



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. 29 No. 50

LORD’S DAY 14 DECEMBER 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-5

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 31 – “Blessed Be the Name”

Opening Prayer

John Poh

Responsive Reading

Psalm 31

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 31:1-5

(to the tune of St Stephen, RHC 397)

Scriptural Text

Job 2:1-10 (James 5:7-11, Job 2:1-10)

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Wes Bredenhof

Sermon Message

You Can Still Acknowledge the Wise God at Rock Bottom

*Lord’s Supper Hymn **

RHC 201 – “According to Thy Gracious Word”

Observation of Lord’s Supper

Rev Wes Bredenhof

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Rev Wes Bredenhof

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* *Congregation Stands*

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

THE LORD BLESS YOU

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 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.

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 90

Q: How is the Word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

A: That the Word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer, receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practise it in our lives.

Comments:

We are here taught the proper way to use the Bible. We must use it carefully, reverently, and prayerfully. We must believe what it tells us, and do what it bids us. And we must receive the truth in the love of it, else the Word read will not profit our souls.

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 119:18, Hebrews 4:2, Psalm 119:11, John 7:17

Dear brethren, this week article is written by Rev Jack Sin, Pastor of Sovereign Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church in Singapore. This was published in their church weekly on 8th June 2025 and it has been reproduced for our edification (Words consulted include Work consulted include Westminster Confession of Faith, Directory of Public Worship).

The Discipline of Reverential Worship – Part 1

The worship of God is a universal duty. This fact is acknowledged by all men except atheists and agnostics. Christianity rests upon a fundamental premise that God’s favour is extended only to those who come to Him through the person and work of Christ. Yet, while many profess faith in Christ, professing Christians differ widely in the manner in which they conduct their worship. There is a disturbing trend of contemporary elements in the music, the instruments used and songs sung and other practices of worship among some mega churches today.

Such diversity in practice may require an answer to this concern. What are the proper means of worship that give get the Lord’s approval? What pattern of worship does the Lord prescribe for his people? Specifically, is there a biblical measure by which we may evaluate various practices of worship? We will discuss this together.

Current Worship Scene

The present ecclesiastical scene needs a Careful seeking of the biblical teaching on worship. Some churches are introducing “contemporary” modes of worship: drama, ‘sacred prophetic dance’, multi-media productions – even magic and puppet shows. Others advocate free-style services, wherein anyone present may exercise his “gifts” spontaneously – a Sunday religious democracy with a vengeance. There are still others who are given to ecclesiastical anarchy; yet others embrace the liturgical forms of Rome, Canterbury or Eastern Orthodoxy. We need to ask if holiness and reverence before the Almighty God may be lacking or even missing?

Many, even former conservative churches allow modern changes in their Sunday worship without a biblical mandate. The Reformed churches hold a serious view of the Word in the governance of worship. **We maintain that the Bible contains general principles which regulate all matters of worship.** First, religious worship must be directed to the Lord God alone; worship must not be given to unsound practices often used in other religion in the worship of their deities, human or any created thing. Second, the only acceptable means of worship are those established by God in His Word. We call it the scriptural law of worship or the regulative principle, as a reminder that the Lord regulates the worship of his people by means of his Word in orderliness and decency.

It is needful to have sound honouring practices of worship in our churches (1 Cor 1:14,40). We need a correct perspective of the character and nature of God in worship. After the death of King Uzziah, Isaiah was overwhelmed with the holiness

of God and conscious of our own depravity and humbled himself before God (Isa 6:1-8). That should be our attitude before thrice holy God in our worship too.

Biblical Precepts of Worship

Our premise differs sharply from contemporary attitudes toward worship. Many people claim that Christians are free to employ a variety of practices in worship, as long as the means employed are not specifically forbidden in scripture. (If something is not forbidden, it must be alright i.e. any kind of instruments, shouting, dancing). When their worship activities are challenged, their response is, "Show us what is wrong with this practice." The worldly spirit of entertainment with contemporary music is the order of the day.

We cannot accept this in good conscience Any form of worship which is demonstrably unbiblical should not be allowed in church services. Beware of every new fad and fashion in worship violates some particular scriptural prohibition.

We believe that the scriptures give us a general prohibition against all elements in worship besides those which God himself has instituted. This is the force of scripture law of worship; it guards against man-made innovations in worship like showmanship, entertainment and choreographed dancers and other ostentatious behaviour.

The advocates of modern worship can subvert or exterminate the practice of true worship among the people of God. This is the real source of conflict by some leaders over worship, and we cannot overlook that fact. If we seek to practise genuine biblical worship, we may encounter opposition from the advocates of synthetic worship of man which is man-centred and fleshly and we need the submission to the word to arbitrate on this.

All of our worship should possess two pre-eminent characteristics:

- **We must come prepared to worship the Lord with sincere hearts filled with reverence and love for Him with orderliness, reverence and fear.**
- **We must worship God using only the means established in His Word.**

Any worship which lacks either of these qualities is unacceptable; we must not approach the Lord with improper motives or with unapproved means in jarring music or the loud and distracting instruments used and often in a disorderly manner.

We are to humbly submit to God's sovereign rules of worship in the scriptures alone and not invent new ones.

To be concluded next week...

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begin with the **Worship Service** at **11.00 am** followed by a **Bible Study & Children's Sunday School** at **1:30pm**. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Worshipers, we extend a warm welcome to you this Lord's Day. We hope that you have a blessed time worshipping with us today.

For those unable to attend Church in person, please join our Worship Service and Bible Study on our live-stream via YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@NewLifeBPCLondon>

We thank God for providing Rev Wes Bredenhof to minister to us this Lord's Day.

Rev Bredenhof will be ministering to us until end January.

Lord's Supper, 13 December – We will be observing the Lord's Supper today.

Tithes & Offerings – The offering box is located at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary.

After-Service Fellowship – Join us for lunch fellowship after the morning worship service.

Please bring your own lunch as only drinks will be provided.

Afternoon Bible Study – Rev Bredenhof will conduct the study on “The Parable of the Sower: A Call to Hear Rightly” taken from Mark 4:1-20.

Children's Sunday School – held after the After-Service Fellowship at 1:30pm.

Christmas Service, 11am on 25 December – Please join us for our Christmas service. We will have a carry-in lunch. Please inform Mark if you would like to contribute a dish.

MEMORY VERSE

This Week

“But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.”

Job 2:10

Last Week

“And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”

Job 1:21

For Personal Reflections....

As we approach Christmas and remember soberly the incarnation of Christ, spend the remaining days of the year doing the spiritual exercises of 5Rs below.

1. **Read the Word** of God (especially the gospel of Luke) carefully each day.
2. **Rehearse the lessons** learnt meditatively and memorise a verse a day if possible.
3. **Reflect upon the application** of the Word of God in our lives prayerfully and practice it in your life.
4. **Renew your vision** and strength in the Lord thoughtfully and share it with others and impact souls for Christ.
5. **Resolve to live for Christ** our New Born King till He comes again and it will be imminent and soon.

May the Lord be gracious to **Revive our souls and minds** as we examine our hearts and seek to live for the Lord and not self in these momentous times as we end the year soon in the fear of God.