



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. 02

LORD’S DAY 14 JANUARY 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 98:1-4	Psalm 18:1-3
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 41 – “ <i>Before Jehovah’s Aweful Throne</i> ”	RHC 39 – “ <i>Thee Will I Love</i> ”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 98	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 98 verses 1-2, 4-9</i> (to the tune of No Other Plea, RHC 301)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 115 – “ <i>Constantly Abiding</i> ”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	1 Samuel 16:7	1 Samuel 17:32
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Eld Stephen Toms	Eld Stephen Toms
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The LORD looketh on the Heart</i>	<i>Let no Man’s Heart Fail</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 247 – “ <i>Cleanse Me</i> ”	RHC 412 – “ <i>Fight the Good Fight</i> ”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Eld Stephen Toms	Eld Stephen Toms
<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.

BIBLICAL TRUTHS IN THE LIGHT OF ETERNITY

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 31st December 2017

Introduction

A whole year has gone by and 2017 was an eventful year of both trials and triumphs, good and trying times for many of us.

Sober Reflection is Needful for Christians

As we end the year, it is good to pray and ponder over our lives in the light of the Word of God seriously. It will help us in our spiritual learning, it can also enhance growth, and a revival of clear God-honouring direction and focus for the new year. We are reminded of the nearness of eternity and the shortness of life. James 4:14 says, *“Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”* There were 2 year-end camps we ministered at with messages from Revelation and the book of Daniel and they awakened the campers when we shared the Word with the youths. Here are some truths at the end of the year that we should soberly remember!

1) God is Sovereign and He is still on the Throne (Isaiah 45:18; Daniel 4:35)

The Reformers like John Calvin taught that God is sovereign and He has absolute control of all things and nothing happens without His permission. The omnipotence of God clears our spiritual vision, helps us consider Him and His purpose in every step (or stop) that we take. God exists and He is still on the throne and nothing can happen to us without His knowledge and permission (Romans 8:37-39). Job was much comforted by this knowledge when he was afflicted and so must we today.

2) God has a Redemptive Programme and we are Witnessness for Him (Romans 5:8; Acts 1:8)

An important biblical reality that is related to God's sovereignty is our need to embrace Gods ultimate providence and plan concerning us. This reminds us that He has set His affections on depraved sinners to call us out of darkness and redeem us through Christ. 1 John 5:13 says, *These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.* He is not indifferent to our needs but we need to seek Him first and His Kingdom and to believe in Him and to repent of our sins. Are you and your children saved today? When was the last time you gave a tract and invited someone to church to hear the gospel? Romans 1:16 says, *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

3) Jesus is the Foundation of Comfort and Hope (Titus 2:12-15; 2 Corinthians 1:4-5)

If you face sorrow, sickness, bereavement or failure, what is your final comfort and consolation? The central reality of all history is Christ and His death on the cross and His resurrection from it three days later. It is an objective truth that Christ came to earth and He lived a perfect sinless life among men. This draws our gaze away from our own life to look fully into his wonderful face. Furthermore, the vicarious atonement of Christ and the imputed righteousness of God give us hope. It can be a blessing, for our ultimate good, no matter how depressing it can be. Genesis 50:20 says, *But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.* Romans 8:31 says, *What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?* God is eternal refuge and Strength.

4) We need Spiritual Guidance from the Bible (Psalm 37:3-7; Proverbs 3:4-6)

We need clear direction and guidance for the new year. Psalm 25:3, 4 says, *'Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause. Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.'* Misery, depression, sickness, anxiety and fear have gripped many hearts this year. There are many who experienced sorrow and testings quietly, trusting in God. We can go through every trial in His strength as a child of God. We need to seek Christ first and share Christ with others and give up self and our worldly ambitions and take up the Cross and follow Christ. Trust and obey His Word to live the abundant, victorious life for there is no other way. Psalm 37:3, 4 says, *'Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.'*

5) Without Christ, we are Destined for Eternal Separation from God (Ephesians 2:11-14; Revelation 1:9)

The Bible says that there are two eternal places : heaven and hell. Firstly, we can be saved by faith in Christ and be in the former; secondly, if we fail to fear and know God, we are without hope and we will end up in the latter with eternal condemnation. While we or our loved ones hear the gracious offer of the gospel, we must not delay (2 Corinthians 6:2) but repent of our sins and come to Christ before it is too late or else we may have to face the eternal consequences of condemnation in hellfire (Revelation 20:12-15).

6) Death is Inexorable and we need to Number our Days and Live Wisely (Psalm 90:12, Hebrews 9:27)

Some of our loved ones went home to be with the Lord this year. RC Sproul, the famous reformed theologian went home to be with the Lord on 14 December 2017. He lived a fulfilling life till 78 years old on earth serving Christ. The 3 top killers in Singapore are cancer, heart failure and stroke. With an average death rate of almost 20,000 in Singapore every year there is a sobering reminder that our days here on earth are limited. Psalm 90:12 says soberly, *'So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.'* Our earthly mortality will be swept away one day in a short time. We should think of ourselves as frail and weak people, ready to leave this earthly life at any time as the Lord wills (Revelation 21:1-6). Are you ready to meet God anytime? Amos 4:12 says, *'Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.'*

7) Get our Priorities Right Today and Always for Eternity Sake (Matthew 6:21, Colossians 3:12)

We need to evaluate what are our objective is in life and is it consistent with the goals of heaven. For Christians, there is an expectant hope which stands for **Holding On, Praying Expectantly**. Death is but a door to eternity. There is eternal glory in the joy through Christ alone. Let us learn not to live only for the present but to live for the future here and deploy our time, talent and treasures to the glory of God and for eternity's sake. Without Christ, it is a hopeless end, with Christ, an endless hope.

8) Remember that we only Temporal Pilgrims on Earth (Hebrews 11:13–16, 1 Peter 2:11-12)

Paul reminds us that we are pilgrims and strangers on this earth (1 Peter 2:12). Remember the song we used to sing, *'This World Is Not My Home, We Are Just A Passing Through.'* This should make us feel homesick for heaven as we do not want to stay in this temporal abode forever. We live with this conviction that the everlasting Jesus is coming back soon as King and Judge, and we should hold loosely to this earthly life for we are just passing through. Do not drive our stakes too deeply in this world for tomorrow we may break camp (James 4:14).

9) Earthly Things are Ephemeral except for our Souls (Mark 8:36, Hebrews 12:22-24)

What consumed your time and energy this year? Is it work, play or leisure like computer games, HP obsession or academic studies or eternal things of God? We will inevitably be disappointed one day by an inordinate earthly pursuit of self-centred worldly wealth and tangible assets. They will vanish away one day, as our true home is not of this temporal world. Let us invest our lives, our time, energy and resources in the saving of souls and lay our affections on things above instead of this fleeting world (Colossians 3:1-2).

10) We have God-Given Talents and Time to Serve Christ and be ready for a Spiritual Audit (2 Corinthians 5:10, 1 Corinthians 3:13-15)

How was your prayer life, service, devotion and personal walk with God this year? Did you grow in your faith and are you more committed as a steward of God? These sobering reminders fill our mind every time it comes to the end of the year. We need to examine our stewardship and be accountable for what He gave us and to be right before Christ each day. We need the Lord always and should confess and repent of our indifference and failures and turn to Him in fervent prayers. He is merciful and gracious and will hear the cry of the broken and a contrite spirit which he will not despise (Psalm 51:17). Be fervent, fruitful and faithful stewards for Him till He comes for our time is short here.

Conclusion

There could be more earthquakes, floods, disasters next year and much suffering for the faithful under persecution for their profession of faith in certain countries. There were tornadoes, and landslides in 2017 that affected many adversely. There is more to life than the accumulation of fame, power, wealth and pleasure. This is a seasonable time of personal reflection and serious pondering. How would you assess your lives now and how can you make it count for eternity? What can we do on earth for eternity's sake? Something to think about and act upon now as we enter into 2018. Our bodies are breaking down with every passing day (Ecclesiastes 12:1- 7) and the Lord is coming very soon. We ought to live our lives with the glory of Christ as our chief end in life.

- *Rev Jack Sin*

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 17th January	No 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 20th January	No Bible Study & Prayer Meeting		
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Eld David Yeo	Eld David Yeo	TODAY: 14/01/2018
Message	The Lord Provides Perfect Peace	The Lord Provides an Incorruptible Salvation	Chairman: Jonathan
Text	Isaiah 26:3	Romans 1:21-23	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Anthony
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School: This afternoon at 1:45pm the church will be holding Sunday School for young children and toddlers, led by Elizabeth, Nina and Barbara. Please invite friends and family to attend. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister. • Changes to Church Activities from January 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Evening worship will be brought forward to 3pm.</i> ➤ <i>No Pre-lunch Bible Study.</i> 			Ushers: Tom / John
			Lunch: Tan Family
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott / John
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 21/01/2018</u>
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1085.20; Lunch: £36</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 28 (A) 8 (C), Evening: 15 (A) 7 (C)</p>			<p style="text-align: center;">Church Maintenance Fund</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total: £3,960.50</p>
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 101			
<p>Q: What do we pray for in the First Petition?</p> <p><i>A: In the First Petition – (which is, HALLOWED BE THY NAME) – we pray, That God would enable us and others to glorify him in all that whereby he maketh himself known; - and that he would dispose all things to his own glory.</i></p> <p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p><i>A petition means something asked. In the Lord's Prayer there are six petitions – the first three being about God, and the last three about ourselves. In the first of these petitions we ask two things: that God's name be hallowed or glorified by all men, and that it be hallowed or glorified by all events.</i></p> <p><u>Scriptural Reference:</u></p> <p>Psalm 67:3, Romans 11:36</p>			
MEMORY VERSE			
<p>Last Week</p> <p><i>“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”</i></p> <p>2 Peter 3:13</p>	<p>This Week</p> <p><i>“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.”</i></p> <p>Matthew 21:22</p>	<p>Next Week</p> <p><i>“For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.”</i></p> <p>Psalms 96:4</p>	