



NEW LIFE BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Vol. 16 No. 37

LORD’S DAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Prelude</i>		
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Ephesians 2:4-7	Isaiah 40:9-11
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 289 – “Grace Greater Than Our Sins”	RHC 59 – “Shepherd of Eager Youth”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 131	Psalm 96
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 131</i> (to the tune of Wiltshire, RHC 345)	RHC 312 – “We Bless the Name of Christ, the Lord”
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 128 – “His Yoke is Easy”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Ephesians 1:3-14	Psalm 24
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Who is a Christian?</i> Elder George Chew	<i>King of Glory</i> Elder George Chew
<i>Lord's Supper</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 200 – “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”	RHC 1 – “O Worship the King”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	<i>May the Grace of Christ Our Saviour</i>

* Congregation Stands

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

The Lord is in His holy temple,
The Lord is in His holy temple:
Let all the earth keep silence,
Let all the earth keep silence before Him -
Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE LORD BLESS YOU

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord lift His countenance upon you,
and give you peace, and give you peace;
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you, be gracious,
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

Church Theme 2012 – “Have a Mind to Work” – Nehemiah 4:6

CONSCIENCE - PART 2

We have found three things about conscience from our previous study: (1) Everybody has a conscience, (2) there are different kinds of conscience, and the differences are demonstrated in terms of its qualities, and (3) conscience is a moral faculty that makes a distinction between right and wrong. Today, we are going to study the various roles of conscience.

Third, there are roles our conscience plays. (1) Conscience convicts. John 8:9, "And they which heard *it*, being convicted by *their own* conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, *even* unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst." The Scribes and Pharisees challenged Jesus to hand down a verdict upon an adulterous woman. According to the Jewish law, she should have been stoned to death. Jesus told them that anyone without sin must cast the first stone at her. Though the ones who were experts in the law understood that although the law did allow them to practice such a harsh punishment like stoning against an adulterous woman, they were convicted by their own sins, and one by one left the place without stoning her. The Greek word for "convict" means "to bring to light," "to expose," "to point out," or "to reprove." What exposed their own sinfulness was not only the law they upheld but also their conscience. It may imply two things: (a) The law teaches us what sin is, and (b) the conscience exposes us to the teachings of the law and convicts us. In a way, conscience applies what we learn from God's law to our inner being and challenges it. If our conscience works for us, then it condemns us of our sins. It gives us all the reasons why our conscience needs to be washed and cleansed. Hebrews 9:12-14, "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*." ¹³ For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: ¹⁴ How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" (2) Conscience guards and helps us to live a righteous life. Acts 23:1, "And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men *and* brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." Righteous living is not only external but also internal. Paul was not condemned about his living before God by his own conscience. His conscience approved his way of life, and he was able to testify to it. There was an internal testimony that his life was a pleasing offering to the Lord. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 4:3, "But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self." Therefore, it is a blessing not to be condemned by our own conscience.

(3) Conscience accuses or excuses us. Romans 2:15, "Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another." To accuse means to make an accusation or to accuse before a judge. Thus, there will be a verdict against us, if we do wrong. To excuse means "to defend oneself" or "to make one's defense." It delivers us from a sense of false guilt and makes us free from self-condemnation. The law in heart and the conscience may conflict against each other. Romans 2:15 also testifies that all men are nothing but sinners. Man has only a corrupt conscience and his knowledge of truth and law is only shallow. However, man is still not capable of pacifying his wounded conscience when he has broken even that shallow and low level of the knowledge of truth and law. Even his unsanctified and primitive conscience cannot but condemn him. Then, how much more will he be condemned, if he will be exposed to the absolute and highest law of God? (4) Conscience keeps us honest. Romans 9:1, "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost." Our honesty also must be testified by our conscience. Otherwise, we are liars or hypocrites. This verse also indicates that our conscience needs to be sanctified in order that it may work in the Holy Spirit.

Natural state of conscience is depraved, impure, and distorted by the effects of our sin nature. Such depravity makes a huge gap between the conviction by the Holy Spirit and convictions by our conscience. It is not our unsanctified conscience that justifies us but the Holy Spirit. It means that, though we may feel satisfied with our inner state based on the judgment by our conscience, it is more than possible that we need to be convicted by the work of the Holy Spirit. Thus, the unregenerated ones' argument that he is clean in his conscience cannot provide him with a proper defense before the righteousness of God. (5) Conscience enables us to be in subjection to authorities. Romans 13:5, "Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake."

(6) Conscience also provides us with consciousness or awareness of issues we need to take notice of. 1 Corinthians 8:10, "For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols." The believers of Jesus Christ are told not to partake of food offered to idols. It is not because idols are some significant beings. It is not because such food could harm them in any way. It is because partaking of such food knowingly will arouse some brothers' weak conscience in wrong and negative ways, and they feel that partaking of food offered to idols and religiously implied practices to the idols are permitted. Or these weak brethren may be deeply hurt and make wounds and marks in their conscience. 1 Corinthians 8:12, "But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ." The Greek word for "wound," means "to strike," or "to beat." The effect of this striking or beating is to disquiet the conscience. As a result, when it has to work, it does not and cannot work. It means that good conscience supplies the right kind of consciousness or awareness of various life and religious issues and helps us do right. When it is suppressed or distorted by wrong lessons and examples, it becomes dull and unresponsive. Probably one of the most significant problems in the Corinthian society was whether Christians should buy meat from the market, where it was a common practice that it was offered to the idols first. Or, idol worshippers could invite the believers for a meal. Paul's advice is given in 1 Corinthians 10:25-29, "Whatsoever is sold in the shambles, *that* eat, asking no question for conscience sake: ²⁶ For the earth *is* the Lord's, and the fulness thereof. ²⁷ If any of them that believe not bid you *to a feast*, and ye be disposed to go; whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience sake. ²⁸ But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that shewed it, and for conscience sake: for the earth *is* the Lord's, and the fulness thereof: ²⁹ Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other: for why is my liberty judged of another *man's* conscience?"

(7) Conscience judges. 1 Corinthians 10:29, "Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other: for why is my liberty judged of another *man's* conscience?" To judge means to give opinions. Conscience approves, esteems, or pronounces its opinions concerning right and wrong. Paul commends not only his own conscience but also others' conscience to testify about his honest and faithful ministry in 2 Corinthians 4:2, "But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." (8) Conscience testifies. 2 Corinthians 1:12, "For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward." Conscience must testify of the testimony of our conduct, life and behavior in this world. It removes us from the danger of falling into religious falsehood and hypocrisy. Though we may show good behavior externally, if there is no internal evidence by the testimony of conscience, we are not doing well.

Lovingly,

Your Pastor

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

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. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK	WELCOME
Wed 12 Sept 11:00am Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Hui-en Teo, Mrs F S Kwok, Mrs K K Ng and Patsy to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 14 Sept No Young Adults Fellowship	
Sat 15 Sept 4:00pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting "Eschatology" – Rev Timothy Ki	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TODAY: 09/09/2012</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan</p> <p>Organist: Anthony</p> <p>Pianist: Joy</p> <p>Ushers: Alan / Constance</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Joy</p> <p>Lunch: Maureen</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: John</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 16/09/2012</u></p> <p>Chairman: Alan</p> <p>Organist: Joy</p> <p>Pianist: Anthony</p> <p>Ushers: Jonathan / Yetta</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Joy</p> <p>Lunch: Mrs Ki</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Scott</p>
Message	Lessons about Forgiveness	The Prophet of God - Part 1	
Text	Matthew 18:21-35	Deuteronomy 18:9-22	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Pastor Ki will continue the study on "Anthropology" – The Doctrine of the Man. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Mrs Ki, Lai Kheng, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Tom, Nina, Helen. • Pray for those on travel: Sonia, Nana, Yang Fan, Jasmine, Matthew, Justin. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. 	
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1115.50; Lunch: £50.00</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 29 (A) 6 (C), Evening: 26 (A) 6 (C)</p>	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 34

Q: What is adoption?

A: Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number – and have a right to all the privileges – of the SONS OF GOD.

Comments:

Adoption denotes the taking of a child who is a stranger into a family, and treating him as a member of it. Such is the adoption meant here. It too, like justification, is an act of pure favour on God's part, and confers blessings to which we had lost all claim. It confers upon us both the rank and rights of children, and makes us feel that we have both a place and a portion as sons in God's family.

Proofs:

1 John 3:1, Romans 8:17

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart.</i></p> <p>Psalm 119:34</p>	<p><i>Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.</i></p> <p>Psalm 119:35</p>	<p><i>"Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness."</i></p> <p>Psalm 119:36</p>