



高徹斯特華人基督教會

Colchester Chinese Christian Church

月刊 **Monthly Bulletin**

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還有不到兩個星期便是我們華人的農曆新年（春節）了。根據華人的傳統，這將要來一年的是牛年，而牛在聖經中是第二最多被談及的動物（排名僅次於羊），因此我想在這裡跟大家談談聖經中有關牛的一些記載。

聖經中最多提到牛的地方，當然是利未記等有關獻祭的記載。上帝曾透過摩西吩咐以色列人按能力獻上牛、羊或雀鳥為自己贖罪，而因著牛的價值較高，能獻牛為祭的當然是較富有的以色列人。不過，上帝並不重視祭品的實際價值，祂更重視的是獻祭的人內心對祂的尊重，所以在上帝曾多次透過先知告訴以色列人「聽命勝於獻祭」（撒母耳記上 15:22），就是祂喜悅人對祂有敬畏的心勝過人所獻的一切牛羊。

當然，獻祭贖罪的事情仍然是聖經所重視的，因為這也是上帝對人的吩咐。其中，舊約聖經說上帝很重視獻祭人的態度，而這往往是從所獻之物的是否完美無殘疾反映出來。而新約聖經則說人不再需要每年獻上牛羊贖罪，因為主耶穌已經獻上了自己作為永遠有效的贖罪祭。不過，使徒保羅也提醒我們基督徒要「將身體獻上，當作活祭，是聖潔的，是上帝所喜悅的」（羅馬書 12:1），不過這所獻的活祭並不是贖罪祭，而是感恩祭。

最後，聖經有一段記載是完全沒有提到牛卻會令人想起牛的，那就是主耶穌跟門徒講的話：「凡勞苦擔重擔的人可以到我這裏來，我就使你們得安息。我心裏柔和謙卑，你們當負我的軛，學我的樣式；這樣，你們心裏就必得享安息。因為我的軛是容易的，我的擔子是輕省的。」（馬太福音 11:28-30）主耶穌這裡提到的「軛」是一種通常放在牛身上用來拖拉東西

或犁田的框架或橫槓。巴勒斯坦地的人常用大小牛同負一軛的方式來訓練小牛工作，在這種同負一軛的情況下，重量其實全在大牛身上，小牛不過是學著大牛的樣子，跟著大牛走而已。主耶穌用這「軛」的比喻來告訴我們：我們若是跟祂同負一軛，其實也不需要自己出力，因為祂會承擔這「軛」的重負，我們的擔子便會很輕省。問題只是我們是否願意好像小牛跟著大牛一樣地學著主耶穌的樣式，並跟著祂走呢？

With less than two weeks, Chinese New Year (also known as the Spring Festival) will arrive. This year will be the year of the ox according to the Chinese tradition, and the ox is the second most mentioned animal in the Bible (ranked second only to the sheep). Therefore, I would like to talk about some mentioning of the ox in the Bible.

The most mention of the ox in the Bible is certainly in records related to the sacrifice in Leviticus and related books. God once instructed the Israelites through Moses to offer ox, sheep, or bird according to their own ability to atone for their sins. Since ox is more expensive, therefore those Israelis who can offer the ox are relatively rich. However, God does not pay attention to the actual value of the sacrifices, in fact, He pays more attention to the internal respect of whom who sacrifices. Therefore, God has repeatedly told the Israelites through prophets that **"To obey is better than sacrifice"** (1 Samuel 15:22), that is, He is more pleased with people who have awe of Him more than all the ox and sheep that people offer.

Undoubtedly, the sacrifice of atonement is still important in the Bible, as this is also God's command to men. The old testament says that God pays more attention to the attitude of those who sacrifice, which often reflected in whether the sacrifice is perfect or not. The new testament says that people no longer need to sacrifice ox and sheep every year to atone for their sins because our Lord Jesus has already sacrificed Himself as an eternal sin offering. However, the apostle Paul also reminds Christians like us **"to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God"** (Romans 12:1) – but this sacrifice is not a sacrifice of atonement, but a thanksgiving offering.

Finally, there is a passage in the Bible that does not mention ox at all but reminds people of the ox. That is what the Lord Jesus has said to his disciples: **"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."** (Matthew 11:28-30) The "yoke" that is mentioned by Jesus here is a frame or bar that often placed on an ox to pull items or plough the fields. Palestinians often yoke the untrained calve with a trained ox, in order to train the calve to work. Under the same yoke, the ox actually carries much more weights, while the calve imitates and follow the ox. Jesus used this metaphor of "yoke" to tell us: if we are yoke together with Him, we do not actually need to use much energy, as He will bear the burden of this "yoke", and therefore our burden will be light. The question is, are we willing to learn from the Lord Jesus as if the calve followed the ox, and follow Him?

中文崇拜 Chinese Service — 主日早上 10 時

日期 Date	主席 Service Leader	講員 Preacher	講題 Sermon Title	經文 Bible Passage	領唱 Worship Leader	讀經 Scripture Reading	翻譯 Interpreter
7/2	明琴	黃虹青牧師	除舊迎新 Remove the old and welcome the new	出埃及記 Exodus 12:14-20	小梅	Melissa	黃傳道
14/2 聖餐 Holy Communion	Eddie	黃日強傳道	談情說愛過新年 Talk about love in the new year	雅歌 Song of Songs 8:4-7	明琴	Jenny	黃牧師
21/2	慧如	黃虹青牧師	伊甸園外的故事 Stories outside the Garden of Eden	創世記 Genesis 4	Iris	麗娟	黃傳道
28/2	David	黃日強傳道	從方舟到巴別塔 From the Ark to the Tower of Babel	創世記 Genesis 6:1- 8 ; 11:1-9	慧茹	Cindy	黃牧師

青少年崇拜 Youth Service (MK Crossway) -- Every Sunday at 2:30pm

Date	Speaker	Service Leader	Worship Leader	Call to Worship
7/2	James So	Ho-Shun Chik	Laurence Mo	Psalm 22:22-23
14/2	Allan Huxtable (TBC)	Josh Shek	James Voong	Psalm 22:25
21/2	Sean & Rosie Harriott	Esther Loke	Laurence Mo	Psalm 22:27
28/2	Sean & Rosie Harriott	Vivian Mah	James Voong	Psalm 28:7

普通話查經 Mandarin Bible Studies — 星期一早上 10 時

日期	查考經文
1/2	使徒行傳 19:1-41
8/2	使徒行傳 20:1-38
15/2	使徒行傳 21:1-40
22/2	使徒行傳 22:1-30

廣東話查經 Cantonese Bible Studies — 星期三晚上 8 時

日期	查考經文
3/2	帖撒羅尼迦後書 1:1-18
10/2	帖撒羅尼迦後書 2:1-26
17/2	帖撒羅尼迦後書 3:1-22
24/2	聖經問答比賽

其他聚會 Other Meetings

☐ 教會禱告會 Prayer Meeting — 星期一晚上 Monday Evening 8:30

☐ Essex University Student Fellowship 學生團契 — 星期五晚上 Friday Evening 8:00

二月份金句 Golden Verses of January

羅馬書 Romans 12:12

在指望中要喜樂；在患難中要忍耐；禱告要恆切。

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

奉獻 Offering

奉獻是基督徒對上帝的愛的回應，也是對上帝信心的表達。請將奉獻透過銀行轉帳至教會下列的戶口，在金錢上繼續支持教會的工作。 **Offering is a Christian response to God's love and also an expression of faith in God. Please transfer your offering to the following account of the church through bank transfer so as to continue supporting the works of the church financially.**

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Account number: 00019224

Account name: The Colchester Chinese Christian Church



本月刊歡迎兄弟姊妹們投稿，內容可以是個人見證、故事或文章等。另外，也歡迎對本月刊的內容提出意見和建議。請直接與黃日強傳道溝通。

Brothers and sisters are welcomed to contribute personal testimonies, stories, or articles to this monthly bulletin. Comments and suggestions regarding the contents of this bulletin are also welcomed. Please communicate directly to Pastor Stanley Wong.

如何聯絡我們 How to contact us

教牧同工 Pastors	黃虹青牧師 Rev Helen Wong (helenhungtwong@gmail.com) 黃日強傳道 Pastor Stanley Wong (stanleyyatk Wong@gmail.com)
聯絡電話 Contact No.	07858-029381
郵寄地址 Mailing Address	15 Broadlands Way, Colchester CO4 0AL
網址 Website: http://tcccc.webs.com	電郵 Email : colchesterccc@gmail.com