



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. 30

LORD’S DAY 25 JULY 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 63:1-5	Psalm 100
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Jonathan Kim
<i>Opening Hymn</i>	RHC 41 – “Before Jehovah’s Awesome Throne”	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 119:49-64	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Acts 20:21	Haggai 2:1-9
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>Two Essentials to Salvation</i>	<i>God’s Abiding Presence</i>
<i>Closing Hymn</i>	RHC 406 – “Who is on the Lord’s Side?”	---
<i>Benediction</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 73

Q: What is the Eighth Commandment?

A: The Eight Commandment is, THOU SHALT NOT STEAL.

Scriptural Reference:

Exodus 20:15

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week	This Week	Next Week
<p>“... Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee...”</p> <p>Acts 18:9-10</p>	<p>“Then spake Haggai the LORD’s messenger in the LORD’s message unto the people, saying I am with you, saith the LORD.”</p> <p>Haggai 1:13</p>	<p>“And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.”</p> <p>Acts 20:32</p>

A BRIEF TREATISE OF THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

3. THE BEING OF GOD (Part 4)

Q4: What is God?

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

THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

“The LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed” (1 Sam 2:3). The LORD is a God of knowledge; or as the Hebrew word is, ‘A God of knowledges.’ Through the bright mirror of his own essence, he has a full idea and cognizance of all things; the world is to him a transparent body. He makes a heart-anatomy. Rev 2:23 — *“I am he which searcheth the reins and the heart.”* There is not a word we whisper but God hears it (Psa 139:4). There is not the most subtle thought that comes into our mind, but God perceives it. Isa 66:18 — *“I know their thoughts.”* Thoughts speak as loud in God’s ears as words do in ours.

All our actions, though never so subtly contrived, and secretly conveyed, are visible to the eye of Omniscience. Isa 66:18 — *“I know their works.”* Achan hid the Babylonish garment in the earth, but God brought it to light (Josh 7:21). *“Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?”* (Job 37:16). God knows whatever is knowable; he knows future contingencies. He foretold Israel’s coming out of Babylon, and the virgin’s conceiving. By this the LORD proves the truth of his Godhead against idol gods. Isa 41:23 — *“Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know ye are gods.”*

The perfection of God’s knowledge is primary. He is the original, the pattern, and prototype of all knowledge; others borrow their knowledge of him. God’s knowledge is pure. It is not contaminated with the object. Though God knows sin, yet it is to hate and punish it. No evil can mix or incorporate with his knowledge. God’s knowledge is facile; it is without difficulty. We study and search for knowledge (Pro 2:4). The lamp of God’s knowledge is so infinitely bright, that all things are intelligible to him.

God’s knowledge is infallible; there is no mistake in his knowledge. Human knowledge is subject to error; but God’s knowledge is unerring; he can neither deceive, nor be deceived; he cannot deceive, because he is truth, nor be deceived, because he is wisdom. God knowledge is instantaneous. Our knowledge is successive, one thing after another. We argue from the effect to the cause. God knows thing past, present, and to come, at once; they are all before him in one entire prospect.

God's knowledge is retentive; he never loses any of his knowledge; he remembers as well as understands. Many things elapse out of our minds, but God's knowledge is eternized. Things transacted a thousand years ago, are as fresh to him as if they were done but the last minute. Thus he is perfect in knowledge.

Application 1

Is God infinite in knowledge? Is he light, and in him is there no darkness? Then how unlikely are they to God who are darkness, and in whom is no light, who are destitute of knowledge. Ignorance is the nurse of impiety. The schoolmen say, "every sin is founded upon ignorance." Jer 9:3 — *"They proceed from evil to evil, know not me, saith the LORD."* Where ignorance reigns in the understanding, lust rages in the affections. Prov 19:2 — *"That the mind be without knowledge, it is not good;"* such have neither faith nor fear: no faith; for knowledge carries the torch before faith. Psa 9:10 — *"They that know thy name will put their trust in thee."* A man can no more believe without knowledge than the eye can see without light. He can have no fear of God; for how can they fear him whom they do not know? When people's minds are covered with ignorance, it is a covering of the face that is a fatal forerunner of destruction.

Application 2

If God be a God of knowledge, then see the folly of hypocrisy. Hypocrites do not actually do good, they merely make a show of it. Psa 73:2 — *"Thou sayest, How doth God know?"* Psa 10:11 — *"God hath forgotten, he hideth his face, he will never see it."* But, Psa 147:5 — *"His understanding is infinite:"* He has a key for the heart; he beholds all the sinful workings of men's spirits. Matt 6:4 — He sees in secret. The hypocrite thinks to prevaricate and juggle with God, but God will unmask him. Eccles 12:14 — *"God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing."* Jer 29:23 — *"They have committed villany in Israel, ...even I know, and am a witness, saith the LORD."* Ay, the hypocrite hopes he shall colour over his sin, and make it look very specious. But God sees through these fig-leaves. Jer 16:17 — *"Their iniquities are not hid from mine eyes."* He that has an eye to see will find a hand to punish.

Application 3

Is God so infinite in knowledge? Then we should always feel as under his omniscient eye. Let us set David's prospect before our eye. Psa 16:8 — *"I have set the LORD always before me."* The consideration of God's omniscience would be preventive of much sin. The eye of man will restrain from sin; and will not God's eyes much more? Will we sin when our judge looks on? Would men speak so vainly, if they considered God overheard them? Viewing ourselves as under the eye of God's omniscience, would cause reverence in the worship of God. God sees the frame and carriage of our hearts when we come before him. How would this call in our straggling thoughts? How would it animate and spirit duty? It would make us put fire to the incense. To think God is in this place would add wings to prayer, and oil to the flame of our devotion.

Application 4

Is God's knowledge infinite? Study sincerity, be what you seem. 1 Sam 16:7 — *"The LORD looketh upon the heart."* Men judge the heart by the actions, God judges the actions by the heart; if the heart be sincere, God will see the faith and bear with the failing. Asa had his blemishes, but his heart was right with God (2 Chron 15:17). God saw his sincerity and pardoned his infirmity. Sincerity makes our duties acceptable, like musk among linen, that perfumes it. Sincerity makes our services to be golden, and God will not cast away the gold though it may lack some weight. Is God omniscient, and his eye chiefly upon the heart? Wear the girdle of truth about you, and never leave it off. The infiniteness of God's knowledge is a comfort, in case the saints have not a clear knowledge of themselves. God can spy grace where you cannot; he can see grace hid under corruption. God can see holiness in you which you cannot discern in yourself. 1 Kgs 14:13 — *"Because there is in him some good thing."* God sees some good things in his people, when they can see no good in themselves; and though they judge themselves, he will give them an absolution.

- adapted and edited from Thomas Watson, *A Body of Divinity*, pp 55-60

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: 11/07/21 - £492.20

Church Maintenance Fund Total: £7,180.50

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:

- Worship services will be limited to 60 minutes duration.
- 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).
- 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 41 – Before Jehovah’s Aweful Throne

Before Jehovah’s aweful throne
Ye nations, bow with sacred joy;
Know that the Lord is God alone;
He can create and He destroy.

His sovereign power, without our aid,
Made us of clay and formed us men,
And when, like wandering sheep we strayed,
He brought us to His fold again.

We are His people, we His care,
Our souls and all our mortal frame;
What lasting honours shall we rear,
Almighty Maker, to Thy name?

We’ll crowd Thy gates with thankful songs,
High as the heavens our voices raise;
And earth with her ten thousand tongues
Shall fill Thy courts with sounding praise.

Wide as the world is Thy command;
Vast as eternity Thy love;
Firm as a rock Thy Truth must stand,
When rolling years shall cease to move.

Issac Watts / alt. John Wesley

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

RHC 406 – Who is on the Lord’s Side?

Who is on the Lord’s side? Who will serve
the King? Who will be His helpers, Other
lives to bring?

Who will leave the world’s side? Who will
face the foe? Who is on the Lord’s side?
Who for Him will go?

By Thy call of mercy, By Thy grace divine,
We are on the Lord's side - Savior, we are
Thine!

Not for weight of glory, Not for crown and
palm, Enter we the army, Raise the warrior
psalm;

But for Love that claimeth Lives for whom
He died: He whom Jesus nameth Must be
on His side.

By Thy love constraining, By Thy grace
divine, We are on the Lord's side - Savior,
we are Thine!

Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Not with gold
or gem, But with Thine own life-blood, For
Thy diadem;

With Thy blessing filling All who come to
Thee, Thou hast made us willing, Thou
hast made us free.

By Thy grad redemption, By Thy grace
divine, We are on the Lord's side - Savior,
we are Thine!

Fierce may be the conflict, Strong may be
the foe, But the King’s own army, None can
overthrow;

Round His standard ranging, Vict’ry is
secure, For His truth unchanging Makes
the triumph sure.

Joyfully enlisting, By Thy grace divine, We
are on the Lord's side - Savior, we are
Thine!

Frances R. Havergal

Tune: ARMAGEDDON