

引言 INTRODUCTION

We expect a happy ending to every story. One of the best news I ever got was the approval of my green card application. Those who came from overseas can identify with me. You fill out some forms, submit a pile of documents and pay a huge fee to an attorney and to the immigration. Sometime later, the government agency gives you a reference number and an approximate date of when your application would be processed. There was nothing you can do except to wait. Finally, the good news came. I was told that my wife and I would get our green cards. Praise God for that! I literally kissed the card a few times when it arrived. That document begins a new chapter in the life of my family. We are allowed to stay in this country. Compared to that, there is the greatest news for every person. God grants heavenly citizenship to those who believe in Jesus. Salvation is the biggest gift God gives to us. Just like any application, you must follow the right steps to obtain that status. John 3:16 is a concise summary of the process. It is the most well-known verse in the Bible. Jesus said that to Nicodemus when the man paid a visit at night. Nicodemus was a powerful and respected person in the society. Jesus knew why the man came to see Him. Nicodemus wanted to be saved. He knew the Old Testament from cover to cover. But knowledge itself cannot save a person. Nicodemus must believe in Jesus. The Lord has the same requirement for us today. He is calling us and we must respond to His invitation.

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 救恩的動機 The Motive for Salvation

First, let us consider the motive for salvation. Why does God save us? A simple answer is because He loves us. In John 3:16, Jesus begins by saying: **“For God so loved the world...”** Here the word “world” is not about this planet, but it refers to mankind. God loves every person – in the past, present and future, people in the east or in the west and regardless of their social background. God loves us because we are made in His image. By image, it does not mean that God has a physical body like we do. It means that God shared some of His characteristics with us. For example, we can distinguish between right and wrong, and we admire beautiful things such as a sunset. A wild animal may eat its siblings when it is starving. But it will not arrange the meat nicely on a plate! Above all else, God gives us a desire to seek after eternal things. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says: **He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man’s heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.** We cannot fully understand God’s works. We have limited intelligence but God has unlimited wisdom. We are confined by time and space, but God exists forever. We are only concerned about our own business. But God has the whole world in His plan. Among all creatures, only humans will ask whether there is something more real beyond what can be seen and touched. Your pet only cares about eating, playing, sleeping and going to the bathroom. It will not ponder where it will go after it passes away. But we will think about the future. The verse says it is because God has put eternity in our hearts. Another way to say it is that God put a yearning for eternity in us. It is like a tracking device in your phone. You can recover a lost phone if the “find my phone” function is activated. It sends a signal for you to trace its location. Similarly, our soul

works like a tracking device that God put in us. He wants us to come back to Him. But why do most people not look for God? They will not because they cannot. The Bible says we are lost in sin. Isaiah 53:6 says: **All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way...** Here is a simple definition of sin: we prefer our own way over God's way. We do not conduct our life according to His instructions. We are rebellious. We see such behavior every day on the streets. Some drivers run red lights. They consider speed limits to be speed suggestions. They may not think that they break the traffic laws until they get a ticket. There are worse offenses in the society. We are all noble citizens. We are better than criminals in prisons. However, there are major differences between sins and crimes. The police will not arrest you if you are only jealous about people's bigger houses or fancy cars. A judge cannot sentence you to jail if no one heard you say something nasty behind people's back. In comparison, God knows everything we do, think and speak. Anything that violates His standard is sin. Killing has a more severe consequence than lying. But God defines both actions as sins. He is not asking for a passing grade from us. He demands a perfect score. Moreover, the laws of the society are revised frequently to suit people's preference. Homosexual relationship was a taboo several decades ago. Now it is a human right some people fight for. In contrast, God's definition of sin stays the same despite time and culture. Sin is the barrier that separates us from God. He loves us but He hates sin. It is like when parents love their children even though sometimes they misbehave. God's motive is to call us home. He accepts us just the way we are. His love is unconditional. However, He is holy but we are sinful. We cannot approach God unless our sins have been removed. There is nothing we can do to compensate for our sins. That is why God provides a solution for us.

2. 救恩的途徑 The Mode of Salvation

The motive for salvation is God's love. It answers why God saves us. Second, the mode of salvation tells us how God saves us. The verse says: **"...that he gave his only Son..."** God saves us by giving us His Son, Jesus. By calling Himself "Son" does not make Jesus lower than the Heavenly Father. We need to understand their relationship by considering the doctrine of Trinity. The Heavenly Father is God, Jesus is God and the Holy Spirit is also God. They are equal in their glory, authority and power. However, the Bible also affirms that there is only one God. We know that 3 is not 1 and 1 is not 3. Theologians coined the term "Trinity" to describes the three persons. Each of them can exist independently, but there is only one God. The concept is beyond our comprehension. Each person plays a unique role in the salvation plan. Jesus, the Son, was sent into the world. He came as a real person to identify with us. He felt tired and hungry, He had emotions such as joy and fear, and He suffered shame and pain like we do. Hebrews 4:15 tells us why that is significant: **For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.** Jesus fully understands what we may go through. Therefore, we do not only pray to the God who sits high up in heaven. We also present our needs to the Lord who was once in the world. He does not just listen, but He also has the power to help us. Of all the problems that we may have, the biggest one is sin. Jesus' major mission in the world was to die on the cross. But why did Jesus do that? First up, Jesus died for the penalty we deserve. Paul tells us in Romans 6:23 – **For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Paul uses wages to describe the harm caused by our sins. We damage God's glory when we sin. We are like children of famous families bringing shame to their parents when they were caught doing wild things. Our sins pile up like an astronomical amount of debt we owe God. Jesus paid that

amount for us with His life. He is the only mode of salvation God had ordained. We cannot save ourselves by doing good works. I cannot save my family members with my life no matter how much I love them. I am a sinner and I need an outside help to take care of my sins. Jesus is sinless because He is God. That is why only He can replace us for our penalty. Jesus came as a true person. It hurt His feelings when people mocked Him. It also crushed His bones when they nailed Him to the cross. The sorrow, pain, blood and death are all real. Some people think that Jesus' death is just an example of great love. That is only part of the picture. We must realize that we are guilty as charged and we deserved an eternal judgment. We must understand the ugliness of sin before we will cherish the beauty of the cross. The Savior died for a sinner such as I. Sin, the cross, death and judgment are all serious matters no one wants to hear. But those are key elements of the gospel we need to know, lest we may trivialize the value of God's salvation. Jesus is the bridge that connects us to the Father. Those who put their faith in Him will have an eternal life. The good news is that Jesus' death is not the end of the story. Since Jesus is God, not even death can hold Him in bondage. He came back to life three days later. Jesus' resurrection also assures our future resurrection. The Bible says Jesus will return in the future to judge the world. Those who had passed away will rise on His arrival. Non-believers will be judged, and their eternal destiny will be hell. Christians, including those who are alive when Jesus comes, will receive a glorious body and they will be ushered into heaven.

3. 救恩的領受 The Move to Salvation

God saves us out of love. Jesus died for us because of His grace. The salvation plan is completed. This gift of salvation is available to everyone. But you must make the move to receive it. Jesus concludes John 3:16 by saying: "...that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Jesus promises those who believe in Him that they will not go to hell but they will have an eternal life. What does this "believe" include? There are two decisions you need to make. First, you must receive Jesus as your Savior. You humbly admit that you are a sinner. You believe that Jesus died for your sins. Secondly, you must also receive Jesus as your Lord. The word "Lord" means a master or a boss. If Jesus is your Lord, then you are His servant. You learn His instructions from the Bible, listen to His commands and live a way that pleases Him. To accept Jesus is to build an eternal relationship with Him. Commitment comes with a relationship. Jesus makes it clear in Matthew 7:21 – "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." The will of the Father is in the Bible. Jesus does not mean that we can earn our way into heaven by obeying some regulations. He was saying that obedience is the true sign of salvation. You need to perform some duties when you enter into a commitment. Today, you sign a contract when you apply for a mortgage or rent an apartment. You also sign an agreement when you are hired by a company. You write your name on the paper to show that you accept the terms. The regulations protect the rights of both sides. There will be consequence if either party violates the conditions. It works the same way when we are saved. The Bible says we are adopted into God's family. In the past, we wandered as homeless children. Now we have to learn how to live as God's people. We are willing to obey the Lord if we truly believe that He has the best interests for us. God's plan is the best path because He knows us better than we know ourselves. We will be blessed if we follow Him. How we live our daily life indicates our understanding of eternal life. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul explains the change in us when we accepted Jesus: **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.** A person

is “in Christ” when he/or is saved. We have received a new life when we became Christians. That causes revolutionary changes in us. In the past, we had no interest in spiritual matters and we only cared about our personal business. Now we love to read God’s Word and we learn to put God first when making decisions. Many people mistakenly believe that eternal life will begin when they enter into heaven. They are happy to secure a ticket to heaven now. As a result, they believe that how they live their earthly life does not matter. Unfortunately, there are a lot of Sunday Christians like that in every church. I have no intention to offend you if that describes you. Think about it this way: no child should come home only when he/she is hungry or needs money. Also, no husband should work all day and sleep in the office at night, and go home only when his wife cooks steak and lobster. Those people are taking advantage of the relationship without taking it seriously. True believers must also be Jesus’ followers. They surrender the ownership of their lives to the Lord. They learn to obey the Lord in all things – in their studies, work, family life and leisure activities. They still maintain their roles as students, employees, retirees, spouses, parents and children. They perform the same day-to-day tasks. But from now on they do everything for the glory of God. They do so with joy in response to God’s love for them.

結論 CONCLUSION

Jesus is calling us and we must respond to His invitation. He paid the price for your sins. Will you accept the Son? A wealthy man loved to collect artworks of famous painters – Picasso, Van Gogh and the likes. He only had one son. Soon a war broke out and the young man was drafted to fight the battles. He was a brave person. Unfortunately, he died when trying to save his comrades. His father was very sad when the news arrived. Sometime later, his doorbell rang. A young man was holding a big package. He said to the wealthy man: “Sir, I was one of the soldiers your son saved that day. He often talked about your love for art. I believe he would love for you to have this.” The father opened the package. It was a painting of his son drawn by the young man. He offered to pay for it but the soldier refused. He said: “I could never repay what your son sacrificed for me.” The rich guy hung the picture on the wall along with other masterpieces. He later passed away. An auction was arranged to sell his collections. The auctioneer announced: “According to the will of Mr. Smith, we will start bidding for the portrait of his son.” There was a brief silence. Then someone spoke up: “I came for the great paintings. Who cares about this picture?” The auctioneer ignored the remark and continued: “The son! The son! Who will take the son?” Finally, a long-time gardener offered \$10. That was all he could afford. “We have \$10. Who will bid for \$20?” The auctioneer called. An impatient man suggested: “Give it to him. I came to see the Masters.” “Sold!” Finally, the auctioneer hit the gavel. A man at the front row shouted: “Now let us see the good stuff.” But the auctioneer responded: “I’m sorry. The auction is over.” Everyone was confused. He continued: “Mr. Smith ordered that only the painting of his son will be auctioned. Whoever buys the portrait will inherit the whole art collection and other properties. The person who gets the son will get everything.” God is proclaiming the same message today: “The Son! The Son! Who will take my Son?”

引言 INTRODUCTION

我們期待每個故事都有一個完美的結局。我曾經聽到最好的消息之一就是我的綠卡申請獲得批准了。那些來自海外的人能夠認同我的看法。你填寫一些表格，提交一大堆文件，並支付巨額費用給律師和移民局。過一陣子，政府機關給你一個編號和告訴你大概什麼時候會處理你的檔案。除了等待，你什麼都做不了。終於，好消息來了。我收到通知，說我和太太將會獲得綠卡。感謝神！當證件寄來時，我真的在上面親了好幾下。這份文件意味著我們全家開始了人生新的階段。從此我們可以留在這個國家。相比之下，神給所有人一個最好的消息。神賜給那些相信耶穌的人天國公民的身分。救恩是神給我們最大的禮物。就像任何申請一樣，你必須按照正確的程序才能得到批准。約翰福音 3:16 簡單概括了這個過程。它是聖經中最有名的一節經文。當尼哥底母在夜裡來訪時，耶穌向他說了那句話。尼哥底母是社會上一位有權勢、受人尊敬的人物。耶穌知道尼哥底母為什麼來找祂。他想要得救。他了解舊約的內容。但是知識本身並不能拯救一個人。尼哥底母一定要相信耶穌。今天主對我們也有同樣的要求。祂正在呼召我們，我們必須回應祂的邀請。

解釋 EXPLANATION

1. 救恩的動機 The Motive for Salvation

首先，讓我們思考一下救恩的動機。神為什麼拯救我們？一個簡單的答案是因為祂愛我們。在約翰福音 3:16 中，耶穌開頭說：「神愛世人…」這裡的「世界」不是指地球，而是指人類。神愛每一個人：過去、現在和將來的人，無論是東方人或西方人，不論他們的社會背景如何。神愛我們，因為我們是照著祂的形像被創造的。形象不是指神好像我們一樣有一個形體。它的意思是神與我們分享了祂的某些特質。例如，我們能夠辨別是非，我們欣賞美麗的事物，例如日落。野生動物在飢餓時可能會吃掉自己的兄弟姐妹，但是牠們不會把肉整齊地擺放在盤子上！最重要的是，神賜給我們追求永恆事物的渴望。傳道書 3:11 說：神造萬物，各按其時成為美好，又將永生安置在世人心裡。然而神從始至終的作為，人不能參透。我們無法完全理解神的作為。我們的智慧有限，但神的智慧無限。我們受到時間和空間的限制，但神永遠存在。我們只關心自己的事情，但神的計劃包括整個世界。在所有生物中，只有人類會問看得見、摸得著的事物背後是否有更真實的東西。你的寵物只關心吃飯、玩耍、睡覺和上廁所。牠不會思考離開這個世界之後會去哪裡。但我們會考慮未來。經文說這是因為神把永恆放在我們心中。換句話說，神在我們心中放了對永恆的渴望。它就像你手機裡的追蹤裝置。如果啟動了「尋找我的手機」功

能，你就很容易地把遺失的手機找回來。它會發送訊號讓你追蹤它的位置。同樣，我們的靈魂就像神放在我們裡面的一個追蹤裝置。神希望我們回到祂身邊。但為什麼大多數人不去尋找神？他們不會這麼做，因為他們沒有能力去做。聖經說我們是迷失在罪中。以賽亞書 53:6 說：**我們都如羊走迷；各人偏行己路...**。罪的一個簡單定義是：我們喜歡自己的方式，而不是神的方式。我們沒有按照祂的指示來生活。我們都有悖逆的本性。我們每天都在街道上看到這樣的現象。有些司機闖紅燈。他們也認為速度限制只是速度建議。他們可能不認為自己違反了交通規則，直到他們收到罰單。社會上還有更嚴重的罪案。我們都是良好公民，我們比監獄裡的罪犯更好。然而，罪與罪案之間有很大的差異。如果你只是嫉妒別人擁有更大的房子或更豪華的車子，警察不會抓你。如果沒有人聽到你在別人背後說壞話，法官也不能判你坐牢。然而神知道我們所做、所想和所說的一切。任何違反祂的標準的事情都是罪。殺人比撒謊的後果更嚴重。但神將這兩種行為都定義為罪。祂並不是要求我們及格而已，祂要求我們拿 100 分。此外，社會的法律也經常修改以遷就人們的喜好。幾十年前，同性戀是個禁忌。如今，它已成為某些人極力爭取的權利。相比之下，神對罪的定義從來不變。罪是阻隔我們與神之間的關係。神愛我們，但祂恨惡罪。就像父母愛他們的兒女，縱使他們有不聽話的時候。神的動機是呼召我們回家。祂接納我們的真面目。祂的愛是沒有條件的。然而，祂是聖潔的，而我們卻是有罪的。如果我們的罪沒有被除去，我們就不能接近神。我們無法做任何事來彌補我們的罪，因此神為我們提供了解決方案。

2. 救恩的途徑 The Mode of Salvation

救恩的動機是神的愛。它解釋了為何神拯救我們。第二，救恩的途徑告訴我們神如何拯救我們。這節經文說：**「...甚至將他的獨生子賜給他們...」**神把祂的兒子賜給我們，藉此成就救恩。耶穌自稱為兒子並不表示祂的地位低於天父。我們需要透過思考三位一體的教義來理解祂們的關係。天父是神，耶穌是神，聖靈也是神。祂們的榮耀、權柄和能力都是一樣的。然而，聖經也強調只有一位神。我們知道 3 不等於 1，1 也不等於 3。因此神學家創造了三位一體這個用詞來形容三個位格。每個位格都可以獨立存在，但神只有一位。這個概念超過人所能理解。每個位格在救贖計畫中都扮演著獨特的角色。聖子耶穌被差遣到世上。祂以人的身分降臨，與我們認同。祂會感到疲倦和飢餓，祂有喜樂和恐懼等情緒，祂也會像我們一樣感受到羞辱和痛苦。希伯來書 4:15 告訴我們為什麼這很重要：**因我們的大祭司並非不能體恤我們的軟弱。他也曾凡事受過試探，與我們一樣，只是他沒有犯罪。**耶穌完全了解我們可能經歷的一切事情。因此，我們禱告的對象不只一位高高在上的神，祂也是曾經來到這個世界的主。祂不只是傾聽，而且祂有能力幫助我們。在我們可能遇到的所有問題中，最大的問題就是罪。耶穌在世上最重要的使命是死在十字架上。但耶穌為什麼要這麼做呢？首先，耶穌為我們該得的懲罰而死。保羅在羅馬書 6:23 告訴我們：**因為罪的工價乃是死；惟有神的恩賜，在我們的主基督耶穌裡，**

乃是永生。保羅用工價來形容我們的罪所造成的破壞。當我們犯罪時，我們損害了神的榮耀。我們就像名門望族的孩子，當他們做荒唐事之時，便會使父母沒面子。我們的罪越積越多，就像我們欠了神天文數字般的債務。耶穌用祂的生命為我們償還了這個代價。祂是神指定的唯一救贖方式。我們不能靠做好事來拯救自己。無論我多麼愛我的家人，我都無法用我的生命來救他們。我也是個罪人，我需要外界的力量來解決我的罪。耶穌是無罪的，因為祂是神。因此唯有祂能代替我們受刑罰。耶穌是以一個真實的人的身分降臨的。當人們嘲笑他時，祂的心是的確感到難過的。當他們將祂釘在十字架上時，祂的骨頭是真的被刺穿的。祂的悲傷、痛苦、血和死亡都是真實的。有些人認為耶穌的死只是偉大的愛的典範。這只是整個故事的一部分。我們必須明白，我們有罪，應該受到永恆的審判。我們必須認清罪的醜陋，然後我們才會珍惜十字架的美麗。救主為我這樣的罪人而死。罪、十字架、死亡和審判都是沒人願意聽到的嚴肅的事。但我們需要了解這些福音的重點，否則我們就會輕看救恩的價值。耶穌是連結我們和天父之間的橋樑。那些相信祂的人將會得到永生。好消息是耶穌的死並不是故事的結束。因為耶穌是神，所以就連死亡也不能約束祂。耶穌三天之後復活了。祂的復活也保證了我們將來的復活。聖經說耶穌會再來審判世界。那些已經過世的人將會在祂到來時復活。不信的人將會被審判，他們的永恆結局是地獄。基督徒，包括耶穌降臨時還活著的人，將會獲得一個榮耀的身體，並被帶入天堂。

3. 救恩的領受 The Move to Salvation

神因愛著而拯救我們。耶穌出於恩典為我們而死。救恩計劃已經完成。每個人都可以得到這份救贖的禮物。但你必須採取行動才能領受救恩。耶穌結束約翰福音 3:16 的時候說：「...叫一切信他的，不至滅亡，反得永生。」耶穌答應那些相信祂的人，他們不會下地獄，反而會獲得永生。這個「相信」包括什麼呢？你需要做出兩個決定。首先，你必須接受耶穌為你的救主。你謙卑地承認你是個罪人。你相信耶穌為你的罪而死。其次，你也必須接受耶穌為你生命的主宰。「主」這個字的意思是主人或老闆。如果耶穌是你的主，那麼你就是祂的僕人。你從聖經中學習祂的教導，聽從祂的命令並按照祂喜悅的方式生活。接受耶穌就是與祂建立永恆的關係。這份關係伴隨著承諾。耶穌在馬太福音 7:21 中說得很清楚：「凡稱呼我『主啊，主啊』的人不能都進天國；惟獨遵行我天父旨意的人才能進去。」天父的旨意都寫在聖經裡。耶穌並不是說我們可以透過遵守一些規條來進入天堂。祂指出順服是得救的真正標記。當你作出承諾時，你需要履行一些義務。如今，當你申請房子貸款或租公寓時，你必須簽一份合約。當你被公司錄取時，你也需要簽訂協議。你在文件上寫下你的名字，表明你接受那些條款。那些規則保護了雙方的利益。如果任何一方違反規則，便要承擔後果。當我們得救時，我們也是接受類似的協議。聖經說我們是被收養到神的家。過去，我們是四處流浪，無家可歸的孩子。現在我們必須學習如何像神的子民生活。如果我們相信主是為了我們好處著想，我們就會願

意聽祂的話。神的計劃是最好的道路，因為祂比我們更了解自己。如果我們跟隨祂，我們就會得到祝福。我們的日常的生活方式表明了我們對永生的理解。在哥林多後書 5:17 中，保羅解釋我們接受耶穌後所發生的變化：**若有人在基督裡，他就是新造的人，舊事已過，都變成新的了。**當一個人得救時，他就是「在基督裡」了。當我們成為基督徒時，我們就得到新生命。這會導致我們發生革命性的變化。過去我們對屬靈的事物不感興趣，只關心自己的事情。現在我們喜歡閱讀神的話語，並且學習在做決定時把神放在第一位。許多人錯誤地認為，永生是從進入天堂才開始。他們很高興現在得到了去天堂的門票。因此，他們認為如何度過自己的人生並無所謂。很可惜，每個教會都有很多這樣的週日基督徒。我無意冒犯你，如果這個形容也適用在你身上。想想看：沒有孩子只在餓了或需要錢的時候才回家。另外，沒有丈夫整天工作，晚上睡在辦公室，只有妻子煮牛排和龍蝦時才回家。這些人是利用那份關係，卻沒有珍惜關係。真正的信徒也必須是耶穌的跟隨者。他們將自己生命的主權交給了主。他們學習在學業、工作、家庭生活和娛樂中都順服主。他們依然扮演著學生、職員、退休人士、配偶、父母和子女的角色。他們每天都處理同樣的事務。但從現在起，他們所做的一切都是為了神的榮耀。他們以喜樂的態度回應神對他們的愛。

結論 CONCLUSION

耶穌正在呼召我們，我們必須回應祂的邀請。祂為你的罪付上了代價。你願接受這位兒子嗎？一位富翁喜歡收藏名畫家的作品：畢卡索、梵谷等。這個人只有一個兒子。不久戰爭爆發了，那位年輕人被徵召去參軍。他是個勇敢的人。不幸的是，他在拯救戰友時喪命。父親收到壞消息之時非常難過。過了一會兒，有人按他家的門鈴。一個年輕人手裡拿著一個大包裹。他對主人說：「先生，我是那天你兒子救的其中一個士兵。他經常談到你對藝術的熱愛。我相信他很希望你保留這個東西」。父親打開了包裹。那是年輕人畫的一幅他兒子的畫。他願意付錢給年輕人，但他拒絕了。他說：「你兒子為我犧牲的一切，我永遠無法報答。」於是富翁把那幅畫與其他傑作一起掛在牆上。他後來去世了。家屬安排了一場拍賣會來出售他的收藏。拍賣官宣布：「根據史密斯先生的意願，我們先來競投他兒子的肖像。」一陣短暫的沉默之後，有人發言：「我是為了那些傑作而來的，誰稀罕這幅不知名的畫？」拍賣官沒有理會，他繼續說：「兒子！兒子！誰要這個兒子？」最後，一位長期服務家族的園丁出價 10 美元。這是他負擔得起的價錢。拍賣官繼續呼籲：「有人願意付 10 美元。有沒有人出 20 美元？」一位不耐煩的男士建議：「給他吧。我是來看大師的作品的。」最後，拍賣官敲他的槌子：「成交！」前排另一位男子喊道：「現在讓我們看珍藏品。」但是拍賣官回應說：「很抱歉。拍賣已經結束」。大家都很困惑。他繼續說：「史密斯先生在遺囑上註明，只要拍賣他兒子的畫像。誰購買這幅畫，誰就能繼承全部收藏品和其他財產。得到兒子的人便會得到一切。」神今日宣告同樣的信息：「兒子！兒子！誰願意接受我的兒子？」