

过圣诞节，遇见上帝

See God at Christmas



作者：谢德华 (By Edward Short)

Revised December 2004

1961年，前苏联的太空人 Yuri Gagarin 尤里·加加林，搭乘苏联制造的太空船，从外太空平安地回到地球上时，他说了一句支持当时苏联无神论的政策，讥笑信仰基督教的。他说他在太空的时候，没有见到上帝。

因为这句话肯定无神论，否认有神论，所以，当时很多苏联人认为这句话很好笑，国际媒体也报道了 Gagarin 尤里·加加林太空人的这一句给万人听的，向全世界宣传，说，太空人已经证明了外太空没有上帝。

今天，我请问您一个问题，好吗？你见过上帝吗？

每年，12月25日，我们过“圣诞节。”什么叫做“圣诞节”呢？圣诞节就是创造天地的神变成了有血肉的人，由真童女马利亚的母体，降生进入了这个世界。那个人就是耶稣基督。作者约翰描写了耶稣的降生，说，“道成了肉身住在我们中间，充充满满的有恩典有真理。我们也见过他的荣光，正是父独生子的荣光”（约翰福音 1:14）。慢慢地，婴孩长大了，开始传福音、医病、行善、拯救罪人。当时，见到耶稣的人，就是见到了上帝。

如果问约翰，说：“有没有上帝？”约翰一定会回答说，“我见到了耶稣，所以我见到了上帝。”

您可能想问我：“但是，那是两千年以前的事情。我们生活在现在！我们今天就想见到上帝。上帝在哪里呢？”听众朋友，答案是这样：耶稣基督的爱、温暖、拯救，他的真理、榜样和十字架都存留到今天。虽然您见不到耶稣的肉身，但是，借着《圣经》，耶稣的话、教训、真理和宝血通通都存留到今日。把《新约圣经马太福音》打开一读，耶稣就向您说话；他温柔的声音就在您的耳中。看看《新约圣经马可福音》耶稣行善、行神迹、医病，耶稣爱人如己的为人就感动你的心理。读一读《新约圣经路加福音》耶稣赦免人罪孽的记载，耶稣的伟大就感动您。研读《新约圣经约翰福音》，耶稣受难，被钉十字架的那段话，耶稣的爱就彰显在您眼前。

换句话说，如果您，如果前苏联的太空人尤里·加加林，如果任何人，想要见到上帝，只要打开《圣经》，就会看到那位永远爱我们的耶稣基督，那位昔在，今在，永远存在的上帝。

愿这位上帝赐福给您。愿您过一个爱神，爱人的圣诞节。

In 1961, when cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin of the then Soviet Union, returned safely to earth, he made a statement which supported the policy of atheism held by the Soviet Union and made fun of Christianity. Gagarin said that he did not see God while he was in outer space.

Since this statement sustained atheism and opposed theism, many people in the Soviet Union thought it was very humorous. The international media seized upon Gagarin's statement also and communicated to the entire world that the cosmonaut had demonstrated that there was no God in outer space.

Today, let me ask you a question. Have you ever seen God?

We observe Christmas each year on the twenty-fifth of December. What is Christmas? Christmas commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. God, the creator of the universe, entered the world by taking on human form and being born of Mary, a virgin.

The writer John expressed the birth of Jesus, "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). The infant grew up and began to preach the gospel, to heal, to do good and to save. Those who saw Jesus, saw God.

If we were to ask John, "Is there a God?" John would answer, "I have seen Jesus, and so I have seen God."

Perhaps you would like to ask me, "But all that happened two thousand years ago. We live today and we want to see God today, so where is God?" The answer is Jesus Christ and all that he is: love, meekness, salvation, truth, his example and his cross. All of these exist until today. Even though you cannot see the physical Jesus, he remains present through the Bible, his words, his teaching, his truth and his precious blood.

Let Jesus speak to you when you read Matthew; his gentle voice will whisper into your ears. See Jesus when you read Mark. Watch him assist and heal people; be moved by his "love others as you love yourself" attitude. Read in Luke where Jesus forgave sins and see what a great man Jesus was. Study John's account of the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross. The love of Jesus will manifest itself before your eyes.

In other words, if you or if cosmonaut Gagarin or if anyone else wants to see God, one need only to open his Bible and see Jesus. Jesus Christ loves us always; he is the God who was and who is and who will ever be.

May this God bless you and may your Christmas be a time to love both God and your fellow man.