

The Walk of a Christian 基督徒的身份

James Barnett 3.1.2021 詹姆斯·巴奈特 3.1.2021

It was the week before Christmas, 10 pm, at night. I had to take the bins out. I was walking out in the dark when something gently tickled my face. I did what every sane person would do in that context. Immediately jumped back and did a spider dance!

在圣诞节之前的一周的一个晚上 10 点。我正要把垃圾拿到外面。我在黑暗中走出去时，有东西轻轻地搔痒我的脸。在这种情况下我做了每个有理智的人都会做的事。马上跳后和跳起蜘蛛舞！

I had to get those bins out though. So I moved back, grabbed my phone, turned the torch on, grabbed a stick and went spider hunting.

不过，我不得不把那些垃圾拿到垃圾箱。于是我倒后，抓起手机，打开手电筒筒，抓起一根棍子，去猎蜘蛛。

I found the web up high, and I believe it was an orb sider, with a fat abdomen, making the biggest web he could. So I whacked him.

我在很高处发现蜘蛛网，我相信是一只球形蜘蛛，腹部肥大的，有最大的网的。所以我向它挥棍而下。

I'm sure you've been in a situation like this. Maybe you've had a physical reaction to me retelling my horror story. But something is terrifying about the unknown dark. What's out there? What's going to crawl on my face, or up my leg. What piece of lego will I step on, or furniture will I walk into?

我肯定你们也曾有一样的经历。也许你的身体对我重述我的恐怖故事有反应。在未知的黑暗里是有些可怕的事情。那是什么？是什么爬到我脸上了，或者爬到我的腿上。我会踩到什么乐高，或者我会碰上那一件家具？

In so many ways, we have fought back the dark and the fears that come with it. Street lights reduce crime. Car headlights reduce accidents.

实际上，我们已用很多方式去击退了黑暗和它带来的恐惧。路灯减少了犯罪。汽车大灯减少了事故。

Whilst we avoid the dark, we can also do the complete opposite and embrace it. One of my kids recently has been stealing lollies, and goes off and hides in the dark to eat them. The dark is a place of protection when I'm in the wrong.

虽然我们可避免黑暗，我们也可以完全相反地去拥抱它。我的一个孩子最近一直在偷糖果，然后躲在黑暗中吃。当我犯错时，黑暗是保护的地方。

We can embrace the dark too. Our experience, just like one of the kids, can tell us that if I want to get what I want, I might have to embrace the dark to get it. We can choose to hide things from family members, hide problems at work out of fear of punishment and retribution.

我们也可以拥抱黑暗。我们的经验，就像其中一个孩子一样，可以告诉我们，如果我想得到我想要的，我可能不得不拥抱黑暗来得到它。我们可以选择对家人隐瞒事情，因为害怕惩罚和报复而隐瞒工作中的问题。

So we can end up staggering instead of walking—half in the light, half in the dark.
因此，我们最终是摇摆不前，而不是在行走…一半在光中，一半在黑暗中。

Today, we start in the short first letter of the Apostle John. He was writing to a church who were being deceived. People had come into the church and tried to get them to follow a different gospel and version of Jesus, taking them down a different path. A path that was not walking in the light following God, but in the dark.

今天，我们开始看使徒约翰第一封的简短的书信。他写给一个受骗的教会。人们来到教会，试图让他们遵循不同的福音和不同版本的耶稣，带他们走不同的道。一条不是跟随上帝在光中走的道，而是在黑暗中行走的。

The challenge for us today will be to check where we've been walking. We've just started a new year, and it's a good time to check which path we're going down.

我们今天面临的挑战是要检查我们是在哪一条道上走。我们刚刚开始新的一年，现在是检查我们正走在哪条道上的好时间。

There is a God who loves us who wants us to follow him. Are we following him, or are we embracing darkness out of fear and desires to get what we want?

有一个爱我们的上帝，他希望我们跟随他。我们是在跟随他吗，还是我们因恐惧或为要得到我们欲望想要的去了拥抱黑暗。

Today we'll see the God who has been revealed. God is light. And that he is the God that we should walk with.

今天，我们要看，被显现的上帝；上帝是光；和他是我们应该一起同行的神。

1. God Revealed 被显现的上帝

It appears that John is writing to a church that has had a group of people come in and try to deceive the church. John brings up this group's claims and refutes them in many places. They claimed to be sinless, denied that Jesus was the Christ, the son of God, denied that Jesus brought forgiveness by his blood, didn't love each other, and continued to choose to sin without care.

看来约翰正在给一个教会写信，因有一群人曾进来试图欺骗教会。约翰提出了这群人的说法，并在很多地方驳斥了它们。他们声称自己是无罪的，否认耶稣是基督，神的儿子，否认耶稣用他的血带来了宽恕，没有彼此相爱，并继续选择无忧无虑地犯罪。

We'll look at a number of these claims over the next four weeks and the importance of what they mean for us. are coming in. And it reads like an apostle's resume. 1 John 1:1

在接下来的四周里，我们将研究一些他们的声称，以及它们对我们意味着什么的重要性。读起来像使徒的简历。《约翰一书》1: 1，

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

论到从起初原有的生命之道，就是我们所听见、所看见、亲眼看过、亲手摸过的

John repeats himself three times in these first three verses to emphasize his point. We have seen him, the promised Christ, we have heard him, and we have touched him. We just celebrated a week ago at Christmas. The mighty all-powerful God, the creator of the universe, became someone we could touch and hear and see and know.

约翰在这前三节中重复了三遍来强调他的观点。那应许的基督，我们所看见，所听见，亲手摸过的。我们上周刚庆祝了圣诞节。强大的万能的上帝，宇宙的创造者，成为一个我们可以触摸、听到、看到和认识的人。

God has been revealed. HE's come out into the light so to speak and made himself knowable. 上帝已经被显现了。就像是他步入了光明，使自己可以被认识。

And it is that which unites us in verse 3.

这也正是把我们团结在一起的，在第3节中，

3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

3 我们把所看见、所听见的传扬给你们，为要使你们也与我们有团契，而我们的团契是与父和他儿子耶稣基督所共有的。

Don't be deceived by people coming in and saying that Jesus didn't come in the flesh or he wasn't really God, we saw him, we saw him raised from the dead, and he's the only reason that keeps the church together.

不要被进来的人说耶稣不是成了肉身，或者他不是真正的神，而被欺骗了。我们看见他，我们看到他从死里复活，他是教会团结在一起的唯一原因。

So we walk together following this God. Christianity is not an individual sport. It's a team sport. I saw a video of Dragon Boat racing the other day, one person is laying the beat on the drums, and it works when everyone else rows in time. That's when they go the faster and cut through the water like a knife.

所以我们一起跟着这个上帝走。基督教不是一项个人运动。是一项团队运动。前几天我看了一段龙舟比赛的视频，一个人在打鼓放出节拍，当其他人也依时一同划船，它起作用了。这样他们便会前航得更快，像刀子一样切开水。

In so many New Testament letters, the author calls back a church from going off, rowing to their own beat away from God, because it matters for the whole church! Our faith is not individual; we all interconnected and impact each other, positively or negatively.

在很多《新约》的书信中，作者回叫离开了的教会，跟着自己的节拍划船远离上帝的他们，因为这对整个教会都很重要！我们的信仰不单是个人的。我们都相互联系，积极或消极地互相影响着对方。

2. God is Light 上帝就是光

John now explains more about this God who brings us together.

约翰现在解释了更多关于这个把我们聚集在一起的上帝。

In verse 5, he says that God is light. It's a picture of God and his character. At the start of the Bible, the first thing he created he said, let there be light. It's an expression of who he is, and he makes light, it pushes back the darkness. From the light that everything else grows, all creation, plants, animals, and humans all need light. All creation owes its existence, and also its sustenance to God who is light. And Jesus who is the light of the world.

在第5节中，他说上帝就是光。这是上帝和他的个性的图片。在《圣经》的开始，他创造的第一件事，他说，「要有光」。这是他是谁的表达，他制造光明，推回黑暗。万物从这光而起，所有的创造、植物、动物、人类都需要光。所有的受造之物的存在都归功于上帝，就是哪光。和耶稣，就是世界的光。

God is Light. C.S. Lewis said that we believe that the Sun has risen, not because we see it, but because by it we see everything else.

上帝就是光。刘易斯说，我们相信太阳已经升起，不是因为我们看到它，而是因为它，我们才看到其他一切。

Where the Sun is, there is no darkness. Where God is, there can only be the truth, and there is no error. Where God is there can only be good, there is no place for evil.

太阳在哪里，那里就没有黑暗。上帝在哪里，就只有真理，没有错误。上帝在哪里，只能有美善，毫无邪恶。

And we get to be in close relationship with this God. John paints a positive and negative view of this, verse 6.

我们与这神可以保持密切的关系。约翰对此点显示出积极和消极的看法，第6节。

6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

6 我们若说，我们与上帝有团契，却仍在黑暗里行走，就是说谎话，不实行真理了。7 我们若在光明中行走，如同上帝在光明中，就彼此有团契，他儿子耶稣的血就洗净我们一切的罪。

Some claim to have fellowship with God but walk in darkness. They're lying.

若有人说自己与神有团契，却仍在黑暗里行走，他们是在撒谎。

Some claim to have no sin, but they've been deceived and call God a liar.

若有人说自己没有罪，就是欺骗自己，把上帝当作说谎的。

A Christian is instead someone who has had all their sin brought into the light and exposed. But instead of being expelled from God's presence, all our sin is dealt with and purified by the blood of Jesus.

基督徒是一个他们所有的罪被带到光明中和暴露出来的人。但是，我们不是从神的面前被驱逐出去，而是我们一切的罪和不义被耶稣的血洗净。

We can only walk in God's light by his Grace. That God would choose to deal with our sin through the blood of Jesus. So that we are not lost in the dark without him!

我们唯有借着他的恩典才能在神的光明中行走。上帝选择通过耶稣的血来处理我们的罪。这样，我们不会因没有他而在黑暗中迷失！

The walk of a Christian is very much like the picture on the screen. I think it's a really great picture. God has lit our path, following him, yet we are surrounded on all sides.

基督徒的一生很像屏幕上的图片。我觉得真是一幅很棒的图画。上帝照亮了我们的道路，跟随着他，然而我们同时被包围着。

On the one hand, we can walk in the darkness thinking that everything is fine with our life and without obeying God and following him— but that way we are fooling ourselves, very soon we will stumble in the bushes and be left hurt.

一方面，我们可以在黑暗中，以为我一生都很好的在行走，不服从和不跟着上帝…但那样，我们在愚弄自己，很快我们会在灌木丛中绊倒，受伤。

We can also be tempted to think we aren't really that bad that we are fine walking in the dark without God. I can see where I'm going! I'm a good person, God says he loves me the way I am, I can choose to go my own path and not obey God. He'll love me regardless of my decision.

我们也可以被诱惑，认为不是真的那么糟糕，我们在黑暗中没有上帝同在也能好好地走。我能看见我要去哪里！我是个好人，上帝说他爱哪一如既往的我，我可以选择走自己的路，不服从上帝。不管我做出什么决定，他都会爱我的。

Instead, chapter 2 tells us that we have Jesus, the advocate. In his death and resurrection, he takes our hand and brings us into the light. It's like the lawyer standing beside the guilty person in court. Jesus pleads our case for us, come this way. You are not a good person who can walk on your own, but I'm with you to make you good.

相反，第2章告诉我们，我们有耶稣，这位中保。在他的死亡和复活中，他牵着我们的手，把我们带进了光明。就像在法庭上，站在罪犯旁边的律师。耶稣为我们辩护，走这条路。你不是一个好的，能靠自己走的人，但我与你同在，让你变得好。

It is not good in the dark, let me join in and guide you to the light.

在黑暗中不好，让我进来并引导你到光明。

Brothers and Sisters, are we choosing to embrace the dark instead of letting Jesus guide us into the light and obeying God?

兄弟姐妹们，我们选择拥抱黑暗，还是让耶稣指引我们进入光明，服从神呢？

What secret sin are you hiding that draws you into the darkness that you need to confess. We have Jesus, the advocate with the father, who stepped into our darkness to bring us into God's light.

你隐藏着什么秘密的罪，让你陷入黑暗，是你需要承认的。我们有耶稣，在父里的那位中保，他踏进我们的黑暗中，把我们带到神的光明。

As we start off 2021, start by bringing your hidden sins out into the light. Bring them to Jesus, the advocate, who stands by your side as you confess. But also, confess it to a friend. Mate, I've really been struggling with this sin, God has convinced me that I need to change, I know I'm forgiven, but keep asking me about it and keep me accountable. Start your year off following and obeying God, not in the dark.

当我们开始 2021 年，让我们把隐藏的罪带到光明中来开始。把他们带到耶稣，那中保，在你认罪的时候站在你身边。但是，也向朋友坦白。朋友，我一直在这些罪上挣扎，上帝使我认知了我真的需要改变，我知道我已经被赦免了，但请不断向我查问，向我问责。开始你的一年跟随和服从上帝，而不是在黑暗中。

God is Light, and he calls us to walk in the light with him.

上帝就是光，他叫我们和他一起走在光明中。

3. God to walk with 与他一起走的上帝

John now illustrates what walking with God in the light looks like, and how our God is THE God to walk with. 2:3

约翰现在说明在光中与神一起行走的样子，以及我们的神如何是哪我们应与他一起走的上帝。

3 We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands.

3 我们若遵守上帝的命令，就知道我们确实认识他。

We can check if we're walking with God if we are obeying him. That's what that golden illuminated path in the forest looks like. Walking following God is following him!

我们可以，从我们是否服从他，来检查我们是否和上帝一起走。就像那条在森林里金色光亮的小路一样。跟随上帝行走就是跟着他！

Verse 5,

第 5 节，

5 But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

5 凡遵守他的道的，爱上帝的的心确实地在他里面达到完全了。由此我们知道我们是在他里面。6 凡说自己住在他里面的，就该照着他所行的去行。

Now I could give you a big list of commands, we could go through all the 10 Commandments, and the New Testament commands. But this is the journey of a Christian. Reading the Bible, and asking God, Am I on the path when it comes to loving you more than anything else, how am I embracing the darkness of lying, or lust, or theft.

现在让我给你们一个长大的命令行表，我们可以看看所有的「10 诫」，和《新约》的命令。但这是基督徒的旅程。读《圣经》，和祷告问上帝，我在爱你比其他的東西更多上是否走在正确的道上，我是否在拥抱着谎言、欲望或盗窃的黑暗。

John illustrates one aspect of walking in the light or walking in the dark. And it's all to do with what we love or hate.

约翰明示了在光明中行走和在黑暗中行走的不同。一切都在于我们爱或恨的东西有关。

9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. 10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.

9 人若说自己在光明中，却恨他的弟兄，他到如今还是在黑暗里。10 那爱弟兄的，就是住在光明中，他不会使人失足犯罪。

John asks this church to test how their love of the church is going. If you want to test yourself to see how you're going walking in the dark, whether your stumbling or staggering, check your love for those who should be easiest to love. The family that is created by Jesus' blood should be the easiest to love. If you don't love other Christians, people that God loves, are you really walking in the light?

约翰请这个教会来测试他们对教会的爱如何。如果你想测试自己，看看你如何在黑暗中行走，是否在跌跌碰碰或左摇右摆，检查你如何爱那些应该是最容易爱的人。由以耶稣的血创造的家庭应该是最容易去爱的。如果你不爱其他基督徒，上帝爱的人，你真的走在光明中吗？

We live in an individualistic intellectual society. We can lean towards a Christianity that says "I am a good Christian because I know a lot, I serve in many ways, I'm really skilled". There is a danger for us in forgetting to love. Instead of focussing on ourselves and self-centredness can take over.

我们生活在一个个人主义的知识社会中。可以倾向于一个说，「因为我知道很多，在很多方面服务，真的很熟练，所以我是一个很好的基督徒」，的基督宗教。但我们面临忘记去爱的危险，反而只专注于自己，慢慢被以自我为中心所占据。

If you claim to be following Jesus, who have you loved recently? Not who have you been nice to. But who have you spent time with, sacrificed for them, shared with? When we do that we'll be a community united by Jesus walking in the light. We'll be attractive to our neighbours, building each other up in love.

你若说自己是跟随耶稣的，你最近爱过谁？不是你对谁表示友好。而是，你花时间在谁身上，为他们牺牲，与他们分享？当我们这样做时，我们将是一个被耶稣团结起来在光明中行走的群体。我们会吸引我们的邻居，彼此在爱中建立对方。

As we say goodbye to 2020 and journey through 2021, there has been reflection about how bad 2020 was. Rightly so. But I've also seen people hoping for how much better 2021 will be. Focussing on personal freedom, I'll get that holiday that was denied me by border closures. When we get rid of that plague, I won't be full of fear, anxiety, and constant lockdowns. 我们正在告别 2020，迎接 2021 时，很多人一直在反思 2020 有多糟糕。确实如此。但我也看到他们希望 2021 年会好得多。专注于个人的自由，我会得到那个因边境关闭而被拒绝的假期。当我们摆脱疫程时，我不会再充满着恐惧、焦虑和不断的封锁。

I feel the pull of that too. But God has a much better 2021 for us if we would walk with him. Not about personal freedom but the freedom that comes with being in the light with the one who made light itself. Not getting rid of fear and anxiety about tomorrow, but trusting in Jesus more because he has defeated death and disease.

我也感觉到了这种拉力。但是，如果我们和他一起走，上帝的 2021 会好得多。不是关于个人自由，而是与光本身在光明中生活的自由。不是摆脱对明天的恐惧和焦虑，而是更信任耶稣，因为他战胜了死亡和疾病。

I want a 2021 where I walk in the light closer with Jesus and walk out of the darkness controlled by sinful desires.

我想要一个与耶稣在光明中走得更亲近的 2021，走出由罪恶的欲望所控制的黑暗。

American Pastor John Piper uses an illustration of a man sitting alone, in a totally dark room. He feels around, and with one hand, he can feel a warm, soft, fluffy fur, and with others, he feels something cold, hard, and sharp.

美国牧师约翰·派珀以一个人独自坐在一个完全黑暗的房间作为解说。那人感觉周围，在一只手中，他感觉到温暖，柔软，蓬松的毛皮，另一只手，他感到一些寒冷，坚硬，尖锐的东西。

And so in the dark, he draws near to the warm, soft, and fluffy thing. Snuggling in close. 所以在黑暗中，他更想亲近温暖，柔软，蓬松的东西。紧贴着它。

But when the light goes on, he sees that the warm, soft fur is the underbelly of a horrid, man-eating monster. The hard, cold, sharp edge is the sword of the majestic Christ ready to save. His desire for the man-eating monster controlled him because he was in the dark. Everyone who loves the world more than God is in the dark.

但是，当光明亮起来，他看到温暖，柔软的是一个可怕的，吃人怪物的下腹的毛皮。那坚硬，寒冷，锋利的是雄伟的基督准备拯救的宝剑的边锋。他被在那个吃人怪物的欲望所控制的原因是在黑暗中。每个爱这个世界比爱上帝的更多的人都在黑暗中。

When you walk in darkness, you are controlled by the desires for the soft, warm underbellies of prestige, power, to full our pride up, and two-second pleasures that don't last. This is not following God in the light.

当你在黑暗中行走时，你被对那温暖而柔软的，威望、权力、充分骄傲的和两秒钟的快乐的下腹的毛皮的欲望所控制。这不是在光明中跟随上帝走。

Following God means seeing the world the way he sees them, and having the same desires as him. If desires for the world instead of desires for God control us, it doesn't matter whether we say we have fellowship with God or not; we don't have it. Instead, we walk in darkness.

跟随上帝意味着以他看世界的方式来看世界，并拥有和他一样的欲望。如果我们是被对世界的欲望所控制，而不是对上帝的欲望所控制，不管我们是否说我们与上帝有团契；我们是没的。相反地，我们是在黑暗中行走。

What are you drawing close to? Will you draw close to Jesus?

你在被什么东西所吸引？你会靠近耶稣吗？