



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. 25 No. 25

LORD’S DAY 20 JUNE 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

<i>Call to Worship</i>	Revelations 15:3-4
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Ps Timothy Poh
<i>Opening Hymn</i>	RHC 32 – <i>“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”</i>
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 117
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Ruth 1
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Ps Timothy Poh
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>God the Father – His Will</i>
<i>Closing Hymn</i>	RHC 7 – <i>“God Moves in a Mysterious Way”</i>
<i>Benediction</i>	Ps Timothy Poh

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 68

Q: What is required in the Sixth Commandment?

A: *The Sixth Commandment requireth all lawful endeavours to preserve our own life, and the life of others.*

Scriptural Reference:

Ephesians 5:29, Matthew 10:23, Mark 6:31, Psalm 82:3-4, Job 29:13, 1 Kings 18:4

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.”

Acts. 15:11

This Week

“And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.”

Zechariah 10:12

Next Week

“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

Isaiah 40:31

A BRIEF TREATISE OF THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

2. *The Scriptures*

Q2: What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

A: The Word of God, which is contained in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

2 Tim. 3:16 — *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God,”*. By Scripture is understood to mean the sacred Book of God. It is given by divine inspiration; that is, the Scripture was not from the invention of the men who wrote it, but is divine in its origin. The holy Scripture is to be highly revered and esteemed, because we are sure it came from heaven (2 Pet. 1:21).

[1] How do you prove the word in the Scriptures to be the Word of God?

(a) *By its antiquity*. It is of ancient standing. The age of Scripture makes it venerable. No human histories in existence reach further than Noah’s flood: but the holy Scripture relates matters of fact that have been from the beginning of the world; it writes of things before time.

(b) *By its miraculous preservation in all ages*. The holy Scriptures are the richest jewel that Christ has left us; and the church of God has so kept these public records of heaven, that they have not been lost. The Word of God has never lacked enemies to oppose, and if possible, to extirpate it. But God has preserved this blessed Book inviolable to this day. The devil and his agents have been blowing at Scripture’s light, but could never blow it out; this is a clear sign that it was lighted from heaven. Nor has the people of God, in all revolutions and changes, kept the Scripture that it should not be lost only, but that it should not be depraved. The letter of Scripture has been preserved, without any corruption, in the original tongue. The Scriptures were not corrupted before Christ’s time, otherwise Christ would not have sent the Jews to them. He said, *“Search the Scriptures.”* He knew these sacred pages were not muddled with human fancies.

(c) *By the matter contained in it*. The mystery of Scripture is so abstruse and profound that no man or angel could have known it, had it not been divinely revealed by the Spirit of God, the author of Scriptures. We read, in the Scriptures, of the trinity of persons in the Godhead, the incarnation of the Son of God, the mystical union of Christ and his members. These, and such like mysteries, were beyond the reach of the most learned men to invent, much more beyond the reach of unlearned fishermen, by whom they were revealed; whence it is evident that they speak not their own words, but what they were taught by the immediate inspiration of the Spirit.

(d) *By its prediction*. It prophesies of things to come, which shows the voice of God speaking in it. It was foretold by the prophet, *“A virgin shall conceive,”* Isa. 7:14, and the *“Messiah shall be cut off”* (Dan. 9:26). The Scripture foretells things that would fall out many ages and centuries after; as how long Israel serve in the iron furnace, and the very day of their deliverance. Exod. 22:41 — *“At the end of the four hundred and thirty years,*

even the self-same day, it came to pass that the host of the Lord went out of Egypt.” This prediction of future things, merely contingent, and not depending upon natural causes, is a clear demonstration of its divine origin.

(e) *By the impartiality of those men of God who wrote the Scriptures*, who do not spare to set down their own failings. What man that writes about history would black his own face, by recording those things of himself that might stain his reputation? Moses records his own impatience when he struck the rock, and tells us, he could not on that account enter into the land of promise. David relates his own adultery and bloodshed, which stands as a blot in his escutcheon to succeeding generations. Peter relates his own pusillanimity in denying Christ. Jonah sets down his own passions, *“I do well to be angry to the death”* (Jon. 4:9). Surely had their pen not been guided by God’s own hand, they would never have written that which reflects dishonour upon themselves. Sinful men usually rather hide their blemishes than publish them to the world; but the penmen of holy Scripture eclipse their own name; they take away all glory from themselves, and give the glory to God.

(f) *By the power and efficacy of the Scriptures*. The Scriptures are powerful to convince, and awaken, and wound the conscience of man. *“The Word of God is quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword”* (Heb. 4:12). The Scriptures are powerful to convert and change the heart of sinner. *“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul”* (Psa. 19:7). They are powerful to quicken men out of spiritual death and deadness. *“Hear, and your souls shall live”* (Isa. 55:3). *“Thy Word hath quickened me”* (Psa. 119:50). They are powerful to rejoice and comfort under the deepest distresses. *“The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart”* (Psa. 19:8). The Scriptures opened and applied are made effectual to produce such powerful effects as do exceed the power of nature, and can be effected only by the power of God; which shows that God only is the author of the Scriptures, which he would not so far own and honour if they were not his own.

(g) *By the miracles by which Scripture is confirmed*. Miracles were used by Moses, Elijah, and Christ, and were continued, many years after, by the apostles, to confirm the verity of the holy Scriptures. We read of God’s dividing the waters, making a pathway in the sea for his people to go over, the iron swimming, the oil increasing by pouring out, Christ’s making wine of water, his curing the blind, and raising the dead. Now, these and the like miracles were from the immediate hand of God. Thus God has set a seal to the truth and divinity of the Scriptures by miracles.

(h) *By the blood of martyrs*. There were many thousand Christians in the primitive time, who sealed and gave testimony to the truth of the Scriptures with the loss of their lives. The great patience and constancy which they showed in their sufferings, as an evidence of their faith, are a weighty argument, in conjunction with others, to prove the divine authority of the Scriptures.

(i) *By the testimony of the Spirit of God in, and with, and by the Scriptures*, upon the hearts of believers. *“Ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things,”* because *“the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is true, and is no lie”* (1 John 2:20, 27). Without this testimony, and teaching of the Spirit, all other arguments will be ineffectual to persuade unto a saving faith.

(j) *By the consent and harmony of the Scriptures.* There is consent between the Old Testament and the New; a consent between the types and figures under the law, and the things typified and prefigures under the gospel — between the prophecies of the Scriptures, and the fulfilling of those prophecies. There is in the Scriptures a harmony or agreement of precepts, and a harmony or agreement of histories, and a harmony or agreement of design. Wherefore, since the Scriptures were written by so many several men, in so many several ages, and different places, and yet agreeing so well in their writings, that no irreconcilable difference is to be found in them, it is evident that they were all acted by the same Spirit of God; and therefore, that the Scriptures are the word of God.

- adapted and edited from Thomas Watson, *A Body of Divinity*, pp 26-29; & Thomas Vincent, *The Shorter Catechism Explained from Scripture*, pp 17-20.

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Worshippers, as the Church Premises reopens for Morning Worship Service please note that there will be strict social distancing measures put in place. Face coverings must be worn in the church at all times out of consideration for all worshippers.

For the time being, the 3:00pm Afternoon Worship Service will still be conducted online.

If you require the link to our online zoom services, or have any questions or require further clarity, please call the church manse, or email us at admin 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk.

Tithes & Offerings – There will be an offering box at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary for you to place your offerings in.

The Task Force would like to wish all fathers a “Blessed Father’s Day”.

Please note there is no Afternoon Worship Service today.

Church Maintenance Fund Total: £7,030.50

CHURCH NOTICE

Dear fellow worshippers and friends,

We are pleased to inform the worshippers and visitors of New Life Bible Presbyterian Church that the church will resume holding worship services in the Church premise on Sunday mornings.

The church activities will take place as follows:

- Sunday Morning Worship Service, 11am – Church Premises & Online
- Sunday Afternoon Worship Service, 3pm – Online only

Provided that there is no worsening of the pandemic in London, we hope to start holding the Afternoon Worship Service and Fortnightly Bible Study within the church premises in the coming months.

Changes introduced to the Worship Services held at the church premises

In compliance with the current Government guidelines, the following changes have been introduced:

- Worship services will be limited to 60 minutes duration.
- No singing and offering collection during the worship service. Offerings can be made at the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- All Bibles and hymn books will be kept and unavailable for use. Please bring your own Bible and remember to take it away with you after worship service.
- Adopt a 2-metre social distancing seating arrangement (household members may sit with each other).
- Face coverings to be worn in the church **at all times** out of consideration for all worshippers. For young children under the age of 11, the use of face covering is optional. **Please ensure you bring your own face covering.**
- No socialising with anyone outside of your household or support bubble within the Church premises.
- No socialising outside the Church premises.
- No food and drinks will be made available (Fellowship Lunch has been temporarily suspended).
- No access to non-essential areas of the church – this includes the Fellowship Hall and kitchen.
- New movement arrangements to be adopted (please follow directions).
- Temperature measurements will be taken for every worshipper and visitor.
- Worshippers and visitors are required to complete the contact details slip for the NHS Test & Trace service. These details will be kept securely in church for 21 days and then destroyed. They will only be submitted to Test & Trace if a Covid-19 case occurs.
- Alternatively, please download the NHS COVID-19 Mobile App and scan one of the QR codes in the Church entrance to check-in.

To join our online services or to obtain further updates, please visit the church website (www.newlifebpc.org.uk) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim
Task Force Members

RHC 32 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient
of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we
praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting nor wasting, Thou rulest in
might,
Thy justice like mountains high soaring
above,
Thy clouds which are fountains of
goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest to both great and
small,
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the
tree,
And wither and perish, but nought
changeth Thee.

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of
Light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their
sight;
All laud we would render, O help us to
see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient
of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we
praise.

Walter Chalmers Smith

Tune - ST. DENIO

RHC 7 – God Moves in a Mysterious Way

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform:
He plants his footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never-failing skill,
He treasures up his bright designs,
And works His sovereign will.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour:
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err.
And scan His work in vain:
God is His own interpreter,
And he will make it plain.

William Cowper

Tune - [God moves in a mysterious way]