

THE TENACITY OF GOD

神的堅韌

A. God's Amazing Story! 神的奇妙故事

1. The Garden of Eden... 伊甸園

- a. Adam and Eve's mission: take what they were experiencing in Eden and spread it over the entire planet.
亞當和夏娃的使命：將他們在伊甸園所經歷的散播到全地。

"God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it.'" (Genesis 1:28a)

神就賜福給他們，又對他們說：要生養眾多，遍滿地面，治理這地...(創世紀 1:28a)

- b. Adam and Eve's response: they pushed back against God and they made it about themselves.
亞當和夏娃的回應：他們違抗神並隨自己心意而行。

2. The Tower of Babel... 巴別塔

- a. The mission of humanity: they were to continue to seek to expand God's kingdom and rule!
人類的使命：他們繼續尋求擴展神的國度和統治。

"Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth." (Gen 9:1)
...你們要生養眾多，遍滿了地。(創世紀 9:1)

- b. The response of humanity: they pushed back against God and they made it about themselves.
人類的回應：他們違抗神並隨自己心意而行。

"Come let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we can make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the earth." (Genesis 11:4)

他們說：來吧！我們要建造一座城和一座塔，塔頂通天，為要傳揚我們的名，免得我們分散在全地上。(創世紀 11:4)

3. The Nation of Israel... 以色列國

- a. Israel's mission: to be the global center, source and carrier of the power, presence and love of God.
以色列的使命：成為神力量之源與載體，有神的愛與同在的全球中心。

***"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:2-3)***

我必叫你成為大國。我必賜福給你，叫你的名為大；你也要叫別人得福。為你祝福的，我必賜福與他；那咒詛你的，我必咒詛他。地上的萬族都要因你得福。（創世紀 12:2-3）

- b. The response of Israel: they pushed back against God and they made it about themselves.
(See Mark 12:1-12)

以色列的回應：他們違抗神並隨自己心意而行。參考馬可福音 12:1-12）

4. The Church of Jesus Christ... 耶穌基督的教會...

- a. The mission of the church: the church's mission is to complete Christ's mission.
教會的使命：教會的使命是完成基督的使命。

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:10)

人子來，為要尋找、拯救失喪的人。（路加福音 19:10）

"Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21)

...願你們平安！父怎樣差遣了我，我也照樣差遣你們。（約翰福音 20:21）

- i. Service... 服事
- ii. Worship... 敬拜
- iii. Fellowship... 團契
- iv. Discipleship... 門徒訓練
- v. Outreach... 外展

- b. What will be our response? 我們的回應是什麼？

Today's "Big Idea"...今日主旨...

Following Jesus means pushing forward with Him, not pushing back against Him.
跟隨耶穌意味著與祂一同前進，而非違抗祂。