



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. 5

LORD’S DAY 03 FEBRUARY 2013

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 61:1-4

Psalm 116:1-2

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 28 – “The God of Abraham Praise”

RHC 16 – “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

*Opening Prayer **

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 3

Psalm 91:1-16

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 3
(to the tune of Martyrdom, RHC 38)

RHC 347 – “Under the Care of My God, The Almighty”

Announcements & Memory Verse

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 384 – “My Jesus, I Love Thee”

Scriptural Text

John 13:18 - 14:6

Isaiah 49:1-16

Pastoral Prayer

Dr David Allen

Dr David Allen

Sermon Message

Troubled Hearts

Saints Graven on the Divine Hands

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 284 – “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus”

RHC 332 – “Moment by Moment”

Benediction/3-Fold

Dr David Allen

Dr David Allen

*Amen **

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 2013 – “Understand and know God” – Jeremiah 9:24

NOTHING SO ILL BUT CHRIST WILL COMPENSATE

By Rev Ian Hamilton, pastor of the Cambridge Presbyterian Church. Reprinted with the permission of Rev Hamilton

The Christian life is lived at the intersection of the ages, this present age and the age of the world to come that has already, in Christ, punctuated this present age. In Christ, believers are a 'new creation' (*2 Cor. 5:17*). Paul does not mean here that believers are inwardly renewed men and women, but that we have been planted by God into the midst of the new creation that he has effected in Christ. This 'intersection of the ages' accounts, in part, for the tension that every Christian experiences as he or she labours to 'seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness' (*Matt. 6:33*). It is an inevitable tension, an unavoidable tension, but in the wisdom and mercy of God a sanctifying tension.

The words at the head of this letter were written by John Owen. They reflect his conviction that 'for those who love God all things work together for good' (*Rom. 8:28*). Paul begins that verse with, 'And we know . . .' He is not engaging in spiritual conjecture or surmise. He is not saying, 'we know that some things, or perhaps even many things, work for the good of those who love God.' Paul is unequivocal, 'we know that . . . all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.' These are staggering words, remarkable words, almost unimaginable words. But they are written in the Word of the One who cannot lie.

In recent months I have found myself engaged in lives that have known great sorrow, disappointment, illness, and death. John Calvin wrote for many when he wrote,

Our circumstances are all in opposition to the promises of God. He promises us immortality, yet we are surrounded by mortality and corruption. He declares that he accounts us just, yet we are covered with sins. He testifies that he is propitious and benevolent towards us, yet outward signs threaten his wrath. What then are we to do?

Indeed, what then are we to do? Too often we go into a 'spiritual sulk' and blame God for not ordering our life the way we think it should be ordered. But, in your saner moments, would you really want God to order your life the way YOU want it ordered? If you did, you would be a poor self-deceived, even Satan-deceived, fool. Do you know what is best for you? Do you know the end from the beginning? Are you, am I, the fount of all wisdom? At our best we 'see through a glass darkly'. We need the loving-kindness and tender fatherly care of our heavenly King, to keep us on track, preparing us for the glory that we will one day inherit (and even now are beginning to enjoy).

Let me now give you Calvin's own answer to the question he posed.

What then are we to do? We must close our eyes, disregard ourselves and all things connected with us, so that nothing may hinder or prevent us from believing that God is true (*Commentary on Romans 4:20*).

Calvin was absolutely sure - how could he be otherwise? - that there is

'Nothing so ill but Christ will compensate'

The great issue is not, are you willing to believe what God's Word teaches? But, are you willing to believe the goodness, grace, loving-kindness of your heavenly Father? Jesus laboured to impress on his disciples the loving Fatherhood of their God (read Matthew 6 and see how many times Jesus speaks of the 'Father'). This is the issue we need to settle in our minds and hearts: Am I persuaded that my heavenly Father is everything he tells me he is? This is the battle of faith, a battle that will throw the concerted powers and seductions of the world, the flesh, and the devil against you.

Perhaps you have gone through or are going through dark and difficult times. Allow me to encourage you to take Owen's words to heart. See them through the bright lens of Romans 8:28. Hide that word in your heart that you might not sin against God (*Psa. 119:11*). Live in the faith of this and, to quote Owen again, 'Thou wilt die a conqueror'.

THE LOGIC OF REDEMPTION

By Rev Ian Hamilton, pastor of the Cambridge Presbyterian Church. Reprinted with the permission of Rev Hamilton

The glorious doctrine of God's redemption of sinners through the sin-bearing, sin-vanquishing death of Christ on Calvary's cross lies at the heart of the Christian faith - and at the heart of every Christian's faith. We believe this. We love this. We sing this. 'In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace' (*Eph. 1:7*). So far, so good. Now consider this question: What impact and influence is Christ's redeeming work to have on our relationships with other Christians?

The New Testament is emphatic that there is a vital, inextricable link between what our Saviour has done for us and how we are to treat one another. Listen to the Apostle John: 'Beloved, if God so loved us (in giving his Son as a propitiation for our sins), we also ought to love one another' (*1 John 4:11*). For John there is logic to redemption (the phrase is Philip Hughes'), the logic of selfless love for others. If God in Christ has loved us selflessly, and he has, how can we partake of that selfless love and not exhibit something of its grace in our relationships with others?

This is no arcane question. Our Lord Jesus said 'by their fruit you will know them'. He also said that love for one another would be the distinguishing mark of our Christian profession. This is the logic of redemption. Where this is absent, the experience of redeeming love can hardly be present - can it?

It has often been said that just as everything in Christianity flows from the cross, so everything returns to the cross. It is when we become distant and detached from the wonder of Calvary's redeeming love that we become careless, even indifferent in our relationships with fellow believers. It would transform the way we speak about other Christians and to other Christians if we always did so 'in the shadow of Calvary'. The selfless love of Christ is both the foundation and pulsebeat of the Christian life. The mark of the Selfless One has been indelibly etched on the life of every Christian. What the Holy Spirit first produced in Christ he comes to re-produce in his people.

The Apostle John learned this well: 'By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers' (*1 John 3:16*). This kind of Christianity is light years from what passes as Christian in this world. It would be only too easy to look out and see and point the finger at the lovelessness in the liberal, unbelieving church. But what about us, we who call ourselves evangelical and Reformed. Does the logic of redemption pervade our relationships with one another? Does it?

It is not a matter of trying harder, although we need to try much harder. It is a matter of becoming soaked in the logic of redemption. We all need day by day to come afresh to the foot of Calvary's cross not to gaze upon a dying Saviour (he is risen!), but to be reminded of the selfless love that purchased our redemption at a cost we will never ever fathom. I know that is my great need. If you are anything like me, it will also be your great need.

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 06 Feb		No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	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 08 Feb	7:00pm	Young Adults Fellowship <i>"Quieting the Noisy Soul"</i>	
Sat 09 Feb	4:00pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Eld George Chew	Eld George Chew	<u>TODAY: 03/02/2013</u> Chairman: John Organist: Anthony Pianist: Jasmine Ushers: Alan / Evelyn Sunday School: Hannah / Joy Lunch: Volunteers Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Yangfan <u>NEXT WEEK: 10/02/2013</u> Chairman: Alan Organist: Joy Pianist: Anthony Ushers: John / Constance Sunday School: Hannah / Joy Lunch: Mrs Ki Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott
Message	A More Excellent Way	Search Me O God	
Text	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Psalms 139:1-24	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Dr Allen will be giving us a short talk on the latest translation projects at TBS. • 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, Eld Chew's mother. • Pray for those on travel: Sonia, Nana, Matthew, Pastor & Mrs Ki, Daniel & Maureen, Sharon, Tobias & Elliora. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. 	
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £895.00, Kenya: £42.00, Lunch: £40.21</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 23 (A) 5 (C), Evening: 15 (A) 3 (C)</p>	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 55

Q: What is forbidden in the Third Commandment?

A: *The Third Commandment forbiddeth all profaning or abusing of anything whereby God maketh himself known.*

Comments:

The Third Commandment forbids us to use irreverently or wrongly any of the names or things which more especially express and declare God. Everything connected with *him* should be sacred.

Proofs:

Matthew 5:34-35

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,"</i></p> <p>Isaiah 46:9</p>	<p><i>"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"</i></p> <p>Isaiah 46:10</p>	<p><i>"Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord."</i></p> <p>Jeremiah 23:24</p>