



Happy Chinese New Year!

Xīn nián kuài lè

新年快乐!

福
福
福



True Blessing Through Christ

Sunday 26th January 2025



For Chinese, the concept of **fortune**, **prosperity** or **blessing** is quite focused on monetary wealth and riches.

The word 福 from the Biblical perspective

* The indexing element of 福 is 礻, which signifies spirituality or God (神, shén).

* On the top right side, we have 一 (yī, "one") and 口 (kǒu, "mouth"), which together represents a single mouth or a person.

* On the bottom right side, we have 田 (tián, "field"), which means a piece of cultivated land like a garden.



* The word 福 describes man relating, communing and dwelling with our Creator.

* This is our **true blessing through Christ** is to have a personal relationship with God.

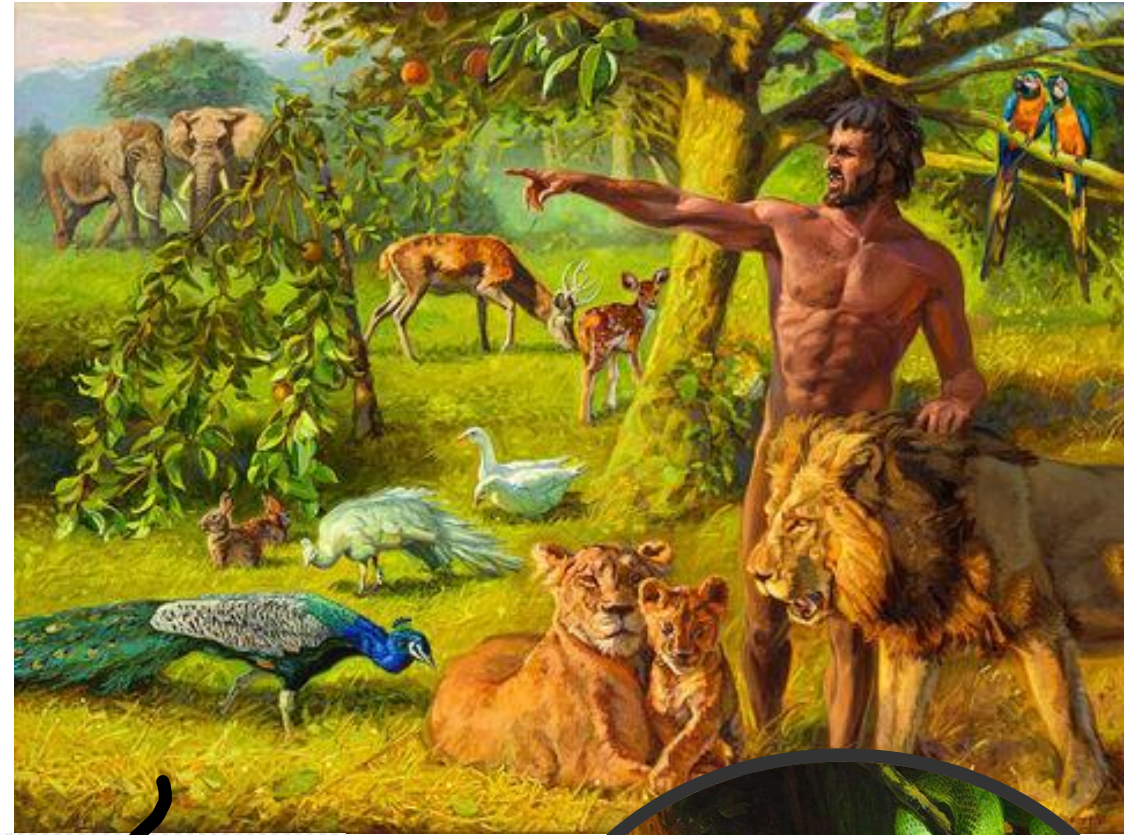


The Fall of Mankind in Genesis

God created the first man named Adam,
He placed him in the Garden of Eden;
Stewardship of the whole garden
he had undertaken,
Not long after, then came Eve – the
Wo-man;
Due to serpent's deception,
gave in to temptation;
the covenant was broken.

Ate the fruit from the tree which
God had forbidden,
Sin came into the picture – mankind
has fallen;
Between God and man, there is a gap
of separation,
Human beings really need divine
intervention;
We need a Savior sent by God from
heaven.

(1) Garden of Eden - The Fall



(2) Garden of Gethsemane – The Call

After the Last Supper, they went to a place called Gethsemane.. garden (田)

Jesus took Peter, James, and John; and then He left them, to go a little beyond to pray alone (一 口).

There, Jesus wrestled with God (✠)...
“Father, if it’s Your will, take this cup of suffering away from me” ...
Yet in the end after having prayed for three times, Jesus yielded to God’s will.



Death through Adam, Life through Christ (Romans 5)

17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, **death** reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive **God's abundant provision of grace** and of the **gift of righteousness reign in life** through the one man, Jesus Christ!

18 Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in **condemnation** for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in **justification** and **life** for all people. 19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the **many were made sinners**, so also through the obedience of the one man the **many will be made righteous**.

20 The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where **sin increased**, **grace increased all the more**, 21 so that, just as sin reigned in **death**, so also grace might reign through **righteousness** to bring **eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gethsemane - Jesus underwent the agony

**Everything that Jesus suffered in that garden,
And His death on the cross via crucifixion;
He took the penalty, bore our punishment,
Through His blood we were made righteous, we have redemption;
Between God and men through Christ be reconciliation.**

**Therefore, those in Christ - there is now no condemnation,
The old has gone, the new is here - we are new creations!
Hear the message of truth - the gospel of our salvation,
When we believe, we become God's treasured possession;
Marked with a seal guaranteeing our inheritance.**



Our true blessing through Christ is to have a personal relationship with God.

*** Share this good news (福音, fúyīn, "gospel")**

*** Salvation of souls**

*** Spiritual growth & maturity**






For illustration purposes only

(3) Garden of Eden Restored – The Reinstall (Rev.22)

- “A new heaven and a new earth” (Rev.21)
- I am making everything new!
- ..I will be their God, and they will be my children..
- Look, I am coming soon!

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**The
Greatest Blessing**

The Chinese Character for blessings, “福”
presents two images:

On the right half, “一口田” (yī kǒu tián), which
means literally, ‘one mouth [and] padi field.’ One who
has a padi field to provide for himself can be happy.

On the left half, “礻” (shì) means God. It
expresses a relationship with God, in the midst of
fruitful labour.

From the Chinese character “福”, we discover
that the greatest blessing we can have is a
relationship with God, from which we receive joy
and peace that can never be lost.

Wishing you a blessed Lunar New Year, filled with
love, joy and peace from God.