



# **NEW LIFE**

## **BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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*"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev 1:9)*

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Vol. 10 No. 25

**LORD'S DAY 18 JUNE 2006**

*Dear Readers,*

## **Conditions for God's Blessings**

The books, 1 Kings and 2 Kings, give us a lesson on the rise and fall of kings and nations. 1 Kings begins with the Golden Age of Solomon; 2 Kings ends with the kingdoms in disarray.

In 1 Kings Chapter 3, we learn that the Lord appeared to Solomon for the first time in Gibeon (v. 3 - 5). What high honour! God did this because Solomon loved the Lord, walked in His ways and kept His statutes and commandments. In that appearance, God said, "Ask what I shall give thee", to which Solomon wisely asked for "an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad". In this answer, Solomon acknowledged that wisdom comes from on high, that he was humbly dependent upon God in his kingship, and that the people whom he ruled were actually God's people.

This speech so pleased the Lord that God unstintingly gave him what he asked for (i.e. wisdom without equal both before and after his time) and added to that, much more. Thus God generously bestowed upon Solomon what he did not ask for, such as riches and honour. God also promised to grant him length of days if Solomon would walk in His ways and keep His statutes and commandments.

In Chapter 9:2, the Lord appeared to Solomon a second time, after the temple had been built. Again, what honour and endorsement! God said, "I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication.....I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built.....". It is one thing for Solomon to build and dedicate the temple, but it is quite another for God to hallow and inhabit it. The prerogative belongs to God.

On this occasion, God made a covenant with Solomon. The king's future and that of his people would be assured according to the conditions God set in Chapter 9:4 - 7. These four verses can be remembered as the covenant of if's and then's. Notice God's words here: ".... if thou wilt walk before me.....in integrity of heart, and in uprightness....." (v.4), "Then I will establish the throne of thy kingdom upon Israel forever....." (v.5); "But if ye shall at all turn from following me.....and will not keep my commandments and my statutes....." (v.6), "Then will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them....." (v.7). The conditions for us now are as clear as they were for Solomon then. If we will follow Him, then He will bless us; if we will not, then He will cut us off.

Although Solomon began well with God, his zeal diminished in his later years, as pagan wives turned his heart away from God. The king with a divided heart left behind a divided kingdom. For the next century, 1 Kings traces the twin histories of two sets of kings and...

*Continued on Page 2...*

...two nations of disobedient people who were indifferent to God's prophets and commandments. What we read in 2 Kings is an even sorer tale. Nineteen consecutive evil kings ruled in Israel, leading to captivity by Assyria. The picture was somewhat brighter in Judah, where godly kings occasionally emerged to reform the evils of their predecessors. In the end, however, sin outweighed righteousness and Judah was marched off to Babylon. The mistake of the evil kings was their failure to realize that every ruler is ultimately subject to God's kingship, and all earthly governments are answerable to God. God's warning is also clear to all of us who have been put in a position to rule or influence others.

### What are the lessons for us today?

God notes our hearts' innermost thoughts, and our walk, and if there is integrity, uprightness in keeping His statutes and judgment, He will not only forgive us, but will also bless us richly. (8:39; 9:4)

God will answer our prayers if only they are not self-centred such as asking for riches and long life, but rather for wisdom and discernment in making judgments. (3:9, 10 & 11).

God keeps covenant with His people, and lest we forget, His covenant covers both blessings and chastisements (9:4 - 7).

We should honour God with the best. In Chapter 8: 63 - 64, Solomon gave 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep unto the Lord as offerings, more than what the altar could hold. Likewise, we can never be too fulsome in our praise of the Lord, too excessive in our love for Him who died on our behalf, and too wholehearted in our worship of Him who sits sovereign on the throne.

We should be focused such that all our efforts are directed to this end: "That all the people of the earth may know that the Lord is God, and that there is none else." (8:60)

## Read the Bible in A Year

Calendar of Daily readings for June 2006:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Family</u>		<u>Private</u>	
1	Deut 5	Psa 88	Isa 33	Rev 3
2	Deut 6	Psa 89	Isa 34	Rev 4
3	Deut 7	Psa 90	Isa 35	Rev 5
4	Deut 8	Psa 91	Isa 36	Rev 6
5	Deut 9	Psa 92,93	Isa 37	Rev 7
6	Deut 10	Psa 94	Isa 38	Rev 8
7	Deut 11	Psa 95,96	Isa 39	Rev 9
8	Deut 12	Psa 97,98	Isa 40	Rev 10
9	Deut 13,14	Psa 99-101	Isa 41	Rev 11
10	Deut 15	Psa 102	Isa 42	Rev 12
11	Deut 16	Psa 103	Isa 43	Rev 13
12	Deut 17	Psa 104	Isa 44	Rev 14
13	Deut 18	Psa 105	Isa 45	Rev 15
14	Deut 19	Psa 106	Isa 46	Rev 16
15	Deut 20	Psa 107	Isa 47	Rev 17
16	Deut 21	Psa 108,109	Isa 48	Rev 18
17	Deut 22	Psa 110,111	Isa 49	Rev 19
18	Deut 23	Psa 112,113	Isa 50	Rev 20
19	Deut 24	Psa 114,115	Isa 51	Rev 21
20	Deut 25	Psa 116	Isa 52	Rev 22
21	Deut 26	Psa 117,118	Isa 53	Matt 1
22	Deut 27	Psa 119 (v24)	Isa 54	Matt 2
23	Deut 28	Psa 119 (v25-48)	Isa 55	Matt 3
24	Deut 29	Psa 119 (v49-72)	Isa 56	Matt 4
25	Deut 30	Psa 119 (vs73-96)	Isa 57	Matt 5
26	Deut 31	Psa 119 (vs97-120)	Isa 58	Matt 6
27	Deut 32	Psa 119 (vs121-144)	Isa 59	Matt 7
28	Deut 33,34	Psa 119 (vs145-176)	Isa 60	Matt 8
29	Josh 1	Psa 120-122	Isa 61	Matt 9
30	Josh 2	Psa 123-125	Isa 62	Matt 10

## The Christian's Daily Remembrancer

by Ps. James Smith

18 June 2006

**"I will not leave you comfortless"**

**John 14:18**

"I WILL COME TO YOU." This is the comfort of believers: they will never be alone in a hostile world. Believers when in darkness often fear that Jesus has forsaken them: this is natural but unscriptural; for He has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." His purposes require His presence with us, His love secures His presence to us. He will not leave us comfortless. We are absolutely dependent upon Him; our comfort is His gift, and the continuance of comfort depends on His presence and grace. He is the great source of comfort to His people; His presence and His comforts are generally connected; He may withhold them for a time to reprove, instruct, or correct us; but we may depend upon His comforts returning, for His promise is plain; it stands forever in His word; and His nature and love are the same. His precious word of promise should be believed, embraced and firmly trusted. We never shall be orphans, for our Father ever lives; our home waits to receive us, and our hope is imperishable. O beloved, plead this precious word of Jesus: expect Him to make it good: aim at His glory and your comforts are sure! He will not leave you comfortless.

Blest Holy Spirit, give me faith

To rest upon what my Saviour saith;

May I the promised comforts prove,

Of His divine eternal love:

And daily trust His faithfulness

Who will not leave me comfortless.

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Father, in Thy love appear,

Pleased to bless me in Thy Son:

At Thy bidding I draw near,

Bowed and humble 'fore Thy throne.

In Thy blessed presence stay,

There to linger, there to pray.

## In Green Pastures Devotional Readings for Every Day of the Year

By J.R. Miller, D.D.

18 June 2006

### MORNING

**ACTS 21:17 "And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly."**

WHEREVER Christians meet they recognize in each other brothers. Though strangers before, they greet one another as friends. The Jews welcomed Paul and rejoiced to hear of the work among the Gentiles. But they knew there were many Jewish Christians who could not quite trust Paul. They thought he was disloyal to his nation. But what they had heard about him was not true. He had never taught the Jewish Christians to forsake Moses. Yet that is the way bigotry often does—it misstates the words of an opponent.

Sometimes, to remove false impressions, we have to do things it ought not to be necessary for us to do. Paul accepted the advice of the leaders that he should make an exhibition of his loyalty to Jewish rites to prove to suspicious people that he was really in sympathy with his own people.

It is right for us to seek to free ourselves from false charges when thereby we are promoting the good of the Church.

### EVENING

#### THE POWER OF FAITH

GOD can use very weak and imperfect agents. He can do great things with poor instruments. But there is one kind of person He will not use. He will not send blessing to the world through an unbelieving heart. If you would be a vessel meet for the Master's use, you must have faith. Believe in Christ. Believe that He is able and willing to do the "greater things" which He has promised to do through His disciples. Open your heart to receive Him and all that He brings. Expect Him to do great things through you. If we have faith, there is no limit to what Christ will do for us. Faith lays our powers in Christ's hands, as the chisel lays itself in the hands of the sculptor for the carving of the marble statue.

**WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON**  
**CHURCH THEME: STRIVING TO LIVE ABOVE OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**  
**IN CHRIST (Ephesians 1:3)**

Our **worship services** begin promptly at **11.00 am and 4.00 pm**.

Please stay back for Bible Study and fellowship lunch after the morning worship and for tea after the evening service. Invite your friends to come to Church.

| Worship Services                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                |                                                                           | WELCOME                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Morning</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Today: 18/06/2006</b>                       | <b>Next Week: 25/06/2006</b>                                              | AM: Andrew                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <i>Chairman:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Seetoh Yoong Chiang                            | Jonathan Kim                                                              | <p style="text-align: center;">NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evening Service:</b> Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC)</li> <li><b>This week:</b></li> <li><b>Q102. What is the sum of the four commandments which contain our duty to God?</b></li> <li><b>Q103. Which is the first commandment?</b></li> <li><b>Q104. What are the duties required in the first commandment?</b></li> <li><b>Q105. What are the sins forbidden in the first commandment?</b></li> <li><b>Q106. What are we specially taught by these words before me in the first commandment?</b></li> </ul> <p>Do stay back and find out the answers from the Word of God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:</b> We will be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next Lord's Day. Lunch will be carry-in. Please inform Daniel Poh on your intended contribution.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for journey mercies:</b> For those who are travelling especially for Dr Tow Siang Hwa and Rev Lim Chee Boon.</li> <li>• <b>Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2006:</b> The conference theme is "Promoting Spiritual Life and Service" and will take place from Tues 4<sup>th</sup> to Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> July. For those interested, please see Mok for the application form and costing details.</li> <li>• <b>Happy Fathers Day:</b> Wishing all fathers in congregation a blessed Fathers Day.</li> </ul> |
| <i>Speaker:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mok Chee Cheong                                | Dr Tow Siang Hwa                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Message:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Christ Raises Lazarus                          | 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Message                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Text:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | John 11:1-57                                   | Tbd                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Organist:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Anthony                                        | Yanning                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Evening</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Chairman:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Jeff Pun                                       | Alvin Chow                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Speaker:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mok Chee Cheong                                | Dr Tow Siang Hwa                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Message:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | The First Commandment<br>WLC Questions 102-106 | Tbd                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Pianist:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Anthony                                        | Ming Yann                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Other Duties                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Today</b>                                   | <b>Next Week</b>                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Ushers</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Jeff/Wah Soon                                  | Daniel/Mok                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Sunday Sch:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Carol                                          | No Sunday School                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Singspirat 'n:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Jonathan/Anthony                               | Ming Yann/Anthony                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Lunch:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Constance                                      | Carry In Lunch                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Washing-up:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | YAF Group 2                                    | Prema/Yetta                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <i>Bible Study:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | DHW – Genesis 24                               | No DHW Class                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Appointments of the Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wed 21 June                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 7:30 pm                                        | <b>Mid Week Prayer Meeting:</b><br>C'man: Mok                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Fri 23 June                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 7.00 pm                                        | <b>Young Adults Fellowship:</b><br>Led by Sharon                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Sat 24 June                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 4.00 pm                                        | <b>Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study:</b><br>Spkr/C'man: Rev Lim Chee Boon |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Last Week's Worship Service Collections                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Offering:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | £391.14                                        | <b>Lunch:</b>                                                             | £32.46                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <u><b>The Shorter Catechism</b></u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Q104. What do we pray for in the Fourth Petition?</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p>Ans: In the fourth petition (which is, GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD) we pray, that of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy His blessings in them.</p> <p><i>Comments: We now come to the petitions concerning ourselves – the order of the prayer before God first, and ourselves afterwards. In this petition we pray for the supply of our bodily wants. We ask for two things – a sufficient portion for the day, and God's blessing with it.</i></p> |                                                |                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |