



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. 42

LORD’S DAY 20 OCTOBER 2013

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:6-7

Isaiah 40:21-23

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 18 – “Come, Thou Almighty King”

RHC 74 – “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*Opening Prayer **

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 40

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 40 verses 1-4, 17
(to the tune of Azmon, RHC 61)

Announcements & Memory Verse

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 403 – “Count Your Blessings”

Scriptural Text

Amos 4:1-13

John 12:27-36

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

Sermon Message

When God Becomes Silent

The Cry of Christ for Direction

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 429 – “We Have Not Known Thee as We Ought”

RHC 315 – “Walk in the Light”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* 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

My Dear Reader,

TO LIVE IS CHRIST – TO DIE IS GAIN

20-10-2013 Last Lord's Day, one of our faithful worshipers asked me to explain some verses in Philippians chapter 1. What a great request! - In this letter, the Apostle Paul wrote to the first church where he served in Europe. He gave details about his personal life. Writing from a prison cell in Caesarea, on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, he was in a hard place. Yet, he wrote to encourage a congregation he deeply loved. The congregation was facing the problem of broken relationships. People who had happily worked together previously were no longer getting along with each other. But before dealing with that problem, he wrote about his immediate future.

In verse 20 he explains his life purpose. In every way he wants to be a faithful servant of Christ, never ashamed of identifying as one who belongs to Him. He was a real person in a physical body with pain and suffering. His Christian commitment was for the whole experience of life, not just for the happy times when all was going well – *whether by life or by death*. He then declared:

*For me, to live is Christ,
and to die is gain.*

He went on to explain that if God allowed him to continue living, he would continue to invest his time and effort in the lives of people, yes, there in Philippi and elsewhere. Yet, if this was the time for him to die and go to be with the Lord in heaven, that would be far, far better. No more pain, suffering, disease, hardship, or heartbreak. Between those choices, is there any real comparison? In verse 24 he explained that there was more to his life than a "Miss Piggy, Me First" attitude. The greater purpose of his life (and ours) ought to be living out what God wants to do through us to impact others. In the next verses, he told them he believed the Lord was going to allow him to live longer and to invest in their lives so they would mature in their relationship with the Lord as he would return to them (v. 25-26). He called them to be faithful to the gospel of Christ in every part of their lives, whether he was able to return to them or not (v. 27-28). But note verse 29: *For unto you it is given in behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake*. Wait, Paul, heaven I want. Purposeful living, I want, but suffering, who wants that?

Earlier this month a book was released with the above title on suffering by Timothy Keller, a Presbyterian pastor in New York City. Suffering is an unwelcome intruder into our world that forces us to experience things we would rather avoid. As a pastor in that city since 1990, Keller has seen and experienced his own share of suffering. Whoever experiences suffering never walks away from the experience the same.

One Monday morning I was in the Abington Hospital, very near Philadelphia, PA, where I had taken Dr. and Mrs. Jack Murray, long time friends and servants of our Lord. Dr. Murray, once a vigorous international gospel preacher, then advanced in age, was there for a medical appointment. In a room adjacent to the waiting room where we were sitting, a distinguished businessman from Philadelphia was informed that the tests he had undergone meant that he was facing immediate hospitalization.

In shock and disbelief, he appealed that he had trips to make, meetings to conduct, and deals to broker. It was a major reality check for all of us in the waiting room. His appeals were to no avail. Suffering tends to be a great leveler for all of who face it regardless of status or income. When our suffering is over, we are either *better* or *bitter*.

*God is God! If He is God, He is worthy of my worship and my service.
I will rest nowhere but in His will
and that will is infinitely, immeasurably, unspeakably,
beyond my largest notions of what He is up to.
~Elizabeth Elliot*

In her book *No Graven Image*, Elizabeth Elliot wrote a novel about a missionary who gave herself to serve faithfully for her lifetime. Yet in the end the whole of her life investment unraveled. In summary, at the very end of the book she wrote: *If God was my accomplice He had betrayed me. If He is my God, then He had liberated me.*

Today we welcome back Pastor and Mrs. Ki who have been away during a time of suffering from physical afflictions. We praise God that in His providence has spared their lives and has returned them to New Life. Thank you for your faithfulness to the Lord, the services, and each other, in the months they have been away. Many of you have stepped in and helped in diverse ways. God has seen your investment and He remembers (Hebrews 6:10). May I appeal to you to partner with them in a fresh commitment to advance the work of Christ in this congregation and community?

- Faithfully yours, CTM

When God Becomes Silent Amos 4

I. The Summons We Must _____ v. 1-5

II. The Warnings We Must _____ v. 6-11

III. The God We Must _____ v. 12-13

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 23 Oct	11:00am	Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Vicky Kar and Betty Ng to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 25 Oct	7:00pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>The Revival of Babylon and Babylonianism</i>	
Sat 26 Oct	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: 20/10/2013</u> <i>Chairman:</i> John <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Sarah <i>Ushers:</i> Daniel / Yetta <i>Sunday School:</i> No Sunday School <i>Lunch:</i> Diane Blundell <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Yangfan <u>NEXT WEEK: 27/10/2013</u> <i>Chairman:</i> Jonathan <i>Organist:</i> Sarah <i>Pianist:</i> Anthony <i>Ushers:</i> Daniel / Margaret <i>Sunday School:</i> No Sunday School <i>Lunch:</i> Maureen <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott
Message	TBC	TBC	
Text	TBC	TBC	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Lunch Bible Study: Dr Martin will lead a study on "The Doctrine of the Church" and questions from the morning sermon. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor Ki, Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Rev Colin Wong. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta. • Pray for those on travel: Pastor & Mrs Ki, Prema, John, Sharon, Tobias & Elliora, Hannah. • Ladies Fellowship after lunch today. • Church cleaning next Sunday after lunch. 			
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £492.90, Lunch: £43.00 Attendance - Morning: 26 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 15 (A) 4 (C)			

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 93

Q: Which are the sacraments of the New Testament?

A: The sacraments of the New Testament are, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper.

Comments:

The two sacraments of the Old Testament were Circumcision and the Passover. The two sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These sacraments answer the one to the other – Baptism coming in place of Circumcision, and the Lord's Supper in place of the Passover. They teach likewise the same truths – Circumcision and Baptism teaching the necessity of being *born again*, and the Passover and the Lord's Supper teaching the necessity of a *sacrifice for sin*.

Scriptural Reference:

Matthew 28:19, Matthew 26:26

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"For by it the elders obtained a good report.</i></p> <p><i>Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."</i></p> <p>Hebrews 11:2-3</p>	<p><i>"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him."</i></p> <p>Colossians 1:16</p>	<p><i>"And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."</i></p> <p>Colossians 1:17</p>