



# 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. 07

**LORD’S DAY 16 FEBRUARY 2020**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

### *Afternoon Service – 3pm*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 22:25-28

John 15:9-16

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 81 – “*Lord of the Sabbath*”

RHC 64 – “*Jesus! The Sinner’s Friend*”

*Opening Prayer \**

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri \**

*Glory Be to the Father*

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*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 47

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*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 47 verses 5-9*  
(to the tune of Maitland, RHC 391)

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*Announcements & Memory Verse*

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology \**

RHC 355 – “*Day by Day*”

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*Scriptural Text*

Colossians 2:16-23

Romans 12:1

*Pastoral Prayer*

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

*Sermon Message*

*Holding Fast to Christ*

*Pleasing God*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 330 – “*How Firm A Foundation, Ye Saints*”

Insert – “*Living for Jesus*”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

*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.

# **ASSURED AND PERSEVERING**

## **Introduction**

Perseverance is the teaching that God shall with no uncertainty bring into their eternal inheritance those who are actually justified - delivered from the curse of the law and have the righteousness of Christ reckoned to their account and who have been begotten by the Spirit of God. And further it is the teaching that God shall do this in a way glorifying to Himself, in harmony with His nature and consistent with the teaching of Scripture concerning the nature of those who are called saints.

Perseverance is a doctrine that complements and completes other truths. It is the truth which establishes a Christian in assurance of salvation. The doctrine of election in itself cannot do this. Justification cannot do this. The doctrine of sanctification cannot do this. Not even the doctrine of glorification does so. Yet each of these is incomplete without Eternal Security. Election, Justification, Sanctification, and Glorification are all hypothetical or mere possibilities - until Eternal Security complements and completes them by showing how they are applied to specific individuals. And it is also practical because it brings believers to assurance of salvation, which according to many Scripture passages they are to have.

## **What is assurance of faith?**

Assurance of faith is the conviction that, by God's grace, I belong to Christ, have received full pardon for all sins, and will inherit eternal life (1 John 5:11-13). If I have true assurance, I not only believe in Christ for salvation but also know what I believe. Such assurance includes freedom from guilt, joy in God, and a sense of belonging to the family of God. Assurance is also dynamic, varying according to conditions, capable of growing in force and fruitfulness.

Assurance is obtained (1) by clinging to the promises of God (2 Cor. 7:1), (2) by the Spirit's confirmation of the marks and fruits of grace within us (1 John 4:7, 13), (3) by the direct testimony of the Spirit witnessing with our spirit that we are the children of God (Rom. 8:16), and (4) by resting in God's outstanding track record of faithfulness toward us (1 Thess. 5:23-24).

## **What is the perseverance of the saints?**

We first must ask, who are the saints? Many would extend "eternal security" to all baptised persons, or to all who have made decisions for Christ at evangelistic meetings. Scripture speaks only of the perseverance of saints (Jer. 32:40; Rom. 8:30, 37-39; Phil 1:1, 6), defined as those "whom God calls, according to his purpose, to the communion of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and regenerates by the Holy Spirit" (Canons of Dort, Fifth Head, Art. 1). By the preserving work of the triune God (1 Cor. 1:2, 8-9), such people will persevere in true faith and in the works that proceed from faith, so long as they continue in the world.

Some theologians want to speak of the *preservation* of the saints, rather than perseverance. These two notions are closely related, but not the same. The preserving activity of God undergirds the saints' perseverance. He keeps them in faith, preserves them from straying, and ultimately perfects them (1 Peter 1:5; Jude 24). We may be confident that God will finish the work of grace He has begun in us (Ps. 138:8; Phil. 1:6; Heb. 12:2). Believers are preserved through Christ's intercession (Luke 22:32; John 17:5) and the ministry of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16; 1 John 2:27).

Perseverance itself, however, is the saints' lifelong activity: confessing Christ as Saviour (Rom. 10:9), bringing forth the fruits of grace (John 15:16), enduring to the end (Matt. 10:22; Heb. 10:28, 29). True believers persevere in the "things that accompany salvation" (Heb. 6:9). God does not deal with them "as unaccountable automatons, but as moral agents," says A.W. Pink; believers are active in sanctification (Phil 2:12). They keep themselves from sin (1 John 5:18). They keep themselves in love of God (Jude 21). They run with patience the race that is set before them (Heb. 12:1). That is how they persevere, and they are aided in this by the Holy Spirit.

### **Conclusion**

How are assurance and perseverance related? Assurance helps the believer persevere, *first*, by encouraging him to rest on God's grace in Christ and His promises in the gospel; and *second*, by presenting these as a powerful motive for Christian living. Perseverance opens the way of assurance. If a man does not believe in the perseverance of the saints, he cannot be sure he is going to heaven. He may know he is in a state of grace, but he has no way of knowing whether or not he will continue in that state. Thus assurance is wedded to the doctrine of perseverance. Those who persist in doing the works that spring from faith will usually attain high levels of assurance over a period of time.

- partly adapted from *The Reformation Heritage KJV Study Bible*

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begins with the **Pre-Worship Prayer Meeting** at **10:00 am** followed by the **Worship Services** at **11.00 am and 3.00 pm**. Please stay back for fellowship lunch after the morning worship and for tea after the afternoon service. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK		WELCOME
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	No Mid-Week 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.
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb, 10am	Pre-worship Prayer Meeting	
<b>Next Lord's Day</b>	<b>Morning Service</b> <b>Afternoon Service</b>	<b>LORD'S DAY DUTIES</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong      Pr Mok Chee Cheong	<b>TODAY: 16/02/2020</b>
<b>Message</b>	TBC      TBC	
<b>Text</b>	TBC      TBC	

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS		LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<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>Catechism Class:</b> For those seeking baptism or church membership, the catechism classes will continue today at 2pm. Please inform Pr Mok if you would like to join the classes. Please note that new starters will not be able to complete the course for baptism but are welcomed to still attend.</li> <li>• <b>Mid Week Bible Study:</b> This will be held fortnightly in the manse on Wednesday evening, 7pm. The next bible study will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> Feb.</li> <li>• <b>Library Ministry:</b> The Church library is now open, please see Pr Mok if you wish to borrow any books.</li> </ul>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>NEXT WEEK: 23/02/2020</u></b></p> <p><b>Chairman:</b> Jonathan K  <b>Organist:</b> Anthony  <b>Pianist:</b> Anthony  <b>Ushers:</b> Daniel / Tom  <b>Lunch:</b> Jason  <b>Washing Up:</b> Volunteers  <b>PA Crew:</b> Jonathan P / Mark</p>
<p><b>Worship Service Collections</b> - Last Sunday: £315.50, Lunch: £30.00  <b>Attendance</b> - Morning: 19 (A) 8 (C), Afternoon: 11 (A) 6 (C)</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Church Maintenance Fund</b>  <b>Total: £6,160.50</b></p>

## SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 105

**Q: What do we pray for in the Fifth Petition?**

*A: In the Fifth Petition – (which is, AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS) – we pray, That God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by his grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.*

Comments:

In the Fifth and Sixth Petitions we pray for the supply of our spiritual wants. We ask first for the pardon of our sins. This is promised in Scripture on the condition that we forgive others. If God, then, has enabled us to forgive all who have offended us, we may confidently trust that he will hear our own prayer for forgiveness. Sins are here called *debts*, because in sinning we become debtors to the law; and the law demands either obedience, or the penalty of disobedience.

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 51:1, Matthew 6:14

## MEMORY VERSE

	This Week	Next Week
<p><b>Last Week</b>  <i>"A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."</i>  <b>Proverbs 16:9</b></p>	<p><i>"Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."</i>  <b>Deuteronomy 31:6</b></p>	<p><i>"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."</i>  <b>Matthew 5:44</b></p>