THE SEED OF THE WOMAN

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Genesis 3:1-20
Tuesday: Isaiah 7:1-16
Wednesday: Isaiah 9:1-7
Thursday: Luke 1:26-38
Friday: Luke 1:39-56
Saturday: Matthew 1:1-25
Sunday: Luke 2:1-20

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

我又要叫你和女人彼此為仇;你的後裔和女人的後裔也彼此為仇。 女人的後裔要傷你的頭;你要傷他的腳跟。

INTRODUCTION:

The Bible is a history of redemption. Therefore, the narrative in chapters 1 and 2 of Genesis moves quickly to the foundation of the main theme of the Bible — the necessity of redemption. Little or no explanation is given of the interesting facts and details behind the Creation, since these are not really important in terms of the Bible's main message. Only those details essential to man's recovery from the Fall are given in Genesis 1 and 2. The major facts presented are that all things, including man, were made by God for His own glory. Man was given a position of authority and dominance over the entire creative work. He held the unique position of having been made in the image of God and of being able to have communion and fellowship with his Creator. Finally, he was given a free will to make his own choices. With unlimited access to all the riches of creation, man was given only one specific prohibition. These major facts set the stage for Genesis 3.

LESSON NOTES:

God's Promise: The "woman" is a central character in the events of Genesis 3. She is the one who is first approached by the serpent and who is first deceived (see Gen. 3:1,2; I Tim. 2:14). Eve had been given to Adam as a helpmeet and a companion, for God saw that man needed such an associate (Gen. 2:18). Her knowledge of God and of His specific instructions concerning their access to the fruit of the trees of the garden was equal to Adam's. That she was not ignorant of God's command is clear from the precise explanation she gave the serpent in response to his question (Gen. 3:2,3).

Genesis	¹ Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.
3:1-3	And he said unto the woman, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the
	garden?"
	耶和華 神所造的,惟有蛇比田野一切的活物更狡猾。蛇對女人說:
	神豈是真說不許你們吃園中所有樹上的果子麼?
	² And the woman said unto the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 女人對蛇說:園中樹上的果子,我們可以吃,
	³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

	惟有園當中那棵樹上的果子,神曾說:你們不可吃,也不可摸,免得你們死。
1 Timothy	And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression
2:14	且不是亞當被引誘,乃是女人被引誘,陷在罪裡。
Genesis	And the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help
2:18	meet for him."
	耶和華 神說:那人獨居不好,我要為他造一個配偶幫助他。

The serpent, having succeeded in raising doubts in Eve's mind, pressed towards his goal of bringing man to ruin. He flatly contradicted God and ascribed to Him some evil and selfish motive for not allowing Adam and Eve to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (v. 5). Eve was "beguiled" by the persuasive and clever words of the serpent and ate of the fruit of the tree that was forbidden (v. 13). Quickly she implicated $ext{def}$ Adam in her disobedience, and just as quickly, both were made aware of what their sin had cost them (see vss. 7–11).

Genesis	For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye
3:5	shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
	因為 神知道,你們吃的日子眼睛就明亮了,你們便如神能知道善惡。
Genesis	And the LORD God said unto the woman, "What is this that thou hast done?" And the woman
3:13	said, "The serpent beguiled (entice) me, and I did eat."
	耶和華神對女人說:你作的是甚麼事呢?女人說:那蛇引誘我,我就吃了。
Genesis	⁷ And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they
3:7-11	sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.
	他們二人的眼睛就明亮了,才知道自己是赤身露體,便拿無花果樹的葉子為自己編作裙子。
	⁸ And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and
	Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of
	the garden.
	天起了涼風,耶和華 神在園中行走。那人和他妻子聽見 神的聲音,就藏在園裡的樹木中,躲避耶和華 神的面。
	⁹ And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, "Where art thou?"
	耶和華 神呼喚那人,對他說:你在那裡?
	¹⁰ And he said, "I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."
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	¹¹ And he said, "Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I
	commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?"
	耶和華說:誰告訴你赤身露體呢?莫非你吃了我吩咐你不可吃的那樹
	上的果子嗎?

Adam's and Eve's fellowship with God was immediately broken because of their sin. Fear and loneliness were felt for the first time as their intimate relationship with God was severed. The effect of death began to work immediately in their bodies, though they did not die at that instant. Yet even in this dark moment of ruin and defeat, God in His mercy gave His disobedient creation cause for hope of restoration. Speaking to the serpent and sentencing him, God promised that there would be perpetual enmity between

Satan's seed and the seed of the woman, and that eventually Satan would be crushed by an offspring of the woman.

A Child Is Born: Many additional prophecies were given in the Old Testament both by word and by figure which elaborated upon and filled in the details of the promise made in Genesis 3:15. All that Adam and Eve knew at the outset (beginning), however, was that the One who would restore man to his original position would: (1) be born of a woman, (2) destroy the serpent completely, and (3) suffer a wound in the process of destroying the serpent.

During the ministry of <u>Isaiah</u>, some <u>3,300</u> years later, God's people were told that this Seed would be born of a virgin and that His name would be <u>Immanuel</u>, which means "<u>God with us</u>" (<u>Isa. 7:14</u>). Also, from Isaiah, they learned that this "seed" would succeed where Adam had failed, namely, that He would learn to "refuse evil and choose good" (v. <u>15</u>). According to Isaiah's further prophecies, this child who was to be born would be given an authority and a rule, and He would be known by the names, "Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace" (<u>Isa. 9:6,7</u>).

Isaiah	¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a
7:14-15	son, and shall call his name Immanuel.
	因此,主自己要给你們一個兆頭,必有童女懷孕生子,給他起名叫以馬內
	利 (就是神與我們同在的意思)。
	¹⁵ Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.
	到他曉得棄惡擇善的時候,他必吃奶油與蜂蜜。
Isaiah	⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his
9:6-7	shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The
	everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
	因有一嬰孩為我們而生;有一子賜給我們。政權必擔在他的肩頭上;
	他名稱為奇妙策士、全能的神、永在的父、和平的君。
	⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of
	David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice
	from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.
	他的政權與平安必加增無窮。他必在大衛的寶座上治理他的國,以公
	平公義使國堅定穩固,從今直到永遠。萬軍之耶和華的熱心必成就這
	事。

Within another <u>700</u> years, this Child was born. He was born of a woman who was a virgin and remained one until His birth (see Luke 1:27,34; Matt. 1:25). She was highly favored by God, for she was the representative woman chosen by God to bear the Seed which would crush the serpent's head. God in His mercy arranged redemption so that woman, who bore the stigma取存 of mankind's fall, would now, through Mary, be the instrument through which all mankind would be blessed. Such is the inscrutable 其测高深的 mercy and love of the Father. Though born in the flesh as a babe and having a poor and humble origin, to represent man's poor condition, this Child was none other than the Son of God (Luke 1:31,32,35), the Saviour of man (Luke 2:11). He was given the name Jesus for He was to "save His people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21).

Luke	²⁷ To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the
1:27,34	virgin's name was Mary.
	到一個童女那裡,是已經許配大衛家的一個人,名叫約瑟。童女的名
	字叫馬利亞;
	³⁴ Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?"
	馬利亞對天使說:我沒有出嫁,怎麼有這事呢?

Matthew	And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.
1:25	只是沒有和他同房,等他生了兒子 (有古卷:等他生了頭胎的兒
	子),就給他起名叫耶穌。
Luke	³¹ And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name
1:31,32,35	JESUS.
	你要懷孕生子,可以給他起名叫耶穌。
	³² He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give
	unto him the throne of his father David:
	他要為大,稱為至高者的兒子;主神要把他祖大衛的位給他。
	³⁵ And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the
	power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be
	born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
	天使回答說:聖靈要臨到你身上,至高者的能力要蔭庇你,因此所要
	生的聖者必稱為神的兒子(或作:所要生的,必稱為聖,稱為神的兒
	子)。
Luke	For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
2:11	因今天在大衛的城裡,為你們生了救主,就是主基督。
Matthew	And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his
1:21	people from their sins.
	他將要生一個兒子,你要給他起名叫耶穌,因他要將自己的百姓從罪
	惡裡救出來。

THE LESSONS:

There are numerous things in the first three chapters of Genesis which have been difficult for many to fathom. For example, the origin of Satan and his ability to bring to ruin God's creation have puzzled generations. Our comprehension of these subjects is very limited, and we must not let our confidence be overthrown by the inability of our feeble minds to explain God's proceedings. As Job said: "Canst thou draw out leviathan with a hook?" (Job 41:1). These things are just too big for our minds to grasp. One thing is clear from the Bible, however, Mankind, through its disobedience, lost its privileged position with God and has had to live under the curse of sin. Man is in bondage to a sinful nature and cannot help himself. If man is to regain his lost state, he needs the help of God.

Job	Canst thou draw out leviathan with an hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest	
41:1	down?	
	你能用魚鉤釣上鱷魚麼?能用繩子壓下他的舌頭麼?	

Redemption means to recover something. Literally, it means to "buy back." From the very instant of man's Fall, God began to unfold His plan for "buying back" man. The very fact that God did not immediately destroy His creation after the Fall is a sign of His grace and in a sense a prophecy that He had a plan for man's recovery. While God also could have destroyed Satan instantly, He unfolded a plan which took another 4,000 years of preparation to complete. The essence of this plan was that the battle to regain that which was lost by the Fall be staged in the same arena as the Fall — the life, body, and will of a human being with a free choice between evil and good.

This plan, the first broad outline of which was given in Genesis 3:15, required that a descendant of those who were "beguiled" by the serpent be the One to crush his head. Christ fulfilled this prophecy to the letter. He was born of a woman and lived as a human on this earth. Through His sinless life He crushed the "serpent's head," and in the process His own "heel" was bruised. He sustained a curable wound while

delivering a fatal wound to the serpent. A serpent is killed when its head is crushed, while injuries on other parts of the body are not fatal. Also, its bite is nowhere as harmless as on the heel. This is the meaning of the prophetic picture in Genesis 3:15.

While there were to be many more aspects to the whole matter of redemption, and while many more prophecies and illustrations would be needed before the world was ready for its Redeemer, God's plan was set from the foundation of the world (Matt. 25:34; I Peter 1:19,20; Rev. 13:8). He would not let His creation lie in ruin. And this plan, which unfolds throughout the Bible is being executed to the letter and will continue to be so executed until the final triumph is achieved (I Cor. 15:23-26).

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit
the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
於是王要向那右邊的說:你們這蒙我父賜福的,可來承受那創世以來為你
們所預備的國.
¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
乃是憑著基督的寶血,如同無瑕疵、無玷污的羔羊之血。
²⁰ Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these
last times for you,
基督在創世以前是預先被神知道的,卻在這末世才為你們顯現。
And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book
of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
凡住在地上、名字從創世以來沒有記在被殺之羔羊生命冊上的人,都
要
²³ But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his
coming.
但各人是按著自己的次序復活:初熟的果子是基督;以後,在他來的時任,是那些異世界人
時候,是那些屬基督的。
²⁴ Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the
Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.
再後,末期到了,那時基督既將一切執政的、掌權的、有能的、都毀
滅了,就把國交與父神。
²⁵ For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.
因為基督必要作王,等神把一切仇敵都放在他的腳下。
²⁶ The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.
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Monday: Genesis 3

¹Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

耶和華 神所造的,惟有蛇比田野一切的活物更狡猾。蛇對女人說: 神豈是真說不許你們吃園中所有樹上的果子麼?

²And the woman said unto the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

女人對蛇說:園中樹上的果子,我們可以吃,

³But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

惟有園當中那棵樹上的果子, 神曾說:你們不可吃,也不可摸,免得你們死。

⁴And the serpent said unto the woman, "Ye shall not surely die:

蛇對女人說:你們不一定死;

⁵For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

因為神知道,你們吃的日子眼睛就明亮了,你們便如神能知道善惡。

⁶And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

於是女人見那棵樹的果子好作食物,也悅人的眼目,且是可喜愛的,能使人有智慧,就摘下果子來吃了,又給他丈夫,他丈夫也吃了。

⁷And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

他們二人的眼睛就明亮了,才知道自己是赤身露體,便拿無花果樹的葉子為自己編作裙子。

⁸And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

天起了涼風,耶和華 神在園中行走。那人和他妻子聽見 神的聲音,就藏在園裡的樹木中,躲避耶和華 神的面。

⁹And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, "Where art thou?"

耶和華 神呼喚那人,對他說:你在那裡?

¹⁰And he said, "I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." 他 說 : 我 在 園 中 聽 見 你 的 聲 音 , 我 就 害 怕 ; 因 為 我 赤 身 露 體 , 我 便 藏 了 。

¹¹And he said, "Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?"

耶和華說:誰告訴你赤身露體呢?莫非你吃了我吩咐你不可吃的那樹上的果子嗎?

¹²And the man said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat." 那人說:你所賜給我與我同居的女人,他把那樹上的果子給我,我就吃了。 ¹³And the LORD God said unto the woman, "What is this that thou hast done?" And the woman said, "The serpent beguiled (entice) me, and I did eat."

耶和華 神對女人說:你作的是甚麼事呢?女人說:那蛇引誘我,我就吃了。

 14 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, "Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: 耶 和 華 神 對 蛇 說:你 既 作 了 這 事,就 必 受 咒 詛,比 一 切 的 牲 畜 野 獸 更 甚 。 你 必 用 肚 子行 走 , 終 身 吃 土 。

¹⁵And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

我又要叫你和女人彼此為仇;你的後裔和女人的後裔也彼此為仇。女人的後裔要傷你的頭;你要傷他的腳跟。

¹⁶Unto the woman he said, "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

又對女人說:我必多多加增你懷胎的苦楚;你生產兒女必多受苦楚。你必戀慕你丈夫;你丈夫必管轄你。

¹⁷And unto Adam he said, "Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

又對亞當說:你既聽從妻子的話,吃了我所吩咐你不可吃的那樹上的果子,地必為你的緣故受咒詛;你必終身勞苦才能從地裡得吃的。

 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 地 必 給 你 長 出 荊 棘 和 蒺 藜 來 ; 你 也 要 吃 田 間 的 菜 蔬 。

¹⁹In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

你必汗流滿面才得糊口,直到你歸了土,因為你是從土而出的。你本是塵土,仍要歸於塵土。

 20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

亞當給他妻子起名叫夏娃,因為他是眾生之母。

²¹Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

耶和華神為亞當和他妻子用皮子作衣服給他們穿。

²²And the LORD God said, "Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:"

耶和華 神說:那人已經與我們相似,能知道善惡;現在恐怕他伸手又摘生命樹的果子吃,就永遠活著。

²³Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

耶和華神便打發他出伊甸園去,耕種他所自出之土。

²⁴So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

於是把他趕出去了;又在伊甸園的東邊安設基路伯和四面轉動發火燄的劍,要把守生命樹的道路。

Tuesday: Isaiah 7:1-16

¹And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz 亞 哈 斯 the son of Jotham 約 坦, the son of Uzziah 烏 西 雅, king of Judah, that Rezin 利 汎 the king of Syria, and Pekah 比 加 the son of Remaliah 利 瑪 利, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.

鳥 西 雅 的 孫 子 、 約 坦 的 兒 子 、 猶 大 王 亞 哈 斯 在 位 的 時 候 , 亞 蘭 王 利 汛 和 利 瑪 利 的 兒 子、以色列王比加上來攻打耶路撒冷,卻不能攻取。

²And it was told the house of David, saying, "Syria is confederate with Ephraim." And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.

有人告訴大衛家說:亞蘭與以法蓮已經同盟。王的心和百姓的心就都跳動,好像林 中的樹被風吹動一樣。

³Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, "Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

耶和華對以賽亞說:你和你的兒子施亞雅述出去,到上池的水溝頭,在漂布地的大 路上,去迎接亞哈斯,

⁴And say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.

對他說:你要謹慎安靜,不要因亞蘭王利汛和利瑪利的兒子這兩個冒煙的火把頭所 發的烈怒害怕,也不要心裡膽怯。

⁵Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying, 因為亞蘭和以法蓮,並利瑪利的兒子,設惡謀害你,

⁶Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal:

說:我們可以上去攻擊猶大,擾亂他,攻破他,在其中立他比勒的兒子為王。

⁷Thus saith the Lord GOD, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. 所以主耶和華如此說:這所謀的必立不住,也不得成就。

⁸For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people.

原來亞蘭的首城是大馬色;大馬色的首領是利汛。(六十五年之內,以法蓮必然破 壞,不再成為國民。)

⁹And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ve shall not be established.

以法蓮的首城是撒瑪利亞;撒瑪利亞的首領是利瑪利的兒子。你們若是不信,定然 不得立穩。

¹⁰Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying,

耶和華又曉諭亞哈斯說:

¹¹Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. 你向耶和華一你的 神求一個兆頭:或求顯在深處,或求顯在高處。 ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD.

亞哈斯說:我不求;我不試探耶和華。

¹³And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

以賽亞說:大衛家啊,你們當聽!你們使人厭煩豈算小事,還要使我的 神厭煩嗎?

¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

因此,主自己要给你們一個兆頭,必有童女懷孕生子,給他起名叫以馬內利(就是神與我們同在的意思)。

Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

到他晓得棄惡擇善的時候,他必吃奶油與蜂蜜。

¹⁶For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

因為在這孩子還不曉得棄惡擇善之先,你所憎惡的那二王之地必致見棄。

Wednesday: Isaiah 9:1-7

¹Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

但那受過痛苦的必不再見幽暗。從前神使西布倫地和拿弗他利地被藐視,末後卻使這沿海的路,約但河外,外邦人的加利利地得著榮耀。

²The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

在黑暗中行走的百姓看見了大光,住在死蔭之地的人有光照耀他們。

³Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

你使這國民繁多,加增他們的喜樂;他們在你面前歡喜,好像收割的歡喜,像人分據物那樣的快樂。

⁴For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

因為他們所負的重軛和肩頭上的杖,並欺壓他們人的棍,你都已經折斷,好像在米甸的日子一樣。

⁵For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

戰 士 在 亂 殺 之 間 所 穿 戴 的 盔 甲 , 並 那 滾 在 血 中 的 衣 服 , 都 必 作 為 可 燒 的 , 當 作 火 柴 。

⁶For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 因有一嬰孩為我們而生;有一子賜給我們。政權必擔在他的肩頭上;他名稱為奇妙策士、全能的神、永在的父、和平的君。

⁷Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

他的政權與平安必加增無窮。他必在大衛的寶座上治理他的國,以公平公義使國堅定穩固,從今直到永遠。萬軍之耶和華的熱心必成就這事。

Thursday: Luke 1:26-38

²⁶And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 到了第六個月,天使加百列奉神的差遣往加利利的一座城去,這城名叫拿撒勒,

²⁷To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

到一個童女那裡,是已經許配大衛家的一個人,名叫約瑟。童女的名字叫馬利亞;

²⁸And the angel came in unto her, and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

天使進去,對他說:蒙大恩的女子,我問你安,主和你同在了!

²⁹And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

馬利亞因這話就很驚慌,又反復思想這樣問安是甚麼意思。

³⁰And the angel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

天使對他說:馬利亞,不要怕!你在神面前已經蒙恩了。

³¹And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. 你要懷孕生子,可以給他起名叫耶穌。

³²He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

他要為大,稱為至高者的兒子;主神要把他祖大衛的位給他。

³³And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." 他要作雅各家的王,直到永遠;他的國也沒有窮盡。

³⁴Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" 馬利亞對天使說:我沒有出嫁,怎麼有這事呢?

³⁵And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

天使回答說: 聖靈要臨到你身上,至高者的能力要蔭庇你,因此所要生的聖者必稱為神的兒子(或作:所要生的,必稱為聖,稱為神的兒子)。

³⁶And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

況且你的親戚以利沙伯,在年老的時候也懷了男胎,就是那素來稱為不生育的,現 在有孕六個月了。

³⁷For with God nothing shall be impossible."

因為,出於神的話,沒有一句不帶能力的。

³⁸And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her.

馬利亞說: 我是主的使女,情願照你的話成就在我身上。天使就離開他去了。

Friday: Luke 1:39-56

³⁹And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; 那時候,馬利亞起身,急忙往山地裡去,來到猶大的一座城;

⁴⁰And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

進了撒迦利亞的家,問以利沙伯安。

⁴¹And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:

以利沙伯一聽馬利亞問安,所懷的胎就在腹裡跳動。以利沙伯且被聖靈充滿,

⁴²And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

高聲喊著說:你在婦女中是有福的!你所懷的胎也是有福的!

⁴³And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 我 主 的 母 到 我 這 裡 來 , 這 是 從 那 裡 得 的 呢 ?

⁴⁴For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. 因 為 你 問 安 的 聲 音 一 入 我 耳 , 我 腹 裡 的 胎 就 歡 喜 跳 動 。

⁴⁵And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord."

這相信的女子是有福的!因為主對他所說的話都要應驗。

⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord,

馬利亞說: 我心尊主為大;

⁴⁷And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

我 靈 以 神 我 的 救 主 為 樂 ;

⁴⁸For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

因為他顧念他使女的卑微;從今以後,萬代要稱我有福。

⁴⁹For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.

那有權能的,為我成就了大事;他的名為聖。

⁵⁰And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

他憐憫敬畏他的人,直到世世代代。

⁵¹He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. 他用膀臂施展大能;那狂傲的人正心裡妄想就被他趕散了。

⁵²He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.

他叫有權柄的失位,叫卑賤的升高;

 53 He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. 叫 飢 餓 的 得 飽 美 食 , 叫 富 足 的 空 手 回 去 。

 54 He hath helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy; 他 扶 助 了 他 的 僕 人 以 色 列 ,

 55 As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever."

為要記念亞伯拉罕和他的後裔,施憐憫直到永遠,正如從前對我們列祖所說的話。

⁵⁶And Mary abode with her about three months, and returned to her own house.

馬利亞和以利沙伯同住,約有三個月,就回家去了。

Optional Reading:

Gabriel :

"Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: 蒙大恩的女子,我問你安,主和你同在了! blessed art thou among women."

/* And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. */

"Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 馬利亞,不要怕!你在神面前已經蒙思了。 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, 你要懷孕生子, and shalt call his name **JESUS**. 可以給他起名叫耶穌。

He shall be great, 他要為大,

and shall be called the Son of the Highest 稱為至高者的兒子;

and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 主神要把他祖大衛的位給他。

And he <u>shall</u> reign over the house of Jacob for ever; 他要作雅各家的王,直到永遠; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."他的國也沒有窮盡。

Mary

"How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" 我沒有出嫁,怎麼有這事呢?

Gabriel :

"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, 聖靈要臨到你身上,

and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: 至高者的能力要蔭庇你,

therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

因此所要生的聖者必稱為神的兒子(或作:所要生的,必稱為聖,稱為神的兒子)。

And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, 況且你的親戚以利沙伯

she hath also conceived a son in her old age:, 在年老的時候也懷了男胎

and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. 就是那素來稱為不生育的,現在有孕六個月了。

For with God nothing shall be impossible."因為,出於神的話,沒有一句不帶能力的。

Mary:

"Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." 我是主的使女,情願照你的話成就在我身上

Elisabeth: {was filled with the Holy Spirit}

"Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. 你在婦女中是有福的! 你所懷的胎也是有福的!

For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, 因為你問安的聲音一入我耳,

the babe leaped in my womb for joy. 我 腹裡 的 胎 就 歡 喜 跳 動。

And blessed is she that believed: 這相信的女子是有福的!

for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord." 因為主 對 他 所 說 的 話 都 要應 驗 。

Mary.

"My soul doth magnify the Lord, 我心尊主為大

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. 我 靈 以 神 我 的 救 主 為 樂

For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden: 因為他顧念他使女的卑微

for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. 從今以後,萬代要稱我有福

For he that is mighty hath **done** to me great things; and holy is his name. 那 有 權 能 的, 為 我 成 就 了 大 事; 他 的 名 為 聖

And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation. 他 憐 憫 敬 畏 他 的 人 , 直 到 世 世 代 代

He hath shewed strength with his arm; 他用膀臂施展大能;

He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.那狂傲的人正心裡妄想就被他趕散了

He hath **put down** the mighty from their seats, and **exalted** them of low degree. 他叫有權柄的失位,叫卑賤的升高

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. 叫 飢 餓 的 得 飽 美 食, 叫 富 足 的 空 手 回 去

He hath helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy; 他 扶 助 了 他 的 僕 人 以 色 列

As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever." 為要記念亞伯拉罕和他的後裔,施憐憫直到永遠,正如從前對我們列祖所說的話

Saturday: Matthew 1:1-25

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<sup>1</sup>The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
亞伯拉罕的後裔,大衛的子孫(後裔子孫原文都作兒子下同),耶穌基督的家譜:
<sup>2</sup>Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;
亞伯拉罕生以撒;以撒生雅各;雅各生猶大和他的弟兄;
<sup>3</sup>And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram;
猶大從他瑪氏生法勒斯和謝拉;法勒斯生希斯崙;希斯崙生亞蘭;
<sup>4</sup>And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon;
亞蘭生亞米拿達; 亞米拿達生拿順; 拿順生撒門;
<sup>5</sup>And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;
撒門從喇合氏生波阿斯;波阿斯從路得氏生俄備得;俄備得生耶西;
<sup>6</sup>And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;
耶西生大衛王。大衛從烏利亞的妻子生所羅門;
<sup>7</sup>And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa;
所羅門生羅波安;羅波安生亞比雅;亞比雅生亞撒;
<sup>8</sup>And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias;
亞撒生約沙法;約沙法生約蘭;約蘭生鳥西亞;
<sup>9</sup>And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias;
鳥西亞生約坦;約坦生亞哈斯;亞哈斯生希西家;
<sup>10</sup>And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias;
希西家生瑪拿西;瑪拿西生亞們;亞們生約西亞;
<sup>11</sup>And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon:
百姓被遷到巴比倫的時候,約西亞生耶哥尼雅和他的弟兄。
<sup>12</sup>And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel;
遷 到 巴 比 倫 之 後 , 耶 哥 尼 雅 生 撒 拉 鐵 ; 撒 拉 鐵 生 所 羅 巴 伯 ;
<sup>13</sup>And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor;
所羅巴伯生亞比玉;亞比玉生以利亞敬;以利亞敬生亞所;
<sup>14</sup>And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud;
亞所生撒督;撒督生亞金;亞金生以律;
<sup>15</sup>And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob;
以律生以利亞撒;以利亞撒生馬但;馬但生雅各;
<sup>16</sup>And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.
雅各生約瑟,就是馬利亞的丈夫。那稱為基督的耶穌是從馬利亞生的。
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¹⁷So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.

這樣,從亞伯拉罕到大衛共有十四代;從大衛到遷至巴比倫的時候也有十四代;從遷至巴比倫的時候到基督又有十四代。

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

耶穌基督降生的事記在下面:他母親馬利亞已經許配了約瑟,還沒有迎娶,馬利亞就從聖靈懷了孕。

¹⁹Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

他丈夫約瑟是個義人,不願意明明的羞辱他,想要暗暗的把他休了。

²⁰But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

正思念這事的時候,有主的使者向他夢中顯現,說:大衛的子孫約瑟,不要怕!只管娶過你的妻子馬利亞來,因他所懷的孕是從聖靈來的。

²¹And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

他將要生一個兒子,你要給他起名叫耶穌,因他要將自己的百姓從罪惡裡救出來。

²²Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 這一切的事成就是要應驗主籍先知所說的話,

²³"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

說:必有童女懷孕生子;人要稱他的名為以馬內利。(以馬內利翻出來就是神與我們同在。)

²⁴Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: 约瑟醒了,起來,就遵著主使者的吩咐把妻子娶過來;

²⁵And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS. 只是沒有和他同房,等他生了兒子(有古卷:等他生了頭胎的兒子),就給他起名叫耶穌。

Sunday: Luke 2:1-20

¹And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

當那些日子,該撒亞古士督有旨意下來,叫天下人民都報名上册。

²(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) 這是居里扭作敘利亞巡撫的時候,頭一次行報名上冊的事。

³And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

眾人各歸各城,報名上冊。

⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

約瑟也從加利利的拿撒勒城上猶太去,到了大衛的城,名叫伯利恆,因他本是大衛 一族一家的人,

⁵To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

要和他所聘之妻馬利亞一同報名上冊。那時馬利亞的身孕已經重了。

⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 他們在那裡的時候,馬利亞的產期到了,

⁷And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

就生了頭胎的兒子,用布包起來,放在馬槽裡,因為客店裡沒有地方。

⁸And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 在伯利恆之野地裡有牧羊的人,夜間按著更次看守羊群。

⁹And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

有 主 的 使 者 站 在 他 們 旁 邊 , 主 的 榮 光 四 面 照 著 他 們 ; 牧 羊 的 人 就 甚 懼 怕 。

¹⁰And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

那天使對他們說:不要懼怕!我報給你們大喜的信息,是關乎萬民的;

¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 因今天在大衛的城裡,為你們生了救主,就是主基督。

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." 你們要看見一個嬰孩,包著布,臥在馬槽裡,那就是記號了。

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." 在至高之處榮耀歸與神!在地上平安歸與他所喜悅的人(有古卷作:喜悅歸與人)! ¹⁵And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

眾天使離開他們,升天去了。牧羊的人彼此說:我們往伯利恆去,看看所成的事,就是 主所指示我們的。

¹⁶And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. 他們急忙去了,就尋見馬利亞和約瑟,又有那嬰孩臥在馬槽裡;

 17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. 既然看見,就把天使論這孩子的話傳開了。

 18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. 凡 聽 見 的 , 就 詫 異 牧 羊 之 人 對 他 們 所 說 的 話 。

¹⁹But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. 馬利亞卻把這一切的事存在心裡,反復思想。

²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

牧羊的人回去了,因所聽見所看見的一切事,正如天使向他們所說的,就歸榮耀與神,讚美他。