

使馆教会

The Church as Embassy

哥林多后书 (2 Corinthians) 5:11-21

一月的证道表 - 主题： 教会

January Teaching Schedule - Theme: The Church

3rd – 使馆教会 The Church as an Embassy (圣经神学 Biblical Theology, 哥林多后书 2Corinthians 5)

10th – 上帝的跨国大家庭 The TransNational Family of God (使徒行传 Acts 2:1-40, 以赛亚书 Isaiah 25:6-8)

17th – 圣灵的团契 Community of the Spirit (彼得前书 1 Peter 2:4-5)

24th – 神拣选在世的器皿 God's Chosen Instrument in the World (提摩太前书 1 Timothy 3:14-16, 彼得前书 1 Peter 2:6-10)

31st – 基督的肢体 The Body of Christ (以爱为根基的合一多元肢体 Unity & Celebrated Diversity, Grounded in Love) (哥林多前书 1 Corinthians 12:12-13:13)

主论述 Primary Claim

若我们想成为上帝呼召我们成为的教会，我们首先必须将教会理解为一个以「和好」为主要宗旨的在世神国大使馆。

If we want to be the Church God has called us to be, we must first understand the Church as a Kingdom Embassy in the world, whose chief ethic is reconciliation.

路线图 Road Map

- I. 教会作为神国的大使馆 The Church as a Kingdom Embassy
- II. 和好是使馆教会的最高道德宗旨 Reconciliation as the Chief Ethic of the Embassy
- III. 真正和好的特征 Characteristics of True Reconciliation
 - A. 平安 Shalom (“Peace”)
 - B. 说真话 Truth-Telling
 - C. 破壁之爱 Barrier-Breaking Love

哥林多前书 (2 Corinthians) 5:20

因此我们是基督的特使，就像神藉着我们在劝告人——我们代替基督请求说：「与神和好吧！」

“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.”

使者与使馆 Ambassador & Embassy

一位使者是一个国家派遣到另一国的正式代表，并且这位代表是一位通过认证的合格外交官。」

Ambassador is “an accredited diplomat sent by a country as its official representative to a foreign country.”

一个大使馆就是使者官邸或使者办公室。

Embassy then is “the official residence or offices of an ambassador.”

以赛亚书 (Isaiah) 58:2-3

他们天天寻求我，乐意明白我的道，好像行义的国民，不离弃他们神的典章，向我求问公义的判语，喜悦亲近神。「他们说：『我们禁食，你为何不看见呢？我们刻苦己心，你为何不理睬呢？』看哪，你们禁食的日子仍求利益，勒逼人为你们做苦工

For day after day they seek me out; they seem eager to know my ways, as if they were a nation that does what is right and has not forsaken the commands of its God. They ask me for just decisions and seem eager for God to come near them. 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?' "Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers.

以赛亚书 (Isaiah) 58:4-5

你们禁食，却互相争竞，以凶恶的拳头打人。你们今日禁食，不得使你们的声音听闻于上。这样禁食，岂是我所拣选，使人刻苦己心的日子吗？岂是叫人垂头像苇子，用麻布和炉灰铺在他以下吗？你这可称为禁食，为耶和华所悦纳的日子吗？

Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

以赛亚书 (Isaiah) 58:6-7

我所拣选的禁食，不是要松开凶恶的绳，解下轭上的索，使被欺压的得自由，折断一切的轭吗？不是要把你的饼分给饥饿的人，将漂流的穷人接到你家中，见赤身的给他衣服遮体，顾恤自己的骨肉而不掩藏吗？

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

以赛亚书 (Isaiah) 58:8-10

这样，你的光就必发现如早晨的光，你所得的医治要速速发明，你的公义必在你前面行，耶和华的荣光必做你的后盾。那时你求告，耶和华必应允；你呼求，他必说：'我在这里！』「你若从你中间除掉重轭和指摘人的指头，并发恶言的事，你心若向饥饿的人发怜悯，使困苦的人得满足，你的光就必在黑暗中发现，你的幽暗必变如正午。

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.

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哥林多后书 (2 Corinthians) 5:16-20

所以，我们从今以后，不凭着外貌认人了。虽然凭着外貌认过基督，如今却不再这样认他了。若有人在基督里，他就是新造的人，旧事已过，都变成新的了。一切都是出于神，他借着基督使我们与他和好，又将劝人与他和好的职分赐给我们。这就是神在基督里叫世人与自己和好，不将他们的过犯归到他们身上，并且将这和好的道理托付了我们。所以，我们做基督的使者，就好像神藉我们劝你们一般，我们替基督求你们与神和好。

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

歌罗西书 Colossians 1:19-20

因为父喜欢叫一切的丰盛在他里面居住。既然借着他在十字架上所流的血成就了和平，便借着他叫万有，无论是地上的、天上的，都与自己和好了。

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

以弗所书 (Ephesians) 2:14

因他使我们和睦，将两下合而为一，拆毁了中间隔断的墙...

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility...

马太福音 (Matthew) 5:21-24

「你们听见有吩咐古人的话说：『不可杀人』，又说：『凡杀人的难免受审判。』只是我告诉你们，凡向弟兄动怒的，难免受审判；凡骂弟兄是拉加的，难免公会的审断；凡骂弟兄是魔利的，难免地狱的火。“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

所以，你在祭坛上献礼物的时候，若想起弟兄向你怀怨，就把礼物留在坛前，先去同弟兄和好，然后来献礼物。“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

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罗马书 (Romans) 10:9

你若口里认耶稣为主，心里信神叫他从死里复活，就必得救。因为人心里相信就可以称义，口里承认就可以得救

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

约翰一书 (1 John) 1:8-9

我们若说自己无罪，便是自欺，真理不在我们心里了。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。

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

雅各书 (James) 5:16

所以你们要彼此认罪，互相代求，使你们可以得医治。义人祈祷所发的力量是大有功效的。

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

耶利米书 (Jeremiah) 6:13-15

「因为他们从最小的到至大的都一味地贪婪，从先知到祭司都行事虚谎。他们轻轻忽忽地医治我百姓的损伤，说‘平安了！平安了！’，其实没有平安。他们行可憎的事知道惭愧吗？不然！他们毫不惭愧，也不知羞耻。因此，他们必在仆倒的人中仆倒，我向他们讨罪的时候，他们必致跌倒。」这是耶和华说的。

“From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit. They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. ‘Peace, peace,’ they say, when there is no peace. Are they ashamed of their detestable conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush. So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when I punish them,” says the Lord.

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约翰福音 (John) 3:16-17

「神爱世人，甚至将他的独生子赐给他们，叫一切信他的不致灭亡，反得永生。因为神差他的儿子降世，不是要定世人的罪，乃是要叫世人因他得救。」

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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