



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. 22 No. 32

LORD’S DAY 12 AUGUST 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Prelude</i>		
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 18:1-3	Psalm 96:7-10
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 20 – “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”	RHC 74 – “For the Beauty of the Earth”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 119:145-160	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 119 verses 153-160</i> (to the tune of Vox Dilecti, RHC 298)	---
<i>Announcements & Memory Verse</i>	Jonathan Kim	Jonathan Kim
<i>Tithes & Offerings & Doxology *</i>	RHC 304 – “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Genesis 39:21-40:23	Matthew 5:13-16
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Rev Gabriel Gan	Rev Gabriel Gan
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>A Faith that Overcomes Disappointment</i>	<i>Commission of a Heavenly Citizen</i>
<i>The Lord’s Supper</i>	Rev Gabriel Gan	---
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 182 – “Lead Me to Calvary”	RHC 407 – “Jesus Calls Us”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Rev Gabriel Gan	Rev Gabriel Gan
<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.

A ‘HOLIER-THAN-THOU’ CHRISTIAN?

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 27th May 2018

Have you come across holier-than-thou Christians? We all have. In fact, it is very easy to spot them on the Lord’s Day. “Holier-than-thou” Christians think they are spiritually better than other Christians.

John is a devout Christian. He never misses church. He is well-versed in the Bible. He teaches the Word well. He is also mission-minded and gives generously to missions. No one could match his track record of faithfulness in the church. But sadly, John is found to be a self-righteous, egoistic man. He always relied on “what he had done” as a measurement of how good he is, and that led him to think of himself more highly than he ought to think (Romans 12:3).

Jesus compares such a person who is full of confidence in his own righteousness with the Pharisee going to the temple to pray. The Pharisee boasted in his self-righteousness (Luke 18:9). He had an unrealistic sense of self-worth. He prayed, *“God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess”* (Luke 18:11). The use of the five “I” pronouns by him revealed how egoistic he is. Instead of thanking God for what He has done for him, he arrogantly brags to God about his own moral purity and religious piety.

However, the prayer of the tax collector was full of contrition. Because of shame, he would not even dare to lift up his eyes to heaven but beat his breast, which is a sign of sorrow and contrition, and pleaded with God for mercy. Such an attitude God would not despise (Psalm 51:17).

Which of these men went home with God’s approval? Jesus said, *“... for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted”* (Luke 18:14; James 4:10; Proverbs 18:12; 15:33; 16:18).

Characteristics of a “Holier-Than-Thou” Christian

Many people turn away from Christianity because of a self-righteous, egoistic attitude some Christians portray. A “holier-than-thou” Christian possesses certain distinct characteristics.

1. A “holier-than-thou” Christian always thinks he is better than others because of his religious beliefs or superior attitude. He likes to compare himself with other Christians, often thinking that he is somewhat more religious, more anointed, more well-versed in the Bible than others. He says to himself, “I am a full-bloomed Calvinist. I know my theology well. I am a widely read person. There is nothing that I do not know.”
2. A “holier-than-thou” Christian always thinks highly of himself (Romans 12:3). He is quick to point out every flaw in others but never really look at himself as flawed. Because he thinks that he knows more than others, he always speaks condescendingly, arrogantly, sarcastically or harshly to people. He behaves as if he has higher morals than other people. Such a Christian lacks good character and attitude.

3. A “holier-than-thou” Christian is unreasonable. He feels he is always right and everyone else is wrong. Nobody can help him to see the difference because he refuses to listen to anyone since he feels his way is superior over others.
4. A “holier-than-thou” Christian lacks humility. He says to himself, “I am a good example of a Christian. No one can perform his or her holy duties and obligations as often or as well as I do. Moreover, I have a higher understanding of God than him or her.”
5. A “holier-than-thou” Christian lacks compassion. He does not have any sympathy or empathy for people who are weakened by sin. He is not aware that he himself is as afflicted as the weak brother or sister because of his pride.
6. A “holier-than-thou” Christian is at times angry and bitter with life. He always sees things negatively. He can never look at the bright side of things. He is usually pessimistic. Things are always wrong to him. He seems to always pronounce judgment on things that don’t agree with him.
7. A “holier-than-thou” Christian likes to falsely accuse people who do not agree with him. He will not take the trouble to check the facts or give the person who disagrees with him the benefit of the doubt. He would rather believe lies about a person he is in conflict with.
8. A “holier-than-thou” Christian is a religious supremacist. He has the attitude that his denomination is the only true one on earth. He is proud of it. He is a sectarian (Mark 9:38-40).
9. A “holier-than-thou” Christian is dogmatic and intolerant. He is a militant Christian. He does not entertain other theological views on non-essential issues of the Bible. He strongly believes what he believes is the only view and there are no other acceptable views.

The term “holier-than-thou” is not only used to talk about religion or a person’s degree of piousness. It also implies much more today. For example, exhibiting an attitude of superior virtue or self-righteous piety. The term is used derisively or mockingly against someone who is overly self-important or thinks of himself as great for some personal reason, like having a string of degrees, a lot of wealth, a company of VIP friends or something that makes them feel great.

A “holier-than-thou” attitude drives people away. How can I know that I have a holier than thou attitude? How can I fortify myself against a “holier- than-thou” attitude? A “holier-than-thou” attitude can be seen in the way we share, the way we testify for God and the way we talk to people. Therefore, you and I need to pay close attention to how we share, testify and talk to people lest we fall into a self-righteous, holier than thou attitude. That’s not what genuine

Christianity is all about! Amen.

Lovingly in Christ,
- Rev Colin Wong

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am** and **3.00 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
Sat 18 th Aug 3pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting	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.

Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Rev Gabriel Gan	Rev Gabriel Gan	TODAY: 12/08/2018 <i>Chairman:</i> Jonathan <i>Organist:</i> Matthew <i>Pianist:</i> Venise <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Margaret <i>Lunch:</i> Tan Family <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott
Message	A Faith that Overcomes Pride	Conflicts of a Heavenly Citizen	
Text	Genesis 41:1-46	Matthew 6:19-34	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Sunday School: Sunday School will resume in September. Please pray for more children to attend and for the preparation of the classes. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for Rev Gabriel Gan as he ministers to us till the end of August. Also, pray for the calling of a new minister. 	<u>NEXT WEEK: 19/08/2018</u> <i>Chairman:</i> Jonathan <i>Organist:</i> Anthony <i>Pianist:</i> Matthew <i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Yetta <i>Lunch:</i> Jonathan <i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers <i>PA Crew:</i> Scott

Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £967.00, Baalah: £5.00, Ladies Fellowship (29/7/18): £18.00 Attendance - Morning: 24 (A) 2 (C), Afternoon: 12 (A) 2 (C)	Church Maintenance Fund Total: £4,330.50
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SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 24

Q: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet? <i>A: Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.</i> <u>Comments:</u> A prophet is a man who declares the will of God; and we are here told that this is what Christ, as our prophet, does for us. He does so by his Word, for the whole Bible is his; but inasmuch as the mere reading of the Bible is not sufficient of itself to make a man wise unto salvation, he likewise bestows his Holy Spirit, that so the Word may profit those who hear it. <u>Scriptural Reference:</u> Hebrews 1:1-2, John 16:13
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MEMORY VERSE		
Last Week <i>"And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."</i> Luke 9:23	This Week <i>"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."</i> Romans 8:14	Next Week <i>"And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."</i> 1 John 2:17