



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. 28 No. 25

LORD’S DAY 23 JUNE 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 99:1-3

Opening Hymn *

RHC 86 – “*Safely Through Another Week*”

Opening Prayer

Jonathan Kim

Responsive Reading

Psalm 112

Second Hymn *

Psalm 112 verses 1-4

(to the tune of Manoah, RHC 17)

Scriptural Text

John 10:22-30

Pastoral Prayer

Eld George Chew

Sermon Message

My Sheep Hear My Voice

Closing Hymn *

RHC 274 – “*Souls of Men, Why Will Ye Scatter*”

Benediction/3-Fold Amen *

Eld George Chew

Postlude

The Lord Bless You

* *Congregation Stands*

THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE

THE LORD BLESS YOU

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 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 10

Q: How did God create man?

A: God created man, male and female, after his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.

Comments:

We are here told that man was created in the likeness of God. His soul resembles God in being upright and holy, and possessed of reason. None of the other animals were so endowed, and they accordingly were put in subjection to him.

Scriptural Reference:

Genesis 1:27, Ephesians 4:24, Genesis 1:28

WALKING WISELY IN A FOOLISH WORLD

– PART 1

Wisdom is highly desirable by many today. It is not merely a matter of information or knowledge even with AI or getting a degree, but of skillful and practical application of the truth (of God) to the ordinary facets of life. James tells us, “*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all*” (Jas 1:5). Admitting that we lack wisdom is a difficult but necessary first step on the road to prudent living.

Pursuit of Wisdom

If God (or a messenger from God) approached you and offered to grant you one wish, what would it be? Would it be more money or success or assets? Instead of asking for long life or wealth or power or the death of his foes, Solomon pleased the Lord by requesting a discerning heart of wisdom and he got it and is arguably one of the wisest kings that ever lived (1King 3:10-12). Some thought they can get it from reading more books and/or getting more degrees from universities, but the Bible says the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom (Prov 9:10). **The reverence and the awe of Almighty Jehovah will provide the necessary discretion and prudence for this life to keep us from sin and evil and that is true wisdom in action.**

We need wisdom to discern God's purposes and in dealing with the problems of the days. Wisdom has less to do with knowledge than it has to do with **the application of knowledge** in specific ways. **Wisdom is the skill in the art of living life with each component under the dominion and will of God.** When a person in the Old Testament demonstrated exceptional ability in a craft or art, that person was said to have what the Hebrew language calls “*hokma*”. Or some render it as “skill.” In Exod 31:3-5, God filled a man named Bezaleel with the Holy Spirit and with “skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts; to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.” The word translated “skill” here is this word *hokma* or wisdom. Only God understands the way to wisdom because he alone is the source of true wisdom. The wisdom of God is evident in the beauty, order, richness, intricacy, variety and splendor of the created order and it is also evident in the person, powers and perfection of the God of creation.

Bezaleel was given the ability to take raw materials and shape them into something beautiful and ornate. In Proverbs, Solomon selected that Hebrew word, “*hokma*” to describe the quality needed by anyone who wanted to live a life of excellence.

The Practice of Wisdom

Believers are exhorted to walk not as fools but as wise redeeming the time, for the days are evil. (Eph 5:15-16) There are three characteristics of a Christian who walks in wisdom, and they are as follows:

1. Knowing what God's Principles Are and Carefully Applying Them to our Lives.
2. Making Good Use of our Time because of the Evil Conditions of our Age and
3. Understanding what the Specific Will of God for our Lives.

Paul in Eph 5:15 says, *See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise.* Paul, having extended an invitation to us to awake out of darkness into the light, ie become saved by trusting the Lord (verse 14). On the basis of receiving new life from Christ, Paul says we are to walk circumspectly or conduct our life watching carefully where we go. The word here means accurately, carefully and exactly, ie to look from side to side, with alertness as to what is going on or to investigate the issue; cf Matt 2:8; Luke 1:3; Acts 18:25; 1Thess 5:2. "The word expresses that accuracy is the outcome of carefulness." It speaks of a narrow walk through life (cf Matt 7:13-14), where we take great thoughtful care in our direction, without getting detoured or tripping up. And this circumspect walk is one "not of fools but as wise". **A circumspect walk is a walk in wisdom, which is to conduct one's life and make advancement in God's will, which is a responsible godly walk.**

Coming to Christ in saving faith results in the immediate possibility of walking in wisdom in the Christian life. The moment we are saved, we are accountable to God and can choose to walk wisely 1Cor 1:30-31; Col 2:9-10; Tit 2:11-15 and 3:3-8 Jer 31:33-34, Heb 8:10-13) if we really want to. What then is this wisdom? **Basically, it is the Christian's innate fear of God and his practical understanding of the will of God leading to godly behaviour. It is a knowing and applying of the biblical principles of the righteous life.**

To be continued....

Rev Jack Sin

(Sovereign Hope BP Church Weekly, 16th June 2024)

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

Our Lord's Day activities begins 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 Worshipers, 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>

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.

Afternoon Bible Study – Eld Chew will lead a study taken from Romans 5 titled: "*By One Man*"

MEMORY VERSE

Last Week

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Hebrews 4:16

This Week

"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep."

John 10:14-15

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) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim,
Task Force Members