



# **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. 22 No. 18

**LORD’S DAY 06 MAY 2018**

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### **Morning Service – 11am**

#### **Afternoon Service – 3pm**

**Prelude**

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 77:11-15

Ephesians 3:14-19

**Opening Hymn \***

RHC 86 – “*Safely Through Another Week*”

RHC 459 – “*So Send I You*”

**Opening Prayer \***

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

**Gloria Patri \***

*Glory Be to the Father*

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**Responsive Reading**

Psalm 114

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**Second Hymn \***

*Psalm 114*  
(to the tune of Green Hill, RHC 192)

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**Announcements & Memory Verse**

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

**Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \***

RHC 434 – “*Savior, More Than Life to Me*”

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**Scriptural Text**

Matthew 28:16-20

Isaiah 6:1-13

**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev Mark Lehman

Rev Mark Lehman

**Sermon Message**

***The Trinity***

***Here am I, Send Me!***

**Closing Hymn \***

Insert – “*O Blessed Holy Trinity*”

Insert – “*So Send I You*”

**Benediction/3-Fold Amen \***

Rev Mark Lehman

Rev Mark Lehman

**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.

# **BE NOT WISE IN YOUR OWN EYES**

**Adapted from Life BPC Singapore Weekly, Sunday 4th March 2018**

In scientific studies that have been done on human intelligence there is a phenomenon known as the Downing effect. It is named after C.L. Downing who conducted the first cross-cultural studies on perceived intelligence, and discovered that those who are less intelligent are more likely to rate themselves as being more intelligent than others. So please be careful if you think that you are more intelligent than others, because you are probably wrong.

There is passage in the Book of Proverbs

which mentions a similar phenomenon. However, it is not about human intelligence, but something far more important than that as it has eternal consequences – It is about wisdom. Proverbs 3:7,8 – *“Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.”*

## **The Folly of Being Wise in Your Own Eyes**

This warning, *Be not wise in thine own eyes*, is found not only here in the book of Proverbs. It was also given to Christians by the apostle Paul in Romans 12:16. At the end of this verse he wrote – *“Be not wise in your own conceits.”*

One reason why Paul repeated this warning from Proverbs 3:7 may be found in his own life. Paul was once wise in his own eyes. He had many things to boast of: *“Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.”* (Philippians 3:5-6)

Paul probably thought that he had all the wisdom that he needed, since he had been specially trained by the renowned Rabbi Gamaliel and he had a comprehensive knowledge of the Law of God. But he refused to believe that Jesus is the Messiah of Israel and he persecuted all the followers of Christ very severely (Philippians 3:4-6).

Paul continued to persist under this proud delusion until the Lord Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus. Then, for the very first time in his life, he saw how foolish he really was. This fearful encounter with the LORD humbled him right down to the ground. He was terrified to realize all the evil he had done.

It was only then that he stopped being wise in his own eyes and he departed from his evil work. He began to learn the precious truths of the Gospel of Christ which he went on to preach with the greatest zeal. And he also wanted to warn God’s people not to make the same mistake he had made. That may well be the reason why he wrote to the Christians in Rome, *“Be not wise in your own conceits.”* (Romans 12:16).

In fact just one chapter earlier Paul gave the same warning to the Gentile Christians about the blindness of the Jews to the Gospel – *“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.”* (Romans 11:25)

The word ‘conceits’ in both of these warnings brings out the heart of the problem – a heart that is full of selfish pride. Each time you think that you are wise enough and have no need to learn from others, please beware! You are being blinded by your own selfish pride. And this blindness will only lead you deeper and deeper into sin.

This actually happened to the ancient Greeks and Romans. They called themselves philosophers, a word which means, ‘Lovers of wisdom’. They took great pride in their own wisdom, and so became wise in their own eyes. What happened to them in the end?

Romans 1:21-24 tells us – *“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves...”* The verses that follow after this shows how they degenerated into perverse relationships.

The same thing is happening today. The wisdom of the world that largely rejects God and exalts man to the highest position is leading to a rapid decline in moral values, and to the promotion of hedonistic and materialistic lifestyles. No wonder God’s Word says in Isaiah 5:21 – *“Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!”*

Let us therefore take this warning seriously. And let us learn what we need to do, in order not to end up in the sins of Paul before he was saved, and in the sins of unregenerate people who were wise in their own eyes.

### **The Blessing of Having a Right Attitude to God**

The latter part of Proverbs 3:7 tells us what to do – It says, *“...fear the LORD, and depart from evil.”* The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10). It is only by having the fear of the Lord that we can truly be wise. This fear includes reverence toward God, faith in Him, dependence on Him, acknowledgment of Him, seeking Him for direction, and being careful not to offend Him.

Such a holy fear of God will cause us to avoid sin, and to keep clear of all appearance of sin. This because we know that God is so holy that He hates sin and cannot tolerate any sin in His sight.

You must therefore learn to fear the Lord. Cultivate the right attitude of humbling yourself before Him and live every moment under His watchful eye. Then you will no longer be wise in your own eyes, but you will have the true wisdom of God which enables you to depart from sin.

And there is a blessing that comes from living in the fear of the Lord. It is mentioned in v.8 – *“It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.”* This does not mean that everyone who fears the Lord will never get sick or suffer any physical infirmity. There is no health-wealth gospel taught in this verse or in any part of the Bible. Job suffered so much physical pain and affliction even though he was the most God-fearing man on earth.

What kind of health then can we look forward to when we live in the fear of God? I believe that the word ‘health’ here in v.8 refers to spiritual health in our present life. We will be spiritually nourished in the same way that an unborn child receives nourishment through its navel. We will be spiritually strengthened in the same way that marrow strengthens bones.

But perhaps the words of v.8 may also point us to our hope of perfect physical health when we receive our new resurrection bodies. God cares not only for the soul but for the body as well. That is why He promises us who are saved through Christ that we will one day have perfect bodies. In order to live in the fear of the Lord one must humbly personally accept Christ as his Lord and Saviour. And this brings long term blessings to our lives, blessings which we should all look forward to. May these words convince us not to be wise in our own eyes any more, but to fear God and depart from sin.

- Rev Charles Seet

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am** and **3.00 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 9th May	<b>No Mid-Week Outreach Bible Study</b>		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 12th May	3pm <b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b> <i>Study on the book of Hosea</i>		
<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i>	<i>Evening Service</i>	<b>LORD'S DAY DUTIES</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Mark Lehman	Rev Mark Lehman	<b>TODAY: 06/05/2018</b>
<b>Message</b>	TBC	TBC	<b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan
<b>Text</b>	TBC	TBC	<b>Organist:</b> Matthew
<b>NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>			<b>Pianist:</b> Venise
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sunday School:</b> This afternoon at 1:45pm the church will be holding Sunday School for young children and toddlers, led by Sisters Elizabeth, Nina and Barbara. Please invite friends and family to attend.</li> <li>• <b>Church Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister.</li> <li>• <b>Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2018:</b> 3rd - 5th July 2018. Theme: <i>"Depth and Scope of God's Truth"</i>.</li> <li>• <b>Lord's Supper:</b> We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week. Please come with hearts prepared.</li> </ul>			<b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Tom
			<b>Lunch:</b> Sharon
			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers
			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / John
			<b>NEXT WEEK: 13/05/2018</b>
			<b>Chairman:</b> John
			<b>Organist:</b> Anthony
			<b>Pianist:</b> Anthony
			<b>Ushers:</b> Jonathan / Tom
			<b>Lunch:</b> Volunteers
			<b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers
			<b>PA Crew:</b> Scott / Venise
<b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £1109; Lunch: £41.10 <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 33 (A) 8 (C), Evening: 18 (A) 4 (C)			<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b> <b>Total: £4,070.50</b>

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 10

**Q: How did God create man?**

*A: God created man, male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.*

Comments:

We are here told that man was created in the likeness of God. His soul resembles God in being upright and holy, and possessed of reason. None of the other animals were so endowed, and they accordingly were put in subjection to him.

Scriptural Reference:

Genesis 1:27, Ephesians 4:24, Genesis 1:28

## MEMORY VERSE

<p><b>Last Week</b></p> <p><i>"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."</i></p> <p><b>Psalm 91:4</b></p>	<p><b>This Week</b></p> <p><i>"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"</i></p> <p><b>Ephesians 6:18</b></p>	<p><b>Next Week</b></p> <p><i>"But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil."</i></p> <p><b>Luke 6:35</b></p>