



# 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. 26 No. 04

LORD’S DAY 23 JANUARY 2022

## 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 103:1-2; 20-22	Psalm 104:33-35
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 34 – “Crown Him With Many Crowns”	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 138	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 138 verses 1-4</i> (to the tune of Ellacombe, RHC 29)	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Nehemiah 4:9	2 Corinthians 2:15-16
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Christian’s Two Guards</i>	<i>The Positive and Negative Effects of the Gospel</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	Insert – “Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose”	---
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	---
<i>* Congregation Stands</i>		

### 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.

### 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.

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 99

**Q: What rule hath God given for our direction in prayer?**

*A: The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is that form of prayer which Christ taught his disciples, commonly called THE LORD’S PRAYER.*

Comments:

We are here taught that in praying to God we have the whole Bible as a guide. But specially we have a pattern or example set us in the prayer which Christ taught his disciples. This is usually called the Lord’s Prayer – that is, the prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scriptural Reference:

1 John 5:14. Matthew 6:9

# RESOLVE NOT TO BE VIP

## Introduction

2021 was a difficult year of a global deadly pandemic and many disasters that killed about 5.5 million people and infected more than 270 million others and still counting but what will 2022 be for you and me? We need to be vigilant and cautious and not to take things for granted too. To the world, a VIP is a Very Important Person and he or she treated with respect and special attention. But there are some VIPs we should not be in the new year. In a spiritual and metaphorical sense, a Christian should not be a VIP in the following context. Read and consider this prayerfully and live wisely in the new year.

### **1. Very Indolent Person**

One of the problems for a teacher in the school is dealing with students who are lazy or who have a slothful attitude. It should not be spoken of a Christian that he is indolent in his work or service for the Lord. We are to be good stewards and witnesses for Christ, and laziness is not an edifying trait. Industry and hard-work and heart-work should characterise our conduct and behaviour. Romans 12:11-12 says, *“Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer”*; Proverbs 15:19 says, *“The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain,”* and again, Proverbs 26:15 says, *“The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.”* So let us resolve to be diligent for the Lord this year both in the study of the Word and the worship in His church. We need to heed the advice of Solomon in Proverbs 6:6, *“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.”* A lazy student will not do well in an examination or a worker in the marketplace neither will a lazy Christian in life. Industry not indolence should be the characteristic of a God honouring Christian.

### **2. Very Impatient Person**

Last few Sundays, we spoke of Approaching God with Patience. Someone once prayed, ‘Lord, give me patience and I want it now.’ Psalm 27:14 says, *“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.”* Impatience has brought many problems to people. The building of the golden calf in Exodus 32 was due largely to impatience in waiting for Moses to come down from Mt Sinai (Exo 32:1). King Saul offered the sacrifice on his own when Samuel, the prophet delayed in coming, purposely to test him and he failed the test. In Luke 21:19, Jesus advised, *“In your patience possess ye your souls.”* Jeremiah in Lamentations 3:26 says, *“It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.”* Let us remember Isaiah 40:31, which says, *“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.”* We need to ask the Lord for greater patience as we wait upon Him for His soon second coming (2 Pet 3:9-15).

### **3. Very Indignant Person**

Anger is one letter short of DANGER. Those who fly into rage seldom make a good landing. The author had counselled a very angry couple who got into a serious fight with each other. You may have met indignant people before and we do not think those were the best experiences in our lives. A furious man or woman often does something he or she will regret later. Ephesians 4:26 say, *“Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath.”* Colossians 3:5-8 speaks of things to mortify or put to death wherein anger or wrath are included. Anger is a choice and no one can make you angry if you choose not to. Pray and ask the Lord for self control and temperance to regulate our emotion and bring it under subjection. Parents, do not provoke your children to anger nor exasperate them (Col 3:5-8). The wrath of man do not fulfil the righteousness of God.

### **4. Very Irresponsible Person**

Life is full of duties and commitments and as a Christian, we are to be accountable and responsible stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter 4:10-11 says, *“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man*

*speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*" 1 Corinthians 10:31 gives us a good guiding principle. We must remember that ultimately we are accountable to God one day, so should not we use our talents and resources for Him?

Some years back, we organised a tour with 35 participants, and when we were at Corinth, we saw the bema or judgement seat of Christ that was mentioned in 2 Corinthians 5:10. Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:10 reminds us, *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; (bema) that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."* We are to be faithful and dependable in our stewardship of the Lord's work and time (1 Cor 4:2) and be ready to give an answer one day before the *bema*. Let us be faithful in all the duties that are entrusted to us by God this year.

## **5. Very Indifferent Person**

Apathy is worse than antipathy. Are we indifferent to the work of the gospel, the study of the Word, the fellowship of saints and the reverential worship of the triune God? Pray for zeal and fervency for the things that are eternal rather than the temporal things of the world.

These are 2 big universal problems in this world, ignorance and nonchalance — I do not know and I do not care. There are people who have no burden for the kingdom of God, with no desire for salvation of souls or prayer, and they are just caught up with their own worldly affairs.

There are 3 kinds of people in this world. Those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who wonder what happened. They are so caught up with their own worldly affairs, which may be legitimate, but they are totally nonchalant about spiritual things. Beware that we do not fall into these 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> categories. Have fervent love and strong spiritual convictions in the will and work of God.

## **6. Very Imprudent Person**

We live in a world of trickery and falsehood. We need to be spiritually wise and prudent in this treacherous and decadent world. We are not to be affected by the false teachings and the occults and cultic deception of the evil one. Proverbs 9:10 says, *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding,"* and in James 3:17, he says, *"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."*

There are some bible seminaries or theologians who will deny the virgin birth of Christ, the 6 literal day creation account, the physical resurrection of Christ, the miracle of the Red Sea crossing, and the universal flood during Noah's time. German higher criticism and naturalism has created widespread religious liberalism from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> century. Many are sold on the concepts of theistic evolution, compromised worship and secular psychology in the Christian world rather than biblical truth and doctrine. There are many who doubted that Adam was a real historical person and one former church leader of a denomination taught that hell is only a figment of imagination created by God to frighten us to believe in Him. There are many who endorse cloning, abortion and euthanasia under the guise of 'helping the sick' at the expense of God's clear commands in His Holy Word. Do not be a VIP in this context.

## **Conclusion**

There is a Chinese saying, 'A good beginning is half done.' We need to begin the year right. Let us resolve to live this new year in 2022 for the Lord with greater reverential fear, faith and zeal and be effectual and faithful stewards and disciples of the manifold grace of God till He comes.

*adapted and edited from Pastor Jack Sin, Sovereign Hope BP Church, Singapore*

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begins with the **Pre-Worship Prayer Meeting** at **10:15 am** followed by the **Worship Services** at **11.00 am and 3.00 pm**. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

## NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Dear Worshippers, due to the increasing Covid infection rate within London the Afternoon Worship Service has been moved back to being held online at 3pm until further notice.**

**Morning Worship Service will still be held in the Church Premises. However, 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 those unable to attend Church in person, we will continue to stream our services 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.

**Missions Fund** – The Church has sent £1620 to the Baalah Missions.

**Worship Service Collections** - Last Sunday: £357.00, Maintenance Fund: £30.00, Missions: £100.00

**Church Maintenance Fund Total: £8,190.50**

## MEMORY VERSE

### Last Week

*“Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us: therefore we his servants will arise and build.”*

**Nehemiah 2:20a**

### This Week

*“For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.”*

**2 Corinthians 1:20**

### Next Week

*“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.”*

**2 Corinthians 2:14**

## Changes introduced to the Worship Services held at the church premises

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

- No offering collection during the worship service. Offerings can be made at the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- 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 food and drinks will be made available (Fellowship Lunch has been temporarily suspended).
- After Morning Worship Service, you may gather for fellowship inside or outside of the Church premises, but please adhere to social distancing.
- 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](http://www.newlifebpc.org.uk)) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,  
John Poh & Jonathan Kim, Task Force Members

## **Thou hidden source of calm repose**

Thou hidden source of calm repose,  
Thou all-sufficient love divine;  
My help and refuge from my foes,  
Secure I am if Thou art mine;  
And lo! from sin, and grief, and shame,  
I hide me, Jesus, in Thy name.

Thy mighty name salvation is,  
And keeps my happy soul above;  
Comfort it brings, and power, and peace,  
And joy, and everlasting love;  
To me, with Thy dear name, are given  
Pardon, and holiness, and Heaven.

Jesus, my All-in-all Thou art—  
My rest in toil, my ease in pain,  
The medicine of my broken heart,  
In war my peace, in loss my gain;  
My smile beneath the tyrant's frown;  
In shame, my glory and my crown;

In want, my plentiful supply;  
In weakness, my almighty power;  
In bonds, my perfect liberty;  
My light in Satan's darkest hour;  
My help and stay whene'er I call;  
My life in death, my Heaven, my all.

*Charles Wesley*

*Tune: ST. CHRYSOSTOM*