the New Testament.

(参) 圣经中的预言

C. Prophecies in the Bible

圣经中的预言,都是绝对按着字面应验的。圣经中最大的预言,乃是论到基督两次降临的。已往关于基督第一次降临的预言,都是按着字面应验的一例如'童女'就是'童女'; (赛七14,太一18~21;) '驴驹'就是'驴驹'; (亚九9,太二一2~5;) 就那些关于基督第二次降临,和其他尚未应验的预言,自然也必要照着字面应验。所以我们对于预言的解释,必须是绝对按着字面的。

The prophecies in the Bible are fulfilled literally. The greatest prophecies in the Bible concern the two comings of Christ. The prophecies concerning the first coming of Christ have been fulfilled literally. For example, the prophecy concerning a virgin was actually fulfilled by a virgin (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18-21); the prophecy concerning the Lord riding on a foal of a donkey was actually fulfilled with a foal of a donkey (Zech. 9:9; Matt. 21:2-5). The prophecies concerning the second coming of Christ and other unfulfilled prophecies will certainly be fulfilled literally. Therefore, our explanation of prophecy must be absolutely literal.

还有'经上所有的预言,没有可照它自己的意思解说的'。(彼后一 20,原文。)这就是说,没有预言是可以单独就着它本处的经文而解释的,必须参看别处的预言对于这个题目如何说。

Furthermore, no prophecy of Scripture is of one's own interpretation (2 Pet. 1:20). This means that no prophecy can be interpreted in isolation from other Scripture; we must see how it relates to other prophecies on the same subject.

(肆) 圣经中的历史

D. The Spiritual Significance of History in the Bible

圣经中的历史,是藏着灵意的。例如撒拉与夏甲的历史,说出新旧两约的分别;(创二一 $1\sim14$,加四 $20\sim31$;)米非波设的故事,描写出神的救恩。(撒下九 $1\sim13$ 。)

The history in the Bible contains spiritual meaning. For example, the history of Sarah and Hagar speaks of the difference between the old and new covenants (Gen. 21:1-14; Gal. 4:22-31), and the story of Mephibosheth describes God's salvation (2 Sam. 9:1-13).

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