

彼得後書

2. Background

Sept. 16, 2018

Discussion

- 我的志願…

Recap

- Religious is not popular across all social class
- People lost interest in religious
 - Decline in religiously: 9%/12% , Atheism rises by 3%/3% (Global/Canada)
- 「去」宗教的時代
 - Christianity in West
- God became irrelevant
 - Godlessness 「無神意識」 is a trend
 - 上帝被矮化 Degraded
- Words of God became distasteful and offensive (反感和冒犯)
- Human right above God's sovereignty
- Atheism on the rise

God is Dead?

- For Nietzsche, this is a statement of God's irrelevance
 - God of the Judeo-Christian tradition has become obsolete
- Secularization in sociology 「現世化」或「世俗化」
 - Historical process in which religion loses social and cultural significance
 - Religious fade out from society, limit in personal space
- Secular : *Saeculum* (Latin)
 - “The present” or “The present age”
- Secularism (現世主義)
 - 一切意義、價值盡在「現世」
 - Afterlife is not a concern
 - Higher calling became meaningless

Is God still relevant today?

- Market Economy
 - Continuously economic growth
 - Supply and Demand
 - Market driven
- The Absence of God
 - 20th century – full of death and destruction

End of Majority

- Cultural majorities collapsed
 - Scarborough, North York, Richmond Hill
- City became internationalized
- We are all minorities now...
 - Evangelical Christians, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, atheists...
- Never have been a society in history that was as culturally, religiously, and politically diverse
 - Except perhaps the Roman Empire
 - Tended to be tolerant towards most religions
 - Unless it threatens to public order
- Early Christians lived in a similar multicultural world

2 Peter

- Most questioned in NT
 - No mention earlier than the third century
 - Writing style is very different from 1 Peter
 - Similarity between 2 Peter 2 and Jude
- Authorship
 - 耶穌基督的僕人和使徒西門·彼得 (1:1a)
 - Apostle Peter at face value, or by tradition
 - Married fisherman
 - In Galilee area
 - Leader of the Twelve
 - Leader of Jerusalem church
 - Uneducated (Acts 4:13), possibly illiterate
 - Likely being written by other

2 Peter

- Addressees
 - 1 Peter addressed a group of churches in northern/western Asia Minor
 - Experiencing persecution
 - 2 Peter
 - Not appear experiencing persecution
 - Could not be located
 - Influenced by Hellenistic culture
 - False teaching
- Date
 - Late in first century
- Purpose
 - Peter was the end of his life. Final reminder

Salutation

- 耶穌基督的僕人和使徒西門·彼得，寫信給那靠著我們的神和救主耶穌基督的義，得著和我們同樣寶貴信心的人。願恩惠平安，因你們確實認識神和我們的主耶穌，多多加給你們。(1:1-2)
- 耶穌基督的僕人 **slave**
 - Identity
 - Lordship
- 使徒 **messenger/delegate**
 - Representing Christ
 - Carry master's authority

Salutation

- 基督的義
 - Saved by Jesus' same act
- 得著和我們同樣寶貴信心
 - Received the same salvation
- Knowledge
 - Personal knowledge
 - Growing in knowledge
 - Key idea of the letter
 - Involve relationship
- You want to be vs God wants you to be ...