

From the Pastor's Desk:
20-20 Vision on God's Will

Hello, brothers and sisters. It is by God's grace that I can use this platform to share with you my thoughts about the responsibility that children of God need to bear.

Recently, because of my deteriorating eyesight, I need to have a pair of progressive glasses. It is said that this kind of lens can help me, who have presbyopia and myopia, to see clearly, both far and near without taking off the glasses. While thinking about what to share with you, God reminded me that the Bible is like a pair of progressive lens that can help us see clearly both near and far. Why do we need to see clearly? It is because we need the "good eyesight" in order to understand God's Will for us, to live out the life which belongs to the children of God.

From the book of Genesis, we know that because of our sins, we cannot have a direct relationship with God. The problem came when humanity decides not to rely on God but to rely on ourselves. Because of sins entering humanity, which causes the loss of direct relationship with God, this problem extends to our relationship with ourselves, other humanities, other creatures and also the earth. God chose Israelites to be His people, hoping that, through this nation, that the world can understand the right way of living as humanity, which is relying on God. And with this relationship, not only there is a reconciliation to us, but also other humanities, other creatures and the earth. However, Israel did not complete the task. Not only did the nation fail to live like God's people, but the nation also assimilated with the world.

The purpose of Jesus Christ entering the history of humanity is to put an end of the old and start something new. This "new thing" is the Kingdom of Heaven. During Jesus' preaching, He preached the gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven. The gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven is to live out God's original purpose for creation. This starts with a right relationship with God. This relationship can only start when humanity was redeemed, as the entire humanity was under the curse of sin. This was what the salvation of Jesus Christ was about. This salvation enables us to have a right relationship with God. Not only that we can have a right relationship with God, but also, because of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, we are regarded as the children of God.

We see from the history of creation account, to the time when Jesus entering the history of humanity, which puts an end to the old and start something new. How does this have anything to do with our daily living? The Bible tells us to live out the identity of being God's children. This identity has an important responsibility, which is to live out the original purpose God has for the creation. Because we are reconciled with God, we also need to bring the world to the reconciliation with God, which is sharing the gospel to the world through our lives. It is not about preaching or sharing the gospel through our words but our lives. We need to actively live out the role of an agent, which helps to bring the world to the reconciliation with God.

In today's pandemic, the life of God's children is especially precious. Because there is no hope for relying on the world. Hope only comes from relying on God. How can the world know? It's through our lives. The driving force for you and me to live out this life is to crown our Lord Jesus with many crowns. This is not simply a hymn but a living testimony of each God's child. May we have the courage to live out this noble role in front of the world.

May God bless you. May God bless RCAC.

看清神的心意

弟兄姊妹大家好。感謝神的恩典，讓我能夠透過文字和大家交流。

最近，因為視力的原因，我需要配一副漸進式的眼鏡。據說這種鏡片可以幫助我這些有老花又有近視的人，可以不用拿下眼鏡，遠近都可以看得清楚。在默想想要透過文字和大家分享的內容的時候，神提醒我，其實聖經就是一副漸進式的眼鏡，能夠幫助我們遠近都可以看得清楚。看得清楚的目的是什麼呢？就是要成就神對我們的心意。

首先，從遠的看，我們從創世紀就讀到為什麼今天我們會面對諸多的問題，無論是氣候，人與人之間，甚至與自己都出現了問題。問題的開始，就是人選擇不倚靠神，選擇以自己取代神的位置。一切的問題就從那個時候開始。因為人以自我的意見為真理，人與神的關係出現了問題，而這個問題就延伸到人與自己，人與人和其他被造物，與大地。這個問題的開始就是罪。以色列人被選為神的子民，就是神希望透過這一個民族來再一次展現人該有的生活態度，就是倚靠祂；並因為倚靠祂，讓一切的關係得以和好。但是，以色列並沒有做到，不單沒有活出神的子民的樣式，而且更成為了世界的一份子。

耶穌基督的到來就是要把以色列人沒有做到的重新開始。耶穌在傳道的時候，宣講的就是天國的福音。天國的福音就是要活出神創造一切的目的。就是在一個對的關係下開始。這個關係不能夠隨便開始，因為我們都成為了罪的奴僕。要能夠與神有一個對的關係，就必須被救贖才可以，而這個就是耶穌基督的救恩。這個救恩成就了我們能夠與神有對的關係。這個對的關係更因著耶穌基督的緣故，接受了救恩的我們就被視為神的兒女。聖經的記載讓我們能夠看得見這一份尊貴的恩典。

從遠的，到人類歷史因著耶穌的救恩的原因而重寫，那我們該如何繼續我們的生活呢？那就是聖經要告訴我們的，就是要活出神的兒女的身分。這一個身分有一個重要的責任，就是活出神創造的心意，我們需要藉著耶穌基督的救恩，聖靈的內住，與神的關係和好，這個和好的關係也要延伸到與自己，與其他任何被造物，與大地的關係。這個就是活出救恩的展現。一切是透過救恩開始，而擁戴我們的主為王就是活出救恩背後的動力。

在今天的疫情下，這一個屬於神的兒女的生命就尤其珍貴。因為倚靠世界是沒有盼望的，唯有倚靠神才有。那世界該如何知道呢？就是透過你我的生命。你我活出生命的動力就是擁戴我們的主為王。願我們不要得到救恩之後，就停止在世界中活出這一份的見證。擁戴我們的主為王不是口號，而是一個又一個生命的見證。

願神祝福你。願神祝福列宣家。