



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. 15 No. 41

LORD’S DAY 09 OCTOBER 2011

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> | Isaiah 66:22-23 | Psalm 92:1-4 |
| <i>Opening Hymn *</i> | RHC 82 – <i>“This Day at Thy Creating Word”</i> | RHC 81 – <i>“Lord of the Sabbath”</i> |
| <i>Opening Prayer *</i> | Jonathan Kim | Jonathan Kim |
| <i>Gloria Patri *</i> | <i>Glory Be to the Father</i> | |
| <i>Responsive Reading</i> | Psalm 91 | 1 Peter 2 |
| <i>Second Hymn *</i> | RHC 347 – <i>“Under the Care of My God, The Almighty”</i> | RHC 376 – <i>“O to Be Like Thee!”</i> |
| <i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i> | Jonathan Kim | Jonathan Kim |
| <i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i> | RHC 128 – <i>“His Yoke is Easy”</i> | --- |
| <i>Scriptural Text</i> | Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 | Exodus 20:13 |
| <i>Pastoral Prayer</i> | Rev Timothy Ki | Rev Timothy Ki |
| <i>Sermon Message</i> | <i>Grace and Means of Salvation</i> | <i>The Sixth Commandment – War and Words</i> |
| <i>Baptism Service</i> | Baptism of Alan & Naomi Blaney | --- |
| <i>Baptism Hymn</i> | RHC 419 – <i>“Take My Life and Let it Be”</i> | --- |
| <i>Lord’s Supper</i> | Rev Timothy Ki | --- |
| <i>Closing Hymn *</i> | RHC 189 – <i>“I Know a Fount”</i> | RHC 385 – <i>“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”</i> |
| <i>Benediction / 3-Fold Amen *</i> | Rev Timothy Ki | Rev Timothy Ki |
| <i>Postlude</i> | <i>The Lord Bless You</i> | <i>Lord Dismiss Us (stanzas 1 & 4)</i> |

* Congregation Stands

Church Theme 2011 – “Continue in the Word” – 2 Timothy 3:14

BIBLICAL PRAYER – PART 36

Romans 16 has a few verses we may consider for Paul's prayers. The first one is from Romans 16:20b, ". . . The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen." This prayer is repeated in verse 24, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen." In Paul's mind, these precious words had to be repeated, as if it could not be mentioned too often. From these verses, we may find our next point.

Tenth, Paul prayed for the peace of the church in Rome. In order to understand why Paul recorded a prayer for peace, we need to have a quick glean over the previous verses. Romans 16:17-19, "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. ¹⁸ For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. ¹⁹ For your obedience is come abroad unto all *men*. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil."

(1) We need to notice that there are dangers of divisions and internal conflicts in local churches. (a) Paul speaks to the Roman Christians to mark those who cause such problems. The Greek word for "mark," also means "to look out," "notice," "keep one's eyes on," or "consider." It means that Paul prays for their spiritual discernment. It also means that he prays for their spiritual knowledge, and vigilance in watching and examining situations for potential divisions and conflicts. Surely all of them are good reasons that Paul has to pray for them. Likewise, we should pray for spiritual wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ. Paul prays for the Ephesian church in Ephesians 1:18a, "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened." (b) Paul brings their attention to the problems of divisions and offenses. Divisions are dissensions, and offenses refer to trap, temptation to sin or enticement, anything that causes offense, or fault. Paul prays for church unity without suffering divisions and hindrances. Likewise, we need to pray for harmonious and united hearts of the people in church. There are 16 occurrences of "one accord" in 14 verses in the KJV. The book of Acts has 13 occurrences, which shows the importance of church unity. Philippians 2:2 also exhorts the believers to be one: "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind." (c) Paul urges them to know the ones who cause divisions and offenses. Such people should not be given freedom to do anything whatever they want to do in church. Especially, if what they are doing brings divisions and conflicts, they must be stopped. They should be watched carefully. (d) Primary attention must especially be given to any conflicting views on the doctrines. Paul tells them that they must stick to the doctrines they have learnt and take notice of those who bring different teachings into their church. Paul even says that such people should be shunned. It must be a part of church discipline, which is necessary for church unity.

(2) We need to be awake so as not to fall into spiritual deceptions. There are people who are trying to deceive even the believers. (a) We must pray because of the danger of deception. As Paul says in verse 18, they use smooth talks to deceive the simple minded people. Probably, Paul is talking about the dangers of the people who do not use their minds to make discernments. They are naïve to believe in everything. However, we must test the spirits, and we must test the teachings of the people in the light of the Bible. We must not be deceived by smooth and flattering speeches. (b) We must be aware that there are people, even in churches, who do not serve Christ, though they act and talk as if they are genuine servants of the Lord. They are, in fact, serving themselves. Again, it requires us to have spiritual discernment to know who they are. For such knowledge, we need to pray. (3) We need to be obedient to the Lord. (4) We must be wise to what is good, and clean and pure to what is evil.

(5) When we come to verse 20, we must become even more serious. “And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.” It seems that Paul sees all those dangers related to the work of Satan. When Satan works in church, they destroy peace and unity. They cause divisions and conflicts. It is also worth noting that Satan must be the one that instigates the people who cause divisions and offenses. However, the God of peace will destroy him.

Having known all these lessons in the above, we now understand why Paul prays a prayer in verses 20 and 24. Charles Hodge says in his commentary on Romans: “As evils produced by the false teachers were divisions and scandals, the apostle, in giving them the assurance of the effectual aid of God, calls Him the *God of peace*, *i.e.*, God who is the author of peace in the comprehensive scriptural sense of that term. Shall bruise is not a prayer, but a consolatory declaration that Satan should be trodden under foot. As Satan is constantly represented as ‘working in the children of disobedience,’ the evil done by them is sometimes referred to him as the instigator, and sometimes to the immediate agents who are his willing instruments. *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you*. This is a prayer for the favour and aid of Christ, and of course is an act of worship, and a recognition of the Saviour’s divinity.” The enemies of the church will continue to harass her with various means in order to bring more divisions and conflicts against her, till the Lord comes again. However, God will crush Satan. Also, here is Paul’s effective prayer: “the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all, Amen.” What a prayer it surely is! It may edify us, if we read a small quotation from John Brown of Wamphray (1610-1679) in his commentary on Romans: “All the victories that the church getteth over her enemies is wrought by him who loveth and commendeth peace, as the only author thereof: and whenever the church is rent and divided by the cunning craftiness of seducing spirits, the God of the church, who is the author of peace, should be looked to, and earnestly called upon to still the roaring waves of trouble and visions. . . . However, the children of God, when wrestling against trouble, and the molestation caused by adversities, think the time they remain in that condition long, yet in end it will prove but short, and all the troubles of the church of God will soon be at an end, and the time of the trouble will seem but very short and momentary, when eternity shall dawn; he shall tread Satan under your feet shortly: then shall the church get the upperhand, and her feet upon the neck of all her adversaries, and of Satan their chieftain. Ministers should be praying and wishing for the best things unto their people, and that not in superficial complementing way, but in reality and truth; thus Paul wisheth unto them, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ;’ and so doth he in the end of his epistle. The grace of God is a most comprehensive thing, taking in the favour and good-will of God, with all the noble effects thereof spiritual and temporal: the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. This favour and good-will of a reconciled God, and all the graces of his Spirit which flow therefore, are all purchased by the merits of precious Jesus and so it is the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our prayers and wishes ought to be hearty, flowing from strong and real affection, and so grounded, as we may with confidence close with Amen, as pointing out our strong desire, and assurance to be heard.” It is more than right for us to pray for the peace of our church. Such thoughts are even more strengthened by careful observations of many conflicts within so many churches. When the causes of all troubles are people who bring teachings contrary to what we have learnt, we are all the more urged to pray for the peace of God’s churches.

Eleventh, Paul ends the book of Romans with benediction and doxologies. Romans 16:27, “To God only wise, *be* glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.” A quite similar form of doxology is also used in Romans 11:36, “For of him, and through him, and to him, *are* all things: to whom *be* glory for ever. Amen.” The transcendent worth of God is endless.

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 14 Oct | 7:30pm | Young Adults Fellowship Bible Study on Philippians | We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. |
| Sat 15 Oct | 4:00pm | Prayer Meeting & Bible Study | |
| Next Lord's Day | Morning Service | Evening Service | LORD'S DAY DUTIES |
| Preacher | Rev Timothy Ki | Rev Timothy Ki | <u>TODAY: 09/10/2011</u> |
| Message | Parable of the Sower | The Sixth Commandment | Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Joy |
| Text | Matthew 13:1-23 | Exodus 20:13 | Ushers: John / Yetta Sunday School: Hannah / Joy Lunch: Mrs Ki Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Brian |
| NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS | | | <u>NEXT WEEK: 16/10/2011</u> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Pastor Ki will continue the series of studies on "The Doctrine of the Church." • Saturday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Come and join us to pray and to study God's Word. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Eld Ford, Lydia, Margaret, May Chew, Brian, Mrs Ki, Constance, Deborah Sherwood, Jonathan's father. • Pray for those who are/will be on travel: Sonia, Constance, Elisabeth, Mrs Ki, Mr & Mrs Carreño, Yeo Family. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. | | | Chairman: John Organist: Anthony Pianist: Joy Ushers: Daniel / Yetta Sunday School: Jonathan / Joy Lunch: Constance Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Lee Wei |
| Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1583.06, Lunch: £71.20 Attendance - Morning: 36 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 27 (A) 4 (C) | | | MEMORY VERSE |
| SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 93 | | | Last Week |
| Q: Which are the sacraments of the New Testament? A: The sacraments of the New Testament are, <u>Baptism</u>, and the <u>Lord's Supper</u>. | | | <i>"Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."</i> Psalm 46:3 |
| Comments: The two sacraments of the Old Testament were Circumcision and the Passover. The two sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These sacraments answer the one to the other – Baptism coming in place of Circumcision, and the Lord's Supper in place of the Passover. They teach likewise the same truths – Circumcision and Baptism teaching the necessity of being <i>born again</i> , and the Passover and the Lord's Supper teaching the necessity of a <i>sacrifice for sin</i> . | | | This Week <i>"There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High."</i> Psalm 46:4 |
| Proofs: Matthew 28:19, Matthew 26:26 | | | Next Week <i>"God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early."</i> Psalm 46:5 |