



# 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. 17 No. 7

LORD'S DAY 17 FEBRUARY 2013

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Morning Service – 11am

### Evening Service – 4pm

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 68:4

Psalm 25:4-5

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 217 – “Rejoice – the Lord Is King!”

RHC 348 – “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*Opening Prayer \**

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 5:1-12

Psalm 119:97-112

*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 5 verses 1-6, 11-12*  
(to the tune of Crimond, RHC 344)

RHC 388 – “O for a Closer Walk with God”

*Announcements & Memory Verse*

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \**

RHC 390 – “Something for Thee”

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*Scriptural Text*

1 Corinthians 15: 1-28

Psalm 1

*Pastoral Prayer*

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

*Sermon Message*

*Resurrection hope*  
Eld George Chew

*Our walk with God*  
Eld George Chew

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 107 – “I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”

Insert – “Blessed is the Man”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

*May the Grace of Christ Our Saviour*

\* 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 2013 – “Understand and know God” – Jeremiah 9:24**

# COPING WITH DISAPPOINTMENT

By Rev Ian Hamilton, pastor of the Cambridge Presbyterian Church. Reprinted with the permission of Rev Hamilton

Every believer who has ever lived has faced and experienced disappointment. There have been and will be no exceptions. Even the perfect Man of faith, our Lord Jesus Christ, experienced disappointments, difficulties, hardships. As he hung alone and abandoned on Calvary's cross he cried out, 'My God, My God, why . . .?' Woven into the perfect life of holy obedience to the will of his heavenly Father, Jesus experienced inexplicable bewilderment. Yes, we know, and in the unbreakable fellowship he enjoyed with his Father and the Holy Spirit Jesus knew, that all was comprehended within the gracious, perfectly wise and gloriously good, will of God. But as the darkness of God's saving purpose for the world engulfed his soul, Jesus could only cry out. 'Why?'

There is much that could be said about the disappointments that punctuate our lives and at times overwhelm us. We live in a fallen world. We live in yet fallen bodies marked still by indwelling sin. Our enemy the devil truly is like a roaring lion, seeking to devour us, destroy our confidence in God, and leave our Christian testimony bereft of credibility. All of that is true. But there is a deeper truth we need to grasp.

The life of faith is lived within the orbit of our heavenly Father's all encompassing sovereignty. Every detail of our lives is known to him. He stands in absolute, unqualified dominion over every circumstance in this universe. Not a hair from your head falls to the ground but that he knows. Why then, since he loves his children with an everlasting love and sealed that love in the covenant blood of his own and only begotten Son, does our Father not shield his children from soul crushing disappointments? Does he not care? Is there some kind of unholy perversity in the Most High? God forbid! He is the 'Father of mercies and the God of all comfort'. He is the heavenly Father who for our poor sakes 'spared not his only Son but gave him up for us all'. Why then does he allow, and within his sovereign providence, purpose disappointments to touch and at times all but crush our lives?

The Bible, God's own Word, gives us this one answer - to make you and me more like his Son. God's ultimate purpose is to make his Son 'the firstborn of many brothers' (*Rom. 8:29*). How did Jesus become the man he became? His sanctification to his Father was both absolute and progressional. In his mother's womb the Holy Spirit sanctified his true humanity. But that once for all sanctification was the basis of a whole-life sanctification. The writer to the Hebrews remarkably tells us that 'Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered' (*Heb. 5:8*). Jesus 'learned obedience' through his sufferings. That is, he learned to trust his Father, not in studied, pleasant isolation, but in the midst of heartaches and disappointments. Adam failed to trust his Father in a lavish Garden. The last Adam unflinchingly trusted his Father 'unto death, even the death of a cross'. And his every obedience to the Father was not for himself, it was for us.

Without disappointments, heartaches, joys and sorrows, we cannot become like our Saviour. Perhaps this picture will help. Think of Michaelangelo with his block of marble. He has 'The David' in his mind's eye. With every blow of his hammer he is removing every little piece of marble that needs to be removed if 'The David' is to be realised. Every blow is painful. Perhaps to some who are reading this, unspeakably painful. But they are the blows of the divine Sculptor who has your and my everlasting good at heart. One day when we know as also we are known and see no longer through a glass darkly, we will be overwhelmed by what our Father has made us. We will reflect the out-shining glory of our Elder Brother, God and Saviour. Then, all our disappointments will be swallowed up in a glory that will leave us overwhelmed in wonder, love and praise.

The truth about every one of us is that our heavenly Father is conforming us to the 'pattern' of his Son and that 'pattern' is a pattern of death and resurrection, dying and rising, of (as Calvin put it) *mortificatio* and *vivificatio*. It cannot be otherwise. As with the Head, so with the Body. Union with Christ makes it inevitable.

Till the day dawns and all the shadows flee away, be, then, of good cheer. Through your tears, 'consider Jesus'. His tears unto death won your salvation. May your tears of faith bring you into deeper conformity to his likeness. With that your Father in heaven will be greatly pleased.

# 'MY FATHER IS ALWAYS WORKING'

By Rev Ian Hamilton, pastor of the Cambridge Presbyterian Church. Reprinted with the permission of Rev Hamilton

It is only too easy for Christians to become daunted and deeply pessimistic. The world we live in is a dark and presently an ever-darkening, place. The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is increasingly and publicly mocked and marginalized throughout society, particularly in the media. Our Government passes legislation that defies the living God. Our churches, most of them, are small and struggling. Evangelical Christianity is awash with theological and moral compromise. You might well be forgiven for thinking, 'Is it any wonder believers are daunted and deeply pessimistic?'

Do we have any reason, however, for being downbeat and discouraged? Allow me to remind you of our Lord's words in John 5:17, 'My Father is always working.' *Always!* Not occasionally. Not much of the time. But *all* of the time. Our God is never indolent, never merely watching the world's progress from the sidelines. He is always at work; and if he is always at work, how can we ever be daunted and discouraged? I know that some who read this letter will be going through sore trials. Others will have legacies of deep disappointments. Some will be in churches where little if any apparent progress has been seen for years. And yet, 'My Father is always working.'

It is true that our God's working is not always, or even often, obvious. 'He hides himself so wondrously, as if there were no God: He is least seen when all the powers of ill are most abroad.' Nonetheless, he is always at work, fulfilling his sure, sovereign, blessed purposes. He is never idle. His working is never frantic or uncertain, but always calm, deliberate and perfectly purposeful: 'Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him' (*Psa. 115:3*).

If nothing else, this great truth should inspire at least two things in our lives:

First, *we should never lose heart*. Our God is working and nothing and no one can stand against him. History, with all its dark uncertainties and apparently uncontrolled wickedness, is overseen and punctuated by the Sovereign God who works. This is not an excuse for us to sit back and smirk at our circumstances. But it is a wonderful encouragement for Christians not to lose heart, not to become daunted and disappointed. God is at work, always.

Secondly, *we are encouraged to live by faith and not by sight*. What is faith? At heart it is trusting God for who he is and believing his Word, whatever it says. Faith says, 'I believe God.' So, when we read, 'My Father is always working', however downbeat and seemingly bleak our circumstances, we believe God's Word.

I have little doubt that it often pleases the Lord to withhold the obvious evidences of his working in order to teach us the grace of faith. This truth is put starkly and remarkably in Isaiah 50:10, 'Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.' But faith is more than trusting reposefully in God; it is believing that God is able to accomplish whatsoever he pleases. Because our God is an ever-working God, whose power is limitless and unconquerable, there is no saying what he may well be pleased to accomplish. 'You do not have because you do not ask!' God's sovereign working is not an excuse for us to sit back and drift with whatever tide comes our way. No, a thousand times no. Does the Lord himself not tell us that his Father in heaven will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him? (*Luke 11:13*). Faith lays hold of the God who always works, pleads his promises, the glory of his Son and the saving of his people.

'My Father is always working.' Are these not wonderfully encouraging words? Do they not pierce our gloom and despondency? The Lord will not lose one of his own. He will present his church to himself as a spotless, perfect bride, not one missing. Take heart. The God who is for us in Christ and who rules the heavens and the earth is always working.

# 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 20 Feb                | No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study  | We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Martin Kim and Marc Hem Lee to our worship services last Lord's Day. |
| Fri 22 Feb     7:00pm     | Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony<br><i>"The Full Inspiration of the Scriptures"</i> |  |
| Sat 23 Feb     4:00pm     | Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  |  |

| Next Lord's Day | Morning Service          | Evening Service     | LORD'S DAY DUTIES  |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Preacher</b> | Rev Timothy Ki           | Rev Timothy Ki      | <b><u>TODAY: 17/02/2013</u></b><br><br><b>Chairman:</b> John<br><b>Organist:</b> Anthony<br><b>Pianist:</b> Jasmine<br><b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Yetta<br><b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Joy<br><b>Lunch:</b> Joy<br><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers<br><b>PA Crew:</b> Yangfan |
| <b>Message</b>  | Theme of Jesus' Ministry | Conquest of Jericho |  |
| <b>Text</b>     | Matthew 20:17-19         | Joshua 6:1-27       |  |

| NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS  |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-Lunch Bible Study:</b> Eld Chew will be giving us a short study on the topic "Are you a Christian?"</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those who are sick:</b> Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Pastor Ki, Hannah, Eld Chew's mother.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those on travel:</b> Sonia, Daniel &amp; Maureen, Sharon, Tobias &amp; Elliora, Jonathan &amp; Magdalene, Alan, Naomi &amp; Abigail, Eld &amp; Mrs Chew, Yoong Chiang &amp; Magdalene.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those seeking employment:</b> Yetta, Eleanor.</li> <li>• <b>Church cleaning next Saturday, 1pm:</b> See Mrs Ki or Hannah for more information.</li> <li>• <b>Ladies Fellowship next Sunday:</b> See Mrs Ki for more information</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 24/02/2013</u></b></p> <b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan<br><b>Organist:</b> Anthony<br><b>Pianist:</b> Joy<br><b>Ushers:</b> John / Margaret<br><b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Joy<br><b>Lunch:</b> Mrs Ki<br><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers<br><b>PA Crew:</b> Scott |
| <b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £566.00, Lunch: £43.50<br><b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 26 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 20 (A) 1 (C)  |   |

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 57

**Q: Which is the Fourth Commandment?**

*A: The Fourth Commandment is, REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY, TO KEEP IT HOLY. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the SABBATH of the LORD thy God; in it THOU SHALT NOT DO ANY WORK, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath-day, and hallowed it..*

Comments:

This commandment fixes the *portion of our time* which God requires us and our households to give exclusively to his worship – namely, one day in seven. Six days for *work* – one for *worship*. Such is the division of our time appointed for us by God, and required by the nature he has given us. The word *remember* is used in this commandment as implying that the Sabbath was not instituted here for the first time.

## MEMORY VERSE

| Last Week   | This Week  | Next Week  |
|---|--|--|
| <i>"Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord."</i><br><b>Jeremiah 23:24</b> | <i>"And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:"</i><br><b>Hebrews 1:10</b> | <i>"They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;"</i><br><b>Hebrews 1:11</b> |