

復活的兒女

路加福音 20: 27-38

11/10/2019

保羅講：「基督若未曾復活，就阮所傳的是空空，恁的信也是空空。」復活是福音的核心。

人類嚮繼續活著。透過血緣和遺傳來再體現。用孩子傳落去，拼命想活著，這可能是為什麼咱的建築物留名，讓人可以一代代記記憶中活啲。這是父權主義心態的問題：「這婦仁人是什麼人的某？」七個死去，婦仁人也死去……絕望。當七個人隴死去，婦仁人也死去，無子，怎麼辦？

這段經文透露了路加福音的世界是一個父權社會思考，也指出撒都該人不相信復活的思維。認為沒傳宗接代，一個人死，就永遠死，沒復活傳宗接代成了人延續自己活命的一個主要方式。男性中心父權的壓迫是懷疑復活的副產品。

復活的信仰指導咱的世界和咱人生的方向。復活是信仰做根基，改變咱人類的關係。咱的世界，有人尋找捍衛自己認為的永恆的方式，不計他人的價值，連妻子和兒女也成了達到崇高目標的客體，或代價。這不是上帝的世界作決定的價值觀。在祂的世界裡，是咱常常讓復活來塑造咱、重新形成咱的現實，因為不閣再分男、女、夫、妻和大人囡仔。因為咱隴是上帝的孩子。

從復活的觀點來看，結婚或者是有孩子不是目標。我們的目標是做為上帝的兒女，對上帝活，因為活活的上帝

「不是死人的，是活人的。」成做上帝的兒女，意思是你對上帝活，不是自己做中心，是復活以及上帝的新的活命。不是有關咱的傳承，是上帝活命的延續。不是有關咱再生的行動，是復活的照祂的形象所創造的新生命。

羅馬書：「上帝的神若倚起佇恁……互耶穌對死人中復活的，伊的神若倚起佇恁，互恁會死的身軀復活。」咱是復活在地裡的器具，承載復活的光的大使。

復活的兒女，不相信會朽壞的死亡，相信出死入生的活命。十字架是救贖故事的一部份，墓不是死亡的死巷，咱的將來不是關閉的，是和耶穌的同款的墓，是開的，這是因為咱地裡的存在沒法度限制活活的上帝。甚至在伊向死的路去的時，耶穌所講的復活成做抵擋死亡的權勢，這些樣勢欲拒絕相信復活。總是，人不信復活，沒法度停止復活的上帝。基督的血從十字架頂所流落來在灌溉希望的種子，正、開花成做復活的新的創造。

Children of the Resurrection

Luke 20: 27-38

Paul said: "If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain" (1 Cor. 15:14). Resurrection is the core of the gospel.

Humans desire to live beyond death. Some have children in part to carry on their name and to remember them after they have left this world. Wealthy people leave money to have buildings named for them, so that they will be remembered for generations.

In our gospel text this morning Jesus is confronted with a question posed by Sadducees, a group that rejected the doctrine of resurrection. The Sadducees believed that once people die they go to the shadowy realm of the dead, never to return. If people do not have heirs then their memory is gone. Their question to Jesus is very patriarchal: A woman who marries seven successive brothers dies without children. Whose wife will the woman be in the Resurrection?

Its a trick question without any good answer, designed to make Jesus look foolish. But it is the Sadducees who come across looking ignorant. From the point of view of resurrection, getting married and having children is not the primary goal of life. The goal is to be *God's children*.

Without faith in God and the Resurrection, there is nothing to give meaning to our life in the face of death. The Sadducees cannot imagine any relationship different from

the social relationships we know in this world, a world that always ends in death. They cannot imagine any way to defeat death other than having children to bear our names when we are gone. Jesus reminds them that we are children of God, and that God is the God of the Living, not the dead. Resurrection reshapes out reality, pointing us to a future better life as God's children. We do not come back to this bodily existence of marriage and family, only to die again, we live eternally with our Father as beloved children.

To be children of God means that we live to God, with God instead of ourselves at the center. We do not worry about inheritance, passing on our own name, achieving lasting fame for ourselves. Instead we glorify God's name, live to please God, and share with him his eternal life. Paul reminds us in Romans 8:9-11: "the spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you. He who raised Christ from dead will give life to your mortal bodies."

As the children of resurrection, we do not believe that physical death is our end. We believe that the God who brings life into being, who has been with us from the beginning of our story, will be with us when we must leave this place, guiding us into the home he has prepared for us. Our future of is not closed; our tomb is the same as Jesus's tomb. It cannot contain us anymore than it could contain Christ, because we are children of the God who forever brings new creation out of death. This is the good news that runs through the entire Bible. Believe it and live!

Amen