

It Suddenly Dawned on Us

by Yang Chuan-zhen and He Bao-zhu
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We were born in China and we grew up in China. We worked in the state-owned educational department until we retired. We were under the atheist education for a long, long time. Nevertheless, a mere four months after we arrived in New Zealand was all the Almighty God needed to touch our heart and soul. We read the Bible and many other Christian books. Then it suddenly dawned on us!

The facts we realized

1. Evolutionary theory is not true. Everything in the universe must have been created by God. Evolutionists believe mankind was evolved from apes. But among the unearthed fossils, not one belonged to any in-between stages in the evolutionary process, not one except for the fossils of apes. Apes are apes, men are men. They are two different species, just like what the Bible says: all creatures are made according to their kind. Therefore, Darwin, the inventor of evolutionism, had to admit at his final years that his theory was merely a hypothesis. He said: "Life is wonderful and mighty, I believe the original form of life came from God the creator." And he finally became a pious Christian.
2. Marxism is not practical. One hundred years have passed since the publication of the *Proclamation of Communism*, and one can clearly see, through the communist practice in the Soviet and China as well as experiments in other countries, that many communist doctrines are not acceptable. Economically, planned economy has been negated and replaced by market economy. Politically, class struggle has proved too cruel and thousands have died in China because of this slogan! Recently I read one of Zhao Zi-yang's letters to the Central Committee and learned from it that his father, a landlord, was executed in the early years of Communist China and that his experience made him propose to the Central Committee that the *revolutionary humanitarianism* be practiced. The policy of *Guns produce power* costs too much and is no longer suitable for worldwide use.
3. We are certain that the great significance of the Bible is unprecedented. After we arrived in New Zealand, we had opportunities to read many books and to hear many voices that we were not able to read or hear in China. We seriously began to think and we discovered that the Bible offers the greatest teachings, and it is the most popular book of all and it is the most far-reaching book of all. The centerpiece of the Bible is faith and love. Faith is the condition and love is the goal. And this is exactly what human society is badly in need of! The Bible has been translated into over 1600 kinds of languages and about 350 million copies are sold every year. Of the thousand or so independent prophecies in the Bible, two-third have been fulfilled. Leeman, former head of American Science Institute, once set up a reward for those who were able to find any error in the Bible. Nobody was able to claim the reward. The Bible was written by over 40 authors of different classes in a span of over 1600 years. Yet it is amazing that the contents are very precise and consistent throughout the book. The only explanation for this is that this is God's book. Of all the religious believers in the world, Christian believers are the majority. A survey report indicates that at the time the world's population was at 2 billions, 1.7 billion or over 80 percent had some kind of religious belief. Of these 980 millions were Christian believers (610 million Christians and 370 million Catholics), or 57.6 percent of

- total believers. Other religious believers included 460 million Buddhists, 210 million Muslims and 140 million polytheists.
4. The following incidents reflect the acceptance of Christianity by the whole world: (1) Almost all nations adopt a calendar system featuring the birth of Jesus; (2) The weekly cycle of six working days plus a Sabbath is commonly adopted by all nations; (3) One of the most popular currencies, the US dollar, carries a caption that reads *In God we trust*; (4) In many countries such as America and England, presidents and heads of the state always put their hands on the Bible while being sworn into office. The Bible even makes its way to the desktop of the judges in the courtroom; (5) The following Biblical verses are conspicuously written at the main entrance of the United Nations building: *He (the Lord) will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.* (Is. 2:4) God's words have become the guidance of the United Nations.
 5. Most of the scientists are Christians. During the three hundred years between the 17th century and the 19th century, of the three hundred greatest scientists, 38 didn't seem to have any religious identifications, 20 didn't believe in any religion, and 242 believed in God, a 92 percent of the total. In the 20th century, 90 percent of the scientists in Britain, France and America were Christians. Among the greatest Christian scientists was Newton, the inventor of the three laws of force, who said: "I'm willing to prove the existence of God through research of natural science so as to serve the Lord better." In his later years he wrote 1.5 million words of theological works to prove the existence of God. Freddie, the English physicist and chemist, and Madam Curie, who discovered polonium and radium, were both believers. Edison, the great inventor, said: "Denying the existence of God is equivalent to blaspheming my knowledge." Gauss, the great mathematician, said: "A tiny little knowledge makes man walk away from God, but a lot of knowledge makes man walk back to God." Copernicus, whose Copernican theory bears his name, said: "Gravitation is a natural property given to different parts of the matter according to God's will." Dr. Brown, the forefather of America's aerospace industry, firmly believed that God was the creator of all. The ten astronauts who participated in the flights of Apollo 8, Apollo 11 and Apollo 15 all proved with their own experience that God was the creator of all. Ever since the Americans made the first trip to the moon, many astronauts have got to know more about the true God. Among them, 13 quit their jobs, went to study in seminaries and later on became servants of God. At least 71 of them have decided to serve the God full time.
 6. Most of the advanced countries laid their foundation on the Bible. Out of the seven major industrial countries, all but Japan are democratic countries. In Germany, if a college has five or more departments, chances are that one of them is a theological department. In recent years more and more historians agree that Christian ideology is the most significant player in accelerating social development. Einstein said: "Religion without science is crippling, and science without religion is blind." In retrospect, China's science and technology was more advanced than that of European countries prior to the 15th century. Not only did China generate the four great inventions, but it originated almost all modern medicine, astronomy and fine arts. Why is China's technology far behind that of western countries? It is true that several reasons attribute to that,

but one of the important reasons why China's modern science and technology is so far behind has to be that Christianity didn't come into China until a very late stage. Even after it made its way into China, it was slow to spread out. In addition, at the time when science and technology was at its fast pace, not only did China fail to advocate Christianity, but it limited and even attempted to kill its development.

7. Christians are the most humble and law-binding. When we arrived in New Zealand, we met many Chinese who had become Christians when they were still in China. Many of them believed when they were still in college because they met some of the foreign students who were Christians with good deeds. They were moved and they believed. The Bible tells us: *Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.* (Romans 13:1-2) Therefore, Christians are the most law-binding. One of the leaders in China's Public Security Bureau once made this comment: the more Christians the fewer criminals.

Our own experience

In addition to realizing all the facts listed above, we have truly found peace and joy in our daily life since we believed! John 1:14 says: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. Both of us came to New Zealand in our old ages, but we have never had to worry about our daily needs. Isn't this God's grace on us? We have three children and they live in China, Canada and New Zealand, respectively. Two of them who immigrated to foreign countries have been baptized. Although they live far away from their home country, they are able to enlist a lot of their testimonies full of peace and joy in their family letters. We are all deeply moved. Our daughter-in-law who lives in Canada often bled when she was first pregnant. She told us that she would have been extremely anxious and disturbed if she had not believed in the Lord. But now she relies on praying and being with the Lord and she is very calm and joyful. For us, we love our children overseas so much that we used to be too anxious to sleep and we had no peace. Since we believed in the Lord, our prayers have made us believe that all our family members are right in front of the Lord. Our anxiety quickly goes away because we are all with the Lord, who will give us peace and joy. Both of us have had a history of high blood pressure and rheumatism. After we believed in the Lord, we prayed continually and now our blood pressure becomes normal and our rheumatism is almost gone too! More wonderful was another incident of my wife. She had a bad tooth which caused her a lot pain. In our past experience she would have no choice but to see a dentist. For a whole week, we prayed for her and we called on the name of Jesus whenever she had a pain. Our prayer brought us peace and joy and her pain quietly diminished without any medication. Then on the evening of October 7 last year, while we were still praying, my wife shook the bad tooth slightly with her fingers and there came the miracle: the tooth fell out! She had no pain whatsoever. How wonderful! All of us were extremely happy and we all exclaimed: Thanks to the Lord! Praises to the Lord! The Lord gives us abundant grace.

Mr. Yang is 63 years old. He used to be the head of the Political Research Department in the Fuzhou Agriculture Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party. In June 1997 he and his wife immigrated to New Zealand, and they were baptized in September of the same year.

恍然大悟

杨传真/何宝珠

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我们生在中国，长在中国，一直在政府和教育部门工作到退休，长期受无神论教育。然而，我们到新西兰後短短的四个月，全能的神即打动了我们的心灵，我们分享了圣经和许多神学书刊。对许多真理恍然大悟！

我们认识到的事实

一、进化论不是真理，宇宙万物只能是神创造的。进化论认为，人是从猿进化而来的。可是，发现的化石中却没有进化过程不同阶段、不同形状的化石，只有猿的。猿是猿，人是人，两者是截然不同的，正是证明圣经所说的，所有生物“各从其类”。所以进化论的鼻祖达尔文，最後不得不承认，他的学说只是一种“幻想”。他说：“生命是奇妙伟大的，”“我认为原始生命，始於创造的神。”他最终也成为虔诚的基督徒。

二、马克思主义是不现实的。自从《共产党宣言》发表，已经一百多年了，经过苏联、中国的实践，其他国家的经验，可以看出，有许多教义是不能接受的。经济上已否定计划经济，改为市场经济。政治上的阶级斗争，实在太残酷了，中国为了这个口号，不知死了几千万人！最近看到赵紫阳给中共中央的信，原来他的父亲也是地主，在解放初被镇压的，实践让他给中央提出要实行“革命人道主义”的建议。“枪杆子里出政权”，其代价太大了，再也不能向世界推广。

三、我们确信圣经的伟大是空前绝後的。到新西兰後，我们有机会看到和听到在国内看不到的书刊与听不到的声音，我们认真严肃地思考分析，发现教义最伟大的、销售量最大的、流传最广泛的，非圣经莫属。圣经的核心是信和爱，信是条件，爱是目的。这正是人类社会需要的！圣经已译成1600余种语言，每年销售量达3.5亿本。圣经有三分之二、一千多处独立的预言，全部已兑现。美国科学局长丽曼氏曾设下奖金，徵求找出圣经上的错误，可是皆无结果。圣经成书前後历时1600多年，共有不同阶层的作者40多人，从头到尾所有内容如此精确，互不矛盾，实属罕见，只能解释为“天书”。世界的所有宗教信徒，信圣经的独占鳌头。有一份调查报告：当世界人口达20亿时，有宗教信仰的有17亿，占总人口的80%以上。其中信圣经的占9.8亿人（基督教6.1亿人，天主教3.7亿人），占有宗教人数的57.6%；其他信仰是：佛教4.6亿人，回教2.1亿人，多神教1.4亿人。

四、以下几件事反映出整个世界对基督教的认同：??绝大多数国家以耶稣诞生为年号，称“公元”。??世界普遍采用造万物六日加安息日七天为一周。??世界货币较为通用的美元，其票面上有著：“我们信靠上帝”。??有许多国家如美英等国家总统、元首就职宣誓时，都是手按圣经；法院在审判时，桌上摆放著圣经。??联合国大厦门前，用圣经的话有著巨幅标语：“他（上帝）必在列国中施行审判，为许多国民断定是非。他们要将刀打成犁头，把枪打成镰刀，这国不举刀攻击那国，他们也不再学习战事。”（《赛》2：4）用神的话作为联合国的行动指南。

五、大多数科学家信主。17~19世纪这三百年间，世界上最伟大的300位科学家，其中无法知道信仰的38位，不信神的20位，信神的242位，占92%。20世纪英法美三国的科学家，90%都是基督徒。大科学家是基督徒的，包括发现三大力学定律的牛顿，他说：“我愿以自然科学的研究来证明神的存在，以便更好地事奉神。”他晚年写了长达150万字的神学著作，证明神的存在。英国的物理学家、化学家法拉第，发现钋和镭的居里夫人，都是信主的。大发明家爱迪生说：“假如我否认神存在，我就等於亵渎我的知识。”大数学家高斯说：“微小的知识使人远离神，广博的学识使人接近神。”主张“地动说”的哥白尼说：“引力是按照神的意志给予物质各部分的自然属性。”美国太空火箭之父范伯朗博士，深信神是万物的创造主。乘阿波罗火箭第8号、11号、15号等10位飞行员，他们以在太空飞行和登上月球的亲身经历，证明是神创造天地万物的。自从美国人登月以来，许多太空人都更深认识了真神，其中有13位辞职，到神学院深造，做了传道人，至少有71位决志全时间事奉神。

六、大多数发达国家是以圣经立国的。现有七大工业化国家，除了日本外大多数国民是信主的。德国的大学，凡有四个系以上的，其中必有神学一系。近代有越来越多的历史学家认为，基督教的思想是推动社会发展的最大功臣。爱因斯坦说：“没有科学的宗教是跛子，没有科学的宗教是瞎子。”回顾中国科技的发展，在十五世纪以前，其水平是超过欧洲的，不仅有四大发明等，几乎所有近代医学、天文学或工艺，都是先在中国发展的，可是为什麼现在都落後於欧美呢？虽然原因有多方面，但基督教很迟才传入中国，而且推广极慢，再加上科技发展最快的时代，不但没有宣扬基督教，而且还加以限制，甚至扼杀，这一点不能不说是中国近代科技落後的一个重要因素。

七、基督徒是最谦卑的，守法的。我们来新西兰，听到许多在中国大陆就信主的华人基督徒谈信主的原因。他们很多人是在大学念书时，遇到一些外国来的留学生，其中凡是表现好的，都是基督徒。他们很受感动，也就跟著信主了。圣经告诉我们：“在上

有权柄的，人人当顺服他，因为没有权柄不是出於神的。凡掌权的都是神所命的。所以抗拒掌权的就是抗拒神命，抗拒的必自取刑罚。”（《罗》13：1~2）所以基督徒是最守法的。中国公安部曾经有个领导，说过一句公道话：多一个基督徒，就少一个犯法人。

生活中的切身感受

除了从理论上认识到上述事实，我们信主後在生活中也确实得到了平安喜乐！《约翰福音》一章十四节说：“道成了肉身，住在我们中间，充充满满的有恩典有真理。”我们俩来到新西兰，偌大年纪，却衣食无忧，这不是主的恩典又是什麼？！我们三个子女，分布中国大陆、加拿大、新西兰三个地方。其中移民国外的两家於去年前年都先後受浸信主。他们在异国他乡，每次来信都列举许多平安喜乐的见证，我们很受感动。在加拿大的媳妇，怀孕初期常出血，她说若不是信主，肯定惊慌失措，不得安宁。可是信主後有主同在，她非常平静喜乐，靠祷告安然无恙。我们俩爱子如命，信主前日夜牵挂远隔重洋的两家子女，时常因思念心烦难眠，坐立不安。自从信主後，特别是通过祷告沟通，感到所有家人都在主面前。想到有主同在，有主保守，肯定有平安喜乐，顿时挂念全消，心情愉快！我们俩分别患有高血压、关节炎等病痛，信主後不断祷告，有主保守，思想轻松，确实奇妙；近来血压基本正常，关节炎已基本康复！更神奇的是：太太有一颗牙齿疼痛严重，按以往经验非请牙医拔掉不可。一周来每当疼痛，我们就呼唤主耶稣，祷告主给平安喜乐，疼痛竟然在没有使用任何药物情况下悄悄减轻。去年10月7日晚上，我们在祷告中，用手摇动痛牙，轻轻一拔，神迹出现，痛牙脱落了！一点疼痛也没有，确是太神了！我们全家人喜不胜数，异口同声呼：感谢主！赞美主！主给我们的恩典、实惠太多了... .. □

杨传真现年63岁，原为“中共福州市委农工部、福州市农业委员会”政研科科长。1997年6月与妻子何宝珠移居新西兰，当年9月即一同受浸。