



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. 17

LORD’S DAY 24 APRIL 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>	Luke 24:1-9	Romans 5:6-11
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 205 – “Thine is the Glory”	RHC 203 – “He Lives”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Isaiah 25	Psalms 73
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	RHC 209 – “Because He Lives”	Insert – “O God How Good Thou Art”
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 175 – “For All My Sins”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Isaiah 53:7	Psalms 73:26, Luke 18:1-8
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pastor John Sherwood	Pastor John Sherwood
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Silence of Christ</i>	<i>The Fainting Heart and its Remedy</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 184 – “Rock of Ages”	RHC 313 – “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”
<i>Benediction / 3-Fold Amen *</i>	Pastor John Sherwood	Pastor John Sherwood
<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 2011 – “Continue in the Word” – 2 Timothy 3:14

The Consequences of the Resurrection

Introduction

This Sabbath, we commemorate the victorious and historic resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. **The foundation of the Christian faith is linked to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.** Good Friday commemorate the death of Christ and three days later (the Jews calculated it inclusive of Friday), the crucified Saviour arose, victorious over the grave. According to Dr. Willmington, Jesus made a total of 10 appearances after His resurrection (see The Willmington Bible Guide). It was overwhelmingly attested by more than 500 people (1 Cor 15:6). (This makes sound evidential apologetics for the defence of the faith.) What is the then theological significance of the resurrection of Christ? We shall discuss from Paul's discourse in 1 Corinthians 15:1-21.

The Fact of the Resurrection & Our Salvation

The resurrection of Christ is central to historic Christianity and soteriology or the doctrine of salvation. The gospel that was summarised by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:1–5 included the doctrine and the resurrection. It is necessary to speak not just of death at Calvary but also of an empty tomb where Christ had risen in the preaching of the full gospel of Christ. The fact is that Christ died for our sins at Calvary and is accompanied by the supernatural and victorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus over death, sin and hell. It is central to the preaching of the pure gospel that Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:14, *“And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.”*

Paul invites us to consider the three serious implications of believers if Christ had not risen:

Our faith is in vain (v14)

We have no basis for the Christian faith if there is no resurrection. If our Saviour is still dead then there is no hope beyond the grave. We might as well join the hedonistic world to eat and be merry for tomorrow we die and after that it will be hopelessness.

We are false witnesses (v15)

We who go and tell others about eternal life and hope beyond the grave would be bearing false witnesses if Christ had not risen. We will be proven liars and are, therefore perpetrators of falsehood and that is serious.

We are still trapped in our sins (v17)

We are not delivered from our total depravity. We will be still under the bondage of sin and death if there is no deliverance and we are of all men most miserable. Deliverance comes when we can break through the power of sin through the death and resurrection of Christ. We cannot save ourselves and hence we are doomed. But are all this true?

Thank God all the above are not true because Paul concludes that Christ has risen from the grave, victorious over sin, hell and death. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:57, *“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through Our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

The Doctrine of the Resurrection and the Second Coming of Christ (vv 50-56)

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:50-56, *'Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.'* The resurrection of Christ is a precedent to the resurrection of the bodies of believers. We have an earthly corruptible body that is depreciating from the time of birth. Our glorification is complete when our bodies are resurrected and reunited with the Lord at the coming of Christ. The resurrection of Christ is a foretaste of what it could be like. Jesus is the first fruit in a sense. He is the supreme pattern of the future resurrection of the elect. When a Christian dies, his body remains in the grave and his soul returns to God as the thief on the cross was told. There is no reincarnation, purgatory, soul sleep or annihilation after death. One day our bodies will be reunited with our redeemed souls and we will receive a body incorruptible and immortal that will live forever with the Lord and the redeemed. **It is a glorious hope and blessed expectation and it will be a sure and steady realization one day.** One day, our faith will be turned into sight. Job said in *"If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait. Till my change come"* (Job 14:14).

Dead Man Arose Again

There was a man in the New Testament times called Lazarus who was dead for three days already and his body stinked. Jesus was called to minister to him in John 11 by his sisters and He went. They were depressed by his death and Jesus wept too, but Jesus did something spectacular. **He resurrected him from the dead and it was witnessed by many.** It is not impossible with God to raise up our physical bodies in the day of His second coming. We have this glorious hope as our Lord said in John 11:25-26, *"Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"* Job predicted in Job 19:25, 26, *"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."* Hebrews 9:27 says, *'And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.'*

An Endless Hope

Life without Christ is a hopeless end, Christ, an endless hope. There is a soul in all of us that will not die at death but will face its Creator one day. It is not annihilation or reincarnation as taught by some. The empty tomb is solid evidence that there is victorious and eternal life after death and this is possible because of the attested resurrection of Christ. Jesus was seen by more than 500 witnesses as in 1 Corinthians 15:6, *"After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep."* So Paul confidently said in 1 Corinthians 15:55–57, *"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

Death is vanquished and there is an expectant hope beyond the grave and the Christian need not fear nor fret but trust and have faith in the triumphant work of Christ over an empty tomb who defeat death forever.

Today's Resurrection Sunday is a glorious event as it commemorates the morning the Lord was victorious over the vanquished foe, death after being 3 days in the grave and hence those who are redeemed and justified by His blood can have everlasting life in Christ. For those who have not experience the assurance of hope and confidence of life, Jesus said, *"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"* (Matt 11:28–30).

I visited the Asian Civilisation museum a few years ago to see the "Eternal Treasures of Egypt." There was a 3,500-year mummy there. The Egyptians believe that if you mummified a body, you have a better chance of survival in the next life. But alas, even the best of the Pharaohs like Thutmose III and Rameses III who died after 65 years of dynastic rule and there is no hope for unsaved kings beyond the grave. For Christians, we have an everlasting hope because of the resurrection of Christ. We have a message of life beyond the grave that no other religion has. There is an empty tomb that is in Garden Tomb in Jerusalem, not a grave of bones. "Because He lives, we can face tomorrow," that is the hymn-writer's assurance and ours as well. We can trust in Christ because He is triumphant over sin, hell and death; and anyone who believes in Him will also be saved as Jesus. Romans 10:9-10 says, *'That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.'*

Every time I conduct a funeral or a vigil service, there is power in pronouncing these words of comfort to the living and as an evangelical message to the unbelievers too at the burial grounds in Chua Chu Kang Cemetery. **The Christian faith concerns life not only here but life forever, because of the resurrection of Christ, without which we are of all men most miserable.** So let us seek the Lord in confession of sins while He may be found before it is too late.

Conclusion

Even with the advancement of science, aging and finally death are inevitable and it is an inexorable event for all but as Christians, we have no fear for someone have to overcome it for us. The application of the fact of resurrection is the living out of that victorious and abundant new life in Christ daily. Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5:17, *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."* **We need not fear death nor the temporal sufferings of this life because of the glorious reality and hope of the resurrection.** By Christ's resurrection, we too are victorious over the curse of sin which is death. So let us humbly seek the Lord first in repentance and be saved and then walk in righteousness and in hope victoriously in the light of this truth. Let us wait expectantly and patiently for the imminent coming of our Lord one day. **Seek Him now while He may be found!**

Jack Sin

(NB. For deeper studies, read Stephen Davis, *Risen Indeed*, 1993, Hank Hanegraaff, *Resurrection 2000* and Sean McDowell, *Evidence for Resurrection*, 2008)

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 29 April	4pm & 7pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Spring Conference - Mr Gordon Dane	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome the friends and family of John, Sharon and Tobias Poh to our worship services last Lord's Day.		
Sat 30 April	4:00pm	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study Study on Shorter Catechism			
<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i>	<i>Evening Service</i>			
Preacher	Eld George Chew	Eld George Chew	LORD'S DAY DUTIES		
Message	Fear and Doubt	The Servants Song			
Text	John 20:19-31	Isaiah 52:13-53:12			
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			<u>TODAY: 24/04/2011</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Eld Chew will be leading a study on "Rhyme and Drama". • No Basic Bible Knowledge Class Today and Next Week. • Saturday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Eld Chew will be leading a study on "Who is Jesus? A Biblical Perspective." • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Eld Ford, Lydia, Margaret, May Chew, Brian, Mrs Ki, Constance, Ps John Sherwood, Deborah Sherwood • Pray for those who are/will be on travel: Barbara, Pastor Ki, Elisabeth & Venice Tan, Magdalene, Lee Wei, Caleb, Lingting, Sharon & Tobias • Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Spring Conference, 29th April 2011: The Infallibility of the Bible & The Sufficiency of the Bible. Speaker – Mr Gordon Dane 			Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Joy Ushers: Daniel / Yetta Sunday School: No Sunday School Lunch: Constance Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Lee Wei		
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 01/05/2011</u>		
			Chairman: John Organist: Anthony Pianist: Joy Ushers: Jonathan/Evelyn Sunday School: Jonathan/Joy Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Brian		
			Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1002.10		
			Attendance - Morning: 55 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 30 (A) 4 (C)		
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 69			MEMORY VERSE		
<p>Q: What is forbidden in the Sixth Commandment?</p> <p><i>A: The Sixth Commandment forbiddeth the <u>taking away</u> of our own life, or the life of our neighbour unjustly, or whatsoever <u>tendeth</u> thereunto.</i></p> <p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>This commandment respects <i>life</i>. It acknowledges that God is its Giver, and that therefore no one has a right to take it away without just reason.</p> <p>It commands us to take all proper care of our health, as well as of the health of others. And it forbids us to take away our own life – which is <i>suicide</i>; or the life of another – which is <i>murder</i>.</p> <p><u>Proofs:</u></p> <p>Acts 16:28, Matthew 5:22</p>			<p style="text-align: center;">Last Week</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm 1:3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This Week</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm 1:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Week</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Psalm 1:5</p>		