



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. 30

LORD’S DAY 29 JULY 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 86:6-12

Hebrews 2:9-10

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 49 – “How Great Thou Art!”

RHC 66 – “Fairest Lord Jesus!”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 119:113-128

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 119 verses 113-120
(to the tune of Cleansing Fountain, RHC 173)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 118 – “O How I Love Jesus”

Scriptural Text

Genesis 37:1-35

Matthew 5:1-6

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Gabriel Gan

Rev Gabriel Gan

Sermon Message

Faith that Overcomes Betrayal

Character of a Heavenly Citizen

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 335 – “Keep on Believing”

RHC 377 – “More Like the Master”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Rev Gabriel Gan

Rev Gabriel Gan

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* 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.

EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS A TESTIMONY TO SHARE

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 17th June 2018

Recently, I met up with some pastors for Bible discussion, prayer and fellowship. We shared with one another our call to salvation and our call to the Christian ministry. As I listened to their sharing, I realized every one of us has a symbol time-line. A symbol time-line is a tool to give us a big picture of God's work in shaping our lives by using a series of symbols that depict our journey on earth, from birth to the present.

Let me begin with Moses. He had a symbol time-line. The children of Israel were in bondage in Egypt for 400 years. When the time came for them to be delivered from slavery, God called a man and prepared him for the task. If you were to read the life of Moses, from his birth to the day he was called by God, you would be able to see God's hand upon his life.

When Moses was born, his life was in danger. After keeping him for 3 months, his mother put him in a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. Pharaoh's daughter found him and had compassion on him. Arrangements were made to bring this child up in the palace (Exodus 2).

At the age of 40, God appeared to him in a burning bush and called him for a task. Having prepared him for 40 years in the wilderness, God sent him at the age of 80 to the King of Egypt to ask him to let His people go so that they could worship Him. But Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let them go until God destroyed all the firstborn of Egypt. God led the children of Israel through the way of the wilderness by the hand of Moses (Exodus 13:17, 18; Psalm 77:19, 20).

While the enemies were pursuing after the children of Israel, He parted the Red Sea for them to walk on dry ground. On the other side of the sea, Moses and Israel sang a song of victory to the Lord (Exodus 3-15:1-21).

Can you see the different stages of Moses' life?

Paul had a symbol time-line. In his pre-conversion life, Paul did everything he could to promote his Jewish religion. His zeal led him to exceed many of his contemporaries. He was very zealous and jealous for his religion. His only ambition was to advance the cause of Judaism, and in order to do that, he did not hesitate to cut down all opposition so that Judaism might advance one more mile. Few could match his fiery passion for Judaism and his intolerance toward the true Way (Galatians 1:13, 14; Acts 9).

Acts 9 tells us how Paul sought permission to persecute Christians living in Damascus and how Jesus saved him and commissioned him to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles. Writing to the Galatians, he told them how it pleased God to separate him from his mother's womb and called him by his grace (Galatians 1:15a). When he was put on trial before King Agrippa in Acts 26, he testified before him how God saved him and called him to the Gospel work, and he would not dare to disobey the heavenly vision.

At the end of his life, Paul was able to say, *"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith"* (2 Timothy 4:7).

You and I have a symbol time-line too. We have a pre-conversion experience. Many of us may begin our testimony in this way: Before I became a Christian, I was a Buddhist.... I was a free thinker.... I was an atheist or an agnostic.... We all have a testimony to share before our conversion. After our conversion, we have our post-conversion experience to share concerning our Christian life (Romans 7:15-25). Our walk with God is both sweet and trying. God's Word tells us that it is part and parcel of our spiritual journey on earth and it is good and beneficial for us in the long run (James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 1:6, 7).

When I reflect on my spiritual journey with God, even before conversion, I can pinpoint every minor event God used to shape me in order to bring to fruition His plan and purpose for me (Psalm 138:8; Philippians 1:6). Allow me to share with you very briefly how God saved me from sin, misery and eternal hell and called me to the Christian ministry.

I grew up in a village in old Singapore. When I was a little boy, I liked to go fishing, so when December came, I would go fishing with my uncle by a big canal in old Potong Pasir village. The water current of the canal was always strong in rainy December. I remember when I was 9 years old, I was walking alongside it and suddenly I fell into a side river. I was struggling for my life because I could not swim. But fortunately, two men came by to rescue me. In retrospect, I believe God saved me that day through them for a specific purpose.

Since my conversion in 1974, I have been under the tutorage of God. Within two weeks of my conversion, I knew that God had called me to the Christian ministry. I joined a missionary organization in 1977. I returned from the mission field in 1981. God provided me a wife in October 1982. He led me to pastor a small church at the same time. While I was shepherding the church, I enrolled to study in a Bible College in 1983. Before I graduated, I was invited to serve in Life Church by the Principal in 1986. The following August I joined the church as a preacher.

In my walk with the Lord, I must confess that at times I find it hard to submit myself to God's discipline (Hebrews 12:11). But when I see what God is doing in my life, my heart shouts for joy for His sanctifying work in me. Like the Psalmist, I will bless and praise Him for what He has done within me – *“Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name”* (Psalm 103:1). Truly, *“What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me?”* (Psalm 116:12) I can't think of anything to repay Him except praise and thanksgiving to the Almighty God!

Every Christian has a testimony to share after his/her conversion. Sad to say but it is true – too many Christians cannot share competently their own salvation stories. This is tragic! Could it be the power of the Gospel has failed to make any impact on them?

Jesus met a man with an unclean spirit out of the tomb in the country of the Gerasenes. He was bound with shackles and chains. No one could subdue him. When he saw Jesus afar, he ran and fell down before Him, crying, “What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.” After asking the unclean spirit's name, Jesus cast out the spirit out of the man and sent it into a great herd of pigs feeding on the hillside. The herd, numbering about 2000, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea. News spread rapidly in the community. People flocked to see the demon-possessed man. They began to beg Jesus to leave the place. As he was getting into the boat, the man, being clothed and in his right mind, pleaded with Jesus that he might be with him. But Jesus did not permit him but told him to go home to his friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for him and how he has had mercy on him. He went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marvelled (Mark 5:1-20).

This is what every born again Christian should be doing. You and I have a salvation story to tell to the world. But how many of us are telling it to the lost and for the glory of God? Jesus said, *“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven”* (Matthew 10:32, 33).

Like the woman at the well who told the people in the city that she had found the Messiah (John 4:28-30, 39), you and I should be telling the story of salvation to our loved ones, friends and colleagues. However, there is a high price to pay at times if we want to tell someone about Jesus.

Having accomplished His mission on earth, Jesus went back to heaven and His disciples also returned to Jerusalem (Acts 1:9-11-14). After 10 days of praying to and waiting on the Lord, the promise of the Father came upon them (Acts 2:1-4). Being empowered by the Holy Spirit, the disciples went about preaching the Gospel (Acts 1:8).

Peter and John had been with Jesus for 3 years. Being His disciples, they had heard His teaching and preaching and seen His miracles. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter and John were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. The priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees arrived and were greatly annoyed by their preaching. So they put them in custody. On the following day, Peter and John stood before the rulers of the people and elders of Israel and they boldly declared to them that there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved except the name of Jesus. The Sanhedrin warned and threatened them not to teach or preach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them boldly, *“Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard”* (Acts 4:1-20).

There is a high price to pay at times for sharing our salvation story. Jesus told the healed demon-possessed man to go back home to his family and tell them how much the Lord has done for him and how kind He has been to him. How about us? Shall we keep silence about it? (1 Corinthians 9:16) God forbid.

Dearly beloved, you and I have a symbol time-line. May I encourage you to take time to reflect upon your own lives and see what great things the Lord has for you. Then go and share them with others for the salvation and edification of souls (Hebrews 10:24). Amen.

- *Rev Colin Wong*

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
Sat 4 th Aug	3pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting		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.
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Rev Gabriel Gan	Rev Gabriel Gan	TODAY: 29/07/2018
Message	A Faith that Overcomes Temptations	The Character of a Heavenly Citizen (Part 2)	Chairman: Jonathan
Text	Genesis 39:1-20	Matthew 5:1-12	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Venise
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Sunday School: Sunday School will resume in September. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Rev Gabriel Gan as he ministers to us till the end of August. Also, pray for the calling of a new minister. • Ladies Fellowship: This will be held after lunch today. 			Ushers: Tom / Margaret
			Lunch: Tan Family
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 05/08/2018</u>
			Chairman: Jonathan
			Organist: Matthew
			Pianist: Venise
			Ushers: Tom / Yetta
			Lunch: Jonathan
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £570.00, Lunch: £29.27			Church Maintenance Fund
Attendance - Morning: 22 (A) 3 (C), Afternoon: 9 (A) 2 (C)			
			Total: £4,330.50
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 22			
Q: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?			
<i>A: Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the <u>Holy Ghost</u>, in the womb of the <u>Virgin Mary</u>, and born of her, yet without sin.</i>			
<u>Comments:</u>			
The last answer told us the fact that the Son of God became man; this answer tells us how he did so. He did so by assuming a human body and soul. And this was assumed in a miraculous manner, through the power of the Holy Spirit. The purpose for which Christ became man was that he might stand in our place and work out our redemption.			
<u>Scriptural Reference:</u>			
Luke 1:35, Galatians 4:4. Hebrew 7:26			
MEMORY VERSE			
Last Week	This Week	Next Week	
<i>"But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,</i>	<i>"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."</i>	<i>"And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."</i>	
<i>Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you."</i>	James 4:7	Luke 9:23	
Luke 6:27-28			