

花园与城市 - 9

THE GARDEN VERSES THE CITY - 9

1. Hello, listening friends.
亲爱的朋友，你好，
2. What a delight for us to know that you are tuned in to listen to this program.
我们很高兴你能收听这个节目，
3. We are in the midst of a series of messages entitled “The City Verses the Garden”
我们正在讲一个叫做“花园与城市”的专题系列。
4. I wanted to tell you that my field of study is social anthropology.
让我告诉你，我主修的学科是社会人类学。
5. And that is why I view events and changes in the world from that vantage point.
所以我可以从一个有利的角度，来观察世界大事，和其中各种改变。
6. And the one thing that I have been noticing throughout the world,
我一直在留意着世界上的一个现象，
7. Is the speed by which the world is moving toward urbanization.
那就是世界趋向都市化的速度之快，
8. It is unprecedented in History.
在历史上前所未有。
9. Let me explain to you what I am saying:
让我解释一下：
10. 200 years ago only 2.5% of the world’s population lived in cities.
两百年前，世上只有百分之二点五的人口居住在城市。
11. By 1970 40% of the world’s population lived in cities.
1970年，已有百分之四十的人口住在城市。
12. At the beginning of the 21st Century... just under 80% of all citizens now live in urban areas.
到了廿一世纪初期，居住在城市的人口，差不多占全世界人口的百分之八十。
13. If you ask people the following questions, you will get predictable answers.
如果你向人提出以下的问题，你会得到预期的答案。
14. “Where do you find most of the pollution?”
你问：什么地方的污染最厉害？
15. “In the city,” will be the answer.
答案是“城市”。
16. “Where do you find most of the crimes?”
哪里的罪案最多？
17. “In the city.”
“城市”。
18. “Where do most people want to live?”
多数人想要住在那儿？
19. The answer is: In the city.
答案是“城市”。
20. Many famous people who grew up in small towns will tell you that they could not wait to get out of their little town, and move to the big city.
很多在小镇长大的知名人士会告诉你，过去他们是多么期待能尽早离开小镇搬到大城市去。
21. There is an allure to city life.
城市的生活很有吸引力。
22. There is a glitter and glamour associated with the city.
城市带给人炫耀和魅力。
23. There is fame in the city.
城市里有名气。
24. There are opportunities to be anonymous in the city.
但城市也有机会隐姓埋名。
25. There is enough to keep you busy in the city.
城市足以让你整天忙碌。
26. There is enough to keep your attention away from God in the city.
城市生活足以占据你的注意力，而引开你对神的关注。

27. One of the greatest challenges of all time for Christians in the 21st Century.
对廿一世纪的基督徒最大的挑战是：
28. Is how to live in the city of man and yet look forward to the city of God.
居住在人的城市，却定睛仰望神的城。
29. One of the greatest temptations of all times for those who love God is...
历史历代以来，对于那些爱神的人最大的考验是：
30. Is being able to enjoy God's creation and blessings without losing sight of their ultimate destiny
一方面充分享受神的创造和赐福，却又不忽略人生终极的目标。
31. And that is not an easy challenge.
这可不是个容易面对的挑战。
32. Why
为什么？
33. Because most of us tend to love this life more than the one to come.
因为大部分的人，看重今生，而不重视来生。
34. In fact,... very few of us could say with the writer to the Hebrews 13:14:
事实上，很少人能像希伯来书的作者那样，在十三章十四节那里说：
35. "For we have not here an abiding city...
我们在这里本没有常存的城，
36. but we seek after the city which is to come."
乃是寻求那将来的城。
37. All of us young or old,
我们不论年轻或年长，
38. Love to put our eternal future out of our minds.
都情愿把来生的事置之脑后。
39. A class of nine-year-old children were asked what they thought about eternity.
有人问一班九岁的孩子，什么是永恒？
40. One little boy said:
一个小男孩说：
41. "When you die they bury you in the ground and your soul goes to heaven but your body can't go to heaven because its too crowded up there."
就是你死了，被埋了，然后灵魂升到天堂，不过你的身体不能去，因为那里已经太挤了。
42. A little girl said:
一个小女孩说：
43. "Only the good people go to heaven the other people go where it is hot all the time... like the desert."
只有好人才能上天堂，其他的人就要去一个整天都很热的地方，就像沙漠一样。
44. But another little boy said:
另一个小男孩说：
45. "Maybe someday I'll die
可能有一天我会死，
46. But I hope I don't die on my birthday."
但我不希望死在生日那一天。
47. "Because it's not fun celebrating your birthday if you're dead."
因为，如果你死了，你的庆生会就不好玩了。
48. You see this confusion abounds, even among believers.
你看，有这么多混乱的想法，即使在基督徒里也是这样。
49. The vast majority of people in Western cultures think that when they die they will all go to heaven.
绝大部分的西方人都认为，自己死后一定会上天堂。
50. There are many popular books in the West that say that: "everybody is going to heaven."
西方很多畅销书说，人人都会上天堂。
51. Others believe that after they die, they will go on from life... to life... to life.
有些人相信，人死后会投胎转世，生命不断轮回。
52. But the Bible makes it clear that only those who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will go to heaven.
然而圣经清楚指出，唯有接受耶稣基督为救主，和生命之主的人，才可以进天堂。
53. A friend of mine used to say:
我的一位朋友常说：
54. "Many people hope to be elected to heaven who are not even running for office!"
许多人并没有参选从政，但都希望自己能被选入天堂。
55. Today, I want to talk to those who are going to heaven.
今天，我要对那些会进天堂的人说话。

56. Today, I want to speak to those who are assured of heaven because of their faith and commitment to Jesus Christ.
今天，我要对那些因相信又愿意委身给耶稣基督，而有进天堂把握的人说话。
57. Let me review again what we have learned so far in our broadcasts.
让我再次重温我们在节目中学过的。
58. We saw how God's perfect will is for humanity to live in a garden.
我们谈过，神完美的旨意，就是让人住在花园里，
59. But man built a city...
但是人却建筑城市，
60. Primarily to run away from God.
为了要逃避神。
61. The consequences were the destruction of the flood.
结果，带来洪水毁灭大地。
62. Then Noah repopulated the earth.
然后，挪亚在世上再度繁殖后代。
63. But one of his descendants by the name of Nimrod... built the tower of Babel.
他的子孙中有一个名叫宁录，建立巴别塔。
64. The tower was a temple for the worship of the Zodiac.
这塔用来膜拜星象黄道十二宫，
65. The consequences of that were confusion and babbling.
结果带来口音变乱和一片混乱。
66. Then we saw in our last broadcast how God overruled the foolishness of man and provided a temporary city.
上次节目中我们谈到，神介入人愚蠢的行为，于是给人一个暂时性的城市。
67. This city was the earthly Jerusalem dedicated to the worship and honor of God.
就是世上的耶路撒冷，专用来敬拜神尊崇神。
68. But even that temporary city is now permanently rejected by God.
可是这座暂时的城，如今已被神完全丢弃。
69. Why?
为什么？
70. Because its inhabitants rejected God... in human flesh.
因为这城的居民拒绝道成肉神的神。

71. And on a hill not far away from Jerusalem,...
在离耶路撒冷城不远的一座山上，
72. God in human form was crucified.
成为人的神被钉死在十字架上。
73. From that moment on,...
从那一刻起，
74. The New Testament moves away from earthly cities...
新约圣经把我们的眼光从世上的耶路撒冷，
75. to a heavenly city... called the New Jerusalem.
转向天上的新耶路撒冷。
76. God never goes back.
上帝从不回头，
77. God moves forward.
神总是向前进。
78. We will begin by looking at Hebrews 13: 9-16.
让我们来读希伯来书，十三章九到十六节。
- Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by ceremonial foods, which are of no value to those who eat them.
你们不要被那诸般怪异的教训勾引了去；因为人心靠恩得坚固纔是好的，并不是靠饮食。那在饮食上专心的从来没有得着益处。
- We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.
我们有一祭坛，上面的祭物是那些在帐幕中供职的人不可同吃的。
- The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.
原来牲畜的血被大祭司带入圣所作赎罪祭；牲畜的身子被烧在营外。
- And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.
所以，耶稣要用自己的血叫百姓成圣，也就在城门外受苦。
- Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore.
这样，我们也当出到营外，就了他去，忍受他所受的凌辱。
- For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.
我们在这里本没有常存的城，乃是寻求那将来的城。

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that confess his name.

我们应当靠着耶稣，常常以颂赞为祭献给神，这就是那承认主名之人嘴唇的果子。

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. 只是不可忘记行善和捐输的事；因为这样的祭，是神所喜悦的。

79. There are some who think that we will go back to animal sacrifice in the earthly Jerusalem.
有人以为，世上的耶路撒冷将恢复以动物献祭的敬拜形式。
80. Can you imagine that after God sacrificed Himself the greatest sacrifice of all?
你想，当神为我们牺牲祂自己，成为最伟大的祭品后，还需要献动物为祭吗？
81. Because God doesn't go back to the shadow after revealing the reality.
因为，当真像实现后，还需要作为预表的影子吗？
82. Our eyes must be fixed not on the earthly Jerusalem... but on the heavenly Jerusalem.
我们的眼光不应该放在属世的耶路撒冷，而应该定睛在天上的耶路撒冷。
83. The New Jerusalem is what the Bible calls heaven.
新耶路撒冷，就是圣经所说的天堂。
84. The New Jerusalem is the destiny of all those who love the Lord Jesus Christ's appearing.
新耶路撒冷，是所有爱慕耶稣基督再来的信徒，人生终极的目标。
85. The New Jerusalem is the place where believers will spend eternity with God
新耶路撒冷，是信徒与神永远同在之处。
86. And the New Jerusalem will be the subject of my last message in this series.
新耶路撒冷，也是我这一系列信息的最后一讲。
87. I hope you will not miss it
我希望你不要错过，
88. It will be an encouragement to your heart
这将成为你心灵的鼓舞。
89. Those who are redeemed by the Lord Jesus Christ:
得到耶稣基督救恩的人，
90. Are now living in earthly cities.
今天虽住在世上的城市，

91. They are commissioned by our Lord to be light in the darkness of the city of man.
神差派他们，在人类黑暗的城市中成为明灯。
92. They are commissioned by the Lord to be salt in the rotting society of man.
神差派他们，在人类腐败的社会中成为盐。
93. They are commissioned to make Jesus known to the dwellers of every earthly city.
神差派他们，向世上每一个城市中的居民传扬耶稣。
94. They are commanded to be busy and occupied until Jesus comes back again.
在主再来之前，他们受命殷勤工作。
95. Those who follow Jesus are instructed to show their true witness until He comes back.
在主再来之前，主指示跟从祂的人要为祂作见证。
96. We are told to be in the world but not of it.
圣经教导我们，要住在世界，却不要属于世界。
97. We are told by our Lord to be faithful and diligent in all that we do...
主教导我们，凡事要忠心，要殷勤，
98. Without losing sight of our ultimate destiny.
却不要失落人生终极的目标。
99. We are reminded again and again not to get too comfortable in man's city.
我们不断的被提醒，在人的城市中，不要贪图享乐。
100. We are not to forget about our real home.
千万别忘了，我们真正的家乡。
101. I want to give you 5 reasons as to why true Christians are apt to forget about the heavenly Jerusalem.
让我提出五个理由说明，即使真正的基督徒，有时也会忘记天上的耶路撒冷。
102. We will not be able to cover them all today but tune in next time to get the rest.
今天，我们不够时间全都讲完，但请记得下次继续收听。
103. But here are the five.
这五个理由是：
104. One,
第一，

105. Many have a false perception of the heavenly Jerusalem.
许多人对天上的耶路撒冷有错误的观念。
106. Second,
第二，
107. Many yield to the allure of what is seen on earth.
许多人眷恋世上所见的事物。
108. Third,
第三，
109. Many of the churches have taken on a worldliness style.
许多教会沾染世俗的风气。
110. Four,
第四，
111. Many succumb to the overwhelming pressures of life.
许多人因生活的重担而屈服。
112. And fifth
第五，
113. There are many false teachings regarding heaven.
有许多关于天堂错误的教导。
114. Let's cover some of those five today
让我们来谈谈其中一些理由，
115. First, I want to tell you about the false perception of the heavenly Jerusalem.
首先，让我告诉你，对天上耶路撒冷的错误观念。
116. There is a great distortion about what heaven is like.
对天堂的描述，常出现严重的歪曲。
117. If I believed that distortion I would not want to be there either.
如果我相信这些误导的话，我也不愿意去天堂了。
118. Sitting on a cloud, playing a harp, wearing halos,
头戴光环，手弹竖琴，坐在云端，
119. And looking very cherubic...
一付天使的模样，
120. These are not what heaven is all about.
这绝不是天堂的情景，
121. These things are a distortion of the heavenly city.
这些都是对天上城市的曲解。
122. Streets of gold, pearly gates, and 24 hours of boring church services is a distortion of what heaven is like.
黄金街道，珍珠城门，24小时不断的沉闷礼拜，这也都是对天堂实况的歪曲。
123. But the truth is this
事实真相是：
124. The heavenly city is so awesome,...
天上之城令人肃然起敬，
125. The heavenly city is so magnificent,...
天上之城令人叹为观止，
126. The heavenly city is so indescribable...
天上之城难以笔墨形容，
127. That God told us very few things about it.
甚至神告诉我们的也不多。
128. And the reason God did not tell us a lot about the heavenly Jerusalem is this.
神之所以不告诉我们太多有关天堂的事，
129. Many of us would be jumping over skyscrapers to get there.
因为，我们很可能会干脆从摩天大楼纵身一跳，想立刻抵达天堂。
130. That is, if we knew the full story.
那就是，当我们可以得知天堂的全面真相时。
131. The best of what we have here on earth cannot possibly be measured by the awesomeness of heaven.
我们在世上所能得到最好的，都远远比不上天堂的神奇。
132. Think of what excites you the most here on earth...
试想在世界上最令你兴奋的事，
133. And then magnify it a billion times,...
然后把它倍增亿万倍，
134. And you still cannot get a glimpse of heaven.
你仍然无法一瞥天堂的端倪。
135. In Philippians 1:23, Paul calls it: "far better."
腓立比书一章廿三节，保罗说，那是好得无比的。
136. We have false perception of the heavenly city that distorts its image.
我们抱着对天堂错误的观念，而曲解了它的真相。

137. I want you to tune in next time, and I will tell you more about why Christians are likely to forget about the heavenly city.
请你收听下次的节目，我要继续和你谈论，为什么基督徒会忘记天上之城。
138. Until then I wish you God's richest blessings.
愿神大大的赐福给你，再会。