



# 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. 29 No. 09

LORD'S DAY 2 MARCH 2025

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### *Morning Service – 11am*

*Prelude*

*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*

*Call to Worship*

Psalm 8

*Opening Hymn \**

RHC 1 – “O Worship the King”

*Opening Prayer*

Jonathan Kim

*Responsive Reading*

Psalm 141

*Second Hymn \**

*Psalm 141 verses 1-4*

*(to the tune of Azmon, RHC 61)*

*Scriptural Text*

Genesis 2:15-3:7 & 3:21

*Pastoral Prayer*

Rev Paul Hanna

*Sermon Message*

*Sin and Salvation in the Garden*

*Closing Hymn \**

RHC 310 – “Glorious Freedom”

*Benediction/3-Fold Amen \**

Rev Paul Hanna

*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 46

**Q: What is required in the First Commandment?**

*A: The First Commandment requireth us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.*

Comments:

The First Commandments bids us – 1. Know the true God, and him only for our God; 2. As such confess him openly before men; 3. Worship him; 4. Honour him.

Scriptural Reference:

1 Chronicles 28:9, Proverbs 3:6

Dear brethren, this week, we continue the article entitled “Will you end well?” This is a 4-part series written by Rev Mark Chen, pastor of First Evangelical Reformed Church in Singapore.

## **Will You End Well? (Part 3)**

Last week, we explored how we will end well. And this is important because the pioneers of the church are in their twilight years. There’s also chronic and acute illness.

But we saw how Christian death need not cause us to sink into despair. Our lives and death are planned by God. Our deaths are precious to and superintended by God.

But the fact remains that we do get desperate. It’s because we are weak. On this side of heaven, no matter the theology we have, we are sometimes gripped by fear, the strong desire to live, the pity of leaving loved ones behind, the desire to be more useful, etc.

### **Desperation in the Face of Death and Acute Illness for a Cure**

In Matthew 5:25-28, there was a woman with an issue of blood. Blood was haemorrhaging from her body for 12 years. We learn that she went to many doctors, seeking a cure but she was no better. In fact, after spending so much money on their quack cures, she actually became worse.

Her desperation was seen in her seeking many cures, spending her life savings, and doing what it took to get better.

This was the same with Naaman. He had leprosy and, it was surprising that he being a commander of the armies of Syria, was willing to go to an obscure prophet in Israel to be cured. He heard about the cure through his wife, who in turn heard it from her slave girl. He was willing to travel to an inferior country, in search of an obscure prophet who had a bizarre reputation, all on the advice from a slave girl.

This shows that desperation causes people to turn to extremes. In today’s context, desperation will cause people to turn to various treatments. While we should all be free to use whatever money we have, research we have, recommendations we have been given, to pursue whatever cure we want, we must also be mindful of several things.

We must know that there is no fool proof cure. Even conventional medicine can’t normally extend your life by more than what it purports. Chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and even gene therapy will help to a certain extent. But currently, there is no cure for cancer.

I am a proponent of alternative medicine — we should be free to explore and use it. We should be free to patronize the services of those who believe, recommend, and sell such products and services.

However, we must also know there is also a lot of quack medicine out there. Dishonest people who peddle koyok will take advantage of desperation. The desperate will spend a lot of money. If the sick use it and it works, they will claim credit. If the sick use it but it doesn’t work, they will say you didn’t use it as prescribed or you didn’t use enough. We must be cognizant of these things.

The bottom line is this — nothing works absolutely. And desperation may cause us to trust in these means — whether medicine, alternative medicine, or quack cures.

### **Desperation Must Cause Us to Turn to God**

The woman with the issue of blood turned to Christ. Naaman trusted in God's prophet. This is what we must do.

In 2 Kings 20:1-3, when Hezekiah was very sick, Isaiah told him that he would not get better but die. In his desperation, Hezekiah turned to God immediately. In the privacy of his room, he asked God to remember him.

In 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Paul turned to Jesus three times in desperation, asking Christ to remove his thorn (presumably an illness).

In the case of Hezekiah, God answered. Isaiah prepared a poultice of figs and Hezekiah was healed of the boils. In the case of Paul, he was not healed. Christ said that his grace was sufficient and that Paul would have to bear with his suffering patiently.

But despite this, Paul said, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

### **Desperation Causes Inconsistent Faith**

While we must acknowledge that desperation should cause us to look to God, we must also acknowledge that we are weak. This is not a judgment, but an observation of what is natural even for mature individuals.

Job was faithful to God in his desperation. But as time passed, he gave in to his doubts. Initially he said in Job 1:21 — "And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

But not long after, he demonstrated faithlessness. Job 3:1-4 — "After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day. And Job spake, and said, Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, There is a man child conceived. Let that day be darkness; let not God regard it from above, neither let the light shine upon it."

Such suffering rocks theology. When Job's friends saw the kind of struggle he went through — how he lost his precious children, his priceless possessions, was afflicted with some psoriatic plague, and incurred the wrath of his piqued partner, they concluded that he was not loved by God, had sinned grievously, and deserved such judgment.

Even the disciples, upon seeing the blind man at the temple asked Jesus in John 9:2 — "Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?"

### **Desperate to Practice Right Theology**

Therefore, we must be desperate in such times to practice right theology. We don't deny we will be weak and desperate. But let us help one another in such times to foster trust in God, fortitude in times of struggle, and to learn how to suffer well.

Christians are to suffer well according to God's will. 1 Peter 4:19 — "Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator."

We shall see in the coming pastoral voice how we can suffer and die well.

# 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 & Children's Sunday School** 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 worshipping 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 Paul Hanna to minister to us this Lord's Day.**

Next Lord's Day, our speaker will be Dr David Allen.

Please note we will be observing the Lord's Supper next Lord's Day.

**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 bring your own lunch as only drinks will be provided.

**Afternoon Bible Study** – Rev Hanna will deliver the study entitled "Bible Study: "What Happens After Christ Returns?" taken from Luke 20:20-30 & 34-36.

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

## MEMORY VERSE

### Last Week

*"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."*

**Hebrews 11:6**

### This Week

*"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."*

**Genesis 3:21**

## 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