



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. 27 No. 42

LORD’S DAY 15 OCTOBER 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-5

Opening Prayer

Jonathan Kim

*Opening Hymn **

RHC 37 – “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Responsive Reading

Psalm 77

*Second Hymn **

Psalm 77 verses 10-15

(to the tune of tune of Ellacombe, RHC 29)

Scriptural Text

Philippians 3

Pastoral Prayer

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

Sermon Message

Three Necessary Experiences to be a Christian

*Closing Hymn **

RHC 386 – “Be Thou My Vision”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen **

Mr Charles Scott-Pearson

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.

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.

SHORTER CATECHISM QUESTION 82

Q: Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?

A: No mere man since the Fall is able, in this life, PERFECTLY to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.

Comments:

The Law of God being thus laid before us briefly in the Ten Commandments, the question arises – Is any person able to keep this Law. This answer declares to us that there is none. It says that every person breaks the Law daily in thought, word, and act. The only exceptions to this general rule are – Jesus Christ, Adam before the Fall, and the saints now in heaven.

Scriptural Reference:

Ecclesiastes 7:20, Psalm 14:3

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS (PART 2)

"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." The word 'called' here seems to mean "acknowledged as." God shall own them as His own children. He is *"the God of peace"* (Hebrews 13:20). His great object, in the wonderful scheme of redemption, is to *"gather together in one all things in Christ,"* whether they be things *"in heaven,"* or things *"on earth"* (Ephesians 1:10). And all those who, under the influence of Christian truth, are peacemakers, show that they are animated with the same principle of action as God, and as *"obedient children"* (1 Peter 1:14) are cooperating with Him in His benevolent design (Dr. John Brown). The world may despise them as fanatics, professors of religion may regard them as narrow-minded sectarians, and their relatives may look upon them as fools. But the great God owns them as His children, even now distinguishing them by tokens of His peculiar regard and causing His Spirit within them to witness to them that they are sons of God. In the Day to come, He will publicly avow His relationship to them in the presence of an assembled universe. However humble their present situation in life may be, however despised and misrepresented by their fellow men, they shall yet, *"shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father"* (Matthew 13:43). Then shall transpire the glorious and long-awaited *"manifestation of the sons of God"* (Romans 8:19).

It is to such people that God makes the most precious promise: *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."*

One of the defining characteristics of God is peace. He is the very author of peace (1 Corinthians 14:33). He is identified throughout the Bible as *"the God of peace"* (Hebrews 13:20, for example). So it is fitting that peacemaking should also define His children.

The Bible reveals an incredible and awesome truth: We are created to become the very *"sons and daughters"* of God (2 Corinthians 6:18). The God of the universe has created us with the express intent of bringing us into His eternal family!

As incredible as that is, there is even more to the promise of being sons of God. The children of God will inherit *"all things"* (Hebrews 2:8). The peacemakers—those who internalise and live by the traits listed in the beatitudes by bringing peace to others—will become children of God and reign as *"kings and priests ... on the earth"* (Revelation 5:10).

We will be ruling along with Jesus Christ, who also has the title, *"Prince of Peace"* (Isaiah 9:6). The Kingdom that we rule will be defined by peace (Romans 14:17). For more on this incredible truth, read "Children of God."

The "God of peace" is the source of this new life. Indeed, His very name is Yahweh—shalom—*"the LORD our peace"* (Judges 6:24), and our Lord Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. He is God's Peacemaker. *"He is our peace"* (Eph. 2:14). He has brought us near by His own blood (v.13) and taken us by the hand and brought us into the presence of the Father and introduced us to Him (v.18). Jesus gives us His peace (John 14:27; 16:33). Moreover, the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of peace. He applies and supplies

the peace of God to our hearts (Gal. 5:22). The peacemaker draws upon this constant supply of God's peace.

The opposite of peacemakers

The world has its share of troublemakers. They are also called agitators, rabble rousers, spark plugs, instigators, dissidents, heretics, insurgents, malcontents, mavericks, misfits, rebels, renegades, turncoats, etc., etc.

I am not talking about those agents of change we need in every organization, including the local church. We need those individuals who make us think, evaluate, and don't always think the way we do, or see things the way we see them.

However, the opposite of a peacemaker is one who has attitudes which are hostile, indifferent, angry, bitter, judgmental, obsessively critical, nit-picking. Even the apostle John had his Diotrephes, *"who loves to be first among them."* Thank the Lord for the comparison of Demetrius who *"received a good testimony from everyone"* (3 John 12) and *"the well beloved Gaius"* (3 John 1).

Like the apostles John and Paul warned, there are shortcuts to peace that we dare not take. They not only cheapen peace, they also cheapen grace. We must never sacrifice Bible truth and solid doctrine for a passing moment of tranquillity. There are some things that must never be compromised.

How do we become peacemakers?

Let's take time to examine our attitudes and behaviour. Observe our own behaviour and attitudes toward other believers, the church, and its leadership. If we are prone to be a bearer of gossip, bad news, negative attitudes, bitterness, resentments, hostility toward others, then let's start working at changing attitudes to ourselves and others. Let's decide now to make love a priority in our lives. Let's make the building of relationships based on love and grace an emphasis in our lives.

Take some time and do an in-depth study of the principles of interpersonal relationships in the Bible. Study Romans, chapters 12-16. You will be amazed at how many passages are addressed to interpersonal relationships. These chapters emphasize good relationships in the body of Christ.

Philippians 4:1-9 gives us an excellent model on becoming "peacemakers." There were two women who were outstanding leaders in the church at Philippi. Their names were Euodias and Syntyche (verse 2). Paul asked the leaders in the church to help them. They may have had strong personalities and wanted to do things their way.

Take a piece of paper and respond to some questions and apply these verses to your own Euodias and Syntyche.

Rev Mathews Abraham, Singapore

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begins with the **Worship Services** at **11.00 am**. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Worshippers, we extend a warm welcome to you this Lord's Day. We hope that you have a blessed time of worship with us today.

For those unable to attend Church in person, we are streaming our worship services online. To join our online services or for more information, please call the church manse, or email us at [admin 'at' newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:admin@newlifebpc.org.uk).

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

Children's Sunday School – held after Morning Service at 1:30pm.

After-Service Fellowship – Join us for lunch fellowship after the morning worship service. Please bring your own lunch as only drinks will be provided.

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.”

1 Timothy 2:5-6

This Week

*“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”*

Philippians 3:13-14

Pre-cautions for Worship Services held at the church premises:

Dear all,

While the legal Covid restrictions having been lifted, we will continue to observe the following precautions:

- We continue to urge those who feel unwell (especially with Covid symptoms) to stay home and join us at our online services.
- Please place your offerings in the offering box when entering or exiting the church.
- During worship services, please continue to sit with your own households.
- While not required, the use of face covering is voluntary. Please bring your own face covering.

To join our online services or for more information, 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