



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. 17 No. 22

LORD’S DAY 02 JUNE 2013

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Prelude</i>		
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 63:1-4	Psalm 91:1-2
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 24 – “Praise to the Lord, The Almighty”	RHC 347 – “Under the Care of My God, The Almighty”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 20	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 20</i> (to the tune of Azmon, RHC 61)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 321 – “He Hideth My Soul” verses 1&2	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Amos 1:1-2	Psalm 25
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Timothy Ki <i>Amos – God’s Prophet with a Passion</i>	Rev Timothy Ki <i>When God Restructures Your World</i>
<i>Sermon Message</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 246 – “Open My Eyes, That I May See”	RHC 337 – “Never Give Up”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Rev Timothy Ki	Rev Timothy Ki
<i>Postlude</i>	<i>The Lord Bless You</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 2013 – “Understand and know God” – Jeremiah 9:24

THE KING'S HEART IS IN THE HAND OF THE LORD

By Pastor Ho Chee Lai. Adapted from Evangel Bible-Presbyterian Church Weekly dated 21st April 2013

“The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will” (Prov. 21:1)

Many times, we feel helpless in life. We find that many things in life are beyond our control. Whether we get a good grade in school or a poor one, whether we are promoted or fired, or whether our business blooms or folds – we often find the results at the mercy of others. How should we respond to such situations? When we desperately need a favourable decision from another person, can we trust God that He will work in the heart of that individual to bring about His plan for us? Or consider the instance when someone is out to harm us, or to ruin our reputation, or to jeopardize our career – can we trust God to intervene in the heart of that person so that he does not carry out his evil intent? According to the Bible, the answer in both instances is an emphatic “YES!” We can trust God. God is sovereign and He does intervene in the hearts of people so that their decisions and actions will accomplish His purpose for our lives.

The Bible says, “The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will” (Prov. 21:1). God does act in the heart of the people. We cannot appreciate the full force of this verse as we live in a world of limited monarchies, where kings are largely confined to figureheads of the state. But during the time of Solomon, the king was an absolute monarch. He did that which was right in his own eyes. There was no Supreme Court or Constitution to restrain him. The king's word was law. His authority over his dominion was absolute. He alone will decide the destiny of his subjects. Yet, the Bible says that God controls the king's heart. The absolute will of the most powerful person in the kingdom is under the control of God, as much as a powerful river, which is directed from its course by the power of God.

Imagine the following – you've been working for a cruel boss all your life. You are always overworked and underpaid. You have always wanted to get out of this but are unable to because your boss is a powerful person in the country. One day, you receive a call to serve under a new organization in a foreign land. You are overjoyed. However, you do not know you can break out of your contract and moreover, you do not have the money to make the trip. You decide to go to your boss to ask him to release you and to give you money for the trip. What do you think the consequence will be? As farfetched as this hypothetical situation may sound, what happened is that your boss gives you not only a little money but basically part of his fortune for you to go and serve someone else, though he opposes violently to this at the beginning. Sounds incredible, doesn't it? Well, this was precisely what happened to the Israelites when they were under bondage to their Egyptian taskmasters. You know the story – the Israelites were slaves and were oppressed under their masters, but God intervened in the heart of Pharaoh, such that when the Israelites sought permission to leave and to worship the Lord, Pharaoh sent them out with the riches of Egypt.

This was in accordance to the promise of God that the Israelites would not leave empty-handed but would “spoil the Egyptians” (Exod. 3:21-22). It was God working in the heart of Pharaoh to let the Israelites depart – something which was beyond the Israelites’ wildest imagination!

Now, if God controls the king’s heart, surely He controls the hearts of everyone else’s too – this is a logical argument from the greater to the lesser. Whether they are Christians or non-Christians, whether willing or non-willing, we can be assured that God is able to move the hearts of the people to carry out His plans. God is able to move the heart of the people such that you may secure a job or be promoted at your workplace: “For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another” (Ps. 75: 6-7). The people who seem to dictate your career are merely agents used by God to carry out His will and plan for your life. How does this understanding help shape your response to the many uncertainties in life? First, we must learn to trust God. Our careers and destinies are in His hands; and not in the hands of others. No one can harm or jeopardize your future apart from the sovereign will of God. God is able to and will grant you favour in the eyes of people who are in a position to do you good. Second, we should then look to God in prayer in all those situations where some aspects of our future seem to lie in the hands of another individual. We may not know God’s will on what He is going to do, but we know for certain that it is His will for us to seek Him in prayer. Third, a confidence in God’s sovereignty in the lives of people should also keep us from becoming resentful and bitter when we are treated unjustly by others. When we realize that the evil actions of others on us will never happen except that they are permitted by God, then we ought to think twice before becoming resentful or being bitter in our spirit. If God so allow it to happen for a purpose, should we not be happy too, to receive it from the Lord and trust in His wisdom? A spirit of resentment and bitterness is a result of our rejection of the Lord’s will for our lives.

At this juncture, however, it is important to leave you a word of caution in this deep understanding of God’s will for us. First, we should never our own shortcomings to the sovereign will of God. If you are lazy and get fired or fail your exams, do merely say that it is God’s will and that you are unable to do anything about it. Yea, it may be God’s sovereign will that you may be in, but it is under the chastisement rather than the blessings of God. Second, we should not be purely passive just because everything is under the Lord’s control. God’s sovereign control does not negate the need of diligence to work out God’s will for us. We are called to “... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure” (Phil. 2:12-13). This aspect of working out diligently God’s will in our lives is a proof that God is indeed working in the hearts of the people – yours in particular. Have you yielded your heart to the hand of God?

Your co-labourer in the Lord

Pastor Ho Chee Lai

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 05 June	No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study		We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Maureen and Nadia to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 07 June	No Young Adults Fellowship		
Sat 08 June	4:00pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 02/06/2013</u>
Message	God and "Hidden" Sin	Seeing Beyond the Immediate	Chairman: John
Text	Amos 1:3 - 2:16	2 Corinthians 4	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Jasmine
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Dr. Martin will be leading a short study on <i>"The Bride of Christ and Her Rivals in Scripture"</i>. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Pastor Ki, Hannah, Eld Chew's mother, Jonathan, Tobias & Elliora, Scott, Yetta. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. • Pray for those on travel: Alan, Naomi & Abigail, Sarah, Anthony & Helen, Pastor & Mrs Ki. • London Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2nd - 4th July 2013 - Recovery from Spiritual Decline. 			Ushers: Daniel / Evelyn
			Sunday School: Hannah / Joy
			Lunch: Mrs Ki
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Yangfan
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £614.10 Kenya: £50.00			<u>NEXT WEEK: 09/06/2013</u>
Attendance - Morning: 34 (A) 5 (C), Evening: 26 (A) 5 (C)			Chairman: Jonathan
			Organist: Joy
			Pianist: Jasmine
			Ushers: John / Constance
			Sunday School: Hannah / Joy
			Lunch: Maureen
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 72

Q: What is forbidden in the Seventh Commandment?

A: The Seventh Commandment forbiddeth all unchaste thoughts, words, and actions.

Comment:

This commandment respects *purity*. It commands us to be pure in thought, word and deed. It forbids all unchastity and immodesty. It acknowledges God as the owner of the body as well as of the soul, and the right he has to command that both of them should be kept pure and holy for himself.

Scriptural Reference:

Matthew 5:28, Ephesians 5:4

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."</i></p> <p>Hebrews 12:2</p>	<p><i>"For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."</i></p> <p>Hebrews 12:3</p>	<p><i>"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."</i></p> <p>Philippians 4:19</p>