



Christian Beliefs & CNY Practices

What do the Chinese want for CNY?

CHUI YOU CHEE | 27 JAN 2019



Christian Beliefs and Chinese New Year Practices

Jesus
Loves
You!



新年如意快乐

Happy Lunar New Year

*What do the Chinese
want for CNY?*

Timothy Chui

Can a Christian join in CNY Celebration?



Bros, we are living in the twentieth century, man, not in the stone age. Wake up, I'm strong.

Why not? Churches in other pagan religions like Halloween, & some people say Easter & Christmas has pagan origins...

Yes, but be very careful... lots of spirits and firework...

I would not do it. If you are a true Christian you should not participate in a celebration... it is a form of worship of other gods.

It depends on how extreme the celebration is. I am Christian and I still participate in such events as Halloween and mardi gras. It's really up to you.

Practices @ Festivals



Cultural?

A culture is a particular pattern of human thought, speech, and behaviour that is derived from deeply held beliefs

Some of these practices are rooted in religious beliefs, and are passed from one generation to the next.

Religious?



Retain

- Cultural & beneficial

Reject

- Religious & Demonic

Redeem

- Neutral

Who Are the Chinese?

1. The Mainland Chinese

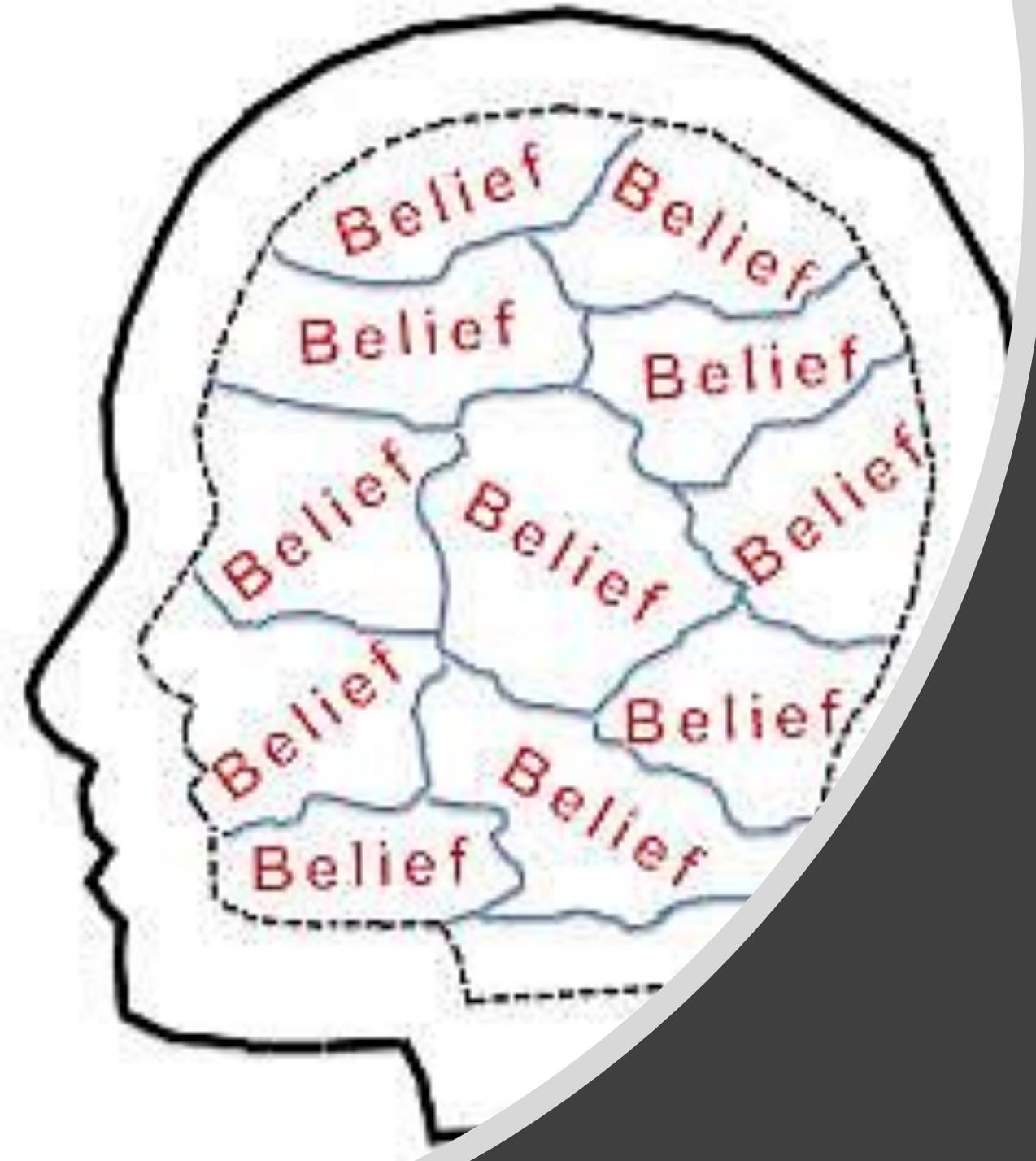
- 1.4 Billion Chinese in 2017
(based on latest UN estimates)

2. The Overseas Chinese (Diaspora Chinese)

- 33 million worldwide
(World Economic Forum, 2016)

Who Are
the
Chinese?

Clever
Honest
Intelligent
Noble
Excellent
Smart
Elegant

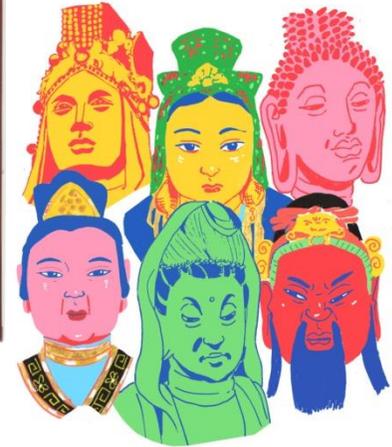
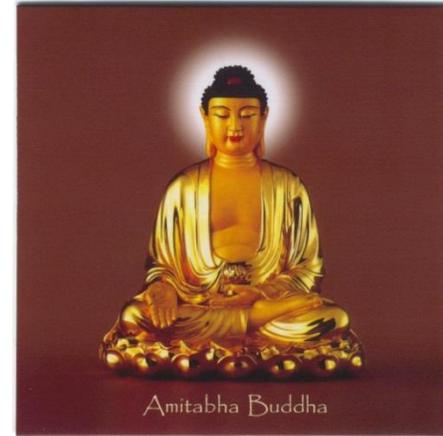


The Chinese Belief System (Worldview)

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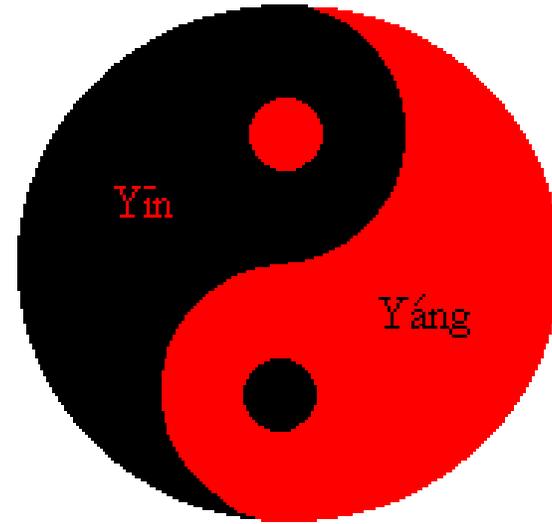


- Confucianism
- Taoism
- Buddhism
- Chinese Folk religion



Chinese Folk religion is a diverse mixture of beliefs. Taoism, Buddhism, and the religious aspects of Confucianism are combined with local folk beliefs and practices to form the backbone of Chinese folk religion.

Taoism - Yin and Yang



The significance of yin-yang and the “chi” concept through the centuries has permeated every aspect of Chinese thought, influencing astrology, divination, medicine, art, health, and government.”

Chinese Folk Religion



**kuei -
devil
malevolent
spirits**

- Belief in spirits
- Reverence for ancestors
- Priests perform blessing rituals
- Astrology
- Divination



**shen –
god
benevolent
spirits.**



*“**A biblical worldview** begins with God in Genesis, chapter one and verse one. A biblical worldview is viewing the world, the beginning of the world, people in the world, the problems in the world, governments in the world, issues in the world, solutions for the problems in the world, and the future of the world – through God’s Word.”*

“If you do not know what the word of God says about these issues, and why they are right or wrong, you are not operating with a biblical worldview.

- Ethan Pope, “Developing A Biblical Worldview”, Foundation of Living, 2000



Belief Systems

- **Godly Belief System:** is one that agrees with God (His Word, His Nature, His Character etc.)
- **Ungodly Belief System:** is one that does not agree with God (His Word, His Nature, His Character etc.)

*Chester and Betsy Kylstra
- Restoring The Foundations*

2 Corinthian 10:4-5

For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down ***strongholds***, casting down ***arguments*** and every high thing that ***exalts itself*** against the knowledge of God, bringing every ***thought*** into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Basically there are two kingdoms ...

A large rectangular box with a vertical gradient from light purple at the top to light blue at the bottom. The text "God's Kingdom" is centered within the box in a bold, purple, sans-serif font.

**God's
Kingdom**

A large rectangular box with a vertical gradient from yellow at the top to red at the bottom. The text "Satan's Kingdom" is centered within the box in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**Satan's
Kingdom**

Basically there are two kingdoms ...

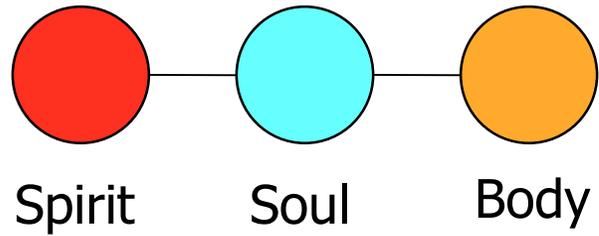
- 1.King
- 2.Domain
- 3.Subjects
- 4.Laws

A large rectangular box with a vertical gradient from light purple at the top to light blue at the bottom. The text 'God's Kingdom' is centered in a bold purple font.

**God's
Kingdom**

A rectangular box with a vertical gradient from yellow at the top to red at the bottom. The text 'Satan's Kingdom' is centered in a bold white font.

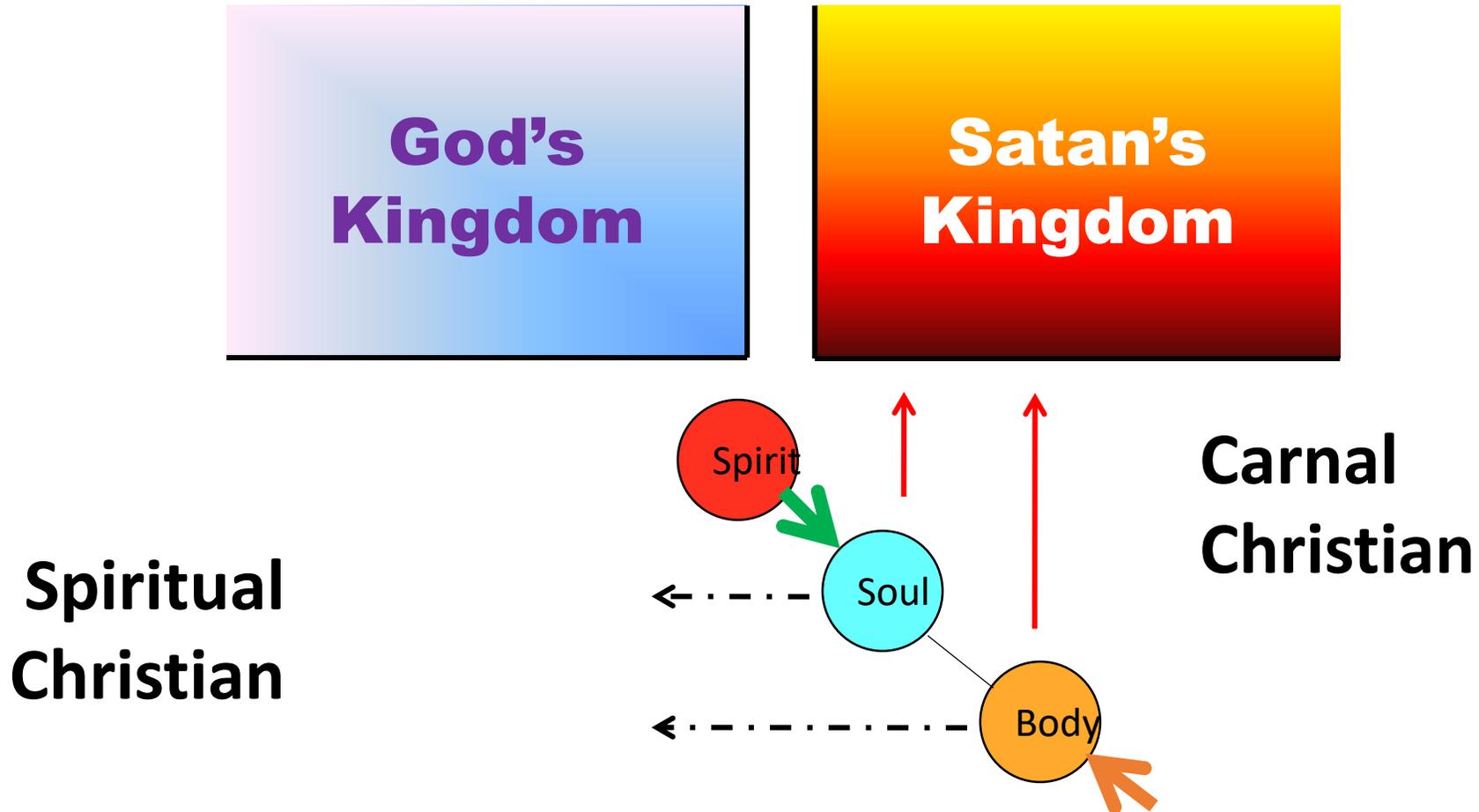
**Satan's
Kingdom**



Believer

Unbeliever

The Sanctification Process



While our spirits were redeemed when we were born again, the redemption of our soul is "in process."



**What Do the
Chinese want
for Chinese New
Year?**



May your life be free of worry and fear;
Instead, may you have happiness,
Good health and success all year!

*Wishing you a
happy and prosperous*

Chinese New Year

**新年
快乐**

easyday.snydle.com



祝愿您在新的—年里，
繁荣、欢乐、成功永远伴随着你...
Wishing you prosperity, joy and success
this new year and always...

**新年快乐！
Happy New Year!**

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新年快樂

MAY THIS NEW YEAR
BRING YOU PROSPERITY
GOOD LUCK AND GOOD FORTUNE

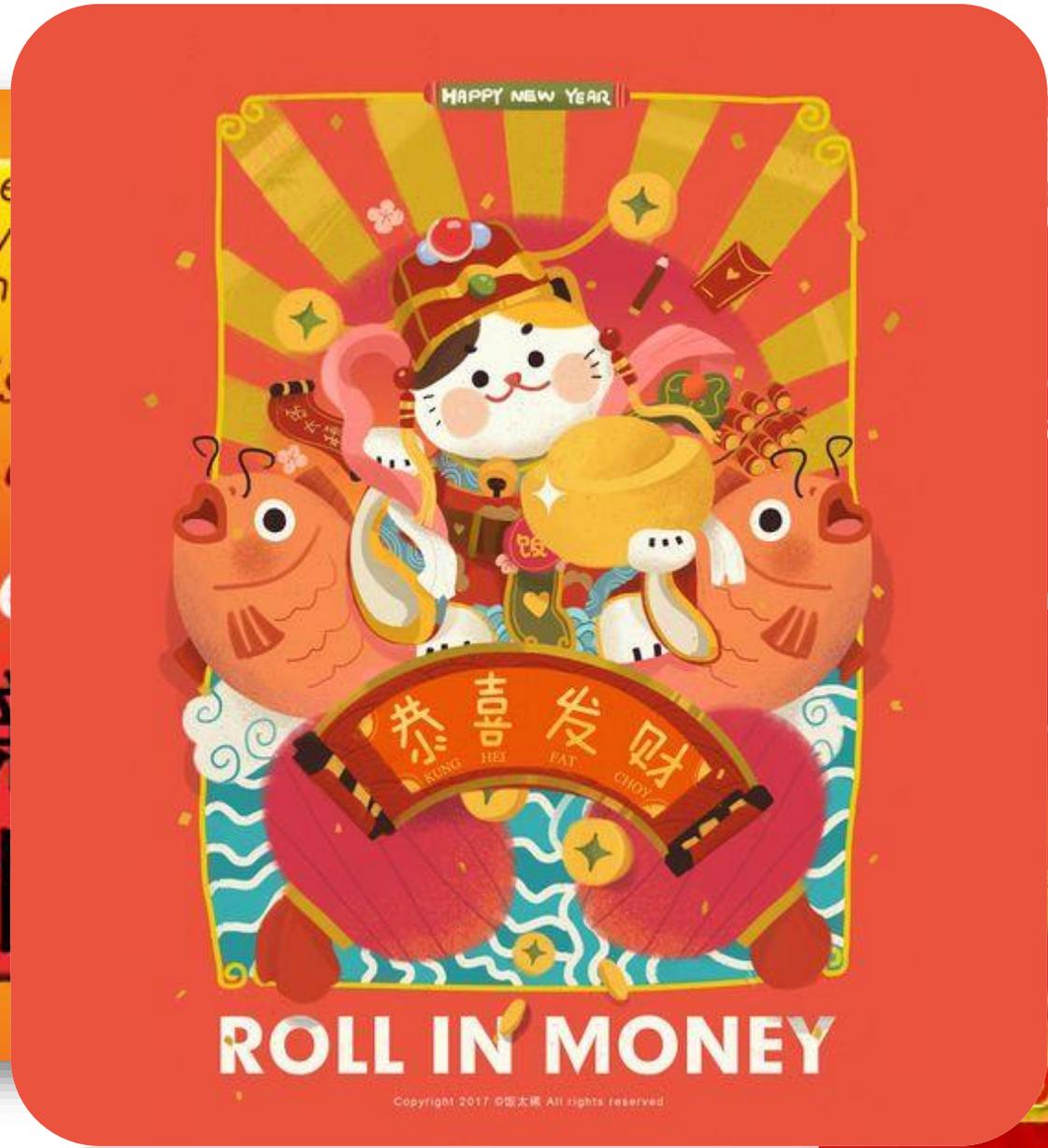
Happy Chinese New Year!



May your life be
Instead, may
Good health

Wish
happy
Chinese

easyday.snydle.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR

ROLL IN MONEY

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祝愿您在新的一年里，
欢乐、成功永远伴随着你...
Wish you prosperity, joy and success
in the new year and always...
新年快乐！
Happy New Year!



新年快樂

MAY THIS NEW YEAR
BRING YOU PROSPERITY
GOOD LUCK AND GOOD FORTUNE

Happy Chinese New Year!



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ROLL IN MONEY



福

Fu
Blessings
Luck



禄

Lu
Wealth
Prosperity



寿

Shou
Longevity



福

Chinese New Year Taboos

SSMC

福

On New Year's Day



No porridge:
it brings poverty



No hair washing:
it washes away
good luck



No needle work:
it depletes wealth



No unlucky words:
e.g. "death" brings death.



No clothes washing:
it washes away good luck



No sweeping:
it sweeps away wealth

Spring Festival Season Taboos



No crying:
it brings bad luck



No breaking dishes:
it brings bad luck



No scissors or knives:
they cut wealth.



No lending or
borrowing money:
it leads to debt



No killing
(including animals):
it causes misfortune



No black or
white clothes:
they are unlucky colors



No odd amounts of
lucky money:
it's unlucky



No hospital visits:
it brings illness

Praying in
Temple

Fire Cracker

Lion Dance

Gambling

Vegetarian
Meals



Ancestor Worship

Idols Worship

Daily Festivities

Occultic Images

福

Fu
Blessings
Luck

禄

Lu
Wealth
Prosperity

寿

Shou
Longevity



Separating Philosophy from Practices



THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE

Many things in the occult and mystical world seem to work. The standard for Christians in adopting a spiritually based idea or practice is not whether it works. We are admonished to :
"not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God..."

– Daniel Tong

BEING CHINESE

Blessing or
Bane
(Burden)

*“While our eternal destiny
is secure, our **DAILY
VICTORY** is at stake”*

- Neil Anderson



The Real Key to True Spiritual Success and Prosperity

Blessing or
Bane
(Burden)

Our

“Identity and Destiny”



Blessing / Luck



Blessing / Luck

*I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, **blessing and cursing**; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;*

- Deut. 30:19



TODAY
I HAVE GIVEN YOU
THE CHOICE BETWEEN
life
AND
death
BETWEEN
Blessings
AND
curses
Oh
that you
would
choose
life
THAT
YOU
and your
descendants
descendants
descendants
might
live

Wealth / Prosperity



Wealth / Prosperity

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it.

*For then you will make your way **prosperous**, and then you will **have good success**.*

- Joshua 1:8

THIS BOOK OF THE LAW
SHALL NOT DEPART FROM YOUR MOUTH,
BUT YOU SHALL MEDITATE ON IT
DAY & NIGHT,

SO THAT YOU MAY BE CAREFUL TO DO
ACCORDING TO ALL THAT IS WRITTEN IN IT.

FOR THEN
YOU WILL MAKE YOUR WAY PROSPEROUS,

AND THEN
YOU WILL HAVE GOOD SUCCESS.



Health / Longevity



Health / Longevity

A large red circular graphic with a white border and a blue watercolor-style splash effect. Inside the circle, there is a white heart shape. To the left of the heart is a golden cross with intricate floral patterns. The text "Jesus Loves You!" is written in yellow within the heart. At the bottom of the circle, the Chinese characters "新年如意快乐" and the English phrase "Happy Lunar" are visible.

Jesus
Loves
You!

*“ ...be in health , just as
your soul prospers. “
3 John 2*

新年如意快乐

Happy Lunar

Health / Longevity

A large red circular graphic with a white border and a blue shadow effect. Inside the circle, there is a white heart shape. To the left of the heart is a golden cross with intricate floral patterns. The text "Jesus Loves You!" is written in yellow within the heart. At the bottom of the circle, there is Chinese text "新年如意快乐" and the English text "Happy Lunar New Year".

Jesus
Loves
You!

新年如意快乐

Happy Lunar New Year

*“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, **though he may die, he shall live.** And whoever lives and believes in Me **shall never die.** Do you believe this?”*

- John 11:26