

Year Of The HORSE



From ancient times, the horse has been admired for its beauty, strength, and speed. It has been valued on the farm as well as on the battle field.

In a battle, good strategy and military might were assets relied upon heavily to secure victory. Yet, harnessing all these by applying the principles in Sun Tze's "Art of War" would not guarantee victory. The well-known war strategist, Kung Ming, tells us that we still need "heaven" to be on our side. This truth is expressed in the Bible as

follows: "The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but deliverance is of the Lord"¹; "A horse is a vain hope for safety; neither shall it deliver any by its great strength."²

God is the Creator of the universe. God is in control. The fallen angel, Satan, may be a powerful foe, but he is no match for God. Satan instigated the first man and the first woman, Adam and Eve, to sin against God. Ever since that event, known as the Fall, life has not been happy for mankind. War, famine, and death come to man. The Bible represents war by one who rides on a red horse. Famine is represented by one riding on a black horse. These agents of Satan create havoc and misery on earth.

Our only hope lies in the One who rides on a white horse. "A crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."³ He is none other than Jesus Christ, the Son of God who has come to this world to save sinners. Yes, Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world! We have inherited the sinful nature of Adam and Eve, such

that we all sin against God in thoughts, words, and deeds. Christ died on the cross as the perfect sacrifice, in the place of those who should die eternally for their sin. He rose from death on the third day, showing that He has accomplished what He came to do. Whoever makes up his mind to turn from sin and follow Jesus Christ is forgiven by God and given eternal life.⁴

We must quickly come to Jesus Christ in faith. "Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you."⁵

1. Prov. 21:31; 2. Psalm 33:17; 3. Rev. 6:2; 4. John 3:16; 5. Psalm 32:9

Contact:

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马年



自古以来，马因其俊美、力量与速度而备受推崇。无论在农耕中或战场上，马都被视为极其宝贵的助力。

在战争中，良好的战略与强大的军力，常被视为赢得胜利的重要条件。然而，即使善用《孙子兵法》中的原则，统筹一切，也未必能确保必胜。著名的军事战略家诸葛孔明曾指出，仍需“天”站在我们这一边。

圣经如此表达这真理：“马是为打仗之日预备的；得胜乃在乎耶和華。”¹ 又说：“靠马得救是枉然的；马也不能因力大救人。”²

上帝是宇宙万物的创造者，掌管一切。堕落的天使撒但虽是强大的仇敌，却远非上帝的手。撒但引诱人类始祖亚当与夏娃犯罪，得罪上帝。自此，人类经历了所谓的“堕落”，生命不再安稳，战争、饥荒与死亡临到世人。圣经以骑红马来象征战争；以骑黑马的来象征饥荒；以骑灰马来象征死亡。这些都是撒但的爪牙，在世上制造混乱与痛苦。

我们唯一的盼望，在于那位骑着白马的。“有冠冕赐给他，他便出来，胜了又要胜。”³ 他正是上帝的独生子——耶稣基督。他来到世上为要拯救罪人。是的，耶稣基督乃是世人的救主！

我们继承了亚当和夏娃的罪性，以至于我们在思想、言语和行为上都得罪了上帝。基督作为完美的赎罪祭死在十字架上，代替了那些因罪而本该永远死亡的人。他在第三天从死里复活，表明他已完成了他来此要成就的事。凡立志离弃罪恶并跟随耶稣基督的人，必蒙上帝赦免，并得着永生。⁴

因此，我们当凭信心赶紧归向主耶稣基督。正如圣经所劝勉的：“你不可像那无知的骡马，必用嚼环轡头勒住它；不然，就不能驯服。”⁵

1. 箴言 21:31；
2. 诗篇 33:17；
3. 启示录 6:2；
4. 约翰福音 3:16；
5. 诗篇 32:9

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