

做贵重的器皿

*Be an instrument
for noble purposes*

提摩太后书 2:20-22

2 Timothy 2:20-22

引言 Intro:

保罗在 **提摩太后书 2:20-21** 以文字图片的形式给我们讲了一个比喻。

In **2 Timothy 2:20-21**, Paul tells us a parable in the form of a word-picture.

图片显示大户人家房子里有许多的器皿，有金的、银的、木的和陶制的。



The pictures shows a large house with many vessels of gold, silver, wood and clay.



不难理解的，大户人家的主人会将金和银的器皿保持清洁，作高贵的或特殊的用途，譬如在晚宴中使用。

It is not difficult to understand that the owner of the big house will keep the gold and silver vessels clean for noble or special purposes, such as at dinner.

木质和陶制的器皿会用于一般的或卑贱的用途，可能在厨房后面使用，或用作垃圾桶，或粪桶。



The wood and clay vessels are used for common or dishonorable purposes, perhaps in the kitchen or as garbage can, or a dung tub.

大房子代表神的家，就是教会，而房子的主人是主自己。

The large house represents the house of God, that is the church, and **the owner of the house** is the Lord Himself.

器皿是教会里的信徒，是主使所要使用的。

The vessels are beleivers in the church that the Lord wants to use.

这个比喻的重点是信徒要成为合乎主用的器皿。

The point of this parable is that believers are to be a vessel useful to the Lord.

让我们进一步来看看
这些器皿的意思：

**Let us take a closer look
at the meanings of these vessels:**

A. 贵重的和卑贱的器皿 (2:20)
noble and ignoble articles (2:20)

提后 2²⁰ 在大户人家，不但有金器银器，也有木器瓦器；有作为**贵重的**，有作为**卑贱的**。

2 Tim 2²⁰ In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are of **noble purposes** and some for **ignoble**.

按常理来说，不管是金、银、木、或陶制的器皿，它们都**各有用处**，不然主人就不会留它们在家里了，对吗？

In common sense, whether they are gold, silver, wood, or clay vessels, **each is useful**, otherwise the owner would not keep them in the house, right?

所以，有人以为保罗在这里是在教导我们在神的家里，每一位信徒，不管恩赐大小，都各有用处，都各有他扮演的重要角色。

Therefore, some think that here Paul is teaching us that every believer, regardless of how big or small his/her gift are in the family of God, each has his own important role to play.

的确的，圣经有好多处的经文都教导我们**属灵的恩赐不分贵贱**，而每一位信徒要各尽其职的配搭事奉神。

Indeed, there are many Scripture passages in the Bible that teach us that **there is no distinction of honor and dishonor spiritual gifts**, and that every believer must do his/her part to serve God.

而且，哥林多后书 4:7 不是说我们是**瓦器**吗？

Moreover, doesn't
2 Corinthians 4:7
say that we are
jars of clay?



神有轻看**瓦器**吗？

Does God despise **jars of clay**?



林后 4⁷ 我们有**这宝贝**放在瓦器里，要显明这莫大的能力是出於神，不是出於我们。

2 Cor 4⁷ But we have **this treasure** in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

在林后 4⁷ 瓦器是没有区别的指所有的信徒。

In 2 Cor 4⁷, **clay jars** refer to *all believers without distinction*.

林后 4⁷ 是要说明每一位信徒拥有真理的荣耀光辉在他们生命中。

2 Cor 4⁷ is to show that every believers have **the glorious light of truth** in them.

在 **提后 2:20**，保罗不再用瓦器来比喻所有的信徒。

In **2 Tim 2:20**, Paul no longer uses jars of clay to represent all believers.

在 **提后 2:20**，**瓦器**只是比喻某一类型的信徒。

In **2 Tim 2:20**, **jars of clay** only represent a certain type of believers.

提后 2:20 提到的是**不同类型的信徒**，
不是**不同的属灵恩赐**。

2 Tim 2:20 mentions of **different types of believers**, not **different spiritual gifts**.

在提后 2:20，你属于哪一类型的信徒是至关重要的。

In 2 Tim 2:20, it is crucial which type of believers you are.

虽然保罗的比喻中提到金、银、木、和瓦，他心中想的却只有两种类型的信徒：**贵重的**，和**卑贱的**。

Although Paul's analogy referred to gold, silver, wood, and clay, in his mind he has only two types of believers: **noble**, and **ignoble**.

从经文的上下文理来看，“**卑贱的器皿**”明显的是指偏离真道的信徒。
(提后 2:16-19)

From the context, it is clear that the
“**ignoble vessels**” refer to ***believers
who had strayed from the truth.***
(2 Tim 2:16-20)

“**贵重的器皿**”是指那些不偏离真道，忠心侍主，不为虚假的教训所迷惑的信徒。

“**Noble vessels**” are believers who do not depart from the faith, who serve the Lord faithfully, and are not deceived by false teachings.

在今天的经文里，保罗说神会使用凡是愿意脱离“卑贱”，自洁成为“贵重”的信徒。

In today's Scripture text, Paul is saying that God would use every believer who is willing to break away from being “ignoble”, be cleansed, and become “noble”.

我们有的是一位何等有怜悯、
有慈爱的神啊！



*What a merciful and
gracious God we have!*



B. 自洁，脱离卑贱的事 (2:21-22)

Cleanse yourself from ignoble living (2:21-22)

提后 2²¹ 人若自洁，脱离卑贱的事，就必作贵重的器皿，成为圣洁，合乎主用，预备行各样的善事。

2 Tim 2²¹ If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

木质和陶制的器皿不能变成金的银的。

Vessels made of wood and clay cannot be turned into gold and silver.

信徒不是物质的金、银、木或陶泥做成的器皿。

Believers are not material vessels made of gold, silver, wood or clay.

保罗说，信徒若愿意“**自洁...就必作贵重的器皿**”。

Paul says that if a believer is willing to “**cleanse himself...(he/she) will be an instrument for noble purposes**”.

注意，保罗说“**脱离卑贱的事**”。

Note that Paul says “**cleanses himself from the latter**”, which is **ignoble** life a person lives.

很清楚的，保罗要我们**只作贵重的器皿**，不作卑贱的器皿。

It is clear that Paul wants us to **only be noble** vessels, **not be ignoble ones**.

要怎样成为贵重的器皿呢？

How to be a noble vessel?

1. 自洁，脱离卑贱的事

1. Cleanse oneself from ignoble things

在这里，保罗强调我们的责任是保持自己洁净。

Here, Paul emphasizes our responsibility is to keep ourselves cleansed.

他要我们将卑贱的事情从自己的生活中清除掉。

He wants us to cleanse ourselves from ignoble things.

保罗提到的 **卑贱的事** 指的是当时正在传播的错谬教导。

The ***ignoble things*** Paul mentioned were the false teachings that were spreading at the time.

值得注意的是，错谬的教导不只是思想上的错误。

It's worth noting that false teachings are not just mental mistakes.

它们是我们需要从生活中剔除的来自
错谬教导的态度和习惯！

They are attitudes and habits that stem
from false teachings that need to be
cleansed out of our lives!

保罗不是教导我们通过自己的努力
可以赎罪。

Paul is not teaching that by our own
efforts we can atone for our sins.

如果你在院子里工作了一整天，肮脏的走进房子，那你应该不会像猫一样把自己用舌头舔干净吧？



If you come into the house dirty after a day of working in the yard, you wouldn't lick yourself clean like a cat does, would you?

相反的，你会使用肥皂和清水来把自己洗干净。

Rather, you would make use of soap and water to clean yourself.

使用肥皂和水洁净是洗净的一种方式。

Washing with soap and water is one way of cleansing.

神赐基督的宝血作为洗净我们所有罪孽的方式 (约一 1:7, 9)。

God provided the blood of Christ as the means of cleansing us from all our sins (1 John 1:7, 9).

当我们相信基督是救主的那一刻，我们就完全洁净了。

we are completely clean the moment that we trust in Christ as Savior.

但是我们生活在这世上会跌倒犯罪而被玷污。

But living in this world, we stumble and fall into sins, and get defiled.

当我们承认自己的过犯时，我们是以基督的宝血洁净我们玷污的生命。

When we confess our sins, we cleanse our defiled lives with the blood of Christ.

卑贱的器皿行在黑暗中，不从罪污中
洁净自己。

Vessels of dishonor walk in the darkness
and do not cleanse themselves from sin.

要成为贵重的器皿，你必须行在光明
中，向神承认所有已知的罪过。

To be a vessel for honor, you must walk
in the light, confessing all known sin to
God.

2. 逃避少年的私欲

2. Flee the evil desires of youth

提后 2^{22a} 你要逃避少年的私欲....

2 Tim 2^{22a} Flee the evil desires of youth

什么是“少年的私欲”呢？

What are “the evil desires of youth”?

“少年的私欲” 形容的是特别在青少年或年轻成年人时期显著的欲望和诱惑。

“the evil desires of youth” describes the desires and temptations that are especially prominent when someone is an adolescent or young adult.

这包括了性的诱惑，不正当的肉体享乐，以及对名利和荣誉的渴求。

Sexual temptation, illicit pleasure of the flesh, and a longing for fame and glory.

事实是属灵生命不成长的成年人也会活在“**少年的私欲**”中。

The fact is that adults who do not grow up spiritually will also live with “**the evil desires of youth**”.

你不会随着年龄的成长而不再会有情欲的诱惑！

You don't outgrow sexual temptations!

“**逃避**”有时会被看为懦弱，但聪明人明白远离试探是最勇敢的行动。

“**fleeing**” is sometimes seen as cowardly, but a wise man knows that staying away from temptations is the bravest action.

创世纪第39章提到约瑟在主人波提乏家里遭受主人的妻子的性诱惑。

Genesis chapter 39 mentions that Joseph was sexually tempted in the house of his master Potiphar by Potiphar's wife.

创 39^{12a} 妇人就拉住他[约瑟]的衣裳，说：「你与我同寝吧！」

Gen 39^{12a} She caught Joseph by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!"

年轻人约瑟如何回应呢？

How did the young man Joseph respond?

创 39^{12b} 约瑟把衣裳丢在她手里
跑出去了。

Gen 39^{12b} he left his cloak in
her hand and *ran out of the house.*

约瑟是逃避少年的私欲的好榜样。

Joseph is a good example of fleeing from
the evil desires of youth.

3. 追求公义、信德、仁爱、和平

**3. Pursue righteousness, faith, love
and peace**

**提后 2^{22c}追求公义、信德、仁
爱、和平。**

**2 Tim 2^{22b} pursue righteousness,
faith, love and peace.**

你不能仅是逃避罪恶，你还必须追求虔敬的品德：

You can't just flee a sin, you must pursue Godly characteristic as well:

- **公义** – 讨神喜悦的品行。
Righteousness - Conduct that pleases God.

- **信德** – 无论在任何情况下，都对神笃信不疑。

Faith – Deep assurance in God no matter what.

- **仁爱** – 对神和人的爱心和善意。

Love – Personal affection toward God and others.

- **和平** – 与神和与人有正确良好的关系。

Peace – Have the right and harmonious relationship with God and with others.

保罗还提醒我们要“**同那清心祷告主的人追求**” (提后 2^{22b})。

Paul also reminds us to pursue “**along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart**” (2 Tim 2^{22c}).

“**清心祷告主的人**”就是不体贴肉体、不顺从私欲，而是爱主的人。

“those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart” are those whose mind is not set on the flesh, and who do not live according to selfish desires, but love the Lord.

保罗说，要跟这样的人一起追求长进。

Paul says to pursue spiritual growth along with such people.

因此，成为贵重的器皿的三个条件是：

So, 3 conditions to be a noble vessel are:

1. 自洁，脱离卑贱的事

1. Cleanse oneself from ignoble things

2. 逃避少年的私欲

2. Flee the evil desires of youth

3. 追求公义、信德、仁爱、和平

**3. Pursue righteousness, faith, love
and peace**

C. 合乎主用 (2:21b)

Useful to the Master (2:21b)

提后 2²¹ 人若自洁，脱离卑贱的事，就必作贵重的器皿，**成为圣洁，合乎主用，预备行各样的善事。**

2Ti 2²¹ Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, **made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.**

每一位信徒都是一个器皿。器皿的目的就是为主人所使用，不是摆饰品。

Every believer is a vessel. The purpose of the a vessel is for the Master's use, not for display.

但是，神只用“贵重的”器皿。

But God uses only “noble” vessels.

这就是为什么保罗要我们成为“贵重的”器皿的原因。

This is why Paul wants us to be “noble” vessels.

当我们成为“贵重的”器皿时，我们是将自己**分别为圣**，是**合乎主用**了。

When we become “noble” vessels, we have **set ourselves apart** and **are useful for the Lord's use.**

主要使用归属他的贵重器皿来
“**行各样的善事**”。

The Lord wants to use the noble vessels that are his to “**perform every good work**”.

你是否已经是神贵重的器皿吗？

**Are you already
a noble vessel of the Lord?**

结语 Conclusion:

今天我们学习了信主的人都是神家里的器皿。

Today we have learned that all believers are vessels in the house of God.

神要我们成为可以被祂使用的器皿。

God wants us to be vessels fit for his use.

这表示我们每个人都必须是贵重的器皿。

Which means that each of us has to be a noble vessel.

可能有人觉得自己还不是贵重的器皿。

Some may feel that they are not yet a noble vessel yet.

保罗提出成为贵重器皿的3个途径：

Paul lists 3 ways to become noble vessels:

1. 自洁，脱离卑贱的事

1. Cleanse oneself from ignoble things

2. 逃避少年的私欲

2. Flee the evil desires of youth

3. 追求公义、信德、仁爱、和平

**3. Pursue righteousness, faith, love
and peace**

**你愿意将
成为一个合乎主用的贵重器皿
作为你今年追求目标的一部分吗？**

**Would you make becoming
a noble vessel useful to the Master
a part of your pursue this year?**