

## Sermon 讲道信息

December 十二月 14, 2025

John 约翰福音 17:1- 8; 20-23

## The Joy of the Son and “sons” 圣子的喜乐与“众子”的喜乐

Not so long ago, when I was 15 and in high school in Lima, Peru, General Velasco, with his military, overthrew the democratically elected government of President Belaunde.

不久以前，当我 15 岁还在秘鲁利马读高中的时，贝拉温德总统所领导、以民主方式选出来的政府被贝拉斯科将军率领的军方推翻了。

It was a political coup, but it was much more. It signified an economic shift towards socialism and the transfer of power from elites to the common people.

这是一场政变，但远不止于此。它象征着国家经济转向了社会主义，也代表权力从精英阶层转移到普通百姓手中。

Here is an English translation of part of General Velasco's most memorable speech:

以下是贝拉斯科将军最令人难忘的演讲，其中一段英语译文：

*Today, we gather to reclaim what is ours, not out of vengeance, but in the spirit of justice.*

今天，我们聚集一起不是为了报复，而是本着公义的精神，夺回本该属于我们的东西。

*From this day forward, the mines of Cerro de Pasco and their resources will serve the Peruvian people.*

*Our minerals will no longer be exported only to return as poverty.*

从今天起，塞罗·德·帕斯科的矿及其资源将为秘鲁人民服务。我们的矿产将不再只是被出口，但最终又回到贫困中。

*We have decided, with resolve and sovereignty, that Peru will no longer be a beggar sitting on a bench of gold.*

我们以坚定的信念和主权确定，秘鲁将不再是坐在金长椅上的乞丐。”

At the core of this revolution is Cerro de Pasco, Peru's largest mining company. It has been operating since the 16<sup>th</sup> century and is now owned by an American firm.

这场革命的核心正是塞罗·德·帕斯科——秘鲁最大的矿业公司，自 16 世纪开始运作，后来被一家美国公司拥有。

It produces gold, silver, and zinc in the Andes mountains, over 4000 metres high, and at the time employed nearly 20000 workers.

该公司在安第斯山脉 4000 多米的高处开采金、银和锌，当时雇用了将近两万名工人。

Uncle Bill, a family friend, is a mining engineer working for Cerro de Pasco.

比尔叔叔是我们家的朋友，也是一名在塞罗·德·帕斯科工作的采矿工程师。

He stays with us every weekend because there isn't much to do in his mining town at 4300 m.

他每个周末都会住在我们家，因为他所在的矿区小镇位于海拔 4300 米的地方，几乎没有什么其他活动。

Then, Uncle Bill told us that the new government had confiscated Cerro de Pasco from the Americans.

后来，比尔叔叔告诉我们，新政府已经从美国人手中没收了塞罗·德·帕斯科。

However, the government transferred the company's co-op farm to the employees.

然而，政府把该公司的合作社农场转交给了员工。

Cerro de Pasco operated a co-op farm that raised domestic animals and grew food to supply employees and their families.

塞罗·德·帕斯科营运的合作社农场饲养家畜、种植粮食，用来提供员工及其家庭的生活所需。

With 20,000 workers, it was indeed a very large cooperative.

由于有两万名员工，这其实是一个规模庞大的合作社。

Uncle Bill said that during the coop handover, the workers organised a big, week-long celebration.

比尔叔叔说，在合作社交接期间，工人们组织了一场长达一周的盛大庆祝活动。

By the end of the week, all the cattle, chickens, hogs, and chinchillas were gone... And there was no more coop; the fields, barns, and warehouses were empty.

到那一周结束时，所有的牛、鸡、猪和毛丝鼠都没有了……合作社也不复存在，田地、畜棚和仓库全都空了。

The coop story upset me deeply. An inner voice asked, "Which is better?"

关于合作社的故事让我非常难过。我的心中响起一个声音：哪一种更好？

1. The traditional corporate approach? Is it for sustainability and long-term interests? Or, 传统的企业模式？是为了可持续发展和长远利益吗？还是，

2. The employees' approach? Let's have a good time. 员工的方式？先尽情享受！

The answer seems to depend on the timespan criterion. If the timespan is just a week, sure! Let's party. If it's 30-50 years, then it requires alternative methods.

答案似乎取决于时间的跨度。如果时限只是一周，那当然是尽情狂欢吧；但如果是 30 至 50 年，那就需要采用不同的方法。

Immediately, a softer whisper but a louder echo arose: "Okay Joe, now, what model are you going to adapt for your life?"

即时有轻柔的声音但更响亮的回声响起：“乔，现在你打算用什么模式来经营你的人生？”

At 15, I had no answer.

15 岁的我，没有答案。

I wonder if life is more than just what I can see. Is there a life after this one? And if so, what is it like? So I can figure out how to live this life best.

我在想，假如人生不只是我眼睛所看见的这些。在今生之后是否还有另一个生命呢？如果有，那是怎样的生命？那么我就能知道该如何好好地活出今生。

Is there an *eternal life* like the ones described in many mythologies and fairy tales? Where could I find it?

The fountain of youth, a potion, or a peach in the heavenly imperial court in Chinese folklore.

是否真的有一种永生如同许多神话与童话中所描述的那样？我该在哪里找到它？青春之泉？灵丹妙药？还是中国神话中天庭的蟠桃？

Then I considered that eternal life might be connected to the existence of God. Is there a God? How can I find Him?

接着我又想到，永生也许与上帝的存在有关：到底有没有神？我可如何找到祂？

These two questions haunted me during my final year of high school and my first year at university.

这两个问题，在我高中最后一年和大学第一年期间不断困扰着我。

The best place to find the answer is naturally the church where people worship God.

寻找答案最自然的地方，当然是人们敬拜上帝的教会。

During that period, nearly all visible churches in Lima were Catholic.

当时，在利马几乎所有能看到的教会都是天主教的。

There was a large cathedral a block from my home. I attended Sunday mass every week until I left Lima for university.

在我家一街之外就有一座大教堂。从那时起直到我离开利马去上大学为止，我每个星期天都去参加弥撒。

However, the mass was of no help to me because it was all in Latin, not in Spanish.

然而，弥撒对我并没有什么帮助，因为全部是用拉丁文进行而不是西班牙文。

As a result, I could not understand the meaning of the songs and words, and I missed the significance of the entire liturgy.

结果，我既听不懂歌曲和说话的意思，也错过了整个礼仪的重要性。

(A year later, the Vatican changed all masses to be conducted in the local languages, but not during my time in Peru.)

（一年后，梵蒂冈才将所有弥撒改为使用当地语言进行，但那时我已经不在秘鲁了。）

I attended Purdue University in Indiana, USA, in 1969 to study engineering.

1969年，我来到美国印第安纳州的普渡大学攻读工程学。

The questions about *eternal life* and *God* troubled me even more.

关于永生和上帝的问题令我更加困扰。

On Sundays, I systematically planned and visited all the churches within walking distance of the university campus.

在星期天，我都系统性地规划并拜访了从校园步行可达范围内的所有教会。

Brothers and sisters, it was a *miracle* that I attended so many different churches for nearly three full years, yet I did not find *any* clue about how to find God or eternal life!

弟兄姐妹们，这几乎是个奇迹：将近三年，我连续出席了这么多不同的教会聚会，却依然没有找到任何有关“如何找到上帝或永生”的线索！

The most revealing experience I found was the Catholic Wednesday praise and worship at noon.

我觉得最有启发性的一次经历，是天主教堂在周三中午举行的赞美敬拜聚会。

There, they sang about God and His mercy and compassion, while the other churches focused more on well-known model Christians like C.S. Lewis, Dag Hammarskjöld, Jürgen Moltmann...

在那里，他们歌颂上帝和祂的怜悯与慈爱，而其他教会则更倾向于讲述一些著名的基督徒榜样，比如鲁益司、达格·哈马舍尔德、于尔根·莫特曼.....

Despite setbacks, I continued attending because my spiritual drive compelled me.

尽管屡屡受挫，我仍继续参加教会是因为我的属灵渴求驱使我。

One Friday, my class finished late, so I missed my dinner in my dorm. I stopped by the student union cafeteria, ordered a hamburger, and sat down to eat. It was so good that I went ahead and ordered a second one!

有一个星期五，我的课结束得很晚，错过了宿舍的晚餐。我便到学生会自助食堂买了一个汉堡坐下来吃；那汉

堡实在太好吃了，我又多买了一个。

When I returned to the table, another student was eating his dinner - James Clinton, a Ph.D. candidate in chemical engineering.

当我回到座位时，有另一位学生正在吃他的晚餐——詹姆斯·克林顿，一位化学工程博士生。

Not long into the conversation, James asked me, "Joe, do you know God?"

没聊多久，他就问我：“乔，你认识上帝吗？”

I lamented that "I looked for him everywhere for a long time but could not!"

我表示失望地说：“我四处寻找祂，找了很久，却始终找不到祂。”

Then he said, "Do you know Jesus? He is the way to know God."

他对我说：“你认识耶稣吗？祂是认识上帝的道路。”

Hallelujah! At last, I received an answer!

哈利路亚！终于，我得到了答案！

Next Wednesday at noon, we'll meet at the same spot to discuss who Jesus is and why he is the way to know God. James also gave me a small pamphlet, the Gospel of John.

我们约定下星期三中午在同一地点再见面，讨论“耶稣是谁”，以及“为什么祂是认识上帝的道路”。詹姆斯还送给我一本约翰福音的小册子。

Over the following three months, we met every Wednesday to talk about Jesus in the Gospel of John.

在接下来的三个月，我们每个星期三都一起讨论约翰福音是如何论及耶稣。

After nine months, I realized:

九个月后，我明白到：

1. Jesus is God and was sent by God the Father to His creation to give them eternal life (17:1-2).

耶稣是上帝，是父神差祂来到受造物中，为要给他们永生（17:1-2）。

2. Jesus explicitly defined eternal life and showed how to attain it (17:3):

耶稣明确地定义了永生，并指明如何得着永生（17:3）：

And this is the way to gain eternal life — to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.

“认识你独一的真神，并且认识你所差来的耶稣基督，这就是永生。”

3. He is the only fully qualified witness to God.

祂是唯一完全合乎资格为上帝作见证的那一位。

- (1) He is God the Son and has existed with God the Father from eternity to eternity.

祂是圣子，与圣父从永远到永远（从亘古到永远）一同存在。

Only He has seen and been with the Father, and only He understands the Father's love for His creation and for the Son, so He can testify about God's character, His purpose, His plan, and His love for us.

唯有祂见过父并与父在一起，也唯有祂明白圣父对祂的受造物和对圣子的爱，因此祂能证明上帝的性情、祂的旨意、祂的计划以及祂对我们的爱。

For example, if I am headed to Davao, I want someone who lives there and can advise me on the best way to climb Mount Apo, see crocodiles, and pick a good durian.

举个例子：如果我要去达沃，我想有一个住在那里的人给我建议，怎样才是登亚波山的最好方法、在哪里看鳄鱼、以及哪里能挑到最好的榴莲。

(2) Jesus, as God the Son and as a human, knew both heaven and earth.

耶稣既是完全的神又是完全的人，同时认识天上与地下的所有。

He conveys God's truth, warns against falsehoods, expresses the Father's love in human terms, and invites us to divine fellowship through the gift of eternal life.

祂传递上帝的真理，警戒世人的虚假，用人能理解的方式表达圣父的爱，并借着永生的恩赐邀请我们进入与上帝团契中。

(3) He is both the priest and the sacrifice to redeem us, so that we can be reconciled with God and with each other.

祂既是祭司又是祭物，为我们赎罪，使我们得以与上帝和好，也与他人和好。

(4) He brings us God's words and the Spirit, empowering us to live out eternal life.

祂把上帝的道和圣灵赐给我们，使我们有能力活出永生。

4. He claimed to be God himself to his Jewish audiences and Pontius Pilate.

祂曾明确向犹太人和本丢·彼拉多宣称自己就是上帝。

His Jewish audience testified to his claim and tried to stone him twice for such a mockery. His claim before Pontius Pilate led to his crucifixion.

犹太人证实了祂这样的声称，并因这讥笑两次要用石头打死祂；祂在彼拉多面前的见证最终导致了祂在十字架上受死。

(These testimonies of Jesus' deity were crucial when I was invited to study God and eternal life with another group, which claimed Jesus is our Saviour, but he was created by God and not God himself. That is another story.)

(当我后来被邀请参加另一个小组时，这些见证至关重要。这小组的人声称耶稣是我们的救主，但他是被上帝所造的，并非上帝本身。这是另外一个故事了。)

I concluded that Jesus is the way to know God and to obtain eternal life.

我得出的结论是：耶稣是认识上帝的道路，也是得着永生的唯一途径。

Today is the third Sunday of Advent and marks the midpoint of the season, shifting the focus from penitence to rejoicing for the imminent coming of Christ.

今天是将临期第三个主日，也是这个节期的中间点，焦点开始从忏悔转向为基督即将来临的欢欣。

Have you noticed that the colour of the Advent candles changed today? From purple to pink.

你们有没有注意到，今天将临期蜡烛的颜色变了吗？从紫色变成了粉红色。

The pink candle reminds us of the joy the world felt with Jesus' birth and the joy of anticipation for Christmas. 粉红色蜡烛提醒我们，因耶稣的降生带来世上的喜乐，以及期待圣诞的喜乐。

At Christmas, as I celebrate *my* hope, peace, and joy in Jesus, it is also fitting to speak of God's hope, peace, and joy in me.

在圣诞节，当我庆祝在耶稣里的盼望、平安与喜乐时，谈到上帝对我的盼望、平安与喜乐也是合适的。

Could we add another perspective to our Advent?

我们是否可以为将临期加上另一个视角？

1. Throughout Christmas, we are welcomed into the same love that Jesus shares with His Father.

整个圣诞节期，我们被邀请进入耶稣与父神共享的那份爱中；

Yet, Jesus also invites the Father to share in the love that Jesus shares with us - the church as His body and His bride.

同时，耶稣也邀请父神进入耶稣与我们——教会作为祂身体和祂新妇——之间的爱。

2. Christmas fulfills Jesus's desire to bring the Father into that relationship with us through Him, to fulfil His joy and His love for us as one unity, just as He and the Father do.

圣诞成就了耶稣的渴望：借着祂自己，把圣父带进我们与祂的关系之中，使祂的喜乐得以满足，使祂对我们的爱在合一中完全，正如祂与父在爱中的完全合一。

In the Gospel of John, we observe the true nature of *the temple*. The temple is Jesus's body (the church), where God longs to dwell with his people without barriers.

在约翰福音，我们看见圣殿真正的本质：圣殿就是耶稣的身体（教会），是上帝渴望无阻隔地与祂子民同住之处。

Heaven calls, and earth is to respond... now on earth, God finds a body that reflects his grace and truth.

天在呼唤，地当回应.....如今在地上，上帝得着能彰显祂恩典与真理的身体。

The late pastor Tim Keller reminds us, "*Grace without truth is not grace, truth without grace is not truth.*"

已故牧者添·凯勒提醒我们：“没有真理的恩典不是恩典，没有恩典的真理也不是真理。”

Christmas marks the beginning of the fulfillment of the Triune God's desire and joy to dwell with His people and children, united in love and oneness, just as the love shared between the Father and the Son.

圣诞节标志着三一上帝的渴望并喜乐开始实现，就是与祂的百姓和儿女同住、在爱与合一中联合，正如圣父与圣子之间分享的爱一样。

Jesus brought back the lost sons and daughters to the Father. Just as families from afar gather during Christmas or Thanksgiving.

耶稣把失丧的儿女带回给圣父。就像远方的家人在圣诞节或感恩节团聚一样；

For the Chinese, perhaps it is the Lunar New Year when the whole family comes together.

对中国人来说，也许是在农历新年全家团圆的时刻。

During these gatherings, the joy of the parents surpasses that of the children.

在这样的相聚中，父母的喜乐往往超过儿女。

When we, as children of God, come to worship Him through Christ by the Spirit, it brings joy to the Father.

当我们这些上帝的儿女，借着基督、靠着圣灵来敬拜祂时，会给圣父带来喜乐。

Jesus fulfilled our joy through Christmas.

通过圣诞耶稣成全了我们的喜乐。

Will we fulfill his joy through faith in grace and truth, living in unity and helping all humanity attain eternal life?

我们是否也能通过在恩典与真理里的信心，过着合一的生活、并帮助全人类得着永生，来成全耶稣的喜乐？

This way, everyone who comes to Trinity Baptist will hear the Good News of Jesus and learn how to have

eternal life.

如此一来，凡来到三一浸信教会的人，都将听到耶稣的好消息并学习如何得着永生。

Advent reminds us of our hope, peace, and joy in our Saviour and Lord Jesus.

将临期提醒我们，在我们的救主和主耶稣里的盼望、平安与喜乐；

Advent also reveals God's hope, peace, and joy in us, His people and adopted children.

将临期也启示我们，上帝在我们身上的盼望、平安与喜乐——因我们是祂的百姓、蒙接纳的儿女。

Our hope, peace, and joy reflect God's love, and the two mirror each other.

我们的盼望、平安与喜乐反映着上帝的爱；两者彼此映照。

- *Christmas* symbolizes God's hope in redeeming His people.

圣诞节象征上帝救赎祂百姓的盼望；

- *Easter* is God's peace resulting from the propitiation through the death and shed blood of Jesus, and now God and His people are fully reconciled. Christ's resurrection confirmed God's complete plan of salvation and His kingdom.

复活节彰显了上帝的平安：因耶稣的受死和流血平息了上帝的愤怒，成就了和平。如今上帝与祂的子民已完全和好；基督的复活确认了上帝完整的救恩计划和祂的国度；

- *Parousia*, or *the final coming* of Christ, will fulfill God's joy and our own.

主再来（或耶稣最后的来临）将最终成全上帝的喜乐，也成全我们的喜乐。

As I read the Bible, it puzzles me that the New Testament already accepts the union and oneness of all God's sons and daughters as a reality.

当我阅读圣经时，我常常感到困惑：新约似乎已经把上帝所有儿女的合一与联合视为事实。

I must admit I can't see that. I also question whether Jesus's desire is realistic.

坦白说，我并没有看见这一点。我也会质疑耶稣的渴望是否合乎现实？

Can Christians be united and love one another unselfishly while loving God more than anything? Can they truly be selflessly loving each other and love God above all?

基督徒真的能够合一、无私地彼此相爱，同时又爱神胜过一切吗？他们真的能无私地彼此相爱，又能爱上帝比其他一切更多吗？

I don't think so. By nature, I prefer the Tree of Knowledge over the Tree of Life. My will, not yours, not God's. 我不这样认为。从本性来看，我更偏向“分别善恶树”而不是“生命树”：我的意思，不是你的意思，也不是上帝的意思。

But then, what I think doesn't matter. *What Jesus thinks does*, Jesus said.

但后来我明白：我的看法不重要，耶稣的看法才重要。耶稣说：

*“Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.”* (Matthew 19:26).

“在人这是不能的，在神凡事都能。”（马太福音 19:26）

Could it be that this truth is a grace from God and the work of the Holy Spirit? Therefore, as Christians, we in Jesus have no excuse but to strive for this unity in the Spirit.

这是否意味着：这真实的合一其实是来自上帝的恩典和圣灵的工作？因此，作为基督徒，我们在基督里就没有任何借口不去竭力追求圣灵里的合一。

Back in 1970, discovering Jesus as my saviour and Lord brought me immense joy. However, the joy I have experienced over the past 50 years, as I've learned more about Him through His words, is much deeper and broader.

回到 1970 年，当我认识耶稣为我的救主和生命的主时，我得到了极大的喜乐。但在过去 50 多年里，随着我通过祂的话更深地认识祂，我所经历的喜乐变得更加深入、更加宽广。

He is more than just the Redeemer and Friend; He is the King of kings. We are His people, the priesthood, and co-rulers in His Kingdom of God.

祂不仅是救赎主和朋友，祂是万王之王。我们是祂的子民，是祂的祭司，也在祂国度中一同作王。

God's joy is fulfilled in the new heaven and earth, at the wedding of His Son and His bride—the New Jerusalem; then God will dwell face to face with His sons and daughters.

上帝的喜乐将会完全实现：在新天新地里、在祂儿子与新妇的婚宴里、在新耶路撒冷；那时，上帝将与祂的众子女面对面同住。

May the Spirit Jesus sent teach and guide us to live in Christ with grace and truth.

愿耶稣所差来的圣灵教导并引导我们，在基督里活出恩典与真理。

Fully strive for the unity that Jesus commands his beloved believers and followers to pursue through his words.

耶稣借着祂的话，吩咐祂所爱的信徒和跟随者全力去追求的合一；

And let the words of Jesus bring his joy into our lives.

也让耶稣的话把祂的喜乐带进我们的生命中。

Let's also be honest, Jesus's words can sometimes be difficult to comprehend, especially in John's writings. For example, Jesus's oneness with the Father, and Jesus's oneness with us, and then the two onenesses become another unity...

我们也要诚实地承认：耶稣的话有时确实不容易明白，尤其是在约翰的著作中。

例如：耶稣与父的合一、耶稣与我们的合一，并这两个合一又成为另一个合一.....

A picture is worth a thousand words. 一图胜千言。

May I end our gathering with a picture that reflects Jesus's joy in us and His gift of eternal life? Psalm 133: 我愿用一幅图画来结束今天的聚会，这幅图画反映了耶稣在我们里面的喜乐，以及祂赐给我们的永生——诗篇 133 篇：

How good and pleasant it is

When God's people live together in unity!

It is like precious oil poured on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
running down on Aaron's beard,  
down on the collar of his robe.

It is as if the dew of Hermon  
were falling on Mount Zion.

看哪，弟兄和睦同居，

是何等地善，何等地美！

这好比那贵重的油  
浇在亚伦的头上，  
流到胡须，

又流到他的衣襟；

又好比黑门的甘露  
降在锡安山；



For there the Lord bestows his blessing,  
even life forevermore. Amen.

因为在那里，  
耶和華命定福气，  
就是永远的生命。阿们。

This Psalm speaks of God's blessing on our union with fellow believers, in oneness with our Lord Jesus Christ.

这篇诗讲述了上帝对我们和其他信徒的合一，与我们的主耶稣基督的合一；

It states that Christian unity is beautiful and glorious, both to God and for humanity's praise.

它宣告：基督徒的合一在上帝眼中和世人的称颂里都是美丽和荣耀的。

The unity of the church with Christ as its head and believers as His body is a divine blessing.

以基督为元首、信徒为祂身体的教会合一是从神而来的祝福。

The divine blessing first rests on the head of the chief priest (Christ), then flows from his head to the body (us).

这属天的祝福先降在大祭司的头上（基督），再从祂的头流到身体（我们）。

Mount Hermon rises 2000 metres above Jerusalem (Mount Zion); its dew falls from 200 km away, symbolizing divine blessing from above that brings new life to the inhabitants of the New Jerusalem or Christ's Bride.

黑门山高出耶路撒冷（锡安山）约 2000 米，它的甘露从 200 公里之外降下，象征那从天而降属神的祝福，为新耶路撒冷的居民（或基督的新妇）带来新生命。

In this union between the Chief Priest and God's people, the Lord commands, even eternal and everlasting life.

在大祭司与上帝子民的联合中，主命定了祝福——就是永远的生命。

May I invite you to close your eyes and envision God's blessings and eternal life descending upon us all in this sanctuary as I read Psalm 133 again?

我可以邀请大家闭上眼睛吗？当我再次朗读诗篇 133 篇时，让我们想象上帝的祝福和永生正在此刻降临到这圣殿中，降临到我们每一个人身上……