



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. 11

LORD’S DAY 18 MARCH 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 107:1-9

Psalm 89:1-4

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 37 – “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

RHC 22 – “When All Thy Mercies, O My God”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 107

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 107 verses 1-9
(to the tune of Vox Dilecti, RHC 298)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 128 – “His Yoke is Easy”

Scriptural Text

Acts 1:1-7

Isaiah 38:1-22

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Lim Chee Boon

Rev Lim Chee Boon

Sermon Message

Why A Second Treatise?

A King Who Wants to Live to Praise God

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 466 – “Go Labour On”

RHC 419 – “Take My Life and Let It Be”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Rev Lim Chee Boon

Rev Lim Chee Boon

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.

WE NEED CORRECTION

Adapted from Life BP Church Singapore Weekly, Sunday 11th March 2018

Proverbs 13:18 – *“Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.”*

The subject of this proverb is correction. There are two words here that bring out this subject. The first word is ‘instruction.’ This is not merely about teaching. It is about correction by means of disciplinary action or chastisement. In fact, the Hebrew word which is translated here as ‘instruction’ is also translated as ‘correction’ eight times in the Old Testament.

The other word is ‘reproof.’ It refers to correction by means of rebuke. To reprove someone is to convince him that he has done wrong and he needs to change. These two words for correction are just like a couple – they always go together especially in the book of Proverbs (e.g. Proverbs 3:11-12; 5:12, 10:17; 15:10).

What is correction? To correct something is to make it good and right. It is different from punishment or penalty which is to mete out justice. Jesus bore the punishment we deserved on the cross, but He cannot bear our correction. This is something each of us has to bear for our own good.

We all need correction because we are sinners, full of flaws and imperfections. We are like blocks of rough marble fresh from the quarry, needing to be chiselled and chipped by a sculptor in order to become what we ought to be. Even the best and wisest of us still have rough edges that need to be filed away. And so we all need correction. What can we learn about correction from this proverb?

It is Valuable

It ought to be treasured and not despised or ignored because it is precious to the soul. Proverbs 10:17 proclaims that heeding correction gives life and keeps a person on the path of life. Proverbs 27:6 tells us that the wounds of a friend are faithful. They are good and helpful to us, rather than the kisses of an enemy who is out to destroy us. Only a true friend will care enough about you to correct you, and you should be thankful to him for doing this for you.

Therefore correction should always be welcomed. We should see it as an expression of love and not hatred. A father disciplines his child out of love. God disciplined His chosen people out of love. Correction assures us that we are true children of God, and not illegitimate sons and daughters. As Hebrews 12:6-7 says – *“For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?”*

It is Not Easy to Receive

This is the reason why this proverb is given. If correction is so easy to receive there would be no need to tell anyone, ‘You need to receive correction.’ There are at least two reasons why correction is not easy to receive. The first is that it takes humility to admit that we need to be corrected. We naturally resist this because of pride. We don’t like anyone to tell us we have done wrong, and we will react by trying to justify our actions.

Secondly, it is not easy to receive correction because it can be unpleasant to endure. It is a difficult pill to swallow – like taking medicine which is bitter. One example is Israel’s seventy-year captivity in Babylon. God designed this for their good – to rid His people of their sins of idolatry. It worked very well. After the captivity, the Jews committed other sins, but idolatry was no longer a problem for them. They were ‘cured’ of this sin. But while the correction they received was very effective, it was also very painful for them – having to live in a foreign land where they were treated as captives, and being deprived of the freedom they enjoyed in the Promised Land. Those seventy years were difficult years for the Jews.

In John 15, where Jesus used the analogy of the vine and the branches to show our relationship with him, he likens us to branches that need pruning in order to be fruitful. Verse 2 of that passage says, *“every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.”* But going through this pruning work of God may be very unpleasant for us. No branch ever likes to be pruned and reduced down to size. It’s painful to feel the blades of the pruning shears. Thus, we see that correction is painful and unpleasant. And because of that we feel greatly tempted to refuse it, and to do everything we can to avoid it.

Refusing It Brings Ruin

The first part of the proverb says that, *“Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction.”* Firstly, we see that refusing correction brings a person to poverty. This means to be in dire need. The picture presented to us in the word ‘poverty’ is that of a pitiful beggar who has nothing to eat and no place to live in. Let this picture be imprinted in our minds and recalled every time we feel like refusing correction.

Refusing correction also brings shame – to become a disgrace. As Matthew Henry says, *“He will become a beggar and live and die in disgrace; every one will despise him as foolish, and stubborn, and ungovernable.”* It is no wonder then that Proverbs 12:1 says that those who hate reproof are brutish (dull-minded), like an animal. Proverbs 15:32 even says us that anyone who refuses correction hates his own soul and Proverbs 15:10 says that he will die! Instead of refusing correction we should receive correction.

Receiving It Brings Reward

It is the way to become better and wiser. Many people think it is shameful to be corrected and very dishonouring to be rebuked, especially if it is in public. They don’t like to ‘lose face.’ To them, honour comes only when they are highly commended. Actually the opposite is true – To be corrected actually adds more honour than being commended. This truth is stated in the latter part of our proverb – *“he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.”*

The Hebrew word which is translated as ‘honoured’ in our proverb literally means ‘to be full of weight’ in contrast to the word ‘shame’ mentioned in the first part of the proverb, which literally means ‘to have no weight.’ This is one instance where it is more desirable to gain weight than to lose weight!

To receive correction well is to turn something unpleasant into something useful. Some have said that when life gives you lemons, make lemonade. In a similar way, whenever someone throws a brick at you, don’t throw it back at him. Use it wisely to build up your life. If you keep doing that, then one day you will have a strong building made from those bricks.

Let us learn to receive correction graciously, whether it comes from God or from men who are used by God. Each time you are chastised or rebuked, believe in your heart that it will somehow be good and helpful to you. Make sure that you learn the lesson well and improve, so that you need not be corrected again and again.

The best resource that God has given us for correction is the Bible – 2 Timothy 3:16-17 – *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”*

Let us avail ourselves of the correction that the Scriptures are designed to work in us, so that we may become perfect, thoroughly equipped to be what God wants us to be.

- Rev Charles Seet

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		
Weds 21st March	No 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.		
Fri 23rd March	7pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>The Teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ - Christ the Good Shepherd of His Sheep</i>			
Sat 24th March	No Bible Study & Prayer Meeting				
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES		
Preacher	Rev Lim Chee Boon	Rev Lim Chee Boon	<u>TODAY: 18/03/2018</u>		
Message	Ye Shall Receive Power	A King Unlike His Ancestors	Chairman: Jonathan		
Text	Acts 1:1-11	2 Chronicles 34:1-18	Organist: Anthony		
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Matthew		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday School: This afternoon at 1:45pm the church will be holding Sunday School for young children and toddlers, led by Sisters Elizabeth, Nina and Barbara. Please invite friends and family to attend. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister. • Theme for Easter: "Rest for the People of God" - Rev Mark Lehman • Annual Congregation Meeting - This will be held after morning service next Sunday, 25th March 2018. Please see Jonathan or John to receive your ACM pack. • Ladies Fellowship: This will be held after lunch next Lord's Day. • Please be advised that the clocks go forward 1 hour next Sunday at 2am. 			Ushers: Tom / Yetta		
			Lunch: Maureen		
			Washing Up: Volunteers		
			PA Crew: Scott / Anthony		
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 25/03/2018</u>		
			Chairman: John		
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1415.65; Lunch: £41.00; Baalah: £2100.00 Attendance - Morning: 28 (A) 5 (C), Evening: 16 (A) 4 (C)			Organist: Michael		
			Pianist: Matthew		
			Ushers: Daniel / Jonathan		
			Lunch: Volunteers		
			Washing Up: Volunteers		
			PA Crew: Scott / Venise		
			Church Maintenance Fund Total: £3,970.50		

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 3

Q: What do the scriptures principally teach?

A: The scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

Comments:

In order to attain the chief end of our life, the two things most important for us to know are: *What we are to believe*, and *What we are to do*. These two things the Bible explains to us very fully. It tells us *what God is*, and *has done for us*, and also *what he requires us to do*, in order that it may be well with us now and hereafter.

Scriptural Reference:

John 5:39, Ecclesiastes 12:13

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<i>"Therefore thou shalt love the Lord thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, always."</i> Deuteronomy 11:1	<i>"And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it."</i> 2 John 1:6	<i>"Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."</i> John 14:23