

《圣经》是世界上被翻译的语言最多、流传最广的一部经典，被视为人类历史上最有影响的书籍。英语中大量词语源自圣经故事，甚至西方人的价值观念和生活习俗，都深受《圣经》的影响。

英语词语 拾趣

■ 圣经篇 ■

*Interesting English Words
from the Bible*

湖北长江出版集团
湖北教育出版社

英语词语拾趣

■ 圣经篇 ■

Interesting English Words

(鄂)新登字 02 号

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语词语拾趣. 圣经篇/王文明编著. —武汉:湖北教育出版社, 2011. 3

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5351 - 6211 - 3

I. 英… II. 王… III. ①英语 - 语言读物②圣经 - 通俗读物 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2011)第 002083 号

现在读

book.cnxianzai.com

出版 发行:湖北教育出版社

武汉市青年路 277 号

网 址:<http://www.hbedup.com>

邮编:430015

电话:027 - 83619605

经 销:新 华 书 店

印 刷:武汉中远印务有限公司

(430034 · 武汉市硚口区长丰大道特 6 号)

开 本:880mm × 1230mm 1/32

6.25 印张

版 次:2011 年 3 月第 1 版

2011 年 3 月第 1 次印刷

字 数:125 千字

印数:1 - 5 000

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5351 - 6211 - 3

定价:19.80 元

如印刷、装订影响阅读,承印厂为你调换



- ❖ A prophet is not without honor except in his own country
墙内开花墙外香 12
- ❖ A righteous man may fall seven times 英雄多磨难;屡败屡战 13
- ❖ A ring of gold in a swine's snout 鲜花插在牛粪上 13
- ❖ A rod for the fool's back 对愚行的惩罚 14
- ❖ A soft answer turns away wrath 婉言可以息怒 15
- ❖ A widow's cruse/jar 聚宝盆;取之不尽,用之不竭 16
- ❖ A wise son makes a glad father 儿女聪明,父母宽心 18
- ❖ Abigail 婢女,侍女 18
- ❖ Absalom's hair 俊美有时反而成了致命伤 19
- ❖ After one's own heart 称心如意;正中下怀 21
- ❖ Ahab 贪得无厌之徒;偏执狂 22
- ❖ All things to all men 八面玲珑 23
- ❖ All is vanity 一切皆空 24
- ❖ All who take the sword will perish by the sword
凡动刀的,必死于刀下 25
- ❖ A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity
朋友每时常亲爱,兄弟为患难而生 26
- ❖ A good man's words are a fountain of life, but a wicked man's
words hide a violent nature 君子成人之美,小人背后行恶 26
- ❖ A good name is better than riches 好名声胜过金钱 27
- ❖ A grain of wheat 星星之火,可以燎原 28

❖ A good wife is a good prize 贤德的妻子是极好的奖赏	29
❖ A house divided against itself cannot stand 家庭不睦,万事不兴	31
❖ A neighbor nearby is better than a brother far away 远亲不如近邻	32
❖ Alpha and Omega 全部;始终	33
❖ Apple of one's eye 掌上明珠	34
❖ Am I my brother's keeper? 关我什么事?	36
❖ Answer a fool according to his folly 以其人之道,还治其人之身 ...	38
❖ (The) ark rested on Mt. Ararat 陈年旧事	39
❖ As curious as Lot's wife 极其好奇	40
❖ As the sparks fly upward 势所必然;不可避免	44
❖ Ask, and it will be given to you 凡求有得	46
❖ At the eleventh hour 最后时刻	48
❖ At one's wit's end 智穷力竭;无计可施	49
❖ Babel 巴别塔;混乱;嘈杂;空想	49
❖ Balaam's ass 平素驯服却突然反抗的人	51
❖ Bear one's cross 忍受苦难	52
❖ Beard the lion 敢作敢为;不畏强暴	53
❖ Beat the air 白费力气	54
❖ Beat swords into plowshares 化干戈为玉帛	56
❖ Benjamin's mess 最大的份额	57

❖ Blind leading the blind 外行指导外行; 误人误己	58
❖ Be caught in one's own craftiness 聪明反被聪明误; 弄巧成拙	59
❖ Bone of the bones and flesh of the flesh 至亲骨肉	60
❖ Break bread with sb. 与人共餐; 与人分享	64
❖ Broken reed 不可靠的人	67
❖ Build on the rock 打牢根基	68
❖ Boil a young goat/see the/a kid in its mother's milk 同类相残	70
❖ Bring the children of Israel out of Egypt 使人脱离苦海	71
❖ Bull of Bashan 力大无穷的人; 凶猛的敌人	74
❖ By the skin of one's teeth 九死一生; 幸免于难	75
❖ Camel to go through the eye of a needle 无法逾越的困难	76
❖ Cast the first stone 首先攻击; 带头责难	77
❖ Chastise with scorpions 严罚; 重惩	78
❖ Clean hands 廉洁; 清白	79
❖ Come to light 显露出来; 为人所知	80
❖ Covenant of salt 不可背弃的盟约	82
❖ Curse of Adam 为生活奔波	85
❖ Coat of many colors 恩宠	87
❖ Daniel in the den of lions 真金不怕火炼	88
❖ Depart from evil, and do good 弃恶从善	89
❖ Divide garments by casting lots 瓜分财产	90

❖❖❖ Devil can cite scripture for his purpose 恶人作恶,也会找到充分理由	91
❖❖❖ Do as you want to be done by 己所欲,施于人	92
❖❖❖ Doubting Thomas 不肯轻易相信别人的人	93
❖❖❖ Dust and ashes 卑微之人	94
❖❖❖ Die the death 被置于死地;完蛋;不受欢迎	97
❖❖❖ Eden garden 伊甸园;人间天堂;乐园	100
❖❖❖ The ends of the earth 世界尽头;天涯海角	101
❖❖❖ Enough and to spare 很多;绰绰有余	102
❖❖❖ Entertain angels unawares 有眼不识泰山	103
❖❖❖ Eye for eye 以眼还眼;一报还一报	104
❖❖❖ Fall by the wayside 误入歧途;半途而废	106
❖❖❖ Feet of clay 致命弱点	111
❖❖❖ Fig leaf 遮羞布	113
❖❖❖ From Saul to Paul 彻底改变	114
❖❖❖ From the housetops 到处宣扬	115
❖❖❖ Gall and wormwood 令人痛苦的东西	115
❖❖❖ Gird up one's loins 准备行动	116
❖❖❖ Gnash one's teeth 咬牙切齿	117
❖❖❖ Golden calf 钱财	118
❖❖❖ Good Samaritan 乐善好施者;乐于助人者	119

❖ Great gulf fixed 鸿沟;天壤之别	121
❖ Grind the faces of sb.压榨某人;虐待某人	122
❖ Handwriting on the wall 不祥之兆;大难临头	122
❖ Hang one's harp on the willows (因背井离乡而)悲哀	123
❖ Harden one's heart (使)心肠变硬,(使)变得冷酷无情	124
❖ Have itching ears 耳朵发痒;好打听	125
❖ Heap coals of fire on sb's head 以德报怨,使人悔悟	126
❖ In deep waters 处境危险	127
❖ In all one's glory 处于全盛时期;在风光得意之时	128
❖ In one's right mind 神智清醒	128
❖ In sackcloth and ashes 在悲哀中;在忏悔中	129
❖ Job 正直、贫穷、忍耐的化身	130
❖ Judas 叛徒;出卖朋友的人	132
❖ Judgment Day 上帝的最后审判日;世界的末日	133
❖ Kick against the pricks 不自量力;自讨苦吃;做无益的反抗	135
❖ Labor of love 出于爱心的辛劳;不计报酬的工作	136
❖ Last supper 最后的晚餐	137
❖ Lamb of God 上帝的羔羊;救世主;基督	138
❖ Law of the Medes and Persians 不能更改的定则;金科玉律	141
❖ Lay sth. to sb's charge 把某事归咎于某人	142
❖ Lead sb. by the nose 完全支配某人	144

❖ Let the cup pass from me 请免除我的苦难	146
❖ Make bricks without straw 做不可能的事;无计可施	148
❖ Manna 天助;意外收获	151
❖ New wine in old bottles 旧瓶装新酒	152
❖ No man can serve two masters 一仆不能侍奉二主;一个人不能脚踏两只船	155
❖ One's mantle falls on sb. 衣钵传给某人;收某人为徒	156
❖ Out-Herod Herod 有过之而无不及	156
❖ Peter's tears 羞愧的眼泪	157
❖ Pilate 伪善者;昏官	159
❖ Pottage of lentils 蝇头小利	160
❖ Prodigal son 回头的浪子;改邪归正的人	161
❖ Put one's hand to the plough 努力工作	162
❖ Reap where one has not sown 不劳而获	163
❖ Rule with a rod of iron 采取高压政策	165
❖ Sealed with seven seals 天书	167
❖ Set one's face against 变脸反对;极力抵制	168
❖ Smite sb. hip and thigh 痛打;使惨败	170
❖ One's sin will find one out 坏事总要败露	171
❖ The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak 心有余而力不足	173
❖ Still small voice 微小的声音;良心的呼唤	173

- ❖ Strain at a gnat and swallow a camel 因小失大 175
- ❖ Strong meat 难消化的食物;难以接受的事物 177
- ❖ The sun shines on the evil as well as on the good
坏人也有他的权利 178
- ❖ Things that are Caesar's 属谁的归谁 179
- ❖ Tomorrow will worry about its own things 不必为明天担心 180
- ❖ Turn the other cheek 容忍;宽大为怀 181
- ❖ Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also
财宝在哪里,心也在哪里;心之所系 182
- ❖ Whited sepulchre 伪善;伪君子 183
- ❖ Who am I 有自知之明 183
- ❖ Whoever has, to him more will be given
多的使之更多;强的使之更强 184
- ❖ Whose sandals I am not worthy to carry 不可同日而语 185
- ❖ Wolf in sheep's clothing 披着羊皮的狼 186
- ❖ Word in season 适时的话;及时的劝告 187

Aaron's rod; Aaron's serpent ■ 制胜法宝

《旧约·出埃及记》载,以色列人在埃及受苦,摩西和亚伦恳求埃及法老让以色列人离开埃及而不得。亚伦按上帝吩咐将手杖抛在法老及其臣僚面前,变成一条蛇。法老召来术士,也将自己的手杖变成蛇,但都被亚伦的手杖变成的蛇吞食了。这些神迹迫使法老同意摩西带领以色列人走出埃及。Aaron's rod 或 Aaron's serpent 后来就指“大权在握;制胜法宝;以强凌弱;大鱼吃小鱼”等意。

例句

① *What policies will you adopt if you are given Aaron's rod?*

如果你大权在手,你会采取什么政策呢?

② *We were so disappointed, but the boss was the Aaron's serpent and had the final say.*

我们十分失望。但老板就是老板,最后还是他说了算。

Adam ■ 人类始祖;古老,陈旧,原始

相关典故 Old Adam; Original sin 人类罪恶的本性;原罪;罪恶的根源 / Adam and Eve 人类始祖;远古;老掉牙;夫妻关系 / Adam and Eve were cast out of paradise 违背上帝命被逐 / Adam's apple 男人的喉结 / Adam's ale 水;淡色的啤酒 / Adam's profession 农业;园艺 / Adam's son 男子;人类 / Not know someone from Adam 根本不认识某人 / When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then gentleman? 亚当和夏娃男

耕女织之时，何来绅士？谁又是天生的贵族不成？

《旧约·创世记》载，上帝在创世的第六天按照自己的形象造了人。他“用地上的尘土造人，将生气吹进他的鼻孔里，他就成了有灵的活人，取名亚当(Adam)”，又怕亚当孤独，让他睡着了，取他一根肋骨造了女人，取名夏娃(Eve)。上帝把他们放在伊甸园(Garden of Eden)里。夏娃受蛇引诱，偷吃智慧树上的禁果(the forbidden fruit)，又把禁果给丈夫亚当吃。从此人的眼睛变得明亮，能看见彼此的裸体，知道羞耻，拿无花果树叶(fig leaf)遮羞，并能分辨善恶。此事触怒了上帝，把他们逐出了伊甸园，还诅咒他们：男人一辈子得在田里受苦流汗才有吃的，女人受丈夫管制且有生育之痛，引诱他们堕落的蛇得在地上爬，还受棍击。

《圣经》创世的故事在西方几乎是家喻户晓，而且几乎每句话都快变成典故了。

为什么人类远非完美，而是尽是毛病，尽是缺陷？有人就调侃说，because God created man on the sixth day, the last day of creation when he was exhausted(因为他是在创世的最后一天，也就是第六天造的人，当时他已经精疲力竭了)。因为第七天就是 Sabbath(安息日)，连上帝也要休息了。

要是说什么事情十分久远，或者老掉牙了，你会听到这样的句子：That's as old as Adam,或者 That's as old as Adam and Eve,甚至 That was when Adam and Eve lived。要是说自古以来，历来如此，亘古未变等，也可能会说 since Adam and Eve。

夏娃经不住蛇的诱惑，亚当经不住女人的诱惑，吃了禁果，受到上帝的惩罚，痛失乐园。他们自己遭罪不说，还累及后世，造成人类的原罪。Old Adam 就表示“原罪；人性中恶的一面”，即 original sin。如：There's a bit of the old Adam in us all。我们大家身上都有一些不良的本性；我们都不是完人。

One's real enemy is the old Adam. 人的真正敌人是本性之恶。

亚当和夏娃违背耶和华的意愿,被逐出了伊甸园。如果谁违背圣命,比如古代的大臣,惹得龙心不悦,也差不多等于 Adam and Eve were cast out of paradise。苏东坡的情况就挺像。这只是比喻,至于是否 Adam and Eve 夫妻一块儿被贬,倒不一定。

据说亚当偷吃的禁果就是苹果,不知是否做贼心虚,吃得太急了点,一块果肉卡在喉咙里不上不下,成了个疙瘩,就叫“亚当的苹果”,Adam's apple 后来就指“男人的喉结”。

亚当在伊甸园里干什么工作?当然是收拾花草果木之类,所以 Adam's profession 就指 farming, gardening(农艺,园艺)。

你说亚当和夏娃在伊甸园里渴了喝什么?只能是天然的水。在西方人们有时幽默地称水为 Adam's ale(亚当的啤酒)。如:Let me offer you a glass of Adam's ale。让我以水代酒,敬你一杯。有些人觉得酒太淡,也调侃地称之为 Adam's ale。

亚当和夏娃生了两个儿子,老大叫该隐(Cain),老二叫亚伯(Abel)。Adam's son(亚当之子)后来成了人们对男子的戏称,也可泛指人类。

说“根本不认识谁”,英语有个习语,not know someone from Adam,字面意思是“把他和亚当放一块儿,我也分不清谁是谁”,当然就是“根本不认识”啦。如:Mrs. Johnson is a friend of mine, but I don't know her husband from Adam。约翰逊太太是我的朋友,但我完全不认识她的丈夫。

1381年,约翰·威克利夫(John Wycliffe)领导了大规模的英国农民起义,他提出了一个著名的革命口号,When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then gentleman? 亚当和夏娃男耕女织之时,何来绅士?其意类似汉语的“王侯将相,宁有种乎?”或者“谁是天生的贵族不成?”如果光看前半句,when Adam delved and Eve span,则又是一幅动人的先民宁静



自足的生活情景，仿佛中国古代《击壤歌》所描绘的：“日出而作，日入而息。凿井而饮，耕田而食。帝力于我何有哉？”(I begin work at sunrise and rest at sunset. I dig a well for water and till my land for food. What is the Emperor's virtuous power to me?)

A tree is known by its fruit ■ 观其行而知其人

《新约·马太福音》第7章第16—19节载，耶稣告诫人们：“凭着他们(假先知)的果子，你们就能认出他们来。荆棘上岂能摘到葡萄？蒺藜里怎能采到无花果？这样，凡好树都结好果子，坏树则结坏果子。好树不能结坏果子，坏树不能结好果子。凡不结好果子的树，就砍下来丢进火里。”(You will know them by their fruit. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into fire.)

Know sth. by sth.这种结构很常用，这里 by 是“根据……，由……”的意思。

例句

① *They promised a lot. But a tree is known by its fruit, so let's see what they will do.*

他们倒是许诺了不少事，不过听其言还得观其行。所以咱们就看他们怎么做了。

② *You can judge a person by the company he keeps.* 由其交友，知其为人。

A beam/plank in one's own eye ■ 自己身上的严重缺点

相关典故

A mote/speck in one's eye 他人眼中的微尘;别人的小缺点

《新约·马太福音》第7章第3—5节载,耶稣提醒人们:“为什么你只看见你弟兄眼中有刺,却不想自己眼中有梁木呢?你自己眼中有梁木,怎能对你弟兄说:‘容我去掉你眼中的刺’呢?你这虚假伪善的人!先去掉自己眼中的梁木,然后才能看得清楚,好去掉你弟兄眼中的刺。”(And why do you look at the mote in your brother's eye, but do not consider the beam in your own eyes? Or how can you say to your brother, “Let me remove the mote from your eye”, and look a beam is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the mote from your brother's eye.)

Beam/plank in one's own eye(自己眼中的梁木)就成了“自己身上的严重缺点,自己的严重过错”,而 mote / speck in sb's eye 就喻指“某人的小错”,“美中不足”,如果你一心想找出 the mote in his eye,那你真是在 find fault with him(找茬,挑他的毛病)了。

例句

① Don't be so quick to criticize others. First take the beam out of your own eye, then you will be able to see clearly to take out the mote in your brother's eye.

别忙着批评别人。先检查自身缺点,然后才有权利批评别人。

② He is a good person, but the only mote in his eye is that he is sometimes a little too inquisitive.

他是个好人,不过有个小缺点,就是有时候有点好打听别人的事儿。

A bird that wanders from its nest 离巢之鸟; 离开家乡游子

相关典故 I am a stranger in a strange land 在外邦, 我是一个异乡人; 举目无亲

《旧约·箴言》第27章第8节上说:“人之离家, 如鸟之离巢。”(Like a bird that wanders from its nest is a man who wanders from his place.)

《旧约·出埃及记》第2章第22节上说:“在外邦, 我是一个异乡人。”(I am a stranger in a strange land.)

犹太民族在历史上漂泊了一千多年。失国, 离乡, 在埃及受欺压, 摩西领着出埃及……到二战中纳粹的大屠杀, 直到如今, 也算不得彻底安定下来。中国历史上也十分重聚恨离, 所以“每逢佳节倍思亲”, 所以“父母在, 不远游, 游必有方”。以上两个典故说明分离之痛、孤旅之苦, 十分贴切。有一位翻译家甚至说, 译“I am a stranger in a strange land”为“独在异乡为异客”简直就是“偶然天成”。

例句

① *He has been a bird wandering from his nest for half his life, but now he wishes he could return to his motherland to spend his last years.*

他半世漂泊在外, 如离巢之鸟, 如今希望回到祖国, 安度晚年。

② *I am a stranger in a strange land, and miss my family even more at a festival.*

独在异乡为异客, 每逢佳节倍思亲。

A donkey does not bray when it has grass ■ 有怨才鸣

《旧约·约伯记》第6章第5节上说：“野驴有草，岂会叫唤？牛有饲料，又岂会吼叫？”(Does the wild donkey bray when it has grass, or does the ox low over its fodder?)

人亦如此，满意时自然不会抱怨。所以 a donkey does not bray when it has grass 和 an ox does not low over its fodder 喻意都是“不平则鸣”，或“得到好处就不会抱怨”。

例句

① *I suggest we look into the matter. There must be some serious causes for their grievances. A donkey does not bray when it has grass.*

我建议对此事进行调查。肯定有某些严重原因他们才这样怨声载道的，有句话叫不平则鸣。

② *The say an ox does not low over its fodder. But look, you enjoy all the benefit here, and you are still complaining noisily.*

人说牲口有料不叫唤，你倒好，好处你都得着，还数你抱怨的嗓门大。

A fly in the ointment ■ 美中不足；使人扫兴的小事

语出《旧约·传道书》第10章第1节。喻意“美中不足”，“令人扫兴的小事”，“白璧微瑕”，但没有“一粒老鼠屎搅坏一锅汤”那么严重。后者是彻底毁了，这锅汤不能喝了，但在 a fly in the ointment 中，只是说有些遗憾。因为 ointment 不是作为食物，而是涂在头上的，把 a fly 拿掉就行了。