



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. 47

LORD’S DAY 24 NOVEMBER 2013

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Evening Service – 4pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 135:1-3	Psalm 43
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 19 – “Come, We That Love the Lord”	RHC 14 – “Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 45	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 45 - 1st version verses 1-4 & 6</i> (to the tune of St. Peter, RHC 456)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 333 – “Yesterday, Today, Forever” verses 1-2	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	James 1	Jonah 3 & 4
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Four Tests of Spirituality</i>	<i>Doest thou well to be angry?</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 389 – “Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord”	RHC 379 – “O for a Faith That Will Not Shrink”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson	Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson
<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

STEPS TO PEACE OF MIND

Rev Jack Sin, Maranatha Messenger 17th November 2013

Introduction

There are rumours of wars, unrest, family feuds, marital conflicts company uncertainties, national riots and confusion around the world today and the United Nations which was formed to bring about global peace, does not seem to be achieving it. Many are suffering from mental illnesses with much psychological unrest in our minds and souls. How can we have serenity amidst all the noise, anarchy and chaos in the world and how can our minds be filled with the lasting tranquility that we need? Let us consider the four Cs' in answer to this:

The Creator of Peace

Consider Isaiah 26:3-4 which says, *'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.'*

The word 'thou' in verse 3 and Jehovah, the Almighty Covenant keeping God of Israel in verse 4 are important. For us, Christians, this PEACE is found in Christ alone and not in self or the world.

Christ who is the fountain and source of true peace has prophesied through the prophet that he will come to bring peace finally to this war torn world as the Prince of Peace and to set up a millennial kingdom on earth (Rev 20:1-6).

Note Isaiah 9:6 - *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, and The Prince of Peace.*

Christ is the Source of peace for He is God who has come to dwell among men. He promised that He would give us eternal peace when we ask and that He will give us the victory over our fear and troubles (Rom 5:1, Jn 14:27) when we trust in Him.

Our Lord in John 14:27 says - *Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

But even in tribulation and the trials of suffering, it is possible to be of good cheer because He promises lasting peace for the true seekers of God and His grace is sufficient for us.

Let us be encouraged by our Lord in John 16:33 which says - *These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*

Conditions for Christ's Peace

There are requirements in Isaiah 26:3 for peace and we need to discipline ourselves to stay or focus our mind on Christ and not be distracted by the many seductive things of the world including the internet, our mobiles, games, work and studies. Relying fully on the Lord is the only way of joyful and peaceful living.

Remember that 2 Timothy 1:7 says - *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*

Believers have a sanctified mind that can be used of God for edifying intellectual purposes and in making right decision.

Mark 5:15 - *And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.*

Note that this implied that the person in Mark 5 was not in his right mind initially when he was possessed and would often torture himself but was after Christ cast out the demon from him and transformed him totally, he was transformed spiritually and mentally too. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 10:5 - *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*

We need to fight against unedifying thoughts and to work on developing and disciplining our minds and thoughts to be Christ-centred and edifying, not corrupted or perverted by the corrupt world of sin. We must trust and believe in Christ first then He alone will bring us genuine peace in our hearts when we pray and rest and trust in Him and repent of our sins.

Consider what Paul has to say as a God-given avenue to receive the peace of God and it is by prayer and a sound mind:

Philippians 4:6-8 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

There are more and more Singaporeans who are plagued with psychological and mental problems today and IMH is full of patients. Philippians 4:8 gives us a 'think list' for all to note and apply for a healthy mental life.

Note also Psalm 56:3-4 and 10-11 which says - *What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me. In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me. Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.*

Only God is worthy of our complete faith and trust (Isa 26:3-4). There are many people who toil, aim for success and pleasure and they are still unhappy and full of anxiety and fears for they trust in themselves or the things of the world . Though they may seem happy but deep down, they do not have any resting peace with God nor with themselves. It is a false fleeting peace that is soon empty and vain and they will discover that it is worthless without Christ the only basis for true peace.

Commitment to Peace

This commitment to true lasting peace must be shown in changed life and a transformed character as an example of our saving faith in the Lord when we stay on Him and trust in Him alone (vs 4). It requires spiritual discipline, consistent effort and sound biblical convictions as well.

Remember Isaiah 12:2 - *Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.*

Consequences if we do not have Christ's Peace

If we do not have the peace of God and peace with God then we are still in our sins and are spiritually bankrupt and under the wrath of God though we may seem to be doing fine before the world (but we are not). One day, Christ is coming again with righteous justice and He will deliver sound judgment. Let us turn to Him for the forgiveness of our manifold sins and reconciliation with God before it is too late.

Note Isaiah 26:19-21 - *Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.*

For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

If we do not have peace with God through Christ, our only Mediator between God and men, we will be still guilty and will be punished and lost forever one day. We will not know the comforting peace of God in our hearts that comes with a gracious pardon. Let us therefore seek His divine mercy and everlasting peace while he may be found before it is too late (Isa 55:6-7).

Conclusion

Our minds are important and we need to discipline and develop them. Can you say that you have peace today in your life? Christ is the only solution to our depraved and fallen world and not self esteem, positive thinking, any worldly remedy in yoga or transcendental meditation or man's psychological superficial cures. Will you pass the test and obtain eternal peace with God and in the Lord? Come and seek Christ as your personal Saviour and Lord now and confess to Him and repent of your sins and be reconciled with God and experience everlasting peace in Him alone and eternal rest for your souls today.

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 27 Nov	No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study		We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Grace Wong to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 29 Nov	No Young Adults Fellowship		
Sat 30 Nov	4:00pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting		
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Rev. Brian Green	Rev. Brian Green	TODAY: 24/11/2013
Message	TBC	TBC	Chairman: Jonathan
Text	TBC	TBC	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Jasmine
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Lunch Prayer: There will be a short time of prayer before lunch. • 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, Patricia. • ECM Today: Church Members, please note that there will be an ECM immediately after Morning Service. • Ladies Fellowship after lunch today: Please see Sis Elizabeth or Sis Helen for more information. 			Ushers: John / Margaret
			Sunday School: No Sunday School
			Lunch: Maureen
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Yangfan / Scott
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £638.00, Lunch: £31.00</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 29 (A) 7 (C), Evening: 17 (A) 2 (C)</p>			NEXT WEEK: 01/12/2013
			Chairman: John
			Organist: Sarah
			Pianist: Anthony
			Ushers: Daniel / Evelyn
			Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael
			Lunch: Maureen
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Yangfan / Scott

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 98

Q: What is prayer?

A: Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of CHRIST, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies.

Comments:

Prayer means *asking* of God; and we are here told the following three things respecting it: 1. As to its *form*, it should be offered to God in the name of Christ; 2. As to its *substance*, it should be for things agreeable to God's will; 3. As to its *manner*, it should be made with humble acknowledgement of our sins, and grateful acknowledgement of God's mercy.

Scriptural Reference:

Matthew 7:7, John 16:23, Philippians 4:6

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>“Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.”</i></p> <p>Romans 13:2</p>	<p><i>“Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck.”</i></p> <p>Psalm 75:5</p>	<p><i>“For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.”</i></p> <p>Psalm 75:6</p>