



# **NEW LIFE**

## **BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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*“For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ” (Rev 1:9)*

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**LORD’S DAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2021**

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 100	Isaiah 60:19-21
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Jonathan Kim
<i>Opening Hymn</i>	RHC 65 – “ <i>And Can It Be That I Should Gain?</i> ”	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 119:161-176	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Ecclesiastes 1:1-11	John 1:6-13
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Life Without God</i>	<i>Christ the True Light</i>
<i>Closing Hymn</i>	“ <i>Lord, Help My Unbelief</i> ”	---
<i>Benediction</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong

\* *Congregation Stands*

### **SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 80**

**Q: What is required in the Tenth Commandment?**

*A: The Tenth Commandment requireth full contentment with our own condition, with a right and charitable frame of spirit toward our neighbour, and all that is his.*

Scriptural Reference:

1 Timothy 6:8, Hebrew 13:5

### **MEMORY VERSE**

**Last Week**

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*

**John 1:1**

**This Week**

*“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”*

**John 1:12**

**Next Week**

*“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”*

**John 1:29**

# A BRIEF TREATISE OF THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

## II. GOD AND HIS CREATION

### 3. THE BEING OF GOD (Part 8)

#### Q4: What is God?

A: God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

#### THE POWER OF GOD

Job 9:19 — *“If I speak of strength, lo, he is strong.”* The Hebrew word for strong signifies a conquering, prevailing strength. “He is strong.” The superlative degree is intended here; viz., He is most strong. He is called *El-shaddai*, God almighty (Gen 17:1). His almightiness lies in this, that he can do whatever is feasible. Divines distinguish between authority and power. God has both.

I. **God has a sovereign right and authority over mankind.** He can do with his creatures as he pleases. Who shall dispute with God? who shall ask him a reason of his doings? Dan 4:35 — *“He doth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, what doest thou?”*

God sits judge in the highest court; he calls the monarchs of the earth to the bar, and is not bound to give a reason of his proceedings. Psa 75:7 — *“He putteth down one, and setteth up another.”* He has salvation and damnation in his power. He has the key of justice in his hand, to lock up whole he will in the fiery prison of hell; and he has the key of mercy in his hand, to open heaven’s gate to whom he pleases. The name engraved upon his vesture is, *“King of kings, and Lord of lords”* (Rev 19:16). He sits Lord paramount, and who can call him to account? Isa 46:10 — *“I will do all my pleasure.”* The world is God’s diocese, and shall not he do what he will in his own diocese? He it was that turned King Nebuchadnezzar to eat grass, and threw angels to hell when they sinned; that broke the head of the Babylonish empire. *“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer! Thy pomp is brought down to the grave”* (Isa 14:12). *“Who sets bounds to the sea, and bridles the proud waves”* (Job 38:11). God is the supreme monarch, all power is seated originally in him. *“The power that be are ordained of God”* (Rom 13:1). Kings hold their crowns of him. *“By me kings reign”* (Prov. 8:15).

II. **As God has authority, so he has infinite power.** What is authority without power? “He is mighty in strength” (Job 9:4). This power of God is seen:

[1] In the creation. To create requires infinite power. All the world cannot make a fly. God’s power in creating is evident; because he needs no instruments to work with; he can work without tools; because he needs no matter to work upon; he creates matter, and then works upon it; and because he works without labour; *“He spake, and it was done”* (Psa 33:9).

[2] The power of God is seen in the conversion of souls. The same power draws a sinner to God that drew Christ out of the grave to heaven (Eph 1:19-20). Greater power is put forth in conversion than in creation. When God made the world, he with no opposition; as he had nothing to help him, so he had nothing to hinder him; but when he converts a sinner he meets with opposition. Satan opposes him, and the sinful heart of man opposes him; a sinner is angry with converting grace. The work was the *“work of God’s fingers”* (Psa 8:3). Conversion is the

*“work of God’s arm”* (Luke 1:51). In the creation, God wrought but one miracle, he spake the word; but in conversion, he works many miracle; the blind is made to see, the dead is raised, the deaf hears the voice of the Son of God. Oh the infinite power of Jehovah!

God’s power is of equal extent with his will. He with a word can unpin the wheels, and break the axletree of the creation. He can do “more than we can think” (Eph 3:20). He can suspend natural agents. He sealed up the lion’s mouths; he made the fire not to burn; he made the waters to stand up on a heap; he caused the sun to go ten degrees backward in the dial of Ahaz (Isa 38:8). What can pose Omnipotence? *“The Lord cuts off the spirit of princes”* (Psa 76:12). He counter works his enemies; he pulls down their flags and banners of pride, infatuates their counsels, breaks their forces; and he does it with ease, with the turning of his hand; *“with his breath”* (Psa 33:6, Isa 40:24); a look, a glance of his eye is all it needs cost God to destroy his enemies, *“the Lord looked into the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire, and troubled their host”* (Exod 14:24). Who shall stop him in his march? God commands, and all creatures in heaven and earth obey him. When God speaks, the wind and sea obey him. What cannot omnipotent power do? *“God’s power is a glorious power”* (Col 1:11). It is an irresistible power. Rom 9:19 — *“Who hath resisted his will?”* If the sinner be once taken in God’s iron net, there is no escape. *“There is none that can deliver out of my hand”* (Isa 43:13). God’s power is inexhaustible; it is never spent or wasted. God has an everlasting spring of strength in himself (Isa 26:4). *“He fainteth not, neither is weary”* (Isa 40:28).

**III. God cannot do all things, because he cannot deny himself.** Though God can do all things, he cannot do that which stains the glory of his Godhead. God cannot sin; he cannot do that which implies a contradiction. To be a God of truth, and yet deny himself, is a contradiction.

### **Application 1**

If God be infinite in power let us fear him. We fear such as are in power. *“Fear ye not me? saith the Lord: will ye not tremble at my presence?”* (Jer 5:22). He has power to cast our souls and bodies into hell. *“Who knows the power of his wrath?”* (Psa 90:11). The same breath that made us can dissolve us. *“His fury is poured out like fire; the rocks are thrown down by him”* (Nahum 1:6). Solomon says, *“Where the word of a king is, there is power”* (Eccl 8:4), much more where the word of a God is. The fear of God will drive out all other base fear.

### **Application 2**

See the deplorable condition of wicked men.

(1) This power of God is not for them. They have no union with God, therefore they have no warrant to lay claim to his power. His power is no relief to them. God has power to forgive sins, but he will not put forth his power towards an impenitent sinner. God’s power is not engaged to help those that fight against him. Let miseries come upon the wicked, they have none to help them; they are like a ship in a storm without a pilot, and driven upon the rocks.

(2) This power of God is against the wicked. God’s power will not be the sinner’s shield to defend him, but a sword to wound him. God’s power will bind the sinner in chains. His power serves to revenge the wrong done to his mercy. He will be Almighty to damn the sinner. Now, in what condition is every unbeliever? God’s power is engaged against him, and *“it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God”* (Heb 10:31). Get an interest in God, and then he will put forth the whole glorious power of his Godhead for the good of his people and for the glory of his own name.

— adapted and edited from Thomas Watson, *A Body of Divinity*, pp 77-82

## **CHURCH NOTICE**

Dear fellow worshippers and friends,

We are pleased to inform the worshippers and visitors of New Life Bible Presbyterian Church that the church will resume holding worship services in the Church premise on Sunday mornings.

The church activities will take place as follows:

- Sunday Morning Worship Service, 11am – Church Premises & Online
- Sunday Afternoon Worship Service, 3pm – Online only

Provided that there is no worsening of the pandemic in London, we hope to start holding the Afternoon Worship Service and Fortnightly Bible Study within the church premises in the coming months.

### **Changes introduced to the Worship Services held at the church premises**

In compliance with the current Government guidelines, the following changes have been introduced:

- Singing will be allowed during the Morning Worship Service
- No offering collection during the worship service. Offerings can be made at the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- All Bibles and hymn books will be kept and unavailable for use. Please bring your own Bible and remember to take it away with you after worship service.
- Adopt a 2-metre social distancing seating arrangement (household members may sit with each other).
- Face coverings to be worn in the church **at all times** out of consideration for all worshippers. For young children under the age of 11, the use of face covering is optional. **Please ensure you bring your own face covering.**
- No food and drinks will be made available (Fellowship Lunch has been temporarily suspended).
- After Morning Worship Service, you may gather for fellowship inside or outside of the Church premises, but please adhere to social distancing.
- No access to non-essential areas of the church – this includes the Fellowship Hall and kitchen.
- New movement arrangements to be adopted (please follow directions).
- Temperature measurements will be taken for every worshipper and visitor.
- Worshippers and visitors are required to complete the contact details slip for the NHS Test & Trace service. These details will be kept securely in church for 21 days and then destroyed. They will only be submitted to Test & Trace if a Covid-19 case occurs.
- Alternatively, please download the NHS COVID-19 Mobile App and scan one of the QR codes in the Church entrance to check-in.

To join our online services or to obtain further updates, please visit the church website ([www.newlifebpc.org.uk](http://www.newlifebpc.org.uk)) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim  
Task Force Members

## NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Dear Worshippers, as the Church Premises reopens for Morning Worship Service please note that there will be strict social distancing measures put in place. Face coverings must be worn in the church at all times out of consideration for all worshippers.**

**For the time being, the 3:00pm Afternoon Worship Service will still be conducted online.**

If you require the link to our online zoom services, or have any questions or require further clarity, please call the church manse, or email us at admin 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk.

**Tithes & Offerings** – There will be an offering box at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary for you to place your offerings in.

**Worship Service Collections:** 22/08/21 - £590.00, Maintenance Fund - £50.00;  
29/08/21 - £825.00, Maintenance Fund - £100.00

**Church Maintenance Fund Total: £7,480.50**

### **RHC 65 - And Can It Be That I Should Gain?**

And can it be that I should gain  
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?

Chorus:

Amazing love!  
How can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love!  
How can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above,  
So free, so infinite His grace!  
Emptied Himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race.  
[Chorus]

No condemnation now I dread,  
I am my Lord's and He is mine;  
Alive in Him my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine.  
[Chorus].

*Charles Wesley*  
Tune: SAGINA

### **Lord, Help My Unbelief**

How sad our state by nature is!  
Our sin how deep it stains!  
And Satan binds our captive minds  
Fast in his slavish chains.

But there's a voice of sovereign grace  
Sounds from the sacred Word,  
'Come, all despairing sinners, come,  
And trust upon the Lord.'

My soul obeys the almighty call,  
And runs to this relief;  
I would believe Thy promise, Lord,  
O help my unbelief.

To the dear fountain of Thy blood,  
Incarnate God, I fly;  
Here let me wash my guilty soul  
From crimes of deepest dye.

A guilty, weak and helpless worm,  
On Thy kind arms I fall;  
Be Thou my strength and righteousness,  
My Jesus and my All.

*Isaac Watts*  
Tune: MARTYRDOM