《天路导向》双语讲义

上帝的方法 - 8 HOW GOD WORKS - 8

SECTION A

甲部

- Hello listening friends, we are glad you've joined us one more time.
 亲爱的朋友你好,很高兴你能收听这个节目。
- It is the desire of our hearts and the prayer of our lips that these messages have been impacting your life. 我们诚心为你祈祷,愿这些信息能造就你的 生命。
- Let me remind you that when I left you last time, I told you that God does not like lukewarm believers.
 上次节目结束时,我说到神不喜悦不冷不热的基督徒,
- 4. God wants full commitment. 神要我们全情投入。
- Today I want to tell you about what God does with committed people.
 今天让我们来看,神如何对待全情投入的人。
- 6. Again, turn to I Kings chapter 18. 请再翻开列王纪上 18 章,
- 7. Elijah said, 以利亚说,
- 8. I am outnumbered. 如今敌我悬殊。
- 9. Now to most of us, being outnumbered 2 to 1 is terrible.
 对大部份人来说,一个打两个已经够糟的了;
- 10. 20 to 1 is a disaster of epic proportion, 若要一个对抗二十个,那就惨不忍睹了;
- 11. but to be outnumbered 850 to 1 is impossible. 但一个对抗 850 个,简直不可能!
- 12. To have 850 people saying to you that you are wrong is inconceivable to most of us. 若有 850 个人都对你说,你错了,那是不可想象的事。

- 13. This is where Elijah was 以利亚正落在这样的处境中,
- 14. standing alone in front of the establishment plus the leadership of the country. 他独战群雄。
- 15. I want to tell you about some of the problems that we are facing in this world today. 今天我们面对世界时,所遇到的一些问题,
- 16. Our greatest problem in this world is this, 其中最大的麻烦是,
- 17. we tend to follow the masters of lies. 我们喜欢跟风,
- 18. We are forever looking at what others are doing and then deciding what we should do. 我们老是跟着潮流走,
- 19. This does not please God. 神不喜悦我们这样。
- 20. Social scientists reveal that 75% of teens allowed peer pressure to override their own better judgment, 社会学家指出 75%的青少年受同侪牵引,不能独立判断是非,
- 21. and I believe adults would not do much better. 我想成年人也好不到那儿去。
- 22. Let us look back at the picture I painted for you on Mt. Carmel, 让我们回到迦密山上的场景,
- 23. all the odds were on the side of Baal, 很明显的,巴力是占着上风,
- 24. while Jehweh had all the handicap, 耶和华则处于劣势。
- 25. but you see, the central condition of the contest is that the God who acts, is God. 然而这场比赛的关键是,有所作为的才是真神:
- 26. The God who answers is God, 有回应的才是真神,
- 27. our God is the God who acts, 我们的神是有所作为的;

28. most often he acts in response to his people's faith,

祂一向都回应信靠祂的人;

29. most often he acts in response to his people's obedience.

祂一向都回应顺服祂的人。

- 30. Can you imagine all these confused Israelites coming on top of the mountain, 想想看,这群糊涂的以色列民来到山顶,
- 31. and there watching what is happening in front of their own eyes? 眼看着所发生的事,
- 32. They are like many people today who believe that God is there but never have a personal relationship with him. 正如今天许多人相信有神,却没有和祂建立关系。
- 33. They believe that Jesus died on the cross. 他们相信耶稣死在十字架上,
- 34. but he is irrelevant and divorced from their daily living.
 但耶稣的牺牲和他们每天的生活无关。
- 35. They may go to church on occasion, 他们偶尔也会去教会,
- 36. but they may also read the coffee cups and go to fortune tellers.
 但他们也去占卜算命。
- 37. Imagine these people standing there wide-eyed watching for 9 hours how the 850 prophets of Baal called upon Baal with no response. 请想象群众站立在那里 9 小时,眼睁睁地看着 850 个巴力的先知,徒劳无功地呼喊他们的神。
- 38. I honestly think that the prophets of Baal sincerely believed that Baal would hear them. 我相信巴力的先知是很诚心的,他们真心相信巴力会听他们呼求。
- 39. There is nothing worse than being sincerely wrong.
 然而,诚心却犯错,才是最糟糕的事;
- 40. There is nothing worse than being a deceived deceiver. 自欺欺人是最可悲的。
- 41. They could not get Baal to hear them, 他们无法使巴力回应他们,
- 42. so they started dancing around the alter that they made. 于是他们在祭坛周围手舞足蹈,

- 43. They were gyrating, 疯狂地旋转,
- 44. they were jumping up and down, 上下跳跃,
- 45. they were doing it all to get Baal's attention, but to no avail. 他们竭尽所能地刺激巴力,却毫无反应。
- 46. Imagine Elijah standing there quietly, 以利亚默默地站在一旁,
- 47. patiently, 很有耐性的,
- 48. for 9 hours. 整整九个小时。
- 49. I don't know what he was doing during that time, 我不知道当时他在做什么,
- 50. but by noon time he just couldn't take it anymore, 但到中午,他实在忍不住了,
- 51. in verse 27, 在第 27 节里,
- 52. he began to taunt them saying, 以利亚讽刺地说,
- 53. shout louder. 大声点喊吧!
- 54. Baal is getting hard of hearing lately, 最近巴力的耳朵有毛病,
- 55. after all, he is a busy god. 他可忙着哪!
- 56. He is probably on an errand somewhere. 他可能出差去了。
- 57. Ah, he tires very easily these days. 喔,最近他很容易疲倦,
- 58. Well, he's probably taking a nap. 他可能睡着了。
- 59. Actually there is a graphic Hebrew word here in verse 27, 在 27 节这里希伯来原文有个词很形象,
- 60. which means that Baal probably went to the bathroom. 意思是说,巴力大概上洗手间去了。
- 61. Finally, when they got desperate, they began to cut themselves with knives hoping to provoke Baal's compassionate response, 最后,他们无计可施,情急之下竟然用刀枪自割自刺,企图博取巴力同情,

- 62. but to no avail. 却依然无效。
- 63. Do you ever wonder what King Ahab was thinking? 你猜亚哈王当时怎么想?
- 64. I imagine he thought to himself, 我猜他会自言自语,
- 65. but Jezebel told me that Baal was real. 耶洗别不是告诉我巴力很灵的吗?
- 66. Let me ask you a personal question. 请问你,
- 67. Does your God honor your trust in him and answer your prayers, 你的神是否尊重你对他的信任,并回答你的祷告?
- 68. especially when you pray according to his will? 尤其是当你遵照他的旨意祈求时。
- 69. Listen to me very carefully. 请留心听我说,
- 70. We all put our trust in something or someone 我们总会有个信靠的对象,
- 71. if you put your trust in material things, 如果你依赖物质,
- 72. then your children are empty. 你的孩子就会很空虚,
- 73. Can your material things fill them? 因为物质不能满足他们。
- 74. No! 不!
- 75. I submit to you that your material things will stand there in mockery because they cannot answer.

我告诉你,物质只会玩弄你,却不能满足你的需要。

- 76. If your god is a god of rationalism that says, I think, therefore I am, 如果你崇拜理性主义,我思故我在,
- 77. when you confront tragedy in life, can your god answer with the peace that passes understanding? 当意外悲剧发生时,理性之神能否给予你超越理性的平安?
- 78. Does he answer with a hope that is beyond description?
 他能否给予你言语无法形容的希望?

- 79. No. 不能。
- 80. I submit to you that you or your rationalism will stand aside in mockery because it cannot answer you. 我告诉你,理性只会嘲笑你,却不能满足你的需要。
- 81. If your god is sensuality, 如果你追求情欲享乐,
- 82. when you come to the end of the road and you feel your immortality, 当你走到人生尽头,发觉自己不过是凡人,必有一死,
- 83. you can cry to your sensuality but the flames have already become dust and ashes, 你向情欲呼求,却已化为灰烬,
- 84. it will not answer you. 情欲之乐不会回应你。
- 85. Ccan your god answer you when you cry out to him? 你的神会回答你的呼求吗?
- 86. My God does. 我的神会,
- 87. His name is Jesus. 衪名叫耶稣。
- 88. Call upon him today! 今天就向祂祈求吧!
- 89. In verse 30, 在 30 节里,
- 90. we read that later in the day, Elijah said the following, 后来以利亚说,
- 91. let me show you how my God works. 到我这里来看我的神,
- 92. Elijah asked them to come near. 以利亚叫他们靠近他身边。
- 93. There is no hocus pocus here. 没有花招,
- 94. There are no smoke and mirrors. 没有障眼法,
- 95. There is no make believe. 不作假像,
- 96. There is no slight of hand, 不要俐落的手法,
- 97. Our lives are an open book. 我们的生活就像一本翻开的书,一目了然。

- 98. Come close and see how my God works, 靠近些, 看我的神所行的事,
- 99. and as the sun began to sink into the Mediterranean. 当夕阳渐渐落入地中海,

SECTION B

乙部

- 1. Elijah took 12 stones, each representing one of the 12 tribes of Israel 以利亚取了 12 块石头,代表以色列的 12 个 支派,
- he repaired the altar of God. 重修耶和华的祭坛。
- 3. Do you know why he repaired the altar? 你知道他为什么要重建祭坛吗?
- 4. He repaired the altar because God's alter had been torn down out of neglect.因为耶和华的祭坛已荒废倒塌,所以他修理祭坛。
- 5. God's altar had been torn down out of misuse. 耶和华的祭坛因被误用而倒塌;
- 6. God's altar had been torn down out of negligence and running after other gods. 耶和华的祭坛因以色列人敬拜别神而荒凉。
- 7. Can I ask you a personal question? 容许我问你,
- 8. How is your family altar? 你的家庭祭坛如何?
- 9. Is it in disrepair? 是否经久失修?
- 10. How is your prayer altar? 你的祷告祭坛如何?
- 11. What kind of shape is it in? 处于什么状态?
- 12. Is it in disrepair out of negligence? 是否常被疏忽而损坏?
- 13. Out of being busy with other things. 因为忙于生活中的琐事。
- 14. In contrast to the dry wood that Elijah allowed the prophets of Baal to use, he saturated the wood with water.
 以利亚让巴力的先知使用干木柴,他自己却用被水湿透的木柴。

- 15. He had people carry water all the way out of the Mediterranean Sea all the way up to Mt. Carmel 他叫人从地中海抬水到迦密山顶,
- 16. about 1500 feet high. 1500 呎高的山上。
- 17. Because you remember there was a drought, 还记得当时正值旱灾之中吗?
- 18. so they had no way of getting water other than from the Mediterranean. 除非从地中海带水上山,不然他们根本没有水。
- 19. There were 12 barrels of water which they poured out, 他们倒了 12 桶水,
- 20. saturating the wood, 把木柴都淋湿了。
- 21. just to make sure, Elijah said, go and get four more.
 为了让木柴完全湿透,以利亚叫人再浇四桶水。
- 22. Why did he do that? 为什么他要这么作呢?
- 23. Why did he saturate the wood and make a trench around the altar? 为什么他不但把木柴淋湿,甚至在坛周围的沟里都倒满了水?
- 24. He wanted to give all the odds to Baal and all the handicaps to Jehovah. 因为他要巴力获得最大的优势,而让耶和华却处于最不利的劣势。
- 25. You would do yourself a disservice if you missed the blessing of verse 36. 如果你疏忽了 36 节所说的福分,实在是你很大的损失。
- 26. Elijah did all of this in perfect obedience to the Lord, 以利亚完全顺服神的指示而行,
- 27. so when he prayed publicly, he only prayed a few words.他公开的祷告,非常简短,
- 28. Elijah had already prayed privately for three years.因为三年来,以利亚都在祷告,
- 29. He did not need to stand up and dance around the alter for hours.他不需要不断地在祭坛周围手舞足蹈。

- 30. This is the thing that we often miss in our lives. 我们的生活就经常忽略这件事,
- 31. It is not the length of ones public prayer that God cares for, 神不在乎我们的公开祷告又多长,
- 32. but the strength of your prayer. 却看重祷告的能力;
- 33. It is not the economy of your words in public prayer,
 不在乎我们的公开祷告用了多少词汇,
- 34. but the intensity of your private prayer, 而在于私人祷告时有多迫切,
- 35. and that is why James 5 said that Elijah was a great man of prayer.

 难怪雅各书第五章称以利亚为祷告勇士。
- 36. Do you know that some of these unbelieving critics have said the following about Elijah 但你可知,那些不信派的人竟然无稽的抨击以利亚,
- 37. that he must have had one of those magnifying glasses and concentrated the rays of the sun to start a fire?
 他们说以利亚一定有面放大镜,可以使阳光聚焦来点火。
- 38. The Holy Spirit knew that some silly people are going to say that 圣灵早知道愚昧的人会如此诋毁,
- 39. and that is why he emphasizes two things, 因此祂强调两件事实,
- 40. not only that the wood was wet, 不但木柴是湿的,
- 41. but it was also sundown, not sunup. 而且太阳已下山,并不是日出时分。
- 42. Probably by now, some of you are saying 也许有人会说,
- 43. why doesn't God do that now? 为什么现在神不作这样的事了?
- 44. You have to understand that this was a moment in time in salvation history where everything was at stake.
 你必须明白,从救恩的历史来看,这个阶段是个关键时刻,
- 45. I mean Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, the Kingdom, everything hung on the balance. 从亚伯拉罕、摩西、约书亚、大卫到王国时期,他们都等着看历史的这一幕如何揭晓。

- 46. God does not work like that most of the time unless it is a moment of absolute decisive, critical, world-changing times. 神通常不会这么作,除非这世界正处于转变,决定性的关键时期。
- 47. For when people saw fire came down from heaven and burnt everything in sight, they fell on their faces and cried and said, 当百姓目睹有火从天降下并烧尽一切,他们都俯伏在地喊着说,
- 48. the Lord, he is God. 耶和华是神!
- 49. I want you to listen very carefully please. 请仔细听我说,
- 50. Great as this event was in Biblical history, 即使这是圣经中伟大的历史事件,
- but we do not look back to Mt. Carmel for salvation.
 但我们并不是从迦密山上得救恩。
- 52. Why? 为什么?
- 53. Because we have something greater and better. 因我们有更大更好的,
- 54. We look back to Calvary. 我们仰望加略山,
- 55. We look back to the empty tomb. 我们回头看空坟墓,
- 56. We look to the resurrected, glorified, soon coming back Lord. 我们盼望的是从死里复活,荣耀的,就快要再来的主耶稣。
- 57. When fire came at the day of Pentecost, 五旬节有火降临,
- 58. men and women were changed forever and for eternity, 使男男女女的生命彻底改变,永远的改变,
- 59. and they became filled with the power of the resurrected Christ.
 他们被基督复活的大能充满。
- 60. So we don't look back to the fire that consumed stone and wood or even water,
 因此我们不是回头去看那烧尽石头、木柴和水的火,
- 61. but to the fire that cleanses us and purifies us. 而是洁净我们生命的火。

- 62. We don't look to the fire that consumed the sacrifice, 我们不是看那烧尽祭物的火,
- 63. but to the fire that consumes us with zeal to declare to the world that Jesus is Lord. 而是挑旺我们向全世界宣告耶稣基督是主的火。
- 64. How do you think God convinces your neighbor that he is the Lord? 神如何说服你的邻居承认神是万有的主宰?
- 65. He wants to do it by your deeper and purer inner life that enters in and burns the dross of compromise in your life, 池是透过你那更深更纯的内在生命,这生命是经过火炼的,已经烧去了与世界妥协的渣滓,
- 66. by burning that indecision in your life and burning that indifference in your life, 烧去你生命中的犹疑不决和漠不关心,
- 67. so that you are able to confront your world, 这样, 你才能与世俗抗衡,
- 68. that I may be able to confront my world. 我才能与世俗抗衡。
- 69. Maybe you are to confront only one person with the claims of Jesus Christ. 也许你只需要向一个人宣讲耶稣基督的福音,
- 70. God wants to do it through the perceptible change in your life, 神要借着你被改变的生命来成就这事,
- 71. so that people will say why are you different. 人们看见你就会问,为何你与众不同?
- 72. He wants to do it by our display of his power in our daily life 神要借着你在每天的生活中彰显祂的大能来成就这事,
- 73. that we don't live by sight like the rest of the world but by faith.
 世上的人都是凭眼睛所看见的而活,我们却靠信心而活。
- 74. He wants us to do it so that we see the unseen. 神要我们这么作,因为祂要我们看那眼不能见的;
- 75. He wants us to do it by our exhibiting such unity of spirit that people will have to say, behold, how they love one another. 神要我们表现出合一,世人就会看到我们彼此相爱;

- 76. He wants us to do it by our bearing of fruit. 神要我们结出果实,
- 77. He wants us to do it by our witnessing. 神要我们做见证,
- 78. He wants us to do it by our zeal and love for the lost, 神要我们为失丧的灵魂表达爱与热诚。
- 79. and here's one way you can do it, 你现在可以这么作,
- 80. say to him, 对神说,
- 81. Lord, 主啊,
- 82. lay some person on my heart so that I can pray for that person's salvation. 求你把需要救恩的人放在我心中,成为我的负担,我好为他祷告。
- 83. Then when that moment comes that God provides you, you can confront that person.
 —旦神给你机会,你就可以向这位朋友传福音了。
- 84. God called Elijah to confront 850, 神叫以利亚去对抗 850人,
- 85. but that doesn't mean he necessarily wants you to do the same. 并不表示神也要你去面对这么多人,
- 86. However, he is calling you and me to confront the enemy, Satan, by confronting one person at a time.
 但神要我们抵挡仇敌撒但,也就是去抢救一个一个的灵魂。
- 87. Then watch how God sends the fire of salvation from heaven to that one person. 就让我们观看神如何降下救恩的火施行拯救。
- 88. It is my prayer that you will be burdened with that fire tonight 我祈求神降下福音负担的火在你心中。
- 89. until next time. 下次节目再见,
- 90. I pray for God's richest blessing upon you. 愿神大大地赐福给你。