



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. 8

LORD’S DAY 23 FEBRUARY 2014

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Isaiah 12

Psalm 134

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 17 – “Begin, My Tongue,
Some Heavenly Theme”

RHC 48 – “O Bless Our God
With One Accord”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 58

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 58 verses 1-2, 10-11
(to the tune of St Stephen, RHC 397)

*Announcements &
Memory Verse*

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings &
Doxology **

RHC 96 – “He Keeps Me
Singing” verses 1-3

Scriptural Text

Romans 1:28-32

Matthew 5:6

Pastoral Prayer

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Sermon Message

**Rejection of God brings
Rejection from God**

**Blessed are they which do
hunger - Part 2**

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 272 – “Let Jesus Come into
Your Heart”

RHC 240 – “Breathe on me,
Breath of God”

Benediction/3-Fold

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

*Amen **

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 2014 – “Waiting for God” – Isaiah 30:18

DELIGHT THYSELF IN THE LORD

Scripture Text: Psalm 37:4

Introduction

The question every believer must often ask, as we are disposed to forget, is, "what would I as a redeemed sinner delight while travelling as a pilgrim in this sin-cursed world?" In the Bible, the word delight or delights (plural) in the Hebrew has many forms and differing meanings.

The first appearance of this Hebrew word, 'delight' (יָצַח) is in the Old Testament in Gen 34:19, and its meaning is to have 'pleasure,' 'desire in' or 'favour.' It has a sensual or sexual connotation.

The other Hebrew word for 'delight' is, (רָצַח) and you will find this word in Deut 10:15, that reads, ¹⁵ *Only the LORD had a delight in thy fathers to love them.* The meaning here is 'to love,' 'be attached to,' or 'to long for.'

There is one more word for delight in Hebrew, and it is found in Psa 37:4. The word is total, (עָנַג) and its meaning is, to be delicate, be pampered, be happy about, or to take exquisite (intense) delight.

Therefore broadly speaking, and in answer to the earlier question, the delights of a believer, above all else, should be in the following ways because man's chief end is to glorify God, His creator, and to enjoy Him forever.

1. Delight in the person of God

One who is united in Christ through the Holy Spirit and continues to abide in Christ will delight in God. To delight in God is 'to love God,' 'be attached to God,' 'to long for God,' or to be happy about God, or to take exquisite delight in God.

Isaiah 61:10 says, ¹⁰ *I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.*"

In fact to put it in proper order, before one can delight in God, one must be found in God. By this we mean that one is "*clothed with the garments of salvation*" and "*covered with the robe of righteousness,*" which only Christ can offer.

So we cannot even begin to having the delights of God if we do not have Christ as our Saviour and Lord. It all begins in Christ and it is by Christ, through His Holy Spirit that we derive that delight in the person of God.

As we look deeper, we must ask, how much do I know God, the first person of the Godhead? Do I really have a personal relationship with this God through His only begotten Son, Christ Jesus? It is not knowing about God, but knowing Him personally. We have to honestly reflect upon our relationship with God time and time again because if we get this step wrong, everything else in our relationship with God will go off at a tangent.

It is when Christ comes into our life as our Saviour and Lord and through His indwelling Holy Spirit that we increasingly have the delight in the person of God. Then the next question we must ask in order to further understand what is the meaning of delight or delighting in the person of God?

The answer is this, one who has Christ as His personal Saviour and Lord and has the indwelling Holy Spirit is one who realises that he is a sinner saved by grace. He remembers that once upon a time, he was outside the Kingdom of light, he was in darkness, in bondage of sin, a slave to sin and the guilt of sin constantly grips him.

But when Christ came to save and delivered him from sin and free him from the guilt of sin, knowing that he does not deserve all these, and that it is by the mercy and grace of God that he is saved, such a one will delight in God because he is truly grateful and thankful to God for salvation for rich and free offered to him. Yes, as a believer, though from time to time he sin and falters, yet when he remembers Calvary, he will repent and yearn to return to his God who loves him enough to send His beloved Son to die for him.

So brethren, the one who abides in Christ, is firstly a Christian, a born-again Christian and then as he continues to follow Christ daily, feeds on His living Word and communes with his Saviour and Lord daily in prayer, he begins to delight in God and his delight in the person of God will grow stronger, deeper and fuller.

Beloved, is your relationship with your God seems so distance? The yearning and longing for God is so weak and your knowledge of your God is so shallow? I suggest you take some time to reflect and consider very seriously whether you are in the first place, a Christian, a truly born-again Christian, before you go any further in knowing the delight in the person of God.

2. Delight in the Law of God

Following close behind the delight in the person of God, is the delight in the Law of God. The person of God and the Law of God cannot be separated as it goes hand in hand. Why is this so? Because the law of God is given by God Himself and the Law of God is the reflection of the person of God. The Law of God is the essence of His character and all His virtues. Who God is, is exactly what the Law of God is.

Therefore, the one who is a Christian, is not only the one who delights in the person of God, he must also delight in the Law of God; it cannot be otherwise because just as the Law of God is intrinsically tied with the person of God, the believer will delight in both the person of God and the Law of His God.

Firstly, what is the meaning of the Law of God? The word 'law' itself means 'teaching,' 'instruction' or 'direction'. We usually associate 'the law of the Lord' with the law God gave to Moses or with the books of Moses (the first five books of the Bible). But, as Psalm 119 makes it clear to us in the broader sense, the term also refers to the whole truth of God as it is revealed in the Word of God, the Bible.

The believer who delights in the person of God, will naturally find happiness in 'the law of the Lord'. He will love, long for, as it were, desired to attach himself to the Law of God and not only desiring to know the Law of God by meditating on it but he will also seek to practice it.

Psalm 1:1-2, reads, *"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. (Psa 1:1) ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."*

The apostle Paul similarly says in Romans 7:22, *"²² For I delight in the law of God after (according to) the inward man."* Therefore, to delight in the Law of God is likened to one who is in love. He yearns to spend time with the person he loves. And when they meet, he is taking in all that she is saying and is intoxicated with her beauty. So it is with the one who abides in Christ and the Law of God.

Just as the law of God reflects His character and virtues, the Christian who loves and obey the law of God and practices it will likewise reflect the character and virtues of His God, though not in the exact degree and likeness.

The Word of God is never far from the thoughts of a believer. When he is depressed or distressed, he calls to mind God's promises. When he is uncertain and perplexed, he considers God's guiding principles. When his sins loom before him to swallow him up, he ponders God's glorious proclamation of love in and through Jesus Christ. He finds that the Word of God has a joy for every sorrow and a truth for every situation.

3. Delight in the works of God

The third thing that a born-again Christian delights in is the works of God. The delight in the works of God not only refers to His work of creation and sustaining the created world (Heb 1:3), but it also covers His work of salvation, His work of sanctification, His work of glorification, His work of deliverance, as in the case of the Israelites through Queen Esther, His work of judgement and basically His work of bringing to pass all that He has ordained according to His *"determinate counsel and foreknowledge."* (Act 2:23).

So a believer who abides in Christ will grow in His delight in the person of God, in the Law of God and lastly here, he will delight in the works of God. He rejoices to see God fulfilling His promises and His will not only in His own life, but the life of other believers. And he also desires to see the glory of God manifested in all His works so that he can receive encouragement or comfort through it and in turn he can testify to others the glory of God so as to comfort and encourage others.

Psalm 35:4–10 gives us a case in point to help us in understanding what it is to delight in the works of God. The Psalmist declares - ⁴ *Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt.* ⁵ *Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase them.* ⁶ *Let their way be dark and slippery: and let the angel of the LORD persecute them.*

⁷ *For without cause have they hid for me their net in a pit, which without cause they have digged for my soul.* ⁸ *Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he hath hid catch himself: into that very destruction let him fall.* ⁹ *And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in his salvation.* ¹⁰ *All my bones shall say, LORD, who is like unto thee, which deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him, yea, the poor and the needy from him that spoileth him?"*

Brethren, let us examine our hearts in the light of God's Word and be encouraged to know that there is a reward for those who delight in the Lord - *"Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart"* (Psa 37:4).

Eyre, S. D., author of *"Drawing close to God : The essentials of a dynamic quiet time,"* says, "Spiritual growth is a combination of God's initiative and our response. We can choose to ignore the voice of the Spirit. We can banish God to the edges of our busy lives, to the borders of consciousness. We can limit our practice to the occasional quiet time, thinking of God now and then and rattling off prayers in a haphazard way. Our spiritual lives will remain shallow. Or we can respond to his inner workings and be drawn to him. As God works, we will sense a pull and call inviting us deeper. As the psalmist wrote in Psalm 42, ⁷ *Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: (Psa 42:7).* As we sense this pull, it is up to us to follow."

Yours in Christ

Mok

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 26 Feb 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 28 Feb 7:00pm Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>"The Millennial Church"</i> - Mr Stephen Toms	
Sat 01 Mar 4:00pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	<u>TODAY: 23/02/2014</u> Chairman: Jonathan Organist: Anthony Pianist: Sarah Ushers: John / Margaret Sunday School: Rachael Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Yangfan
Message	Everyone is Inexcusable	Blessed are the merciful	
Text	Romans 2:1-5	Matthew 5:7	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: There will be a short video study on "Purity" by Dr Jim Berg. • 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, Elizabeth, Magdalene, Evelyn. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Patricia. • Pray for those on travel: Margaret, Hannah, Anthony & Helen. • Pulpit Ministry: Please pray for the Church and the calling of Rev Colin Wong as our resident minister, and that the visa application will be accepted and completed without delay. • Ladies Fellowship Next Sunday: See Sis Elizabeth for more information. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 02/03/2014</u></p> <p>Chairman: John Organist: Jasmine Pianist: Matthew Ushers: Daniel / Yetta Sunday School: No Sunday School Lunch: Maureen Washing Up: Volunteers PA Crew: Scott</p>
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1017.40; Lunch: £39.50 Attendance - Morning: 30 (A) 5 (C), Evening: 15 (A) 2 (C)	

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 4

Q: What is God?

A: God is a spirit – infinite, eternal, and unchangeable – in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

Comments:

The first thing we are here told concerning God is, that he has no *body* as we have. The second thing is, that he is not limited like us by want of power, affected by time, or subject to change. And the third thing is, that in character he is wise, and holy, and just, and good, and true. This is *our* God – the greatest of all beings, and the best.

Scriptural Reference:

John 4:24, Job 11:7, Daniel 4:35, Psalm 90:2, Psalm 102:26, 27

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>“So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”</i></p> <p>Hebrews 13:6</p>	<p><i>“And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.”</i></p> <p>Psalm 40:3</p>	<p><i>“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”</i></p> <p>Isaiah 40:31</p>