



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. 04

LORD’S DAY 26 JANUARY 2020

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 116:5-7

Psalm 100

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 85 – “O Day of Rest and Gladness”

RHC 20 – “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

*Opening Prayer **

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Gloria Patri **

Glory Be to the Father

Responsive Reading

Psalm 44

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 44 verses 1-8
(to the tune of Seraph, RHC 15)

Announcements & Memory Verse

Jonathan Kim

Jonathan Kim

*Tithes & Offerings & Doxology **

RHC 298 – “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

Scriptural Text

Revelation 22

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Pooyan Mershahi

Rev Pooyan Mershahi

Sermon Message

Heaven

Revival

The Lord’s Supper

Rev Pooyan Mershahi

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 189 – “I Know a Fount”

RHC 236 – “Revive Thy Work, O Lord”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Rev Pooyan Mershahi

Rev Pooyan Mershahi

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.

UNION WITH CHRIST

Introduction

Union with Christ is undoubtedly one of the most extraordinary blessings and privileges of every Christian. That union is forged by the Holy Spirit at the time of regeneration when He cuts a sinner off from Adam and grafts him into Christ. The Spirit then establishes a spiritual union between Christ and the sinner - a union that is unbreakable, irreversible, and eternal.

Nature of the Union

In so doing, the Holy Spirit reestablishes a covenantal relationship between God and sinners that once existed between God and Adam prior to the Fall. Though the essence of this union is identical to their original covenantal union, one difference significant: the covenant bond between God and Adam proved to be breakable because it was established externally from God's being. But when the Holy Spirit unites a sinner to Christ, the bond is internal to God's being. It lies within the second Person of the Godhead, the Lord Jesus Christ. When a sinner is united to Christ, he is thereby united to the triune God with a covenantal bond that cannot be severed to all eternity. As impossible as it is to sever the divine and human natures of Christ, so the covenantal bond between God and His people, established in Christ, can never be dissolved. Paul could therefore write boldly to believers that nothing *"shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Rom. 8:39).

It is a reciprocal union

All of this is implied when we say that believers are united to Christ by faith. However, this glorious objective truth must also become an experiential reality for us if we are to enjoy its blessed benefits. Objectively, this union is established in the hour of regeneration, but this union with Christ is subjectively established and maintained by the exercise of faith. Only by faith can the believer become conscious of this union and enjoy its benefits.

Though from God's side this union is uninterrupted, from the believer's side the awareness and enjoyment of this union is very much contingent upon the exercise of faith. The more a believer exercises faith, the more he will enjoy the reality and comfort of being united to Christ. Enjoying this union is therefore directly proportionate to our believing appropriation of it. In John 15, Christ lovingly urges His people to abide in Him, saying, *"Abide in me, and I in you....I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit"* (John 15:4-5). Christ makes it abundantly clear that He desires believers to live in the full awareness and comfort of this union. It is therefore essential that believers exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work each day afresh. There will be times that such faith is exercised when we are not engaged emotionally - and thus even in the absence of the sweet and tender embraces God's children so much enjoy. At such moments we do not feel united to Christ, but by faith we embrace the truth that nevertheless we are united to Christ. What a blessing when we increasingly live by faith and not by feeling! *"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"* (Heb 11:1).

Conclusion

Do you know whether you are united to this precious Christ? If you are, you will be irresistibly drawn to Christ, embrace Him by faith, be progressively conformed to Him, and be increasingly assured of your union with Him. If this in some measure is descriptive of your life, continue coming to and abiding in Christ. In so doing, you will increasingly enjoy your objective union with Christ and the more you will understand what Paul means when he writes, *"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus"* (Rom. 8:1).

- adapted from *The Reformation Heritage KJV Study Bible*

THE BARREN FIG TREE

(Robert Murraray M'Cheyne)

Within the vineyard's sunny bound
An ample fig tree shelter found,
Enjoying sun and showers -
The boughs were graceful to the view,
With spreading leaves of deep-green hue,
And gaily blushing flowers.

When round the vintage season came,
This blooming fig was still the same,
As promising and fair;
But though the leaves were broad and green,
No precious fruit was to be seen,
Because no fruit was there.

"For three long years," the Master cried,
"Fruit on this tree to find I've tried,
But all in vain my toil;
Ungrateful tree! the axe's blow
Shall lay thy leafy honors low;
Why cumberst thou the soil?"

"Ah! let it stand just one year more,"
The dresser said, "till all my store
Of rural arts I've shown;
About the massy roots I'll dig,
And if it bear, we've gained the fig-
If not, then cut it down."

How many years hast thou, my heart,
Acted the barren fig's tree's part,
Enjoying heavenly dews of grace,
And sunny smiles from God's own face-
But where the fruit? ah! where?

How often must the Lord have prayed
That still my day might be delayed,
Till all due means were tried:
Afflictions, mercies, health, and pain,
How long shall these be all in vain
To teach this heart of pride?

Learn, O my soul, what God demands
Is not a faith like barren sands,
But fruit of heavenly hue;
By this we prove that Christ we know,
If in his holy steps we go-
Faith works by love, if true.

(August 14, 1834)

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 29 th Jan, 7pm	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 2 nd Feb, 10am	Pre-worship Prayer Meeting	
<i>Next Lord's Day</i>	<i>Morning Service</i> <i>Afternoon Service</i>	LORD'S DAY DUTIES
<i>Preacher</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong Pr Mok Chee Cheong	<u>TODAY: 26/01/2020</u>
<i>Message</i>	TBC TBC	<i>Chairman:</i> Jonathan
<i>Text</i>	TBC TBC	<i>Organist:</i> Anthony
NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS		<i>Pianist:</i> Venise
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Sunday School today. • Catechism Class: For those seeking baptism or church membership, the catechism classes will commence today at 2pm. Please inform Pr Mok if you would like to join the classes. • Mid Week Bible Study: This will be held fortnightly in the manse on Wednesday evening, 7pm. The next bible study will be on the 29th Jan. 		<i>Ushers:</i> Tom / Margaret
		<i>Lunch:</i> Carry-In
		<i>Washing Up:</i> Volunteers
		<i>PA Crew:</i> Mark/Jason
		<u>NEXT WEEK: 02/02/2020</u>
		<i>Chairman:</i> John
Worship Service Collections - Last Sunday: £678.50, Lunch: £45.00, Church Maintenance Fund: £100.00		Church Maintenance Fund
Attendance - Morning: 24 (A) 10 (C), Afternoon: 15 (A) 7 (C)		Total: £6,160.50
SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 102		
Q: What do we pray for in the Second Petition?		
<i>A: In the Second Petition – (which is, <u>THY KINGDOM COME</u>) – we pray, That <u>Satan's kingdom</u> may be destroyed; and that the <u>kingdom of Grace</u> may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it, and that the <u>kingdom of Glory</u> may be hastened.</i>		
<u>Comments:</u>		
A Kingdom means a people who are ruled by a king. Now, there are three kingdoms mentioned here: the <i>kingdom of Satan</i> , or those who obey Satan; the <i>kingdom of Grace</i> , or those who obey God; and the <i>kingdom of Glory</i> , or those who will reign with Christ in glory. In this petition we ask that the first of these be destroyed, that the second may prosper, and that the time of the third may speedily arrive.		
<u>Scriptural Reference:</u>		
Psalm 68:1, Psalm 51:18, Revelation 22:20		
MEMORY VERSE		
Last Week “For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.” Proverbs 2:6	This Week “For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” Romans 8:6	Next Week “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.” Hebrews 12:14