



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. 18 No. 27

LORD’S DAY 06 JULY 2014

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>	Philippians 2:5-11	Isaiah 9:6-7
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 11 – “May Jesus Christ Be Praised”	RHC 556 – “How Sweet the Name of Jesus”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 77	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 77 verses 1-2, 10-15</i> (to the tune of Cleansing Fountain, RHC 173)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 209 – “Because He Lives” verses 1-3	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Amos 5:21-27	John 12:42-50
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>For Whom Do We Gather?</i>	<i>But What Will It Cost Me to Follow Jesus?</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 388 – “O for a Closer Walk with God”	RHC 431 – “Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<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 2014 – “Waiting for God” – Isaiah 30:18

WAITING FOR GOD - PART 2

Almost nine months have passed away since we had to leave from you. Children must have grown up bigger, and some of you have a few more grey hairs than before. Thank the Lord that Preacher Mok and his wife, Carol, were able to be with you for six months and will come back hopefully very soon. Thank and praise the Lord that Dr. Carl Martin is with you for the next few months. We want you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers daily.

A few months, we thought of the first reason why we needed to wait for God, which was, that God is the God of our salvation. Today, we want to study the second reason why we need to wait for Him, which is, that salvation comes from Him. Jacob said in Genesis 49:18, "I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD." Jacob called his twelve sons before he died and gave his spiritual bequest in Genesis 49. In this chapter, he uttered prophecies for each of his sons. The study of this chapter may not be easy because of the nature of biblical prophecies, but there are at least two points we need to observe: (1) According to verse 28, these prophetic utterances were to bless his sons and children. Verse 28 says, "All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them." Some of his words are quite harsh and striking and also remind his sons of their evil deeds in the past. However, Judah was an exception. Though he was foolish in chapter 38, Jacob's prophecy of him promised a bright future of his descendants. (2) These blessing were also prophecies. Though Jacob's sons received these prophecies, they did not see their fulfillments in their lifetime. We know that all of them lived and died in Egypt.

Before we come to Genesis 49:18, we find that Jacob uttered prophecies to his seven sons (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, and Dan). Just before Jacob uttered the words of faith in verse 18, he spoke of the tribe of Dan in verses 16 and 17, which are full of gruesome words: "Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward." The prophecy, "Dan shall judge his people" is also a description of his name. Genesis 30:6 says, "And Rachel said, God hath judged me, and hath also heard my voice, and hath given me a son: therefore called she his name Dan." Dan was a son through Bilhah, Rachel's handmaid. This tribe served more destructive purposes and Judges 18 is a good example. Dan is not listed in the list of the tribes of Israel in Revelation 7:5-8. Having spoken of Dan in such a helpless manner, Jacob uttered the words of hope and faith in verse 18.

Keil and Delitzsch expound the verse as following: "But this manifestation of strength, which Jacob expected from Dan and promised prophetically, presupposed that severe conflicts awaited the Israelites. For these conflicts Jacob furnished his sons with both shield and sword in the ejaculatory prayer, "I wait for Thy salvation, O Jehovah!" which was not a prayer for his own soul and its speedy redemption from all evil, but in which, as Calvin has strikingly shown, he expressed his confidence that his descendants would receive the help of his God. Accordingly, the later Targums (Jerusalem and Jonathan) interpret these words as Messianic, but with a special reference to Samson, and paraphrase ver. 18 thus: 'Not for the deliverance of Gideon, the son of Joash, does my soul wait, for that is temporary; and not for the redemption of Samson, for that is transitory; but for the redemption of the Messiah, the Son of David, which Thou through Thy Word hast promised to bring to Thy people the children of Israel: for this Thy redemption my soul waits'" (*Commentary on the Old Testament*, vol. 1, 404).

Jacob states that the hope of Israel does not lie in his twelve sons, whoever they are and however strong they are, but in the Messiah, who is the son of David. Salvation does not come from within Israel but without, which is the Lord Himself. Whichever way we understand Jacob's prayer in verse 18, one thing is for sure: his faith is only in God and his expectations are only from Him. Jacob waited for God's salvation. There is no better person than Jacob who could understand this very point. Jacob had to flee from his brother Esau. Having spent 20 years away from home, he had to come back but was afraid to return, because he expected harsh hands from his own brother in vengeance. He was greatly afraid and distressed (Genesis 32:7). He had wives, children, servants, and cattle, but no military strength to face the valor of his brother. He was desperate, and there was no one who could deliver him from dangers. His only hope was in God. He prayed to God in Genesis 32:11, "Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children." He received God's deliverance later. Jacob knew by experience that God was the hope of his children too.

However, such assurance of God's deliverance did not strengthen Jacob at once. He struggled at times and fell back into despair. God told him to return to his home land in Genesis 31:13, "I am the God of Bethel, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred." God rescued him from Laban's pursuing hands (Genesis 31:42). He met the angels of God (Genesis 32:1). However, he was still afraid of facing the situation to meet his brother, Esau. He had to be assured and reassured till he experienced his name change from Jacob to Israel in Genesis 32:28. Jacob finally learnt that the One whom he had to wait for was the Lord Himself. He knew that the Lord is the Lord of his salvation.

Now let us bring this point to the truth of our salvation. From the beginning till end, the salvation of our souls is of the Lord. There is no other God beside Him, and there is no other way to heaven but through Jesus Christ. There is no other Savior who is also our advocate, Jesus the Christ. The Spirit of God convicts us of our sins and brings us to Christ through His regenerating power. As we put our faith and trust in Jesus, we are declared to be righteous. No, not through works, but faith alone. Christ's once for all sacrifice suffices all our needs in eternity. We are brought into the family of God. We are saved by His grace.

However, there is also a physical side of His salvation we need to consider. For example, Luke 18:42 says, "And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee." Jesus is talking about physical healing in this verse. It implies that the Lord also works in our daily life and walk in this world for our needs. Probably, this side of the truth is given for our benefits from man's point of view. People standing next to the cross said in Luke 23:35, "And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God." They did not believe in Jesus saving souls but saw Him delivering many from their problems.

Waiting for God means to surrender to Him and obey Him for His salvation and deliverance. We are helpless beings, and our confidence must not be in ourselves but in Him. This realization is the very beginning of our waiting for Him. Andrew Murray says, ". . . the deep blessed background of all our praying and working will be: 'Truly my soul waiteth upon God' (Psalm 62:1)." It is a blessed cry, "I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD."

Lovingly,

Your Pastor

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
Tues 08 July	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 11 July	No Young Adults Fellowship		
Sat 12 July	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	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TODAY: 06/07/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan</p> <p>Organist: Jasmine</p> <p>Pianist: Anthony</p> <p>Ushers: Daniel / Evelyn</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Helen</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Scott</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 13/07/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: John</p> <p>Organist: Anthony</p> <p>Pianist: Jasmine</p> <p>Ushers: Tom / Constance</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Jasmine</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Jonathan</p>
Message	Empty Echoes of Religion	A Personal Meeting with Jesus	
Text	Amos 6:1-14	John 13:1-11	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: This week's study will be led by Dr Martin. • 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, Scott, Patricia, Hannah, Sarah, Shirley, Jonathan, Jasmine. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Patricia. • Pulpit Ministry: Please pray for the Church and the calling of Pr Mok Chee Cheong as our resident minister, and that the visa application will be accepted and completed without delay. • Lord's Supper: We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week. Please come with hearts prepared. 			
<p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £765.20, Lunch: £45.00, Hospitality: £251.50</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 18 (A) 3 (C), Evening: 17 (A) 3 (C)</p>			

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 23

Q: What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

A: Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Comments:

In the last three questions we were taught the great truth that sinners may be saved. In the following six questions we are taught the way in which our Redeemer works out salvation to his people. He does so, we are told, by discharging the duties of a prophet, a priest, and a king, and thereby delivering us from our threefold misery of ignorance, guilt, and bondage. He performed these duties while he was here on earth, and he still continues to perform them in heaven.

Scriptural Reference:

Acts 3:22, Hebrews 5:6, Psalm 2:6

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."</i></p> <p>Romans 15:13</p>	<p><i>"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"</i></p> <p>Romans 8:31</p>	<p><i>"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"</i></p> <p>Romans 8:32</p>