



**NEW LIFE**

**BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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*"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev 1:9)*

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Vol. 10 No. 48

**LORD'S DAY 26 NOVEMBER 2006**

## **Does my worship please me or please God?**

*A letter received through our mail box from a Christian brother*

Dear Christian,

Please allow me to tell you what the Lord has told me. We were on holiday and went to the morning service at a Church in a town several miles from our holiday home. The service was an ordinary service, similar to most services that I have attended over the 60 years or so since I became a Christian.

When we came out we agreed that it was a pleasant service. We were made to feel welcome and felt pleased that we had found a Church service that we enjoyed.

However, 3 or 4 days later I was out for a stroll on my own and my thoughts turned to the service we had enjoyed. I was thinking how pleasant the meeting had been, when to my surprise, the Lord told me that the meeting that had pleased me had not pleased Him. This gave me quite a jolt and I started to ask the Lord what was wrong with the service, but as I started to ask the question it was as though curtains opened in my mind and clear as crystal I knew the answer before I had finished asking.

We hadn't really focused our minds on the Lord as we should, nor had we gone to worship the Lord as we should. We had just gone to attend a service. We should have come into the presence of GOD in awe and wonder. We should have felt shame for our sin and in the name of the LORD JESUS we should have asked HIM to forgive us our sin. We should have fixed our spiritual gaze on the LORD in all HIS power and glory. We should have given HIM our praise and thanks for all HIS love and grace to us HIS children.

We should have considered the greatness of GOD our Father. HE is the greatest "I AM", JEHOVAH, the only true GOD. The ALPHA and OMEGA, the CREATOR and SUSTAINER of the universe. HE is ALMIGHTY, ALL WISE, HOLY, JUST and MERCIFUL. He is LOVE and He loves us so much that He sent His SON to be our SAVIOUR. Yet we don't really love Him or try to worship Him as we should.

We should have thanked the LORD that the LORD JESUS CHRIST came down from heaven, became flesh and lived with people like us.

*Continued on Page 2...*

We should have considered the wonderful life of the LORD JESUS, His teaching, preaching, healing and all the miracles HE performed. Then, at the end of HIS life on earth, how HE “GOD THE SON” suffered before, during and after HIS arrest, trial and crucifixion. Sad to say, “we didn’t”. We should have considered the agony that HE suffered so that we, who deserve to suffer, will be spared suffering. We should have given heartfelt thanks that He died, that we will live forever with the LORD. But “we didn’t”.

We should have given thanks that we are Redeemed, Washed in the blood of the LAMB, the Children of GOD, “Born Again”, Pilgrims on the way to Heaven, but “we didn’t”. Nor did we thank the LORD that we receive vast numbers of blessings everyday and are incredibly rich. We should have thanked the LORD that we are on the narrow road that leads to Life and that we are no longer on the wide road that leads to destruction.

We should have thanked the LORD that we are indwelt by GOD’S HOLY SPIRIT. He is our Guide and our Comforter. He will lead us into all Truth and even teach us to worship the LORD as we should, in Spirit and in Truth. GOD uses us, weak and sinful as we are, in HIS service. All Christians are part of the Church of the LORD JESUS CHRIST (what a privilege). The simple Good News of the Gospel was not preached as it should have been. We didn’t really ask the LORD to help us to live our lives as we should in a way that is pleasing to HIM. We may have touched on some of these things in a hymn or a prayer or during the sermon, but we didn’t really focus on them as we should.

I realised that the service that pleased me, didn’t focus on the really important things that we should concentrate on, nor did we give the LORD our thanks and praise so that we pleased HIM. I also realised that, as far as I can remember, I have never attended a service that did, or even tried to, praise the LORD and worship HIM as we should. (Since first writing this letter in 1998 I have been to 1 meeting that was an attempt to worship the LORD). Therefore I doubt if the LORD is ever pleased with ordinary services that don’t really focus on HIM in a way that gives HIM real praise and worship.

I wonder how many Christians really set out to worship the LORD when they attend the LORD’S Day services and I wonder how often the simple Gospel is proclaimed. Are most of us cold hearted, shallow and irreverent?

I have discussed this matter with other Christians. Some have been in agreement, others have said things like “We wouldn’t have time for all that” or “It might put some people off”. I agree that it might put some people off and yes it will take some time. Better to use the time to please the LORD than go on as we are, pleasing ourselves!

Thank you for reading this letter. I would like to give every Christian a copy. Please pray about this matter, pass the letter around or run some off and give them out.

May the LORD bless you and use you in HIS service in a way that will please HIM.

Your brother in His service

Jim Hill

## ***Only One Thing Pained Chrysostom***

When the great Chrysostom was arrested by the Roman Emperor, the latter sought to make the Greek Christian recant, but without success. So the emperor discussed with his advisers what could be done to the prisoner. "Shall I put him in a dungeon?" the Emperor asked.

"No," one of his counsellors replied, "for he will be glad to go. He longs for the quietness wherein he can delight in the mercies of his God."

"Then he shall be executed!" said the Emperor.

"No," was the answer, "for he will also be glad to die. He declares that in the event of death he will be in the presence of his Lord."

"What shall we do then?" the ruler asked.

There is only one thing that will give Chrysostom pain," the counsellor said. "To cause Chrysostom to suffer, make him sin. He is afraid of nothing except sin."

- Baptist Standard

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### ***My Prayer***

O to be like Thee! lowly in spirit, Holy and harmless, tender and kind;

Helping the helpless, cheering the fainting,  
Seeking the wand'ring sinner to find.

O to be like Thee! Lord, I am coming, Now to receive th'anointing divine;

All that I am and have I am bringing, Lord, from this moment all shall be Thine.

O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!

Come in Thy sweetness, come in the fullness;  
Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

(Thomas O. Chisholm)

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

**By J.R. Miller, D.D.**

**26 November 2006**

### **MORNING**

**LUKE 19:3 "And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature."**

CHARLES Wagner, in one of his sermons in this country, preached about Zacchaeus. First, he said that Zacchaeus was so little that he could not see Christ, and had to get up a little higher so that he could look at Him. A good many people are like Zacchaeus. They are little and cannot see over people's heads, and must get up higher before they can get a good view of Jesus Christ. They must leave their worldliness, their selfishness, and their sin, so as to get faith's look from higher ground.

The second thing about Zacchaeus, Mr. Wagner said, was that he had to come down from his high place before he could receive Christ. There are people also in these days who are too high up and have to get to lower ground before they can take Christ into their hearts and lives. We have to leave our pride, our self-confidence, our self-esteem, our own works, and come in penitence, in humility, in entire dependence upon Christ, before we can take Him into our hearts and know Him as our Saviour and Friend.

### **EVENING**

#### **THE CHASTENING OF LOVE**

"WHOM the Lord loveth he chasteneth." So chastening is a mark of God's love, and also a seal of sonship, for He "scourgeth every son that he receiveth." No true father permits a child to grow up undisciplined, having its own way all the while, its life running unchecked into waywardness, wilfulness, and self-indulgence. The true father chastens. Mark, it is not punishment that God inflicts, but chastening. It is not anger or hatred that makes Him at times severe, denying the child's requests. It is love that leads Him to chasten. If we were not His children He would not trouble to chasten us. It is the fruitful branch the husbandman prunes to make it more fruitful; the unfruitful branch He cuts off and burns. It is the Father's child that He chastens.

**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
<b>Morning</b>	<b>Today: 26/11/2006</b>	<b>Next Week: 3/12/2006</b>	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day and a special welcome to Robert Ong & family and Laslio Alexi
<i>Chairman:</i>	John Poh	Jonathan Kim	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	
<i>Message:</i>	The Appearance of Christ	A Consecrated Life	
<i>Text:</i>	John 20:30-21:25	Romans 12:1-2	NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
<i>Organist:</i>	Anthony	Yanning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Evening Service:</b> Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC)  <b><i>Q. 149. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?</i></b>  <b><i>Q. 150. Are all transgressions of the law of God equally heinous in themselves, and in the sight of God?</i></b>  <b><i>Q. 151. What are those aggravations that make some sins more heinous than others?</i></b>                      Do stay back and find out the answers from the Word of God.</li> <li>• <b>Areas of Service:</b> For those who are interested to help in the kitchen ministry, Pre-worship singing, musicians, or post lunch washing-up and Library, please see Jonathan/Mok.</li> <li>• <b>Family Worship:</b> We thank God for the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting we had at Sis. Sonia home on 21 Nov 06 at 7:30 PM. The next meeting will be in Dec 06. Those who like to open their home for worship can contact Mok.</li> <li>• <b>RPG for Jan – Mar 2007</b> is ready for your collection at the book table. Please help yourself to as many copies as your need.</li> </ul>
<b>Evening</b>			
<i>Chairman:</i>	Alvin Chow	Jeff Pun	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	
<i>Message:</i>	Summary of the Decalogue	Our Lost Condition	
<i>Text:</i>	WLC Questions 100-148	WLC Questions 149-151	
<i>Pianist:</i>	Feng Qian	Anthony	
Other Duties			
	<b>Today</b>	<b>Next Week</b>	
<i>Ushers</i>	Wah Soon / Sharon Chan	Daniel / Joyce	
<i>Sunday Sch:</i>	Yanning	Yanning	
<i>Lunch:</i>	Constance	Maureen	
<i>Washing-up:</i>	Prema / Yetta	YAF Group 2/Volunteers	
<i>Bible Study:</i>	Video	Video	
Appointments of the Week			
Fri 1 Dec	7.00 pm	<b>Young Adults Fellowship:</b> BS Leader: Ezi	
Sat 2 Dec	4.00 pm	<b>Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study:</b> Spkr/C'man: Pr Mok	
Last Week's Worship Service Collections			
<b>Offering: £214.75</b>	<b>YAF: £20.16</b>	<b>Lunch: £24.80</b>	



1<sup>st</sup> Family Worship held on 21 Nov 2006