

## 紐奧良華人浸信會

New Orleans Chinese Baptist Church

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## 活水

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# Living Water Bimonthly Newsletter October 2009

耶穌回答說、凡喝這水的、還要再渴。人若喝我所賜的水就永遠不渴·我所賜的水、要在他裏頭成爲泉源、直湧到永生。節期的末日、就是最大之日、耶穌站著高聲說、人若渴了、可以到我這裡來喝。信我的人、就如經上所說、從他腹中要流出活水的江河來。(約翰福音 4:13-14; 7:37-38)









**海**時你會感覺 生活的風浪接踵而來,絲毫不給你喘 息的機會。

2009年5月 12 日。兩天前我才 結束英格蘭、法國 和西班牙北部的旅 程回到紐奧良,現 在又踏上另一個旅 涂 —— 這一次是 到素有"風城"之 稱的芝加哥參加醫 學會議。令我費解 的是,我並沒有感 覺到時差的影響, 或者是太疲倦了而 無暇顧及它的存 在。當一個人往返 穿梭於旅行和日常 生活之間時,相形

對比之下,旅行便成爲一種超現實的體驗。記得上週四(僅僅在四天前!)在與朋友一起享受了美味的法國魚料理之後,我們到<u>波爾多的吉倫特</u>河旁漫步。而在前一天,我還在西班牙<u>比利牛斯</u>山腳下沿著如碧玉般溫潤的

## 文=李懋平 譯=樊 瑩

小湖信步遠足,平靜的湖面不泛一絲漣漪。但我並不想 在這裡重述我的旅程。生活就如一個尋寶之旅,不斷地 將美好的回憶珍藏起來,同時渴望探尋更大的寶藏。問 題是多數人對自己前方的目標渾然不覺,而沉浸於安逸 或痛苦扭曲的過去停佇不前。

事實上,作爲人類,我們依靠五種身體感官來體 驗世界 — 觸覺、聽覺、嗅覺、味覺和視覺。然而,如 果只停留於這些感覺,我們與一般動物,如牛和豬,亦 有何差別呢?不可否認的事實是在這裡寫這篇文章,而 你在閱讀就證明了人類的存在並不只限於動物的本能。 在學校的時候,教科書告訴我們,進化論解釋了人類的 起源。真相卻是,理論僅僅只是理論。Merriam-Webster 字 典這樣給"理論"下定義: 抽象的想法,基於相關的一 系列事實上的分析,或爲支持論點而預定的假設。達爾 文理論的形成正是基於對大自然的觀察。科學家們沉耽 於爲每一個觀察到的現象找到因果關係。因此,他們假 設對人類存在最可行的解釋是,由生物細胞連續演變進 化而來。但這些細胞從何而來?他們一定來自某些原始 化學物質的混合物,在偶發的情況下轉化爲生物細胞(聽 起來更像是 魔法 而非 科學 )。那麼,這些化學物質又 來自何方?呃,宇宙中曾經有一次大爆炸。大爆炸之前 又是什麼? 科學家們都緘默不語了。

無神論者和一些科學家宣稱聖經是人的作品,故此它不具備科學性 - 他們借此試圖說明聖經不能被觀察和實驗所證明。我過去也認爲,與進化論相比較起來,

創造論更像一個童話故事,盡管進化論本身也漏洞百 出,且對於解釋人類存在的原因和目的毫無辦法。但隨 著靈命的成長,我對於 創世紀 有了更清楚的理解。神 是一切科學的本源,因爲祂創造了整個宇宙。在浩渺宇 宙中我們所觀察到的一切都是祂創作的結晶。神是自有 永有的,祂按照自己的意願創造了萬物。當然,宇宙正 是祂的完美形象在物質層面上的影射;因此,它必須遵 循完美的神的秩序和公義來運轉。如果你讀過 創世 紀,你會知道在神創造了世界之後,祂決定要按自己的 形象造人。聖經告訴我們神是一個靈,由此推演出,人, 因其具備 神自己的形象, 必定也是一個有著神的特質的 靈。神讓我們在物質上與其他被造之物別無二致,但祂 在人的鼻孔中吹了一口氣,便使人成爲有靈的活人。既 然神是自有永有的,我們作爲有靈魂的人也必定具備永 恆的屬性。然而人同時也是被造物,同樣由化學元素組 成 ,因此必定遵循大自然的定律,也就是說內體必須腐 敗而回歸於自然。所以當我們的肉身死亡時,驅體將與 自然融爲一體。但人的靈不是出於物質,神造人是在創 造物質世界之後,人的靈魂則直接衍生自神的靈。因此, 人的靈有著永恆的渴望或追求來歸復至他的本源 一 神。不幸的是,在這個世界上並不是每一個人都有這樣 的渴望。正如聖經所說,神賦予我們以自由意志,亦是 神存在的最重要的特質。我們可以選擇承認神是我們的 創造者,或按照自己的意願選擇離棄神。當選擇與神背 道而行而對祂的命令置若罔聞的時候,我們便陷入 罪 中,意即人按照自己的意志選擇與神隔絕。對罪最終的 懲罰是與神完全的隔離,意味著當肉體死亡時,我們的 靈也與神徹底隔絕,並墮入永遠的黑暗或地獄中。

"等一等!"無神論者辯駁道,"你告訴我們世 界是在七天內造出來的,而科學證據表明這個過程經歷 了數十億年之久,我們怎麼能相信聖經的可靠性呢?現 在你是否要來鼓吹這個科學證據在神學上是毫無道理 的?"

親愛的無神論家們,看來你們對聖經持有另一套 標準,而且你們並不真正明白聖經中所講的話語的含 義。當然,聖經確實經由人的手寫作而成。神啓示先知 們並選擇讓聖經抄寫者來將祂的話語傳達給人。然而, 我們必須意識到,人的言辭是有限的,神不得不用人能 接受的方式來傳遞祂的信息,如人的語言中的語法結 構。試想一下,如果神要向摩西描述互聯網,祂會怎麼 做呢?在摩西所處的時代沒有任何相關的文字或描述, 祂會啓示書記員們用那個時代的字和詞語,以比喻的方 式來描述互聯網;比如, "空氣中向各個方向不斷延伸 出去的龐大的圖書館,像蜘蛛網一樣。"(如果你去讀啓 *示錄*,你會發現這卷書充滿了比喻和類比。)如果我們在 互聯網出現以前讀這段話,一定會覺得簡直是一派胡 言,毫無事實根據。實際上,人必須不斷地被神啓發才 能真正明白聖經。如果你仔細讀創世紀,你會發現太陽 是在第四天才被創造出來。創造所用的七天時間是按照 神的時間,而不是我們所用的太陽時。理解聖經需要神

學的理念。讓我們舉一個類比的例子,要想批判法國文學,最好的方法是學習法國的語言和文化。只閱讀法文作品的英語翻譯會限制你對作品本身的領會和理解,因為語言的結構是完全不同的。無神論者們還指責聖經是不科學的,並不被觀察和實驗所支持。如果兩千多年來無法計數的聖徒,殉道者和學者們對基督信仰的見證在科學的眼光看來,都無法被接受爲真實的觀察和實驗的話,那麼我就更沒有理由相信海森堡的測不准原理可的地方。正是基督教不斷尋求了解神的創造的精神促進了加爾文主義的誕生,從而引發了現代科學理論的發展。可悲的是,在這個後現代主義社會裡,許多人都錯誤地相信技術的發展能夠拯救這個敗壞的世界,而對於愛你的鄰舍要多與愛你自己這樣簡單的誠命嗤之以鼻。

當我在法國旅行時,與一個曾經是天主教徒而現 在是不可知論者的朋友有這樣的談話。他的工作是編寫 電腦程序,我就使用這個類比來向他講述創造論。(我必 須再次強調,作爲受造物,我們沒有能力也永遠不可能 真正了解神。)假設神是一個程序員,祂所創造的世界 是祂所編的一套電腦程序。電腦程序必須遵循某些特定 的規則和邏輯。(請注意,神遠遠不止於我們對信息技術 中程序員的理解。)神同時存在於過去、現在和將來,因 爲祂超越了時間和空間。這是一個艱深的概念,很難理 解,因爲我們存在於這個世界,受到時間和空間的限制。 我們對所有事物進行描述時必須加以時間(歷史)和空 間 (距離)的界定。作爲一個程序員,神創造了星辰、 地球和所有的活物。祂希望這個程序中有一件事物能反 映祂的存在 一充滿了創造的靈感和自由意志。因此,祂 創造了一個特殊的生命、被稱爲人、並且允許這個生命 有自由意志。在這個程序中,人無時無刻不按照自己的 意願來做出選擇。而神在掌控一切,其意思在於祂通曉 過去、現在和未來。祂知道人的某個行爲在將來會有什 麼結果,但祂絕對放手讓人在現時做自己的決定。(神的 無所不知實在超乎我們的理解範圍。)這個創造的程序, 是按照神自己的時間來進行,包含了許多複雜的規律和 法則(你也可以稱之爲大自然的定律和規則)。對於程序 中的人類來說,宇宙似乎已經存在了幾十億年之久;然 而對於程序員來說,程序的運行不過是須臾之間。可以 肯定的是,根據自然的定律,程序會使系統發生內部變 化。也就是說,依照程序的規則和程序員隨時可能對程 序進行的修改(可稱爲神性的干預),程序所處的環境亦 在不斷地演變。在空間-時間系統中,程序的十億年在程 序員的眼中無非只是輕描淡寫的一瞥而已。如此說來, 在程序中的人類所觀察到的事物(人或許可以給 進化 冠以理論的頭銜,因爲他所觀察到的是大自然循序漸進 的變化) 只是程序員在編程之始就設定的自然規律。出 於程序員的自由意願,人被 創造 及 插入 到祂的程序 中。人在物質表觀上完全符合大自然的規律,祂也設計 了生命之所以能應對自然的變化而繁衍下去所必須的生 命鏈或生命密碼(即是你們熟知的 DNA,在程序中記錄 生命編碼的化學物質)。從這個類比來看,創造和科學觀 察(進化的理論)完美地統一起來。<u>達爾文</u>的進化理論中缺失的一環是它無法僭越程序本身來圓滿地解釋人類存在的起源,意義和目的。創造論則將真相展示在我們面前:我們的本質爲何、存在的意義所在以及與物質世界的關係。

關於創造的問題曾經困擾我很長一段時間,此刻 我的內心卻有種衝動,要將對這個問題的思考用筆寫下 來。現在仍會感覺到自己的軟弱,質疑與不確信的念頭 時常在腦海中此起彼浮;畢竟這正是自由意志的本質 -我可以選擇信抑或不信。但對神的救贖滿懷感恩,對神 的信念也給了我無盡的盼望: 我生命的終極目標在於 神,而內心深處對靈性的渴望正是神在召喚。我堅信基 督教的真義是如此妙不可言,絕非人爲了自娛自樂而編 造出來的。如果我可以創造一個"宗教"的話,最簡單 也是最好的方法是造一個可以滿足我一切需要的神 一 何苦費工夫去編一個複雜的救贖計劃,讓神成爲人(道 成肉身),然後獻出生命(被釘十字架),目的卻只爲了 將救贖和永恆的生命帶給人(恩典)。當然,我會爲自己 的利益去"創造"一個信仰或宗教,如果造出的神或偶 像不能滿足我精神的需求,再造一個就好啦。我甚至可 以造一個美麗不可方物的偶像,迫使所有的人都去頂禮 膜拜它,這樣,人人都看到我的功勞,讚譽之聲不絕於 耳。但終究,這只是爲滿足虛浮的自我成就感的極度自 私的妄想罷了。然而,我內心深處卻很清醒,這些人造 的神並不能爲自己爲何存在這樣的靈性問題提供答案。 表面上我們是在崇拜偶像(偶像並不只限於塑像,還包 括金錢、名譽等),實際上我們在崇拜自己,從而離真正 的創造者愈來愈遠。我們每一個人都在試圖按照自己的 設想重造上帝,卻因違背那位真正的主宰而陷入罪的網 羅(也與祂完美的愛隔絕)。但神就是愛,包含萬有的愛。 神爲我們提供了一個解決方案,一個與祂自己的公義相 吻合的方案。罪的工價乃是靈魂在永遠的黑暗中絕望地 死去。爲了與神重歸於好,必須要爲死亡付出代價。我

們自身並不值得被救贖;好的行爲無法去償還死亡的 債,因爲我們好的行爲只是出於榮耀自己的目的,惟有 神自己出於祂的公義來爲我們還這個罪債。(在我們看 來,神根本無須去拯救世界上不信祂的人,即使祂有豐 盛無盡的恩慈,要萬人得救,而不願一人沉淪。將救恩 賜給所有不信祂的人卻是違背了祂自己完全公義的原 則。) 你知道什麼?神在數千年之前就向祂所揀選的以色 列子民預言救贖的計劃:在羅馬帝國神將道成內身爲人 的樣式 --- 耶穌基督。耶穌是純全的羔羊,在祭壇上以 自己的生命爲世人付上贖價,從此我們才得以恢復與神 的關係。在神看來,這項奇妙的救贖是無時限的。如果 一個人認罪悔改並接受耶穌做他個人的救主,耶穌基督 就以十字架上的犧牲爲他還清罪債。通過基督的復活, 我們就成爲靈魂煥然一新的新造的人,因爲我們的罪已 經和耶穌一起被釘在十字架上了。作爲一個全新的人, 我們與父神和好爲一並照著應許在祂的光明中享有永 生。此外,因著基督成爲人與神之間溝通的橋梁,聖靈, 也就是三位一體真神的第三位格,進注到我們的生命 中,將我們在塵世中有限的生命徹底地更新轉化爲具有 神設計原始印記的完美生命。

在從<u>紐奧良至芝加哥</u>的旅途中,我無法停止撰寫這篇文章。透過飛機的窗戶望去,棉花糖般的雲朵在午後的絢爛陽光中翩翩起舞,神的創造是如此美妙,讓人驚嘆不已!在大自然最微小的細節中我都看到了神的作為。到達<u>芝加哥</u>市中心後,我入住一間摩天酒店,窗外即是一望無際的密歇根湖。打開筆記本電腦完成了這篇文章,凝視眼前蔚藍的湖水,我的心亦如止水般平靜。有時在生命中突如其來的事情讓你措手不及,感覺立時陷入危險之中,惶惶然不知將會發生何等的打擊。我也早就決定不再以自己的微薄之力來與已編寫好的程序對抗了,而是將它完全地交托給設計我的程序員,我的創造者,我的父神,我的磐石和我的救主。

# Contemplation on Creation

### By David H. Lee

Sometimes you feel that life is coming right at you and there is barely time to breathe.

May 12, 2009. I returned to New Orleans from a trip to England, France and Northern Spain two days ago. Now I am traveling again—this time for a medical meeting in the windy city of Chicago. It's strange that I have not sensed the usual jetlag, or perhaps I am simply too



exhausted

from the oversea trip to feel the effect. Traveling is a surreal experience when juxtaposed directly with one's normal daily routine. I remember that last Thursday (just four days ago!) I was walking along the Gironde River in Bordeaux with my friends after having a wonderful French gourmet fish dinner. The day before, I was hiking in the

Spanish Pyrenees along an exquisitely tranquil emerald lake. But I do not want to re-track my journey here. Life is about treasuring the memories and looking forward to a grand goal. The problem is that most people do not know that goal and are trapped in the reliving either an idealized or distorted past.

Indeed, as human beings, we are governed daily by the five physical senses – touching, hearing, smelling, tasting, and seeing. But if we live purely by these senses, are we no different from typical animals like cows and pigs? The fact that I am writing this essay and that you are reading it testifies there is more to human existence than animal instincts. In grade schools, we were taught that the theory of evolution explains the human origin. The truth is that a theory is just a theory. The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines theory as an abstract thought, an analysis of a set of facts in relation to one another, or a hypothesis assumed for the sake of argument. Darwin's theory is made from observations of changes in nature. Scientists like to think there is a cause and effect to every observation. Thus, they assume that the most plausible explanation of human existence is evolution from a continuous line of biologic cells. And where do cells come from? They must have come from that primordial soup of chemicals by accident (it sure sounds more like magic than science here). How about those chemicals? Ah, there was this big bang in the universe. And what was there before the big bang? Silence among the scientists.

The atheists and some scientists state that the Bible is the work of man, and therefore it is not scientific -by which they mean it cannot be proven by observations and experiments. I used to think that Creation seems like a fairy tale compared to the theory of evolution, even though the theory of evolution is full of gaps and holes and does not explain the reason or purpose of our existence. But now I have a better understanding of *Genesis* with spiritual growth. God is the source of science since He created the entire universe. Everything that we observe in the universe is simply a wonder of His Creation. God exists on His Own. He created the universe out of His Will. Of course, the universe is a reflection of God's Perfect Existence; therefore it must follow the order and justice of the Perfect God. If you read Genesis, you will realize that after God created the world, He decided to create man in His Own Image. The Bible informs us that God is Spirit. It follows that man, as God's Own Image, must also be a spirit with a nature derived from God. God made our physical appearances with the elements of His Creation, yet He infused man with His Breath begetting the spirit of man. Since God is eternal by His Own Existence, the spirit of man must also have that quality of eternity. However, man is also of the Creation—that is to say, made of chemical elements—and must follow the laws of nature, which dictates that the body

must decay and return to nature. So we when die physically, our body is returned to nature, yet the spirit of man is not of the Physical Creation (which was created before man) but is derived directly from God. Thus, the spirit of man has a constant yearning or goal to go back to its source, God. Unfortunately, this does not happen for everyone in the world. As the Bible tells us, God gave us free will, a crucial element of God's Existence. We can choose to accept God as our Creator or abandon Him by our own will. When we choose to depart from the God and not follow His Commandments, we commit *sin*, which means the separation from God by man's own will. The final penalty for sin is complete separation from God, which implies that when our physical body dies, our spirit will be separated completely from God and enter into eternal darkness or hell.

Wait the second, the atheists complain, how can we believe in the validity of the Bible when you tell us the world was created in seven days while the scientific data indicates billions and billions of years? And now you proceed to preach this theological nonsense, they argue. Well, dear atheists, it appears that you're holding a different standard for the Bible and you've not understood the true meaning of the words in the Bible. Certainly, the Bible was physically written by the hands of man. God inspired the prophets and chosen scribes to deliver His Message to us. However, we must realize that there is a great limitation to the words of man. God had to deliver His Message in a way familiar to man, using the grammatical structures of human speech. God wanted to describe the Internet to Moses, what would He do? There were no such words or descriptions in the times of Moses. He would have inspired the scribes to write about Internet using metaphoric words and phrases that existed at the time: for example, "a great library in the air that extends in all directions like a spider web." (If you read the Revelations, you will find a book full of metaphors and symbols.) If we had read this passage before the invention of the Internet, it would surely sound like nonsense and superstition. Indeed, the true understanding of the Bible requires that man be constantly inspired by God. Now if you read *Genesis* carefully, you will realize that the sun was not even created until the fourth day. The seven days of Creation refers to God's time, not our solar days. Understanding the Bible requires a theological mindset. Let me give an analogy here. To criticize French literature, the best way is to learn the French language and culture. Reading an English translation of French literature limits the scope of understanding because the lens of frame is different. The atheists also charge that the Bible is not scientific, not supported by observations and experiments. If two thousand years of Christian testimonies by saints, martyrs and scholars cannot be accepted as truthful observations and experiments in the scientific sense, then I would have less faith in the Heisenberg's uncertainty principle which

states that a quark particle can be at two places at one time. After all it was the Christian spirit for continual search to understand God's Creation that led to the Calvinist spirit which sparked the development of modern scientific theories. Sadly in this post-modern world, many choose to believe that technological advances would save the world, than to follow the simple command of love your neighbor more than yourself.

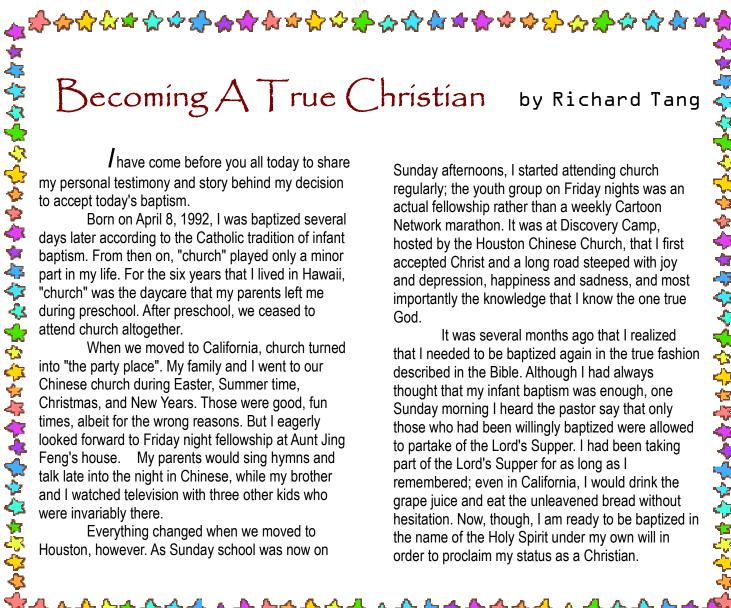
While journeying in France, I spoke with my once Catholic but now agnostic friend. His profession involves writing computer programs. I used this analogy to describe Creation to him. (Again, I must emphasize that we can never truly understand God since we do not have the capability and capacity as the *created*.) Suppose that God is a programmer and the world He has created is a computer program. A computer program must follow certain rules and logic. (Please note here that God is more than a programmer in our own understanding of information technology.) God sees the past, the present, and the future all at one time since He is beyond time and space. This is a hard concept to understand since we are limited by this world. All of our references have to do with time (history) and space (distance). As the master programmer, God creates a world with the stars, the earth, and the living creatures. He wants something in the program that resembles His Existence-full of creative energy and free will. Thus, He creates a special being called man and allows the creature to have free will. At every moment of time in the program, the man is making his own decisions based on his own free will. God is in control in the sense that He actively knows the past, the present, and the future. He sees the results of a man's action in the *future*, yet He allows the man to make the decision in the present. (God's omniscience is beyond our understanding here.) The Creation program, though made in God's own time, involves complicated rules and laws (you may call this the justice or law of nature). To the human character in the program, the universe seems to have existed for billions of years; yet to the Master Programmer, the execution of the program only involved an instant. Surely the program would allow internal changes to the system according to the justice of nature. In a way, the environment in the program evolves according to the laws of the program and any changes the Master Programmer may decide to make at any time (which you may call divine interventions). One billion years in the space-time continuum of the program is simply a small "stroke" in the hands of the Master Programmer. Thus, what the human character observes in the program about the changes (which he may term evolution as a theory because of the progressive change he sees in the record of nature) is the natural law of justice that the Master Programmer originally programmed. The human character was created and inserted into this programmed

world by the Will of the Master Programmer. The physical appearance of the human character is made using established laws of nature. He would have the same basic backbone or code of life that could respond to changes in nature (you may want to call this DNA, a chemical substance that encodes life in the program). From this analogy, we see that Creation and scientific observations (as described in the theory of evolution) are completely compatible. What is missing in the Darwin's theory of evolution is the perspective beyond the confines of the program that satisfactorily and perfectly explains the origin, purpose and destiny of the humankind. Creation provides us the truth about our nature and purpose, and their relationship to the physical world.

I feel compelled to write this contemplation on Creation which has puzzled me for a long time. I still sense that my physical being in this world is still pulling me down, with doubts and questions; after all, this is the nature of free will -I can choose to believe or not to believe. I thank God for His Grace of Salvation. My faith in God has given me the hope that my goal lies in God and that the spiritual yearning in me is a calling from God. I firmly believe that Christian theology is so amazing that it cannot be made up by man for his own amusement. If I were to create a "religion," the easiest and most fascinating way is to create one god for every need I have -why bother creating a complicated system of salvation in which God becomes man (incarnation) and dies (crucifixion) in order to grant salvation and eternal life to man (grace). Of course, I am "creating" beliefs or religions for my own benefits. If one god or idol does not satisfy my spiritual need, I can create another one. I might even create a giant artistic idol and force other people to worship this idol in order that my effort be recognized and glorified. After all, it is my selfish desire to satisfy my self-perceived grandeur. However, deep inside my heart, I know that this human creation of gods does not resolve my own spiritual problems of existence. By worshiping ourselves through idols (which are not limited to statues by the way and may include money, fame, etc. in the modern world), we have departed further and further away from our Creator. Indeed, we all have sinned against the one true God (and are separated from His Perfect Love) by trying to recreate Him in our own images. But God is Love that is all encompassing. God has provided us a solution that is congruent with His Own Justice. The price of sin is spiritual death in eternal darkness. To be reunited with God, the price of death must be paid. We are not worthy of redeeming ourselves; our good actions and deeds cannot pay this debt of death, since our good deeds only seek to glorify our own efforts. Only God Himself can pay this debt on our behalf, congruent to His Own Justice. (We see that God should not save anyone on earth who does not believe in Him, even though God in His Infinite Mercy desires that all

men be saved. Granting salvation to all would violate His Own Perfect Justice.) What do you know? God planted prophesy of salvation through grace in the chosen Israelites thousands of years ago leading to His Incarnation as Jesus Christ during the Roman Empire. Jesus is the perfect sacrificial lamb that has been slaughtered on the high altar to pay for our debt so that we may be reconciled with God. To would confess his own sins and accept Jesus as his personal savior, Jesus Christ would pay the debt by dying on the cross. Through Christ's resurrection, we are made anew as a spiritually different creature because our sins have been nailed to the cross with Christ. As a new creature, we are reunited with God and have the promise of eternity in God's Light. Additionally, with Christ as the Bridge to God, the Holy Spirit, the third person in the Holy Trinity of God, is channeled into our life to transform us in our limited lifespan in this world into that perfect being originally intended by God.

During the flight from New Orleans to Chicago, I could not cease to write on this contemplation. From the windows of the plane, the floating marshmallow-like clouds danced in glorious light of the early afternoon. Creation is beautiful and magnificent. I see the hands of God at work in the smallest details of nature. Arriving in downtown Chicago, I checked into a skyscraper hotel with a fantastic view of Lake Michigan. Opening my laptop to finish this journal essay, I felt peace gazing at the blue waters of the lake. Sometimes in life, things do come at you like trucks. You feel like that you are constantly in danger, looking out for the attacks and hits. I have long decided that I don't want to fight against the *program* anymore with my own efforts. I'd rather leave that to my Programmer, my Creator, my God, my Rock, and my Salvation.



## Becoming A True Christian by Richard Tang

have come before you all today to share my personal testimony and story behind my decision to accept today's baptism.

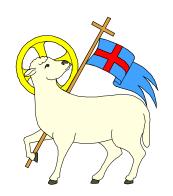
Born on April 8, 1992, I was baptized several days later according to the Catholic tradition of infant baptism. From then on, "church" played only a minor part in my life. For the six years that I lived in Hawaii, "church" was the daycare that my parents left me during preschool. After preschool, we ceased to attend church altogether.

When we moved to California, church turned into "the party place". My family and I went to our Chinese church during Easter, Summer time, Christmas, and New Years. Those were good, fun times, albeit for the wrong reasons. But I eagerly looked forward to Friday night fellowship at Aunt Jing Feng's house. My parents would sing hymns and talk late into the night in Chinese, while my brother and I watched television with three other kids who were invariably there.

Everything changed when we moved to Houston, however. As Sunday school was now on

Sunday afternoons, I started attending church regularly; the youth group on Friday nights was an actual fellowship rather than a weekly Cartoon Network marathon. It was at Discovery Camp, hosted by the Houston Chinese Church, that I first accepted Christ and a long road steeped with joy and depression, happiness and sadness, and most importantly the knowledge that I know the one true God.

It was several months ago that I realized that I needed to be baptized again in the true fashion described in the Bible. Although I had always thought that my infant baptism was enough, one Sunday morning I heard the pastor say that only those who had been willingly baptized were allowed to partake of the Lord's Supper. I had been taking part of the Lord's Supper for as long as I remembered; even in California, I would drink the grape juice and eat the unleavened bread without hesitation. Now, though, I am ready to be baptized in the name of the Holy Spirit under my own will in order to proclaim my status as a Christian.



# 蒙恩小羊

文=楊蓓蓓

**第**兄姐妹平安!今天要來講講神在我身上行的神蹟。以前聽了很多別人的見証,覺得很神奇,但是心裡並不相信那是真的,我在心裡暗想,這些人還真會編。但是現在知道這些人跟我一樣經歷了神的恩典。

我家祖祖輩輩都是農民,没有人信耶穌。父親是部隊的文職軍官,媽媽是護士,還有個弟弟,比我小八歲,現在在國内上大學。13歲那年,因爲部隊要合併,全家從河南搬到山東<u>濟南</u>。但是我們並不習慣山東的生活。15歲那年,媽媽不幸生癌症住院,她住院的時候認識了一個信天主教的奶奶,然後也接受了天主教, 也希望我信。但後來媽媽病故了,也就没有人向我講福音的事情。

媽媽病故,已經是很讓我傷心的事情了。可惜更糟 糕的事情還在後面。爸爸很快就開始出去約會。甚至還 有很多不認識的女人跑到家裡來,坐在沙發上等我爸 爸。我們家住在部隊的大院裡,進進出出的鄰居大家都 認識,這樣的事情自然也瞞不過別人。當時非常害怕見 到熟人,因爲熟人會遠遠指著我跟別人說,看,就是那 個可憐的小孩, 媽媽剛死没多久,爸爸就開始給她找後 媽。雖然當時很多人都持反對意見,爸爸還是跟我現在 的繼母結婚了。他們結婚的時候舉辦婚宴,都没有請我 和弟弟参加。一家人的關係可想而知。那時候我十六歲, 剛上高中一年級,内心非常痛苦。不僅學習壓力大,更 多是因爲繼母對我和弟弟非常不好,弟弟其實很乖的, 但是她無缘無故拿弟弟撒氣,把弟弟的耳朵揪得像兔耳 朵那麼長。儘管這樣,爸爸還處處袒護繼母,說我們不 聽話。我想唯一可以讓自已擺脫痛苦的辦法可能就是去 教會,教會裡都是好人。於是我去了天主教會,那裡的 人確實很好。所以就有想法要信天主教,寫了十幾頁的 長信給爸爸,希望他准許我去。結果,爸爸大怒,罵了 我一頓,說我封建,白花錢讓我上學了,讓我自行反省。 然後把信收起来,鎖在抽屉裡,說,等我長大走上了正 路,再拿出這封可笑的信給我看,讓我知道當時犯下的

錯誤多麼可笑。信天主教的事情是没有希望了,但是這 件事情讓我更加討厭這個家。於是暗暗發誓,一定要到 離家很遠的地方去上大學,離家越遠越好。

我學習一直都不錯,對考大學還是很有信心的。但 是到了高中二年級,後媽逼我報考軍校因爲軍校不交學 費還發生活費。我很怕填報高考志願的時候,後媽在報 考表上全填上軍校,所以就開始加緊努力要争取被保送 上大學。結果我被保送上了<u>北京</u>的一所名牌大學,終於 實現了從家裡逃走的夢想。錄取通知書寄到,後媽說不 許我去上,嫌花錢太多,還說錢被我花光了,以後没有 錢就不讓我弟弟上學了。於是上了大學之後,我就努力 學英語,爲的是找到教英文的工作好節省家裡的費用。 就這樣,四年本科和三年研究生,我一邊讀書一邊打工, 直到來美國之前的那個暑假都還在給別人教英語。

在别人看來,我這樣努力,好像靠自己可以贏得一切。其實呢,代價是非常慘重的。07年8月,要來美國之前,爸爸好像突然醒悟過來我要去一個很遠的地方了,就帶我去体檢來表達他對我的關心。結果,檢查出來我患了系統性紅斑狼蒼。這個檢查結果如同晴天霹靂。爸爸當時愣在那裡很久都不會動。醫生說,你不要去美國了。後面没有說出來的半句話是,除非你不想活了。但是四天以後我還是帶著一大堆藥來到了美國。

來美國之後,開始意識到這個病多麼的可怕。我臉上有紅斑,不斷發燒,關節腫痛,有的時候甚至從睡夢中痛醒。服用的藥物也有很大的副作用,造成了低血壓。因為血壓很低,所以我不能吃早飯和中飯,否則大腦中的血就流到了胃裡,昏昏沉沉總想睡覺。所以我總是在上完下午的課之後才吃一天中的第一頓飯。每隔兩三個月就要去看醫生和抽血作化驗,而且這樣的檢查必須一輩子堅持下去防止病情突然惡化。那時候没有車,每次走在去醫院的路上,都灰心喪氣。

來美國之後時常参加 Tulane 的團契,但是並不相信

聖經裡所說的。直到有一天發生的事情改變了我。我的一個好朋友放在房間裡的筆記本電腦不見了,問了她的室友,室友也說不知道。這件事情非常蹊蹺,因爲門窗都是完整的,不像有人從外面進来。我的這個朋友非常傷心,不是心疼電腦,而是心疼裡面一年來的實驗數據。她知道我常去團契,就讓我幫她禱告,讓神幫她把電腦找回来。結果在禱告後的第二天,突然接到她的電話,說電腦突然出現在房間裡了。我們都很吃驚。這件事情之後,我覺得神好像有可能是存在的,否則怎麼會出現這麼奇怪的事情?但是還不是那麼的確信。

08年的暑假,我已經買了一輛很舊的車,拿到了臨時駕照,準備要考路試拿正式駕照。但是,機械師丁師傅警告說,我的車太舊了,就是去考也是考不過的。我當時非常發愁,打算去租車考试。當然這也很麻煩。因此就不斷跟神禱告說,神啊,袮幫幫我吧,想辦法讓我把路試考過。到了考試的那一天,楊師兄帶我去考試,說願意讓我拿他的車考,我就同意了。但是心裡還是很緊張,畢竟不是自己的車,萬一出點小事故,陪錢不說,心理上也會覺得很愧疚。到了考試的地方,工作人員把我的信息輸入電腦,然後問我來幹什麼,我說,來考路試拿正式駕照。她說,你已經是正式駕照了爲什麼還考路試。我很奇怪,她說電腦裡記錄的就是我已拿了正式駕照,不是臨時駕照。她讓我不要考了,說後面還有很多人在排隊,叫我不要耽誤時間。

這件事情之後,我就請求神醫治我的病。但是信心還不是特別的强。直到有一天我聽說 Kenner 這個教會有個弟兄跟我患一樣的病,没有吃藥,只憑禱告就痊癒了,我信心大增。教會裡的姐妹對我很關心,還請遠在台灣的一個很有能力的姐妹幫我禱告。當時她在電話裡禱告說請神把我的病拿去百分之六七十,之後我的病就明顯好轉,原先很多不舒服的症状都消失了。停用激素之後,很多人都面臨股骨壞死的危險,我也同樣遇到了這個問題,有一段時間大腿根部非常痛,没有緣由的痛,這是股骨頭壞死的早期的症兆。於是我就請神看顧我的腿,千萬不要讓我這麼年輕就坐輪椅。結果我的腿後來就好了,能跑能跳和普通人一樣。當得知認識的一個人的妻子在國內患了紅斑狼蒼,我就打電話给那個人說我也有這個病,讓他不要太擔心,那個人很奇怪的說,你有這個病,怎麼可能,你看上去比正常人還有精神。

就在我慢慢走出疾病的時候,又遭受了另一個打擊。我選了一個很嚴格的老師的課,因爲我生病,這門 課成績不好。按照一般的情况,系裡會立即讓我走人。 果然,在系裡的一次老師會議上,全体老師同意我得在 08 年春季學期結束後回國。但是,系裡一位老師知道我 有病,就去跟系裡領導說我的情况太特殊了;在第二次 老師會議上,導師提建議讓我寫了碩士論文拿了碩士學 位再走,所有的老師竟然全都同意。全体老師的態度變 化這麼大,我相信是神在暗中作功。

按照當時的情形,應該在 08 年 12 月碩士畢業。相信神既然安排我來美國讀博士,只拿了個碩士回國好像有點不好,我就打算繼續申請別的學校的博士項目。另外,由於碩士論文研究的題目是關於尼日利亞一個部族 200年的社會變遷,論文寫的比一般的碩士論文要長 2 倍,到了 08 年 12 月實在是寫不完。加上我的導師在 08 年 12 月頻繁出國開會和做調查,也没有時間輔導論文。 所以導師向系裡申請讓我再退後一個學期畢業。就是到 09 年 5 月畢業。

再退後一個學期畢業,說實在是好處太多了。第一, 論文有時間修改了,導師也有時間指導我了;第二,有 足够的時間申請學校了。今年的經濟形勢不好,可能很 難拿獎學金,於是向神禱告請神給我開路,給我一個帶 獎學金的錄取。果然,到了09年2月,一所學校給我獎 學金了。真是感謝神!奇妙的事情還在後面,本來應該3 月答辯,但是導師把時間弄錯了,我只能4月答辯,這 樣就趕不上09年5月畢業了,只能推後到09年8月畢業。 開始我還一肚子怨氣,來答辯結束後,三個答辯委員會 的老師一起很鄭重提建議,希望我暑假上一個英文寫作 的輔導班來加强英語,給以後寫博士論文打好基礎。如 果 5 月畢業,我就没有學生身份了。暑假上英語寫作班 的話要重新辦 I20 表,申請新的學生身份等手續,非常麻 煩。8月畢業的話,暑假我就可以以學生身份繼續上英文 班,手續非常簡便。當時不知道哪裡有英文寫作班可以 上,所以請神預備一個合適我的班,最候終於在 UNO 找 到了一個英文班,真是太巧了。

8月就要去<u>達拉斯</u>的新學校了,轉學搬家都是很麻煩的事情。但是神很巧妙的預備了一家中國人從<u>新奧爾良</u>搬家到<u>達拉斯</u>去,他們幫我帶了很多行李過去。這又大大方便了我。經歷了這麼多的事情,發現一路走來,處處都有神的保守。我們家都没有人出過國,他們非常害怕我到這麼遠的地方來無人照料,誰想到<u>新奧爾良</u>之後才知道,我家親戚有個非常好的朋友在<u>巴吞鲁日</u>,我已經去他們家過了兩個聖誕節。神明白我要走的下一步路在哪裡,而且体諒我的難處,處處爲我預備。相信神是愛我的,今天受洗歸於主的名下,一生要與神同行同工。

# My Spiritual Renewal

#### by Darcy Guo



Growing up in a
Christian family, I was
very familiar with Jesus
when I was very little.
However, I could have
cared less who he was
and what he did for
mankind at that time. As
I became older, I learned

from Sunday school that he was sent by God the Father to die on the cross for us. Little did I know how much this single fact would change my entire life.

Ever since my childhood, I have been going to church frequently. In fact, I went so often that going to church felt like a chore—becoming more and more loathsome, less and less meaningful. Most of the time, the only reason I went to church was because my parents forced me. Despite my regular church attendance, my life felt empty—something was missing. In addition to this emptiness, I also felt that I was separated from God, straying far off of God's path for me. Trying to fill this emptiness inside, I look to fill my mind with more secular items, which only made it worse. Nothing could get rid of the gaping hole in my soul. Rapidly losing my faith, I went to church less and less until I stopped completely.

Last summer, I found out that our church received a new English pastor. Having met him at tennis camp before, the new pastor, Christoph Bajewski, seemed like a great person. At that time, I had no idea that he would be the instrument of God that led me to stand before you today, delivering my testimony after baptism. I decided during the summer that I would return to church to listen to Christoph preach. I connected well with Christoph's sermons well and realized my past disobedience to God. Learning more and more about Christ, I decided it was time for me to be baptized. Ready to be saved, I planned to do exactly as stated in Acts 22:16: "Now why delay? Get up and have yourself baptized and your sins washed away, calling upon his name."

Now that I have entrusted my life to Christ, I can shout to the world that "I am not ashamed to be a part of God's family." With God watching over me, my faith matures every single day. Although living a true Christian life may not be an easy path, I know that God will bless and guide those who are willing to make great sacrifices for Him. With today's baptism, I now know that Jesus lives inside me, shielding me from sin with the "armor of God," as stated in Philippians 4:13: "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." To those of you who are still considering baptism: "repent and be baptized every one of you... and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit," (Acts 2:38) as I have done today.

In conclusion, I would like to give my personal thanks to pastor Christoph, my parents, and all those who have supported me in my spiritual conversion. Finally I have been given a new life to fulfill my only purpose in life—to glorify God and show His love to the world.

# 主爱博大

## 文=維法湧

原 憶認識主的歲月,一晃竟已是五年。时光荏苒, 五年間曾經多少快樂或苦難,但感谢主一路不離不棄的 陪伴,也感謝主的愛,一直不曾離開。

最初認識主,是因爲外公外婆的緣故。在還是孩子的時候,外公外婆赴美探望留美的三姨一家。他們在美國决志,成爲主的兒女並回國籌劃家庭聚會。那時的我,對基督有些許的好奇,但聽罷七日造萬物之類"天方夜譚"般的"故事"後,便没有在意,覺得與一般鬼神傳奇無他。記得那時,外公外婆經常週日帶我去聽福音,但因爲自己的倔强,再加上覺得自己讀過一點書,一些知識上的"優越感"讓我總覺得老人們信的,有些騙人的感覺。當然,現在回想,那時主其實已經開始敲我的門,只是我一次次的,將主擋在心門之外。

真正認識主,是從上大學開始。因為喜歡學英語、交朋友,於是認識了一些在學校任教的美國朋友。在大學二年級,一位平素玩的比較好的朋友 Tim,邀請我與幾位中國朋友去家中做客。聊了一段時間,談起神,Tim問我們願不願意更多的了解神。雖然仍然有些抵觸,但畢竟多知道些東西無妨,於是便答應下來每週去他那裡做客。每週談一個基督教的話題,比如罪、靈、耶穌替我們的罪死與復活、人類的開始與最後的審判.....做為一個理科學生,對於聖經中所描述的故事與神蹟,自己仍然是不屑一顧。記得一次對 Tim說:"Tim,我覺得聖經裡講得道理都很好,都很對,但是你要說耶穌死後三天復活這種事情,實在太匪夷所思,我實在無法相信。"記得 Tim 回答道:"雖然常理來說,這是很難理解。但如果耶穌真的是這個世界的創造者,死後復活對祂而言,又有什麼難的呢?"

雖然最終,我們的争論没有任何結果。與 Tim 的談話,讓我對科學與基督之間的關係,這個從前從没想過的問題,產生了思索。如果說,這世界真的是由一個神來創造,那這世界運行的規律抑或生命的奧秘,全部便是由祂主宰。就像我們編寫的計算機程序,我們可以隨心所欲控制程序的下一秒如何運行。如果真是如此,那復活以及耶穌所行的所有神蹟,雖然在凡人眼中不可思議,但對於這位創造萬物的神來講,再容易不過。再回頭看自己一直所相信的科學,偉大的科學家們,畢生



所作的,並非創造出那些奇妙的自然定律,而是發現 那些神早就訂好的自然界的法則。科學家發現的越多, 便會愈加發現這個世界的奇妙與自己的渺小,這也許就 是爲什麼,許多偉大的科學家同時也是虔誠的基督教徒。

從 Tim 的"基督科普班"畢業了,但自己仍然不是信徒。奇妙的是,我的思維方式已經悄悄開始發生改變,而主也在從生活的各個細節,改變著我。由於自己是醫學院學生,對於醫學知識深入的學習,慢慢的開始了解人体的無窮奧妙。漸漸的感悟,人体這貌似弱不經風的血肉之軀,其實包含了無窮的智慧與高度的有序。結構上,解剖學的複雜是世界上任何人造的建築或者機器所無法匹敵;功能上,各種器官的合理協調,是任何自動化的流水生產線無法模擬的;在分子生物學角度上,成億的化學物質,分子信號傳導,是任何可模擬的網絡所無法達到;在遺傳學角度上,高度有序的基因調節,每分每秒的信息傳遞,是任何數據庫所無法企及的。而這一切,均包含在一個只有一百多磅的實体中,實在匪夷所思。

根據熱力學第二定律,在没有外來能量的介入下,一個反應体系是一定從有序爲無序的狀態發展。雖然規律晦涩難懂,但一個簡單的比喻便是,房子没有人住,院子便會雜草叢生,房間便會遍佈蛛網。將一盒火柴拾起,整齊的擺放在火柴盒內,但一旦撒落,一定是亂七八糟的散落一地。這個世界也是,如果没有神最初的創造與規劃,很難相信地球會從一個火焰與雷電交加的世界,變得如今天這樣高度有序。根據宇宙大爆炸學說,雖然在世界初始,有充足的太陽能的介入,統計學上有存在的可能。但如果静下心來想想,實在難以相信,人体,生命這樣高度有序的個体,會是無序的分子運動經過簡單的碰撞的結果。

似乎在有神和無神的問題上,我已經漸漸意識到了神的存在。但這個神是誰?爲什麼是耶穌基督呢?

大學四年級的時候,一次偶然的機會,再一次和 Tim 提起神,提起基督。Tim 推荐我去一個青年學生的 聚會,我便欣然答應。起初,對這個聚會有些失望。因 爲條件比較簡陋,大家在一個學生自己租的公寓,很小的地方,夏天很熱,晚上什至灯光昏暗。但是帶領聚會的幾個弟兄却讓我很難忘,他們雖然也許没有很高的學歷,作爲剛剛畢業的大學生,做得也都是一些非常平凡的工作。但是每當他們談到聖經的時候,知識的渊博,讓人肅然起敬;每當談到主的時候,我都能深切的感受到,他們心中所充滿的那種喜悦與平安。有時候,弟兄姐妹們也會做一些分享,雖然都是生活中的一些小事,但每一件,都非常讓人感動。

我開始一直参加這個聚會,因為在這個聚會中,雖然大多數時間,自己只是坐在一旁静静的聆聽,但自己心中能感到一種平時所体會不到的平安。聚會裡的弟兄告訴我,可以試著向主禱告,他也會向主替我禱告。我只是謝過弟兄的好意,但自己從没試過。

奇妙的事開始在 07 年春天發生,一天傍晚,我和女友(現在的太太)在學生寢室做雞湯。由於雞是冰凍的,所以雞湯最終不是很新鮮。吃過飯,也許因爲是醫科生,無意中,我開始思索雞肉不新鲜的原因。生物体死亡後,細胞中一個叫做溶酶体的細胞器會自動破裂,許多蛋白酶會被釋放出來,從而分解掉死亡的細胞。一旦這個過程開始,會有信號傳播到周圍所有的細胞,這個自我分解的過程,便會如連鎖反應一樣,一個接一個的進行。這也許就是雞肉放久了就不新鮮的原因之一吧。

但我所想到的,是更宏觀的事物。以上這個過程,會是很好的幫助生物体屍体的腐爛,除去微生物的幫助分解,這是生物体的屍体,死後屍体不會堆積的一個很重要的原因。試想如果屍体不會被很快的分解,那美麗的大自然會是充滿疾病,瘟疫和臭惡。但神斷然不會讓祂所造的世界如此運行,祂設計了溶酶体,來幫助生物体死後屍体的降解。

想到這,不禁想起進化論。如果說,生物的進化, 是因爲生存的壓力。爲了更好的生存,鷹有了更敏銳的 眼睛,狼豹有了更發達的腿部肌肉.....一切生物体具備的 功能,都是因爲生存所趨,那進化論如何解釋這個微小 的溶酶体呢?爲什麼這個微小的溶酶体,會在生物体死 後,還發揮著巨大的作用?讓這個世界的運行和諧自 然? (當然溶酶体還有其他作用。)

想到這些,我的感覺很複雜。從前只是聽說一些關於進化與創造的争論,覺得似乎都有道理。但事情便是這樣,一旦自己親身經歷,親身的悟出這些道理,便會特別的激動與不安。激動的是,彷彿冥冥中,主給了自己参悟的智慧,彷彿主就在眼前、身邊、這一切都是主的安排。不安的是,自己突然有了一種從未有過的感覺,感覺到自己的世界觀受到了從未有過的衝擊。

那天晚上,我第一次很虔誠的跪在床上,向神做了一個禱告。不爲別的,只爲神創造這個世界與自己的 奇妙與大能。

於是我便更積極的参加學生的家庭聚會,有時也 會不時的向神禱告,雖然還是有種"求神拜佛"的性質, 而神也一直没有讓我心想事成。

直到那年的四月份,開始爲申請美國的 Phd 而痛苦發愁。因爲申請的是生物醫學,而對於 Phd 申請者,大學時所做過的生物醫學實驗是非常重要的。但作爲醫科生的我,或者國內大多數的醫科生,我們有充足的臨床技能訓練,但對於基礎醫學和實驗室的經驗,還欠缺很多。那時,正在醫院實習的我,根本没有時間去参加實驗室的課題研究。即使有時間,也没有機會。雖然大學二年級時,自己参加過生物化學實驗室的一個課題研究,雖然當時與課題組的學長學姐有著不錯的交往,但是許久與教授没有聯繫,也不知道生物化學實驗室有没有搬到很遠、交通不便的新校區。

記得那時每天很沮喪,雖然每天在醫院裡可以學到很多臨床的知識,但是,對想申請美國大學 Phd 來講,這些都不是我最想要的。每天的感覺便是自己雖然付出了很多,但却與自己想要的,越來越遠。我想要的只是一個機會,一個可以讓自己重新回到實驗室,参加基礎醫學研究的機會。

我開始時不時的向神禱告,把心事告訴主,求主 能够幫助。不求主能够讓我撞大運在以後的申請中,從



眾多的競争者中脫穎而出,只求神 能够給一個機會,讓我能够紮紮實 實的在實驗室中學到東西,真正的 提高自己的競争力。禱告完,平静 的睡去,而第二天,奇妙的事發生 了!那是一個週末,我剛從超市購

物回來。在學校門口不遠處,我遇到了當年曾經在生化實驗室给我許多幫助的學姐。原來一直以爲她畢業走了,聊了一下才發現,她原來畢業留校,做了助教。奇妙的是,由於生活軌跡的不同,感覺在校園裡很久不曾遇到的她,竟然在一個週末的上午被我遇到。我便趕緊向她詢問了實驗室的情况,是否有rotation的機會。她告訴我,歡迎來做rotation,而且實驗室還在原來的基礎大樓,不曾搬到新校區。

和她談完,我欣喜若狂。感覺曾經在別人身上發生的不可置信的事情,就這樣,活生生的在自己身上發生。感謝主的大能,將這個給過我許多幫助的學姐帶到我面前;也感謝主的慈愛,祂真的傾聽了我的禱告,並將我的願望實現。永遠記得下週的聚會,一直不曾怎麼發言的我,在那次聚會上,和大家分享了我的見証。大家都很高興,其中兩個資深的弟兄爲我禱告,並問我願不願意接受主,記得那晚自己非常感動,於是就在兩位弟兄的帶領下,做决志禱告,成爲主的兒女。

成為主的兒女後,感覺自己的生活發生了徹底的轉變。尤其是自己的世界觀,以前總是强求一些自己能力之外的東西,得不到便會傷心懊惱甚至開始懷疑自己。但信主決志後,雖然自己還是如同以前一樣的努力學習、工作,但對於結果,内心總是特別的坦然,因為不管是好是壞,主已經爲我鋪好前面要走的路。

我開始頻繁的向主禱告,主也會時不時的給我驚

喜。但更多的時候,主總是以祂的方式讓我体會到祂的 慈愛與良苦用心。

記得大三那年的 GRE 考試,作爲申請美國 Phd 的必備考試,我爲它做了精心的準備。時常,在别人品味著早上濃香的咖啡的時候,我却在邊啃包子,邊背上一個小時的單詞。爲此,自己做了許多的努力,但在考前的一天晚上,由於失眠,第二天的發揮很不理想。

信主後大四那年夏天,自己爲了一個更理想的分數而不得不捲土重來。但這一次,備考情况已經和從前略有不同。每天,我不得不在醫院做 8-10 小時的實習工作,有時遇到"恐怖"的 24 小時班,便是從一個白天到另一個早上 8 點。複習的時間大大減少,而高强度的工作,讓我的睡眠一直不好。

失眠是很痛苦的,而更痛苦的,莫過於考試前失眠。從高中開始,每次重大考試前,失眠便一直伴隨著我。高考時2天只睡2小時的沉重回憶有時還會在腦海中縈繞,而對於 GRE 這樣重要的考試,我幾乎喪失了能沉沉睡去的信心。

記得考前的幾前天,我去聚會,聚會上自己默默的向神禱告,求主能給自己一個良好的睡眠,迎接即將到來的考試。很巧的是,那次聚會上,我們一起看了一位弟兄的見証。他的見証中提到,自己人生 50 年,有10 次被抬進手術室,每一次手術前,都是那樣的脆弱與無助。但信主後,他知道自己不再孤單,雖然通往手術室的路上,只有他一人,但他的内心十分平静。因爲他知道,在他的背後,有双佈滿釘痕的手,在默默的將他托起。就像聖經中所講:

"我雖然行過死蔭的幽谷,也不怕遭害,因爲袮與 我同在,袮的杖、袮的杆,都安慰我。"

聽完這見証,覺得很受感動。我知道,這是主的安排,祂讓我不再擔心害怕,祂讓我知道,不管經歷怎樣的苦難,主都會在我身邊陪伴。我是主的兒女,從此,不會一個人面臨黑暗中那些分分秒秒的挣扎,不會一個人感受看著天慢慢亮起來的無助。考試前一夜,我跪下來向主做了一個禱告,幾分鐘後閉上眼睛,心中掠過的不再是失眠的擔心,而是一種從未有過的喜樂,腦海中,出現一位慈祥的、默默的注視著我的神,然後便是一整夜平静的睡眠和第二天清晨的陽光。

2 個小時的考試也順利的結束,没有超水平發揮,但充足的睡眠,讓我在緊張的時間內,把平時所練習的、所準備的,完美的展現。走出考場,面對著熙熙攘攘的人群,突然有種說不出的平静。那一刻,真的彷彿時間停止,恍如隔世。回學校的公交車上,不由得回憶著一年來,爲申請 Phd 所做的奔波,爲準備 GRE 所做的努力。那些無數次從醫院歸來,拖着疲憊的身軀,去圖書館背單詞的夜晚;那些無數次,被各種困難弄得灰心喪氣,但爲夢想又捲土重來的日子。曾不止一次的問神,爲什麼付出那麼多,第一次考試却因爲失眠而一敗塗地。現在才知道主的良苦用心,没有第一次的失敗,怎麼會有後來這些努力却又充實的日子?怎麼會有最終戰勝自己

的勇氣?主不是不愛我,讓我一個人承受那些失敗的痛苦,而是通過磨難,讓我變的更加堅强。而這些苦難,都會是我一生的財富。想著這些,回想著昨夜安枕的睡眠,莫名的感動忽然湧上心頭。在吵鬧的公車上,一個人在角落裡泣不成聲。

主的愛是永恒,我是個叛逆的人,但有時總有得 罪與叛逆。但不管怎麼背棄神,主却始終如一的愛我。

記得自己信主之前,大學二年级時,Tim 時常與我談論基督,交流想法,雖然每次自己總是敷敷衍衍,但 Tim 却是始終如一的熱情。二年級的暑假,很幸運的遇到了 Steven Bolt 一家,在主的感召下,他們全家人每年的夏天在中國舉辦夏令營,看望孤兒院的孩子,用最大的熱忱,讓他們体會"一生中最快樂的一週"。夏令營中,我本只是做做簡簡單單的翻譯工作,但有限的機會中,通過與他們的交談,我總能獲得新的一些對基督的認識和領悟。

然而自己還是不信,拒絕接受主,不想去面對信仰這個問題。而主也從未放棄對我的眷顧。記得三年級暑假赴英國學習,週日在當地受邀参加一個"Party"。到了Party的地方,結果却發現是一個小教堂,而所謂的Party,其實是基督徒週日的禮拜。那天第一次参加西方人的禮拜,但美妙的音樂、感人的見証,以及每個人的熱情,讓我不覺得任何的陌生,却覺得有一種很奇妙的歸屬感。

現在,每每回想自己接受主的旅途。多少次,聽見了主的敲門却閉門不開。而主,竟從未對我失望,放棄。反之,主一直眷顧著我,不時的,在生命中叩我的心門。還記得,曾經 Tim 說過:"你現在不信没有關係,但是今天你遇到我,聽我講完這些話,我相信,這是主的安排。祂讓我來敲你的心門。"那時讓我覺得匪夷所思的一段話,現在回想,無限感慨。

大學生涯伴隨著自己申請的成功而結束,主爲我5年的醫學院學習畫上了圓滿的句號,更感激的是,主也爲我在美國的路,做好了鋪墊。記得初來美國的那些顛簸的日子,全新的環境,迴然不同的國度與文化。數不清要辦的手續,每天都是充實的忙碌。感謝學長們的別別,從機場接機,到家中暫住,直到最後我們一件件把所有的事情辦完。入住了新的公寓,學習有條不紊的進行;坦誠的講,自己來美的第一個月,順利的難問情。開始沉醉於自己之前做的精心準備,由於之前。我開始變得驕傲,禱告時要求更多,總覺得神不曾給我任何幫助。但當我第一次在學姐的引領下,來到Tulane團契,與弟兄姐妹一起敬拜神的時候;才發現,在機場接機的學長,原來也是一位弟兄。神愛我,幫助我,是那樣的謙卑。但這謙卑,讓我在神的愛面前無地自容。

2009年7月26日,我將受洗,正式歸於主的門下。回首一路走過的路,不禁感嘆主愛的博大。感謝主一路的陪伴,希望有主一生的眷顧與守候,也希望孩子今後的所作所爲,能榮耀神的名!

# 是最問題愛的**还是**完置大盟

我們懷著悲痛又感恩的心情,告別我們最親愛的大姐<u>張恩寵</u>。 我們悲痛的是我們失去了一位親愛的同工,一位忠心的守望者,一位晝夜儆醒的代禱的勇士。她自年輕到年邁,總是始終如一地、滿有屬靈負擔的爲全地眾教會和眾工人的復興付上禱告的代價。這是我們親眼目睹的,她給我們留下了美好的榜樣和見證。感恩的是她已經回到主的懷中,

結束了人間的病痛和苦楚,享受永遠

的安息!

張恩寵大姐原名張明瑛。江蘇

## 文=北美基督工人恩典院

儀征人。生於 1917 年 3 月,9 日。 享年92歲。她自幼出身貧寒,家中 人口多,田地少。爲了幫助母親撫養 幾個弟弟妹妹,她只好犧牲自己,沒 有讀書的機會。到了成年,她便到上 海工廠當紡織和印染女工。爲了分擔 母親的生活重擔,她在上海的生活, 也一直是十分艱苦的。大約在1949 年,她在感情上受到一些刺激,感歎 人間沒有真正的愛,人生空虛,痛苦 不堪,活著沒有什麼意義,甚至想要 自殺。就在這時,她的朋友帶她到教 堂去聽道。一個偶然的機會,那天晚 上牧師所講的見證,正是針對她心靈 的需要。全篇講道的內容都是在講 "神的愛永不改變!神的愛永不改 變!"她聽了大得安慰!立刻認罪 悔改,便決心接受耶穌作她一生的救 主,滿心歡喜。信主之後,她渴慕聽 道,喜樂滿溢,她的生命有了非常大 的變化,平時熱心向同廠工人作見 證, 傳福音, 同事們都喊她 "活耶 穌!"

不久,約1950年,在一次奮興會上,她聽了一位神僕人講道,她心中大受感動,清楚蒙神呼召,要她放棄世上的一切,一生跟隨主去作傳道救人的事工。經過主內肢體的介紹,蒙神引領她到了杭州西湖天風山基督工人恩典院受造就。在山上神親自造就每個祂所揀選的工人。她在山

上不但學會體會神的心爲萬人守望 禱告,還學會識字,寫字,學會讀整 本的聖經,以後還能夠獨立地寫簡單 的家信。這一切都全靠聖靈的引導, 以及主內肢體的愛心幫助。她渴慕主 的話,不斷尋求明白神在她身上的旨 意,從神得到爲萬人代禱的負擔和恩 賜,確定她一生作忠心的代禱守望 者。

1951年,她和其他幾位弟兄姐妹蒙聖靈感動,從<u>杭州</u>到<u>北京香山</u>基督工人恩典院繼續受造就並作守望禱告的工作。53年,她在守望樓裏禱告時,被聖靈大充滿,清楚自己前面的託付是在海外,神要帶她去英國<u>倫敦</u>作守望者。以後她又清楚神的旨意要她先去美國,然後去英國。但是當時的環境根本不可能出國,甚至連她自己也相信不下她自己的托之地。

以後的許多年中,神用諸多的 苦難來造就她,磨煉她。長期以來, 她倍受種種的迫害,信心的考驗,忍 受十字架各樣的苦難。在<u>北京</u>的幾年 中(自1958年以來),她一直陪伴著 在受苦中的神的僕人和使女。那時在 北京,除了她沒有別人每個月給監獄 中的神僕人和使女探監、送東西。直 到1964年,她自己也爲"信仰"與 其它的同工都被捕入獄。刑滿就業 後,她又被帶回家鄉強行勞動改造, 被群眾監督,長期忍受身心的折磨和 煎熬。她爲著自己的信仰多年受迫 害,被歧視,遭虐待。以致雙腿由於 常時間下水田插秧、種稻,而患了嚴 重的關節炎。她的兩條腿浮腫的像兩 根粗粗的大棒子,步履艱難,可想而 知。

感謝神,她和我們多數同工一樣,都在基督的患難、國度、忍耐裏一同有份。正如她常說的: "現在跟隨受苦的耶穌,將來得著榮耀的基督。" 直到七十年代末,神的時候到了,蒙上海的同工幾經多次尋找,才將她從家鄉帶出來。得以在上海、北京、昆明各處與同工聚集,也幫助、服事了許多的弟兄姐妹,等候聖靈進一步的引領。

感謝神, 祂永遠是信實的, 是 公義的! 祂的應許怎樣說,也必怎樣 成就。到了神的時候,神果然爲她開 路,1991年,神用奇妙的手帶她神 跡般地出國,到了美國,實現了神對 她的部分應許。還要等候神的旨意爲 她開前面的道路,到達自己的託付之 地英國。原來長期等候在美國,是有 神的美意, 為了幫助同工得地的需 要,大家同心合意對準神的旨意禱 告,至終看見神的時候到了。就在 2004年四月初,在不可能的環境下, 神在滄海中開了道路,由兩位同工陪 同,她終於踏上了英國的土地。這是 她愛英國, 為英國禱告了將近五十年 之後,神的應許終於實現。她在英國 倫敦期間, 為西歐恩典院的建立以及 那裏的教會和工人的興起,付上晝夜 禱告的代價。她不但日間幾個小時禱 告,夜間也起來幾個小時的禱告。凡 接觸她的肢體,都因她的愛心和代禱 而深深感動。同時,在那些日子裏,

神也興起當地的"土產",有獻身心 志的姐妹們一同前來聚集事奉,追求 主的道。她在<u>倫敦</u>事奉將近一年的時 間,直到次年三月,因申請延期未 允,便返回美國。直到現在,<u>倫敦</u>的 肢體們仍然不斷地懷念著<u>老張</u>姨,想 念她和她們相聚的日子!

2005 年八月底,一場嚴重的 颶風風暴,險些吞吃了我們的老大 姐。在千鈞一髮之際,神救了她的 命,使她死裏逃生,蒙主憐憫又存活 下來。接著我們在<u>費城</u>逃難期間,當 時房子窄小,大家都擠在一起。簡直 沒有夜間單獨禱告的地方。但是,她 當時雖然已經89歲,經過一隻眼的 白內障手術後,仍堅持每天白天多看 聖經,夜間起來守望禱告。在極其不 得已的情況下,夜間她只好到樓下小 小的廁所裏連坐幾個小時禱告,照常 按班守望,從不放過一次機會。

2007年的下半年,恩寵姐妹 有感動要回國看望肢體們。未料,當 年9月不幸中風入院治療。蒙主憐 惯,因著大家迫切的禱告,使她在極 度的危險中轉危爲安。經過兩個月的 搶救,基本上病情穩固,出院繼續治 療。但是,由於國內的醫療條件較 差,不適於她儘快恢復。因此我們全 體迫切禱告,求神爲她開出路,盡可 能將她老人家帶回美國。但是,這在 當時簡直是不可能現實的。一個中風 的病人,又是如此高齡,怎能帶她回 來呢?另方面她必須在年底前歸 來,否則若過了半年,將失去她的身 份。。。。感謝神,竟感動我們的同 工張老弟兄自抱奮勇,願意親自到北 京接她回來。這件事談何容易?完全 藉著大家的迫切禱告,看見神一步一 步的帶領。終於將90歲的老大姐從 北京接回美國。就在當年12月31日

最後的一天,她終於神蹟般地平安到 達美國,不得不滿心感謝信實的神! 祂從不誤事!

回美一年多來,老大姐有我院全體弟兄姐妹愛心的關懷和服事,和這裏良好的醫療條件照顧下,她的健康情況逐漸好轉。前半年她每天都要求坐在輪椅上,出來參加上下午兩次的聚會。平時還能用簡單的話禱告求大復興、求全地靈魂得救。過冬以後就很少出來聚會,每天服事她的姐妹們,都經常陪她唱詩,讀經、禱告。她經常也跟著一起唱詩,一起背誦一些她熟悉的經文。"讚美主,感謝主,哈利路亞!"是她天天不離口的,滿心感恩讚美神!

在她臨終的最後幾個月來,她的健康情況漸差,沒有食慾,只能喝少量的水,又維持了些日子。直等到我們同工工作完畢歸來後,還能陪她一段最艱難的日子,平平安安地送別了我們最親愛的老大姐。她安息了!息了地上的一切勞苦和病痛,永遠安息在主懷中!她在主裏的勞苦不是徒然的!必永遠被神紀念,也永遠存在我們心中!我們懇求神興起更多的忠心守望者,爲神的國和福音的使命盡心竭力,繼續代求,繼續奮戰!直到見主的日子,阿們。

最後,我們代表<u>恩寵</u>姐的家屬 向<u>陳興福</u>牧師、師母,各教會的眾聖 徒以及各位牧師、師母,<u>劉宏富</u>牧 師、師母,<u>陳國治</u>牧師、師母,<u>李</u>醫 生等的愛心關懷,及時的照顧和長期 以來的耐心服事她的幾位勞苦的姐 妹們致以衷心的感謝!

# The Most Important Favor of My Life



was born
in Henan
Provence,
China, and I
have been in
America for one
year now.
Both of my
parents served
in the Chinese
army as college

professors, which means that they have been Communist Party members for more than 20 years. Born in a family like this, I feel extraordinarily blessed that I could still become a Christian at the age of twenty-one. Thanks to God! Today's baptism is the best birthday present in my life.

The first Christian I met was my deskmate when I was in eighth grade. I was very surprised when he told me that he was a Christian, so I began to ask all sorts of questions. From him I learned a few basic ideas about the Bible, though he was not able to explain all those big, difficult questions that I asked deliberately. It was six years later when I met another Christian. She was a middle-aged woman who sat next to me on my flight to America. She came originally from Mainland China, and was on a business trip to New Orleans. She turned out to be a nice, caring person. When she gave me a two-hour long speech on Jesus, I listened very attentively. She spoke about a lot of things that I had never heard before, such as the creation of the world and the salvation plan of God, both of which touched my heart dearly. But to be honest, I was not ready to believe

#### By Yasong Wang

completely everything she said because of my educational and cultural background. However, my heart opened and has been yearning for God ever since.

As soon as I settled in New Orleans, I began to go to church on Sundays and UNO Bible study on Fridays with my uncle's family. By the way, my uncle is Wang Zhenjun. During the next couple of months, the words of God have quenched the thirst in my heart like waters from an eternal spring, through Sunday worship at the church and fellowship with other Christians. My trust in our Lord grew rapidly like a fresh sprout, until one day the question of "why I need Jesus" became a solid answer of "why not". So on the evening of February 16, upon returning from Bible study, I shut the door of my room and bowed down on my knees, and prayed that I wished to accept Jesus as my personal savior.

Not long after this, in February, there was a baptism ceremony at the church. At that time I hardly knew anything about the importance of baptism, thinking that everything would be fine as long as I would believe in Jesus. I decided that I did not have to be baptized. But God couldn't abandon His children in the desert, and He kept calling me. So on our way to the church on that baptism day, I couldn't help whispering to Lucy, my cousin, "do you think I should be baptized?" Surprising she replied, "Have you already accepted Jesus? If so, you should be baptized." But I was still hesitating. Only a few days after, things began to run out of my control. The next thing I knew was that everyone in the church suddenly found out that I was going to be baptized. This is ridiculous since I had not decided to be baptized, but there was this news circulating about my planned baptism. How did everybody hear about this? The answer is obvious—someone must have been telling others. I have never confronted anyone about, but today I like to ask: Was it you, Lucy, who did this? If so, I would like to thank

you dearly. You have done to me the greatest favor of my life. I could not have asked for a better cousin in this world.

Later Mrs. Liu told me the significance of baptism. I learned that being baptized is the command of our Lord. So I strengthened my mind to be baptized. Since then God's amazing power began to appear in every part of my life. For example, in the past I would become nervous very easily so that I was unable to sleep well at night. During the past few months, things have changed so much that my friend began to notice a change in my sleeping pattern. He was my roommate. Recently, he went back to China on a plane that took off at 6 O'clock in the morning. The night before he left I told him that "in case I don't wake up tomorrow when you leave, I want to say goodbye to you now." To my surprise he

answered: "Sure, you do that. I know you well enough. And you sleep like a dead pig at night." God has given me to ability to relax and sleep well!

In my path to be baptized and become a true Christian, my uncle, aunt and cousin Lucy have played the most important role. This fulfills the scripture saying, "If one member is saved, the whole family would be saved." The Bible also says, "the kingdom of the God is near!" So those of you who have recently accepted Jesus, please get yourself baptized as soon as possible! Do not wait for your cousin to do you a favor!

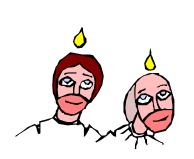
# Jesus Will Always Be With Me

## By Lesle Sito Guan

## **M**y name is Leslie Sito

Guan. I am here today to be baptized. I dedicate this day to God. Now I am willing to lay down my life for God as he did for me with His amazing grace. Baptism means everything to me because it means that I can be reborn again through the forgiveness of sin by Jesus' sacrifice for me.

Before I accepted Jesus as my personal savior and made the decision to be baptized, I doubted whether I was truly saved or if Jesus would ever live in my heart. Many times, instead of reading my Bible every night, I chose to watch television. Sinning was an easy way to satisfy my desires, but it made me lose my faith in Jesus. But as I place myself before Jesus, I







learn that everything I do will affect me. I can choose my actions but I will be responsible for the consequences. Thanks to Jesus, all the sins I have done in the past mean nothing to me anymore—Jesus has forgiven all my sins.

However, I may still walk in the valley of darkness in this world. But now I am a strong Christian who realizes that God is light. I am so blessed that God called me here today

to be baptized. I took the two crucial steps to success in life—become a Christian and be baptized. We are all blessed to be able to gather here today in our Father's house to worship and hear the words of God. My old life is now behind me, and today I begin my new life in Jesus. No matter what I do, wherever I am, Jesus will always be in my heart.