

## Authentic Restoration - 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019

真实的修复-2019年10月13日

2 Corinthians 哥林多后书 12:11-13:14

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There was once a rich and wealthy man who saw a bruised injured woman in the gutter. She was dirty and wounded. He lifted her up, cleaned her and cared for her. One day they were married, with a solemn oath and giving of promises.

从前有一个有钱人，在路旁看见一个遍体鳞伤的女人。她又脏又伤。他扶起她，清洗她，照顾她。有一天，他们结婚了，庄严宣誓，许下诺言。

He gave her fine clothes and the best jewellery. Bracelets and necklaces and rings of gold and silver. They honeymooned and feasted together.

他给了她漂亮的衣服和最好的珠宝。手镯、项链和金银戒指。大排筵席，一起度蜜月。

The man cared for her and in his spotlight she became beautiful. And her fame and popularity spread. All knew about this woman's beauty.

男人照顾她，在他的聚光灯下，她变得美丽。她的名声和人气也传开了。大家都知道这个女人的美貌。

But she trusted in her beauty, and she used her fame to sell herself. She sold herself to anyone that she could. She even sold all her gifts that her husband gave so she could pay lovers to be with her. Instead of receiving payment for her acts, she paid for them herself.

但是她仗着自己的美貌，她用她的名声来推销自己。她把自己卖给任何愿意的人。她甚至卖掉了她丈夫送的所有礼物，以便以金钱把恋人留在她身边。她没有为她的行为得到报酬，而是倒贴馈赠其他男人。

But her money disappeared, her beauty gone, and her lovers turned on her. She was left bruised, dirty, ruined in the gutter again.

但当她的钱消失了，她的美貌消失了，她的恋人也离她而去。她再次被伤，脏兮兮的，被弃在路旁。

But again, her husband came to her and lifted her up. He wiped away her blood at the cost of his own. He restored her beauty because of his great love for her.

但是再次，她的丈夫来找她，并扶起她。他以自己付的代价擦去她的血。因为他对她伟大的爱，修复了她的美貌。

The man in that story is God. And the woman is his people Israel. This is a summary of Ezekiel 16. Let me encourage you to go and read the whole thing there later.

故事中的那个有钱人是上帝。女人是他的子民以色列人。这是以西结书 16 章的简结。让我鼓励你以后去阅读整章书。

It tells of God's people like a wife, doing the worst thing possible in a marriage. Absolute betrayal. The bible in one sense, is a love story. A story of a people that God has chosen to love who run from him and have chosen other things and other gods to love.

它讲述了上帝的子民像妻子一样，在婚姻中做最了坏的事情。绝对的背叛。从某种意义上说，圣经是一个爱情故事。一个上帝选择去爱的人，背叛了上帝，选择去爱其他的东西和其他神的故事。

It shows in black and white how depraved we are compared to God's love for us. That's the picture the bible presents of God and us. God chose people and made them wonderful and they ran off in every direction. But God at the cost of his own Son has lifted us up and restored us.

它明显的指出与上帝对我们的爱相比，我们是多么堕落。这就是圣经呈现的上帝和我们的形象。上帝选择了人，使他们变得精彩，而他们跑向各个方向。但上帝以他自己的儿子为代价，使我们苏醒，修复我们。

As we come to the final passage in 2 Corinthians we are looking at Authentic Restoration. Paul has had conflict with the church in Corinth. They had run away from Jesus, broken relationship with him. Chased a different version of Jesus because they were deceived by the so called 'Super Apostles'.

当我们来到哥林多后书的最后这一段，我们来探讨真正的修复。保罗与哥林多的教会发生了冲突。他们逃离耶稣，和他断绝了关系。追逐不同版本的耶稣，因为他们被所谓的"超级使徒"欺骗。

As he closes his letter he reminds them of the consequences of their sin. But he points them to a beautiful picture of what restoration looks like, when they are restored and in relationship with Paul, with each other, and with God. He calls them to the end of the love story when the couple is restored and it's a happily ever after.

在他结束他的信时，他提醒他们他们的罪的后果。但是，他指他们到一个美丽的，修复后看起来的画面，是他们与保罗，与彼此之间，和与上帝的关系修复了的画面。他呼召他们去想想一对夫妇修复时的爱情故事，从此以后永远幸福的画面。

This is a longing of our soul. To be restored. To be in complete and perfect relationship with the one who invented love. We hate sad endings in romance movies and long for broken relationships to be fixed.

这是我们灵魂的渴望。被修复。与发明爱的那位建立完整而完美的关系。我们讨厌爱情电影中的悲伤结局，渴望修复破裂的关系。

As we finish 2 Corinthians we will see how to have Authentic Restoration in our relationships with God and each other.

当我们完成哥林多后书，我们将看看如何在我们与上帝和彼此的关系有真正的修复。

## 1. Relationships Broken 关系中断

Paul outlines the conflict between him and the church in Corinth. It's all because of unmet expectations. Verse 20.

保罗概述了他和哥林多教会之间的冲突。这一切都是因为未满足的期望。第 20 节。

For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be.

20 我怕我再来的时候，见你们不合我所期望的，而你们见我也不合你们所期望的。

The church in Corinth had fled Paul's teaching and relationship because he appeared weak. That meant that they'd also fled relationship with Jesus. Paul is worried that his expectations won't be met either and when he gets there, there will be further conflict. Verse 20 again.

哥林多的教会因为保罗显得软弱而逃离了保罗的教导和关系。这意味着他们也逃离了与耶稣的关系。保罗也担心他的期望会落空，当他到达那里时，还会有进一步的冲突。第 20 节再次。

I fear that there may be discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder. 21 I am afraid that when I come again my God will humble me before you, and I will be grieved over many who have sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual sin and debauchery in which they have indulged.

我怕有纷争、嫉妒、愤怒、自私、毁谤、谗言、狂傲、动乱的事。21 我怕我再来的时候，我的上帝使我在你们面前蒙羞，并且又因许多人从前犯罪，行污秽、淫乱、放荡的事，不肯悔改而悲伤。

Paul is fearful that he'll arrive and be grieved by their sin. They are not only fighting with Paul, but their sin is against God and each other.

保罗怕他再来时，为他们的罪而悲伤。他们不仅与保罗斗争，而且他们是对上帝和对彼此犯罪。

That list of sins all damage relationships with other people; discord, jealousy, rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, disorder, sexual impurity, and debauchery.

那份罪的清单都是危害与其他人的关系的; 纷争、嫉妒、愤怒、自私、毁谤、谗言、狂傲、动乱的事、行污秽、淫乱、放荡。

Imagine walking in a church and seeing all of that.

想象一下，走进教会里，看到的都是这一切。

But are we actually that far off? They could all be descriptions of my heart at different times. Frustration leading to rage. Sharing of prayer points leading to gossip. Hearing of others success leading to jealousy and selfish ambition.

但是，我们实际上有很大分别吗？它们都可以在不同时间描述我的心。沮丧导致愤怒。分享祈祷点导致八八卦卦。听到别人的成功导致嫉妒和自私的野心。

These sins had damaged relationship with God and each other.

这些罪破坏了与神和彼此的关系。

Paul speaks hard words so that they would repent, so that they can be restored in relationship. Otherwise there will be more conflict.

保罗言词严厉，这样他们才会悔改，这样他们才能在关系中修复。否则，将会有更多的冲突。

## Chapter 13:2-3

### 第 13 章： 2-3

I already gave you a warning when I was with you the second time. I now repeat it while absent: On my return I will not spare those who sinned earlier or any of the others, 3 since you are demanding proof that Christ is speaking through me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you.

对那些犯了罪的人和其余所有的人，正如我第二次见你们的时候曾说过，现在不在你们那里再次说：「我若再来，必不宽容。」<sup>3</sup> 因为你们想求证基督是否借着我说话。基督对你们并不是软弱的，而是在你们里面大有能力的。

Paul will come with proof of Christ working through him. Coming with, verse 4, God's power to deal with their sin.

保罗会带着基督通过他工作的证明。第 4 节，带着上帝处理他们的罪的大能。

Paul knows that the relationship between Corinth and him, and Corinth and God has been damaged. He does not sweep in under the rug. He doesn't ignore it hoping it will get better. This letter had been about dealing with conflict head on. Paul in verse 19 says it is for their

strengthening. To be built strong following Jesus, they need conflict. They need to be confronted with their broken relationship. Reflecting on the whole letter, it shows the value of Conflict and how to conflict well.

保罗知道哥林多和他的关系，哥林多和上帝的关系已经受损。他不是把它扫在地毯下。他没有忽视它，希望它会变得更好。这封信是关于正面处理冲突的。保罗在 12:19 说，一切的事都是为了造就他们的。为了在跟随耶稣时建立坚强，他们需要冲突。他们需要面对他们破碎的关系。从整封信的反思中，它显示了冲突的价值以及如何很好地冲突。

### **Value of Conflict 冲突的价值**

Conflict is hard and painful. But it is so much better than sitting in broken relationships. Conflict has been for this church, for their sake. To bring them back to Jesus and relationship with God and each other.

冲突是艰难而痛苦的。但它比坐在破碎的关系中要好得多。冲突一直是为了这个教会，为了他们。把他们带回到耶稣，与神和彼此的关系中。

We can be tempted to avoid conflict because we love people. But if we just ignore it, the feelings of hurt and pain will grow. They will bubble up and eventually burst, and you'll either flee the relationship or lash out. Neither of those are loving.

我们可能因为我们爱而试图避免与人冲突。但是，如果我们忽视它，伤害和痛苦的感觉会增长。他们会冒泡，最终爆裂，最后你要逃离这个关系，或要大打出手。这两个都不是爱。

### **How to have conflict 如何去冲突**

2 Corinthians gives us a picture of how to have conflict. Paul does it not to bully or have influence, but he has been direct with the issues because it is for their strengthening. He doesn't want to be a burden on them, he has not taken money, because he is leading them from a position of love. He could have begun with the authority of an apostle, but he is showing patience and love instead of using his position. Paul has also willingly admitted his own weaknesses, he has not been proud.

哥林多后书给我们一个如何去冲突的图片。保罗这样做不是欺负或建立影响力，但他一直直接地处理，因为这都是为了造就他们。他不想成为他们的负担，他没有为拿钱，因为他正从爱的位置带领他们。他本可以从使徒的权威开始，但他表现出耐心和爱，而不是利用他的地位。保罗也心甘情愿地承认自己的弱点，他一直没有骄傲。

Paul shows a great model of love and patience when confronting sin. Direct but not inappropriate.

保罗在面对罪时，表现出一种伟大的爱和耐心的典范。直接的，但不是不恰当的。

When I do marriage preparation with couples we often talk about conflict. We talk about how important fighting fair and clean is. There's a problem when we are too conflict averse and there's a problem when we desire conflict too much. It helps us to express our expectations and lead to being restored in our relationships. Jesus gives a model of dealing with sin and conflict in Matthew 18.

当我和夫妻做结婚准备时，我们经常谈论冲突。我们谈论公正与干净的争斗是多么重要。当我们过于厌恶冲突时，会有问题，当我们过于渴望冲突时，也会有问题。冲突帮助我们表达我们的期望，并导致在我们的关系中的修复。耶稣在马太福音 18 章中给了处理罪和冲突的典范。

This is much better than just hoping that Paul would never come back to Corinth. Far better to deal with the problem in a loving and godly way to have full restoration.

这比希望保罗永远不会回到哥林多要好得多。以爱和属神的方式处理问题得以完全的修恢复是更好的。

## 2. Relationship Restored 关系修复

Paul, coming to the end of the letter presses on the church so that they can be restored.

保罗，来到信的结尾，推动教会，以便他们可以修复。

Paul asks, verse 5,

保罗在第 5 节说，

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves.

你们总要省察自己是否在信仰中生活；你们要考验自己。

Take a measure of Paul's humble self reflection, and have a think about your faith. They were to examine themselves. And Paul is pointing to where they got their faith from – Paul's preaching. Paul shared the gospel message of restoration and reconciliation – broken people made whole in Christ. If they accept the message – they're accepting Paul too.

衡量保罗谦卑的自我反省，想想你的信仰。他们要考验自己。保罗指着他们从哪里得到信仰 - 保罗的讲道。保罗分享了修复与和解的福音信息 - 破碎的人在基督里得以完整。如果他们接受这个信息，他们也是接受保罗。

And Paul gives them the benefit of the doubt, verse 6.

保罗第 6 节假设他们是向好的作考虑。

6 And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test.

我希望你们知道，我们并不是经不起考验的人。

Paul asks an ironic question in verse 5,

保罗在第 5 节中问了一个具有讽刺意味的问题

Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?

除非你们经不起考验，你们自己岂不应该知道有耶稣基督在你们里面吗？

It's a tongue in cheek comment. He's not casting doubt on them. But if Christ is in them, it's because they heard Paul's message and he is their true apostle and not those deceptive 'Super Apostles'. To confirm Christ is to confirm Paul's role.

这是开玩笑地说。他没有怀疑他们。但是，如果基督在他们里面，那是因为他们听过保罗的信息，他，而不是那些欺骗的'超级使徒'，才是他们真正的使徒。确认基督就是确认保罗的角色。

Paul rejoices in verse 9,

保罗在第 9 节中欢喜

9 We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and our prayer is that you may be fully restored.

9 当我们软弱而你们刚强时，我们也欢喜。我们所祈求的是：你们能成为完全人。

Paul is glad when as an extension of the cross he is led into suffering on their behalf. And he is glad that as an extension of the resurrection this church is strengthened and encouraged in their faith. This is why he is so willing to be weak for them. He wants them to be fully restored.

保罗为作为十字架的延伸，代表他们被引导到痛苦而高兴。他为作为复活的延伸，这个教会在他们的信仰中得到了造就和鼓励而高兴。这就是为什么他如此愿意为他们软弱。他希望它们完全修复。

That's the purpose of this letter. Restoration. He calls them to examine themselves, to repent, so that they can be restored. But it's not just Paul and the Corinthians church that need to be restored. It's their relationship with God and each other that sin has damaged.

这就是这封信的目的。修复。他叫他们省察考验自己，悔改，这样他们才能被修复。但不只是保罗和哥林多教会需要修复。罪破坏了他们与上帝和彼此的关系。

It's parents and children. Husbands and wives. Friends, enemies, family, the church as a body.

是父母和孩子。丈夫和妻子。朋友，敌人，家庭，教会作为一个身体。

This is where the English language sometimes lets us down. Paul's prayer was that 'you' may be fully restored. It's easy to read that this morning in Sydney in an individualist culture and think it's about just me and God. But it's not! It's about a community of believers. So I'll appeal to 2 other bad translations of mine to help me, and the Chinese.

这就是英语有时让我们失望的地方。保罗的祷告是，'you'(你)能成为完全人。在今天早上在悉尼的个人主义文化中，人们很容易把'you'看为仅自己和上帝。但不是！这是关于一个信徒的群体。因此，我会用我的另外 2 个不好的翻译和中文来帮助我。

It's all about the word 'you' in the second person plural. But we don't have it correct English. But there's another word, youse. So Paul's prayer – is that youse may be fully restored. Or the American version, Y'all. Paul's prayer – is that y'all may be fully restored. Or in the Chinese it's nǐ mén néng chéng wéi wán quán rén / 你们能成为完全人。

这是关于'you'这个词是第二身复数。但是我们没有正确的英语。可有另一个词是，youse。所以保罗的祷告 - 就是 youse 能成为完全人。或者美国版，Y'all。保罗的祷告是，Y'all 能成为完全人。或者中文版，nǐ mén néng chéng wéi wán quán rén / 你们能成为完全人。

The areas of sin from chapter 12 all had impact on others. Discord, rage, slander, gossip, disorder, debauchery, sexual immorality. Rebellion from the Jesus that they followed has broken relationship with Paul, God, and the church.

第 12 章内的罪都对他人有影响。纷争、愤怒、毁谤、谗言、动乱、放荡、淫乱。反抗他们跟随的耶稣破坏了与保罗、上帝和教会的关系。

And now Paul presents a beautiful picture of restoration. The amazing work of the one true gospel – the good news that God's son died and was raised so we could have our relationship restored with God.

现在保罗展示修复了后的一幅美丽画面。一个真福音的惊人工作 - 上帝的儿子死和复活的好消息，以便我们可以修复我们与神的关系。

The word restoration is also translated as perfect or complete. Restoration looks like taking what was broken and restoring it to what it was intended to be. To go from broken to perfect and whole.

修复这单词也被翻译为完美或完整。修复看起来像把一些被打破了的，修复为它本来设计的。从破碎走向完美和完整。

Paul fills this picture of restoration in verse 11.

保罗在第 11 节中填满了这幅修复的画面。



11 Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. 12 Greet one another with a holy kiss.

11 末了，弟兄们，愿你们喜乐。要追求完全；要接受鼓励；要同心合意；要彼此和睦。如此，慈爱和平的上帝必与你们同在。12 你们要用圣洁的吻彼此问安。众圣徒都向你们问安。

This picture of restored relationship looks opposite to their sin. They are people who are encouraging each other. They have one mind and are not divided. They are living in peace with each other. Building each other up because there is no division. They're all going in the same direction following the Lord.

这张修复了关系的画面看起来与他们的罪相反。他们是互相鼓励的人。他们有同一个思想，没有分裂。他们彼此和睦相处。彼此建立，因为没有分裂。他们都跟随主朝同一个方向前进。

Paul calls them to greet each other with a holy kiss. This kind of behaviour was very personal and reserved for family. But Paul's call to kiss one another is a transcultural call. One that recognises that we are all now in God's family, regardless of wealth and status or ethnic origin.

保罗叫他们用圣洁的吻彼此问安。这种行为是非常私人的，是留给家人的。但是保罗的呼唤是一个跨文化的呼唤。一个承认我们现在都是在上帝的家庭中，不论财富和地位或种族血统。

When these behaviours happen, Paul says that the God of love and peace will be with them. God is working through Paul's message, through the Spirit leading them to obey God and love others. God is there.

当这些行为发生时，保罗说慈爱和平的上帝必与他们同在。神正透过保罗的信息，透过圣灵，引导他们服从神，爱他人。上帝在那里。

Paul promises that God will be there either way. Whether they repent or not. If they don't examine themselves and repent, Paul will come with God's power and authority to tear down.

保罗承诺上帝会在那里。不管他们是否悔改。如果他们不省察考验自己和悔改，保罗将带着神的大能和权柄来摧毁。

But if they do repent, and they are restored, then the God of love and peace will be displayed in their unity.

但是，如果他们真的悔改了，他们被修复了，那么神的慈爱与和平就会表现在他们的团结中。

Paul closes with the wonderful triune blessing from God,

保罗以上帝美妙的三元祝福来结束，

13 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

13 愿主耶稣基督的恩惠、上帝的慈爱、圣灵的感动常与你们众人同在！

Paul has left the divided Corinthian church a way forward. Deal with conflict in a healthy way so that there can be restoration. He's called them to the God of love who takes us, his people – damaged and broken, and lifts us out of the muck and completes us. He makes us whole and perfect. He makes us beautiful in him. All at great expense to himself – the death of his Son.

保罗为分裂的哥林多教会一道前进的道路。以健康的方式处理冲突，以达到修复。他呼召他们到爱的神，他会把我们，他的受伤和破碎的子民，把我们从泥中抬出来，成为完全人。他使我们完整而完美。他使我们在他里面变得美丽。这一切都是不惜巨大的代价 - 他的儿子的死。

The Japanese art of Kintsugi is a great picture of this. They repair a broken bowl with resin and gold. Take what was broken and useless and restore it. Not just restore it's function but make it far better than it was. Precious.

日本的金津吉艺术就是这样的一幅伟大的图画。他们用树脂和金子修理一个破碎的碗。拿破碎的，没用的，然后修复它。不只是修复它的功能，但使它比当初好得多。更珍贵。

It's a picture of what God has done in us. He has lifted us out of the gutter, broken and useless. And he has repaired us, and made us precious, not with gold but the blood of his son.

这是上帝对我们所做的事的一幅图画。他把我们从路旁，破碎的，没用的，扶起来。他修复了我们，使我们变得珍贵，不是用金子，而是用他儿子的血。

Paul's encouragement here for us is that we need to examine ourselves to realise that we are indeed broken bowls who need fixing. Imagine if you were trying to eat out of a broken bowl, you would damage yourself and anyone else that tried it.

保罗在这里给我们的鼓励是，我们需要省察考验自己，意识到我们确实是需要修理的破碗。想象一下，如果你试图从一个破碎的碗里吃东西，你会伤害自己和任何尝试的人。

That's why dealing with conflict is so important for us today. To point out the harsh and broken edges, and apply God's grace like gold to repair the pieces.

这就是为什么处理冲突对我们今天如此重要。指出刺眼和破碎的边缘，并应用上帝的恩典像黄金修复碎片。

Brothers and Sisters, have you examined yourself? Have you taken the mask off and become authentic? As a church community, as Christians, when we are confident and authentic about who we are, who God has made us to be, the church looks wonderful. Like a bowl that was broken and repaired.

弟兄姐妹们，你省察过自己吗？你有把面具拿掉，变得真实吗？作为一个教会社群，作为基督徒，当我们对自己是谁、对上帝使我们成为谁充满信心和真实时，教会看起来就棒极了。就像一个破碎了但修复好的碗。

A church that can boldly declare that we don't have it all together. We are broken and messed up people. Prone to rage, and selfishness, and sexual impurity. But God's grace is sufficient. We are made precious and whole. Imagine church if we all demonstrated humble authenticity like this.

一个可以大胆地宣布我们没有做得完全的教会。我们是破碎了，搞砸了的人。容易愤怒，自私，行淫乱污秽。但神的恩典是足够的。我们变得珍贵而完整。教会想象一下，如果我们都表现出这样真实的卑微。

We are made whole, as Christ's bride. Men we are made the Bride of Christ. Restored to be something truly amazing.

作为基督的新娘，我们已成为完全人。男士们，我们是基督的新娘。修复为真正惊人的东西。

Do you need to go and have some helpful conflict? Do you need to apologize? Do you need to practice being weak because God is strong?

你需要去有一些有用的冲突吗？你需要道歉吗？你需要练习软弱，因为上帝是刚强的吗？

If you're not sure about this Jesus, or want to know more, please come and speak with myself, or Nick, or the person sitting next to you.

如果你不确定耶稣是谁，或者想知道更多，请来和我，或 Nick，或坐在你旁边的人查询。

That love story that I told at the start is our story. Everyone loves a good love story with the happy ending where people end up together and all is well. We get to be like the kintsugi bowl. The walking demonstration that God takes a broken people and restores them, that he truly is the God of Love and Peace.

我一开始讲的爱情故事就是我们的故事。每个人都喜欢一个好的爱情故事，幸福的结局，有情人终成眷属，一切都很好。我们就像金松吉碗一样。是上帝会把破碎的人修复的活证，他真正是慈爱和平的神。