



# 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. 38

**LORD’S DAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2018**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Afternoon Service – 3pm*

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Lord Is in His Holy Temple</i>	
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 46:10-11	Psalm 37:3-5
<i>Opening Hymn *</i>	RHC 15 – “How Shall I Sing That Majesty”	RHC 113 – “It Is Glory Just to Walk with Him”
<i>Opening Prayer *</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Gloria Patri *</i>	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 124	---
<i>Second Hymn *</i>	<i>Psalm 124</i> (to the tune of Campmeeting, RHC 315)	---
<i>Announcements &amp; Memory Verse</i>	John Poh	John Poh
<i>Tithes &amp; Offerings &amp; Doxology *</i>	RHC 405 – “Have I Done My Best for Jesus?”	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Philippians 4:4-9	Jeremiah 18:1-11
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Eld (Dr) George Chew	Eld (Dr) George Chew
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Be Not Anxious, Why Do You Worry?</i>	<i>The Potter and the Clay</i>
<i>Closing Hymn *</i>	RHC 353 – “God Will Take Care of You”	RHC 421 – “Have Thine Own Way, Lord!”
<i>Benediction/3-Fold Amen *</i>	Eld (Dr) George Chew	Eld (Dr) George Chew
<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.

# **WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH**

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018

*John 4:20-24*

## **Introduction**

As children of God, we often say without proper understanding, “We ought to worship the Father in spirit and in truth.” We said it, as a matter of fact, sounding somewhat spiritual. Now, where is it recorded for us in the Bible this phrase “Worship him in spirit and in truth”? Who said it? To whom this phrase was directed? What was the context?

In his conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4:20-24, our Lord Jesus Christ, said to woman who told him her people worshipped at a certain mountain in Samaria, “Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”

From the Lord’s reply to the woman at the well, we learn the time has arrived where true worshippers of God need not worship him in a particular place, and they are to worship God in spirit and in truth, for God seeketh such to worship him.

## **Who can worship the Father in spirit and in truth?**

Those who are called of God, led by the Holy Spirit to believe in his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Spirit unto obedience – only these can worship the Father in spirit and in truth. Only the children of light who are brought out of darkness and into his marvellous light are fit to worship God in truth and in spirit. He who does not depend on self and his own righteousness and confesses his utter unworthiness has the right to stand before God and be accepted by the heavenly Father (Luke 18:13-14). Without Christ, without the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, without acknowledging him as Lord and Saviour, we cannot worship the Father in spirit and in truth. Without Christ’s righteousness imputed to us, we are still in the clutch of sin and therefore, we cannot approach the holy God, we cannot worship him in spirit and in truth.

In John 4:10-14, the Lord Jesus Christ tells the woman that whosoever drink the living water which he gives to, shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. Those who drink the living water, are those who come to Jesus Christ. In short, only those who come to Christ, who know Christ, who are in Christ and of Christ can worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

Consider carefully. Are you in Christ, born again and born of the Spirit? Have you confessed Jesus Christ as Lord and believed in your heart that he died on the Cross at Calvary and was buried and rose again from the dead on the third day and is now at the right hand of the Father? If the answer is Yes, then rejoice for you can come freely before the throne of grace to worship the heavenly Father in spirit and in truth

## Why must we worship God in spirit and in truth?

God is a Spirit. We too are spiritual beings. God who is omniscient knows our spirit. He knows our thought, our whole being and is acquainted with our desires (Psalms 103:14, 139:4, 7-12, Matthew 6:8, 12:15). For this, we are to worship God with great confidence, being aware that our merciful God is all knowing. Nevertheless, we are to worship him with fear and trembling.

At the same time, in the light of his revealed words and truth, we are to accord our worship to him. We cannot worship God without regards to his commandments and holiness, this if we were to do so, we risk being severely judged like the sons of Aaron in Numbers 3:4 and 26:61, and Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5:1-11.

Therefore, beloved, we must worship God with clean hands and a pure heart (Psalms 24:4).

## What does it mean to worship God in spirit and in truth?

I want to explain this section in practical terms, through various scriptural examples given to us in the Bible.

To worship God in spirit and in truth, these characteristics must be present in the hearts of the true worshippers – contrition, dependence, faith, hope, humility, love, meekness, mercy, obedience, patience, perseverance, sincerity, submission, trust and truth.

<b>Worship God in spirit and in truth</b>	<b>Worship God in flesh and in lie</b>
1. Abel – his offering to God was accepted. From the Cambridge Bible Commentary on Hebrew 11:4, “we may naturally infer that Abel’s (sacrifice) was a more carefully chosen and valuable offering, but especially that it was offered in a more sincere and humble spirit of faith and love.”	1. Cain – his offering to God was most likely out of a religious heart and one which is neither right with God nor pleasing to him. He worshipped God in his own terms and not in accordance to faith. This can be seen in Cain’s subsequent murder of his brother Abel and anger with God (Genesis 4:4-10).
2. David – God did not reject David as king even though he had sinned against God in the killing of Uriah and his adultery with Bathsheba. David when confronted with his sin by the prophet Nathan, admitted readily, and he submitted himself under the mercy of God (2 Sam: 12:1-23). In Psalms 51, we learned that David was fully repentance before God, sincerely admitting his transgression, seeking God’s forgiveness, mercy and restoration.	2. Saul – God rejects Saul as king due to his disobedience to God’s commandment given to him by the prophet Samuel (1 Sam 15:1-25). Though Saul offered up the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, God was displeased with Saul for he regarded not God’s commandment to utterly destroy the Amalekites – King Agag and all of his kingdom. Saul failed to understand that for God to obey is better than sacrifice.
3. God’s Commandment – In worship, we follow the guidelines of God not the traditions of men, we adhere to the commandment of God. We worship God with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our mind (Matt 22:37). Like Daniel, we seek to stay true to God even in the midst of heathens (Daniel 1:8).	3. Traditions of Men – the Lord rebuked the Pharisees for transgressing the commandment of God by their strict legalistic adherence to traditions of men which voided the commandment of God. The Pharisees worshipped God with their mouths and lips not with their hearts (Isa 29:13, Matt 15:1-9).

<p>4. Tax Collector – when he approached the temple, he stood afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, “God be merciful to me a sinner.” His humble plead, contrition and his self-abasement were accepted by God and he returned to his house duly justified (Lk 18:13-14).</p>	<p>4. Pharisee – before the temple, he stood and prayed and boasted of himself and said, “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.” His proud pontification was rejected by God (Lk 18:11-12, 14).</p>
<p>5. The Church in Philadelphia – the Lord loved and accepted the believers here, and commended them for their steadfastness and patience. They kept his word and did not deny his name despite the persecution and opposition they faced from the enemies. They were true to the Lord. They depended on the Lord and hoped patiently in God (Rev 3:7-13).</p>	<p>5. The Church in Laodicea – the Lord rebuked the believers here for being neither cold nor hot, lukewarm toward God, totally self-reliant, their riches and wealth blinded them to the true worship of God, they might be well off materially, had a form of godliness but therein denied the power of God. Such is religiosity, flesh worship in the sight of God (Rev 3:14-22).</p>

In the Bible, there are many examples of what is true worship and false worship. I hope the few examples mentioned above provide insight to you on what is and what is required of us to worship our heavenly Father in spirit and in truth.

## Conclusion

In this liberal age, where right and wrong are subjective, where the alluring and seductive call to follow our hearts are so strong, we as people of God must be circumspect and understand the time we are in. We must never deceive ourselves that we can come to God in our own terms, that we can worship him in our own ways. We cannot. We can only worship God in his way, in accordance to his revealed words. To worship rightly, and in spirit and in truth, we must humbly follow the teaching in the word of God. True worship leads to life. False worship leads to death. May God enable and help us to worship him in spirit and in truth. Amen.

By His Grace and Mercy,

*Elder Daniel Tau*

# 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
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept 4pm & 7pm	<b>Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony</b> <i>“Concerning the Temple &amp; Concerning Moses and the Prophets”</i> - Mr Ian Shaw	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 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>No Bible Study &amp; Prayer Meeting</b>	
<b>Next Lord’s Day</b>	<b>Morning Service</b> <b>Evening Service</b>	<b>LORD’S DAY DUTIES</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson	<b><u>TODAY: 23/09/2018</u></b>  <b>Chairman:</b> John <b>Organist:</b> Anthony <b>Pianist:</b> Anthony <b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Margaret <b>Lunch:</b> Tan Family <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers <b>PA Crew:</b> Jonathan / Venise  <b><u>NEXT WEEK: 30/09/2018</u></b>  <b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan <b>Organist:</b> Anthony <b>Pianist:</b> Matthew <b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Tom <b>Lunch:</b> Maureen <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers <b>PA Crew:</b> John / Venise
<b>Message</b>	TBC	
<b>Text</b>	TBC	
<b>NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No Sunday School today.</b></li> <li>• <b>Church Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister.</li> <li>• <b>Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony centenary meeting:</b> Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 2:30pm at Westminster Baptist Church. Speaker: Dr John Douglas.</li> <li>• <b>Ladies Fellowship:</b> This will be held after lunch next Lord's Day.</li> </ul>		
<b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £564.00 <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 27 (A) 5 (C), Afternoon: 17 (A) 5 (C)		<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b> <b>Total: £4,330.50</b>
<b>SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 30</b>		
<b>Q: How doth the Spirit apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ?</b> <i>A: The Spirit applieth to us the redemption purchased by Christ, by working faith in us, and thereby <u>uniting us to Christ</u> in our effectual calling.</i>		
<b>Comments:</b> The last answer tells us <i>by whose</i> agency we become possessed of salvation; this one tells us of the method of it. It tells us that Christ’s salvation becomes ours by union with him – that we are united to him by faith – and that this faith by which we commit ourselves to Christ, is the effect of the working of God’s Spirit in our hearts. Faith in Christ means <i>trust</i> in Christ, and brings about <i>union</i> with him.		
<b>Scriptural Reference:</b> John 15:26, 1 Corinthians 12:3, John 15:5		
<b>MEMORY VERSE</b>		
<b>Last Week</b> <i>“Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.”</i> <b>Psalm 119:2</b>	<b>This Week</b> <i>“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:”</i> <b>2 Corinthians 9:8</b>	<b>Next Week</b> <i>“Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.”</i> <b>Proverbs 3:7-8</b>