



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. 29 No. 10

LORD’S DAY 9 MARCH 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Morning Service – 11am

Prelude

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Psalm 31:1-3

Opening Hymn *

RHC 46 – “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

Opening Prayer

John Poh

Responsive Reading

Psalm 142

Second Hymn *

Psalm 142

(to the tune of Green Hill, RHC 192)

Scriptural Text

Isaiah 28:1-16, 1 Peter 2:7

Pastoral Prayer

Dr David Allen

Sermon Message

He is Precious

Closing Hymn *

RHC 134 – “Why Do I Sing About Jesus?”

Observation of Lord’s Supper

Dr David Allen

Benediction/3-Fold Amen *

Dr David Allen

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 47

Q: What is forbidden in the First Commandment?

A: *The First Commandment forbiddeth the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying the true God, as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other which is due to Him alone.*

Comments:

The First Commandment forbids us: 1. To deny God, which is *atheism*; 2. To worship any other God, which is *idolatry*; 3. To glorify any other God, which is *profanity*.

Scriptural Reference:

Psalm 14:1, Matthew 4:10, Romans 1:25

Dear brethren, this week, we conclude 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 4)

We must realize that every Christian will die well. The thief on the cross died well. Luke 23:42-43 — “And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”

He didn’t have the chance to serve, partake the Lord’s Supper, or grow in grace. But Christ said that his death would be a good death because immediately he’d be in heaven.

Similarly, every Christian who dies in grace dies well. Revelation 2:7 — “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.” The Christian will be rewarded in heaven. We will all die well.

But to end well, we must die gainfully. Christ has assured that we will all die well — but let us die gainfully.

Dying Gainfully Means Being Ready to Die

No death of the Christian is unexpected because a Christian should always be prepared to die. In Acts 21:13, Paul was very annoyed with his friends because they tried to prevent his prophesied death — “Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Paul was ready to die. He knew he would also die. This is the case with anyone who has an acute illness — the time of death would be nearer than not. While others may bewail and convince you to take koyok, you must be ready to die in order to die gainfully.

This is because a Christian must be eager to be with God. Philippians 1:21-23 — “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better.”

For the Christian, death does not take away from us life, but by death we gain life. Why? Being dead and away from this sinful world is far better. When we die, we immediately enter the presence of God. 2 Corinthians 5:8 — “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

Death is the last enemy — but it’s also an enemy that has been destroyed. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 — “So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Our bodies will die, but only temporarily. One day our bodies will resurrect.

Gainful Dying Words

Dying words, especially those spoken in persecution and suffering, show a person’s true values.

Hugh Latimer (to Nicolas Ridley) — “Be of good comfort, brother Ridley, and play the man; we shall this day light such a candle, by God’s grace, in England, as I trust never shall be put out.”

As the fire was lit Ridley cried out, “Lord, into Thy hands I commend my spirit: Lord, receive my spirit!”

John Bradford (to his fellow martyr) — “Be of good comfort, brother; for we shall have a merry supper with the Lord this night.”

John Calvin (on his deathbed) — “I have great difficulty in breathing and expect at any time to breathe my last. It is enough for me to live and to die in Christ, who is gain to those who belong to him, whether in life or in death.”

Theodore Beza (writing of Calvin’s death) — “We can truly say that in this one man God has been pleased to demonstrate to us in our day the way to live well and to die well.”

Why were these men able to die gainfully? Philippians 1:20 — “Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.”

This is the same with Jesus. Jesus had gainful dying words. Luke 23:46 — “And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.”

Here we see that Christ died trusting in God, even in the most severe of trials. He called God Father. He entrusted himself to God’s hands. This means he acknowledged God’s authority over him – in life and death. He came to do God’s will, and now that he was finished, it was time to return to heaven.

And his dying words show his love. He knew that God was with him — that he was not alone. It also showed the honor he gave to God. He honored God in life, and he honored God in death by acknowledging God.

His last words were a prayer. This means that God was on Jesus’ thoughts. His last words were a quote from Scripture. Psalm 31:5 — “Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.” Here, he entrusted himself to God.

Through these words, Christ also taught his disciple — the Apostle Paul, who himself said in 2 Timothy 1:12 — “...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.”

Dearly beloved, if God holds our eternity, it is secure. It’s not because of anything in us, but because our security rests in God’s hands. He has promised to guard it. If we are mindful of these things, we can die gainfully.

Recommended Resources for Further Reading:

The Life & Death Dilemma by Joni Eareckson Tada

Sickness & Death In The Christian Family by Peter Jeffery

The Happy Mourner by William Jay

Comfort & Care For The Critically Ill by June Kolf

Between Life & Death: A Gospel-Centered Guide to End of Life Medical Care by Kathryn Butler

Beyond the Big C: Hope In the Face of Death by Jeremy Marshall

Dying & Death: Getting Rightly Prepared for the Inevitable by Joel Beeke

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 Dr David Allen to minister to us this Lord's Day.

Next Lord's Day, our speaker will be Mr Charles Scott-Pearson.

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

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 – Dr Allen will deliver the study entitled "Like Precious Faith" taken from 2 Peter 1:1.

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

MEMORY VERSE

This Week

"Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

1 Peter 2:7

Last 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) or call the church manse (020 73280869).

With the Lord's blessing,

John Poh & Jonathan Kim,
Task Force Members