

A CERTAIN MAN

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Matthew 21:23-32
Tuesday: Psalm 80
Wednesday: Isaiah 5:1-7
Thursday: Matthew 3:1-12
Friday: Luke 3:1-18
Saturday: Luke 7:18-35
Sunday: Luke 15:1, 2, 11-32

Memory Verse: Luke 3:8

*Bring forth, therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves,
We have Abraham, to our father: for I say unto you,
That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.*

你們要結出果子來，與悔改的心相稱。不要自己心裡說：有亞伯拉罕為我們的祖宗。
我告訴你們，神能從這些石頭中，給亞伯拉罕興起子孫來。

INTRODUCTION:

Parables were a favorite method used by the Lord to teach those who desired to "learn of Him." Used extensively, the parables were "stories" which He told to illustrate and to make memorable specific points in His teachings. As someone has said, "Parables are earthly stories with heavenly meanings." Careful attention to the circumstances which prompted a particular parable is often a key to its meaning. All of the Lord's parables are interesting, pointed, and highly instructive.

LESSON NOTES:

A Certain Man: At least two parables begin with "a certain man." One is familiar to us as the parable of "The Prodigal Son." The other is simply that of the "two sons" who, when asked to work in their father's vineyard ([Matt. 21:28-32](#)), gave two different answers. The varying responses form the basis of understanding this latter parable.

Matthew 21:28-32	<p>²⁸But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, 'Son, go work to day in my vineyard.'</p> <p>又說：一個人有兩個兒子。他來對大兒子說：我兒，你今天到葡萄園裡去做工。</p> <p>²⁹He answered and said, 'I will not:' but afterward he repented, and went.</p> <p>他回答說：我不去，以後自己懊悔，就去了。</p> <p>³⁰And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir:' and went not.</p> <p>又來對小兒子也是這樣說。他回答說：父阿，我去，他卻不去。</p> <p>³¹"Whether of them twain did the will of his father?" They say unto him, "The first." Jesus saith unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.</p> <p>你們想，這兩個兒子是那一個遵行父命呢？他們說：大兒子。耶穌說：我實在告訴你們，稅吏和娼妓倒比你們先進神的國。</p> <p>³²For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him."</p>
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因為約翰遵著義路到你們這裡來，你們卻不信他；稅吏和娼妓倒信他。你們看見了，後來還是不懊悔去信他。

It was to illustrate the failure of the Jewish rulers to accept the authority of John the Baptist and His own ministry as well, that Jesus told this parable. The rulers considered themselves as those who above all were "about their Father's business (Luke 2:49)," while in reality they remained deaf to the Father's call.

Luke 2:48-50	<p>⁴⁸And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, "Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing." 他父母看見就很希奇。他母親對他說：我兒！為甚麼向我們這樣行呢？看哪！你父親和我傷心來找你！</p> <p>⁴⁹And he said unto them, "How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" 耶穌說：為甚麼找我呢？豈不知我應當以我父的事為念麼（或作：豈不知我應當在我父的家裡麼）？</p> <p>⁵⁰And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. 他所說的這話，他們不明白。</p>
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Two classes of people are shown: Those who at first absolutely refuse to heed the Father's call but who later turn around and obey the Father's wishes and those who claim to serve God but then fail to do His will. The moral of the story is contained in the question, "Whether of them twain did the will of his father?" (Matt. 21:31). The obvious answer was given by the rulers. Then Jesus pointed out how the parable fitted them. Note that throughout the Bible the "vineyard" is always understood to mean the object of God's attention and love. Specifically, in the Old Testament it refers to natural Israel (see Isa. 5:1-7). In the New Testament it refers, of course, to the "spiritual" Israel (see John 15:1, 2).

Matthew 21:31	<p>Whether of them twain did the will of his father?" They say unto him, "The first." Jesus saith unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you." 你們想，這兩個兒子是那一個遵行父命呢？他們說：大兒子。耶穌說：我實在告訴你們，稅吏和娼妓倒比你們先進神的國。</p>
Isaiah 5:1-7	<p>¹Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: 我要為我所親愛的唱歌，是我所愛者的歌，論他葡萄園的事：我所親愛的有葡萄園在肥美的山岡上。</p> <p>²And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. 他刨挖園子，撿去石頭，栽種上等的葡萄樹，在園中蓋了一座樓，又鑿出壓酒池；指望結好葡萄，反倒結了野葡萄。</p> <p>³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. 耶路撒冷的居民和猶大人哪，請你們現今在我與我的葡萄園中，斷定是非。</p> <p>⁴What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? 我為我葡萄園所做之外，還有甚麼可做的呢？我指望結好葡萄，怎麼倒結了野葡萄呢？</p> <p>⁵And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden</p>

	<p>down: 現在我告訴你們，我要向我葡萄園怎樣行：我必撤去籬笆，使他被吞滅，拆毀牆垣，使他被踐踏。</p> <p>⁶And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. 我必使他荒廢，不再修理，不再鋤刨，荊棘蒺藜倒要生長。我也必命雲不降雨在其上。</p> <p>⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry. 萬軍之耶和華的葡萄園就是以色列家；他所喜愛的樹就是猶大人。他指望的是公平，誰知倒有暴虐（或譯：倒流人血）；指望的是公義，誰知倒有冤聲。</p>
John 15:1-2	<p>¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 我是真葡萄樹，我父是栽培的人。</p> <p>²Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 凡屬我不結果子的枝子，他就剪去；凡結果子的，他就修理乾淨，使枝子結果子更多。</p>

Repentance: The essential difference between the two sons in this parable is that one eventually went to work in his father's vineyard, whereas the other never did. The key to the one son's service was the recognition that he was doing wrong and his "turning back" to obey the father. Note that both had need of repenting, for at one point neither was doing the father's will. This turning back is the meaning of the term "repent." Contrary to this was the other son's refusal to see his error in claiming to do his father's work but not doing it. He went ahead, following his own will.

Throughout the history of Israel, godly prophets and leaders often recognized that the people had gotten away from serving God. This always led to loss and failure on their part. In Psalm 80 we have such a righteous man's prayer in which he cries out three times, "Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved" (vv. 3, 7, 19). It was this "turning" which John the Baptist preached when he called on people to "repent."

Psalm 80:3, 7, 19	<p>³Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved. 神啊，求你使我們回轉（或譯：復興），使你的臉發光，我們便要得救！</p> <p>⁷Turn us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved. 萬軍之神啊，求你使我們回轉，使你的臉發光，我們便要得救！</p> <p>¹⁹Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved. 耶和華-萬軍之神啊，求你使我們回轉，使你的臉發光，我們便要得救！</p>
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Repentance is an absolute necessity for the remission of sins (Lu. 3:8). As the meaning of the word implies, it is more than just feeling bad about a certain act or our conduct as a whole: it means **turning away from that way of living and changing our actions completely**. Repentance is measured by the "fruits" thereof (v. 9). The fruit of the one son's repentance was his abandonment of his stubborn refusal and his change of heart in going to work in the father's vineyard. Corresponding to this was the general acceptance by the harlots and publicans of the message which John preached. **Their "fruits" of repentance was the abandonment of their sinful lives and the turning to God to obey His Word. This they openly signified by being publicly baptized by John.**

Luke 3:8	Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up
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	children unto Abraham. 你們要結出果子來，與悔改的心相稱。不要自己心裡說：有亞伯拉罕為我們的祖宗。我告訴你們，神能從這些石頭中，給亞伯拉罕興起子孫來。
Luke 3:9	And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." 現在斧子已經放在樹根上，凡不結好果子的樹就砍下來，丟在火裡。

THE LESSONS:

Perhaps the greatest sin of the rulers and Pharisees was their "lip service" to God. This was exactly the fault of the one son who said, "I will go," but who didn't. Lip service may have eased their own consciences and may have given them a good reputation, but it did not please the Father, for His will was not done. Examination ought to be made of our service to God. Is it only the honoring of God with our lips, ***or does it go deeper and affect our lives?*** Do we say, "Thy will be done," and then go ahead and do our own will? It was this type of lip service which forced God to bring judgment on His people ([Isa. 29:13](#)). The deeds of the heart, not the statements of our mouths, count with God.

Isaiah 29:13	Wherefore the Lord said, "Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:" 主說：因為這百姓親近我，用嘴唇尊敬我，心卻遠離我；他們敬畏我，不過是領受人的吩咐。
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The "fruits" or "grapes" which God expects from His vineyard are **righteousness and judgment**. These relate to our standing before God and our relationships with man. It was to secure these "grapes" that God took His plant out of Egypt and tenderly planted it and cared for it so lovingly and patiently (see [Psa. 80:8-15](#); [Isa. 5:1-7](#)). Instead they brought forth "wild grapes" of oppression and injustice.

Psalm 80:8-15	Isaiah 5:1-7
<p>⁸Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it. 你從埃及挪出一棵葡萄樹，趕出外邦人，把這樹栽上。</p> <p>⁹Thou preparedst room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land. 你在這樹根前預備了地方，他就深深扎根，爬滿了地。</p> <p>¹⁰The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars. 他的影子遮滿了山，枝子好像佳美的香柏樹。</p> <p>¹¹She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river. 他發出枝子，長到大海，發出蔓子，延到大河。</p> <p>¹²Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her? 你為何拆毀這樹的籬笆，任憑一切過路的人摘取？</p> <p>¹³The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it.</p>	<p>¹Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: 我要為我所親愛的唱歌，是我所愛者的歌，論他葡萄園的事：我所親愛的有葡萄園在肥美的山岡上。</p> <p>²And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. 他刨挖園子，撿去石頭，栽種上等的葡萄樹，在園中蓋了一座樓，又鑿出壓酒池；指望結好葡萄，反倒結了野葡萄。</p> <p>³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. 耶路撒冷的居民和猶大人哪，請你們現今在我與我的葡萄園中，斷定是非。</p> <p>⁴What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild</p>

林中出來的野豬把他糟踏；野地的走獸拿他當食物。

¹⁴Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine; 萬軍之神啊，求你回轉！從天上垂看，眷顧這葡萄樹，

¹⁵And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself. 保護你右手所栽的和你為自己所堅固的枝子。

grapes?

我為我葡萄園所做之外，還有甚麼可做的呢？我指望結好葡萄，怎麼倒結了野葡萄呢？

⁵And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:

現在我告訴你們，我要向我葡萄園怎樣行：我必撤去籬笆，使他被吞滅，拆毀牆垣，使他被踐踏。

⁶And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briars and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

我必使他荒廢，不再修理，不再鋤刨，荊棘蒺藜倒要生長。我也必命雲不降雨在其上。

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

萬軍之耶和華的葡萄園就是以色列家；他所喜愛的樹就是猶大人。他指望的是公平，誰知倒有暴虐（或譯：倒流人血）；指望的是公義，誰知倒有冤聲。

Only as we turn to God with the desire to serve Him can we bear the fruit He desires. A corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit. **Turning to God requires a turning away from sin**, for no man can serve two masters. Note that in the parable of the prodigal son, it wasn't until the young man abandoned completely his sinful life and returned to the father's house that he enjoyed the privilege of sonship. His repentance was genuine. His "fruits," worthy of repentance were his recognition of the fact that he wasn't pleasing his father, followed by his resolution to do what was expected of him. It was this counsel of God which John preached and which the Pharisees and lawyers rejected.

Monday: **Matthew 21:23-32** (Also in Mark 11:27-33; Luke 20:1-8)

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS CHALLENGED

²³And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?”
耶穌進了殿，正教訓人的時候，祭司長和民間的長老來問他說：你仗著甚麼權柄做這些事？給你這權柄的是誰呢？

²⁴And Jesus answered and said unto them, “I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things.”
耶穌回答說：我也要問你們一句話，你們若告訴我，我就告訴你們我仗著甚麼權柄做這些事。

²⁵The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men?” And they reasoned with themselves, saying, “If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?”
約翰的洗禮是從那裡來的？是從天上來的？是從人間來的呢？他們彼此商議說：我們若說從天上來，他必對我們說：這樣，你們為甚麼不信他呢？

²⁶But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet.”
若說從人間來，我們又怕百姓，因為他們都以約翰為先知。

²⁷And they answered Jesus, and said, “We cannot tell.” And he said unto them, “Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.”
於是回答耶穌說：我們不知道。耶穌說：我也不告訴你們我仗著甚麼權柄做這些事。

THE PARABLE OF “TWO SONS”

²⁸But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, ‘Son, go work to day in my vineyard.’
又說：一個人有兩個兒子。他來對大兒子說：我兒，你今天到葡萄園裡去做工。

²⁹He answered and said, ‘I will not:’ but afterward he repented, and went.
他回答說：我不去，以後自己懊悔，就去了。

³⁰And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, ‘I go, sir:’ and went not.
又來對小兒子也是這樣說。他回答說：父阿，我去，他卻不去。

³¹Whether of them twain did the will of his father?” They say unto him, “The first.” Jesus saith unto them, “Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.”
你們想，這兩個兒子是那一個遵行父命呢？他們說：大兒子。耶穌說：我實在告訴你們，稅吏和娼妓倒比你們先進神的國。

³²For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.”
因為約翰遵著義路到你們這裡來，你們卻不信他；稅吏和娼妓倒信他。你們看見了，後來還是不懊悔去信他。

The Authority of Jesus Challenged

Matthew 21:23-32

²³And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?"

耶穌進了殿，正教訓人的時候，祭司長和民間的長老來問他說：你仗著甚麼權柄做這些事？給你這權柄的是誰呢？

²⁴And Jesus answered and said unto them, "***I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things.***"

耶穌回答說：我也要問你們一句話，你們若告訴我，我就告訴你們我仗著甚麼權柄做這些事。

²⁵***The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men?"*** And they reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?"

約翰的洗禮是從那裡來的？是從天上來的？是從人間來的呢？他們彼此商議說：我們若說從天上來，他必對我們說：這樣，你們為甚麼不信他呢？

²⁶But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet."

若說從人間來，我們又怕百姓，因為他們都以約翰為先知。

²⁷And they answered Jesus, and said, "We cannot tell." And he said unto them, "***Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.***"

Mark 11:27-33

²⁷And they come again to Jerusalem: and as he was walking in the temple, there come to him the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders,

他們又來到耶路撒冷。耶穌在殿裡行走的時候，祭司長和文士並長老進前來，

²⁸And say unto him, "By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority to do these things?"

問他說：你仗著甚麼權柄作這些事？給你這權柄的是誰呢？

²⁹And Jesus answered and said unto them, "***I will also ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.***"

耶穌對他們說：我要問你們一句話，你們回答我，我就告訴你們我仗著甚麼權柄作這些事。

³⁰***The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? answer me."***

約翰的洗禮是從天上來的？是從人間來的呢？你們可以回答我。

³¹And they reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then did ye not believe him?"

他們彼此商議說：我們若說從天上來，他必說：這樣，你們為甚麼不信他呢？

³²But if we shall say, Of men; they feared the people: for all men counted John, that he was a prophet indeed."

若說從人間來，卻又怕百姓，

Luke 20:1-8

¹And it came to pass, that on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon him with the elders,

有一天，耶穌在殿裡教訓百姓，講福音的時候，祭司長和文士並長老上前來，

²And spake unto him, saying, "Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority?"

問他說：你告訴我們，你仗著甚麼權柄做這些事？給你這權柄的是誰呢？

³And he answered and said unto them, "***I will also ask you one thing; and answer me:***"

耶穌回答說：我也要問你們一句話，你們且告訴我。

⁴***The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?"***

約翰的洗禮是從天上來的？是從人間來的呢？

⁵And they reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not?"

他們彼此商議說：我們若說從天上來，他必說：你們為甚麼不信他呢？

⁶But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet."

若說從人間來，百姓都要用石頭打死我們，因為他們信約翰是先知。

於是回答耶穌說：我們不知道。耶穌說：我也不告訴你們我仗著甚麼權柄做這些事。

28 *But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, 'Son, go work to day in my vineyard.'*

又說：一個人有兩個兒子。他來對大兒子說：我兒，你今天到葡萄園裡去做工。

29 *He answered and said, 'I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.'*

他回答說：我不去，以後自己懊悔，就去了。

30 *And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir:' and went not.*

又來對小兒子也是這樣說。他回答說：父阿，我去，他卻不去。

31 *Whether of them twain did the will of his father?" They say unto him, "The first." Jesus saith unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.*

你們想，這兩個兒子是那一個遵行父命呢？他們說：大兒子。耶穌說：我實在告訴你們，稅吏和娼妓倒比你們先進神的國。

32 *For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him."*

因為約翰遵著義路到你們這裡來，你們卻不信他；稅吏和娼妓倒信他。你們看見了，後來還是不懊悔去信他。

因為眾人真以約翰為先知。

33 *And they answered and said unto Jesus, "We cannot tell." And Jesus answering saith unto them, "Neither do I tell you by what authority I do these things."*

於是回答耶穌說：我們不知道。耶穌說：我也不告訴你們我仗著甚麼權柄作這些事。

7 *And they answered, that they could not tell whence it was.*

於是回答說：不知道是從那裡來的。

8 *And Jesus said unto them, "Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things."*

耶穌說：我也不告訴你們，我仗著甚麼權柄做這些事。

Tuesday: Psalm 80

¹**Give ear**, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that **ledest** Joseph like a flock; thou that **dwellest** between the cherubims, **shine** forth.

（亞薩的詩，交與伶長。調用為證的百合花。）領約瑟如領羊群之以色列的牧者啊，求你留心聽！坐在二基路伯上的啊，求你發出光來！

²Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh **stir up thy strength**, and **come** and **save** us.

在以法蓮、便雅憫、瑪拿西前面施展你的大能，來救我們。

³**Turn** us again, O God, and cause thy face to **shine**; and we shall be saved.

神啊，求你使我們回轉（或譯：復興），使你的臉發光，我們便要得救！

⁴O LORD God of hosts, how long wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?

耶和華—萬軍之神啊，你向你百姓的禱告發怒，要到幾時呢？

⁵Thou feedest them with the bread of tears; and givest them tears to drink in great measure.

你以眼淚當食物給他們吃，又多量出眼淚給他們喝。

⁶Thou makest us a strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh among themselves.

你使鄰邦因我們紛爭；我們的仇敵彼此戲笑。

⁷**Turn** us again, O God of hosts, and cause thy face to **shine**; and we shall be saved.

萬軍之神啊，求你使我們回轉，使你的臉發光，我們便要得救！

⁸Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

你從埃及挪出一棵葡萄樹，趕出外邦人，把這樹栽上。

⁹Thou preparedst room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land.

你在這樹根前預備了地方，他就深深扎根，爬滿了地。

¹⁰The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars.

他的影子遮滿了山，枝子好像佳美的香柏樹。

¹¹She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river.

他發出枝子，長到大海，發出蔓子，延到大河。

¹²Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her?

你為何拆毀這樹的籬笆，任憑一切過路的人摘取？

¹³The boar out of the wood doth waste it, and the wild beast of the field doth devour it.

林中出來的野豬把他糟踏；野地的走獸拿他當食物。

¹⁴**Return**, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: **look down** from heaven, and behold, and **visit** this vine;

萬軍之神啊，求你回轉！從天上垂看，眷顧這葡萄樹，

¹⁵And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself.

保護你右手所栽的和你為自己所堅固的枝子。

¹⁶It is burned with fire, it is cut down: they perish at the rebuke of thy countenance.
這樹已經被火焚燒，被刀砍伐；他們因你臉上的怒容就滅亡了。

¹⁷Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself.
願你的手扶持你右邊的人，就是你為自己所堅固的人子。

¹⁸So will not we go back from thee: **quicken** us, and we will call upon thy name.
這樣，我們便不退後離開你；求你救活我們，我們就要求告你的名。

¹⁹**Turn** us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to **shine**; and we shall be saved.
耶和華—萬軍之神啊，求你使我們回轉，使你的臉發光，我們便要得救！

Wednesday: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:

我要為我所親愛的唱歌，是我所愛者的歌，論他葡萄園的事：我所親愛的有葡萄園在肥美的山岡上。

²And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.

他刨挖園子，撿去石頭，栽種上等的葡萄樹，在園中蓋了一座樓，又鑿出壓酒池；指望結好葡萄，反倒結了野葡萄。

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.

耶路撒冷的居民和猶大人哪，請你們現今在我與我的葡萄園中，斷定是非。

⁴What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

我為我葡萄園所做之外，還有甚麼可做的呢？我指望結好葡萄，怎麼倒結了野葡萄呢？

⁵And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:

現在我告訴你們，我要向我葡萄園怎樣行：我必撤去籬笆，使他被吞滅，拆毀牆垣，使他被踐踏。

⁶And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

我必使他荒廢，不再修理，不再鋤刨，荊棘蒺藜倒要生長。我也必命雲不降雨在其上。

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

萬軍之耶和華的葡萄園就是以色列家；他所喜愛的樹就是猶大人。他指望的是公平，誰知倒有暴虐（或譯：倒流人血）；指望的是公義，誰知倒有冤聲。

Thursday: Matthew 3:1-12 (Also in Mark 1:1-8; Luke 3:1-18; John 1:6-8, 15, 19-28)

THE FORERUNNER OF THE GOSPEL – JOHN THE BAPTIST

¹In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
那時，有施洗的約翰出來，在猶太的曠野傳道，說：
怒呢？

²And saying, “Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
天國近了，你們應當悔改！

³For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias (*Isaiah 40:3*), saying, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”
這人就是先知以賽亞所說的。他說：在曠野有人聲喊著說：預備主的道，修直他的路！

Isaiah 40:3	The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, “Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.” 有人聲喊著說：在曠野預備耶和華的路（或譯：在曠野，有人聲喊著說：當預備耶和華的路），在沙漠地修平我們神的道。
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⁴And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.
這約翰身穿駱駝毛的衣服，腰束皮帶，吃的是蝗蟲、野蜜。

⁵Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,
那時，耶路撒冷和猶太全地，並約但河一帶地方的人，都出去到約翰那裡，

⁶And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.
承認他們的罪，在約但河裡受他的洗。

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, “O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
約翰看見許多法利賽人和撒都該人也來受洗，就對他們說：毒蛇的種類！誰指示你們逃避將來的忿怒呢？

⁸Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:
你們要結出果子來，與悔改的心相稱。

⁹And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that ***God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.***
不要自己心裡說：有亞伯拉罕為我們的祖宗。我告訴你們，神能從這些石頭中給亞伯拉罕興起子孫來。

¹⁰And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.
現在斧子已經放在樹根上，凡不結好果子的樹就砍下來，丟在火裡。

¹¹I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:
我是用水給你們施洗，叫你們悔改。但那在我以後來的，能力比我更大，我就是給他提鞋也不配。他要用聖靈與火給你們施洗。

¹²Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”
他手裡拿著簸箕，要揚淨他的場，把麥子收在倉裡，把糠用不滅的火燒盡了。

Friday: Luke 3:1-18 (Also in Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8; John 1:6-8, 15, 19-28)

THE FORERUNNER OF THE GOSPEL – JOHN THE BAPTIST

¹Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene,

該撒提庇留在位第十五年，本丟彼拉多作猶太巡撫，希律作加利利分封的王，他兄弟腓力作以士利亞和特拉可尼地方分封的王，呂撒聶作亞比利尼分封的王，

²Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

亞那和該亞法作大祭司。那時，撒迦利亞的兒子約翰在曠野裡，神的話臨到他。

³And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; he came to the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

他就來到約但河一帶地方，宣講悔改的洗禮，使罪得赦。

⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet (*Isaiah 40:3-5*), saying, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

正如先知以賽亞書上所記的話，說：在曠野有人聲喊著說：預備主的道，修直他的路！

⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth;

一切山窪都要填滿；大小山岡都要削平！彎彎曲曲的地方要改為正直；高高低低的道路要改為平坦！

⁶And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

凡有血氣的，都要見神的救恩！

Isaiah 40:3-5	<p>³The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 有人聲喊著說：在曠野預備耶和華的路（或譯：在曠野，有人聲喊著說：當預備耶和華的路），在沙漠地修平我們神的道。</p> <p>⁴Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: 一切山窪都要填滿，大小山岡都要削平；高高低低的要改為平坦，崎嶇的必成為平原。</p> <p>⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. 耶和華的榮耀必然顯現；凡有血氣的必一同看見；因為這是耶和華親口說的。</p>
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⁷Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, “O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

約翰對那出來要受他洗的眾人說：毒蛇的種類！誰指示你們逃避將來的忿怒呢？

⁸Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

你們要結出果子來，與悔改的心相稱。不要自己心裡說：有亞伯拉罕為我們的祖宗。我告訴你們，神能從這些石頭中，給亞伯拉罕興起子孫來。

⁹And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."

現在斧子已經放在樹根上，凡不結好果子的樹就砍下來，丟在火裡。

¹⁰And the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?"

眾人問他說：這樣，我們當作甚麼呢？

¹¹He answereth and saith unto them, "He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise."

約翰回答說：有兩件衣裳的，就分給那沒有的；有食物的，也當這樣行。

¹²Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, "Master, what shall we do?"

又有稅吏來要受洗，問他說：夫子，我們當作甚麼呢？

¹³And he said unto them, "Exact no more than that which is appointed you."

約翰說：除了例定的數目，不要多取。

¹⁴And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, "And what shall we do?" And he said unto them, "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages."

又有兵丁問他說：我們當作甚麼呢？約翰說：不要以強暴待人，也不要訛詐人，自己有錢糧就當知足。

¹⁵And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused (*think*) in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;

百姓指望基督來的時候，人都心裡猜疑，或者約翰是基督。

¹⁶John answered, saying unto them all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

約翰說：我是用水給你們施洗，但有一位能力比我更大的要來，我就是給他解鞋帶也不配。他要用聖靈與火給你們施洗。

¹⁷Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable."

他手裡拿著簸箕，要揚淨他的場，把麥子收在倉裡，把糠用不滅的火燒盡了。

¹⁸And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

約翰又用許多別的話勸百姓，向他們傳福音。

Saturday: Luke 7:18-35 (Also in Matthew 11:2-19)

MESSENGERS FROM JOHN IN PRISON / JESUS PRAISES JOHN

18 And the disciples of John shewed him of all these things.

約翰的門徒把這些事都告訴約翰。

19 And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

他便叫了兩個門徒來，打發他們到主那裡去，說：那將要來的是你麼？還是我們等候別人呢？

20 When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

那兩個人來到耶穌那裡，說：施洗的約翰打發我們來問你：那將要來的是你麼？還是我們等候別人呢？

21 And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

正當那時候，耶穌治好了許多有疾病的，受災患的，被惡鬼附著的，又開恩叫好些瞎子能看見。

22 Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

耶穌回答說：你們去，把所看見所聽見的事告訴約翰，就是瞎子看見，瘸子行走，長大痲瘋的潔淨，

23 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

聾子聽見，死人復活，窮人有福音傳給他們。凡不因我跌倒的，就有福了！

24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John,

“What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?”

約翰所差來的人既走了，耶穌就對眾人講論約翰說：你們從前出去到曠野，是要看甚麼呢？要看風吹動的蘆葦麼？

25 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts.

你們出去，到底是要看甚麼？要看穿細軟衣服的人麼？那穿華麗衣服、宴樂度日的人是在王宮裡。

26 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet.

你們出去，究竟是要看甚麼？要看先知麼？我告訴你們，是的，他比先知大多了。

27 This is he, of whom it is written (*Malachi 3:1*), Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

經上記著說：我要差遣我的使者在你前面預備道路，所說的就是這個人。

Malachi
瑪拉基書
3:1

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

萬軍之耶和華說：我要差遣我的使者在我前面預備道路。你們所尋求的主必忽然進入他的殿；立約的使者，就是你們所仰慕的，快要來到。

28 For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

我告訴你們，凡婦人所生的，沒有一個大過約翰的；然而神國裡最小的比他還大。

29And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John.
眾百姓和稅吏既受過約翰的洗，聽見這話，就以神為義；

30But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.
但法利賽人和律法師沒有受過約翰的洗，竟為自己廢棄了神的旨意。（29，30兩節或作：眾百姓和稅吏聽見了約翰的話，就受了他的洗，便以神為義；但法利賽人和律法師不受約翰的洗，竟為自己廢棄了神的旨意。）

31And the Lord said, Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like?
主又說：這樣，我可用甚麼比這世代的人呢？他們好像甚麼呢？

32They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept.
好像孩童坐在街市上，彼此呼叫說：我們向你們吹笛，你們不跳舞；我們向你們舉哀，你們不啼哭。

33For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil.
施洗的約翰來，不吃餅，不喝酒，你們說他是被鬼附著的。

34The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!
人子來，也吃也喝，你們說他是貪食好酒的人，是稅吏和罪人的朋友。

35But wisdom is justified of all her children.
但智慧之子都以智慧為是。

Messengers from John in prison / Jesus praises John

Matthew 11:2-19

²Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples,
約翰在監裡聽見基督所作的事，就打發兩個門徒去，

³And said unto him, ***“Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?”***

問他說：那將要來的是你麼？還是我們等候別人呢？

⁴Jesus answered and said unto them, ***“Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see:***

耶穌回答說：你們去，把所聽見，所看見的事告訴約翰。

⁵***The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.***

就是瞎子看見，瘸子行走，長大痲瘋的潔淨，聾子聽見，死人復活，窮人有福音傳給他們。

⁶***And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.***

凡不因我跌倒的就有福了！

⁷And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, ***“What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind?”***

他們走的時候，耶穌就對眾人講論約翰說：你們從前出到曠野是要看甚麼呢？要看風吹動的蘆葦麼？

⁸***But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.***

你們出去到底是要看甚麼？要看穿細軟衣服的人麼？那穿細軟衣服的人是在王宮裡。

⁹***But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet.***

你們出去究竟是為甚麼？是要看先知麼？我告訴你們，是的，他比先知大多了。

¹⁰***For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.***

Luke 7:18-35

¹⁸And the disciples of John shewed him of all these things.

約翰的門徒把這些事都告訴約翰。

¹⁹And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, ***“Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?”***

他便叫了兩個門徒來，打發他們到主那裡去，說：那將要來的是你麼？還是我們等候別人呢？

²⁰When the men were come unto him, they said, “John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?”

那兩個人來到耶穌那裡，說：施洗的約翰打發我們來問你：那將要來的是你麼？還是我們等候別人呢？

²¹And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

正當那時候，耶穌治好了許多有疾病的，受災患的，被惡鬼附著的，又開恩叫好些瞎子能看見。

²²Then Jesus answering said unto them, ***“Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.***

耶穌回答說：你們去，把所看見所聽見的事告訴約翰，就是瞎子看見，瘸子行走，長大痲瘋的潔淨，聾子聽見，死人復活，窮人有福音傳給他們。

²³***And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.”***

凡不因我跌倒的，就有福了！

²⁴And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, ***“What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?”***

約翰所差來的人既走了，耶穌就對眾人講論約翰說：你們從前出去到曠野，是要看甚麼呢？要看風吹動的蘆葦麼？

經上記著說：我要差遣我的使者在你前面預備道路，所說的就是這個人。

11 *Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.*

我實在告訴你們，凡婦人所生的，沒有一個興起來大過施洗約翰的；然而天國裡最小的比他還大。

12 *And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.*

從施洗約翰的時候到如今，天國是努力進入的，努力的人就得著了。

13 *For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.*

因為眾先知和律法說預言，到約翰為止。

14 *And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.*

你們若肯領受，這人就是那應當來的以利亞。

15 *He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

有耳可聽的，就應當聽！

16 *But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows,*

我可用甚麼比這世代呢？好像孩童坐在街市上招呼同伴，說：

17 *And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented.*

我們向你們吹笛，你們不跳舞；我們向你們舉哀，你們不捶胸。

18 *For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil.*

約翰來了，也不吃也不喝，人就說他是被鬼附著的；

19 *The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children."*

人子來了，也吃也喝，人又說他是貪食好酒的人，是稅吏和罪人的朋友。但智慧之子總以智慧為是（有古卷：但智慧在行為上就顯為是）。

25 *But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts.*

你們出去，到底是要看甚麼？要看穿細軟衣服的人麼？那穿華麗衣服、宴樂度日的人是在王宮裡。

26 *But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet.*

你們出去，究竟是要看甚麼？要看先知麼？我告訴你們，是的，他比先知大多了。

27 *This is he, of whom it is written (Malachi 3:1), Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.*

經上記著說：我要差遣我的使者在你前面預備道路，所說的就是這個人。

28 *For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."*

我告訴你們，凡婦人所生的，沒有一個大過約翰的；然而神國裡最小的比他還大。

29 *And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John.*

眾百姓和稅吏既受過約翰的洗，聽見這話，就以神為義；

30 *But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.*

但法利賽人和律法師沒有受過約翰的洗，竟為自己廢棄了神的旨意。（29，

30兩節或作：眾百姓和稅吏聽見了約翰的話，就受了他的洗，便以神為義；但法利賽人和律法師不受約翰的洗，竟為自己廢棄了神的旨意。）

31 *And the Lord said, "Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like?"*

主又說：這樣，我可用甚麼比這世代的人呢？他們好像甚麼呢？

32 *They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept.*

好像孩童坐在街市上，彼此呼叫說：我們向你們吹笛，你們不跳舞；我們向你們舉哀，你們不啼哭。

33 *For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil.*

施洗的約翰來，不吃餅，不喝酒，你們說他是被鬼附著的。

34 *The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!*

人子來，也吃也喝，你們說他是貪食好酒的人，是稅吏和罪人的朋友。

35 *But wisdom is justified of all her children."*

但智慧之子都以智慧為是。

22But the father said to his servants, "Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

父親卻吩咐僕人說：把那上好的袍子快拿出來給他穿；把戒指戴在他指頭上；把鞋穿在他腳上；

23And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

把那肥牛犢牽來宰了，我們可以吃喝快樂；

24For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to be merry.

因為我這個兒子是死而復活，失而又得的。他們就快樂起來。

25Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.

那時，大兒子正在田裡。他回來，離家不遠，聽見作樂跳舞的聲音，

26And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.

便叫過一個僕人來，問是甚麼事。

27And he said unto him, "Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound."

僕人說：你兄弟來了；你父親因為得他無災無病的回來，把肥牛犢宰了。

28And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

大兒子卻生氣，不肯進去；他父親就出來勸他。

29And he answering said to his father, "Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:

他對父親說：我服事你這多年，從來沒有違背過你的命，你並沒有給我一隻山羊羔，叫我和朋友一同快樂。

30But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf."

但你這個兒子和娼妓吞盡了你的產業，他一來了，你倒為他宰了肥牛犢。

31And he said unto him, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.

父親對他說：兒阿！你常和我同在，我一切所有的都是你的；

32It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found."

只是你這個兄弟是死而復活、失而又得的，所以我們理當歡喜快樂。