**2018 中秋特别聚会**

* **庆祝团圆**

中秋节是华人传统节日。自古以来，华人都视中秋节为一个庆祝团圆的日子，一家大小团聚一起赏月吃月饼，享受天伦之乐。团圆，代表圆满、没有欠缺。

* **人生无奈**

不过，正如北宋词人苏轼Su Shi的《水调歌头Prelude to Water Music》所言：“

**人有悲欢离合，People have their griefs and joys, their joining and separations,**

**月有阴晴圆缺，the moon its dark and clear times, its roundings and wanings.**

**此事古难全。As ever in such matters, things are hardly the way we wish.”**

这简单几句话道尽了华人对人生种种无奈的感叹。诗人在最后道出心中的盼望：“

**但愿人长久，I only hope we may have long long lives,**

**千里共婵娟。 may share the moon’s beauty, though a thousand miles apart.”**

圣经中也有类似的诗句：

**【传道书Ecclesiastes 3:2-4】**

**2 生有时，死有时；栽种有时，拔出所栽种的也有时；**

**A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted;**

**3 杀戮有时，医治有时；拆毁有时，建造有时；**

**A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up;**

**4 哭有时，笑有时；哀恸有时，跳舞有时；**

**A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance;**

诗人们所表达的是我们每一个人共同的心声，我们都经历人生的悲欢离合，生老病死，但是，我们都盼望一个永恒的团圆和永恒的平安。其实这是非常矛盾的事情，一方面我们在现实的人生中看到的都是不完美，不平安；但是在我们的心里，我们又都盼望真正长久的完美和平安。为什么会是这样呢？我们为什么总是盼望好像是不可能实现的事情呢？

圣经告诉我们答案。

圣经告诉我们，上帝创造的世界本来是完美平安的。上帝按照祂自己的形象创造了人，上帝是永恒的，上帝给人的生命也是永恒的，一切本来都是最完美的。

**【传道书Ecclesiastes 3:11a】**

**神造万物，各按其时成为美好，又将永生安置在世人心里（“永生”原文作“永远”）……**

**He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts…**

* **人的罪和死**

但是，因为人自己的罪，人毁掉了这原本美好的一切。

人心底里面明明知道有一位神，但是却没有人真正地把神当神，而是自己任意妄为。

**【罗马书 Romans 1:19-22】**

**19 神的事情，人所能知道的，原显明在人心里，因为　神已经给他们显明。**

**because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.**

**20 自从造天地以来，　神的永能和神性是明明可知的，虽是眼不能见，但藉着所造之物就可以晓得，叫人无可推诿。**

**For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,**

**21 因为，他们虽然知道　神，却不当作　神荣耀他，也不感谢他。他们的思念变为虚妄，无知的心就昏暗了。**

**because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.**

**22 自称为聪明，反成了愚拙；**

**Professing to be wise, they became fools,**

**【罗马书 Romans 1:28-32】**

**28 他们既然故意不认识　神，神就任凭他们存邪僻的心，行那些不合理的事；**

**And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;**

**29 装满了各样不义、邪恶、贪婪、恶毒（或作“阴毒”），满心是嫉妒、凶杀、争竞、诡诈、毒恨，**

**being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers,**

**30 又是谗毁的、背后说人的、怨恨　神的（或作“被　神所憎恶的”）、侮慢人的、狂傲的、自夸的、捏造恶事的、违背父母的、**

**backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,**

**31 无知的、背约的、无亲情的、不怜悯人的。**

**undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;**

**32 他们虽知道　神判定行这样事的人是当死的，然而他们不但自己去行，还喜欢别人去行。**

**who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.**

**【罗马书 Romans 3：23】**

**世人都犯了罪，亏缺了神的荣耀 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,**

人的罪给人带来死亡。

**【罗马书 Romans 6：23a】因为罪的工价乃是死；For the wages of sin is death**

“死”就是与生命的源头隔绝，人因着罪，就和神隔绝了，也因此而和神的恩典以及祂所为我们预备的美满丰盛的生命隔绝了！因此人就陷在黑暗中而不能自救，人尝试追求富贵、钱财、名声、地位、权利、爱情，或追求宗教、哲学、善行、功德等等都不能让人回到真正美好平安的生命中，人生变得没有盼望，人只有悲叹人生的各种痛苦和无常。

* **救恩**

人生的出路在哪里？

**【约翰福音 John 3:16】**

**“神爱世人，甚至将祂的独生子赐给他们，叫一切信祂的，不至灭亡，反得永生。**

**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**

**【罗马书 Romans 5:8】**

**惟有基督在我们还作罪人的时候为我们死，神的爱就在此向我们显明了。**

**But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

上帝赐下祂的独生爱子主耶稣基督，来到世界上，为我们的罪死在十字架上，代替我们在十字架上接受了我们本应该接受的罪的刑罚，祂所流的血为我们成就了救恩。

不仅如此，耶稣是唯一的拯救，圣经告诉我们：

**【使徒行传 Acts ：12】**

**除祂以外别无拯救；因为在天上人间没有赐下别的名，我们可以靠着得救。**

**Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."**

**主**耶稣所成就的救恩是唯一的拯救，在主耶稣以外别无拯救。

主耶稣说，“

**【约翰福音 John 14：6】**

**我就是道路，真理，生命，若不借着我，没有人能到父那里去。”**

**"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**

圣经告诉我们：

**【约翰一书 1 John 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。**

**If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** 只要我们认罪悔改，并接受耶稣进入我们的心里作我们的救主和生命的主，我们的罪就可以被洗净而得到这个救恩！我们就与神和好，得到永远的生命。

主耶稣虽然在十字架上死了，但在死后第三天主耶稣复活了，祂在离开世界之前曾经应许我们：

**【约翰福音 John 14:2-3】**

**2 在我父的家里有许多住处；若是没有，我就早已告诉你们了。我去原是为你们预备地方去。In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.**

**3 我若去为你们预备了地方，就必再来接你们到我那里去；我在那里，叫你们也在那里。**

**And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.**

**【哥林多前书 1 Co 2:9】**

**如经上所记：“神为爱祂的人所预备的，是眼睛未曾看见，耳朵未曾听见，人心也未曾想到的。”**

**But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."**

**【启示录 Revelation 21:3-4】**

**3 我听见有大声音从宝座出来说：“看哪，　神的帐幕在人间。祂要与人同住，他们要作祂的子民；　神要亲自与他们同在，作他们的　神。**

**And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.**

**4 神要擦去他们一切的眼泪，不再有死亡，也不再有悲哀、哭号、疼痛，因为以前的事都过去了。”**

**And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."**

今天，我们大家来到这里一起庆祝中秋。盼望在这个团圆平安的时刻，我们都来思想那真正的平安和团圆。盼望我们都能思考那永恒的归宿，盼望我们能信靠主耶稣基督，得以与神和好，得到真正永恒的平安和喜乐！

* **祷告……**