

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 8 - 14, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm Eschatology (Rev Tow)	\$19,718.00 (8.00 am); \$18,766.00 (10.30 am) \$23,925.00 (Watchnight Service)
	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$250; Rev Stephen Masila \$200; Baraka Conf Centre \$100; Cambodia \$220, \$250; Rev David Koo \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100, \$250; Children's Ministry \$885; MsF \$100; Rev Seet \$200, \$300, \$100, \$100, \$50, \$250; Rev Wong \$200, \$300, \$100, \$50, \$250; Christina Ho \$500; Henry Tan \$200; Tan Kian Sing \$350, \$500; Rev Tow \$200, \$100, \$500; Dn View \$300; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$500; Rev Subramaniam \$200, \$100, \$100, \$50; Chan Tat Wai \$150, \$300, \$150, \$100, \$50; Wendy Teng \$200; Phnom Penh Village Well \$500, \$100, \$200; Eld Edmund Tay \$50.
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$1000(Session member), \$500(Session member), \$100, \$100(Indonesian guest), \$100(Korean guest), \$400, \$2000(Session member), \$300(JSM).
WED	7.30 pm 1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$100, \$50, \$300, \$100, \$500, \$500, \$100, \$793, \$374, \$100, \$200, \$500(Session member), \$1000(Session member), \$50, \$1200, \$2300, \$5000, \$3000, \$3000, \$250. Grand Total: \$2,068,762.95. STOP PRESS! \$23,600; \$23,000; \$500; \$500(Moriah BPC).
THU	7.30 pm Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Audio recordings of sermons preached at Life B-P Church are now available on MP3 CD. Life MP3 Sermons Volume 1 (6 Aug to 17 Dec 2000) MP3 Compact Disc is now available at \$10 each. Total: 37 sermons in 23 hours. Interested, please pre-pay your order at FEBC Bookroom latest by 14 Jan 2001 (Sunday). You can collect your CD-R on or after 21 Jan 2001 (Sunday) from the bookroom.
FRI	7.45 pm Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm	Praise God for the gift of a healthy baby girl to Dr & Mrs Loh Keh Chuan on 3rd January 2001.
	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	Catechism Class for Easter Baptism will begin 21 Jan with Rev Colin Wong at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	
SUN	8.00 am What is Evangelism? (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am Sunday School	
	10.30 am Elder Khoo Peng Kiat	
	10.30 am Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	
	12.00 pm Burmese Service	
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	3.00 pm Thai Service	
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.	
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 106		
Verse for the Week: But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. I Tim 6:11		
Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Berean BP Church this afternoon.		



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Vol. IX No. 38

7 January 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 554	No. 30
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 10:10-17	Jn 3:16 - 36
Hymn	No. 252	The Gospel Bells...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 390	No. 273
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 28:19	Matt 7:1-6
Sermon	The Bible in World Evangelization (Rev Colin Wong)	The Sin of Talking Bad of Others
Closing Hymn	No. 469	Another Year is Dawning Lord's Supper
Benediction		

PUT MONEY FIRST YOU LOSE, PUT GOD FIRST YOU WIN

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church

10.30 am Service, Dec 31, 2000)

Text: Matt 6:19-34

Today is the last day of the first year of the Third Millennium. What New Year resolutions will you make? Young people especially. Becoming more and more a materialistic society, our Singapore philosophy is, "Get Rich Quick." Are you drawn to this rat race?

In our serial study of the Gospel of Matthew, we have arrived most timely at Matthew 6:19-34, Jesus' sermon on Mammon and God. What title should I give to this long passage? "Put Money First You Lose, Put God First You Win." May these two guidelines restrain you from the pitfall of financial ruin and keep you in the prosperity of our God.

First, "Put Money First and You Lose." "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal" (v.19). In olden times people would bury their treasure in the ground for security. But

thieves could discover the hiding place and steal it. Worms might penetrate to eat it and rust might corrode it. During the days of Japanese occupation in WWII we heard stories of such losses.

Today, we keep our money in the bank. Those who want to get rich quick take it out for more profitable investment. This leads them to buying shares, into speculative business. This is highly profitable but also highly unprofitable. For the stories I've heard of those who play shares are mostly tearful and sorrowful.

A friend of my sister sold her house for \$400,000. She entered the share market. She lost it all in a few months. She had to go back and work, and is now living in a cubicle. The thief of speculation stole all her money.

Moreover, there are those who borrow at high interest. Here is where the moth and rust of corroding high interest comes in. Should not they who are cheated by speculation turn back? Like gamblers (and speculation is gambling) they persist to gamble. They are then like the blind groping, but never finding the way out. "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" (vv. 22-23).

A Christian cannot serve both money and God. "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (v. 24). Therefore leave off your plausible philosophy, "Let me make the money and I will give even half of it to the Lord." It is as foolish as what an old Lifer newly converted but little instructed in the Word told the Pastor, "Pray that I will "touch" the lottery, and I will give 50% of it to the Church." The Lord has placed a curse on gambling by the VIII Commandment, "Thou shalt not steal." The element of stealing is in gambling. Do you know that? If you win, it is Satan's bait to greater destruction. But there is a difference in wild speculation and steady investment in Blue Chips.

Now, the second point. Rather, "Put God First You Win." "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (vv. 20-21). When you bank your money with God, you not only have 100% security, the centre of your attention is also God. You are led to increase in devotion and service to Him. "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you" (Jas 4:8a). What is one way of putting your money in the Bank of Heaven? "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again" (Prov 19:17). The Bible is full of instruction on works of charity and kindness to our neighbours, the sick and the poor, even foreigners who live amongst us. Be mindful also of the Levites in the O.T. and God's servants in the N.T.. Lifers have learnt this lesson well as reflected in the designated offerings on the Weekly's back page.

Paying our tithes is another way of investing in the Heavenlies, and the return of dividends is far better than from earthly investments. "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, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal 3:10). Jesus sums it all, "But seek ye first the

kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt 6:33).

What does a man need after all? Food and clothes for the body are most basic. Not luxuries and any wasteful expenditure. The Chinese, for this modern age, adds two more basic needs, viz. housing and travelling (衣食住行). In Singapore, housing is easily solved by getting an HDB flat with your CPF, and travelling by bus or MRT. A simple life style for the ordinary guy.

If you must have a car because your job requires it, God will surely provide if you put Him first. You can start off with a second-hand car. And that was how I was provided. At first I was riding a bicycle. After two years my father bequeathed to me his old 8 h.p. Ford Anglia. After three years I bought a new Volkswagen Beetle (for \$5,000 in 1955). It is good to live according to our graduated provisions. As your pastor I learned patience first before He blessed me with prosperity. We must all be tested.

St Paul sums it up most succinctly, "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. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses" (I Tim 6:6-12).

We are not towkays who own big possessions. Every Christian is a steward and is accountable to God how he lives and spends his money. "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's" (Rom 14:7-8).

"Put money first you lose, put God first you win."



The College reopened on Jan 2, 01 with an intake of 20 new students. They come from the following countries: Thailand 3, Korea 5, Nepal 1, Vietnam 2, Kenya 4, Indonesia 1, Malaysia 1, Cambodia 1, Ethiopia 1, Singapore 1. Total enrolment (not counting night students) is 106.

We have added to the Faculty Miss Carol Lee, B.BA, Dip.Edun, M.Edun, MDiv., an alumna. She is teaching a new course of study viz., *Theological Research & Writing*.

Dr Jeffrey Khoo, Academic Dean, is lecturing Jan 19 to 29 at the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology, Yangon, Myanmar (Rev Robert Thawm Luai), a final course in its two-year M.Min. programme. He will branch out to teach at the Bible Collège of East Africa (Rev Mark Kim) Mar 9 to 24. (He is taking over the English Class taught by Elder Edmund Tay this semester.)

Rev Dr Bob Phee was conferred with a Doctor of Philosophy (D.Phil.) degree at the Oxford Graduate School, Dayton, Tennessee in Oct 2000. His research was on the impact of American culture on the youth culture in Singapore. The purpose of his dissertation was to discover how the Christian Church culture could mitigate bad foreign culture among Singaporean youth.

Rev Jack Sin and Angela his wife are now at Pensacola Theological Seminary. He is pursuing the D.Min. degree and Angela M.A. in Biblical Studies.

The principal will speak at the Graduation Service of FEFST, etc. Jan 24-29 and witness the conferring of 6 M.Min. degrees on the Faculty of FEFST. Thereafter, he and his wife will be leading 50 Lifers and FEBCers in the 10th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Mar 7-23.

Sim Peng Sin, senior student, continues to press on with the work at Tangkak, West Coast, Malaysia. The latest is in the starting of an Indonesian Service. Rev Kim Kah Teck had a successful Christmas Gospel Rally in Malacca.

Mathews Abraham and wife Ratchanee,

having completed their respective studies at FEBC are now attached to Moriah B-P Church (Rev Dr Bob Phee) in the Youth Ministry etc. They have decided not to go to Pailin after due consideration. Nevertheless they will continue to stay at Beulah House.

FEBC Publishing Ministry. The Principal's Autobiography, 448 pages, *Son of a Mother's Vow* is in the press and would be ready by Feb 01. The Faculty is also considering a 21st Century Reformation Bible Study Commentary Project. This will cover the 66 Books of the Bible. Visit the FEBC Bookroom, where all the wise people meet! The big JESUS SAVES wall clock is now available, \$15 each. The 2001 Life Church Calendar will come off the Press, Jan 16, 01. Sorry for the delay. —T.T.

CPF investors: 3 in 5 make losses

They make less than 2.5-per-cent interest paid if funds not touched

Nearly three in five people who took advantage of the Central Provident Fund's (CPF) Investment Scheme last year — more than a quarter of a million members — would have done better if they had left their money in their CPF accounts.

Figures released yesterday by the CPF Board showed that some 56 per cent of the total 494,725 CPF investment-account holders made less than the 2.5-per-cent interest they would have got if they had just left their CPF funds alone.

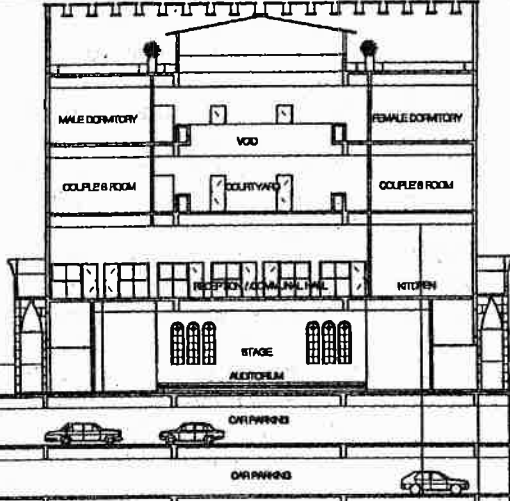
Total losses suffered by investors, including the national loss of interest that they could have earned, amounted to some \$484 million for the financial year to Sept 30, 2000.

Of the nearly 278,000 people who incurred losses after accounting for interest foregone, 67 per cent of them nursed losses of less than \$1,000 each.

And just under 7 per cent of this group - or nearly 19,000 people - were hit by net losses of more than \$5,000 each.

And just under 95,000 people - nearly a fifth of the scheme's membership - incurred outright losses, even before lost interest was taken into account. This loss amounted to just over \$265 million.

—The Straits Times, Jan 4, 2001

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 15 - 21, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$10,403.00 (8.00 am); \$18,640.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; JS Heng \$100; Cambodia \$300; \$1000, \$315.50; Cambodia Orph \$500, \$60; Pallin Orph \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$200; Missions \$1000; Myanmar Missions \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$60; Nirands \$1000; FEBC \$150; Chan Tat Wai \$200; Rev Seet \$100, \$1000; Rev Wong \$150, \$1000; Rev Tow \$120, \$1000; Phnom Penh Village Well \$5000, \$5000(Loan); Ng Sang Chiew \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$750. MERISING YOUTH CAMP: \$50, \$740, \$3000, \$500, \$200, \$700, \$500, \$50, \$400, \$100, \$1000(Boxes). NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$220, \$1000, \$200, \$200, \$1000, \$500, \$350, \$100, \$4000. Grand Total: \$2,124,032.95. STOP PRESS! \$700, \$1550(Members of Calvary-Tengah).	
WED	7.30 pm 1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)		
	8.00 pm Session Mtg		
THU	7.30 pm Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)		
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF; 3.30 EBF		
SUN	6.00 pm AF Anniv., FEBC Hall (Rev Tow)		
	8.00 am What It Means to be a World Christian (Rev Goh Seng Fong)		
	8.00 am Children's Ministry		
	9.30 am Sunday School		
	9.30 am Catechism Class, FEBC Hall		
	10.30 am Rev Tow		
	10.30 am Chinese Service		
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship		
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr-Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice		
	12.00 pm Burmese Service		
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	12.45 pm Evangelism		
	3.00 pm Thai Service		
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service		
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 94		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.			
Verse for the Week: <i>Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.</i> 1 Tim 6:12			
Rev Tow is preaching at the Chinese Service and Rev Colin Wong at Maranatha BPC this morning.			
		<p align="center">Cross Section of New Beulah House</p>	



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Vol. IX No. 39

14 January 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 60	No. 209
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 10:9-17	Psalms 51
Hymn	No. 285	No. 189
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 105	No. 563
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 2:1-5	Matt 18:21-35
Sermon	What Is Evangelism? (Rev Charles Seet)	Forgiveness Unlimited (Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)
Closing Hymn	No. 457	No. 114
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

THE SIN OF TALKING BAD OF OTHERS

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church
10.30 am Service, Jan 7, 01)

Text: Matt 7:1-6

There is another passage of Scripture where we are told to judge. To judge between brothers in dispute, than let them go to court to be judged by unbelievers. This is recorded in I Cor 6:1-8. The Church should be able to settle any disputes between its members.

So, the Church has its own judiciary. The Session may appoint a committee from its own members to judge a case of adultery, for example, and excommunicate the guilty party. If this is disputed, the disputing party may bring it to a higher authority, the Presbytery. This is insofar as our Presbyterian system is concerned.

The text for our message, titled, *The Sin of Talking Bad of Others* speaks not of the act of a Church judiciary, but rather of passing unjust remarks on some other Church members. "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again" (v.1, 2). Such private judgment is totally uncalled for. We are all sinners. We have no capacity to judge our brothers in anything, for when we judge others we ourselves are

being judged. We can see the sawdust in our brother's eye but not the big wooden beam in our own eyes. Rather, what we see wrong in others is multiplied many times in our own. Calvin notes that Christians are all agreed that adultery is sinful, but when an individual is involved in adultery he thinks it is good. Let us repent first before anything else.

There were eighteen people killed by the falling tower in Siloam. Remarks were passed judging them as sinners above others. Such talking bad of others was rebuked by none other than our Lord Jesus Christ (Lk 13:4,5).

To judge from the pulpit is even worse. When a preacher passed judgment on someone killed in a road accident to be God's punishment, it was the most unkind remark that could be made. Rather, the preacher had come under Jesus' condemnation immediately himself. If he did not repent, he would suffer the same fate. Talking bad of others from the pulpit is talking bad five hundred times if the Church attendance that day was 500 and a thousand times if the 500 would tell their friends.

Our Lord's teaching on the sin of talking bad of others is we should keep our mouth shut. To backbite a brother is character assassination. The IX Commandment says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour." Even if what is repeated is true, it is an act of evil

against your neighbour because what is uttered is from a sinful heart. It is so sinfully human to exalt oneself and to put others down.

To talk bad of others comes under the category of gossip. The trouble with unspiritual Church members is instead of extending the Gospel they engage in gossip. This will result in counter evil speaking, resulting in hatred and quarrels. It is observed one hurt party may leave the Church. It is observed that from a quarrel between children the matter would lead to an altercation between the parents.

Let us not speak horizontally against our neighbours but vertically, praising the Lord. There was a Church worker who had a high esteem of himself. He had the gift of the pen as well as of the gap. He would cast aspersions against his colleagues but put himself up above all the others. One day I confronted him, "How is it I have never heard you say once, 'Praise the Lord' during all this time you work with me?" He was speechless.

The sin of gossip is observed to be practised more by the fairer sex. Whether female or male, here is wisdom from King Solomon: "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise" (Prov 10:19). There is an English saying, "Silence is golden." Solomon echoes, "The tongue of the just is as choice silver" (Prov 10:20). A loving Christian will not say anything that hurts but everything that heals.

Let this sermon on *The Sin of Talking Bad of Others* be further enlightened by the Epistles of James, Chapter 3. "My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire

the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh. Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace."

And let this sermon conclude with Jesus words, "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you" (Matt 7:6). How will destructive critics of others receive Jesus' teaching? If they repent from gossip, from talking bad of others well and good. If they persist in this bad habit, leave them alone. They will suffer for their evil speaking. They are like pigs not deserving to wear pearls and dogs not worthy to receive things that are holy. This is how our Lord will cast away those indulging in speaking bad of others.

My dear Lifers

I. Since I made the announcement at last week's Prayer Meeting, a couple has registered to join in the 10th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Meantime I've been in touch with Miss Davenport of Baraka Conference Centre. She says it is perfectly safe to stay with her at Baraka. Of course we will visit the

safe places and there are so many you can never exhaust the list. We have a few more vacancies. Register with Mrs Ivy Tow. The cost is \$3,350 for 17 days, Mar 7, 11.45 pm to Mar 23.

II. On the back page you will see a cross section of our New Beulah House. It is twice the size of the Old Beulah House, so there is ample accommodation for every department of the Church. There are two storeys of underground car park.

It is now on the shoulders of the Planning Committee headed by Deacon L S Pang to study through all the drawings, and make changes wherever necessary and report back to Session for final approval. To cut costs of construction is one consideration.

III. As for Mersing, we are still working on the CFO for our Resort, which the Malaysian Government has renamed Resort Lautan Biru, Resort Blue Sea. Let us all earnestly pray for the Government's early approval that we may enter our Promised Land. Who will be the first to use this holy site? Those who pray most?

IV. Last Lord's Day's response from the congregation to the Church's appeal for testing of bone marrow transplant for Chan Tat Wai was overwhelming. Over 250 gave their blood for the test. While it is our duty to do all we can for our brother, we continue to plead on bended knees for God's mercies. O Lord, we pray, have mercy!

V. Dr Teo Chong Gee, a leader of New Life B-P Church, London wrote in the Calvary Weekly that they will celebrate the 5th Anniversary of their founding at Easter, 2001. It will incorporate 50th Anniversary of the B-P Movement, so it is also planning a number of speakers on the Reformation leading to William Burns of the English Presbyterian Mission who brought the Gospel to our ancestors in Swatow and Amoy. As William Burns' first convert in Swatow (Tiochew) was my Great Grandfather, he wanted me to speak on W. Burns.

As he regrets I did not tell him I would come he will have this gap in the programme. Being convicted of the Lord that I must go, I have now notified him I'd be coming. He is delighted that due to some mechanical trouble in printing the

brochure I have come to him just in time to be included in the publicity. God knows!

If any of you would want a break during Easter you can join me flying out of Singapore Wednesday night. I have also to preach the Easter Sunday message. We return most probably on Monday or Tuesday. Pray for us that we might do well to God's glory!

Dr Teo Chong Gee will be in Singapore for two weeks from Chinese New Year. I have asked him to speak at our Prayer Meeting night Jan 30th.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

Dear Pastor Tow

It's with much thankfulness to God that He has enabled me to save and offer a \$100,000 loan for building His house of instruction and worship at the goodly Beulah land. Please kindly advise how I may take this loan to the church (procedure wise).

Also, I would like to offer \$5,000 as gift and another \$5,000 as loan for constructing a well in Jonathan Lee's place in Cambodia. This is so that our brethren there may quickly have clean and sufficient water to drink and use. We must help our poor brethren's **essential basic** needs in the midst of our plentifulness in Singapore rather than let the LORD rebuke us on judgement day to be bad goats rather than good sheep (Matthew 25:31-46). Also, please kindly extend an offering of \$500 to Preacher Ng Sang Chiew (attached \$10,500 cheque for these purposes).

Our loving heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus Christ have been very merciful to me and my family members in keeping us from all ills and evils especially when a number of my family members are non-Christians. Truly all thanks and praise to Him for His abundant mercies!

May the Lord continue to bless you with good health and strength as of an eagle (Isaiah 40:31) to lead and shepherd Jesus' church.

Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed - John 6:27

Purchased by His blood,

Anonymous sheep

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 22 - 28, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm Eschatology (Rev Tow) 7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$17,504.00 (8.00 am); \$16,051.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Rev Jonathan Lee \$640, \$200, \$50, \$50, \$200; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100, \$600; Missions \$1000, \$100; Calvin Loh \$300; Chan Tat Wai \$450, \$300, \$250; Rev Seet \$100, \$200, \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$100; FEBC Students \$40 each—Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, John Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Paul Sun Sokha, Peter Ty Seray Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Tran Thanh Minh, Chivan; Tan Kian Sing \$250, \$200; Rev Tow \$100. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$50000, \$200. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$300, \$450, \$2000, \$500, \$200, \$220, \$1000, \$300, \$1930, \$120, \$100, \$100, \$350, \$100, \$400, \$200, \$600, \$500, \$100, \$1556 (YF&YAF Anniv.), \$875, \$1525, \$2300, \$602, \$10000. Grand Total: \$2,150,360.95.	
TUE	8.00 pm No Prayer Mtg	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
WED	8.00 am Chinese New Year Service (Elder Su Ching Chun)	(1) Thank God for the second adjustment of my pay. (\$200) (2) Thank God for His rich blessings to my family and I throughout the year. (\$100)	
THU	7.30 pm No evening lecture 10.15 am Rev & Mrs Tow to Myanmar (MI 516)	Please note that there will be no Prayer Meeting on Tuesday, being Chinese New Year's Eve. Catechism Class for Easter Baptism begins today with Rev Colin Wong at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class. Life B-P Church Directory 2001 is now on final preview on the notice boards outside the EDP Office before going to the press. Church members are requested to verify their particulars. Kindly use the Church Directory Updating Form for any corrections and submit the form to the EDP Office latest by 21 January 2001 (Sunday). Note: Please do not write on the notice boards as it will not be updated. Mobile phone numbers are not printed in the directory. FCM Combined Mtg (for students from Universities & Polytechnics). Mon, 5 Feb, 7-9pm. Topic: Noah and the Ark - Lessons for Life. Speaker: Elder Boaz Boon. Those who need dinner, please contact Mr Lim Jun Sheng, 9228 9877(P).	
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF		
SUN	8.00 am The Missionary Call (Rev Colin Wong) 8.00 am Children's Ministry 9.30 am Sunday School 9.30 am Catechism Class, FEBC Hall 10.30 am Rev Charles Seet 10.30 am Chinese Service 10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship 10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship 10.30 am Children's Choir Practice 10.40 am Church Choir Practice 12.00 pm Burmese Service 12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship 3.00 pm Thai Service 4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.		
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 93			
Sunday School Offering: \$848.07; Attendance: 538			
Verse for the Week: Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. II Tim 1:13			
Rev Colin Wong is preaching at the Thai Service this afternoon and Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Philadelphia BPC this morning, the Indonesian Service in the afternoon, and Rehoboth in the evening.			



Life

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Vol. IX No. 39

21 January 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Geoffrey Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 46	No. 18
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 46	Jn 9:1-25
Hymn	No. 318	No. 295
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 565	No. 358
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jn 4:35-38	Matt 7:7-12
Sermon	What It Means to be a World Christian (Rev Dr Goh Seng Fong)	God Has Everything for You, But You Never Asked!
Closing Hymn	No. 469	No. 387
Benediction		

ON OPPRESSION, ENVY, SLOTHFULNESS AND COVETOUSNESS (Eccles 4:1-8)

Solomon makes a study of four social evils.

The first one is oppression—big fish eat small fish. It grieves him to see might prevail over right under the sun, i.e. in a sinful world. To see the oppressed having nowhere to turn, no one to help. Oh the tears that are shed in lonely misery! Is this not the picture of an evil society?

Such evil occurs not only in the secular world, but also inside an apostate church. "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation" (Matt 23:14). Is this not oppression, big fish eat small fish, to devour the livelihood of widows? We pray such evil may not infiltrate into true churches of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In order to guard oneself from being exploited I have taught my children and students to work hard and be strong, that instead of being gobbled up they may help the weak and stand up for the underprivileged.

Having nowhere to turn, men are tempted to hate life and to envy those that are dead and lying in their graves, and even wishing

they had never been born. Solomon tends to agree with them since under the sun, as he stresses again and again, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

When we consider the life of Christians who have passed on to glory, it seems that is better than Christians still living in the world. But a Christian, though suffering in this life must not wish to die early, because he is living to glorify God. Like the apostle Paul he is satisfied whether he is abased or he abounds (Phil 4:12). The opposite is true for the ungodly when they begin to realise there is God's judgment in the next life. It is they who should wish they had never been born.

Solomon having considered the hateful character of "the big fish" and the fate endured under them by "the small fish," proceeds to discover another evil. It is envy. When a man labours hard and attains to good success in life he draws envy and antagonism from all around him. And the higher he rises, the more he is hated.

Conversely there are others who become lazy and slothful. Not able to maintain their livelihood, they eat their own flesh. They eat into their own reserves. Idleness is a sin that inflicts punishment upon itself.

A Christian should never indulge in laziness. Here is Paul's injunction to the Thessalonians, setting himself an example to the slothful. "For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not

ourselves disorderly among you; Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you . . . For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat" (II Thess 3:7-10). Paul's injunction to work hard for one's upkeep became Margaret Thatcher's political philosophy. Quoting John Wesley's expanded teaching on Paul's injunction, Thatcher agrees, "Earn all you can, Save all you can, Give all you can." Under Thatcher's 11-year rule Britain rose to great prosperity.

While there are the lazy bones who would not work and thus they eat into their own flesh, there are those on the other extreme who work to gather an overabundance. The more they get, the more they want. It is like a friend of mine who entered the Post World War II rat race. He told me he must make his first million. This became his vexation of spirit. Did he eat with joy and satisfaction? He could never be satisfied.

The golden mean between the lazy and the over ambitious is to earn an honest living. With contentment he eats his meals in thankfulness to God. Paul says this is great gain (I Tim 6:6).

This leads us finally to what Solomon sees to be a covetous man. This arises from selfishness. Matthew Henry says, "There is one alone, that minds none but himself, cares for nobody. There is not a second, none to take care of but himself; yet there is no end of his labour. He will scarcely allow necessary rest to himself and those he employs. He does not confine himself to his own calling, but is for having a hand in anything he can get by. He never thinks he has enough. His eye is not satisfied with riches. He has enough for his calling, for his family, for living decently in the world, but he has not enough for his eyes. . . He denies the comfort of what he has . . . many are so upon the world, that in pursuit of it they deprive their souls of good here and forever."

Such a covetous man has no thought of God but himself. When he dies his possessions go to his distant relatives. What shall it profit him to scrape and grasp so much with not a thought for God and to relinquish a life's savings to them who cared not for him?

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

The tide of the world is so strong that it splashes into the Church, from time to time. Now it is in the matter of so-called Sex Education. They are teaching it in the schools. Must the Church follow suit?

Now, I heard it on the BBC they were teaching two ways of sex in British schools. Is the Church going to explain that to our children? Will it not contaminate their innocent young minds? Paul says, "I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil" (Rom 16:19).

Will Sex Education now invading the Church reveal to young people the use of artificial means for the act when they should not at all think of things far beyond their age? The fact is this is giving way to exciting young minds to adult misbehaviour, to say the least. It is notorious how even teenagers let go their passions in the homes of their parents when their parents are out. **Sex education will fan up this passion** and lead young lives to perdition when they should be concentrating on their studies. Show me where the Bible says we must teach sex education to children. When sex stirs up in the growing up ones, the Bible rather tells them to flee youthful lusts (II Tim 2:22). Discretion is the better part of valour. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

One reason why sexual sins are so rampant is the misguided belief in evolution. Since this is taught in schools that we are from apes and apemen, they live promiscuously—we can do the same. No amount of sex education will deter young people from living a profligate life. A group of teenagers in Australia lived together, exchanging partners. AIDS took over their lives. When contacted by a journalist they didn't care how short their lives were cut. "We live today, tomorrow we die. Finis."

Instead of sex education, the school should abandon evolution and teach creationism. But the fool has said, "There is no God." Rejecting God they are rejected by God. If our Sunday School will teach, rather positively, the holiness of God, little can invade the child from the unholiness of man.

These are two of the three double-storey bungalows renovated for our Mission to Chiang Mai where the Nirands stay. We visited them last December to commemorate the first anniversary of their acquisition at the price of 4 million baht. The exchange is 25 baht = S\$1. Life Church paid over half the sum. With the acquisition of the mission property the Nirands have now attained self-support. This will release funds for the support of another in our far flung mission fields.

On the back page you will have a glimpse of part of the 1000 who were attracted to Jimmy Rim holding a Christmas Gospel Rally in Pailin, Pol Pot's stronghold. See the yellow JESUS LOVES YOU T-shirts they are wearing for the occasion. The shirts are a gift from Korea. The Gospel message was delivered by an Australian missionary. Here is Jimmy Rim's report to Pastor Tow:

Praise the Lord!

Thanks again for your support and love. We had really wonderful first Christmas, 750 orphans and 130 and 300 government officers including governor. What a wonderful Jesus.

We have to move to another place for Good Samaritan Church BP Life, too many people come to Jesus. God bless these ex-Khmer Rouges even though they were murderers. Great time for them. Do our best and let them know Jesus, our Saviour. Please keep praying for this project.

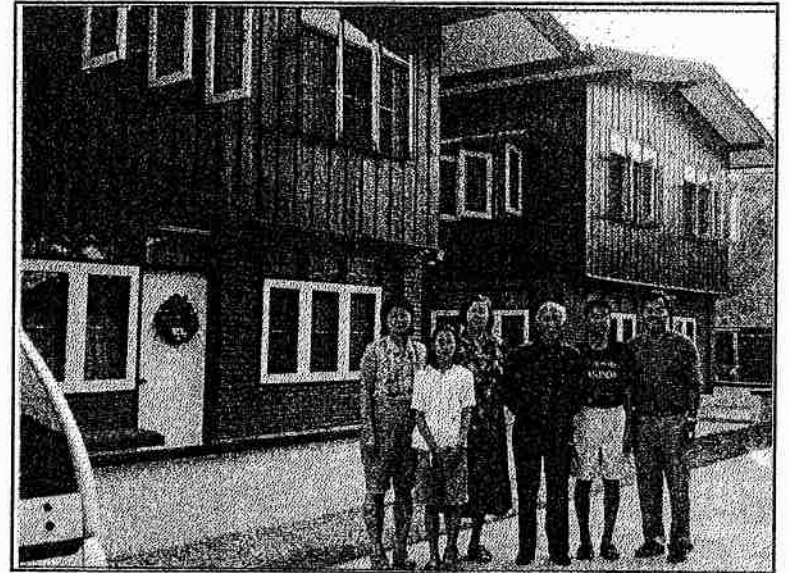
Once again thanks. God bless you.

—Jimmy Rim, Jan 9, 2001

We shared 1,000 pieces yellow T-shirts and will continue to share.

(Life Church's contribution to the Christmas Gospel Rally was US\$1,300.)

When an anonymous Lifer has saved \$100,000 for Beulah House and further gives \$5,000 to Jonathan Lee to dig a well for a poor community, plus a loan of \$5,000, we see here the power of widows' mites over the miserly rich. We thank God that this raises the confidence that Beulah House will be built, without curtailing the care of the poor, particularly Cambodia. May the Lord bless the anonymous Lifer bountifully.



The Chairman of the Project Committee estimated we would need \$10 million to build the New Beulah House. So, we are still \$7.8 million short. Meanwhile we should be accruing interest at 2.68% according to Citibank. With 1 million in bank, we should earn \$26,000 in one year. Money makes money. God wants us all to pool our resources together to gain for Him (Luke 19). Our Treasurer says the safest way to trade with our savings is still putting into fixed deposit in Singapore currency!

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

PS: Whatever FEBC Bookroom makes helps the New Beulah House B.F.

My utmost gratitude to all my brothers and sisters-in-Christ who had gone through the blood test in the bone marrow drive. I am also especially thankful to all who had helped out in organising and running the drive, namely Pastor, Rev Charles Seet and Rev Colin Wong for endorsing the drive, all the medical staff in taking blood and those of you who helped in the logistics and administration for that day. I thank God for your brotherly love shown to me in so many ways and I really hope that I would have a chance to show the same kind of brotherly love to you some day.

A special mention of thanks too to those who are my platelet donors, for taking the time and effort to help me in this way. You have helped me immensely in periods when my blood count was low and I was in need of transfusions. May the Lord continue to use you mightily in your service for Him.

—In Christ, Tat Wai

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 29 - Feb 4, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	4.55 pm	Rev & Mrs Tow return from Myanmar, MI 515	\$12,112.00 (8.00 am); \$18,641.00 (10.30 am)
	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$100; Cambodia Orph \$50, \$100, \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$400, \$1700; Surish \$50; Baraka BPC \$230; Myanmar Orph \$720, \$200; Chan Tat Wai \$1000, \$50, \$100, \$170, \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$150, \$200; Christina Ho \$150; Rev Wong \$50, \$150; Dn Henry Tan \$150; Elder Khoo PK \$150; Tan Kian Sing \$200, \$50; Rev Tow \$150; Dn Yiew \$150.
TUE	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$200, \$100, US\$200, US\$432.20.
WED	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Dr Teo Chong Gee)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$200, \$500, \$100, \$1200, \$350, \$150, \$500, \$200(Session member), \$1000, \$500, \$150, \$346, \$1080, \$120, \$100, \$1000, \$838(AF Anniv), \$100, \$1000. Grand Total: \$2,159,994.95. STOP PRESS! A\$100.
THU	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	7.30 pm	Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	(1) Thank God for good health throughout the year 2000. For not being sick or have not taken even a day's sick leave, I was given this annual health incentive. I hereby return it to the Lord for His care and graciousness. Thank God very much indeed. (\$300)
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(2) Thank God for 'peace' in the midst of trials (\$500 for Cambodian Orphans)
SUN	8.00 am	The Living God is a Missionary God (Rev Colin Wong)	Catechism Class for Easter Baptism at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Our condolences to brother Ng Beng Kiong and family on the sudden demise of his father, Ng Tham Chin, 68, on 25 Jan. Vigil service tonight will be conducted at 8:00 pm by Rev Colin Wong at Block 168A Queensway (Stirling Road). Funeral tomorrow.
	9.30 am	Sunday School	YAF Retreat 3/3-6/3. Theme: A Passion for Thee. Speaker: Rev Prabhudas Koshy. Venue: Austin Hills Golf Resort (JB). Registration opens now! For more info, contact: Edward 97689815/Jennifer 9796403/Lynn 97547106 Email: lifeyaf@hotmail.com.
	9.30 am	Catechism Class	Rev Colin Wong will be preaching at Berean Chapel this afternoon.
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service	
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	12.45 pm	Evangelism	
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.	
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Woodlands, Sengkang.		Sunday School Offering: \$640.90; Attendance: 363	
Verse for the Week: Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. II Tim 1:13			



Christmas at Phnom Penh, Jonathan Lee



Life

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Vol. IX No. 40

28 January 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn John Hoe	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 44	No. 75
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Mk 5:1-20	Psalm 48
Hymn	No. 452	No. 348
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 309	No. 403
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 9:1-22	I Pet 2:18-25
Sermon	The Missionary Call (Rev Colin Wong)	Are You Willing to Suffer for Righteousness' Sake? (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 416	No. 451
Benediction		

GOD HAS EVERYTHING FOR YOU, BUT YOU NEVER ASKED!

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church
10.30 am Service, Jan 21, 01)

Text: Matt 7:7-12

In spite of the Economic Crash in S.E. Asia Aug, 1997 and in spite of the Political Upheavals now raging in some ASEAN countries, we Singaporeans have never had it so good. Like the Laodicean Church, we have become lukewarm in our affluence and we say, we are rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing. But our Lord pronounces us to be wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked (Rev 3:17). He continues, "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." Materially we are well to do, but spiritually we are bankrupt. Our faith in the Lord has to be tested. It is neither cold nor hot. Our sins are a shame to His Name, and we need to be covered by the Righteousness of Christ. We are not born again and need the Holy Spirit to open our eyes that we might see God's Kingdom.

Being wretched, miserable, poor, blind, naked we have nothing that is presentable before the Lord. James says, "Ye have not, because ye ask not." We are poverty stricken. James further says,

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss" (Jas 4:2,3). It is like a member going into speculative business. He sells his house to "play shares." And he asks the pastor to pray that he might reap good profits. When he gets them he would give half the proceeds to the Church. Speculation is a form of gambling, and one is sure to lose as one indulges in it. This member is asking amiss.

God is a loving Father. If we ask Him to supply our basic needs, He will give us the best. Does He not teach us in the Lord's Prayer, "Give us this day our daily bread"? Will He give us a stone when we ask bread, a snake when we ask fish and a scorpion when we ask egg (Lk 11:12)? If you are out of job, pray to the Lord and He will surely give you. Many are the testimonies on the back page of our Weekly how God has answered prayers and so the thanksgivings of our people.

Why do some seek the advice of men and not the Lord? There are those who get sick and so they rush to the doctor. There are those involved with the law and they rush to see the lawyer. But they do not first ask the Lord, to their great loss. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matt 7:7).

What, above all, shall we ask? In a parallel passage on asking, according to Luke 11, the Lord recommends the Holy Spirit, God the Third Person who is our Comforter and Counsellor. We have many problems. For young people it centres on Career and Marriage. It

is the Holy Spirit who will lead us into all Truth.

In regard to Career, we read in the papers just two days ago how a good percentage of doctors, being pressurised with some 15 hours of work a day, regret choosing the profession. That's the reason why many leave for private practice. Perhaps, by God's leading they should have chosen to be teachers. Perhaps some considering the futility of earthly professions might yield to serve the Lord full-time.

The other area that concerns young people is Marriage. One thing is sure. A Christian cannot marry a non-Christian. In olden days when Christianity was first brought to China, Christian girls were few. Christian young men had to take non-Christian brides. As marriage was a three-tier family affair, parents had much say and influence over the young. The bride, under such influence would accept the Christian faith, so this became known as "marital evangelism." It is no more today. When one marries a non-Christian it is the other way. The Christian is dragged by the non-Christian into the world.

I had a case of a member of our Church marrying a converted drug addict. When their wedding day drew nigh the young man returned to his drugs. I refused to marry the couple. They got another pastor to marry them. Three months later the bride sheepishly confessed they were divorced. A case of not listening to the Holy Spirit.

I observe there are more single ladies in the Church than single men. Some, fearing the advance of years, succumb to marrying outside the rules, and suffer. Perhaps, a little more waiting upon the Lord was the answer. Such ladies should seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness first. There is the case of Ruth who clung to Naomi's faith. She would not remarry a Moabite man but returned with Naomi to Bethlehem. The Lord blessed her for her faith by leading her to Boaz. Thus, Ruth became the great grandmother of David. Wait, I say, on the Lord!

How shall we ask? A-S-K means we should intensify our asking. The Lord gave the parable of a man having received a guest in the middle of the night. Since he lacked bread he asked his next door neighbour to lend him three loaves. Though this man had gone to bed with his children, because he was his friend, he had to get up and answer his request. So let us ask our loving Heavenly Father, praying fervently and He will open to us.

During WWII we all knew how to pray. Amidst the bombing and shelling we all called on the Lord with tears and the Lord answered our prayers.

With many burdens on our shoulders, we should make it a rule to pray to Him when we get up in the morning and when we go to bed at night. One burden on my heart is our Mersing Resort. Being situated in a Muslim country we have problems surrounding us. Nowhere to turn to, I, as pastor, can only commit the matter to God. After many prayers I now feel relieved that He will take good care of us, sending his angels to encamp around us. No more, "All because we do not carry, Everything to God in prayer." The Lord has lifted our burden.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

In spite of the mammoth needs of the building of New Beulah House, why do we spend such a chunk of the Church's money on Missions? Because we must obey what is called The Great Commission, "Go ye into **all** the world, and preach the gospel to **every** creature" (Mk 16:15). I would call our Lord's Commission the First Commandment to the Church. And the pastor the First Missionary. The pastor must not be contained by the four walls of his Church. He must lead his flock to extend the Gospel as far out into the field as possible. He must be a Church planter beginning from Jerusalem and all Judea, to Samaria, even unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Inspired by the Great Commission, Life Church has gone to all the 10 ASEAN countries but one, i.e., Laos and beyond to Saipan, and the Holy Land.

It is good, every now and then, to remind members to pray for our missionaries, and give, according to the following countries:

1. Singapore, Filipina Fellowship, Mr Eduardo Morante
 2. Malaysia, Malacca, Rev Kim Kah Teck
 3. E. Malaysia, Kuching, Mr Bong Boon Chong (Chinese Service)
 4. Indonesia:
 - Batam, Mrs Roska Choi
 - Jakarta, Yusniar
 5. Thailand, Chiang Mai, Rev Nirand & Jess
 6. Cambodia:
 - Phnom Penh, Rev Jonathan Lee
 - Kompong Som, Rev & Mrs Moses Hahn
 - Kompong Som, Rev & Mrs David Koo
 - Kompong Som, Mr Surish
- 7 scholarship students studying at FEBC

- Pailin, Pol Pot's stronghold, Phannith and wife
7. Philippines, Cebu, House of Hope (part support)
8. Brunei (part support)
9. Vietnam, 5 scholarship students studying at FEBC
10. Myanmar:
 - Yangon, Rev Robert Thawm Luai (Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology)
 - Yangon, Rev Andrew Kam (Orphanage and B-P Church)
 - Chin State, Mr Amos Go Za Sum (Christian Primary School)
11. Saipan, Miss Ho Heng Sau assisting Rev Pang Kok Hiong
12. Holy Land, Miss Davenport at Baraka and Rev Danny Awad, new pastor

During Chinese New Year, I shall be leading a team of 6 Lifers and 2 Calvarians to take part at the Graduation of 6 M.Min. students from the school. Dr Jeffrey Khoo who is teaching the last part of a 2-year course is already there.

After FEFST we will visit the Orphanage run by Andrew Kam and a new church in a village 20 miles out founded a year ago. We shall not be able to see Amos Go Za Sum because he is several hundred miles to the north in Chin State. We are bringing 5 boxes of good surplus clothing for distribution.

Rev Thawm Luai's work of printing the Falam Bible based on the King James Bible is a great



undertaking and we wish to have first hand knowledge of their work in progress.

Burma is a land of 45 million with 4 million pagodas. While the Gospel has found very favourable acceptance in Chin State, it is resisted by the Burmese people. That Andrew Kam has won a number of Burmese families to the Lord is truly by God's special grace.

As we go to press here comes the good news that the CFO for our Mersing project has been issued. Praise the Lord!
—T.T.

A FRUIT OF BASC

I come from a non-Christian home. My parents believe in idols.

Before I became a Christian my behaviour was terrible, e.g., stealing, scolding bad words, I disobeyed the guardians. I was very lazy.

I first heard about Jesus Christ in BASC.

Last year, 1999 I went to VBS camp. In the camp I knew more about God and I received Christ as my Saviour.

After I received Christ I have changed. I seldom get scolding too. I thank God for that.

My wish is that my parents would one day become Christians as well.

—Joleen, Pri. III
BASC, Berean F'ship

Have You Heard the Call?

Across the sea, there is a place
Where God His servants has sent.
To tell the people of His grace
And what this Gospel meant.

To make known to them, this Jesus of mine
Who died to free us from sin
And see their faces light up and shine
With joy come only from Him.

To fill hearts full of worry and fear
With peace and hope and love
As well as the blessed assurance of
Their place in heaven above.

Earnest faces, thirsty and hungry
For the Saviour to know
Who will give up time and money?
And who for Him will go?

Joyce Gong

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 5 - 11, 2001)		
MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)
	8.00 pm	FEK Board Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's & Ladies' Fellowship, FEBC Hall (What you need to know about Arthritis)
SAT	2.00 pm	Rev Tow to Kelapa Sawit
	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Christian Mission in the Post-Modern World (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class
	10.30 am	Rev Colin Wong
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 3.00 pm Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Rev Tow at Indonesian Anniv. Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Thomson, Sengkang, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 105		

Verse for the Week: *I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.* Psalm 71:16

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
\$12,476.00 (8.00 am); \$18,308.00 (10.30 am)	
OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$200; Cambodia Orph \$400; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$142; Pallin Orph \$60; Myanmar Orph \$40, \$100; Nirands \$200; Rev Burt Subramaniam \$100; Chan Tat Wai \$50, \$100; Rev Seet \$100, \$100, \$100; Christina Ho \$1000; Rev Wong \$600, \$100, \$100; Mathews Abraham \$200; Quek Keng Khwang \$200; Rev Moses Hahn \$600; Missions \$100; Rev Tow \$100; Baraka BPC \$1000, \$1000(Holland); Printing of Rev Tow's books \$300. Chinese New Year Service: \$4,528.00.	
MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$1080.55, \$200, \$4900.	
NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$290, \$200, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$1000, \$200, \$1000, \$100, \$2000, \$600, \$200, \$3600, \$500; \$360, \$3200, \$100, \$250. Loan: \$100,000. Grand Total: \$2,274,144.95. STOP PRESS! \$1000, \$800, \$100(FEBC Student), \$100, \$1300(in memory of Rev John Ling), \$1000(Mt Hermon BPC).	

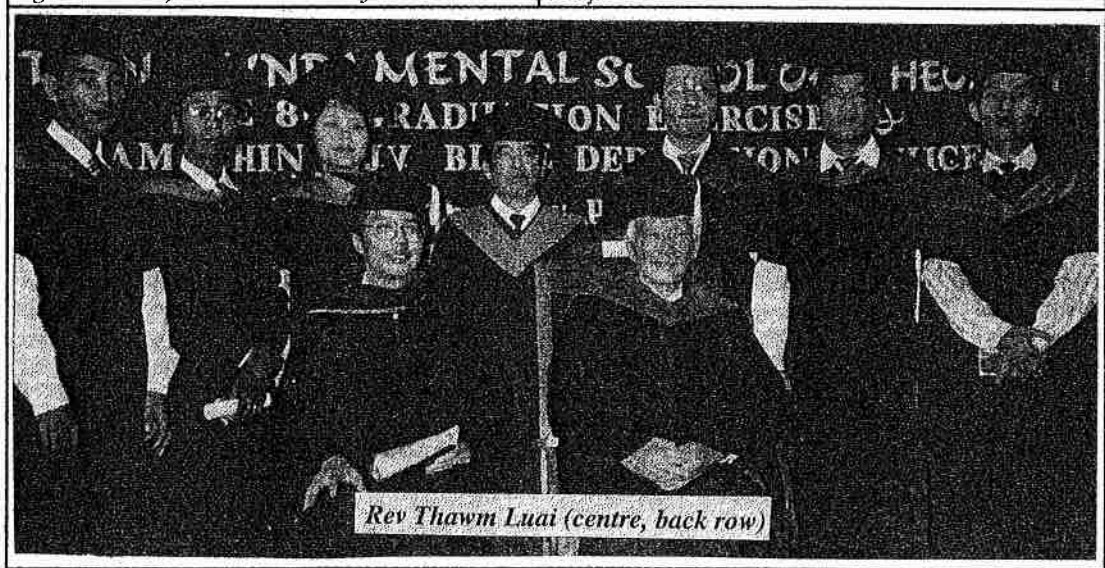
FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) A little token to thank the Lord for seeing me through my first year in National Service. To thank Him for allowing me to grow in His grace and for His reminders that I should live according to His way, not mine. That I should not conform to the world, but be transformed by the renewing of the Holy Spirit. Thank you, Lord, for loving us! (\$200 for Beulah House)

Catechism Class for Easter Baptism at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.

YAF Retreat 3/3-6/3. Theme: *A Passion for Thee*. Speaker: Rev Prabhudas Koshy. Venue: Austin Hills Golf Resort (JB). Registration opens now! For more info, contact: Edward 97689815/Jennifer 9796403/Lynn 97547106 Email: lifeyaf@hotmail.com.

Rev Colin Wong is preaching at Tabernacle BPC this afternoon and **Rev Charles Seet** is ministering in Batam today.



Rev Thawm Luai (centre, back row)



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Vol. IX No. 41

4 February 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"			
	8.00 am	10.30 am	
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Tow	
Opening Hymn	No. 33	No. 119	
Invocation-Gloria Patri			
Responsive Reading	Rom 10:1-17	Matt 16:13-26	
Hymn	Lord Jesus Christ	It's Not an Easy Road	
Announcements			
Offering & Hymn	No. 461	No. 324	
Offertory Prayer			
Pastoral Prayer			
Scripture Text	Gen 12:1-4	Matt 7:13-14	
Sermon	The Living God is a Missionary God (Rev Colin Wong)	Broadway? Narrow Way?	
Closing Hymn	No. 462	No. 179	
Benediction		Lord's Supper	

SELF HELP, WITH GOD'S HELP, HELPS EVEN OTHERS

(Message delivered by the Pastor at the 8th Graduation Exercises of Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology, Yangon, Myanmar, Jan 28, 01)

Text: Acts 20:33-35

I would like to speak particularly to you who are in the graduating classes of Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology including the six in the M.Min. Programme, and to all fellow ministers. My topic is *Self Help, With God's Help, Helps Even Others*. This is a very important principle which if you put into practice delivers you from a financially struggling pastor to a well-to-do one, able to help others. I do not give you a fish, but I teach you how to fish.

The principle is derived from Paul's injunction to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:33-35, "I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Take note that the Acts of the Apostles is not only a sacred

record of early church history, but a Divine Pattern for us to follow, inasmuch as the Epistles written by the Apostles are Sacred Scripture, infallible and inerrant (II Pet 3:16) and their preaching not their own words but the Word of God (I Thess 2:13). The Book of Acts is a Divine Pattern for us to follow, for Paul commands us, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (I Cor 11:1).

Now when the Apostle Paul said, "I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel" (Acts 20:33), he was referring to the financial help he received for his missionary work. When Paul and Barnabas went on their first missionary journey they must have obtained from the Antioch Church much support. And, we believe Paul and Silas were liberally supplied also in the Second Missionary Journey. When Paul came to Corinth the first time in the Second Missionary Journey he ran out of money. In order not to be a burden to anyone he attached himself to Aquila and Priscilla to work as a tent-maker to earn his own livelihood. This was only for a short time, for he soon left off tent-making and we found him preaching full-time again. God apparently supplied his needs through new converts. After the tent-making episode, we do not read about this job anymore. Nor of his relying on the Antioch Church which sent him on his missionary journeys. He had a noble spirit of self-support. He never thought that the home church or anyone owed

him a living. He coveted no man's silver or gold and apparel.

As young ministers starting a Church, or being sent to start a Church, it is legitimate that you be adequately supported. But, if you have Paul's spirit, you will want to attain self-support. You will not covet any man's silver, gold, or apparel, always looking to your benefactor. When cut off from your source of supply, like Paul coming to Corinth, you will not blame anybody. You will, with dignity, take a job to earn to upkeep yourself. You will engage in your tent-making without grumble, working with your hands, while continuing to minister to the people you have been serving. If you do not look to others for your selfish gain, others will surely support you.

Paul not only worked hard with his hands, he gave himself to the diligent study of God's Word. He preached from his heart. He fed his congregations well, wherever he went. He taught a Bible school for two years and must have sent his disciples out to evangelism, for it is recorded, "all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks" (Acts 19:10).

Will you labour as hard as the Apostle to teach the Word to the people? Do you prepare your sermons with refreshing material that will command the attention of your hearers? Or are your sermons stale and unpalatable like overnight fried rice? If you live a holy life and serve God and men to the best of your ability, why should you lack your congregation's support?

You will grow in stature and earn your people's respect. You will now be in a position to help others, be they young pastors or missionaries. How? Paul says, "I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

By your consecrated service, God will multiply your church many times. And when your Church has become rich is it to hoard the riches? Many churches which hoard the riches God has given them find themselves in trouble quarrelling among themselves. Why don't they heed the Lord's Commission to go out into the world and preach the gospel to every creature?

God has blessed Life Church manifold since we

started out 50 years ago with a congregation of 50. Never looking to America for help we struggled hard ourselves, with God's help.

We began to support your Church from 1987 and have built you a Bible College and bought you a printing press. It is our practice to let our mission churches become self-supporting after ten years. But we have continued to help you till now. If you follow Paul's pattern you will be able to stand on your own feet. You will grow and multiply and begin to help others. You will start your own missions. This is what I meant teaching you how to fish.

Let every minister learn to do this. Paul set us the example. He never looked to others that they owed him a living. He laboured hard with hands, head and heart. When he can give to others it is because he is blessed of God first. No matter how poor you are, you can by your diligent labours looking up to God turn poverty into riches. Truly it is "more blessed to give than to receive."

MYANMAR MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

by Elder Khoo Peng Kiat

A team of eight people led by our pastor left for Myanmar by Silk Air on 25 Jan 2001. Rev Robert Thawm Luai and his people were at the airport to give us a cordial welcome. We boarded a bus that took us to a restaurant for lunch and thereafter to our destination, the Yangon Royal City Hotel. Short as our mission was, five days in all, yet much was accomplished for the Lord.

We worshipped at the Yangon B-P Church pastored by Rev Andrew Kam. About 200 people gathered for worship. Rev Kam gave the welcome speech and thanked Rev Tow and Life Church for our financial support of his work. During this trip, five boxes of clothing were distributed to the needy ones.

The 32 orphans from the two orphanages run by Rev Kam and his brother, Thang No, sang songs of praise. Rev Tow delivered God's Word from Proverbs 1:7a *The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Knowledge*. He challenged the young people to study hard for a better life but more importantly, to receive eternal life through a true knowledge of God as revealed in the Bible.

How thrilled we were to see 17 young people making a confession together with one elderly lady. They were catechised by Rev Andrew Kam. Before baptising them, Rev Tow questioned each one concerning their faith and was satisfied with

their answers.

We had lunch at "the upper room" of Rev and Mrs Kam's house. Many loving hands and hearts prepared the food. They killed the "fatted" pig to celebrate our coming.

The 32 orphans under the care of Rev Kam and his brother are housed in two separate bungalows, about a stone's throw from each other. These bungalows are rented two-storey brick buildings. The one run by Rev Kam has 17 orphans while the other has 15. Both receive financial support, Rev Kam's orphanage from Life Church and the other from a group from Calvary Pandan. Two of Rev Kam's orphans have completed high school and are presently studying theology in one of the Bible colleges.

The Lord's Day, 28th Jan witnessed the 8th Graduation Exercises of the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology (FEFST) headed by Rev Robert Thawm Luai. A total of 18 students graduated: six with Master of Ministry, 11 with Bachelor of Theology and one with Certificate. The two-year intensive Master's programme was conducted by members of the Faculty of FEBC. Rev (Dr) Jeffrey Khoo, the Academic Dean, visited Myanmar on three occasions, each time of two weeks' duration and six hours of lectures per day. Recently he was there again to complete his series of lectures. Out of the 15 candidates for the Master of Ministry, six made the grade. The other lecturers from FEBC were Rev Charles Seet, Rev Prabhudas Koshy and Rev Jack Sin.

At the graduation which was witnessed by about 700 people, Rev Tow spoke from Acts 20:33-35 "I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." He challenged the people in general and the pastors in particular that they emulate the great example of the apostle Paul in doing God's work. Rev Tow's new slogan to the people is *Self Help with God's Help, Helps Even Others.*

Dr Jeffrey Khoo gave the charge to the graduates to preach the whole counsel of God and to earnestly defend the Word of God. After the graduation exercise, the guests were treated to a delicious *Nasi Briyani*.

Printing of the Falam Chin N.T. It was done by

That Fateful Day

*It was that fateful day
that changed my life forever.
Dreams fulfilled ... yet ambitions gone
since that crucial sixth of October.*

*Life drifted further away,
as I lay on my hospital bed.
Death has got me in his clutches
and there's nothing to do but wait.*

*But Christ my all and my redeemer
showed me the hope and the way.
The operation theatre was my chance
of living another day.*

*I came out safely and thanked God
I really owed Him my life.
Though I was not true to Him before
He helped me to survive.*

*This experience showed me God's power,
and has made me realise
That 'twas this that drew me closer to Him
to continue my Christian strife.*

Pearl-Lyn, 10 years old
2 Dec 99, 6.40 pm

the Heidelberg printing machine donated by Life Church. This is a great achievement for FEFST and members of the Translation Committee chaired by Rev Thawm Luai. The Falam Chin N.T. is KJB-based.

Work on the O.T. in the Pipeline. The same Committee will soon embark upon the checking and rechecking of the draft. This will be done during the long vacation of FEFST.

It was a real eye-opener for the team members from Calvary B-P and Life B-P. The work there is worthy of our support. All praise and thanks to God for preserving our going out and coming in, providing all our needs and keeping us in health and strength during our sojourn there. Myanmar Mission is accomplished to God's glory! Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Feb 12 - 18, 2001)

MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)
THU	7.30 pm	Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
	2.30 pm	Gethsemane BPC Wedding (Rev Charles Seet)
SUN	8.00 am	God's Principles for Church Growth (Rev Tow)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	9.30 am	Catechism Class
	10.30 am	Elder Khoo Peng Kiat
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.

NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.

Sunday School Offering: \$1244.60; Attendance: 397

Verse for the Week: *But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.* Psalm 86:15

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$11,004.00 (8.00 am); \$17,232.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$20, \$1500, \$350, \$200; Cambodia Orph \$1800, \$101; Rev Jonathan Lee \$1500, \$200; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$200, \$1000, \$150, \$150; Missions \$100; China/Saipan \$150; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$1000, \$1000; Tat Wai \$260, \$250, \$110; Rev Seet \$100; FEBC Students: Deborah Kie \$200, Christine Kendagor \$20, \$40, Francis \$20, Dn Henry Tan \$200, Minh Saray \$40, Roth Kim Nang \$40, An Sitha \$40, Paul Kendagor \$20, \$40, Sun Sokha \$40, Ty Serey Vuth \$40, Quek Keng Khwang \$200, Sen Ponnreay \$40, Srun Chivan \$40, Tran Thanh Minh \$40, Violet \$20, Alex \$20, Paul Okello \$20, Nelson \$20, Jonathan Langat \$20, David Mulyungi \$20, George(Africa); Rev Das Koshy \$143.20; Rev Tow \$150; Dn Yiew \$200; Kompong Som \$345.

MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$400, \$3000, \$200, \$10000(Session member), \$100, \$450, \$1137(Thomson NBC), \$50000, \$1000(FEBC Bookroom).

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$200, \$500, \$1000, \$270, \$300, \$300, \$42, \$200, \$200, \$250, \$200, \$500, \$100, \$270, \$300, \$200, \$4500, \$3000. **Grand Total:** \$2,290,826.95. **STOP PRESS!** \$1000, \$500 (BP Elder), \$1000(Sharonite).

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) "Things not possible with man are possible with God." Indeed, God has promised in His Word and I am thankful for the blessings that He has given us. (\$150)

Catechism Class for Easter Baptism at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.

YAF Retreat 3/3-6/3. Theme: *A Passion for Thee.* Speaker: Rev Prabhudas Koshy. Venue: Austin Hills Golf Resort (JB). Registration opens now! For more info, contact: Edward 97689815/Jennifer 9796403/Lynn 97547106 Email: lifeyaf@hotmail.com.

Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Maranatha BPC this morning, **Rev Tow** at the Indonesian Service this afternoon on **Pray for Indonesia and Acceleration of God's Kingdom** and **Rev Colin Wong** at Maranatha BPC YAF this afternoon.

Orphanage in Myanmar
(Andrew Kam and brother, Thang No)



Life

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Vol. IX No. 42

11 February 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Ong Eng Lam	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 235	No. 203
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 10:1-17	Psalm 91
Hymn	No. 270	No. 56
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 355	No. 244
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 1:16; 2 Tim 2:2	Phil 3:7-10
Sermon	Christian Mission in the Post-Modern World (Rev Charles Seet)	Know Whom You Believe (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 182	No. 87
Benediction		

BROADWAY? NARROW WAY?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church

10.30 am Service, Feb 4, 01)

Text: Matt 7:13-14

If you stand at any junction along Orchard Road, you will notice this is the busiest part of Singapore. Hundreds and hundreds of pedestrians, of every colour and creed, are on the go, going in every direction—north, east, south, west.

From Jesus' point of view there are only two kinds of people. There are those that are travelling along a broadway through a wide gate, but it leads to destruction. Their destination is Hell.

Fortunately, there is a small group who comes by a small and narrow gate along a small and narrow way which leads to life. Their destination is Heaven.

Not all who come to Church this morning are on the narrow way which leads to heaven. If you come here for reasons other than worshipping God with your whole heart, you are in danger of straying into the broadway, especially if you are here through your parents' pressure. You are here, but your spirit is out there. You are wishing the Church Service will not end 5 minutes overtime.

Talking of the way that is broad, we have an illustration from one so named, the most famous street that runs through the whole

of New York City. Rightly it is called the Broadway. I had walked on the Broadway when a student in the United States.

It is the most famous street because it is the longest in the world. It is 150 miles long stretching from Manhattan to Albany, on the Hudson River. It has hundreds of side streets. At 42nd street is Times Square where all the theatres are. At the 116th Street is the famous Columbia University. At the 173rd is the first skyscraper church in the city. At Wall Street it runs through the financial heart of the nation.

But that which most attracts the attention of the passers-by is Times Square, the theatre area. Here are the vices openly advertised and displayed, X-rated films, peep shows, hidden brothels on the side streets. Sex, sex, sex is the theme of the flesh capital. Today, you may not be at Broadway, Times Square but if you are addicted to the sins of the flesh, to smoking, drinking, womanising, homosexuality, drug taking, gambling, blue films, pornography through website, you are travelling on the highway to destruction.

Please do not say I am pretending to be a hellfire preacher, counting me out of date. Today there are many preachers who say hellfire is a thing of the past. They only preach the love of God that somehow He will not punish sinners forever. This is a lie from Satan.

Jesus tells the experience of the rich man and the beggar. The beggar

went to Heaven to be with Abraham but the rich man woke up in Hades, in the flames of hellfire. There was no getting out for that man.

Jesus further affirms three times in Mark 9:43-48 that the hellfire shall never be quenched and the worms will never die.

But Jesus invites you to get out of your Broadway and join the small crowd entering in by the narrow gate and walking by the narrow way. (Only 17% Singaporeans are Christians, including Roman Catholics, and many are Christians in name). The narrow way leads to life and its final destination is Heaven.

Jesus reiterates to those who desire to become His disciples, with His offer of salvation. It is free for your asking. Have you asked Jesus to save you? Have you received Him into your heart?

But there is a price to pay. In Matt 16:24-26, Jesus says, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Here are a few simple tests if you are following Christ:

(1) If you have accepted Christ as your Saviour, you must gladly obey Him. He says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mk 16:16). Have you confessed Christ in baptism? If you delay for reasons known to yourself, you are disobeying Him. "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven" (Matt 10:32-33). The first Christian Roman Emperor Constantine the Great delayed his baptism until his deathbed thinking that would wash away all his sins. The truth is baptism secures forgiveness from time of baptism to the very end of your life. But some "big men" might delay baptism out of pride.

(2) Travelling on the narrow way we will keep to the rules Jesus prescribes for our journey. We will want to learn them from His Word the Bible. Do you possess a Bible and do you read a portion of it everyday? To help the beginner, our Church

publishes what is known as the RPG notes. By reading the Bible and praying to the Lord for guidance, we will grow day by day in our spiritual life. There are 1189 chapters in the Bible. If you read more than 3 chapters a day you will cover it in one year.

(3) Do you come to Church faithfully every Lord's Day as it is commanded in Heb 10:25, "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"? Coming to Church is first priority. Missing Church is missing the blessing of the whole week.

(4) Do you join the Church every Tuesday night to pray? We have half-hour Bible study, half-hour testimonies, half-hour prayer. A hundred come each week and they have been blessed. "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you" (Jas 4:8). If you come with a worshipful heart, how will God not listen to your prayers? Church prayer meetings are not our own invention but patterned after the Acts of the Apostles. Those who say they pray at home are like scattered charcoal. As the scattered charcoal turns black, so they end up dozing off.

(5) Be an active church member by further joining one of the many Fellowships of Life Church, from Young Teens Fellowship to Men's Fellowship. Joining one of the groups on Mission trip is a great strengthening of those who labour afar off. Not only in next-door Malaysia but also nearby Batam and Bintan Islands of Indonesia. Those who came along with me to Myanmar brought blessings to the people there also. Or, you may teach a Sunday school class to help out.

(6) God delights in the support you give for the running of the Church, the Bible College, and our missions to a dozen countries. God is so gracious as to count us His partners. We should be thrilled that He takes note of our contributions as He promises also to bless us.

(7) Last but not least is the giving of your life to full-time service. This is in answer to Jesus' challenge to his disciples to take up the cross and follow Him. Recently a sister offered to use her nursing ability to serve the Lord in Africa. The giving of her life is a great undertaking as stated by William Burns, yea, the greatest decision for her future. She surely deserves our support.

If you are not saved you are travelling on the Broadway. If you are saved, you will walk with Jesus, serving Him gladly along life's narrow way. On which way are you?

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt 7:13-14).

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers

In all the years of our ministry, it is the deeper knowledge one has gained in a Sovereign God that one has done what was thought impossible to be done. In launching out from Prinsep Street (1962) to Gilstead Road, and from Gilstead Road to Woodlands (1983), there were those who dreaded the heights to be scaled. The greatest undertaking was Beulah House (1990), but the Lord led us through safely. Now, without much ado, we have taken over Mersing (2001).

This is the verse that gives us strength in all these trials: "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). When God does a work through us, He will do it to the very end.

Mersing

With the CFO granted by the authorities we can safely start business. We first welcome our own AF. A sizeable group of them went to inspect the work and came back with a glorious report, giving hints for improvement here and there. The final grading, "It is a 4-star hotel!" We have 14 such rooms and the rest are dormitories to take in a total of 120. An 'old' Lifer visited Mersing several times, and he is looking for an early date to enjoy the Resort.

We will hasten to implement what is lacking there so that Lifers, etc. can use it for both physical and spiritual good. Although we have borrowed from the Beulah House A/c, we will soon make it good. We have planned our Camp to be held at Mersing, May 28 - June 1. The theme for the Camp is *Hasting unto the Coming of the Day of God* (II Pet 3:12). The speakers are the three pastors and Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Hard at the heels comes Hebron



Placard Evangelism. The words, *キリストは道真理命* meaning "Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life" are highly lifted by a sister to worshippers to IKUTA SHRINE. Supporting the placard message is a brother who is strapped with a tape recorder and loud speaker preaching on the theme.

—Photo news by Setsuko Takashima

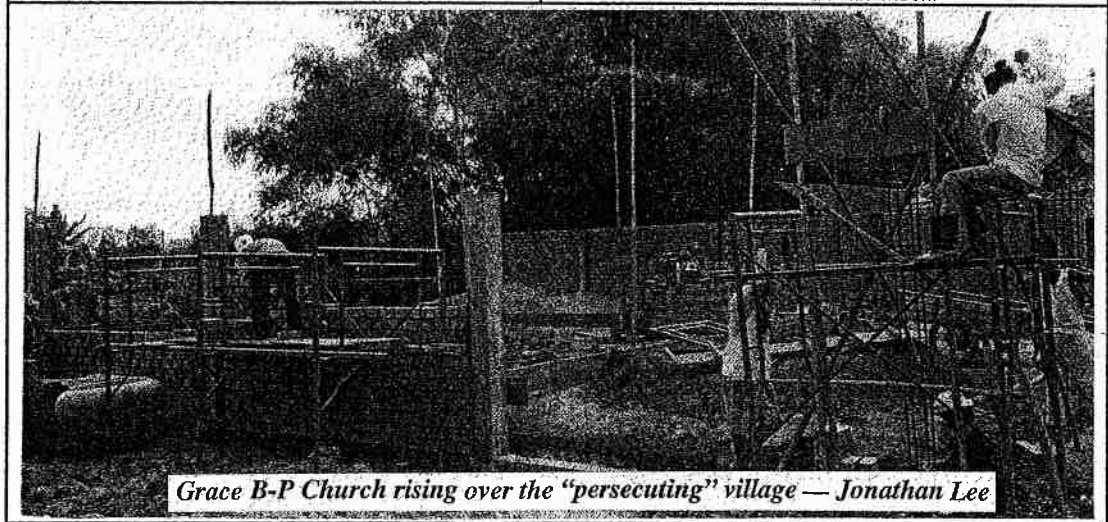
BPC, June 3-6. We will answer you soon.

Holy Land

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone" (Song of Sol 2:11). Now time has come for Pilgrims to get ready to go. You are to meet at our usual preliminary Prayer Meeting at the Church, Tuesday Night Feb 20, 8.00 pm. After Prayer, Transglobe will collect payment of \$885 for your air-ticket and Mrs Ivy Tow \$2,265 for the rest of the Trip since you have paid your \$200 deposit beforehand. Please make two cheques, the first one for *Transglobe Travel Service Pte Ltd.* and the second to *Life Bible-Presbyterian Church.*

Schedule of Travel. Meet at Terminal I, Mar 7, 11.45 pm, flying off by Egyptian Airlines after midnight. —T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 19 - 25, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)	\$11,451.00 (8.00 am); \$17,924.00 (10.30 am)		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$500, Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100, \$1000; Indonesia Mission \$100; Missions \$100, \$100; Myanmar Missions \$100; Saipan Church Bldg Fd \$1000; Tat Wai \$200; Rev Seet \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$100; Robert Peh \$100; Rev Tow \$100; Ms Davenport, Baraka \$500.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Pilgrims)	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$450, RM100(Kelapa Sawit), \$600.		
WED	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$100, \$25, \$220, \$42, \$800, \$200, \$100, \$220, \$3000, \$200, \$3000, \$2000, \$3500, \$2800, \$100. Grand Total: \$2,309,733.95. STOP PRESS! \$200, \$800(Kebaktian Indonesia Anniv.), \$1500(Elder's wife).		
	8.00 pm	Session Meeting	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	7.30 pm	Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	(1) In appreciation for all that the Lord has done for us. Please use this sum to further God's Kingdom.		
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	(2) I thank the Lord for all His mercies and blessings on my daughter. I would like this \$50 to be given to Faith Tan.		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Home Nursing Foundation Carpark will not be available for use next Lord's Day, 25th Feb. from 7.00 am to 12.00 pm.		
	2.30 pm	Maranatha BPC Wedding (Rev Charles Seet)	Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Mok Chee Cheong on Friday, 23 Feb, 8.00 pm. Address: 515 Jelapang Rd #10-201, S'pore 670515. All are welcome.		
SUN	8.00 am	What about Tent-Making Ministry? (Elder Lim Teck Chye)	FEK Registration for 2002, 19-21 March, 9.00-11.00 am. Pre-Nursery (born 1999, 2½ yrs); Nursery 1998, K1 1997, K2 1996. Bring 2 passport photos of child, copy of child's BC. Registration fee: \$30.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Catechism Class for Easter Baptism at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	YAF Retreat 3/3-6/3. Theme: A Passion for Thee. Speaker: Rev Prabhudas Koshy. Venue: Austin Hills Golf Resort (JB). Registration opens now! Contact: Edward 97689815/Jennifer 9796403/Lynn 97547106. Email: lifeyaf@hotmail.com.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class	Rev Colin Wong is preaching at Philadelphia BPC this morning and Rev Charles Seet at Calvary Jurong BPC and at Thai Grace BPC 1st Anniv. this afternoon.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow (False Prophets & Teachers)			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 106					
Sunday School Offering: \$1,051.75; Attendance: 361					
Verse for the Week: Our eyes wait upon the LORD our God, until that he have mercy upon us. Psalm 123:2b					



Grace B-P Church rising over the "persecuting" village — Jonathan Lee



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Vol. IX No. 43

18 February 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 127
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Prov 3:1-35	Job 7:1-21
Hymn	Make Sure of Truth...	No. 125
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 126	No. 387
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 28:18-20	James 4:13-17
Sermon	God's Principles for Church Growth	For What Is Your Life? (Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)
Closing Hymn	Go Ye Into the World...	I Know Who Holds Tomorrow
Benediction		

ONE, TWO, THREE, AS HAPPY AS CAN BE

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting, Feb 13, 2001)

Text: Eccles 4:9-12

No man is an island to himself. Man is a gregarious animal, like sheep gathering into a flock. Nor can a Christian thrive without fellowship with another Christian.

So, also it is with the sacred bond of marriage. When God made man, male and female, He said, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife" (Gen 2:24). Matthew Henry says, "In marriage a man has more satisfaction who labours hard to maintain a family he loves than the miser has in his toil."

Faithful friendship produces united strength and safety, "and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" (Prov 18:24). "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up" (Eccles 4:9,10). Thus, when Joshua wanted to know the condition of Jericho which he was going to conquer, he sent two spies to do the job. Jesus sent seventy preachers, but two by two, that they might be a help one to another.

"Again, if two lie together, then they have heat; but how can one be warm alone"? This refers to the mutual warmth between

husband and wife in a cold wintry night. Spiritually speaking a couple with mutual consultation is wiser than a single person. A pastor who has a prudent wife to watch his steps is kept from stumbling. From experience, I have counselled husbands to thank God for wives who nag them, that they become more perfect. "And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him." Hence the saying, behind every man there is a woman.

"And a threefold cord is not quickly broken." Now, we know every rope is made up of three strands. Without the third strand, a two-fold cord soon disintegrates. Who is the third cord? It is the Spirit of Christ. Whether it be between two friends or husband and wife, if Christ is the third cord that binds them, their strength will be greater than ever. Their combined strength with Christ as the third cord will not increase double but tenfold. "One will chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight" (Deut 32:30).

Here is the case of Hannah and her husband Elkanah. Hannah vowed to give Samuel her son to serve the Lord all his life. Elkanah did not object, but gladly cooperated with her to bring Samuel to Eli when he was weaned. Elkanah provided all the needed sacrifices. God accepted Hannah's vow, so that when Samuel grew up he became a great prophet and was known as the Second Moses. We must not forget the part played by Hannah's loving husband.

Two are better than one, but one is better than nothing. If the one mentioned here is a devout Christian, then he or she is also good. I am referring to single ladies especially. I have observed some of them in the Church. Being more advanced in years and being career women, they finally choose to serve the Lord. They give their lives to become missionaries. One single lady in this case is not only good, but very good!

How many a vacancy in the mission field is filled by women, because the men cannot be found. When I visited Ho Chi Minh City in 1995 I came to know a lady preacher there. During the Vietnam War she stood in the gap of nine vacant pulpits, because the pastors of these nine churches had fled. She took care of all the nine churches to face up to the Communists. Because she was a saintly woman the Communists respected her. This lady preacher is a classmate of Ng Sang Chiew when they studied together in Hong Kong in the same seminary. One woman, with God, won the day.

In the Old Testament there is the example of Deborah. A woman judge whom God had raised, she led the Israelite army with General Barak to fight Sisera with his nine hundred chariots. She defeated him. Significantly Sisera was delivered into the hands of another woman, Jael by name, who single-handedly killed him and brought peace to the land.

The amazing thing is that single women rather than men, have made good for the glory of God. In Christ there is neither male nor female (Gal 3:28). Certain leaders of the Reformed Faith have totally forbidden women from taking any leadership in the church, to their own undoing. But we have every Bible pattern for us to follow, which brings us good success.

"One, two, three, as happy as can be." Two are better than one. Three are better than two. One is better than nothing! One can be good, and very good! By God's appointment that one is a woman. Amen.

My dear Lifers,

LAST CALL FOR HOLY LAND

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone" (Song of Sol 2:11). Now time has come for Pilgrims to get ready to go. This is my second and last call to all 47 Pilgrims to meet at next Tuesday

night Prayer Meeting, Feb 20, 8.00 pm to seek the Lord for journeying mercies.

After Prayer, Wendy of Transglobe will collect payment of \$885 for your air ticket (inclusive of airport taxes (Singapore and Cairo) and Mrs Ivy Tow \$2,265 for the rest of the Tripsince you have paid your \$200 deposit beforehand. Please make two cheques, the first for \$885 to Transglobe Travel Service Pte Ltd and the second for \$2,265 for Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. (The same evening Pastor's Autobiography will be released!)

Travel light. Do not overload your baggage with items you'll never use. You can do laundering at Baraka Centre. Have proper shoes for climbing Mt. Sinai and swimming costumes for the Dead Sea, on Jordan's cleaner side! Prepare for worship at Mt. Nebo where Moses viewed the Promised Land on our first Lord's Day.

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble" (Ps 41:1). Prepare before you set out an offering for the poor that we'll meet on the way. Your response to our appeal is blessed of the Father Almighty who looks down from Heaven. It is the Pilgrim's worship on his way to the Holy Land to do something good wherever he goes.

To make sure you're not left out, be at Terminal One Mar 7, 11.45 pm. We fly after midnight by Egyptian Airlines to arrive Cairo early next morning Mar 8. God bless!

One Sign of the Lord's Soon Return

is Accelerated Missions! Our Lord says in Matt 24:14, "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." It is salutary to check up how many countries we are evangelising. On our list are nine ASEAN countries (except Laos), plus Saipan, China, Holy Land, and now Kenya.

Sister Chan Pui Meng of the AF is applying to New Life BPC to serve in Kenya as a nurse. Both AF and MsF are each supporting her \$1,000 per quarter. Her case will be brought up before Session. In the light of Jesus' exhortation to redouble our efforts for Missions, there is no doubt but that our sister will receive the hearty support of the whole Church. By way of comparison, Korea has 8,000 missionaries in 120 countries.

Is it right to quote from David's lips, "The King's Business Required Haste" (I Sam 21:8)? Does the Lord's business require haste? How do you react to any order God gives you? Take a week to consider? Or two days?

Abraham rose up early in the morning to carry out God's command (Gen 22:3). (I believe he had received God's Word the previous night.) The words David spoke to Ahimelech the priest that "The King's Business Required Haste" are cryptic words. David could refer to Saul, and he could refer to God. It is not possible for us to make him say what he did not mean to say. To quote him that the King's business required haste and applying to our situation, without going into all the ramifications of David's conversation with Ahimelech, is our choice. How's that?

—T.T.



Welcome to the Mersing "Blue Sea Resort" from Mar 1, 2001. Rates 60% of Timotel's.

THE CHRISTIAN HOME

The thought of home evokes a yearning as no other - most deeply felt by families fleeing the scorching fires of "hell". Home is where the heart is, a haven of rest, where love, peace and tranquility prevail.

God in His mercies provides homes for all creatures great and small: men have houses, birds of the air have nests, and beasts of the field have dens.

Home is indeed where the heart is. But in faith Abraham left opulent Ur of the Chaldees, living in tents - and God blessed him more abundantly as a "father of many nations" (Gen. 17:4). Our Saviour, "The Son of Man", came to earth To save sinners, forsaking the glories of His Heavenly Home, but "hath not where to lay His Head" (Matt. 8:20).

What, then ought our home to be? to the worldling, a luxurious mansion, with manicured lawns, mature gardens and much more. . . But a Christian's home, however humble, is where Christ is the Head of the house, "the unseen guest at every meal, the silent listener to every conversation". "Where the husband loves his wife even as himself; the wife reverencing her husband, and children obeying their parents in the Lord" (Eph. 5:33-6:1).

But sadly, God's Word warns us that "in the last days, children will be disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy" (2 Tim. 3:1-2). Without proper guidance, they rebel against their parents, dishonouring them. What could the root causes be? - one scenario is:

Modern Dads and Mums immersing themselves in secular work all day, leaving little ones largely to their own devices, maids notwithstanding. Teens 'hanging out' with peer groups tainted with the wicked ways of the world, unbeknown to trusting parents. . .

Let us be circumspect: Christian homes ought to have, not only godly parents, but also well-brought up and filial children, making a happy, close-knit family unit to God's glory! Crooked saplings can be easily straightened out with props; in the same vein, parents should "train up a child in the way he should go, so that when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6).

May God bless our efforts in "bringing up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4).

—Elder Tow Slang Yeow

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 26 - Mar 4, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)	\$9,419.00 (8.00 am); \$23,252.00 (10.30 am)		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Faith Presbyterian Church, Perth \$500; Cambodia \$30; Rev Jonathan Lee \$102; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100, \$1000, \$100; Surish \$50, \$1000(Cal-Pandan BPC); Myanmar Orph \$360, \$100; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$1000; Needy FEBC students \$200; MsF \$200, \$100, \$450; FEBC \$100, \$100(Guest); Tat Wai \$80, \$150; Rev Seet \$100, \$50, \$150; Rev Wong \$50, \$150; Tan Bee Choo \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$60, \$100, \$400; Rev Tow \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$100; Batu Aji Church \$200; Wendy Teng \$100; Ms Davenport, Baraka \$100, \$500; Rev Moses Hahn \$1500(Cal-Pandan BPC); Rev David Koo \$1500(Cal-Pandan BPC).		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$300(Session member), \$400, \$4900.		
WED	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$200, \$3000, \$1000, \$10000, \$400, \$250, \$130, \$100, \$250, \$50, \$250. Grand Total: \$2,327,913.95.		
THU	7.30 pm	Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
FRI	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Seet)	(1) Thank God for all the blessings and providence. Please channel \$500 to Beulah House project. The remaining as the Church deems fit. (2) Thank God for many blessings and mercies during difficult times. Please accept a meagre sum from me.		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF: 3.00 LTF; 3.30 EBF	Life B-P Church Members , please collect your copy of Church Directory 2001 from the FEBC Bookroom. Collection hours: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm on next two Sundays, March 4 and 11.		
SAT-TUE		YAF Retreat	FEK Registration for 2002, 19-21 March, 9.00-11.00 am. Pre-Nursery (born 1999, 2½ yrs); Nursery 1998, K1 1997, K2 1996. Bring 2 passport photos of child, copy of child's BC. Registration fee: \$30.		
SUN	8.00 am	Do Missionaries destroy Cultures? (Rev Charles Seet)	Catechism Class for Easter Baptism at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	YAF Retreat 3/3-6/3. Theme: A Passion for Thee. Speaker: Rev Prabhudas Koshy. Venue: Austin Hills Golf Resort (JB). Registration opens now! Contact: Edward 97689815/Jennifer 9796403/Lynn 97547106. Email: lifeayaf@hotmail.com.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Sembawang BPC this morning.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 128					
Sunday School Offering: \$955.00; Attendance: 361					
Verse for the Week: <i>For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.</i> Psalm 72:12-13					



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Vol. IX No. 44

25 February 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder George Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 40	No. 26
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 12:1-13	I Cor 6:14-18
Hymn	No. 233	Come out...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 466	Dont' stop praying...
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 18:1-10	Matt 7:15-23
Sermon	What About Tent-Making Ministry? (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	False Prophets and Teachers
Closing Hymn	No. 460	Come out...
Benediction		

150 copies of Theology for Every Christian are distributed free to 10.30 am worshippers.

GOD'S PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH GROWTH

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC 8.00 am Service, Feb 18, 2001)

Text: Matt 28:18-20

God's principles of church growth are found both in the Gospels and in Acts of the Apostles. First, from direct commands in what is known as The Great Commission, and second, from patterns set by the Apostles, which the Church is to follow. Paul says, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (I Cor 11:1).

From the Great Commission, see how the Lord introduces us to the word Gospel. Put the Go in the Gospel which is the first emphasis, the missions emphasis. Missions is the Gospel on the go. This is followed by "teach all nations," the evangelism emphasis. Then "baptising them," the church planting emphasis. Finally, "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," the "indoctrination emphasis." A four-point programme with the out-going missions emphasis as No. 1. It goes into the whole world, a horizontal programme.

Therefore it is not the vertical emphasis of modern churches today. Church growth is not of the Cho Yonggi style! This Korean Church is the biggest in the world with half a million members, an

auditorium seating over 10,000, and a regiment of 100 pastors under Cho Yonggi the super pastor. This is man's pattern, not God's pattern.

Proof: Peter converted 3,000 in one day and 5,000 on another occasion. But he did not build a super church to seat his thousands. He and the Apostles did minister to the early church as a big family, sharing their food together, but this pattern soon broke up when a persecution arose. The disciples were scattered, but they went everywhere preaching the Word (Acts 8:4). Soon the apostles also went everywhere preaching, first to Samaria (Philip, Peter, John), then to Gaza and Caesarea (Philip) and to Lydda, Joppa and Caesarea (Peter).

From Caesarea Peter found his way to Asia Minor (Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia). Then we read of Peter being in Corinth (I Cor 1:12), in Babylon (I Peter 5:13) and by tradition in Rome.

Peter was the chief Apostle and he did not centralise his work in Jerusalem but decentralised to the ends of the earth. That is Missions par excellence.

I believe every pastor, while he has a pastorate to take care, must evangelise beyond his Jerusalem to all Judea, even to Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And he must aim to plant churches outside and beyond his domain with the support of his church.

Believing not in vertical but horizontal growth, believing not in centralisation but in decentralisation, God has blessed Life Church with at least one branch church a year. These churches have extended to Malaysia (West and East), Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, and Cambodia through graduates of Far Eastern Bible College. This brings us to the fourth emphasis on "Indoctrination." The running of a Bible College is patterned after the Bible School taught by Paul in Ephesus for two years, "so that all they which dwell in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks" (Acts 19:10).

We have called the Great Commission the First Commandment to the church. The whole congregation should therefore heartily support Missions. Praise the Lord, Life Church has always stood behind the efforts of the Pastor in missions, so the Lord has blessed our Church with power from on high.

There is a church in America that restricts her pastor from taking any trip abroad for the cause of missions. This church says to her pastor, "If you want to go, you can take your annual leave, that's all and pay your own way." This church being so selfish as to restrict her pastor to tend only his own flock, lost out. They lost their pastor.

But if they would let their pastor go, in compliance with the King's command, they would not only be blessed with power from on high, they would be attended with the personal presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, who says, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." There can be no doubt that every church that obeys the command to put the Go in the Gospel will increase in membership and spiritual and financial power. A missionary church is a vibrant church, an ever-growing church.

In view of the soon return of our Lord Jesus Christ, in these very last days, Jesus further exhorts us to accelerate missions to the ends of the earth. In Matthew 24:14 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." Therefore there shall be no curtailment of

the outgoing Gospel because of greater needs at home, such as the building of the New Beulah House. If we continue to exert for the cause of missions without let up, God will not fail to bless us with adequate funds to take care of our local needs. Church growth and missions must advance side by side, both at home and abroad.

Take heed once again to what I would call, "The First Commandment to the Church." "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt 28:18-20).

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

"He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil 1:6).

Every work for the Lord, let us realise, is first planned and started by Him! It did not originate from you! So let God, and let go. He who caused you to do this or that work for Him will accomplish it to the very end.

This may be said of Mersing. By God's wonderful leading we got our Dreamland in the far shore of Mersing facing the sea. So it is now named by the authorities "Resort Lautan Biru" which means Resort Blue Sea.

Now that we have got our CFO we can immediately open it for business. Two retired teachers, Mr and Mrs Raymond Tan of Rompin, and members of Kulai Besar BPC (Rev David Wong), are employed Wardens. They will promptly occupy Mersing for us Feb. 26 before we go up Thursday March 1 to stay overnight. For there is much initial work to do. We have plenty of shopping to do to furnish the House, particularly the kitchen, in anticipation of our first guests, whoever they may be.

We are also to check on the Contractor's finishing works and to receive the pile of keys.

There are many loose ends to tie up.

Meanwhile we have bought through the Contractor 300 chairs and 30 tables to furnish the Meeting Hall and Dining Arcade. We shall work to the fuller furnishing of the Resort for our own Camp, May 28 – June 1.

That God will finish the work He first began in us may be said of our impending 10th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. With the unrest in Palestine there is bound to be dropouts of intending Pilgrims. The registration went down to under 45. Last week we had 47, so as to qualify for the cheapest rate. This week three more came in to top it up to 50. That is the full load. God has indicated again that He is with us. Besides, we get a rebate for the children. The airticket for children is reduced to \$740. By the way, **I am prompted to say a word to past Pilgrims. If you have a kind thought for Miss Davenport** you may send her a gift through Life Church. Your one and only last chance is by Lord's Day, March 4, 8.00 or 10.30 am Service.

God has accomplished the work He began in me as early as 1986. That year when we went to Perth "to stand in" for four months, I wrote 290 pages of my Autobiography. Realising that the 50th year of service at Life Church was quickly advancing I resumed writing the last one year. I finished my story end of last year, from 290 to 448 pages. By God's mercies *Son of a Mother's Vow* has come off the press at last. This book is printed by Life Church. It sells at \$8 and all proceeds go to the New Beulah House. But there is a preliminary free distribution to worshippers both at the 8.00 am and 10.30 am Services. Please get your copy. I hope young people especially will hear God's call, like William Burns and John Sung and the least to me, and serve Him full-time.

Do pray for us Pilgrims to the Holy Land that He will keep us safe all the way, and bring us safely home. Soon after our return we will leave for London to speak at the New Life BPC 5th Anniversary Thanksgiving and Easter Sunday morning – that He might accomplish on our behalf the good work He has begun in us.

May there be another happy surge of Thanksgiving to the Lord this Easter, particularly to make up for some deficit in our Mersing



account. May Lifers spend their vacation at Resort Lautan Biru and may many souls be drawn closer to the Lord.

The theme of our Bible Camp May 28 – June 1 is "Hasting unto the Coming of the Day of God." It is fittingly chosen because these are days of self-indulgence, like in the days of Lot and Noah. We immerse ourselves in fleshly pleasures, but forget the call of God. I shall deliver 4 messages on "It is later than you think" from end-time prophecies fulfilled before our eyes. See you in Mersing!

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

TESTIMONIES FROM BASC AND BEREAN FELLOWSHIP

When I first came to BASC my mother told me to behave and obey the guardians. I was very naughty. The guardians could not control me. One morning I was so naughty that the guardian gave me a slap on my mouth for scolding him foul language. I would fight everyone in the centre and make a lot of noise when the guardian was teaching. They gave me a last warning.

Uncle Vincent and Aunt Mary punished me because they wanted me to be a better person. The guardians encouraged me to attend Berean Fellowship and learn about Jesus Christ from the Bible. I learned about Jesus Christ and now I believe Him as my Lord and Saviour. Since then I have become a better person. I am so happy to believe in Him.

—Wong Dawe, Pr 5

I came from a Buddhist family. My parents believe in idols. Before I believe in Christ, my behaviour was very terrible. I even quarrelled and argued with the BASC guardians. I first heard the gospel when I was in primary two. It was my aunt who told me about Jesus Christ. It was about two years later (1999) after attending the camp at Life Church that I received Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. After receiving Jesus, I suddenly realised that my life had changed. I stopped arguing and quarrelling. Now my wish is that both my father and mother will one day believe in Jesus Christ.

—Ng Siew Ming, Pr 5

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 4 - 11, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)	\$10,700.00 (8.00 am); \$14,634.00 (10.30 am)	
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia \$700, \$150; Rev Hahn \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$150, \$3000, \$1000, \$440; Tg Playu \$1000; Missions \$1600; Myanmar Missions \$231; Myanmar Orph \$100; Rev Thawm Lui \$100; Ho Heng Sau \$500; Saipan Church Bldg Fd \$150, \$1000; MsF \$100; Tat Wai \$100, \$400; Rev Seet \$100; Rev Tow \$150; Batu Aji \$925; Jason Foo \$180; Joan Davenport \$2000; Ref. Tract Dist. \$100(JSM)	
TUE	12.00 pm	Wedding of James Wong & Sharon Pereira (Rev Charles Seet)	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$56.20(YAF), \$10000. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$500, \$10, \$150, \$500, \$400, \$4000, \$2000, \$1323. Grand Total: \$2,336,896.95.	
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg		
WED	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)		
	11.45 pm	Pilgrims depart (MS 861)		
THU	7.30 pm	Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) No lecture on Baby Greek II		
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House		
	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF; 3.30 EBF		
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Edwin Seet & Tan Jiak Ping (Rev Peter Chua)		
SUN	8.00 am	Why Pray for Missionaries? (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class		
	10.30 am	Elder (Dr) Lim Teck Chye		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	12.45 pm	Evangelism		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service		
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.		
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 115			FROM THE OFFERING BAGS: (1) I want to thank God for the good annual appraisal I have been given. May the Lord teach me how to use the money He has placed in my care. (\$440 for Jonathan Lee's new church in Cambodia, Hope BPC) (2) Thank God for the many blessings showered upon me and my family over the many years. Please use this little amount for God's work. (\$900) Life B-P Church Members , please collect your copy of the Church Directory 2001 from the FEBC Bookroom today and next Lord's Day, 11 Mar. Collection hours: 9.30am to 12.30pm. FEK Registration for 2002 , 19-21 March, 9.00-11.00 am. Pre-Nursery (born 1999, 2½ yrs); Nursery 1998, K1 1997, K2 1996. Bring 2 passport photos of child, copy of child's BC. Registration fee: \$30. Rev Colin Wong is ministering at Batam today. Rev Charles Seet is ministering at Macedonia and Berean B-P Churches this afternoon. Verse for the Week: And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. I Peter 4:8	
Sunday School Offering: \$471.20; Attendance: 345				

Pyramid and Sphinx, Egypt

Pyramid and Sphinx, Egypt



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Vol. IX No. 45

4 March 2001

"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	Nos. 44 / 45	No. 28
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Acts 17:16-34	Psalms 122
Hymn	No. 43	Old Jerusalem
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 458	No. 317
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 9:20-22	Matt 7:24-29
Sermon	Do Missionaries Destroy Cultures? (Rev Charles Seet)	No Foundation, House Gone
Closing Hymn	No. 465	No. 184
Benediction		Lord's Supper

BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS, WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC 10.30 am Service, Feb 25, 2001)

Text: Matt 7:15-23

Jesus' warning on false prophets in Matthew, repeated in all the Gospels, is doubly enhanced in the Epistles. Do you know the whole Epistle of Jude is given to exposure of false prophets and teachers? There are not only false prophets and teachers but also false Christs, false Apostles, false Spirits, false witnesses and false brethren. The command to beware of these false persons in the Church is easily five times more than the command to preach the positive Gospel. So we must the more take heed to the words of warning.

Why? Because the false persons who are dressed in sheep's clothing while being wolves cleverly deceive us. Unless the Good Shepherd tells us, as He exposes them here in Matthew's Gospel, we are easily led astray. Unless the pastor tells the congregation they do not know.

For these false prophets and false teachers come in the Name

of Christ. They preach in Christ's Name. They can even perform miracles and cast out devils, but our Lord tells them off, even now, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

As there were false prophets in Christ's day, so there are false prophets today. As the day of Christ's return draws nearer so these false prophets will increase the more. The betrayal of Protestant Christianity by Evangelical leaders in unity with Rome, signing the ECT Document is under false pretences. One of them who supports this betrayal is Billy Graham, for 50 years Protestant No. 1 Spokesman. ECT means Evangelical and Catholics together, in doctrine and faith!

When I was in America, the first great American preacher I came to know was Billy Graham. Soon after my arrival in 1948 he became famous overnight when in his campaign in Los Angeles 1949 he won a number of Hollywood film stars to Christ. He was a fundamentalist evangelist. He preached only Jesus saves and it is by His precious blood that sins are washed away. As he became more famous he began to compromise with the enemies of Christ to gain popularity and power.

No more denouncing Roman Catholicism nor Communism, he

played ball with them. This led him to fraternise also with modernists and liberals. In order to do this he watered down the strict demands of the Gospel. He became broader and broader and what a different Gospel he preaches today.

Instead of only Jesus saves and only by His death on the cross to pay the penalty of our sins, he now says the opposite. In a TV interview with Robert Schuller, a downright liberal pastor of The Crystal Cathedral, California on Saturday, May 31, 1997 he said, "He is calling people out of the world for His name, whether they come from the Muslim world, or the Buddhist world, or the Christian world or the non-believing world, they are members of the Body of Christ because they've been called of God. They may not even know the name of Jesus, but they know in their hearts that they need something that they don't have, and they turn to the only light that they have, and I think that they are saved, and that they're going to be with us in heaven.

Robert Schuller asked, "What I hear you saying is that it's possible for Jesus Christ to come into human hearts and soul and life, even if they've been born in darkness and have never had exposure to the Bible. Is that a correct interpretation of what you're saying?"

Billy Graham answered, "Yes, it is, because I believe that. I've met people in various parts of the world in tribal situations, that they have never seen a Bible, or heard about a Bible, and never heard of Jesus, but they've believed in their hearts that there was a God, and they've tried to live a life that was quite apart from the surrounding community in which they lived."

Do you read what Billy Graham says in the Bible? What does the Bible say, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none, other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." But Billy says a man "may not even know the name of Jesus..." What Billy is preaching is Satan's old lie of universal salvation. Eventually the whole world will be saved, including fallen angels. But Christ our Lord tells us to preach the Gospel to every creature. "He that believeth (*in the*

Gospel preached) and is baptised shall be saved" (Mk 16:15,16).

Even if a man yearns for God, it is far from adequate for him to be saved. He must be led by one who knows Jesus as his own Saviour. The case of Cornelius proves our point. Cornelius was a devout Gentile seeking God, but he was told to send for Peter and it was Peter who having brought him to Christ baptised him to seal his salvation.

By this procedure are 400,000 missionaries sent into the world today. By this procedure is Life Church committed to evangelise all ASEAN countries for a start. By this procedure are we branching out beyond ASEAN our Samaria into the uttermost part of the earth.

Wittingly or unwittingly, Billy Graham is a preacher who betrays our Lord Jesus Christ. Is he a true prophet or a false prophet?

We have seen how Billy Graham was a good old Gospel preacher when he first started out in California winning some Hollywood film stars to Christ. We have noticed how he veered from the truth for fame and power. At any rate they who preach the Gospel but not in the tradition of the Apostles are condemned. Paul tells the Philippians and us today, "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things)" (Phil 3:17-19).

Not only for fame and power does a true preacher turn from the truth but also for gain, "whose God is their belly" and Calvin adds, "Whose religion is their kitchen." Paul reiterates this point in his Epistle to the Romans. "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple" (Rom 16:17,18).

Alas! The lure of money may mislead a preacher.

When a pastor begins to serve on his own terms, for pay and more pay, he will also begin to speak the words of men and not the Word of God. Whether Billy falls into this trap, we do not judge him. In this respect we had better judge ourselves. As the B-P Movement grows, more and more are being ordained. We have 65 of them. There are bound to be dropouts. I hear one of them is become a guitar teacher. Another with a high degree is serving from pillar to post. A professional, according to Paul, is also a false prophet. These we must also take note! These, though not wolves, are hirelings. To these hirelings our Lord will also say, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matt 7:15).

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

In spite of a great financial mountain to climb for the New Beulah House, we have not curtailed our funds for Missions to over a dozen countries. We are grateful for your designations to new missionaries and worthy projects.

One worthy project is Rev Thawm Luai's printing of the KJV Falam Chin New Testament, now completed. The final portion before them is the Old Testament. Now, the O.T. has 990 pages in my Bible against 360 pages of the N.T. It is going to be a much bigger task for the Faculty of the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology to undertake. Let us pray for the consummation of their good work and support them financially.

With Dr Jeffrey Khoo's initiative, we have run a M.Min. (Master of Ministry) programme for Thawm Luai's Fundamental School of Theology for the last two years and awarded the degree to six of their Faculty. This will increase their credibility and draw more students.

Indeed our College is the mainspring of a Bible College movement. Not only Myanmar, but now Africa. Dr Khoo is leaving one day after us, March 8, for a two-week stint of teaching at the Bible


College of East Africa (Rev Mark Kim). BCEA was founded by the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions. Now a flourishing College and beginning to confer degrees it has one hundred students. It is closely linked to Life Church and FEBC which gives further training to their graduate students.

When you read this Pastoral Letter, we will be all lined up to leave for Cairo, March 7, 11.45 pm (Terminal D). The latest news connected with our 10th Pilgrimage is that Esther Chew of Canada, who graduated from FEBC last year, is now serving in the Holy Land under Miss Davenport. Miss Davenport, I'm sure, will be greatly strengthened by this Chinese-Canada co-worker. On our part, it will be most opportune if Pilgrims of yester-years would send a gift (through us) to her, to give her a pleasant surprise. In this connection I am carrying a gift from a sister for Rev Awad's son, trained in Philippines, now starting a new Church at Beit Sahour (Shepherd's Field) and a Bible-Presbyterian Church at that!

This weekend we have the first contingent to Mersing to take over from the contractor. There are many loose ends to tie up. We will go shopping in Mersing to furnish the kitchen, so that guests might be able to prepare their own breakfast. Praise the Lord, an old-timer graduate of FEBC, now well-established as a Kindergarten Principal in Kota Tinggi, is receiving us en route, to render us assistance. As FEBC approaches her 40th year (Sept. 2002) we are greeted by a cloud of alumni wherever we travel in Malaysia.



God willing, I have been booked to preach in Kemaman Friday, June 22, 01. A great work is advancing at this far off city on the East Coast of Malaysia. This involves also Kuantan with a flourishing Sunday School under Wendy Teng, and inevitably Mersing! —T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 12 - 18, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	FEBC Vacation	\$10,674.00 (8.00 am); \$20,857.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$100; Cambodia Orph \$250; Pailin Orph \$100; Phnom Penhn Hope BPC \$100; Baraka BPC \$150; Baraka Conf Centre \$100, \$100, \$300, \$100, \$100; Joan Davenport \$300, \$300, \$300, \$50, \$50, \$100, \$300, \$100, \$100, US\$500; Myanmar Orph \$100; Calvin Loh \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$300, \$100; FEBC students: Christine Kendagor \$40, John Saray \$40; John Roth \$40, Lydia Sitha \$40, Paul Kendagor \$40, \$100, Sun Sokha \$40, Peter Ty \$40, Sen Ponnreay \$40, Tran Thanh Minh \$40, Chivan \$40, Phairot \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$300; Esther Chew \$300; Rev J Khoo \$300; Eld Khoo \$300; Tan Kian Sing \$100; Rev Tow \$300; Cambodia Church Bldg Fund \$500; Thai widow \$1304, \$302.	
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF; 3.30 EBF	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$1000, \$100, \$350, \$100, \$300, \$3000(Session member), \$2500, \$100, \$1000, \$1000, \$200, \$800(Pepsi).	
SUN	8.00 am Serving as Senders (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$200(Session member), \$50, \$1800, \$200, \$1000, \$250, \$1000, \$50, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$500, \$2500, \$150. Grand Total: \$2,345,596.95. STOP PRESS! \$1,000(LF), \$500.	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	Following a recent seminar conducted by the IRAS, members are encouraged to designate any gifts for foreign charitable purposes to the individuals involved in the projects. This will help our church to meet the 80% benchmark spending for local charitable expenses to be exempt from paying income tax. Please feel free to contact the pastor, the assistant pastors, or the treasurer if you need any clarification. Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office. Sun 10.30am - 12.30pm; Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.00pm. The Church Directory 2001 is available for collection at the Church reception counter today. FEK Registration for 2002, 19-21 March, 9.00-11.00 am. Pre-Nursery (born 1999, 2½ yrs); Nursery 1998, K1 1997, K2 1996. Bring 2 passport photos of child, copy of child's BC. Registration fee: \$30.	
	9.30 am Sunday School		
	9.30 am Catechism Class		
	10.30 am Rev Goh Seng Fong		
	10.30 am Chinese Service		
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship		
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice		
	12.00 pm Burmese Service		
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	12.45 pm Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF		
	3.00 pm Thai Service		
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service		
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Ser.		
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 88			
Sunday School Offering: \$1,128.86; Attendance: 337			
Verse for the Week: Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man. Luke 21:36			
Rev Colin Wong is preaching at Maranatha this morning and will be in Vietnam from 12-17 March. Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Kulai Besar BPC this morning.			
			

Baraka Conference Centre



Life

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Vol. IX No. 46

11 March 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Eric Mahadevan	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 25	No. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Eph 6:10-20	Rev 19:1-10
Hymn	No. 365	No. 11
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 354	No. 221
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Col 4:2-6	Matt 22:1-14
Sermon	Why Pray for Missionaries? (Rev Colin Wong)	The Parable of the Marriage Feast (Elder Dr Lim Teck Chye)
Closing Hymn	No. 408	No. 223
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

NO FOUNDATION, HOUSE GONE!

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC 10.30 am Service, March 4, 2001)

Text: Matt 7:24-29

From Matthew 5 to end of chapter 7, Jesus has delivered to us what is known as *The Sermon on the Mount*. As He concludes the long sermon that touches on many vital subjects, He applies it to His hearers. Without application there will be no sermon. Application means hitting the target of the hearers. What is your reaction as you listen to Jesus' words?

There are only two kinds of hearers, either obedient or disobedient. Do you say, "Amen, Amen" or do you retort, "O yeah, O yeah"? Let me first tackle the "O yeah" crowd. You hear but you do not do what you hear. You disregard what is required of you, taking it lightly. Or you may even resent and wilfully refuse to do them. The result in any case will be disastrous. It is like building a house, says our Lord, on sand, without any foundation. When the rain pours down on the house and it is flooded all over and the typhoon blows upon it, the house will topple over.

To understand the gravity of such a situation, let me bring you back 15 years to 1986, to the total disaster of the New World Hotel at Serangoon Road. For two or three days the hotel had

been cracking. Fault lines were seen here and there. But the hotel people were so busy making money, they did not pay any attention. During a business-as-usual morning, the foundations suddenly gave way and the four or five-storey mansion wobbled. In a matter of seconds or minutes the building sank into the mud below. What was visible was only the roof top region. Fortunately, this was daytime so many guests were out. This was like the man who heard Jesus' sermons and rejected them. Why did the New World Hotel suffer this awful fate? Because the owners had illegally added many heavy constructions to the flat roof top, such as water tanks. The original foundations were too weak to carry this extra load, so the house sank and disappeared. Thirty people were buried alive. This disaster was noised around the world and reached us downunder. We were in Perth at that time.

If we do not heed the Word of Life given by our Saviour we will end up in death. Have you repented from your sins and accepted Him as your Saviour? If not you will regret when you land in the place of everlasting torment. Read the account of the Rich Man and Beggar Lazarus (Lk 16:19-31). No foundation, house gone!

Happily, there is the blissful side. "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the

floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

The procedure to salvation is first of all hearing. Take care how you hear! Not as the Chinese saying goes, "ear in, ear out." The words entering one ear flies through the other. Every Lord's Day when you come to worship, how do you hear? Do you hear attentively, drinking every word from the lips of the preacher? Here you must hear with discernment, for he might make an obvious mistake, misquoting a verse. He might preach a wrong doctrine, so you can check up with him when he comes down from the pulpit. But if he preaches the truth with substance and power, you must accept it heartily. You must say "Amen" in your heart and resolve to practise what you've been taught.

For example, you have a quarrel with a Church member whom you have been at odds with. Having been instructed to forgive, you make up with this person. You have carried out what God wants you to do. You are therefore a saved person, your house stands and falls not.

You hear God's Word not only from the pastor's sermon but also by reading the Bible everyday. This is what is known as "Quiet Time." Whether you read one chapter or three a day, the importance of such reading is you resolve to practise what you are told in the Scriptures. And when you keep on reading and meditating day by day, it will give you a ready answer to life's problems. This is crucial when you have to say yes or no to someone who imposes himself or herself on you. I had to face such a situation soon after WWII.

I was going to the Philippines to fulfil a preaching appointment. A lady wanted to export a diamond ring to Manila. She asked me to wear it on my finger to get through customs. In a flash I remembered the story of the young Judean prophet who was sent by God to denounce the new Israel king, Jeroboam, who was inaugurating a new Gold Calf religion for Israel. God told the young Judean prophet to denounce Jeroboam the Israel king. After denouncing Jeroboam he was not to eat there and he was to return to Judah by another way. The young Judean prophet did a good job in denouncing the Israel king, but disobeyed by eating there and by not returning by another way. God punished him there and then. He was bitten by a lion and died on

the spot. But the lion did not touch the donkey he was riding. Both lion and donkey stood beside the dead prophet like two witnesses.

Remembering the moral of this story, I refused to smuggle the diamond to Manila for the lady. And I have stuck to this policy of not doing something on the side while on a preaching mission abroad. So I have been immune from any suspicion or interrogation. The importance of reading and meditating on God's Word on a regular basis is seen in the ability to make a quick decision on the spot.

Our Church in conjunction with Calvary BPC is resuming to publish the RPG Quarterly, Bible-reading workbooks to help beginners. I have been requested to supply for the next two quarters: The Book of Revelation and Psalms. Although you take six months to study two books of the Bible, you go through them thoroughly. The time taken is not wasted. This will help you towards studying on your own. And you will study with the view of doing what is required of you to do.

The house you build will not only be founded on a rock but also be made of solid material: of bricks and mortar and not of wood and *attap* (in I Cor 3:12, "gold, silver, precious stones, (not) wood, hay, stubble").

We are called Bible-Presbyterians. But let us not relapse into Bible-carrying Presbyterians. We bring the Bible to Church and put it back on the shelf the whole week to carry it back to Church again the next week. We become hearers of the Word but not doers. But if we are Bible reading and meditating Presbyterians, we will not only be practising Christians, but Christians "ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (I Pet 3:15). We will be able to judge immediately when it is required of us to make a decision to do or not to do. We will be able to counsel new Christians when they come for help.

Let us build a strong foundation for our faith, our House of Salvation. No foundation, house gone!

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

THE OCEAN IS OURS

We spent a night at Resort Lautan Biru our Home away from Home by the Blue Sea. We all

woke up the next day doubly refreshed. Dr Siang Yeow, my younger brother, praised the Lord, "My nose has dried up." Usually he is seen with a handkerchief....

We sat in the lounge drinking in the balmy breezes coming in with the tide. What a delight to see the white crests leaping up the shore. I remarked, "The Ocean is ours!"

True, the Ocean is ours. For though there are three other rest houses or hotels in the Mersing area, none of them is situated like ours over an open sea. They are all on a plain or hill far inland.

The Ocean is yours, and all the time, if you plan with your friends to drive up Friday afternoon, stay till Sunday morning. If you leave at 7.00 am, you will be in time for the 10.30 service. Of course to save time you must bring your Sunday best along to Mersing, so you need not return home to change. See how you can relax every weekend without having to take leave. Of course you must own a car. (We recommend you this new lifestyle of gracious living. For me, Mersing *nasi lemak* in the morning is tonic!)

Another attraction to your driving up weekends is that the road to Mersing is being widened and straightened all the way. By the time we go as a family 200-strong, May 28 - June 1, 01, the improved road will be 90% finished. (I shall speak four nights on Middle East prophecies fulfilled in our time under the topic, *It is later than you think!*)

Among those who went to stay at night this time were Ada and Rev David Wong. Ada, an old hand at a 5-star hotel for many years was able to counsel us on many points on management. David, a seasoned Malaysian, could contact manufacturers and wholesalers and save us hundreds. Rev Koa Keng Woo is another guardian for the interests of

Resort Blue Sea. Our enterprise is guided by God-loving FEBC graduates and colleagues.

Apart from our own Camp, several other B-P Churches are on the booking list for Mersing. They are Maranatha, Kelapa Sawit and Malaysia B-P Churches.



Finally, my student who graduated from FEBC in the seventies and now in Kota Tinggi (half way from Singapore to Mersing) gave me this note:

"Dear Rev Tow,

My Lord, the Almighty God, my Saviour Jesus Christ and the working of the Holy Spirit is great and good. My Lord has provided and seen me through day by day. I am glad He had chosen me. He has blessed my family.

Both my sister and I are thankful to Life Bible Presbyterian Church and Rev Tow, our principal, who have trained and built us upon the Word of God. We could never forget. Here is a small amount for the Lord's work at Mersing campsite. God bless!"

The Resort invites all labourers in the Lord's vineyard, whether to the East or West Coast of Malaysia to rest a while whenever they pass by Mersing, as a mark of appreciation for their untiring service. The Ocean is also yours! —T.T.

JOHN SUNG, THOUGH DEAD, STILL TEACHES

Dear Rev Tow

My name is John Savage, an English missionary currently serving here in Pakistan.

My reason for contacting you, is simply to let you know how blessed and challenged I have been through reading your book 'John Sung My Teacher'. As well as providing much needed kindling of my own personal spiritual life, the book also has stimulated a lot of thought regarding approaches to evangelism and discipling, especially in an Asian context. Here in Pakistan, most approaches are based on inherited 'Western' patterns, which are found wanting in Pakistan's particular Asian environment. Yet, in Sung's ministry I see a model for outreach and goals that has more depth and longer lasting substance than many contemporary strategies. His moulding of new converts into evangelistic bands was, I feel, an act of genius in, firstly establishing the new believers in their faith and, secondly in harnessing local Christians for local, ongoing outreach. This is now a key approach in my own preaching, teaching and discipling ministry.

This week I received the March edition of 'Evangelical Times' from England, and an article about Singapore is included, with a focus on FEBC. Your e-mail number is also included, thus allowing me the opportunity of contacting you now.

—John Savage

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Mar 19 - 25, 2001)

MON	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
FRI	7.40 pm	Rev Tow & Pilgrims return (MS 860)
SAT	1.00 pm	Korean Church Wedding
	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Why Are We Still so Unconcerned? (Rev Charles Seet)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	9.30 am	Catechism Class
	10.30 am	Rev Tow
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.

NBC This Week. **Wed Henderson.** **Prayer Mtg: 89**

Sunday School Offering: \$723.80; Attendance: 314

Verse for the Week: *The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.* Psalm 145:18,19

Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Calvary (Jurong) BPC this morning and at the Indonesian Service in the afternoon. Rev Colin Wong is preaching at the Thai Service this afternoon.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$6,943.00 (8.00 am); \$14,691.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200; Cambodia \$500, \$150; Rev Jimmy Rim \$400; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$400, \$250; Missions \$220; Myanmar Orph \$100; Rev Pang (Saipan) \$3000; MsF \$100; FEBC \$500; Tat Wai \$60, \$20; Rev Seet \$2000, \$100; Christina Ho \$1000; Rev Wong \$50, \$2000; Rev J Khoo \$100; Setsuko Takashima \$300; Rev Tow \$2000; Chan Pui Meng \$500; Cambodia Missionaries \$500; AF \$1000.

MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$450 (Session member), \$2000, \$1100 (Thomson NBC).

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$250, \$250, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$30000, \$100, \$3500, \$200, \$500. Grand Total: \$2,382,296.95.

Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING

Sat. 31 March, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary.

Rev Prabhudas Koshy speaks on "Christ Died That We Might Live"

Bring a friend!

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

Our deepest condolences to Mrs Tow and family on the homegoing of her mother, Mdm Wee Siew Neo (85 years) on Friday, 9 Mar. Funeral was held on Monday, 12 Mar.

Following a recent seminar conducted by the IRAS, members are encouraged to designate any gifts for foreign charitable purposes to the individuals involved in the projects. This will help our church to meet the 80% benchmark spending for local charitable expenses to be exempt from paying income tax. Please feel free to contact the pastor, the assistant pastors, or the treasurer if you need any clarification.

Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office. Sun 10.30am - 12.30pm; Mon-Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm.

Mr Robert Yeo with 3 woman assistants in the House of Hope

Editor's Note: In spite of the heavy demands on our Treasury by the New Beulah House project, let us not curtail the expenditure on missions. Since the return of our Lord draweth nigh we are exhorted to accelerate Missions to the ends of the earth. Hence we are adding to the list of missionaries Chan Pui Meng to Africa, and part support of Tangkak, Malaysia. And now more subsidy to Drug Rehabilitation work in Cebu, Philippines? —T.T.



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Vol. IX No. 47

18 March 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn George Tan	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 5	No. 93
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Luke 10:1-16	James 5:13-18
Hymn	No. 454	No. 128
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 445	No. 137
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 13:1-4	Mark 9:14-29
Sermon	Serving as Senders (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	Timid Prayer (Rev Dr Goh Seng Fong)
Closing Hymn	No. 459	No. 441
Benediction		

A FOOLISH OLD KING, A POOR WISE YOUNG MAN, AND THE FICKLE-MINDED MASSES

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting, March 6, 2001)

Text: Eccles 4:13-16

There is a Chinese saying, "The old relapses into childish foolishness." When that happens to an old and foolish king who refuses counselling, will he not bring the whole kingdom into chaos?

Is Solomon speaking from his own experience? This is what is recorded of him. "But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David

his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods. And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded. Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant" (I Kings 11:1-11).

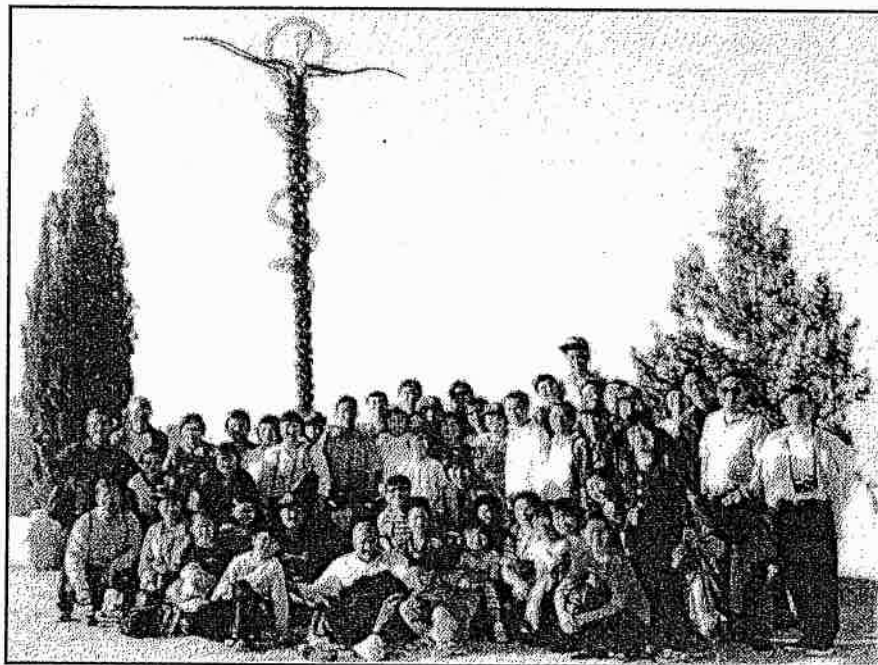
Could you ever imagine the depth of degradation into which such a wise king as Solomon had fallen? Indeed, "better is a poor and wise child than an old and foolish king in Solomon."

Such a poor and wise child (or

young man) who works himself out of prison might refer to Joseph, how his God had delivered him from false accusation to prime minister of Egypt. Is not Joseph who kept his high station of life more to be respected than Solomon, at first a great king but ended up rejected of God and man by his folly? Matthew Henry comments, by way of application, "How honourable and happy are those who by faith in the Son of God, which is the true wisdom, are advanced from the bondage of sin and Satan, to the glorious kingdom that cannot be moved."

Solomon observes another matter relative to kings and people. This concerns the foolishness of the common people. Their folly is that they are never satisfied, they are continually fond of changes. This happens in every generation, to the great grief of kings, even kings who try to please the people. Such a king is David.

In dealing with the murder of Abner, Saul's Commander-in-Chief by the hand of Joab, David took pains to mourn Abner's assassination to show his displeasure against Joab. "And all the people took notice of it, and it pleased them: as whatsoever the king did pleased all the people" (II Sam 3:36).



PAYING THE GOSPEL DEBT IN THE PHILIPPINES SINCE 1991

Rev Charles Seet, one of my two Assistant Pastors, first went to the Philippines with his wife as our missionaries. They served with distinction for seven years paying the Gospel Debt for Life Church. The couple returned to their home base in 1998 and since then Charles has been assisting me and lectures also at Far

In spite of David's high standing in his kingdom, when Absalom his son rebelled against him the majority of the people joined in the rebellion. See the fickle-mindedness of the masses. This is vanity and vexation of spirit. Because David was truly a good king, God overruled and overturned the plot. In God we enjoy stability and security!

Comments Matthew Henry again, by way of application, "But the willing servants of the Lord Jesus, our King, rejoice in Him alone, from age to age, and they will love Him, more and more to all eternity, hear of, trust in and obey Him, henceforth and to the end of this world."

"Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished. For out of prison he cometh to reign; whereas also he that is born in his kingdom becometh poor. I considered all the living which walk under the sun, with the second child that shall stand up in his stead. There is no end of all the people, even of all that have been before them: they also that come after shall not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and vexation of spirit" (Eccles 4:13-16).



Eastern Bible College. This is his report:

In 1998 we returned to Singapore, concluding our seven-year ministry in the Philippines. In the time that I taught there, I had the privilege of seeing over 100 students graduate and going forth

to serve the Lord in various parts of the Philippines. Some of the best graduates have been invited to come back to join the faculty as lecturers. Thus the Lord has answered our prayers to provide sufficient good local workers to run the various ministries. This became one of the cues for us to leave the mission field. I was actually able to work myself out of a job and pass on all my responsibilities to others who were willing and qualified to bear them.

At the same time, my wife and I realised that the time had come for us to think about our children's education. We tried our older child out in the education system there and saw that it was not suitable. The children would not be able to return to the education system in Singapore if they continued there for too long. As we prayed about this, the Lord led us to consider coming back to Singapore. Many encouraged us to return. Thus we came back to Life B-P Church and I have been serving there as an assistant pastor since then.

After Charles Seet returned to Singapore, Life Church nevertheless continued to maintain the presence of her testimony in the Philippines by supporting a new Christian Drug Rehabilitation Centre in Cebu. Named the House of Hope, it is an extension of The Helping Hand ministry, of Mr Robert Yeo, FEBCer (1983). We are pleased to part-support the House of Hope in Cebu because the two or three staff sent from Singapore are FEBCers, who have returned a good report. We are happy to be involved in drug rehabilitation as a contribution by Life Church to social service.

The House of Hope now has over 60 occupants including a women's section, with many more applying to come in. In order to cope with this pressing situation, Mr Robert Yeo has requested

Life Church to help with the rental. Besides this to offer scholarships to promising converted drug addicts to study at FEBC so that they may return to Cebu to help out with the work. In this matter, two are admitted to our Bible College and they have proved themselves excellent students. (There are three more recommended for the new semester in July.) Shall we help Robert Yeo of the Helping Hand in his good work in the Philippines?

* * *

Another ministry to the leading ASEAN country is the sending every year of scores of all our publications, plus a *Willmington's Guide to the Bible*, to mostly young pastors or graduating theological students. Here is a typical letter of appreciation from Pastor Leo C. Dalmacio, Fundamental Baptist Church, Philippines:

Dear Pastor Tow:

First of all, I would like to give thanks to God, because of His unchanging love and his unending mercy to us. Pastor, I received the package that you have sent for me. Thank you for sending these materials, most especially Willmington's. It can help me to study more about the Word of God. Thank you for giving me these. It shows your love, concern for the ministry and generosity. Once again thank you, thank you, very, very much.

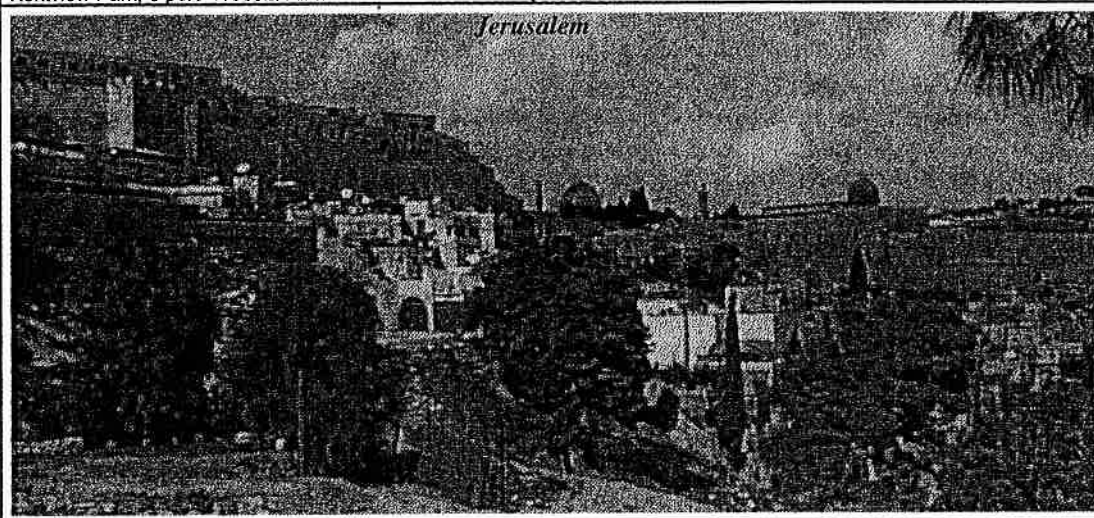
—In Christ's love, Pastor Leo C. Dalmacio

Life Church Book Ministry is not limited to the Philippines but is extended to all ASEAN, and to the uttermost parts of the earth, even to Japan, Canada and the U.S.A. Recently we bulk-mailed all our publications to a newly established Bible College in Sri Lanka and on an earlier occasion, to Miss Kimiko Goto, now a lecturer at an Indonesian Bible College in Surabaya, Indonesia. While we concentrate on our first obligation to ASEAN, we will follow the Lord's leading to earth's end.

"For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isa 55:10-11).

(cont'd on back page)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 26 - Apr 1, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm Eschatology (Rev Tow) 7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$8,642.00 (8.00 am); \$17,238.00 (10.30 am)
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Africa, Kenya \$150; Cambodia \$80, \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$50; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100, \$500; Missions \$50, \$200; Myanmar Orph \$150, \$750; Salpan Church Bldg Fd \$300; Children's Choir \$500; Children's Ministry \$500; Needy FEBC students \$200; MsF \$100; Tat Wai \$500, \$100, \$100, \$300; Rev Seet \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$100; Cambodia Church Bldg Fd \$100; Cambodia Glory BPC \$100; Medicine for David Koo's Church \$100. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$540, \$870.
WED	7.30 pm 1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$150, \$400, \$1000, \$1000, \$130, \$100, \$1000, \$40, \$200, \$97, \$100, \$200, \$300, \$500.
THU	7.30 pm Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Grand Total: \$2,387,563.95.
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF; 3.30 EBF 3.00 pm Rev Tow at YAF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
SUN	7.30 pm FEBC Gospel Rally, Sanctuary 8.00 am Finding Peace in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Colin Wong)	(1) Thank God for our baby boy who has turned one year. May the Lord continue to bless him richly. —A grateful parent (\$400)
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	(2) Thank God for showing the way through a dark and difficult time.
	9.30 am Sunday School	Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING
	9.30 am Catechism Class	This Sat. 31 March, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary.
	10.30 am Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	Rev Prabhudas Koshy speaks on
	10.30 am Chinese Service	"Christ Died That We Might Live"
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Bring a friend!
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	Our deepest condolences to the family of the late Chua Kim Soo who was called home to be with the Lord on Sat. 17 Mar at the age of 87. The funeral was held on Tue, 20 Mar.
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office. Sun 10.30am - 12.30pm; Mon-Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm.
	12.00 pm Burmese Service	Rev Charles Seet is preaching at Maranatha BPC this morning.
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	12.45 pm Evangelism; 3.00 Thai Service	
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.	
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 85		
Sunday School Offering: \$619.80; Attendance: 320		
Verse for the Week: Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. Psalm 119:165		
Family Worship at Mr & Mrs Ricky Lum's home, Fri. 30 Mar at 8pm. Address: 87 Pasir Panjang Hill, #01-02 Kentview Park, S'pore 118892. All are welcome.		



Life

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Vol. IX No. 48

25 March 2001

"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. 73	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 126	Psalms 122
Hymn	No. 458	Yerushalayim
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 399	No. 420
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 9:35-38	Zech 12:1-9
Sermon	Why are we still so Unconcerned? (Rev Charles Seet)	Jerusalem's Semi-Final
Closing Hymn	No. 455	Behold, Behold, the Son of God is coming again
Benediction		

NEW MILLENNIUM PILGRIMS' PROGRESS

(From Baraka Conference Centre, 10 miles south of Bethlehem, Mar 20, 01)

The Lord gave us a smooth and safe journey after flying 11 hours non-stop from Singapore to Cairo. Leaving in the wee hours after midnight, Mar 7, we arrived before 8.00 am Mar 8. There is a time differential of 6 hours.

Immediately, our Guide took us to see the three pyramids and sphinx, on the outskirts of Cairo. We visited a Church that marks the place where our Lord stayed to escape the sword of Herod.

The next morning we went to the Museum to see the artifacts of Ancient Egypt, the mummies and the Pharaohs. Before we entered, the Hotel contacted the Guide to say they had found my purse left behind in Room 302, which was my room. The sum of US\$501 was later on returned to me, intact. I gave the young man who delivered to me, US\$20 for his trouble. But I had an envelope containing US\$300, gift to the Holy Land, which was not turned in to the hotel management. This envelope was sandwiched in my purse and could not be missed. I said in my heart the \$501 returned intact in my purse now goes to compensate for the \$300 envelope. The remaining \$201 must be given to the poor.

We took the plunge into the Sinai Desert after lunch. Just then we received the news (Mar 9) by handphone that my mother-in-Law, Madam Wee Siew Neo, was taken home by the Lord. Having lived to 84 years, she had enjoyed a fruitful life. She and her husband joined Life Church in the seventies and were born again. Two of her children are serving full-time, Rev Tan Eng Boo and Ivy. She was suffering from cancer of the liver and was successfully operated on by Dr London Lucien. She lived comfortably for another two years. When she got sick again she suffered no pain, eating well until her deliverance. She attended Life Church Chinese Sunday School and 10.30 am English Service regularly. She was a woman of prayer. So, we must thank the Lord for saving her, spiritually and physically.

After viewing the Suez Canal, the 50 of us arrived at Sinai Plaza, one of the new hotels that have blossomed recently. The purpose of our coming here is to climb Moses' Mountain. The Mountain is about 8,000 feet. Having driven 4,000 ft uphill to our Hotel, there remains another 4,000 ft to climb. This you can do by camel. But the last and steepest stretch of 750 steps is roughest. 30 Pilgrims went to this most exciting expedition at 1.30 am and returned after daybreak safely.

Elder Ong Eng Lam read the relevant Scriptures which witnessed to other climbers, mostly Europeans.

Leaving the Mountain and St Catherine Monastery, our coach took us to the Red Sea port of Nuweiba. Here we boarded a speed boat which landed us at Aqaba, Jordan, where we took another bus for Petra.

The next morning the Pilgrims entered the interior of the red rock ancient city of Sela (Petra, Edom) riding horse to a certain distance. It was amazing to see a city hewn out of the rocks.

From Petra we headed for Mt Nebo to worship. Then to Amman (Ammon) the capital of 2 million Jordanians. The next morning we had a swim on the cleaner Jordanian side of the Dead Sea. But the Dead Sea is drying up. Its salt content has now gone up to 30%. So there is talk of constructing a canal either linking with the Mediterranean or the Red Sea. This, if it materialises, will take years, but when God does it, it will take only minutes by His E-bomb (a great earthquake).

The Allenby Bridge crossing of the Jordan which is shrunk so much that the width of it is no more than Rochor Canal, is now being replaced.

As Jericho is sealed off to tourists we visited



Qumran nearby. The next morning we ascended Massada, Jewish stronghold of resistance to Roman rule. We Christians also have a Massada against false Christs and prophets, for the Lord's command to contend for the Faith is five times more than His so-called positive injunctions to preach the Gospel. The whole of Jude's Epistle is to exhort us to contend for the Faith.

Since Jericho is sealed off, we made a straight path north to Galilee. En route we ate at a Kibbutz Restaurant and saw the ruins of a Jewish synagogue of the 6th Century. We also stopped at Beit Shean near Mt. Gilboa when Saul and his sons were killed in battle against the Philistines.

We settled into Carmel Hotel overlooking the Sea of Galilee, our Northern Field Qrs. for the next three nights, Mar 13-15. We went on a boat ride the next day. I preached from Mark 4:35-41 and applied it to every kind of storm in our life. We came to Caesarea Philippi, foot of Mt Hermon, drove through Golan Heights and stopped at Capernaum and Church of the Beatitudes. For lunch we all chose to eat St Peter's Fish, a most delicious meaty fish, the equivalent of a young chicken. This fish is probably the type Peter miraculously caught at Jesus' Word from whose mouth was found a coin enough to pay tax for both Jesus and Peter (Matt 17:27).

Our second day in Galilee saw us visiting Cana and Nazareth where Jesus grew up and found favour with God and man. Here we applied the message on the children and their need to receive Christ and obey their parents. We stopped at the foot of Mt. Tabor, the Mt. of Transfiguration and finally at the opening of the Sea of Galilee into the Jordan. Here is the baptismal site for foreign visitors.

When we took leave of Galilee, en route we visited Megiddo the Armageddon of Rev. 16:16, where the last World War will be fought. We climbed Mt. Carmel (by our new 55-seater coach), coasted to Haifa Taiwan Restaurant (owned by a Jewess) and to the ruins of Caesarea before arriving Baraka Conference Centre, 10 miles south of Bethlehem before sundown. Here is our Field Headquarters where we are going to stay for 5

nights. A new gate is opened so our coach could enter the compound easily.

The beauty of Baraka is it has become our own house. We hold nightly worship giving pilgrims a time of testifying for their Lord. The climax was reached on Lord's Day Mar 18 when we could visit our Palestinian brethren in Bethlehem and present them our gifts. We left Baraka Mar 21 via the coastal road for Cairo, taking a whole day. Another night in Cairo and we fly back home. Mar 22 and 23 evening should see the Pilgrims hale and hearty back in Singapore.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

JERUSALEM

*Jerusalem,
We went to see,
And on the way,
We saw four seas.*

*On the way,
We saw many lands.
And most of them
had lots of sand.*

*Mountains, pastures,
Much to see.
Churches, relics,
And olive trees.*

*David's City,
Where Jesus died.
For our sins,
He was crucified.*

*Zion City,
Is such a beauty.
But praise the Lord,
The Garden Tomb is empty.*

*Jesus shall return to Jerusalem one day,
From Heaven to Earth, all the way.
And former things shall pass away!*

Joanna Cheong, 12 years old

On Climbing Mount Sinai

Climbing Mt Sinai is no mean feat
Yet the Lord enabled thirty pilgrims to make it
We set off at 1.15am with Rahab our guide
Determined to reach the summit to watch the sun rise.

Eld Eng Lam was 'commissioned' by Pastor to lead
the group

After a short prayer for safety, dressed warmly in
expectant mood

Twenty pilgrims bravely ventured forth on foot
The others the camel ride for US twelve dollars took.

Half-way up the mountain we realised
That we had left a pilgrim behind
Two able pilgrims retreated the path
To look for the lost 'sheep'.

Thank God our anxiety was short-lived
When the lost pilgrim was found to our great relief
Our guide, anxious that we make it to the top
Cautioned us not to slow down, nay never to stop.

Those on foot met up with those who took the camel
Now in order to reach the summit our stamina
Is tested and tried by scaling the 750 steps up to the top
Will I be able to make it to the top? Help me O Lord!

My fingers and toes were numbed to the bone
Panting, puffing, almost breathless for the mountain air
was so thin
Many a pilgrim had to take short breaks in between
Thank God for granting strength from within.

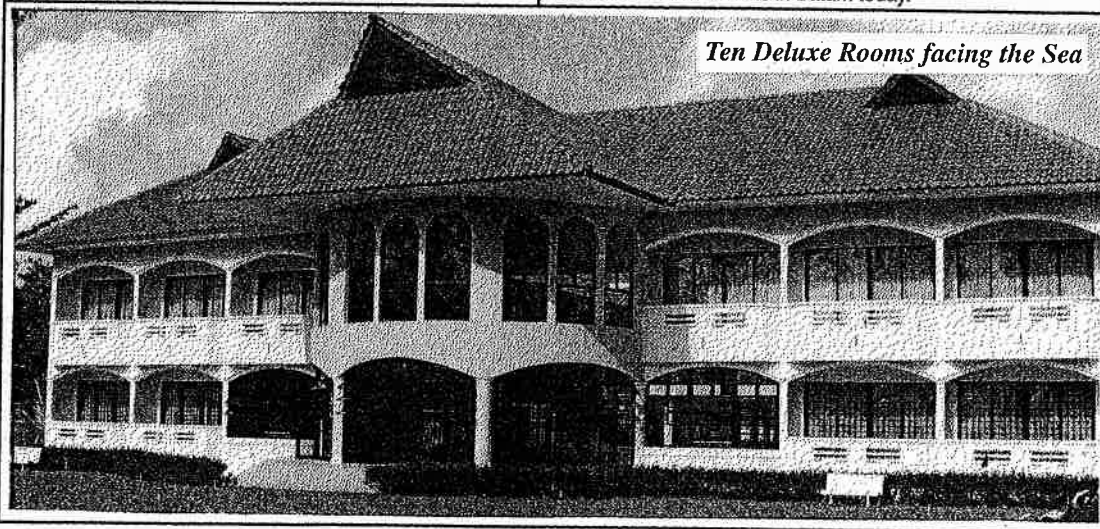
The Lord has blessed us with a beautiful moonlit night
Thank God above all for being our 'invisible' Guide
Without whom we would not have made it to the top
To view that truly magnificent sunrise - the wonder of God.

Thank God for keeping me trim and fit
To climb Mt Sinai on my 52-year old, but sturdy feet!

Linda Chan, 18 March 2001

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 2 - 8, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm Eschatology (Rev Tow)	\$8,840.00 (8.00 am); \$16,544.00 (10.30 am)	
	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$300; Rev David Koo \$100, \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$162, \$160, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Tangkak BPC \$500; Tg Uban Church \$100, \$1200; Missions \$100, \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100, \$100, \$300; VBS 2001 \$1000; Tat Wai \$100, \$400, \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$100; Rev Wong \$50; Paul Kendagor \$140; Robert Yeo (Cebu) \$3000; Bee Choo \$100; Tan Klan Sing \$200; Rev Tow \$150; Chan Pui Meng \$500; Thai widow \$1000; Hymnals for Batu Aji \$100, \$400; Batam-Silmarmata family \$100; Miss Davenport \$500.	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$350(Session member); \$1000; \$4900(Session member).	
WED	7.30 pm 1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$120, \$200, \$200, \$130, \$1000, \$2000, \$1500, \$3000, \$300, \$100, \$2000. STOP PRESS! \$500, \$1000, Condolence Gifts to Mdm Wee Siew Neo's family \$9118.50 + \$934(Pilgrims). Grand Total: \$2,398,113.45.	
	8.00 pm Session Mtg	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
THU	7.30 pm Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	(1) The Lord has blessed my family abundantly. Enclosed is \$300 for Beulah Tower.	
FRI	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	(2) Thank God for His grace that has seen me through every moment of my life. —God knows who	
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(3) Come and worship— Bring your gifts of love. Come and receive Him—	
PALM SUN	8.00 am Coping with our Present Suffering (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	The Son, the author of Eternal Life and Giver of light, peace, hope and joy —A sinner saved by grace (\$500)	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	Infant Baptism on Easter Sunday, 13 April, 7.00 am. Please register with the Church office (Tel: 2569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names and address.	
	9.30 am Sunday School	Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office. Sun 10.30am - 12.30pm; Mon-Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm.	
	9.30 am Catechism Class	Rev Colin Wong is preaching at Galilee BPC this morning and Rev Charles Seet is in Batam today.	
	10.00 am Rev Tow at Kelapa Sawit BPC Anniv.		
	10.30 am Rev Charles Seet		
	10.30 am Chinese Service		
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship		
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice		
	12.00 pm Burmese Service		
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	3.00 pm Thai Service		
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.		
NBC This Week, Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Thomson, Woodlands, Sengkang.		Prayer Mtg: 105	
Sunday School Offering: \$779.38; Attendance: 318			
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. Colossians 1:10</i>			

Ten Deluxe Rooms facing the Sea



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. IX No. 49

1 April 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder George Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 24	No. 559
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Jn 14:1-31	Matt 8:1-17
Hymn	No. 319	No. 58
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 362	No. 306
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 1:1-2	Matt 8:16-17
Sermon	Finding Peace in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Colin Wong)	Jesus, Healer of All Our Diseases
Closing Hymn	O Rejoice in the Lord	No. 291
Benediction		Lord's Supper

THREE THINGS TO KEEP (WATCH OVER) WHEN YOU APPEAR BEFORE GOD

(Message to be delivered to the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting, Life Church, April 3, 2001)

Text: Eccles 5:1-7

First, "keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God." Prov 19:2 says, "And he that hasteth with his feet sinneth." The origin of these two injunctions is traced to Ex 3:5, "And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

From Ex 3:5 has come the practice of Korean Churches especially. In Korea, when a preacher ascends the pulpit, he must take off his shoes to remind himself he is standing on holy ground.

When I was holding a gospel campaign in Korea 1960, I had to take off my shoes whenever I ascended the pulpit. My interpreter Rev Han had to do the same. One night, after preaching, when we descended the pulpit, lo and behold, his pair of new shoes had disappeared. A thief walked away with them. He fortunately bought another pair from the shoe store, for it was early in the evening.

In Singapore and other parts of the world I know we have not

the custom of taking off the shoes when we preach. The lesson however is, when we come to worship we must keep our feet in the sense of full reverence in His presence.

To keep not only our feet, but also the posture of our body. That is why pews are made to seating us straight that we attentively hear the message. "and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil" (Eccles 5:1)

What is spoken by the mouth outwardly comes from the heart inwardly. The second thing is to keep (watch over) our heart. Be composed, and meditate within that your thoughts are aright. Before God, be subdued that you may not err from His holy will. A garrulous person, who talks without thinking, is a foolish person. A reverent worshipper is few of words and much in thoughts. Thus, while others talk, and women are of more words than men, Mary the mother of our Lord, pondered in her heart (Lk 2:19, 51).

The third thing is keep (watch over) our mouth. "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few" (v.2). This applies the more when we vow, when we make a solemn promise before God. Vows are legitimate and are made freely

This was taken by Hannah, Samuel's mother. When she found that her womb was shut and Peninnah her husband's other wife had many children, she cried unto the Lord that should the Lord give her a man-child she would offer him back to Him all the days of his life. God honoured her vow and Samuel became a mighty prophet.

As you have read my autobiography, *Son of a Mother's Vow*, I was a rebellious son who broke my mother's vow. As a result my Mother's death was quickly followed up in five weeks by my seven-month daughter's death. Realising the error of breaking my mother's vow, I thoroughly repented. By His mercies, He restored me to His favour. He has sustained me to this day in my service of Him.

Here is a lesson for everyone of you who has vowed or solemnly promised before the Lord. See that you do not smother the words you had uttered before the Lord. "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands" (Eccles 5:4-6).

Not only we should be careful in words in our vows to God, we must remember that God is hearing words ordinarily spoken, rambling words like those blurring out of a dream. Therefore no evil speaking, no frivolous talking from an empty mind.

Thus the perverse judgments from unrighteous judges are under the surveillance of the Almighty God. You can rest assured that right will prevail over might in the end.

The three things we must keep (watch over) are our feet, our heart and our mouth. Amen.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

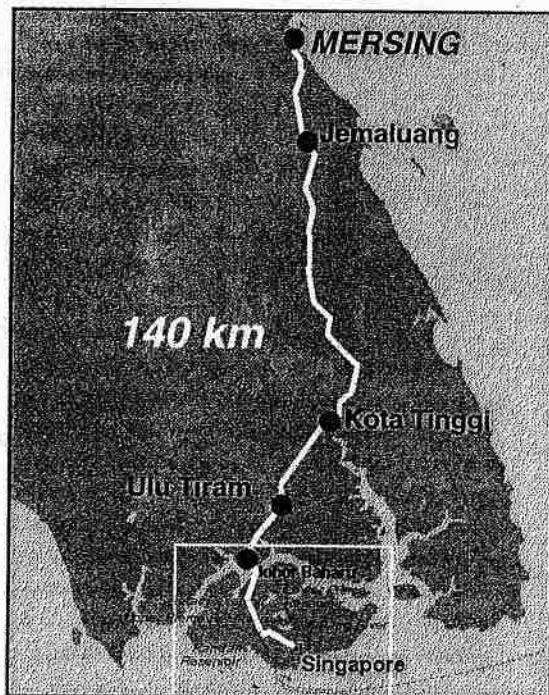
THANKSGIVING FOR ANSWERED PRAYERS

The greatest concern I had as leader of the 10th Pilgrimage, and in the previous ones, was safety in our travels. This time we were served with the

biggest 55-seater giant. We were driven through thousands of miles, through mountainous terrain winding in and out of hairpin curves. I often watched at our driver, praying the Lord to uphold his hands. Praise the Lord we are now safely back in Singapore without a scratch.

At the final worship at Baraka, I remembered we gave a rebate of US\$50 to Pilgrims in our 9th Pilgrimage. This time I felt we should return our rebates to the Lord by giving the whole sum to our Arab Christian caretaker to renovate an adjoining house for his six growing children. The decision by Pilgrims was unanimous. When the Treasurer Mrs Alice Chng made a full calculation we were happy to have US\$70 each which worked out to \$3,500. A lady member added another \$100, so it totalled \$3,600. Thanksgiving is surest insurance against future contingencies.

Baraka is improving under Ahmad, that is the caretaker's name, our expert handyman in every situation. My brother, Dr S H Tow, is planning to lead a contingent from Canada in October, and I would recommend him to visit Baraka again. By using Baraka we bless them. In turn we are blessed.



ON HIS HIGHER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

A contingent of eight of us left for Mersing early last Tuesday morning. At Kota Tinggi we were joined by Rev David Wong, our Malaysian member of the Mersing Committee. Malaysia is adding to the strength of our Mersing ministry.

My brother, Dr Tow Siang Yeow, another Malaysian, the most important one, came along. This was to open a bank account with Maybank in Mersing and the reason is obvious. A Malaysian sister had given us RM10,000. This sum was used for the purchasing of plates and bowls, cutlery, etc., etc., to give petty cash to Mr Raymond our Warden, to pay his salary and his wife's and partly to start the bank account. These transactions will be happily reported to Session that we are taking the first step toward self-support. This is my belief on mutual prosperity.

A "five-and-a-half star" resort to another admirer of Mersing, we have to work toward excellence in every aspect of our founding. We decided on what blankets, towels, bedsheets, etc. we were to buy. To install ping pong tables, badminton outfits, swings and slides and even bicycles for the youngsters' recreation. There was the thought also of a picnic to Rawa Island where the water is crystal clear.

As an army marches on its stomach, food is the most important. Wella, our FEBC Filipino cook, must come along to prepare breakfast (which would include *nasi lemak*, *mee-goreng* from the kampong) apart from the standard items.

The most important of all will be the messages under the theme *Hasting Unto the Coming of the Day of God*. Such eschatological exhortation may come under contempt, but if we are conscientiously living a godly life, it is our divine imperative for these last days. You will awake to the stark fact that it is nearer than we think.

With many of our fellowships, even NBCs holding their own camps, this Church Camp that caters to the whole church gladly welcomes you. There is surely some blessing you can claim to be yours if you are prompted to come. Our capacity

is 200, first come, first served.

Missionaries should come equipped with clearly taken slides to show us your work. A good picture is worth 2,000 words.

The road to Mersing, now being straightened and widened all the way, may be 95% completed by end of May. If you drive up with your family you will save \$40 per person. But be careful of bends here and there.

As the Chinese saying goes, "Every beginning is difficult." Let us be helpful to the management which is trying to do our best. Mersing, ahoy!

MY DEAR BROTHER CHUA KIM SOO

Praise the Lord that He has taken my dear brother in Christ to glory (March 17, 01) though sadly missed by loved ones.

Kim Soo is a member of Life Church from the first day of her founding, Oct 20, 1950, Prinsep St. He is the second eldest of the Chua brothers, Chua Too Swee being No. 4.

Though he worshipped in Serangoon Garden, in Faith or Zion after he shifted from town, he chose to retain membership in Life. He received the Life Weekly which he enjoyed reading to the day of his departure.

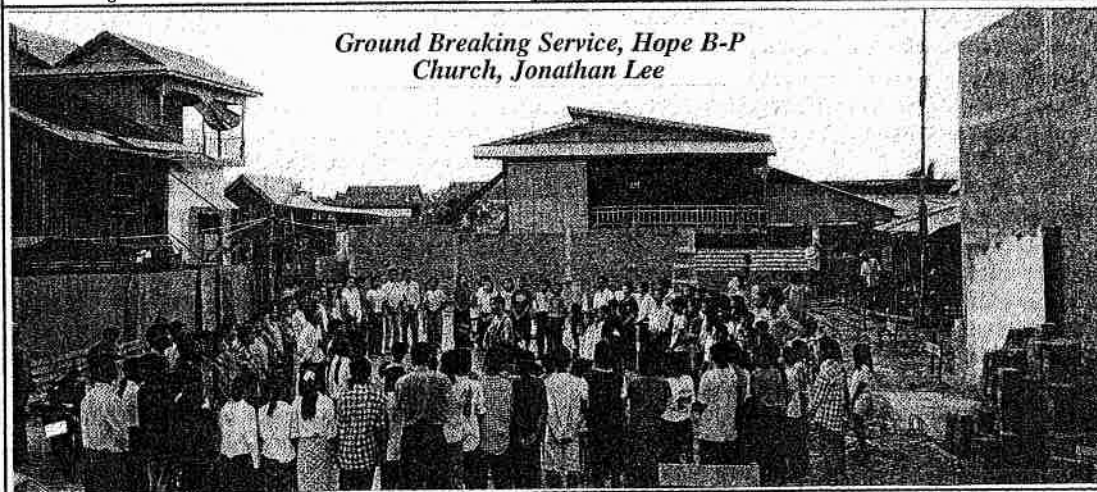
He was a strong supporter of the ICCC and attended some conferences. In 1979 when Rev K C Quek mounted a Relief for Cambodia refugees in Thailand, Kim Soo went along and roomed with me at the Christian Hotel in Bangkok.

Being a continuing member of Life Church, he never missed to send a gift every Anniversary, increasing the amount with the adding up of the years. He read Life Church 50th Anniversary Magazine with delight.

Absent from the body, he is now with the Lord. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (II Tim 4:7,8). Amen.

—T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 9 - 15, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)	\$11,977.00 (8.00 am); \$18,343.00 (10.30 am)		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$150, \$600; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$350, \$300, \$200; Rev Moses Hahn \$300, \$200; Missions \$230, \$670; Falam Bible \$200; Ho Heng Sau \$100; Tat Wai \$500; Rev Seet \$100, \$200, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$100, \$200; FEBC Students \$40 each - Christine Kendagor, John Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Sun Sokha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Chivan, Tran Thanh Minh; Robert Yeo \$3000; Rev Tow \$150; Cambodia Church Bldg Fd \$100; Kenya Medical Supplies \$1000; Rev Tan Eng Boo \$200; Batam Churches \$100; Tracts \$100.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$100, \$3000(Session member), \$100, \$350, \$400(Session member), \$470, \$1000(Session member), \$300, \$100(Prayer Mtg).		
WED	11.15 pm	Rev & Mrs Tow to London, QF 319	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$100, \$250, \$1000, \$100, \$200, \$100, \$100, \$150, \$1000, \$500, \$200, \$500, \$250, \$400, \$2500. Grand Total: \$2,417,066.45. STOP PRESS! \$300, \$3200.		
	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 pm	FEK Board Mtg	(1) Gracious Heavenly Father, Thank you for showing thy grace and lovingkindness upon me in the provision of a new job. Give me strength and wisdom that I might do it well for thy glory. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Jer 9:23-24. —A grateful servant		
THU	7.30 pm	No evening lectures	Annual Congregation Meeting		
	8.00 pm	Prayer Retreat, FEBC Hall	Lord's Day, April 29, 9.30 am sharp.		
	8.00 pm	Sharon BPC Maundy Thursday Service	It is your duty as a member to attend.		
FRI	8.00 pm	COMBINED GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)	Infant Baptism on Easter Sunday, 15 April, 7.00 am. Please register with the Church office (Tel: 2569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names and address by Monday.		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	VBS Registration Forms are available at the VBS booth outside the church sanctuary from today.		
SUN	7.00 am	COMBINED EASTER SUNRISE BAPTISMAL SERVICE (Rev Charles Seet)	Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office. Sun 10.30am - 12.30pm; Mon-Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm.		
	9.00 am	Easter Breakfast (No Sunday School)			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 86					
Sunday School Offering: \$1,226.30; Attendance: 392					
Verse for the Week: <i>He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. Matthew 26:42</i>					
The Helping Hand is looking for full-time workers for the posts of Executive Director and Writer/Executive Secretary. Interested, please call Jean at 283 2204. Rev Tow is at Kelapa Sawit BPC Anniversary this morning. Rev Colin Wong is preaching at the Chinese Service this morning and Rev Charles Seet at Rehoboth this evening.					



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Vol. IX No. 50

8 April 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Geoffrey Tan	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 93	No. 562
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Job 1:6-22	John 12:12-23
Hymn	No. 323	No. 198
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 311	No. 243
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 12:24-26
Sermon	Coping with our Present Suffering (Rev Charles Seet)	If Any Man Serve Me (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 43	No. 423
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

JESUS, HEALER OF ALL OUR DISEASES

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC 10.30 am Service, April 1, 2001)

Text: Matt 8:1-18

After Jesus' long sermon preached on a mountain, identified as one overlooking the Sea of Galilee, He decided to go to the plain. Hundreds and thousands followed him. Out of the crowd, a leper managed to push his way to the Saviour. He fell on his knees and begged Jesus to heal him. Jesus taking pity on him touched him and immediately he was cleansed. Jesus said to him, "See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them" (Lev 14). Jesus did not want to be mobbed by crowds of sick people.

Whether the leper quietly went to the priest or not, news of Jesus' healing was spread abroad. When he entered Capernaum, a village on the Sea of Galilee, a centurion begged Him to heal his son. When he entered Peter's house there lay Peter's wife's mother sick. Both were also healed. Now the news spread like wild fire that by evening time hundreds must have surrounded the house where Jesus stayed, including those possessed by devils. Jesus healed them all by His Word. This fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy, "Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses" (Isa 53:4).

This picture of multitudes of sick people seeking healing is the same today. Go, visit any hospital or outpatient clinic and you meet crowds and crowds of them. Sickness is due to sin, which we inherited from Adam. Jesus, the Second Adam, who came to save us cannot but heal us on compassion, and by His divine power. Jesus heals all the diseases of the body, but He has a greater ministry of healing our soul's diseases, in saving us from our sins and giving us eternal life.

Hence, when he was overwhelmed by the physically sick, when His main purpose was to heal the spiritually dying, He "gave commandment to depart unto the other side" (Matt 8:18). Mark tells us the same story, "And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee. And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth" (Mk 1:37,38). Luke confirms, "And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent" (Lk 4:43,44).

When we say, "Jesus, Healer of our Diseases," the greater importance of the healing is our soul's diseases, the forgiving of our sins and the receiving of everlasting life. This is how God has worked out our mission to Cambodia. We have sent two medical missions there and treated nearly 2,500 cases, but the work of evangelising, the preaching of the Gospel to sinners has gone on, without a break, for the last three-and-a-half years, and hundreds have been baptised.

The emphasis on the spiritual over the physical is seen also in the feeding of the Five Thousand. When the hungry crowds were fed, they would not leave Jesus and wanted more. God gave them physical relief out of compassion, but they must not look for material benefits but rather the spiritual. When the people would come and take him by force to make him king, He departed again into a mountain. When the people found Him, seeking for a second feeding, Jesus answered them and said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled . . . Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed" (Jn 6:26, 27).

Following Jesus' pattern for the spiritual above the physical, our Church sent material help to the starving Cambodians by way of ten containers of food and clothing. This has cost Life Church many tens of thousands over a three-and-a-half year period. The Lord blessed Life Church groups that gave to the containers. But, having done our part, as Jesus had in feeding not only the Five Thousand but Four Thousand, we stopped further sending. For the preaching of the Gospel to save their souls is what our Lord wants, as He said of His own ministry.

To put the healing ministry at a par with the preaching ministry is therefore out of step with our Saviour. And to practise divine healing with the apostles, whether recorded in the Gospels or Acts is wrong. The healing ministry was committed only to the Apostles, specially chosen men, and not to any ordinary Church member (Matt 10:7; Acts 5:12). The Charismatics make their healing ministry to be like our Lord's, that they are also able to cast out devils, and raise the dead, to make the lame to walk and the blind to see. This was the claim when one of their big boys, Reinhard Bonke, visited Singapore many years ago. It was a fiasco.

The healing ministry is now extended even to their members sitting in the pews. One day, we went to pray for a dying brother in hospital. Suddenly there came three charismatic young men who might be acquaintances of our dying brother. As we prayed they quickly joined us. The three of them raised their arms in prayer support. Knowing our brother was soon leaving this earth, we asked for the Lord's mercies to carry him through. But the three-

youngsters seemed to say, "We can resurrect him."

That Jesus healed every one in the first public healing ministry does not give the charismatics the divine power to heal one and all. Many so-called healings are self-induced and self-delusions.

The fact is, "And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief." Jesus did not come to a town like the charismatics and announce he would hold a "miracle rally" to heal the sick.

The right way to heal the sick is given by the Apostle James. "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (5:14-16).

While seeking the Lord through the elders is Biblical, it is in accord to this pattern to seek the doctors, the specialists. They are also gifts of God to a sick mankind. To take two tablets of *Panadol* with thanks to God heals your headaches quickly. But there are those who refuse to take because they think they are more spiritual, but to their own misery.

In a case like cancer, some are curable if diagnosed early. Others are incurable, no matter how. Those incurable ones are appointed of the Lord, according to His holy will. No complaint against God can be made. Our lives are entirely in His hands.

The prayer list for the sick put out by Life Church shows the concern of the Church for her members. God has answered some prayers but not others. At any rate what the Church does is according to God's will and for His glory.

Jesus is Healer of all our diseases. To be healed of our physical diseases is good, but to be healed of our soul's diseases is infinitely better, for to be healed physically might prolong our life for a number of years. To be healed of our spiritual diseases, we will live unto life everlasting.

The big question is, "Have you been healed of your soul's diseases?"

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

The Gospel Meeting held Saturday, Mar 31 under the auspices of FEBC is as much the effort of the Church as of the College. To hold such a

campaign once every semester or twice a year is to uphold a good tradition. We remember Errol Stone especially as a great driving force when he was a student here.

I am glad to see the zeal for evangelism go on unabated, whether it be the preacher, Rev Prabhudas Koshy, from our own faculty, the interpreter Sim Peng Sin, the chairman with his interpreter, the one who gave testimony or the students' choir. The message was clear, simple and penetrating. Keep it up my brethren and sisters.

I consider holding such a Gospel meeting a part of our Homiletics Class. Besides there are the 20,000 invitations and Gospel tracts that are disseminated beyond the College. There is the invisible reaping of further souls.

Evangelism is the No. 2 injunction of four in the Great Commission, which are: missions, evangelism, baptism, indoctrination. Paul says, "Preach the word, be instant in season, out of season." Evangelism must also be a vital ingredient in our Sunday preaching.

When I saw our Church filled practically to the last seat last Sunday I was sure there were a good number of newcomers. The message of salvation must be applied to the lost.

Mission to London

A series of talks, audio visual presentations and guided visits to London sights, celebrating the 5th Anniversary of New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church (London) and the 50th Anniversary of the Bible-Presbyterian Movement will be held Friday, April 13 and Saturday, 14. My assignment is to speak on William Chalmers Burns, Grand-father of Bible-Presbyterians. 100 copies of a booklet I have written of him will be a timely contribution. Besides I am also to preach on Easter Lord's Day. Please uphold me in your prayers. Will some young men be touched to offer his life for missions like William Burns?

Windfall from Heaven

Last week a couple, one a lecturer at Poly and his wife a school teacher, called on the Parsonage, beaming with smiles. They said they are regular patrons to FEBC Bookroom and have bought a good number of my books, including my biography, lately. They visit our website without fail. Recently they received a bonus, \$3,200. They were moved to present this sum to our New Beulah House. I was almost moved to tears.

They say they belong to a once old-fashioned

fundamental church. They were well-grounded in the doctrine of salvation. With the old elders gone, they came under a new set. Instead of the old hymns, full of evangelistic truth, now they are deluged with a flood of new songs and choruses, going over and over again for a weary hour, but little preaching of the Word. They might contemplate coming to join our Church.

A lesson to learn from their remarks, we who are leaders of the Church, including the chairmen, must take care to tune our worship services to the highest pitch. Every sermon must be well prepared and prayed over. Every hymn thoughtfully chosen to coordinate with the theme of the message. Every word by the chairman must be of relevance to the worship with no self intruding, for the word of God must reign supreme. There is no place for song leading, for all know how to sing. The worshippers would rather see God. Announcements are to be limited to the most essential, for the Weekly back page notifies all. (The preacher's time is most important.)

I have attended a Chinese Church where announcements were given after the Service. The long rigmarole repeated week after week lasting 8-10 minutes had scattered the Sermon just preached.

I have read Dr Peter Masters' article on Guided Worship to great benefit.

Our worship must be tuned, prayerfully, to concert pitch!

Mersing Bible Camp, May 28 - June 1, 01

We had planned for 200 to attend. April 15 is the closing date of registration. But we have scarcely half who have responded. With only 14 family rooms, the rest must be accommodated in dormitories. That gives us a total figure of 130. If need be we can extend to the big room above the porch to take in another 20.

Fortunately, we have a nearby Hotel Timotel. Here we have 30 rooms available. This will take care of couples and families.

A young Lifer looked forward to this year's camp because he had missed last year's because Mersing could not finish on time.

Let the Church Prayer Meeting seek the Lord together that the coming Camp will be well prepared, both physically and spiritually that those who come will return fully blessed. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Pray also for our missionaries that they may have a wonderful time of freshening up from their field labours.

—T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 16 - 22, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON 7.30 pm No Eschatology lecture 7.30 pm LF Bible Study		\$10,973.10 (8.00 am); \$22,735.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$1500; Cambodia Orph \$110; Rev David Koo \$400; Rev Jonathan Lee \$650, \$400; Rev Moses Hahn \$400; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100, \$500, \$100, \$480; Surish \$200; Baraka BPC \$52; Missions \$200, \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100, \$360; Ho Heng Sau \$500; FEK \$1000; FEBC \$100; Tat Wai \$400, \$250, \$100, \$50; Rev Seet \$50; Christina Ho \$250; Rev Wong \$50, \$50, \$100; Cambodia Church Bldg Fd \$8586; Kenya Medical Supplies \$220; Rosiana Strait \$100.	
TUE 6.00 pm Rev & Mrs Tow return, QF 10 8.00 pm Prayer Mtg		MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$500, \$1110(Thomson NBC), \$2060, \$1429, \$2800, \$300, \$3000, US\$100(Pauwus, in loving memory of Mother and LeAnne), \$100.	
WED 7.30 pm No 1&2 Peter lecture		NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$300, \$50, \$500, \$50, \$5000, \$200, \$50, \$130. Grand Total: \$2,426,846.45. STOP PRESS! \$1000(Thai guest).	
THU 7.30 pm Parenting (Rev Goh Seng Fong) / Baby Greek II (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)		FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SAT 2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF		(1) God has loved me and blessed me. My heart rejoices for the Lord has been very gracious to me at all times. (\$50 for New Beulah House) —A grateful FEBC student	
SUN 8.00 am Fashioning a Lifestyle in the Midst of Suffering (Elder Dr Lim Teck Chye)		Annual Congregation Meeting Lord's Day, April 29, 9.30 am sharp. It is your duty as a member to attend.	
8.00 am Children's Ministry		VBS Registration Forms are available at the VBS booth outside the church sanctuary.	
9.30 am Sunday School		Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office. Sun 10.30am - 12.30pm; Mon-Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm. Closing date is extended to 22 April.	
10.30 am Rev Tow		Rev Tow is ministering at the 5th Anniversary of Life BPC (London). Rev Colin Wong is preaching at Nazareth and Moriah BPC this morning and Rev Charles Seet at Thai Grace BPC this afternoon.	
10.30 am Chinese Service			
10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
10.30 am Children's Choir Practice			
10.40 am Church Choir Practice			
12.00 pm Burmese Service			
12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
1.00 pm AF			
3.00 pm Thai Service			
4.00 pm Indonesian Service			
4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service			
6.00 pm Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 86			
Sunday School Offering: \$528.87; Attendance: 370			
Verse for the Week: But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. I Corinthians 15:20			



5th Anniversary of
Life B-P Church (London)



Life

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. IX No. 51

15 April 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	Christ the Lord is Risen Today
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Luke 24:1-12
Hymn	Thine is the Glory
Announcements	
Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith & Transfer of Membership	O Happy Day
Pastoral prayer	
Scripture Text	Luke 24:13-35
Sermon	The Road to Emmaus (Rev Charles Seet)
Offering & Hymn	Jesus is Coming Again
Offertory Prayer & Benediction	

"TO GLORIFY GOD AND ENJOY HIM FOREVER"

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the New Life BPC, London, Easter Lord's Day, April 15, 2001)

Text: Titus 2:13,14

This is an appropriate theme chosen for our meditation on this happy Easter Lord's Day, "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." For the Son of God has conquered sin and death for us by His death on Good Friday and our sins are now forgiven because He has risen from the dead. What more endearing relationship can there be, we who were God's enemies but are become His adopted children. Shall not our life be bound to Him, and He become our delight, the motivation of our Christian life?

Thus the Apostle Paul instructs the Colossians, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory" (Col 3:1-4). Such exhortation is it not to induce us to glorify God and enjoy Him forever?

In practice, however, we have many dropouts in the Church. These have left off coming to

worship on the Lord's Day. There are the backsliders who come on and off. They are living a defeated Christian life.

The troubles that hinder them may arise between husband and wife, of infidelity, leading them to separation and divorce. They may come from their disobedient children. The matter of money is a very common cause. Quarrels ensue. They may have been overspending which results in heavy debts.

Life may become so miserable that the thought of suicide comes in. The older we grow the less we have the will to live. Life, detached from the Lord who saved us, becomes more and more burdensome. Familiarity breeds contempt. Couples may sleep on the same bed, but, as the Chinese saying goes, they dream different dreams.

Seeing through the misery that encompasses dropouts and backsliding Christians, Paul beams the healing word on them, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds" (Col 3:5-9).

You who are here this morning, I hope you are all living a victorious Christian life. You who attend Church regularly without missing once in the year except for illness, I'm sure you are glorifying God and enjoying Him forever. It is your duty to visit the dropouts and absentees and find out what are the troubles holding them back.

Once we had a middle aged Christian who had a loving wife and two children. He became so zealous in the service of the Church that he became elected Treasurer of the Sunday School. After one or two years he resigned. From resignation of his job, he resigned from attending church. This affected also his wife and two children. No matter what the Church did to bring him back, he refused.

Later it was found out that he had succumbed to gambling.

Paul exhorts us to glorify God and enjoy Him forever explicitly in his Epistle to Titus. "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:13,14). "To glorify Him" we must be a people zealous of good works, and to "enjoy him forever", we must be "looking for the glorious appearing of the Saviour."

Now that we have found Jesus our Saviour, is He not become the centre of our life? Our life is hid in Him. We pray to Him day and night. We worship Him. In trouble we come to Him. He is a loving father to all. He is a husband to the widow. A lady who was abandoned by her husband found the Saviour through my counselling. She was no more sad. She said Jesus had become a husband to her. Does she not now enjoy Him forever?

To glorify God, Paul exhorts Titus to nurture a congregation zealous of good works. We are saved for a purpose. We are saved to glorify God. We are to translate glorifying God into practical terms, to be zealous of good works.

In the short epistle to Titus, Paul mentions good work six times. This he also says to us. While Protestants are saved by grace through faith, we are often delinquent in producing the good works that are a fruit of faith.

Let me cull from the general teaching of Scripture some of the duties we owe to God that will bring Him glory.

1. Since the Great Commission is to the whole Church, which I would call the First Command to the Church, let us support it with all we can, giving particularly to missions. The better part is to offer ourselves to become missionaries. When William Chalmers Burns gave up law to become a missionary to China, he said this was the greatest decision in all the world he made for his life. Has God been speaking to you, young man or young woman? What will you do with your life? Man's chief end, is it not to "glorify Him and enjoy Him forever"?
2. Let us take care of the sick and poor amongst us. In so doing, do you realise you have done it on the Lord Himself? We are called sheep against the goats which did nothing and are totally rejected. A Christian if he says he loves the Lord must have sympathy to the down and out. "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his

brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also" (1 Jn 4:20,21).

3. In these last days when more and more false Christs and prophets invade the Church, let us earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints. Like David waxing strong for his God who was blasphemed against by Goliath, "Is there not a cause?" The founding of the B-P Church is God's blessing to its leaders for the firm stand they take against Ecumenism and Roman Catholicism. Now the battle wages around the Bible whether we are for the good KJV or NIV, which is based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort.
4. As it is our need to pray, let us come to the Church prayer meeting, which is the least attended. God promises to bless where two or three are gathered in His Name. One reason why God has blessed our prayer meeting in Singapore is we give an half-hour to members to testify of God's mercies which bring glory to His Name.
5. Tithing is the law of financial support of the Church (Mal 3:8-10). Be a regular tither. Are you among those who neglect God with your over-commitments to your own programme? Is God glorified with your leftovers?
6. There is a slogan with Life Church in Singapore: "Do something good for Jesus everyday. Do something good wherever you go." When put to practice the good that you do comes back to you. "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for 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 9:6-8).
7. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you (Matt 6:33).

These seven points I have listed above in my exhortation to good works will surely glorify God. If we do these things we are in the centre of God's will and we will enjoy Him forever. For our Lord is a living Lord who is risen from the dead this Easter Lord's Day. May we walk and talk with Him and serve Him with utmost devotion, for this is the chief end of man. Amen.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

Thanksgiving is Best Insurance

All the 10 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land, almost every time with a full contingent of 50, have returned safely. Setting out, we prayed earnestly for journeying mercies. But it is so easy, when we are safely home, to forget to give thanks.

Some Christian groups will take insurance. But we have found out that the best insurance is to return thanks to the Lord. Another assurance of the Lord's safekeeping is Psalm 41:1, "Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble." In this connection, when the Pilgrims worshipped on Mt. Nebo the first Lord's Day from home, we took a collection which amounted to US\$1,288 (the highest taken) which we handed to the Palestinian (Baraka) Bible-Presbyterian Church. The Lord bless each cheerful Pilgrim.

Returning from the Pilgrimage, we still had S\$500 left. This we turned in to our Church for Miss Davenport.

"Seven Times Seven Plus One"

Last Lord's Day was Kelapa Sawit's 49th Anniversary Service. Kelapa Sawit was founded by Dr Andrew Gih in 1952. Two years later he relinquished the infant Church to us. Since 1954 I have been the moderating pastor. So I have been called again and again to be their Anniversary speaker.

Seven times seven not only means 49, but also the stages of Kelapa Sawit's growth and outreach. 1. Founding of Kelapa Sawit Church and its Building. 2. Kelapa Sawit's accommodation of a Tamil Church in their Sunday worship. 3. Extension to Air Bemban. 4. Extension to Bukit Batu. 5. Outreach to Kemaman. 6. Life Church's founding of Kuantan Kindergarten with John Ling's help. 7. Life Church's founding of Mersing, also through John Ling.

So we came to the 49th year. Leviticus 25, however, tells us that when we have reached seven times seven years, we must prepare for the big celebration in the 50th year, the next year. The B-P Church did so recently and God mightily blessed.

What must we do in the 50th year, the Golden Jubilee Year? We must declare the liberty for the Church. We must give liberty especially to those who work for us. We must think of God's servants. In the past two decades Miss Ng Sang Chiew has given her life to Kelapa Sawit Church. Today, she is sick. Though retired, she still plods on with the Kelapa Sawit Church. The Church should also consider the poor in her midst and give them every assistance. In joyful commemoration, let members cheerfully offer to the Lord for distribution to His people in the next year.

We thank God for the Ladies' Fellowship that came

in the Church van with us and for two more cars. Two adults and 4 infants were baptised plus one reaffirmation of faith. —T.T.

INFANT BAPTISM

01. Han Shih Min
s/o Mr & Mrs Han Ming Kuang
02. Loh Su-Ann, Rachel
d/o Dr & Mrs Loh Keh Chuan
03. Teo Kai En, Jeremy
s/o Mr & Mrs William Teo Wei Liang
04. Wong Kwang Chung, Andre
s/o Mr & Mrs Edward Wong Sy Vui

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 01. Ng Wei Ming, Jevon | Student |
| 02. Ong Hwee Theng, Grace | Student |
| 03. Sim Li Ying, Esther | Student |

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 04. Chia Wei Meng, Vincent | Doctor |
| 05. Choo Bao Ling, Lorraine | Student |
| 06. Choo Ken Boon, Edmond | Teacher |
| 07. Choo Ming Sheng, Gordon | Student |
| 08. Choo Ming Wei, Brandon | Student |
| 09. Gan Jen Loong, Edward | |
| 10. Law Shing Whye, Paul | Instructor |
| 11. Quek Hui Lee, Petrina | Legal Counsel |

BAPTISM

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 12. Angelyn Radakrishnan Devi | Teacher |
| 13. Chee Huijie, Angeline | Student |
| 14. Foo Tun Keat | Student |
| 15. Huen Yen-Lu, Wendy | Undergraduate |
| 16. Lim Ee Feng | Sr Marketing Exec. |
| 17. Lim Shan | Student |
| 18. Lui Phui Ying | Housewife |
| 19. Neo Hao Niu | Editor Asst. |
| 20. Saw Seang Kuan, Matthew | Lawyer |
| 21. Seah Meo Cheng | Homemaker |
| 22. Seow Kian Chek, Joel | National Service |
| 23. Soh Kian Siang, Joel | Engineer |
| 24. Tan Sze Min, Catherine | Auditor |
| 25. Wee Kay Kee, Kenny | Director |

CHINESE SERVICE

Baptism

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 01. Jane Chong | Homemaker |
| 02. Lee Gim Swee | Homemaker |
| 03. Lim Eng Hong | Retiree |
| 04. Yap Kim Song | Teacher |
| 05. Yue Yik Chong | Homemaker |

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 23 - 29, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS: \$28,669.00		
MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology (Rev Tow)	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200; Cambodia Orph \$800, \$200, Rev David Koo \$1250; Rev Jonathan Lee \$1250; Rev Moses Hahn \$1250; Baraka Conf Centre \$50; Kemaman Church \$300; Tangkak BPC \$300; Falam Bible \$1000; Thailand Church Bldg \$1000, \$450; Tat Wai \$50, \$200, \$500; FEBC Students \$50 each - Christine Kendagor, John Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Silha, Paul Kendagor, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Chivan, Tran Thanh Minh, Phairot, Sokha; Rev Colin Wong \$50; Keng Khwang \$250; Robert Yeo \$500; Rev Tow \$100; Cambodia Church Bldg Fund \$300, \$20, \$200; Cambodia Missionaries \$1500; Berean F'ship \$200; Easter Sunrise Service Breakfast \$20. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$50, \$170, \$100, \$200(Safe return), \$1000(Gift for Pastor's Autobiography, Moriah BPC). NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$1250, \$300, \$1500, \$1000, \$1000, \$400, \$100, \$100, \$60, \$300, \$5000, \$100, \$100, \$130, \$1000, \$300, \$400, \$850. Grand Total: \$2,443,786.45.		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS			
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg			
WED	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)			
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal			
THU		FEBC Exam begins			
	7.30 pm	Korean Church Mtg, Sanctuary			
FRI	7.30 am	Korean Church Mtg, Sanctuary			
SAT	2.00 pm	Wedding of Leong Khai Pang & Soon Yan Huey (Rev Charles Seet)			
	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF			
	6.30 pm	Men's Fellowship Anniv., FEBC Hall			
	7.30 pm	Korean Church Mtg, Sanctuary	GOOD FRIDAY OFFERINGS: \$22,206.00		
SUN	8.00 am	Maturing Spiritually in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)			
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.30 am	Annual Congregational Mtg (No Sunday School)			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service	VBS Registration Forms are available at the VBS booth outside the church sanctuary. Bible Camp 2001 (May 28-June 1) at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Malaysia. Please register with full payment and photocopy of passport details at the Camp Registration Office by today from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Corrigendum. (1) Low Yu Xiang, Reuben, s/o Mr & Mrs Michael Low Kiang Gwan (2) Han Shih Min, d/o Mr & Mrs Han Ming Kuang were baptised last Lord's Day. Preaching appointments today: Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour; Rev Wong at Calvary (Jurong) and Maranatha BPC; Rev Charles Seet at Moriah BPC, Indonesian Service and Rehoboth.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service Prayer Mtg: 83			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.					
Annual Congregational Meeting					
NEXT Lord's Day, April 29, 9.30 am sharp.					
It is your duty as a member to attend.					



Youth Camp — David Koo



Life

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. IX No. 52

22 April 2001

"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. 46	No. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Romans 12	Matt 11:28 - 12:14
Hymn	No. 346	No. 126
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 388	No. 428
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Pet 3:12-25	Matt 8:19-22
Sermon	Fashioning a Lifestyle in the Midst of Suffering (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	It Costs Your Life to Follow Christ
	O Rejoice in the Lord	No. 451
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

LONDON MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

My dear Readers

It took us 13+ hours to fly Qantas (\$1,100) to London, leaving Singapore 12.00 am and arriving London 6.15 am, Heathrow Terminal 4. "How long do you stay? And why?" "One week. I'm come to deliver lectures at a Church Conference." No more questions asked.

Dr Patrick Tan, Hazel Chong (husband Peter) from Life Church Prinsep Street days) and Lawrence Chan (FEBCer 1989), New Life missionary to Kenya, were on hand to receive us in the Church's Toyota Eight Seater. They whisked us to Hazel's home for Chinese porridge breakfast. Thereafter we went to a shopping mall and after lunch we checked in at the Holiday Inn. Mark Chen, who came along with us, went with Dr Tan and Co. to stay at the Church Hostel.

Thursday morning, Dr Tan & Co. came to fetch us to the Trinitarian Bible Society for I had a lunch appointment with Mr Rowland, its Gen.-Sec. The TBS was founded early 19th Century to defend the KJB. Its work has grown from year to year, so that it occupies many buildings to house all departments of its ministry. The TBS has branches in 120 countries. Although the NIV, based

on the Westcott and Hort corrupt text, has captured the market, the KJB has more copies printed every year by the Society. From TBS we have also imported giant Bible verse posters to advertise the Word at Church entrances or hallways.

TBS champions the KJB as the most accurate and reliable translation of all English Bibles, based on the Textus Receptus. It takes a stand not only against the NIV but also against the other 100 "perversions." Because it witnesses to the truth we want to do business with them the more. I ordered from them 50 Bible verse scenic posters for our Mersing Resort guest rooms.

We ended the day by returning to Church. Here Hazel Chong cooked *laksa* for dinner, and what a blessing to about 15 who ate. Having been fully renovated since our 50 Holy Land Pilgrims visited in 1997 at the Church Inauguration, what a difference it makes to us today. With the addition of a parsonage and several guest rooms on its second floor and dormitories for men and women occupants on the third (attic), it has a ministry of hospitality all the year round. This saves guests from a lot of expenses. Contact New Life B-P Church, 44 Salisbury Rd., London NW6 6NN, Phone 0171-372-6858 any time.

The 5th Anniversary Annual Conference began on Good Friday with a marathon of seven lectures from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm, with tea

and lunch breaks, under the guidance of Elder Dr Teo Chong Gee. The topics are the English Bible, the English Reformation, the Church through the Ages I & II, The Westminster Assembly, the Heroic Huguenots, I & II. The speakers are Mr Chris Richards, Dr Alan Clifford, Rev Gordon Ferguson.

Saturday, April 14 was my turn on William Chalmers Burns and the conversion of my Great-grandfather under his successor, George Smith. Today the English Presbyterian Church and her Mission that had sent 300 missionaries, apart from William Burns, have died. The Church is absorbed by the United Reformed Church comprising the Congregationalists, Presbyterians, etc., etc. But William Burns lives on in the hearts of his filial grandchildren, the B-Ps in Singapore, and around the world.

After my lecture Dr Teo Chong Gee took us around London to visit the historical sites of the 16th Reformation which lasted till 6.00 pm.

Easter Sunday we went to Church at 11.00 am. The choir sang two special numbers to commemorate the joyous event. I delivered the Easter message under the given title, "To Glorify God and Enjoy Him Forever." After worship this sermon was distributed to the 60-70 worshippers. The evening service at 4.00 pm, Mark Chen preached. Jin who boarded at FEBC for a year-and-a-half and joined Life Church Choir, is now resettled in London. He came to fetch us to his new house to

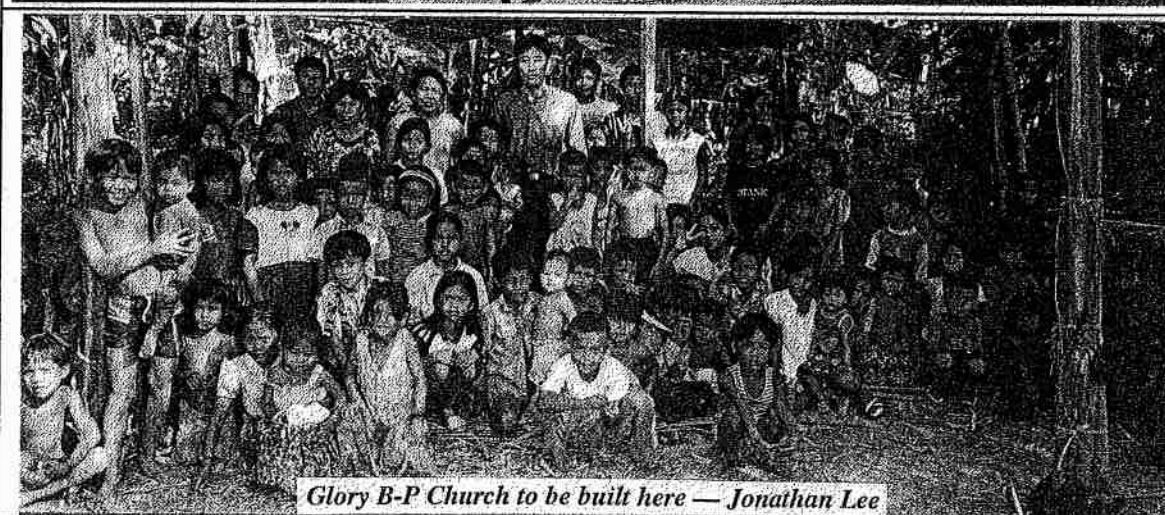
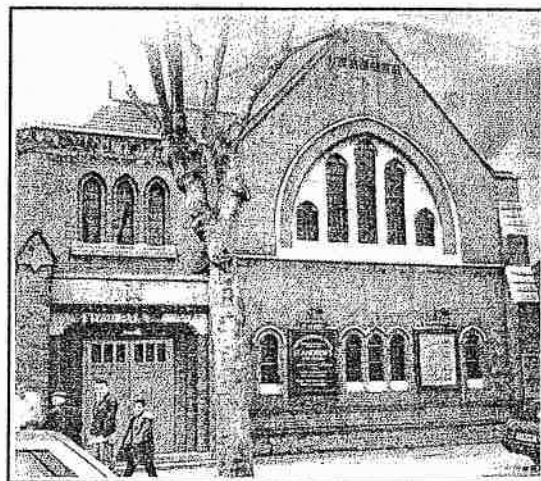
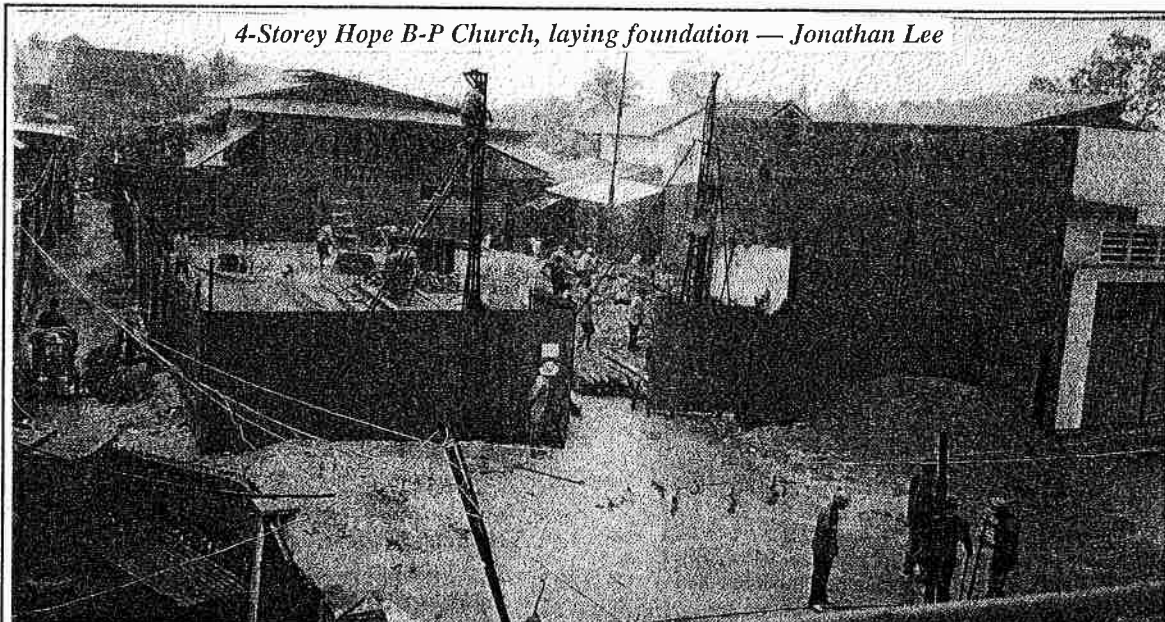
dinner. This included Dr Tan and Mark.

Easter Monday morning we checked out of hotel in preparation to fly home the same night. In order to kill time Dr Teo Chong Gee took us to the British Library to study the ancient Manuscripts. The outstanding one is Codex Sinaiticus, a most corrupt text which Westcott and Hort used together with Codex Vaticanus to destroy the Textus Receptus, the Text on which the KJB is based.

We had a sumptuous dinner with Peter Chong and wife Hazel after which they and Dr Tan and Lawrence Chan sent us to Heathrow Terminal 4 in quarter of an hour. The Chongs who reside at the edge of the Airport has this ministry of hospitality of receiving and sending off guests. We arrived back in Church 7.20 pm the next day. Thank God for a safe return.

—Yours obediently, T.T.

4-Storey Hope B-P Church, laying foundation — Jonathan Lee



Glory B-P Church to be built here — Jonathan Lee

HE HELD A LAMP EACH LIFELONG DAY

*So low that none could miss the way
And yet so high to bring in sight
The picture fair, of Christ, the Light,
That gazing up, the Lamp between
The hand that held it was not seen.*

*He held the pitcher stooping low
To lips of little ones below,
Then raised it to the weary saint
And bade him drink when sick and faint.*

*They drank, the pitcher thus between
The hand that held it scarce was seen.*

*He blew the trumpet soft and clear
That trembling sinners need not fear
And then with louder notes and bold
To storm the walls of Satan's hold;
The trumpet coming thus between
The hand that held it was not seen.*

*But when the Captain says,
"Well done,"
Thou good and faithful servant come
Lay down the pitcher and the lamp
The weary hand will then be seen
Clapsed in His pierced ones between.*

—Author unknown

Verse for the Week:
The LORD is good, a strong hold in
the day of trouble; and he knoweth
them that trust in him. Nahum 1:7

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Apr 30 - May 6, 2001)

MON	7.30 pm	Eschatology Exam
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	1 & 2 Peter Exam
	8.00 pm	Session Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	Parenting / Baby Greek II Exam
FRI	6.00 pm	FEBC End of Semester Thanksgiving Service & Dinner
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Responding to Market-Place Injustice (Rev Charles Seet)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	12.45 pm	Evangelism
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.

Prayer Mtg: 106

NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang.

Sunday School Offering: \$845.71; Attendance: 334

Verse for the Week: *And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.* Isaiah 32:17

Preaching appointments today: Rev Wong at Tangkak and Rawang BPC.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$6,502.00 (8.00 am); \$17,934.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200, \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$400; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$50; Surish \$100; Missions \$100, \$2000; Myanmar Missions \$100; Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$360, \$100; Saipan, Ho Heng Sau \$100; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$500, \$500; FEBC \$360; Tat Wai \$50; Rev Seet \$500; Christina Ho \$2000; Rev Wong \$50, \$500; Magdalene Tan \$100; Ng Sang Chiew \$200; Tan Bee Choo \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$50, \$3000; Rev Tow \$130; Cambodia Missionaries \$40, \$100, \$200; Joseph Liu (Tg Pinang) \$500.

MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$300, \$2000(Session member), \$1000, \$1750, \$159, \$1500, \$200(Session member), \$1000, \$500(Calvarians). **NEW BEULAH HOUSE:** \$70, \$1000, \$100, \$1000, \$1000, \$2000, \$7000, \$200. **Grand Total: \$2,456,156.45.** **STOP PRESS!** £200(FEBCers).

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) Thank you Heavenly Father for blessing my family abundantly; for my recent promotion, performance bonus and long service award. "Promotion cometh neither from the east nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and setteth up another" (Ps 75:6,7). (\$600 to FEBC students)

VBS Registration Forms are available at the VBS booth outside the church sanctuary.

FCM Camp. 28-23 June at Calvary BPC (Tengah). Elder (Dr) Boaz Boon will speak on "Bearing Fruit in Institutions of Higher Learning". Open to all students studying in the univ. and polys as well as those who intend to study in such institutions of higher learning. Contact: Kenneth (NUT): HP 96979354, Email: kence_79@yahoo.com.

Please stay behind for

Annual Congregational Meeting

TODAY, April 29, 9.30 am sharp.

We need a quorum of 478.

Rawang BPC (Muar) was rebuilt by Life Church, 1972. Thereafter a Kindergarten was established. Today it has an enrolment of 200, principal Mrs Teo Teck Heng.



Life

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 1

29 April 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn George Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 24	69
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 118	Jn 8:1-12
Hymn	No. 267	No. 117
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 532	A Psalm of the Sea
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jas 1:1-8	Matt 8:23-27; Lk 5:4-9; Jn 21:15-17
Sermon	Maturing Spiritually in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	The Progression of Peter's Faith
Closing Hymn	No. 335	No. 350
Benediction		

IT COSTS YOUR LIFE TO FOLLOW CHRIST

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC 10.30 am

Service, April 22, 2001)

Matt 8:19-22 "And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead."

This is a hard saying of our Lord Jesus Christ, and many preachers will avoid speaking on it. These are the New Evangelicals and Charismatics who choose to preach only the so-called positive Gospel. They present to their hearers a cross that they have smoothened. Instead of a cross that is rough and hard, as bluntly offered by our Lord, they lure their listeners with sweet rewards. "If you receive Christ as your Saviour He will lead you to prosperity and riches." But this is only one side of the story. This is a half truth.

When this scribe (Jewish Bible scholar) felt attracted to follow Jesus, our Lord told him he must be prepared for a life of hardship and poverty. Jesus had no certain place of abode. When another

asked for time to go home and bury his father, Jesus said that following Him demanded immediate action and burying his father would hinder his following. A perfect example of such a devoted disciple is William Burns. A ready candidate for the mission field, the time came when he was called to go. When asked when he was ready, he said, "Tomorrow." He was literally ordained the next day and sailed for China by a waiting sail boat in the nick of time.

Following Christ demands not only our livelihood but life itself. In another place Jesus said to His disciples, including Peter, "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matt 16:24). To take up your cross and follow Christ is to go to death with Him.

This applies not only to the Apostles, but to every humble disciple in the pew. For Jesus said this not only to the Twelve but to all and sundry, for he says "any man" which includes "any woman and any child." I used to think the challenge was to the Apostles only. I used to think the challenge applied to pastors and full-time workers. But if we examine Church history we will discover ordinary disciples, even women and children, suffered the same fate in order to stay loyal for Christ.

In 1900 there arose in Manchu China a great anti-Christian uprising known as the Boxer Rebellion. The

Empress Dowager gave orders to kill Christians. A hundred and eighty-five missionaries, Protestants and Catholics, with their children, were beheaded. The Chinese believers suffered more heavily. At least 20,000 men, women and children were killed also for their faith. Rev Ting Li Mei, China's first Revivalist who was called the Moody of China and evangelist with 1,000 souls a month, escaped the Boxer's sword. But he was imprisoned for 40 days and received 200 lashes on his bare back. A man with a robust constitution, he survived. Any other person would have died.

Today there are millions of loyal Chinese Christians who refuse to join the Communist State Church. These worship underground in House Churches. A good number are established by converts from Saipan. When discovered, all House Church members are sent to prison including ordinary members, women and children. That is what is meant by "if any man will come after me" (Matt 16:24).

Though Jesus' requirements on us are harsh, even unto death, He is a loving Father to His followers, and He defends His disciples from every harm. "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows" (Matt 10:28-31).

He helps us with Divine wisdom to answer our persecutors, "But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you" (Matt 10:19,20).

The story is told by Rev Tai, missionary from Taiwan to Singapore as follows. During Japan's 50-year rule over Taiwan, a Taiwanese pastor was arrested by the Police. The Police Chief wanted to implicate him. He asked him a question to catch him, "Tell me, who is greater, the Emperor of Japan or Jesus Christ?" Replied the Pastor in a loud voice, "Tenno Heika." When the Police Chief heard "Tenno Heika," which means King of Heaven, the Japanese Emperor's other name, he jumped up and saluted (as was required of subjects). In so doing

he was saluting the Taiwanese pastor as well.

Continued the pastor, "Tenno Heika, we are all taught to be the greatest, how can you compare Jesus with him?" God gave him the wisdom to outwit his captor. He was released.

With regard to Jesus telling the second disciple not to go home to bury his father, it is a test whether we put Him above our filial affections. What Jesus says to the man not to be involved in his father's burial strikes at Confucianism. The rites for the dead amounts to ancestor worship. If it is Taoist, Buddhist or Confucian burial, and you are the only Christian in your family, you should stay clear of the rites. You can show your respect. But you cannot bow or carry joss sticks. Is Jesus first in our life above our parents, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister? When we give Him first place, He will reward us accordingly. "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life" (Matt 19:29).

We who live in Singapore under a Government of law and order and given freedom to all religions must thank God for the peace. We are exhorted to pray for kings and all that are in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life (1 Tim 2:1,2).

But times are not always good. Especially to us who live in the end-times. There will arise false Christs and false prophets, and persecutions will come upon the believers. Are we able to stand up for Christ and witness a good confession even unto death? Have we forgotten the burning of a Church in Batam so recently, and the death of many Christians in other parts of Indonesia? Religious strife can flare up anywhere any time.

Should it happen to us, we must pray to stand firm. To the Christians in Singapore Jesus says, "Be thou faithful unto death." It costs our life to follow Christ.

THE EMPTINESS OF RICHES

(Message delivered by our Pastor to Life Church
Prayer Meeting, April 24, 2001)

Text: Eccles 5:9-17

God provides mankind liberally from the produce of the earth, whether to the ruler of the realm or to the common people. From the field comes the grain, from the farm, meat, from the sea,

fish. He sends the rains, and water is free flowing. Man should be satisfied with the necessities of life God has provided.

But man is not satisfied with natural provisions. He wants more and more. He wants to amass much more than he needs. The more he gets the more he wants. I had a friend during the Japanese occupation. He bought and sold in the black market and made some money. When the War was over, he told me he must now make a million—to satisfy his crave for riches. But he never made it. Solomon says, "This is vanity." How true!

When a businessman expands his business he has to spend the more with its growth. He has to hire more hands and pay their salaries. Whether he earns correspondingly or not, he has to upkeep them. An architect friend of mine has a sizeable staff. He has a perennial headache and that is to pay their salaries on time. Sometimes it is hard to make ends meet. He sighed deeply, "I wish I were a salary drawing draughtsman than a *towkay* of an architect. Then I wouldn't have to worry my head off."

Herein we see how an employee enjoys a good sleep whether he is paid high or low, but the rich *towkay* with all his burdens can never enjoy sound sleep. The rich fool in Jesus' parable, Luke 12:16, illustrates. As his goods increased so that his warehouse became too small for storage, he planned to pull it down and build bigger for his increased wealth. Instead of a good sleep he made calculations all night. The Lord came to him and said, "You will die tonight and your new warehouse will become whose property?" This rich man is a poor man before God.

To become rich tends to be hurtful. It makes a man conceited, and in his security, he loves the world even more. This draws him away from God and duty. This makes him forget it is the Lord who has given him power to get wealth (Deut 8:18). When he had just enough, he paid regularly his tithe. But what a paradox, when he becomes richer he gives the lesser.

Riches become a curse to those who possess them. Riches are perishing things and we cannot stop them. Thus Paul exhorts Timothy, "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" (1 Tim 6:6-10).

"In respect of the body the dust shall return to the earth as it was. But sad is our case if the soul returns as it came. For we were born in sin, and if we die in sin, unsanctified, we had better never have been born. That seems the case here spoken" (Matthew Henry).

What a life for one to spend his days in endless care and toil, to live fretfully and end his hours in sorrow and anger until he breathes his last. Such people have laboured only for the wind and when they die like the wind they are gone to nowhere.

How sad a life is the worldling when he does not sorrow for his sins and come to repentance. He is angry at the providence of God, angry at his sickness, angry at all around him, which increases his affliction till his death. But a good man, one who is saved, has a happy ending though he goes through sickness and suffering. Truly a rich man's life, without God, is vanity of vanities.

BIDADARI

This is the old cemetery at the 4th mile Upper Serangoon Road closed for the last 30-odd years. Here many of our loved ones are buried. This is their resting place where according to Bible teaching, their bodies, made from the earth, are returned to earth. They are absorbed, earth to earth, dust to dust.

After 30-40 years they are gone. Even the words on their tombstones have disappeared.

Now the Government is going to build over their graveyard. They will exhume the graves of our loved ones. What shall we do with them? Elder Chia Kim Chwee is of the opinion that we who buried them have obeyed the Lord. Now they are all returned to earth. We have done our duty. We can do nothing more to them. I totally agree with Elder Chia's opinion. We B-Ps do not believe in cremation. Amen.

—T.T.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 7 - 13, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.45 pm FEBC Vacation Begins Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$9,093.00 (8.00 am); \$17,698.00* (10.30 am)
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$142, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100; Surish \$250; Missions \$1000, \$200; Falam Bible \$100; Myanmar Orph \$200; China/Saipan Mission \$500; Ho Heng Sau \$100; Rev Pang Kok Hiong \$100; Nirands \$200; Life Church Choir \$50, \$260; FEBC \$500; Tat Wai \$50, \$400, \$250, \$300, \$1000; Rev Seet \$50, \$100; Rev Wong \$50; Dn Henry Tan \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$400; Rev Tow \$250; Chan Pui Meng \$100, \$500; Cambodia Missionaries \$1000, \$150, \$400, \$100, \$250; Cambodia \$500. [*includes \$2000(MF)]
WED	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$500, \$4900, £200(London), RM100(Peace BPC).
FRI	7.45 pm Men's & Ladies Combined F'ship, Beulah House	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$420, \$50, \$1000, \$150, \$1000, \$285, \$1000, \$130, \$150, \$250, \$150, \$250, \$1000, \$250. Grand Total: \$2,462,761.45. STOP PRESS! \$3072(FEBC Lecturers); \$2753(Staff), \$500.
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF 2.30 pm Gethsemane BPC Wedding (Rev Charles Seet)	
SUN	8.00 am Community Responsibility in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Bob Phee, Lord's Supper)	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am Sunday School	
	10.30 am Rev Tan Choon Seng	
	10.30 am Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	
	12.00 pm Burmese Service	
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	3.00 pm Thai Service	
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.	
	6.00 pm 26th FEBC Graduation Service	
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 73		
Verse for the Week: Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Psalm 119:33		
FCM Camp. 18-23 June at Calvary BPC (Tengah). Elder (Dr) Boaz Boon will speak on "Bearing Fruit in Institutions of Higher Learning". Open to all students studying in the univ. and polys as well as those who intend to study in such institutions of higher learning. Contact: Kenneth (NTU): HP 96979354, Email: kence_79@yahoo.com.		

FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE
announces
the 26th Graduation Service
at Calvary Bible-Presbyterian Church (Pandan)
Lord's Day, 13th May, 2001, 6.00 pm
Refreshments following ceremony

Life MP3 Sermons Volume 2 (24 Dec 2000 to 29 Apr 2001) & Volume 1 (6 Aug 2000 to 17 Dec 2000) MP3 Compact Discs are available at \$10 each. MP3 format at 64 kbps with ID3V2 tag. Interested, please pre-pay your order at the FEBC Bookroom latest by 13 May 2001 (Sunday). Self-collect from 20 May 2001 (Sunday) at the FEBC Bookroom.
Preaching appointments today: Rev Colin Wong at Batam and Rev Charles Seet at Macedonia and Berean BPC in the afternoon.



Women's Fellowship of Grace B-P Church, Jonathan Lee



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Vol. X No. 2

6 May 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Ong Eng Lam	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 72	No. 85
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 55:1-23	Lk 18:31-43
Hymn	No. 109	No. 306
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 283	Jesus Breaks Every Fetter
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 2:18-25	Matt 8:28-34
Sermon	Responding to Market-Place Injustice (Rev Charles Seet)	
Closing Hymn	No. 335	No. 281 Lord's Supper
Benediction		

THE PROGRESSION OF PETER'S FAITH (Inexperienced faith, experienced faith, and faith that needs no experience)

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC

10.30 am Service, April 29, 2001)

Matt 8:23; Lk 5:4-9; Jn 21:15-17

The Sea of Galilee is a fresh water lake 13 miles long and 6 miles wide. It is shaped like a harp. In all our 10 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land we have always sailed across it. And we have always experienced a calm crossing. We would never have known how boisterous it could be until we read the short but vivid account of the disciples' terrifying experience. "And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves. . ." (Matt 8:24). Mark says, "and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full" (Mk 4:37). To make it more trying, Jesus was fast asleep. The disciples had to wake Him up, "Lord, save us: we perish." The ship would be totally submerged in a minute.

In one of our Pilgrimages we arrived at the hotel we were staying, which was perched on the Lake. Upon our arrival, the wind rose to a storm that would be like the one raging over the disciples' boat that Jesus sailed. It would be a most traumatic

experience if we were on a boat that afternoon.

Jesus arose and rebuked the waves and the sea, and there was a great calm.

The Bible concludes, "But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!" Jesus is no ordinary man. He is the Son of God. He is the Lord of heaven and earth.

I would pick out Peter, the spokesman of the Twelve who marvelled, "What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!" He is the one above all others who rose to a new understanding of who his Lord was. He has progressed from his inexperienced faith. He now believes Jesus, indeed, is the Son of the living God.

During the Japanese War we took shelter in our Uncle's country house at Ah Hood Road, deep inside Toa Payoh, where it was a farmland. In the last stages of the War, Japanese shelling of Toa Payoh was thick and fast. We all crawled into the sandbagged shelter to hide, crying to God for deliverance. As for grandfather he stayed at an open corner of the house and he kept to his open bed unperturbed, praying. Ours was an inexperienced faith, his faith was far above ours. He had experienced many deliverances from great danger in his life in China.

What is your reaction when you meet with any traumatic experience? Do you become fearfully desperate

like the disciples who rushed to wake Jesus up to save them? I had such an experience crossing the Atlantic on my way to America in 1947. How, as I clung to the railing of my bunk-bed when the ship pitched and rolled alarmingly, I also cried, "Lord, save me!" After a storm that held on for one week and we were delivered I progressed in my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He had heard my prayer. He had saved me.

The second step of Peter's faith is in his fishing experience. The whole night he had caught nothing. Now when it was broad daylight, when it was less likely to catch anything, Jesus told him to launch out into the deep. As the Master commands he is obliged to obey. To his utter amazement he caught two boatloads and the fish nets broke. How much would the two boatloads of fish cost? In today's calculation perhaps \$3,000? This would be a year's pay earned in a day. Peter was so overwhelmed by this experience that he fell on his knees and worshipped Jesus. "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" He felt so humbled for his half-doubting and half-believing that he confessed himself unworthy of His grace. But his faith was greatly strengthened by this experience. His inexperienced faith has progressed to experienced faith.

Have you experienced such a transformation as Peter in the matter of earning your livelihood? Oftentimes, in our Weekly Paper we have members who offer their salary to the Lord. Whether it be for that extra month's bonus on top of sudden promotion, whether it be quick recovery from a cancer operation, whether it be for deliverance from death in a motor accident, it is a testimony of the progressing of their faith. Having experienced God's goodness, their faith has developed to experienced faith.

During my study in America, God supplied my needs in a wonderful way by giving me odd jobs when I needed them, or by Christian hands mindful of me. Henceforth I had no worry of my future needs. This is my experienced faith. Will you, young people, learn to trust in Him more?

The third and last episode in Peter's life is his fishing experience with his six friends on the Sea of Galilee after the resurrection of our Saviour. Again they caught nothing. In the early morning hours when they were cold and shivering came

Jesus. He directed them to cast the net on the right side (for they were casting on the wrong side). In no time they pulled in 153 great fishes. On top of this big catch Jesus prepared breakfast, steaming hot fish and bread for them.

Then Jesus tested Peter. "Do you love me more than these?", meaning the good catch of fish. Peter loved his Lord who gave him a good catch this second time. He is doubly convinced his livelihood is assured. His faith is so strengthened that he needs no more such experience. This is double, yea triple faith. Peter is now completely sold to his Lord. Whatever He requests of him, he will gladly surrender, even life itself. Jesus wants Peter to be a pastor of His flock. And Jesus wants Peter to remain faithful, even to death. "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me" (Jn 21:18-19).

Every disciple chosen by the Lord and so much loved by the Lord should follow Peter's example. Another who served God like Peter is the Apostle Paul. Paul and Peter both died a martyr's death for their Saviour. Their faith was so strongly fortified that there was no question to what extent they would serve their Lord.

We who are His servants, whether full-time or part-time, should be willing to suffer and die for Him. But there are so few who will answer Jesus' call today to serve Him as a pastor.

From inexperienced faith, Peter progressed to experienced faith and from experienced faith he attained to such a solid faith that it needed no further experience. Can you say that of yourself?

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

Next Lord's Day, May 13, is Mother's Day. It happens to be my turn to speak at the Chinese Service. Being Son of a Mother's Vow it will be a great honour for me to speak on Mother's Love and Filial Piety. There will be a *makan* after service.

The same Sunday evening at 6.00 pm the FEBC will hold her 26th Graduation Exercises at

Calvary Pandan's Sunset Gospel Hour. There will be a total of 30 graduands. Dr S H Tow will be our speaker. Refreshments will be served after graduation. Why not spend a profitable evening meeting with many nationalities hailing from 17 countries? Come and meet many old friends. We need to encourage one another in the service of the Lord.

In no time Lifers will be going to our Annual Bible Camp at our Mersing Youth Camp. The Malaysian Government calls it Resort Lautan Biru or Blue Sea Resort. Ours is the only one facing the South China Sea. The ocean is ours.

There are over 170 campers signed up. We still have space in the dormitories. Hurry! While this camp (May 28 - June 1) will offer you a time of relaxation from work, work, work, let us pray for the speakers that they may bless us with the exposition of God's Word.

On the first day of Camp, May 28, we will hold the Inauguration of the Resort. Invited guests are provided with comfortable transport by taking the four coaches leaving Life Church at 7.30 am sharp. The Inauguration Service will commence at 12 noon after which all will dine together. The coaches return to Singapore with our guests at 2.30 pm. The Lord has for the last two years been widening and straightening the road for us, all the way from Kota Tinggi to Mersing. But do not drive too fast for safety's sake. Those who drive up save S\$40 round trip if they were to go by coach.

Deacon L S Pang is chairman of the New Beulah House Planning Committee. While alterations are being made for AKL's drawings, he will bring in soil testings of Beulah Land in a matter of weeks. This will thrill you that action is being taken. When we will start building depends on how much we've accumulated.

Our building costs are estimated around \$8 million. We need another \$2 million at least to start piling. If every Lifer will tithe monthly and regularly, we shall be more than viable. To set an example, the salaried staff of both Life Church and FEBC including scholarships are regularly contributing their tithes. By building an educational building of four storeys we are spared paying the levy of \$2.85 million.

Sister Chan Pui Meng has offered herself to

serve as a nurse in Maasai land, Kenya. She will labour together with Lilian and Lawrence Chan (FEBCer 1989) under the auspices of New Life BPC (Dr Patrick Tan). She will leave around middle of June and be commissioned at Life Church 10.30 am service, June 3. —Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

TESTIMONY

Thank God for His grace and mercy to me. It has been almost eleven years since I received the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour.

It was in December 1984 that I came to hear the gospel, shared by a stranger. I was told that God is Love and He loves me. She invited me to her church. However, my idol worshipping family was strongly against it. To me, Christianity was just another religion then, thus I turned down her invitation. God did not stop there. By His grace, I received Gospel tracts from the letterbox and strangers, strangers who knocked at my door and strangers sitting next to me in the public bus.

Sometime in 1988, my sister who had received the Lord Jesus, came to share the Gospel with me. In addition, I heard the Gospel again during my polytechnic freshman orientation in 1989. I came to realise how sinful I am and how merciful God is to me. In 1989 I received Jesus as my personal Lord and Saviour. By His grace and my sister's testimony, I took the courage to attend church (with my parents' knowledge).

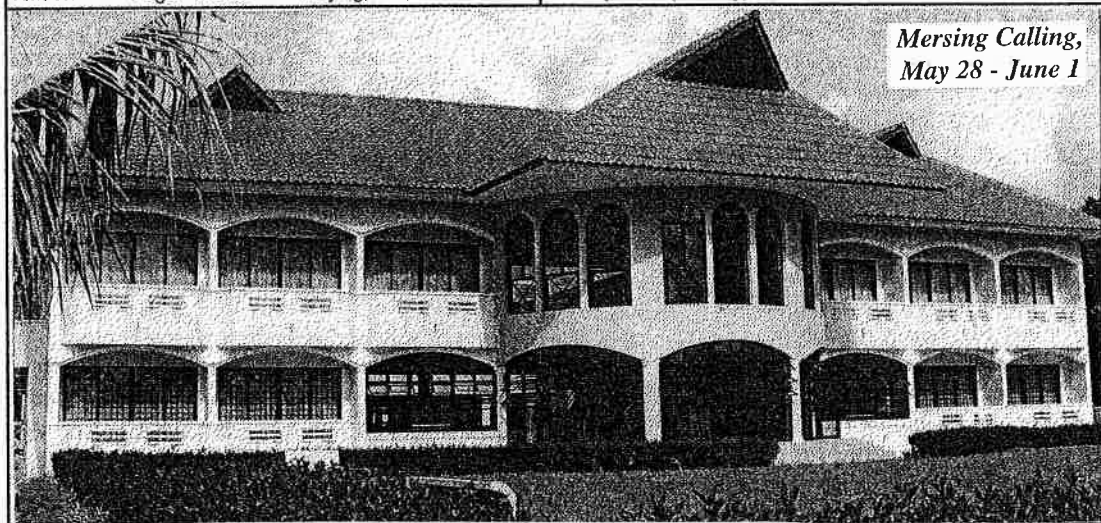
As the years passed, I started to take God for granted, especially when I started working. I was so committed to my work that I stopped worshipping God. I was very sinful then, all I thought of was how to please my boss. In fact, to date, I am still struggling with my sin.

In the year 2000 a sister in Christ came to encourage me. God continued to work in my heart through her persistence. I now see the need to acknowledge my sin in public and to fulfil His command to be baptised. Praise and thank God my mother (still an unbeliever) has given me her consent.

As I recall, I see how God has been merciful and patient to me, a sinner so unworthy. Praise and thanks to the Almighty God. Amen.

—Joel Soh Kian Siang

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 14 - 20, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$11,843.00 (8.00 am); \$18,241.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$100, \$100, \$100, \$500; Cambodia Sunday School \$1035; Cambodia Orph \$100, \$600; Rev Jonathan Lee \$800, \$250; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$200, \$150; Surish \$100; Baraka BPC \$80; Falam Bible \$100; Myanmar Orph \$60, \$100; Chan Tat Wai \$50, \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$50; Robert Yeo, Philippines \$1000; Tan Bee Choo \$200; Tan Klan Sing \$32, \$100; Rev Tow \$500; Kenya Medical Supplies \$500, \$2500; Obi Village family, Cambodia \$200; Son of a Mother's Vow Book Launch \$980. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$350, \$100, \$100, \$470, \$3000(Session member), \$506.72(Session member), \$1200(Thomson NBC), \$630(Session member).		
WED	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Sharon BPC)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$110, \$250, \$200, \$100, \$150, \$4608, \$200(Session member), \$1000, \$3072, \$500, \$400, \$200. Grand Total: \$2,480,076.45. STOP PRESS! \$100(Indonesia), \$1000(FEBC student).		
THU	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (JSM)	FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF	announces		
SUN	2.30 pm	JSM Wedding	the 26th Graduation Service		
	8.00 am	Maintaining a Marriage in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Tow)	at Calvary Bible-Presbyterian Church (Pandan)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Lord's Day, 13th May, 2001, 6.00 pm		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Refreshments following ceremony		
	10.30 am	Rev Quek Suan Yew	All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised on Easter Sunday are cordially invited to a Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch next Lord's Day at 12.00 pm at Beulah House. Fellowship groups are requested to send 2 representatives. Please reply to the office.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Roger Lim on the birth of a baby girl, Prudence Lim En-Song, on 7 May.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Life MP3 Sermons Volume 2 (24 Dec 2000 to 29 Apr 2001) & Volume 1 (6 Aug 2000 to 17 Dec 2000) MP3 Compact Discs are available at \$10 each. Interested, please pre-pay your order at the FEBC Bookroom by today. Self-collect from 20 May 2001 (Sunday) at the FEBC Bookroom.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.00 pm	Catechumen's Fellowship Lunch			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism Prayer Mtg: 201			
	3.00 pm	Rev Tow at Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.					
Sunday School Offering: \$1,135.70; Attendance: 362					
Verse for the Week: <i>The fear of the Lord tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.</i> Proverbs 19:23					
Preaching appointments today: Rev Tow at Chinese Service; Rev Colin Wong at Galilee BPC; Rev Charles Seet at Hope Baptist Church.					
Addendum. Page 3 : Chai Muei Huying, BRE					



Mersing Calling,
May 28 - June 1



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Vol. X No. 3

13 May 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 27	No. 8
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 12:12-24	1 Thess 4:1-7
Hymn	No. 261	No. 256
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 293	No. 409
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 1:11-17	Matthew 5:8
Sermon	Community Responsibility in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Dr Bob Phee)	Blessed are the Pure in Heart (Rev Tan Choon Seng)
	Lord's Supper	
Closing Hymn	No. 392	No. 116
Benediction		

JESUS BREAKS EVERY FETTER, JESUS SETS ME FREE

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC

10.30 am Service, May 6, 2001)

Text: Matt 8:28-34

After giving the Great Commission to His disciples to go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, Jesus added, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mk 16:17-18). It is to be noted that these are special powers conferred on the Apostles as recorded in Acts 5:12, "And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people..." For further confirmation miracles of healing and casting out devils are mentioned together with the names of Peter and Paul.

These miraculous powers were given indeed for the confirming of the Word they preached (Mk 16:20). As the Gospel was established, these miracles were being withdrawn, so that they are little mentioned in the latter part of the Acts of the Apostles. This fact was observed by St Augustine, an eminent Church Father

of the 5th century.

With the rising of the Charismatic Movement at the beginning of the 20th century, the seeking of signs and wonders by their advocates has resulted in the practice of tongues-speaking, healing the sick, even casting out devils. Satan, the Deceiver, is quick to mislead them into misleading themselves. So, what happens today in Charismatic circles are counterfeit tongues, counterfeit healings, counterfeit casting out devils. The so-called healing campaigns are totally ineffective.

In the Reinhard Bonke campaign in Singapore many years ago it was advertised he would open the eyes of the blind and make the lame to walk but he could do nothing of the sort. Today Benny Hinn heads the healing and casting out devils of the Charismatics but because he is powerless he sidetracks into "the slaying of the spirit." In this "slaying of the Spirit" the TV revealed how he failed when two tall and muscular men stared back at him, standing their ground. Slyly he avoided them and turned on the girls... (I saw this in Perth, June 2000.)

It was observed at the beginning of this sermon that the special powers of healing and casting out devils was given to the Apostles for the purpose of confirming the Word (Mark 16:20). But when the church was established these miracles were withdrawn as observed by St Augustine. It is therefore vain for the Charismatics to try to revive these

miraculous gifts.

Now what a totally different picture is presented before us when Jesus, the Son of God, appears on the scene. The devils cringe before Him, like darkness fading before the light. The devils which possessed the two men cried out for mercy, "What have we to do with Thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?" The devils begged Jesus to let them leave the two men they possessed and send them into a herd of pigs. This Jesus allowed, to further manifest His power. He is the Lord of creation and governs every creature. He had just stilled the storm which almost sank the boat His disciples were in and calmed the sea and the waves.

Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever. Jesus can and He will save us, according to His good pleasure, and according to how we approach Him.

Why are the Charismatic healers totally helpless in their methods? They are become the victims of their bombastic actions. They, being puny men, want to play God! If they succeed, I have commented before, Jesus would lose His job! Some Charismatic healers are practising as their trade, for gain, and many instances of rigging up their claims are reported in American circles. Some use psychology to cover up their inability.

This is one unforgettable experience we had with an American doctor, Dr Gray. At the healing meeting he "scared" us with the announcement he would tell us what sickness we had. Then he pointed to some ladies in the audience. And he began to widen the circle of his pointing, to include 30 or 40 of them. Then he said one of them was suffering from diabetes. I immediately sensed his trickery. I wrote him off as a charlatan.

Does Jesus heal today? I know of one He gave power to heal. It is Dr John Sung during his campaign in Singapore in 1935. John Sung confessed he was reluctant to do this. By the entreaty of a British missionary to China where medical care is about non-existent in rural areas, he took up the ministry of mercy. His healing ministry is one fortieth of his preaching ministry. After 40 sermons, he took one afternoon to heal.

Two testimonies will suffice to prove my point. My father was a chain smoker. I was his "cigarette boy." He sent me to buy cigarettes for him. Before

John Sung came my father tried to stop smoking, but in vain. After hearing John Sung for a few times he came home one night and gathered the whole family. He brought out all his cigarettes including Chinese tobacco and burnt them in the open air. God had snapped his habit that day.

Another testimony comes from Elder Sim Eng Khoon of Lim Chu Kang Presbyterian Church. He was delivered not only from chain-smoking but also from drinking, snap, during the John Sung campaign. He told me how he threw all his cigarettes and wine bottles into the drain.

Does Jesus heal today? Our greatest problem today is drug addiction. Yes, when we approach Him in humility and exalt Him to the addicts as the Son of God and only Saviour, He will work. At FEBC we have received at least 10 rehabilitated drug addicts from the Helping Hand, and these have made good, after they graduated from FEBC. One Singaporean is now heading the House of Hope in Cebu, Philippines. Another heads another Rehabilitation House in Batam. A third is a missionary to Thailand. They are not those whom Charismatics claim to be delivered by a touch, but painstakingly brought up in the School of Christ.

If you need healing, and whatever may be your problems, you must come to Jesus like the two possessed, surrendering all and casting yourself down before His mercies. If He has pity on you and you have believed with your whole heart, confessing your sins, you also can be healed. If not, you cannot complain. "I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion" (Rom 9:15)." Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb 4:16).

*Jesus breaks every fetter
Jesus breaks every fetter
Jesus breaks every fetter
Jesus sets me free*



Far Eastern Bible College holds its 16th Graduation Exercises at Sunset Gospel Hour, Calvary Pandan today, May 13, 6.00 pm. The Lord's messenger is Dr S H Tow, Calvary's Senior Pastor.

Refreshments will be served.

There will be 34 graduands. They are:

Master of Divinity

1. Han Jae Seog (Korea)
2. Samson Hutagalung (Indonesia)
3. Sim Peng Sin (Singapore)
4. Tan Kian Sing (Singapore)

Master of Religious Education

5. Mathews Abraham (India)
6. Sakunee Kriangchaiporn (Thailand)
7. Henry Tan Kiat Siong (Singapore)

Bachelor of Theology

8. Ephrem Chiracho Ouchula (Ethiopia)
9. Dennis Kwok Chee Hou (Singapore)
10. Jonathan Cheruiyot Langat (Kenya)
11. Francis Onyango Nyamiwa (Kenya)
12. Phairot Songsawadwong (Thailand)
13. Susan Suryati (Indonesia)
14. Tan Bee Choo (Singapore)

Bachelor of Religious Education

15. Joshua Cheng Qing Hua (USA)
16. Im Ha Young (Korea)
17. Karuna Sitthisakthanakul (Thailand)

Diploma in Theology

18. Ng Boon Choo (Singapore)
19. Park Jong Gyoo
20. Ratchanee Ritnatikul (Thailand)
21. Shachendra Shrestha (Nepal)

Certificate of Biblical Studies

22. Aguni (Indonesia)
23. Jean Lee Meow Song (Singapore)
24. Nguyen Thi Thu (Vietnam)
25. Joshua Pinto (Singapore)
26. Saman Preechawong (Thailand)
27. Charlene Sia Chi Chen (Singapore)

Certificate of Religious Knowledge

28. Daniel Chew (Canada)
29. Zacky Choo (Singapore)
30. Mary Chua (Singapore)
31. Ng Keng Tiong (Singapore)
32. Ong Chin Ping (Singapore)
33. Poh Ee Huat (Singapore)
34. Xie Ping (P.R. China)

A new phenomenon in our graduation is the increase of laymen taking the Certificate courses. This will equip them better for teaching Sunday School or for leadership in the various fellowships.

—T.T.

TESTIMONY

I came from a family deeply rooted in Taoism. I was brought up to have a great prejudice against Christianity. Being sent to a Catholic primary school, I remembered arguing vehemently with fellow Catholic classmates about whose God is greater on many occasions.

It is truly miraculous how I first came into intimate contact with Christianity and subsequently led to the Lord. That was during my secondary one holidays when I attended VBS at Life Church out of peer pressure and boredom. VBS was introduced to us by our Chinese teacher. I recalled going for VBS full of excitement. But at the end of the first day, I was deeply struck and troubled by some lessons on sin and hell. I could only vaguely remember I agreed to say the sinner's prayer on a particular morning after I was presented with the gospel and I felt greatly relieved after that. However, I did not have the courage to tell my parents of my new found "faith".

After a year or so of secretly attending the then Life Bible Class, my parents found out I was attending church. They asked me to bring to them all my Christian related stuff and they threw them away, including my first Bible given at VBS and they forbade me to attend church. Though I attended LBC on and off, I slowly drifted away from Christianity. Indeed, though I know the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the only true living God, my cares were more focused on worldly things instead of spiritual ones.

During my first year in the university, I was dealt with a series of setbacks in school work and relationships and suddenly I felt helpless and lonely. Feeling dejected and despondent, I remembered crying out to God and finding comfort in reading the Bible and praying. My desire to seek God more increased and I attended Fundamental Christian Ministry (FCM) and was subsequently brought to Life Church YF. It was during the time in YF that I started being serious about my Christian faith. I really thank God for drawing me back to Him and giving me a niche in Life Church, especially in the YF. Looking back, I could only marvel at how He works. The only regret I have now is the seven or eight years that I have wasted, which I could have spent knowing and serving Him.

—Foo Tun Keat

David Ong and family would like to thank Pastors and all Lifers for their attendance, support and encouragement during their recent bereavement on the home-going of his father, Robert Ong Chin Thiam.

—\$200 to New Beulah House

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 21 - 27, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$9,133.00 (8.00 am); \$14,686.00 (10.30 am)
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100, \$150; Deborah Kie \$100; Cambodia \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$300, \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100; Surish \$50; Baraka Conf Centre \$150; Andrew Kam \$200; Falam Bible \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100; Ladies F'ship \$100; MsF \$250; Tat Wai \$190, \$50, \$50, \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$150, \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$150, \$50; Henry Tan \$100; FEBC Students \$40 each: John Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Sun Sokha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Tran Thanh Minh, Srun Chivan, Christine Kendagor; Keng Khwang \$100; Tan Bee Choo \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$200; Rev Tow \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$1500; Kenya Medical Supplies \$220; FEBC Graduation \$8,089.75, \$500, RM25, \$200(FEBC student). MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$500, \$110, \$1050, \$100(Berith BPC), US\$510(Japan).
WED	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Wong)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$100, \$200, \$50, \$100, \$800, \$400, \$200, \$300, \$130, \$250, \$150. Grand Total: \$2,484,356.45.
THU	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Tow)	STOP PRESS! \$1000(FEBC Graduation), \$2500(Session member).
SAT	2.30 pm Sharon BPC Wedding	All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised on Easter Sunday are cordially invited to a Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch today at 12.00 pm at Beulah House.
	3.00 pm YAF; 3.30 EBF	Bible Camp 2001: All campers are to attend an important camp briefing on May 22 (Tuesday) at 7:00 pm in the FEBC Hall. Note: For campers going by coach on May 28 (Monday), please assemble at Life Church at 7:00 am. Coaches will depart at 7:30 am.
SUN	3.00 pm Young Teens Workshop, FEBC Hall	Our condolences to: (1) Maurice Cheong and family on the homegoing of his father, Cheong Peng Sai (94) on 15 May. Mr Cheong was baptised by Rev Tow at the Alexandra Hospital on 12 May in the presence of his son and daughter-in-law and fellow members of Bt Batok NBC, Benny Goh and Boon Siong. The funeral was conducted by Rev Tow on 19 May. (2) The family of the late Jimmy Chee (53) who went to be with the Lord on 16 May. The funeral was conducted by Revs Tow and Wong on 19 May.
	8.00 am Responding to Personal Intimidation (Rev Colin Wong)	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am Sunday School	
	10.30 am Rev Tow	
	10.30 am Chinese Service	
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	
	12.00 pm Burmese Service	
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	3.00 pm Thai Service Prayer Mtg: 104	
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.	
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.		
Sunday School Offering: \$512.40; Attendance: 538337		
Verse for the Week: <i>A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh hast to be rich shall not be innocent. Prov 28:20</i>		
Family Worship at Mr & Mrs Edwin Seow's home, Fri. 25 May at 8 pm. Address: 27A Duke's Rd (268909). Tel: 4635893.		
Preaching appointments today: Rev Tow at Thai Grace BPC; Rev Colin Wong at Maranatha YF; Rev Charles Seet at Gethsemane BPC and Sunset Gospel Hour.		



Praising the Lord with angklung music
at Batu Aji Church, Batam,
Indonesia



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 4

20 May 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Tow	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	Jesus My Lord...	No. 85
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 128	Jn 10:1-18
Hymn	Blest the Man...	No. 110
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 364	No. 543
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rev 2:1-7	Ezekiel 2
Sermon	Maintaining a Marriage in the Midst of Suffering	Failure or Success in Ministry? (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	No. 261	No. 337
Benediction		

I. THE RIGHT USE OF RICHES IN THE FEAR OF GOD

(Message delivered to the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting,
Life Church, May 15, 2001)

Eccles 5:18-20

Life is a gift from God. And how long we live this life is appointed of God (Job 14:5). God also appoints the kind of job we take. Let us do a good job and serve Him with gladness and not as a drudgery. We should not complain about our job like so many today, but praise the Lord for it. Let us not try to grasp at more business than we can go through without frustration. Godly contentment is great gain.

When God has blessed our lives with riches it is legitimate for us to enjoy them, thanking Him for His goodness. We can live in a bigger house and drive a better car, but remember we are not *towkays* but stewards. And "remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as it is this day" (Deut 8:18). Therefore we must live frugally that we may give our dues to the Lord. We save up to support the work of His Church and missions. How sad it is when we over-commit ourselves in over-spending and give back to God our leftovers.

In the fear of God let us be drawn to Jesus our Saviour who says, "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed" (Jn 6:27). "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt 6:33).

II. THE VANITY OF RICHES WITHOUT POWER TO ENJOY THEM, AND OF LONG LIFE WITH A SAD END

Eccles 6:1-6

Conversely, Solomon observes a common evil in the affairs of men. Here is a rich man and honourable who has everything he wants, but God gives him no power to enjoy what he has got. By one means or another, be it sickness or bodily injury, a man is deprived of the legitimate enjoyment of his wealth. He has money aplenty but no appetite to eat the choicest food. Appetite is a blessing to our palate from God. "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's" (Ps 103:5). The enjoyment thereof is taken over by another person. Strangers, those outside of his family, come and devour his substance. They usurp his properties. Is this not a case of vanity of vanities?

Solomon enlarges (vv. 3-6) on the case of a man of means, not only possessing great wealth and honour, but also living a long life. And should he beget a hundred children, but he does not have a happy life, and ends up without a decent burial, of what profit is it to him? I say it were better he had a premature birth. For he had lived a meaningless life, and he exhibited a life without a purpose. He finally departed in darkness and was forgotten — out of sight, out of mind.

If an untimely birth has had no enjoyment, neither has it had suffering. To end up immediately in the grave without tasting the miseries of human life is far better. (Buddhist philosophy says life is a sea of sorrows.) He who has entered into life only for one moment, to quit it the next, has a better lot than he who has lived long but only to suffer.

Truly, a life without Christ, is hell! This is vanity of vanities. But a life lived for God is not only meaningful but profitable. Jesus says to Peter, and His other disciples, "Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life" (Matt 19:28,29).

FOUNDING ETHOS OF THE FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE*

Theological training is vital for church growth. In his book *Forty Years on the Road to Church Growth*, FEBC's founding principal Dr Timothy Tow wrote: 'Without proper Bible training, the church that relies on self-taught evangelists or missionaries will be stifled in growth, inasmuch as the tether of their theological knowledge is short and the ability of their preaching skills is limited'.

Many a self-made pastor has lost his way due to a lack of intensive, systematic training in the Word. Even the theologically trained can succumb to error. So, in obedience to the Pauline mandate, 'And the things that thou has heard of me among



many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also' (2 Timothy 2:2), FEBC was instituted in Singapore.

On 28 April 1962 the late Dr Paul Contento laid the foundation stone of FEBC and prayed to the Lord that he would raise up great Christian leaders and preachers from the college's ranks.

In those days, theology in the seminaries was taught exclusively by modernist professors. There was a crying need for a Bible-believing institute in the Far East for the propagation of the true gospel and the defence of the biblical faith. The stranglehold of modernism and ecumenism needed to be broken.

These needs remain today, made more acute by the emergence of new and virulent 'isms', like postmodernism, neo-evangelicalism, charismaticism, hyper-Calvinism and neo-Pharisaism.

Moreover, counselling methods, which syncretise Christian truth with heresy, and unscriptural church-growth methods, have added to the deluge of unbelief and apostasy that is drowning many a seminary today. The need for theologically sound Bible colleges has never been so great.

FEBC was constituted to propagate the Reformed faith and is affiliated to the International Council of Christian Churches (ICCC). It has a pre-millennial view of the end-times. It endeavours to carry the Reformation torch into this new century by setting high biblical standards and training both men and women to become effective servant-leaders for the church militant.

*As published in the *Evangelical Times (UK)*, March 2001.

* * *

The 26th Graduation of FEBC, held at the Sunset Gospel hour, Calvary Pandan last week was attended by 700. Of the thirty-five graduates, 18 were conferred the Bachelor or Masters degrees. This brought up the grand total of graduates during the last 39 years to 376.

The Oath of Allegiance to the Word of God, in the words of Dean Burgon of Oxford, was taken by

both Faculty and Directors, "I swear in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that I believe "the Bible is none other than the voice of Him that sitteth upon the throne. Every book of it, every chapter of it, every verse of it, every syllable of it, every letter of it, is direct utterance of the Most High. The Bible is none other than the Word of God, not some part of it more, some part of it less, but all alike the utterance of Him that sitteth upon the throne, faultless, unerring, supreme." So help me God, AMEN."

The message, "Set for the Defence of the Faith" was delivered by Dr S.H. Tow. The Principal echoed to the message that the battle now being waged is the King James Bible versus the 100 new versions based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort. FEBC takes a strong stand with the KJB against the NIV for "we can do nothing against the truth but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8). The people gave cheerfully, \$8,789.75 + RM25, to the College's support. A happy time of fellowship over the dinner table climaxed the night of rejoicing. The College would like to thank Calvary BPC for hosting the 700 guests on Graduation Night.

Echo: Ten graduates are forming a team to visit our Korean missionaries in Cambodia, in June.

—T.T.

TESTIMONY

My name is Edward Gan Jen Loong. I was born in Singapore in 1971. I accepted Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour in 1990 while I was still serving my national service in the Army.

Prior to my conversion, my first encounters with God and the person of Jesus Christ began while I was still in primary school. My parents had felt that it would be good to send me to a mission school so I went to St Michael's School, which was a Catholic school. Back then, religion did not occur to me as something fundamentally important in my life. All I knew was that I had to follow the rest in saying my prayers every morning and also listen attentively while some of the teachers read Bible stories. It was in that early process, however, that I slowly began to form my early ideas of God as a monotheistic entity, although I was still very confused about any references made to the Trinity. I began to see the person of Jesus Christ as a friend,

although nothing more at this point. My concept of religion and faith was very Bible-centred earlier on and the other faiths and religions began to have less of an impact on my personal life.

It was during the tumultuous times of transforming from a teenager to adulthood in national service that I began to ask serious questions about life. An opportunity presented itself for me to revisit my ideas about religion that I had formed in childhood in primary school. A friend whom I worked closely with in my army unit invited me to his church for service. After some encouragement from him and a personal soul-searching on my own, I accepted Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour in mid-1990 at a Sunday morning service.

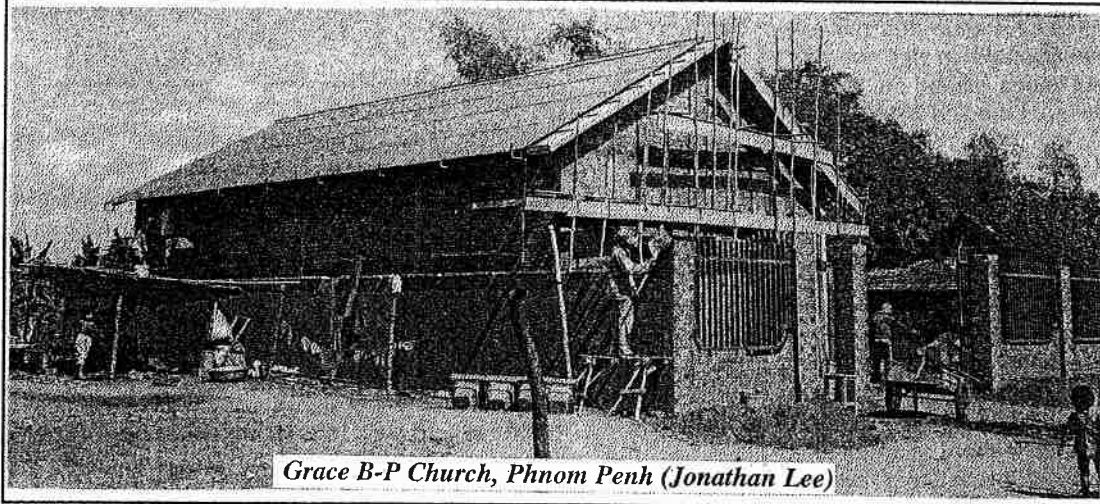
After about six months at that church, I began to feel uncomfortable about the way they conducted their charismatic services and prayers. In my heart, I felt some people were just putting on a show and drawing attention to themselves. Although I had no theological disagreements with charismaticism at this point, I left the church looking for another, feeling peace in my heart and a sense that the Holy Spirit is leading me forward in another direction.

I began attending Wesley Methodist Church after I left Church of Praise. It was the nearest church to my previous home that was not charismatic and the people were friendly and supportive. In the next two years, I grew in my Christian faith while attending the Methodist Youth Fellowship. I decided to get baptised there in 1992 before I left for further studies abroad.

During my time abroad, I was exposed to the Reformed Faith and movement. On my visits back home, I realised also that a few of my close friends from secondary school had accepted Christ and were attending Life B-P Church. Subsequently, during my vacation time back home, I also attended Life B-P Church and began to develop firmer theological convictions about the Reformation and the BP Movement.

Having been back in Singapore for about two years now while attending Life B-P Church and involved in the YAF, I feel it is time to transfer my membership formally from Wesley Methodist Church. I look forward to many years of fellowship and service in this church and pray that I will continue to walk close to God and also help other members to do so.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 28 - June 3, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON-FRI	Church Camp	\$7,356.00 (8.00 am); \$17,764.00 (10.30 am)	
MON	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship BS	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Deborah Kie</i> \$50; <i>Cambodia</i> \$200; <i>Phnom Penh Hope BPC</i> \$1000, \$500; <i>Myanmar</i> \$150; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$1320, \$360; <i>Saipan Church Bldg Fd</i> \$500; <i>Tract/Bk/Tape Ministry</i> \$659.20; <i>Tai Wai</i> \$100; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$100; <i>Christina Ho</i> \$1000; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$1000(AF), \$1000(AF); <i>Glory BPC, Cambodia</i> \$500, <i>Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$800, \$400, \$29000, \$1000; <i>Chinese Service</i> \$70; <i>Batam Kg Becek Project</i> \$1000; <i>FEBC</i> \$16,160, \$1000(Cal-Tengah BPC); <i>Mersing Inauguration</i> \$100(Berean BPC), \$200(Sharon BPC); NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$35, \$700, \$100, \$2000, \$100, \$150, \$300, \$130, \$100, \$500, \$150, \$2000, \$200(Children's Ministry), \$350, \$150(Session Member), \$4200, \$622, \$499.80. GRAND TOTAL: \$2,501,061.25. STOP PRESS! \$500, A\$100, \$2715(Staff).	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg (Elder Mahadevan)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SAT	2.30 pm YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(1) Thank offering to our gracious Lord and God, the Lord Jesus Christ, for His faithfulness and divine providence on the maturity of an endowment policy. (\$16,160 to FEBC) — A Calvinian	
	4.00 pm Wedding of Goh Chuan Sin & Chiang Hwee Min (Rev Tow)	(2) Do accept this love gift of \$1,000 from us for the work of the FEBC — may the Lord prosper this work to train men and women for the Gospel outreach all over the world.	
SUN	8.00 am <i>Overcoming Temptation in the Midst of Suffering</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	Missionary Fellowship 11th Anniv. Thanksgiving Service. 10 June, FEBC Hall. Lunch 12.15 pm. Service 12.45 pm. "Give Me This Mountain" by Rev (Dr) Patrick Tan. Testimony by Chan Pui Meng, missionary nurse to Kenya.	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	Sunday School Teachers' Training Course 2001. Every Lord's Day 1 Jul to 19 Aug, 8.15 - 9.15 am, FEBC Library. Doctrinal Courses by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact Chua Teow Tzing (Tel:7743743, Email:ctt110sc@singnet.com.sg) or Elder Sherman Ong (Tel:96684457, Email:elong@magix.com.sg).	
	9.30 am Sunday School	To reach any of the pastors during the week, call Mersing Youth Camp at Tel: 02-07-7996139 or fax: 02-07-7991313 or email: resortlb@tm.net.my.	
	10.30 am Rev Tow, Lord's Supper (Commissioning of Chan Pui Meng)	Preaching appointments today: <i>Rev Charles Seet</i> at Sembawang BPC and Indonesian Service.	
	10.30 am Chinese Service		
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship		
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice		
	12.00 pm Burmese Service		
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	12.45 pm Evangelism		
	3.00 pm Thai Service		
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.		
NBC This Week. <i>Fri</i> Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 119			
Sunday School Offering: \$795.20; Attendance: 342			
Verse for the Week: <i>Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Isaiah 12:2</i>			
Bible Camp 2001: For campers going by coach on May 28 (Monday), please assemble at Life Church at 7:00 am. Coaches will depart at 7:30 am.			



Grace B-P Church, Phnom Penh (Jonathan Lee)



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Vol. X No. 5

27 May 2001

"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. 87
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Jer 26:8-16	I Thess 4:13-18
Hymn	No. 355	No. 536
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 44	No. 398
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Pet 3:13-22	Matt 9:1-8
Sermon	Responding to Personal Intimidation (Rev Colin Wong)	Are Your Sins Forgiven?
Closing Hymn	No. 43	No. 479
Benediction		

My dear Lifers

THAI SERVICE, 3.00 PM

Last Lord's Day, it was my turn to speak at the Thai Service, Beulah House. There were 30 present of whom 20% were men. The reason is the husbands are Singaporeans. It is primarily a women's church, a Thai Church.

Fortunately, they have a man to lead the work. He is another of our Thai students, and he is a senior at FEBC. He interpreted for me. The Thais are a Buddhist nation. Only half per cent are Christians. When I prayed for two men who received the Lord, I was overjoyed. They are workers in Singapore. When they return to Thailand they should strengthen the home church.

There are about 7 Thai students at FEBC. It is our prayer also that graduates who return to their homeland will build up the Thai Church. Our direct contribution to building God's Kingdom in Thailand is the support of Nirand and Jess for the last one decade in Chiang Mai.

HOW EARNEST ARE YOU IN BUILDING NEW BEULAH HOUSE?

We have done quite well for the last one year in bringing \$1.7 million. But our giving is tapering as we enter the second year.

To give systematically and regularly, our church and college staff offer their monthly tithe. Scholarship students also give their one tenth. If everyone in the Church would do likewise there will be no problem rebuilding Beulah House!

To whip up interest it will be wonderful if every department of Church, from Sunday School to all the Fellowships would follow suit, earmarking a monthly portion. Interest-free loans to the Church can now accrue 2.625% from Citibank where we put our money. With \$1.7 million now in bank the interest earned will be \$44,200 per annum. "Many a mickle makes a muckle." With the rallying to the Mersing account, I understand what Mersing has loaned from Beulah is now squared up. Henceforth, let all sums go to New Beulah House. Watch how it grows. If we want to rebuild by June 2002, we must give at least **\$2.3 million**. "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts" (Haggai 2:8).

RECEPTION TO AUTOBIOGRAPHY

(1) *We thank you and the Church for sending us regularly the BPC Weekly and for sending us recently the Golden Jubilee magazine and your autobiography book. It is compelling . . . and is helping us greatly in strengthening our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. We will be passing on this book to our daughters — Malini and Nalini after*

we have finished reading it.

We enclose a bank draft for \$100 (Australian) to help in the work of Jesus Christ in this world.

May the Lord bless the Church and the work you are doing for the expansion of the Lord's Kingdom.

(2) I am delighted to come home from church today (Sunday) and see your new book "Son of A Mother's Vow" on my desk. I have glanced through it and find the book very fascinating, with a gold mine of spiritual nuggets. Thanks for giving all of us a glimpse into your Christ-centred upbringing - from your beloved Mother - and God's faithfulness in your wonderful Family. I appreciate your keeping us in touch with you and your vital ministries. May God bless you abundantly.

(3) Your autobiography arrived last week. Of course the Easter weekend was pressing upon us and I did not really get to tackle it until yesterday. I got very little sleep Monday night; I simply could not put the book down! Thank you for remembering me. Now I feel that we have already met, though that is yet to come.

The face of your dear mother exudes character



and determination; she must have been a wonderful woman. I am tremendously impressed by your account of those early days, and by your father's admiration and close affinity with one of my childhood heroes: the great Generalissimo and friend of Christians. He is reputed to have been a Christian himself, was he not? The great tragedy of China came home forcefully to me in 1949, then again exactly 40 years later at Tiananmen Square.

MERSING, AHOY!

As you thrill to this call from the sea, you'll be soon packing your bag for our Mersing Bible Camp. Four big coaches carrying 44 passengers each will leave Gilstead Road Monday, May 28, 7.30 am. These will include guests invited to the Inauguration. Many others will drive up the 100 miles in 3 hours.

We have travelled many times during the days of Mersing's construction and this time it is with a big contingent. We are happy to report to motorists that the highway from JB to Mersing is 95% improved. It has taken the Government the last two years straightening, widening and remaking these 80 miles so that it is much smoother and pleasanter to drive all the way. Because it is new, there will be hiccups, especially at joints to bridges.

We would advise you to drive moderately fast. There are still a number of bends which should keep you wide awake. At any rate, remember SAFETY FIRST. Every time we set out to the Holy Land, our chief concern was safety. We cannot be less concerned about this short trip to Mersing. So pray, and keep on praying.

Our Mersing Resort can take in at most 150, 100 to be housed in dorms. But being a family camp for such a big church, we overflow with 186, many requiring private rooms. Fortunately we have nearby a hotel named Timotel which has 26 surplus rooms for us. If this arrangement is satisfactory, the venue of Life Church Annual Camp is solved. That will save us thousands.

Our aim for Mersing is dual. Not only physical recreation for overworked Singaporeans but spiritual rejuvenation for our hearts and souls. In this connection we ask for your prayer support that God will grant us His Word to speak to every camper, not forgetting the Chinese Section and the

Children's Section.

And there are many new things for you to discover yet. But one thing to bear in mind, you are prohibited to evangelise Malays. N.B!

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

TESTIMONIES

My first exposure to the Bible was during my primary school days when I attended some Sunday school classes. However, the teaching of the Bible had no impact on me as I grew up in a non-Christian family.

When I started working, a colleague who is a member of Life Church, tried to preach to me the Gospel but I lent a deaf ear. I was a free-thinker.

In 1989, tragedy struck when I lost my baby daughter despite an emergency Caesarian operation. I was filled with guilt, anger, acute pain and deep grief. After much persuasion from my colleague who became a good friend, I attended Life Church. My first visit to this Church was unforgettable because of two hymns sung - "Does Jesus Care" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." The Lord has a way to tell me that He is touched by my grief and He cares and loves me. No one could ease my pain and comfort me the way Jesus did.

My husband did not go to church with me until five years later. In 1994, we went through another crisis in the family. We were near despair as we could not cope with the problem. We humbly took it to the Lord in prayer. The merciful Lord answered our prayer although we had neglected Him all these years.

All things worked out for good through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

—Lui Phui Ying

My first brush with Christians and their teachings was some time back in my primary school days. I was approached by a group of Christians making their rounds near my house. All I remembered them saying were, "You are sinful and will burn in eternal hell" and "Only God can save you." When I heard these truths then, I was angry and frightened. Who was to tell me that I would end up in hell? Yet I was frightened. I did believe there is heaven and hell. But my anger got the better of me and I walked away, from God.

What happened in the following years were quite unexpected.

While I was in secondary school, a lady knocked on my door and wanted to talk to me about God. The surprising thing was I was the only one at home and I actually let this complete stranger into my house! She shared with me her relationship with God and gave me a little book to read. Though I have come to realise that the book is tainted with other doctrines, it was a step closer to knowing God and the world He has planned for us.

Subsequently I got into ACJC where there was devotion every morning and chapel once a week. Through these sessions, I heard more about God and His Word. And sometimes the messages did strike a chord in my heart. I later got to know a schoolmate who is now my very close friend. I believe that this is truly God's will. He shared with me his life and showed me how God was there when he was down. He also cleared a lot of misconceptions I had about Bible teachings. Soon after, he brought me to Life Church.

However, I started to question my reason for wanting to accept Christ into my life. Doubts began to surface. I kept worrying that I was conjuring up an image of myself believing and living up to that image. It was a terrible struggle. And I was apprehensive about baptism at first. But thank God, I finally realised that I have made the right decision. The next hurdle would be my parents. Though they are not staunch Buddhists, they have reservations about me getting baptised. But thank and praise God that I am able to receive Christ as my Lord and Saviour this Easter.

—Wendy Huen Yen-Lu

In Memory of Chan Tat Wai

It is with great sadness that we received the news of Tat Wai's homegoing. Many of us who prayed for him will remember how he persevered in faith for more than seven months since the time he was diagnosed with leukemia. Having fought the good fight and finished his course, he now takes leave of this earthly life to enjoy his well-deserved rest! May his family and loved ones be comforted to know that he is safe in the arms of Jesus. There will be a vigil service this evening at 8:00 pm at Block 106, Spottiswoode Park Road. The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 10:00 am.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 4 - 10, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$8,108.00 (8.00 am); \$14,293.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$250; Rev David Koo \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$320, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Surish \$100; Myanmar Orph \$150; Barnabas Yap \$200; Tat Wai \$30; Rev Seet \$50, \$150, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$150, \$50; Rev Tow \$160; Chan Pui Meng \$200, \$400, \$100; Africa Maasai Medical Ministry \$200, \$1000, \$1000; Chinese Service \$250.		
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, G&H Classroom	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: Inauguration \$100(Rehoboth), \$30000(Calvary Pandan BPC).		
SAT	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$50, \$1000, \$4500, \$1000, \$100, \$50, \$150, \$250. Grand Total: \$2,510,519.25.		
	2.00 pm	Wedding of Lee Pak Sing & Fiona Wong (Rev Colin Wong)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SUN	3.30 pm	EBF	(1) To God be the glory! Thank you, Lord, for answering my prayer. "Thou art great. Doest wondrous things, Thou art God alone." (Surish \$100; Cambodia \$100; Chinese Bibles \$100; Beulah House \$150)		
	8.00 am	What Should Our Lifestyle be in these Last Days? (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	(2) Thank you, Lord, for protection, grace and recent variable bonus. —Unworthy servant		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(3) Thank you, Lord, for good health and mercies. Most of all for allowing us to "cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee" (Ps 55:22). (\$1320 to Myanmar Orphanage).		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Missionary Fellowship 11th Anniv. Thanksgiving Service next Lord's Day, FEBC Hall. Lunch 12.15 pm. Service 12.45 pm. "Give Me This Mountain" by Rev (Dr) Patrick Tan. Testimony by Chan Pui Meng, missionary nurse to Kenya.		
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet	Sunday School Teachers' Training Course 2001. Every Lord's Day 1 Jul to 19 Aug, 8.15 - 9.15 am, FEBC Library. Doctrinal Courses by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact Chua Teow Tzing (Tel:7743743, Email:ctt110sc@singnet.com.sg) or Elder Sherman Ong (Tel:96684457, Email:elong@magix.com.sg).		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	Our condolences to Mrs Low Siew Kiang and family on the homegoing of her mother, Heng Teck Hui (88) on 30 May. Funeral will be conducted by Rev Tow at 2.00 pm today.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.15 pm	Missionary F'ship Anniv., FEBC Hall			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. No NBC		Prayer Mtg: 46			
Sunday School Offering: \$617.30; Attendance: 294					
Verse for the Week: It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. Psalm 18:32					
Preaching appointments : Rev Charles Seet at Batam today and Shalom B-P Church Camp from Monday to Friday.					



Life B-P Church Camp,
Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing



Life

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Vol. X No. 6

3 June 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 217	No. 18
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 10:1-13	Matt 10:32-42
Hymn	No. 130	No. 451
Announcements		Commissioning of Chan Pui Meng
Offering & Hymn	No. 398	No. 424
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 4:1-6	Matt 9:9
Sermon	Overcoming Temptation in the Midst of Suffering (Rev Colin Wong)	The Call of Matthew
Closing Hymn	No. 401	No. 559
Benediction		Lord's Supper

ARE YOUR SINS FORGIVEN?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC

10.30 am Service, May 27, 2001)

Text: Matt 9:1-8

This is a most wonderful story of saving faith. A paralysed man was brought to the Lord Jesus Christ for healing. In Mark chapter 2 it is stated this paralysed man was carried by four men. As the house in which Jesus was was so crowded with people that it was impossible for them to enter, the four men went up, apparently by an outside staircase to the roof top. There they opened up the roof and lowered the sick man into the presence of Jesus. Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralysed man, "Your sins be forgiven you."

Right there were some scribes (Jewish theologians) who heard these words. Immediately they criticised our Lord in their hearts, "This man blasphemeth. Who can forgive sins but God only?" Seeing through their hearts, Jesus replied, "Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins (he saith to the sick of the palsy), I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. And immediately he arose and took up the bed, and

went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion" (Mk 2:7-12).

Matthew 9:8 climaxes, "But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men." Did the scribes, seeing the ensuing miracle, also glorify God? From the silence that follows the scribes gave not God the glory. Their sins were doubly unforgiven.

Today we have Christian scribes, modern bishops and pastors, theological professors, who preach not the saving grace of our Lord Jesus but instead the social gospel. They are liberals and modernists who are wolves in sheep's clothing. They try to take away the wonderful works of God. They deny the miracles recorded in the Bible.

An American bishop who taught us English at the senior class of the Anglo-Chinese School said sarcastically, "If you can believe that Jonah was swallowed by the whale, then you can also believe that Jonah swallowed the whale." This statement runs counter to Jesus' reference to Jonah. "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" (Matt 12:40). Jesus believed what Scripture says literally.

What is your attitude to our Lord Jesus Christ? Can He forgive sins? Possibly there may be one or two in our midst who believe Jesus was a mere man, a prophet at most. Jesus was not God so He could not forgive sins.

I had a very good friend who was supposedly converted in the John Sung Revival in Singapore in 1935. When I paid him a visit 7 or 8 years after, during the Japanese Occupation, he told me he did not believe Jesus was God. At most He was a prophet. This friend is an old man now and lives a most miserable life because He rejects believing in Jesus.

If having heard the Gospel time and again and you reject Jesus the Son of God to be your Saviour, watch out what will become of your future! Do you know if Jesus has forgiven you of your sins?

While there are those whose sins are never forgiven because like the Jewish scribes they reject Jesus, there are others who are not sure because they have not come face to face with Jesus.

The paralysed man is a case in point. Helped by the faith of his four friends who brought him before the Lord, he also believed. He sincerely believed He is God's Son who can save him. Many of us, as we read from testimonies published in Life Church Weekly, are also brought by friends to Life Church. Here we hear the preaching of the Gospel. We believe with our heart He is the appointed Saviour of God. In believing we experience the joyous salvation we find in Him. We are saved. Our sins are forgiven.

It is therefore every Christian's duty to lead non-Christians to Christ. The pastor has his part in proclaiming the Word. We have our duty to bring people to Church or Gospel Rally and even counsel them that they may receive Christ. The four men who brought the paralytic are our good example.

There are also old-timers who come regularly to Church. But the Word seems to come to them, ear in and ear out. Once I asked the wife of an old elder. I asked her when the time comes for her to depart this life whether she would go to heaven or to hell. She closed her eyes to think for a moment. She replied, "I am not sure." I had to indoctrinate her on the forgiveness of sins. She was afraid if she sinned just before she died, then it would be a precarious situation. I assured her her sins were forgiven when she first believed, and God would be forgiving her all the time because the blood of Jesus Christ keeps on cleansing her of her sins. The trouble with many Christians is they have never been told, "Once saved, always saved."

I was also in such a nebulous situation. To make it very sure, you must be born again. You receive the new life that gives you strength to rise up and walk spiritually. When you have the joy of the new birth you automatically experience the forgiveness of sin. On the day I was born again I joined in the

singing of "In the cross, in the cross, Be my glory ever, All my sins are washed away, in the Blood of Jesus." I truly experienced the forgiveness of my sins by singing that chorus.

How can we be born again? Simply believe. Like the paralysed man. His four friends' faith helped him. But above all it was his personal faith in Jesus that make him whole. His sins were forgiven because he believed and repented. Repentance confirms the saving faith which leads to forgiveness. If you are not sure if your sins are forgiven, look to Jesus as the paralysed man had looked. He walked immediately at Jesus' Word. When we are born again we receive new life that we might walk. Our sins are also forgiven. Can you now say, "All my sins are forgiven"?

GOD IS THE IRRESISTIBLE POWER BEHIND OUR MERSING PROJECT

Text: "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).

Paul, writing to the Philippians, observes that it was not he who had done anything to found the Church of the Philippians, but God Himself and that He would complete this work until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

If we hark back to before Paul's coming to Philippi, he was trying to go first to Asia and then Bithynia. On both occasions the Holy Spirit did not permit him. Thus he was led to proceed to Troas, the seaport on Asia Minor facing Europe. Then the vision of a man in Macedonia beckoned him to go over and help them. From this vision Paul found direct divine guidance to go over to Philippi. Thus, what he did in Philippi was not by him, but by God Himself, to His own glory. The earthquake that shook the prison when Paul and Silas were kept is manifestation of God's hand.

What is said of Paul's exploits at Philippi may be applied to our Mersing project. Mersing did not come by suddenly. It was the third in a series of the Gospel outreach to the unbeaten track of Malaysia's East Coast.

First we were led through contact with Rev John Ling to help revive the English Service in Kemaman. From Kemaman we were led to start a kindergarten in Kuantan. After Kuantan we felt the urge of establishing a halfway house at Mersing between Kuantan and Singapore in the form of a seaside resort.

God used John Ling again to lead us to fruition. One day I casually phoned John Ling if he had

contact with any Mersing seaside property. He replied he had a brother-in-law who was a broker in Mersing land. Without much ado we were led by his broker brother-in-law to the very spot of seaside land I had dreamed. This Resort Lautan Biru now completed after almost five years from day of acquisition is from the irresistible power of God.

There were many ups and downs in working out our salvation, but God ruled and overruled in every step of its development. There were many things new to us, but God had His men to help us out of every obstacle.

Truly, "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." God is the irresistible power behind our Mersing project. Glory to His Name.

(As we go to press we are advised by Calvary Pandan they are sending us a congratulatory gift of \$30,000 for the Inauguration.) —T.T.

INAUGURATION SPEECH - RESORT LAUTAN BIRU by Elder Dr Tow Slang Yeow

Rev (Dr) Timothy Tow, Senior Pastor of Life Bible-Presbyterian Church and Principal of Far Eastern Bible College, Honourable Pastors, Distinguished Guests, Brothers and Sisters-in-Christ and Friends,

It is indeed my pleasure and privilege on this auspicious occasion of the Inauguration of Resort Lautan Biru (or Mersing Youth Camp as it was originally called), to deliver the Inauguration Speech. I must, first of all, thank God for giving us this beautiful Resort overlooking the South China Sea with its sandy beach and rows of swaying Casuarina trees. I must also thank God for journeying mercies, fair weather, and for your kind presence here this afternoon to grace this special occasion.

The vision of having such a seaside resort had long been on the mind of our beloved Pastor, Rev Timothy Tow, who happens to be my much respected eldest brother. This vision is now, by the grace of God, brought to fruition with the completion of Resort Lautan Biru. The purpose of this Resort is basically, to provide a quiet, congenial place for all our B-P Churches as well as like-minded churches to hold retreats, Bible camps and conferences at competitive tariff—not forgetting those individuals, families as well as members of the public who may be keen to place bookings during off-season periods, for a quiet seaside holiday!

The land on which the Resort is built was bought for RM675,000 or S\$315,000. It is slightly more than 1½ acres in size. Originally agricultural land, it was converted to use for tourism. Construction work on the project was started in 1999 and completed in early 2001. The total cost of the building comes to RM5.8 million or S\$2.71 million. The CFO or Certificate of

Fitness for Occupation was granted in January 2001. We thank God for the prompt issuing of the CFO so that we could begin early in running the Resort!

We also thank God for sending us a dedicated Christian couple, Mr and Mrs Raymond Tan, to manage the Resort just at the right time.

Apart from the two air-conditioned conference halls, guest rooms, dorms and dining areas, the Resort boasts two badminton courts, a playing field and a tiled, cement courtyard. Badminton nets, ping-pong tables and a children's playground will be installed soon. Other facilities for stretching the muscles to cater for exercise buffs will also be made available if requested, funds and space permitting. But do not forget that a brisk walk along the beach is in itself an exhilarating experience, besides being a healthy pastime!

Here's a word about the roads in Mersing which you may have noticed: We thank God the previous very winding and narrow stretches of the main trunk road leading to Mersing Town are now in the process of being straightened out and broadened. Once completed, it will make for a much more pleasant, safer and faster ride by car or van! But the two approach roads leading from town to the Resort itself are narrow, requiring great care in negotiating, especially when there are approaching vehicles or bicycles. This is to ensure that no accidents will occur, for obvious reasons!

I must now say a few words to compliment those responsible for the success of our Mersing Youth Camp. Undoubtedly, the "brains" behind the whole project is Rev Timothy Tow, ably assisted by zealous and dedicated members of the Mersing Committee of Life B-P Church. The Committee has had many meetings, and been deeply involved in overseeing the project since its inception.

The role played by Life B-P and other B-P Churches and well-wishers in raising the necessary funds to buy the piece of land, and subsequently pay the architect, contractor and other outlays, including 140 conference chairs most recently contributed by B-P Churches of Malaysia and a friend of Kulai B-P Fellowship, cannot be overemphasized! For their cheerful giving, the Lord will undoubtedly "open the doors of heaven and pour them out a blessing that there will not be enough room to receive it" (Mal 3:10).

At this juncture, I should remind you that this Resort is situated in a Muslim country. It is surrounded by Malay kampongs and by the Laws of this country, we are not allowed to carry out any evangelistic work amongst the native inhabitants. Yet we have to be sensitive to their customs and religion. We need to maintain friendly and cordial relationships with these simple kampong folks for the sake of peace and harmony. And that is the policy that we are now following.

In conclusion, I would like to thank one and all again, for kindly attending this Inauguration of the Mersing Youth Camp or Resort Lautan Biru, and making this function a success. And all thanks to God Almighty for His mercy and grace towards Life B-P Church in granting them success in establishing this Resort to His honour and glory! Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 11 - 17, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship BS	\$7,967.00 (8.00 am); \$18,204.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE-FRI		VBS	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Wendy Teng</i> \$100; <i>Cambodia</i> \$150; <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$100, \$1000; <i>Rev David Koo</i> \$50; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$50, \$200, \$350, \$10, \$50; <i>Rev Moses Hahn</i> \$50; <i>Pallin Orph</i> \$60; <i>Surish</i> \$300; <i>Baraka BPC</i> \$40; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$60; <i>Tat Wai</i> \$150; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$50, \$100, \$1000; <i>FEBC Students</i> \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Sun Sokha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Tran Thanh Minh, Srun Chivan; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$50, \$50; <i>Ng Sang Chiew</i> \$50; <i>Tan Kian Sing</i> \$100; <i>Rev Tow</i> \$130; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$1000, \$4000(MsF), \$300(MF); <i>Thai Widow</i> \$1000; <i>Cambodia Glory BPC</i> \$1000, \$1000; <i>Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$150, \$80, \$3000, \$600; <i>Batam Kg Becek Project</i> \$2000; <i>Rawang & Tangkak Youth Camp</i> \$250, \$250, \$130; <i>Sabah & Sarawak Mission</i> \$130; <i>FEBC students</i> \$200; <i>Mersing offering for missionaries</i> \$3391.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$3000(Session member), \$49(YAF); <i>Inauguration</i> \$100(Hebron BPC), RM100(Malacca BPF), \$100, RM1000(Cal-Jaya BPC), \$100(New Life BPC), \$200(Cal-Jurong BPC), \$200(Philadelphia BPC), \$500.		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$200, \$200(Session member), \$16000, \$1000, \$470, \$200, \$100, \$150, \$100, \$1000, \$100, \$100, \$250, \$1000, \$150, \$250, \$400, \$1529, \$602, \$1000, \$100, \$141.60(Cal-Jurong YF/YAF), \$3000, \$1000. Grand Total: \$2,539,661.85. STOP PRESS! \$5000, \$500.		
SUN	8.00 am	What is God doing to us in our Present Suffering? (Rev Charles Seet)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) A small offering from a grateful giver who has received many wondrous blessings from our Almighty God who never fail in His promises. (\$1,000 for extension of God's Kingdom)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Sunday School Teachers' Training Course 2001. Every Lord's Day 1 Jul to 19 Aug, 8.15 - 9.15 am, FEBC Library. Doctrinal Courses by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact Chua Teow Tzing (Tel:7743743, Email:ctt110sc@singnet.com.sg) or Elder Sherman Ong (Tel:96684457, Email: elong@magix.com.sg). Preaching appointments : Rev Colin Wong at Maranatha BPC today and Cambodia Mission Trip from Mon. to Sat.		
	10.30 am	New Wine, New Bottles (Rev Tow)			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 94					
Sunday School Offering: \$688.26; Attendance: 297					
Verse for the Week: <i>He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.</i> Psalm 91:4					
Missionary Fellowship 11th Anniv. Thanksgiving Service today, FEBC Hall. Lunch 12.15 pm. Service 12.45 pm. "Give Me This Mountain" by Rev (Dr) Patrick Tan. Testimony by Chan Pui Meng, missionary nurse to Kenya.					



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Vol. X No. 7

10 June 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Mahadevan	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 19	No. 65
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 25:1-13	Haggai 1:1-13
Hymn	No. 317	No. 395
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 324	No. 390
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 4:7-11	Luke 12:15-21
Sermon	What Should our Lifestyle be in these Last Days? (Rev Charles Seet)	Are You Rich Toward God? (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 408	No. 50
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

THE CALL OF MATTHEW

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life BPC

10.30 am Service, June 3, 2001)

Text: Matt 9:9

We are all familiar with the call of the brothers, Peter and Andrew, and James and John, fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, and how they straightaway left their nets and followed Jesus.

In the case of Matthew, he was a tax collector. As a tax collector his place of work was Capernaum, Jesus' hometown. Merchants coming across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum and those that came from Damascus along the coastal road through Capernaum paid their taxes here.

As Matthew sat at the Government's Customs House he had seen Jesus many a time preaching to the crowds in and around Capernaum. He had believed that Jesus was the Son of God. He had also considered giving up his secure Government job to enter into the ministry. In today's language he would go into full-time service.

The Lord sees through our thoughts and deliberations. He saw from Matthew's earnest demeanour that he was now ready, so He called him. Matthew says of himself, "And he arose and followed him." Luke adds more specifically, "And he left all, rose up, and followed him" (Lk 5:28).

In the next verse Luke further tells us Matthew's other name,

viz., Levi. "And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them" (Lk 5:29).

Matthew is quite different from Zacchaeus, another tax collector. Zacchaeus is one who had extorted those under his power and amassed ill-gotten gains. He therefore confessed his sins to the Lord, "The half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold" (Lk 19:8).

Matthew, apparently was an honest Government servant. He could unashamedly invite his fellow tax collectors and friends to a feast in honour of Jesus and to testify why he was quitting a good job to serve the Lord. When I repented from going to London to study law, and my father realised it was the hand of God, he gave me his blessings. He announced it to the whole Church and even to his outside friends. The principal of the Chinese Girls School, who was a Christian, felt sorry for me! But I maintained my cheerfulness, following the Lord. The same principal met me after I had completed my studies in America. She now sincerely congratulated me. What Matthew did was right. Whether friend or foe liked it or not, it was a testifying of God's mighty working to them.

Why did Jesus call Matthew? As each disciple had a particular gift, so he was sought. Matthew, being a Government servant had the gift to write, apart from preparing clear accounts. So, he became the author of the Gospel of Matthew. The

Gospel of Matthew was the first Gospel written, between 60 and 66AD, while Paul and Peter were founding the church at Rome.

Matthew had remained in Jerusalem for 15 years and then he became a missionary to the Persians. Tradition tells us he died a martyr's death in Ethiopia.

The call of Matthew in today's serial sermon falls in line with the commissioning of Chan Pui Meng, Life Church medical missionary to Maasai land in Kenya, under the aegis of New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church, Dr Patrick Tan. She has come in for such a time as this when their Mission badly needs a nurse to run a clinic. Pui Meng has for years felt the call to become a medical missionary. Having recently served as a tent-maker in Laos, she is ready to go to Kenya.

If educational and administrative missionaries are needed in the field, all the more the medical. All the apostles were given power to heal the sick and cleanse the lepers, raise the dead and cast out devils (Matt 10:8). We who follow in their train can do the same by conventional means. The advance in medicine is a gift from God to mankind. Charismatics who try to usurp the Apostles' powers are deceiving themselves.

Medical missions have been mightily blessed of God. The English Presbyterian Mission to Swatow, my hometown in South China, founded a medical school which gave a five years training course. One to benefit from such training was my father. The good influence of the Hospital and Medical School was spread way beyond my city. Many thousands believed through the healing given to the sick. As a nurse, Chan Pui Meng will add to the total Gospel effort to Kenya.

We are living in the last days before our Saviour's return. Jesus 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). We call this accelerated missions. From the Third World Korea's missionary efforts are at the forefront. There are 8,000 of them serving in 120 countries.

While Life Church has 20 missionaries to the ASEAN countries, plus Saipan with Kenya newly added to the list, we can do more for the Lord while He tarries. Who will be the next? "I can hear my Saviour calling, calling."

We are not taking those who think lightly of missions, but "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:

and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works" (Matt 16:24-27).

Those of us who cannot go can pray, and as we pray the Lord will convict our purse to pay. In preparing to build the New Beulah House, our efforts for missions must not be curtailed, but rather be increased, as the call comes. "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts" (Haggai 2:8).

MERSING CHURCH CAMP (28 MAY TO 1 JUNE 2001)

By Mrs Ruth Tan

Indeed, as the hymn "The Love of God is greater far" goes, no one can pen the love of God unless one experiences it. This report hopes to give you a picture of the blessings of the Lord upon His people who has provided us a taste of His goodness.

The Resort Lautan Biru came about through our beloved Pastor's vision to have a resort by the beach for God's people to rest and for our spiritual growth. As the Lord willed it, the Resort has finally come to fruition.

My first encounter with Resort Lautan Biru was during Easter two years ago when my husband and I joined Lifers for the ground-breaking ceremony. It was then a flat piece of land. I believe that many of us then had no idea how the building would turn out to be. Lifers and lovers of God have given lovingly for the completion of this project. We thank God for those who love the Lord for coming up to the Resort to see to the finer details towards completion and for the preparation for the Church camp. We thank God also for sending brother Raymond Tan and Mrs Tan to manage the Resort.

My husband and I have stayed in the resort twice prior to the Church camp. The peace and tranquility in this place is surely reflective of God's love for His children and for weary travellers.

A total of 180 Lifers and guests made their way to Mersing by coaches and cars. As the Resort Lautan Biru could take only 150 campers, the rest of the campers were housed in Hotel Timotel, five minutes drive away.

We thank God for journeying mercies despite the rain along the way. The road to the Resort was

also straightened which made it easier to travel. We thank God for this beautiful resort which has been very well designed for camping. It is well equipped with a children's playground, bicycles for cycling, table-tennis tables, basketball courts and a big open air well very suitable for fellowship. We thank God for providing us fine weather throughout the camp. The campers were given a treat to an island. 130 of us took a launch to Pulau Besar to enjoy the beautiful clear waters for swimming.

We were well fed with physical food catered by Timotel Hotel. However, most important of all, we had a spiritual feast given by our own pastors Rev Timothy Tow, Rev Charles Seet, Rev Colin Wong, Rev Jeffrey Khoo, Rev David Wong and Elder Dr Tow Siang Yeow. The theme of this camp, "Hasting unto the Coming of the Day of God" indeed reminded us to be prepared for the day when the Lord returns.

We thank God for the Camp committee, for their hard work for the Lord. May the Lord bless them richly. I would also like to thank God for all the speakers for feeding us spiritually. I would also like to thank God for the fellowship with the campers. Most of all we thank God for providing this resort and for blessing His people.

By Mrs Tan Poh Yok

"Why are you here?" Rev Colin Wong asked this question on Thursday morning. Many of us would probably give the usual answer of "spiritual renewal". Indeed, Resort Lautan Biru would be a good place for "spiritual renewal" as it boasts of a quiet and serene surrounding of nature and sea that speaks much about the creation of God. While taking a walk with Elder and Mrs Tqw, Elder Tow commented on the fresh sea breeze – a truly invaluable commodity for us who come from a highly polluted Singapore. Each morning we were awakened by the chirping of the birds, the sound of the crickets (and lizards) and for those who woke up early enough, a magnificent sunrise. Oh, what a beautiful way to start a new day.

"Spiritual Renewal" – From the morning devotions to the theme and evening messages, we received so much "spiritual food". The morning devotions and prayers prepared us for each day's activities. A series of six messages on Christian living in the light of the Second Coming of Christ gave us a lot of food for thought and directions to apply to our lives. The messages reminded us to live a true Christian life in these last days. The evening messages by

Rev Tow made us more aware of the signs of the Second Coming of Christ and created in us a greater sense of urgency in our service to God.

The presentations by the missionaries tugged at many of our heartstrings. While watching the nightly presentations, I was made even more aware of how much we have and how little they have to survive on. Oh, how my heart cried out especially when I watched Rev David Koo's presentation. I felt the pull, I felt the Lord's rebuke, I felt the call, I sensed the need – How can we sit back and watch them suffer so?

When my husband and I decided to sign up for the church camp, our main objective was to get to know more church members. I was also keen to learn more about mission work to see how I can help out (thinking that I can do it long distance from Singapore!).

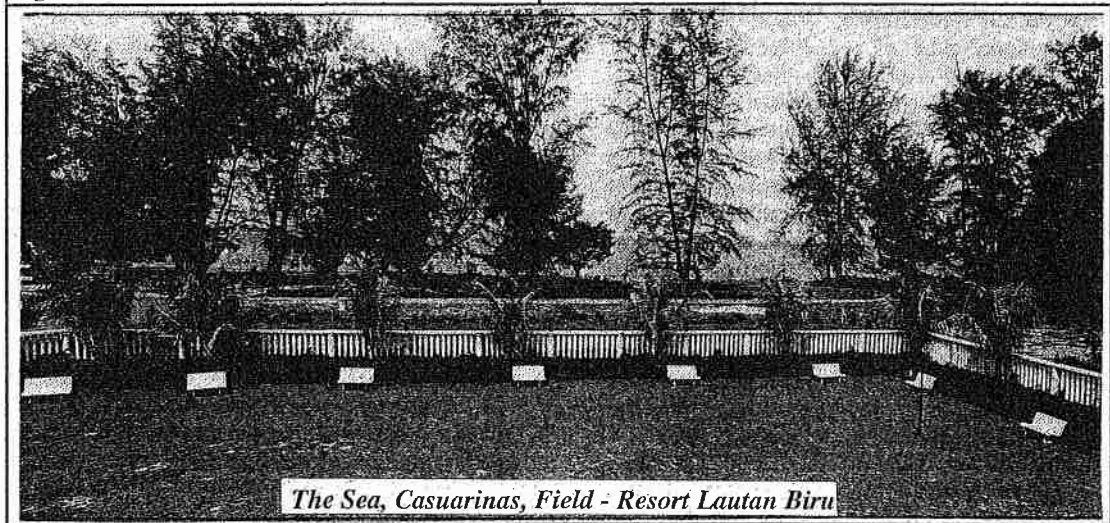
Why mission work? Because of a promise I made to God. Through my three years of further studies, the Lord had heaped upon me blessings upon blessings. He blessed me with results that surpassed my imagination. I knew that it was the Lord's doing as by my own strength I would not have been able to do it. I pledged that I would use the talents that the Lord had given me to serve Him in return. Having prayed over it, my heart was in working with the children in the mission stations.

After hearing the missionaries' reports, I am even more convinced that I have to help out, to support them in their work. Even as we listen to Rev Tow's messages on "It's Later Than You Think", we are reminded of the urgency of carrying out His work.

As we ask ourselves why we are here for the camp, a more pertinent question would be "What happens next?" Do we leave this place and return home, going about our "business" as before? Do we just retain faint memories of what we have heard, saw and experienced without doing anything about them? Do we ignore the cries for help by the missionaries, their requests for prayers and support?

This camp has gotten me off my seat. I have decided to visit the Cambodian mission stations to offer my services in training the kindergarten teachers and to work with the children. It is heartening and encouraging that I have met up with a few ladies who are keen to co-labour with me in Cambodia this coming December. My last words here would be to covet your prayers that our plans will come to fruition and that we will be able to serve the Lord and glorify His Name in Cambodia.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 18 - 24, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON-FRI	LTF Camp	\$7,693.00 (8.00 am); \$14,539.00 (10.30 am)
TUE 8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$100, \$450, \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100; Tg Playu BPC \$50; Missions \$10000; Myanmar Orph \$100, \$550; Hilltop Bible College Rice Fund \$50; Chiang Mai Church Bldg \$700; VBS \$150; Rev Seet \$100; Rev Wong \$50; Tan Bee Choo \$200; Cambodia Glory BPC \$150, \$1200; Maasai Medical Ministry \$220; Batam \$150; Indonesia Medical Mission Trip \$50; Pledges from Life Church Medical Fraternity for Chan Pui Meng and Maasai Medical Ministry \$50,200; FEBC \$1120.
WED 8.00 pm	Session Meeting	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$600, \$1250(Thomson NBC). Inauguration \$500(Moriah BPC).
FRI	Rev & Mrs Tow at Kemaman's Thanksgiving Anniv.	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$100, \$1000, \$600, \$200, \$450, \$450, \$340, \$200, \$300, \$400, \$200, \$130, \$100. Grand Total: \$2,549,731.85. STOP PRESS! \$100, \$50.
SAT 2.00 pm	Combined Fellowships' Games Day	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
SUN 8.00 am	An Encouraging Word in a Discouraging World (Rev Colin Wong)	(1) Thank God for the good increment. (\$300)
8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(2) Thank God for His many blessings. (\$270)
9.30 am	Sunday School	(3) Thank God for journeying mercies during our recent travel. (For New Beulah House \$200)
10.30 am	Rev Tow	(4) In appreciation for all that the Lord has done for us. Please use this sum to further God's Kingdom.
10.30 am	Chinese Service	A friend in 10.30 am service wrote: "Please publish the 8.00 am messages in the bulletins." Pastor's reply: The Weekly is already full; you can get it as a tape from Reformed Tape Library.
10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Sunday School Teachers' Training Course 2001. Every Lord's Day 1 Jul to 19 Aug, 8.15 - 9.15 am, FEBC Library. Doctrinal Courses by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact Chua Teow Tzing (Tel:7743743, Email:ctt110sc@singnet.com.sg) or Elder Sherman Ong (Tel:96684457, Email:elong@magix.com.sg).
10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	Preaching appointments : Rev Colin Wong at Thai Service this afternoon.
10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	
10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	
12.00 pm	Burmese Service	
12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
12.45 pm	Evangelism	
3.00 pm	Thai Service	
3.30 pm	Rev Tow at Tabernacle BPC Anniv.	
4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	
4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Bt Timah, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 85		
Sunday School Offering: \$1,243.00; Attendance: 329		
Verse for the Week: <i>The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight. The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.</i> Prov 15:8,9		



The Sea, Casuarinas, Field - Resort Lautan Biru



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Vol. X No. 8

17 June 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 21	No. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 90	Psalms 19
Hymn	No. 35	The Heavens declare...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 347	No. 282
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 2:18-25	Matt 9:9-17
Sermon	Responding to Market-Place Injustice (Rev Charles Seet)	New Wine, New Bottles
Closing Hymn	O Rejoice in the Lord	Make Sure of Truth
Benediction		

THE VANITY OF OUTWARD THINGS, OF INWARD DESIRES, AND OF ALL CREATED ENJOYMENTS

(Message delivered to Life Church Prayer Meeting, June 5, 01)

Text: Eccles 6:7-12

"All the labour of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled." This is like saying a man is heaping up worldly wealth to make him happy but he is never satisfied. When he has earned his million, he will think of the billion. Can he be really happy?

One who amasses riches may think himself to be wise, but if it is only perishable riches in God's eyes, he is a fool. Jesus tells the parable of a rich man who has grown so rich that he has no room to store his goods. He decides to pull down his storehouse and build a bigger one. And he says to himself, "My soul, you have now plenty laid up that will last for years. Now you can eat, drink and be merry." But God says to him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God" (Lk 12:20-21).

The story is told of a Singapore merchant who wanted to build the tallest building in Singapore, 102 storeys like the Empire State Building in New York. The Government allowed him 51 storeys, half of what he desired. Jovially, to reply to him who told me this story, "If he sought my help I would plan 204 storeys, so that when Government allows him half of what he wanted, he would

get his 102 storeys."

Thus we see those who are rich and consider themselves wise to be no better than those considered to be foolish. The poor foolish man may paradoxically be wiser than the rich and the wise. The poor man who is contented with his station of life and conducts himself prudently is far better than the dissatisfied and restless rich man. Thus Paul admonishes, "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" (1 Tim 6:6-8).

The appetite, not filled, refers to more than worldly wealth, those more sinful ones known to the heart that are never satiable to the spirit. Here Paul admonishes again, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him" (Col 3:5-10).

Whatever we attain in this world, still we are but men. Whatever riches we have amassed ourselves cannot

set us above the common events of human life. Nor can we strive with Divine Providence. Man cannot contend with Him that is mightier than he.

Seeing that the many things which men pursue on earth only form and increase vanities, what is man better than his worldly devices? For who can tell what is good for man in this vain life that passes as a shadow?

If all the comforts of life be vanity, life itself can have no great reality in it to become a happiness for us. But in returning to Jesus Christ we may find rest unto our souls.

My dear Lifers

HOME MISSIONS

We are a missionary Church. We have at least 20 missionaries on the foreign fields – Malaysia (East and West), Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Saipan, Kenya and part support to Philippines, Vietnam and Australia.

As to Singapore we have established, of more recent date, Tabernacle, Maranatha, Berean, Thai Service and Filipina Fellowship. These are called Home Missions.

Home Missions, where 100 full-blooded Lifers are now in busy engagement, is the running of the Annual VBS. God has blessed the VBS from year to year, with many outsiders being brought in this time. These first-timers, who believe, are integrated into the Church and Sunday School. More than 230 came during the 4 days of VBS.

Another arm of our Home Missions is the ministry of BASC. Three primary schools in the northern part of Singapore are under our care. During the school vacation we run a Bible Camp for them at Gilstead Road. It culminated with a campfire last Sunday night. A goodly number are brought to Christ through the Bible camps.

MYANMAR MISSION

Another field that is well cultivated is Myanmar where Andrew Kam has been sent since 1994. Andrew runs an orphanage in Yangon, which has an intake of 24. During the last one or two years he had branched out to a village 20 miles out to preach to the Burmese people. These are strong Buddhists, hardest to convert. He has now converted several families who are now gathering as a church every Lord's Day. After the main service at the Orphanage he goes out to the newly formed Burmese service in the afternoon.

Andrew's orphanage is favourably located a

short distance from a Government primary school, so it is easy to send his children to school there. The orphanage he occupies is a big two storey concrete house. He thinks it is very profitable to buy it over since its price has plummeted to rock bottom. Only S\$18,000. He will self-help by having his monthly stipend cut by S\$200. How's that? We can easily help our brother. To support Andrew, it costs a fraction what we pay for Saipan or Kenya.

—Yours obediently, T.T.



Andrew and Colleague going to the Burmese Village with the Gospel

OUR FIRST MERSING B-P YOUTH CAMP

(Impression of Elder Leong Yin Chu, Retired Teacher, who once served with his wife at Kuantan Kindergarten)

About 5 years ago, when my wife and I were at Alor Akar, Kuantan, Life B-P Church was in the process of acquiring land with the intention of building a youth camp. Rev Dr Timothy Tow promised us a holiday when it was completed. And on 28th May 2001, we were invited to attend the Inauguration Service of the new Mersing B-P Youth Camp and thereafter we were put up at the Hotel Timotel together with some other campers till 1st June. The reason was Resort Lautan Biru was filled to capacity. Rev T. Tow was a gentleman who kept his promise. We wish to thank him and the Session of Life B-P Church for the kind and generous invitation.

That we were able to come to Mersing, we would like to testify to God's almighty power. Our last ministry was at Permas Jaya, Johore which lasted only six months, for the Malaysian Immigration demanded that we must get a permit from their HQ in Kuala Lumpur. We were told categorically that we would be sent back (*antar balek*) to Singapore if we next entered Johore without the permit. But lo and behold, God was with us and we passed through the causeway check-point without a hitch. Praise to the Lord God Almighty!

In connection with the above point, we would like to share here to show how loving our Heavenly Father is. We would have missed the Camp, had it been held later, for we are leaving for an overseas mission on 11th June night. But God is so loving to us in giving us a wonderful holiday before we go out to do His work. Indeed, serving God is never in vain.

One camper remarked that he found the Mersing B-P Youth Camp looks more impressive than in photo. The spacious dining hall faces the South China Sea from where the gentle breeze blows making you feel that you are dining in a high-class sea-side hotel. The friendliness of the campers made us feel so welcome and at home.

We enjoyed the camp very much, for the camp activities were so well-planned. No campers could go hungry for besides the three main meals, tea and coffee breaks, supper was also provided. Although the Hotel provides transport to and from the Youth Camp, our transportation coordinator, Deacon David Tan gave excellent help to all who stayed in the hotel.

We discovered that the Chinese Service and the children's programme were conducted simultaneously with the English service very smoothly. This arrangement was well thought out to enable the parents to attend the adult meetings without worries. The theme messages provided the campers with much spiritual food equipping them for the 2nd Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Missionaries' Reports with slides gave the campers great challenge to go into missionary work for more workers are needed. We pray that there will be some response so that the reports and the presentation of slides were not made in vain.

Dear readers, serving God brings blessings. In our experience in dedicating ourselves to God after we retired from secular jobs in 1982, God

has been calling us overseas, to places such as Malaysia (Gurun, Sg. Petani, Kuantan, Kemaman, Permas Jaya), Taiwan (Hakka Village), Israel, Saipan and China. Although our calling is to spread the Gospel, God always gave us unexpected bonuses, and we got to visit the tourists' spots in these places except Taiwan Hakka Village. While in Israel, when we were taken for a visit to Jerusalem and after walking the whole path (via Dolorosa) where Jesus walked to Golgotha, my wife's sprained ankle was miraculously healed. Praised and thanks to our God Almighty!

Dear beloved brethren, we would like to encourage you to come and serve God without hesitation, if God calls you, whether full-time or tent-making. The retirees are encouraged if not exhorted, to serve God for the Day of the Lord is very near. Coming to work in God's vineyard even in the last hour will be paid the whole day's wages (Matt 20:6-10). Remember, doing God's work has eternal value. So, do not bury your talent in the ground, but be involved in God's business to earn more talents for Him (Matt 25:21, 23, Luke 19:17) so that on that Day we shall receive His praise and rewards (1 Pet 1:4,7b). Amen!

So, let us go forth boldly in the Lord's Name and labour on till our Master returns. Yes, let's labour while it's day, for when night comes, no work can be done.

MERSING CAMP 2001

On 28th May, it was a cool morning. We set off to Mersing with other church members. We reached Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing safely in the early afternoon.

During the children's programme, the children were assigned to many groups, such as Brave, Loyal, Faithful and Virtuous. They were placed according to their age groups. My teachers were aunty Jane and uncle Ephrem.

I have learned about many types of attitudes like patience, trust, obedience and others from the lessons. I hope that everybody can put all these lessons into practice. This Bible church camp has made my faith stronger. I would like to have another church camp again.

—Jonathan Chan, Pri 5

At Mersing camp, I learnt that I must be truthful to God, loyal to God and have faith in Him. We should also follow Gideon's example. I should remember that Jesus died on the cross for our sins. We should trust in God and stand up for Him.

—Joseph Chan, Pri 2

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 25 - July 1, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Inauguration of Mersing Youth Camp)	\$10,863.00 (8.00 am); \$15,663.00 (10.30 am)		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/YAF/LTF; 3.30 EBF	OFFERINGS FOR: Rev Jonathan Lee \$560, \$350, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Surish \$200; Missions \$80; Myanmar Orph \$360, \$100; P'pines Hilltop Rice Fund \$300; Rev Seet \$200, \$150; Rev Wong \$200, \$150, \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$200; Rev Tow \$130; Chan Pui Meng \$500, \$100; Cambodia Glory BPC \$200, \$100; Maasal Medical Ministry \$300; Batam Medical Mission Trip \$1000, \$500, \$100.		
SUN	8.00 am	What is Mercy Ministry? (Rev Charles Seet)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$200, \$150, \$50, \$800, \$1000, \$150, \$500, \$350, \$100. Grand Total: \$2,553,381.85. STOP PRESS! \$100.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
No NBC This Week.			Prayer Mtg: 99		
Sunday School Offering: \$869.17; Attendance: 369					
Verse for the Week: <i>Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.</i> Psalm 19:14					
Preaching appointments : Rev Tow at Tabernacle BPC Anniversary this afternoon; Rev Charles Seet at Galilee and Maranatha BPC this morning and Indonesian Service this afternoon.					
FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:					
(1) We want to thank Life Church for sharing love, prayers and encouragement during my late mother's hospitalization at TTSH. We also want to thank Life Church and its congregation for their presence and donation at my late mother's funeral wake. God bless Life Church and its leaders and congregation. (\$100 is for the Church's building fund.					
VBS Thanksgiving Lunch for VBS Volunteers at Beulah House today, 12.00 pm.					
Sunday School Teachers' Training Course 2001. Every Lord's Day 1 Jul to 19 Aug, 8.15 - 9.15 am, FEBC Library. Doctrinal Courses by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact Chua Teow Tzing (Tel:7743743, Email:ctt110sc@singnet.com.sg) or Elder Sherman Ong (Tel:96684457, Email: elong@magix.com.sg).					
We extend a cordial welcome to 3 young Americans, Rachel Jeffries, Amanda Long and Trevor Thomas, introduced by Rev Paauwe, who are now in our midst waiting to join hope B-P Church Mission from Adelaide to Cambodia. Led by Rev Dr Okman Ki they will visit Phnom Penh and Kampung Som and our Korean missionaries.					



Life

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Vol. X No. 9

24 June 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 85	No. 71
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 42	Psalms 84
Hymn	No. 354	No. 540
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 363	No. 282
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 5:1-14	Matt 9:18-38
Sermon	An Encouraging Word in a Discouraging World (Rev Colin Wong)	Jesus' Compassion on the Dying Crowds
Closing Hymn	No. 355	Go into the World
Benediction		

NEW WINE, NEW BOTTLES

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life BPC

10.30 am Service, June 17, 01)

Text: Matt 9:10-17

One phenomenon you will soon discover in Jesus' ministry is that the Word He spoke always ran counter to the teachings of the Jews, particularly the Pharisees. Now the word *Pharisee* means *separatist*. They are compared to the Puritans by some Bible commentators for their over-strict interpretation of the Law of Moses. They have erred not by following Moses, but the oral tradition of rabbis and lawyers on the Law of Moses. We have discussed this problem in the erroneous sayings of the Jews in the Sermon on the Mount in this serial preaching.

In this section of Matthew, the Pharisees criticised Jesus for welcoming tax collectors and sinners to eat with him in the house. Jesus, being a holy man, according to the Pharisees, should keep them out. The Pharisees have missed the point in their reasoning. Publicans and sinners, if they will turn to Jesus, are more than welcome. Sick people are those who look up the doctor. Jesus the Great Physician is here – to heal our soul's diseases. What is your attitude to someone who is down and out, and sits beside you in Church? Do you despise him from your heart or do you warmly welcome him, hoping he would find the Saviour? At New Life

B-P Church, London, the Church provides Sunday lunch. A number of the down and out come to Church for the *makan*, and they are invariably welcome for the Gospel's sake, if they attend Church on time.

Another challenge coming from both Pharisees and disciples of John the Baptist is that Jesus' disciples do not fast. The Pharisees pride themselves that they fast twice a week. Jesus admits fasting is good, but it should not be a mechanical thing but spiritual. The time will come when the Master is taken away from them and then they will fast.

But the greatest obstacle that the Pharisees put across Jesus' path is the matter of keeping the Sabbath. The Bible Concordance lists the word *Sabbath* at least fifty times in the four Gospels in conjunction with Jesus' challenge to the Jews' view on the Sabbath.

If we turn further down to Matthew 12:1-8 we have the famous incident of Jesus' disciples plucking corn in the field to eat on the Sabbath Day. When the Pharisees saw this they objected, "Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day."

Our Lord cited David, who, when he was hungry ate the shewbread which was reserved for the priests. Our Lord approved of it because He interprets the Sabbath law justly and correctly. There are always exceptions to the rule, when a lower law must yield to a higher law. A Sabbath law must yield to the higher law of human necessity, so

Jesus says, the Sabbath is made for man and not man for the Sabbath. And if Jesus says so who can challenge Him? For, He is also the Lord of the Sabbath. Jesus' Word is the very Word of God.

There is a new sect that has come up quite recently, which teaches, "If you eat outside on Sunday, you have broken the Sabbath." Even in the case of buying a sandwich and Coke at a bus station en route to a preaching appointment. If I ask the Lord, He will surely say yes, because the law of human necessity overrides the law of Sabbath.

From these clashes between our Lord's teaching and the erroneous opinion of the Jews and Pharisees, Jesus arrives at this parable. "No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse. Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved" (Matt 9:16,17).

The parable of not patching an old garment with new cloth is clear and needs no explanation.

The parable on old and new wine bottles baffles us, if we do not explain. First is the wine. It is not red wine or white wine at a winery I had visited in Canada. There was a display sign this wine has 17% alcohol. Another says this has 13%. The wine Jesus talks about, according to Dr Laird Harris my teacher (BSc. Chemistry) in Faith Seminary is only 3-4% alcohol. This is just sufficient to prevent the grape juice from getting spoilt. Besides, when drinking it is mixed with water in equal proportions. Not like drinking wine today at 13-17%.

The bottles are not glass bottles but sewn goatskins. In the Holy Land we visited, we saw country boys carrying water in goatskins slung across their backs. The goatskins are the bottles mentioned by Jesus. When new wine was to be carried away, their practice was to put it into new bottles, because new wine was more powerful. Logically, old wine, less powerful, was put in the old bottles.

What do these parables teach? The old sayings and

erroneous traditions of the rabbis and lawyers are the old garment which cannot admit the new cloth of Jesus' Doctrine, nor the old bottles the new wine of the Truth. Only those who have Jesus' Spirit (my sheep hear my voice) can receive the Truth from His mouth. Jesus could speak to publicans and sinners who gladly heard His Word, for example, Matthew and Zacchaeus. Jesus never tried to convert the conceited, self-righteous Jews and Pharisees. They spoke against their conscience and sinned the unpardonable sin against the Holy Spirit.

In the same way, we have found out the unyieldedness of strongly opiated adherents to certain denominational tenets. We are the Bible Presbyterian Church. We believe in the common fundamental doctrines of the Christian Faith such as the Virgin Birth, the Blood Atonement, the Bodily Resurrection and Physical Premillennial Return of Jesus Christ, Israel's Restoration and Christ's Millennial Rule on earth, the Plenary, Verbal Inspiration of Scripture, therefore infallible, inerrant, the Divine special providential preservation of Scripture so that every word remains intact to this day. We believe the King James Bible is of the Preserved Text.

But there are those who are of the Reformed Faith like us but different from us on many points. They try to put their old wine in our new bottle which will never do. Following in our Lord's footsteps, we will leave them alone who major on minors.

Our job is to go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. This is the greatest urgency according to our Saviour, "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). Jesus has saved us for this highest purpose. Not wasting time on neo-Pharisaism, we want to recruit disciples who will serve Him full-time after being trained (at FEBC). We want to recruit consecrated and trained lay people involved in teaching Sunday School. We want to recruit prayer partners who will support missions by periodic visits and with regular funds. We do not want to be involved in foolish and unlearned questions, knowing that they do gender strife (II Tim 2:23) (as with Jesus and the Pharisees).

Let old wine be put in old bottles and new wine be put in new bottles! Amen.

THANKSGIVING REPORT FOR VBS 2001

"Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." — Psalm 106:1

It is with great joy that we would like to thank the Lord for seeing all who were part of Vacation Bible School 2001 through the four (4) days. An average of about 265 children attended VBS on each of the four days, the biggest number coming from the Junior Department (ages 4 to 7).

This year also saw the attendance of a larger group of non-Christian children, with no less than 65% of these little ones being non-Christians. Many of these non-Christian children had not heard the Gospel Message before attending VBS. But we submit that statistics tell very little of what VBS is all about.

We were not without assistance. We thank the Lord that eight of our sister churches stepped forward to offer the assistance of their vans. As more than 50% of the children required transport, out of which, a large number came as far as Choa Chu Kang and Tampines areas, the vans extended by our sister churches served to ferry these children to and fro. The ferrying of children to VBS continues to be an important ministry.

We further give thanks to the Lord for moving the hearts of so many to step forward to serve in VBS. It is with great joy to announce that there was no lack of volunteers in all avenues of service. In fact, there was an abundance of willing hands, which made the individual burdens light and the presentation of the Gospel to the children more effective.

Having said that, we feel that one group deserves to be singled out. These are the teens of our church. Their love for the Lord can be seen by their dedicated service, from the first day, (ie. preparing the rooms, moving the furniture) to the last. It is our prayer that the Lord will continue to bless them, to raise leaders among them, to build them up in the faith, that their desire to serve Him will never falter, but shall continue in the years ahead.

One to one counselling of children was carried out in both the Upper and Lower Primary Departments. Children were counseled

individually and given the Gospel Message. But this work does not end there. We ask that you keep the VBS follow-up programme in your prayers. With the assistance of the Berean Fellowship and the Sunday School, a small team of volunteers will endeavour to reach out to those children who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour, or have indicated that they wish to know more.

The theme this year was F.R.O.G.S. (Forgiveness, Respect, Obey, Give Thanks, Serve). It served to remind the children, not only of their response to what Christ has done for them, but also to remind them of how they must conduct themselves as born again Christians.

The highlight for the Upper and Lower Primary Departments was the campfire held on the last day. There was much singing and acting, with adults acting like little children, but all in all, we believe that volunteers and children alike, enjoyed themselves. Invitations for the campfire were sent out to all parents a few days before the actual event and we thank the Lord for Elder Sng, who gave the salvation message to both the children as well as the parents who attended.

It is our hope that VBS shall continue to be part of every Lifer's heart. Not only has the Lord opened to us all an avenue of service, an avenue to fulfill His Great Commission, but also, an avenue through which we may receive His blessings.

VBS gives us an opportunity to take one step back from our busy schedules and to reflect on what is important in our lives. It is an opportunity, as brothers and sisters in Christ, to come together in fellowship and service.

The Executive Committee would like to thank Pastor Tow, the Assistant Pastors and Session Members of Life BP Church for their continued support for VBS; to thank Elder Ong and members of the Sunday School Committee for their vision and encouragement; to thank Deacon Yiew and the Audio Visual Crew for providing the resources necessary; to thank all the volunteers who have stepped forward to see that the Lord's work is carried on; and for all your prayers.

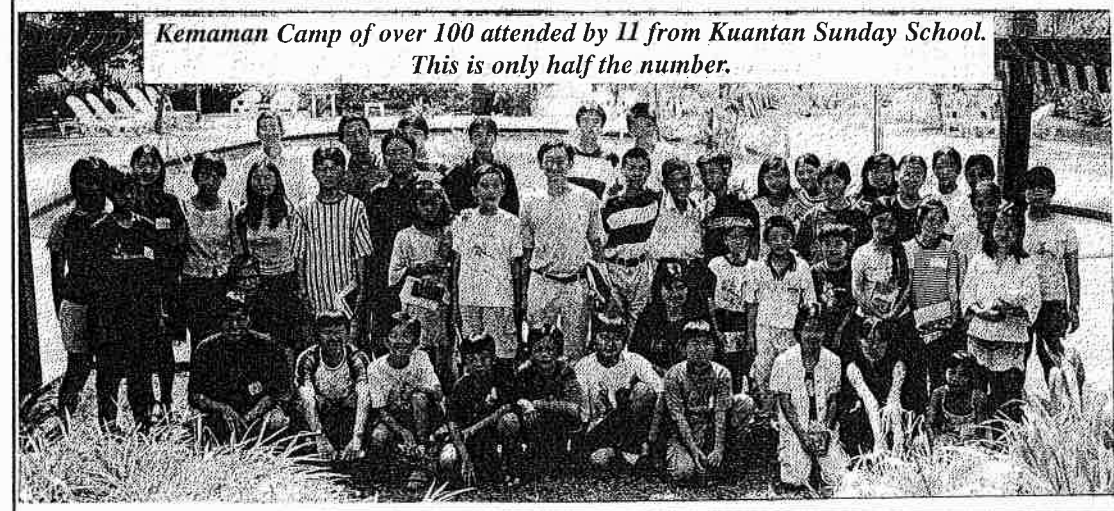
But most importantly, we give all thanks and glory to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for blessing everyone who has served, giving us this privilege to serve and for providing for every need.

—Tan T'eng Ta' Benedict
for VBS 2001 Executive Committee



Skin bottle

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 2 - 8, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	\$9,089.00 (8.00 am); \$12,495.00 (10.30 am)
WED	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Grace BPC Generator \$150, \$500;
SAT	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Cambodia Orph \$50; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$100; Rev Moses
	2.30 pm Wedding of Chua Jin Yong & Loong Chiew Yen (Rev Tow)	Hahn \$200; Batam \$100; Tg Uban Church \$5000; Missions \$455,
SUN	8.00 am The One Who Showed Mercy (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)	\$230, \$8350(Boxes); Andrew Kam \$150; Myanmar Orph \$200,
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	\$150, \$100, \$1000; Rev Seet \$50, \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$50;
	9.30 am Sunday School	Ny Sambath \$100; Robert Yeo (Philippines) \$1000; Chan Pui
	10.30 am Rev Charles Seet	Meng \$600; Chiang Mai Land for Village \$400; Batam Kg Becek
	10.30 am Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	Project \$1000; Batam Medical Mission Trip \$2000, \$1320, \$3400;
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Family of Lim Eng Hong \$1000.
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$93(Boxes), \$4900.
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$455, \$400, \$400, \$200, \$1000, \$1000,
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	\$130, \$5000(Session member), \$539, \$100. Grand Total:
	12.00 pm Burmese Service	\$2,562,705.85. STOP PRESS! RM476+\$5(Kemaman BPC), \$2000,
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	\$2715(Staff).
	3.00 pm Thai Service	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service	(1) Thank God for a safe journey out back to Malaysia, His gracious protection and safe journey back.
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Ser.	(2) May I present this offering for missions in gratitude to God for His many blessings and graciousness upon my family and I. (\$230)
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Thomson, Woodlands, Sengkang. Prayer Mtg: 121		(3) I thank God for being so gracious, merciful and loving towards my family. I give this offering for God's people in Cambodia.
Sunday School Offering: \$701.55; Attendance: 339		Session members will meet today after the 10.30 am Service in the Church Office.
Verse for the Week: Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. Psalm 31:3		Sunday School Teachers' Training Course 2001 commences today, 1 Jul to 19 Aug, 8.15 - 9.15 am at Partitioned Chapel. Doctrinal Courses by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact Chua Teow Tzing (Tel:7743743, Email:ctt110sc@singnet.com.sg) or Elder Sherman Ong (Tel:96684457, Email: elong@magix.com.sg).
Preaching appointments: Rev Colin Wong at Batam. Rev Charles Seet at Maranatha BPC this morning and Berith BPC this afternoon.		2 or 3 Pentium 1 notebooks required by House of Hope, Cebu, Philippines. Contact Mr Robert Yeo at 2832204.



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Vol. X No. 10

1 July 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Geoffrey Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 88	No. 85
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 63	Isaiah 54:1-10
Hymn	No. 311	No. 461
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 358	No. 457
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	James 2:1-16	Matt 10:1-15
Sermon	What Is Mercy Ministry? (Rev Charles Seet)	Pattern for Accelerated Church Growth
Closing Hymn	No. 452	Lord, Here I take...
Benediction		Lord's Supper

JESUS' COMPASSION FOR THE DYING CROWDS, AND YOU?

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life BPC

10.30 am Service, June 24, 01)

Text: Matt 9:18-38

Jesus' life on earth was always crammed from morning to night. Before he could finish teaching the parable of old bottles and new bottles, there came Jairus, a synagogue officer, to Jesus pleading with him to raise his 12-year-old daughter who had just died.

On his way to Jairus' house, great crowds followed Him. In the crush, a woman who had an issue of blood for 12 years touched his garment, and was instantaneously healed. Then came the mighty miracle of Jairus' daughter rising from the dead.

As soon as Jesus came out of the house, two blind men begged Him to open their eyes, and their eyes were immediately opened. No sooner had this happened than a man, possessed by a dumb devil, had his mouth opened and he began to speak. All the people marvelled and gave glory to God, but the Pharisees maligned our Lord that He cast out devils by the prince of devils.

Sickness, including the mental and spiritual, with possession by the evil spirit, and finally death are the lot of mankind fallen

into sin, and our Lord is ever ready to give help and relief to all who come humbly to Him.

What lesson do we learn from Jesus' healing ministry? The Church should also have such a ministry of mercy, especially in the mission field, like Cambodia and Indonesia, where medical services are few. The two medical missions we sent to Cambodia whereby a total of 2,500 were treated brought relief to the sufferers and glory to God.

The one we sent to Batam not too long ago is going to be repeated today, when 10 doctors, nurses and dental surgeons are taking part, in line with Jesus' work of mercy. The difference is whereas Jesus can cure all, our medical teams cannot. We cannot raise the dead nor cast out devils, nor open the eyes of the blind. Yet God is pleased with healing such diseases as are curable by the latest methods.

In Singapore there is no necessity of running a clinic or operating a hospital, for here they are available from the Government or from private practitioners. But here come the Charismatics who claim they can open blind eyes and cause the ones born lame to walk. They believe that the miraculous powers given to the Apostles are given to them today. Deceiving others and deceiving themselves they make the situation worse. In Cambodia a certain American faith healer who could do nothing in a so-called

miracle healing campaign, was chased out of the country. He could have been lynched by the crowd. When will the Charismatics learn?

While Jesus had full compassion on the physically sick, his main ministry was to heal rather our souls' diseases. In Mark 1:37-39 it is recorded, "And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee. And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth. And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils."

In Matthew's account it is recorded, "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom (*first*), and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, 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."

That Jesus was moved with compassion on them refers not to our Lord's concern for these people's physical illness but rather for their lost condition, the need of their souls' salvation. They were like lost sheep, fainting and scattered about with no shepherd to deliver them.

Today as you watch the crowds pouring out of an MRT station, do you not see the anxiety on their faces, going to work, struggling for a living, for survival? Of the minority of Christians who may look composed, the rest are without God and without hope in the world. Who will go and bring them to the Great Shepherd of the sheep, our Lord Jesus Christ?

Here is a great harvest of souls, but labourers are few. So we are to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth labourers into the harvest. In Chapter 10 the labourers to be sent into the harvest field are the Twelve Apostles, fully equipped. To think these are the only ones to be sent is totally wrong!

How can Twelve Apostles do the job? How can three pastors in Life Church take care of 1,700

members? Jesus in Luke 10 appointed other seventy also. So as you pray you yourself may feel the call. You need not be high theologians to tell the simple message of salvation to every hearer. This was how the China Inland Mission could send part of seven to eight thousand missionaries to all China to expedite the Gospel in 1927. Many women, strong believers with a passion for souls, were sent.

Labourers to the plenteous harvest fields of the world are you! We need the trained ones like the apostles and pastors. But we need the seventy lay people, two by two to go before the Lord. We need volunteers to go and help the missionaries in Cambodia. We need Sunday school teachers who go to Kuantan and thank God we have young ladies who go. We need those who go with pastors on mission trips and follow up with whatever they can contribute. We need retirees who, instead of sitting at home, can also come and be involved. Elder Leong Yin Chu, an inspector of schools, who retired with his wife in 1982, has been serving in the field for nearly 20 years now. He urges you who are like him, to join him as a labourer in the harvest field.

The labourers are not apostles and pastors only, but you! And you who have compassion on the lost souls.

SINGAPORE CONTINGENT TO THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFE B-P CHURCH, KEMAMAN

There were five of us. I and Ivy, Dn Henry Tan, Alice Chng and Lilian, the last two being newcomers. We left Singapore by Transnasional coach at 9.05 am by the Second Link for Kemaman via Kulai to pick up more passengers, but there were none. The ten passengers from Singapore enjoyed the luxury of much space.

Our only stop was at Machap (before Air Itam) where we enjoyed each a Malay dish called Soto. We arrived at Chukai, Kemaman about 4.00 pm. Dr Wee came personally in his Landrover to fetch us. That night we had a "pot-bless" makan cooked by the ladies. Opportunity was given me to speak to the large crowd which understood me in English and Cantonese. My topic, taken from John 3 was *Born Once Die Twice, Born Twice Die Once*.

The next morning Dn Henry Tan drove us on

behalf of Mrs Wee, south to Kuantan, 50 odd km down, to see our handsome property. Since Mrs Wee took over on our behalf, the Kindergarten has been given a new face of scenes of nature, birds and animals of Alice in Wonderland. The Kindergarten under Mrs Wee has now 8 pupils.

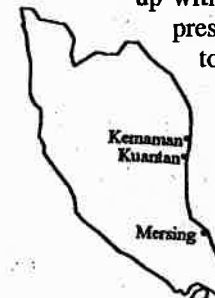
With an area of 6,500 sq ft we have extended our 5-room corner terrace house with 2,444 floor area a further 800 sq ft for a Kindergarten. Some of the 10 orange coconut trees are bearing fruit, except for two which have died and are replaced with other plants. The five of us spent an hour to give the trees a "haircut" and how smart they look now.

In the afternoon (Fri, June 22) they held a regular Church Service for the teens at 4.00 pm (after Sunday school). I spoke on Prov 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Restated: "Religion first before science." So, you people come to Church to get the right knowledge of man and God, the two highest strata of learning. William Phelps, Professor of Yale University said, "A knowledge of the Bible without College education, is better than a College education without the Bible." Evolution, which teaches man is the final development of the ape, is false. But the Bible that teaches man to be created by God is true.

At 8.00 pm the Chapel which is established in Dr Wee's shophouse on the third floor was packed with members from both the English and Chinese congregations. As Rev Koa Keng Woo had come to fill the Chinese pulpit, we combined the Ordination and Baptisms as one, with him interpreting. (Meanwhile Wendy and Eunice, who were to teach Sunday school at Kuantan, caught

up with us, so they joined in the presentation of "I have decided to follow Jesus" as an item from Singapore.

On this 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Day, Dr Wee produced the first Church Bulletin. As he is an expert fisherman, owning a yacht for deep



sea fishing, he speaks of serving Christ with the spirit of a fisherman.

Do you know there were four fishermen out of the twelve apostles? Every believer is a fisher of men. Let us take this responsibility seriously and be armed with the attributes of a good fisherman. He is patient while waiting for the bite. He has hope otherwise he might as well not go out to sea. He has faith that the Lord will supply. He is thankful because every fish he gets is a blessing from the Lord. He is aware of his dependence on God to give good tides and calm sea for he knows he has no control over the weather. When the storm catches him in the open sea, he is prayerful that the Lord will deliver him to the safety of the harbour or calm the sea. He is aware of his weakness when faced with sharks, which can tear his nets to pieces, and when he is thrown overboard from the safety of the boat, his dear life is dependent on a saviour. Dearly beloved, let us be good fishers of men. Amen.

For ordination to the Diaconate, Dr Wee had to answer these four questions:

1. Do you believe the Bible to be the fully inspired Word of God, infallible and inerrant, and therefore the supreme and only rule of our faith and practice?

2. Do you believe in the special providential preservation of the Text of the Bible so that it is pure and intact, and the King James Bible which is translated from this Received Text, is our English Bible to the exclusion of all modern corrupt versions?

3. Do you submit to the Session of this Church of which you are a member and work to its peace and harmony that the Church might grow from strength to strength to the glory of God?

4. Do you take a united stand with the Session of this Church to guard against any heretical doctrine, from without or within, and to defend the Truth to the best of your ability? So help me God.

For Baptism we had Mr and Mrs Chew Teck Yee and youngest son Vincent. Mr Chew is a hotelier having 20 rooms.

The thankoffering for the night of RM476 + S\$5 was forwarded for Life Church New Beulah House, plus another \$2,000 from Dr Wee's hand. Hallelujah. Amen. —T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 9 - 15, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$8,497.00 (8.00 am); \$21,889.00 (10.30 am)		
THU-SUN		Korean Church Gospel Rally, Sanctuary	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Cambodia</i> : \$600, \$50, \$150; <i>David Koo</i> : \$150; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> : \$100, \$132, \$110; <i>Surish Dharmalingam</i> : \$150; <i>Tg Uban Church</i> : \$1,000; <i>Myanmar Missions</i> : \$50; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> : \$500, \$400; <i>Philippines Hilltop Rice Fund</i> : \$1,000; <i>Chiang Mai Church Bldg</i> : \$200; <i>Rev Seet</i> : \$100, <i>Rev Wong</i> \$50; <i>Rev Tow</i> \$130; <i>Tan Kian Sing</i> : \$500; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> : \$400, \$50, \$100; <i>Life BPC (Cambodia)</i> : \$300; <i>Kenya Maasai Medical Ministry</i> : \$200; <i>Batam Kg Becek Project</i> : \$500, \$300; <i>Kompongsom BPC</i> : \$450.		
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship (Gk & Heb Rm)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE : \$100, \$230, \$50, \$50, \$200, \$150, \$600 \$100, \$600, \$510, \$200, \$1,000, \$200, \$100, \$100, \$150, \$150, \$550, \$470, \$3328, \$552, \$3000, \$250.		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship (Music Rm)	Grand Total: \$2,580,295.85		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF			
SUN	8.00 am	<i>Who Is My Neighbour</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) Praise the Lord for the recent promotion. The first fruits of my increase goes to the Church's building fund. \$510.		
	8.15 am	Sunday School TTC	(2) Thank God for Life BPC Choir ministry in music. \$400.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	2 or 3 Pentium 1 notebooks required by House of Hope, Cebu, Philippines. Contact Mr Robert Yeo at 2832204.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	We express condolences to the loved ones of 5 year old Veronica Peh, who passed away on Tuesday evening.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Preaching appointments: <i>Rev Tow</i> at Chinese Service.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	<i>Rev Charles Seet</i> at Calvary Jurong BP Church at 8.00 am.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	<i>Rev Colin Wong</i> at Maranatha BP Church at 10.45 am		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese 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 Prayer Mtg: 91			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson.					
Sunday School Offering: \$869.17; Attendance: 354					
Verse for the Week: <i>The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him. Ps 28:7</i>					



Grace B-P Church dedication Service
Jonathan Lee, Phnom Penh



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Vol. X No. 11

8 July 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 32	No. 137
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 5:1-16	Matt 6:25-34
Hymn	No. 395	No. 319
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 390	No. 35
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Luke 10:25-37	Psalms 139:7-16
Sermon	<i>The One Who Showed Mercy</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	<i>Through All the Changing Scenes of Life</i> (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 454	No. 352
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

PATTERN OF ACCELERATED CHURCH GROWTH

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life BPC 10.30 am Service, July 1, 01)

Text: Matthew 10:1-15

In last week's message we heard our Lord sigh, "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." In conjunction with this command, we find in Luke 10 the Lord sending seventy, two by two, other than the 12 disciples, to the harvest field. Who are these seventy? They are the members in the pews, ordinary people saved by grace, able to witness.

And so there has arisen a denomination called The Brethren who teaches all are brothers and sisters and from these are elected Responsible Brethren or Elders to lead the Church. These need no training but are taught of the Holy Spirit. They take the place of pastors who not only preach and teach but run the affairs of the Church.

For the text we've taken, Matt 10:1-15 we see that in order to establish His Church our Lord has chosen Twelve Disciples whom He called Apostles (v.2), whom He commissioned to preach and to heal, to raise the dead and cast out devils. These

were further fortified with the miracles performed by the Master. Firstly, they were indoctrinated in the Doctrines of God and His Work of Saving Mankind. They underwent the building of good character and how to behave as good Christian leaders before men. They had a full three-year course and graduated with seeing the Risen and Ascended Christ and the Coming at Pentecost of the Holy Spirit. They graduated from JESUS Bible College. The power to do miracles was reconfirmed on them (Acts 5:12) and with these powers the Church was established and grew from strength to strength.

Every Apostle (except Judas Iscariot whose part was taken over by Paul) went evangelising, each to one country or region according to tradition and died a martyr's death. But we will mention what is clearly stated in Scripture, the spread of the Gospel throughout the Roman Empire through Peter the Apostle to the Jews and Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles.

From Peter we learn in the Acts of the Apostles how he evangelised Samaria with John in the steps of Philip and how he branched out to Lydda and Joppa. From Peter's Epistles we know he preached in Asia Minor, to Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia. From Corinthians we hear from Paul that Peter also

came there for the Gospel's sake. Peter mentioned "the Church of Babylon" and tradition strongly tells us how Peter, like Paul, had gone to Rome and there he died a martyr's death.

Now the Apostle Paul. He spent his whole life after conversion in three missionary journeys that took him through the Roman Empire in Europe arriving in Rome in what could be called his fourth missionary journey.

What do these exploits of the two chiefest of Apostles tell us? They set the Church Pattern that the twelve Apostles whom the Lord has called, chosen, and trained has accelerated Church Growth above others. JESUS Bible College is the formula.

And this formula is handed by the Apostle to Timothy for the continuation of the propagation of the Gospel and the faster church growth in II Tim 2:2, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

Paul here is speaking from his own personal experience the mighty results of what he did in Ephesus. He opened a Bible College that lasted two full years in Ephesus to train them for the Gospel, "so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks." (Acts 19:10). How did all who dwelt in Asia hear the Word of the Lord Jesus? Not through one person in Paul, but undoubtedly through the many students taught by Paul who went out with the Word. As a result five new churches were added to form the Seven Churches of Revelation. These are Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, and Philadelphia. Ephesus which heads the list and the last Laodicea are two old churches. The pattern for accelerated Church Growth is demonstrated by none other than St. Paul.

We have seen how our Lord founded JESUS Bible College with the best calibre of men, the Twelve Apostles. We have seen the results in the two chiefest of Apostles, Peter and Paul. We have seen how Paul has called Timothy to choose faithful men and train them as in a Bible College

that they may continue the process whereby the church might multiply from strength to strength.

With this pattern in mind, by way of testimony, the Lord helped me to found the Far Eastern Bible College in 1962. Foreseeing that unless such a College was founded, Life Church would remain as Life Church, like many other churches. From the beginning we launched out as a full-fledged College in order to train men and women to higher academic excellence. We required students to stay in school, so that by communal interactions we might nurture their spiritual life and mould their characters. Four years leading to the Bachelor of Theology is deemed not enough. Further study leading to the master's degree (another 2 years) is encouraged that they might mature to be effective leaders. When they graduate in their respective degrees, insofar as the men are concerned, they are eventually ordained as pastors or ministers of the Gospel. Calvin says these are they who step into the position left by the Apostles.

A new tide has arisen in Neo-evangelical circles to start ordaining eminent pastors as Apostles. Lawrence Kong, as I understand, has now been ordained an Apostle. But Apostles are not for Bible-Presbyterians. We believe there are only Twelve according to Acts of the Apostles who were endued with special powers to work miracles so as to establish the Church. Apostles were specially appointed to write the Scriptures.

Nevertheless, for the full-orbed training they have received from FEBC, we have ordained 65 to the pastoral ministry. These have become Church leaders principally in the 60 and 20 BP congregations in Singapore and Malaysia, with a goodly number over BP Churches founded across the world. Without the Bible College, Life Church would have remained one to this day. Without church growth there is even the danger that the church will close shop. How many churches I can count on my fingers that have, after a few years, vanished. This is borne out by what my good friend, Dr. Paul Contento has said, "Without the Bible College, the Church would

die."

Today, by God's grace, He is raising more and more tertiary-educated young men and young women from our midst to study at FEBC. These are they who will be leaders of churches, who will further go on to establish branches.

The Far Eastern Bible College today has a full faculty of thirteen. It has graduated a total of 376 in the last 39 years. Next year will be the 40th Anniversary. Its present enrolment has over 100 students from 17 countries. FEBC is the centre of a Bible College movement to help fraternal Bible Colleges raise their standards. We have helped the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology of Burma, and now we have launched out to Africa to help the Bible College of East Africa. To raise the standard of Sunday School Teachers among BP Churches, we are receiving an increasing number of evening school students—all this for accelerated church growth.

Pray for FEBC that we may be enabled to accomplish what has been mandated to us through Paul's charge to Timothy, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." II Tim 2:2. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send us men of the calibre of the Twelve Apostles who will enhance the work of the Church during these last days in accelerated missions before He returns.

SKETCH AND TELL

Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Ps 37:4

By Lim Hal Seng, Melbourne

Since at a tender age, my primary school teacher would always instruct me to go and draw on the blackboard. My school exercise books were full of cartoons whenever the lessons were boring.

When I was a volunteer mission worker on the *mv Logos* in the 70s, while travelling to many parts of the world, I often used my cartoon drawing skills to present the gospel and Bible stories to some African countries and in North India in open-air meetings. My

God-given goal to use sketch & tell was further consolidated when I came to FEBC to receive theological grounding in 1984 & 1987.

While serving in Bethel BPC, Melbourne, I was able to sketch & tell Bible lessons in the Aussie government schools and at chapel services at a private Christian school up in the Dandenong hills. Not only to children but also to "golden oldies" in their sixties, seventies, eighties and nineties at the Strabane Aged Care Home. This instant sketches ministry is not only confined to Hope BPC, Adelaide & Ebenezer BPC, Melbourne but extended to Singapore and Malaysia in recent years by the kind invitations of Jurong, Moriah, Pandan, Tengah, Kulai, etc. Some churches also proposed that I should go with their mission teams to Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Brunei and Northern Thailand.

During the last few years, I have also ventured into an *eMinistry*. Clik & Tell where I created computer animations for Bible stories, songs, quizzes, etc. that can be presented on a laptop and multimedia projector. It was indeed an overwhelming thumbs up (glory and praise be unto the Lord) to my computer animations when I showcased them around the various churches. I cannot describe to you the potential of even setting a website ministry. Certainly, beyond my expectations, the Lord is prospering this ministry. Just to share with you the goodness of the Lord during this recent trip when Elder Boaz Boon & his team organised a gospel outreach among the schools in the Choa Chu Kang area and he advertised in a permission form for their Sunday school children to invite their school mates: a "renowned cartoonist from Melbourne" coming, and the responses were the non-Christian children who outnumbered the Christians at these Condominium Clubhouses gatherings. I was able to sketch & tell gospel themes like "the Broad & Narrow Ways", "The Lost Son", etc. A Tengah brother even arranged for me to sketch & tell the story of Jonah to a childcare centre in Bt. Panjang where I saw these young lives roaring in laughter when they saw Jonah in the belly of the big fish for 3 days and 3 nights. Dr John Sung also used cartoons in his revival ministry and that was an inspiration. Therefore I can say with the psalmist in chap. 37:4 that **when I delight myself in the LORD**, he certainly has indeed granted me my heart's desires to serve Him all the days of my life.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 16 - 22, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	8.30 am	FEBC Semester Opens	\$8,686.00 (8.00 am); \$15,701.00 (10.30 am)
TUE	8.00 pm	Day of Prayer, Sanctuary	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph: \$500, \$100; Pailin Orph: \$60;
WED	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	Indonesia Mission: \$350; Baraka Conf Centre: \$100; Mission
THU	7.30 pm	Session Mtg	Fund: \$150; Myanmar Orph: \$400, \$150, \$200, \$100; Rev
SAT	10.00 am	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Jonathan Lee: \$150; Ho Heng Sau: \$500; Wendy: \$200; Children
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF	Ministry: \$400; MsF: \$1,000; Rev Seet: \$50, \$150, \$130, \$100; Rev
SUN	8.00 am	Who Deserves Mercy?	Wong: \$50, \$50; Chan Pui Meng: \$300; Maasai Medical Ministry:
		(Elder Lim Teck Chye)	\$220, \$200, \$80, \$480; LTF: \$500; Tan Yin Chan: \$500.
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$1,200 (Thomson NBC), \$355 (Boxes).
	9.30 am	Sunday School	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$1000, \$200 (Session Member); \$1000,
	10.30 am	Rev Quek Suan Yew	\$460; \$500, \$250, \$200, \$200, \$300, \$300, \$300, \$3800, \$100.
		Rev Tow at Calvary-Pandan	Grand Total: \$2,590,705.85
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	(1) "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	because his mercy endureth forever." Thank you Lord
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	for saving my soul. A humble gift of \$1,000 from a new
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service	lifer for New Beulah House.
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	Catechism Class will begin on 5 Aug, 9.30 am, with Rev
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	Colin Wong at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism,
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.	reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Bt Timah, Bedok.			attend the Catechism Class.
Prayer Mtg: 100			Yeo Li Chin was baptised last Lord's Day by Rev Colin
Sunday School Offering: \$917.10; Attendance: 359			Wong at the 8.00 am service.
Verse for the Week: But let all those			Wee Soon Bin, 68 years, was baptised on 10 July by Rev
that put their trust in thee rejoice: let			Colin Wong in the presence of Elder Khoo Peng Kiat at
them ever shout for joy, because thou			NUH.
defendest them: let them also that love			Far Eastern Kindergarten: Vacancy for full-time teacher
thy name be joyful in thee. Ps 5:11.			with minimum GCE 'O' level. Contact Mrs Jane Koh
			2513676(O) or Dn David Tan, 9514 3392(P)
			2 or 3 Pentium 1 notebooks required by House of Hope,
			Cebu, Philippines. Contact Mr Robert Yeo at 2832204.
			Preaching appointments: Rev Charles Seet at
			Philadelphia BPC at 9.30 am and Calvary Pandan BPC at
			10.15 am, and Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.



Life

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Vol. X No. 12

15 July 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 81	No. 295
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Ex. 20:1-17	Psalm 51
Hymn	No. 385	No. 273
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 390	No. 324
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk: 10:25-37	Matt. 10:16-42
Sermon	Who Is My Neighbour?	Be Prepared against a
	(Rev Colin Wong)	Hostile World
Closing Hymn	Cups of Cold Water	No. 437
Benediction		

"FOR A WITNESS UNTO ALL NATIONS"

One of the signs of the soon coming of the Lord Jesus is the accelerated preaching of the Gospel in all the world, "for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come."

There are five countries our missionaries have entered during the last four years, viz., Cambodia, Saipan, Maasai Land, Kenya, Vietnam and Palestine.

1. Cambodia. There are four. Moses Hahn, David Koo, Jonathan Lee, Surish. They are deployed principally to Kompong Som, Pailin, Siem Reap, Phnom Penh.

Jonathan Lee, after four years' immersion in slum and orphanage work has built Grace BP Church which appeared last week in their packed Dedication Service. The second Glory BP Church is just beginning to lay foundations. The third but not the last is this four storey building rising above the slum village where he had made his headquarters (p.3).

The reason why he cannot stay in a three storey house which he rents at US\$300 a month is it is much too small to take in his hundred slum children with their believing parents. Besides the slum dwellers are so poor and crammed together that none of them possess a toilet or bathroom (I've seen with

my own eyes). Where do they go to relieve themselves? By climbing a wall to enter somebody's field and do it among bushes. Where do they take their baths? It is still a mystery to me!

So one of the amenities Jonathan Lee will provide for his hundred neighbours is to build toilets and bathrooms on the ground for them, turning their hell into heaven. Another facility, I am sure, is the kitchen.

Our church takes care of the school fees of worthy slum children and helps out in their medical expenses. We also contribute to the feeding of 100 orphans in the government-run orphanage, housed in an erstwhile Roman Catholic Convent. This apart from the 10 containers sent the last three years.

The four-storey edifice you see has been raised principally by Korean Elder Dr. Lee with several ten-thousands of US dollars to pay for the land. Lifers have contributed to Jonathan's sterling work, resulting in the conversion of hundreds among the poorest of the poor.

2. The second country to enter with the Gospel is Saipan. Our missionary to Saipan is Ho Heng Sau. Apart from constant counselling she provides for the overwhelming number of female converts, she also drives a big van



Ground breaking of Kpg Becek Church & Kindergarten, Roska, Dr Jeffrey Khoo & Elder Tan Nee Keng

to bring them to church from their scattered garment factories. She has been a tremendous help to Rev. Pang Kok Hiong.

3. Maasai Land, Kenya. Most recently we sent Chan Pui Meng a veteran nurse to Maasai Land to build a Clinic and run it for the Colony started by New Life Church, Dr. Patrick Tan.

4. Vietnam. This country was entered by the Pastor and his wife, Chinese New Year, 1995. As a result of the contact we have received a first student to study at FEBC. This student has finished his Th.M. studies and is using his extended stay to finish his thesis. He should be able to finish it in two or three months. When he returns he will be our missionary to his own land.

5. Palestine. Here is established a Baraka Bible-Presbyterian Church by Dr. Thomas Lambie of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions since 1950. The converts among the Palestinians he made have now come of age. In 1987 we had our 2nd Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Pilgrims of the 2nd Pilgrimage mostly contributed to buy a piece of land at Beit Sahour (Shepherd's Field).

Being so near to the powerful Greek Orthodox Church, they were ousted. They had to sell this piece of land and buy another piece farther away. Today, relying on "self-help with God's help is the best help", they have accumulated US\$30,000. They have launched into building their own church, short of US\$20,000. We have 50x10 Pilgrims, about 500 from our 10 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land. If each member will do a bit, God's House (BP) in the Shepherd's Field will arise by Christmas this year!

The happiest note about the Holy Land Church is the son of Rev. George Awad, Danny, has studied 4 years in a Presbyterian Seminary in the Philippines, graduating with an M.Div. Thus he is stepping into the shoes of his aged father to be their full-time pastor.

"For a witness unto all nations"—and then shall the end come. Besides the 5 countries, we have entered all ASEAN countries except Laos, where Chan Pui Meng had witnessed for a year as a Tent-maker. What next in this end-time accelerated missions programme?

SALT vs. SUGAR

Text: Eccles. 7:1-6

The story is told of two ministers and what presentations they made to their king. The minister of sugar presented sugar and he was promoted. The minister of salt presented salt, and he lost his head. That is the way of all flesh.

I. What Solomon, whose wisdom comes from God, teaches is the reverse. There are salt and sugar elements in our life for consideration, and salt rather is better.

"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth" (v.1). A good reputation, in Chinese teaching, is one's second life. By all means we must guard it. Once we do something wrong, the fragrance of it is gone. It stinks thereafter forever. Hence a good name is better than precious ointment. This is a salt admonition, and not sugar. Sugar melts sweetly in the mouth for a little while, but salt can preserve what we eat for a long time.

II. "It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart ... The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth" (verses 2,4). Why is the day of death better than the day of one's birth? **Because death is the conclusion of a life of struggles, but birth is the beginning**—in a sinful world of vexation and vanity. So it is better to attend a funeral than to go to a feast, **for it is the conclusion of life and those who attend funerals will be sobered down to the reality of life.**

"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb 9:27). Death confronts us whether we are prepared to meet it. Where will you end up, in heaven or in hell?

A little girl of four we know was confronted by death in the form of a coffin brought to Church for the memorial service. She told her father she was scared of death. The father showed the little daughter the way of escape by turning to the Lord Jesus Christ—the Son of God who died on the cross to take away all her sins. She readily received the Lord into her heart. She now turns to Jesus whenever the thought of death scares her.

While it is legitimate to attend both funerals and wedding parties, it will do us more good to go to funerals. Considering how apt we are to be vain and secure at a wedding party, it is preferable to go to the house of mourning to learn from the dead. Jesus went to a wedding feast once but three times to the funeral. At the wedding feast our Lord joined them in earthly happiness, at the funerals He raised the dead to life and further He gave everlasting life to those who trusted in Him.

III. "Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better" (v.3). Why is sorrow better than laughter? Because it is more agreeable to our earthly life, although it goes against our senses. **In going to a house of mourning and sorrow we learn the**

solemnity of life, of our sins and folly. We are drawn to sympathise with the dead and what they have suffered before death. By the sadness of the countenance the heart is cleansed. We are brought closer to God.

IV. "It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools" (v.5). It is better to be admonished by the wise than by the flattery of the foolish. To readily accept the constructive criticisms of our friends is better than hearing the praises of empty-headed people.

"For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity" (v.6). Moreover the laughter of an empty-headed fellow is noisy and flashy and in one minute it is gone. It is void of any substance. His word leads others only to perdition. Solomon has plenty to comment on flattery, "A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet" (Prov 29:5) and "He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him" (Prov 27:14). Flattery is sugar, the advice of a wise man is salt. — T.T.

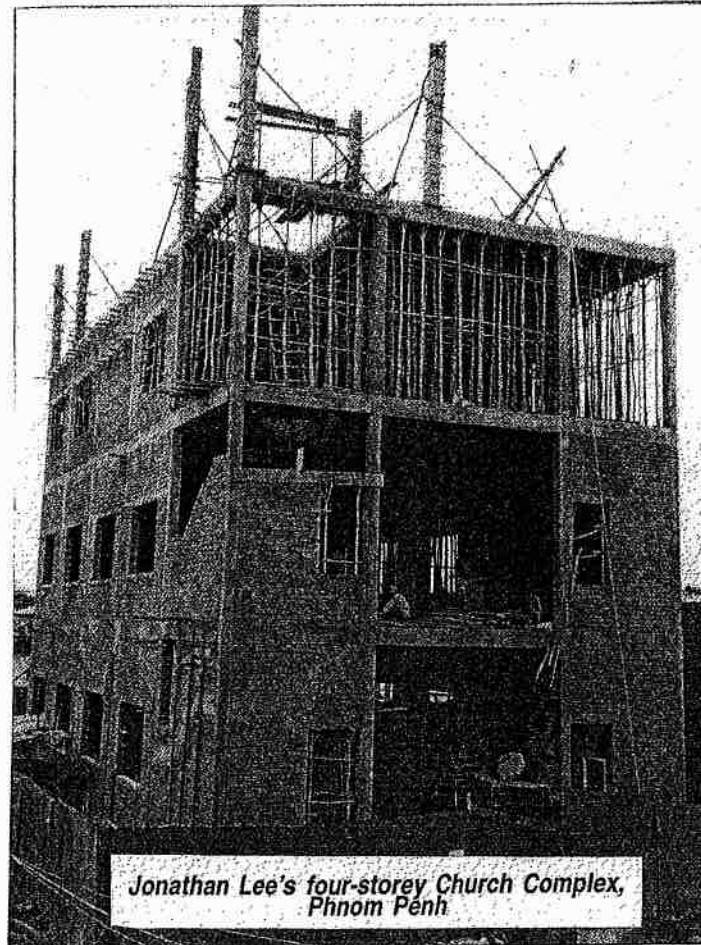
Adult Sunday School

Attending Sunday School helps me greatly in the study of God's Word. There is a systematic way of studying the Bible in our Ladies' class. We are encouraged to read the Bible and prepare the practical applications we have learnt from the assigned passage before hand to share with the class on the weekly basis. From this method of studying and sharing, the Bible has truly become a book of life & light.

— Chew Kim Hong

Medical Mission to Batam

Thank you for praying for the 1-day medical/dental mission trip to Batam which took place 2 Sundays ago (1st July 2001). Sister Roska reports that a total of 170 patients were seen at the two churches (75 at Tanjung Piayu and 95 at Batu Aji) and that the people were greatly encouraged through the love shown to them.



Jonathan Lee's four-storey Church Complex,
Phnom Penh

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 23 - 29, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm	<i>Theism</i> (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Hebrews</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Lee Tiong Meng & Lim Gek Yen (Rev Charles Seet)
SUN	8.00 am	<i>Preparing the Church for Mercy Ministry</i> (Rev Goh Seng Fong)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	8.15 am	Sunday School TTC
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	<i>Who Is Greater Than John the Baptist</i> (Rev Tow)
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	12.45 pm	Evangelism
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service
NBC This Week. <i>Wed</i> Henderson; <i>Fri</i> Queenstown.		Prayer Mtg: 107
Sunday School Offering: \$1,117.21; Attendance: 369		
Verse for the Week: <i>In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Psalm 62:7,8.</i>		

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
 \$7,597.00 (8.00 am); \$16,877.00 (10.30 am)
OFFERINGS FOR: *Wendy Teng* \$230; *Cambodia Orph* \$500, \$600; *Rev David Koo* \$500, \$100; *Rev Jonathan Lee* \$1000, \$400, \$100, \$500, \$2880; *Rev Moses Hahn* \$1000, \$500; *Surish* \$300, \$150, \$500, \$200; *Rev Andrew Kam* \$600, \$200, \$400; *Myanmar Orph* \$500; *MsF* \$100; *RPG* \$132(Life SS); *Rev Wong* \$50; *Ng Sang Chiew* \$150; *Chan Pui Meng* \$200; *Cambodia-Glory BPC* \$100; *Kenya-Maasai Medical Ministry* \$100; *Chinese Service* \$200; *Cambodia Grace BPC* \$500; *FEBC Students*, \$40 each Christine Kendagor, John Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Paul Sun Sokha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Tran Thanh Minh, Srun Chivan; \$50 each Rasmalee, Nguyen Gia Hien.
MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$200, \$58(Boxes).
NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$1000, \$50, \$400, \$943, \$1000(Session member), \$600, \$132, \$600, \$1000, \$2000, \$150, \$130, \$1000, \$1000, \$500, \$1000, \$2000, \$100. **Grand Total:** \$2,604,410.85. **STOP PRESS!** \$100(Prayer Mtg), \$1000(Calvarian), \$200(FEBC Student), \$500(Korean Guests), \$250(Ex-FEK Teacher).

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
 (1) Thank God for recent promotion and praise God for protecting our son from being hit by a fallen royal palm tree. (\$1000)

Family Worship at Mr & Mrs David Ong's home, Thursday, 26 July at 8pm. Address: 31 Windsor Park Rd (574137). Tel: 4599459. All are welcome.

Catechism Class will begin on 5 Aug, 9.30 am, with Rev Colin Wong at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.

Far Eastern Kindergarten: Vacancy for full-time teacher with minimum GCE 'O' level. Contact Mrs Jane Koh 2513676(O) or Dn David Tan, 9514 3392(P).

Preaching appointments: *Rev Tow* at Calvary(Pandan) BPC, 10.15 am. *Rev Wong* at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am and Life BPC AF, 1.30 pm. *Rev Seet* at Maranatha BPC, 10.45 am and Tabernacle BPC, 3.30 pm.



Pif

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 13

22 July 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Yiew Pong Sen	Eld Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	No. 173	No. 4
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 9:6-26	Psalm 4
Hymn	No. 175	No. 335
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	O Thou From Whom...	No. 127
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 15:21-28	Matt 6:24-34
Sermon	Who Deserves Mercy? (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	In God We Trust (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	No. 306	No. 379
Benediction		

BE PREPARED AGAINST A HOSTILE WORLD

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life BPC

10.30 am Service, July 15, 01)

Text: **Matt 10:16-42**

With Christianity in Singapore rising from 14 to 17% during the last decade, it seems we are more received by the people. In fact we are not. Two instances will prove my point. Some years ago when there was free flow of traffic along our side road to Chancery Lane, some of our members parked into spaces reserved for residents of the URA flats behind us. When they repeated this offence due to carelessness the secretary of the Residents Association gave us a nasty note, "Next time you do this we will puncture your tires." Second instance: A European voice complained to me on the phone one Sunday morning, "Why do you ring your church bell so loud as to wake me out of sleep? Where can I lodge a complaint?"

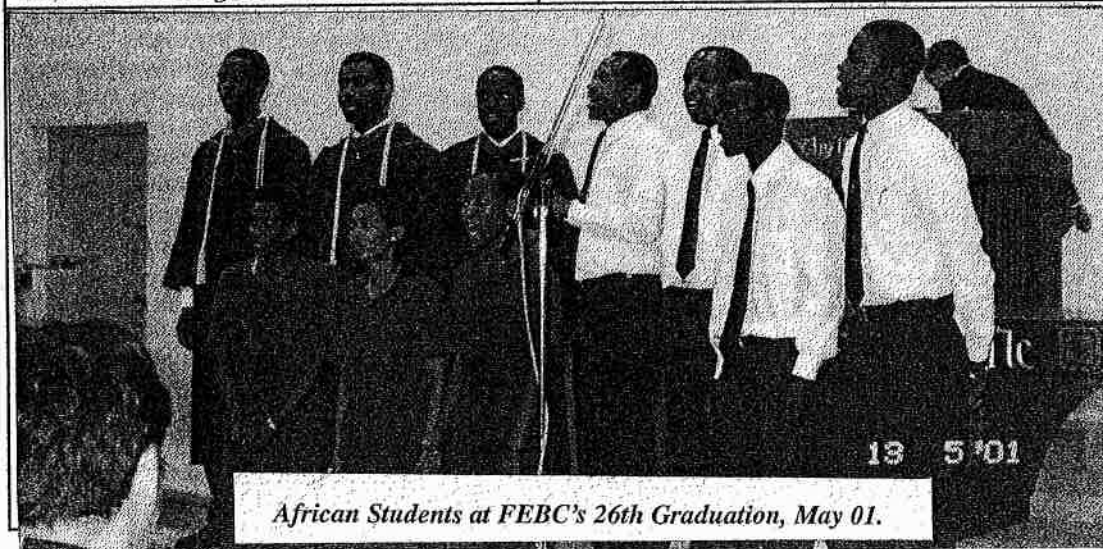
This is what Jesus means, "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Christians will be persecuted before the authorities and will be persecuted out of their place of abode, they will be killed, they will be hated even by their immediate family members. That sons would betray their own parents to the

Communist authorities during Mao's Cultural Revolution is a well-known fact. This is forewarned in Micah 7:5,6. "Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom. For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house." But God will endue them with wisdom for self-defence that they will be able to live alongside wicked people as harmless citizens.

I. "But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you" (Matt 10:19-20).

In 1900, 101 years ago, there arose a great persecution of Christians in China known as the Boxer Rebellion. As a result 185 missionaries including their children were beheaded for their faith. About 20,000 Chinese Christians also lost their lives. The Boxer Rebellion burst out in North China, but quickly spread to the South.

In that year my grandfather was a young pastor of a church in Swatow, South China. Sensing the Boxers would invade his church, he had the signboard of his church openly displayed, "JESUS THE TRUE RELIGION." He prepared a



African Students at FEBC's 26th Graduation, May 01.

big pot of the best Chinese tea with a pile of peanut caramel which the Teochews relished. When the Boxers descended upon him with swords and spears, he calmly invited them to tea. The Boxers seeing the tea and sweetmeats placed before them enjoyed themselves to the full. And seeing my grandfather was a just man they left the scene without violence, taking away only the German wall clock. The wisdom of standing firm in the face of extreme danger came from the Holy Spirit. This episode in my Grandpa's life, which he related to us his grandchildren, has remained with me to this day. "Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves" (Matt 10:16). God is able to help you outwit your adversaries.

II. "But when they persecute you in this city, flee you unto another" (v.23). Before the time for us to die for our Lord, we should flee for safety, in the face of persecution, in order that we might continue to witness for Christ. After Saul was converted on the Damascus Road, he became Paul. When he began to preach Christ, he was hounded by the governor of Damascus who set a garrison to catch him. But disciples helped him escape by letting him through a window in a basket down the city wall. A similar experience helped Calvin escape from the house where he was staying in Paris when he heard wind that the University authorities suspected he was the author of a Protestant message preached by his friend against the Roman Catholic Church. Friends tied bed sheets together and let him out of a window to escape in the nick of time. The contribution he made for the Protestant Faith with this escape is a glorious chapter of Church history.

Should we be persecuted for preaching Christ, God is able to outmaneuver us from danger for His Name's sake.

III. But followers of Christ must be prepared to go all the way with Him. Here our Lord hints of His persecution by His enemies unto death. As the disciple is not above his master, so He also hints we must be prepared to die with Him. Christians are in the hands of God who has power over life and death and He will save us to heaven should we be killed.

So the Muslims are also taught to die for their faith. But their martyrdom involves a suicidal death

in present conflict with the Jews. A suicide bomber by the name of Nefaz who directed his attack at a Jewish check point in Gaza just last week detonated his bomb prematurely and perished in the blast without hurting anybody. What a sad end of a self-martyrdom.

Christians, however, are martyred for the truth as they submit to enemies of the Cross by the appointment of God. Both Peter and Paul gave their lives willingly for the Gospel's sake. By their deaths, the faith of other Christians were strengthened. By the deaths of other Christians following suit, Christianity won the victory in the early fourth century when Constantine the Roman Emperor was converted. As a result the whole Roman Empire became Christian. Christians out-martyr all other forms of martyrdom. "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father" (Matt 10:28,29).

Before our appointed time, God assures us, "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows" (vv. 30-31). Our Heavenly Father is a loving Father. He will not make us suffer unnecessarily.

IV. "And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it" (vv. 38-39). In serving the Lord we must come to the conclusion that our life no more belongs to us. To be a true disciple we must serve him unconditionally. Can we say with Peter, "Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?" (Matt 19:27).

Jesus said to Peter and the other disciples, "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life" (Matt 19:29).

"He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it" (Matt 10:39). This section recedes from martyrdom to our day-

to-day living. Do we serve Him as one dead to the world? Are we dead to our dearest human relations? Should the love of parents hinder our love for the Saviour? Should even the love of wife detract us from Him? If we are, we are no more worthy to be His servants. If we love the Lord with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind then we will begin to really live. Have we found the true meaning of life?

Our closest relatives may reject us, but those who belong to Christ will receive us. "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (v.42). We are not alone. We have found new friends. The Lord's people will take care of us.

In preparing us against a hostile world, God will help us outwit our enemy, out-maneuver us from their persecution, help us to out-martyr those who die in suicide bombing and bless us to live the real life by forsaking our own. Amen.

FEBC reopened July 16, 01 for the 40th Academic Year with the enrolment of 17 new students as follows:

1. Edsel Locot, *Philippines*
2. Esther Siew-Lan Chew, *Canada*
3. Famachoi Wa'u, *Indonesia*
4. Josh Glenn Klumb, *USA*
5. Kwok Chee Hou Dennis, *Singapore*
6. Khoo Boo Huat Joshua, *West Malaysia*
7. Kim Hee Nam, *South Korea*
8. Kin Bopha, *Cambodia*
9. Lama Kanchha, *Nepal*
10. Lee Hsien Lung, *Singapore*
11. Oh Ji Eun, *South Korea*
12. Phairot Songsawadwong, *Thailand*
13. Richard Murcia Tiu, *Philippines*
14. Rio Lequin Espejon, *Philippines*
15. Robinson Anyi Jau, *East Malaysia*
16. Song Suk Kyoung, *South Korea*
17. Tan Hwee Khim Serena, *Singapore*

(This brings the latest enrolment to 116. This excludes students who are enrolled for the evening classes.)



For special mention is our third American student, Josh Glenn Klumb who discovered FEBC through the Internet. Another is Joshua Khoo who returns to complete his BTh. in the next one year. He has been a preacher for a number of years and has now decided to join the B-P movement. We will put him on the Kemaman circuit for a start.

As we enter the 40th Academic Year we hope to do something to commemorate this biblically significant event for the advancement of His Kingdom. Pray for FEBC. —T.T.

FEBC PRAYER DAY

Dear Rev Tow, FEBC Faculty and Students

Greetings to you all in the blessed Name of our risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. How we do rejoice with you as you come together for the day of prayer before the commencement of this FEBC academic year. May this the fortieth year of FEBC be blessed, fruitful and prosperous in the Lord. All glory to the Lord for the 16 new students who will commence this semester and may the testimonies given this morning be pleasing to the Lord.

As the Apostle Paul encouraged Timothy to be a good soldier of Jesus Christ, may you be able to pass on faithfully that which you have learnt. "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Tim 2:2).

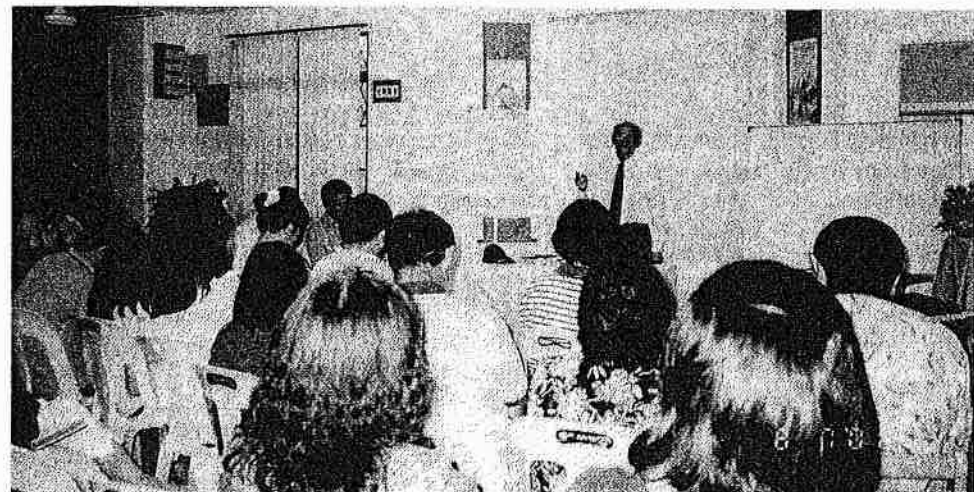
We are thankful for Ivan Toms (FEBC 1996-1998), being with us from New Zealand to help in the ministry at Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth. Thanks to the Lord for Rev Das Koshy ministering to us at a Gospel Outreach on Saturday night and preaching yesterday morning. God willing we look forward to Rev Quek Suan Yew ministering to the people at our second Church Anniversary from 31st Aug – 2nd Sept 2001.

To God be the glory for the ministry of FEBC and may the College that God has established be a continual lighthouse in a darkened and treacherous world.

—In His Service,

Rev Errol D. Stone (FEBCer 1994-97)
Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jul 30 - Aug 5, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm	<i>Theism</i> (Rev Tow)	\$10,605.00 (8.00 am); \$14,711.00 (10.30 am)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$1000, \$410; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$100, \$300, \$310, \$400; <i>Pailin Orph</i> \$360; <i>Missions</i> \$50, \$100; <i>Rev Andrew Kam</i> \$50; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$50, \$220, \$100, \$410; <i>FEBC Students</i> \$100; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$500, \$50, \$50; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$50, \$50; <i>Tan Bee Choo</i> \$100; <i>Tan Kian Sing</i> \$500; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$50; <i>Kenya-Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$150; <i>Chinese Service</i> \$120; <i>Baraka BPC</i> \$300, \$1000.
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Hebrews</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$300, \$50, \$1000, \$150, \$222, \$200(Session member), \$550, \$150, \$200, \$130, \$400(Session member), \$1000, \$100, \$200, \$750, \$1500(Chinese Service).
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Grand Total: \$2,613,362.85. STOP PRESS! \$1500, \$100(Session member), \$100(Berean BPC); 10,859.03(Gethsemane BPC), \$500(Hope BPC, Adelaide).
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Call to Mercy</i> (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) Thank God for the gift of eternal life through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. This is my humble offering of \$1,000 for New Beulah House. —A new Lifer
	8.15 am	Sunday School TTC	(2) Thank God for the safe return and successful completion of our son's studies overseas. (\$1,000 for New Beulah House)
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	(3) Thank God for blessing our daughter with unexpectedly good results in her recent U exams.
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service	
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	12.45 pm	Evangelism	
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands.		Prayer Mtg: 96	
Sunday School Offering: \$1,488.60; Attendance: 402			
Verse for the Week: <i>But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children.</i> Psalm 103:17			
Preaching appointments: <i>Rev Wong</i> at Tangkak BPC. <i>Rev Seet</i> at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am and Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.			



B-P Church of Brunei, Sungai Tampoi,
Bandar Sri Begawan



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Vol. X No. 14

29 July 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn George Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 44	No. 8
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 13	Mark 1:21-34
Hymn	No. 454	No. 58
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 463	No. 355
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 4:32-37	Matt 11:1-19
Sermon	Preparing the Church for Mercy Ministry (Rev Dr Goh Seng Fong)	Who Is Greater Than John the Baptist?
Closing Hymn	No. 90	Lord, Here I Take
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

1. Book Ministry by Post to the Whole World

This began several years back when we started to send all books from my pen to poor Filipino pastors, plus a Wilmington Study Bible. Others from another country heard of this ministry and asked for them. In the last one-and-a-half years we have extended to 21 countries, but Philippines still heads the list, having received 57 parcels at a cost of \$1,529.10 or over \$25 per mailing.

We just received a letter from a Filipino prisoner in Hong Kong. We sent him a parcel of my books costing \$16. What we sowed we have reaped richly. Here is the Filipino inmate's report.

Dear Rev Tow,

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all the books you sent which I received last May 2001. I am sharing them with the other inmates who read English. Although I am a Filipino I already gained a few Chinese friends through your books. I would appreciate it if you have a Chinese version of the "Pearls of Great Wisdom," a study of the Book of Proverbs so I can let them read it too!

Since I was reading the Bible here in prison (May 1999), I

was using the NIV Bible and I was really disappointed to learn that this is a corrupt version. I believed your explanation in the book "A Theology for Every Christian, Book I." I found it out because I also have an NIV Study Bible. I would like to take this opportunity to request if you could send me a copy of the King James Version Study Bible because I do not have one. But as of now I have a KJV Bible published by the American Bible Society - New York.

Now knowing that you also have a Filipino Fellowship, I would like also to know from your Filipino pastor what translation or Bible in Filipino language (Tagalog) is safe to use if there is any available so I can inform my family and friends in the Philippines. Please give me advice on these, thank you so much!

Thank you very much, Rev Tow, for your time in attending to my letter. I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

—Yours sincerely,

Bro. Luis Macafangay

2. Tan Kian Sing and Henry Tan

are two recent graduates with the Master's degree from FEBC. Before graduation Kian Sing was actively serving at Berean BPC. Now he is

called to Berean's pulpit. God has prospered his ministry. He has eleven prepared for baptism, including two children.

Deacon Henry Tan is founder of the BASC ministry with three Government Primary Schools. After school hours the children are further attended to through Bible classes and weekend camps. A goodly number have thus been brought to Christ. The latest is this ministry to primary students is going on to secondary students.

Extending from this good work, Henry and his wife are launching out to preach monthly in Malaysia, especially Tangkak. He is our roving ambassador also to Kemaman, once a quarter.

3. Call to Cambodia

After four years labouring in this slum village in Phnom Penh, Jonathan Lee is blessed of God to build a 4-storey Church Complex for the people, to be dedicated Oct 2, 01. The funds have come from Elder Dr Lee in Korea, mostly. I have been invited to preach the inaugural sermon.

As usual, whenever I have a mission abroad, I open it to members who would come along. Our schedule is: Depart Singapore Sat. Sept 29, 0640, MI 602. Return from Phnom Penh Wed. Oct 3, 1020 MI 601. We travel Silkair. Airfare includes Singapore tax, S\$615. Visa includes handling fee, S\$45. Total \$660. This does not include hotel and chartered bus, incidental expenses and US\$20 exit fee.

Apart from the Oct 2 appointment to open the 4-storey Slum Church in Phnom Penh, the party will visit David Koo and Surish's work and Moses Hahn's in Kompong Som. Be ready to speak for the Lord so as to increase His Kingdom. Who will come with us? Hurry!

4. Highest Enrolment of FEBC for the 40th Year

FEBC was founded Sept 17, 1962 with three students. At the end of the first year, two students left,

leaving only one. Three students joined in the second year raising the enrolment to four and from 4 to 6, to 8, to 10 slowly, and steadily.

The enrolment rose to 108 last year and now in her fortieth, it spurts to 116. This is due to an increase on the local scene. Many Calvinians, women, are signed up for the Certificate course in order to qualify for better S.S. teachers. We are praying for more tertiary students to come in that we may train more pastors and teachers. The evening class on Hebrews has drawn 224 students! The principal has a new booklet, *It Is Nearer Than You Think* coming out of the press shortly.

5. Soil-Testing of New Beulah House has begun! —T.T.

SERVING GOD IN EAST MALAYSIA AND BRUNEI

Rev Koa Keng Woo

Our itinerary was arranged by Rev Peter Wong, starting with Kuching and ending at the Miri B-P Gospel Point.

Leaving Senai, Johore on 29th June, we arrived in Kuching at about 11.30 am. Preacher Bong Boon Chong was at the airport waiting for us. He drove us to a downtown Hotel and after that, we visited the B-P Church of Kuching. I regretted that Rev Wong was too late arranging with Preacher Bong for me to preach in this church, hence there was no preaching that night. Nevertheless, I was briefed by Bong about the

activities of the B-P Church there. Weekly, they had Youth Meeting, Prayer Meeting and Worship on the Lord's Day. Regular attendance was about 20 to 30.

The next day, 30th June, we left for our next destination, Sibü. Preacher Ling Soon Ing and his wife were at the airport to welcome us. Ling had been serving with the CNEC. The house-church which he owned was under renovation. I understand that the B-P Church of Brunei helped in this renovation. He had decided to join the B-P Movement there, and planned to rename his

church "Calvary B-P Church." He also attended the Pastors and Leaders Conference in Miri last month where Dr Tow Siang Hwa was the speaker. Sibü was a town where the Roman Catholic and the Methodist Church started about a century ago, and hence, they were the first to acquire prime lands at cheap price. The population of this town was mainly Foochow and so were the Christians. This was the town Dr John Sung visited, but sad to say, the churches have apostatized and become ecumenical.

We were able to help the Lings in this church from 30th June to 1st July conducting music sessions as well as preaching. At noon on the 2nd of July, we were sent to the Airport by the Lings for the flight to Miri.

We met Rev Peter Wong in the evening. He drove us to the Miri B-P Gospel Point to brief us on the preaching schedules in Brunei from 3rd to 8th July.

By God's grace, entering Brunei was smooth. The customs officer waved us to go ahead without examining our luggage. Our first stop in Brunei was Kuala Belait. It was about two hours by car from Miri. In the evening of 3rd July, worship service was held in the home of Terry Jayasuriya. Brother Terry was a highly qualified Electronic Engineer trained in England. It was in his university year that he came to know about the B-P Movement and heard about Dr Tow Siang Hwa. He and his wife had kindly opened their home and we stayed there for the night. Brother Terry preaches often in the Worship Service. Another Filipino brother, a resident for 20 years there, in favour of the B-P Movement, also preaches.

Next day, 4th July, brother George Wong drove us to his home at Tutong. Tutong is about one hour by car from Kuala Belait. Here the worshippers worshipped in Brother George's home. The group at Kuala Belait and the worshippers here were all affiliated to the Brunei B-P Church at Sungai Tampoi, Bandar Sri Begawan. Service started at 7.30 pm and ended at 9.00 pm after which, we had tea with the members.

On 5th and 6th July, we were in the Sungai Tampoi (Brunei B-P Church) conducting music sessions as well as preaching. This church was a double storey semi-detached house purchased

not long ago at the price of B\$150,000. A spacious hall for worship with three rooms upstairs, fully airconditioned. We stayed in one of the rooms.

The 8th of July was a very busy day. It was also the last day of our stay in Brunei. There was a big gathering including a brother from Calvary Pandan Chinese Service. A strong supporter of the B-P Church there, he was sent by his Singapore company to supervise the engineering project there. The morning service started at 10.00 am. A blind brother, who was in his mid-forties, also came. Together with brother George Wong, we had visited him the day before. Singing the hymn, "Does Jesus Care?" in his home, and coming to the chorus of this hymn, "Oh yes, He cares, I know He cares, His heart is touched with my grief....," our brother found comfort and consolation. Tears flowed down from his eyes. "Please come and take me to church tomorrow" was what our brother said.

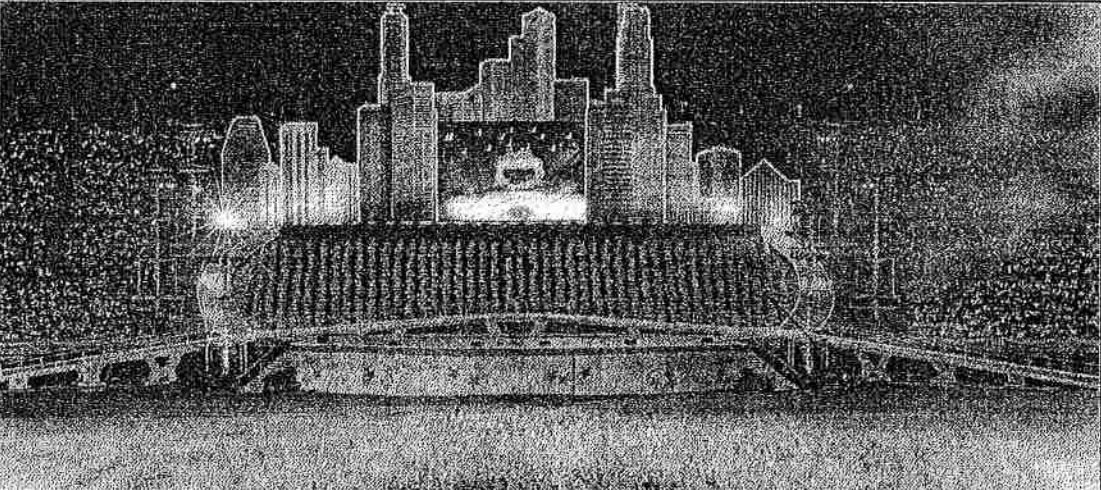
After the 10.00 am Service, a sumptuous lunch was prepared for all. An hour later, we had the Adult Sunday School. After this, we bade goodbye to all our brothers and sisters as we had to return for the afternoon service at 3.00 pm in Terry's house at Kuala Belait. This ended at 4.30 pm followed by a fellowship tea. As we had to return to Miri for the 7.00 pm worship service in the Miri B-P Gospel Point, we left immediately after the fellowship.

This mission reminds me that there are God's people in small groups needing our prayer and support. Brunei is totally an Islamic country. The existing churches there have mainly apostatized joining the WCC and are ecumenical. These churches still exist because they were already there at the time of the British rule. There is no opportunity to have new churches built. Faithful Christians who refuse to join these apostate churches will not be able to build and worship in their own church. The only avenue is to worship in house-churches. But worshipping in house-churches is illegal as the worshippers would be arrested for illegal gathering. Not long ago, more than ten pastors were arrested under the ISA and detained, and to date, three are still under detention. They were mainly SIB pastors who evangelised the Malays.

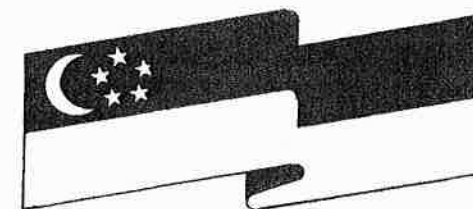
Let us therefore remember them always in our prayer, praying that the Almighty God may keep them safe and faithful until He comes. Amen.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 6 - 12, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$10,440.00 (8.00 am); \$16,988.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$48; Cambodia \$1000, \$150, \$500, \$450; Rev Jonathan Lee \$190, \$400; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$120; Baraka BPC \$300; Missions \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$100; Saipan (Heng Sau) \$500; Saipan (Rev Pang) \$500; Rev Wong \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$50; Robert Yeo (Helping Hand) \$500; Tan Kian Sing \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$50, \$300(MF), \$50, \$50, \$300, \$550(Sunday Sch); Thai Widow \$1200; Cambodia Glory BPC \$50, \$200, \$300, \$100; Kenya-Maasai Medical Ministry \$1000, \$150, \$200, \$600; Cambodia Sewage \$200.	
WED	6.00 pm	JSM Anniversary, Sanctuary	MERSING: \$1150(Session member).	
	6.00 pm	Sharon BPC Combined Youth Mtg, Beulah House	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$1000, \$50, \$50, \$50, \$1000, \$1000, \$150, \$150, \$1000, \$1000, \$2000, \$550, \$1000, \$130, \$400, \$400, \$100, \$500, \$100, \$1300, \$900(FEBC Student), \$2400(FEBC Students); \$270(Chinese Ser). GRAND TOTAL: \$2,641,921.88.	
THU	7.30 pm	No evening lecture	STOP PRESS! \$600, \$5000, \$2989(Staff).	
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, G&H Room	(1) God, please bless my humble giving so that others may find You. (\$1000)	
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(2) Thank you Lord for thy many tender mercies and loving kindnesses. Enclosed \$600 for New Beulah House. (After Prayer Meeting)	
SUN	8.00 am	Managing your Mercy Ministry (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	(3) A word to Pilgrims to the Holy Land. A truly worthy cause is the raising of a BP witness by building a new Baraka Church by our brethren at Beit Sahour (the Shepherds' Field). Here young Rev Danny Awad will pastor the many young people. A little help from you is greatly appreciated!	
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry		
	8.15 am	Sunday School TTC		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class		
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice		
	12.00 pm	Burmese 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		
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 108				
Sunday School Offering: \$829.82; Attendance: 362				
Verse for the Week: But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 1 Peter 2:9			Catechism Class begins today with Rev Colin Wong, 9.30am, Greek & Hebrew Rm (this Sunday only). Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class. Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Batam, with LF.	



Singapore's 36th Anniversary



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Vol. X No. 15

5 August 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 173	All hail the power...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 25:31-46	Psalms 75
Hymn	No. 115	Singapura
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	Love this world	This world is not my
Offertory Prayer	through me...	home...
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Jn 3:16-18	Matt 11:20-30
Sermon	The Call to Mercy (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	The Proud Go Down The Humble Go Up
Closing Hymn	No. 454	No. 183
		Lord's Supper
Benediction		

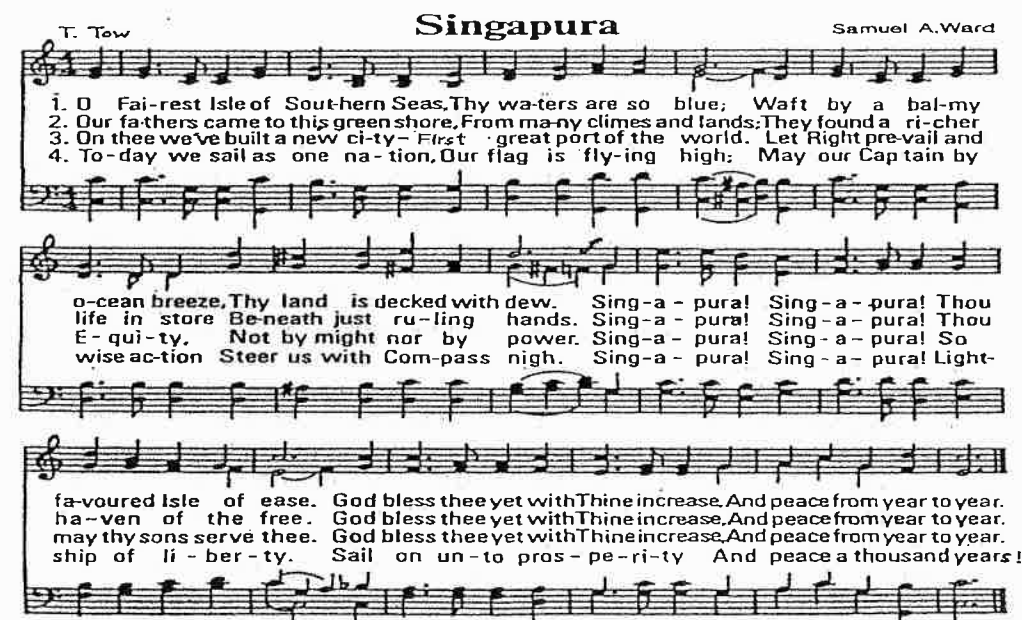
WHO IS GREATER THAN JOHN THE BAPTIST?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church 10.30 am Service, July 29, 01)

Text: Matt 11:1-19

John the Baptist is the son of Elizabeth, the cousin of Mary, Jesus' mother. He was born six months ahead of Jesus to be the herald of the Saviour. Jesus said of John the Baptist, "Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist." He is the Elijah who is to come. He is who witnesses to the repenting crowds that Jesus is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

T. Tow
Singapura
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!

He is the greatest of the prophets because he has the honour to introduce the Son of God to the world, and he is the one who baptised Jesus. "Nevertheless," Jesus declares, "he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

This is Jesus' comment on John after he was put into prison by King Herod. John sent two of his disciples to query Jesus. He wanted to know if Jesus was really the Messiah. John the Baptist was a prophet, but still a man. The greatest prophet as he is acknowledged by Christ, under extreme pressure even to death, has wavered from his faith.

This happened also to Wang Ming Tao, China's number one Christian under pressure of the Chinese Communists in the early fifties. Wang Ming Tao, under their brainwashing, was made to sign a statement tantamount to denying his Lord. When he came to his senses, he regretted greatly. He acknowledged his sin and he recanted his mistake. He confessed he had denied his Lord like Peter in the face of great danger. Nevertheless he took courage to stand up for Christ again, and as a result he was imprisoned for 23 years. His wife was sentenced to 15 years.

This is a great lesson for church leaders. Members of the church must pray for them. For in days of great persecution they are the first to be taken.

Praise the Lord, we can also find encouragement from church history. Here we discover many examples of those who have stood, faithful unto death. An earliest hero of the Faith is Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, pupil of St. John. Before the authorities he was given the chance of release if he would curse Christ. But Polycarp quietly answered, "Eighty and six years have I served Christ, how then can I curse him, my King and my Saviour?" For standing firm he was burnt alive.

Let us pray not only for church leaders, but also for one another, even for children and the young. In the Boxer Rebellion of 1900 in China the children of 185 missionaries were beheaded together with their parents. Praise the Lord, those missionary children stood firm for Christ with dignity. Their unflinching testimony touched the hearts of bystanders. They bore more fruit for Christ in their death than in their life.

How is the least in the kingdom of heaven

greater than John the Baptist?

1. Morally speaking, the least may refer to some simple-minded woman who trusted in the Lord with all her heart, against John the Baptist who doubted about Jesus Christ. This is reflected in Peter the Chief Apostle, who swore that he knew not Jesus when queried by a girl upon the arrest of our Lord. Peter, like John the Baptist, wavered.

2. Positionally and 3. Theologically, John the Baptist, who was soon executed by Herod, knew Jesus only on this side of the Cross. He did not go all the way through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. His baptism touches on repentance only, but not Jesus' full work of salvation.

But those who followed Christ to the end came to the fullness even of Pentecost, the manifestation of power of His sufferings and resurrection.

Hence, John's disciples in Ephesus (Acts 19) had no experience of the Holy Spirit because they had only John's teaching. When Paul baptised John's 12 disciples in the Name of Jesus Christ and laid hands on them they spoke with tongues and prophesied. They were filled with the Holy Spirit power through Jesus' death and resurrection.

In my young days when I was saved at John Sung's revival meetings, I was born again by the Holy Spirit. We did not speak in tongues (for that has ceased) but we were a fervently praying people and were bold to witness for Christ even on the streets. We carried a flag displaying Jesus' cross unashamedly to hold street meetings. The Police did not stop us.

Then I encountered the Oxford Group Movement which was introduced by our ACS class teacher. He stressed on the need of mutual confession of sins but left out the Blood of Christ. It worked for a while at first, but soon degenerated to a fuss. I left this bloodless sin-confessing cult and returned to the Church, where the cross and resurrection of Christ was preached. We experienced again the full power of the Truth.

I went astray again to join the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army though beamed on the poor and has blessed them socially, takes away the sacrament of baptism by substituting the waving of a red flag which they say is baptism by fire. They also dispense away the Lord's Supper. By taking away baptism and the Lord's Supper they miss the

power of the cross and resurrection of Christ. It is therefore only a para-church organisation, but not the church. It is like John's baptism. It needs to be corrected by Paul.

If you are a member of the Salvation Army you have not the whole teaching on the power of the cross and His resurrection. William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, though a zealous soul-winner, went off the track of the full Gospel.

Hence, the study of theology by the church is of paramount importance. The teaching of the main doctrines of the Bible is the job of the Pastor in his pulpit ministry. In the words of my teacher in China, Dr Chia Yu-ming, "We have an All-complete plan of salvation" and in the teaching of John Calvin, "Once saved, always saved." Jesus, not John the Baptist, is the fullness of God's saving plan. To have a full understanding of God's All-complete plan of salvation, come to the FEBC evening classes.

John the Baptist is Jesus' herald. As John the Baptist declares he must decrease but Christ must increase, so we must never exalt God's servant, but the Lord. As with John the Baptist, so with John Sung. John Sung also pointed the sinner to the Lamb of God that took away the sin of the world. John Sung always exalted his Saviour.

John the Baptist, John Sung and now John Calvin. John Calvin wrote *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*, the masterpiece of masterpieces among theological treatises. But he saw to it that none would put him on a high pedestal after his death. He ordered that when he died he should be marked by a small stone tablet with only the initials of his name J.C.

When the International Council of Christian Churches met in Geneva 1950, our Council laid a wreath on Calvin's tomb. It took us some time to find him. In a small corner of the graveyard we found him lying under a slab inscribed J.C. and that was all.

John the Baptist was the greatest of prophets our Lord said, but he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. John the Baptist admits his smallness by saying that Christ must increase and he must decrease. He led us to give glory only to Jesus.

FUNNY ISN'T IT?

Funny how a hundred dollars looks so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the mall.

Funny how long it takes to serve God for an hour, but how quickly a team plays sixty minutes of football.

Funny how long a couple of hours spent in church are, but how short they are when watching a movie.

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but don't have difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.

Funny how we get thrilled when a baseball game goes into extra innings, but we complain when a sermon is longer than the usual time.

Funny how hard it is to read a chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read one hundred pages of a best selling novel.

Funny how people want to get a front seat at any game, or concert, but scramble to get a back seat at church services.

Funny how we need two or three weeks advance notice to fit a church event into our schedule, but can adjust or schedule for other events at the last moment.

Funny how hard it is for people to learn a simple gospel well enough to tell others, but how simple it is for the same people to understand and repeat gossip.

Funny, isn't it?

Or is it scary? Or sad? Just think.

*—Contributed by John Tow
now in the Lord's Service*

Pastor is leading a team to Cambodia to inaugurate the 4-storey slum church built by Jonathan Lee, Sept 29 - Oct 3, 01. Please register with Mrs Ivy Tow, 250-2138. Hurry!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Aug 13 - 19, 2001)

MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)
	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Chew Wai Wei & Ngoo Bee Leng (Rev Charles Seet)
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF
SUN	8.00 am	The Channels of Mercy (Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	8.15 am	Sunday School TTC
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Rev Tow
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.
Prayer Mtg: 103

Sunday School Offering: \$2,168.27; Attendance: 362

Verse for the Week: *For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.* II Corinthians 4:17

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$20,895.00 (8.00 am); \$12,772.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$100, \$250; Rev Jonathan Lee \$350, \$200, \$400, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100, \$200; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$100; Surish \$100, \$100; Baraka Conf Centre \$200, \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100; Chinese Bibles for China \$100; FEBC Students \$40 each; Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Paul Sun Sokha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan, Tran Thanh Minh; Rev Wong \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$500; Rev Tow \$100, \$130; Chan Pui Meng \$100; Cambodia Glory BPC \$100; Africa Maasai Medical Ministry \$200, \$200, \$100; Chinese Service \$200; The Helping Hand \$500; Koslarau Bible(Moses Hahn) \$50; Siem Reap (David Koo) \$200; Mark Chen \$200; RLB RM780.50+\$315.60(Chinese Service Excursion).

MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$3000(Session member), \$112(Boxes).

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$200, \$1000, \$100, \$500, \$250, \$400, \$100, \$100, \$350, \$1000, \$470, \$250, \$500, \$200, \$200(Session member), \$1050(Boxes), \$250, \$120(Session member).

Grand Total: \$2,657,600.88. STOP PRESS! \$500(Sharonite).

Corrigendum: Offering to Wendy Teng (15 Jul 01) should read \$100 instead of \$200.

The Revival Hymns and Choruses CD, sung by Elder Boaz Boon, will be available outside the sanctuary after the service. The cost: \$20 for 2CDs, with a total of 40 songs. All proceeds go to the Calvary BPC (Tengah) Upgrading Fund.

Please claim your lost Bibles by today. Unclaimed Bibles will be sent to Cambodia.

Family Worship at the home of Dn & Mrs Benny Chng, Friday, 24 Aug at 8pm. Address: 3 Toh Yi Drive #10-189 (590003). Tel: 467 2182.

Catechism Class. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class. 9.30 am at FEBC Hall.

Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. Rev Wong at Maranatha BPC, 10.45 am.

These are Andrew Kam's pure Burmese converts who worship on Sunday afternoons. The thatched house is their church.

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Vol. X No. 16

12 August 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"		
	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 3	No. 260
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 26:6-13	Psalms 1
Hymn	No. 130	No. 276
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 445	No. 296
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 6:1-4; 10:16; 26:11	Rom 12:1-2
Sermon	Managing your Mercy Ministry (Rev Charles Seet)	Resisting the Influence of the Mass Media (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 446	No. 401
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

THE PROUD GO DOWN, THE HUMBLE GO UP

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church

10.30 am Service, Aug 05, 01)

Text: Matt 11:20-30

When Jesus began his public ministry at the age of 30, he naturally started out from his hometown Nazareth. According to a Cantonese saying, "Local ginger is not hot," he found little response from his village people. When He denounced them in their own language, "No prophet is accepted in his own country," the Jews literally "thrust him out of the city and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong" (Lk 4:29). But the Son of God out-paced them to safety. Thus Jesus was forced to change his abode. He left Nazareth northeastwards to Capernaum. Today if you visit the Holy Land and come to Capernaum, the ruins of Capernaum will greet you as Jesus' City.

In this text of Matthew 11:20-30, there comes into the picture also Chorazin and Bethsaida. Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum are three cities heavily denounced for their rejection of the Saviour so that in the Day of Judgment their citizens will be consigned to hell. They were worse than Tyre, Sidon and Sodom because of their unbelief.

Now we are familiar with Capernaum. It is the place where

Jesus has wrought many miracles. Bethsaida, which means "house of fish," is the home of Peter, Andrew and Philip. Chorazin is about two miles from Capernaum according to St. Jerome, an early church father who visited the Holy Land.

One example of unbelief from Capernaum is the case of the paralytic man carried by four persons and let down into the house where Jesus was from the rooftop. When Jesus said to this man, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," some scribes (Jewish theologians) rebutted Jesus in their hearts, "This man blasphemes. Who can forgive sins but God?" They would not accept that Jesus was God's Son, God of very God.

Although Jesus was received by the crowds wherever He went He was resisted by the Jewish church leaders, the scribes and Pharisees because they were too proud to believe in His claim to be God's Son, one with the Father. And because of their rejection of our Lord, they would go so far as to say that Jesus' casting out of devils was not by God's power but by the prince of devils. This was a downright lie, a searing of their conscience, a speaking against what they knew was the truth. Such a sin is committed against the Holy Spirit, a blasphemy of blasphemies. Such a sin is unpardonable and will surely send the guilty ones to hell. The sins of the flesh such as womanising and getting drunk can be forgiven, but the sins of the spirit, says Dr Chia Yu-ming my teacher in China, is ten times worse and cannot be forgiven. I would call sins of the spirit the sins

of the intellect. The scribes were the theological leaders of the nation, men of high intellect, but this rejection of Jesus would condemn them.

As in the days of Jesus, so it is in the churches today. Do you know there are highly intellectual theological professors in our seminaries and Bible Colleges who reject our Lord as those scribes and Pharisees? They teach the Bible only from the intellect and not from a devout heart believing all that God's Word says. They are subtle to use pleasant words to hide their unbelief. This battle between our Lord and the Jewish church leaders has happened to our own B-P denomination.

There was a split and dissolution of the BP Synod in 1988. Younger leaders who were taken into the Church repudiated what our Church had all along held to be Gospel truth.

The first revolt was by a group of several churches to reject what our founding fathers have treasured and guarded, the use in the church only of the King James Bible. The KJB is the most faithful and perfect English translation of the Bible. They took away the King James Bible and replaced it with the NIV which they say is more readable, being in modern English. But the NIV is founded on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort, now exposed to be the most deadly enemies of our Lord Jesus Christ. They rejected the Bible to be the infallible and inerrant Word of God. They denied all the fundamental doctrines such as Jesus' Virgin Birth, Blood Atonement, Resurrection, miracles and personal Second Coming. They were friends of Darwin, the Father of Evolution and Freud, exposed by *The Straits Times* as a Fraud. Westcott and Hort slashed from the Bible nearly 10,000 words which they deleted, changed or substituted. The three famous portions of the Bible, the woman taken in adultery, the last 12 verses of Mark and the Johannine comma, I John 5:7 were declared no part of the Bible. This group of several young churches that took away the King James Bible and replaced it with the NIV shook the foundations of our B-P Church.

Not long after this came the greater rift. This was the coming into the picture of a young leader with a doctorate from a famous university in England. This young leader advocates tongues which he calls "meaningful ecstatic utterance" and the joining up with neo-evangelical groups though he belongs to the International Council of Christian Churches which opposes the World Council of Churches. This same young leader has told others that he does not associate with me because my

doctrines are not the same as his.

It is human of us not to have controversy, especially between friends and between closer friends and relatives. But the Lord requires loyalty to Him: "And it shall come to pass, that when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother that begat him shall say unto him, Thou shalt not live; for thou speakest lies in the name of the LORD: and his father and his mother that begat him shall thrust him through when he prophesieth" (Zech 13:3).

Jude says the same thing, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 3,4).

This is an evil day of deception. If the founders of the BP Church relax in the battle for the faith, more BP Churches will be led astray. By God's grace the BPs have a College known as Far Eastern Bible College. Through the College we must be vigilant like Ezekiel the watchman prophet to send the alarm when danger appears. Pray for us that as Jesus resisted the apostate Jewish church leaders of his day we will continue to be faithful to the stand against errant leaders of the BP Churches today. And to expose error wherever it is found. J. Gresham Machen says there is no such thing as presenting truth without attacking error.

The Proud will God cast down, but the Humble will God raise up. Who are the humble? They are not the wise and prudent, but babes. Those without clever and subtle arguments against our God but those who receive our Lord as little children in their childlike faith. "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein" (Mark 10:15).

When you come to Church every Lord's Day, the preacher will do his best to declare God's word to you without fear or favour. What do you say in your heart? "Amen, Amen" or "O Yeah, O Yeah?" Do you say, "Yes, Lord, I will repent from my sins," or do you try to rationalise, "It all depends." You have not bowed to His word.

When we humble ourselves we will see our own wretchedness. When we see our own wretchedness then will the Lord offer us His saving grace full and free. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are

heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt 11:28-30).

There are those of us here who think we are good enough to go to heaven. I have never broken a law. I have lived a decent life all my days. I give money to the Church. I do charity whenever someone needs my help. I am not a bad sinner. If I get baptised I am doing the church a favour. But God says, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away" (Isa 64:6). The apostle James says, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all" (Jas 2:10). "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one" (Rom 3:10).

The humble shall be lifted up but the proud will be cast down. The most important question for you to answer is, do you belong to Jesus or not?

ON OPPRESSION, BRIBERY, ANGER, DISCONTENT

(Message delivered to Life Church Prayer Meeting, Aug 07, 01)

Text: Eccles. 7:7-22

Wicked people use hard and soft tactics to achieve their nefarious ends. The hard tactics are oppression, threats and fears in their accusation of the good and wise. These tactics were used by the Chinese Communists on Wang Ming Tao, China's No. 1 Christian. Oppression, threats and fears were so piled up against him that he capitulated to this mental torture and he became momentarily deranged. This made him sign a statement tantamount to denying his Lord. By God's grace Wang Ming Tao later on awoke from his mistake and he was brave enough to recant, for which he was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was released after 23 years.

The soft tactics used by the wicked is to bribe the judge with a gift. Exod 23:8 says, "And thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous." Deut 16:19 enjoins, "Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous."

There is a Chinese proverb that says the final verdict of a man's achievements cannot be determined until the coffin lid is placed over his

body. This is what is meant by "Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof." Take the case of German Chancellor Kohl. What a great leader he was in his term of office. When he lost in the new elections to another, he was investigated and found to have misused funds, which led further to his downfall.

One of the things to remember in order to succeed is to have self-control over oneself. David Marshall lost out to Lee Kuan Yew because he could not control his temper but LKY could. Learn to keep cool always. They who retain anger in their hearts become fools.

Don't compare the present with the past and say the past is better than the present. It all depends, for the present, in fact, is better than the past. It depends more on our hearts. If our hearts are in right relation with God, our times could be better. The fact is God has always been good, and men are always bad, and if in some respects the times are worse than they have been, perhaps in other respects they are better.

Wisdom Transcends All

In whatever we do, what we need is wisdom. Wisdom transcends inheritance and by it there is profit. It contributes to our safety and shelters us from the storms of life more than money.

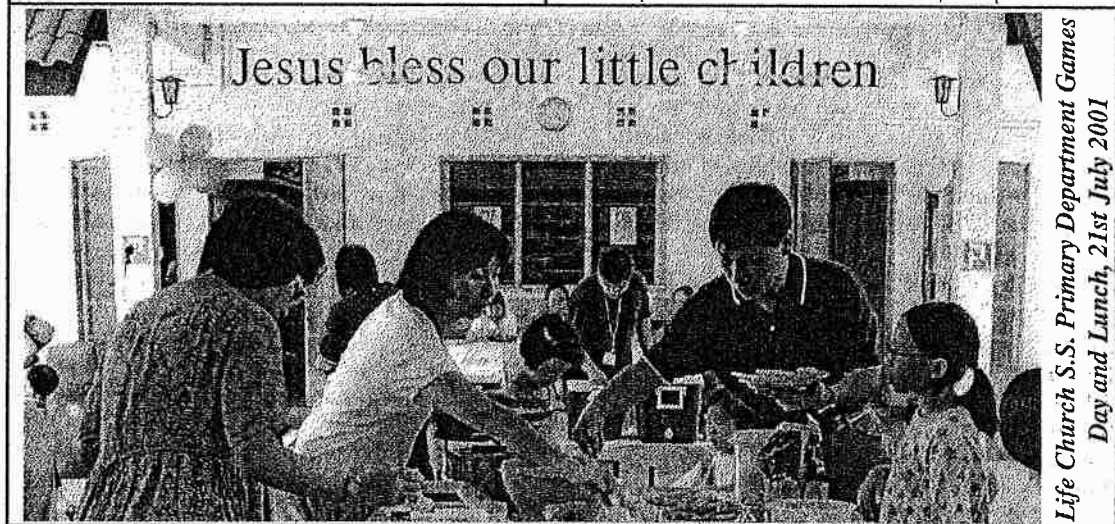
Here are the precepts of wisdom. Consider the work of God (v.13). Every work of God is wise and good and we must accommodate ourselves to His providential outworkings. God has so intermingled prosperity and adversity in our life that we must depend on Him through every vicissitude of life.

In this world dominated by sin, we are confronted with a righteous man taken by calamity and a wicked man enjoying longevity. Wisdom will teach us this happens under a just and sovereign God who is the final judge. Be not righteous overmuch and make not yourself over wise, nor busy yourself in other man's matters, lest you be destroyed. But rather keep from wickedness and foolish deeds which could bring a quick end to your life. What we must hold to is to fear God Himself, looking to Him and not at others.

Wisdom transcends all. Wisdom strengthens the wise more than ten mighty men who are in the city. In times of turmoil or recession we need a wise Government, we need brain than brawn.

"There is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not" (v.20). We sin even in our doing good, for man is so imperfect. So wisdom teaches us not to heed all words that are spoken, lest you hear your own servant talking bad of you. For you know yourself how you often talk bad of others.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 20 - 26, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$10,705.00 (8.00 am); \$10,151.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$200, \$2400; Cambodia Orph \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$20, \$300, \$150, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$700; Baraka BPC \$150, \$65; Baraka Conf Centre \$150; Tg Uban Church \$1000; Myanmar Missions \$150; Rev Andrew Kam \$150; Myanmar Orph \$400, \$150, \$100, \$200; Saipan \$150; Chinese Bibles for China \$500; Life Church Choir \$520; Rev Seet \$50; Rev Wong \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$400; Kampong Som \$700; Chan Pui Meng \$200; Batu Aji Church \$1000; Maasai Medical Ministry \$20, \$220, \$150; Batam Kg Becek Project \$1000.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$1200 (Thomson NBC), \$112 (Boxes).		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$450, \$1000, \$400, \$100, \$200, \$200, \$2400, \$1000, \$150, \$200, \$400 (JSM), \$10.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Character of Mercy (Rev Colin Wong)	Grand Total: \$2,664,660.88. STOP PRESS! \$100, US\$200.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	(1) To God be the glory. "The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion." Thank you Lord for answering my prayers! (Beulah House \$100, Baraka \$100, Chinese Bibles \$100, Rev Tow \$100 Surish \$100)		
	10.15 am	Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan)	(2) Thank you Lord for providing us the good health and good jobs. (\$50 for Koslarau Bible)		
	10.30 am	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Please note that there will be no more Sunday lunch after August 2001.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Family Worship at the home of Dn & Mrs Benny Chng, this Friday, 24 Aug at 8pm. Address: 3 Toh Yi Drive #10-189 (590003). Tel: 467 2182.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Catechism Class. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class. 9.30 am at FEBC Hall.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Kulai B-P Fellowship. Rev Seet at Indonesia Service, 4.00 pm.		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service			
	12.30 pm	Filipina Fellowship			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.					
Prayer Mtg: 97					
Sunday School Offering: \$766.62; Attendance: 409					
Verse for the Week: <i>Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.</i> Deuteronomy 13:4					



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Vol. X No. 17 19 August 2001

"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. 81	O Lord of Heaven
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 86	Psalms 92
Hymn	No. 482	No. 85
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 27	No. 126
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 18:21-35	Matt 12:1-8
Sermon	The Channels of Mercy (Eld Khoo Peng Kiat)	Sabbath Keeping that Strangles
Closing Hymn	No. 383	No. 243
Benediction		

THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS COUNTRY

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church Chinese Service, Aug 12, 01)

Text: Rom 13:1-7; 1 Tim 2:1-4

On the auspicious occasion of the 36th Anniversary of Singapore becoming a nation, it is appropriate for me to speak on "The Christian and His Country."

A Christian has two countries. The first one is the Kingdom of Heaven, which on earth is the Church. The second is our country, Singapore. To me Singapore is the best country in which to live.

By way of contrast, let me introduce you to Cambodia where we have sent three Korean missionary families. One of them, Jonathan Lee, is labouring in Phnom Penh, ministering to a slum village. Here, along a side road is haphazardly built a long row of wooden houses. Every shack consists of one room — a living room, which has a corner for the kitchen. That's all. There is no bathroom, no toilet. For personal convenience these poor villagers have to climb a six-foot wall on the opposite side of the road which lets them down into a big field overgrown with tall grass. This is where they relieve themselves, rain or shine. As to taking a bath, I have not found one for them.

Now Jonathan Lee is constructing a church complex in the middle of this slum village. To relieve these poor people he has constructed two bathrooms and toilets for use of both sexes.

As for Singapore we all have clean bathrooms and waterborne toilets plus full electric power for airconditioning. What a contrast, like between heaven and hell. Are we grateful to our Government? Do we thank God for Singapore?

In the present economic downturn our Government is doing all she can to subsidise the needy. Are we also thankful for this? Government and people, we are in the same boat. There is a Chinese saying, "Being in the same boat let us row together to save the situation."

What are our duties? Let us submit to those who rule over us, "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil." Contrary to this benign government there was a mistaken notion by early Chinese settlers against the British. When I was a boy I noticed that the uneducated who came from China to Singapore feared what the authorities might do to them. So, whatever government officers sought of them for an answer they would only say, "I don't know." How they nicknamed the government officers showed up their non-cooperative, negative attitude. They

called the police inspector, "Big Dog" and the bailiff "Ground Ox."

Even Christians among these illiterates had the notion to evade paying tax when going through customs. Once I gave a deaf carpenter of Kelapa Sawit our Malaysian country church some work to do in our church in Singapore. On one of my preaching appointments to Kelapa Sawit I gave him a lift home. Without notifying me he hid a parcel of a few dozen small locks in a corner of my car. We went through the Malaysian Customs. The customs officer waved us over, for surely I looked very innocent. Once we got out of sight of the Customs, the deaf carpenter burst into laughter. He then showed me the parcel of smuggled locks on which we might have to pay \$5 to \$6 tax. To him, that was a saving of a big sum of money. But he did not realise, I being the driver of the car, might be fined \$1,000! "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil" (Rom 13:3). "But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil" (v.4).

Thank God we have progressed in knowledge and ethics after these many years. Yet, in the upper class, there also lurks the folly of the deaf carpenter to take advantage of the Government. I have known of an elder of a Malaysian Church who did not pay the full income tax for which he was fined three times. Gratefully his name was not published. "If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?" (Ps 130:3). "Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour" (vv.5-7).

The next duty to our nation involves young men. When they attain 18 years they are required to enter national service. Although all must join the army, there are those who are not happy about it. An old Chinese proverb says, "Good sons don't carry arms" but it is out of date in today's society. Then there

are the Jehovah Witnesses who are so-called Christian conscientious objectors. In the United States they might be exempted, but not Singapore. One final step to get out of this soldiering business is for the rich to migrate to such a place as Australia with their growing up sons.

Being a loyal citizen, I have advised my son to take the positive attitude. Do not be like those who try to shirk or malingering but rather to plunge into it with good spirit – to defend your nation and to learn a new vocation, the art or science of war. Therefore aim to be an officer! Praise God, my son took my advice. He became an officer and was honourably discharged at the end of the Service. When he applied to join NUS he gained easy entrance because of his good performance. We parents should guide our sons to play a part for the nation, instead of trying to shield them. Instead of the old Chinese proverb, "Good sons don't carry arms" say, "Good sons are honoured for carrying arms." We must contribute to the welfare of Singapore in order to enjoy her benefits.

Finally, Paul tells us to pray for our nation, for kings and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty . . . that all men will be saved (I Tim 2:1-4). Our Prime Minister and President and all ministers need God's blessings and guidance to be a just and good government. Even Japan, a Shinto country, would ask the Church in Singapore (during the Japanese Occupation) to pray for their Emperor Hirohito. As a result Hirohito had the longest reign of over sixty years.

We, as a Church should all the more pray for God's blessings upon our Senior Minister and Prime Minister, for long life and good health that we may enjoy a peaceful realm under their hand.

Above all that we have the freedom to preach, that souls might be won to God's Kingdom, that the door to missions might remain wide open. Then will God doubly bless our beloved Singapore which has all along been blessed with law and order, peace and prosperity, preservation from all natural disasters and political unrest. O Lord, continue to bless Singapore, our country, that we may be a blessing to others. Amen.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

Two Christmas Gifts



The Revival Hymns and Choruses CD, sung by Elder Boaz Boon, containing 40 songs are now available at FEBC Bookroom at \$20. All proceeds go to Calvary-Tengah BP Church Renovation Fund. This is one gift you should consider when remembering a friend at Christmas.

Another is our 2002 "Christ is the Head of this Home" (Chinese) and "Jesus Christ the Same Yesterday and Today and Forever" (English) Chinese Art Calendars at only \$2.50 per calendar.

Your Thank You Cards Appreciated

Two young American ladies introduced by Rev Paauwe, stopped over in Singapore to join the Adelaide Mission to Cambodia. They found a resting place at Life Church and FEBC. After their return to USA both wrote us a thank you card with a gift inside. One of them wrote, "Many thanks for the hospitality you and your staff and students showed me and my team while we were in Singapore. Christ's love truly did shine through your messages and generosity. May He be with you in all things. I look forward to studying at FEBC in January. God bless."

The other follows up, "It was a wonderful experience to see the College and to meet some of the students. You have many great students and you are giving them a sound B-P Bible education which is hard to find. I will continue to pray for the College and Life Church. This is a small gift of appreciation. May God bless you and your family."

Baraka B-P Church at Shepherd's Field

Pilgrims to the Holy Land who are desirous of upholding this B-P Witness to the down and out in a war torn society may direct your offering c/o Miss Davenport. A little help from many hands will do the job. "The Lord remember all thy offerings, and accept thy burnt sacrifice; Selah. Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel" (Ps 20:3,4).

Mersing on the Way to Self-Support

On National Day, 80 members of the Chinese Service had a one-day outing to Mersing. We spent about 3 hours at our Resort which culminated with a worship at the Main Hall. The picnickers gladly took an offering for Mersing which amounted to RM780.50+\$315.60. This was the 19th item of income received. With all the holidays and mid-term breaks fully booked and with numerous off season weeks also now beginning to be patronised, we see the young plant growing up and attaining self-support. The united chorus of thanksgiving for such an invigorating open sea Resort has made our hearts glad. Thank God for the exquisite work done by the contractor.

Ordination of Vietnamese Student Minh

As a result of our contact with Vietnam, Chinese New Year, 1995, Minh was led to join FEBC soon thereafter. Minh, having a Bachelor's degree from Ho Chi Minh University was put on the MDiv and ThM programmes. After 5 years he is ready to graduate end of September. The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church which sent him here is requesting that we ordain him before he returns.

With the concurrence of Life Church, FEBC will put him through his Ordination Examination. An ordination council consisting of the Faculty members will therefore ordain him before he returns. This will add firepower to the Church for the extension of God's Kingdom.

No Dinner for the 51st Anniversary

We had a record 100-table dinner last year, our Jubilee Year. Session has decided to hold a Sabbath this October, the chief purpose to save \$50,000 for the New Beulah House Building Fund. There will, nevertheless, be a Combined Thanksgiving Service on Oct 21, 9.30 am. We should all rally to give to the Lord to show our determination to build Beulah House as soon as possible. Every individual and every department and fellowship should rally with your support. The Planning Committee has set us a target. Unless we have \$4 million cash in hand, we will not go ahead.

Though our latest figure is \$2.664 million, three quarter million are assets, money loaned out to another church. Our cash in bank is therefore just under \$2 million. Between now and June next year, we must find another \$2 million. If our hearts are truly for God's House, there will be no difficulty before us.

—Yours obediently, T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 27 - Sep 2, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$11,625.00 (8.00 am); \$15,288.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$500; Cambodia Orph \$500, \$600; Rev David Koo \$50; Rev Jonathan Lee \$50, \$100, \$500; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Missions \$130; Myanmar Missions \$50; Myanmar Orph \$100, \$150, \$400, \$500; Chinese Bibles for China \$500; YAF \$200; Indonesia Missions \$100; Rev Seet \$115; Rev Wong \$115, \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$10, \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$320; Rev Tow \$130; Chan Pui Meng \$450(LF); Cambodia Glory BPC \$500; Maasai Medical Ministry \$100, \$1500; FEBC \$500 (Philadelphia BPC); Kg Becek \$600, \$2800, \$97.08, \$3000, \$360.50		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$300, \$5000, \$400, \$800, \$436, \$150, \$300, \$150, \$2000, \$500, \$500, \$150, \$100(LF), \$200(Pepsi).		
FRI-SAT		Rev & Mrs Tow at Malaysia Pastors & Leaders Conference, RLB	Grand Total: \$2,676,116.88.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF			
	6.30 pm	Teachers' Day Dinner (Rev Tow)			
SUN	8.00 am	Expanding Your Vision (Rev Charles Seet)			
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.00 am	Rev Tow at Shalom BPC Anniv.			
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class			
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. No NBC.		Prayer Mtg: 108			
Sunday School Offering: \$938.45; Attendance: 404					
Verse for the Week: <i>Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.</i> James 5:11					
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan), 10.15 am. Rev Wong in Batam. Rev Seet at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.					



Rev Djunaidi. With the visit of his daughter, we have news of his continuing preaching to his congregation though he is still confined to his wheelchair. We have sent him \$500.

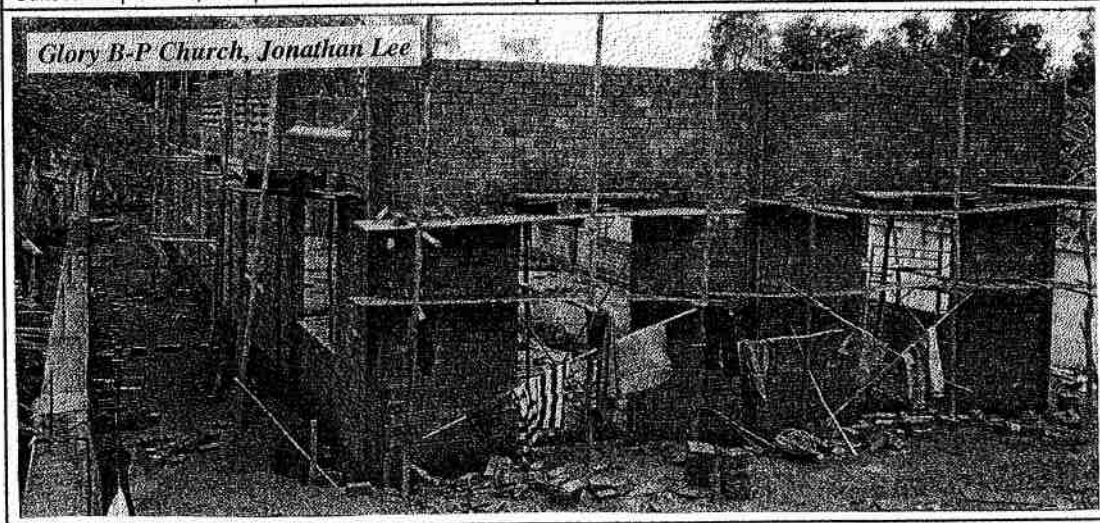
Congratulations to: Quek Keng Khwang & Huey Ching on the birth of Samuel on 18 Aug and **Raymond & Alison Yeo** on the birth of Abigail on 21 Aug.

FCM Combined Mtg, 3 Sep (Mon). Topic: Canonicity of the Bible. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Venue: Calvary BPC (Pandan), AV Studio. 6pm Dinner; 7pm Message. Please call Walter Wei, 95820027(P) if you need dinner.

Catechism Class. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class. 9.30 am at FEBC Hall.

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Vol. X No. 18

26 August 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder George Tan	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 18	No. 11
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 89:1-28	Psalms 19
Hymn	No. 386	No. 32
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 352	No. 326
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Luke 10:30-37	Genesis 1:1-31
Sermon	The Character of Mercy (Rev Colin Wong)	Genesis One and Origins (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	Cups of Cold Water	All Things Bright and Beautiful
Benediction		

FROM SABBATH KEEPING THAT SPARKLES TO SABBATH KEEPING THAT STRANGLES

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church 10.30 am Service, Aug 19, 01)

Text: Matt 12:1-8

The Hebrew word *Sabbath* simply means *Rest*. Sabbath is commanded in the IV Commandment to be kept on the 7th Day (Saturday) in the O.T., and in the N.T. on the 1st Day (Sunday) or the Lord's Day. It is a happy day of rest from the hard work we put in six days of the week. It extends to every one, to our domestic helps and gardeners, even to animals such as bullocks pulling the cart. Such rest from servile work which releases us to worship the Lord (Heb 10:25) refreshes us. Such Sabbath keeping sparkles. Is that not the blessing you receive each Lord's Day as you come to Church and rest your weary bodies and souls from work Sunday after Sunday? (Sunday is rest from marketing or car washing and other mundane jobs.)

Now Sabbath keeping in the O.T. extends from Friday 6.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm. In our time it is not strictly defined, but if we observe it from Saturday 6.00 pm to Sunday 6.00 pm, it is Biblical. Sabbath keeping is happily extolled in such a favourite hymn as:

*O day of rest and gladness
O day of joy and light
O balm of care and sadness
Most beautiful, most bright –
On Thee, the high and lowly
Thru ages joined in tune
Sing "Holy, Holy, Holy"
To the great God Triune.*

What I have described of our Sabbath keeping is in tune with what our Saviour did in His time and age.

But this was not what the Jews and Pharisees meant by Sabbath keeping. Sabbath keeping is so strictly carried out by Orthodox Jews today that you have to cook your food for the whole Sabbath Day ahead of time. Since there was a Hebrew in Moses' time who was stoned for picking up firewood on the Sabbath, the Orthodox Jews (like the Pharisees) today cannot switch on or off even the electric light in their house. They install clock-switches to do the job. (They misinterpret the sin of that Hebrew man. He was stoned for his presumptuous sin not so much for breaking Sabbath, Num 15:30-31).

Sabbath keeping became so absurdly "correct" by their calculation that Jesus could not heal (that was work) on the Sabbath Day. Our Lord's retort was if an animal had fallen into the ditch on the Sabbath Day, would they not rescue it?

To come to the text of our message, Jesus and His disciples were going through the cornfield on the Sabbath Day. As the disciples were hungry they plucked the ears

of corn to eat. Luke 6 tells us that before they ate they rubbed the ears of corn in their hands. That was work! Immediately, certain Pharisees on the spot accused them to Jesus, "Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day."

Jesus replied, "Have you not read what David did when he and his followers were hungry? How he entered God's house and ate the shewbread only the priests could eat . . . ? And do you know here is one greater than the temple (meaning Himself, God's Son) who permits the disciples to eat?" That is to say there is the higher law of human necessity that overrides the lower law of Sabbath keeping. So, in Mark 2 it is recorded Jesus further stated, "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." And the highest law is Jesus Himself, Lord of the Sabbath.

We would point out here that our Lord allows eating outside the house while on travel in His service on the Sabbath Day.

Now if Jesus allows this why do certain Sabbath keepers disallow any Christian from eating out on the Lord's Day? Again they say you break the IV Commandment. Suppose after preaching at the 8.00 am Service at Life Church, I rush to keep a preaching appointment at Air Bemban, Johor at 3.00 pm on the same Lord's Day. When I reach the J.B. bus terminal to catch the Johore bus to Air Bemban it is 1.00 pm. To allay my hunger I pick up a sandwich and a Coke to eat. Is that permissible? No, says this young people's group, period.

For that matter we have catering in Church. Most of us, after Church, eat at the hawker stalls at Newton or elsewhere. That is also condemned because, like the Pharisees, they have ruled out any such thing. You must not cause others also to sin, working on the Sabbath Day to serve you. You must eat at home.

To the great majority of Christians, in America especially, we regard it as our Sabbath eating out. Our wives are relieved from cooking. They who serve food are Gentiles who have no Sabbath law to keep. It is an ideal situation for both. No, they retort (like the Pharisees), you are breaking God's law.

For that matter, there was a time (1950) when Rev Quek and I were in Amsterdam on a Sunday. The city traffic was at a standstill especially the

trams. To go to church we had to walk a mile or two. This same young people's group have difficulty themselves how to solve the problem of not using public transport.

To carry out to absurdity that you must not work on the Lord's Day they might have to restrict their wives from giving birth on the Lord's Day. Lovingly the husbands must whisper to their wives, "Please, please, hold on until Monday!"

In the matter of Sabbath keeping they also condemn young people who study for exams on the Lord's Day. As pastor and in the Spirit of our Lord, I would not sentence them. Ordinarily, without final exams, I would not allow them. It is a time like the disciples going through the cornfield and being hungry they had to pluck the ears of corn to eat. They are in a similar situation. But I say, let them attend Church and pray for strength to go through the next day's exams. Last minute preparation is crucial and the Lord knows their needs.

For that matter, will not my young friends allow me to work over my sermon Sunday morning before I go up the pulpit? I usually write out my sermon on Saturday night. But I need to review and go over thoroughly on Sunday morning. Most crucial is the one hour before preaching. I hear some objections there. You have the whole week to prepare. By Sunday morning you should observe the Sabbath. Well, if I have a powerful memory, I might do that. But I confess I need the last minute revision. Will the Lord bless me for that? He has, that is my testimony. In the same way we must help our sons and daughters. Let them all the more attend Church Sunday morning and pray for success. After service, I judge they can study to face Monday's ordeal.

Sabbath keeping which sparkles in Life Church, and condemned by that young people's group, has become Sabbath keeping that strangles. They are like the Pharisees that rigidly keep to man's regulations, but we have our merciful Lord who sees those exceptional cases and permits us to tackle them with His blessings. "For the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath." The higher law of human necessity overrides the lower law of Sabbath keeping. May this sermon help to free those young people misled into a Sabbath keeping that strangles.

The following article is from *The Vancouver Sun* newspaper in Vancouver BC, one of Canada's most respected dailies. (Contributed by William Chia)

Clergy Crisis Hits Canada's Protestant Churches

Hundreds, if not thousands, of congregations are trying to function without ordained clergy

—Douglas Todd

Ray Schultz, the top bishop of the 200,000-member Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, says he expects 20 to 30 per cent of his denomination's congregations will be without ordained clergy in the near future.

The 100-member United Church congregation in Lillooet can't find a minister to save its soul.

Lay members of St Andrews' Church have been volunteering for almost two years to try to fill the vacancy left by their departed clergyman.

One of them, probation officer Jullian Narayan, says the experience has been an eye-opener for the town, located on the Fraser River upstream of the Fraser Canyon.

"We're definitely getting close to burnout," Narayan says, "You see that being a minister is anything but a 40-hour-a-week job."

The urgent need for clergy is by no means restricted to the 700,000-member United Church, Canada's largest Protestant denomination.

Suddenly, a clergy shortage is hitting most mainline Protestant churches in Canada.

Hundreds, if not thousands, of United, Lutheran, Mennonite, Presbyterian and Anglican congregations across the country are trying to function without ordained clergy in their pulpits.

In the past two years, the supply of clergy coming out of Canadian seminaries has dwindled to a trickle. Church leaders are revving up long-defunct-recruitment programs, particularly to lure young people.

Even though Protestant church membership is holding steady or even rising in parts of Canada, many clergy are retiring and job-seekers who once may have considered the ministry are opting for more lucrative careers. . . .

Ed. note. The lack of qualified, full-time pastors is always there even with our B-P Churches though not as serious as the Canadian situation. We have need of them in Sydney, Melbourne, London, Toronto and even in Singapore our main base. Fortunately there is FEBC, B-P's training centre, to alleviate the situation. Dr Paul Contento said, "Without the Bible College the Church would die." Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into the harvest.

"Why didn't Jesus Save?"

"Reverend Tow is coming. He is coming to preach next week!" my Kelapa Sawit aunty would inform my mother some 40 years ago.

My mother would make an extra effort to be there early each time my aunty made the announcement. We stayed in Kulai Oil Palm Estate and our house was about 3 kilometers from the old shop house church. It was getting more difficult for my mother to bring us to Church on time!

Initially, there were only my sister and I. Then when I was 6 and my sister, 4, the babies kept coming – 5 in a row, one year after another! By 1962, there were 7 of us! I take my hat off to my mother whenever I recall the past. Ignoring my grumbling father who was not yet a believer, she took the 7 of us to church regularly. Buses in those days were few and far between. Taxi drivers either ignored us or pretended they didn't see us!

Nevertheless, we managed to reach the church, sometimes walking the whole way.

I remember I used to be fascinated with Reverend Tow's car, with the words "Jesus Saves", written on it. At that time, I thought that his car must be the safest and most protected car in the world.

Thus, I was deeply shocked to hear of the accident of 1965, which claimed three lives, Reverend Tow's wife, daughter and aunty. As I listened to the adults talking, my young mind was very puzzled.

"Why didn't Jesus save them? Were they really in THAT CAR? How could anything happen to that car? Why didn't the words "Jesus Saves" protect them?"

I blurted my questions aloud. Slowly my aunt and mother explained that they were safe in the arms of Jesus and were in Heaven. They have everlasting life because they believed in Jesus. Jesus had already saved them. It was God's will that they were taken from this earth, to the heavenly kingdom. They were saved by the blood of Jesus. I was comforted by those words.

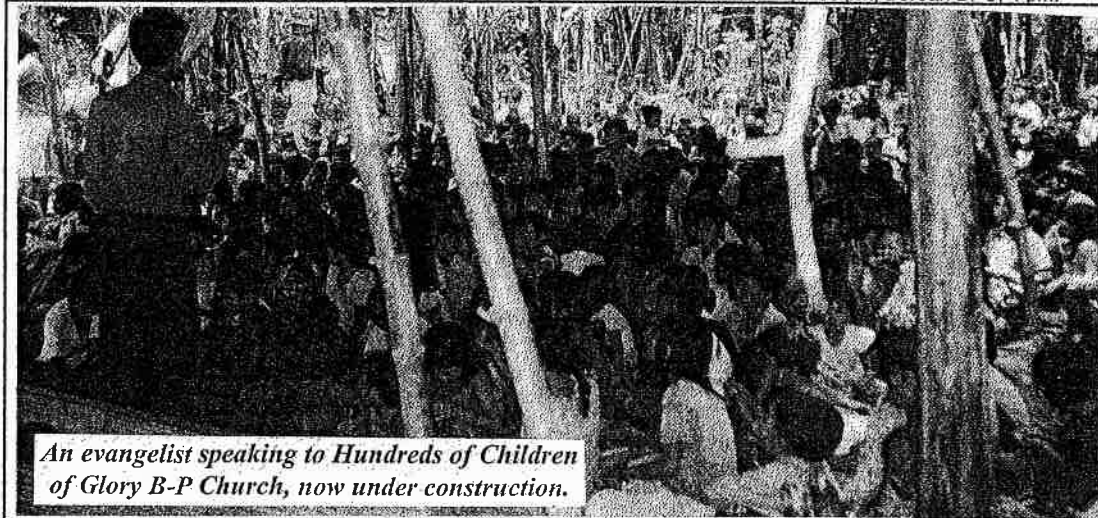
As we celebrate our 21st anniversary, I would like to thank Reverend Tow for founding our church. All my siblings are Christians and three non-Christian spouses accepted Christ. My son, nieces and nephews were baptized in this church.

God has richly blessed my mother who single-handedly brought 7 children to church. But the greatest triumph was when my late father finally accepted Christ in his twilight years.

Thank God for choosing us. One day, we'll all meet again on that beautiful shore – in Heaven. Praise the Lord.

—Rosalin Fraude in Kulai BP Fellowship Weekly,
21st Anniversary Ed. Aug 5, 2001

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 3 - 9, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	No evening lecture	\$8,072.00 (8.00 am); \$18,588.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200; Cambodia Orph \$250, \$180; Rev David Koo \$150, \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$190, \$800; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$200; Yusniar \$100; Baraka Conf Centre \$100; Rev Colin Wong \$50; Eddie Yap \$300; Ng Sang Chiew \$30; Mother of Ny Sambath \$100; Tran Thanh Minh \$50, \$50; Batam Kg Becek \$200, \$600; Nguyen Gia Hien \$50, \$50; Mark Chen \$200; Allen Organ \$500, \$200, \$500, \$50, \$100, \$300, \$1000(Session member), \$250, \$2000.		
THU	7.30 pm	No evening lecture	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$2000(Session member), \$384(Boxes).		
FRI-SAT		Session Retreat at Mersing	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$150, \$200, \$500, \$50, \$200, \$100, \$50, \$500, \$400, \$200, \$132, \$300, \$500, \$200, \$1000(Session member), \$130, \$1887(EBF), \$250. Grand Total: \$2,682,965.88.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	STOP PRESS! \$3054(Staff), \$20,000, US\$335(Japan), \$1000.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Motivation for Mercy (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) May I offer this small gift to our Beulah House project. Thank God for His goodness and mercy to my family and I. (\$400) —A Lifer		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	(2) This small offering is for New Beulah House. —An undeserving child whom the Lord always gives. (\$500)		
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet	(3) All glory to God for His manifold blessings. Thank God for this increment despite the poor economic conditions. (\$150 for New Beulah House)		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	Jennifer Chua Seok Yee, 31, was baptised last Tuesday, 28th Aug by Rev Wong with Elder Khoo Peng Kiat assisting.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	FCM Combined Mtg, 3 Sep (Mon). Topic: Canonicity of the Bible. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Venue: Calvary BPC (Pandan), AV Studio. 6pm Dinner; 7pm Message. Please call Walter Wei, 95820027(P) if you need dinner.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	For URGENT photocopying needed on Sundays, please page for Dn David Tan at 9514-3392 (FEK Office).		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Shalom BPC, 9 am. Rev Wong in Batam, and in Vietnam from 3-6 Sep.		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	Rev Seet at Maranatha YF, 1.30 pm; Berean BPC, 4 pm.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 109					
Sunday School Offering: \$640.86; Attendance: 342					
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					
As the present organ in our church sanctuary has been breaking down more often lately, and there is now no one who can repair it, the Church will be purchasing a new Allen organ at a cost of S\$47,000. If you would like to contribute, kindly designate your gift to the "Allen Organ Fund".					



An evangelist speaking to Hundreds of Children of Glory B-P Church, now under construction.



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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 19

2 September 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Elder Geoffrey Tan
Opening Hymn	No. 60	No. 46
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 15:1-13	Psalms 50
Hymn	No. 376	No. 351
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	The Mercies of God	No. 321
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Phil 2:4-8	Lk 11:1-4
Sermon	Expanding Your Vision (Rev Charles Seet)	"Lord, Teach Us To Pray" (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 391	No. 365
Benediction		Lord's Supper

"A HERO CAN HARDLY GO THROUGH BEAUTY'S GATE"

(Message delivered by the Pastor to

Life Church Prayer Meeting, Tuesday, Aug 28, 01)

Text: Eccles 7:23-29

This is a Chinese saying on woman's power over man. Especially when he is mesmerised by her charms.

Solomon with all his God-given wisdom is severely shaken when he is led astray into the pleasures of sin. For the pleasures of sin can easily overpower, by Satan's wiles, a wise man such as Solomon. This happened to David when only a glance of his eyes brought him down before Bathsheba. Indeed, in Solomon's case, he wandered into the labyrinth of sinful pleasures where he encountered the "wickedness of folly", yea even of "madness." He himself became Mr Folly and Mr Madness.

In this concluding paragraph of Ecclesiastes Chapter 7, Solomon harks back to the record of his downfall step by step in his matrimonial adventures. I Kings 11:1-13 says:

But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to

them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded. Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded

thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.

From his contact with his 700 wives and 300 concubines he concludes, "And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her" (Eccles 7:26). From Dr McIntire's observation, "Women can make life very cruel for their husbands, and they can prolong that cruelty in many unsuspected and devious ways." Fortunately, Solomon is elect of God. "It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not" (Lam 3:22). Solomon, by the gentle mercies of God and for David his father's sake, is not totally cut off.

From his many experiences with women he here speaks "the language of a penitent," says Matthew Henry, "warning others against the sins he had been betrayed into, and is not a mere satirist lashing indiscriminately half of the human race. Many a godly man can with thankfulness acknowledge that he has found a prudent, virtuous woman in the wife of his bosom. But those men who have gone in Solomon's track, cannot expect to find one. He now discovered more than ever of the general corruption of man's nature. He traces up all the streams of actual transgressions to the fountain. The source of all the folly and madness in the world, is in man's apostasy from God. It is clear that man is corrupted, and not as he was made. He sums up the whole of his observations on the state and conduct of man in this—God indeed created man upright, and very good. But Adam having apostatised from Him, his children have sought out an immense number of inventions, to find happiness in their state of rebellion. But these have only proved to be so many changes of sin and iniquity, so that very few godly persons are to be found on earth. It is indeed most lamentable that man, whom God made upright, has found over so many inventions to render himself wicked and miserable."

"A hero can hardly go through Beauty's Gate" is what is observed by the Chinese sages.

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

We are living in very dangerous times. There are so many negative factors that threaten mankind today, examples of which are wars, disease, natural disasters and economic woes.

Wars

Almost everyday, there is some conflict going on in some parts of the world and some people will be killed or seriously injured because they are victims of wars. Appended below are just a few examples of such troubled areas—

1. The Israeli and Palestinian conflict.
2. The war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.
3. The Macedonian conflict between the government forces and the Albanians.
4. The IRA struggle over Northern Ireland.
5. The Tamil Tigers' fight for a homeland in northern Sri Lanka.

Currently, the war that attracts world attention is the **middle east conflict** which appears to have no solution despite big power intervention. The fear that this war will spread throughout the region and ultimately affecting other nations is real.

Disease and medical "advancement"

More and more people are dying of heart attacks, diabetes, cancer and AIDS. 50 years ago, few people talked about "cholesterol" and "AIDS". Today, these are common words. In the past, when one made mention about sexual relationship between two persons of the same sex, eyebrows would be raised. Such matters are no big deals now in western countries. The latest medical news is that some doctors and scientists "want to play God"! The "cloning" subject is hotly debated and discussed by medical experts, church leaders and politicians. It is really a matter of grave concern.

Natural Disasters

How often do we read about floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions that destroy lives and properties in various parts of the world. Man can go to the moon but he cannot prevent natural disasters from taking place.

Economic Woes

So many countries in the world are facing economic problems including our own country,

Singapore. "Cost cutting", "retrenchment" and down sizing of operations" seem to be the new slogans employers are shouting. The mobile phone giants have reduced their workers by the thousands. Whenever there is a merger of two companies, some people will be regarded as "redundant"! No one can tell for sure whether there is light at the end of the tunnel as the situation worldwide seems to deteriorate rather than improve.

What happened and why?

Be not surprised. All these happenings were mentioned by our Lord Jesus in **Matthew Chapter 24**. "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows" (verses 6 to 8).

"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 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" (verses 12 to 14).

Another word of comfort by our Lord is found in John 14:27, "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.**" Amen. —E H Eio

A NOTE OF CONCERN

It has been brought to our notice that an increasing number of church members are getting caught up in businesses that are badly affecting their spiritual well-being. Although it is scriptural for Christians to engage themselves in any legitimate business, it can cause them and others to stumble if they do not follow certain biblical principles. The adverse effects on the lives of some of our members in recent months, have given us cause for pastoral concern.

Some forms of business (e.g. insurance, multi-level marketing) have a promising compensation plan that may help some to cope with the present bad economy where many are losing jobs and income. But the promising returns can easily

ensnare those who are involved in it to overextend their commitment. They become so enthusiastic to recruit more people into their business, that they pursue it with evangelistic fervour. Some have even gone to the extent of using their time in church on Sunday for this purpose, attempting to get other church members involved in their business. Let us be careful to come to the Lord's House for no other reason than to worship Him in Spirit and in truth, so that we will not bring in that which displeases Him (Matthew 21:12,13).

Our greater concern however, is that it is causing a change in the priorities of some members, compromising their devotion and service to the Lord, and creating unhealthy rivalry which affects the fellowship among brethren. We appeal to you to recognize these hidden dangers of any kind of lucrative enterprise. The Lord Jesus says, "*Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.*" (Luke 12:15). Paul says,

1 Corinthians 6:12 – "*All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.*"

1 Timothy 6:9,10 – "*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.*"

Let us take heed to the Word of God. Amen.

In Christ,

The Pastors of Life Church

**Pastor's Latest Booklet of
3 Prophetic Messages**

**"IT IS NEARER THAN
YOU THINK!"**

**Spread the Message to a
Dying World**

10 copies for only \$8/-.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 10 - 16, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$11,026.00 (8.00 am); \$18,580.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Phnom Penh Village Well \$700(Chinese Ser); Cambodia Mission \$150, \$150, \$460; Cambodia Orph \$60, \$600, \$100(Chinese Ser); David Koo \$100, \$230(Chinese Ser); Rev Jonathan Lee \$350, \$200, \$150, \$800; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$480, \$700(Chinese Ser); Baraka BPC \$7500, \$5000, \$1000; Missions \$30, \$250; Myanmar Orph \$60, \$150(Chinese Ser); Children's Ministry \$1000; Life BPC Air-Conditioning \$910(Chinese Ser); Rev Seet \$250, \$130; Rev Wong \$250, \$50; Shachendra \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$200; Chan Pul Meng \$300, \$200; Cambodia Glory BPC \$1000; Maasai Medical Ministry \$500, \$200; Batam Kg Becek Project \$1500, \$7500; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Sun Sokha, Ty Serey Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan, Tran Thanh Minh; Cambodia Sewage \$60, \$500; Allen Organ \$80, \$100, \$1000, \$300, \$2000, \$300; Malacca BPC \$300; Wee Soon Bin \$5000; Moses Hahn Bible School \$150, \$300; Chiang Mai Truck \$150; Bibles for Cambodia US\$500.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$3000(Session member), \$150(Boxes).		
FRI	7.00 pm	Ladies' Fellowship Anniv., FEBC Hall (Rev Tow)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$50, \$100, \$1500, \$200, \$1000, \$150, \$50, \$200, \$500, \$100, \$150, \$100, \$500, \$500, \$1000, \$250, \$500, \$470, \$450, \$800, \$3000, \$100(Chinese Ser), \$100(Chinese Ser).		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	GRAND TOTAL: \$2,716,522.13. STOP PRESS! \$200 (Recovery from sickness); \$2000, \$500(Session member).		
SUN	3.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	The Pattern of God's Own Saving Mercy (Rev Charles Seet)	(1) I will be turning 60 this month and wish to thank the Lord for His blessings throughout these years. As a thanksgiving may I make this humble offering of \$500 towards the new Beulah House Building Fund.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(2) "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase" (Prov 3:9). This is for the new Beulah House, in thanksgiving to God for blessing me with a tenant for my flat.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	For URGENT photocopying needed on Sundays, please page for Dn David Tan at 9514-3392 (FEK Office).		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow (Jesus' Rebuke of Pharisaism and Charismaticism)			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service (Rev Tow)			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 111					
Sunday School Offering: \$687.10; Attendance: 380					
Verse for the Week: But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. James 4:6					
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. Rev Wong at Maranatha BPC, 10.45 am; Rev Seet at Rehoboth BPC, 6 pm.					



Hope B-P Church Women's Fellowship (Jonathan Lee)



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Vol. X No. 20

9 September 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Sherman Ong	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 75	No. 462
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 100-101	John 15:1-13
Hymn	No. 349	Give of Your Best
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 136	No. 457
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 10:29-37	Phil 2:4-8
Sermon	The Motivation for Mercy (Rev Colin Wong)	Expanding Your Vision (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 287	No. 391
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

My dear Readers,

1. SECOND ALL-MALAYSIA B-P CONFERENCE, MERSING, AUG 31 - SEP 1

Aug 31 being Malaysia's National Day, 114 delegates were able to attend this all-Malaysia Pastors and Leaders Conference at our Mersing Resort. Not only West but East Malaysia also, including Brunei. This fits beautifully into the facilities provided by the Resort which can cater to 120.

Being the Speaker, I dealt with the pattern of Missions according to Acts 1:8. God's work must be carried out in God's way. From Home Missions which includes Judea, it must extend to Samaria (our hinterland) and then to Foreign Missions. As the Church grows so must she stretch her missionary arms longer and farther, trusting the Lord to supply.

The second and final message is "The Role of the Bible College in Church Growth." This is shown in the graduation from FEBC of 376 in 39 years and the ordination of 65 B-P Ministers who are the mainstay of scores of B-P Churches both in Singapore and Malaysia and around the world.

2. LIFE CHURCH S.S. TEACHERS' ANNUAL DINNER, SAT. SEP 1

This year we had 20 tables at Roland's Restaurant, Marine

Parade. This was the best attendance. Elder Ong Eng Lam, the Superintendent, took care to give us the best food! A word from the Pastor to honour the Children's Ministry of the Sunday School which is not unmindful of the Children's Choir and BASC work to save young students touches on the importance of discipline by parents quoting five times from Proverbs "He that spares the rod spoils the child." Praying with the children by both parents and grandparents was also stressed.

3. SHALOM B-P CHURCH, 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Sep 2 the Lord's Day was the 20th Anniversary of Shalom BPC, Pastor Tan Choon Seng. This is one younger B-P Church which has stood with us in the defence of the Faith. So God has blessed them with a membership between 200 and 300. They built themselves a magnificent building at Pasir Ris. Out of Shalom has come forth a Chinese Church named Macedonia worshipping on the same premises, now with 60-70 attending.

Shalom supports a Mission to India owning Church and School properties and also 2 women missionaries to Northwest China. She sends a staff worker to study full-time at FEBC. She is loyal to the KJB against those who veered to the NIV, the basic cause for the split and dissolution of our Synod in 1988. My message to Shalom was "The Way to Prosperity is Faithfully Serving God by Keeping to the B-P

Doctrine." This message is based on I Tim 4:16, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

4. BASC BIBLE CAMP AT GILSTEAD ROAD

During the schools mid-term break, BASC is quick to grasp the opportunity to evangelise the students by bringing them to Bible Camp at Gilstead Road, Sat. and Sun. The highlight of the Camp is the campfire. We were able to join in. We noted the parents of three families also came, in approval of their children coming to such a Christian meeting. Many parents are grateful for their children's changed behaviour for the better. Now BASC is extending their ministry to secondary students.

5. EXTENSION TO JOHORE BAHRU

Besides all these Deacon Henry Tan is thinking of branching out to JB to start a Sunday School and Church at Pelangi using the premises of a Korean Church pastored by Na In, an FEBC student. This is good news for the Home Missions Front.

In conclusion, here's a word from our Saviour to both the active and passive members of the Church, "For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath" (Matt 25:29).

6. PATRONISE YOUR OWN BOOKROOM

FEBC Bookroom is your own Bookroom. For our own people we absorb the GST and mark the lowest possible prices. The slight profit the Bookroom makes goes to the College and to New Beulah House.

Moreover we bring for your shopping pleasure seasonal goods such as the \$2.50 Scripture Verse Chinese Art Calendars. *It is Nearer Than You Think*, 10 for \$8. Christmas cards of your choice, coming soon! Fundamental Christian books, King James Bibles, and *Son of a Mother's Vow*, 450 pages for only \$8. *Pioneering in Dyak Borneo* by Jason Linn, for \$3 only, half price! Best of all the *JESUS SAVES* alarm clocks, big and small.

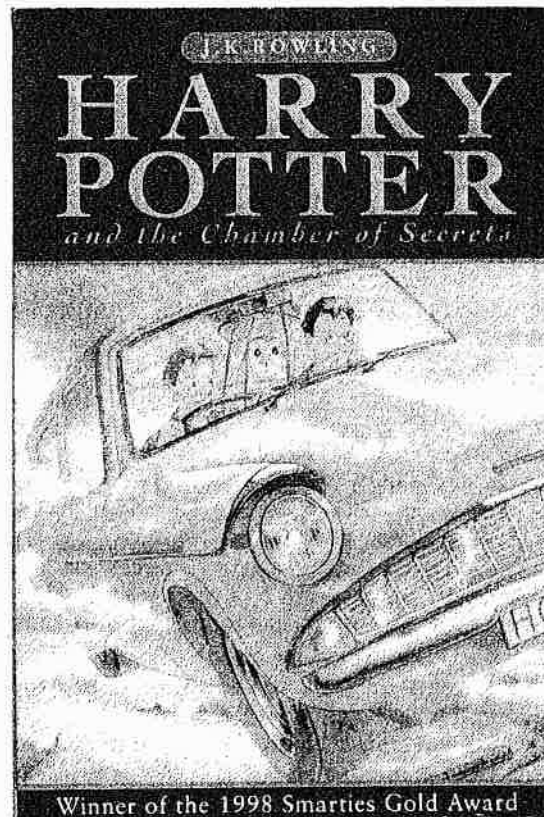
7. OUR MERSING RESORT

is almost fully booked till 2002 for all the holidays and school mid-term breaks. Our Resort

is very popular for its being situated above the blue South China Sea. Besides, the Resort is equipped with full recreational facilities. Off season week days are another attraction—30% discount. The Resort can take up to 120. Driving time from Singapore to Mersing is 3 hours. A break at Jemaluang, 87th mile, for the special *won ton meen* makes the last 13 miles most refreshing.

Moreover shopping from Mersing emporiums is always a delight and you know why!

—Yours obediently, T.T.



By Roger Lynn

(This information is written by a Pastor...FYI Harry Potter Books.)

This is the most evil thing I have laid my eyes ... and no one seems to understand its threat. The Harry Potter books are THE NUMBER ONE selling children's books in the nation today. Just look at any Barnes & Noble or Waldenbook

storefront. Go to Amazon.com and read the reviews. Hear the touting by educators and even Christian teachers about how "It's great to see the youth so eagerly embracing the reading experience!"

Harry Potter is the creation of a former UK English teacher who promotes witchcraft and Satanism. Harry is a 13 year old 'wizard.' Her creation openly blasphemes Jesus and God and promotes sorcery, seeking revenge upon anyone who upsets them by giving you examples (even the sources with authors and titles!) of spells, rituals, and demonic powers. It is the doorway for children to enter the Dark Side of evil.

I think the problem is that parents have not reviewed the material. The name seems harmless enough... Harry Potter. But that is where it all ends.

Let me give you a few quotes from some of the influenced readers themselves:

"The Harry Potter books are cool, 'cause they teach you all about magic and how you can use it to control people and get revenge on your enemies," said Hartland, WI, 10-year-old Craig Nowell, a recent convert to the New Satanic Order Of The Black Circle. I want to learn the Cruciatus Curse, to make my muggle science teacher suffer for giving me a D." [A 'muggle' is an unbeliever of magic.]

Or how about the REALLY young and innocent impressionable mind of a 6 year old when asked about her favorite character: "Hermione is my favorite, because she's smart and has a kitty," said 6-year-old Jessica Lehman of Easley, SC. "Jesus died because He was weak and stupid."

And here is dear Ashley, a 9 year old, the typical average age reader of Harry Potter: "I used to believe in what they taught us at Sunday School," said Ashley, conjuring up an ancient spell to summon Cerebus, the three-headed hound of hell. "But the Harry Potter books showed me that magic is real, something I can learn and use right now, and that the Bible is nothing but boring lies."

DOES THIS GET YOUR ATTENTION!! If not, how about a quote from a High Priest of Satanism: "Harry is an absolute godsend to our cause," said High Priest Egan of the First Church Of Satan in Salem, MA. "An organization like

ours thrives on new blood - no pun intended -- and we've had more applicants than we can handle lately. And, of course, practically all of them are virgins, which is gravy."

[Since 1995, open applicants to Satan worship has increased from around 100,000 to now... 14 MILLION children and young adults!] It makes me physically ill, people! But, I think I can offer you an explanation of why this is happening.

Children have been bombarded with action, adventure, thrills and scares to the point Hollywood can produce nothing new to give them the next 'high.' Parents have neglected to see what their children are reading and doing, and simply seem satisfied that 'Little Johnny is interested in reading.' AND... educators and the NEA are PUSHING this crap with NO WARNING as to the effects or the contents.

Still not convinced? I will leave you with something to let you make up your own mind. First the URL to read some background of what I have given you:

http://theonion.com/onion3625/harry_potter.html (Harry Potter Books Spark Rise In Satanism Among Children)

And finally, a quote from the author herself, J. K. Rowling, describing the objections of Christian reviewers to her writings: "I think it's absolute rubbish to protest children's books on the grounds that they are luring children to Satan," Rowling told a London Times reporter in a July 17 interview. "People should be praising them for that! These books guide children to an understanding that the weak, idiotic Son Of God is a living hoax who will be humiliated when the rain of fire comes,...while we, his faithful servants, laugh and cavort in victory."


My hope is that you will see fit to become involved in getting the word out about this garbage. Please forward to every pastor, teacher, and parent you know. This author has now published FOUR BOOKS in less than 2 years of this 'encyclopedia of Satanism' and is surely going to write more.

In service to the Lord Jesus, His honor and glory.

—from Prayer Newsletter,
Malaysia's B-P Churches (Rev David Wong)

Give JESUS SAVES Clocks and
Scripture Verse Chinese Art Calendars
this Christmas.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 17 - 23, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$8,498.00 (8.00 am); \$14,210.12 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$50; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200, \$200; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$225; Missions \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$50, \$100; Rev Seet \$130; Rev Wong \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$200; Chan Pui Meng \$100; Cambodia Glory BPC \$225; Maasai Medical Ministry \$220, \$600; Cambodia Grace BPC \$50, \$200; Cambodia Siem Reap \$160; Allen Organ \$100, \$350, \$300, \$600; Project Gideon, Thailand \$250; FEBC \$215.28.		
Wed	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$2000, \$450, \$3000, \$1000, \$50, \$200, \$300, \$50, \$500, \$500, \$300, \$2900, \$100, \$200.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	GRAND TOTAL: \$2,730,872.13.		
	8.00 pm	FEK Board Meeting			
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Soh Eng Teck & Brenda Lee Ai Ping (Rev Tow)			
	3.00 pm	LTF; 3.30 EBF			
SUN	8.00 am	Mobilizing the Church for Mercy Ministry (Rev Colin Wong)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) We thank the Lord for loving parents, who though retired, paid up for us our remaining \$7000 NUS Tuition Free Loan. Enclosed is our tithe to be allocated to New Beulah House.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	(2) Thank God for His blessings upon us. Please channel this small gift of \$50 to Cambodia Orph.		
	10.15 am	Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan)	—A Lifer		
	10.30 am	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	(3) "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." \$1,000 to New Beulah House		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	—A Lifer		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	(4) Enclosed is our cheque for \$215.28 to FEBC for use in the training of future pastors. May God continue to bless you and FEBC in sowing of more seeds into the Kingdom of our God!		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Heah Eng Siang, Friday 21 Sep, 8 pm. Address: 23 Clover Crescent, S579197, Tel: 258 5959. Speaker: Elder Khoo Peng Kiat.		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Thai Service, 3 pm. Rev Wong at Kelapa Sawit BPC, 10 am and Air Bemban BPC Anniv, 3 pm. Rev Seet at Maranatha BPC, 10.45m and Indonesian Service, 4 pm.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 103					
Sunday School Offering: \$884.30; Attendance: 361					
Verse for the Week: <i>Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.</i> Romans 12:11-12					



Session Retreat at Mersing, 7-8 Sep 01



Life

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Vol. X No. 21

16 September 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 41	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 145	Psalms 2
Hymn	<i>This Is My Father's World</i>	No. 216
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 414	<i>Prepare to Meet...</i>
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jonah 3:4-10	I Thess 5:1-15
Sermon	<i>The Pattern of God's Own Saving Mercy</i> (Rev Charles Seet)	<i>Be Prepared for Every Terrorism</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 65	<i>Behold, Behold...</i>
Benediction		

"Death in the Pot!"

So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof. But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot. II Kings 4:40-41

For 300 years the King James Bible (Authorised Version) reigned supreme until two Cambridge Greek scholars, Westcott and Hort, arose to challenge it in 1870. As a result of their machinations, they got it revised in 1881. So a new version, the Revised Version was produced, which changed ten thousands of the sacred text. (But the Revised Version, while it enjoyed a good sale at first, has for long died a diseased death.) Nevertheless, Westcott and Hort enjoyed the full confidence of the Church and their word was law. They took away the account of Jesus pardoning the woman taken in adultery (Jn 7:53-8:11) as no part of John's Gospel but a later interpolation (insertion by another hand). They cut away the last 12 verses of Mark and the Johannine Comma, where the Trinity is taught (I Jn 5:7,8). These are three glaring examples.

When I was a student in Faith Seminary 1948 we were taught

to accept everything Westcott and Hort had taught. When Dr D.A. Waite, ThD, PhD was in Dallas Seminary, 1948, he also was taught to receive everything that Westcott and Hort had given. But truth will out! God raised up a theological student, Edward F Hills (1912-81), a classmate of Dr Carl McIntire at Westminster Seminary, to research into Westcott and Hort. Edward F Hills, BTh, ThM, and ThD (Harvard Divinity School), having studied for over 15 years, raised the alarm, "Death in the pot." The teaching of Westcott and Hort is poison to our souls!

With this alarm raised, other eminent theologians who are on the Lord's side has joined his ranks, one by one, namely Dr Otis Fuller, Dr D A Waite, David W Cloud, G A Riplinger (author of New Age Bible Versions), Dr S H Tow and now the whole faculty of Far Eastern Bible College, not forgetting the venerable Trinitarian Bible Society of Great Britain and Pensacola Christian College.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully" (Ps 24:3,4).

Hitherto, we have been hoodwinked by a conspiracy of silence on the evil character of Westcott and Hort, these two angels of light in textual criticism, until the

recent exposure of their true colours. The records of the sons of Westcott and Hort, above all others, testify to their shame.

Westcott was founder of the Hermes Club in Cambridge, a Club that was reputed to be a homosexual club. Three years later, together with Hort and others, he branched into the Ghost Club, which scoffers called the Bogey Club. Bogey means devil. They delved into necromancy, which is communicating with the dead. This is an abomination to the Lord (Deut 18:11). Both Westcott and Hort were secret worshippers of Mary. They were friends of Darwin, Freud (called a Fraud in *The Straits Times*) and of Carl Jung, all enemies of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. They denied the infallibility and inerrancy of Scripture, the Virgin Birth of Christ, His blood atonement and resurrection. The Creation and Temptation that led to the Fall they derisively declared to be myths.

With impure hearts of rebellion against God and unclean, unconverted hands, how dared they touch the sacred Text of Holy Scripture? The ten thousands of alterations and deletions they had made on the basis of Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus versus the thousands of the Majority Text resulted in the scissoring of the equivalent of I and II Peter. In so doing, they had cut themselves from the Lord who bought them (II Pet 2:1). Those who follow Westcott and Hort in taking away Scripture beware, "God shall take away his part out of the book of life. . ." (Rev 22:19). What more can we say of the hundred "perversions" that are based on Westcott and Hort? They are already corrupted at the source.

As to judging between KJB and the one hundred "perversions," the unanimous testimony of believers throughout Church history, by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, suffices. Says the Apostle John, "But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. . . But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him" (I Jn 2:20, 27).

Let us take, for example, John 3:16, the most repeated verse in the Bible. The KJB renders *monogenes* as *only begotten*, but the NIV as *one and only*, clipping out the *begotten*. The doctrine of eternal generation of the Son, held time immemorial by the universal Church, is forever struck out by the NIV. By the anointing of the Holy Spirit you can judge between the KJB and NIV. You have the answer.

Although there is death in the pot, Elisha says, "Then bring meal." And he cast it into the pot, and he said, "Pour out for the people that they may eat. . . And there was no harm in the pot." God is powerful over all evil. God gives Elisha the power to neutralise the poison in the pot. God has now raised an international witness for His Truth. The King James Bible is the most accurate, devout English translation of the Bible and is now being restored against the 100 "perversions" of the English Bible — through fundamental scholars whom God has raised, men of integrity and men who love the Lord.

Today is a day of Victory for the Truth. My brother, Dr S H Tow, told me he had spent two years in research before he produced this 152-page book *Beyond Versions* to expose what is concealed in deceptive darkness. Please read it carefully and if you have been using the NIV or RSV, etc, cease taking their poison and be delivered from death in the pot. Use the KJB and rejoice in the Truth.

The King James Bible vs. The Hundred Versions

1. *The Bible is the Word of God,
Inerrant and infallible,
Preserved for us from age to age.
It stands God's Rock unmoveable.*
2. *God has preserved it in the Text
Received by His Church everywhere.
Through good and faithful men of God,
The King James Bible without peer.*
3. *Three hundred years it reigned supreme,
Until Westcott and Hort crept in,
And sowed the tares amongst the wheat,
And for a time they seemed to win.*
4. *When our foe comes in like a flood,
God's Spirit will withstand his wiles.
He tears away his 'holy' mask,*

That veils the Deadly Duo's guiles.

5. *Westcott started the Hermes Club,
Reputed Homosexuals Den.
He branched to delve into the dead,
A Ghost Club and Bogey by name.*
6. *With Hort his closest Siamese Twin,
He worshipped Mary in secret.
They found in Darwin and in Freud
Good friends so sincere and so sweet.*
7. *But they called Christians fanatics.
They denied Jesus' Virgin Birth,
His Blood and His Resurrection,
Creation and Fall but a myth.*
8. *Who shall ascend my holy hill?
He that has clean hands and pure heart.
With unclean hands and heart impure,
Can Westcott and Hort have a part?*
9. *An influx of hundred versions:
By Westcott and Hort's corrupt text,
Shall never stand up to the test,
That makes King James Bible the best.*
10. *The Bible is the Word of God,
Inerrant and infallible,
Preserved for us from age to age,
It stands God's Rock unmoveable.*

—T.T.

(Reprinted from Weekly dated 26 July 1998)

A NOTE

We regret to announce that the article on "FYI Harry Potter Books", that was reprinted in the Life Church weekly on 9 September has been found to be grossly inaccurate. Roger Lynn, who wrote the article, unwisely supported it with quotes from a satirical website called "The Onion" which parodied the concerns of Christians about the Harry Potter books by fabricating information. E.g. the alleged July 17 London Times interview of J.K. Rowling never took place and the words that were quoted were never said by her.

However, we still maintain that the Harry Potter books are filled with occult material and violence that can have an adverse influence on readers, especially on the minds of children. For an accurate assessment of the books, you may read Charlene Lim's article, "The Christian View of Pokemon and Harry Potter" in The Burning Bush journal, July 2001.

"FOR WHEN THEY SHALL SAY, PEACE AND SAFETY; THEN SUDDEN DESTRUCTION COMETH UPON THEM. . ." (I THESS 5:3)

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" (I Thess 5:4). If we keep on reading the Bible each day, we are children of light. Such terrorism to such a wide extent as to knock down the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. with the loss of thousands of lives should be no surprise to Christians. For we are warned in every book of the N.T. by our Lord and the Apostles.

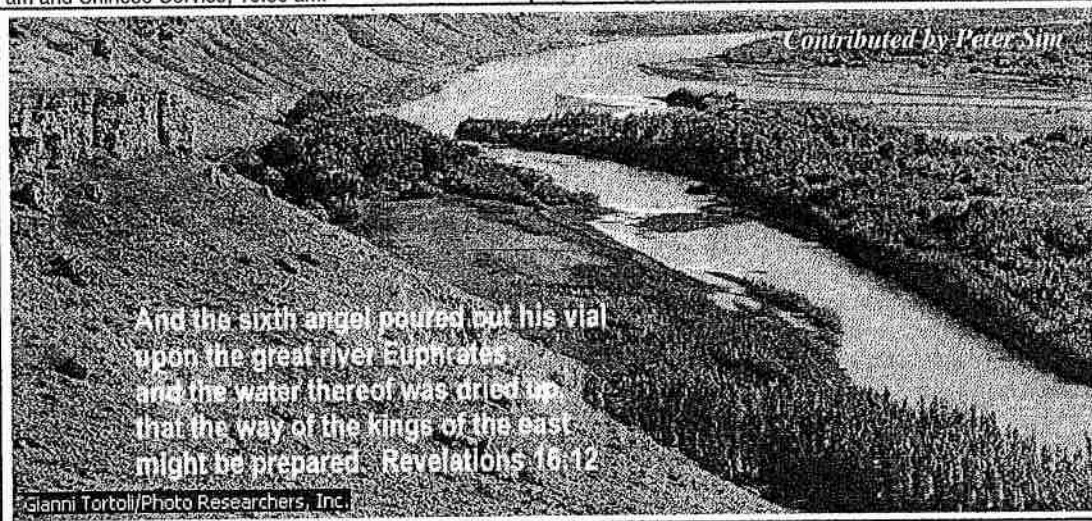
At the turn of the Millennium we preached a series of seven apocalyptic messages under the title *From Millennium Bug to Millennium Bomb* and had them printed cheaply, \$1 a copy for you to distribute to your friends, "by all means save some." At our Church Family Camp end of May this year we had for our theme *Hasting Unto the Coming of the Day of God* (II Pet 3:12) out of which is published *It Is Nearer Than You Think*. This sells even cheaper, 10 for \$8. Why? In order that the message of the imminent coming of our Lord be quickly given to a dying world.

This present terrorist attack on USA spreading destruction unprecedented should corroborate what we have been saying. With more and more agitation, both in Palestine and other countries, WWII will finally erupt from Iraq, which is one country keeping mum (Rev 9 and 16) and that leads to Armageddon which is Israel and the End. Christ must come to save His own people and vanquish all nations that fight against her. Please read my exposition on Revelation titled *Coming World Events Unveiled* (from FEBC Bookroom).

Can Christ return by 2011? By then Saddam Hussein would only be 74 years and full of fight. This is an Evil Day "and evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse. . ." (II Tim 3:13). While people of the world will be greatly disappointed, we have the blessed hope of His Second Coming and deliverance.

Spread the Word of life to a dying world. (Let us repent and pray earnestly for America.) —T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 24 - 30, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$10,370.00 (8.00 am); \$15,494.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Rev Jonathan Lee \$300, \$300, \$300, \$50, \$800, \$470, \$200, \$5000; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$200, \$1500(Thomson NBC), \$2504(LF); Surish \$100; Missions \$80; Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$50, \$100; Ho Heng Sau \$50; Thai Brethren Workers, Chiang Mai \$200; Nirands \$200; MsF \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$50, \$50; Quek Keng Khwang \$300; Tan Kian Sing \$200; Yiew Pong Sen \$300; Phairot \$300; Cambodia Glory BPC \$144, \$700; Batam Kg Becek Project \$2575, \$1725; Cambodia Sewage (Jonathan Lee) \$2000; Mark Chen \$200, \$200; Allen Organ \$300, \$400, \$400, \$1000, \$400, \$700, \$100, \$10000; Chiang Mai Truck \$2000, \$200; Siem Reap(Photocopier) \$300; Rev Djunaidi \$100.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$434(Boxes).		
FRI	7.30 pm	MsF Partners Mtg, FEBC Hall	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$50, \$50, \$300, \$200, \$500, \$32(FEBC students), \$800. GRAND TOTAL: \$2,733,304.13.		
SAT	8.40 am	Rev Tow & team to Phnom Penh, MI602	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(1) Thank God for keeping us safe in our trip to Malaysia during the one week school holidays. Indeed the mercies and compassion of God are never failing - we should never take this for granted. (Dn Yiew \$300, Keng Khwang \$300, Mark Chen \$200, Tan Kian Sing \$200) (2) We praise the Lord for His blessings. —From a grateful Lifer		
SUN	8.00 am	Mercy Ministry and Church Growth (Rev Charles Seet)	Introduction to the Youth Choir. The Youth Choir meets every Lord's Day at 10.30 am beside the Sea of Galilee. It is open to all youths 14 and above. Choir practice follows a 20-minute Bible study. Those who are interested to serve must have parental consent, and attend the 8.00 am service and Sunday School. Contact: Mark 9843-6398.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	MsF Meeting, Friday 28 Sep, 8.00 pm, FEBC Hall. "My Call to Full-time Ministry" by Tran Thanh Minh. MsF Five-Year Vision. All are welcome.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	Hwang Teow Seng, 63, father of Pollyanna Hwang will be baptised at 2.00 pm today. Rev Colin Wong will be assisted by Elder Khoo Peng Kiat.		
	10.30 am	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 113			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.					
Sunday School Offering: \$387.35; Attendance: 377					
Verse for the Week: <i>The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.</i> Isaiah 40:8					
You can help retrenched tribal Christians in northern Thailand to make a living by placing orders for hand-made woven table cloth, placemats, table runners and napkins at our Bookroom. Also available are pineapple-fibre paper for gift wrapping, coloured candles, knitted glass holders and cloth shoulder bags.					
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan), 10.15 am. Rev Wong at SS Senior Dept, 9.30 am and Chinese Service, 10.30 am.					



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Vol. X No. 22

23 September 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder George Tan	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 47	No. 110
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 107:1-31	Matt 24:3-36
Hymn	No. 482	No. 105
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 319	No. 543
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 18:21-35	1 Jn 2:15-28
Sermon	Mobilizing the Church for Mercy Ministry (Rev Colin Wong)	Antichrist and Armageddon (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	No. 467	No. 538
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE END

(Message delivered by the Pastor to

Life Church 10.30 am Service, Sep 16, 01)

Text: 1 Thess 5:1-15

Last Tuesday Sep 11, when New Yorkers were going to office, there came out of the blue a Boeing 767. It ploughed into one of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre. A flying bomb of such magnitude never dreamed of before brought death to hundreds inside. No sooner had pandemonium broken out than a second plane hit the Second Tower.

While this was taking place Death from another plane struck the Pentagon Washington D.C. A fourth plane that had tried to bomb the White House crashed in Pennsylvania because some passengers heroically struggled with the hijackers and thwarted their course.

All hell was let loose by about 20 suicide bombers hijacking the four planes. They are identified with the Osama bin Laden Satanic Group. The total count of the innocent dead exceeds 5,000, including firefighters and policemen buried by falling debris.

This unprecedented assault on America in time of peace far exceeds the attack on Pearl Harbour. This attack on America is the attack on peace-loving peoples of the whole world. It has

affected our nation insofar as all SIA flights into USA were concerned. They were diverted to neighbouring countries, such as Canada. Many were stranded. It is reported that our Church in Vancouver gave shelter to some of the stranded.

All around the world condolence services for the victims are held. This morning we want to remember the dead and pray rather for the living loved ones and for God's guidance to President Bush as he faces a diabolical enemy.

As children of light, with almost every New Testament book warning us of great evil that will come before Jesus returns, especially the Book of Revelation, we are not surprised.

Further light shed on the present situation comes from Israel. Israel says that Osama bin Laden is not alone in perpetrating this devilish attack on America, but is closely linked to Saddam Hussein of Iraq. Will this lead us into a WWII?

Talking of WWII, let us look back to WWI. It lasted from 1914 to 1918. From the end of WWI to outbreak of WWII in 1939, there were only 21 years of phony peace. Since 1945, end of WWII to the present, the world has gone on by God's grace, 56 years. That is a much longer break than the interval between WWI and WWII. How this present state of war between USA and Osama and Afghanistan his hiding place will end we don't know. But if Iraq has come into the picture, this is the beginning of the end.

Revelation 9:13-16 says, "And

the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them"

The River Euphrates flows through Syria and Iraq into the Persian Gulf, but particularly Iraq. The Gulf War that broke out in Aug 1990 was only the precursor, instilling more hatred into Saddam's heart. Saddam Hussein, born in 1937 is only 64 years now. Should WWII break out in 2011 he would be 74, at the ripe age of many presidents such as Ronald Reagan.

Rev 16:12-16 continues with what happens after Chapter 9:13-16 which is the outbreak of WWII (Walwood of Dallas Seminary believes this and I agree.) "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

Armageddon is the Greek spelling for the Hebrew, *Har Megiddo*, meaning Hill of Slaughter. It is the plain between Haifa and the Sea of Galilee, a battlefield from time immemorial. It is through this plain that the enemy must pass as he comes south to attack Jerusalem. From Iraq the kings of the East will advance to Jerusalem via Armageddon. As the battlefield will stretch from Armageddon in the north to Eilat on the Red Sea in the south, a distance of 200 miles that will flow with blood, Armageddon is none other than the grand finale of WWII ending in Jerusalem.

By then "the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the

temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath" (Rev 16:17-19).

When God's judgment comes to this wicked earth through the pouring out of the vials, it will not be the collapse of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre, but it will involve the whole city. The cities of the nations will fall when God explodes His E-bomb, Earthquakes in a chain reaction around the world. This will topple New York, London, Paris, Rome, etc and more to the Far East and Downunder in Australia. Singapore cannot escape!

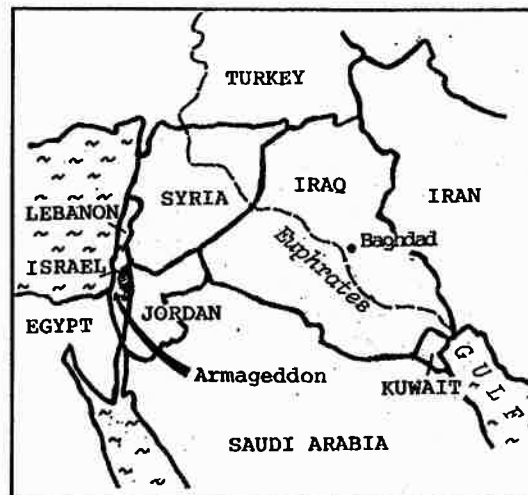
We have just been shocked by the evil perpetrated by Osama's evil men. But the world will soon forget this and continue to pursue its sinful pleasures. We who are God's children must shake ourselves out of our sleep to be ready to meet the Lord when he comes. "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." "Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."

When the Lord comes to save us from this burning earth, will you be caught up with Him to safety above the clouds? Have you put on your space suit, the breastplate of faith and love: and for an helmet, the hope of salvation? Are you zealous in His service or are you lost in the world of sinful pleasure that leads to death and hell?

As God's children, let there be no backbiting against one another. "See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men" (I Thess 5:15).

Give respect to your pastor and elders, "to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake" (I Thess 5:12,13).

But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write you. From the sudden destruction that has descended on America when they say peace, it is as the Bible says, one sign of the coming of the Lord. And this, to us who look for His coming, we believe, "is the beginning of the end." Amen.



BEHOLD, THE SON OF GOD IS COMING AGAIN!

1. Behold, behold the Son of God is coming again! Behold, Behold, the Son of God is coming again! With thousands angels and saints, He comes, He comes, He comes, in clouds of heav'n To judge the world.
2. Awake, awake, you children of men, awake, awake! (2x) Prepare now to meet the Lord, Prepare now to meet the Lord, He comes, He comes, He comes, in clouds of heav'n To judge the world.
3. Behold, behold, the Son of God is coming again! Behold, Behold, the Son of God is coming again! With thousands angels and saints, Believe, Believe, Believe, in Him just now! And you'll be saved.

SAVE WATER AND ELECTRICITY!

Do you know our consumption of water and electricity for both Beulah House and Church, L-Annex and Kindergarten Block amounts to \$90,000 a year? We can surely reduce this if we switch off the aircons, fans and lights **immediately** they are not in use. By more careful use we can save \$10,000 to \$20,000 yearly. Use water and light and energy as you would do in your own house!

THE WISE MAN STANDS BEFORE HIS KING

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church Prayer Meeting, Tuesday, Sep 18, 01)

Text: Eccles 8:1-6

Solomon says, "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser" (Prov 9:9). Wisdom is the key to knowledge, so a wise man who is instructed further behaves wisely in every situation of life. He comes out triumphant, not as the fool with his foolish look.

A wise man is instructed to be careful in word and action when he stands before his king. He is bound by the oath of allegiance to his superior. He attends to his king faithfully and loyally. He keeps himself far from any wicked plot against the king, for the king has power to execute what he wills. The king has power over life or death and that power is irresistible.

Is Solomon speaking from his experience of carrying out the commands of his dying father David over his enemies which resulted in their executions? David's enemies despatched accordingly by Solomon's wisdom and power were Joab, David's Commander-in-chief who treacherously murdered the two captains of Israel, Abner and Amasa; Shimei who cursed David in the day he was running from Absalom his son. And Solomon took care also of his personal enemies so that none of them could escape out of the king's hand.

Solomon was a temporal king who ruled with awe, how much more is God who is Judge over heaven and earth? Do not consort with those who plot against your superiors, for those who are so involved will not be unguilty. "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation" (Rom 13:2).

A wise man who serves his sovereign loyally and faithfully has never a worry about his standing before him. He can see through what will happen, good or bad, at the end of the day.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 1 - 7, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm <i>Theism</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	\$8,487.00 (8.00 am); \$16,522.00 (10.30 am)
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Cambodia</i> \$50, \$500, \$460; <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$300; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$400; US\$920(Ladies' BS Group); <i>Surish</i> \$50; <i>Missions</i> \$100; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$150, \$500, \$320, \$500; <i>Chinese Bibles for China</i> \$50; <i>Calvin Loh</i> \$50; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$50, \$500; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$50; <i>Tan Bee Choo</i> \$50; <i>Tan Kian Sing</i> \$500; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$400(LF); <i>Maasal Medical Ministry</i> \$50(LF); <i>Batam Kg Becek Project</i> \$1000; <i>Cambodia Grace BPC</i> \$200; <i>Cambodia Sewage</i> \$1000, \$350; <i>Allen Organ</i> \$20000(Session member), \$100, \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$500; <i>Chlang Mai Truck</i> \$1000; <i>Naret of Cambodia</i> \$700; <i>Sale of Rev Tow's Books</i> \$214 (Calvary-Pandan BPC).
WED	1.20 pm Rev Tow & team return from Cambodia, MI 601	<i>MERSING YOUTH CAMP</i> : \$104(Boxes).
THU	7.30 pm <i>Hebrews</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE : \$50, \$100, \$500, \$20000, \$300, \$100, \$500, \$132, \$500, \$190, \$450, \$1500, \$130, \$2100, \$2000(Chinese Ser), \$400(Chinese Ser), \$1074.60, \$2200, \$2000.
SAT	9.00 am FEK Orientation, FEBC Hall	GRAND TOTAL: \$2,767,530.73. STOP PRESS! \$2,100(Boxes).
SUN	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	4.00 pm Deacons' Mtg, Partitioned Chapel	(1) Thank God for a job during these troublous times. (\$2100 for New Beulah House)
	7.30 pm FEBC Gospel Rally, Sanctuary	Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING
	8.00 am <i>Me A Gifted Child?</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	Sat. 6 October, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary.
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	Preacher Tang Chee Keong speaks on
	9.30 am Sunday School / Catechism Class	"Where Art Thou, O My Soul?"
	10.30 am Rev Tow (Lord's Supper)	Bring a friend!
	10.30 am Chinese Service	He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	(Children's programme run concurrently)
	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	
	12.45 pm Evangelism	
	3.00 pm Thai Service	
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service	
NBC This Week. <i>Fri</i> Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 115		
Sunday School Offering: \$517.40; Attendance: 384		
Verse for the Week: <i>My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.</i> 1 John 3:18		
Preaching appointments: <i>Rev Tow</i> in Cambodia. <i>Rev Wong</i> at Rawang and Tangkak BPC. <i>Rev Seet</i> at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.		



Paving the way to Jonathan Lee's Slum Church, Phnom Penh



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Vol. X No. 23

30 September 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Mahadevan	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 93	No. 230
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 55:1-13	Psalms 10
Hymn	No. 317	No. 441
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 309	No. 395
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 6:1-7; 11:27-30	Rom 11:22-29
Sermon	Mercy Ministry and Church Growth (Rev Charles Seet)	Israel and the Church in Prophecy (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	No. 419	No. 283
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

Cambodia Missions

We sent three Korean graduates from FEBC to Cambodia in Sep 1997. During these four years we have despatched 10 containers of food and clothing, costing tens of thousands, to relieve the poor. Rev Colin Wong and a score of lay people, have helped the three stations to hold Bible camps, special meetings, from not only Life Church but also other B-P Churches, such as Tabernacle.

This is the third time I'm leading a team there. There are 8 of us: myself, Ivy, Rosaleen, Alice Chng, Rev Tan Eng Boo of Grace BPC, Deacon Wee Hian Kok, John Ching and Elder Ng Poh Kok of Sharon BPC. The main purpose of our going is to inaugurate a four-storey Church built in a slum village in Phnom Penh by Jonathan Lee.

We will spend 4 nights and 5 days, first two nights in Kompong Som, 4 hours drive south of Phnom Penh, and the remaining two nights in Phnom Penh itself. The first part of our visit is to see the work of David Koo and Surish, and of Moses Hahn, both based at Kompong Som. The second part is to see the three churches built by Jonathan Lee, including the dedication of the four-storey Slum

Church. This Slum Church is built mainly by Elder Dr Lee of Korea and his friends, and partly by Life Church members.

While Jonathan Lee's work is mainly concentrated on the slum village and a huge orphanage run by the government, those in Kompong Som have branched out to Pailin (Pol Pot's stronghold, Moses Hahn) and to Siem Reap (David Koo). There is a need to increase support for them.

Myanmar

Our Men's Fellowship, meantime, has a burden for Myanmar (Burma). Here we have the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology (Rev Thawm Luai) and Andrew Kam's orphanage and outreaches to Burmese villages. Rev Thawm Luai has printed the Falam-Chin KJV New Testament and is now half way through checking the O.T. so that the whole Bible might be consummated. The Heidelberg printing press we bought them was God's timely provision for this purpose. They need our prayer support.

As for Andrew Kam, we've helped him buy a two-storey house nearby a Government school, most convenient to his running of an orphanage. The cost is only S\$21,000 which sum is now being deducted from the monthly support he has been receiving from us. He has established a branch church in a Burmese village where he ministers on Sunday afternoons.

One confirmation on the MF's visit to Myanmar is a consignment of our books (including Jeffrey Khoo's) to be used as textbooks by FEFST. We can send with the team and save quite a bit on postage.

Time Flies, Anniversary Month of October Is Here!

As you read these pages, October is virtually upon us! That brings us to our Anniversary month, for it was on Oct 20, 1950 that our Church began as the English Service of the Teochew Say Mia Tng Church at Prinsep Street.

Now we have the New Beulah House Project which we intend to launch June 2002. But we decided not to start building until we have \$4 million cash in hand. At present, we have \$2.7 million on paper (which includes \$0.75 million assets in loans to another church). Until these loans are returned, we have \$2 million in the bank accruing interest. Let us set a deadline. Can we rally to make another \$2 million by Oct 2002? We brought \$2 million in 6½ months and on top of that \$3.2 million loan to clinch the deal of buying Beulah House in 1990. To give \$2 million between now and Oct 2002 should be no problem.

No 51st Anniversary Thanksgiving Dinner

This foregoing of the celebration is agreed by the whole Session. Straightaway it saves the Church \$17,000, the usual subsidy for holding the dinner. But we will have a combined 51st Anniversary Thanksgiving Service, Sunday Morning Oct 21, 9.30 am. Let this be a happy occasion on which not only every individual member will bring a gift, but every department of the Church, from Sunday School to the Fellowships, NBCs, Chinese, Indonesian, Thai and Filipino Services. This is a happy occasion also for thanking God that despite the downturn and deeper downturn in America, we Christians are little affected in Singapore, by God's special grace. Your money put into Life Church has prospered the most, managed by faithful and skilful hands. God sees every heart. Shall we not aim to give the Lord \$100,000 this time?

Welcome Home, Pastor Jack Sin

He and Angelina have returned home safely after two semesters of higher studies at Pensacola Christian College and Seminary. He is another

zealous defender of the Faith. We treasure a new hymn he has written, "God's Word Preserved Through the Ages," to the tune of "Rise Up O Men of God" as follows:

God's Word Preserved Through the Ages

*God's Word, inspired and true,
Revealed to men prepared;
Inerrant and infallible,
Its message must be read.*

*Preserved by Providence,
The Jews librarians were;
Meticulous and faithful,
The copies had endured.*

*The ancient Byzantine,
The text the church received;
Had not been tainted thru the years,
Of treasures all, most dear.*

*During the Renaissance,
Dawning Reformation;
The Greek New Testament edit,
Erasmus, the elite.*

*At the Master's behest,
The Authorised's the best;
The language is above the rest,
And passed purity test.*

*The Spirit illumine,
Apply our hearts to glean;
Each letter of the Holy Writ,
Direct saints by its light.*

*By faith we can aver
The Bible in our hands;
Accurate and reliable,*

God's Eternal Word will stand.

What Is "Nearer Than You Think"?

What is nearer than you think? It is the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ to put down all rebellion, to save His chosen people and bring in peace for a thousand golden years on earth.

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isa 2:4).

Amercia's war against terrorism is going to be a long drawn one as President Bush has warned. Not USA but Christ, the Prince of Peace, can quieten

the nations, that will clash in a Third World war (Walvoord of Dallas Seminary). This is where we come in. During this warring interval, only the message of a Crucified and Risen Saviour can bring peace and salvation to a frightened and restless people.

Our Lord calls for an accelerated evangelistic outreach to every nation as the only hope to mankind. Our missionaries to Cambodia will open the eyes of our visiting team. They will surely be moved to contribute their part to the saving of more souls. Who knows the Lord will not call one of them to full-time service?

Thank God that many lay people in Life Church are giving themselves to home missions, which includes Malaysia. Thank God for some who have yielded themselves to a period of preparation by studying at FEBC.

Let us all, the whole Church, arise as one, to send forth His Word of Peace to a world given to hatred and terrorism, which will soon climax in a final conflagration. Maranatha! Even so, come Lord Jesus! Amen. —T.T.

NO MAN CAN RESIST THE APPROACH OF DEATH, MUCH LESS HAVE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF ITS COMING

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church prayer Meeting, Tuesday, Sep 18, 01)

Text: Eccles 8:6-8

Nothing happens by chance! Everything that happens in the world is predetermined, yea, "the misery of man is great upon him," (v.6). Earlier, Solomon says, "I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it" (3:10).

Some people (even Christians) would want to know their future, and if it be bad, to avoid it. I have known even an elder who consulted a fortune teller before he went to Indonesia to make business, whether he could be successful. This is condemned by Deut 18:14, "For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do."

Fortune tellers and mediums, knowing the psychology of the common herd, use their arts to grip them by predicting the date of their death. This happened to Mr Chew Fook Wah, a respectable employee of Shell. He became a devout worshipper of many gods and idols. He was so steeped in idolatry that he converted the sitting hall of his house into a mini-temple.

When told by the medium he consulted that he would die by Chinese New Year's night, he could not sleep for months. He sat up all night till the day after New Year, but death never came to visit him. This hoax opened his eyes.

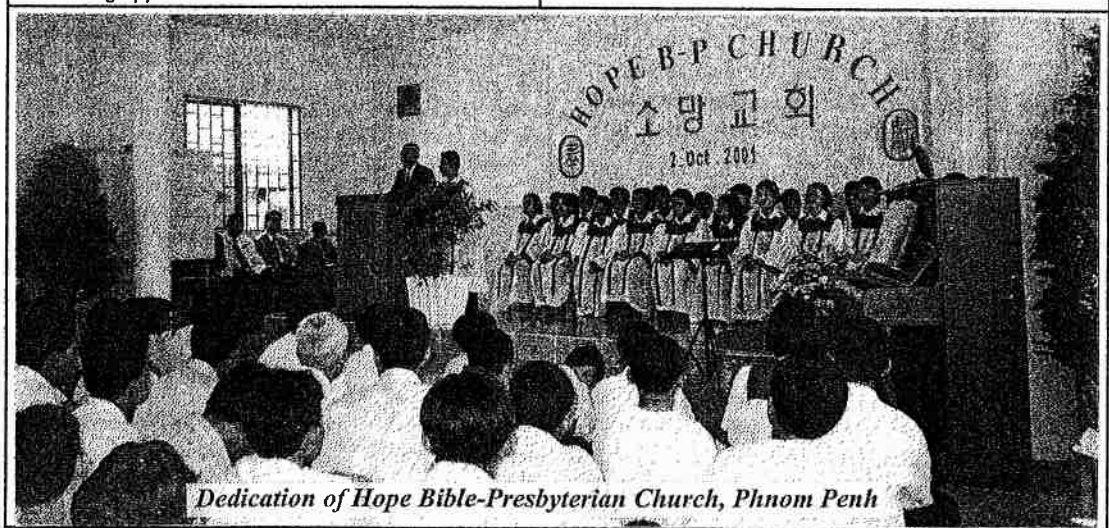
When the Gospel was preached to him, he readily received Christ. From a blind idolater he became a devoted iconoclast. He burnt up his idols which cost him \$10,000. Soon after this he enrolled at Far Eastern Bible College to study to become a preacher. He was a Cantonese and the Cantonese were a very superstitious people. He burnt their idols by the score and through his effort a Chinese Church was established.

It was he, when he joined Far Eastern Bible College, who directed me to Eccles 8:6-8: "Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore the misery of man is great upon him. For he knoweth not that which shall be: for who can tell him when it shall be? There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it."

I have used these verses of Scripture to deliver a towkay like Chew Fook Wah. This man turned his office also into a mini-temple. When the medium told him he would die by a certain day I read verse 8 to him. "There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it." He believed immediately and we proceeded to his office infested with scores of idols big and small. We brought one carload of these and had them all smashed up at Life Church. He was delivered from the medium and was baptised and joined our Church.

Thank God for sufficient funds received for the Allen Organ.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 8 - 14, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)	\$8,684.00 (8.00 am); \$17,155.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Mission \$200, \$500; Cambodia Orph \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$500, \$1600, \$2000; Surish \$100; Batam Church Bldg Fund \$50(LF); Indonesia Mission \$350; Baraka BPC \$2000; Baraka Conf Centre \$180; Missions \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$150; Thailand Church Bldg \$50; FEBC students \$10; Barnabas Yap \$400; Rev Seet \$50; Rev Wong \$50; Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$130; Quek KK \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$50; Chan Pui Meng \$50, \$50, \$200, \$300; Maasai Medical Ministry \$600; Batam Kg Becek Project \$1000; Allen Organ \$5000; Siem Reap(Photocopier) \$1500; Bible Commentaries (Moses Hahn) \$150; UPS Batteries for Computers (David Koo) \$150; Siem Reap(Van) \$1500.		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$350, \$500, \$50, \$1000, \$500, \$200, \$4500, \$2000, \$500, \$500, \$1000, \$250. GRAND TOTAL: \$2,780,980.73.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews, FEBC Hall	STOP PRESS! \$200 (Safe arrival).		
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	Our condolences to Tan Siok Eng and her daughters on the homegoing of Quek Hon Yan on 1st Oct. Vigil services were conducted by Rev Tow and Rev Seet and the funeral by Rev Wong.		
SAT	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, G&H Room	Time is . . .		
	2.30 pm	Wedding of Victor Ng & Goh Yen Li (Rev Charles Seet)	Too slow for those who wait,		
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Too swift for those who fear,		
	8.00 am	They That Win Souls Are Wise (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	Too long for those who grieve,		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Too short for those who rejoice,		
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class	To those who love, Time is ETERNITY ...		
	10.30 am	Rev Colin Wong	(In loving memory of Quek Hon Yan, this poem from his three daughters, is taken from his Treasury of Poems.)		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)	Infant Baptism on Anniversary Sunday, 21 Oct, 9.30 am.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 2569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	Bible Witness Magazine (Vol. 1 Issue 2) is available at the Reception Counter. (Suggested gift per copy: \$3)		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	1.00 pm	AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 96					
Sunday School Offering: \$604.70; Attendance: 388					
Verse for the Week: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Colossians 2:7					
Preaching appointments: Rev Seet in Batam.					



Dedication of Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church, Phnom Penh



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Vol. X No. 24

7 October 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 83	Eternal Father...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 115	Psalms 91
Hymn	No. 231	No. 347
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 445	Prepare to meet thy God
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 12:1-11	Matt 24:37-44
Sermon	Me A Gifted Child? (Rev Colin Wong)	Orientated to His Coming in our Lifetime
Closing Hymn	No. 450	No. 183
Benediction		Lord's Supper

ISRAEL AND THE CHURCH IN PROPHECY

(Message delivered by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo to Life Church 10.30 am Service, Sep 30, 01)

Israel is an important key to understanding biblical prophecy. However, there are ultra-reformed Christians who say that Israel is no longer in God's plan. According to them, God has cast Israel away for crucifying Christ. The Church has replaced Israel. The promises God made to Israel have been transferred to the Church. Thus, OT prophecies concerning Israel must now be read spiritually or allegorically to mean the Church, not Israel.

Is this what the Bible teaches? The questions we want to ask are: (1) Has God truly cast away Israel? (2) Should prophecies that deal with Israel be spiritualised away?

Has God cast Israel away? The Apostle Paul answered with an emphatic, "God forbid" (Rom 11:1). God will never ever cast away Israel. Paul went on to say that "all Israel shall be saved" (Rom 11:26). God will keep the promises He has made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And these promises concern the whole doctrine of Israel: the people, the land, the throne, the temple.

Did not Israel sin against God? Did not Israel crucify her Messiah? Was not Israel unfaithful? Yes, yes, and yes. But the sins of Israel do not cancel out God's promises. God is greater than all our failures. He is a God who keeps His Word. In the OT, we find Israel deep in sin. For 400 years, God sent His prophets to

rebuke the people, to call them to repent, to warn them of severe punishment if they did not. What did Israel do? They killed His prophets, one by one. Did God punish Israel? Yes. In 586 BC, God sent the Babylonians to conquer Israel. The Jews became slaves in Babylon. God punished Israel, but did He forsake her? No. In Jer 29:10, He told them ahead of time that they would suffer for 70 years in Babylon, and after that they would be allowed to return to the promised land.

Likewise, Israel failed God and crucified their Messiah when He first came. God punished Israel by sending the Roman army to raze Jerusalem to the ground in AD 70. The Jews were dispossessed of their land, and scattered to all parts of the world. God continued to keep His covenant promises to Israel. He would gather them back into the promised land again one day. This happened on May 14, 1948. The fact that Israel as a nation exists today testifies of God's honesty and veracity.

God never breaks His Word. That is a great comfort to us. How many times have we failed the Lord already in our Christian lives? Are we more righteous than Israel? We are equally sinful, are we not? When we sin against God, does He cast us away? Do we lose our salvation? No. He punishes us. He disciplines us. But He does not disown us. Likewise, He loves Israel too much to disown her. Israel has a special place in God's plan.

The Church has not taken away the promises God made to Israel.

Paul says that we Gentile believers must understand our place in God's redemptive plan. We are but wild olive branches that have been engrafted into the natural olive tree which belongs to Israel (Rom 11:23-26). The Church ought not to despise Israel. If God is able to graft us wild olive branches into the natural olive tree, how much more easily it will be for Him to graft back in the natural branches when the time of salvation arrives.

When will this happen? It will happen when "the fullness of the Gentiles be come in" (Rom 11:25). In other words, when the Gentile Church is full, when the last Gentile gets converted, Christ will return and save Israel. "There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." This will happen at the second coming, at the end of the Great Tribulation, at the end of Jacob's trouble. Has God cast Israel away? God forbid!

God means what He says, and says what He means. Faithful interpretation of prophetic Scripture involves taking God at His Word. Biblical prophecies and promises must be read in their normal, literal sense.

How do we know that prophecies must be interpreted literally? Well, consider what happened when Christ came the first time. There are many prophecies in the OT with regard to Christ's 1st coming. God told Israel way ahead of time of the coming of the Messiah. He even provided clues on when they could expect Him to come.

Let us learn from the wise men from the East (Matt 2:1-2). These Eastern men were not from the Far East, but Near East, probably Persia. How did they know about the King of the Jews? They knew not by simply looking at the stars, but by studying the OT Scriptures, probably Daniel's prophecies. They must have studied Daniel's prophecy of the 70 weeks (Dan 9:25). The Messianic Prince would have to appear before His cutting off on the 69th week. As the time drew near, the wise men must have anticipated His soon coming. So they looked out for a sign, and saw a special Star, and followed it to Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, they asked Herod, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him." Herod got very upset by this news of a newborn King. He felt threatened by this new King. He wanted to kill this King. He asked his Bible scholars to tell him where this King would be born. And

they said "in Bethlehem." This was no lucky guess. They found it in Mic 5:2.

The prophecies of Christ's 1st coming were fulfilled literally. This tells us that prophecy must be read in the light of its literal meaning. The wise men read prophecy literally, the chief priests and scribes understood prophecy literally. The prophecies saw literal fulfilment. Sixty-nine weeks (483 years) meant just that, and Bethlehem meant Bethlehem.

The Bible talks a lot about the 2nd coming of Christ. Since the 1st coming prophecies were fulfilled literally, we can expect the 2nd coming prophecies to be fulfilled literally as well. When God said that there would be a future millennial reign of Christ on earth, it means just that. 1,000 years means 1,000 years. When Christ said He would descend in the same way He ascended to heaven, it means just that. He ascended to heaven in Acts 1:11 from the Mt of Olives; He will descend and step on the same Mt of Olives when He returns (Zech 14:4). Bethlehem means Bethlehem, Mt of Olives means Mt of Olives, Israel means Israel, Church means Church. We should not confuse Israel with the Church.

God does not want us to be in the dark. He wants us to know the future. He promises a blessing to those who study prophecy. In Rev 1:3 the Lord said, "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Let us read prophecy, pray for understanding, and grow in faith as we prepare for the Lord's return. Be like the wise men from the East!

NOT HATRED BUT LOVE — NOT DESTRUCTION BUT CONSTRUCTION

(Synopsis of Message delivered by the Pastor at the Dedication of Hope B-P Church, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Oct 2, 01)

Text: I John 3:23

Today we are gathered together here as one big Christian Family. We come from Korea, Singapore and Cambodia to witness the dedication of this magnificent four-storey Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church. It is built after four years of loving service by Rev Jonathan Lee for the poor of Phnom Penh. Yes, it is an emblem of the love of Jesus Christ and not the hatred of terrorists that killed 7,000 in New York and Washington, DC on Sep 11, 01.

Today we do not witness the dastardly destruction that has caught America unawares, but the consecrated construction of this utility church complex for this slum village. And this is made possible by the gifts of hundreds of God-loving people from Korea and Singapore, especially from Korea.

This great undertaking is possible because we, who worshipped idols like you before, have received the light from God through His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. We have inherited this Christian faith through our grandparents from Western missionaries. We have been delivered from sin and death to life everlasting. In turn we are missionaries to you.

Jesus Christ is God's Son who came to earth 2000 years ago. He is different from all the human prophets and sages who died and were buried. Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary and He came to save us by dying on the cross for our sins. Because He is God's Son and has no sin, He rose again from the dead on the third day. He appeared to His disciples ten times and went up to Heaven after 40 days. And He is coming soon to judge this world of sin and wickedness. Do you believe in Him to be your Saviour? For He commands men and women everywhere to come to Him to be saved. "And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ" (I Jn 3:13a).

And He commands us also to love one another (v.23b). What is the greatest thing for us to do to love one another? It is to come to Cambodia to tell you the good news of the living and true God and of His Son, Jesus Christ. "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" (Jn 3:16).

Now we thank God there is such a goodly number of you who have found Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Being born again by His Holy Spirit you are a new people. We have been deeply moved by your singing, preparing our hearts for this Dedication Service.

It is your turn to show the love of Christ to your loved ones, neighbours and friends by telling them the good news. You may be poor, but if you seek God's kingdom and righteousness first, God will help you to live a better life.

Not hatred but love, not destruction but

construction. Amen.

Editorial Note: With sums lately designated for Jonathan Lee which were brought to him on this trip, he reports all three Churches – Grace, Glory and Hope B-P – have cleared all the bills. Insofar as Hope the slum church is concerned, the land costs US\$100,000 and the four-storey building US\$150,000. Praise the Lord! (The worship hall is able to seat 500 people!)

LETTER FROM THE PHILIPPINES

It is my desire in the Lord that the entire membership of our church could have a copy of a Holy Bible of their own. I'm quite sad that very few of them have a personal Bible. It has been my prayer to see each of them holding a Bible during our worship services. It is good to see everybody read the Holy Scriptures.

As a pastor of the Church I'm using the King James Version written originally in Hebrew and Greek languages and being translated to English and to our native Ilonggo dialect. I'm very eager encouraging my congregation to read and study the same King James Version because of its originality from God's inspired written word.

Relative to this I'm personally asking your kind Christian benevolent heart leading towards the procurement of these Bibles. I'm doing this because we are now moving fast to the end-times and God's children (born again ones) must have a deep spiritual knowledge of God's Word. Presently we have 16 copies but we still need 85 more to complete the 101 desired number. The current price of each copy is P244.00 in the local bookstore. We are praying that before December 25, 2001 we could gather the Bibles, because our scheduled date of distribution is on December 31, 2001 in the evening of our year-end worship service.

I am very sorry for disturbing you of this matter, but I find no other means of having these Bibles. We exhausted some means, but it is quite difficult, because it cannot be denied that presently my country Philippines is deeply affected by international, national and local economic crisis. If this prayer and Christian request for help has touched your heart and if some Christian brethren out there have seen this aim and cause is reasonable and has spiritual wisdom, then, please help us. I am not asking necessarily for money or cash, but rather if you have some Christian friends in Manila, Philippines who have direct contact with the Philippine Bible Society, then it would be wise enough to work through them, as long as the said Bibles could reach the hands of our Church members here at Fabrica Evangelical Church.

Thank you very much for giving attention to my letter. I believe God will do miracles. Further, I firmly believe that this would become our eternal investment in God's kingdom building. Praying always. (II Tim 3:16-17; 4:2)

—Because of Calvary, Rev Ptr. Joaquin C. Arevalo, BBS

Editorial Note: Let us encourage the KJB users with 100 copies of King James Bibles. Who'll give at \$10 per copy?

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 15 - 21, 2001)

MON	7.30 pm	Theism (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	9.30 am	51st Anniversary Thanksgiving & Baptismal Service (Rev Tow)
	9.30 am	Chinese 36th Anniversary Service
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	12.45 pm	Evangelism
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. *Fri* Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.
Prayer Mtg: 94

Sunday School Offering: \$701.20; Attendance: 397

Verse for the Week: *I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.* Isaiah 45:5, 6

Infant Baptism on Anniversary Sunday, 21 Oct, 9.30 am. Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 2569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names **by Tuesday.**

Preaching appointments: *Rev Tow* at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. *Rev Seet* at Maranatha YAF, 2.00 pm.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$9,602.00 (8.00 am); \$18,868.00 (10.30 am)
OFFERINGS FOR: *Cambodia* \$1500, \$200, \$470, \$150; *Cambodia Orph* \$250; *Rev Jonathan Lee* \$100; *Surish* \$100; *Missions* \$100, \$40; *Myanmar Missions* \$350, \$400; *Myanmar Orph* \$50, \$200; *Rev Edward Paauwe* \$3000; *Rev Seet* \$1000, \$2000; *Rev Wong* \$50, \$50, \$1000, \$2000; *Rev Goh Seng Fong* \$3000; *Eld Khoo Peng Kiat* \$100; *Loi Huey Ching* \$1000; *Rev Tow* \$130; *Chan Pui Meng* \$300(MF); *Maasai Medical Ministry* \$200; *Barnabas* \$1000; *Slem Reap (Van)* \$300; *Medan Motorbike* \$200, \$150; *Kenya Sewage System* \$150; *P'pines KJV Bibles* \$20, \$100, \$50; *Sonny Lioe* \$1000; *FEBC Students* \$40 each: *Christine Kendagor*, *John Minh*, *Roth Kim Nang*, *Lydia Siltha*, *Paul Kendagor*, *Sun Sokha*, *Ty Serey Vuth*, *Sen Ponnreay*, *Srun Chivan*, *Tran Thanh Minh*.
NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$2000, \$500, \$200, \$100, \$350, \$200, \$150, \$800, \$300, \$470, \$250, \$450, \$200, \$150, \$200(Chinese Service), \$100, \$1000. **Grand Total: \$2,789,100.73.**



New Church in Pailin (Moses Hahn)



This is the house we bought for Andrew Kam's orphanage for \$821,000. To Pay back this sum we deduct \$200 from his monthly stipend. It needs renovation and repairs as you can see.



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Vol. X No. 25

14 October 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Ong Eng Lam	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 60	No. 37
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Acts 8:4-8; 26-40	Psalms 37:1-31
Hymn	No. 396	No. 115
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 467	No. 324
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Eph 4:7-13	Matt 5:9
Sermon	They That Win Souls Are Wise (Rev Charles Seet)	Blessed Are The Peacemakers (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 182	No. 334
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

ORIENTATED TO HIS COMING IN OUR LIFETIME

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church

10.30 am Service, Oct 7, 2001)

Text: Matt 24:37-64

The Second Coming of our Lord will catch two types of people unawares: First, they are the Gentiles, like those in the day of Noah before the Flood. They were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage until the day Noah entered the ark. When the Flood came they perished, all of them.

The second type, foretold by Peter in II Peter 3, are the scoffers who say, "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." With the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre and on the Pentagon in Washington D.C. at which 7,000 lives were lost on Sep 11, I preached a sermon, "This is the Beginning of the End." A fellow minister commented I was scaring the people.

Let us not fall into the above two categories of unbelievers. Let us be those who are awake, who know what time the thief is coming, and thwart him from breaking into the house. This vividly compares with those who are ready for Christ's Second Coming. How do we know His coming is at the door? From the end-time

prophecies which are now being fulfilled and very soon will be fulfilled. Therefore we should be orientated to His Coming, in our lifetime. To say our Lord may come tomorrow or 100 years hence is to miss the prophecies being fulfilled before our eyes.

I would like to refer to three prophecies that point to Christ's coming most probably in our lifetime.

First is the mounting battles between the Palestinians and Israel over Jerusalem. The Intifada (Uprising) by the Palestinians is just one year old after Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Prime Minister, purposely intruded into the Temple Mount in Jerusalem now occupied by the Mosque of Omar. This is absolutely taboo to the Palestinians. Hence the war that broke out has raged for one year whereby several hundred Palestinians have been killed. Despite America's exertion upon the two warring parties to come to a truce in the face of a war against the terrorists, shooting against one another has broken out. With lesser firepower the Palestinians are bound to lose, but it is the higher hand of God that protects Jerusalem from annihilation. "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. . . And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem." (Zech 12:2, 3, 9). The attacks on Jerusalem will climax with all the nations that join in at the end, but God will destroy them all. Armageddon!

The second prophecy most probably to be fulfilled in our lifetime is the last global war (Walvoord, president emeritus of Dallas Seminary, USA identifies it to be WWII) to break forth from the Euphrates Valley, which is Iraq. "And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them" (Rev 9:13-16).

In the present War against Osama bin Laden and Terrorism, Israel has offered evidence of Iraq's involvement (Saddam Hussein). The Hawks in Bush's Administration would retaliate against Iraq, but political considerations have shelved it. With the Gulf War breaking out in August 1990 (which was a precursor) history will repeat itself. War is a prairie fire which can easily spread from Afghanistan to Iraq in a short time.

The third prophecy touching on the last lap of WWII's spreading is revealed in Rev 16:12-16. "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

Here we see the drying up of the Euphrates and the kings of the East crossing it to a place called Armageddon. Armageddon is the Greek spelling

of Har Megiddo in Hebrew, which is Hill of Slaughter. It is an ancient battlefield which modern armies must pass south of Haifa to reach Jerusalem in the final battle. Christ will descend on the Mt of Olives to save His chosen people and bring peace to this war torn earth for 1,000 years.

All these events can happen within our lifetime, considering there were only 21 years of phony peace between WWI and WWII. From WWII to now, we have never had it so good - 56 years. Another world war is overdue. The world can only become more and more wicked, so WWII is nearer than we think.

Being orientated to His Coming in our lifetime, let us heed the Word of God for our salvation. Let us hear the word of Jeremiah to Baruch his secretary on the very eve of the war that would destroy Jerusalem by the Babylonians. "And seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not: for, behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the LORD: but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest" (Jer 45:5).

When the Pacific War broke out and soon the Japanese took Singapore, all the great and mighty schemes of the rich, the high professions of the educated, were shattered. The British subjects who were privileged to be evacuated were overtaken by Japanese bombers and many were lost at sea. For Christians, our salvation is to turn to the Lord and serve him more faithfully, like Jeremiah.

Our Lord told his disciples all the signs leading to His Second Coming. He concluded that when the last days get worse and worse then He would see the acceleration of the preaching of the Gospel, "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). How about you, young men and young women, giving your life to serve the Lord full-time? A young lady and graduand of FEBC told me she would give her life to serve the Lord in the light of the disaster over New York and the Pentagon. This is in tune with the accelerated missions our Lord has commanded. How about retirees with all your experience and knowledge to join the ranks too? With adequate training God can use you mightily!

Let every member of Life Church be orientated to His Coming in our lifetime. For this world will soon perish, but we have the blessed hope in the rapture of the saints and we will be saved forever.

Mission Trip to Cambodia

29 Sep to 3 Oct 2001

By Elder Ng Poh Kok, Sharon BPC

29th Sep: As the plane came closer towards Pochentong airport, we noticed that some areas were still flooded. The rainy season is from May to Oct, but on our arrival, it was bright, sunny and warm. On hand to help us were Rev. & Mrs David Koo, Rev. & Mrs Moses Hahn, Rev. Jonathan Lee, Surish and some Bible School students. In no time we were heading towards Hope BPC newly built, with bright brown bricks standing four storeys high. After off-loading some of the things for Rev. Jonathan Lee, we headed for Kompong Som, where the other two pastors had their work.

Estimated travel to Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) - four hours. We had a lunch break midway, eating under a wooden shed and the food was delicious. Finally, we arrived at Smach Deng BPC (an outreach of Rev Moses Hahn's work). In no time this wooden church in this village was filled with almost a hundred young children. Rev Tow took the opportunity to teach them a chorus "Jesus never fails." After a short drive, we arrived at Cambodia Life BPC, where sixty students from the Bible School waited to welcome us. There was clapping and smiles all around as we shared their joy. Later, we were brought to see the "hillside site" (four hectares) which was purchased at US\$35,000. A large area has been cleared and levelled. Rev David Koo has plans to build a two-storey building. Each level will have ten classrooms with the church sanctuary at the centre and estimated cost - about US\$100,000. We checked into Seaside Hotel for the day.

30th Sep: Morning Worship at Kompong Som BPC. Rev Tow's message was entitled "The beginning of the End," for the world is not getting any better. This rented three storey building is situated along busy Ekareach Avenue. The ground level serves as a kindergarten with thirty-two students, second floor as the parsonage on the left and the Bible School on the right. The sanctuary and the student dormitory occupied the third. The English Service has an attendance of about 50 to 70, while the Chinese Service, held in the afternoon has 14. A Youth Service has about 50 to 60 youth and the Bible School, thirty students.

Just before lunch, we were invited to visit their "mountain site." This property, purchased at a cost of US\$25,000 is five hectares. A church building and a caretaker's quarters cum utility room are already completed. Rev Tow was invited to plant two bougainvilleas to commemorate our visit. A badminton court complements this area while the hostel (a two-

storey building) is scheduled to be ready by December 2001. Some team members climbed up the hill to have a panoramic view of the surrounding areas and the sea.

Cambodia Life BP School held its first graduation service in the afternoon at three o'clock. Twenty-one students were graduating, four with certificates and the rest, diplomas. Rev Tan Eng Boo exhorted the graduates to "do their best" while Rev Tow awarded the certificates and diplomas to the graduates. In his message to the students, he challenged them to take up the cross of Jesus and follow Him. Most of the graduates are serving the Lord in their many outreaches like Pailin and Kompong Cham. Kompong Cham alone has an enrolment of 125 kindergarten children.

1st & 2nd Oct: Checked out and left for Phnom Penh. On the way out, we visited the two schools, which were in session. At each location, students came out to bid us farewell. On arrival in Phnom Penh, we checked into Pacific Hotel, situated right in the heart of town. We visited the Orusey Market and did some shopping.

The next day we arrived early at Hope BPC for the dedication service. The interior as well as the exterior was all done up. The Lord has indeed answered all our prayers concerning the completion of this building. With classes for children and six toilets at ground level, it will indeed be a great help to the needy villagers. The sanctuary is at the second level and the third, a dormitory and parsonage. The fourth level is a covered open area and can be used for fellowship meetings.

The choir sang well, in Khmer, English, Mandarin and in Korean, all from the heart and from memory. Three choir members testified of the Lord's goodness and how they came to know Him through Rev Jonathan Lee. Rev Tow shared on how the Lord led him into the ministry and how it has been a blessing to serve God. The Korean delegation was also there.

After the service we went out for fellowship lunch with Rev. Jonathan Lee and also visited the "Genocide Museum" (former Khmer Rouge S-21 Prison). We could only view Rev Jonathan Lee's outreach work at the cathedral from across the Mekong River, because the roads leading there were flooded.

3rd Oct: Checked out of Pacific Hotel and were at the airport by nine-thirty. The security check was tight but all went well. We also met up with Chamnap, a member of Kompong Som BPC who won an Asean scholarship to study in S'pore for two years (secondary three and four). He is sixteen years old and hopes to attend a B-P Church while here. It was a pleasant trip home. We thank God for journeying mercies, good health and fellowship throughout the mission trip.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 22 - 28, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism lecture (Rev Tow)	\$19,120.00 (8.00 am); \$20,651.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg / Elders Meeting	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$100; Cambodia Orph \$375; Pailin Orph \$60; Surish \$100; Myanmar Orph \$60, \$100; Life Church Choir \$250, \$240; VBS 2001 \$50; Rev Seet \$150; Rev Wong \$150, \$50, \$130; Tan Kian Sing \$90; Chan Pui Meng \$450(LF); Maasai Medical Ministry \$220, \$60, \$150; Allen Organ \$200; Kenya Sewage System (Septic tanks) \$1000; Bibles-Fabrica Ev. Church, P'pines \$200, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$1000, \$400(MF); FEBC \$200.		
THU	8.00 am	FEK Concert Full Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$3000(Session member)		
	7.30 pm	Hebrews (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$250, \$50, \$1200, \$400, \$200(Kebaktian Indonesian), \$3000, \$1000, \$200, \$1000, \$200, \$230, \$120, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$400, \$3000, \$150(Session member), \$5000(Session member), \$200, \$5000(FEBC), \$2500, \$5000, \$3000(FEBC Bookroom), \$1500(JSM), \$100, \$150, \$300(LF), \$74(Boxes), \$4900(Session member), US\$100(Paauwes).		
SAT	3.00 pm	Rev Tow at YAF	Grand Total: \$2,828,624.73+US\$100.		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF	STOP PRESS! \$300(Tape Library), \$200(Tract Ministry), \$1000(Filipino F'ship).		
	4.00 pm	FEK Concert, Sanctuary	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SUN	8.00 am	I See What He Means (Rev Colin Wong)	(1) Thank God that in spite of the recession my husband still has a job and my son is well taken care of in the army. (\$5000 for New Beulah House)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Today is the official presentation of our 51st Anniversary Thanksgiving to the Lord. Praise the Lord, the people have brought beforehand, during last week \$40,000 as a demonstration of confidence—we are building New Beulah House on schedule! Let not any individual and corporate body neglect to bring an offering to Him. God looks into the heart!		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Roger Lim, Friday 26 Oct, 8 pm. Address: 116 Clementi St 13 #12-102, Tel: 8738286. Speaker: Elder Ong Eng Lam.		
	10.15 am	Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan)	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Chinese Service Anniversary, 9.30 am; Rev Seet at Thai Service, 3.00 pm.		
	10.30 am	Rev Quek Suan Yew			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson, Fri Queenstown.					
Prayer Mtg: 105					
Sunday School Offering: \$586.08; Attendance: 396					
Verse for the Week: <i>One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.</i> Psalm 145:4-5.					

Blessed 51st Anniversary Life B-P Church!

My Own Churchyard By Sylvea

Dear Lord, when things get hectic,
And living seems so hard,
I just get out of the house
And sit in Life Churchyard.

This old world we inhabit,
So much the worse for wear.
And beauty fades so quickly
And hearts forget to care.

For it is quiet and peaceful
Beneath the pines and palms,
Where sunlight peeps thru branches
While the bumble bee hums.

But somehow I've discovered.
Within my own Churchyard
A quiet, peaceful sanctuary
Where I can meet with God.



Life

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Vol. X No. 26

21 October 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn
Invocation-Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading
Hymn
Announcements
Youth Choir
Life/Youth Choir
Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith
& Transfer of Membership
FEBC Singers-Cambodian/African
Children's Choir
Scripture Text
Sermon
Thankoffering
Offertory Prayer & Benediction

Rev Tow
We Praise Thee...

Psalm 122
We're Marching to Zion

O Happy Day!

Matt 25:1-13
Have You Made Yourself
Ready for the Space Flight?
Now Thank We All our
God

THE TIME IS NOT COME THAT THE LORD'S HOUSE SHOULD BE BUILT

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Chinese
Service, 10.30 am, Oct 14, 2001)

Text: Haggai 1:2-8

This passage of Scripture refers to the Jews returned to Jerusalem after 70 years' exile to Babylon. They had a mandate from Cyrus, King of Persia to rebuild Solomon's Temple which was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian king.

After they had set up the altar and laid the foundations of the Second Temple, they were stopped by their enemies who dwelt in the land by a false accusation to the higher authorities. As a result the temple was left unbuilt for 15 years. When Darius a new king arose and discovered the original mandate given by Cyrus to the Jews to rebuild the Temple, the tables were turned on their enemies. Haggai and a younger prophet called Zechariah exhorted the Jews to resume building.

But the Jews left to themselves were slow to respond. They were become so complacent for 15 years that they said it was not time to rebuild. But

these were the rich and selfish ones who had built luxurious homes for themselves, while God's House lay waste.

I knew of a rich Christian, who built a house glittering with gold and precious stones but a miser in his church. From my experience in church building the bulk of offerings come from those who love the Lord and not money. These are the gold, silver and precious stones. Gifts to God's House with a view to promoting oneself are wood, hay and stubble (1 Cor 3).

Next year when our New Beulah House is scheduled to be built, comes the great Downturn that rivals the Slump of 1929. Cries are everywhere and sighs also in the Church. So it is heard, "The time is not come that the Lord's House should be built." These words come not from the mouth of the poor, but from the rich.

Rich or poor, let me ask how many of our Church members have lost their jobs? Insofar as our Church's and FEBC's salaried staff are concerned they have not suffered a pay cut but rather a handsome pay rise all round. This is God's blessing evidently, because ever since May 2000 when the Church decided to rebuild Beulah House, they gave the sacred tenth to the Lord. Not only they but every missionary and FEBC scholarship student, and they all continue to give every month.

"The king's business requires haste." If we do not start building before end of 2002, we may be bogged down for years to come. Though the Downturn is upon us, we have never had it so good. We in Singapore have been blessed with a good Government that even now looks after the citizens adequately. We are also blessed with a good ecology – no earthquake, no flood, no typhoon, no pestilence, no rioting and arson, and no religious persecution. We have saved much money and sustained no losses. What is your savings account? Most fortunate, we have no war.

The Lord's will is to build without delay. The prophet Haggai speaks to Lifers also today, "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" (Hag 1:8). Is God pleased with you?

To those who give God the worship, Malachi says, "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, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (3:10). Conversely, Haggai observes, "and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes" (Hag 1:6).

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies" (Ps 103:2-4). Who says, "The time has not yet come to build?"

TESTIMONY BY SANPIA CHAN

First of all I want to thank God that He has allowed me to come up here to give my testimony. When I was a small girl, only 10 years old, I saw Rev Lee come to my village. He called me and I came to him. Everyday after that he tried to teach me Korean songs but I didn't know Korean at all. As I was a small girl I came to his house everyday to take some candy and cake to eat. Six months after, he tried to teach me English and English Bible verses but I didn't know what the Bible was and who Jesus Christ is. After two years I began to understand English, and I knew the Bible verses clearer and clearer everyday. But I didn't believe Jesus Christ yet, because at that time I was a naughty girl and I had done a lot of bad things, especially playing cards.

After three years Pastor Tow came to Cambodia to baptise us. At that time I was so worried because I didn't know about baptism. I couldn't sleep well and I started to think whether I needed to go to his house tomorrow. Suddenly my heart decided to go to his house.

Pastor Tow started to baptise. He put his hand on my head and sprinkled the water and said, "In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost." Suddenly, I believed on Jesus Christ as my Saviour and Lord and I told this thing to my parents. But they didn't listen to me. Only my brothers and my aunty came to church. Today she is in the Women's Fellowship and a Bible teacher. I'm very happy. Please pray for my family to become Christians too. Thank God and thank Pastor Tow

that sent Rev Lee here to teach us Jesus Christ and thank Pastor Lee too that he came and taught us. And thanks to Life Church members too that support us a lot of things. Thank you.

Finally thank God and thank everybody here.

REWARD TO THE GOOD AND RETRIBUTION TO THE BAD

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church Prayer Meeting, Tuesday, Oct 9, 2001)

Text: Eccles 8:9-17

Solomon applies his heart to study what others strive to do under the sun. He observes there is one who rules over another to his own hurt. In Chinese he is the *towkay* and his subordinate the coolie, but the latter serves the former often with a rebellious heart. The answer from my observation is, "It all depends." Confucius says those who govern must be living examples and those who rule must rule by virtue. This principle can be seen in the table of reigning kings of Judah and Israel. David, the king of kings, reigned 40 years but the wicked kings reigned at most two years, some 6 months and one only 7 days.

He observed that the wicked prospered and flourished in the abuse of their power, but death overtook them, and being buried, they were forgotten. They lived a life of vanity. He further observed that prosperity hardened their hearts to continue in their wickedness. But the end result of the wicked, though he escapes punishment a hundred times, is righteous retribution. Conversely, those who fear God and do good will be rewarded. As the Chinese saying goes, blessings come to those who work righteousness, but cursing to those who work wickedness. "But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God" (v.13).

Only faith in God can establish the heart in this world of paradoxes where the righteous often suffer and the wicked prosper. This observation led Solomon to recommend the moderate use of earthly things, with cheerfulness and contentment. "Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun" (Eccles 8:15). In the next chapter Solomon elaborates, "Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now

INFANT BAPTISM

01. Chiang Kei Wai, Laura
d/o Mr & Mrs Chiang Kwong Pui
02. Choy Jiele, Jared
s/o Mr & Mrs Choy Chee Yean
03. Hoon En Qi, Dorcas
d/o Mr & Mrs Amos Hoon In Cheong
04. Kwok Bei Yi, Marabel
d/o Mr & Mrs Mariner Kwok Kai Thong
05. Lim En-Song, Prudence
d/o Mr & Mrs Roger Lim Tow Hong
06. Lim Jia Yi, Nicole
d/o Mr & Mrs Michael Lim Khoon Guan
07. Ng Cheng Yee, Trina
d/o Mr & Mrs Ng Choon Seng
08. Quek Yi Xin, Samuel
s/o Mr & Mrs Quek Keng Khwang
09. Tan Zhi-An, Asher
s/o Mr & Mrs Tan Chok Hui
10. Tan Zhi En, Isaac
s/o Mr & Mrs Tan Chok Hui
11. Tan Zhi Qun, John
s/o Mr & Mrs Tan Chok Hui
12. Yeo Su Em, Abigail
d/o Mr & Mrs Raymond Yeo Kuan Hoong

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 01. Ho Ting Luan, Esther | Student |
| 02. Loe Weiqiang, Timothy | Student |
| 03. Tan Eng Keng, Jason | Student |
| 04. Tay Wei Ming, Ian | Student |
| 05. Teo Hwee Jia, Rachel | Student |
| 06. Yiew Jinmian, Luther | Student |

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 07. Ching Ser Loong, John | Project Director |
| 08. Sim Wen Ling, Crystal Ivy | Managing Director |
| 09. Ching Ru Yi, Jemima | Student |
| 10. Ching Chung Li, Joshua | Student |
| 11. Lim JinLi | Student |
| 12. Lim Joo Poh, June | Asst Manager |
| 13. Lim Kok Chuan | Director |
| 14. Lim Kok Kuan | Student |
| 15. Lim Min Li | Student |
| 16. Ng Weng Leong, Victor | Doctor |
| 17. Tan Chiew Ngoh, Rosalind | Homemaker |
| 18. Tan Heng Khoon | Engineer |
| 19. Tan Lay Eng | Homemaker |
| 20. Tan Lee Tiang, Catherine | Cust. Services Mgr |
| 21. Tay Lengtai, Rachael | Architect |
| 22. Yap Beng Mui, Eris | Homemaker |
| 23. Yeo Hai Hua, James | Credit Supervisor |
| 24. Wong Jeming-Mira | Homemaker |

BAPTISM

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 25. Chew Yuet Tze, Eunice | Student |
| 26. Go Keng Hwee, Richmond | Student |
| 27. Go Sze Hiang, Katherine | Pet Groomer |
| 28. Goh Guang Yang, Herbert | NSF |
| 29. Goh Wei Hsu, Rachael | Student |
| 30. Jung Wei, Jonathan | Student |
| 31. Khoo Kay Chin, Jonathon | Student |
| 32. Koh Hwee Ling, Joyce | Instructional Designer |
| 33. Liew Z Nye, Catherine | Auditor |
| 34. Tan Lip Khoon | Insurance Advisor |

FILIPINA FELLOWSHIP (BAPTISM)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Conrado Suarez Limon | Healthcare Attendant |
| 2. Gamurut Liberty (Grace) Abon | Domestic Helper |
| 3. Sheryl Quiman Mariano | Domestic Helper |
| 4. Vilma Alamar Aguilar | Domestic Helper |

accepteth thy works. Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment. Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun" (Eccles 9:7-9). This is the blessing of earth which God bestows on those who fear Him.

In regard to wine mentioned in the above paragraph it is not the red wine or white wine today that has a high alcoholic content of 13 to 17 per cent. According to my teacher Dr R L Harris, the wine that the Jews drank, even in Jesus' time, had only 3 to 4 per cent of alcohol which preserved

the grape juice. Moreover, when they drank this wine they would add water to it, as the custom was. Drinking such wine will never lead to intoxication.

Solomon then commended security and serenity of mind arising from confidence in God and His providence, because a man has no better thing under the sun than to thankfully use the things God has given him.

Man has to submit humbly to God in the mysterious works of His providence. It is impossible for us to know everything about God. Trusting in Him we bow to His wisdom, justice and goodness. And to believe and obey here will prepare for the world hereafter, where we shall know Him even as also we are known.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Oct 29 - Nov 4, 2001)

MON	7.30 pm	No Theism lecture
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	8.00 pm	Mtg with Fellowship Groups, FEBC Hall
THU		FEBC Exam Begins
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF; 4.30 Choir F'ship
	3.00 pm	Rev Tow at Workshop on Neo-Evangelicalism
SUN	8.00 am	Faith That Moves Mountains (Rev Charles Seet)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	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
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 3.00 Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. **Prayer Mtg: 94**

Verse for the Week: *Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.* Psalm 25:21

Our deepest condolences to: (1) the family of the late **Tan Tiong Kee** on his demise on 23 Oct. (2) the family of the late **Hwang Teow Seng** on his homegoing on 25 Oct. Vigil service tonight at Block 140 Serangoon North Ave 2 at 8.00 pm by Rev Wong. The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at Choa Chu Kang lawn cemetery.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS: \$62,825.00

OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$50; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200, \$200; Rev Moses Hahn \$200, \$200; Surish \$200; Baraka BPC \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$500; Ho Heng Sau \$200; MsF \$200; Rev Wong \$50; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$600; Allen Organ \$1000; Bibles-Fabrica Ev. Church \$500; Cambodia Pr Chang \$100; Amos Go Za Sum \$500(Children's Choir).

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$5000, \$1000, \$200, \$500, \$450, \$1500, \$1000, \$1000, \$1000, \$300, \$10000(Session member), \$10000, \$400, \$1000, \$500, \$500, \$320, \$50, \$1000, \$50, \$180, \$300, \$300, \$100, \$330, \$40, \$1077.60, \$1083.60, \$1500, \$10000(Session member), \$1000(Sharon BPC Sunday Sch), \$10000, \$600(Thomson NBC), \$1400(Thomson NBC), **Chinese Service:** \$270, \$250, \$4450, \$500. **GRAND TOTAL: \$2,962,780.93.**

STOP PRESS! \$3090(FEBC Students), \$300, \$300(Washer/Dryer), \$200(Pepsi), \$3000, \$100(Berean BPC), \$3000(Sharonite).

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) I'm so thankful to God especially today for what He has done for us. He is the answer for everything and the Provider of our needs. May we continue to trust in the Lord in these difficult times. —A regular visitor

(2) Thank God for Life BPC and FEBC. I have benefited very much spiritually from its teachings and biblical separation stand. Enclosed a thanksgiving offering for \$1000 for Beulah House.

(3) I am so thankful to the good Lord for His blessings each day without my asking. To God be the glory. (\$500)

(4) A little thought to thank God. (\$20)

(5) Thank you God! (\$10)

Thank God for sufficient funds raised for the Allen Organ.

Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Calvary BPC(Pandan), 10.15am; Rev Wong at Olivet 8th Anniv. Service, 4.30 pm; Rev Seet at Indonesian Service, 4 pm and Sunset Gospel Hour, 6 pm.

Rev Colin Wong leading the prayer meeting of the newly established Bukit Beruang B-P Church, Malacca

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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 27

28 October 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"		
	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn John Hoe	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 105	No. 432
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 103	Jude 1-25
Hymn	No. 432	No. 435
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 27	No. 139
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 12:7	Ex 32:19-29
Sermon	I See What He Means (Rev Colin Wong)	Who Is On The Lord's Side? (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	No. 251	No. 406
Benediction		

"FOR THE PEOPLE HAD A MIND TO BUILD" (NEH 4:5)

Nehemiah was governor of the Jews who rebuilt the Wall of Jerusalem while Zerubbabel was builder of the Second Temple. As Zerubbabel had met with much opposition from the enemies of mixed races dwelling in Jerusalem, so Nehemiah faced a similar resistance. Under his leadership the people had a mind to build. "So the wall was finished ... in 52 days" (6:15). "And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God" (6:16).

How God led us to acquire Beulah House 11 years ago is another thrilling story of His grace. The people had a mind to give in 6½ months \$2 million and a loan \$3.1 million. As in Nehemiah's time, there were enemies who commented we were not able to buy Beulah House in such a short time, but when it was done, "they perceived that this work was wrought of our God."

In commemoration of the 51st Anniversary Thanksgiving of our Church it was urged on the Congregation to bring in \$100,000 for the rebuilding of Beulah House. To the glory of God you have brought beforehand \$40,000 and on the Anniversary Day \$110,000 and two days after another sum amounting to \$4,000. The grand total is over \$150,000. There are those who cared little to give,

Our Church Choir would like to extend an invitation to any Lifers who may like to join them in carolling at Christmas time this year. The objective of this carolling is: 1) Evangelistic - to share the good news with Lifers' unsaved family members, relatives & friends; 2) Edification - to promote fellowship with Lifers. Those who are carolling will set off by chartered coach from Life Church after the Christmas eve service at about 10.40pm and end at 2.30 am. The coach will bring everyone back to Life Church. Lifers who would like to open their homes to carollers should preferably email Mrs Wendy Lee at lhwen@yahoo.com.sg or call her at 254 8560 (leave a phone mail message if necessary) to give their full contact information. Those who would like to join the carollers should email their particulars to Mrs Tay Yee Fong at chewyee@hotmail.com, or call her at Tel: 96331546.

but they now perceive that this work was wrought of God.

Haggai the prophet who exhorted the Jews to rebuild Solomon's Temple told them plainly, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine." When the devout Jews realised all the money they had belonged to God, they gave gladly to return thanks to Him. They, like those under Moses, heard the Word, "But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deut 8:18). That we had such a hilarious response to the appeal is from the loving devotion of the people. Your hearty support is tantamount to saying, "We also, like the Jews in Nehemiah's time, have a mind to build." —T.T.



IN ALL AGES

PREFACE

There is a battle to be fought today. It is a battle for the Bible. The battle in the last century concerned the doctrine of Bible inspiration. In this new century, the battle concerns the doctrine of Bible preservation. The doctrine of inspiration is meaningless without the doctrine of preservation. The same God who inspired His Word has promised to preserve His Word. The Westminster Confession affirms the twin doctrines of Bible inspiration and Bible preservation: "The Old Testament in Hebrew (which was the native language of the people of God of old), and the New Testament in Greek (which, at the time of the writing of it, was most generally known to the nations), *being immediately inspired by God, and, by his singular care and providence, kept pure in all ages*, are therefore authenticall."

This book originated with lecture notes for an evening course on the "KJV-NIV Debate" that I taught at the Far Eastern Bible College in 1998. The course was in response to certain ministers who sought to displace the KJV in favour of the NIV in our Bible-Presbyterian churches. By the grace of God, Life Bible-Presbyterian Church—mother of all B-P churches in Singapore—has taken a strong unequivocal stand for the KJV against the many modern perversions of the Bible (see "A Doctrinal Positional Statement of Life B-P Church," in her golden anniversary magazine, *50 Years Building His Kingdom*).

I am indebted to the works on the same subject by Mr David Cloud, Dr E F Hills, Dr D A Waite, the Dean Burgon Society, and the

Trinitarian Bible Society. I have quoted much from these Bible-believing and Bible-defending scholars and institutions. I wish also to thank Mr Michael Maynard for his exhaustive research on the Johannine Comma (1 John 5:7), and Dr S H Tow, Rev Charles Seet, and Dr Dell Johnson for their respective charts and diagrams which in no small way enhance the pedagogic value of this book.

Last but not least, I am grateful to Rev Dr Timothy Tow—my teacher—for his indomitable spirit in earnestly contending for the faith (Jude 3). Without his faithful and careful guidance, I would have fallen into the trap of the broad way of many corrupted Bibles. I now walk in the narrow way of one Bible—the Traditional Hebrew and Greek Texts that underlie the Authorised Version—which God has inspired and preserved for His people. May the Spirit move you to walk in the same narrow way as well (Matt 7:13-14).
—Jeffrey Khoo

FOREWORD

This latest book by Dr Jeffrey Khoo is what the whole Church, particularly its leaders and Bible College teachers and students should read.

It is an alarm bell to awaken the majority of uninformed believers to Satan's wiles during the last century to undermine the King James Bible by the spawning of a hundred new versions, the chief of which is the NIV. All these new "perversions" and the NIV are based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort.

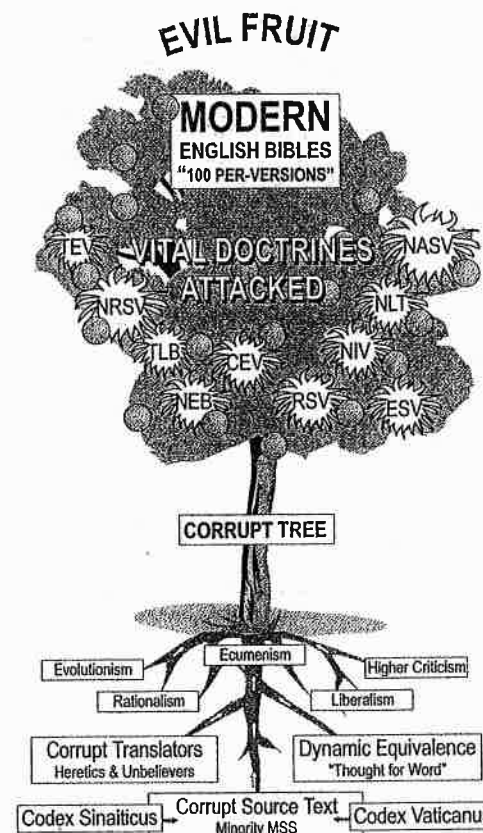
These two Greek scholars, however, are now discovered to be enemies of Christ. They



B F Westcott
(1825–1901)



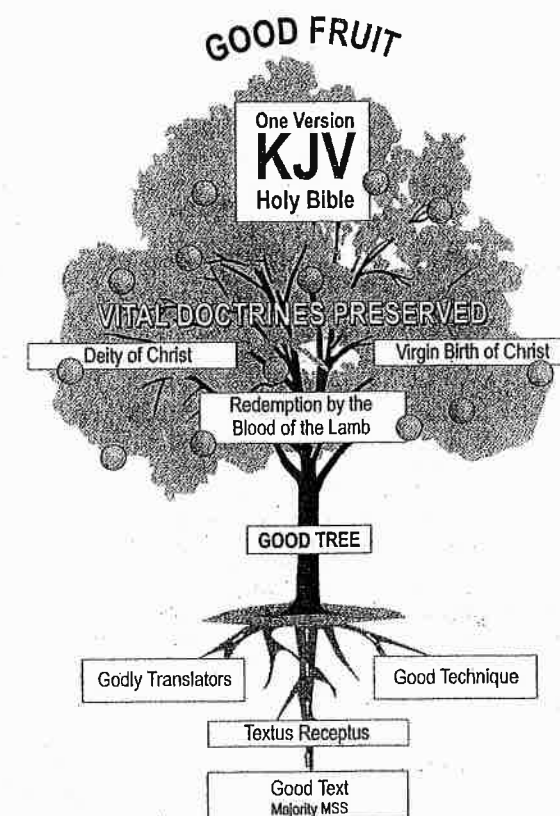
F J A Hort
(1828–1892)



"... a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit."

denied every fundamental of the Faith, including the infallible and inerrant Word, the Virgin Birth of Christ, His Blood Atonement and Resurrection. They called the Genesis account of the Creation and Fall a myth. They were close friends of Darwin and Freud whom *The Straits Times* called a Fraud. They were secret worshippers of Mary. They started the Hermes Club in Cambridge which was known as a homosexual den. From here they branched off into a Ghost Club which is condemned in Deut 18.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully" (Ps 24:3, 4). With unclean hands



"... every good tree bringeth forth good fruit."

and impure hearts, how could Westcott and Hort touch Sacred Scripture?

Westcott and Hort has scissored out of the Bible 9900 words by alteration, by deletion, by substitution. This is equivalent to tearing off eight chapters of the Bible. And the NIV has also taken out the passage of the woman taken in adultery (John 7:53-8:11), the last 12 verses of Mark, and the verse on the Holy Trinity (1 John 5:7) from the Bible, though cunningly putting them back in truncated form to beguile the faithful to buy their product.

May God use this book to lead those who are using the NIV to abandon it. May the KJB which is founded on the Preserved Received Text bless you as it has blessed multi-millions during the last 400 years.
—Timothy Tow

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 5 - 11, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Theism Exam	\$4,468.00 (8.00 am); \$22,285.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia Food Fund \$1090; Cambodia Orph \$600; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200; Surish \$100; Missions \$50, \$250; Myanmar Missions \$180; FEEST Bldg Fund \$115; Myanmar Orph \$50, \$150; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$700; BASC \$200; Rev Wong \$50; Cambodia Missionaries \$910, \$400, \$400; Maasai Medical Ministry \$300, \$1000; Medan Motorbike \$100, \$115; P'pines Fabrica Ev. Church \$200; Jennifer Lee (Medicine) \$100; BASC Needy Children \$700.		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$1000, \$100, \$300, \$1000, \$200, \$4000, \$1000, \$500, \$1000, \$500, \$1000, \$1000, \$200, \$100, \$200, \$1000, \$300, \$1000, \$100, \$250, \$3000, \$910, \$50, \$600.		
THU	7.30 pm	Hebrews Exam	GRAND TOTAL: \$2,992,280.93. STOP PRESS! \$200 (FEBC Graduate), \$100 (FEBC student), Sale of Rev Tow's book \$100, \$500 (Tg. Pinang guest).		
FRI	5.45 pm	FEBC End of Semester Thanksgiving Service & Dinner	Emergency Session Meeting after the 10:30 am service in the church office today.		
	9.40 pm	Rev & Mrs Tow to Perth, QF 74	All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised on Anniversary Sunday are cordially invited to a Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch next Lord's Day at 12.00 pm at Beulah House. Fellowship groups are requested to send 2 representatives. Please reply to the office.		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	Newton NBC will be launched for the area near to Life Church on Wed, 7 Nov . When: Every 1st Wed. of the month, 8:00 p.m. Where: Home of Mrs Shirley Chew, 311 Bukit Timah Road, #07-02 Rich Mansion (Just after the Balmoral traffic light, on the left). Who Leads this NBC: Mr Mark Chen, who will be starting with the book of Philemon. How to get there: MRT: Newton; Buses: 66, 67, 170, 171, 960.		
	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong in Batam; Rev Seet at Hope Baptist Church, 10.30 am and Emmanuel BPC, 2.30 pm.		
SAT	2.30 pm	Sharon BPC Wedding			
	3.00 pm	LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF; 5.00 YF			
SUN	8.00 am	Lover of Strangers (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)			
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Colin Wong			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Catechumens Fellowship Lunch			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Newton. Prayer Mtg: 107					
Sunday School Offering: \$557.90; Attendance: 368					
Verse for the Week: <i>For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.</i> 2 Cor 5:21					



Andrew Kam going to Nawng Bo Village.
Evangelism by River Sampan.



Life

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Vol. X No. 28

4 November 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder George Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 93	<i>Oh Could I Sing</i>
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Heb 11:1-31	Psalms 8
Hymn	No. 47	No. 47
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 111	<i>A Bruised Reed</i>
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 12:7-9	Matt 12:9-21
Sermon	<i>Faith that Moves Mountains</i> (Rev Charles Seet)	<i>The Hard-Headed Pharisee versus the Soft-Hearted Saviour</i>
Closing Hymn	No. 441	No. 266
Benediction		<i>Lord's Supper</i>

ACCELERATED MISSIONS AWAITING HIS IMMINENT RETURN

"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)

My dear Lifers,

Here our Lord tells us that before His Return (v.3), while tumultuous events such as earthquakes and pestilences, famines and wars and false prophets will increase, so must the Gospel be accelerated to all nations "for a witness" in all the world. In spite of the strenuous needs of building Beulah House, there shall be no let up in the pursuit of our mission enterprises, till He comes. Here is a total report on Life Church Missions, especially on who are our missionaries and where they are sent.

1. Malaysia

Kim Kah Teck, Malacca

Sim Peng Sin, Tangkak and Malacca

Bong Bun Chong, Kuching (E. Malaysia)

(supported by Chinese Service)



Andrew Kam on extreme right.
Evangelism by Bicycle

2. Indonesia

Roska, Batam and Medan

Yusniar, Jakarta

Tanjung Uban, Bintan Island
(Chinese Service)

3. Thailand

Nirand and Jess, Chiang Mai

4. Philippines & beyond

House of Hope (Drug Rehabilitation for Women)
(part support)

Book Ministry to poor pastors

5. Burma

Thawm Luai, Yangon, Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology
(Printing of Chin KJV Bible)

Andrew Kam, Yangon. Orphanage and Evangelisation of 3 Burmese villages.

Amos Go, Primary Education of Children in Chin State.

6. Vietnam

Tran Thanh Minh -- 5-year scholarship graduand soon returning to Vietnam. He will start a Bible School in his own church.

7. **Cambodia**
Jonathan Lee, Phnom Penh
Moses Hahn, Kompong Som (Chinese Service)
David Koo, Kompong Som
Surish, Kompong Som
8. **Singapore**
The Helping Hand (part support)
Ng Sang Chiew, Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens, retired missionary
9. **Mersing**
Mr & Mrs Raymond Tan, Resort Lautan Biru, Church Camps
10. **Saipan**
Ho Heng Sau, Chinese Garment Workers
11. **Kenya**
Chan Pui Meng, Nurse to Maasai Land
12. **Australia**
Errol Stone, Perth (part support)
13. **Holy Land**
George Awad, Baraka B-P Church
(part support). New Chapel now building at Shepherd's Field. —T.T.

WHO IS THE WOMAN OF REVELATION 12?

(Message delivered by the Pastor at the 10.15 am Service, Calvary Bible-Presbyterian Church (Pandan), Oct 28, 01)

In the O.T. the chosen people of God are called the Wife of Jehovah (Isa 54:5). In the N.T. the Church is called the Bride of Christ (II Cor 11:2). Who is the Woman of Revelation 12?

Roman Catholics interpret the Woman of Revelation 12 to be the Virgin Mary. Protestants interpret it to be the Church or Israel.

We believe this woman, a "great wonder in heaven" to be Israel. We believe so from the following characteristics: (1) She is Israel, first of all, from her being identified with Joseph's dream of the sun and moon and eleven stars making obeisance to him (v.1). This refers to Jacob's family. (2) The Child that was born of her which the Red Dragon tried to devour, who is caught up to God, and who was to rule all nations, is none other than our Lord Jesus Christ (vv.3-5). (3) Satan, being cast to earth then persecuted the Woman but to her was given a pair of eagle's wings to fly into the wilderness where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, i.e. 3½ years (v.14). This refers

to war breaking out between Israel and the Arabs (Dan 9:27). The Arabs plus all the fighting forces of the East would want to swallow Israel, but God will save her across the River Jordan in the lands occupied by Ammon, Moab and Edom. This is the Kingdom of Jordan (Dan 11:41). (4) The two wings of an eagle might refer to the flying in of Jewish Returnees from all over the world, so that today over 5 million have come back to Israel. The Second Coming of Christ is at the door!

There are 4 general signs pointing to the Second Coming of Christ. In Matthew 24 we have (1) the mounting increase of earthquakes. The biggest one for a long time was the one that struck Gujarat, West India, this year at which 50,000 perished. (2) The second is pestilence. As to pestilence around Easter this year, half-a-million cows and as many sheep were destroyed in England for mad cow disease and foot and mouth disease. But the worst pestilence, which has taken a toll of 25 million through AIDS, is in Sub-Sahara Africa and 6 million in South and S.E. Asia. Add to this is the bombing of the Twin Towers of World Trade Centre and now the spreading of anthrax in the United States. (3) Famines. The Downturn in Singapore that takes away 25,000 jobs with grimmer prospect from the Downturn in America is an ugly omen of worldwide famine. (4) The rise of false Christs and prophets, mentioned three times in Matthew 24, is attested by the many Charismatic Big Names like Benny Hinn and Rodney Howard Brown that I have no need to elaborate.

But the sign of signs leading to Christ's Return is the struggle between those who attack Jerusalem and the Jews. This is clearly revealed in Zechariah 12:2-4, "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 . . . In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem" (vv.8,9).

From this prophecy we can conclude President Bush cannot bring the contending parties to peace. The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has gone on the last 20 years and will go on for many years to come. But peace of three and a half years will be achieved by the End-time World Dictator, and only for 3½ years. This World Dictator is known as the Antichrist, a personage of great charisma. At the end of these 3½ years of peace, WWII will break out. "And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them" (Rev 9:13-16). It will break out from the Euphrates which is in Iraq. Armies of the East will join up with the Arab nations and meet at Armageddon. Armageddon is a plain south of Haifa, an ancient battlefield which the invading armies must pass through (Rom 16:16).

Only some 70 miles north of Jerusalem, the Battle of Armageddon will end up in Jerusalem. It will be such a carnage that a river of blood 200 miles long will run from Armageddon in the north to Eilat on the Red Sea in the south (Rev 14).

Jesus must descend on the Mount of Olives, hill opposite Jerusalem, to save Israel which by this time will lose two thirds of her people (Zech 13:8). Those who are raptured at the blowing of the last (seventh) trumpet (Rev 10:7) will return in triumph to earth to reign with Christ for 1000 years of golden peace (Rev 5:10).

Times of terrible destruction may be upon us, in the next decade. "Seekest thou great things for thyself?" said Jeremiah to Baruch his secretary. "Seek them not. But I will save your life from the war that is coming." Reader, do you know if you are now saved in Jesus Christ? Do you know you will be raptured out of this burning earth at the outbreak of WWII? The Woman of Revelation 12 is Israel now fast fulfilling the end-time prophecies pronounced upon her. The Israel-Palestinian conflict is the key to coming world events.

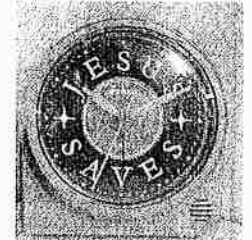
Why should you patronise FEBC your own Bookroom? Earnings are ploughed back to the Building of New Beulah House!

Give Christ-honouring gifts this Christmas!

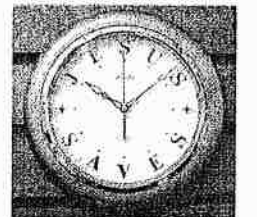
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JESUS SAVES Clocks

Jesus Christ the Same
Yesterday, and Today, and For ever.

Scripture Verse Art
Calendar, \$2.50

Children's Bible Camp (Mrs Ivy Tow)
Dec 2-6, 01
Theme: "Steps to Everlasting Life"
Register now with Church Office.
Hurry!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 12 - 18, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$16,650.00 (8.00 am); \$24,036.69 (10.30 am)		
TUE-WED		YF Prayer Mtg & Overnight Retreat	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>JS Heng</i> \$50, \$100; <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$250; <i>Rev Moses Hahn</i> \$450; <i>Sunish</i> \$100; <i>Indonesia Mission</i> \$350; <i>Missions</i> \$200; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$500; <i>FEBC Scholarship Fund</i> \$200; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$50; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$50, \$50; <i>FEBC Students</i> \$40 each; Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Sun Sokha, Ty Sereh Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; <i>Kompong Som</i> \$350; <i>Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$200, \$200.		
WED	9.00 am	EBF Prayer Retreat, G&H Classroom	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$56, \$150, \$800, \$100, \$200, \$100, \$3000, \$200, \$300(Session member), \$100, \$350, \$250, \$500, \$500, \$1050.31(PA Crew), \$550, \$500, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$200, \$100, \$800, \$520, \$3000(Session member). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,007,207.24. STOP PRESS! \$30,000(Chinese Service), \$500.		
THU	8.00 pm	FEK Board Meeting, FEBC Library	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF	(1) My thanksgiving for all the blessings that were showered on me and my family all these years. \$500 for New Beulah House. —A Lifer for 26 years		
SUN	8.00 am	Identifying Truth from Error (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	(2) I want to thank and praise the Lord for His bountiful mercies and for blessing my family. Please channel this gift offering to the building fund of the New Beulah House.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(3) Thank God for safety in air travel and business trips abroad. —From a grateful wife and mother		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(4) A sparrow that has found her resting place in Beulah House the last 7 years, this young lady is returning to China because of the Downturn. Yet she lovingly returns her tithe of \$500 unto the Lord. When her parents and brother came to visit her a year ago they were saved and baptised in Singapore. Hallelujah.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tan Choon Seng	All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised on Anniversary Sunday are cordially invited to the Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch today at 12.00 pm at Beulah House.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism; 1.00 pm AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 93					
Sunday School Offering: \$792.15; Attendance: 345					
Verse for the Week: <i>Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.</i> Romans 6:6-7					
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow in Perth. Rev Seet at Galilee BPC, 8.00 am; Chinese Service, 10.30 am and Berean BPC, 4.00 pm.					

Moses Hahn baptising at new BP Church, Pailin (Pol Pot's Stronghold)



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(Ring Pastor 2502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 29

11 November 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 4	No. 221
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 103	Job 5:6-27
Hymn	No. 117	No. 91
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 553	No. 311
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 12:13	Psalms 94:12-13
Sermon	Lover of Strangers (Rev Colin Wong)	"Blessed is the Man Whom thou Chastenest" (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 187	O Rejoice in the Lord
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

THE HARD-HEADED PHARISEE VS THE SOFT-HEARTED SAVIOUR

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church
10.30 am Service, Nov 4, 2001)

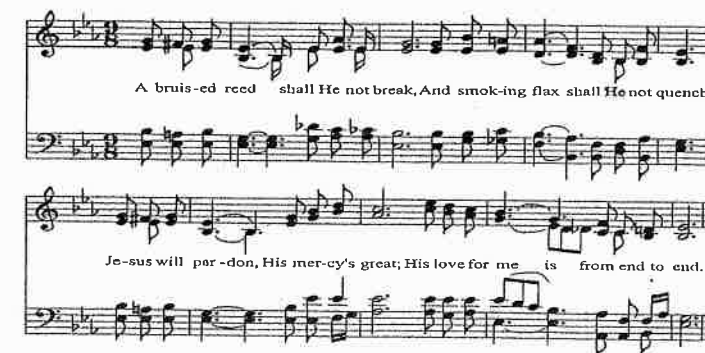
Text: Matt 12:9-21

In the Sermon on the Mount our Lord corrected several misinterpretations by the Pharisees on the Law of Moses. For

A Bruised Reed

John E. Su
Trans by T. Tow

John E. Su



example, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment" (Matt 5:21). Being angry without a cause against his brother can also lead to killing. This is tantamount to murder. So, the VI Commandment includes anger without a cause.

On the VII Commandment, the Pharisees think to commit adultery is guilty only in the act, and not otherwise. Jesus points out that the act includes the glance of the eye to lust after the woman. The man is guilty of adultery of the heart. Jesus points out God's laws are not to be taken literally but also spiritually.

In the matter of the Sabbath law the Pharisees make it much too severe according to what Moses had done in stoning a man who went out gathering sticks upon the Sabbath day. The Pharisees follow Moses literally but not spiritually. According to Numbers 15:30-31 in context this Sabbath breaker had broken a higher law in that he "despised the Word of God." To sin presumptuously, like the Pharisees themselves, is to commit the unpardonable sin. Therefore the culprit must be put to death.

The Pharisees go to the very extreme as to Sabbath keeping lest they should break God's law they think, so Jesus has to correct them. In the preceding passage to our text, Jesus allowed His disciples to pluck ears of corn when they were out on the field to eat on the Sabbath day which the Pharisees severely

forbade. In this passage we come to another test case. Here is a man with a paralysed hand. Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day? Jesus says yes! "What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days." To prove that His Word was Law (above the Pharisees') Jesus commanded the man, "Stretch forth thine hand," and he stretched it forth: and it was restored whole, like as the other.

The Pharisees lost face. Instead of admitting their error and repenting from their evil administration of the law, they went out and held a council against him, how they might destroy him. Mechanical interpreters, most miserable were they, but the Saviour interprets with a heart, mercifully.

In Matthew 22 there comes a lawyer, having read the laws numbering 613, to test Jesus. A puny man who tries to trap God! He thought Jesus would be caught by his question, "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Jesus then added another law which is totally new to the lawyer, "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

The Sabbath law and together with it the X Commandments, the statutes and judgments and the expositions thereof by the prophets must be administered with love. As the saying in the law courts of Great Britain goes, "Justice must be tempered with mercy." By way of comparison the Telebans in Afghanistan would cut off a thief's hand if he steals a goat. The Law of Moses makes the culprit pay fourfold and twofold if the goat is returned alive. What a difference between the two, as between hate and love. Jesus interprets the Sabbath, mercifully, with love to help out what in the eyes of the Pharisees to be a Sabbath breaker, short of stoning!

We have a young graduate of FEBC who teaches that on the Lord's Day Christians must not eat outside because this will cause the eating-shop to break the Sabbath Law. Can there be an exception? Suppose I am called to speak at Mersing on a Sunday evening. After preaching at Life Church

10.30 am I hasten to take a bus to Mersing. When I reach J.B. at 2.00 pm, can I take a fast lunch at the bus station to allay my hunger? Replies the pundit, "No." Period. But in Matt 12:1-8 Jesus allows His disciples to pluck ears of corn to eat in the open field. How's that?

Jesus loves sinners who readily turn to Him, but He gives no face to false teachers steeped with self-righteousness. He has no time arguing with them. So he withdrew, apparently the same Sabbath day from the synagogue to the Sea of Galilee and "healed them all." Without the hindrance of the Pharisees Jesus had free course in his compassionate work of healing the sick. "And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief" (Matt 13:58).

"Good wine needs no bush," so our Lord needs no advertisement. In fact He charged the people not to tell others, for His main work was to preach the Word of salvation and the saving of the soul. Healing was a compassionate work of mercy.

Thus it is quoted by Isaiah, "A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench." The reed used is a long ruler by the Jews. If this reed is crushed, He would restore it and not break it. A smoking flax shall He not quench. A smouldering wick of an oil lamp, because the oil is running out, He will not snuff out, rather replenish it with oil. He is so willing to pardon the sins of the repenting heart. So He healed them to whom He said, "Thy sins are forgiven thee." This He said to the paralytic brought by four friends through the opened rooftop. Thus he forgave Mary Magdalene who was possessed with seven devils. Come to Jesus whoever you are this morning at this Service. And sing with me this chorus on the front page.

LIFE IS A PARADOX UNDER THE SUN

*(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church
Prayer Meeting, Tuesday, Oct 30, 2001)*

Text: Eccles 9:1-10

Solomon searched in his heart the mysteries of the paradox of life under the sun. One thing he was sure of was that the righteous, the wise and their works were under the special care of God. But what perplexes him, as it perplexes Jeremiah, is, why do the wicked also prosper (Jer 24:1)? And why, on the other hand do the righteous suffer? This is the paradox.

This is so because the world in which we live is under the power of sin. Fortunately, no event can come to pass except by the outworkings of God's providence. God is in control of everything, good or bad. God's ways are past finding out.

But there is one event in life that happens to every one without exception. Whether the righteous or the unrighteous, the clean or the unclean, those that sacrifice and those that sacrifice not, the good and the bad, he that forswears or he that fears an oath, yea, the hearts that are filled with evil and madness while they live – these all will have to die on day.

But God will certainly put a difference between the clean and unclean, the good and the bad in the next world, though He seems not to do so in this. The difference as to present happiness arises not from outward causes, but from the inward which the righteous enjoy, and through the lessons they learn from life's trials and difficulties.

The life of Joseph is a wonderful example. Sold to Egypt by his wicked brothers, he prospered in the house of Potiphar, for God was with him. When his fear of God kept him from sex with his master's wife, he was cast into prison by false accusation. But he found favour with the prison superintendent. When he interpreted, by the wisdom God gave him, the dreams of the baker and the butler, he was introduced by the butler to tell Pharaoh's dreams. He was promoted to Prime Minister.

Life is now no paradox when Romans 8:28 becomes the key to our lives. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." And things, both good and bad, work good to those who love God.

The righteous sacrifice worshipfully and the wicked sacrifice not. As far as the sons of men are left to themselves, their hearts are full of evil, and prosperity in sin cause them even to set God at defiance. They go on in their wickedness until they join those who perish before them in their sins. Though on this side of death the righteous and the wicked seem alike, there is a great difference on the other side. According to the parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man, one went up to paradise. The other went down to hell.

While life continues, there is hope. According

to verse 4 we may hope for the conversion of the sinner. In this view the worst sinner's state is better than the most noble who has died but is lost. This is what Solomon meant by a living dog is better than a dead lion. For the living, knowing they shall die, has still a chance to repent. The dead, who did not repent in this life, has no second chance. They are lost in oblivion.

Solomon, having expounded on the result of the deeds of the wicked leading to their lost condition proceeds to exhort the righteous to enjoy the blessings of earth God has bestowed on them. What he says, he says vividly, "Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works. Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment. Live joyfully with the wife (*not wives!*) whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity (*life is short*), which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun" (vv. 7-9). (The importance of keeping a happy marital relationship cannot be over-emphasized for many couples appear all right outside but not inside.)

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest" (v.10).

Just as it is observed we have only one chance in this life to believe in Jesus and repent from our sins, so we have one chance to labour for God to return our love to Him. A Christian is saved to serve. We cannot return to God with empty hands. This that is required of us is clearly taught in the parable of the pounds (Luke 19) and in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25).

In the parable of the talents, the Lord commits to his three servants, one five talents, the second two talents and the third one talent to trade. The first two servants each gained double or 100%. They were highly commended. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." The third servant buried his talent in the earth and did nothing and was heavily reprimanded. Is that how we return to God for saving us, with empty hands? Are your giving to build the New Beulah House the leftovers as in your tipping?

Life under the sun is no more a paradox when we see God ruling and overruling in His works of providence, over a world of sin.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 19 - 25, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	\$7,730.00 (8.00 am); \$15,656.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia \$150, \$300; Rev Jimmy Rim \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$350; Pailin Orph \$60; Surish \$50; Baraka Conf Centre \$180; Missions \$300; Rev Andrew Kam \$130; Myanmar Orph \$60, \$100; Chinese Bibles for China \$50; Ho Heng Sau \$130; Rev Seet \$200; Rev Wong \$200, \$50, \$260; Ng Sang Chiew \$50; Mother of Ny Sambath \$200; Tan Kian Sing \$1500; Rev Tow \$810; Chan Pui Meng \$400(LF); Maasai Medical Ministry \$60; Batam Kg Becek Project \$1000; Medan Motorbike \$200, \$500. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$335(Boxes). NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$4500, \$400, \$150, \$100, \$50, \$10000, \$1000, \$400, \$500, \$1000, \$700, \$500, \$1000, \$500, \$100(LF). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,058,607.24.
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	
WED	8.00 pm	Beulah Project Mgt Committee Mtg, FEBC Library	Today is the closing date to register for the Combined Fellowships Camp, 15-17 Dec 2001 at Mersing. Forms are available at the front counter. Theme: The Importance of having Visionary Christians in the Next Generation. Speakers: Rev Colin Wong, Dr David Cheong, Mark Chen. Family Worship at the home of Deacon & Mrs Wee Hian Kok, Friday 23 Nov, 8 pm. Address: 7 Vanda Crescent S287897, Tel: 4693006. Speaker: Rev Colin Wong. Our condolences to Denis Wang and family on the homegoing of his mother, Mdm Tan Ah Leong (79) on 13 Nov. Funeral was conducted by Rev Seet on Saturday. Pre-NS Camp organised by Military Christian Fellowship from 29/11 to 1/12/01. Please call 484-8884. Preaching appointments: Rev Tow in Perth; Rev Wong at Rawang and Tangkak BPC; Rev Seet at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am and Thai Service, 3 pm.
FRI	8.25 pm	Rev & Mrs Tow return, QF 71	
SAT	2.30 pm	JSM Wedding	Verse for the Week: <i>Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.</i> James 1:3-4
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	
SUN	8.00 am	He Fires Me to Action (Elder Dr Lim Teck Chye)	
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	
	10.15 am	Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan)	
	10.30 am	Rev Tan Eng Boo	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	
	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	
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown.			
Prayer Mtg: 93			
Sunday School Offering: \$827.25; Attendance: 329			



Our New Outreach to Malacca.
Rev & Mrs Kim Kah Teck & daughter
standing next to Rev Wong.



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Vol. X No. 18

18 November 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Elder Geoffrey Tan
Opening Hymn	No. 16	No. 93
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 63	Psalm 96
Hymn	No. 56	No. 110
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 246	No. 120
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 12:10	Numbers 6:22-27
Sermon	Identifying Truth From Error (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	The Benediction (Rev Tan Choon Seng)
Closing Hymn	No. 389	No. 406
Benediction		

AUSTRALETTER I

c/o Rev Errol D. Stone

Faith Presbyterian Church

Perth, W.A.

Email: edstone@space.net.au

My dear Lifers

One subject of profitable theological study with my students is "The Clock of the Sevenfold Will of God." As God's children we all want to do His will. If we carry out His Directive Will, He will bless us with His Cooperative Will. Thus Abraham's servant could say, "I being in the way, the Lord led me..." (Gen 24:27). He followed Abraham's instruction to go back to Haran to find a wife for Isaac and God led him straight to Rebecca.

Being fully convinced it is God's will that we should spend a fortnight's vacation in Perth we found an ideal flatlet at South River Views overlooking the Swan River in the nick of time. The previous tenant left on a Thursday and we took over on Friday, the next day. The landlady being pleased with such quick succession charges us only A\$550 for our two weeks' stay. At any other place we could pay at least double. "The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it" (Prov 10:22).

One reason we are convinced we should come to Perth is we could minister to 2 churches, Faith and BPCWA. Especially I feel I have a pertinent message to both churches. It is on our Lord's imminent Return and we must be prepared within our short lifetime. The end-time prophecies are being fulfilled before our eyes but we persist not to care! My recent booklet, "It is nearer than you think," because it was published one month before Sept 11, makes it more worthwhile reading. (Only \$8 for 10, you can easily scatter the message to your friends.) Read Zechariah 12:1-9 and you will see what is the Power that keeps Jerusalem from being taken by her enemies. Read Rev 9:13-15 and you will know the last global war (which Walvoord of Dallas Seminary, USA, identifies to be WWII) will erupt out of Iraq. When you see there were 21 years of phony peace between WWI and WWII and 56 years between WWII and now you will see how near the brink of global conflagration we are. And when you see how near Afghanistan is to Iraq you should have your space suit ready. Reader, Christ will come to save us by the Rapture at the blowing of the last trumpet (1 Cor 15:51-53). The 6th trumpet brings in WWII and the 7th follows with the Rapture. There is no time for procrastination. Believe Him and repent now, or it will be too late. WWII leads us to Rev 16:12-16, Armageddon with its

bloody finale in Jerusalem. Christ will then stand on the Mount of Olives to save Israel and defeat all her enemies and bring in 1000 years of peace (Zech 14).

God has blessed Rev Errol Stone to have found the St John's Ambulance Hall for Lord's Day worship, which now has an attendance of 40. It is an international church with one-quarter B-Ps, mostly university students attending. Ivan Toms, FEBC graduate from New Zealand, is assisting Errol. Errol publishes a weekly bulletin with solid articles for further reading. He takes a strong stand with FEBC from which he received the BTh. He is now looking further from Perth. He is visiting Cambodia coming July in conjunction with Adelaide. —T.T.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

From My Homiletic Swimming Pool

For the final examination this semester, this is what I tested of my students (100 of them). (1) What is it to be born again? Explain from your own experience in the light of the Bible. (2) Why do you come to study at FEBC? Tell the truth! (3) What are your gifts that you can use in the Church after graduation?

It is not a chore but a pleasure to go through the answers to the above three questions. Almost 100% are able to expound the meaning of "Born Again" and each has a testimony of his or her experience.

On the question why they came to study at FEBC, the answer is FEBC is a strictly fundamental school that teaches the inspiration of the Bible and its divine preservation so that we have a Bible that is kept pure in all ages and the King James Version is the most accurate translation of God's Word. FEBC's teaching is the strait narrow way and the right interpretation is the Reformed, Calvinistic way. FEBC also believes in the restoration of Israel at the Second Coming of Christ to establish through Israel 1,000 years of premillennial rule of Christ. FEBC concentrates on theology from Buswell's book and Calvin's Institutes and many books of the Bible.

It is a delight to know our 100 full-time students hail from 17 countries and to find out what they intend to do when they graduate. The deciding

factor is their future ministry depends on their call.

There are those who come to FEBC to learn the Scripture with a view to serving better in Sunday School and Church. Thank God this desire is catching on with our members. The appeal is now affecting deacons and elders.

Those who are called to full-time, some of them have enlarged vision. One tertiary student from Vietnam relates how he rejected an opportunity to migrate with parents to Canada because he was moved to stay by the crying needs of his own country. Now he feels the call of going to another communist country which is Laos.

Many Korean students are at FEBC because they feel called to the mission fields. At FEBC they learn English which is not available in Korea.

One from Malaysia is taking her MRE i.e. she has had four years already to earn the BTh. She says when she returns home during the Christmas vacation her sister's school would hold special meetings for 500 children and she was asked to speak to them. Fortunately FEBC opens her Homiletic class to women so that they might be trained to speak to women and children.

A good number from Africa are upgrading themselves here so as to return and teach in their alma mater.

Every graduate who returns to serve in his own country is a pocket of power for the extension of the Gospel. We have seven of them from Cambodia. Cambodians, Indonesians and Thais pick up English quite easily. This gives the Faculty great encouragement.

Our new semester begins Wed. Jan 2, 2002. This time we have one applying from Nagaland, a new country.

By May 2002 FEBC will have more than 400 graduates (now it has 376). This coincides with her 40th Anniversary. Ebenezer, hitherto hath the Lord helped us. Our hearts are full of thanksgiving when we recall how weak and tender we were when we started out in 1962, but by His mercies we have an institution to minister to 18 countries. In the 40th year will begin the building of New Beulah House, to cater to the growth of FEBC, together with the Church. May all glory redound to God Almighty and His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. —T.T.

South India Baptist Bible College
& Seminary,
Coimbatore 641019
Tamilnadu State, India

Dear Rev Timothy Tow

Sir, I received your parcel and I don't know how to express my thanks unto you and our living God. Since I cannot buy books, I count it a great blessing for me to receive your books. It is my first time to have books in my life. Sir, I really enjoy reading your books. All my friends came and asked me and I divided them among my friends, because you have mercy upon me. Those books will really be helpful to my future ministry.

By the way, Sir, we are finishing our first semester this week and our second semester will begin the next week. Our second semester will be finished the last month of February 2002. We plan to go to our native place Burma the first week of March 2002. Then I plan to do ministry in Chin State nearby Falam town in Myanmar. Kindly hold me in your prayer that God may use me in a special way and many people will be saved through my ministry. —Thawng Mang

TESTIMONIES

I came from a Buddhist family and an ancestor worship background. Through God's providential grace and mercy, I came to know Him in 1996 when I was working and staying with a Christian family in Malaysia. The elder son approached me and shared with me the Gospel and brought me to Bukit Panjang Methodist Church where he was worshipping. Even though I took the trouble to cross the causeway early on some Sunday mornings in order to attend the Church service that started at 8.15 am, I was not fully convicted and convinced that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins.

Indeed our Lord is a gracious and loving Lord. The following year, I was invited to attend an overseas students fellowship meeting at New Life B-P Church in London while I was pursuing my studies there. Since then, I had been exposed to doctrinal truth on the pure Word of God. Slowly, but surely, my understanding of the Lord grew as the Word of God was faithfully preached. It was through the hearing of the Word of God that I was brought to an awareness of the

fact that I am a sinner. The Holy Spirit, through the Word of God convicted me of my sin and showed me the Lord Jesus as the only Saviour of sinners and thus drew me to repentance.

Though I am delivered from the dominion of sin, I still find sin struggling to gain mastery over me, as Paul depicted vividly "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me" (Romans 7:21). Therefore, I need to constantly remind myself to put on the whole armour of God, that I may be able to stand against the wiles of the evil; and fight a good fight of faith, that one day the Lord will say to me, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" (Matt 25:21). And I pray to our Lord daily to search me and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

I am now seeking baptism. It is a symbolic act of an inward faith in accordance to God's commandment. I thank God and praise Him for preserving me all these years.

—Liew Z Nye, Catherine

Before God came into my life, I was a bad-tempered person often shouting at my family members and getting angry easily.

I came to know God when I was 16 years old. Back then, I was attending Grace Assembly of God. Going to church on Sunday is now part of my life. I began to trust and believe in God and I felt that He had changed me to be a better person in terms of being more patient, gentle, respectful to others.

There are often times when I strayed away from God but He is gracious and merciful enough to pick me up when I am down and show me the way.

Three years later, my Dad, brothers and I transferred from Grace Assembly of God to the present Life BP Church. I believed that it is God's plan that led us to Life BP Church where the truth of God's Word is being taught. I thank God for my father who often encourages me to read God's Word and be Christ-like.

I want to continue this walk of life trusting God faithfully and serving Him according to His will for He is the true God and Saviour of my life. Thank God for His endless grace and mercy.

—Rachael Goh

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 26 - Dec 2, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$7,187.00 (8.00 am); \$12,840.00 (10.30 am)		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$400, \$100; JS Heng \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$50; Surish \$100, \$100; Roska \$500; Baraka Conf Centre \$40; Missions \$50, \$200; Myanmar Orph \$150, \$100; Rev Thawm Luai \$250; FEBC students \$100; YAF \$350; Rev Seet \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$50; Tan Bee Choo \$100; Barnabas Yap \$300; Medan Motorbike \$200.		
FRI	8.00 pm	FEBC Board of Directors Mtg, FEBC Library	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$400, \$450, \$500, \$500, \$13, \$130, \$200(Thai Service), \$500, \$143, \$130, \$150, \$450, \$220, \$600, \$200, \$300, \$3000, \$489, \$25000. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,092,032.24.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	STOP PRESS! \$754(FEBC Students), \$100, \$810(Thank God for a fruitful vacation.)		
SUN	8.00 am	The Blessing of Giving (Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)	Newton NBC's 2nd Mtg will be held on Wed, Dec 5th at 8 pm in the home of Mrs Shirley Chew, 311 Bukit Timah Rd, #07-02 Rich Mansion (just after Balmoral traffic light, on the left). Please email Edwin Seow at eseow@pacific.net.sg or call 9619-4556.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Combined Fellowships Camp. Camp Briefing on Tuesday, 4 Dec at 7.00 pm, FEBC Hall.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Evening Lectures for Jan - Apr 2002: (1) Old Testament Law for Today by Rev Tow. Mondays, 7.30 - 9.30 pm. (2) Systematic Theology (Anthropology) by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Thursdays, 7.30 - 9.30 pm.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Calvary BPC(Pandan), 10.15 am; Rev Wong at Chinese Service, 10.30 am; Rev Seet at Nazareth BPC, 9.30 am; Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm and Rehoboth, 6.00 pm.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Testimony from Jiemin Thanksgiving Service. Thank you God for giving me good health and strength. Thank you for my friends and family. Thank you for letting me come to BASC so that I can become a Christian. Thank you God for everything that you have given to me. And most of all thank you for letting your Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for our sins. —Lim Hui Li		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	12.45 pm	Evangelism			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
SUN-THU		Children's Bible Camp			
No NBC This Week.		Prayer Mtg: 88			
Sunday School Offering: \$616.04; Attendance: 322					
Verse for the Week: Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. Psalm 42:8					
Lively Teens Fellowship Camp, Dec 17-22 in Life Church. Theme: "The Greatest Love Story". Speaker: Rev Jack Sin. Registration forms are available at the reception counter.					



Speaking to the BPCWA
at a Picnic



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Vol. X No. 19

25 November 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Yiew Pong Sen	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 50	No. 105
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Matt 25:14-30	Psalm 42:1-11
Hymn	Living for Jesus	No. 324
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 466	No. 119
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Romans 12:8	Job 2:7-10
Sermon	He Fires Me To Action (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	"Shall We Not Receive Evil?" (Rev Tan Eng Boo)
Closing Hymn	No. 459	No. 31
Benediction		

AUSTRALETTER II

B-P Church of W. Australia

867-69 Canning Highway

Mt Pleasant, WA 6153

My dear Lifers

BPCWA is the first of 8 global B-P Churches established by Dr S H Tow. It was founded at the home of the Seethors in response to Mrs Seethor's request during Chinese New Year 1986. Lifers had played no small part in its founding. A sister of Life Church gave a blank cheque to buy this Church. Robin Tan was instrumental in bargaining down the price to A\$140,000. It was a 30-year-old Presbyterian Church sitting on 1800+ sq meters on the top of a hill, Mt Pleasant by name.

Soon after its acquisition we extended the Church with a two-storey annexe which houses now the Chinese Service. Before this extension we spent 17 weeks here during which I wrote 290 pages of my Biography.

Mark Heath, Charlie Tan and Peter Chng, all FEBC graduates, each played a part to maintain its pulpit. Being of a different persuasion they left. Charlie Tan and Peter Chng went out from us to start their own churches.

But God overrules. He has sustained BPCWA. He trains another FEBCer in the person of James Sun (BA Canton) and Samuel He, his brother-in-law, who studied at Singapore Bible College. Between them they are able to supply both the English

and Chinese pulpits of the Church. Today, the Church is in no better hands because both brothers are loyal to their B-P heritage.

To give you a clear picture of the Church's health, here are the statistics from the Church Bulletin, dated 4th Nov 2001.

Attendance in Total	207
Combined Service	181
Juniors	26
Offerings in Total	\$21,319.90
Gen. Offerings	\$1,361.90
Mission Fund	\$150.00
B. Fund	\$19,655.00

The Church is at present engaged in buying a next door neighbour's property which includes a swimming pool and tennis court. This property is going at a good price of A\$353,000 to be paid by Nov 19, 2001, and they are able! At the last minute 3 sums came in \$10,000x2, \$160,000!

At the Tuesday Night Combined Prayer Meeting at which 45-50 attended, I spoke on "It Is Nearer Than You Think" (Matt 24:3-14). The other four messages culminating on Sunday Nov 18 are: (2) Israel's Dispersion and Regathering, Key to Jesus' Second Coming (Isa 11:10-15); (3) God is the Defender of Jerusalem Against Her Enemies (Zech 12:2-9); (4) When Does the Rapture Occur? (I Cor 15:51-53, Rev 10:7, Rev 11:15-18); (5) WWII, Iraq and Armageddon (Rev 9:13-16, Rev 16:12-16, 17-19). And Samuel He is my fluent interpreter to the Combined Services.

Under Deacon L S Pang's

direction, the Project Committee has released the revised elevation drawings which are printed on our 2002 calendar. Now I have received the whole set of revised floor plans from Rev Charles Seet which is to be further studied by the whole committee and by Session Nov 28. By the time we submit the total plans to Government it would be Jan 2002.

Although our Weekly B. Fund Report shows we have pierced the \$3 million mark, ¾ million are assets in loans which may not be fully recovered. Our cash in bank is \$2.25 million net. Now it was announced by the Project Committee we must amass \$4 million before we can start building. If we want to build before Oct 2002, we must gather \$1.75M in the next one year. In this matter, let me urge you in the words of the Prophet Haggai, "Build the house; and I will take pleasure in it (*I will be pleased with you*), and I will be glorified, saith the LORD. . . The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts" (Hag 1:8; 2:8). If God is pleased with you, will He not bless your life? But to those who build their own house with luxury, while God's House is left alone, they earn wages to put it into a bag with holes (Hag 1:4-6).

The raising of the New Beulah House will provide space for total expansion. Whether it be

the Sunday School, the Chinese Service, the Fellowships, I have confidence you will not be disappointed. But do you corporately make an effort towards the B.F.? No amount is too big. No amount is too small. "Many a mickle makes a muckle" is a good Scottish saying.

One item for thanksgiving is that Beulah House is an educational institution (we cannot build beyond 4 storeys), but we are spared the levy of \$2.85 million. Which means, all the money we have collected now is not able to pay for the levy, from which we are exempt.

Talking about BPCWA's rally to their B.F., the \$160,000 that came in last minute saved the day. In buying over Beulah House we had a similar experience. We lacked \$380,000 to make up \$7.2 million. The last minute rally brought in \$420,000. Besides, there was a deacon who brought a cheque for \$300,000 on a previous occasion.

BPCWA has a good number of newcomers of late. One is Victor Poon, a loyal Lifer. Other B-Pers from Singapore have also joined. Their strength is reflected in the B.F. The Church, under a united Session is surging forward – now in Missions.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES, NO ONE, STRONG OR RICH, WISE OR SKILFUL, CAN ESCAPE

Text: Eccles 9:11,12

Solomon says, "I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all. For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them." What Solomon is emphasizing here is even the upper class of mankind suffer like the lower class because they cannot foresee the unforeseeable.

This happened to those who went to office at the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre where two planes manned by suicide bombers crashed into the 110-storey skyscrapers raining death on 6,000 of the unsuspect. This was on Sept 11, 2001. Two months and a day after this planned disaster, an American Airlines 300 Airbus carrying more than 250 was leaving New York City for Dominican

Republic when it suddenly crashed, losing one of its engines, killing all on board, plus about 10 caught on the ground.

When such disasters occur, planned or unplanned, what is the answer? There is a Chinese saying, "natural disasters and man-made tribulation." Whatever the disaster or tribulation, it cannot happen without the decree of God. God is in control of everything that happens in the world, big or small, the big events include the Twin Towers of the WTC and the plane crash two months thereafter also in New York, and the small event of the falling of a sparrow to the ground (Matt 10:29). To emphasise God's care over us, His children, Jesus says, "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

But Solomon is speaking rather to those who are strong and mighty, not in God, but in themselves. To those who are outside Christ. To those who held high posts and good jobs at the Twin Towers of WTC. To the pilots and stewards and the holiday-

makers in the American Airlines plane that crashed two months thereafter. Solomon's sermon to us at this prayer meeting tonight is timely in case there are some well-to-do who are still outside Christ. Recently, I was asked by a devout daughter to speak to her aged father hospitalised for cancer operation. He had been attending the Chinese Service for years, but he did not appear to her daughter to be a saved person. When queried by me he replied, "Jesus wants me to do good works in order to go to heaven." When I asked him if he knew his sins were forgiven, he could not reply. He wanted to be saved but he could not say how. He could not even pray. When I led him in the sinner's prayer he gladly repeated after me. His wife who stood by his sick bed also joined in. Thereafter, both husband and wife repeatedly uttered, "Lord Jesus, save me. Lord Jesus, save me."

You may be rich and powerful, healthy and strong, but this cannot take you to heaven when death comes. But the born-again Christian is ready to go anytime to God. —T.T.

TESTIMONY

Being the youngest in a family of 12 children, I had to inherit all the hand-me-downs from my older siblings and that included the duty of burning three joss sticks every evening to appease the 'sky god'! This was dutifully carried out from 10 years old until my mum passed away six years later.

Mum's death was traumatic for me but I didn't understand why my sister, Jess Tamee-Lim, was so elated when she jumped for joy at mum being saved. I was oblivious to her explanation that mum's acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ broke all bondage in that God was merciful and gracious to grant her salvation through a faithful lady, Mrs Wong of Nemesu Avenue, witnessing to her at the hospital.

The next 'trauma' came when Jess insisted that I go to church with her. Being a sports enthusiast, that would mean foregoing my Sunday workouts at the sports and swimming complex. However, I reckoned that there must be no harm in knowing Christ since mum received Him as her Saviour before she died. The weekly Sundays turned out to be argument sessions especially since this reluctant 'worshipper' found the Worship Service to be very stiff. Thank God for His persistent grace that He gave me yet another opportunity to know Him through my schoolmate, Shireen Poon. She invited me to the Youth Fellowship at Life BPC on one Saturday. This time, I voluntarily returned to the meetings week after

week, not so much for the fellowship but more for the activities, vis-à-vis captain's ball, soccer, badminton, table tennis and in-house games. The songs were also much livelier and familiar —those that I sang during Chapel in school.

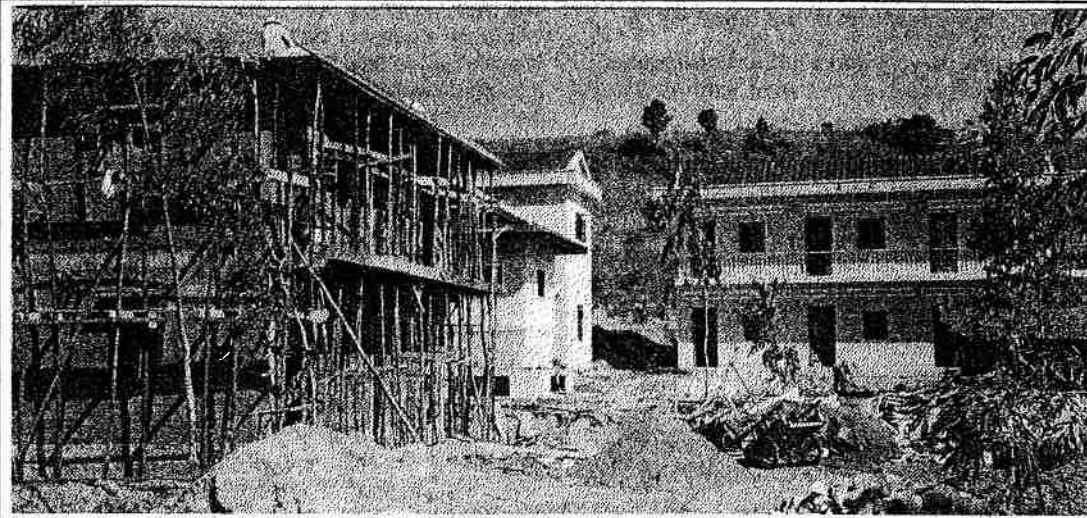
It was from the regular attendance and the Bible Study at the YF that helped shed more light and made Christianity ever so much more meaningful. It was Ephesians 2:8,9 that convinced me of my sins — "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." It cleared me of my limited understanding and underestimation of the word, sin. Until then, it meant smoking, stealing, bullying, fighting, gambling, etc which explained why I did not see the need for Christ to die for me. It was obviously the gravest mistake in my life but God is ever so gracious that He chose to tolerate my ignorance and forgave me of my sins! It is apparent that the study of God's Word, the fellowship amongst Christians, and, of course, God's grace that convinced me to seek baptism two years later. On 21st October 1979, I was baptised at Life B-P Church while Jess sought transfer of membership. Praise God that I could chat online with Him anytime, anywhere and I could have free wireless communications without the need for a modem or other gadgets.

From then on, it was no turning back even under very trying moments of my life. My Heavenly Father is ever so faithful, full of compassion and slow to anger even when I chose to step out of His 'Pillar of Cloud' that had been sheltering me from evil and harm umpteen times!

It's been 22 years now and I will not exchange anything for my salvation, given to me so rich and free. All the more during this time and age where nothing remains constant except change. Take the recent 'America Under Siege' for example, even the superpowers would be brought down — there is nothing that can escape from God's Sovereign Plan! All these things must come to pass before He comes. As this incident had jolted the world, this is no longer a wake-up call but the last call for me to check my 'bank account' with the Lord. Is it in the black or worst still, an overdraft, i.e. have I been reaping souls for Him or am I too complacent or been bearing a bad testimony that has put the non-Christians off or stumbled the younger Christians? I thank God that I am serving a God who is the same yesterday, today and forever!

It is now my duty, as a parent, to train up my two boys in the way they should go: and when they are old, they will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6). To me the success of bringing up children is not what they can achieve but that they will love the Lord and fear Him reverentially, for if they walk right with God, He will make all things possible. "... for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15b). —June Lim Joo Poh

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 3 - 9, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	7.00 pm	Combined Fellowships Camp Briefing	\$8,057.00 (8.00 am); \$13,178.00 (10.30 am)		
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: J S Heng \$100; Cambodia \$300; Cambodia Orph \$100, \$600; Rev Jonathan Lee \$105, \$50, \$100, \$800; Rev Moses Hahn \$500, \$10, \$50; Surish \$100; Myanmar Orph \$105, \$500; Ho Heng Sau \$200, \$100; Rev Pang Kok Hiong \$200; Rev Seet \$240, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$50; Rev Tow \$105; Chan Pui Meng \$200, \$600; Rev Tan Eng Boo \$200; Barnabas Yap \$100; Mark Chen \$150; Medan Motorbike \$115; FEFST \$115.		
TUE-THU		Chinese VBS	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$105, \$30, \$200, \$200, \$500, \$50, \$250, \$150, \$50, \$160, \$130. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,095,521.24.		
THU-SUN		Berean F'ship-VBS Children's Camp	STOP PRESS! \$10,000, \$4900.		
FRI	8.20 am	Rev & Mrs Tow to Thailand, MI 702	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Lionel Ong & Angeline Heng (Rev Charles Seet)	(1) <i>God is merciful and has heard all my prayers. I thank Him for a successful operation of my fractured leg and a speedy and steady recovery. I continue to pray that I shall be able to walk normally again soon. (\$10,000 to New Beulah House)</i>		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Welcome Rev & Mrs Paauwe. Rev Edward Paauwe, Gen-Sec. of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions and his wife, are coming Dec 8. They will stay at our Guesthouse for a week. Rev Paauwe is invited to speak at Calvary B-P Church (Pandan) Lord's Day, Dec 9, 10.15 am.		
SUN	8.00 am	Can I Offer My Service? (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	Combined Fellowships Camp. Camp Briefing this Tuesday, 4 Dec at 7.00 pm, FEBC Hall.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Newton NBC's 2nd Mtg will be held this Wed, Dec 5 at 8 pm in the home of Mrs Shirley Chew, 311 Bukit Timah Rd. #07-02		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Rich Mansion (just after Balmoral traffic light, on the left). Please email Edwin Seow at eseow@pacific.net.sg or call 9619-4556.		
	10.30 am	Rev Colin Wong	Lively Teens Fellowship Camp, Dec 17-22 in Life Church. Theme: "The Greatest Love Story". Speaker: Rev Jack Sin. Registration forms are available at the reception counter.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong-Mission trip to Medan, 30 Nov to 4 Dec; Rev Seet in Batam; Maranatha BPC Camp (Mersing) from 3-7 Dec.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship			
	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			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.			
NBC This Week. Wed Newton; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 99					
Sunday School Offering: \$738.90; Attendance: 308					
Verse for the Week: <i>And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.</i> Ephesians 4:30					
Our condolences to Ch'ng Bee Bee on the homegoing of her grandmother, Mdm Chia Kum Swee (84) on Thu, 29 Nov. Vigil service tonight at Mt Vernon Parlour 1, Upp Aljunied Rd, 8.00 pm. Funeral will be conducted tomorrow by Rev Tow.					



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Vol. X No. 20

2 December 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn George Tan	Rev Tow
Opening Hymn	No. 5	No. 151
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 112	Psalms 39
Hymn	No. 419	No. 298
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 403	Spirit of the Triune God
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Romans 12:8	Matt 12:22-37
Sermon	The Gift of Giving (Eld Khoo Peng Kiat)	What Is The Unpardonable Sin?
Closing Hymn	Bring All the Tithes...	No. 396
Benediction		Lord's Supper

PASTOR'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

My dear Lifers

Christmas is "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Lk 2:14). These words come down to us on earth from the heavenly voices of the holy angels. So we, of the B-P Churches, come together on Dec 24, the Eve of Christmas, to praise God on the Birth of His Son and to broadcast His saving message to those outside Christ. But there are Christians who are led away by legalistic leaders who forbid the joy of Christmas and who equate our rejoicing in the Lord with the commercialism of the world.

Our rejoicing in the Lord may descend to the level of worldly revelry, of eating and drinking, of fun and pleasure, if it is not celebrated in spirit and in truth. "Then said he (Jesus) also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just" (Lk 14:12-14). While we gather together to a Christmas

dinner and give gifts to one another, let us forget not the needy and sick in our midst. Let us give so that we might return to God much more than usual, and apportion a goodly sum to our lesser brothers and sisters.

There was once when we had a need building Woodlands. We appealed to you to give your 13th month at Christmas. It would be a genuine gesture of love for the building of God's House and for our lesser brothers and sisters if we would do so this Christmas! Herein we see the blessing of Christ that we can be a blessing to others as we celebrate the birth of the Saviour. And remember the word of the Lord Jesus Christ, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Christmas is the Christian's New Year! Christmas is God's yearly open amnesty offered to a lost mankind. As the Christmas story is retold or reenacted (this year by our Children's Choir), it is hoped many of our non-Christian loved ones and friends will be led to worship at the feet of Jesus. Christmas is therefore your golden opportunity of saving some lost one.

Christmas is our reaffirmation of Missions. This was emphasized when we sent a 10th container to Cambodia on the very eve of Christmas. And we are sending gifts now nearer to Singapore such as to Batam, most effective in helping Kampung Becek to build.

One field worthy of support is



churches.

Back in Yangon, on Sunday afternoons, he goes out to a town called Kong Tha Hla Paung to evangelise. As a result a Church is formed. The members are mostly women. Photo shows the celebration of the 2nd Anniversary. Andrew goes out to two other villages of the Burmese people who are strong Buddhists. Andrew has been tested the last 7 years.

Having been impressed by the fruits of his ministry,

we recently bought over a two-storey brick house for the song of S\$21,000. As this house was rented for a number of years he naturally did not repair it. Now that it has become God's property and he lacks the money, we have given him \$2,000 to renovate it. Andrew's monthly stipend which was S\$1,000 is now reduced to \$800, a means whereby he is helping himself to buy this house. This is our policy of their working towards self-support, as we have done for Chiang Mai. (Incidentally, we, in the company of Elder and Mrs Khoo Peng Kiat, are going to Chiang Mai to dedicate a new Chapel, Dec 9, and returning to Singapore Dec 11.)

Andrew, having attended the M.Min. course taught over a 2-year period by FEBC lecturers, is

the struggle of Rev Thawm Luai of the Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology, Myanmar to print the KJV Falam-Chin Old Testament. The N.T. has already been printed. But the O.T. is the real, heavy work.

On the home front we delight to report that under Dn Henry Tan's leadership a branch S.S. will be launched in J.B. 16th Dec 2001, using the Korean Church premises of Na In, one of the FEBC graduands. The S.S. is linked to the Sunset Gospel Hour 6.00 pm of Kulai Besar (Rev David Wong). The Lord's First Coming must bring us to His Second Coming. Let's hasten on!

ANDREW KAM IN ACTION

This week you see on the back page the building of a Bible School on a hill by Moses Hahn with funds from Korea.

On this inside page you see Andrew Kam in action. He is preaching back in his native Chin State, several hundred miles north of Yangon where he is running an orphanage and two



now also helping Rev Thawm Luai to teach a course at Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology. Andrew Kam in Action is one aspect of our missionary enterprise to the ten Asean countries (short of Laos). Pray for Andrew and Rev Thawm Luai. —T.T.

21 WISE SAYINGS (from Rev Vernon Gisel of USA)

1. *The best way to get even is to forget...*
2. *Feed your faith and your doubts will starve to death.*
3. *God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts...*
4. *Some folks wear their halos much too tight...*
5. *Some marriages are made in heaven, but they ALL have to be maintained on earth...*
6. *Unless you can create the WHOLE universe in 5 days, then perhaps giving "advice" to God, isn't such a good idea.*
7. *Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, and faith looks up...*
8. *Standing in the middle of the road is dangerous. You will get knocked down by the traffic from both ways.*
9. *Words are windows to the heart.*
10. *A skeptic is a person who when he sees the handwriting on the wall, claims it's a forgery.*
11. *It isn't difficult to make a mountain out of a molehill, just add a little dirt.*
12. *A successful marriage isn't finding the right person—it's being the right person.*
13. *The mighty oak tree was once a little nut that held its ground.*
14. *Too many people offer God prayers with claw marks all over them.*
15. *The tongue must be heavy indeed, because so few people can't hold it.*
16. *To forgive is to set the prisoner free, and*

then discover the prisoner was you.

17. *You have to wonder about humans, they think God is dead and Elvis is alive.*
18. *It's all right to sit on your pity pot every now and again. Just be sure to flush when you are done.*
19. *You'll notice that a turtle only makes progress when it sticks out its neck...*
20. *If the grass is greener on the other side of the fence, you can bet the water bill is higher.*
21. *And last but not least — God gave the angels Wings, and He gave humans CHOCOLATE!!!!*

Keep smiling, and ...if you see someone's missing one.... give them one of yours!!

TESTIMONY

I came to know the Lord Jesus Christ at a very young age. My aunt is a faithful follower of Christ. Ever since the age of 5, she began teaching me about Him. I attended Sunday school and various Christian functions whenever I could. As the years went by, I went to different churches and witnessed the different ways of worship. During this period, there were numerous times whereby I strayed from Him. He has always forgiven me and allowed me to return to Him every time I prayed for forgiveness and mercy, without fail.

To be honest, I have never been consistent in prayer. Sad to say, I used to pray only when I am in trouble or when I need Him to forgive me for sins I had committed. Recently, I began going back to church regularly and even attended catechism class. Ever since then, I have been more consistent in prayer and until about six weeks ago, the topic that Rev Charles Seet touched on about the right way to pray, caused me to finally realize I have been speaking to Him in the wrong way. I thank Him for enlightening me.

I constantly live in fear of Him. Fear of the punishments that would befall me every time I sinned. But I have come to realize that fearing Him is a way of respecting Him, and it helps every time I am about to succumb to temptations. Right now I am going through a change of jobs and He is definitely helping me to cope very well. I know I can trust Him.

—Katherine Go Sze Hiang

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 10 - 16, 2001)

MON-FRI	Maranatha Baptist Church Camp
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg
	9.05 pm Rev & Mrs Tow return, MI 705
FRI	6.00 pm Choir Rehearsal, FEBC Hall
	7.45 pm Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm
SAT	2.30 pm Sunday School Christmas Fellowship, Sanctuary
	3.00 pm YF/LTF
SUN	8.00 am <i>Who Is In-Charge?</i> (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)
	8.00 am Children's Ministry
	9.30 am Sunday School
	10.30 am Rev Tow
	10.30 am Chinese Service
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	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
	12.45 pm Evangelism
	3.00 pm Thai Service
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. *Wed* Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 98

Sunday School Offering: \$596.05; Attendance: 385

Verse for the Week: *He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?* Micah 6:8

Preaching appointments: Rev Tow in Chiangmai.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$8,407.00 (8.00 am); \$15,768.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$1400, \$500, \$500; Pailin Orph \$60; Phnom Penh BPC \$300; Surish \$50; Batam \$500; Joan Davenport \$200; Missions \$200; Rev Andrew Kam \$230, \$100, \$60, \$100; Myanmar Orph \$60; Rev Thawm Luaf \$50, \$250, \$50, \$100; Nirands \$500; MsF \$200; YF \$100; Rev Seet \$50; Rev Wong \$50; Eld Khoo PK \$500; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor, Sun Sokha, Ty Seray Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Rev Tow \$800, \$236, \$140, \$1500, \$500; Chan Pui Meng \$300; Cambodia Missionaries \$150; Maasai Medical Ministry \$60; Chinese VBS \$450.

MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$52.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$150, \$50, \$150, \$100, \$250, \$160, \$100, \$1000, \$350, \$800, \$200, \$500, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$50, \$100, \$400, \$1000, \$450, \$300 (Session member), \$2000, \$2100, \$3500, \$2190.

GRAND TOTAL: \$3,127,021.24. STOP PRESS! \$50,000, \$100.

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) Thank you Lord Jesus for helping my granddaughter to pass her PSLE examination. Thank you Lord Jesus for helping our family to be in good health too. (\$50 for New Beulah House)

Infant Baptism at Combined Praise Service, 23 Dec, 9.30am. Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 2569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names.

Combined Fellowships Camp, Mersing, 15-17 Dec. Please be in Church on Sat. by 7.30 am. Coach departs at 8.00 am.

Lively Teens Fellowship Camp, Dec 17-22 in Life Church. Theme: "The Greatest Love Story". Speaker: Rev Jack Sin. Registration forms are available at the reception counter.

Our condolences to Dn David Tan and family on the homegoing of his grandmother, Mdm Lim Ah Laan (93) on Sunday, 2 Dec. Funeral was conducted by Rev Colin Wong on 5 Dec.

Children of Kemaman B-P Church lined up across the pulpit on the 3rd floor premises of Dr Wee's shophouse in town.



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Vol. X No. 21

9 December 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Geoffrey Tan	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 318	No. 49
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Jn 13:1-17	Psalms 1
Hymn	No. 462	No. 323
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 560	No. 326
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 12:28	Psalms 112:1-10
Sermon	Can I Offer My Services? (Rev Charles Seet)	Blessed Is the Man Who Fears The Lord (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 446	The Love of God
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

WHAT IS THE UNPARDONABLE SIN?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church
 10.30 am Service, Dec 2, 2001)

Text: Matthew 12:22-37

In the closing days of my father's life on earth, he examined himself before God, and confessed all his known sins to Him. He was afraid he might have committed the unpardonable sin.

When a person so humbles himself to the dust, and if you are also of the same lowly frame of mind, I can assure you; your sins will be forgiven. For David testifies, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Ps 51:17). Let us not be hearers and sermon tasters only, but doers of the Word (Jas 1:22).

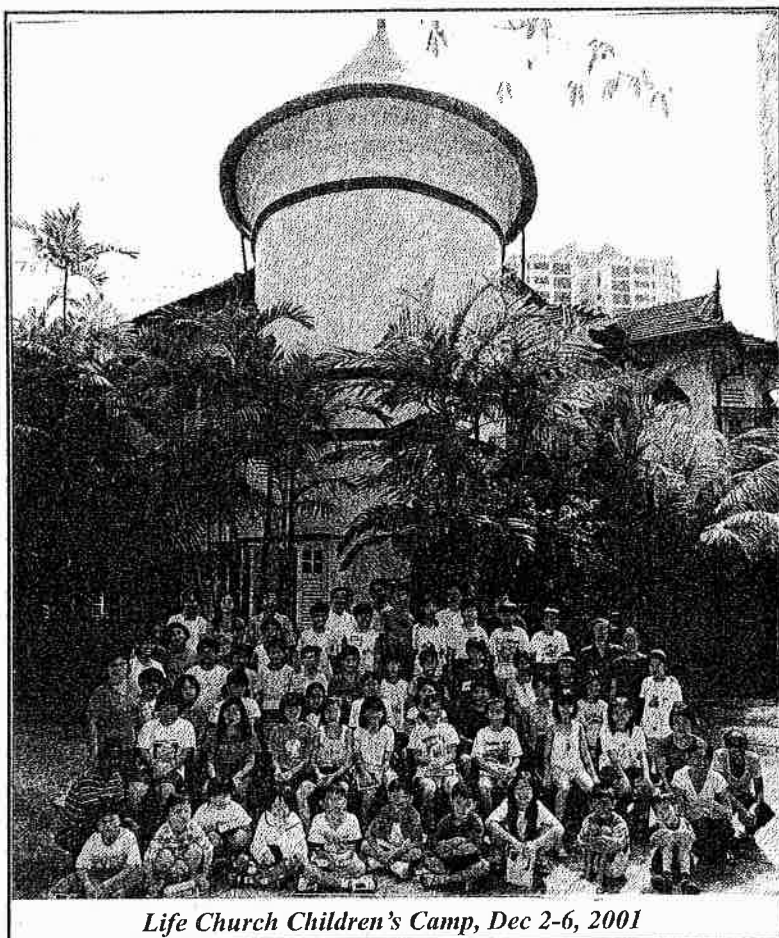
The unpardonable sin, according to this passage of denunciation of the Pharisees by our Lord, is their blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. What is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? It is speaking a lie against the Holy Spirit when he has clearly convicted them of the truth.

Here is a most notable miracle that Jesus has done. One who is possessed by a blind and dumb devil is brought before our Saviour.

Jesus cast out the blind and dumb devil, so that the man could speak and see. All the people were amazed and gave glory to God. Instead of giving glory to God the Pharisees blasphemed. They declared Jesus performed the miracle by Beelzebub, the prince of devils. Jesus had done this miracle by the power of Satan and not by the power of God. This was a downright lie. This was spoken out of a heart of wicked rebellion. The Pharisees when exposed to God's Spirit, instead of turning in repentance to Him, rebelled against Him.

This rebellious and blasphemous spirit is also starkly exhibited against Jesus' opening the eyes of the man born blind by sending him to wash at the pool in Siloam (John 9). This blind man received his sight and told everyone about it. But the Pharisees refused to receive his testimony. The Pharisees instead of giving God the glory, swung away from the truth. Now they themselves became blind when they cast out the blind men whose eyes Jesus had opened.

The Pharisees, often associated with the Scribes (Jewish theologians) have their counterparts today. They are the professors of theology. These professors of theology are entrenched in the big and well-known seminaries in America especially and are transformed into angels of light. But



Life Church Children's Camp, Dec 2-6, 2001

they commit the unpardonable sin of speaking lies against the truth taught by the Holy Spirit. They preach themselves and not Christ.

It all began back in England in the 1880s. Two English Greek scholars, Westcott and Hort by name, worked their way into the Anglican Church. They said the Authorised Version or the King James Bible translated 1611 was due for revision. They had found two Ancient Manuscripts dating back to the fourth-century, one called Vaticanus (from the Vatican) and the other Sinaiticus (i.e. from Sinai). These being much older than the Received Text on which the King James Version was based were superior, but according to Burgon, Dean of Oxford, the fact was the opposite was the truth.

Nevertheless Westcott and Hort, the Deadly Duo, completed their work of dismantling the sacred text. They cut out the passage of Jesus pardoning the woman taken in adultery, the last 12 verses of Mark and I John 5:7 on the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. On top of that they changed the Received

Text in 9,900 places by addition or subtraction. This is like tearing away the First and Second Epistles of Peter. (All these deep wounds they inflicted on the Bible are recorded for our learning by Dr Jeffrey Khoo in the blue book "Kept Pure in All Ages" which was distributed to you some weeks ago.)

When I was a student in Faith Seminary, USA 1948, I was taught to accept Westcott and Hort as angels. Many passages in the KJB were not there by the new Westcott and Hort Text. So was Dr D.A. Waite taught the same lie when he was in Dallas Seminary the same year I was in Faith.

About 1970 Dr Waite discovered the hoax of the ages from earlier discoverers, Dr David Otis Fuller, Dr Edward F Hills, The Trinitarian Bible Society of Great Britain along with a rising chorus of KJV supporters — David Cloud, Dr S.H. Tow, Gail Riplinger. Suddenly Westcott and Hort who had been shielded by a conspiracy of silence came into the limelight. That is with regard to their faith and to their character.

Masquerading as Evangelicals it is now discovered that they are modernists and liberals of the worst dye. They deny all the fundamentals of the faith including infallibility and

inerrancy of the Scriptures, the Virgin Birth and Blood Atonement of Christ, His miracles and Resurrection. They declare the first three chapters of Genesis to be myths. They accept as gospel truth the doctrine of evolution. They were friends of Darwin and Freud, whom Straits Times has exposed to be a Fraud. They were secret worshippers of Mary but called Evangelical fanatics. Westcott when in Cambridge founded the Hermes Club which was reputed a homosexual den. Later he and Hort branched into a Ghost Club which they never knew is condemned by Deuteronomy 18. Scoffers snubbed them to be operators of the Bogey Club. Bogey means Devil.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully" (Ps 24:3-4). With unclean hands and impure heart, how dared Westcott and Hort to have touched Holy Scripture?

Of the over hundred new Bibles that have appeared in the last 50 years, one that has made it to the top to challenge the KJV is the NIV (New International Version). Based on the Westcott and Hort Text, you will find the total disappearance of I John 5:7 where the statement is on the Holy Trinity. The passage on the woman taken in adultery whom our

L o r d
p a r d o n e d
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12 v e r s e s o f
M a r k a r e i n
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b u s i n e s s m e n ,
t h e N I V
p u b l i s h e r s ,
w h i l e
p u t t i n g
t h e m i n t h e
B i b l e
d e c l a r e a l s o

they are out. The reason why they are constrained to put these two passages in truncated form is if they are totally out no one will buy the NIV product.

To leave out these three passages and the equivalent of I and II Peter, eight chapters of sacred text, is it not to commit the unpardonable sin? Westcott and Hort are worse than those Pharisees and scribes who spoke against their conscience, who spoke a lie against what the Holy Spirit was declaring to be the truth.

Jesus had cast out the blind and dumb devil which amazed the onlookers who gave the glory of God. But the Pharisees blasphemed that our Lord had done so by Beelzebub, the prince of devils. What Jesus had done by the power of His Father the Pharisees relegated to the work of Satan. Such twisting of the truth is also the work of Westcott and Hort and by modern professors of theology entrenched in many big and well-known seminaries not only in America but throughout the world; not the least in Singapore. "Kept pure in All Ages" is FEBC's latest defence of the KJB and of the Spirit of the Scriptures. And if you worship in a Church that uses the NIV, you should tell your pastor against it. If they persist to use the NIV you should leave that church and join another that uses the KJB. St Paul says, "For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8).



The Kemaman-Kuantan VBS, Nov 13-15, 2001

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 17 - 23, 2001)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON-SAT	LTF Camp	\$8,162.00 (8.00 am); \$13,318.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE 8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: JS Heng \$500; Cambodia Orph \$400, \$375; Rev Moses Hahn \$100; Surish \$100, \$100; Batam, Roska \$200; Baraka BPC \$3176(Session member); Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$50; Saipan, Rev Pang \$200; MsF \$260, \$250, \$1000; Rev Seet \$50; Rev Wong \$50, \$50, \$130; Ephrem, FEBC \$50; Chan Pui Meng \$200, \$350; Sonny Law Shing Yee \$110; FEFS \$3000.	
FRI 6.30 pm	LF Christmas Party	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500; \$500, \$100, \$500, \$100, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$150, \$40, \$300, \$200, \$350, \$3000(Session member), \$400, \$200, \$480, \$7000(Bt Batok/Choa Chu Kang NBC), \$177(Faith Presbyterian Church), \$500(Session member). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,192,518.24. STOP PRESS! US\$220+\$100+\$560(Chiang Mai Dedication Offerings); \$500.	
SAT 7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Tow)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SAT 2.00 pm	JSM Rehearsal, Sanctuary	(1) Thank God for journeying mercies during our recent trip to Malaysia. (\$200)	
SUN 9.30 am	Life BPC Combined Praise Service	(2) Gracious Heavenly Father, Thank you for seeing my family and myself through another year, for your grace and mercy and protection upon us. Praying also that my parents may come to know the Lord Jesus. (\$200 for Rev Pang Kok Hiong; \$200 for Roska)	
9.30 am	Chinese Service	—A grateful servant	
9.30 am	No Sunday School	(3) In memory of Mdm Lim Ah Laan, mother of Peggy Goh. (\$500 for Beulah House Bldg Fund)	
12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	Love Thy Neighbour. We have been alerted by our neighbours that cars parked on Sunday morning along Evelyn and Gilstead Roads have caused them much inconvenience, especially when such cars obstruct the access to their premises. If you drive to church on Sunday, please refrain from parking indiscriminately. This will help us to be good neighbours to the residents in this area.	
3.00 pm	Thai Service (Partitioned Chapel)	Infant Baptism at Combined Praise Service, 23 Dec, 9.30am. Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 2569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names, by Tuesday.	
4.00 pm	Indonesian Service		
4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Bt Timah, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 80			
Sunday School Offering: \$776.40; Attendance: 340			
Verse for the Week: I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Job 42:2			
The Church PA Crew is in need of additional helpers for the 8.00 am Service. Those interested, please contact Mr Lun Chee Leong, 9501-1840(Pgr).			
Testimonies from Ahmad Ibrahim BASC Thanksgiving Service. I want to thank God for giving me knowledge and wisdom. I hope I can be a Christian when I grow up. —Ma Xiang Yu			
Thank you God for giving me good health. Thank you for my parents, relatives and friends. I would like to be a Christian in future. —Wak Li Ting			
Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Combined Fellowships Camp (15-17 Dec) and YF Camp (17-20 Dec), Mersing. Rev Charles at Kulai Besar BPF, 11 am and Berith BPC Camp (17-21 Dec).			



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Vol. X No. 21

16 December 2001

"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. 24	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Eph 4:1-13	Psalms 46
Hymn	No. 245	No. 46
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 445	No. 91
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 12:28	Matt 12:38-42
Sermon	Who Is In-Charge? (Rev Prabhudas Koshiy)	If Whale Swallowed Jonas, Jonas Swallowed Whale
Closing Hymn	No. 450	No. 502
Benediction		

THE GREATER IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING A SPIRITUAL HOUSE

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church, Chiang Mai, on the Dedication of its New Sanctuary, Lord's Day, Dec 9, 2001)

Text: 1 Cor 3:9-14

We thank God the Father Almighty for giving you this splendid property so recent as a year or so ago. We were here when you first acquired these three double-storey houses. What surprises us is the speed with which you have now added this new Church auditorium, and we are here again with Elder and Mrs Khoo to dedicate it.

You have done excellently to construct the new Auditorium, which is for the worship of members of this Church. With these worshippers in view, I would therefore speak on the topic, "The Greater Importance of Building a Spiritual House."

In the building of any house, whether physical or spiritual, the most important thing is the laying of the foundation. The Apostle Paul says, "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 3:10-11). Any foundation other than Jesus Christ is insecure, which may lead to total disaster, namely, the toppling of the whole building.

In Singapore there occurred in 1986 the sensational sudden

sinking of a five-storey building called New World Hotel. The live burial of over 30 guests and employees was shocking. The overloaded building was resting on wooden piles which gave way under the illegal construction of water tanks on the roof top. Without warning, the five-storey building slid down the soft mud in a matter of seconds. This disaster was so horrible that it was reported in the Reader's Digest.

Jesus Christ is the only foundation the leaders of this Church can lay for the spiritual house which is the congregation. According to Paul's writing to the Ephesians, the members of this Church are of the household of God, "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Eph 2:20). Your faith is built on Jesus Christ the Living Word, but how are we to know Him but through the Apostles (the New Testament) and the prophets (the Old Testament), the Written Word?

While Buddhists worship Buddha through his images we Christians seek our Saviour through the Bible.

The pastor who is the shepherd of the sheep, the members of the Church, must be a diligent student of the Bible. He must meditate on the holy Word day and night. It is his duty to feed the flock by preaching a full sermon of at least half an hour from the pulpit each Sunday. There is no substitute for the Word of God by any other means.

Charismatic churches can use human methods of tongues-speaking, miracle-healing, "slaying

by the Spirit" (which is not found in the Bible), but what their members want are not words of men but the exposition of God's Word.

As members of this Church, do each of you own a Bible? Do you read a portion of it everyday? Do you know whether you have been saved? Do you know your sins have been forgiven?

I grew up in a Church. My grandfather was the pastor. I had to attend church whether I liked it or not. The Gospel was preached to me, ear in, ear out. Though I began taking the Lord's Supper at the age of 13, if you asked me if my sins were forgiven, I could not say. Then Singapore had a Great Revival through God's servant, Dr John Sung. I became born again. I never possessed a Bible before this. Now I bought three Bibles, an English, a Chinese and an English-Chinese New Testament. I read the Bible with relish in six months. How about you?

My emphasis on the pastor's responsibility to preach a Bible-charged sermon and the response you are to give at the hearing of God's Word are the laying of foundation of our faith.

After the foundation is laid, there is the superstructure. This is the work of every member of the Church. Everyone must contribute to the building up of this spiritual house. This we do in Christian service. Do you come to Church every Lord's Day and you come joyfully to worship Him?

You can help teach a Sunday School class, join one of the fellowships, support the church with your tithes and offerings, etc., etc. We can use precious materials to build God's House, like gold, silver, precious stones or poor materials like wood, hay, stubble (I Cor 3:12). To build with gold, silver, precious stones is the work of faith, hope and love. We serve with full devotion to God. We are happy our works are done to be seen only of God, that we will be rewarded by Him in His good time (v.14).

When the Chinese Service of Life Church in Singapore was first started it was attended by a handful of 8 to 10 people. I remember an old lady by the name of Chang Ching Ho. Because she loved our Chinese Service she attended it faithfully for years, never absent once, until it started to grow. She gave her widow's mites in support. She prayed always for the struggling church.

This old lady, Madam Chang, reminds me of another. Her name was Euphrasia. During the building of a Cathedral she brought hay and water to feed the donkeys that carried stones and cement to the work site. Then came the day of dedication of the Cathedral. Upon the cornerstone the Emperor put his name as the great builder. That night angels erased the Emperor's name and put the name of Euphrasia instead.

To build with wood, hay, stubble is to render eye service. It may come from the pastor and his

f a m i l y themselves. Why do they serve in Church? Because they are paid workers and therefore duty bound. It is not a cheer but a chore. This I speak for myself.

Why do members come to church on Sunday? To socialise with their friends. This happens with migrants

to another country such as Australia. As new arrivals they need help from older migrants. When their needs are taken care of they leave the church. The above are only two examples for our learning.

Today we are gathered here to dedicate this new House of God for worship. The greater importance is to build a spiritual house, namely, the edification of the worshippers. May our Church not become a social and commercial church, but a Spiritual Church.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward" (vv.11-14).

May the Lord say to you that day, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (Matt 25:21). Amen.

ALL ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S CAMP

I am glad to have accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour. So, every time I attend a church camp, I find it very meaningful. Especially this time, I find it most meaningful as it has preachers from all around the world to talk to us. We had videos and games. Also, we had missionary stories such as "Corrie Ten Boom"




and "John and Betty Stam." They touched me very much as they gave a lot (even their lives) to serve God! Through camping overnight, we chatted with one another and became best of friends. We also had to practise acting for the Christmas play, which was fun too!

However, there was also the star event of the whole camp. One was the night when Pastor Wan came to give a sermon. He told us the story when Jesus met a man with demons in him and how he cast the demons out into a herd of pigs who went mad and drowned in the sea. He also explained that the sins in our hearts were similar to the demons in the man. Only Jesus' precious blood could save us! Fasting and reading the Bible would do no good to cleanse your sins. We learnt a great deal from it and I learnt that I should ask God to forgive my sins and to help me turn over a new leaf.

We further had drama. One night, we performed "David and Goliath" and "The Prodigal Son." The shows were nearly faultless. We performed well, due to God's presence which encouraged us to carry on, and make the night a successful one. For that, we practised diligently. Even during rest hours, we were urged to practise to perfect the play. We put in a lot of effort. I acted as a narrator and a small character. We were all ecstatic to perform as the BEFORE AND AFTERSCHOOL CARE children were here. Most of them were non-Christians, and we were determined to let them know and trust God so that they could be saved from going to hell. I like this brilliant church camp. I have learnt a lot of moral values from it.

—Timothy Wee, Pri 6

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 24 - 30, 2001)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	8.00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	\$7,945.00 (8.00 am); \$25,103.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	9.00 am	JSM Christmas Service	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200, \$100; Cambodia Mission \$100; Cambodia Orph \$300; Rev Jonathan Lee \$150, \$460, \$1300; Surish \$100, \$100; Batam-Roska \$500; Myanmar Orph \$200, \$300, \$600; Rev & Mrs Paauew \$210; Pines Rice Fund \$300; Chinese Bibles for China \$50; Ho Heng Sau \$100; LF \$50; MsF \$200; Sunday School \$100; Rev Seet \$200; Tan Kian Sing \$600; Chan Pui Meng \$120, \$100, \$300, \$300; AF \$100; Cambodian FEBC Students \$120; Glory Bible Centre \$200; Needy brethren \$300; Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Rev Tow \$100; Rev Wong \$100.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Church Christmas Service	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$550(Boxes), \$330(Boxes).		
	3.30 pm	Wedding of Jang Sae Kwang & Rachel Oh (Rev Tow)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$100, \$250, \$400, \$250, \$100, \$400, \$50, \$500, \$150, \$1000, \$200, \$300, \$500, \$3941, \$500. Grand Total: \$3,202,738.24. STOP PRESS! \$200(USA), \$10000, \$300, \$50(from a child), US\$50.		
WED	8.00 pm	No Prayer Meeting	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
THU	8.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Wong)	(1) Please channel my gift of \$1320 to Lim Choon Lye (Christina Ho). God has promised that "cast thy burden upon the Lord and he shall sustain thee" (Psalm 55:22).		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(2) This couple visits our website and FEBC Bookroom regularly and have become friends of Life Church and the College. Some months ago they came to see me and presented a gift of \$3,000 for the building of New Beulah House. They called on us this week again and would channel their Thankoffering to the Lord. They have a son who is admitted to NTU. For this blessing they gave me a cheque for \$10,000 for Beulah House. "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). Amen. —T.T.		
SUN	2.30 pm	Wedding of Raymond Lum & Elizabeth Ho (Rev Wong)	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am; Rev Seet at Maranatha BPC, 10.45 am and Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.		
	8.00 am	Know The State Of Your Flock (Rev Charles Seet)			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.15 am	Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan)			
	10.30 am	Rev (Dr) Jeffrey Khoo			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship/Filipina F'ship			
	10.30 am	Nursery/Pre-Jr Worship/Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.00 pm	Burmese Service			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service/Filipina F'ship			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 89					
Sunday School Offering: \$720.00; Attendance: 276					
Verse for the Week: And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. 1 Timothy 3:16					
					
Elephants playing football, Thailand					



Life

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Vol. X No. 22

23 December 2001

Wishing Our Readers a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

FROM HAPPIEST JAPANESE ROYAL BIRTH TO THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church Combined Praise Service on Dec 23, 2001)

Do you know why the whole Japanese nation is carried away with joy when a baby girl Princess Aiko is born to the Crown Princess after a long wait of eight years?

Having studied Japanese history and culture during the Japanese Occupation 1942-45 I can tell you why. My Japanese tutor believed in the myth of the divinity of their emperor. He was called Hirohito and he reigned long years after WWII, a total of over sixty years. He outlived all the great leaders of the allied nations, such as Winston Churchill, Charles De Gaulle of France, General MacArthur of USA. His divinity is witnessed not only by his longevity but also by his being the one hundredth and so-and-so male descendant within one dynasty of Japanese emperors. And succession to the royal dynasty is given only to the male descendants.

When the present Crown Princess, of the third generation from Hirohito did not conceive until eight years after, and she was reaching two to three years under forty, there was great anxiety about there being no successor to the throne after the present crown prince. The claim that there has been over 100 emperors keeping to the one dynasty succession, which proves the royal divinity, is severed.

According to the claim to divinity with the birth of male successors, the present birth of Aiko, a girl, severs it. At any rate, the Japanese of a new age have given up the myth of divinity of the royal family, and though it is a girl this time, the Japanese, as a nation, is willing to let a female successor sit on the throne.

That the Crown Princess gives birth to a girl

this time, I believe, is decreed by God the Almighty in order to break the myth of Japanese Imperial divinity. The Japanese emperors throughout the ages were fallible human beings and not gods.

Thus the Japanese people are brought down to recognise the birth of a girl. The whole nation is bubbling over with joy as long as the royal birth has come, whether boy or girl. And, all the anxious waiting was only eight years.

When our first parents fell into sin, and death by sin, God announced the coming of a Saviour to redeem us while they were still in the Garden (Gen 3:15). After a long wait of over three thousand years God announced through Isaiah that a Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son who will be called Immanuel, God with us. Then after another seven hundred years, when Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, God the Father was so delighted that He broke through the blue by sending his angels to declare, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men."

When a princess is born to the Japanese after eight years of anxious waiting the whole nation rejoices. When the Saviour of all mankind, God's Son, is born through the Virgin, after 4,000 years, the world rejoices, "even to the whole heaven," in the words of Chinese Christians.

Although Christmas has degenerated to mass commercialisation, using the name of Christ to make money out of us, we Christians do well to celebrate the divine birth by praising His Name with the angels. We worship Him with the Wisemen with our gifts and announce his salvation to the world with the shepherds.

One blessing God has bestowed upon His

people is the age-old Gospel carols that we sing. They bring comfort to our hearts that Christ is the only hope of mankind.

Christmas is the Christian's New Year. It is a time of rejoicing. It is a golden opportunity of spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

On this joyous occasion encircling the globe we welcome you, visitors to Life Church, to celebrate His Holy Birth. Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, is God's Son. Why did He come to earth? To save His people from their sins. Because we have all fallen into sin we need Him who alone can save us. He was crucified, died and buried. After three days He rose again from the dead to die no more. He breathed peace on His disciples, and this day, if you will kneel before Him and receive Him as your Saviour, you will be saved. Amen.

"IF YOU BELIEVE THE WHALE SWALLOWED JONAH, THEN JONAH CAN ALSO SWALLOW THE WHALE"

*(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church
10.30 am Service, Dec 16, 2001)*

Text: Matthew 12:38-42

The above statement of ridiculing unbelief was reported to me as uttered by an American bishop who taught me English when I was in the Senior Cambridge class. Before we deal with this ridicule let us consider generally the subject of miracles in the Churches today.

This week I received an e-mail from a member of the Faith Community Baptist Church. He says, "Sir I would like to ask you a question. Why is it that your church does not believe in divine healing? Don't you know that God is a supernatural God and a supernatural God can do miracles and perform signs and wonder in healing the sick and casting out demon? Do you know something? A church that does not believe in miracles, signs and wonder is not a real Christian Church? Paul told us to shun away from such people who deny the power of God. Didn't you hear stories about God supernaturally healing the sick around the world as well as in Singapore? Didn't you hear about Pastor Rony Tan, Bro Francis Khoo, and Pastor Joseph Prince who all have miracle healing taking place in their ministry? What your church only has is words but totally denying its power. This is not the real

Christians that Jesus wants. Jesus wants Christians to believe in healing, miracles and signs and wonder. I am from Faith Community Baptist Church. And my church totally believes in healing and miracles. Then why don't your church believe also? Are you tired of seeing no growth in your church at all? Then it is time to believe in miracles, healing and signs and wonder. In not 10 years down the road your church will remain in the same stage. Totally without power and lifeless."

Our answer, "Our Church certainly believes in miracles and signs and wonders. But not in the so-called miracles practised by charismatic churches. Jesus in Matt 24:24 warns us, *For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.*"

In this connection let me refer to Reinhard Bonkhe who came to Singapore to hold a big miracle rally many years ago and he is coming again. He was highly advertised in the Anglican Church paper as one who would open the eyes of the blind and cause the lame to walk. With all that high power publicity machine in operation, no report of healing of the blind and the lame was heard.

Only one young lady said the operation on one of her eyes improved, but she also said she was going to have the other eye operated on after the healing campaign. If the faith healer could improve on the affected eye why didn't he heal both eyes together?

Signs and wonders were given only to the Apostles (Acts 5:12), and not to pastors today, and for the confirmation of the Word (Mk 16:20). No more signs and wonders continued after the age of the apostles. This was observed by St Augustine a most prominent Church father of the 4th century. A believing church now is better than a seeing church.

One miracle worker we must not forget is our Lord Jesus Christ. The miracles performed by the Apostles were limited in comparison with His, and they were done in Jesus' Name. Jesus, who is God of very God, cast out demons, cleansed the lepers, raised the dead all by His own power.

Why did Jesus perform so many miracles? He did the miracles to convince the Jews He was from God. He is God's only begotten Son, the Father is

in Him and He is in the Father (Jn 10:37,38). When four men brought a paralytic to see Jesus by opening the rooftop Jesus said to the sick man, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," the Jews questioned in their hearts, "Who can forgive sins but God?" Jesus replied by saying to the paralytic, "Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk." Though Jesus has proven He is God, did the Jews believe in Him? No.

And yet the scribes and Pharisees demanded a sign (miracle) from him, apparently, a super miracle. Jesus readily gave them one – the miracle of Jonah who was swallowed by the whale and after three days and three nights came out of the whale's belly alive, who should have been digested into the whale's system. So Jesus, though He was dead and buried for the duration of three days, did not decompose, but arose, and lives forever to die no more.

Why did my American teacher of English make such a scathing remark? "If you believe the whale swallowed Jonah, then Jonah can swallow the whale." This is a blasphemy against the Bible record which Jesus, the Son of God, stated to be true. When my American teacher ridiculed the Jonah story, he automatically denied the resurrection of our Lord.

Today, there are countless Church leaders and theologians who ridicule the Jonah story and simultaneously Jesus' resurrection. Record shows that Westcott and Hort, who attacked the King James Bible, repudiated miracles and the resurrection. Reinhold Niebur, a modern theologian, said he expected the finding of Jesus' bones on some Judean hillside someday. A Ph.D. student was conferred the degree by writing a thesis, "There is no Resurrection." A theological professor Van Dusen of an American Seminary committed suicide with his wife in their old age, which showed they had no resurrection hope beyond the grave.

But what is the evidence of history? It is unanimously agreed by all true Bible scholars that the resurrection of our Lord is the most attested fact of history. We have the records that Jesus appeared to the disciples ten times and ate with them. Then he appeared to Saul on the Damascus Road by which Saul became Paul and he gave

his life to preach the Gospel to the ends of the Roman Empire. Last of all He appeared to the Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos from whom we get the Book of Revelation.

There is no sign to be given to the whole world to attest Jesus' rising from the dead, except the sign of Jonah. Jonah typified our Risen Saviour.

Whether you believe in the resurrection or not is of utmost importance. St Paul declares, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom 10:9,10).

"And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable" (I Cor 15:17-19).

"But now Christ is risen from the dead." Hallelujah, with Him we who believe are also risen to live with Him from everlasting to everlasting. This is our Blessed Hope. This is our joyous celebration at Easter. Amen.

INFANT BAPTISM

01. Ezra Ebenezer
s/o Mr & Mrs Harsono Soesanto
02. Lee Yi Kai, Samuel
s/o Mr & Mrs Lee Chee Siong
03. Neo Li Yan, Chloe
d/o Mr & Mrs Neo Siak Peng
04. Neo Mei Yan, Candace
d/o Mr & Mrs Neo Siak Peng
05. Neo Rong Yao, Joel
s/o Mr & Mrs Neo Siak Peng
06. Neo Wen Yao, Jonathan
s/o Mr & Mrs Neo Siak Peng
07. Teh Tian Li, Nigel
s/o Mr & Mrs Teh Yew Beng
08. Tiong En En, Phebe
d/o Mr & Mrs Tiong Chin Seng
09. Yeo Kang En, Matthew Owen
s/o Mr & Mrs Roland Yeo Kim Seng

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

01. Foo Xiang Jie, Joel (*Student*)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 31, 2001 - Jan 6, 2002)

MON	7.30 pm	YF/YAF Thanksgiving Anniv. (Rev Tow)
	10.45 pm	Watchnight Service (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	2.30 pm	Wedding of Toh Cheng Leong & Yap May Ling (Rev Colin Wong)
	8.00 pm	No Prayer Mtg
WED	8.30 am	FEBC New Semester Opens Day of Prayer, Sanctuary
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	8.00 pm	FEK Board Meeting, Library
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Is Christianity Rational? (Rev Colin Wong)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	9.30 am	Catechism Class
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship
	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
	12.45 pm	Evangelism
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. **Wed** Newton; **Fri** Bishan, Bt Batok, Thomson, Sengkang, Woodlands.

Verse for the Week: *For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death. Psalm 48:14*

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$40,655.00 (Combined Service)
\$34,803.00 (Christmas Eve Service)
OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia Mission \$200, \$200, \$7010(Calvary BPC Pandan); Cambodia Orph \$20, \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$250; Ho Heng Sau \$400; FEBC students \$300, \$200; Needy/Sick brethren \$100; Ny Sambath \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$300; Chan Pui Meng \$40, \$600, \$400(LF); Pallin Orph \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100; MsF \$500; Rev Seet \$50, \$400, \$500, \$100, \$500, \$50, \$500; Rev Wong \$100, \$100, \$50, \$500, \$100, \$50, \$500; Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo \$500; Elder Khoo PK \$500; Ng Sang Chiew \$50; Quek Keng Khwang \$150; Rev Tow \$100, \$500, \$140, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$520; Maasai Medical Ministry \$257; Glory Bible Centre \$50.
NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$50, \$400, \$300, \$700, \$300, \$1400, \$50, \$240, \$1000, \$250, \$20, \$1000, \$1000, \$400, \$500, \$1000, \$500, \$1000, \$2000, \$3500, \$100(LF), \$250, \$2000(Thomson NBC), \$200(FEBC Students), \$300, \$5000(Session member), \$1000, \$7453(Calvary BPC Pandan), \$140, \$450, \$200, \$1000, \$130, \$300, \$100, \$800, \$500, \$200, \$520, \$100, \$1000, \$450, \$20, \$1000, \$1000, \$1000, \$3000, \$3000, \$1000, \$150, \$100, \$700, \$1000, \$1000, \$5000. **GRAND TOTAL: \$3,269,361.24.**
STOP PRESS! \$2300, \$300, \$4650(Session member).

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) Thank God for protecting the family and preserving our jobs in times like this. Thank God for even an increment in pay when keeping a job is already so tough nowadays. (\$1,480)

Catechism Class for Easter Baptism will begin next Lord's Day, **6 Jan** with Rev Colin Wong at FEBC Hall, 9.30 am. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.

Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Calvary BPC (Pandan), 10.15 am. Rev Wong at Grace BPC(Chinese Service), 11.00 am and Emmanuel BPC, 2.30 pm. Rev Seet at Gospel Light BPC Retreat (30 Dec to 1 Jan).



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Vol. X No. 23

30 December 2001

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	8.00 am	10.30 am
Opening Hymn	Elder Ong Eng Lam	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Invocation-Gloria Patri	No. 29	No. 49
Responsive Reading	Jn 21:12-24	1 Cor 4:1-8
Hymn	No. 348	No. 409
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 416	No. 558
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Eph 4:11; 1 Pet 5:2	Deut 8:7-20
Sermon	Know the State of Your Flock (Rev Charles Seet)	Your Year End Gratitude (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 262	No. 390
Benediction		

CHRISTMAS IS GOD'S ANNUAL OFFER OF AMNESTY TO ALL PEOPLE

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church Christmas Eve Service on Dec 24, 2001)

Christmas brings peace and goodwill to the earth. The paradox is the earth spurns it. Every Christmas seems to see more fighting and bloodshed, more sorrow and sadness. This Christmas is the worst since WWII. It is so bad that Arafat is blocked by Israel from entering Bethlehem to celebrate Christmas.

With the bombing of the Twin Towers of World Trade Centre Sept 11 and the war now still on in Afghanistan, with the continuing clash between Israel and Palestine, the shooting in the Indian Parliament by Pakistani Separatists, this world is in rather for war than for peace. "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked" (Isa 57:21). And this is the more so in the light of His Second Coming, "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places" (Matt 24:7).

In spite of these tumults, God the Father Almighty is still sitting on the throne. The greater part of mankind is still at peace. And despite the Downturn, we in Singapore are very well sheltered. We can come to celebrate Christmas in Church, not as Christians in Jakarta. It is reported on the radio Christians are being threatened.

The angel's message is, "Glory to God in the highest and on

earth peace, goodwill toward man." In a world of turmoil, the message of "peace and goodwill toward men" is all the more precious. What is this peace and goodwill toward men? It is God's special annual offer of amnesty to a sinful people, the overall forgiveness of our sins, if we come to believe in His Son, Jesus. The very purpose of the Virgin-born Son to come into the world is that He might die to pay for the penalty of our sins. He proves He can do this by His Resurrection from the dead.

The Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ makes the Father so happy that He offers His amnesty to one and all who will receive His Son this Christmas. Many years ago the towkay of Yik Woh Watch Co. of North Bridge Road and his young son joined Life Church. When I asked him how he became a Christian he said it happened one Christmas Eve. The carolling party of a certain Church came to his neighbourhood to sing "Silent Night." The singing was so charmingly sweet that he thought it was sung by angels. He decided to become a Christian that night. Has not our carol-singing touched your hearts tonight?

The purpose of our Christmas Eve Service is two-fold. First, is that our Church might come together to worship the Lord. Second, it is like the shepherds who, having seen and worshipped the Child Jesus, broadcast the good news to those who have not seen or heard. The non-Christian loved ones and friends whom our members have brought, we pray will receive Jesus into their

Combined Fellowships Camp in Mersing



hearts tonight. Jesus is the true Saviour, not Japanese gods and Sai Baba who have led even Singaporean professionals astray.

May the peace and joy of finding the Saviour fill all your hearts. This is Christmas.

*Mine eyes have seen Thy salvation
As one born blind now see the light
O the thought that Messiah has come
Sweeps o'er my soul this first Christmas night.*

WISDOM COMES FROM GOD: ONE WITH GOD IS MAJORITY

Text: Eccles 9:13-18

Wisdom that saves a little city or delivers a country from disaster comes from the Almighty. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (Jas 1:5).

Joseph was such a man. He lived closely with God and God gave him wisdom which delivered him from death. His great ordeal was the wife of Potiphar's daily temptation to have sex with him, but he flatly refused. As a result he was cast into prison. There God further prospered him. He revealed to him the secrets of the dreams of the baker and the butler. The baker was executed, the butler restored to the palace to serve Pharaoh.

Pharaoh had a double dream of seven thin cows eating seven fat cows and of seven thin ears eating seven fat ears on a stalk. He was greatly troubled and his magicians could not help him. But Joseph by God's wisdom solved Pharaoh's mystery. The two dreams are one. Egypt will have seven bumper years of harvest but these years of plenty will be swallowed by seven years of famine.

Pharaoh made Joseph prime minister because his God-given wisdom saved the nation and surrounding nations. What would Solomon say to this? He applauds this with Pharaoh, for he says, "And it seemed great unto me" (Eccles 9:13).

After Joseph and Pharaoh had gone from the scene the exploits of Joseph were forgotten. "Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph." Solomon says of the poor wise man, "Yet no man remembered that same poor man."

But Solomon the wisest of men remembered the poor wise man. Solomon praises wisdom to excel power and might. Solomon deplores that wisdom is easily forgotten. Wisdom is despised and totally submerged. But wisdom from God remains supreme. One with God is majority.

When power and might rules among fools, the words of wise men are silenced. Wisdom is heard when silence reigns supreme, as with the small and humble.

Solomon says, "Wisdom is better than guns and bombs," in today's language, for a sinner, one who despises wisdom, can lead a nation into disaster. Incidentally this happened in Rehoboam, Solomon's son. Rejecting the wise counsel of old men for that of young turks, he spoke roughly to the tribes of Israel who came to make him king. This resulted in their revolt under Jeroboam who became Israel's king. Only Judah and Benjamin remained with Rehoboam. It also shows how quickly Solomon the wisest man that ever lived sank into oblivion after his death. What happens in politics happens also in the Church. —T.T.

COMBINED FELLOWSHIPS CAMP 15-17 December 2001

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Nought be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

More than eighty people attended the Combined Fellowships Camp at Resort Lautan Biru (RLB) from 15 to 17 Dec 2001. They ranged from toddlers to veterans. Some went by car but most went in the two coaches. We were delayed for a couple of hours at the Malaysian Immigration but the waiting did not seem that long especially when we were with brethren.

We reached Mersing about two hours late, but were refreshed by a good lunch at a restaurant. After that we checked in at RLB. Mr. and Mrs. Tan, guardians at RLB were warm, helpful and welcoming. They had worked hard to get the place ready for us.

The first message that Saturday afternoon, by Rev. Colin Wong, was on "Becoming a Visionary Christian in the 21st Century." He encouraged Lifers to have the vision and to rise up to meet the spiritual needs of the church. That evening, Bro. Mark Chen delivered an interesting message on how visionary Christians have to protect themselves from the temptation that surrounds us in today's promiscuous society. The message was backed by statistics, and it was very persuasive.

Dr. David Cheong spoke the next day on the topic: "Why We Need Visionary Christians in the Next Generation." He pointed out how biblical standard should determine our Christian vision. On the same evening, Rev Colin Wong spoke on

"Unity of Vision means Unity of Purpose." He outlined three essentials for Christian service, namely, the need for investigation of the problem, the need to cooperate with God and with fellow brethren to carry out God's work, and lastly the need for the determination to obey and serve God.

We were divided into groups for discussion following each message. It was a good opportunity to get to know each other in the smaller groups and to be able to share on the implication of each message.

We also had a very inspirational prayer meeting at 3.30 pm on Sunday afternoon. Rev. Colin Wong led in prayer, and he called out many young adult lifers to go up to the podium to pray for the needs of the church and missions. We were encouraged by how keenly aware and concerned these young adult lifers were in the various areas of the church.

At camp sharing/testimony time, Deacon Victor Loo and others shared on how this camp had encouraged them. We were touched by at least one brother who vowed to make the weekend a turning point in his life. Praise God for his mercy!

The camp committee did a fine job in encouraging integration and fellowship among camp participants by organizing games. One game involved collecting signatures of those with similar interests. Another game had teams racing against each other in the fine art of eating dry crackers. Even at dinnertime on one occasion, we have to play "musical chairs" to encourage us to mix more freely.

God was with us in the camp. We saw smiling faces around us. Young and old were quick to lend a hand in serving the food, washing the mugs and clearing the tables. Snacks kept appearing on the table contributed by loving hearts keen to share their goodies. Mrs. Phoebe Wong kept the younger children happy doing fine and imaginative art and craft at the end of which prizes were given for their efforts. It is indeed good and precious for brethren to dwell together in unity.

In between meetings, we had time to enjoy nature around us, including the joy of smelling the fresh sea breeze. We admired the fine intricate patterns made by tiny crabs on the sandy beach as they darted back and forth from their burrows. We marvel at the variety and beauty of the seashells when the tide ebbed and the sea was tranquil. The stars were also

especially plentiful and bright in Mersing. One night we heard the waves crashing as they raced to the beach. We became aware of how much love and care God took over his creation. And we are his most precious! I am reminded that God created us for a purpose. It is for us to glorify Him and do His will. We need to tell God we are available for his use. That is why we need to have a vision to serve God. We need to ask Him to inspire us to do his will. "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also" (James 2:6).

We thank the Lord for the Camp. May all of us be inspired to a greater height in our service to Him.
—Submitted by Gaik Lee

THE STAKE IS TOO HIGH!

Many people today still doubt or do not believe in the existence of God. This is a very serious matter for if God does not exist, then the following claims by the Christian church will fall like a pack of cards:

1. Jesus is the Son of God
2. There is life after death – heaven and hell
3. Angels and the Devil do exist
4. The Bible is the Word of God

Their unbelief is based on what is happening in the world today. They argue that if there is a God, why is there so much violence, killing, injustice and untold suffering experienced by millions the world over? How could God allow such things to happen? They do not understand that all these happenings are the result of sin. These people only see the negative aspects of life. They never consider the wonders of God's creation like the universe, the earth itself with mountains and valleys, the oceans and dry lands inhabited by all kinds of animals and human beings; the flowers and plants not to mention the four seasons. Last, but not least, the human body – how it works and the reproductive system from conception to delivery. All these things could not have happened by chance! There must be a Maker or Creator.

I would like to pose this question to them, "If you die tonight and you wake up to find that there is no God, then I suppose you are all right, but what if you wake up and find that there is a God after all? Don't you think it is too late?" In Psalm 53:1, we read, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God..."

Jesus said, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:17)

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

So, don't gamble your life away – the stake is too high!
—E H Eio