



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. 10 No. 42

LORD'S DAY 15 OCTOBER 2006

Dear Readers,

GROWING IN THE FEAR OF GOD IN A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT (Mal 3:16; Col 3:22–23; Eccl 12:13,14)

(This message was preached at the evening worship service at New Life BP Church, London on 8 October 2006)

This evening our meditation will be on the fear of God. In a godless or unchristian atmosphere, there are many phobias or irrational fears that many people have, and many struggled with it daily. The speaker once read a list of about 90 of them and that includes claustrophobia (fear of confined places), phobophobia (fear of fear), acrophobia (fear of height), hydrophobia (fear of water), necrophobia (fear of the dead), brontophobia (fear of thunder), xenophobia (fear of strangers), ailurophobia (fear of flowers), and many others. Psychiatrists are seeing more cases of these phobias in Singapore in our clinics for mental health of our citizens. *"Fear God and you will have nothing to fear."* Solomon says in Prov 9:10, also in Psalm 111:10, *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever."*

Far from being negative and limiting, the fear of God is healthy and clean (Ps 19:9). It is the very basis of a proper relationship with God. Joshua told the people in Joshua 24:14, *"Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD."* Solomon advised in Proverbs 8:13, *"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."* This fear is not in the ungodly. Romans 3:18 says, *"There is no fear of God before their eyes."*

Frequently in the Bible, the fear of the Lord is contrasted with the worship of idols. From Deuteronomy 6:13–14, *"Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you."* The people were to fear God as they served Him rather than other gods. The author of Hebrews says, in Hebrews 12:28–29, *"Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire."* The fear of God affects our worship and stewardship of God. Samuel says in 1 Samuel 12:24, *"Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you."*

The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him (Ps 147:11). Solomon assured us that it would be well with those who fear God (Eccl 8:12) and not with those who do not. Cornelius feared God, with his whole family, and he was saved (Acts 10:1); and the Hebrew midwives who feared God rather than Pharaoh and refused to kill the newborn baby boys experienced God's blessings themselves (Exod 1:15–21) for their obedience.

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RESULTS OF FEARING GOD

Those who fear God will flee from sin and grow in holiness and righteousness. 2 Corinthians 7:1 says, *“Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**”* There is a desire to please, obey and honour God, and growth in sanctification is the result of a God-fearing man. Exercise unto godliness is a mark of someone who has a reverential awe and respect to God. Those who fear God are humble and they have no problem with submission to spiritual leadership. Ephesians 5:21 says, *“Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.”* A lot of problems are caused by pride and a lack of fear for God and for the Word of God.

Those who fear God will live their lives carefully and respectably keeping the commandments of God and be separate from the world (2 Cor 7:1). 1 Peter 1:17 says, *“And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.”* Solomon concludes his book of prudent advice to us in Ecclesiastes 12:13–14,

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

Those who fear God are conscious of their accountability to God and so they order their lives befitting of their calling and walk worthily before the Lord. We are soberly reminded that God is a sovereign Judge and will assess us one day before the judgment seat of Christ when eternal reward will be given out to faithful and deserving stewards.

In 1 Kings 18:3, 4, 12, Obadiah feared the Lord greatly and therefore he took the risk and hid the prophets of God and provided food for hundred of them in two caves. His fear of God led them to serve God with courage and strength, and God rewarded him. The healthy fear for God will lead us to do the right things for him to the benefit of others as well.

Conclusion

Those who fear God will strive to be patient and they will wait upon the Lord for His perfect timing. David feared God and did not take Saul's life into his hands (1 Sam 24:4–6). We are to walk daily in the fear of God (Col 3:22) and recognise that God alone is sovereign over all things. The believer's fear of God is not a negative morbid phobia but a practical and reverential one before the Almighty God, that affects our behaviour and conduct before Him and others. Cultivate the fear of God and grow in this vital aspect of Christian living. Learn to be like Abraham, Job, Cornelius and the saints of God who had a fear of God and hence served Him faithfully and reverentially.

The people, during the time of the judges, did what was right in their eyes because they had no fear for God. We must learn to grow in the fear and reverence of the Lord. Psalm 128:1 says, *“Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways”* and Isaiah 50:10 says, *“Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.”* The knowledge of God's Word and His character and the constant awareness of His presence and power will help us in the practice of the fear of God. Our whole duty is to fear Him and keep his commandments according to Solomon and that is our chief end in life as well. Let us do just that as we await the Lord's soon return and coming Judgement.

The Christian's Daily Remembrancer

by Ps. James Smith

15 October 2006

“He marvelled because of their unbelief” Mark 6:6

“IS NOT THIS THE CARPENTER, THE SON OF MARY?” In His own country they were offended at Him. Their unbelief filled Jesus with surprise. Does He also marvel at our unbelief? Consider what God had done to remove our doubt. He has shown His character, “God is love.” He has made a proclamation. “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” He has given an invitation, “Look unto me, and be ye saved.” He has employed entreaty, “As though God did beseech you by us, we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.” He has issued a command, “This is His commandment, that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ.” He has sworn an oath, “That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation.” He has given His Son as a pledge, to assure us that “whosoever believeth on Him shall never perish, but have eternal life.” He has added the testimony of all His saints. Well then may He marvel at our unbelief. Never let us attempt to excuse it, but let us plead and pray against it, until we conquer it.

O Lord, fulfil in me Thy word;

I thank Thee for Thy cleansing blood;

Let my request be given:

The seed of unbelief remove,

Instil me more faith and love,

And make me meet for heaven.

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Through every day the truth I prove,

Of Jesus my almighty Friend;

I’m kept by Him, His changeless love

Shall surely keep me to the end

# In Green Pastures Devotional Readings for Every Day of the Year

By J.R. Miller, D.D.

15 October 2006

## MORNING

**JAMES 5:8 “Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.”**

THE lesson of patience is not easy to learn, yet it is important that we should learn it. Impatience is the secret of many sad failures. Impatience is letting go when only by holding on can we succeed.

A man spent a fortune in drilling for oil. At last he got discouraged and sold his well for a trifle. The new owner started the drill, and in two hours found a great flow of oil. If the first man’s patience had held out those two hours, he would have found success.

Many people miss answers to their prayers by giving up a little too soon. Our lesson teaches us to be patient in waiting for blessing in our work.

The farmer sows his seed and waits for the harvest to come. Months pass, but his confidence in the laws of nature makes him patient, and at last he reaps his reward.

We have the promise of God for blessing upon those who will be faithful. We should never doubt, whatever the delays may be. Only those who are patient can get the blessing.

## EVENING

### **LIFE A STEWARDSHIP**

WE are not all apostles in the sense that St. Paul was; but to every one of us Christians Christ has given a solemn and sacred trust in our own salvation. We are to be true to Him in a world of sin and temptation. We are to be faithful to duty wherever we stand. We each have a mission which we must strive to fulfil. Are we keeping the faith, true to every sacred trust which God has placed in our hands? Are we taking care of the part of the vineyard assigned to us, and rendering of the fruits to Him who has committed it to our care? Not to fulfil our mission is soon to be left without a mission, dropped out, set aside, while others do our work and receive the honour and reward which would have been ours.

**WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON**  
**CHURCH THEME: STRIVING TO LIVE ABOVE OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS**  
**IN CHRIST (Ephesians 1:3)**

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am and 4.00 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.

| Worship Services                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                             |                                                               | WELCOME                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <b>Morning</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Today: 15/10/2006</b>                    | <b>Next Week: 22/10/2006</b>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We welcome P J Low and Keralyn to our worship service last week.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <i>Chairman:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Jonathan Kim                                | Seetoh Yoong Chiang                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Speaker:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Pr Mok Chee Cheong                          | Pr Mok Chee Cheong                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Message:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Christ's Intercessory Prayer for the Church | The Passion of Christ                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Text:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | John 17:1-26                                | John 18:1-19:16                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Organist:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Anthony                                     | Anthony                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Evening</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                             |                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Chairman:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Jeff Pun                                    | Alvin Chow                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Speaker:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Pr Mok Chee Cheong                          | Pr Mok Chee Cheong                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Message:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | The Fifth Commandment                       | The Sixth Commandment                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Text:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | WLC Questions 123-133                       | WLC Questions 134-136                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Pianist:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Feng Qian                                   | Anthony                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Other Duties                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                             |                                                               | NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Today</b>                                | <b>Next Week</b>                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New Life BPC Resource Centre:</b> For those who have borrowed books, etc. from the library, please return them by the end of October. The Centre will be undergoing updating of records Borrowing of books, etc. will be suspended until further notice.</li> <li>• <b>Family Worship:</b> We will be organising a family worship, taking place once every month. For those who would like to open up their homes as well as those who would like to participate in this ministry, please see Mok or Carol.</li> <li>• <b>Areas of Service:</b> For those who are interested to help in the post lunch washing-up, please see Jonathan.</li> <li>• <b>Meet the Task Force:</b> If you have any private matter that requires prayer, the Task Force members will be available to meet you between 2:30 to 3:00 pm every Sunday. This is on a first come, first serve basis.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">~~~~~</p> <p><b>A Thank you Note from Rev Jack Sin &amp; his wife, Angie</b></p> <p><i>Dear Pr. Mok &amp; members of the pro-tem committee and church members,</i></p> <p><i>We thank God for your kind and gracious hospitality and we are encouraged and richly blessed by the fellowship and zealous stewardship of the leaders and members.</i></p> <p><i>It is our sincere prayer that the Lord will continue to prosper and strengthen New Life BPC as a vibrant and strong reformed gospel centre in the heart of London to the saving of souls and the edifying of the saints. Keep in touch. Rom. 12:11-12.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jack &amp; Angie.</i></p> |
| <i>Ushers</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Jeff/Constance                              | Daniel/Sharon                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Sunday Sch:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Lyn                                         | Carol                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Lunch:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Maureen                                     | Lyn                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Washing-up:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | YAF Group 1                                 | YAF Group 2                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <i>Bible Study:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | DHW – Genesis 27                            | DHW – Genesis 28                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Appointments of the Week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                             |                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Fri 20 Oct                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7.00 pm                                     | <b>Young Adults Fellowship:</b><br>Spkr: Pr Mok               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sat 21 Oct                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4.00 pm                                     | <b>Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study:</b><br>Spkr/C'man: Alvin |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Last Week's Worship Service Collections                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                             |                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Offering:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | £578.95                                     | <b>Book Sales:</b> £20.00                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>YAF:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | £38.00                                      | <b>Lunch:</b> £42.50                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <h3 style="margin: 0;"><u>The Lord's Prayer</u></h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen</i></p> |                                             |                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |