



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. 34

LORD’S DAY 21 AUGUST 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>	Psalm 66:1-4	Psalm 95:1-3
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 6 – “ <i>The Spacious Firmament on High</i> ”	RHC 75 – “ <i>Come, Christian, Join to Sing</i> ”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 84	Deuteronomy 5:16-22
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 84 verses 1-2, 7-12</i> (to the tune of Kilmarnock, RHC 561)	RHC 385 – “ <i>May the Mind of Christ, My Saviour</i> ”
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 183 – “ <i>Jesus Paid It All</i> ”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Hebrews 6:1-8	Exodus 20:13
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Unpardonable Sin – Part 3</i>	<i>The Sixth Commandment – Euthanasia</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 328 – “ <i>How Firm A Foundation</i> ”	RHC 311 – “ <i>Does Jesus Care?</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

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

BIBLICAL PRAYER – PART 33

Martin Lloyd Jones was an eloquent and knowledgeable preacher. However, he was also a man of prayer. His prayer life is a good example to us. The following is what he had to say about his personal prayer life: “This I regard as the most important of all — always respond to every impulse to pray. The impulse to pray may come when you are reading or when you are battling with a text. I would make an absolute law of this — always obey such an impulse. Where does it come from? It is the work of the Holy Spirit. This often leads to some of the most remarkable experiences in the life of the minister. So never resist, never postpone it, never push it aside because you are busy. Give yourself to it, yield to it; and you will find not only that you have not been wasting time with respect to the matter with which you are dealing, but that actually it has helped you greatly in that respect. You will experience an ease and a facility in understanding what you were reading, in thinking, in ordering matter for a sermon, in writing, in everything, which is quite astonishing. Such a call to prayer must never be regarded as a distraction; always respond to it immediately, and thank God if it happens to you frequently.” I’ll continue from the book of Romans. Before we move into 1:10, there is one more lesson we need to learn from 1:9. We must remember that Paul reached many souls with his preaching and he also reached my soul with his prayers. Are we praying? Then, whom are we praying for?

Fourth, Paul prayed for specifics in Romans 1:10, “Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.” Paul wanted to visit Rome, but it must not be according to his will but the will of God. (1) Before I deal with Paul’s specific prayer item, I must point out that there is a Greek word, not fully shown in our translation. The first word of 1:10 in the Greek Bible is “always.” There is one more occurrence of “always” in verse 9, but its Greek word is different from the one we find in verse 10. The word in verse 9 means “unceasingly,” or “constantly,” while the word in verse 10 means “always,” or “at all times.” I am not trying to find any different senses from the two Greek words. What I can see here is that Paul wanted to tell his readers about his fervent and eager prayers for them by employing those two words. F. F. Bruce also says that Paul “specifies one of the ways in which unceasing mention is exemplified; namely, that in his prayers he makes request to God in reference to a particular desire directly concerned with the believer at Rome” (*The Epistle to the Romans*, 21). (2) Paul was praying for a very specific desire in this verse. He wanted to visit the believers in Rome. He did make it very clear what he really wanted to do, for which he prayed to God. (3) At the same time, we must also know that the reason that he was praying for this particular matter was not because he was very sure of God’s will but, rather, because he was not very sure of His will. Thus, he uses expressions like “prosperous journey” or “by the will of God.” (4) Paul was praying for his prosperous journey to Rome with a heart desire that it might be God’s providential will. Thus, he was searching for the will of God, while praying. There was no push to God but pleas to Him. It is a clear indication that prayer is one of the ways to find the will of God. (5) It is important for us to recognize that not all holy desires we may have are in the will of God. God may have different timings for the fulfilment of our hearts desires. Or, it is possible that God prepares our hearts to pray for such matters and raises others to fulfil them. Isn’t it true that it was David who desired to build the Temple for God but it was Solomon who eventually built it? What we must do while praying is not press ourselves to do the things we have desired regardless of their glorious and wonderful nature, we must be always willing to submit ourselves to the will of God. Paul in this prayer emphasizes on the importance of the will of God. (6) Paul wanted to visit Rome even before the time of this prayer, but the Lord had not granted his desire to be fulfilled yet. Romans 1:13 says, “Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.” It must give us a lesson not to be discouraged when God’s answers appear to be delayed.

At the same time, it must give us an encouragement to pray continually, though we may not receive any immediate confirmation. Paul had learnt to desire to come to Rome only “in the way and at the time God chooses” (Leon Morris, *Epistle to the Romans*, 59]. (7) Unfulfilled desires or not-yet-answered prayers encouraged him even to pray more. His desire was intensified to the extent that he was praying for the believers in Rome without ceasing. (8) Did God answer Paul’s prayers? The answer is positive. However, we may be more interested in how God answered his prayers. Paul prayed for “prosperous journey” in verse 11. This particular Greek word may mean two things: prosperous journey as it says or Paul’s coming to Rome finally. We all know that Paul came to Rome by means of a treacherous journey. There was a storm at sea and the people in the boat were almost drowned, unless there was God’s intervention. Despite difficulties, he was able to make this trip.

Fifth, Paul had reasons why he prayed. A reason is mentioned in Romans 1:11, “For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established.” (1) There was a longing heart. He had a strong desire to see the believers in Rome. Paul knew that it had to be God’s will and His work, if he were to have any opportunity to visit the city. With a sincere and strong desire to see the people in Rome, he prayed. (2) However, we must know that it was not just for selfish reasons that he wanted to see the believers in the city. He wanted to impart some spiritual gifts on them. His prayer for the visit was, in fact, for them and their benefit. Many Charismatic teachers love this verse because it talks about spiritual gifts and impartation of the gifts to the believers. Though it is not a subject I am trying to develop here, because of many controversies, I’d better briefly touch on this. First of all, we need to know of spiritual gifts. (a) The phrase, “spiritual gift,” occurs only once in the whole Bible. It is a combination of gift (*charisma*) and spiritual (*pneumatikon*). “Spiritual gifts” occurs three times (1 Corinthians 12:1; 14:1, 12). (b) When “gifts” (plural) is used in all three references, there is no Greek word for “gift” employed. That’s why the KJV uses italics for the word in all three references. Therefore, we may say that there is only one verse having a complete phrase, “spiritual gift,” in the whole Bible. It means that it is hard to determine the meaning of it. (c) Basically, there are opinions about the nature of spiritual gift in Romans 1:11. Some say that it refers to charismatic gifts we find from 1 Corinthians 12 and 14. Such understanding is supported and bolted by Charismatic and Pentecostal preachers. It is because Paul says in verse 11 that he is going to impart spiritual gift on the believers in Rome. It is something that Charismatic preachers like to claim. And also others argue that “spiritual gift” must have a wider and general sense, which refers to God’s blessings and gifts given to His people. We must pay attention to an indefinite word, “some” before spiritual gift in verse 11. It is not one particular gift but more or like indefinite in Paul’s mind. John MacArthur aptly explained “spiritual gift” as follows: “The gift Paul wanted to impart was spiritual not only in the sense of being in the spiritual realm but in the sense that it had its source in the Holy Spirit. Because he was writing to believers, Paul was not speaking about the free gift of salvation through Christ about which he speaks in Romans 5:15-16. Nor could he have been speaking about the gifts he discusses in Romans 12, because those gifts are bestowed directly by the Spirit Himself, not through a human instrument. He must therefore have been using the term spiritual gift in its broadest sense, referring to any kind of divinely-empowered spiritual benefit he could bring to the Roman Christians by preaching, teaching, exhorting, comforting, praying, guiding, and disciplining. Whatever particular blessings the apostle had in mind, they were not of the superficial, self-centered sort that many church members crave today. He was not interested in tickling their ears or satisfying their religious curiosity (*Romans 1-8*, Chicago: Moody press).” MacDonald says, “There is no thought here of his conferring some ‘second blessing’ on them” (W. MacDonald & A. Farstad, *Believer’s Bible Commentary: Old and new Testaments*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson). I’ll continue on this next week.

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 26 Aug	No Young Adults Fellowship		We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Natalie Jones, P Chiok, Siew Kin Keshani and Mr & Mrs Nnabuguru to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Sat 27 Aug	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study		
4:00pm	Study on Shorter Catechism		
<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i>	<i>Evening Service</i>	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Rev Timothy Ki	Mr Daniel Biddle	<u>TODAY: 21/08/2011</u>
Message	Eternal Security	The Confession of a Roman Centurion	Chairman: John
Text	John 10:14-18	Matthew 27:54	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Anthony
<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, Linda Teo, Lorena. • Pray for those who are/will be on travel: Jia Yun, Justin, Waiyee, Matthew, Joy • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. • Parking Restrictions Area KQ: There will be restrictions to parking on Sundays for the month of August. Please park in area KB. 			Ushers: Jonathan / Yetta
			Sunday School: No Sunday School
			Lunch: Mrs Ki
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Lee Wei
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 28/08/2011</u>
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £588.64	Chairman: Jonathan		
Attendance - Morning: 30 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 17 (A)	Organist: Anthony		
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 86			Pianist: Anthony
<p>Q: What is Faith in Jesus Christ?</p> <p><i>A: Faith in Jesus Christ is a <u>saving grace</u>, whereby we RECEIVE and REST UPON HIM ALONE for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.</i></p> <p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>Grace means undeserved favour or kindness. A saving grace means an act of God's favour ending in salvation. Faith is such a grace. And it is here said to consist in <i>receiving</i> Christ – that is, in believing what is said of him in the Bible, and <i>resting upon him</i> – that is, trusting our souls to him as our Saviour. We rest on him <i>alone</i>, and not in anything we may or can do. Our plea is, <i>Christ only</i>.</p> <p><u>Proofs:</u></p> <p>John 3:16, Acts 4:12</p>			Ushers: John / Yetta
			Sunday School: Jonathan
			Lunch: Maureen
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Brian
			MEMORY VERSE
			Last Week
			<i>"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,"</i>
			Ephesians 1:20
			This Week
			<i>"Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:"</i>
			Ephesians 1:21
			Next Week
			<i>"And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church"</i>
			Ephesians 1:22