



溪邊的樹

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中華教會

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從聖經認識事奉神的旨意

徒 13：22—既廢了掃羅，就選立大衛作他們的王…，「…他是合我心意的人，凡事要遵行我的旨意。」

徒 13：36—大衛在世的時候遵行了神的旨意，就睡了

所謂事奉神的旨意，就是：明白、查驗、認識神的旨意後，就要按着祂的旨意、照著去作。聖經裏說到神的旨意，有一個重要的動詞，就是「遵行」。彼得在變化山上要搭三座棚的「搭」字、與「遵行」是同一個字義。重點不在明白，而在遵行。「願你的旨意行在地上，如同行在天上。」的「行」、也是「遵行」的意思。讀聖經的人，都明白神的旨意，但少有能遵行的人。

中文合和版聖經中有「事奉」，也有「神的旨意」，卻沒有兩個詞放在一起過，但事奉神的旨意的意思是有的。保羅在安提阿講到：神「既廢了掃羅，就選立大衛作他們的王，又為他作見證說：」大衛「是合我（原文：跟隨我）心意的人，凡事要遵行我的旨意。」

「事奉」都是奉召的，要看神是否選召，而不是自願的。為什麼神選用大衛？掃羅凡事高人一等，大衛卻被人輕視，自認：父母離棄我，耶和華收留我。沒有人是完全的，都會有失敗。重要的是神看他為合神心意的人，為他作見證。就因為他凡事根據神的心，遵行神所有的旨意。（徒 13：22）

說到神的旨意，我們所知有限，不過是在神啓示的大海邊、拾取到一、二貝殼而已（套用牛頓的話）。就如大學畢業了，你才知道自己越不知道多少，你就是真謙卑了。聖經需要苦讀，因為人生太短了，神的話我們不可能完全明白，唯有在永世裏我們纔能完全明白神的旨意。服事神的人，只要完全遵行神所有已經啓示的旨意，看不見的就不是我們的責任了。所以，神給你的啓示多大，你順服的範圍就需多大。只要真正遵行神的旨意，果子一定會傳下去而有後裔。就如神尋得合祂心意的大衛，從他的後裔中，照所應許的，為以色列人立了救主耶穌，（徒 13：23）使人只見基督。所以，當人看見你所傳授的有人接受，並得到你的供應、成全；看見教會裏許多接棒人起來，你不過成為一個肢體時，就知道你追尋、並遵行了神全部的旨意。大衛最成功的地方、是叫人忘記他，否則大衛就取代了基督的地位。由于大衛一生中有一段見不得人的經歷，人會忘記他，使他不過是神工作過程中的一小段。

聖經中不只講遵行了神的旨意，同樣使徒行傳那段也講到「大衛在世的時候遵行了神的旨意，就睡了…。」小字：大衛按神的旨意服事了他那一世的人，就睡了。（徒 13：36）

對神是事奉，對同代人是服事，二字是同一字。遵行了神的旨意，原文意思是事奉了神的旨意，中文為了雅、達而改成「遵行」。大衛在世時，雖高居在寶座上，但每次都把寶座放在主腳前，以奴僕地位來遵行、事奉了神的旨意。

聖經中有四個事奉神旨意的重要人物：彼得、保羅、約翰、馬太，新約稱他們為事奉神的四個執事。在彼得是啓示，保羅是福音，約翰是見證，而馬太關乎讀聖經的人。

彼得這位使徒得啓示，明白什麼是事奉神的旨意。從登山寶訓的開學典禮、直到主最後在世那半年的時間，他一直跟隨主。馬太福音十六章說到他所獲得最大的啓示：

1. 基督，是永生神的兒子（不是屬血肉的人能看見的）。
2. 因著彼得偉大的承認，主稱彼得為有福的，並將教會和十架的奧秘也告訴他：主要把教會建立在磐石上，預指著從主耶穌在十字架上所流的血和水生出教會。若無十字架，就沒有教會。十字架意味著拯救，表示我們天天需要十字架的拯救，把我們從自己、肉體和我裏拯救出來、過聖潔生活。兩千多年前主耶穌開始的十架工作，到現在仍然有效。
3. 主並要把天國的鑰匙給彼得。
4. 背起十字架來跟隨主，必看見人子降臨在祂的國裡。

彼得從舊約的知識、和跟隨主三年半所得的教導，是以能得著宇宙中最高啓示的基礎－彌賽亞是誰。既然得着了，就寶貝珍惜，不願基督受損。因此當主講到自己要捨己上十字架時，彼得馬上勸阻主耶穌萬萬不可，完全不自覺是替撒旦說話了。但十字架永遠是神的方法，主的心中只有父神的旨意，所以主責備彼得是祂的絆腳石。只因彼得太愛主，反落到不體貼神的意思，只體貼主這人。接著主耶穌就說：「若有人要跟從我，就當捨己，背起他的十字架來跟從我…。」（太 16: 24，可 8：34，路 9：23）

主第一次遇見彼得和他兄弟及腓利時，只說：「來跟從我。」（約 1:43）就是享受主，沒有提十字架。一年以後，主要他們：「來跟從我，我要叫你們得人如得魚一樣。」（太 4:19，可 1：17）主在對他們交付工作了。三年後，主對他們就有重要的話了：「若有人要跟從我，就當捨己，背起他的十字架來跟從我。」彼得的功課是，他需要背十字架。不論他學了多少，都要一直站

在奴僕的地位，不能大過主人（弗 6:6 不要只在眼前事奉，…要像基督的僕人，從心裡遵行神的旨意。）

馬太十六章讓我們看見，門徒跟隨主已三年之久，主在就要上十字架之前，對門徒啓示了有關我們信仰的四大基要真理：基督、教會、十架和國度。今天教會也一樣，不只遵行主的旨意，更要事奉神的旨意，背起十字架來跟隨主，直到主的國降臨。

基督來到世上時，說：「神啊，祭物和禮物是你不願意的；你曾給我預備了身體。…我來了，為要照你的旨意行…。」這是兒子的遵行。聖經說到基督本有神的形像，但不以自己與神同等…反倒虛己，取了奴僕的形像，成為人的樣式…存心順服，以至於死，且死在十字架上（腓 2：6－8）。主把祂自己放在奴僕的地位，在客西馬尼園問知十字架是神的旨意後，就甘心順服至死。

講到事奉神的旨意，馬可福音以牛來比喻主那奴僕的形像最為傳神不過了。馬可前十章叫人看見牛在耕田：一到三章－主是眾人的僕人；四到十章－主作家中的用人。後面六章（十一到十六）叫人看見牛被獻在祭壇上，表明主的順服以至死在十字架上。

馬可是彼得屬靈的兒子，他至少作了兩次逃兵，也是一個失敗者，所以保羅不願再帶他出去傳道。但之前當主被捉拿時，眾人早早一窩蜂逃走，而他跟隨主、直到最後才赤身而逃，可見他事奉主的心志沒有問題，願撇下自己跟隨主。因此保羅最後還是承認、馬可在傳道上仍然對他有益。

彼得在馬太十六章的基督是沒有十字架的，因為彌賽亞是尊貴的名字，與受苦是無關的，所以勸主逃避十字架。因愛主卻絆了主，他的失敗是由于不肯捨去自己的意思。當他第二次失敗，否認主、「我不認識他」時，其根是在馬太十六章已經種下的。等到他被復活的主恢復、回頭後，

五旬節彼得見證耶穌基督是、「按著神的定旨先見被交與人…釘在十字架上，殺了。」從馬太十六章喜悅人的意思、轉成事奉主的旨意，他也才漸漸懂得如何事奉神 – 天天背起自己的十字架來跟從主，作僕人，與主同負一軛。

常常我們來服事主，只事奉殿，沒有事奉神（的旨意）。彼得的功課讓我們看見，要作主門徒、是與主同在，更是與主同負一軛。田是主的田，我們只會走自己的路。與主同負一軛，才能走主的路。因為你我的主張和計劃，都阻礙神的十字架的計劃。只有當我們能一次永遠看見、神在基督裏所定的旨意時，一切才能反敗為勝，像彼得和馬可這兩個失敗者一樣。要脫下代表兒子身份的鞋子，認清自己奴僕的地位：我們沒有履歷表，我們不過是事奉神旨意的人。神甘願捨去祂的兒子，我們卻還捨不下自己嗎？

若我們事奉神到沒有我就不行，我們就失敗了。彼得、馬可都沒有掩飾他們的失敗，是為了鼓勵以後千千萬萬的彼得和馬可。但願聖靈繼續在我們心裡工作！

（陳希曾教授信息節錄，未完待續）

To Serve the Will of God

Reading: Act 13: 22, 36

To serve the will of God is to understand, to examine and to know the will of God, then to obey and do that will. The important verb is “to do”. Peter wanted to build three tents on Mt. Transfiguration. The verb “to build” is of the same root as “to do”. The emphasis is on doing, not on understanding. “Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.” It is important to do it. Many Bible students claimed to know God’s will, but few could actually do the Will.

God elected David over Saul, and testified that David was of God’s own heart, serving all God’s will. Saul was better by appearance in all aspects. On the contrary, David was despised by men, even

by his parents when he was young. But God called him, because in all things he served in accordance with the will of God (Act 13:22).

Concerning the will of God, we know very little. Our knowledge is like a few shells collected on the shore of the sea of revelation. In this life it is impossible to completely understand the will of God. That has to wait till we enter into eternity. A servant of God is not responsible for the part that he does not know, but ought to do all of God’s will that he knows. As God reveals to you, you are to be obedient; then you shall bear fruit. As David obeyed the will of God, among his descendants was established the Savior Jesus (Act 13:23). So others saw Christ only, not David. Similarly, when others accept your teaching and are built up, or others in the church grow to be able to pick up your mantle, that means you have sought God’s will and is successful. David’s greatest success was to cause others to forget him, lest he should take the place of Christ. He was only a small segment of God’s work in the process. Although he was the king, he always laid down his throne at the feet of the Lord and served as a servant. So he served the people of his time according to the will of God (Act 13:36).

There are four ministers in the New Testament who served the will of God. Peter received revelation. Paul had the gospel. John represented the testimony, and in Matthew it related to the students of the Bible.

The Apostle Peter received the highest revelation to know what is to serve the will of God. From Matthew 5 to 16 he followed the Lord to receive the following:

1. Christ is the Son of the living God.
2. Because of this confession, Peter was blessed and further learned of the mystery of the church and the cross. The Lord will build His church upon the Rock. From the water and the blood at the cross was the church born. The cross is the salvation we

need everyday in order to be delivered from the old self and the flesh. It was done two thousand years ago, but still effective for us today.

3. The Lord gave Peter the key of the kingdom.
4. When following the Lord by taking up the cross, one shall see the Son descending in the kingdom.

Peter treasured this wonderful revelation on who the Christ is, to the extent that he tried to protect Him by suggesting that He should not go to the cross. But the cross is always God's method, and Jesus always minds the Father's will. Therefore, Jesus had to teach Peter to take up his cross and follow the Lord (Mt 16:24, Mk 8:34, Lk 9:23).

When Jesus first called Peter, Andrew and Phillip, He only said, "follow me" (Jn 1:43) without mentioning the cross. A year later, the Lord said, "follow me and I will make you fishers of man" (Mt 4:19, Mk 1:17). Three years later, the Lord asked them to take up their own cross and follow Him. Peter had to learn the need to take up the cross, no matter how much he had learned. He should always remain in the position of a servant in order to serve. (Eph 6:6 says that one should always serve as the servant of Christ, obeying the will of God from the heart.)

As we see from Matt 16, before the Lord went to the cross, He revealed to the disciples the four basic truths: Christ, church, cross and kingdom. Today's church needs the same teaching. We are to obey His Word, do God's will, and take up the cross and follow Him till He comes. Christ the Son came to do the Father's will. Phil 2:6-8 says that He emptied Himself to take the image of a servant, the form of a man to be obedient, even death on the cross. At Gethsemane He was totally submissive to be obedient to death.

The Gospel of Mark presented Jesus as a servant in the form of an ox. From Chapters 1 to 3, the ox was serving the crowd. In Chap. 4-10 He served the family. In the last six chapters the ox was offered on the altar as a sacrifice, i.e. the death of Jesus on the cross. Mark was a spiritual son to Peter. He also ran away from the Lord. One time Paul refused to take him along on mission trips. But Mark had the heart of serving the Lord. Even in the end Paul admitted that Mark was useful in his ministry.

To Peter the Christ of Matt 16 had no cross, because Christ was a majestic title that could not suffer death. That was the root of his failure. Later when he denied the Lord thrice, the cause was in Matt 16. After Jesus' resurrection Peter was revived, and testified for Jesus that He was crucified on the cross according to the will of God. From being mindful of man's will, he changed gradually to serve God's will. He truly learned to serve God by taking up the cross and follow the Lord, as a servant who was willing to yoke with Jesus.

Too often we serve the house, not the will of God. Peter's lesson shows us that one must yoke with the Lord and walk with Him, lest we should go on our own pathway, and hinder the Lord's plan of the cross. Only when we see the will of God in Christ Jesus, may we be revived once for all, like Peter and Mark the two dissidents. We need to remove the shoes to take the position of a servant to serve the will of God. God was willing to give His own Son. Are we willing to give ourselves for Him?

In service, we fail when we view ourselves as indispensable. Peter and Mark did not hide their failures, in order to encourage thousands of Peter and Mark that followed. May the Spirit keep on working in all our hearts.

(From notes on messages by Prof. Christian Chen, to be continued)

請注意
Special Announcement

為了配合科技的發展，並更有效地運用資源，從 2010 年開始，教會每月通訊將以電子郵件方式寄出，懇請閣下溜覽本教會網頁，並加入電郵通知名單，以確保繼續按時收到通知。

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