坦然无惧的祷告 Confidence in Prayer

约翰一书 5:14-17

1 John 5:14-17

在古代犹太教中,人们有一种理解, 认为神只回应伟大的族长-摩西、亚伯拉罕、以利亚等人的祈祷,而不会 回应一般普通人的祈祷。

In ancient Judaism, people used to think that God answered only the prayers of great people - patriarchs like Moses, Abraham, Elijah-and not the prayers of ordinary people.

但是耶稣教导我们说,神垂听他每一位儿女的祈祷。就是耶稣他告诉我们要"常常祷告,不可灰心"。(路 18:1)

But Jesus taught us that God hears the prayers of every child of God. It is he who told us to "pray always and not give up". (Luke 18:1)

祷告是神的儿女与他们慈爱的天父之间的对话。

Prayer is the conversation between God's children and their loving heavenly Father.

这是基督徒享有的最高特权。

It is the highest privilege of a Christian.

然而,今天一些信徒对祷告方面仍然 存有某些困惑。

However, today, some believers are still confused about this matter of prayer.

人们经常说: "我祈祷,但没 有任何反应。"

People often say, "I prayed but nothing happened."

他们问说:"这祷告到底是什么一回事情啊?"

They ask, "What is this prayer business all about?"

今天早上,让我们再来看关于祷告的事情。

This morning, let's once look at the matter of prayer again.

我们要看约一5:14-17。

We will look at 1 John 5:14-17.

除了**约翰一书**5:14-17之外,我们也要看约翰在**约翰福音**14:12-14记载耶稣教导有关祷告的一段话。

In addition to 1 John 5:14-17, we will also look at what John recorded in John 14:12-14 about Jesus' teaching on prayer.

A. 对耶稣充满信心 (14) Confidence in Jesus (14)

约一5:14 我们若<u>照他的旨意</u>求什 麽,他就听我们,这是我们向他所 存坦然无惧的心。

1 John 5:14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything <u>according to his will</u>, he hears us.

约翰很清楚的告诉我们祷告蒙应 允是有条件的,就是我们祷告要 <u>按神的旨意来祈求</u>。

John clearly told us that prayer is conditional, that is, we are <u>to pray</u> and ask according to God's will.

我们现在来看耶稣在**约14:12-14**的教导,不过我们要从后面看起,先看**14**节,然后**13**,最后第**12**节。

Let us now look at Jesus' teaching in John 14:12-14, but we will start backward, looking at verse 14 first, then verse 13, and lastly verse 12.

这个顺序是我们一般祷告时希望我们的祈求会应验的秩序。

This order is the way we usually wish our prayer will work when we pray.

约 14:14 你们若*奉我的名求*什麽, 我必成就。

1 John 14:14 You may <u>ask</u> me for anything <u>in my name</u>, and I will do it.

耶稣应许我们求什么他就给我们什么。

Jesus promises to give us what we asks him.

那我们是否应该开一个清单呢?

Shall we compile a list?

• 明年我想退休,给我两百万的退休金。

I want to retire next year, give me two million dollars to retire on.

• 让我有一辆奔驰好开。

Give me a Mercedes to drive around.

• 身体比18岁时更强壮,天天早上可 以跑10公里。

My body is stronger than when I was 18, and able to run 10 km every morning.

• 让我有一间150平方米的房子。

Let me have a 150 square meter house.

在我们没有继续编制我们的祈求清单之前,让我们来看第13节:

Before we continue to compile our prayer list, let's look at Verse 13:

约 14:13 你们奉我的名无论求什麽, 我必成就, *四父因儿子得荣耀*。

1 John 14:13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, <u>so that the Father</u> <u>may be glorified in the Son</u>.

哦,我的一切祈求还得要<u>通过圣子(耶稣</u> <u>基督]荣耀父神</u>!

Oh, so everything I ask for has to glorify the Father through the Son (Jesus Christ)!

看来我上面的祷告清单都<u>不是</u> 为了荣耀父神啊。

It seems like my list of prayers above <u>was not</u> for the glory of the Father.

接下我们来看第12节 耶稣说什么:

Next, let's see what Jesus says in verse 12:

约 14:12 我实实在在的告诉你们,<u>我</u> 所做的事,信我的人也要做,并且要 做比这更大的事,因为我往父那里去。

John 14:12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

第12节说我们留在地上是要*做耶稣的* 工作,因为他回到父那里去了。

Verse 12 says that we are here **to work the works of Jesus** because He went back to the Father.

现在让我们把耶稣的话(约 14:12-14)摆回正确的顺序,看看耶稣对祷告是怎么说的:

Now, let's return the words of Jesus (John 14:12-14) into the correct order, and see what does Jesus say about prayer:

a) 我们留在地上是要做耶稣的工作, 因为他回到父那里去。(12节)

We are here to work the works of Jesus because He went back to the Father. (verse 12) b) 在做耶稣的工作的时候,*我们要祈 求我们所<u>需要的</u>,以便我们可以<u>藉</u> 着圣子来荣耀圣父</u>。(13节)*

While working the work of Jesus, we are to ask for what we <u>need</u> so that we can <u>glorify the Father through the</u>
<u>Son</u>. (verse 13)

c) 耶稣重复上一节说的来肯定和强调他与我们之间的祈祷契约: "你们若*奉我的名求*什麽,**我必成就**。" (14节)

Jesus repeats himself to verify and emphasize the prayer contract he has with us, "You may <u>ask</u> me for anything <u>in my name</u>, and I will do it" (verse 14)

所以,从耶稣的话我们知道:

So, from the words of Jesus we know that:

• 祷告是用来拓展神的国度的。

Prayer is to be used to advance the Kingdom of God.

祷告不是让我们从神那儿 撬出东西来给自己使用!

It is not for prying stuff from God to use for ourselves!

神并不是糊涂的老祖父,总按我们的心愿给我们一点施舍好向我们证实他是神。

God is not a doddering grandfather doling out our heart's desires to prove who he is.

他也不是一台自动贩卖机,让我们可以随意投入银钱来换取他的祝福。

Neither is God a vending machine, to be freely used by inserting coins in exchange for his blessings.

我们坦然无惧的祷告信心是有 赖于**我们顺从他的旨意**。

The confidence we have in prayer is conditioned on *our following his will*.

B. 对他会回应祷告有信心 (15) Confidence in his Answer (15)

约一5:15 既然知道他听我们一切 所求的,就知道我们所求於他的, 无不得著。

1 John 5:15 And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him.

约翰向我们保证神是垂听祷告的神。

John assures us that **God is** the God who hears prayers.

尽管我们可能不会马上看到祷告的果效,但我们可以有最大的信心相信我们的祈求没有被神忽视。

Though we may not see an immediate answer to our prayers, we can have the utmost confidence that our prayers are not disregarded by God.

有的时候,神会要我们学习等候的功课。

Sometimes God wants us to learn the lessons of waiting.

我们大女儿<u>恩慈</u>读大学前申请美国四所大学。

Our elder daughter <u>Grace</u> applied to four colleges in the United States before she went to college.

四所大学都接受她,每一间都有为她提供一些奖学金。

All four colleges accepted her and each granted her some amount of scholarship.

但是我们还是缺乏经济能力让她到四间大学中的任何一间。

But we still couldn't afford to let her go to any of the four colleges.

我们为这事恳切祷告祈求主为<u>恩慈</u>开一条出路。

We earnestly prayed for this matter and asked that the Lord would open a way for **Grace**.

一位宣教士同事特别鼓励我们让她申请一所美国十佳基督教大学之一的学院。

A missionary co-worker strongly encouraged us to get her to apply to a college which is one of the top ten US Christian colleges. 我记得我说费用太贵了,入学要求也高, 这就是为什么我们先前没有考虑让<u>恩慈</u> 申请这所大学的原因。

I remembered saying that the fees were too costly and the admission requirements were too high, and that was why earlier on we did not encourage **Grace** to apply to this college.

在没有更好的选择的情况下,我们叫女儿尝试申请这间学院。

In the absence of a better choice, we asked our daughter to try and apply to this college.

然后我们不断祈祷、一直期待.....

Then, we kept praying, and waited.....

时间一个星期又一个星期的过去,学院没有一点声息。

Time went past week after week and yet there was no news from the college.

离开大学开学的日期越来越逼近了,我们越来越紧张,祷告中挣扎得更厉害。

University commencement was drawing closer and closer, and we were getting more and more anxious, and we struggled much in our prayer.

当时,我的信心遭受考验达到了极点:在恩慈继续深造的事上,我好像是进入死路,一堵既高且厚的墙耸立在前。

At that time, my faith was tested to its limit: in the matter of <u>Grace</u>'s further study, it seemed like I had come to an impasse, a tall and thick wall stood before me.

我唯一还能做的仍然是向主提出我的紧急请求。他是我们唯一的盼望。

The only thing left that I could do was still bringing my urgent request before the Lord. He was our only hope.

然后,一个早晨,在我还没时间开始担心**恩慈**的大学申请之前,她收到了惠顿学院的一封信,说她获得了整四年的全额奖学金!

Then, one morning, before I had time to even start worrying about <u>Grace</u>'s college application, she received a letter from Wheaton College saying that she was offered a full scholarship for the whole 4 years of her study!

经过这个过程中,我们一家人学习了极具挑战性的**等待神的时候**的功课。

Through this process, our family have learned the challenging lessons of <u>waiting</u> for God's timing.



Waiting does not guarantee getting what you have asked for.

有的时候神会不按照我们的意愿回应我们的祷告。

Sometimes God does not respond to our prayers as we wish.

但是他必然会以<u>最好的方式</u>回应我们的祈祷,使我们<u>得到最大的益处</u>。

But he certainly will answer our prayer in the best way to our maximum benefit.

无论我们的祷告合乎他的旨意与否, 神都垂听,并按照<u>他的旨意</u>给我们 回应。

Whether our prayers are in accordance with his will or not, <u>God listens</u>, <u>and he responds to us according to <u>his will</u>.</u>

在客西马尼园,耶稣祷告说:"阿爸,父啊!在你凡事都能,*求你将这杯 撤去!*然而,不要从我的意思,只 要从你的意思。"(可 14:36)

At Gethsemane, Jesus prayed, 'Abba, Father,' he said, 'everything is possible for you. *Take this cup from me*. Yet not what I will, but what you will.'

(Mark 14:36)

父神没有撤去耶稣须要喝的杯,没有让耶稣可以免除十字架的死亡。

The Father did not take away the cup that Jesus needed to drink, and did not exempt Jesus from dying on the cross.

但是,父神赐下足够的能力给耶稣,让他毅然的走上十字架,成就父神的旨意。

But, the Father gave sufficient power to Jesus so that he could resolutely go to the cross and fulfill the Father's will. 使徒保罗三次求过主叫他肉体上的"刺"离开他,但他的愿望没有被允准。(林后 12:6-9)

The **apostle Paul** prayed three times for the Lord to take away the "thorn" in his flesh but his desire was not granted. (2 Cor 12:6-9)

反之,保罗获得主的应许:

Instead, Paul had the Lord's promise:

林后 12:9a 他对我说:「我的恩典 够你用的,因为我的能力是在人 的软弱上显得完全。」

2 Corinthians 12:9a But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'

神无例外的总是<u>垂听</u>我们的祷告,并且他无例外的<u>按他的旨意</u> **回应**我们的祷告!

The Lord always <u>hears</u> our prayer, and he always <u>answers</u> our prayer <u>according to his will</u>!

C. 对他会帮助犯错的弟兄有信心 (16-17) Confidence in his aid for erring brother (16-17)

这两节经文有各种不同的解释。

There are various interpretations for these two verses.

让我们再来看这两节经文说什么。

Let us look at what these two verses say.

约一5:16 人若看见弟兄犯了<u>不至於死的</u> 罪,就当为他祈求,神必将生命赐给他; <u>有至於死的罪</u>,我不说当为这罪祈求。

1 John 5:16 If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that.

经文说了什么

What the verses say

罪的情况 State of Sin	我们应当做什么 What we are to do
不至於死的罪	当为他祈求,神必将生
sin that does	命赐给他
not lead to	should pray and God will
death	give him life
至於死的罪	我不说当为这罪祈求
sin that leads to death	I am not saying that he should pray about that

我相信大家应该会像我一样好奇, 很想知道到底什么是"**不至于死的** 罪",什么是"**至于死的罪**",对吗?

I believe that everyone is as curious as I am, eager to know what is "sin that does not lead to death" and what is "sin that leads to death", right?

但是,约翰在这里的心意和目的是想要*讨论*或*解释*什么是"**至于死的罪**" 和什么是"**不至于死的罪**"吗?

But, is it John's intention and purpose to discuss or explain what is "sin that does not lead to death" and what is "sin that leads to death" here?

不,不是! No, it is not!

约翰在这里仍然是在谈到关于 *坦然无惧的祷告*。

Here, John is still talking about the confidence in prayer.

在约一5:17约翰说:

In **1 John 5:17**, John says:

约一5:17 <u>凡不义的事</u> *都是罪*, 也有不至於死的罪。

1 John 5:17 *All* wrongdoing *is sin*, and there is sin that does not lead to death.

"凡不义的事都是罪"这句话是要确认我们没有人是从来没有犯过错的义人。

The phrase "All wrongdoing is sin" is to affirm that none of us is righteous and has never committed any wrong.

约翰在约翰一书1:8明确的指出了这一点:

In 1 John 1:8, John says this explicitly:

我们若说<u>自己无罪</u>,便是自欺,真理 不在我们心里了。

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

我们基督徒自己都知道在生活中我们仍然会犯罪,也都偶尔有犯罪。

As Christians, we all know that we can still fall into sin and occasionally have committed sins.

但是··· But...

约一1:9 *我们若认自己的罪*, 神是信实的,是公义的,必要 赦免我们的罪,洗净我们一切 的不义。

1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just* and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

有什么罪是不能蒙神赦免的吗?

Is there any sin that cannot be forgiven by God?

换句话说, In other words

什么是"至于死的罪"?

What is "sin that leads to death"?

任何不肯在神面前悔改、承认 的罪都是不能蒙神赦免的罪, 都是*至于死的罪!*

Any sin that one **refuses** to **repent** and confess before God cannot be forgiven by God. It is a *sin that leads to death!*

因此,我们看到*所有的*罪,不管按人看来是大或小,除非获得神的赦免,都是无比严重的,都属于*至于死的罪*。

Thus, we see that *all* sins, regardless big or little by human standard, unless they are forgiven by God, they are extremely serious, and belong to *sin that leads to death*.

大卫王与乌利亚的妻子拔示巴通奸, 然后谋杀了乌利亚,娶了拔示巴。 (撒下 12:1-14)

King David committed adultery with Bathsheba, Uriah's wife. He then murdered Uriah and took Bathsheba as his wife. (2 Sam 12:1-14)

当先知拿单指出大卫的罪时,大卫悔改并在神面前认罪。

When confronted by prophet Nathan, David repented and confessed his sin before God.

大卫接下来的一生必须承受他所犯的罪的后果,但他却蒙神的赦免。

David had to suffer the consequences of his sin the rest of his life but he was forgiven by God.

保罗曾经不信耶稣是基督,并且极尽能事的逼迫基督徒。(徒 22:3-21)

Paul once did not believe that Jesus is Christ and he did everything possible to persecute Christians. (Acts 22:3-21)

但是,基督却将他寻回,并使他成为外邦的使徒。

Yet, Christ found him and turned him into an apostle to the Gentiles.

彼得三次不认主,但他没有被主弃绝。 (约 21:15-19)

Peter had denied the Lord three times, but he was not rejected by the Lord. (John 21:15-19)

彼得和加略人犹大之间的区别在于,彼得有悔改,而犹大没有。

The difference between **Peter** and **Judas Iscariot** is that **Peter was repentant** and **Judas Judas was not**.

主的心意是"愿意万人得救"(提前2:4a), "不愿有一人沉沦,乃愿 人人都悔改。"(彼后3:9b)

God's will is that he "wants all men to be save" (1 Tim 2:4a), and "not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Pet 3:9b) 所以约翰呼吁信徒要为那些*不是离经背 道者,不是假先知,没有亵渎基督的名*, 却软弱跌倒的弟兄姐妹<u>祷告,彼此守望</u>。

Therefore, John appeals to believers to pray and keep watch for each other, specifically to pray for those brothers and sisters who are not apostates, not false prophets, and who do not blaspheme the name of Christ, but who are weak spiritually and have fallen into sins.

换句话说,约翰不要我们忽略了祷告的重要性和实用性。

In other words, John doesn't want us to neglect the importance and usefulness of prayer.

这是神要使用来建立、加强和保护他的教会的途径。

It is the means by which God builds up, strengthens, and protects his church.

最后,当约翰说"**有至於死的罪,我不 说当为这罪祈求**"时,他<u>并没有禁止</u>我 们为犯了**至于死的罪**的人祷告。

Lastly, when John said, "There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should pray about that" he <u>does not</u> <u>prohibit</u> us from praying for those who have committed sin that leads to death.

这是约翰的强调并鼓励我们关心"犯了不至於死的罪"的弟兄姐妹和为他们祈求的方式。

It's John's way of emphasis and encouraging us to care and pray for "those whose sin does not lead to death".

神的心意是要看见他们再次的在灵性上被建立起来。

It's God's will that they be restored spiritually.

结语 Conclusion:

祷告是神赐给信徒的特权。

Prayer is the privilege that believers received from God.

这特权是须要按神的旨意来使用的。

This privilege is to be used according to God's will.

我们要使用祷告的特权来为软弱跌倒的弟兄姐妹祷告,好让他们与主的关系可以被重新建立起来。

We must use the privilege of prayer to pray for brothers and sisters who have fallen into sins, so that their relationship with the Lord can be restored.

记得,

我们要为他们祈祷, 而不是在背后说他们闲话。

Remember,

we are to **pray** for them, not to **gossip** behind them.