We need a new leader at Christmas

我们在圣诞节需要一个新的领导

Micah 5:1-5 弥迦书 5: 1-5

Corrupt leadership. Justice not for the poor, but only the rich. The culture had left its origins in Go d's word. It was only available for the rich, and the poor got nothing. Those who were supposed to be teaching God's word had sold out. Whatever you wanted to hear you could buy it as long a s you had enough money.

腐败的领导。穷人得不到公义,只是富有的人才得到。这样的文化远离了起初上帝话语的源头。只供应富有的人,穷人一无所获。那些本该教导神的话的人出卖了自己。无论你想听到什么,只要你有足够的钱,你都可以买来听。

The middle class and the poor were being squeezed out by the rich. They were ripping them off, st ealing their houses and properties.

中产阶级和穷人被富有的人挤了出去。诈骗他们,偷走他们的房屋和财产。

War, fighting from outside and inside. Leaving some to ask, 'Why won' t the leaders do something to help the people that they are in charge to help!'

从外来的和里在的战争。使人不禁的问,'为什么领导不做一些事情来帮助他们有责任要帮助的人!'

I'm not talking about anything happening in Australia, or even in the last 100 years. I'm talking about Micah the prophet's time. He was around hundreds of years before Jesus was born. 我不是在谈论正在<u>澳大利亚</u>发生的情况,甚至在过去100年的任何事情。我说的是<u>弥迦</u>先知的时代,在耶稣出生前几百年左右。

There was a leadership crisis in Judah. Those in leadership were failing God's people, and there were devastating consequences. People were yearning for a good leader. Someone that wasn't cor rupt to lead them. A leader to stand up in God's strength.

<u>犹大</u>发生了领导危机。那些领导辜负了上帝的人民,导致毁灭性的后果。人们渴望一个好领导。一个不腐败的人来领导他们,以上帝的力量站起来的领导。

Leadership always faces corruption because we are sinful people. It's not just the cry of Micah's generation. Every period in history, including ours, is heavily impacted by those who lead it. 领导总是因为我们是罪人而面临腐败。这不仅仅是<u>弥迦</u>那一代人的呐喊。历史上的每一个时期,包括我们的时期,都受到那些领导它的人深重的影响。

It is not that different to what is going on in our world at the moment. NSW is on fire, interest rate s are hurting many people, people question whether our education system is failing our children, h ousing is hard for the next generation to buy into, and Sydney is divided into ethnic backgrounds a nd personal preferences.

这和我们目前世界上发生的事情没有区别。<u>新南威尔士州</u>面临火灾,利率正在伤害许多人,人们质疑我们的教育系统是否辜负了我们的孩子,下一代难以置业安居,<u>悉尼</u>因种族背景和个人喜好而分裂。

Sometimes when we look at the leaders around us, it can lead us to question 'Why won' t the le aders do something about all of these problems.' People in all levels of leadership are susceptible to accusation of corruption, infighting, bribery and being influenced by outside parties.

有时候,当我们看着周围的领导人时,它会让我们质疑 '为什么领导者不为所有这些问题做些什么?' 各级的领导班子成员容易受到腐败、内斗、贿赂和受外来的影响的指控。

It makes us yearn for good leadership. Someone to lead us out of this mess. Leaders who can't be bought and corrupted.

这使我们渴望好的领导。有人带领我们走出这个烂摊子,不能被买和腐败的领导。

In one sense, it can be easy to blame those in leadership at higher levels. But many of us are leaders too! Parents, or siblings, a boss at work, even if we're influential with our friendship group. Many of us are leaders, and we can desire to influence and lead in the right way.

从某种意义上说,很容易责怪高层的领导阶层。但是我们当中的许多人也是领导者!父母,或兄弟姐妹,工作上的老板,即使我们对我们的朋友圈也有影响力。我们中的许多人是领导者,我们渴望以正确的方式去影响和领导。

Now you might be thinking "this doesn't sound like a Christmas talk!". But we'll see that of course Jesus is the leader we are longing for, even though we don't often see Jesus as our ruler and leader. We can consider him more of a saviour than ruler. Today we'll see how Christmas help s us understand what kind of leader Jesus is, and how important it is.

现在你可能会想 '这听上去不像是有关圣诞节的分享!'但是,我们将看到,耶稣当然是我们渴望的那位领袖,即使我们不经常把耶稣视为我们的统治者和领袖。我们可以认为他更像救世主,而不是统治者。今天,我们将看到圣诞节如何帮助我们了解耶稣是什么样的领袖,以及它是多么重要。

1. Corrupt Leaders 腐败的领导者

Micah was a prophet to God's people, in the southern kingdom of Judah. This is after the time of King David and King Solomon. It was after the kingdom had been split in two because of their sinn, split into the Northern Israel, and Southern Judah.

<u>弥迦</u>是在南方的<u>犹大</u>作神的子民的先知。这在<u>大衛</u>王和<u>所罗门</u>王之后,是<u>以色列</u>因他们的罪恶被一分为二,分裂成以色列北国和犹大南国之后。

The Northern kingdom was attacked and enslaved by the country Assyria. This prophecy, from Mi cah, was written during that time. Hezekiah the king acted out of fear to the coming Assyrians. An d so Micah the prophet called on the king of Judah to trust in God. Not to make deals with other nations like Egypt, but to trust that God would protect them.

北国受到<u>亚述</u>的攻击和奴役。这个来自<u>弥迦</u>的信息,是在那段时间写的。<u>希西家</u>王的行为是出于对即将到来的<u>亚述</u>人的恐惧。因此,先知<u>弥迦</u>呼吁<u>犹大</u>王相信神。不要与<u>埃及</u>等其他国家达成协议,而是相信上帝会保护他们。

It wasn't just that the king was fearful and not trusting God. But the whole fabric of society was being torn apart. The land of Judah was the promised land. This is where God's people would be blessed when they followed him and obeyed him. When they cared for the widow and orphan and oppressed and foreigner.

不只是国王害怕,不信任上帝。但是整个社会结构正在四分五裂。<u>犹大</u>的土地是应许之地。这是当上帝的人民跟随他,服从他时将要得祝福的地方。当他们照顾寡妇和孤儿,被压迫者和外国人时。

Judah at this time had been blessed by God. They had grown rich. And as they grew rich it led to a callousness of heart, theft, and a disregard for God's law. The people start to rip each other off. And the leaders became corrupt. Instead of working against a commercialising culture, they gave in and life became about one's own material possessions.

<u>犹大</u>此时曾受神祝福。他们变得富有了。当他们贪财时,它导致了一种无情的心,行窃,和对上帝律法的漠视。人们开始互相欺诈。领导人变得腐败。他们不是反对商业化文化,而是沉迷于生活,而生命变成了为自己的物质财富而活。

The fabric of Judean society was being destroyed. Society was built on the care and protection of t hose that were like them, dependent on God. Now that is being destroyed, they are eating one anot her. Compassionate generosity because of God's generosity has been replaced with a dog eat dog world. The view that says "I'm the most important". And so the rich got richer and the poor g ot poorer.

<u>犹太</u>社会的结构正在被摧毁。社会是建立在照顾和保护那些像他们一样依靠上帝的人。 现在,这正在被毁灭,他们正在彼此吞吃。因上帝的慷慨而慈悲慷慨被弱肉强食的世界 所取代。"我是最重要的"的观点持续。因此,富有的人更富有,穷人更穷。

It's starts with those in leadership, the prophets, the priests and the rulers. Chapter 3:11 从那些领导、先知、祭司和统治者开始。第 3 章11节

Her leaders judge for a bribe, her priests teach for a price, and her prophets tell fortunes for money.

城里的领袖为贿赂行审判,祭司为酬劳施训诲,先知为银钱行占卜

How could a poor or weak person ever get justice when justice can be bought. Priests were teachin g the people whatever they were bought to teach. Instead of bringing God's word to bear on peoples lives and calling them to repent and follow God, they are taking money to say, "everythings fine, God is for us"!

当公义能被出卖时,一个贫穷或弱势的人怎么可能得到公义呢? 祭司们训诲的是他们的 酬劳所指定的。他们不是把神的话带到人们的生活上,叫他们悔改,跟随神,而是拿着 酬劳说,"一切都安好,上帝是来帮助我们的"!

And the prophets who were to call kings to account, and to warn of the consequence of sin have b ecome fortune tellers. Reading crystal balls for dollars.

那些本要向国王问责,并警告犯罪的后果的先知们,都变成了算命者。为银钱行占卜。

Can you imagine that if in Steve's absence the team became a little corrupt? Can you imagine if s omeone came up to me and wanted to confess a sin, be encouraged that God forgives them, and g et some help changing; and I said – don't worry! The only change you need is a \$50 note, slip th at into my pocket, and God will forgive you. And instead of choosing songs based on how we prai se God, connected with the bible reading, guiding us to glorify him – Nick instead started taking donations to the 'Buy Nick a new Guitar' fund, and you can choose the songs each week! Wha tever you like, and no one else.

你能想象,如果在主任牧师的缺席下,教牧团队变得有点腐败?你能想象,如果有人来找我,想承认一些罪,想因上帝原谅他而得鼓励,并得到一些帮助去作改变;我说,'不要担心!你唯一需要的是把一张50元的钞票塞进我的口袋里,上帝便会原谅你。'在选择歌曲方面,不再是基于我们如何赞美上帝,阅读圣经,引导我们荣耀他-尼克(Nick)反而为'给尼克买一个新吉他'开始了一个基金接受捐款,你可以选择每周的歌曲!不管你喜欢什么,只要捐了款凡人才可选择。

Those who were supposed to know the law and God, have become corrupt. 那些本来应该了解律法和上帝的人,已经变得腐败了。

So it's no wonder that the people have become corrupted by riches too. 因此,难怪人们也因为财富而变得腐败。

Chapter 2:1

2章1节

Woe to those who plan iniquity, to those who plot evil on their beds! At morning's light t hey carry it out because it is in their power to do it. 2 They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them. They defraud people of their homes, they rob them of their inheritan ce.

祸哉,那些在床上图谋罪孽、筹划恶事的人!天一亮,他们因手中有能力就去行恶。2他们看上田地就占据,贪图房屋便夺取;他们欺压户主和他的家庭,霸占人和他的产业。

This is a picture of the rich getting richer. Stealing everything, fields, houses, inheritances, from tho se who don't have as much.

这是一幅富有的人越来越富有的图画。从那些没有那么多东西的人那里偷东西, 田地, 房屋, 产业。

They were yearning for good leadership. All those who should be leading the people, the prophet, priests, and rulers have all become corrupted. This is a desperate and terrible situation. It needs so mething drastic to happen. It's not going to be fixed with a new election, or a protest. It needs di vine intervention.

他们渴望好的领导。所有应该领导人民的人、先知、祭司和统治者都变得腐化了。这是 一个绝望和可怕的情况。需要一些剧烈的事情来发生。不会通过新的选举或抗议来修理 好。是需要神圣的干预。

As I read about the leaders that have become corrupt, the justice system which favours those who have money, the rich who are stealing from the middle class and the poor, I can't help but think of the situation in many parts of the world. Including Sydney!

当我读到那些已经变得腐败的领导人,青睐那些有钱的,从中产阶级和穷人那里偷东西的,富有的人的司法制度,我不禁想起了世界许多地方的情况。包括悉尼!

We too have a heritage following the lord, but I wonder if as our culture has chased commercial and material gain and left the lord we are to blame ourselves.

我们也有跟随主的历史,但我不知道,我们的文化是否在追逐商业和物质利益而离开主 上,我们该责怪自己。 Into this context, Micah prophecies. He calls on the people to repent, 在这种情况下, 弥迦的信息。呼吁人去悔改

Micah 6:8

弥迦书6:8

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

只要你行公义, 好怜悯, 存谦卑的心与你的上帝同行。

And against the abuses of those who are in leadership, the kings who have been born into riches th at have failed. He prophecies about a ruler who would come.

反对那些领导的虐待,那些生来就拥有财富而失败的国王。他预言一个统治者会来。

2. Promised Leader

承诺要来的领导

Micah 5: 2

弥迦书 5:2

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of yo u will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from an cient times."

<u>伯利恒的以法他</u>啊,你在<u>犹大</u>诸城中虽小,将来必有一位从你那里出来,在<u>以色</u>列中为我作掌权者;他的根源自亘古,从太初就有。

Okay, now it's sounding like a Christmas talk. We get word of Bethlehem. The new leader would come from Bethlehem. It's obviously Jesus. And many people have heard of Bethlehem. What do we think when we hear of Bethlehem. It's a manger, animals, baby Jesus.

好,现在听起来像是圣诞节的分享。我们得到<u>伯利恒</u>的消息,新领导人将来自<u>伯利恒</u>。 很显然是<u>耶稣</u>,许多人听说过<u>伯利恒</u>。当我们听到<u>伯利恒</u>时,我们怎么想? 是马槽,动物,和小婴孩耶稣。

That is not the picture Micah is presenting. 这不是弥迦展示的画面。

Bethlehem was a little known town. It's not even mentioned in the book of Joshua when he lists all the towns of Israel.

<u>伯利恒</u>是一个鲜为人知的小镇。<u>乔舒亚</u>在列举<u>以色列</u>所有城镇时,甚至没有提到这一点。

It's an unimportant backwater town that had little significance. Even Micah says that they are sm all among the clans of Judah. But out of this insignificant little town would come a ruler. Not born into riches like the rest of Israel's rulers at this time. He would come in humility.

这是一个没有什么重要意义的乡镇。就连<u>弥迦</u>也说,在犹大诸城中他们是细小。但是,从这个微不足道的小镇,会来一个掌权者。不像<u>以色列</u>其他统治者那样生来就富有。他会谦卑地来到。

And we get this really interesting phrase, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. It has connections with the historic king, King David, who was from Bethlehem. But it's also used else where in the bible to describe God himself, as God who is everlasting. So Micah could be alluding to the coming ruler being a supernatural leader.

我们得到这个非常有趣的短语,他的根源自亘古,从太初就有。他与来自<u>伯利恒</u>的历史国王大衛王有联系。但是,在圣经的其他地方,也是用来形容上帝自己,就像上帝是自有永有的。因此,弥迦可能暗示即将到来的掌权者是一个超自然的领袖。

Micah continues to describe what this new Ruler will be like and what he will do. Verse 4. 弥迦继续描述这个新掌权者会是什么样子,以及他会做什么。第4节。

He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

他必倚靠耶和华的大能,倚靠耶和华-他上帝之名的威严,站立并牧养,

Again, like King David, he will be a shepherd for the people. Strong and fit and unflinching in lead ership against all those who come to attack him. He will stand under every pressure and peril. And he will be resolute, making sure that God's people aren't fleeced again, but fed, cared for not c aged. And he's fully devoted to following the Lord. Verse 4b

再次,像大衛王一样,他将是人民的牧羊人。对抗所有来攻击他的人时坚强、合宜,毫不动摇地领导。他将承受一切压力和危险。他将坚决,确保神的人不再逃跑,而是喂养,照顾而不是关笼。他完全致力于跟随主。第4b节

And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

使他们安然居住; 因为现在他必尊大, 直到地极。

Under this leader, God's people will live securely. Security is not found in wealth or technology, or status. It is found trusting in the shepherd who guides the sheep. And his territory is to the ends of the earth.

在这个领袖的带领下,神的人民将安全生活。安全不在财富、技术或地位上。是在信任带领羊群的牧羊人时找到。他的领土是到地球的尽头。

Again, lifting peoples eyes to the Ruler not just being the ruler of Israel, but the whole world. 再次,使人民看到掌权的不仅是以色列的统治者,而是整个世界。

And he will be our peace 这位就是和平。

This leader would not only bring peace, but he would be it. He would embody peace himself. 这位领导人不仅会带来和平,而且会是和平。他将自己体现和平。

Micah expresses complete confidence for the future where this ruler comes.

弥迦对这个统治者要来的未来表示完全有信心。

When this leader is in charge, the people of God find a new unity. They go from infighting, corruption, theft, and bribery, to peace and security.

当这位领袖掌权时,神的人民会找到新的合一。他们从内斗、腐败、盗窃和贿赂,转为和平与安全。

Micah builds up such an awesome picture of the coming king. He would be a Davidic king who car es, protects, leads, rules, in purity, in God's majesty, with God.

<u>弥迦</u>建立了这样一个真棒的未来的国王的图片。他将是一个<u>大衛</u>国王,他与神同行,以 纯洁、在神的威严下去关心、保护、领导、统治。

This is a very different picture of the rulers that they had. A different humble king. 这是一个与他们所有的统治者非常不同的图片。另一个卑微的国王。

People are yearning for that. I think that it is one of the main reasons that Donald Trump was elect ed President. Now, I' m sure that there are many here who are more across world politics than m e. It seems to me that one of the reasons that Trump was elected president is because he was so different. He appealed to the working class who felt downtrodden, and saw the leadership of their country as corrupt. And so when Trump came and promised that he would get rid of the corruption and Make America Great Again, it appealed to many people.

人们都渴望这一点。我认为,这是<u>特朗普</u>当选总统的主要原因之一。我确信这里有很多人比我更全面地认识世界政治。在我看来,<u>特朗普</u>当选总统的原因之一是因为他是如此的另类。他被那些感到被压迫的工人阶级所认同,认为他们的国家领导人是腐败的。因此,当特朗普来,并承诺,他将摆脱腐败,使美国再次伟大,许多人认同。

But Trump is only a man, a very sinful man. Whether or not he makes America great, time will tell. But even if he does, it will only be for a short period.

但特朗普只是一个人,一个非常罪恶的人。不管他是否使美国变得伟大,时间都会证明这一点。但即使他做到,也只是很短暂的时间。

Micah's time, and our time need more than just a strong leader, need a good ruler.

<u>弥迦</u>的时代,以及我们的时代需要的不仅仅是一个强大的领导,需要的是一个好的掌权者。

3. Jesus as Leader耶稣作为领袖

And this is who Jesus is. He is the leader who came to Make the World Right again. This is why we need Christmas, it shows us what kind of leader Jesus is.

这就是<u>耶稣</u>。他是来使世界再次归正的领袖。这就是为什么我们需要圣诞节,它告诉我们耶稣是什么样的领袖。

Humble 谦卑

Jesus comes humbly. Doesn't come like the expected kings.

耶稣谦卑地来了。不像预期的国王那样来。

He's born not only in little old Bethlehem, but born humbly as possibly. Born from the line of old, King David. More than that his origin is from ancient times, from everlasting, he is the God who is has existed for eternity. He who is eternal has been made temporary. In a physical body, bound by time.

他不仅出生在小而亘古的<u>伯利恒</u>,而且生来就很卑微。诞生于<u>大衛</u>王亘古的命脉。更重要的是,他的根源自亘古,从太初就有,他是自有永有的神。永恒的诞生为暂时的。成为了肉身,被时间所约束。

Jesus came in humility. He didn't come to fleece the sheep. To steal and take away. He came to o bey God, not to be the king of the world – he would become that after his resurrection. Jesus knows who he is, and he is not grasping for more power like so many leaders.

<u>耶稣</u>谦卑而来。他不是来诈取,偷窃。他来服从上帝,而不是成为世界之王,他复活后就会成为王。耶稣知道他自己是谁,他不像许多领袖那样争取更多的权力。

Leads from God's strength 依靠上帝的力量来带领

Jesus, the second person of the trinity did not come with all the pomp and ceremony of any other r uler. He comes to the place that we rule as a weak little baby, whose parents were a trady and an un married teenager. He is dependent upon God's power. And as Micah prophesied, he would lead and shepherd us in God's strength.

<u>耶稣</u>,三位一体的第二位,没有带着任何其他统治者的隆重和仪式而来。他作为一个弱小的婴儿,来到我们统治的地方,其父母是一个流浪汉和未婚青少年。他依靠神的力量。正如弥迦预言的那样,他会在神的力量中领导和牧养我们。

And because he is trusting in God, Jesus was incorruptible. He never sinned. He couldn't be bought; he couldn't be bribed. He didn't give into sexual temptation when offered. Jesus doesn't lead to get rich and give in to those who could bribe him. Jesus leads in God's strength.

因为他相信神,<u>耶稣</u>是清廉不腐败的。他从不犯罪。他不被收买;他不会受贿,他不给性诱惑。<u>耶稣</u>不会以致富为宗旨,也不会向那些可以贿赂他的人屈服。<u>耶稣</u>以神的力量带领着。

Knows our Situation

了解我们的情况

Jesus actually came down from heaven to become our leader. He knows our situation. He became a human to save, redeem, and now lead us. He can empathise with us about our pain and problem s.

<u>耶稣</u>实际上从天上下来,成为我们的领袖。他知道我们的处境,他成了一个拯救、救赎,现在领导我们的人。他可以同情我们的痛苦和问题。

He is not a leader born with a silver spoon in his mouth. He was not sent to the best schools, on the e fast track to political high places. He was born in humility, and lifted high in his death on the cross.

他不是一个天生有银勺的领袖。他没有被送到最好的学校,在快道上到政治高地。他生来就谦卑,在十字架上在他丢死中被高高举起。

I really like that TV shows undercover Boss. Where you have a boss of a large company leave their ivory high tower, and get to know who their employees and customers are. Christmas reminds us t hat Jesus is not a distant leader, ruling from far away, who doesn't know what it's like. He knows our issues intimately.

我真的很喜欢那个,微服的老板,的电视节目。节目中,一家大公司的老板离开他们的象牙高塔,并去了解他们的员工和客户是谁。圣诞节提醒我们,耶稣不是一个遥远的领袖,从远处统治,不知道我们的境况。他非常了解我们的问题。

Unlike Trump, Jesus has fulfilled the promise to make the World Great again. Not by making hims elf look great. But by his death and resurrection, he has ascended to the throne above all thrones. He has brought us back into relationship with God.

与<u>特朗普</u>不同,<u>耶稣</u>履行了让世界再次伟大的承诺。不是借着让自己看起来很棒。而是,通过他的死亡和复活,他已经登上了所有王位之上的宝座。他使我们与神的关系回复。

Jesus is the only one that can be trusted to rule. He is not able to be bought, bribed, or beaten. He has triumphed, and in his victory, he leads us and he feeds us. He is in control now over every situation in the world.

<u>耶稣</u>是唯一可以信任作统治的人。他不能被收买、贿赂或打贩。他取得了胜利,在他的 胜利中,他带领我们,他牧养我们。他现在控制着世界上的每一个局势。

So how do we respond to those in leadership? Much like Micah, we call them to account for their behaviour, and call them to model their leadership on something greater.

那么,我们应如何回应那些领导?就像<u>弥迦</u>一样,我们呼吁他们对自己的行为负责,并号召他们以更伟大的东西为榜样。

Don't just ignore politics in Australia, but contact your ministers, implore them to see justice don e, and remove corruption. After Micah's prophecy, Hezekiah the king repented, he didn't trust in other armies to deliver Judah from the Assyrian army. And Judah was saved. They were temporarily protected while their leadership were following the Lord.

不要忽视<u>澳大利亚</u>的政治,要联系你的部长,恳求他们看到正义得到伸张,并消除腐败贪污。听了<u>弥</u>的信息之后,<u>希西家</u>王悔改了,他不信靠其他军队来把<u>犹大从亚述</u>军队中拯救出来。犹大得救了。当他们的领导跟随主时,他们暂时受到保护。

Steve, our Senior Minister is on Sabbatical at the moment. He has taken some time out of his norm al work, to work on his spiritual, mental, and physical health. It is so important that Steve is a spirit ually well leader who is not trusting in his own strength but in God's.

我们的主任牧师Steve正在修假。他短时间暂停了日常工作,为属灵方面、精神和身体健康方面作提升。Steve是一位属灵方面不依靠自己的力量,而是信靠上帝的力量的领导是非常重要的。

We should be following Paul's advice to his protégé Timothy; 1 Timothy 2:

我们应该听从保罗对他的门徒提摩太提出的建议; 提摩太前书 2章:

1 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for a ll people— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

所以, 我劝你, 首先要为人人祈求、祷告、代求、感谢; 2为君王和一切在位的, 也要如此, 使我们能够敬虔端正地过平稳宁静的生活。

Pray for all those in authority or positions of Leadership. Leaders have a great influence on us. 为所有在权或在位的人祈祷。领导者对我们有很大的影响。

Looking at the situation in Hong Kong, it is terrible. Regardless of whether you agree with those pr otesting or not, it is a painful situation that won't be fixed easily. Every day it goes on the situation neems to be deteriorating even further. I don't know what the leaders of either side are like, but I don't have any idea how it can be reconciled.

看看香港的情况,情况是可怕的。不管你是同意或反对那些抗议的人,这是一个痛苦和不会轻易解决的情况。每一天,情况似乎都在进一步恶化。我不知道双方的领导是什么样的,但我不知道可如何调解。

As Paul reminds us in his letter to Timothy, we should be praying for God to intercede on behalf of the leaders on both sides. Pray for the government in Hong Kong and China, and all those in authority.

正如保罗在给提摩太的信中提醒我们那样,我们应该为双方祈求上帝介入代表双方的领导。为香港和中国政府,以及所有在位的祈祷。

When situations are desperate, when political leaders fail, it is a painful reminder of why Jesus is so necessary, and why Christmas reminds us that we need a good ruler. He is the leader who is incorr uptible, who can't be bribed, bought, or beaten. And he is powerful. So we shouldn't put an un necessary amount of trust in the leaders of the world. They will come and go. They will do good things and bad. They will put in new taxes, and cut taxes. But Jesus is the only one who has climbed to the top of the leadership ladder by obeying God perfectly and dying for us. He paid the cost of our sin and shame. He now sits above everything throne and will return in glory.

当情况绝望时,当政治领导人失败时,这是为什么耶稣是如此必要的痛苦提醒,也是为什么圣诞节提醒我们需要一个好的统治者。他是廉洁奉公、不受贿、不被收买和打贩的领袖。他很强大。因此,我们不应该对世界领导人给与不必要的信任。他们会来来去去。他们会做好和坏的事情。他们将投入新的税项,并削减税收。但耶稣是唯一一个以完全服从神,为我们而死,来成为领导阶梯的顶端的人。他付了我们的罪和耻辱的代价。他现在坐在一切王位之上,将光荣地回归。