



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. 25 No. 38

LORD’S DAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Afternoon Service – 3pm

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:20-22

Psalm 145:17-21

Opening Prayer

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

John Poh

Opening Hymn *

RHC 82 – “*This Day at Thy
Creating Word*”

Responsive Reading

Psalm 120

Scriptural Text

Ecclesiastes 2

John 1:15-18

Pastoral Prayer

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Sermon Message

***Finding Happiness in Pleasures
and Possessions***

The Fullness of life in Christ

Closing Hymn *

“*Jesus, My Strength, My Hope*”

Benediction

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Pr Mok Chee Cheong

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* Congregation Stands

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 81

Q: What is forbidden in the Tenth Commandment?

A: The Tenth Commandment forbiddeth all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbour, and all inordinate motions and affections to any thing that is his.

Comments:

This commandment refers to the *desires* of our heart. It tells us that we ought not to *covet* – that is, to cherish an unlawful desire for anything belonging to another. And it is put here to warn us that the Law of God is *spiritual*, and is broken by a wrong thought as well as by a wrong act. It commands us to be content with our position in life, whatever that may be. And it forbids us to be fretful over our own want of success or envious at the good success of others. To cherish a spirit of *good-will* is the best safeguard of this command.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Timothy 6:8, Hebrew 13:5

MEMORY VERSE

Last 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

This Week

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

John 1:29

Next Week

“The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.”

Ecclesiastes 1:9

A BRIEF TREATISE OF THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

II. GOD AND HIS CREATION

3. THE BEING OF GOD (Part 9)

Q4: What is God?

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

THE HOLINESS OF GOD

Exod. 15:2 — *“Glorious in holiness.”* Holiness is the most sparkling jewel of his crown; it is the name by which God is known. Ps 111:9 — *“Holy and reverend is his name.”* He is *“holy One”* Job 6:10. Seraphims cry, *“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of his glory”* (Isa 6:3). His power makes him mighty, his holiness makes him glorious. God’s holiness consists in his perfect love of righteousness, and abhorrence of evil. *“Of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look on iniquity”* (Hab. 1:13).

The holiness of God is his essential property, whereby he is infinitely pure; loves and delights in his own purity, and in all the resemblances of it which any of his creatures have; and is perfectly free from all impurity, and hates it wherever he sees it (Thomas Vincent).

I. God is holy intrinsically. He is holy in his nature; his very being is made up of holiness, as light is of the essence of the sun. He is holy in his Word. The Word of God bears a stamp of his holiness upon it, as the wax bears an impression of the seal. *“Thy Word is very pure”* (Psa. 119:140). It is compared to silver refined seven times (Psa 12:6). Every line in the Word breathes sanctity, it encourages nothing but holiness. God is holy in his operations. All he does is holy; he cannot act but like himself; he can no more do an unrighteous action than the sun can darken. *“The Lord is holy in all his works”* (Psa. 145:17).

II. God is holy primarily. He is the original and pattern of holiness. Holiness began with him who is the Ancient of Days.

III. God is holy efficiently. He is the cause of all that is holiness in others. *“Every good and perfect gift comes from above”* (James 1:17). He made the angels holy. He infused all holiness into Christ’s human nature. We borrow all our holiness from God. As the lights of the sanctuary were lighted from the middle lamp, so all the holiness of others is a lamp lighted from heaven. *“I am the Lord which sanctify you”* (Lev. 20:8). God is not only a pattern of holiness, but he is a principle of holiness: his spring feeds all our cisterns, he drops his holy oil of grace upon us.

IV. God is holy transcendentally. *“There is none holy as the Lord”* (1 Sam. 2:2). No angel in heaven can take the just dimensions of God’s holiness. The highest seraphim is too low of stature to measure these pyramids; holiness in God is far above holiness in saints or angels.

Application 1

Is God so infinitely holy? Then see how unlike to God sin is. Sin is an unclean thing, it is hyperbolically evil (Rom. 1:23). It is called an abomination (Deut. 7:25). God has no mixture of evil in him; sin has no mixture of good, it is the spirit and quintessence of evil; it turns good into evil; it is called the accursed thing (Josh. 7:11). No wonder, therefore, that God hates sin, being

so unlike to him, nay, so contrary to him: it strikes at his holiness; it does all it can to spite God; if sin could help it, God should be God no longer.

Application 2

Is God the Holy One, and is holiness his glory? How impious are they that are haters of holiness! There is not a greater sign of a person devoted to hell, than to hate one for the thing wherein he is most like God. Others are despisers of holiness. They despise the glory of the Godhead. The despising holiness is seen in deriding it; and is it not sad that men should deride that which should save them? Deriding the grace of the Spirit comes near to being spiteful to the Spirit of grace. Those who scoff at holiness shall be cast out of heaven.

Application 3

Is God so infinitely holy? Then let us endeavour to imitate God in holiness. *“Be ye holy, for I am holy”* (1 Pet 1:16). There is a twofold holiness; a holiness of equality, and a holiness of similitude. A holiness of equality no man or angel can reach to. Who can be equally holy with God? Who can parallel him in sanctity? But there is a holiness of similitude, and that we must aspire after, to have some analogy and resemblance of God’s holiness in us, to be as like him in holiness as we can. We must imitate God in holiness.

What shall we do to resemble God in holiness?

(1.) Have recourse to Christ’s blood by faith. This is, the washing of the soul (Latin). Legal purifications were types and emblems of it. 1 John 1:7 — The Word is a glass to show us our spots, and Christ’s blood is a fountain to wash them away.

(2.) Pray for a holy heart. *“Create in me a clean heart, O God”* (Psa. 51:10). Lay thy heart before the Lord, and say, Lord, my heart is full of leprosy; it defiles all it touches; Lord, I am not fit to live with such a heart, for I cannot honour thee; nor die with such a heart, for I cannot see thee. Oh create in me a clean heart; send thy Spirit into me, to refine and purify me, that I may be a temple for thee the holy God to inhabit.

(3.) Walk with them that are holy. *“He that walketh with the wise shall be wise”* (Prov. 13:20). Be among the spices and you will smell of them. Associates begets assimilation. Nothing has a greater power and energy to effect holiness than the communion of saints.

— adapted and edited from Thomas Watson, *A Body of Divinity*, pp 82-87; Thomas Vincent, *The Shorter Catechism explained from Scripture*, pp 31-32

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: 05/09/21 - £856.00

Church Maintenance Fund Total: £7,480.50

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) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim
Task Force Members

RHC 82 - This Day at Thy Creating Word

This day at thy creating word
First o'er the earth the light was poured:
O Lord, this day upon us shine
And fill our souls with light divine.

This day the Lord for sinners slain
In might victorious rose again:
O Jesus, may be raised be
From death of sin to life in thee!

This day the Holy Spirit came
With fiery tongues of cloven flame:
O Spirit, fill our hearts this day
With grace to hear and grace to pray.

O day of light and life and grace,
From earthly toils sweet resting-place:
Thy hallowed hours, blest gift of love,
Give we again to God above.

All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whom, with the Spirit, we adore
For ever and for evermore.

William Walsham How

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

Jesus, My Strength, My Hope

Jesus, my strength, my hope,
On Thee I cast my care,
With humble confidence look up,
And know Thou hear'st my prayer.
Give me on Thee to wait,
Till I can all things do,
On Thee, almighty to create,
Almighty to renew.

I want a godly fear,
A quick-discerning eye,
That looks to Thee when sin is near,
And sees the tempter fly;
A spirit still prepared,
And armed with jealous care,
For ever standing on its guard,
And watching unto prayer.

I want a true regard,
A single, steady aim,
Unmoved by threatening or reward,
To Thee and Thy great name;
A jealous, just concern
For Thine immortal praise;
A pure desire that all may learn
And glorify Thy grace.

I rest upon Thy Word;
The promise is for me;
My succour and salvation, Lord,
Shall surely come from Thee;
But let me still abide,
Nor from my hope remove,
Till Thou my patient spirit guide
Into Thy perfect love..

Charles Wesley

Tune: LEOMINSTER