

## 引言 INTRODUCTION

A famous name brings pride to those who are associated with it. Just look at the bumper stickers and license plates on some people's cars. We live in the south and many folks worship college sports like idols. I often tell American friends that I went to a wrong school and got addicted to college football. Like many universities, my alma mater has tons of traditions related to football. Besides sports, another well-known thing about my school is the marching band. The institution has a military background. Therefore, the group plays with splendor. Members spend long hours to practice the music and the complicated formations. Their wonderful presentations keep audience on their seats during half-time. Football fans get excited every fall. They go to the stadiums or glue to the TV screen. They cheer and roar at every play. Many people feel as if they lost a loved-one when their team lost a game. You may not watch sports. But you may have favorite singers, movie stars or celebrities. You appreciate their performance or you admire their works. You feel that you are emotionally connected to them. Do we display similar sentiments as we worship God? How did you feel when you got up this morning? What was on your mind as you came into the sanctuary? What is your expectation in the next hour or so? What will your conclusion be as you walk out from here? Just like many things, your mentality will affect your activity. This gathering is not a religious program; it is a meeting with God. The Lord is here when we call on His name. Imagine He is sitting on the podium watching us and receiving our praise. How will all that affect our worship? Psalm 96 describes God as a King. We as Kingdom citizens pay tribute to Him. The author tells us that the worth and works of God give us reasons to worship Him. Who He is and what He has done help us understand why and how we should worship Him. The psalm follows an 1-2-1-2 format. It may be divided into four sections in your Bible. Part one tells us about God's majesty, and part two points out God's sovereignty.

## 解釋 EXPLANATION

### 1. 因著神的威嚴讚美祂 Praise God for His Majesty

#### A. 將音樂獻給祂 Give Him Melody (v. 1-3)

First of all, the psalmist calls people to praise God for His majesty. He urges them to do so by giving God melody. Playing instruments and singing songs are common ways to worship God. The author repeats three times in verses 1-2 by saying: "Sing to the Lord!" It is as if the psalmist played the role of a song leader and announced: "People of God, let's use our voice to praise God!" God is the only audience. The psalmist highlights a few purposes for our praise. He says in verse 2 that we sing to "bless his name." In other words, we praise the name of God. In the Bible, a name reflects a person's character. For example, Sarah means princess, David means beloved and Paul means humble. What comes to your mind when you think of the names of God? We often read Isaiah 9:6 during Christmas time. The prophet lists a few titles of the coming Messiah: "...and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Jesus Christ is full of wonder, wisdom and power. He is the eternal God and

the Minister of Peace. Think about those and many other attributes of Jesus every time you sing. Besides praising God's name, we can also use songs to proclaim His works. The author mentions God's salvation in verse 2. By "salvation" it can mean saving of people's souls. But a more general meaning is about rescue from danger. God gives us a new life when we accept Jesus. He also protects us from harms. Are you not grateful that God gives you a good health and provides you a means of transportation so that you can come today? Thank Him for all that! The psalmist expands the scope of God's help to "His marvelous works among all peoples" in verse 3. God displays His power in nature. He fulfills His plans in history. He also shows us His personal will for our life. God put the sun, moon and stars in the sky. He made plants and animals. God did many wonderful things in Israel. God made the Israelites His people. But He is not only the Lord of Israel, He is also the Master of human history. The world seems to be running in chaos. But God gradually unfolds His plans from Genesis to Revelation. As we praise God, we are reminded that God is the Creator, Provider and Finisher. Today, we are troubled by the economy, crime and overseas enemies. We are anxious about our safety, health and future. Our faith is strengthened as we sing to God. We learn to put our trust in God as we sing "The Lord Is My Shepherd." He cares for us and He will lead us if we follow Him. It takes away our worries as we sing "God Will Take Care of You." We know that He has a perfect plan for us whether in good or bad time. We look forward to heaven as we sing "This World Is Not My Home." Our hope is not on earth but is in heaven. Christians have been singing all these and many hymns for centuries because of the rich theology behind the lyrics. You cannot sing songs without pouring out your emotions. If God so touches your heart, feel free to lift your hands, kneel down, say a prayer in your heart or even shed a joyful tear. Let your spirit resonates with God's Spirit through your voice.

#### B. 把榮耀歸給祂 Give Him Glory (v. 7-9)

The psalmist calls us to give God melody. Then in verses 7-9, he encourages us to give God glory. He says three times "ascribe to the Lord." The word "ascribe" means to give credit to. God deserves all the glory. He is the origin of our supply, wisdom and capabilities. How should we give glory to God in worship? In the Old Testament times, people worshipped God in extravagant ways. The temple was a magnificent structure made with gold, silver, bronze, wood and stone. Besides the building, there were priests who presented animal offering, musicians and choir members. All the costs, preparations and rituals underscore God's glory. The sight, sound and smell trigger people's responses. One way that God displays glory is through His strength. We see God's strength in nature. Multiple hurricanes in recent weeks caused a lot of damages. From the natural world, we can switch focus to ourselves. Our human body is a complicated power plant. There are a lot of physical and chemical reactions going on inside. Besides, God also demonstrates His spiritual power. He raised Jesus from the dead. God infuses the same power in us when He saves us from sin. The Holy Spirit continues to protect us by His power after we are saved, lest we may stumble in sin. Therefore, we are covered by God's strength from the inside and out. Because of all that, the psalmist encourages us to give glory to God in three ways in verses 8-9. First, he asks us to "bring an offering." In the Biblical times, people offered animals as sacrifices. Nowadays, we present money as a thanksgiving gift to God. Besides money, you can also contribute your time and talents to serve in ministries. Second, the author tells us to worship God "in the splendor of holiness." It can mean both God's holiness or ours. If the psalmist is talking about God, then he is encouraging us to uphold God's holiness in worship. But if the author's focus is on our holiness, then he is reminding us to stay pure as we worship

God. The two interpretations may not be contradictory. In the Old Testament worship, the priests and all the utensils went through a washing process before the ceremony. The symbolic meaning is to set aside people and objects to be used by God. When Jesus saved us, He transferred us from the dark domain and brought us into the Kingdom of Light. We are cleansed by the blood of Jesus. However, we will keep stumbling because we are still in this imperfect body and we live in a fallen world. As we come to worship, we should be aware that we are meeting the holy God. It is appropriate for us to examine ourselves as we enter the sanctuary. I suggest you to arrive here a few minutes before the worship begins. Quiet yourself before the Lord. Ask Him reveal any sin that interferes your worship. Then ask God for forgiveness. The third thing the author tells us to do is to tremble before God. Those who are saved have been spared from eternal condemnation. God loves us and so we should not be afraid of Him. However, that close relationship should not reduce our honor and respect toward God. We should not treat worship too casually as if we are coming to watch a religious show. We need to come with sincerity and seriousness. You should put your phone away and refrain from chatting with others so that you can fully focus on God.

## 2. 因著神的主權讚美祂 Praise God for His Sovereignty

We praise God for His majesty. We do so by giving Him melody and glory. Next, the psalmist encourages us to praise God for His sovereignty. The writer mentions two areas where God proves His sovereignty.

### A. 祂超越一切偶像 He Surpasses All Idols (v. 4-6)

First, God surpasses all idols. Verse 4 says God is “to be feared above all gods.” The Bible says there is only one true God. If that is the case, then where do all other gods come from? They are man-made images. Sometimes people feel helpless when they face difficulties in life. They realize that money, talents and relationship cannot solve their problems. They think perhaps there is some supernatural force that controls their life. Some people become pessimistic, thinking that the so-called fate is leading their future. They conclude: “Perhaps I did something really bad in my previous life. I have no choice but to accept my karma.” Others try to turn the tide by resorting to idols. They hope that some gods can help them change bad luck into good ones. Therefore, primitive people worshipped the sun, the moon, rocks and trees. They paid tribute to those objects because they were afraid of them. We modern people think that those ideas are silly. The fact is that a lot of highly-educated people go to the temple, seek help from fortune-tellers and check their feng-shui. Their mindset is the same as their ancestors’. It is all about seeking control. They look for ways to manipulate certain unknown power for their own gain. They seek after fame and fortune and good health. They wish to have a baby boy instead of a girl, their children accepted by renowned colleges. The basic rule is “I scratch your back and you scratch mine.” They burn incense, paper money, donate to the temple, prepare a chicken or roasted pig and bow down to a statue. They are hoping that some gods will grant their wishes. What if one idol does not work? No problem! They just turn to another one. They pick the gods they prefer as if they were in a buffet restaurant. The question is: who is the boss if you can offer something to that idol and get what you want? Who listen to whom? That is the one big obstacle that prevents some people from accepting Jesus. True believers must surrender their will to the Lord and serve Him as Master. His will is higher than ours. We admit that we only have a limited

vision of our lives. But God has the whole world in His hand. He welcomes us to bring our requests to Him like a child comes to a father. But our mentality is very different from approaching an idol. Our money offering is not to bribe God. Everything we have comes from Him anyway. God does not need our money. He wants our hearts. Our prayer is not a shopping list. We present our needs sincerely while submitting to His will. We believe that God has the perfect plan, means and timing to provide for us. He is the Master and we are His servants. He is our Father and we are His beloved children. Every time we worship Him, we recommit ourselves to Him and acknowledge His sovereignty over us.

#### B. 祂征服所有萬邦 He Subdues All Nations (v. 10-13)

God does not only surpass all idols. He also subdues all nations. The last section of this psalm from verses 10 to 13 depicts God as a king sitting on the throne. Two things will happen with regard to this King. First, He will judge the world. We see three related words about judgment. Verse 10 tells us that God judges with equity. People are examined equally regardless of their background. Verse 13 adds that God judges in righteousness, meaning that He will do so with fairness. The punishment will match the offense. Then verse 13 says God judges in faithfulness. His standard always stays the same. God's perfect judgment is in stark contrast to the justice system of the world. Human judges are imperfect and sometimes biased. Moreover, crafty lawyers attack loopholes and come up with outrageous arguments. Poor and innocent people suffer as a result. But even if guilty people escape the penalties of the earthly court, no sinful person will be able to hide from the Heavenly Judge. Our hope is not in any earthly government, but God. The election will take place in about two weeks. People have mixed feelings every time whenever there is an election. Some folks hope that the new officials will bring stability and prosperity. Other people think that they are just picking less rotten apples from the basket. The fact is that no matter how noble earthly leaders are, they are but humans. Ultimately, we trust that God is in control no matter how bad our world may become. His righteous judgment will be in full force when Jesus returns. Every ruler of the world will have to pay tribute to the Lord. Paul describes in Philippians 2:10-11 – **10 ...At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** Every time when we worship God, we express our longing, hoping that Jesus will come sooner. Not only will God's people welcome His judgment, even the creation will rejoice over it. Nature echoes with people to praise God in verses 11 and 12. We see heavens (meaning the sky and the outer space), earth, sea, field, trees and all living things celebrate in unison. Sin entered the world when Adam and Eve rebelled against God. The earth was cursed as a result. Weeds pop up among edible crops. Natural disasters cause devastations. On the top of those problems, people turn self-centered. Troubles like pollution, greed and exploitation are some examples. People want to control others and the world for their own gain. One day, God will restore everything. Sin will completely be removed. The world will return to a perfect order like the Garden of Eden all over again. God will rule with true peace, love and joy. Believers from all over the world will gather around the throne of God and erupt in praise. Revelation 5 gives us a glimpse of the scene. A multitude of angels worship God with a loud voice. Apostle John describes what happens next in verse 13: **And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"** It will be a glorious worship. Our weekly gathering is like a rehearsal that prepares us for that day. We give

our best to the King despite our weakness and limitations. We look forward to heaven when God will give us a new body. We will sing and dance without feeling tired. Our voice will not be out of tune. Angels will accompany believers from all over the world to form a huge choir and give glory to the King.

## 結論 CONCLUSION

The psalmist tells us that the worth and works of God give us reasons to worship Him. He is the center of our worship. Many Christians make themselves religious consumers. They want the church to entertain them. Music must be loud and upbeat. Sermons must be funny. Before long they get tired for singing the same songs. They find Bible lessons boring. They would rather listen to the latest Christian music from the internet. They look for their favorite star-preachers on YouTube. They can sing along in shower. They can listen to sermons in the gym. Therefore, they see no need to go to church. Surely, Christian songs and messages can be edifying. But recordings cannot replace your church. The question is: who are you worshipping, God or yourself? Even when Christians do go to church, many of them feel unsatisfied. They mumble to themselves “I didn’t get anything in the service today.” You are not the audience. God is the only audience! People serving on the podium are leaders facilitating your worship to God. It is true that our coworkers are far from professional. I make mistakes all the time too. Equipment may malfunction. Sometimes you find the songs outdated. The sermons can make you extra drowsy. God accepts our worship despite all those flaws. Let us engage our whole being to praise Him. We worship God with our lips, ears, eyes and heart. When you sing, you sing to God. When you pray, you pray to Him. When you listen to a sermon, pay attention to what the Holy Spirit is speaking to you. I am sure our worship atmosphere will be very different if our attitude is right. Every Sunday, we cannot wait to come here and praise God with fellow believers. Worship will become a show, not to show how good people can perform on the stage, but to show our sincere love and praise to God.

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一個響亮的名字會讓相關的人感到驕傲。你只要看看一些人車子後面的貼紙或是車牌就知道。我們生活在南部，很多人沉迷大學球賽像崇拜偶像一樣。我常告訴美國朋友，我上錯了學校，結果喜歡看大學美式足球。和許多學校一樣，我的母校有許多與足球有關的傳統。除了體育之外，我的學校另一件很有名的事情是樂隊。因為學校有軍事的背景，所以樂團的表演有獨特的色彩。成員花很長時間練習音樂和複雜的隊形。他們精彩的表演讓觀眾在中場休息時不願離開座位。每年秋天，球迷都會非常興奮。他們到現場或打開電視看比賽。他們一邊看一邊歡呼吶喊。當球隊打輸之時，許多人感覺好像失去自己的親人。你可能不看球賽。但你可能有喜歡的歌手、明星或名人。你欣賞他們的表演或成就。你覺得你與他們在心靈上連結。當我們敬拜神之時，我們是否有類似的表現？你今天早上起床時感覺如何？當你進到大堂時，你心裡在想什麼？你對接下來的一個小時有什麼期望？當你離開這裡時，你會得到什麼結論？就像很多事情一樣，你的心態會影響你的行為。這個聚會不是一個宗教活動，乃是與神的會面。當我們奉主的名聚集時，祂就在這裡。想像神坐在講台上看著我們並接受我們的讚美。這一切將會如何影響我們的敬拜？詩篇 96 篇將神描述為君王。我們作為神國的公民向祂致敬。作者告訴我們，因著神的本質和作為，祂配得我們的敬拜。神的身份與祂的工作幫助我們理解為何並如何敬拜祂。這首詩按照 1-2-1-2 的格式。在你的聖經中，它可能分為四個部分。第一部分告訴我們神的威嚴，第二部分指出神的主權。

## 解釋 EXPLANATION

### 1. 因著神的威嚴讚美祂 Praise God for His Majesty

#### A. 將音樂獻給祂 Give Him Melody (v. 1-3)

首先，作者呼籲人們因著神的威嚴讚美祂。他鼓勵人們將音樂獻給神。彈奏樂器和唱歌是敬拜神的常見方式。作者在第 1-2 節中重複了三次：「向耶和華歌唱！」彷彿詩人扮演了領詩的角色，他宣布：「神的子民，讓我們用歌聲來讚美神！」神是我們唯一聽眾。作者強調我們讚美的幾個目的。他在第 2 節說我們唱歌是為了「稱頌神的名」。在聖經中，名字反映了一個人的品格。例如，撒拉的意思是公主，大衛的意思是親愛的，保羅的意思是謙卑。當你想到神的名字時，你會想到什麼？我們常常在聖誕節期間讀以賽亞書 9:6。先知列出了即將到來的彌賽亞的幾個稱號：**...他名稱為「奇妙策士、全能的神、永在的父、和平的君」**。耶穌基督是一位奇妙、充滿智慧和能力的神。祂是永恆的主宰與和平的使者。每次唱詩歌時，你都可以想像一下耶穌的這些屬性。除了讚美神的名之外，我們也可以用詩來傳揚神的作為。作者在第 2 節提到神的救恩。救恩這個字更廣泛的含義是指拯救脫離危險。當我們接受耶穌時，神就賜給我們新的生命。祂也保護我們免受傷害。是神保守你身體健康，而且賜給你交通工具，使你今天能來聚會。我們應該為這一切感謝祂！詩

人在第 3 節中將神的幫助擴大到「祂在萬民中所行的奇事」。神在歷史中實現了祂的計劃，祂也向我們顯明個人的旨意。神把太陽、月亮和星星放在天空中。祂創造了植物和動物。神在以色列的歷史中也行了許多奇妙的事。祂使以色列人成為祂的子民。但祂不只是以色列的主，也是全人類的主。世界看起來一片混亂。但是神從創世記到啟示錄逐漸展開祂的計劃。當我們讚美神時，我們會想起神是創造者、供應者和完成者。今天，我們受到經濟、罪案和海外敵人的困擾。我們擔心自己的安全、健康和未來。當我們向神歌唱時，我們的信心就會增加。當我們唱著「耶和華是我的牧者」時，我們學會信靠祂。祂關心我們。如果我們跟隨祂，祂就會引導我們。當我們唱「天父必看顧你」時，我們的憂慮便消除。我們知道，無論順境或逆境，神都為我們安排了完美的計劃。當我們唱著「這世界非我家」時，我們期待著天堂。我們的盼望不是在地上，而是在天上。幾個世紀以來，基督徒一直在唱著許多這些讚美詩，因為歌詞背後有豐富的神學。唱詩歌掀起我們的情感。如果神藉此觸動你的心，你可以隨意舉起雙手，跪下來，在心裡禱告，甚至流下喜樂的眼淚。讓你的心靈透過歌聲與神的靈產生共鳴。

## B. 把榮耀歸給祂 Give Him Glory (v. 7-9)

作者呼籲我們將音樂獻給神。然後在第 7-9 節中，他鼓勵我們將榮耀歸給神。他三次說「要將榮耀歸給耶和華」。神配得一切榮耀。祂是我們供應、智慧和能力的源頭。我們該如何在崇拜中將榮耀歸給神？在舊約時代，人們以壯觀的方式敬拜神。聖殿是一座宏偉的建築物，由金、銀、銅、木頭和石頭建造而成。除了建築物之外，還有祭司獻祭、彈奏樂器的人和詩班。所有的費用、準備功夫和禮儀都顯示神的榮耀。視覺、聽覺和嗅覺會引起人們的回應。神彰顯榮耀的一種方式是透過祂的能力。我們在大自然中看到神的力量。最近幾週的連續颶風造成了重大的損失。從自然世界我們可以將注意力轉到自己身上。我們的人體是一個複雜的發電廠，裡面有持續不斷的物理和化學反應。除此之外，神也彰顯了祂的屬靈能力。祂使耶穌從死裡復活。神也在我們身上運行同樣的能力，把我們從罪中拯救出來。我們得救後，聖靈繼續用祂的能力保護我們，免得我們在罪中跌倒。因此，我們從裡到外都被神的力量所遮蓋。所以詩人在 8-9 節中鼓勵我們以三種方式將榮耀歸給神。首先，祂要求我們「拿供物來進入祂的院宇」。在聖經時代，人們提供動物作為祭品。如今，我們奉獻金錢來感謝神。除了金錢之外，你還可以貢獻你的時間和才能參與服事。其次，作者告訴我們要「以聖潔的妝飾敬拜耶和華」。這裡可以指神的聖潔，也可以指人的聖潔。如果作者在談論神，他是鼓勵我們在敬拜中維護神的聖潔。但如果作者指的是我們的聖潔，他就是在提醒我們在敬拜神時要保持潔淨。這兩種解釋可能並不矛盾。在舊約敬拜中，祭司和所有的器皿在儀式前都要被潔淨。象徵含義是把人和物件分別出來供神使用。當耶穌拯救我們時，祂把我們從黑暗的權勢轉移到光明的國度。我們被耶穌的寶血洗淨了。然而，我們仍會跌倒，因為我們活在一個不完美的身體裡，我們也生活在一個墮落的世界中。當我們來崇拜時，我們應該意識到我們是朝見聖潔的神。當我們進入大堂的時候，我們應當省察自己。我建議你在聚會開始前幾分鐘進來。安靜在主面前，求祂顯明任何攔阻你敬拜的罪，然後求神赦免。作者告訴我們要做的第三件事是在神面前戰抖。已經得救的人免於永遠的刑罰。神愛我們，所以我們不該害怕祂。然而，這份緊密的關係不應該減低我們對神的尊敬。我們不應該把敬拜看得太隨便，以為我們是來看宗教表演。我們必須帶著真誠和認真的態度來。我建議大家把手機收起來，不要和別人聊天，專注於神。



## 2. 因著神的主權讚美祂 Praise God for His Sovereignty

我們因神的威嚴讚美祂。我們把音樂和榮耀歸給祂。接下來，詩人鼓勵我們因著神的主權讚美祂。作者提到神在兩方面證明了祂的主權。

### A. 祂超越一切偶像 He Surpasses All Idols (v. 4-6)

首先，神超越一切偶像。第 4 節說，神「在萬神之上，當受敬畏」。聖經說只有一位真神。如果是這樣的話，那麼其他的神又是從哪裡來的呢？它們是人造的形象。有時，當人們面對困難時，會感到無助。他們意識到金錢、才幹和關係不能解決他們的問題。他們認為也許有某種超自然的力量控制他們的生命。有些人變得悲觀，認為所謂的命運牽著他們走。他們的結論是：「也許我前世做了一些非常糟糕的事情。我別無選擇，只好接受我的報應」。其他人則嘗試透過拜偶像來扭轉局面。他們希望有神明能夠幫助他們突破命運。因此，原始人崇拜太陽、月亮、石頭和樹木。他們對那些東西既尊敬又害怕。現代人認為那些做法很可笑。事實上，許多受過高等教育的人都去寺廟，請教算命師並看風水。他們的思想和祖先其實是一樣的。一切都是為了想控制命運。他們希望操縱某些力量而使自己得益處。他們也許追求名利和健康。他們希望生一個男孩而不是女孩，孩子能進名校。操作的原則是「我抓你的背，你抓我的背」。他們燒香，燒紙錢，捐錢給寺廟，準備一隻雞或烤豬，並向雕像鞠躬。他們希望某些神明能夠實現他們的願望。如果某個偶像不管用怎麼辦？沒問題！他們就找另一個神明。他們好像在自助餐廳吃飯一樣挑選自己喜歡的偶像。問題是：如果你能貢獻一些東西讓偶像聽你的指揮，請問誰是老闆？誰聽誰的話？這其實是攔阻一些人接受耶穌的障礙。真正的信徒必須降服於主，並事奉祂。祂的意念高過我們的意念。我們承認自己的視野是有限的，但神掌管整個世界。祂邀請我們向祂祈求，就像孩子向父親提出請求一樣。但我們的心態和拜偶像有很大不同。我們奉獻金錢不是為了賄賂神，畢竟我們所擁有的一切都來自於祂。神不需要我們的錢，祂要的是我們的心。我們的禱告不是購物清單。我們乃是真誠地提出自己的需要，同時順服祂的旨意。我們相信神有完美的計劃、方式和時機來供應我們。祂是主人，我們是祂的僕人。祂是我們的父親，我們是祂心愛的孩子。每次當我們敬拜神之時，就是再次將自己委身於祂，並承認祂對我們生命的主權。

### B. 祂征服所有萬邦 He Subdues All Nations (v. 10-13)

神不僅超越一切偶像，祂並且征服所有萬邦。這首詩的結尾從第 10 節到第 13 節描述神是坐在寶座上的君王。關於這位君王將會發生兩件事。首先，祂要審判世界。我們看到三個有關審判的用詞。第 10 節告訴我們，神的審判是公正的。人們無論背景如何，都會受到平等的判決。第 13 節補充說，神按公義審判，祂會公平地行事。懲罰將與罪行相符。然後第 13 節說神按照祂的信實審判。祂的標準始終保持不變。神的完美審判與世上的司法制度形成強烈的對比。地上的法官不完美，有時甚至會有偏見。而且，狡猾的律師還鑽漏洞，提出離譜的詭辯。窮人和無辜的人因此而受苦。但縱然有犯法的人逃過地上法庭的制裁，沒有罪人能夠逃得過天上的審判官。我們的盼望不是在地上的政府，而是在於神。兩週之後便是美國大選。每逢選舉，人們的心情都很複雜。有些人希望新任官員能帶來穩定



和繁榮。其他人則無奈地從爛蘋果中選一些比較好的蘋果。事實上，無論世上的領袖有多清高，他們也只是平凡人。最終，我們必須相信，無論世界變得多麼糟糕，神都在掌控一切。當耶穌再來時，祂便執行公義的審判。世上每一個統治者都必須向主下拜。保羅在腓立比書 2:10-11 中描述：**10 叫一切在天上的、地上的，和地底下的，因耶穌的名無不屈膝，11 無不口稱「耶穌基督為主」，使榮耀歸與父神。**每當我們敬拜神之時，我們都表達了希望耶穌趕快回來的渴望。不只神的子民會歡迎祂的審判，連受造之物也會為此歡欣鼓舞。在第 11 節和第 12 節中，大自然與人呼應讚美神。在亞當和夏娃背叛神之後，罪就進入了世界。地因此受詛咒。雜草在農作物中間冒出來。自然災害造成破壞。除了這些問題之外，人變得自我中心。環境污染、貪婪和剝削等問題就是一些例子。人們想要控制別人和世界以爭取個人利益。有一天，神會修復一切。祂將完全清除罪。世界將回到伊甸園般的完美秩序。神將以和平、愛和喜樂來統治。來自世界各地的信徒將聚集在神的寶座周圍，發出讚美之聲。啟示錄第 5 章透露到時候的場景。眾多天使大聲敬拜神。使徒約翰在第 13 節中描述了接下來發生的事情：**我又聽見在天上、地上、地底下、滄海裡，和天地間一切所有被造之物，都說：但願頌讚、尊貴、榮耀、權勢都歸給坐寶座的和羔羊，直到永永遠遠！**那將是一次榮耀的敬拜。我們每週的聚會就像是進行排練，為那一天做好準備。雖然我們軟弱和不足，但我們把最好的獻給神。我們期待天堂，那時神會給我們一個新的身體。我們唱歌跳舞，但是不會感到疲倦。我們的聲音不會跑調。天使將與來自世界各地的信徒組成一個最大的詩班，把榮耀歸給君王。

## 結論 CONCLUSION

詩人告訴我們，因著神的本質和作為，祂配得我們的敬拜。神是我們敬拜的中心。許多基督徒把自己看為宗教消費者。他們希望教會能提供娛樂給他們。音樂必須吵鬧且輕快，講道必須風趣幽默。結果，他們就很快便厭倦了唱同樣的詩歌。他們也覺得聖經課很無聊。他們寧願聽網路上最新的基督徒音樂。他們在 YouTube 上找他們喜歡的名牌講員。他們可以一邊洗澡一邊唱歌。他們可以在健身房聽講道。因此，他們認為沒有必要去教會。當然，基督徒歌曲和信息可以造就我們。但錄音和視頻不能取代你的教會。問題是：你在敬拜誰，神還是你自己？就算基督徒去教會，有些人也感到不滿意。他們心裡想：「我今天沒有在聚會中得到什麼東西。」你不是觀眾，神才是唯一的觀眾！在講台上服事的人是帶領你敬拜神。事實上，我們的同工並非專業，我也經常犯錯，有時候設備也會故障。也許你會覺得一些歌曲已經過時了，講道信息讓你昏昏欲睡。縱然有這些缺陷，神仍接受我們的敬拜。因此，讓我們全人投入讚美祂。我們用嘴唇、耳朵、眼睛和心靈來敬拜神。當你唱歌時，你是在向神歌唱。當你禱告時，你是向神祈求。當你聽講道時，留心聖靈對你所說的話。我相信如果我們的態度正確，我們的敬拜氣氛將會非常不同。每個主日，我們都渴望來到這裡與信徒一起讚美神。敬拜將成為一場表演，不是為了表現同工在台上的服事多麼出色，而是為了表示我們對神真誠的愛和讚美。