



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. 14 No. 6

LORD’S DAY 07 FEBRUARY 2010

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Romans 5:1-8	Psalm 99:1-5, 9
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 95 – “My Saviour’s Love”	RHC 25 – “The Lord Is King”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Joey Seow	Joey Seow
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 6	Galatians 3:6-11
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 6 version 2, verses 1-9</i> (to the tune of Vox Dilecti, RHC 298)	RHC 70 – “Jesus I Am Resting”
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Joey Seow	Joey Seow
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 558 – “We Plough the Fields”	---
<i>Scriptural Reading</i>	Matthew 5:1-12	Hebrews 11:12-16
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Beatitudes - Part 3</i>	<i>Abraham & Sarah’s Faith</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 38 – “As Pant the Hart for Cooling Streams”	RHC 379 – “O for a Faith That Will Not Shrink”
<i>Benediction / 3-Fold Amen *</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</i>	<i>RHC 80 (stanzas 1 & 5)</i>

* Congregation Stands

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.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, 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.

Church Theme 2010 – “Believers Built in Christ”

WORSHIP PART 5

Having discussed manners and objects of worship, I now need to talk about the third out of the eleven guidelines of worship, based on the occurrences of the word, *worship*, in the Bible. Though it is a biblical topic, I feel it is difficult to talk about offering. It is because apart from its spiritual meaning and implication, it is after all talking about finance. There have been lots of negative stories about church offerings. I have read stories about ministers accused of embezzling church funds. Some churches use offering to fund church lotteries. Some churches have built multimillion dollars mega businesses through offering. TV evangelists have often and quite frequently begged for money with all kinds of reasons and excuses. Thus, talking about church offering has given bad feelings to the people who have to hear it. Despite all these bad examples and stories related to church offering, I cannot but talk about it because it is an important part of biblical worship. It is my duty to teach you from the whole counsel of God, not just a part of it.

Third, worship includes offering to God.

Offering is a part of worship. Let me give you some Biblical examples and discuss various aspects of offerings. Deuteronomy 26:10, "And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land, which thou, O LORD, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the LORD thy God, and worship before the LORD thy God." Offering is an act that recognizes God as the giver of all. 1 Chronicles 16:29 says, "Give unto the LORD the glory *due* unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness" [cf. 1 Chron. 29:20]. Matthew 2:11, "And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." The importance of offering is found in its frequent occurrences in the Bible.

Firstly, let me begin with the kinds of offering: (1) burnt offering (Leviticus 1:4, 7); (2) drink offering (Leviticus 23:13, 18); (3) free will offering (Deuteronomy 22:17-25; 16:10; 23:23); (4) heave offering (Leviticus 10:14; Numbers 5:9); (5) meat offering (Leviticus 2); (6) peace offering (Leviticus 7:11-15); (7) sin offering (Leviticus 4); (8) thanksgiving offering (Leviticus 7:11-15; 22:29); (9) trespass offering (Leviticus 5); (10) voluntary (vow) offering (Leviticus 7:16-17; 22:17-25); (11) wave offering (Leviticus 7:29-34; 8:25-29), and (12) tithing (Leviticus 27:30; Deuteronomy 14:22; 26:12; 27:30-34; 2 Chronicles 31:5-12). If I analyze each and every one of them, I am sure that I'll get more items added to the list.

Secondly, the meticulous nature of each offering/sacrifice should not be ignored. For example, during the Old Testament era, (1) all animal sacrifices had to be eight days old or more (Leviticus 22:27); (2) sometimes offerings sacrificed had to be salted (Leviticus 2:13), and accompanied with leaven (Leviticus 7:13) or without leaven (Exodus 23:18; 34:25; Leviticus 2:4, 11); or (3) sometimes they were accompanied with other sacrifices (Numbers 15:3-16). These detailed prescriptions for offerings/sacrifices indicate that God cares about the kinds and ways of offerings.

Thirdly, God prescribed how to dispose of the sacrifices: (1) Sometimes the priests had to eat them (Leviticus 7:1-18); (2) Sometimes parts of them were given to the priests' families (Leviticus 10:14; Numbers 5:9); (3) sometimes the sacrifices had to be eaten in the holy place (Leviticus 10:13; Numbers 18:9-10); or (4) sometimes they were given to the priests (Leviticus 7:31, 34; 8:29; Nehemiah 10:38; Numbers 18:21).

Fourthly, God also prescribed the ways to offer sacrifices (Leviticus 1-7). I must say that all these biblical materials are not exhaustive at all. These are only a fragment of vast teaching materials about offerings and sacrifices from the Bible. If there is any point I need to bring to your attention, it is that offerings are not to be given casually. Even offerings had to be brought to God's presence with His ways and His terms.

There are also various reasons and manners to present our offerings to the Lord. (1) Offerings are also the means God uses to bless His people (Malachi 3:8, 10). Such thought will remove the wrong notion of offering that it is only a sacrifice on our part. God uses our devotion to Him as a means to meet our needs. Luke 6:38, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." (2) God loves the willing givers (Exodus 35:22). It is because the heart is always before the offering. 2 Corinthians 8:12, "For if there be first a willing mind, *it is* accepted according to that a man hath, *and* not according to that he hath not." (3) Cheerful givers please the Lord (2 Corinthians 9:7). (4) Giving is according to the giver's abilities (2 Corinthians 8:12). (5) People gave in order to build the tabernacle in the wilderness (Exodus 35:22) or the temple in Jerusalem (Ezra 2:68-69). Likewise, we give for the ministry of the church not only for building projects but also for home and foreign missions. (6) The priests and Levites lived with the tithes from the congregation (Numbers 18:26; 1 Corinthians 9:13-14; 1 Timothy 5:17-18). It teaches us that offerings are to be used to support the ministers and Church workers. (7) Offerings are also given to help the poor and the suffering (Leviticus 19:9-10; Mark 12:41-44; Matthew 6:1-4). The Corinthians believers gave despite their poverty (2 Corinthians 8:2). (8) There has to be heart preparations before offering (1 Corinthians 16:2). (9) Offering is one of the means with which we may honour the Lord. Proverbs 3:9 says, "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase." (10) To give offering is a believers' duty. Luke 11:42 (cf. Matthew 23:23; Luke 18:12), "But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." (11) Offering without faith is meaningless (Psalm 50:7-12). Withholding offering because of money is sinful. 1 Timothy 6:10, "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." Here I must caution you that our duty to God does not cancel our duty towards man. For example, neglecting our parents with the pretext that we are giving all we have to God. Jesus warned such practice in Mark 7:9-13, "And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. ¹⁰ For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: ¹¹ But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, *It is* Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; *he shall be free.* ¹² And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; ¹³ Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye." Let us remember that offering is not simply giving. But it is an expression of our faith and a part of our worship. God requires His people to bring offerings to Him according to the ways and manners He had prescribed.

Lovingly,

Your Pastor

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

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.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK			WELCOME		
Fri 12 February	7:30pm	Young Adults Fellowship: BJU: Old Testament Messages	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Agatha Daniels, Abigail & Daniella to our worship services last Lord's Day.		
Sat 13 February	4:00pm	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Led by John Poh			
<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i>	<i>Evening Service</i>	LORD'S DAY DUTIES		
Preacher	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki	Today: 07/02/2010		
Message	Beatitudes - Part 4	Abraham's Faith – Part 4	Chairman: Joey Seow		
Text	Matthew 5:3-12	Hebrews 11:17-18	Organist: Anthony		
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Grace		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Resident Minister: Thank God for the safe arrival of Pastor & Mrs Ki's shipment from Australia. • Saturday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Come and join us every Saturday to pray and study God's Word. Pastor Ki is leading a series of studies based on the Shorter Catechism. • DHW Bible Study: Today, we will cover Lesson 36 (Gen 46 & 47). There will be no DHW Bible Study next week. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas (knee pain), Barbara (Alzheimer's), Prema (thyroid & skin condition), Eld Jack Ford (old age and knees), Margaret (asthma), Eld Chew (recovery from shoulder injury), Dr Tow (recovery from cataract surgery) • Pray for those who are/will be travelling: Nicolas (Belgium), Margaret (US), Samuel (Aust), Eka & Family (Nigeria), Joey & family (S'pore), Jonathan (M'sia) • Pray for those seeking employment/new opportunities: Joy, Yetta • Chinese New Year Carry In Lunch: Please see Daniel or Maureen if you would like to prepare some food to bring in next week. 			Ushers: Jonathan / Evelyn		
			Sunday School: -		
			Lunch: Joshua		
			Washing Up: Volunteers		
			PA Crew: Brian		
			Next Week: 14/02/2010		
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £578.20, Lunch: £45.50</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Attendance - Morning: 35 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 21 (A) 2 (C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Meeting (06/02): 9 (A)</p>			Chairman: John Poh		
			Organist: Joy		
			Pianist: Anthony		
			Ushers: Daniel / Sharon		
			Sunday School: -		
			Lunch: Carry In		
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 6			Washing Up: Volunteers		
<p>Q: How many persons are there in the Godhead?</p> <p><i>A: There are <u>three</u> persons in the Godhead – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are <u>one</u> God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.</i></p> <p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>The Bible tells us that the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. And yet it tells us that these three persons form only <i>one</i> God, exist and act together as one, and must be honoured and worshipped alike. This is a subject on which we know nothing except what is revealed.</p> <p><u>Proofs:</u></p> <p>Matthew 28:19, Deuteronomy 6:4</p>			PA Crew: Lee-Wei		
			MEMORY VERSE		
			Last Week		
			<i>“Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.”</i>		
			1 Timothy 2:6		
			This Week		
<i>“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”</i>					
1 Corinthians 3:11					
Next Week					
<i>“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”</i>					
Romans 5:8					