



# NEW LIFE BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN

Charity No. 1060655

Tel: 020 7328 0869 (Manse)

Email: [newlifebplondon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newlifebplondon@yahoo.co.uk)

Website: [www.newlifebpc.org.uk](http://www.newlifebpc.org.uk)

Supervisory Pastor: Rev Lim Chee Boon

Email: [pastor@newlifebpc.org.uk](mailto:pastor@newlifebpc.org.uk)

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

Vol. 28 No. 44

LORD'S DAY 03 NOVEMBER 2024

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Genesis 2:4-7

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 29 – *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

*Opening Prayer*

Joey Seow

*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 124

*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 124*

*(to the tune of Martyrdom, RHC 194)*

*Scriptural Text*

Psalm 8:1-9 (Hebrews 1:3-5, 2:5-13)

*Pastoral Prayer*

Rev Mark Chen

*Sermon Message*

*The Exalted God-Man Makes Man Exalted*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 49 – *"How Great Thou Art"*

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Rev Mark Chen

*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 29**

**Q: How are we made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ?**

*A: We are made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ, by the effectual application of it to us by his Holy Spirit.*

Comments:

Having seen, in the previous questions, how salvation has been brought within our reach, we now come to learn the way in which we may become possessed of it. In this answer we are told, that while it is Christ who has purchased redemption for us, it is the Holy Spirit who puts us actually in possession of it.

Scriptural Reference:

John 16:13, Romans 8:14

Dear brethren, this week's article will continue the theme on the Reformation. This is part 1 of the article "The Vibrant Life and Doctrine of a Reformed Church" written by Rev Jack Sin, pastor of Sovereign Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church, Singapore.

# **The Vibrant Life and Doctrine of A Reformed Church – Part 1**

## **The BP Church & The Reformed Faith**

By the sovereign will of God, Dr Carl McIntire and others founded the Bible Presbyterian Church on 4 June 1937 in the US in the midst of growing liberalism and modernism in the US. The BP Church is a Reformed church committed to propagation of the pure gospel and the defence of the faith (Jude 3, 4). **The term "Reformed" is a historical and theological term that goes back almost five centuries. It refers to a period when the church underwent a historic Reformation in attempting to return Christianity to the authority of Scripture.** The desire of the Reformation was to recover and to return to God's Word and to bring the church back into accord with the teachings of His Word that was neglected for almost 1000 years. **Led by Pre-Reformers like John Huss, Wycliffe, The Waldensians, later Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Knox and John Calvin, the Reformers studied the Word, and they exposed the errors of the medieval Roman church and started what is Biblical Protestantism today.**

## **The Reformers' Teaching**

Martin Luther (and other Reformers) in the 16th century Protestant Reformation rediscovered the truth of justification by faith alone and by the preaching and teaching of the Word of God, he convinced the church that man was saved by God's grace alone through faith alone. **He believed that all teachings and doctrines should be based upon Scripture alone. Coupled with the works of Calvin and later Knox, Zwingli, Bullinger and Beza, these Reformed theologians recognized the clear teaching of Scripture that Jehovah is a sovereign God.**

They believed that God was not an idle viewer but was an active Governor in all of nature and the affairs of man and that *"He who keepeth Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."* (Psalm 121:3). They taught, as did the apostle Paul, that *"in Him we live and move and have our being"* (Acts 17:28). They were sure that an almighty God ruled over his creation sovereignly and that all events came to pass by God's design, for everything is according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will (Ephesians 1:11).

## **The Sovereignty of God**

**The supreme Creator of all has the right to do whatever he wants with the peoples of the earth. The Reformers believed not only that he had that right but that he exercised his will righteously and that this principle was clearly taught in Scripture.** *"And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth 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?"* (Daniel 4:35)

His sovereignty was especially realized in the salvation of the elect (Ephesians 1:4,5). The teaching of the French Reformer John Calvin in Geneva emphasized the sovereignty and providence of God especially in salvation and His work is often summarized in the "**Five Points of Calvinism**." The simple acronym "TULIP" formulated at the Synod of Dort by Reformed theologians from 1618-1619 to respond to the defective doctrine of the 5 points of Arminius, as a defence of the faith.

## **A Summary of the Reformed Faith**

The Early Protestant leaders defended the scriptural teachings of the absolute sovereignty of God against those who denied the power of God. Some felt that salvation was at least in part by their own hands and undermined the authority of Scripture. They see it as a cooperative effort and that we need to do our part in our salvation. **The Reformed Church from the ministry of John Calvin valiantly proclaimed the biblical answer to this by teaching the Reformed faith that exalts God alone and taught the total inability of man to save himself.** Consider the 5 points below which must be taken as a coherent theological whole and not in part.

### **Total Depravity**

Here we believe that Man in his fallen, sinful state, and he does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14). God's own assessment of the descendants of Adam's fallen race was the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually (Genesis 6:5; 8:21). All the "good" that man thinks he does throughout his life is but "filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6). What was true of King David is also true of us all. We must realize that we were, brought forth *"in iniquity and in sin my mother conceived me"* (Psalm 51:5). The natural man is not sick, not terminally ill, but he is spiritually DEAD. As Paul says, *"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others"* (Ephesians 2:1-3).

### **Unconditional Election**

The Bible teaches that God has predestinated or chosen *"us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love"* (Ephesians 1:4, Romans 8:29-30). We cannot choose our own eternal destiny He does (John 15:16). This means that those who will be saved are those who have been chosen to be saved by the sovereign Lord - *"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy"* (Romans 9:15). He does not base his election on any condition within man, *"lest anyone should boast"* (Ephesians 2:9). And it is not by man's choice or our initiative at all but God's alone.

*(to be continued in next week's bulletin)*

# WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begin with the **Worship Service** at **11.00 am** followed by a **Bible Study** at **1:30pm**. 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, please join our Worship Service and Bible Study on our live-stream via YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@NewLifeBPCLondon>

**We thank God for providing Rev Mark Chen to minister to us for the entire month of November.**

**Tithes & Offerings** – The offering box is located at the entrance to the Church Sanctuary.

**After-Service Fellowship** – Join us for lunch fellowship after the morning worship service. Please thank Rev & Mrs Chen for providing today's lunch.

**Afternoon Bible Study** – Rev Chen will conduct the study from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10.

**Children's Sunday School** – held after the After-Service Fellowship at 1:30pm.

**Observation of the Lord's Supper** – next Lord's Day, 10 November.

**Remembrance Sunday** – next Lord's Day, 10 November. We will observe a 2-minutes silence at 11:00am.

## MEMORY VERSE

### Last Week

*“As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.*

**John 15:9-10**

### This Week

*“O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.*

**Psalms 8:1**

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

Dear all,

When attending the church Worship Service and Bible Study, 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 online.
- 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.

To join our online services or for more information, 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