



# 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. 18

LORD’S DAY 05 MAY 2013

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Morning Service – 11am

### Evening Service – 4pm

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 27:11-14

Ephesians 1:3-7

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 348 – “Guide Me, O Thou  
Great Jehovah”

RHC 303 – “Saved, Saved!”

*Opening Prayer \**

Alan Blaney

Alan Blaney

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 16

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 16 verses 1-6*  
(to the tune of St Agnes, RHC 57)

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*Announcements &  
Memory Verse*

Alan Blaney

Alan Blaney

*Tithes & Offerings &  
Doxology \**

RHC 384 – “My Jesus, I Love  
Thee”

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*Scriptural Text*

Psalm 65:4

1 Timothy 3:16

*Pastoral Prayer*

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

*Sermon Message*

*Blessed is the Christian*  
**Mr Kyle Graham**

*The Greatness of the Gospel*  
**Mr Kyle Graham**

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 318 – “Blessed Assurance”

RHC 300 – “The Cleansing  
Wave”

*Benediction/3-Fold  
Amen \**

Rev Timothy Ki

Rev Timothy Ki

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

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\* 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**

# OUR GLORIOUS ADOPTION I – ITS AMAZING WONDER

By Rev Richard Brooks. Reprinted with permission from Free Church Witness magazine dated September 2007

*The first of three devotional articles based on 1John 3:1-3, originally delivered at the 2006 School in Theology at Larbert.*

*"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." 1 John 3: 1-3*

Identity cards are in and out of the news. But what is the Christian's identity? The Bible answers that question in various ways, but surely one of the richest of those answers is to say that the Christian is one who is a child of God. He or she has God for their Father. Before we are ministers, elders, deacons, church members, or anything else, we are Christians – and so children of God. This is the great doctrine of our adoption. Well has it been said that while justification is the foundational blessing of the Gospel, adoption is the highest blessing. Being right with God the Judge is a stupendous thing; being loved and cared for by God the Father is more stupendous still.

Two things stand out from 1John 3:1.

## **1 The marvel of being children of God**

By marvel is meant this: how marvellous, how wonderful, how amazing it is! Is there anything like it in all the world: to know that you are a child of the living God? John's first word is very significant: 'Behold'. It is a traffic- light word, arresting us in our tracks, calling us to 'stop, look and listen'. It is a word of wonder, letting us know that something special is coming. And so it is. 'Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons (children) of God'. Can you get hold of that? God – the everlasting, holy and glorious One; 'clothed with majesty and strength'; whose throne was established from eternity; who is 'light, and in Him is no darkness at all' – this God has taken us into His family, adopted us as His children, with this staggering result: 'that we should be called the sons of God'.

And what is the spring of this marvel? John speaks of 'what manner of love'. Question 34 of the Westminster Shorter Catechism asks 'What is adoption?' Its answer: 'Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges of the sons of God'.

You know what happens in the ordinary realms of life with adoption. If parents adopt a child, then that child becomes their own son or daughter. The adopted one is not somehow 'stuck on' to the new family, but becomes part of the family. The adoptive parents are not forever drawing public attention to the adoption, but have taken the child as one of the family. A brand new family relationship exists, and the child enjoys all the family privileges, responsibilities, joys, sorrows, name and inheritance. The parents were not forced into the adoption; they desired it.

Now, on a different plane altogether, the God of grace and glory has adopted us as His children, received us into His family; and He has done so, writes John, with such a wonderful manner of love – lavish, amazing, divine, sovereign, holy love. And behind it all: everlasting love. For when did He set His love upon us? He did so in Christ before the foundation of the world. The love of our adopting God and Father pre-dates creation itself (Jer.31:3; Eph.1:5)! This truth has been put poetically in striking ways.

‘Behold the amazing gift of love  
The Father hath bestowed  
On us, the sinful sons of men,  
To call us sons of God’.

And again:

‘O how shall I the goodness tell,  
Father, which Thou to me hast showed?  
That I, a child of wrath and hell,  
I should be called a child of God’.

Here is a truth to revel in, to the glory and praise of God.

## **2 The blessings of being children of God**

These run to a very considerable list, were we to ransack the Scriptures for them. The Bible is full of them. Here are some of the ‘chiefest and choicest’.

*A new relationship with God.* This is fundamental to everything. ‘After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven’ (literally, ‘Our Father, the One in the heavens’) (Mt.6:9). What a combination! The tenderness of God as our Father is united with the glory of God who is in the heavens. The care of our Father for His children is united with the might of the One who fills and rules heaven and earth. The ability of the One to whom we come as our Father in all our need, is the power of the One for whom nothing is impossible. He is our Father who made us, redeemed us, loves us, cares for us, sings love songs over us, governs us, accompanies us, directs us, comforts us, fulfils all His promises for us and will never leave us nor forsake us. ‘For this God is our God for ever and ever’ (Ps.48:14).

*A new intimacy in prayer.* We are not orphans! Our adoption admits us to the closest intimacy and invites us to the most perfect confidence with God. Just as (ideally) children may go to their parents on just about everything under the sun, oh! with what confidence, dependence, trust and holy familiarity may we approach God’s throne of grace. Yes: He is in heaven and we are on earth; but He bids us come, with everything. The converted Cornish tin-miner, Billy Bray, used to say with regard to going to prayer, ‘I must talk to Father about this’.

*A new character of holiness.* We know the phrase, ‘like father, like son’. It applies right here! When God adopts us as His children He imparts to us His Holy Spirit so that increasingly we may bear the family likeness. The One who says, ‘Be ye holy; for I am holy’ (1Pet.1:16) is our God and Father. Think of it: we – we – are made ‘partakers of the divine nature’ (2Pet.1:4).

*A new belonging to God’s family.* Children of the same father are, of necessity, brothers and sisters of one another. So it is with the adopted children of God. Together we worship our God and Father. Together He instructs us from His Word. Together He blesses to us all the means of grace. Together we bear one another’s burdens, dwell in one another’s hearts, are patient with one another’s failings, refresh one another’s spirits, shine as lights in the world as we hold forth the word of life. Or so it should be.

*A new perspective on trials.* ‘If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?’ (Heb.12:7). We are to be (in Thomas Brooks’ phrase) mute Christians under the smarting rod. Why? Because God is dealing with us as our Father.

*A new destiny in heaven.* Let Romans 8:17 suffice: ‘And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together’. We have been placed, by adopting love and grace, among those ‘many sons’ whom God will bring to glory.

# 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 08 May <span style="float: right;"><b>No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study</b></span>	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 10 May 7:00pm <span style="float: right;"><b>Young Adults Fellowship</b></span>	
Sat 11 May 4:00pm <span style="float: right;"><b>Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b></span>	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Mr Robert Campbell	Mr Robert Campbell	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TODAY: 05/05/2013</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> Alan  <b>Organist:</b> Anthony  <b>Pianist:</b> Jasmine  <b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Evelyn  <b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Joy  <b>Lunch:</b> Maureen  <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers  <b>PA Crew:</b> Yangfan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 12/05/2013</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan  <b>Organist:</b> Joy  <b>Pianist:</b> Anthony  <b>Ushers:</b> John / Constance  <b>Sunday School:</b> Hannah / Joy  <b>Lunch:</b> Mrs Ki  <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers  <b>PA Crew:</b> Scott</p>
<b>Message</b>	TBC	TBC	
<b>Text</b>	TBC	TBC	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pre-Lunch Bible Study:</b> Mr Graham will lead a short study before lunch.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those who are sick:</b> 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 &amp; Elliora, Scott.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for those seeking employment:</b> Yetta.</li> <li>• <b>London Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2nd - 4th July 2013</b> - Recovery from Spiritual Decline.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £704.60, Lunch: £50.95, Kenya: £50.00</p> <p><b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 34 (A) 6 (C), Evening: 24 (A) 6 (C)</p>	

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 68

**Q: What is required in the Sixth Commandment?**

*A: The Sixth Commandment requireth all lawful endeavours to preserve our own life, and the life of others.*

Scriptural Reference:

Mark 6:31, Psalm 82:3-4

## MEMORY VERSE

Last Week		Next Week
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>“O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Romans 11:33</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>This Week</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Colossians 2:3</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>“And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Revelation 15:3</b></p>