



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. 21 No. 02

LORD'S DAY 08 JANUARY 2017

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>	Psalm 22:22-28	Psalm 119:129-136
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 1 – "O Worship the King"	RHC 375 – "Speak, Lord, in the Stillness"
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Keene Chen
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Apostles' Creed</i>	Apostles' Creed	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 45	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 45 2nd ver - verses 2-6</i> (to the tune of Trentham, RHC 240)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Keene Chen
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 320 – "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Malachi 3:8-12	John 21:7-13
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Daring to Trust God</i>	<i>Just a Fish Story?</i>
<i>The Lord's Supper</i>	Dr Carl Martin	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 175 – "For All My Sins"	RHC 396 – "A Passion for Souls"
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<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.

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." - Proverbs 4:23

TO OBEY OR NOT TO OBEY

Adapted from New Life BP Singapore Weekly, Sunday 30th October 2016

As followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, do we have an option? When we do not obey we sin against God and we are guilty. The right attitude when we disobey is to plead for God's mercy that our God thru our Lord Jesus Christ will forgive us and cleanse us from all our unrighteousness.

What is Obedience? I noticed that Obedience to some is defined according to their own convenience. They select what they want to obey and what not to obey. I call this selective obedience. This is exactly what a church friend did. When he and his wife found out after the test was done that they will have a down-syndrome baby; they decided to abort the baby even though the baby is already after the second term or six months. Their reason "We cannot take care of a down-syndrome person". They decided to kill or murder for their own convenience. This is the extreme, but what about honoring the Sabbath day? Having tuition classes after Church service? What about attending Church Prayer meeting on Wednesdays?

Webster Dictionary defines Obedience as "Compliance with a command, prohibition or known law and rule of duty prescribed; the performance of what is required or enjoined by authority, or the abstaining from what is prohibited, in compliance with the command or prohibition. To constitute obedience the act or forbearance to act must be in submission to authority; the command must be known to the person, and his compliance must be in consequence of it, or it is not obedience – obedience is not synonymous with obsequiousness; the latter often implying meanness or servility, and obedience being merely a proper submission to authority."

As followers and believers of the Lord Jesus Christ we have our duty to God. We can summarize these duties into three areas. Firstly – LOVE GOD WITH ALL OUR BEING. We find this in what Jesus considered the greatest commandment of the Law in Matthew 22:34-38. Being the greatest command, then I would suggest this is our greatest duty. Secondly – OBEY GOD FROM THE HEART. Jesus said this in John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Jesus taught that keeping His commandments is evidence of true love. And thirdly – MAKE GOD OUR PRIORITY. Jesus said as part of His Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:33 that His will, His rule, His righteousness, should be our first priority. Not only over our personal concerns, but even over our duty to country as stated by Peter in Acts 5:29 "... we ought to obey God rather than men".

Where do you stand on these three duties? Many, claiming to be followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, labor under the idea that life is about working, getting married, getting a nice house, raising children, sending them to college, and having grandchildren. Of course part of this, is going to church and being a "good Christian." After this, they can happily die and go to heaven.

Everything in their lives is built around these values. When there are spiritual opportunities they say “no”; the result, God’s Eternal Purpose is not much of a consideration anymore. As Pastor Gan said “they are passive; just sitting on the fence doing nothing.” If you ask them, many of them even have no idea what is God’s Eternal purpose.

However, if we look at the first century followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, they were a different breed altogether. They lived in a very harsh society, where to be a Christian means torture, imprisonment and to others death, and yet their main occupation was the pursuit of Jesus Christ and the fulfillment of God’s Eternal Purpose. Everything else in their lives revolved around that pursuit. They were driven as it became their passion, vision, motivation and purpose.

What about you? Do you love God with all your being? Do you obey God from your heart? Do you make God your priority? Is the heartbeat of God; His Eternal Purpose a mere supplement to your lives? Is it taking a back seat to the values described above?

What is your passion, vision, motivation, and purpose that drives your lives and governs every decision you make? Is it the God of the Bible or your god of convenience?

We are reminded of the reformation started by Martin Luther in 1517, when he published his “95 theses”. The reformers went back to the Bible and stated “Sola Scriptura” – Scriptures only! This meant to allow the truth of Scripture to change conduct and practices that do not align with what the Bible says. They were willing to die for the truth in Scriptures rather than be forced to continue doing what they know was unscriptural.

Are you a Biblical believer? if you are, then you must heed the Spirit of God calling you and me to prioritize our lives in the light of God’s ultimate intention and magnificent obsession: to stand for and declare the truth to others.

Emmanuel T Gumapon

Apostle's Creed

*I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary;
Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost.
the holy catholic* church;
the communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting.
Amen.*

**meaning the universal Christian church--
all believers in Jesus Christ*

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
Weds 11 th Jan 7pm Mid-Week Outreach 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.
Sat 14 th Jan 4pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i>	<i>Evening Service</i>	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 08/01/2017</u> Chairman: Jonathan/Keene Organist: Anthony Pianist: Matthew Ushers: John / Tom Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael Lunch: Hannah Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott / Jonathan
Message	Strong Words from Stubborn Hearts	The Ministry of Restoration	
Text	Malachi 3:13-15	John 21:14-17	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: This week, Dr Martin will continue with the study on "Building Firm Foundations". • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and for the continuation of his PhD studies. • Church Maintenance Fund: The Church needs to undergo some significant repairs in the coming months; a Maintenance Fund has been set up for anyone wishing to offer a love gift to assist with the costs. • Study of the Book of Psalms: Beginning today at 3pm, Dr Martin will lead a Bible Study on the book of Psalms, using the book "<i>The Flow of the Psalms</i>" by Palmer Robertson. • Sunday Evening Video Series: After Evening Service today there will be a Video Series on "<i>Mastering Your Money</i>". • Church Theme for 2017: "<i>Keep thy heart with all diligence</i>" taken from Proverbs 4:23. 	<u>NEXT WEEK: 15/01/2017</u> Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Keene Ushers: Tom / Joel Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael Lunch: Nina Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott / John
Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £1232.70; Lunch: £41.00 Church Maintenance Fund: £60 Attendance - Morning: 36 (A) 10 (C), Evening: 17 (A) 5 (C)	Church Maintenance Fund Total: £1,490

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 48

Q: What are we specially taught by these words, 'before me', in the First Commandment?
A: These words – 'BEFORE ME' – in the First Commandment, teach us, That God who seeth all things, taketh notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of HAVING ANY OTHER GOD.

Comments:
 The special reason here given why we should observe this commandment is, that God, who seeth all things, keeps an eye especially on the breaking of this commandment, and punishes the offence with his sorest displeasure.

Scriptural Reference:
 Psalm 44:20, 21; Romans 1:20, 21

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."</i> Matthew 6:33	<i>"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."</i> Proverb 28:13	<i>"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."</i> Psalm 46:1