



# 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. 16 No. 41

LORD’S DAY 07 OCTOBER 2012

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Evening Service – 4pm*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Prelude*

*Call to Worship*

Isaiah 45:5-8

Psalm 92:1-4

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 24 – “Praise to the Lord,  
The Almighty”

RHC 75 – “Come, Christians,  
Join to Sing”

*Opening Prayer \**

Alan Blaney

Alan Blaney

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 136

Romans 6

*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 136 verses 1-6*  
(to the tune of Dundee, RHC 555)

RHC 395 – “A Heart Like  
Thine”

*Announcements &  
Memory Verse*

Alan Blaney

Alan Blaney

*Tithes & Offerings &  
Doxology \**

RHC 93 – “To God Be The  
Glory”

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*Scriptural Text*

Matthew 19:16-26

Deuteronomy 27:9-26

*Pastoral Prayer*

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

*Sermon Message*

*The Most Important Question*

*Becoming the People of God*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 301 – “My Faith Has Found  
A Resting Place”

RHC 388 – “O For A Closer  
Walk With God”

*Benediction/3-Fold  
Amen \**

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

*May the Grace of Christ Our Saviour*

\* 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 2012 – “Have a Mind to Work” – Nehemiah 4:6**

**CONSCIENCE - PART 6**

About two weeks ago, a teenage girl ran away from home with her school teacher. The news media frantically broadcast it, and her parents went on TV and tearfully pleaded with their daughter to contact them. It is sad to see that her teacher, an adult man, committed such a childish and irresponsible offence that broke the hearts of many of her loved ones. There was a reporter following the case who said that the man left a few lines on his social network just before this incident. I am not sure whether it was his facebook or twitter. I do not recall the exact lines that he wrote, but it was something like this: "I am not sure what is right and what is wrong." He probably implied that he felt a moral dilemma over his intention to take her with him. He did it anyway. What he was so unsure about was not the legal implications. He must have known that it was a crime to take that teenage girl with him. He must have known the consequence of his crime, if he was caught. The legal implications are very clear, and he must be sure of it. What he was unsure of was the morality. His remarks remind me of three possibilities for his conscience. One, he has a conscience. He did not act immediately after his desire alone. He was pondering and wondering whether it was the right thing for him to do. He was a man of conscience. By the way, his hesitance is an indication that evolutionary theory is wrong. He did not respond to his biological signals immediately. He actually took the time to reflect on what he wanted to do. He was not sure whether it was right or wrong. Chemical reactions and interactions do not produce such reflexes. Two, his conscience needs more education. It was possible for him to know for sure whether what he was about to do was right or wrong. His conscience needs more education. Three, he needs to exercise his conscience. It is a very interesting point. When he said that he was not sure of what was right and what was wrong, it was possible that he knew for sure what was right and what was wrong. However, he was hesitant to exercise his conscience. Unless he exercises it, it will not make any difference in his actions and behaviour, but it may increase his sense of guilt. Probably, Paul is a very good example on this matter. He says in Acts 24:16, "And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and *toward* men." Conscience must be practiced and exercised in order to be effective.

The exercise of conscience is well illustrated by Paul in Act 23:1, "And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men *and* brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." This verse may need some more explanation. In Acts 21, Paul was arrested in Jerusalem. Paul gave a report about his ministries amongst the Gentiles to James and all the elders in verse 18. They rejoiced over the report and glorified the Lord in verse 20. Then, they informed Paul that the Jews were offended by his teachings in verse 21. The Jews did not fully understand what Paul had been teaching. However, to counter their accusations, the brethren advised Paul to take a few men who made vows to the temple for his purification. It was to show the Jews that Paul walked orderly and kept the law in verse 24. However, the Jews were stirred up and wanted to arrest him in verse 27. Roman soldiers arrested and beat him in verse 32. He had an opportunity to defend himself in verse 20 and chapter 22. Then, he was taken to the chief priests and all their council to defend himself in 22:30. The first part of his defence is recorded in 23:1, which is the verse of our interest. He said to the council that he had lived in all good conscience before God. When he testified of his good conscience to the council, his testimony was related to the accusations brought by the Jews against him. However, those accusations were false. Though Paul knew that his salvation was not based on keeping all the religious formalities in Jerusalem, he performed all the formalities for the sake of those whom he wished to bring to Christ. Some self-promoting spiritual people do exactly the opposite. They simply ignore others in the name of conscience, but Paul exercised his conscience in such a way that he edified the ones who were either ignorant or weak in conscience. To exercise our conscience promptly is important, because it may become seared or dull, if we do not exercise it.

We must remember what Paul says in 1 Timothy 4:2, "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron." Unless conscience is cultivated and properly exercised, it will grow callous, dull, and even seared. It has always been interesting to me that there is a seared conscience. I would also want to bring our thoughts back to one of my first questions in this series of articles about conscience: "is there anyone who does not have a conscience?" This question is a genuine and legitimate question because it seems that there are people whose acts and behaviours are evil and wicked beyond our common knowledge of humanity and exercise of tolerance. When I relate this question to the seared conscience, I may draw out a few implications for our learning. It seems that the seared conscience is not the same as the callous conscience. The seared conscience is branded. We find a sealing as a sign of ownership in the Bible. The believers of Jesus Christ are sealed by the Spirit of God. Thus, they belong to God. Likewise, the branded, or seared conscience belongs to something or someone. I cannot but say that it does not belong to God who is holy. It belongs to the power of darkness. Thus, the seared or branded conscience does the things that its master, the power of darkness, requires and demands it to do. It means that the seared conscience is also a conscience set by the principles of evilness. Thus, in it, good and evil are taking different places, and it does its best to remove good and to promote evil. What this seared conscience does is illustrated in the Bible. Proverbs 17:13, "Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house." It rewards not rebukes the evil. Isaiah 5:20, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" It changes the whole value system, it turns it upside down. This evil and seared conscience also suffers troubles inside the person's heart. There are inner conflicts in the hearts of all men. Paul also testifies to it in Romans 7:17-23, "Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not. <sup>19</sup> For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. <sup>21</sup> I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: <sup>23</sup> But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members." There are fights between the law of God and the law of sin in every heart. However, the seared conscience tries to cover this up by being even more zealous toward bad and evil things. It tries to make evil good and good evil.

However, we must not have an idea that the seared conscience always takes a terrifying appearance. It comes with soothing words and a kind appearance. However, its motive is evil and wrong. In order to cover up its real identity, it does its work in cover-ups. The purpose is to disguise itself as good to seduce others. Thus, it shows its appearance attractive, by which it attracts others to follow it and make them as bad as itself. It may behave in a totally different way. In one country, I would not name, there was a survey amongst the teenagers about their dreams. The goal of this survey was to know of their future careers. Surprisingly, the number one dream or wish among boys was to become members of the mafia or gang groups. The reason they suggested was that they were attracted to the ways that the mafia talked, behaved, or lived as members of crime organizations. We must not forget that in the same way, the evil and seared conscience attracts some people to follow after it.

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	
Wed 10 Oct	11:00am	<b>Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study</b>	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We do hope that you have a blessed time of worship on this day.	
Fri 12 Oct	7:00pm	<b>Young Adults Fellowship</b> <i>"Quieting the Noisy Soul"</i>		
Sat 13 Oct	4:00pm	<b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b> <i>"Eschatology" – Rev Timothy Ki</i>		
Next Lord's Day		Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev Timothy Ki		Rev Timothy Ki	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TODAY: 07/10/2012</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> Alan</p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Joy</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b> Jasmine</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Evelyn</p> <p><b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Joy</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Mrs Ki</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b> Scott</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 14/10/2012</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> John</p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Anthony</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b> Joy</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Alan / Daniel</p> <p><b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Joy</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Maureen</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b> Yangfan</p>
<b>Message</b>	Heavenly Reward		Succession Plan	
<b>Text</b>	Matthew 19:27-30		Joshua 1:1-9	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-Lunch Bible Study:</b> Pastor Ki will continue the study on "Anthropology" – The Doctrine of the Man.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those who are sick:</b> Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Mrs Ki, Lai Kheng, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Tom, Nina, Helen, Maureen.</li> <li>• <b>Lord's Supper:</b> We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week. Please come with hearts prepared.</li> <li>• <b>Baptism Service of Abigail Blaney:</b> The baptism will take place on 21st October 2012.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those on travel:</b> Sonia, Nana, Matthew, Jonathan.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those seeking employment:</b> Yetta.</li> </ul>				
<b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £544.00; Lunch: £54.50 <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 29 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 18 (A) 1 (C)				

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 38

**Q: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?**

*A: At the resurrection, believers being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full ENJOYING OF GOD to all eternity.*

Comments:

We are here taught that there will be a resurrection, and after the resurrection a judgment. At that judgment those who have believed in Jesus will be blessed in the following ways: 1. They will be raised up with glorified bodies; 2. They will be acknowledge by Christ, the Judge, as his own people, and declared free from all guilt before an assembled world; 3. They will be taken to heaven, where they shall be happy with God for ever.

Proofs:

1 Corinthians 15:43, Matthew 25:34, Revelations 21:4, 1 Thessalonians 4:17

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>"Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear."</i> <b>Psalm 119:38</b>	<i>"Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments are good."</i> <b>Psalm 119:39</b>	<i>"Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness."</i> <b>Psalm 119:40</b>