

Theological Review of *Feng Shui* Based on Colossians 2:8

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ABSTRACT: *Feng shui* was a part of the cultural heritage of ancient Chinese society mainly used to design buildings and spaces according to the birth date or the basic elements of the owner or the person who occupied a building to achieve harmony and balance with the environment aimed to bring peace and prosperity. *Feng shui* practices had become a matter of debate among Christians. The question was whether *feng shui* practices such as calculations in building construction, determining the direction a tomb should face, or finding a date to start a business did not conflict with God's Word. From a non-theological point of view, *feng shui* was well accepted because it seemed reasonable. This article discussed *feng shui* from a theological perspective by referring to Colossians 2:8. In the research of this article, the researchers used a qualitative descriptive method with an exposition approach where data collection was obtained from literature studies and interviews. The results of the discussion on this topic showed that theologians concurred that *feng shui* did not correspond with God's Word, while the Bible interpreted *feng shui* as a false philosophy. The conclusion drawn was the rejection of *feng shui* practices by theologians and the Bible.

Key words: buildings, Colossians, *feng shui*, prosperity, theology

Article History:

Submitted: April 01, 2022

Revised: June 02, 2022

Published: July 29, 2022

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INTRODUCTION

Feng shui is a term that is familiar to the public, especially in Chinese ethnic communities. In general, *feng shui* is used as a guide to consider the position and direction of each room in a building to avoid adverse effects and obtain the best things in life which are related to health, wealth, and success both in everyday life and in business. Many people make use of *feng shui* calculations because they believe that their lives are influenced by *feng shui* (Ahmadnia et al., 2017). Actually, *feng shui* is not a new philosophy because it is a cultural tradition that is passed down from generation to generation. According to Wendy, *feng shui* is a belief derived from ancient Chinese culture about how humans interact with their environment (N Wan et al., 2012). They believe that if people live in a place where the *feng shui* is in accordance with the elements of the people who live there, it will bring

peace and happiness. Although *feng shui* is an ancient teaching, people living in this modern era, even intellectual people, adopt *feng shui*, especially in things related to designing the construction of buildings or determining a date to set up a business or wedding. This happens because many of the *feng shui* teachings seem to make sense and are reasonable. Even the architects who apply *feng shui* in designing a building are more in demand by clients (Chang & Lii, 2010). In one study, there is a fact that even in modern spaces, *feng shui* is still applied as a part of the tradition.

Many professional architects use *feng shui* to consider things that can affect the design but do not rule out the environment. For them, the design should be able to cover all aspects including social, economic, and environmental issues. Architectural experience with the application of *feng shui* proved to have a positive impact on the designed space so

it was adopted into the doctrine of contemporary architectural design. In fact, *feng shui* practices are widely applied to settlements, offices, hotels, malls, and other buildings (Y. Wang, 2012). Some common *feng shui* teachings, for example, the bathroom door should not directly face the dining table, story houses should not place the bedroom above the kitchen, and the arrangement of the rooms must also be organized in such a way so that the air can circulate well throughout the whole building. Logically, all of these implementations are acceptable because they seem to be good and reasonable. However, there are also complicated *feng shui* rules that lead to superstition. For example, the number of stairs is counted to meet the requirements of certain numbers, and the measuring tape used in taking the measurement of the building dimension is a special measuring tape that shows numbers in black and red. The colour red indicates good numbers that are considered to bring good luck while the colour black indicates 'bad' numbers that are considered misfortune (C. Wang et al., 2018). As a result, when people adhere to these measurements, the size and the height of the doors in the house can be oddly variegated, there is another rule that the entrance must be placed oblique or a huge mirror must be placed in the living room to resist bad luck.

There was a testimony from a respondent that when his family's business went through a crisis, they consulted a *feng shui* expert and when they changed the position of his parents' tomb according to the master's instructions, their family business prospered again (AR, 2022a). There are many forms and methods of *feng shui*, and even the philosophy that underlies it is also diverse. The techniques of computer *feng shui* are also numerous, varied, and unsystematic and there are no credible rules, hence, the practice of *feng shui* is subjective, solely based on the opinion of an individual practitioner. Consequently, it is not surprising that *feng shui* experts often express conflicting opinions about certain things. Behind the method of *feng shui* practices, there are religious beliefs that adopt pantheistic nature (Chen & Nakama, 2004).

According to Hoque, pantheism is teaching that equates God with the forces and laws of the universe (Hoque, 2014). This concept holds that energy is invisible in everything so that by regulating energy through the arrangement of objects in the building will be able to determine the quality of human life including health, peace, and success. Thus, *feng shui* in its use covers science, superstition, and religious beliefs.

Looking at the above reality, this topic needs to be discussed and elaborated on because this *feng shui* practice is carried out by some Christians who believe in God. The background of the problem above becomes the main reason why the researchers think this topic is necessary to be written. Referring to the google scholar search bar that the researchers used, the articles related to *feng shui* are still rare. This topic is considered to be worth writing about because it can give a contribution to how *feng shui* is reviewed from a theological perspective. *Feng shui* practices have become an inseparable part of society. Are Christians allowed to carry out these practices? This article will highlight *feng shui* reviewed from the Bible which focuses on Colossians 2:8. The researchers hope that this article can provide a theological explanation of the rejection of *feng shui* practices.

METHOD

In the research for this topic, the researchers use qualitative descriptive methods. According to Imam Gunawan, qualitative research methods are the research in which results are not obtained from statistics but the research was conducted by the researchers themselves naturally and the researchers also interpret the data obtained according to the perspective of the researchers themselves (Gunawan, 2013). While Maykut & Morehouse (2002) define qualitative research as a research procedure that will generate descriptive data in both oral and written form from the persons or the observed behavior. This method is by the researcher's goal which is to obtain detailed information about *feng shui* which is a phenomenon that is difficult to obtain through

quantitative methods. As Nugrahani said that in such cases, qualitative methods can reveal a detailed and in-depth description of the condition of something in a natural context, namely about what is actually happening in the field (Nugrahani & Hum, 2014).

The approach used is an exposition approach using data from interviews, various literature, books, personal records, as well as relevant previous research results, to obtain answers and theoretical foundations regarding the problem being studied. In addition, researchers also use the literature method, namely by combining many library sources to get one absolute conclusion. Literature research is a type of research used to collect in-depth information and data through library data sources derived from various literature, including books, journals, and personal records. Expositions are presented to explain the verses used by the cons about the rejection of *Feng shui*. This exposition also uses verse analysis that uses hermeneutic principles. The research includes the words and expressions used as well as the historical and geographical background (Siagian & Sele, 2020). It is hoped that by describing *feng shui* and analyzing the opinions of theologians and Bible verses through exposition, a comprehensive understanding can be obtained.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Feng shui

The *feng shui* we know today has existed since the Song dynasty (960–1279 N.C.) (Kustedja et al., 2012). The ancient term for *Feng shui* is *Hum Yue*. *Hum* means "heavenly path," which refers to the invisible forces while *Yue* means "earthly path" which is related to the natural forms of the earth. In later developments, the term *Feng Shui* started to be used (Bruun, 2008). The word *feng shui* comes from two Chinese words, *Feng* which means wind, and *Shui* which means water. Both are believed to be the forces of nature that have the greatest power. Thus, *feng shui* means the art of utilizing wind and water to harmonize, flow, and gather *Seng Chi*, or

good energy, and dispel *Sha Chi*, or bad energy. *Chi* is believed to be the energy that pervades the entire universe and the entire existence so that all lives depend on *Chi*. To capture *chi*, it is necessary to take into account the arrangement of space and buildings well so that *chi* can move freely and when collected, it can bring good influences such as fortune, health, and harmony (Wong & Slamet, 2013)

Feng shui was first used in Southeast China when people settled down to raise animals and grow crops. *Feng shui* is a way of harmonizing invisible *chi* to make use of the *chi* maximally (Kong, 1999). The calculations were used to identify safe settlements so that the population could reproduce and by Chinese philosophy that prioritized the harmony between humans and nature (Chen & Nakama, 2004). *Feng shui* refers to the laws of nature relating to the arrangement of places and directions in relation to the energy pathways so that they are believed to affect the people who own or occupy a building. Broadly speaking, *feng shui* has two teachings, namely the teaching based on form and the teaching based on the direction of the wind. The former teaches views from the perspective of the contour of the Earth and river flows whereas the latter considers based on the direction of the wind. In the practices, these two schools are often combined with the Chinese Zodiac called *Shio*, *Yin Yang*, and *the Five Elements of Nature* (Hao et al., 2011). Furthermore, this science was developed for the construction of the city and village landscapes including palace sites, government buildings, and other public monuments. Even the entire city was designed and built according to the core concept of *feng shui* (Whang & Lee, 2006). The practice of harmonious living with the energy of the surrounding environment naturally leads to the art of placement, not just buildings, but everything in them (Lip, 1997).

In addition to the layout, the factor of time is also taken into account in *feng shui*, both the time of birth and the numbers that determine the good fortune of the human being. The time of birth is calculated based on the horoscope of 12 *shio*,

namely 12 symbols of animals that rule each year in the cycle (Jiang, 2021). Another element considered in applying *feng shui* is the *Yin* and *Yang*. *Yin* symbolizes feminine, cold and dark while *Yang* symbolizes masculinity, hot, and light (Widiana, 2019). The concept of *yin* and *yang* is related to the process of natural dynamics. The balance between *yin* and *yang* creates harmony and stability somewhere because this natural balance will be disturbed when one of the elements is too much (Hannas & Rinawaty, 2019). *Feng shui* is the way to manage Yin-Yang in the human living environment" (Liao, 2017). In addition, *feng shui* also takes into account *the 5 elements of nature* contained in humans. The five natural elements are water, wood, fire, soil, and metal (Hannas & Rinawaty, 2019). These five elements are interconnected with the direction of the wind, color, shape, season, family members, and body parts. These five elements can be physical objects or the manifestations of objects that can be used in various ways to strengthen, support, enhance or otherwise weaken or control one another. All this depends on the placement of the object; good placement will benefit and support the inhabitants.

Fung, a famous Chinese philosopher, classifies the practice of *feng shui*, which was once just a living practice, eventually becoming a philosophy. So the root of *feng shui* is the old Chinese Occult Art (Yu-Lan & Bodde, 1939). Occultism is defined as a belief in supernatural powers that can be mastered by humans (Scharfetter, 1998). This Chinese occultism includes astrology, dating, the influence of the 5 basic elements of nature, and the prophecy used to seek good fortune and avoid misfortune for humans. This art combines mysticism, science, and superstition to establish health, luck, and prosperity based on nature and building arrangements. The basic concept is that to be healthy and prosperous, one must be in harmony with the earth and receive the benefits of the *chi* that resides in everything and flows through the earth and nature (Guiley, 1991). Thence, what is meant by the term *feng shui* in this article is the concept

that people use to align humans with their environment based on the direction of the wind and the contours of nature.

The practices of Feng shui

Feng shui is generally used in designing layouts such as spaces, houses, buildings, parks, or tombs. These must be harmonized with nature to get good luck, health, and harmony for individuals, families, or commercial businesses (Kryżanowski, 2021). The practice of *feng shui* is done by making detailed observations of the natural environment around it to produce precise calculations (AR, 2022b). If people set up a *café* with the right *feng shui* calculations then the place will emit positive *chi*, so that energy can invite people around them to visit and become customers at the *café* (Sia et al., 2018). Apart from the conventional use of *feng shui*, such as positioning houses and graves and calculating dates for funerals, weddings, and so on, *feng shui* experts *are* usually called upon to solve several problems (Bruun, 2003). It is quite common for a Christian businessman to consult a *feng shui* expert first before starting up his business. In addition to a strategic place, he needs someone who can read *feng shui* so that his business can make a lot of profits (Sia et al., 2018). He usually consults for the right time to start the business by matching his *shio* with the business he is going to do. When a *feng shui* expert suggests an exact time, usually the person immediately devotes all his energy to carrying out the business (LT, 2021).

In some studies, it has been shown that *Feng shui* had given a great contribution to creating a harmonious environment between nature and the surrounding state to help improve people's health (Ho, 2020). Hospitals that implemented *Feng Shui* in the arrangements of the rooms could help people with dementia. With the flow of positive *chi*, the atmosphere that we generally felt in hospitals such as anxiety, worry, and others, could be suppressed properly (Goodall, 2006). Another example of the application of *feng shui* in public places is *The Suntec City* in Singapore. On their website, they

explain that the water in the *Fountain of Wealth* flows inwards, not outwards. For Chinese people, water symbolizes wealth and life and the inward flow is a symbol of good fortune that brings prosperity to both tenants and visitors. The concept of *yin* and *yang* in the lined-up sturdy buildings reflects positive energy. *Feng shui* can be a very effective tool to help people create harmonious work and living environments and can bring about change for the better. Yet, sometimes there are factors such as local cultures and beliefs that prevent a person from building, or designing something based on *feng shui*. Shanghai is a city that has a very strong cultural background. Therefore, they cannot apply *feng shui* easily to the locals' environment because they already have cultural basics and refuse to replace them (Zhang, 2021).

Feng Shui from the perspective of theologians

Montenegro argues that for a Christian, the belief in *feng shui* is contrary to the belief in the sovereign God (Mah, 2004). If a person trusts good luck, it means that he believes that a person is favored or disliked by a good or evil power or god, thus it means that he does not believe in God who has taken us up as children through the faith in Jesus (Rm. 8:15; Ef. 1:5). Furthermore, she explains that *feng shui* is a form of divination based on Taoist philosophy used to determine positive, or negative areas of the house as well as how decorations and furniture should be arranged. It is clear that divination is strictly forbidden in the Old Testament (Dt.18:10-12; 2 Ki. 17:17, 21:6) and also in the New Testament (Acts 16:16-18). *Feng shui* is oriented toward the belief in balancing *yin* and *yang* and on the belief in *chi*. Seeking harmony through energy balance is contrary to trusting Christ, and with the peace, the believers have through Christ. To receive *chi*, one relies on impersonal power and denies God's authority. There is no biblical evidence about the forces which can penetrate the universe. It is completely against Christianity to believe that harmony and balance are generated through the manipulation and channeling of power based on the

placement of objects, or through any other methods. The technique for manipulating or channeling such power belongs to the magic world (Mah, 2004).

Lie argues that if one believes that *feng shui* has a certain power that determines one's fate, then it is equated with the belief of dynamism, where this school says that all objects in this realm have supernatural powers that can emit good or bad influence on humans and objects around them (Garcia-Zamor, 2003). Citing the words of the apostle Paul in Eph. 4:14-15 in addressing *feng shui practices*, the believers should no longer be swayed by the misleading false teachings, since they are no longer children, then they should stick to the truth and grow in Christ. Other theologians say that the Christian faith is unlikely to harmonize the conflicting elements of YIN and YANG which is between good and evil. The good must win against the evil (Garcia-Zamor, 2003). He also firmly states that one's happiness and salvation do not depend on that element but only on Christ Jesus because Jesus is the ruler of the world. Matthews argues that *feng shui* is completely against Christianity (Matthews, 2018). He opposes the idea that man is dependent and possessed by nature or influenced by man's harmony with nature. While in Christian beliefs, everything that happens in human lives cannot be separated from God's caring. Hence, *feng shui* is not by Christianity, especially in the concept of the source of life and the process of living creation.

Feng shui emphasizes that the source of life is nature, whereas Christianity recognizes that only God is the source of human life. In *feng shui*, the positivity or negativity of the process of life is determined by man's harmony with nature, whereas in Christianity, the believers should always believe that God is the one who deceives and maintains the whole process of his creation (Ps. 124:8). He further said that people must not trust *feng shui* to live a healthy and prosperous life because the success of life is not determined by material things alone but man is expected to go beyond material things and find spiritual happiness (Matt. 6:33). The concept of *Feng shui* determines the future of even human

destiny whereas, for Christians, the future is in the hands of God who designed the good for man. (Yer. 29:11; Rm 8:28).

Feng Shui reviewed Colossians 2:8

Like theology, philosophy is one branch of science that can be found not only in formal education but also in philosophizing people can be found with no space constraints (Crossan, 2003). Unwittingly, everyday people philosophize because we live and act based on values and wisdom on certain philosophical views that we believe in or that we inherit as noble values. Therefore, it is clear that philosophy is an integral part of human life, on the one hand, philosophy can lead man to wisdom, but the opposite can also happen. Thus, believers must be careful and alert to the philosophies that are developing today so that they are not captivated by deadly false philosophies. This empty and false philosophical message is one of the themes of God's word for the Colossians that remains relevant to us to this day. Colossians was founded by Epaphras, a convert through Paul's ministry in Ephesus (Nggebu, 2021).

The congregation in Colossae developed rapidly at that time. In Colossians 1:3-4, it can be seen that the faith and love of the Colossians were so good that Paul praised them in both ways. The commendable state of the Colossians did not guarantee that they lived in good circumstances without trials. It is precisely in such a safe and comfortable state that many things can deceive believers. They were lulled with a sense of security and comfort, so they did not realize that the teachings of heresy have infiltrated into their worship, namely the propagation of false teaching that is often referred to as "Colossian's false teachings' today (Sigmon, 2019). It was a fusion of practices that Paul opposed. The Colossians argued that complete and lasting salvation could not be achieved by faith in Jesus alone, but it needed to be augmented by an understanding of divine matters through mystically given secret knowledge. In Colossians 2:23 the Apostle Paul asserted that

although the rules applied by the heretics seemed to be full of wisdom, they were all their worship, it was useless because it was only to satisfy their worldly life (House, 1992).

Colossians 2:8 was written to remind the Colossians of the dangers of the rules prevailing in the Jewish tradition because it overemphasized the laws of customs so they ignored the principles of Christianity. Paul wanted the Lord's church to be critical and careful in responding to every doctrine that developed. The believers must confirm critically whether the existing teachings are the truth in their beliefs (Hakh, 2010). The false teaching said that faith in Jesus alone was not enough but it had to be accompanied by rituals to obtain salvation. Consequently, the Colossians expressed their opinion that they needed another supernatural intercessor, and Jesus was only one of God's manifestations. They felt the need to experience something profound and mysterious to achieve complete salvation (Roth, 1986). Facing this problem, Paul emphasized that believers could find everything they needed in Christ including all wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2:3). Paul also explicitly stated that in Jesus, there is a completeness of God (Col. 1:19).

They carried out a variety of religious ritual practices such as circumcision, not eating certain foods, and maintaining Jewish holidays and sabbaths but they did not keep the laws of the Old Testament (Drane, 2005). The Jewish teachers told them that they could not become God's people unless they became Jews by accepting the demands of the law. Therefore, in Colossians 2:8, Paul reminded them to be careful, not to be captivated by the empty and false philosophy because it was only according to the hereditary teachings and the spirits of the world, but not according to the teachings of Christ. The congregation in Colossae tended to be easily captivated by the teachings that seemed to be true because they were mixed with verses of the gospel (Col 2: .23). The word "hereditary teaching" in verse 8 refers to a tradition of Judaism that contradicts the Bible. In Matthew 15:2-6, the Jewish Master rebuked Jesus when His disciples did not wash their hands

before eating because it was considered to violate the customs of the ancestors. However, Jesus answered their rebuke with a rebuke that they had also violated God's commandments for the sake of their ancestors' customs. The teachings created by man are passed on from generation to generation and are not truths because they have been mixed with what comes from human wisdom. The command "be careful" in this verse gives a strong message of how God's people should be observant of the growing phenomenon of false teachings, both in the non-theological world and in the church, so as not to be captivated by the false teachings (Sianturi, 2013).

There was a false view about Christ among the Colossians because they saw the truth about Christ biasedly, which encouraged them to strive to attain the fullness of God in a way made by man, while they should have understood and believed that in Jesus there was the whole fullness of God (Col. 2:9-10). Paul attempted to teach the Colossians that all man-made things done to attain fullness in God were futile, for fullness is only in Christ. In the next verse, the Apostle Paul instilled the foundation of the Christian faith while providing the standard for the foundation of faith that is, everything must be according to Christ (Sahartian, 2019). An answer to the emptiness of human life is Christ and Christ must be the center of the Christian life. Christ is not only philosophy or example of life, but Christ is life itself (Jn. 11:25; 14:6), and He lives in the believers so that they represent Christ in all things (Rm. 8:29). This is a very significant difference between the Christian faith and any philosophy. Philosophy leads man to pseudo-human wisdom because it comes from the wisdom of man, but Christ leads man to the wisdom of God, for Christ is the wisdom of God (Jn. 1:1; 1 Cor. 1:24). Christ should be the center for the highest philosophy in the world because He is the Logos and Wisdom of God (Sidabutar, 2020). That means all universal knowledge, wisdom, and truth about the universe is sourced from Christ because all truth is Christ (John 1:3). Christianity must stand on this solid foundation. Colossians were forbidden to follow the false

teachings based on their vain speculations, instead, they had to remind themselves that the true ideal of Christians is to be like Christ (Col. 3:12-17).

With an emphasis on asceticism and speculation, members of the heretical teacher in Colossian had pulled the Christian Faith out of real life (Sarimin, 2020), but Paul was convinced that the Christian faith had to be the faith for real life. It also shows how the power of Christ lives in Christians (Col. 1:27). Paul stated unequivocally that all these things had already been manifested in Christ. Empty philosophy is only a shadow of what must come (Col. 2:17). We can understand this in various rules, none of the false teachings acknowledge the supremacy of Christ (Gupta, 2011). Then there was the worship of the angels (Col.2:18). In Colossians 2:20-22, Paul said that they had died with Christ and were free from the spirits of the world, why they submitted themselves to the rules as if they were still living in the world and obeying the commandments and teachings of man. It is an emphasis that it is not good to bind oneself to the rules made by man. Keep in mind that these human teachings refer to the fundamental principles of the world, which means that what the world considers to be true may be contrary to the truth of Christ. The believers' lives should not be similar to their previous worldly mindset before we knew Jesus. Although it appears to be full of wisdom and logic, it is useless because it is only to live worldly (Liong, 2011).

Our lives are always in touch with the world of ideas and are led by a concept of life, both theology, and philosophy (Adkins & Hinlicky, 2016). Starting from the way we speak, work and socialize, everything is controlled by a philosophy that we obtain from the teachings passed down by our ancestors. As a result, every event must contain a philosophical message that affects a person's point of view about the world around him. This philosophical variety can also arise from the television shows containing traditional myths, and social media where anyone can upload their opinions or philosophies, divinations, and horoscopes. All of these illustrate that we are surrounded by various

kinds of empty teachings and philosophies, so believers need to be careful in living their lives (Scharfetter, 1998). Colossians 2:8 reads, "Be careful, lest anyone draw you captive with his empty and false philosophy according to the hereditary teachings and spirits of the world, but not according to Christ". This verse is very relevant to the conditions that occur in today's society. Many Christians, mainly Chinese descendants, consciously or unconsciously, still practice *feng shui* when they are going to build a house or when they are about to start a business (Pheter et al., 2013). *Feng shui* in this case can be interpreted as an empty philosophy as outlined in Paul's letter to the Colossians. Just like the Colossians who need other supernatural intermediaries, *feng shui* is an option because this concept is seen as something very common, harmless, or not detrimental.

The teachings of this concept are hereditary but are not centered on Christ but rather adhere to the harmony between man and nature. Like the heretical teachings in Colossae, the concept of *feng shui* also leads to dynamism and teachings outside Christ that focus on *chi* as the source of life. This concept is also a prophecy of what is to come, and it is contrary to Colossians 2:17 which says that the One who will come is Christ Himself. All these things happen because *feng shui* is part of the tradition, and although it is realized that it deviates from the truth and has no biblical value, it is still passed on because it is already a habit. If this is not done, they will feel that something is lacking. They worry that if they do not seek a good day or follow certain calculations, they are afraid that bad things will happen to them. As a result, they do not get peace, but rather a life filled with fear. They should no longer submit themselves to the rules of the world as if they were still living in the world by obeying the commandments and teachings of man alone.

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CONCLUSION

Feng shui is *pseudo-science* or false science because *feng shui* does not have criteria as a science. After all, it cannot be proven objectively. Behind the *feng shui* methods, there are certain religious beliefs. *Feng shui* is simply a school associated with mystical things because it is connected with the layout and direction of the wind and the elements of man and nature. It can be concluded that *feng shui* is a superstition because it considers *chi* as the determinant of life, whereas Christians only recognize God as the source of life, blessing, and protection. This belief in *feng shui* is similar to the empty philosophy as described in Colossians 2:8. Christians should not ask for guidance from *feng shui* experts to gain luck in business or happiness in the family because such blessings come from God, and not from external factors such as the arrangement of the room or the furniture in the house. God can give peace that transcends all our thoughts (Phil. 4:7). The success of life is determined by our obedience to God's word (Ps. 1:1-3). Christians should be vigilant and use their minds not to stay away from God because unconsciously, people who rely on *feng shui* are worshipping other gods. The believers must realize that every day is good if they are to surrender to God. The believers must believe that no power can separate us from the love of God (Rm. 8:37-39). Faith in Christ must become a solid foundation for Christians. The truth of God must be an important guide for us to correct all empty philosophies and teachings that are against the righteousness of Christ. The true insight of the Christian world is centered on Christ. Christ enables the believers to experience encounters with God so that they can see what is right and wrong. Without Christ, they would be imprisoned by the empty philosophies of this world.

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