



《圣经》典故探析

吉林化工学院 倪秀杰

《圣经》(The Bible)是基督教的一部经典,其中的大量习语、典故已经渗透到英语的日常生活用语中。如:

1. **A little bird told me.** 小鸟告诉我的。出自“Ecclesiastes” 10:20 (旧约《传道书》)。喻指“有人(私下)告诉我,消息不胫而走”。如:

“How did you know that I came first in the race, Grandma?” said Laura. “奶奶,你怎么知道我在比赛中获得了第一名?” 劳拉问道。

“A little bird told me,” replied Grandma. “小鸟告诉我的。” 奶奶回答。

2. **Balaam's donkey** 巴兰的驴。出自“Numbers” 22:21-41 (旧约《民数记》)。喻指“平素沉默驯服而突然提出抗议的人”。如:

I don't think Jim is Balaam's donkey. 我认为吉姆不是一位轻易动怒之人。

3. **loaves and fishes** 面包和鱼。出自“John” 21:9-14 (新约《约翰福音》)。喻指“物质利益、实惠、好处”。如:

They seek office, not to be useful to the state, but for the loaves and fishes. 他们谋求公职,不是为了对国家有用,而是为了个人私利。

4. **dove and olive leaf** 鸽子和橄榄枝。出自“Genesis” 7:10-12 (旧约《创世纪》)。喻指“和平,和解”。如:

They are flying flag of dove and olive leaf instead of war. 他们提出要和平,而不是要战争。

5. **a grain of mustard seed** 一粒芥种。出自“Matthew” 13:31 (新约《马太福音》)。喻指“大有前途的微小事物”。如:

Mistakes of policy, which were perhaps the mustard seed when committed, grew into mighty

trees of mischief. 政策上的错误,初犯时可能是毫厘之差,终会酿成滔天大祸。

6. **a widow's cruse** 寡妇的坛子。出自Kings 17:12-16 (旧约《列王记》)。喻指“貌似有限但取之不竭的财源”。如:

In Susan's courtyard, the little well is a widow's cruse, which never dries, even in the severe season of drought. 在苏珊的庭院里,这口小水井即使在严重的干旱季节也不会干涸。

7. **Aaron's rod** 亚伦的杖。出自“Numbers” 17:2-3 (旧约《民数记》)。喻指“大权在握”。如:

What do you want if you are given Aaron's rod? 假若我大权在握,你想要什么?

8. **Tower of Babel** 巴别塔。出自“Genesis” 11:8-9 (旧约《创世纪》)。喻指“空想、空中楼阁”。如:

They think Mike's plan is the tower of Babel. 他们认为迈克的计划只是空中楼阁。

9. **a land of flowing with milk and honey** 牛奶与蜜之地。出自“Exodus” 3:7 (旧约《出埃及记》)。喻指“富饶之地、鱼米之乡”。如:

His hometown is considered to be a nice place, a land flowing with milk and honey. 他的家乡是富饶之地,是个好地方。

10. **Lot's wife** 罗德的妻子。出自“Genesis” 19:23-26 (旧约《创世纪》)。喻指“过分好奇的人”。如:

Curious as Lot's wife, Helen can't get along well with her classmates. 海伦好奇心过重,不能与同班同学很好相处。

(通讯地址: 132022 吉林省吉林市承德街45号吉林化工学院外国语学院)