



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. 17

LORD'S DAY 24 APRIL 2016

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Evening Service – 4pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 99:1-3

Psalm 93

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 8 – *"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

RHC 68 – *"Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned"*

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 9

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 9 verses 1-4, 7-10
(to the tune of Arlington, RHC 433)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 104 – *"All That Thrills My Soul"*

Scriptural Text

Titus 3:3-7

John 18:33-38

Pastoral Prayer

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

Sermon Message

God's Power to Change Sinners

Pilate before Jesus

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 117 – *"In Tenderness He Sought Me"*

Insert – *"What Will You Do With Jesus"*

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Dr Carl Martin

Dr Carl Martin

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.

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

SPIRITUAL SIGNS OF A BACKSLIDING CHRISTIAN

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 10th April 2016

Proverbs 14:14, *'The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.'*

Introduction

Many Christians today are oblivious to the Lord's will and ignorant of His word and that makes us vulnerable to diabolical attacks and falling away from Him. Consider the following signs of a backsliding Christian.

1) Acceptance of Personal and Theological Error and Sin

One sign is that the backsliding Christian will be more ready to accept unbiblical world views and practices like dancing, gambling, smoking, homosexuality, drinking alcohol, worldly music, theistic evolution, moral compromise in behaviour and thoughts and other unedifying actions like being covetous, angry, ungrateful or malicious in nature.

2) Profound Ignorance of the Fear of God and Laziness in the Study of Word and Prayer

One of the sure marks of a person who is far away from God is his ignorance or indifference to seek out the will of God in his or her life. He or she tends to do things his or her way. That makes the person susceptible to wrong directions and to the wiles of the evil one and slowly he or she loses direction and may fall away even further from the Lord.

The person will also lose his reverence and fear of the Lord and will be self-confident, proud and even arrogant and generally he or she lacks interest in the reading of the word of God and shows no desire to pray or to come for Sabbath worship, fellowship meetings or the church prayer meeting. The word of God will keep us from sin and falling away or sin will keep us from reading and obeying the word.

3) No Respect for the 10 Commandments

One of the sure signs of a backsliding person is his or her disregard for the moral laws of God. A fallen person will be rebellious and disobedient to the instructions of God and he or she will neglect or not pay attention nor obey the laws of God. Idolatry or pride sets in slowly and he or she is distracted from God. So when it comes to tempting situations of breaking the law like, smoking, lying, or theft or gambling, he or she is prone to do it as he or she does not have a high regard for God's laws.

4) Wandering Thoughts during Worship and the Grieving of the Holy Spirit

One area of healthy Christian living is regular Sabbath worship and a person who is not close to God will not enjoy sacred worship and may even find it insipid and boring. The singing of hymns, prayer and the hearing of the word will not mean much to him or her and he or she may even complain or murmur about the time of the service: the length or content of the sermon, the choice of hymns, the chairman leading or the pianist or organist.

5) A Sad Lack of Understanding and Appreciation of Spiritual Vigilance and Faith

A backsliding person will often be in spiritual slumber or lethargy and will be weak in spiritual warfare and hence more vulnerable to pitfalls and temptations. For example, he or she will not be alert to the seductions of the world and may fall easily into sin that will lead him or her into deeper sinful entanglement which may cause him or her to face the possible consequences later.

6) No Respect for Spiritual Order and Authority in the Family and the Church

The person who is far away from God will also not likely respect God or human authority like our parents or the teacher or the officer in charge of us or their superior and he will often quarrel with he or her or disregard his or her instructions. He needs to learn to honour God first before he will honour men.

7. A Lowly View of Biblical Preaching and the Teaching of the Word of God

He or she will generally have no regard for the declaration of the inspired word as he or she is enamoured with many other worldly things and is distracted by the world rather than focused on the word. He will not dutifully do his or her Quiet Time nor be interested in reading Christian books. He or she will prefer handphone games, Youtube, worldly websites, magazines and computer games of this life along with his or her work or studies rather than the everlasting word of truth.

8. Forgetfulness of God's Faithfulness and Goodness in Times Past

He or she will be prone to neglecting or forgetting God's blessings and past goodness shown to him or her. Gratitude is a mark of a Spirit filled Christian (1 Thessalonians 5:18) and the opposite is also true. He or she will be unmindful and ungrateful of what the Lord had done for him or her in the past as he or she is often concerned only for the present.

9. No Desire or Burden for Souls nor to Serve with our Talents nor to Honour or Glorify God

There is a general reluctance for a backsliding person to give of himself or herself to serve God in any capacity. There is no motivation to do so as he is not concerned about pleasing God and receiving eternal rewards. He is mainly concerned about himself and his own pleasures or physical welfare and generally not keen on spiritual things of eternal value.

Conclusion

Psalm 139:23-24 says, *'Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.'*

We need to examine ourselves and to see if we are backsliding and drifting away from God possibly without us knowing it. I once read this in a poster in a Christian book room, *Does God seem Far Away? Guess who moved? God is waiting for us to return t Him and to confess and repent of our sins and he will forgive us and restore us again. Something to seriously pray and think about. We conclude with this good news from Hosea 14:4 which says, ' I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.'*

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		
Weds 27th April	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 30th April	4pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Study of Calvin's Institutes – Chapter 4-5			
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES		
Preacher	Dr Carl Martin	Dr Carl Martin	<u>TODAY: 24/04/2016</u>		
Message	The Dynamics of Biblical Change	What is Truth?	Chairman: Jonathan		
Text	Titus 3:5-7	John 18:38	Organist: Anthony		
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Joel		
<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, 3pm today: Dr Martin will be leading a series of studies for those wishing to become members of the Church. • 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, Ps Pooyan Mershani, Nina, Helen, Eld Chew's mother, Shirley, Daniel, Dr Tow, Matthew, Jonathan's father, Magdalene, Douglas Jr, Grace Lin. • Pray for those seeking employment: Yetta, Nana. • Pray for those on travels this week: Dr Scott-Pearson, Eyo Benson. • Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Dr Martin as he serves as the minister and as he seeks guidance for his PhD studies. • There will be Ladies Fellowship after lunch today. • Church Maintenance Day: Saturday 30th April, 10am. All are encouraged to come and help do maintenance to the church building. Please see John for more information. 			Ushers: Tom / Margaret		
			Sunday School: Rachael / Keene / Hannah		
			Lunch: Nina		
			Washing Up: Volunteers		
			PA Crew: Scott		
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 01/05/2016</u>		
			Chairman: Peter		
Organist: Anthony					
Pianist: Matthew					
Ushers: Keene / Yetta					
Sunday School: Rachael / Keene / Hannah					
Lunch: Hannah					
Washing Up: Volunteers					
PA Crew: Josias					
Worship Service Collections – Last Sunday: £834.90, Lunch: £63.00 Attendance - Morning: 36 (A) 16 (C), Evening: 12 (A) 3 (C)					

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 11

Q: What are God's works of providence?

A: God's works of providence are, his most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all his creatures and all their actions.

Comments:

The power of God is quite as necessary to maintain the world as to make it. We cannot live of ourselves. It is *in God* that all things live, and move, and have their being. And so this answer informs us that God not only created everything, but that he cares for his own glory.

Scriptural Reference:

Matthew 6:26, Proverbs 16:9, Psalm 103:19

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>"So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase."</i> 1 Corinthians 3:7	<i>"And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee."</i> Psalm 9:10	<i>"For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ."</i> 2 Corinthians 1:5