WELCOME TO NETWORK CHURCH 歡迎來到網絡教會

2nd March 2025

Photo credit: Andrew Chan

The Renewal of All Things 萬物更新 (Nehemiah 9 - 12) (尼希米記 九至十二章)

NETWORK CHURCH 2 MARCH 2025 LYNN YEE

MEANING AND USAGE OF "RENEWAL" 更新的意義和用處

Hebrew word for Renewal or Renew: Chadash (OT. 2318) 希伯來文的更新和(更新): Chadash

- To renew or restore; it conveys the idea of making something new, or bringing it back to its original state
 更新或恢復;它傳達了使某個東西煥然一新,或使其恢復原始狀態的意思。
- This term is often used in the context of physical restoration, such as repairing a structure, as well as spiritual renewal, like a renewed heart or spirit.
 這個詞語通常用於實物的修復,例如修復結構,以及靈性的更新,例如更新心靈或精神。

CULTURAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND FOR "CHADASH" CHADASH 的文化和歷史背景

- In ancient Israel, the concept of renewal was significant both in physical and spiritual contexts.
 在古代的以色列,更新的概念在物質和靈性層面都具有重要意義。
- The Israelites placed great importance on the restoration of their land, cities, and religious practices, especially after periods of exile or destruction.
 以色列人非常重視恢復他們的土地、城市和宗教習俗,尤其是在流放或毀滅時期之後。
- Spiritually, renewal was seen as a divine act, where God would restore His people to a right relationship with Him, often through repentance and covenant renewal. 在靈性上,更新被視為神的作為,神會透過悔改和更新盟約,讓祂的子民與祂恢復 到正確關係。

PRINCIPLES AND KEYS FOR RENEWAL / REVIVAL 更新或復興的原則與關鍵

- Consider these keys for revival on 2 levels: 從兩個層面來考慮這些復興的關鍵:
- Personal Level how can I experience spiritual renewal?
 個人層面 我如何經歷靈性更新?
- Corporate Level how can my nation / my people group experience spiritual renewal?

體層面 - 我的國家/我的族群如何經歷靈性更新?

Personal Renewal empowers you with spiritual authority to pray for Corporate Renewal.

個人的更新賦予你屬靈的權柄,使你能為團體的更新禱告。

What God does IN you, He wants to do THROUGH you! 神在你裡面所做的, 祂也希望藉著你來做!

I. KNOWING & PROCLAIMING THE CHARACTER OF GOD 認識與宣揚神的屬性

- Renewal comes by knowing and proclaiming the character of God.
 更新來自於認識和宣揚神的屬性。
- Chapter 9:6-38 is essentially an amazing prayer of Confession of Who God is, what He has done in the history of Israel, and the people confessing the historical sins of their ancestors.
 九:6-38 基本上是一篇驚人的懺悔禱告,承認神是誰、祂在以色列歷史上的作為,,以及猶太人承認他們祖先的歷史罪孽。
- It strikes me that the Jews are a storied people their identity is deeply rooted in their story and their history as the descendants of Abraham.
 讓我深受觸動的是,猶太人是一個有故事的民族——他們的身份深深植根於他們的故事和作為 亞伯拉罕後裔的歷史。

I. KNOWING & PROCLAIMING THE CHARACTER OF GOD 認識與宣揚神的屬性

- Creator God (9:6)
- Faithful God (9:7-8)
- Rescuing God (9:9-15)
- Forgiving God (9:17-19)
- Providing God (9:19-21)
- Conquering God (9:22-25)
- Satisfying God (9:25)
- Merciful God (9:27-31)

- 創造的神(九:6)
- 信實的神(九:7-8)
- ■拯救的神(九:9-15)
- 赦免的神(九:17-19)
- 供應的神(九:19-21)
- 征服的神(九:22-25)
- 滿足的神(九:25)
- 憐憫的神(九:27-31)

I. KNOWING & PROCLAIMING THE CHARACTER OF GOD 認識與宣揚神的屬性

- Do we know Who God is in our story / in our family's story / in the story of our nation?
 我們知道神在我們的故事中、在我們家族的故事中、在我們國家的故事中是誰?
- Praise God for who He is and for what He has done for you in your life! 讚美神, 讚美祂是誰, 讚美祂在你生命中為你所做的一切!
- Transformation and Renewal can only come by KNOWING GOD knowing His Character and His ways! Declare His Character over the areas where we need breakthroughs! 轉變和更新只能藉著認識神、認識祂的性情和祂的道路來實現! 在我們需要突破的領域宣告祂 的屬性!

RESPONSE: SHARE IN 2S OR 3S

回應: 分享

Looking back on your journey since the start of 2025, recount who God is in your story. What has God done for you? 回顧從2025年開始的旅程,數算神在你的故事中是哪位?上帝為你做了什麼?

- Share a SHORT testimony in the last 2 months (or in the last 3 months or 6 months).
 分享最近兩個月(或三個月或六個月)的簡短見證。
- 2) Share 3 aspects of God's Character that has been highlighted to you. 分享在這段時間內神呈現了哪三個屬性。

II. CONFESSION OF SIN 活出一個與蒙召相稱的生命

- The people took ownership of their failings; there is no excuses made and no shifting of blame.
 百姓承認了自己的過失;他們沒有找藉口,也沒有推卸責任。
- Historical confession of sins and Identificational Repentance (Neh. 9:16, 17 and 26) they confessed the sins of their ancestors.
 歷史性的認罪和具識別性的悔改(尼希米記 九:16, 17和26) 他們承認了祖先的罪。
- Confession of Sin is key to revival "*If My people will pray and turn from their wicked ways……I will heal their land*." (2 Chronicles 7:14)
 認罪是復興的關鍵—「我的子民若是自卑,禱告,尋求我的面,轉離他們的惡行,我必聽從他們的祈禱,醫治他們的土地。」(歷代志下 七:14)

II. CONFESSION OF SIN 活出一個與蒙召相稱的生命

We may think we are doing OK, but we can deceive ourselves!
 我們可能覺得自己表現得不錯,但我們可能是自欺欺人了!

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart and test the mind...." (Jeremiah 17:9-10) 「人心比萬物都詭詐,壞到極處,誰能識透呢?我一耶和華是鑒察人心,考驗人肺腑的……」(耶利米書 十七:9-10)

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalm 139:23-24)

「神啊,求你鑒察我,知道我的心思,試煉我,知道我的意念;看在我裏面有甚麼 惡行沒有,引導我走永生的道路。」(詩篇 139:23-24)

II. CONFESSION OF SIN 活出一個與蒙召相稱的生命

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

「我們若認自己的罪,神是信實的,是公義的,必要赦免我們的罪,洗淨我們一切的 不義。」(約翰一書 1:9)

"Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)

「所以你們要彼此認罪,互相代求,使你們可以得醫治。義人的祈禱所發出的力量是 大有功效的。」(雅各書 5:16)

<mark>RESPONSE: IN YOUR OWN TIME & IN CELL GROUPS</mark> 回應:在你自己的時間和小組聚會

Take a few moments in silent prayer, and ask God to search your heart. Ask God for forgiveness and cleansing from anything that has hindered your relationship with Him. 靜靜向神禱告片刻,求神查驗你的心。求神赦免並潔淨任何攔阻你與祂之間關係的事。

Whatever you have confessed to the Lord, now turn it into an intercession for the Body of Christ / God's people / the Church, or for your nation. 無論你向主認罪的是什麼,現在把它轉化為基督的身體 / 神的子民 / 教會或你的國家代

禱。

Remember: What God does IN you, He wants to do THROUGH you! 記住: 神在你裡面所做的, 祂也希望透過你來做!

III. COVENANT RENEWAL & COMMITMENT TO CHANGE 盟約的更新與改變的承諾

Signing a Covenant to follow the Law of God (Neh. 10:28-39). They spelt out specifically what they were going to do: 簽約遵行神的律法(尼十:28-39), 具體地說明他們要做的事:

- They will not marry the people of the land (v.30) 他們不與當地的人通婚
- They will not buy and sell on the Sabbath (v.31) 他們不在安息日進行買賣
- They will give their offerings for the service of God's house (v.32-33) 他們會為神殿的事奉獻上供物
- The priests will burn sacrifices on the altar (v.34) 祭司會在祭壇上燒獻祭
- They will bring the first fruits to the Lord (v.35 37) 他們會把初熟的果實奉獻給主
- They will give tithes to the priests (v.38), and bring contributions so that the house of God is not neglected (v.39). 他們會將十分之一奉獻給祭司(十:38), 並獻上貢品, 使神的殿不被忽視(十:39)。

III. COVENANT RENEWAL & COMMITMENT TO CHANGE 盟約的更新與改變的承諾

- Notice the commitments they made were grounded and specific, and not general aspirations like "We will try harder" and "We will do better".
 注意到他們所做的承諾是有根有據且具體的,而不是像「我們會更努力」或「我們會做得更好」 這樣的籠統願望。
- Renewal requires specific changes that are measurable and realistic!
 更新需要具體的改變,而這些改變是可衡量且實際的!
- Genuine Repentance (Greek word 'Metanoia') means a 180-degree change of mind and way of life.
 真正的悔改(希臘文「Metanoia」)意指心態和生活方式上的 180 度改變。
- Can you spell out what you will do differently tomorrow than what you did today?
 你能說出明天你會做哪些不同於今天的事情嗎?

DO NOT RELY ON YOUR OWN OBEDIENCE AND WILLPOWER! 不要倚靠你自己的順服和意志力!

- Spiritual disciplines done in our own strength cannot transform us, but they help us open our hearts to the Lord Who can! 靠我們自己的力量所做的屬靈操練,無法改變我們,但它們幫助我們打開心扉,讓 主進來改變我們!
- We are not "the Vine", and we are not "the Gardener" (John 15:1).
 我們不是「葡萄樹」,也不是「園丁」(約翰福音 15:1)。
- We have no power to fix ourselves by reading the Bible more, fasting more or praying more, but we have the power to open our hearts to God and surrender to Him. 我們沒有能力單單透過多讀聖經、更多禁食或更多禱告來修復自己,但我們有能力打開心扉,向神屈服。
- Spiritual renewal is a divine act; God alone can do the work of spiritual transformation in us!
 屬靈的更新是神的作為;只有神能在我們裡面作屬靈改變的工!
- Our part is to open our hearts and cooperate with what Holy Spirit wants to do in us!
 我們要做的就是打開心扉,配合聖靈要在我們裡面所要成就的事!

SO HOW DO WE COME UP WITH SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS FOR CHANGE?

那麼,我們如何想出具體的改變承諾呢?

- Do it in relationship with God through prayer!
 透過禱告與神建立關係來做到這一點!
- Ask God, what is the "one thing needed" for change in my life?
 求問神: 在我生命中需要改變的「一件事」是什麼?
- Jesus said to the Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:22, Mark 10:21): "You still lack one thing. Go sell all your possessions and follow Me."
 耶穌對少年財主說(路加福音 18:22, 馬可福音 10:21): 「你還缺少一件事。去賣掉所有的財產, 然後來跟隨我。」
- In the story of Mary & Martha (Luke 10:42), Jesus said "one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen the good part…" 在瑪利亞和馬大的故事中(路加福音 10:42),耶穌說:「不可少的只有一件;馬利亞已經選擇那 上好的福分……」

RESPONSE: IN YOUR OWN TIME & IN CELL GROUPS 回應:在你自己的時間和小組聚會

In Your Own Time: (你自己的時間)

Ask God, what is the "One Thing" needed for change in my life now? What can I do tomorrow that is different from what I did today? 求問神:在我生命中需要改變的「一件事」是什麼?明天我能做哪些不同於今天的事?

In Cell Groups: (小組聚會)

Share with your cell group for accountability, what is the "one thing" God has shown you to put into practice as a renewal of commitment to God.

與你的小組分享彼此的責任,哪「一件事」是神讓你實踐作為對祂更新承諾的行動?

IV. WORSHIP AND GREAT CELEBRATION 敬拜與盛大慶典

- Our hope for spiritual renewal does not depend on how obedient we are, or how hard we try to live good Christian lives.
 我們屬靈更新的盼望並不取決於我們有多麼順服,或是我們有多麼努力過著良好的基督徒生活。
- Our hope for spiritual renewal lies in Who God is merciful, forgiving, loving God Who keeps His covenant for a thousand generations! 我們對屬靈更新的盼望在於神是誰 - 憐憫、寬恕、慈愛、守約千秋萬代的神!
- He is the Same God in the time of Jacob, Moses, King David, Mary as He is God in our time and in our nation today!
 祂是雅各、摩西、大衛王、馬利亞時代的神,也是今天我們這時代和我們國家的神!

回應:崇拜

As we close with this worship song, praise God for Who He is in your life, in your story, in your family and in your nation! 當我們以這首敬拜歌曲結束,無論在你的生命中、你的經歷中、你的家庭中、以及在你的國家中,讚美主的作為!

Lift up your hands, your hearts and your prayers for renewal to the Same God who is the same yesterday, today and forever! 舉起你的手、你的心和你的禱告,向那住位昔在、今在、永在的神求屬靈的更新!

Song on YouTube: "Same God" by Elevation Worship: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqy9o4qvjn0

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