



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. 22

LORD’S DAY 30 MAY 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

	<i>Morning Service – 11am</i>	<i>Afternoon Service – 3pm</i>
<i>Call to Worship</i>	Psalm 33:1-8	Psalm 130
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Jonathan Kim
<i>Opening Hymn</i>	RHC 29 – “ <i>I Sing the Mighty Power of God</i> ”	---
<i>Responsive Reading</i>	Psalm 114	---
<i>Scriptural Text</i>	Acts 14:7-10	Zechariah 9:11-12
<i>Pastoral Prayer</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong
<i>Sermon Message</i>	<i>The Faith of the Crippled Man</i>	<i>Prisoners of Hope</i>
<i>Closing Hymn</i>	“ <i>Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me</i> ”	---
<i>Benediction</i>	Pr Mok Chee Cheong	Pr Mok Chee Cheong

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 65

Q: What is forbidden in the Fifth Commandment?

A: The Fifth Commandment forbiddeth the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honour and duty which belongeth to every one in their several places and relations.

Scriptural Reference:

Romans 13:7; Romans 12:10

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury.”

Zechariah 8:2

This Week

“Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.”

Acts 13:26

Next Week

“Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee.”

Zechariah 9:12

A BRIEF TREATISE OF THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

1. *MAN'S CHIEF END*

Q1: What is the chief end of man?

A: Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever.

Here are the two ends of life specified. 1. The glorifying of God. 2. The enjoying of God.

1. The glorifying of God

1 Pet. 4:11 - *"That God in all things may be glorified;"* 1 Cor. 10:31 - *"Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."* Man being a rational creature, must propose some end to himself, and that should be, that he may lift up God in the world. The great truth is asserted, that the end of every man's living should be to glorify God. Glorifying God has respect to all the persons in the triune Godhead; it respects God the Father who gave us life; God the Son, who lost his life for us; and God the Holy Spirit, who produces a new life in us.

What are we to understand by God's glory?

[1] *The glory that God has in himself, his intrinsic glory.* He is called the *"God of glory"* (Acts. 7:2). Glory is the sparkling of the Deity; it is so co-natural to the Godhead, that God cannot be God without it. God's very life lies in his glory. This glory can receive no addition, because it is infinite; it is that which God is most tender of, and which he will not part with. Isa. 48:11 - *"I will not give my glory unto another."* God will give temporal blessings to his children, such as wisdom, riches, honour; he will give them spiritual blessings, he will give them grace, he will give them his love, he will give them heaven; he will give them the inheritance; he will put some of Christ's glory, as mediator, upon them; but his essential glory he will not part with.

[2] *The glory which is ascribed to God, or which his creatures labour to bring to him.* 1 Chron. 16:29 - *"Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name."* And 1 Cor. 6:20 - *"Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."* The glory we give God is nothing else but our lifting up his name in the world, and magnifying him in the eyes of others. Phil. 1:20 - *"Christ shall be magnified in my body."*

What is it to glorify God?

[1] *Appreciation.* To glorify God is to set God highest in our thoughts, and to have a venerable esteem of him. Psal. 92:8 - *"Thou, LORD, art most high for evermore."* Psal. 97:9 - *"Thou, LORD, art exalted far above all gods."* There is in God all that may draw forth both wonder and delight; he is prima cause, the original and spring-head of being, who sheds a glory upon the creature. We glorify God, when we are God-admirers; admire his attributes, which are the glistening beams by which the divine nature shines forth. To glorify God is to have God-admiring thoughts; to esteem him most excellent, and search for diamonds in this rock only.

[2] *Adoration.* Glorifying God consists in adoration, or worship. Psal. 29:2 - *"Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."* There is a twofold worship: (1.) A civil reverence which we give to persons of honour. Gen. 23:7 - *"Abraham stood up and bowed himself...to the children of Heth."* Piety is no enemy to courtesy. (2.) A divine worship which we give to God as his royal prerogative. Neh. 8:6 - *"They bowed their heads, and*

worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.” This divine worship God is very jealous of; it is the apple of his eye, the pearl of his crown; which he guards, as he did the tree of life, with cherubim and a flaming sword, that no man may come near it to violate it. Divine worship must be such as God himself has appointed, else it is offering strange fire. Worship to God must be according to the way prescribed in his word.

[3] *Affection.* This is part of the glory we give to God, who counts himself glorified when he is loved. Deut. 6:5 - “*Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.*” There is a twofold love: (1.) A love of concupiscence, which is self-love; as when we love another, because he does us a good turn. A wicked man may be said to love God, because he has give him a good harvest, or filled his cup with wine. This is rather to love God’s blessing than to love God. (2.) A love of delight, as a man takes delight in a friend. This is to love God indeed; the heart is set upon God, as a man’s heart is set upon his treasure. This love is exuberant, not a few drops, but a stream. It is superlative; we give God the best of our love, the cream of it. It is intense and ardent love. Thus to love God is to glorify him. He who is the chief of our happiness has the chief of our affections.

[4] *Subjection.* This is when we dedicate ourselves to God, and stand ready dressed for his service. Thus the angels in heaven glorify him; they wait on his throne, and are ready to take a commission from him; therefore they are represented by the cherubim with wings displayed, to show how swift they are in their obedience. We glorify God when we are devoted to his service; our head studies for him, our tongue pleads for him, and our hands relieve his members. The wise men that came to Christ did not only bow the knee to him, but presented him with gold and myrrh, Matt. 2:2. A true Christian is like the sun, which not only sends forth heat, but goes its circuit round the world. Therefore, he who glorifies God, has not only his affections heated with love to God, but he goes his circuit too; he moves vigorously in the sphere of obedience.

Why must we glorify God?

[1] *Because he gives us our being.* Psa. 100:3 - “*It is he that hath made us.*” We think it a great kindness in a man to spare our life, but what kindness is it in God to give us our life! We draw our breath from him; and as life, so all the comforts of life are from him. He gives us health, which is the sauce to sweeten our life; and food, which is the oil that nourishes the lamp of life. If all we receive is from his bounty, is it not reasonable we should glorify him? Should we not live to him, seeing we live by him? Rom. 11:36 - “*For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things.*” All we have is of his fulness, all we have is through his free grace; and therefore to him should be all. It follows, therefore, “*To him be glory for ever.*” God is not our benefactor only, but our founder, as rivers that come from the sea empty their silver streams into the sea again.

[2] *Because God has made all things for his own glory.* Prov. 16:4 - “*The LORD hath made all things for himself:*” that is ‘for his glory.’ As a king has excise out of commodities, so God will have glory out of everything. He will have glory out of the wicked. If they will not give him glory, he will get glory upon them. Exod. 14:17 - “*I will get me honour upon Pharaoh.*” But especially has he made the godly for his glory; they are the lively organs of his praise. Isa. 43:21 - “*This people have I formed for myself, and they shall shew forth my praise.*” It is true, we cannot add to God’s glory, but we may exalt it; we cannot raise him in heaven, but we may raise him in esteem of others here. God has adopted the saints into his family, and made them a royal priesthood, that they should show forth the praise of him who hath called them, 1 Pet.2:9.

[3] *Because the glory of God has intrinsic value and excellence;* it transcends the thoughts of men, and the tongues of angels. His glory is his treasure, all his riches lie here; as Micah said, Judges 18:24 - “*What have I more?*” So, what has God more? God’s glory is more worth than heaven, and more worth than the salvation of all men’s souls. Better kingdoms be thrown down,

better men and angels be annihilated, than God should lose one jewel of his crown, one beam of his glory.

[4] *Creatures below us, and above us, bring glory to God;* and do we think to sit rent free? Shall everything glorify God but man? It is a pity then that man was ever made. (1.) Creatures below us glorify God, the inanimate creatures and the heavens glorify God. *“The heavens declare the glory of God.”* Psa. 19:1. The curious workmanship of heaven sets forth the glory of its Maker; the firmament is beautified and pencilled out in blue and azure colours, where the power and wisdom of God may be clearly seen. ‘The heavens declare his glory:’ we may see the glory of God blazing in the sun, and twinkling in the stars. Look into the air, the birds, with their chirping music, sing hymns of praise to God. Every beast in its kind glorifies God. Isa. 43:20 - “The beast of the field shall honour me.” (2.) Creatures above us glorify God: *“the angels are ministering spirits”* Heb. 1:14. They are still waiting on God’s throne, and bring some revenues of glory into the exchequer of heaven. Surely man should be much more studious of God’s glory than the angels; for God has honoured him more than the angels, in that Christ took man’s nature upon him, and not angels’. Though, in regard of creation, God made man *“a little lower than the angels,”* Heb. 2:7, yet in regard of redemption, God has set him higher than the angels. He has covered us with the purple robe of righteousness, which is a better righteousness than the angels have, 2 Cor. 5:21. If then the angel bring glory to God, much more should we, being dignified with honour above angelic spirits.

[5] *We must bring glory to God, because all our hopes hang upon him.* Psa. 39:7 - *“My hope is in thee.”* And Psa. 62:5 - *“My expectation is from him.”* I expect a kingdom from him. A child that is good-natured will honour his parent, by expecting all he needs from him. Psa. 87:7 - *“All my springs are in thee.”* The silver springs of grace, and the golden springs of glory are in him. To be continued...

— adapted and edited from Thomas Watson, *A Body of Divinity*, pp 6-10

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.

Church Maintenance Fund Total: £6,860.50

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 singing and 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 socialising with anyone outside of your household or support bubble within the Church premises.
- No socialising outside the Church premises.
- 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 29 – I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty pow'r of God
That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad,
And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command,
And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
That filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His word,
And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,
Where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread,
Or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flow'r below
But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow
By order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
Is ever in Thy care,
And ev'rywhere that we can be,
Thou, God, art present there.

Isaac Watts

Tune: ELLACOMBE

Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure;
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labours of my hands
Can fulfil Thy law's demands:
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy Cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly,
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgement throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Augustus M. Toplady

Tune: AJALON