



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. 50

LORD’S DAY 14 DECEMBER 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>	Psalm 9:1-2	Psalm 33:1-4
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 152 – “Joy to the World”	RHC 161 – “There’s a Song in the Air!”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 98	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 98 verses 1-9</i> (to the tune of Azmon, RHC 61)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 160 – “As with Gladness Men of Old”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Colossians 1:24	John 15:12-17
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Do You Have A Cup of Suffering?</i>	<i>What Would You Give up for a Friend?</i>
<i>The Lord's Supper</i>	Dr Carl Martin	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 182 – “Lead Me to Calvary”	RHC 408 – “I Gave My Life for Thee”
<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

TEACH US TO NUMBER OUR DAYS THAT WE MAY APPLY OUR HEARTS UNTO WISDOM

Scripture Text: Psalm 90:12

Introduction

As we are approaching the end of 2014, and before we step into the New Year, if the Lord permits, we do well to take our cue from Moses to set aside time for reflection; to talk to our own souls like the Psalmist did in many of the Psalms and ask, "what have I done with my God-given life this year for the Lord Jesus?" It is also an opportune time to remind ourselves of the brevity and frailty of life here in this sin-cursed world.

Entering into a New Year also means we are getting older, which is a fact that we cannot ignore. So as much as we rejoice over the coming of a new year, it should also be a sobering reminder that our time on earth is getting shorter and and we are getting nearer to the day of reckoning.

Therefore Moses at almost the end of his 38 years of wandering in the wilderness together with the children of Israel penned this meaning prayer in Psalm 90, which speaks of man's brevity of life on earth and contrasted it with God's eternity, power and glory and the providence of God.

It is wise for us to consider now before the end of this year, what we ought to do with the reminding days of our life on this earth as the Lord so lend us breath. To help us in our reflection, I particularly like to draw our attention to verse 12 that says, "*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.*" What does this verse teaches us?

1. We are taught to number our days

The purpose is for the following reasons:

- 1) The shortness of life on earth,
- 2) The failure of the past in fulfilling the will of our flesh (wasted time, effort and opportunities) and
- 3) The uncertainty of the future.

When we reflect on the brevity of life, then we are humbled to consider how we ought to live it and what we ought to do so that we will not continue in our old ways which resulted in futility. We must realised that the abundant life promised to us is to be lived while here on earth so as to glorify God and as a beacon of light to lead others to Him.

To live this abundant life requires us to be taught by the Word of God, His statutes and commandments. Spurgeon said, ""The law is our school master to bring us to Christ, when the Lord himself speaks by the law. It is most meet that the heart which will so soon cease to beat should while it moves be regulated by wisdom's hand. A short life should be wisely spent." In other words, while there is yet time, though it is short, we ought to apply what we have been taught from the Word of God so that this short life can be abundant and full for the glory of God.

2. To take what we had been taught to apply it unto wisdom

The second lesson to note from this verse is to *“apply our hearts unto wisdom.”* The uncertainty of the future should prompt us to be very careful how we ought to live our lives as believers because verse 10 reminds us, *“The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.”*

We each have experienced how uncertain life can be. We see that in the lives of our loved ones, friends and colleagues who were taken home so suddenly and so quickly that we have no time and opportunity to say goodbye (eg. natural disaster, etc).

How much time and effort were spent on matters which are of no eternal value, and at the same time so many more important things that we ought to do are left undone or half done because of our sin of procrastination and not sizing every opportune time to do what we ought. Evangelism or mission objectives are not met because we spend our time and energy wrangling over trivial issues while souls are perishing around us. Brethren, we cannot continue to live in our former ways because time is not on our side and soon we will have to give an account of our life before the judgement seat of Christ.

Our failures in the past should shamed us and moved us never to repeat the same mistakes again. Paul reminded us in Ephesians 5:16, *“Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”* What we have lost, we must regain by learning from our failures and short comings. We see in the beginning of this verse that Moses prayed *“Teach us to number our days”*, not that he does not already know how to spend his time and what he ought to do with his life, rather to pray for God’s help so that he can do better than what he had done in the past. This should also be our daily prayer.

Paul knew this lesson very well and that is why the writer of Hebrews says, 12:1 *“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us”* (Heb 12:1). Likewise David prayed, *“Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in Thy truth.”*

Conclusion

However, we should not let our past failures cast us down and hinder us in moving forward. Again Paul in his instruction to the Philippians church in 3:13-14 is helpful to us, *“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”* Let us press on till the calls us home or till He comes and brings us back to Himself. Amen

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
Thurs 18 Dec 7:00pm Bible Study - Study on the book of Mark	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome the Golson Family to our worship services last Lord's Day.
Fri 19 Dec No Young Adults Fellowship	
Sat 20 Dec 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: 14/12/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: John Organist: Sarah Pianist: Matthew Ushers: Tom / Yetta Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael Lunch: Jonathan Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Jonathan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 21/12/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Anthony Ushers: Daniel / Yetta Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael Lunch: Christmas Lunch Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott</p>
Message	Christmas – The Light of Hope in the Shadows of Despair	Following the Path of Friendship with Jesus	
Text	Isaiah 9:1-7	John 15:17-24	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: Dr Martin will lead this week's study. • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor & Mrs Ki, Susan, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Rev Colin Wong, Patricia, Hannah, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Brian Green, Dr Tow, Elizabeth, Magdalene, Matthew, Jonathan's father, Tom, Kalel. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Magdalene. • Pray for those on travel: Ernest, Josias, Sarah, Elizabeth, Margaret, Shirley, Matthew. • Pulpit Ministry: Please pray for Pr Mok Chee Cheong's visa application. • Christmas Day Service will be held at 11am on 25th December 2014 <p>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1177.20, Lunch: £37.50 Attendance - Morning: 26 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 22 (A) 7 (C)</p>

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 46

Q: What is required in the First Commandment?

A: The First Commandment requireth us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.

Comments:

The First Commandments bids us – 1. Know the true God, and him only for *our* God; 2. As such confess him openly before men; 3. Worship him; 4. Honour him.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Chronicles 28:9, Proverbs 3:6

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.”</i></p> <p>Isaiah 53:4</p>	<p><i>“But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”</i></p> <p>Isaiah 53:5</p>	<p><i>“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”</i></p> <p>Isaiah 53:6</p>