

## 15. A Son or a Servant

We want to consider a little bit more about what we were looking at in our last couple of messages - the difference between being religious and being spiritual.

A person can be religious and still be very, very selfish and self-centred and think all the time in terms of his own profit and his own gain. When a person becomes spiritual, he cannot be self-centred or selfish. He thinks not in terms of what he is going to gain, but in terms what God is going to gain; how God is going to be glorified.

You remember the prayer which Jesus taught His disciples, which is commonly known as the 'Lord's Prayer' - "Our Fathers who art in heaven" followed by six requests. The three of those requests, the first three in fact, concern God - His name, His kingdom, His will, and the next three concerns ourselves - our physical and material needs -daily bread, our need for forgiveness - our past life, i.e. "Forgive us our sins as we forgive others," and our need for deliverance from sins in the future. Notice that Jesus taught His disciples that the right way to pray was putting God's glory, name, honour, and His will, and His kingdom first and putting our own needs secondary.

Now, if you were to examine your own prayer, I mean, think of the way you have prayed to God, even if it is half a minute prayer, or one sentence prayer, or a long prayer. What have you basically prayed to God for, say, during the last one year? When you spend time in prayer or make short requests to God, what are you actually asking God for? If you are honest, you will discover how much

## 15. 兒子,還是僕人

我們想繼續談前面兩節的內容——「屬宗教」與「屬靈」的區別。

一個「屬宗教」的人,有可能仍然非常非常自私,以自我為中心,所有的時間都在琢磨自己的利益。然而當一個人變得「屬靈」,他便再也無法以自我為中心或自私了。他想的不再是自己能獲得什麼,而是神能獲得什麼,神如何被榮耀。

你還記得耶穌教導祂的門徒,那眾所周知的《主禱文》:開始于「我們在天上的父」,爾後是六個請求。其中最前面三個,都是圍繞著神——祂的名、祂的國度和祂的旨意,接下來的三個是關於我們的——身體和物質上的——日用的飲食、我們需要的寬恕(就是處理我們的過往——「寬恕我們的罪,如同我們寬恕他人的罪」)、還有未來我們如何從罪裡得到解救。請你注意的是,耶穌教祂的門徒這正確的禱告方式,是將神的榮耀、神的名、神的信譽,以及神的旨意和祂的國度,放在首位,而我們個人的需要,放在第二位。

那麼現在,如果你審視一下自己的禱告,我是說,請回憶下你都是怎麼對神禱告的,即使是個半分鐘的禱告,一句話的禱告,或長些的禱告。想想你過去一年裡,基本上每次向神禱告的內容是什麼?你花時間的禱告,或是簡短地向神請求,那時你實際都在問神要什麼?如果你足夠誠實的話,就會發現自己禱告的核心內容,都是關於自己和自己的家人。其實這也反映了你生活的方式。你是如何支配錢財、時間和你的能力?那會告訴

your prayers are centred on yourself and your family. That is an indication of the way you live also. How do you spend your money, your time, and your abilities? You may find that the answer to these questions show that your life is so wrapped up only around yourself and your family. And to ease your conscience you give a little time to God, may be on a Sunday morning, or may be on a Wednesday evening. Then you feel that you are spiritual because you have given a little time to God or may be because you live what you consider as an upright life.

True spirituality is a lot more than going to two meetings in a week. In fact, a man can be spiritual even without going for any meeting at all in a week. If he is locked up in a prison, for example, he is not able to go for a meeting, or if he is in a hospital or sick, he can't go for a meeting. He can still be spiritual. But you can't be spiritual, if you are seeking your own. A religious person goes through religious acts to ease his conscience but, deep down in the centre of his life, SELF still sits on the throne. That is why Jesus said, "You can't be my disciple unless you take up the cross" - deny that self which is sitting on the throne (Lk. 9:23). "Unless you deny your self-life, dethrone it, kill it, and follow me, you can't be my disciple." He said, "You got to do it every day."

So we see that a religious person can still have SELF sitting on the throne of his heart and go through the motions of every external activity. He may go to every meeting, he may go to six or seven meetings a week, he may engage in evangelism, he may even be a full time worker who has given up his job, and may be travels to some difficult place to preach God's word, still he may be just religious.

你,你生活完全是圍繞著自己和你的家庭。然後可能為了消除負罪感,你會花那麼一丁點時間給神,興許周日的早晨,或是週三的晚上。然後你就自以為很「屬靈」了,或是自認為完全正直,因為你給了神一點時間。

真正「屬靈」的生活,可遠不止是每週參加兩次聚會。實際上,一個人即使這週一次聚會都沒參加,他也可能是「屬靈的」。比方說,他在監獄裡,沒法參加任何聚會,或者生病在醫院。但他的生活仍然可能是「屬靈的」。但是,一個總給自己尋好處的人,則不可能是「屬靈的」。一個「屬宗教的」人參加各種宗教活動來消除負罪感,得到心理平衡,然而他生活的核心,那個大大的「我」仍然穩穩在寶座之上。這就是為什麼耶穌說「你們若要跟從我,就必須每天背起十字架」——捨棄那個你放在寶座上的「我」(路加福音 9 章 23 節)。「除非你舍去自我,把它從寶座上趕下來,消滅它,才可能跟從我,否則,你無法做我的門徒。」祂說:「你們必須要每天都這麼做。」

由此我們看到,屬宗教的人表面看起來,可能參與各種宗教活動,然而那個大大的「自我」卻仍坐在他心靈的寶座上。他參加各種團契,一個星期去六七個聚會,也可能參與傳福音的活動,甚至可能放棄了事業全職侍奉,甚至可能到很多不同的地方傳講神的道,即便如此,他也仍可能只是「屬宗教」的。耶穌有一次對法利賽人(耶穌時代的「屬宗教」的人)說:「你們走遍海洋陸地引人入教。可你們成就了什麼?你們只是弄出來了

Jesus once said to the Pharisees, who were religious people of his time, 'You travel and cross lands and seas, you travel here and there to make converts. What do you accomplish? You produce people exactly like yourself. They have become double the children of hell. In fact, they would have been better off if you had left them alone, because you made them like yourselves - self-centred, thinking that they are spiritual, when they are only religious'. Lot of conversions are like that.

Even in Christendom today, people are converted to a form of religiosity. They never become spiritual because the SELF sits on the throne. They have never thought to take up the cross every day. Think about yourself; has anybody ever taught what it means to deny yourself every day, to take up your cross every day, as you read Luke 9:23? What does it say there? It says, 'Unless you do that every day, you can't be His disciple, you can't follow Him; it is impossible.' He said that in Luke 14:27 too.

The religious man thinks like this, i.e. when he becomes Christian, this is the way his thought processes work: What can I get from the Lord? Can the Lord give me forgiveness of sins? Yeah I want that. Can He give me healing? Yeah I would like that. Can He give me heaven after I die? Yeah I want that too. Can He bless me? Yeah I want that. Can He bless me materially? Boy, I would love that. Can He anoint me so that I can be a mighty, famous preacher going around with my pictures here and there in Christian magazines? I would love that too.

Now, do you think such a man is spiritual? He may be talking about a lot of Christian activities, but his goal is something for himself. He is seeking his own name, his own fame, his own gain, his own

像你們一樣的人,結果是讓地獄裡的人翻倍。你們要是壓根就沒去影響過這些人,還倒好些。結果你們把他們變得像你們一樣,以自我為中心,誤以為自己是屬靈的,可實際上只是屬宗教的。」那時候很多入了教的人都是那樣。

甚至現今的基督信仰裡,很多人也同樣,只有形式上的歸信。他們從來都沒有變的「屬靈」,因為他們一直讓那個大大的「自我」坐在寶座上。而且他們也從來不願意每天背負十字架。想想你自己,是否有人曾教過你,路加福音 9 章 23 節所說的那樣,每天都要去拒絕自我,每天都要去背起十字架?那說的是什麼意思?那說的是:「除非你每天都那麼做,否則你就無法成為祂的門徒,就無法追隨祂,因為是不可能的事。」耶穌在路加福音的 14 章 27 節中也說過。

一個「屬宗教」的人的想法是這樣的,比如他成為了基督徒,他的想法就會是:我能從主那裡得到什麼?主能夠寬恕我的罪嗎?被寬恕,嗯,我想要。祂能治癒我嗎?嗯這個我也想要。我死後祂能讓我進天堂嗎?這個我也想要。祂能賜給我祝福嗎?我想要。祂能給我物質上的祝福嗎?噢天吶,我太想要這個了。祂能賜給我大大的能力,讓我成為世界著名的牧道人,讓基督教雜誌上到處都是我的照片?我太想要這個了。

好了,現在請你想想,這樣的人是「屬靈」的嗎?他也許會談論很多基督教的活動,然而他的目標是為了他自己。他在為自己尋求名氣,他自己的聲望,自己的成功,自己的福氣,所有一切都是為了他自己。那個大大的

prosperity, his own blessing, everything for self. Self sits on the throne of his life. He is got a form of godliness though. He may be a fulltime worker. But a lot of people in fulltime Christian work today are doing it for their own profit. If those people were in secular jobs they would not be earning even half of what they earn in Christian work. It has brought them profit. They are doing business with God. Jesus turned such people out of the temple in His day, in His time - People who sought their own, who appeared to be selling sheep and doves to help people sacrifice in the temple, but who were actually just thinking in terms of their own profit and gain. Do you know the amount of religiosity there is in Christianity today that goes undetected, disguised as Christian work? Oh, there is such a lot of that.

A spiritual man, on the other hand, is not thinking what he can get out of the Lord. He thinks, 'What can the Lord get out of me? What can the Lord get from this one earthly life that I have? What is the maximum that He can get?' Now, if you are honest, as you read this transcript, you can ask yourself, what is your attitude towards the Lord? Are you always thinking, what is the next thing I can get from the Lord for myself, for my family? Or is your attitude is, 'What more can the Lord get out of my earthly life before I leave this earth? What more can He get out of me?' Personally, I want Him to have everything of me from head to foot, and I want my life to be dispensed for Him.

There is a lot of difference between these two attitudes. Both people may sit next to each other in a Christian church, and you may not be able to distinguish between the two, because it is a question of heart attitude. Both may go out for evangelism, both may go out to serve the Lord, and both may

「自我」坐在他生命的寶座上。即使他有著一副虔敬的外表,即使他可能是全職侍奉的。現今很多全職侍奉的基督徒,都是在為他們自己的利益而工作。因為這些人若是從事其他工作,可能也就能掙在教會工作一半的薪水。在教會工作讓他們獲利。他們是在和神做生意。耶穌在世的時候,曾把這些人趕出了神殿——那些表面上看起來是賣羊和鴿子,來說明廟裡獻祭的人,而實際上想的全是自己掙多少,獲利多少。你知道嗎,現今的教會工作有多少是披著宗教外衣,冒充的教會服侍?哦,太多太多了。

反過來說,一個「屬靈」的人,想的則不是他能從主那裡得多少好處。他想的是:「主能從我這得到什麼?我在世上的日子,能為主做些什麼?如何能讓我最大限度地為祂而活?」如果你在讀到這時足夠誠實,請你捫心自問,你對神的態度是如何?你是否一直在想,我接下來能從神那裡得到什麼,我的家人能得到什麼?還是你會想:「在我離開這個世界之前,我還能為神做些什麼?如何讓神最大限度地使用我?」對我而言,我渴望祂能夠從頭到腳,使用我的一切,我想要把我的生命全部給祂。

這兩種態度是有巨大差別的。兩個人可能並排坐在教會裡,你可能根本看不出他們有什麼不同,因為差別是在於內心的態度。兩個人可能都在參與傳講福音,兩個人可能在外服侍主,都在做出犧牲。然而最本根的動機卻截然不同。要知道,是內在的動機,而非外在的行動,決定了我們靈命。

sacrifice. And yet the fundamental motive underneath may be totally different. You know it is the motive that determines the spirituality, not the actions.

Jesus went to the Synagogue and the Pharisees went to Synagogue. Do you think they were both equally acceptable to God? Jesus studied the Bible and the Pharisees studied the Bible. Do you think they were equally acceptable to the Father? Jesus went out to preach, the Pharisees went out to preach. The Pharisees were full time workers and Jesus was a fulltime worker for three-and-a-half years. But do you think they were the same? There was a vast difference. In fact, in the gospels, we constantly see the contrast between Jesus and Pharisees. It is the contrast between true spirituality and religiosity. It is the contrast between living according to the Spirit of the New Covenant, the new agreement that God has made with man and living according to the letter of the law - the Old Covenant. There is a vast difference between the two.

When Adam sinned, do you know what he did? He covered himself with fig leaves. Fig leaves are a picture of religiosity with which a man tries to make himself presentable before God and before man. You know what Jesus did when he saw a fig tree covered with leaves, he cursed it and the whole tree withered out. That teaches us that there is a curse on religiosity. He came looking for fruit in that fig tree; He didn't want its leaves. Fig trees were not created just to have leaves. Likewise God did not create man just to be religious. Yes, there are religious activities but underneath it all if there is not a spiritual life, then God is not interested. There is a curse over it.

那個時候,耶穌去會堂,法利賽人也去會堂。你覺得兩個人是同樣被神所接受嗎?耶穌學習《聖經》,法利賽人也學習《聖經》。你覺得他們同樣地合天父心意嗎?耶穌出外講道,法利賽人也出外講道。法利賽人是全職侍奉,耶穌的三年半也是全職侍奉。但你覺得那會是一樣的嗎?這之間是有巨大差別的。實際上在福音書中,我們總能看到耶穌與法利賽人的對比。這是真正的「屬靈」與「屬宗教」的對比。這是新約時代活在聖靈裡,與舊約時代活在律法之下的區別。兩者之間的區別是巨大的。

在亞當犯罪後,你知道他做了什麼嗎?他用無花果樹的葉子遮蓋自己。無花果樹的葉子,所形容的是人通過個人努力去試圖得到神和人的認可。你知道嗎,當耶穌看到一棵只有葉子的無花果樹,祂咒詛了那棵樹,爾後那棵樹枯萎了。這教給我們,虛偽的宗教上面,是有咒詛的。祂來到那棵無花果樹是為了尋找果子,祂不想要葉子。無花果樹被造出來不是為了只長葉子。同樣地,神造人也不是讓我們僅僅「屬宗教」。我們的確有很多宗教活動,但若是內裡沒有屬靈的生命,神是不感興趣的。甚至這上面是有詛咒的。

What is it that God gave Adam? God stripped him of those fig leaves and gave him a covering of skin. He killed an animal and put its skin over him. It is a picture of God giving us his own nature. The dress of the fig leaves was what Adam manufactured. He sewed up the fig leaves and made a dress for himself, to cover himself. When God saw it, He said, 'Throw that away, I don't want it.' They may be good fig leaves, i.e., they were not rotten but still not acceptable. God said, 'I will give you a dress.'

God gives us the nature of Christ. That is what that skin of the animal means. We can then ask, 'Why did God keep people under the law for 1500 years?' - To show man the emptiness of it. He never intended that man should live under The Law all his life. God left man under The Law to show that that is not the way. 'You will never attain to my nature that way.' He wanted man to come to an end of himself and that is what The Law was meant to accomplish. Those people who did come to an end of themselves, they began to seek God. To them God is able to give His own nature, and that is throwing away the fig leaves of religiosity and giving us the nature of Jesus Christ.

The nature of Jesus Christ means that we serve God with the same Spirit with which Christ served the Father - Not as a servant but as a Son. Beloved friends, God has called you not to be his servant but to be his son and to serve Him with the Spirit of His Son.

神給亞當的是什麼？神撕去了亞當身上的無花果樹葉子，給他披上了動物的皮子。神殺死了一個動物並用這皮子來遮蓋亞當。這個畫面象徵著神把祂自己的天性加諸給我們。無花果樹的葉子這件衣裳，是亞當自己製造的。他把葉子縫起來給自己做了衣裳來遮蓋。當神看到時說：「把它扔了，這不是我要的。」那些也許是好的無花果樹葉子，就是說還沒爛，但仍然是無法被接受的。神說：「我會給你一件衣裳。」

神給我們基督的天性。那就是動物皮子的含義。爾後我們可能會問：「為什麼神使人在律法下活了 1500 年？」答案就是，神為了告訴人類律法的空洞。祂從沒想讓人一直那樣活著。神讓人體驗在律法之下生活是為了讓人明白，那不是真正的道路。「那樣的方式，你永遠無法得到我的天性。」祂要通過律法，來使人瞭解自己所能做的極限。那些在律法中走到了盡頭的人，會開始尋求神。神會給他們祂自己的天性，那就像是讓人們扔掉無花果樹葉子一般的宗教，而接受耶穌基督的天性。

耶穌基督的天性指的是我們用同樣的靈來臣服于我們的父——不是像僕人般，而是像一個兒子。我親愛的朋友，神呼喚你，去做祂的兒子，而不是僕人，祂要你懷揣著祂兒子的靈，來臣服于祂。