



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. 19 No. 52

LORD’S DAY 27 DECEMBER 2015

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 68:32-35

Philippians 2:5-11

*Opening Hymn **

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

RHC 556 – *“How Sweet the
Name of Jesus”*

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 143

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 143 verses 1-2, 5-11
(to the tune of Seraph, RHC 15)

*Announcements &
Memory Verse*

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings &
Doxology **

RHC 554 – *“Another Year Is
Dawning”*

Scriptural Text

Matthew 2

Luke 2:21-40

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Sermon Message

Christ the King

Two Saints who saw the Lord

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 217 – *“Rejoice – the Lord
Is King!”*

RHC 474 – *“We Would See
Jesus”*

*Benediction/3-Fold
Amen **

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

Dr Stephen Scott-Pearson

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 2015 – “Build a God-Honouring Family” – Joshua 24:15b

FOUR MAJOR CONCERNS IN THE CHURCH TODAY

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger - 20th December 2015

Introduction

We live in a post-modern world with manifold distractions and temptations and as a result of these, here are some grave concerns of the church today.

1. Ignorance of God

There is a profound lack of knowledge of the word of God in the church today and hence many had a superficial and shallow relationship with the Almighty Jehovah. Paul preached at Mars Hill and exposed the fallacy of worshipping the unknown God, a form of early agnosticism in the Greek Culture. Many who need to grow daily in the knowledge of God are comfortable with our ignorance and there is little or no desire to diligently seek out the spiritual truths of God's word. Ignorance of God and His word is not bliss. Many do not make a consciously effort to study, memorise, read or meditate on the word of God. Biblical illiteracy is a great liability to the church and render us vulnerable to false hood and deception. Hosea 4:6 says, *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."*

2. Indifference to God

A New York journalist did a survey once on the street of NY and he asked passer-by the question what do you think are the two greatest problems in the world today? Is it ignorance or indifference? One man retorted sharply, I don't know and I don't care" (at least he got the answer).

There is a growing spiritual nonchalance to the things of everlasting value. People are more interested in the temporal pleasures of this life than they are in the eternal treasures of heaven. Being engrossed in our work, studies and family matters, many are indifferent to the needs of other believers, corporate prayer, soul winning. Christian fellowship and stewardship, the meditation of the word, evangelism to lost souls and the discipleship of young Christians. Do we care for the eternity of lost souls and do we give to support missions or reach out and care for the needy? James 1:27 says *"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."*

3. Irreverence for God

Many may fear men or failure or loss of a job and different things with unexplained phobias but sadly not God. There is an audacious and insolent attitude towards the holiness and the fear of our God is missing today. Young people and even older people have lost a sense of awe and deep reverential fear for the majesty and the glory of God even in the church. Many take the sacred name of the Lord lightly and used it in vain and often mistreat his servants. 2 Chronicles 36:16 says, *“But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy”*. There is a frivolous and flippant attitude in Sabbath worship and service and many take lightly the warnings and admonition from the word of God. There is no fear for the wrath and holiness of God before their eyes and that is appalling and despairing. Is there a reverential awe for the holiness and justice of God in your heart? Proverbs 9:10 says, *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.”*

4. Inactivity for God

The world has enamoured us with its many seductions (1 John 2:15-17). As a result of the previous three concerns, the subsequent result is the sense of laziness and inactivity for the kingdom of God. We have time for computer games, watching videos and leisure but often no time for God and his kingdom. There is little or no burden for lost souls, no desire to minister the word to the young and those who need encouragement and comfort, no zeal to search out the scriptures nor to be engaged in fervent intercessory prayer or the enrichment of saints in edifying Christian fellowship and discipleship. This is sadly a description of the generation that we live in today. The Apostle Paul in Romans 12:11-12 says, *“Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.”* Our example is the hardworking ant and not the indolent pig (Proverbs 6:6-11).

Conclusion

A. W. Tozer says, "Evangelical Christianity is now tragically below the New Testament standard. Worldliness is an accepted part of our way of life. Our religious mood is social instead of spiritual. We have lost the art of worship. We are not producing saints. Our models are successful business men, celebrated athletes and theatrical personalities. We carry on our religious activities after the methods of the modern advertiser. Our homes have been turned into theaters. Our literature is shallow and our hymnody borders on sacrilege. And scarcely anyone appears to care." Let us search and examine ourselves and be more diligent and committed for the advancement of the Kingdom of God in these last perilous days.

The modern church is arguably less effective than the days of the apostles in the early church and there are reasons for this. Despite persecution, pain and prison, the early church thrived and grew but with prosperity, pleasure and popularity, the post-modern church languishes and stagnates today. Philippians 1:27 says, *“Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;”* Let us prayerfully return to the fervent and faithful spirit of the apostles in the early church and may the Lord revive His church again.

Jack Sin

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 31st Dec	No Mid-Week Out-reach 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.
Sat 2nd Jan	4pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Galatians - A Study of Freedom and Liberty	
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<i>Preacher</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 27/12/2015</u>
<i>Message</i>	TBC	TBC	
<i>Text</i>	TBC	TBC	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-lunch Bible Study: This week, Dr Martin will continue with the study on "Building Firm Foundations". • Pray for those who are sick: Douglas, Barbara, Prema, Margaret, May Chew, Constance, Deborah, Pastor & Mrs Ki, Dr Carl Martin, Dr Scott-Pearson, Dr David Allen, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Hannah, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Tow, Matthew, Jonathan's father, Magdalene, Meredith. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Nana, Keene, Joel. • Pray for those on travels this week: Keene, Josias, Matthew, Michael. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the interim minister. Thank God that his visa application has been approved. • The Task Force would like to wish everyone a Blessed New Year. • Watchnight Gathering, 31st Dec 2015, 7pm: Please join us in the manse for a time of dinner, prayer and fellowship. Please contact Hannah or Dr Martin if you wish to attend. 			
Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £717.71, Lunch: £62.62 13/12/15 – Offering: £786.12, Lunch: £32.50 Attendance - Morning: 34 (A) 12 (C), Evening: 18 (A) 4 (C)			
<u>TODAY: 27/12/2015</u> <i>Chairman:</i> Jonathan <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Anthony <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Yetta <i>Sunday School:</i> Rachael / Hannah <i>Lunch:</i> Dr Martin <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott			
<u>NEXT WEEK: 03/01/2016</u> <i>Chairman:</i> John <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Anthony <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Evelyn <i>Sunday School:</i> Rachael / Hannah <i>Lunch:</i> Volunteers <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott			

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 101

Q: What do we pray for in the First Petition?

A: In the First Petition – (which is, HALLOWED BE THY NAME) – we pray, That God would enable us and others to glorify him in all that whereby he maketh himself known; - and that he would dispose all things to his own glory.

Comments:

A petition means *something asked*. In the Lord's Prayer there are six petitions – the first three being about God, and the last three about ourselves. In the first of these petitions we ask two things: that God's name be hallowed or glorified by all *men*, and that it be hallowed or glorified by all *events*.

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 67:3, Romans 11:36

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:"</i> Philippians 2:9	<i>"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;"</i> Philippians 2:10	<i>"A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.</i> Proverbs 16:9