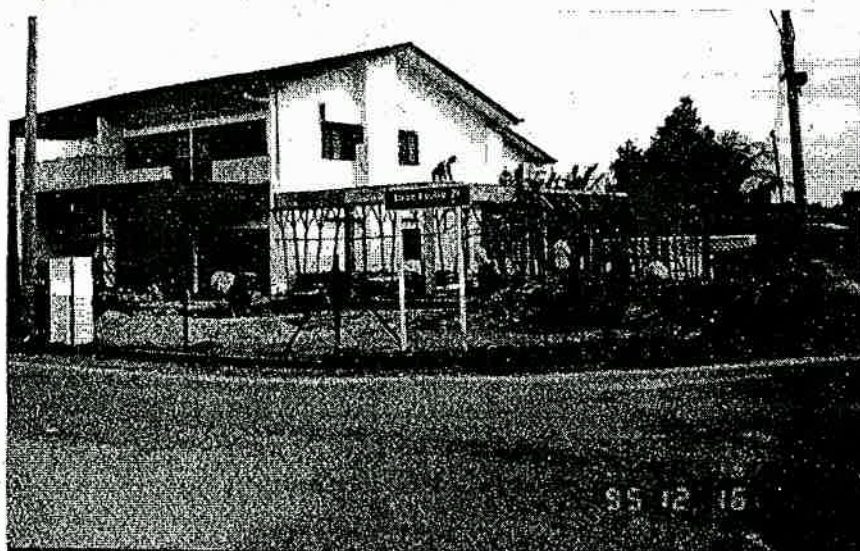


APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 8 - 14, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS: \$33, 038.00	
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$200, \$50, \$20, \$611, \$75, \$100(Cal-Jur YF), \$300(JSM); <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$110; <i>LBP K'ten Kuantan</i> \$130, \$1000, \$150, \$200, \$200, \$150, \$350, \$293(YAF), \$70, \$200; <i>The Three</i> \$600, \$150, \$150; <i>J Wonsia(I Coast)</i> \$500, \$100, \$20, \$100, \$1000; <i>Saipan Mission Work</i> \$200; <i>JJ Lim</i> \$70, \$200; <i>Batam</i> \$100, \$530(WF); <i>RPG</i> \$100; <i>Rev Tow</i> \$1000, \$1000; <i>Errol Stone</i> \$200; <i>Nirands</i> \$1000, \$200; <i>Tj Piayu</i> \$1000, \$500; <i>Rev John Ling</i> \$500; <i>Indonesian Missions</i> \$1000; <i>Missions</i> \$2000; <i>FEFST</i> \$500; <i>Agape Clinic, China</i> \$20; <i>David Beh</i> \$50; <i>Jack Sin</i> \$200, \$200(YAF), \$100(YAF); <i>The Needy</i> \$500, \$1000; <i>Kemaman Church</i> \$100(YAF).	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg		
WED	7.30 pm	2 Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)		
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Rev Goh Seng Fong)		
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall		
	7.45 pm	Women's F'ship, Beulah House		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF		
SUN	8.00 am	Hope and Obedience (Rev S Khoo; Lord's Supper)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House		
	10.30 am	Dr Jeffrey Khoo		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
	4.45pm	Burmese Service		
	5.45 pm	Mt Calvary Baptist Church Service		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah.				
Verse for the Week: <i>But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.</i> Matthew 6:33			Catechism Class. Those who wish to be baptised at the Church Anniversary in October, please sign up for the Catechism Class, 9.30 am at Beulah House. Those who are going to Burma, please hand in your passports to Dn Yiew Pong Sen on Tuesday (Prayer Mtg) for the processing of visas. Member's Particulars Updating Forms are available at the Reception Counter. Please complete and place in the boxes provided.	

Verse for the Week: *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*
Matthew 6:33



From this front view of our Kuantan property, 6951 sq ft, we can see how our new Kindergarten-cum-Church is favoured with a central position and spacious surroundings.



Lif

Vol. IV No. 40

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

7 January 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 348	No. 119
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 121-122	Psalms 103
Hymn	No. 448	No. 309
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 409	<i>There Comes a Tide...</i>
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Pet 1:12; 2:11	Lk 5:1-11
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>As Strangers and Pilgrims on Earth</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>Outward Bound at His Command</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 440	No. 423
Benediction		Lord's Supper

"A SPIRITUALLY DEVELOPED ECONOMY"?

"As Singapore Becomes a Developed Economy"— this caption on the front page of the Straits Times, Jan 1, '96 further says: "While Singapore has become a developed economy, it still has a long way to go before it matures as a gracious society, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said in his New Year Message yesterday. Calling on the people to upgrade their social behaviour to match the country's material prosperity (S'pore is No. 9 in the World), he said that education and personal example of parents, teachers and leaders was the best way to break old habits and set new standards of behaviour . . ."

The way Lifers have responded to the Trebled Christmas Offerings might qualify us to a Spiritually Developed Economy, but we have yet to yield to God's prompting to whatever area of service He has for us in the New Year. Our lethargy, our neither cold-nor-hot Laodicean spirit, hinders the outworkings of His Spirit. 1996 begins with a world outwardly at peace, and with another year of opportunity, let us as a Church grasp it by the forelock!

There Comes a Tide to Every Church

There comes a tide to every Church,
Which, taken at the flood,
Leads on to undreamt realms of power,
To showers of blessing from above —
The Holy Ghost of God!

Comes now a flood-tide to our Church,
Who'll go to meet this hour?
'Twill lead to shores yet unexplored,
This tide that bears you up yonder —
The flood-gates of our God!

Help us to toil for Thee, O Lord,
Upon this flowing tide,
And quicken our hands and our feet
To snatch the souls of men adrift —
The coming Day of God!

Come ye, and hear the Saviour's Word:
This tide for no man waits.
The hour is late, the work undone,
As ebbs the flow below the sun —
The judgment Day of God!

Tune: *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind,*
Inspiring Hymn 313

The following are some of the areas for advancement in the New Year:

1. Not to miss Church on Sunday at all costs except for some very urgent matter.
2. To boost Sunday School attendance by making a start, and bringing our children along.
3. To come to Tues. Night Prayer Meeting. (Praise God for marked increase.)

4. To give out 5 Gospel Tracts during the week.
5. If nominated, to stand for election to the office of elder or deacon.
6. To dedicate new Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology, Yangon, Feb 16-20, '96 (48 registered. The price, thanks to Transglobe, is reduced to S\$946, made up of S\$620 for airticket, and US\$230 for tour package.)
7. To launch Life BP Kindergarten, Kuantan which will double for a Church and further develop for a Youth Camp for 40.
8. To build new Kindergarten and Church at Tanjung Piayu, Batam (where Roska has 10 members shifted there).
9. To commission new workers to the mission fields (especially Djakarta).
10. To pray for missions and support with funds and scheduled visits.
11. To tithe faithfully. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (2 Cor 9:8).
12. As for the 21st Century Reformation KJV Study Bible, each contributor is striving his level best toward the target date of 2000 AD. We need your continuous prayer support to such a weighty project.

At the present moment a nine-man Medical Mission under the auspices of Life Church is visiting Vietnam, Jan 6-11, '96. The coordinator is Dr David Cheong, President of the Missionary Fellowship and Team Leader Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Through Vietnam a call has come from Cambodia! (Sis Mui Lin of AF has just left to work in Pnom Penh.)

Far Eastern Bible College which is like a Twin to Life Church is working steadily to becoming an academically developed economy. Apart from the principal, who has an honorary doctorate, two members of the faculty have earned, one a PhD and the other a DMin. Two others are

on their way to obtaining the doctorate, viz. Rev Stephen Khoo from Pensacola Christian College, and Rev Bob Phee from Tennessee Temple Seminary and Oxford University. Not only academically, but spiritually, we pray. Graduates last semester have returned to serve in Korea and Indonesia. New students this semester have come from Canada 1; Burma 2; Thailand 1, Korea 9; S'pore 1.

During the vacation, three leaders of the Pure Presbyterian Church, Korea and one from Australia visited us to seek affiliation with FEBC in our MDiv programme. The principal of FEBC is invited to give a series of lectures in Korea some time this year.

The principal has the following three books for publication: 1. *Pattern for Church Growth and Missions* (an applied commentary on Acts of the Apostles); 2. *In Times Like These* (an applied commentary on Jeremiah); 3. *Visions of the Watchman-Prophet* (an applied commentary on Ezekiel).

As for the 7th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land (via Geneva, Rome and Amman), April 27 - May 13, 96, there are 50 registered, mostly from Life Church and FEBC. The cost of the 17-Day Tour is S\$3,375. Our field hqs is Baraka Conference Centre, 10 miles south of Bethlehem.

May I take this opportunity to assure our members, by God's mercies, to serve you into the 21st Century. Healthwise, I've never felt better than now. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil 4:13).

— Yours obediently, T.T.

TESTIMONY

Chan Mun Cheng

I first came to hear of the Word when I was in Secondary 4. Since then, throughout my students days, friends came to share the Gospel with me. However out of unbelief and a desire to control my own life, I rejected the Word.

When I started my working life, my colleagues again preached the Gospel to me. I

joined a Bible study class organised by a colleague and also started attending church. Yet, how hard and stubborn my heart had been, that I would not believe. Eventually, I dropped out of church when the pastor asked me to join the baptism class. I remained unsaved.

After I left my first job, I went various churches on and off upon friends' invitations. Feeling that it was a waste of time, I decided not to attend any church services at all unless I believed.

About two years ago, I was feeling very depressed with some personal problems that I turned to the Lord. In Him, I found peace and joy temporarily, yet like the seed that fell among thorns (Matthew 13:7), I fell away quickly.

A few months later, I felt so down that I went into a Christian bookshop in search of some words of encouragement. I found none. Instead, the Lord directed me to the Times Bookshop where I found a book entitled "Jesus." The book argued that Jesus is not the Christ but rather only a historical figure. This book challenged me to find the truth. I started to read the Bible in greater details and every weekend I found myself at the national Library reading books on Christianity. As I diligently sought, the Lord opened my heart. Though from the books I found logical evidence that the Word is true, it was by faith that I accepted Christ.

At that time, I was thinking of going back to church, but was undecided where to go. Again, the Lord led the way. My college classmate called one evening to ask for my company to watch a video show at Life Church. Since then, I started attending services there.

Looking back on the years of my own wilfulness and stubbornness, I realised how great the Lord's love is for me that He patiently leads a wayward child like me again and again to Him. It is only in Him that I have found the hope and meaning of life.

Complaining — Disease of the Soul

"Do all things without murmurings and disputings" - Phil 2:14

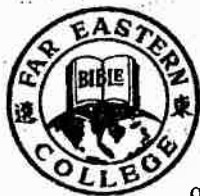
Paul exhorted the Philippians from his prison in Rome to do all things without murmurings and disputings. The apostle was eminently in a position to give an exposition of rejoicing in the Lord because he had led by example. Flashing back on Paul's life we note how he was illegally arrested, placed in the stocks and was humiliated before the people. Presently, as Paul was writing to the Philippians, he was in a dangerous situation that was to lead to a martyr's death. Yet through it all Paul could rejoice!

Among the many problems faced by Christians is that of complaining at the flimsiest excuse. We develop the unsavoury penchant for censuring whatever displeases us. We do it so freely, forgetting that complaining is a disease of the soul, confers upon us a morose disposition and, worst of all, destroys our testimony for our Lord. What is most pathetic is that we convey to the world that cynicism and fault finding is a by product of the Christian faith. Nothing can be further from the truth, for God through Paul, clearly taught us — "in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thess 5:18). A thankful heart and a complaining disposition are mutually exclusive.

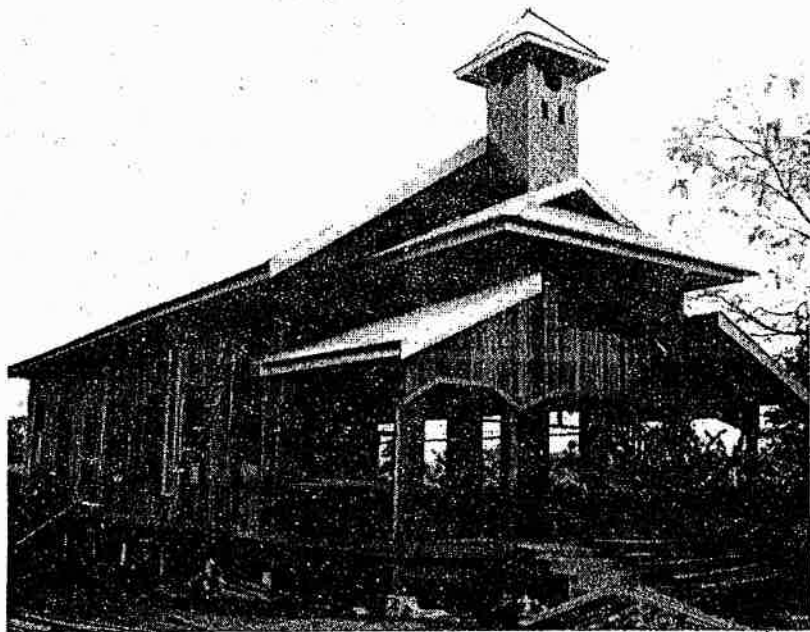
There is just one other point to make about complaining. It may provoke a "consuming fire." It was said of Caesar that he commanded his men to shoot up their arrows at Jupiter, their chief God because a heavy rain had disrupted a great feast. Caesar held for his friends. The arrows fell short of heaven and fell on their heads. Similarly our murmurings, which are arrows hurled at God will not reach Him but will return to wound us. In His dealings with the Israelites, God has shown clearly that their murmurings against Him proved to be their undoing (Num 11:1). Instead of thanking God for delivering them out of the yoke of Pharaoh's tyranny, the Israelites murmured, preferring the garlic and onions and treasures of Egypt. And for this grievous sin of murmuring, God had to inflict a severe blow of subjecting them to 40 years of wilderness at the end of which only the children and Joshua and Caleb were allowed into the Promise Land (Num 14). The rest perished in the wilderness.

Much more can be said about the subject of complaining but it is only befitting for Paul to have the last Word. "Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Phil 2:14). Without dispute Paul who had led by experience and by example and his counsel on the matter deserves our riveted attention.

— Dr Lim Yew Cheng in *Calvary-Jaya Weekly*



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 15 - 21, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$6,512.00 (8.00 am); \$12,553.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1600, \$611, \$2700, \$1054(Chinese Ser); <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$50, \$150, \$40, \$100, \$130; <i>LBP K'ten Kuantan</i> \$200, \$390(Boxes), \$800; <i>Eddie Wang (China)</i> \$250; <i>Rfd Tract Dist</i> \$50; <i>Rev Stephen Khoo</i> \$100; <i>Saipan</i> \$500; <i>Missions</i> \$150; <i>FEBC</i> \$450; <i>G Kutty</i> \$500; <i>David Beh</i> \$100; <i>The Three</i> \$300; <i>Batam</i> \$100; <i>China Missions</i> \$200, \$255; <i>China Bibles</i> \$55; <i>Andrew Kam</i> \$300; <i>The Needy FEBC</i> <i>Students</i> \$110; <i>Thailand</i> \$100; <i>Philippines</i> \$100; <i>Children's Ministry</i> \$100; <i>JJ Lim</i> \$300; <i>I. Coast</i> \$600, \$200; <i>Rev Ronny Khoo</i> \$200; <i>FEFST</i> \$200; <i>Seets</i> \$300; <i>Nirands</i> \$300; <i>Extn of the Gospel</i> \$140, \$50; <i>Medan(Dohar)</i> \$50; <i>Tj Piayu</i> \$500 (Maranatha BPC); <i>Rev David Wong (Kulai)</i> \$1343; <i>Africa</i> \$130. Verse for the Week: <i>But thou,</i> <i>O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and</i> <i>the lifter up of mine head. Psalm 3:3</i>
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	
WED	7.30 pm	2 Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Rev Goh Seng Fong)	
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsals	
SAT	2.00 pm	Wedding of Harold Ang & Jasmine Tan	
	3.00 pm	YF/TF Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall	
	3.00 pm	YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	
	5.00 pm	Wedding of Johnie Lim & Tan Siew Hong, Rev Tow	
SUN	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at AF Anniv., FEBC Hall	Member's Particulars Updating Forms are available at the Reception Counter. Please complete and place in the boxes provided. Sunday School Offering: \$444.70; Attendance: 389
	8.00 am	Love & Purity (Rev Stephen Khoo)	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	
	10.00 am	Rev Tow at Mt Hermon BPC	
	10.30 am	Rev Bob Phee	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC	
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.	
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.	
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour	
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan; Bt Batok.			



The new Grace BP Church at Tui Khal Village, Chin State, will be dedicated on Jan 23, '96, Andrew Kam himself in charge. Thank God that with the Sing\$ much can be accomplished in poorer countries. This Church costs US\$10,000 (\$\$14,200). The building of new churches like this one is one way to "bring them in."



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 41

14 January 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Han Soon Juan	Dn Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 26
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 1	Proverbs 11:17-31
Hymn	No. 323	No. 237
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 317	No. 393
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 1:13-21	Gal 5:13 - 6:2
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Hope and Obedience (Rev Stephen Khoo)	The Fruit of the Spirit (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 555	No. 376
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

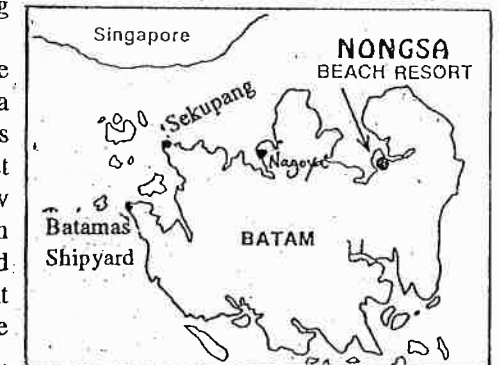
THE STORY OF BP CHURCH ON BATAM ISLAND

By Roska Choi

Batamas Shipyard (1989 - 1994)

There was a call from Mr Hwang Kyu Tae, Christian Korean Manager of Batamas Shipyard on Batam Island to start a ministry among the Indonesian Shipyard workers. This call came to Life BPC through Rev Kim Kyong Soo, an FEBC graduate, who came to preach to the Korean Shipyard staff and workers once a week. On December 19, 1988 Life Church sent Roska to the Shipyard at Tanjung Uncang (about 25 km from Sekupang).

On January 7, 1989 the first Sunday service among the Indonesia Shipyard workers was held in a container. Soon more workers came to join us. News spread to the companies nearby and more came. Most of the Christian workers were from Medan and a few from Flores. They were nominal Christians, rough smokers, drinkers and gamblers. It was really hard ministering God's Word to them. But it was a great joy to share God's love to them. Much more when we saw them come to put their trust in Jesus Christ.



Thank God! One of them surrendered himself to full-time service who is now training at FEBC. Rev Colin Wong came regularly to conduct Holy Communion. The worship services went on from strength to strength until October 23, 1994.

GAPPI Jemaat Hidup, Batu Aji (1994 till now)

Seeing that the shipyard was reducing its workers, we took initiative to move to Batu Aji Village (about 10m from Tanjung Uncang). Some shipyard workers came together to build a wooden church. The church can seat about 90 people. We named the church GAP Jemaat Hidup, Batu Aji.

The first worship service was held on October 30, 1994. Dr Jeffrey Khoo preached the first sermon (now he is coming to Batam to minister God's Word and Holy Communion

every first week of the month). There were about 60-70 adults present to witness the goodness of God. At first the services were held in the evening but from September 3, 1995 we hold morning services and Sunday school for children at 8.00 am. Thank God, now we have 23-25 adults and 40-45 children. Most of them come out of Batak Church (HKBP), and a few from Batam's Shipyard.

On April 13, 1995 Sis Supartik from Medan - Kuta Baru joined us and happily ministers to the flock at Batu Aji. By July 1996, we hope to open a kindergarten.

GSRI Batam, GAPPI Jemaat Orchid Park (1989 till now)

A Chinese businessman, Mr Tan Nam Siang, who was a member of the Presbyterian Church Tanjung Pinang set up business at Nagoya Town. He invited Rev Tow to bless his business and house at his new shop in September 1989. Being a good Christian, he was burdened by the fact that there was no fundamental church in Batam and that a Sunday service could be held in his shophouse. God granted his wish.

On October 22, 1989, the first Sunday worship was held in his shophouse. Preacher Pang Kok Hiong of Calvary BPC preached the first sermon. There were twelve adults present. From then on Preacher Pang came to Batam week after week to minister God's Word. More Christians and non-Christian friends came to join the worship services. But it was not an easy way! Problem after problem from outsiders came to discourage us, for they said we were an illegal Church. So, we asked Rev Paulus Mark of Gereja Santapan Rohani Indonesia (GSRI) of Pontianak to help us register under his church's name. It was registered on January 28, 1991.

In 1991 the Lord granted us a new shophouse nearby. On October-20, 1991, a group of about 30 people moved to the new shophouse to hold Sunday worship. There we worshipped peacefully and legally under the name of GSRI. In March 1992, Bro Kiantoro, an FEBC graduate who was serving at the

Presbyterian Church, Tanjung Pinang, came to serve with us full-time.

Then God moved the heart of a local developer Mr Ruslan Sani whose wife is our church member to donate a piece of land of 1.576 sqm right in the middle of new housing estate, Orchid Park. The contract to build a church was signed on March 9, 1993 and on March 21, Rev Tang Wei Kay performed the ground breaking service. Our new church was completed by March 1994.

The inauguration of this building was held on August 7, 1994. From this date onwards, the church's name GSRI was changed to GAPPI — Orchid Park, ie. Orchid Park BP Church (because GAPPI "Betania," Bro Haposan's church, was already registered in Medan which was later fully registered in Jakarta, September 1994). With that registration we can establish B-P Churches anywhere in Indonesia!

There were about 300 adults and 30 children at the inauguration. Government officers from Medan, Pekan Baru and Batam were also present. Among the guests were Rev and Mrs Paulus, pastor of GSRI Pontianak in Kalimantan, Rev W Siregar and Bro Haposan Siregar. Some were from the Presbyterian Church of Tanjung Pinang and a few from Singapore B-P Churches.

This church is surrounded by parks, a sports complex in a large housing estate. This church can seat about 400 people.

GAPPI Jemaat Sei Beduk

At Sei Bedok, near Orchid Park, we had started another Gospel station in March 1994. There are many poor Christians and Catholics staying there. They could not afford to go to church by taxi to Nagoya Town. So with the help of the villagers, we built a small wooden church costing about \$1,000 which can seat about 30 people. Sunday services were going on smoothly in the afternoon at 4.00 pm with an attendance of 9-15 adults and 10-15 children. Since this wooden church is close to GAPPI Orchid Park, so one week after GAPPI Orchid Park was inaugurated, we invited the villagers to worship

at the big church. From that time onward the wooden church was closed. We invited a family to stay there to take care of the church.

GAPPI Jemaat Tanjung Playu

God willing, we would like to open another Gospel station at Tanjung Playu (18 km from Batu Aji). A family (Mr Sihombing, his wife, children and some of his relatives) from Sei Beduk have moved to Tanjung Playu. He wishes that GAPPI could open a gospel station there so that he and his family (12 of them) can easily go to church on the Lord's day.

A Chinese man, Mr Sihombing's good friend, has offered him a big piece of land to build a wooden church. So we are very happy to have another gospel station at Tanjung Playu sooner than expected. There is no kindergarten there. Mr Sihombing requests us to start one to help the villagers in their children's education.

We are now praying for this plan, that the Lord will open a way for us.

Thank God that BP churches are spreading all over Batam Island. May the Lord continue to bless His church in Batam to faithfully preach the Word of God, to win others to Jesus Christ, till He comes. Amen.



Here is Andrew Kam with tie seated in the middle of his growing up orphans. Orphanage Address: 34/341, Thapin Shwee Hill St., North Dagon New Town, Yangon, Myanmar. Tel: 54144.

TESTIMONY

I would like to share an experience I had on Dec 12, 1995.

My business involved financial services. Lately, I've spoken to a prospective investor who had called us regarding one of our investment schemes. We had spoken thrice over the phone and he seemed an honest gentleman, aged 51.

On Dec 12 1995, he made a request involving a "dishonest" act on my part. A condition for him to consider our services. He gave examples of his previous investments whereby the other companies acceded to his request.

I was very adamant and insisted that this will be considered "malpractice" violating "the code of ethics" of financial institutions and liable for termination of our licence if discovered.

He insisted that I should consider and added that since others are doing it, I should follow. Or else my business will suffer as a result of lesser business.

I'm prepared to lose the deal and refuse to compromise. Actually, I am not the least concerned if my business will really suffer as a result of remaining steadfast and refusing to submit to this "dishonest request."

At that moment when I said "no," a still small voice spoke to me and said, "What can be more valuable than my salvation?" I may lose this deal but by obeying God, I am most richly blessed.

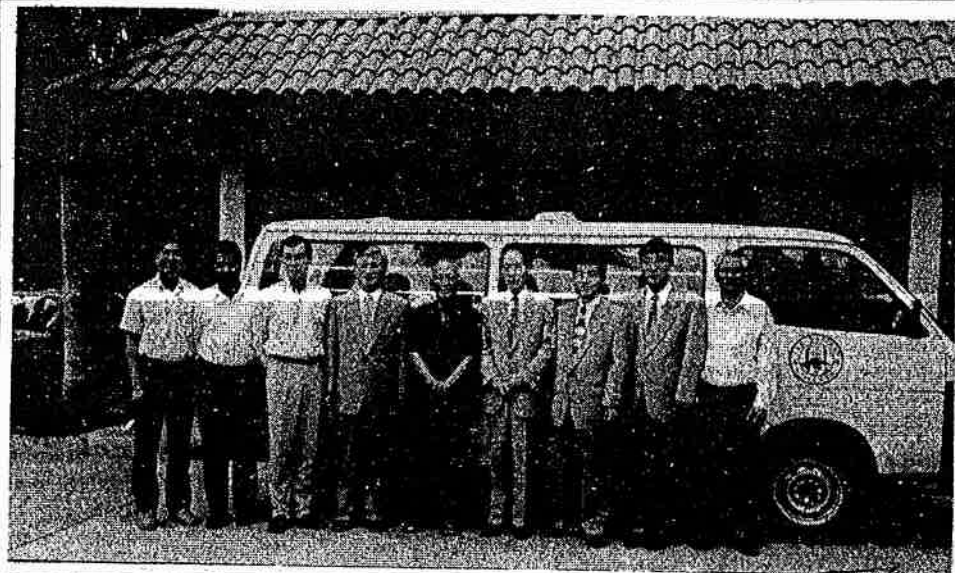
Psalm 119:1-2 "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies and that seek Him with the whole heart."

I thank God for the strength and courage to resist and fight the temptation. May our loving Heavenly Father continue to strengthen me in all my ways. Praise be to God!

*O My Loving God
Whom I have fervently sought
Lest I fall into temptation
And begin to doubt
Thy love never fails
But always prevails
'Cos of Thy mercy, grace and guidance
I will never lose out.*

— A Born-Again Christian, Dec 16 '95

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 22 - 28, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$5,798.00 (8.00 am); \$14,485.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$450(Keb. Indonesia), \$400; Reform S Bible \$300; LBP K'ten Kuantan \$500; Bibles-China \$50; S.Takashima \$100; VBS \$1000; Nirands \$100; David Beh \$5; Thailand \$300; Myanmar \$300; Colin Wong \$130; NBC \$100; Yangon Orph \$300; Missionary Fund \$50; George Kutty \$100; I.Coast \$800 (YAF/YF); Tj Piayu \$977(LBC), \$100; FEBC Students \$550; FEBC \$450; RPG Fund \$1050.		
WED	7.30 pm	2 Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 pm	Women's F'ship, Beulah Hse	(1) <i>Thanks be to God for having led me through the whole year, for teaching me new truths from His Word constantly, for the joy and peace that only He can give. \$150 for missions. — a Y'fer</i>		
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong)	(2) <i>Thank the Lord for working in my mother, for she has just accepted the Lord recently. Praise the Almighty Lord. (\$50 for Reformed Study Bible)</i>		
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	(3) <i>Glory to God Almighty! Thank you Lord for my grandchildren's good results and our good health. China bibles \$55.</i>		
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Michael Lim & Serene Cheong, Rev Tow	Member's Particulars Updating Forms are available at the Reception Counter. Please complete and place in the boxes provided by next week.		
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	Pianist required by Indonesian Service. Please contact Elder Charlie Chia or Mrs Jemima Khoo.		
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Maranatha Thanksgiving Service	Sunday School Offering: \$587.37; Attendance: 405		
SUN	8.00 am	The Spiritual House and the Chosen People (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah.					
Verse for the Week: <i>That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God. Col 1:10</i>					



Four leaders of the Pure Presbyterian Church, Korea who visited with the FEBC Faculty, Dec '95 are lined up near the entrance to the Campus. L to R: Jeffrey, Koshy, Suan Yew, Jung, Tow, Akr, Kwon, Moon, Stephen.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 42

21 January 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Tan Nee Keng	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
Opening Hymn	No. 5	No. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	I John 3:10-18	Psalm 62
Hymn	No. 67	No. 325
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 390	No. 67
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 1:22 - 2:3	Luke 12:13-34
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Love & Purity (Rev Stephen Khoo) No. 72	Managing Wealth and Spirituality (Rev Bob Phee) No. 322
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

THE JOY OF FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN!

(Pastor's Message to Life Bible Class on the occasion of their 20th Anniversary)

Once it was thinking of him or her day and night, and ringing long distance everyday. All for her and reciprocally, all for him. What ecstasy, what thrill, what joy!



Now it is, as the Chinese saying goes, "same bed, different dreams." You have your banking account, I have mine. Since I do the cooking, you do the washing. Now that you come home, you carry the baby. And as the Chinese saying goes again, "Before it was boiling all over, now it is cold as ice."

These sentiments, short of separation or divorce, are they not expressive of many a husband-and-wife relationship today? This is what our Lord means by chiding the Church of Ephesus, "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love" (Rev 2:4).

What was the first love lavished on our Lord to thrill His heart when the Ephesians found glorious salvation through St Paul's ministry? They loved God's Word, as young lovers treasure one another's letters. They faithfully rallied to Paul's Bible School using the premises of one Tyrannus, when divisive elements tried to disrupt the Apostle. They continued

with their teacher "for the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus Christ, both Jews and Greeks" (Acts 19:10). Is that not what your zeal was when LBC began 20 years ago as a Bible Class? This I had observed when Jonathan Chan was your leader. I could feel the warmth radiating from your Saturday Fellowships, even when you had no permanent meeting place and had to shift here and there. Are your meetings now as fervent as when LBC was first started?

The Ephesians who were steeped in heathen practices including the occult when they believed, gave them all up. "Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver" (Acts 19:19). The Word of God grew mightily and prevailed. So did you, who came out of heathen homes, give up your old sinful ways. You paid the cost of your new found faith. Some of you rather went hungry than submit to eating idol-food. Some of you were chased out of the house. Some, I am told, were beaten by your fathers. One young lady, despite threatenings by her father, got herself baptised to stand for Christ, like the Ephesians publicly burning

their magic books. One father came, holding his young son, who was baptised the previous week, to demand that I de-baptise him! I have been involved with the ups and downs of LBC all these years, and I know the sterling quality of your faith. Are you as steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord as in the early days?

In Revelation 2 and 3 Jesus speaks to the Seven Churches of Asia. Apart from Ephesus and Laodicea recorded in Acts and Colossians, there are five churches mentioned now for the first time — Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis and Philadelphia. How did these new churches come about? Apparently they were the product of Paul's Bible School. After a two-year course (ten times more solid than any Bible College or Seminary curriculum today), is it not stated that "all they which dwelt in Asia heard the Word of the Lord Jesus Christ, both Jews and Greeks"? These disciples of St Paul, I'm sure, were they who went out preaching, establishing churches everywhere, of which are five mentioned in Rev 2 and 3. The LBC was fired with the same evangelistic zeal. You were also forward in founding a new church (which is supported by Life Church's Decentralisation Programme). And so, we gave you every encouragement in the opening of a branch at Tampines. The work is going to be 9 years old in June! Do we have the same enterprising spirit today? Or are we dwindling in our weekly attendance instead because we have left our first love?

That every community of Christ can lapse like Ephesus cannot be denied. This applies first of all to every individual. From my experience, when I first got saved I loved His Word so much that, whereas before I did not own a Bible, now I bought three at one go — an English Bible, a Chinese Bible and an English-Chinese New Testament. I read the whole Bible in three months. I read it like enjoying a hobby, like stamp collecting in my younger days. Now, to read the Bible, I must confess, I have not the same appetite. Many times, more as a duty, and not as a pleasure like reading love letters.

At the Sunset Gospel Hour, Calvary BPC, I preached a sermon that touched on the first love we owe to the Lord Jesus Christ. I was

convicted myself for not loving Him as at the first. In those early days it was thinking of him day and night and calling Him long distance everyday. In those early days it was all for Jesus and all for Jesus, and what thrill and joy to give Him everything — time, energy and whatever little money I had. Now? There has been a leaving that first love, and leaving it to the extent of serving Him out of duty. How disappointed my Lord must be! How He yearns for my fervent response, of throwing myself into his arms, when He calls.

Well, this suddenly provoked me in the waking hours of the night to preach to Life Church on retrieving our first love for Jesus in the Christmas Message of 1995. To translate that message into action I challenged the congregation to treble our Christmas offerings. Praise the Lord, Lifers responded hilariously. Giving is loving. Much giving is much loving. The Trebled Offerings received prove our members are alive. They do love the Lord with that quickening first love Ephesus manifested (Acts 19). Let LBCers return to their first love, to the joy of falling in love again. "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent" (Rev 2:5).

—Timothy Tow



Burmese children of one of the 25 Evangelical Presbyterian Churches (Rev Thawn Luai)



LONDON — The good news for sinners is that Hell is not a flaming pit populated by demons and devils.

The bad news is it does exist.

A tough Church of England report on Thursday said that although traditional images of Hell as an eternal torment were wrong, everyone would still face a day of judgment.

Those who failed the test faced being cast into a state of non-being.

The Church has for some time been downplaying the fire-and-brimstone image of Hell in a bid to end the so-called "religion of fear", which terrified people into becoming believers.

But it now evidently feels that many people in modern society are too self-satisfied and have forgotten the idea of final judgment.

Bishop John Taylor, one of the report's authors, said the Church now wanted to reaffirm traditional teachings that people had to choose between good and evil.

"You can't be frightened into belief and you can't be frightened into Heaven.

"There are two possibilities and we wanted to affirm that and to say final judgement is a reality," he told BBC radio.

"Hell as ultimate non-being is the way in which we've put it. The horrible demons are the imaginations of inventors and medievalists.

"As far as the Bible is concerned, Hell is a place that's described in graphic language because it is awful and therefore people need to be reminded of the seriousness of it." — Renter.

THIS DOUBLE TALK ON HELL published in the Straits Times, Jan 13, '96 is another hissing gospel of the Snake.

Let Jesus answer the Church of England and her Bishop John Taylor point blank on whether there's hellfire. In Mark 9:43-48 our Lord says, "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."

As to whether there is eternal torment, apart from the above Scripture affirmation we have Revelation 20:10 reiterating the same, "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Rev 20:10).

Dear Reader, which do you believe? Man's words or God's Words? It is because of such denials of the Word of God's Son that we are working on the 21st Century Reformation KJV Study Bible. Pray for us!

As to the statement, "Hell as ultimate non-being is the way in which we've put it," it is another modernistic escapade by way of the Buddhist concept of Nirvana.

But the Bible teaches the eternity of being, and the resurrection of the body. Daniel says, "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt" (Dan 12:2). Those who resurrect to everlasting life are those who believe in the Son of God: "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" (John 11:25-26). This is the first resurrection. They are immune to the second death which is the judgment of those whose names are not found in the Book of Life. Those who are judged according to their deeds are found guilty and end up in the Lake of fire which is the second death, "unto shame."

Epilogue: "But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil" (Matt 5:37).

—Timothy Tow

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 29 - Feb 4, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$6,867.00 (8.00 am); \$8,386.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1000(FEK); Reform S Bible \$200, \$50, \$500, \$500, \$180, \$960(AF Anniv); LBP K'ten Kuantan \$113.41(C\$116.32); Rev Tow \$100; David Beh \$5; Yiew P S \$10; China Bibles \$60; FEEST \$690; Yangan Orph \$500.		
WED	7.30 pm	2 Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong)	(1) I have tasted of the Lord's goodness. Praise Him from whom all blessings flow. (\$5000)		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	(2) Thank God for His goodness and blessings. He sees us through difficult times and has enabled me to pass my exams. Enclosed is a love offering (\$1000 cheque). Please channel \$600 to China missions. To God be the glory!		
SUN	8.00 am	Submitting to the Ruling Authorities (Rev Stephen Khoo)	(3) Dear Heavenly Father, We want to thank You for all Your blessings and provision for our wedding. All glory and praise belongs to You alone. In gratitude, here is our humble gift of \$400 (\$100 Medan Orph; \$100 Yangan Orph; Hilltop \$100; Rev Colin Wong \$100).		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(4) Thank God for teaching me many precious lessons through His Holy Word. Here's \$50 for Reform Study Bible.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	(5) Thank you God for one more chance!! And more faith. Do channel this to where it is needed most, to the expansion of His Kingdom. (\$170 to FEEST)		
	10.30 am	Dr Paul Hoole, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.					
Member's Particulars Updating Forms are available at the Reception Counter. Please complete and place in the boxes provided by this week.					
Verse for the Week: And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Eph 5:2					
Sunday School Offering: \$612.65; Attendance: 386					



The wooden church at Batu Aji, Batam where Dr Jeffrey Khoo serves the Lord's Supper the first Lord's Day of the month. Roska and husband Choi at extreme left.



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2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

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Vol. IV No. 43

28 January 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 19	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 118	II Cor 12:6-21
Hymn	No. 323	He Giveth More Grace..
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 421	Roman Verses
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 2:4-10	Rom 1:1-16
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Spiritual House and the Chosen People (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	No Other Greater Gift
Closing Hymn	No. 260	He Giveth More Grace..
Benediction		

ACCELERATED MISSIONS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

This is the theme of 1996 Combined Calvary-Life Bible Conference up Awana, Genting Highlands, June 3-7, '96. Dr Howard Carlson, missionary-archaeologist-pastor from Florida will be the chief speaker, with a good number of representatives from our various fields, showing slides or videos. It is hoped that young lovers of the Lord Jesus Christ will respond to the call to missionary service, and confess their response to Christ publicly. As many are coming to this conference, with a good contingent from Australia, let Lifers and FEBCers register now, immediately, for late comers will be left "in outer darkness"!

In the spirit of Accelerated Missions, the FEBC will hold her 21st Graduation, Sunday Night, June 9, '96, 8 pm at Life Church, Gilstead Road. This Graduation will be followed by a Five-Day one credit course on *Archaeology and the Bible* taught by Dr Carlson. The course is open to the public. Date: June 11-15, '96.

Vietnam Mission Accomplished

Those who attended last Tuesday Night's Prayer Meeting were treated to a flying visit of Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta by magic lantern. In two days of medical

ministry, almost twice five hundred patients were treated with 120 dental extractions. The audio-visual report made by Dr David Cheong was most enlightening. We hear that the nine-member team of whom four are doctors and one a dental surgeon are itching for action to make a return visit, Chinese New Year. This is a brief report not including many wonderful details which were verbally given. Mr Michael Lim, Seen Seen's father, came to see the slides and send greetings.

Latest on Kuantan

After Prayer Meeting last Tuesday night we took the 10 pm Express from Lavender St. and arrived Kuantan Bus Terminal on the dot of four. Rev John Ling and wife were there to receive us. He drove us straight to our Kuantan property and got us settled for 3 hours' sleep. How different from clinging to the swerving bus ride to lie on well cushioned mattresses.

By the contractor's good suggestion, the side porch was extended to the front to make it a symmetrical L. This pleased us immensely. Therefore I told John to give him a *hongbao* for Chinese New Year. At Ivy's suggestion we also agreed to cover up the drain in the backyard, for safety and increased floor space.

The L-Porch is graciously supported by seven precast round pillars. Ten orange coconut saplings are planted along the fence. When completed the existing two-storey house and the extension-kindergarten will dominate the whole neighbourhood.

At a steady pace the job should be fully completed by middle of March. Meanwhile we are ordering the construction of kindergarten tables and chairs and the purchase of a piano. Pray for a good Christian kindergarten teacher! Pray for Rev & Mrs John Ling whose expert supervision is much appreciated.

While we are laying foundations for the Life B-P Kindergarten, the Lord has sent us a couple to help spread the Gospel in this new field. They are Elder and Mrs Leong Yin Chu, freelance missionaries with a Presbyterian heritage. Elder Leong is a retired inspector of schools from the Singapore government service. He and Mrs Leong went to Saipan for 10 months to evangelise the Chinese garment workers. They would have returned to Saipan for another round of service, but were held back because of the sending of Wong Chin Woon and Srithorn, who graduated from FEBC June 1995. Through the Saipan work Elder and Mrs Leong were introduced to us. We saw Kuantan as a next avenue of service for the Leongs and invited them to come. After a few weeks' consideration Elder and Mrs Leong gladly accepted the offer.

So when Rev Stephen Khoo goes to hold Good Friday and Easter Services at Kemaman, the new friends we have found will travel up together with him. How marvellous are God's timing for His faithful servants in our Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century!

Preaching on Romans,

"The All-Complete Plan of Salvation"

As our congregation matures, the pastor is constrained to feed them not with milk but with meat. Solid meat, indeed, is Paul's Epistle to the Romans. To make it more easily digestible, the Lord gave me inspiration to transform the first eleven chapters into 488 lines while on vacation in Bethlehem 1991. The verses may be sung to the tune of "Long Long Ago." Here we go for this Lord's Day:

1. Of thirteen epistles St Paul did write,
The greatest one was Romans.
It was written in AD 60,
From the City of Corinth.
The Magna Carta of God's saving plan
Is nowhere in such sublimity scanned.
Of thirteen epistles St Paul did write
The greatest one was Romans.
2. The Epistle was written to Christians
Who lived in Rome before he went,
Acts Chapter Two surely gives us a clue:
Who were these Christian Romans?
Pentecost saw at least fifteen nations;
'mong these visitors were some come from Rome.
The Epistle was written for Christians,
Who lived in Rome ere he went.
3. The Roman Christians were known for their faith,
Not as the RC's with a Pope!
To them who have, God says, more will be given.
This text book of Faith brings hope.
Paul says this book was his spiritual gift,
By which their faith may be firm established.
The Roman Christians were known for their faith,
Not as RC's with a Pope.
4. St Peter and other apostles ten,
Roman Christians all had seen them.
Who was this one just now come on the scene?
Paul must by himself defend.
His credentials are no less than Peter's.
He was commissioned o' the Risen Saviour.
St Paul and St Peter stand together,
Roman Christians should know them.

Burma Calling

The time of departure is at hand. Please make out two cheques, one \$620 for Transglobe Travel Service Pte Ltd and \$226 (considering you've paid the \$100 deposit) for Life B-P Church = \$946 tour package price. (\$30 for Burmese visa and \$15 S'pore and US\$6 Yangon airport tax are chargeable to you.) Please hand to Dn Yiew Pong Sen the latest by Tuesday Night after Prayer Meeting. You will receive in return an envelope of instructions and schedule of travel. Remember, Fri Feb 16 to Tues Feb 20! We are also Singapore ambassadors, the very first to enter Myanmar at the threshold of Visit Myanmar Year 1996. — Timothy Tow

THEOLOGICAL WILDERNESS

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" Psalm 119:105

The need to appease an angry God is great. Sin renders a man spiritually naked. This desperation of the spiritually naked man to scamper for shelter has spawned the hundreds of religions we see. From North Pole to South, from Greenland's icy Mountain to the sweltering and torrid tropics, man invents religion. To add to the confusion, new movements and teachings are promulgated and taking the world by storm eg. New Age Movement; Holy Laughter Movement; Promise Keepers; etc.

The scenario we now witness is likened to an unweeded garden. Diverse philosophies and religions are allowed to germinate and grow. These vain babblings speak nothing of the living and true God and when they do, they totally misrepresent Him. By the wayside, we have is a **theological wilderness** and our Lord has already forewarned us in Matt 24:24, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets. . ."

As one travels along life's highway one will inevitably encounter a mounting deluge of new claims, passed off for new revelatory truths. The problem is compounded because the true and the spurious travel along the same highway. Where does this leave the honest seeker?

Thank God, our Lord has not left us to the mercy of these ravenous wolves. He has given us His Word, whereby to prove all things and to hold fast that which is good (1 Thess 5:21). By

His Word we are to ". . . believe not every spirit, but to try the spirits whether they are of God. . ." (1 John 4:1).

The Word of God is unchanging and unchangeable and we can depend on it as a touchstone to sieve truth from error. It is the Christian standard. The Word canon means "a rule or a measuring rod." The canon of Scripture is the measuring rod of our faith. It is a closed system of truth, complete, sufficient, and not to be added to or subtracted (Rev 22:18-19). It is God's eternal truth and time writes no wrinkle on the brow of Eternity. This fact of constancy of the Scripture is a blessed assurance. By it we can now prove new views or doctrines of God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, sin, Heaven, Hell, the gospel, and other theological matters. If the new teachings are at variance with the canon of Scripture, they must be repudiated, even though the legitimacy of these new doctrines can be plausibly asserted and the name of God invoked.

Finally a word of warning to all who contribute to this theological wilderness. Under the Old Testament law, all seducers to idolatry were slain (Deut 13:1-5). In the New Testament our Lord did not pull His punches on them either. He condemned them with these strong words ". . . I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matt 7:23). — Elder(Dr) Lim Yew Cheng, Calvary Jaya B-P Fellowship Bulletin

TESTIMONY

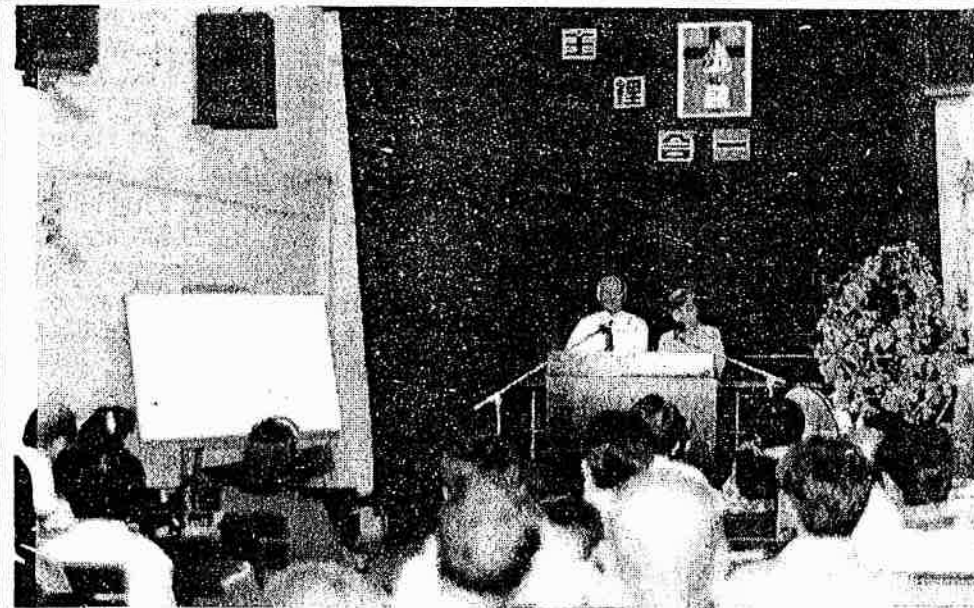
I cannot remember the exact date, but it was roughly in 1989 when I first heard the gospel. It was through my cousin who shared the gospel with me and took me to church whenever she could, using tuition as an excuse. She would give me tuition in Life Church and later bring me together with her to attend the LBC meetings held every Saturday afternoon. It was through those days that I accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour. Since then, I avoided instances where I had to kneel before the idols, hold the joss sticks and pray to them. I remember during my grandmother's funeral in 1991, I actually lied that I had stomach upset in order to avoid having to follow the priest — walk in circles while holding joss sticks, kneel and stand up to pray at the priests' commands.

Now I know that it was wrong of me to lie and I pray for God's grace and courage to be a faithful witness.

As my parents are Buddhists, I could not go to church often and so I could only make use of the days when I had tuition to attend the LBC meetings. It was only from last year that I started coming to the 8.00 am service on a regular basis. Thank God that I do not face as strong an objection as before. I also want to praise God for bringing me to Life Church and not Catholic or charismatic churches, because I know that the doctrine is sound here. Lastly, I pray for the courage to tell my parents about my decision to get baptised in October and I hope that I will not have to face strong objection from my parents.

— Chiang Hwee Ting

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 5 - 11, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$7,247.00 (8.00 am); \$10,516.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$50, \$100; Reformed S Bible \$130, \$130, \$90, \$50; LBP K'ten Kuantan \$60; Africa Msn \$65; Joshua Wonsia \$65; Myanmar Msn \$200; China Bibles \$55; David Beh \$10; JJ Lim \$50; FEEST \$200; Colin Wong \$50; Chinese Service \$300; Tj Piayu \$499(Box); Yangon Orp \$150; Medan, Dohar \$50.		
WED	7.30 pm	2 Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)			
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong)			
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall			
	7.45 pm	Women's F'ship, Beulah Hse			
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF			
SUN	8.00 am	Wives and Husbands (Rev Tow, Lord's Supper)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Bl Timah; Fri Bishan.					
Verse for the Week: <i>How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. Psalm 36:7</i>					
Sunday School Offering: \$965.76; Attendance: 407					



Pastor Tow preaching at the Teochew Life Church (same ancestry as ours) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, Chinese New Year, 1995. (Next door is a Police Station!)



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 44

4 February 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn View Pong Sen	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 1
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Romans 13	Psalm 122
Hymn	No. 402	No. 540
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 301	No. 449
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 2:11-25	Jonah 1
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Submitting to the Ruling Authorities (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Jonah's Disobedience and God's Response (Dr Paul Hoole)
Closing Hymn	No. 385	No. 186
Benediction		Lord's Supper

My dear Readers

PASTORAL CHAT

The Indonesian Service which meets every Lord's Day 4.00 pm at FEBC Hall is one of four foreign language services held in our Church compound — the others are Thai, Filipino and Burmese. As the Indonesian Service is the first born among these (celebrating the 14th Anniversary Thanksgiving today), she is the strongest. Her attendance Sunday afternoon runs between 30 and 40.

Elder and Mrs Charlie Chia are the mainstay of the Service. FEBC students take turns to preach. The Lord's Supper is held every month with one of our Burmese pastor-students officiating. Yusniar, one of the graduating Indonesian FEBC students, has left for Djakarta and is being considered for missionary outreach to the capital city. Pray for her.

Through FEBC during the last quarter-century, insofar as Indonesia is concerned, we have extended the Gospel to West Kalimantan, North Sumatra, Riau Islands (Bintan and Batam) and now Djakarta in the offing. In the spirit of Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century, let us be ready to go wherever He would send us. Our immediate assignment is the building of a kindergarten and Church at Tanjung Piayu, Batam Island,

an offshoot of Batu Aji (Roska).

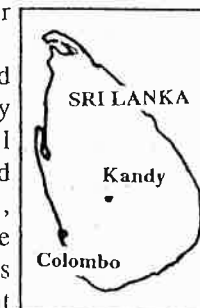
The pastor is speaking this afternoon at the Anniversary Service on "What time is it on the clock of your life?" (Rom 13:11-14). We welcome one and all to the Kebaktian. Bring a friend! Come for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

Dr Paul Hoole

is our speaker at the 10.30 am service today. He is a doctor of electronic and electrical engineering, and until lately was professor in the university, Sri Lanka. He is married and has one child. His wife is a medical doctor.

Dr Hoole is leader of six Bible-believing churches which endeavour to stand for the Lord against the present tide of ecumenical apostasy. Through Dr S H Tow he has come for a short visit of our churches and FEBC. He is deeply impressed by some of our books, especially *Asian Awakening*. He hopes to send fellow workers to FEBC for training.

In a land that is torn by inter-racial strife and killings, serving the Lord is blood, sweat

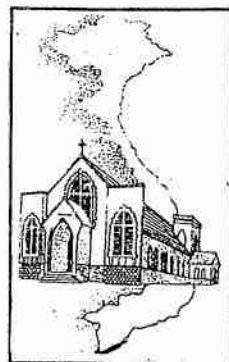


and tears. Come, hear him today! We extend to him our right hand of fellowship.

Dr Hoole will show slides of Sri Lanka at Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting! (Thank God, our Prayer Meeting is increasing.)

The Church in Vietnam

From a recent report, there are only four main Protestant denominations in Vietnam of which one is a cult.



The Christian and Missionary Alliance has 50 official church locations. The Seventh-Day Adventist has 2 locations. The Baptist has only 1. The Inter-Christian Fellowship Church also known as Jesus is Lord Alliance Church has also 1 location.

Pastor Tu is head of 330 house churches spread all over Vietnam with a membership of 40,000. Each church point has 2-5 meeting places.

Pray for Vietnam. Pray for God's further leading in our Medical Mission's Follow-up next year.

While Vietnam has been blessed by the recent visit, there is a call also from Cambodia which is a democratic country.

Chinese New Year's Day Begins with Worship

It is Life Church's good tradition to hold special worship on Chinese New Year's Day. At first it was held only in Chinese. But soon it caught on with the English-speaking and so it became a combined bilingual service. This year Chinese New Year's Day falls on Monday, Feb 19. The time for worship is as usual, 8 - 9 am.

We have a 'special' speaker in the person of Rev Peter Chng, now pastor of B-P Church of Western Australia. He has returned to Singapore during this festive season to visit his relatives. He will speak in Mandarin and Deacon Ong Eng Lam will interpret into English. Mrs Lee

Choon Ngee is coordinator. This year's Hongbao offering will be channelled to an immediate project on Batam Island, the building of a kindergarten and Church at Tanjung Piayu (Roska).

The Lord has blessed every Chinese New Year's Day Worship. Three years ago a young lady from Beijing stayed with us in Beulah House. As a result she drew nigh to God by attending our Chinese Services. She came to the Chinese New Year's Day worship, and through this contact she finally yielded to the Lord. She was subsequently baptised. Praise the Lord!

As for FEBC, the mid-term break will merge with the Chinese New Year holidays for "double benefit." This allows Malaysian students a longer Lunar vacation and saves some days for required hours of lectures, since the Semester ends on April 26, short of four days. The combined Chinese New Year holidays and the mid-term break begins Feb 19 and ends Feb 26, 8 am when College resumes with Monday Chapel.

7th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land via Geneva, Rome, Amman, April 27 - May 13, '96 will soon be here!



Please note that April 27 is at 0 hours, ie. just past midnight. Pilgrims are hereby alerted to reach airport April 26 latest by 1130 hours. Ours

is a spiritual odyssey. Bring a gift to our Palestinian brethren and sisters at Baraka BP Church. Pray for God's direction and protection all the way. (For re-discovery of your Presbyterian heritage, when you visit Geneva, you are required to read the chocolate book, *A Glimpse of the Life and Works of John Calvin*. This is also assignment for FEBC students earning 2 credits by writing a full report of the Study Tour.)

- Timothy Tow

"EVER ONLY ALL FOR THEE"

"I am crucified with Christ..." Gal 2:20

The year 1996 has only just begun. It is still not too late to resolve to live a life consecrated to the Lord, in the spirit in which Frances R Havergal penned the words of the hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be* and in the spirit in which she lived her life. She was an invalid for most of her life but this outstanding poetess turned over to the Lord all her talents of singing and writing. The lyrics of the hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be* reflect truthfully her consecrated life and here is a moving account behind the writing of the hymn.

In December 1873, Frances Havergal visited Emny House, Worcester. There were 10 persons in that house — some were still outside the Lord Jesus Christ and long prayed for, while others were believers but not rejoicing believers. The Lord moved Frances Havergal and gave her this prayer — "Lord give me all in this house!"

She was there for 5 days and on the last night of her stay, according to God's gracious promise, everyone in the house had gotten a

blessing. She herself experienced the renewal of her own consecration and the couplets of the hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be* recurrently chimed in her heart, one after another till it climaxed with *Ever only all for Thee*.

The words contained in the hymn must surely challenge us to consecrate our treasure, time, talent and testimony (gospel) always only for our King. After all, every good and every perfect gift is from above (James 1:17) and "... what hast thou that thou didst not receive?..." (1 Cor 4:7). Of the truth, God has only loaned to us these gifts that we may bestow to others, to His glory. It is needful, as we live the year 1996, to get rid of the tyrannical sense of possessing. Woe to the believer who allows these possessions to sit enthroned in the temple of his heart. In so doing he has failed to be faithful, as is required of him as a steward — "Moreover it is required in **stewards**, that a man be found **faithful**" (1 Cor 4:2).

— Elder(Dr) Lim Yew Cheng, Calvary Jaya B-P Fellowship Bulletin

TESTIMONY

"In my heart there rings a melody..." This was my favourite chorus when I attended the Sunday School set up by Mrs Lim (Pastor Timothy Tow's sister) in St John's Island. I was then in Primary Six. Although I came from an ancestral worshipping family, I found Bible stories very interesting and I loved to sing those lively songs. All these were short lived as I had to leave the island when my father retired and we had to seek a living in Singapore.

Life was not smooth for us as we had to face financial difficulties. My sisters and I did not attend any church. I was too ignorant and was totally lost in Singapore. I did not know the location of Gilstead Life BP Church where I was supposed to seek help from Pastor Tow. Day after day I was getting further and further away from God.

However, the Lord was watching over me all these years. I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my

personal Saviour at a Christian rally when I was in Secondary Three. I attended Wilkie Terrace Christian Assembly with my classmates for four years. Then I backslided and stopped going to church.

Life was then full of worries and I experienced many trials and many difficult times. I became more depressed and I felt that the Lord had forsaken me. Later I attended Calvary B-P Church. My prayers for the Lord to guide me was answered when my mum was baptised in Gilstead Life B-P Church in 1993. I then realised that the Lord had finally brought me back to the church I was supposed to attend thirty years ago.

I thank God because He did not desert me at all when I backslided and sinned. He was always there to lift me up when I was down and in need of help. To God be all the glory, honour and praise.

— Tan Gek Eng

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 12 - 18, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$14,128.00 (8.00 am); \$7,348.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1600, \$300, \$1010 (Chinese Ser);		
WED	7.30 pm	2 Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Reformed S Bible \$130, \$100, \$80, \$100, \$200, \$50,		
	7.45 pm	Women's F'ship	\$806(Kebaktian Ina Anniv); LBP K'ten Kuantan \$350; RPG		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	\$100; Batam \$200, \$630(WF); Needy FEBC Students \$200;		
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong)	David Beh \$5, \$100; Msn Trip to Myanmar \$1000; Vietnam		
FRI	5.55 pm	Rev Tow & Team depart for Myanmar	\$235; Rev Tow \$1000; China Mission \$150; Maranatha \$150;		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.30 LBC	JJ Lim \$300, \$100; Seets \$150, \$150; Hilltop \$150; George		
SUN	8.00 am	Having a Good Conscience (Elder Chia Kim Chwee)	Kutty \$200; MsF \$100; FEEST \$153(Boxes); Batu Aji Gospel		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Van \$470; Yiew PS \$100, \$500.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	10.30 am	Rev Peter Chua	(1) <i>Thank God for keeping me healthy and guiding me</i>		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	<i>through each day. Indeed, all thanks and praises be to</i>		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	<i>Him. With thanks for His abundant mercy.</i>		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.	and Country Resort. Limited rooms available on a		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	first-come-first-serve basis. Please register with full		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.			Office) on Sunday from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.		
Verse for the Week: <i>The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him. Nahum 1:7</i>			Priority registration for Lifers ends on March 10.		
Sunday School Offering: \$422.00; Attendance: 397			Registration closes on May 6.		
			Those going to the Burmese trip please be at the		
			Airport on Friday by 4.00 pm, Terminal 2.		



5,000 sqm of Promised Land, Tg Piayu, accessible by this unpaved laterite road. Notice pillar of the last house on the left.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 45

11 February 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Dn Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	O Lord of Heaven	No. 432
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 127, 128	Habakkuk 2:1-20
Hymn	No. 472	No. 359
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	Take My Life	No. 284
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 3:1-12	Romans 1:17
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	One Night of Togetherness: Hundred Days Lovingkindness	The Just Shall Live by Faith (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 376 Lord's Supper	No. 335
Benediction		

ROSKA'S LETTER TO PASTOR

This is a report from Mr Sihombing stating that he takes all full responsibilities for the whole project in the building of the church and kindergarten at Tanjung Piayu. He submits to you a rough sketch of the church building. He suggests that we first build the church so that when the Government officials see its building they will feel happy and will not query us next. He says the building project will most likely take 45 days after which we will start building the kindergarten (Phase II).

He has got a group of men to hew down the huge trees and raise the land level. Unfortunately, the weather isn't very good lately, because of the rainy season. Please pray for good weather, so that the work can carry on smoothly. The Lord willing, the church building can be ready by July and then we can proceed with the kindergarten. I'm praying and hoping that both kindergartens — the Tg Piayu and Batu Aji can commence in July with sister Suparti taking one and I the other.

Below is an account of expenses incurred (\$3,187.00):

1. A thanks token given to the Chinese Headman —
Rp.800,000 = \$500

2. Purchase of a chain-saw for cutting down trees —
Rp.150,000 = \$93.00

3. Extra sand and soil to fill the land — Rp.1750,000 = \$1,093.00

4. Labourers' wages —
Rp.2400,000 = \$1,500.00
Building materials to be purchased through a church member should cost about \$6,000 - \$7,000.

Mrs Sng has advised me to be very careful in the spending of money and to give a report of whatever things we have spent. To this I agreed. I've told Mrs Sng that I'm willing to trade in my own car and with the money that I get, to buy a 10-seater van to ferry the children as well as adults to Sunday School and church. A van like this will cost approximately \$25,000. I have not yet got a buyer but will advertise it soon. Mrs Sng suggested to me to start looking around for a new van, and if there is one suitable and within our budget, we can go ahead to buy first and then reimburse the money to Life Church once my car is sold. . . .

Very Profitable That Is!

There is a Chinese proverb, "From one cash (Chinese coin) to gain 10,000" (一本万利). This is the motive in doing

business. In the parables of the talents and the pounds, in both cases Jesus requires of His servants to gain (thrice stated) by trading. There's one servant who makes 10 pounds by trading his given one pound. This is what is meant by "from one cash to gain 10,000" (一本万利). Very profitable that is.

Do you know that though you cannot be a missionary to a far country to win souls for the Lord, you can do so with your strong Sing dollar? Take our most recent Church Planting Project now being launched at Tanjung Piayu, Batam Island. With S\$10,000 we can acquire 5,000-sqm of land, fill up the low-lying, purchase materials to build a wooden church 8x12m (size of a 3-room HDB flat). As Tanjung Piayu is some 18 km from Batu Aji our first church, the purchase of a new 10-seater minibus is of great necessity. This vehicle sells for only S\$25,000 in Batam, which is over 3 times in Singapore.

A House of God erected on prime land in the village and a minibus to collect the S.S. children all for S\$35,000! What better business proposition? Or consider the new Grace B-P Church Andrew Kam has built in his home village for US\$10,000! Although you cannot be a missionary for the Lord in a foreign country, by your strong Sing dollar you can build for Him a House or buy for His children a van! Very profitable that is!

By July this year when schools in Indonesia reopen, Roska says we should be able to open

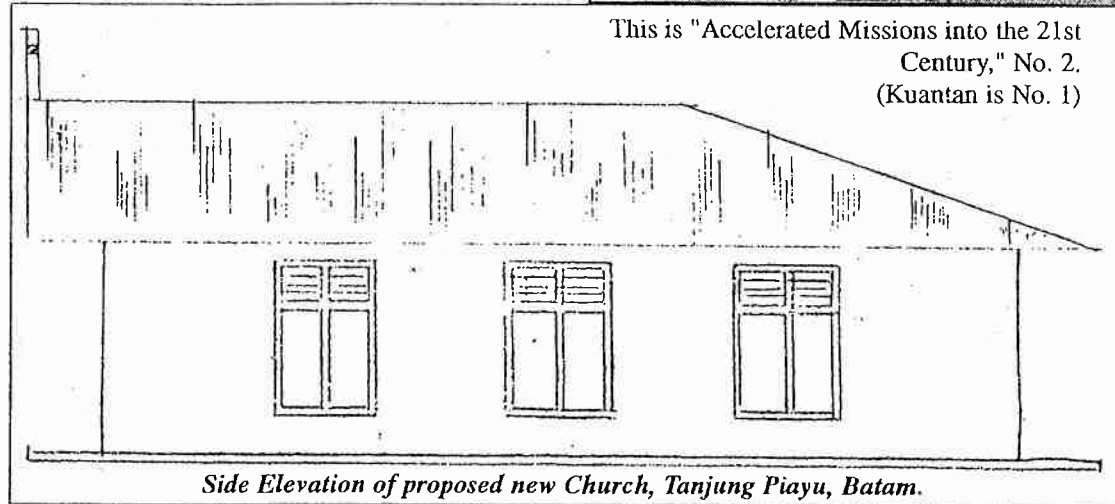
two kindergartens — one with Suparti at Batu Aji and the other at Tanjung Piayu under herself. This second kindergarten is not in the initial project and its cost not estimated. Roughly, it cannot cost more than S\$10,000. The total project at Tanjung Piayu should work out at S\$45,000 (which we had earlier estimated. Praise the Lord!).

From Batam Back to Kuantan

Photo shows Rev & Mrs John Ling standing before the dormitories. See the sturdy double-deckers!



This is "Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century," No. 2. (Kuantan is No. 1)



Side Elevation of proposed new Church, Tanjung Piayu, Batam.

When I Fear My Faith will Fail

"But I have prayed for thee, . . ." (Luke 22:32)

The fear that our faith may fail is natural, as Satan sets up mines of vain philosophies and false teachings to undermine it. In the passage, related to the text, Satan would make one last desperate attempt to break the ranks of our Lord's disciples, prior to His crucifixion.

" . . . Simon, . . . Satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for thee. . . " (Luke 22:31,32).

Judas had fallen away from the apostolic bond and Peter (Simon) was in imminent danger of falling away. Does not this typify the ever looming danger encountered in Christendom today? (2 Thess 2:3,4). Today we are inundated with diverse pernicious and erroneous doctrines, which if subscribed to, will undermine the precious faith, once delivered unto the saints.

The word "sift" carries with it the meaning of separating what is desirable from what is undesirable. The wheat is shaken to and fro in the sieve, that the chaff may thereby separate itself from the wheat and fall out. In sifting us, Satan plays mischief on us. He would have us eat the fruit of lies of ecumenism, Romanism, Charismatism, New Age Movement etc. Subtly or overtly, Satan attempts to wreak havoc to our faith and render us apostate! Satan hath desired of us. Beware he lurks round every corner, and to disregard his existence is a fatal flaw. Small wonder that the Scripture warns us against this hideous monster, who masquerades himself as an angel of light (2 Cor 11:14), and our Lord aptly describes him as "the prince of this world" (John 14:30), a murderer (John 8:44) and a "liar" (John 8:44) and he romps about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8).

Despite the unremitting Satanic assault against the saint, the believer's faith fail not ie. cannot be totally eclipsed. The fire of faith is kept alive only because our Lord prayed for us.

It is the same picture conveyed to us from a scene in Pilgrim's Progress. Mr Interpreter brings Christian to a wall where fire is blazing from a grate, with man trying to douse the fire with water. On the other side of the wall, another man is secretly pouring oil on the fire to keep it ablaze. This latter man is likened to our Lord, who prays for us to maintain the work of grace in our souls.

We truly thank our Lord for His intercession for us. Even as Satan "prays," our Lord counter prays and as Satan mines our Lord counter mines. Satan may have his sieve but our Lord his fan. Our body, mind and soul may be vulnerable to the attacks of the evil one but our Lord's love and prayer for us will sustain us through all the vicissitudes of life. Through it all, both sifting by Satan and praying by our Lord, erring Peter was restored from his sin of self-confidence and strengthened. By it may we also emerge victorious in these very trying times - the last of the last days.

When I fear my faith will fail,

Christ can hold me fast!

When the tempter would prevail,

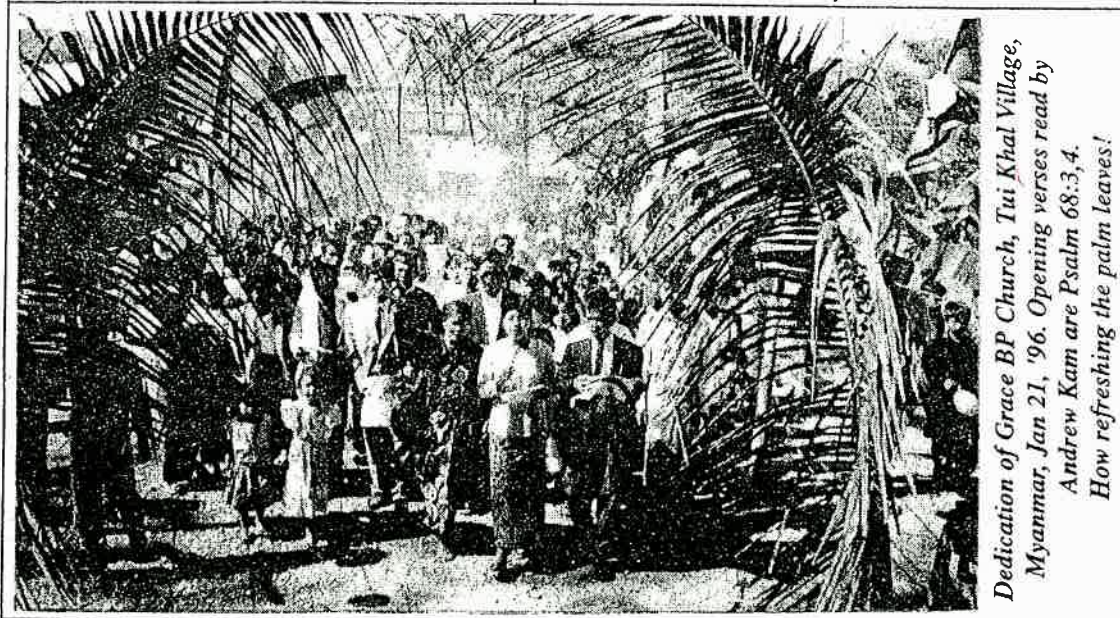
He can hold me fast."

- Ada Hablrshon

— Elder(Dr) Lim Yew Cheng, Calvary Jaya
B-P Fellowship Bulletin

Expresgrams to Dr Malcolm Mahadevan
and Rev Pang Kok Hiong: Thanks for your
letters.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 19 - 25, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	8.00 am	Chinese New Year Service (Rev Peter Chng) FEBC Vacation	\$6,646.00 (8.00 am); \$43,830.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$450 (Kebaktian Ina); Reformed S Bible \$150, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$100, \$400; Tj Playu \$450(Van), \$100, \$200, \$100, \$100, \$15(Box); Colin Wong \$50, \$150; Hilltop \$500; David Beh \$5; Rfd Tract Msty \$100; Eld Khoo \$300; Dn Yiew P S \$100; Batam \$50; Thailand \$50, \$100; Philippines \$100; Children Msty \$50; LBP K'ten Kuantan \$300; China Bibles \$105; Stones \$200; Yangon Orph \$250(Box).	
TUE	4.50 pm	Rev Tow & Team return from Myanmar	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	(1) <i>This is my thanksgiving offering to God, who has been very merciful and who has brought me through my exams. (\$20 for Mission Trip to Chiangmai.)</i>	
SAT	2.30 pm	LTf; 3.30 EBF	Nomination for General Elections 1996 opens today. The closing date for nomination is 17 Mar 96. Nomination forms are available from the Election Coordinators, Dn Francis Sng and Dn Yiew Pong Seng.	
	4.00 pm	LBC Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-serve basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sunday from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Priority registration for Lifers ends on March 10. Registration closes on May 6.	
SUN	8.00 am	Live Wholly for God (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House		
	10.30 am	Rev Timothy Tow		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service		
NBC This Week. No NBC.				
Verse for the Week: <i>Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.</i> Hebrews 10:22				
Sunday School Offering: \$677.62; Attendance: 418				



Dedication of Grace BP Church, Tui Khal Village, Myanmar, Jan 21, '96. Opening verses read by Andrew Kam are Psalm 68:3, 4.
How refreshing the palm leaves!



Rif

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9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 46

18 February 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Han Soon Juan	Dn Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 333	No. 82
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Eph 5:1-21	Prov 2:1-22
Hymn	No. 448	No. 132
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 355	No. 246
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 3:8-22	James 1:1-12
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Having a Good Conscience (Eld Chia Kim Chwee)	Wisdom Through Prayer (Rev Peter Chua)
Closing Hymn	No. 116	No. 429
Benediction		

CAN LIFERS CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR?

We are practically the only B-P Church celebrating Chinese New Year with an early morning service on Lunar New Year's Day 8 - 9 am. This year's worship is on Mon. Feb 19 (I hear there is another B-P Church joining our ranks).

But now I also hear of an American missionary denouncing the keeping of Chinese New Year. Even the *hongbao* (red packet with money inside) is tabooed, because the Chinese red, he says, is heathen. There is a saying, "A little knowledge is a great danger." Does this American missionary know the good of the traditional Chinese New Year beyond the skin-deep red colour of the *hongbao*?

No doubt there is the heathen custom of celebrating Chinese New Year by going to the temples to pray and give thanks to the gods, the wishing one another to get rich, the setting off of fire-crackers (now banned by our Government for nuisance and danger) and eating of idol food, etc.

When our ancestors became Christians, however, those pioneer missionaries to our homeland in South China taught them to hold thanksgiving services on Chinese New Year's Day to offset the heathen worship. The *hongbaos* they received of one another were given, according to their devotion, freely, to God. Fire-crackers which were a nuisance we Christians did not indulge in, but being now banned, are no more an issue. Idol food? That had been abhorred ever since they became Christians.

Indeed, the Life Church Chinese New Year Service we have been holding since at least two decades ago are a revival of our grandparent's practice under the English missionaries. The Chinese New Year worship (*hongbao*) offerings each year are channelled to some worthy cause — this year's to the building of a Church at Tanjung Piayu, Batam. (The Chinese speaking section of Life Church is also involved in missions in the Riau Islands, of which Batam is one.)

The keeping of Chinese New Year is a precious tradition that binds the three-tier family together. Like the American Christmas Dinner at which children and grandchildren would come together (if possible), the Chinese New Year's Eve Dinner which draws three generations together (at least once a year) is an age-old custom that binds the loved ones closer. Although I had my own children, while my parents were alive I would "return home" once a year to visit them and eat the New Year's Eve Dinner together. What a blessed feeling within, and what a blessed expression without when the elders blessed their juniors with *hongbao* (red packets with money inside).

The Chinese red though having a heathen background is now for Christians the crimson of the Blood of Jesus Christ. Christian organisations print *hongbaos* with the words Love (爱) and Grace (恩) with golden Scripture verses for the

use of Christians. Those who receive the red packets cannot fail to read God's Word of Love and Grace.

Apart from Chinese New Year, the *hongbao* has many, many uses. It can be used as an offering envelope in Thanksgiving Services. It can contain a love gift, both to seniors and juniors. It can enclose a tip (a good one) to a servant, or to one who is in need. It can be a "peace-offering" to settle a quarrel or misunderstanding. Even, in expressing our appreciation to the Headman of Tanjong Pagar, who gives us land, we will wrap the sum of money we gratefully give him in red paper if the *hongbao* envelope is too small. There is nothing religious, nothing heathen in the giving of an *hongbao*. It is indeed a most wonderful versatile means of strengthening good relationship between the giver and the recipient. It is even a convenient way of saving one out of an embarrassing situation. For example, you had wanted to buy your friend a valuable gift that suits him in his coming wedding. You forgot about it! Last minute you can save yourself by giving him a *hongbao* (a fat one, I mean). That settles it. And so I can go on. Will this now convince my American missionary (friend)?

Coming back to the Chinese New Year worship at Life Church, I'm sorry we had missed it last year, and we are missing it again this year (for Burma's sake). But both for a higher reason.

When we took off to Vietnam last year, we spent six full days evangelising and teaching, not one hour even for sightseeing. On Chinese New Year's Eve the local Biggest open church (approved by Government) fixed me up to give my salvation testimony in Cantonese, while Rev Dr Philip Teng of the Christian and Missionary Alliance preached the Word. Vietnam, being old-fashioned like the churches under missionary direction, still uses the Chinese New Year season to hold special gospel meetings (for it is the Vacation of the Year and life is relaxed, so they can come to church without hustle).

Besides giving testimony at the Biggest Church the Lord gave me opportunity to preach at the Teochew Life Church (same ancestry as ours) and there was a full house of worshippers all dressed up in New Year apparel. A Cambodian towkay (rich man) asked me after the service to visit his country (for he comes from Cambodia). As a result of this contact, who knows what's next. Is the American

missionary happy with the celebration of Chinese New Year the Christian and evangelistic way? It all depends how Chinese New Year is celebrated, like money, how you use it. Is money also bad to my learned American friend?

What About Christmas?

The same thing that is said about Chinese New Year is said about Christmas by the said missionary from America. Christmas also has a heathen background, he says, and the Christmas tree too. So, it is not Biblical to celebrate Christmas. This view is also held by some strict fundamentalists, yea, even by the Seventh Day Adventists at an earlier date.

There are those who argue against the date, Dec 25. With them we have no quarrel. Christmas need not be commemorated on that very day. We are celebrating the Event, and not a day.

Christmas must not be celebrated because it is so commercialised. It is celebrated even by heathens and those of the human religions.

Our answer is the celebration of Christmas is not prohibited by Scripture. The celebration is spontaneous as you would hold a big birthday party for your father when he reaches 60, the full cycle of life. When we celebrate Christmas we take this as an opportunity to preach the Gospel. Many who would not come to Church would be attracted, by the beautiful age-old carols and even by some Christmas play by the children.

The Lord blessed Life Church last year especially in trebling the Christmas offerings. These were used for charitable and missionary purposes which went to the strengthening of needy members, missionaries and missions. More important are the souls brought into the Kingdom from the testimonies we receive.

Not to celebrate Christmas to the glory of God is to say the least a negative virtue.

From Christmas to Easter

The argument again is that Easter is connected with Eostre, a goddess whose festival was held at the spring equinox. And now there has developed Easter Bunnies and Easter eggs which are not in the Bible.

As in celebrating Christmas we dissociate ourselves from all the worldly revelries. We celebrate Easter (yes, once a year specially) to emphasise the gladness of our salvation, our rising also from the dead with Christ the Risen Saviour. If it is also wrong for that American

missionary to celebrate Easter, we nevertheless rejoice the more that Easter commemoration has brought joy and salvation to our members.

Our Easter Baptisms are the highlight of the Service. Many who come to see their loved ones or children baptised are impressed. The Easter Thanksofferings are another evidence of the Lord's approval — which are channelled into missions. The Easter Breakfast (since 46 years ago) is a Table spread by the Lord to bring His children to closer fellowship, for the extension of His Kingdom.

You Lose Out by Not Coming to Prayer Meeting

With life becoming more hectic these days, the tendency is to sit at home by the TV after dinner to rest your tired bodies than come to Prayer Meeting. But how about those who are retired, who live quite close to Church, who used to come but now have tapered off? Some do not come with the excuse that the Prayer Meeting is not 'hot' enough. All the more they should come to heat it up. Like burning charcoal. Heaped together it burns brighter. Scattered, it dies out. Church attendance is the same. Your absence discourages the pastor who watches over your soul. (If you have a good reason the Lord understands. For example, our Treasurer.)

You lose out by not coming at Prayer Meeting! "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is" applies not only to attending Church on Sunday but also to the Prayer Meeting. "... but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Heb 10:25).

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near" (Isa 55:6). With Singapore so well served by an ever-improving transport system, with Singapore favoured with tranquility away from man-made tribulations and natural disasters, God all the more expects us to come to Church. He delights to see us gather in His Name when "He can be found." To seek Him only when trouble comes may be too late (Read Prov 1:27,28).

Our Prayer Meeting is 1½ hours short! It is divided into three half-hours: (1) Two hymns plus a 20-minute study of Ecclesiastes, verse by verse. (2) Testimonies. (3) Prayer led by elders, deacons and fervent members. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you" (Matt 7:7). An old-timer who has returned after many years said to

me, "Pastor, I have many burdens on my heart, but after Prayer Meeting I feel so much relieved." Another chimed, "It is so good to come to Prayer Meeting always!" When the disciples gathered on the first Lord's Day evening Jesus came and breathed PEACE into their troubled souls. He does the same to us today. You lose out by not coming to Prayer Meeting!

Not Interested in Missions?

When the Lord says, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt 24:14). If you realised how near the end we are, you will be more than interested.

One sure sign of the nearness of the Lord's coming is the Restoration of Israel. There are dozens of Scripture references to the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the Return of the Jews before the Lord will come. Israel is become an independent nation for nearly 50 years. Over four million are gathered from the four corners of the earth (Isa 11). The World-Dictator, according to Daniel's prophecy, shall make a peace treaty "with many," ie. Jews and Arabs but after 3½ years He shall stop the Jews' sacrifice and desecrate their altar. War breaks out immediately with many nations sucked into Armageddon. That will last 3½ years, which theologians believe will be WWII. During this short prelude of peace before WWII the Church is commanded to go into all the world with the Gospel to save as many as shall be saved. Do we have 10 more years of peace? Not interested in missions?

Blessed Lunar New Year from Sylva Wong

Time is too slow for those who Wait

Too swift for those who Fear

Too long for those who Grieve

But for those who love the Lord

Time is Eternity.

Welcome the Year and stimulate the life-giving power

By emotions of 'Good will'

Do it today something for someone

There is simply no sense in delay

If you're going to make someone happy —

An angpow, a gift for Jesus' sake

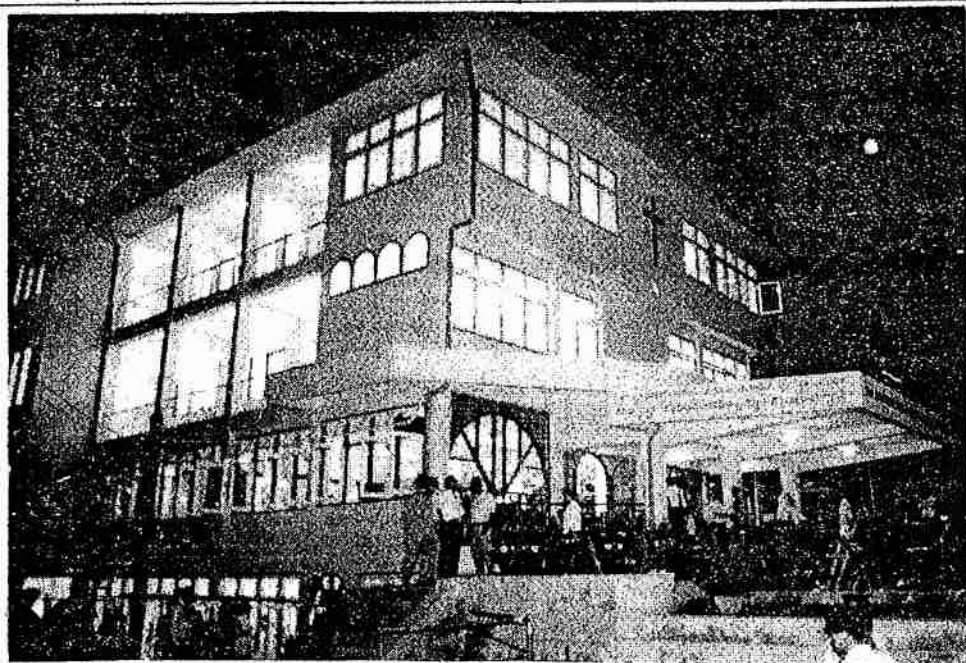
It's thus you make sunshine for others

That brings sunshine back to you.

Have in mind a word of cheer

For those who wish you a 'Happy New Year.'

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 26 - Mar 3, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$9,024.00 (8.00 am); \$12,571.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Myanmar Slides)	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EBF II</i> \$2700; <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$130;		
WED	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	<i>I.Coast J Wonsia</i> \$200, \$130, \$218(EBF); \$300(WF); <i>Tg Playu</i>		
	7.45 pm	Women's F'ship, Beulah Hse	\$100, \$500, \$1400, \$1000; <i>David Beh</i> \$5; <i>Batam</i> \$50; <i>Colin</i>		
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Adult Ministry</i> (Dr Goh)	<i>Wong</i> \$50; <i>The 3</i> \$100; <i>Hilltop</i> \$100; <i>Batam</i> \$300; <i>Myanmar</i>		
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	\$300, \$300; <i>Thailand</i> \$300; <i>Medan</i> \$337; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$338;		
SAT	2.30 pm	Roger Lim & Rhoda Leow Wedding, Rev Tow	<i>Seets</i> \$300; <i>Yiew PS</i> \$300, \$100, \$500; <i>JJ Lim</i> \$100, \$500;		
	2.30 pm	LTF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	<i>Jack Sin</i> \$100(YAF); <i>Rfd Tract Dist</i> \$500(EBF); <i>Nirands</i> \$500;		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Fiery Trial</i> (Elder Lim Teck Chye)	<i>Rev Jeffrey Khoo</i> \$500; <i>Stones</i> \$500; <i>Rev Tow</i> \$1000.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	CHINESE NEW YEAR SERVICE OFFERINGS: \$4,233.00*		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$50; <i>Tg Playu</i> \$50, \$20;		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	<i>Thailand</i> \$50; <i>Hilltop</i> \$50; <i>Saigon</i> \$50; <i>Extn of God's K'dom</i>		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	\$50. *Designated for building of a church at Tg Playu.		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	Nomination for General Elections 1996. The closing		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	date for nomination is 17 Mar 96. Nomination forms are		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	available from the Election Coordinators, Dn Francis Sng		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.	and Dn Yiew Pong Sen.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country		
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hr	Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson;			serve basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp		
Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.			Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sunday from 9.30		
Sunday School Offering: \$615.91; Attendance: 333			am to 12.30 pm. Priority registration for Lifers ends on		
			March 10. Registration closes on May 6.		



This is the newly dedicated 4-storey complex of Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology at 6-D Nanthani St., Nanthana Gone Ward, Insein, Yangon, Myanmar



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 47

25 February 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 47	No. 558
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Col 3:1-17	Psalms 126
Hymn	No. 425	No. 27
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 125	No. 441
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 4:1-11	Rom 1:14-17
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>A New Life for the New Year</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	<i>The Just Shall Preach By Faith</i>
	No. 418	No. 281
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

by Ruth Tan

With thanksgiving to God, I was given the opportunity to go on a mission trip to Myanmar with my husband. The trip was led by our Pastor. The objective of this trip was to attend the dedication of the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology Building, the 4th Convocation of the FEFST and to see the work of Andrew Kam, an FEBC graduate. And, of course, the land and its people.

The team of 48 left Singapore on 16 Feb 96. The team returned to Singapore on 20 Feb 96. We thank God for safety. We had the opportunity of seeing Yangon and a little of the outskirts of the city. Along the way, we saw many pagodas. Myanmar is known to be the land of pagodas. 80% of its people are Buddhists. It saddens us to see the people in bondage and in poverty when the country's wealth are used for building pagodas.



The team had the Sabbath Day worship in the Orphanage headed by Andrew Kam. The orphans, housed in a two-storey rented building (US\$200 per month), warmly received us with a rose each. Many Lifers were moved to tears by the heartwarming singing of these children.

Andrew is looking for land to build an orphanage and to further expand the work in Myanmar.

With the support of Life Church, Andrew Kam has recently built a church at Tui Khal Village in the North, in Chin State, at a cost of US\$10,000. This Church could seat 500 people! Following the service at the Orphanage, Andrew showed us a video of the dedication of the church. It was indeed joyous to see the whole village turning up for the dedication ceremony.

Following visit to the Orphanage was the dedication of the FEFST Building. What was most heartwarming was the attendance at this ceremony by pastors and elders from the various parts of Myanmar, some travelling as long as 7 days to reach Yangon. They took 3 days by foot, thereafter, by boat, by rail and by bus. The brethren in Myanmar truly showed their Christian love and hospitality, going all out to ensure our comfort. 500 people turned up for the dedication, followed by graduation for the FEFST students.

I thank God also for the warm fellowship of our Singapore team. It is the love of God that constraineth us to contribute US\$8,584.50 at Pastor's call to purchase a van for the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology.

This is in answer to their prayer, for transportation in Myanmar is most chaotic! (A van like ours costs US\$15,000

in Myanmar.)

Myanmar is at the dawn of a new era of opening up. This could provide Lifers the opportunity to enter the land with greater speed and involvement. Our visit to Myanmar and the holding of the Awana Conference June 3-7 on Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century, I believe, are no coincidence. It could be that investing on Myanmar would bring us higher returns for the Lord Jesus, till He comes.

Four Kinds of Dedication *by Errol Stone*

I. Sincere But Misguided Dedication. The sites of pagodas are the striking feature of Burma. There are 4 million pagodas in a country of 43 million, of which 80% are Buddhist.

We visited the largest pagoda in Yangon, which is known to have over 60 tonnes of gold laid in the roof. The value of the building was described as being more than the Banks of England could hold. The majority of worshippers at this temple were noticeably women, and they were earnest but misguidedly dedicated in their worship.

II. Believers' Dedication. As many as 130



representatives at the dedication service were from the Chin State. The Chin State is in the North West corner of Burma and consists of a tribe that God has chosen, having received the Gospel from neighbouring India, many years ago. These people travelled together in a group, walking firstly for 3 days, over hills and through valleys. They camped at night, either in tents or in houses of the villagers along the way, which are mainly Christian as over 90% of Chin State are believers. One elder said that they cooked their meals as they went. After three days of walking, they then took transport to reach Yangon.

III. Building Dedication. Rev Tow dedicated the building on Sunday 18th February. The message was taken from 1 Cor 3:9-16. He spoke on two classes of builders. The faculty that lays the foundation and the students who must build thereon. Their success or failure depends on how they build.

At the Graduation, 15 students were conferred degrees out of an enrolment of 74.

Rev Tow spoke to the students on the Return of Christ in a one-day Seminar that followed.

IV. Lifers' Dedication. The dedication of Life BP Church is known throughout the world, and their work in Burma shows their emphasis on "Accelerated Missions." The sum of \$450,000 Lifers have given has built a four-storey complex of similar size to Life Church, comprising a Church, a Bible College, a canteen and dining area, dormitories for men and women students and for faculty families, measuring 20,000 sq ft. Rev Tow called for the giving of a van for the College on the spot. The response was electrifying, for over US\$8,000 was subscribed.

by Hannah Yeo

It was encouraging to see that in the midst of a nation so steeped in Buddhism as reflected from the countless pagodas dotting Yangon, a lighthouse shone brightly through the haze. The Shwedagon temple built many years ago, with its pure gold stupa rising majestically tall, paled before what God was doing in Burma.

The high-point of my visit to Myanmar was the dedication of the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology and its 4th graduation and

worship at the orphanage under Andrew Kam.

From Pastor's Sermon to the Andrew Kam Orphanage by Priscilla Cheong

According to the Chinese, there are three most essential things in life. They are clothing, eating and housing. As for ladies, it is dressing, for men, eating, but for all, housing. All the orphans were without parental care. Nevertheless they have found a home to stay in and it is this Orphanage. Here they are also clothed and fed. Jesus Christ takes care of them.

It is high time for us to examine ourselves especially when we are staying in big, well-furnished flats and apartments in Singapore, we tend to forget the real meaning of life.

We need to think of the future, that is, "When I leave this life where can I stay?" All the young orphans know that there is another place, heaven, where they can live forever and ever, where no more sorrow, tears and misery exist. Jesus said, "I go and prepare a place for you." Have we found a home to stay in the next life?

Ten Years with Thawm Luai in Myanmar

A young man, Thawm Luai, was a hothead in the University in Yangon. He was one of the students protesting against the Government. He was arrested and thrown into prison.

While in prison an evangelist witnessed to him. He was gloriously saved and read the Bible through in 38 days. Released from custody he found his way to India where he studied at a Bible College and graduated with the B.Th.

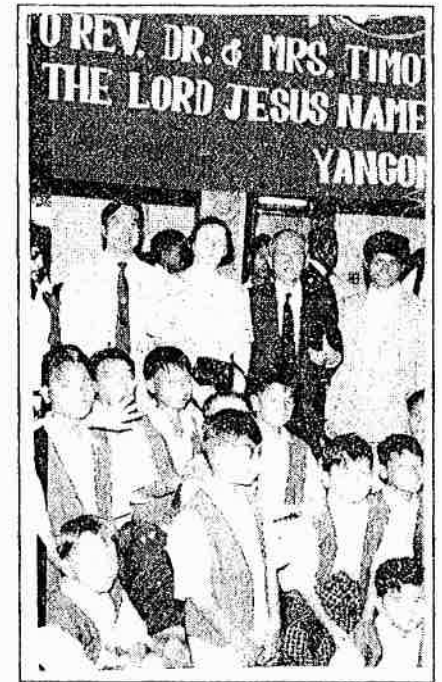
Though educated in a Baptist institution, Thawm Luai was led into Calvinism. He became a Presbyterian and also took a stand against modernism and liberalism. He founded the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in 1985 which drew into its fellowship 22 churches with a membership of about 3,000.

Through Dr McIntire, president of ICCF, Thawm Luai was introduced to Life BP Church. We invited him to come to Singapore for a refresher course at FEBC in 1986. With great difficulty he came and studied for one semester. This gave him opportunity to share with the Principal his vision of a Bible College, as there was no fundamental school in Myanmar at that time.

With the support of Life Church, the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology was launched May 21, 1987.

The Lord mightily blessed the School. From an initial enrolment of 17 it grew to 80 in 1992. Since its founding to this day, four batches of students have graduated, totalling 60. These graduates were sent to the fields and new churches were started. Today the Ev. Presbyterian Church of Myanmar has grown to 49 churches with a membership of 8,000.

During these ten years Life Church has supported the Bible School with \$25,000 per year. Moreover, \$150,000 was given for the purchase of the main house and an



adjacent empty property. \$450,000 is the latest sum spent on the building of a four-storey complex the area of Life Church measuring 20,000 sq ft.

Let us pray that with increased facilities the FEFST will expedite its training programme that many more thousands will be brought into His fold.

The spontaneous gift from the Myanmar Contingent for the purchase of a van is fulfilling a greatest need, for without a vehicle the school is like, to use a Chinese expression, a legless crab. Another area of need is the Library. 150 copies of the pastor's books on Eschatology and 10 copies of Buswell's Theology were sent to Myanmar through our Missionary Team, but that is a drop in the bucket.

Let us continue to pray for Thawm Luai that under his direction God's Kingdom will spread to every part of Myanmar. Amen.

- T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 4 - 10, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$6,704.00 (8.00 am); \$14,256.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EEF II</i> \$661, \$300; <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$50;		
WED	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	<i>Tg Piayu</i> \$100, \$1126.15, \$135(Boxes), \$70(Boxes), \$100; <i>RPG</i>		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	\$50; <i>Stones</i> \$300; <i>FEFST mini van</i> \$1000, \$30; <i>Grace BPC Tui</i>		
THU	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	<i>Khai</i> \$50; <i>Yangon Orph</i> \$50; <i>Rfd Tract Msty</i> \$50; <i>FEBC</i>		
	7.30 pm	<i>Adult Ministry</i> (Dr Goh Seng Fong)	<i>Kitchen</i> \$1000; <i>Thailand</i> \$200; <i>Agape Clinic China</i> \$10;		
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall	<i>Missions</i> \$140; <i>Hilltop</i> \$1900; <i>Rev Djunaidi Orph</i> \$50.		
	7.45 pm	Women's F'ship, Beulah House	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	2.30 pm	Moses Tang & Priscilla Chua Wedding	(1) <i>My humble token for God's grace in answering my</i>		
		Rev Tow	<i>prayers.</i>		
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF	Verse for the Week: <i>My flesh and my heart</i>		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Elder & the Younger</i>	<i>faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and</i>		
		(Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper)	<i>my portion for ever. Psalm 73:26</i>		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Nomination for General Elections 1996. The closing		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	date for nomination is 17 Mar 96. Nomination forms are		
	10.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo	available from the Election Coordinators, Dn Francis Sng		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	and Dn Yiew Pong Sen.		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.	serve basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sunday from 9.30		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Ser. No NBC This Week	am to 12.30 pm. Priority registration for Lifers ends on		
Sunday School Offering: \$1153.70; Attendance: 363			March 10. Registration closes on May 6.		



Dedication of Grace BP Church, Tui Khal Village, Chin State, Myanmar, Jan 21, 96. Photo on p.2 shows Andrew Kam and family standing before the new Church. Built at a cost of US\$10,000, it's a pattern for "Accelerated Missions" into the 21st Century.



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 48

3 March 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Han Soon Juan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 86	No. 364
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 10:16-24	Psalm 19
Hymn	No. 209	No. 66
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 416	<i>Singing thru Romans</i>
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 4:12-19	Rom 1:18-23
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Fiery Trial</i> (Elder Lim Teck Chye)	<i>Light of Nat. Theology</i> <i>To Night of Idolatry</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 221	No. 434
Benediction		Lord's Supper

THE JUST SHALL PREACH BY FAITH

(Synopsis of a Message given at the 10.30 Service)

Not only "the just shall live by faith," the just also shall preach by faith. "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith. . .". (Rom 1:11). Without the message of salvation faithfully delivered by the Gospel messenger, how is the recipient to know he is saved by grace through faith and not by works?

Those who preach the Gospel by faith must have faith in the Power of the Gospel. The Power of the Gospel is the Power of God unto everyone that believeth. No matter how great man's power is such as destructive nuclear power, it pales into nothingness when God lets loose His power, yea, even in judgment of man's sins. Think of earthquakes, floods, snowstorms — these are but a very limited release of God's judgment power. Behold His judgment on moral wickedness by sending AIDS!

In the spiritual realm the Gospel is God's G-Bomb for the salvation of the lost, and its warhead is the Cross whereof Christ died to pay the penalty of our sins, to release us from Satan and death. There is no other Power given among man whereby we must be saved.

But why are so few delivered from the power of Satan and death? Because many who purport to preach the Gospel have

not preached it by faith. They are like salesmen who do not believe in the quality of the goods they sell. These who little believe in the power of the Gospel preach it in their own wisdom (I Cor 2:1), or for vainglory to show off themselves (II Cor 4:5) or like mercenaries, are being paid to preach — No pay, no preach!

Let us who love the Lord and His Word realise anew we have the only Power to save a sin-cursed world. This is committed to us in the Great Commission. We are the salt and light of the earth. Though belittled by the world we can do mighty good to those who are ministered by us with the Gospel. Think of the Apostle Paul. In 30 years he had conquered the Roman Empire with the sowing of the Gospel seed.

Our recent visit to Myanmar to the Dedication of the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology and to the 4th Graduation of the College lifted our hearts. Ten years ago the Church headed by Rev Thawm Luai numbered 22 and their membership 3,000. Today, with the training given by his Bible School and with the graduates sent to the field, the churches have increased to 49 with a membership of 8,000.

Let us have faith in the power of the Gospel we preach

and we will achieve greater results. Let us preach it with compulsion like the Apostle Paul paying a debt. Let every Christian take part in preaching the Gospel by faithfully disseminating it — by word of mouth, by giving a tract, by going out as an evangelistic band, by involvement in missions, as tent-makers in a prohibitive country, by giving ourselves into full-time service. If the whole church is involved in this release of God's Power of salvation, how much better society will become. We are the appointed power-messengers of God if we preach the Word by faith. - T.T.

The Believer's Dress

by *Dn Han Soon Juan*

*"They of the church and they of the world,
Journeyed closely, hand and heart;
Til none but the Master who knoweth all,
Could tell the two apart."*

We must agree that the problem of worldliness in this little verse can be seen all around us. Many of us generally feel that dress somehow indicates our spiritual health; yet, the worldly spirit is manifestly embodied in the way we dress for worship on the Lord's Day.

The argument for those who take the matter lightly is that God is not interested in the outward appearance; He looks upon the heart (1 Sam. 16:7). However, whether or not the believer's heart is right is debatable. Besides, we must always obey the Word of God (Isa. 8:20).

What should we wear to church? No list of the kinds of objectionable garments on sale can be exhaustive. Instead, every child of God should have a set of Biblical principles to guide him or her in this respect. The Lord will then so enlighten us that what is right or wrong will no longer be an issue.

The words of Deut. 22:5 and Gen. 1:27 give us the FIRST PRINCIPLE. It is DISTINCTION. Men and women are created different, and they must dress themselves to show this distinction. If by our dress, our sex cannot be determined from a distance, the Lord will certainly be displeased.

The SECOND PRINCIPLE is DECENCY. Though 1Tim.2:9-10 concerns women, Paul's words apply equally to all. The apostle assumes only the woman "professing godliness" will heed his counsel. Obviously, the



unsaved woman or the converted woman with no desire for holiness will not take the instruction seriously. Only the godly woman will endeavour to please her Lord.

Prov. 7:10 clearly shows that clothes reveal character. The principle in Prov. 7 is reiterated in Gen. 38:14-15. Judah's assumption rather than the 'rightness' of his supposition is all-important. It is therefore incumbent upon us to uphold the name or cause of Christ by our dress. "Modest apparel with shamefacedness" means orderly, becoming, decent and proper clothes signifying reverence. Are we serving God by our appearance as "new creatures" in Christ?

DOUBT is the THIRD PRINCIPLE to remember. Paul instructs us to resist every form of evil (1Thess. 5:22). We are urged to avoid anything about which we have even the slightest doubt. Moreover, this principle should never be compromised with one rule for the church

and another for social life. Spurgeon's wise counsel is that "when choosing between two evils, choose neither".

These thoughts are penned in sincere Christian love in the light of Heb. 10:24 and Rom. 12:2, not to provoke discussion or debate, nor to question our attitude. No mention of the fashion world is deliberate - suffice to say that shorts, tee-shirts, tank tops and slippers, in short, anything casual can hardly be said to glorify God in the sanctuary on the Lord's Day.

An impression of these Scriptural principles upon the mind and a desire to "grow in grace" (2 Pet. 3:18) will enable us to remove any lingering doubt as to what is right and what is wrong in the way we dress during worship. May the Lord help us.

Adapted from an article by Rev. Timothy Nelson

FAST RAT . . . QUICK MONEY?

by *Eld Cheng Wei Nien*

Once again another lunar New Year has come. The year of the pig has gone and now comes the rat. According to tradition, the rat is energetic, industrious, playful and generous, like the prodigal son. It is quick and cunning and is likely to bring in quick and fast luck and wealth. It has a small and easily controllable body and is able to get through any small hole or tiny crevices to hide and to steal. Among the symbolic animals it is the first in the race and is likely to be the first to bring in any quick money that you desire. In today's competitive society everything must come fast, fast car, fast food, fast promotion and now fast rat and fast wealth. This is what the man of the world looks for but God's Word to us is otherwise.

The rat is an unclean animal. In the OT, the rat is in the same category as the pig and is unclean in the sight of the Lord. "These also shall be unclean unto you, among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; the weasels and the mouse . . ." (Lev 11:29). Israelites who put forth an outward show of purity but consumed the unclean animals were condemned by God. This was hypocrisy. Similarly, Christians who put forth an appearance of holiness, but enjoying wealth obtained by stealing, cheating, gambling, speculation in stocks and shares, etc is also an abomination to the Lord. The

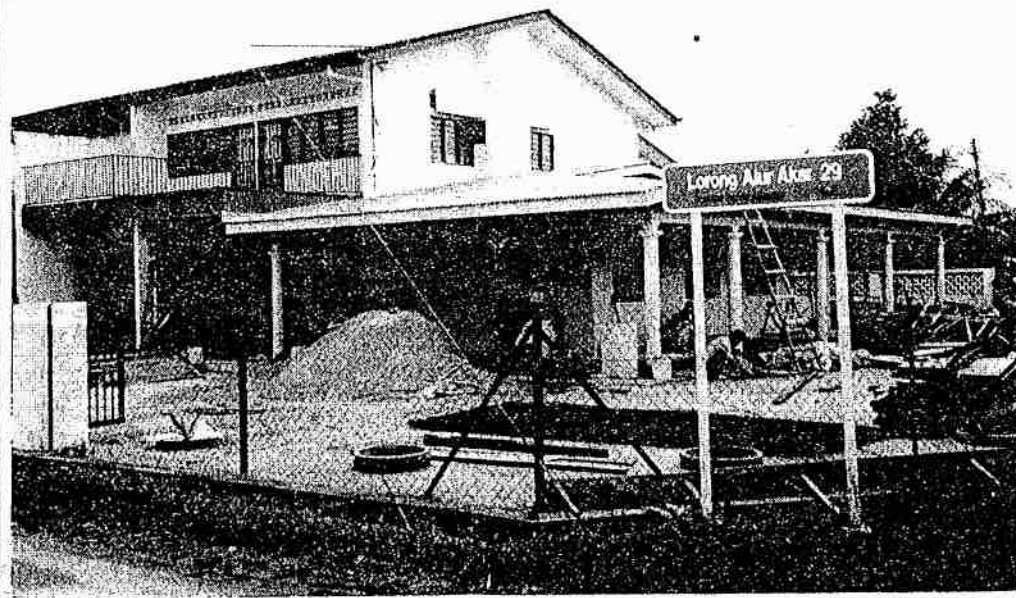
Philistines captured the Ark of the Lord and brought it to the house of Dagon to humiliate and mock the God of Israel. But the Lord sent them emerods and plagues and "there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city" (1 Sam 5:11). Finally, after 5 Philistine cities were plagued by God, the Ark was returned with "the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their emerods" (1 Sam 6:11). Mice were used by God to mar the land of the Philistines (1 Sam 6:5). Mice were used by God as instruments of judgment. But sinful men, as before, kow-tow to the rats and ask such unclean creatures to help rather than to the one and living true God, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The rat is a lover of darkness. The rat usually hides itself in a little dark hole during the day and comes out at night to steal. Likewise, evil doers hate the light and prefer darkness. "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (Jn 3:19). It is interesting to note that nightclubs, casinos, bars and gambling dens are always dim and dark and they usually open till well past midnight because they love darkness rather than light. Believers must never be found in these places. "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light" (Eph 5:8).

The rat is a thief that breaks barriers to steal. In order to steal, the rat often gnaws holes in doors and destroys precious furniture in the house. Government statistics in USA show that rats cost US citizens \$200 million each year. It is the most destructive animal in the world. Likewise, the "rats" of this world will try their utmost to rob and to destroy. Chief of these is the accuser of the brethren who will destroy our spiritual life and break down our relationship with God. Beware of laying up treasures in this world. "Rats" can get them!! But . . . "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matt 6:19,20).

Dearly beloved, it does not matter if this year is the year of the pig or the year of the rat, the most important thing to do is to watch and pray and be ready for the year of the Second Coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 11 - 17, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$7,694.00 (8.00 am); \$16,103.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EBF II</i> \$1000, \$1600, \$1079(Chinese Ser); <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$100, \$1410, \$80, \$100; <i>Yangon Van</i> \$1000, \$200, \$250, \$15068.45(collected at Yangon); <i>Tg Piayu</i> \$300, \$500, \$500; <i>JJ Lim</i> \$300, \$300; <i>Yiew P S</i> \$300; <i>Stone</i> \$300, \$300; <i>Missions</i> \$100; <i>Tracts</i> \$50; <i>RPG</i> \$20; <i>LTF</i> \$500; <i>Kuantan</i> \$500; <i>Yangon Orph</i> \$500, \$220, \$500, \$150; <i>Myanmar</i> \$200, \$130, \$400; <i>Agape Cl. China</i> \$10; <i>David Beh</i> \$100; <i>FEFST Library</i> \$150; <i>Grace BPC Yangon</i> \$360(Coinafon); <i>Kuantan Orph</i> \$500; <i>Medan Orph</i> \$500; <i>China Msn</i> \$200; <i>Hilltop</i> \$200; <i>G Kutty</i> \$200; <i>Dohar(Medan)</i> \$200, \$50; <i>23 Individuals/Org.</i> \$1500(Peter Clements); <i>Colin Wong</i> \$150; <i>Yangon K'ten</i> \$500.		
WED	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Verse for the Week: <i>He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.</i> Proverbs 10:9		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	Nomination for General Elections 1996. Nomination closes next Lord's Day. Nomination forms are available from the Election Coordinators, Dn Francis Sng and Dn Yiew Pong Sen.		
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Adult Ministry</i> (Dr Goh Seng Fong)	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-serve basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sundays from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm. Priority registration for Lifers ends today. Registration closes on May 6.		
	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal			
SAT	2.30 pm	Sharon BPC Wedding			
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF			
	3.30 pm	LBC/EBF			
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Need to Grow</i> (Rev Tow)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.15 pm	Missionary F'ship Mtg, FEBC Hall			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. <i>Wed</i> Bt Timah, Henderson; <i>Fri</i> Bishan, Bt Batok.					
Sunday School Offering: \$726.70; Attendance: 356					
Rev & Mrs Djunaidi are at K.Besar today.					



This is the Kuantan Kindergarten that will double for a Church. Dedication Date: April 6, '96. One long day round trip is paid by the Church. "First come, first served."



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. IV No. 49

10 March 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Geoffrey Tan	Dn Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 93	No. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 42	Psalms 34
Hymn	No. 414	No. 101
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 120	No. 358
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 3:1-7	1 Kings 19
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Elder and the Younger</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>The Elijah Syndrome</i> (Elder Lim Teck Chye)
Closing Hymn	No. 265	No. 131
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

"ACCELERATED MISSIONS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY"

This is the theme of our Missions Conference at Awana, Genting Highlands, June 3-7, '96. Dr Howard Carlson, veteran missionary to the Holy Land, will be the chief speaker. With him will be gathered missionaries from several fields to report on their work with the view of enlisting young men and women.

The spirit of "accelerated missions" has begun to catch on Lifers and FEBCers, as attested by the spontaneous offerings they have given to buy a 12-seater minibus for the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology, Yangon. The showing of 160 slides of the recent Myanmar Expedition by Amos at the Tuesday night Prayer Meeting a fortnight ago has further imbued praying Lifers with this new spirit. When will be the next Myanmar Mission? A Deacon remarked, "Now our eyes are opened to what our strong Sing dollar can do for God's Kingdom abroad."

Rev & Mrs Peter Chng whom we have sent to pastor the Perth Church returned to Singapore at Chinese New Year. Peter preached at the New Year Service and we have heard good reports of his message. An FEBC graduate called to Perth the last few years is our missionary to Australia in every

sense of the word.

What gladdened our heart was his extended travel from Singapore to Ghana where he spent three weeks to consolidate a missionary outreach with a young Ghanaian couple. This young Ghanaian couple who had earlier visited Perth have gained their confidence. Yes, the spirit of "accelerated missions" has spurred a first BP branch church in Australia to action. Rev Peter Chng also told us their church is supporting two students from Australia studying at FEBC.

The Spirit of Accelerated Missions has moved Roska on Batam Island to proceed with the building of a Church at Tanjung Piayu, and a kindergarten. Furthermore the much-needed Church minibus is acquired at S\$23,500 (with air-con) and put into operation. Soon we will announce a Day for the Dedication of the new Church.

In the spirit of "Accelerated Missions," here's the Happy Day chosen for Lifers and FEBCers to attend the Dedication of Life Kuantan Kindergarten. Limited to 84 passengers in 2 buses, it will be a one-day round trip, Easter Saturday, April 6, '96. In order to make the round-trip, we must set out from Gilstead Rd 4.30 am sharp. It takes 6½ hours one way via the super

highway, so we will hold the Dedication at 11.30 am. With lunch provided on the new premises we can leave 2.30 pm. Our return trip via the Coastal Highway will take us to Mersing where dinner is served. We should arrive back Gilstead Rd, 9.30 pm. The total cost of this exciting extended tour is \$50 , but we have decided to make it free! Please register with Deacon Yiew Pong Sen. For Chinese Service, see Elder Sng. First come, first served!

The following stanzas adapted from *The Regions Beyond* by A B Simpson, founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, were sung on the night the Myanmar slides were shown. You will notice that the Spirit of "Accelerated Missions" is beckoning us to the two new countries waiting to join the ASEAN Bloc. Before they join ASEAN, we feel constrained to bear the good tidings Jesus Saves to them, Cambodia and Laos, ahead of man's schedule.

*To the Land of Myanmar, I must go, I must go
Where the story has never been told
To the forty-three millions who're now lost in sin
I must tell the glad tidings of old*

*To the regions beyond, I must go, I must go
Till the world, all the world His salvation shall know*

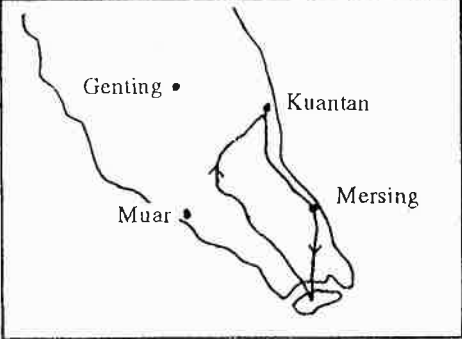
*O ye that are spending your money and hours
In pleasures so wasteful and fond
Awake from your selfishness, folly and sin
And give to the poor ones beyond*

*There are other lost sheep that the Shepherd must bring
From all Asean, Cambodia and Laos
He sends us to gather them out of all lands
And restore them back to His fold*

Why Accelerated Missions?

Because this is the Master's pattern during His earthly ministry. Each day he kept up to the schedule. His Father had appointed Him. He wasted not a minute. He was so engrossed in the saving of the Samaritan woman that He forgot His lunch. In the opening of the eyes of the man born blind, He reiterated, "I must work the works of Him that sent Me while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work" (Jn 9:4). Can we say that of our work for the Lord?

The three recent bombings of public buses in Jerusalem and a super store in Tel Aviv, then the



missile "exercise" now shooting across Taiwan Straits, are a reminder that there is no peace in this world. We who live in a peaceful Singapore must pray for our Government in their effort to govern well. Peace is every citizen's business.

Now, while Singapore is an island of peace, we cannot escape the storm that might strike us from elsewhere. Many years ago a sudden hurricane swept over North Australia and Darwin was flattened in one night. While there is yet time, let us "make hay while the sun shines."

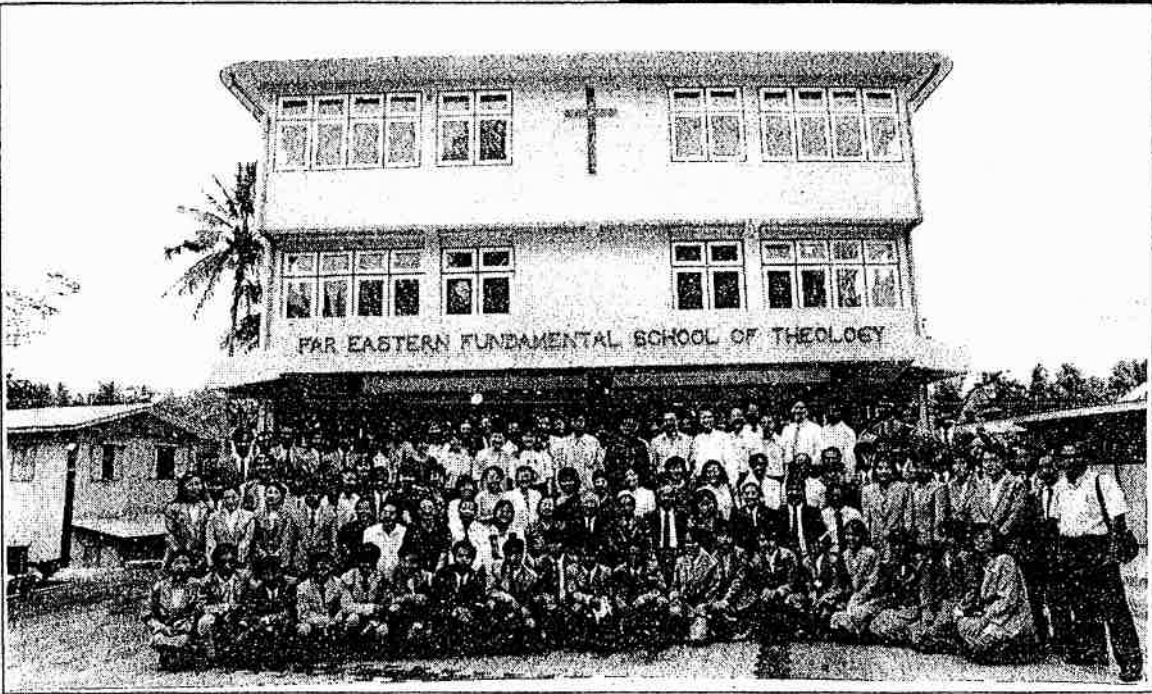
One immediate example of "accelerated missions" is the response to the Van Fund for FEFST, Yangon as mentioned at the outset. Hearing of the spiritedness of the English Congregation, our Chinese Service is moved to add further to the Van Fund. They have decided to give \$2,000 plus this Lord's Day's collection when the Pastor speaks at the Chinese Service. As we go to press a Sister at the Tuesday Prayer Meeting tops up with \$3,000 in thanksgiving for good success in her daughters' school examinations. With this sum, the Van Fund for Myanmar is oversubscribed! (There is joy in giving to Jesus, always.)

If you look at how they travel in Yangon from inset photo here, you will know how a College Van will greatly expedite the Lord's business there. Nor have we forgotten Andrew Kam. In his

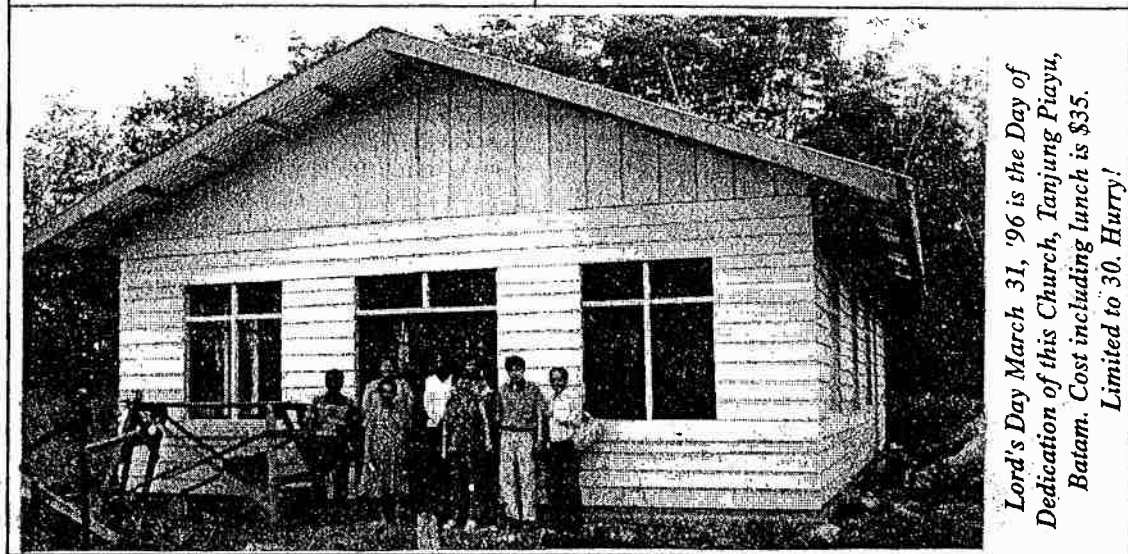


case, as observed by all who went, the greater need is the acquisition of land in a good locality, and the building of a proper orphanage with auditorium for the Yangon BP Church. -T.T.

We extend our deepest condolence to Bro. Heng Siak Thiang on the home-going of his beloved wife, Cecilia, 66. Funeral at CCK Protestant Cemetery was officiated by Revs Philip Heng, T Tow, S Nagarajan, Thurs, Mar 7, 1996.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 18 - 24, '96)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON 7.30 pm Ezekiel (Rev Tow) TUE 8.00 pm Prayer Mtg WED 7.30 pm Second Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo) THU 7.30 pm Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong) SAT 2.30 pm LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 pm LBC/EBF SUN 8.00 am Watch Out for False Teachers (Rav Stephen Khoo) 9.30 am Sunday School 9.30 am Catechism Class, Beulah House 10.30 am Rev Tow 10.30 am Chinese Service 10.30 am Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship 10.40 am Church Choir Practice 12.30 pm Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC 3.00 pm Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser. 4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service 4.45 pm Burmese Service		\$6,335.00 (8.00 am); \$11,405.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$150, \$130; <i>Yanong Van</i> \$3470(Chinese Ser), \$3000; <i>Tg Piayu</i> \$100; <i>Yanong Orph</i> \$100; <i>Batam</i> \$200, \$620(WF); <i>David Beh</i> \$10; <i>Missions</i> \$100; <i>Philippines</i> \$100; <i>Children's Ministry</i> \$50; <i>Nirands</i> \$200; <i>Seets</i> \$200, \$100(YAF); <i>Needy FEBC Student</i> \$50; <i>J Wonsia</i> \$130; <i>Extn of Gospel</i> \$800; <i>JJ Lim</i> \$130(Box); <i>FEFST</i> \$419(Boxes); <i>Jack Sin</i> \$150(YAF); <i>Life Church</i> \$418.55(ICC, Holland).
No NBC This Week.		FROM THE OFFERING BAGS: (1) <i>We want to thank God for blessing our lives in Life Church. This is part of blessings from God that we want to return to Him. Please channel the amount for the furtherance of the 21st Century KJV Reformation Bible. Please let us know the progress as there is no update recently. (\$1410)</i> (2) <i>Thanks to God for our daughter's miraculous 'O' Level results. Please channel our thanks offering to the ministry for the young — \$500 LTF, \$500 Kuantan Kindergarten, \$500 Myanmar Orphanage.</i>
Nomination for General Elections 1996. All nominees and Session members are requested to hand in the Nomination forms today by 12 noon to the Election Coordinators, Dn Francis Sng and Dn Yiew Pong Sen. The Board of Elders will meet today at 12.30 pm at the Church Office. Sunday School Offering: \$470.70; Attendance: 370		21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sundays from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm. Registration closes on May 6. Verse for the Week: <i>Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. Psalm 119:133</i>



Lord's Day March 31, '96 is the Day of Dedication of this Church, Tanjung Piayu, Batam. Cost including lunch is \$35. Limited to 30. Hurry!



Rif

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9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax: (65) 2506955

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Vol. IV No. 50

17 March 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	Eternal Father...	Eternal Father...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 1:21 - 2:3	Luke 18:35-43
Hymn	Roman Verses 6-8	No. 306
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 376	Roman Verses 6-8
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	II Peter 1:1-11	Romans 1:21 - 2:3
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Growing unto the Beauty of Maturity	Blessing Turned into Curse
Closing Hymn	No. 400	Roman Verses 6-8
Benediction		

REVIEW ON ISRAEL A GREAT NATION by T. TOW

Is Israel a great nation? To the uninitiated and unbelievers, the answer is *No*. The Americans would think their nation is great because of their military and economic might. The British would consider Britain great as she was once a colonial power. Likewise the Chinese, Indian, Egyptian, Roman, Greek and other great civilizations.

To them Israel is like any other country on this earth. Many would probably know about the holocaust of World War II where six millions of her people were killed by Hitler. Many would know she is in the Middle East from newspapers and television headlines. However, most do not know Israel is a great country. And that the destiny of the world is closely linked to her.

In the article, Rev Tow shows us from Scripture and the events that are happening in the world to date, how Israel is a great nation. She is great as that is what God had graciously promised Abraham. This was confirmed in Jacob and Moses. Israel's greatness, in short, is God-given. The author gives two main reasons.

From the texts of Scripture, Rev Tow shows how Israel has become a great nation:

First, simply because God chose her. She is God's chosen vessel to receive God's Special Revelation. That Israel might be a light to a fallen and sinful world, God gave

the Law. From this Law in the Ten Commandments, the pattern of all modern laws of the nations is derived. One also learns how important is the blessed day of rest, the Sabbath which God gave us through Israel. It is the distinction of this Law that made Israel great. Israel has not only given us the Ten Commandments and the Sabbath but the Old Testament of the Bible. Augustine says Israel is the librarian of the Christian Church.

Second, Israel is great because God's Son, Jesus our Lord and Saviour, was born a Jew, from the house of David and the stock of Abraham. Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world and the only way to God, was born to a young Jewess, the Virgin Mary. She was the chosen vessel for God to become man. And by becoming Man, Jesus the God-Man can bring us back to God.

Because of Israel's rejection and crucifixion of Jesus, God rejected her. God chastised Israel, dispersing her people to the ends of the earth. Israel, like an olive branch was cut off and we the Gentiles like the wild branch was grafted on. Israel's loss becomes the Gentiles' gain. Israel, we are reminded, would be grafted back in the fullness

of the Gentiles. God is faithful in His promise to Abraham and David, God will reinstate Israel to her former glory.

We also learn of five wars Israel has fought against her neighbours. The Devil does not like to see Israel restored to her previous greatness. Despite numerical and territorial disadvantages, God helped Israel to be victorious. Israel would fight her last and biggest battle at Armageddon and would come to know Jesus as her Messiah. Only Jesus can save her.

We are asked to examine our attitude towards Israel. Adopt the positive one! Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Love Israel that we may prosper.

Finally, Israel would be at her greatest when Jesus Christ our Lord comes to reign on earth in Jerusalem with peace for a thousand years.

- Seah Seow Hock

Ed. note: The recent suicidal bombings which killed 60 innocent people and injured scores of others in Israel cannot thwart God's purpose upon His chosen people. These traumas are but birth pangs of a Reborn Israel before Messiah comes.

According to Daniel's prophecy, under the aegis of the coming World-Dictator, the Antichrist, Israel will live peacefully with her Arab neighbours for 3½ years. The present peace movement with Palestine will climax with peace with Syria. In the midst of the last prophetic week of seven years, the Treaty of Peace will be broken. War the next 3½ years will lead to the Battle of Armageddon and Jerusalem. This is foretold in Zechariah as follows:

Zechariah 12:2-3 *Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.*

Zechariah 14:1-4 *Behold, the day of the*

LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. . . .

Accelerated Dedication of Tanjung Piayu, Batam

Roska is our missionary to Batam for the last seven years. In this seventh year there is firmly established a church at Batu Aji. It has an attendance of 45 when Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo administers the Lord's Supper every month.

Now a second church is built at Tanjung Piayu in record time. A clansman of Roska, Mr Sihombing, a Christian contractor and member of our Church, has expedited the job. Photo on back page shows Deacon and Mrs



GLIMPSES OF SINGAPORE PENTECOST, 1935

From Excerpts of John Sung's Diary published 1995 are news reports about him by the Singapore Press, dated Oct 27, 1935:

700 Chinese Weep On Wharf DYNAMIC EVANGELIST GOES HOME

The farewell given yesterday and on Friday night to Dr John Sung, one of China's greatest evangelists, by thousands of Chinese Christians was one of the most extraordinary ever seen in Singapore.

When Dr Sung boarded the Corfu yesterday to return home about 700 Chinese were weeping on the wharf, and Chinese of all ages marched through the streets carrying banners of the Cross.

Dr Sung preached his farewell sermon to Singapore's Chinatown last night. Outside the Chinese Methodist Church at the corner of Telok

Francis Sng and Ted Chan visiting the finishing construction a fortnight ago. The Lord's House is ready for dedication and it is requested we officiate it Lord's Day, March 31, '96.

Our Church is therefore organising this yet another mission trip (through Transglobe) to Batam to swell the Happy Occasion. The cost for the one-day trip, including lunch is \$35.

Please register with Deacon and Mrs Francis Sng for the March 31 Mission Trip. All meet at World Trade Centre, Sunday morning, 8.15 am sharp.



Ayer and Cecil Streets, a vast concourse listened in the open air to Dr Sung's oratory which came to them through loud speakers. Inside the building a congregation of some 1,300 people filled every seat.

It is estimated that Dr Sung, who arrived here at the end of August, has made 2,000 converts in Singapore. Assuming that he had the same success upcountry, where he visited Malacca, Penang and Sitiawan, and Medan in Sumatra, the total for the whole of the region would be about 4,000.

Powerful Preacher

Dr Sung's ministrations in Singapore were not confined to one denomination. He attracted followers from the Chinese community to various Protestant churches.

Dr Sung is a preacher of rare power. He has been described as a prophet of God, a John the Baptist calling his people to repentance, an Oriental Savonarola converting a whole city by his preaching against the sin of society and as a Chinese John Wesley translating the Gospel into terms the Chinese people can understand.

Dr Sung, who is still in his early thirties, comes from Hinghua where his father and grandfather were preachers before him.

At the age of 18 John worked his way to America, where he arrived with \$6 in his pocket. He not only earned his living but worked his way through college and university to take high degrees.

Scoffers Converted

In preaching Dr Sung dramatises Bible stories with chalk and blackboard. At any point of his sermon he may stop to break forth into song. In the best manner of a Chinese actor he seems able to imitate any voice and play the part of any character. In Singapore he inspired thousands of Chinese to buy Bibles and turned scoffers into converts.

Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING

Saturday, 30 March 1996

7.30 pm, FEBC Hall

Speaker: Rev Stephen Khoo

Bring a friend!

He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 25 - 31, '96)		
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	Second Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong)
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
SAT	2.30 pm	Mok Chee Cheong & Carol Lam Wedding (Rev Tow)
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.30 pm LBC/EBF
	7.30 pm	FEBC Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall
PALM SUN	8.00 am	The Certainty of His Second Coming (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	8.00 am	Pastor & Team leave for Batam
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House
	10.30 am	Pastor Jack Sin
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.		
Easter Breakfast. Members who wish to contribute please inform Elder Sng (tel: 2747660) and Dn Yiew (Pg 9608-5800). 21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sundays from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm. Registration closes on May 6. Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING this Saturday, 30 March 1996 7.30 pm, FEBC Hall Speaker: Rev Stephen Khoo Bring a friend! <i>He that winneth souls is wise...</i> <i>(Prov 11:30)</i> Sunday School Offering: \$438.70; Attendance: 356		

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
\$4,869.00 (8.00 am); \$12,036.00 (10.30 am)	
OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700, \$250; Reformed S Bible \$50, \$80, \$300, \$200; Tg Piayu \$1000; Batam \$50; Lim JJ \$150, \$50; Thailand \$50, \$300; Myanmar \$100, \$300, \$200; A Kam \$80; Medan Orph \$675; Colin Wong \$50; Seets \$300; FEBC Gospel Rally \$100..	
FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
(1) Dearest Lord Jesus, I am overjoyed to make my first tithe to use as you deem fit. Though in this time of my difficulties, I know that there are more people in more need. O Lord, I want to thank you and praise you so much that I have come to know you. Though I am not baptised, just the sight of you during the time of my most need, I know that it is good enough for my healing. Though at times my road to recovery seem to slow down and even backsliding, I have faith and trust that the Lord has not forgotten me, for you have written my name in the palm of your hand. I pray that may the Lord keep harm away from me and guide and strengthen me in my faith always. Also, Lord I am at your service to call and use me.- Your humble servant in waiting... (\$1000) (2) This is my thanksgiving offering to God, who has been very merciful and who has brought me through my exams. (\$20 for Mission Trip to Chiangmai.)	
We have received news from Dr Carl Martin on the home-going of Dr Jack Murray , March 20, '96. We extend our deepest condolences to Mrs Jack Murray and loved ones. Dr Murray was founder of Bible Evangelism and the first President of the Board of Directors of Biblical Theological Seminary of which Dr Allan A MacRae was Principal. Situation Vacant. The post of Principal of Far Eastern Kindergarten from June 24, 1996. Qualifications: Advanced Cert. in Early Childhood Education. Preference to BP members. Ring 2513676. Registration for children born in 1993 for Nursery 1997. Register at FEK next Sunday, 31/3/96, 9.30 am - 1.00 pm. Congratulations to Dn & Mrs Victor Loo on the birth of a second daughter on 22/3/96. Verse for the Week: <i>For in that he died, he died unto sin once; but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.</i> Romans 6:10	



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Vol. IV No. 51

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

24 March 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 11	O Lord of Hosts...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 24	Psalms 2
Hymn	No. 209	O Wherefore Do...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 354	No. 324
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	II Peter 2:1-22	Lk 21:20-36
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Watch Out for False Teachers (Rev Stephen Khoo)	The Day Is At Hand (Rev Djunaiddi)
Closing Hymn	No. 435	No. 221
Benediction		

"OF ALL NATIONS...AND PEOPLE, AND TONGUES" (REV 7:9)

Inasmuch as the Great Commission is unto all nations, so the gathering of the redeemed will be "of all nations. . . and people, and tongues." Therefore the Lord of the Harvest is pleased to see our Church and College ministering to seven language groups every Lord's Day, viz. English, Chinese, Korean, Indonesian, Thai, Filipino, Burmese.

Of the seven language groups, the last four are administered practically by FEBC students or graduates. The Kebaktian Indonesia has 45, the Thai 30, Filipino 25 and Burmese 20 in weekly attendance. The last is reciprocal blessing through our support of Rev Thawm Luai's work in Myanmar.

Our focus in this Report, however, is on the Thai Service. Started 14 years ago by Prachan, an outstanding student (now a lecturer in USA) the Thai Service has grown substantially. It is a service attended by devout Thai women whose husbands are mostly Singaporeans speaking little Thai. While 30 wives are worshipping, there are as many spouses relaxing in the outer coolness of the Beulah garden. In order that they be brought closer to the Lord, we are transferring them from the airconditioned Music Room to the Round House and Chinese

Room. The Thai congregation is looking for some English-speaking preacher to teach a Bible class with the men. The Thai congregation is also taking steps to register with the Government. They are becoming an independent church. In the spirit of decentralisation for faster growth, we commend them to the Lord.

Sending the Gospel to all nations can be expedited best by receiving foreign students to FEBC. We're happy to report there are those coming from countries hitherto not represented in the FEBC community. Two are from a member country of ASEAN and perhaps one from Sri Lanka. Moreover several more are coming from Myanmar — this will augment the Burmese Service. But where are our Singaporeans, and Malaysians? O Lord, speak to some young Reader now to yield his or her life to train at FEBC. And pray for our 21st Century Missions Conference up Genting, June 3-7, '96.

Praise the Lord, our Prayer Meeting is growing

What has contributed to its growth is the kindred spirit of the praying members. The

lively testimonies further stir up our hearts in praise and thanksgiving. The regular study of a chosen Book like Ecclesiastes now being expounded verse by verse, we pray, may satiate every hungry heart. The occasional showing of slides or videos of missionary work abroad adds variety which is the spice of life. So keep coming to Prayer Meeting and bring your spouse or a friend. Prayer meeting is surely a time to thank the Lord in answer to our prayers. A sister felt so indebted to God for His mercies upon her daughters' exam results that she gave the pastor a blank cheque to fill. This is the second time that a grateful heart returns thanks so hilariously. God trebly bless!

Accelerated Dedication for Tanjung Piayu, last call!

I have found one of the ways to promote missions is to bring members along whenever the Lord sends me on some errand to the mission field. This discovery I made in our recent Myanmar trip.

Therefore we are taking pains to organise one to Batam Island for Sunday, March 31, '96 to dedicate the new wooden Church at Tanjung Piayu.

After dedication you will be transported to see the Batu Aji Church (under Roska) and the

biggest Church in Batam (under Kiantoro).

Since our announcement last week we have received 45 names, 50% more than the quota. Transglobe has now got us a bigger coach to take up to 48. Three seats available: first come, first served! (Meet at WTC by 8.00 am as the crowds are big.)

For mission trips, remember this slogan, "Do something good for Jesus wherever you go." The 48 of us going to the Dedication of Tg Piayu are the Lord's couriers. If you have good surplus clothing and children's toys, please leave them at the parsonage stair landing by Tuesday night (Prayer Meeting) March 26 for distribution to "missioners" to bear one another's burdens. "Every burden becomes a blessing."

Rev & Mrs Djunaidi who are our roving missionaries, after serving Kuching BPC (on bi-monthly visit) was invited by Rawang for a fortnight. They are now sojourning at Beulah House before returning to Rawang for another month before going onwards to Sabah to minister at Lahad Datu. Hear Rev Djunaidi at the 10.30 am Service today in Mandarin-English.

Doubly Triumphant!

How did we know that the Dedication of Tg

Piayu would fall on Palm Sunday!? The Day of Triumphal Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem!

With the Kuantan Dedication to take place holy Saturday April 6, awaiting our Lord's rising from the dead, we would have a doubly triumphant celebration. We are pushing forward God's Domain on two fronts, Indonesia to our south, Kuantan, Malaysia to our north.

At Tg Piayu, regular Sunday services should follow after the Dedication. As for Kuantan, we cannot launch the Kindergarten at present. But Elder Leong Yin Chu and his wife will be stationed on the premises the Day of Dedication. As doorkeepers of God's House (Psalm 86) they will also pioneer the Lord's work in the estate by making friends and personal evangelism. Rev & Mrs John Ling will join our Kuantan ministry July 1, 96.

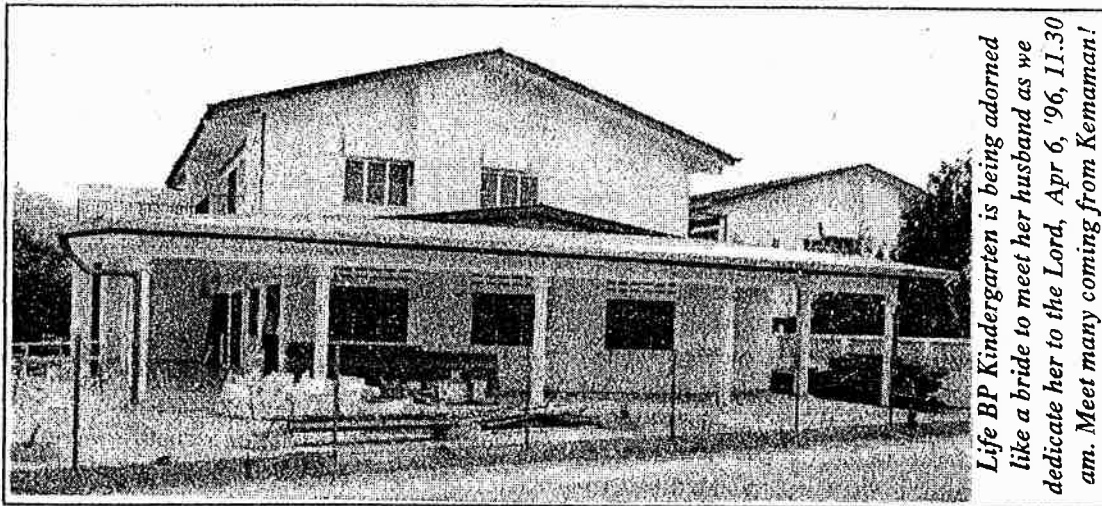
From Kuantan southwards we feel urged to start an accelerated station at Mersing, which has potentials towards a campsite for all our youth groups. Pray!

Gabriel Khano, Patriarch of Guiding Star writes to Pastor

I am happy to tell you that tourism is flourishing in the Holy Land and the recent troubles are now behind us. Hotels are full, the weather is fine, the country is wide open to tourists, and all of them are enjoying their pilgrimage or their holiday without fear or restraint. Even our hopes of the hotel situation in Jerusalem easing a bit have not been fulfilled and it has been necessary for some agents to use Tel-Aviv hotels instead of Jerusalem or Dead Sea Area.

The Anti Terrorist Conference held in Egypt was of one accord in planning to combat terrorism, and stringent measures have been taken to protect people living and visiting Israel. We do not anticipate further attacks, and we will keep you informed of developments and if it is dangerous, we will let you know.

We look forward to the safe and successful continuance of our co-operation and wish you every success with your promotion.



Lessons for Life by Jill Masters (Complete Set: Books 1 - 4)

• **Each book** — contains 46 lessons, sufficient for one year in the Sunday School programme (allowing for special services and 'open school' holiday Sundays). Lessons are undated and may be adapted to any local plan.

• **Topical** — The lessons are divided into series, each having a distinctive theme of special relevance to the modern child. New Testament and Old Testament series are interspersed (but so as to retain the order of Old Testament events).

• **Training** — for teachers. Each lesson is an example of the lost art of applying the Gospel to young souls.

• **Tested** — proved for 25 years in Sunday Schools of all sizes situated in some of Britain's toughest communities, these lessons have now been revised by the author, and re-presented for all who want soul-winning to be the keynote of their Sunday School ministry.

• **Economical** — at a fraction of the cost of many lesson systems published as periodical parts, *Lessons for Life* provides longer outlines and explanations with more suggested applications.

• **Adaptable** — These volumes have also been greeted with enthusiasm by parents for use in family devotions, and by speakers preparing other kinds of young people's meetings, as well as men's and women's meetings.

• **The Author** — has over thirty years experience in Sunday Schools, much of that time as co-ordinator of Britain's largest, at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

Obtainable at Tabernacle Books, 201 Pandan Gardens, S'pore 609337. Tel: 5601111.

The Pastor strongly recommends these materials for use by our Sunday School.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 1 - 7, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)	\$5,642.00 (8.00 am); \$19,516.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EBF II</i> \$500(Kebaktian Ina); <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$71; <i>Tg Piayu</i> \$100, \$36(Box), \$114(Box); <i>RPG</i> \$50; <i>George Kutty</i> \$88; <i>MsF</i> \$100; <i>A Kam's Church</i> \$220; <i>David Beh</i> \$10; <i>Ng Sang Chew</i> \$100; <i>YF</i> \$50; <i>China Bibles</i> \$105; <i>Miss Davenport Van Fd(Holyland)</i> \$3000; <i>Seets</i> \$320, \$350; <i>I.Coast</i> \$200; <i>Sabah Msn</i> \$100; <i>Life BP K'ten Dedication</i> \$200(Berean BPC); <i>Easter flowers</i> \$50(Mrs Paauwe).	
WED	7.30 pm	Second Corinthians (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Infant Baptism. Register with Church Office by Tues. 2 April (Tel: 2569256).	
THU	8.00 pm	Sharon BPC Maundy Thurs. Service	Easter Breakfast. Members who wish to contribute please inform Elder Sng (tel: 2747660) and Dn Yiew (Pg 96085800).	
FRI	8.00 pm	COMBINED GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (Rev Tow, Lord's Supper)	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country Resort. Limited rooms available on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register with full payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sundays from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm. Registration closes on May 6.	
SAT	4.30 am	Pastor & Team leave for Kuantan Dedication	Situation Vacant. The post of Principal of Far Eastern Kindergarten from June 24, 1996. Qualifications: Advanced Cert. in Early Childhood Education. Preference to BP members. Ring 2513676.	
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3 pm YAF; 3.30 pm LBC/EBF	Registration for children born in 1993 for Nursery 1997. Register at FEK today, 9.30 am - 1.00 pm.	
SUN	7.00 am	COMBINED EASTER SUNRISE BAPTISMAL SERVICE (Rev Tow)		
	9.00 am	Easter Breakfast (No Sunday School)		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.				
Verse for the Week: <i>And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.</i> Matthew 21:9				
Sunday School Offering: \$606.00; Attendance: 386				
MESSAGES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL TO JUNE (8.00 AM SERVICE) <i>Theme: Applying the Book of Daniel Today</i>				
DATE	TOPIC/TEXT		SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN
APR 7	7.00 am COMBINED EASTER SUNRISE BAPTISMAL SERVICE, BREAKFAST			
14*	Involvement in the Word (1:1-21)		Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Wee Chin Kam
21	9.00 am ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/GENERAL ELECTIONS			
28	In Time of Stress (2:1-23)		Rev Quek Suan Yew	Dn Ong Eng Lam
MAY 5	Personal Witness (2:24-49)		Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Geoffrey Tan
12*	To Obey or Not to Obey (3:1-18)		Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
19	God With Us (3:19-30)		Rev Timothy Tow	Rev Timothy Tow
26	Witnessing to the Powerful (4:1-37)		Eld(Dr) Lim Teck Chye	Dn Han Soon Juan
JUNE 2	Time Is Up (5:1-31)		Elder Khoo Peng Kiat	Dn Tan Nee Keng
9*	Facing Troubles (6:1-28)		Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
16	When Empires Rise and Fall (7:1-28) (Ch.8)		Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Geoffrey Tan
23	Power In Prayer (9:1-19)		Pastor Jack Sin	Dn Ong Eng Lam
30	Times Ahead (10:1 - 11:1)		Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Dn Wee Chin Kam
*Lord's Supper			<i>"Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season" (II Tim 4:2)</i>	



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Vol. IV No. 52

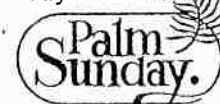
31 March 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Tan Nee Keng	Dn Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 81	No. 197
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Thess 5:1-24	Psalm 24
Hymn	No. 221	No. 217
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 409	No. 309
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	II Peter 3:1-14	Matt 21:1-11
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Certainty of His Second Coming</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	<i>Behold Your King!</i> (Pastor Jack Sin)
Closing Hymn	No. 227	No. 543
Benediction		

My dear Lifers

Today is



This is the Day when Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem in what is called His Triumphal Entry. This he did in order to fulfil Zechariah's prophecy, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass" (Zech 9:9).

While kings of the earth ride horses, a symbol of might and power, our Lord rides a donkey to conquer by humbling Himself to death, that we might be snatched from Satan's hold and hell. "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow. . ." (Phil 2:9-10). For death could not hold Him the Immaculate, Sinless One. He rose triumphant on the third day, which is Easter Sunday. After 40 days He ascended to heaven, and he is coming soon to judge this world, King of kings and Lord of Lords. Reader, do you know Jesus as your personal Saviour?

In grateful commemoration of our Saviour's death, we meet every year on Good Friday, 8 pm with the Lord's Supper. We celebrate His Resurrection with Easter Sunrise Service at 7 am on our Church grounds under the palm trees. We

fellowship around the stone tables in our traditional Easter Breakfast. Our ladies, like Martha, bring the best from their kitchen to serve the Lord's children. We thank God for the twenty odd who will be united with the Church in Baptism and transfers.

This Palm Sunday your pastor will not be at the pulpit because of "Accelerated Missions." The church under Roska at Tanjung Piayu have requested us to the Dedication of their new wooden building. We thought of bringing 30 at first, but now 48 are coming! To kill two birds we will bring along good surplus clothing, etc for the poor Islanders. This is the least affluent Singapore Christians can do.

For "accelerated missions," we will take a long-day trip to Kuantan on holy Saturday April 6, 4.30 am. Being 210 miles from S'pore we expect to arrive Kuantan 11.00 am. We'll be meeting the brethren coming down from Kemaman under Rev John Ling. You'll be surprised to find what a princely property the Lord has given us and the Kindergarten Extension we have made. This Extension will double for a Church. The Dedication of this House of God will climax with a Fellowship luncheon on the premises. We leave 2.30 pm by the Coastal Highway stopping at Mersing for dinner. We should be back at Gilstead Road 9.30 pm.

As we rejoice in our Lord's Resurrection we are transported in spirit to the Land of His Birth and ministry, to Golgotha and to the Empty Tomb. We are brought back to the Baraka BP Church where our Pilgrims worshipped, and will be there again soon. As we recall happy memories, here comes in the mail Miss Davenport's Newsletter. Isn't it timed of the Lord that you should read the latest information, for not a few have befriended her in your pilgrimage to the Holy Land. We hope to see her refreshed after her furlough.

Joan Davenport Writes

Writing from the States, I can tell you more concerning the new Palestinian government (Palestinian Authority) than from Bethlehem. [Please note the new address change: Box 26, Bethlehem via Israel (Palestinian Authority)]. People were waiting for months with great expectancy. There was much joy and rejoicing when the time came for the turnover. It has



brought about a change and a release of the tension of the Israeli army going about in the streets as well as much happiness to the people. We must wait to see how things will develop with the final "peace talks" and its outcome. How much authority will the Palestinians have? Who will give the visas and under what conditions? Will more jobs open for the people and will there be a better economy? . . .

Thank you for your faithfulness in your gifts of support and making me fully supported. As I say this I pray that you will continue to help, because it is so easy to fall behind when someone cannot continue to give. I rejoice in the Lord's blessings and help in this way.

Please pray with me as I return, for the Lord's help that Beit El Baraka may be used of the Lord. With the new license, there will be opportunities for more tourists and visitors to come to the Holy Land. There is also new freedom and safety. Daily in Bethlehem more tourists are seen in the "Bethlehem square."

Also, pray for the groups coming in March and for Dr Timothy Tow's group in May. We ask

the blessing of the Lord upon them. Can you come and help us? Can you bring others and come to visit? We would be glad to have all of you come to tour the Biblical sites here in the Holy Land.

It's been good to be back and to see the Lord provide for the Johnson's car fund; to see and to feel the rejoicing of all here in the Home Office. I now ask that we all concentrate on the funds needed for my van. The need is still there for the van to bring folks — young and old, blind and handicapped to the church services and to see them grow in the Lord. I have to make extra trips because my present car (20 years old) cannot take many people. I do it for the Sunday School children and also for the church service. It would save both time and energy as well as gas. May the Lord guide, help, and bless you as you participate in this need. As is often said in Bethlehem, "I thank you in advance."

A Word to Ex-pilgrims. If you were blessed at Baraka by Joan Davenport's services, why not apportion some of the Lord's blessing upon you to get her going? Like Thawm Luai in Myanmar a van in Israel costs about the same, one-third of the price in Singapore. A van which can carry 3 'imes more than a car is "accelerated missions! And this ministry is to the salvation of poor Palestinian Christians, now hard hit by the closed-borders because of the recent suicidal bombings.

A Word on the ACM and Elections, April 21

Please take note that this important and mandatory meeting will be held on the Lord's Day April 21 after the **Combined Worship at 9.00 am sharp.** This is a wise decision to get a quorum and to have more time on hand.

As to nominess to the Session, the Lord who looks down from Above into every heart makes the final decision. Whether elected to office or not, it is to His glory. Let those elected know their heavy responsibility. Let us all serve Him with clean hands and pure hearts. Let us administer the Lord's business with meticulous care. Let us be awakened to the any-moment coming of the Saviour that we be not caught napping. Let us be at the forefront in "accelerated missions" as required the more of our Lord as we see the Day approaching. Let us come to the growing Prayer Meeting (over 120 last week), that the whole FEBC Hall be filled. Read I Tim 3:1-13! — T.T.

THE MONARCHY IN PERIL

ECUMENISM AND THE THRONE



Photo: Hulton Deutsch Collection Ltd.

Coronation Service, June 2nd 1953

'I, Elizabeth do solemnly and sincerely in the presence of God profess, testify, and declare that I am a faithful Protestant'

(H.M. The Queen's first address to Parliament, November 4th 1952)

November 30th 1995 marked the day Her Majesty the Queen attended a Service of Commemoration at Westminster Cathedral to mark the Centenary of the building of this spiritual centre of Roman Catholicism in Britain. In doing so Her Majesty belied the declaration above as well as her Coronation Oath. Her attendance was intended to underline ecumenical reconciliation and unity. In fact it symbolizes the continuing retreat of the Protestant identity of our nation and anticipates the removal of the *Act of Settlement* and the resulting constitutional redundancy of the monarchy. It is only the latest in a series of events in the ecumenical process that, step by step, is pulling up the historic roots of the Protestant Throne.

from the UPC, January 1996, P.O. Box 67, Rickmansworth, Herts., WD3 5SJ, England.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 8 - 14, '96)

MON	7.30 pm	Ezekiel (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Pilgrims Night)
	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
WED	7.30 pm	No lecture (2 Cor exam on 17/4/96)
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry (Dr Goh Seng Fong)
SAT	2.30 pm	Jurong-Calvary BPC Wedding
	2.30 pm	LTFYF; 3.00 pm YAF
	6.30 pm	Men's F'ship Anniv, FEBC Hall
	7.45 pm	Women's F'ship AGM
SUN	8.00 am	Involvement in the World (Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper)
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.00 am	Rev Tow at Kelapa Sawit
	10.30 am	Rev Bob Phee
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship
	1.30 pm	AF; 3.00 pm Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service; 4.45 Burmese Ser

NBC This Week: Wed Bt Timah, Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.

Verse for the Week: *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. 1 Cor 15:54*

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$5,4285.00 (8.00 am); \$10,417.00 (10.30 am)
OFFERINGS FOR: Easter Offering \$300; \$695; EBF II \$250, \$671, \$200; Easter B'fast \$200, \$50; Tg Piayu \$88, \$300, \$86(Boxes), \$200, \$20; Seets \$100; David Wong, Kulai \$100; Joan Davenport \$10; Jack Sin \$200; YF \$200; JJ Lim \$200.

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

- (1) *Thank God for my examination results and for His tender mercies towards a poor sinner like me. This small offering is just a token of how much the Lord has blessed me, and may this offering be used for the extension of Christ's kingdom, till He comes.*
- (2) *Thank God for His provision and His longsuffering towards me. He is ever patient with His children yet let me not wait but confess and forsake my sins. And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed' (Rom 13:11). Please direct this tithes as follows — Errol Stone \$300; KJV Study Bible \$100. —His unworthy child*

Annual Congregational Meeting/ Church Elections

Lord's Day, April 21
preceded by Worship 9am.
It is your duty as a member to attend.
We need your vote.
We need a quorum of 523.

Sunday School Offering: \$427.10; Attendance: 369



Tg Piayu BP Church Dedication, Palm Sunday, March 31, '96



Pij

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

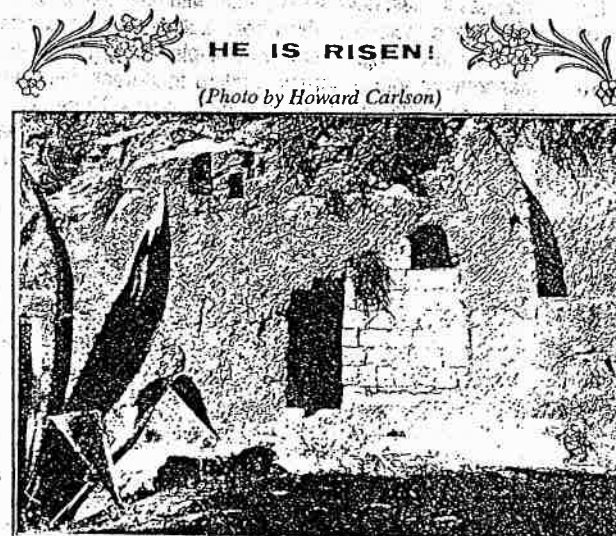
2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 1

7 April 1996

THE RESURRECTION POWER IS GOD'S A-BOMB OVER DEATH AND DESTRUCTION



HE IS RISEN!

(Photo by Howard Carlson)

put on immortality" (v51-53).

What glorious hope to brace us up, who live in this crushing final stage of history. We look not to air raid shelters, even atom bomb-proof shelters but to that great global airlift by the Resurrection and Ascension Power, to catch us up. We will not be covered by Satan's N-bombs and missiles. "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality (God's spacesuit for every born again Christian), then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory" (v54).

"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" (v55-57).

Now that we are risen with Christ, we will set our affection on things above (God's Kingdom) and not things on the earth (man's kingdom) (Col 3). How wonderful to see our young people who are spiritually minded. How happy to see some consistently giving themselves for the cause of Christ, going to Tg Uban, Batam Island, Kemaman, Kuantan, Kelapa Sawit, Air Bemban and soon to Kalimantan where Djunaidi is, not to mention Medan, Burma and Vietnam. Herein comes I Cor 15:58 to encourage them to continue steadfast, unmoveable always abounding in the work of the Lord. Serving God is all that counts, serving Jesus is sure win. It is not vain but Victory. Victory by His Resurrection Power and Ascension Power. Hallelujah, He is risen! He is ascended on high. He will soon come to take us out of a burning earth. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. Amen. —T.T.

Easter 1996 portends more troubles coming, though the near-war crisis in the Taiwan Strait has subsided. The typhoon signal of a global war now brewing that must end in a world-wide holocaust, nevertheless, is the Middle East. In the grand finale of a 3½ year WWII (Walpoord), "the great river Euphrates will be dried up that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared" . . . and He gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon a battlefield in North Israel near Haifa" (Rev 16:12,16).

The final battle when it comes will be mass destruction, but Christians will be saved before this — at the blowing of the last trumpet, which is the 7th trumpet in Rev 10:7; 11:15. It will be a supernatural global airlift by the Resurrection Power of the Risen Christ. It will be by God's A-Bomb (Ascension Power) when He catches up skywards by what is called the Rapture of saints. In I Cor 15 where Paul discourses on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, he climaxes with this exclamation, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must

Easter Message

by Sylvia Wong

It's a wrong notion to think going to church is reserved for the holy and righteous. A church is not a museum of saints but a hospital for sinners. Romans 3:23, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Jesus came to heal the sick and to save the outcasts. No matter how sinful you might feel about yourself Jesus still loves you. He calls you to come back to church. In church you are fed when hungry for God's word. At church you can send letters of petition to God by prayers. When you arrive in church you are closer to God. In church you repair your souls from sin. When you reach the church you are parking beside the everlasting arms of Jesus. He says, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Praise the Lord, because He Lives!

Some time ago a man ordered a tombstone. After his death the tombstone was placed on top of his grave. A passerby came upon the tombstone and read the inscription on it.

"Remember friend, when passing by,
As you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, soon you'll be.
So be content and follow me."

The passerby wrote on the tombstone,

"To follow you I am not content,
Until I know which way you went."

So friends, which way? Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). Be wise and follow the truth, the teachings you receive at Life B-P Church.

ONE-DAY MISSION TRIP TO TANJUNG PLAYU

by Dn Han Soon Juan

The 48 exuberant one-day missionaries, shepherded by our beloved Pastor, checked into the WTC departure lounge last Lord's Day at 8.00 a.m. We stood out in that each of us carried at least one large pink plastic bag overflowing with goodies such as used clothes and books for our brethren in Batam. The ultra-modern Jet Raider set sail at 9.00 a.m.

The journey took only 30 minutes, but by the time we boarded the waiting air-conditioned coach at Sekupang, it was 9.45 a.m. Our first stop was at sister Roska's church in Batu Aji. The ride there was a nostalgic one for some of us as it was a trip down memory lane, ironically in a foreign land, to the Singapore of the 1950s.

The little wooden church could pack in about 100 worshippers. After a word of welcome from sister Roska, Pastor led us in heartily singing 'Blessed Be the Name'. He proceeded to give an account of the Lord's business in Batam; first with Roska's ministry to the shipyard's workers to the founding of Batu Aji, culminating in the new church at Tanjung Playu. He prayed for the Lord's blessing on the work in Batu Aji, and closed with the joyous singing of 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow'.

Along the route to Tanjung Playu, we could see in progress the fast developing Batam with new and partially-constructed factories, which bore a striking resemblance to those in Jurong. From the well-planned highway, we manoeuvred into a narrow winding mud-track, lined on both sides with exotic little wooden houses. Hung criss-cross precariously over the track were colourful power cables which posed a problem to our coach. Our accompanying Batam brethren ingeniously used hastily-improvised poles to push up the cables to allow us passage.

Greeting us ahead, as we trod the last hundred metres or so, was the simply-decorated spanking-new wooden church in all its quiet splendour and rustic charm, against a tranquil backdrop of lush greenery. The sanctuary could easily sit more than 100 worshippers. It was furnished with wall fans and quality fibreglass chairs. The church was filled to capacity with many spilling over into the porch.

Soon the dedication service began with brother Kiantoro chairing. Though we could not 'faham' the words in Bahasa Indonesia, we joined in the singing of the hymns with gusto. This was because most Singaporeans used to learn Malay as a vernacular language. Then it was praise presentation. The various groups, including the disciplined children, all sang harmoniously without music. When the Singaporeans were invited to present their song item, we were all bewildered and looked around at one another red-facedly, with Pastor's countenance glowing the brightest! Pastor apologised to the congregation, but in less than a minute he managed to form the Singapore Trio, consisting of himself and sisters Ada and Heng Sau. They rendered John 3:16 in Chinese to an appreciative audience. Next was the collection of offering with Elder Khoo Peng Kiat giving the offertory prayer.

Pastor brought the Lord's message with Rev. Haposan interpreting. He prefaced it with a mention of Pancasila, the national ideology of Indonesia. He asserted that Indonesia was being greatly blessed because it put God first. His text was from Matt. 6:24-33. His theme was to 'seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you'. We could choose to serve either 'God and mammon' or 'God or mammon'. Mammon in this context meant money. He gave numerous examples on how many of us attempted to

concentrate on making money and more money, only to lose it all ultimately to paying medical bills through ill-health. On the other hand, some of us tried to make money and more money while at the same time endeavouring to please God. He warned us about the futility of this too. The biblical way to abundant life, he pointed out, was to serve God zealously first, and our loving Heavenly Father, Who knows our every need, would take care of all our needs. He urged the congregation not to worry about our material well-being, rather to serve the Lord faithfully, and 'all these things shall be added unto you'.

Having had our fill of spiritual food, sister Wendy of Transglobe took us to a seafood restaurant standing on stilts overlooking the South China Sea. We were treated to an 8-course lunch, inclusive of rice and fruit dessert. While our stomachs were satisfied with a sumptuous meal of steamed prawns, chilly crabs, deep-fried fish, etc., our bodies were refreshed by a gentle breeze blowing from the sea. It was about 3.15 p.m., and our sister arranged for an hour stopover at Matahari, a popular shopping chain. Thanks to the strong Singapore dollar, the word 'cheap' was on everybody's lips.

The time on the bus was equally fulfilling. There was sightseeing, with the invariable comparison between Batam and Singapore. There was continual fellowship on the King's business and on the goodness of the Lord. There were, of course, Pastor and brother Errol Stone, a classic combination of a willing teacher and an eager student, putting FEBC on wheels all the way. The approach was clearly Socratic, complete with question-and-answer and a free exchange of ideas on 'practical theology'. The writer was very much aware of this involuntarily because he happened to sit next to them and because there was no way he could shut his ears to the discussion. He was certainly not eavesdropping!

Finally, this report would not be complete without singling out for special mention three individuals. There was no lack of photographers to record the whole mission trip, but the official photographer was brother Amos, with his complement of impressive photographic equipment. In addition, the ubiquitous presence of the perfect pair in Dn Francis Sng and Dn-nominee Charlie Chan ensured that everything was in order.

We reached the Sekupang Ferry Terminal at 5.00 p.m. In the boat, Elder Seow Chong Pin reminisced about mission work with Pastor to Tanjung Pinang in days gone by. They had to endure sleeping in the rat-infested hold of their cargo boat, very unlike the air-conditioned comfort of the modern ferry. In no time, it was home sweet home with our hearts full of gladness and praise to Almighty God for a day well spent, blessing others as well as being blessed ourselves.

INFANT BAPTISM

01. Ho Rel, Jethro
s/o Mr & Mrs Michael Ho Soo Hym
02. Goh Shi En, Nathanle
s/o Mr & Mrs Goh Li Nee
03. Goh Shu Hui, Joanna
d/o Mr & Mrs Goh Soon Huat
04. Lee Jun Zhe, Luke
s/o Mr & Mrs Philip Lee Boon Chon
05. Leong Woon Ching, Hannah
d/o Mr & Mrs Leong Yew Hoong
06. Peter Reuben Liem
s/o Mr & Mrs Liem Siang Lin
07. Sim Wenrong, Matthew
s/o Mr & Mrs Michael Sim Khit Hoe
08. Tan Jiadong, Daniel
s/o Mr & Mrs Tan Choon Seng
09. Tan Su En, Hannah
d/o Mr & Mrs Tan Choon Guan, Terence
10. Wong Ho Jann, Joel
s/o Mr & Mrs David Wong Khong Toon
11. Yeo Jun Wei, Ryan
s/o Mr & Mrs James Yeo Hai Hua

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| 01. Goh Shiyuan, Jeremy | Student |
| 02. Ong Ming Liang, Andrew | Student |
| 03. Nathanael Andrew | Student |
| 04. Ong Lin Xin | Student |
| 05. Tan Li Ping | Student |
| 06. Wong, Fiona | Student |

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 07. Lim Guek Hong, Tracy | Secretarial Asst. |
| 08. Tan Yong Kee, Norman | Training Instructor |

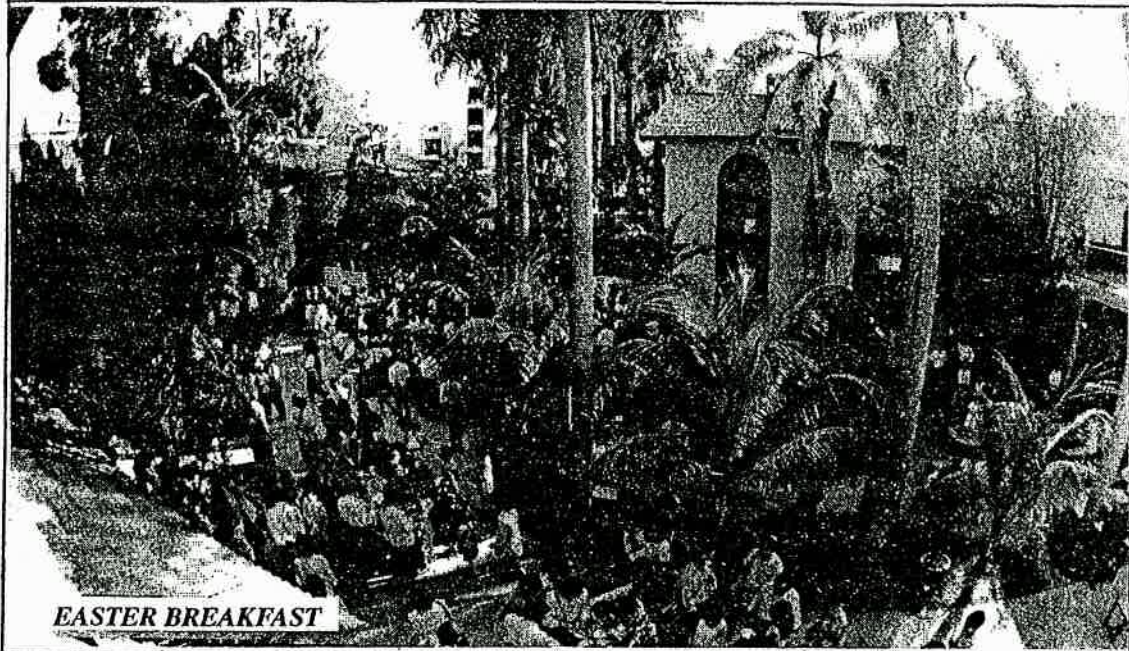
BAPTISM

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 09. Chua Chul Lin, Janey | Self-Employed |
| 10. Chan Tat Wai | Student |
| 11. Chia Siew Noi | Asst Engineer |
| 12. Choi Kyong-Ae, Deborah | Passenger Rel. Offr |
| 13. Cheong Szu Yen | Student |
| 14. Fong Haw Haw, Vincent | Senior Engineer |
| 15. Kan Wai-Chung, Cornelius | Student |
| 16. Koo Keat Haw | |
| 17. Lam Chew Ying | Accountant |
| 18. Lee Weicong | Student |
| 19. Lee Pak Sing | National Serviceman |
| 20. Ng Siew Bee | Bank Clerk |
| 21. Sng Guan Seng, Martin | |
| 22. Tan Jee Yen | Student |
| 23. Tan Beng Hock | Executive Officer |

CHINESE SERVICE

01. Kwok Kion Chew (Baptism)
02. Chew Peck Choo (Baptism)
03. Hia Hui Ngim (Baptism)
04. Tan Kia Hee (Transfer)
05. Kuek Heng Hua (Transfer)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 15-21, '96)			GOOD FRIDAY GENERAL OFFERINGS: \$11,523.00		
MON	7.30 pm	No evening lecture	OFFERINGS FOR: Easter \$2936; Reformed S Bible \$200, \$100; Philippines \$100; Thailand \$100; Yangon Orph \$200; JJ Lim \$250; Jack Sin \$100; Seets \$100; Davenport Van \$200.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	EASTER GENERAL OFFERINGS: \$45,634.00		
WED	7.30 pm	Second Corinthians Exam	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$200, \$321(Boxes), \$236; \$1600, \$2700; Reformed S Bible \$60, \$250, \$100, \$100; Yangon Orph \$700, \$200; Davenport Van \$60, \$88, \$200, \$600; Batam \$300; A Kam Ministry \$50; Easter B'fast \$20, \$10; Tj Playu \$200; FEK \$1000; YPS \$500; JJ Lim \$250; Seets \$250; Medan Orph \$200; George Kutty \$200; Life Ch Choir \$200; Dedication of Life BPK, Kuantan \$200(Maranatha BPC).		
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	Donor of gift designated to "new outreach in West Kalimantan," please see Elder Charlie Chia.		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	The children's ministry will function at 9 am next week.		
FRI		FEBC Exams begin	Verse for the Week: <i>The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.</i> Psalm 121:7		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3 pm YAF; 3.30 pm EBF	<div> Annual Congregational Meeting/Church Elections. Next Lord's Day, April 21 preceded by Worship 9 am. It is your duty as a member to attend. We need your vote. We need a quorum of 523. </div>		
	4.00 pm	Rev Tow at Dedication of Hebron/Hermion BPC			
SUN	9.00 am	COMBINED SERVICE followed by ACM/Church Elections			
	9.00 am	No Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC	NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana Golf and Country Resort. Please register with full payment at the Camp Registration Office (EDP Office) on Sundays from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm. Registration closes on May 6.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			



EASTER BREAKFAST



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Vol. V No. 2

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

14 April 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
Opening Hymn	No. 86	No. 540
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Prov 2	Psalm 100,101
Hymn	No. 406	No. 107
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 418	No. 203
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 1:1-21	Acts 6:1-8
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Involvement in the World (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Chosen to Serve (Rev Bob Phee)
Closing Hymn	No. 139	No. 450
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

My dear Lifers

UNBOUNDED EASTER BLESSINGS

Never before in the commemoration of our Saviour's Death had we so many at Good Friday Service as this year's. The supply of Communion bread and cup ran short by the dozens. Many old faces we had not seen for some time reappeared. What joy to see the sheep and lambs come back to the fold. So was Easter Sunrise Service packed to the brim with many overflowing into the garden of palm trees. The traditional Breakfast bathed in the morning sunlight brought the big family closer together for a full hour.

How good it would be if the Church service every Lord's Day would be so filled! Let the Apostle to the Hebrews exhort us once again, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Heb 10:25). Let every Lifer covenant with the Lord anew never to miss a Church Service. Never miss the blessing our Risen Saviour bestows every Lord's Day. "Peace be unto you" (Jn 20:21). "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27). Conversely, when we stay away from Church, we find our lives restless and listless, the following week. What should be a bright Monday turns blue.

Our Observation Was Accurate

When we returned from Canada July '95 and brought back from Toronto videos taken of the "Toronto Blessing" of Rodney Howard-Browne's latest charismatic fad of laughing hysteria, etc, and in six months Singapore was invaded by Rodney Howard-Browne himself, we assured you all this crazy laughter would one day fade away. For, it was not from the Holy Spirit but some other spirit.

Here's the latest report from the pen of my brother Dr S H Tow now in Toronto:

In January 1996 the "Toronto Blessing" group founded by Rodney Howard Browne was formally expelled from the Association of Vineyard Churches because of its "exotic and extrabiblical practices." The parent body also accused the Toronto group of failure to deal with abuses and excesses, the use of methods to "hype up" a crowd, and the assigning of "catchers" to those likely to be "slain."

Here is confusion amidst confusion. The Vineyard Movement of John Wimber (champion of "power evangelism") specialises in "signs and wonders" and "healings and miracles." God's Word gives warning: "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived" (2 Tim 3:13). The arch deceiver and father of lies, a master seducer, has the Charismatic Movement

well ensnared within the broader ecumenical network, now speeding onwards the formation of One World.

I Cor 13 is the Litmus Test of our Actions

Whether it be prophecy, whether it be knowledge, whether it be tongues, whether it be sacrificial giving, if it be not motivated by love (for Christ) it will fail. Love is greater than knowledge. Love is greater than prophecy. Love surpasses all tongue-speaking. Love is far superior to sacrificial giving, but with another motive.

The story is told of a poor widow named Euphrasia. She had nothing to contribute to the building of a great cathedral by Emperor Justinian. All she could give was the feeding of donkeys carrying heavy burdens to the building site.

On the day of inauguration of the new church building, the Emperor exulted to unveil the plaque on which he had his name engraved: "I Emperor Justian have built this great cathedral to the glory of God." Lo, and behold, angelic hands had in the night erased the emperor's name. But the name of the poor widow Euphrasia was substituted, whose humble feedings for the donkeys was praised.

Let every Christian who loves the Lord, who works behind the scenes, who does not steal the show like modern day televangelists, know that your work for God is not in vain. Every act of kindness in Jesus' Name is weightier than all the empty claims of self-deluded Church leaders.

Next Lord's Day Combined Service 9 am sharp

This is to alert you again, next Lord's Day our Combined Service will start at 9.00 am sharp. This is to gain time for our Annual Congregational Meeting and General Elections (all required by law). It is your duty to attend so as to meet the quorum of 523.

We want to thank our Treasurer Elder Charlie Chia for giving us the financial reports so neatly. It is because of the confidence you have in the Session and in the Treasurer's integrity and efficiency that you have brought your gifts unreservedly. We are thankful also to our public accountant Yeo Seng Lam who has obliged us with early completion of his professional work.

In the General Elections we have respected those who have good reason not to stand for

office. We praise the Lord for those who desire to serve. With every member seeking to do His will Life Church will advance in our Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century. "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4).

In conclusion, may I remind you once again, next Lord's Day, 9.00 am! -T.T.

MISSION TRIP TO KUANTAN

by Dn Han Soon Juan

In the spirit of accelerated missions into the 21st century, our beloved Pastor headed an 84-strong delegation of Lifers to Kuantan to dedicate our latest mission in West Malaysia on Saturday, 6 April 96. This was barely one week after he led a similar mission trip to Batam, Indonesia.

As the Lord's business requires haste (Pastor's favourite expression), we assembled in church at the crack of dawn by 4.30 a.m. Some even camped overnight in church. Soon we were on our way.

We breezed through not only the causeway but also the customs' checkpoint at the Johor end. There was not a single officer manning the checking counters. After a short walk, we were all aboard the two coaches for the long haul to Kuantan.

The most pleasant leg of the journey was along the North-South Highway. We woke up in Yong Peng for breakfast. Half an hour later, we were on the move again. This time we took the familiar old trunk road which was to take us north-east to our destination.

For half the time, we were enveloped by the morning mist. This dewy display of God's creation brought peace to the writer's heart, 'the peace of God, which passeth all understanding'. This was a source of comfort to him as he was nursing a mild attack of food poisoning.

On approaching the newly-renovated Gospel mission, everyone lunged forward for a better glimpse of the building, whose elegance and size really wowed the visitors. It was beyond their expectations of a supposedly humble country dwelling. No wonder Dn Victor Loo, our resident architect, commented at Session last year that the 7000-sq.ft. property, going for a song, could easily fetch a fortune if purchased in Singapore. Yet it had been left dilapidated with no takers. The Lord had caused it so for His purpose.

Rev. John Ling and Rev. Stephen Khoo, who had gone there with his wife the day before, were on hand to welcome the Singapore party.

Rev. & Mrs Khoo spent the night at the two-room 'Singapore Hotel' in Kemaman! The excited visitors were everywhere 'reeling' the place. There are altogether five large bedrooms, one on the ground floor and four upstairs. These are tastefully furnished with quality bunk beds, a cupboard and a chest of drawers each. The two large halls are separated by a wall, which has a huge timber door that can open to convert them into one big hall. Overhead are newly-installed ceiling fans.

At noon, the dedication service began with Rev. John Ling praising the Lord for the property. He proceeded to give a comprehensive report on the disbursement of the nearly RM300,000.00 for the cost of the property, the renovation and the extension. For the first time, we knew that there was a shortfall of a few thousand ringgits, which he lovingly defrayed with his personal savings.

Pastor thanked the Lord for the mission, and prayed that it would be administered 'with clean hands and a pure heart'. The Lord was praised for sending his servants, Elder & Mrs Leong Yin Chu to be the 'door keepers' of His house for the next few months, and for them to serve Him with zeal and gladness in their hearts. For the kindergarten, he prayed for teachers to begin the project. He closed his pastoral prayer by committing to the Lord Rev. & Mrs John Ling for overseeing this work and for sustaining the outreach in Kemaman.

The scripture text for Pastor's sermon was Rev. 3:7,8. His theme was 'Kuantan was godsend'. He declared that we neither expected nor did we use any strength to acquire Kuantan. No sooner did we turn down an offer in an isolated area, Rev. Ling saw an advertisement for the present site. One thing led to another, and in no time, the place was acquired with a discount of RM10,000.00.

Pastor chronicled the history of Bible-Presbyterianism in Malaysia for the past 46 years. From the beginning of the founding of the BPC in Singapore, we have branched out into Malaysia, our first offshoot being Kelapa Sawit (1954). Today, the BPs have a total of 15 churches and stations as follows: [1] Under Zion are three stations on the East Coast - Rompin, Endau and Kampong Hubong. These were originally founded by Miss Adeline Ohar in co-operation with the Singapore Christian Evangelistic League (John Sung). [2] Under the Tamil Ministry - Ulu Tiram and Kelapa Sawit (borrowing the Chinese Church premises). [3] Muar (Rev. Koa). [4] Calvary Jaya at Petaling Jaya. [5] Life - Kelapa Sawit, Kulai Besar, Bukit Batu, Rawang, Bukit Gambia, Taman Seri Melati

and Selayang Segar (K.L. Ipoh Road). The most recent one is Kuantan!

He then traced the events that led to the founding of Kuantan. Rev. Ling was called to begin a work at Kemaman, and he requested our support. Kemaman was a springboard to Kuantan, which the Lord has set before us 'an open door, and no man can shut', even though we might have only 'a little strength'. The mission would be a kindergarten on weekdays, a sanctuary for worship on the Lord's Day and a camping resort for Lifers during the school holidays. It was truly a gift from Heaven for the evangelisation of Kuantan and beyond, and the edification of souls, including Lifers.

Elder & Mrs Leong Yin Chu were introduced to the congregation. Elder Leong is a contemporary of Elder Chia Kim Chwee, both being retired inspectors of schools in Singapore. In this connection, Pastor challenged some young persons to serve as kindergarten teachers or missionaries in the new work, which must be an open door for the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This was important, for if we failed to shoulder this burden responsibly, the House of God might degenerate into the Synagogue of Satan. He also appealed to retirees and those about to retire to serve the Lord. Pastor was prayerfully optimistic that the Lord would provide another open door through Kuantan.

By now, we were very much aware of the scintillating aroma of the mouth-watering food being laid on the patio. After the service, we made a beeline for it without persuasion! We were famished, and we tucked in the food with relish. The lunch was the compliments of the Kemaman English Service. Of course, we had wonderful fellowship one with another on the Lord's manifold blessings upon us.

After a brief stopover at the magnificent Chempedak Beach, we became lost in the middle of nowhere. It took us quite a while to find our bearing and hit the old bumpy coastal road to Mersing for dinner. According to Pastor, the ride was not so bad compared to the laterite road which he used to travel as a young missionary on his Gospel Trail to remote villages of communist-infested Malaya.

It was homeward bound after dinner in Mersing. Resting in the comfortable reclining cushioned seat in the coach, one could not help but feel the presence and protection of Almighty God under the canopy of a moonlit-starry sky. The last leg of the journey was uneventful, and by 11.00 p.m. the Lord had brought us safely home to the royal palms in Gilstead Road. Praise the Lord.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 22 - 28, '94)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 am	Ezekiel Exam	\$5,803 (8.00 am); \$13,346 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$332(Boxes), \$500; Reformed S Bible \$80; Davenport Van \$200, \$2000, \$568; Missions \$100; JJ Lim \$130, \$300, \$200; Jack Sin \$100, \$330; Maranatha Church Van \$150; Life BP new outreach to Linga, W.Kalimantan \$10000, \$88; Baraka \$150; Missions \$250; Yiew PS \$50; YF \$50; Myanmar \$300; Thailand \$300; Agape Clinic \$10; Kuantan \$200; JS Heng-Kenya Msn Trip \$50; Batam \$690(WF); Yangon Orph \$200; Medan, Dohar \$50; Extn of the Gospel \$300.	
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Cal-Pandan)		
THU	7.30 pm	Adult Ministry Exam		
	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Rev S Khoo)		
FRI	5.30 pm	FEBC End of Semester Thanksgiving Service & Dinner		
SAT	1.30 am	Pilgrims depart via RJ 187		
	3.00 pm	Combined Fellowships Day of Prayer, FEBC Hall		
SUN	8.00 am	In Time of Stress (Rev Quek Suan Yew)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School		
	10.30 am	Elder Lim Teck Chye		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45pm Burmese Ser.		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.				
Verse for the Week: <i>And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24</i>			FROM THE OFFERING BAGS: (1) <i>I thank the Lord for seeing me through the first course of chemotherapy with very little side effects. Please apportion \$500 to Tg Piayu Kindergarten and \$500 to Andrew Kam's Orphanage.</i> (2) <i>Thanks be to God for having led me through the whole year, for teaching me new truths from His Word constantly, for the joy and peace that only he can give. (\$150 for missions). — a YFer</i>	
Sunday School Offering: \$822.25; Attendance: 400			Registration for the 21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 has closed. OBITUARY: Rev Calvin Chao, 91, founder of Singapore Bible College (1951) passed on to glory, Mar 27, 1996.	



Palestinian Bible-Presbyterians of Baraka Church, Bethlehem worshipping on land we bought them at Shepherd's Field, Christmas Eve, 1995



Lif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 3

21 April 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	9.00 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 333
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 15
Hymn	No. 14
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	No. 440
Offertory Prayer	
Scripture Text	1 Cor 12:12-27
Pastoral Prayer	
Sermon	Unity in Diversity
Closing Hymn	No. 450
Benediction	

My dear Lifers,

TOTAL MOBILISATION FOR THE CRUCIAL DAYS AHEAD

This is part of my message to the Men's Fellowship on the occasion of their 6th Anniversary, April 13, 96. According to I Cor 12 we are the body of Christ, and members of one another. Being motivated by the same Spirit we function in unison. In time of emergency we all the more must work together as one.

We are living in perilous times of the last days. The Day of Jesus' Return can take place any time. "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come" (Matt 24:42). We must hurry in His service, "hasting unto the coming of the Day of God" (II Pet 3:12) — "Total Mobilisation for the Crucial Days Ahead." Every Lifer has some gift to contribute to Christ's Kingdom as taught in I Cor 12. Are you a hand, a foot, a mouth, an eye, an ear, or just a little finger? Come, serve

the Lord with your talent.

We have many positions in the Lord's Vineyard. Apart from the pulpit, we have vacancies for Christian teachers, clerks, managers, missionaries, medical personnel, church wardens, etc. For Kuantan, we have need immediately of kindergarten teachers. Who will go? For FEK we need a principal. There are vacancies to be filled in Batam and Tg Uban, and the latest, West Kalimantan!

It is significant that the theme of Calvary-Life Camp June 3-7, 96 at Genting is called "Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century." Pray that the Spirit will empower the speakers to bring home the message, that both young and old will respond to God's call, that souls will be saved and dedicated to the Lord. Pray for Dr Howard Carlson the main speaker especially.

A Glimpse of Beulah House

This American missionary with five children from Djakarta came to stay here the third time in order to renew their visas. It took them several days. After they were gone, three Indonesians from Medan at Haposan's recommendation came to get medical treatment. No sooner were they gone than a mother and son from Tanjung Pinang filled their vacated rooms. These two are for longer stay as they wait on the treatment of their son and brother for leukaemia. Hermento the sick boy, 18, now also staying at Beulah House really needs help!

Suddenly, the following night, there arrived from Thailand ten university students on a short vacation. Among them was the mother of Siriwan, an FEBC student. These were accommodated in four rooms. Siriwan's mother had an appointment with Dr Cheng of Calvary Jurong.

What an opportunity to preach Christ to the group, including Mother Siriwan. We also invited them to attend the Thai Service. We presented each one a Thai New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs. We were quite amazed that our Thai visitors have not heard who Jesus is. They left after four days' stay at Beulah House, with a gift for maintenance.

This is the tempo of our Hospitality ministry. Pray for souls that find shelter at Beulah House. "Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young. . ." (Psalm 84:3). Amen.

Is Life Church a Caring Church When We Stress "Accelerated Missions"?

In spite of a slender pastoral staff, Life Church is a caring church through the 13-14 Fellowships that minister to their members, men and women, old and young. The Children's Choir alone has 60 under her wings. There are groups not limited by age, or sex, eg. the E-Band and the Missionary Fellowship. A new ministry arising lately is the mission trips to Myanmar, Batam and Kuantan. Dr Jeffrey Khoo oversees the Myanmar Service and Elder & Mrs Charlie Chia the Kebaktian. Dr Khoo also visits Batu Aji, Batam and Kemaman every month. Tai Ji Choong and Eduardo Morante oversee the Filipino Fellowship while the latter also teaches a Bible class to husbands of the Thai women who worship at Beulah Round House every Lord's Day 3 pm.

Like the captains over hundreds, and captains over fifties and captains over tens, our fellowship presidents and other leaders handle all matters of their groups (Deut 1:15).

A most important parallel to the Fellowships is our Sunday School with its many departments and classes, including the Children's Ministry. Then there is the Church Choir, and of late Judith and Deborah who minister most effectively by string and voice. "Every work for Jesus will be blessed."

Nor do we forget the Chinese Congregation. Elder Sng and Deacon Roland Wong and Elder Seow help out there, with Mrs Lee Choon Ngee

a most devout coördinator, without whom the Chinese Service will not function so smoothly. The English Pastor is honorary pastor to the Chinese side too.

Both the Assistant Pastor and Pastor are at your service any time, day or night. We have so programmed ourselves. Please do not hesitate to call when our services are needed. Ring 2502138/2545326.

By stressing "Accelerated Missions" the caring of our sheep and lambs on the home front is not neglected.

General Elections Today

This is patterned not after the world but after the Word. We elect not for our own interests or party interests, but in the fear of God, doing our duty as members of the Church.

The Example is set for us in Acts 6. The Apostles who were now overburdened with responsibilities as the young Church grew, needed seven to help out. This "saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose . . ." As Life Church has also expanded, we have nominated several more for eldership and half a dozen or so for the Diaconate. Now it is the congregation's duty to vote for each nominee prayerfully to the best of your knowledge and ability. Are those you choose good, wise and honest men who can help advance God's Kingdom?

To facilitate speedy voting of nominees, ballot papers are stapled in alphabetical order. You will notice that the ballot paper for L S Pang to the office of Deacon is stapled last. This is due to Bro Pang having gone overseas, so that he missed submitting consent to stand for election before closing date. Now that he has caught up in time to be included with unanimous Session ratification, his ballot paper must necessarily be reinstated at the end. Nevertheless, Jesus says, "The last shall be the first." Amen.

7th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

This Israeli medal, depicting the Shepherd-singer leading his sheep, instils confidence to another contingent of 50 Lifers and FEBCers including four BPs from Australia, on our 7th



wherever we go. "Remember the poor" (Gal 2:10). Blessing is a 2-way street.

With much prayer and study we decided this year to go to Israel via Geneva and Rome. For here is plenty of Church history. Geneva is the City of John Calvin. Pilgrims are presented my chocolate book on the *Life and Works of John Calvin*, especially FEBC students for part of their 2 credits. Our night train to Rome not only saves time and hotel but gives us an extra day of seeing the historic sights (sites).

Our total package of 17 days costs S\$3285. (Mrs Irene Tan is our Treasurer.) This low price is possible because we make the Baraka Conference Centre of the Independent Board for Foreign Missions our field hqrs and Transglobe our agent.

Pilgrims, remember to meet together at Terminal One, April 26, 11.00 pm. We return to S'pore May 13, 1.25 pm. Shalom.

Accelerated Mission to Linga, West Kalimantan

Rev Djunaïdi our roving missionary has bought land at Linga, a village on the Pontianak-Kuching International Highway. It is half hour's drive out of Pontianak on hilly ground. He has offered it to us, and will help us develop a B-P witness. This "accelerated mission" into Borneo was reported to the Prayer Meeting where Djunaïdi spoke. A praying partner was so moved that he put a \$10,000 note in an Easter Offering envelope into the Sunrise Service. Praise the Lord! The Father Almighty is well-pleased with this Gospel advance. Hosanna in the Highest! Rev Djunaïdi who returns to Pontianak tomorrow after serving a month at Rawang will begin

Hope Is Gift As Life Itself

—Sylvia Wong—

*Hope is a feeling that life and work have a meaning
You either have it or you don't, regardless of the
state of the world that surrounds you.
Life without hope is empty and useless
I cannot imagine I could strive something if
I did not carry hope in me
I am thankful to God for this gift
It is as big a gift as life itself
'Because Christ lives today.'
There is light at the end of the tunnel
There is rest at the end of the journey
When I see my Saviour face to face.*

operations immediately. Sis Ada & Co. will visit Djunaïdi in May, so she will be our courier.

Life Book Centre to become FEBC Bookroom

By mutual agreement Life Book Centre, Newton, privatised since 1976, is to be bought back May 15, 96 by Far Eastern Bible College. Henceforth FEBC Bookroom will concentrate on Reformation books and KJV Bibles, etc. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo, who is College Librarian, will oversee the purchase of books in conjunction with Tabernacle, a book ministry of Calvary Pandan BPC. As FEBC Bookroom it will first of all serve our growing student body, then Life Church members, etc. Let this FEBC Bookroom be another "accelerated mission" into the 21st Century. (We've just received an order for our books from Kuching!)

Situation Vacant: Sales person for FEBC Bookroom. Please see Pastor Tow.

Dedication of

Choa Chu Kang Bible Centre. . .

. . . the new home of Hebrón/Hermon BP Churches, 10 Choa Chu Kang Street 52, S'pore 689284 was conducted by Life Church Pastor, Sat Apr 20, 96. His message was "Signs in the Church of Christ's Second Coming." The new Church Complex is built at a cost of S\$8 million, including \$3.5 million for land. —T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 29 - May 5, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	10.00 am	Wedding Rehearsal	\$16,027.00 (9.00 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$20; Reformed S Bible \$50;	
WED	3.00 pm	Wedding of Quek Keng Khwang & Loi Huey Ching, Rev Stephen Khoo	Davenport Van \$100, \$600, \$170, \$132, \$300(Pepsi),	
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF	\$200(Prayer Mtg), \$200(Prayer Mtg); China-Chinese Bibles	
SUN	3.30 pm	LBC/EBF	\$105; Missions \$150, \$300; Baraka BPC \$100; Baraka Conf	
	8.00 am	Personal Witness (Rev Stephen Khoo)	\$100; Children's Ministry \$295; Church Choir \$250; Medan Orph \$250; Hememnto of Tj Pinang \$2000(Chinese Ser).	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
	10.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper	(1) Praise & Thanksgiving '95. God's preserving grace and safekeeping for my mum. My operation scheduled for 9 Nov was postponed to 16 Nov because prior to that date, my mum had a fall. Thank God she was well in spite of her fall. It was really amazing! Though she suffered backache, there was not a single broken bone. Thank God for His wonderful grace.	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	God's 'birthday' gift. People asked me how I could get a flat so fast considering the fact that upgraders usually require some waiting period. I would tell them it's God's gift. Some friends commented on how 'lucky' I was, but I would reiterate the words 'God's gift.' It was the old balloting system that I got my flat, not the present queuing one. It was also much cheaper than the newer ones. Praise the Lord! So now when people asked about my flat, I'll add one more word — 'birthday' because it was in the month of my birthday that I've got the house keys.	
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	God's faithfulness and mercies in seeing me through a successful operation. I'm very pleased with my speedy recovery. Psalm 71:5 — a Lifer	
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.				
Verse for the Week: For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. Psalm 84:11				
21st Century Reformation Missions Conference cum Bible Camp 1996 (June 3-7) at Awana golf and Country Resort. Registration has closed.				



Another view of the land at Shepherd's Field which we bought for our Palestinian brethren of Baraka B-P Church — Christmas Eve Service, 1995. Notice the wall of possession.



Pij

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

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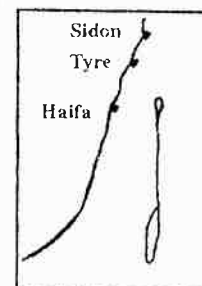
28 April 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Dn Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 348	No. 18
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 111	Psalm 98
Hymn	No. 321	No. 104
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 293	No. 227
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 2:1-23	Titus 2:1-15
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	In Time of Stress (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	Looking for that Blessed Hope (Elder Lim Teck Chye)
Closing Hymn	No. 283	No. 221
Benediction		

WHAT PROPHETIC SIGNIFICANCE IS THERE IN THE BALLISTIC EXCHANGES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE HIZBOLLAHS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON?

Our Answer: It foreshadows more terrible and horrible things to come! There may be temporary truce, even a peace treaty signed between Israel and the Arab countries under the World-Dictator. According to Daniel 9:27, peace there will be, but for 3½ years. Then war suddenly erupts — for the next 3½ years. This period will cover the blowing of the seven trumpets in Revelation. Christians going through a Great Tribulation will be saved by the Rapture described by Paul in I Cor 15:51f. at the blowing of the last trumpet which is the seventh trumpet. After this will come total destruction by the pouring of the seven vials (bows) of wrath.



The climax of the wrath of God will be the gathering of the nations against Israel. The route taken will be by the Lebanese seacoast (Tyre and Zidon) which leads to Armageddon, a battlefield between Haifa and Galilee. This battlefield is just the beginning of total carnage which grinds to a gory finale in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, the Valley between the Mt of Olives and Jerusalem. "The Lord also shall roar out of Zion and

utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel."

Zechariah prophesies that His two feet shall stand on the Mt of Olives as He descends from heaven to fight for His own. According to Ezekiel 39, five-sixth of God's enemies will be annihilated while two-thirds of Israel will be killed. Being a global war, neither can we in Singapore escape. For an earthquake will split Jerusalem into three parts, and from there will be repercussions that bring down city after city in a global holocaust. This is the climax of the Third World War (Walvoord).

Out of this rubble will arise Jerusalem, God's holy mountain, capital of the world in the golden millennium under Christ (Read Joel 3).

As we face this prophetic future Christians have a different perspective from the world. We must now arise! Let us usher in the coming of the Lord by an accelerated missions programme, for He says, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt 24:14). Ours is the only message of hope, of salvation, of a life that will triumph over sin and death, that will live forever more with God. Amen.

A GOOD ELECTION

By the authority of God's Word our Election for a new three-year term of pastors, elders and deacons last Lord's Day was carried out orderly and efficiently. We want to thank Elders Paul Tsao and Prasad of New Life, Commissioners who supervised the proceedings.

There were 555 ballot papers distributed, exceeding the quorum of 523 by 32. The results are as follows:

Pastor

Rev Timothy Tow 541

Assistant Pastor

Rev Stephen Khoo Hong Guan 530

Rev Colin Wong Tuck Chuen 367

(on study leave)

Elders

Elder Charlie Chia 524

Elder Khoo Peng Kiat 543

Elder Koh Kim Song 476

Elder Eric Mahadevan 500

Elder Seow Chong Pin 490

Elder Sng Teck Leong 523

Elder George Tan Chin Peng 483

Dn Han Soon Juan 509

Dn Geoffrey Tan Hock Jin 416

Dn Tan Nee Keng 485

Deacons

Alan Chia Boon Siong 471

Charlie Chan Weng Keong 435

John Hoe Koo Cheng 368

Lim Ching Wah 431

Lim Jyh Jang 484

Victor Loo Lam Hua 499

Ong Eng Lam 517

Pang Leong Siang 391

Seow Cheong Kiong 408

David Tan Boon Keong 413

Henry Tan Kiat Siong 510

George Tan Kok Eng 455

Wee Chin Kam 471

Wee Hian Kok 423

Roland Wong Kway Hing 459

Yiew Pong Sen 435

Accelerated Missions — Through Nationals

We are happy to receive Joseph Kendagor's letter and photos of the Church he has finally built with funds from Life Church. We have contributed US\$10,000. Praise the Lord that your giving is not in vain.



In this connection, we are deeply grateful that the funds we sent to Rev Thawm Luai and to Andrew Kam have borne good fruit. You have seen with your own eyes (48-contingent to Myanmar) the magnificent buildings of the Bible College and a video of the Tui Khal Village Church.

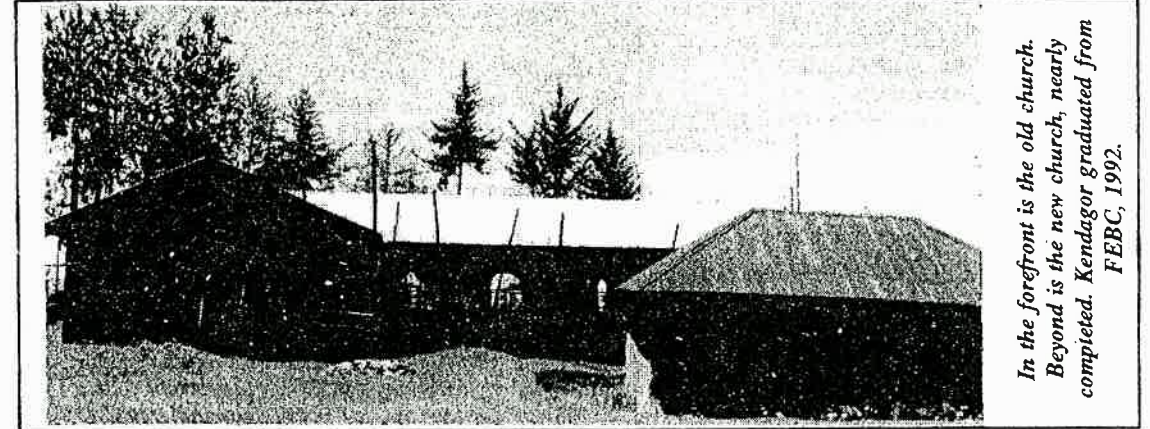
Now, apart from Tanjung Piayu and Kuantan which were recently inaugurated, one after the other, Roska continues to develop the open land at Piayu by building a kindergarten and living quarters.

In quick succession, Rev Djunaidi who is now returned to Pontianak, West Kalimantan, is starting to clear the land he had bought to build a first B-P Church in Indonesia, Borneo. The place is Linga, 30 mins. drive from Pontianak on the Pontianak-Kuching International Highway. With that spontaneous \$10,000 Easter gift, we shall be able to accomplish a good deal, and by continuing support a new Gospel Station will arise with the Cross soaring high over the Highway. This is Accelerated Missions!

Joseph Kendagor writes to Pastor Tow

Our greetings to you and entire Church of Life Church in Holy Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am sorry that I have taken so long without writing to you and let you know what is going on. Surely the Lord is blessing us in the Ministry. My wife and I are serving the Lord in two areas in the School as Chaplain and the Church.

Another thing I should like to write to you is about the Church project. Although there was misunderstanding between myself and Philip



Heng about the plan of the Church we have completed the project. On behalf of the Church we thank you and Life BP Church for the money. The request of the AIC Kamoi is that please send to us one person to come and see the project, even Philip Heng. Sometimes I do get a letter that discourages us as if we misused the money. I am requesting as your faithful student that give us one person to come and see with his eyes. Now we are using it although we have not opened it officially. Have enclosed the pictures of the project and the expenditure. I will be very grateful if I get a member of Life Church to come and open officially the new church with prayers.

May I hear from you sir. Convey our warm greetings to the entire Church.

Thank you.

Bethlehem, Here We Come!

So, we take leave of you and our Singapore the wee hours of Saturday Apr 27. We land on Amman Airport before dawn. After a few hours break at the Gateway Hotel, we press on to Geneva. After two days in the City of Calvin we entrain for Rome. Another two days we're back to Amman before heading for Baraka Conference Centre, 10 miles south of Bethlehem our field hrs.

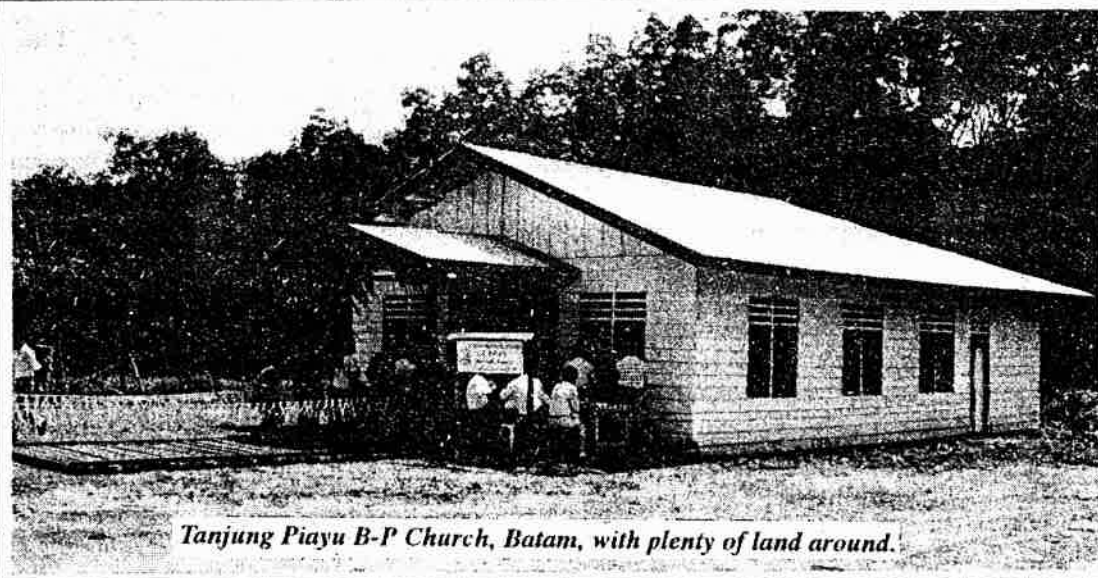
The Dictionary defines a Pilgrim to be a person who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons. We are Pilgrims to the Holy Land not merely to walk where our Saviour walked, and to visit Bethlehem where our Lord was born, but also to worship with our Palestinian brethren and sisters of Baraka B-P Church in the same City — to encourage them in the most holy faith. Isn't it wonderful that in the

City of our Saviour's birth we can find Christian Arabs who believe exactly as we, Presbyterians and Calvinists — a budding fundamentalist congregation, with many young people adhering to their father's faith.

How did this come about? Under the Independent Board for Foreign Missions came Dr Lambie soon after WWII. He founded a TB Hospital and a Bible Presbyterian Church at Bethlehem. Succeeding missionaries such as Dr & Mrs Howard Carlson nurtured the young vine he had planted as English Presbyterian missionaries headed by William Burns transmitted the Reformed Faith to our ancestors in South China.

Today, it is our turn as a Missionary Church to spread the Gospel worldwide. Having been led of the Lord to the Holy Land since 1969 (when the Carlsons were there) we have come to befriend the Palestinian BPs. As they are an underprivileged people, our sympathies are all the more towards them. Apart from buying the land at Shepherd's Field that they might build a simple Church for the community, we have visited them every year since the Gulf War. It has been our desire to bring them some blessing and not the least this 7th year. This is heartfelt missions. The little we can do is trebly appreciated especially today. We all pray for the peace of Jerusalem and Palestine. We look for the soon return of the Messiah, their Saviour and ours. While He tarries, we must say farewell to Bethlehem for Singapore our homebase from where missions to our present commitments must be sustained, and further advances made. Till He comes. Amen. — T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 6 - 12, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$5,696.00 (8.00 am); \$9,156.00 (10.30 am)		
FRI	7.45 pm	Combined MF/WF, FEBC Hall	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EBF II</i> \$2500, \$600; <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$300, \$100; <i>Batam</i> \$50, \$50; <i>Yangon Orph</i> \$545 (Combined F'ships), \$100, \$100; <i>Agape Clinic</i> \$20, \$10; <i>YAF</i> \$200; <i>Missions</i> \$220, \$150, \$40; <i>Tj Piayu</i> \$100; <i>Nirands</i> \$150; <i>Medan (Dohar)</i> \$50; <i>LBP K'ten, Kuantan</i> \$100 (WF).		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF/LTF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SUN	7.30 pm	Film Show <i>In His Steps</i> , FEBC Hall	(1) <i>Thank God for seeing me through my studies and granting me a job. The Lord has been faithful in providing for my every need even though I have failed Him many times. Enclosed is a portion of my first pay — for missions (\$250).</i>		
	8.00 am	To Obey or Not to Obey (Rev Stephen Khoo)	(2) <i>Thank God for the job which He has provided in His good time, a job which do not demand more than His servant can manage. Thank God for His providence and blessing which I do not deserve at all. A meagre \$500 which include tithes and bonus I receive be channelled as follows — Stone's family \$150; Reformed S Bible \$200, Andrew Kam's Orphanage \$150.</i>		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(3) <i>Thank God for providing my needs again. He is Provider and Source of all good and perfect gifts. Please allocate my tithes to the following areas — KJV Study Bible \$80, EBF II \$70, JJ Lim \$50.</i>		
	10.30 am	Elder Chia Kim Chwee			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45pm Burmese Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.					
Verse for the Week: Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2					
Sunday School Offering: \$596.70; Attendance: 324					
Dr Jeffrey Khoo and family are on vacation leave in USA where Dr Khoo is making research at the Library of Dallas Theological Seminary. They return May 22, '96.					



Tanjung Piayu B-P Church, Batam, with plenty of land around.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063
2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 5

5 May 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Geoffrey Tan	Eld Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 318	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 32	Mt 24:32-51
Hymn	No. 283	No. 470
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 565	No. 242
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 2:24-49	1 Thess 4:13 - 5:8
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Personal Witness (Rev Stephen Khoo)	The Imminence of Christ's 2nd Coming (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 512	No. 384
Benediction		Lord's Supper

"BEGINNING AT JERUSALEM"

The Great Commission, as recorded in Luke, is: "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (24:47). To put it in another way, "Charity begins at home."

So Pentecost fell on the Apostles in great power when they preached to the 16 nations gathered in Jerusalem. In one day, 3,000 turned to the Lord and were baptised. While we stress going into all the world, we must not neglect our Jerusalem, which is Singapore, and more specifically, Life Church's district — Newton, Bukit Timah, Thomson, Toa Payoh, Bishan, Ang Mo Kio.

Hitherto our E-Band and other Fellowships have gone tracting in Toa Payoh, block by block, until the whole estate was covered. And we have brought them into our Annual Vacation Bible School. This year's VBS will be held June 11-14, and the Director is Ho Kee How. Application forms to join the VBS as teachers, staff, drivers, cooks, assistants, are now available from the Church entrance every Lord's Day. Here is an opportunity to evangelise the young, during the school vacation, "beginning at Jerusalem."

Another work of great importance to our locality is the

Children's Ministry-FEK combined Parents' Seminar to be held Friday May 17, 7.30 pm. This Seminar is open to the public. Deacon Ong Eng Lam is chairman. Speakers are Mrs Jannie Tang and Rev Stephen Khoo.

Let us pray earnestly that the Lord will do a new work with the young and very young. "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Better still, enrol yourself during school vacation to serve in the VBS, "beginning at Jerusalem." Amen.

Welcome JSM International Revival Conference, 3-7 June 96. Thematic Speaker: Rev Dr Ian Paisley. Special Speaker: Chancellor Bob Jones. Night programme 7 - 9.30 pm nightly. Venue: Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. Theme: *Revival in the End Times*. "Wilt Thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee." Lifers are exhorted to attend! Amen.

During the days of conference full-timers (ie. those who attend whole day sessions) will be accommodated in FEBC dormitories and some at Beulah House. In case of need, please see Mr Yiew at Beulah House Warden's qrs., phone 256-4201. —T.T.

THE CHINESE IN THE BIBLE

According to latest statistics, the Chinese race numbers 1.2 billion, or nearly a quarter of the whole world. It is inevitable that the Almighty Father's love for the world that sent



His only begotten Son must comprehend a goodly number of the sons of China. It is not unreasonable therefore to expect God's Word to contain some reference to China. India, being nearer to the Bible Lands, is mentioned twice in the Book of Esther. As for China, that Far Eastern Kingdom beyond India's horizon, she is nevertheless seen by the eagle-eye of the prophet Isaiah.

Talking of the wide outreach of the Lord's Servant, whereby the salvation He provides is not limited to a small group, both Chapter 42 and the beginning verses of Chapter 49 of Isaiah look far beyond the boundaries of the Israelite nation. God's appointed Saviour is "for a light to the Gentiles" (Isa 42:6), "that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth" (Isa 49:6). Isa 49:12 pictures a saved people coming "from the north and from the west," but who are "these from the land of Sinim?"

Both the NIV Study Bible and the Ryrie Study Bible are tainted by modernistic so-called scholarship to take "Sinim" for Syene (modern Aswan in Egypt). Dr Allan A MacRae my teacher, in his book "The Gospel of Isaiah," is quite convinced with other Bible-believing scholars to take "Sinim" to refer to China. The Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary says, "The most widely held view is that China is meant. . . ." Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible says, "The Septuagint favours the view that a country in the East was intended. . . ." The translators of the Chinese Bible (和合本) equate Sinim with the Kingdom of Ch'in. When I was a resident in Israel in 1969, I was known

to all in Bethlehem as the "Sini" (pron. seenee). Did I then become an Egyptian hailing from Syene? And what is a Sinologist, asks Dr MacRae.

Isaiah sees the fruits of Christ's saving grace borne by distant China. He sees the Chinese among God's children, even as it is echoed upon by the heavenly chorus, ". . . and has redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred and tongue and people and nation" (Rev 5:9). Praise the Lord, we who are of Chinese stock are surely counted amongst the multi-racial congregations of the redeemed.

These who "shall come from far: and lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim," are those drawn nigh to God by messengers of the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20). There is a tradition that St Thomas who brought the Gospel to India extended his mission to China, to Anwei Province.

The earliest evidence of Christianity making a foothold in China was the arrival in Sian in 635 A.D. of the Nestorian missionary, Alopen, from Syria. This was in the Tang Dynasty and he was well received by the emperor Cheng Kuan. Though the Nestorian missionaries laboured zealously in China in the seventh and eighth centuries, Christianity died out, leaving few traces beyond the famous Nestorian monument at Sian. Nevertheless, the French historian Nau, according to Dr Holdcroft, is convinced "there may have been a Christian Church in every province of China," and Professor Saeki of Japan thinks the number was vastly larger and that the Nestorians had no small share in the creation of "the golden age of China." That a once-flourishing Church in China, like the one in North Africa in St Augustine's time, had disappeared save for a monument like a tombstone, is a sombre thought to us B-Ps who are labouring to establish a Church in our generation. Should persecution come can you and I stand?

In the 13th and 14th centuries Roman

Catholic missionaries achieved some success during the Mongol dynasty (Kublai Khan), but again their endeavours faded away. It was after another two centuries that Portuguese missionaries entered Macao. Francis Xavier, whose visit to Malacca (Malaysia) en route to China is commemorated by a statue, died in 1552 at China's doorstep, his dream of converting China unfulfilled.

Protestant missions to China were commenced in 1807 with the arrival of Robert Morrison. It was Morrison's translation of the Bible into Chinese in 1819 that laid the foundation for the firm establishment of the Chinese Church. It is interesting for us in Singapore to note also that Morrison was assisted in the translation of the Chinese Bible by William Milne who was based in Malacca.

"After three decades of Protestant missionary history in China, it was reckoned that the number of missionaries was over a score and the total of baptised Chinese was under a hundred" (Edward Band). For China was virtually closed to foreign trade and Protestant missionaries until the Opium War (1841). By the end of the century there were half-a-million Roman Catholics and 75,000 Protestants. But the resistance to foreign encroachments on Chinese soil resulted in the Boxer Rebellion of 1900 whereby 181 missionaries (Catholic and Protestant) and 49,000 Chinese Christians were killed.

"The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church." Despite persecution, Christianity grew, especially after the collapse of the Manchu regime and the rise of the Chinese Republic under Dr Sun Yat Sen (1911). The years 1920-27 were the heyday of missionary expansion, there being 8,500 missionaries in 1927. Meanwhile, the Chinese Church was beginning to stand on her own feet.

Among the early national leaders there arose Pastor Ting Li Mei, known as the Moody of China. Later came Wang Ming Tao, Watchman Nee and last, but not least, John Sung. It is

interesting to note that these three men were born immediately after the Boxer Rebellion within one to three years of each other. By 1949 when Mao took over China, there were one million Protestants in China (Leslie Lyall).

In the thirties, however, there was a nationwide awakening under the revival ministry of Dr John Sung. A nominal Christianity was suddenly roused to life like the dry bones of Ezekiel 37 becoming "an exceeding great army" (Ezek 37:10). According to Dr Sung's own testimony, several hundred thousands were born again in a decade under his itinerant ministry throughout China and all over Southeast Asia. Oh, may evangelists arise who are willing to go forth for His name's sake (III Jn 7).

After four-and-a-half decades of Communist rule, Christianity has multiplied rather by leaps and bounds, so that it is estimated there are 80 million now turned to Christ. No doubt this is the work of the Holy Spirit. But it must not be forgotten there was the good seed sown before Mao came, the children of the kingdom, viz., the hundreds of thousands born again under John Sung's ministry (Matt 13:38). Rev Roy J. Birkey, missionary to China for 50 years, says of the lasting results of that Asian Awakening under John Sung, "His fruits still glow like the sun of a cloudless bright morning." (*I Remember John Sung*, Schubert.)

In Southeast Asia today there is a hardcore of remnants of the John Sung Pentecost, of whom are the Bible-Presbyterians. Incidentally, there is a seventh Pilgrimage of 50 Life B-Ps and students of Far Eastern Bible College, to the Holy Land (April 27 - May 13, '96). "Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim" (Isa 49:12). May we be faithful heralds of a countless multitude from the Far East who "shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles" (Zech 14:16). Even so, come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

— from "Asian Awakening" by T. Tow

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 13 - 19, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	1.25 pm	Pilgrims return via RJ 188	\$6,071.00 (8.00 am); \$14,758.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$612, \$1800, \$1822(Chinese Ser);		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	Batam \$290; Tj Piayu \$255, \$290; Yangon Orph \$100; Tract		
FRI	7.30 pm	FEK Open House, FEBC Hall	Ministry \$50; Kemaman \$50; Agape Clinic \$10; Baraka \$120;		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF	Hope BPC \$100; Extension of the Gospel \$700; Hilltop \$150;		
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Ng Wai Kuen & Khor	Rev John Ling \$100; W Kalimantan (Rev Djunaidi) \$88;		
		Chew Hoon (Rev Tow)	Missions \$214(Box); Thailand \$290; Myanmar \$300.		
SUN	8.00 am	God With Us (Rev Tow)	Corringendum. \$250 for Church Choir should read Children's		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Choir, Add: Batam \$530 (WF).		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	(1) <i>I want to thank the Lord for helping me in my</i>		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	<i>study course in the United States. With His help, I've</i>		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	<i>won the prestigious design portfolio award. Please</i>		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina Fship/SBC	<i>kindly direct the amount \$500 (I was awarded) to</i>		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.	<i>Missions. —Your grateful Lifer, Philadelphia,</i>		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	<i>Pennsylvania 19103</i>		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	(2) <i>Now, even some good bookrooms that Lifers</i>		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.			<i>always visit is starting to sell study bibles full of</i>		
Verse for the Week: Favour is			<i>errors, like the NJV Study Bible. Oh, how we look</i>		
deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a			<i>forward to the release of a good fundamental Study</i>		
woman that feareth the LORD, she			<i>Bible! (\$100 to 21st Century Reformation King James</i>		
shall be praised. Proverbs 31:30			<i>Study Bible).</i>		
Sunday School Offering: \$465.10; Attendance: 341			(3) <i>Thank God for His mercies and blessings (\$320).</i>		



*Lifers visiting Batu Aji B-P Church, Batam
on the occasion of the dedication of Tj Piayu Church*



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063
2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 6

12 May 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Yiew Pong Sen	Dn Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 31	No. 5
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 91	Psalm 62
Hymn	No. 546	No. 31
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 43	No. 389
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 3:1-18	Eph 1:15-23; 3:14-21
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	To Obey or Not to Obey (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Paul's Prayers (Elder Chia Kim Chwee)
Closing Hymn	No. 173	No. 395
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

My dear brethren,

Pastor in Israel

Pastor and our loved ones, relatives and friends are now touring Israel. They have visited Switzerland and Rome before they entered Israel via Amman, Jordan. On their first stay in Baraka, some called back to say that everything has been well and that they have a blessed time. The pilgrims are visiting the places which once our Lord Jesus Christ and His disciples walked, stayed, preached, taught and did works of healing. As one who had visited the Holy Land, I can say that first timers to the Land will be very much blessed when they walk and see the places which they have read in the Bible, especially the Gospels. In the last six pilgrimages, the pilgrims have shared about the goodness and the greatness of our God in blessing them. This pilgrimage will be no exception. As we look to Him, our Lord never fails to be gracious, merciful and protective. Pastor and the pilgrims will return this Monday, May 13, 1996 by RJ 188 at 1325 Hours, Terminal One.

Prayer Meetings

Prayer meeting this Tuesday will be a special treat. The returning pilgrims will surely be giving their testimonies of

the marvellous grace of God. In the past such testimonies by the pilgrims have been uplifting and faith strengthening to all who attended. So, come and praise and thank the good Lord together for His love and faithfulness, and be blessed.

The Lord seeks those who worship Him. Praying to God should be natural to the born-again Christian as eating and drinking is to meet the needs of the body. If you have nothing important or necessary to do, come and pray to the Lord our God together for others and ourselves. Paul exhorts the Thessalonians to pray "without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17). The first century Christians prayed a lot. They prayed when they were seeking a replacement to take the place of Judas Iscariot (Acts 1:24-25). Many of the three thousand who were converted after Peter's preaching gathered together for fellowship, breaking of bread and prayers (Acts 2:42). When Peter was imprisoned they gathered together to pray for his release and safety (Acts 12:5). God granted their request. Peter was freed. Let us continue to uphold one another before the Lord our God without ceasing.

Don't forget to pray for 1)

this year's VBS, June 11-14. Director Ho Kee How calls for more volunteers to serve. Pray that there will be a great harvest to the praise and glory of His Name;

2) FEK and Children's Ministry of the Church seminar, May 17 at 7.30-9.30 pm

Priorities in Life

Recently the Adults Fellowship had a short retreat at Waterfront City in Batam. I had a profitable time of fellowship with them. I think it is good for fellowship groups to plan such outings in the year to get to know and encourage one another in our Christian walk. And one great opportunity is to invite non-Christian friends to these outings when they not only hear the Word but also see how Christians live together and love one another.

I had the opportunity to share with them Matthew 6:33 on the topic of priorities in life. Stephen Covey in his book, *First Things First*, advises that the important things should take precedence over urgent things—the long term should come first before the short term. Long before Covey spells this out, our Lord Jesus Christ already exhorts, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). What does it mean to put God's kingdom and His righteousness first? Seeking the kingdom of God first is to let God rule and reign in our hearts—obey God. Seeking His righteousness is to reflect His character—be holy as He is holy or to be Christlike. These are the two most important things in life and they are eternally long term. Personal holiness is paramount.

But it is sad that few keep seeking His kingdom and His righteousness. Few trust God for His promise that obedience to His Word will beget His promised blessings. Many want the blessings of God and yet many will not trust Him and do the things which delight Him.

By our own human reasoning it is not right to demand God's blessings and yet refuse to do the things which delight Him. It is no wonder that many Christians are complaining that God does not care or listen or know. Take God at

His word and taste of His faithfulness and goodness. Has He not said that He spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32). The Psalmist testifies, "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly," and he exclaims, "O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee!" (Psalm 84:11-12).

Personal holiness should reflect the following which delight our good and loving Father in Heaven:

- 1) read the Bible once through in a year,
- 2) study the Bible systematically,
- 3) memorize a passage of Scripture each week,
- 4) pray morning, noon and night,
- 5) make an effort to be Christlike,
- 6) do personal evangelism,
- 7) fellowship with Christians of like-mindedness,
- 8) love one another;
- 9) be a good Samaritan; and
- 10) look up for the coming of the Lord.

Praising the Lord in Kemaman

Last Friday, May 3, Deacon Henry Tan together with his son Timothy and brother Caleb and another Sister Wendy (EBF) went to Kemaman to encourage the brethren there and to witness the baptism of Dr and Mrs Wee Tiong Soon and their daughter, and two other sisters, Mau Kim Leng and Christine Tan. Rev John Ling baptized them. The Lord be praised for this outreach on the east coast of Peninsula Malaysia which is bearing fruit. Pray that the church will grow from strength to strength.

At last Tuesday's prayer meeting brother Caleb shared that Rev John Ling's health is not good and we prayed for him. I spoke to Rev John Ling this morning (May 9) and he praised God that he was feeling much better and he was very cheerful. He is scheduled to have another medical check-up in Kuala Lumpur on May 14. Do remember him and his wife in prayer that our loving Father will restore him with good health and strength to serve Him many more blessed

years. Rev John Ling informed that in future those who visit Kemaman and who want a return bus ticket from Kemaman, do not contact him but please contact Deacon Michael Ting at night, telephone number: 02-09-8596311.

— Rev Stephen Khoo

TESTIMONY

I was a staunch Buddhist before my conversion in March 1991. During my secondary school days, I had the opportunity to listen to the Gospel as it was a mission school. However, the Word of God did not take root in my heart until I was in secondary three. I realised that I began to pay more attention to the morning devotions and the chapel sessions we had every Friday. Although, throughout Sec 3 and Sec 4, I prayed along with the Christians, I had never accepted Christ then and I never once did end my prayer in "Jesus' name." I held on to my Buddhist beliefs stubbornly even though I attended my friend's church secretly and irregularly. An incident which played a significant part on my road to conversion occurred one Thursday afternoon when I was in Sec 4. A Christian woman working as a clerk in the school's office came up to me to talk about Christianity. It was a talk that lasted about 15 minutes and which also ended on a very sour note. However, something happened as I travelled on the bus back home that day. I vividly recalled questioning myself this, "If the Buddha and God are both good, then why is there so much strife?" As I pondered, I wept, for I had no answer.

The days passed quickly and before I knew it, I had completed my 'O' levels and enrolled into St Andrew's Junior College. Those were the darkest days of my "non-Christian" life as I became very anti-social in behaviour and profane in nature. The reason for my behaviour was the fact that I was disgruntled at my preliminary grades and later my 'O' levels grades. I also wanted to be 'popular,' but ended up mixing with bad company. Truly, the vanities of life did consume me and I was powerless to extricate myself from the pit of despair. Increasingly, I became more and more foul-mouthed and people started to stay away from me. I also felt lost, dejected and convicted of my sinful condition. I was beginning to be conscious of sin and to admit its existence. Indeed, it was this consciousness of sin and the

need to remove it that drove me to seek the Lord Jesus Christ.

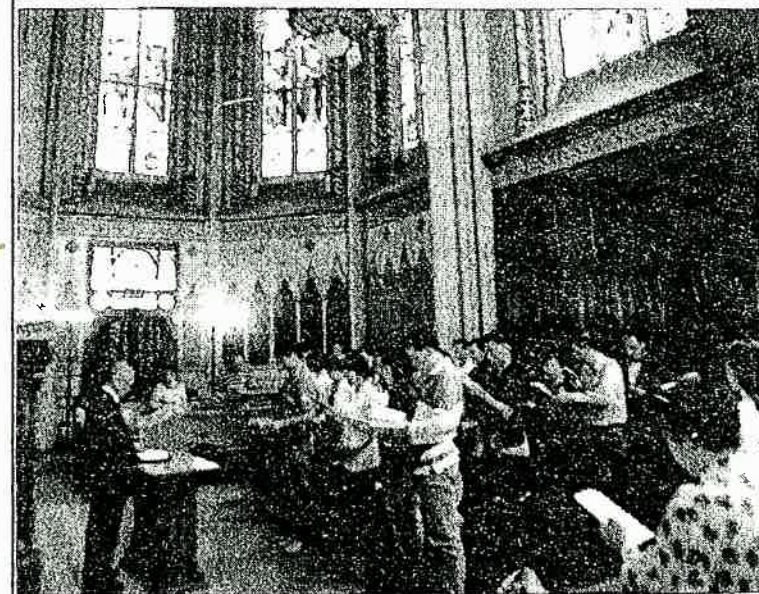
I recalled how a missionary shared his testimony one Friday in March 1991. He testified that he was a rebel; a gangster; a man that had totally no hope in society, except as a criminal. He shared his bitter, sin-sick life and how all that changed when he found the Lord Jesus Christ as His Saviour. At that point in time, I felt that I could identify with the missionary and I also felt very strangely that I was nothing but a sinner in need of God's forgiveness. The missionary gave the altar call, after sharing his testimony, on how only the blood of Christ can cleanse us from our sins, which I accepted. Tears streamed down my face that day as I made my way to the front of the auditorium. I prayed the sinner's prayer and thereafter felt at peace, for I have made peace with my God.

This is my fifth year as a Christian and there are no regrets whatsoever, except the times when I backslided and sinned against the Lord. The path that He had given me, I must take. It is also my desire to obey His commandments, which is why I want to be baptised. I also want to thank God for how He has soften my parent's heart to allow me to come to Church to worship Him since the beginning of last year. Truly, the Lord is to be praised! Amen. — Tan Jee Yen

Mother's Creed

Lord, who am I to teach the way
To little children, day by day,
So prone myself to go astray?
I teach them knowledge, but I know
How faint they flicker and how low
The candles of my knowledge glow.
I teach them power to will and do,
But only now to learn anew
My own great weakness
through and through.
Lord, if their guide I still must be,
Oh, let my little children see
Their mother leaning hard on thee.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 20 - 26, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	1.10 am	Rev Tow to Seoul via OZ 352	\$4,670.00 (8.00 am); \$10,570.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	7.00 pm	Camp Briefing	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700, \$100; Reformed S Bible \$150, \$100, \$50; Yangon Orph \$300; Yiew PS \$50; YF \$50; Kemaman \$50; Missions \$600, \$500 (Kebaktian Ina); Philippines \$100; Thailand \$100; Agape \$10; Seets \$300, \$100(YAF); LBP K'ten, Kuantan \$168; Lim J J \$30; Rev J Ling \$200; Chinese Mission \$160; Jack Sin \$100; Tj Piayu \$1000.		
WED	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	8.10 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	(1) <i>Thank and praise the Lord for preserving me in this wonderful condition to this day. I know that at present I cannot afford to build His house. Being a cheerful giver, at least I can contribute the door and windows for the kindergarten at Tg Piayu. Many thanks to the Lord for sending the right people with the right advice at the right time to me. (\$1,000)</i>		
SAT	2.30 pm	Rev Tow returns via OZ 323	(2) <i>I sincerely thank God for His mercies and grace upon me and my family, everyday. I had a fall recently, and He kept me and healed me, very quickly! Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Enclosed \$600 offering for your assignment to missionary work.</i>		
SUN	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	Congratulations to Rev Bob Phee on the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Ministry. 21st Century Reformation Missions Conference (June 3-7), Awana. Camp briefing on Tuesday, 21 May at 7 pm in the FEBC Hall.		
	2.30 pm	Tabernacle BPC Wedding			
	8.00 am	Witnessing to the Powerful (Elder Lim Teck Chye)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
		Ordination of Session Members			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.					
Verse for the Week: He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known. <i>Proverbs 10:9</i>					
Sunday School Offering: \$439.00; Attendance: 332					



The greatest blessing of our Pilgrimage is worship, usually twice at the Baraka B-P Church, Bethlehem, founded by Dr Lambie, not to count the nightly services while "quartering" at the Baraka Hostel situated 10 miles south. This worship at St Peter's Cathedral is an extra on Apr 28, '96, 2 pm. Several tourists joined us from beginning to end. A Protestant sanctuary cleansed of every idol, it remains the same 432 after Calvin's death. Calvin stayed in a street named after him, a stone's throw from this Church.



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063
2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 7

19 May 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 86	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 6:19-33	Matth 6:19-33
Hymn	Cheep, Cheep, Cheep	Cheep, Cheep, Cheep
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	Caleb says	No. 359
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 3:19-30	Numbers 13:1-2, 18-33
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Is God Your Refuge?	In Step with God?
Closing Hymn	No. 283	Caleb says
Benediction		

PILGRIMS TOGETHER AND BETTER

Of all pilgrimages to the Holy land, this 7th one is the most eventful. This has drawn us closer together and for the better.

We thanked the Lord for safe arrival in peaceful Geneva the hqrs of so many world organisations such as UN, the Red Cross, the World Council of Churches, but for us Calvin's City. No sooner had we set foot on Swiss soil than trouble gripped us. Asa, FEBC student from Palau, an Island Republic of Micronesia in the Pacific near Guam and Saipan, was refused entry. He needed a visa! Though coming from a protectorate of USA he was flatly rejected.

Irene Tan our Treasurer pleaded his case through a Swissair ticket officer who spoke fluent English, but to no avail. The only vestige of hope was the US Consulate, but that was two days away. We arrived Saturday afternoon when the office was closed, and Sunday following was Sabbath. The best we could do for Asa was to book him a small room in the Airport which cost US\$85 a night.

While the Pilgrims kept to the Monday schedule of driving to a mountain village to see the grandeur of God's creation, Irene and I were sheepishly pleading with the American lady consul for help. Since Asa needed a visa for

Rome, the first step was to connect with the Italian Consulate. But, Monday was a holiday for the Italians, so again no action could be taken. The only way out was to buy Asa a Swissair ticket that would get him to rendezvous with us in Rome to fly on to Amman. This meant further detention in the airport hotel and expense. There's a saying, "A miss is as good as a mile."

As Christian in Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress had to fight desperately out of the Slough of Despond, so here we were. Nevertheless as Christian rejoiced to see the Delectable Mountains so did our group find great delight the first Lord's Day out of Singapore — visiting the Reformation Monument and St Peter's Cathedral where Calvin was resident pastor. The Cathedral that was Roman Catholic but converted Protestant remained the same 430 years after Calvin. This Cathedral is highlighted in our chocolate book, *A Glimpse of the Life and Works of John Calvin* distributed to Pilgrims for their study. We also saw the long Lord's Supper Table where Calvin officiated, standing fearless against the barons and tycoons of Protestant Geneva who were barred from the Bread and Wine because of their carnality. An ancient

painting shows these Libertines drawing their swords, but the Lord held them in their scabbards.

Where could we worship on the Lord's Day? As I prayed Saturday night the Lord seemed to indicate, "Right in St Peter's Cathedral." So, we visited Calvin's Church 11.30 am when the bells were tolling like a hundred happy thunders. I asked our guide why these salvos from the Church bells? She said, "They are making a joyful noise to the Lord, because their worship service is over!" The Church was soon emptied of her sons and daughters, so we could talk to the Deacons clearing the Lord's Table. **When I told one of them we were from a Reformed Church in Singapore, he warmly welcomed us.** We were assigned a side chapel with stained glass windows to worship in at 2.00 pm.

What a thrill for us to gather in the beauty of holiness that Lord's Day afternoon April 28, 1996. Our message was a textual one. "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (Jn 8:32). This gave us the historical setting of Jesus' admonition to the Jews who had far departed from the Law of Moses. By application, the dark traditions of the Roman Church from which Protestantism sprang, to return to the light of the Scriptures.

The Reformation in the 16th Century was revived in the 20th Century through Machen and McIntire. We who are sons of the Reformation need to carry on into the 21st Century. But we need always to "reform" our own lives in order to be of any effect. A collection of over US\$600 was taken for our Palestinian brethren of Baraka BP Church, Bethlehem. US\$50 was presented to the Cathedral which was gladly accepted. The telling of this episode in the first days of the Pilgrimage explains the title of this report; "Pilgrims Together and Better." (As for the gifts of good surplus clothing and toys we brought for the Palestinians, this time sees the gathering of the biggest and the best, borne on the shoulders of young FEBC students, especially.) The gifts for Miss Joan Davenport's Van from ex-Pilgrims amounted to nearly five American figures.

As we left Rome for Amman we heard that peace was restored between Israel and the Hizbollahs. This brought us no little assurance

that God was for us and with us. The crossing into Israel by the Allenby Bridge was as easy as through our Singapore Immigration and Customs. For there is peace between Jordan and Israel, for which we thanked the Lord. Our old friends Jamil and Leslie were on hand to ferry us to Baraka Conference Centre in the Berachah Valley (II Chron 20:27). Here we re-established our "field hqrs" or rather our home away from home. Here we could hold nightly service which is the high point of every Pilgrimage. Here we **"offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name"** (Heb 13:15). In John Sung's steps for such a less formal service, members are encouraged to testify for the Lord. Often real life experiences move the congregation to laughter or tears. The meeting never has a dull moment, including an appropriate Word and the singing of selected Holy Land songs.

In this 7th Pilgrimage there are a number of second and third-timers. To make it refreshing for them we take different routes and visit new sites (there's such a lot to see) but such places as the Garden Tomb, Golgotha and the Nativity Church at Bethlehem are a must. We visited Lazarus' Tomb where the Two Sisters also lived.

The greatest joy the Pilgrims experienced was the Lord's Day worship at Bethlehem, May 5. Here they rubbed shoulders with Palestinian brothers and sisters. Here they heard them sing, pray and interpret the visiting pastor's message, into Arabic. Song items in Chinese, Korean and Arabic were presented. The message taken from Matt 22:15-21 is "Our Duty to Government, Our Duty to God." Before the message there trooped in a party of 15 Korean tourists to swell the attendance to 120. How thrilled we were to notice that Baraka Church, just 5 miles from Jerusalem, is becoming a worship centre for Christian tourists. Among us there were a number from America and Europe also. After the service with the Lord's Supper our group and the Koreans were treated to sumptuous Arab-style roast chicken lunch.

As the Lord's Day is a day of rest and meditation it is our custom not to further exert ourselves except to visit Yad Vashem the

Holocaust Museum. It shows the extermination of six million Jews by Hitler during WWII. Is it the culmination of fulfilment of curses according to Deut 28:63-68? Is it the awful result of the Jews' vow to have Jesus crucified "His blood be on us and our children" (Matt 27:25)? In that holocaust one million and a half children under 13 perished.

Today we see no less the genocide of millions on the killing fields of Cambodia, Rwanda, Burundi etc. These are the beginning of sorrows before the Messiah comes. And we who are entrusted the Word are the only bearers of the torch of hope — the extension of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. We have a sacred duty to discharge in the Land of our Saviour's Birth. Ex-pilgrims' mindfulness of needs in Palestine is deeply appreciated.

We spent four days in Galilee, two nights at a kibbutz hotel, chalet style and one night at Nes Ammin, a Christian kibbutz near the Lebanese border. Not only had we the usual boatride on a "Jesus" wooden boat, our members had opportunity to plunge into the cool waters, for Nof Ginosar is situated right on the waterfront.

Now that the rockets from across the border were silent, our guide led us through Kiryat Shemona the village rocked by the Hizbollah barrages. En route we saw the UN occupation of the borders between Israel and Syria in Golan Heights. Mount Hermon soaring 9,220 feet with snow-capped ranges offered us a majestic backdrop for a group photo. Our pilgrimage to the far north led finally to the Israel-Lebanon border on a high cliff above the Mediterranean. Here we dined above an emerald sea. After makan we were treated to a cable car descent to grottoes above the Mediterranean and shown a railway tunnel that was once the link between Israel and Beirut and on to Turkey.

Thursday, May 9 we headed back to Baraka. En route we visited the monastery at Mt Carmel where Elijah slew the 450 prophets of Baal. On top of the monastery we could see Armageddon the famous battlefield of ancient days and where the last battle will be fought.

We specially called on Mrs Ben Asher in her Haifa home. With a weak heart she could not climb the steps. Nevertheless she looked good. We prayed for her recovery in the Lord's Name

which she acknowledged. We left behind an autographed message: Jesus says, "I am the Resurrection and the Life . . . Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you."

Arriving back Baraka in the evening, I received a phone call from Rev Moon Kwang Sik requesting me to speak to his Church and Seminary in Korea, May 20-23. As the timing was perfect, I sensed it was the Lord's call. I complied immediately. Rev Moon and 3 of his church leaders had visited us some months ago, and had earlier so intimated.

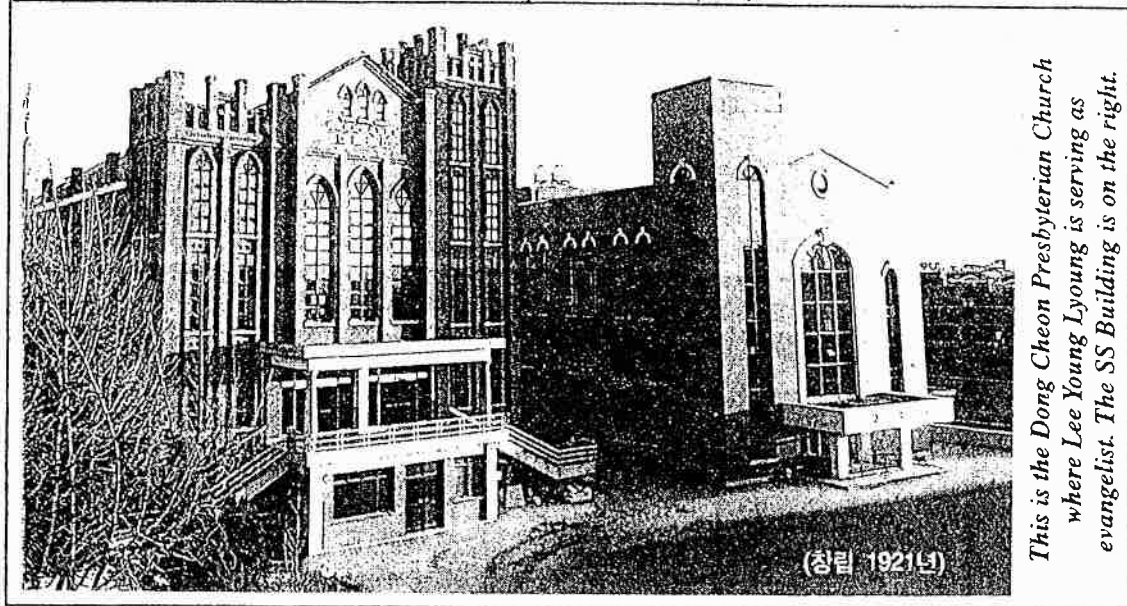
"Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it" (Proverbs 3:27). When we discovered that the US\$18,000 Miss Davenport Van Fund was good only for a second hand, and a new KIA (Korean made) model needs only US\$12,000 more, we helped Miss Davenport to make a substantial downpayment, trusting some lover of God would help in this for the Lord's sake. Miss Davenport has served 12 years with the Palestinians and is well reported of the Brethren.

Most of the time, we worship twice at Baraka before returning. This 7th Pilgrimage saw us in Church the second time to minister not only to the Palestinian brethren but also to our own contingent. My sermon was "The Message of the Sparrows" (who have no sorrows nor marrows). "We don't sow, we don't reap, God feeds us cheap, cheap." Q.E.D. = Matt 6:33.

By diverting our return flight via Bangkok, it gave us unexpected pleasant relief. **Flying time to Bangkok was only 7 hrs 45 minutes.** An interval of over 3 hours gave us time to relax. As for me I found a latest classic on China by Jung Chang titled "Wild Swans, Three Daughters of China." A gripping story of a miserable life without Christ, it is rich in recent Chinese history, from the Manchus to the Cultural Revolution etc. This book is Winner of 1992 NCR Book Award and the 1993 British Book of the Year Award.

The dark shades of life through three Christless generations should open our eyes to the dire needs of the lost. But unless we show them the light, who will? One purpose of our Pilgrimage is to save the souls of those we meet along the way. — Yours obediently, T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 27 - June 2, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Tow)	\$5,997.00 (8.00 am); \$10,872.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	6.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (FOC F'ship)	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$113(Box), \$250, \$100, \$1000(FEK);		
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	Reformed S Bible \$80, \$300; Yangon Orph \$400; FEBC \$230;		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	VBS \$100, \$300; Lim J J \$130; J Wonsia \$200; Africa \$100;		
FRI	8.00 am	JSM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	Baraka \$280; Agape Clinic \$10; Tj Playu \$600; Medan Orph		
	3.00 pm	Combined Choir Mtg, Sanctuary	\$310; Missions \$80, \$250; Extn of the Gospel \$630, \$300;		
FRI-SUN		SBC Retreat	Davenport Van \$586(US\$416).		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	2.30 pm	Maranatha BPC Wedding (Rev Tow)	(1) 'Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall		
SUN	8.00 am	Time Is Up (Elder Khoo Peng Keat)	prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	prosperity within thy palaces' Ps 122:6,7. Thank you,		
	10.30 am	Dr Howard Carlson, Lord's Supper	Father, for leading my husband and me to a walk with		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Thee thru' the Holy Land where Thy Son suffered,		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	bled, wept and even died and arose. We dare not claim		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	that we learn a lot, but are grateful that Thy Spirit		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	melt our hearts with sadness and love for Thy people		
	12.30 pm	Fellowship Lunch for New Members	there still crying for their Messiah who has already		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	come. They're so near yet so far from Thee. Lord, bless		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.	Thy people in Thy Land.' Thank you. Lord. (\$100 for		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	Reformed Study Bible)		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	21st Century Reformation Missions Conference (June 3-		
		No NBC This Week	7) at Awana Golf & Country Resort, Genting Highlands,		
Verse for the Week: He giveth			Malaysia. Tel:03-2113015. Fax: 03-2113535. NS Men to		
power to the faint; and to them that			inform MINDEF Notification Centre. Tel: 2747777. Fax:		
have no might he increaseth strength.			2773202. Campers to assemble in church at 6.30 am		
Isaiah 40:29			on 3 June 1996(Mon).		
Sunday School Offering: \$687.30; Attendance: 339					



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063
2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 8

26 May 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Han Soon Juan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 49	No. 26
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Acts 20:17-27	Acts 20:17-35
Hymn	No. 467	No. 260
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 551	Take My Life
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 4:1-9,27,34-37	1 Tim 3:1-13
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Witnessing to the Powerful (Elder Lim Teck Chye)	A Living Example, A Virtuous Ruler
Closing Hymn	No. 405	Workers Together
Benediction		

MISSION TO KOREA ACCOMPLISHED

Lee Young Lyong, a Korean FEBC graduate (1994), returned to work with his Church in Seoul — the Pure Presbyterian Church. Through his recommendation three leaders of his Church and Rev Moon Kwang Sik, their missionary to Adelaide, visited us last December. Fraternal association was established between their Seminary and FEBC. A pastor with two children and a staff worker with three are now enrolled with FEBC, in our Masters curriculum.

While on our recent 7th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, we received a call from Rev Moon on behalf of the Pure Presbyterian Church to visit Korea May 20-23, 96. As the days were not occupied with special appointments, I took it to be the Lord's will to comply. A ticket would be sent in time. When we got back to S'pore, however, Lee Young Lyong phoned twice to see that Ivy would come along. We asked Transglobe at such a late hour for help, but we had only a one-way outgoing, the return being wait-listed. Knowing it was the Lord's will for us to answer the call together, we set out trusting His provision.

Our mission to the Pure Presbyterian Church was to

address the faculty and students of their Seminary as well as the midweek Worship of the Church where Lee Young Lyong is attached.

Who are the Pure Presbyterians? They are 30-odd churches formed after WWII now with a membership of 7,000. They split from the main Presbyterian body on the issue of bowing to the Shinto shrine under the Japanese occupation. One of her daughters, Ahn Ei Sook, was imprisoned for refusing to bow, and tortured with the faithfuls. Out of Miss Ahn's experience, a film was made, titled, *If I Perish, I Perish*. Though Lifers saw this film many years ago, we should see it again (with YAF expertise). Incidentally, while I was a student at Faith Seminary, Miss Ahn joined us as a special student. My acquaintance here with this Korean heroine becomes another link with the Pure Presbyterians.

Having spoken to the Church and Seminary and being found to be of the same faith, including the Premillennial Return of Christ, the leadership of the Pure Presbyterian give us the right hand of fellowship.

There were about 60 faculty and students (including women) who heard me at their newly-

built, spacious, three-storey building. My message was "How to keep the Pure Presbyterian Church Pure." The texts quoted are Dt 4:2; Matt 5:37; 18. God's Word cannot be added to or subtracted from. Any addition, Jesus says, comes out of evil, and any subtraction, is equally sinister. Now, the truth when added to or subtracted from becomes a lie. This manipulation of the truth is perpetrated by none other than the Evil One, the father of lies, yea, Satan and none other (John 8:44). By creating a doubt as he did to Eve, the snake, as symbolised by the Question mark (?) did the trick. By adding and subtracting from God's Word, "Thou shalt surely die!" Satan is a triple-headed snake. First he says, *Yes*; second he says *Yes?* and third, he says, *No!*

Thus mankind, falling into his trap, has been punished with death according to God's Sure Word, unchanging, infallible, inerrant. Does the Father of Lies relax today in bringing chaos to the Church? Throughout church history, he keeps deceiving us by changing his tactics, like the monkey-god of Buddhist mythology who has 72 tricks up his sleeves.

Satan adds to the Truth with the doctrine of infallibility of the Pope and the supremacy of traditions of the Church vis-a-vis the Bible. Satan now adds to the Truth with the charismatic error of Divine Inspiration to the preacher at par with the prophets of old. Like the Anabaptists of the 16th Century who spoke from self-revelation, Charismatics today also speak out of the imaginations of their own heart (Jer 23). Protestant Signers of the ECT Statement (Evangelicals and Catholics Together, 1994) who declare we and Catholics have the same faith is another snake head.

Subtractors of God's Word are the liberals and modernists, Neo-Evangelical scholars who teach a limited errancy, and the new school of hermeneutics like the NIV Study Bible that teaches the Virgin Birth was fulfilled in Isaiah's second wife and their son which foreshadowed Mary and Christ's birth. Hear what Matthew,

under Inspiration of the Holy Spirit says, "Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Matt 1:22-23). I sure have more faith in St Matthew than in the NIV "so-called" scholars. Dr Laid Harris my teacher taught me truthfully that any New Testament pronouncement (commentary) on the O.T. is infallible teaching and final. I believe Harris, not his subtle co-commentators, because Harris spoke as one that hears His Voice. Beware the double-tongue of the Snake!

At the Mid-Week Worship of the Presbyterian Church, where Lee Young Lyoungh preaches for his pastor, there were about 300 who attended. I spoke on the two signs in the Church before Christ's Second Coming. As Jesus has thrice reiterated how false Christs and prophets will deceive the Church, I asked the congregation to beware of churches that use "signs and wonders" in Christ's Name to deceive. The first sign of Christ's Second Coming is Deception.

The second sign is missions to the ends of the earth (Matt 24:14). This is Acceleration.

The Koreans are a foremost Missionary force now with 2000 missionaries in 120 countries. They aim to send 4,000 by AD2000.

Now, the Chinese had one million Protestants in 1949 when Mao took over. Today, despite persecution, it is estimated there are 80 million. By way of testimony, despite BPs in S'pore having split in 1988, we have over 50 congregations in S'pore and twice that number the world over — in ASEAN, China, Australia, Burma, India, Pakistan, East Africa, W.Africa, Canada, England, Saipan, etc.

One method of "Accelerated Missions" is through trustworthy nationals, eg. Thawm Luai and Andrew Kam in Burma, Roska at Batam, Djunaidi in W. Kalimantan.

After the Service, the Elder in charge of Missions, the pastor and several other pastors sat

down to discuss how we might help them in missions overseas. We recommended their supporting Wonsia of Liberia, now ministering to refugees in Ivory Coast (next door), whereupon the elder gave me an envelope of 300,000 Won (about S\$600) which will be directed to Missions.

This Korean Assignment was not all work and no play. Our hosts were so kind to us that they tried to show us their country around as much as they could. They took us up their city tower, though not very high, gave us a boatride on the Han River and drove us to Chun Chon near the North Korean frontier to see a dam that supplies Hydro-Electric power. In all we also visited half a dozen of their churches, all big churches.

As land in urban Korea is scarce each church is built high rise from 3 to 5 storeys. Photo on back page is typical. The pastor stays not in the Church but nearby. Each church is ruled by a handful of elders, but to have 50-100 deacons plus another class of officers called exhorters is common. Deaconesses are limited to a few. Every church has a good number of "evangelists" on the staff and Lee Young Lyoungh is one.

As for Ivy's return ticket, it was okayed in good time. Praise the Lord, a strong link has been forged with a fundamental Korean Church for the extension of the Gospel.

— Yours obediently, T.T.

Congratulations to Rev Colin Wong for being conferred the degree of Master of Divinity at Biblical Seminary, USA, May 25 1996.

Bro Liu Yee Jie returns for a visit from Guangzhou and reports the happy conversion of his mother.

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Alan Oh on the birth of a daughter on May 21, 96.

A lovegift of S\$2,000 (US\$1,415) was given to Dr Japheth Mwanthi for his bible college in Africa when he spoke at Prayer Meeting, May 14, 96. The Lord bless both gift and giver.

Joan Davenport Van Fund. The KIA minibus which we rode in Seoul is real value for money. All we need is US\$10,000 to close the deal.

CHILD DELINQUENT

A circular issued by the police department in Houston, Texas, which has its heading: *How to Make a Child into a Delinquent*, gives twelve easy rules:

1. Begin at infancy to give the child everything he wants. In this way, he will grow up to believe the world owes him a living.
2. When he picks up bad language, laugh at him. This will make him think he is cute.
3. Never give him any spiritual training. Wait until he is twenty-one, and then let him decide for himself.
4. Avoid the use of the word "wrong." It may develop a guilt complex in him. This will condition him to believe later, when he is arrested for stealing a car, that society is against him and he is being persecuted.
5. Pick up everything he leaves lying around—books, shoes, clothes. Do everything for him so that he will be experienced in throwing all responsibility on others.
6. Let him read any printed matter he can get his hands on. Be careful that the drinking glasses are sterilized, but let his mind feast on garbage.
7. Quarrel frequently in the presence of your children. In this way they will not be too shocked when the home is broken up later.
8. Give a child all the spending money he wants. Never let him earn his own. Why should he have things as tough as you had them?
9. Satisfy his every craving for food, drink, and comfort. See that every sensual desire is gratified. Denial may lead to harmful frustration.
10. Take his part against neighbours, teachers, and policemen. They are prejudiced against your child.
11. When he gets into real trouble, apologize for yourself by saying, "I could never do anything with him."
12. Prepare for a life of grief. You will be likely to have it.

— quoted at Parents' Seminar, Friday May 17.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 3 - 9, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.00 am	Campers depart for Awana	\$6,994.00 (8.00 am); \$11,148.00 (10.30 am)		
MON-FRI		JSM Conference	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EBF II</i> \$1000, \$169.96; <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$200, \$50; <i>Davenport Van Fund</i> \$200, \$200(Mt Calv Bap Ch), \$535(Korean Ch); <i>Lim J J</i> \$300, \$200; <i>Missions</i> \$100; <i>Accelerated Missions</i> \$200; <i>VBS</i> \$50; <i>Tj Playu</i> \$142(Box).		
TUE	8.00 pm	No Prayer Mtg			
FRI	6.00 pm	Campers return from Awana			
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF			
	8.00 pm	FEBC Graduation Rehearsal			
SUN	8.00 am	Dr Howard Carlson, Lord's Supper			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	F'ship Lunch for New Members etc.			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
	8.00 pm	FEBC Graduation Service			
NBC This Week. Wed/Bt Timah, Henderson; Fri/Bt Batok.					
Verse for the Week: <i>I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.</i> Psalm 89:1					
Sunday School Offering: \$496.30; Attendance: 330					



Ordination of 6 new Deacons.
L to R: David Tan, Charlie Chan, Lim Jyh Jang,
Wee Hian Kok, Lim Ching Wah, John Hoe.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 9

2 June 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Tan Nee Keng	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 81	No. 216
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 90	Psalm 19
Hymn	No. 565	No. 66
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 403	No. 255
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 5:1-9, 17-31	Psalm 130
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Time Is Up</i> (Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)	<i>The Most Beautiful English Word</i> (Dr Howard Carlson)
Closing Hymn	No. 470	No. 559
Benediction		Lord's Supper

"LEAD ON O KING ETERNAL THE DAY OF MARCH HAS COME!"

The Day of our setting out for Awana, Genting Highlands is now here! And Dr Howard Carlson our Camp Speaker and his wife are with us at the 10.30 am Service. While Dr Carlson delivers the message, Mrs Carlson will sing in accompaniment. Dr Carlson will also speak at the Calvary Sunset Gospel Hour tonight.

The Carlsons were co-missionaries when we were in Israel 1969-70 under the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions. While we were there for six months they had served in the Holy land for 12 years. They are our good friends. Their coming to Singapore is the fulfilment of their dream to visit the Orient, inasmuch as Mrs Carlson is the granddaughter of Dr A B Dodd, missionary to China. Dr Dodd was my teacher in Nanking, '46.

The time of setting out to Awana, Genting Highlands, is tomorrow, 7 am sharp from Gilstead Road! We will move in a convoy of six air-conditioned coaches. We arrive Genting Highlands by 3pm.

The Theme of this first combined Life-Calvary Bible Camp is "Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century." It is also a conference that brings together missionaries and

national leaders from such countries as Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, Philippines, Korea, Saipan/China, Kenya, Australia. That this should be a Missionary Conference is most needed and timely. The Lord's Return is at the doors. He exhorts the Church in these end-times to expedite the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Though we have endeavoured to spread the Word far and wide, we have not done our best. We have not mobilised the whole Church though ours is a holy warfare against all the forces of evil.

While every Bible Camp held up the Highlands is meant also to provide refreshment to our tired bodies, it rather concentrates on spiritual feeding, and prayer. As we expect great things from God, we must also attempt great things for God. The way to attempt great things for God is prayer. Let us pray for the speakers from Dr Carlson to Dr S H Tow who opens the Conference and Pastor Tow who ends the Conference. For every speaker at the early morning devotions to the missionaries from the various countries with their audiovisual reports.

Let us pray for the audience that out of hearers old and young, men and women, there will be a new surge of response to God's call to full-time

service, whether at home or abroad. A special feature of this Conference is the distribution of two new books, *Pattern for Church Growth and Missions* and *Ting Li Mei, the First Chinese Evangelist*, for your reading. May God speak to you through these two books.

Soon after coming down from the mountains there will be the holding of the **21st Graduation of Far Eastern Bible College at Life Church, Sunday, June 9, 8 pm.** Dr Carlson will be the Lord's Messenger. This is the first occasion when both faculty and students will put on their caps, colours and gowns imported from USA. The same Sunday Dr Carlson will speak at the 8 am Service, while Rev Stephen Khoo will take my place at 10.30 am. I shall be at the Chinese Service.

Then for a whole week **Mon. June 10-14 there will be a series of special lectures on Archaeology and the Bible by Dr Carlson.** He will teach this very young science which will shed much light on the Bible records as well as dispel many errors of modernist assailants on the Bible. For those who pass an examination one credit will be given. Be sure to enrol for this Archaeology Class.

JESUS SAVES MISSION

While we are away from S'pore, Jesus Saves Mission will hold an International Revival Conference, also June 3-7, at Life Church. Conferees will be lodged at FEBC Hostels. **The chief speakers are Dr Bob Jones and Dr Ian Paisley**—in the evenings. We urge Lifers to come to the evening meetings, 7-9 pm. To facilitate Lifers to hear the two men of God without break, **the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting on June 4 will be suspended.** Bring your family members and friends to the evening meetings.

June is a busy month. Immediately after JSM has concluded their meetings, **then comes our VBS, June 11-14. There is need of more hands to drive the vans to bring them in.** Many hands make light work. Pray also for the VBS that young souls will be touched by the Gospel.

We are most delighted to have our missionaries to the Philippines, **Charles Seet, Frieda and their daughter Stella come back for furlough** after having served five years in

Manila. During furlough Charles will teach at FEBC and be open for speaking engagements. This fits well with Rev and Mrs Stephen Khoo's call to Bethel BPC, Melbourne, June 18 to August 27. Charles Seet will start drawing charts and illustrations for the 21st Century Reformation KJV Study Bible.

Elder Sng Teck Leong led a team of eleven via Batam to visit the West Kalimantan field of Rev Djunaldi. They were in Pontianak to see his work as well as the building of our new outreach to Lingga, a bus station on the Pontianak-Kuching International Highway. The distance between Kuching (Sarawak) and Pontianak is 200 miles.

In my last Report we told you how the Pure Presbyterian Church of Korea has awakened to Foreign Missions. (There were 3,272 Korean missionaries in 1994.) Hearing of our Awana Missionary Conference, they have applied to attend. **Lee Young Lyong is accompanying three of his seniors to Genting Highlands, June 3-5,** after which they'll make for Singapore to visit our Churches in Batam and Bintan. **Who can spare a day or two to be their guide? Praise the Lord for this first token of blessing before the Conference starts.**

In regard to the Joan Davenport Van Fund (Kia minibus of Korean manufacture), **a Deacon has offered the US\$10,000 and thus the deal is closed.** Hallelujah! "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

As for the taking over of Life Book Centre by FEBC, **we have appointed Lok Kwok Wah of the E-Band as our manager.** The FEBC Bookroom being a new ministry of the College, we shall try to serve you as Tabernacle of Calvary Pandan has been serving the Calvinians. **We are slashing 40% off the old prices** (except Chinese Bibles, for example) and stopping promotion of NIV Study Bibles, etc. We shall join hands with Tabernacle to serve you hilariously. Nor will we sell any other study Bible which says, tongue in cheek, Isaiah's prophecy on the Virgin Birth (7:14) was fulfilled in his own son by his second wife. St Matthew telling about the Virgin Birth has no truck with

such modernistic blasphemy, but points directly to the Virgin Mary and her newborn Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Who says the KJV is so archaic that moderns cannot understand? Though there are a few hundred words admittedly old-fashioned, it becomes current when the pastor explains them to the congregation. **The late David Marshall, Singapore's foremost criminal lawyer and Chief Minister, though a Jew, testified in Straits Times how he learned good English by reading the KJV.** Amen, say I, for all my English has come also from the Bible of Bibles. And why study Shakespeare and learn poetry in the Secondary School? One good reason for retaining the KJV (and the promotion thereof) is the ease with which we memorise its golden texts. Can you not hear the cadences in such a verse as this: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

Session has approved the opening of the Bookroom to facilitate Lifers who come to Church on the Lord's Day. These are our hours every Sunday: **9.30 - 10.15 am; 12.00 - 1.00 pm.** "The sabbath was made for man and not man for the sabbath" (Mk 2:27). Calvin's view on Sabbath keeping, as iterated in his Institutes, is also dynamic and not static. For example, the Jews adhered strictly to what was known as a sabbath day's journey (Ex 16:29). Can this rule of about 2,000 paces apply to you who stay at Pasir Ris or Woodlands?

From Mon-Thurs the opening hours are 10 am to 7.30 pm; Fri and Sat, 10 am to 6 pm. With free easy parking off the trunk road to Johore Bahru, with Newton MRT Station across the footbridge, we are pleasantly accessible from every side.

Our hearts have been moved to tears the last few Sundays when Deborah Mae sang the most popular sacred songs to us. These songs are now capsuled in tapes and CDs and available from the Bookroom at \$21.90 and \$7.90. - T.T.

Corrigendum pg 2; 1st col. of last week's issue, "limited errancy" should read "limited inerrancy."

TESTIMONY

I first came to know about Christianity when I was in my junior college first year. I can still remember that it was through one of my class gatherings that I came to realise that one friend of mine has been a Christian since secondary school. He was from a charismatic church. When he shared the gospel to me, it was actually more of curiosity that brought me to visit his church.

Without my parents' knowledge and permission, I attended services and some B.S. sessions for a few weeks. My interest in this new lifestyle did not last. I don't consider myself saved at that time.

I remained outside His Kingdom ever since until December 1994. Before this time, my good friend Whee Shiong who had accepted Christ earlier tried to share his beliefs with me. But I was stubborn and had always demanded scientific proofs about Christianity. I did not see the point of finding the meaning of life and felt there was no need to. Somehow at the back of my mind, I knew that I was wrong.

After my third year exam in December 94, my course mate invited me to a Christmas Play organised by Faith Community Baptist Church (FCBC). I accepted the offer without the intention of changing my point of view. The play was about the life of Jesus Christ and I enjoyed it. The pastor gave an example that struck me. The point is that we all live everyday of our lives by faith. We do not get off our cars to check the bridge before we drive across it. It is by faith that we cross the bridge thinking that it would always be safe.

After the leaders there prayed for me, and told me that I was saved, I was still in doubt. But I thought I would give myself a chance and I became quite active in the church. It was during the six months with FCBC that I gradually began to understand Christianity and the truth. I consider myself saved through a process of reading, learning and believing.

In June 1995, I decided to move to Life B-P Church as I became uncomfortable with FCBC's charismatic teachings.

I must truly thank God for bringing a sinner like me into His Kingdom finally. Praise God.

— A Young Believer, Tat Wai

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 10 - 16, '96)

MON-FRI	Archaeology & the Bible, Dr Howard Carlson
TUE-FRI	VBS
TUE 8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
FRI 7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, FEBC Hall
SAT 2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF
2.30 pm	Fishermen of Christ Wedding
SUN 8.00 am	Rev Stephen Khoo
9.30 am	Sunday School
10.30 am	Rev Tow
10.30 am	Chinese Service
10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship
10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina Fship
3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.
4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service
4.45 pm	Burmese Service

NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.

Verse for the Week: *But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.*
Hebrews 11:16

Sunday School Offering: \$571.95; Attendance: 357

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$5,061.00 (8.00 am); \$13,098.20 (10.30 am)
OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1800, \$500, \$802(Chinese Ser);
Reformed S Bible \$50, \$300; Davenport Van Fd \$500, \$100,
\$14000, \$205, \$150; Ev Tract Dist Canada \$300, Rfd Tract Dist
\$50; Stones \$100; Agape Clinic \$10; Extn of Gospel \$750; Tj
Piyu \$255, 50, \$252(Box), \$200; China Mission \$160;
Children's Ministry \$50; Missions \$100; J J Lim \$50, \$300;
Jack Sin \$50, \$200(YAF); Batam \$50; VBS \$50; Seets \$100,
\$100, \$300(YAF); Yangan Orph \$100; Dohar Medan \$50.

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) Praise God from whom all blessings flow. I like to thank
God for a blessed pilgrimage for my wife and I. This \$200
goes to accelerated missions. To God be the Glory! Amen.
(2) Thank the Lord for working in my mother, for she has
just accepted the Lord recently. Praise the Almighty God
(\$50 to Reformed S Bible).

Far Eastern Bible College

announces

the 21st Graduation Service

at

Life Bible Presbyterian Church
Lord's Day, June 9, 1996, 8.00 pm



Refreshments following ceremony.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063
2569256/Fax: (65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 10

9 June 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 46
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 101	Psalm 46
Hymn	No. 388	No. 335
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 249	No. 244
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Genesis 39	Daniel 6:1-28
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Hardest Word to Say (Dr Howard Carlson)	Dare to Believe and Behave (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 247	No. 373
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

"TOTAL MOBILISATION FOR JESUS' SOON RETURN"

The climax of the Calvary-Life Bible Camp and Missionary Conference was reached when the Word was preached from Matt 20:1-16 (parable of labourers to the Vineyard) titled, *Total Mobilisation for Jesus' Soon Return*. This was a restatement of the Conference theme, *Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century*. And this was a challenge to the 350 English-speaking adults that made up the majority of campers, including some 30 FEBC students and faculty, chief speaker, Dr Howard Carlson. The rest comprised 250 Chinese-speaking Calvarians, ministered by Elder Teo Kek Hock; 35 Chinese-speaking Lifers by Sis Ng Sang Chiew; 50 young children by Mrs Lim Jyh Jang (2-3 years); Patricia Lum (4-6 years); Serene Lim (7-9 years); Mrs Annie Lim (10-12 years).

One special feature of the Conference was the showing of slides on Burma (Rev Robert Thawm Luai); Kenya (Rev Mark Kim); Indonesia (Rev Haposan); Philippines (Charles Seet); Saipan/China (Rev Pang Kok Hiong). In order to have a part in the ministry in far off difficult places where even jeeps could not save themselves from waterlogged mud tracks

and horses had to take over, a call was made to the congregation to bring a gift on the second night. This amounted to S\$22,350 to be divided equally between the five harvest fields. Slides on Adelaide and the Stone Mansion of Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church and the Fundamental Bible College of Australia were shown also by Rev Ed Paaue, and glimpses of the newly acquired "Reformed" Church in London and of other contacts such as Canada, Vancouver, New Zealand, Petaling Jaya, Puchong were given by Dr S H Tow. Dr Tow gave the keynote address and Pastor Tow the closing.

Devotional speakers were Rev Paaue, Mr Andrew Lian, Elder Khoo Peng Kiat and Mr Sid Bell. 300 copies each of *Pattern for Church Growth and Missions* and *Ting Li Mei, the First Chinese Evangelist*, were provided by Life Church for the further edification of conferees. A portion was presented to Calvary Jaya BP Bookroom.

"Music is next to theology," says Martin Luther. The singing of sacred songs by Mrs Bonnie Carlson, Deborah Mae, the numbers offered by Life Children's Choir, the singing of *Jesus bids us shine* by the

This is the land at Lingga on the Highway between Pontianak, West Kalimantan and Kuching, Sarawak. Recently it was visited by Eld Sng Teck Leong and party of ten young Lifers. Djunaidi stands third on the left.



Bright Sparks and older children of Life Church, the singing by FEBC Korean students and Life YF all rose as a joyful noise unto the Lord and a delight to our souls. The puppet shows on *Lying* and *Dropped Off Kids* spoke solemnly to our hearts.

This report cannot end without expressing our thanks to Rev Quek Suan Yew, Camp Commandant and Elder George Foong, Assist-Commandant; Carol Lee, Treasurer; Food Coordinator, Dn Henry Tan; Transport Coordinators, Dn Yiew Pong Sen (Life) and Steven Lee (Calvary); Rooms Registration, Tng Tai Hou and Henry Chua; Medical Officer, Dr Tan Bien Kim. Last but not least, Benny Chng of the Vanguard and Instant Helper to anyone in need. Praise the Lord for His bountiful blessings and journeying mercies all the way.

—T.T.

A TRIBUTE TO MY ALMA MATER

Tonight at 8pm is the 21st FEBC Graduation Ceremony at Life Church with Dr Howard Carlson, pastor, theologian, archaeologist speaking. Founded in 1962 by the Principal, Rev Timothy Tow, FEBC has graduated over 300 from 15 countries in the last 34 years. With a humble beginning of 3 students who sat on stools and the Principal lecturing, today by the

mercies of God, it has increased to 90 students in the new semester in July this year. A Reformed and Premillennial, Separatist School in this part of the world, one of the ideals of the college is its theological and pastoral approach in training students, with a strong emphasis on original languages, both Hebrew and Greek. The strength of the college is further enhanced by many publications authored by the Principal and workbooks on Bible themes and subjects written by the lecturers. There will be 25 graduands this evening in the different academic levels (Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor, Master). From Maranatha, Bro George, Bessy and Emmy and I will receive our credentials tonight. In reminiscence, I thank God for the opportunity to be equipped for the ministry in FEBC. The three gruelling years of language training and pastoral internship had helped me in my discharge of ministerial duties today. I remembered those fruitful nights of useful study, delving deeply into the Scriptures to hone practical, exegetical and hermeneutical skills for use in due time. The lecturers were forthright in encouraging and enabling the students to learn and grow in a conducive pedagogic environment. The interaction with foreign students was another enriching experience in college life in FEBC. Often the Principal would give practical tips during chapel hour for Christian living and the

ministry ahead. Informal lunch time fellowship among lecturers and students is also invaluable coupled with the palatable and nutritious food cooked by the Matron. Particularly in my final semester, I am grateful to Rev Tow and Dr Jeffrey Khoo for their advice and interaction during the writing of my thesis. The subject of the Judgment Seat of Christ is a sadly neglected theme today from pulpits and Bible classes. Resources and reference materials on the subject were conspicuously scarce. Both advisors supplemented this scarcity with their keen insights and contributions to render the paper a richer content and a smoother read. (Special mention must also go to Dn Lim JJ for his assistance in the formatting of the paper.) Personally, I derived great joy and learned much in the research and writing of this paper. Thank God for all who have helped and prayed in one way or another.

For 34 years under the visionary leadership of her Principal, FEBC has followed one unwavering course, that of equipping men and women called into the full-time ministry to defend the faith (Jude 3,4), build up the saints and propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ. In a decadent age of falling vision and compromising spiritual values, thank God for preserving this institution of the Reformed tradition. FEBC has stood foursquare on the inerrant and infallible, plenary inspired Word of God. It has survived the insidious liberal theological seminaries and colleges today.

I will always cherish fond memories of a pleasant stay in FEBC for 3 years of theological training, the camaraderie developed among fellow students and the kind tutelage from the Principal and lecturers. The Principal forecasts a good intake this coming Semester, especially foreign students. But where are the local students except for one from Calvary so far? Is there anyone who felt a burden in the heart to give up their lives for the cause of the gospel? Seek the Lord prayerfully in obedience and do not hesitate to join this college for sound Reformed scholarship in preparation for the pastoral ministry or the mission field. Take up the cross daily, deny self and follow Christ (Lk 9:23). Amen.

—Jack Sin

DIRECTORY OF GRADUANDS, 1995-96

1. Chia Boon Siong, Alan (CertBS), deacon, Life BPC.
2. Bessy Geevarghese (MRE), SS teacher, Maranatha BPC.
3. Georgekutty Skariah (MDiv), preacher, Maranatha BPC.
4. Hpung Raw Hpung Seng (MRE), preacher, Rawang Christian Church, Myanmar.
5. Hsu Tzu Hui, Emmy (CertBS), Taiwan.
6. Kim Jae Eun (BTh), Korea.
7. Subramaniam s/o Karoonpan (BRE), pastor, Bethlehem BPC.
8. Koh Siew Keng, Mabeline (CertRK), Calvary Pandan BPC.
9. Lazum Lonewah (BTh), MDiv student, Temple Baptist Seminary, USA.
10. Lee Sau Loong (CertBS), Malaysia.
11. Lim Jit Thye (BTh), preacher, Calvary-Jaya BPC, Malaysia.
12. Lim Keow Ker, George (MRE), pastor, Macedonia BPC.
13. Yusniar Lumbantoruan (DipTh), missionary, Djakarta.
14. Ester Limin (CertBS), Indonesia.
15. Nwe Yin Mon, Priscilla (DipTh), Myanmar.
16. Prateep Cheepnirand (MDiv), preacher, Yasothon Gospel Church, Thailand.
17. Seah Seow Hock (CertBS), Life BPC.
18. See Teck Hup, Conrad (DipTh), Tabernacle BPC.
19. Sin Yeow Keong, Jack (MDiv), pastor, Maranatha BPC.
20. Mariana Siregar (DipTh), church worker, GAPPI Batam.
21. Tan Kiat Siong, Henry (CertRK), deacon, Life BPC.
22. Tan Yeow Liang, Alvin (BTh), church worker, Sembawang BPC.
23. Kenneth Darrell Womeldorf, Jr (BTh), MDiv student, Western Reformed Seminary, USA.
24. Woo Mei Kheng, Jenny (CertBS), missionary, Shalom BPC.
25. Yiew Pong Sen (MDiv), warden, Life BPC.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE (Lectures by Dr Howard Carlson)

	June 10 Monday	June 11 Tuesday	June 12 Wednesday	June 13 Thursday	June 14 Friday	June 15 Saturday
9am to 10.30 am	Days of the Patriarchs I	Treasures of Egypt I	Israel's Kingdom Days I	The Dead Sea Scrolls I	New Testament Discoveries I	Examination
10.30 to 11.00 am	RECESS					
11.00 am to 12.30 pm	Days of the Patriarchs II	Treasures of Egypt II	Israel's Kingdom Days II	The Dead Sea Scrolls II	New Testament Discoveries II	
12.30 pm to 1.00 pm	LUNCH (lunch tickets sold daily)					

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 17 - 23, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Slides of Lingga)	\$4,818 (8.00 am); \$10,093.20 (10.30 am)		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>EBF II</i> \$621, \$2700; <i>Reformed S Bible</i> \$50, \$150, \$3163(FEBC Graduation), \$372(Box), \$250, \$1000, \$6000(JSM); <i>RPG</i> \$100; <i>China Mission</i> \$300; <i>A Kam, Yangon</i> \$300; <i>Yiew PS</i> \$200; <i>Seets</i> \$100; <i>China-Chinese Bibles</i> \$100; <i>Agape Clinic</i> \$10; <i>Jakarta, Yusniar</i> \$500(Kebaktian Ins); <i>Batam</i> \$620; <i>FEBC</i> \$300.		
THU	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal			
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, FEBC Hall			
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF			
	5.00 pm	Wedding of William Seah & Amy Chia, Rev Tow			
SUN	8.00 am	Pastor Jack Sin			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Prof William Harding			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina Fship			
	2.30 pm	Rev Tow at Tabernacle BPC Anniv.			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.					
Verse for the Week: And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him. Hebrews 12:5					
Sunday School Offering: \$2,869.07					

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) Please direct this small amount of offering (\$100) to the Stone family. Thank God for His providential care all the days of our life, even this breath of life. May we especially be ever thankful for His salvation and therefore remain faithful unto Him. May God help us. Amen.—Sinner saved by grace.

(2) To God be the glory! Thank you Lord for your love and care during my illness. \$100 for China Chinese Bibles.

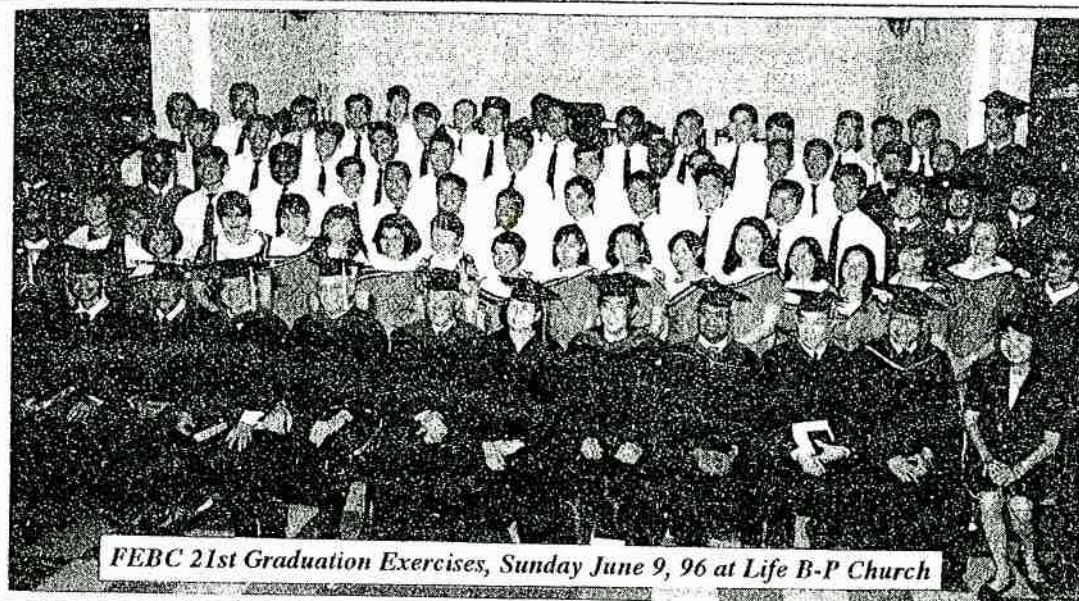
(3) Thank you Lord for everything. Continue to grant me the wisdom and strength to do well in my endeavours and to guide my path always (Prov 3:26). Praise the Lord.

—Your humble servant.

(4) Thank God for our son's reaffirmation of faith in Christ today! (7/4/96) (\$4000)

(5) We thank God for providing us a new office building in perfect timing.

Missionary Fellowship Thanksgiving Service, Sunday 30 June, 12.15 pm, FEBC Hall. *The Power of Missions* by Missionary Charles Seet.



FEBC 21st Graduation Exercises, Sunday June 9, 96 at Life B-P Church



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Vol. V No. 11

16 June 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Geoffrey Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 88	No. 71
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 32	Isaiah 60:1-14
Hymn	No. 175	No. 295
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 460	<i>Go Into the World</i>
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 7, 8	Matt 24:14; 28:19-20
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>When Empires Rise and Fall</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>Missions in the Last Day</i> (Rev Thawm Luai)
Closing Hymn	No. 421	No. 417
Benediction		

WITH FEBC WE CAN VENTURE FASTER INTO THE WORLD

According to The Straits Times, Monday June 10, "Singapore needs to add depth to its economy by placing more emphasis on research and development and venturing out into the world in search of business, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong has said." What he has said on the economic front can be applied to the Church, if we are to flourish and prosper.

Insofar as Life Church is concerned, we have FEBC in the realm of "research and development" and we have missions programme that ventures out into the world. Of the 25 in the 21st Graduation last Lord's Day, five are Lifers. They are Alan Chia Boon Siong, Seah Seow Hock, Henry Tan Kiat Siong, Yusniar Lumbantoruan, Yiew Pong Sen.

Alan Chia is involved in Life Book Shop (privatised) with many branches, Yiew Pong Sen is Church Warden, Yusniar Lumbantoruan is newly commissioned missionary to Djakarta, Henry Tan and Seah Seow Hock consecrated themselves at the Awana Conference.

Last week Eld Sng Teck Leong showed us by photo the

land bought by Rev Djunaiddi which is now being cleared for the building of a B-P Church. Now, we are glad to report Yusniar to have established a witness in a house she has rented in Djakarta, capital of Indonesia.

The rest of the 25 graduates are mostly committed to the Lord and going into the Lord's Vineyard.

We have faithful missionaries in national leaders whom we support in the ASEAN countries. The latest development of Tanjung Piayu under Roska results in the building of a Kindergarten with quarters for the pastor and staff. Rev Thawm Luai reports the planting of three Burmese Churches on the Thai Border at Tatchilek, via Mae Sai. He has requested these mountain churches to come under the oversight of Nirand and Jess, whose base is Chiang Mai. With FEBC graduates in the field, let us venture faster in the light of His soon return. —T.T.

A GREAT CHURCH

CAMP by Linda Chan

"I wish my church had a camp. My children are so bored at home," lamented my colleague. Thank God that our Session always take care of us Lifers. Thank God for a

wonderful Camp at Awana last week. Initially I thought we would not be able to make it because Daphne sprained her ankle two days before the camp. Thank God there was no fracture and she could hobble about in camp.

I have never been to a camp that was so well run right from the beginning. 650 Lifers and Calvinians made their way to the causeway in 12 coaches at 7.00 am sharp. Thank God we didn't have to change buses and everything went on smoothly at the causeway. Our coach reached Awana Golf & Country Resort at 5.30 pm.

One good thing about this camp is that the activities for the different age groups for children were very well organised. Much preparation must have been made because my five-year-old Amos handed me a Kindergarten Booklet with all the Bible lessons that he had learnt throughout the time he was being 'baby-sitted.' Imagine having your children taken care of from 9.00 am to 12 noon and 7.00 pm to 10.00 pm! That was some amount of baby-sitting (6 hours a day) and in Singapore you have to pay quite a sum of money for your children to be usefully occupied during the school holidays. Thank God for the meticulous running of the 5-day camp.

The opening message by Dr Tow was a revelation to one and all. As each overhead transparency was revealed to the congregation, everyone of us was 'stunned' at the fulfilment of Rev 13:8 "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." 'Him' refers to the Pope. Dr Tow showed us a photograph of papal priests paying obeisance to the Pope.

The three signs of the end times are *Peace, Falling Away of the Church* and *One World Church*. The transparencies (free handouts were given by courtesy of Dr Tow) gave evidence of the three signs. Indeed the Lord's Coming is imminent. We must be 'mobilised' into action quickly. Hence the theme for the Church Camp — *Accelerated Missions into the 21st Century*.

And the Camp Theme Song — *Labourers of God Arise!*

Every morning began with Devotion from 9.00 - 10.00 followed by the Theme Message by Dr Howard Carlson. Afternoons were free time for us. Although it was drizzling most of the time, like some of the campers, we ventured to Genting Highlands for some fun.

On Wed (5/6/96), about 30 ladies gathered together for a time of fellowship from 4.30 - 6.00 pm. Mrs Leah Paaue led the session and several missionaries and Lifers shared their testimonies. I learnt how mothers seek the Lord's help whenever they are beset by trials and testing especially in the bringing up of adolescents. Sister Jannie Tang pointed to us the wisdom of Isaiah 28:9,10 "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk... For precept must be upon precept... here a little, and there a little." As Christian mothers we should do our part in teaching the Word of God to our children instead of just leaving it to the Sunday School teachers. Most importantly we should pray for our children's salvation. The son or daughter of a praying mother will never be lost. How comforting to learn from the several testimonies that Christian mothers also have problems with raising up their adolescents. But no problem is too difficult if we bring it in prayer to the Lord.

Every night we were shown slides on the various missions supported by our church and other B-P churches. The most remarkable mission station is Saipan. We were amazed by the number of baptisms that Pastor Pang Kok Hiong had carried out. There were 400 baptisms in 4 years! Praise the Lord! You've got to see the slides to believe. The Chinese workers were so hungry for God's Word. May we Lifers be as eager in hearing and reading God's Word as those eager born-again Christians who would go back to China to spread the Gospel.

In his closing message our dear Pastor preached a powerful sermon. Using the parable

of *Labourers in God's Vineyard* (Matt 20:1-6) Rev Tow urged the young, middle-aged and retired to serve the Lord for there is no greater joy than in serving Jesus. In serving the Lord for the past 45 years, Pastor testified that he has health, home and happiness — things that money cannot buy. Rev Tow exhorted one and all to answer God's Call. There must be no conditions but to totally submit to Him, only motivated by the love of God which constraineth. "You cannot rest until you answer." Dr Tow commented that the response was a little similar to the day of John Sung. All the FEBC students came forward to renew their pledge to labour for the Lord. I believe the rest of the campers also renewed their faith to serve the Lord, if not full-time but part-time (serving in the Sunday School, VBS, fellowship groups, etc).

Before Pastor's closing message, Brother Vincent Hee gave a touching testimony of how the Lord called him. He had many sleepless nights until he surrendered and answered God's call. With Rev Tow's exhortation to the campers to come forth and serve the Lord full-time and bearing Bro Vincent Hee's powerful testimony in mind, I wrote this poem as our coach meandered down the Highlands.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Go into the world, into all the wide world,
And tell the joyful news to ev'ry perishing soul,
And tell the joyful news to ev'ry perishing soul.

For you I have sent into all the wide world,
And you shall be my witnesses from Jerusalem,
And you shall be my witnesses from Jerusalem.

But first receive power, the Spirit of God,
And you'll go through Judea, Samaria, all the earth,
And you'll go through Judea, Samaria, all the earth.

Go ye into all, into all nations,
And make them My disciples, and baptise
them for Me,
And teach them all My Word, for I'm with you
to the end.

When He Calls

When He calls,
Many a sleepless night
You'll be tossing and turning,
Your mind assailed by reasons for
procrastinating —
I'm too young, I'm too old,
I'm at the prime of my career,
Perhaps when I'm middle-aged,
Perhaps when I'm retired,
Perhaps tomorrow. . .

But who knows what tomorrow holds?
You may be suddenly called Home prematurely.
How would you feel,
When empty-handed you kneel
Before the One whom you have refused to yield
Your life to Him?
Would you not regret that you've pained
Him who hath given His life for your gain?

When He calls,
Do not tarry, do not worry.
He who hath called thee
Will pave the way for you
And supply your every need,
Though the way will be fraught with troubles,
Many a blessing that comes upon you
will be doubled,
Because the Lord, who is your Master,
is the Best paymaster!

When he calls,
And you answer, "Lord, take my life
and lead me."
Then only are you able to sleep peacefully,
Because you've finally surrendered to His
pertinent call.
Like Paul you'd be able to say,
"...and the life which I now live in the flesh
I live by the faith of the Son of God
Who loved me, and gave Himself for me."
(Gal 2:20)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(June 24 - 30, '96)

TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	8.00 pm	Ladies F'ship BS
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Rev Tow
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC
	12.45 pm	MsF Mtg, FEBC Hall
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour

NBC This Week. Fri Bt Timah, Henderson.

Missionary Fellowship Thanksgiving Service, today at 12.15 pm, FEBC Hall. *The Power of Missions* by Missionary Charles Sect.

Verse for the Week: *Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.* Romans 8:37

Sunday School Offering: \$475.95; Attendance: 314

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$5,477.00 (8.00 am); \$9,830.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Reformed S Bible \$100; RPG \$100; Missions \$200, \$50; Seets \$50, \$300, \$300, \$100(YAF); YF \$50; Yiew P S \$50, \$300; E-Band (Kwok Wah) \$200; Hilltop \$450; Agape Clinic \$10; Burma \$600; Nirands \$300; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$300; Rev J Ling \$50(YAF); Extn of the Gospel \$400(Boxes), \$29(Boxes).

Corrigendum: \$620 designated to Batam was given by *Ladies F'ship*.


FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) *Praise God for His manifold mercies and blessings upon me and my family. Please use the enclosed \$600 equally for mission work in Burma and Thailand.*

(2) *I thank and praise God for all the blessings that He bestows upon me. I have experienced much of His goodness and faithfulness. I return to the Lord the recent increment that He has blessed me with. May the Lord use this token sum to further the advancement of His Kingdom. (\$200 Missions, \$100 Reformed Study Bible)*

(3) *Please pray for me that the Lord will guide me and give me wisdom in my life, and guard my tongue, to speak blessings and not curse. (\$100)*

(4) *For thanksgiving to the Lord for deliverance and provision of a job for my sister. (\$100)*



Young Lifers involved with children of the VBS, June 11-14, 96 at entrance to Beulah House. VBS enrolment: 180.



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063
2569256/Fax:(65)2506955

(Ring Pastor 250-2138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 12

23 June 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 235	No. 72
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 36	Psalms 84
Hymn	No. 429	No. 132
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 389	No. 351
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 9:1-19	James 1:22-25
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Power in Prayer</i> (Pastor Jack Sin)	<i>Doers of the Word</i> (Prof William Harding)
Closing Hymn	No. 366	No. 532
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

"What a friend we have in Jesus" and "Earnestly and tenderly Jesus is calling" through the pleading voice of Deborah Mae is now available in CDs and tapes at FEBC Bookroom. This is another addition to "Accelerated Missions" for the message in song soothes many a troubled heart and introduces Jesus the Light of the World to those groping in the darkness of sin. What better gift to a friend in need of consolation and salvation!

Why did your pastor start the former Life Book Centre in 1962? And revive it 1976? And now FEBC buys it back after its privatisation since 1979? It was with the realisation that a Christian Bookroom selling Bibles and sound Christian books was a vital part of the Church. It is a Gospel arsenal to the fire power of the pulpit. It is a "house of bread" to members of the Church, yea, to the whole household of faith. It is a buying agent for the Bible College and theological students beyond our campus. FEBC, indeed, helps to accelerate missions by attending to your spiritual needs.

As Dr and Mrs Carlson are missionaries at heart, having served 12 years in Palestine at Baraka B-P Church, Bethlehem, they would not be satisfied without seeing our

work in Bintan and Batam Islands.

In our three days visit, we are happy to report these latest developments. The old "haunted" wooden house that was the parsonage at Tg Pinang is pulled down, at last, and a 2½ storey brick building in its place has arisen to form a U complex with the school and church.

Deacon Kuan kindly drove us in his new jeep to Uban, 90 km north of Pinang, to inspect the bungalow rented by our Chinese Church the last five years. It is now vacated by Mr & Mrs Chia Jung Kong our mission-workers, but Eld Sng Teck Leong has stepped in to carry on its ministry with a panel of speakers, etc every Lord's Day. We have three families that constitute the congregation.

From Uban to Batam, there is a regular half-hour speed boat service to Punggur (not Kabil), crossing the Straits in 15 minutes.

When we visited the big church built by Calvary BPC at Orchid Park we were glad to see Macedonia BPC (Chinese) holding a camp there under Eld George Lim (candidate for ordination with Eld Teo Kek Hock on Oct 6, 96). There were

45 of them.

As for Tg Piayu, they have added to the Church a parsonage and a 3-classroom kindergarten with ancillary buildings, Rev Jeffrey Khoo has begun to administer the Lord's Supper here every month on top of Batu Aji. Dn and Mrs Francis Sng visit Tg Piayu also monthly for "accelerated missions."

Batu Aji has an estimated enrolment of 100 for the kindergarten. We have room for 3 classes. Suparti our worker from Medan (Haposan) is all set for its opening in July. A new principal is presently being appointed also by Haposan from Medan. Then we have two assistant teachers who have also applied. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov 22:6).

On the mid-night before our visit to the Riau Islands, I was shocked to be informed by Enid that Rev John Ling her father was admitted to Mt Elizabeth for his heart trouble. The doctor told us John's case was serious, but not without hope. We prayed fervently for him with Sang Chiew and Rev Philip Heng.

On our return following Wednesday we were thankful to the Lord for sustaining him. As he was in deep sleep (a good sign) we prayed, pleading the Lord's further mercies. The same morning, Eld Khoo who took me to see John Ling and I also visited Mr Chua Too Swee who was to go up the operation table at 1.00 pm. Bro Chua has just been diagnosed for cancer of the lungs. We committed him to the Lord in the presence of his wife and daughter and son-in-law who flew in from Melbourne. I advised him to read the Psalms, any Psalm and go right through to the end. This has helped many a member in the hour of need. — T.T.

How Do You Know IT is a Good or Bad Bible Translation?

John R Rice, Editor of the Sword of the Lord, once said, "If the translation plays up the Word of God it is good. If the translation plays down the Word of God it is bad."

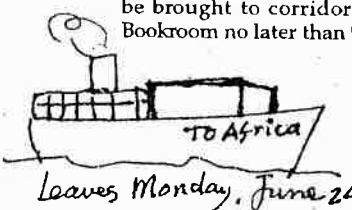
The best test is, How do they translate Isaiah 7:14 where the Virgin Birth of Christ is the touchstone? Where for centuries it is "Virgin," according to the King James Version, now it is "young woman." Though the NIV translates virgin, its study Bible subtly denies the "immediate" virginity of Mary, mother of our Lord. To NIV's assistance, the KJV Evangelical Study Bible twists further. In her place is Isaiah's so-called second wife, a virgin (supposedly) at the time the prophecy was uttered, and no more a virgin when Isaiah married her (how cunning!). This is how Satan uses modern Study Bibles to inject their cobra juice into the sacred text.

But what does Matthew, the inspired commentator on Isaiah 7:14 say: "Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Matt 1:22-23). There is no mention of Isaiah's so-called second wife (supposedly a virgin!). How did NIV translators know she was a virgin? As it is today, many in Isaiah's day were no virgins on Wedding Day. (Read Hosea, who prophesied in Isaiah's time.)

With this introduction, we are serialising Dr S H Tow's Booklet, *In Defence of the King James Version Holy Bible* as an antidote to these so-called Bible scholars of the new versions.

Our Korean Church is sending one container of goods to Rev Mark Kim, Bible College of East Africa. With much available space they invite Lifers to bring your surplus clothing, books, toys, whatever usable to fill the void. But if your goods for Africa are to enter the Container in time they must be brought to corridor outside FEBC Bookroom no later than 9.00 am.

Hurry!



Leaves Monday, June 24

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE by Dr S H Tow Preface

"Blessed is he that readeth . . . for the time is at hand" (Rev 1:3).

History is in its final dark hour. "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: . . . let us put on the armour of light" (Rom 13:12). Be enlightened, be discerning, be informed.

The Lord of history is coming! It's later than you think.

The perilous last days predicted in God's Word are here (2 Tim 3:1). Planet Earth, under the sway of the "prince of this world" (John 14:30), swirls along in deepening darkness. Christendom is fallen into enemy hands; the evangelicals of "Evangelicals and Catholics Together 1994" have finally surrendered, climaxing the "falling away" foretold in God's Word (2 Thess 2:3). False Christs and false prophets abound in churches everywhere. The harlot of Revelation 17 takes shape before our very eyes.

God's work has suffered severe setback everywhere. Nor has His Word escaped the enemy's attack.

Until only some fifty years ago, one Bible reigned supreme in all the English-speaking world: the King James Version (KJV). Against the upsurge of modern English Bibles, the KJV held its own among God's people as the best loved and trusted Bible.

Today, no longer. The time-honoured KJV has been dethroned; KJV readers are seen as a dying remnant of "narrow minded, ill informed, backward bigots." What a deadly turn of the tide! The Christian's one trusty weapon, the mighty "Sword of the Spirit" (Eph 6:17), has suffered a grievous blow.

Yet, not so. God's truth is never defeated. The Lord of the Bible is ever triumphant, in complete and overall control. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt 24:35). The present dominance of corrupt Bible versions, while serving the enemy's cause, has done nothing to shake the foundation of God's Word, for "the foundation of God standeth sure. . ." (2 Tim 2:19). The KJV's days are far from over!

The *Twenty-first Century Readers Bible* is

to rally God's people in the English-speaking world: the battle for Truth rages but final victory is never in question. Our Lord is ever victorious. He wins who sides with the Lord of history. The true Christian is not a spectator, but a combatant for God. He heeds the call to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).

The *Twenty-first Century Readers Bible* is a call to God's people to earnestly contend for the Word of God against the flood of false Bibles, false versions, false translations, and false translators now pervading the world. This is an hour of extreme deception, which, if it were possible, would "deceive the very elect" (Matt 24:24). Let God's elect stand fast against the final "falling away" (2 Thess 2:3).

The *Twenty-first Century Readers Bible* is a call to spiritual warfare: neutrality in this hour is treachery. The Lord must raise up valiant men of faith and fight, men like Luther and the Reformers, men like Tyndale and Wycliffe, men like the Apostle Paul, whose words, in the face of threat to life, must bolster our timid spirits (Acts 20:24):

But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

To the fainthearted he says, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong" (1 Cor 16:13):

We need men like Spurgeon who, in his time fought the good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith, against the apostate Baptist Union. We need men like Shields, "the Spurgeon of the Twentieth Century," who wrote in 1923:

I have come . . . to believe that there is nothing left to us but to declare war on modernism everywhere. For myself, I have resigned from the diplomatic service and joined the army in the field! . . . There is no place for neutrality in this war. He that is not for Christ is against Him.

God bless every faithful reader of the Word. And be ye doers of the Word, and not readers only, deceiving your own selves. Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 1 - 7, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$4,838.00 (8.00 am); \$14,259.40 (10.30 am)	
FRI	8.00 pm	Ladies' F'ship Bible Study	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$100; Rfd S Bible \$200, \$50, \$100; Missions \$515(Coinafon); \$5000, \$625.90(US\$450); Stones \$600; Stone Mansion \$400; Rev John Ling \$50, \$20, \$200; Church Choir \$50; RPG \$100; I.Coast Msn \$150; Yangon Orph \$300; Nirands \$230; Hope BPC \$100; VBS \$10; J J Lim \$70, \$40; Agape Clinic \$10; Extn of Gospel \$50, \$140, \$1000(Boxes), \$84, \$500(Jr Worship Ser); LBP K'ten, Kuantan \$168. Corrigendum: Add "Jeffrey Khoo \$300" to last week's offerings.	
SAT	2.30 pm	LTFYF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SUN	8.00 am	Elder Khoo Peng Kiat	(1) Praise God Almighty! Thank you Lord for helping my grand-daughters to pass their piano exam. Thank you also for your love, care and guidance for me and my family everyday. For Chinese Bibles (\$50).	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(2) Praise God from whom all blessings flow. I truly thank God for His continued mercy and love upon me and my family. Enclosed please assign offerings of \$500 each to Thailand, Indonesia and Burma. Another \$430 please assign to yourself and your work, dear Pastor.	
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	(3) Thank the Lord for helping my family to cope with the loss of our Father and providing us with good health.	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	JOHN SUNG MY TEACHER in Chinese now available @ \$5.00! FEBC Bookroom new phone: 254-9188.	
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Worship		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.				
Sunday School Offering: \$777.95; Attendance: 397				
Verse for the Week: <i>But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.</i> 1 Pet 4:13				
We thank the Lord for saving Pastor John Ling from his recent illness. He left Mt Elizabeth Sat. June 29. We welcome him, wife and children to our Service today as they worship Him anew as a family (Ps 40:1-6). We praise the Lord also for Bro Chua Too Swee's deliverance and mercies on his family.				



Behind the Tg Piyau Church are living qrs. for the Pastor and staff, with a 3-room kindergarten to the right.



Pij

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 13

30 June 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	8.00 am	10.30 am
Opening Hymn	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Rev Tow
Invocation-Gloria Patri	No. 46	No. 47
Responsive Reading	Lam 3:1-26	Psalms 23
Hymn	No. 321	<i>My Wonderful Shepherd...</i>
Announcements		<i>Romans verse 8</i>
Offering & Hymn	No. 425	
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Daniel 9:20-27	Rom 2:1-3
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Troubled Times Ahead</i>	<i>That "Holler Than Thou" Attitude</i>
	(Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	
Closing Hymn	No. 220	No. 273
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

Last Lord's Day I was invited to speak at the 9th Anniversary Thanksgiving of Tabernacle BPC (Rev Ronny Khoo). Tabernacle BPC is now shifted from the Warehouse in Tampines to No. 2 Jalan Mayaanam. If you are proceeding from town on PIE, then when you hit Upper Changi Road East, turn left and quickly turn right into Upper Changi North. In no time turn left to No. 2 Jln Mayaanam. You cannot miss the place of worship which is in Salvation Army Changi East Corps. Tabernacle BPC's new hour of worship is 2.45 pm. This new location at the confluence of several trunk roads is within easy reach. If you can more conveniently visit the Salvation Army premises, why not come and join the young church here instead of not going to church at all!

July 5, '96 will be the 2nd Anniversary Thanksgiving of the Kemaman Presbyterian Church, so I must make special effort to be there. For this important occasion we should like to drive up in the Church minibus in order that others might come. We leave Friday July 5, 8.00 am first for Kuantan (tel. 0209-567-1489), so as to bring Elder & Mrs Leong Yin Chu along. Thus, we can take in only five from Singapore. First come, first served.

We hold worship the same evening at 7.30 pm. After service at 9.00 pm, we drive back to Kuantan for the night.

Saturday morning we return to Singapore 8.00 am, to be back at Gilstead Rd 3.00 pm.

What's the result of two years hard work? Five were baptised recently including a doctor, his wife and child. These newly baptised have now become pillars of the Church. If any Reader should like to visit Kemaman and Kuantan, please see Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

August 8, which is eve of National Day coincides with Jesus Saves Mission's Anniversary. JSM has requested to use our Auditorium the same day. A very warm welcome to our brethren and sisters.



Having tasted the sweetness of the Calvary-Life Combined Camp under the banner of the 21st Century Reformation we have agreed jointly to go to Awana again. The conference grounds is now booked for us. As to speakers we will give our young colleagues the lead. All who can speak must speak. The showing of slides in the evenings has injected more life into the conference, for a picture is worth a thousand words. What we need now is the theme. Let's pray for the Lord's direction. Let us remember to thank the Lord for moving 650 people from S'pore to Genting and back without a hitch, and Transglobe for their good arrangements.

Next year in May we have decided to lead the 8th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land via London. This is to coincide with the renovation and Dedication of New Life Church (acquired for £465,000). To work out bookings more properly and save unnecessary headaches, your \$200 deposit will not be refundable. This sum will go to the relief of poor Palestinian Christians. So be very sure you are coming. Limited to 50 strictly. Meanwhile, let us "pray for the peace of



Miss Davenport and her new KIA Van

Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" (Ps 122).

Thank God for your response to add to the Container leaving for Kenya last Monday, June 24. A mountain of surplus goods in excellent condition were sent including hundreds of copies of Pastor Tow's books. These would be used not only by Bible College of East Africa but distributed also to two other Colleges. By container, hundreds of dollars in postage has been saved. Another thrust for "Accelerated Missions."

—T.T.

MESSAGES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY TO SEPTEMBER (8.00 AM SERVICE)

Theme: Parables & Miracles of Jesus Christ

DATE	TOPIC/TEXT	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN
JUL	7 Salt and Light of the World (Matt 5:13-16)	Elder Khoo Peng Kiat	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
	14* Healing the Paralytic (Matt 9:1-8)	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Elder Han Soon Juan
	21 The Unforgiving Servant (Matt 18:21-35)	Rev Dr Timothy Tow	Rev Dr Timothy Tow
	28 Healing Two Blind Men (Matt 9:27-31)	Eld(Dr) Lim Teck Chye	Dn Ong Eng Lam
AUG	4 Talents (Matt 25:14-30)	Pastor Jack Sin	Dn George Tan
	11* The Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37)	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Elder Tan Nee Keng
	18 Feeding the Five Thousand (Matt 14:13-21)	Eld(Dr) Lim Teck Chye	Elder Geoffrey Tan
	25 The Draught of Fish (Luke 5:1-11)	Msnr Charles Seet	Dn Wee Chin Kam
SEP	1 The Rich Fool (Luke 13:13-21)	Msnr Charles Seet	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
	8* Cleansing the Ten Lepers (Lk 17:11-19)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Elder Han Soon Juan
	15 The Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn John Hoe
	22 The Raising of Lazarus (John 11:17-46)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Ong Eng Lam
	29 The Great Supper (Luke 14:15-24)	Msnr Charles Seet	Elder Tan Nee Keng

*Lord's Supper

"Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season" (II Tim 4:2).

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 1

THE BOOK OF BOOKS . . . how we got the Bible

God gave us one Bible, only one.

No book is like the Bible: it is the BOOK OF BOOKS. Its words are "God-breathed," inspired. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God . . ." (2 Tim 3:16). God was the unseen Author; the men who wrote were merely instruments. 2 Peter 1:19-21 says,

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; . . .

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

In old time God spoke, and holy men wrote. To John the Apostle it was given to "bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ . . ." (Rev 1:2). Our Lord, the One that sat upon the Throne, said to John: "Write: for these words are true and faithful" (Rev 21:5). The **spoken Word** is preserved for us through the ages, as the **written Word**, a sure record that withstands the ravages of time and decay.

The **original records of God's Word**, the **AUTOGRAPHS**, were written in Hebrew (almost all of the OT) and Greek (NT). Today only copies remain, the *autographs* long lost through years of hard usage. Thanks be unto God for preserving thousands of Hebrew and Greek manuscripts (MSS) by the hands of faithful men. God has not left Himself without a witness.

The Word of God is not bound, but must be published to all people, that they may obtain salvation by Jesus Christ. For this purpose God raised up godly men of wisdom and learning, to translate the Word into many languages. Our particular interest is in the English translations.

John Wycliffe was the first to give the English people a translation in their own tongue (1382), but it was based on the *Latin Vulgate* (which had been translated from Hebrew and Greek): William Tyndale was the first to produce an English translation from the original Greek and Hebrew texts (1525), for which he suffered martyrdom. Other translations followed, based

on the same Hebrew and Greek texts: *Coverdale* (1535), *Matthew* (1537), *Taverner* (1539), the *Great Bible* (1539), the *Geneva* (1560), the *Bishops'* (1568).

These translations were useful in their time and served as forerunners of the *King James Version* (KJV) or *Authorised Version* (1611). Within a short time of its appearance, the KJV was acknowledged as the superior and unrivalled translation. This was due to advances in knowledge of the Bible languages and the superior scholarship of the translators; the translation was the combined teamwork of the best scholars from Oxford and Cambridge, godly men with a high view of the Scriptures, fully committed to the accurate and faithful rendering of God's eternal Word from the original languages into the best classical English.

The *Twenty-first Century Readers Bible* is the KJV or Authorised Version (AV). We present this Book to our readers as the **Divine Original**, the one English translation which, above all others is the most complete, accurate and faithful to the original texts. With KJV the reader will not be confounded or deceived in matters of doctrine needful for salvation and spiritual growth.

Ed. Note: *In the Smithsonian Inst. there is a standard ruler made of platinum kept in a glass case under a certain temperature. All rulers in use are made by this yardstick. KJV is accurate like one of these though not the platinum standard. Can we say of the NIV as we say of KJV? By no means. NIV is shorter by half an inch to say the least. Why? When they amend the text, and throw away words like "begotten," and turn "land of Sinim" into "regions of Aswan." Their methodology in "dynamic equivalent" is like "reported speech." KJV's verbal equivalent is like "direct speech." Which is more accurate? This is what is meant "as the Divine Original." "For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8).*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 8 - 14, '96)

TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall
	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship, Beulah Hse
SAT	3.00 pm	YAF/YF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Dr Jeffrey Khoo, Lord's Supper
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Rev Goh Seng Fong
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Worship
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service

NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah.

Sunday School Offering: \$487.10; Attendance: 357

Verse for the Week: Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Isaiah 49:16

We extend our deepest condolences to Bro Teo Peng Joo on the passing of his mother Sunday June 30, 96.

Rev John Ling returned to his house at Kelapa Sawit yesterday, but will be back in S'pore for check up on July 16.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$6,379.00 (8.00 am); \$9,828.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Rfd S Bible \$110, \$100, \$50, \$220; Missions \$100, \$50, \$200, \$50, \$300, \$250, \$33(US\$30); Rfd Tract Msty \$10, \$100; Maf \$220; J J Lim \$200; Medan Orph \$750, \$450; Yangon Orph \$750, \$450; Yiew P S \$250; Seets \$250, \$100, \$300, \$200; Chinese Bibles \$770; I.Coast, J Wonsla \$150; Agape Clinic \$10; Africa, Mid-east \$220; Batam \$540; Medan, Dohar \$50.

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) I want to thank the merciful Lord for enabling me to pass my second semester exam. In the last semester exam, I'd been gripped by fear and worries thus was unable to put my full trust in Him; I flunk my two papers. But I want to thank the Lord as He made me realise that I'd relied on my own efforts and not Him. Indeed God will work through us if we rely on Him and He is always faithful.

Heavenly Father, how I thank and praise thee for Thy abounding love to all who call on you. Enclosed is a small token of \$50 for the extension of your Kingdom. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. —A Grateful servant

Vacancies for kindergarten teacher at FEK.

Contact 251-3676 or pager 9410-5798.

FEBC Bookroom new phone: 254-9188. CD's and tapes. Why not give Deborah Mae's to console a friend?



This is Life BPC sitting in a garden in Chiang Mai. The garage on right is now become the office. The verandah upstairs will become another room.



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 14

7 July 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Yiew Pong Sen	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 25	No. 3
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 135	Psalms 143
Hymn	No. 114	No. 386
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 43	Roman verses 9-10
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 5:13-16	Romans 2:4-8
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Salt and Light of the World (Eld Khoo Peng Kiat)	Too Proud to ask?
Closing Hymn	No. 245	No. 264
		Lord's Supper
Benediction		

MISSION TO NORTH THAILAND AND BURMA ACCOMPLISHED

When Transglobe found us a cheap flight to Chiang Mai by Silkair's promotional package with Mae Ping Hotel's 3 nights x 2 meals at S\$532 (this being off season) we jumped at the offer. And so, we are here, writing from Chiang Mai this northern capital of Thailand. We left S'pore Tuesday June 25 and we'll be back Friday June 28. We're here on Session's assignment to review the work at Chiang Mai, and make a first contact with Thawm Luai's new Church at the border town of Tachilek with Mae Sai on the Thai side.

A year or so ago trouble erupted at Tachilek that spilt over into Mae Sai. So the border was closed. Now it is open again, so apart from the King's business at Chiang Mai, we visited Tachilek the next day. Tachilek is 260 km from Chiang Mai the distance of travelling from S'pore to Malacca.

Now, first the Chiang Mai assignment. Nirand and Jess brought us to the Mission Home to show us the extension they have made and the leaking roofs all repaired. Our Mission House sits on about 6,000 sq ft of prime land off the main road in a garden shaded by 3 mango, one longan and one coconut trees. There is ample outdoor space for young people's

activities. A basket ball stand is erected at one end of the garden, for children and teenagers' recreation. As for the extensions they have walled up the garage into an office on one side and enlarged the kitchen on the other. With my approval, an upstairs open verandah will be turned into another room. So, the Mission house will have five bedrooms, one office, two bathrooms and an enlarged kitchen. To increase seating accommodation for dining I proposed installing two stone dining table sets in the garden outside the kitchen. With these extensions Jess remarked they would have enough living room for their annual camp, coming Dec. A tent could be pitched in the shady garden. The Thai-style minibus is four years old but the five tyres need changing. All in the bill is 30,000 baht or about S\$1,800 (not counting the stone furniture and the verandah).



The night after our arrival being a Wednesday when a midweek prayer meeting is held, the Nirands turned it into a special service. About 40 young and old were assembled. As usual an offering was taken to swell their building fund. I commended this zeal on the part of the congregation inasmuch as Moses had commanded the Israelites not to appear before the Lord empty (Ex 23:15).

On this special occasion we also held the Lord's Supper and baptised two adults. One is a youth of 22, a dishwasher in a hotel. The other is a Burmese gentleman aged 46, with a Christian wife and two children, all baptised. Now it was his turn. He spoke good English and testified that the reason for his confessing Jesus in baptism is he wants to go to heaven and Christ is the only way. A man of means, he offered us his car for our trip to Mae Sai and Tachilek. This is proof of his first love for the Lord. His wife, being an older Christian, added her consent to which I said, "God bless your car."

A phone call to Thawm Luai established the fact that his new church is but a stone's throw from the border. On his side he had instructed his young pastor to receive us at Mae Sae.

Early Thursday morning we took the shortest route to Mae Sae in 3½ hours. When our car came to a halt at Top North Hotel out of nowhere sprang three Chin fellows with broad smiles to welcome Dr Timothy Tow. Like Abraham's servant sent to Haran where he found Rebecca at first contact by the cooperative will of God, we were led to the Burmese pastor and his members without any difficulty. As it was lunchtime we invited our friends to a sumptuous meal.

To get into Burma at the border all we needed was to surrender our passports at the checkpoint with US\$5. Now Burma is separated from Thailand by a fast flowing river. By standing on the Bridge we stood literally one foot on Thailand and the other on Burma. As it was drizzling we climbed each into a pedicab. In no time we landed in a kampong. Here was a little house where the young pastor and his wife and infant daughter stayed. The front hall is their worship place. Though only 8 months old,

the congregation comprising mostly Chins, Lahus and Akas number 30 plus. And there were 30 plus to welcome us with big words to the effect chalked on a blackboard. A short service was held. When asked for a Word from the Lord, I told the story of Abraham how when he entered the Promised Land he had no permanent dwelling place. He had to shift about until he finally settled in the Negev, the Southern Desert. While Lot his nephew prospered materially in the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham dwelt at Hebron. But he always built an altar to the Lord. By application this Ev. Presbyterian Church where these people worshipped was their altar.

Interestingly, the eldest of the three to welcome us was a retired magistrate. He is proprietor of a 3-storey shophouse now building by the Bridge. When completed he would offer the young church a better and bigger room for their assembly. The Lord has His own to care for His people. On our part we offered to buy them a fan and new Bibles and Hymnbooks out of the Children's Choir Fund. For the church is a congregation of mostly young adults struggling to survive in a new corner of Burma.

When we finally said goodbye to these members of one of 53 Ev. Presbyterian Churches under Robert Thawm Luai, and arranged for Nirand to preach there once a month, our mission to Burma and North Thailand was accomplished!

—T.T.



Inside Burma with Thawm Luai and his horse!

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 2 WHY READ THE BIBLE?

- The Bible is God's Book from Heaven**, sent down to man on earth. It is the everlasting Book, ancient yet ageless, living, priceless. Only the Bible can point the way to Heaven and life unending with God.
- The Bible is God's Book of Truth**, the truth about God, man, planet earth, the universe, nations and war, true wealth and success. Only the Bible can lead you into all truth, so needful for this life and the next.
- The Bible is God's Book of Love**, the love of God for man, amazing, measureless, mysterious, that God should give us His only begotten Son. Only the Bible can tell us of God's love, the love which passes knowledge.
- The Bible is God's Book of Life**, life that transcends death, life that defies the grave, life abundant, everlasting, beyond earth. Only the Bible can give you that life, the life which equips men to live with God.
- The Bible is God's Book of Secrets**, secrets which escape the wisest of professors and kings: man's origin and purpose on earth, his eternal destiny, the final state of things. Only the Bible has the answers and more.
- The Bible is God's Book of Wisdom**, which can make one wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. No education on earth can equal the wisdom of this Book of Books. Only the Bible can give you the wisdom from above.
- The Bible is God's Book of Power**, holy power which exceeds nuclear power or any earthly power. It is God's power which transforms lives and makes miserable sinners sons of God. Only the Bible has that transforming power.

"God helps those who help themselves." C.T.L. Piling Co of Batam where Roska's husband works has donated 100 bags of cement, and gravel to construct a playground to the Tanjung Playu Church and Kindergarten. Who will do the same to upgrade the Batu Aji Church and Kindergarten?

Chapter 3 HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's book, a supernatural Book. It is beyond the understanding of the natural man, for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Cor 2:14).

The Bible is given by inspiration of God, who also gives us His Spirit Who is able to teach us all things (John 14:26).

Ask therefore! "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do . . ." (John 14:13). Make this your prayer as you turn to God's Word: "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Ps 119:18).

The Bible is our **Road Map** to Heaven: it gives us the direction for each day's travel. The best time, therefore, to consult our Road Map is in the **morning**. Let us learn from King David: "Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning: for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; . . ." (Ps 143:8). God must show us the good way, the safe way.

Read God's Word with **pleasure** and with **profit**, as the Psalmist of old: "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: . . ." (Ps 119:97-98).

Let not a day pass without **reading** and **meditating** on God's Word, even as Job in his misery could say, "Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food" (Job 23:12).

Read the Bible with **faith**, for it is through **faith** that we understand (Heb 11:3); without **faith** it is impossible to please God; without **faith** it is impossible to understand the Word of God.

Finally, read the Bible **lovingly**, even as one reads a love letter, over and over, and with heartfelt devotion. Say with the Psalmist: "Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold" (Ps 119:127).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 15 - 21, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	8.30 am	FEBC New Semester Opens Day of Prayer	\$5,638.00 (8.00 am); \$15,053.75 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1800, \$1517(Chinese Ser); Rfd S Bible \$500, \$50, \$200(Boxes), \$154(Boxes); Missions \$500, \$200; Extn of Gospel \$50, \$140, \$700, \$50, \$50(Maranatha BPC); Ev. Tract Dis, Canada \$250; Eld Khoo PK \$100; Rev John Ling \$200, \$280(SBC/LBC); Tj Piayu \$250; Agape Clinic \$10; David Beh \$20; Lim JJ \$300; China-Chinese Bibles \$100; Baraka \$140; Men's F'ship \$100; China Mission \$50, \$150; Yiew PS \$500.		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 pm	Ladies' F'ship BS	(1) Thank you dear Lord for Thy mercies and Thy grace on my family day by day. May I offer this small gift for the China Mission. Love, your child. (\$150)		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF; 3.00 YAF/YF; 3.30 EBF/LBC	(2) I want to thank the Lord for His grace and mercy for wonderful parents, brethren in Christ and most of all an opportunity to study overseas. Enclosed is a small token of \$50 for the extension of God's kingdom. —A sinner saved by grace.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Unforgiving Servant (Rev Tow)	(3) The Lord be magnified! I prayed to the Lord and He heard my cry for help. Thank you, dear Lord for removing the pain and swelling from my neck. Thou art a True, Loving and Caring Lord. China-Chinese Bibles \$100.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(4) For the 21st King James Version Reformation Bible. (As God provides for me), I'll try my very best to support this 'Reformation Bible' project monthly, even till the last moment in year 2000! Thanks to our Heavenly Father for all things!		
	10.30 am	Elder Chia Kim Chwee			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	1.30 pm	AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Worship			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour			
NBC This Week. Wed Bishan; Fri Bt Batok (Rev Tow)					
Sunday School Offering: \$818.90; Attendance: 354					
Verse for the Week: <i>Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.</i> Proverbs 3:7					
History's Final Hour and Signs of the End Time Seminar. 17 Aug 96, 2.30-9.30 pm. Religious Centre, Monash Univ. Wellington Road, Clayton Vic 3168. Speaker: Dr S H Tow.					



Summer or winter, Setsuko wears the Name of Jesus Christ 耶穌基督. Yes! "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 15

14 July 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Han Soon Juan	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 34	No. 44
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Hebrews 1:1-12	Psalms 90
Hymn	No. 333	<i>Our God Is A Loving Father</i>
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 399	Item by Choir
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 9:1-8	Luke 12:13-21
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Jesus Proves His Deity</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	<i>What Is Life?</i> (Rev Dr Goh Seng Fong)
	No. 276	No. 477
	Lord's Supper	
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		



FEBC enters her 34th year with school's reopening Monday July 15, 96, 8.30 am. As usual we begin with Day of Prayer in the Jambu Garden which was lately upgraded with 6 garden lamps and more stone pews added. With extra chairs installed in the cool shades, here's a cosy corner in the campus with seating for one hundred.

New students for 1996 are as follows:

1. Ahn Young Hee, Korea
2. Chaikor Chadarat, Thailand
3. Cheng Qing Hua Joshua, USA
4. Ivan Toms, New Zealand
5. Jang Sae Kwang, Korea
6. Jay Varner, USA
7. Lim Hoe Chiang Daniel, Singapore
8. Loi Huey Ching, Singapore
9. Mang Hlei Thang, Myanmar
10. Mona Thumewa, Indonesia
11. Na Young Sun, Korea
12. Park Chan Hyeok, Korea
13. Park Hae Dong, Korea
14. P.C. Philip, India
15. Ratchanee Ritnatikul, Thailand



16. Susan Suryati Su, Indonesia
17. Tan Kim Seng Andrew, Singapore

18. Teo Yock Kui, Malaysia
19. Weng Chih Jen, Taiwan
20. Wong Ten Yang Samuel, Singapore

This brings the student body to 90 from 15 countries.

The faculty is strengthened by Mr Charles Seet, Life Church missionary to Philippines, now back on furlough till next June. Three evening classes will be taught this semester: *Minor Prophets* by the Principal; *Gospels in Unison* by Dr Jeffrey Khoo; *Hermeneutics* by Rev Quek Suan Yew. (Rev & Mrs Stephen Khoo now serving with Bethel BPC Melbourne will not return till end of August.)

FEBC has also acquired the former Life Book Centre and is now serving as FEBC Bookroom. This allows FEBC to order our own books which will be available to other Colleges, to our own Church and the Christian public. We hope to give you ready, happy service. Just drive in! Our working hours are Mon to Thu 10 am to 7.30 pm, Fri and Sat 10 am to 6.00 pm. Sunday 9.30 to 10.15 am; 12-1.00 pm. The 40% discount period ends July 21, 96. Watch for new stocks arriving.

While we concentrate on training new students, we are reminded to pray for those now in the fields. On the back page is Setsuko Takashima. She wears the name of Jesus Christ whether summer or winter in her outdoor

Children Evangelism. The first line across her back イエス・キリスト reads Yes Kirisuto = Jesus Christ. Jesus in Japanese is Yes! Setsuko still lives in Kobe.

Far Eastern Kindergarten. Our new principal is Jacqueline Tan. She is a member of Life Church.

—T.T.

TRIP TO KEMAMAN

2ND ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING

With thanksgiving to God, 4 Lifers led by Pastor and Mrs Tow left Singapore Friday July 5 8.00 am in the Church van for the Kemaman Church. Dn Yiew drove the van with Dn Henry Tan as co-driver. This trip was to rejoice with the brethren in Kemaman on their 2nd Anniversary Thanksgiving. The team was to be joined by Elder and Mrs Leong Yin Chu at Kuantan. We arrived at Kuantan in good time to have tea with Elder and Mrs Leong. After a short rest we travelled to Kemaman at 5.00 pm.

Through God's grace, Rev John Ling recovered from his recent illness but had to stay away from Kemaman Church to recuperate. The Lord had used Rev Ling's absence to allow the members to come together to manage the Church activities. Previously, they left the management to Rev and Mrs Ling, and helped only in the fetching of the Singapore brethren. In the absence of Rev and Mrs Ling, the members were moved to serve in Sunday School, the worship service and other programmes. The Singapore team had fellowship dinner prepared by the Kemaman Church.

The evening service started at 7.30 pm. Lifers gave a presentation in song. Elder Leong played on the "musical saw" which he learnt about 6 months ago. Dr Wee was invited by Pastor to the pulpit. Dr Wee praised and thanked

God for saving him. He told the congregation that he loved fishing, and he hoped to be a fisher of men one day. We thank God for this testimony as it encouraged all those who were present.

Pastor preached from Mark 1:14-39, "What are the first fruits of faith?" The message encouraged the congregation to offer Thanksgiving, and in Thanksgiving to remember the needy amongst them, missionaries and missions.

During fellowship, we were informed that there was an increase in the Sunday School, now approximately 26-30 children. We were told that the children looked forward to having teachers from Singapore.

We thank God for His sovereignty, as He was in full control of the whole trip. We had to return to Singapore by 3.00 pm on Saturday for Dn Henry Tan's appointment with the Adults Fellowship. We left Kuantan at 7.00 am and came down by the coastal way where the road was winding and travelling was slow. Approximately 30 minutes from Kuantan, Mrs Tow suddenly asked Elder Leong whether he had brought his passport along. Elder Leong then remembered that he did not. We thank God for this timely reminder or else we would have travelled all the way to the Causeway without Elder's Leong's passport. Elder Leong also informed us that Saturday was the last day he was allowed to remain in Malaysia. Praise the Lord!

Thank God also for allowing us a quick lane through Immigration, thus arriving at our destination just after 3.00 pm and long before the meeting commenced.

—Ruth Tan

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 4

THE DIVINE ORIGINAL . . .

The Trinitarian Bible Society of England (Tyndale House, Dorset Road, London, SW19 3NN) ably presents the King James Version Bible as "The Divine Original" in a pamphlet of the same title.

For over 300 years the King James Version (Authorised Version) of the English Bible reigned supreme as the Word of God throughout the English-speaking world. In the mid-nineteenth century arose a movement calling for a new translation to replace the KJV. Quoting from the "The Divine Original" (p.1):

People of every shade of Christian opinion . . . evince a common eagerness to discredit the

Authorised Version of the English Bible. They insist that the translators had few and poor manuscripts, that their knowledge of Greek and Hebrew was imperfect, and that their English style contributed to the production of a version which, although it 'sounds nice' is 'downright misleading,' and should be dismissed from the pulpit to the library . . .

What are the facts?

An unbiased examination of relevant materials on the subject makes it clear, and beyond a shadow of doubt, that the KJV is superior to all modern English versions in respect of:

- a) the underlying manuscripts,
- b) the translators, and

c) the methodology used in translation.

A) SUPERIOR MANUSCRIPTS

The original writings of the Prophets and Apostles being lost in antiquity, only copies (MSS) of the OT in Hebrew and Aramaic, and of the NT in Greek, were available to the translators of our English Bibles.

From the days of the infant NT church, copies of the Holy Scriptures were made and passed from church to church as the need arose.

The early churches, under the care of the Holy Spirit, and being warned by the Apostles of the danger of textual perversions (2 Pet 3:16), were ever vigilant and watchful over the Scriptures, checking and comparing new copies with older authentic ones.

Any false teacher who brought in a corrupted text would immediately be detected and exposed. By this safeguard the pure Scripture texts were preserved, and only a small minority would have escaped detection. Thus the majority text came to be acknowledged as the accepted text to be received by the churches.

This group of texts therefore acquired the names "Textus Receptus," "Majority Text" and "Traditional Text." And because they circulated in the Greek world they also came to be called "Byzantine Text" after Byzantium the capital city.

The Scriptures of the Temple Worship were OT copies used by the Jews. From these Temple Scriptures all Hebrew manuscripts of the OT are derived. This text came to be known as the "Hebrew Textus Receptus" (TR 1482-88), also the "Masoretic" (or "Traditional") Text.

These TR manuscripts were accepted by Protestant scholars without question as the Word of God, the authentic and accurate copies of the original autographs, until the mid-nineteenth century.

B) SUPERIOR TRANSLATORS

The Trinitarian Bible Society's account ("The Divine Original") is quoted again:

At the Hampton Court Conference of 1604 the Puritan leader Reynolds made the suggestion . . . that there should be a new translation of the Holy Scriptures in English, to replace the different versions then in common use. Fifty-four men, including High Churchmen and Puritans, the greatest Hebrew and Greek scholars of the age, formed six companies to undertake the task. Using their Greek sources and the best commentaries of European scholars, and referring to Bibles in Spanish, Italian, French and German, they expressed the sense of the Greek in clear, vigorous and idiomatic English. This Bible won its battles against the prejudices and criticism which greeted its first appearance and became the Bible of the English-speaking world.

In 1786, Dr Geddes wrote, 'If accuracy and strictest attention to the letter of the text be supposed to constitute an excellent version, this is of all versions the most excellent.'

The KJV translators were men of unquestioned fidelity to the Scriptures, godly men whose one burden was to render a translation as close to the text as possible. They were men of impeccable integrity, with no hidden agenda of injecting some personal or sectarian views into their scripts.

Preceding the rise of "modern thought" by two centuries, they were completely untainted with the leaven of German rationalism, textual criticism, Darwinian evolutionism and Romish ecumenism. With hearts and minds wholly given to the Lord, they adhered scrupulously to the precise texts to give us only the pure Word of God in English.

C) SUPERIOR METHODOLOGY

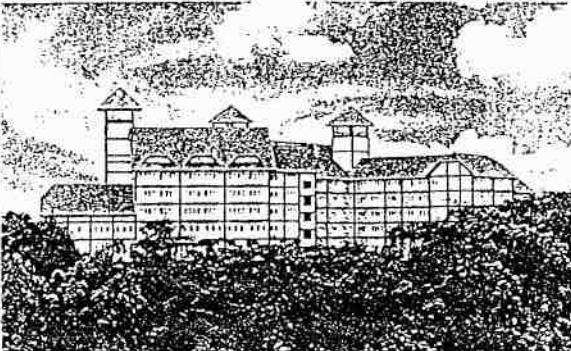
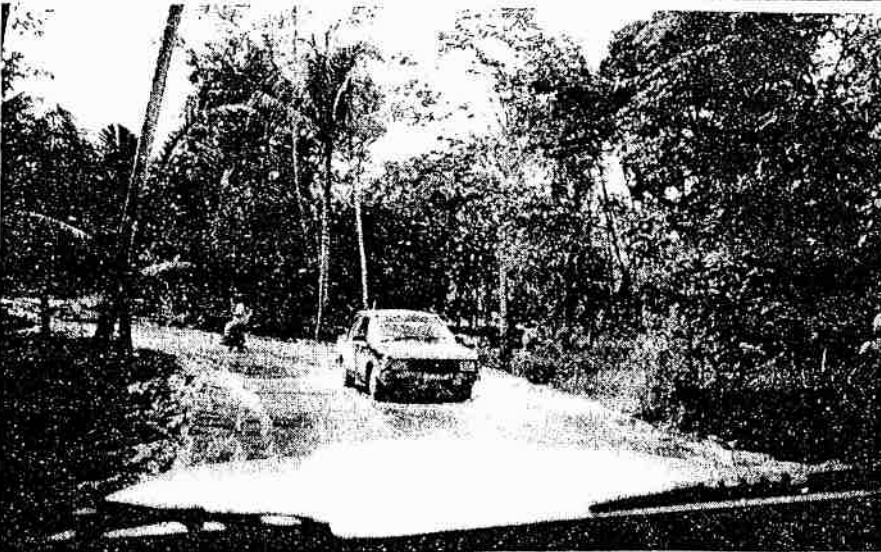
The fifty-four Hebrew and Greek scholars were divided into six companies: two at Westminster, two at Oxford, and two at Cambridge. Each company followed strict instructions, translating their assigned books. The work of each company was subjected to review and scrutiny by each of the others, to ensure utmost accuracy and fidelity.

The final result represented the combined intellectual might of the best scholars in England, and their deep reverence for Holy Scripture.

Two other facts are worthy of mention. First, the KJV translators had the benefit of the fruits of the preceding hundred years of translation and revision: the works of Tyndale, Erasmus, Stephanus and Beza, and other "forerunners" of the KJV. These provided the translators with a wealth of refined texts, all derived from the majority manuscripts or Textus Receptus.

Second, the KJV translators adhered to the classical "formal equivalence" or "verbal equivalence" method of translation. They took no liberties with God's Word, even as God had warned: "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I commanded you" (Deut 4:2).

The "formal equivalence" or "word for word" method of translation is the God-given safeguard which ensured an accurate and sound KJV, making it unique among the mushrooming modern perversions which have adopted the rash and reckless "dynamic equivalence" or "thought for word" method of Eugene Nida (see p. 29), an unbelieving scholar of the liberal school.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 22 - 28, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$6,937.00 (8.00 am); \$12,606.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Saipan Slides)	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$120, \$450(Kebaktian Ina); 21CRB		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	\$50, \$100; Missions \$100, \$100, \$50, \$50; Tape Mstry \$20;		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	Lim JJ \$200; Seets \$150, \$100, \$300, \$100; Yiew PS \$100,		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF; 3.00 YAF/YF; 3.30 EBF	\$50; China Msn \$70; MsF \$200; Batam \$50; Tract Mstry		
	8.00 pm	Parents' Night (Mandarin/ Cantonese), FEBC Hall	\$200; Rev John Ling \$50, \$200, \$300(YAF); YF \$50;		
SUN	8.00 am	Healing Two Blind Men (Eld Lim Teck Chye)	Paauwes \$100; Indonesian Mission trip \$170; A Kam \$300;		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Agape Clinic \$100; Chiang Mai \$100, \$100, \$500, \$550(Van);		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	YAF \$150; Yangon Orp \$250; Philippines \$100; Thailand		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Myanmar \$500; Batam \$250(LF).		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Worship			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.					
Sunday School Offering: \$597.80; Attendance: 339					
Verse for the Week: For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: 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. II Tim 1:12			In view of the fact that Awana, Genting Highlands will not be available for the repetition of the Combined Camp, June 1997, it is proposed by Transglobe that we take Heritage Hotel, Cameron Highlands, 2 1/4 hrs from KL.		
					
			"It's not an easy road" to either Batu Aji or Tanjung Piyu BP Church when the monsoon rains beat down the unpaved mud tracks. Roska's husband, Mr Choi, is called to use his 4-wheel-drive jeep.		



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 16

21 July 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Elder George Tan
Opening Hymn	No. 285	No. 8
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 84	Psalms 103
Hymn	<i>O Lord of Hosts</i>	No. 523
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 399	No. 419
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 18:21-35	Matt 5:3-13
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Unforgiving Servant</i>	<i>Are Christians Needed?</i> (Eld Chia Kim Chwee)
Closing Hymn	<i>Dear Lord & Father</i>	No. 333
Benediction		

THREE 2-HOUR EVENING CLASSES AND MORE!

In the spirit of "Accelerated Missions" FEBC has of late been offering three 2-hour evening classes, Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Prior to this there were only two, Mondays and Thursdays. This is in response to growing demands. The attendances average 100 each evening.

Though school has reopened, and the courses *The Gospels in Unison* by Dr Jeffrey Khoo and *Hermeneutics* by Rev Quek Suan Yew have taken off, *Minor Prophets* by the Principal has not. It begins tomorrow night July 22. Nevertheless, it is not too late to join up with the other two courses. If you can, come to all the three nights.

Why? All three courses are fresh meaty courses — pork chop, kurau steak, fish-head curry — hot from wok and pot. The course by Rev Quek Suan Yew on *Hermeneutics* is a vital one to help you unravel the subtlety of Satanic teachings. When the enemy finds no more means of attack against the rock of the infallibility and inerrancy of Scripture, he devises some clever way of twisting Scripture under *Hermeneutics* to nullify it. For example, to sidetrack the prophecy on the Virgin Birth of Christ to Isaiah's son by his second wife and remotely

applying it to Jesus. The Word of God rightly taught will crush this double headed snake. Come and study with Rev Quek.

The course on *The Gospels in Unison* by Dr Khoo is a fresh study of his doctoral thesis by the same title. In one semester you will cover the Four Gospels with a clear perspective of the sequence of events. You will also be introduced to a glimpse of the enemies of God's Word — the modern critics, wrongly "dividing the Word of Truth." This thesis is now beautifully printed into a book of 224 pages selling at \$7.90.

The teaching of *Minor Prophets I* (Hosca, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah) by the Principal is a continuation of the Major Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel) he has hitherto taught. So it is with delightful ease you will learn the Minor Prophets, if you have taken even one or two courses of the Major Prophets before this. Why with delightful ease? Every chapter of the 6 minor prophets will be restated and explained with printed notes. When completed, they will be published as a book, as in the past. (Many historical charts will form a sharp relief to the prophetic

scenario.

As for Ezekiel and Jeremiah taught one year before, Ezekiel will be published by RPG. Jeremiah is the next book to appear — in time for our 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving.

There is much to be put into print! The greatest task is the publishing of the 21st Century Reformation Bible. Note that 'Study' is deleted. As there are also good, faithful Study Bibles in the KJV, we will not duplicate this, after due consideration. Our work on the 21CRB must concentrate on flushing out the hidding vipers, such as the attack on Christ's Virgin Birth (no apology for repetition), creation through evolution, the local flood heresy, the discount on the ages of the patriarchs, taking away the Blood from our Saviour's Death (even MacArthur), throwing away the word "begotten" from the Son by the NIV, etc, etc. Dr Jeffrey Khoo is well qualified to guide in this earnest contending for the faith once delivered unto the saints.

In order to fortify FEBC as a Bastion of the Faith and a devout school of higher theological learning, we must seek to improve ourselves. We must keep our ranks closed to every insidious infiltration even from "friends." Every new staff cannot be taken in without utmost assurance of his loyalty to the Scriptures and the

Reformation-Separation Cause.

While brickbats have been hurled at the KJV, that it is too archaic to be understood and is not based on the latest discovered ancient manuscripts, we can do no less than publishing Dr S H Tow's defence of the KJV in order to protect the flock. KJV is indeed as the Divine Original by its faithfulness to the text as no other translation is. If the translation is an exact and faithful representation of the Greek and Hebrew original, is it not as the Divine Original? We aver the KJV is as the Divine Original, like Big Ben chiming the GMT.

By God's grace, your pastor has been in the 20th Century Reformation movement since a student at Faith Seminary, 1948. He brought the 20th Century Reformation to S'pore and he is determined to accelerate it into the 21st Century, if the Lord tarries. Hence our crossing swords with the false scribes of our day by working on the 21st Century Reformation Bible. We want to thank God for contributions received from Dr Arthur Steele, Dr Ed Oliver and Rev Ed Paauwe thus far. And thank you my Readers for your prayers and support. With God's help, we shall not fail. "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him" (Isa 59:19). Amen.

—T.T.

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 5 THE BATTLE FOR THE BIBLE

Our all-wise God has ordained that His purpose in Creation and Redemption should be accomplished by His Word. So highly has He esteemed His Word that He magnified it above His name (Ps 138:2). That Word is forever settled in heaven (Ps 119:89); it cannot be broken (John 10:35), neither shall it pass away (Matt 24:35).

Ponder then, the almighty power of God's Word: "By the Word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. For he spake, and it was done..." (Ps 33:6, 9).

Our new birth is by the Word: "*being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*" And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (1 Pet 1:23, 25). Our salvation through faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Rom 10:17).

Our Lord performed His mighty miracles by His Word: by it He healed the sick, stilled the tempest, cast out demons, raised the dead. In the wilderness He defeated the Tempter by the Word of God (Matt 4:1-11).

Today, in the closing moments of history, the work of the gospel will be consummated by God's faithful remnant through the Holy

Scripture, the written Word of God. On the soundness or otherwise of this Book, we stand or fall. By this Book alone we are to do the work of God, extend His kingdom, build His Church, feed His flock, fight His battles, and await His return. How carefully, then, must we keep and guard His Word!

But our wily foe seeks ever to undermine the Word. He knows, if he could corrupt the Book, our ministry would be destroyed. However, our all-wise God has warning safeguards:

Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God... (Deut 4:2).

Every word of God is pure: ... Add thou not unto his words... (Prov 30:5,6).

... our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction (2 Pet 3:15-16).

Our Lord assures us, "*For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled*" (Matt 5:18).

Who, then, should dare to alter "*one jot or one tittle*" of the Law of God? Such reckless daring shall have its due reward:

... If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life ... (Rev 22:18-19)

God has spoken, be warned!

SATAN'S STRATEGY

"God's Word must be subverted at all costs—if my kingdom is to succeed!" This is the diabolical strategy. If Satan could deceive Christians into believing "*another gospel*" (Gal 1:6), God's Kingdom would fall into his hands. Did not our first parents succumb to his subtlety: "*Yea, hath God said ... ?*"

The present conflict is over God's Word still: the Bible, the KJV; the instrument—unstable men who wrest the Scriptures unto their own destruction. The conflict of the ages builds to a climax. Satan appears to have won the battle, dethroning the KJV.

Make no mistake about it: the crux of the

conflict is, one Bible or many? Today the KJV stands alone against an array of "Modern English Bibles." In this arena the battle will be fought—and won! Our Lord is ever victorious. And His Book will come through, triumphant. Burned, banned, boycotted, dethroned and beleaguered, the KJV standeth sure and steadfast, come what may!

Satan's final "last gasp assault" was launched last century: "Fortress KJV must be destroyed!" Satan used insiders, trusted men in the church, "*men crept in unawares*" (Jude 4), to mislead the rest. Working from within, enemy agents would do the job "without firing a shot."

The assault was to begin in England, against the English Bible. The KJV was then "THE BIBLE" universally acknowledged as God's inspired, inerrant and infallible Word. "Topple the KJV and the battle is won! It must be replaced with new corrupt English Bibles." This was the devilish strategy.

Why English? Simply because the universal language of the end time would be English. The inexorable ascendancy of English accelerates with instant global communications technology, which demands the use of one common language—English.

"But the English of the KJV is outdated, archaic, unreadable, misleading, hard to understand! The KJV must go!" The call for new revisions of the Bible grew into a popular clamour on both sides of the Atlantic. Under the pretext of "readability," Bible perversions proliferated.

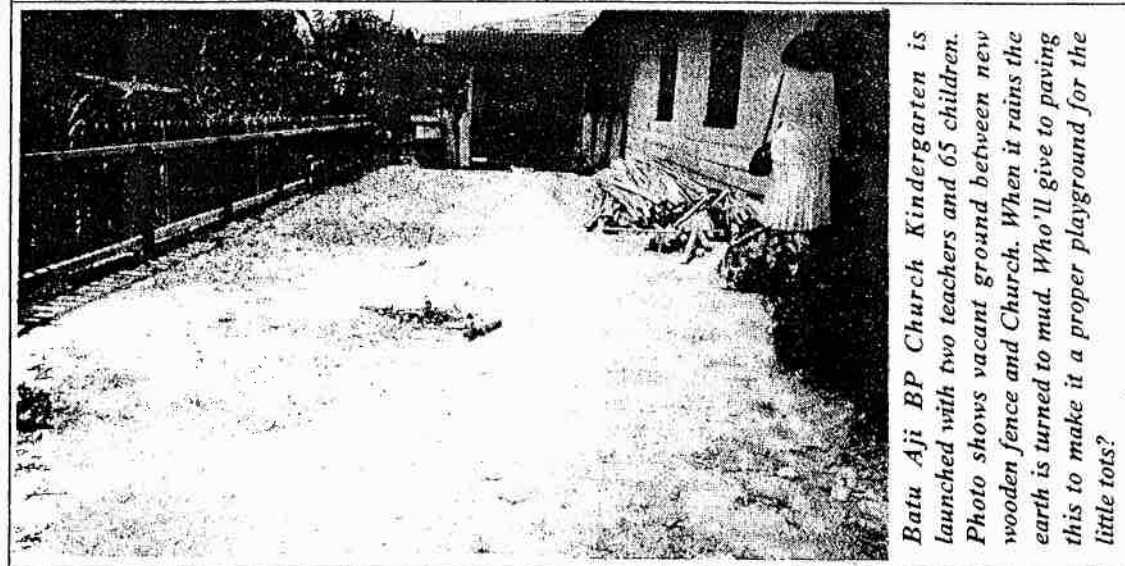
In the past one hundred years one hundred new English versions have appeared. The average reader is bewildered, confused, lost. Most recently we see the appearance of "de-sexed," "sin-less," "hell-less," "hate-free," "couples' devotional" versions. What is happening? What is the truth about these new Bibles?

An examination of modern English Bibles reveals three common features:

- these versions have a common source text,
- the text is doctored by two Anglican churchmen, and
- the translators use a common translation methodology.

Astonishing discoveries emerge as we take a close look at the Modern English Bibles.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 29 - Aug 4, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$7,016.00 (8.00 am); \$12,246.75 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700; 21CRB \$50; Missions \$600(Box); Extn of Gospel \$166(Boxes), \$100(Gospel Light BPM); Baraka Conf Centre \$50; TJ Playu \$100; Chiang Mai \$100(Van); Agape Clinic \$20; Seets \$370; Children's Ministry \$710; Ivory Coast \$150; Jack Sin \$100, \$300(Box); JS Heng \$200(Box); JJ Lim \$300(Box); Chinese Sv \$120(Box); Pang Kok Hiong \$1000, \$250(Chinese Sv).		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	(1) Thank you Lord for 12 years of happy marriage — a loving partner, wonderful children, good health and loving families. Please designate this gift to Charles Seet & family.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF; 3.00 YAF/YF; 3.30 EBF/LBC	(2) This is part of my very first pay as an officer cadet in SAF. This means a lot to me because I suffered a lot for it. I now wish to thank the Lord for sustaining me thru that one month of gruelling training. I wish this will go to the China Missions. May the Lord accept my tiny offering. Amen. — A sinful son		
SUN	8.00 am	Talents (Pastor Jack Sin)	(3) One-tenth of my half-yearly bonus I give Dear Lord to Thee, For blessings of good health, joy and peace My family and I have received. (\$1000)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(4) Thank God for His protection and grace throughout my project overseas.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	Catechism Class for Baptism will commence next Lord's Day at Beulah House, 9.30 am.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Worship			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bt Batok, Bishan.					
Sunday School Offering: \$442.69; Attendance: 359					
Verse for the Week: <i>Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.</i> Psalm 103:13					
Claim your lost umbrellas at the reception counter today. Unclaimed umbrellas will be given away.					
The latest issue of the Burning Bush may be obtained at FEBC Bookroom.					
The Combined Fellowships Tract Writing Competition is now open. Submit to Dn J J Lim.					



Batu Aji BP Church Kindergarten is launched with two teachers and 65 children. Photo shows vacant ground between new wooden fence and Church. When it rains the earth is turned to mud. Who'll give to paving this to make it a proper playground for the little tots?



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 17

28 July 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 85	No. 1
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 144	Psalm 2
Hymn	No. 127	Psalm 2
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 246	Romans verses 11-12
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 9:27-31	Rom 2:6, 9-16
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Healing Two Blind Men (Elder Lim Teck Chye)	Fifty-fifty Balance
Closing Hymn	No. 307	No. 306
Benediction		

IS MONEY EVERYTHING?

Yes, to those who have no hope beyond this life. Jesus agrees, "For all these things do the nations of the world seek after . . ." (Lk 12:30).

For us, who not only have a great hope beyond this life, but also a loving Heavenly Father who sees to our present needs, we are exhorted rather to seek His Kingdom first. That is, the spiritual and not material things. What money we need, God will supply, and more, one item at a time. So Jesus assures us "And all these things shall be **added** unto you" (Lk 12:31).

Why is the talk of the town all the time about money, money and more money? Because they want better housing, more living room, "four-wheel drive," etc, etc. A Christian can be quite satisfied with a three-room or four-room HDB flat. If he can find staying near an MRT station, and there is no particular need for a car, he can go without it all the same. He is then spared the rat race for money, money, money, just to keep up with the Lims and Tans.

There are much higher values than money. Health, Happiness, Contentment, Concern for one another even in a three-tier family, blessings of earth on top of blessings of heaven, the life everlasting. But those who go after money at

the expense of higher spiritual values find themselves in tears and sorrows instead.

From the PM's lips, there are entrepreneurs who venture out to China, leaving wife and children in Singapore. But there they get hitched to women on the Mainland and pointed triangles are formed. The home is pulled apart. What shall it profit a man to earn a million dollars extra, and happiness (even health) is dashed on the rocks?

The Apostle Paul, echoing our Lord, counsels Timothy. Here is the Christian philosophy of life: "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in

uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life" (I Tim 6:6-19).

As to money, instead of being slave thereto, he is master. He may not have very much, yet he is able to use it to God's glory and man's welfare, because Paul assures Timothy, furthermore, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (II Cor 9:8). —T.T.



Elders Tan Nee Keng, Geoffrey Tan and Han Soon Juan

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 6 THE SOURCE TEXT OF MODERN ENGLISH BIBLES

The subject has been well researched and documented by the Trinitarian Bible Society of England in "The Divine Original." We can do no better than quote from it:

The Vatican and Sinai Manuscripts

In the 1860s the Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus became available to Biblical scholars, and in 1881 Westcott and Hort advanced the theory that the New Testament text was preserved in an almost perfect state in these two fourth century manuscripts.

The discovery of these MSS betrayed many Biblical students into a lamentable infirmity of critical judgement. Tischendorf himself, the discoverer of the Sinai Codex, amended his eighth edition in at least 3,505 places in conformity with new readings which he found in this document. The Codex Vaticanus exercised a similar mesmeric influence on the minds of many 19th and 20th century scholars. The Revised Greek Text underlying the modern versions has the support only of that very small minority of the available MSS which are in some respects in agreement with the unreliable text of the Sinai and Vatican codices.

An Elaborate Theory

Westcott and Hort devised an elaborate theory, based more on imagination and intuition than upon evidence, elevating this little group of MSS to the heights of almost infallible authority.

Their treatise on the subject and their edition of the Greek NT exercised a powerful and far-reaching influence, not only on the next generation of students and scholars, but also indirectly upon the minds of millions who have had neither the ability, nor the time, nor the inclination to submit the theory to a searching examination.

Deficiencies of these MSS

These two MSS and a few others containing a similar text present in a weakened form many of the passages of Holy Scripture which speak most plainly of the deity of the Son of God. The trend of Biblical scholarship in the 19th and 20th centuries has been towards a 'humanitarian' view of the person of Christ. It does not surprise us that many modern scholars should welcome the support of these two ancient documents, but it saddens us to see so many earnest evangelical Christians ready to accept without question a theory so destructive of the faith once delivered to the saints.

The True Text

The Sinai and Vatican manuscripts represent a small family of documents containing various readings which the Church as a whole rejected before the end of the 4th century. Under the singular care and providence of God more reliable MSS were multiplied and copied from generation to generation, and the great majority of existing MSS exhibit a faithful reproduction of the true text which was acknowledged by the entire Greek Church in the Byzantine period AD 312-1453. This text was also represented by the small group

of documents available to Erasmus, Stephens, the compilers of the Complutensian edition and other 16th century editors. This text is represented by the Authorised Version and other Protestant translations up to the latter part of the 19th century.

The foregoing revelation by the Trinitarian Bible Society is simply devastating!

In the critical assessment of ancient Bible texts in Hebrew and Greek we must rely on trustworthy experts in the fields. No one was better qualified than the brilliant linguist and Bible scholar Dean John William Burgon (1813-1888; he was Dean of Chichester) to assess the quality of the texts in question. A man of rare integrity and fidelity to Holy Scripture, he was alarmed by the rising wave of antagonism against the Word of God.

John Burgon determined to unravel for himself the truth about the newly discovered texts. This took him to Rome in 1860 to personally examine the *Codex Vaticanus* and to Mount Sinai to acquaint himself with St. Catherine's monastery where the *Codex Sinaiticus* was found.

A meticulous student, Burgon gave himself wholly to extensive study of Greek manuscripts, to research in the textual field, in order to be adequately equipped to defend the Bible under attack.

We quote from David Cloud's publication, "Modern Bible Versions" (pp. 28, 29):

Of the Sinaiticus and Vaticanus and the textual theories which exalt these manuscripts, the brilliant John Burgon, after decades of lonely, vigilant toil in the dim corners of Britain, Europe, and Egypt, testified:

On first seriously applying ourselves to these studies, many years ago . . . turn which way we would, we were encountered by the same confident terminology: 'the best documents,' 'primary manuscripts,' 'first-rate authorities,' 'primitive evidence,' 'ancient readings,' and so forth: *we found that thereby codices a (Sinaiticus) or B (Vaticanus), codices C or D (two similar manuscripts) were invariably and exclusively meant.* It was not until we had laboriously collated these documents for ourselves, that we became aware of their true character. Long before coming to the end of our task (and it occupied us, off and on, for eight years) we had become convinced that the supposed 'best documents' and 'first-rate authorities' are in reality among the worst.

A diligent inspection of a vast number of later copies scattered throughout the principal libraries of Europe, and the exact collation of a few, further convinced us that the deference generally claimed for B, a, C, D is nothing else but a weak superstition and a vulgar error, that the date for a MS is not of its essence, but is a mere accident of the problem, and that *later copies . . . on countless occasions, and as a rule, preserve those delicate lineaments and minute refinements which the 'old uncials' are constantly observed to obliterate.* And so, rising to a systematic survey of the entire field of Evidence, we found reason to suspect more and more the soundness of the conclusions at which Lachmann, Tregelles, and Tischendorf had arrived: while we seemed led, as if by the hand, to discern plain indications of the existence for ourselves of a far 'more excellent way' (*Revision Revised*, pp. 337, 338).

We suspect that these two manuscripts (Sinaiticus and Vaticanus) are indebted for their preservation, solely to their ascertained evil character, which has occasioned that the one eventually found its way, four centuries ago, to a forgotten shelf in the Vatican library; while the other, after exercising the ingenuity of several generations of critical correctors, eventually got deposited in the waste-paper basket of the convent at the foot of Mount Sinai. Had these been copies of average purity, they must long since have shared the inevitable fate of books which are freely used and highly prized; namely, they would have fallen into decadence and disappeared from sight (*Revision Revised*, p. 319).

Thus we see that during the 1800s, one of the greatest missionary eras in history, while godly men were carrying the preserved King James Bible to the ends of the earth, unbelieving textual critics, enamoured by German rationalism, went about searching the dusty libraries of apostate institutions to rediscover the Word of God that had never been lost!

These two MSS fell into the hands of Westcott and Hort, two unregenerate professors in Cambridge, who promptly elevated them to a place of authority, lending the weight of their names to the texts.

The *Westcott and Hort Text* became the foundation of the Modern Greek Texts (The *Nestle-Aland Text* and *United Bible Societies Greek Text*) from which all Modern Bible Versions are derived. It is a matter of tree and fruit: ". . . a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit" (Matt 7:17). Satan is truly a wily foe.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Aug 5 - 11, '96)

MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
THU	7.30 pm	No Hermeneutics Lecture
	7.30 pm	JSM Anniversary, Sanctuary
	8.00 pm	NBC Get-Together, FEBC Hall (Rev Tow)
FRI	10.00 am	Rev Tow at Gospel Light BPM Anniv.
	11.30 am	Ladies' F'ship Lunch, Beulah House
SAT	2.00 pm	Sunday School Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall
	2.30 pm	LTF; 3.30 EBF
	2.30 pm	Wedding of James Chionh & Dorothy Chua (Rev Tow)
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Parents' Day, FEBC Hall
SUN	8.00 am	The Good Samaritan (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House
	10.30 am	Dr Jeffrey Khoo
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Worship
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour

Sunday School Offering: \$1,488.90; Attendance: 388

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	8.00 am	10.30 am
Opening Hymn	Dn George Tan	Rev Tow
Invocation-Gloria Patri	No. 88	No. 45
Responsive Reading	Psalm 115	Psalm 126, 127
Hymn	No. 237	Singapura
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 414	Till the Whole World...
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 25:14-30	I Tim 2:1-4
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Talents	God Save Our City
	(Pastor Jack Sin)	
Closing Hymn	No. 317	My Jesus As Thou..
		Lord's Supper
Benediction		

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$6,053.00 (8.00 am); \$12,024.00 (10.30 am)

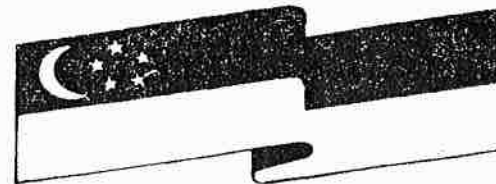
OFFERINGS FOR: 21CRB \$375, \$200, \$50; Missions \$200, \$100, \$409.10(US\$300); Extn of Gospel \$300(Boxes), \$260(Boxes); Robert Peh \$250; Africa Mission \$375; Rev J Ling \$100, \$200; Lim JJ \$100, \$300; China \$100; Agape Clinic \$10; Medan(Dohar) \$50; Batam(Roska) \$50; Mersing \$12,000.

Verse for the Week: The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad. Psalm 126:3

FEK Part-time Book-keeper needed. Please contact Joseph Tern 4665076 or Hui Tin 4661656. Commercial students can also apply.



On thee we've built a new city- First great port of the world. Let Right prevail and Equity, Not by might nor by power. Singapura! Singapura! So may thy sons serve thee. God bless thee yet with Thine increase, And peace from year to year.



Pacific BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 18

4 August 1996

Singapura

T. Tow

Samuel A. Ward



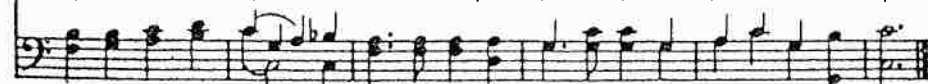
1. O Fai-rest Isle of Southern Seas, Thy waters are so blue; Waft by a bal-my
2. Our fathers came to this green shore, From many climes and lands; They found a ri-cher
3. On thee we've built a new ci-ty- First great port of the world. Let Right pre-vail and
4. To-day we sail as one na-tion, Our flag is fly-ing high; May our Cap-tain by



o-cean breeze, Thy land is decked with dew. Sing-a - pura! Sing-a - pura! Thou life in store Be-neath just ru-ling hands. Sing-a - pura! Sing-a - pura! Thou E-qui-ty, Not by might nor by power. Sing-a - pura! Sing-a - pura! So wise ac-tion Steer us with Com-pass nigh. Sing-a - pura! Sing-a - pura! Light-



fa-voured Isle of ease. God bless thee yet with Thine increase, And peace from year to year. ha-ven of the free. God bless thee yet with Thine increase, And peace from year to year. may thy sons serve thee. God bless thee yet with Thine increase, And peace from year to year. ship of li-ber-ty. Sail on un-to pros-pe-ri-ty And peace a thousand years.



GOD SAVE OUR CITY

The Anthem for Singapore, which we composed in 1970 on the eve of our return from Israel, is a small contribution by a Christian to his nation. There is no better country on earth that he would call his home.

When the Tow Clan migrated to Singapore, Christmas 1926, I was a boy of six. I have been brought up from the days when she was a British Colony. A free port established by the wisdom of Sir Stamford Raffles there were no restrictions to anyone coming here. Under British rule there was stability and opportunity for all. In 1927 the peak of emigration from China to Singapore was reached with 360,000 arrivals. Why did so many from China choose Singapore as their second home? To eke out a better livelihood away from a land plagued by "natural disasters and man-made tribulations" (天灾人祸). We were economic refugees like many of the Boat People today. In those days we came by "steamers."

Our young generation found a good education under the British. During our formative years, WWII broke out in Europe Sept 1939. It spread to Southeast Asia Dec 1941. Japan conquered this region early 1942. There were the atrocities of war. Many a house lost a son who was taken, never to return. On the whole Singaporeans were spared, all by the grace of God.

With the end of the War by Sept 1945 both Singapore and Malaya began to seek independence from their Colonial Masters. This was achieved with little bloodshed. There was the movement to establish a new political entity under the new name Malaysia but we were thrown out in 1965. Whether little Singapore liked it or not, we had to stand on our own two feet.

Under the enlightened leadership of Mr Lee Kuan Yew, from a lowly colonial status, we have struggled and "self-helped with God's help, which is the best help." With the building of a more just society and distributing profit to those who have laboured hard, through yearly bonuses

2 DOCTORS QUIT AFTER FINISHING STUDIES. This was the caption of a newsreport on recent NUS graduates in Straits Times, July 24, '96.

Why did they quit? The first one resigned because he had a birth defect on his feet and it was difficult for him to cope with the prolonged periods of standing and walking required of hospital doctors. The other doctor who quit declined to comment when contacted.

In regard to decision making in young graduates, I have a more meaningful story to tell from New York. It

and review of yearly wages, Singapore is reaching the position of the 7th richest in the world. We must not forget what has been achieved by our Government all these 31 years.

While human responsibility exercised in full brings prosperity, we must not forget the more important factor of Divine Sovereignty. God has ruled and overruled that that sinister power called Communism might not topple the fragile Government of the fifties. God also gave Malaysia Sir General Templer, known as the Tiger of Malaya, to fight the Communists until it was dispersed into the deep jungles with little power to strike back. The name of Chin Peng, defeated Chinese Communist chief, still lingers in the minds of the older generation.

Not only has God kept Communism down and out, He has preserved us from many a natural disaster—earthquake, volcanic eruption, drought, flood, typhoon, aids, poison gas and food poisoning which have plagued the lands not far from us. The latest are the floods in China and the torrential rains in North and South Korea, terrorist bomb that shook the Olympic Games. The constant internecine strife between Israel and Palestine are a barometer of worse things to come.

"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Prov 127:1). The Lord has watched over Singapore. Let us thank God for saving us.

Insofar as Singapore Christians are concerned, it is His pleasure that under a good Government the Church be enabled to preach the Gospel freely, and speedily, from this land to the lands beyond lying in darkness. "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim 2:3-4). —T.T.

**The Session is called to meet at the Church
| Office immediately after the 10.30 am Service. |
Important.**

is penned by Nathaniel Lim, a computer specialist whom I met at Hope BPC, Adelaide some years ago, who now is working in America. You young graduates, especially, read this challenging letter he writes for Hope BPC, as follows:

Nathaniel Lim's Epistle from New York

*"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth,
while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh,
when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them"*
(Ecclesiastes 12:1)

As I write this letter to you, millions of American students will be graduating as the final semester of the school year 1995-96 approaches. I would like to share with you a remarkable thing that happened in Fremont, California. A 17-year-old Chinese-American, Karen Cheng achieved a perfect score (1600) on both sections of the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) and a perfect (8,000) on the difficult California acceptance index. This is the first time in history anyone has ever accomplished this feat. Karen, a straight "A" student at Mission San Jose High School, describes herself as a "typical teenager" — one who munches junk food and talks for hours on the telephone with friends. Her teachers tell a different story. They call her "Wonder Girl" because of her unquenchable thirst for knowledge and her uncanny ability to retain everything she learns. Karen has been accepted by both Harvard and Stanford Universities for this coming school year. I rejoice in reading this news because the world is blessed with a brilliant woman who can, with proper guidance, use her gifts to do a lot of good. But what struck me was a brief but significant exchange Karen had with a reporter who interviewed her. When asked the question: "What is the meaning of life". After some thought, she responded: "I have no idea, I would like to know myself."

With all due respect to this gifted lady, her inability to explain the purpose of life is characteristic of many young people today. Today's generation has grown up in relative opulence. They have perhaps, enjoyed more material blessings than any comparable age group in history. Most have never experienced the horrors of war. More money has been spent on their education, medical care, entertainment and travel than any generation in history. Yet, in spite of these, they have not understood the reason why God placed them here on earth! Almost 20 years ago, the late Christian philosopher and author Francis Schaefer lamented: "The damnation of this generation is that it does not know why it has meaning."

My friends, regardless of who you are, where you were born or where you now live, the questions confronting us all are the same. They are: 1) Who am I as a person?; 2) How did I get here?; 3) Where am I going?; 4) Is there life after death?; 5) Is Someone keeping score?; 6) If He exists, what does He expect of me?; 7) How do I achieve eternal life, if it exists?; 8) What goals are worthy of the investment of my life?

The Bible gives us an incident which puts these questions into perspective. In the book of 1 Chronicles 28, King David had grown old and was about to die. When a person is about to depart for the last time, he usually offers his most important advice to the one he loves the most. This is David's advice to his young heir, Solomon:

"And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and

understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever." (1 Chronicles 28:9)

Solomon, at first heeded his father's advice and went on to become perhaps the richest, wisest, most famous and most glamorous king in Israel's history. No good thing was withheld from him. At the peak of his reign, even kings from far away places came to visit him just to seek his wisdom! Now, my dear reader, if you enjoyed the wealth, prestige and material abundance that Solomon had, how would you feel? Fortunately, as a lesson for us all, Solomon himself lived long enough to give us a glimpse as to what all these things ultimately meant to him. Listen to him as he later wrote:

"I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards: I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits...I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men...And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy...Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun...Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun is grievous unto me: for all is vanity and vexation of spirit." (Eccles 2:4-11, 17-19)

Unbelievable! This coming straight from the heart of a man who had everything and yet, became disillusioned with life! Why did he feel that way? Well, Scripture tells us that as Solomon grew older, he strayed from the advice of his father and ignored God's commandments. God had specifically warned the children of Israel not to marry women from nations that worshipped idols and false gods. But Solomon allowed his success to get to this head and wilfully disobeyed God. He took hundreds of these women to be his wives and concubines. Consequently, Solomon had lost all meaning in life, which explains his boredom with riches, fame, women and even pleasure. God's spirit was no longer with him. The lesson for everyone is clear. Without God's peace and joy, which comes only when we love and obey Him, the temporal things of this world — riches and power, will not deliver the satisfaction they so temptingly and deceptively advertise.

So to my dear friends who will be graduating this year, I extend my warmest congratulations. May you be blessed with opportunities beyond your expectations. But as you go through life laying the foundation for your future, I hope you will learn the lesson that Solomon, alas, learned late in life. Jesus summed them up in a single verse:

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 12 - 18, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$7,312.00 (8.00 am); \$17,971.50 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1800, \$1484(Chinese Ser);		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	21CRB \$100, \$50; Mersing Project \$1200, \$200, \$1000(Tape		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	Ministry), \$200, \$200, \$500; Extn of Gospel \$140; Seels		
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship, FEBC Hall	\$840, \$200, \$100(YAF); Rev J Ling \$420; Saipan (Ch bibles)		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF/LBC	\$150; Agape clinic \$10; JJ Lim \$300; Andrew Kam \$300;		
	4.00 pm	Rev Tow at YF	Children's Choir \$100; Africa \$200; China Mission \$300;		
SUN	8.00 am	Feeding the Five Thousand (Elder Lim Teck Chye)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(1) This little gift for thy house in China in		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	gratefulness of thy grace and mercies each day for		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	my family. (\$160)		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	(2) Thank you dear Lord for thy mercies and thy		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	grace on my family day by day. Enclosed is a token		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	of \$100 for the extension of thy Kingdom.		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	(3) A thanksgiving offering to praise God who		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC	has given us His precious word in Psalm 46:1 "God		
	1.30 pm	AF	is our refuge and strength, a very present help in		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser.	trouble." Thank you Lord that I may be still and		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	know that you are God. Please channel my offering		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	to the children's ministry (\$710).		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson;			(4) "The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear		
Fri Bt Batok, Bishan.			Him, in those that hope in his mercy" (Ps 147:11).		
Sunday School Offering: \$1,012.50; Attendance: 422			Praise the Lord, for raising up great men of faith		
Verse for the Week: Righteousness			that "earnestly contend for the faith which was		
exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach			once delivered unto the saints." \$200 for the 21st		
to any people. Proverbs 14:34			Century Reformation KJV Bible.		
			(5) Thank God for helping me to pass my 3rd		
			attempt at driving test. All praise and thanks to		
			Him for the trials that come my way, in that, I		
			could come forth as gold.		



To the left is South China Sea. Straight front is the coastal road. To the right is a branch road to the main highway. Notice the water main parallel to the second road!



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 19

11 August 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Tan Nee Keng	Dn Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 81	No. 28
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Lk 6:20-38	Jer 7:1-23
Hymn	No. 376	No. 351
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 137	No. 399
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 10:25-37	1 Jn 5:1-4
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Loving our Enemies</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	<i>Obedience: The Mark of True Faith</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 559	No. 323
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

ANOTHER "GOODLY HERITAGE"

This is our "Mersing Ocean Resort" at first sight!, the fulfilling of a dream so soon, a happiest surprise package from the Lord — another goodly heritage. So we can sing with David:

The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup:

Thou maintainest my lot.

The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places;

Yea, I have a goodly heritage. (Ps 16:5-6)

To tell the story, let me begin with the letter extraordinary that was faxed to Session members or sent by express mail, August 1, '96 (see overleaf).

The Sequel

As less than half the Session members could view the Mersing seaside land, we were obliged to meet immediately after the 10.30 am Service. We had the quorum with Eld Mahadevan phoning in his strong support because he was on duty elsewhere. The matter was discussed which took half an hour to decide. It was unanimous. The dozen who could come including their wives totalled 19. In our Church van and Maranatha's we left at 12.50. Our stop at Jemaluang was most refreshing.

But more refreshing was our arrival on the sea front of the

property. As it was low tide it showed a white sandbank most suitable for swimming. Under the casuarinas that sheltered us like giant umbrellas, with a cool breeze stealing from the ocean, we were held on the beach almost spellbound. That's it!

Now the 15% deposit payment of RM\$105,000 requested by the vendor. By Monday morning, before noon, the Treasurer's wife, Mrs Chia, delivered it by hand to me. We arranged to meet the broker at 2 pm. Deacon Yiew drove and Rev Peter Chua came along. The sum by cheque was paid to our Lawyers, Lam and Lim, at the Pelangi.

The BPs have 15 churches and stations in Malaysia. This project is open to BPs on either side of the Causeway. We propose to call it "B-P Youth Camp," for it will be for our young people, particularly.

The remainder of the land price must be paid in 3-4 months. How and when our Church should develop this Promised Land comes on the agenda of Session Meeting, 21 August '96. Deacon Victor Loo is our Church architect.

The benefits of acquiring this BP Youth Campsite are limitless! Apart from saving the heavy subsidies usually needed for our Annual Bible Conference, more retreats can be held on our own B-P

Historic URGENT Letter to Session Members
(dated 1 August 1996)

I HAD A DREAM

I had a dream — the dream of an Ocean Resort for our members. This came to me after the completion of the Kuantan Kindergarten Project. I told it to John Ling. I felt an urge to develop a campsite on the Mersing seaside doubling for a mission outreach.

This dream seemed to be materialising when John phoned me a week ago. I planned to go with Jeffrey Khoo on an early morning last week. But the night before this, John Ling phoned to say the seaside land was sold. We were disappointed.

Early this week John phoned to say another piece of land nearby was available, but costing RM\$1.50 more per sq ft. This time I arranged for Elder Khoo and Deacon Pong Sen to come along. We prayed for this venture at the Tuesday night prayer meeting. Deacon Wee Hian Kok showed interest after the meeting.

We set out from J.B. this morning (Thursday, Aug 1) at 10 am with the broker at the wheel. In 2½ hours we arrived at our destination. The broker told us that the first piece of seaside land that was supposed to be sold was now open to us, because the cheque received was two weeks postdated. Whoever pays the deposit first gets it!

Moreover, the owner was willing to reduce 50 cents per sq ft. Instead of RM\$10.50 per sq ft it was now RM\$10 net. The area of the land for sale is 65,580 sq ft = RM\$655,800 or roughly S\$367,000, price of a four-room HDB flat.

The price is insignificant. The land whether it is abutting the sea is the crux of the matter. On the way I prayed, "Lord, give us one that stands on the sea with good view and plenty of cool breezes." Lo, and behold, when we came on the site it was exactly what I had dreamed. Moreover access to the land on the seafront is served by an excellent metal road right to the doorstep. (The broker told us our land is in an area now blueprinted for tourism by the Government.)

Both Elder Khoo and Deacon Yiew fully concurred — this is our land!

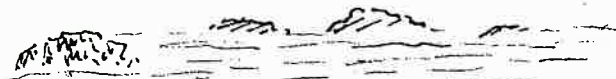
Brethren, this golden opportunity must not slip through our hand. The Lord give you the faith and foresight. In order that you may see the Promised Land as "the three spies" have seen we will take a special trip to Mersing this Lord's Day immediately after the 10.30 am Service. Bring your wives along, and your passports. "The King's Business requires haste." We stop on the way to enjoy a bowl of famous Jemaluang *Won Ton Meen*. Equally famous is their *Towhuay*. And let the decision be made on the spot. Seeing is believing! And herewith a first glimpse through enclosed maps and photo.

To accommodate all of us, we'll charter a coach through Transglobe. On receipt of this Epistle please indicate whether you're coming by phoning the office, 2569256.

God bless,

Yours obediently

TIMOTHY TOW
Pastor



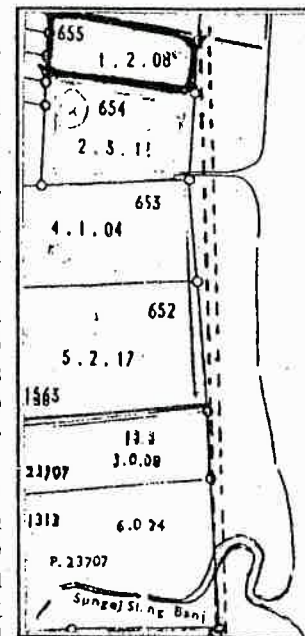
property, any time, all the time. Souls will be saved, edified and consecrated. Also, the meeting hall will be available for weekly worship and related meetings, a built-in Chapel. The resident preacher (pastor) will double as warden. The Camp will be run by free-will offerings.

Mersing is 3 hours drive from Gilstead Road (100 miles, exact) and only 2½ if you set out early to avoid heavy traffic on the JB-Ulu Tiram sector. With the refreshing stop at Jemaluang, 87th mile, the journey is made "in no time." Here is an instant resort whenever you can make it. Even after office at 5 pm on a Friday, by 8 pm you're there! Stay till Sunday to join the worship and return Monday morning. If you leave 5.30 am, you're home in time to go to office. This is one of the benefits from our B-P camp and resort.

Now, the crucial factor before we can see all this is money! I am not afraid to mention the Tiger (as the Chinese saying goes) nor will your face be flushed! If we could take Beulah House in 6 months at that high price, what is Mersing in comparison? Personally speaking, I would launch out after full payment on the land is made, and complete the Project by August 1997. But we need everybody's support, every Fellowship's support, the S.S.'s support, the Chinese Service's support, the Indonesian Service's support, and our Readers', not the least. "Self help, with God's help is the best help." "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (II Cor 9:6). Amen.

As we go to press, an Elder of another BP Church said on the phone, he would give his tithe!

—T.T.



BPs Find "HOME IN LONDON"

As of 1 August 1996 New Life B-P Church came into possession of a church complex, a classic "Victorian Look Sanctuary" where all BPs visiting or staying in London may congregate.

Address: 44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN. Tel: 0171-372-6858

Pastor Vincent Hee's residence: 0181-200-4873

Access: a) Bakerloo Line, stop at Queen's Park Station. b) British Rail to Q.Park Stn.

All welcome to your home away from home.

"Local Ginger is not hot"

This is a Cantonese saying which is akin to the Jewish saying, "A prophet is without honour in his own country" (Lk 4:24). So it seems that books produced locally are not equal to books imported from abroad.

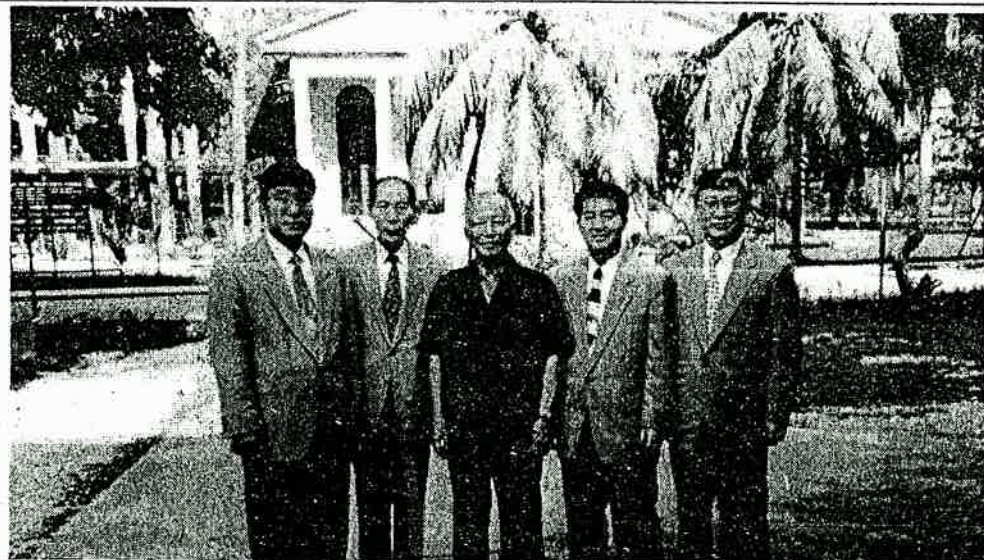
On the other hand local ginger, though not hot in the thinking of the people, might be tastier. It has a flavour that foreign products cannot challenge. For example, *chop suey* and *chow mein* cooked in America cannot equal what you get in Singapore's Chinatown!

Do you know that four of your pastor's books are now sold out of stock? 1. *Pioneering in Dyak Borneo* 2. *Calvin's Institutes Abridged* 3. *In John Sung's Steps* 4. *The Clock of the Sevenfold Will of God*. (This clock book is now being reprinted.)

Giving books to win your friends to Christ is wise (Prov 11:30). This is Life Church's special ministry, as you know. We recommend you to get from FEBC Bookroom: *Recipes for Living a Happy Life*; *Has God a Plan for Your Life?* *Born Again in the Singapore Pentecost*; *John Sung My Teacher* (altogether 25 titles). And at a low price, as with others books on the shelf. (Get your Thompson Chain Reference Bible, leather bound, while stocks last.)

You who have enjoyed *The Gospels in Unison* by Jeffrey Khoo should recommend it to your friends. It gives you the **chronological sequence** of events in Christ's life at a glance. Also, *Pattern for Church Growth and Missions* (Acts of the Apostles).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 19 - 25, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$6,498.00 (8.00 am); \$9,365.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700; 21CRB \$150, \$50; Mersing Project \$2000, \$600, \$100, \$500, \$500, \$2000(Kebaktian Ina); Extn of Gospel \$200, \$153(Boxes); Needy FEBC Students \$400; Missions \$250, \$100; Robert Peh \$100; Children's Ministry \$100; China (Chinese Bibles) \$100; Saipan (Ch Bibles) \$100; Agape Clinic \$10; Rev John Ling \$1000; Hermento \$200, \$300 ("Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble" Ps 41:1)		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	(1) Thanks to God for seeing me through my university years and allowing me to graduate with a good degree. Please make use of this offering for the extension of God's Kingdom (\$200).		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	(2) The Lord be magnified! Thank you Dear Heavenly Father for letting me have a good report from my X-ray film. I was very worried that I would need medical treatment but Thou Dear Lord heard my prayer for an exemption from it. Praise the Lord! (China-Chinese Bibles \$100)		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF/LBC	(3) Great is our Lord and greatly to be praised. Thanks for His wondrous grace and everlasting love. (\$50)		
	7.15 pm	Song Leading Workshop, FEBC Hall	(4) Praise God from whom all blessings flow. This is a small token for all that God has done for me and my family. Amen.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Draught of Fish (Msnr Charles Seet)	Song Leading Workshop this Sat. 24/8 at 7.15 pm, FEBC Hall. Speakers: Pastor Jack Sin and Eld Koh Kim Hiang.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. No NBC.					
Sunday School Offering: \$878.60; Attendance: 405					
Verse for the Week: <i>That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.</i> Eph 3:16					



Visit of Leaders of Pure Presbyterian Church, Korea last Dec. Rev Moon Kwang Sik, on extreme L, is now pastor in Sydney.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore. 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 20

18 August 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Geoffrey Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 318	No. 26
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 50	Psalm 43
Hymn	No. 418	No. 14
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 452	Verses 13-15
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 14:13-21	Rom 2:17-29
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	Feeding the Five Thousand (Eld Lim Teck Chye)	Religious but Lost
Closing Hymn	No. 406	No. 305
Benediction		

ENTREPRENEURS FOR CHRIST

There is much talk today about Singaporeans venturing into the regions beyond as entrepreneurs. What about the Church? Should the pastor be an entrepreneur for Christ? And what is an entrepreneur? The dictionary defines an entrepreneur to be "a person who undertakes an enterprise or business, with the chance for profit or loss." Is there any Scriptural mandate for this job?

The parable of the pounds and the parable of the talents (Lk 19 and Matt 25) clearly teaches this. The mandate to trade appears once in each of the parables and three times the word **gained** also appears as a result of the trading. This is Christian entrepreneurship.

Life Church is engaged in Christian entrepreneurship from the very beginning. That we should run a Christian bookshop was our original idea. This resulted in the opening of a bookroom 1962, operating at the premises now occupied by the computer room. This bookroom closed down in 1966 but was privatised in Jan 1976 as Life Book Centre, until it was bought back May 1996 and is now run as FEBC Bookroom. A non-profit enterprise it is benefiting the College and Church as never before. What is gained most for the Lord and His

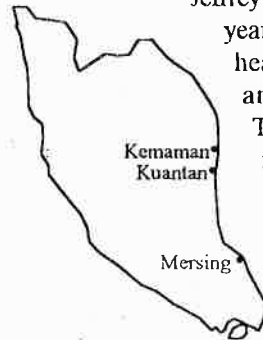
people is the supply of KJV Bibles and Reformed books at low prices and great convenience (also free parking).

The acquisition of New Life (Woodlands) and Beulah House are great gains to the Lord. New Life has lately procured a real good buy of a Church building to cater first to BPs in London and to all who will be drawn by the preaching of the Word of Life. As for Beulah House, apart from sheltering FEBC married students, it maintains a brisk ministry to passing-through missionaries and pastors and to Christians from neighbouring countries, especially from Indonesia. They come with the sick for expert treatment. Not a few lovingly housed have been won to Christ and baptised! (The latest is Hermento from Tanjung Pinang whose Mother and brother find a room at Beulah while he stays at SGH. But his hospital bed and special care costs \$600 a day! Thus, we not only provide shelter to his Mother and brother but also are constrained to help out financially. This is higher entrepreneurship — it is more blessed to give than to receive. "Remember the poor" (Gal 2:10).

Three "Gospel Kelongs" on the East Coast in Three Years

What we'd like to report as gains most profitable are Kemaman, Kuantan and now Mersing on the East Coast of Malaysia.

Kemaman has been maintained at great expense of energy by fielding three preaching teams every month under Dr Jeffrey Khoo. In one-and-a-half



years a doctor and his wife, headnurse of the hospital and their child believed. They were baptised recently and are on fire for the Lord.

Out of Kemaman came Kuantan through Rev John Ling. Bought for a song (RM150,000) this property has a royal kindergarten extension which should open 1997. This development has great potentials.

And out of Kuantan comes Mersing — also by the hand of John Ling. The deposit of RM105,000 was paid through our lawyers. The rest of \$675,000 must be settled in 3 months counting from Aug 5, '96. (The real measurement is 67,500 sq ft.) Meanwhile we must start drawing plans with our Architect Ang Kheng Leng (Victor Loo) so that by Jan 1977 when the monsoon is subsiding, we might begin building operations.

With Mersing's acquisition we have solved the problem of BP Young People finding a campsite. We have 55 B-P Churches and congregations in Singapore and 15 in Malaysia. Any B-P group can use our premises at a fraction of what they are charged by hotels. Enormous spiritual good will come out of their camps and retreats.

In order that our Church and Calvary BPC might find adequate accommodation, the size of our camp must be enlarged to take in 300. With 67,500 sq ft, the size of Life Church and half the area of Beulah Land, there should be space

enough.

We foresee a stream of churches, youth groups, and individuals using this our proposed "B-P Youth Camp" and the gathering of souls around Mersing to found a B-P "Fellowship." And we have a built-in sanctuary in the Fellowship Hall that will be part and parcel of the Camp.

Let this Mersing resort be the constant retreat of Lifers, for getting there with a stop at Jemaluang for *Won Tan Meen* and *Towhuay* makes the journey pleasant and short.

Beloved, this is one Project really worth your support. That is your share of entrepreneurship for our Lord Jesus Christ before He returns. This new development out of the blue makes me young again, for we have this assurance from St Paul, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6).

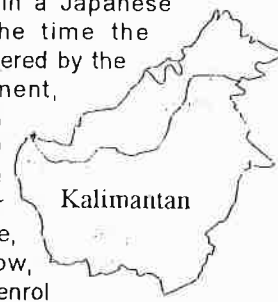
—T.T.

TESTIMONY OF KIMIKO GOTO, FEBCer 1985

Several years after I was saved, the Lord called me to be a missionary. He sent me to Singapore to serve in a Japanese Church here. At the time the church was not registered by the Singapore Government, and I could not get a visa to work. Knowing my situation the principal of Far Eastern Bible College, Rev Dr Timothy Tow, kindly invited me to enrol at the College so that I might serve with a student visa while I studied.

When I was a fourth year student of the College, I joined a mission trip of a local church to West Kalimantan, a part of Borneo Island in Indonesia. Most of the island is still a jungle area. It is such a primitive place. There is no tap water or electricity. We bathed in a river. But somehow I was attracted especially by the people there.

One day we visited an interior village by



motorboat along a river. We were supposed to reach the village by evening, but when we arrived it was already 9 o'clock. They did not know that we were coming. There was no telephone for us to inform them about our coming. But when we reached the village, people welcomed our sudden visit. It was about 10 o'clock when we started a gospel meeting.

In the meeting, I gave a testimony in English. My English was interpreted into Chinese and from Chinese to Indonesian. It was such a bad situation, two interpreters, and such a late hour of the night. But to my surprise they were so excited to hear me. They looked as if they did not want to miss even one word. I knew that they were so hungry for the gospel. After a pastor had delivered a gospel message, an invitation was made for them to receive Christ as their personal Saviour. About half of the audience immediately and gladly responded. Seeing it, I was overwhelmed with joy. When we came back to the boat to sleep, it was already 12 midnight. But I could hardly sleep because of the joy which overflowed in my heart.

Early the next morning we left the village. Many people came to see us off and said, "Please come again." I asked someone on the way back, "When can they hear the gospel again?" He answered, "May be several months later. There is no church and no evangelist there. They are waiting for someone to come to the village to preach the word of God." "Several months later?" His answer shocked me very much.

Suddenly I remembered. "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." What Jesus said to the disciples exactly fits the spiritual situation in Kalimantan. Not only that village, but many villages still remain unreached because there are so few workers for the Lord's harvest. My heart was greatly moved, and I prayed, "Lord, if you want me to come here to serve you, I'm willing to come." He heard my prayer and opened a way to serve in Kalimantan for several years until I had to leave due to a visa problem in 1991.

In 1992 the Lord guided me to Biblical for further studies. It has been such a wonderful and blessed time for me. I praise Him for our professors who have dedicated themselves to the word of God and serve Him joyfully and faithfully. They set a good example for me to follow. I am

also thankful for the staff workers of Biblical. They show an equally good example for me in their service to Him. He has also provided many fellow students who have a passion for the Lord. I was really encouraged by the fellowship with them. I praise the Lord especially for His help in my studies. Many times I felt desperate. I cried to Him. He answered and has seen me through all my difficulties. Otherwise I could not stand here today. I praise Him for His provision. When I came here I had money for only two years of study. But the Lord has supplied all my needs in wonderful ways. It's a miracle, but time is too short for me to tell you.

Two years ago when I went back to Japan, my pastor told me that a Bible college in Indonesia had asked our denomination to send a missionary. How about going there? After several months of prayer the Lord convinced me that I should go. Now I am going back to Japan, where I will serve until I get an Indonesian visa.

All glory be to the Lord, my Saviour and Master, Jesus Christ.

Ed. note: Kimiko plans to visit Singapore en route to East Java. A warmest welcome awaits you at FEBC!

As for Life Church our work in Kalimantan is entrusted to Rev Djunaidi. We also support Ev. Benjamin Wong under Djunaidi's supervision. Both are involved in the development of a Life B-P Church to be erected at a village called Lingga on the highway to Kuching.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 26 - Sep 1, '96)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON 7.30 pm <i>Minor Prophets</i> (Rev Tow) TUE 8.00 pm Prayer Mtg WED 7.30 pm <i>Gospels in Urison</i> (Mid-Semester Exam) 7.45 pm Ladies F'ship BS THU 7.30 pm <i>Hermeneutics</i> (Rev Quek Suan Yew) 7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Tow) SAT 3.00 pm Combined F'ship Conference, FEBC Hall (Rev Tow & Pastor Jack Sin) 7.30 pm Film Show <i>If I Perish</i> (Sanctuary) SUN 8.00 am <i>The Rich Fool</i> (Msnr Charles Seet) 9.30 am Sunday School 9.30 am Catechism Class, Beulah House 10.30 am Rev Tow, Lord's Supper 10.30 am Chinese Service 10.30 am Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship 10.30 am Children's Choir Practice 10.40 am Church Choir Practice 12.30 pm Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC 3.00 pm Thai Service 4.00 pm Indonesian Service 4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service 4.45 pm Burmese Service NBC This Week. <i>Wed</i> Bt Timah, Henderson. Sunday School Offering: \$672.05; Attendance: 370 Verse for the Week: <i>Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.</i> (Phil 2:3)		\$6,209.00 (8.00 am); \$14,263.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$150; 21CRB \$50; Mersing Project \$500, \$1000, \$10000, \$300, \$100, \$100 (Sharon BPC), \$1000, 2x\$10000; Extn of Gospel \$350; YF \$50; Seets \$200, \$150; Lim JJ \$200, \$350; Hermento \$300; A Kam \$150; MsF \$200, \$50, \$40; Yiew PS \$50; Thailand \$3000; Agape Clinic \$10; Children's Choir \$710; Batam \$50. FROM THE OFFERING BAGS: (1) A thanksgiving offering to our precious and loving God who has provided all my needs, especially my first job after I graduated. Enclosed is a token for the extension of Thy kingdom (\$350). (2) Thank God for the merit allowance from my job. Also thank God for His grace and mercy upon me and my family. Please channel this little gift to missionary Charles Seet. — By His Grace (3) Thanks to God for His bountiful mercy on me that I have gone through this successful operation just in time before the cancer spreads. I also want to thank our Pastor and brothers and sisters in Church who prayed for me during this crucial time. I am recuperating at home in my son's house. Please pray that I will continue to recover from my illness. (\$1,000) (4) "He that hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6). \$50 for Mersing Project. (5) Thank our Heavenly Father for my recent promotion. Kindly apportion \$150 (Andrew Kam); \$150 (Charles Seet). — A Grateful Lifer



Pyin Oo Lwin (May Myo) Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Burma (near Mandalay). Born on July 7, 1996. Our one-time support: US\$2000.



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063. T4

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 21

25 August 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 85
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 32	Psalm 23
Hymn	No. 297	<i>The Lord's My Wonderful Shepherd</i>
Announcements		<i>Make Sure of Truth</i>
Offering & Hymn	No. 418	
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 5:1-11	Rom 3:1-20
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Draught of Fish</i> (Msnr Charles Seet)	<i>Jewish Arguments Silenced By Truth</i>
	No. 423	No. 273
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

8TH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

MAY 3-19, 1997

In full consultation with Guiding Star our agent in Jerusalem, we can now announce the schedule as follows.



Next year's Pilgrimage will proceed via London, and the timing could not be better. We leave Singapore Sat. May 3, 0130 hours (be at airport Friday 2300 hours). We have a break at Gateway Hotel, Amman, early next morning before enplaning for London, arriving in the evening. We stay at a clean suburban hotel 20 miles out of London to save expenses.

The next day May 4 being the Lord's Day we worship at the New Life B-P Church at 44 Salusbury Road, London NW6, 6NN (Tel: 0171-372-6858). Pastor Vincent Hee's residence: 0181-200-4873. (This will blaze a trail for others when in London to worship at the New Life BPC.) Our stay in London will be three nights and four days.



"The King's Business Required Haste" (I Sam 21:8)

I

Now that the Mersing seaside property has come to our hand by the 15% deposit of RM105,000 paid to the vendor, we have the remainder of the RM675,000=S\$377,000 to clear by 5th Nov '96. Meanwhile we have instructed Messrs Ang Kheng Leng our architect to go ahead with the building plans for a B-P Youth Camp, that is big enough to take in 300. The assembly hall will double for Sunday services of a new congregation of believers. Open to all BP Churches and Fellowships. 15 in Malaysia + 55 in S'pore, this Camp will be alive with people. For we are dealing with souls, the lively stones than with physical buildings.

In order to expedite work on the "goodly heritage," Pastor and Dn Victor Loo made a quick trip last Friday to Mersing to survey the land. It is confirmed the capacity of the "Camp" is 300. We'll have no problem about cooking. With restaurants 2 km away catering will keep everyone happy!

II

See, at what lightning speed God's Kingdom is building up on Batam Island: Batu Aji and Tanjung Piayu. Referring to the young children brought to the Lord for blessing, who were restrained by His disciples, Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them

not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein" (Mk 10:13-15).

What is commendable about the two churches Roska has built at Batu Aji and Tg Piayu is that both have a sprouting congregation and now a kindergarten added to each — 65 at Batu Aji and 13 at Tg Piayu. We need not say further but just insert these photos. A picture is worth a thousand words.

We are happy to report that Rev Kim Kah Teck, now studying the MRE course at FEBC will henceforth take over from Dr Jeffrey Khoo to preach and administer the Lord's Supper the first of every month. He will also minister at Uban on Bintan Island, 15 mins from Batam by motor boat.

During the mid-term break Sept 2-7, Pastor and Mrs Tow will visit Batam shortly to check on the latest developments. Pray also for Roska and her husband Mr Choi who loves the Lord and our Gospel enterprise. Mr Choi is Assistant Manager of a Korean Manufactory of steel and concrete piles.

III

On the back page is seen the birth of another Ev. Presbyterian Church under Rev Thawm Luai at May Myo, now renamed Pyin Oo Lwin. This is their 54th church. We need to help this newborn church with \$240 a month for 12 months. "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few, pray..." (Lk 10:2).



Tg. Piayu B-P Church and Kindergarten. The cement floor is donated by Mr Choi's Korean company.



IV

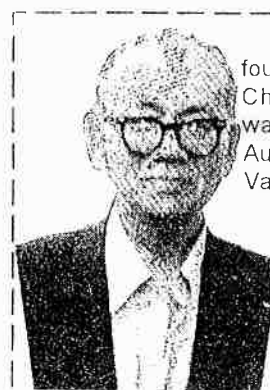
As we go to press news has come from Rev Djunaidi that he has cleared with the penghulu and District Officer of Lingga where he will build a first Bible Presbyterian Church for West Kalimantan. Before the Building Proper it is necessary to raise a storehouse that can be upgraded for staff quarters later on. Working with Rev Djunaidi is Ev. Benjamin Wong also under our support.

In Jakarta is another of our missionaries, Yusniar who graduated from FEBC with a Dip.Th. She has started a new work with

children. Pray for these two latest outreaches in Indonesia.

V

FEBC Bookroom is like the post office with an all-round service. While our main business is to supply KJV and Bibles in Chinese and other languages, and good Christian books, we serve you in related areas, such as stationery, Christian gifts, fineline pens and high-lighters for Bibles, and now postage stamps, since you ask! Visit FEBC Bookroom also to rest awhile in airconditioned comfort! (*The Gospels in Unison* by Jeffrey Khoo makes an excellent gift!) —T.T.



Rev Silas C T Hsu, 79, founding Deacon of Life B-P Church, Prinsep St. 1950 was received into glory, 12 Aug 96 at his home, 51-82 Van Kleeck St., Elmhurst, N.Y.11373-4260, USA. A true son of the 20th Century Reformation movement he was a loyal supporter of Life Church and FEBC to the very end. A

zealous soul-winner with a ready pen, he is known to the Chinese Christian world by his writings and gospel advertisements in New York Chinese newspapers. He is survived by wife and 6 children, the youngest son being an ordained pastor. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Ps 116:15).

Another saint who has entered glory is Eld Lau Hock Ann, 80, of Rawang B-P Church, Muar. He passed away Thurs. Aug 22 in Malacca hospital without suffering. Funeral will be held Mon. Aug 26, 1996 afternoon. We send our deepest condolences.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 2 - 8, '96)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	FEBC Vacation Begins	\$8,165.00 (8.00 am); \$10,215.00 (10.30 am)
TUE 8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Rev Stephen Khoo)	OFFERINGS FOR: 21CRB \$100, \$50; Mersing \$500, \$100, \$200, \$1263, \$500, \$100, \$300, \$89(Boxes), \$300, \$30.30, \$1000; Myanmar \$500, \$50; Myanmar Orph \$1100; China Mission \$330; JJ Lim \$100; Thailand \$600; China \$500; Agape \$10; Rev Tow \$100; Rev S Khoo \$100; Hermenito \$100; Yangon Orph \$200; Medan(Dohar) \$50.
SAT 2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC	
2.30 pm	Han Ming Kuang & Lee Lai Peng Wedding (Rev Tow)	
SUN 8.00 am	Cleansing the Ten Lepers (Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
9.30 am	Sunday School	(1) Praise the Lord for healing me! All glory to His Name! (\$500 to BP Youth Camp).
9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	(2) My loving Heavenly Father has blessed me abundantly even though I am not worthy. This is the "first fruits" from the sale of my CD and cassette. (\$1000)
10.30 am	Mr Charles Seet	Diminishing Returns
10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	A baker living in a village not far from Quebec bought his butter from a neighboring farmer. One day he became suspicious that the butter was not the same weight, and therefore decided to satisfy himself about it. For several days he weighed the butter, and then found that the rolls of butter that the farmer brought were diminishing in weight. This so angered him that he had the farmer arrested. "I assume you have weights," said the judge. "No, Sir," replied the farmer. "How then do you manage to weigh the butter that you sell?" "That's easily explained, Your Honor," said the farmer. "When the baker began buying his butter from me, I thought I'd get my bread from him, and it's the one-pound loaf I've been using as a weight for the butter I sell. If the weight of the butter is wrong, he has himself to blame."
10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	—Sunday School Chronicle
10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	
10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	
12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	
3.00 pm	Thai Service	
4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	
4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
4.45 pm	Burmese Service	
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.		
Sunday School Offering: \$740.26; Attendance: 405		
Verse for the Week: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Col 3:16		



Framed by casuarinas and green islands the South China Sea beckons us with a white sand bank to swim when the tide comes in. Or else we can relax in easy chairs in the cool breezes.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 22

1 September 1996

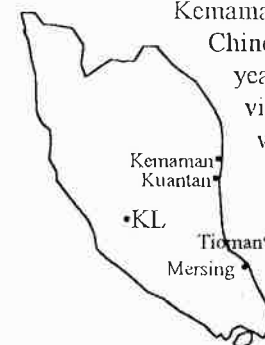
"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Yiew Pong Sen	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 86	No. 121
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 90	Psalms 143
Hymn	No. 21	No. 311
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 457	Roman Verses 18-20
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 12:13-21	Rom 3:20-31
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Rich Fool (Mr Charles Seet)	Forsaking All I Take Him
Closing Hymn	No. 565	No. 359
Benediction		Lord's Supper

"THE PEOPLE THAT WALKED IN DARKNESS HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT" (ISAIAH 9:2)

This prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled when Jesus appeared in Galilee to show Himself to a lost mankind. Galilee, a neglected region, awakes to the great light of the Saviour.

What is said of ancient Galilee may be applied to the East Coast of Malaysia. When the Lord sent John Ling to Kemaman, the Presbyterian Church there, both Chinese and English, had closed down for years. So was the Church at Mersing he visited en route, being all but eaten of white ants. (There was no pastor either.)



For four years Rev Ling ceaselessly laboured. Though he has now resigned from the Kemaman Church to join us at Kuantan, it is through him that both the Chinese and English

Services were revived, with full support from Life Church. (We have been fielding three preaching teams each month for the last two years and two months.) While the Kemaman Chinese

Church has found another minister, the English Church continues under the same arrangement. Rev Ling, who has now fully recovered, will officiate the Lord's Supper the first week of September. The congregation being now revived can function on their own. (Dr Jeffrey Khoo relaxes not to maintain the same oversight.)

As for Mersing, we see even greater possibilities. A halfway house between Singapore and Kuantan, it is only 2½ hours' drive from here. If we can send a preaching team to Kemaman three times a month spending 8 hours on the bus to cover 250 miles, how shall we not be able to field a speaker every week only 100 miles away? Our Mersing project, humbly named BP Youth Camp, will have an assembly hall. It will double as the sanctuary of a Mersing BP Church.

Mersing is a town bristling with activity. It has become an important tourist centre, for here are moored many a glistening motor launches to take you to the outlying islands, the biggest and farthest of which is Pulau Tioman.

Once a small fishing village, it has become the chief town of Johore's Northeastern

seacoast. Two mammoth housing estates are now beginning to lay foundations for hundreds of homes and shopping complexes to come. Several thousand new residents to occupy these two estates in the next two years will become a new harvest field for us. So it is not too early to ask, "Who will go for Us?"

The Mersing Project to house 300 is no small undertaking. Soon you'll see the Architects' drawings. Pray that the Lord will give them wisdom and understanding. We are "confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6).

In last week's offerings, there came in several sums for Mersing, and one was five figures. After Prayer Meeting Tuesday week, a brother anonymously offered 2 x \$10,000. Then followed up a *hongbao* of \$300 and an envelope \$1,263 brought by 2 sisters of E-Band, being their Anniversary Thanksgiving. "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee. . . O LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build thee an house for thine holy name cometh of thine hand, and is all thine own" (I Chron 29:14, 16).

May the BP Youth Camp we're preparing to build become a bright lighthouse on Malaysia's East Coast, a hiding place from the wind and a cove from the tempest (Isa 32:2). —T.T.

Nathaniel Lim of Hope BPC Writes from New York

"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34)

Almost 160 years ago, a Frenchman named Alexis de Tocqueville came to America. He was intrigued by this country's continued prosperity despite the predictions of seasoned politicians in Europe saying that she would never survive her declaration of independence from England without sinking into anarchy. After a few years of living and observing the American way of life, Tocqueville wrote in his now famous work entitled, "Democracy in America":

"I sought for the greatness and genius of

America in her fertile fields and boundless forests and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her rich mines and vast world commerce, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her democratic congress and her matchless constitution, and it was not there. Not until I went to the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great" (emphasis mine).

Recently, I read the editorial of a major newspaper in New York stating: "*The Christian Coalition are emphasizing minor issues in this upcoming elections. Yes, Moral values are important, ...but people want to hear about the economy right now.*" The major media commentators are sneering at America's moral issues, in effect calling it a smokescreen to take the people's mind off what they see is the "real" problem, the economy. Little do they realize how true Tocqueville's words still are — that the prosperity of a nation (yes, her economy included) depends on her people's obedience to God's moral laws.

So, let's talk about the economy. What are the factors that make for a thriving economy? Well, to start things off, people have to be willing to work hard; that's motivation and self sacrifice (Proverbs 12:24). They have to be willing to honor their word; that's honesty (Romans 12:17; II Corinthians 13:7,8). They have to invest time and effort on tasks that do not necessarily pay off immediately, but in the future; that's self-discipline and delayed gratification (Proverbs 6:6-11). People have to cooperate and work well with others; that's kindness and respect (II Peter 1:5-7). Lawmakers have to pass laws that encourage industry and thrift. What can we conclude from this? Prosperity depends on people holding high ethical standards. When the people obey God's law, a nation thrives. God's moral laws are not to be trivialized, for obedience to these laws is the basis of a sound economy.

Now, let us look at the other side of the coin. What happens when people disobey God's moral laws? History has consistently shown that a decline in moral values inevitably leads to a decline in the economy. Bad morals cost society and everyone pays.

Take health care for example. It has been

said that if America maintains her current system, Medicare will go bankrupt within 7 years. What is the major cause? Well, studies have shown that up to 60% of America's health care costs stem from behavior that people can control: smoking, drinking, drugs, casual sex, violence, and living an unhealthy lifestyle. These are issues of temperance and self-control. Ignoring God's laws on the sanctity of marriage is costing society a lot as well. Health care costs skyrocket with the epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases. Welfare costs rise sharply as people fail to control their libido, and as a result, women have babies out of wedlock and men refuse to accept their responsibilities and desert their families. Taxes are then driven up as the government scramble to solve the societal problems that stem from these behavior. Society pays when people scorn God's moral laws.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said that every law America has is derived from the Ten

REVIVALS IN THE CHINESE CHURCH

Rev Timothy Tow

This is a much needed subject for study as we are living in a lethargic Laodicean age. We are neither cold nor hot. But there are those who claim Revival has come to their Church and denomination, viz. the Charismatics. This must be examined through a study on the history of Revivals. For there are always counterfeits in every endeavour for Christ and His Church.

Since we are Chinese, focusing our study on Revivalists that have influenced the Chinese Church, foreign or national, would suffice, especially those during our recent generations. Those within our purview, and they can be counted on the figures in the last 150 years, are William Chalmers Burns, Jonathan Goforth, Dora Yu, Ting Li Mei and John Sung. The first two are Caucasians and missionaries. The last three are a daughter and sons of the soil.

I think I have a good grasp of the subject under investigation from my own Christian roots reaching down to my great grandfather and grandfather. They were ministers of the Gospel. But it was my parents that from a little child, I had heard of the great exploits of Dora Yu and Ting Li Mei. When I was 15 years of age, I

Commandments or the Sermon on the Mount. Christianity is the root of America. The church, the Bible, the Gospel ... these were the cornerstones of the founding of America. Cut a plant from its root and it will die. Like a dying plant, Western civilization has been slowly wilting. When enough people repudiate the church and the Bible, at that moment, it cuts itself off from its roots. No nation can prosper for long when it forsakes God. America is no exception. God does not want our patronage; he demands obedience.

So my friends, don't let the pundits tell you that moral values are a smokescreen and just peripheral to the needs of society. The truth is precisely the opposite:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (II Chronicles 7:14).

personally experienced the mighty working of the Holy Spirit in what is known as the Singapore Pentecost through the Revival campaign of Dr John Sung. To have a full picture of the same, it is recommended that you read my two books, *John Sung My Teacher* and *Asian Awakening*. It is a joy to recall those days of reviving Spiritual Rains, a mighty Monsoon drenching a dry and thirsty land.

In the light of what I have experienced and from what my parents had described of the wonderful times they went through under Dora Yu and Ting Li Mei, I can better understand the revivals under the ministry of Jonathan Goforth and William Burns. In all these revivals, there were great shake-ups of sinners mourning for their sins and greater praises to the Saviour after they were delivered. There was born the mighty spirit of evangelism and many full-time consecrations to serve the Lord, but no speaking of tongues, though there was divine healing by John Sung. Everything that was done by these Revivalists was never to self-glorification but to the glory of God. Like St Paul, this was their testimony, "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake (II Cor 4:5). Hallelujah!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 9 - 15, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$5,121.00 (8.00 am); \$13,601.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1800, \$1205(Chinese Ser.);		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	21CRB \$300; Mersing \$200, \$2000, \$200, \$750, \$100, \$750,		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship BS	\$200, \$1000(YAF), \$400, \$300(JSM), \$100; Robert Peh \$250;		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	Jack Sin \$400; JJ Lim \$400, \$200, \$300; Seets \$150; Agape		
FRI	7.00 pm	Ladies' F'ship Anniv, Beulah House	Clinic \$10; Roska \$300; TJ Pinang/Batam \$300; Eld Khoo		
	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall	P K \$200; Extn of Gospel \$350; AF \$150; Chal Muei Huying		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF	\$50; Misslons \$200; Africa \$200; Pang Kok Hiong \$500.		
	2.30 pm	Sembawang BPC Wedding	Non-Debt-Paying Churchmen		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Rich Man and Lazarus</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	'Twas the young minister's first pastorate. He was filled		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	with zeal for the unsaved ones. Among those about whom		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	he was deeply burdened was the druggist of the little town.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	Going to the drugstore one day, the minister, after the usual		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	exchange of greetings, began to talk to the druggist about		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	his soul and his need of the Saviour. The man listened		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	respectfully, in silence. Then he took the pastor to his office		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	in the rear of the store. There he began to shift the leaves		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	of his ledger. Coming to a certain account, the druggist		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Service	asked the minister, "Do you know that man?" "Why, yes,"		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser.; 4.45 Burmese Ser.	replied the minister. "Do you see how long this account		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.			has been unpaid?" "I do," said the pastor. Then he		
Sunday School Offering: \$700.40; Attendance: 390			continued, "Is that man able to pay this account?" "Why,		
Verse for the Week: <i>And the Lord</i>			yes, that man is a prosperous member of my church. I		
<i>make you to increase and abound in</i>			can't understand," said the pastor hesitantly. Coming to		
<i>love one toward another, and toward</i>			another account, the same conversation ensued between		
<i>all men, even as we do toward you.</i>			pastor and druggist. Two professing Christians, both non-		
1 Thessalonians 3:12			debt-paying, were blocking the road to heaven for the		
			unsaved druggist. The young minister stood speechless		
			for a moment; then he walked dejectedly from the store.		
			—W.B.K.		



*Mt Hermon (Ps 133) whose snow-waters feed the
River Jordan and Sea of Galilee is highest in the
Holy land (Isaiah 62:22). This is in our 8th Pilgrimage.*



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 23

8 September 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	On Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 44	No. 32
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Lam 3:22-36	Psalm 25
Hymn	No. 90	No. 122
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 111	No. 182
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 17:11-19	John 19:16-42
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Cleansing the Ten Lepers</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>"It Is Finished"</i> (Msnr Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	Lord's Supper	No. 551
Benediction	No. 398	

THOUGHTS ON REVIVAL

That the young people have chosen this subject for study at the Combined Fellowship Conference last week discloses their thirst for spiritual values. I spoke on the history of revivals in the Chinese Church and drew lessons from these, which I hope would be beneficial to the younger generation.

Revivals are the outworkings of the Holy Spirit in convicting us of sins and causing us to repentance. At such a season many unconverted nominal Christians are saved, being born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. Like the dead bones in Ezekiel's vision, they suddenly spring to life. They become like a mighty army in a new fervour of service for the Lord, whether in witnessing, outdoor evangelism, missions, or any other means of extending God's Kingdom.

The Reformation of the 16th Century was the greatest revival the Church had experienced since the Apostles, according to the Church historian Philip Schaff. We joined the 20th Century Reformation movement led by Dr McIntire in the early fifties and the outcome of it is the B-P Church movement that now encircles the globe. Alas, not all B-P Churches would follow their founders. Hence the dissolution of Synod in 1988. Some of these are holding ICC

membership but contravening its separatist stand. They have no qualms inviting professors from Fuller and Regent, whose leaders are signers of the ECT Declaration, that Evangelicals and Catholics are together as one. These younger leaders believe also in Charismatism in the form of "Meaningful Ecstatic Utterances." Some drop the use of the KJV for NIV, etc.

In heeding the Apostle Jude to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints Calvary and Life Churches and FEBC are stoutly standing for KJV. We need your earnest prayers on our behalf that the mammoth task of the 21st Century Reformation Bible might be surmounted by the help of the Holy Spirit. It is high time that FEBC took up the challenge to expose Satan dressed in the sheep's clothing of wolfish "Evangelicals." To prove our point this is Harold Lindsell, commenting on Isaiah 7:14 in the Evangelical KJV Study Bible:

*7:14 a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son. Before we can understand this verse, we need to consider two Hebrew words. One is *bethulah* and the other *almah*. The former means virgin, and the latter an unmarried female. *Almah* is used here. Its use in this*

context covers two cases. One has to do with the wife of Isaiah and her newborn son (Is. 8:1-4). Isaiah's wife was a virgin until she was married. She was no longer a virgin when married. Of course, one supposes that an unmarried female is a virgin. The second case covers that of the virgin Mary. She was a virgin before the conception of Jesus. And she remained a virgin then, because Joseph was not the father of Jesus. The Holy Spirit was. Stated another way, Isaiah's wife was no longer a virgin when she conceived; Mary was still a virgin *after* she conceived, for she had not yet known a male. Interestingly, the Septuagint translates *almah* by the use of the Greek word *parthenos* which means virgin. And Matthew uses the word *parthenos* for Mary's case. The word *almah* thus covers both births involved in this prophecy and we learn that Maher-shalal-hash-baz, the son of Isaiah, had a human mother and father and his birth was a natural one. Jesus, on the other hand, had a human mother but not a human father. His birth was supernatural. *Almah* allows for both prophetic words.

Our Rebuttal. This double talk, bringing Isaiah's prophecy to fit his son, and then forcibly dovetail it with the Virgin Birth of our Lord is treacherously confounding to say the least. The Isaiah 7:14 prophecy refers only to our Saviour's Birth and none other as Matthew says it in Matt 1:22,23. Matthew's commentary is the commentary of the Holy Spirit for Matthew writes under Inspiration of God. Jesus says, "Let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil" (Matt 6:37). Any double talk comes from the evil of the Devil. Another grave error: "... Joseph was not the father of Jesus. The Holy Spirit was." If the Holy Spirit was, as Lindsell says, the father of Jesus, and God is Father of our Lord, this makes Jesus having two Fathers. What blind blasphemy!

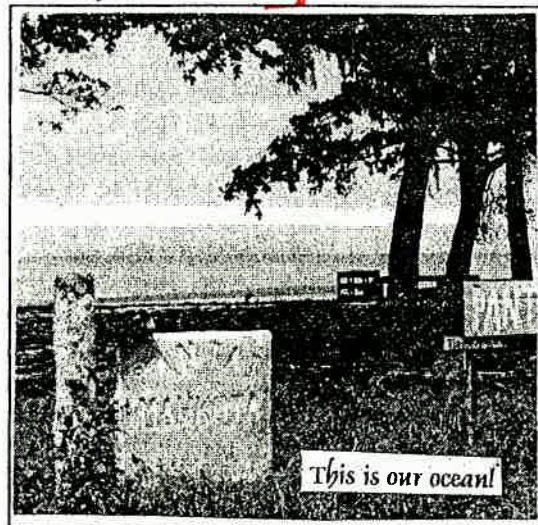
And we can go on, and on, ferreting these coiled double-headed snakes out of their "Evangelical" nests. We need that reviving Spirit from above to fight the good fight of faith. Revival is the work of the Holy spirit. So is Reformation. We are moved to carry on the work of the 20th Century Reformation into the 21st Century, but the pattern must be changed to meet changing times.

We do not believe in holding big inter-

national conferences as in the past. Many opportunists took advantage of these conferences to gain their own ends. Some for cheap tourism, others to migrate and still others for reasons known only to themselves. Nevertheless, the coming together of likeminded churches as Calvary and Life for another Combined Camp in Malacca next year, June 2-6, 97 with Dr Gary Cohen as speaker should yield tangible results.

Revival need not be a mighty downpour but an on-going working of the Spirit in faithful day-to-day ministry. This I speak in reference to FEBC. If the 12-member faculty will teach to the best of their ability, be an inspiration to the student body, we will be able to produce on an average ~~one~~ ^{two} fruits a month (Rev 22:2). The FEBC Bookroom is increasing daily in her power to sprout green leaves for the healing of the nations with good Bibles and Christian books. The Spirit bloweth where it listeth. Like the special rains this August bringing much refreshing to Singapore, let FEBC labour consistently in the training and turning out of effective workers for the Lord's Vineyard. *(33 were graduated in 2000)*

The 21st Century Reformation strategy is no more holding expensive international conferences, as we have iterated above, but the producing of a ~~KJV~~ commentary that will expose the false teachings of other KJV commentaries, such as the so-called **Evangelical** edited by Harold Lindsell. —T.T.



IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 7 TWO ANGLICAN CHURCHMEN FROM CAMBRIDGE

Soon after the discovery of the *Codex Sinaiticus* and *Codex Vaticanus*, two learned professors, Westcott and Hort, Anglican Churchmen from Cambridge, got to work on these defective manuscripts. Out of them they published their edition of the Greek NT which was then presented to the world as the **most accurate, authentic and trustworthy**.

With their stamp of authority, their Greek NT literally captured the imagination of the scholastic community. Since then the *Westcott-Hort Greek NT* has dominated the field of NT Greek scholars and translators around the world. By one fell stroke the TR (*Textus Receptus* or *Majority Text*) was dethroned, and the *Westcott-Hort* (W-H) text was seated in the chair of authority.

While these two men and their followers exalt their text as "the best," another school (as we have seen) rejects them as "the worst." What does God's Word say on the matter? Our Lord's teaching from the "Sermon on the Mount" (Matt 7:15-18) applies:

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Then says the Apostle James: "*Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree . . . bear olive berries? . . . so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh*" (Jas 3:11-12).

What sort of "tree" and "fountain" are Westcott and Hort? What are their doctrinal beliefs and persuasion? These have been subjected to a penetrating analysis ("Heresies of Westcott and Hort" by D. A. Waite, 900 Park Avenue, Collingswood, New Jersey 08108, USA).

Behind their academic gowns and "evangelical" facade the real Westcott and Hort harboured a secret affection for Rome and the Virgin Mary. By their own writings the men reveal

their true selves: unregenerate, strangers to the saving grace of God, and enemies of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Herewith we present incontrovertible proof of the unbelief and anti-Christian position of Westcott and Hort, excerpted from Waite's book.

DENIALS OF BASIC BIBLE TRUTH

BY WESTCOTT & HORT

Whether jointly or individually, Westcott and Hort, by their own pens, have denied or attacked the following fundamental doctrines of "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).

Westcott and Hort DENIED:

- the doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture
- the Genesis record of the Creation and the Fall of man
- the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His eternal pre-existence and Godhead, His Messiahship, and His sinlessness
- the substitutionary atonement of Christ and redemption by His blood
- the bodily resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
- the Second Coming of Christ
- the doctrine of Eternal Life
- the reality of Heaven and Hell
- the personality of the Devil.

Westcott and Hort BELIEVED IN:

- the inherent goodness and perfectibility of man
- the Darwinian theory of Evolution
- the Universal Fatherhood of God
- the ultimate salvation of all men
- the efficacy of water baptism for Regeneration.

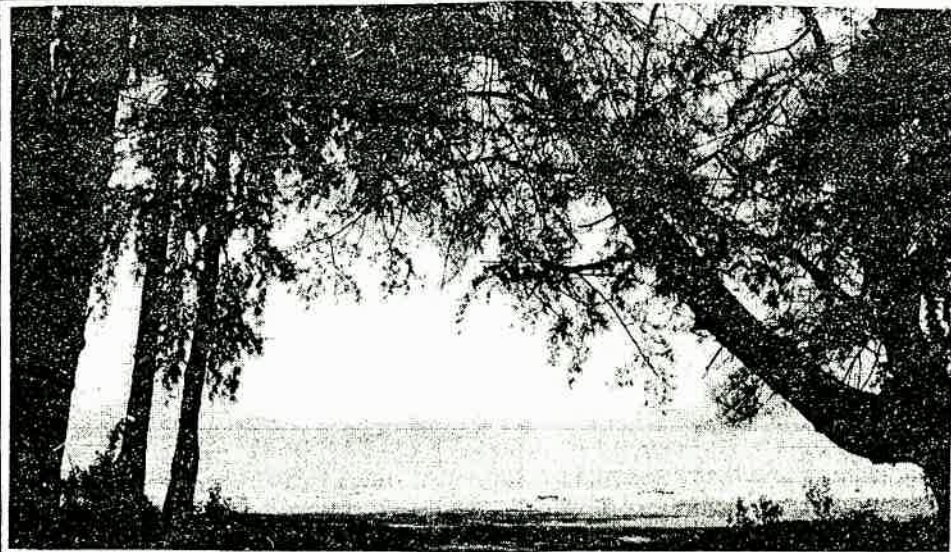
CONCLUSION

Westcott and Hort were **false prophets, ravening wolves in sheep's clothing** (Matt 7:15) "**deceitful workers, transforming themselves into . . . ministers of righteousness**" (2 Cor 11:13-15).

Their theories of Textual Criticism are false and must be utterly rejected.

Their NT Greek Text is therefore also to be utterly rejected as pernicious poison. And yet a hundred new Bibles have flowed from this corrupt source.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 16 - 22, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$9,953.00 (8.00 am); \$8,194.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700; 21CRB \$30, \$3792, \$50;		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Mersing Project \$200, \$50, \$200, \$50, \$20, \$100, \$300,		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	\$3000, \$360(Boxes), \$200, \$100, \$500, \$562.75(Combined		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	F'ship), \$200, \$400(Kebaktian Ina); Seets \$250, \$150; Baraka		
FRI	7.00 pm	FEBC Board Mtg (Taman Sentosa)	Conf Centre \$70; Sabah \$150; Ivory Coast \$200; Rfd Tract		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC	Dist \$10; FEBC Gospel Rally \$100; Medan Orph \$50;		
SUN	8.00 am	The Raising of Lazarus (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Yangon Orph \$50; Missions \$250; Hope BPC \$1000(AF).		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	(1) "For promotion cometh neither from the east,		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	nor from the west," but from the Lord. Thanks be to		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	God for my unexpected recent promotion. Please		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	apportion as follows - Mersing Project \$200, The		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	Seets \$150, Dn J J Lim \$200.		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	(2) In thanksgiving to God for His lovingkindness		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC	and bountiful grace. A little love token to God for		
	1.30 pm	AF	answering our prayers and for seeing us through		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Service	each and every crisis. (\$2000)		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	(3) Thank you Lord for seeing me through my		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	commitments at my workplace and the grace in		
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel hour	granting a generous increment. Praise the Lord for		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.			He is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth		
Sunday School Offering: \$616.06; Attendance: 385			endureth to all generations. (\$250 for Charles Seet)		
Verse for the Week: <i>My flesh and my</i>			—A sinner saved by grace		
<i>heart faileth: but God is the strength of</i>			When in London worship at New Life B-P Church,		
<i>my heart, and my portion for ever.</i>			44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN		
<i>Psalms 73:26</i>			Tel: 0171-372-6858 (Rev Vincent Hee's: 0181-200-4873)		
			Access: a. Bakerloo Line, stop at Queen's Park Station		
			b. British Rail to Queen's Park Station		



This is the "gateway" to the open sea from the coastal road of Pantai Mahkota, 50 yds from our Mersing property. An hour's motor boat brings you to a crystal clear coral sea and emerald islands.



Rif

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Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 24

15 September 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn John Hoe	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 18	No. 20
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 115	Psalms 46
Hymn	No. 105	No. 340
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 309	Roman Verses 21-23
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 16:19-31	Romans 4:1-12
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Rich Man and Lazarus</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>Prophet and King, By Faith They Sing</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 453	No. 289
Benediction		

My dear Readers,

MUSINGS FROM MANA MANA BEACH

We had intended to take two nights off to Batam during the midterm break, but the Lord had a higher plan through Rosaleen. Rosaleen's husband Mr Cheong Kok Hong has a job on Bintan Island with the Mana Mana Beach Resort, so we're diverted here.

To get to this northern end of Bintan Island, we took a ferry from Tanah Merah. This was a smooth 45-minute ride. A fellow staff member promptly drove us in his jeep and here we are settled without ado in a coconut plantation, converted into a "kampong" resort. Tranquillity reigns supreme except for the distant drone of engines, for Bintan North is just in the process of development.

One reason why the Lord has directed us to this seaside resort is to give us time to reflect on the Mersing Project. Rev Goh Seng Fong took me to study a commercial campsite in Mersing some weeks back, and now we're comparing this "kampong" style resort with what we saw.

This Beach Resort is sprawling on at least ten acres of rolling country, so many chalets are situated "inland." To get to the Dining Hall is quite a distance, and more so to the

beach for a swim. There are pros and cons.

What about ours now in the offing? Though our land is but 1½ acres (67,500 sq ft), it is equivalent to two with the addition of a side road. We have access to the property on two fronts. With entrance from the main road and two from the side road, we have perfect freedom of movement. And with 300 campers all concentrated in a three-storey shallow U complex, we have enjoyment of the open South China Sea, instant and every minute of the day and night! Off monsoon season there is no better place to go for a splash. (During the year-end Monsoon, Absolute no swimming!) You have to visit the site to feel the pull of the sea. Being put together under one roof, we can gather for worship, group meetings, dining, games, at the blow of a whistle.

In the matter of management and maintenance it will be both economical and efficient since ours is not spread over a ten acre estate. If a pastor and his family resides here, they can double as wardens. Cheap labour is immediately available to do the room service, washing, sweeping and gardening.

A three storey U complex to cater to 300 is no small job to plan, build and furnish. The architect and I are in the midst of discussion at this stage. Now we need to form a Mersing Committee. "Where no counsel is, the people fall; but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety" (Prov 11:14).

Why is it we are so excited about Mersing? Events assure us that this is a mandate from the Lord. First it was a dream come true in a matter of 4 months. Secondly, this property was "sold," but a flaw was discovered in the postdated cheque, which allowed us to claim it with an immediate 15% deposit. Thirdly, the vendor, in order to get quick cash, lowered the price to RM10 per sq ft (50 cents less). This saved us RM33,750, a token of the Lord's further blessing. And here's a word of encouragement, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6).

The development of this "BP Youth Camp" (a humble name after Solomon's wisdom: "he that exalteth his gate seeketh destruction") is in fact long overdue. It has cost tens of thousands to subsidise our annual Church camp. Now, the situation is worse: it is a job trying to find a suitable Hotel in Malaysia or Indonesia for camps the size of ours. We thank the Lord that the Calvary management has found a place in Malacca to hold our Combined Camp next year, June 2-6, '97. (Dr Gary Cohen is our speaker.)

As we have 18 B-P Churches and "Fellowships" in Malaysia and 55 in S'pore, the building of this Mersing Resort named "BP Youth Camp" will be constantly patronised. Moreover, the meeting hall will be used every Lord's Day for worship by the congregation of a projected Mersing B-P Church. We believe it will cater not only to the locals but to those who'd drive up or down during the weekend. With that *Won Ton Meen* refreshment at Jemaluang on the 87th mile, the 100 miles from Singapore would be no chore but cheers! (Driving up Mersing is not much longer than our boat-trip to North Bintan with all the waiting and transfers.)

There are planned two dining halls and two

kitchens. This will allow two smaller churches to hold camp simultaneously. An extra hall above the ground floor will cater to two meetings, also simultaneously.

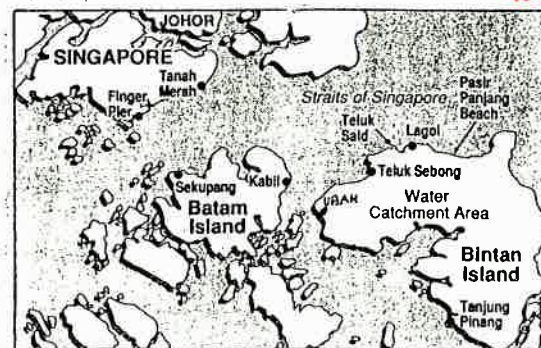
We shall not neglect on every detail of comfort, such as hot-water for bath and aircon for sultry days. The fan is ubiquitous.

Neither will we waste a single dollar in this project. We will not luxuriate where simple things are just as good if not better. For example, we will use all Malaysian products, much less than were we to import from abroad. Yet the materials we employ in the construction must be first quality. As the Chinese saying goes, "Cheap goods are no good."

A word to our Sunday School and Fellowships. This "BP Youth Camp" will be yours for retreats and conferences particularly. Pray for us also, and support the Camp in your missionary giving. It will be a veritable soul-winning station, "a hiding place from the wind and a covert from the tempest" (Isaiah 32:2). This physical construction will earn spiritual dividends ten-fold in days to come. Most of all, we pray that a self-reproductive Church will arise out of this effort, from which Gospel stations might be extended to sprouting new towns in a booming Malaysia.

By His mercies, this Mersing Project is an extension of Kuantan which is an extension of Kemaman. And we praise the Lord for John Ling whom the Lord had sent to the East Coast after he graduated from FEBC (1992). "Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters, that send forth thither the feet of the ox and the ass" (Isa 32:20). Amen.

—Yours affectionately, T.T.



IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 8

THE TRANSLATORS' AWESOME TASK

The translation of God's Word is an awesome task fraught with grave responsibility. What mortal being is worthy to handle and translate the words of the Almighty? Even as those who teach the Word of God must exercise utmost care: "... the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little ..." (Isa 28:13), so must they who translate God's Word exercise the utmost care.

Those who handle God's Word are warned: "Every word of God is pure: ... Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" (Prov 30:5, 6). In repelling the tempter, our Lord used only God's Word, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4). Every word in the Bible is important! **Every word must be faithfully and precisely translated without distortion, without variation, whether more or less.**

Only with utmost reverence then should one handle God's Word. Such was the attitude of the men who translated the KJV. Those godly men of rare scholarship, holding a "high view" of Holy Scripture, endeavoured to translate **word for word** and **phrase for phrase** so as to capture the very spirit of the original text, and thus express the mind of God faithfully.

This precise "**word for word**" method ("formal equivalence" or "verbal equivalence") ensures that the KJV conveys God's message with a degree of literal and grammatical fidelity unrivalled by any other version.

ONE TRANSLATOR'S RECKLESS METHODOLOGY

Eugene Nida is an unregenerate man who denies the blood atonement, the reality of angels and miracles, and the infallibility of Holy Scripture. Yet he occupied a key position in the Translations Department of the United Bible Societies.

By the introduction of his new translation methodology, "Dynamic Equivalence," Eugene Nida has become the most influential person in the field of Bible translation. The theory behind

Nida's "Dynamic Equivalence" goes something like this:

a) The message and events of Scripture are bound in the culture of the past.

b) The strict "word for word" translation being "static" does not release the message of God.

c) "Dynamic Equivalence" unbinds the message which "leaps out" at the reader in today's language and culture.

d) By this method the translator is at liberty to express just how he feels were the Author's thoughts.

e) Instead of "**word for word**," it is now "**thought for word**," i.e., man's thoughts in place of God's Word.

Eugene Nida's theory is theological liberalism, which is **unbelief**. It reduces God to man's level. It implies that God is unable to communicate with His creatures in an intelligible manner without man's aid.

Nida is an infidel, a "*corrupt tree*" which "*bringeth forth evil fruit*" (Matt 7:17).

The corrupted Modern English Bibles have come by the "Dynamic Equivalence" method of translation. A corrupt methodology gives rise to corrupt versions: "*by their fruits ye shall know them*" (Matt 7:20).

Heed the warning of the Scripture: "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD*" (Isa 55:8). It is supreme folly and reckless presumption for any man to venture to "think God's thoughts" by wanton manipulation of God's inspired Word.



Riviera,
Malacca,
our campsite for
June 2-6, 97

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 23 - 29, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$6,923.00 (8.00 am); \$10,122.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$150; 21CRB \$240; Mersing Project \$600, \$220, \$100, \$270, \$200, \$20, \$200, \$100, \$50, \$200, \$100, \$10, \$100, \$20, \$100; Hemento \$400, \$100; Rev Colin Wong \$100; Needy FEBC Students \$500; Africa \$200; Missions Fund \$50; Saipan \$150; Children's Msty \$50; P'pines/Thailand \$100; RPG \$100; JJ Lim \$100; Agape \$10; Extn of Gospel \$100.		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship Bible Study	(1) Thank and praise God for all the blessings that He had bestowed upon me. Enclosed is a token for Mersing project. (\$220)		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	Missionary Fellowship Mtg on Sunday, 6 Oct 96 at 12.45 pm, FEBC Hall. Pastor Jack Sin will speak on "The Involvement of the Church and Fellowships in Local Missions."		
FRI	7.30 pm	Sharon Wedding Rehearsal	Life Church 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, '96 at 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter from today or from Dn Yiew Pong Sen during the week. Charges: \$20 for earners, \$10 for non-earners and \$5 for children under 12; free for FEBC students. As tickets have specific table numbers, groups who wish to be seated together should ensure they purchase tickets with the same table numbers.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.30 EBF			
SUN	7.30 pm	FEBC Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall			
	8.00 am	The Great Supper (Msnr Charles Seet)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.					
Sunday School Offering: \$818.40; Attendance: 366					
Verse for the Week: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16					



Life Church E-Band's recent camp at Tanjung Pinang. Here they are gathered at Zion Presbyterian Church, with Ev. Joseph Liu and Pastor Jack Sin on extreme left.



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 25

22 September 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Han Soon Juan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 31	No. 49
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Acts 4:1-12	Psalms 40
Hymn	No. 173	No. 100
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 203	Roman Verses 24-25
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 11:17-46	Romans 4:13-25
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Raising of Lazarus</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>Why Law Cannot Justify But Faith</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 389	No. 305
Benediction		

THE FEBC GOSPEL RALLY

(Errol Stone & Lim JJ)

The FEBC Gospel Rally series was initiated by Rev Goh Seng Fong as part of his night class on Evangelism (Jul - Nov '95). The following semester, the student chaplain and assistant chaplain were considering how best to encourage the student body to be involved in evangelism as many of the foreign students have difficulty expressing themselves in Mandarin or English. After some thinking and much prayer, we both agreed that a college wide Gospel meeting may serve the purpose. We then sought approval and blessing from our principal to go ahead with our plans. With their encouragement, the student body began to prepare for the event in earnest. The first rally was held on 30 March 96 with Rev Stephen Khoo as the Lord's messenger. Although the student body handed out 17,000 invitations, the attendance that night was modest. Nevertheless, we saw the Lord's hand on the event and a number of souls indicated their desire either to believe or to want to know more about Christ.

It was Rev Tow, who after witnessing how the Lord blessed the college through the rally, and noticing the urgency of the times, suggested that we make it a regular feature in every semester of study from then on. The night is

far spent and the day is at hand, let us do the work He has appointed us while there is yet time. Moreover, the scourge of materialism and 'busyness' is fast afflicting more and more Singaporeans. We must do our utmost to proclaim the Gospel while there may be still some who will come to receive it.

This semester, the Lord's messenger will be Elder (Dr) Lim Teck Chye. Please pray that the Gospel will have free course and will not return unto the Lord void. By this coming Wednesday, the student body and Lifers would have handed out all the invitations—all 21,000 of them. We pray that many who have been invited will come that evening. Indeed, it may be that the majority of them are unlikely to turn up for the meeting, but we are confident that such as are elected unto eternal life will read the tract that is inserted with the invitation, and may be moved to seek the Lord while He may be found.

May we also take this opportunity to urge you to bring someone to this rally. The Great Commission which the Lord has given us is in danger of becoming the Great Omission among us. But it need not be so. Let us not only give financially to the cause of

missions and outreach, but let us labour in prayer. Pray with us that the Lord will pour down His blessings that evening. But let us not only labour in prayer, but be personally involved in the work of outreach. And here is an excellent opportunity for you to be involved—even if you do not know how to share the Gospel or are afraid to do so. Simply invite someone to come for the rally. Let Elder Lim and the FEBC counsellors do the preaching!

So friends, will you make use of this opportunity? You do not need to sit silently and watch and wait while your loved ones and friends tread the wide road that leads to everlasting damnation.

IN DEFENCE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF CHRIST (II)

Why is the Virgin Birth of Jesus our Saviour the main target of Satanic attack? It is predicted in Gen 3:15 "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

The seed of the woman (not of the man) refers to the Virgin Born Saviour. He will crush the Serpent's head and Satan's brood will attack the Son of the Virgin, but trampled by his bruised heel. Christ's death was but for a short while, Satan's defeat and damnation is forever.

In pursuance of last week's Rebuttal of the Evangelical KJV Study Bible edited by Harold Lindsell, let us take note further of his comment on Isaiah's wife: "Isaiah's wife was a virgin until she was married . . . Of course, one supposes that an unmarried female is a virgin." Now the Bible is silent on Isaiah's wife's virginity before she married Isaiah. Calvin's hermeneutic rule is, if the Bible is silent, we also remain silent. To say anything more is to add to God's Word which God forbids: "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it. . ." (Deut 4:2).

According to today's US statistics (Microsoft Internet Explorer) "every day, three thousand teenagers in the United States become pregnant.

Eighty percent of young Americans have intercourse before they turn twenty." Now, in the days of Hosea who prophesied about the same time as Isaiah, the chastity level of women could be lower than that of USA today! Hosea's wife was far from a virgin. "And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD" (Hosea 1:2).

How naive can a professor shut up in his ivory tower be to think that every bride on her wedding day is a virgin! Or, because of his cunning to belittle the High and Holy Birth of our Saviour from the Virgin's womb, by putting Isaiah's wife on the same pedestal as Mary, he is now taken by his own craftiness (Job 5:13; I Cor 3:19).

In its double talk giving lip service to the Virgin Birth, the Ev. KJV Study Bible says, "The second case covers that of virgin Mary. She was a virgin before the conception of Jesus. And she remained a virgin then, because Joseph was not the father of Jesus. The Holy Spirit was." How naive again to blurt out without due consideration in the choice of proper words to say that while "Joseph was not the father of Jesus, The Holy Spirit was." So Jesus according to the Ev. KJV Study Bible has two Fathers. God the Father Almighty and the Holy Spirit." Beware what you say of things so high and holy, for "great is the mystery of godliness" (I Tim 3:16). Does the Apostle's Creed say the Holy Spirit is Jesus' Father? This is mumbling and fumbling heresy. O Harold Lindsell! (Next week, we will tackle the NIV Study Bible.) Amen.

—T.T.

Loy Soo Boon, 79, godfather of Roland Tay Chye Kwee received the Lord Jesus as Saviour at Changi Hospital, Wed. night Sept. 18, 96 in the presence of his wife, son and daughter-in-law. He having prayed the sinner's prayer was baptised by the pastor.

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 8(cont'd) THE TRANSLATORS' AWESOME TASK DYNAMIC EQUIVALENCE IN ACTION

When corrupt men take it into their heads to put man's thoughts for God's Word, the result is "textual corruption" in the translation. Here are a few examples from Kenneth Taylor's "The Living Bible" (TLB).

KJV ("verbal equivalence") vs. TLB ("dynamic equivalence")

- a) 1 Samuel 20:30
... Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman ... (KJV)
You son of a bitch! (TLB first edition).
- b) 1 Kings 18:27
... Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing ... (KJV)
... Perhaps he is talking to someone or is out sitting on the toilet ... (TLB)
- c) Job 3:26
I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came. (KJV)
I was not fat and lazy, yet trouble struck me down. (TLB)
- d) Psalm 34:20
He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken. (KJV)
God even protects him from accidents. (TLB)
- e) Luke 11:1
... one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray ... (KJV)
... one of his disciples came to him as he finished and said, "Lord, teach us a prayer to recite. . ." (TLB)

COMMENT

These are just five examples out of hundreds of blatant mis-translations and wanton manipulation of God's Word.

Example (d) is a Messianic prophecy of our Lord's crucifixion which Taylor destroys by his "dynamic equivalence."

Example (e) is used by Taylor (with Catholic sympathies) to give credence to the pagan practice of reciting rosary prayers.

Satan delights in "dynamic equivalence." It is "demonic equivalence."

Chapter 9 THE DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION

1. I write as a doctor. A good doctor's prescription spells life and health to the patient. It is written in exact and precise terms. With **words** (and figures) the doctor expresses his **thoughts**.

2. The doctor's prescription must not be tampered with: nothing must be added, nothing taken away. There must be no variation or manipulation.

3. A good pharmacist dispenses the prescription exactly as written, **word for word, letter for letter**, precise to the minutest detail. Not even a "jot or tittle" must be altered. (A dot moved one space to the right increases a dose tenfold!)

4. A good pharmacist dispenses good, wholesome, effective, healthful medicine.

5. An enemy gets his hands on the prescription and alters it. A deadly medicine is dispensed.

6. When taken the patient dies.
Modern English Bibles contain deadly medicine.

GOD'S WORD OUR PRESCRIPTION

1. Our God, the soul's Physician, has a Prescription for life: the Bible.

2. It comes to us by the hands of copyists, and translators. The business of these men is to keep to the Bible text exactly as written: **word for word, letter for letter**, without alteration or variation.

3. The faithful "**word for word**" method of translation is termed "**Verbal Equivalence**."

4. The translators of the KJV Bible appointed by King James used the **Verbal Equivalence** method, **word for word**, as originally given by God.

5. The MSS they used were faithful copies of the original, known as the *Received Text* (TR) or the *Majority Text*.

6. The result of their translation: a sound, accurate, faithful Bible, the "*King James Version*" or "*Authorised Version*" true to its Author in every detail.

7. We confidently believe that the KJV or AV is God's Word kept intact in English, God's perfect Prescription for man.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 30 - Oct 6, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$5,241.00 (8.00 am); \$9,709.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$120; 21 CRB \$300; Mersing Project \$200, \$1000, \$1200, \$200, \$381 (Boxes), \$100, \$50, \$2000; Saipan \$150, \$346; Children's Msty \$710; Baraka \$35; Rfd Tract Dist \$10; Robert Peh \$100; Roska \$50; Seets \$500.		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	(1) Thank you Lord for the many blessings. Thank you also for the disappointments which are sometimes too heavy to bear and endure. But teach us always to remember to "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee, He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved" Ps 55:13. Please channel my gift of \$710.00 to The Children's Ministry.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF/LBC	Rev Djunaidi who was flown here last Friday from Kalimantan for head injury is now warded at 7612. SGH. Pray earnestly for his quick recovery.		
SUN	5.30 pm	Sharon BPC Wedding	The Combined Fellowships Tract Writing Competition closes on 5 Oct 96. Please submit your entries by this week.		
	8.00 am	The Celebration of the Church (Msnr Charles Seet)	Missionary Fellowship Mtg on Sunday, 6 Oct 96 at 12.45pm, FEBC Hall. Pastor Jack Sin will speak on "The Involvement of the Church and Fellowships in Local Missions."		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Life Church 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, '96 at 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter or from Dn Yiew Pong Sen during the week. Please purchase your tickets early.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.45 pm	MsF Mtg			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Service			
	4.00 pm	Rev Tow at Elders George Lim/Teo Kiek Hock's Ordination, Cana BPC			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.					
Sunday School Offering: \$572.15; Attendance: 381					
Verse for the Week: <i>My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever. Ps 73:26</i>					



This Church Hall at Batu Aji becomes the main Kindergarten classroom on week days. With the improvisation of two other classrooms we have enrolment of 69 pupils!



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 26

29 September 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Tan Nee Keng	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 1	No. 119
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 55:1-13	Lk 15:11-32
Hymn	No. 474	<i>O Come Back</i>
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 136	Roman Verses 26-28
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 14:15-24	Romans 5:1-11
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Great Supper</i> (Msnr Charles Seet)	<i>Reconciled!</i> <i>War Ends,</i> <i>Peace at Last</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 273	No. 289
Benediction		

TOTAL MOBILISATION BEFORE HIS RETURN

This is the theme of our combined camp at the Riviera, Malacca, June 2-6, 97, Dr Gary Cohen, chief speaker. This is also our watchword for the whole church.

The barometer of Jesus' Return is not in the East or West, but in the Middle East. Once again we are awakened by the thunder strikes rocking Iraq. Why Iraq? Because Iraq which is the land of the Euphrates emerges in the Revelation scenario twice as the beginning of the end of a final world war that is called Armageddon. As Iraq leads to Israel, so Armageddon is the battlefield in North Israel that climaxes in Jerusalem (Rev 9:14-15; 16:12-16). Read also Zech 13:8-9; 14:1-4.

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come . . . But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived" (II Tim 3:1, 13). Instead of being occupied in the Lord's business (Luke 19 and Matthew 25) we see the Church slumbering. Instead of seeking God's Kingdom and His righteousness, we are led to a gross materialism that takes us far away from the Lord! "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned

up" (II Pet 3:10). Nuclear destruction is just round the corner. Germ and chemical warfare are surely within the purview of Rev 9:4-6. All these are now restrained by the hand of the Almighty: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Pet 3:9). Reader, are you saved? Will you be caught up into space to meet the Lord, safe from a burning earth to come?

Let Lifers be up and doing. Shake off the sleepy pyjamas and put on our work clothes. To stir us up let us look at this Weekly's photo. That is the rousing opening of the Kindergarten at Batu Aji, Batam Island where 69 are enrolled. These are divided into 3 classes. Bible stories are given everyday, with Gospel choruses.

A decade ago we bought for Kelapa Sawit two corner terrace houses at Air Bemban. A flourishing kindergarten from the beginning, Air Bemban is still the premier school. The little children are now teenagers and they form the YF. The church has 15-20 attendance. When I visited Air Bemban last Lord's Day with Elder Sng and Rev

John Ling on their Anniversary the house was packed to the brim.

In the far-flung fields of Burma, Rev Thawm Luai is busily extending the Gospel through his fellow Chin believers. After establishing a Church at May Myo recently, he is working towards another at Mandalay.

In Life Church's progression the Lord has added to our group one new outreach every year. The recent acquisition of Mersing is a mighty windfall from the Lord.

At FEBC we are a busy hive with the daily instruction of 95 students. In the evening classes, we have an average of 150. The Bookroom, now over 3 months old, is growing slowly but steadily. How good to see the Word disseminated through the KJV and through Chinese and other Bibles. The Jesus Saves Clock which has gone out of production has resurrected in the form of Penang pewter. A fresh new stock of choice books has come to fill the shelves. As we occupy ourselves here below, let us look up with joy. Total mobilisation before He returns.

IN DEFENCE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF CHRIST (III)

On Isaiah 7:14 the footnote of the NIV Study Bible says:

virgin. May refer to a young woman betrothed to Isaiah (8:3), who was to become his second wife (his first wife presumably having died after Shear-Jashub was born). In Ge 24:43 the same Hebrew word (*almah*) refers to a woman about to be married (see also Pr 30:19). Mt 1:23 apparently understood the woman mentioned here to be a type (a foreshadowing) of the Virgin Mary.

Our rebuttal: While the Evangelical KJV Study Bible says the virgin refers to Isaiah's wife before she was married to Isaiah, here the NIV argues for Isaiah's second wife! Two different answers to an arithmetic test! Which is right?

Now NIVSB hisses, "Mt 1:23 apparently understood the woman mentioned here to be a type (a foreshadowing) of the Virgin Mary." This is downright lie. Matthew never referred to NIV's invention of Isaiah's second wife as a foreshadowing of the Virgin Mary. Matthew 1:23 simply says, that when Mary was found with child of the Holy Ghost, Joseph her husband was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things an angel of

the Lord appeared to him in a dream to take Mary, "for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (verses 21-23).

Another blasphemy of the NIV is: "Immanuel" is again used in 8:8,10 and it may be another name for Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz (8:3). If so, the boy's names had complementary significance (see note on 8:3). Jesus was the final fulfilment of the prophecy, for he was "God with us" in the full sense. This is double talk again. Hear ye the Word of the LORD, Jehovah, the Jesus of the O.T.: "I am the LORD: **that is my name:** and my glory will I not give to another . . ." (Isa 42:8). The NIV in snatching God's glory, yea, the sacred name Immanuel to refer also to Isaiah's son, is not even sure it is: Immanuel (Emmanuel) = **God with us** is that name above every name that refers only to Jesus, the God-Man.

Let us hear our Lord's judgment in this case: "But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil" (Matt 5:37).

Now that we have shown how modernist and liberal interpreters of the Word have contradicted each other (in the last two Weeklies) let us have the true, reverential exposition of Isa 7:14 in the KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, Edward E Hindson and Woodrow Michael Kroll, Gen. Editors. We heartily agree with their interpretation, as follows.

The real questions in this passage are, "Who is the virgin, and who is Immanuel?" A **virgin** should better read "the virgin." The use of the Hebrew definite article *ha* in connection with the woman in the passage indicates that a definite woman is in view to the mind of the prophet (see Lindholm, *A Survey of the Immanuel Section of Isaiah*, p. 19). Hengstenberg (*Christology*, II, p. 44) emphasizes that the relationship of *hineh* to the article in *ha'almah* is best explained by the present tense of the context, so that the girl is present to the inward perception of the prophet. That she is definitely a specific girl is obvious.

When he refers to her specifically as "the" virgin, it is highly unlikely that he meant to refer to any woman who might bear a child in the next few months. The word **virgin** is the unique and uncommon Hebrew word '*almah*.' The more commonly used word for virgin is *bethulah*; but in spite of its frequent usage to denote a virgin, it is in at least two passages (Deut 22:19; Joel 1:8) used to refer to a married woman. Therefore, Isaiah's choice of the rare word '*almah*' better signifies virginity than the more common term *bethulah*. While it is true that '*almah*' can be translated "young woman," it is never intended in the Hebrew language to deny the legitimacy of that young woman's virginity! Even the prominent Jewish scholar, Cyrus Gordon notes that the LXX translates '*almah*' by the Greek word *parthenos*, which always means "virgin." It should be remembered that the LXX is a Jewish translation made in pre-Christian Alexandria, Egypt. It represents a Jewish interpretation of Isaiah 7:14 that is much earlier than Matthew's use of the same word *parthenos* when referring back to the Isaiah 7:14 passage (Mt 1:23). Had Isaiah chosen to use the word *bethulah* instead of '*almah*', the liberals, who seem determined to deny the messianic predictive element of this verse, could just have easily argued that Isaiah did not intend to predict the virgin birth of the coming Messiah, or else he would have used the more scarce, yet technically correct, term '*alah*' (sic). No one has done a better job of evaluating the meaning of this word than Young, *Studies*, pp. 143-198; he should be consulted for further information. **Shall conceive** (Heb *harah*) should actually be translated "is pregnant." It is neither a verb nor a participle, but a feminine adjective connected with

an active participle (bearing); and it denotes that the scene is present to the prophet's view. Alexander (p. 121) discusses this point at length with conclusive evidence to show that the **virgin** is already pregnant and bearing a son. Thus, we can not escape the conclusion that this is a picture of the virgin birth of Christ Himself. The context makes it clear that *the virgin* is pregnant and is still a virgin! **Immanuel** is the symbolic name of the child, meaning "God with us." Smith (I, p.131) argues that it is impossible to disassociate the Immanuel of this passage from that who is mentioned in connection with the land in chapter 8 and the Prince of four names in chapter 9. It is obvious that Matthew regarded this Immanuel to be none other than Jesus Christ Himself. He thus quotes this prophecy as being fulfilled in the virgin birth of Christ (Mt 1:23). He considers it to be of divine origin, stating that it was "spoken of the Lord by the prophet" (Mt 1:22). He therefore recognized that the sign given in Isaiah 7:14 was authored by God and delivered to Ahaz through the prophet. Even if one attempts to argue that Matthew merely followed the LXX in using *parthenos*, he followed the source that represented the oldest available interpretation of Isaiah 7:14. His contextual usage of *hina plarotha* is certainly indicative of his understanding the passage to contain a definitely predictive element. There can be no doubt that until the rise of so-called "modern" scholarship, those closest historically to the actual statement by the prophet Isaiah have always taken it to be a prediction of the miraculous virgin birth of the coming Messiah.

These Rebuttals of attacks on Christ's Virgin Birth are specimens of the 21CRB. —T.T.

MESSAGES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1996 (8.00 AM SERVICE)			
Theme: The Lordship of Christ Jesus (The Book of Colossians)			*Lord's Supper
DATE	TOPIC/TEXT	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN
OCT 6	The Celebration of the Church (Col 1:1-8)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Eld Geoffrey Tan
	13* The Prayer for the Church (Col 1:9-14)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Elder George Tan
	20 Life BPC Combined Anniversary & Baptismal Service (9.30 am)		
	27 The Pre-eminence of Christ (Col 1:15-18)	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
NOV 3	The Reconciliation in Christ (Col 1:19-23)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Eld Han Soon Juan
	10* The Supreme Charge (Col 2:6-7)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Elder Tan Nee Keng
	17 The Perfection in Christ (Col 2:8-22)	Msnr Charles Seet	Dn Wee Chin Kam
	24 The Christian's Change in Behaviour (Col 3:1-17)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn George Tan
DEC 1	The Christian Family (Col 3:18-4:1)	Pastor Jack Sin	Dn Ong Eng Lam
	8* The Blessing of Friends (Col 4:7-17)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Elder Geoffrey Tan
	15 The First Advent of Christ Jesus Predicted (Isa 7:14)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn John Hoe
	22 Life BPC Combined Praise Service (9.30 am)		
	29 The Second Advent of Christ Predicted (Jn 14:1-3)	Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Wee Chin Kam

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 7 - 13, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets (Rev Tow)	\$6,144.00 (8.00 am); \$12,921.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: 21 CRB \$60; Mersing \$20, \$150, \$500, \$150, \$100, \$300(YAF), \$500, \$500, \$200; Lim JJ \$350, \$150, \$150; Seets \$150, \$200; Robert Peh \$200; Djunaidi medical exps \$300; Myanmar \$500; Children's Msty \$50; Missions \$100; China-Chinese Bibles \$100; Myanmar Orph \$200; Rev Stephen Khoo \$200; T.Piayu \$300; Africa \$50; R Tract Dist \$10; Medan(Dohar) \$50.		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	(1) Praise and thank God that my friend was saved during the FEBC Gospel Rally, 28/9/96. (\$150 JJ Lim, \$150 Charles Seet)		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	(2) Thank the Lord for His bountiful mercy and blessing on our recent event. Praise the Lord. (\$2500)		
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall	Register your child for infant baptism by Friday, 11 Oct, with the Church Office (Tel: 2569256).		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship, Beulah Hse	Rev Djunaidi is at ward 7612 SGH. Thank God he is improving!		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.30 EBF	Missionary Fellowship Mtg today at 12.45pm, FEBC Hall. Pastor Jack Sin will speak on "The Involvement of the Church and Fellowships in Local Missions."		
SUN	8.00 am	The Prayer for the Church (Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper)	Life Church 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, '96 at 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter or from Dn Yiew Pong Sen during the week. Please purchase your tickets early.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House			
	10.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	1.30 pm	AF/YAF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser.; 4.45 Burmese Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.					
Sunday School Offering: \$624.74; Attendance: 380					
Verse for the Week: <i>To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.</i> 1 Peter 1:4					



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 27

6 October 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Yiew Pong Sen	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 260	No. 364
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 103	Psalms 86
Hymn	No. 27	No. 384
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 262	Roman Verses 29-31
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 1:1-8	Romans 5:12-21
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Celebration of the Church</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>Why Is Justice symbolised by a Balance?</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 440	No. 199
Benediction		Lord's Supper

HOW DID MOSES WRITE THE CREATION ACCOUNT?

While it is good that Bible-believing scholars reject the J.E.D.P. theory of the modernists and liberals and adhere to the age-old belief that Moses wrote Genesis, even as our Lord had said (Jn 5:46), it is important to state our position on how he wrote it.

Let us examine how Moses wrote the Creation Account. Buswell in his *Systematic Theology*, vol. I p.188 makes this equivocal statement, "We do not know by what combination of stimulation of Moses' speculation, and direct impartation of information otherwise unavailable, God caused Moses to write the simple, orderly account of creation of the world and man."

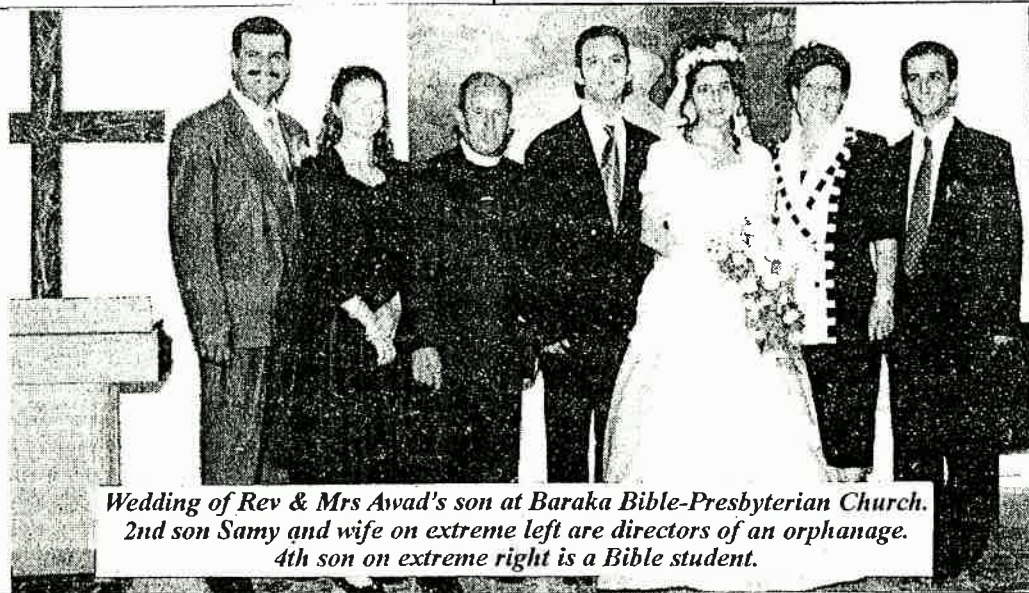
This statement fights shy of saying Moses wrote directly from God, but had to use certain sources of information, and in his speculation over the mass of materials he had gathered God caused him to write the Genesis Account. Buswell is tantamount to saying Moses used Egyptian papyrus or Babylonian tablets, from which under inspiration he gave us a "simple (from complex heathen sources) and orderly (from disorderly heathen sources) account. Why did Buswell go on a detour when he could come straight to the point — he wrote directly under God, period.

While Buswell supports "verbal inspiration" he states that he believes rather in the extent of the inspiration and not to the

mode. He refutes the 1926 edition Webster's Unabridged Dictionary which reads, "... verbal inspiration extends the inspiration to every word, which is held to be dictated by the Holy Spirit." While we agree that many parts of the Bible are written by human hand under the direction of the Holy Spirit, short of dictation, we must not thereby miss those parts that are clearly stated to be dictated by the Lord Himself.

The Ten Commandments are, first and foremost, "written with the finger of God" (Ex 31:18). Secondly, the architectural plan of the Tabernacle which God Himself gave to Moses was a kind of graphic dictation. "And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount" (Ex 25:40). Similarly, in the architectural plan for the building of the Temple, "All this, said David, the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern." Did David think out the design to write it down or did the Lord tell him to write directly from Him? Is this dictation or not?

And if God spoke to Moses "mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches" (Num 12:8), and nobody had seen the creative days except God himself, what's wrong to conclude that God dictated the whole Account to Moses, and he wrote down every



Wedding of Rev & Mrs Awad's son at Baraka Bible-Presbyterian Church.
2nd son Samy and wife on extreme left are directors of an orphanage.
4th son on extreme right is a Bible student.

word of it? This is divine logic. This gives glory to God and not to the assuming "scholarship" of puny man. "My glory will I not give to another" (Isa 43:8) — another page for the 21CRB!

ANOTHER TWO PASTORS (CHINESE) ORDAINED

At the request of Cana B-P Church (Chinese) we have formed an Ordination Council comprising Revs Timothy Tow (chairman), Teo See Oon, Kuan Yew Weng, Tang Wai Kay to ordain two more pastors, George Lim Keow Ker and Teo Kiak Hock, Lord's Day Oct 6, 4.00 pm. As the Chinese-speaking Churches are the weaker arm of the Bible Presbyterian Churches in Singapore these two additions will greatly strengthen the Reformation Cause. For they take a firm stand with us.

As both are fluent also in English, they will furthermore augment the English-speaking ministry.

1. George Lim Keow Ker, B.Pharm., MRE is a graduate of NUS. For 17 years he worked for a Pharmaceutical Factory, bringing big profit for the company. But the Lord called him and he studied at FEBC for three years and earned the MRE. His wife who studied alongside him is his true helpmate. He now pastors Macedonia BPC at Pasir Ris and heads a Students Tuition Centre (Govt-subsidised) at Simei as their mission station.

2. Teo Kiak Hock has an engineering degree from Birmingham University, M.Eng. and an M.Th. from Dallas Theological Seminary, USA. He is a pastor of Cana BPC and Dean of Students of Chin Lien Bible Seminary. Incidentally, his elder brother Rev Teo See Oon is newly elected Chin Lien's principal.

Their testimonies follow:-

George Lim Keow Ker

I was born in a Taoist family in which our parents worshipped idols and ancestors. Since young, I was afraid of darkness and evil spirits. I thought Christianity was a western religion and that Jesus Christ was a religious founder. I did not know the Lord Jesus until I went to Anglican High School for my secondary education. I had many chances to hear the Gospel during the school assemblies, but I shut my ears. I thought I did not need a religion to discipline my life.

I had a classmate who was a Christian. He seized every opportunity to tell me about Jesus. I refused to listen but he never gave up. Before we parted for higher education, he gave me a thin book entitled "Is there a God?"

Just a few weeks before I entered the University, I suddenly felt that life was empty and meaningless. I began to search for the purpose of life. I read the book my classmate had given me. Then I understood that the world was really created by a Wise and Mighty God and that we are created in His image. It is because of sin that we are separated from God. Man has tried to look for God by creating all those religions. I thank God that he opened my eyes when I searched the Bible for more answers. I finally knelt down before God and confessed to Him all my sins. I enjoyed great peace and was very joyful because I had found my purpose in life, i.e. to live according to the will of God.

I attended church services regularly. Though I backslided, the Lord encouraged me to serve Him and depend on His grace even more. The Lord gave me a good wife. After marriage, we were given the strength to actively involve in church choir, youth fellowship and tracting with a kampong church at Gulega Road, off Upper Changi Road.

In 1980, my mother suffered from a stroke and became unconscious. As we had to look after her, we could not go to the kampong church which was far away from our home in Boon Lay. It was the good hand of the Lord which led us to worship at Calvary Jurong and Pandan B-P Church where I learnt of the separatist stand. I continued to participate in church visitation, personal evangelism, adult fellowship and Adult Bible Class. Later, the Lord led me to serve Him also in the Session.

Before being called into full-time service, I worked as a Production Pharmacist in a factory in Jurong for 17 years. The Lord had been blessing my family and my work. All along I was contented with what the Lord had given me.

"It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting" (Ecc 7:2). One evening in 1989, Rev Tang of Calvary Pandan asked us to attend a vigil service of the late Miss Alice Doo (the youngest aunt of Rev Timothy Tow). We went there although we did not know her personally. There, we learned that she had given up her bright secular career to follow Dr John Sung to China during the great Singapore revival. We were amazed to see her face beaming with great joy though lying in a coffin. We later heard the testimony given by Elder Cheng that she had told him thrice from her sick bed that heaven was such a beautiful place,

and she was ready to be called home.

The radiant smile on Miss Doo's face and the testimony given on her works touched our hearts. We learned that she had helped many people in Taiwan to believe on the Lord Jesus. On reflection, we had brought so few people to Jesus though He had been so good to us. We wished to have the same zeal and love for God.

The Lord strengthened our faith to give our lives to Him. My wife and I were quite certain that we should equip ourselves to serve God full-time. Many brothers and sisters in the Lord supported us in their prayers. We had no worries about financial needs though at that time our children were studying in secondary schools. We trusted in the providence of God.

I enrolled in FEBC in 1990 with my wife. In 1992, I was asked to minister to Macedonia B-P Church, a new Mandarin speaking church at Pasir Ris. With the blessing from the Session of Calvary B-P Church, I went over to serve in 'Macedonia' full time in September of that year.

We thank God always for the dedicated teachers of FEBC. We have benefited much from our study. All these years the Lord has also blessed our work and continued to give us many opportunities to share the Gospel among the Chinese-speaking people. The Lord has also blessed our children, Noah and Mary, who are both serving in the church and also studying in NUS.

We trust the Lord for His never-ending goodness and mercy and are persuaded that He is the best master to serve.

Teo Kiak Hock

Jesus Christ is alive. The fact that I'm alive and doing the things I do is evidence that Jesus Christ is raised from the dead.

I was born in a Christian family. Every Sunday, I followed my parents to church. I attended Sunday school and memorised all the great Bible verses. But being born in a Christian family did not make me a genuine Christian. No one can go to heaven by birthright. All have to come to the Saviour personally. This is Christianity.

As a teenager, I wanted to be happy. I found attending Sunday service no fun at all. So I started to skip Sunday service, if possible. Also, I was foolish enough to think that study is more important than God. So I placed my study before God, while seeking happiness from the world. At that time, I was like a boat out in the ocean, being tossed back and forth by the waves. It made me suspect that I

was just a nominal Christian who performed all the religious rites, but was not saved at all.

As a result, my life became very miserable. I began to ask questions of life like, "Who am I?" "Why in the world am I here?" "Where am I going?"

It was also at that time that I experienced the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit showed me that I was a sinner before God and the penalty of sin was death. He also showed me that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me. I needed to come to establish a relationship with the resurrected, living Christ.

I remembered vividly, one night, I prayed and said: "Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for me. I confess those things in my life that aren't pleasing to You. Please forgive me and cleanse me. Right now, in the best way I know how, I open the door of my heart. I trust You as my Saviour and Lord. Take over the control of my life. Change me from the inside out. Make me the type of person You created me to be. Thank You for coming into my life by faith."

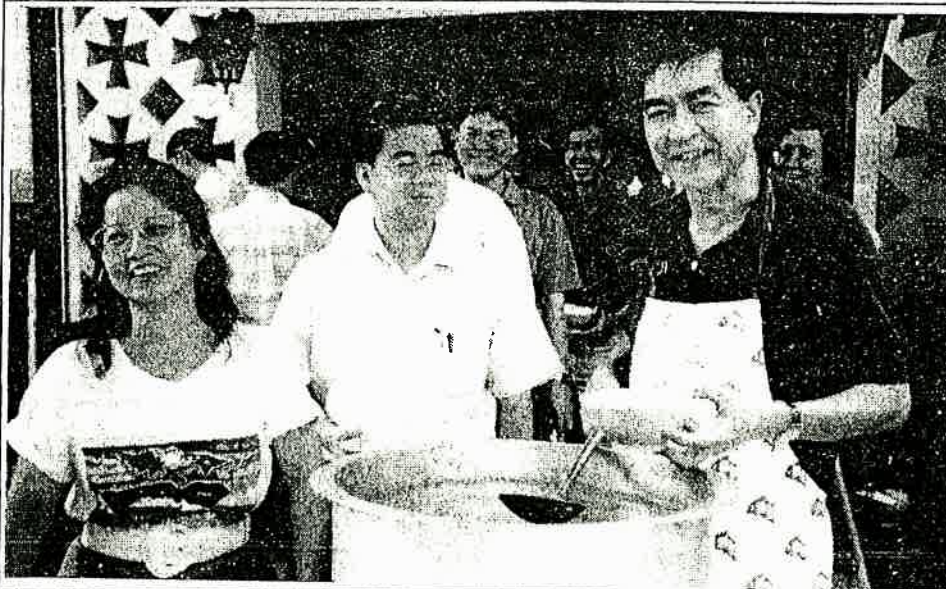
After I prayed, a strange thing happened. A kind of mental peace came over me and I felt joy in my heart. I knew my sins had been forgiven and God gave me a new life. In six months to a year and a half, my life was changed. I began to have the burden and sadness for the people who did not know Jesus Christ. And I also began to do evangelism and witnessing regularly in order to reach them.

It was during my pre-university days, in one revival meeting, I heard God's call to go into full-time ministry. I responded with gladness and I offered my life on God's altar. Since then, I have prepared myself in every aspect of life and God has also patiently prepared me in many ways throughout the years.

Ten years after that call, in 1989, I knew that the time had come for me to step into the vineyard of God. So, I left my secular job and became a full-time preacher in Cana Bible-Presbyterian Church. Seven years have passed, and as a servant of God, I have experienced His faithfulness in many areas.

I thank God for choosing me to be His servant and I am glad to be able to serve Him in this life as a full-time minister. If I have to live my life all over again, I want to become a preacher still. Because He is my loving Saviour, and my dearest Lord.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 14 - 20, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	No Evening Lecture	\$7,065.00 (8.00 am); \$14,036.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (London Video)	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1800, \$1107(Chinese Ser.);		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Mersing Project \$20, \$250, \$50, \$150, \$480, \$2500, \$300,		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$100, \$236; Lim JJ \$200, \$100, \$300; Church renovation		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.30 LBC	\$1000; Batam \$50; Baraka Conf Centre \$50; Baraka BPC		
	6.30 pm	46th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner	\$100; Rfd Tract Dist \$150, \$10; Seels \$150, \$100; YAF \$200;		
			Djunaidi's medical exp. \$100.		
SUN 9.30 am Anniversary Thanksgiving & Baptismal Service (Rev Tow)			FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	9.30 am	Chinese 31st Anniversary Service	(1) I am truly grateful to the Lord for His mercy, grace and love towards me, for healing me of cancer of the lungs, and for enabling me to resume work. PRAISE THE LORD! As a token of thanksgiving, please find enclosed cheque for \$1000 (\$500 for Burma and \$500 for Mersing).		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	Both Pastor's latest book, In Times Like These and reprint <i>Clock of the Sevenfold Will of God</i> are freely distributed to worshippers TODAY! Visit the Counter.		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	Rev Djunaidi is at ward 7612 SGH. He might be transferred to TTSH.		
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	Congratulations to Msnr & Mrs Charles Seet on the birth of a baby boy, Michael, on 11 Oct.		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	Verse for the Week: <i>Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.</i> Isaiah 41:10		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bt Batok, Bishan.					
Sunday School Offering: \$947.00; Attendance: 370					
Life Church 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, '96 at 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm respectively. Today is the last day to buy coupons for the Anniversary Dinner, available at the Church Information Counter. Those attending the dinner are reminded to bring along their coupons as they will be seated according to the table numbers marked.					



"Chow Time" at FEBC. This is Elder William Seah serving "Laksa" his special menu to students: Esther from Canada, Kiantoro (Indonesia), Matthew (Australia), Swee Huat (S'pore) and Mrs Ivy Tow, relieved from cooking!



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 28

13 October 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"			
	8.00 am	10.30 am	
Call to Worship	Eld George Tan	Dn Ong Eng Lam	
Opening Hymn	No. 24	No. 72	
Invocation-Gloria Patri			
Responsive Reading	Psalms 145	Psalms 20	
Hymn	No. 362	No. 98	
Announcements			
Offering & Hymn	No. 260	No. 355	
Offertory Prayer			
Scripture Text	Col 1:9-14	II Cor 5:17-21	
Pastoral Prayer			
Sermon	<i>The Prayer for the Church</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>All Things Are Become New</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	
	No. 173	No. 481	
Closing Hymn	Lord's Supper		
Benediction			

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

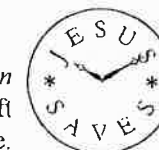
"No venture, no gain"

This is a restatement of the Psalmist's conditional blessing on the persevering farmer in the perennial work of sowing and reaping. It applies to our ministry in evangelism. A Church that seeks to save souls will be blessed with increasing membership.

When FEBC held her Gospel Night recently and Life Church, both English and Chinese, joined forces with them, we were similarly blessed. The Lord used His messenger, Dr Lim Teck Chye. There were six who received Him out of an attendance of nearly 300. 20,000 invitations enclosing Gospel tracts were distributed. Life Church and FEBC are both introduced to as many homes. We believe this is also one method of drawing people in neighbouring housing estates to Gilstead Road. So has God used the Bookroom to attract outside customers to our Fellowship.

The Ministry of Christian Gifts

A good book, like Jason Linn's *Pioneering in Dyak Borneo* (now out of print) is a valuable gift to some young soul thinking of Christian service.



Apart from books, gifts with a Christian message are equally effective. The Jesus Saves clocks we invented filled a need in many lovers of God. Christians have come to Gilstead Road from Australia and Sri Lanka to buy them. One Bible College principal in India was so struck by the Jesus Saves Clock's design that he built a JESUS SAVES clocktower for his College.

Now we have resumed the manufacture of Jesus Saves clocks in Penang Pewter, Jesus Saves key chains, Jesus Saves table bells. The famous Chinese calligraphy, *Christ is the Head of my House* (基督为我家之主) is also framed, plus another *Watch and Pray* (儆醒祷告).

When scratching your head for a useful and time-value gift for a Christian friend, just visit FEBC Bookroom at your convenience. No worry about car-parking either. There's a wide range of other meaningful Christian gifts to your satisfaction. Remember, we are here not only to spread the Word through KJV Bible, Chinese Bibles, etc and sound Christian books, but also to cater to your needs, even postage stamps! And as we bring in books directly from abroad, our prices are further reduced. No private individual makes any profit. The

Bookroom belongs to the College. It is, indeed, a ministry of both College and Church.

"Local Ginger" is quite hot too!

The reprint of *The Clock of the Sevenfold Will of God* reveals its worth, as the reprinting of Jason Linn's *Pioneering in Dyak Borneo* will also testify.

Two booklets by the Pastor that have blessed many souls are *Recipes for Living a Happy Life* and *Has God a Plan for your Life?*. Why not give them, together with a good many others in the FEBC shelf, to your friends? *The Gospels in Unison* by Dr Jeffrey Khoo is an excellent text book for the Adult Sunday School class. Woven into one account, the four Gospels are synchronised at a glance. Thus you are saved from anachronistic assumptions.

The Price of Mersing Seaside Land has shot up

At the time we closed the deal for our Mersing Seaside land, the prevailing price was RM12 psf. We got it at RM10 because the vendor was in need of immediate cash. Praise the Lord, we had just enough to pay him the 15% he required.

With the Malaysian Govt's recent publicising Mersing and further developing the offshore islands for tourism, I understand the price of land around us has shot up three ringgit. Praise the Lord for "saving" us in good time.

And in quick time we are pursuing the King's business (I Sam 21:8). The land is now surveyed for RM\$3750 or S\$1,800. The plan is put up at the lobby of the Church for your perusal. By Nov 5 we must be ready with S\$300,000 to make full payment plus the stamp fee. If it is 2% that means another S\$6,000. We do not know how much the change of use, construction and furnishing fees will come to (for 300 campers), but the immediate needs are as above (excluding legal fees).

Call to Saipan, News from London

At the earnest request by Calvary BPC I shall be away to Saipan with Eld Dr Cheng Wei Nien Oct 11-14 in order to visit Rev Pang Kok Hiong and discuss with him how best to consolidate his work there. We praise the Lord for giving him 100 baptised each year for the last four years. A good number of these feel called to train for the Gospel

ministry. How best to do this? Taking advantage of this trip we are loaded with 60 John Sung in Chinese and Chinese Bibles for use in Saipan plus 60 Jesus Saves key chains etc., etc. Every talent of opportunity must be traded for God's Kingdom.

News from London comes direct from my brother Dr S H Tow. With the new open door Church the attendance has shot up to 47 and 42 during his most recent trip. Chong Jit Long and wife Hazael, old-time Lifers from Prinsep St, are now staunch members of the New Life BPC. As London is well publicised to BPs through our Weeklies, my brother reports another from Life Church visiting, Ong Cheng Sng and son Michael. Cheng Sng accompanied his son to London to settle him in some nearby University. Chern Siang Jye whom we baptised a fortnight ago, I hope, will worship at New Life, London, too.

Big Chunk goes to Missions (incl. FEBC Scholarships)

Members should know that a big chunk of the Church's income goes to Missions as follows: To **Batam**, Batu Aji and Tanjung Piayu plus 2 kindergartens (Roska and Supartik); **North Thailand** (Nirand and Jess); **Philippines** (Charles Seet and Frieda); **Burma**: 1. FEFST (Thawm Luai) 2. Orphanage (Andrew Kam); **Malaysia**: 1. Kuantan Kindergarten (John Ling); 2. Kemaman Outreach: Honoraria and transport expenses to speakers and companions. **Kalimantan and Sarawak** (Djunaidi & Benjamin Wong); **Jakarta** (Yusniar) plus many designated gifts to worthy individuals serving the Lord such as in Saipan, Africa, Holy Land. **FEBC Scholarships**: 1. Dip & BTh recipients 10; MRE & MDiv recipients 6. God bless members who bring in their tithes to the storehouse that God's Kingdom might advance. In coordination with the proposed BP Youth Camp for 300, pray for the starting of a Mersing B-P Church in this booming tourist town.

Revival has come to Chin Lien

This Bible School that was founded by Miss Leona Wu May 14, 1937 two years after Dr John Sung's first visit to Singapore became the field headquarters of the Revivalist whenever he returned to Southeast Asia. Chin Lien had been a

hive of activity in the training of preachers and missionaries until the Lord took Miss Wu in 1974.

Miss Ng Peck Loan her co-worker from the very beginning carried on the last two decades. Her special ministry has been the building of the Leona Wu Memorial Hall and maintenance of the complex of the old bungalow and John Sung Memorial Chapel housing also the Girls' Dormitory together with Leona Wu Memorial — standing on 50,000 sq ft of sacred ground.

When 300 old and young from Cana and Macedonia BPCs thronged the Leona Wu Memorial Hall Oct 6, 96 to witness the ordination of George Lim Kcow Ker and Teo Kiak Hock and the

sanctuary resounded with loud praises to the Lord and echoed the stirring message of Rev Teo See Oon, the newly elected principal, I responded in my heart, "Revival has come to Chin Lien."

Rev Kuan Yew Weng, a blue-blooded son of Chin Lien and a much demanded speaker, pastors Cana BPC, borrowing the Chin Lien premises. With Rev Teo Kiah Hock, younger brother of Teo See Oon, coming into the picture, Rev Kuan branches out to pastor New Life Chinese Service, Woodlands. Rev Kiak Hock also teaches a big evening Bible Class at Chin Lien. Indeed, Revival has come to Chin Lien.

— Yours obediently, T.T.

TESTIMONY OF DORIS CHEONG

Praise the Lord! I was discharged from hospital on 5th October afternoon.

I waited and waited for the Lord's help for the 17 days stay in hospital. He listened to me and heard my cry. Lord, I know You will never stop being merciful to me as You have seen me through several trials and a tragedy in my life. After the operation, my recuperation was very painful, even though the operation had successfully removed the disease from my body. The doctors told me that I had to wait for nature to take its own course for the digestive system to function normally, and it could be a few weeks before I would be discharged. At this point I was very depressed, a rush of emotions — anger, fear, sadness, pity — surged through me.

I called Rev Tow on 18 September 96 night and cried to him over my depression. Rev Tow prayed over the phone and assured me that God was with me and to keep trusting in the Lord. Everything should be fine. I prayed, "Dear Lord, please give me the courage and strength to face whatever this day might bring."

Since the Lord called my beloved daughter home in 1989, we hardly mixed with friends and relatives and even members of Life Church. We find it comfortable to attend church in quietness and calmness which is soothing for us. I sincerely hope that church members will understand our situation and reasons to keep to ourselves. Ngiap Koon and Helen invited Rev Stephen Khoo to visit me on 1 October 96 night after Tuesday Prayer Meeting. His reassurance of God being with me strengthened my faith and calmed my anxiety with the comforting verse (Romans 8:32).

On 2 October 96, I was wheeled down to the X-Ray department for a Barium Meal examination to check whether there was any blockage in my digestive system. I prayed to the Lord for mercy and praise the Lord, the result was remarkable. There was no blockage. On 4 October 96, I was allowed to take soft diet and the next day, 5 October at 12.00 pm I was discharged.

God sent skilled surgeon and many friends to give spiritual support and encouragement on my operation and recuperation. The cancer had not spread. The operation successfully removed the disease from my body.

God also sent two very good friends from Life Church. They are Linda Chan and Helen Eio. In 1989, it was through Linda that both my husband and I attended Life Church. Linda gave us a compilation of poems entitled *Poems from my heart* to comfort our grieving heart in 1989. After 7 years, the memory of our daughter still brings on tears. Helen, my good friend is very helpful. She is always there when I need her. The Lord also blessed me with two lovely boys in 1990 and 1991.

I would like to thank Rev Timothy Tow, Rev Stephen Khoo, the Ladies' Fellowship, Helen, Linda and Ngiap Koon and church members for their Tuesday Prayer. Special thanks to my very good friends Dr James and May Loh, Elder Chan Yau Seng and Mr and Mrs Ng Kim Ming.

I pray that my testimony will sustain, uplift, comfort and encourage those afflicted by many trials and tragedies. Have faith in God, for His Divine Plan ensures everything will be just fine.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 21 - 27, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Minor Prophets Exam	\$13,812.75.00 (8.00 am); \$7,115.00 (10.30 am)		
	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700; 21CRB \$50; Mersing Project \$600, \$300, \$20, \$1000, \$500(Coinafon), \$100(Boxes), \$34(Boxes), \$500(Boxes), \$2000(Sunday Sch), \$400 (Kebaktian Ina); Seets \$300, \$320, \$150; Missions \$50, \$250, \$100; Djunaiddi \$200; Thai Misslon Trip, Chiangmai \$200; Hilltop(Beds for CBS) \$200; Chinese Ser \$120; FEBC \$300, \$150.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	(1)"What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" I want to thank God for His unfailing mercies in leading me each step in my life. The Lord gave me a good job with godly superiors, love for my work and an early promotion. Moreover, He has blessed my marriage, helping both of us to experience love and joy, a deeper spiritual experience and sustaining our humble service in his vineyard.		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship Bible Study	I wish hereby to encourage all readers out there to put God first: before all things, honour Him and he shall honour you. The Psalmist said delight ourselves in the Lord, for the Lord is a sun and shield, for the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly (Ps 37:4, 84:11)!		
THU	7.30 pm	Hermeneutics (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	Rev Djunaiddi is now transferred to Ang Mo Kio Community Hospital, Wd 2, 3rd Flr Bed 40.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	Pray for the quick recovery of Mr Ong Choo Seng after a successful head operation.		
	2.30 pm	Gospel Baptist Church Wedding	Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Jonathan Phang on the birth of a baby girl, Josephine, on 2nd Oct.		
	7.30 pm	Filmshow: John Calvin, Sanctuary			
SUN	8.00 am	The Pre-eminence of Christ (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Tan Eng Boo			
	10.45 am	Rev Tow at Maranatha BPC Anniv.			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.			
	6.30 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour			
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah.					
Sunday School Offering: \$616.70; Attendance: 386					
Verse for the Week: The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad. Psalm 126:3					



Rev Pang Kok Hiong in black at the front. Who are the two in grey at the centre? All the 30 white ones plus 3 men are candidates for BAPTISM. Praise the Lord.



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 29

20 October 1996

OPERATION SAIPAN

At the request of Calvary Pandan BPC I accompanied Elder Dr Cheng Wei Nien on a lightning trip to Saipan, Fri Oct 11 — Mon 14, '96. Our mission was to visit Rev Pang Kok Hiong and to discuss with him how best to advance God's Kingdom through this Pacific Island.

We flew to Seoul in 6 hours, and after two hours in transit we transferred to KAL which took less than 4 hours to land us on Saipan. The time was 1.40 am. With Kok Hiong at the airport we went through the Immigration without a hitch. Our box of Chinese Bibles and Chinese John Sung was not opened.

Now, Saipan is a tourist paradise of the Japanese and Koreans, and the hotels are often full. So we were 'promoted' to the Riviera. This gave me added opportunity to study its layout and design for the advancement of our Mersing Resort. And what improvement has come on the

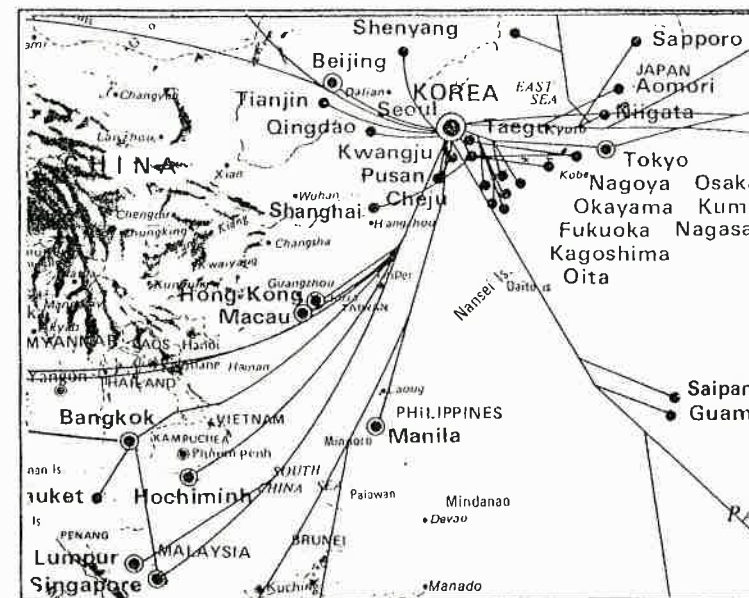
Island since Dr Cheng and I came here Dec 1991. Almost 5 full years, how time has flown! "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Ps 90:12).

We were met at the airport also by a Korean Rev Lee, now in his late seventies. Speaking perfect Mandarin, he is an old China hand. For the last four years he has become Kok Hiong's co-worker. He is a much sought after preacher also by his own countrymen. Owing to his wife's illness he has shifted back to Korea, but whenever he can make it he will revisit his Saipan Chinese flock.

At the breakfast table the next morning, Rev Hsia of Hong Kong, now pastoring a Chinese Church in Guam, caught up with us. There are hourly flights from Guam to Saipan and it takes only an half hour. Rev Hsia has also a broadcasting ministry to Mainland China, with fruitful results.

The Lord has promoted the Pangs from their

2-room flat to a new 3-room bungalow which has a huge outhouse. It sits on a hill overlooking the Pacific Ocean. And with an increase of only US\$150 per month. This is farther from the city but well compensated by the cool sea breezes. We praise the Lord that He rewards His servants for their non-stop hard work with such a restful place. With 8,000 Chinese garment workers here, and the soon opening of another score of factories, the tide of China workers invading Saipan is on the rise. So, we have counselled our brother to concentrate on his present job before launching into another



Saturday Oct 12, the day after our arrival, was a busy day of functions. We ate together at a Chinese restaurant at which Wong Chin Woon and wife Srithorn, FEBCers sent by Rev Bob Phee, were invited. The Wongs are evangelising another Chinese group, 30 in number, under the umbrella of another Korean Church. Both the Pangs and the Wongs were introduced to Saipan through FEBC Korean students. Saturday night we were entertained by the host Korean pastor, Rev Kim. After this we went to a special Gospel meeting. Over a hundred filled the pews in no time, thanks to Kok Hiong's two 15-seater Ford transporters. Chinese women being small sized, he could put in more than fifteen — fifty to be exact! Literally they are packed like sardines.

At the special Gospel meeting, Dr Cheng spoke on the meat that perisheth and the meat that gives everlasting life. On my part I expounded Ps 90:10, 12, 14 by the Chinese couplet, "Man rarely lives up to seventy years, And rarely does he see the moon in full" (人生七十古来稀, 人生几见月常圆). After service we were surrounded by eager autograph hunters, which kept us busy quite a while.

Sunday morning the Chinese Presbyterian Church of Saipan, for so is the Chinese Service of the Korean Church called, worshipped at 9.30 am. There were about 100 present, for many had to work overtime. Elder Cheng preached from Matt 8:18-27 on "In Christ you find peace." He also played the piano. Five minutes after service we had a half-hour answering Qs from the Bible.

Sunday night was the climax of our visit. I preached on "How Great is your God?" according to Rom 8:28-39. The heathens, not having God and without hope are bound by a blind fate (Eph 2:12). Their lot is groping in fear. Satan is the god of this world and adds to their sorrows, but his power is limited, e.g. the Egyptian magicians were defeated by Moses. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you. Our God is the Almighty who controls all circumstances so as to work to our good (Rom 8:28). "If God be for us who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31) assures us He keeps us safe from our enemies (Calvin's favourite verse). And He who gives us His Son, will He not freely give us all things? (Rom 8:32). He supplies our every need. These three verses are applied to the young converts to bolster their faith.

The service closed with the baptism of 3 men and 30 women and the administration of the Lord's Supper. 180 attended this service. The whole congregation practically had to be ferried to their living quarters by the two 15-seater vans, a smaller van and a pick-up, both pastor and wife doing the rounds, with two extra hands.

We were sent off at 2.00 am to fly out of Saipan. When it was to dawn I noticed our plane taking a sudden dip. Sure enough the voice announced, because of bad weather in Seoul, we were ordered to wait in Pusan (southern city of Korea). Because of this sudden change of schedule we missed our return SIA flight. This 'disappointment' was God's 'appointment'. For, while waiting, my heart overflowed with these lines reflecting my sermon to a favourite John Sung tune —

ALL THINGS WORK

All things work to gether for good

All things work to gether for good

To them that love God the Lord

To them the called of God

If God be for us who love Him

If God be for us who love Him

Who in all the world can be against us

No one can be against us

He that spared not His own Son for us

He that spared not His own Son for us

How shall He not with Him freely give us

Every good gift from above

Hallelujah, praise the Father

Hallelujah, praise, praise the Son

Hallelujah, praise the Spirit

Lord, God Three-in-One Amen.



TESTIMONY by Yeo Wee Yong

The process of my conversion was a slow one, which stretched for several years. In fact, there is no exact date that I could remember when I was truly converted. Being poisoned by Buddhism and Taoism, I was once a small replica of the Apostle Paul, an aggressive "prosecutor" of the true faith. Now looking back I was indeed extremely relieved and grateful. Relieved because I was so near eternal death and damnation (for all the wrong things I have done, for "the wages of sin is death" Romans 6:23) if not for the unimaginable depth of the mercy of the Father. Grateful because in spite of my disobedience, the Lord forsakes me not. The Lord through His miraculous ways brought me to attend church services. Though as a young believer or rather half-believer, I did not join any Bible studies or any fellowship groups, the Lord blessed me with the perseverance of the reading of His Word. I was truly converted and sustained for two years purely by the Word of God. After I have read the Bible once through, He brought me to Life B-P Church where I was taught for the first time the true doctrines. I realized how little my knowledge is and how much time I have wasted (a quarter of a century). Currently I am trying to read as much as I can to gain back the time that I have lost. I do earnestly pray that the Lord sustain my zeal for Him until the day that I enter into His glory. Amen.

Welcome to Life Church

46th Anniversary Thanksgiving

*You will be blessed when you come in
You will be blessed when you go out (Dt 28:6)
Come inside—there's sound of music here
Inspiring hymns and sweet voices to cheer
Happiness is there for you to share
With Lifers who sincerely care
At Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting
There's mercy to those who are seeking
The prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
You who enter this "Jesus Saves" door
Are friends of ours forever more
This is the Day the Lord has made
We will rejoice and be glad in it
God bless Life Church 46th Anniversary
Thanksgiving.*

Octogenarian Sylvia Wong

INFANT BAPTISM

01. Choo Zhe Kai, Calvin
s/o Mr & Mrs Choo Boon Siong
02. Loo Jia Le, Joyce
d/o Dn & Mrs Victor Loo Lam Hua
03. Oh En-Lin, Joanna
d/o Mr & Mrs Allan Oh Ewe Yook
04. Ong Hui Lin, Hannah
d/o Mr & Mrs Danny Ong Kok Lam
05. Tay Hui Min, Phoebe
d/o Mr & Mrs Tay Bee Heng

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 01. Ong Hui Lin, Vicki | Student |
| 02. Ong Lay Suat, Charmian | Systems Engr |
| 03. Tan Wen Ming | Student |
| 04. Tan Geok Teng, Elizabeth | Student |
| 05. Tang Shou'en, Samuel | Student |
| 06. Yiew Jinping, Lemuel | Student |

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 07. Chee Siew Lin, Eunice | Civil Defence Offr |
| 08. Chin Hoong Chor | Lecturer, NUS |
| 09. Chin Bo Wei, Andrew (non-communicant) | |
| 10. Chin Ying Wei, Esther (non-communicant) | |
| 11. Lee Yew Fai, Richard | Computer Sys. Admin. |
| 12. Lim Soo Heng, Aaron | HRD Manager |
| 13. Loi Huey Ching | FEBEC Student |
| 14. Oh Ewe Yook, Allan | Sr Security Supervisor |
| 15. Quek Keng Khwang | Executive Offr |
| 16. Shiu Kee Yew | Analyst Programmer |
| 17. Tan Chee Luan, Lily | Housewife |
| 18. Tang Wai Peng | Teacher |

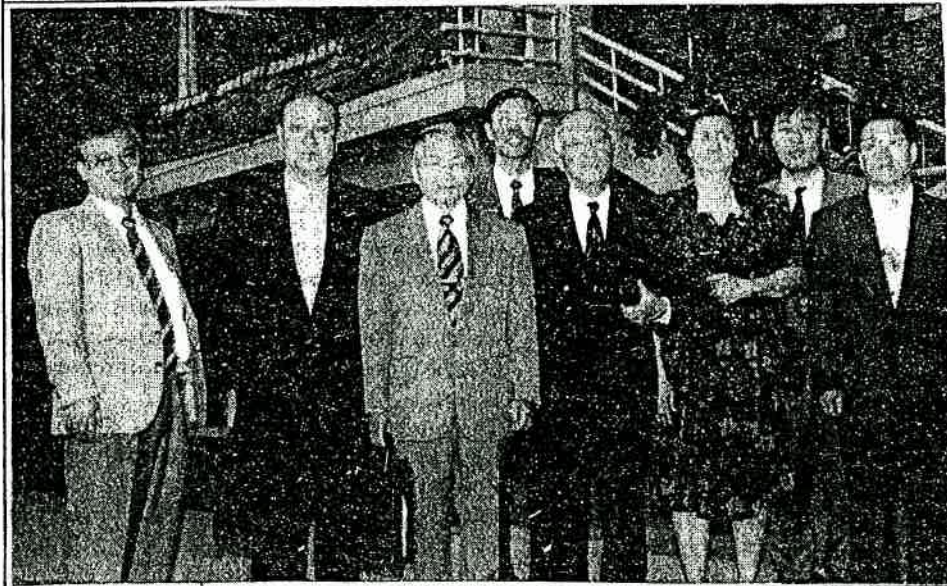
ADULT BAPTISM

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 19. Cereno, May Jean | Maid |
| 20. Chern Siang Jye* | Student |
| 21. Ho Lai Chan | Housewife |
| 22. Kan, Benjamin | Student |
| 23. Lim Hui Min | Student |
| 24. Lim Leng Leng, Marilyn | Teacher |
| 25. Lim Soo Hwee | Publisher |
| 26. Loh Kok Mun | Pensioner |
| 27. Phang Foon Chee | Secretary |
| 28. Tan Chin Shin | Student |
| 29. Tan Swee Poh | Banking Officer |
| 30. Yeo Wee Yong | Senior Tutor |

I Cor 12:13 "For by one Spirit are we all baptised into one body."

(*Chern Siang Jye was baptised on 29 Sep 96.)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 28 - Nov 3, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	No Evening Lecture	\$93,663.85 (Anniv. & Baptismal Service)		
TUE	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$250; Needy FEBC Students \$200; Seats \$150, \$500; Children's Choir \$210; Children's Ministry \$300; Myanmar Orph \$100; Indonesian Orph \$100; Missions \$250; P'pines Hilltop Students \$180; Batam(Roska) \$300(Ladies' F'ship); Djunaidd's medical expenses \$1200(Bt Batok NBC).		
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	Donor to Ong Soo Kheng, please see the Treasurer.		
WED	7.30 pm	No Evening Lecture	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU		FEBC Exams Begin	(1) In thanksgiving to God for the reaffirmation of our son's faith in God on Life Church's 46th Anniversary. (\$1000)		
FRI	7.00 pm	FEK Concert	(2) Dearest Lord Jesus, I could never thank you enough for all things that the Lord is blessing. Especially your mighty Hand was there when I needed most even though I was not a Lifer. I understand John 15:16 when you have found me. Thank you for teaching me that we ought to support the weak and it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35). I may give without a smile on my face. Lord, you know that I give with a heart smile. As always, I am overjoyed to help in whatever little way I can, regardless of my situation. I contribute \$2000 to the extension of the Lord's Kingdom in Mersing and \$500 for Msnr Charles Seet. —A grateful Lifer.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	Rev Djunaidd is now at TTSH at Ward 34.		
	2.30 pm	Fishermen of Christ F'ship Wedding	Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Kelvin Lin on the birth of a boy, Shawn, on 4 Oct 96.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Reconciliation in Christ (Rev Stephen Khoo)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.					
Verse for the Week: For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. Romans 1:17					



With members of the Missions Committee of the Pure Presbyterian Church, Korea, June '96. Extreme left is Elder Dr Lee who went with Lee Young Lyoun (No. 2 from R) to Rangoon, Sept 26-28 in the cause of "Instant Missions" with Thawm Luai.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

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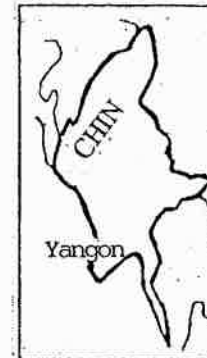
"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Geoffrey Tan	Dn Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 88	No. 46
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 50	Prov 3:1-18
Hymn	No. 367	No. 432
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 122	No. 414
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 1:15-18	1 Tim 4:1-6
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Pre-eminence of Christ (Rev Stephen Khoo)	When Christians are easily seduced (Rev Tan Eng Boo)
Closing Hymn	No. 283	No. 283
Benediction		

REPORT ON GOSPEL ADVANCE IN MYANMAR

In a letter from Rev Robert Thawm Luai to Pastor Tow, he says:

As soon as I received the money you sent for the new church in Pyin-Oo-Lwin, I set out for the town on Friday night, Sept 20. With Elder Za Nei Bil, my brother Louis Zung Hlei Thang and one other member, our team consisted of four persons. We were supposed to reach our destination early the next day, but our train broke down on the way, and we arrived in Pyin-Oo-Lwin only on the following night. Railroads were very badly maintained and the train was so 'rocky' that it was almost impossible to stand or walk steadily while it was on the move. If you ever visit Mandalay or Pyin-Oo-Lwin, I would rather advise you to take the domestic flight or coach.



We held Worship Service on Sunday morning during which I gave holy communion, and baptized 13 new believers of whom 5 had been Buddhists. I also gave my special greetings on your behalf of Life B-P Church. I also announced that Singapore had sent US\$2000/- for the new church. I told them that this money would be used for house rent for pastor and Church, for hiring of

Sunday Bus, for buying a bicycle for pastor, and for other small amenities. I asked the pastor to carry out all the necessary works with a holy zeal.

The church is growing rapidly in Pyin-Oo-Lwin and there are altogether 15 households gathered together now. I would have loved to remain with the new church but for the news that I received from South Korea informing me that Brother Lee Young Lyoun and Elder Lee were arriving on September 26. So I had to rush back to Yangon.

I left Pyin-Oo-Lwin on Monday morning, and arrived in Mandalay where I spent the whole day doing 'missionary survey' for church planting. Then I took the night train and arrived back in Yangon the following morning, Tuesday, Sept 24. Actually, I had intended to plant a church in Mandalay on this trip with a small community which I had previously organized, but for the same reason stated above, I could not. Nevertheless, I will go back soon, and I will need your earnest prayers for this, too.

Brother Lee Young Lyoun (FEBC graduate) and Elder Lee arrived on the 26th, and stayed with us for three days before they returned on the 28th. On my request, they spoke in our church on Friday

night, Saturday night and Sunday morning, and we all rejoiced in the Lord. They also gave us a love-gift of US\$4000/- of which \$1000/- each is to be used for the Bible college, the children home (orphanage), care for the aged, and church planting.

They told me that this gift is personal and that it was not from their Church's funds. Elder Lee was the man who also came to Awana Camp, and he is a medical doctor. When he saw all our works - the Bible college, children home etc - especially when he heard about the churches on our Chin hills, he was greatly impressed. It seemed that he felt he had a big 'burden' to carry out for our ministry. I accounted to you all the blessings I received from the Koreans because it was only through your introduction that I came to know them.

I showed them our dormitories, classrooms, faculty apartments, library etc and explained to them that all these were the help from 'Rev Tow and Life BP Church of Singapore.' They really appreciated the good work; they even took photographs of our Library and rooms and buildings.

Lee Young Lyoung phoned me on October 9th and asked us to pray earnestly for them as they will be considering helping our churches in Chin State in particular and EPCM in general.

FEFST is running smoothly though we are still in need of funds for inside facilities such as furniture and air conditioners especially for the library and guest rooms. In fact, I have put up my application to obtain an official registration for a Christian Guesthouse, but so far it has not been approved. We need to pray earnestly for this, too.

Concerning Tachileik, I have written to Rev Dearami and Jess asking them to take over the church there, and I am sending you the letter by mail for your information.

As for Andrew Kam, he is holding Sunday Worship Service regularly up to now, and as far as my observation goes, most of the attendants are his own orphans and about three or more other families. I will inform you of his 'development' again.

We are praying earnestly for your Mersing project, and for you and Mrs Tow, and all Lifers in our Friday meeting. May God bless you always.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

When the Pure Presbyterian Church invited us to Korea last June, one of the things they asked us was "Instant Missions." So far their work overseas were confined to starting Churches for their emigrants, but not to the people of the land of their adoption. We proposed that they send leaders to our combined camp (Life-Calvary) to be held soon at Awana, Genting Highlands. Four of them including Lee Young Lyoung (FEBCer 1994) visited Awana where they saw the good work of Thawm Luai in the mountains of Interior Myanmar. They were so impressed that they decided to visit Myanmar.

Sure enough they spent three days with Thawm Luai Sept 26-28, '96. Elder Lee, a medical doctor, gave out of his own pocket US\$4,000, to be divided equally between the Bible College, Orphanage, Home for the Aged and Church planting. They promised to recommend to the Church in Korea to fully support this Myanmar outreach. Praise the Lord, this spirited support from Korea relieves us in Singapore, now that our Mersing Project is on.

God blessed our 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving signally by restraining the rain. It was a glorious night on Beulah Lawns. With the hilarious avalanche of \$93,663.85 upon our 46th Anniversary Thanksgiving, we have just enough to pay for the Mersing Land. "God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (II Cor 9:7,8). Now, let us pray the Lord to bless our architect Dn Victor Loo in the planning of a resort for 300, our "BP Youth Camp." The meeting hall will double as a sanctuary for regular Sunday worship, "For I have much people in this city" (Acts 18:10). For those driving up Kuantan and Kemaman, Mersing will provide overnight stay, just in case. Truly God has opened up the whole East Coast to our church in three short years — because it is relatively untouched.

Some have asked when the Mersing Project will be completed. Hopefully by this time next year. We feel the Lord wants us to proceed with

the work forthwith as He said to the Jewish returnees through Haggai, "Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord" (Haggai 1:8).



As we go to press, here comes Philip J.S. Heng's letter from Kenya. He is accepted by the Bible College of East Africa (Rev Mark Kim) to teach 3 hours per week, with

weekend engagements to preach out of town. His wife Olga, who also studied at FEBC, is with him. (J.S. Heng has studied 5 years at FEBC.)

Apart from teaching at BCEA, J.S. is involved with building a Life Bible School up the mountains. The mountain people hope to complete building in one year. J.S. is elected president of this Bible School. By this the couple should be given work permit.

That the Hengs have struck out by faith to a distant land to teach God's Word is exemplary. Let us pray for them that the Gospel might have free course through their ministry. —T.T.

IN DEFENCE OF THE KING JAMES VERSION HOLY BIBLE

—by Dr S H Tow—

Chapter 10 PERVERSION OF THE PRESCRIPTION

1. We have a deadly adversary. We must never forget the fact that his one ambition is to pervert the Word of God, to change the Prescription.
2. To achieve this, Satan used unregenerate men, willing tools, to corrupt the Word by:
 - a) unfaithful, inaccurate copies (MSS),
 - b) unfaithful, inaccurate translations.
3. Among the worst of corrupted MSS were the *Codex Sinaiticus* and *Codex Vaticanus*, collectively belonging to the group known as the Minority Text.
4. Westcott and Hort, two unregenerate scholars, enemies of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, doctored the Minority Text, *Codex Sinaiticus* and *Codex Vaticanus*, to give the world a corrupted Greek New Testament. (Out of this, in 1881 came the corrupted *Revised Version* of the Bible, and since then many other corrupt versions).
5. In recent years also a new method of translation was introduced by infidel Eugene Nida. Rejecting the "word for word" Verbal Equivalence method, Nida advanced the theory that the Word of God, bound in the language and culture of ancient times, must be released by today's translators substituting men's thoughts for God's words, to speak more effectively to men today. He called this "Dynamic Equivalence."
6. Adopting "Dynamic Equivalence," translators have brought forth a host of corrupt Bibles, with men's thoughts replacing God's words, Bibles such as *The Living Bible* (TLB), *Revised Standard Version* (RSV), *Today's English Version* (TEV) also called *Good News Bible* (GNB), *New International Version* (NIV), *New English Bible* (NEB), and others.
7. These corrupt Bibles have become deadly tools of Satan, instruments of subversion and apostasy. For our God has said, "my thoughts are not your thoughts" (Isa 55:8). Neither are men's thoughts equal to God's, least of all the thoughts of unregenerate men, strangers to the grace of God.
8. Satan is cleverer than we think. He doctored the Prescription, gave the world two corrupted texts, *Sinaiticus* and *Vaticanus*. He introduced a new translation methodology, which is best called "demonic equivalence." Out of these came forth a host of corrupted Bibles.
9. The bewildering array of versions engenders no confidence in any one, only much confusion.
10. God's people may find complete safety and security in the KJV, the Divine Original, God's Preserved Prescription.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 4 -10, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$5,672.00 (8.00 am); \$11,981.00 (10.30 am)		
WED	7.30 pm	Gospels in Unison Exam Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: Mersing Project \$85, \$20, \$500, \$500, \$100(Berean BPC), \$236; \$100(Mt Carmel BPC), \$500(Gospel Light BPM), \$120(Boxes), \$150, \$60(Sharon BPC), \$3630(Maranatha BPC), \$460, \$400; Extn of the Gospel \$200; Myanmar Orph \$300; Ong Soo Kheng \$200; Seets \$200; Medan(Dohar) \$50; Batam(Roska) \$50.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hemeneutics Exam	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
FRI	6.00 pm	FEBC End of Semester Thanksgiving Dinner & Service	(1) Thank you, Lord Jesus, for being so gracious and good to me. Your blessings unto me have been so great, and I do not deserve them. This small offering is just a tiny portion of what You have given me. May it be used to extend Your Kingdom, till You come. (\$50 for Myanmar)		
	7.45 pm	Men's F'ship	(2) Praise and thank the Lord that my father has come to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour during the FEBC Gospel Rally on 28/9/96. Also thank the Lord for His tender mercies and lovingkindness.		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' F'ship	(3) From an old FEBCer: \$50 for Dining Club and \$350 for the Mersing project, with much delight from my heart.		
SAT	10.00 am	Rev & Mrs Tow to Sydney	(4) Thank you dear Lord for hearing our cries to deliver dear Doris from the 'deep mire' (Ps 69:2). Through her ordeal You have strengthened her faith in Thee, which has resulted in her testifying of Your goodness. Hallelujah! Thine the Glory! Hallelujah, Amen!		
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF	(5) From Saipan: \$300 for FEBC and \$500 for Life BPC.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Supreme Charge. (Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Dr S H Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.			
No NBC This Week.					
Verse for the Week: See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. 1 Thessalonians 5:15					
Sunday School Offering: \$994.00; Attendance: 346					



This is the new place of worship of the Ev. Presbyterian Church of Burma at Tachileik situated at the Bridge crossing from Mae Sai on this side of the Thai Border.



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 31

3 November 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Han Soon Juan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 93	No. 37
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Romans 6	Lk 12:16-34
Hymn	No. 448	No. 355
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 551	Roman Verses 32-34
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 1:19-23	Rom 6:1-13
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Reconciliation of Christ (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Bitter Medicine is Good Medicine
Closing Hymn	No. 390	No. 281
Benediction		Lord's Supper

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy" (Ps 126:5). That's the happy feeling a teacher gets when he has done his job well at the end of every semester. The same may be said of the diligent student by the good results he or she will attain. I say will, for in their case, the exams have just begun and will not finish until Friday Nov 8. Pray for them!

Our students come from 16 countries. The 16th country is a new member of ASEAN. Two young ladies are Thais, but only lately did I come to know one is from the Lahu tribe and the other a Hmong. Two Korean students, soon completing their theses, will leave us. With 7 prospective ones for 1997, our total enrolment of full-time students will reach 3 figures.

To alert our evening students for next year Dr Jeffrey Khoo will offer the *Westminster Standards*, Dr Goh Seng Fong *Family Ministry* and Dr T Tow *Minor Prophets (B)*. The last will also teach *Calvin III* (day class) and get the Four Books printed in one Volume — at last!

One crying need of B-P Churches is for Chinese-speaking

workers. These fill a timely need, e.g. Saipan. Both Rev Pang Kok Hiong and Wong Chin Woon have met this need, for they work with crowds of mainland Chinese garment workers. Our own Chinese Service lacks a full-time pastor, so at the Chinese YF's Anniversary last week, the Lord moved me to challenge our own sons and daughters to answer the call. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matt 9:37-38).

At the end of every year, Ivy especially needs a break (a woman's work is never done). The secret is change of environment. Since Melbourne has called and they have an empty parsonage we fit into the picture mutually. This becomes also my working holiday, for while filling Bethel's pulpit, I shall give them a crash course on the Book of Daniel, having previously taught them Revelation.

Hearing we are scheduled for Melbourne Nov 9 to Dec 4, '96, Wong Kai Chee and Maureen (ex-Lifers) now migrated to Sydney, requested our stopover en route. There is a strong desire with BPs in Sydney to form another

Church. Meanwhile my good Korean friend Rev Moon Kwang Sik who has shifted from Adelaide to pastor another Korean flock in Sydney has heard of our going. So he has scheduled me to preach at his pulpit. Killing two birds, we see our steps are ordered of the Lord. Pray for us, "that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ" (Col 4:3). Thus, we will be away for 4 Lord's Days, one in Sydney and three in Melbourne.

This is where the Assist. Pastor comes in. Rev Stephen Khoo will take my place during our 3½ weeks' absence. As for next Lord's Day, Nov 10, my brother Dr S H Tow will be the Lord's messenger at the 10.30 am Service. It is not easy to get him for a great door in the defence of the faith is open unto him. Having lately preached in North Thailand to the Lahus, he has a call from Sri Lanka, and after we've returned from Melbourne he and his wife will go "downunder" for some weeks. This is what St Paul means by "in journeyings often."

The Mersing Project is on everybody's lips. Pray for the Architect that the Lord will direct his blue print. The property is now in our hands with the rest of the payment made on Tues. Oct 29. The price is RM675,180.00 and lawyer's fees RM26,021.90. The big amount facing us will be the raising of a three storey U-Block to cater to 300 campers, which we name "BP Youth Camp." (Thank God for a handsome gift from Maranatha's 6th Anniversary Thanksgiving.)

In case some of you driving up the Mersing way would like to see the land, you can find it easily by turning right after crossing the bridge. This is the coastal road for Pantai Mahkota. You'll pass by a garden with pavilions and a Govt. Primary School on your left, cross a little brook. Head straight on, and on until you come to an opening arched by huge casuarinas. Here is also the junction with Jalan Rantau, and that's where our land, with coconut palms, is situated. Opposite our land on the other side of Jalan Rantau is a house on stilts where the Orang Asli live. They are open to the Gospel and we can preach to them.

Now, from Mersing to Kuantan where Rev John Ling is stationed, there's another 110 miles

of the scenic coastal road. Without traffic jam this straight road takes less time to drive than from S'pore to Mersing (100 miles). Thus Mersing is our halfway house to the North. John is busily working on the registration of "Happy" Kindergarten. He continues to minister to the Kemaman church. Pray for his health and Gospel work. —T.T.

JONAH AND THE WHALE: WHO SWALLOWED WHOM?



Jesus believed the story of Jonah literally, every word of it, period. He even quoted Jonah to be the miracle adumbrating His resurrection from the dead, inasmuch as Jonah came out of the fish's belly alive. He said to the Jews who demanded of Him a miracle,

An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here. (Matt 12:39-42)

Yea, modern critics who cunningly deny the miracle of Jonah in the whale are already condemned by our Lord's statement above.

When Truth is questioned, it answers with a resounding Yes or No. "For whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil" (Matt 5:37).

In denying the historicity of Jonah and his time spent in the fish's belly, the Abingdon Bible Commentary has taken half a page, going round and round, to mislead the lay reader. Discounting the literal method of interpretation it double-speaks:

(1) The literal method involves not credibility but credulity with regard to miracle. The average reader is prone to think of only one miracle in the story, namely, Jonah's voyage in the interior of the great fish. Yet, interpreted literally, it fairly bristles with the miraculous: the storm; the selection of Jonah by lot as the guilty party; the sudden subsidence of the sea; the great fish whose

arrival so perfectly synchronizes with Jonah's plunge into the deep; his survival of his piscatorial sojourn; his ejection, safe and sound, on shore; the gourd, which grew into an effectual shade in a day and perished as suddenly as the morrow—these are all manifestations of the miraculous. There are also other points which place almost as great a strain upon the credulity. How did Jonah make his message intelligible to people who spoke a strange tongue? Why does such a rebellious and self-willed prophet succeed so marvelously when an Amos or an Isaiah or a Jeremiah meets with so little success? Truly the story's tax upon the credulity is very great. Let the reader decide for himself whether his is able to bear it.

(2) The literal method of interpretation involves indifference to the fact that the writer exhibits neither the interests nor the methods of the historian. He is utterly vague upon many points about which a historian would have been specific. Where did Jonah land when ejected from the fish? Who was the Assyrian king and when did he reign? Are we to understand that Jonah remained sulking outside of Nineveh until he died? If not, what became of him? These are some of the queries which the literalist must find it hard to answer.

But suppose one is ready to ignore all these and other unmentioned difficulties, what harvest will he reap? Very largely this: first, that there was once such a stiff-necked prophet as Jonah for whom the Lord did much more than he deserved; and, second, some rather doubtful ground for the belief that God once intervened in the affairs of men in a manner which in our time he has completely abandoned.

And now for the other alternative. What does it involve? Simply the acceptance of the fact that O.T. religious teachers sometimes, like the Great Teacher himself, made use of allegory or parable as a vehicle for the delineation of great social tendencies and the inculcation of truths applicable to them.

Did the Great Teacher treat Jonah as an allegory or parable? He declared it to be a miracle of miracles, comparable to his death, burial and resurrection.

What the aforesaid long-winded passage taken from Abingdon Bible Commentary in veiled language says is no different from what a modernist Bishop from Singapore said in one of his sermons, "If you believe the whale swallowed Jonah then you can believe Jonah swallowed the whale." Eh? Who swallowed whom?

(Another page for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary.)

TESTIMONY

I became a Christian in 1986 when I was twelve. The experience was quite inexplicable — for I merely picked up a Bible and read and read, till I had covered from Matthew to Luke in one night. By the end of it, I was convinced I needed a Saviour and the way lies in Jesus Christ. However it was not a true conversion, for it was merely head knowledge that I possessed. Still it was this knowledge in my mind that led me to church where my understanding of the saving grace of God was reinforced and eventually, became a part of my life.

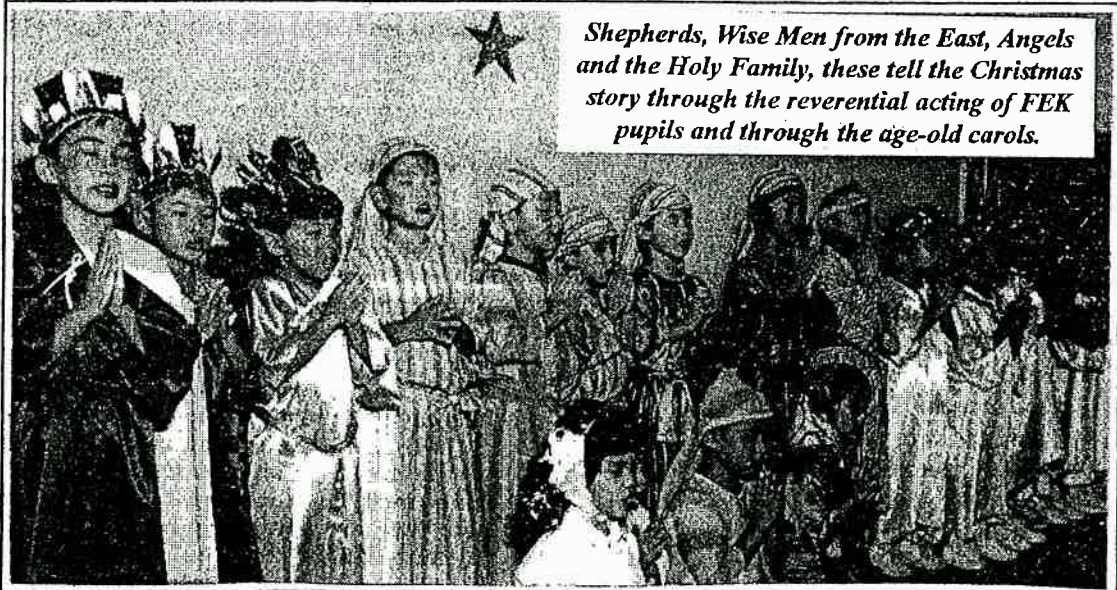
Since then, I have floated in and out of loving the Lord. Though I attended church regularly, it was sometimes more a formality and a guilty conscience that were the motivating factors. I thought salvation through Christ was so easy — just believe and be saved. It was much later that I started to question my own salvation, for I was not exhibiting the fruits of the Spirit in both a character change, and working for Christ.

I went overseas in 1995 to further my studies and it was at my loneliest period that I began to draw myself away from the distractions of the world and started thinking seriously about God. I am a Christian no doubt, and for quite a number of years, but I had to ask myself, whether anybody could tell I was one if I had not at first said it. I was more of a regular churchgoer, than a wretched sinner saved by the enormous love of God. I began then to think how much God had blessed me in this life, but that these blessings have at the same time become my greatest obstacles in drawing closer to God. For I often believed I was self-sufficient, and only in partial need of God. I imagined what it would be like if all these blessings were taken away from me and that really scared me. But deep inside, I knew, if I continued like this in my Christian walk, that day will definitely come.

So it was with much joy that after 10 years of being a so-called Christian that I take this baby step of baptism to declare unashamedly the love of God and what Christ has done for me. It is, I believe, long overdue. But my God in heaven is merciful and I am sure, will still be happy I have decided to acknowledge him in public, after such a long time, as my Father.

—Chern Siang Jye

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 11 - 17, '96)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	FEBC Vacation Begins	\$7,889.00 (8.00 am); \$15,167.00 (10.30 am)
10.00 am	JSM Wedding	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$1054(Chinese Ser), \$1800; 21CRB \$50, \$110; Mersing Project \$100, \$500, \$600, \$150, \$200, \$180, \$100, \$250, \$100, \$500(YAF), \$170(Chinese Ser), \$100; Lim JJ \$200, \$300, \$200; Myanmar Orph \$50, \$300; Seets \$100, \$50(YAF); Jack Sin \$300; Needy FEBC students \$170; FEBC Dining Club \$300; Ong Soo Kheng \$300; Batam(Roska) \$200; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$400; Rev Djunaidi's medical expenses \$500, \$5000(Chinese Ser), \$5000(Djunaidi); TJ Playu \$300; Yiew Pong Sen \$20; Roska \$300; Children's Choir \$50; Missions \$200; Dr McIntire \$1200. Donor to "FEBC Student Robert": Please see Treasurer today.
2.30 pm	Wedding of Edward Ng & Irene Chia (Rev Stephen Khoo)	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	
SAT	2.30 pm LTF/YF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	
SUN	8.00 am The Perfection in Christ (Msnr Charles Seet)	
	9.30 am Sunday School	
	10.30 am Elder Chia Kim Chwee	
	10.30 am Chinese Service	
	10.30 am Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	
	12.30 pm Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC	
	1.30 pm AF	
	3.00 pm Thai Service	
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.	
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson; Fri Bt Batok.		FROM THE OFFERING BAGS: (1) Thank you, loving and gracious Heavenly Father for seeing me through my last semester exam and enabling me to pass with good grades. I know it is by Thy grace and mercy that I'm able to achieve this. I pray that You will continue to keep me close to Thy heart and guide my walk that I will not sin against Thee. Please use this small token (\$200) for the extension of Thy kingdom. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. —A Grateful and sinner servant
Verse for the Week: Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. Psalm 143:8		Iain Murray's Public Lectures: (1) "Romans 14 & Christian Unity" on 17 Nov 96, 7.30-9.15 pm. (2) Lecture to Church Leaders of Reformed Conviction on 18 Nov 96, 10.00 am-12.00 noon. Both at New Life BP Church.
Sunday School Offering: \$1,725.95; Attendance: 359		



Shepherds, Wise Men from the East, Angels and the Holy Family, these tell the Christmas story through the reverential acting of FEK pupils and through the age-old carols.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 : Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 32

10 November 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Eld Tan Nee Keng	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
Opening Hymn	No. 86	No. 25
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Gal 5:16-26	Psalms 142, 143
Hymn	No. 393	No. 362
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 407	No. 67
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 2:1-7	Mt 8:1-17
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Supreme Charge (Rev Stephen Khoo)	The Healing Epidemic (Dr Tow Siang Hwa)
Closing Hymn	No. 555	
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

Is There a Clear Biblical Proof Text for the Doctrine of the Trinity?

A Preliminary Examination of the Antiquity and Authenticity of the Johannine Comma (1 John 5:7f)

1 John 5:7-8 in the KJV reads, "For there are three that bear witness in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood; and these three agree in one." The words underlined constitute the Johannine Comma (Gk: *koptein*, "to cut off"). The Comma proves the doctrine of the Holy Trinity—that "There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power, and glory" (WSC Q 6).

Why is this verse so seldom used to teach the doctrine of the Holy Trinity? The oft-quoted NT texts for the Trinity are Matt 3:16-17, 28:19, 2 Cor 13:14, and Rev 4:8, but why not 1 John 5:7f? One will reply, "How can I when my Bible does not have it?" Therein lies the problem; with 1 John 5:7f missing in so many of the modern Bible versions like the NIV, RSV, and NASB, it is no wonder that many Christians are ignorant of this verse. And even if they do know that this verse exists, they hesitate to use it because they have been deceived into

thinking that it is not part of God's Word. The NIV Study Bible, for instance, says that 1 John 5:7f "is not found in any Greek manuscript or NT translation prior to the 16th century." On account of this they argue that 1 John 5:7f is spurious. It is unfortunate that even The King James Study Bible (Thomas Nelson Publishers) doubted the authenticity of this verse. Is there not a need for a 21st Century Reformation Study Bible?

It is not true that 1 John 5:7f is absent in all pre-16th century Greek manuscripts and NT translations. The text is found in 8 extant Greek manuscripts, and at least 4 of them are dated before the 16th century. Furthermore, there is abundant support for 1 John 5:7f from the Latin translations. There are at least 8,000 extant Latin manuscripts, and many of them contain 1 John 5:7f; the really important ones being the Old Latin which Church Fathers like Tertullian (AD 155-220), and Cyprian (AD 200-258) used. Now, out of the very few Old Latin manuscripts with the 5th chapter of 1 John, at least 4 of them contain the Comma. Since these Latin versions were derived from the Greek NT, there is reason to believe that 1 John 5:7f has very early Greek attestation, hitherto lost. There is also reason to believe that

Jerome's Latin Vulgate (AD 340-420), which has the Johannine Comma, was translated from an untampered Greek text he had in his possession, and that he regarded the Comma to be a genuine part of 1 John. Jerome in his *Prologue to the Canonical Epistles* wrote, "irresponsible translators left out this testimony [i.e., 1 John 5:7f] in the Greek codices." Edward F Hills concluded, "... it was not trickery that was responsible for the inclusion of the Johannine Comma in the Textus Receptus, but the usage of the Latin speaking Church."

This leads us to the so-called "promise" of Erasmus. Westcott and Hort advocate—Bruce Metzger—made this claim which became the popular argument against the Johannine Comma. He wrote, "Erasmus promised that he would insert *the Comma Johanneum*, as it is called, in future editions if a single Greek manuscript could be found that contained the passage. At length such a copy was found—or made to order." This view against the authenticity of 1 John 5:7f is parroted by anti-KJVists Stewart Custer, D A Carson and James R White. Is this truly what happened? H J de Jonge of the faculty of theology, Leiden University, an authority on Erasmus, says that Metzger's view on Erasmus' promise "has no foundation in Erasmus' work. Consequently it is highly improbable that he included the difficult passage because he considered himself bound by any such promise." Yale professor—Roland Bainton—another Erasmusian expert agrees with de Jonge furnishing proof from Erasmus' own writing that Erasmus' inclusion of 1 John 5:7f was not due to a so-called "promise" but the fact that he believed "the verse was in the Vulgate and must therefore have been in the Greek text used by Jerome." The Erasmusian "promise" is thus a myth!

It has been suggested that the Johannine Comma did not come from the Apostle John himself but from an unknown person who invented and inserted it into 1 John 5 so that Christianity would have a clear Trinitarian proof text. Up till this point in time, no one is able to identify this mysterious person who tried to "help" the Church. He is probably a fictional character. In any case, it is highly unlikely that 1 John 5:7f is the work of a well-meaning interpolator. When we look at the text itself, the

phrase, "the Father, *the Word*, and the Holy Spirit," naturally reflects Johannine authorship (cf John 1:1,14). An interpolator would rather have used the more familiar and perhaps stronger Trinitarian formula—"the Father, *the Son*, and the Holy Spirit." "The Word" or "The Logos" of 1 John 5:7f surely points to the Apostle John as its source for it is distinctively John who uses the term "the Word" to mean "Christ" in all his writings (Dr Timothy Tow).

There is nothing in the Johannine Comma that goes against the fundamentals of the Christian faith. It is thoroughly biblical, and theologically accurate in its Trinitarian statement. There is really no good reason why we should not regard it as authentic, and employ it as the clearest proof-text in the Scripture for the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

Serious students will want to look up these two seminal monographs: (1) Edward F Hills, *The King James Version Defended* (Des Moines: The Christian Research Press, 1984), 209-13; and (2) Michael Maynard, *A History of the Debate Over 1 John 5:7-8* (Tempe: Comma Publications, 1995). The latter, by a librarian, in defence of the Johannine Comma is especially thorough and helpful. The onus is now on KJV detractors to address the documents, evidences, and arguments garnered by Maynard. This book is available at the FEBC Bookroom.

—Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

(Another page for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary.)

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

"Jesus bless the little children"

With this blessing painted above the corridor where the little tots of Far Eastern Kindergarten pass in and out of their classrooms, it is our desire to train them up in the way of the Lord. Everyday the Church grounds resound with Gospel choruses and of late the old Christmas carols as the children rehearsed for their concert and graduation, Friday Nov 1, 96. The presentation of the Birth of Jesus under the Bethlehem star and the worship of the shepherds and Wisemen was a gospel witness to the parents.

Elder Seow and principal, Jacqueline formed a perfect team to introduce the school to the

audience and to close with the presentation of certificates and prizes, not only to the 40 little graduands but also to the best of each class. What gladdened the hearts of English-speaking parents were the Mandarin items sung and spoken with marked proficiency. Yes, the principal is to be congratulated for raising the standard of Chinese by giving it equal time of instruction with the English. I sat through the whole programme and enjoyed every bit of it.

Incidentally, above FEK is FEBC, and FEK becomes a part of FEBC where young children of our married students find their schooling. So there's a saying, "FEBC students study upstairs and their children study downstairs."

FEBC Bookroom

... belongs to the College. All who love the College offer their free services to help promote the Lord's business. There is a Chinese saying, "The starting of any enterprise is difficult." This explains why the Matron and the Warden are often there—bringing in the goods, pricing them and putting them on display. On FEK Graduation night they even helped Kwok Wah set up a book table to add to the occasion. This frankly also helps to keep the book ministry afloat. Our profits are marginal. Now that Christmas shopping is around the corner we remind our Readers to visit the Bookroom first before gallivanting elsewhere. Our gifts with a message, JESUS SAVES, surely honour the Lord and spread the Word.

London, We are coming!

Life Church has also a part in the increase of the new Life Church, London. Ong Cheng Sng's son Michael who recently enrolled in London has become a staunch member of New Life's Fellowship of International Students. He recommends to the pastor our "Then Sings My Soul," and he orders 20 copies. To save on postage (which is increasingly costly), Lay Yean who is now on way to London plays courier. Please give our greetings to Peter Chong and wife Hazel of Prinsep Street days now become London New Lifers. Tell them 50 Pilgrims are coming May 4, 97!

With these sentiments we say good-bye as we go "downunder" to serve until Dec 4, '96.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

TESTIMONY

I knew the Lord Jesus Christ at the age of nine. My English teacher (Miss Wu) told me the Gospel. I attended the meetings held near the school at which she shared many stories from the Bible. Hence, I accepted the free salvation with a childlike and simple faith.

However, being the youngest in the family, I was brought up in a very protective and strict environment. My father was always around to discipline me. On top of that, my elder siblings were very protective, so much so, I lost my freedom.

Soon after, a curfew was placed on me and my whereabouts had to be made known. Thus, I was not able to attend the Bible studies anymore. Sadly, I left the group and Christ was forgotten until I was in Secondary two when my classmate shared the gospel with me again. From then on, I was actively involved with Youth for Christ. However, achieving excellent result was what my family expected. So under great pressure and strict curfews, I was not allowed to stay in school after dismissal. Thus I had to leave YFC. My relationship with the Lord drifted apart. It was after the death of my nephew that I began to take Christianity and my life seriously.

Through an incident, I met and came to know a Lifer. I was brought to Life BP Church and that marked the beginning of my knowledge of the very truth of God's Word. Frankly speaking, I attended Church irregularly and I only visited a particular church at certain time. It was after I had attended two of the LBC camps that I came to realize the importance of attending church on Sabbath day and to be fed with His word. Praise the Lord! Now, I do not face much objection from my family.

I thank my Heavenly and Almighty God for His grace, mercy and lovingkindness that keeps me throughout these years. Also for those who have been encouraging and helping me in my Christian walk.

Truly the Lord is good and faithful! "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness" (Lam 3:22-23).

—Lim Leng Leng

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 18 - 24, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$5,163.00 (8.00 am); \$10,974.75 (10.30 am)		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700(Korean Church); 21 CRB		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	\$350, \$60, \$100; Mersing Project \$20, \$300, \$100,		
	2.30 pm	Gethsemane BPC Wedding	\$235(Boxes), \$150, \$187(YAF/AF), \$400(Kebaktian Ina); Tract		
SUN	8.00 am	The Christian's Change in Behaviour (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Misty \$20; Baraka Conf Ctre \$60; Batam \$50, \$100; Thailand		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	\$50; Medan Orph \$100; Yangon Orph \$100; Seets \$150;		
	10.30 am	Rev Goh Seng Fong	Africa \$50; JJ Lim \$300; Hope BPC \$50; Robert Peh \$300;		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Gospel Literature \$100.		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	(1) My family and I thank God for His mercies and		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	goodness towards us because we trust in Him.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC	"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	will remember the name of the Lord our God" Ps 20:7		
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	(2) Thank you Lord for teaching us to Seek Ye First		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	The Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service	these things shall be added unto you" (Matt 6:33).		
No NBC This Week.			Thank you for the many blessings we take for		
Verse for the Week: My soul thirsteth			granted. Please channel my gift \$500 to Charles		
for God, for the living God: when			Seet and \$210 for the children's choir. (\$710)		
shall I come and appear before God?			(3) Thank you Lord that you have continuously		
Psalm 42:2			showered your blessings upon me. Enclosed is a love		
Deborah Mae's Christmas tape on CD is			token for the extension of thy Kingdom. (\$220)		
available at the FEBC Bookroom. (Includes Rev			Urgently needed, a manual typewriter, preferably		
Tow's Winter Moon).			13" carriage for Tg. Piayu. Contact Mrs Gladys Sng,		
Sunday School Offering: \$1,064.35; Attendance: 347			7537896 (H), 7377777 (O)		



Every morning and evening we are praying,
especially for the land for our home. Baby in
front is Andrew Kam's beloved son — A page
from our Orphanage in Burma.



Pif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 33

17 November 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Eld George Tan
Opening Hymn	No. 18	No. 28
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 19	Psalm 90
Hymn	No. 326	No. 401
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 364	No. 111
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 2:8-22	1 Cor 10:1-14
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Perfection in Christ</i> (Msnr Charles Seet)	<i>Take Heed</i> (Eld Chia Kim Chwee)
Closing Hymn	No. 317	No. 450
Benediction		

DID GOD CREATE ALL THINGS OUT OF NOTHING?

NO is the chorus of denial by materialists and evolutionists. Nor is there rebuttal of such denial from any religion or philosophy under the sun except true Christianity.

The striking, opening sentence of the Bible, "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth" as given by KJV and a host of others, teaches a creation *ex nihilo*, i.e. out of nothing. This is correct according to the punctuation of the Massorettes (Jewish scholars who tried to preserve the O.T. text between 6th and 9th century, A.D.).

But modern versions like the New English Bible, The Living Bible, etc. which do not believe in *creatio ex nihilo* turns "In the beginning God . . .," an independent clause, into "When in the beginning God . . .," a temporal clause in order to inject in the reader's mind that matter was already existing when God created the world. This makes the Almighty God a lesser god of their blind philosophy.

This gives way to a more subtle and deadlier blend of heaven called "theistic evolution." God created through the

evolutionary process. In accepting evolution over creationism, these blind guides of the blind will also make God create Adam out of an ape-man. This is the fatal final projection of error from that twisting of "In the beginning God created . . ." into "When in the beginning God . . ."

That God created *ex nihilo*, out of nothing, is expression of saving faith and Divine logic doubly illuminated. Even a little child, in simple faith, can understand and accept such a statement.

Is the simple yet majestic statement that God created the heaven and the earth ("out of nothing," implied) supported by other Scripture, not only by the *bara* (create) of Hebrew usage? The apostle, to the Hebrews answers, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." (Heb 11:3). That is to say God did not create something from something, but all things out of nothing.

That God created out of nothing is also reflected in the

prologue of John's Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (Jn 1:1-3).

Suffice it to quote one more Scripture to substantiate Gen 1:1:

Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights. Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts. Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light. Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created. Psalm 148:1-5.

How did the heaven of heavens, angels, sun and moon and stars of light derive their existence? From the primeval mud? Listen again, "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell" (Col 1:16-19).

Down from His glory — ever living story

My God and Saviour came,

and Jesus was His Name

Born in a manger — to His own a stranger

A man of sorrows, tears and agony.

O how I love Him, how I adore Him!

My breath, my sunshine, my all in all

The great Creator became my Saviour

And all God's fullness dwelleth in Him!

— Eduardo D. Capua

(Another page for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary.)

MISSION TO SYDNEY

"Man's goings are of the Lord, how can a man then understand his own way?" (Prov 20:14). We planned a working holiday to Melbourne, how did we know God wanted to detour us to Sydney, and with Mima and May Ann in the package?

Ex-Lifer Wong Kai Chee and Maureen, members of Bethel BPC transferred to Sydney a year ago. Here he met Anthony Ngan and since 8 months ago Sis. York Hoon and Bro. York Lin, all Calvinians. With KC's initiative they held weekly prayer meetings (Matt. 18:20). Though they attend other churches their conviction is the raising of a BP Witness. Not only for their children's sake but also to spread the unadulterated Gospel to their friends and neighbours. This is what we mean by "Mission to Sydney." Meanwhile the little gathering has attracted two other families into their fellowship.

Hearing that we were en route to Melbourne, K.C. phoned to invite us to Sydney. So we are here!

In Sydney are also our good friend Rev Moon Kwang Sik of the Pure Presbyterian Church. (It was he who got leaders of his church to visit S'pore. In June this year we were invited to Korea whereby our friendships were strengthened.) Also hearing of our coming Pastor Moon scheduled me to preached at their church, about 50 in number. This gave our own members an opportunity to worship with the Koreans. My message was "The Sevenfold Will of God."

Koreans establish Churches wherever they go more than Chinese their restaurants. In Sydney alone there are 100 of them. Rev Moon, recently moved up from Adelaide where the Paauwes are, bought over their church from an Egyptian Evangelical congregation for only A\$250,000. As many of the younger generation have scattered leaving behind the oldsters, this is the way of the flesh.

29 including children gathered Sunday afternoon for worship at Sis York Hoon's glass house, where we are lodged. Here is seating space for 100, an instant Church! Mima came in

handy to play the piano. I spoke on Rom 8:28-39, "The Christian's Victory over a Hostile World."

Monday morning Maureen and York Hoon took us on a harbour tour which we enjoyed. In the evening K.C. and Maureen gave us a Hokkien Mee - Port Rib dinner sweetened with Otah and Glutinous Black Rice with coconut milk. It was a feast. Apart from Rev & Mrs Moon, Dr & Mrs Ng Eng Kee were also at the table. Brother of Dr Peter Ng, Dr Eng Kee is a well-known Acupuncture Doctor. An ordained minister he established the Evangel Bible 5 years ago. Worshipping at a school their attendance is 80-100.

Having found good friends in the Lord here, I have advised BPs here to invite Pastor Moon and Dr Eng Kee to the pulpit. Eld Khoo can divert to Sydney alternately. With such a nucleus a BPC for Sydney can take-off. To encourage them to launch out into the deep is our Mission.

Latest — Evergreen Chapel!

Accelerating God's Kingdom into Burma and Philippines thru newly built Evergreen Chapel! When I was told a fortnight ago the reason why the Burmese Service on Lord's Day afternoon did not grow because of its odd hour, the Lord showed me there's one last frontier at 9A we could develop to meet their need. It's the corridor behind FEK abutting the side road with "Family Planning." That our mason Mr Goh was immediately available for the job confirmed in me His added blessing. Praise the Lord, if you turn left from the former Jerusalem Court, you'll see our new semi-open worship place named "Evergreen Chapel." Visit this newest addition and you'll know why. For it is flanked on one side by a fence of thick foliage from self-growing shrubbery and a young coconut palm. The floor is paved with green-checker tiles to accentuate the green environment. Measuring 10' by 42' with a roof covering half the area, it is a semi-open chapel allowing much fresh air and sunshine. It can seat 40-50.

Built at the instance of the Burmese Service which should move up to 9.00 am every Sunday, its next tenant is the Filipina Fellowship (Eduardo Morante). Others who would use the "Evergreen Chapel," please come and see me. (God's Kingdom is a growing enterprise.) —T.T.

TESTIMONY

My parents died when I was three years old, leaving behind four sisters and two brothers and me. We were brought up by our late grandmother. She believed in ancestral worship and we naturally followed her belief. I remembered when I was young I delighted in every ancestral worship festival because it was the day when a feast was laid before the ancestral altar for worship. The food would eventually end up being eaten by us with relish as such sumptuous food was hard to come by during those days of poverty.

When I was 13 years old, my third sister came home one day from school to tell us that she had accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour and would witness to us. Her involvement in church upset the family. She suffered persecutions and I remembered that I ridiculed her as being "brainwashed" by cults. Truly, I was in total darkness. Throughout these trials which my sister suffered, I could see an air of serenity about her. She persevered in her faith and I was touched and curious to know who her God is. One day she gave me a small pocket New Testament.

Being so afraid to read the Bible in the visible view of my eldest sister, I would hide in the toilet to pore through the four gospels. I cried in tears as I read the sufferings of Christ even though He had done so much good for the people yet He was nailed to the cross by them. I realized that He had to die on the cross as an atonement for our sins so that those who believe in Him would have everlasting life.

It was in the toilet (though it may seem an unexpected place) that God saved me from eternal damnation as I confessed my sins asking for His forgiveness and accepted Jesus Christ into my heart.

Up to now, I thank God that He had saved me by His grace and also my two brothers and three sisters. I do hope that one day my eldest sister would too come to know the Lord.

—Quek Keng Khwang

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 25 - Dec 1, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$8,275.00(8.00 am); \$12,395.75(10.30 am)		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: 21st CRB \$300, \$50; Mersing Project \$500, \$10, \$300, \$50, \$600, \$200, \$300(coinaton); Jack Sin \$320; C Seet \$50, \$180, \$300; Ho Heng Sau \$300; JJ Lim \$200, \$500; Missionaries \$600; Rev John Ling \$60; Children's Choir \$710.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF			
	2.30 pm	Kwan Yew Meng & Lim Soak Lee Wedding (Rev Stephen Khoo)			
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Christian Family</i> (Pastor Jack Sin)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bt Timah, Henderson.					
Verse for the Week: <i>But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Jn 14:26</i>					
Sunday School Offering: \$640.70; Attendance: 349					



Rev Thawm Lui and the Toyota minibus that was bought for him by our first contingent of 48 attending the Dedication of the new FEFST Building, Chinese New Year, 1996.



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 34

24 November 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn George Tan	Dn Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 31
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 33	Psalms 46
Hymn	No. 307	No. 66
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 183	No. 256
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 3:1-17	Num 32:23
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Christian's Change in Behaviour</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)	<i>Doing Nothing</i> (Rev Dr Goh Seng Fong)
Closing Hymn	No. 559	No. 382
Benediction		

WAS NOAH'S FLOOD LOCAL OR GLOBAL?

Until very recent times, the Church has believed in Noah's Flood to be a global flood. When I was a student at Faith Seminary, Wilmington, Delaware, 1948 I was taught it was a global flood. Sad to say, two new schools that were formed as a result of splits from Faith Seminary have now succumbed to the local flood heresy — in the name of "scholarship." But the sacred cow of "scholarship" has often been proven to be no better than a paper tiger.

The Scofield Reference Bible, first published 1909, has to this day bowed to the Divine text in solemn acknowledgement. It receives the sacred text in toto. The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, which we heartily commend in this Weekly, takes a stand with Whitcomb and Morris in a universal flood (*The Genesis Flood* p.1-35 and 116ff). In the Whitcomb and Morris treatise, seven reasons are given of which No. 6 is, to God be the glory, the Divine Knockout. It is Peter's statement on the Flood, the Holy Spirit speaking through him.

Did Peter say it was a local flood? Foreseeing rather today's despisers of God's power, Peter says,

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days

scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. II Peter 3:3-7

Indeed, Peter was comparing the watery destruction of the whole earth under heaven in Noah's time with the fiery destruction of the same in the endtimes. He spoke in the widest cosmic terms. The modernistic argument for a local flood is completely swallowed by his prophecy of a corresponding universal fiery deluge. If that is not enough here is our Lord's parallel declaration, "And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all" (Lk 17:26-27).

No man on earth, with his worm's eye-view, knows enough to prove it was a local flood. It is a matter of God-fearing grace to believe it was a universal flood as it is "through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which appear" (Heb 11:3). Those who vie for a local flood are like those who reject God had created *ex nihilo* (out of nothing): "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov 1:7).

(Another page for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary.)

FEBC Bookroom is a Gospel Munitions Depot

Every time the pastor puts out a new book, a portion is freely distributed to Lifers and some of our smaller churches. The rest are on display and sold to friends beyond our Church. Printing more than the usual quota, which makes it cheaper by the thousands, we are enabled to send, upon request, to God's soldiers around the world. FEBC Bookroom is, indeed, a Gospel Munitions Depot.

Though our books go to USA and Australia, Canada and London, most are despatched to poorer comrades in Africa, India, Burma, Sri Lanka, Saipan, ASEAN, particularly Philippines. The big Willmington's Guide To The Bible is also sent free on request to poor Filipino pastors.

The pastor has been invited to speak on Calvin at the ICCC 15th World Congress in Santiago, Chile, Feb 12-21, 1997 as well as to the Missions Conference of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions. As Spanish is the chief language spoken, we have decided to have the chocolate book, *A Glimpse of the Life and Works of John Calvin* translated into Spanish for the Reformation Cause in South America.

The despatch, every now and then, of our books to the aforesaid countries, is a humble and unseen service. If you would have a part in this

Gospel Munitions Ministry, please designate your gift to "Gospel Munitions." This will help also to spread the Reformed Faith in that Southern Continent.

As for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary, you will get one page of it in advance through this Weekly every week, we pray. In a recent issue Dr Jeffrey Khoo retrieves I John 5:7 in the KJV which is thrown out by NIV, e.g. An impregnable statement on the doctrine of the Trinity, it reads, "There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." With John declaring the Second Person of the Trinity as "The Word" in the Gospel he wrote, the appearance of "The Word" in his First Epistle authenticates its genuineness. Every Christian who loves His Lord bows to receive this sacred text, "but ye believe not (*you critics*) because ye are not my sheep as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice (*KJV lovers*)." Amen?

MISSION TO MELBOURNE

Tuesday, Nov 12 Wong Kai Chee and Maureen, our hostess York Hoon and brother York Lin (lecturer of law, NUS, making research in Sydney) gave us a delicious send-off lunch at a Chinese Restaurant. In 20 mins. we were at the airport. After an hour and 15 mins. we landed safely in Melbourne.

Sure enough James Sun, Bethel Secretary and devoted servant of the Lord was on hand to receive us with the church station wagon. James is a China relative of ours through his wife Melody He Qi. They have a music prodigy in little daughter Hannah now seven. They escaped from Communists and stayed at Beulah House for some time. James took one semester of study at FEBC before the whole family migrated to Australia. As they faithfully serve the Lord, has He not blessed them?

Immediately after arrival Paul Koh, wife and daughter drove us to Dandenony to a welcome Chinese dinner. We talked of old times when they lodged us a few days — we flew from Adelaide to speak at their Watchnight Service. This is our sixth visit.

Now we are comfortably staying at the new parsonage. It is like a resurrection from two old and dilapidated houses that straddled the Church compound. It forms a quadruplet with the Church auditorium. The old parsonage behind the Church facing another road is also renovated. This houses James Sun and his family. Whether Singapore or Australia, God has blessed BPs with good properties.

As in a previous year when I taught Revelation from "Coming World Events Unveiled" in three weeks, so will we endeavour to do the same with Daniel this time through "Visions of the Princely Prophet." Our study schedule covers Friday and Saturday nights, plus the Sunday School hour of the Adult Class. After S.S. the worship service. Sunday afternoon we go to the Sr. Citizens Home at Strabane. Sunday night, the newly launched Sunset Gospel Hour.

Joining a good church is of utmost importance to the welfare of our souls. The Church is our alma mater = kind mother. There are 120 regularly attending Bethel BPC. Had there not been the establishment of this church these 120 would have scattered, some never going to Church, others ending up in liberal or charismatic institutions. Dear Reader, are you attending Life Church regularly? One Sunday missed is spiritual starvation for one week. To fill the pulpit is our Mission to Melbourne.

Scottish Saying: "Many A Mickle Makes A Muckle"

It means many small amounts make a big amount. This I have experienced in our united efforts in acquiring Beulah House. Yes, we needed the big sums to add up to \$7.2 million in 6½ months to clinch the deal. But don't despise the countless small sums which made the big sums. No amount was too great and no amount was too small.

Now that we aim to complete the building of the BP Youth Camp, our resort for 300, this time next year, the accumulation of funds must begin with a constant watch. We need you who love His Cause to watch and pray with the pastor and give so as to swell the Fund. We will tell you the state of our Church Funds for this is everybody's project. "Many a mickle makes a muckle." — T.T.

TESTIMONIES

I was brought up in a Christian family. Ever since I was young my parents started to expose me to Christian teachings and beliefs. Throughout the first 6 years of my life, I considered the Bible stories told by my mother and in Sunday School simply as stories, not as facts of God's wonder and might.

During my primary school years, my mother especially, was trying to spread the Gospel to me. It seemed puzzling at first, for I thought that as long as my parents were already Christians, I myself would be considered a Christian too. However, that was not God's way. It was through a series of messages in Sunday School as well as in the Junior RPG that God revealed His will to me. Relationship with God was personal, and not as I had perceived.

During my primary three and four years, my sinful nature took control of me. I seldom prayed nor did I read the Bible. However, the Lord had a purpose in allowing that brief period of sin. I had a dream, in which I thought the Rapture had taken place. I was on the Earth, watching all the Christians ascending to meet the Lord. Yet I was not with them. The Holy Spirit troubled my heart, giving me no rest till I surrendered my life to God. When I shared this with my mother, she said that perhaps it was a sign from God to wake up, and come out from the darkness into the light. That night, the Holy Spirit touched my heart and I finally accepted Christ into my heart.

Ever since that moment, I have never regretted making that decision. "All things work together for good. . ." (Rom 8:28). It was truly God's will to put me through that trying period before He saved me.

—Lemuel Yiew Jinping

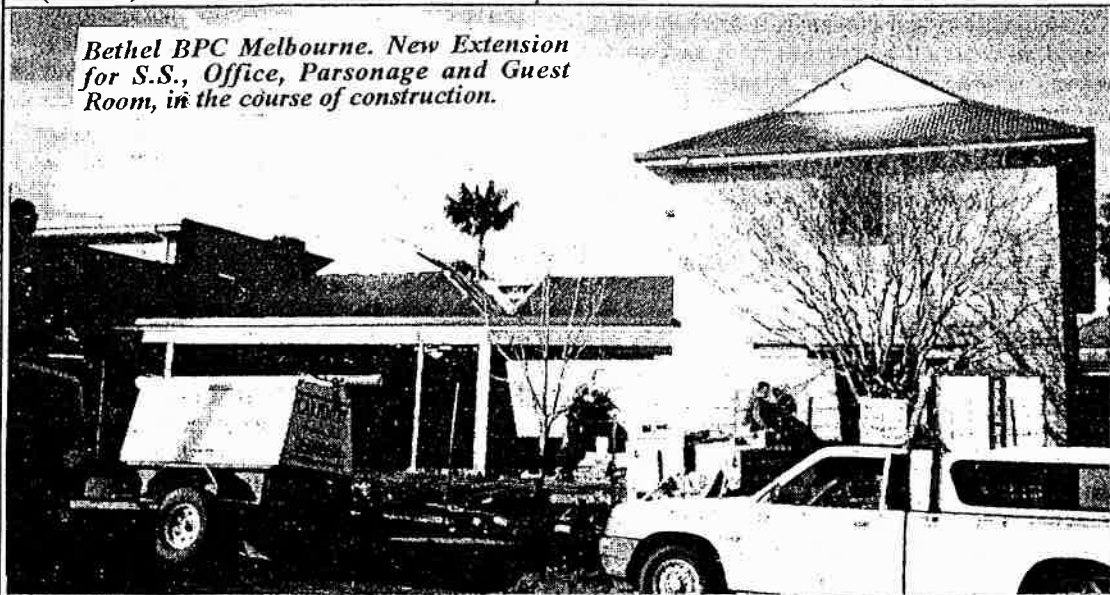
My name is Elizabeth and I came to the saving knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ when I was seven, during a Children's Choir Camp. It was then that I realized my own sinful condition and accepted Christ as my personal Saviour.

My life was a different one from then onwards. I had a totally new purpose in life — and that was to serve God and to obey Him. My parents, of course, were happy for me.

I am very happy that God has chosen me to be His child and I am waiting patiently for Him to come back again. —Elizabeth Tan

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 2 - 8, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.30 am	Rev Stephen Khoo & Team leave for Thailand	\$6,123.00(8.00 am); \$14,780.00(10.30 am)		
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Eld Mahadevan)	OFFERINGS FOR: Mersing Project \$500; Agape Clinic \$100; Missionary F'ship \$50; Yangon Orph \$100; JJ Lim \$100; YF \$50; Yiew PS \$100; MsF \$50; FEBC \$50.		
WED	7.40 pm	Rev & Mrs Tow return from Melbourne	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	(1) I enclose this gift as thanksgiving for my recent promotion. \$2500.		
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	(2) The 21st Century Reformation King James Version Study Bible. "O Give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth forever." Ps 118:1. \$100.		
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Ng Soon Aik & Ng Lee Lee, Rev Tow	(3) Thank God for being so merciful upon me. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. \$70.		
	6.00 pm	Combined Choir Rehearsal	Verse for the Week: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 1 John 1:7		
	6.00 pm	Gospel Mtg (Hokkien/Mandarin), FEBC Hall	Wanted: A person who knows or is willing to learn sign language. Please see Rev Stephen Khoo.		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Blessing of Friends</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo, Lord's Supper)	Gospel Meeting in Hokkein/Mandarin 7/12/96 at FEBC Hall 6.00pm. Speaker: Pastor Zhang Shi En		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Sunday School Offering: \$627.10; Attendance: 360		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Ser.			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok.					
Charles Seet's new address and tel no: Blk 504 Ang Mo Kio Ave 8 #07-2664, S(560504) Tel: 4556315					

Bethel BPC Melbourne. New Extension for S.S., Office, Parsonage and Guest Room, in the course of construction.



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BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 35

1 December 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Dn Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 24	No. 19
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Josh 24:14-25	Ps 107:31-43
Hymn	No. 91	No. 448
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 472	No. 378
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 3:18-4:1	Rev 13
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>The Christian Family</i> (Pastor Jack Sin)	<i>The Kingdom of God is at Hand</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 471	No. 105
Benediction		Lord's Supper

SPECIMEN OF MODERNIST DENIAL OF SCRIPTURE — THE FORMATION OF WOMAN

Here's another page from the Abingdon Bible Commentary stating that the creation of Eve account in Gen 2:18-25 "is not history, nor is it science" — it was not intended to be either.

Some would call it folklore, and would point to many parallels in the early stories of other races. It—to repeat a principle which ought never to be forgotten—must be remembered that each age, each grade of development, has its own special method of instruction, and that to a comparatively unsophisticated people such a story as this is the best, perhaps the only, means of conveying Truth. It is of primary importance that even such people as those to whom this narrative was first addressed should realize the great fact that man owes to his God his own origin and also every benefit he possesses. It is instructive to compare this with similar stories elsewhere, and to appreciate the religious gulf which thus early separates Israel from other nations. If any insists on calling this folklore, let him do so in all reverence, remembering that it is consecrated folklore.

From Creation of Animals to Formation of Woman the commentary reads:

Jehovah is deeply concerned with the interests of his man, and observes his loneliness. But he does not know how the need is to be met, and, as a first experiment, constructs other beings in

the same way as he had made the man—though it is not said that he breathed into them: In order to find out whether the experiment is successful, he brings the animals to the man. As each beast comes before him, he utters an exclamation, from which Jehovah judges whether the particular animal is suitable or not. Surely, among so many forms one at least will be satisfactory? As each beast appears, the man utters a sound, which becomes its name—a name is usually the first exclamation of the parent on seeing the newly born child; that is why so many Hebrew names are prayers—but though there is a large variety of exclamations, and, therefore, of names, the man says nothing to any of them which indicates that he has found what he needed.

21-25 Formation of Woman. The experiment has, therefore, failed, and Jehovah has recourse to a totally new method. He sends the man into a deep anaesthetic sleep, such as that which a divine power may always use when it seeks to work on man, and—though the man seems to know what is happening—without hurting him takes a rib from his side. This he "builds" up into a fresh shape, though he is first careful to close up the hole left in the man—he will not have his creature damaged. Then he brings the new object back to the man, and

is greeted with an exclamation which shows that this time the experiment has been entirely successful. Classical English has no phrase which comes near to being an equivalent to the Hebrew idiom here used. "This is the stroke" would be a literal rendering, and we may compare slang expressions such as "to hit the nail on the head," "this is absolutely it," to convey to our minds something of the feeling which lies behind the Hebrew words. Thus the words put into Adam's mouth by Milton: "... so absolute she seems, and in herself complete" (*Paradise Lost*, bk. viii, 547-8). Then follows the man's reason: the new being is of his very substance. So the exclamation for her shall be *Wo-man*, for "from-man" was she taken. The narrator adds a note to the effect that this explains why men leave their parents but not their wives, why they make new homes for themselves with their wives. Finally it is noted that, in the absence of knowledge, there is no such thing as sex-consciousness in them.

MUSINGS FROM THE MELBOURNE MANSE

Although Melbourne has no resident pastor, Jesus the Head of the Church has cared for the sheep of His pasture (Ps100:3) in a most marvellous way. Eld Khoo and his wife have helped out through one decade by their shuttle services. The coming of James Sun has also brought relief... There are many unsung heroes and heroines... to God be the glory!

North Thailand And Burma

Although your pastor is "downunder," his thoughts carry him to North Thailand and Burma. North Thailand, at this time, because our Chiang Mai Contingent is soon setting out with Rev Stephen Khoo, Dec 3. So, you are specially in our prayers. The Annual Bible Camp this year will be held on the renovated and "enlarged" Church grounds. This is an advantage because people in town can come to the evening meetings.

Burma also, because our Contingent will visit Tachileik on the other side of the Border at Mae Sai. Standing on the Bridge between the two towns, your left foot is on Burma and right foot on Thailand! And right by the bridge is the newly established Ev. Presbyterian Church headed by Thawm Luai. Two other EP Churches, some km away, are also straddling the Border.

Since Pastor Jacob of Tachileik has asked for help, I propose a preliminary gift of US\$500 for him by the Assist. Pastor's hand. The total

amount must be the Session's decision when we meet mid-Dec. Starting with 22 churches over a decade ago, the EPs have now expanded to 55 today. US\$2,000 from us recently helped launch the May-myo Church near Mandalay. If some one would add US\$1,500 to Tachileik, that would be sufficient to lift them off the ground.

Mersing, ahoy!

Mersing, nevertheless, is upon every Lifer's mind. Mersing is our greatest mission the next one year. "The king's business required haste" (1 Sam 21:8). So I expect to see a first draft of the Architect's drawings when we return.

Mersing is not going to be deserted like some East Coast resorts during the Monsoon season. Ours is going to be a beehive all the year round. A Mersing Church is in the offing, which will use the main auditorium or alternative halls. There will be units of flats for permanent or semi-permanent occupation to give life to the "village." Weekends, particularly, will see groups, come in for special meetings and recreation. Our 18 BP Churches and Fellowships in Malaysia will patronise this Youth Camp. The benefit will be mutual. The aim is to make Mersing self-earning and self-supporting as early as possible.

Pray for North Thailand and Burma. Pray for Mersing. Pray also for Kuantan when John Ling is getting Happy Kindergarten registered. Pray for Kemaman that the English Congregation will grow. Amen.

The Church Is An Enterprise

...and the pastor is also an entrepreneur. So the idea of a Christian bookshop was ours from the very beginning. That the College was able to buy back the book centre so that it is beginning to flourish through the unstinted efforts of lovers of the Bookroom is a sign of the Lord of the Talents' approval.

In the course of these 46 years we have ventured out so that one offshoot a year is our reward, e.g. Mersing, Kuantan and Kemaman in the last three years, and the stations nearer to Gilstead Road before these three — Tanjung Piayu, Batu Aji, Tanjung Uban, not to mention several new Burmese Churches through Thawm Luai, the mammoth establishments are New Life, Woodlands (1983), Beulah House (1990). But the greatest reward from the Lord is the founding of

FEBC (1962) pierce the three-figure barrier by Jan 1997. The recovery of Life Book Centre May 1996 must not be forgotten.

Extending God's Kingdom, like fighting a battle needs the foot soldiers, the consecrated missionaries sent to the field. But it is also the Pastor's vision and duty to make provision for His messengers abroad that they may not be in want. In this connection, may I appeal to each department and fellowship of our Church to put the Mersing Project, in your giving to Missions. I think an yearly tithe from each group, yea, the Sunday School and her departments, will be a great help.

The BP Youth Camp is specially tailored for you that jump and fly! Even for a picnic on a public holiday. Setting out 7 am and returning by 7 pm you will have spent a refreshing day on the skirt of the South China Sea, alone with nature. Not even a ship will invade her sanctity.

With the satellite islets less than an hour from Mersing where the waters are crystal clear you will be in paradise the better part of the day. As Mersing is a fishing village as well, you can enjoy ocean-fresh seafood to your hearts' content.

While our Camp in Mersing is a gift from the Lord for the refreshment of your body we must not forget to pay the Gospel debt to her booming population. A church service that runs every week using the big meeting hall is the least we can do. We have a parsonage to cater to visiting ministers (2½ hours journey) and eventually a resident one. We need an experienced administrator as Camp Warden. These are some of the newest developments you'll see, remembering the Church is an enterprise!

And it must not be forgotten that the BP Youth Camp must earn to keep herself alive — this by the lowly charges on every camper. "Many a muckle makes a muckle." — T.T.

Testimony

I came from an idol worshipping family background. At an early age, I was instructed by my grandparents and parents to pray and worship idols. My brother and sister did the same. However, none of us understood what we were doing.

During my teenage years, a Christian classmate witnessed to me. He reasoned with me that we are all sinners and need a Saviour. He lent me little booklets and Gospel pamphlets to read. My friend persisted in witnessing to me. My unbelieving

friends came to "rescue" me from his constant nagging. He was reprimanded, rejected and ridiculed. Though I remained quiet, I took sides with my unbelieving friends. I had rejected Christ.

A few years later, I was given the opportunity to study in Melbourne, Australia. I was to stay with my uncle who is a Christian. On Sundays, I had no choice but to follow my uncle and family to church. It was there I heard the Gospel again in a church. Week after week, the Gospel message "You MUST be born again" fall on deaf ears. I was encouraged to attend the church youth fellowship as well. Even though I was attending a Christian secondary school where God's Word was taught from time to time, none of these moved me. I showed no reaction to the Gospel.

This went on for a few months until it was winter holidays. My uncle and family, and church friends decided to make a trip to Queensland from Melbourne by driving up. My aunt asked me to join them. There were 12 of us in a 14-seater bus. The plan was to drive non-stop from Melbourne to Sydney. We were to stop over-night at a friend's place, and continue the journey non-stop from Sydney to Brisbane. The Melbourne-Sydney journey took 12 hours. When we got there, we went sight seeing and passed by the Sydney Opera House and spent the night at a friend's place. The following day, we took-off again for Brisbane. It was expected to take another 12 hour non-stop driving again.

The drivers drove for about 10 hours, and we were reaching Brisbane soon. All of a sudden, tragedy struck. Our bus skidded off the highway at a road bend and ran into the trees on the side. It was the Australian bushland. My aunt (who was the driver) and another church friend (passenger behind the driver) were killed instantly. During that time, I was sitting next to my aunt, the driver. I was totally shocked. We were later rescued and brought to the nearest hospital. After a few days of recuperation, we were flown back to Melbourne.

One day while studying in my room, in the quiet moments, I began to realise that my life was spared for a reason. The Gospel message became clear and real to me. I saw Christ dying on the cross for me - a sinner. Hallelujah! My life was gradually changed and God has blessed me much. Thank God for His Saving Grace and Mercy to me.

— Richard Lee Yew Fai

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 9 - 15, '96)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON - FRI	YF Camp, Rev Tow speaking	\$6,564.00 (8.00 am); \$13,010.75 (10.30 am)	
TUE 8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$200, \$1052(Chinese Ser);	
WED 7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	Mersing Project \$200, \$50, \$300, \$611, \$200, \$300;	
FRI - SAT	LTF Retreat	21CRB \$150, \$150, \$20, \$55; Lim JJ \$300, \$300;	
FRI 7.45 pm	Men's F'ship, FEBC Hall	Baraka BPC \$100; Rev S Khoo \$150; Gospel	
	Ladies F'ship, Beulah House	Munition \$200, \$300; Missions \$55; Yangon Orph	
SAT 2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 YAF	\$200; Medan(Dohar) \$50; Fr. Melbourne S\$1000,	
2.30 pm	Wedding of Chew Tyng Yong &	A\$50.	
	Goh Sock Huang, Rev Tow	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
7.00 pm	Combined Choir Rehearsal	(1) Thank God for His bountiful grace and mercy in	
SUN 8.00 am	<i>The Judgment Seat of Christ</i>	allowing me to obtain good grades for my exams	
	(Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)	despite having only one week to study. Please	
9.30 am	Sunday School	channel this small amount to the BP Youth Camp.	
10.30 am	Rev Tow	(\$30)	
10.30 am	Chinese Service	(2) To God be the Glory! Dear Lord, I thank Thee	
10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship	for our good health and your loving care throughout	
10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	the years for my family and me. Thank you also for	
10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	prayers answered. (China - Chinese Bibles \$100).	
12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship	Church Directory 1997. An email directory will be	
1.30 pm	AF	included. Members are requested to submit their full	
3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Ser.	name, NRIC and email address to	
4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45 Burmese Ser.	rogerkok@pacific.net.sg before 18 Dec 96.	
6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour	Men's/Ladies' F'ship Carolling Fri Dec 20. Meet in	
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah, Henderson.		church at 7 pm sharp. Visiting TTSH/Dover Hospice/	
Verse for the Week: <i>Blessed is the man</i>		AMK C Hos. Contact: For MF, Dn John Hoe 2303544/	
<i>whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are</i>		4563253(H); Max Ho 2703997/7664619(H). For LF,	
<i>the ways of them.</i> Psalm 84:5		Jennifer Goh 2996117(H), Grace Seow 4672285(H).	
Sunday School Offering: \$631.85; Attendance: 331			

BP's in Sydney worshipping at Sister York Hoon's "Glass House."



Ref

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 36

8 December 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Eld Geoffrey Tan
Opening Hymn	<i>New Jerusalem</i>	No. 46
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Ps 122	Ps 91
Hymn	<i>Yerushalayim</i>	No. 283
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 225	No. 406
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Isa 11:10-16	Psalms 12:6-7
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	<i>Israel Time-clock</i>	<i>Why Only KJV?</i>
	<i>of Messiah's Return</i>	(Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 340	No. 255
	Lord's Supper	
Benediction		

MISSION DOWNUNDER ACCOMPLISHED

By the Lord's Day Nov 17, we finished 5 chapters of Daniel. At 10.30 am the worship service began. It lasted 1 hr 25 minutes. The title of the Message was "Daily Security in a Hostile World," based on Rom 8:28-39.

Almost every Lord's Day there would be visitors. This time it was Chia Liang of our Chinese Service. As the Lord's courier he brought us "fresh from the oven" FEBC Bookroom's latest products — a smaller version of the pewter Jesus Saves clock for the table top, and Deborah Mae's Christmas carols on CD. (Chia Liang had come to Melbourne with 70 other Singaporean students to do a field course as part of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration.)

Immediately after lunch we heard Deborah's carols on the CD. We were so touched by her message in song that we introduced her to the Sunset Gospel Hour the same evening. My message naturally was orientated to the Birth of our Lord according to Gal 4:4,5. Closing the message with another carol, the effect of this unusual combination was electrifying. This Sunset Gospel Hour is patterned after Calvary's

Singapore.

Bethelites, without a pastor, hunger for the Word more than Lifers by far. Out of a congregation of 120, half that number would attend the class on Daniel and about the same the Sunset Gospel Hour. Mr Andrew Lian, a lay preacher of the Church of Christ, is a moving spirit of the SGH. Dr Stephen Lim who has joined Bethel from another Church is another gifted preacher. With more and more new friends joining us, Bethel is growing steadily. Henceforth she must learn not only to be self-supporting but also self-propagating. A first step is taken in her Sunday afternoon ministry to the old folks at a Christian Home at Strabane.

Lim Hai Seng (FEBCer '84) is now involved in a weekly outreach to school children by "sketch 'n tell." As he tells them a Bible story he would sketch it on the whiteboard. To further spread the Word he has recorded all my Daniel messages on video.

Tuesday Nov 19 Mr Lim Swee Hua, a self-retired accountant and newcomer to Bethel (now enrolled in FEBC's Correspondence Course) took us out to Philip (Penguin) Island for a picnic.

Returning, he invited us to his house for a Chicken Rice Dinner. Lo and behold, his wife is from Rawang, Muar, a cousin of Mrs Chew Kia Song! She promised to come to Church and hear us. They have a son a first year dental student who comes with his father regularly. Swee Hua has also written a series of tracts which Bethel Session has approved to be distributed to residents, particularly Asians, in the neighbourhood.

Sam Sum is an old timer who returned to Singapore because of the recession. He did plumbing, electrical and other jobs on both Beulah House and 9A. The lamps on the pillars of the Church-kindergarten porch were installed by him. When we were in Melbourne in 1990 he renovated one of the old outhouses of the Church at 10 Downing St. He is now back in Australia, for better times.

Another person from Singapore we met is Rev Ho Yew Sam, 83, an old John Sung timer and retired pastor of Zion Presbyterian Church, Koon Seng Rd. Four of his 8 children are settled in Melbourne and one of them pastor of a Chinese Church. We met Pastor Ho at the Strabane Home.

During the weekdays, friends both old and new have kindly invited us to lunch or dinner, at home or eating out. What we call *Dim Sum* in S'pore, they say *Yum Cha*, "drinking tea." *Dim Sum* suggests a lunch of titbit dishes, whereas *Yum Cha* has the idea of a more relaxed repast. Yes, life downunder flows at a slower pace, to be sure.

But, since land here is sprawling to lost horizons, as in Canada, members of the Church live as far as an hour's drive away from Church. Without the car, one is totally marooned. Since we live at the parsonage right next to the Church, there is no problem of transport. And since the Church is located in the city of Oakleigh, we can walk across the street for fish and chips.

To keep up our writing for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary, the Lord has enabled us to rebut the modern critics on seven topics.

While writing up for the 21st Century

Reformation Bible Commentary gave one the consolation that some progress was made downunder, our main job was teaching Daniel which we completed up to Chapter 9. My message on the Sevenfold Will of God touched on the Decretive Will of God in choosing us to be saved out of a lost mankind, not according to works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercies and good pleasure. On the last Lord's Day the attendance rose to 160.

In conclusion, here is an early Christmas Card I've received from an Indonesian Chinese student attending Bethel:

Though I just know you, for a very short time, but I want to thank God that through your service you taught me a lot. Not only thru the study on Daniel, but as well thru the books you have written. May God raise more people with manifold zeal like the zeal you have in Christ.

Please pray for me as I, by God's appointed time and will, will be sharing the old Gospel and the things to come in these end times to my family, friends, and especially my pastor and elders. So many churches in Indonesia are backsliding from the Truth, please pray for them also. We labour in God not in vain!

—Christian Tirtha Gow

Furthermore there came through the offering bag this communication (Gal 6:6) from a sister: *"It has been a blessing to hear God's Word from His faithful servant like you. Please take this cheque (\$\$1,000) with you to Singapore for preaching the gospel to all nations. I pray that God will continue to protect and to bless you and your family. I praise and thank God for raising church leaders like you."*

Finally, we praise the Lord for a good holiday and thank Him for journeying mercies and good health all the way. —T.T.

Pray for Rev Djunaidi whose recovery at AMK Hospital is slow. May the Lord have mercy. Pray for Miss Ng Peck Loan, now back to Chin Lien Bible Seminary, but she is still weak. O Lord, have mercy on all Readers who are sick. Personally, I caught cold in Melbourne's fickle

spring weather. Though Decolgen did help, what went to the head led to the throat. Eld Khoo's prescription and supply of "Robitussin" quickly stemmed the rising tide from within.

Reader, guard your health and thank the Lord sincerely for keeping you from sickness, particularly the elderly. It is no joke to get sick. Health is wealth, and I'd add, heaven on earth. Health is happiness. Health is power for the Lord's service. The Lord bless all who know how to give thanks in our Weekly Column for every goodness from His hand, including health. Amen.

Guide to Christmas Giving

Christmas is time to give, because God first gave us His only begotten Son to save us from sin and death. What to give can be a problem when there are so many to choose!

Most timely and heart-warming, you'll agree, is Deborah Mae's tapes and CD, particularly the Christmas Carols. The *Jesus Saves* Clock, which Dr Steele observes, tells the good news every second, minute and hour everyday! "Christ is the Head of this House" (基督为我家之主) should be displayed in every Chinese Home and its English counterpart, for the good of your whole family. The Parallel Bible Commentary, KJV, to every Bible lover, and of course the KJV Bibles of all sizes. The Chinese Bibles sell like hot cakes! These are just a few suggestions.

Word from Rev John Ling

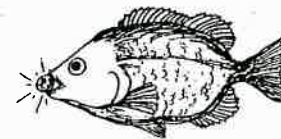
Three departments of the Government must approve our Happy Kindergarten in Kuantan. The Health and Fire depts have okayed. The last to have visited our premises is the Town Council. Pray that the Lord will move them quickly.

It is hoped that when the Kindergarten is running, a Church meeting will go on side by side. Rev Ling has an occasional ministry with Kemaman still.

Mersing, ahoy!

As you know, we've paid the full sum on the land. The architect will meet with pastor for final discussion after the Lord's Day. After the plans are finalised we must apply for change of use with payment of a fee. Pray that the Lord will move the authorities to action.

Was Jesus' Word to Peter on taking the coin out of the fish's mouth a joke, involving a touch of magic?



The Text: And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee. Matt 17:24-27

This account of Jesus telling Peter to go fishing with hook and line and find a coin in the mouth of the first fish he caught is one more miracle that delights us ("My sheep hear my voice" Jn 10:27). But it is ridiculed by the modern critics as follows:

The story of the finding of the shekel (Greek stater) has been made unnecessarily difficult by the evangelist's literal mindedness. As the record stands, it has a touch of magic for which there is elsewhere no warrant in anything Jesus did. It is highly probable that what was originally nothing but playful humor on Jesus' part, as he bade Peter get the money by fishing, gradually lost its true character, and was given the form appearing in the text. (Abingdon Bible Commentary)

Advice to critics: It is hard for you to explain away so many miracles Jesus had done. Better give up! (Another page for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary.)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 16 - 22, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$6,738.00 (8.00 am); \$11,978.00 (10.30 am)		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: EBF II \$2700, \$1800; Mersing Project \$10, \$400, \$210, \$30, \$150, \$300, \$611, \$432(Boxes), \$500(Kebaktian Ina), \$200, \$1000, \$2000; Seets \$150; Missions \$200, \$150; Yangon Orph \$100; Stone family \$200; Bee Choo \$200; Robert Peh \$100; Batam \$100; Children Msty \$50; Kemaman \$874.		
	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
FRI	7.00 pm	Men's/Ladies F'ship Carolling	(1) "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" I want to thank God for His unfailing mercies in leading me each step in my life. The Lord gave me a good job with godly superiors, love for my work and an early promotion. Moreover, He has blessed my marriage, helping both of us to experience love and joy, a deeper spiritual experience and sustaining our humble service in his vineyard.		
SAT	10.00 am	Covenant Ev. F'ship Wedding	(2) Praying still, not just for peace in this Land of God, but ever more for the salvation of Israel, both Jews and Palestinians. Praying, waiting earnestly for the natural olive branches to be grafted back into their own olive tree. (Romans 11). \$100 for Baraka BPC, Bethlehem, Israel. —a grateful past pilgrim		
	2.00 pm	Sun Sch Christmas Party, Sanctuary	Men's/Ladies' F'ship Carolling Fri Dec 20. Meet in church at 7 pm sharp. Visiting TTSH/Dover Hospice/AMK C Hos. Contact: For MF, Dn John Hoe 2303544/ 4563253(H); Max Ho 2703997/ 7664619(H). For LF, Jennifer Goh 2996117(H), Grace Seow 4672285(H).		
	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF	Sunday School Offering: \$589.91; Attendance: 300		
	6.00 pm	Combined Choir Cantata, Sanctuary & FEBC Hall			
SUN	9.30 am	Life Combined Praise Service			
	9.30 am	No Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.					
Infant Baptism, next Lord's Day, 9.30 am. Parents who wish their infants to be baptised please inform Church Office by Tue, 17 Dec, giving child's name, parents and date of birth. Church Directory 1997. An email directory section will be included. Members are requested to submit their email address, full name and NRIC to rogerkok@pacific.net.sg before 18 Dec 96.					
Verse for the Week: Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. Psalm 66:2					



After 50 years not riding a bicycle, Setsuko (FEBCer '84) has to pedal the two wheeler again, because Kobe's transport system is disconnected by the Earthquake. The box behind the saddle contains Gospel tracts and children's Bibles which she distributes to children coming out of school on their way home. She is one we specially remember at Christmas. Her address:

62-7 No. 2 Iwaoka
Kasetsu, Iwaoka 1268,
Iwaokacho; Nishi-Ku
Kobe 651-24, JAPAN



Rif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. V No. 37

15 December 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn John Hoe	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 26	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Ps 103	Isaiah 8:19 - 9:7
Hymn	No. 93	No. 151
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 183	No. 564
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 14:10,12;	Jn 1:1-14
Pastoral Prayer	2 Cor 5:10	
Sermon	<i>The Judgment Seat of Christ</i> (Eld Khoo Peng Kiat)	<i>How Should We Celebrate Christmas</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 255	No. 461
Benediction		

Why Only KJV? by Jeffrey Khoo

Text: Ps 12:6-7

Introduction

The Lord has not only presented to us His Holy Word—absolutely perfect and completely without error—by divine inspiration through His prophets and apostles during biblical times, He has also preserved for us His Holy Word down through the ages. There is no single time in history that the church did not have the Word of God. Although originally written in Hebrew and Greek, the Lord has raised faithful men to translate His Word into English so that we may know Him and make Him known.

Now in terms of English Bibles, there are at least half a dozen English versions of the Bible to choose from—besides the KJV, you have the NKJV, NASB, NIV, RSV, TEV, TLB, NEB, CEV Can all these versions without exception be regarded as the Word of God? Imprinted on the front cover in all these versions are the words "Holy Bible." Now the question we want to ask is: With so many modern versions available to us, why do we only use the KJV? Some of you here may not be using the KJV. For non-KJV users you must ask yourself: Is the English version I am using the Word of God? How can I know whether my English Bible is God's Word? Ask these 2 questions and put your version to the test: (1) Does it faithfully and accurately translate the original Hebrew and Greek Bible, and (2) Does it promote or demote our Lord and Saviour Jesus

Christ?

For our discussion, let us put 3 of the more popular versions to the test, comparing them with the KJV. We will see how these popular versions (1) are unreliable translations of the Bible, and (2) have demoted the person and work of Christ. We will also see how the KJV is reliable and accurate in its translation of God's Word.

The TEV or GNB and the Blood of Christ

How may a sinner be cleansed of sin? Only by the blood of Jesus Christ shed for us on the cross. For without the shedding of blood "there is no remission" (Heb 9:22). We are redeemed by "the precious blood of Christ" (1 Pet 1:19).

Yet the TEV (or Good News Bible) replaced the word "blood" with "death," or "sacrifice." This has occurred in these 10 places in the NT (Acts 20:28; Rom 3:25, 5:9; Eph 1:7, 2:13; Col 1:14, 20; 1 Pet 1:19; Rev 1:5, 5:9).

What is the problem with this? (1) **The TEV has changed the Word of God.** The word for "blood" found in all the above 9 occurrences with reference to the blood of Christ is the Greek *haima* (English: *haemoglobin*—"red blood cells"). The word for death is a totally different word in the Greek—*thanatos* (English: *euthanasia*—literally "good death," or *mercy killing*). By rendering the word *haima* as "death" instead of its actual meaning "blood," the TEV has **changed** the Word of God. A translation must be a

translation. You cannot in translating change the meaning of the original word. When you read your English Bible, you want to be sure that you are reading in English what the original Greek and Hebrew say. But the TEV prevents you from doing that. (2) **The TEV has twisted the doctrine of the atoning work of Christ.** It is important for us to understand that we are not simply saved by the death of Christ, but the death of Christ which involves the shedding of His precious blood. If Jesus were to die by drowning or had gone to the gallows (death by being hung on a rope or noose) without shedding of blood, His death would not have saved us. For without the shedding of blood is no remission. The blood is very important. "There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins, and sinner plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains." There is power in the blood of Jesus Christ. So by mistranslating the word blood, the TEV has robbed us of the significance of the blood of Christ for our salvation.

The NIV and the Eternal Generation of Christ

The eternal generation of the second person of the Holy Trinity (i.e. Jesus is the eternally begotten Son of God) is an important doctrine of the Christian Faith. The 4th century Athanasian and Nicene Creeds state that Jesus is both Son and God "only-begotten, . . . of the Father before all the ages." The Westminster Confession of Faith likewise followed the ancient creeds in describing the relationship that exists within the Godhead: "In the unity of the Godhead, there be three persons, of one substance, power and eternity; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son" (II.3).

All 3 ancient creeds describe Christ as only begotten, or eternally begotten. Now you know that every doctrine must be based on the Bible. Where in the Bible do we find Jesus being described as only begotten Son of God? If you have the KJV you will find it in John 1:14, and 3:16. But if you are using the NIV, you will have a hard time finding this doctrine in the Bible. The term "only begotten" with reference to Christ has been conveniently removed by the NIV. It mistranslates the Greek *monogenes* as "one and only." Problem is *monogenes* does not just mean "one and only." The Greek *monogenes* comes from 2 words: *monos* meaning "only" and *gennao* meaning "to beget" or "to generate." The KJV translates it literally and accurately as "only begotten."

Do you now see why we as Bible-Presbyterians cannot use the NIV? The WCF teaches according to the Scriptures that Jesus "the Son is eternally begotten of the Father." Now if I were to teach a class on the WCF, we come to this point on the eternal generation of the Son, and one of you were to ask me this very good question: "In which verse of the Bible is Jesus described as the only begotten Son of God?" If I have the NIV as my Bible, I will be dumbfounded. The NIV has removed this important doctrine of the person of Christ from the Scriptures. It has subtracted from God's Word; a very dangerous thing to do (Rev 22:19). That is why we cannot trust the NIV. Why? Because instead of telling us what God says, it tells us what man thinks God is saying. The NIV becomes an interpretation, and not translation of the Bible.

The RSV and the Virgin Birth of Christ

The precious prophecy of the Virgin Birth of Christ is found in Isa 7:14. The incarnation demands an extraordinary birth. This is indicated by the word "sign" in v14. The virgin birth was to be a miraculous sign.

But the RSV renders the Hebrew *almah* as "young woman." This does violence to the text. How can it be a "sign" when it is a "young woman" who conceives? It is a God-given miracle only if a virgin conceives. Moreover, the angel Gabriel quoting Isa 7:14 in Matt 1:23 translates the Hebrew word *almah* with the Greek *parthenos* which in no uncertain terms means "virgin." So, multiple choice question: Which translator would you trust: (a) RSV or (b) Gabriel? If you answer (a) = 0, if you choose (b) = A+. Matt 1:18, and 25 tell us very clearly and emphatically that Mary was a virgin from the time she conceived Jesus till the time she gave birth to Him—a virgin conception and a virgin birth. The RSV has not only (1) corrupted the Word of God by making the prophecy of Isa 7:14 non-miraculous, it has also (2) attacked the virgin birth of Christ.

Rabbi Israel Bettan, professor of Hebrew Union College, was asked of his opinion of the RSV. He said, "The Revised Standard Version is not a faithful translation, and in some places the revisers do violence to the original Hebrew. It is a good book on the Bible, but it is not the Bible. When asked to compare the King James Version with various translations, the rabbi said that of the English versions mentioned the King James Version was, in his opinion, the most faithful to the original."

Conclusion

The KJV is accurate in its translation of the Holy Scriptures, and faithful in exalting the Lord Jesus Christ. We cannot say the same for the TEV, NIV, and RSV. At various points they have corrupted the

Word of God, and attacked the person of Jesus Christ. How can we use and promote these modernistic versions?

We thank the Lord for the good old version—the KJV. Let us stick to it, for we have full confidence that when we read it, we are reading the Word of God. And it is only when we read the Word of God in its purity and accuracy, not a diluted or corrupted version, that God will bless and stir our hearts to greater heights of spirituality and service. Amen.

(Another polemical article for the 21st Century Reformation Bible Commentary.)

PASTORAL CHAT

Saturday week another Gospel meeting was held at FEBC. This time it was under the auspices of the Chinese Choir. The Lord's messenger was Rev Chang Shi En. Members of the English congregation also took part by bringing their Chinese-speaking parents. About 150 attended. Two hands were raised to receive Jesus as Saviour. This was not easy for old people are slow to respond.

After the meeting, home-cooked delicacies were spread by the Marthas of the Chinese Church. This gave further opportunity for fellowship and making of new friends.

From the Chinese Service is borne a first fruit in the person of Sister Bee Choo. She who has felt God's call to full-time service has at last taken the step to join FEBC Jan 2, 1997. All glory to God, the Chinese congregation is full of zeal to extend God's Kingdom.

Robert Yeo, Director of Helping Hand

Robert Yeo (FEBCer '83) is Director of Helping Hand, a Christian Drug Rehabilitation Centre. He is highly regarded by our Government. He has been requested to start a branch work in Cebu, Philippines. This will also give his trained staff, some also FEBC graduates, an opportunity to serve in a foreign country. He is sending a container of used furniture, utensils, tools, machines etc to set up house there. It would cost much more were they acquired new in the Philippines. Do you have any good item lying idle? Send it to Helping Hand. Who would give \$2,000 toward transportation charges? Lifers are also involved in social work which proclaim Jesus Christ, and this is what Robert is doing. Robert sends about 10 of his Helping Hand boys to FEBC night class, of whom several are full-time students. Praise the Lord that Singapore's Christian Rehabilitation Ministry has so proven itself that it is being sought after by the Philippines. It is effective, with lasting results, because Robert himself was once a drug addict.

Now that Jesus has saved him, he is moved to save others.

Other Institutions

In response to Government's concern for relief and other charitable works, our Church contributes also to a number of other institutions. Beulah House itself by giving shelter to passing through Christian workers and missionaries, to Indonesians coming to Singapore for medical treatment, is a work of charity to visitors to our land. "He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Deut 10:18-19). So do we give, extended shelter to FEBC foreign students during school vacation.


"As a bird"

During this season we see many of our young families vacationing abroad, some to Malaysia by car, and others farther away by plane. There are many hazards driving up and down the peninsula. Over 160 fatal casualties in one month! Do you pray for journeying mercies when setting out, and give thanks for safe return? Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

A change of environment is the essence of vacationing, but no sooner are you on the road than you will think of coming home. A week or two away is sufficient. Solomon wisely observes, "As a bird that wandereth from her nest, so is a man that wandereth from his place" (Prov 27:8). There is no place like home.

In this connection, God has led us to Mersing. Here is an ever ready retreat by the ocean, available any time at instant notice, where you not only enjoy God's country but also worship and fellowship with believers. When travelling we are often stranded in a spiritual desert. But Mersing will hold services on the Lord's Day even for vacationers. Pray for Deacon Victor Loo the architect (Messrs Ang Kheng Leng) that he will be guided by the Lord in the planning and drawing of the resort.

—T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 23 - 29, '96)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	\$8,954.00 (8.00 am); \$16,994.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	OFFERINGS FOR: Mersing Project \$500, \$20, \$20, \$250, \$500, \$2000; \$80(Cal-Pandan YF), \$500, \$10, \$100, \$1000, \$100; Robert Peh \$400; Tract Ministry \$20; Colin Wong \$100, \$200; Tape Msy \$20; Seets \$150; FEBC Students \$100; Lim JJ \$500; Missions \$50, \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$200; Medan Orph \$1000; Yangon Orph \$1000; Children's Msy \$600; RPG \$255; Rev Tow \$1000; China Missions \$160(Boxes); Batam \$150(LF); Tachileik \$2000.	
WED	10.00 am	Korean Christmas Service	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
	2.00 pm	JSM Christmas Service	(1) Thank the Lord for His countless blessings and mercies especially the gift of children. Psalm 127:3 "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Please channel my gift of \$2,855 to: Medan Orph \$1000, Yangon Orph \$1000, Children's Ministry \$600, RPG \$255 —a Lifer	
	8.00 pm	Sharon BPC Christmas Service	Life B-P Church Directory 1997 Preview. There are 3 notice boards displayed outside the Camp Registration Office - the 1st for surname from A to L; 2nd, L to T and 3rd, T to Z. For any amendments, please fill in Church Directory 1997 Updating Form and drop it at the Church Reception Counter or contact church office 2569256 or fax 2506955 or email: rogerkok@pacific.net.sg.	
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF	INFANT BAPTISM	
	2.30 pm	Roland Yeo & Teong Hui Chin	01. Goh Wei En, Marcus s/o Mr & Mrs Jensen Goh Geok Sing	
		Wedding (Rev Tow)	02. Seet Boon Hock, Michael s/o Mr & Mrs Charles Seet Chim Seng	
	7.30 pm	Session-Get-Together	03. Wun Soen Yeen, Elizabeth d/o Mr & Mrs Willie Wun Chung Toh	
SUN	8.00 am	The Second Advent of Christ Predicted (Rev Stephen Khoo)	04. Yeo Eng Hao, Joshua s/o Mr & Mrs Robert Yeo Yeong Kee	
	9.30 am	Sunday School		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service		
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir practice		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship/SBC		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service		
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
	4.45 pm	Burmese Service		
NBC This Week. Wed Bt Timah.				
Sunday School Offering: \$517.30; Attendance: 279				
Verse for the Week: And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11				
Rev & Mrs Djunaidi of Pontianak, W. Kalimantan. Since Rev Djunaidi came to Singapore 3 months ago for treatment of injured spine from falling into the river, Mrs Djunaidi has lovingly stayed with her husband in hospital night after night. At this Christmas season let us not forget them in our prayers, visitation and practical fellowship. Rev Djunaidi is still lying at Ward 2, Ang Mo Kio Community Hospital. (He is our Roving Missionary with a bi-monthly assignment to the B-P Church in Kuching (now under the support of Sharon BPC). A visit to Djunaidi by Sharonites will surely add to his recovery. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt 25:40). (Pastor Tow will visit Kuching in the New Year on behalf of Sharon BPC.)				



Rif

Vol. V No. 38

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime) 22 December 1996

HIS NAME IS AT THE TOP

I had the nicest Christmas list,
The longest one in town,
Till Daddy looked at it and said,
'You'll have to cut it down.'

I knew that what he said was true
Beyond the faintest doubt,
But was amazed to hear Him say,
'You've left your best Friend out.'

And so I scanned my list again
And said, 'Oh, that's not true!'
But Daddy said, 'His name's not there,
That Friend who died for you.'

And then I clearly understood
'Twas Jesus that he meant;
For Him who should come first of all

I hadn't planned a cent!
I'd made a Christmas birthday list,
And left the Saviour out!
But, oh, it didn't take long
To change the list about.

And tho' I've had to drop some names
Of folks I like a lot,
My Lord must have the most - because
HIS NAME IS AT THE TOP!

* * *

God Grant Us all this Christmas

To see a vision clear

The need there is for kindness

To them both far and near

Our selfish thoughts will crumble

As others' pain we ease

And in our deep hearts' silence

Will hear so gratefully

A kindness to anyone

Is kindness done to Me

The sights and sounds of Christmas

Will soon from us depart

The wondrous love of Jesus

Will stay within our heart

— Sylvia Wang —

MARY HAD THE LITTLE LAMB

Mary had the little lamb;
Who lived before His birth,
Self-existent Son of God,
From heaven He came to earth.

Mary had the little lamb;
See Him in yonder stall,
Virgin-born Son of God,
To save man from the Fall.

Mary had the little lamb;
Obedient Son of God,
Everywhere the Father led,
His feet were sure to trod.

Mary had the little lamb;
Crucified on the tree,
The rejected Son of God,
He died to set men free.

Mary had the little lamb;
Men placed Him in the grave,
Thinking they were done with Him,
To death He was no slave!

Mary had the little lamb;
Ascended now is He,
All work on earth is ended,
Our Advocate to be.

Mary had the little lamb;
Mystery to behold!
From the Lamb of Calvary,
A Lion will unfold.

When the Day Star comes again,
Be in doubt no more,
It won't be the Lamb-like silence,
But with the Lion's roar,

Paul Wagner

SEQUEL TO "WHY ONLY KJV?"

On Dec 16, Mr Tan Ming Song through email asked about the NASB (New American Standard Bible). Below is a brief comment.

Dear brother Ming Song,

I did not deal with the NASB because of time constraints. Are there also problems with the NASB? Although the NASB is a more literal translation than all the other modern versions, it is faulted because it is based on the Westcott-Hort theory and text. In using Westcott-Hort, the NASB has removed 1 John 5:7f which is an important proof-text for the Trinity. I argued for the authenticity of 1 John 5:7f in the Nov 10 weekly. You may want to look it up again.

It is significant that Dr S Franklin Logsdon, one of the NASB translators, later repudiated the version. [p.s. Dr Logsdon's testimony is available at the FEBC Bookroom, and so is Michael Maynard's tome on the Johannine Comma (1 John 5:7f) which is the most important work on the text produced this century.] —Jeffrey Khoo

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

I am glad that Dr Jeffrey Khoo's article last week has sparked keen interest in our Readers. Mr Tan Ming Song would like to know about NASB that was not listed. This week Dr Khoo clarifies.

Now we bring in the New KJV into the fray. Although we are not in full, hearty agreement with NKJV, we are happy to quote them in respect of John 3:16 where they uphold KJV against NIV in retaining the word "begotten," so as to substantiate the doctrine of "the Eternal Generation of Christ." For NIV translates not "only begotten" but "one

and only," leaving "begotten" out.

In its Preface, the NKJV states its position on "Complete Equivalence in Translation," as follows:

Where new translation has been necessary in the New King James Version, the most complete representation of the original has been rendered by considering the history of usage and etymology of words in their contexts. This principle of complete equivalence seeks to preserve all of the information in the text, while presenting it in good literary form. Dynamic equivalence, a recent procedure in Bible translation, commonly results in paraphrasing where a more literal rendering is needed to reflect a specific and vital sense. For example, references to Christ in some versions of John 3:16 as "only Son" or "one and only Son" are doubtless dynamic equivalents of sorts. However, they are not actual equivalents of the precisely literal "only begotten Son," especially in consideration of the historic Nicene statement concerning the person of Christ, "begotten, not made," which is a crucial Christian doctrine.

Controversy over "begotten" is most pertinent at this point of time when we celebrate the Birth of Christ. And remember, Christ saves us not only by His death and resurrection, but also by His Birth. "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons" (Gal 4:4-5). "The Son of

God became the Son of Man that the sons of men might become the sons of God" (Calvin).

The Message of Christmas, apart from glorifying God, spreads peace and goodwill toward men. This is the Great Universal Amnesty offered to all mankind. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). If you come humbly to him repenting from your evil ways, He will grant you salvation — even now. This is the desiderative Will of God, if you refer to my "Clock of the Sevenfold Will of God."

Peace and goodwill should also be the Christian attitude toward one another in the Church. "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Eph 4:31-32). "... if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye" (Col 3:13).

At Christmas we send greeting cards to one another. (The pastor thanks everyone for sending him a card.) We are blessed by the good wishes contained therein. It will be triple blessing if we will send greetings in Christ's Name to an offended brother or sister in the Church, forgiving and being forgiven of one another, that we may start anew, blessed of God and men, in the New Year. As I have said in my recent sermon, Christmas is the Christian's New Year.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

The Holy Spirit Will Tell You Which Version is Right (1 John 2:20, 27)

(I) "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" is what we read in the KJV.

(II) Now comes the NASB with another version, "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, among men with whom he is well pleased." So sez RSV, NIV, TLB, to name just a few.

How do we know which version is right and which version is wrong? The Holy Spirit who is the Supreme Teacher will tell us. One supreme guideline is if the Theology is correct.

Now, this editor says (I) as recorded by KJV is correct and (II) as given by NASB, RSV, NIV, TLB is wrong. What's the reason? The reason is (I) gives us the good news of a Universal Amnesty Offer to a lost mankind, as attested by John 3:16. God loves a lost mankind and He is saving us by His Son if we trust Him. So, goodwill to (all) men.

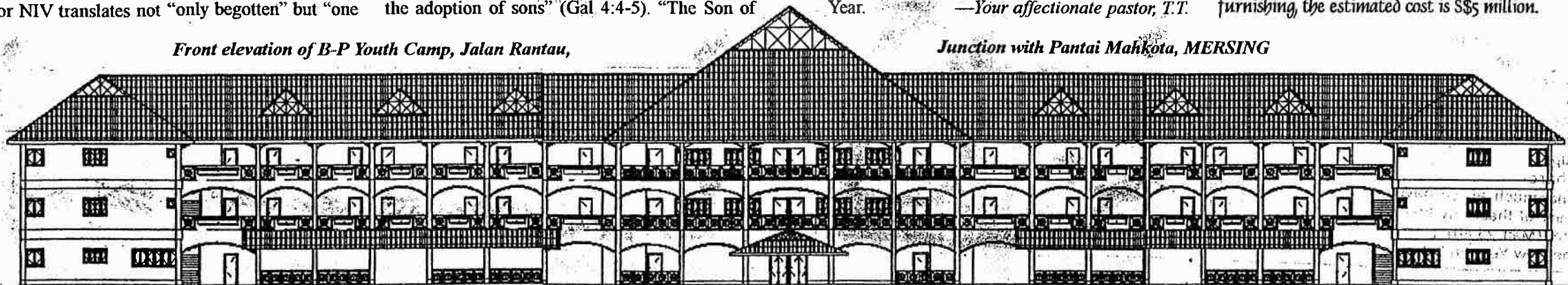
(II) is wrong because there are no men with whom he is well pleased until they have come humbly to the Saviour.

"My sheep hear my voice (Jn 10:27). ... And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him" (v.5).

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage" (Ps 16:6). See what the Lord is bestowing upon us—this handsome Malay-style roofed resort, with accommodation for 300. It is an elongated U Building, the left arm facing the South China Sea. Without furnishing, the estimated cost is S\$5 million.

Front elevation of B-P Youth Camp, Jalan Rantau,

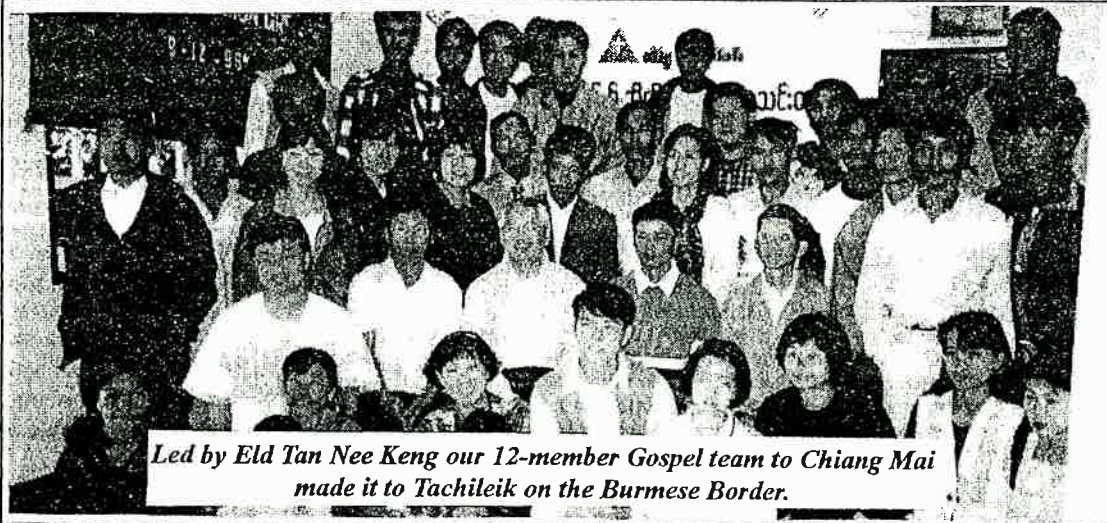
Junction with Pantai Mahkota, MERSING



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 30, '96 - Jan 5, '97)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS: \$32,219.00		
MON	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsals	OFFERINGS FOR: 21CRB \$30; <i>Mersing Project</i> \$1300, \$300, \$280, \$30000, \$2500, \$120, \$1000, \$7500, \$250, \$500, \$200; <i>Seets</i> \$150, \$200, \$300, \$500, \$250; <i>Missions</i> \$400, \$720, \$520; <i>Rev Stephen Khoo</i> \$1000; <i>YF</i> \$50; <i>Yiew PS</i> \$100, \$50, \$400, \$500; <i>MsF</i> \$50; <i>Baraka Conf Centre</i> \$400; <i>Dn Yiew's workers</i> \$50; <i>YAF</i> \$400; <i>Eld Khoo Peng Kiat</i> \$600, \$500; <i>Lim JJ</i> \$500, \$200; <i>Bee Choo</i> \$500, \$100; <i>China Mission</i> \$161; <i>Burmese FEBC Students</i> \$1500, \$100; <i>Settsuko</i> \$100.		
TUE	7.00 pm	YF/YAF Anniv, FEBC Hall			
	8.00 pm	Sharon BPC Watchnight Service			
	10.45 pm	Life BPC Watchnight Service			
WED	10.30 am	Wedding of Frankie Matius & Julia Kwok (Rev Tow)			
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Mike Tan & Sharon Zhu (Rev Tow)	CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERINGS: \$41,874.00		
THU	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Mersing Project</i> \$1500, \$2000, \$500, \$500, \$500, \$300, \$200, \$3000, \$7000, \$1500; <i>Church Choir</i> \$200; <i>Children's Ministry</i> \$100; <i>Seets</i> \$100, \$100; <i>Saipan(China)</i> \$100; <i>Overseas Missions</i> \$250; <i>Baraka BPC</i> \$200; <i>Maranatha</i> \$300, \$200.		
FRI	8.30 am	FEBC New Semester Opens			
		Day of Prayer, Beulah House			
SAT	2.30 pm	LTF/YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 LBC/EBF			
	2.30 pm	Berean BPC Wedding (Rev S Khoo)			
SUN	8.00 am	The Testing of Faith (Rev Stephen Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(1) Thank you Lord for your love and blessings upon me. —a grateful little girl (\$60).		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class, Beulah House	Life B-P Church Directory 1997 Preview. For any amendment, please fill in Updating Form and drop it at the Church reception Counter or contact church office 2569256 or fax 2506955 or email: rogerkok@pacific.net.sg.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	Catechism Class for Easter Baptism will begin next Lord's Day with Rev Colin Wong at Beulah House (Music Room), 9.30 am.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4pm Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Ser; 4.45pm Burmese Ser.			
	8.00 pm	Korean Church SS Graduation Ser.			

NBC This Week. Fri Bishan.

Verse for the Week: Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity. 1 Cor 16:13-14



Led by Eld Tan Nee Keng our 12-member Gospel team to Chiang Mai made it to Tachileik on the Burmese Border.



Life

Vol. V No. 39

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.

Tel : 2569256 Fax : (65)2506955

email : febc@pacific.net.sg

(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

29 Dec 1996

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	8.00 am	10.30 am
Opening Hymn	Dn Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Invocation-Gloria Patri	No. 151	No. 162
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 9:1-7	Mal 3:10-18
Hymn	No. 153	Bring all the tithes
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 230	Bring all the tithes
Offertory Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jn 14:1-3	Psalm 90
Pastoral Prayer		
Sermon	The Second Advent of Christ Predicted (Rev Stephen Khoo)	Moses' Philosophy of Life
Closing Hymn	No. 225	No. 21
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

How quickly time flies! Time flies quickly when we live in good circumstances—like a honeymoon, like going on a holiday, like enjoying study in a College, like living in peaceful and prosperous Singapore! Thank God for bringing us through another year in peace. Thank God for adding another year to our earthly life.

When time grinds slowly, then we are living in bad circumstances—like living with a quarrelsome spouse, like serving in a slave camp, like failing an examination and having to go for retest, like living under the Japanese occupation during WWII.

Yes, in wartime, as experienced by the older generation, "In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning!" (Dt 28:67). Because, living in fearful circumstances, time hangs heavily on our hands.

While we thank God He has brought us safely to the end of another year, what is regrettable is that much precious time has slipped through our fingers without gaining some profit for the Lord. The only way to redeem lost time is to resolve to do better in 1997. "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, . . . because the days are evil" (Eph 5:15-16).



The clock of life is wound
but once,
And no man has the power
To say just when the hands
will stop—
At late or early hour!

Now is the only time
we have
To do the Master's will;
Do not delay another day—
- Your clock may then
be still!



One area where those of you who love the Lord must consider is the full-time ministry. The full-time ministry is like the Lord's Vineyard where many jobs are available. First of all, there's ploughing of the soil to be done. Then the job of taking out the stones, the job of weeding the thorns and thistles, the job of manuring, the job of building trellises for the vine to climb, the job of harvesting, of marketing, etc., etc. Full-time ministry does not mean pastoring and teaching only. All on the staff of Life Church, the clerical and managerial, are in the Lord's Service—full-time.

One ministry where we will need many hands is running the BP Youth Camp. It is a

formidable frontier to be manned. We need all the expertise and devotion to work it to the glory of God and to the benefit of His people. But if you join us you must give your whole life to it—this is full-time ministry. We need a well-qualified Warden, first of all, to manage a big house that shelters 300! All other jobs will follow under the Warden! If you're interested in serving the Lord in Mersing, and that includes witnessing to a new booming, tourist town, please see the pastor. (Malaysians have first preference!)

Chinese Proverb: "Don't mention Tiger: Face changes colour." It means when one talks of money one brings embarrassment. Well, this pastor is not afraid of the Tiger! As in past days when we asked for \$5.2 million in 6½ months to acquire Beulah House (we had \$2 million reserves) the time has come now to tell you, according to the architect, that the Mersing Project will cost S\$5 million. (In S'pore it is \$10 million.)

Neither will the S\$5 million tiger frighten you who love the Lord. Think of it, the BP Youth Camp (as the Mersing Project is humbly called) will not only benefit the hundreds of our Church, but also the thousands beyond us. It will serve first of all Singapore BPs and after that Malaysian BPs and all churches that fellowship with us. Here, scores will be saved, and we pray for hundreds.

The cost of running Mersing will also be

substantial. But this will be recovered by giving good services to people seeking peace and tranquility from the hustle and bustle of the city. One special feature of our resort will be the provision of self-contained flats for permanent or semi-permanent occupation, to Christian retirees or vacationers. This brings added income.

Have you given your tithes to the Lord this year 1996? "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, . . ." (Mal 3:10).

*Bring all the tithes now before Him
Appear not with empty hand
God has promised you who love Him
Mercies and grace without end.*

*He'll cast from you every sickness
He'll prosper you with good health
He'll watch o'er your steps with all keenness
He'll give you power to get wealth.*

*Bring all the tithes now before Him
Appear not with empty hand
God has promised you who love Him
Mercies and grace without end.*

(May be sung to *Give of Your Best to the Master*, 1H 173).

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year in the Lord.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

MESSAGES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY TO MARCH 1997 (8.00 AM SERVICE)

Theme: Faith That Works Lives

DATE	TOPIC	TEXT	SPEAKER	CHAIRMAN
JAN	5 The Testing of Faith	James 1:1-12	Rev Stephen Khoo	Dn Wee Chin Kam
	12 The Source of Temptation*	James 1:13-18	Rev Colin Wong	Elder Han Soon Juan
	19 Listen, Receive and Practice The Word	James 1:19-27	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Elder Geoffrey Tan
	26 Favoritism - Violating The Royal Law	James 2:1-13	Rev Colin Wong	Elder George Tan
FEB	2 Faith - Dead or Alive?	James 2:14-26	Rev Colin Wong	Dn Yiew Pong Sen
	9 The Perils of the Tongue*	James 3:1-12	Rev Colin Wong	Elder Tan Nee Keng
	16 Wisdom - Earthly or Heavenly?	James 3:13-18	Pastor Jack Sin	Dn George Tan
	23 Warning Against Worldliness	James 4:1-12	Rev Dr Timothy Tow	Rev Dr Timothy Tow
MAR	2 Planning without God	James 4:13-17	Msnr Charles Seet	Dn John Hoe
	9 Warning Against the Rich Oppressors*	James 5:1-6	Rev Colin Wong	Dn Ong Eng Lam
	16 The Endurance of Suffering	James 5:7-12	Rev Colin Wong	Dn Wee Chin Kam
	23 The Prayer of a Righteous man	James 5:13-20	Rev Colin Wong	Elder Han Soon Juan
	30 Combined Easter Sunrise Baptismal Service (7.00 am)			

*Lord's Supper

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. (Psalm 119:130)

■ VATICAN CITY

Pope says evolution compatible with Christian faith

POPE John Paul has lent his support to the theory of evolution, proclaiming it compatible with Christian faith in a step welcomed by scientists, but likely to raise howls from the religious right.

The Pope's recognition that evolution is "more than just a theory" came in a written message he sent on Wednesday to a meeting of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, a body of experts that advises the Roman Catholic Church on scientific issues.

It broke new ground by acknowledging that the theory of the physical evolution of man and other species through natural selection and hereditary adaptation appeared to be valid.

Though the Pope made clear he regarded the human soul as of immediate divine creation, and so not subject to the process, his remarks brought banner headlines in the Italian press.

"Pope says we may descend from monkeys", the conservative newspaper *Il Giornale* said on its front page. *La Repubblica* said the Pope had "made peace with Darwin".

The theory of evolution, most notably expounded by 19th century English naturalist Charles Darwin, had until now been viewed by the Catholic Church as serious and worthy of discussion but still an open question.

"It is indeed remarkable that this theory has progressively taken root in the minds of researchers following a series of discoveries made in dif-



Pope John Paul: human soul not part of evolutionary process

ferent spheres of knowledge," the Pope said. "The convergence, neither sought nor provoked, of results of studies undertaken independently from each other constitutes in itself a significant argument in favour of this theory."

The theories of Darwin and other evolutionists about man's origins were for long anathema to theologians, who saw a conflict with the biblical account of creation in the *Book of Genesis* and the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

Most theologians no longer believe that the doctrine that God created the world and made man in his own image and the theory of evolution stand in each other's way.

Fundamentalist Christians who take a literal approach to *Genesis* have, however, recently reopened the controversy, especially in the southern United States. — Reuter

Our Comment:

With the Pope yielding to evolution but clinging to creation of man's soul, he joins the hybrid species of theistic evolutionists. He now believes man has descended from monkeys, when at some point in time God put the soul into one of them. So the ape-man became homo sapiens.

All this millions of years of man's evolving himself from a lower form of life is diametrically opposed to Moses' account of creation. Moses states that God made man directly and instantly out of the ground, hence God calls him Adam. Adam comes from the Hebrew word *adamah* which means earth "... for out of it was thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (Gen 3:19).

Now the Pope speaks nothing about Eve. From silence we deduce he is stuck for an answer. The Bible does not conclude Eve was another lump of clay kneaded to match Adam. It tells us Eve was "built" by taking a rib out of Adam when God sent him into a deep sleep. Which Adam immediately recognised when out of the divine anaesthesia to be "bone of my bone and flesh of flesh." So when God married Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden upon man meeting woman, He declared them one flesh. Whether woman came by God's special fiat or through the evolutionary process, the Pope has not dutifully explained. Up to now we thought he was a fundamentalist Roman Catholic.

Now, there are modernists and liberals among R.C. theologians who not only reject creationism (like the Pope) but also our Lord's virgin birth. Yet they are careful outwardly to worship the "Virgin" Mother. Does Pope John Paul II have reservations about Mary's virginity also? If he can reject one truth he can reject another.

(Another page for the 21st Century Reformation Polemical Bible Commentary.)