



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. 25

LORD’S DAY 24 JUNE 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 29

Psalm 146:5-10

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 40 – “God the Omnipotent”

RHC 43 – “God is Still on the Throne”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 119:41-56

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 119 verses 41-45
(to the tune of Evan, RHC 342)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 361 – “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Scriptural Text

John 21

1 Chronicles 28:1-10

Pastoral Prayer

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

Sermon Message

The Falterings, Failures and Fervour of a True Christian

A Father’s Advice to His Son

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 567 – “Follow Me”

RHC 386 – “Be Thou My Vision”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

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.

JUST A CHURCHGOER

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 20th May 2018

Recently, a church conducted a membership update exercise for a couple of Sundays to determine the church's membership. Out of 500, only 300 responded to the exercise not so promptly. Where are the rest of them? Where are the 200 members gone to? The pastor was naturally concerned for these lost sheep. What am I going to do? Needless to say, together with the pastoral team, he would do his best to try to recover these sheep. Jesus said, *"What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?"* (Luke 15:1-4) However, sad to say, some members do not want to respond to pastoral care. Some of them even told the pastor off by sending nasty emails or text messages.

In any church, there are many churchgoers. Some of them are seasonal Christians. They only come to church on special occasions such as Good Friday, Easter, Christmas, Anniversary or the Lord's Supper. Is God happy with churchgoers? How can I know the difference between churchgoers who are mere professors of Christianity, versus committed Christians who are bringing forth fruit of their salvation?

Let me share with you certain characteristics of churchgoers and encourage you to examine yourselves and see whether you belong to one of these categories. If you are, then there are three things you need to do.

First, check your salvation. Have you been truly born again? If not, then do something about it. Confess and repent from your sins and acknowledge Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

Second, check your sanctification. Have you been living the Christian life? If not, why not. What must I do to rectify my spiritual condition?

Third, keep the Lord's Day. The Lord's Day is not to be taken lightly. Isaiah said, *"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it"* (Isaiah 58:13-14). Therefore, when it comes to keeping the Lord's Day, no Christian should come to the house of the Lord unprepared to render spiritual worship to God.

Am I a churchgoer? The following are certain distinctive characteristics of a churchgoer.

His Religion is Powerless

Paul said in 2 Timothy, *"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof"* (3:5). A churchgoer possesses a form of godliness but denying its power. He may have some knowledge of the Gospel but he does not experience the power of it. He talks about Christianity but his kind of Christianity is powerless because the truth of the Gospel has no effect on him. When Paul said, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new"* (2 Corinthians 5:17), he has no idea what it means to be conformed to the likeness of Christ (Romans 8:29). He does not understand what a Spirit filled life is and what it means to be transformed from one degree of glory to another (2 Corinthians 3:18). There is no evidence of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in his life (Galatians 5:16). Are you like this?

His Conversion is Questionable

A churchgoer may not be a Christian. He thinks he is but he may not. He may come to church on Sunday or attend a prayer meeting, but there is no evidence of a changed life. In church, he conducts himself well, but the moment he steps out of the church, he is a different person. He continues to live the life he formerly lived. He has no desire to depart from wickedness (2 Timothy 2:19). He continues to sin habitually (1 John 3:9). He is a hearer of the Word but not a doer, deceiving himself (James 1:22).

Jesus warns us that not every professing Christian will enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that does the will of God which is in heaven. There will come a day that many will say to him, *“Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?”* What will Jesus say to them? The Lord will tell them, *“I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity”* (Matthew 7:21-23). Will you be the person whom Jesus say these words to in the Day of Judgment?

His Loyalty to Christ is Questionable

A churchgoer has a wavering loyalty to Christ. He is a double-minded man. He is unstable in all his ways. One moment he follows him, the next moment he follows something else. He wavers between two opinions. Like Elijah, in the days of old, challenged the children of Israel saying, *“How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word”* (1 Kings 18:21).

He is unfit to be a soldier of Jesus Christ because of his noncombatant attitude. He is unable to endure hardship. He entangles himself with the affairs of the world (2 Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10). He seeks his own interests rather than Christ’s (Philippians 2:21). He is like the “disciples” of old who deserted Jesus because they found his teaching unacceptable (John 6:52-60, 66). He is not willing to die to self and follow Christ unreservedly (Matthew 16:24). Are you like this?

His View of the Bible is Questionable

A churchgoer takes the Bible likely. He does not believe it to be the inerrant and infallible Word of God. He reads it whenever he feels like it. He takes the Book of books as an intellectual source book. He reads it for information. When he disagrees with it, he questions it – its historical accuracy or relevancy. When it does make sense to him and bother his conscience, he tries to twist and turn from it in order to justify and vindicate himself.

His View of God is Truncated

A Churchgoer has a truncated view of God. He questions God and his character. When someone testifies of God’s goodness and faithfulness, he gives a sinister smile. Because of his truncated view of God, he takes him lightly. He takes his name in vain (Exodus 20:7). He curses and swears by his name (Exodus 20:16). There is no fear of God in him (Psalm 36:1).

His Attitude Stumbles Other Church Members

A churchgoer stumbles God’s people by his word and action. He spreads rumors. He is a talebearer. He does not only cause other church members to stumble but he also cripples the progress of the church. He hinders the internal and external prosperity of the church.

Does he know the church is an organism? Maybe he does, but that doesn’t matter much to him. You see, every born again Christian is a member of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13). He has a part to play in that Body. Therefore, if every member in that Body does its rightful share it will grow in prosperity. Furthermore, if every member functions effectively it will hold the Body together. As the brain dictates to every organ and muscle of our human body so Christ, the Head of the Church, tells each member what to do. We are all members of the Body of Christ. But a churchgoer does not pay any attention to it. As a result, he cripples the progress of the church both internally and externally. Are you like this?

There is no end depicting a churchgoer. But unfortunately, churches do have many of them who only pay lips service to the Lord. Jesus, quoting the words of the prophet Isaiah, said, *“This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me”* (Mark 7:6).

Dearly beloved, a churchgoer is in a very precarious position. He is neither here nor there. Do you know of anyone who is in this condition? Or are you yourselves in this condition? O God, have mercy upon us and deliver us from such an unhealthy condition. Amen.

- 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
Weds 27th June	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.
Sat 30th June	No Bible Study & Prayer Meeting		
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
Preacher	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson	Mr Charles Scott-Pearson	<u>TODAY: 24/06/2018</u>
Message	TBC	TBC	Chairman: Jonathan
Text	TBC	TBC	Organist: Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			Pianist: Anthony
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Sunday School this Lord's Day. • Church Pulpit Ministry: Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister. • Metropolitan Tabernacle School of Theology 2018: 3rd - 5th July 2018. Theme: "<i>Depth and Scope of God's Truth</i>". • Ladies Fellowship: This will be held after lunch today. 			Ushers: Daniel / Margaret
			Lunch: Sharon
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott / Venise
			<u>NEXT WEEK: 01/07/2018</u>
			Chairman: John
			Organist: Michael
			Pianist: Venise
			Ushers: Daniel / Jonathan
			Lunch: Volunteers
			Washing Up: Volunteers
			PA Crew: Scott
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £562.04, Lunch: £31.50 Baalah: £20.00 Attendance - Morning: 25 (A) 8 (C)			Church Maintenance Fund Total: £4,230.50
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 17			
Q: Into what estate did the Fall bring mankind? A: The Fall brought mankind into an estate of sin and misery. <u>Comments:</u> Adam's first sin is commonly called the Fall. And we are here told that, in consequence of this Fall, all men are now born in a sinful and unhappy condition. <u>Scriptural Reference:</u> Romans 5:12			
MEMORY VERSE			
Last Week "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Colossians 3:2	This Week "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1	Next Week "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Romans 12:2	