Life Above Death

生命在死亡之上

Slogan on a wheelchair:

“I believe in LIFE *BEFORE* DEATH.”

Excerpt of Victor’s comments (Issue: “Life Before Death”):

在輪椅上的保險杆貼紙：

“我相信生命*在死前*。”

維克多的評論摘錄 (關於：“生命在死前”)：

That wheelchair has much truth on it. However, I do not believe in life after death. I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is HERE, NOW.

那粘在輪椅上有很多實話。但是，我不相信生命在死後。我相信主耶穌基督，祂現在在這裡，此時此地。

Reader’s request: 讀者要求：

Hi, can you clarify what you are saying when you said, “However, I do not believe in life after death.”

If in fact you do not believe there is life for you after you die, then what is it you do believe?

CH

嗨，當你說“但是，我不相信生命在死後”時，你能澄清你在說什麼嗎？

如果事實上你不相信你死後會有生命，那麼你相信什麼呢？

CH

佘詩曼

Victor’s reply: 維克多的回復：

Hi, Charmaine,

嗨，佘詩曼，

It is not that I do not believe in an existence once one sheds his or her body and leaves this world. I purposely was making the point that Jesus made when He said to Martha (and to all):

我並不是不相信一旦一個人脫掉自己的身體離開這個世界，就不復存在了。我故意指出耶穌在對馬大(以及所有人)說：

“I am the Resurrection and the Life! He who believes in Me, though he die, yet he shall live. **And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.** Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26 MKJV)

「我就是復活，我就是生命。信我的人，即使死了，也將要活。**所有活著而信我的人絕不會死**，直到永遠。你信這話嗎？」 (約翰福音 11:25-26)

True life is not so much before or after death as **above death.** The Scriptures testify, by the Lord’s words themselves, that He is the Resurrection and the Life. “In Him was life,” John says in the first chapter. He also said that whoever had the Son, had life. Being that the Son existed before all things, He existed before death, and of course, above it, because He is above all things, being God.

真正的生命不是在死亡之前或之後，而是**死亡之上**。經上的見證，通過主說的話，祂是復活和生命。 “生命在祂裡面，”約翰在第一章說道。他還說凡有　神兒子的，就有生命。因為該兒子在萬有之先，祂在死亡之先，當然，祂在死亡之上，因為祂是在萬有之上，祂是上帝。

Many who profess faith in Christ do not now have the life He promised they could have here and now. They await “life after death,” referring to their physical departure at the end of their existence in this world. Referring to the Lord’s words quoted above, how can one “never” die unless one is first alive? Therefore we can have life here, in this world, before we leave this world. How does one receive that life here and now, that life that never dies? One receives it when believing, truly believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

許多宣稱對基督有信仰的人現在沒有過祂所應許的生活，此時此地。他們等待著“死後的生命”，指的是他們在這個世界生存之末的身體離開。提到上面引用的主的話，除非一個人首先是活著，否則一個人如何“絕不會”死呢？ 因此，在我們離開這個世界之前，我們可以在這個世界上擁有生命。一個人如何在此時此地獲得那個生命，那個絕不會死的生命？ 當一個人相信，真正的相信主耶穌基督時就會獲得它。

Many believe, but James says in his letter that devils too believe and tremble (James 2:19). There is therefore a belief that is of no value. So what does it therefore mean, “to believe?” It is not something we do (our faith is of no value) but what God does (His gift of holy faith alone prevails and transforms our natures, here, in this present realm). As it says:

許多人相信，但雅各在他的信中說連鬼魔也相信，並且恐懼戰兢 (雅各書2:19)。因此，有一種相信是沒有價值的。那麼，“相信”是什麼意思？”這不是我們所做的事情 (我們的信仰是毫無價值的)，而是上帝的所作所為 (只有祂聖潔的信心恩賜才能夠克服並改變我們的本性，此地，在目前的領域)。正如經上有記載：

“For by grace you are saved through faith, **and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God,** not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:8-10 MKJV).

“你們得救是靠著恩典，藉著信心。**這不是出於自己，而是神所賜的**；這也不是出於行為，免得有人自誇。我們原是神所作成的，是在基督耶穌裡創造的，為的是要我們行各樣的善事，就是神預先所安排的” (以弗所書 2:8-10)。

And: “For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure” (Philippians 2:13 MKJV).

和：“因為是神在你們裡面運作，使你們願意並且能行出祂的美意” (腓立比書 2:13)。

Jesus said, “And no one has ascended up to Heaven except He Who came down from Heaven, the Son of Man Who *is* in Heaven” (John 3:13 MKJV).

耶穌說，“除了從天降下*仍舊*在天的人子，沒有人升過天” (約翰福音 3:13)。

Jesus was in heaven, in the spiritual realm, in union with His Father, even as He walked on the earth. He told Nicodemus that such is possible by a new, second birth. I say that I do not believe in life after death because I have it now. As Jesus, I now am in heaven, in the spiritual realm, in union with Him, because I am born again. Those who do not have it now, but expect to get it immediately after they die, are mistaken if they think that by dying, they will enter the Kingdom. It is often preached that one should believe in Christ so that when one dies, one “will go to heaven.” Heaven is here, now, and when one believes, one enters heaven here and now. That is what Paul was speaking of in many instances, such as:

耶穌仍舊在天上，在那個屬靈的領域，與祂的父結合，即使祂行在地上。祂對尼哥德慕說，這是可能的，通過重生。我說我不相信死後的生命，因為我現在擁有生命。如同耶穌，我此時此地在天上，在那個屬靈的領域，與祂結合，因為我重生了。那些現在沒有擁有生命，但希望在他們死後立即得到它的人，如果他們認為通過死亡，他們將進入王國是錯了。人們經常傳講，一個人應該相信基督，這樣一來，一個人死了，便“會上天堂。”天堂現在在這裡，此時此地，當一個人相信時，一個人進入天堂，此時此地。這就是保羅在許多情況下所說的，例如：

“…for us to be to the praise of His glory, who previously had trusted in Christ; in Whom also you, hearing the Word of Truth, the gospel of our salvation, in Whom also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, Who is the earnest (down payment) of our inheritance, to the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory” (Ephesians 1:12-14 MKJV).

“以致我們這些早已在基督裡有盼望的人，能歸於祂榮耀的稱讚。在基督裡，你們也聽從了真理的話語，就是那使你們得救的福音，並且信了基督，就蒙了所應許的聖靈為印記。聖靈是我們得繼業的預付憑據(定金)，直到屬神的子民得贖，歸於祂榮耀的稱讚” (以弗所書 1:12-14)。

And: “But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love with which He loved us (even when we were dead in sins) has **made us alive** together with Christ (by grace you are saved), and has raised us up together and **made us sit together in the heavenlies** in Christ Jesus…” (Ephesians 2:4-6 MKJV).

和：“然而神滿有憐憫，因著祂愛我們的大愛，就在我們因過犯死了的時候，**使我們**與基督一同**活過來**，(你們得救是靠著恩典，) 又**使我們**在基督耶穌裡，與祂一同復活，**一同坐在天上**…” (以弗所書 2:4-6)。

Charmaine, when one receives a down payment, it is quite real, and quite representative of the whole. Let’s say you sell your car to somebody for $5000. They give you $1000 as a deposit to prove their intention and to hold the car for them. That $1000 is real, as real as the rest. Therefore, when God gives us the “earnest” or the down payment, we get a genuine portion here and now of that life to come in the next world. One gets a piece of heaven here and now. Most people have never experienced heaven, though they think to believe and to be “saved.” If saved, there is substantial evidence that true faith has worked its work.

佘詩曼，當一個人收到定金，這是非常真實的，並且非常具有代表性。假設你以五千美元的價格把車賣給某人。他們給你一千美元作為押金來證明他們的意圖並為他們保管汽車。那個一千美元是真實的，與餘款一樣真實。因此，當上帝給我們“憑據”或定金時，我們此時此地獲得那即將來臨的世界的生命的真正一部分。一個人在此時此地獲得一片天堂。大多數人從未經歷過天堂，儘管他們認為相信並且被“得救”。如果得救，有大量證據證明真正的信仰是有效的。

Having said that, Charmaine, I will now appear to contradict myself, though the meaning is quite different. I do believe in “life after death” because truly, one must die before one can live. I had to die before I could be born again. I had to deny myself, forsake all, take up the cross and follow the Lord to His death, so that I could partake of His resurrection life that He promised to all that believe. That goes for you too. When James spoke to expose the false faith, he said:

話雖如此，佘詩曼，我現在似乎與自己相矛盾，儘管意義完全不同。我確實相信“生命在死亡之後”，因為確實地，一個人必須死去然後才能有生命。在我重生之前，我不得不死去。我不得不捨己，拋棄所有，背起十字架，跟從主至死，這樣我才能分享祂復活的生命，這是祂對所有相信的人的應許。你也一樣。當雅各講道揭露虛假信仰時，他說：

“You believe that there is one God, you do well; even the demons believe and tremble. But will you know, O vain man, **that faith without works is dead?** Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Do you see how faith worked with his works, and from the works faith was made complete?” (James 2:19-22 MKJV)

“你信神只有一位，你信的不錯！ 鬼魔也信，卻是戰驚。虛浮的人哪，你願意知道**沒有行為的信心是死的**嗎？ 我們的祖宗亞伯拉罕把他兒子以撒獻在壇上，豈不是因行為稱義嗎？ 可見信心是與他的行為並行，而且信心因著行為才得成全” (雅各書 2:19-22)。

The true faith, that gift from God, will be manifest in one’s life by obedience to the personal commands of God. It will be His life lived out in His vessel. The world is not pleased with the fruits of that faith. That is why Jesus said that the world hated Him, and that if it hated Him, it would also hate those who believed on Him (Matthew 10). False faith can be full of works, but they are religious works, lived out not in, but by, the vessel itself. This is the faith of devils, as beautiful as they may appear to men. Only those who truly believe can know the essential difference.

真正的信心，即上帝的恩賜，將通過順從上帝的個人指令而在一個人的生命中顯現出來。這將會是祂的生命在祂的器皿中過的生活。世界對這種信心的成果是不滿意的。這就是為什麼耶穌說世界恨祂，如果它恨祂，它也會憎恨那些相信祂的人 (馬太福音第十章)。虛假的信心可以有很多行為，但它們是宗教作品，不是在器皿中過的生活，而是器皿本身過的生活。這是魔鬼的信仰，就像人看起來一樣美麗。只有真正相信的人才能知道那本質的區別。

I have given more than was asked. It is my pleasure and joy to do so. If you have any more questions, don’t be afraid to ask.

我給的比要求的多。我很樂意這樣做。如果你還有更多問題，不要害怕問。

Victor Hafichuk

維克多‧哈維克

True life is not so much before or after death as above death. The Scriptures testify, by the Lord’s words themselves, that He is the Resurrection and the Life.

Read Life Above Death

真正的生命不是在死亡之前或之後，而是死亡之上。經上的見證，通過主說的話，祂是復活和生命。

閱讀生命在死亡之上