



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. 46

LORD’S DAY 15 NOVEMBER 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 106:1-5	Psalm 57:9-11
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Jonathan Kim
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 86	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Jeremiah 6:14	Hebrews 3:1
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>A False Assurance of Peace</i>	<i>The Profession of a Believer</i>
<i>Benediction</i>	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 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 for more information.

Weekly Prayer Meeting will be held online every Friday, 7pm. Please contact Pr Mok for more information.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 37

Q: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?

A: The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately PASS INTO GLORY; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

Comments:

Having learned the blessings which true Christians receive from God in this life, we are now taught the blessings they receive when this life is ended. 1. The *soul* is then made perfectly holy, or free from all sinful tendencies, and taken at once to heave; 2. The *body* rests in the grave in union with Christ till the last day.

Scriptural Reference:

Revelation 21:27, Luke 23:43, 1 Thessalonians 4:14

MEMORY VERSE

This Week

“Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.”

Hebrews 2:17

Next Week

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls...”

Jeremiah 6:16

Last Week

“Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart...”

Jeremiah 4:4

DEATH AND RESURRECTION

Introduction

Death is a different thing in human beings from what it is in animals. The common mistake is to suppose that when a human being dies he, or she, is over and done forever and in every way. But this is wrong.

Death in an animal is the end of its existence in every way. But death in a human being is not the end of existence. The reason for the difference is this. A human being is created with two parts: a body and a soul. An animal has a body but no soul. Therefore, when a human being dies the body begins to decay and so is fit only for burial. But the soul of a man or woman does not cease to exist. It leaves the body and enters into another world. There are two places to which the soul, or death, may go: heaven and hell.

The soul, which at death leaves the human body, immediately and with no delay enters into its eternal home and will live there forever. Hence the most serious subject which any man or woman can be faced with is this: Where will my soul be at death? It is only when this immensely serious question faces a person that they begin to realise how extremely important it is that we all prepare for death. It is all too easy for people to say that they do not believe that we have a soul. However, one easy way to recognise the existence of our soul is to think of the conscience. Conscience and intelligence are elements of the soul. All human beings have these elements. Animals do not have them.

Conscience is that element of the soul which warns us of the guilt of our sin. Sin is disobedience to the moral laws of God. Conscience is a God-given warning which we are all aware of. Even people who scoff at religion and who hate to think of God are compelled to face up to the reality of conscience. Even Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Christ, could not escape the warning and alarm of his own conscience. It roused in him such fear for his sinful betrayal of Christ that he committed suicide.

Sin is the supremely serious problem which we all, as human beings, have to face up to. God tells us very clearly in His Bible that He will punish our sins, either in this life, or in the life to come, or in both - unless we are forgiven.

The fact that all human beings are sinful should awaken our conscience to make us face up to the extremely important question: How can I get forgiveness for my sins before I die? The seriousness of this question is very obvious. If I die with my sins all forgiven by God I shall go to heaven. But if I die with my sins not forgiven by God He will punish me in hell eternally. No problem which we face on earth is so extremely serious as this is.

Thankfully, God in His mercy has given us a very clear explanation of this problem in the Bible. A man, woman or child who believes in Jesus Christ will most certainly be forgiven all his, or her, sins and will be received up into heaven when they die.

God is perfectly just and He will forgive the sins of all who believe in Jesus Christ as Saviour. Jesus died for the sins of all who believe in Him. He paid the price for our sins by suffering on the Cross for us. This is the comfort which all Christian believers have.

No wonder John Wesley said about the Christians of his church, "Our people die well". Christians die well. They are sinners like others. But because they believe in Jesus, who died on the Cross for sinners, they have all their sins forgiven in this life. Their soul therefore goes to heaven as soon as they die.

So the wise way to face death is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness. The foolish way to face death is to close our mind to the seriousness of death and so to face death unprepared. Those who die without faith in Jesus will enter into the eternal punishment of hell-fire. In the moment of death their soul is by God cast into eternal punishment.

How different is the death of the believer in Christ! The moment his soul leaves his body in death it is received up into heaven, where it will be eternally at peace and happy in God's house above.

What about the resurrection? At the end of the world Jesus Christ will come back to judge all mankind on the Day of Judgement. To the believer Jesus will say, "Come!" To the unbeliever He will say, "Depart from me!" Resurrection is the lifting of dead bodies from the grave at the end of the world. When Jesus Christ comes again. He will put the soul back into the body of every person. The body and soul of all believers will now shine in glory and beauty. They will rise up to meet Christ at His second coming. Sadly, the body and soul of all unbelievers will be re-joined together. But the unbelievers will now be cast into eternal punishment forever.

The lesson for us all is surely obvious. Be sure you trust in Jesus for salvation. All believers will be, both body and soul, in heaven forever. All unbelievers will be cast by God into hell. Seek grace to believe in Christ.

Rev Maurice Roberts
Free Church of Scotland (Continuing)

— *The above article is taken from Sovereign BPC, Singapore*