



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. 18 No. 12

LORD’S DAY 23 MARCH 2014

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Romans 5:6-11	Psalm 117
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 3 – “Love Divine”	RHC 61 – “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 62	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 62, verses 1-2, 5-7</i> (to the tune of Martyrdom, RHC 194)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 27 – ‘Now Thank We All Our God’	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Romans 2:12-15	Matthew 5:9
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Not Hearers Only, But Doers</i>	<i>Blessed are the Peacemakers</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 114 – ‘At Calvary’	RHC 334 – “Sweet Peace, the Gift of God’s Love”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</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 2014 – “Waiting for God” – Isaiah 30:18

ARE YOU RICH TOWARD GOD?

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21)

Introduction

During the early weeks after our arrival in London, UK, on Jan 7, 2014, we watched and heard news of the UK being battered by strong winds and lashed by heavy rain in a series of ferocious storms that have barrelled across the Atlantic.

The storms, which began in October last year, have forced many from their homes and are set to make the 2013-14 winter the wettest on record. Thousands of homes and businesses have been flooded and many rivers in southern England have reached their highest ever recorded levels. This calamity continues right into the early months of 2014.

Petitions have been made by this church during our regular corporate prayer meetings on Saturday and God in mercy, for the sake of the remnants in this country, finally sent respite around the month of Feb 2014 and the floodwaters gradually receded, which opens the way for repairs and restoration works.

Though the loss of human lives in this disaster was minimal, some killed by falling trees, others by flying objects or collapsed buildings, yet the damage to properties and businesses is unprecedentedly huge, and the cost to clean-up could hit 15 billion pound.

However, what struck me most were the sad, grime and weary look of those affected, and without exception, the common phrase that came out of their lips when interviewed is, “I lost everything, it is all gone, everything is gone.”

This immediately brings to my mind the words of the Lord Jesus in Matt 6:19-21, *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.”*

Likewise, Jesus in His Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21) is warning us of the foolishness of storing up earthly riches here on earth that will soon perish and taking no care or giving no thought, to be rich towards God in faith and good works.

National calamities are messages to nations as well as to individuals. But how soon we forget these lessons when situation improves and lives return to normal routine. O, how much we need to pay attention when God speaks to us nationally and individually through calamity and disaster.

What are you storing up for the future?

We are told in the Parable of the Rich Fool that the man was blessed with a fertile land that *“brought forth plentifully.”* There is no reason to suggest that he got his wealth through unjust means, or at the expense of others, and it could even be he had worked very hard for it. So the denunciation brought against him is not for his hard work, which is certainly commendable, but it is his insatiable desire and thirst for more, which the bible called *“covetousness”* (v.15), that he was judged.

The rich man’s sin is not for being rich, rather it is the condition of his heart of looking no farther than himself, not looking upon himself as God’s steward, but his own carver; he cries out, *“What shall I do because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?”*

This is the same cry made by many in the world and sadly, many in the church too. It is a typical cry of those who never seems to have enough, and they want to build and store up even more. Like this rich man, they live their life as if they were to enjoy their wealth for ever, and as if there was no death, no judgement, and no world to come. But what would become of them in the end? The sobering reality is that, *“God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?”* (Luke 12:20).

It is certainly no sin to be rich, and the bible does not condemn hard work and the legitimate ways of gaining wealth. It is noted in the bible that God had blessed many with riches, like Abraham, Jacob and Job, who were undoubtedly God honouring and God fearing men. But we see in their lives that they have learned to say, *“it is (God) that giveth (me) power to get wealth* (Deut 8:17 & 18). They have also learned to say, like Paul, *“in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content”* (Phil 4:11).

What are you storing up in this life now? Jesus says, *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal”* (Matt 6:19), and where flood water do sweep away, or destroy; where natural calamities and disaster will wipe out before you can enjoy it.

Are you rich toward God?

Our best and safest investment for ourselves and posterity Jesus says is to be *“rich toward God”*. This is true riches and wisdom from above. Nothing can be more secure and sure than to set our hearts on heavenly treasures that will last for eternity. How then should I be rich toward God?

To be rich toward God as a believer is to be rich in grace, rich in faith, rich in love, and rich in good works. It is to be tried in the fire like gold to be rid of its dross. It is to die to self and take up the cross daily to follow the Lord Jesus.

Where can you securely store your investment where nothing can destroy it and where no one can take it away from you? Jesus says, *“Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”* (Matt 6:20-21).

God is still giving us time and opportunity to repent and bring forth fruit of repentance; if not, you and I will likewise soon be cut down.” Let us in humility acknowledge that it God who *“giveth thee power to get wealth”* (Deut 8:18). That we may seize every available opportunity to *“do good, that (we) be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for (ourselves) a good foundation against the time to come, that (we) may lay hold on eternal life.”* (1 Tim 6:18-19).

Conclusion

Calamities are reminders that God has put us on His earth, and He can take any of us away at any time. We have not been made only to breathe the air God is supplying, eat the food He provides, and drink the water He sends. Believers have been placed on earth for the purpose of bringing glory to God through our fruit bearing.

Pr Mok

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
Tues 25 Mar 4:00pm Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We do hope that you have a blessed time of worship on this day.
Fri 28 Mar 7:00pm Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>The Destruction of Antichrist</i>	
Sat 29 Mar 4:00pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	<u>TODAY: 23/03/2014</u>
Message	An All-Knowing God	Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake - Part 1	Chairman: John
Text	Romans 2:16-29	Matthew 5:10-12	Organist: Anthony
			Pianist: Matthew
			Ushers: Daniel / Margaret
			Sunday School: Hannah
			Lunch: Maureen
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Yangfan

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: There will be a short video study on "Christian Womanhood Series" by Mrs Rachel Fisher • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor Ki, Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Rev Colin Wong, Elizabeth, Maureen, Daniel, John, Sharon, Tobias, Elliora, Anthony, Jonathan, Magdalene. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Patricia • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for the Church Sponsorship application and Rev Colin Wong's visa application. • Church cleaning after Lunch today. • Ladies Fellowship will meet next Lord's Day after Lunch. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 30/03/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan</p> <p>Organist: Anthony</p> <p>Pianist: Jasmine</p> <p>Ushers: Daniel / Tom</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Maureen</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Scott</p>
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £712.24; Lunch: £53.05</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 28 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 19 (A) 2 (C)</p>	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 8

Q: How doth God execute his decrees?

A: God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and providence.

Comments:

We have been told what God *is*; we now begin to learn what he *has done*. We are here told that he created all things, and still sustains them, and that in creation and providence we see God executing his own decrees.

Scriptural Reference:

Revelation 4:11, Daniel 4:35

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."</i></p> <p>Psalm 91:1</p>	<p><i>"I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."</i></p> <p>Psalm 91:2</p>	<p><i>"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."</i></p> <p>Psalm 37:23</p>