「新眼光讀經（Reading Bible Through New Eyes）」研討會

日期：2019年12月10-13日

地點：台南神學院

共同主辦：台灣基督長老教會總會傳道委員會，台南神學院、台灣教會公報社、亞洲神學會（Asian Theological Academy）、台灣本土神學研究中心（ACTT）

亞洲神學會（Asian Theological Academy，ATA）是一個亞洲教會的論壇，與1701年創始於英國倫敦的「福音夥伴聯盟」（United Society Partners in the Gospel，USPG）具有夥伴關係。ATA的主要事工在於拓展現代神學論述的廣度，以及提出在上帝實存處境中作先知性見證的適切方法。ATA確信，教會的神學職責是針對上帝在我們的歷史當中之持續啟示提供動態且具有活力的回應。顯然地，我們認為，耶穌身上所彰顯的上帝形像總是顯現於社會邊緣人當中。因此，我們被呼召要去與弱勢者和被邊緣化者團結在一起。而正因為被邊緣化者或無地位者都是上帝的夥伴，ATA因此尋求能成為在弱勢者群體中的一個參與者，來向這些已然與神聖者建立了優先關係的邊緣者學習並與他們一起作神學。

為要著手於上述的神學進程，ATA透過與亞洲的教會及不同的神學運動團體合作，一起舉辦了各種的活動，其中包括：

a. 教牧進修：提供神學與牧養的訓練課程，以此裝備教會牧者與信徒領袖，使其得以看見且回應社會、政治與經濟的現實狀況。

b. 陪伴事工：提供神學上的陪伴，幫助亞洲教會在面對現況中的經濟、政治與社會議題時，能夠找到宣教與牧養上的明確回應。

c. 人民神學校：協助教會成為貧窮者的教會，並且將「上帝對貧窮者顯明的優先選擇」作深具意義的論證。

d. 新眼光讀經：「透過新眼光研讀聖經」致力於發展出一種新的研經方法，即從社會與經濟體系中的受害者之觀點解讀聖經文本。

「新眼光讀經」乃是一種倡議，此倡議是體認到只有通過貧窮者與被邊緣化者的處境作建構性與創造性的詮釋過程，聖經文本才成為好消息。不幸地，亞洲人研讀聖經的方法主要是承襲歐美宣教師的傳統，這種傳統則偏向於合理化那些盛行於我們社會中的那些不公義之經濟與社會制度。在支持社會階層制度的同時，並壓制那些抵抗的力量與聲音。於是，教會發展出一種普遍的認知，即認為「聖經對於我們的經濟、政治與社會生活之關聯與影響微不足道」。也因此，當人研讀聖經之時，對不公義的事毫無感受，也不成問題。於是，聖經的主要關切被侷限於抽象或形而上的議題，也就是說，聖經的首要關懷被錯誤地描繪為只屬心靈上的事。

然而，過去的幾年當中，在亞洲、非洲與拉丁美洲的教會與其他被邊緣化的群體，開始在聖經文本中發現了新的意義，從而驅使他們去挑戰那股壓迫人權與將他人邊緣化的力量。那些研讀讓人知道，聖經文本之所以成為好消息，需要透過「從貧窮者與被邊緣者的處境作建構性與創造性的詮釋」之過程，本次研討會的工作坊正是以此為目標，即期待協助參與者發展出一套嚴謹的釋經方法。

本次研討會的主要講師將邀請不同國家的學者擔綱，他們分別為來自巴西的Paulo Ueti教授、來自斯里蘭卡的Rienzie Perera博士、來自馬來西亞的Jason Selvaraj博士、來自菲律賓的Gloria Mapangdol教授，以及來自台灣的Huang Po-Ho教授。

本次研討會訂於12月10日開始（報到），並預計於13日傍晚結束。參與者除了台灣在地的牧長外，預期將有來自日本、韓國、香港、馬來西亞、孟加拉、菲律賓、緬甸、印尼、斯里蘭卡與印度等地的教會代表。主辦單位期待韓國、日本與香港的教會能提供參加者的旅費，至於來自巴西的Paulo Ueti教授的旅費則由ATA負責。

“Reading Bible Through New Eyes”

Date: December 10-13

Venue: TTCS, Tainan, Taiwan

Asian Theological Academy, in partnership with Academy for Contextual Theology in Taiwan [ACTT], Presbyterian Church Press and Tainan Theological College and Seminary is proposing to organize a workshop on “Reading Bible Through New Eyes” in December 2019, at TTCS, Tainan.

The Asian Theological Academy is a forum of churches in Asia in partnership with the United Society Partners in the Gospel [USPG], London that aims to expand the current theological discourse and identify relevant ways to become a prophetic witness to the living reality of God. The theological function of the church, as ATA affirm, is to offer dynamic responses to the ongoing revelations of God in our history. Significantly, we hold that God in Jesus is revealed exclusively among the margins of society, and therefore we are called to be in solidarity with those who live in situations of vulnerability and marginalization. The marginalized, or non-beings, are partners of God; and as such, Asian Theological Academy seeks to become a participant in the communities of the vulnerable, to learn and do theology with non-persons who establish a preferential relationship with the Divine.

Asian Theological Academy organizes various programs in collaboration with churches and theological movements in Asia to embark on this theological journey. Some of them are:

a. The Refresher course for Clergy which offers theological and pastoral training to equip pastors and lay leaders to encounter and respond to the social, political and economic realities of the present time.

b. The Accompaniment programme which offers theological accompaniment to churches in Asia as they search to identify missiological and pastoral responses to their current economic, political and social issues.

c. The School of People’s Theology accompanying churches to become a church of the poor, and meaningfully demonstrate the preferential option that God has shown to the poor.

d. Reading Bible through new Eyes is the fourth initiative that aims to develop a new method of reading Bible from the perspective of the victims of social and economic systems.

Reading Bible through New Eyes is an initiative informed by the realization that the scriptural text becomes good news only in the process of a constructive and creative interpretation from the location of the poor and the marginalized. Unfortunately, the method of reading Bible that Asians inherited from the missionary tradition was oriented to legitimize the unjust economic and social systems prevalent in our societies. It while upholding the hierarchies, silenced the resistance to power. As a result, the churches developed a common perception that the Bible have very little role in shaping our economic, political and social life. Injustice remained as a non-issue while approaching the Bible. Primary concern of Bible is metaphysical issues, erroneously depicted as spiritual.

However, in the past few years, churches in Asia, Africa and Latin America along with other marginalized communities have discovered new meaning in the biblical texts that provoked them to challenge the forces of dehumanization and marginalization. These readings are informed by the realization that the text becomes good news in the process of a constructive and creative interpretation from the location of the poor and the marginalized. The proposed workshop is to assist the participants to develop a critical methodology towards this goal.

Leadership for the conference will be given by Prof. Paulo Ueti from Brazil, Ven. Dr. Rienzie Perera from Sri Lanka, Rt. Rev. Dr. Jason Selvaraj from Malaysia, Prof. Gloria Mapangdol from the Philippines and Prof. Dr. Po Ho Huang.

The workshop will be held from December 10th (arrival) to 13th evening. Prospective participants may represent churches from Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Philippines, Myanmar, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India. Churches in Korea, Japan and Hong Kong are expected to meet their travel expenditure.

Asian Theological Academy will be responsible to pay the travel expenditure of Prof. Paulo Ueti from Brazil.