

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 7 - 13, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$13,253.00 (8.00 am); \$11,893.00 (10.30 am) \$18,824.00 (Watchnight Service)	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Mission \$150; Cambodia Orph \$190, \$300, \$200, \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$850; Batam-Roska \$1500; Israel-Baraka BPC \$100; Missions \$100; Myanmar Missions \$400(Chinese Service); Myanmar Orph \$150, \$500, \$500; Rev Thawm Luai \$50; MsF \$5000; RPG \$100; Rev Seet \$50, \$100, \$500; Rev Wong \$50, \$100, \$50, \$500; Dn Yiew \$480; Esther Chew \$50; Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$100; Rev Tow \$150; Chiang Mai Blankets \$150; Rev Timothy Okman Ki \$1000; Thailand-Nirand \$50; Life Church Choir \$50.	
THU	7.30 pm Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$400, \$1000, \$200, \$500, \$2000, \$240, \$1000, \$1500, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$600, \$150, \$200, \$1000, \$1000, \$200, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$150, \$5000, \$3000, \$1800, \$3090, \$500, \$830(Chinese Service), \$100, \$100, \$200, \$450, \$500, \$100.	
FRI	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,296,521.24. STOP PRESS! \$50.	
	7.45 pm Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SAT	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(1) "My God is so big, so strong and so mighty, there's nothing my God cannot do...." Indeed this children's chorus most aptly describes my praise and thanksgiving to God in the marvellous and wonderful way He has saved my grandmother! Please channel the enclosed \$600 to the New Beulah House project for the furtherance of His Kingdom.	
SUN	8.00 am Is There a God? (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	—Deeply indebted to God	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	(2) I thank the Lord for all the blessings for this year and may He help me to strengthen my faith for the years to come. —A Lifer (\$400 for New Beulah House)	
	9.30 am Sunday School	Catechism Class for Easter Baptism begins today, 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.	
	9.30 am Catechism Class	Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Berean BPC, 4.00 pm.	
	9.30 am Rev Tow at Grace BPC Anniv. Service		
	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		
	12.30 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.			
Verse for the Week: 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 Timothy 6:12			
Our deepest condolences to the family of the late Mdm Chia Gek Eng on her homegoing on Wednesday. The funeral was conducted yesterday.			



New Baraka B-P Church at Shepherd's Field



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Vol. X No. 24

6 January 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 47	No. 28
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 16	Psalms 65
Hymn	Lord of the Years	No. 355
Announcements		(SS Staff Dedication)
Offering & Hymn	No. 352	No. 242
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 17:16-34	Matt 12:43-45
Sermon	Is Christianity Rational? (Rev Colin Wong)	The Futility of Self-Reformation (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 453	No. 281
Benediction		Lord's Supper

My dear Readers

OUR CHURCH BELL USHERED IN THE NEW YEAR

It is our custom to ring the Church bell on the dot of 12.00 am at the Watchnight Service, Dec 31. In order to do this our Service is timed to begin at 10.45 pm. This year our timing was so accurate (praise the Lord) that with the singing of the Triple Amen the bell began to ring – ding dong, ding dong, ding dong. Our ushering in New Year 2002, I'm sure, was happily anticipated by denizens of the whole Newton District. The 700-800 worshippers at Life Church were the most thrilled to greet the New Year. O Lord, lead us on the right path throughout the New Year.

The Limping of my Left Leg

Since our return from Perth, Nov 23, 01, I have been troubled by numbness of my left leg. Dr Cheng Wei Nien, Calvary Jurong Elder and specialist, has prescribed physiotherapy and I am still being treated. This has dampened my spirit. But Rom 8:28 says, "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."

There is a Chinese saying, "Only those who have a toothache

can sympathise with others who have a toothache." I begin to realise that there are many others who get sick in Life Church, as our Weekly Prayer Bulletin shows. With my wife taking good care of me, I can feel the deeper pain of those who are not married, without wifely care. To comfort their hearts I prescribe the reading of Psalms. The hymn, "Count Your Blessings" should lift you up. Here's the first stanza:

*When upon life's billows you are
tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged,
thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings – name
them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the
Lord hath done.*

*Count your blessings – name them
one by one;
Count your blessings see what God
hath done;
Count your blessings – name them
one by one;
Count your many blessings – see
what God hath done.*

By God's grace the B-P Church has spread to many parts of the world. Not the least is our fellowship with Palestinian converts of Dr Thomas Lambie and other missionaries of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions.

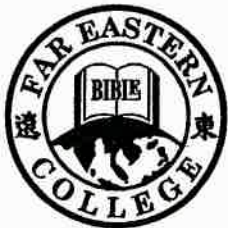
In 1987 our pilgrims to the Holy Land bought for them a piece of land

at the Shepherd's Field for building a church. This land being too close to the powerful Greek Orthodox Church was vetoed from building. So it was resold, and with the proceeds they bought another piece. On this new land the Baraka B-P Church members have built this church (shown on back page).

Of late Bethlehem has been the centre of fighting. The old Baraka B-P Church is right on the front line, and was hit once or twice. Jehovah Jireh, with the building of the new Church the members of Baraka B-P Church, who live mostly around the Shepherd's Field, will soon congregate in their new place of worship. If my fellow pilgrims will send them a congratulatory gift which they will appreciate then designate yours "To: Baraka B-P Church." The cheque you send should be made in the name of "Life B-P Church" for convenient remittance.

The building of the spiritual house is more important. God called the youngest son of Rev George Awad to the pastoral ministry. After four years of study in the Philippines he returned last year to become their Youth pastor. His contact with young people has markedly increased the size of the congregation.

FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE
reopened on Wednesday, Jan 2, 2002 with Day of



Prayer at the Life Church sanctuary. At least 10 new students were enrolled, with 2 new ones from Nagaland.

Over 30 will be graduating May 2002. Of these graduands, a number have already completed their studies since November last.

One of them is June Tan (MRE). Not to waste time, June is leaving to serve 1½ months with Dr and Mrs Wee in Kemaman. After that she will be sent to Myanmar to help out for one month, teaching at Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology (Principal, Rev Thawm Luai). Incidentally June's computer skills will be put to good use, for FEFST

is struggling in the work of checking the Falam Chin translation based on the King James Bible.

We have two other missionaries in Myanmar. They are Andrew Kam with his orphanage and village churches. The other, Go Za Sum, is labouring in Chin State in the North with his primary school children.

—Yours in His Service, T.T.

OF WISDOM AND FOLLY

Text: Eccles 10:1-10

Dead flies make the pharmacist's ointment to stink, so does a little indiscretion tarnish the name of a wise and honorable person. A man's reputation is his second life, says a Chinese proverb.

The Hebrews say, "A wise man's heart is at his right hand, but a fool's heart is at his left." A wise man has great advantage over a fool. He goes about his business with dexterity, but the fool fumbles around like a man that is left-handed.

Solomon continues to show us the path of discretion. If your superior has anything against you do not run away. Rather yield yourself to his good pleasure. In so doing he will be pacified.

Under the sun Solomon observes even a king's mistake. Consulting personal affections rather than public interest, men are not preferred according to their merit, "Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place." Thus servants are seen riding upon horses and princes walk as servants upon the earth.

He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it. He that digs a pit for another, it is ten to one but he falls into it himself.

Whoso breaks a hedge, an old hedge, that has long been a landmark, let him expect that a serpent such as harbour in rotten hedges, will bite him.

He that cleaves the wood, especially if he has sorry tools, shall be endangered thereby. The chips or his own ax head will fly in his face. If we meet with knotty pieces of timber, men of perverse and ungovernable spirits and we think to master them by force and violence, the attempt may turn to our own disadvantage.

—T.T.

TESTIMONIES

I thank the Lord for bringing me to the Combined Fellowships Camp. I leave the camp with this prayer that, even as I now write this testimony, the Lord would use this occasion to mark the turning point for all the brothers and sisters at the camp.

Although this is my first Christian camp as a new member of Life BP, I have before attended several Christian camps and conferences in my 34 years as a Christian. In nearly every instance, the exuberance attained at camp almost always dissipate in the weeks that follow, much like the predictable waves of a business cycle. I have therefore gone to the Mersing camp with minimal expectation. I thank the Lord that I had received a taste of God's restorative power.

The theme at camp was "The Importance of Having Visionary Christians in the Next Generation." It was a good theme. A Christian without a vision is a blind Christian, an aimless Christian, and one who has little hope of being effectively used.

Why did God choose Nehemiah for the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem? It was not that Nehemiah was naturally endowed with a vision. Rather, Nehemiah first and foremost feared and loved God. On hearing that "the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and the gates thereof are burned with fire" (Neh 1:3), Nehemiah sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven (Neh 1:4). Because of his fear and love of God he was tenacious in pursuing and challenging God in prayer to make him a useful vessel for God's work.

How many of us have Nehemiah's spirit of love for the Lord? I believe that if we have just a fraction of Nehemiah's spirit, the Lord would be faithful to give us a vision and to make us his useful vessels. And I believe all of us can attain this.

I admitted during testimony time on the last day at camp that I have not had much taste for the Word and for prayer. The reason is clear to me. The condition I am going through is analogous to a man who, having not eaten for a long time, has lost his taste for food. I pray for

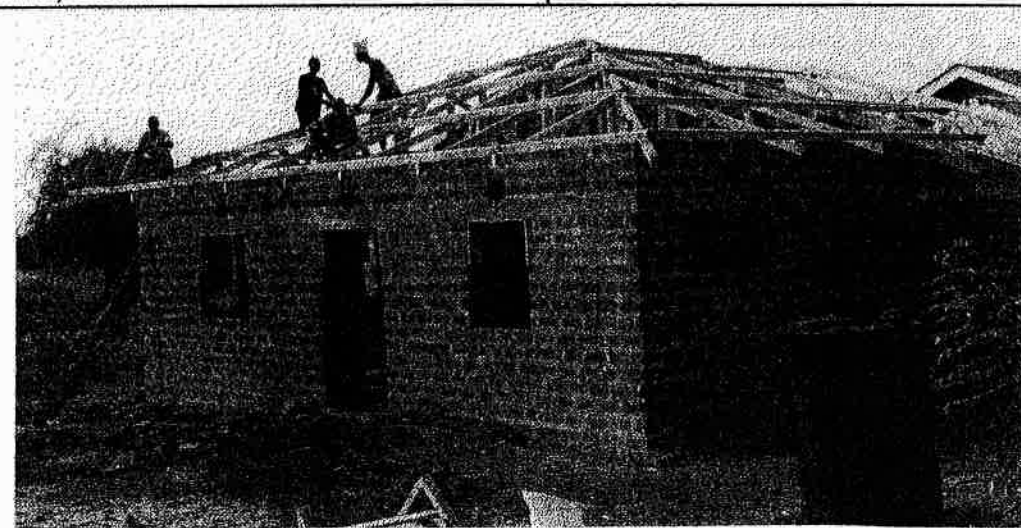
forgiveness from the Lord for my negligence in not feeding regularly on His Word. I pray that He would restore my spirit of fear and love for Him. I know in my heart that if only I have a fraction of Nehemiah's tenacity, the Lord would be faithful to restore my spiritual health and to be once again made fit for His use. —Submitted by Lim Chin

Before I became a Christian, I was a "self-made" man, supremely confident in my ability to control my life and destiny. It was at the death of my mother-in-law in 1980 that first made me to think about the brevity and uncertainty of life. I was given a tract — "The Reason Why" which had the catch-phrase at the foot of the front cover — "When the sun sets on your life, how shall it be with you?" Indeed, this phrase troubled me a lot, because I really did not have the answer then as to how it shall be with me when my turn comes, and thus was the seed of doubt in my self-capability sown.

A year or so later, in 1981, I was transferred to the USA by my company. My wife had made me promise to accompany her to church in exchange for her accompanying me to the States. So that was how I got to hear the Word of God preached at a conservative Baptist church. During this time, I also experienced problems at work, which culminated in my being demoted. I was shattered, and I thank God for my caring wife who was there for me at my most low moments. It was during one of the worship services that when the preacher asked if anyone would believe in Jesus that I said yes, quietly in my heart, and received Christ into my life. This was in 1982. I returned to Singapore and was baptised in 1984.

I thank God for His mercy in saving me, and for the manifold blessings I have experienced, from the peace of God which passeth all understanding, to wisdom and discernment that can only come from Him. Truly I have tasted the goodness of God, unmerited and undeserved, purely by His grace and mercy, as written in 1 Peter 2:9-10 "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: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." Amen. —Lim Kok Chuan

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 14 - 20, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$13,322.00 (8.00 am); \$17,835.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Kenya \$250; Cambodia Missions \$1000; Cambodia Orph \$1000; Rev David Koo \$200, \$200, \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200, \$150; Rev Moses Hahn \$200, \$1200, \$100, \$100; Surish \$100; Baraka BPC \$300, \$300, \$200, \$1000; Missions \$350; Myanmar Missions \$1000; Rev Andrew Kam \$200; Rev Thawm Lual \$200, \$100; Saipan Mission \$1000; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$1000; Chiang Mai Church Bldg \$2000; MsF \$500, \$522.37(Combined F'ships); Rev Seet \$250; Christina Ho \$1000; Rev Wong \$250, \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$250; Rev Tow \$100, \$800, \$100; Maasai Medical Ministry \$3000, \$300; Sonny Law \$200; Chiang Mai Blankets \$500; Vehicle for Chan Pui Meng \$500; FEBC \$700. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$660(Boxes). NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$580, \$15, \$100, \$350, \$100, \$200, \$100, \$200, \$3000, \$3000, \$600, \$3000, \$30000(Chinese Service), \$2800, \$1850. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,342,516.24.	
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF	(1) Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Saviour. Peace be with you. Enclosed is a cheque of S\$1,700. We would like to contribute \$1,000 to Baraka B-P Church and \$700 to FEBC. We heard a lot about the conflicts between Israel and Palestine. We pray that our brethren there are fine. Thank God also for FEBC continuing to defend the pure words of our Lord. We continue to keep you, your family and also FEBC in prayer. God will continue to use you to further His Word.	
SUN	6.00 pm	AF 21st Anniversary Thanksgiving, FEBC Hall	The Far Eastern Kindergarten at Life B-P Church is looking for a Principal with Minimum Qualifications in Early Childhood. The Principal should be in the Christian Faith, with love for children and preferably able to commence immediately. Please contact: Elder Mahadevan (4664059) or Dn David Tan (95143392 Pg)	
	8.00 am	Is Jesus Christ God? (Elder Dr Lim Teck Chye)	Basic Theology for Everyone. The Monday night class will be changed to a course on the Book of Exodus, by Rev Quek Suan Yew, Lecturer in Old Testament. Those who are interested in registering for this course may do so when it begins tomorrow night at 7:30 pm at the FEBC Hall.	
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am.	
	9.30 am	Sunday School		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class		
	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		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Service		
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.				
Sunday School Offering: \$883.90		Prayer Mtg: 89		
Verse for the Week: <i>Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings. Psalm 17:8</i>				
Please pray for our pastor, Rev (Dr) Timothy Tow, as he recuperates for 2-3 weeks in a hospital from a prolapsed intervertebral disc. Visitation is not advised, since the doctor requires him to have complete rest. Notes of encouragement by email will be printed out and conveyed to him.				



The New Clinic in Kenya named "Kiluanji Clinic of Life"



Life

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Vol. X No. 25

13 January 2002

"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. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 40	Psalms 23
Hymn	No. 246	No. 349
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 392	No. 399
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Psalms 19:1-4	Psalms 84:1-12; 16:11
Sermon	Is There a God? (Rev Charles Seet)	Our Attitude Towards Worship (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 291	No. 368
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

Since I had not improved from my limping left leg the Doctors sent me for an MRI scan Monday morning, Jan 7. I was diagnosed to be suffering from prolapsed intervertebral disc (slipped disc). So the Church got me admitted to hospital the next day.

I am now comfortably settled in a one-man room, with balcony flanked by palm trees that resembles FEBC. This is my second time in hospital. God sends me here that I might learn the lesson of suffering, that I might be even thankful to Him for enjoying 80 years of good health.

Good health is heaven. Ill-health is hell. So David exhorts himself to thank his Maker with his whole being "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; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's" (Ps 103:2-5).

Although not every sickness is due to some specific sin (Jn 9:4), we are still encumbered by our original sin. The sinful nature

we inherit from Adam afflicts our bodies so as to involve us in sickness. The Chinese proverb (生老病死) birth, age, sickness, death, is a true commentary of human life.

Calvin says when illness overtakes us, it is appropriate to search our own heart if there be any secret sin lurking in our soul, and to confess it. David, a man of God's own heart, always humbles himself. In Psalm 39:10 David confesses his sickness comes from God but he asks for mercy to remove his transgressions (v.8). So have I confessed my sins to the Lord when I plead for His mercies to heal me. At the same time I want to thank the whole B-P Church for praying on my behalf, and for your visits to cheer me up. With your fervent prayers I am uplifted to know He will heal me quickly.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

OF FOOLISH TALK

Eccles 10:11-20

There is a practice in the Orient of charming snakes by the power of music, see Ps 58:5, and rendering them harmless for a time. The babbler is a dangerous person capable of doing serious injury. His tongue is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Like the snake he must be "charmed." We must find the way to tame him. The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious but the lips of a fool will swallow up

himself.

A babbler talks foolishness as soon as he opens his mouth. He ends his talk in mischievous madness. A fool also is garrulous. No one is able to tell what he will be and what will be after him. The labour of the foolish is to no purpose. He has no capacity to understand the plainest thing such as the entrance to a great city, and he misses the road. The way to the heavenly city, however, is a highway in which the wayfaring men though fools, shall not err (Isa 35:8). Yet sinful folly makes men miss the way.

Mutual duties of rulers and subjects

Solomon observes how much the happiness of a land depends upon the character of its rulers. The people cannot be happy when their princes are childish and voluptuous (v.16). The land is blessed with a king who is a son of nobles, and when the princes eat at proper times, for strength and not for drunkenness.

Of what ill consequence is slothfulness both to private and public affairs (v.18). It is the ruin of actions. A feast is made for laughter and wine for making merry. But money is most useful in every situation of life.

Curse not the king, not at all in thy thoughts and curse not the rich either in your bedchamber. Because God sees what men do and hear what they say in secret and when He pleases, brings it to light by strange and unsuspected ways. By way of application, curse not the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Your curses cannot injure Him, but His curse, coming down upon you, will sink you to the lowest hell. —T.T.

TESTIMONY

I came from a non-Christian family. As a child, I was filled with curiosity at the activities that regularly took place at the Fairfield Methodist Church nearby where I lived. I often wished I could join in these activities. By divine arrangement, one of my Pri 3 classmates invited me to accompany her to church with our teacher, Miss Ng. It was the Bras Basah Bethesda. I was truly excited. It was like a dream come true to be able to find out for myself what people go to church for.

I attended Sunday School for the first time. I learned my first memory verse – John 1:29 "The

A Prayer For Pastor

*Dear Lord, our dear Pastor is laid low
It's by Thy sovereign will, we know
That Thou hath given Pastor 'enforced rest'.
Indeed it must be a difficult test
For our dear Pastor is happiest
When he's preaching at Your behest!*

*Lord, Thy children have been deeply distressed
That our dear Pastor, who never takes a rest
Is now suffering this 'thorn in the flesh'.
Lord, you're the great and wise Physician,
Please touch and heal Thy most stoic Patient,
Comfort and cheer O Lord, Thy faithful servant.*

*Lord, we count the bountiful blessings
Thou hath showered upon our dear Pastor
And the church throughout these past 51 years.
We ask of Thee one more blessing—
Spare our Pastor and heal him of his suffering.*

*Restore O Lord, Thy octogenarian Shepherd
So that he can minister to his flock of sheep.
With one accord we cry, 'Abba Father'
Have mercy upon our dear Pastor!
Lord, Thou art mindful of our need,
Let Pastor recover to see Beulah House being built.*

*Grant O Lord, Lifers' heartfelt wish,
For our dear Pastor's preaching we greatly miss.*

*Psalms 147:11
Linda Chan,
9 Jan 2002*

next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and said, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." I memorised this verse diligently and the following week at Sunday School was rewarded with a bookmark for saying it correctly from memory. I had learned Jesus is the Lamb of God and He took away the sin of the world. However, Miss Ng had to go away and my church going was short lived. She gave me a small Bible with pictures.

The following Jan., my younger sister started school at the nearby Fairfield Methodist Girls' School. She was encouraged to attend the Sunday School. My parents thought it would be

advantageous for her to attend and I was to accompany her. My attendance was not regular. Being the elder, I was required to help my mother with the housework.

My Sunday School teacher in Pri 6 and Sec 1 was a very dedicated teacher. In her gentle manner, she was very caring and concerned about each one in her class. She visited me often although I used to be afraid about such visits thinking she was after my attendance. When I was older, I realised that she was instrumental in showing me how to study God's Word on my own. She encouraged me to read the Bible daily and taught me to seek answers to questions of application from the passage I read. I benefited from daily reading of the Bible even though I was unable to attend Sunday School regularly. I learned from John 3:16.

It was January 1966. I was 12 when my teacher during one of her visits asked if I knew Jesus had died for my sin and if I would accept Him as my Saviour and Lord. When I said "yes", she led me to pray the "Sinner's prayer."

After my GCE O-levels (end 1969), I began attending the Youth Fellowship with my younger sister at Galilee B-P Church. I found the topic each Saturday most relevant and developed a bond with the group. I decided to attend Sunday School and Worship Service there. Soon I was at Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting as well.

Consequently, I desired baptism. I had been contented with having accepted Christ and being sure of my salvation. The challenge was to "confess with my mouth" having "believed in my heart" Jesus is Lord (Rom 10:9). I was baptised, without my parents' knowledge on 3 June 1973 at Galilee B-P Church. My parents subsequently confronted me for my avoidance of "altar" food but accepted my baptism as if they had expected it.

As I recall how the Lord has drawn me unto Himself, I remember John 10:4, "...the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." John 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you..." and what the Psalmist said in Psalm 22:9-10 "...thou art he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts. I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly." I praise God that His word is truth.

—Mrs Eris Lim-Yap Beng Mui

HOPE THOU IN GOD
*Why art thou cast down, O my soul?
And why art thou disquieted in me?
Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him
For the help of his countenance. (Psalm 42:5)*

September 11 saw the "Evil one" strike down the Twin Towers to "Ground Zero", engulfing it in flames, razing it to the ground! Thousands died in the calamity, buried in rubble. Millions are shocked; New Yorkers wept; many mourning! Complacency replaced by fear; faint hearts despairing!

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul?" Oftentimes we ask ourselves that question. In mundane situations we too face problems which seem to offer little hope, no solutions: In marriages, retrenchments, joblessness, broken relationships with family members; in illness – terminal or in extremity – many cling on to hope, seeking help from all and sundry except God Almighty!

Terrorism, sadly, has become a way of life for frustrated, misguided elements who seek to destroy democracy and freedom. September 11, the defining moment etched into people's minds, recalls that infamous day when evil was proffered as something decent! Except for the perpetrators, the rest of the world are overwhelmed with anxiety or torment – what with planting of Anthrax germs in the mail and threats of chemical and nuclear attacks to come?

Beloved, we are living in perilous times (2 Tim 3:1). Surely, believers ought to have abiding faith and hope in God. For does not Psalm 23 reassure us: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me: Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me".

And does not Psalm 46:1-3 encourage us with these Words: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

Beloved, hope thou in the Lord!
—Elder Tow Siang Yeow

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 21 - 27, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$9,970.00 (8.00 am); \$16,310.00 (10.30 am)
	7.30 pm Counselling Training Class, G&H Rm	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Mission \$200; Cambodia Orph \$150;
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	Surish \$80, \$100; Israel-Baraka BPC \$100; Rev Andrew Kam \$240;
THU	7.30 pm Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	\$200; Saipan-Ho Heng Sau \$80; Rev Seet \$50, \$100, \$140, \$110;
FRI	8.00 pm Family Worship	Rev Wong \$200, \$50, \$100, \$50; Ephrem \$140; Tan Kian Sing
SAT	3.00 pm YF<F Combined Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall	\$150; Rev Tow \$110; Chan Pui Meng \$800(LF); Barnabas Yap \$50;
	3.00 pm YAF; 3.30 EBF	Sonny Law \$130; Rev Tow's medical expenses \$240, \$500, \$600;
SUN	8.00 am Is The Holy Spirit God? (Rev Colin Wong)	EBF \$50; An Sitha's hospitalisation expenses \$500 (Calvarian).
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$200, \$500, \$300(Session member),
	9.30 am Sunday School	\$400, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$2060, \$1000, \$1000,
	9.30 am Catechism Class	\$568.25(YF&YAF), \$1920(FEBC students), \$50, \$100(LF).
	10.30 am Rev Okman Ki	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,351,114.49.
	10.30 am Chinese Service	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	(1) Thank God for His providence and His faithfulness in supplying all my needs for the past one year. Here is a little token for His work for Beulah House (\$1,800). —A Lifer
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	The Far Eastern Kindergarten at Life B-P Church is looking for a Principal with suitable qualifications in Early Childhood Education. The Principal should be a mature Christian, bilingual, with love for children and good interpersonal and organizational skills. Please contact Elder Mahadevan (4664059) or Dn David Tan (95143392 Pg).
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs John Ching, Friday 25 Jan, 8 pm. Address: 54 Old Upper Thomson Rd, Island Country Villas S576228, Tel: 552 4244. Speaker: Elder Khoo Peng Kiat.
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	Our deepest condolences to the families of : (1) the late Ng Keng Teck (67) who passed away on 13th Jan.
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	(2) the late Francis Chen Zhongzu (67), who went home to be with the Lord on Wed. Funeral service will be conducted by Rev Charles Seet at 3.30 pm today at the Pearl Room, Singapore Casket.
	3.00 pm Thai Service	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Tangkak, Bt Beruang & Rawang BPCs; Rev Seet at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 97	
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.		
Sunday School Offering: \$520.70; Attendance: 390		
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		
Thank God for the successful surgery of Rev Tow last Thursday and for the significant improvement of his slipped disc. Pray for his complete recovery.		



Training Sessions conducted by sister Poh Yok for kindergarten teachers at Kompong Som, Cambodia



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Vol. X No. 26

20 January 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 226	No. 49
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Col 1:12-22	Psalms 19:1-14
Hymn	No. 66	No. 295
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 69	No. 400
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 16:13-20	Lam 3:21-37
Sermon	Is Jesus Christ God? (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	How to Cope with Trials in Life (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 50	No. 335
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

After Perth, our assignment was to Chiang Mai to inaugurate the New Church Auditorium. It was about this time that when I awoke in the morning I felt a numbness in my left hip. I thought I had caught a cold from Perth or Chiang Mai but it persisted. So I saw Dr Cheng Wei Nien, the specialist. The X-ray showed nothing serious, but when the pain continued and it went to the lower leg, he sent me for an MRI scan. This revealed I had a slipped disc. I was hospitalised and now I am in Mt Alvernia for over one week.

With rest and physiotherapy I am now on the way to recovery, but urination, which I have been treating with drugs recommended by another doctor, became a problem, sending me to the toilet 8 or 9 times in the night. Dr Lim Teck Chye recommended me to Dr Beng who took over. My acute urination requires surgery. But it is a blessing in disguise because now I am killing two birds with one stone. The doctors are considering Jan 17. As this letter is written Jan 16 you will not know whether I will be operated on Jan 17 or not.

Life is full of mysteries. We live one day at a time. James says, "Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil" (Jas 4:13-16).

This double illness that comes to me is no doubt from the Lord. It brings to mind the shortness of life, and I must prepare for it. My wish is to serve Him up to 95 but He is the One to decide it. Calvin observes it is human nature to live long, but not in its power. But while His will is absolute it is our duty to pray to Him for mercy. I am simply overwhelmed by the good wishers in and outside of the Church for praying for my recovery — your e-mails, visits, flowers and fruits, personal prayers and singing that come each day. Thank you all for your blessings. Perchance, dear reader, you are still not a Christian, how important it is to realise that if you are not, you are in a dangerous position of ending down in hell. For those of us who are in Christ, wake up to the nearness

of Christ's Second Coming. In this light what better life can you live than by serving Him?

I want to thank Linda Chan for her prayers for my recovery. She also expressed the concerted desire for building Beulah House. So far, the offerings that have come in are good. Let us keep it up. God looks into the heart. One tenth of our income belongs to Him. This is the yardstick, so considerate, so practical. To withhold the tithe is to rob God (Mal 3:8). But there are Lifers who give much more than the tithe. The blessings that God promises go them. Blessings not measured in earthly terms, but the heavenly — happy marriage, jobs, obedient children, (health is wealth), good appetite, God-given opportunities. "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).

The happy fact about our Church is that many are matured givers. You give liberally beyond the Beulah Building Fund where there is a greater need at present. To many Lifers giving is a blessing, not a burden.

As for our missionaries, many have given their strength beyond their limits to extend God's Kingdom. Such genuine cases should be considered. But there must be a golden mean.

Lifers have given outside of Life Church to help sister Churches. But when we give to others we receive from them reciprocally. Give and it will be given.

The Christian faith is a giving religion. "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). "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mk 8:36). Before you die, will all you have to the Lord's work, is most profitable. You are in fact saving up for yourself in heaven. Jesus bequeathed nothing to the Church but His death paid for the penalty of all our sins.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

Sow Sparingly, Reap Sparingly, Sow Bountifully, Reap Bountifully

Text: Eccles 11:1-6

In the Orient, when the fields are flooded, they plant their rice. That is like casting bread on the waters to feed fish. Here is a lesson from sowing. If we sow sparingly we reap sparingly. If we sow bountifully we reap bountifully. Giving in fact is receiving. It reaps bountiful returns.

We observe from nature how rain clouds irrigate the fields. Trees grow old, they die and lay down facing the north or the south. So we also die, one this way and the other another way. We must consider our end. Will we die happily in Christ? Or fearfully with little hope of salvation?

Life must go on regardless of any conditions. A farmer must keep at his work rain or shine. Go on and persevere in well doing! Let slip no opportunity. If we persevere in due time we will reap (Gal 6:9). "As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all. In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good" (Eccles 11:5-6). —T.T.

TESTIMONY

I was born and baptised into a Roman Catholic family. Since young, I have treated God and religion like part of a ritual and a family custom to be followed. As I grew up, I began to question why I needed to have God in my life. I questioned the need to perform the endless rituals during Mass every week. I also questioned the need to go to Church every week. When I was in varsity, I made a conscious decision to stop going to church. I denied God and proclaimed that all I needed was my own determination and hard work. Throughout the next 5 years, I wandered further and further away from God. I pursued many hobbies but none of them fulfilled the emptiness I had inside me. I felt strongly that I needed something spiritually, but I was simply too stubborn and proud to turn back to God.

In May 1999, I went to USA to do my postgraduate studies. Two years before that, I

worked very hard to save enough money for my overseas studies. The full-time job and part-time jobs I took up put a big drain on me. Even though I was working very hard for something I wanted to do, I still did not feel any better spiritually. I begin to feel the limits of my own strengths.

When I reached USA, I was not at all at ease. Worries of my financial situation hounded me constantly. I tried very hard to look for scholarships, but was not successful. I also tried applying for hourly jobs, but was rejected despite the fact that I was fully qualified in every aspect. Having been stubborn and proud all along, I finally admitted the futility of my own efforts. For the first time since I stopped going to church, I began to wonder if God and religion is the answer. My heart began to soften toward God and there was a yearning to turn to God. At this time, my classmate invited me to attend a Christian fellowship gathering. While I had rejected her time and again in the past, I suddenly felt a strong yearning to attend. During the gathering, Pastor Chen from the Chinese Church of Indianapolis preached about how Jesus performed the miracle of feeding 5,000 people with the five fish and two loaves. He asked us to question ourselves if we have the right focus toward God. Do we treat God as a machine that dispenses goodies to us? If there were no fellowship, no friends, no good things in our life, would we still cling on to God? A true Christian is one who is with God no matter what happens. For the first time in many years, I felt that I've finally found what I was searching for. God is constant and unchangeable. Despite my stubbornness and willful rejection, God the Father has been patient and merciful with me. That night when I returned home, I knelt down and prayed for the first time after five years. I prayed for God to forgive my stubbornness and rejection. I begged God to allow me to return to Him again. I felt a spiritual closeness and need for God in my life. For the first time in my life, I truly felt that I have accepted Christ.

After this, I attended the Fellowship regularly and also worshipped at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church every Sunday. Through these, I began to learn about what is wrong with the Roman Catholic faith. I reflected on my life in the Roman Catholic Church and realise that it has wrongly diverted my spiritual attention to sinful idolatry in Mary and various saints. By not emphasizing the teaching of God's

word, I have been separated further and further from God by the belief that salvation can be gotten through good works. I realise how little I know about God's word and also the fact that I have not been truly cared by God until now. When I graduated in May 2001 and returned to Singapore, I was brought to Life Church by my classmate. I am happy to find a church that is fervent in preaching a fundamentalist and reformed theology. I thus wish to be baptised in Life Church and be a member. I truly cherish the opportunity to totally renounce all ties with the Roman Catholic faith.

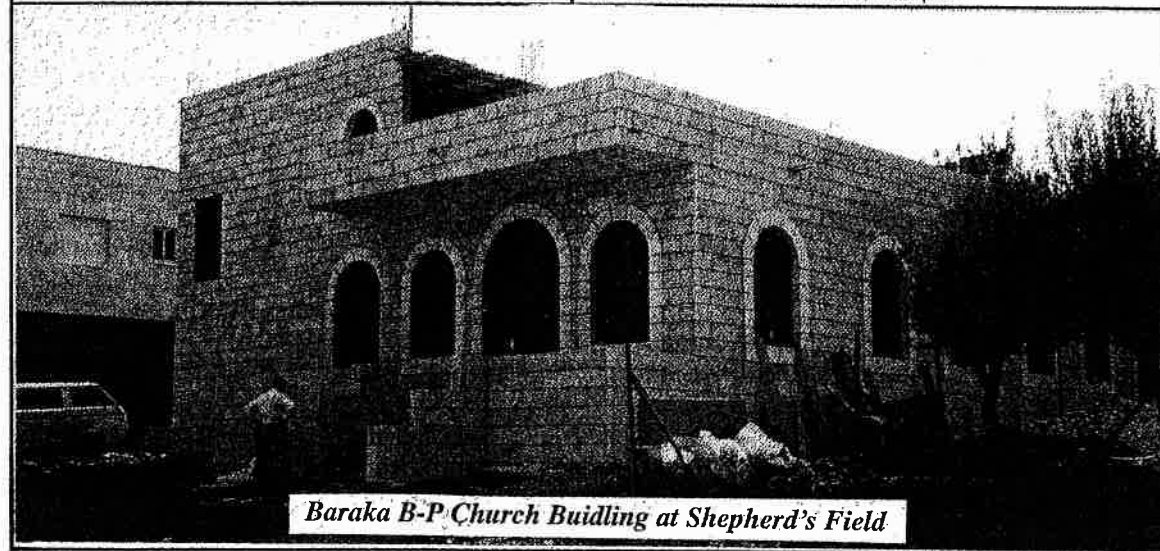
God is a gracious God. Since the day I accepted Christ, my eyes were opened to the bountiful provision of God in my life. A week before I accepted Christ, I was offered a teaching scholarship which paid for all my school fees and living expenses for my studies. This scholarship came as a surprise as I was previously rejected. Since then, God's bountiful providence has not left me. I was re-appointed for the same position in the summer semester. Traditionally, this post is never given to students who are not from the Computer Science department. I was the first student from the Education School to have gotten the appointment in many years. Throughout the next two semesters, my scholarship has always been renewed. Praise the Lord!

Not only has God been merciful in His providence, He has also prepared and provided the way ahead for me. When I returned from the States in May 2001, I was offered a job by my ex-company within a week of my return. In the midst of the economic downturn, God has been merciful in His providence again. Besides providing generously in terms of my daily needs, God has also transformed my relationship with my family. Due to my stubbornness and pride, I used to have personal clashes with my father, especially over financial matters. The word of God has taught me to respect my father and mother. It has also humbled my heart to the fact that pride and stubbornness is sinful. God has also taught me that He will keep me in good providence. This has allowed me to be more generous and kind to my family members.

To conclude, I thank God for His mercy and saving grace. Especially for a great sinner like myself who has been stubborn and willful in rejecting God, it is truly the mercy and love of God that has saved me. I continue to pray that God would strengthen my faith and correct me, so that I can be a good testimony for Him to bring my family members to accept Christ too.

—Joyce Koh

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 28 - Feb 3, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$9,020.00 (8.00 am); \$15,695.00 (10.30 am)		
	7.30 pm	Counselling Training Class, G&H Rm	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$2000; Rev David Koo \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$300, \$150, \$500, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$300, \$150; Surish \$150; Batam-Roska \$300, \$400; Israel-Baraka BPC \$200, \$2500; Rev Andrew Kam \$200, \$30; Thailand-Nirand \$300; RPG \$50; Rev Seet \$50, \$500, \$140; Elder Khoo PK \$50; Rev Tow \$500, \$100; Kampong Som \$1290(Life BPC Sunday School); Chan Pui Meng \$600, \$2000(AF); AF \$1000; Barnabas Yap \$50; Nareth \$100(AF); FEFST \$5000; Rev Tow's medical expenses \$50, \$1000, \$500; Rev David Koo's Bible School \$1000; Israel-Rev Awad \$50.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$140, \$400, \$500, \$150, \$3000, \$640, \$60, \$550(Life BPC Sunday School), \$6504(AF).		
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,363,158.49.		
FRI	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	2.30 pm	Seminar for Worship Chairmen, FEBC Hall	(1) Thank God for the award of first prize in the junior department of Sunday School. (\$15 for New Beulah House)		
	2.30 pm	Mt Hermon BPC Wedding	(2) Thank God for not falling sick through the year of 2001 - not a single day's medical leave. Thank God very much indeed for health. Hope next year I'd be blessed in the same way. (\$300 for New Beulah House)		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF	(3) Gracious Heavenly Father, Thank you for seeing my son through his BMT days, for your grace and mercy and protection. Praying also for your mercy through his 2½ years national service. (\$300)		
SUN	8.00 am	Why Do I Believe in the Virgin Birth of Christ? (Rev Colin Wong)	Come and hear a mission report with slides on the Lord's work in Kenya presented by our medical missionary, Chan Pui Meng, at this Tuesday's Prayer meeting, 8 pm, FEBC Hall.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	The Far Eastern Kindergarten at Life B-P Church is looking for a Principal with suitable qualifications in Early Childhood Education. The Principal should be a mature Christian, bilingual, with love for children and good interpersonal and organizational skills. Please contact Elder Mahadevan (4664059) or Dn David Tan (95143392 Pg).		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Chinese Service, 10.30 am; Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.		
	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. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 91					
Sunday School Offering: \$684.50; Attendance: 409					
Verse for the Week: For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me. Psalm 31:3					



Baraka B-P Church Building at Shepherd's Field



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Vol. X No. 27

27 January 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Elder Eric Mahadevan
Opening Hymn	No. 231	No. 44
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Acts 5:1-5	Psalms 91
Hymn	No. 132	No. 347
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 367	No. 403
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 4:1-32 - 5:11	I Cor 2:2
Sermon	Is the Holy Spirit God? (Rev Colin Wong)	Christ Alone (Dr Timothy Okman Ki)
Closing Hymn	No. 243	No. 387
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

Writing on Jan 16, I told you of the doctors' decision to operate on my prostate on the 17th which was executed swiftly according to plan. I was asked by the anaesthetists to breathe in oxygen which sent me in no time to dreamland. After some hours I woke up to the talk of people as if from a far country. I felt very refreshed with not a tinge of pain. I am most grateful to our surgeon Dr Jimmy Beng who did the work on me.

Two days after the operation I was infected by some bug. For this reason I was put in bed with antibiotic drips. Dr Cheng Wei Nien who is in charge of my slipped disc would retain me further, giving me hope for returning home by the weekend. In this case my numbness in the left thigh and lower leg has by now disappeared.

I have been most comfortably settled in a one-man room and given the best food, but there is no better place like home, though Ivy spends the better part of the day with me here.

Once again I would thank members in and out of Life Church coming to visit and pray for me, and for your tokens of encouragement in the form of fruits and flowers. For Elder Dr

Lim especially as the co-ordinating surgeon and Dr Su and Dr Mah, Dr Susan Lau, also enlisted.

The Lord's messenger this week at the 10.30 am Service is Dr Timothy Okman Ki, Korean missionary under the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions to Hope B-P Church, Adelaide. His service in Adelaide has been blessed so that the congregation has doubled since he came. Being missionary-minded he asked me to introduce him to some needy country, which I did. I recommended him to Moses Hahn. Since that time he has visited Cambodia, this for the third time, I believe. He has great ambitions to provide a good education under Christian principles to future leaders of the country. He has also interested Hope B-P members to follow him to the field. We should be blessed by his message and encouraged to support missions everywhere.

As for me, what lessons have I learnt from my recent illness? Let me share with you from Ps 39:4-11, "LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah. Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up

riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee. Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish. I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst it. Remove thy stroke away from me: I am consumed by the blow of thine hand. When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man is vanity. Selah."

These sentiments from King David show how even when he was in the prime of his life he got very sick. This teaches every servant of God our utter dependence on the Almighty. In the light of this teaching let us remember the continuing sufferings of Rev Djunaidi since he fell into a river and has been since disabled from standing erect. Yet he continues to preach the Word once a month sitting on a wheelchair. When Pr Calvin Loh visits Kuching in March he will visit Djunaidi on our behalf.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

TESTIMONIES

I am an adopted child into a family of eight. I became a Christian when I was about 14 years old at a school gospel rally. I joined a Bible study group in school and later, joined Kay Poh Road Baptist Church with my group of friends. Due to my own laziness as well as parental objections my attendance in church was extremely irregular. At 19 years of age, I was baptised at Kay Poh Road Baptist Church. However, I continued to live a life of carnality.

Later, I met an Indian girl who was a full-time worker at Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Singapore. We became good friends and I was very interested in the work that she was involved in. I supported her prayerfully and financially in her mission work. Some time later, I also joined a short-term missionary trip to Thailand with YWAM. In 1988, I joined a Disciple Training School run by YWAM. This was a five-month full-time mission training program. It comprised a 3-month theory course and a 2-month outreach program to Varanasi, India. With some of my YWAM friends, we started to worship in Faith Community Baptist Church. After my training at YWAM, I returned to

serve the church as one of the pioneer helpers in the "Silent" Ministry — a ministry to the Hearing Impaired congregation. Later, I was asked to help in the Filipino Ministry. I served as a cell group leader in the Filipino Ministry. I also met my husband at FCBC. After the birth of my first child, I withdrew from leadership in the Filipino Ministry and became a full-time mother. In 1994, I went to London with my husband and child, where my husband did his Masters in Dentistry.

After our return to Singapore, we just couldn't seem to "fit" back into FCBC. We visited Life B-P Church where our children and myself were fed good solid Bible teachings. I could see the growth in spiritual understanding in our children and they enjoyed church very much. My son Isaac, especially hungers to know more about his Christian faith and asks so many questions. Thank you God and thank you Life B-P Church for all the benefits you have given to me.

I wish to join Life B-P Church through transfer of membership. I wish also to have our 3 children — Isaac, Asher and John, baptised in the church. God has blessed me so much. In spite of my past, God restored me and built me up. Still, I feel I am so far from being the girl that God meant me to be. There is still so much of learning and growing to do. I do need the guidance, teaching, counsel and fellowship of a good, strong church. Please help me, Life B-P! —Rosalind Tan Chiew Ngoh

Although I was born into a family with Christian background, I did not accept the Lord Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour until 1996, when I was sixteen years of age.

Life did not have much meaning then and I was in a state of depression. One day, I had the urge to flip open one of my father's Bibles, something which has eluded me all these years. After reading a few passages and clearing my doubts with my father, I finally realised that there is indeed meaning to life after all. That is, to live for God and to glorify His holy Name. I thank the Lord for leading me by His Holy Spirit to convict me to open the pages of His holy Word.

Life was not a bed of roses even after accepting the Lord. I had many trials and

Mission Trip to Taiwan and Cambodia

*Praise the Lord for His love and care,
Thank you, friends, for your faithful prayers
When to Taiwan and Cambodia we went
To see the Lord's work there first hand.*

*Taiwan is a land of Buddhist shrines,
'Tis sad to see millions that are blind
To the one and only true living God
The Creator, our Saviour and our Lord.*

*Missionaries Stephen and Lydia Choi
Serve the Lord with love and joy.
They witness with tracts and preach the Gospel
In three churches and in two hospitals.*

*In Cambodia we saw the Killing Fields;
There our hearts before the Lord were stilled
To ponder the opportunity and responsibility
To evangelize the lost in that country.*

*We went to Phnom Penh the capital city
To see the work of Rev. Jonathan Lee.
By the Lord's help, with love and prayers
There are now five churches under his care.*

*In the Hope B-P Church's new sanctuary
Cambodian children sang hymns to God's glory.
They recited in English the Apostles' Creed;
Our hearts were thrilled to tears indeed.*

*We journeyed to Kompong Som, called
Sihanoukville,
A seaside town with several hills,
With Rev. Timothy Ki, his son, and Rachel
Jeffries*

To see Moses Hahn and David Koo's ministries.

*The need for labourers is great indeed!
Thank the Lord that Rachel is sowing the Seed
By teaching the Cambodians English and Bible
And helping the missionaries spread the Gospel.*

*Back to Life Church Prayermeeting, Tuesday night,
Our hearts were filled with peace and delight
To hear Pastor Colin Wong bring the Word
From Psalm 1 - the man who is blessed by the
LORD.*

*Led by Rev. Charles Seet, Elder Khoo and Dr. Lim,
Our hearts and prayers ascend to Him,
The Great Physician, Who loves us so
To lay His healing hand on Rev. Tow.*

*At FEBC Chapel, next morning,
We were blessed by a student preaching
From Deuteronomy 6:2 - "fear the LORD thy God".
Amen. May we indeed obey His Word.*

*Truly we are filled with gratitude to God
For sweet fellowship with brethren in the Lord.
We pray for our B-P Churches in Singapore
That God will bless them more and more.*


*For the mission fields of Cambodia and Taiwan,
Let us not rest till God's work is done.
O may we hear our Master's voice,
"Well done, good and faithful servant, rejoice!"*

—Mrs Lefia Paauwe

tribulations pertaining to my life along the way, often casting doubts about my trust in the Lord. I sincerely thank Him for delivering me and strengthening my faith through the years. I have indeed become more patient, understanding, discerning and loving after accepting Christ.

Last but not least, I hope and pray that the Lord Jesus will teach me to know Him more through His Word, to mould me into the man He wants me to be and to lead me where He wants me to go. Praise God!

—Herbert Goh

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 4 - 10, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON 7.30 pm Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew) 7.30 pm Counselling Training Class, G&H Rm 8.00 pm FEK Special Board Mtg, Library TUE 8.00 pm Prayer Mtg WED 8.00 pm Session Mtg THU 7.30 pm Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) SAT 3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF SUN 8.00 am Why Do I Believe in the Resurrection of the Dead? (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper) 8.00 am Children's Ministry 9.30 am Sunday School 9.30 am Catechism Class 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 12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship 12.45 pm Evangelism; 3.00 pm Thai Service 4.00 pm Indonesian Service (20th Anniversary) 4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 113 Sunday School Offering: \$594.50; Attendance: 421 Verse for the Week: And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation. Luke 1:50 JB Sunday School requires 4 more teachers and drivers to help spread workload. Please see or call Dn David Tan, Pg.95143392.		\$10,081.00 (8.00 am); \$24,010.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200; Cambodia Orph \$50, \$500; Rev David Koo \$400, \$370; David Koo's New School US\$200, US\$265; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Israel-Baraka BPC \$30, \$1000; Rev Andrew Kam \$50; FEBC \$700; Pr Calvin Loh \$200; Rev Seet \$50, \$300; Rev Wong \$50, \$50, \$300; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor (has left FEBC), Paul Sun Sokha, Ty Serey Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Elder Khoo PK \$100, \$500; Rev Tow's medical expenses \$50, \$50, \$200, \$50, \$1148; Nepali F'ship \$50; YAF Retreat \$400, \$350; Elder Ong Eng Lam \$100; FEBC Dining Club \$450. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$500, \$100, \$3000, \$500, \$1070, \$100, \$130, \$200, \$2000, \$300, \$300, \$250, \$500, \$140, \$200, \$250, \$250, \$3000, \$686. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,376,834.49. STOP PRESS! RM2000(Mersing); \$2000(Kemaman), \$4650, \$10000, \$100, \$2000. 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. Koh Gak Ho, 65, was baptised by Rev Colin Wong and assisted by Elder Khoo Peng Kiat last Lord's Day, 27th Jan at Singapore General Hospital, in the presence of family members and Elder Tan Nee Keng. The family of the late Mrs Heng Mui Kiah [nee Chia Gek Eng] would like to convey their sincere gratitude and appreciation of the love, care and concern by the Session and members and friends of our Church extended during their recent bereavement. The comfort, gifts and services of the Pastors and the visits by the members speak volumes about your love for them. They were greatly encouraged. The Far Eastern Kindergarten at Life B-P Church is looking for a Principal with suitable qualifications in Early Childhood Education. The Principal should be a mature Christian, bilingual, with love for children and good interpersonal and organizational skills. Please contact Elder Mahadevan (4664059) or Dn David Tan (95143392 Pg). Preaching appointments: Rev Seet in Batam.
		
Rev David Koo and Surish's opening up of land, for building of School, Bible School and Church (to save on increase of payment of monthly rent)		



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Vol. X No. 28

3 February 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Wee Chin Kam	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 161	No. 32
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 48	Psalms 32
Hymn	No. 139	No. 425
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 295	No. 50
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 1:18-25	Matt 26:31-35
Sermon	Why Do I Believe in the Virgin Birth of Christ? (Rev Colin Wong)	Hope for the Backslider (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 165	No. 398
Benediction		Lord's Supper

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

After 3 full weeks' stay at Mt Alvernia I was "released" Mon. Jan 28, 12.30 pm by the panel of doctors watching over me, under Elder Dr Lim's supervision. Elder and Mrs Khoo were on hand to take me and my wife out. And they gave us a pleasant send off with Loy Kee's Hainanese chicken rice complete with chilli and ginger sauce which I ate with relish. This tasty meal is followed up the next morning with Elder Dr Lim's fish porridge and Bah Kut Teh.

Now, I am better in my slipped disc situation and healed from a prostate gland operation that removes all urinary problems. Through this experience from the skilful scalpel of Dr Jimmy Beng I am able to give you clear information on what the prostate is all about. Here are excerpts from his clear write-up on "The Prostate and You."

What Is the Prostate?

- A gland present only in men which provides secretions in the seminal fluid, nourishing and transporting sperms.

- It is situated at the opening of the urinary bladder, wrapping around the urine tube (the urethra).
- Its growth and activity are influenced by hormones, in particular, testosterone.

What Can Happen to the Prostate?

- It can grow. Enlargement of the prostate occurs with age and is stimulated by hormones, begins around 40-45 years of age and is present in more than half of men over 60. It is called **BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERPLASIA (BPH)**.
- It can become infected and inflamed. This is called **PROSTATITIS**. This infection may be short and sharp, called acute prostatitis, or it may be a low grade grumble which lasts a longer time called chronic prostatitis. Sometimes it can develop into a prostatic abscess, which is a pocket of pus in the prostate.
- Pain when passing urine, a burning sensation at the urine passage and discharge of pus are some symptoms of prostatitis.
- It can turn malignant, which is **CANCER** of the prostate. Cancer of the prostate is the most common cancer amongst men in the West. In Singapore it is now the 5th most common cancer amongst men, with a sharply rising trend. No one

knows what causes cancer of the prostate. It is not proven that diet or sexual habits can cause prostate cancer. Cancer of the prostate may occur together with BPH, as both affect the elderly.

Early prostate cancer usually does not have any symptoms, but may be detected through a physical examination and blood tests. Only when they have grown significantly or spread elsewhere will they cause symptoms.

By God's grace, I have not only been operated on my prostate, but also pronounced clear of cancer. Praise the Lord!

My cousin Siang Swee visited me in hospital after my operation of the prostate. He joked that the old-car condition of my body needed a general overhaul so I could last out the next 14 years, since he observed I wanted to live up to 95. As I recover slowly, clear of cancer, I begin to feel the quickening of life back in my system. This is the Lord's merciful dealing with His servant.

"The silver is mine and the gold is mine," saith the Lord of hosts (Haggai 2:8). Therefore there is no let up in our weekly giving to the Lord. A young member of our Church working in the bank survived two retrenchment possibilities. But, for his being an honest and diligent employee, he was retained.

Despite the need to build up the Beulah House Fund, when our members see a greater need in missions, they wisely divert proportionately, such as for the completion of the new B-P Church at the Shepherd's Field. Our needs are truly great as we support well over 20 missionaries, the latest being Chan Pui Meng, to return to Maasai Land, Africa, this month.

Missionaries, such as Andrew Kam of Myanmar, always on the go, get more ready support. Lay missionaries like Wendy Teng, increasing our Kuantan Sunday School to 50, are working more effectively than full-timers!

Our training 3 students from Japan is paying off handsomely. Kimiko Goto is now a full-time lecturer of an Indonesian Bible College in Surabaya. Kayoko is married to Rev Cheong Chin Meng of Gospel Light BPC. And Setsuko, now over 60, is an outdoor evangelist as you see her carrying a

Gospel placard: "Christ sets men free from sin."

A last word on FEBC. Our total enrolment is 107 for this semester that climaxes 40 years!

—T.T.



TESTIMONIES

I come from a non-Christian family. Although I studied at a Christian school and attended chapel services I did not go to church after completing school. It was only 27 years later that I began to attend church regularly.

What led me to church were traumatic events and problems in the home that I found myself incapable of handling. I sought the Lord every Sunday praying for guidance and for health and strength to carry on and manage the problems that I had considered to be insurmountable. The Lord answered my prayers even though I had

neglected Him for so many years. Truly, our God is a loving God and my turning to Him reminds one of these words from a hymn - "O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer." Indeed, all things are possible with God.

I did not attend Life Church initially, and made the switch after I found the modernistic approach of another church less and less appealing. It was at Life Church that I learnt much more about the Bible and salvation. I also learnt to count my blessings and realised that the Lord has blessed me abundantly in many ways all these years.

—Kenny Wee

I am Ian Tay and have been living for 13 years but the Lord has done a great deal in my life. I received infant baptism at New Life B-P Church on my 3rd month of existence. My parents told me that it was only infant baptism and I would need to reaffirm my faith when I understood the meaning of salvation.

I have seen my faith mature from a childlike hope to a more complex one where I see the many factors involved and why the Lord does things in certain ways. I always believe that the Lord has His sovereign plan when things occur, whether good or bad.

I faced many problems, though minor, during my primary school life. For instance, forgetting to bring a book to school was a big problem to me and I would think of various excuses to give to my teachers. However, over the years, I realised that whenever I committed my problems to the Lord, He would always provide a way out so that I might be able to bear the consequences.

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Cor 10:13). This verse brings comfort to me whenever I am discouraged by the many trials and temptations of life. Like, I was hoping for better results for my PSLE; but I did not work hard enough to warrant a place in the school of my first choice.

"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" (Rom 8:28). Now I know God's way is better as I do not have

to travel so far to school as originally intended and I thank the Lord for providing me with good teachers this year in secondary 1. I feel that it is perhaps a blessing in disguise as I feel that I am happier this way.

Although I have not led a more luxurious life than most of my friends, the difference is that I have the Lord to lead and guide me in my life. I wake up to a new problem each day but through the years, I have learnt to just trust and obey the Lord and everything will be taken care of by Him.

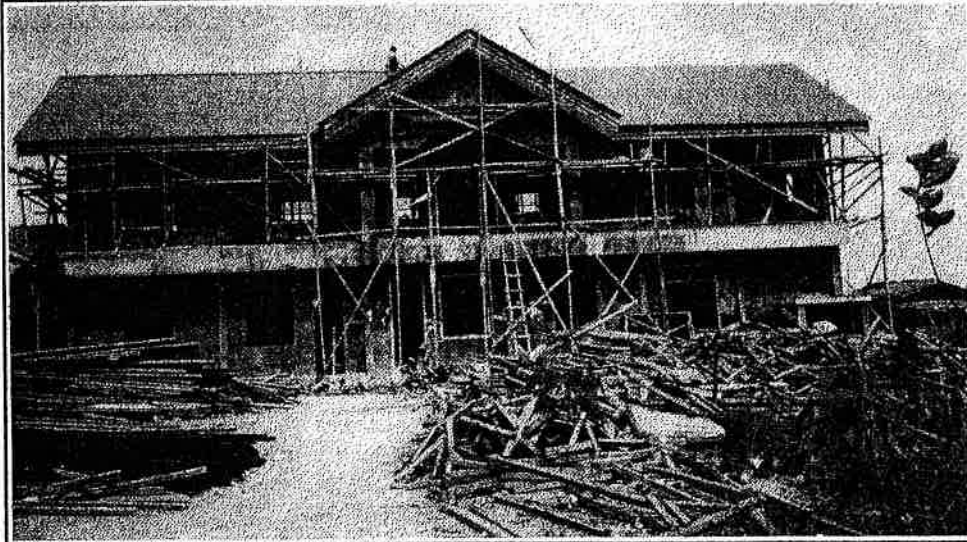
Although I was never good in running, I always managed to pass my 1.6 km run since Primary 4. This year, I encountered a new challenge, the 2.4 km run. I failed by one and a half minutes on my first try. On the second, I failed by two and a half minutes! This really discouraged me as I was prepared to fail for many more rounds. The day before the run, I prayed a simple but extremely sincere prayer that the Lord's will be done. If I passed or failed, I promised the Lord that I would still have faith in Him. On the third try, I finally passed! These may seem like little or minor problems to others, but to me, I feel that the Lord has done something very important in my life by helping me pass.

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Prov 3:5-6). I also thank God that I have finally joined the Teens Fellowship. I have even brought a schoolmate along. I hope I'll grow further in the Lord through the Bible Study and fellowship of His people.

I would like to conclude that the Lord has been really wonderful to me. I am fully aware that just coming from a Christian family, attending Sunday School and being present at worship services will not guarantee me a place in heaven. I thank God that I have grown spiritually from the hearing of His Word that has convinced me to reaffirm my faith in the Lord. I believe this is one decision that I have made and will never regret it.

"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. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed" (Rom 10:9-11).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 11 - 17, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	No evening lecture	\$15,211.00 (8.00 am); \$18,216.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 am	Chinese New Year Service (Eld Su Ching Shun)	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Mission \$1000, \$240, \$150; <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$150, \$5000; <i>Rev David Koo</i> \$100; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$200; <i>Rev Moses Hahn</i> \$500, \$100; <i>Israel-Baraka BPC</i> \$20; <i>Rev Andrew Kam</i> \$100, \$100; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$100; <i>Chinese Bibles for China</i> \$50; <i>FEBC students</i> \$200; <i>Men's F'ship</i> \$350; <i>MsF</i> \$250; <i>FEBC(Boxes)</i> \$1000; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$200; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$100, \$200, \$50; <i>Rev Tow</i> \$800, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$140; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$400; <i>LTF</i> \$300; <i>Rev Tow's medical expenses</i> \$50, \$50; <i>David Koo's Bible School</i> \$250, \$1850, \$5000.		
THU	8.00 pm	No Prayer Mtg	MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$3600, \$550, \$39.30, \$61 (Boxes). NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$160, \$200, \$10000, \$700, \$3000, \$150, \$500, \$200, \$500, \$1250, \$500, \$150, \$1000, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$50, \$300, \$1500, \$500, \$300, \$1000, \$250, \$3200.		
FRI	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,420,578.49. STOP PRESS! \$2018.91(Calvary-Jurong BPC).		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	4.00 pm	Wedding of Yeo Wee Yong & Lin Yuh-Jen (Rev Colin Wong)	(1) Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. (Luke 17:17-18). (\$1,000)		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>Why Do I Believe in the Second Coming of Christ?</i> (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	(2) Thank you, Lord, for countless mercies and blessings, for journeying mercies, job security and most of all for peace of mind. (\$2,480)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(3) Thank God for all blessings and protection for my family and our home. (\$100 for New Beulah House)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	FEBC Bookroom Special Offer for February!		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class	KJV Study Bible by Nelson. Usual \$132.90, Now \$49.90		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow (3 Lessons I've Learnt from My Illness)	New Adventure Bible for Kids (KJV) by Zondervan. Usual \$45.00, Now \$36.00		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Life MP3 Sermons Volume 4 (16 Sep 01 to 20 Jan 02)		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Compact Discs are available at \$10 each. Please pre-pay your order at the FEBC Bookroom. Self-collect from the following Sunday.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	Preaching appointments: <i>Rev Tow</i> at Chinese Service, 10.30 am; <i>Rev Wong</i> at Kelapa Sawit and Air Bemban BPC.		
	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 Indonesian Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Bt Timah, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 106					
Sunday School Offering: \$803.23; Attendance: 423					
Verse for the Week: He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. Proverbs 2:7					



Built at the instance of our members
at Kampong Beek, Batam, this 3rd Church
and Kindergarten under Roska needs only
\$10,740 to pay off all bills. (News has come
from Calvary Pandan that they will send
from their Missions Fund to pay the bill.)



Life

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Vol. X No. 29

10 February 2002

"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. 211	No. 103
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 15:1-20	Psalms 144
Hymn	No. 203	No. 109
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 245	I'd Rather Have Jesus
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 15:20-26	Eccles 6:1-12
Sermon	Why Do I Believe in the Resurrection of the Dead? (Rev Charles Seet)	Do You Have A Truly Blessed Life? (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 186	No. 431
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

Although I left Mt Alvernia Mon. Jan 28, I am still under treatment by Dr Jimmy Beng who operated on my prostate and by Dr Gwee Hak Meng the diabetes doctor. I have been instructed not to preach and not to sit through a whole service because of urinary problems. I shall not see you again until the third Lord's Day, Feb 17, 10.30 am when I shall resume preaching. Thank you once again for your many get-well cards and gifts. Through Dr Lim's good offices the doctors are not charging me. A secretary smilingly said her doctor was doing something for God.

Since coming home I have observed how God is steadily increasing our New Beulah House Fund. I have no doubt we will make it to the 4 Million Mark by Jan 2003, and dong! the first stroke of the piling machine! Then all the space available to every fellowship's need will appear. But the New Beulah House Fund must be strictly kept in order to pay the bills. Everyone, including corporate groups, must rally to keep up paying the bills. We need a total of \$7-8 million, when the New House should be finished by 2005-6.

We've led 10 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Pilgrims of the

2nd batch (1987) bought land for our Palestinian brethren at Shepherd's Field to build a new church. We gave US\$36,000. This land being situated too near to the powerful Greek Orthodox Church had to be resold and another piece acquired. Praise the Lord our Palestinian brethren made some money which help their Building Fund. I have put up two photos showing their new church and now comes Rev George Awad's letter reporting more fully.

Dear Dr Timothy Tow and Family,

We greet you all in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I wonder if you are coming this year with a group to the Holy Land. In spite of all the political problems and the siege, the Lord is blessing us and the church is going well. We pray to God our Father to give us real peace, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you very much for starting collecting special fund for the church building in the Shepherd's Field. God bless you all in Life B-P Church. Up to now the building cost 51,500 US Dollars. We gave to the contractor 35,500 US Dollars and we have to give 16,000 US Dollars more now.

We want to start doing other things like doors, windows and bars. Then other things like plaster and tiles.

We had the Christmas Eve Service in the new building. It was very cold but it was a blessed service. Everyone was happy to

see the church building. We are very thankful to God for your love and support towards Baraka Church.

Dear Dr Tow, we will be very grateful if you can send your donations so that we could continue doing the work in the new building.

—Yours in God's love, Pastor George Awad

One of the purposes of our touring the Holy Land was that we might leave behind some good works. Our greatest blessing was the willingness of the 1987 group to buy the Shepherd's Field for the Palestinian brethren, fellow B-Ps. If the nearly 500 Pilgrims will lift a finger each, they will have a Church completely built. "The silver is mine and the gold is mine" (Hag 2:8). "Cash is king" and since we have very few affected by retrenchments we should respond when God calls. We shall forever give thanks when God answers our prayers. We thank God for hearing your prayers to heal me completely.

—T.T.

ENJOY YOURSELF WHEN YOU ARE YOUNG, BUT WHEN OLD AGE COMES, AND DEATH, GOD WILL BRING YOU INTO JUDGMENT

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Church Prayer Meeting, Tuesday, Feb 5, 2002)

Text: Eccles 11:7-10

A Jewish teacher whose husband had a lucrative job in Singapore found an equally well paying job

teaching Modern Hebrew for Far Eastern Bible College. When she and her husband were leaving Singapore to return to Israel, they came to say goodbye. I asked them their philosophy of life. They said earning a good living and spending on happiness was life. The time when old age and sickness come and finally death, that was it. They are atheists. They know not there is God's judgment.

After WWII when Singapore was rehabilitated by the British and I returned to my job as Chinese Interpreter in the law courts, I was invited to hear a lecture by the newly appointed British High Commissioner for S.E. Asia. He was a charming orator and he spoke on his philosophy of life. At the age of 55 he was at the prime of life. He challenged us young people to study hard and obtain a good career. Then enjoy yourselves for soon old age comes. He expected to live up to eighty-five. That's all. He was shown on the cover of a magazine holding hands with two semi-nude Dyak girls, smiling broadly.

I remember Mr Malcolm MacDonald more deeply when I took a cargo boat to USA 1947 to study at Faith Seminary. Travelling on the same boat back to Canada via New York was Mrs MacDonald, silent and forlorn. I felt her sadness.

A godless life is not only a life that finally breaks up on earth, but one that must face God's judgment in the next. Thus Solomon ends Ecclesiastes chapter

11 with this warning that leads us to chapter 12, the conclusion on his many observations of the vanity of life, a godless life under the sun.

A DESCRIPTION OF OLD AGE, TO ENFORCE THE EXHORTATION TO A GODLY LIFE

Text: Eccles 12:1-7

When we see the realities of old age we should remember the ever-living God our Creator. We should recall our sins in repentance and pray for forgiveness. We should remember our duties, seeking His strength to perform them for His glory. This should be done from our youth while we have the energy, and not when we are old and say, "I have no pleasure in them."

The description of old age is done by Solomon in Jewish metaphors. Verse 2 refers to the succession of pain and infirmities which attend to old age. They are like torrents of rain after the sunshine.

The keepers of the house, v.3, are the hands and arms which start to tremble. The strong men are the knees and legs which bend and totter with age. The grinders are the teeth, which cease, because they are few. Those that look out of windows are the eyes which are now darkened, become blind. The lips refer to the doors of a house. The aged, being weary of couches on which they find no rest, arise as soon as the birds start singing in the morning. All the organs employed to produce or enjoy music shall be brought low. They cannot bring delight. The old man is insensible to the charms of melody because of deafness. Being subject to doubts and alarms, v.5, being conscious of the decay of their powers, the aged consider the least undertaking as hazardous and difficult. The almond tree is a picture of the hoary head. The grasshopper, another metaphor of the old man, shall be a burden to himself. Finally comes his funeral.

As the four preceding verses are a figurative description of the infirmities that usually accompany old age, so verse 6 notices the circumstances attending dissolution. Before the silver cord or spinal marrow be loosed and the golden bowl be broken, the head ceases its function, and the pitcher or heart be shortened and the wheels or lungs broken at the cistern, then shall

THE FEAR OF THE LORD

The Fear of the Lord is

The holy reverence for God that gives Him the worship and praise

The love and service for God that gives Him the honour

The practice of His holy presence that gives strength, protection and confidence

The loving obedience of God's Word that gives understanding and wisdom

The trust in His mercy that gives hope

The faith in Him that gives discretion and defense against error

The walk with Him that gives direction and joy

The faithfulness to Him that gives revelation and blessings

The rest in His promises that gives peace and assurance

The allegiance to God that gives the privilege to carry the banner of truth

The delight in God that gives contentment

The secret of the Lord is with those that feareth Him and

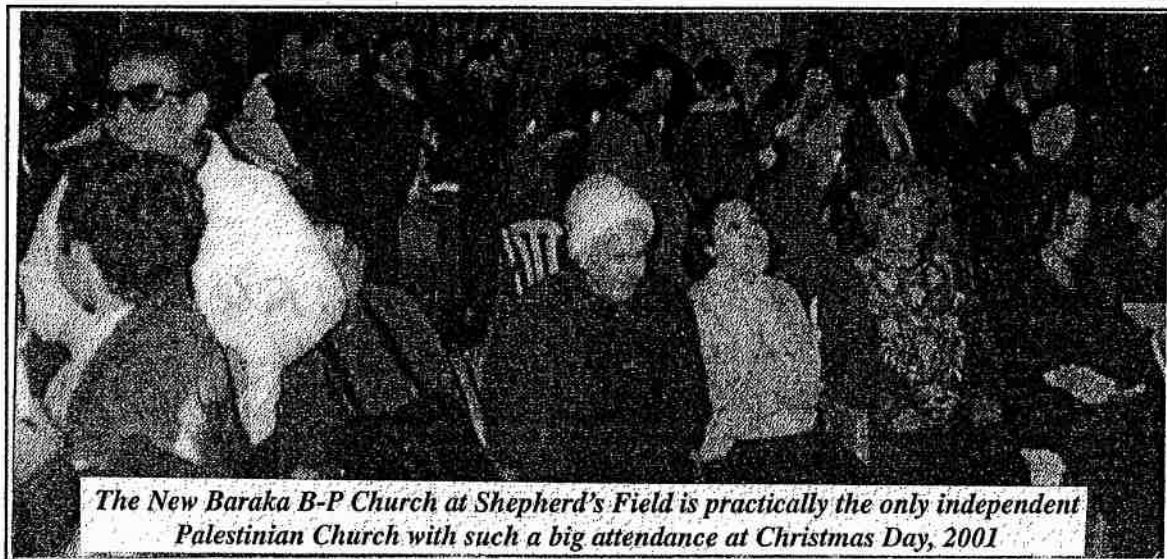
Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord

—Shirley Chew

our human frame be dissolved. The spirit shall return to God.

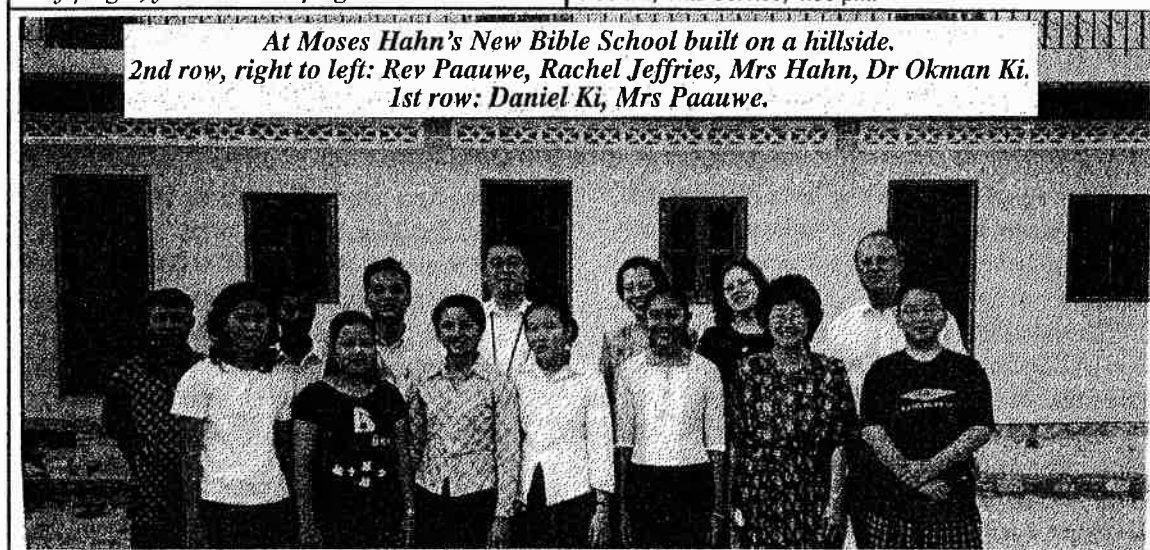
The infirmities of age teach us the evil of sin. If sin had not entered the world these infirmities would not have been known. But God will be with the believer. God will give him patience to endure his pains and infirmities and in his good time relieve him from the burden of the flesh. Happy are those who encounter the unnumbered infirmities and troubling of old age in full assurance that Jesus loved them and gave Himself for them.

—T.T.



The New Baraka B-P Church at Shepherd's Field is practically the only independent Palestinian Church with such a big attendance at Christmas Day, 2001

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 18 - 24, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$13,150.00 (8.00 am); \$17,114.00 (10.30 am)		
	7.30 pm	Counselling Training Class, G&H Rm	OFFERINGS FOR: Kenya Mission \$300; Cambodia Orph \$300, \$150; Rev David Koo \$50; Rev Jonathan Lee \$34, \$100, \$500; Surish \$50; Batam-Roska \$100; Tg Playu BPC \$667; Israel-Baraka BPC \$100, \$220, \$20, \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$150, \$100; Ho Heng Sau \$100; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$2000; Nirands \$100; Life Church Choir \$50; Rev Seet \$500, \$100, \$500, \$150, \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$500, \$150, \$100, \$50; Dn Henry Tan \$150; Quek Keng Khwang \$150; Tan Bee Choo \$100; Rev Tow \$100, \$50, \$500, \$200(EBF); Chan Pui Meng \$50, \$100, \$300(MF), \$300; Batu Aji Church \$667; Batam Kg Becek Project \$666, \$250; Nareth \$30; Israel-Rev Awad \$200; Thai orphans \$150; David Koo's Bible School \$750.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$50, \$800, \$500, \$300(Session member), \$100, \$400, \$100, \$500, \$148, \$2000, \$500, \$260, \$600, \$3400(Thomson NBC), \$2884, \$499, \$400, \$1000. STOP PRESS! \$100(Canada), \$400(JSM). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,437,138.40.		
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Expresgram to William Chia: Thank you for your gift which is transmitted to New Beulah House. —Pastor		
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	10.00 am	Sunday School Teachers' Seminar, FEBC Hall	(1) God provides, cares and loves us. Amen. (\$20)		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	The Annual YAF Retreat is just 1 MONTH away and for those who have not signed up, we would like YOU to be a part of it! Dates: 9-11 Mar [During March School Holidays! - Sat, Sun & Mon] Venue: Desaru Perdana Resort Camp Speaker: Brother Ng Beng Kiong. Theme: Christian Fellowship - A Vital Lifeline for Victorious Christian Living. Pls contact Pak Sing for more details. Email: paksing@edb.gov.sg HP 93679493.		
SUN	8.00 am	Why Do I Believe in the Rapture (Rev Charles Seet)	Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Francis Leong, Friday 22 Feb, 8 pm. Address: 79 Ellington Square, S568973, Tel: 4516242. Speaker: Elder Tan Nee Keng. Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am; Thai Service, 4.00 pm.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class			
	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			
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	5.30 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour "John Sung Remembered"			
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown.					
Sunday School Offering: \$746.00; Attendance: 418					
Verse for the Week: Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Isa 49:15					



At Moses Hahn's New Bible School built on a hillside.
2nd row, right to left: Rev Paauwe, Rachel Jeffries, Mrs Hahn, Dr Okman Ki.
1st row: Daniel Ki, Mrs Paauwe.



Life

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Vol. X No. 30

17 February 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Elder Lim Teck Chye
Opening Hymn	No. 21	No. 27
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Job 19:25-29	2 Cor 12:1-10
Hymn	No. 214	No. 389
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 223	No. 221
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rev 22:7-21	Ps 39:5-11
Sermon	Why Do I Believe in the Second Coming of Christ? (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Three Lessons I've Learnt from my Recent Illness (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 227	No. 273
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

Last week we published the photo of the nearly finished two-storey Church and Kindergarten Complex at Kampong Becek, Batam Island. Built at the instance of our own Indonesian members, the 3rd Church and Kindergarten under Roska needs only \$10,740 to pay off all bills.

Then we commented: "News has come from Calvary Pandan that they will send from their Missions Fund to pay the bill." This is a help to Life Church starting to build the New Beulah House next year.

From this brotherly assistance has arisen the new saying, "Mutual help, with God's help, is ten times the best help." (This is founded on Deut 32:30.)

In the photonews prior to Kampong Becek, we showed the hill at the edge of Kompong Som bought by David Koo, which is opened up for building their own New Bible School Complex, and so save the US\$800 they are now paying for rent. To build their new 20-room complex they need US\$210,000. Our Church, on the principle, "Mutual help, with God's help is ten times the best help" has loaned David Koo US\$20,000 + US\$40,000 which

is repayable by 2005-6 when the New Beulah House should be finished. They will not owe us a cent.

God has prompted Lifers to give not only another US\$5,000 but also an unexpected sum from Sharon B-P Church. They have savings in their General Fund from which they have designated S\$10,000 to help David Koo. When Pastor Tow visits Cambodia in July this year to open the new Bible School of Moses Hahn, he will lead a team of Sharonites to Cambodia to this event as well as to see the progress in building David Koo's New Bible School Complex. (Lifers can join if the Lord leads you.) "The silver is mine and the gold is mine" (Hag 2:8). If the Lord moves you, do not restrain yourself.

"Mutual help, with God's help is ten times the best help" is exemplified in another instance. Moses Hahn has to shift his two growing sons to Singapore to school. Mrs Hahn has to come with them to Singapore. Where can they find accommodation? Some God-loving Christian has now offered them a flat in Bedok all furnished, free. Praise the Lord for mutual help.

The Spirit of David's Building God's Temple for our Learning

I have heard Lifers say that the Downturn has affected a lot of people. But, by God's protection, He has kept the Downturn to a very few

of us. In fact the offerings Lifers have brought to the Lord have been up. God is very keen to have New Beulah House built, "for the King's business requireth haste." Let us learn from David how he responded and what he has said to his congregation.

"Furthermore David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is not for man, but for the LORD God. Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for things to be made of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and the brass for things of brass, the iron for things of iron, and wood for things of wood; onyx stones, and stones to be set, glistening stones, and of divers colours, and all manner of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance. Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, Even three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses withal: The gold for things of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD? Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly." (I Chron 29:1-6) —T.T.

THREE LESSONS I'VE LEARNT FROM MY RECENT ILLNESS

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church
10.30 am Service, Feb 17, 2002)

Text: Psalm 39:5-11

In all the 50 chapters recording the life of David, we read of him as a mighty warrior, a slayer of Goliath, a killer of a lion and a bear. He appears in history as a conqueror of conquerors. But from the Psalms where he tells us more intimately of himself, there are at least four Psalms where he talks of his illness. They are Psalms 39, 41, 55 and 103.

According to the Chinese proverb, 生老病死, the lot of human beings is, birth, old age, sickness

death. The first lesson I have learnt from my recent sickness is that of death. For 51 years since I became your pastor I have enjoyed radiant health. This has given me confidence as I asked the Lord to let me live until 95.

In Psalm 39, when David gets sick, he realises God is soon to bring him to the brink of death. "Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth," only six inches. Usually the Hebrews used the forearm to measure, which they call a cubit, 18 inches long. Now David realises how short life is. Sickness should make us realise how near to death we are. But human nature is such, says Calvin, that we do not want to think of death even when we reach eighty. If God lets us live up to eighty-one, we think we will live up to eighty-two and on and on.

There is an end and it comes sooner than we think. The ex-President Ong Teng Cheong died at 66. Princess Margaret, younger sister of the Queen of England, died at 71. How old are you?

Sickness is no joke. From my sickbed I come to define good health is heaven and ill health is hell. The pain in my left thigh that went down to the lower leg made it so unbearable that I was admitted to Mt Alvernia Hospital for slipped disc treatment. The need to get up at night to pass urine 8 to 9 times with great distress led me to the operating theatre for the specialist to work on my prostate gland. Then comes constipation which consumed as the Chinese saying goes, "the exertion of nine oxen and two tigers." Ill health is hell. O Lord, have mercy upon everyone on our Weekly Sick List. Now I can sympathise with the sick.

The second lesson I learnt from Psalm 39 is sickness should make us search our heart for any hidden and unconfessed sin. Ps 39:11 says, "When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth." Calvin says, when we get sick the first thing is to search our heart for some hidden and unconfessed sin. Calvin continues, "We all are agreed that adultery is sinful. But when you are involved yourself you indulge in it with pleasure. Take the case of David with Bathsheba." A pastor is not above the member in the pew. Sickness is for the thorough cleansing of my heart.

The third lesson is "He heapeth up riches and

knoweth not who shall gather them." Insofar as the Chinese are concerned, a parent will not leave anything for a daughter. The Teochew calls her a runaway child. This occurs when she is married into another family. But if it is an only son he will get all the legacy because he is a kept-in-the-family child. A prodigal and a spendthrift son will squander all the money in no time. This happens in Chinese families. Yes, even untaught Christian families. Not laying a portion in heaven he heavily loses out. He may arrive in heaven where he is allotted a small atap house while the poor widow of the two mites will get a nice bungalow.

The American scene is quite different. The parent-child relationship is the opposite. When a man retires he should have saved up a big sum of money. As he gets older he will go and reside in an old people's home. Suppose the Lord takes him after ten years, he should have \$20,000 left. This he wills to a reputable missionary society. The American Christian is educated to serve God in his death, while the Singaporean generally speaking is not. Now this is the third lesson from my recent sickness.

To recapitulate the three lessons:

1. Sickness, says David, makes his life only a handbreath so we must be prepared for death.
2. Sickness should make us search our hearts for any hidden and unconfessed sins that we may confess them.
3. Sickness should make us, when we die, serve God with our money that we may lay up our treasures in heaven. Amen.

TIRED & OVERWORKED!

For a couple of years I've been blaming it on lack of sleep and too much pressure from my job, but now I found out the real reason. I'm tired because I'm overworked!

The population of this country is 237 million. 104 million are retired. That leaves 133 million to do the work.

There are 85 million in school, which leaves 48 million to do the work. Of this there are 29 million employed by the federal government, leaving 19 million to do the work.

DAY BY DAY

*Each day is a new beginning
Fresh as the morning dew
Sent as a gift from God with love
To start your life anew.*

*Yesterday's trials are over
Learn from them and let go
Live in the now, not in the past
And in holiness grow.*

*Worry will get you nowhere
Learn to follow His way
His grace is more than sufficient
Trust in Him, day by day.*

*For only God knows the future
Your life is in His care.
We share our many troubles
Our mutual burdens bear.*

*Each day is a new beginning
Fresh as the morning dew
Sent as a gift from God with love
To start our lives anew.*

Sylvia Wong

2.8 million are in the Armed Forces, which leaves 16.2 million to do the work.

Take from the total the 14,800,000 people who work for State and City Governments and that leaves 1.4 million to do the work.

At any given time there are 188,000 people in hospitals, leaving 1,212,000 to do the work.

Now, there are 1,211,998 people in prisons.

That leaves just two people to do the work. You and me. And YOU are sitting down reading jokes. —Contributed by John Tow

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 25 - Mar 3, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$7,066.00 (8.00 am); \$18,303.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$50, \$300; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Israel-Baraka BPC \$100, \$20, \$2000, \$500; Missions \$500, \$100; FEBC \$20; Needy brethren/sick \$300; Rev Seet \$500, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$250; Rev Tow \$100, \$200, \$1000, \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$50(LF); David Koo's Bible School \$400; Batam-Kg Becek Project \$300, \$150; Kenya-Glory Bible Centre \$50; Tony Chan \$50.		
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$1000, \$50, \$100, \$78, \$300, \$50, \$200, \$200, \$200, \$100, \$800, \$400, \$730, \$4000, \$200, \$450, \$130, \$50, \$500(Session member), \$1000, \$300, \$2500, \$200, \$1000, \$500, \$100, \$100(LF), \$100, \$5000(Life Church Choir), \$20(Session member); Chinese New Year Service \$4,276.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,458,996.40. STOP PRESS! \$4,900.		
SUN	8.00 am	Do Science and Scripture Conflict with Each Other? (Rev Charles Seet)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) Please pass this small amount to the needy, sick or the ones who have lost their jobs, to help someone tide over during these difficult times. (\$100)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Nominations for General Elections 2002 opens today.		
	9.30 am	Catechism Class	The closing date for nomination is 17 Mar 02.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	Nomination forms are available from the Election Coordinator, Dn Charlie Chan.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Annual YAF Retreat. We would like YOU to be a part of it!		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Dates: 9-11 Mar [During March School Holidays! - Sat, Sun & Mon] Venue: Desaru Perdana Resort Camp Speaker: Brother Ng Beng Kiong. Theme: Christian Fellowship - A Vital Lifeline for Victorious Christian Living. Pls contact Pak Sing for more details. Email: paksing@edb.gov.sg HP 93679493.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	Sat., 23 March, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary.		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	Rev Teo Kiah Hock speaks on		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	"Matchless Love". Bring a friend!		
	12.45 pm	Evangelism	He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service Anniversary			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 100					
Sunday School Offering: \$1,465.90; Attendance: 430					
Verse for the Week: 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. Psalm 72:12-13					
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour, 5.30 pm. Rev Wong at Moriah BPC, 9.30 & 11.15 am; Rehoboth BPC, 6.00 pm.					



Christmas 2001 at Moses Hahn's Bible School Hill, Kompong Som



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Vol. X No. 31

24 February 2002

"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. 49	No. 31
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Thess 4:1-18	Psalms 23
Hymn	No. 139	No. 349
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 354	No. 227
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Cor 15:51-53	John 10:1-28
Sermon	Why Do I Believe in the Rapture? (Rev Charles Seet)	The Blessedness of Having the Lord as our Shepherd (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 87	No. 532
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

Too Late to Start Building Beulah House?

As I looked at the skyscrapers around the Newton area shooting up, some to over 30 storeys high, I suddenly woke up to what Jesus says, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Lk 16:8). They know when to strike while the iron is hot. We have reached the bottom of the recession and the price of building houses is also the lowest. If things begin to turn better as the year progresses, by year's end there will also be raising of prices. Will it be too late for us?

Fortunately, our people are encouraged by the Session's decision to quick start building, so they are now rallying for Beulah House. The Chinese New Year offerings for Beulah is roughly \$25,000, the general offerings another \$25,000. The remainder, \$10,000 goes to meet various immediate needs which God will doubly bless, both recipients and givers.

But many who can give are taking things easy. Be a leader in this aspect and receive His delight. Remember what Haggai says of those who paid no attention to God's call to build His House. They made money but then God would not bless them. They put their cash into a pocket with holes (Hag 1:6).

Helping David Koo finish his Bible School Complex is helping to reduce his support by US\$800 per month after March 2003

With another loan of US\$40,000 from FEBC and a gift of US\$10,000 from Calvary Pandan, he needs only US\$100,000 to complete the whole project in exactly a year.

From where will the US\$100,000 come? It will come from Lifers who have visited him and seen his good work, from fraternal Churches and from God's pouring out His blessing from above. What is the amount in God's sight? Nothing! God says, "The silver is mine and the gold is mine" (Hag 2:8).

As the funds come in week after week you will see God's glory through the cheerful giving of His people.

Will helping David Koo affect giving to New Beulah House? It will not because Beulah's amount which is \$7-8 million is so many, many times over David Koo's.

"Self-help, with God's help, is the best help." David on his part is doing his best. So far, from his Korean friends, he has received three sums amounting to US\$1,500. More is certain to come in. A Korean engineer has come to help him supervise the work now in full swing after Chinese New Year. Watch for photos showing progress of the new building.

—T.T.

"BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN" OR "REFORMED"?

(Article by Tan Klan Sing, taken from Berean Banner, Issue 05/2002 dd 3 Feb 02)

Last Lord's Day during our church Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM), a motion was raised that the church should drop the name "Bible-Presbyterian" (B-P) from the church name and replace it with the name "Reformed." The reason given is that the church should be "reformed" and it should have nothing to do with "Bible-Presbyterianism." The questions that many of us may be asking are: Why must we change to the name "Reformed"? What is wrong with calling ourselves "Bible-Presbyterian"? Why do we have to repudiate our B-P position?

Why Are We Called Bible-Presbyterian?

Our Church Constitution clearly states that the doctrine of the church shall be in accordance with that system commonly called "the Reformed Faith" as expressed in the Confession of Faith (WCF) as set forth by the historic Westminster Assembly together with the Larger (WLC) and Shorter (WSC) Catechisms. The WCF together with the WLC and WSC are our standards of faith and practice. By basing our faith and practice on these standards, our church therefore adheres to the Reformed Faith. The Reformed doctrines and tenets are Calvinistic doctrines so named after John Calvin (1509-1564), a French theologian and pastor, and the leader of the Reformed Faith.

Our Reformed Faith is also Protestant as we are distinctly separated from and opposed to the Church of Rome which our spiritual forefathers, the key person being Martin Luther (1483-1546), initiated during the 16th Century Reformation. The 16th Century Reformation was a break away from erroneous legalistic and man-made system in order to go back to the apostolic faith, a biblical faith liberated for true Christian living.

Although the doctrines and tenets of our church are in accordance with the Reformed Faith, we are nevertheless a Bible-believing Presbyterian church. We believe that the Holy Bible is the inspired, infallible and inerrant Word of God and therefore it is the supreme rule of our faith and practice. Hence we are called Bible-

Presbyterian.

In the area of the doctrine of eschatology, which are obscure in the Westminster standards, we faithfully believe that the Bible teaches the premillennial return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to save Israel and judge the world and bring peace to this war-torn world for a thousand years.

The Westminster standards do not cover the doctrine of biblical separation. But in the spirit and passion of the 20th Century Reformation, the B-P Church in Singapore was established as a separatist Church standing against the liberal Presbyterian Church in Singapore. The 20th Century Reformation Movement was championed by Dr Carl McIntire, leader of the B-P Church in America, in order to separate from liberal Presbyterian denominations which had joined hands with modernism, ecumenism and neo-evangelicalism. In 1950, Life B-P Church, the first B-P Church in Singapore was founded by Rev Timothy Tow after he had caught the same fundamentalist spirit when he was studying in Faith Theological Seminary in the US. Berean B-P Church is organically linked to Life B-P Church, as our mother church, and we in the same spirit also adhere to the principle and practice of biblical separation in obedience to the doctrine of biblical separation which is taught in the Holy Scriptures.

As B-P we believe in the fundamental principles of the Presbyterian Church polity as the closest taught in the Holy Scriptures. This form of church government is based on the spiritual oversight of elders or presbyters. The ordinary administration of the divine ordinances, and the ordinary regulation of the church affairs are therefore committed to rulers and office bearers, and not to the general body of the church.

The name "Berean B-P Church" was given by her founding pastor, Rev Wee Eng Moh. It has been the name for ten blessed years of spiritual growth. Many of our beloved brethren were nurtured under the pastorship of Rev Wee and were catechised and baptised into Berean B-P Church. They are therefore sons and daughters of Berean B-P Church which they must embrace dearly as their spiritual alma mater. They must surely have a sense of filial piety to Berean B-P Church as much as I and my family have towards

Life B-P Church in which I have grown much spiritually in the first 28 years of my Christian life.

What Is In The Name "Reformed"?

Christian denominations that adopt the Reformed Faith includes Presbyterian, Baptist and others. Many of these churches use the name "Reformed" for their church name because their history goes back to the Reformation of the 16th century. Nevertheless, naming a church "Reformed" does not necessarily mean that it is biblical in its faith and practice. A Reformed Church in America says that "Reformed" is a tradition of positive Christian authors and ministers, such as Dr Norman Vincent Peale and Dr Robert Schuller. Norman Vincent Peale, the renowned author and advocate of positive thinking ideas, was the president of the Reformed Church of America in 1984. But Peale is a liberal who rejects key Bible doctrines. Robert Schuller who is also from this same reformed church is a positive thinking guru. He was quoted at the Pope's visit to the US in September 1987 as saying: "It's time for Protestants to go to the shepherd (Pope) and say 'what do we have to do to come home?' (ie to go back to Roman Catholicism)."

There is nothing wrong with the name "Reformed" as much as there is nothing wrong with the name "Bible-Presbyterian." There are "Reformed" churches and "Bible-Presbyterian" churches which do not live up to the original meaning of the name. What is important is that we are true Bible-Presbyterians and we base our teachings on the Holy Scriptures.

Conclusion

Why must we change from "B-P" to "Reformed"? What is wrong with calling ourselves "B-P"? Why do we have to repudiate our B-P position? Our "B-P faith" embodies "the Reformed Faith." Nevertheless, our doctrines and tenets are founded on the Holy Bible. We adopt a system of presbyterian church government nearest to biblical teachings. We are therefore called Bible-Presbyterian. Let us be true B-Ps occupying ourselves in earnestly contending for the apostolic faith which was once delivered unto the saints till He comes.

QUO VADIS?

Quo Vadis? means "Whither bound?" or "Where are you going?"

In the book of Exodus, we read about how Moses led the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt with the sole purpose of entering the Promised Land that God wanted them to occupy. The journey to the Promised Land was a long and difficult one. It took the Israelites **40 years** to reach their destination. As they went along, many fell along the way because of either disobedience to God's Word or failure to appreciate His love and care or temptations of the pleasures of this world. The journey started with a great multitude but ended with the second generation led by Joshua.

Today, the children of God also have a similar journey to travel but what is the Christian's "promised land"? It is that calling to forsake worldly interests and follow the Lord Jesus. He said, **"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me"** (Luke 9:23). After conversion, many believers try to have a closer walk with God and to do His will. Unfortunately, the "drop out" rate has always been high! The big question is, "Why?" The simple answer can be summarised in one word, "Distraction" which covers among other things, the following:

a) Academic Achievement: There is nothing wrong in going for higher studies. The problem comes when one is "addicted" to acquiring more and more degrees, e.g. from a B.A. to M.A., then to Ph.D and further on to the "Nobel Prize". How many people are willing to throw away their certificates like John Sung and devote their entire lives to serve the Lord?

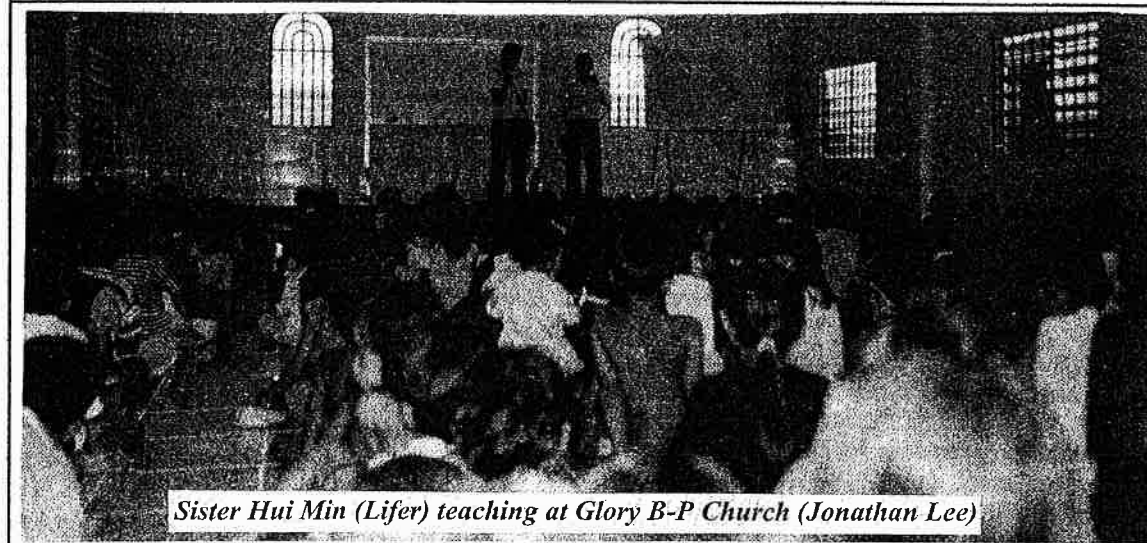
b) Career Advancement: The corporate ladder has always been the temptation of young recruits. It is not uncommon to hear statements like "I give myself 10 years in this company. At the end of which if I am not the CEO, I will quit", "I don't want to die a cashier." People will do almost anything to get to the top.

c) Wealth: It is sad to hear that a Singaporean's success is measured by the "5Cs", i.e. possession of car, credit card, condominium, country club membership and cash (5-figure income). Again, there is nothing wrong with being rich, but if you acquire your wealth at the expense of spending time with the Lord, you will drift further away from God. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Luke 12:34).

d) Worldly Pleasure: This is one powerful distraction that pulls the children of God away from walking the path of righteousness. The pleasures of Sodom and Gomorrah are as real today as they were in the time of Abraham and Lot. Often, we forgot the warning "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1Jn 2:15).

—Eio Eng Hua

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 4 - 10, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$10,522.00 (8.00 am); \$17,439.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Myanmar Orph \$200, \$50; Cambodia Orph \$200, \$500; Tony Chan \$50; Israel-Baraka BPC \$100, \$400, \$20, \$50; Rev David Koo \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$150; Rev Wong \$50; Wee Soon Bin \$100; Wendy Teng \$200; David Koo's Bible School \$400, \$250, \$2625; Chinese Bibles \$30; Nareth \$20; Ty Serey Vuth \$20; Tan Kian Sing \$500; Batam Kg Becek Project \$2000; Chan Pui Meng \$600; Missions \$800.		
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$450, \$150, \$150, \$1000, \$800, \$5000, \$1000, \$130, \$500, \$296, \$20, \$200, \$490, \$1000, \$1500, \$200, \$1000, \$2625. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,480,407.40.		
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Music Room	Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING Sat., 23 March, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary. Rev Teo Kiah Hock speaks on "Matchless Love". Bring a friend! He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)		
SAT	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship AGM, FEBC Hall			
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF	Nominations for General Elections 2002 closes on 17 Mar 02. Nomination forms are available from the Election Coordinator, Dn Charlie Chan. Our condolences to the family of the late Mr Koh Gak Ho, 65, who went home to be with the Lord last Lord's Day. The funeral was held last Thursday. There will be a series of Four Training Seminars on Evangelism and Follow-Up conducted at Life B-P Church (FEBC Hall), held nightly (7:30 - 9:30 pm) during the March school holidays. The sessions are as follows: Session 1 (Mon, 11th) - The Principles of Evangelism Session 2 (Wed, 13th) - The Methods of Personal Evangelism Session 3 (Thu, 14th) - The Areas of Evangelism Session 4 (Fri, 15th) - How To Follow Up a New Christian The seminars will include PowerPoint presentations, live demonstration, practise sessions, and printed notes. If you are interested, kindly register by emailing to Rev Charles Seet at cseet@starhub.net.sg by 1st March 2002. Preaching appointments: Rev Wong in Batam.		
SAT-MON		YAF Retreat			
SUN	8.00 am	Does the Bible Contain God's Word? (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)			
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	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			
	12.30 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: 75		
Sunday School Offering: \$822.10; Attendance: 386					
Verse for the Week: Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Psalm 37:4					
Parents are kindly advised to keep their children away from the children's playground during worship service hours, so that worshippers outside the church sanctuary will not be distracted by them.					



Sister Hui Min (Lifer) teaching at Glory B-P Church (Jonathan Lee)



Life

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Vol. X No. 32

3 March 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 5	O Lord of Heaven...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 104:16-35	Psalms 103
Hymn	No. 6	O My Soul...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 375	No. 410
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Psalms 8:1-9	Mt 12:43-45
Sermon	Do Science and Scripture Conflict with each other? (Rev Charles Seet)	Which Wicked Generation Is Seven Times Satan Possessed? (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 29	No. 366
Benediction		Lord's Supper

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

"I Remember John Sung"

This was the topic assigned to me at last week's launching of Dr S H Tow's 100 John Sung Choruses with many translated by his versatile pen. One of the vital things John Sung said throughout four or five campaigns he held in Singapore 1935-39 was, "The Lord has given me only 15 years to labour for Him. So I must hurry." The period of 15 years is three years one change. From Water to Door to Dove to Blood to Tomb. Water began 1928-30, and that was his learning how to preach. Door 1931-33 was widening ministry of his Revival Campaigns. Dove was 1934-36 wherein the Holy Spirit poured out His power on his preaching. Blood 1937-39 was the beginning of the Sino-Japanese War and his haemorrhage period. Tomb was 40-Aug. 44 when the Lord shut him up in the hospital and the closing of his work through prayer.

How did God reveal to John Sung he had 15 years to labour for Him? Was it by the Word He spoke to King Hezekiah? From John Sung, let us number our years that we may labour for Him

effectively. Let us not be sidetracked. "This one thing I do." For me I must finish the work God has committed to me in Life Church and Missions and Far Eastern Bible College.

Now, in America, there are those who would like to change jobs at middle-age. Some in Singapore retire early by the golden handshake. But they are still full of vigour. Let them study at FEBC and serve the Lord in Church or the mission field.

Missions is No. 1

...Or else why is it called the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20)? I have restated it to be "The First Commandment to the Church." Let not our support to worldwide missions, since 51 years ago, be curtailed because of the building of New Beulah House. We are taking on June Tan and Mok and Carol. Let the Fellowships bear a burden who should play a part to alleviate the overall undertaking of the Mother Church. "The silver is mine and the gold is mine" (Hag 2:8). How you use the Lord's money is not your decision but the Lord's. Give where the need is greatest!

Mutual Help, with God's Help, is Ten Times the Best Help (Deut 32:30)

With reference to David Koo's building a new Bible School Complex on a hill at the edge of the town at Kompong Som, we pray help might come from fraternal B-P Churches. We received S\$10,000 from Sharon (Rev Peter Chua) and

this week US\$10,000 from Calvary Pandan. When God begins to move His people to help, so will this new complex be finished within one year.

With increased new facilities, fees for Kindergarten children, for Primary School, and the computer classes will be raised, so that they can work towards self-support and lighten the load on Life Church. Mutual help is helping others to help ourselves. —T.T.

A REPETITION OF THE TRUTH THAT LIFE UNDER THE SUN IS TOTAL VANITY, AND WARNING OF THE JUDGMENT TO COME

“Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher; all is vanity. And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and *that which was written was upright, even words of truth.* The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, *which are given from one shepherd.* And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books *there is no end*; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is the whole duty of man.* For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be good, or whether it be evil.*” (Eccles 12:8-14)

Solomon went through life with the privilege and power of a king. With every facility under his control he delved into every subject.

In chapter 2 Solomon said,

As I pondered in my heart, I decided to explore into the realms of pleasurable enjoyments. I found it all emptiness. And what is laughter? It is nothing but being out of my mind! And what is mirth or merrymaking?

I tried wine-drinking with self control and I studied the foolishness of men and what they should do “under the heaven” and throughout their lifetime.

I engaged in structural engineering, in horticulture, in botanical gardens and fruit orchards of all kinds. By constructing reservoirs around them,

I irrigate all my plants.

I owned servants, male and female, who also begat children and I owned cattle, big and small, more than all others who had them in Jerusalem.

I amassed great stocks of silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and from the provinces. I formed choirs of male and female singers with the accompaniment of various musical instruments.

In all these pursuits I become the No. 1 in Jerusalem over those that were before me. I was the wise monarch of all I surveyed. I indulged in all that I could see and entered in the joys of my pursuits.

When I surveyed all the foregoing works, leaving nothing out, you see, all that I have done amounts to nothing because they were done “under the sun.”

As a wise teacher Solomon has wisely taught those who heard him, using the language that they speak, the doctrine of truth. The words of wisdom he imparts are stimulating and quickening as goads to sluggish oxen and like nails are deeply infixed in the heart. The publication of the words of Solomon is the making known of a sacred record inspired by the Lord God Himself.

Of the making of books on the subject of this discourse there is no end and much study of human composition is a weariness of the flesh – under the sun! The conclusion of the whole matter is “Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

This wisdom of Solomon is reflected in Romans 2:7-16 “To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with God. For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; (For not the hearers of the law are just

before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”

Ed. Note. With the Book’s exposition completed we will publish it by the title *Lessons from the University of Life*. The lessons learnt are highly evangelistic and Calvinistic, 80 pages, \$4.00. (Patronise FEBC Bookroom and further extend God’s Kingdom.) —T.T.

TESTIMONY

Being on drugs for 16 long years, not much hope was left in me to believe that I could really change. I tried to quit so many times before, but all ended up in frustrations, until I came to know about the House of Hope, a Christian Drug Rehabilitation Centre in Cebu, Philippines. I went for the interview and the ministry’s theme in Matt 11:28 struck me as an invitation that I cannot refuse. I accepted the invitation and my life was never the same again.

I was born and baptised into a religion, which I never got to know or fully understand. My family of “lukewarm” Catholics was not much help. Neither was my Primary and Secondary education since I was enrolled in a non-Christian school. So I practically grew up not knowing who Jesus was in my life. As time passed, I found myself living a sinful and wicked life. Before long, it opened the doors to yet a greater sin: drug abuse.

For almost one-half of my life I had been living off drugs until I committed myself to the one-year rehabilitation programme at the House of Hope in February 1, 2000. This ministry is indeed a gift from God. By His grace I came to know the Lord Jesus Christ and receive Him as my Lord and personal Saviour after just a couple of weeks into the programme. It was the start of a blessed and meaningful life with God. My life was restored physically, mentally and spiritually. I was reconciled to my family, and most of all to

God.

Two years have already passed since I first joined the House of Hope. And hope it did give me. As I look back, I could never imagine that I would be able to live a transformed life away from drugs. God enabled me to muster the strength to overcome temptations and come out victorious in my battle against drugs. Even the cravings of drugs, smoke and drink He took away and instead He replaced with a heart that hearkens to His call of serving Him.

After all that I have been through, I truly believe that God is calling me and He confirmed it when the ministry opened the doors for me to enrol in the Far Eastern Bible College, starting last semester. The verse in John 15:16 continues to inspire me of His calling for me when He said, “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit...” What the Lord Jesus Christ has done in my life is nothing short of a miracle and it proves that He is risen, He is alive and He is with us always as He continues to work in our lives. It is just but fitting that I dedicate the rest of my life to serving Him. All for His glory!

— Richard Tiu Murcia (FEBC Student).

Letter from Lifer

I was glad to read of Kian Sing’s report printed in last week’s bulletin concerning the reasons why we are Bible-Presbyterians.

We must appreciate our ecclesiastical roots if we are to earnestly and effectively contend for the faith. A lack of historical awareness of the struggles to maintain a biblically separate church will lead to a loose adoption of names such as “Reformed” or other denominational phrases. Many Christians attend churches without knowing why their congregations are called Baptist, Methodist or Anglicans etc....

There is a rich and God-fearing legacy in the name “Bible-Presbyterian.” We should not be ashamed of it but continue to live out what it means to be one.

The Reformation is over 400 years old but it is still relevant today. Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia and Sola Fide.

—Leong Meng Soon

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 11 - 17, 2002)		
MON	7.30 pm	FEBC Vacation
	7.30 pm	Evangelism Seminar, FEBC Hall
	8.00 pm	FEK Board Mtg., Library
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED-FRI	7.30 pm	Evangelism Seminar, FEBC Hall
WED-SAT		Chinese Service Camp, Mersing
THU-FRI		Berean VBS Camp
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Does Archaeology Destroy Our Faith? (Rev Jack Sin)
	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
	12.30 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 pm	Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 97
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.		
Sunday School Offering: \$700.05; Attendance: 410		
Verse for the Week: Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth. Psalm 119:90		
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. Rev Seet at Galilee BPC, 10.30 am and Berean BPC, 4.00 pm.		



Laying foundations for a wall to protect the property Andrew Kam bought by a S\$21,000 loan from Life Church.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
\$16,206.00 (8.00 am); \$18,556.00 (10.30 am)	
OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia Orph \$250, \$2500, \$300; Rev David Koo \$300; Rev Moses Hahn \$240, \$200; Phnom Penh Hope BPC \$300, \$200; Surish \$200; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20, \$50, \$200; Missions \$100; Myanmar Missions \$300; Andrew Kam \$50; Chinese Bibles for China \$30; Nirands \$50; Thailand Church Bldg \$400; Rev Seet \$150; FEBC Students \$80 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Kendagor (has left FEBC), Paul Sun Sokha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Shachendra \$50 Rev Wong \$150, \$50; Elder Khoo PK \$350; Rev Tow \$800; Chan Pui Meng \$100, \$300, \$150, \$600; Cambodia Missionaries \$200; Batam Kg Becek \$200, \$1000, \$808, \$100. MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$312.	
NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$450, \$1000, \$5000, \$200, \$200, \$20, \$100, \$100, \$200, \$200, \$250, \$1400, \$3000, \$1000, \$1000, \$2000, \$150, \$200, \$5000, \$600, \$1125, \$600, \$150, \$250.	
GRAND TOTAL: \$3,504,702.40. STOP PRESS! \$500(Family of late Leslie Stephen Chia), \$100(Session member).	
FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
(1) "Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed" (Ps 6:2). Thank God for His mercies. (\$400)	
Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING Sat., 23 March, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary. Rev Teo Kiah Hock speaks on "Matchless Love". Bring a friend! He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)	
Nominations for General Elections 2002 closes on 17 Mar 02. Nomination forms are available from the Election Coordinator, Dn Charlie Chan.	
Our condolences to the family of the late brother Leslie Stephen Chia, 60, who went home to be with the Lord on Friday, 1st March. The funeral was held last Lord's Day.	
Missionary F'ship Partners Prayer Meeting, Sunday, 17th Mar, 12.30-1.15 pm. Beulah House Level 2, Circular Room.	



Life

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Vol. X No. 33

10 March 2002

"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. 18	My Hope is in the Lord
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 19	Deut 6:1-9
Hymn	No. 251	No. 377
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 87	No. 395
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Pet 1:20,21; 2 Tim 3:16	1 Sam 1:19-20
Sermon	Does the Bible Contain God's Word? (Rev Colin Wong)	Samuel (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 256	No. 471
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

For taking a strong stand on the Doctrine of Special Providential Preservation of the Holy Scriptures, I have been maligned as having taught "heresy." Dr Jeffrey Khoo has written a full length book of 168 pages, titled, *Kept Pure in All Ages* (from the Westminster Confession statement on the Preservation of the Bible). His thesis cannot be refuted. Psa 12:6,7 says, "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

Another voice from FEBC defending the same cause comes from Rev Jack Sin. Here is his poem *God's Word Preserved Through the Ages* (to the tune of *Rise Up, O Men of God*).

1. God's Word, inspired and true,
Revealed to men prepared;
Inerrant and infallible,
Its message must be read.
2. Preserved by Providence,
The Jews librarians were;
Meticulous and faithful,
The copies had endured.
3. The ancient Byzantine,
The text the church received;
Had not been tainted thru the years,
Of treasures all, most dear.
4. During the Renaissance,
Dawning Reformation;
The Greek New Testament edit,
Erasmus, the elite.
5. At the Master's behest,
The Authorised's the best;
The language is above the rest,
And passed purity test.
6. The Spirit illumine,
Apply our hearts to glean;
Each letter of the Holy Writ,
Direct saints by its light.

7. By faith we can aver
The Bible in our hands;
Accurate and reliable,
God's Eternal Word will stand.
"For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8). Amen.
And let me assign *Kept Pure in All Ages* for reading by all Session members, and indeed, every Lifer!
—T.T.

WHICH WICKED GENERATION IS SEVEN TIMES SATAN POSSESSED?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church 10.30 am Service, Mar 3, 2002)

Text: Matt 12:43-45

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

When we read a Bible text we must never read it in isolation, but in association with its wider context. Inasmuch as this short passage is spoken by our Lord against a wicked people we can find its clue by reading the previous section, where Jesus' opponents are at odds with Him. They are paradoxically the scribes, the Jewish theologians and the Pharisees, their high churchmen.

Who are these high churchmen? The word "Pharisee" tells us they are the separatists. In a sense they are

the reformers who would see members of the Jewish Church live a cleaner life, keeping strictly to God's laws. But by becoming too legalistic they require, e.g. the washing of hands when you come back from the market place, which, if you don't conform, you are pronounced unclean. When the disciples were hungry while walking through the cornfield and plucked corn to eat, the Pharisees accused them of breaking the Sabbath. But our Lord defended the disciples that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. This sort of keeping beyond what the law requires makes life a heavy burden. Thus, Jesus likens it to a man who, having cleansed himself of an evil spirit but is not filled by God's Spirit, exposes himself to seven other evil spirits who come back and stay. This second stage is seven times worse than the first. The Pharisees, trying to keep God's law in their own strength and above its requirement, make themselves evil taskmasters of their innocent followers. So do the scribes, the theologians, the teachers of the Jewish Church. This is the wicked generation Jesus was pointing His finger at.

Truly, to call them "this wicked generation" is not an overstatement. If they go beyond God's laws are they not countering the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ? At point after point we see the Pharisees and scribes clashing with our Lord. Not only over keeping of the Sabbath, but also against Jesus' claim to being God's Son, and His power to forgive sins. Jesus' miracles, done openly before their eyes, were denied and if the miracles worked they claimed that they were done in the power of Beelzebub, the prince of devils. This, replied Jesus, was blaspheming against the Holy Spirit and was the unpardonable sin.

By way of application, let us ask if there is a wicked generation opposing Jesus in our day like the Pharisees, high churchmen and Jewish theologians, the scribes? There certainly is and this we experienced in the founding of our B-P Church in the 1950s.

We started out as the English Service of Life Church (in Teochew, *Say Mia Tng*) in 1950. After the War, we were still a colonial church, i.e., we were under the English missionaries who ruled over us.

In the early days our pastors were paid by the English Presbyterian Mission. Incidentally the Missions Headquarters occupied our next door Morimasa Gardens. In 1930 when I was ten years old my grandfather brought me along to draw his stipend which was \$30 a month. A junior clerk's pay in those days began with \$45 a month. But we

soon found out the majority of these missionaries were modernist churchmen, who were enemies of our Lord. The chief English Presbyterian missionary, Rev Gibson, had written a book in which he denied the existence of hell. Another, Rev Fleming, denied the Virgin Birth. While supposedly preaching Christ the majority denied His deity and miracles, no different from the Scribes and Pharisees.

Some time ago I told you of the missionary who taught me English at Anglo-Chinese School. When he preached in Sarawak, my friend reported that he said, "If you can believe the whale swallowed Jonah then you can also believe Jonah swallowed the whale." This missionary who ridiculed God's miracle became the principal of a theological college. Another theologian of high standing commented the work done by Dr John Sung before WWII, 1935-39 in Singapore, to be "pernicious" because it was "divisive." John Sung woke up a colonial Church who became independent of the modernists, Christ-denying missionaries. For standing against them, John Sung was "pernicious."

Our tussle with the English Presbyterian missionaries ended in 1955 with the establishment of the Bible-Presbyterian Church. Because we have stood with Christ against these modern scribes and Pharisees God has blessed us with over 40 B-P Churches, with their 20 affiliated congregations, so we have at least 60 congregations today.

Though separated from the English modernist Presbyterian missionaries since 1955, history repeated itself in 1988. A group of younger B-P pastors veered away from using the good old King James Bible in favour of the corrupt NIV of Westcott and Hort and fellowshipped with unseparated churches, showing how the seeds of degeneration had sprouted to our own undoing. Fortunately, the majority of B-P Churches have stood firm but erosion is creeping in all the time.

Life Church and FEBC and the Calvary Churches are standing together, but if we are not vigilant one of our leaders may succumb to the wiles of the devil. When Peter savoured the flesh against the spirit he forbade Christ to go to the cross. At which Jesus promptly rebuked, "*Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men*" (Matt 16:23). Such a situation may overtake even Life Church if the Session, especially the elders, are not watchful enough. One reason why I am thankful for God prolonging my life is that I might continue to "contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).

O may we all follow closely the Shepherd and hear His voice. Let us be the sheep generation and not the wicked generation of Pharisees and scribes that resist our Saviour.

"*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.*" The battle for the Faith is a never-ending battle. Satan is like the monkey-god who can change himself seventy-two times. We have seen how he masquerades as Mission heads ruling over our early church like the scribes and Pharisees over the Jewish Church of Jesus' time. We have seen how after God had blessed our B-P Church from 1955, but by 1988 a group of younger B-P pastors broke away from using the good old King James Bible for the NIV of Westcott and Hort's corrupt text.

In this 21st Century the Battle for the Faith centres on the Doctrine of God's providential preservation of the Holy Scriptures. This is presented by Dr Jeffrey Khoo in a new book, *Kept Pure in All Ages*. This title is taken from the

Dr S.H. Tow writes in Calvary Weekly, 24/2/02: **"TODAY'S NIV COMING IN APRIL"**

From the Internet (World Net Daily.com) comes this report.

The TNIV or Today's New International Version of the Bible is scheduled to be released in April. Already it is creating a furore in US. Below is a commentary from one side of the divide. I thought it helpful to understand the controversy surrounding this new version as it helps us to focus on the written reference of our faith and understanding of God.

Joseph Farah is editor and chief executive officer of WorldNetDaily.com and writes a daily column.

If you didn't think political correctness could ever spread to the Bible itself, check out what Harper Collins (read Rupert Murdoch) and its "Christian" subsidiary, Zondervan, have wrought with this latest translation. The most notable distortions are evident whenever gender is employed in the original Greek or Hebrew. So, "sons of God" becomes "children of God," "brothers" becomes "brothers and sisters."

Anywhere in the Bible where the expression "O" is used, the new translation omits it. Why? Because that expression has fallen out of use today. Oh, Mary is not longer "with child," in the femi-nazi version of the Bible. She is "pregnant."

To say the beauty and majesty of the Bible is lost in this deliberate mistranslation is an understatement. This is the ultimate in dumbing-down for a purpose, it is an attack on the paternalism of the Bible:

If you believe, like I do, that the Bible is the inspired word of God, it is nothing short of blasphemy. The very character of God is changed.

Let me give you an example: In Hebrews 12:7, the original NIV translation says: "Endure hardship as discipline: God is treating you as sons. For what son is not

Westminster Confession of Faith that teaches this important doctrine. The Scripture reference is Ps 12:6,7, "*The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*"

In taking our stand for the infallible and inerrant Preservation of the Scriptures we are not standing alone but with a cloud of witnesses beginning with the Trinitarian Bible Society, Dr E F Hills, Dr Otis Fuller, Dr D A Waite, David W Cloud, G Riplinger, Dr S H Tow, Dr Dell Johnson, the whole Faculty of Far Eastern Bible College with Pensacola Christian College and Seminary.

The FEBC stands together as one man except for one who has disagreed and left us. We thank God for Elder Mahadevan who with a believing heart has stood on our side. The whole point is which ever way we go it must be for the Truth. "*For we can do nothing against the truth but for the truth*" (II Cor 13:8).

If we are not for the truth we are like the scribes and Pharisees whom Christ called "This Wicked Generation."

disciplined by his father?"

TNIV changes "son" to "child" and "father" to "parent." What difference does it make?

Well, if you are one of those people who believes there is no difference between boys and girls or men and women, I suppose it makes no difference to you. But for those of us who live in the real world and use all of our senses to understand reality rather than to believe in fantasy and wishful thinking it makes a big difference.

God reveals Himself in the original Hebrew and Greek texts of the Old Testament and New Testament as "*Father*," not as "*parent*." Is there a difference between the way mothers and fathers mete out discipline? *You bet there is.*

But, more importantly, *the translation is simply inaccurate and the publishers of this Bible know it.*

The Greek text uses the words "*huios*" for "son" and "*pater*" for "father" in this passage. These terms cannot mean "child" or "parent." They are different words and, for some of us, words still mean things.

The beauty of the Bible for me is the way it demonstrates that God's relationship with us is on an individual basis not a collective one. The TNIV obscures that distinction in countless examples, but here's just one: In the original NIV translation, which I would hardly recommend either, Revelation 3:20 reads: "*I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come and eat with him, and he with me.*"

That's not even grammatically correct. But it sure isn't a good translation of the Greek.

Take my advice: Stick with the old King James. It may not be a perfect translation of the original texts, but it is faithful. And, after all, God only calls us to be faithful, not perfect. (End of quote by Joseph Farah.)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Mar 18 - 24, 2002)

MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg; 9.30 Board of Elders Mtg
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	2.30 pm	Maranatha BPC Wedding
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
	4.00 pm	Golden Age Fellowship
	7.30 pm	FEBC Gospel Rally, Sanctuary
PALM	8.00 am	Does Christianity Differ from Other Religions? (Rev Charles Seet)
SUN	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School / Catechism Class
	9.30 am	Rev Tow at Gethsemane 15th Anniv. Thanksgiving Service
	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
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4 pm Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 85

Sunday School Offering: \$827.15; Attendance: 346

Verse for the Week: *All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.* Psalm 25:10

7) June Lok Sow Ngoh, 55, was baptised by Rev Colin Wong and assisted by Elder Sherman Ong on 16th March.

8) Marriage Enrichment Seminar, 9am-1pm, 29 Mar, FEBC Hall. Registration closes next Saturday.

Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Thai Service, 3 pm.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$9,215.00 (8.00 am); \$15,260.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$370, \$150; Rev David Koo \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$800, \$20, \$100; Pailin Orph \$100; Israel-Baraka BPC \$50, \$110, \$20; Missions \$220; Myanmar Orph \$50, \$80, \$500; Nirands \$150; YAF \$50; YF \$50; Rev Seet \$500; Rev Wong \$50; Eld Khoo PK \$500(Calvary Tengah BPC); Quek Keng Khwang \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$600, \$150; David Koo's Church \$250; Edward Morante \$100.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$500, \$50, \$300, \$2500, \$1000, \$570, \$1000, \$200, \$260, \$1000, \$250, \$140, \$1000, \$600, \$500(Session member), \$1200(Thomson NBC), \$16,000(Vancouver BPC).

GRAND TOTAL: \$3,532,472.40.

A POSB cash cheque was received with "BEARER" cancelled. Could the donor please contact the office (62569256).

Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING
this Sat., 23 March, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary.
Rev Teo Kiah Hock speaks on
"Matchless Love". Bring a friend!
He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)

1) Nominations for General Elections 2002 closes today, 17 Mar 02. Nomination forms are available from the Election Coordinator, Dn Charlie Chan.

2) Missionary F'ship Partners Prayer Meeting, today, 12.30-1.15 pm. Beulah House Level 2, Circular Room.

3) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Lee Fong Seng, Friday, 22 Mar, 8 pm. Address: 5 Jln Songket, S'pore 537382, Tel: 6289-7049. Speaker: Elder Edmund Tay.

4) Golden Age Fellowship at the home of Mrs Seow Chong Pin, Sat. 23 Mar, 4.00 pm. Address: 7 Lily Ave, S'pore 277763. Tel: 6469-8650.

5) Far Eastern Kindergarten's enrolment for 2003 opens on March 20, 2002. Playgroup to K2, 8.15 or 11.30 am sessions. Call Jemima Khoo at 6251-3676.

6) Calling all Lifers to serve in VBS 2002's. There are many areas in which you may serve - teaching, transport, logistics, art & craft, singing, F&B, and administration. From 4-7 June 2002. Application forms are out. Email vbs_lifebp@yahoo.com.sg for more information.

Ground-Breaking of David Koo's Bible School Complex by Rev George of Adelaide



Life

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(Ring Pastor 62502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 34

17 March 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 24	O Could I Speak...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 23	Isa 43:1-13
Hymn	No. 341	No. 354
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 317	Jesus My Lord...
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	John 20:24-29	Matt 12:46-50
Sermon	Does Archaeology Destroy our Faith? (Rev Jack Sin)	Why We Worship Jesus Only and Not His Mother (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 333	No. 426
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Readers,

By God's grace I penned these words in the Weekly dated Feb 24, one week ahead of the good news that Singapore has made an upturn of over 4% growth. This is what I said...

"As I looked at the skyscrapers around the Newton area shooting up, some to over 30 storeys high, I suddenly woke up to what Jesus says, "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Lk 16:8). They know when to strike while the iron is hot. We have reached the bottom of the recession and the price of building houses is also the lowest. If things begin to turn better as the year progresses, by year's end there will also be raising of prices. Will it be too late for us?"

Dr Lim Teck Chye commented at Tuesday night Prayer Meeting, Mar 5, that should building price go up henceforth, a 5% rise over a \$10 million construction would be \$500,000!

To save the situation let us submit our plans to Government by the next Session Meeting, Mar 20, and let us double our giving. Let every Fellowship and the Sunday School immediately set aside a portion of your savings for Beulah House to show we are determined as one man to build. The Choir has already set a good example.

Do you believe God will pour you out a blessing when you tithe? Some people rush to do the Lord's will, but some will wait till the last to contribute something for conscience sake. As for the staff of both Life Church and FEBC, including student scholarships, we have gladly given our sacred tenth from the beginning. Unless we rally to do our part, it will be too late!

Notice to Beulah House boarders. Non-FEBC students are the first to look for alternate accommodation. Married students and their wives, and children have also to look for accommodation elsewhere. Like in other Bible Colleges short of space, they also have to help themselves. Our College cannot afford it. Single students should have no problem.

Book Ministry Spreads to 20 Countries in 2001

Books published by FEBC Faculty, originally requested by poor Filipino pastors, have now been sent to 20 countries, totalling 98 parcels. Philippines, last year, received 36 parcels, with USA 11, Kenya 9, Myanmar 7, Australia 6, India and Japan 4 each. Per parcel on average has about 30 books. Postage to Philippines is cheapest, less than \$40 per parcel. This form of dissemination of the truth is another kind of missionary enterprise. "And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (Jn 8:32).

—T.T.

WHY WE WORSHIP JESUS ONLY AND NOT HIS MOTHER

We worship Jesus only because He is the Only Begotten Son of God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, equal with the Holy Spirit, the Third Person to the Father in substance, power and glory. This is disputed by the wicked generation, the scribes and Pharisees who wanted to stone Him because Jesus claimed to be One with the Father. When Jesus forgave the sins of the paralytic brought by four men, the scribes and Pharisees disputed about who can forgive sins but God.

But Christians gladly come for cleansing and forgiveness of sin for salvation and worship Him at His feet. Why do we come to Church every Lord's Day? To worship Him, but not Mary His mother because our Lord never elevated Mary to the Fourth Person of the Holy Trinity. He puts her on the same level as other women though she was his virgin mother.

From the text of our message, we read, *"While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother"* (Matt 12:46-50).

Mary has no special status in Christ's kingdom. Elderly women who believe in Jesus and follow Him, Jesus counts them his mothers. Younger men and women who are His disciples are counted His younger brothers and sisters. Thus Jesus specially visits Bethany because of believers like Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Mary Magdalene, out of whom Jesus cast seven devils, was the first to whom Jesus appeared on Resurrection Sunday.

Today, we have elderly ladies who come to Church. Physically you might have many ailments. But Jesus takes care of you as His mothers.

While Jesus does not promote Mary to the position some invent for her, he sets us the example of a filial son. He keeps the 5th Commandment for this unfilial age. Children today give no respect to their parents. They are slow to obey and quick to argue. I know of a young man who wanted \$300 from his father. When the father refused, the young

fellow gave him a punch on his shoulder. Is this how a son honours his father?

Two incidents in our Lord's life will put us to shame. The story of Cana and the wedding feast reveals Jesus' filial piety. He not only fulfilled his mother's request to make wine because it ran out, He also honoured the wedding family because marriage is instituted by God and making the wedding family happy shows our Lord rejoices with them who rejoice. Should your mother ask you to buy lunch for her would you do it happily for her? Now, the wine Jesus made was 3% alcohol just enough to preserve it, according to my teacher Dr Harris. It is not like today's white or red wine between 13 and 17% as I observed in a Canadian winery.

The other occasion was when He ascended the cross to die for our sins. Despite His agony, He remembered His duty to His mother. "When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home" (Jn 20:26-27). The Son of God did His duty as the Son of Man. And Mary the mother of Jesus lived like any other person in the early church, worshipping and praying together with the hundred and twenty, not above them.

Mary, upon meeting her cousin, Elisabeth, was inspired by the Holy Spirit to speak of the greatness of the Lord, but she humbled herself and called the Lord her Saviour. Nowhere did she claim herself to be co-saviour. Mary never knew she was the Immaculate. While playing the role of the virgin mother, she lived a normal life as Joseph's wife after Jesus the firstborn was delivered. When she died she suffered the common lot of men and women. She never experienced what men call the Assumption of Mary, that Mary resurrected and ascended to heaven.

But Jesus promotes any woman of elderly age to be His mother if she trusts in Him as Mary believes in the Lord. So we worship Jesus only and not His mother. We make Jesus known unlike Mary-worshippers who make her known. And we say "Jesus Saves," or better still, "Only Jesus Saves."

"Only Jesus Saves" is from Rev C T Hsu, Taxi-Pastor migrated to New York from Life Church. While driving a taxi he wears a jacket with "Only Jesus Saves" on his back. It is his witness to Roman

Catholic passengers. Humorously, he told me, he would get a tip of \$5 from those passengers who enjoyed talking to him.

There is also an interesting story of our six-column Church. After it was newly built a Mary-worshipper thought this was one of his churches. When he was about to enter our Church (we have no gate), he saw above the open entrance "Jesus Saves." He beat a hasty retreat and you know why!

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

We thank God for Lim Hai Seng from Ebenezer B-P Church of Melbourne, in helping us with his talent of "Sketch and Tell" of the gospel with illustration and songs. He has been with us for a week now and soon he'll be going over to minister to the children in Siem Reap and Poipet. We also praise God for Rev. George from Adelaide B-P Church and Rachel from United States for their love for Cambodians. God willing, next week they too will be returning home.

As regards my daughter (Esther) she is currently studying in Korea at Secondary level in "Handong International School" sponsored and supported by Hope B-P Church. We truly thank God for opening this door and providing all her needs. I also praise God for blessing me with another baby and my wife now is pregnant. Please pray for her because of her health condition and age.

We were able to conduct the groundbreaking on Wed. in the presence of our church members and the construction workers. Rev. George was the speaker. The work on the site is progressing slowly and gradually. We would also express our gratitude to Sharon B-P Church and Calvary Pandan B-P Church for donating funds for the building of God's house here in Kompong Som.

—Pastor David & Mrs Koo & Surish

TESTIMONY

My name is Edward Gan Jen Loong. I was born in Singapore in 1971. I first 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 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 is 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 Jesus Christ as a friend, although nothing more at this point. My concept of religion and faith was very bible centric early 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 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 charismatic at that point, I left the church for another, feeling peace in my heart and a sense that the Holy Spirit is leading me forward in another direction.

I decided to begin attending Wesley Methodist Church soon 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 began to be 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 back home, I also attended Life B-P Church and began to develop firmer theological convictions about reformation and the B-P Movement.

Having been back to Singapore for about two years now while attending Life B-P Church and being 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

(Mar 25 - 31, 2002)

MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	No evening lecture
	7.30 pm	Combined F'ships Prayer Fellowship, FEBC Hall
	8.00 pm	Sharon BPC Maundy Thursday Service
FRI	9.00 am	Marriage Enrichment Seminar, FEBC Hall
	8.00 pm	COMBINED GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (Rev Tow, Lord's Supper)
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	7.00 am	COMBINED EASTER SUNRISE BAPTISMAL SERVICE (Rev Tow)
	9.00 am	Easter Breakfast (No Sunday School)
	12.30 pm	Korean Service
	3.00 pm	Thai Service
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service

NBC This Week. Wed Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 92

Sunday School Offering: \$881.90; Attendance: 404

Verse for the Week: *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* 1 Peter 3:18

Dr Carl McIntire was promoted to glory Tues. 7 pm, Mar 19, 02. "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). Funeral will be conducted by Rev Frank Mood and Rev K C Quek at Collingswood B-P Church, Tues. Mar 26 in total victory. Hosanna in the highest.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$8,763.00 (8.00 am); \$24,750.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$140; Cambodia Mission \$400; Rev David Koo \$3000; Rev Jonathan Lee \$10, \$200, \$150; Rev Moses Hahn \$150; Pailin Orph \$50; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Missions \$150, \$400; Myanmar Orph \$300, \$1000; Life Church Choir \$50; MsF \$800; FEK \$1000; FEBC \$50; Needy brethren/sick \$730; Rev Seet \$50, \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$50, \$50; On Henry Tan \$200; Ng Sang Chiew \$100; Mother of Ny Sambath \$200; Quek Keng Khwang \$50; Tan Klan Sing \$1000; Chan Pui Meng \$120; David Koo's Bible School \$200; Eduardo Morante \$200; June Tan \$200; Christina Ho \$200.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$50, \$400, \$500, \$380, \$3000, \$200, \$160, \$50, \$400, \$500, \$500, \$148, \$140(YF/YAF), \$732(YAF Retreat), \$600, \$300. **GRAND TOTAL: \$3,546,032.40.**

1) **Infant Baptism on Easter Sunday, 31 March, 7.00 am.** Please register with the Church office (tel: 6256-9256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names and address by Tuesday.

2) **Combined Fellowships Prayer Fellowship on 28 March** (Maundy Thursday), 7.30 - 11.00 pm, FEBC Hall. Please come and join us for a blessed time of prayer.

3) **Marriage Enrichment Seminar**, 9am-1pm, 29 Mar, FEBC Hall. Registration closes today.


4) **Far Eastern Kindergarten's** enrolment for 2003 is open. Playgroup to K2, 8.15 or 11.30 am sessions. Call Jemima Khoo at 6251-3676.

5) **Calling all Lifers to serve in VBS 2002.** There are many areas in which you may serve - teaching, transport, logistics, art & craft, singing, F&B, and administration. From 4-7 June 2002. Application forms are out. Email vbs_lifebp@yahoo.com.sg for more information.

6) **Our condolences to Linda Chan and family** on the homegoing of her father, Tan Eng Lian (87) on Tuesday, 19th March. Funeral was held on Saturday.

7) **Corrigendum:** June Loke (not Lok) Sow Ngoh was baptised on 16th March by Rev Colin Wong.

Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Gethsemane BPC, 9.30 am. Rev Seet at Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.



Someone set fire to our hut in Bible School Hill on Mar 9 — Moses Hahn



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Vol. X No. 35

24 March 2002

"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. 34
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Ps 118:19-29	Ps 118
Hymn	No. 198	No. 198
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 33	No. 136
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	John 12:12-26	Matt 21:1-11
Sermon	Why Did They Shout Hosanna? (Rev Charles Seet)	Crowds, Crowns, Crucifixion (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 423	No. 197
Benediction		

can do nothing against the truth but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8). If, for holding to the Doctrine of Preservation of the Scriptures, we err, then God will not bless us. If it is right, God's blessing upon us is irresistible. "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever" (Ps 12:6-7). It is better I accept what the Bible says. "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away" (Mk 13:31).

WINDFALL OF 4 GLORIOUS DAYS BY "BLUE OCEAN RESORT"

The Chinese Service had booked for months to have a retreat at our Mersing "Blue Ocean Resort." The date was March 13-16, 02. Alas, the registration had only 15, though the Chinese leaders were all ready to serve. The reason: The Chinese Service is made up of elderly people. A good number who came are ill disposed this time. Now they have the latest luxurious coach to take 44 all the way to Mersing!

Hearing of this windfall of blessing of many empty seats, we enrolled ourselves and invited Dr & Mrs Tow Siang Yeow, Elder Heng Yow Tong and 4 FEBC students to come. Then, Wendy and her two children (and later on her husband) joined in.

The speaker is Rev George Lim of Macedonia BPC. Calvin Loh was Camp master with Bee Choo assisting.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

For many months I've been speaking out of Ecclesiastes at the Tuesday Night Prayer Meeting. Having come to the end I've sent the manuscript for printing, which you will receive today.

Solomon, the author of Ecclesiastes, often talks of Wisdom. In chapter 7 verse 12, he says, "For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it." What do these words of Solomon mean? Money is a help in time of trouble, but wisdom is better. The wise live and their life is prolonged by a higher wisdom.

Wisdom is not proud but patient. Wisdom is willing to be instructed or admonished, and not to stick to one's guns.

God is on the side of the wise, on the side of morality, not mere legality. God dispenses equity in a case where higher wisdom is needed.

Can God PRESERVE for us an Infallible and Inerrant Bible? When I was in Seminary, I was taught that He gave an infallible and inerrant Bible only in the autographs. In the last thirty years, faithful and Bible-believing men of God have risen to declare we have a pure Bible handed down to us, infallible and inerrant like the autographs. This doctrine FEBC upholds "for we

We have two morning messages. The whole afternoon is free. For the evening we have videos on the Persecution of the Early Korean Church by the Japanese, the good work of Breakthrough Christian Drug Rehabilitation Centre and *If I Perish*, *I Perish*, the story of Ahn Ai Sook, the Korean girl who refused to bow to the Japanese Emperor "Son of Heaven." She could not *kowtow* to him who is not God. It is our health holiday camp, indeed.

The monsoon has just ended. The days are bathed in a shower of breezes from the South China Sea. As our Resort faces the Ocean directly, we take in the ozone day and night. After one night, Dr Siang Yeow my brother said, "My sinus has automatically dried up." As for me, my appetite has returned. I enjoy my *nasi lemak* to the last grain. My health has picked up since I came. The numbness in my left thigh has also subsided though not fully.

Dr Siang Yeow serves as the Camp doctor and Miss Joo Eng a staff nurse attended to my needs one morning. An 80-year-old lady comes with her husband of 85 who got converted recently. He thoroughly enjoys the camp. The Chinese speaking husband of Nancy Heng, member of our English congregation, also joins us. He is brimming with joy over his recent salvation.

God gave us this property with lightning speed, the best part of all Mersing. In less than two weeks we clinched the deal. But our building the Resort was delayed so as to give us a good price with the dropping of the Ringgit. God used Dr Siang Yeow to head up this ministry and sent Mr & Mrs Raymond Tan, recently retired school teachers, to manage the Resort. When God is for us, who can be against us?

The Resort has 15 deluxe rooms which can cater to at least 45 people and dormitories for another 70. If need be we can use a big room to take in another 16. Total 131.

Mersing has this advantage. As the road all the way from Johore Bahru is 95% enlarged and straightened, you can reach there by car in 3 hours. A delight is to stop at Jemaluang, 87th mile, to enjoy a bowl of *won ton meen*. The distance to Mersing from Singapore is exactly 100 miles. If a group of several families will visit Mersing off season, you can have the best of both worlds, enjoying more facilities at the lowest price! —T.T.

Pastor Tow has been invited by Rev Moses Hahn to dedicate his newly built Bible School, July

11-15 (by Silkair). **This visit to Cambodia is open to all** who are interested. Please see Mrs Ivy Tow.

We extend a warm welcome to **Rachel Jeffries** who is passing through on her way back to America. She has just finished a term of teaching English to David Koo's students.

Life Church Bible Camp 2002 will be held at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, June 17-21. Theme: "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World." Boat trip and lunch at an offshore island.

THE HOME-GOING OF LINDA CHAN'S FATHER, AGED 87

My father's mother, Mdm Teo Kim Siew, was a non-believer. She wanted a male child badly. One day she met Pastor Quek Keng Hoon (uncle of Rev K C Quek). The latter exhorted Grandma Teo to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Grandma prayed for a male child. The Lord granted her her heart's desire and my father, Tan Eng Lian was born in 1915. So my father was a 2nd generation Christian who remembered John Sung. From Swatow my father migrated to Singapore with his mother leaving behind my mother and her two young sons. My mother and the two older boys came to Singapore to join my grandmother and father only after the war.

Mother wanted a girl badly and the Lord graciously honoured her with a long sought for daughter who is none other than yours truly.

The Lord has been good to my late father blessing him with 8 children and 16 grandchildren. Five of his grandchildren are medical doctors.

As for me tonight on behalf of my family I want to thank Rev James Ng, Preacher Chan and Preacher Choo. The latter came to visit my father when he was first admitted into NUH on 15 January. My father was again admitted to hospital this time to Singapore General Hospital on Saturday 9 March.

On Tuesday 18 March, my father was in a comatose state. So when my Pastor, Rev Timothy Tow and Rev Colin Wong came to pray for him, I believe his spirit was in attendance although his mental faculties were numbed by the morphine. Father breathed his last at around 11.40 pm on Tuesday night.

We had wanted to have a five-day funeral for my father and the Lord's timing is beautiful. Praise the Lord who has been in control of the lives of the Tan family even during Grandma Teo's time. If my grandmother had not trusted in the Lord there we would be a different Tan clan.

Thank you all for your prayers, your sympathies, condolences and floral gifts. Thank God for granting my father peace to meet his God. Amen.



The officers and members of Fabrica Evangelical Church, Fabrica, Sagay City, Negros Occidental, Philippines, would like to extend their grateful appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the gifts of King James Bibles and other religious reading

materials to our church.

The booklets such as "It Is Nearer Than You Think", "Born Again in the Singapore Pentecost" were distributed while "Coming World Events Unveiled" and "From Millennium Bug to Millennium Bomb" were being utilized as our S.S. guide booklets. Each adult and young adult are having a copy of their own KJB. I'm now translating your booklets into our native dialects. Some other books



GOOD NEWS

The Gospel Invitation

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people. Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee. Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."
Isaiah 55:1-7

Question:

Will you accept God's free gift of salvation?

BAD NEWS


The Reprobate's Rejection

"Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them."
Proverbs 1:24-32

Answer:

Sorry, the Door of Salvation is now closed.

—Pastor Joaquín C. Arevalo

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 1 - 7, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	No <i>Exodus</i> lecture	\$12,898.00 (8.00 am); \$17,864.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Wendy Teng</i> \$140, \$100; <i>Rev David Koo</i> \$150, \$100(Chinese Service); \$460; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$10, \$100, \$100(Chinese Service); <i>Rev Moses Hahn</i> \$100, \$300, \$350(Chinese Service); \$100; <i>Israel-Baraka BPC</i> \$20; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$56; <i>Rev Thawm Lui</i> \$150; <i>Needy brethren/sick</i> \$350; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$100, \$50; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$100, \$148, \$50; <i>Tan Kian Sing</i> \$160; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$400(LF); <i>David Koo's Bible School</i> \$450(Chinese Service); \$10,000(Sharon BPC); <i>Rev Peter Clements</i> \$900; <i>Kenya(Mok&Carol)</i> \$50(LF); <i>Merlin Chung</i> \$90(Chinese Service); MERSING YOUTH CAMP: \$362.30 (Boxes).		
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Anthropology</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$200, \$130, \$500, \$500, \$400, \$11876.01, \$450, \$200, \$50, \$500, \$70, \$500, \$1000, \$770(Chinese Service), \$100(LF). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,563,378.41.		
SAT	2.30 pm	YF; 3.00 YAF; 3.30 EBF	STOP PRESS! \$2400, US\$100(in memory of Mrs Nancy Tow and Le Anne), \$1000(in loving memory of my late son and father), \$400(Pepsi).		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>The Danger of Deception</i> (Rev Jack Sin)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) We thank God for providing all our needs for the past year and has also given us a good bonus in times like this. Therefore, we would like to return a portion towards the building of New Beulah House. All glory and praise to His Name. —Calvarian (\$600)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(2) Thank you, Father, for answering my prayers. (\$50)		
	10.30 am	<i>The Sower</i> (Rev Tow, Lord's Supper)	Annual Congregation Mtg / Elections		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Lord's Day, April 28, 9.30 am sharp.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	It is your duty as a member to attend.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	For Members of Life B-P Church Only. As the church elections are coming up in a few weeks' time, the exact number of voting members in the church has to be determined. If you are a member of Life B-P Church, kindly sign the form (inserted in the Weekly), and put it in the offering bag when the offering is collected during this worship service. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.		
	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 Newton. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson. Prayer Mtg: 90					
Sunday School Offering: \$823.50; Attendance: 388					
Verse for the Week: <i>For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures. 1 Cor 15:3-4</i>					
A Single's Roadmap. Seminar for singles to be held on Sat. 20 April, 2-6 pm, FEBC Hall. Register by dropping the completed form in the box at the main entrance, or via email at christian_singles2002@yahoo.com.sg . Preaching appointments: <i>Rev Wong</i> at Tangkak BPC. <i>Rev Seet</i> at Calvary (Tengah) BPC, 2.00 pm.					
					
<p><i>Laying Foundations for David Koo's Bible School Complex on a hill at the edge of the town of Kompong Som.</i></p>					



Life

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Vol. X No. 36

31 March 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	<i>Jesus Christ is Risen Today</i>
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Matt 28:1-17
Hymn	<i>Christ Arose</i>
Announcements	
Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith & Transfer of Membership	<i>O Happy Day</i>
Scripture Text	Acts 1:8,9
Sermon	<i>An Ascended Saviour, An Accelerated Church</i> (Rev Tow)
	<i>Thine is the Glory</i>
Offering & Hymn	
Offertory Prayer & Benediction	

EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH

(Message delivered by Pastor to the 14th Anniversary Service of Gethsemane B-P Church, Mar 24, 02)

Text: Jude 3

The title of my message is "Earnestly Contend for the Faith." The apostle Jude was writing to the believers and at first his idea was to talk of the common salvation. That of course will edify our hearts, like your Bible Witness. You have many good articles that even my son when he saw them was very delighted. This will supply a need in the B-P Movement, more spiritual food to nurture the members. But the apostle Jude says, "When I desired to do this thing it was needful for me to exhort you." He was constrained by the Holy Spirit that this one thing was very important that you should earnestly contend for the faith. The whole epistle is devoted to this one theme – earnestly contend for the faith. And who are the examples of those whom we must oppose? Three people are mentioned – Cain, Balaam and Core. These are rebels who do not obey the faith, who resist the Lord.

Why should we earnestly contend for the faith? We need to contend for the faith because there are so many who are against the Lord, and they are

mentioned as follows - false Christs, false prophets, false apostles, false teachers, false spirits, false witnesses and false brethren. And we have three synoptic gospels – Matthew, Mark Luke - warning against false prophets and false Christs, from the mouth of our Lord Himself. And three epistles, namely, Jude that we've just read, and Second Peter and First John 4. But the fact is that the whole life of Jesus in His ministry of 3½ years was a constant battle against "this wicked generation." What is the wicked generation? They are the scribes, the Jewish theologians, and the Pharisees, the high churchmen. They were constantly against Jesus, against His claim to be one with the Father, He is the Son of God, He is equal to the Father and that He can forgive sins. Who can forgive sins but God? But Jesus countered right away, "That you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins, 'Rise up and walk,' He said this to the paralytic that was brought by four men. And he arose and took up his bedding and he walked away praising the Lord. Our Lord Jesus Christ, when He preached the gospel to the multitudes He had also to constantly expose the false prophets in the church. This is the wicked generation. Now we ask ourselves - is there such a wicked generation – false Christs, false prophets, false teachers, in high places today? Exactly the same as in the Jewish Church, so it is in the Christian church.

Why has the Lord blessed the B-P Movement? I will tell you my own testimony. I went to study in America in 1948, January, 54 years ago. One wintry morning there came a very distinguished gentleman. He was none other than Dr Carl McIntire who has just been received into glory and his funeral will be held next Tuesday, Mar 26, 02. He told us about the great danger in the church because they were going to form the World Council of Churches to extend their influence, which is the Ecumenical Movement. By now I believe you know what is ecumenical. One inhabited world, one roof under which all denominations must unite and all the Protestant denominations will return to Rome. That is the meaning of the Ecumenical Movement. Dr

McIntire called for young men like us to join a counter movement called the 20th Century Reformation Movement. It is to carry on the 16th Century Reformation Movement of Martin Luther and to separate from the Ecumenical Movement. Well, when I went to seminary I had some idea of Martin Luther. I knew that he was a reformer. My heart was set on fire. My heart was knit to his heart, like David and Jonathan. I took such a keen interest in the Reformation Movement that I have been helped by the grace of God to stand firm to this day. I have taken part in many oppositions raised by the ICCC (International Council of Christian Churches) to speak against Romanism, Ecumenism, Neo-evangelicalism, Charismatism.

But now the battle is centred on the Bible. Because you suddenly realise that the market is flooded with well over one hundred new versions during the last 50 years. These new Bibles so called depart a great deal from the Received Text upon which the King James Bible, the Bible that we use, is founded. The Bible is two and two are four. The Bible has only one answer. The Bible has only one teaching. That is the reason why we founded the FEBC exactly 40 years ago, to stand against those who are false prophets and false teachers. The battle must continue because if FEBC does not take a strong stand against the erosion of faith we will be toppled.

In 1947 there was founded in Los Angeles the Fuller Seminary. It was founded by Charles Fuller, the preacher of the old-fashioned revival hour. And he had five faculty members that were true to the Word. But in no time liberalism entered it and through one man the whole seminary was toppled. Today Fuller Seminary is one that appears to be evangelical, but is most diabolical. Even Biblical Theological Seminary which is a separation from my mother school, Faith Seminary. It was all right at first but now new people have come in. The Seminary is practically gone.

Now the battle today is mainly on the Bible. As I told you there are well over one hundred versions. The first version that came in to take the place of the King James Bible which has been reigning supreme for the last 300 years, was the translation of the RSV in 1952. The ICCC at once went to battle and exposed this Bible to be a poisonous one. It translates "Behold a virgin shall conceive" into "Behold a young woman shall conceive." What young woman cannot conceive? Our council took a strong stand against the RSV and its sale was restricted. But in 1978 there arrived the NIV. It is

now sweeping the Christian world. I am very sure you know what the NIV is, the New International Version. The NIV is not based on the Textus Receptus on which the King James Bible is based but is based on the corrupt text of the Westcott and Hort. Who are these two men? They are two Cambridge professors of Greek who spent many years to maneuver the Anglican Church. The Anglican Church agreed with them that they needed a new translation and so they produced in 1881 the Revised Version.

When I was a boy, I bought a Revised Version but the Revised Version attacked point after point our old Bible. As a result, it died a diseased death. After some years it went out of publication because the people, true Christians, would not buy a poisonous Bible. But now, just as poisonous as the Revised Version is the NIV. For example, over 9,900 words are altered, deleted. Out of the Bible, the equivalent of 8 chapters, 1 and 2 Peter, are scissored. Let me ask you, suppose you have one page torn from your Bible, can you use it? I will not use that Bible. But when you have torn away 8 chapters and deleted and changed 9,900 words, all the more you will not have it. To prove to you the NIV is a very corrupt Bible, it has "taken out" the passage of the woman taken in adultery. But I tell you that the story of the woman taken in adultery is the most magnanimous account of Jesus' life. The Jews tried to trap Jesus. To put Him in a place where they say since she is guilty of adultery she must be stoned to death. But any good lawyer could challenge them, "If she is taken in adultery what happens to the adulterer, the man? Why don't you bring him here?" Jesus is the Son of God. He is God. Can puny man try to outwit God? Jesus retorted, "Who is without sin, let him cast the first stone." Dr John Sung has a very humorous way of illustrating the situation. From 70 downwards to 15 one by one slunk away like a beaten dog. When Jesus looked around everyone was gone. Then Jesus forgave the woman, "Go and sin no more." Isn't that most expressive of the marvellous grace of God? It strikes at us. Who can say I am pure? A glance of the eye will cause us to commit adultery in the heart. But NIV "takes out" the precious Word.

The last 12 verses of Mark is also "missing" and I John 5:7 and 8. In the King James Bible, we have three in heaven who are witnesses—the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost. It is a most definite statement on the Holy Trinity. Today the great battle is on the Bible. "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."

I want to apply to your very excellent magazine-the Bible Witness. Truly it is full of spiritual food. But I must tell you, the church is very sick. Just like this time I got sick. I never have been sick for so long. It is terrible. Now I can sympathise with those that are in trouble. And we must realise that we are in trouble. In the B-P Church today we are the very few who are standing for the faith. So I told your pastor, "Today I'm going to challenge you. First of all, that when the next Bible Witness comes out, it will have one special section on defending the faith." And so I pray that the Lord will give your church much power by taking a stand for His cause. Remember Satan has the ability to change himself 72 times like the monkey god. Knowing his tactics, let us continue to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Amen.



Dr Carl Curtis McIntire
(May 17, 1906 - March 19, 2002)

Born May 17, 1906, McIntire was just short of 96 at the time of his death.

An exhaustive preacher, writer, and publisher, McIntire was best known for his motto "A man who will not use his freedom to defend his freedom does not deserve his freedom." In support of his causes, Dr. McIntire published the Christian Beacon newspaper, preached on the 20th Century Reformation Hour,

and at various times directed the American Council of Christian Churches and the International Council of Christian Churches.

Dr. McIntire started his ministerial career in Collingswood and served the congregation there from 1933 for more than 60 years. Under his leadership the church left the Presbyterian Church (USA) as the flag ship congregation of what would become the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Bible Presbyterian Church, and a large portion of the Presbyterian Church in America. Though originally partners in supporting the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, Dr. Gresham Machen and Dr. Carl McIntire moved in different directions after the break with the Northern Presbyterian Church. Machen became identified with Westminster Seminary while McIntire developed Faith Seminary.

According to Bible Presbyterian sources Dr. K.C. Quek, the General Secretary of the ICCC will fly from Singapore to participate in the funeral which is scheduled for March 26 at 1 pm in the Bible Presbyterian church of Collingswood, New Jersey.

INFANT BAPTISM

- 01. Koh Hui Yi, Christine
d/o Mr & Mrs James Koh Boon Kee
- 02. Lok Qian Ning
d/o Mr & Mrs Lok Kwok Wah
- 03. Ngooi En, Grace
s/o Mr & Mrs Adrian Ngooi Kim Boon
- 04. Tan Xue Xian, Joshua
s/o Mr & Mrs Tan Chun

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

- 05. Lim Songwei, Joshua *Student*

BAPTISM

- 06. Cheng Kian Siong *RSAF Officer*
- 07. Fong Yuen Han *Student*
- 08. Jennifer Meriales Anquilan *Mfg. Engineer*
- 09. Kiew Kai Ling, Sarah *Student*
- 10. Lim En *Student*
- 11. Oh Boon Wah *Creative Director*
- 12. Ong Wan Lee, Charmaine
- 13. Syn Yong Pun *Retired*
- 14. Tan Nancy
- 15. Wee Xian Wei, Jonathan *Student*
- 16. Yee See Mun *Editor*

FILIPINA FELLOWSHIP (BAPTISM)

- 17. Lerma Martinez Guieb *Domestic Helper*

CHINESE SERVICE (BAPTISM)

- 18. Lim Tock
- 19. Tan Gek Hua *Homemaker*
- 20. Yap Young Yan *Retiree*

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

- 21. Choo Ben-Tiong, Reggie *IT Manager*
- 22. Lee Nyuk Mee, Justine *Homemaker/Artist*
- 23. Lee Poh Keng, Patricia *Oral History Offr*
- 24. Leong Keng Yew, Vincent *Lead Guardian*
- 25. Leong Lai Fung, Mary *Student*
- 26. Leong Wai Hoe *Planner*
- 27. Liew Kim Mei, Mary *Guardian*
- 28. Tan Boon Teik, Ben *R&D Engineer*
- 29. Tang Tin Ling, Eileen *Dental Asst.*
- 30. Wee Gek Leng, Josephine *Librarian*
- 31. Wong Fei Luen, Hazel *Manager*
- 32. Wong Kok Khooi, Arthur *QS Consultant*
- 33. Yao Chong, Joseph *Dental Surgeon*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 8 - 14, 2002)		GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SUNRISE SERVICES OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$36,753.00 (Good Friday); \$52,520.20 (Easter Sunrise Service) OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$250, \$250; Rev David Koo \$400, \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$700, \$500, \$500; Missions \$520; FEBC students \$450; Life Church Choir \$50; MsF \$350; Rev Seet \$100; Christina Ho \$250; Rev Wong \$50, \$100; Tan Bee Choo \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$1000; Cambodia-Church Bldg Fund \$220; Cambodia Missionaries \$150; Mercy Ministry (Retrenchment) \$100; Kenya-Mok & Carol \$50, \$500; Rev Moses Hahn \$500; Pailin Orph \$50; Surish \$500; Israel-Baraka BPC \$60; Myanmar Orph \$50; MsF \$250; Paul Sun Sokha \$100. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$1000, \$1000, \$108, \$800, \$200, \$100, \$80, \$100, \$1000, \$800, \$150, \$100, \$300, \$300, \$50, \$1000, \$200, \$110, \$50, \$10, \$1000, \$450, \$100, \$100, \$150, \$250, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$500, \$2500, \$5000, \$1000, \$200, \$50, \$500, \$150, \$300, \$200, \$300, \$500, \$1000, \$1000, \$250, \$148, \$150, \$500, \$1000. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,594,861.61. STOP PRESS! \$200 (Contractor Goh).
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	
THU	7.30 pm Anthropology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	1) As the church elections are coming up in 3 weeks' time, the exact number of voting members in the church has to be determined. If you are a member of Life B-P Church, kindly sign the form (inserted in this Weekly), and put it in the offering bag when the offering is collected during this worship service. If you have already signed a similar form last Sunday, please do not sign again. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. 2) 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. 3) A Single's Roadmap. Seminar for singles to be held on Sat. 20 April, 2-6 pm, FEBC Hall. Register by dropping the completed form in the box at the main entrance, or via email at christian_singles2002@yahoo.com.sg. 4) "Strengthening the Christian Families of Our Church", Wed. 1 May 02, 8:30am - 1:30pm. There will be messages, group discussions... and a special programme for the children! Closing date: 21 Apr.
	8.00 pm FEK Board Mtg, Library	
SAT	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Verse for the Week: <i>I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.</i> Psalm 138:2
	6.30 pm Men's Fellowship Anniv., FEBC Hall (Rev Tow)	
SUN	8.00 am Love Does Not Seek its Own (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	Annual Congregation Mtg / Elections Lord's Day, April 28, 9.30 am sharp. It is your duty as a member to attend.
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am Sunday School	Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Calvary Jurong BPC, 8.00 am. Rev Seet in Batam.
	10.00 am Rev Tow at Kelapa Sawit 50th Anniv.	
	10.30 am Rev Charles Seet	THE 4th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN MYANMAR
	10.30 am Chinese Service	
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Front row (left to right) are Amos Go Za Sum and Andrew Kam
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice	THE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN MYANMAR
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice	
	12.00 pm Catechumens' Fellowship Lunch	THE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN MYANMAR
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	
	3.00 pm Thai Service	THE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN MYANMAR
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 104	THE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN MYANMAR
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Woodlands.		



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Vol. X No. 37

7 April 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Colin Wong
Opening Hymn	No. 32	No. 85
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 5	Mt 28:18-20; Mk 16:15
Hymn	No. 317	Go Into the World
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 324	No. 285
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lev 19:26-32	Jn 3:16; Matt 13:1-23
Sermon	The Danger of Deception (Rev Jack Sin)	John 3:16 and the Sower (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 382	No. 273
		Lord's Supper
Benediction		

THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION OF CHRIST

Not a few years ago the Bishop of Durham denied the Resurrection of our Lord over the BBC. But he was not alone. At a Synod of the Anglican Church thereafter, out of 50 bishops, 45 supported the Bishop of Durham. Without believing the Resurrection, the Anglican Church is becoming a dead church.

The fact is the Resurrection is the most attested fact of history. On the Sunday that Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared five times to His disciples: 1) Mary Magdalene, 2) The other women, 3) Peter, 4) Two on the way to Emmaus, 5) All disciples apart from Thomas. The remainder of the forty-day period before Ascension: 6) The disciples with Thomas the next Lord's Day, 7) The six disciples who went fishing on the Sea of Galilee with Peter, 8) Five hundred brethren, 9) James, 10) The Eleven at the Ascension.

To prove He was not a Spirit, Jesus ate with the disciples and let them handle His hands and feet.

What is the significance of the Resurrection? By the Resurrection Paul declares our sins are forgiven. Hallelujah! If Jesus died and rose not again we remain in our sins. "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" (Rom 10:9). Praise God, this Easter, I know I am saved!

Now, we are saved to serve. This is the command of our Lord at his Ascension. "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 alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt 28:18-20). "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:8-9). This Great Commission I would call "The First Commandment to the Church."

Thank God, our Church has carried out the Great Commission to over a dozen countries — 9 ASEAN countries, Saipan, Africa, The Holy Land. It is the horizontal emphasis and not the vertical. Though Peter had won three thousand in one day and five thousand on another, he did not build a church seating 10,000



Front row (left to right) are
Amos Go Za Sum and Andrew Kam

like Cho Yonggi's of Korea, who claims a church membership numbering half a million. Peter followed our Lord's command to take the Gospel from one country to another, from Jerusalem to Samaria, to Joppa, Caesarea, Asia Minor, Corinth and finally to Rome. So have our members lovingly designated their gifts to missionaries such as are in Cambodia and Myanmar, wherever the need is greatest. This, knowing full well that much is required to build Beulah House. The paradox is by supporting missions no less than Beulah House, God will be pleased to help us complete Beulah House, for missions abroad is just as important as the local church. Both are involved with the saving of souls.
—T.T.

JOHN 3:16 IN THE LIGHT OF THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Text: John 3:16, Matt 13:1-23

John 3:16 is the most quoted verse of the whole Bible. "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." This is the biggest and widest offer God has made to mankind for salvation to the whole world, whoever would believe in him. I was seven years old when I heard John 3:16 repeated at a Christmas service, and my heart was glad. The message is given to one and all, whoever opens his heart to Jesus will be saved. This comes under the desiderative will of God.

But there is a group of people called Hypercalvinists. John 3:16 is not given in its widest sense but rather its narrowest. The people God loves are not anyone but restricted to the elect. Because it is argued only the chosen ones can be loved and be saved. Such an interpretation runs counter to Calvin who says the world is not the restricted world of the elect but the whole world, elect or not elect. And that is what Jesus meant.

Jesus' parable of the sower supports our balanced interpretation. If it were restricted to the elect, the sower would bring all the good seed and sow it carefully only on the good soil.

But the way he sows his seed is by spreading it far and wide. Some would land on the footpath, some on rocky ground and some among thorns and thistles. These three types of ground are not

productive. The seed falling on the footpath is eaten up by birds. That on shallow ground springs up to life but withers away without deep root. The third type which lands between thorns and thistles are choked. This means when we go out preaching we do not try to preach to the elect but to one and all. As Augustine says, "Sufficient for all, efficient for the elect." We do our best, God takes care of the rest.

The procedure for evangelism is plainly given in the Great Commission. "Preach the gospel to every creature." In Matthew 28:18-20 the same is to be given to all nations. This is again portrayed by the Parable of the Sower.

Today, when we come to Church we may be inattentive like the hardened footpath. We may have a shallow soiled heart, not thoughtful enough. We may be full of worldly thoughts thinking of money-making while the sermon is preached. Let us cast out all these unholy elements that prevent the Gospel seed from taking root. Let us prepare a good ground with stones taken out and thorns and thistles weeded out, to receive the Word of God. If we do this we are chosen, we are elect!
—T.T.

Crossing the Bar

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea,*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the
boundless deep
Turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;*

*For tho' from out our bourne of
Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face,
When I have crost the bar.*

—Alfred Lord Tennyson

In Loving Memory of Dr Carl McIntire

*All praise and thanks to Almighty God
For Dr. Carl McIntire, faithful servant of the
Lord,
Who was raised up to stand against the apostasy
And continue the Reformation in the 20th
Century.*

*At the funeral service in Collingswood, New
Jersey,
The Lord blessed mightily with thanksgiving
and victory.
To God be the glory, great things He has done
For all who have believed in His Only Begotten
Son.*

*The highlight of Dr. McIntire's funeral
Was the faithful preaching of the Gospel,
Just as this dear departed pastor had done so
In this Bible Presbyterian Church many years
ago.*

*Remembrance is the hallmark of gratitude;
We give thanks to the Lord for He is good.
We pray that we too will be faithful
To proclaim the Gospel and carry on the battle.*

*For the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus.
Let us persevere in the race set before us,
For the defence of the Truth and for the pure
Gospel
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only hope of the
world.*

—Mrs Lehia Paauwe

Our visit to Cambodia to attend the opening of Bible School Hill of Moses Hahn and see the work of David Koo and Jonathan Lee will be from **July 11 - 15** by Silkair. Register now with Mrs Ivy Tow to avoid disappointment.

Testimony by Rev. Edward Paauwe at the Funeral

In Memoriam - Dr. Carl McIntire

First impressions are important and I well remember the first time I met Dr. Carl McIntire. I was a student at Bob Jones University and one of my teachers, Mr. William Lister, asked me what I was planning to do after graduation. I told him I was planning to go to Westminster Theological Seminary. "Why do you want to go there?" he said, "Don't you know that Seminary?" and he went on to tell me about Faith Theological Seminary and the differences between Faith and Westminster. He concluded by telling me that Dr. McIntire, President of the Board of Directors of Faith Seminary, was coming to Greenville and that he would take me to meet Dr. McIntire.

Mr. Lister was true to his word. He took me to the meeting and afterwards introduced me to Dr. McIntire. Praise the Lord for opening my eyes to the issues at hand, particularly the doctrine of Biblical separation. I went to Faith Theological Seminary and thank the Lord for the training I received there. But I'll never forget the first time I met Dr. McIntire and how he taught separation from apostasy.

The last time I met Dr. McIntire was at Thanksgiving last year. One thing stands out very clearly in our minds regarding that last visit with him. Before we left Dr. McIntire prayed. He prayed for us but he also prayed for his dear friends "Timothy and Quek", i.e. Dr. Timothy Tow and Dr. K. C. Quek from Singapore. What a blessing it was to hear the prayer of this man of God. So we remember his supplication.

I would like to relate one further incident in the life of Dr. McIntire. We were told about this when we first went to Australia. On one of his trips to Australia Dr. McIntire visited a wealthy lady. As she showed him her earthly treasures, Dr. McIntire said something to this effect, "Lady, that's all very nice, but are you saved?"

And that's a good question for all of us today. Are you saved? It is only when we confess our sins to the Lord, repent of these sins, and ask the Lord to save us that we can answer that question in the affirmative. And it is only when we are saved by the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that we can have forgiveness of sin and assurance of everlasting life. It is only then that we can rest assured that we will see Dr. McIntire again-when we are with the Lord forevermore!

That was Dr. McIntire — separation, supplication, and salvation. May his life be an inspiration for us to serve the Lord faithfully all the days of our lives. Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 15 - 21, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Exodus (Rev Quek Suan Yew)	\$16,440.00 (8.00 am); \$16,875.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Rev David Koo \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$10, \$150, \$50, \$150; Rev Moses Hahn \$150, \$50, \$100; Indonesia Mission \$400; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20, US\$10,000(Calvary-Pandan BPC); Andrew Kam \$100; Chinese Bibles for China \$50; Nirands \$300; VBS \$50, \$50; Mersing Youth Camp \$332; Tract/Bk/Tape Ministry \$100; Rev Wong \$50; Chan Pui Meng \$300, \$200, \$300; Cambodia-Church Bldg Fund \$200; Mark Chen \$300; Mercy Ministry (Retrenchment) \$100; Sylvea Wong \$250; Kenya-Mok&Carol \$200; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Sitha, Paul Sun Sokha, Ty Serey Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Roska \$11,000 (Calvary-Pandan BPC); David Koo's Bible School US\$10,000(Calvary-Pandan BPC).		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$1000, \$200, \$270, \$100, \$100, \$500, \$50, \$200, \$500, \$100, \$300, \$100, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1200, \$440, \$1000, \$200, \$200, \$50, \$500, \$500, \$200, \$700, \$3000, \$1000, \$1500, \$148, \$198, \$200, \$1000. Grand Total: \$3,611,167.61.		
THU		FEBC Exam begins	STOP PRESS! \$5000(FEBC Bookroom), \$6000(Lovers of New Beulah Hse).		
SAT	2.00 pm	Singles Seminar, FEBC Hall	Annual Congregation Mtg / Elections		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Lord's Day, April 28, 9.30 am sharp.		
SUN	8.00 am	Is Submission to God a Matter of Choice? (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	It is your duty as a member to attend.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	1. All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised on Easter Sunday are cordially invited to the Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch today at 12.00 pm at Beulah House.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	2) A Single's Roadmap. Seminar for singles to be held on Sat. 20 April, 2-6 pm, FEBC Hall. Register by dropping the completed form in the box at the main entrance, or via email at christian_singles2002@yahoo.com.sg.		
	10.30 am	Wheat and Tares (Rev Tow)	3) "Strengthening the Christian Families of Our Church", Wed. 1 May 02, 8:30am - 1:30pm. There will be messages, group discussions... and a special programme for the children! Closing date: 21 Apr.		
	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			
	1.00 pm	AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 104			
NBC This Week. Wed Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok.					
Sunday School Offering: \$779.50; Attendance: 439					
Verse for the Week: Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. Hebrews 9:12					
Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Kelapa Sawit BPC 50th Anniversary. Rev Wong at Chinese Service, 10.30 am and Emmanuel BPC, 2.30 pm.					



New B-P Church at Kampung Becek, Batam, Indonesia



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Vol. X No. 38

14 April 2002

"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. 318
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 13:1-13	Matt 6:25-34
Hymn	No. 120	No. 358
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 90	No. 284
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 5:43-48	Phil 4:4-9
Sermon	Love Does Not Seek Its Own (Rev Charles Seet)	Stressful Living and The Christian (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 313	No. 273
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

KELAPA SAWIT IS THE GOSPEL MUSTARD SEED

(Message delivered by Pastor on the occasion of her 50th

Anniversary, April 14, 2002)

Text: "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof." Matt 13:31-32

Kelapa Sawit was one of three villages occupied by the Evangelise China Fellowship of Dr Andrew Gih in conjunction with Miss Leona Wu, principal of Chin Lien Bible School. The other two were Tampoi and Pekan Nanas. This was 1952.

In 1954 Kelapa Sawit was relinquished by Dr Andrew Gih to Miss Wu who offered it to be jointly administered by the Evangelistic League and Life Church. That is how it has become our Mission Station, and now a full-fledged B-P Church.

The story of Kelapa Sawit can also be said to be the story of Rev John Ling and his wife. After Life Church jointly took over Kelapa Sawit with the Evangelistic League, I would preach here once a month. I remember we had a congregation between eight and twelve, and while holding service I noticed a young girl of 12 or 13 standing outside of the Church window observing us. A

few years later she enrolled to study at Chin Lien Bible School.

After her graduation she became the lady preacher of Kelapa Sawit. Then came John Ling, an English teacher of the Government Primary School of Kelapa Sawit, who married her.

John Ling became deacon and elder in the subsequent years. In 1978 Elder John Ling successfully applied for an half acre of prime land at the highest point of the village and he built the present Church-Kindergarten Complex with the help of Life Church most handsome to behold.

In 1982 Miss Ng Sang Chiew began to serve in Kelapa Sawit. She has put in about 20 years of yeoman's service until her recent honourable retirement to Ling Kwang Home.

In the meantime Mrs John Ling led Life Church to acquire a corner two-house property at Air Bemban to establish a kindergarten and a church. Out of the Church has come Tee Chung Seng, now an FEBC graduate ministering at both Kelapa Sawit and Air Bemban since 2001.

Mrs Ling died sometime in the mid-80s. John Ling, now hearing the call of God, enrolled to study at FEBC. In 1990 he graduated and after he married again we ordained him.

In 1992 he was called to serve at Kemaman, Trengganu. Although it was to the Chinese Presbyterian Church, he felt strongly the re-starting of the English Church. As a result, Life Church and FEBC are fielding a team of English pastors

and preachers to supply the pulpit. This is from July 1994 to this day.

Out of this effort Dr and Mrs Wee were won to the Lord in 1996. They separated from the old Church in 1998 to join the B-P Movement. Meanwhile we acquired a handsome property in Kuantan for a kindergarten through John Ling. Through John Ling again Life Church bought a most beautiful property by the white sands of Mersing to establish a resort.

By this time, John Ling had taken ill. So he returned to his pastorate in Kelapa Sawit. The Lord took him on 4th March 2000, aged 67 years.

Today John Ling is survived by three daughters and one son, all most loyal members of Kelapa Sawit. You can see them coming back to the Mother Church every week. Being well employed they are strong supporters of the needs of this Church.

The story of Kelapa Sawit B-P Church is very much the story of Miss Ng Sang Chiew and of the John Ling family.

During the last fifty years Kelapa Sawit has extended her Gospel witness to Air Bemban, not forgetting Bukit Batu, Kemaman and Kuantan. Kelapa Sawit is like the planting of the mustard seed which has grown to be a tree with many branches. May it begin to stretch forth her branches again in the next fifty years, if the Lord tarries.

We have acquired 25,000 sq ft of land, as big as Kelapa Sawit, at Bukit Batu. At present we have a Sunday School and worship service at Bukit Batu, and we have had it for years. Is it time for us to build on our land a kindergarten church and parsonage patterned after Kelapa Sawit and greatly increase God's Kingdom? This is a challenge from me. But it depends on you! Amen.

DEDICATION OF NEW CHURCH BUILDING AT KAMPUNG BECEK, BATAM, 7TH APRIL 2002

We thank God for the dedication service of the new church and kindergarten building at Kampung Becek, Batam last Sunday (7th April 2002), at 5:00 pm (Singapore time). The service was attended by more than 250 brethren from Batam, Singapore and Korea. Song items presented by representatives from five churches and by the children of the Kampung Becek Sunday School reflected the joyful atmosphere of praise and thanksgiving for God's amazing work on this island of Indonesia.

Completed in just six months, through the Lord's provision and moving in the hearts of many people, the new 2-storey concrete building now stands as the most prominent structure upon the highest point of the large government housing project of Kampung Becek, and enjoys unobstructed cool breezes. It also stands as the best of the three Indonesian church buildings under the care of sister Roska Choi, our missionary in Batam. The evidence of God's work include the following:

1. The plans and overall supervision for the construction was provided by brother Ady of Calvary Batam B-P Church.

2. All labour and manpower for the construction was provided by hard-working men from Batu Aji B-P Church, while the rest of the church and those in the daughter church (Tanjung Piayu B-P Church) supported the work with prayer and whatever funds they could give.

3. The funds for the building (about \$52,000) came mostly from Life B-P Church with some help from Calvary Pandan B-P Church.

4. All aluminium and glass material and teachers' desks, were freely contributed by members of Calvary Batam B-P Church.

5. The sound system was provided by the Korean Church in Batam and the Missionary Fellowship of Life Church.

6. The children's chairs and tables for the kindergarten classrooms were provided by Calvary Jurong B-P Kindergarten.

7. Permanent electric and water supply was turned on the day just before the dedication service.

8. Much of the food for the reception at the dedication service was freely provided by the proprietress of the Delima restaurant in Batam, who also loaned extra chairs to accommodate the huge crowd at the service.

To God be all the glory! The name Kampung Becek (which mean's "Muddy village") is replaced with the official name of the area, "Sagulung Baru". Hence the church from henceforth will be known as Sagulung Baru B-P Church, Batam. Seven families from Batu Aji B-P Church who are living in the area will form the nucleus of the new church congregation. The new kindergarten will begin in July, God willing.

Please pray for:

1. The provision of kindergarten teachers and

the registration of students.

2. The provision of a good used piano for the church hall.

3. The establishment of a growing congregation and regular worship services.

4. The surfacing of the short road that leads up to the building.

—Rev Charles Seet

TESTIMONY

I was born into a non-Christian home and never knew that there is a God. I had the perception that I was in control of everything and only depended on my instincts to do things and on obeying my parents. During the past 21 years of my life, I just did what I thought I was supposed to do in life: study hard in order to get a good job and enjoy the rest of my life.

In my third year in the university, there was a project where we had to form a team of three and build an amplifier from scratch. Incidentally, both my teammates were Christians. During one of the meals with them, they talked about the story of Adam and Eve and how they sinned against God and were hence denied the tree of life when they ate the forbidden fruit. That is how sin came into being. They did not quite elaborate on the story, as I was still puzzled as to why they believed in such myths, and switched to other topics. At that time, I only knew that the Bible is the book of Christianity, nothing more.

In the course of the project, I noticed that my teammates were distinctly different from my non-Christian friends and seemed to display a calm demure in the face of difficulties. As the deadline for submission of the amplifier drew nearer and we were not able to get the amplifier working, we had to do the project overnight at a friend's house. Halfway through the testing phase, the two of them went out of the house and prayed. The amplifier worked because my friend's father (an engineering lecturer) suggested a way to make the amplifier work, which truly seemed like a miracle to me. On hindsight, I think God must have heard their prayers and helped us.

This incident triggered my curiosity in Christianity and I wanted to understand why my teammates believe in the Christian teachings from the Bible. By God's grace, I was invited by them to a gospel rally. It was my understanding that it was a talk about the Christian God. It was at that time that I heard about God's salvation plan for mankind only if they believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died for their sin. In the gospel rally, there were testimonies from the FEBC students about how

they knew God and what God had done for them. It was then that I started to question about the meaning of life.

From then on, I was interested to know about this Christian God. I later realised that only through studying the Bible does one truly know God. I was then introduced to Life Church Sunday School class conducted by Khoo Hock Seng. Through studying the Word every Sunday in the Sunday School, hearing the sermons, as well as my own study of the Word at home, I became truly convinced the Word of God in the Bible is the answer to why there is life, suffering and death.

I have often wondered why nobody had told me about this "good news" earlier so that I would have known peace and joy in the Lord Jesus Christ and that there is truly a heaven after death where there will be no suffering and deaths. Then, I would have known how to live this life, knowing that there is an all-loving, all-knowing God that is constantly beside me, looking after me.

I believe what the Bible says about looking forward to the Second Coming of Christ, where we as Christians will be delivered from this human body and be resurrected from the dead to be with God. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous" (Rom 5:19). These verses about how God so badly wants to save damned sinners like us truly touched my heart. God the Father displayed His self-sacrificial love for us in that He chose His Son to bleed and to die painfully, crucified on the cross so that we could be saved.

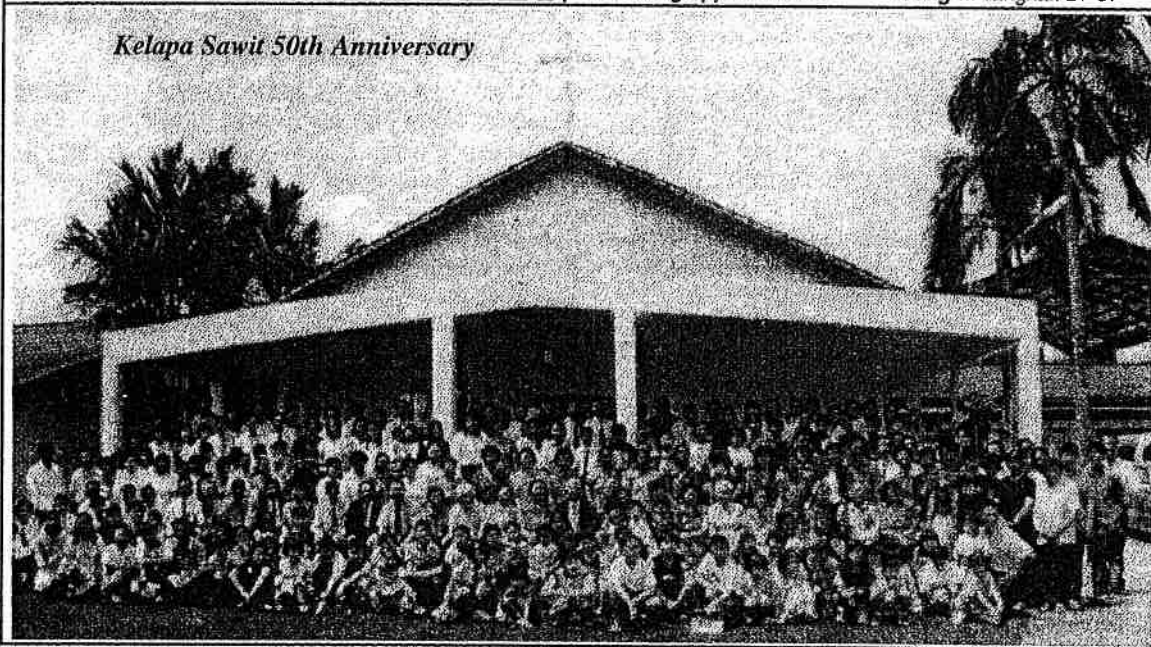
The only way that I can repay His love for me is to have faith in Him, obey His commandments and trust that He will carry out His will. That is why I am now seeking baptism as a direct form of obedience to Him and declaring myself to be His and putting all my faith and truth in the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour. I pray for His help to enable me to understand His Word, so that I can gradually grow strong in faith and spiritual maturity as I apply His Word in my life. I pray to God that He will allow me to be a good testimony of Him to my unsaved family, relatives and friends about God's salvation plan for us through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe that it is God's will to let me attend Life Bible-Presbyterian Church where I can get to know God better through hearing His Word, to grow well spiritually and to serve God's children with His God-given gifts to me.

—Fong Yuen Han

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 22 - 28, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON 7.30 pm Exodus Exam TUE 8.00 pm Prayer Mtg THU 7.30 pm Anthropology Exam FRI 8.00 pm Family Worship SAT 3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF SUN 8.00 am Religion or Saving Faith (Rav Colin Wong) 8.00 am Children's Ministry 9.30 am Annual Congregational Mtg/ Elections (No Sunday School) 10.30 am Dr Tow Siang Hwa 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: 91		\$11,515.00 (8.00 am); \$16,542.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$50; Pallin Orph \$100; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Missions \$220; Falam Bible \$50; VBS \$50, \$400; FEK \$200; FEBC \$150; Rev Seet \$150, \$148; Rev Wong \$150, \$50; Rev Tow \$800; Chan Pui Meng \$150; Cambodia-Church Bldg Fd \$3000; Batam Kg Becek Project \$600; \$2500; Rev Djunaide \$50; Mercy Ministry (Retrenchment) \$50; Kenya-Mok & Carol \$150; NBC May Day Seminar \$260. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$150, \$50, \$200, \$2500, \$550, \$500, \$300, \$300, \$100(Session member), \$500, \$400, \$250, \$7200, \$500, \$1000, \$1000, \$200, \$4500, \$798, \$6000, \$1400, \$600. Grand Total: \$3,651,265.61. STOP PRESS! US\$1000(Lifer in US), US\$250(Friend in Japan), US\$150(Friend in Japan), \$1000(Kelapa Sawit), \$2464(FEBEC lecturers), \$20,000(FEBECer). 1) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Ong Beng Hong, Friday 26 Apr, 8 pm. Address: 62 Farrer Rd, #03-02 Spanish Village, S268847. Tel: 6463 8613. Speaker: Elder Sherman Ong. 3) "Strengthening the Christian Families of Our Church", Wed. 1 May 02, 8:30am - 1:30pm. There will be messages, group discussions... and a special programme for the children! Closing date: today! 4) All teens are invited to come for the Lively Teens Fellowship camp! 10-13 June 02 at Calvary Jurong B-PC, 1 Tao Ching Road, Singapore 618720. Theme: "The New Man versus the Old Man". Speaker: Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Contact: Benjamin Li, 9879-3330. 5) FCM CAMP 2002. 17 to 22 June at Calvary BPC (Pandan). Theme: "Pursuit of Godliness" (Rev Jack Sin). Night Messages: "Godly Biblical Character" (Rev Quek Suan Yew). Enquiries: Desmond at 9695-0021 (HP) or email at nightsky_@hotmail.com. Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Tangkak BPC.
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.		
Sunday School Offering: \$956.20; Attendance: 396		
Verse for the Week: Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee. Proverbs 20:22		
Annual Congregational Mtg / Elections NEXT Lord's Day, April 28, 9.30 am sharp. It is your duty as a member to attend.		

Kelapa Sawit 50th Anniversary



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Vol. X No. 39

21 April 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Sherman Ong	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 4	No. 71
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Peter 5:1-11	Rom 8:28-39
Hymn	No. 35	All Things Work...
Announcements		Commissioning of June Tan
Offering & Hymn	No. 419	No. 126
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	James 4:7	Matt 13:31-32
Sermon	Is Submission to God A Matter of Choice? (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Growth of the Church is like the Mustard Seed (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 401	Each Step of the Way
Benediction		

GROWTH OF THE CHURCH IS LIKE THE MUSTARD SEED

This is a figure drawn from a vegetable garden in the Holy Land which we have seen with our own eyes in our pilgrimages. We have not seen how small the seed is, but we have seen the plant. In springtime the full grown mustard plant reaches a height of 12 feet bearing yellow flowers. It is tallest in the vegetable garden and becomes a tree for the birds to lodge in. It is taller than all the vegetable plants.

This is how the Church grows. Jesus, the founder of the Christian Church started out with only 12 disciples, but within one generation His disciples, particularly Paul and Peter, spread the Gospel to the ends of the Roman Empire.

What is the formula of growth? This is given in Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." The secret of growth is not vertical, but horizontal.

Take note that the mustard tree grows to a height of 12 feet but it has many branches. Although Peter had won 3,000 to the Lord in one day, and 5,000 on another (Acts 4:4) he did not build a cathedral in Jerusalem but went everywhere, first to Samaria literally, to Joppa and Caesarea, to Asia Minor, to Corinth and to Rome. The biggest church in the world with a membership of half

million in Seoul, Korea has a church building seating 10,000. But this is not after the pattern of the Apostles. Churches in Singapore that concentrate in bigness with centralised control is man's method, not God's.

Insofar as the Bible-Presbyterian Churches are concerned we have followed the Apostles' pattern and the parable of the mustard tree with many branches. In Singapore, after 50 years we have spread to 60 congregations, with dozens more congregations throughout ASEAN and around the world. Many birds have come to lodge in the branches, a picture of the number of the saved enjoying the shelter of the Church.

The Apostle Paul, by making three missionary journeys, established many more churches throughout the Roman Empire. This shows the importance of missions as is given in the Great Commission.

Recently, I preached to Kelapa Sawit as they celebrated the 50th Anniversary. In the last 50 years they have built a Church and Kindergarten complex on half-acre prime land at the top of the village. They have spread to Air Bemban and Bukit Batu where they have established two other churches. With Rev John Ling going to Kemaman, through him are now added another two, viz. Kemaman B-P Church and Kuantan. So I challenged Kelapa Sawit to branch out further if the Lord should tarry.

Similarly, I would challenge Life Church not to grow weary with our recent addition of four missionaries to Kenya. There is Chan Pui Meng, a medical missionary to Maasai

Land. She is a nurse of many years standing. Then Mok and Carol, much needed for the administration of the secondary school. Last of all is Miss June Tan, BA, MRE to teach at the Bible College of East Africa and under Rev Dr Mark Kim.

The financial burdens of these four newest missionaries added to our existing missionaries are great. But when we realise that the Great Commission is the First Commandment to the Church we, who sit comfortably in the pews, must do our part. Our membership is 1700. What have you contributed to missions in comparison with these four who go?

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

Building God's House was no Burden, but Overflowing Blessing

"And Moses spake unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which the LORD commanded, saying, Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass... And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD'S offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation... And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing. For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much" (Ex 35:4-5, 21; 36:5-7).

In the matter of building God's House, Life Church has experienced three times what the children of Israel experienced in building Moses' Tabernacle. The first time was Gilstead Road, the second time Woodlands and the third time buying over Beulah House. Each time Lifers over-subscribed to our own amazement.

Now we are starting to give in earnest to the building of the New Beulah House. And I am constrained to take notice in the receipt last week of \$5,000 offered by the Bookroom, \$6,000 from a couple I'd call "Lovers of Beulah House." This week, I'm surprised by \$20,000 from an FEBCer.

The giver's spirit must be free and willing,

cheerful and worshipful. We do not lack such loving hearts. When the finishing touches are applied to the New Beulah House, like the children of Israel, Lifers will have brought in "too much." "God loveth a cheerful giver" (II Cor 9:7). Amen. —T.T.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR CARL MCINTIRE

Dr Carl McIntire, 96 was called home to be with his Master on 20 March 2002. He was the founding father of the Bible Presbyterian (BP) Movement in 1936 and the one who initiated the 20th Century Reformation Movement with the formation of the International Council of Christian Churches in 1948 in Amsterdam. He was the teacher and mentor of Dr (Rev) Timothy Tow (Principal of FEBC and Pastor of Life BP Church) and the founder and President of Faith Theological Seminary, Shelton College (now defunct), former President of the Independent Board of Presbyterian Foreign Missions and ex-Pastor of the Collingswood BP Church in New Jersey.

Angie and I had the privilege of meeting him personally last May in his daughter Marianne's home for dinner and he recalled vividly the demise of the liberal Princeton Seminary in the Fall of 1929 and how he left together with J Gresham Machen (and others), the staunch defender of the faith, who founded Westminster Theological Seminary and Orthodox Presbyterian Church. Dr McIntire later walked out of the apostate Presbyterian Church and went across the street literally with 1,200 members and started the 1st BPC in Collingswood, New Jersey.

A man God raised up as a standard in decadent times is Dr McIntire in the late 1940s against the inroads of Liberalism, Modernism and Ecumenism that had crept into the mainstream Presbyterian Churches in USA. A man of profound biblical convictions and schooled in the reformed tradition and pre-millennial, his Reformation hour was heard by many all over USA in the 1950s and 60s. There are about 50 BP Churches in the USA/Canada today.

Despite all of man's strengths and shortcomings, our faithful and sovereign Jehovah saw fit to use him mightily for the cause of Truth in the historic battles of the Christian faith in the mid 20th Century.

Now the battle rages on relentlessly into the 21st Century in the defence of the preserved Word of God and against the liberal, ecumenical,

occultic and cultic influences of our times. Let all BPCers persevere fervently in the continuance of the needful propagation of the pure gospel and vigilant contention for the Truth in these last perilous days.

—Rev Jack Sin

MEMORABLE & TERSE SAYINGS OF DR MCINTIRE (1906-2002)

The fortress that has to be held, if there is to be Christianity and Protestantism, is the Bible.

No fundamentalist needs to apologise for the Bible or to be ashamed of anything in it. It has stood the test of the centuries. It is **God's Holy and Infallible Word**.

Such fundamental changes have been made that it would be nothing short of a calamity of infinite proportions if the book (the RSV) should be accepted by the English-speaking world and replace the **King James Version**.

The KJV has its position in the Christian world simply because it has commended itself universally to Christian people.

These two supreme events involving Him in **HiStory, the birth of Christ and resurrection from the dead**, are closely related to the Scripture and belong together.

The doctrines of **infallibility and inerrancy**, the first of all the doctrines of Scriptures, rests fully and finally on Christ's own words.

If you are going to be a man of prayer, if you are going to have power in prayer, it must be **prayer which is built upon the Word**, conforms to the Word and appeals to the Word.

No matter how far a man may have fallen, he is not too far down for **God's grace to save**.

The Bible Presbyterian Church is a **Missionary Church, a Militant Church** in the defence of the faith and is a **Bible preaching and evangelistic Church**.

The churches need first **reformation or separation**, before evangelism.

The marks of a true church are faithful preaching of the Word of God, the administration of the sacraments and the exercise of discipline. The means of grace for the blessing and the strengthening of the people of God are the Word of God, prayer and the sacraments.

The obligation placed upon the church by the Scriptures is to confess **the whole counsel of God**.

The purpose of the church is to hold high the Scriptures that men may see the light that God has revealed there

and see by the light.

When our church was formed in 1937, the word "**Bible**" was placed in front of the name "Presbyterian" because the great fundamentalist-modernist controversy had **centred around the Bible**.

Protestantism has surrendered the citadel to the Roman Catholics when it calls them Christians. If there is to be unity, it has to be on the **basis of truth**, nothing more, nothing less - not a semblance of truth, not a compromise of truth. To seek unity; in fact, it can never produce unity. It produces only confusion. the International Council of Christian Churches, started with the truth; the other, the World Council of Churches, with unity.

As we approach the midnight hour, men will be sleeping. But Christians are not to sleep. They are to be **watching and waiting** for the coming of the Bridegroom.

One has the deepest respect and appreciation for the missionaries who opened this land to the Gospel, the solid work they did in giving the nationals the Bible and leading them to have their own national churches. Their work and the nationals' sense of their responsibility now turn to their own blessing and future.

Oh, that the church would awake and give the best of her youth for the preaching of the Gospel of the grace of God!

Beloved, if you have a great God, you have a great Deliverer. If you have a mighty and holy God, you have One to whom you may appeal for help and deliverance.

One of the first evidences of **spiritual indifference and declension is the dropping of the tithe**.

The Christian has an entirely different outlook and understanding of afflictions and suffering than the world.

I want people to recognise that the greatest need of our Country is **REPENTANCE**.

It is impossible to outgive God.

It is the conflict of the ages in which we are engaged: Christ versus Antichrist; Freedom versus Tyranny; Knowledge versus Ignorance and Light versus Darkness.

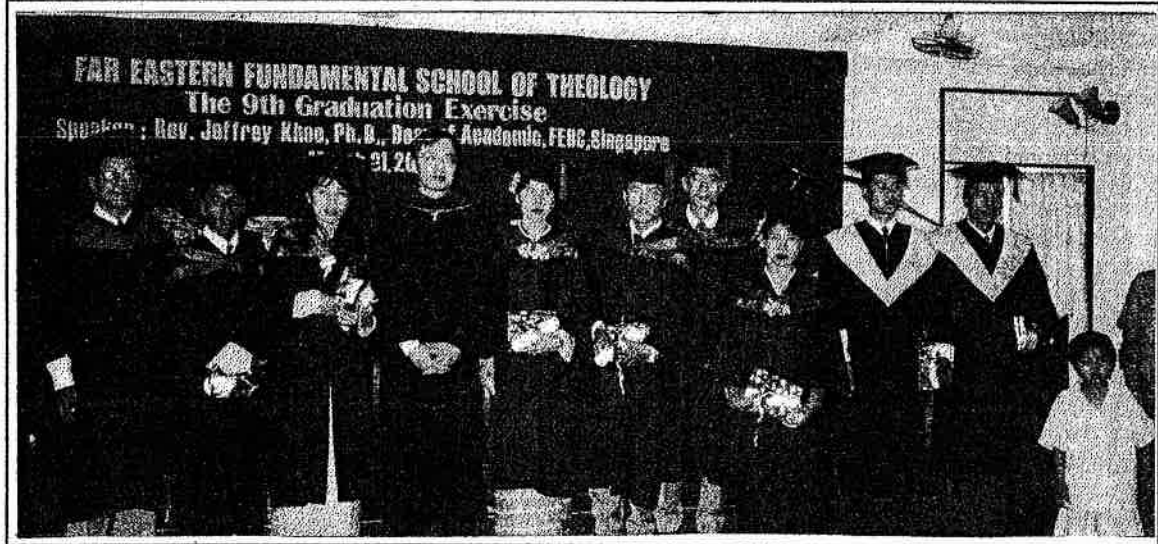
Men who love the Bible are not going to permit themselves to be a part of a body that compromises and denies God's holy Word.

As goes the church, so goes the nation.

I said, as Dr Machen did, that our orders came out of the Bible and the Bible forbids us to support **unbelief or another gospel**.

(NB: By Jack Sin, adapted from *McIntire Maxims*, edited by Timothy Tow and Morris McDonald, FEBC Press, 1999).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 29 - May 5, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$10,103.00 (8.00 am); \$17,195.00 (10.30 am)		
WED	8.30 am	Seminar on "Strengthening the Christian Families of Our Church", Sanctuary	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$250; Rev Jonathan Lee \$20, \$1000; Pallin Orph \$500; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Tg Uban Church \$50; Missions \$250; Falam Bible \$250; VBS \$50; May 1st Seminar \$300; Christina Ho \$500; Rev Wong \$50, \$50; Rev Tow \$500, \$400, \$100, \$148, \$600; Mercy Ministry (Retrenchment) \$200; June Tan \$100; Rachel Koo \$50, \$200, \$300, \$800; Africa-Projector \$500, \$350; Cambodia Church Bldg Fund \$50.		
THU	6.00 pm	FEBC End-of-Semester Thanksgiving Service & Dinner	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$105, \$500, \$300, \$50, \$50, \$100, \$5000, \$500, \$400, \$1000(MF), \$130, \$375, \$1000(MF), \$220, \$500, \$500, \$1041. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,689,023.41. STOP PRESS! \$1259.50.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SUN	8.00 am	Doubtful Actions Are Sinful (Rev Charles Seet)	(1) Thank you beloved brother or sister-in-Christ for your generous lovegift of \$250. May God keep you in His care, and enfold you in His love. And may His blessings flow richly from heaven above. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (Jn 10:10). (\$50 for Cambodia-Church Bldg Fund). —Sylvea Wong		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	announces the		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	40th Anniversary & 27th Graduation Service		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	at Calvary Bible-Presbyterian Church (Pandan)		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Lord's Day, 5th May, 2002, 6.00 pm		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	Refreshments following ceremony		
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	1) All teens are invited to come for the Lively Teens Fellowship camp! 10-13 June 02 at Calvary Jurong B-PC, 1 Tao Ching Road, Singapore 618720. Theme: "The New Man versus the Old Man". Speaker: Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Contact: Benjamin Li, 9879-3330.		
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	2) Our deepest condolences to the family of the late June Loke Sow Nghoh who was called home on 25th April. Funeral was conducted on Sat. by Rev Colin Wong.		
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	3) Life Church Bible Camp. 17-21 June. Mersing. "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World". Closing date: 26 May 02. Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at JWS, 10.30 am. Rev Seet at Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.		
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
	6.00 pm	FEBC 40th Anniversary & 27th Graduation Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Newton; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson. Prayer Mtg: 94					
Sunday School Offering: \$942.45; Attendance: 415					
Verse for the Week: The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace. Psalm 29:11					
Annual Congregation Mtg / Elections					
TODAY, April 28, 9.30 am sharp.					
We need a quorum of 400.					



Life

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Vol. X No. 40

28 April 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 24	Jesus, My Lord...
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	James 2:14-26	Lk 11:1-13
Hymn	No. 522	Don't Stop Praying
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 292	Longing for Home
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 9:30-33	Psalms 84
Sermon	Religion or Saving Faith? (Rev Colin Wong)	Longing for Home (Dr Tow Siang Hwa)
Closing Hymn	No. 279	Coming Home...
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

When Dr Sun Yat Sen, Father of the Chinese Republic ascended the Presidency, he called on his disciples, "The Revolution is not yet finished. Let comrades struggle on." Dr Sun lived but 14 years after he defeated the Manchu.

Dr McIntire raised the banner of the Twentieth Century Reformation in 1948. When the Lord received him into glory March 19, 2002, he had struggled over half a century against Modernism, Liberalism, and Ecumenism. And the Reformation is far from finished. As we enter the threshold of the 21st Century there needs to be a continuing battle against the wiles of the Devil.

The Devil is like the monkey-god who can change himself 72 times. He is now concentrated on attacking the age-old King James Bible with over 100 "perversions" based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort, the chiefest of them all being the NIV.

The NIV has attacked the text of the KJB which is the Majority Text, the venerable Textus Receptus. And whereas the Westminster Confession has averred that the Text of our Bible is "kept pure in all ages" and this is affirmed in Ps 12:6-7, "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." And further confirmed by our Lord, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall

not pass away" (Mark 13:31). We of Life B-P Church and Far Eastern Bible College will continue with the 20th Century Reformation into the 21st Century. We have not only an infallible and inerrant divine autograph but also a divine infallible and inerrant text. We refute the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort upon which the NIV is based and reaffirm our absolute reliance on the Textus Receptus. We take the same position as Pensacola Christian College and Seminary in the United States and with Dr D A Waite, ThD, PhD, President of Dean Burgon Society, just to mention two of a rising tide of a new 21st Century Reformation. "For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8). Our stand for the Divine Special Providential Preservation of the Scriptures is Dr McIntire's stand.

Like Dr Sun Yat Sen he also has told us, "The Reformation is not yet finished. Let comrades struggle on." We are McIntire's disciples in the Far East and we pray God will keep us faithful in this battle till He comes again. Amen.

FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE, AFTER 40 YEARS

With the coming graduation on the Lord's Day, May 5, 2002, 6.00 pm to be held at Calvary Pandan BPC, FEBC will have completed 40 academic years. 30 will graduate. Added to 376 that have gone before them, the total number will be over 400.

On the threshold of the 41st year, we will soon build the New Beulah House as part of our College extension (to be shared with the Church). Throughout these 40 years, Jehovah Jireh, God is our Provider. And we have had no lack since the very beginning.

From a humble beginning of two teachers and three students we have now increased to a faculty of a dozen and a student body of 107 from 18 countries.

Come and rejoice with FEBC on this very special occasion of thanksgiving and praise to the Father Almighty in the name of His Only Begotten Son. High tea will be served. —T.T.

QUALITIES OF ELDERS & DEACONS

The following are the twenty qualities with regard to elders and deacons stewards of the local church (note that the pastor is a teaching and ruling elder). This is not meant to be an exhaustive but merely a brief treatment of each quality, designed to help us appreciate the examples they are to others in the church.

1. Blameless (1 Tim 3:2). Leaders are to strive to be above reproach, having nothing in their lives for which they can be maligned. (This does not mean that they are sinless).

2. Husband of one wife (1 Tim 3:2). They are to be one-woman men and faithful to their spouses. Fidelity at home begets fidelity to God in the church.

3. Vigilant (1 Tim 3:2). They are to be spiritually and doctrinally watchful and alert, having a clear biblical perspective of life in the defence of the faith.

4. Sober (1 Tim 3:2). Sometimes that word is translated "sober-minded" or "prudent." It means they know their priorities, be wise and discreet in all their ways.

5. Of good behaviour (1 Tim 3:2). Leaders are to have such well-ordered lives in speech, conduct and are to be examples for others to follow.

6. Given to hospitality (1 Tim 3:2). They are to love the brethren and strangers, opening their homes for hospitality ministry to those in need and be a blessing to others sacrificially.

7. Apt to teach (1 Tim 3:2). That phrase is translated from the single Greek word, *didaktikos*. It is used to refer both the gift or ability of teaching and also the need to have a teachable spirit as well. Both the dynamics of teaching and sensitivity

to other people are equally important. One should teach with a meek and gentle spirit. In any case, every steward should seek to study the Word of God and know it well. Elders are to be able to teach.

8. Temperate (Titus 1:8). Leaders are not to be addicted to smoking, alcohol, drugs, or craving of any kind. They need to be in control of themselves and be well disciplined.

9. Not self-willed (Titus 1:7). Stewards should not be self-centred. A church steward shall be altruistic and not selfish. Church leaders are to be genuinely concerned for the spiritual welfare of the people they are shepherding and the cause of the gospel.

10. Not soon angry (Titus 1:7). Anger is one letter short of dANGER; stewards are to be patient and have a temperate disposition, even when agitated or provoked.

11. No striker (Titus 1:7). This literally means "not a fighter." That spiritual leadership ought not to solve problems with his fists but according to the discipline of the church.

12. Not a brawler (1 Tim 3:3). A contentious, cynical and sceptical person that murmurs, complains and gossips will not make an edifying leader.

13. Patient (1 Tim 3:3). Endurance or long-suffering is one of the facets of the fruit of the Spirit and a willingness to wait upon the Lord and trust His perfect timing in all things.

14. Not covetous (1 Tim 3:3). Church leaders should be free from the love of money, material or tangible things. A worldly-minded and greedy person disqualifies himself. Godliness with contentment is required here.

15. Ruleth well his own house (1 Tim 3:4). Church leaders are required to keep their children and spouse under God's control with dignity, and are to be the head of the house and not let their spouse or children rule over them instead.

16. Have a good report of them that are without (1 Tim 3:7). What does the outside world think of the church leaders as they interact with the unsaved? Their integrity should be above reproach and have a good testimony among all men generally.

17. Lover of good men (Titus 1:8). They should have morally good desires and motives and do things with sincerity of heart to the spiritual benefit of others.

18. Just (Titus 1:8). Church leaders are to be fair and equitable, not prejudiced against any, and are to be men of integrity and honesty.

19. Holy (Titus 1:8). They are to be consecrated and sanctified in their lives and committed to the service of the Lord in the church, not worldly in their perspectives and practices.

20. Not a novice (1 Tim 3:6). They are to be spiritually mature and not newcomers in the faith.

—Reproduced from
Maranatha Messenger dated 14 Apr 02

TESTIMONY

I was born into a Roman Catholic family and attended Roman Catholic mission schools for my primary and secondary education. When I was very young I used to attend Sunday mass with my family when my father felt like bringing us to church. My father was a nominal Roman Catholic and eventually he gave up the faith and became an atheist and we stopped going to Sunday mass. But the Roman Catholic mission schools that I was educated in had an influence on me and I still attended mass on my own during my secondary school days occasionally.

To me, the Roman Catholic religion was a religion of rituals. We had to observe many events on the Catholic calendar and we had to confess our sins frequently to the priest and recite the Rosary as penance to atone for our sins. It struck me that the Roman Catholic religion did not offer the assurance of salvation. In order for a Catholic to be saved, he must be able to keep at least six of the seven sacraments and this to me was an impossibility. As I entered into junior college, I became an agnostic. In my university days, I was exposed to evangelical Christianity through the many Christian undergraduates that preached the gospel to me. Due to my Catholic background, I was very antagonistic towards them as they were Protestants. I actually "hated" these Christians who tried to "sell" me their faith and ridiculed them frequently.

I graduated from university in 1980 and became a dentist. I embraced the "religion" of the five Cs of career, car, credit card, condominium and country club. I worshipped the god of money working seven days a week without any break to become rich. But I wasn't able to achieve my objective of becoming a wealthy man.

In 1991 during the gulf war, I watched a CNN news report and saw the burning oil fields of Kuwait with thick black smoke blotting out the sun. Day was literally turned into night. It struck

me that this scene was mentioned somewhere in the Bible describing the last days (Joel 2:30-32). Kuwait was situated near the rivers Euphrates and Tigris and these rivers were also near the Garden of Eden as mentioned in the Bible. I thought the end of the world was near and began to search for the truth.

I began to read books on Christian apologetics and also books on other religion. I also read a book by Bertrand Russell entitled "Why I am not a Christian". After reading these books, my attitude towards Christianity changed. It dawned upon me that Christianity is entirely different from other faiths in that it is based on the fact that an actual historical person by the name of Jesus who claimed to be God died for our sins and that He was buried and that He was raised from the dead on the third day. This significant historical event was foretold more than 400 years before it happened. Other faiths on the other hand are based on private or individual interpretations of how to get close to God, written by their respective founders.

Christianity is the complete opposite of other religions. Instead of I seeking God, it is God Himself seeking for me to be His child.

I concluded that Christianity is not a religion but truth. But I was not convinced; I told myself that I must have concrete proof of the existence of Christ and His resurrection before I believe. I could not find any proof except what is written in the Bible. I pondered: If I can believe without question the existence of Buddha or Confucius from the testimony of history books, why should I doubt the existence of Christ from the testimony of the Bible?

On 26 May 1991 I believed in Jesus Christ as the Son of God who lived and died and was resurrected from the dead in order for me to have eternal life. I accepted Him as Lord and Saviour and since then my life has changed. I no longer despise Christians. I am able to have the rest promised by Christ to those who believe in Him (Matt 11:28-29) by closing my dental practice on Sunday and on nights when the church has prayer meeting. I no longer envy those who are better off than I materially and many other changes.

In Matthew 7:7 Christ said: "seek, and ye shall find", and in Rev 3:20 He said: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." I find it amazing that these two verses describe exactly how I became a Christian. —Yao Chong Joseph

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 6 - 12, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$12,875.00 (8.00 am); \$18,016.00 (10.30 am)		
FRI	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$500; Missions \$1000, \$100, \$200; Myanmar Orph \$500; P'pines Hilltop Ministry \$50; Children's Ministry \$730; Barnabas Yap \$200; Rev Seet \$200, \$100; Christina Ho \$200; Rev Wong \$200, \$50, \$50; Loi Huey Ching \$500; Tan Kian Sing \$1500; Chan Pui Meng \$100, \$300, \$600; Cambodia Church Bldg Fund \$50, \$400; June Tan \$500, \$250, \$184, \$50; Mok & Carol \$100, \$700; Rachel Koo \$50, \$200; Africa-Projector \$250; Cambodia Orph \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$10; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20, \$60; Chinese Bibles for China \$50; Saipan-Ho Heng Sau \$100; Rev Tow \$100; Yiew PS \$200; Moses Hahn Bible Sch \$50; Mercy Ministry (Retrenchment) \$500; FEBC US\$100(40th Anniv.)		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$50, \$250, \$50, \$60, \$1305, \$1000, \$1259.50, \$10000, \$500, \$500, \$50, \$200, \$50, \$50, \$2000, \$260, \$148, \$200, \$2500. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,711,915.41.		
SUN	8.00 am	Mind Your Language (Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(1) For answered prayers and God's healing/mercy. —Session member		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(2) Thank you Lord for answering my prayer. Thank you also for a safe journey home. (\$50 Beulah House, \$50 Chinese Bibles)		
	9.30 am	Rev Tow at Philadelphia BPC Anniv.	1) The Young Teens Sunday School Department would like to invite all Lifers, particularly teens and youth, to join our annual		
	10.30 am	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo	Teens Workshop. Speaker: Rev Charles Seet. Topic: "Christian Liberty: What I Really Can and Cannot Do". Sat. 25 May, 3pm, FEBC Hall. Contact: Benjamin Li, 98793330.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	2) Our church's Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming up in less than 5 weeks' time (4th-7th June 2002)! If you would like to know more about VBS and how to register for it, all the details can be found at the following URL: http://www.vbsclub.com .		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	3) All teens are invited to come for the Lively Teens Fellowship camp! 10-13 June 02 at Calvary Jurong BPC, 1 Tao Ching Road, Singapore 618720. Theme: "The New Man versus the Old Man". Speaker: Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Contact: Benjamin Li, 9879-3330.		
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	4) Life Church Bible Camp. 17-21 June. Mersing. "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World". Closing date: 26 May 02.		
	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 Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 92			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Woodlands.					
Verse for the Week: And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD. Zechariah 10:12					
FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE announces the 40th Anniversary & 27th Graduation Service at Calvary Bible-Presbyterian Church (Pandan) TODAY, 5th May, 2002, 6.00 pm Refreshments following ceremony Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Batam.					



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Vol. X No. 41

5 May 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Wee Chin Kam	Elder Ong Eng Lam
Opening Hymn	No. 46	No. 260
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 10:23-33	Eph 4:1-16
Hymn	No. 382	No. 386
Announcements		Installation/Ordination
Offering & Hymn	No. 411	No. 418
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 14:13-23	1 Tim 4:12-15
Sermon	Doubtful Actions Are Sinful (Rev Charles Seet)	Be Thou An Example (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 373	No. 377
Benediction		Lord's Supper

Two testimonies from a 211-page Burning Bush in commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of Far Eastern Bible College (1962-2002).

1. Dr Jeffrey Khoo, Academic Dean: Editorial

TRUTH UNFAILING: A TRIBUTE TO ALMA MATER

Greetings in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

This year 2002 is FEBC's 40th year. It is an occasion for thanksgiving and worship in praise of our wonderful Lord and Saviour who has used our beloved principal, Rev Dr Timothy Tow, to establish this school of prophets for the extension of His kingdom and for the defence of the faith. Historical insights on the genesis of FEBC as recorded in the *Malaysia Christian* have been reprinted herein for the benefit of the new generation.

This 40th year is an opportune time for personal reflection and sharing. Besides hearing from our present president of the board of directors, Dr Tow Siang Yeow, and former president, Dr S H Tow who gave FEBC her name, this special issue features a

RESULTS OF GENERAL ELECTIONS ON 28 APRIL 2002

Total number of ballots: 565

The following were elected:

Pastor

Rev Dr Timothy Tow 536

Asst Pastors

Rev Charles Seet 555

Rev Colin Wong 521

Elders

Han Soon Juan 525

Khoo Peng Kiat 554

Koh Kim Song 479

Lim Teck Chye 541

Eric Mahadevan 508

Sherman Ong Eng Lam 507

Sng Teck Leong 545

Geoffrey Tan Hock Jin 473

Tan Nee Keng 545

Wee Chin Kam 449

Deacons

Victor Chan Mun Hong 423

Charlie Chan Weng Keong 532

Chin Hoong Chor 531

Benny Chng Seck Kherng 527

Benny Goh Li Nee 441

Lee Heok Seng 472

Lee Hock Chin 461

Lim Ching Wah 516

Victor Loo Lam Hua 547

Ng Beng Kiong 465

Pang Leong Siang 422

Seow Cheong Kiong 434

Tai Mern Yee 438

David Tan Boon Keong 511

Henry Tan Kiat Siong 526

George Tan Kok Eng 490

Tan Yew Chong 529

Wee Hian Kok 485



most timely message by our founding principal to this year's graduating class, "For We Can Do Nothing Against the Truth, But For the Truth." Clothing the sermon in flesh are the testimonies of 108 alumni who testify of the power of God's Truth in their lives and ministries. Will you not join in the fray to proclaim and defend the Truth of God's Word in these last days?

The Lord has blessed my life richly through FEBC, my alma mater indeed. I consider my four years (1985-1989) of theological training at FEBC to be the happiest years of my life. I was like the merchant who had found the pearl of great price (Matt 13:45-46). I found the Truth of God in His Holy Word, and I found a much needed helpmeet in Jemima, the principal's daughter. Both of us graduated in 1989 with our BTh, got engaged and then went to the States for further studies. We got married in 1991. I did not plan it this way, the Lord knows. It was by His directive and cooperative will (Gen 24:27). You will want to read Peter and Anne Clements' story. They have six children (we are thankful for our two, Ann and Lynn). We pray they will be future alumni and servants of God.

By the grace of God, with this new 40th anniversary graduating class, FEBC's total alumni would pass the 400 mark. We thank God for our alma mater. The testimonies are our sacrifice of praise to the Lord, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name (Heb 13:15). It is the Lord Himself who has done great things for us. We give Him all the glory and honour.

My other alma mater, St Andrew's, has a motto that says, "Up and On." May FEBC likewise strive "Up and On" for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ until the day He returns to rule a thousand years. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb 13:8). Truth Unfailing! Amen.

2. A Word from the Principal "EBENEZER, HITHERTO HATH THE LORD HELPED US" (1 SAM 7:12)

From day one, September 17, 1962, to this day, 40 academic years after, FEBC has looked to the Father Almighty for help. God has delivered us out of every difficult situation so that His Name is forever glorified.

The school opened its doors to three students sitting on kitchen stools with the lone Principal

speaking on the text, Ps 34:10, "The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing." The first three students were Miss Ivy Tan from Pasir Panjang and Miss Ng Sang Chiew and Eddie Chan from Batu Pahat. The school had no kitchen, and for lunch I asked my brother, Dr Tow Siang Hwa, to instruct his cook to give us fried noodles. After lunch the principal went with Eddie Chan to Chin Lien Bible Seminary to take delivery of six army beds, so the three students might have a place to sleep that night.

Rev Peter Ng Eng Hoe, after graduating from Faith Seminary and Dallas Seminary, came back in time to join the staff. The principal himself taught 13 hours a week. He was like a half-back running over every part of the field. Sometimes he shot his own goal!

At the end of the first year, Ng Sang Chiew left to study at the Alliance Bible Seminary in Hong Kong, for she came from the Chinese stream. Eddie transferred to Singapore Bible College. A fellow staff member who was supposed to be my friend advised Ivy also to leave, because he said, even the rats would jump out of a sinking ship. Ivy prayed but stayed by God's restraining hand.

However, God sent us three new students the next year. They were Chan Lay Seng, now pastor of Calvary Jurong B-P Church, Miss Peggy Yeo who later obtained a DPhil from Oxford, Mrs Packer, wife of an officer in the Australian High Commission.

When Ivy Tan graduated in 1966 and learned all her Greek from Rev John Grauley, and Mrs Packer also; Ivy graduated with the first BTh and Mrs Packer a Certificate.

FEBC's student body grew to over 100 from 18 countries three years ago with 376 graduated by the 39th year. With more than 30 graduating this the 40th year, the total will pierce the 400 mark. Over 65 have been ordained B-P ministers. There has never been a lack financially or academically all these years. "Ebenezer, ... Hitherto hath the LORD helped us."

Note: The celebration of FEBC's 40th Anniversary and 27th Graduation will be held at Calvary Pandan B-P Church **this evening** at 6.00 pm. Since our Church is the main supporter of the College, Lifers would be blessed particularly by coming to join in the celebration. High Tea will be served.

TESTIMONIES

The body was no longer in the tomb! The picture of an empty tomb that I saw as a very young girl deeply etched in my mind. I was attending a church kindergarten when I was invited to the Saturday fellowship meetings. My mother, though an ancestor worshipper, was happy for me to spend Saturday afternoons at church. At least she knew where I was and not playing with the neighbourhood children on the streets. It was during these meetings that I heard about Jesus Christ. That began my journey of knowing God.

I accepted Jesus as Saviour at the age of 6 after seeing the picture of the empty tomb. However, I did not really understand what that meant though I just felt that I should pray with the teacher. I continued to attend the fellowship meetings and accompanied my mother to the temple at the same time.

Some years later, while returning home from church, I decided that if I want to be a Christian, then I must be serious about it. As a start, I must stop quarrelling with my sister. My mother used to say that my sister and I were like a dog and a cat, not a day passed without us exchanging angry words. So, from that day onwards, I did not respond to my sister when she shouted at me or picked on me. The other thing that I stopped doing was to accompany my mother to the temple or place joss sticks at the ancestral altar. Each time she asked me, I would say "no". That began my journey of making Jesus Lord of my life.

Baptism was not an issue that I had the courage to discuss with my mother for a long time. She was opposed to it as it meant I would no longer follow her beliefs. The then church pastor encouraged me to pray. During that time, my mother decided to become a Buddhist and discontinued ancestor worship. That brought her on a head-on conflict with my father who objected to the change strongly. After weeks of arguing, they reached a compromise. That experience softened her stance towards my baptism. When I eventually plucked up the courage to ask her permission, she readily agreed. The Lord had opened the door in the most amazing way. That began my journey of depending on God in all things through prayer.

I am still on the journey of faith. It is a journey that will only end when God takes me home to be with Him. To reach the end successfully, I need to walk humbly before Him, learning and doing His will along the way. I hope to be able to say with Paul at

the end of my life, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim 4:7).

—Leong Lai Fung Mary

Many years back when I was in Secondary 2 in a Catholic Mission School, the school organised a 2-day "Mission Program" where a group of missionaries led by a priest came to spread the Word of God. Being a typical teenager at that time, I was very confused and lost and felt that no one could understand me. The program was very effective and memorable. It made me realise that there is Someone out there, a higher being, who is closely watching me and I am not alone. I started to pray nearly every night before I go to bed, to "talk" to Him. . . to feel comforted.

I started to ask my aunts, who are Christians, to bring me to their church. However, the visits were only once in a while, never regular. My aunts did not "force" me to go every week. My father was also not very pleased with me for going to church, as he was afraid that it would affect my studies. Such irregular visits lasted till my University days. Through these visits, I only got to know fragments of God's Word. A friend later gave me a Bible, and I started reading it on my own.

Things began to change after I graduated from University. I met a new friend when I went on a package tour to New Zealand in June 1998. He brought me to Life Church and later to the Church Choir. I told myself from then on that I wanted to learn more about God and His Word. Since then, I have been regularly attending Life Church and have become a Life Church choir member too. My life has since been more fulfilling and meaningful.

I want to thank God for this friend for bringing me to church and thus for an opportunity to know God and to bring me closer to Him. I also want to thank God that my father has softened and no longer stops me from going to church every week. I also appreciate the chance to serve Him in the choir, to sing for Him. Many times, the lyrics of the songs telling us the abundance of His love simply touches my heart and bring tears to my eyes. I did not know that I could put my voice to such meaningful purpose.

Sometimes I really wonder why so many people out there choose to reject Him, when His promises to us are repeated and emphasized over and over again in the Bible. I am not sure exactly when I have accepted Christ as my personal Saviour. However, I am certain that I do not intend to change my belief and He will be the one and only God that I truly believe and have faith in...forever.

—Ong Wan Lee

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 13 - 19, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$8,057.00 (8.00 am); \$20,252.00 (10.30 am)		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$50, \$210.02; Faith Presbyterian Church Perth \$100; Moses Hahn's Church \$30; Pailin Orph \$110; Baraka BPC \$20, \$150; Mission Fund \$200; Myanmar Missions \$240; Ho Heng Sau \$100; Children Ministry \$1,000; Mst \$450; VBS \$50, \$300; Far Eastern Kindergarten \$300; Rev Seet & family \$50; Rev Wong \$50, \$50, \$50; Christina Ho \$40; Ng Sang Chiew \$100(LF); Rev Tow \$800; Chan Pui Meng \$100, \$400(LF); David Koo's Church \$400; Mercy Ministry \$50; June Tan \$150; Rachel Koo \$100, \$50, \$1000; Africa-Projector \$40; Easter Breakfast \$100(LF); Sun Sokha \$50; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Roth Kim Nang, Lydia Silha, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan, Sun Sokha; FEBC Graduation/Anniv. \$10,000.		
SUN	8.00 am	The Pursuit of Holiness (Rev Tow)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$1000, \$50, \$1500, 3200, 3000(Session member), \$500, \$2000, \$2200, \$148, \$500, \$100, \$300, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$200, \$690, \$1000, \$200, \$500, \$2000, \$1000. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,732,803.41. STOP PRESS! \$870 (FEBC Graduates & students), \$200, \$200, \$500.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	(1) Thank you Heavenly Father for your loving care and divine protection these past 2½ years, during which I had unknowingly been driving without a valid licence. And especially on the occasion when you spared me from a nasty collision with two cars, while driving on a rainy day at fairly high speed when my brakes failed. Thank you for preserving my life and sparing me from legal entanglements. Truly, the loving eyes of our Heavenly Father are upon His children...constantly! He who watches over us neither slumbers nor sleeps. Praise His Holy Name for His mercy endureth forever. Thank you Father for many other blessings. To thee alone be all glory, praise and thanks! —Your unworthy child		
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet	Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Philadelphia BPC Anniv., 9.30 am. Rev Wong at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. Rev Seet at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am.		
	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			
	1.00 pm	AF			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service; 4.00 Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok.					
Sunday School Offering: \$869.90; Attendance: 368					
Verse for the Week: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7					
1) The Young Teens Sunday School Department would like to invite all Lifers, particularly teens and youth, to join our annual Teens Workshop. Speaker: Rev Charles Seet. Topic: "Christian Liberty: What I Really Can and Cannot Do". Sat. 25 May, 3pm, FEBC Hall. Contact: Benjamin Li, 98793330.					
2) Our church's Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming up in less than 5 weeks' time (4-7 June 02)! If you would like to know more about VBS and how to register for it, all the details can be found at the following URL: http://www.vbsclub.com .					
3) Life Church Bible Camp. 17-21 June. Mersing. "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World". Closing date: 26 May 02.					
John Whitcomb, Dr DA Waite, Dr Paul Lee Tan, and Dr Gary Cohen. With regard to our ThD programme, Dr Whitcomb wrote, "Thank you for the good news! As our Lord may bless and provide, men will be coming from many lands to study God's Word with you there. No real need to come to America any more for Th.D. studies." This is from Dr Waite: "Your Th.D. program sounds great indeed, and we'll be praying that the Lord will give you many students that will stand strong for God's preserved Hebrew and Greek Words, the English King James Bible, and accurate and faithful translations in all the languages of the world. I am happy that you have a vision of training others in fulfillment of 2 Timothy 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.'" Finally, this from Dr Paul Lee Tan: "I am delighted with the news that FEBC is offering the Th.D. degree program. I know that the students will be blessed with good, solid Bible training and teaching. Usually, seminaries offering such high-level degrees tend to be 'broad' in their doctrinal stance, but I know FEBC will prove that it is possible to be firm and fundamental in doctrine, and yet offer post-graduate level training."		
			The ThD programme will begin with three students. One of our graduates who is now a Bible college lecturer in India will return for further training, and we have 2 from our very own faculty.		
			Please continue to pray for the college that we will remain true and faithful to Christ and His Word until the day He returns. To God be the glory great things He has done!		



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"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. 8	No. 66
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 34	Titus 2
Hymn	No. 377	No. 471
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 324	No. 395
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	James 3:1-12	Prov 31:10-31
Sermon	Mind Your Language (Rev Colin Wong)	Biblical Motherhood (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 281	No. 501
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

"FOR WE CAN DO NOTHING AGAINST THE TRUTH, BUT FOR THE TRUTH"

(Message delivered by the principal at the 27th Graduation and 40th Anniversary of FEBC at Calvary Pandan B-P Church, May 5, 2002)

No sooner had I arrived in America in January 1948 to study at Faith Seminary than there came a distinguished clergyman, Dr Carl McIntire by name, to speak at our chapel hour. He was none other than the President of the Board of Directors of the Seminary itself. The topic of his message was the need of a Twentieth Century Reformation, for the 16th Century Reformation which God gave to the Protestant Church through Martin Luther was now being undermined. It is a counter movement called the Ecumenical Movement. Organised as the World Council of Churches, this Movement is to unite all Protestants to return to Rome, the very undoing of our Protestant heritage.

Dr McIntire challenged young men like us to join the Twentieth Century Reformation Movement, soon to be organised as the International Council of Christian Churches, to separate from the World Council of Churches and to further contend for the Truth. I felt my heart "strangely warm," in the words of Wesley. My heart was knit with his heart, like Jonathan's to David's. I became that day his disciple and have stood by him for more than half a century. This has given me an opportunity to contend for the Faith in all the continents by exposing the wiles of Ecumenism and defending

His Word. (Dr McIntire was promoted to glory Mar 19, 2002, age 95.)

Satan hates God's Word. From the very beginning he questioned God's Word to Eve. "Yea, hath God said?" The Bible is the infallible, inerrant Word of God. Satan by planting error in its publication can therefore destroy the truth.

In the ICC's contending for the faith we were soon confronted with a new translation, the Revised Standard Version, in 1952. This translation by liberal theologians changed Isaiah 7:14, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive ..." into "a young woman shall conceive." The miracle birth of a virgin is reduced to a natural birth by a young woman (which young woman cannot conceive?) This strikes at the very heart of our Christian Faith. The ICC's fight for the truth worldwide reduced the sales of the RSV.

When the NIV appeared in 1978, the translators took away three vital passages from its text—the story of the woman taken in adultery, the last 12 verses of Mark and the statement on the Holy Trinity (1 John 5:7, 8), according to Westcott and Hort. The publishers, knowing that if they are totally left out the public would not buy their product, put them in truncated form by drawing lines to separate them from the main text.

Dr McIntire would have exposed the NIV, but was surrounded by "fifth columnists" within the ICC. This battle lost to the enemy helped the NIV to oust the KJV from her supremacy in one generation.

The NIV is not based on the Textus Receptus, the Traditional Majority Text, but on Westcott and

Hort using the Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus. Though oldest they are most corrupt according to Dean Burgon of Oxford in a 350-page book unanswered to this day.

There is another reason why Westcott and Hort must be rejected and that is the character of these men. It has lately been revealed these two men were friends of Darwin and Freud (called a Fraud in *The Straits Times*). They were modernists and liberals of the deepest dye. They called the Genesis account of the Fall a myth, and rejected the fundamentals of the Faith, such as the Virgin Birth, the Blood Atonement, the infallibility and inerrancy of the Scriptures, the miracles and resurrection of our Lord. They were secret worshippers of Mary. Westcott founded a Hermes Club in Cambridge which became infested with homosexuals. Later it became a Ghost Club for the study of spirits of the dead.

While McIntire missed to expose the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort in 1978, he succeeded in 1998 at ICCC's 50th Anniversary. Part of ICCC's Bible Resolution declares,

"Whereas most of the modern versions are based upon the discredited and perverted Westcott and Hort transcription and not on the Textus Receptus (The Received Text) attested by scholars for over 300 years, from which the Authorised King James Version was translated by the greatest theologians and textual critics of the 17th century, England, who were academic critics indeed, in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic and ...

Whereas this same King James Version has been used around the world by an overwhelming majority of Christian Clergymen, Evangelists, Bible Teachers, Missionaries and Youth Leaders to bring millions of people to have a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ for more than three centuries,

Be it therefore resolved, that the International Council of Christian Churches, assembled at the English Reformed Church in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, observing its 50th Anniversary, August 11-15, 1998, urge all Bible-believing Christians worldwide to use only the Authorised King James Version in their services and in their preaching ministry, and warn the followers of Christ against innumerable "new" Bibles which are not translations, but versions conforming to the personal bias and views of those who have originated them and who are profiting by commercial sales of such."

The battle for Truth is an unending one. Far Eastern Bible College has advanced beyond the ICCC Bible Resolution to declare the Preservation

of the Scriptures to be part and parcel of the Doctrine of its Inspiration. The Preservation of the Scriptures is declared in the Westminster Confession of Faith and in Ps 12:6, 7, "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." The pioneers of this rediscovered Truth are E F Hills, ThD (Harvard), a classmate of McIntire, Dr Otis Fuller, David Cloud, Dr D A Waite, Dr S H Tow, G Riplinger, not to forget the Trinitarian Bible Society and now the Faculty of FEBC with our friends Pensacola Christian College and Seminary, etc, etc.

Sad to say one of FEBC's faculty has rejected the Preservation Doctrine that our Bible is fully intact. But God has raised up another to counter with the latest book, *Kept Pure in All Ages*.

And so the battle goes on. Seminaries all over the world take such a liberal view of truth that they are perpetrating Satan's lies, knowingly or unknowingly. Those who hold the truth must counter them wherever they are met. This we have been doing for 40 years, and may God keep us faithful till Jesus comes again. "For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (2 Cor 13:8). Amen.

A TIME FOR INTROSPECTION

(Eld Dr Tow Siang Yeow,

President of the Board of Directors, FEBC)

Truly The Lord has been good to us in preserving and prospering the Far Eastern Bible College throughout 40 years of earnest endeavour for Him, despite its ups and downs. The 40th year of FEBC hence, is a significant milestone in the history of this "School of Prophets" and calls for not only a time of thanksgiving and praise to God Almighty, but also a time for introspection.

God has called our founding Pastor, Rev Dr Timothy Tow, way back in 1962 to establish a Bible college to train workers for the Lord's vineyard—workers who are faithful to the Word of God and who will "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3) at a time when apostasy and modernistic unbelief were "creeping in unawares" (Jude 4). Starting with just three students and one teacher, the college today is more than 100 strong with a dozen qualified lecturers forming the faculty. Besides, more than 400 students have graduated over these past 40 years and are now serving in the mission fields to God's glory!

The trend now is towards the trained. The

heyday of great evangelists cast in the mould of Dr John Sung and Lim Puay Hian can be said to be over! In this modern era, God's servants need proper training. FEBC provides quality training in equipping men and women for effective Christian ministry. As of today, the college offers courses leading to Diploma, Bachelor's and Master's degrees plus off-campus courses for laity who wish to better themselves for Christian service.

Graduates of FEBC are much sought-after to fill in the crying need for workers in the Lord's harvest field. And does not the Lord Himself make this challenge to 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." Heeding the Lord's call, students from more than 25 countries have come to be trained at FEBC to meet the needs of the local churches as well as their mission fields!

These are the last days, and "perilous times shall come" (2 Tim 3:1). But despite the poor economic outlook and the pervasive threat of terrorist attacks, FEBC stands firm in the shadow of His wings (Ps 17:8). In faith and the unstinting support of God's people, the New Beulah House, a four-storey structure, will be constructed to meet the present and future needs of FEBC and Life Church. It will be an imposing but functional building, located just opposite the church premises.

In time, the "torch" will be passed on to a new generation of FEBC leaders. Will they continue to have the same vision and zeal as the founder in maintaining an unshakeable stand for the "old time faith" and in rejecting modernistic unbelief and compromise? Time will tell, but certainly the principal, faculty and board of directors will need to be vigilant to prevent false teachings being surreptitiously introduced into the College.

May God strengthen our leaders and grant them wisdom and discernment from on high, and may the FEBC continue to be a "beacon of light and truth" in this part of the world! Amen.

REMARKS BY THE ACADEMIC DEAN

(On the occasion of the 27th Graduation and 40th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service of the FEBC)

By the moving of God, our beloved principal—Rev Dr Timothy Tow—founded the Far Eastern Bible College in 1962. FEBC is in her 40th year. It is by God's protection and preservation that the college has triumphantly weathered many a testing, hardship, and opposition from without and

within throughout all these 40 years. Tonight, at this 27th convocation and 40th anniversary thanksgiving service, we give all glory and honour to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who is our faithful Ebenezer indeed.

The Far Eastern Bible College was established to train a new generation of God's servants who will "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3). Satan till today continues to attack not only the Living Word but also the Written Word. Satan today not only attacks the vital doctrine of biblical inspiration but also the doctrine of biblical preservation. As a Reformed Bible College after the Westminster tradition, we reaffirm with the Reformation divines that all 66 books of canonical Scripture, "being immediately inspired by God, and by his singular care and providence, *kept pure in all ages*, are therefore authentic."

The Far Eastern Bible College therefore takes an unequivocal and univocal stand with Dean Burgon of Oxford who courageously defended the Traditional and Preserved Text underlying the King James Bible over against 19th century liberals, Westcott and Hort, and their cohorts, and the host of mutilated and corrupted texts and modern-day perversions of the Bible. The Dean Burgon oath by which the board and faculty shall swear must be taken with the Dean Burgon spirit of defending the Textus Receptus and the King James Bible.

Since 1962, the College has offered Bible-centred theological training for both clergy and laity. This year, 2002, beginning in the new semester, the college shall offer a postgraduate programme leading to the Doctor of Theology degree. FEBC is very much a part of the Bible College movement. The Bible College movement began with the great preacher Dwight L Moody who strongly opposed the modernism found in the universities and seminaries of his day. Moody Bible Institute was thus founded and became known as "the West Point of Fundamentalism." Sadly, today, Moody Bible Institute is no longer the fundamentalist institution it was founded to be. Not just Moody, but many a Bible college and theological seminary today have shunted from their original fundamentalist moorings. There is a vital need today not only to train a new generation of faithful pastors to serve in churches, but also faithful lecturers to teach in Bible colleges and seminaries especially in our part of the world.

In our doctoral programme, we are thankful to have a distinguished panel of biblically conservative scholars to serve as external examiners, namely, Dr

...continue back page

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 20 - 26, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$7,884.00 (8.00 am); \$16,431.00 (10.30 am)
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$250; <i>Cambodia Mission</i> \$150, \$200; <i>Rev David Koo</i> \$250; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$100, \$250;
THU-FRI		FEBC Faculty Retreat, Mersing	<i>Indonesia Mission</i> \$350; <i>Baraka BPC</i> \$50, \$20; <i>Mission Fund</i> \$220, \$200; <i>Rev Andrew Kam</i> \$200; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$50; <i>MsF</i> \$300; <i>VBS</i> \$200; <i>FEK</i> \$1000, \$200; <i>NBC</i> \$1381; <i>Mersing Youth Camp</i> \$431; <i>Moses Hahn Bible Sch</i> \$10,000; <i>Rev Colin Wong & family</i> \$50, <i>Dn Henry Tan</i> \$200; <i>Rev Jeffrey Khoo & family</i> \$168; <i>Eld Khoo Peng Kiat</i> \$200; <i>Ng Sang Chiew</i> \$500; <i>FEBC students</i> \$75 each; <i>Nelson, Nguyen Gia Hien</i> ; <i>Mark Chen</i> \$100; <i>June Tan</i> \$1000; <i>Rachel Koo</i> \$50, 1000; <i>Africa Projector</i> \$500; <i>Saipan</i> \$220.
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$40, \$200, \$50, \$50, \$50, \$150, \$100, \$120, \$250, \$500, \$100, \$700, \$200, \$250, \$300, \$150, \$400, \$100 (FEBC Graduates & Students), \$20,000, \$500 (Session Member), \$2,300 (Thomson NBC). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,761,083.41.
SAT	2.30 pm	Baptist Fellowship Church Wedding	1) <i>Family Worship</i> at the home of Mr & Mrs Edwin Seow, Fri. 24 May, 8 pm. Address: 27A Duke's Rd, S268909, Tel: 64635893. Speaker: Elder Wee Chin Kam.
	3.00 pm	Teens Workshop, FEBC Hall	2) <i>The Young Teens Sunday School Department</i> would like to invite all Lifers, particularly teens and youth, to join our annual <i>Teens Workshop</i> . Speaker: Rev Charles Seet. Topic: "Christian Liberty: What I Really Can and Cannot Do". Sat. 25 May, 3pm, FEBC Hall. Contact: Benjamin Li, 98793330.
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	3) <i>Our church's Vacation Bible School (VBS)</i> is coming up in less than 5 weeks' time (4-7 June 02)! If you would like to know more about VBS and how to register for it, all the details can be found at the following URL: http://www.vbsclub.com .
SUN	8.00 am	True and False Conversion (Rev Colin Wong)	4) <i>All teens are invited to come for the Lively Teens Fellowship camp!</i> 10-13 June 02 at Calvary Jurong BPC, 1 Tao Ching Road, Singapore 618720. Theme: "The New Man versus the Old Man". Speaker: Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Contact: Benjamin Li, 9879-3330 or register after the 10.30 am service outside the sanctuary.
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	5) <i>Life Church Bible Camp</i> , 17-21 June. Mersing. "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World". Closing date: 26 May 02.
	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	
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 89			
Sunday School Offering: \$791.80; Attendance: 398			
Verse for the Week: But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb 11:6			
Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Tangkak. Rev Seet at Thai Service, 3.00 pm.			



Lif

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 & 9A Gilstead Road, Singapore 309063.
Tel : (65)62569256. Fax : (65)62506955.
Email : lifebpc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.lifebpc.com>
(Ring Pastor 62502138 Anytime)

Vol. X No. 43

19 May 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Charles Seet	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 38
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 122	Psalms 16
Hymn	Jerusalem The Golden	No. 245
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 273	No. 231
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Pet 1:14-16	Acts 2:1-6; 14-21
Sermon	The Road to Holiness (Rev Tow)	The Ministry of the Holy Spirit (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	Blest Are The Pure in Heart	No. 243
Benediction		

A BRIEF LIFE HISTORY OF DR CARL MCINTIRE (1906-2002)

(Expanded and edited from the Presbyterian Guardian, USA)
Introduction

The son of a Presbyterian pastor, Carl Curtis McIntire was born on May 17, 1906 in Ypsilanti, Michigan during his father's first pastorate. His father, Charles Curtis, was a Princeton



Seminary graduate, class of 1904. Leaving his first pulpit in 1907, he next pastored the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Salt Lake City from 1907 - 1910 and then served as the executive secretary of the Presbyterian Laymen's Foreign Mission Movement from 1911 - 1912. By 1912 however, Charles Curtis McIntire had suffered a mental breakdown and was hospitalised. Carl's mother Hitter raised her sons Carl and Blair alone in Durant,

OK. During these years Hettie McIntire worked as the Dean of Women at the Southeastern State Teacher's College in Durant in order to support her family. By 1920, Charles Curtis had recovered and was serving as the pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Vinita, OK, as a lecturer and as a prison evangelist. He died in 1929. McIntire graduated from Park College, Parkville, MO in 1927 and attended Princeton Theological Seminary from 1928 to 1929.

A God-Honouring Separatist Spirit

McIntire was among those who left Princeton in protest over a reorganisation of Princeton Seminary that left modernists in control, following J. Gresham Machen, the famed 20th century defender of the faith and others who then quickly founded Westminster Theological Seminary. In 1929 graduating from Westminster in 1931, he was ordained by the Presbytery of West Jersey (PCUSA) and his first pastorate was at the Chelsea Presbyterian Church of Atlantic City, NJ. In October 1933, he became the pastor of the Collingswood Presbyterian Church, Collingswood, NJ. McIntire was among the founding members of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions (IBPFM), a conservative agency started by J. Gresham Machen in opposition to the observed theological decline to modernism in the Foreign Missions Board of the Northern Presbyterian Church. But by 1934, the General Assembly of

the PCUSA declared that participation in the IBPFM was unconstitutional and Machen, McIntire and others involved with the IBPFM were ordered to resign or face charges in the ecclesiastical courts of their Presbyteries. Together with Machen, McIntire was defrocked by the Presbyterian Synod in 1935. By the higher hand of God, Machen led a small group of pastors and laymen in the formation of the Presbyterian Church of America in the summer of 1936. A lawsuit by the PCUSA charged a conflict of interest and the fledgling denomination had to quickly change its name, taking the title, Orthodox Presbyterian Church. McIntire was thus a founding member of the OPC, but the new denomination was immediately beset with arguments over the issues of pre-millennialism and abstinence for which McIntire staunchly stood for.

The Founding of the BP Denomination

In 1937, following Machen's untimely death early that same year, McIntire and twelve other pastors within the OPC left to establish yet another Presbyterian denomination, called the Bible Presbyterian Church. Within this newest group, McIntire's church in Collingswood was easily the largest, with some 1200 members. This support base later allowed for a diverse number of ministries, including the publication "The Christian Beacon", which began in 1936, was a de facto chronicle or journal of record for the Bible Presbyterian Church for many years. Other notable ministries by McIntire included the often heard Reformation Hour radio broadcast to many states in the US and the Christian Admiral in Cape May as a Christian resort. (Today there are about 50 BPCs in USA and Canada). In the same year, McIntire founded Faith Theological Seminary (FTS), with the help of the late Francis A. Schaeffer, Oliver Buswell, Allan McRae and Laird Harris among others (some of whom left him later for other ministries due to some administrative and personal differences).

ICCC & The Far East

With the American involvement in World War II in 1941, McIntire sensed the need to get conservative men into the military chaplaincy. The American Council of Christian Churches (ACCC) was started in 1941 to represent Biblically conservative and separatist churches. McIntire worked hard to increase the number of people represented by the ACCC. His success in this work allowed many conservatives into the chaplaincy which was laudable. In the meantime,

the International Council of Christian Churches (ICCC) was also formed in 1948 in Amsterdam to counter the liberal and modernistic World Council of Churches inaugurated in the same year. (The ICCC continues today notwithstanding with a lesser influence and membership than before). McIntire's international influence has significantly reached the Far East (besides parts of Europe, Latin America, Africa and Australia) in 2 able men called Timothy Tow and Quek Kok Chiang who founded the Bible-Presbyterian Churches in Singapore and Malaysia which continues today with about 60 congregations, a credible and growing theological institution in Far Eastern Bible College of about 100 students and a Christian Bookroom among others. The BP church is a notable, conservative ecclesiastical force in Asia in both gospel missions and the contention for the faith in the midst of religious declension.

Meantime, back in America, Francis Schaeffer and Robert G. Rayburn, among others, in reaction to McIntire's dogmatic and controversial leadership led a small group of stalwart followers out to form a competing Bible Presbyterian Church. While the larger original group carried on under the same name, the new group eventually merged in 1965 with the Reformed Presbyterian Church to create the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod (RPCES). While the RPCES joined the PCA in 1982, McIntire's Collingswood Synod wing of the Bible Presbyterian Church was split yet again in 1984. The BP Synod was also affected by another division that saw McIntire leading a still smaller number of followers. (The latest is that this rift was healed in the historic 65th BP Synod meeting at Tacoma in August 2001 and the Synod was reunited again).

Conclusion

No man is without his inherent weaknesses and the saintly McIntire is no exception. But yet the life story of Carl McIntire deserves a full biographical study for the enrichment of the saints. He was a faithful and indefatigable steward, exceptionally gifted as a fiery pulpiteer and capable administrator with profound biblical convictions, accompanied by a dogmatic leadership style. By God's enablement, he accomplished much in this life in the defence of the truth and had completed his race of life and was received into glory on 19 Mar 2002 to meet his Master. Only eternity can tell how many have been saved and edified by his ministry. To God be the glory.
—Jack Sin

Fiery Protestant Pastor Laid To Rest

The Rev. Carl McIntire had built a worldwide following with his literal reading of the Bible.

(By Joseph A. Gambardello, Inquirer Staff Writer)

COLLINGSWOOD — Those who knew the Rev. Carl McIntire remembered the Protestant firebrand yesterday not for the many things he was against, but the main thing he stood for — an unquestioning faith in the Bible.

"He was for the Gospel of Jesus Christ," Daniel Clair Davis, a professor of church history at Westminster Theological Seminary in Glenside, told mourners gathered at the Bible Presbyterian Church that Mr. McIntire built in 1956.

"The Lord used him to give me the truth," said the Rev. G.W. Fisher of the Bible Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tenn.

"What is his legacy?" said Curtis Jordan Bashaw, one of Mr. McIntire's 13 grandchildren. "It is not bricks and mortar, it's his undying love of the Lord."

Time and time again, speakers at Mr. McIntire's funeral spoke of the fundamentalist preacher as having been chosen by God to lead them and others to embrace the Bible as the literal word of God. And they thanked God for choosing him.

Mr. McIntire, 95, a staunch anticommunist whose multimillion-dollar ministry eroded amid battles with government agencies and theological disagreements with fellow Christians, died March 19.

At the height of his popularity in the mid-1960s, his broadcasts could be heard daily on more than 600 stations.

The pastor's conservative message of fundamental Christianity and conservative politics amassed legions of followers whose donations helped him build an international ministry, which was highlighted yesterday by the presence of Asian and African ministers and faithful at the funeral service.

But in a sign of how Mr. McIntire's fortunes had changed over the years, the several hundred mourners attending the funeral were not enough to fill all the pews of his giant church on Haddon Avenue here, where the day school is now closed.

Still, their voices were strong and the words of such hymns as "A Mighty Fortress is Our God," "Faith of Our Fathers" and "O, That Will Be Glory" (said to be Mr. McIntire's favorite) filled the nave.

Many of those attending the service were connected to Faith Theological Seminary in Philadelphia or the International Council of Christian Churches, both of which Mr. McIntire helped to found and served as president.

The Rev. Allen McClure, current pastor of the Collingswood church, said that while much of what Mr. McIntire had built over the years had disappeared, those

two institutions remained as part of his legacy along with the example of his unswerving faith.

Hal Richer, president of the Evangelical Fundamentalist Church of Guatemala, said he made the trip to Collingswood with the help of his sons to express gratitude for the support Mr. McIntire had provided over the years.

"He was the most consistent Bible fundamentalist of the 20th century," said Richer, a Jersey City native.

Paul Foster, headmaster of the Plumstead Christian School in Bucks County and a Faith Seminary graduate, also was there in a show of gratitude.

"Many of us, oftentimes, did not agree with Dr. Mac, but we are thankful for the contributions he made," said Foster. "We're thankful the Lord used him."

—The Philadelphia Inquirer dated March 27, 2002

*"A Psalm a day
Keeps the Devil away."
Thank the Lord for the RPG readings
On the Psalms - such a comfort and blessing.*

*We want to express our deep appreciation
To Rev. Tow for his exhortations
To praise the Lord and trust in His Word,
As the Psalmist did and was encouraged.*

*O Lord, how we love the Psalms!
Thou hast given us this precious balm
of Thy loving kindness and tender mercies.
Bless, O Lord, each one who seeks Thee.*

—Mrs Lehia Paauwe

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

I thank God so much for bringing me to Life B-P Church. I was from another B-P Church that does not use KJV but the corrupted NIV. Without Life B-P Church, and without God bringing me to Life Church, I will never come to know the precious truth and doctrine of preservation of God's precious words.

It is therefore with deeply grateful heart and my dutiful responsibility to contribute (\$20,000) towards the building of Beulah House which will house FEBC to continue teaching servants and children of God to earnestly contend for the faith.

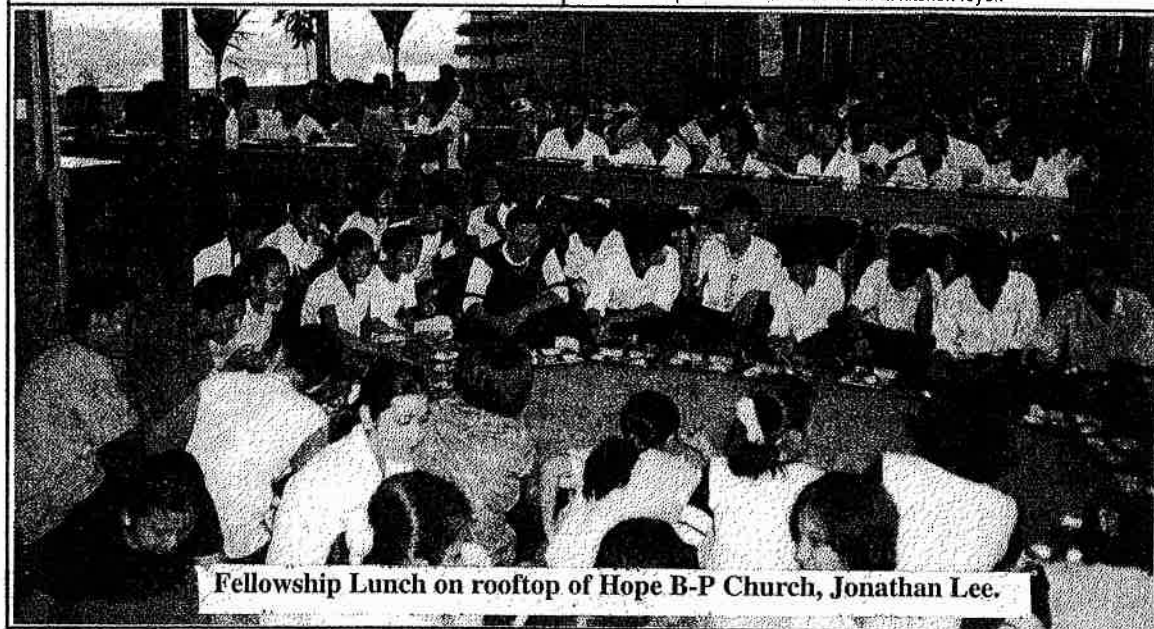
Another \$10,000 goes to building of bible school in Kampong Som under Moses Hahn in Cambodia. May he and co-workers also faithfully teach and contend all the pure bible doctrines in his bible school.

Please also extend \$1,000 to Rachel Koo, sister of Michelle Koo.

Please kindly treat all contributions above as anonymous.

*—Saved by His Grace, Cleansed by Jesus' Blood,
anonymous sheep*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 27 - Jun 2, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	8.30 am	Session Retreat, Life Church	\$10,818.00 (8.00 am); \$14,204.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$150, \$50; Cambodia Misslon \$100; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Orph \$100; Nirands \$400; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100; Rev Charles Seet \$168, \$200; Rev Colin Wong \$50, \$50, \$200; Chan Pul Meng \$50, \$200; Mark Chen \$200; Wendy Teng \$50; Rachel Koo \$100, \$50, \$50; Africa-Projector \$50; Batam-Roska \$50; Children Ministry \$200; VBS \$50, \$200, \$300; FEBC \$100, \$20,000 for 40 yrs faithfulness.		
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$250, \$150, \$50, \$400, \$700, \$200, \$500, \$200, \$1000, \$1000, \$1529. GrandTotal \$ 3,767,062.41.		
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Joshua Lee & Liew Z Nye (Rev Seet)	STOP PRESS! US\$100, \$20, \$50, (FEBC)\$20, Baraka Caretaker Qrs Repairs: \$300, \$1000. Pilgrims who know Layla and Ahmad can help.		
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
	8.00 am	True and False Repentance (Rev Colin Wong)	(1) By God's mercy and grace, He has seen me through a year in Kenya. With gratitude to God and heeding the call to the New Beulah House building fund, I would like to designate the 1st month of the 2nd year salary and my monthly tithes to the building fund. — Missionary to Kenya.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	1) Our church's Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming up in less than 5 weeks' time (4-7 June 02)! If you would like to know more about VBS and how to register for it, all the details can be found at the following URL: http://www.vbsclub.com .		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	2) All teens are invited to come for the Lively Teens F'ship camp! 10-13 June 02 at Calvary Jurong BPC, 1 Tao Ching Road, S'pore 618720. Theme: "The New Man versus the Old Man". Speaker: Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Contact: Benjamin Li, 9879-3330 or register after the 10.30 am service outside the sanctuary.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper	3) Life Church Bible Camp. 17-21 June. Mersing. "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World". Closing date: 9 June 02.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	4) King James Version Seminar by Dr David Cloud, 9 am-4 pm, Mon., 27th May at Allison Hotel [Plum Ballroom level 3] 101, Victoria St. Topics: Why We Hold to the King James Bible; The Errors of Modern Textual Criticism; Old Time Fundamentalists Who Defended the KJB. To register contact Samuel Mak at samm@starhub.net.sg or 6764-0158 / 9855-0750.		
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	5) REMINDER - General meeting for all VBS staff TODAY at FEBC hall at 12.30 pm. Lunch at 12.00 noon at kitchen foyer.		
	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				
No NBC This Week.		Prayer Mtg: 80			
Sunday School Offering: \$835.80; Attendance: 387					
Verse for the Week: Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust. Ps 16:1					
Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Grace BPC, Mandarin Service, 11.15 am. Rev Seet in Kebaktian Indonesian, 4 pm.					



Fellowship Lunch on rooftop of Hope B-P Church, Jonathan Lee.



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Vol. X No. 44

26 May 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn George Tan	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 24	No. 136
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 1	Psalms 8
Hymn	No. 105	A Psalm on the Destiny of Man
Announcements		No. 135
Offering & Hymn	No. 91	
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Matt 7:13-23	Matt 13:24-30, 36-43
Sermon	True and False Conversion (Rev Colin Wong)	Who are the Wheat and the Tares? (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 242	Come Out from the Church Apostate...
Benediction		

WHO ARE THE WHEAT AND THE TARES?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life Church

10.30 am Service, May 26, 2002)

Text: Matt 13:24-30; 36-43

From Matt 13:24-30 we have the parable of the wheat and the tares. Immediately following are two other parables, the mustard seed and the leaven. But when we continue on from verse 36 we come back to the wheat and the tares where our Lord gives its interpretation.

We notice here the good seed of the wheat is not God's Word, as in verse 8, but God's children and the tares, the imitation wheat, is Satan's children. What example of such a mixture can we find from Scripture?

The first example that comes to mind immediately is the beginning of mankind. God created Adam and Eve in His own image, and they were very good. They were God's children. Like the sowing of tares by an enemy stealthily at night, Satan came along. He sowed lies to Eve to lead her away from God, and Eve and her husband Adam who fell into Satan's trap, sinned and became children of Satan. What was the solution to this evil? To pull out the tares from the wheat? No. God allowed both wheat and tares to grow together. God allowed the godly line of Seth and the

ungodly line of Cain to grow up together, lest by destroying Cain, Seth would be hurt. God will separate the sons of Satan from the sons of God at the end of the world. Satan's children will be punished and God's children will be saved. This is the best solution.

A second example may be drawn from the governments' decision on freedom of religion. Even bad governments, like the Communist government of Vietnam, which persecutes the house churches, are obliged to allow established churches to exist. According to the parable of the wheat and the tares, both must co-exist to the end of the world. Thus two young men, Minh and Kiet, were allowed to come and study at FEBC. Now that they have finished their studies they will return to preach in their church, the biggest in Ho Chi Minh City. Christianity and Communism co-exist side by side according to the higher decree of God.

I came back recently from Kelapa Sawit's 50th Anniversary. We had full celebration of half a century's progress without hindrance. Although extremists may attack Christianity, yet Christianity is protected by law, insofar as Malaysia is concerned. God blesses freedom of religion. The wheat and the tares exist together but will be separated at the end of the world.

But the Church is different from the world. The Church cannot allow tares to come in. Let us read from II Cor 6:14-18, "Be ye not unequally

yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

The Church is a family of God's children. As Satan has sown tares among the wheat in the world, He all the more would sow tares inside the Church. He plants inside the Church unbelievers and infidels, who are modernist pastors and theologians today. The Church is now taken over by the Wicked One, so that in Revelation 3, it is called a Synagogue of Satan. In such a case God's children can stay in the corrupted church no more. They must get out of the old Church as soon as possible. *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters."*

Let me illustrate the above passage of Scripture with the history of Life B-P Church with a very personal touch, since I am your founding pastor. It all began with Dr Carl McIntire, founder of the 20th Century Reformation Movement. God raised him up in the thirties to fight a modernist and liberal Church movement called the Ecumenical Movement. It was in direct opposition to the 16th Century Reformation brought about by Martin Luther, whereby the Protestant Church was born. The modernist and liberal churchmen would now undo what Martin Luther had done, and unite all Protestant Churches to rejoin the Roman Catholic Church. I was thoroughly gripped by Dr McIntire's message as he spoke to us students of Faith Seminary one wintry morning, 1948. I joined his 20th Century Reformation Movement.

When I returned to Singapore and was appointed pastor of Life Church English Service, Prinsep Street, I discovered our Mother Church was already a part of the Modernist and Liberal Ecumenical Movement. At that time we were a "colonial church." The leaders of our Chinese Church were expatriate white missionaries. They are what Paul has

described in II Cor 6:14-18. They are unbelievers, and infidels.

One senior missionary Rev Gibson wrote a book which denied the existence of hell. Another, Rev Fleming, denied the Virgin Birth of Christ. Yet another missionary withdrawn from China because of Mao Tse Tung, wrote another book saying since forgiveness of sin was given before Christ came, therefore without Christ sin can be forgiven. His name is Hollister.

Having proven to our young English Church that infidel white missionaries had reigned over us, we got our Life Church English Service to secede from the control of the missionaries in 1955. We became known as the Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. From one congregation God has now increased us to at least 60 congregations, and He has also prospered us with much valuable property. Why? He says when we gather as a Bible-believing Church, He will be a Father to us. He will provide all our needs.

May God preserve Life B-P Church to be a Bible Church. We must be constantly on guard lest grievous wolves, as Paul warns the Ephesian elders, enter in and eat up our lambs. Our pulpit must be jealously guarded especially by our elders. Paul says in Titus that an elder must be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the "gainsayers...whose mouths must be stopped" (Titus 1:9-11). A well-instructed congregation is also able to safeguard the pulpit.

The wheat and tares may co-exist in the world until Christ returns, but not in the Church of God. When God's Church is so corrupted that it becomes a Synagogue of Satan, then we must come out from among them and be separate, and God will receive us. Wheat and tares can co-exist in the world but not in the Church. Amen.

ETERNALLY GRATEFUL AND INDEBTED

Quek Suan Yew (BTh '89)

Pastor, Calvary B-P Church (Pandan), Singapore

Eccl 3:1 says, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." The Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC) was founded by God to mould and transform the lives of those who are called into the full-time ministry according to His season and time. By the grace of God I was one of those privileged by the Lord to be accepted into this blessed college 18 years ago.

The years of training were very difficult and

made more so by the high standard of instruction and emphasis on the study of the Word of God in the original languages. Firstly, my mind had to be renewed by the proper teaching of God's Word. Many false notions have to be jettisoned before right teachings could find their anchor in my mind. I thank God for the right doctrines I received in FEBC. Secondly, my heart was warmed by the strong unapologetic stand FEBC takes on the inspired Word of God. The Word of God was not taught to tickle the mind but with the purpose of transforming my very soul. Black was taught as black! There was no flinching. Thirdly, my spiritual life with God was stretched and tested. A complete and total dependence upon Him became the only way to find solace and strength in the midst of many assignments and examinations. This precious lesson of looking up to Jesus Christ alone to supply all my needs is a lesson that I hope to cherish for the rest of my life.

I am eternally grateful and indebted to our gracious God for the founding of FEBC. He has used it to transform my life. I dare not imagine what it would be like without her. My prayer for FEBC is that the Lord will continue to keep, protect, and bless His college. May my alma mater remain faithful to Jesus Christ, earnestly contending for the faith once delivered unto the saints. And now this same faith has been passed down to us in these last days.

Dear FEBC, "The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace (Num 6:24-26)." Amen.

"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"

Colin Wong T C (BTh '87)

Asst Pastor, Life B-P Church, Singapore

I was introduced to Far Eastern Bible College in late 1982. I was pastoring a small church then, which needed a place of worship. I was told by a B-P minister to contact Pastor Tow to see whether he could offer us a place to worship God. I met him on Monday morning and showed him our church constitution. Without any hesitation, he welcomed us to use the church premises. Then he brought me around the compound and introduced me to the college. He also invited me to study theology at the college. In January 1983, I enrolled at the school of

prophets. My four and a half years of study here have been most enjoyable and memorable. It has equipped and prepared me quite sufficiently to labour in the Lord's vineyard. I graduated in September 6, 1987.

What impressed me most at FEBC? There are three things. First and foremost, the teachers who taught me impressed me much. Many of them have been teaching the Word for years. They are men of conviction and defenders of the Christian Faith. For instance, I was extremely privileged to have sat under the feet of two world-class theologians, namely Drs John Whitcomb and John Davis of Grace Theological Seminary. Dr Davis' studies on Genesis, Exodus, and Psalm 23, and Dr Whitcomb's studies on Esther and Daniel had left indelible marks on me. They have shown me what it means to interpret the Word accurately in its proper context and to apply the truth appropriately.

Second, the teachers' ability to make God's Word simple impressed me. I always enjoyed the principal's teaching on Systematic Theology. He is one who is able to make theology simple to the students. His teaching on Calvin's Institutes has indeed made a great impact in my life. Another teacher at whose feet I enjoyed sitting was Pastor Philip Heng. He taught me Comparative Religions and Pastoral Theology. Being a pastor himself, he was able to share with us his invaluable experiences. I had learned so much from him.

Third, the commitment of the teachers impressed me deeply. All of them were pastors of different Bible-Presbyterian churches except for the visiting professors. Each of them was heavily involved in their own ministry and yet they had taken time to help train another generation of pastors and teachers and evangelists. Some of them even went the extra mile to get to know us and help us in time of need. They truly practised what they taught in class (Jas 2:14-17; 1 John 3:17, 18).

Before I conclude my testimony, I wish to pay tribute to my beloved principal and pastor, Rev Dr Timothy Tow. He has been my mentor since 1983. Since I joined Life Church at his invitation in August 1987, he has spent countless hours with me and showed me how to be a good pastor. Though I make mistakes in my ministry, he gently chides me and shows me the way. He is patient, caring and compassionate. I thank God for this man of God whom He has raised "for such a time as this" (Esth 4:14). Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 3 - 9, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
TUE-FRI VBS		\$15,718.00 (8.00 am); \$35,262.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Galilee)	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$250; Israel-Baraka BPC \$100, \$20; VBS \$50, \$300; Mersing Youth Camp \$52(Boxes); Rev Wong \$50, \$50; Chan Pui Meng \$300; Rachel Koo \$50, \$300, \$100(Boxes); Rev David Wong (Kulai) \$100; Baraka Caretaker Qtrs Repairs \$50, \$150; Kenya Microscope \$1250.	
	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$300, \$800, \$50, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$130, \$1000, \$600, \$500, \$500. Grand Total: \$3,736,772.36.	
WED	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Rev Seet)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SAT	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(1) Many thanks for opening your doors to me while I was in Singapore. May God bless you or your kindness. Please accept this small gift of appreciation. Thank you again. You and your ministry are continually in my prayer. (US\$100).	
	4.30 pm Galilee BPC Wedding	1) Parking of Vehicles for Worship Services at Life B-P Church: If you drive to church on Sunday and have not submitted the form that was distributed to the congregation on 28 Apr, please do so by today.	
SUN	8.00 am Faith Is The Victory (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	2) REMINDER - VBS Staff Thanksgiving Lunch next Sunday (9 June) at 12.15 pm in Beulah House quadrangle. (VBS Registration has closed.)	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	3) All teens are invited to come for the Lively Teens F'ship camp! 10-13 June 02 at Calvary Jurong BPC, 1 Tao Ching Road, S'pore 618720. Theme: "The New Man versus the Old Man". Speaker: Rev (Dr) Goh Seng Fong. Contact: Benjamin Li, 9879-3330 or register after the 10.30 am service outside the sanctuary.	
	9.30 am Sunday School	4) Life Church Bible Camp. 17-21 June. Mersing. "Christian Living in a Non-Christian World". Closing date: 9 June 02.	
	10.30 am Rev Charles Seet	5) Congratulations to Ted & Sharon Chan for the gift of a baby boy, Chan Ying Jie Jeremy, on Tuesday, 28th May. Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Berean BPC, 3.00pm. Rev Seet in Batam.	
	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		
	12.30 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; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson. Prayer Mtg: 73			
Sunday School Offering: \$801.50; Attendance: 326			
Verse for the Week: But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 20-21.			



Life

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Vol. X No. 45

2 June 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 86	O My Soul
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 32	Psalms 84
Hymn	No. 283	O Lord of Hosts
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 137	No. 366
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	2 Cor 7:10-11	Matt 13:33
Sermon	True and False Repentance (Rev Colin Wong)	The Leavened Bread (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 247	No. 266
		Lord's Supper
Benediction		

THE ROAD TO HOLINESS

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church
8.00 am Service May 19, 2002)

Text: As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. 1 Pet 1:14-16

This injunction by the Apostle Peter is given to every truly converted, born again Christian and not to nominal, i.e. Christians in name. Being bound to their lusts, which the Chinese proverb declares chiefly to be in womanising, gambling, drinking and smoking, how can they live a holy life? As for drinking, it is not Pepsi but whisky, beer and brandy, and smoking refers to opium and today to all kinds of drugs you can name, not forgetting cigarettes.

Still bound in ignorance, they are going down the road of destruction. They are like those who travel on uncharted footpaths or cart tracks full of potholes and bumps. Used by other unconverted people, the journey becomes even more rough. Their road ends down into the pit of hell.

But the Road born again Christians travel is the Road to Holiness. Now, a born again Christian is a new creature. Paul says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor 5:17). A born again Christian is saved to a holy life and not to keep the holy commandments in order to be saved.

The Road he travels is a new road. It is paved by our Saviour Jesus Christ and leads to the City of Heaven. This Road is not like the uncharted footpath or cart track that sinners tread but a solid and strong one founded on the Rock, Jesus Christ Himself.

IA.

On the Road to Holiness which leads to heaven there are Ten Traffic Lights. These are the Ten Commandments. Given in the Old Testament, they are the STOP signs. Briefly stated they are:

- Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- Thou shalt not make any graven image and bow down to it (Take note if you are an R.C.)
- Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.
- Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy (for rest and worship)
- Honour thy Father and thy Mother that you might have long life.
- Thou shalt not kill.
- Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- Thou shalt not steal.
- Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- Thou shalt not covet.

In the New Testament, they are the GO signs given under Two Great Commandments, which are "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matt 22:37-39).

The Ten Commandments, whether stated negatively in Ten Commandments by Moses, or

positively under Two Great Commandments, loving God and loving men, given by Jesus, are One. Both STOP and GO signs come from the same traffic light.

IB.

The Ten Commandments given in the Old Testament in the negative are quite clear, "Thou shalt not, Thou shalt not." To live a holy life we must not sin against God or man. When we come to the STOP sign, we must stop and not cross it.

Now, we come to the GO signs, the positive side of the commandments. Briefly stated, they are:

- I. We must love God in His Being (Person).
- II. We must love God by giving Him right worship (no images).
- III. We must love God's Name.
- IV. We must love God's Day (of rest and worship).
- V. We must love our parents, God's representatives.
- VI. We must love our neighbour's person.
- VII. We must love our neighbour's chastity. (We cannot commit adultery with his wife or any woman).
- VIII. We must love our neighbour's property.
- IX. We must love our neighbour's reputation. (We cannot practice character assassination.)
- X. We must love our neighbour's prosperity.

By following the STOP and GO signs accordingly we will have a safe and pleasant journey all the way to the City of Heaven.

II.

But we are encumbered with our sinful nature still. We may thus be driven to go against our Traffic Lights. For example, our friend has entrusted us with a sum of money. Under temptation we spend it all. This is theft according to the VIII Commandment. "Thou shalt not steal." In civil law this is criminal breach of trust. We will be jailed for the offence. This brings shame to our Lord and Saviour.

In another case, we may fall into sin against the VII Commandment. Divorces between Christians are quite common nowadays. In so-called Christian America one out of two marriages ends on the rocks. This brings trouble to the home, especially the children, and shame again to God's Name.

The only solution is repentance and confession to our Lord Jesus Christ. By side-stepping the issues these culprits go Church-hopping. O the burden of unforgiven sin that the guilty parties carry through a miserable life.

III.

The Road to Holiness to the devout is a happy road to travel. Why do we come to Church this morning? Because God has called us to worship, "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves

together" (Heb 10:25). So we not only remember to keep His day holy in Sabbath rest and worship, but also give thanks for saving us forever. When you miss one Sunday in Church, it is a great loss.

Finally, because it is written, "Be ye holy, for I am holy," we must make every effort, with God's help, to obey all His holy commandments.

One question is, will you arrive safely there?

"Seekest Thou Great Things for Thyself? Seek Them Not"

(Message preached by Pastor at the 13th Anniversary Thanksgiving of Philadelphia BPC, May 12, 2002)

Text: *Jeremiah 45*

One day I received a call from my office that there was a message from Philadelphia for me. Thinking it was from Rev Paauwe or his wife, Leahia my daughter, because they live in Philadelphia, I was quite excited. When it was revealed Rev Frank Low was the caller, it dawned on me it was BP Philadelphia, Singapore, not America. It was right here!

I count it a great honour to be invited to speak at your 13th Anniversary Thanksgiving today, because I was lately monitored by your Elder Dr Su Hong Zee in an operation, together with his good friend, Dr Mah. For this I am most grateful.

On an anniversary like this it is a time not only to look backwards, but also forwards. Looking backwards, it happened we were caught by Sept 11, the day of terror that brought down the twin towers of the World Trade Centre of 110 storeys in New York, the pride of America's Economic Power. The Recession that had affected us in Singapore worsened. By God's grace there are now signs of recovery and we are beginning to look forward to better times. The mood of the people is for higher pay, better housing, newer cars, etc. But as Christians we must know the reality of the times, and not be carried away by the tide.

We have a similar situation in Judah's last days, in the days of Jeremiah, the Weeping Prophet. The times were steadily worsening when she began to be invaded by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. It was after the first invasion and the people vainly thought that was the end of it. One who thought like this was Baruch, Jeremiah's secretary. Being a young man he was ambitious. Whatever his ambition, this clashed with the gravity of the times coming abruptly before him. God told Jeremiah to admonish Baruch, "*Behold, that which I have built will I break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up, even this whole land.*" (This refers to Nebuchadnezzar's two more invasions which ended with the destruction of Jerusalem and burning down of Solomon's Temple.) *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 45:4-5).

Our globe has shrunk. What is happening on the other side affects us on this side. There is no east or west. The present lull between Israel and Palestine is shattered in no time by the worst suicidal bombing killing 16 Jews and injuring 60. Greater trials are coming, according to Zech 12:1-10:

"The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him. 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, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness. And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the LORD of hosts their God. In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem. The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah. 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. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn."

This is the climax of the coming Battle of Armageddon which leads to Christ's descending from the sky to save Israel.

For us to look for more prosperous times on earth, in the light of this prophecy, is a hopeless dream. In fact the approach of WWII is long overdue. Do you know that the peace that intervened between end of WWI and beginning

of WWII is 21 years, 1918-39? The peace that intervenes between WWII and now is 57 years. We have never had it so long! If it is 63 years, three times the 21 years between WWI and WWII, we have only 6 years left. Based on this calculation, I published a booklet on Christ's Second Coming, "*It Is Nearer Than You Think*" one month before Sept 11. This hit the nail right on its head. The book sold out in a few months.

As Christians we must live our lives circumspectly before Jesus returns. What is the answer? Accelerated Missions! Jesus in his Olivet Discourse on signs of His Second Coming concluded, "*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 have no time to take things easy.

My son has a good job, well paying job. He thought of improving his status by studying for an MBA (wisdom of Lee Kuan Yew). I counselled him with the word of Jeremiah to Baruch his secretary, "Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not." My son, happily, is serving God as a layman in Church. He is Superintendent of the Young Teens Dept. of the Sunday School. He is the Church bellringer for many years. I am very proud of him. I urge him to take further interest rather in the missions programme of the Church. He tells me he is interested in Cambodia.

Our Church, Philadelphia, as we look forward to what God wants us to do, I am sure, is accelerating the Gospel message, beginning from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria, "and unto the uttermost part of the earth." This is not seeking to do great things for ourselves, but for the Lord and for His glory.

I know of a church 159 years old, but it has never grown. It is a Presbyterian Church. Now, in Chinese, *Chang Lau Hui*, means Elders Church. But "Elders" can mean grow old. A play on the word "elders" in Chinese *Yueh Chang Yueh Lau* reads "The more it grows the older it becomes" which means "old and useless." Let us be a vibrant, and productive Presbyterian Church as every B-P Church should be.

Life Church has missions in many of the Asean countries. We have seen the great needs in Cambodia where converts are also the most. From July 11-15 I shall be leading a party to open a Bible School there and to inspect other building projects on the spot. I shall be happy if some of you might come along. The part you can play there will contribute to the Great Commission and hasten our Lord's coming. Seek not to do great things for yourselves, but for the Lord. Let Jeremiah's message to his secretary Baruch speak to your hearts today.

If we are concerned for the extension of God's Kingdom, when trouble comes, he promises to save us alive from every danger! Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 10 - 16, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON-THU	LTF Camp, Calvary Jurong BPC	\$10,378.00 (8.00 am); \$15,039.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	7.00 pm Life BPC Camp Briefing	OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-US Heng \$150; Cambodia Mission \$40, \$150, \$50; Cambodia Orph \$150, \$300, \$500; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200, \$1000; Surish \$200, \$500; Baraka BPC \$4000, \$20, \$130; Baraka Conf Centre \$500(Session member); Missions \$240, \$1000; Myanmar Orph \$300, \$500; Chinese Bibles for China \$130; VBS \$50; Rev Seet \$50; Christina Ho \$400; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Rev Wong \$50, \$110, \$50; Rev Tow \$800, \$100, \$168; Chan Pui Meng \$600, \$150; Kenya Microscope \$37.50; Mercy Ministry \$300, \$990; Rachel Koo \$50; Saipan Classroom furnishing \$200; Baraka Caretaker Qtrs Repairs \$1000, \$500(Session member); Mersing Youth Camp \$614(Boxes).	
THU	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$250, \$375, \$1000, \$2000, \$3000(Session member), \$300, \$50, \$2150, \$200, \$500, \$150, \$100, \$600, \$1100, \$150, \$250, \$590, \$500, \$100, \$260, \$500, \$100, \$1000, \$3000(Session member). LOAN: \$50,000. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,805,218.90. STOP PRESS! \$1000.	
FRI	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
FRI	7.45 pm Ladies' Fellowship, Beulah House	(1) God is indeed faithful. He has watched over us, providing for us in these times of uncertainty. I thank the Lord for all that He has given us. (\$5000)	
SAT	7.45 pm Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm	(2) With deep appreciation for all the care and condolences and assistance rendered during the homegoing of our late mother. May our loving God continue to bless you all bountifully. (\$300)	
SAT	9.30 am Wedding of Daniel Lim & Roscelle Taburnal (Rev Seet)	1) Emergency Session Mtg TODAY at 12.00 noon, FEBC Library.	
	2.30 pm Wedding of Thio Hsiao Han & Esther Fan (Rev Tow)	2) REMINDER - VBS Staff Thanksgiving Lunch TODAY at 12.15 pm in Beulah House quadrangle.	
SUN	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF	3) Life Church Bible Camp. 17-21 June. There will be a camp briefing on Tue, 11 June at 7.00 pm in the FEBC Hall. Attendance is compulsory for all campers.	
SUN	8.00 am The Decay of Conscience (Elder Dr Lim Teck Chye)	Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Calvary Pandan BPC Camp, 10-13 June. Rev Wong at Maranatha BPC, 10.45 am; Rev Seet at Calvary Tengah BPC Camp, 10-14 June.	
	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		
	1.00 pm AF; 3.00 Thai Service Prayer Mtg: 95		
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.		
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Woodlands.			
Sunday School Offering: \$551.90; Attendance: 325			
Verse for the Week: For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:2			



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Vol. X No. 46

9 June 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Sherman Ong	Elder Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 112	No. 49
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Heb 6:1-12	Psalms 89:1-18
Hymn	No. 107	No. 317
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 324	No. 386
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Num 14:1-12	Gen 1:26-28
Sermon	Faith Is The Victory (Rev Charles Seet)	The Christian and Modern Technology (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 441	No. 283
	Lord's Supper	
Benediction		

THE LEAVENED BREAD

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church

10.30 am Service, June 2, 2002)

Text: "Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." (Matthew 13:33)

This parable of the leaven used in baking bread is presented by our Lord in just one short verse, but in the history of the Church, there are two interpretations with the longest of arguments on each side.

First, according to the Scofield Bible, the Leavened Bread has a bad sense. For in Jesus' use of the word "leaven", it is associated with the doctrine of the Pharisees, especially. Paul says, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump," also in a bad sense, "the leaven of malice and wickedness."

The woman in this short parable is also taken in a bad sense, e.g. the apostate church of Revelation 17. The woman who mixes the leaven in three measures of meal, causes the flour to be thoroughly leavened. The kingdom of heaven is therefore thoroughly corrupted. Says Scofield, "Interpreting the parable by these familiar symbols, it constitutes a warning that the true doctrine, given for the nourishment of the children of the kingdom

would be mingled with corrupt and corrupting false doctrine, and that officially, by the apostate church itself." The use of the word "leaven" in Matthew 13:33 is fitting with its universal meaning. So the parable of the Leavened Bread is taken in a bad sense.

Countering Scofield, we have the interpretation of Archbishop Trench, who takes it in a good sense. Language is not mathematics. Words used in a bad sense may in a different context mean the opposite. For example, while Satan may be compared to a roaring lion, Christ is called the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. Chambers Dictionary, the best for theological terms, says of "leaven": the ferment which makes dough rise in a spongy form: anything that makes a general change, whether good or bad.

Now my interpretation based on Archbishop Trench's teaching that is still being consulted after 100 years: The woman who is making the bread can simply mean the Church in a good sense in as much as she is the bride of Christ. Three measures of meal was used by Abraham to make bread to entertain his heavenly guests, the full measure of preparing a dinner. The use of leaven in making bread for consumption according to Chambers' definition is therefore good.

Archbishop Trench, in interpreting this parable of the leaven takes into consideration the parable before this. He refers to the

parable of the mustard seed, the least of all seeds. But it grows into a tree with branches, towering above the whole vegetable garden. The birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof. This is the outward manifestation of the growth of God's Kingdom.

While the parable of the mustard seed is the outward manifestation of the growth of God's Kingdom, the parable of the leaven signifies the inward growth. The power of the gospel sown by the Apostles throughout the Roman Empire was so irresistible that it converted Constantine the Roman Emperor and multitudes of his subjects. Christianity conquered Rome in 300 years.

Applied individually, when a good Church preaches the pure gospel, week in and week out, the whole church is then filled with born again Christians. Paul says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor 5:17). The meal mingled with the leaven of the Gospel is thoroughly saturated. It becomes soft and sweet bread for the eating, this Leavened Bread. This is the good sense of the parable which I take.

Do we have examples of such changed lives, like soft and sweet bread, so good to feed?

Under Jesus' ministry, we can count dozens recorded in the Four Gospels. We are blessed by the family of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Here is the home our Lord visits at Bethany on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Jesus is at the centre of Mary's heart. How she encourages Him to go up the cross by anointing him with a precious ointment worth 300 pence. Jesus declared it was for His burial.

We have the example of Mary Magdalene, out of whom seven devils were cast, and how she became one of those women who took care of the needs of our Lord and his disciples. She was president of the Ladies' Fellowship.

Then there is Zacchaeus who was a publican and an extortioner of a customs officer. But Jesus came to his house and he was saved. How his life was thoroughly changed to one of repentance and restitution. He gave half of his savings to the poor. And so we can go on.

The changed lives of many a Lifer through the gospel, like leaven transforming the meal into soft, sweet bread, can also be counted. So are the lives of many FEBC students.

There are the souls converted from sin and misery from a life of "womanising, gambling, drinking and smoking." We have a student from Cebu, Philippines, a university student from an eminent family. His mother is professor of English in the University. This young man became a junkie, a slave of drugs for ten years until he was delivered when he received Christ in a Christian drug rehabilitation centre, the House of Hope. He was recommended to study at FEBC. Recently he graduated and is returning to serve in the House of Hope. His mother was so happy that she flew to Singapore to witness his graduation.

There are the loving hearts who are mindful of the needs of the church in every sphere as shown in the offerings column of our Weekly.

There are the called to full-time service even to far off lands, though highly qualified in their profession and drawing a good pay.

There are the unsung heroes whose service is known only of the Lord Himself.

A true Christian does not live for himself. He is mindful of the great needs around him. He is sweet bread to satisfy the hunger of others. In return God makes his life even sweeter, and for his family too. He who blesses others is blessed himself.

Is your life transformed by the leaven of the Gospel as you hear the Word preached every Lord's Day, so that it is become like soft, sweet bread to bless the many hungry souls around you?

1. MY DREAM COME TRUE

By Dr Tow Siang Hwa

Like the Queen of the East, my candid assessment of the "Ocean Blue Resort" is "the half was not told me." What I have seen (so far) far exceeds what I had heard.

My life ambition of forty years, ever since I ran the first ever B-P Bible Camp in Teluk Paku Primary School in 1954 was to build a Conference Centre. This urge sent me on a dozen exploratory trips to Frasers Hill, Desaru, Penggarang (South Eastern tip of Johor), Port Dickson, Pasir Ris, Sentosa Island, and Australia. For P. Sentosa I engaged a Christian architect to do a professional survey plan costing over \$7,000, and for which the Sentosa Development Authority offered a 15-year lease of a 5-acre hillock with an old British military officers' mess (which I declined). Amazing! In Melbourne I nearly embarked on a 73-acre ranch with a ready built 90-bed camp facility. Finally I built the Second Coming Bible Centre in Perth in 1995, sold away after three years.

All my efforts ended in a zero. The Lord had other plans for me. But today, as I drove into the Resort, I said to myself, "My life's dream is fulfilled!"

2. OCEAN BLUE - LAUTAN BIRU RESORT

A pleasant drive of about 4 hours from Singapore, and this dream Resort and Bible Conference Centre is at your disposal. I am simply impressed, nay, amazed at the VFM worth of this conference facility. Let me describe its outstanding features:

a) Clean and pleasant surroundings just five minutes from Mersing Town Centre.

b) Absolute seafront facing the beautiful South China Sea, the beach just 100 metres away.

c) Clean and comfortable accommodation for families and groups up to a total of 150 persons.

d) An enclosed open air courtyard, a beautifully tiled indoor recreation facility. I consider this a superb "brain child," hard to beat.

e) The Conference Hall can take up to 200 in air-conditioned comfort, with piano and PA System.

f) My room is immaculate, very comfortable, with air conditioning, fridge, adequately furnished, with "King Koil" superior quality mattress, hot-water kettle; H-C water shower with "telephone shower head" and exhaust fan (which some 5-star hotels do not have!) And, believe it or not, I didn't see one mosquito!

g) Ceramic tiling throughout makes the place very elegant and spotless.

h) All railings (and even the flagpoles) are of stainless steel! This lifts the prestige and quality of the whole resort.

i) The kitchen is excellent - large and airy with modern equipment to cater to a crowd of 200. The SS refrigerators are very impressive.

j) Finally (many other worthy features I leave unsaid, for the visitor to discover) I am very impressed with the management, Mr & Mrs Raymond Tan. Between them they have the whole Conference Centre "humming like a well oiled machine," and they love the Lord, and the Lord's people. And I must not forget to mention this. The whole complex is enclosed by a beautiful perimeter concrete pillared fence, plus remote-controlled security gate.

All in all, I rate Lautan Biru a first class Christian Resort, a wonderfully thought-out concept, and an ideal meeting place for small-to-medium-sized groups.

A parting note to people from Singapore: use the old Causeway, not the Tuas Second Link (too far and complicated, unless you are familiar with the roads). But be prepared for delays at the border checkpoints and JB traffic jam.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2002

By Mark C. Chen

If ever there was a time in our present age where God has worked marvelous things in a very obvious way, it was in the recent Vacation Bible School (VBS). VBS just ended on Friday, 7th June 2002 after four busy days of Bible stories, activity sheets, art and craft, games, and food! It was well-attended, with an average of 321 kids daily. VBS was also, as it has always been, well-staffed, with an average of 120 serving daily. That's a ratio of more than one staff per three kids! Indeed, it was also a time of mutual edification for all Lifers.

Veteran VBSers did not hesitate to sign-up; but also eager were others who had never served before, asking the question, "What can I do for God?" We had a wonderful team of art and craft helpers who weeks before were busy preparing craft materials, sorting them into individual Ziploc bags for each kid. It was a mammoth task and the VBS would not have been possible without their service to God. Six sisters served as kitchen aunties, feeding 300+ ravenous children and also satiating the appetite of the staff including 9 young men involved in heavy logistics work. We thank God for the logistics team - not only did they shift tables or hook-up the PA equipment, but they also washed toilets, keeping the porcelain bowls squeaky-clean. We also thank the Lord for the administrative team who helped in registering the children, who at times came in droves of fifty or more. Transporting the children was no mean task for they were bussed to their doorstep. With the propensity for everything to go wrong by default of the size and other variables, the smooth running of the event is testimony of God's goodness and mercy to us who often fail Him in His service. One veteran shared that God has never failed the VBS ministry - no child has ever been lost or seriously injured.

We especially thank the Lord for the teachers who gave their lives to the kids. Within the story-time, during class-time, and amidst playtime, the message of the Gospel was preached to the little ones and rightly so, because more than half (60%) who came were unbelievers. The other 40% were from our very own Life Church and other churches. It is of course foolhardy to assume that they are born again just because they have been church-ed. The harvest is truly plenteous. But the most important task is at hand - VBS is over, but the ministry of VBS continues. It is summarized in two words - Follow-up. Who will follow-up the children who were saved in VBS? "Who will go for us?" saith the Lord. May Lifers continue to pray for VBS even when it is over, and to serve Him by being involved in follow-up. Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(June 17 - 23, 2002)

MON-FRI	Life BPC
MON	8.00 pm Wedding Rehearsal
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg (Elder Mahadevan)
SAT	2.30 pm Wedding of Eric Chin Siew Leong & Cheng Swee Chin (Rev Jack Sin)
	3.00 pm YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	4.00 pm Golden Age Fellowship
	8.00 am <i>Caught in the Public Eye</i> (Rev Charles Seet)
	8.00 am Children's Ministry
	9.30 am Sunday School
	10.30 am Rev Peter Clements
	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 Prayer Mtg: 96
	3.30 pm Rev Tow at Tabernacle 15th Anniv. Ser.
	4.00 pm Indonesian Ser; 4.30 Sharon BPC Ser.

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

Sunday School Offering: \$797.95; Attendance: 384

Verse for the Week: *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1*

Bible Camp 2002: For campers going by coach on June 17 (Monday), please assemble at Life Church at 7.00 am. Coaches will depart at 7.30 am.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$8,574.00 (8.00 am); \$15,285.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$50; Faith Presbyterian Church Perth \$100; Cambodia Mission \$220, \$100(Chinese Service); Rev Jonathan Lee \$400; Pailin Orphan \$105; Surish \$100; Batam Roska \$1000; Baraka BPC \$20; Mission Fund \$1000; Andrew Kam \$50; Myanmar Orph \$500; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$1000; VBS \$100; FEK \$300 (Session member), \$1000(Session member); Rev Seet \$168; Rev Wong \$50; Chan Pui Meng \$300(MF); Kenya Maasai Medical Ministry \$105; Moses Hahn's Church \$500(Chinese Service); June Tan \$200, \$200; Mok & Carol \$200; Rachel Koo \$300, \$100, \$200; Jemima Khoo \$50; Baraka Caretaker Qrs Repairs \$4900.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$50, \$100, \$500(Session member), \$280, \$500, \$520, \$200, \$800, \$250, \$500, \$536(EBF), \$2000, \$1500, \$150, \$1000, \$15500, \$1400(Thomson NBC), \$1950(Chinese Service). **GRAND TOTAL: \$3,837,337.96.**

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) "Now it came to pass, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, Lo, I dwell in an house of cedars, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD remaineth under curtains...And David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said, Who am I, O LORD God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?" As David was blessed by God and desired to build God's house, so do I desire to return thanks to God for His abundant blessings. He has blessed me with a promotion and an additional bonus. This gift is for the Beulah House building fund. (\$7200).

Golden Age Fellowship at the home of Mrs Seow Chong Pin, Sat. 22 June, 4.00 pm. Address: 7 Lily Ave, S'pore 277763. Tel: 6469-8650. Speaker: Elder Ong Eng Lam.

Missionary Fellowship Anniversary Service on 30 June at FEBC Hall. 12.15 pm Lunch, 12.50 pm "Missions and the Role of the Bible College". Speaker: Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Tangkak and Muar Ministry; Rev Seet at Emmanuel BPC, 2.30 pm.

Advancing God's Kingdom in Cambodia (David Koo's Bible School Hill).
"For unto everyone that hath shall be given" (Matt 25:29).

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Vol. X No. 47

16 June 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"		
	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 50	No. 344
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 1:18-32	Psalms 90
Hymn	No. 64	Lord, Thou has been our dwelling place
Announcements		No. 52
Offering & Hymn	O thou that hear'st	
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Tim 4:1-5	Psalms 90:1-12
Sermon	The Decay of Conscience (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	Life is Short, Life is Hard (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 247	Lord, Thou has been our dwelling place
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

"A Man After His Own Heart" (I Sam 13:14)

There is no greater blessing for a man to be called "a man after His own Heart," and that goes to David. Do you want to be "a man after His own heart"?

Why was David such a man? Because of his love and loyalty to his God and Saviour. His love and loyalty awoke in him that holy anger to fight Goliath who blasphemed the God of Israel. The rest of Israel cared for their own safety, but David's burning love for his Lord put such courage in him that he would slay Goliath with God's help. "For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies" (Psalm 139:20-22).

When people hate our Lord and try to destroy His Word, are you challenged to answer them back and fight them as David fought Goliath?

In this 21st Century the fight between the Lord and His enemy is the battle of the Bible. The attack on the Bible by two so-called Greek scholars, Westcott and Hort, who changed the Textus

Receptus on which the King James Bible is based, are changes and deletions in about 10,000 places, amounting to I and II Peter. The fact is now revealed to the Christian public after a conspiracy of silence of almost a century.

A rising movement against this corrupt text is blessed of God. Are you with this righteous work of God, or do you just stand aside? We are against Westcott and Hort for a primary reason from David's pen. Psalm 24:3-4 says, "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."

God says that those who enter His Service must have a pure heart and clean hands, and spoken the truth, truthfully. Can W&H revise the Scripture, God's sacred Word, when they associate with Darwin, father of Evolution and Freud (called a Fraud in *The Straits Times*)? Can they who deny the fundamentals of the Faith, such as the Infallibility and Inerrancy of Scripture, the Virgin Birth, Blood Atonement and Resurrection of Jesus Christ (and sworn deceitfully) be qualified to revise God's Word? This is one primary reason for which we have stood against W&H. This is one primary reason whereby David fights Goliath. Do you want God to bless you as a man after His own heart?

—T.T.

SOUND REASONS FOR RETAINING THE KJV

Why does Maranatha BPC (most BPCs and reformed churches) retain the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible when there are so many modern versions today? Here are 13 sound and valid reasons:

1. The Standard Text of the English Bible. It is wiser to choose the known over against the unknown. The weaknesses and disadvantages of a particular version of the Bible cannot really be assessed apart from a thorough trial of daily usage over many years. Many who welcomed the New International Version (NIV) with great enthusiasm when it first appeared are now prepared to admit its serious weaknesses in translation (ie Dr Frank Logsdon, one of the translators was a case in point).

The KJV is well established in the marketplace and in the literature of Christian scholarship. It will continue in the production of many editions for years to come. Helps and reference works are commonly available. The KJV has not and will not fade from the church nor disappear although many versions had been produced to supplant it. Its preservation is nothing short of supernatural.

Likewise the KJV is widely studied and commented in the literature of conservative, reformed biblical scholarship. It will always be a standard of reference and comparison for reliable Bible commentators (ie Matthew Henry, Matthew Poole, John Calvin, Spurgeon, Keil & Delitzsch, Preacher's Homiletics); all other versions are compared to it, contrasted with it and tested by it. Campaigns to sell other versions must attack it for economic reason or try to undermine its veracity. The other Bible versions cannot be compared to it.

2. Based on the Full Text of the Hebrew and Greek Originals. Based on the Textus Receptus (the Greek NT) and the Masoretic Text (Hebrew OT), the KJV gives the most authentic and fullest available text of the Scriptures, with none of the many omissions and textual rewrites of the modern translations such as the Revised Standard Version (RSV) and the NIV and the latest New Living Translation.

a. Oldest does not mean Best - The Westcott and Hort (two liberal 19th century Anglican scholars) arguments that "the oldest manuscripts are the most reliable" and that "age carries more weight than volume" are not necessarily true. It could well be that the two oldest, complete manuscripts were found to be in such unusually excellent condition because they were already recognised as faulty manuscripts in their time and therefore were placed aside and not recopied until worn out as compared to the reliable manuscripts. This is further supported by numerous existing differences

between the Vaticanus and Sinaitic manuscripts.

b. Volume - The KJV is based upon the Traditional Text or the Received Text. The vast majority of the more than 5,000 known partial and complete Greek manuscripts follow this textual reading rather than the critical or eclectic text.

c. Church History - The "Received" or "Ecclesiastical Text" (or the TR) has been used by the church historically. The English, French, Dutch and German Reformation churches all used Bibles based on the Traditional Text. (The Dutch "Statenvertaling" is also based upon the "Ecclesiastical Text"). Luther Calvin, Knox, Zwingli used the TR as the basic underlying Greek text for their study of the bible).

3. A More Faithful Method of Translation. The KJV translators employed a method of verbal equivalence ("word for word") rather than the method of paraphrase of dynamic equivalence ("meaning" for "meaning") used in the NIV. The result is that the KJV gives you what biblical authors wrote, closest to its original, not what a committee thinks they meant to write and translate them from ideas into ideas rather than actual word for word.

4. A More Honest Translation. The text of the KJV uses italics to identify every word or phrase interpolated (supplied by the translator) and not given in the original. There is to be honesty and integrity in Bible Translation. Such a practice was not followed in the NIV, lest the loose method of its translators be unmercifully exposed to error and hence a loss of accuracy.

5. A More Precise Idiom. Often attacked at this very point, the KJV actually is a more accurate and helpful translation precisely because of the archaic pronouns ("thou, thy, thee," etc). Both Hebrew and Greek distinguish clearly between the 2nd person singular ("thou") and the 2nd person plural ("ye, you"). In many statements this makes an important difference (eg John 3:7). In a sense it is correct to say that in praying the Lord Jesus used "Thou" - God is one, not many! - for He definitely used the Hebrew or Greek equivalent. The meticulous translation is simply amazing.

6. The Best Liturgical Text. The KJV excels as an accurate and reliable version to be used in public worship down the centuries. That is why it has been used so widely in the conservative churches and fundamental bible colleges (sadly not so for the some of the latter today). The requirements of the sanctuary are not those of the classroom. Other versions may be helpful for academic purposes to the student, but none is more edifying to the worshipper than a sound Bible with a reliable Greek and Hebrew text underlying it.

7. The Best Format for Preaching. The KJV traditionally has been laid out verse by verse on the

page, rather than in paragraphs; though for most of the text, paragraphs are indicated by a sign. The Hebrew and Greek texts, of course, have no paragraphing at all. The verse-by-verse division is useful for consecutive expository sermonising by preachers and teachers and is copied by some translations.

8. The Most Beautiful Translation. Our ex-Chief Minister, Mr David Marshall speaks highly of the KJV English used in the Bible. The KJV gives classic expression to many important passages in the Bible (eg Ps 23, Isa 53, Luke 2 and the Parable of the Prodigal Son). Our seniors need to hear these passages as a comfort and help as they draw near to the end of life's journey and our children need to hear them in the KJV as part of their nurture and education. They need to understand that the KJV is an important part of the spiritual and cultural heritage of all English-speaking Christians and a key to our greatest literature, the Bible. Children well instructed in the KJV will be greatly advantaged over other children, spiritually, linguistically, educationally and culturally.

9. A Text of Unity for Reformed and Fundamental Churches & Christians. No other version has been so widely used among evangelical Christians. More significantly for Reformed Churches and Christians, this version is used by preference in many conservative Reformed congregations. The KJV is also used in the conservative Christian schools and colleges (like FEBC, PCC, PTS, PRS and some reformed and fundamental Baptist schools). Using the KJV is one way to underscore our unity and identity with other conservative evangelical and Reformed Christians.

10. Availability. The KJV is available in many editions; with a full range of helps and reference materials; not to mention computer software; in large-type, clear-print editions and often priced well below modern translations (although this can be said of the newer versions as well). Use the latest Defined KJV with helps and useful footnotes or the Defenders Bible which is compiled by a renowned Creation scientist.

11. The Word of God. More than any other versions, the KJV sounds like the Word of God, even to unbelievers. The KJV translators are aware of this thing. Although in 1611 the KJV already sounded old-fashioned, ancient, as if it is a voice from the past, it was still being used at that time. This was to command a reverent hearing and to suggest the timeless and eternal character of God's Word. It was the best seller at one time before the advent of numerous unsound versions.

Some of the modern unbelievers are aware that the contemporary scene really offers them no hope. They expect the church to speak in a way that is

timeless and other-worldly, from the Word of God kept pure through the ages. Some churchgoers and occasional visitors to a church go much more by "feel" and "mood" than by intellectual content or apprehension. They will take seriously what is read to them if it is from a reliable version of the Bible and they will sense that this is different from a casual conversation or a worldly book.

12. The Character of the Translators. The over 50 men appointed to translate the KJV were not only well-known scholars and well schooled in the original languages but were also men of sound religious faith. They were strong believers in every word of the Bible being inspired by God and in all the central doctrinal truths of Scripture. They were God-fearing men whose lives testified of a saving knowledge of these truths. This same testimony cannot be said of all translators serving on modern translation teams, some of whom come from compromising ecumenical churches and seminaries.

13. Upholds the "Old Path". Using the KJV is a clear statement of where we stand and want to be as a church walking in the "old paths" of God's Word. Jer 6:16 says, "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." In choosing this version, we choose to stand with all the faithful past generation in the great tradition of historic Christianity.

Conclusion

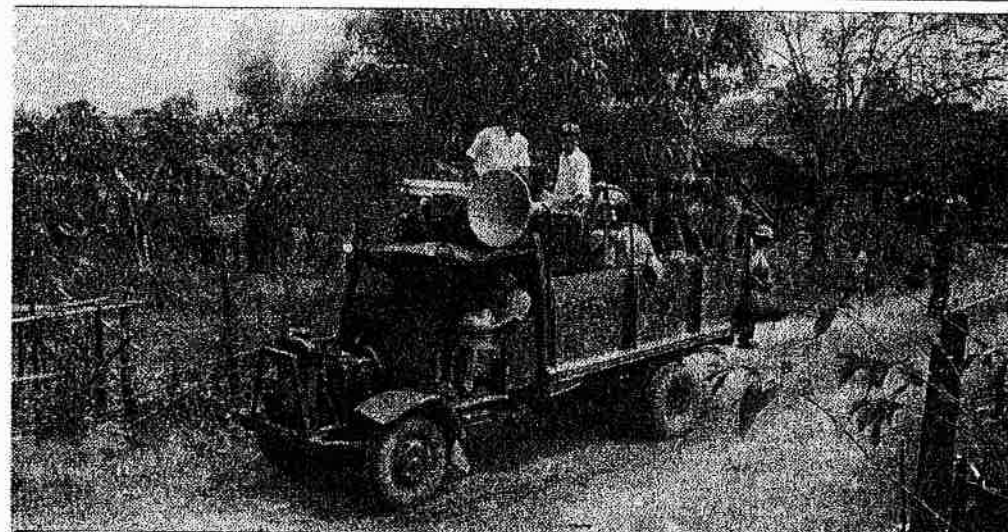
The penchant for new translations was part of the programme of change which has done much harm to many denominations over the past century. This change to new translations was often part of an effort to strip the church of the careful preaching of the Word and worship services of dignity, reverence and beauty, in favour of the casual, the contemporary and the convenient, characteristic of modern Churches. It can also cause a congregation to lose touch with the infallible and preserved Word in due time. Memorisation of the Scriptures also suffers when each generation uses a different translation. The KJV is still the most faithful English translation of the Bible today.

(Adapted and edited from tract by Dr Joel R Beeke, President, Puritan Reformed Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.)

(NB: Maranatha BPC stands together with the historic Westminster Assembly and believes in the providential preservation of the Word of God (Isa 40:8; Ps 12:6,7; Matt 24:35; 1 Pet 1:23-25) and encourage members and friends to use the reliable and sound version of the KJV based on the TR, for the meditation of the Word, both for public and private worship).

—Maranatha Messenger dated 19 May 2002

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 24 - 30, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	\$11,488.00 (8.00 am); \$10,755.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Rev Jonathan Lee \$50; Surish \$100; Baraka BPC \$20, \$20; MsF \$600; Mersing Youth Camp \$600; Rev Seet \$500, \$100, \$50, \$168; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$50; Maasai Medical Ministry \$150; Vehicle for Maasai Medical Ministry \$50; Mok & Carol \$300; Jemima Khoo \$50; Session Retreat \$300.	
THU	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$50, \$250, \$500, \$400, \$500, \$50, \$30, \$450, \$200, \$100, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$2000, \$100, \$500, \$400, \$551. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,844,318.96.	
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship		
SAT	2.30 pm	Mt Hermon BPC Wedding		
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF		
	8.00 am	Idolatry and the Fear of God (Rev Colin Wong)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry		
	9.30 am	Sunday School		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow (Commissioning of Mok & Carol)		
	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		
	12.15 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. Wed Henderson; Fri Bedok, Queenstown.			FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
Prayer Mtg: 36			(1) A small gift of \$200 for New Beulah House, in grateful thanks to the safe delivery of our first child.	
			(2) To VBS Teachers: Thank you for teaching my daughter and taking care of her during the VBS. (\$100)	
			(3) Our grateful thanks for protecting and nourishing our two-week old baby thus far. Amen. (\$100)	
Verse for the Week: Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. Psalm 150:1-2			(4) To God be the glory! Thank you for journey mercies for my granddaughter. Beulah House (\$30), Baraka-Israel (\$20)	
			1) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Lim Chin, Fri. 28 June, 8.00 pm. Address: 77A Watten Estate Rd, S'pore 287560. Tel: 6467-1069. Speaker: Elder Khoo Peng Kiat.	
			2) Missionary Fellowship Anniversary Service next Lord's Day, 30 June at FEBC Hall. 12.15 pm Lunch, 12.50 pm "Missions and the Role of the Bible College". Speaker: Dr Jeffrey Khoo.	
			3) Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Leong Meng Soon on the birth of a son, Daniel, on 3 June 02.	
			Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Tabernacle BPC Anniv., 3.30 pm. Rev Wong at Philadelphia BPC, 9.30 am. Rev Seet at Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.	



Andrew Kam visiting BP Churches up in his native Chin State on his old truck.



Life

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Vol. X No. 48

23 June 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Lim Ching Wah	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	No. 29	No. 30
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 10:9-21	Gen 14:13-24
Hymn	No. 468	No. 28
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 401	No. 115
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	John 12:37-43	Heb 7:1-11
Sermon	Caught in the Public Eye (Rev Charles Seet)	Melchizedek - A Man of Mystery (Rev Peter Clements)
Closing Hymn	I'll Tell the World...	No. 474
Benediction		

FROM MOTIVATION TO A WORLDLY LIFE TO MOTIVATION TO A GODLY LIFE

(Message delivered by Pastor to Life Church Camp, Mersing, June 17, 2002)

Text: Ephesians 2:1-10

The title given me to speak at our Mersing Camp is "Motivation to be a Peculiar People" which is "The Motivation to be a Godly People." This I have broadened to "From Motivation to a Worldly Life to Motivation to a Godly Life." The reason is, not everyone coming to this Camp can say, "I am truly saved, I am now born again." You may come to Church but your lifestyle is that of the world. The world is under the control of Satan, and we are under the control of the lusts of our flesh, so that we are dead in our trespasses and sins. The Chinese proverb talks of a life gripped by "womanising, gambling, drinking and smoking." Drinking is not Pepsi but whisky, brandy, beer, and smoking today refers rather to drugs, including cigarettes. Is anyone living a covered up life in these worldly pleasures?

When we are living in these worldly pleasures and to ourselves, our lives are motivated by self-love. We care not for others and may be hurtful to others while serving our own interests. We have the sad example of the Prodigal Son who cared not for his most gracious father. When he grew up he demanded his share of the

father's property. Having got his share he departed to a far-off country. There he indulged in "wine, women and song." He spent all his money when a heavy recession came up the land. He could hardly survive working as a swine keeper. This made him think of his loving father which led to his return. This is a picture of those who live for themselves and their sinful pleasures.

But a much greater sin than self-love is self-pride. Recently I joined Calvary Pandan Bible Camp in Seremban, I talked to an old couple of 85. The husband is baptised but himself sought assurance of salvation. The wife who studied at a Convent school boasted she knew more Bible than the husband. But she would not receive Jesus as her Saviour. She seemed to be at odds with her husband. Her pride being a sin of the mind, according to Dr Chia my teacher in China, is ten times worse than the sin of the flesh.

Living a worldly life among worldly people, we are mutually jealous of one another. We are condemned by the X Commandment, "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's." When we live for ourselves we tend to envy our neighbour's success. When he builds a bigger house or buys a better car, instead of congratulating him, we

tend to look at him with jealous, covetous eyes. This breaks the X Commandment. This spirit creeps even into Lot's heart against Abraham, his uncle, when he chose the better part of the land, leaving the latter to the hilly and barren part of the country, around Hebron. A Christian can sink to such a low position when greed or covetousness grips him.

When the question of God confronts him, being conscious of his sinfulness, he denies there is any God. Psalm 14 and Psalm 53 say, "*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.*" Though he can deny God's existence in saying, *There is no God*, it is merely a fruitless attempt to get out of His judgment.

If you enter into a conversation with those who seem to be successful, these would dismiss God totally in their speech. Life to them is "to make money, enjoy yourself, for tomorrow we die." That's all. Is this your motivation for living? Do you know it is appointed unto men once to die but after this the judgment? Where will you be, up in heaven or down in hell?

Once my sister and I went to the Treetop Hotel in Kenya to view the wild animals at night. We met a Hong Kong film star. At the dinner table, knowing I was a pastor, she began to inquire about life after death. A British Hong Kong officer who sat next to the film star at once ridiculed her. His philosophy was "Eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die."

After we have repented of our sins and received Christ as our Saviour, we are immediately become new creatures. "*Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*" (II Cor 5:17). Are you converted? Are you changed to a new life in Christ? If so you have a totally different motivation in living.

Instead of a life of self-love you obey Christ to live a life of self-denial. 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*" (Matt 16:24, 25). The story is told of Sadhu Sundar Singh, the Indian Apostle to Tibet, how he rescued a fellow traveller across the Himalayas when he fainted along the way because of the cold. The Sadhu carried him on his back. The mutual heating of their bodies not only revived the fainted man but infused increased vigor to the helping hand. A Christian is not only

motivated by a self-life but also by one of doing good to others. "Do something good for Jesus everyday" should be every Lifer's motto, and see if God will not do good to you in return. Prov 19:17 says, "*He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.*" If the Lord pays He will add good interest, for sure.

The Shorter Catechism says, "Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." Living in the world he is above the world when his intent is to bring glory to God in all that he does. "*Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God*" (I Cor 10:31). Therefore a Christian will not join his non-Christian friends in drinking beer and whisky or eating food offered to idols, nor smoking cigarettes. He will not go to a blue-film show nor indulge in pornography on the website.

Finally, "a man after his own heart" like David who is our example. When Goliath blasphemed the Name of the God of Israel, all the mighty soldiers under King Saul dared not wag a tongue. Only David the shepherd boy rose up in holy anger to fight the giant. In Psalm 139:21, 22 David says, "*Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.*"

Is your life motivated not only by being intent to glorify God in whatever you do, but also with a loyalty so intense to your God and Saviour that you will fight those who hate Him?

There is a battle for God's Word today. Westcott and Hort, two Greek scholars, worked their way in the English Church to change the Bible Text. But these two men were friends of Darwin, Father of Evolution and of Freud (called by *The Straits Times* a Fraud). They were secret worshippers of Mary. They denied fundamentals of the Faith including the Virgin Birth, Blood Atonement and Resurrection of our Saviour. These I count my enemies. In the spirit of David I have exposed their attack on our Lord. Loyalty to our Lord is the highest motivation serving the Lord. What is your attitude to Westcott and Hort?

From a motivation of self-love, self-pride, mutual jealousy and fearful hatred of God when we were unsaved, now that we are saved, that

motivation is changed to self-denial, intent glorification of God and utmost loyalty to His cause. Examine yourself, says the Apostle Paul, "*whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*" (II Cor 13:5).

LIFE IS SHORT, LIFE IS HARD

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church
10.30 am Service, June 16, 2002)

Text: "*The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away*" (Psalm 90:10).

This verse from the pen of Moses may be restated by a Chinese couplet:

"From ancient times rarely does man live up to seventy years.

And rarely does he view the moon in full."

To further restate from this poetic expression it is simply: "*Life is short, Life is hard.*"

What is the world's answer to this statement? "Let us eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die." That is the philosophy of a Hong Kong British officer we met at the Treetop Hotel in Kenya where my sister and I visited to view the wild animals. At the dinner table a Hong Kong film star sitting next to the British Officer was keen to know life after death, seeing I was a pastor. This provoked that officer to ridicule her religious faith. Are you of the same mind that when you die you are finished? The Bible says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb 9:27). There are two ways to go, heaven or hell.

Now the Word of God goes one step further than our Chinese proverb, "*And if by reason of strength they be fourscore (80) years.*" Here God sees beyond the ancient Chinese to modern times when medical science can prolong man's life by a mere ten years with advanced scientific treatment and health foods. How true is the observation. The highest life span in Asia is Japan with 78 years and Singapore a close second of 77 years. Now that I've reached over 81 years, I should not ask to live up to 95. I should know my limits.

Although we live normally up to seventy years,

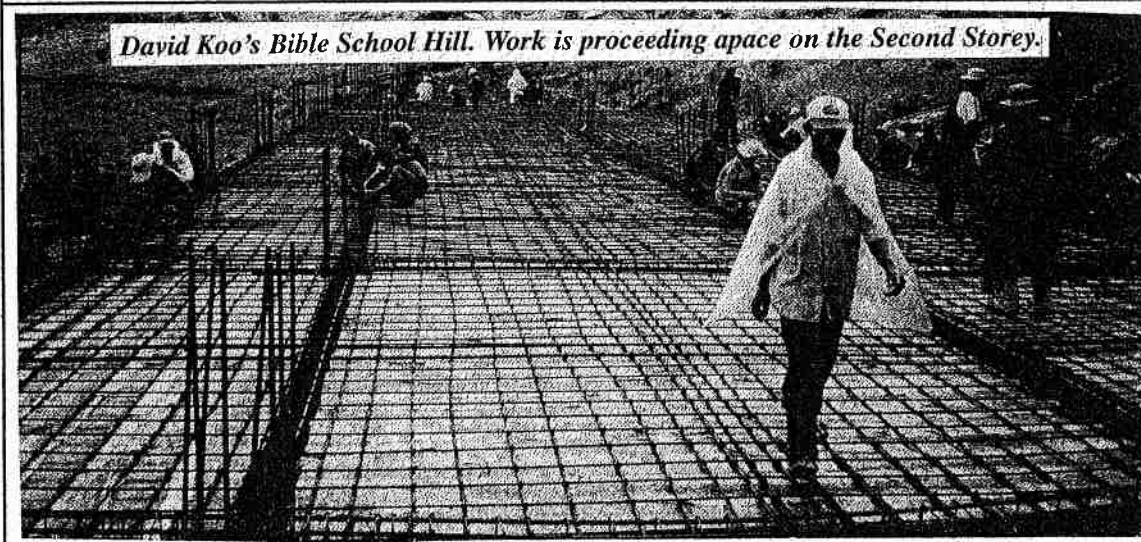
we often say when we reach that age, it seems like the ebbing of a flood, or as a sleep, or as grass that grows up in the morning but is cut away in the evening. If you can live seventy years so smoothly, you should thank God, like the long years of peace we live since WWII. But those of us who are of more advanced years, we remember the Japanese Occupation when life was most unbearable. As predicted to rebellious Israel, "*In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see*" (Deut 28:67). During WWII, the story is told of a Jewish woman how she had to escape from the hands of Hitler's Gestapo. She dyed her brown hair silver to look Scandinavian. She changed her place of abode from time to time. How she shivered when someone knocked on the door. She lived a life of fearful watchfulness.

Now we come to the second part of Psalm 90:10 "*Yet is thine strength labour and sorrow.*" In fact there is no real peace living in a world ruled by sin. Since 1997 with the crash of the monetary market in East Asia to this day, we have met with recession and retrenchment. Individually speaking many have been laid low by sickness, by accidents, for loss of husband or son — what Moses calls labour and sorrow, a hard life indeed. This the Chinese couplet pictures as seldom seeing a full moon. The full moon occurs on one night, the 15th night only. On the 14th the moon seems to be round but it is not fully round. On the 16th night the moon has started to wane. This means life is seldom happy, because sin mars happiness. The wages of a sinful world in which we live spoils our happiness.

Calvin says this is part of God's disciplinary action to draw us from earthly things to heavenly things. This leads us to verse 12 where a Christian is led to pray for wisdom for our day to day living. Without daily seeking God we will lose our way. Without worshipping the Lord with the Church family we lose blessings for the week. Without tithing our earnings we lose His heavenly outpourings upon our economic life. Without ever walking with Him, we lose the peace we need at death.

My sermon to you this morning is purposely cut short, to emphasis life is short. Have you made peace with your God?

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jul 1 - 7, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$15,246.00.00 (8.00 am); \$18,389.00 (10.30 am)
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng (Kuantan SS) \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200; Rev Andrew Kam \$200; Mersing Youth Camp \$200, S\$995+RM844.65+US\$1(Life BPC Camp) Rev Seet \$50, \$400; Rev Wong \$50, \$400; Ng Sang Chiew \$200; David Koo's Church \$500; David Koo's Bible School \$9800, \$4499; Maasai Medical Ministry \$100, \$200; Mark Chen \$200; Mercy Ministry \$216.40, \$800, \$2800; Kenya-Vehicle for Maasai Medical Ministry \$400; June Tan \$100; Rev Peter Clements \$50; Mok & Carol \$100; Rachel Koo \$50; Jemima Khoo \$50.
SUN	8.00 am	El Olam (Rev Charles Seet)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$200, \$250, \$130, \$260, \$168, \$1000, \$7000, \$50, \$264.50.
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,854,041.46.
	9.30 am	Sunday School	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper	(1) Thank you Lord for journeying mercies and for the children. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Please channel my gift of \$1000 to Tan Kian Sing.
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	(2) In grateful thanks to God for granting me a speedy recovery after my surgery and His protection during a nasty fall recently. A small token for Beulah House. (\$200)
	10.30 am	Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	1) Missionary Fellowship Anniversary Service today, 30 June at FEBC Hall. 12.15 pm Lunch, 12.50 pm "Missions and the Role of the Bible College". Speaker: Dr Jeffrey Khoo.
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship	2) Helping Hand is in need of a Pentium II Notebook. Please contact Mr Robert Yeo at 62832204.
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice	3) Could Chew Yuet Tze please collect your Giro Farecard from the church office. Tel: 62569256.
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice	Gospel Verse Chinese Art Calendars (2003) reads "Believe on the Lord Jesus and thou shalt be saved, and thy house".
	12.30 pm	Korean Service / Filipina F'ship	On display at FEBC Bookroom @ \$2.50.
	3.00 pm	Thai Service	Give Gospel Clocks this Christmas: JESUS SAVES.
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service	Let the world know Jesus, the Son of God!
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
	6.00 pm	Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour	
NBC This Week. Wed Newton; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Thomson, Sengkang.		Prayer Mtg: 95	
Sunday School Offering: \$647.10; Attendance: 338			
Verse for the Week: Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies. Search me, O God, 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. Psalm 139:21-24			
Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Calvary Pandan BPC, 10.00 am.			



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Vol. X No. 49

30 June 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Colin Wong
Opening Hymn	No. 8	O Lord of Heaven
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	2 Kings 17:24-41	Jn 21:15-22
Hymn	No. 551	No. 567
Announcements		Commissioning of Mok & Carol
Offering & Hymn	No. 406	No. 236
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	2 Kings 17:33	Matt 13:44-46
Sermon	Idolatry and the Fear of God (Rev Colin Wong)	Have You Found the Priceless Treasure? (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 398	Go Into All the World
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT Enjoy a Weekend any time at our Ocean-Blue Resort

The key to such a concept is the newly completed widening and straightening of the highway from Kota Tinggi to Mersing. On our trip from Singapore to Mersing recently we found driving time actually reduced to 2½ hours. If you can leave Singapore at 4.30 pm on a Friday evening you arrive Mersing (100 miles) by 7.00 pm. For dinner you can conveniently eat at MG Restaurant 5 miles before Mersing or at Joh Yee's Seafood Restaurant in town. Then, time for the de luxe room facing the South China Sea.

Saturday, you get up, like me, for a *nasi lemak* breakfast topped up with *ikan bilis* chilli and sauce, most *sedap*. The whole of Saturday you might spend your day swimming, snorkelling or boating at Pulau Besar, about an hour off-shore. Pulau Tioman is beyond the horizon.

Having spent your energy on exciting sports you can pack leisurely to return home Sunday morning. En route join in worship with our Resort Manager Mr & Mrs Raymond Tan at the Chinese Presbyterian Church, Mersing. Deacon Henry Tan has been invited

to preach here several times. Our presence with brothers of a Presbyterian Church will strengthen their hands. After Church, I recommend you to a bowl of *wanton meen* at Jemaluang, 87 miles from Singapore, for lunch. By 4.00 pm you will be home sweet home.

If you are not inclined to activity on an off-shore island you can simply relax in the Resort facing the South China Sea. For staying here two nights, you pay S\$90 per room. Luxury at such economical price. Any weekend, up to you! This is a new concept! —T.T.

OUR 4TH TRIP TO CAMBODIA, JULY 11-15

Our three Korean missionaries Jonathan Lee, Moses Hahn and David Koo were sent here since Sep 1997. (Moses Hahn is supported by our Chinese Service.) Surish, our member from Singapore, joined David Koo half-way.

The purpose of our 4th visit of 15 Lifers and FEBCers is to inaugurate the newly completed Bible School of Moses Hahn at "Bible School Hill" a few kilometres from Kompong Som. We have another duty to perform and that is to check up on David Koo's building, a long block of some 20 classrooms for his Bible School, Kindergarten and primary school. This is a better location in that David Koo's Bible School is at the immediate edge of

the town. Both projects are in need of help, but they look only to the Lord.

Jonathan Lee's ministry is building churches and he has built four of them in a cluster. Having received talents from the Lord, each one is trading and gaining, as required by the Master.

Do pray for our safety and that God's Kingdom may be advanced through this trip. —T.T.

LIFE B-P CHURCH BIBLE CAMP, 17-21 June 2002

Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, Johor

Even as the Lord Jesus led His disciples for a much needed rest and retreat, away from the multitudes (Mark 6:30-32), it is most needful for God's people to take time from their hectic, daily schedule to be refreshed, recharged mentally, physically, and most importantly, spiritually. Thus, the annual family Bible camp is a most necessary feature of church life.

Certainly the Lord has blessed Life Church with a strong church community of grandparents, parents and children, as well as the wonderful facility of a beautiful nature retreat, nestled in an idyllic backdrop of sandy beaches and swaying casuarinas by the South China Sea. This is the palatial Resort Lautan Biru in Mersing, Johor, a lovely, secluded hideaway from the hustle and bustle of city grime.

This year's Bible Camp was from June 17-21, with pastors, Rev (Dr) Timothy Tow, Rev Charles Seet and Rev Colin Wong delivering the theme messages; and devotionals by Rev (Dr) Jeffrey Khoo, Elder Tan Nee Keng and Rev (Dr) Timothy Tow. The camp theme was "Christian Living In A Non-Christian World" (Titus 2:11-12).

The 130 campers travelled in spacious, air-conditioned comfort in 3 coaches, 6 cars and one church van on an improved road from Kota Tinggi to Mersing, a road which being straightened and widened has slashed driving time to 2½ hours. Praise God for journeying mercies; fine weather; physical renewal; solid, spiritual nourishment; sumptuous meals; and warm fellowship in the Lord. Though 44 campers were accommodated at the nearby Timotel, they take their meals and

participated in all the activities at the Resort.

Nothing happens by chance in God's divine economy (Rom 8:28). It is His marvellous appointment which brought the campers together. Surely the camp theme is most relevant and timely, amidst the prevalent worldliness, and economical downturn. The messages were most thought-provoking, with such challenging topics as "From motivation to a worldly life to motivation to a godly life", "How to handle the temptations of the non-Christian world", "How to handle the values of the non-Christian world", "How to handle the practices of the non-Christian world", "How to handle our relationships with the non-Christian world", and "The challenge to live as a Christian in a non-Christian world."

Even the devotional messages, "Lessons from the life of Lot, from the life of Joseph and from the life of Daniel", were geared to illustrate the various topics of the camp theme messages. The subsequent workshops of small group discussions and prayer time, were practical and positive as a means of revision, reinforcement and application.

Thank God for preserving beloved Rev Tow when he tripped, landing on his hands (Ps 119:11-12). Surely the Lord had heard and answered the prayers of His people for Resort Lautan Biru and those staying under its roof. Actually, many things reminded us of the Lord's omnipotence, omnipresence and omniscience. Even listening to the messages in the conference hall, the pleasant greenery through the narrow glass panels point to the great Creator. So too the furiously churning milky-white spray of the waves in the sea directs us to the Master Navigator of human lives.

It was definitely not "just work, and no play." There was the afternoon outing to Pulau Besar for swimming, canoeing, snorkeling, and picking seashells and colourful corals, by means of the ferry and the exciting speedboat.

The slides and testimonies of the missionaries, Rev Andrew Kam of Myanmar and Brother Mok Chee Cheong of Masaai land; as well as Rev Peter Clements of Cootamundra were interesting and a spiritual eye-opener.

The Q and A session on the last night was brain-storming.

Yes, the Camp Committee had worked in their organisation of the camp, the speakers had spent much time in diligent preparation and the campers have made the efforts to participate. All these will not be fruitless, but most fruitful if every camper will purpose to carry home in his/her heart, not just the sweet memories of fun, food or friendship, but most pertinently the lessons of how to be a Christian living in a non-Christian world.

—Esther Chew

IMPRESSIONS OF SINGAPORE

It is exactly five years since the Clements family was last in Singapore.

Many things have changed, others remain the same. For instance, the warmth of the B-P family remains the same – if anything, it has increased. The number of B-P Churches has also increased.

Many Singaporeans, like some Australians, have been afflicted by a strange disease which causes them to hold onto their left ear. Others wonder around talking audibly to themselves. I think it could be just mobile phones. What do they talk about? Jesus said, "Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment" (Matt 12:36).

We were impressed with Life Church Conference Centre (RLB) at Mersing. In Australia, a Christian campsite usually means a few rickety

buildings with a half step rating. RLB gets 5½ steps! The Tows could not do more for being helpful and courteous. A camp where we did not have to speak and teach is a nice change!

Is the world creeping into the church? Hopefully not, but in a country such as this it is hard to see how it can be otherwise. We need to remember that "The world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (1 Jn 2:17).

*"O let me feel Thee near me, the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.*

*My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer and shield my soul from sin."*


We are grateful to Calvary Church for arranging our travel out here to Singapore, and to Life Church/FEBC for finding us a "prophets room" over this past week.

And that "mystery man" Melchizedek. We had to cut short last Lord's Day. The weight of evidence points to him as being the same one who spoke to Joshua outside Jericho, the same one who spoke from the burning bush, the same one who spoke to Abraham under the oak tree at Mamre, and who also appeared as the fourth man in Nebuchadnezzar's fiery furnace. When Manoah and his wife wanted to know His name, they were told it was secret.

I think we know who Melchizedek is – our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

—Rev Peter Clements



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jul 8 - 14, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	\$10,393.00 (8.00 am); \$18,683.00 (10.30 am)
THU	8.40 am Rev Tow & team to Cambodia, MI 602	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Mission \$125; Cambodia Orph \$100, \$200, \$200; Rev David Koo \$100; Surish \$1500; Baraka BPC \$20; Missions \$200, \$600, \$250, \$50(LF); Myanmar Missions \$125; Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100; P'pines Rice Fund \$350(Sunday School); Chinese Bibles for China \$30; Mersing Youth Camp \$10(Boxes); Calvin Loh \$150; Rev Wong \$100; Esther Chew \$50; Tan Kian Sing \$1000; Rev Tow \$800, \$168, \$150; Chan Pui Meng \$200, \$150, \$400(LF); Maasai Medical Ministry \$50; Mercy Ministry \$1000; Mok & Carol \$500; Rachel Koo \$200, Jemima Khoo \$50; David Koo's Bible School \$34,000, \$10,000, US\$100.
SAT	9.00 am FEK Food & Games, Red Porch	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$50, \$250, \$100, \$500, \$300, \$1000, \$50, \$100, \$30, \$600, \$4000, \$1000, \$5000, \$100(Boxes).
SUN	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,868,621.46.
	8.00 am El Roi	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
	(Rev Colin Wong, Lord's Supper)	(1) To God be the glory! Thank you Lord for my grand-daughter's good exam results. Beulah House \$30, China Chinese Bibles \$30.
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	(2) This thanksgiving offering is for 35 years continuous employment and safety in my work. Please channel it for the building of Churches/Bible College in Cambodia. (\$10,000).
	9.30 am Sunday School	1) A POSB cash cheque no. 725089 was received last Lord's Day. Could the giver please contact Yin Chan at the office (tel: 6256-9256).
	10.30 am Rev Colin Wong	2) Youth Seminar 2002. All youth and teens of Life Church are cordially invited to attend the Youth Seminar. Theme: "Lovest Thou Me?" by Rev Quek Suan Yew. Details: 9 August 2002 (National Day), 9 am - 5 pm. Registration begins today. Register online www.lifeabc.com/Youthsem.htm or contact Mark @ 98436398 or Hui Min @ 96610196.
	10.30 am Chinese Service	3) Rev Tow and Rev Seet will be away in Cambodia from 11 to 15 July.
	10.30 am Young Lifers Worship / Filipina F'ship	Preaching appointments: Rev Tow at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm; Rev Wong in Batam; Rev Seet at Macedonia BPC, 2.00 pm and Berean BPC, 4.00 pm.
	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. Prayer Mtg: 101		
Sunday School Offering: \$620.90; Attendance: 379		
Verse for the Week: Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. 1 John 2:15-17		
		
Working feverishly on 2nd floor of David Koo's Bible School before the Monsoon Rains come.		



Life

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Vol. X No. 50

7 July 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	O for a thousand tongues	No. 295
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 93	Psalms 40:1-17
Hymn	All hail the power	No. 95
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 36	No. 395
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Ps 90:1-2	Ps 139:13-18
Sermon	El Olam (Rev Charles Seet)	Who Should Play God? (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 21	O Lord I want to praise thee Lord's Supper
Benediction		

HAVE YOU FOUND THE PRICELESS TREASURE?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Life Church

10.30 am Service June 30, 2002)

Text: Matthew 13:44-46

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it" (Matt 13:44-46).

In the first parable Jesus relates an incident that sometimes occurred in his days. As there were no banks like ours today, a rich man would deploy his wealth in this way. One third he would use for trading, one third he would convert into jewelry which he could lightly carry on his person in case of great emergency such as war and he had to fly for safety. The last third he would bury in his field for safe deposit.

Someone ploughing on his deserted field might stumble on a cache of gold coins buried underground. He quickly covered up the treasure for safekeeping and sells all his property to buy up

the hidden treasure.

The moral of this parable is that a man who "accidentally" finds Christ, finds life everlasting. He is happy to give up all he has hitherto saved to obtain the true treasure.

This can be seen in the meeting of the Samaritan woman with our Lord at Jacob's well. She had come there to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me to drink. And if you know who I am I can in return give you living water that you will never thirst." The woman gladly accepted this offer. She wanted that living water. Jesus said, "On condition you call your husband here." The woman replied, "I have no husband." Jesus answered, "You are right to say, I have no husband. For you have had five husbands. And he that is living with you is not your husband." Suddenly it dawned on the woman she had met a prophet. Not only a prophet, but Christ the Messiah. Believing in Jesus with all her heart she left her water pot to go to the city to tell the people, and when the Samaritans came, many believed. As for the Samaritan woman, she would forgo whatever she had to follow Jesus to the end.

A second example. In the course of running Far Eastern Bible College, we had the case of a Norwegian captain of the Gospel Ship "Logos." Being a Lutheran, as most Norwegians are, he was an

Arminian, i.e. he could never be sure of his salvation. But sailing to Singapore and staying at FEBC for a week while the ship Logos was dry-docked, and knowing our School is Reformed and Calvinistic, that we teach that "Once a man is saved, he is always saved," he applied to study at FEBC. He left his wife in Norway to return to Singapore. He rejoiced in this new teaching under Calvin and returned home to teach Calvin, facing persecution. He was willing to give up his position as captain of the ship to teach the truth.

A third example. This testimony comes from a couple who loves our Church. They come from a Church that has grown cold and was leaning to Charismatism. They found us on the website and regularly visits FEBC Bookroom. They have given us thousands of dollars from their teaching bonuses. They specify the offerings for the building of the New Beulah House, "Buy the truth and sell it not." They are now attending our Church.

Have you, because you have found Christ in a Bible-believing and Bible-preaching Church also strongly supported this Church like the man who sells all he has to buy the priceless field? May God bless you and the couple I've mentioned above.

And now the second of the Twin Parables. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it" (Matt 13:45-46). This second parable looks very similar to the first, but the meaning is the opposite. It all hinges on a different person in the parable. Whereas in the first parable it is any man, in this the second parable it is a merchant of pearls. He is a jeweller and has professional knowledge of the value of pearls not available to a lay person. The merchant, many commentators say, is Christ. In the first parable it is the sinner seeking the Saviour. In this parable it is rather the Saviour seeking the sinner.

For the sake of saving the precious soul of the sinner who is elect, whom God has chosen before he made the world, Christ is willing to part with His life to "buy this pearl of great price." Paul tells us thus, "Who, being in the form of God, thought it

not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Phil 2:6-8).

By way of application, every missionary of the cross is also like Christ, the Divine Merchant, who is the First Missionary. And He has sent His Church to go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Patterned after our Lord, every missionary must be willing to sacrifice himself even to death if need be to save the souls God has committed to his hand. The story is told of David Livingstone, how in his missionary work in dark Africa, he was attacked by a lion. He shot at the lion but it bit him in his left arm before it died. Livingstone lost the use of his left arm. I hear there are lions in Maasai land in Kenya and would warn Mok and Carol whom we are commissioning to Maasai Land to watch out for them. We need not unnecessarily become martyrs, though we must be prepared for every eventuality.

This second parable on the Divine Merchant is appropriately applied to Mok and Carol. You are going there not to a life of ease but to one of hardship, which is the price you must pay to obtain the goodly pearls, viz., the souls of the Maasai people. May God give you both the joy of service and the willingness of bearing the cross with the Saviour who goes before you.

The second parable on the Divine Merchant is equally applicable to the sending Church in Singapore. We have received salvation at the expense of His life. Are we not indebted to pray for our missionaries and support them with our funds if we have been delivered at such a great price?



Bible Verse Chinese Art Calenders (2003)

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31)

主之家我為督基
Chinese Calligraphy

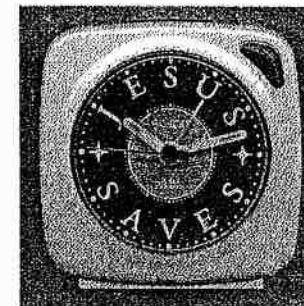
\$2.50 each

You may save a soul

Also JESUS SAVES

Wall Clock \$14

Big Alarm Clock \$14



Jewel Clock \$8.00

Lessons learnt from 2nd Mersing Camp (17 June – 21 June 2002) by Linda Chan

Thank God for the opportunity to spend my June holiday in camp. Many spiritual lessons I've learnt from a camp that's well-planned. I'd much rather learn from our Pastors than to watch the World Cup on TV, How to live a Christian life in a non-Christian world and all the strategies.

Be not conformed to the way of the world is the first lesson from the life of Lot.
Looking at the world today we are indeed living in 'Sodom and Gomorrah'
Living a Christian life is increasingly difficult nowadays especially in our era.
Like Daniel we must be pure in heart, fellowship with the saints to sought

Notice that the families who joined David waxed stronger and stronger, And Daniel's three friends had the opportunity to see the Lord Jesus Christ!
David 'a man after his own heart' is our motivation to live a godly life. When we live a godly life prepare to be persecuted to suffer for Christ

We were challenged to return home from camp a changed person, Challenged to turn from a mere church goer to a godly Christian For what is a Christian? He's one who has a relationship with God; One who commits his whole life to God one hundred percent.

Salvation does not cost us anything because Jesus has paid the price, But to follow our Lord it means we must make that total sacrifice. Are you willing to let the Lord make that mighty change in your life? Paul exhorts us Christians to live not a sinless life, but a blameless life.

Be not like Lot who was a compromiser, but be an influencer. We are the salt of the earth and we must walk worthy of the Lord. When we live for ourselves we tend to envy our neighbour's successes, But when we live for the Lord we are not inclined unto covetousness.

Not only have I learnt spiritual lessons from the Mersing camp, But many a Lifer(sitting with me in the pews) become familiar friends, When in Discussion Groups we shared our heart-warming testimonies. The Q & A session dealt with current issues; yes it was rather lively!

And when Testimony Time came, many a Lifer testified with joy. All too soon the five-day camp came to a productive fruitful end. Thank God for our church's very own holiday resort in Mersing A secluded haven where Lifers can have a foretaste of Heaven!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jul 15 - 21, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	1.30 pm	Rev Tow & Team return, MI 601	\$10,837.00 (8.00 am); \$14,692.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$350; Pailin Orph \$100; Batam Church Bldg Fund \$120; Baraka BPC \$20; Missions \$40; Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Thailand Church Bldg \$120; Mersing Youth Camp \$1005(Boxes); Rev Seet \$168; Rev Wong \$50; Chan Pui Meng \$2000; Kenya-Maasai Medical Ministry \$107, \$200, \$250; Mercy Ministry \$20; David Koo's Bible School \$100, \$250, \$1188(Session member), US\$5000, \$27,550; Eduardo Morante \$100; Mok & Carol \$400; Jemima Khoo \$50; Batam-Land at Sagulung Baru BPC \$200; FEBC Students \$40 each Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Peter Ty, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan.		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$50, \$200(LTF Camp Ctee), \$200, \$250, \$50, \$3000, \$5200, \$100, \$500, \$50, \$250, \$200, \$150, \$250, \$3000, \$1000. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,885,701.21. STOP PRESS! \$1000(Kemaman).		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SUN	8.00 am	El Elyon (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	(1) Thank God for guiding me through my operation and also granting me a good holiday overseas. —His grateful servant (\$250)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(2) I thank the Lord for protecting us and blessing our families with a wonderful trip to USA. Enclosed is a cheque for Beulah House Bldg Fund from a grateful Lifer. (\$3000)		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	1) Catechism Class for Anniversary Baptism will begin on 28th July 2002, 9.30 am with Rev Wong at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.		
	10.30 am	The Drag Net (Rev Tow)	2) Youth Seminar 2002. All youth and teens of Life Church are cordially invited to attend the Youth Seminar. Theme: "Lovest Thou Me?" by Rev Quek Suan Yew. Details: 9 August 2002 (National Day), 9 am - 5 pm. Register online www.lifeebc.com/Youthsem.htm or contact Mark @ 98436398 or Hui Min @ 96610196.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	3) Our condolences to Tan Chun on the passing away of his father, Tan Chiao Long (73 yrs) on 5th July.		
	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			
	1.00 pm	AF; 3.00 pm Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service			
NBC This Week. Wed Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 98					
Sunday School Offering: \$379.60; Attendance: 360					
Verse for the Week: Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. Psalm 41:1-2					
4) Rev Tow, Rev Seet and team will return from Cambodia tomorrow.					



Commissioning of Mok & Carol on July 7, 2002.



Life

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Vol. X No. 51

14 July 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Geoffrey Tan	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 41	No. 24
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 139	Job 24:1-21
Hymn	No. 325	No. 376
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 355	No. 390
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Gen 16:7-14	Luke 10:25-37
Sermon	El Roi (Rev Colin Wong)	A Biblical Philosophy of Mercy Ministries (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 201	Cups of Cold Water
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

HOW WERE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS GIVEN?

(Message delivered by the Pastor at the Sunset Gospel Hour,
July 7, 2002)

Text: Deut 5:1-29; 9:10-21; 10:1-5

There are two accounts recorded by Moses on the giving of the Ten Commandments. The first is in Ex 19:16-21:26; 31:18-32:28; 34:1-4. The second is recorded in Deut 5:1-29; 9:10-21; 10:1-5. Deuteronomy means second giving of the Law. Deuteronomy is Moses' instruction to the children of Israel at the end of his life and of what greater importance is the giving of the X Commandments? For brevity I have chosen to speak from Deuteronomy and not Exodus.

The delivery of the X Commandments was made on the top of Mt. Sinai, over 7,000 ft above sea level. This is one of the most attractive places to visit, yea to climb in our 10 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Younger members vied with one another to climb the Mountain of Moses from 1.00 am to arrive on the top before sunrise to see the glory of the morning sun, but the more to reflect that this was the place of the giving of the X Commandments to Moses. The actual distance climbed is 3,000 ft for our coach has climbed 4,000 to reach the foot of the mountain. Moreover there are camels to take you half way up at \$10 per ride.

The whole process of giving of the Law took forty days and forty nights, amidst thunder and lightning, fire and smoke, the blowing of trumpet and the voice of Almighty God speaking to

men. Then God wrote the sentences of the X Commandments with his own fingers over the two tablets, front and back. In the climax of the forty days and nights, rebellion to God's promulgation of the X Commandments arose from the ground. The people had made a golden calf to substitute for Jehovah saying this was their god, whereupon Moses' wrath was kindled. When he was confronted by this golden calf, he became so angry that he threw the two tablets of law to the ground, symbolically, God's Commandments were broken. The golden calf the children of Israel had made was ground into fine powder and mixed with water for the punishment of Israel to drink. Can puny man rebel against God's Word with impunity?

To reestablish the giving of the Law, God commanded Moses to hew another two tablets of stone and bring with him back to the mountain top. "And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me. And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me" (Deut 10:4-5).

The Ark of the Covenant was the only holy furniture kept inside the Holy of Holies. God's sacred commandments, intact and were written on both sides of the two tablets so nothing could be added and nothing could be subtracted and kept secure from any human intrusion. "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven" (Ps 119:89).

The restoration of the two tables is to show that "heaven and earth

shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Not one letter or even the cross of a 't', and the dot of an 'i'. "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law." Jesus says, "The scripture cannot be broken" (Jn 10:35).

To doubly confirm that heaven and earth shall pass away but God's words shall not pass away, we have the record in Jeremiah 36 of how the prophet asked his secretary Baruch to write words of condemnation against the House of Judah and caused it to be read to Judah. When the roll Jeremiah dictated to Baruch was read before Jehoiakim, king of Judah, he cut it up and burned it wholly in the fire. Did God's Word become ashes? God told Jeremiah to repeat His Words to be written by Baruch again and add more words for the punishment of King Jehoiakim. Can puny man rebel against God's Word with impunity?

This leads us to the doctrine of God's special providential care of the text of Scripture. This is affirmed by the Westminster Confession. It states the Scripture is "kept pure in all ages." This is doubly attested by David in Psalm 12:6-7, "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." The doctrine of the special providential care of the text of Scripture, however, is denied by even some fundamentalist scholars. Dr Carl McIntire has this commentary to make: "What is interesting about all this is that in talking about the mighty acts of God and trying to make out of our God a great and powerful God, they have produced for us a God who is unable to give us a record that is true! They believe in the infallibility and inerrancy only in the autographs, but not in the subsequent copies."

We believe the Textus Receptus (Received Text) upon which the KJV is based is preserved intact for the Church so that we can say we have the Word of God in our hand. But those versions that are based on Westcott and Hort who supplant with their corrupt text have made changes and deletions in 9,900 places in the New International Version (NIV). What a rebellion against the Lord God Almighty like the children making a golden calf in the face of the X Commandments and as King Jehoiakim cutting up Jeremiah's scroll and burning it in the fire. The NIV is not as the Westminster Confession says, "Kept pure in all ages." It is a corrupt text that extends to the length of I and II Peter. God will surely preserve for us a pure Bible as He preserved the X Commandments to us to this day. Let me say it again, it is the Textus Receptus on which is based the KJV. Jesus says, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away" (Luke 21:33).

WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD?

(Message delivered by Rev Charles Seet to Life Church 10.30 am Service, July 7, 2002)

Text: Psalm 139:13-18

Questions on bioethics and biomedical research will be asked more frequently in the months to come, since the world is now waiting for the arrival of the first cloned human. The Bioethics Advisory Committee (BAC) has recently announced its recommendations after 10 months of consultation with various religious and professional groups. A few months ago plans were unveiled for the building of a complex called Biopolis at Buona Vista to build a thriving biomedical R&D hub here in Singapore. We cannot ignore these momentous changes, as they will affect us.

Nowhere is the danger of playing God more evident, than in the area of biomedical science. Almost all the leading research scientists in the genetic field are either atheists or agnostics who look only within themselves for ethical guidance. They reject the idea of a sovereign God who created us, and to Whom we are accountable. To them, humans are only a product of blind, mindless evolution, and they are helping man to make further and faster progress in evolution. For this reason, we need scriptural principles to deal with these bioethical issues instead of being led blindly into a 'Brave New World'.

I. Human Life is Designed and Made by God, not Man

The Bible tells us that man is the highest of all God's creatures, being made on the 6th day of creation in His own image, as the grand climax of all creation! King David said in Psalm 139:14 – "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are Thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." If you could see the millions of intricate little events that must happen in exact and precise co-ordination and in proper sequence when a new person is developing from a single cell into a newborn child, you would truly marvel at how awesome God's creative power is! There are so many things that can go wrong in the formation of a new human being and if just one small little detail fails, there would be disastrous results!

Can any man ever claim credit for this? Should any man ever attempt to determine what a new individual will look like, and what attributes or personality he will have? Not at all. These are prerogatives that belong to God alone, and He is greatly glorified in them. But some are already talking about the day when man can design himself. On 26th June 2000 researchers moved a step closer to realising this when they announced the completion of a "working draft" reference DNA sequence of the human genome. One day soon, prospective parents may be able to walk into a

medical store called "Genes R Us" and choose whatever physical and mental features they would like their child to have. Imagine what will happen when the child that is born grows up and reads Psalm 139:14 – "*I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made*" How will he praise God for what he is? What if he is not happy with the way that his parents designed him? What if there is a flaw in their design? Can he sue them in court for it?

Using genetic technology to heal the sick is fine. But using it to breed and evolve stronger, more intelligent kinds of human beings is playing God. History has shown that whenever some new development in technology opens up new possibilities for enhancing human life, there will always be a demand for it. This is due to idea that man has evolved from lower beings, and is still evolving and progressing into a higher being. It is the same sinful desire as that of wanting to be as gods that Satan tempted Eve to commit (Genesis 3:5), and that Satan himself had, "*I will be like the most high*" (Isaiah 14:14). The desire to be like God and to play God is part of the rebellious sinful nature of fallen man.

This is the motivation behind the present race to produce the first human clone. Cloning of humans oversteps the boundaries set by God, and should be absolutely forbidden because man is created in God's image. And what is disturbing about the BAC's recommendations is that though they do not condone the cloning of human beings, they allow for therapeutic cloning of human embryos. Scientists believe that cloning is a great way to perpetuate genius, that it can provide soldier and servant classes of people, and provide spare body parts. But these reasons are utilitarian and man-centred. They do not bring any glory to God. No consideration is made at all, of how the clones themselves will feel about being products of biomedical technology, made just to fulfill these utilitarian purposes.

II. Human Life Should Only Be Taken by God, Not Man

Since God is the originator of human life, He alone has the right to decide when a person's life is to end. One moral issue that scientists handling human life have to deal with, is what to do with experiments that have gone wrong. Today, the sixth Commandment "*Thou shalt not kill*" (Exodus 20:13) is being violated by scientists who treat human fetuses as nothing more than a mass of tissue that can be destroyed at any time. Because of the public outcry against this by various groups, some have attempted to establish a limit within which experiments can be done on prenatal human life. The BAC recommends that human embryos that are 1-13

days old can be used freely for experiments or for harvesting embryonic stem cells for medical purposes. It even approves the creation of new embryos in the lab using donated sex cells, just for these purposes.

It is alleged that only at the 14th day the primitive streak in the embryo that later becomes the nervous system, appears. So before this streak appears, the embryo has no sensation of pain, and is therefore not a person. This is pure conjecture, not science. As long as there is the slightest doubt that a newly fertilised egg or embryo is not a person yet, liberties should not be taken with them. There are some who say that as long as many people stand to benefit from the research, it does not matter if some human embryos have to be sacrificed. But taking such liberties with human embryos is playing God. The scriptures are clear that life begins at the moment of conception:

(1) The Bible consistently refers to conception when speaking of the beginning of a person's history. Conception is mentioned 64 times in the Bible, and often as the beginning of a person's life. See Job 3:3 and Psalm 51:5. (2) According to Luke 1:42-44 John the Baptist, then only a six-month old fetus (v.36) and already filled with the Holy Spirit, leaps for joy in his mother's womb at the arrival of his cousin Jesus in Mary's womb. The unborn Jesus was probably only a zygote or an embryo at this time, because this meeting took place shortly after Mary received the announcement that she was going to conceive Jesus soon. (3) Passages like Jeremiah 1:5 show that God calls some people into fulltime service even during their fetal life.

We must take these as God's final word on the question, "*When does human life begin?*" It begins right at the time of conception. These principles need to be known and applied by all Christians, especially those who are in the field of biomedical research, or who are contemplating on being involved in it. Don't get yourself into any career that will cause you to overstep the scriptural boundaries and to play God, no matter how good the prospects may be. There is still a lot of research that can be done in the life sciences that do not violate biblical principles, e.g. with plants and animals. It is good that the BAC recommends that the consent of parties is needed for those who are going to be involved in biomedical research. This means that no one can be compelled to take part in any research if he has strong views against it. We hope that this recommendation will be strictly implemented when the time comes. Let us always maintain a sense of reverence for what God has ordained – the miracle of human life, that God has specially made in His own image, in His own likeness.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jul 22 - 28, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	8.30 am	FEBC Semester Opens Day of Prayer, Grace B-P Church
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
	4.30 pm	Wedding of Richard Tierney & Vanessa Phua (Rev Tow)
SUN	8.00 am	El Shaddai (Rev Colin Wong)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School / 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
	12.30 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: 96		
Sunday School Offering: \$769.50; Attendance: 356		
Verse for the Week: <i>Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.</i> Psalm 68:19		
Preaching Appointments: Rev Wong at Tangkak and Muar Ministry. Rev Seet at Thai Service, 3 pm and Sunset Gospel Hour, 6 pm.		

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$8,568.00 (8.00 am); \$19,040.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: **Wendy Teng** \$200; **Cambodia Mission** \$150; **Cambodia Orph** \$200; **Rev David Koo** \$100; **Rev Jonathan Lee** \$100; **Rev Moses Hahn** \$500; **Baraka BPC** \$20; **Missions** \$1000, \$220; **Rev Andrew Kam** \$200; **Myanmar Orph** \$50; **Saipan-Ho Heng Sau** \$50; **MsF** \$400; **VBS** \$1000; **FEBC** \$180; **Rev Seet** \$50, \$100; **Rev Wong** \$50, \$100, \$168; **Eld Khoo Peng Kiat** \$300; **Pr Quek Keng Khwang** \$100; **Yiew Pong Sen** \$302; **Chan Pui Meng** \$200, \$300; **Maasai Medical Ministry** \$300; **Mercy Ministry** \$150, \$600; **David Koo's Bible School** \$500; **June Tan** \$100; **Mok & Carol** \$400, \$400, \$600, \$100; **Rachel Koo** \$100, \$500; **Jemima Khoo** \$50.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$150, \$50, \$200, \$400, \$500, \$300 (Session member), \$500 (Session member), \$10000, \$250, \$150, \$500, \$200, \$600, \$500, \$3000 (Session member), \$1000, \$450, \$1000, \$500, \$1000, \$1200, \$5000, \$1500 (Thomson NBC), \$2000, \$1000.

GRAND TOTAL: \$3,923,960.50. STOP PRESS! \$1,000.

1) Welfare Ministry of our Church. The church is mindful of members who are affected by the serious economic situation. If you feel burdened to help the needy, kindly contribute to the mercy fund instead of giving to them directly. A committee has been appointed to attend to these needs. Please contact Rev Colin Wong or Elder Lim Teck Chye.

2) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Goh Seng Heng, Friday 26 Jul, 8 pm. Address: 30 Third Ave, S266600. Tel: 64634682. Speaker: Rev Colin Wong.

3) Catechism Class for Anniversary Baptism will begin next Lord's Day, 28 July, 9.30 am with Rev Wong at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.

4) Youth Seminar 2002. All youth and teens of Life Church are cordially invited to attend the Youth Seminar. Theme: "Lovest Thou Me?" by Rev Quek Suan Yew. Details: 9 Aug 02 (National Day), 9am - 5 pm. Register online www.lifeebc.com/Youthsem.htm or contact Mark @ 98436398 or Hui Min @ 96610196.



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Vol. X No. 52

21 July 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn David Tan	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 27	No. 121
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 47	Psalm 23
Hymn	No. 34	No. 341
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 419	No. 423
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Gen 14:18-22; Dan 4:34-35	Matt 13:47-50
Sermon	El Elyon (Rev Charles Seet)	The Drag-net (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 386	No. 288
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

"The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest" (Lk 10:2).

This situation meets our eyes wherever and whenever we went to Cambodia. The missionaries we sent are barely sufficient. The answer to their urgent need is to train workers – pastors, teachers, school and kindergarten teachers. And for leaders of the Church the way to do it is by bringing them to FEBC. This our members in Singapore can help to implement by providing scholarships, at \$3,000 per year.

Moses Hahn who has four graduated from FEBC can now reach out to Pailin, Kokong and Battambang. Jonathan Lee can send another two more at least. So can David Koo. The Bible School they operate must necessarily be on a primary level.

To help upgrade the Bible College of East Africa we send our own lecturers there in an accelerated programme – Rev Das Koshy, Rev Quek Suan Yew, our latest. Dr Jeffrey Khoo is Director of this programme.

FEBC has just reopened. For our Day of Prayer we will leave tomorrow morning for Grace B-P Church (Rev Tan Eng Boo) at Bedok. This is also to celebrate the completion of the Church's renovations.

—T.T.

MISSION TRIP TO CAMBODIA

11th - 15th July 2002

During this 5-day mission trip to Cambodia, fifteen of us (Rev and Mrs Tow, Rev Charles Seet, Rev Peter Chua of Sharon BPC, Mr and Mrs Jonathan Tow, Mr and Mrs Vincent Leong, Pong Sen, Poh Yok, Kian Sing, Joseph Tan, Herbert, Hien and I) saw how the Lord was working in and through the three Koreans and a Singaporean in spreading the gospel to the war torn and spiritually barren land.

Upon reaching Pochentong Airport, Cambodia we were greeted by Revs Jonathan Lee, Moses Hahn and David Koo and Bro. Surish. We were quickly ushered into a 23-seater air-conditioned bus. While traveling west to Kompong Som, located at the coastal region of Cambodia, the air-conditioner malfunctioned but all of us took this in our stride knowing this was what we would expect in Cambodia. However, the driver stopped at a car workshop and within 15 minutes, the worn out fan-belt was replaced with a brand new one and we were able to enjoy the rest of the 3½-hour journey to Kompong Som in air-conditioned comfort. Halfway through the journey after a 2-hour ride, we stopped at a "coffee shop" where we had French loaves, papaya, pineapple and dragon fruit for refreshment. We sat at a pavilion under the blossoming white and



David Koo's 3 storey 30-room project to complete by end of this year.

yellow hibiscus.

We reached Kompong Som at 3 pm (4 pm Singapore time). We had a sumptuous lunch at *Mealy Chendar Restaurant* situated on a hill facing the Gulf of Thailand. After lunch we checked into *Golden Sea*, a 2-storey hotel. We also thanked God that Rev and Mrs Tow needed not climb up any stairs as their room was located at the ground level.

On the second day, after breakfast at a nearby café house where we had French loaves and omelette, our hearts were filled with excitement to visit Rev Moses Hahn's new Bible School situated at a hill (which Mrs Tow nicknamed as *Moses' Mountain*). When we reached the Bible School, we were greeted by our Cambodian FEBC graduates. Each of us was given a corsage. In front of us was a "palatial attap cathedral" situated right smack at the middle of a U-shaped, 2-level concrete white building. The inauguration service of the Bible School was held at this attap church. All of us shared the same sentiment as Rev Tow when he said, "My heart opens like a flower when I come to this place." He gave the inaugural message on the topic, "The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Knowledge" from Proverbs 1:7.

In the evening, we went with Rev David Koo to a new gospel outreach at a village by the coast, very near the port of Kompong Som. When we arrived, the villagers comprising mainly of women and children were all seated on little stools in a small hut, eager to hear the Word of God. Rev Charles Seet seated himself on a raised platform and preached the gospel from Acts 17:24-26. The message was interpreted to Khmer by Srun Chivan, an FEBC student. Rev Tow led by the Spirit, spontaneously went up to preach from John 3:16 right after Rev Charles ended his message. After that, the Singaporean team presented an impromptu special number, "I'm Singing for My Lord." Throughout this gospel service, the Lord withheld the rain and it was only when we boarded the bus that the rain came. Truly, we could see the Lord's desiderative will that not any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

After dinner, we proceeded to Rev David Koo's

present Bible School situated on a very big piece of land. The rental for the place amounts to US\$700 per month. However, he needed to vacate the place in March 2003 as the landlord would be taking back the land to build a casino.

We had an open-air fellowship whereby Rev Koo's 40 Bible students and 15 of us were seated around a 1½-metre long lighted fluorescent tube under the starry sky flanked by coconut trees. Everyone took turns to introduce himself/herself. Each member of the Singaporean team exhorted them to be diligent in studying God's Word that they might preach the gospel throughout Cambodia. After the fellowship we were treated to refreshing coconut juice, water melons and longans.

On the third day, the sky was cloudy. Undaunted by the threatening weather, we went up to *David's Mountain* where Rev Koo's 3-level, 30-room Bible School was. The School was already built up to the second level. The 4-acre land cost only US\$35,000 and the Bible School measuring 110 metres long by 10 metres wide cost US\$210,000. The funds were all from Life BPC. Rev Koo just needed US\$40,000 more to complete the building of the last level of the School. Supervision for the construction was volunteered by a retired Korean pastor who is a civil engineer by vocation. Moreover, the Lord provided potable water through a well that was dug 110 metres deep. With this fountain of water, Rev Koo would save US\$80 a month if he had to depend on piped water from the government. Moreover, there was no problem with electrical power supply because the Bible School was situated near the main road. Electrical cables from the school can be easily connected to the existing ones along the road.

Every one of us was very impressed at the grandeur of the place and we were very happy that this Bible School was so accessible from the main road. Rev Koo estimated that by God's grace he would be able to attract over 1000 students from the nearby villages for kindergarten, primary school and computer education. Every one of us lingered on for another half hour as we were so excited about the potential of this Bible School (which would be completed by the end of

December 2002) to be a beacon of light to the surrounding villagers.

It started to drizzle and Rev Tow prayed for the Bible School and that the drizzle might be a symbol of God's showers of blessings upon His work in and through Rev David Koo. We boarded the bus and Rev Koo took us up to the hilltop to impress upon us that God had given him a extensive land that is, from the foothills up to the hilltop. Our hearts were overjoyed at God's wondrous blessings upon him.

From Rev Koo's Bible School we went straight to Phnom Penh to visit Rev Jonathan Lee's mission stations.

On the fourth day which was the Lord's day, we went to Peace B-P Church in the morning. Children and adults gathered at the void deck of a wooden house situated beside the road. Rev Charles delivered the gospel message on the topic "Jesus Our Faithful Friend" and Rev Tow gave a further exhortation to the little children to believe in the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

After that we visited the *Tuol Sleng* Genocide Museum where we witnessed the atrocities of the Pol Pot regime. It was a sermon by itself that shows man's total depravity without the grace of Jesus Christ.

The whole trip was wrapped up by attending the Worship Service at Hope B-P Church, a 4-storey brick building with a dark green painted roof prominently rising above the surrounding squatters' huts. Rev Tow delivered a gospel message from Acts 16:31 and generously offered a Chinese painting calendar to every family present at the Worship Service. The Singaporean team also gave a special number, "I have decided to follow Jesus." A reminder to all of us that following Christ is the best prospect in life, to lead a life of self-denial and to press onward to the mark of our high calling and not to turn back.

Although we only caught a glimpse of Cambodia on this 5-day trip, it did impress deeply upon our hearts the great need for this land of darkness (90% are still steeped in Buddhism/Animism) to see the marvelous Light—the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

—Quek Keng Khwang

ISRAEL HATH SINNED (Joshua 7:11)

It is said that "It is easy to become a Christian but hard to be one." This is because Christians are in the world though they are not of the world. Everyday, Christians are exposed to trials and temptations and the struggle to resist sin is a continuous and continuing one. It is like a fish swimming against the current.

The consequence of sin

Often times, we hear Christians saying, "My prayers do not go beyond the roof." Some will tell you, "I may listen to a sermon but the message does not sink into my head." Even worse, some preachers confess that they reach a point when "they have no more message"! What happened? These are signs and symptoms of sin dwelling in those concerned. We should not despise nor judge such brothers or sisters but help them through prayers and counselling (Matt 7:1-2).

One man's sin could affect the whole church

Sin is like a virus. It attacks, weakens and even destroys not only the infected person but others associated with him. There is a lesson in the Old Testament about how one man's sin could bring punishment to the children of God. It is found in Joshua chapter 7. The Israelites lost a battle because someone had sinned. Have we not witnessed such happenings in our own Church? The committees of fellowship groups work very hard to enhance the spiritual lives of their members through weekly or monthly programmes but it is not uncommon to see the meeting hall half filled. This "sickness" may apply to Sunday School and church attendance as well.

Revival campaign?

Can a series of revival meetings help the church to move forward? Someone remarked, "A revival campaign" is like the circus come to town! Its effectiveness is short lived. The root problem is still the removal of sin through much prayer and fasting.

There are three cases in Scripture which should humble us and help us to look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

1. The prodigal son who cried, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight and am no more worthy to be called thy son" (Luke 15:21)

2. The publican who smote his breast (as against the Pharisee who praised himself) and said, "God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13)

3. The dying thief on the cross who acknowledged his sinful acts and said to Jesus, "Remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom" (Luke 23:42).

—E. H. Eio

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Jul 29 - Aug 4, 2002)

MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg (Dr Raymond Saxe)
THU	8.00 pm	FEK Board Mtg, Library
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Jehovah-Shammah (Pr Quek Keng Khwang)
	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
	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. **Prayer Mtg: 104**

Sunday School Offering: \$644.70; Attendance: 388

Verse for the Week: *But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.*
1 Corinthians 1:27-29

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$16,437.00 (8.00 am); \$20,085.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$100; Baraka BPC \$200, \$20; Missions \$385, \$50; Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$1500, \$100; P'plnes Rice Fund \$500; Ho Heng Sau \$100, \$100; Nirand/Jess \$300; MsF \$1500; Mersing Youth Camp \$539(Boxes); Rev Seet \$50; Christina Ho \$200; Rev Wong \$50; Quek Keng Khwang \$100, \$100, \$300; Rev Tow \$168; Chan Pui Meng \$100; Maasai Medical Ministry \$400, \$100; Barnabas Yap \$500; Mercy Ministry \$20, \$250, \$450, \$50, \$40, \$50, \$300; David Koo Bible School \$150; Mok & Carol \$300; Jemima Khoo \$100, \$50; Andrew Kam Land Purchase \$100; Tangkak YF \$100.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$200, \$100, \$320, \$2500, \$135, \$500, \$600, \$200, \$1000(Session member), \$200, \$396, \$1784.

GRAND TOTAL: \$3,932,945.50. STOP PRESS! \$200, \$22.

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:


(1) Thank the Lord for protecting me and my children from injury in a recent car accident.

1) Catechism Class for Anniversary Baptism begins **TODAY** at 9.30 am with Rev Wong at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.

2) Rev Colin Wong leaves for a 2-month ministry at New Life B-P Church in London on **1 Aug 02** at 7.45 am via MH 606.

3) Youth Seminar 2002. All youth and teens of Life Church are cordially invited to attend the Youth Seminar. Theme: "Lovest Thou Me?" by Rev Quek Suan Yew. Details: **9 Aug 02** (National Day), 9am - 5 pm. Register online www.lifefebc.com/Youthsem.htm or contact Mark @ 98436398 or Hui Min @ 96610196.

4) Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Life Chinese Service, 10.30 am and Indonesian Service, 4 pm.



Moses Hahn's Bible School and Attap Cathedral



Rif

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Vol. XI No. 1

28 Jul 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Colin Wong
Opening Hymn	No. 18	No. 8
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 29	Psalms 41
Hymn	No. 29	<i>How blest the man...</i>
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 9	No. 191
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Genesis 17:1	Matt 13:53-58
Sermon	<i>El Shaddai</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	<i>Local Ginger is Not Hot</i> (Rev Tow)
	No. 403	No. 431
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

THE PARABLE OF THE DRAG-NET

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service,

July 21, 2002)

Text: Matthew 13:47-53

Our Lord spoke altogether 40 parables. He is the Master-teacher of parables and they are strikingly simple. A parable teaches from one to four points. The parable of the Drag-net is the last of a series of seven parables and it is thought by some commentators to be the climax of the series.

Indeed the seven parables reveal several stages of development or aspects of God's Kingdom or the life of the Church. First, the parable of the Sower. The Sower is none other than the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He shows us the pattern. The sowing of the seed is like the preaching of the Gospel. The seed is sown to the widest parts of the field. It touches the footpaths, the stony soil, the ground infested with thorns and thistles and the good ground, soft and clean with the stones removed and weeds pulled out. Such ground yields thirty-fold, sixty-fold and a hundred fold. But do not forget the barren results from the first three types of ground. They yield nothing.

Jesus is the Mighty Son of God. Yet Matt 13:58 says, "And he

did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief." The seeds of Jesus' mouth had fallen on the hard-trodden footpath, the stony ground and among many thorns and thistles. These yield no results. When we go out evangelising and reap perhaps one or two in a day's work, be not discouraged. For many hearts that hear the Gospel are stony ground.

No sooner has the Son of God sown the good seed of wheat, His own children, than Satan comes along to sow his children, the tares. They are imitation wheat and are pronounced by the Saviour to be "this wicked generation." Who is this wicked generation? The very Church leaders of His day – the scribes (theologians) and Pharisees (high churchmen) who rejected His miracles because they were done on the Sabbath Day, and who rejected His salvation plan and teachings so much so Jesus had to declare the retaining of their sins. God gives a seven-fold warning of false Christs, false prophets, false spirits, false apostles, false teachers, false witnesses and false brethren. Every synoptic Gospel carries Christ's warnings, and practically every Epistle. The Apostle Jude devotes his whole Epistle to exhort us that we should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. And Paul warns the

Ephesian elders of grievous wolves from their midst who shall enter in not sparing the flock after his departure, speaking perverse things to draw away disciples after them. Therefore while he was in Ephesus for three years he ceased not night and day to warn them with tears.

But when I touched on the battle for the faith between the KJV and NIV and noted the NIV is based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort who have scissored 9,900 of God's words, e.g. the word "only begotten" qualifying our Lord, and spirited away "the three witnesses in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one" (I Jn 5:7-8), I heard a hue and cry from high quarters. But I have done it 2 or 3 times before this and can barely touch the example of the Apostle Paul.

The evil generation in 1950 when Life B-P Church was first started were the modernist missionaries and we were under their control as a "colonial church." This story is told in *Disciples of McIntire*, viz. Quek, Tow and Hsu – The Three Musketeers. It will thrill you to read especially the first six chapters. Do you know the Scripture injunction to expose false Christs and false prophets is "seven" times more emphatic than the so-called positive Great Commission to go into the world to preach to all creatures?

False Apostles today are self-acclaimed when the age of Apostles passed away with the First Twelve. Those who use magic in their church did not realise how the Chinese called magic (魔術), Satan's art or tricks. Paul says, "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (II Cor 6:17).

From the parable of the wheat and tares we come to the next two. Parable 3 is the Mustard Seed which is smallest but grows up to be a tree of 12 feet above the vegetables, like potato, tomato and melon. This is a church grown big and strong. With our Beulah House even non-Christians have found a nest like swallows and sparrows (Psalm 84). By giving them shelter we have offered them a place of worship. From these newcomers I have baptised 10 of them.

The 4th parable is the power of the Gospel, the leaven or the yeast, working through three measures of flour so that when it is baked it becomes soft and sweet. I believe this represents the transformed life of many Lifers so that you are full of good works, mentioned 6 times in Titus.

The 5th and 6th parables seem the same, but the difference between the two is the one who finds the hidden treasure is an ordinary person, the sinner finding Christ. The Pearl Merchant, the expert Jeweller in the 6th parable is the Saviour who knows the price of an elect soul and is willing to give up His life to save God's chosen. He is the Saviour seeking the sinner.

And now we come to the 7th, the climax. It is a final warning to those who hear Jesus' parables to make the decision, for judgment is soon coming. There is no second chance. Not even a purgatory of the Roman Catholic Church.

Although the drawing of the drag-net to land all the fish good and bad on the shore seems to be a one time action, there are two judgments 1,000 years apart.

Blessed are those at the First Resurrection when Christ comes to rapture the Church. But only overcomers will reign with Him during the Millennium. Some Christians come to church for show who are little concerned for their Lord. Others are the consecrated supporters of the Lord's work to whom the Lord will say, "Well done, Thou good and faithful servant."

Then comes the Great White Throne, the Second Resurrection after the first 1,000 years. "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And

death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev 20:11-15)

Far Eastern Bible College reopened for the 41st academic year July 22, 02 with Day of Prayer held at the newly renovated Grace B-P Church, 5 Jln Haji Salam, Bedok with the attendance of over 100 students and faculty.



Two new teachers were inducted, viz. Ho Chee Lai and George Skaria taking the College oath of allegiance to the Word of God. George Skaria is one of three candidates for the newly established Doctor of Theology programme, the other two being Quek Suan Yew and Prabhudas Koshy.

New students enrolled this semester number 34. They are:

1. Marc Vrambout, *Belgium*
2. Chhim Vanarith, *Cambodia*
3. Roth Phannith, *Cambodia*
4. Byju Samuel, *India*
5. Georgekutty Skaria, *India*
6. Ajin, *Indonesia*
7. Febian Christopher N. Siregar, *Indonesia*
8. Hanny Lilihata, *Indonesia*
9. Karyanto Gunawan, *Indonesia*
10. Bai Eun Young, *Korea*
11. Chang Tae Sung, *Korea*
12. Cho Yong Pyo, *Korea*
13. Choi Chan Suk, *Korea*
14. Choi Eun Joon, *Korea*
15. Jeon Mi Kyung, *Korea*
16. Jung Eun Hee, *Korea*
17. Kee Bong Ju, *Korea*
18. Kim Dae Youl, *Korea*
19. Lim Seo Yong, *Korea*
20. Kek Fong Soon, *Malaysia*
21. Lim Kee Bin Francis, *Malaysia*
22. Joel Merry, *Nagaland*
23. Loreni Tsopoe, *Nagaland*
24. Dominino Dela Cruz, *Philippines*

25. Kim Randolph Brillo Galleto, *Philippines*
26. Leonora Theresa Garcia, *Philippines*
27. Chan Kah Wai Karen, *Singapore*
28. Chua Mee Chin, Alison, *Singapore*
29. Foo Kui Ping, *Singapore*
30. Prabhudas Koshy, *Singapore*
31. Quek Suan Yew, *Singapore*
32. Yip Moh Chung Theresa, *Singapore*
33. Weng Chon Jen Philip, *Taiwan*
34. Le Vu Bao An, *Vietnam*

This is the biggest single intake during the last 41 years. Of this number 15 are scholarship students. The total enrolment is 107. (This does not include the 200 registered for the evening classes.)

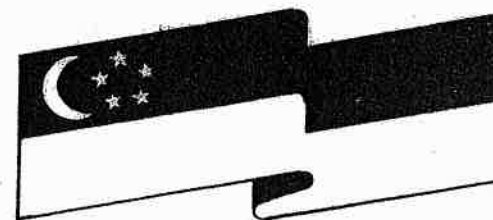
Faculty of FEBC:

1. Rev Timothy Tow, *MDiv, STM, DD*
2. Mrs Ivy Tow, *BTh*
3. Rev Jeffrey Khoo, *BTh, MDiv, STM, PhD*
4. Rev Goh Seng Fong, *MA, MDiv, DMin*
5. Rev Koa Keng Woo, *BTh*
6. Rev Quek Suan Yew, *BArch, BTh, MDiv, STM*
7. Rev Prabhudas Koshy, *BSc, BTh, MDiv, ThM*
8. Rev Charles Seet, *BTh, MDiv*
9. Rev Jack Sin, *BA, MDiv*
10. Rev Colin Wong, *BTh, MDiv, ThM*
11. Mrs Jemima Khoo, *BTh, MA, MRE*
12. Miss Carol Lee, *BBA, DipEd, MEd, MDiv*
13. Mr Ho Chee Lai, *BEng, MDiv*
14. Mr George Skaria, *BTh, MDiv, ThM*
15. Elder Han Soon Juan, *CertEd, CertTESL, DipTESL, MA*
16. Elder Geoffrey Tan, *BSc, BA(Hons), DipEd*
17. Mr Teo Siaw Meng, *BA(Hons)*
18. Mrs Koa Keng Woo, *Music studies*

The College will find a spacious extension when the New Beulah House starts rebuilding, D.V. Chinese New Year 2003. Our intake offerings will soon reach \$4 million. Dn L.S. Pang is head of the Planning Committee. There will be held a farewell Thanksgiving Dinner on Beulah Lawns coming October to remember God's grace in prospering us in over ten years' use of the old Beulah House. God bless every hand that has a part in contributing to the New Beulah House Fund with a cheerful heart.

—T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 5 - 11, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$10,133.00 (8.00 am); \$18,381.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Errol Stone</i> \$100(Chinese Ser); <i>Cambodia Mission</i> \$130, \$500; <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$100, \$150; <i>Rev Jonathan Lee</i> \$100; <i>Pallin Orph</i> \$100, \$100; <i>Roska</i> \$100(Chinese Ser); <i>Batam</i> \$500; <i>Yusniar</i> \$100(Chinese Ser); <i>Baraka BPC</i> \$20; <i>Missions</i> \$137; <i>Falam Bible</i> \$50; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$100, \$150; <i>P'pines Hilltop Ministry</i> \$100(Chinese Ser); <i>Chinese Bibles for China</i> \$50; <i>Saipan-Ho Heng Sau</i> \$100; <i>MsF</i> \$500, \$800; <i>Mersing Youth Camp</i> \$50(Boxes); <i>Tract/Book/Tape Ministry</i> \$100(Chinese Ser); \$25; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$400; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$270, \$100, \$50, \$168; <i>Eld Khoo Peng Kiat</i> \$100; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$300; <i>Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$100, \$100(Chinese Ser); <i>LTF</i> \$100; <i>Mark Chen</i> \$400, \$200; <i>Mercy Ministry</i> \$200, \$350, \$1000, \$100, \$50, \$450, \$1000; <i>Mok & Carol</i> \$50, \$300, \$600, \$2000, \$278.05(YAF); <i>Rachel Koo</i> \$350; <i>Medan-New Church Bldg</i> \$150.		
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo, FEBC Hall)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$50, \$250, \$50, \$500, \$200, \$50, \$50, \$2000, \$1500, \$1000, \$1750(Chinese Ser), \$1000, \$4500.		
	7.30 pm	JSM Anniversary, Sanctuary	GRAND TOTAL: \$3,947,317.50. STOP PRESS! \$1,110(Kulai BPF), \$1000, \$200.		
FRI	9-5 pm	Ladies' Fellowship Retreat	1) Catechism Class for Anniversary Baptism at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.		
	9-5 pm	Youth Seminar, FEBC Hall	2) Youth Seminar 2002. All youth and teens of Life Church are cordially invited to attend the Youth Seminar. Theme: "Lovest Thou Me?" by Rev Quek Suan Yew. Details: <u>9 Aug 02</u> (National Day), 9am - 5 pm. FEBC Hall. Register online www.lifeebc.com/Youthsem.htm or contact Mark @ 98436398 or Hui Min @ 96610196.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF; 4 Choir F'ship	3) Our condolences to the family of the late Mdm Lau Mui Seok who went home to be with the Lord on 28 Jul 02. Funeral was conducted on 1 Aug by Rev Charles Seet.		
SUN	8.00 am	Jehovah-Rohi (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	4) We rejoice with brother Tan Beng Lee (Choir Chairman) and sister Chew Ying, whom God has blessed with a baby girl (their second child) on 29 Jul 02.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry			
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	9.30 am	Catechism Class			
	10.30 am	Rev (Dr) Jeffrey Khoo			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service (Rev Tow)			
	10.30 am	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. <i>Wed</i> Newton; <i>Fri</i> Woodlands.					
Prayer Mtg: 123					
Sunday School Offering: \$639.75; Attendance: 400					
Verse for the Week: <i>That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.</i> Philippians 2:15					



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Vol. XI No. 2

4 August 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Lim Ching Wah	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 68	No. 18
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 32	Psalms 2
Hymn	Singapura	O Wherefore Do...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 96	Singapura
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Ezekiel 48:35	Matt 14:1-12
Sermon	Jehovah-Shammah (Pr Quek Keng Khwang)	He must increase (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 67	No. 266
Benediction		Lord's Supper

"LOCAL GINGER IS NOT HOT"

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service, July 28, 2002)

Text: *Matt 13:53-58*

Jesus is the virgin born Son of God, filled with supernatural wisdom and knowledge. His enemies tried to trap Him in His words, but being puny men, they were in turn, rebuffed. Let me give you three instances of their abject humiliation.

The first instance comes from the Sadducees who did not believe the Resurrection. There was a Jewish man who married a wife.

T. Tow Singapura Samuel A. Ward

1. O Fai-est Isle of South-ern Seas, Thy wa-ters are so blue; Waft by a bal-my
 2. Our fa-thers came to this green shore, From ma-ny 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 in-crease. And peace from year to year.
 ha-ven of the free. God bless thee yet with Thine in-crease. And peace from year to year.
 may thy sons serve thee. God bless thee yet with Thine in-crease. And peace from year to year.
 ship of li-ber-ty. Sail on un-to pros-pe-ri-ty And peace a thousand years!

Without any issue, he died. According to Jewish law his younger brother had her. Without an issue he died also. And the third brother had to marry her right down to the seventh. All with no children. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection whose wife shall she be? Thus they tried to embarrass Jesus. The answer our Lord gave simply floored them. There will be no husband-wife relationship in the next life. All will be centred on Christ.

The second instance comes from a lawyer. Being a lawyer he had learned 248 positive laws and 365 negative laws, a total of 613. He tried to catch Jesus, "Tell me which is the greatest commandment?" Jesus replied, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. 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" (Matt 22:37-40). Jesus' two answers stopped him from any more mischief.

The third instance is the Jews' plot to further trap the Master. This is the case of the woman taken in adultery. According to Moses, she should be stoned. In a flash the Master put the accusers in a corner. "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." In no time the crowd melted away, being convicted by their own conscience. Our Lord looked up and set free the unlawfully abducted woman (for where was the man?). With perfect justice Jesus released her but charged her to sin no more. There is a greater conspiracy against our Lord that comes from Westcott and Hort who removed this most magnanimous account of Jesus' life from the Bible. To take away such a long paragraph text is death, this cursed passage.

The glory of God that emanates from Jesus' life is cast aside by the people of Nazareth, His hometown so much so our Saviour had to denounce their prejudice. "A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country" or as the Cantonese say, "Local ginger is not hot." To further restate, "Familiarity breeds contempt."

We who are pastors, who serve locally with the people and must follow our Lord, are being taken very lightly. Let me tell you my experience. An FEBC student got me to marry him. He gave me an *angpow* of \$20. But I got a greater surprise when another fellow from a small B-P church in the western part of Singapore also enlisted me to marry him. He presented me an *angpow* of 8 brand-new one dollar notes. So I was worth less than \$10. But this is my regular disappointment when in 10 weddings I officiate, the newly weds, while thanking everybody for coming, would 7 or 8 times leave me out. You may say that they have forgotten me, but in the light of the *angpows* I am inclined to think it is the product of a deliberated heart. Why, as pastor, that is my job. They have no feelings for me. That's the way they treated our Saviour.

"And he did not many mighty works (*miracles*) there because of their unbelief."

For this reason we FEBCers need not be discouraged by the meagre results we reap in our two Gospel campaigns in the year to bring souls to Christ. Sometimes we have two or three hands to receive Christ and as principal I rejoice. If there are no hands, neither am I discouraged, for many come in to hear with a stony heart.

Jesus was a local boy to the people of Nazareth who said he was the carpenter's son. They went to the extreme of chasing him out of town. Romans 8:28. God works out all things for good, blessing the efforts of His Son. When He came to Galilee great crowds delighted to hear Him. Five thousand ate His miracle bread and followed Him wherever he went. It was in Galilee that He found eleven of his Twelve Disciples (not Judas). From this small beginning the Gospel spread throughout the world. And we Lifers who worship Him in Singapore today love our Saviour no less than the ancients.

For years our efforts on familiar soil in town remained stagnant. When the time came that God would bless us He caused us to send three Korean missionaries with a fourth, a Singaporean to follow, to Cambodia. Our Korean missionaries

have surprised many people how after 5 years they have branched out to nearly 10 stations throughout the country. We have just returned from Cambodia to inaugurate a Bible School under Moses Hahn. We also visited David Koo's project of a 3-storey school with 30 rooms which will be completed by end of this year. When we go out to spread His Word following in our Lord's footsteps, we will see God's glory.

On the home front, as long as we begin to cultivate virgin soil God does the same. For some years Life Church did not expand. But a deacon who loves the Lord's cause opened a new vista of service. He answered the Government's Before and After School Care to needy students. We took over 3 such schools in the northern part of Singapore. By giving them tuition and organising Bible camps a good many have found Christ. When challenged by Christ's words that "It is most blessed to give than to receive," these children with concurrence of their parents gave cheerfully to the tune of US\$500 for the poor of our mission in Cambodia. Life Church has a vast potential of lay people that are ready to chip in their resources for the extension of God's kingdom. Whether we are cast out of a country where prophets have no honour or driven by love of the Lord's cause there is good reward for those who are happily involved. Amen.

PASTORAL CHAT

In the last Lord's Day message I regretfully told you how Westcott and Hort had removed the most magnanimous account of Jesus' life, the pardoning of the woman taken in adultery from the Gospel of John because, according to their critical study, this story could not be there. To take away God's Word, Jesus warns, "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book" (Rev 22:19).

Further Jesus declares, "Heaven and earth

shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." He repeats these words three times in Matt 24:35, Mk 13:31, and Lk 21:33. In Matt 5:18, He further reiterates, "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." This guarantees every letter, even the cross of the letter t will be preserved whatever God says. The prophecy of David is a most emphatic statement on the purity of God's words which shall be preserved forever. "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever" (Ps 12:6-7).

Today, there is a fierce battle, on whether God has by His special providence preserved a pure Bible for His Church. The sad thing is there are fundamentalists, who being beguiled by infidel scholars, Westcott and Hort, reject the purity of the Textus Receptus on which the KJB is based. But Jesus' triple statement, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" puts His stamp on the Textus Receptus. One who stands on our Lord's side is Dr Carl McIntire, hinting at doubting fundamentalists, "What is so interesting about all this is that, in talking about the mighty acts of God, and trying to make out of our God a great and powerful God, they have produced for us a God who is unable to give us a record that is true." McIntire believes in a Text which when faithfully translated, gives us the assurance we have the pure Word of God in our hand. This is what the Westminster Confession means when they also say, "Kept pure in all ages."

So far as I am concerned I rejoice in my Saviour's triple word guaranteeing us His Words in the Sacred Book. He is like the Great Physician. When I come to Him for treatment, I cast myself down before Him. I am sure to be healed. I have no need to diagnose my sickness correctly before He will heal me. All the arguments between believing scholars to prove what is the inerrant Word is no final answer. It can only fan up the ego. "Be still and know that I am God." —T.T.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 12 - 18, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$6,879.00 (8.00 am); \$23,188.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng (Kuantan SS Mission) \$200; Cambodia Mission \$40, \$150; Cambodia Orph \$100, \$250; Rev David Koo \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$1000, \$450; Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Missions \$50, \$240; Rev Andrew Kam \$30; Ho Heng Sau \$150; BASC \$500; FEBC Students \$40 each Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Peter Ty Serey Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Rev Wong \$50; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$200 (Session member); Tan Kian Sing \$500, \$100; Rev Tow \$168, \$800; Chan Pui Meng \$200, \$500; Mercy Ministry \$1000, \$200, \$50, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$250, \$50; David Koo's Bible School \$100; Mok & Carol \$50, \$100; Rachel Koo \$250; Thailand Mission \$400.		
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$500, \$100, \$900, \$150, \$200, \$50, \$500, \$600, \$1000, \$3000 (Session member), \$300(AF), \$500, \$1500(Thomson NBC). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,958,977.50. STOP PRESS! \$1000(Kemaman).		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	1) Catechism Class for Anniversary Baptism at FEBC Hall. Those seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith and transfer of membership must attend the Catechism Class.		
SUN	8.00 am	Jehovah-Sabaoth (Rev Tow)	2) FCM Combined Mtg on 30 Aug 02 (Fri) at 6.30 pm (dinner); 7.30 pm message. Speaker: Pr Ho Chee Lai. Venue: Calvary BPC(Pandan). Those who would like to have dinner, please contact Grace Fu at 9863-1593 or email flgrace@hotmail.com.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	3) Calling all UK-bound students! A fellowship mtg for all students bound for UK, with testimonies from UK alumni, exhortation, and dinner. Speaker: Elder (Dr) Teo Chong Gee from New Life BPC (London) Topic: "Where Are the Heroes?" Venue: New Life BPC, Date: 31 Aug 02 , Time: 4.00 pm. Contact Mike for information on registration and transport @ 95556989 or email mic76@pacific.net.sg .		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	4) Laptop, at least Pentium II , needed by Female Ministry of House of Hope, Cebu, Female Ministry. Please contact Helping Hand, 6283-2204.		
	10.30 am	Rev Quek Suan Yew	Preaching Appointments: Rev Tow at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. Rev Seet at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	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			
	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: 92					
Sunday School Offering: \$670.80; Attendance: 459					
Verse for the Week: <i>The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.</i> Nahum 1:7					
FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:					
(1) Thanking God always for blessings inspite of myself not being able to even read the Bible daily. The Lord has provided me so much, and here is a small token to expand our missionaries' work and spread God's word. —A Lifer (\$500)					



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Vol. XI No. 3

11 August 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Sherman Ong	Elder Wee Chin Kam
Opening Hymn	No. 297	No. 46
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Jn 10:1-28	Psalms 146
Hymn	No. 71	No. 256
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 356	No. 382
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Psalms 23	Psalms 12:6-7
Sermon	Jehovah-Rohi (Rev Charles Seet)	Inspiration and Preservation (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 532	God's Word Preserved
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

"HE MUST INCREASE, BUT I MUST DECREASE"

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service,
Aug 4, 2002)

Text: Matt 14:1-12

Every true prophet when speaking of his Lord must debase himself and exalt his Master. "He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn 3:30) is the testimony of John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Lord Jesus Christ. When John the Baptist began his preaching ministry in the wilderness of Judea, multitudes were convicted and confessed their sins, including even the Pharisees and Sadducees, seeking baptism. God gave the Baptist such mighty power that his followers thought he was the Messiah. But he humbly rejected that honour. He confessed he was only the servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, not worthy to unloose His shoe-strings. "He must increase, but I must decrease." Christ would be the real Baptiser, not with water but with the Holy Ghost and with fire. He pointed his followers rather to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

When Jesus requested John to baptise Him he at first declined saying Jesus rather should do it to him. He witnessed the Holy Spirit like a dove alighting upon Him, hence it was revealed to him that He was the Son of God. Indeed, "He must increase, but I

must decrease." When every true servant of Jesus Christ is blessed in his preaching ministry, he must be careful to exalt his Lord and Saviour and not to usurp one ray of His glory. This is the Apostle Paul's admonition to us preachers. "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake" (II Cor 4:5).

In my young days I knew of two mighty servants of God. One was Dr John Sung and the other Watchman Nee. John Sung had won several hundred thousands to Christ, throughout China and S E Asia, and Watchman Nee was founder of a fast growing Chinese denomination called The Little Flock. John Sung had fifteen years preaching ministry and died at 42. Watchman Nee lived up to slightly over 70 and died in prison under the Mao communists. During the Pacific War when China was invaded by Japan Watchman Nee left his sacred calling as a minister of the Gospel to be head of a Pharmaceutical Company. Apparently he was trying to make money for the Church which God does not need. Though he later on returned to preach, he was cut off for many years by his Church. Instead of making his Master to increase by humble and faithful service like John Sung, he increased himself by leaving his Lord. I have learned from these two great servants of the early days, and my prayer is to remain humble and faithful to the very end. I have therefore taken II Cor 4:5, "For we

preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake" as my life verse. Please pray for me.

John the Baptist rebuked Herod for taking Herodias, his brother's wife. Herod therefore put him in prison. While waiting in prison a doubt arose in his mind concerning Jesus. Though such a great prophet, the greatest of all from ancient times to Jesus' day, he succumbed to the flesh. John sent two of his disciples to inquire from Jesus if He was the One that should come or should he look for another. Jesus was ever so gracious. He merely said John should take notice of what He was doing. "The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them" (Matt 11:5). Jesus magnanimously forgave John. In so doing He is increased to greater heavenly heights. In so doing He shows sympathy to our unfathomable human weakness. Let us never doubt our Saviour's power to save.

On Herod's birthday when the daughter of Herodias, Herod's brother's wife whom he had usurped, pleased Herod by dancing, he rashly promised with an oath to give her what she would ask. She, being before instructed by her mother, said, "Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger. And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her. And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother." When we preachers rebuke sin in high or low places we must be prepared to pay for whatever consequences. Herod put John in prison for Herodias' sake, I'm sure, but he was caught unawares by his oath and he had to execute him. As John was prepared from the beginning to decrease so that Christ would increase, he yielded to the executioner's sword. O Lord, grant everyone of your servants the faith and courage to face great odds unto the end. "He must increase, but I must decrease" is John the Baptist's redemption of himself by dying for his faith.

Let every preacher take note, when God blesses your preaching and when your hearers thank you for your sermon, don't be proud about it. Remember John the Baptist saying, "For he must increase, but I must decrease." Amen.

Jesus said, "Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matt 11:11). John the baptist was martyred so early and had not the blessing of living like Jesus' disciples until His crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. Positionally and experientially he was the least though he was the greatest prophet. We who live on this side of the resurrection know the power of the Holy Spirit and His fire whereas John had knowledge of baptism of water unto repentance only. Acts 19 tells the story of certain disciples baptised by John unto repentance. Paul had to instruct them further to believe in Jesus Christ and be baptised in the Saviour's Name and receive the Holy Ghost. We who are last become first. Praise the Lord.

Capturing another field on the East Coast!

Pray for the launching of another children's outreach in Kota Tinggi with a kindergarten run by two FEBC graduates, Tiew Ah Tuan and Sister Yock Kui. Kota Tinggi is 26 miles from J.B.

THOUGHTS ON MORTALITY

"Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken...Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the Spirit shall return unto God who gave it." (Eccles 12:6-7)

Rarely do we give a thought to the old and the inevitability of death due to ageing! The old are relegated to an afterthought as though ageing would never affect us personally! To minimize the opprobrium attached to the word 'old', the euphemism of 'Senior Citizen' has been coined by well-meaning Authorities, happily to the general acceptance of the people. But recurrent attendance at wakes and funerals of loved ones, relatives and friends jolt us to remember our own mortality and the inexorable shuffle towards the grave!

Truly, the ravages of time leave indisputable evidences of the perishing of the 'outward man' (2 Cor 4:16) what with the deterioration of the five senses, diminution of muscular strength and stamina, lapses of memory, not forgetting the deadly diseases and disabilities that often afflict the aged much to one's dismay!

Retirement, that other dreaded word, adds to the litany of woes affecting the average retired oldster who has stopped receiving a regular

income and faced with forced idleness and dependence on the generosity of others to subsidize a paltry pension! Bucking the trend, however, are the senior citizens of Tucson, Arizona – a close-knit community of well-heeled old folks divided jocularly into "Old Geezers" and "Old Crones". They enjoy life to the fullest – health status notwithstanding – engaging in a frenzy of activities such as walking, running, cycling, swimming and even performing 'Taiji' in the parks. The more adventurous ones climb mountains, ski down snow-covered slopes and even go for "free falling" from aeroplanes. Those who cannot walk zoom around in motorized wheelchairs to bring themselves to park, museums, shopping malls and restaurants besides joining in sightseeing tours!

Although Singapore has not reached the stage of providing adventurous and luxurious living for its aged, yet the government cannot be faulted for not providing facilities on a more modest scale such as Senior Citizen's Corners, Day-Care Centres for the aged, user-friendly one-room flats for the frail and lonely. And to be commended are the voluntary groups of 'befrienders' that regularly visit invalids and lonely Senior Citizens in their homes. On top of all these there are other perks for old people now in the pipeline.

But despite our best efforts, how many more years can we add to our longevity? Let's hear what God's Word says about the limitations of human life on earth: Psalm 90:10 says, "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Isaiah 40:6-8 adds that our lives are "as grass and the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Our lives on earth indeed are short, despite living a healthful lifestyle, enjoying modern advances in medical care and technology plus "safety nets" such as Medisave, Medishield and Eldersshield; at best, all these may add but a few years to one's life. And so, sadly, a person's sunset years are filled with anxieties and fears of illnesses such as stroke and heart attacks which may strike without warning, debility, senility and

astronomical hospital bills. Coupled with these are having to change to a simpler lifestyle, shrinking finances, and rejection by his own family who may consider him an unproductive grouch!

We dream of the past when we were youthful and vigorous, exuberantly climbing the corporate ladder reaching for the 'pot of gold'! But one must remember that the young of today will be the old of tomorrow! The cycle of life inexorably turns a full circle, and youth is but a passing phase, never to be repeated in one's lifetime!

To the young, Solomon in Ecclesiastes has this to say, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." He concludes, "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." The question which we need to ask ourselves is, "How many of our young people will heed Solomon's advice?"

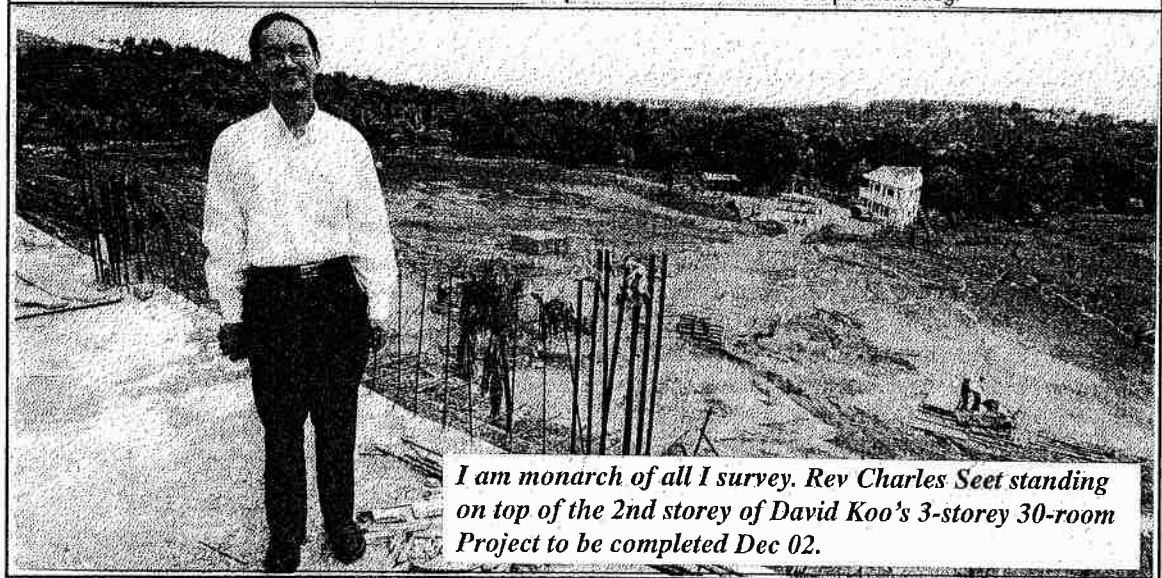
Our lives, whether we are old or young, are in the Lord's hands. Job in chapter 1:21 says, "The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." Similarly, we should do likewise as Job in expressing our faith in God: "For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

When we come to the end of our lives, we should have nothing to fear or regret for we have "a blessed hope". We can say together with Paul, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?...But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 15:55,57). "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess 4:16-18).

—Elder (Dr) Tow Siang Yeow

Pray for the installation of a full-time Church worker for Kemaman and Kuantan and Christian Kindergarten Teacher for Kuantan. Praise the Lord for a Sunday School of 45-50 being maintained every week by Wendy of FEBC.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 19 - 25, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$11,161.00 (8.00 am); \$15,751.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$200; Rev David Koo \$100, \$150, \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$150; Baraka BPC \$20; Mission Fund \$750, \$500; Myanmar Orph \$200; FEK \$200, \$1200; Mersing Youth Camp \$385 (Boxes); Rev Seet \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$50, \$100; Quek Keng Khwang \$100, \$500; Chan Pui Meng \$400, \$300 (MF); Mercy Ministry \$500, \$200; Mok & Carol \$50, \$500; Rachel Koo \$100; Jemima Khoo \$100; David Koo's Bible School \$1640 (FEBC Students), \$1000.		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$300, \$1000, \$500, \$500, \$1170, \$300, \$100, \$300, \$700, \$500, \$441, \$500 (Session member), \$400, \$1200, \$707 (YF/LTF Youth Seminar). GRAND TOTAL: \$3,972,056.50.		
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	STOP PRESS! \$400.		
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(1) Thank God for being with me during my operation. (Beulah House \$50; China Chinese Bibles \$50)		
SUN	8.00 am	Jehovah-Shalom (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	(2) Thank God for answering my prayers. (\$200 for New Beulah House)		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	1) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Raymond Yeo, Friday, 23 Aug 02, 8 pm. Address: 3 Jln Rajawali, #03-02 Royal Court, S598436, Tel: 64648507. Speaker: Elder Sherman Ong.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	2) Weekly Family Worship 2003. If you are interested in opening your home for family worship, please submit your names and the month you wish to open your home to Rev Colin Wong at cwongtc@pacific.net.sg.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	3) Congratulations to Solomon & Juliana Yoong on the birth of their daughter, Samantha, on 3 Aug 02.		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	4) Calling all UK-bound students! A fellowship mtg for all students bound for UK, with testimonies from UK alumni, exhortation, and dinner. Speaker: Elder (Dr) Teo Chong Gee from New Life BPC (London) Topic: "Where Are the Heroes?" Venue: New Life BPC, Date: 31 Aug 02, Time: 4.00 pm. Contact Mike for information on registration and transport @ 95556989 or email mic76@pacific.net.sg.		
	10.30 am	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. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 98					
Sunday School Offering: \$641.30; Attendance: 431					
Verse for the Week: <i>Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.</i> 2 Tim 1:9					
5) Our condolences to Vincent Goh and family (Mrs Jennifer Goh, Jaime and Jonathan) on the sudden demise of his father, Mr Goh Kok Poh (80 years old) on 12 Aug 02. Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Kulai Besar BPC.					



I am monarch of all I survey. Rev Charles Seet standing on top of the 2nd storey of David Koo's 3-storey 30-room Project to be completed Dec 02.



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Vol. XI No. 4

18 August 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Eric Mahadevan	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 29
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 84	Isaiah 41:1-13
Hymn	O Lord of Hosts	No. 389
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	Watchman, Tell Us of the Night	No. 445
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jeremiah 11:20	Mt 16:1-12
Sermon	Jehovah-Sabaoth (Rev Tow)	The Insidious Influence of Leaven (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
	No. 220	No. 543
Closing Hymn		
Benediction		

WHAT ARE THE CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES TO HIS COUNTRY?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Life BPC

Chinese Service, Aug 11, 2002)

Text: 1 Tim 2:1-4

We have just celebrated the 37th birthday of our nation. So it is opportune for me to talk about our responsibilities as Christians to our beloved country, Singapore. This year it is observed there is a decrease of display of our national flag on the verandah of our HDB flats. This is a display by default of the unhappy mood of the people because of the continuing economic gloom, although our leaders have assured us of recovery.

According to our Scripture text, Paul exhorts us to pray, intercede and give thanks for all people and for kings and for all that are in authority that we may lead a peaceful life under God who will have all come to be saved. Therefore whether the times are good or bad we must maintain a positive attitude of thanksgiving for our nation. A Christian should happily celebrate our National Day.

As a citizen of Singapore I would say because I love my country, therefore it is the best place in the world for me to make

my home. I have a good friend who migrated to Melbourne, Australia. He was an engineer who held a managerial post but he didn't like to be sent to other countries in the course of his duties. Being uprooted from Singapore he could find no job in Australia. So he opened a Chinese restaurant at a rental of A\$4,000 a month. He called it Mrs Wong. But Mrs Wong was himself. He was a Christian and member of the Church I was temporarily serving. The other members of the church and my wife and I came to eat at his restaurant to help him in his business. Because of the high rental, his business folded up in a matter of months. He decided to come back to Singapore. The old company he was serving reinstated him and our Singapore Government also welcomed him back. Now, like me, he agrees Singapore is the best place in the world to stay.

What are a Christian's responsibilities to his nation? Rom 13:1-7 tells us that the Government is the God-appointed authority to protect the good but punish the bad. Two generations back when many immigrants came from China to settle in Singapore, they were fearful of the Police because they made arrests of some migrants (the bad ones). As newcomers who did not speak English or Malay they, when interrogated, would say, "I don't know," even when they knew. They feared officialdom even when they were innocent. They nicknamed the

Police, "Mata-mata," which means "(watchful) eyes."

In fact the authorities are on the side of the law keepers. So they have nothing to fear. All that is required of them is that they obey the law and do good. Today they understand and when they see the Police they welcome them.

Secondly, it is for citizens to support the Government by paying taxes. The taxes out of our income we pay, on an average, is 10%. But I understand in Australia and America, it is 30%. The taxes in Malaysia are about the same as Singapore. A Malaysian elder I know of earned double profits, but like some who earn double now give less of the tithe to the Lord, the same elder tried to cover up. He was fined double, and out of mercy his name was withheld. We should pay tax willingly and openly as Christians.

While young people do not pay tax they must do their part in national service which is Biblical. The Israelites have their code of national service. They start from 20 and has no limit to that service because they count it an honour to serve. In Joshua 14 we have the testimony of Caleb serving until 85 and his strength was the same as when he was 40.

Singapore National Service begins at 18 as in Korea and lasts 2½ years. The retiring age in peacetime is 40. In America it is 60. Jehovah Witnesses cannot claim exemption on religious grounds as in America. All have to be drafted with no exception. Singapore being such a tiny nation cannot afford exemption on any ground.

Coming back to our main text, we have to pray specially for the nation. That means praying for our king and those in places of authority. This includes praying for the Roman Caesars in Paul's Day and for the Japanese Emperor when Singapore was under Japanese occupation. I remember our Church received an order from the Japanese Military Government asking us to pray for Emperor Hirohito's long life. In 1945 when the war ended he was only 44 years old. By our 3½ years prayer for his longevity the Japanese Emperor lived up to 88 years when he died in 1989. Mr Lee Kuan Yew, father of our young Singapore nation of 37 years, I believe, is 78 years. We wish and pray he may live up to 108.

Paul says by praying for our rulers that we may have peace it is in order that the Gospel might be preached far and wide and that many might be saved. By praying for our Government we have free course in the extension of the Gospel. Our Government regulates that 80% of our income be spent on Singapore. The rest of 20% we might use for missions outside our country. We thank God He has blessed this Chinese-speaking congregation of Life Church so that we have been enabled to support one Korean family to Cambodia, one single lady to Uban on Bintan Island, Indonesia, and a Chinese family to Kuching, Sarawak, East Malaysia all these years without lack.

In a word a good Government will bless us when we keep the law and do good, while discharging our responsibilities. Let us all say *Majulah Singapura!*

RELIGION, NOT SCIENCE, IS THE BEGINNING OF KNOWLEDGE

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov 1:7)

When I was in high school during the thirties of the last century I remember seeing a film, *One Million BC*. It was thought that man began to evolve from ape one million years ago. Now the "experts" tell us recent excavations reveal it is 4½ million years ago. Here is evolution (a pseudo science) combined with paleontology correcting their own mistakes. Man's word is never reliable.

Belief in God, religion, is the sure way to knowledge. The Bible tells us that God made us in His own image out of the dust and woman was made out of a rib taken from Adam. Not such a degrading exercise of evolving out of an ape but by a fiat from the mouth of God.

God reveals to us every scientific fact out of the Bible and how logical they appear to us. He created the universe out of nothing. He made it in six days, not six billion years. All He made was very good, but Satan came along and having tempted man brought sin, death and misery to mankind. Then God opened a way for our restoration by announcing of the virgin-born Son of God to come and crush the head of the Serpent.

The Bible is the Science-Book of salvation to

mankind. If we believe its record we will be saved. And it also sends those whom God has called to go into the world to preach the Word of salvation to all who believe. Believing is seeing, not seeing is believing.

Science tells us life comes to an end in this life. Enjoy yourself, eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow you die (that's all). The Bible says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb 9:27). Which is true?

—T.T.

PASTORAL CHAT

In my message to the Chinese Service two days after National Day I noted the downcast mood of the people in the scarcity of flags displayed. Despite the uncertainty of recovery from the downturn we Singaporeans have plenty to be thankful for. Not only have we an illustrious Government and a peaceful life under the rule of law, we are a people favoured of God. We have no threat of war, we have a benign climate, not floods like those lashing Europe now, but timely monsoon rains to fill our reservoirs, no typhoons or storms, no earthquakes, no volcanoes.

Once I was in the Philippines. I reminded the Filipinos of God's good hand in keeping their country from the ravages of war. Should war come the people would be reduced to nothing, like Cambodia under Pol Pot.

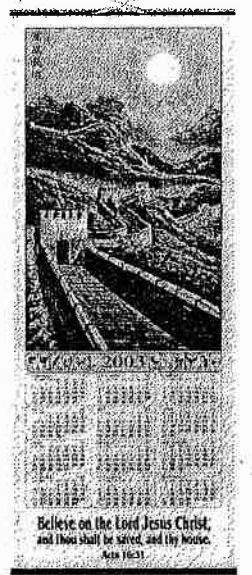
What should Singapore Christians do? The Lord has given us the Great Commission to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. This Commission is to be accelerated in the end times in which we live, which I would restate as "The First Commandment to the Church." Dear Lifer, Have you conscientiously contributed one dollar for the extension of God's Kingdom? Singapore, being the richest ASEAN country can bless the rest if the Church assumes the responsibility of evangelising the rest. See how our Korean missionaries in 5 years have spread the Word to cities big and small, 10 of them, and making Christ known to literally thousands. If there are inadequacies, it is not for us to criticise, but to implement lovingly and caringly. Every Fellowship of Life Church, old or young, must come face to face with our Lord's Great Commission. Having fulfilled the needs of

members of our Fellowship, we will fall short of our objective when we have not answered His call to look beyond our little circles.

There is a wide open field to cultivate in Kota Tinggi. Two graduates of FEBC, sisters, are running a kindergarten of 400. Today Malaysians are redoubling their efforts to learn English from Singaporeans. If a team of Lifers will take on this task many young children, learning Bible stories, are sure to be led to salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Who will go for US?

The Lord has given the East Coast exclusively to us. From Johor Bahru right up to Kemaman with Kuantan, Mersing and now Kota Tinggi in between. "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (Jn 9:4). Amen.

—T.T.



Bible Verse Chinese Art Calenders (2003)

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31)

主之家我為督基
Chinese Calligraphy

\$2.50 each

You may save a soul!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 26 - Sep 1, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	<p>\$6,412.00 (8.00 am); \$23,832.00 (10.30 am)</p> <p>OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Rev David Koo \$125; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100, \$125; Rev Moses Hahn \$50, \$125; Surish \$550, \$125; Baraka BPC \$20; Mission Fund \$200; Chinese Bibles for China \$500; Children's Ministry \$500; Mersing Youth Camp \$52; Rev Seet \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$100; Quek Keng Khwang \$100; Rev Tow \$100, \$400; Kenya-Maasai Medical Ministry \$300; Malacca BPC \$100; Mercy Ministry \$830, \$50; EBF \$100; David Koo's Bible School \$100, \$1000, \$1000, \$4900(Session member); Mok & Carol \$100; Jemima Khoo \$50; Chun Sonida \$60; Batam Church Bldg Fund \$1500.</p> <p>NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$50, \$200, \$250, \$600, \$100, \$500, \$168, \$1000, \$100, \$400, \$500, \$500, \$15000, \$250, \$400, \$702, \$1449.84. GRAND TOTAL: \$3,995,626.34. STOP PRESS! \$50; A\$100.</p>
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	
FRI	2.10 am	Rev Tow & Co. depart for Kenya, EK405	
SAT	2.30 pm	Baptist Fellowship Church Wedding	
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF; 3.30 EBF	
	8.00 am	Jah (Pr Calvin Loh)	
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	
	10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir	
	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 Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 102			
Sunday School Offering: \$654.90; Attendance: 448			
Verse for the Week: And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Ephesians 5:2			
4) FCM Combined Mtg on 30 Aug 02 (Fri) at 6.30 pm (dinner); 7.30 pm message. Speaker: Pr Ho Chee Lai. Venue: Calvary BPC(Pandan). Those who would like to have dinner, please contact Grace Fu at 9863-1593 or email flgrace@hotmail.com.			
Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Sembawang BPC, 9.30 am and Indonesian Service, 4.00 pm.			

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:
(1) Thank God for providing a bonus. An appreciation for His love and blessing. (\$920)
(2) Thanksgiving for safe and successive return of daughter from overseas education (Psalm 92:1-2). —A grateful family saved by His grace (\$400)
1) Our condolences to Ng Yui Lyn and family on the homegoing of her grandfather, Ong Chu Seng (82 yrs) on 16 Aug 02. Funeral was held on 19 Aug 02.
2) Weekly Family Worship 2003. If you are interested in opening your home for family worship, please submit your name and the month you wish to open your home to Rev Colin Wong at cwongtc@pacific.net.sg.
3) Calling all UK-bound students! A fellowship mtg for all students bound for UK, with testimonies from UK alumni, exhortation, and dinner. Speaker: Elder (Dr) Teo Chong Gee from New Life BPC (London) Topic: "Where Are the Heroes?" Venue: New Life BPC, Date: 31 Aug 02, Time: 4.00 pm. Contact Mike for information on registration and transport @ 95556989 or email mic76@pacific.net.sg.



Roadside Evangelism, Kompong Som, Cambodia



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Vol. XI No. 5

25 August 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Elder Eric Mahadevan
Opening Hymn	No. 40	No. 85
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 85	Psalm 8
Hymn	No. 242	Lord, Our Lord
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 284	Come and Dine
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Judges 6:22-24	Matt 14:15-21
Sermon	Jehovah-Shalom (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	3 Lessons from the Miracle Bread (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 334	No. 324
Benediction		

JEHOVAH SABAOOTH

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service,
Aug 18, 2002)

Text: Jeremiah 11:20

In our study of the names of God, we come now to the name of Jehovah Sabaoth which in English is Lord of Hosts, Lord of Armies. The text given here is "But, O LORD of hosts, that judgest righteously, that triest the reins and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I revealed my cause" (Jer 11:20). Jehovah is revealed as the Lord of Hosts of great power to reward the good and punish the wicked. He is mentioned 80 times in Jeremiah at a time when judgment was coming on the wicked nation. He is mentioned in Zechariah 50 times because here the prophet is looking to the end-times of judgment to the whole world. He will judge the evil but give protection to His own.

When the Japanese invaded Singapore it began with a reign of terror. The whole city was turned into a concentration camp. District by district the people were herded to camp in schools or even in the open for two or three days, especially the males. Young people in their late teens and early twenties were questioned and

those who looked suspicious for having resisted the Japanese in their advance on Singapore were detained. Almost every family lost a son when they disappeared without further trace. They were shot and buried en mass.

Insofar as the Tow Clan was concerned, my Uncle had bought a big attap house inside Ah Hood Road for his and my father's family to take shelter in an off the beaten track rubber estate. Of eligible young men to be taken were myself 22, Siang Ling 18, Siang Hwa 17. But being hidden from the main population we did not know the order given to go for concentration. After three days we emerged from our quiet hiding place to discover how we had missed the ordeal. And throughout the 3½ years of occupation we were never harassed.

Now the name Jehovah Sabaoth, Lord of Hosts, occurs only in the Old Testament. It appears also in the Psalms, especially in the War Psalm No. 46, appropriately. But it is not evident at all in the New Testament. In the Book of Revelation, however, which is filled with wars under the hand of Almighty God no mention is made of the Lord of Hosts, but mention is made of the hosts (military angels) in warfare.

In Rev 12 mention is made of Michael the Archangel and his angels in a war in heaven with the

dragon and his angels and how the dragon and his angels were cast down to earth.

Now let us turn to Rev 9:13-16: "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."

This passage refers to the Euphrates which is present day Iraq. According to Dr Walvoord, President Emeritus of Dallas Seminary, it is the outbreak of the Third World War there.

Now let us jump to Rev 16:12-16. Here we see how quickly the War escalates to Armageddon with the entrance of the Eastern Nations. Armageddon is the Greek spelling for the Hebrew *Har Megiddo* (Hill of Slaughter), a point on the ancient battle field between Haifa and Sea of Galilee. This is a wide plain through which armies going south must pass to take Jerusalem. By car it would take 3 hours at most to Jerusalem. Therefore the Battle of Armageddon is virtually the Battle of Jerusalem. There will be such carnage never seen before. In Revelation 14 it appears as a 200-mile long River of Blood stretching down to Eilat on the Red Sea.

When the 6th Angel sounded the trumpet (war) we noticed the Third World War broke out. Where would we be? We would be praying for deliverance when the 7th Trumpet would soon be blown. Then would occur the Rapture of Christians. This is revealed by St Paul in I Cor 15:51-52. The last trumpet is the 7th trumpet in Rev 10:7, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." Reader, are your sins forgiven? Do you have the blessed hope of being caught up to our Lord in space from a burning earth below? Will you regret you had accumulated much wealth on earth but never stored up treasure in heaven?

Now, do you realise for the whole of last week from Monday to Saturday the newspaper carried a whole series of articles heralding President Bush's intention of attacking Iraq? In the States both civilian and military statesmen are agreed to win the war against Saddam Hussein. Whereas there was estimated a quarter million troops would be needed for the job, now it was reduced by a new strategy of only 80,000.

Will US strike against Iraq? The spokesman for US said most probably. I ask a Lifer, an old hand in petroleum business (because Iraq has much oil) whether US will attack, and he says also most probably. If you ask me, it all depends on the hand of God above.

I cannot comment on US expert judgment on the outcome, nor can I say WWII is near, but we must pray the Almighty God to continue to be longsuffering to all mankind. For without the restraining hand of God, we who live in the Far East can little escape the terrible fall out from the ensuing event. Our only hope is in the Lord of Hosts.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

A New Field in Maasai Land

Every member of Life Church must have a part in Missions. Jesus says to His church, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mk 16:15). I call this "The first commandment to the Church."

Let me show you a new field with which our Church is involved. It is Maasai Land in Kenya, 2½ hours from Nairobi. I have been invited to inaugurate a new clinic they have built now under the charge of Miss Chan Pui Meng, while the Secondary School of 120 students is under the administration of Mok and wife Carol. Lilian of New Life is the Principal. All are involved with the



ministry of the Community Church.

We have another Lifer, June Tan is her name. She is stationed with the Bible College of East Africa under the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions. The Principal, Dr Mark Kim, is an FEBC graduate. Dr Mark Kim has laboured for a decade. With great energy he has transformed a 10-acre campus with new dormitories for male and female students, a huge church auditorium and now a spacious new library. June Tan was sent a while ago. She is a computer expert and with the help of Gina she has almost completed the computerisation of 6,500 books. With a BA from NUS and MRE from FEBC she also teaches English and Christian Education. The College has over a dozen nations represented and number 117.

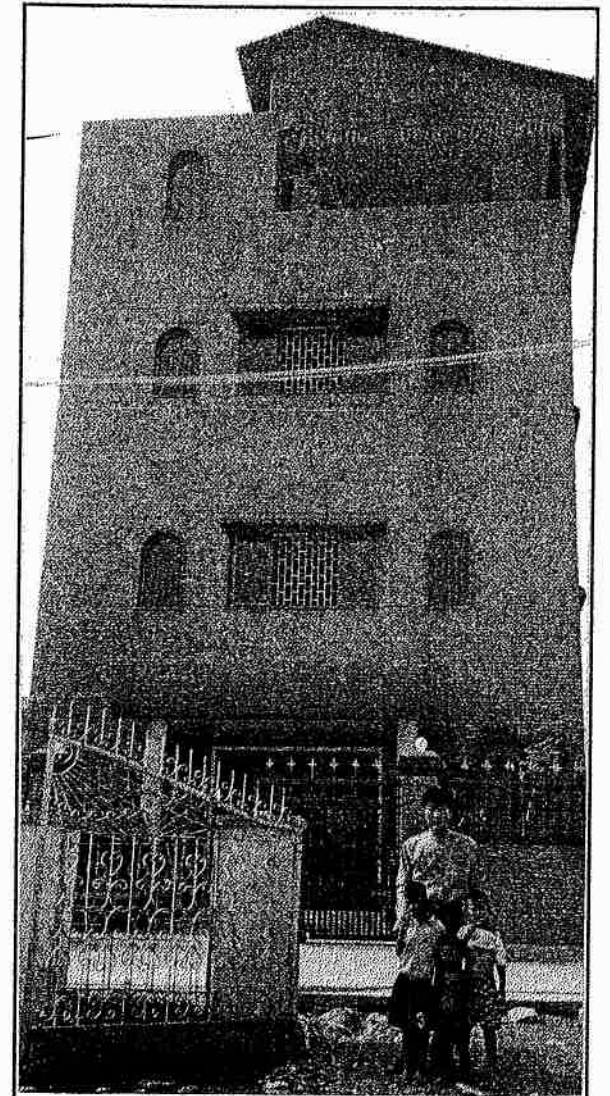
Our Church and College are involved with the further upgrading of BCEA's academic programme by sending FEBC Faculty members to lecture 28 hours each visit so as to help their graduates attain the Bachelor of Ministry degree. For this reason we have Dr Jeffrey Khoo in our company. With me helping a bit we shall give 28 hours of lecture towards their upgrading. So Ivy and Jonathan and Pong Sen will also come along. As books cannot enter Kenya but by air we will use our extra baggage space to bring in a lot of books and other essentials, killing five birds with one stone.

Do pray for us, for journeying mercies, for our not being a burden but a blessing wherever we go. May our visit lift up the hands of labourers in the field. I look forward to seeing Dr & Mrs Howard Carlson who are missionaries of PMU, another Missionary Society of the B-P Church in USA.

Every Fellowship, Bible Study Group, must have some programme for missions, for the Great Commission is the First Commandment to the Church.

Our schedule: Leave S'pore Fri, Aug 30. Return to S'pore Sep 10. Sorry for skipping my two-hour Monday class, Sep 9.

—T.T



Hope B-P Church, Jonathan Lee

NAIROBI, KENYA

1. Nairobi has a population of around 1 million, and is a cosmopolitan city.
2. Located at an altitude of 1,680m (5,500ft) above sea level, Nairobi is the capital city of Kenya. It has been Kenya's capital ever since the country gained independence in 1963.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Sep 9 - 15, 2002)

MON	7.30 pm	No evening lecture
TUE	2.10 pm	Rev Tow & Co. return, EK 404
	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	6.30 pm	LF 24th Anniv., FEBC Hall (Rev Tow) (MFers welcomed)
SAT	2.30 pm	Musicians/Worship Chairmen Mtg, FEBC Hall
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF
	7.30 pm	FEBC Gospel Rally, Sanctuary
SUN	8.00 am	Jehovah-Jireh (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry
	9.30 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Rev Tow
	10.30 am	Chinese Service
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir
	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. Fri Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 111

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$13,459.00 (8.00 am); \$16,364.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$500; Cambodia Mission \$40, \$150, \$160; Cambodia Orph \$200, \$150, \$250; Rev David Koo \$50; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100; Pallin Orph \$115; Baraka BPC \$20, \$20, \$1500; Myanmar Missions \$200; Rev Andrew Kam \$100, \$30; Falam Bible \$50; China/Saipan Mission \$400; FEBC students \$150; Mersing Youth Camp \$200(Boxes); Rev Seet \$200; Rev Wong \$200, \$50; Quek KK \$200; Rev Tow \$200, \$4000, \$800; Maasai Medical Ministry \$115, \$300; Mercy Ministry \$250, \$150, \$200; Mok & Carol \$100; Mrs Jemima Khoo \$50; Kuantan Ministry \$500; David Koo's Bible School US\$250(Session member). NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$500, \$500, \$500, \$800, \$1000, \$300, \$150, \$100, \$150, \$1500, \$2000, \$250, \$3000(Session member), \$168, \$1000. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,022,954.34.

Life Church 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, 02 (Sat) at 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter today or from Mr Yiew Pong Sen during the week. Charges: \$25 for earners, \$15 for non-earners and \$5 for children aged 5 to 8 (limited to 30 only). As tickets have specific table numbers, groups who wish to be seated together should ensure they purchase tickets with the same table numbers.

Congratulations to Edmund Choo and Eng Eng for God's gift of a baby boy, Elijah, on 25 Aug.

The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few... The JB Sunday Sch and soon-to-be started Kota Tinggi Sunday School are harvest fields requiring many more labourers! We urgently need you to be DRIVERS and TEACHERS (for primary school to teens). For more info, visit our booth outside sanctuary after service, or call/email Dn David Tan (96679733 /64521591/ davidling@pacific.net.sg).

Evangelistic Band F'ship Camp, 25-29 Nov 02. Theme: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. Speaker: Rev Jack Sin. Venue: Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Sign up for this camp at the booth outside the sanctuary. Contact Tiong Meng at 96488265(H) or email romans58@starhub.net.sg for more info.

Verse for the Week: *For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.* Psalm 108:4

Pray for FEBC GOSPEL MEETING
this Sat., 14 September, 7.30 pm, Sanctuary
Rev Kwan Yew Weng speaks on
"Who Comes and Saves Me?"
Bring a friend!
He that winneth souls is wise... (Prov 11:30)

Life Church Session. Attendance 420 at 8.00 am Service; 700 at 10.30 am Service



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Vol. XI No. 7

8 September 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Wee Chin Kam	Elder Han Soon Juan
Opening Hymn	No. 41	No. 351
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Ps 139:1-18	Ps 49:1-20
Hymn	No. 49	No. 131
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 402	No. 355
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Psalm 95	1 Tim 6:1-11
Sermon	Jehovah Hoseenu (Rev Charles Seet)	Godly Contentment (Elder Khoo Peng Kiat)
Closing Hymn	No. 421	I'd Rather Have Jesus
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

WHY THIS CLINIC FOR MAASAI LAND?

(Message delivered by Rev Tow at Maasai Land, Sat. Sep 7, 2002)

Text: Mk 1:32-34

Jesus' ministry was first of all preaching the Word of God to save souls. That is why we have established first of all a Church that all who come to school here may find salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Now while the souls of the people need first to be saved, many who come to Jesus are also sick of the body. Jesus, being full of compassion for those suffering pain in the body, heals the crowds, every one of them, even casting out the devils.

Visit any hospital or clinic in Singapore or Nairobi, and you'll see the same kind of sick people. This is an everlasting problem because of sin. If Adam and Eve had not sinned, there would be no sickness at all. Sin came from their disobedience by eating the Forbidden Fruit, and sin causes all our sicknesses, including being possessed by devils.

But we do not come to open a clinic in Nairobi. Because every modern Government has in its infrastructure clinics such as this, yea, even well-equipped hospitals.

Our coming to Maasai Land in an off the beaten track country, where no doctors are, is like Jesus healing the crowds coming from a primitive country. In Jesus' time there is no record in the

Bible that mentions any hospital or clinic.

Now that Sister Chan Pui Meng, Nurse Missionary sent by Life B-P Church Singapore to your country is following our Lord's example, we know it will bring relief to countless suffering Maasai people. Sister Chan needs the prayer support, first of all, of the sending church. This clinic is built and the medical supplies are provided also by loving hearts of Life Church and those who are treated by her must join together to thank the Lord.

We pray that those who are healed of the body will also find the healing of their soul. The sinfulness in our hearts can cause greater sufferings. So we hear of quarrels between husbands and wives and disobedient children, delinquent parents, suicides and murders, adultery and divorce. O the unspeakable heartaches! The most fearful thing is judgment after death. If you die where will you go? Heaven or hell?

Even now, at the opening of this Clinic, God is not willing that any should perish but that all will come to repentance. "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). "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only

begotten Son of God" (Jn 3:18).

This Clinic does not stand alone but is part and parcel of the whole complex, the Church, the School and the community. So we must pray for Miss Lilian the principal, and the school staff, the students, the administrators, Mok and Carol, and all families who live in this compound. We must pray for a pastor that is of Maasai Land itself.

And we are not forgetful of the leaders that first started this work, Dr Patrick Tan and Dr Mark Kim, and their home churches that had been supporting Maasai Land all these years.

It is our hope that some young men will give themselves to the Lord's service from the school here and be trained at the Bible College of East Africa and return to serve your own people, yea, wherever the Lord will direct.

Finally, pray that this Clinic will develop into a hospital. For who has despised the day of small things? (Zech 4:10). Amen.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

A Little Contribution from each Pilgrim has raised a Palestinian Independent Church

So far we have led 10 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land. As things stand at present, we have no prospect for an 11th Pilgrimage as war with Iraq, a great probability, will also deter us. But we are thankful for the good that each of the 500 who have visited the Holy Land has received, and for the good they have returned to our Palestinian Christian brothers and sisters.

The greatest good was achieved by Pilgrims of 1987. You gave US\$36,000 to buy them a piece of land of 13,000 sq ft at Beit Sahour near the Shepherd's Field where the congregation have built their homes. Being located near to the powerful Greek Orthodox Church, they have to move farther away. Rom 8:28, they sold the original piece of land at a profit and have now built a handsome church, but they need a little more help and later Pilgrims have chipped in. They say a big "Thank You" to all of you. Furthermore some of you have designated sums to Miss Davenport for repairs to the Baraka Conference Centre and a portion for Layla the big

Egyptian cook and her husband, Ahmed for renovation of their living quarters. Praise God, indeed a little from each of you have accomplished a mighty project in the building up of a Palestinian Christian Church.

You have read of how Saipan and Calvary have established a Chinese Church for Chinese workers in Jordan. Now you are surely glad the Pilgrims of Life Church have established a Palestinian Church in this war-torn country itself.

Here is Miss Davenport's report on receipts of all our funds:

"I wish to thank you for the funds sent in June and July 2002. For the funds given in June on the behalf of Rev Awad, Baraka Conference Centre, for upgrading the lodging of the caretaker of Baraka Conference Centre and for Baraka B.P. Church, and for the funds sent again in July 2002 for Baraka B.P. Church, Baraka Conference Centre and for upgrading the lodging of the caretaker - the Samarah family. I thank you for your kindness and love. For your willingness to help and strengthen our hands. I pray the Lord will bless and reward you, and return unto you His blessings as you have given to Him and His work in this land. It truly is appreciated.

Ahmed, Layla, children and I thank you for the money given for upgrading the building for the Samarah family.

Also I thank you on behalf of the Baraka B.P. Church for your help given to the church. It is an encouragement to us. It is strengthening our hands for the work of the Lord here in Bethlehem....

I want to thank you for your faithful monthly support that you are giving to me. It is gratefully appreciated and an encouragement to me. May the Lord bless and reward you for it.

Some time ago I read this quote: "It takes three to carry the Gospel to the lost world. One to go, one to pray, and one to pay." This made me think of the verse in Ecc 4:12 which says "...a threefold cord is not easily broken. We are like a cord. We are bound together. One pray, some give, and someone goes. I am thankful you are part of this cord with me. May we stand together and help each other. May the Lord bless and encourage and strengthen you-us together."

—T.T.

A LESSON FROM THE RESURRECTION

The Ten Disciples who saw the Risen Saviour the first night of the Resurrection told Thomas the wonderfulness of the event. Doubting Thomas replied, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe" (Jn 20:25).

The next Lord's Day Jesus appeared again, this time Thomas being present. Jesus asked Thomas to feel His nail prints with his finger and thrust his hand into His side. Thomas' unbelief was overwhelmed, "My Lord and my God." Jesus said to Thomas, "Because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed" (Jn 20:29).

Do you believe that God has given us a perfect Bible? Yes, Lord, I do believe! 3 times You have said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt 24:35, Mk 13:31,

Lk 21:33). "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled" (Matt 5:18). I need not wait until He show me how He had preserved the Bible. If I argue for perfect proof from Him now, He will say to me as He said to Thomas. Not seeing is believing but believing is seeing. If there are difficulties about Bible preservation, I still believe our Saviour's guarantee of a perfect Bible with the universe of a billion stars He has created. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb 11:6). Coming to God, without prostrating faith first, we had already been rejected.

"What is interesting about all this is that, in talking about the mighty acts of God and trying to make out of our God, a great and powerful God, they have produced for us a God who is unable to give us a record that is true" — Carl McIntire.

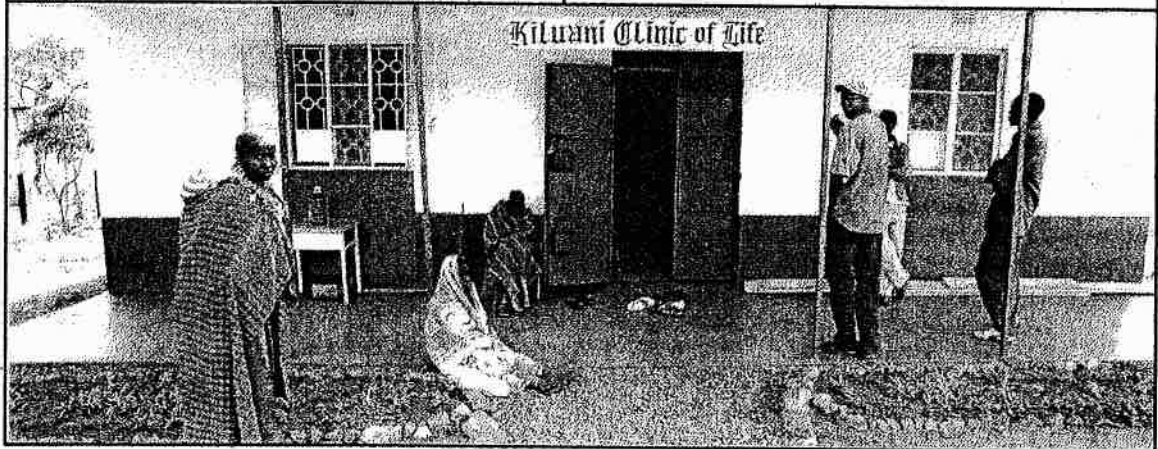
—T.T.

THE MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT IN OBEDIENCE TO THE GREAT COMMISSION (FIRST COMMANDMENT TO THE CHURCH)

Singapore	● Eduardo Morante (Filipina Fellowship) ● Henry Tan, part-support (BASC, S'pore and Malaysia) ● Ng Sang Chiew (who preaches once a month to Ling Kwang Home)	Cambodia	● Moses Hahn (Kompong Som, Pailin, Kokong, Batambang) ● David Koo (Kompong Som, Poipet, Siem Reap) ● Surish (Kompong Som, Poipet, Siem Reap)
Malaysia	● Kim Kah Teck (Malacca) ● Sim Peng Sin (Tangkak and Malacca) ● Joshua Khoo (Kuantan and Kemaman) ● Mr & Mrs Raymond Tan (Managing Ocean Blue Resort under Eld (Dr) Tow Siang Yeow)	Vietnam	● Jonathan Lee (Phnom Penh and 4 other churches) ● Minh & Kiet (one supported by Sharon BPC, another serving in two big churches)
Indonesia	● Roska (Batam and Medan) ● Yusniar (Jakarta, children and women ministry)	E. Malaysia	● Bong Boon Chong (Kuching Chinese Church)
Thailand	● Nirand & Jess Tamee (Chiang Mai)	Saipan	● Ho Heng Sau (Counsellor to women converts with Pang Kok Hiong; Bus driver)
Myanmar	● Thawm Luai (Fundmental School of Theology, Translation of Chin-KJV Bible) ● Andrew Kam (Orphanage and 2 B-P Churches) ● Amos Go Za Sum (Christian Primary School and 2 small churches)	Kenya	● June Tan (Bible College of East Africa, Dr Mark Kim, Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions) ● Chan Pui Meng (Nurse, Maasai Land) ● Mok & Carol (Administrators, Maasai Land)
Philippines	● House of Hope, Drug Rehabilitation Centre (Scholarships from FEBC)	Holy Land	● Baraka BPC, Shepherd's Field, Conference Centre, Miss Davenport

Exhortation: First, we must support them with our prayers. Second, with our gifts. Even our women can help. Luke 8 tells us our Lord and disciples were maintained by Mary Magdalene and many others, not by the rich and powerful.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 16 - 22, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$9,152.00 (8.00 am); \$20,038.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia Orph \$400, \$150; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$500, \$50; Baraka BPC \$220, \$20; Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$300, \$100, \$150; Chinese Bibles for China \$20; Ho Heng Sau \$400; Nirand \$150; FEK \$200, \$1200; FEBC \$100; FEBC Scholarship Fund \$300; Rev Seet \$250, \$50, \$168; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Peter Ty Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Rev Wong \$100; Rev Tow \$250; Nguyen Gia Hien \$120; Mercy Ministry \$200; Rev Peter Clements \$100; Mok & Carol \$100, \$150, \$100; Raymond Tan \$100; Working AF \$100; Sri Lanka Church \$1200, \$500; Van-David Koo's Church \$100; Dr Paul Hoole \$4000; P'pines Hilltop \$2000.		
WED	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$500, \$500 (Session member), \$3000, \$250, \$100, \$1170, \$100, \$50, \$30, \$200, \$100, \$544.30 (EBF).		
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	GRAND TOTAL: \$4,029,598.64. STOP PRESS! \$4000.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF	1) Life Church 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, 02 (Sat) at 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter today or from Mr Yiew Pong Sen during the week. Charges: \$25 for earners, \$15 for non-earners and \$5 for children aged 5 to 8 (limited to 30 only). As tickets have specific table numbers, groups who wish to be seated together should ensure they purchase tickets with the same table numbers.		
SUN	8.00 am	Jehovah-Rophi (Pr Mark Chen)	2) Weekly Family Worship 2003. If you are interested in opening your home for family worship, please submit your name and the month you wish to open your home to Rev Colin Wong at cwongtc@pacific.net.sg.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	3) Evangelistic Band F'ship Camp, 25-29 Nov 02. Theme: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. Speaker: Rev Jack Sin. Venue: Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Sign up for this camp at the booth outside the sanctuary. Contact Tioh Meng at 96488265(HP) or email romans58@starhub.net.sg.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	4) Leong Kok Loon, 72, father of Sow Mun, was baptised on Friday, 6 Sep 02 by Rev Charles Seet with Elder Khoo Peng Kiat assisting.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	5) If you missed the Kenya Video that was screened at Prayer Mtg last Tuesday, you can watch it next Sunday (22 Sep) at the AF Mtg held at FEBC Hall at 1.00 pm. Come and watch our missionaries in action!		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	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			
	1.00 pm	AF (Rev Tow) & Kenya Video			
	3.00 pm	Thai Service			
	4.00 pm	Indonesian Service			
	4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg: 125			
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Bt Timah, Bedok.					
Sunday School Offering: \$712.80; Attendance: 429					
Verse for the Week: Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth. Psalm 37:8-9					
6) The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.... The JB Sunday Sch and soon-to-be started Kota Tinggi Sunday School are harvest fields requiring many more labourers! We urgently need you to be DRIVERS and TEACHERS (for primary school to teens). For more info, visit our booth outside sanctuary after service, or call/email Dn David Tan (96679733 /64521591/ davidling@pacific.net.sg).					
Preaching Appointments: Rev Tow at Thai Service, 3.00 pm. Rev Seet at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.					



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Vol. XI No. 8

15 September 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship	8.00 am	10.30 am
Opening Hymn	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Rev Charles Seet
Invocation-Gloria Patri	No. 84	No. 371
Responsive Reading	Psalm 37:1-26	Psalm 2
Hymn	No. 91	O Wherefore Do...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 558	Down from His glory...
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Gen 22:14	Matt 14:22-36
Sermon	Jehovah-Jireh (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	Lord of Creation and Providence (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 353	No. 350
Benediction		

WITH CHRIST TO AFRICA

By Yiew Pong Sen

Loaded with 130 kg of Rev Tow's books, *Jesus Saves* clocks, calendars, medical supplies and moon cakes for our missionaries, we left on Friday Aug 30th at 2:10 am via Emirates, on a 7-hour flight to Dubai and another 5 hours to Nairobi. Upon arrival at Nairobi Airport, Revs Stephen Masila, Geoffrey Lidodo, Alex Wugu together with Sisters June Tan, Chan Pui Meng, Mok and Carol, were on-hand to welcome us. We were driven to the 10-acre campus of the Bible College of East Africa (BCEA), and lodged in the comfort of the Guest House for the next 10 days. The Principal of BCEA, Rev Mark Kim, flew from Virginia, to welcome us.

Founded in 1965 by the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions (IBPFM), the BCEA is committed to train men and women in the service of the Lord. Located on the outskirts of Nairobi, the Bible College opened its classes in February of 1965 with 5 students and 6 teachers. Missionaries from IBPFM who have served in BCEA include Revs William Hawks, Raymond Carlson, Edward Gross, and Dr Charles Jackson. In 1990, Rev (Dr) Mark Kim, an FEBC graduate, assumed the principalship of the Bible College. After 12 ½ years of Rev Mark Kim's leadership, BCEA has 120 fulltime students and a Faculty consisting mainly of alumni of FEBC. Over the past few years,

FEBC lecturers have been sent to BCEA to provide additional theological courses and the upgrading of graduates. In this trip, our Pastor Rev Tow and Dr Jeffrey Khoo gave a total of 28 hours of public lectures over a 5-day period on the "Westminster Standards" course to 130 students and alumni.

Four months ago, sister June Tan answered the call to serve at BCEA. She helps in the administration and teaches English, Hymn Stories, and Missions courses. She has completed cataloging the 66 cartons of books that were sent from FEBC. Today, BCEA is ahead of FEBC in having a centralized library. A trained IT professional, June plans to help train students in computer literacy and to set up computers in BCEA.

While most of our FEBC African graduates are serving in the vicinity of BCEA, Bishop Richard Kivai, Rev Michael Koech, African graduates of the FEBC, travelled a long distance to welcome us. Today, Bishop Kivai has succeeded his father in his denomination; whilst Rev Stephen Masila serves as a lecturer, Academic Dean and Acting Principal of BCEA during Rev Mark Kim's furlough. Masila pastors a Swahili church. Another FEBC graduate Rev Geoffrey Lidodo serves as Dean of Students and a lecturer at BCEA. He also pastors a nearby native church at Ngomongo. A recent graduate, Francis Onyango is now the Registrar and lecturer. We thank God that our African graduates are faithfully serving the Lord in the

vineyards of Africa.

Jonathan Tow and I spent two nights with our Maasai missionaries Lilian (New-Lifer), Chan Pui Meng, Mok and Carol in the interior at Kiluani, bordering Tanzania, 2½ hours drive from Nairobi. My immediate impression of the Maasai land was a "lost civilization" with no potable water, electricity, telephone or sanitation. Surrounded by high mountains to the west and a marsh plain to the east, the 100-acre land was first "given" by the local community to Rev Mark Kim's Glory Bible Missions to develop a school, hospital, and a church for the Maasai people. I asked our missionaries what made them leave the comfort and ease of Singapore to come to this "ulu" place. They answered in unison that it's the love of Christ which constraineth them. We have the opportunity to visit a "bomah" – Maasai house made with cow-dung. The interior of a "bomah" was very cramped – with a fire stove, a bedroom, and just enough space to maneuver yourself in and out of it. Though primitive, the Maasais are hospitable people – they served us hot tea with milk and plenty of sugar. I was hesitant at first to drink it, as I did not know where the water came from!

Sister Chan Pui Meng answered the call and came to Maasai land and established a Clinic for the high school boys and the community. Nurse Pui Meng designed and built "Kiluani Clinic of Life" using a Singapore-style concept – all the rooms in the clinic are interconnected and there is a wash basin with water tap in every room – much to the amazement of the local people there! Every Tuesday, the clinic is opened to the local community. On the day of our visit, our Sister attended to more than 40 cases from 8am to 6pm.

Saturday, September 7th was the official opening of the "Kiluani Clinic of Life" by Rev Timothy Tow. Dr Patrick Tan and his team from New Life (London and Singapore), our missionaries and Rev & Mrs JS Heng warmly welcomed us to the 100-acre mission station. 300 people from the local community and their leaders in their colourful traditional costumes were present at the ceremony. Rev Tow gave the keynote address.

New Life (Singapore) has established a boarding school for 147 boys under the principalship of Sister Lilian Lee. The first batch of about 30 Form Four boys will take their final exams at yearend before going for higher studies.

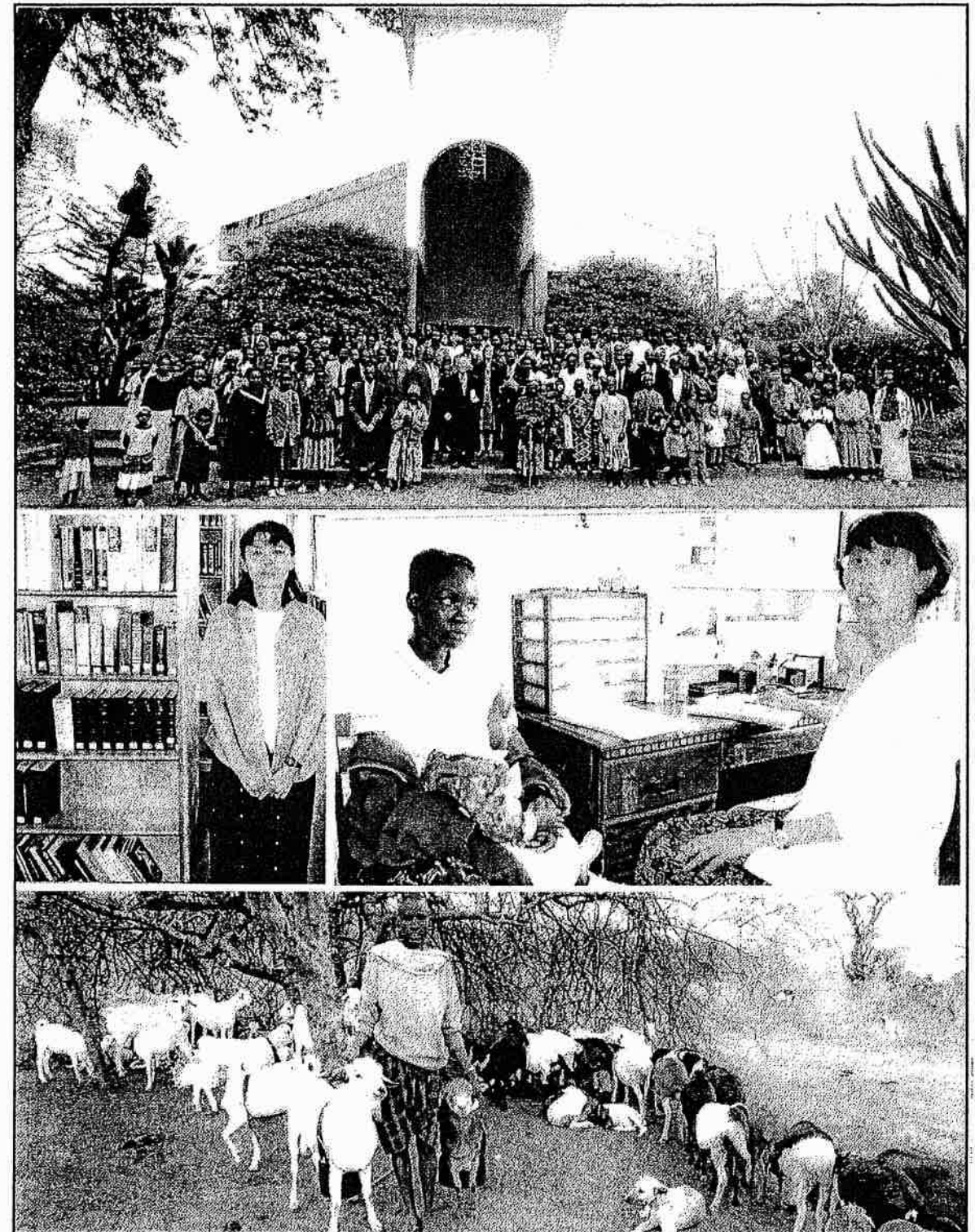
The representatives of the community and School publicly expressed their appreciation and support for all our missionaries' work. Special Maasai song items were presented to the much delighted visitors and hearty applause of everyone present. Rev Tow prayed for the graduating class of Form Four students. After the gift-presentation ceremony, it was feasting time for both the overseas visitors and Maasai community.

As we made our journey back to Nairobi, a heavy downpour brought much relief to the parched land and reminded us of God's showers of blessings upon our missionaries who are serving faithfully out there in the interior of Maasai land.

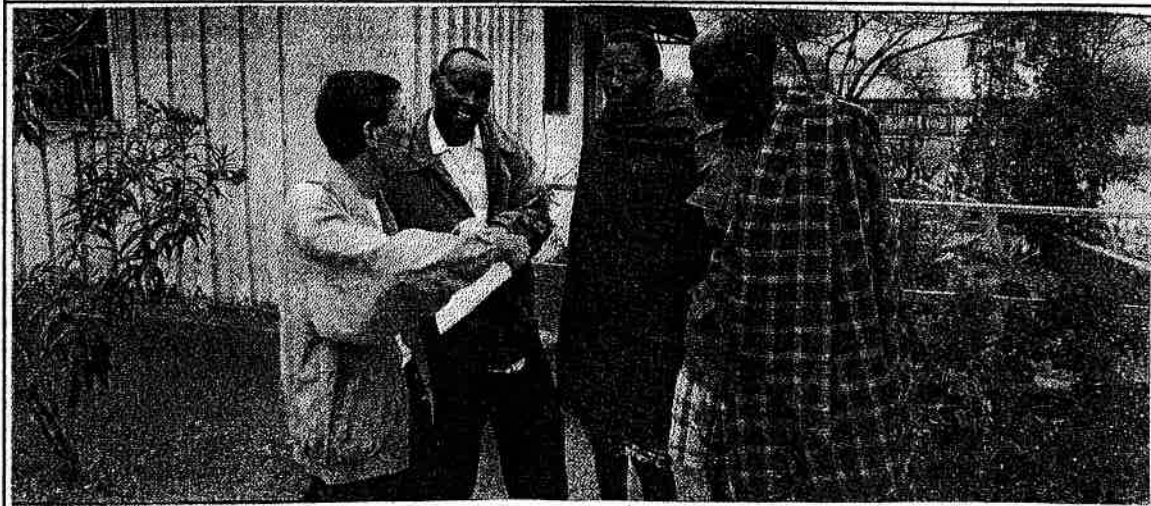
The last Lord's Day morning was spent at Ngomongo BP Church, pastored by Rev Geoffrey Lidodo, an FEBC graduate. This church together with a kindergarten and clinic were built on a piece of land given by the community to Rev Mark Kim's Glory Bible Missions. The sanctuary was built on the hill slope with open views of the beautiful surrounding vegetation – a brilliant architectural idea originated by Rev Mark Kim. Rev Tow brought the Lord's message which was translated into Swahili.

Throughout our stay in Kenya, Mrs Ivy Tow together with June and Gina have taken good care of our daily meals. With an untiring spirit, Mrs Tow would always be the first to wake up to fix breakfast for us. We appreciate June and Gina's labour of love in cooking and bringing us around. We thank especially Revs Mark Kim, Masila, Lidodo and Dr Kim for inviting us to many meals. We thank God also for protecting and giving us good health. One evening, there was an attempted robbery by four men trying to block the road when Mrs Tow, June and Gina were riding in the College van. With quick decision and action, our driver June took another road and avoided the robbers. Praise the Lord!

This report is by no means exhaustive. However, I must say that of all the mission trips I have gone with Rev Tow, this has been the most challenging and edifying. Our FEBC African graduates together with Rev Mark Kim are doing a great work for the Lord, especially in the Bible College of East Africa. Also, our missionaries serving in harsh Maasai land and at the Bible College are in unity – cooperating one with another, endeavoring to advance the Gospel.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 23 - 29, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$8,967.00 (8.00 am); \$18,357.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia Mission \$700(Thomson NBC); Rev Jonathan Lee \$400, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$50, \$100; Batam-Roska \$300; Baraka BPC \$20; Mission Fund \$200; P'pines Hilltop Ministry \$150; Ho Heng Sau \$1000, \$200, \$300; Nirand \$300; MsF \$600; Mersing Youth Camp \$62(Boxes); Calvin Loh \$90; Rev Seet \$50, \$100; Christina Ho \$500; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Dn Henry Tan \$100, \$200; Quek KK \$500, \$100; Tan Bee Choo \$90; Tan Kian Sing \$50, \$1000; Rev Tow \$200, \$168; Maasai Medical Ministry \$50, \$100, \$350; Mercy Ministry \$500, \$200, \$150, \$500; Mok & Carol \$50, \$500, \$500; Jemima Khoo \$50, \$50; Working AF \$100; Sri Lanka Church \$150; Van-David Koo's Church \$500; Geraldine Chan \$500.		
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$300, \$50, \$100, \$400, \$100, \$1200, \$1000, \$500, \$250, \$200, \$1000, \$2500, \$2400, \$4400, \$700(Thomson NBC). GRAND TOTAL: \$4,052,135.64.		
SAT	2.30 pm	Grace B-P Church Wedding	STOP PRESS! US\$50(Africa), \$200, \$2000(FEBC Bookroom).		
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	1) Life Church 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, 02 (Sat) at 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter today or from Mr Yiew Pong Sen during the week. Charges: \$25 for earners, \$15 for non-earners and \$5 for children aged 5 to 8 (limited to 30 only). As tickets have specific table numbers, groups who wish to be seated together should ensure they purchase tickets with the same table numbers.		
	4.00 pm	Golden Age Fellowship	2) Our condolences to Evelyn Tan and family on the homegoing of Ronald Tan, 50, on 17 Sep 02.		
	8.00 am	Jehovah-M'Kaddesh (Rev Charles Seet)	3) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs James Koh; Thu, 26 Sep, 8.00 pm. Address: 105 Towner Rd #20-380, S321105. Tel: 6299-4905. Speaker: Elder Ong Eng Lam.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	4) Golden Age Fellowship at the home of Mrs Seow Chong Pin, Sat, 28 Sep, 4.00 pm. Address: 7 Lily Ave, S277763. Tel: 6469-8650. Speaker: Elder Tan Nee Keng.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	5) Weekly Family Worship 2003. If you are interested in opening your home for family worship, please submit your name and the month you wish to open your home to Rev Colin Wong at cwongtc@pacific.net.sg.		
	10.30 am	Rev Tow			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	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: 116			
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown.					
Sunday School Offering: \$738.50; Attendance: 415					
6) Evangelistic Band F'ship Camp, 25-29 Nov 02. Theme: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. Speaker: Rev Jack Sin. Venue: Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Sign up for this camp at the booth outside the sanctuary. Contact Tiong Meng at 96488265(HP) or email romans58@starhub.net.sg.					
Preaching Appointments: Rev Tow at AF, 1.00 pm (with Kenya video). Rev Seet at Galilee BPC, 10.30 am and Kebaktian Indonesia, 4.00 pm.					



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Vol. XI No. 9

22 September 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn David Tan	Elder Eric Mahadevan
Opening Hymn	No. 1	No. 216
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Ps 103	Psalms 18
Hymn	No. 5	As Thou, O Lord hast made me strong
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 405	No. 189
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Exodus 15:26	Matt 15:1-19
Sermon	Jehovah-Rophi (Pr Mark Chen)	Cleanse the Heart, Not the Hands (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 58	No. 531
Benediction		

LORD OF CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service, Sep 15, 2002)

Text: Matt 14:22-36

There is another occasion of Jesus sailing with His disciples when a storm broke out on the Sea of Galilee and Jesus was fast asleep on a pillow at the back of the boat. Water poured into the boat which caused the disciples to panic. They woke up their Master, "Lord, save us: we perish." He rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm and He admonished the disciples for their little faith (Matt 8:23-27). The disciples wondered, "What man is this, that even the winds and seas obey Him!"

In all our ten Pilgrimages to the Holy Land we always experienced a calm sailing of the Sea except once when we arrived at a hotel situated right on the lake. The winds were strong and big waves crashed into our compound. We now experienced what the early disciples experienced save we were on land and not tossed about in deep water. Nevertheless, it was a sobering experience.

In this miracle of Jesus walking on the Sea, although the sea was boisterous, it did not rise to the height of a storm. The disciples launched out the previous evening and now this was the fourth watch, between 3 and 6 am, and yet they were still toiling. Jesus, taking compassion on them, came down from the mountain where he was praying all night, and walked on the sea towards them.

The unbelieving modernists say he was walking on hidden rocks, and some suggested He was on the shallow part of the seashore but the sinking of Peter shows they were on deep waters.

Jesus did not perform miracles without a reason. He had fed the Five Thousand the previous evening out of compassion for the hungry. But for Himself He did not eat forty days and nights. He did not turn stone into bread at the Devil's wicked suggestion. Neither did he walk on the Sea to show off but to come to the disciples' help. He did not perform magic to get an audience like one from Singapore who got ordained as an apostle from America and is performing magic to his congregation lest they leave his church. Jesus, in order to save His disciples from their toil unconsciously displayed His omnipotence over the earth and seas He has created. Yes, even the stormy winds.

We know full well the redemptive power of His cross in saving us from sin and hell, but in this episode we come face to face with Him as the Great Creator as our song says today. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (Jn 1:1-3). It was Jesus who made us and all that exists on this earth, yea, even the sun, moon and the stars. He demands our worship because in the first place He is our Creator, the Lord of creation.

"O how I love Him! how I adore Him!
My breath, my sunshine, my all in all!
The great Creator became my Savior,
And all God's fullness dwelleth in Him!"

The account of Jesus stretching out His hand to save Peter from drowning reveals another vital truth, and this truth affects our daily life. He is the Lord of Providence. In theological language the word Providence follows Creation. God created but He did not leave His creation alone. As soon as creation was finished, He continues to govern and provide for the viable running of His creation by providence. Jesus did not leave Peter to walk on the Sea in his own strength but stretched out His hand to save His very own when in danger. This is not only Providence, but special Providence. He takes care of us even to the last strand of hair upon our head.

Although Peter succeeded to walk a short distance on the water he gratefully remembers His Master's concern for his safety. He is cushioned henceforth against all the pressures of wicked forces facing every committed disciple of Christ. When arrested by Herod and put into the innermost jail waiting to be executed, he slept soundly, knowing the Lord would come and deliver him. Sure enough the angel of the Lord came in the middle of the night and opened the prison gate and set him free (Acts 12:1-19).

Does the Lord take care of us by the hand of His special providence? He has all these 52 years watched over our Church. In standing up for the truth our Church has often been assailed by the Enemy, like the sea waves surrounding Peter, but by looking up to Him, we shall be saved.

The Lord of Creation, yea, of Providence, is in control of all things great and small in this sin-sick world every second of the day. In international affairs affecting war and peace as it is feverishly working out these few weeks, whether there will be an attack by USA on Iraq or not, the final go ahead is in the hands of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of Providence. It is not Bush nor any other power. As Christians we should pray for peace and repentance of all sinners toward God. We should hasten with the Gospel for a witness unto all nations before the end comes (Matt 24:14). As Iraq is predicted in Revelation Chapters 9 and 16, anything that happens there has far reaching eschatological significance. The Christian's only hope in these last days is to be ready for the Rapture, and not blindly working out our own security. If you are not saved,

it will be like Peter sinking without the Lord. Amen. **END-TIME PROPHECY SHOWS ALL THE WAY TO SECOND COMING OF CHRIST**

We are living in the last of the last days. It will end up in a Third World War according to Dr Walvoord, President Emeritus of Dallas Theological Seminary, USA. This is prophesied in Rev 9:13-16, "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 great river Euphrates here refers to Iraq through which most of it flows.

After the blowing of the Sixth Trumpet comes the Seventh. What is the significance of the Seventh? It is the last Trumpet. Rev 10:7 says, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." "The mystery of God should be finished" is given by Paul in I Cor 15:51-52, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." The Seventh Trumpet ushers in the Rapture (Catching Up) of saints, which is our blessed hope. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (I Thess 4:16-18).

From all these verses of Scripture, WWII signals how Jesus will come to save us from a burning hell on earth. Nuclear bomb shelters can only become nuclear ovens under the hellish blasts. Reader, are you already prepared to go with Jesus when He returns from heaven like a lightning flash? Both Christians from opening graves and we who

are alive will be caught up into space in the twinkling of an eye one after the other.

The Seventh and last trumpet is followed by the pouring of the seven vials. The outbreak of WWII is swiftly followed by events recorded 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."

Armageddon battlefield leads to Jerusalem in no time where two-thirds of Israel will be killed (Zech 13:8), but Christ now lands on the Mount of Olives, outside Jerusalem to defeat all Israel's foes and bring in peace for 1,000 years on earth.

—T.T.

Remembering September 11

By Mrs Lehia Paauwe

*This year's September 11
Was a day of prayer and reflection,
Sorrowing with those who sorrow,
Thanking God for the heroes
Who willingly gave their lives
For truth and freedom's price.*

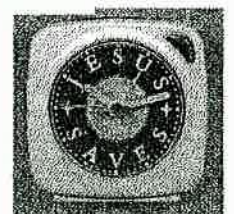
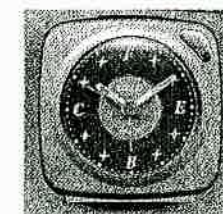
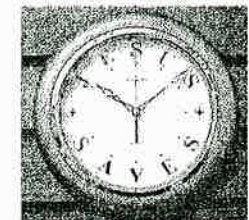
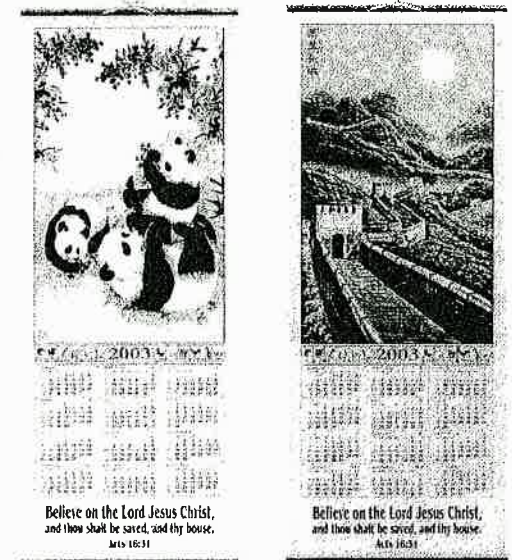
*September 11 is a wake up call
For America and for one and all.
Today is the day of salvation,
Of repentance and rededication,
To live for Christ and spread His Gospel
Here and to the ends of the world.*

PATRONISE FEBC BOOKROOM YOUR OWN BOOKROOM

For convenience and for mutual benefit our prices are low and we also absorb the GST.

FEBC Bookroom is a non-profit Bookroom. Every dollar earned is ploughed back into the Church, e.g. to the Beulah House Building Fund.

Get your Christmas cards from us and give Christian gifts this Christmas such as JESUS SAVES Wall Clocks (\$14), "Jewel" JESUS SAVES Alarm Clocks (\$8), Bible Verse "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" Chinese art calendars (\$2.50) with Chinese version 基督为我家之主 (Christ is the Head of My House).



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Sep 30 - Oct 6, 2002)

MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Ong Whee Shiong & Lily Chia Puay Lee (Rev Tow)
	3.00 pm	LTF; 3.30 EBF
SUN	8.00 am	Does It Matter What You Believe? (Rev Colin Wong)
	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	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir
	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.

Prayer Mtg: 110

Sunday School Offering: \$685.80; Attendance: 447

Verse for the Week: *The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.* Psalm 19:9

2) Infant Baptism on Anniversary Sunday, 20 Oct, 9.30 am. Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 62569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names.

LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:

\$8,810.00 (8.00 am); \$22,729.00 (10.30 am)

OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-Kenya \$150; Rev Jonathan Lee \$20, \$100, \$100; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Batam Church Bldg Fund \$150; Baraka BPC \$20, \$20; Myanmar Orph \$50; Chinese Bibles for China \$20; Saipan Church Bldg Fund \$500, \$100; MsF \$400; Mersing Youth Camp \$392(Boxes); Rev Seet \$150; Rev Wong \$150, \$150, \$50; Eld Khoo PK \$150; Quek KK \$400; Rev Tow \$200, \$100, \$168, \$746.97; Chan Pui Meng \$370(LF); Maasal Medical Ministry \$200, \$100; Mercy Ministry \$1830, \$100; David Koo Bible School \$100; Mok & Carol \$200(LF); \$200; Jemima Khoo \$50; Van-David Koo's Church \$2000, \$150; Geraldine Chan \$500; Eld Tan Nee Keng \$500.

NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$500, \$500, \$604, \$400, \$135, \$200, \$30, \$1000, \$1000, \$2304 (LF). GRAND TOTAL: \$4,063,573.84. STOP PRESS! \$400.

FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:

(1) "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? ... I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving" (Ps 116:12, 69:30). "...thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good" (Ps 104:28). God has showered bountiful blessings upon me and my family...my husband's promotion, my daughter's good grades and an excellent job offer, a year in advance. Truly, my cup runneth over! To God be the glory!!

1) Life Church 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, 02 (Sat) at 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter today or from Mr Yiew Pong Sen during the week. (Only 17 tables left.) Charges: \$25 for earners, \$15 for non-earners and \$5 for children aged 5 to 8 (limited to 30 only). As tickets have specific table numbers, groups who wish to be seated together should ensure they purchase tickets with the same table numbers.

Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.

Peace B-P Church, Jonathan Lee



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(Ring Pastor 62502138 Anytime)

Vol. XI No. 10

29 September 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Eric Mahadevan	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 8	No. 295
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Pet 1:3-25	Psalm 23
Hymn	No. 386	My Wonderful Shepherd
Announcements		A Word to FEK Parents
Offering & Hymn	No. 401	No. 359
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lev 20:7-8; Rom 6:1-2; 11-19	Matt 15:21-28
Sermon	Jehovah-M'Kaddesh (Rev Charles Seet)	The Faith that God Rewards (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 409	No. 357
Benediction		

CLEANSE THE HEART, NOT THE HANDS

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service,
Sep 22, 2002)

Text: Matt 15:1-19

In an earlier sermon when I denounced Westcott and Hort who rejected every fundamental doctrine concerning our Lord such as His Virgin Birth, Blood Atonement and Resurrection as modern Pharisees and scribes, whom Jesus Himself condemned, someone criticised me as not "loving your enemies." "Loving your enemies" refers to one's private enemies, not public enemies, inasmuch as the Pharisees and scribes are called snakes and for blaspheming Jesus in His casting out devils by the Prince of devils, their sin would send them to hell. Of such enemies of our Lord, David says, "For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies" (Ps 139:20-22).

The Pharisees and scribes find fault with Jesus this time for not requiring His disciples to wash their hands before eating according to the rules of the elders. This time we went to Africa

our host brought a basin of warm water to wash our hands before we ate. That's their custom, but Singapore Christians have no such practice. Neither is there any Biblical commandment to wash our hands before eating.

Now whenever the Pharisees criticise our Lord He always has a question for them to answer. Jesus has a much more serious situation to consider. It is how the Jews treat their parents. Even in Jesus' days, children were disrespectful to their parents. Instead of bringing them to book, the same scribes and Pharisees would teach the children to escape giving support to their parents by saying, "This money is a gift to God." The V Commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother. He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death," is made of none effect by their teaching.

Honour your father and mother that children may have long life is what I would like to apply to this congregation today. In these days of rough behaviour, sons are known to even beat their fathers and receive curses ('yau shiu') from their mothers. Here is a warning to rebellious children from the Lord. Now according to Chinese culture, when a child starts earning he or she is duty bound to give a portion of his or her money to father or mother. Do you do so lovingly or unwillingly or do nothing at all? To bring home even a packet of "char kuay tiau" is

a filial piety that brightens your parents' life.

Coming back to the main topic of Jesus' sermon, "Cleanse the heart, not the hands," "Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man" (Matt 15:17-20). In His sermon on the same subject the Gospel of Mark adds to the list covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, pride, foolishness.

Cleanse the heart applies to every one of us, first the pastor. Paul acknowledges he is the chief of sinners. The story is told how when John Sung came to Shantung, China, he called for sinners to repentance. Rev Ting Li Mei was the first to step forward. The humility of the First Revivalist of China surprised John Sung. Because of our total sinful nature whenever the X Commandments are read out we stand condemned. Let us find out the sinfulness of our sins in our hearts. My teacher in China says sins may come from the flesh or from the mind and spirit. The sin of the mind and spirit is 10 times more deadly than the sins of the flesh. Evil thoughts can come from both flesh and spirit. Murder is not only in the act, but also in the thought. Jesus says, "If you are angry with your brother without a cause you are in danger of judgment." Adultery is not only the act, but if you look at a woman to lust after her you have already committed adultery with her in your heart. Fornication refers to practice of illicit sex periodically and visiting a brothel despite being married may bring further sorrow when your wife is infected. Thefts can easily overtake us when we short change someone. Once a small pastor complained to me he was shortchanged \$1.50 by a big pastor. False witnesses can come between two contending parties when one party does not tell the whole truth, but a half-truth respecting his opponent to put him in a bad light. Blasphemies are a non-pardonable sin of the mind. Jesus says, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come" (Matt 12:30-32). From the Gospel of Mark 7:21-32 are added covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness which means lustfulness, an evil eye, pride, foolishness. All these evil thoughts in the heart when they overflow spill out of the mouth which defile doubly the man. O Lord, be merciful to everyone of us. Help us live a holy life by keeping close to Thee and Thy word. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Ps 119:11).

Psalm 24, however, calls for clean hands and a pure heart for those who ascend the hill of the Lord and His holy place. This applies to pastors and leaders of the Church especially in their preaching and administering of the Lord's Supper. As to Westcott and Hort, whom I referred to at the beginning of this sermon, with a wicked heart and evil hands, how could they touch the Holy Scriptures? They have polluted the Church by taking away 9,900 of God's words with their corrupt text.

"FOR WE CAN DO NOTHING AGAINST THE TRUTH, BUT FOR THE TRUTH"

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:" (II Tim 3:16)

"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." (Ps 12:6,7)

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matt 24:35)

"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away." (Matt 13:31)

"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away." (Lk 21:33)

"For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth

pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (Matt 5:18)

"If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken." (Jn 10:35).

With such an array of the Almighty God's utterance on the promulgation of His Word and His promised reward to them that believe Him (Heb 11:6), puny man must ridicule those who believe in a perfect Bible **foolish**. Those who not only believe the above utterances but are overawed by such affirmations involving the whole universe, give God the glory. Those who still persist in their infinitesimal knowledge of Scripture and allege the Bible has some mistakes that reduces its inerrancy to 99.99% glorify themselves, being puffed up with their own knowledge. *"And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. But if any man love God, the same is known of him"* (I Cor 8:2-3).

To give credence of 99.99% for the Bible sounds very scholarly and condescending, but James says, *"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all"* (James 2:10). Only God Himself can judge His own words, *"Let God be true, but every man a liar"* (Rom 3:4).

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb 11:6).

"For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (II Cor 13:8). —T.T.

52 YEARS IN THE ARENA OF FAITH

By the Pastor

I.

When I first arrived in America in mid-winter 1948 to study at Faith Seminary, little did I know God was calling me into the Arena of Faith.

One wintry morning there came to our Seminary chapel a tall, distinguished-looking gentleman in his early forties. He spoke to our student body of eighty on the need of a 20th Century Reformation. Immediately, it rang a bell inside me. It introduced me to Martin Luther,

leader of the 16th Century Reformation who brought us out of Roman Catholicism and founded the Protestant Church. So we are Protestants. Dr Carl McIntire, and that was his name, was Pastor of Collingswood Bible Presbyterian Church and President of the Board of Directors of Faith Seminary itself.

He spoke impassionately for almost an hour. He revealed how modernist Protestant churchmen of the Ecumenical Movement, were going to organise a World Council of Churches of every denomination; modernist, evangelical, or charismatic, etc. to reunite with Rome and finally with all the human religions. To keep fundamental Protestant churches from such an apostate re-union, he called for the raising of a separatist International Council of Christian Churches. As the modernist World Council of Churches was going to be organised in Amsterdam soon, Dr McIntire rallied for the ICCC to begin in August 1948.

When I heard the urgency of the formation of these opposing councils, but particularly McIntire's appeal to young seminarians like us, to join the 20th Century Reformation, my heart was "strangely warmed," in the words of Wesley. My heart was knit to his heart, like Jonathan's to David's (I Sam 18:1). I became his life-long disciple.

I enlisted two other disciples for Dr McIntire, Elder K.C. Quek and Deacon C.T. Hsu. They were equally zealous and loyal to contend earnestly for the Faith against modernists and ecumenism. So we were known as *The Three Musketeers*.

We founded the Life Church English Service on Oct 20, 1950 and I was pastor of 30 adult English-speaking members drawn from our Chinese mother church. With children, we began as a small congregation of fifty.

We were still governed by expatriate modernist missionaries who denied the Virgin Birth (Dr Fleming), the forgiveness of sins through Christ (Dr Hollister) and hell (Dr Gibson). (We were a colonial church.) To counter these liberal, poisonous teachings, Quek and I started an English and Chinese quarterly known as the *Malaysia Christian* in 1951. The *Chinese Malaysia Christian* continues to this day under Quek.

(to be continued)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 7 - 13, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$9,541.00 (8.00 am); \$14,695.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-Kenya \$500; Wendy Teng \$50; Cambodia Orph \$100, \$150; Rev David Koo \$200, \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$500, \$200, \$100, \$50; Eid Geoffrey Tan \$168; Rev Moses Hahn \$50, \$200; Pailin Orph \$30; Batam Church Bldg Fund \$200; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Missions \$100; Myanmar Orph \$100, \$100; BASC \$100; MsF \$360; Rev Seet \$500, \$520, \$100, \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Henry Tan \$100; Rev Tow \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$100; Maasai Medical Ministry \$300, \$500; Barnabas Yap \$100; Mercy Ministry \$20; June Tan \$100; Mok & Carol \$50, \$200; Jemima Khoo \$50; Van-David Koo's Church \$450, \$150.	
THU	7.30 pm Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$100, \$100, \$250, \$1000, \$400, \$2000, \$50, \$50, \$600, \$500, \$2700, \$500, \$250, \$400, \$100. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,072,573.84. STOP PRESS! \$200, \$500, \$1000(Kemaman).	
FRI	7.00 pm Ladies' Fellowship (FEBC Hall)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
	7.45 pm Men's Fellowship (G&H Rm)	(1) To God be the glory! Thank you, Lord, for journey mercies for my grand-daughter to her university overseas. (Beulah House \$30; China Chinese Bibles \$20)	
SAT	3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	1) Life Church 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner, Oct 19, 02 (Sat) at 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm respectively. Tickets for the Dinner can be purchased at the entrance counter today or from Mr Yiew Pong Sen during the week. (Only 3 tables left.) Charges: \$25 for earners, \$15 for non-earners. As tickets have specific table numbers, groups who wish to be seated together should ensure they purchase tickets with the same table numbers.	
SUN	8.00 am Are You Different From What You Were Before? (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	2) Infant Baptism on Anniversary Sunday, 20 Oct, 9.30 am. Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 62569256) or e-mail Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names.	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	3) Missionary Fellowship Prayer Mtg, 13 Oct at 12.15 pm. Level 2 Beulah House (AF Library). All are welcome.	
	9.30 am Sunday School	Preaching Appointments: Rev Wong at Emmanuel BPC, 2.30 pm. Rev Seet in Batam.	
	10.30 am Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo		
	10.30 am Chinese Service (Rev Tow)		
	10.30 am Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir		
	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: 108		
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Woodlands.			
Sunday School Offering: \$703.90; Attendance: 434			
Verse for the Week: Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. I Corinthians 9:24			
4) Far Eastern Fundamental School of Theology, Myanmar needs a computer (preferably new) for the Falam Chin Translation project. Please call the church office 6256-9256.			
Word. Is it not the plain teaching of Scripture that "Christ died for our sins" (I Cor. 15:3, Luke 24:46-47, Rom 5:6), and that He was born for this very purpose (Matt 1:20-21)? Alas! Such soul-killing unbelief as Hollister's is being fed to our children and yours, and more will be given in the days to come. Grievous wolves have broken into our fold. They are tearing our lambs to pieces. Is it self-seeking, love-lacking and trouble-making to defend one's fold? To raise an alarm to fellow-workers on the field? Is there not a cause? O that Christians in Malaysia would shake off complacency and wake up to the danger! O that more men may rally to the Lord in this hour of crisis!			
Glory Bible-Presbyterian Church, Phnom Penh, Jonathan Lee			



Life

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Vol. XI No. 11

6 October 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Tan Nee Keng	Elder Eric Mahadevan
Opening Hymn	No. 217	No. 86
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	2 Tim 1:3-14	Psalms 90
Hymn	No. 87	No. 21
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 215	No. 399
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Pet 2:1-12	Psalms 90:10-12
Sermon	Does It Matter What You Believe? (Rev Colin Wong)	Age is Opportunity No Less Than Youth - Longfellow (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 333	No. 426
Benediction		Lord's Supper

THE FAITH THAT GOD REWARDS

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service,

Sep 29, 2002)

Text: Heb 11:1-6; Matt 15:21-28

Hebrews chapter 11 is the Hall of Faith of Old Testament saints from Abel to David, and many others whom we can identify from the description of their deeds. These Heroes of Faith are those that seek God diligently and are rewarded for their faith. Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, Enoch pleased God in his daily walk and was taken to heaven without seeing death. So the author to the Hebrews exhorts us, without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is (God) and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Heb 11:6).

As there are Heroes of Faith in the Old Testament, there are not lacking Heroes of Faith in the New Testament, even from among the Gentiles.

Now, here comes a Canaanite woman from the border of Tyre and Sidon begging Jesus, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David: my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil." But Jesus answered her not a word. "And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of

Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is (God), and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb 11:6). In the case of the Canaanite woman it reveals a persisting and pleading faith even in the face of total rejection. But the woman prevailed and the Lord had to give in, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour."

Such great faith in the Canaanite woman is reenacted in another Gentile, the Centurion in an earlier part of Matthew. Matthew 8:5-13 records, "And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he

goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour."

That the Centurion dared not trouble Jesus to come to his house but that He should speak the Word and his servant would be healed surprised Him, "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel."

What Jesus said by way of contrast is very true. If it is a case of "Familiarity breeds contempt" we can immediately pick on the doubting Thomas, a close disciple and a true Israelite, not a Gentile. When Jesus appeared to the ten disciples the first evening of Resurrection Sunday, Thomas the eleventh was not there. Disbelieving what was told him, and demanding full proof of the resurrection, Thomas said to his colleagues, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." Thomas had only intellectual faith.

After eight days, i.e. next Sunday night, Jesus appeared to the disciples again, Thomas being present with them, and He said, "Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing." Doubting Thomas in quick answer, and no more doubting, fell on his knees, and worshipped the Saviour, "My Lord and my God."

By way of application there is a question before the leadership of Life Church. It is not about the Living Word, the Resurrected Lord but about the Written Word, His very words, the Bible. Those who consider themselves **intellectuals** like Thomas have a doubt about the Bible, that the Bible has some mistakes, not a 100% Bible. But the Lord has affirmed seven times even to the last jot and tittle His words shall stand till heaven and earth pass away. As pastor of Life Church who has guarded your faith for the last 52 years, I solemnly and sincerely reaffirm our belief in a 100% Perfect Bible

according to Heb 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is (God), and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Please read the chart on *Three Views of the Bible* and check up on yourself. Paul says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves ... For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (II Cor 13:5-8). Doubting Thomas' intellectual faith which crashes to the ground with our Lord, the Living Word standing before him, converted him to an earnest believer like the Canaanite woman and the submissive Centurion. Thank God that when we believe, He forgives us.

What happened to Thomas is not recorded in Apostolic history. But tradition, which prevails strongly on the coast of Southwest India, Kerala State tells no more of a Doubting Thomas but a Doughty Thomas. I have personally visited Kerala State in my younger days four times and learned from the local people how St Thomas arrived South India in AD52 and how he planted seven churches. From Thomas has been established a Jacobite and Mar Thoma Church, Thomas and not Mary Shrines. Everyone you meet is surnamed Thomas or Matai, i.e. Matthew. In the list of Apostles you'll note that Thomas is partnered with Matthew. From a painting showing Thomas with a long pole on a bamboo raft, it is also believed that he crossed the sea from India to China. When he returned to India he was martyred in Madras where a church is built to his memory. This Church I had visited myself. What a change from a Doubting Thomas to a Doughty Thomas!

Recalling once again Heb 11:6, "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is (God), and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him", let those who pride themselves as intellectuals but not deep in faith in what and who God is repent like Thomas that God might use you henceforth mightily for His Kingdom.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

As pastor also of the Chinese Service, may I suggest to my Chinese colleagues to form a fellowship of Christians from Mainland China. Calvary Pandan Chinese Service today has a big group of new believers all from China. One of our boarders in Beulah House after attending our

Chinese Service has believed. She has now joined Pandan for fellowship.

From Beulah House my colleagues can gather a group of two or three to nurture them. By inviting their friends to Life Church, that is how it will grow. From two or three to five and six. And from five and six to ten and so forth. It really takes effort to bring up a Church.

Beulah House has brought blessings to countless others, since we opened this oasis to outsiders from the beginning. Some questioned me, why outsiders? That is the way to bring them to God. Psalm 84 tells us how sparrows and swallows, unclean birds, have found a nest in God's house. That is my authority.

As a result of boarders (we have space for them other than FEBC students) coming to Church and believing the Lord, I have baptised about 10 of them. One girl from Harbin not only believed but also got her parents and a brother to believe. When they visited Singapore to see their daughter, they opportunely joined the Calvary Pandan Chinese Catechism Class and were baptised before returning to China.

Our Chinese Service has now a regular attendance of over 150 and supports two FEBCers, Moses Hahn to Cambodia, an Indonesian worker to Uban and Mr Bong to Kuching.

Another good news is Elder Joseph and Bro Seow of Life Church who are on the Committee of Rehoboth B-P Church came to see me two weeks ago. They requested to shift their Sunday 6.00 pm English Service to function at Gilstead Road. I readily welcomed them. They will continue at the same hour, beginning November. This will be a boon to them because Lifers who cannot come in the morning for one reason or another can join them in the evening. Elder Edmund Tay is another on the Rehoboth Committee.

Yet another happy news. Miss Tiew Ah Tuan, old-time FEBC graduate and younger sister Yock Kui, also FEBCer, have opened an English Sunday School in Kota Tinggi. Dn David Tan, superintendent, with many Lifers helping, reports 12 students to begin with. Our English S.S. is bound to grow with Malaysia's emphasis on English henceforth. We are delighted in this Gospel advance and will visit Kota Tinggi in the near future. This accelerated missions programme is in tune with the Lord's Return (Matt 24:14). Maranatha.

—T.T

52 YEARS IN THE ARENA OF FAITH

By the Pastor

II.

Quek and I were two "young bullocks not knowing the tiger" as the Chinese saying goes. Our bold exposure of the modernist and liberal expatriate churchman of the WCC in Singapore stirred up a hornet's nest!

We launched our English-Chinese quarterly, the *Malaysia Christian*, in November 1951 with these subtitles:

1. Preaching Christ Includes Defence of the Gospel
2. Contending for the faith once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3)
3. Believe Not Every Spirit
4. Who Is An Antichrist?

Modernists who deny the virgin birth make Christ a mere man, with Joseph as his father. They are antichrists. From our contact with these false prophets, you must beware of them when they seek your pulpit. They are entrenched in the seminaries. They control our churches. And we have been asleep to these situations for a generation!

By the time we reached Vol I, No. 4, September-November 1952 we came into a head-on clash with the Church authorities in Singapore and Malaysia. We began to produce the proofs of liberalism and modernism poisoning the Church as follows,

Modernism today has conquered the major Protestant denominations. Modernist leaders are disseminating their Christ-denying teachings in the theological seminaries and colleges. Modernist mission boards are sending out men and women trained by these schools to our lands to undermine the work of their faithful predecessors and our children's faith. A newest specimen of modernist leaven corrupting the churches in Malaysia comes from the pen of a former missionary to China, now in Burma. In his book, *This Makes Sense*, which has a Chinese edition entitled, *Sin and Salvation*, the author George G. Hollister seeks to cut away the heart of the Gospel—the substitutionary atonement. On page 87 he argues, "Of course sins were forgiven long before Jesus was born. By the same process sins could be forgiven if Jesus never had been born. Neither the birth nor the death of Jesus ever was a *sine qua non* (indispensable condition) for the forgiveness of sins". And on page 91 he concludes, "Therefore what Jesus did on the cross was not to satisfy God's demands that some one must be punished." This destroys the Church's very foundations. This is open rebellion to God's Holy

(cont'd on pg 4)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 14 - 20, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON	7.30 pm OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	\$12,842.00 (8.00 am); \$18,370.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-Kenya Bible College \$100; Life Church Anniv Dinner \$3000; Cambodia Mission \$150; Cambodia Orph \$1000, \$250; Rev David Koo \$30; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Pallin Orph \$115; Batam-Roska \$100; Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Missions \$40, \$240; Rev Andrew Kam \$30, \$150; Saipan-Ho Heng Sau \$500; Rev Seet \$50; FEBC Students \$40 each: Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Peter Ty Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Rev Wong \$50; Quek KK \$50, \$1000; Rev Tow \$800, \$168; Chan Pui Meng \$1000; David Koo's Bible School \$100, \$9,800; Maasai Medical Ministry \$100, \$115, \$20, \$400; Mercy Ministry \$50, \$300; Mok & Carol \$50, \$100, \$1000; Jemima Khoo \$50; Van-David Koo's Church \$150, \$100, \$1000.	
WED	8.00 pm Session Mtg	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$150, \$200, \$60, \$150, \$1170, \$250, \$250, \$3000(Session member), \$2000, \$1000, \$1400(Thomson NBC). GRAND TOTAL: \$4,083,903.84. STOP PRESS! US\$100(USA).	
THU	7.30 pm Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)	1) Missionary Fellowship Prayer Mtg, today at 12.15 pm. Level 2 Beulah House (AF Library). All are welcome.	
FRI	7.00 pm FEBC Board of Directors Mtg	2) Infant Baptism on Anniversary Sunday, 20 Oct, 9.30 am. Please register with the Church Office (Tel: 62569256) or email Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names by Tuesday.	
SAT	3.00 pm LTF/YF	3) Our deepest condolences to Goh Chuan Sin & family on the homegoing of his grandfather, Goh Teon Khwee (89) on 9 Oct.	
	6.00 pm 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service & Dinner	4) All 100 tables for our Church Anniversary Thanksgiving Dinner have been taken up. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Individuals who need seats may register with brother Yiew Pong Sen (9664 1236) on the "waiting list." If you need further information on the Anniversary Dinner, please do not hesitate to contact him.	
SUN	9.30 am Anniversary Thanksgiving & Baptismal Service (Rev Tow)		
	10.30 am Chinese 37th Anniversary 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		
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 104			
Sunday School Offering: \$753.85; Attendance: 426			
Verse for the Week: <i>For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer.</i> Isaiah 54:7-8			
Preaching Appointments: Rev Tow at Chinese Service, 10.30 am. Rev Wong in Kuching.			

David Koo's 3-storey, 30-room project to complete by Jan 2003.



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Vol. XI No. 12

13 October 2002

"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. 321	No. 253
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 92	1 Peter 4
Hymn	No. 116	No. 354
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 199	No. 349
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	2 Pet 1:4-11	Psalms 12
Sermon	Are You Different From What You Were Before? (Rev Charles Seet)	God's Help in Bad Times (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 247	No. 353
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

SPENDING YOUR EVENING YEARS HAPPILY WITH GOD

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the 10.30 am Service, Oct 6, 2002)

Text: Psalm 90:10-12

I have been requested by a sister of Life Church to preach a sermon on "Growing old with God from my life experiences." I have chosen for the title of my message the words of Longfellow, "Age is opportunity no less than youth." To be more accurate I am restating it as "Spending your evening years happily with God."

The text of my sermon is taken from Ps 90:10-12. It talks of the shortness of life which is encumbered with many troubles. So we must live wisely for God. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (v.12).

When I say evening years, it starts with your retirement age which is 60. But Moses says our life span is 70 years and if stronger, 80 years. So we have only 10 to 20 years to spend these evening years with God. The highest average life span in Asia is 78 with Japan and Singapore. According to Eldersfield you can qualify as an elder at 40. So if you have reached 40 you had better pay attention.

At best our senior years can be viewed as a pleasantly useless period when you qualify for retirement benefits with a lot of time to do nothing. The first year of our retirement we plan to spend it

touring, here, there, everywhere, even to Alaska. Will we really be happy? Shakespeare says, "If all the year were playing holidays, to sport would be as tedious as to work."

In order to serve God happily in our evening years, first of all we must live happily with our wife or husband. When we first got married we loved each other with the "first love." But when we grew older, we tended to take things for granted because "familiarity breeds contempt." When I got very sick last year and my wife took care of me with all her strength, I appreciated her the more. That first love is brightly rekindled. In that condition only can we serve God effectively. Love your wife is the first requirement for serving your God. Paul says it three times in Ephesians 5.

Secondly many old couples keep busy by taking care of their grandchildren. Do not just think of their education and rush about thoughtlessly to send them to school. Rather solemnise their lives by praying with them and for them. I have the greatest blessing praying with my two grandchildren because they realise we are speaking to God.

Apart from devotion to the extended family, I have known this elder, over 68 years, who runs a Boys' Brigade. The B.B. is a Scottish Christian Youth Movement using the Bible for instruction. As a result young souls are saved. He is so devoted to his boys that he went to Scotland to learn to play the bagpipe. He brought one back to attract the boys. This surely is spending your evening years happily

with God.

Thirdly, I am a campaigner for retirees to take a greater part in Church work. Sunday school teaching is best done by retired teachers. It used to be some classes on methodology but what I've felt being of utmost importance is learning the Bible. So Sunday school teachers are encouraged to study for a Religious Knowledge Certificate of 20 credit hours or a Certificate of Biblical Studies of 40 hours at Far Eastern Bible College Evening Classes. Thank God for a good response.

Fourthly, there are some church members who feel called to preach. I've known of 4 such aspiring preachers. We give them further encouragement to take fuller theological studies and to attend our Homiletic Swimming Pool Classes every Wednesday morning. One who has attained is Elder Khoo Peng Kiat. So he is filling in the gap for a few months at a time in many parts of the world. He has done this for 15 years. How old is he now?

Fifthly, at FEBC an eminent retired teacher voluntarily teaches an English class. There is no better contribution to God's Kingdom than this.

Sixthly, a sister felt called to Cambodia seven times, and having learned the language quite well is able to tell the simple story of salvation. But she could not speak further than that. She realises she must be thoroughly trained. So she is in full-time study at FEBC for a diploma until she graduates before she goes back to Cambodia. Training is a prerequisite to serving in the mission field. I believe she will go till her evening years.

Seventhly, serving the Lord as a missionary in a foreign country in some technology as a computer expert is another avenue of ministry. So Sister June Tan goes to the Bible College of East Africa and does computerised cataloging of 6,500 books and is training students in computer literacy. Retirees with technological knowledge can go as short-term missionaries.

Eighthly, as the Lord healed countless sick people and relieved them from the pain of suffering where no cure could be found, so Sister Chan Pui Meng has gone to wild Maasai Land to relieve the sick where no hospitals or clinics are available. Now we are looking for a short-term doctor, even the retired.

Ninthly, missions need the support of Church members who pray for them. Retirees may join the Church Missionary Fellowship. By becoming members they are the first to be given opportunity to visit the fields. They not only visit but give of their substance to improve facilities. They not only

take pictures but also videos to bring back missionaries talking to us.

Tenthly, after retirement, join the BASC, i.e. the Before and After School Care as paid guardians. It is a Government scheme to take care of children in a disciplined programme of study. After school our guardians can evangelise them by bringing them to church. Through Bible classes and camps a good number have been saved with the approval of parents.

In conclusion, God's Kingdom must be enlarged by every means, and not the least by retirees, from 60 to 80. When we happily serve the Lord, He rewards us with good health and a good hope. We gladly go to see our Lord when the time comes. But if you are still outside Christ, old age can only bring sickness and the fear of approaching death.

This is my answer to the Sister who wants my sermon on "Growing old with God."

Finally let me give you my testimony why I want to serve till 95. In USA a pastor is retired at 65. I consider this to be his prime of life. Since I am principal of FEBC I feel if I do not teach, much of my knowledge will go to waste. Why I said 95 years is after the example of Dr Albert Dodd my teacher in China. He gave his life to China and died in China at 95. If I am willing to serve God I believe He will increase my useful years for another 13 years. Amen.

52 YEARS IN THE ARENA OF FAITH

By the Pastor

III.

Bishop Hits Out at Extremists

By July 29th 1953 we received a first powerful rejoinder from the Rt. Rev. H.W. Baines, Bishop of Singapore under the caption, "Bishop Hits Out at Extremists". Undermining our work, he says,

The Bishop of Singapore, the Rt. Rev. H.W. Baines has taken to task a group of people who he says "appear to spend much time and money in attacking Christians who differ from themselves." Their language, he adds, is often "quite unrestrained."

Bishop Baines, who is on leave in England, makes these comments in his annual report on the Diocese of Singapore.

Many people coming to Malaya, and especially to Singapore, from Europe and China during the past year have been shocked at this intolerant and extreme group he says.

They are harming the Christian cause by trying to sow dissension among the churches

and undermine the work of the World Council of Churches.

"The Malayan Christian Council has been the object of some of their unseemly assaults." Bishop Baines adds.

"I have done all I could to support the Council especially in its co-ordinating work for the mission to the New Villages and in promoting theological conversations among members of different churches.

"Indifference"

"The first endeavour has gone a long way; the second has a long way to go to overcome indifference and prejudice".

The Straits Times understands that the Bishop is referring to a "Back-to-the-Bible" movement which caught on with a minority group in Singapore about six years ago.

Because members of this movement accept every word of the Bible as literal truth, they are often known as "Fundamentalists".

They disapprove of ordinary denominational Christians who accept a man's right to interpret the Bible for himself.

A local Fundamentalist publication, the *Malaysia Christian*, published in Singapore, recently attacked the Malayan Christian Council as "an unholy body".

The Bishop's blast at our quarterly the *Malaysia Christian* draws our defence "WE MAY BE REPROACHED BUT NOT OUR LORD."

We photographically reproduce herewith a cutting from the Straits Times dated July 29, 1953, captioned, "Bishop Hits Out at Extremists." With the name of the *Malaysia Christian* mentioned in it as a "fundamentalist" publication under the title "Extremists", with the added commentary that we "disapprove of ordinary denominational Christians who accept a man's right to interpret the Bible for himself," the ordinary reader is made to conclude us to be a type of very queer Christian fish. We are willing to suffer such reproach for Christ's sake. Yet our thanks are due to the Straits Times for according us the honour of being in a "Back-to-the-Bible" movement which "accepts every word of the Bible as literal truth." Call us "fundamentalists", "extremists", or by whatever name the modernists might dub

us, we praise God for being put into the old-fashioned, out-of-date remnant class of Christians who still believe the Bible, in contradistinction to the Bible-desecrating modernist Christians so-called.

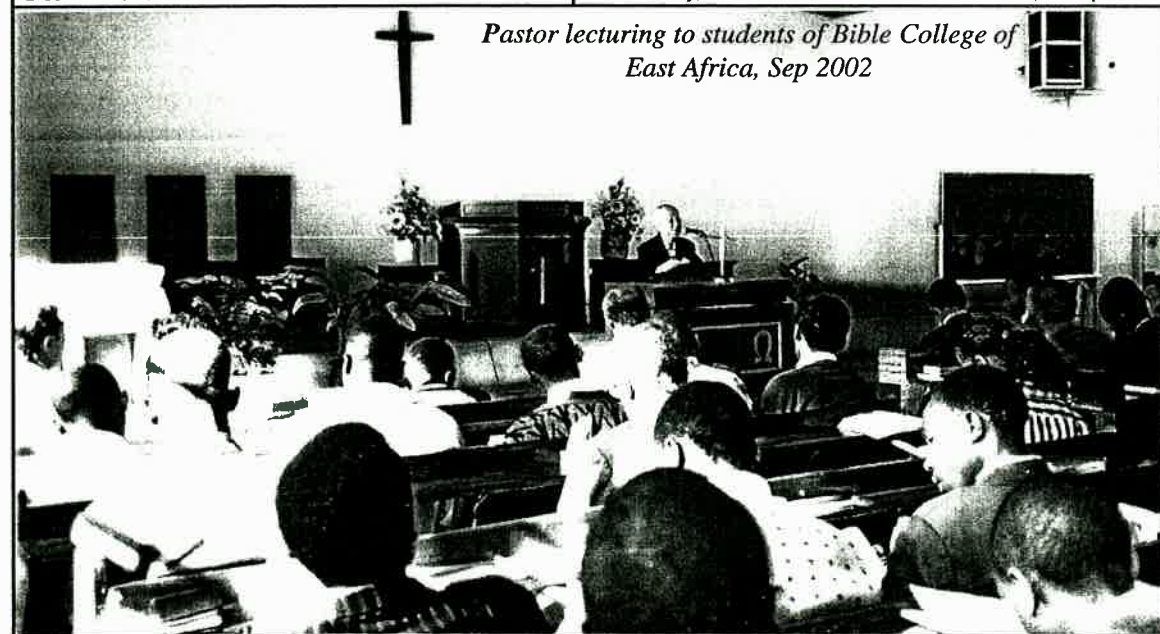
Yes, we boldly declare too that there is no salvation under the whole heaven, nor the forgiveness of sins apart from the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We humbly cling to this precious heritage of the historic faith of our fathers—the faith that was foretold by the prophets, confirmed by the Blessed Saviour, preached by the apostles, defended by the Reformers and handed down to us by faithful missionaries of the cross to our forebears. The truth of salvation which God has made doubly clear in His Word is unchangeable—that Christ is the eternal Son of God, was born of a virgin, was crucified in our stead for our sins, was raised from the dead for our justification, has ascended on high to His Father, and is personally returning to judge the world, granting life eternal to the believers and meting out punishment to the lost. These articles of faith are essentially and strictly required of the Christian believer of every Bible-believing denomination.

Give Bible Verse "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" Chinese Art Calendars THIS CHRISTMAS \$2.50 only.



Get your CHRISTMAS CARDS @ 50% discount from FEBC Bookroom. All proceeds go to Beulah House BF.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 21 - 27, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON 6.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal 7.30 pm OT Law for Today (Rev Tow) TUE 8.00 pm Prayer Mtg THU 7.30 pm Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo) FRI 8.00 pm Family Worship (Rev Tow) SAT 2.30 pm Hermon BPC Wedding 3.00 pm YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF SUN 8.00 am Does the Church Need a 21st Century Protestant Reformation? (Rev Tow) 8.00 am Children's Ministry 9.30 am Sunday School 10.30 am Justification by Faith Alone (Rev Charles Seet) 10.30 am Chinese Service 10.30 am Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir 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; 4pm Indonesian Ser. 4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service Prayer Mtg:105		\$10,825.00 (8.00 am); \$16,398.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$500; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Baraka BPC \$220, \$20; Rev Andrew Kam \$100; Myanmar Orph \$50; Chinese Bibles for China \$100; Mersing Youth Camp \$340; Rev Seet \$200, \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$168; Chan Pui Meng \$300; Chiang Mai Truck \$350; Mercy Ministry \$150, \$600; David Koo Bible School \$150, \$7700; June Tan \$200; Mok & Carol \$50, \$100; Jemima Khoo \$50; Working AF \$200; Johore Ministry \$200. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$50, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$77, \$100, \$400, \$200, \$1000, \$200, \$200, \$300, \$173.40. Grand Total: \$4,092,213.44. STOP PRESS! \$300+\$100 (Anniv. gifts). 1) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Vincent Leong, Friday 25 Oct, 8 pm. Address: 5 Holland Hill #03-01 S278742. Tel: 6472-5800. Speaker: Rev Tow. 2) All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised today are cordially invited to a Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch next Lord's Day, 27 Oct at 12.00 pm at Beulah House. Fellowship groups are requested to send 2 representatives. Please reply to the office (6256-9256). 3) EBF Camp Registration Closing Date will be extended to 27 Oct 2002 (Sunday). The Person and The Work of the Holy Spirit by Rev Jack Sin. 25-29 Nov 02. Venue: Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Pls contact Bro Tiong Meng at Tel: 96488265 or email romans58@starhub.net.sg for registration. Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Chinese Service Anniversary, 9.30 am. Rev Seet at Thai Service, 3.00 pm.
NBC This Week. Wed Henderson; Fri Queenstown. Sunday School Offering: \$1,770.05; Attendance: 403 Verse for the Week: Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. Psalm 100:4		



Life

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Vol. XI No. 13

20 October 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn
Invocation-Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading
Hymn
Announcements
Children's Ministry Item
Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith
& Transfer of Membership
Catechumens Item
Children's Choir Item
Church/Youth Choir Item
Scripture Text
Sermon

Rev Charles Seet
The Church of Fragrant...

Psalms 122
We're Marching to Zion

O Happy Day!

I Thess 5:1-6
Mobilising Our Churches
Till He Come (Rev Tow)
Work for the Night...

Thankoffering
Offertory Prayer & Benediction

ARE YOU PREPARED TO MEET THE LORD, AT HIS COMING?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to the Chinese Service, Oct 13, 2002)

Text: I Thess 4:13-18

Once I spoke to a 75-year-old wife of an Elder. I asked her, "When the time comes for you to leave the earth, will you go up or go down?" Closing her eyes she thought for two or three minutes before she stared blankly and said, "I don't know!" An old couple, on the eve of migrating with their daughter to another country had always worn a sad countenance. Her daughter asked me to speak to them of their salvation. When contacted they readily accepted the Lord by repeating the sinner's prayer after me. Every Church member must be sure of his or her salvation. Not a hope-so salvation, but a know-so salvation!

Why are many not sure of their salvation? Because they are hoping that their good works will save them. But Isa 64:6 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." We are never saved by our good works. We are saved only by Jesus dying on the cross for our sins. Only His precious blood can wash our sins away. Let us sing:

In the cross, in the cross

Be my glory ever

All my sins are washed away

In the Blood of Jesus

If you are saved, then you are prepared to meet the Lord. Now, we are living in most dangerous times. For 57 years since 1945, end of WWII, we have not had such a fearful situation as this war that is now impending between America and Iraq. In Rev 9:13-16 there is the prophecy of a great war breaking out at the great river Euphrates which is modern Iraq. Dr Walvoord, President Emeritus of Dallas Seminary identifies this to be the Third World War. This occurs with the blowing of the 6th Trumpet. One third of the people of the earth will be killed.

If you are outside Christ, you have no way of escape. If you have Jesus as your Saviour you should pray for His coming to save you. In the Scripture passage we've just read Jesus will Himself descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

At which trumpet will the Lord come to our rescue? Paul says, "In the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed (who are alive)."

The last trumpet to sound is the seventh trumpet. Rev 10:7 says, "But in the days of the

voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." Yes the mystery of God in the seventh and last trumpet is that we who are waiting for our Lord to come and save us out of a burning earth will be caught up to meet Him in the air. Are you waiting daily for this our Blessed Hope?

The Lord's Second Coming, whether it be tomorrow or five or ten years hence, let it not find us off guard. Should He come next Lord's Day at 10.30 am and you're not in church but bringing a friend from Malaysia to Sentosa, will He be happy with you?

Ten years from now, should He tarry, and the time is for you to leave this earth, will you be ready to see His face? Will you be prepared to meet your Lord?

Though we are not saved by doing good works, for Rom 1:17 says, "*The just shall live by faith,*" Paul exhorts us six times in Titus to be a people zealous of good works. We are saved to serve.

What are the good works that, in Paul's words, we should be zealous to do? Let me enumerate seven of them:

1. Never miss a Lord's Day worship in Church (Heb 10:25)
2. Remember the poor (Gal 2:10)
3. Care for the fatherless and widows (Jas 1:27)
4. Attend prayer meeting (Jas 5:16)
5. Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ (Gal 6:2)
6. Do something good for Jesus everyday (Gal 6:9), even out of the way
7. Give and not grab (Lk 6:38) for it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35)

And as many as we can discover from Scripture.

Insofar as the Church is concerned, as we see the Day of His Coming fast approaching, there must be a redoubling of our efforts in the propagation 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).

For some years we have been reaching out to Tanjung Uban and now support an Indonesian

FEBC graduate. Then we support Mr Bong, a student of Rev Djunaidi, in Kuching. Last of all a Korean FEBC graduate, Moses Hahn to Cambodia. The holding of a Gospel Campaign Nov. 9 and a VBS are all efforts for accelerated missions according to Matt 24:14. But this is dependent on the prayer and offerings of members.

A missionary says missions is a three-fold cord not quickly broken. The first cord is someone to go. The second cord is someone to pray. The third cord is someone to pay. If our offerings to missions increase then we can support more missionaries whether near or far. Giving to Beulah House is also like giving to missions for here is a training school for pastors and missionaries, and it has produced two labourers for our Church too. Giving to the Lord's work in any form is good work that remains and God loveth a cheerful giver.

Let us be zealous labourers and be not ashamed to meet the Lord at His coming. Let us hear Him when He receives us say, "*Well done, thou good and faithful servant. . . enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*" Amen.

Give Bible Verse "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" Chinese Art Calendars THIS CHRISTMAS \$2.50 only.



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INFANT BAPTISM

01. Chan Ying Jie, Darrick
s/o Mr & Mrs Ted Chan Yam Kay
02. Lee Shu En, Moses
s/o Dr & Mrs Francis Lee Kek Gee
03. Lee Yi Ming, Bennett
s/o Mr & Mrs Lee Keng Huat
04. Leong Ee Han, Daniel
s/o Mr & Mrs Henry Leong Meng Soon
05. Low Yu Xing, Ruffell
s/o Mr & Mrs Michael Low Kian Gwan
06. Tan Jie Min, Hannah
d/o Mr & Mrs Casey Tan Kim Chai
07. Tan Li Ann
d/o Mr & Mrs Tan Beng Lee

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

01. Alvar Benjamin Ongkowidjaja Student
02. Cheong Jia Ling, Joanne Student
03. Chew Yiming, Clement Student
04. Eunice Gracilia Student
05. Goh Shiyang, Christopher Student
06. Gwee Xiu Min, Hannah Student
07. Heah Hong En, Nathaniel Student
08. Heah Ying-Ping, Deborah Student
09. Janice Novelia Student
10. Leow Yong Qun, Timothy Student
11. Lim Chwuui Chwee Clinic Assistant
12. Low Jun Yong, Dannel Student
13. Seeto Yih Chieh Marketing Operations
14. Tan Jingwei, Benjamin Student
15. Tan Wei Qiang Student
16. Wong Zhu En, John Student

BAPTISM

01. Ang Siew Har, Jan Designer
02. Ang Tze Kiong, Ryan Student
03. Chia Ling Ling, Valerie Doctor
04. Chiang Sie Boo Engineer
05. Chin Mee Lian, Mira Executive

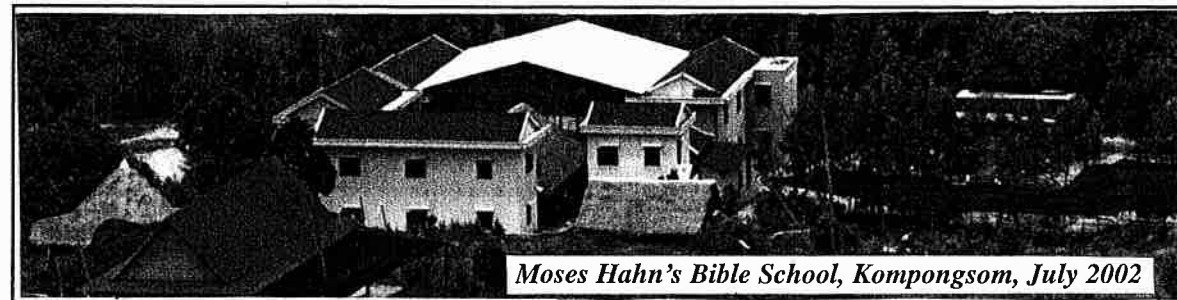
06. Goh Yong Li, Samuel Student
07. Han Wern Kuang Property Agent
08. Ho Weiheng, Melvin Student
09. Kho Peng Soon, Jeffrey Director
10. Kong Phoi Leong Taxi Driver
11. Kong Wing Shun Student
12. Lee Ming Gia, Terence Info. Systems Executive
13. Lee Puay Ling, Jesline Admin Asst
14. Leong Jiawei, Charles Student
15. Ng Suan Jee, Janice
16. Ong Han Seng, Kenny Lecturer
17. Ong Sam Chuan, Raymond Clinical Coordinator
18. Quek Bee Lee, Mary Childcare Teacher
19. Tan Chee Kiang, James Systems Analyst
20. Tan Tai Tian, Wilson Sr Executive Asst
21. Goh Kiang Nguan, Molly Homemaker
22. Tan Xue' Ai, Candice Student
23. Wang Chin Kiong Engineer
24. Wee Wei Wen, Timothy Student
25. Wong Siow Foong, Alice Self-employed
26. Yap May Yin, Lynn Student

FILIPINA FELLOWSHIP (BAPTISM)


27. Arlyn Jardineco Bandada Domestic Helper
28. Marianela Gagua Reyes Domestic Helper
29. Maricel Baggay Mallonga Domestic Helper
30. Melita Lazo Roxas Domestic Helper
31. Riza Moreno Cornelia Domestic Helper
32. Rosalyn Estrada Reyes Domestic Helper
33. Rovelyn Alambay Macarilay Domestic Helper
34. Salvacion Devera Villanueva Domestic Helper

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

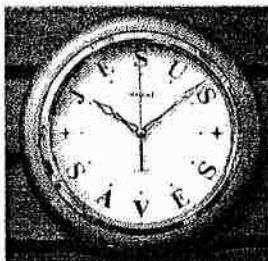
01. Chew Hock Leong, Maurice Med. Practitioner
02. Heng Hock Choon Lecturer
03. Lui Siew Keong, Stephen Business Manager
04. Soh Eng Mui, Miranda Nurse
05. Tan Kim Chai, Casey
06. Yeak Mei Mei, Simone Service Manager




APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 28 - Nov 3, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS: \$43,375.00		
MON	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today (Rev Tow)	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$150; Batam-Roska \$50; Batam Church BF \$50; Mission Fund \$150; BASC \$50; MsF \$200; Rev Seet \$100; Rev Wong \$100; Tan Klan Sing \$1000; Rev Tow \$268; Cambodia Church BF \$150; Cambodia Missionaries \$150; Maasai Medical Ministry \$50; Mercy Ministry \$300, \$100; David Koo Bible School \$300; Mok & Carol \$110, \$100; Jemima Khoo \$50; Tan Nee Keng \$200. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$160, \$200, \$10,000, \$520, \$150, \$400, \$50, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$1665, \$100, \$50, \$300, \$500, \$50, \$300, \$500, \$10,000, \$1000, \$400, \$10,000, \$1000, \$3000, \$1000, \$400, \$1000, \$300, \$1000, \$500, \$168, \$1227(lovegift for CD), \$66,700(Anniv. gifts from churches). GRAND TOTAL: \$4,405,953.44.		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg			
WED	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal			
THU	7.30 pm	Soteriology (Dr Jeffrey Khoo)			
FRI	7.30 pm	FEK Concert, Sanctuary			
SAT	11.00 am	Matthew Saw & Sharon Lim Wedding (Rev Charles Seet)			
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF			
	8.00 am	Is There a Hell? (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	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	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	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS: (1) Thank God for His Word. May this thanksgiving of \$200 be used for the work in the Johore Bahru and Kota Tinggi Sunday School Ministry. 1) All those who were baptised, transferred, reaffirmed in the faith, and parents who had their infants baptised at the Anniversary Service are cordially invited to a Catechumens-meet-the-Session Fellowship Lunch today, 27 Oct at 12.00 pm at Beulah House. 2) Our condolences to Winston Chiam and family on the homegoing of his father, Chiam Ah Beng (82) on 24 Oct 02. 3) Who would offer a new computer for FEFST working on the KJV-Falam Bible? 4) EBF Camp Registration Closing Date today. The Person and The Work of the Holy Spirit by Rev Jack Sin. 25-29 Nov 02. Venue: Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing. Pls contact Bro Tiong Meng at Tel: 96488265 or email romans58@starhub.net.sg for registration.			
3.00 pm	Thai Service				
4.00 pm	Indonesian Service				
4.30 pm	Sharon BPC Service				
6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall				
NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson, Woodlands. Prayer Mtg: 105					
Verse for the Week: <i>And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.</i> Isaiah 33:6					
Preaching appointments: Rev Wong at Galilee BPC, 9 am and Ordination of Sim Peng Sin at Gerizim BPC, 1.15 pm. Rev Seet at Indonesian Service, 4 pm.					



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(Ring Pastor 62502138 Anytime)

Vol. XI No. 14

27 October 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Rev Charles Seet	Elder Eric Mahadevan
Opening Hymn	No. 236	No. 18
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalms 84	Eph 2:1-10
Hymn	O Lord of Hosts...	No. 256
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 46	No. 267
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jude 3	James 2:14-26
Sermon	Does the Church Need a 21st Century Protestant Reformation? (Rev Tow)	Justification by Faith Alone (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	The King James Bible...	No. 46
Benediction		

MOBILISING OUR CHURCH TILL HE COMES

(Message delivered by Pastor at the 52nd Anniversary Service, Life Church, Oct 20, 2002)

Text: 1 Thess 5:1-11

Today is the happy 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving of Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. It is a time to look backwards, to recount the Lord's blessings on our Church, despite our failures and shortcomings. It is also a time to look forwards, and upwards, and to realize how near is the Second Coming of our Lord!

The world today is gripped by terrorism and by wars and rumours of war. And while politicians are trying to solve these problems, they are groping like drunkards in the dark of night, without the light from above. But in Christ, Paul declared we are all the children of light and children of the day.

We know perfectly that the day of the Lord will come suddenly with swift destruction and the people of the world shall not escape. The present pressures of America on Iraq are no surprise to us.

Do you know the peace period between end of WWI 1918 and beginning of WWII 1939 was only 21 years? Between 1945 end of WWII and the present, peace has been reigning for 57 years. That a big war is brewing and coming is "unavoidable." Rev 9:13-16 foretelling a last war identified as WWII by some to break out at Euphrates, that is, modern Iraq, is most significant in

the light of today's war propaganda.

Since Jesus is coming to judge this sinful world with nations fighting nations, we must get ready for the rapture from a burning earth into the clouds of heaven. Are you ready with your space suits? Our space suits are made of the breastplate of faith and love and for an helmet the hope of salvation. Do you have the faith and hope in our Saviour Jesus Christ? Do you love Him? Do you have the confidence He will come and save you from terrible destruction on earth? Do you daily look up to Him?

If so you will not be trying to get rich. You will not be speculating in shares. You will not be speculating in properties. You will not look for freehold land.

For we are in a migration programme from destruction to God's Kingdom above, to our Happy Land beyond space and you will live for Him by using all your resources to the work of saving souls. (He will provide for all your needs.)

You will want to preach the Gospel of His Kingdom in all the world, for a witness unto all nations before the end comes (Matt 24:14). And while He may come tomorrow and if not in another 10 or 20 years, we will struggle our best for as long as He tarries. We will want to open new frontiers of the Gospel wherever we can.

Therefore let us mobilise our Churches, totally mobilise our people, to go into the world as He enables us. We have just entered a new field in Kota Tinggi on the East

Coast of Malaysia. We have enrolled a Sunday School of over 25 in three weeks and we can foresee 100 to come in within 6 months, praise the Lord!

To the uttermost part of the earth takes us to Maasai Land in Kenya, on the border of Tanzania. Here is the cry for a doctor to fully run the clinic now in the charge of Nurse Chan Pui Meng.

Praise the Lord, our Church has a membership of 1600. We have both people power and money power. The motivation for our living on planet earth is to win as many souls as we can until He comes to call us home.

*Hallelujahs fill the heavens
For the saints have all come home
To Jerusalem! To Jerusalem!
Joyfully they shout Hosannas!
Come and crown Him King of Kings!
In the New Jerusalem!*

SERMON FROM MY ILLNESS

I got very sick the last one year with a slipped disc and prostate troubles. This obliged me to be ward at Mt Alvernia Hospital. Dr Lim Teck Chye, Life Church elder, who visits his patients regularly at Mt Alvernia, immediately formed a council of specialists consisting of Dr Cheng Wei Nien who diagnosed me for slipped disc and Dr Jimmy Beng urologist to take care of my prostate. Besides this, there were Dr Su Hong Zee and Dr Mah, anaesthetists, Dr Gwee Hak Meng for my diabetes, Dr Susan Lau for my heart and Dr Jane Yap for my lungs.

After a week of physiotherapy I seemed to be recovering from my slipped disc when suddenly I was seized with urination troubles which totally blocked my whole system. This required immediate surgery which involved Drs Su and Mah and the scalpel of Dr Jimmy Beng. It was speedy and clean work, and I woke up totally relieved, without pain, for which I am most grateful to Dr Beng.

As for my diabetes it had not worsened. Today my readings are between five and six.

But there were signs of pneumonia developing and Dr Jane Yap came to my help. Finally I was let out of hospital after a full twenty-one day confinement. During all this time, Dr Lim our own elder was the coordinator. When I returned home he even brought me food from the stalls to whet my appetite.

Thinking I had fully recovered, I preached my first sermon at the Chinese Service in February.

Standing at the pulpit for over half-an-hour knocked me out. The pain related to my slipped disc returned. Dr Cheng would not operate on me for my age. To continue preaching I had to sit on a high chair the next three months. All he prescribed for me was, lie down flat as much as possible. No medicine, no corset. By July I had improved such that I could keep my Cambodian appointment to inaugurate Moses Hahn's Bible School and by September to go to Africa to open a Clinic built by Life Church in Maasai Land, Nurse Chan Pui Meng. Now as I speak at Life Church's 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving, I can say I am 85 per cent recovered.

From my almost a year's illness I have learned from Psalm 103:1-5 David's formula to return thanks to Almighty God. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name." I must thank Him with my whole being, from the bottom of my heart. I must give Him whatever I can from my substance and resources, a part of my livelihood. A Maasai man who had an arm swollen with pus had 250 cc of it totally drained out by Dr Patrick Tan's knife. So happily relieved by the doctor's touch he offered a goat to the Lord.

When God relieves us from our sickness, He blesses us totally. "And forget not all His benefits."

Foremost is the forgiveness of our sins. Calvin says God sends us sickness that we may confess them on our sickbeds. With our hearts cleansed can we then be healed in our bodies.

"Who redeemeth thy life from destruction" means "this sickness is not unto death." My joy of recovery is complete because I was pronounced clean of cancer. In prostate operations in the United States the incidence of cancer is high and Singapore is fast catching up. On top of this complete release He crowns me with the joys of living again. The most basic of which is a good appetite. Without appetite it is like falling sick again. "Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things: so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." How good to be in the pink of health again!

Now that the Lord has restored me to life again, I must offer my life back to His service.

There is a saying among Christians in Peking. (In Peking they call a doctor "taifu.") "If it is a small sickness look up the *taifu*. But if it is a big sickness you must go to Yesu." But we must say, "Whether the sickness is big or small you must go to Yesu!" Amen?

Opening Remarks at Our 52nd Anniversary Dinner

By Elder Han Soon Juan

On behalf of our beloved Pastor, who is the founding pastor of the Life B-P Church and the B-P Movement, and who is also the founding principal of the FEBC, and on behalf of the Session, and all members of the Life B-P Church, I wish to extend a very warm welcome to all our brothers and sisters from other B-P Churches represented here, our distinguished guests and friends. In particular, I specially wish to extend a very warm welcome home to our missionaries who are serving in toil, tears and trials in less than hospitable and often hostile environments in other countries.

We want to thank Almighty God that tonight's dinner is unique, that it is history-making, and that it is the last time that our anniversary dinner is being held in such idyllic surroundings. But that's a small price we have to pay for progress, for this beautiful place will soon make way for a spanking new modern building to house the Far Eastern Bible College and our many fellowship groups. Beulah House will be transformed into the New Beulah House.

For those of you who were here in the late 1980s, you will remember that our church cum bible college complex was literally bursting at the seams. It was only with the Lord's enabling that our beloved Pastor was able to use his ingenuity and resourcefulness to keep an expanding church and bible college within our confines. To facilitate the numerous church groups and their activities and to accommodate a growing bible college student body, the built-in area of our church was increased many-fold by our creative Pastor, who worked very hard in initiating the erecting of quite a few annexes with exotic names such as the "Squirrel House", the "Jerusalem Court", etc.

In April 1990, the Lord blessed us with Beulah House which was so named because of its "marriage" value to our church. Since then, Beulah House has been used as a hostel for mainly married students and their families. Our Pastor always says that 'the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself', so Beulah House has been a home away from home for many a visiting missionary, guest and friend. Through this hospitality ministry, many guests have been brought to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

God willing, our recently-submitted building plans will soon be approved by the relevant

authorities. In March next year, the existing buildings will be demolished, and the construction of the New Beulah House will commence. The tentative completion date is expected to be sometime in the later part of 2004. Hopefully, by the grace of God, we may meet here for our 54th anniversary dinner in October 2004.

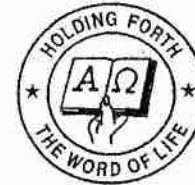
With the leadership of Dn LS Pang, who is the chairman of our building committee and who has been and still is a building developer, you can be assured that the building of New Beulah House is in good hands. With his vast experience and expertise together with his team in the building committee, especially our able architect Dn Victor Loo from Messrs Ang Kheng Leng & Partners, incidentally our original architects for Life B-P Church, and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Dn LS Pang will make sure that tangibly and visually the New Beulah House will shine as a beacon "for the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ".

As you all know, the acquisition of Beulah House in 1990 was by no means an easy task. The Session of our Church was fully aware that, as the Pastor, Rev. Timothy Tow was leading his flock on bended knee agonizing to Almighty God day and night for the successful purchase of the property. By the grace of God, Lifers and other like-minded lovers of God rallied to bring in their tithes and offering to the tune of \$7.2 million in just over 6 months to close the deal. It's indeed a miracle.

Our most cost-conscious Dn LS Pang, who perhaps has "inherited" from our beloved Pastor the same "thrifty gene" in the very careful use of God's money, has estimated the cost of building New Beulah House to be just over \$6 million. But brothers and sisters, please do not be complacent. Though this sum is much below the original purchase price of \$7.2 million, and though we have already had \$4 million in the kitty, we must face reality. We are living in bad times, and the forecast is that we may be heading for worse times. May I therefore encourage you not only to pray earnestly and fervently for this building project but also to bring in your tithes and offering so that the New Beulah House will be completed in good time for God's glory.

Finally, we thank God that we come here as one big family, to give thanks unto the Lord for all his bountiful blessings; and to fellowship one with another about the Lord's goodness towards us in our respective churches. All praise and glory be unto the Lord. Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 4 - 10, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	No Lecture	\$13,146.00 (8.00 am); \$17,429.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Orph \$30, \$250, \$100; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$300; Surish \$100; Batam-Roska \$300; Baraka BPC \$20; Rev Andrew Kam \$30; Myanmar Orph \$100; Chinese Bibles for China \$20; BASC \$50; MsF \$150, \$200, \$400, \$5000; FEK \$1200; FEBC Scholarship Fund \$5000; Calvin Loh \$150; Rev Seet \$500, \$168; Rev Wong \$50; Ng Sang Chiew \$50; Quek Keng Khwang \$200; Tan Bee Choo \$150; Tan Kian Sing \$200; Chan Pui Meng \$300; FEFST \$2000; Mercy Ministry \$150; David Koo's Bible School \$200; Johore Ministry \$50.		
THU		FEBC Exams Begin	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$200, \$30, \$150, \$200, \$250, \$1000, \$5000, \$1000, \$1000, \$500; \$464 (gift for CD).		
FRI	7.45 pm	Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm	GRAND TOTAL: \$4,215,997.44. STOP PRESS! \$100, \$1000.		
	7.45 pm	Ladies' Fellowship, Music Room	Corrigendum: Last week's New Beulah House Grand Total should read: \$4,206,153.40.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	Geraldine Chan has re-designated her offerings totalling \$1,000 to New Beulah House.		
SUN	8.00 am	Is There A Heaven? (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 (Rev Tow)			
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	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			
	6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall			
NBC This Week. Wed Newton; Fri Woodlands.					
Prayer Mtg: 98					
Sunday School Offering: \$716.05; Attendance: 397					
Verse for the Week: Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. Psalm 143:8					



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Vol. XI No. 15

3 November 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Wee Chin Kam	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 213	O Could I Speak
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rev 20:1-15	Psalm 16
Hymn	No. 121	When in the Night...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 317	No. 293
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Lk 16:19-31	Matt 15:29-39
Sermon	Is There A Hell? (Rev Charles Seet)	Ministry of Relieving the Pain of Suffering (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 267	No. 58
Benediction		Lord's Supper

DOES THE CHURCH NEED A 21ST CENTURY PROTESTANT REFORMATION?

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life Church 8.00 am Service,
Oct 27, 2002)

Text: Jude 3

Every year our B-P Churches in Singapore and Malaysia remember the 16th Century Reformation on the Sunday nearest to Oct 31st, 1517, the day Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on the Church door of Wittenburg, Germany. The 95 theses were 95 statements, and these were a refutation of the Roman Catholic practice of selling indulgences, "forgiveness" tickets, to her members. These indulgences from the Pope could cut short the time that one's relative has to spend in the fires of Purgatory to be cleansed before he can go to heaven. As the Pope needed money to renovate the Vatican where he stayed, he held a cheap sale of his "forgiveness" tickets. Tetzel, the Pope's representative, coined a clever couplet, "As soon as your coin into the coffer clinks, out of the fires of Purgatory the soul springs." To aid your understanding of the events that brought about the 16th Century Reformation, whereby we separated from Rome to become Protestants, Rev Charles Seet has prepared an excellent pamphlet

for your further reading. The 16th Century Reformation was the greatest revival that the Church experienced since the days of the Apostles, as declared by a famous Church historian, Philip Schaff.

Alas! History repeats itself! After 400 years, when the Protestant Church began to backslide and came under the sway of modernism and liberalism, a new movement called the Ecumenical movement has arisen to rally all Protestant Churches, modernist, evangelical, charismatic, fundamental, under one roof (that is what ecumenical means) to return to Rome. These would unite as the World Council of Churches.

This was 1948 when I arrived in the States to study at Faith Seminary. No sooner had I stepped into Faith Seminary, one wintry morning in January, than there came a distinguished looking gentleman in his early forties to speak at our chapel. He was Dr Carl McIntire, pastor of Collingswood Bible-Presbyterian Church and President of the Board of Directors of Faith Seminary itself. His topic was "The Need of a 20th Century Reformation." He spoke impassionately for nearly an hour. He revealed how the modernist Protestant Churches were rallying Churches of all denominations, liberal or evangelical, charismatic or fundamental, in an Ecumenical drive whose final objective was to

reunite with Rome. They were organised as the World Council of Churches (WCC).

He stressed the importance of withstanding this anti-Reformation movement and so the need of a separatist council to preserve all fundamental churches in a 20th Century Reformation. He would form an International Council of Christian Churches (ICCC) to uphold the 16th Century Reformation. When I heard that the modernist churchmen, by their action, would betray the Cause of Jesus Christ, my heart was gripped. I would stand with Dr McIntire to fight the WCC. My heart was knit with his heart as Jonathan's was to David's.

When I returned to Singapore I got Rev Quek Kiok Chiang and Rev Hsu Chiang Tai, elder and deacon of Life Church, Prinsep Street to join the 20th Century Reformation. We became known as the Three Musketeers.

We exposed leaders of the Malayan Christian Council, local representatives of the World Council of Churches. We exposed their leaders for their liberalism in denying the Virgin Birth of Christ, and for denying hell as well. During the last 50 years I have stood with Dr McIntire and the ICCC. I have gone with him to all continents to witness against the WCC. Dr McIntire was taken to glory, Mar 2002, age 95. Praise the Lord he has fought a good fight, and finished his course and kept the faith. He has revived many churches by the 20th Century Reformation Cause around the world.

When I am assigned to speak on the subject, "Does the Church need a 21st Century Protestant Reformation?" Jude 3 immediately came to my mind. I am constrained earnestly to contend for the faith by the Holy Spirit stirring my heart.

By God's grace we have battled the ecumenism of the WCC (World Council of Churches) for half a century. By God's grace the WCC has come to the end of its tether. They are now heavily in debt. But the Neo-Evangelicals connected with the WCC have signed two documents, one in 1994 and the other in 1997, called Evangelicals and Catholics Together (ECT). This is their self-delusion for the Catholics still cling to the doctrine of salvation by faith plus works, whereas Protestants believe, "The just shall live by faith." Period.

Like the monkey-god who can change his

identity seventy-two times the battle with Satan is now shifted to the Bible, God's Holy Word. And he is using his old tactic from the Garden of Eden, "Yea, hath God said?"

Do you know insofar as the English-speaking world is concerned, for 400 years till now, we have been using the King James Bible, the Authorised Version? In 1952, exactly 50 years ago the WCC made a new translation based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort. The new translation is the Revised Standard Version. It attacks the Virgin Birth of Christ, changing the word Virgin to young woman. What young woman cannot conceive? Dr McIntire, president of ICCC, immediately went to battle with the RSV. By his quick action their sales were curtailed. From 1952 to this day over 100 new versions have flooded the market. The NIV (New International Version), 1978 also based on Westcott and Hort as most of the others, has now practically captured the market insofar as Singapore is concerned.

All these years the leadership of BPism in Singapore has been duped by Westcott and Hort until Dr D A Waite, ThD, PhD came to speak to our B-P Churches in 1992. Our eyes were opened to who the Deadly Duo were. Though eminent Greek scholars, they manoeuvred to supplant the Textus Receptus (the Traditional Greek Text) on which the KJV is based, with their new corrupt text. But Westcott and Hort, while giving lip service to our Lord, are exposed today as modernists and liberals. They deny every fundamental doctrine of our Faith including Jesus' Virgin Birth, Blood Atonement, and Bodily Resurrection. They call Genesis 3 a myth, being friends of Darwin and Freud. They were secret worshippers of Mary. "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). To warn those who are using the NIV of the authors of their corrupt text is the special need as we enter the 21st Century. Those who say we can use any version of modern Bibles to help us from the old English of the KJV are succumbing to their deadly design.

Lately, in USA, death to unknowing innocents has come from a concealed sniper. Both

Government and public are trying to catch the culprit. When I exposed the deadly sniping of 9,900 words in the Bible by Westcott and Hort a couple of months ago a poisonous writer in the Church challenged me to "love your enemies" instead. This is a misapplication of Jesus' teaching. For He refers to private enemies. Westcott and Hort are not one's private enemies but public enemies, like the present hidden sniper wanted by everybody. Praise the Lord, he is caught. People can now move freely. But Westcott and Hort are still entrenched in the Church.

Yes, we have need of a 21st Century Protestant Reformation. It is a return to the good old Bible God has given us the last 400 years. May all my faithful hearers also spread this message not only about the corrupt NIV but also the 100 "perversions of new Bibles." Let us "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3).

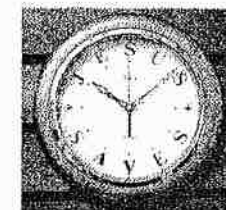
The King James Bible vs. The Hundred Versions

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.*

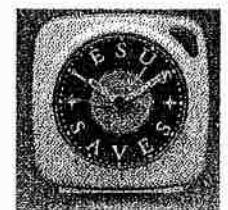
- They denied Jesus' Virgin Birth,
His Blood and His Resurrection,
Creation and Fall but a myth.*
8. *Who shall ascend my holy hill?
He that has clean hands and pure heart.
With unclean hands and heart impure,
Can Westcott and Hort have a part?*
9. *An influx of hundred versions:
By Westcott and Hort's 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.*



Give Bible Verse "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" Chinese Art Calendars THIS CHRISTMAS \$2.50 only.



\$14



\$8

JESUS SAVES CLOCKS

**Get your CHRISTMAS CARDS @ 50% discount from FEBC Bookroom
All proceeds go to Beulah House BF.**

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 11 - 17, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
MON	7.00 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	\$5,585.00 (8.00 am); \$24,056.00 (10.30 am) OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-Kenya \$125; Africa-Philip Heng \$50; Cambodia Orph \$400, \$50, \$200; Surish \$300; Batam-Roska \$50, \$150, \$400; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Missions \$40, \$125; Rev Andrew Kam \$50, \$100; Myanmar Orph \$200; BASC \$50; FEBC Students \$40 each; Christine Kendagor, John Minh Saray, Peter Ty Vuth, Sen Ponnreay, Srun Chivan; Tan Kian Sing \$500; Chan Pui Meng \$150, \$400; Cambodia Missionaries \$150; Chiang Mai Truck \$5200, \$2240; Mercy Ministry \$200; David Koo Bible School \$200; Mok & Carol \$150, \$200; Jemima Khoo \$50; Johore Ministry \$500, \$300. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$20, \$250, \$1000, \$500, \$100, \$3000, \$2000, \$200, \$100, \$150, \$50, \$250, \$220, \$200, \$500, \$400, \$400, \$850, \$600, \$1000, \$150. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,228,547.44. STOP PRESS! US\$100; \$50,000, \$150(CD), \$1152.
TUE	7.30 pm	OT Law for Today Exam	
WED	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	Verse for the Week: Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved. Psalm 62:1-2
THU	8.00 pm	Session Mtg	
FRI	7.30 pm	Soteriology Exam	1) Dr S H Tow preaches at 10.30 am Service today. 2) The venue of the 10.30 am Filipino service will be changed to the FEBC Library with effect from today, 10 Nov 02. 3) Chinese VBS. 3-5 Dec 02. Please invite non-Christians to join (Nursery to Pri 6). Helpers needed - drivers, bus runners and teachers. Contact Bee Choo 90017660(HP). Appointments: Rev Tow attending New Life BPC Anniv. Rev Seet preaching at Life Chinese Service, 10.30 am.
SAT	6.00 pm	FEBC End-of-Semester Thanksgiving Service & Dinner	
SUN	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	NBC This Week. Fri Bishan, Bt Timah, Bt Batok, Bedok. Prayer Mtg: 92 Sunday School Offering: \$697.45; Attendance: 400
	5.30 pm	Open Bible Baptist Church Wedding	
	8.00 am	Am I That Bad? (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	
	10.30 am	Rev Tow	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir	
	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	
	6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall	



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Vol. XI No. 16

10 November 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Elder Sherman Ong	Elder Tan Nee Keng
Opening Hymn	No. 540	No. 8
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Psalm 24:1-10	John 15:1-17
Hymn	No. 549	No. 95
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 543	No. 390
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	2 Cor 12:1-4	John 21:15-19
Sermon	Is There a Heaven? (Rev Colin Wong)	Death the Test of Love (Dr Tow Siang Hwa)
Closing Hymn	No. 201	When this Passing World is Done
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

MINISTRY OF RELIEVING THE PAIN OF SUFFERING

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life Church
10.30 am Service, Nov 3, 2002)

Text: Matt 15:29-39

The passage of Scripture we've read consists of Jesus' healing the sick and Jesus feeding the hungry. If you look up the total number of healings and feedings in the four gospels, you will find only two on feeding, viz., the 5,000 and this one, the 4,000, but 20 times the healing of the sick in great multitudes or just one single person.

Jesus would not exceed these two instances of feeding. This is attested by His refusal to the 5,000 who sought Him a second time the next day. He would not want to make them "rice" Christians. Nor would He seek popularity, lest the people would make Him king (Jn 6:15). His is a spiritual kingdom. Following the example of our Lord we have sent 10 Containers of food and clothing to Cambodia. Lest we make them "rice" Christians, we stopped short at that. One good thing about the 10th Container presented by the Bukit Batok NBC was that the relief goods were distributed on Christmas Eve in Jesus' Name.

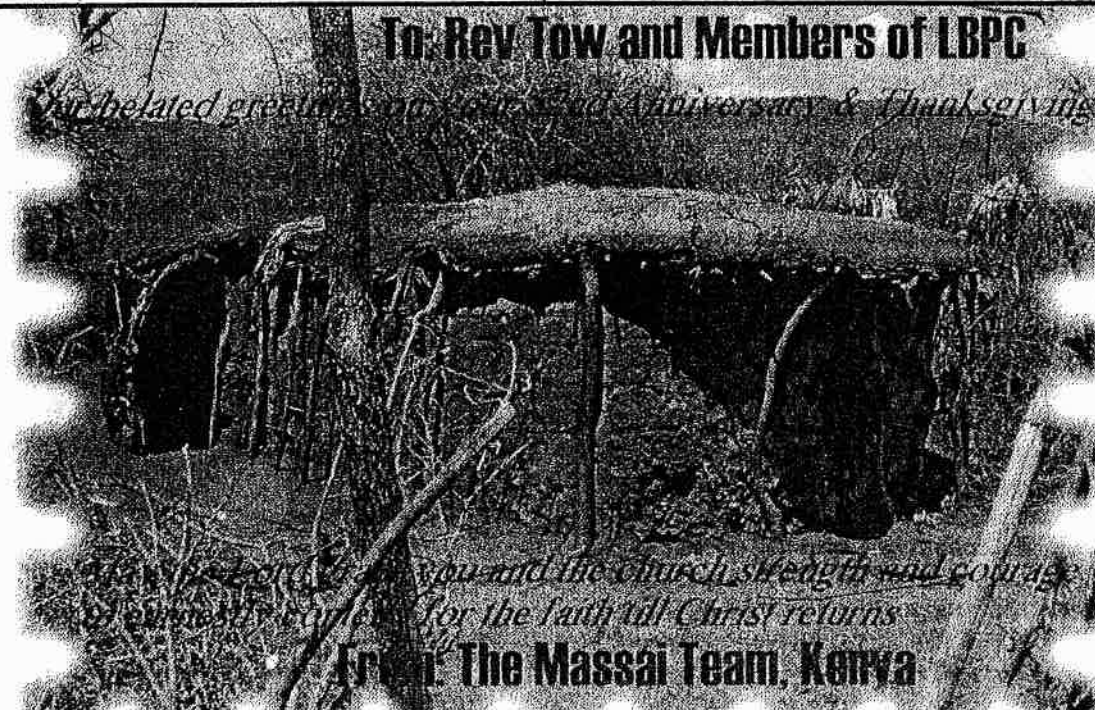
But our missions outreach, whether it be Cambodia or

Indonesia, wherever there is an opportunity to relieve suffering, we will go. For Batam, which is easy to contact, our doctors, dentists and nurses are going on Dec 1st. This is the third time, I think. Pressing on with the ministry of Relieving the Pain of Suffering, we have entered Africa, sending Nurse Chan Pui Meng. I add the word "pain" to bring out the acuteness of suffering after I have experienced the pain of my slipped disc for a good many months. Why is it recorded in the Gospels that our Lord healed 20 times against only two times of feeding? Because of the pain of the sufferers which moves His compassionate heart.

Sickness is the result of sin. If Adam and Eve had not sinned there would be no sickness or death. Healing is part of God's saving plan for the sinner. By healing the body, the patient is led to the saving of his soul. Let those of you who are sick and listed on the weekly sheet take heart. Keep looking up to Jesus.

We have a most wonderful testimony of how a man blind from birth had his eyes opened by washing at the Pool of Siloam. When Jesus revealed to him it was He, the Son of God, who opened his eyes, the blind man, now eyes open, knelt before the Lord. "Jesus," he said, "I believe," and worshipped Him. And being healed and soul saved he went everywhere witnessing Jesus.

This time we visited Maasai Land where Life Church has built a Clinic and I was called to dedicate the Clinic. We met Dr Patrick Tan,



To: Rev Tow and Members of LBPC

Our belated greetings on your 100th Anniversary & Thanksgiving

May the Lord bless you and the church strength and courage
to stand firm for the faith till Christ returns

From The Massai Team, Kenya

founder of the Maasai Mission. With the Clinic operating and Dr Tan there, there came a Maasai man with an arm doubly swollen. One jab of the doctor's knife relieved the pain at once when 250 cc of pus and bad blood gushed out. The restored patient was so grateful that he offered to give a goat. Right there he was introduced to the Great Physician Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whom He must believe. Here is the Power of Deliverance of our Medical Mission to what Pong Sen has reported in the Weekly as a "lost civilisation." I am sure God will use our medical mission to bring hundreds to Christ in the years to come.

One hundred and fifty years ago we Teochews who came to Singapore from Swatow were living in heathen darkness, no better than the Maasais today. William Burns of the English Presbyterian Mission was the first to come to Swatow in 1856. When the first medical missionary came in 1863 he opened a Clinic. With more doctors joining him the Clinic quickly grew into a hospital. God blessed the "ministry of relieving the pain of suffering" so signally, that patients would come from 300 villages around.

Among these patients was the "taotai" or governor, who was dying of dysentery. The English missionary doctor who visited him treated him and saw improvement in two days. He left the governor with more medicine. The governor was healed in a week.

Ten years later when the governor heard the English Presbyterian Mission intended to find a better site for their hospital, he gave them an airy site facing the sea. "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days" (Eccles 11:1).

The English Medical Mission to Swatow spread to Amoy and Taiwan. It has sent a total of 48 doctors in 100 years and converts through the Ministry of Relieving the Pain of Suffering must have run into thousands. As for the Tow family we benefited in my father spending five years at the Swatow Mission Hospital and graduated as a doctor. We migrated from Swatow to Senai, Malaysia in 1926 and settled in a rubber estate. Soon the Great Depression called "Slump" descended on us in 1929. With the price of rubber plunging to rock bottom, all rubber estates were closed. As we had no other means of livelihood, Mother urged Father to see the Chief Medical officer in Johor for a licence to practise. God heard our prayers and

Father could practise as a doctor. Praise the Lord, Father's training in China had become our lifeline. The medical Mission of the English Presbyterian Mission that came to Swatow had been a channel of blessings even to the Tow family.

Today, Missions from the West are dwindling. Missions from the East are rising to take their place. Korea is at the forefront with 12,000 missionaries in 120 countries, according to Dr Moon of the Korean Church. We Lifers are beginning to be involved in foreign missions, with 25 in the fields. Maasai Land with a Clinic opened by Life Church is a big step forward. Now, we urgently need a doctor.

The Church is planning another trip to Maasai Land, April 03. With a Church of our size we have the manpower and money power. With our Singapore dollar still retaining sizeable strength we can support missions better than the Koreans.

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "*Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me*" (Isa 6:8).

52 YEARS IN THE ARENA OF FAITH

By the Pastor
IV.

The Church of England has the Apostles' Creed containing these saving truths for the confirmation of her grown-up children. And these truths are required to be safe-guarded of her Bishops by their ordination vows. *The Book of Common Prayer* has the Archbishop's charge to the consecrating Bishop, "Be you ready, with all diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrine contrary to God's Word, and both privately and openly to call upon and encourage others to the same?" To which the ordained one must answer, "I am ready, the Lord being my help." The *Malaysia Christian* which is devoted solely to the propagation of the gospel of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, and in defence of the faith once delivered unto the saints, has not only carried out the command of Christ, but also done a little job to the Archbishop's pleasure, if so be that the *Book of Common Prayer* is to be literally interpreted.

It is absolutely untrue that we "disapprove of ordinary denominational Christians who accept a man's right to interpret the Bible for himself." We are Bible-believing Presbyterians, and while

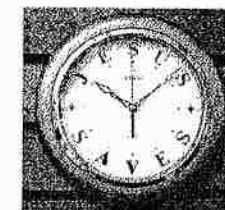
holding to the Presbyterian form of church government, we, in the words of the Constitution of the Bible Presbyterian Church "also believe there are truths and forms, with respect to which men of good character and principles may differ and in all these, we think it the duty both of private Christians and societies, to exercise mutual forbearance toward each other." That is also the position of the International Council of Christian Churches to which we gladly belong, in which movement there are 80 different Christian groups from over forty countries. Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Independents stand together shoulder to shoulder on the platform of same fundamentals of faith, despite their minor differences. But, if there is anyone, even an angel, who should preach a gospel different from the Gospel, we are enjoined of God to warn that man, "Let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:8). The truths of arithmetic, two and two make four, cannot in any circumstance of human intercourse, not even in kindergarten, be compromised. No one can agree with another who preaches two and two make four-and-a-half. Thus, the truths of eternal salvation through the shed blood of Christ, the eternal Son of God, so plainly taught in the sacred Scriptures, can in no wise be compromised. We respect a man's right to interpret the Bible, for himself, but such a right as is in obedience to the piercing light of the Holy Spirit, who is the original author and interpreter of the Bible. If a man will use his arrogant human wisdom as a licence to attack the Word of God and use his right as a cover to his licence, we deem it a Christian's duty, to go to our Lord's defence. "Even a dog will bark when his master is attacked," is the illuminating remark of a brother at the recent Japan Conference of the Far Eastern Council of Christian Churches.

What are our extremes apart from pointing out the grave danger from church leaders' denial of the abovementioned unchangeable saving truths? Is it conscionable to hear a Presbyterian pastor deny the virgin birth of Christ and keep discreet silence? Is it right for a Christian leader of Bishop status to laud human religions at the expense of Christ, in an Inter-Religious Organisation in which are Buddhists and Roman Catholics? Is it right for Christians to be urged by the same leader to

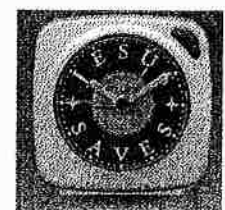
attend a vegetarian supper at a Buddhist temple? Is it right to join the Malayan Christian Council or rather to be roped in with neither knowledge nor consent, when she is entangled in a super world-church movement of the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council? Is it permitted of God to join the unholy fellowship of such ecumenical movement in which are included idolatrous Greek Catholics and Trinity-rejecting Unitarians? These are most fundamental issues confronting the churches of Christ in Malaysia today. Sin consists of not merely the overt act. It also includes the omission of an act where duty so requires it. To keep silence as Queen Esther was wont before seeing Mordecai, would be betraying the children of God at such a time as this.



Give Bible Verse "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" Chinese Art Calendars
THIS CHRISTMAS \$2.50 only.



\$14

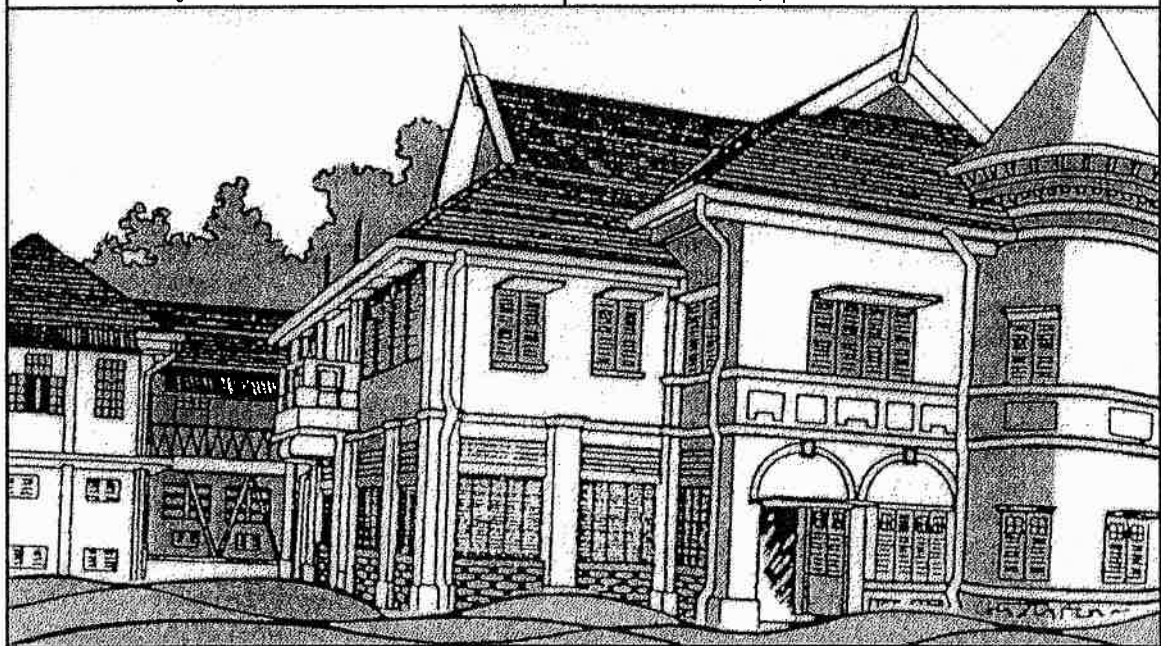


\$8

JESUS SAVES CLOCKS

Get your CHRISTMAS CARDS @ 50% discount from FEBC Bookroom
All proceeds go to Beulah House BF.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 18 - 24, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	8.50 am	Rev & Mrs Tow depart, QF16	\$11,522.00 (8.00 am); \$15,677.00 (10.30 am)		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; Cambodia Orph \$100; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100; Batam-Roska \$50; Indonesia Mission \$400; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Myanmar Orph \$500, \$100; Chinese Bibles for China \$20, \$25; BASC \$200; MsF \$500; FEK \$200; Mersing Youth Camp \$10; Rev Seet \$50, \$100; Christina Lim \$2000; Rev Wong \$100, \$50; Dn Henry Tan \$100; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$100; Ng Sang Chiew \$200; Shachendra \$150; Rev Tow \$800, \$200(Perth Holiday); Chan Pui Meng \$50, \$200; Maasai Medical Ministry (Generator) \$3000; Chinese VBS \$200; Mercy Ministry \$250; Mok & Carol \$100; Johore Ministry \$50; David Koo's BF \$2520.		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$300, \$25, \$180, \$200, \$1152, \$150.		
SUN	4.00 pm	Golden Age Fellowship	GRAND TOTAL: \$4,282,054.44. STOP PRESS! \$160(CD), \$2240(FEBC Lecturers), \$60(Boxes).		
	8.00 am	Is the Devil Real? (Pr Quek Keng Khwang)	Statement in relation to the Resignation of our Assistant Pastors, Rev Charles Seet and Rev Colin Wong from teaching at FEBC.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Rev Charles Seet and Rev Colin Wong resigned from teaching at FEBC due to differences in conviction and our Church Session is looking into the issues. However this will not affect the Pastoral Ministry of our Assistant Pastors in our church. Our Church Session is in full support of both of them.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	1) Golden Age Fellowship at the home of Mrs Seow Chong Pin, Sat. 23 Nov, 4.00 pm. Address: 7 Lily Ave, S'pore 277763. Tel:6469-8650. Speaker: Rev Charles Seet.		
	10.30 am	Rev Colin Wong	2) Chinese VBS. 3-5 Dec 02. Please invite non-Christians to join (Nursery to Pri 6). Helpers needed - drivers, bus runners and teachers. Contact Bee Choo 90017660(HP).		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Thai Service, 3pm and Rehoboth BPC, 6pm.		
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	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			
	6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall			
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 98					
Sunday School Offering: \$697.65; Attendance: 412					
Verse for the Week: <i>And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.</i> Deuteronomy 31:8					



Lifers

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Vol. XI No. 17

17 November 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Chin Hoong Chor	Rev Charles Seet
Opening Hymn	No. 64	O Lord of Heaven!
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Rom 3:9-26	Psalms 18
Hymn	No. 175	As Thou, O Lord...
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	Before Thee God...	No. 324
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Jer 17:9-10	Acts 4:32-37
Sermon	Am I That Bad? (Eld Dr Lim Teck Chye)	Ministry of Relieving the Financial Burdens of Needy Members (Rev Tow)
Closing Hymn	No. 307	No. 261
Benediction		

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers

1. Welcome Rehoboth!

Let us sing, "Welcome, welcome all of you, Glad you are with us" to Rehoboth English Service to worship at FEBC Hall, every Lord's Day 6.00 pm. Rehoboth has persevered for 10 full years with a sprinkling of Lifers, led by Eld Edmund Tay together with Eld Joseph of Sharon BPC. The majority of the Congregation is made up of Tamils. Lifers who cannot come to Service in the morning are recommended to come to Rehoboth 6.00 pm in the evening. Better late than never.

2. Going Downunder

This is to inform you that with Session's approval, I and Ivy are taking a month's vacation leave downunder in Perth, where the first Australian Church was founded in 1986 by my brother, Dr S H Tow. Today the BPCWA has become 4 churches, one of which is Faith Presbyterian Church headed by Rev Errol Stone. My leaving for Perth, Nov 18 - Dec 18 coincides with Errol's coming to speak at a combined B-P Camp of 4 churches at Ayer Keroh, Malacca early Dec. So I shall substitute for him while he is away from Perth. With BPCWA's Rev James Sun welcoming me

to his pulpit, I shall be fully occupied. Since I am on a working holiday, Session has voted to pay for our air tickets for which we are very thankful.

Meanwhile Dr Jeffrey Khoo and family are in Sydney for a month as he preaches for Eld Koh Kim Hiang who returns to Singapore because his visa to Australia is a limited one. This is an age of travel, with cheap tickets.

3. Beulah House Flooded

On the back page this week you'll see Beulah House flooded. It was to express our great difficulty in trying to gather \$5.2 million in 6½ months to buy over the prized property. With men it was impossible, but with God we did it. All glory to the Almighty Father.

Having learnt the lesson of cheerful giving and having experienced nothing lacking but receiving more from His rewarding hand, Lifers have become hilarious givers. This is reflected in our offering at the 52nd Anniversary Thanksgiving. We have exceeded a quarter million during the last three weeks, praise the Lord. Is this not something to praise the Lord?

We wrote Oct 29, 2002 to the Development Control Division of the Urban Redevelopment Authority to shorten their planning study period in the proposed erection of our 6-storey Bible College with provision of one level basement car park at 10 Gilstead Road. We have

now received a reply from the Authorities that we will have to wait till January next year for the outcome of our application. Let us pray to the Higher Government Above that our desire for speeding up the matter will come in good time.

4. Maasai House

Last week we showed you how a Maasai house, plastered with cow-dung, looked like. This should move our people all the more to uplift them from a "lost civilisation" to "a clean and holy manner of living" with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Chan Pui Meng by her nursing skill has contributed to the "Ministry of Relieving Pain of Suffering" but now they need a doctor. "Who will go for us?"

One sign of the Lord's blessing upon Sister Chan Pui Meng's work in the Maasai Clinic is the prompt response to an appeal for a new generator. \$3,000 was received last Lord's Day which has enabled one to be purchased in time for a New Life Church Team leaving Nov. 16 to Africa to carry along. Life Church will send another Team next April. Missionary visits such as these are fruitful in contributing to the needs in the Missions Fields.

5. Lifers on the Go for Missions

1. The Adult Fellowship will go to Phnom Penh and Batambang in Cambodia to conduct VBS, gospel rally, children and youth programmes 28/11-14/12.

2. Poh Yok is heading for Kompong Som Dec 9 to help David Koo establish their kindergarten in the new 3-storey block and train more kindergarten teachers. If you can help, please contact her now. Praise God for young Lifers venturing out for the Lord.

6. Mersing, A Tourism Centre

A few days ago there appeared in the Straits Times a full report on Mersing beginning from now to be developed in the next 10-15 years to be a Tourism Centre. A new jetty is to be constructed to service the 10 islands off-shore. One new feature will be hotels. The main highway from Kota Tinggi to Jemaluang and Mersing has been completely straightened and widened, cutting the driving time from J.B. to Mersing to 2½ hours.

These new features put our Resort Lautan Biru (Ocean Blue) on the map. More and more churches from both Singapore and Malaysia are using our

Resort in view of our first class facilities. After one year we have become self-sufficient, praise the Lord. Mersing ahoy!

7. Giving to One Another at Christmas

"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). This is a very appropriate verse to celebrate the Birth of our Saviour. What greater gift could God bestow upon us?

In the giving spirit of the Almighty Father, Christians have adopted to sending Christmas cards to one another. This is a wonderful custom to express love for one another. We also give gifts but what's better than giving Christian gifts?

Come; visit our own Bookroom, FEBC Bookroom, where cards are sold at rock bottom prices. All proceeds go to Beulah House BF. Give "Jesus Saves" clocks that preach John 3:16 and Chinese Art Calendars with another soul-saving verse, Acts 16:31, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

Please pray for us as we remember you downunder. —Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

52 YEARS IN THE ARENA OF FAITH

By the Pastor

V.

We shall not say more, except to conclude with an unsolicited testimony from the well-known paper, *The Christian Herald* of Great Britain. Its comments, photographically reproduced by the side of the Bishop's, are a real encouragement to us at a time of need. If the time spent here will be used of God to bring the issues more clearly to His children, so that they can see what is the will of God for them, our effort will not have been made in vain.

Now let us follow up with an article photographed from the *Christian Herald*, 15th August 1953.

The Christian Herald: Worldwide

Head of the Church and Lord of all, who hast committed Thy Gospel to Thy faithful servants: we bless Thy Name for all those who have been kept by Thy grace, and we pray Thee to prosper the work of their hands, and to make them more

than conquerors in the fight. For Thy Name's sake.

The greatest hope for our troubled world, suggests Dr. T. Wilkinson Riddle, is to be found in the NATIVE CHURCH.

It is quite true that English-speaking missionaries have been driven out of China; it is quite true that the recent war in Korea has been a grave set-back to the progress of the Gospel; it is true that the whole of the Far East is honeycombed with godless Communism—but the native church survives. God has not left Himself without a witness. Some workers may be banished, but others carry on. This has been brought home to me very forcibly during the last few days. I have received from Singapore a copy of the Coronation issue of the *Malaysia Christian*, printed mostly in Chinese, and edited by Timothy Tow Siang Hui, and Quek Kiok Chiang. It is a heartening and encouraging production, with the challenging slogan: "For the Word of God, and the testimony of Jesus Christ, and in defence of the faith once delivered unto the saints."

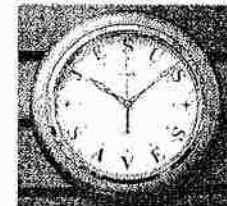
In 1937, as the outcome of a spiritual revival in Singapore, the Chin Lien Bible Seminary was established for the training of Chinese workers. Without endowment or mission support, it has carried on in faith for 16 years, except for three-and-half years of occupation, when the building was commandeered by Japanese soldiers. So greatly has God honoured the faith of His consecrated servants, that plans are under way for considerable extensions to the buildings.

Now this is only one illustration of the way in which the native church, amid countless difficulties, is being kept faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ. All over the Far East, the native church, no longer supported by foreign mission societies, is facing the new situation with courage and hope. It would seem to have come into its kingdom for such a time as this. In the nature of the case, the native church must possess greater influence than a church sponsored by a foreign organisation. The pastors and evangelists and teachers are not handicapped by an ignorance of the language and its idioms, and are able to speak with authority and power to their fellow-countrymen. Yet we must never forget the many

years of patient sowing on the part of European and American missionaries. Indeed, it is due to their faithful testimony that there is a native church left to carry on. From the first, it was recognised that the main object of foreign missionary enterprise was the establishment of a native church, which should be self-supporting, self-governing and self-propagating. In some cases, of course, the native church suffered a grievous loss when foreign missionaries were driven out, and, for a time, they must have felt shepherdless and leaderless; but Christ has fulfilled His gracious promise to be with His servants, to work with them, and to confirm their word with signs following. In our daily prayers we must bear up our fellow-believers in the Far East, co-operating with them by every means in our power.



Give Bible Verse "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" Chinese Art Calendars THIS CHRISTMAS \$2.50 only.



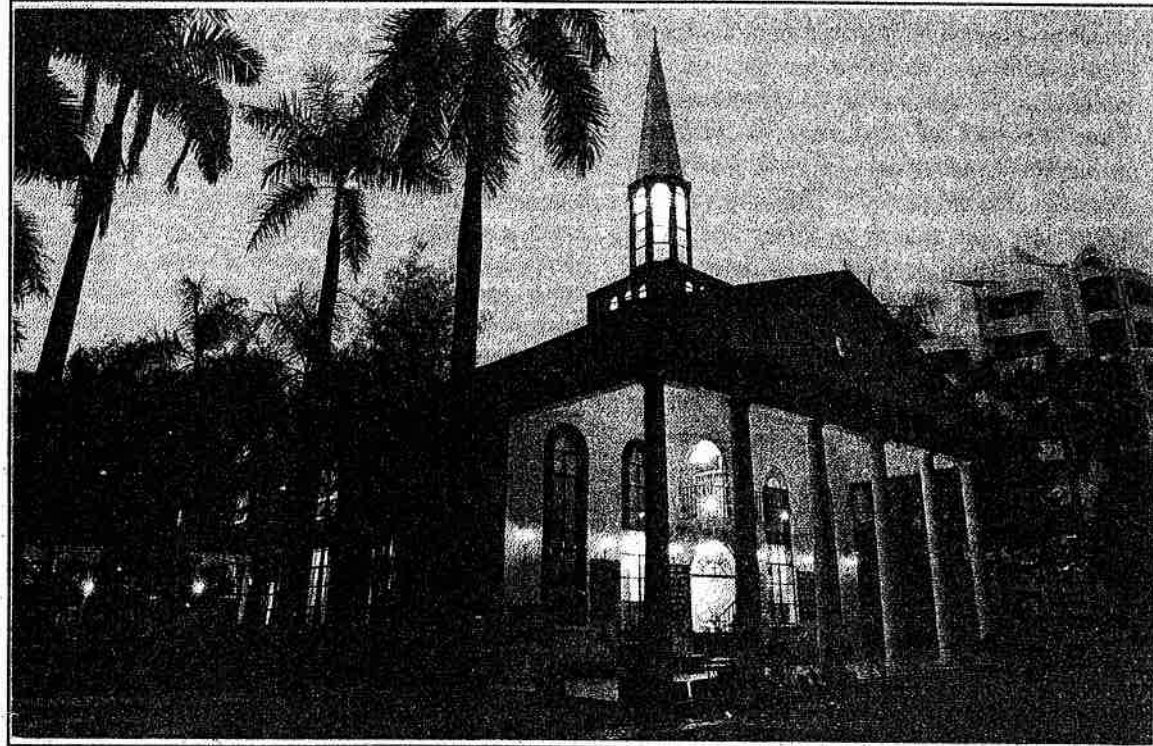
\$14



\$8

JESUS SAVES CLOCKS
Get your CHRISTMAS CARDS @ 50% discount from FEBC Bookroom
All proceeds go to Beulah House BF.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 25 - Dec 1, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
TUE	8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	\$14,104.00 (8.00 am); \$15,474.00 (10.30 am)		
WED	8.00 pm	Combined Fellowship Coordinating Committee Mtg, FEBC Library	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$100; <i>Pailin Orph</i> \$102; <i>Batam-Roska</i> \$20, \$400; <i>Myanmar Missions</i> \$150; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$104; <i>MsF</i> \$200; <i>Mersing Youth Camp</i> \$431; <i>Rev Seet</i> \$100; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$50, \$200; <i>Rev Tow</i> \$180; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$500; <i>Cambodia Missionaries</i> \$400; <i>Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$150, \$104; <i>Mercy Ministry</i> \$250, \$50; <i>Andrew Kam Land Purchase</i> \$500; <i>Johor Ministry</i> \$50; <i>Ly Bunnareth</i> \$50.		
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$1000, \$400, \$450, \$1000, \$400, \$100, \$135, \$200, \$3000, \$200, \$350, \$150, \$50, \$200, \$500, \$1200, \$450. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,291,839.44.		
SAT	2.30 pm	Sharon BPC Wedding	STOP PRESS! \$45(CD).		
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF	1) Rev & Mrs Tow's Address in Perth: Unit 74, 154-156 Mill Point Rd, High Tor, South Perth 6151, W. Australia. Phone 019-61-8-93671992.		
SUN	8.00 am	<i>Is the Theory of the Carnal Christian Biblical?</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	2) Family Worship at the home of Mr & Mrs Goh Seng Huat, Friday 29 Nov, 8 pm. Address: 46A Watten View, S287177, Tel: 64667265. Speaker: Elder Ong Eng Lam.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	3) Chinese VBS, 3-5 Dec 02. Please invite non-Christians to join (Nursery to Pri 6). Helpers needed - drivers, bus runners and assistant teachers. Contact Bee Choo 90017660(HP).		
	9.30 am	Sunday School	Preaching Appointments: <i>Rev Seet</i> at Kebaktian Indonesia, 4pm.		
	10.30 am	Rev Jack Sin, Lord's Supper	Verse for the Week: <i>For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.</i> Hebrews 2:18		
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	10.30 am	Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship			
	10.30 am	Children's Choir Practice			
	10.40 am	Church Choir Practice			
	12.15 pm	Evangelism			
	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	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall			
NBC This Week. <i>Wed</i> Henderson. Prayer Mtg: 94					
Sunday School Offering: \$722.90; Attendance: 397					



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(Ring Pastor 62502138 Anytime)

Vol. XI No. 18

24 November 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Lim Ching Wah	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	No. 44	No. 37
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	James 1:1-15	Titus 3:1-15
Hymn	No. 401	No. 531
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 131	No. 395
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	1 Peter 5:8-9	Matt 5:5
Sermon	<i>Is the Devil Real?</i> (Pr Quek Keng Khwang)	<i>Blessed are the Meek</i> (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 435	No. 376
Benediction		

MINISTRY OF RELIEVING THE FINANCIAL BURDENS OF NEEDY MEMBERS

(Message delivered by Pastor to the Life Church 10.30 am Service, Nov 17, 2002)

Text: Acts 4:32-35

Last week we spoke on the Ministry of Relieving the Pain of Suffering through our Maasai Land Clinic, and how with one small cut from Dr Patrick Tan's knife it released 250 cc of pus and bad blood gushing out of a swollen arm. The patient's pain of suffering was immediately relieved. In deep gratitude he offered to give to the Clinic a goat.

Today let me follow up with the Ministry of Relieving the financial burdens of needy members. The heavy financial burdens of needy members are reflected in half of the two million recipients of Government shares, and cashing them almost immediately. Owing to the economic downturn they need the several hundred dollars to pay debts or to buy the barest necessities of life. In my boyhood days I experienced what abject poverty is. It was the year 1929, the time of the Slump or Great Depression. My father owed an old *towkay* a big sum of money by which he bought our rubber estate. During the Great Depression all rubber estates were closed down. Still my father managed to pay that old *towkay* \$100

a month. I was father's representative to convey the \$100 to him plus a cake made by mother. It was a humiliating experience to see the old *towkay*. As he signed in the booklet receipt of the money, he would clear his throat, roat-roat, against me. Truly one becomes very downcast when one is financially burdened.

What is the Bible's solution to such a situation? Let us learn a lesson from Acts 4:32-35. "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common... Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need."

The love between Christians was manifested when they were persecuted and their livelihood was disrupted. Among the poor many had lost their jobs. Immediately the rich Christians offered to help. They sold their houses or land and brought the money to the Apostles that care be given to the poor, so that they had no lack.

Applying the good example of the early Church to our crisis today, our Church has created a Ministry to the Relief of the Financial Burdens

of the Needy known as the Mercy Ministry. Praise the Lord the spiritually rich have contributed to this Mercy Ministry so that the financial burdens of the needy might be relieved. Insofar as the Church Management is concerned it is their duty to disburse the money accumulated and not to delay at all.

The Fund is not limited to the retrenched as originally planned, but extended to every one in need of help. For example, widows and orphans. ("Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction..."). Some might have made a loss in business, like running a retail shop in an HDB estate. He is a small man. He should also be helped. And how about the sick?

By God's grace only a few of our members have been retrenched while some of the retrenched are now reinstated. Nevertheless the needy must be helped quickly and we have the funds. How are we to administer the funds? Not that they should come forward to claim it, no, but by our pastors recognising them, widows and orphans and the sick included. It is our duty then to bring it up at the monthly Session Meeting to approve a tabled list. Then let the pastors in their visitation present the love gift, left hand not knowing what the right hand has done.

Like Santa Claus who was said to be Saint Nicholas the philanthropist Bishop, who lived in the 4th Century. Knowing of a nobleman's financial hardship, and this nobleman had three marriageable daughters he prepared three bags of gold for their dowry. In the dead of night he went to the nobleman's house. While the daughters were asleep he threw from the open window one bag of gold to the first daughter, then a second, but when he wanted to throw the third bag to the youngest daughter, suddenly the nobleman came on the scene. Having been discovered he begged the nobleman not to tell anyone about it. This is what we call the graciousness of giving. Out of this story from St Nicholas has come the practice of parents preparing stockings in the night for their children expecting them to be filled with Christmas gifts from Santa Claus in the morning. The legendary Santa Claus is our model.

This sermon cannot conclude without a word

of blessing to you who contribute to the Mercy Ministry. Let me pick just a few nuggets for your encouragement from God's Word.

(1) "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy" (Matt 5:7).

(2) "Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies" (Ps 41:1,2).

(3) "He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed" (Ps 37:26).

Now, a word about ourselves. We are spending our working holiday downunder in Perth from Nov 18 to Dec 18. I will substitute for Rev Errol Stone when he comes early December to minister to 4 B-P Churches at Air Keroh, Malacca and to BPCWA (Rev James Sun) the rest of the days. We are living in momentous days. We cannot tell what will happen in a month's time. We must live by looking up, and occupy till He comes. We must do all we can to build His Kingdom. Please pray for us as we pray for you. Shalom. —Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

A CATECHISM ON SAVING FAITH

1. Why must we add "Saving" to "Faith"?
Because Satan has spawned many counterfeit faiths in the world today.
2. What is one of these counterfeit faiths?
One of these counterfeit faiths is 'scholastic' faith.
3. Who has identified this 'scholastic' faith?
Our beloved Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
4. What Book, Chapter and Verse?
Matthew chapter 11 and verse 25.
5. What does it say?
"Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent."
6. What else does it say?
"And has revealed them unto babes."
7. Babe or no babe by what must we approach God?
By His saving faith.

8. Where is it recorded for our learning?

In Hebrews chapter 11 verse 6.

9. What does it say?

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

10. What example of saving faith can you quote from Hebrews 11?

The example of Abel over Cain who relied on his own works.

11. Can a little-educated Christian but full of faith say he or she believes that God has given us a Perfect Bible?

In child-like faith, he or she can say, with no doubt about it.

12. Must he or she prove with 'scholastic' answers?

No, he or she must answer with the plain words of God.

13. What seven verses, among many others, can he or she quote?

First of all, II Timothy 3:16-17, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

14. Secondly, Psalm 12:6-7, "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

15. Thirdly, Matthew 5:18, "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

16. Fourthly, Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away."

17. Fifthly, Mark 13:31, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away."

18. Sixthly, Luke 21:33, "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not

pass away."

19. Seventhly, John 10:35, "... and the scripture cannot be broken."

The last quote from the Bible has direct reference to the Two Tablets of the X Commandments broken by Moses when he saw the children of Israel worshipping not Jehovah but the golden calf. These two broken tablets were immediately restored when Moses went up the Mountain again and the X Commandments were written again, every word of it. It illustrates the doctrine of divine providential preservation of the Scripture. Here those who are the babes-in-Christ by the saving faith of Heb 11:6 can say, "We believe in a Perfect Bible because the Father Almighty has preserved it pure and immaculate for us, forevermore." Amen. —T.T.

TESTIMONY

I was born in a family of Buddhist believers. Since young, I would accompany my parents to visit the temple to pray for good health and safety, to pass examinations and driving test and many others. I had believed that the only way to heaven is through good works. If I do not commit any crimes, I would not go to hell. I was wrong. Because my family was relatively poor, my parents have to work long hours, which left to my siblings to fend for ourselves. Hence, I developed a very independent nature since young. I studied very hard and supported myself through university. I worked for a couple of years overseas, returned to Singapore and continued to work my way up the corporate ladder. Since my parents passed away two years ago, life has started to get meaningless until I met Evelyn. She spoke to me about the gospel and invited me to Life BP Church's worship services. Reluctant at first, slowly but gradually, I attended the worship services regularly and became interested in the doctrines. Through the worship services and study of the Bible, I gained more understanding of God's Word. It was truly gracious of Jesus Christ that He came to this world to save sinners. I now believe there is only one and true living God. I am encouraged to grow in my faith.

—Chiang Sie Boo

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 2 - 8, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON-FRI	Maranatha Baptist Camp	\$10,278.00 (8.00 am); \$15,420.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE 8.00 pm	Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Wendy Teng \$200; JS Heng \$50; Cambodia Orph \$150; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$200, \$500, \$200; Rev Moses Hahn \$200; Batam-Roska \$50; Baraka BPC \$20; Mission Fund \$50; Myanmar Missions \$100; Saipan-Ho Heng Sau \$200; BASC \$50; MsF \$200; Rev Seet \$100, \$200, \$200, \$150, \$100; Rev Wong \$100, \$200, \$50, \$150, \$100, \$168; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$100; Tan Kian Sing \$1000; Chan Pui Meng \$300; Barnabas Yap \$50; Chiang Mai Truck \$250; Mercy Ministry \$500, \$50, \$250, \$200, \$50; Mok & Carol \$200; Working AF \$500; Johor Ministry \$50. NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$50, \$500, \$1170, \$45.	
TUE-FRI	Chinese VBS, Beulah House	GRAND TOTAL: \$4,243,604.44.	
SAT 3.00 pm	LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
SUN 8.00 am	What about People Who Have Never Heard of the Gospel (Rev Charles Seet, Lord's Supper)	(1) Praise the Lord for a new practice where though remuneration may be less, I can serve the Lord by helping the poor and elderly. Thank God also for loving parents who willingly take care of 2 grandchildren so that I may work full-time. (\$4000)	
8.00 am	Children's Ministry	(2) Thank you Lord for your loving protection over me and my family's health and for your gracious mercy in providing for all my needs. (\$1000 for new Beulah House).	
9.30 am	Sunday School	(3) "I will give thanks to you, O Lord among the peoples, I will sing praises to you among the nations" (Ps 108:3). This is our thankoffering to God for His manifold blessings. —Grateful hearts. (\$2000)	
10.30 am	Rev Charles Seet	Adults Sunday School Gospel Rally. Saturday, 21 Dec 02, 3.00 pm, FEBC Hall. Speaker: Pr Quek Keng Khwang.	
10.30 am	Chinese Service	Preaching Appointments: Rev Wong at Berean BPC, 3.00 pm.	
10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir		
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		
6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall		
NBC This Week. Wed Newton; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson. Prayer Mtg: 90			
Verse for the Week: Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works. My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word. Psalm 119:27-28			



Sydney B-P Church



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Vol. XI No. 19

1 December 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dr David Tan	Elder Eric Mahadevan
Opening Hymn	No. 88	No. 21
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Cor 15:50-58	Psalm 19
Hymn	No. 377	No. 93
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 392	No. 358
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 8:1-9; Gal 5:17-24	Deut 18:9-14
Sermon	Is the Theory of the Carnal Christian Biblical? (Rev Colin Wong)	The Grave Peril of Present Day Occultic Influences (Rev Jack Sin)
Closing Hymn	No. 323	No. 201
Benediction		Lord's Supper

testimony. Madam Oi Jim and that is her name, has now returned to Penang.

I preached at BPCWA yesterday morning. My subject was "Clean Hands and Pure Heart" When Coming to Church.

BPCWA was founded by Dr S H Tow 1986 at the instance of Mrs Seethor, migrated here from Calvary (either Jurong or Pandan). This has also involved my coming on many an occasion.

Today, one Church has become four. The first branching out occurred with Rev Charlie Tan and Robin Tan. Now Rev Robin Tan is pastor. The second branching out happened in Rev Peter Chng. The third took place 3 years ago with Rev Errol Stone (Phil 1:18).

Victor Poon and family shifted downunder two years ago. Now they are happily settled in BPCWA and taking an active part.

I wrote a page last week: "A Catechism on Saving Faith." Some are asking what I mean by "saving faith." Answer: The faith that pleases God (Heb 11:6). In the context of Hebrew 11, every one of the heroes of faith is an aspect of the "saving faith." By application, one who believes in an omnipotent God who gives us a perfect Bible has a similar "saving faith," because without such belief you cannot please Him.

—T.T.

AUSTRALETTER NO. 1

My dear Lifers

Perth, W.A.

Nov 25, 02

Thank you so much for praying for us as we also remember you in prayer. There is a Chinese saying, "It is predestinated of us" as a compliment to a friend whom you have pleasure of meeting. This may be said of our ministry to Perth all these years.

My working holiday here makes me shuttle between Faith Presbyterian Church (Errol Stone) and BPCWA (James Sun).

Soon after our arrival we had the honour of speaking in Hokkien to a 95-year-old grandma who has come from Penang to stay with her daughter and son-in-law. By going with them to Church she is drawn to the Lord. She has now believed. Since I speak Hokkien, Mr & Mrs Francis Ng wished to have her further indoctrinated. After speaking to her I grasped the opportunity to have her baptised. To make sure I asked her three times and having understood what baptism is she even knelt down for the sacrament. This is the 3rd baptism in Rev Stone's Church. A Certificate is issued to her to show to her children and grandchildren as a

PREPARATION OF THE WHOLE PERSON TO COME TO CHURCH

(Message delivered by Pastor to BPCWA, Perth, Lord's Day, Nov. 24, 02)

Text: *"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).

"LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved" (Ps 5:1-5).

Today we are gathered together to worship the Lord according to his Word in Hebrews 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."* Outwardly, we are prepared, dressed in our Sunday best. But more important, is our inward preparation. David says, *"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."* Briefly stated, we must have "Clean Hands and Pure Heart."

Now, David asks the same question in Psalm 15, *"Who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?"* Under "Clean Hands and Pure Heart" the two main subjects required by the Lord of us, He shows us seven aspects of our behaviour that do not measure up to the holiness expected. We will now classify them under the two headings.

Under "Clean Hands" God requires that we also walk uprightly. But our feet often go astray into

crooked paths. Even a very famous American charismatic evangelist whom I had watched on the TV here in 1986 yielded to temptation, and was found in the company of a prostitute. I don't want to mention his name.

In Ps 15:5, *"He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent."* In the first part of this statement we see a person as a loan shark, which according to Old Testament Law is a grave sin, especially when high interest is charged on a brother. From such exploitation of a needy brother we learn the lesson not to take advantage of anyone in the smallest degree.

Once there was a big pastor who short-changed a small pastor only \$1.50. When the matter was noised in Christian circles, how it brought shame to the name of the big pastor.

Also, I've known of members who come to Church to make business. First of all, this breaks Sabbath keeping. Secondly if the price charged is higher than outside even by 50 cents, it gives rise to much talk, like the short-changing of \$1.50 by the big pastor on the small pastor.

"Nor taketh reward against the innocent." This refers to greedy judges in certain countries who are bribed by the rich. But it happened in the Jewish Church. Jesus said, *"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). The scribes and Pharisees who were the leaders of the Jewish Church are equivalent to our pastors and elders today. Insofar as BPCWA is concerned, I have the very opposite to say. Being involved with the founding of your Church at its very beginnings in 1986, I can say a fair word for my brother Dr S. H. Tow and Robin Tan and even for Rev James Sun, my student from FEBC. All are exemplary servants of the Lord. Instead of taking from the Church, they have given. My brother got a blank cheque from a sister who loved the Lord to purchase the Church. Robin Tan, a founder of BPCWA who loved your Church saved you \$14,000 by bargaining the price down from \$154,000 to

\$140,000. As for Rev James Sun he is one whom I highly respect for holding fast the B-P doctrines he received from us. Thank God for blessing further BPCWA with your newly acquired property because you were and are led by true servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. There is peace in your Church, keep it.

Under the second heading, "Pure Heart," Ps 15:2 says, *"and speaketh the truth in his heart"* has the idea of speaking behind the back of someone fairly and squarely. He does not twist his words to insinuate.

Ps 15:3, *"He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour."* He does not gossip in Church which is the Gospel Centre and holy ground. He does not practise character assassination and breaking the IX Commandment. He does not carry tales.

He not only does not gossip against his neighbour but will not listen to any bad report about his neighbour. So says David in Ps 101:5, *"Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer."* Similarly St Augustine will not allow any of his students to talk bad of another student behind his back. (Read the whole of James Chapter 3.)

Ps 15:4 *"In whose eyes a vile person is contemned."* A person accepted by the Lord has a discerning eye. He rejects a vile person, an evil doer. He keeps him at an arm's length, *"but he honoureth them that fear the Lord."* He respects the God-fearing man who keeps his oath, i.e. his word.

Here are seven rules preparing us to come to Church every Lord's Day which are a day to day exercise of holiness and not a Sunday affair, making us Sunday Christians. In fact, by keeping the commandments daily, fearing a just and holy God, is the true sanctification process. *"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"*... by yielding the control of our life to Him. Amen.

TESTIMONY

I could still remember vividly the day when I received Christ as my personal Saviour. It happened 17 years ago when I was in Primary two during my school's Easter Service...

I come from a non-Christian family and this religion known as Christianity was unheard of in my childhood days until my parents enrolled me into a Methodist Girls' school in Primary one. Young and naïve as I was then, I merely went through the daily devotions and weekly chapel worships. I enjoyed the songs and the parables and stories told to me during these sessions. I was both amazed and fascinated by this person called Jesus and told myself that I needed to find out more. Subsequently, I began to attend bible study sessions. It was only during the Easter Service that I accepted Christ into my life.

Needless to say, this came to my parents' knowledge and incurred their wrath. I was banned from attending church on Sundays but this did not stop me from my walk with the Lord. I did my own daily devotions, attended bible study sessions in school and even joined the Girls' Brigade. The Lord recognized my efforts and has in return blessed me very richly.

Life is never a bed of roses. Many a times, I was torn in this struggle between serving the Lord and going against my parents. They have even threatened to disown me if I choose to continue being so rebellious, especially my mum! It was only in the recent years that they seemed to have relented. No longer does my mum stop me from going to church on Sundays, neither does she throw a fit when I tell her that I wanted to go for baptism. Indeed the Lord has answered my prayers!

Words fail to express the joy I am experiencing now. God has truly blessed me abundantly in every aspect of my life...for providing me with a very understanding and godly boyfriend, a caring family, a noble career or vocation and many wonderful friends. With such a beautiful life bestowed upon me, what more do I ask for?

—Valerie Chia Ling Ling

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 9 - 15, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	\$10,345.00 (8.00 am); \$17,593.00 (10.30 am)	
WED	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-Kenya \$1000, \$230; Wendy Teng \$600; Cambodia Mission \$100; Cambodia Orph \$130, \$150; Rev David Koo \$250, \$400; Rev Moses Hahn \$50; Mission Fund \$300, \$250; Rev Andrew Kam \$50, \$100; Myanmar Orph \$500, \$730; BASC \$50; MsF \$400; Rev Seet \$150, \$100; Rev Wong \$1000, \$50, \$100, \$150, \$1000; Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$50; Quek Keng Khwang \$500; Cambodia Missionaries \$141; Chiang Mai Truck \$1000; Mercy Ministry \$200, \$200; David Koo Bible School \$60; Mok & Carol \$40, \$500; Andrew Kam Land Purchase \$50; Sri Lanka Church \$40; Johor Ministry \$100; Amir \$20.	
FRI	7.45 pm Men's Fellowship, G&H Rm	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$200, \$200, \$2000, \$500, \$200, \$400, \$200, \$60. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,247,864.44.	
SAT	8.00 pm JSM Christmas Musical, Sanctuary	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:	
	11.00 am Wedding of Sim Soon Kiat & Ji Yu Lou (Rev Charles Seet)	(1) Thank you Lord for your love and care for my family throughout the year. Chinese Bibles for China \$251; Beulah House \$25.	
	3.00 pm Sunday School Christmas Party	(2) My tenth to the Lord with a grateful heart.	
	3.00 pm YF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	TESTIMONY	
SUN	8.00 am Must I Go to Church to be a Christian? (Rev Charles Seet)	At first, I believed in Christ because my mother and father did. I went to Church because my parents did. Now, after attending Sunday school classes, VBS and catechism classes, I personally believe that Christ died on the cross for my sins and I do think that God would be angry if I sin. —Alvav Onkowidjaja	
	8.00 am Children's Ministry	1) Our condolences to Dr David Cheong and family on the homegoing of his father, Cheong Hoi Weng (82) on 4 Dec. Funeral was conducted by Rev Charles Seet yesterday.	
	9.30 am Sunday School	2) Adults Sunday School Gospel Rally. Saturday, 21 Dec 02, 3.00 pm, FEBC Hall. Speaker: Pr Quek Keng Khwang.	
	10.30 am Rev Colin Wong	Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Sunset Gospel Hour, 6.00 pm.	
	10.30 am Chinese Service		
	10.30 am Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir		
	10.30 am Nursery / Pre-Jr Worship / Jr Worship		
	10.30 am Children's Choir Practice		
	10.40 am Church Choir Practice		
	12.15 pm Evangelism		
	12.30 pm Korean Service / Filipina F'ship		
	1.00 pm AF, Music Room		
	3.00 pm Thai Service		
	4.00 pm Indonesian Service		
	4.30 pm Sharon BPC Service		
	6.00 pm Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall		
No NBC This Week. Prayer Mtg: 70			
Verse for the Week: 12 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 Timothy 6:12			



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Vol. XI No. 20

8 December 2002

"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. 8	No. 49
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Isa 40:12-31	Matt 4:1-11
Hymn	No. 46	No. 40
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 390	No. 244
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Rom 1:21-24; 2:14-16	Rom 12:1-2
Sermon	What About People Who Have Never Heard of the Gospel? (Rev Charles Seet)	How Should a Christian View Secular Personal Effectiveness Tools? (Rev Charles Seet)
Closing Hymn	No. 65	No. 324
Benediction	Lord's Supper	

AUSTRALLETTER NO. 2

My dear Lifers

Perth, W.A.
Dec 3, 02

Since May this year there has erupted in our Church involving FEBC a controversy about the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible, first in regard to the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort supplanting the traditional Textus Receptus on which the King James Bible is based. Thank God the whole Church has rejected the over hundred "perversions" that are directly or indirectly based on W&H. At my recent sermon at the 8.00 am Service at which I was assigned, "Is there a necessity for a 21st Century Protestant Reformation?" I thoroughly exposed Westcott and Hort, which sermon is now republished in USA.

But now the controversy has focused on whether we have a perfect Bible. I was the first to declare, "I solemnly and sincerely believe in a 100% perfect Bible." According to Hebrews 11 we so believe, and it pleases God. But scholars in our midst must say, according to one, a 99.99% Bible. Then he qualifies the small amount of errors or discrepancies not to affect the Bible as a whole. Many arguments which one experienced in legal procedure will dismiss as irrelevant should not be brought to confuse the issue.

Then the S.S. Declaration upholding the Life Church Doctrinal Statement says they are preserving the Old Paths. We also uphold the L.C. Doctrinal Statement, but the matter of Divine Providential Preservation was not taught until we (FEBC) learnt it from Dr D A Waite, ThD, PhD, 1992. By 1998 we, I and Dr Jeffrey Khoo, wrote a new book, "Knowing God and His Word," emphasising the Doctrine of Special Preservation which was smothered even by such fundamental schools as Faith and Dallas, where Dr Waite graduated. It is we who have first returned to the old paths!

With all the many single spaced 13-page arguments, there is one major difference between us, that is, the S.S. Statement says, "We do not ascribe perfection to it (i.e. 100% exact replica of the autographs) or say that it is THE preserved text to the exclusion of other manuscripts within the family of Received Texts." But it declares immediately, "The KJV is a good, faithful and accurate translation and we have no doubt we have the very Word of God, and it is fully reliable." The S.S. Statement concludes, "To forcibly impose the new view on others (e.g. by name-calling or intimating that they lack saving faith) brings no glory to God. Let us therefore stick to observe the following in our Church, with God's help. *With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of*

the Spirit in the bond of peace' (Eph 4:2,3). 'Let brotherly love continue' (Heb 13:1)."

Praise the Lord, with the mutual upholding of the KJV as the very Word of God and fully reliable we want to rekindle our brotherly love with the S.S. When Elder Khoo held up his old KJB and exclaimed to me, "I am neither for you nor for them," I had hope of mutual reconciliation.

—T.T.

"WHAT IS THE FIRST GREAT COMMANDMENT?"

(Message preached by pastor at Faith Presbyterian Church, Dec 1, 02)

Text: Matt 22:34-40

Puny man thinks he knows more than God. So a Pharisee lawyer, a high Jewish churchman, "asked him a question tempting him, and saying, Master which is the great commandment in the law?" It is said that for a Jew to graduate in law, he must have learnt 613 laws, 248 positive and 365 negative. This young upstart with his bloated head of knowledge thought he had trapped our Lord. Our Lord never studied law. Surely He could not answer him. The young lawyer did not know he was facing God.

Jesus replied, "*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. (Jesus was quoting from Deut 6:4 which the lawyer never knew, poor chap!) 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 over-talkative lawyer was silenced. The truth uttered by our Lord was self-evident.

Since the title of our message is, "What is the First Great Commandment?" we will deal with this First Great Commandment this week and deal with the Second Commandment next week.

The first great Commandment, "*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind*" in fact comprises the first three of the X Commandments which are:

- I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me,
- II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image...thou shalt not bow down thyself to them...
- III. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

To put these three Commandments briefly, You

must love God who is God, the true worship of God and the almighty Name of God. There is no other way of loving the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind.

Now if we must love our God with all our heart, the opposite is we must hate God's enemy with equal energy! Though Jesus has taught us to love our enemies, they are private enemies who have wronged us, and they are forgivable. But hating God's enemies who are not private forgivable enemies but one such as Goliath who blasphemes God's Holy Name is just and righteous. He is public enemy No. 1.

David testifies in Ps 139:20-22 of his holy hatred of such a wicked person as Goliath, "*For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.*" This is the virtue of loyalty, the opposite of treachery.

Let me testify how I have found a kindred spirit with David in hating those who hate the Lord. It was the year 1948 January when I arrived in America to study at Faith Seminary. No sooner had I settled down than one wintry morning there came a distinguished looking gentleman in his early forties to speak at our chapel. He was the Rev Dr Carl McIntire, pastor of the Bible-Presbyterian Church and President of the Board of Directors of Faith Seminary itself. He preached impassionately for almost an hour and called for a 20th Century Reformation to defend the 16th Century Reformation which was started by Martin Luther. Luther broke away from the Roman Catholic Church and that was how we became Protestants.

He continued to tell how after 400 years the Protestant Church was going back to Rome. The Protestant Church is today led by liberal and modernist Churchmen who are not true Christians but of a totally different religion and they were going to organise as the World Council of Churches. To offset the modernists, Dr McIntire proposed to form a fundamentalist Council known as the International Council of Christian Churches. Churchmen who denied the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible, the Virgin Birth of Christ, the Blood Atonement and the Resurrection of Christ dominated the modernist WCC.

I was gripped by the message. My heart was

strangely warmed. I felt a kindred spirit with the speaker. I felt my heart was knit with his heart as Jonathan's heart was knit with David's, after David slew Goliath who blasphemed the God of Israel.

When I finished my study and returned to Singapore in 1950 we founded the B-P Church which has been blessed of God to grow to 60 churches and 20 in Malaysia. We fought the modernist missionaries who denied the faith. We brought the 20th Century Reformation to Indonesia and Burma and many new Churches have also been started. As God has blessed David for his loyal stand, so has God blessed the BPs in Singapore.

Loyalty with David demands not only fighting for God against Goliath. It demands also standing aside from those who rebel against God's anointed. We have the rebellion of Absalom against David his father. Now there was Ahithophel, David's closest counsellor, who sided with the rebellious son and his evil advice was to strike at David immediately in his weakness. But God's higher hand put Hushai, David's loyal friend, with Absalom to counsel against Ahithophel, David's traitor. God helped David the Anointed of God and in the ensuing battle, David won and Absalom was killed.

In serving our God we must not go against David the anointed but rather stand on his side. I am glad to read of your Pastor Rev Errol Stone's firm stand that God has preserved for His Church an inerrant and infallible Bible. Such teaching glorifies His Name. Such teaching edifies His Church. Hence God has blessed his ministry and opened a door of service to four Churches in Malacca, Malaysia, and I have come to substitute for him until he returns. Thank God, you have a pastor who stands for the truth.

TESTIMONY

Why am I a Christian? Well, there are several reasons. I was born into a Christian family. At a young age, I attended Sunday school classes. My kindergarten also taught me about the gospel. I found it very interesting and also true. I feel blessed to be a Christian as I can turn to God in times of need. After praying to Him, I feel a sense of comfort and confidence in myself. As a secondary student, being a Christian has affected my life a lot.

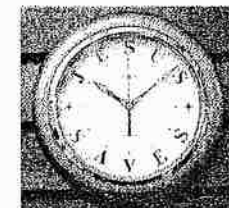
After my PSLE, I was expecting good results and a high aggregate score. However, I got way below my expected score range and was very disappointed. I prayed very hard the following few nights, for a good secondary school. When I got the posting, I was surprised to be posted to a reasonable school. My aggregate score was barely above the minimum, yet I was posted to that school. I realized that it was God's loving grace that had helped me to get there. I am very happy with my school and have made many friends there. I understand that God has plans for everyone, and everyone is special to Him.

I hope to be able to serve God in whatever way I can. I hope to be able to learn more about God's word and draw closer to Him.

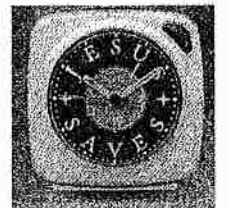
—Dannel Low



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APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 16 -22, 2002)		LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:	
MON-FRI	LTF Camp	\$9,790.00 (8.00 am); \$15,379.00 (10.30 am)	
TUE	8.00 pm Prayer Mtg	OFFERINGS FOR: Cambodia Mission \$150; Cambodia Orph \$250, \$700; Rev Jonathan Lee \$100(Chinese Ser); Rev Moses Hahn \$350(Chinese Ser); Pallin Orph \$90; Israel-Baraka BPC \$20; Mission Fund \$100; Rev Andrew Kam \$30; Myanmar Orph \$100; Chinese Bibles for China \$20; BASC \$200; Rev Seet \$100, \$200; Rev Wong \$100, \$200; Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Pr Quek Keng Khwang \$350; Tan Kian Sing \$350; Chan Pui Meng \$50, \$300(MF); Maasai Medical Ministry \$525, \$90; Pr Mark Chen \$100; Mercy Ministry \$50, \$700; Thailand Mission \$50; Chum Chanraneth \$150; Batam-Hypertension Mother \$100; Myanmar Pineapple Farm \$103, \$150; Joshua Khoo \$200(Chinese Ser).	
WED	9.30 pm Rev & Mrs Tow return, QF17	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$200, \$20, \$150, \$250, \$1275, \$3000, \$2000, \$1880(Chinese Ser). GRAND TOTAL: \$4,311,313.24. STOP PRESS! \$15(CD).	
THU	8.00 pm Board of Elders Mtg	1) In view of some incidents of loss of items by worshippers on Sunday, please keep your valuables safe when you come to church.	
FRI	6.30 pm Ladies' F'ship Christmas Gathering	2) Infant Baptism at Combined Praise Service, 22 Dec, 9.30 am. Please register with the Church office (Tel: 62569256) or email Yin Chan at lifebpc@pacific.net.sg giving child's name, date of birth and parents' names by Tuesday.	
	7.30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	3) Wong Khang Hoong , father of Mrs Constance Tan, was baptised last Sunday, 8 Dec 02 by Rev Colin Wong with Elder Khoo and Elder Sng assisting.	
SAT	3.00 pm Adults Sunday School Gospel Rally, FEBC Hall	4) Our condolences to Mr & Mrs Tan Kwang Meng on the homegoing of Suay Meng's mother, Mdm Yuen (82), 8 Dec 02. Funeral was held on Thursday.	
	5.00 pm Emmanuel EFC Wedding	5) LTF Camp, 16-20 Dec 02 at Life B-P Church. Theme: <i>Signs of True Conversion</i> (by Mark Chen). Camp starts 2.00 pm tomorrow.	
SUN	9.30 am Life BPC Combined Praise Service	6) Adults Sunday School Gospel Rally, Saturday, 21 Dec 02, 3.00 pm, FEBC Hall. Speaker: Pr Quek Keng Khwang.	
	9.30 am Chinese Service (Rev Charles Seet)		
	9.30 am No Sunday School		
	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 Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall		
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 72			
Sunday School Offering: \$734.85; Attendance: 357			
Verse for the Week: <i>O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.</i> Psalm 34:9			
7) The Youth Choir will be carolling on Mon, 23 Dec 02. We invite you to open your homes for an evening of sacred music and exhortation from God's word. We pray that God would be pleased to encourage you, your family, and your friends. Those happy to host us can contact Sheryl Ong - butterflyeric@yahoo.com; tel: 6353-5586. Preaching Appointments: Rev Seet at Philadelphia BPC Camp, 15-18 Dec.			



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Vol. XI No. 21

15 December 2002

"O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"

	8.00 am	10.30 am
Call to Worship	Dn Victor Loo	Elder Sherman Ong
Opening Hymn	No. 163	No. 49
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	Phil 2:1-11	Psalms 139:1-24
Hymn	No. 385	No. 247
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 165	No. 403
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Eccles 4:9-12; Heb 10:24,25	Psalms 112
Sermon	Must I Go To Church To Be a Christian? (Rev Charles Seet)	"Blessed Is He That Fears The Lord" (Rev Colin Wong)
Closing Hymn	No. 262	No. 125
Benediction		

AUSTRALLETTER NO. 3

Perth, W.A.

Dec 10, 02

My dear Lifers

By the time this letter reaches you, we will have only three days to get ready for home. On the last Sunday here, Dec 15, Rev James Sun will go to Sydney for the Church's Dedication and Presbyterian Meeting. I shall preach for him.

In view of the nearness of the Lord's Coming I feel constrained to speak on the doctrine of the Rapture. Generally there are three views - Pre-tribulation, Mid-tribulation and Post-tribulation Rapture. FEBC teachers hold either the Pre or the Mid. In humility we respect one another. This sets a good example to the church today. Returning to Singapore it is much more important to hold an O.K. ticket than an RQ ticket. Dear Reader, are you sure you will be caught up to meet with the Lord in the air away from a burning earth?

Talking of the end-times, we had 21 years of peace from 1918, end of WWI, to 1939 beginning of WWII. From end of WWII, 1945 to the present 2002 we have peace for 57 years. How much

longer to WWII? It is God's mercies that have spared us, but we are to accelerate missions to the ends of the world. In the Bible, when does WWII (Walwood) start? I believe it starts at the blowing of the first trumpet (trumpet means war). The climax, involving the whole world, east and west, occurs at the sixth trumpet. Read Rev 9:13-21. It is at the height of WWII that breaks out at the great river Euphrates (Iraq) that draws our attention to the present tension between Bush and Saddam. Will the present situation lead to WWII? Nobody can tell the future.

In the light of multiple terrorisms, every nation arming to the teeth, there are Lifers still not hastening with the Gospel but engrossed in money-making, withholding their tithes. Corporately, except for a few, as the Chinese saying goes, "many sons starve a father" - no expression for Beulah House. If the Lord should come in our short lifetime can we stand before Him?

When does the Rapture occur? The Apostle Paul says, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (I Cor 15:51-52). Now, turn to Rev 10:7, "But in the days of

the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound (*the trumpet*), the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." Rev 11:15 "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." The Rapture occurs to also introduce Christ to come down to earth to save the Jews who will be two-thirds killed (Zech 13:8) and to put an end to WWII and bring in peace a thousand years. (The last trumpet is the seventh trumpet.) "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom 10:13).

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

"THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR AS THYSELF"

(Message delivered by the Pastor to Faith Presbyterian Church, Perth, W.A., Dec 8, 02)

Text: Matt 22:34-40

In response to a Jewish lawyer who tempted Jesus on which was the great commandment in the law, Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Jesus quoted this from Deut 6:4, and He added a second one, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," Lev 19:18. To love God is on the vertical line, and to love man is on the horizontal to complete the keeping of the law. On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets.

On these two positive principles of loving God and man are comprehended the four duties we owe towards God and six duties we owe towards man in the X Commandments. To love God and man is simply a positive restatement of the X Commandments, negatively given. Now, according to the rules of rhetoric, restatement is a most powerful support for effective speech.

When God requires us to love our neighbour, and we begin to examine ourselves, even after we have been saved, every one of us stands guilty before God. Because of the old man in us, which tends to envy our neighbour when he gets ahead of us, and to rejoice when he is in trouble. So Prov 24:17-19 forbids, "Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he

stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him. Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked."

To love our neighbours as ourselves begins with the V Commandment and our parents. Paul says this is the first commandment with promise, which is long life. This is a natural law. Now Chinese culture stresses the importance of children supporting their parents in their old age. So does our Lord uphold this practice against unfilial Jewish children. To escape giving to their parents they will say, "It is Corban," a gift to God, and they will be free. Let Christians show love to their parents by giving them support, not grudgingly. Without the expression of filial piety, Confucius says, "It is no better than feeding horses."

From the V Commandment let us move on to the VI Commandment, which is "Thou shalt not kill." Now, the Jewish lawyers interpreted everyone of the X Commandments at face value, not realising that God's Word forbids not only the outward act but also the inward thought and motivation. On the sixth Commandment, the Jews condemned only the culprit caught in the act. "Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment." But Jesus goes deeper into the Commandment, "But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment." Not killing a man intentionally is murder but it is murder if you get angry with a brother without a just cause. I have been pastor of my church for 52 years with every effort for the members' interests, but recently I heard someone say, "Don't hero-worship the pastor!" it means I have been cultivating a personality cult. Let King Solomon give us a word of wisdom, "He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly" (Prov 14:17).

Even in the Church, when brotherly love wanes, the Apostle Paul, like a gentle mother, has to exhort us, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Eph 4:31-32).

Coming to the VII Commandment the Jews again stress the guilt of the outward act, which

allows the culprit an escape route when he is not caught. But Jesus goes deeper, "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." No male with his lustful eyes can escape our Lord's condemnation. A glance in the wrong direction landed King David in a bed of sorrows! "O be careful little eyes what you see, O be careful little eyes what you see. There's a Father up above and He's looking down in love, O be careful little eyes what you see." Will this simple chorus turn you from further mischief? Again let us learn from Solomon, "But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul" (Prov 6:32).

The VIII Commandment is "Thou shalt not steal." If we love our neighbour we will not steal his property. In the same way if we love our God we will be careful to return what is His. We owe to God, for a start one tenth of the wealth we get because "it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth" (Deut 8:18). But we withhold giving the sacred tenth of our monthly salary that causes the prophet to ask us bluntly, "Will a man rob God?" When you ask, "Wherein have we robbed thee?" The answer is "In tithes and offerings." Insofar as Life Church in Singapore is concerned, our members, many of them have learned to tithe, and having received the Lord's outpoured blessings, they keep on tithing. Small as your Church may be, God can mightily multiply you if you first return Him the sacred tenth.

When we come to the IX Commandment, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour," the first thing that comes to mind is gossip. "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise" (Prov 10:19). There is a Chinese saying "Drawing a snake and adding legs." If you report a matter on someone in Church and add an unfair comment (which causes trouble) you have broken the IX Commandment. Moreover the Church is a centre for the extension of the Gospel and not for gossip. David in Psalm 15 admonishes, "He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour." David in Ps 101:5 adds, "Whoso

privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off." We should not talk bad about others; we should stop our ears to those that talk bad of others.

The X Commandment is, "Thou shalt not covet," i.e. to harbour an evil desire to have of the wealth of others. The secret of a happy life is not to have more worldly goods. "But godliness with contentment is great gain... And having food and raiment let us be therewith content" (I Tim 6:6,8). "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt 6:33). If we serve God with all our heart will He not take good care of us? It is therefore wrong to think the rich owe you a living for the VIII Commandment gives him the right of property protected by God.

The above exposition on the Second Great Commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (not more than thyself) is so perfectly given by our Lord and the Apostles and Prophets that our Lord can say, "On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets." In graphic presentation it is a 50-50 balance, on one side the X Commandments, on the other side a heart with the cross of Christ in it.

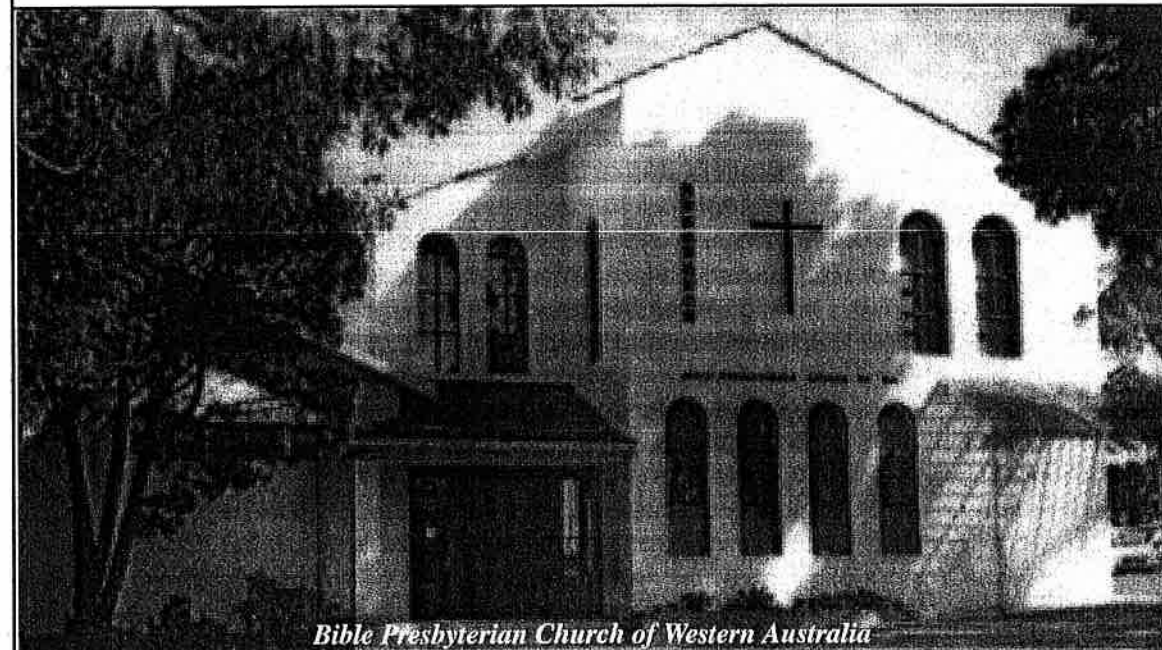
"If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also" (I Jn 4:20-21). Amen.

TESTIMONY FROM JIEMIN BASC

I used to fight, steal, lie, cheat and bully when I first came to BASC in P3. My life changed after I received Christ as my Saviour. I have learned to control myself from fighting with others and stopped stealing. Although I cannot get into the express stream after my PSLE, I will still thank God. I want to thank God for bringing me to this BASC where the guardians show care and concern to me. They taught me good values, how to love others and love God. May God bless the Centre with more children and the children to come to Jesus Christ. May God bless all the guardians with good health.

—Wee Ming (P6)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 23 - 29, 2002)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:
TUE	8.00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	<p>\$10,980.00 (8.00 am); \$25,725.00 (10.30 am)</p> <p>OFFERINGS FOR: <i>Kenya Glory Bible Mission</i> \$400; <i>Cambodia Mission</i> \$400, \$100; <i>Cambodia Orph</i> \$100, \$400, \$200; <i>Surish</i> \$150, \$100; <i>Batam-Roska</i> \$120; <i>Yusniar</i> \$100; <i>Rev Andrew Kan</i> \$50, \$150; <i>Myanmar Orph</i> \$100, \$50, \$300, \$200; <i>Chinese Bibles for China</i> \$50; <i>MsF</i> \$5000; <i>Mersing Youth Camp</i> \$355(Boxes); <i>Rev Seet</i> \$100, \$50, \$100, \$150, \$1000, \$100, \$1000; <i>Rev Wong</i> \$100, \$150, \$1000, \$168, \$1000, \$30, \$100; <i>Eld Khoo Peng Kiat</i> \$500; <i>Pr Quek KK</i> \$100; <i>Tan Kian Sing</i> \$200; <i>Chan Pui Meng</i> \$400; <i>Maasai Medical Ministry</i> \$500; <i>Pr Mark Chen</i> \$500; <i>Chiang Mai Truck</i> \$50; <i>Mercy Ministry</i> \$200, \$300, \$500, \$600; <i>David Koo Bible School</i> \$100; <i>Rev Peter Clements</i> \$300; <i>Johor Ministry</i> \$100, \$150, \$100; <i>Dn George Tan</i> \$200; <i>Emergency Relief Fund (David Koo)</i> \$3000.</p> <p>NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$200, \$200, \$200, \$400, \$400, \$500, \$400, \$1000, \$400, \$100, \$200, \$300, \$789(EBF), \$1000. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,317,417.24.</p> <p>1) Our condolences to Elder & Mrs George Tan on the homegoing of Mrs Tan's father, Wong Khang Hoong (87) on 16 Dec. Funeral was conducted on Thursday, 19 Dec by Rev Colin Wong.</p> <p>2) The Youth Choir will be carolling on Mon, <u>23 Dec 02</u>. We invite you to open your homes for an evening of sacred music and exhortation from God's word. We pray that God would be pleased to encourage you, your family, and your friends. Those happy to host us can contact Sheryl Ong - butterfleric@yahoo.com; tel: 6353-5586.</p> <p>Preaching appointments: <i>Rev Wong</i> at New Life BPC, 9.30 am; <i>Rev Seet</i> at Life Chinese Service, 9.30 am.</p>
WED	10.00 am	JSM Christmas Service	
	12.30 pm	Korean Church Service	
	6.00 pm	Sharon BPC Service	
THU	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	
SAT	2.30 pm	Wedding of Boey Chung Wai & Sharon Chan (Rev Seet)	
	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	
SUN	8.00 am	Is Christ Worth Dying For? (Rev Colin Wong)	
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	
	9.30 am	Sunday School	
	10.30 am	Dr Tow Siang Hwa	
	10.30 am	Chinese Service	
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir	
	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	
	6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall	
NBC This Week. Fri Queenstown. Prayer Mtg: 92			
Sunday School Offering: \$858.40; Attendance: 358			
Verse for the Week: <i>But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.</i> Galatians 4:4-5			



Bible Presbyterian Church of Western Australia



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Vol. XI No. 22

22 December 2002

Wishing Our Readers a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

'GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST'

(Message delivered by pastor at the Combined Praise Service, today)

When there were signs that the Crown Princess of Japan was pregnant after eight years of marriage, the whole nation got very excited about it. And, when it was announced that it was a girl, the whole nation rejoiced that at least they had a female successor to the throne.

The birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the Son of God into the world could not go uncelebrated either. It was announced by an angel to some shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night, when he was joined by a big choir of heavenly host singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

While it took the Japanese people eight years to watch the royal birth just for the assurance of the continuing of the throne, it took the world 4,000 years to await the coming of the Saviour. Seven hundred years B.C. the prophet Isaiah proclaimed, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isa 7:14). Three thousand more years before Isaiah, God promised the Virgin would bear a son who should be bitten by the serpent, whose head His Son would crush" (Gen 3:15). This is the good news that though Adam and Eve had brought us into sin and death, God's Son would come to save those who trust in Him. Hence the whole world should rejoice that the Virgin born Son has come to save us from sin and death.

We welcome you with our carols praising Jesus the newborn Son of God. May you be blessed by receiving Him into your heart.

The birth of the Saviour is celebrated by John the Apostle like this. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made" (Jn 1:1-3). The same Baby in the arms of the Virgin Mary was without beginning with the Father. He was God before and now became man. In fact He was Creator. When we celebrate Christmas today we must not forget His mighty creative power. He is the omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent God. Fear and kneel before Him in worship as the shepherds and wise men did.

Thirdly, in Psalm 96 we are reminded to worship Him as the coming Judge. While celebrating His first coming, Ps 96:11-13 says, "Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof. Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth." This refers to His second coming, even at the door. The world is getting from bad to worse, with multiple terrorisms, wars and rumours of wars. America has cried for war with Iraq by March next year and threatens nuclear war. Nobody knows how it will turn out. Have you come to the Judge and found pardon in Him even at this happy time of Christmas? Else it will be too late!

The baby in the Manger, don't forget, is the Almighty Creator and omniscient Judge! Amen.

WHEN WILL THE RAPTURE TAKE PLACE?

(Message delivered by the Pastor to BPCWA, Perth,
Dec 15, 02)

Text: Rev 8:1-12; 9:1-6, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:51-52; Rev 10:7

This is the second and last time that I speak to you. Wednesday afternoon Dec 18, we will return to Singapore. We thank God for the opportunity of serving with you that we may “impart unto you some spiritual gift” (Rom 1:11).

In view of the momentous days in which we live, in the light of the nearness of Jesus’ coming, I deem it a most timely subject to study with you – the Rapture of saints. Rapture is from the Latin word which means a forceful catching up of born again Christians into the air to meet the Lord, away from a burning earth.

Generally speaking, there are three views on the Rapture: Pre-tribulation, Mid-tribulation and Post-tribulation. The Pre-tribulation view says Christ will come before the seven years of end-time Tribulation to take us to heaven and the Mid-tribulation view after WWII breaks out. Since I believe in the Mid-tribulation view I will give you the reasons why I take the Mid-tribulation view.

Speaking on the last days in which we live, there was a peace period of 21 years from end of WWI 1918 to 1939 beginning of WWII. From end of WWII 1945 to the present 2002 the peace period is 57 years. By God’s special mercies He has prolonged our present peace to 57 years, but with wars and rumours of wars, how long can WWII be prolonged? Dr Walvoord of Dallas Seminary identifies Rev 9:13-16 to be the final outbreak of WWII to occur at the great river Euphrates, which is present day Iraq.

In view of President Bush’s threat to Iraq that he will use nuclear arms against him should he use forces of mass destruction, will this lead to a world conflagration and to a WWII? No one can predict the future, but as Christians we should pray for peace.

Revelation 8 gives us a broad picture of the destruction caused by the first four trumpets which extends to a third part of the earth, seas, waters and the atmospheric reign. The torments to human kind become more unbearable with the blowing of the fifth trumpet. With the blowing of the sixth trumpet, WWII’s climax is reached which breaks out at the great river Euphrates, Iraq.

This leads us to the Rapture which Paul tells us should occur at the last trumpet. The Apostle says, “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” Now, the last trumpet is the seventh trumpet according to Rev 10:7, “But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God (*i.e. the Rapture*) should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.”

The Rapture occurring at the blowing of the 7th and last trumpet should cause us to examine whether we will go up or be left behind. At the outset we asked if you are born again. For, “except a man be born (again) of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (Jn 3:5). By way of illustration, is your air ticket OK or RQ? OK means your seat is confirmed. RQ is merely requesting, with no guarantee that you will fly. I learnt this bitter lesson being left high and dry for two days in India on an RQ return ticket.

The blowing of the seventh and last trumpet is also to usher in the Second Coming of Christ. Rev 11:15, “And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”

At the near conclusion of WWII Jesus will come to save Israel which will lose two-thirds killed (Zech 13:8). “And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south” (Zech 14:4). He will put an end to WWII and bring in a thousand years of peace to this sin-cursed earth, sitting on the throne of His father David.

Jesus is standing at the threshold. He is coming real soon, said my bosom friend Rev C T Hsu. So he spent all his time and resources extending God’s Kingdom. What are we doing for the Gospel when we should be accelerating it to the ends of the earth, while looking for the Blessed Hope of His coming to save us from a burning earth? Even so, come, Lord Jesus. Maranatha.

52 YEARS IN THE ARENA OF FAITH

By the Pastor

VI.

A few years after our being maligned by the Bishop of Singapore as being “Extremists” we came to cross swords with him again in the following circumstances:

Soon after the PAP (People’s Action Party) swept into power, a campaign was launched to speed up social amenities for the people by various construction projects, such as Kallang Park and the Promenade on the sea front along Nicoll Highway. These projects were to be accomplished, however, by volunteer labour, on Sundays. Since not a few of our members were Government servants and a sizeable number were members of other churches and denominations, here was a poser not only for us but also for the whole Christian Church.

This question confronting the Church was made the more difficult when the Bishop of Singapore, the Right Reverend H.W. Baines, enjoined his parishioners to participate in the Sunday work. The call by the Bishop to his people to volunteer for Sunday work received wide publicity in *The Straits Times* of September 16, 1959. This started the ball rolling for much debate and controversy in the press as to whether Sunday Volunteering should take precedence over Worship.

To cope with the more serious situation engulfing our members in Government Service as a result of the Bishop’s statement, an emergency meeting of the Sessions of Life, Zion and Faith Churches was called.

After much prayer and deliberation, the three Churches boldly issued a “Statement on Volunteering for National Construction on Sunday” in the name of the “Bible-Presbyterian Church of Malaya”. We rushed to print such a letterhead and God used it for His glory. It read:

The Singapore Government, in its efforts to speed up the provision of social amenities in the interests of the people, have called for volunteers on Sunday to help various constructional projects, such as the Kallang Park and the Promenade on the sea front along

Nicoll Highway. The response has been most enthusiastic and the achievements most spectacular.

It is the teaching of the Holy Bible, the Word of God, that Christians should be law-abiding and civic-minded (Rom. 13:1-7) and should pray for the Government (1 Tim. 2:1,2). These Divine injunctions we have obeyed and will, by the grace of God, continue to obey.

It is, however, also the teaching of the Bible that Christians should keep Sunday as a holy Sabbath dedicated to the worship of God, for which reason it is called “The Lord’s Day” in the Bible and “The Christian Sabbath” by the Christian Church. The Westminster Confession of Faith, which is the standard of Presbyterian and Reformed Churches throughout the world, states: “The Sabbath is then kept holy unto the Lord, when men after due preparation of their hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe an holy rest all the day from their own works, words and thoughts, about their worldly employments and recreations; but also are taken up the whole time in public and private exercises of His worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy.” While we will gladly volunteer in support of these praiseworthy efforts of the Government, we are anxious, however, that in so doing, we do not break the Commandment to keep Sunday as the Christian Sabbath. It is therefore our desire, when called upon to volunteer for national construction on Sunday, to offer our services on other days of the week, such as Saturday afternoon or any other evening, or on public holidays other than Sundays.

INFANT BAPTISM

01. Tan Xin Hui, Caitlin
d/o Mr & Mrs Tan Khon How
02. Woon Yee Wern
d/o Mr & Mrs Woon Sin Wei

BAPTISM

01. Lim Meng Liang, Gabriel

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 30, 2002 - Jan 5, 2003)			LAST LORD'S DAY GENERAL OFFERINGS:		
MON	7.30 pm	Wedding Rehearsal	\$45,339.28 (Combined Service) \$34,386.00 (Christmas Eve Service)		
TUE	7.30 pm	YF/YAF Thanksgiving Anniv., FEBC Hall	OFFERINGS FOR: Africa-Kenya \$150; Wendy Teng \$200; Cambodia Orph \$150, \$50; Rev David Koo \$200; Rev Jonathan Lee \$300, \$500; Surish \$250; Baraka BPC \$500; David Koo's Bible School \$200; Myanmar Orph \$103; Salpan-Ho Heng Sau \$250; MsF \$150, \$250, \$950; FEBC \$1000; Rev Seet \$500, \$50, \$200; Rev Wong \$500, \$100, \$50, \$200; Eld Khoo Peng Kiat \$200; Tan Kian Sing \$1000; Rev Tow \$1200, \$168, \$200, \$168; Rehoboth BPC \$100; Chan Pui Meng \$250; Cambodia Missionaries \$250; Maasal Medical Ministry \$100, \$100; Mark Chen \$200; Chiang Mai Truck \$1700, \$300; Mercy Ministry \$50, \$50, \$800, \$100, \$100, \$200, \$250, \$200, \$25, \$120, \$200, \$100; June Tan \$250, \$500; Mok&Carol \$300, \$1000, \$250, \$250, \$250; Sri Lanka Church \$100; Myanmar Pineapple Farm \$50, \$300.		
WED	10.45 pm	Watchnight Service (Rev Tow)	NEW BEULAH HOUSE: \$500, \$500, \$50, \$30, \$100, \$300, \$2000, \$400, \$2200, \$5000, \$2000, \$1000, \$300, \$100, \$25, \$50, \$500, \$136, \$200, \$100, \$100, \$4000, \$500, \$500. GRAND TOTAL: \$4,337,958.24. STOP PRESS! \$1500 (Kebaktian Indonesia).		
THU	8.30 am	FEBC New Semester Opens Day of Prayer, Sanctuary (Rev Tow)	FROM THE OFFERING BAGS:		
SAT	3.00 pm	YF/LTF/YAF; 3.30 EBF	(1) Thank God for blessing our daughter with consistently excellent results throughout her three years of tertiary education abroad. (\$600 for Mercy Ministry)		
SUN	8.00 am	Whom Do Men Say That I Am? (Rev Colin Wong)	The Youth Fellowship will be conducting a talk on National Service on Sat 11 Jan 03, 6.30 pm in the Music Room, Beulah House, by Bro. Roger Lim. Those who are going National Service or are in National Service are encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.		
	8.00 am	Children's Ministry	Preaching appointments: Rev Seet at Shalom BPC, 9 am.		
	9.30 am	Sunday School			
	10.30 am	Rev Tow, Lord's Supper			
	10.30 am	Chinese Service			
	10.30 am	Filipina F'ship / Youth Choir			
	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			
	6.00 pm	Rehoboth English Service, FEBC Hall			
NBC This Week. Wed Newton; Fri Bishan, Bt Batok, Sengkang, Thomson.					



Masai Boys receiving Bookmark Gifts from Life B-P Church Sunday School



Life

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(Ring Pastor 62502138 Anytime)

Vol. XI No. 23

29 December 2002

"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. 22	No. 162
Invocation-Gloria Patri		
Responsive Reading	1 Pet 2:13-25	Psalms 23
Hymn	No. 196	<i>My Wonderful Shepherd</i>
Announcements		
Offering & Hymn	No. 70	No. 404
Offertory Prayer		
Pastoral Prayer		
Scripture Text	Acts 7:54-60	Luke 5:1-11
Sermon	<i>Is Christ Worth Dying For?</i> (Rev Colin Wong)	<i>Launch Out Into The Deep</i> (Dr Tow Siang Hwa)
Closing Hymn	No. 437	<i>Launch Out Into The Deep</i>
Benediction		

"AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN"

(Christmas Eve Message preached by the Pastor on 24 Dec 2002, 8.00 pm)

The Birth of Jesus Christ the Son of God by the Virgin Mary in a manger was celebrated by the announcement of an angel and a big choir of heavenly host praising God in the Highest. So we held a special Praise Service last Lord's Day to commemorate His first coming.

To further celebrate this Event, the angel extended the message of goodwill to the whole world, "And on earth peace, good will toward men." Because the Saviour had now come, God the Father was so happy that he proclaimed an Amnesty to us sinners, that if we turn to Him He would forgive all our sins and receive us back to Himself.

Christmas is "Glory to God." Christmas is "Good will toward men." When Christmas comes round once a year, the whole world rejoices and the amnesty offer is extended once again to those that have never heard of the Saviour.

How can we extend the glad message of salvation to those who have never heard? One very convenient way is through

members of this Church, if only you would bring a new friend, yea, even a member of your big family, to our Christmas Service.

Dear new friend who has come to our Christmas Service tonight, Christmas is the birthday of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in a manger in the Holy Land, God's Son becoming man that He might suffer for our sins. He was crucified and buried. On the third day He rose again that we believing in Him would not die but live forever and ever. This is the everlasting life we Christians have found, and so we celebrate tonight His miraculous birth. If you believe in Him tonight with us, you will receive that everlasting life with us forever more. Don't you feel that heavenly touch by the singing of the carols?

Many years ago, the towkay of Yick Woh Watch Company in North Bridge Road came to join our Church. How he became a Christian was through the singing of carols one Christmas Eve. A group of carollers sang so sweetly outside his shophouse that he felt the angels were singing to him. He received Jesus into his heart and was saved.

The world is celebrating Christmas tonight, not worshipfully for the birth of Jesus Christ, but making merry and getting drunk for their own enjoyment. In their hearts, however, there is sorrow and

sadness, fear and frustration. Tonight Christians in Iraq, numbering one million, are praying in fear on the eve of an American attack. The world situation is getting from bad to worse.

Not to talk of international relations. There is no peace in this world outside Jesus Christ, even between two most intimate persons, husband and wife, mother and son.

A Singapore couple migrated to Perth, but a new country did not hold them together. The marriage of the couple almost went on the rocks. Fortunately husband and wife repented and returned to the Lord Jesus Christ and so their marriage was saved. The husband said to me, "Today you see couples going in and out. They appear happy outwardly, but most of them are on the point of breaking down." Is that the situation with you? Especially when familiarity breeds contempt. You need to hear St Paul's triple admonition, "Husbands, love your wives" to revive your marriage. Tonight the peace of Jesus Christ can heal your virtually broken down marriage. Will you make peace with one another and for Jesus' sake?

There is no peace between husband and wife; there is no peace between mother and son! An old lady complained to me of the lack of filial piety to her after her son got married. He used to support her with \$300 a month, but after marriage he reduced it to \$200 when his combined salary with his wife was about \$7,000. Here is a lesson to sons. Giving support to your aged parent or parents is not only part of Chinese culture but Jesus' teaching. Giving support to our aged parents must be done willingly and lovingly. Otherwise, Confucius observes, it is no better than taking care of dogs and horses. This Christmas let unfilial sons and daughters search their hearts and return as loving children to gladden their parents' hearts. Let the peace and goodwill of your Saviour reign in your hearts.

"On earth peace, good will toward men," is offered to the Church. How many churches are split even among our B-P Churches? As many as the fingers on my hand. If we submit to the Lordship of our Saviour and realise how many times seventy-

seven He has forgiven us, we will have no recourse but to forgive one another.

"Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men." This timely Christmas offer to a warring world will not be heeded. Bush must attack Saddam but as I've said, one million Iraqi Christians will suffer. And if nuclear war breaks out, nobody has the power to restrain it from spreading. But Christians are for peace and we must not cease from praying for God's peace and goodwill offer to all mankind.

PASTORAL CHAT

My dear Lifers,

Christmas is Broadcasting Jesus to Thousands Who Do Not Know Him

At the Combined Praise Service, Lord's Day Dec 22, I told you that every Christmas was renewed Amnesty from God the Father to a world not knowing what Christmas is. So I asked you to bring an unsaved friend or relative that he or she might hear the good news and be saved. After the service a doctor from China and his wife were introduced to me. They were inquirers and they heard the message interpreted in Chinese by Preacher Calvin Loh. I mentioned an example of one converted on Christmas Eve many years ago by hearing the carols. The power of our Christmas Eve Service is the singing of the age-old carols.

The 100-fold Power of Going Out

I was surprised when the voice of Deborah Mae and the echoes of Judith d'Silva came over. Radio 938 – one hour of singing the age-old carols, 10 – 11 am, Christmas Day. Deborah moreover gave a wonderful testimony of her salvation and wisely inserted into her programme, "Though Your Sins Be As Scarlet" and "Winter Moon" as a testimony from Life Church. May the repetition of the Gospel words be used by God to the comforting of saints and salvation of sinners. God bless our two sisters as they testify for our Lord in song not only from Church to Church but henceforth over the air in Singapore and beyond.

Accelerated Missions

In His discourse on His Second Coming, Jesus emphasised the need of accelerating the Gospel to the ends of the earth – near or far. On the home front the Lord prospered us since 1994 when we started to evangelise the East Coast of Malaysia, beginning with Rev John Ling, an FEBC graduate. Through his help we won Dr. and Mrs Wee to the Lord and now they are heading the work in Kemaman. From Kemaman we moved to Kuantan where we now have a palatial property and kindergarten. Our resident worker is Joshua Khoo who also works with Kemaman. Wendy Teng heads a S.S. of 45 pupils, week after week.

From Kuantan the Lord gave us a vision for Mersing. Now we have a 4-star Resort there which is self-paying and getting more campers each year. The property is under the good management of Elder Dr Tow Siang Yeow and Mr & Mrs Raymond Tan.

The latest developments are Johore Bahru and Kota Tinggi. In J.B. we have a S.S. that flourishes alongside a Korean Church, pastored by a Korean FEBC graduate. In Kota Tinggi, which is barely two months old, they had 85 at the Christmas Service. This outstanding work started by two sisters answers to Malaysia's thirst for the study of English. God bless all our five outreaches on the East Coast. Andy, son of the Raymond Tans, is a new student to join the FEBC.

—Your affectionate pastor, T.T.

TESTIMONIES

I was born in a small town called Kuala Rompin, an hour's drive from Mersing, where we are now.

I was baptised as an infant and from a very young age I knew that God existed.

Even at that age I knew how to ask God for help and to forgive me. In school I tried to seek a friend who is true at all times but it was not easy.

Then I followed my parents to a new school in Tangkak and after a year to J.B.

In both schools I tried hard to seek a true and

trustworthy friend, but inside school or outside, there was none to be found.

After years of searching my conclusion is that there is not a single true friend under the sun!

The so-called good friends only look up to you if you are rich.

I realized that the only true friend that I have left is our Lord Jesus and He had saved me from danger many times.

Now, I must cherish this One and only true Friend and I would not want to disappoint Him.

That's why I want to reaffirm my faith as a Christian and go to FEBC to learn more from the words of this true Friend and what He wants me to do for Him in the future.

—Andy Tan Ze An

I want to say thank you to my guardians, Auntie Linda and Uncle Victor. It is because they have taught me and my friends about the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In the Bible, it also tells me how to be good and not to make fun of God. At the beginning, I don't believe. But I tried to ask help from God, to know Him. He really helped me. I recognize and believe that there is a God. And He is always there with me, together. When I do something wrong, I am corrected by Uncle Victor and Auntie Linda. I know that it is good for me. In this Centre, I am able to learn many new things. The character building also helped me to be attentive, truthful and sincere. It has helped me very much. Thank God for BASC.

*—Miao Kai Wen, Pr 2
Ahmad Ibrahim BASC*

When I was in Pr 2, I joined the Before and After School (BASC). I was very frightened when I first came. I was bullied by the older girls. Whenever they do so, I will run to my brother's classroom when he was studying. But later on, I became as naughty as they were. You can't imagine all sorts of naughty things that I have done. For example, I climbed up the cupboard, I used vulgar words, I scolded the guardians and many others.

Later on, Uncle Vincent and Auntie Mary came to this BASC. Both of them were very strict. When we do anything wrong, they would correct, scold and sometimes punish us, but I know this is for our own good.

As time passed, I began to improve and I want to thank God for His blessings.

*—Joleen, Pr 5
Jiemen BASC*