



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. 20 No. 41

LORD'S DAY 09 OCTOBER 2016

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 111:1-3	Psalm 134:1-3
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 93 – <i>"To God Be the Glory"</i>	RHC 19 – <i>"Come, We that Love the Lord"</i>
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	Joel Benjamin
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Apostles' Creed</i>	Apostles' Creed	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 33	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 33 verses 1-5</i> (to the tune of Evan, RHC 379)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	Joel Benjamin
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 314 – <i>"Nearer, Still Nearer"</i>	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Malachi 2:10-17	John 20:18
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>What is Marriage?</i>	<i>The Role of Women in the Advance of the Gospel</i>
<i>The Lord's Supper</i>	Dr Carl Martin	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 201 – <i>"According to Thy Gracious Word"</i>	RHC 419 – <i>"Take My Life and Let It Be"</i>
<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.

"Growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" - 2 Peter 3:18

THE GOSPEL, THE HOPE OF MANKIND (PART 13)

Adapted from Weekly Lively Hope Newsletter, Sunday 24th July 2016

John 5:17 declares, "But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." There are a few interesting observations we must be able to make: (1) Jesus answered them. Who are they? They are the ones who must have raised concerns, challenges, questions, or oppositions to Jesus. In response to them, Jesus answered. Jesus said it in the midst of the Jews' persecutions of him because of His healing of a man on the Sabbath day. This healing episode ends in verse 16, which says, "And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day." Thus, Jesus responded to their charges. Verse 18 supports this view, "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God." In this verse, it is clear that it was the Jews who heard the words of Jesus. We must be reminded that Jesus was in this hostile environment. He did not enjoy any peaceful relationship with the enemies of His messages. (2) Jesus said that he worked and His Father worked too. His words may give us a hint on our responses to the world. We need to see that Jesus was present in the hostile world with His messages. And also His role did not end with His faithful presence in the world. He said that He worked. The Father in heaven works too. In other words, Jesus the victorious Savior was not passive, but intensely active even to bring oppositions from the world. Of course, He was not actively working just for the sake of work. His work was to fulfill the role and missions He was supposed to complete. Thus, He extensively taught, healed the sick, delivered the demon possessed into freedom, and confronted the religious hypocrites. Hence, we must know that the Gospel we have must be proclaimed as clear as possible and as sharp as possible. The believers of Jesus Christ should not give themselves to accommodate the world in order to avoid any confrontations. Instead, their sincere and faithful work may produce critical tensions with the world. However, without this the world cannot and will not know what it ought to know and believe.

"Who will influence whom" depends on who is working harder than others. Examples are not too difficult to be found. We just ask one question. Is the church shaping the culture of the world we are living in, or is the world shaping the church? It is not even a sporadic, infrequent, and weak voice coming from the world that the church and its messages are outdated and they must be changed. It seems that the general public does agree with such arguments. The pews are getting emptier year after year. It is not just more conservative and evangelical Christians who say that the church has become too worldly and secular. In fact, the secular world says the same thing. The Church is responsible for preaching the Gospel to the world, if she desires to shape the world. This hard and challenging work requires the believers to be ready for at least four things: (1) They should be ready to love the world. Of course, I am not bringing any contradiction here against the Lord's instruction that we should not love the world and the things in it. What I am saying is that they ought to love the world in the same way that God loves the world. God wills and desires to bring the lost souls to Himself. At the same time, they all know that He does not love the spirit and the system of the world, which is against Him. They ought to bring the Gospel to the world with the love of the lost souls and the desire to bring them to Christ. (2) They must not forget that they must be faithful. They are to be found in faithfulness (1 Corinthians 4:2). (3) They must be obedient. In obedience, there has to be a willingness of heart too. (4) They must be able to discern to say no to the world. There are lots of pressures from the world from politics, social issues including morality and marriages, culture including philosophy, psychology, arts and music, and education. They are told not only to transform themselves to be conformed to the will of God, but also to share it with the world. When we emphasize the role of man in transforming the world, there are always two conflicting views popped up: (1) As we have considered so far, we must be faithful and relentless in our work for the Lord to transform the world. (2) By emphasizing the work of man, we seem to minimize the role and work of God in transforming work. These two conflicting thoughts are easily found in all controversies depicting that the sovereignty of God is in conflict with the work of man. However, again and again, there are no contradictions between these two concepts.

Its understanding must begin with an unchangeable truth of God – He is sovereign. It is something that is not known to man but the decisive factor behind every event. God is sovereign over the course of history and the rise and fall of powers. We must not forget what Daniel says in Daniel 4:26, “And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule.” The heavens do rule. It speaks of God as the ultimate source of all power. Probably, Hannah has explained it very well in her prayers in 1 Samuel 2:6-10, “The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. 7 The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. 8 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, and he hath set the world upon them. 9 He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. 10 The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

Such a sovereign God uses means and instruments as secondary causes. The work of man is a part of such means and instruments God uses for purposes. For example, evangelism is a work of God, and God does not do it for man. Work for food belongs to man, and God does not work for him. Patience and faithfulness are required for man, though God Himself is patient and faithful. Man must pray, because God does not pray for him. The point is that God has given all enabling grace and opportunities available for man to do what he needs to do. However, if man does not use them and neglects his duties and responsibilities, he will suffer accordingly and his loved ones will also experience consequences. There is a good example in Acts 27. The boat taking Paul to Rome as a prisoner met a fierce storm, named Euroclydon, in the sea. The Lord appeared Himself in verse 24, “Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.” However, it did not mean that the sailors were not needed. Paul said in verse 31, “Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.” God’s providence to spare the lives of the sinking ship included the work of the experienced sailors. Using them does not contradict the sovereign will of God to spare the lives in the boat. Thankfully, the centurion listened to Paul and kept the sailors from fleeing away from the boat.

Now we go back to our primary concern of culture, church, and the Gospel. The world is tough and even getting more antagonistic toward the church of Christ and her Gospel message. We are frightened and scared to be open about our religion and faith in the world. We feel weak and intimidated. We even feel that the world is too strong for us to stand against. We just comfort ourselves that God will do everything for His glory, and we pray in secret rooms. What is said is not necessarily wrong. We depend on God. However, what we need to realize is that God wills to use us for His purposes. He will help and assist us, because He is sovereign. However, the same sovereign Lord wills us to be faithful in our work!

- Rev Timothy Ki

Apostle's Creed

*I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary;
Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost.
the holy catholic* church;
the communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting.
Amen.*

**meaning the universal Christian church--
all believers in Jesus Christ*

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
Weds 12th Oct	7pm	Mid-Week Outreach 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 15th Oct	4pm	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: 09/10/2016</u></p> <p>Chairman: John / Joel</p> <p>Organist: Anthony</p> <p>Pianist: Keene</p> <p>Ushers: Jonathan / Yetta</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah/Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Shami</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Scott / Anthony</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NEXT WEEK: 16/10/2016</u></p> <p>Chairman: Jonathan/Keene</p> <p>Organist: Keene</p> <p>Pianist: Joel</p> <p>Ushers: Tom / Yetta</p> <p>Sunday School: Hannah/Rachael</p> <p>Lunch: Nina</p> <p>Washing Up: Volunteers</p> <p>PA Crew: Scott / Jonathan</p>
Message	The Erosion of Marriage	Jesus & the Sunday Evening Service	
Text	Malachi 2:14-17	John 20:19-23	
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". • Basic Bible Knowledge Class, 2.30pm: Dr Martin will continue the series of studies aimed at those wishing to become church members. • 7 Laws of the Teacher, 5:30pm: Dr Martin will continue the series of studies after evening service. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and for the continuation of his PhD studies. • Church Maintenance Day: Saturday 15th October, 11am. All are encouraged to come and help do maintenance to the church building. 			
<p>Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £1250.29, Lunch: £54.00 Baalah Fund: £170</p> <p>Attendance - Morning: 39 (A) 7 (C), Evening: 16 (A) 4 (C)</p>			

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 35

Q: What is sanctification?

A: Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the IMAGE OF GOD, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

Comments:

Sanctification means making a person holy. It is here said to be a *work*, because it is done, not at once, but gradually, and a work of *grace* because it proceeds from God's undeserved goodness, and is wrought in us from first to last by his own Spirit. It consists in our being made *like to God* – that is, in gradually learning to hate and cease from sin, and to love and practise holiness; and this is called a *renewing*, because it is restoring us to the state in which we were at first.

Justification, adoption and sanctification are thus seen to be all necessary to salvation. In justification, the sinner is pardoned; in adoption, he is brought into the family, in sanctification, his is cleansed from all sin.

Scriptural Reference:

Titus 3:5, Ephesians 4:24, Philippians 3:13-14, Proverbs 4:18

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p><i>"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."</i></p> <p>Proverbs 1:7</p>	<p><i>"For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth."</i></p> <p>Psalm 33:4</p>	<p><i>"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."</i></p> <p>Proverbs 3:5-6</p>