



# 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. 23 No. 07

**LORD’S DAY 17 FEBRUARY 2019**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Afternoon Service – 3pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 150

Psalm 47:6-9

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 24 – “Praise to the Lord”

RHC 41 – “Before Jehovah’s Aweful Throne”

*Opening Prayer \**

John Poh

John Poh

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

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*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 145

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 145 verses 1-8*  
(to the tune of St Anne, RHC 21)

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*Announcements & Memory Verse*

John Poh

John Poh

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \**

RHC 395 – “A Heart Like Thine”

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*Scriptural Text*

Jonah 3

Jonah 4

*Pastoral Prayer*

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

*Sermon Message*

*Responding to God*

*Resenting God*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 445 – “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

RHC 429 – “We Have Not Known Thee as We Ought”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

*Postlude*

*The Lord Bless You*

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\* 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.

# GOODNESS

Adapted from Maranatha Messenger, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018

What is goodness? How would you define “goodness?” Whenever I conduct a funeral service, I used to hear this phrase “He is a good man.” Even a gangster who died a tragic death would have someone step forward and say, “Ah Beng was a good man.” Why? Because when I was in need, he stood by me and helped me.

What is goodness? What good is good? According to the American Heritage Dictionary, the word means “the state or quality of being good.” For instance, in Acts 6:3 there was a neglect of the care of widows and the apostles suggested to the congregation to choose among themselves seven men of certain qualities to oversee this pressing need. And one of the qualities was “men of honest report” or “men of good reputation.” The early church was careful in choosing people to serve. The congregation wanted men who had a good reputation not only from within but also from without (1 Timothy 3:7).

The word “goodness” occurs only four times in the New Testament (Galatians 5:22; Romans 15:14; Ephesians 5:9; 2 Thessalonians 1:11). The meaning is broad and it denotes moral excellence in operation (Galatians 6:10). The word suggests not only a person who desires to abstain from every appearance of evil, but also to do good to others to the utmost of his ability. He would help a person’s necessities either by giving, lending or such other means (Acts 2:44, 45; 4:32, 34, 35). And because this “goodness” is one of the aspects of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, it must spring from a good heart — a heart that has been purified by the Spirit of God (Matthew 12:35).

“Goodness” is one of the characteristics of the Christian. Because God is good, we who belong to him must manifest this characteristic of goodness. We who say that we are in the truth must walk as Jesus walked. We should live as Jesus lived (1 John 2:6; Acts 10:38). Jesus said, “*Ye shall know them by their fruits*” (Matthew 7:16, 20). Paul said, “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works*” (Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14). James said, “*Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone*” (2:17). So, what kind of fruits have we been bearing since conversion? Knowledge of the Bible, orthodox beliefs, creeds, confessions – all of these are nothing if a sincere spirit of doing good is lacking.

In his Epistle, James asked a very pertinent question, “*Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom*” (3:13). Here he was more concerned with how a Christian lives his life than with what he says.

Who is a wise man? The word “wise” in secular thought denotes one who has above average intelligence and education. It was a technical term for a teacher. However, in the New Testament, it denotes one who has spiritual discernment and discretion, who has the ability to see clearly what is right and to act accordingly.

As for the word “knowledge,” it was used in classical Greek of one having the knowledge of a specialist. He is an expert endowed with special knowledge and training. A person may have the knowledge of a specialist, but does this necessarily qualify him to be a good teacher? James queried.

Though we may possess the “know-how” of the Christian life, it may not prove that we are skilled in applying God’s Word in our daily living. A church father aptly said, “Apply thyself wholly to the Scriptures, and apply the Scriptures wholly to thyself.” We need not only the knowledge of a specialist but also the wisdom which is from above to live and act on the Word.

Then James challenged the one who claimed to be wise and full of knowledge to show him out of a good conduct his works with meekness of wisdom (3:13b). The word for “good” implies that it must be obvious to others that his way of life is good (1 Peter 2:12). It is not how fluently you talk or how clever and orthodox you are. These alone do not prove wisdom. Years ago, The Strait Times reported an eight year old boy who had an IQ of 221. When interviewed by the press, his father’s comment was that his son is intelligent but he has no wisdom.

Anyone who professes to be wise should prove himself by his works. It is by living out a good life that a Christian shows that he is wise. It has to do with the whole of one’s way of life, not just mere talk. So the true test of wisdom is works and not only words.

Paul said in Galatians 6:9 and 10: *“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”* Knowing the frailty of men, he exhorts them to devote themselves tirelessly in doing good (i.e. to give financial support for those in Christian ministry) because in due time they will reap (i.e. physical and spiritual blessings) if they do not get discouraged. The latter part of this verse promises a harvest of good to those who persist in well-doing, whatever the well-doing may be.

The Greek word for “opportunity” is the same as that rendered “season” in verse 9. Paul assumes that such opportunities will come. And when they do come, he exhorts us to seize them and do good toward all men, especially to those who belong to the family of God.

Dearly beloved, there are ample opportunities to do good both in the Christian community and in the society. Doing good is doing God’s will. Doing God’s will is doing what God wants. Goodness is kindness. Kindness is doing good to others. Jesus said, *“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets”* (Matthew 7:12). Jesus has set us a good example. He went about doing good (Acts 10:38). We who are his followers must do what he did.

In conclusion, let me encourage you to do good to all men. Let this be our church slogan: “Do something good for Jesus every day and even out of the way.” 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
Fri 22 Feb, 7pm	Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony <i>"Christ the Son of Man"</i> - Mr David Park		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 23 Feb	No Bible Study & Prayer Meeting		
Next Lord's Day	Morning Service	Evening Service	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<b>Preacher</b>	Eld Stephen Toms	Eld Stephen Toms	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TODAY: 17/02/2019</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> John</p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Anthony</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b> Matthew</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Yetta</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Maureen</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b> Venise / Jason</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 24/02/2019</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan</p> <p><b>Organist:</b> Anthony</p> <p><b>Pianist:</b> Venise</p> <p><b>Ushers:</b> Tom / Margaret</p> <p><b>Lunch:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers</p> <p><b>PA Crew:</b> Venise / Jason</p>
<b>Message</b>	TBC	TBC	
<b>Text</b>	TBC	TBC	
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sunday School:</b> Sunday School for young children and toddlers will be held at 1:45pm. Please invite friends and family to attend.</li> <li>• <b>Church Pulpit Ministry:</b> Pray for the Pulpit Ministry and for the calling of a new minister.</li> <li>• <b>Pray for the forthcoming preachers:</b> Mar – Mr Charles Scott-Pearson, Rev Lim Chee Boon, Mr Marco Reale.</li> </ul>			
<b>Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £1086.70</b> <b>Attendance - Morning: 29 (A) 6 (C), Afternoon: 12 (A) 5 (C)</b>			<b>Church Maintenance Fund</b> <b>Total: £4,630.50</b>
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 52			
<p><b>Q: What are the reasons annexed to the Second Commandment?</b></p> <p><i>A: The reasons annexed to the Second Commandment are, God's <u>sovereignty</u> over us, his <u>propriety</u> in us, and the <u>zeal</u> he hath to his own worship.</i></p> <p><u>Comments:</u></p> <p>The special reasons added why we should observe this commandment are: 1. God is our Sovereign (I, the Lord); 2. God is our owner (thy God); 3. God is zealous for his own worship (am a jealous God).</p> <p><u>Scriptural Reference:</u></p> <p>Psalm 95:3, Exodus 34:14</p>			
MEMORY VERSE			
<p><b>Last Week</b></p> <p><i>"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:"</i></p> <p><b>Matthew 7:7</b></p>	<p><b>This Week</b></p> <p><i>"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."</i></p> <p><b>Matthew 26:41</b></p>	<p><b>Next Week</b></p> <p><i>"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."</i></p> <p><b>Psalm 23:6</b></p>	