



# 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. 08

**LORD'S DAY 19 FEBRUARY 2017**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Morning Service – 11am*

*Evening Service – 4pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 22:27-31

Isaiah 58:11-14

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 31 – *"Blessed be the Name"*

RHC 85 – *"O Day of Rest and Gladness"*

*Opening Prayer \**

Jonathan Kim

Keene Chen

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

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*Christology Creed*

Christology Creed

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*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 51

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 51* verses 1-6, 9-10  
(to the tune of Crimond, RHC 344)

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*Announcements & Memory Verse*

Jonathan Kim

Keene Chen

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \**

RHC 298 – *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"*

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*Scriptural Text*

Malachi 4:6

Jeremiah 17:19-27

*Pastoral Prayer*

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

*Sermon Message*

*Heart Shaped Parenting*

*But Whose Day is it?*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 438 – *"The Son of God Goes Forth to War"*

RHC 86 – *"Safely Through Another Week"*

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

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\* 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***

## **STUDY THE BIBLE (PART 2)**

**Adapted from Lively Hope Newsletter, Hope BP Church, Sunday 12th February 2017**

Last week, we considered the main reason why we must study the Bible. The Bible is the Word of the living God and He has revealed Himself in it. The saving faith comes by hearing, and this hearing is of the Word of God. Faith is not a subjective experience of positive thinking but based on the objective truth, which is the inspired Word of God, which suffices the reason why we must study the Bible. Now, I assume that we agree that it is important for the believers to study the Bible. Now, the next lesson we must consider is “how to study the Bible.”

God speaks to us in the Bible written in human languages. The reason is obvious, it is for our understanding. Hence, we should know the meaning of “language,” in order to know how to study the Bible. According to Noah Webster’s 1828 English Dictionary, a language is “[an] expression of ideas by words or significant articulate sounds, for the communication of thoughts.” “Human speech; language consists in the oral utterance of sounds, which usage has made the representatives of ideas. When two or more persons customarily annex the same sounds to the same ideas, the expression of these sounds by one person communicates his ideas to another. This is the primary sense of language the use of which is to communicate the thoughts of one person to another through the organs of hearing. Articulate sounds are represented by letters, marks or characters which form words.” “Words duly arranged in sentences, written, printed or engraved, and exhibited to the eye.”

From these definitions of language, we must know that it is to express ideas and thoughts. It must be expressive and intelligible. There are two outstanding elements in language:

- (1) it employs sentences. It implies that it is important for us to know the words employed in the given sentence and grammatical relations between the words, in order that we may make any sense out of it;
- (2) it requires understanding. In other words, it has to be intelligible. If we do not understand the language, we become ignorant, and it becomes intelligible.

We now come to the Bible. God gave this holy book written with human languages, so that we could understand what He wants us to believe and know about. Therefore, we must understand what the Bible speaks to us. In order for us to do so, we must exercise certain processes to know and to determine what it says, what it means and implies, and what we ought to read, hear and do. These processes are called Biblical Hermeneutics (the science of interpretation). I hope that no one will misunderstand me as if I am proposing a false idea that human intelligence determines the meaning of the Bible and that God does not play any role in our understanding of the Bible. The Bible is God’s inspired Word. Such spiritual truths cannot but be understood by the spiritual who are regenerated by the Spirit of God and aided to understand the Bible by the Spirit of God. At the same time, God exhorts us to read, study, and meditate upon His inspired Word. He sends us His ministers to teach us and puts desires into our hearts to study and meditate upon His Word. Interpretation is a natural part of any communication. We do it all the time, and it is an indispensable part of communication.

Amongst many ways to interpret the Bible, I'd like to bring out two most discussed ways to interpret the Bible.

(1) Some people argue that we must focus on the intention and purpose of the authors of the Scriptures. They say that only this way we can find an objective and understandable message, and that it leads us to objective truth.

(2) Others argue that we must focus on the readers' responses. According to this view, the author's intent is really not relevant to us today. They question whether we are able to know the author's intent for sure. Even if we know it, it does not matter. Therefore, what is important is what the readers find from the Bible as they read. Thus, what the readers see as true must be true. There is no absolute truth, and truth could be different from person to person subjectively. In this case, the final authority lies with the readers not the Word.

Between these two views, what Hope Church and I hold unto is that what God says is far greater and more important than what I feel and think. We do not determine what truth is. Rather, whatever the Bible speaks is true to us. Man may say lots of things about the Bible, but we take a view that what the Bible says matters, not what man says. Our hermeneutics stands on this conviction. Therefore, no one is allowed in our midst to hide his or her unbelief with a pretext of his interpretations.

In order to understand the Bible and to interpret it correctly, we must have certain basic principles to govern our Biblical Interpretation. The following simple advice from Dr. Barrett is worthwhile for us to remember.

The first principle is to, begin every session of Bible study with prayer. "As the Psalmist prayed for God to open his eyes to behold the wondrous things of the law, so must we pray (Psalm 119:18). We must pray that the Holy Spirit will teach us truth. The Lord Jesus promised His disciples that the Spirit of truth would guide them into all truth (John 16:13). Not only do the specific implications of that promise relate to the inspiration of the New Testament, but it also has great significance for every believer who seeks to hear God in the inspired Word.

In I Corinthians 2 the apostle Paul refers to the great truths of the gospel as those things God has revealed to us by His Spirit (2:10). He then says concerning these truths that they are what the Holy Spirit teaches by "comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (2:13). This could be rendered literally 'expounding spiritual [truths] to spiritual [men].' This statement highlights two essential points.

Firstly it is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to illumine and instruct believers in the things of God. The Holy Spirit is the ultimate and consummate teacher of every believer. Second, we must have regenerated hearts before we can understand anything God says. 'The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth [discerns] all things' (I Corinthians 2:14, 15a).

Understanding God's Word depends in great measure on knowing Him. It is the Spirit of God that regenerates sinners, turning them into spiritual men and thereby introducing them to the knowledge of God; it is the Spirit of God that leads saints into a more intimate knowledge of God through the Word.

The second principle is to spend time in the Bible. "This may be a strange point to make in setting up the proper procedures for Bible study, but far too frequently Christians tend to substitute reading about the Bible for reading the Bible. While there is nothing wrong with reading commentaries or devotional books, there is simply no substitute for reading the Bible itself. Much of what the majority of Christians know about Scripture, about God, and about Christ is hearsay. The Bible seems strange to many simply because they are strangers to it"

I find some interesting thoughts from this explanation. I have seen many zealous and passionate people who are deeply interested in theologies. As a result, they have followed all kinds of authors and their writings and have formed their theological convictions. Sadly, biblically they are confused, and theologically they become followers of men. They love to debate over theologies, but they cannot hide their biblical ignorance. They are dangerous to the health of Christian churches, because they are able to divide the churches by making their own disciples. Their Christian character does not grow. They think they stand on theologies. Read the Bible!

- *Rev Timothy Ki*

## **The Word Made Flesh**

*The Ligonier Statement on Christology*

We confess the mystery and wonder  
of God made flesh  
and rejoice in our great salvation  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
the Son created all things,  
sustains all things,  
and makes all things new.  
Truly God,  
He became truly man,  
two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary  
and lived among us.  
Crucified, dead, and buried,  
He rose on the third day,  
ascended to heaven,  
and will come again  
in glory and judgment.

For us,  
He kept the Law,  
atoned for sin,  
and satisfied God's wrath.  
He took our filthy rags  
and gave us  
His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King,  
building His church,  
interceding for us,  
and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord;  
we praise His holy Name forever.

Amen.

# 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 22nd Feb	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.
Fri 24th Feb	7pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony	
Sat 25th Feb	4pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<b><u>TODAY: 19/02/2017</u></b>
<b>Message</b>	Heart Responsive Children	The Potter's Vision	<b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan / Keene
<b>Text</b>	Malachi 4:6	Jeremiah 18	<b>Organist:</b> Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-lunch Bible Study:</b> This week, Dr Martin will continue with the study on "Building Firm Foundations".</li> <li>• <b>Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and for the continuation of his PhD studies.</li> <li>• <b>Study of the Book of Psalms:</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>Ladies Fellowship:</b> This will be held after lunch next Lord's Day.</li> <li>• <b>This Lord's Day offering will be wholly designated for the Baalah Fund in order to help their urgent request for funds for famine relief.</b> Please see Jonathan or Elizabeth if you would like more information about the missionary work in Baalah, Kenya.</li> </ul>			<b>Ushers:</b> John / Yetta <b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Rachael <b>Lunch:</b> Maureen <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers <b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / Anthony
<b>Worship Service Collections</b> – Last Sunday: £952.40; Lunch: £48.00 <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 28 (A) 12 (C), Evening: 14 (A) 3 (C)			<b><u>NEXT WEEK: 26/02/2017</u></b>  <b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan <b>Organist:</b> Anthony <b>Pianist:</b> Michael <b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Yetta <b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Rachael <b>Lunch:</b> Rachael <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers <b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / John
			<b>Church Maintenance Fund Total:</b> <b>£2,240</b>

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 54

**Q: What is required in the Third Commandment?**

**A:** *The Third Commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God's name, titles, attributes, ordinances, Word, and works.*

Comments:

The Third Commandment bids us use in very reverent manner – 1. God's names, such as *the Lord*; 2. His titles, such as *King of Kings*; 3. His attributes, such as *holiness*; 4. His ordinances, such as *prayer*; 5. His Word, or *the Bible*; 6. His works, such as *man*.

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 29:2, Ecclesiastes 5:1, Job 36:24.

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
"Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding." <b>Proverbs 3:13</b>	"Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish." <b>Proverbs 12:1</b>	"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." <b>2 Peter 3:18</b>