



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. 50

LORD’S DAY 12 DECEMBER 2010

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Prelude

Call to Worship

Psalm 36:5–9

Matthew 1:18–25

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 36 – “High in the Heavens, Eternal God”

RHC 141 – “That Beautiful Name”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 49

Hebrews 1

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 49, verses 1-9, 16-20
(to the tune of Bethlehem, RHC 251)

RHC 113 – “It Is Glory Just to Walk with Him”

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 58 – “The Great Physician”

Scriptural Text

Matthew 8:5-17

Colossians 1:15–23

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Timothy Ki

Eld George Chew

Sermon Message

Christ’s Healing Ministry – Part 1

The Pre-Eminence of Jesus Christ

Lord’s Supper

Rev Timothy Ki

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 187 – “It Is A Thing Most Wonderful”

RHC 62 – “All Glory to Jesus”

*Benediction / 3-Fold Amen **

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

RHC 13 (stanzas 1 & 4)

* 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”

BIBLICAL PRAYER – PART 5

We'll continue to consider a couple more points from 1 Kings 8:30, "And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive." (e) Solomon's prayer is firmly established on his theology. We know it from the fact that he asks the Lord to answer his and his people's prayers. It tells us about the living God. God is not a dead idol made with the hands of men. He answers because He is able to hear. Additionally, His ability to answer our prayers tells us much about both God's knowledge and power. He understands what we ask Him and is able to bring us what we have asked for. Thus, our prayer has to be intelligent, and our trust is in the intelligent God. It indicates that our prayer is not a simple ritual that requires meaningless and thoughtless repetitions. (f) Prayer also presupposes a relationship between God and the ones who are praying to Him. Solomon asks the Lord to hear the prayers of His servant and His people. It means that prayer is a privilege not belonging to everyone but only to those who are called to be His people. In this prayer, Solomon confesses that God's people are praying people. (g) The Temple was important to Jewish prayer life. Thus, Solomon says that his people pray toward the Temple. There are two reasons behind this thought: one, the purpose of the Temple (tabernacle) was for God to meet His people. We must remember that there was the Ark of Covenant, which represented the presence of God; two, Solomon was quick to say that God would hear His people's prayers in heaven, God's dwelling place. (h) Prayer is also mentioned as supplications. Supplication means seeking, asking, or entreating. And it also means favor, grace, or need. (i) The needed forgiveness may be granted through our prayers of repentance. It tells us that, one, God is the one who forgives; and, two, our supplication must include the petition for the forgiveness of our sins. It also indicates that prayer is a means of examining our own hearts before God. At the same time, through prayer, we are reminded who we are and who God is.

(2) 1 Kings 8:33-34 says, "When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house. 34 Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers." (cf. 2 Chronicles 6:24). It specifies even more sin and forgiveness issues in relation to prayer. (a) The consequences of sin often are motivations for God's people to pray. Solomon suggests that the sin of his people may result in defeat before their enemies. However, though defeats in battles are bitter experiences, the people of God may remember God and return to Him during the times of their troubles. Thus, sorrows, trials, and failures are negative means for the restoration of God's fallen people. Therefore, when we are stricken by suffering and trials because of our wrongs, we must be reminded of the importance of prayer. (b) The focus is always on God. We may pray for various reasons. However, there is only one focus in our prayers. It is God, Him alone. Prayer is not a time to demand or fight with God in order to make God surrender to our will, but a time to surrender our will to Him and to give our first love to Him again. (c) The return to God through prayer includes the confession of Him. The word, confess, may mean to profess Him openly and publicly, or to praise Him. (d) Prayer is also an opportunity to make supplications to Him in times of need. The Hebrew word for "to make supplication" means "to plead for grace" or "pity." Then, prayer is a means God uses to grant His grace upon His people. (e) Sincere prayer also expects God's divine forgiveness. Thus, prayer is a true recognition of God's sovereignty over us (He is the one who can grant our forgiveness) and His perfect attributes (He has holiness to examine us and love to pardon our sins).

(3) 1 Kings 8:35-36 says, "When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them. 36 Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance." (cf. 2 Chronicles 6:26). There are a few recognitions of God in our prayers. (a) When there are natural disasters, we need to pray. We must not misunderstand that all natural disasters are the results of our sinning against God. However, there are times when God uses nature in order to teach lessons to His people. Solomon prays for the times of droughts. 65% of the average rainfall in Israel comes within three months from December to February. Israel has not been known for its abundance of rainfall. As we know, water is a main source of life, and it is necessary for the growth of a country and its economy. It is worthy to note that God chose such a land for His people and that He used rain or drought as means to deal with His people. In a way, the climate and condition of the land contributed towards the people's spiritual life having to depend on God. However, despite all these circumstantial provisions for their spiritual alliance to God, they often departed from God and followed other gods. Solomon acknowledges that God may use rain and drought cards to turn the hearts of His people. When we face something that is beyond our control, maybe it is a strong indication that God wants us to pray. Or, at least we may have reasons to pray. Are we in trouble? Let us pray. God wants us to learn that we are not the master of our beings but He. (b) Sin problems and the necessity of prayer are inter-related. Solomon suggests that afflictions may come upon us because of sin, which causes us to pray, through which God forgives and provides our necessities. When we pray with sin in our heart, God may not hear our prayers. However, when we acknowledge our sins and pray, He hears our prayers and forgives us. (c) Prayer includes confession of the name of the Lord and turning from our sins. They are two sides of prayer. Calling upon the name of the Lord must come together with the spirit of repentance. Thus, prayer is an effective tool to control our flesh and its power and to turn our hearts to God. It is almost like saying that there is no prayerless saint and we cannot be sanctified without sanctifying prayers. (d) The last part of the verse also tells us that God uses afflictions to encourage us to pray. Therefore, it is neither strange nor shameful for us to pray in times of need. Rather it is a privilege to pray in such times. (e) Prayer is also a time to learn God's ways. Solomon prays in verse 36 that the Lord would teach His people good ways in which they should walk. If the Biblical and theological studies will lead us to good ways, prayer surely will teach us to find them and to do them by the grace of God. Prayer is essential to the people who desire to walk right.

(4) 1 Kings 8:38 says, "What prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house." There are two things we need to consider. (a) Everyone is equal before God in prayer. Anyone who trusts in God is privileged to come to the Lord in prayer. (b) Prayer is a soul searching time and also a spiritually agonizing experience over the plague found in our hearts. The Hebrew word for plague has different meanings such as disease, affliction, mark, or stroke. It is also noteworthy that this word refers to skin disease described as leprosy in Leviticus 13. It indicates that this is a heart condition in which uncleanness is found. However, God wants us to use such treacherous conditions to come to Him. It is an irony to have such a call from the Holy God. Then, who will not say that God is the God of mercies? Who will say that prayer is burdensome?

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 17 December	No YAF meeting		We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day.	
Sat 18 December	No Prayer Meeting & Bible Study			
<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: 12/12/2010	
Message	Fulfilment of Messianic Prophecy	Abraham and God's Covenant	Chairman:	Jonathan
Text	Matthew 8:14-17	Genesis 12-15	Organist:	Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist:	Joy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Saturday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study till the New Year. • Sunday Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Today, Pastor Ki will continue the series of studies on "The Doctrine of Church." • Remember to pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Eld Ford, Lydia, Margaret, May, Mrs Ki, Jonathan. • Remember to pray for those who are/will be travelling: Yetta (S. Africa), Joey & Family (Florida), Lee Wei (S'pore), Vera (Hong Kong), Weifeng, Waiyee & Matthew (France) • Thank God for journey mercies: Ps Ki & Samuel (Germany to UK) • Christmas Service (25/12 @ 11am): Join us for the Christmas Service. Do invite family and friends as well. • Christmas Lunch (25/12): Pastor Ki and family would like to invite you to join them for Christmas Lunch after the worship service. 			Ushers:	Daniel / John
			Sunday School:	Jonathan / Joy
			Lunch:	Mrs Ki
			Washing Up:	Volunteers
			PA Crew:	Lee Wei
			Next Week: 19/12/2010	
			Chairman:	Jonathan
			Organist:	Anthony
			Pianist:	Joy
			Ushers:	Daniel / John
Sunday School:	Jonathan / Joy			
Lunch:	Maureen			
Washing Up:	Volunteers			
PA Crew:	Brian			
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £2033.64, Lunch: £67.50			MEMORY VERSE	
Attendance - Morning: 36 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 23 (A) 2 (C)			Last Week	
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 50			<i>"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."</i>	
Q: What is required in the Second Commandment?			Romans 8:26	
<i>A: The Second Commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, <u>all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in his Word.</u></i>			This Week	
Comments:			<i>"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God."</i>	
This commandment bids us: 1. Adopt the way of worshipping God appointed by himself; 2. Adhere to it; 3. Not add to it; 4. Nor take from it. There must be no will-worship.			Romans 8:27	
Proofs:			Next Week	
Matthew 28:20, Deuteronomy 12:2			<i>"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."</i>	
			Romans 8:28	