



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. 24 No. 19

LORD’S DAY 10 MAY 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 2pm

Call to Worship

Isaiah 41:10

Psalms 130:1-5

Opening Prayer

John Poh

John Poh

Responsive Reading

Psalms 59

Scriptural Text

James 1:2-12

Malachi 1:6-11

Pastoral Prayer

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Sermon Message

The Blessings of a Tried Faith

Insincere Worship

Benediction

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that due to instructions from the government with regards to the ongoing Corona Virus epidemic, we will be suspending our Activities and Sunday Worship Services in the Church premises with immediate effect.

Instead we will be streaming the sermons via a video conferencing facility each Sunday.

Please email admin 'at' [newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@newlifebpc.org.uk) for more information.

Tithes & Offerings – these can be by cheque made payable to: New Life Bible Presbyterian Church. For direct bank transfer to the church account, please contact the treasurer, Mr Tom Tan.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 10

Q: How did God create man?

A: God created man, male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

Comments:

We are here told that man was created in the likeness of God. His soul resembles God in being upright and holy, and possessed of reason. None of the other animals were so endowed, and they accordingly were put in subjection to him.

Scriptural Reference:

Genesis 1:27, Ephesians 4:24, Genesis 1:28

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”

Hebrews 10:23

This Week

“But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.”

Romans 8:25

Next Week

“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.”

James 1:2-3

HOW BELIEVERS KILL PRIDE

Introduction

One can hardly imagine a more difficult activity than to kill pride, particularly in ourselves. This is so, not because there is any lack of it in us, but because pride blinds us to its own existence. Pride blinds us to pride.

What is pride?

Pride is the wellspring of all other sins. It was the first sin that begat all other. Its prevalence is so endemic to the human condition, that it is easy to become desensitised to its presence. But it exists every time we do or think or say anything contrary to God's Word or omit anything expected of us by the living God. How so? Because whenever we sin in any way, whether by omission or commission, we in effect exalt our will above God's. This is pride. Every sin is a manifestation of pride.

Though pride is common, it is an abomination. Pride in the heart is sin (Prov. 21:4). God hates prides (Prov. 6:17; 8:13). He will surely punish the proud (Prov. 15:25; 16:5). The day of the Lord is against all the proud, for the Lord alone will be exalted (Isa. 2:11-12).

How do we kill pride, this beast, in others?

We do it with patience, compassion, and love. Patience, because we ourselves are full of it. Compassion, because we know how hateful this sin is to God and how dreadful a person's condition before Him is when caught in pride's clutches. Love, because we want to see the other person comforted to Christlikeness, which is the very opposite of pride.

How do we kill pride in ourselves?

By several means:

First, we need to frequently consider the cross of Jesus Christ. Why? Because that is the best place to see the true and wretched value of that which opposes God's will. The spiritually and physically pummelled Saviour died there because of our sin of pride. A fresh, believing sight of Jesus Christ and Him crucified is a truly divine medicine against pride.

Second, we need the help of others. Having considered the blinding tendency of pride, we note that God often uses others to point pride in us. We kill our pride by listening to their rebukes. The problem here, of course, is that our pride makes us resistant to receiving heavy counsel from others. And few of us have friends who love us enough to speak the truth in love when we need to hear it. So prayer is needed, in the moment, for the grace and humility to accept what others see, even if we don't see it ourselves.

Third, we need the help of God. It is hard to maintain pride when spending considerable time with the Almighty. Prayerlessness stokes pride; prayer has a quenching tendency.

Fourth, we need to give sober thought to the warnings of scripture that pride brings horrible consequences. Consider these statements:

“When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom” (Prov. 11:2 2).

“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud” (Prov. 16:18 & 19).

“A man’s pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit” (Prov. 29:23).

Our pride not only hurts us but also harms others. Pride makes us arrogant mockers towards other people (Prov. 21:24). The proud person stirs up fights and conflicts (Prov. 13:10; 28:25).

Finally, let us consider well Paul’s reminder to the Corinthians, *“Who taketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?”* (1 Cor. 4:7-8). Whatever our abilities, our attainments, our acquisitions - all are gifts. Paul’s motto should be our practice: *“God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world”* (Gal 6:14).

Conclusion

We must have no tolerance for pride. We do not correct a venomous snake; we immediately behead it. Pride, like a fire revived, needs to be stamped out lest we be consumed in the conflagration. Hasten the day, Lord, when pride will be extinguished once and forever!

- PM (adapted)