



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. 20

LORD’S DAY 18 MAY 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>	Isaiah 42:5-10	Psalm 40:1-4
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 37 – “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”	RHC 130 – “I Waited for the Lord My God”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 70	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 70 2nd Version</i> (to the tune of Martydom, RHC 38)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 557 – “Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Psalm 23, Ezekiel 34:11-31	Hebrews 9:1-28
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr David Allen	Dr David Allen
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Shepherd Psalm</i>	<i>Putting Away Sin</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 59 – “Shepherd of Eager Youth”	RHC 133 – “He Took My Sins Away”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Dr David Allen	Dr David Allen
<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

HOW WERE YOU SAVED?

My Dear Reader,

18-05-2014 How is a person saved, or born again, or made to be in right standing with God? Last Lord's Day Pr. Mok taught us that salvation is not received because one has faith, nor because one prays, reads her or his Bible, memorizes Scripture, does charitable deeds for others, or gives generously of personal resources. All of the above are valuable things, but they are not means of salvation for us. Faith is essential, but it is not an end in itself. Faith, like love, must have an object. Imagine hearing a young man say, "I am in love." What question immediately follows? – "With whom?" or "With what?" If the love smitten young man responds, "I'm not in love with any one, I'm just in love with love." You would wonder what has gone wrong in his thinking because love requires an object. Faith also requires an object. All of us place faith or trust in people, ideas, or things. Yet when it comes to saving faith, what you trust in makes the difference between salvation and damnation. Are you trusting in your merit or your efforts to find favor with God, or are you trusting in the finished work of Jesus Christ who died in your behalf? When you place your faith in trust in Jesus Christ and accept the payment He made for your sin, you are forgiven. The righteousness of Jesus is credited to your account while your sins are credited to the account of Jesus the Christ or the Messiah.

The essential question you must address is, have you trusted Jesus to be your Savior? Do you believe that He is the One lived a life of perfect obedience, who became the substitute for your sin and died in your place to make peace with God? If you know the Lord as your Savior, how did you come to accept Him? Think of the time and place when you became aware of your salvation. What brought you to that point?

On one level, you bowed before the Lord, acknowledged your sin and rebellion against Him and accepted Him as your redeemer and Savior. You actively called upon the Lord to be saved. But what brought you to that point? Raising that question brings us to the subject of choice. Did you choose to accept Jesus as your redeemer or did God choose you without your involvement? Why did you get saved someone else that you know has no interest in the God of your salvation? What does the Bible teach on this important subject?

These questions bring us to the second of the **Five Points of Calvinism**: "Unconditional Election." Again, remember that this is the response given to the second of "**the five points**" of Arminianism. Below I have posted the summary of the two positions on election.

Conditional Election

God's choice of certain individuals unto salvation before the foundation of the world was based upon His foreseeing that they would respond to His call. He selected only those whom He knew would of themselves freely believe the gospel. Election therefore was determined by or conditioned upon what man would do. The faith which God foresaw and upon which He based His choice was not given to the sinner by God (it was not created by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit) but resulted solely from man's will. It was left entirely up to man as to who would believe and therefore as to who would be elected unto salvation. God chose those whom He knew would, of their own free will, choose Christ. Thus the sinner's choice of Christ, not God's choice of the sinner, is the ultimate cause of salvation.

Unconditional Election

God's choice of certain individuals unto salvation before the foundation of the world rested solely in His own sovereign will. His choice of particular sinners was not based on any foreseen response or obedience on their part, such as faith, repentance, etc. On the contrary, God gives faith and repentance to each individual whom He selected. These acts are the result, not the cause God's choice. Election therefore was not determined by or conditioned upon any virtuous quality or act foreseen in man. Those whom God sovereignly elected He brings through the power of the Spirit to a willing acceptance of Christ. Thus God's choice of the sinner, not the sinner's choice of Christ, is the ultimate cause of salvation.

from the online resource "Graceonlinelibrary.org"

When an Arminian speaks of election he or she usually believes that God, at some time before the creation of the world, looked down the corridor of time and, without any action or influence on His part, observed the decision the individual would make of his or her "free will." Once that decision was observed, God ratified it, thereby making that person "elect."

They appeal to verses like 1 Peter 1:2; Romans 8:29; and 2 Peter 3:9 to support their position that God's advance knowledge (foreknowledge) is the basis of His choosing. Some Arminians teach that God made no advance decision at all. He waits until a person chooses salvation then ratifies that choice, then that person is elected to salvation. If that person does not make that choice, he or she is not of the elect.

When Calvinists speak of Unconditional Election, they do not mean that humankind simply hangs like a blob and is brought to salvation. Rather the Calvinists mean that when an individual professes faith in Jesus Christ for her or his eternal salvation, she or he is doing so actively from the heart, responding in repentance and faith to the Lord. But that action is in response to the prior working of God in ones heart to bring her or him to salvation. The basis of that choosing is not because of race, ethnicity, nationality, social status, or the individual's sex. Rather, the basis of the choosing is because God in his love, for reasons only He knows, has chosen some of the human family to be saved. They refer to the Old Testament instruction to Israel in Deuteronomy 7 & 8 where God reminded the people that the only reason they were uniquely His was because He loved them. Calvinists believe that all are invited, but only those in whose hearts the Lord is specifically working will respond believingly to His invitation. They refer to passages like John 6:37, 44; Acts 16:14; and Romans 8:29-34 to support their position.

Some who identify themselves as Calvinists are really Hyper-Calvinists and do not believe that the invitation to salvation should be extended to all. Their argument is that one may be falsely led to believe that he or she might be saved, when they are not elect. But when the Scriptures declare, "Whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish..." (John 3:16); "He that heareth my word and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life..." (John 5:24); and "Whosoever calleth on the name of the Lord shall be saved," (Romans 10:13 citing Joel 2:32), the Biblical Christian is duty bound to extend that invitation to all as God grants opportunity.

God is a generous God and He graciously and freely saves all who come to Him in repentance (turning away from sin) and faith (turning to Christ). In Acts 2:39, we have the promise stated by the Apostle Peter, "And the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God shall call." Where might Peter get such ideas? From the teaching of Jesus and from the Old Testament. In Ezekiel 18: 21-22, we read, *But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. All his transgression that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness, that he hath done he shall live.* One writer, commenting on these verses wrote:

"In this sentence God proposes the hope of pardon, and invites and exhorts to penitence all the transgressors of his law. But this doctrine is specially worthy of notice, that God extends his arms, and is prepared to meet and receive all who betake themselves to good fruits: for despair hurls us into madness and then hardens our hearts by abandoned obstinacy. Hence it is necessary that God should extend his hand towards us, and animate us to penitence. This is the meaning of this passage of the Prophets, *as soon as the impious is turned away from his impiety, God will be at peace with him.* Now we see that no excuse remains for us if this humane invitation of God does not stir us up when he bears witness that he is propitious to us when we heartily desire to be reconciled to him...." (*Emphasis added*)

The writer is eager for the reader to understand what Ezekiel is proclaiming. Notice that a clear invitation to all is recognized in the exposition of this passage. Oh, yes, the writer of the above lines was John Calvin in his *Commentary on Ezekiel* Vol. II, page 245. Check it out for yourself.

Do not ignore the Gospel invitation. If you have never accepted the payment Jesus Christ provided for your sin and rebellion, I invite you to do so right now! Talk to Him right now, where you are. He is more ready to hear you than you are to speak to Him. -- If you know Him, invite others to come to Him.

Hoping to point you to Christ, CTM

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 20 May	No Ladies Mid-Week Bible Study	We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day. We like to welcome Alice and Daniel to our worship services last Lord's Day.	
Fri 23 May	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>"The Final Judgment"</i> - Mr Ian Shaw		
Sat 24 May 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	<u>TODAY: 18/05/2014</u>	
Message	The Marred Girdle Things Christ has done for us	Chairman: Jonathan	
Text	Jeremiah 13:7 Colossians 1: 12-14	Organist: Anthony	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS		Pianist: Jasmine	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: Dr Martin will lead a study on <i>"The Doctrine of the Church"</i>. • 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, Jonathan, Scot, Patricia, Hannah, Sarah. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Patricia. • Pray for those on travels: Anthony & Helen. • Pray for the students for their upcoming exams. • Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology - 1st to 3rd July 2014 • Church cleaning after Lunch today. • Ladies Fellowship Next Sunday: Please see Sis Elizabeth for more info. • Lord's Supper: We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week. Please come with hearts prepared. • ECM Report: The calling of Pr Mok has been accepted by the Church members. Please pray for the visa application. 		Ushers: Tom / Daniel	
		Sunday School: No Sunday School	
		Lunch: Tom	
		Washing Up: Volunteers	
		PA Crew: John	
		<u>NEXT WEEK: 25/05/2014</u>	
		Chairman: John	
		Organist: Sarah	
		Pianist: Matthew	
		Ushers: Daniel / Margaret	
Sunday School: Hannah / Rachael			
Lunch: Maureen			
Washing Up: Volunteers			
PA Crew: Jonathan			
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £898, Lunch: £35			
Attendance - Morning: 24 (A) 4 (C), Evening: 16 (A) 4 (C)			

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 16

Q: Did all mankind fall in Adam's first transgression?

A: *The covenant being made with Adam, not only for himself, but for his posterity; all mankind – descending from him by ordinary generation – sinned in him, and fell with him, in his first transgression.*

Comments:

The agreement which God made with Adam did not affect himself alone, but all his descendants. When Adam sinned, therefore, the whole of the human race, except Christ, incurred along with him his punishment – the punishment of death. They 'sinned in him and fell in him'. This result is in strict keeping with the plan on which all the world's affairs are conducted, for we still see children suffering on account of the misdeeds of their parents.

Scriptural Reference:

Romans 5:18-19, 1 Corinthians 15:22

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;</i></p> <p><i>And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour."</i></p> <p>Ephesians 5:1-2</p>	<p><i>"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."</i></p> <p>Philippians 2:12</p>	<p><i>"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."</i></p> <p>Philippians 2:13</p>