

## SHARING ABOUT THE TRIP TO ISRAEL:

### VELA LIANG

Carrying the early hours' breeze, I walked up the coach, which led us to God's creation, in my utmost gratefulness and amazement!

#### **God's creation, thus, provision!**

It was entirely God's grace I could set feet on His Promised Land. The team enjoyed our first breakfast at 5am inside a Botanical Garden. The Bible, especially endless Psalms, praised and taught us how to praise our Lord for His creation (most of the time, the Earth, Sun, Moon, Air, Sea, Plants and its habitation). However, the produce, in fact the plant itself, that were grown and harvested at different times throughout a year, is yet another creation of Jesus Christ our Lord to provide His beloved peoples food and tools while they would have lived their lives in God.

Looking around me these plants, their fruits, their shapes, their color, their sweet fragrance, thus, their lives, I suddenly realized how God loves me. He does not only created the Sun, the Sky that are distanced, but also provides for my everyday life.

#### **God's presence**

The team worshipped and listened very carefully to what the speaker had shared at the square next to the Wailing Wall. A western lady stayed beside us almost the entire period we were singing and listening to our own language in Chinese. Before we parted to the Wailing Wall, she told us she was a Jewish, and had returned Israel for quite a time. She was a Jesus follower when lived abroad, but she had not attended any church nor related activity after returned Israel. She told us she was caught at the sight of our team and later felt the presence of God, of whom did not want to move away from us.

We were allowed some free time at the Wailing Wall. During this time, there were some gun shots here and there, then, someone yelled loudly, then, followed by troops of soldiers marching with machine guns in the square, making the square out of peace.

But I seemed God holding me in His arms calming me, saying, "I am here." It is all the same with Jerusalem and me, while I had felt my security threatened at the square, God has his arms around me.

#### **God knows and heals**

Standing in front of the square outside the Church of Sepulcher, I saw our Christ Jesus on the Cross and these 2 senior managers, who had kicked me out of job due to company politics. The Lord asked how I felt facing these 2 persons. I told him I could not forgive them, nor could I let go my hatred towards them, who had entirely denied all my hard works. Then the Lord asked me to see them from His stand on the Cross. At that very instant, I collapsed into tears and knew I did let go all negative emotions inside. I told the Lord I could not hate them anymore, nor would I allow any hurt to sustain, because this

was the exact reason why He had been on the Cross – to die for our sins so that “whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

### **God was not in the strong wind, earthquake, the fire, but in a low sound, He whispered**

The team was at our high spirit at the roof top of the church on top of Mount Carmel. There we sang and danced, we took photos, and we waited for the sunset.

Here at the top of Mount Carmel, Elijah killed 450 prophets of Baal because of his love to God. But the very next day, he fled to as south as Horeb, the Mount of God, simply because he was threatened by Jezebel to take the revenge on killing him.

I asked that the Spirit of fire to continuously burn our passion for Israel and never die down, that our lives would be energized by God’s fire on what He cares most, what He loves most, and whenever He desires us.

### **God cleansed Haifa with the first heavy rain storm after 3 years**

All of us were caught in the heavy rain and thunder at Haifa when we were distributing some pamphlets and booklets to a local community. This 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city of Israel was full of belief of all kinds. “Are you not children of transgression, the offspring of deceit, you who burn with lust among the oaks, under every green tree, who slaughter your children in the valleys, under the clefts of the rocks?”

“Oh no, You never let go, through the calm and through the storm; Oh no, You never let go, in every high and every low; Oh no, You never let go, Lord, You never let go of me.”

### **All the Heavens shout Your praise, beautiful is our God, the universe will sing, Hallelujah to you our King**

Even we “fall down before Him who is seated on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever”, we are not qualified to sing. Yet, we sang heartily at the Sea of Galilee.

## **以色列之旅點滴分享: VELA LIANG**

### **01 - 地平線上的日出 – 神的恩寵，讓我們踏足祂的地 (植物告訴我們 神賜以色列人的智慧)**

凌晨 2 點 48 分，蒙 神批准，我們踏足祂的地土，大伙兒先到植物公園去參觀。講員講解橄欖、牛膝草、杏、桑樹，以致務農時令和節期。從以色列的氣候，到制定日規、春耕和秋收節氣；以色列人從 神得著智慧，在這塊有  $\frac{1}{3}$  土地都是曠野和沙漠的流奶與蜜的應許地上、又一年只有 122 天雨水的國度裏，我不單見到、也在旅途中品嚐這些農作物的肥、甘、美。

我讀聖經往往只能加以想像，最多求聖靈光照來了解 神創造的大能。我們被問到在沒有雨水的 4-10 月耕種的季節，聖經跟我們說怎樣灌溉，以致在 8、9 月慶祝豐收節？這是 神賜人的智慧建「集水區」收集雨水灌溉。

天父給予以色列民在不同時令有不同的蔬果，這些出產還具備不同的含意，如：牛膝草是一種「謙卑」的植物，又是潔淨的意思；人畜可以把它踐踏到地裏，過後它還能繼續生長。還記得 神吩咐摩西教以色列民拿它蘸血塗門楣和門框潔淨呢！又如杏樹只有在冬天才開花結果、杏(apricot)果肉肥美、新鮮的杏清甜爽口多汁、杏脯又是甘飴的乾果、無論美容還是醫藥都大量使用杏仁。

原來天父給我們在不同時間獲得祂多方供應，祂的適時供應還有不同意義；在我們看似窮途末路(如沒有雨水的耕種季節)，祂會指引我們當行的路呢。

**02 - 煮豆燃豆其，豆在釜中泣。本是同根生，相煎何太急！**阿拉伯人和以色列人本就是亞伯拉罕的後裔；神讓我們感祂所感的痛。

耶利哥啊！耶利哥！昔日妳是 神應許以色列民獲得第一個流奶與蜜的城市，今天妳的物產豐盛，卻與妳同父異母的以撒後人各不相干。今天耶利哥市是阿拉伯人居住的地方，他們已獨立成為自治區，不受以色列規管。

「神對亞伯拉罕說：『不要因這童子和你的婢女而煩惱。．．．至於這婢女的兒子，我也要使他成為一國，因為他是你的後裔。』」

為著兄弟反目，互不相認，我感到痛心；為著以實瑪利既為亞伯拉罕的後裔也蒙 神的祝福，反觀今天的猶太人卻不接受主耶穌救恩的事實，我感到 天父的痛！

**03 - Nativity – 主道成肉身，親自成就救恩；**(約 3:3 - 耶穌回答說、我實實在在的告訴你、人若不重生、就不能見 神的國。)

因著主的降生成就了救恩，「因妳受的刑罰，我們得平安；因妳受的鞭傷，我們得醫治。」講員引用了拿俄米的名字及她的故事，誘發我們思考生命中可曾從祝福變成咒詛，又怎樣因著主耶穌而得到祝福。

我想起主藉尼哥德慕給我的教導，「風隨意而吹，你聽見它的響聲，卻不知道它從哪裏來，往哪裏去；凡從聖靈生的，也是這樣。」求聖靈引導我們按著 神的方法和時間，逐漸放下從前舊人，靠著聖靈穿上新人，學著主耶穌的樣式成長，得以與蒙召的恩相稱。

**04 - 當大家都站到 神的殿，我們都在「飄」**

我站在 King of Kings Pavilion 的祈禱塔向外望，在我的正前方就是那些信奉傳統猶太教人住的地方。我的心一陣抽搐，然後彷彿飛向他們，我跟聖靈說我怕，說未準備好。

「一個民族要起來攻打另一個民族，一個國家要起來攻打另一個國家。必有大地震、到處有饑荒和瘟疫，天上必有又恐怖又巨大的預兆。」

就因為這些人的橫梗、硬著頸項，神就要興起外邦人。讓我們一同來為以色列禱告，好到外邦人的數目滿了，神就要挪開遮蓋他們的帕子，我們一同「飄」。

**05 - 神的祝福就在我們的誠惶誠恐中** – 這邊一位猶太歸主者被神的臨在吸引她向神的話語行注目禮，另邊廂槍聲、催淚彈的聲音、人們叫嚷聲，還有直昇機在頭上盤旋的聲音教我明白神是公義的

在哭牆前面的廣場，當我們聚集聆聽講員的教導時，吸引了一位曾經相信耶穌基督的猶太回歸女子在我們的隊伍旁邊佇立，後來我們知道她因為感到神的恩膏在我們當中才不願離開。

之後我們都前往哭牆，有各自安靜的時間。然後，有接二連三的槍聲在廣場響起，然後又有一些男子的叫囂聲，接著又是槍彈聲，然後直昇機就在上空盤旋幾達半句鐘。

這邊廂我們獲知神的恩膏臨在我們中間，另一邊我們經歷了猶太人在神揀選的地土上終日過著誠惶誠恐的生活。

讓我們不只看到事情的一面(不管是正面還是負面)，因為我們幾時都有「神與我們同在」。「就是我為自己所造的子民，好使他們述說讚美我的話。然而，雅各啊！你並沒有呼求我。以色列啊！你竟厭煩我。...『唯有我為自己的緣故，塗抹你的過犯，我也不再記念你的罪。』」

**06 - 不要讓「死啦！」繼續做我的口頭禪** – 當一車又一車的人被送到集中營受死，他們是真的死啦！

我讀世界歷史課本對大量猶太人被納粹黨屠殺的描述已足以使我深切痛恨納粹黨尤其是希特拉。參觀「大屠殺紀念館」教我多了正面認識之餘，眼見一車又一車的人被送到集中營受死，他們是真的死啦！

「我常常把耶和華擺在我面前，因祂在我右邊，我必不會動搖。」

**07 - 苦殤路** – 耶穌說：「父啊，赦免他們！因為他們不知道自己所作的是甚麼。」

因為權力鬥爭而把我轟出公司門外的兩位上級站在十字架上的耶穌前面。當我跟主說我不能原諒她們時，耶穌讓我站在祂的位置看她倆，問我覺得祂是怎麼看她們？我跟主說就正因為她倆的緣故祢被釘。「因祢受的刑罰，我們得平安；因祢受的鞭傷，我們得醫治。」那一刻所有的怨恨都被抹去，就像住在耶路撒冷的人一樣，她們為了保住自己的權力和高位，終日誠惶誠恐。

「耶路撒冷啊，耶路撒冷，你殺害先知，又用石頭把奉派到你那裏的人打死。我多次想招聚你的兒女，好像母雞扣聚小雞到翅膀底下，只是你們不願意。你看，你們的家必成為荒場留給你們。」

我告訴你們，從今以後，你們一定見不到我，直等於你們說：『奉主名來的，是應當稱頌的。』」

## 08 - 要理性？還是任 神掌管的恩典？

當天父差派兩位美麗的天使返回酒店給我食退燒藥後 3 個多小時，我已能夠站起來在酒店房內收拾行李準備明天離開耶路撒冷前往下一目的地。我以為我又上了一次「交托」的功課！

第二天在前往下一目的地的旅程是豐富的，我卻不能領受；因為我發熱的根源未醫治。抵達酒店我又發燒，立即向 天父認罪後，我才知道自己習慣用理性分析事情；對新事物甚至發生在別人身上的事情，我都把「人物、時間、地點和事情經過」像電腦數據一樣存起來。「發熱」卻不在我的「個人經歷」檔，所以我束手無策，只有躺在酒店病床上。若不是天父差祂的可愛天使來救我，我只會拖累大家的行程。

出發前重讀了一本書（感恩天父悅納我的禱告我要學習主“deny myself”），天父藉這書教導我具體“deny myself”的方法 – total surrender myself by giving up my mind, emotion, intellect, mouth, lips, ears and eyes to Father God. 我知道這功課不是一次性，我懇請聖靈讓我抓著祢學習。

## 09 - 以利亞挑戰 450 位巴力先知是衝動？耶洗別公然要殺死以利亞，以利亞就害怕，起來，就逃命去了。

在迦密山上我們熱情的、熱烈的敬拜讚美 神，大伙兒熱烘烘的拍照，更心裏火熱的看日落。

以利亞因為愛 神，大發熱心挑戰並一舉殺死 450 位巴力先知；卻因為以色列王亞哈的妻子耶洗別要脅要殺他的一句話就從西北的迦密山，一直往南逃到何烈山。

求天父允許我們為祢的事發熱心、求祢讓我們抓緊聖靈的攜帶與教導、求聖靈教我們不要只發「三分鐘」的熱心、更求聖靈引領我們往 神的深度裏去，好教我們不要因為肉體的軟弱或撒旦的欺哄失腳而逃。

## 10 – 三教九流的海法， 神的恩典在狂風暴雨 + 冰雹中

「在猶大人和耶路撒冷的居民中間，有背叛的陰謀。他們回到他們祖先所犯的罪孽中。他們的祖先不肯聽從我的話，卻隨從事奉別的神。以色列家和猶大家都違反了我和他們列祖所立的約。」

在各地有拜偶像的事，我們不要喪氣，要抓著 神的應許，「這稱為我名下的子民，若是謙卑、禱告、尋求我的面，轉離他們的惡行，我必從天上垂聽，赦免他們的罪，醫治他們的地。」

在海法下了傾盆大雨，先是行雷閃電，然後傾盆大雨，再來比豆大的冰雹。我們每個都渾身濕透，然後 神藉導遊阿 **Nee** 讓我們又回到已退房的酒店更換濕透了的內外衣履，然後我們得享一頓極豐富的唐餐。更重要的是機構事奉的一位弟兄的分享，他說他知道要服事，可一直問天父該到哪兒事奉的問題得不到答覆，直到他受感把問題改成：「我願意交上自己，請讓我知道我可以怎樣被祢使用？」

「我說：『我在這裏，請差遣我。』」