

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 4 – 10, 2010)

MON	9.00 am	FEBC Day of Prayer
	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 1705)
		Catechism Class (Tanglin Rm)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Dr Paul Ferguson)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Jan 6, 10 at RELC Room 502, 7.45pm. Message: "The Faith of Abel" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting at the home of Mrs Ruth Tan this Fri, Jan 8, 10 at 8pm. Address: Blk 505, Serangoon North Avenue 4, #14-462, Singapore 550505. Tel: 98302474.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Jan 9, 10 at 3.30pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

FCM POLY Excursion to NP & SP Open House will be held this Sat, Jan 9, 10. Those intending to enrol in these 2 polytechnics, please meet at Clementi MRT Station at 9.30am. Seniors from our B-P churches will be there to show the ropes. Contact Lek Xuan at 96389814 for details.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying HIM Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$8,314; EUR0.20; IDR100,000; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF S\$237.50; *Watchnight Service* S\$9,203

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$500, \$400, \$200, \$200, \$200; *Rev Quek Suan Yew* \$200; *Rev Park Seung Kyu* \$200; *Mrs Ivy Tow* \$500; *Gethsemane BPC* \$50; *Bible Witness Web Radio* \$200; *FEBC Students* \$50; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$200, \$50; *Joshua Yong (FEBC)* \$100; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$200, \$100, \$50; *Marilyn Nanta (FEBC)* \$100; *Samuel Kwong (FEBC)* \$50, \$50; *Tammy Ho (FEBC)* \$100; *Barnabas Yap* \$100; *Clement Chew* \$100; *Samuel Eio* \$100, \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$100; *Wendy Teng* \$200, \$100, \$100; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$2,000; *FEBC* \$1,000, \$1,000, \$400, \$300, \$250, \$250

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$27,554.50; EUR0.20; IDR100,000

Church Building Fund \$2,000, \$1,300, \$1,000, \$950, \$800, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$50 **Total:** S\$926,649.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand. Prov 19:21*

Far Eastern Bible College reopens with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, Jan 4, 10, 9am, Shalom Chapel, Calvary Tengah BPC. Transport leaves FEBC at 8.15am sharp.

Mon and Thu night classes are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying 2 Kings under Eld Joseph, 9.15am – 10.15am.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15am – 10.15am, Jan 3–Mar 28, 10. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Rev John MacKenzie went home to be with the Lord Monday 28 Dec 09. We remember his faith and courage in the Lord's service. Our prayers are with Mrs MacKenzie who served with him and cared for him so faithfully. Our condolences to **Rev Errol Stone** whose father Donald Thomas Stone passed away on 27 Dec 09.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 14

3 January 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	No. 333
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Mark 8:27-38
Hymn	No. 114
Announcements	
Special Number	Benjamin & Andrew
Offering & Hymn	No. 419
Offertory Prayer	Dn Charles Kan
Scripture Text	Psalms 1
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Sermon	<i>Who Is a Blessed Man?</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	No. 377
Benediction	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

My Salvation and Call to Ministry

Clement Chew

As a young child, I was infant-baptised in Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. For the sake of convenience, I was brought to attend Sunday School in Bedok Bethesda Church which was near my home. It was there that I learnt about the Lord Jesus Christ. I learnt about how He died on the cross to save sinners. I also learnt about David, Moses, Joshua and Paul. This was my first contact with the Word of God. But while my heart warmed towards the gospel, I was never truly converted to the truth.

I was happy attending Sunday School for a few years. But one day, I saw my Sunday School teacher gambling with another person under a HDB block near the church. Taken aback by this, I decided not to attend church, finding a convenient excuse to take a break every Sunday to gain precious time for my studies. My family also stopped attending church, choosing only to attend the Christmas Eve services at Life BPC. Hence, for many years, I lost contact with the Word of God.

Things started to change after I took my A-level examinations. I was due to go through the final

round of interview for an EDB scholarship to study in USA. Alas, I obtained a "C" for Chemistry in the A-level examinations, though I managed a merit for the Chemistry S-paper, which was a higher-order paper. Because of this, I could not go overseas for studies but had to settle for a local teaching scholarship. I could not understand why that should happen at that time, but God had a higher plan for me. Looking back, if I had gone overseas and not stayed back in Singapore, I would not have known the Lord Jesus Christ.

After one and a half years of National Service, I was allowed to disrupt so that I could enter into university to study Physics. During my stay in the hostel, I came to know of a few friends who embraced Christianity. They invited me to attend their activities, I never joined them, fearing that they would take time off my studies. There was once I passed by a group of students singing songs of praise to God. One of my friends left our group to join in their praise session. I remarked, "What a waste of time!" In my opinion, she could have spent that time in her studies. I saw no value in such activities. Ironically, I left her to eat Roti Prata with my other friends and spent the whole night out with them.

One day, a hostel friend came to interview me over my religious beliefs for a project she was undertaking for her university module. She asked me about my beliefs in the paranormal such as ghosts and whether individuals could see into the future. I could not recall my answers to her. However, I remember her asking me how often I attended church. I lied to her saying I attended church once a month. She was caught by surprise as she thought that Christians should attend church every

Christmas Gospel Meeting, Dec 19, 2009



Sunday. This embarrassment led me to question my status as a Christian. For the first time in my life, I sensed that something was very wrong with the way I was living.

As a young boy, I believed strongly that good academic results would lead to success in life. I wanted badly to get my honours in university. I also wanted to find a good partner and lead a simple yet fulfilling life. But this was not happening according to plan. I struggled in my studies. I did not fail badly, but neither was I doing well enough to be deemed a top student in my field of study. It was something I found hard to accept. To me, it was as good as failure. Moreover, many of my friends started to leave me as they found their partners. I began to feel lonely. The last straw came when a lady I admired told me in no uncertain terms that it was not possible between us. She told me that I was not a Christian. I was shattered. I suddenly recalled the question asked during the survey about my attendance in church. Desperately, I asked what it meant to be a Christian. Sadly she could not explain to me the gospel except to tell me it meant following Christ. She then directed me to Colossians 3:1-2, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

Suddenly, everything made sense to me. I realised the things of the world were empty. I could not take anything I own with me to the life hereafter. I have wasted every single moment of my life on things that were nothing but rubbish! All that I learnt in Sunday School came flooding back into my mind. I knew that I was a sinner. I did not know what to do to be saved. I cried that night. Knowing that my parents went to Life BPC, I asked my father to bring me there to hear God's Word. My father was caught by surprise, but he brought me to church nevertheless.

During service that Sunday, the choir sang the following hymn:

*Only one life to offer – Jesus, my Lord and King;
Only one tongue to praise Thee and of Thy mercy sing;
Only one heart's devotion, Saviour, O may it be
Consecrated alone to Thy matchless glory,
Yielded fully to Thee.*

*Only one life to offer – Take it, dear Lord, I pray;
Nothing from Thee withholding, Thy will I now*

obey.

*Thou who hast freely given, Thine all in all for me,
Claim this life for Thine own, to be used, my Saviour,
Every moment for Thee.*

I made the words of the song my prayer, determined now to live my life for Jesus and not for the refuse of this world. I repented of my sins and gave my life to Jesus that very day.

After the service, I happily picked up a RPG booklet and started my devotions. The RPG was on the Life of Christ, which very ably enabled me to understand what the gospel is truly about and helped me to understand the doctrines of the Bible. I also began to pray. I experienced joy and peace in my heart that I never did before. I attended the Youth Fellowship and also the Fundamental Christian Ministry. I suddenly regarded these spiritual activities as priorities in my life rather than a waste of time. What a turn-around! By the grace of God, I who was once blind can now see!

As I read the Word of God, it impressed upon me that it was good to serve God as a teacher. But it is even better to serve Christ full-time by ministering His Word. Modifying a quote from Dr Khoo – Physics is good, but Metaphysics is better. During my early days as a Christian, I prayed that if it was His will, I would be willing to be used for Him full-time. The more I read God's Word, the more my conviction grew. I could not see myself being a teacher for long. Nevertheless, I was apprehensive that it might be youthful exuberance that was misleading me.

One day, I received news from my mother that during a medical test, my dad was tested with an abnormally high blood pressure. According to the person administering the test, my dad could die any moment. Fearful for his life, I went into my room and prayed for him. I vowed that if the Lord could save my dad's life, I would give my life full-time to serve Him. Later that day, my dad called to say that a second blood pressure test at a hospital showed that there was nothing wrong with his blood pressure (albeit on the high side). It could be that the first blood pressure meter was faulty. Nevertheless, I had made the vow to the

Lord and I remembered it since that day. I also knew it was a matter of time before the Lord would call.

Sadly, as I started work as a teacher, I began to forget about my original conviction as I became immersed in the cares of the world. But the Lord has His way of bringing things into remembrance. One day, while reading the Bible, I came upon John 4:34, "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." If Jesus' life was all about doing God's will, how could I not do God's will also? Listening to the messages Sunday after Sunday only made the burden of my heart grow heavy. I knew that I cannot be teaching for long as my heart longs to serve him. With every passing year, the workload in the education service gets heavier and heavier, taking up valuable time even to study His Word. Moreover, whatever I teach in school cannot save. Only teaching the Word of God to others can save souls!

Despite all these struggles in my heart, I feared to take the step of faith to serve God. At that time, I already knew my fiancée, Yu Jie, with whom I shared my desire to serve the Lord full-time. I thank God that she was very supportive from the very beginning. Nevertheless, I feared that I could not provide for her. I also feared sharing this burden to go full-time with my parents because I did not want to break their hearts. I feared persecution. I wanted to run away. However, God would not let me go, and finally by God's prompting, I am taking a step of faith to launch into full-time studies in FEBC starting January 2010.

As I write this testimony, I just want to give all glory to God. I have learnt from all these struggles to go full-time, how much I lack in faith towards God, and how imperfect I am. Yet God has always been faithful to me. I just pray that the Lord will grant me grace to be faithful and sincere to Him, just like John Calvin who sincerely gave his full heart's devotion to God. *Soli Deo Gloria*. Amen.

The Orphans Pray for True Life and FEBC

(Email: 11 December 2009)

Dear Dr Jeffrey,

I am so happy that you replied. Yes, I and my family and all the children always pray for FEBC when I heard from you about two years ago and

until today we always pray constantly. We pray that our good God, "Please protect and preserve FEBC and produce more and more good pastors, evangelists, preachers and missionaries and directors of orphanage for the future. We all pray always for FEBC everyday early in the morning and evening and when we have special prayer meetings on Saturday. I hope that God will protect and preserve FEBC and will bless more than before for His glory and His kingdom.

We all here will pray hard, more than before for True Life BPC and FEBC. Thanks. May God bless you!

Yours in Christ,

Brother Thangno
New Life Orphan Centre
Yangon, Myanmar

Challenged to be Faithful in the Lord's Ministry

(Email: 17 December 2009)

Dear Sis Wendy,

Christmas greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Just to inform and thank you for the July-August 2009 and March-June 2009 *Bible Witness* magazines. I have shared them to my students and members of Nyangba Town Presbyterian Church. We got serious challenge from the tributes given by different speakers concerning the homegoing of our beloved principal, the Rev Dr Timothy Tow.

Personally I was challenged to be faithful in the Lord's ministry, and the students got a clearer testimony of what I have been telling them concerning Rev Tow when I was a student at the Far Eastern Bible College in Singapore two years ago. As for the church members, they now know what it means to be a servant of God and how a Church should be like in this dark age. I thank the editor of Bible Witness Media Ministries for sending us these wonderful materials for our ministry. We are praying for them and continue to pray for them. Continue also to pray for us. Rev Lee is sending Christmas greetings to Dr Khoo.

Thanks and God bless.

Albert Kainesie
Reformed Theological College
Freetown, Sierra Leone

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 11 – 17, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 502
SAT	3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 1705) Catechism Class (Tanglin Rm)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Prabhudas Koshy) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Jan 16 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Programme: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Jan 16 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Knowing God and His Word" by Ko Linggang. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day S\$11,046; HKD5,000; MYR40; USD2; Fellowships' Collections: YPF S\$258.05; USD1

Designated Offerings: Rev Tan Kian Sing \$50; Dr Paul Ferguson \$100; Gethsemane Ethiopia Mission \$4,000; Bible Witness Web Radio \$200; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$300, \$100; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$300, \$250, \$100; Barnabas Yap \$100; Murray Ong \$100; Sim Swee Ho \$500; Wendy Teng \$200, \$100; FEBC \$1,000, \$1,000, \$1,000, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$20,754.05; HKD5,000; MYR40; USD3
Church Building Fund \$500, \$200, \$100 **Total:** S\$927,449.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *The desire of a man is his kindness: and a poor man is better than a liar. Prov 19:22*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying 2 Kings under Eld Joseph, 9.15-10.15 am.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3-Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Mr Chua Heng Tuon (84), husband of Mdm Lim Ngum Fong and father of Bro Jin Yong, having believed in Christ was baptised on 5 January 2010 at Alexandra Hospital. Baptism was administered by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo with Dn Tan Beng Lee assisting. "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth" (Luke 15:10).



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

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Vol. VII No. 15

10 January 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	No. 411
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	1 Chronicles 16:7-36
Hymn	No. 197
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	No. 309
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Ephesians 5:10-18
Sermon	<i>The Warfare of the Saint</i> (Dr Paul Ferguson)
Closing Hymn	No. 173 (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Our Sabbatical Jubilee

(A Message by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the Watchnight Service of True Life BPC, 31 December 2009)

True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church was founded in 2003 by the late Rev Dr Timothy Tow. It was founded upon the vital need to preach, teach and defend the 100% perfection of the God's forever infallible and inerrant Words without any mistake. It has been six years since we started, and 2010 will be our seventh year. The seventh year is a sabbatical year, an important year for us to take stock of what the Lord has done for us and what we can do for Him in the year or years to come by His grace.

What characterises a sabbatical year and what can we look forward to in a sabbatical year? From the Bible, we know that the sabbatical year is a time of remembrance, a time of release, and a time of rejoicing.

Time of Remembrance

"And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought

thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day" (Deut 5:15 cf. 15:12-15)

One of the reasons for the Sabbath law was evidently for the sake of remembrance. God required the nation of Israel to remember His good and gracious hand upon them by delivering them from out of slavery and poverty and blessing them with liberty and prosperity in the Promised Land.

Why did God have to institute the sabbatical law of remembrance? It is because we are by nature forgetful and ungrateful people. We forget easily what God has done for us. Not only do we forget, we even rebel against Him who has only done us good. There is a Chinese saying, "When you drink the water, do not forget its source."

May the year 2010 be a year when we as a church will spend time to reflect on what wonderful things the Lord has done for us. For this reason, we are going to issue a 7th Anniversary Magazine to remember and thank God for how He has led us and helped us throughout our six years of existence.

When we held our first worship service at the Regional Language Centre (REL C), we would have been quite happy to have 50 people in the congregation, but the Lord sent about 150 people, three times more than what we had expected, and today we have more than double that number, about 350 each Lord's Day. This is not to say



FEBC's Opening Day of Prayer, 4 January 2010, at Shalom Chapel, Calvary Tengah B-P Church

that numbers are important, but we believe the Lord is blessing True Life with such increase because we have been faithfully preaching, teaching and defending God's forever inspired and preserved words to the glory of His Name. People have been saved and helped through the pulpit ministry of this church. Our pulpit is not a man-pleasing pulpit, but a God-fearing and God-honouring one. If you have been blessed by the Lord in True Life, would you not write a thanksgiving testimony for our anniversary magazine? Let us remember the Lord by giving thanks to Him for all the blessings we have received from Him, and 2010 is a good year to do this being our sabbatical year.

Time of Release

*"And if thy brother, an Hebrew man, or an Hebrew woman, be sold unto thee, and serve thee six years; then in the seventh year thou shalt let him **go free** from thee. And when thou sendest him out free from thee, thou shalt not let him go away empty: Thou shalt furnish him liberally out of thy flock, and out of thy floor, and out of thy winepress: of that wherewith the **LORD thy God hath blessed thee thou shalt give unto him.**" (Deut 15:12-14).*

The sabbatical year was a time of release, when servants were freed from their obligations to their masters. The masters were also required to reward them with goods; the servants were not to go away empty. What a wonderful law of humanity. It is God's law that we prosper our neighbour, to give to his need, to seek his wellbeing, as it is written *"it is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). This is against the philosophy of greed, "What is mine is mine, and what is yours is also mine."

Let us continue to pray for FEBC's release from her afflictions by those who seek to take over FEBC's birthplace and home. Pray also that the Lord will uphold FEBC's faith in His forever infallible and inerrant words, divinely inspired and preserved in the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures on which the Reformation Bible—the King James Bible—is based. May this sabbatical year be a year of liberty for us,

freed from every hindrance to teach and defend not only the perfect inspiration but also the perfect preservation of the infallible and inerrant words of the Canonical Scriptures which are the sole, supreme and final authority of Christian faith and practice (Ps 12:6-7, Matt 5:18, 24:35).

Personally, if there are those who have wronged us, we should forgive them, and release them from all their debts. They may have yet to say sorry, but never mind, let it all go under the bridge, forgiven and forgotten inasmuch as the Lord has also forgiven us and cleansed us from all our sins. Have we not sinned against the Lord during the year that is about to end? Do we not desire His forgiveness, and to start with a clean slate? If we do, then we must not only repent of our sins but also forgive those who have sinned against us. Jesus said, *"For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses"* (Mark 6:14-15).

Time of Rejoicing

*"Then shalt thou cause **the trumpet of the jubile** to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land"* (Lev 25:9).

The *"trumpet of the jubile"* in Leviticus 25:9 was to signal a holy year of jubilation. The word "jubile" here is from the Hebrew *teruah* which means "to make a loud sound"—a jubilant call to God's people to rejoice in Him and to thank Him for His goodness and faithfulness in their lives.

The year 2010 is a year of rejoicing for True Life. It is by the Lord's grace and mercies that we have reached our seventh year. I want to announce this ahead of time. I believe there is no better time to celebrate our seventh year than in our church camp. It will be our Sabbatical Jubilee Camp, and we will be having it in Pulau Tioman, a beautiful island resort off the coast of Mersing. It is a

place both scenic and serene, back to nature, and most conducive to get ourselves refreshed spiritually and to enjoy one another's fellowship. Our camp theme is "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever" (Ps 115:1) and we have invited Dr Paul Ferguson to be our camp speaker. Know that in such spiritual retreats, we experience a little bit of heaven on earth. Know also that God has instituted such sabbatical jubilees to give us a foretaste of our heavenly jubilee which will happen when our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ returns. The camp will not only be a time of physical rest and recreation, but also a time of spiritual rest and re-creation—a time when we seek the Lord and ask of Him, *"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me"* (Ps 51:10).

I pray that all True Lifers will make it a point to go for this camp. The Sabbatical Jubilee Camp will be from June 14th to 18th. So please block out these dates and apply for your leave as soon as possible. We will also prepare something special for our seventh anniversary thanksgiving service on October 3rd. Let us pray for a blessed year ahead—our sabbatical jubilee. May the Lord be greatly exalted in each of our lives in the new year.

Far Eastern Bible College



FEBC had a blessed day of prayer on 4 January 2010 at the Shalom Chapel of Calvary Tengah Bible-Presbyterian Church. The Principal spoke on the topic, "When God Works Satan Also Works" (Acts 5:12-42). He exhorted the students to be prepared to face opposition and hardships when they want to obey God's will according to God's Word and do God's work in God's way. He encouraged the students to study the life of the Rev Dr Timothy Tow, FEBC's founding principal, and the history of FEBC to see how Satan has not ceased to attack the College time and time again, and how the Lord has protected and preserved His

School of Prophets for His good purpose. So, we are not disheartened by the trials the College is currently facing. There are those who wish to silence or prevent FEBC from teaching the perfect preservation of God's inspired, infallible and inerrant words without any mistake (Ps 12:6-7, Matt 5:18, 24:35). But we reply like the Apostles of old, *"We ought to obey God rather than men"* (Acts 5:29).

The year 2010 will be an eventful year for FEBC. It is no secret that Life Bible-Presbyterian Church (LBPC) has sued to evict FEBC from her birthplace and home due to FEBC's firm belief of a 100% perfect Bible **today** without any mistake (the doctrine of Verbal Plenary Preservation). The case is scheduled to be heard in the High Court on 25 January. The affidavits-of-evidence-in-chief of LBPC and FEBC are red-spotted in the FEBC library, and if you wish to read them, you are welcome to do so (see the librarian Mrs Ruth Yap during office hours). *"For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth"* (2 Cor 13:8). May the Lord honour our testimony for Him and preserve our birthplace and home at Gilstead Road, *"Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless: For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with thee"* (Prov 23:10-11).

We thank the Lord for 13 new students this semester. They are Michael Accadio (Ghana), Desnawati Ambarita (Indonesia), Chan Choy Leng (Malaysia), Clement Chew (Singapore), Donald M dela Cruz (Philippines), Samuel Eio (Singapore), Rudi Jeams (Indonesia), Kim Jung Lan (Korea), Kim Min Shick (Korea), Kong Sing Soon (Malaysia), Lee Do Yeoul (Korea), Nguyen Van Hieu (Vietnam), and Jonathan Poh (Singapore) from Calvary Tengah who has enrolled to study full-time for a semester to earn his Certificate of Religious Knowledge before starting his university studies. Our "Basic Theology for Everyone" classes on Monday and Thursday nights attracted 200 students who filled the FEBC Hall to the brim, overflowing into the dining area. Please pray for FEBC.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Jan 18 – 24, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 502</i>
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 1705) Catechism Class (Tanglin Rm)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Tan Kian Sing) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying 2 Kings under Eld Joseph, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/SundaySchool.htm.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Jan 23 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Sola Gratia" by Dr Paul Ferguson. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

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."

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$14,622
Fellowships' Collections: LF \$422; YPF \$87

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$200; *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$2,000; *Mrs Christine MacKenzie* \$1,000; *Faith Presbyterian Church* \$50; *BCEA Tanzania* \$200; *Bohol Philipppines* \$100; *Gethsemane Care Ministry* \$200; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$50; *Barnabas Yap* \$50; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$200, \$100; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC* \$400, \$300

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$20,511
Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$200 **Total:** S\$928,649.27; USD600

NB: YPF S\$258.05 & USD1 reflected in the 10 January weekly are designated to Mr Sim Swee Ho.

Verse for the Week: *The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil. Prov 19:23*

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3–Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Our deepest condolences to Mr Eio Eng Hua and family on the home-going of his wife, Mrs Helen Eio on Jan 13, 2010. Vigil Services were held on Jan 13 by Rev Wee Eng Moh and on Jan 15 by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo and Burial Service was conducted at the Choa Chu Kang Lawn Cemetery on Jan 16 by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

The family of the late Sis Helen Eio would like to thank one and all for their condolences and love gifts and their presence at the vigil services during their recent bereavement.

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 hands. 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). The text underlying NIV is not as the Westminster Confession says, "kept pure in all ages." **God has preserved for us a pure Bible as He preserved the Ten Commandments for us to this day. Let me say it again, it is the Textus Receptus on which the KJV is based.** (Originally published in *Bible Witness*, October - December 2002.)



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 16

17 January 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	No. 256
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 19
Hymn	No. 251
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	No. 454
Offertory Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	1 Corinthians 9:16
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
Sermon	<i>Preach the Gospel</i> (Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy)
Closing Hymn	No. 453
Benediction	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

Knowing Bible-Presbyterianism

(Personal Testimony by Elder John Leong of
Tabernacle Bible-Presbyterian Church)

It is a great blessing to study the Bible-Presbyterian (BP) history and doctrines. I would like to share three lessons I have learned from the history, people and doctrines of the BP Church and conclude with her present condition.

Bible-Presbyterian Church History

After I believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, I attended Life BP Church in 1976. This was the first Church I attended and I thank God for enabling me to learn many biblical truths from the then Pastor, Rev Timothy Tow. In Rev Tow's preaching, we would often hear his narration of the BP Church history and the lessons learned from it. To hear from the man himself whom God used to start the BP Church was a great blessing and much wisdom was gained from Rev Tow's sharing.

Though I have heard much over more than 30 years from Rev Tow and various BP Church ministers and read to some degree the BP Church history in various books and articles, it was only

through a formal course of scheduled assignments and proper study that I have gained a good understanding and a real grasp of the entire BP Church history from its beginning in 1950 when the first BP Church was formed, Life BP Church. Of course the lessons from knowing the seven roots of the BP Church truly opened my eyes to see that God is sovereign and He is really the One who has planned and willed for the formation and growth of the BP Churches in Singapore.

The BP Church is like a small mustard seed, and today she has blossomed to more than a hundred BP Churches not just in Singapore but all over the world. This can only happen because it is the work of God. Men can never plan and craft the BP Churches to what we can see today. In the history of the BP Church, we must learn from it and not to repeat the mistakes that were made which was the failure to take the biblical separatist stand.

It is important that the history of the BP Church be taught and repeated often to the new generation of believers in the BP Churches today. They must know the BP Church is the sovereign work of God and each generation must be faithful to God to earnestly contend for the faith as the BP Church was established by the Lord for this very purpose in this age of great apostasy.

People in the Bible-Presbyterian Churches

God uses people to do His work and the BP Church is no exception. The man that God used to found the BP Church is

none other than Rev Timothy Tow. He is the man that God has called for the great responsibility to start the BP Church. Reading his life's testimony, one is very sure God has called and equipped Rev Tow for this task. Like all of us, Rev Tow also tried to run away from God's calling to be a pastor, but God's higher hand was there to lead him back to His calling. Rev Tow was faithful to the end till the day God called him home. The legacy of Rev Tow ought not to be forgotten by all true BPers. I am one who has been taught by Rev Tow and has received great blessings from the Lord through the life of Rev Tow. The humility and faithfulness of Rev Tow and his courage to defend the Word of God are lessons I am still learning and will learn all my life.

Thank God that there are other faithful ministers of God in the BP churches that stand with Rev Tow and fight the battle together. It is a marvel to see how God used each of them to establish churches and missions. I am also thankful to God for Dr Tow Siang Hwa whose preaching of God's Word especially in the area of biblical separation has enabled me to imbibe this truth even when I was a young believer.

One thing that touched my heart is the commitment and zeal demonstrated by every Christian in the early days of the BP Church. I would read of them willing to sacrifice their time and energy to extend the Kingdom of God. There were those who were so willing to open their homes for Sunday School classes which eventually became churches. The spirit of giving to build the BP churches was also very encouraging. Only God knows each one of these pioneers by name who had laid such a godly foundation for all of us today. How I wish that today we can match up to the same zeal and passion for souls!

Doctrines of the Bible-Presbyterian Church

I have benefited much from the 10 audio sermons on the major and distinctive doctrines of the BP Church. These doctrines include the VPI (Verbal Plenary Inspiration) and VPP (Verbal Plenary Preservation) of Scriptures, Separation, Covenant Premillennial Theology

etc. The BP Church was founded on these doctrines but sadly many BP churches have departed from them in various degrees. It is important to know that each of these BP doctrines is not based on tradition or the teaching of men. They are all from the Word of God. The Bible is the standard of the BP Church's doctrines and thank God the pastors who taught them all make reference to God's Word to support the doctrines of the BP Church.

The Far Eastern Bible College is an important institution that God raised in the BP Church to enable pastors to be trained and lay people to learn God's Word in depth. God is so good to give us a faithful Bible College and faithful teachers of God's Word in the College. I have learned much from the College through the evening classes. The online courses have allowed me to learn at my own time too. I have learned to treasure God's Word and hold it highly in my life. The doctrines of the BP Church will always bring glory to God and hold His Word to the highest degree above the words of men.

Present Condition of the Bible-Presbyterian Church

When I read the book by Rev Timothy Tow written in 1999 on *The Story of My Bible-Presbyterian Faith*, I was very grieved reading page 3 in which Rev Tow wrote these words: *"To the Session of Life Bible-Presbyterian Church who have stood with me through thick and thin for the Faith of the Gospel this book is affectionately dedicated. SOLA DEO GLORIA."* Alas, how men have changed so quickly and how they have rejected Rev Tow their pastor. It was all because he took the biblical stand of VPP.

It is with sadness in my heart to know that today so many BP Churches attack the doctrine of VPP and even go to the extent of wanting to remove the Bible College from its rightful premises at Gilstead Road. VPP glorifies God for He has the power and wisdom to preserve all His words in the Bible and there is no mistake in God's Word.

By the grace of God, I will pray for

God's preservation of the remnant BP churches which hold to the VPP doctrine and FEBC that God will enable us to be faithful and to preach His truth always. God willing, I would continue to teach the pure doctrines of the BP Church as taught in God's Word and to share her wonderful history of God's sovereign work in raising the BP Church to earnestly contend for the Faith in this apostate age.

God's Special Providential Care of the Text of Scripture

Rev Dr Timothy Tow

There are two accounts recorded by Moses on the giving of the Ten Commandments. The first is in Exodus 19:16-21:26; 31:18-32:28; 34:1-4. The second is recorded in Deuteronomy 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 Ten Commandments? For brevity, I have chosen to discuss from Deuteronomy and not Exodus.

The delivery of the Ten Commandments was made on the top of Mount Sinai, over 7,000 feet above sea level. The whole process 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 Ten Commandments with His own finger over the two tablets, front and back. In the climax of the forty days and nights, rebellion to God's promulgation of the Ten 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 Israel to drink, which was their punishment. Can puny man rebel against God's Word with impunity?

To re-establish the giving of the Law, God commanded Moses to hew another two tablets of stone and bring them 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 is the only holy furniture kept inside the Holy of Holies. God's sacred commandments, intact and written on both sides of the two tablets so nothing can be added and nothing can be subtracted, were 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 His 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"* (Matt 5:18). Jesus says, *"The scripture cannot be broken"* (John 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 them 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 that the Scripture is "kept pure in all ages." This is doubly attested by David in Psalm 12:6-7, *"The words of the*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Jan 25 – 31, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	First Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	First Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 502
SAT	9.45 am	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 1705) Catechism Class (Tanglin Rm)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Stephen Khoo) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Young People's Fellowship is having an Outing to West Coast Park this Sat, Jan 30 at 9.45 am. Meeting place: 9.45 am at West Coast McDonald's or 9.15 am at Clementi MRT. Please dress appropriately for games. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Jan 30 at Dn and Mrs Tan Beng Lee's home, Blk 103 Spottiswoode Park Road, #08-104, Singapore 080103, 5.30 pm. Tel: 98719796. Message: "The Sevenfold Will of God" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day \$11,003
Fellowships' Collections: AF \$249; YPF \$121

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Gethsemane BPC \$100; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$120; Samuel Eio (FEBC) \$50; Wendy Teng \$200; FEBC Legal Fees \$5,000; FEBC \$400

Total General and Designated Offerings:

\$17,443

Church Building Fund \$1,500, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$100 **Total:** S\$931,149.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$12.00

Verse for the Week: *A slothful man hideth his hand in his bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again. Prov 19:24*

Pray for FEBC that the Lord would grant grace to the lawyers and directors of FEBC as they defend the College against the claims of Life BPC in High Court, January 25th-29th.

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying 2 Kings under Eld Joseph, 9.15-10.15 am. **Catechism Class** for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3-Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

FCM Combined Meeting 2010 will be held on Fri, Feb 26 at Calvary Pandan BPC (Level 3 Sanctuary), 7.30 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm. Message: "The Reason for Being Bible-Presbyterian" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. All tertiary students are strongly encouraged to attend. For more info, contact Brian Lim at 91269832.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 17

24 January 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	No. 18
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 71
Hymn	No. 304
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	No. 346
Offertory Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	2 Tim 1:7; Rom 8:15
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Tan Kian Sing
Sermon	<i>Dealing with the Spirit of Fear</i> (Rev Tan Kian Sing)
Closing Hymn	No. 336
Benediction	Rev Tan Kian Sing

A Steadfast Heart

(A sermon preached by Rev Hien Nguyen at Brisbane BPC on 17 January 2010)

"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies" Psalm 112:7-8.

How about your heart and my heart when we receive bad or evil news? "Your loved one has passed away!" or "Your house has been completely destroyed!" or "Wicked people are planning to destroy your reputation and even take away your life" or "You have been sacked!" or "You suffer from cancer!" Dear friends, it is a great blessing for you and me if we can have a steadfast heart while we are living in this cursed, troubled and wicked world, not to mention the attacks and temptations from Satan, the wicked one, our adversary, who does not leave us alone when we are determined to follow the Lord closely and His Word to the jot and tittle. David had a steadfast heart when he trusted in the Lord and cried unto Him for

deliverance from his troubles and distress, saying, *"My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise"* (Ps 57:7; 108:1). How about you and me?

Steadfast: Meaning

The Hebrew term for "fixed" is *kûn*, which means *established, firm, steadfast, fixed*. With 219 occurrences, the KJV translates as "prepare" 85 times, "establish" 58 times, "ready" 17 times, "stablish" five times, "provide" five times, "right" five times, "fixed" four times, "set" four times, "direct" three times, "order" three times etc. *"He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established (kûn) my goings"* (Ps 40:2), and *"The steps of a good man are ordered (kûn) by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way"* (Ps 37:23), and *"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD"* (Ps 112:7). Another equivalent Hebrew term is *sāmāk*, which means *supported, sustained, upheld, established, unmoved, firm*. With 48 occurrences, the KJV translates as "lay" 18 times, "uphold" nine times, "put" five times, "lean" three times, "stay" three times, "sustained" three times, "holden up" once, "borne up" once, "established" once, "stand fast" once, for example, *"His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies"* (Ps 112:8) and *"Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand"* (Ps 37:24).



Church Choir Caroling at the home of Mr and Mrs V Mahadevan, Dec 20, 2009

The Greek term for “established, steadfast” is *bebaioo*, (from *bebaios*), which means *firm, steadfast*. With 8 occurrences of *bebaioo*, the KJV translates as “confirm” five times, “establish” twice, and “stablish” once, “*Now he which stablisheth (bebaioo) us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God*” (2 Cor 1:21). With 9 occurrences of *bebaios*, the KJV translates as “stedfast” four times, “sure” twice, “firm” once, “of force” once, and “more sure” once, “*Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast (bebaios), and which entereth into that within the veil*” (Heb 6:19). Another equivalent Greek term is *hedraios*, which means *settled, steadfast, firm*. With three occurrences, the KJV translates as “steadfast” twice, and “settled” once, “*If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled (hedraios), and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister*” (Col 1:23).

A Steadfast Heart

Thus, a steadfast heart is a firm and faithful heart unto the Lord and to His Word without being shaken or moved or changed by wrong doctrines, difficulties, trials, temptations, persecutions, or dangers. Looking at the life of Job, we see that his heart was steadfast and trusting in the Lord unto death although he lost his children, his wealth, and his good health, saying, “*Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him*” (Job 13:15). How about the apostle Paul? After being converted, Paul served the Lord faithfully unto death despite all difficulties, opposition, or persecutions, saying, “*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith*” (2 Tim 4:7), and God used Paul to encourage us, “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast (hedraios), unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord*” (1 Cor 15:58). Do you and I have a steadfast heart for the Lord and His Word?

How to Have a Steadfast Heart

Know and Trust in the Lord and His Word: It is very vital for you and me to have a heart-knowledge of the Lord and His Word so that we may wholeheartedly trust in Him and His Word and be established and firm in heart. We cannot wholeheartedly trust in a person whom we do not know well. We cannot wholeheartedly trust his word if we do not know him well. How can you and I know God and His Word so that we may wholeheartedly trust in Him and His Word? There is only one way. We must humble ourselves and read His perfectly inspired and perfectly preserved Word with a teachable, reverent, trusting and submissive heart, and the Holy Spirit will help you and me “*grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*” (2 Pet 3:18). Surely knowing that our living, true, almighty and faithful God is sovereign and able to make all things work together for good unto His dear children who love Him and obey Him (Rom 8:28), we shall trust in Him and give thanks unto Him for all things and in all things (Eph 5:20; 1 Thess 5:18). Moreover, God and His Word are always the same, everlasting and endure for ever, so He and His Word are able to make our hearts steadfast, firm and established, “*Now he which stablisheth (bebaioo) us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God*” (2 Cor 1:21) and “*For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled (natsab, fixed, established) in heaven*” (Ps 119:89). The more we trust and obey God’s Word the firmer foundation we are building in our spiritual life, “*Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock*” (Matt 7:24). Then, do you know and trust in the Lord and His Word? “*He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies*”

(Ps 112:7-8) and “*It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man*” (Ps 118:8).

Cry unto the Lord for His Mercy: God uses trials, difficulties, opposition and persecutions to mould and establish His children’s hearts. Then, you and I must turn to the Lord and cry unto Him for help and deliverance, through which we may grow in faith and in His knowledge. David trusted in the Lord and cried for help and deliverance, so his heart was fixed (steadfast), “*Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast. I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me... My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise*” (Ps 57:1, 2, 7). Dear friends, do you and I turn to the Lord and humbly cry unto Him in our trials and difficulties?

Rooted and Grounded in the Lord and His Word: A person who gladly received God’s Word “*yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended*” (Matt 13:21). Being rooted and grounded in the Lord and His Word means being totally dependent on the Lord and His Word and living by the Lord and His Word moment by moment and day by day like the branch on the Vine (John 15:1-5). Are you and I rooted and grounded in the Lord and His Word? “*Rooted and built up in him, and stablished (bébaios) in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving* (Col 2:7), and “*If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled (hedraios), and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister*” (Col 1:23).

Be Attached to the Anchor of Our Souls: A ship without an anchor is easily moved or tossed to and fro. God does not want you and

me to be shaken and compromising, but “*come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive*” (Eph 4:13-14). Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Anchor of our troubled souls. If we keep a living fellowship with Him moment by moment wherever we are, we shall be established by Him and His Word, “*Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast (bébaios), and which entereth into that within the veil*” (Heb 6:19).

Fear God and Depart from Sin and Evil: God is holy and righteous and He never condones sin or unrighteousness. It is always good and wise to fear God and keep ourselves from sin and evil. Job “*feared God, and eschewed evil*” (Job 1:1), so his heart was established. As the Lord is the Anchor of our souls, and sin will separate us from the Lord and trouble our souls, the only way for us to have peace is to come back to Him in repentance and restore our living fellowship with Him, “*Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments ... He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD*” (Ps 112:1,7).

Conclusion

Dear friends, it is a great blessing to have our hearts established by the Lord and His Word. May God help you and me grow in His grace and in the knowledge of Him and His Word, trust in Him and His Word, cry unto Him for help and deliverance. Fear God and depart from sin and evil, and keep a living fellowship with our Lord so that we may enjoy His peace and be established and faithful unto the end. Amen.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 1 – 7, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	First Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	LF 6 th Anniversary
THU	7.30 pm	First Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	AF 5 th Anniversary Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Catechism Class (Tanglin Rm)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Prabhudas Koshy) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Ladies Fellowship 6th Anniversary this Wed, Feb 3 at RELC Room 502, 7.45 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting this Fri, Feb 5 at the home of Mrs Mahadevan, 8 pm. Address: 129 Hillcrest Road. Tel: 64664059.

Adults Fellowship 5th Anniversary this Sat, Feb 6 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Feb 6 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Sola Fide" by Dr Paul Ferguson. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day S\$13,924; GBP1; USD0.25; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$101
Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Rev Tan Kian Sing \$50; Bible Witness \$100; Children's Sunday School \$50; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$100, \$100; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$100; Sim Swee Ho \$200; Wendy Teng \$100; FEBC Dining Club \$50; FEBC \$400, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$15,575; GBP1; USD0.25

Church Building Fund \$200 Total: S\$931,349.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$23.00

Verse for the Week: *Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware; and reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge. Prov 19:25*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class on Hosea by Joshua Yong will resume next Lord's Day, Feb 7, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome.

Classes for the Children's Sunday Schools and Worship will be held at the RELC, Level 6 wef next Lord's Day, Feb 7. All parents please note.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3–Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 525 Jelapang Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

FCM Combined Meeting 2010 will be held on Fri, Feb 26 at Calvary Pandan BPC (Level 3 Sanctuary), 7.30 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm. Message: "The Reason for Being Bible-Presbyterian" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. All tertiary students are strongly encouraged to attend. For more info, contact Brian Lim at 91269832.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 18

31 January 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	No. 7
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 91
Hymn	No. 347
Announcements	
Special Number	Youth Choir
Offering & Hymn	No. 306
Offertory Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Deut 5:1-10
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Stephen Khoo
Sermon	<i>The LORD our God, a Jealous God!</i> (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 399
Benediction	Rev Stephen Khoo

LADIES FELLOWSHIP

Judith d'Silva

The Ladies Fellowship meets every first Wednesday of the month. This is when we gather together to ask the Lord's blessings that He may chasten, lead and mould us to be His channels fit for service and for His Kingdom.

We thank the Lord for the Ladies Fellowship. We were the first fellowship group that was formed, three months after we began worshipping at the FEBC Lord's Day Service. Encouraged by Mrs Tow, a few ladies got together and the inaugural meeting of the Ladies Fellowship was held on Wednesday 4 Feb 04 at the home of Mrs Quek Siok Eng. It was befitting that Pastor Tow delivered the message – reading from Luke 8:1-3 – and he set the ladies two objectives in forming the fellowship. First, giving to missions. "Missionaries, labouring afar off with small young churches need our help. We should from the start set a goal to help them." Second, studying God's Word. "We

have the exemplary conduct of Mary of Bethany who listened to Jesus' sermon and is highly commended.... So our monthly meetings must be well attended to hear God's Word. We must pray for good speakers."

We thank God for providing faithful preachers to instruct us in His Word and for bringing the ladies every month. Even though many may be tired after a hard day's work, they come regularly and are blessed by the faithful preaching of God's Word. We believe that when we delight in the law of the Lord, we shall be like the trees planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth fruit in due season. This year, we thank the Lord for enabling Rev Das Koshy to speak to us on a series of messages on The Faith of the Saints.

Hearts are also encouraged by the sharing of testimonies, the offering of prayer one for another, and the joining of voices in songs of praise. Over the years, the fellowship has grown deeper as testimonies are given more freely and readily, and as we intercede one for another. Much time is spent in testifying and in prayer. There is much eagerness and excitement in wanting to tell about God's goodness and mercies, and even around the refreshment table there is more sharing and encouraging. No one is in a hurry to go home, and everyone lends a hand in clearing up and putting things away.

The group may not be large, but the blessings are abundant. Indeed the ladies have given freely and, heeding





the words of Pastor Tow, “but do not forget the collection to help our missionaries”, the Ladies Fellowship is grateful for being able to support the mission of Marilyn Nanta in Sarawak with a love gift every month. May the Lord lead us to support a second mission so that we give as much as we have received.

Until 2006, the ladies met in the home of Mrs Quek, who not only turned her living room into a meeting hall but also prepared a generous table of refreshments for us. Even though she was busy all day at work, she would rush home in time to prepare for the meeting, and her maid was such a big help too. Our favourites were her *laksa*, *mee siam* and chicken porridge. There was always so much to eat. We thank God for Mrs Quek. Not wanting to burden her further, the ladies have been holding our meetings on the fifth floor of RELC since 2006. While settled there, we have also been blessed by sisters who have opened their homes for LF meetings, such as Dr Chng Hiok Hee, Su Yuan and Mui Mui.

We welcome both sisters and brothers to our fellowship. We are always glad to see Dn

Charles, who has been such a blessing and wonderful help to us. On 3 February, we will be commemorating our 6th Anniversary with a thanksgiving service. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo will be the Lord’s messenger and the ladies are having a pot-bless. Nothing like home-cooked food to make a joyous occasion even more special. Do come to seek the Lord’s blessings.

Testimonies

When I look back, I can see God’s gracious hand working things out for us and ordering them according to His will and wisdom. He provided faithful speakers every month. Praise God for all the ladies who come to seek the Lord and study His Word. There are many new faces. God is so good. He knows who to bring to the LF. All glory be to God.

– Deborah Mae

I thank God for the ministry of the Ladies Fellowship. It is a privilege for me to be part of the fellowship, to gather and worship God through the singing of hymns, praying and studying God’s Word. I have

heard many sermons which were faithfully preached and I have been spiritually nourished and enriched by God’s Word. I hope that more brethren will come and receive these blessings from our Heavenly Father. Praise the Lord!

– Grace Soon



I thank God for leading me to the Ladies Fellowship in June 09. Being very new to True Life BP then, I was yearning for more opportunities to listen to God’s Word. With Sister Jenny’s invitation, I started attending this Fellowship. Preacher Dennis Kabingue was doing a series on “He That Overcometh”

from the Book of Revelation, and each session drew practical lessons for me on God’s teachings. Although it is a small group, every fellowship is sweet with the sisters’ testimonies and personal sharing. I look forward to such mid-week meetings where I draw strength from the preaching of God’s Word and being among His people. I truly thank God for this fellowship as it has been a great encouragement to me in my daily walk with God.

– Rebecca Chan

Thank God for the Ladies Fellowship. I started attending LF about 3 years ago. When I was still working, I always looked forward to the LF meeting even though I was very tired after a day’s work. However, God never failed to uplift my spirit with His Word and the sharing and prayers of the sisters. Thank God also for His faithful servants for teaching us His Word and the warm fellowship around the sumptuous supper thereafter.

– Su Yuan



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 8 – 14, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	2.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.00 am	Worship (Lord's Supper) (Rev Stephen Khoo)
	10.30 am	Korean Service (Rm 503)
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Feb 13 at 2.00 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 1.30 pm or at Lavender MRT at 1.40 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

FCM Combined Meeting 2010 will be held on Fri, Feb 26 at Calvary Pandan BPC (Level 3 Sanctuary), 7.30 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm. Message: "The Reason for Being Bible-Presbyterian" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. All tertiary students are strongly encouraged to attend. For more info, contact Brian Lim at 91269832.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

Lawsuit: The FEBC Board and Faculty wish to thank all who prayed for FEBC and those who attended the High Court hearings (January 25-29) in support of FEBC. Please continue to pray as we await the verdict from the Judge. *"The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad"* (Ps 126:3).

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$15,311; RM50; 1p; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$302.50
Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$500; *Bible Witness* \$500; *Church Choir Gowns* \$2,000; *Missions* \$1,500; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$300, \$200; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$300, \$100; *Marilyn Nanta (FEBC)* \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$500, \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$260, \$100; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$1,000; *FEBC* \$800, \$100, \$50, \$50, \$50
Total General and Designated Offerings:
 S\$24,273.50; RM50; 1p
Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$300 **Total:**
 S\$932,649.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$11.00

Verse for the Week: *He that wasteth his father, and chaseth away his mother, is a son that causeth shame, and bringeth reproach. Prov 19:26*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Lord's Day Service on CNY day will be held at 9.00 am. There will be no Sunday School, Filipino Bible Study and Catechism classes next Lord's Day, Feb 14. Indonesian Bible Study group to join the worship service.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3-Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Brisbane BPC will hold its 3rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on the Lord's Day, Mar 14. Bible Seminar on Biblical Sanctification will be held on Mar 13. Speaker: Rev Errol Stone. True Lifers planning to go for the anniversary service can write to Rev Hien (hien7ng@optusnet.com.au) for information.

Our deepest condolences to Bro William Teo & family on the demise of his mother on Feb 3 in Brunei.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

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Vol. VII No. 19

7 February 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	No. 263
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 126
Hymn	No. 488
Announcements	
Special Number	Church Choir
Offering & Hymn	No. 123
Offertory Prayer	Dn Charles Kan
Scripture Text	Psalms 131
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
Sermon	<i>A Weaned Soul</i> (Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy)
Closing Hymn	No. 335
Benediction	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

Dealing with the Spirit of Fear

(A Sermon by the Rev Tan Kian Sing at True Life BPC, 24 January 2010)

Texts: 2 Timothy 1:7, Romans 8:15

As we face another long year ahead of us, the spirit of fear is something which all of us will have to deal with. Dear brethren, are you afraid of doing something that you desire to do or you feel that you ought to do, but you are impeded by your fears? As a result you fail to do the thing you fear to do? Your fears paralyse you and nothing is accomplished for yourself, for those whom you serve, and for the Lord.

Do you sometimes fear to embark on the necessary thing that you need to do because you fear embarrassment; you fear facing problems, troubles, and pressures; you fear not being able to cope; you fear inconveniences to your comfortable private life; you fear the criticisms of men; you fear losing face, you fear offending people because you are a men-pleaser? As a result you give excuses to avoid doing what God has called you to do.

Just how many times have you failed to serve the Lord when called upon just because you are overcome by unjustifiable and ungodly fears? Many of us are guilty of having such fears. There is no need to be afraid to acknowledge that you do have such fears in your life. If you say that you do not have any fear whatsoever, then you are either lying or just pretending or proud that you are living a holy life and without sin always.

Fear Not!

The Bible is filled with admonitions on fear. It is evident that we do fight with the spirit of fear in our lives. That is why God commands us over and over again that we should not be fearful nor be afraid. In fact, the admonition "fear not" is one of the most common admonitions in the Sacred Scriptures. It is found 365 times in the KJB – just right for each day of the year. The good Lord has provided for us that antidote in His Holy Word to tackle our fears day by day.

Here are some of the fear not's from God's Holy Word: Isaiah 41:10 – *"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."* Matthew 10:30-31 – *"But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows."* Revelation 1:17-18 – *"Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;*



Church Choir Presentation at the Watchnight Service, 31 December 2009

and have the keys of hell and of death.”

Actually, the exact phrase, “fear not,” is found 62 times in the KJB. However, this does not account for derivatives such as – “Be not afraid”, “Be of good courage”, “Be strong”. So, to be exact it is not the actual words “fear not” that occur 365 times in the Bible but the exhortation not to be fearful because our Lord God is always watching over us, and able to protect, help and deliver us that occurs so many times.

Live by Faith Not by Fear

Certainly God has several reasons to repeatedly issue those commands or exhortations. For one reason, fear must be dealt with if we are to live by faith. *“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear”* (2 Timothy 1:7). Also, *“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father”* (Romans 8:15). As adopted children of God, we need to live our life by faith. We need to fight fear by obeying God’s call to trust in Him and to “fear not.” Our lives should be controlled by faith and not by fear. In other words, we fight fear with faith by trusting in God that He is able to help us, depending upon Him for sufficient grace and His abounding mercy.

If by faith we simply trust in the Lord to help us, we can therefore proclaim with the psalmist, *“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). It does not mean that our lives will be rid of all fears. Rather it is that though we remain caught up in a hostile and threatening environment, we can learn to do this: *“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD”* (Psalm 27:14).

Fear God Alone

Instead of fearing circumstances, men, or the evil one, God wants us to fear Him. This is the fear that we ought to have as taught in the Bible: “Fear God.” Peter tells us in 1 Peter 2:17 to *“honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.”* Also in Deuteronomy 10:12, it is commanded, *“And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to*

fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.” So the legitimate, acceptable and god-honouring fear is to fear God!

There are ungodly fears. Such fears are not what God wants us to have. Again 2 Timothy 1:7 tells us, *“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear.”* The spirit of fear is from Satan so that we will have fear of difficulty or danger, by which one is deterred from activity and faithfulness in working for the Lord. Thus, the Lord wants us to resist fear as it is satanic in origin. The devil wants to put fear in us so that we will not dare or have the courage to do things for God, to face trials, to face persecutions. Are you facing some trials or persecutions? Do you fear them, or do you fear God?

In Revelation 2:10, the angel of the church in Smyrna writes: *“Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”* Beware, for very often the devil instils fear in God’s children so that they will fail to do their duties. Because of fear they fail to glorify God.

Overcoming Fear

The army of Israel, including their leader, King Saul, allowed their fear of the diabolical Goliath to immobilise them, until David came. Was David afraid? Perhaps he was. But David put his trust in God. With faith in God, David walked towards the giant and swung his sling shot with a round stone which hit Goliath’s head right at the centre.

David was able to overcome his fear because of his confidence in the Lord as expressed in a psalm written by him in Psalm 27:1-3 – *“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? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an host*

should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.” Can we say such words from our heart in times of fear?

David also wrote in Psalm 34:4 – *“I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.”* Was David fearful? Certainly! But he overcame his fears by trusting in God, seeking Him and calling upon the Lord.

Are you so fearful of failure? Look unto God for confidence and strength to conquer your fears and go on and get things done for the Lord. And then give Him the glory by praising Him. Psalm 50:15 says, *“And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.”* We are not able to overcome fear with our own strength. We can only overcome fear through the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells in every child of God. *“Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit,” saith the Lord*” (Zechariah 4:6). The Lord God who transforms us is able to help us overcome our fears. He who has called us is faithful, and He will do it. He is able to carry you through!

An Indian fable tells of a mouse which was in constant distress because of its fear of the cat. A magician took pity on it and turned it into a cat. Immediately it became afraid of the dog. So the magician turned it into a dog. Immediately it began to fear the tiger. So the magician turned it into a tiger. Immediately it began to fear the hunter. Then the magician said, “Be a mouse again. You have only the heart of a mouse and I cannot help you.”

My friend, if you are truly born again, a child of God, and you call Him, “Abba Father,” then know that He can help you overcome your fears, *“for God hath not given us the spirit of fear”* (2 Timothy 1:7) and *“ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father”* (Romans 8:15).

Peace of God

Our Lord Himself assures His disciples to be at peace and not to be afraid for the Holy Spirit will be with them to help them always in their difficult encounters. All born again believers have the Spirit of God dwelling in them that they may know how to deal with ungodly fears. The

Lord Jesus says in John 14:26-27, *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”* Jesus knows we are so easily troubled and afraid. But with God’s help, we need not let fear overwhelm us.

So whenever we are faced with a fearful situation, let us overcome it with prayer by asking the Lord to help us resist it by the power of His Spirit. Trust in God’s promises of deliverance. Follow what the psalmist did in Psalm 34:4, *“I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.”* This is a wonderful verse. Commit it to memory and remember to call upon the Lord when we are being attacked by fear.

Take the Step of Faith

Dear brethren, is there some fear that is hindering you from stepping forward to commit your life to serve the Lord? There is no need to be afraid. Take that step of faith, just like the Israelites when they crossed the river Jordan (Joshua 3:13-17).

Learn again from David who had all the reasons to be afraid because King Saul wanted to destroy him. But David could say, *“the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”* (Psalm 27:1). Yes, the Lord will help you and neither will He leave you like David who testified in Psalm 27:9 – *“Thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me.”* He also said in Psalm 27:14 – *“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.”*

The next time when fear comes against you, remember that you have the power to resist it because you fear the Lord and His Word. Fight against all fears with the presence of God within you. For God has said, *“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”* So we may boldly say, *“The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me”* (Hebrews 13:5-6)!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 15 – 21, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	No FEBC Night Class
THU	7.30 pm	First Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	2.30 pm	YPF 6 th Anniversary
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Catechism Class (Tanglin Rm)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Thu night class, 7.30-9.30 pm, is held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Young People's Fellowship 6th Anniversary this Sat, Feb 20 at RELC Room 502, 2.30 pm. Message: "The Renewing of the Mind" by Eld Joseph. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

FCM Combined Meeting 2010 will be held on Fri, Feb 26 at Calvary Pandan BPC (Level 3 Sanctuary), 7.30 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm. Message: "The Reason for Being Bible-Presbyterian" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. All tertiary students are strongly encouraged to attend. For more info, contact Brian Lim at 91269832.

Church Camp 2010 (June 14-18) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Book your leave early!

William Teo's family & siblings would like to thank True Life BPC and brethren for their condolences and prayers during their recent bereavement on the passing of their mother/grandmother.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day \$12,210
Fellowships' Collections: AF \$924; LF \$996

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Rev Tan Kian Sing \$50; BCEA Kenya \$400; BCEA Tanzania \$400; Bohol, Philippines \$200; Gethsemane BPC \$1,000, \$700, \$100; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$300, \$50; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$50; Ow Kuan Tai \$800; Sim Swee Ho \$300, \$70.45 (YPF); Wendy Teng \$100; FEBC Bookroom \$280; FEBC \$1,000, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:
\$20,180.45

Church Building Fund \$650, \$300, \$200, \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** S\$934,199.27; USD600

Corrigendum: Fellowships' Collections of YPF \$302.50 reflected in 7 February Weekly should read as FBF \$302.50.

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$24.00

Verse for the Week: Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge. Prov 19:27

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Tanglin Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3-Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Brisbane BPC will hold its 3rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on the Lord's Day, Mar 14. Bible Seminar on Biblical Sanctification will be held on Mar 13. Speaker: Rev Errol Stone. True Lifers planning to go for the anniversary service can write to Rev Hien (hien7ng@optusnet.com.au) for information.

The Session wish all members a blessed Lunar New Year. Remember to offer a thanksgiving *Ang Pau* to the Lord in grateful worship.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 9 am

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Vol. VII No. 20

14 February 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	Rise to Greet the Sun
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 49:1-2
Hymn	From China's Towering Mountains
Announcements	
Special Number	Mixed Chorus
Offering & Hymn	The Lord Gives Me Peace
Offertory Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Matt 6:19-34
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Stephen Khoo
Sermon	God's Better Things (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	Lord Here I Take My Cross (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

What Is Your Life?

(Sermon by Dr Jeffrey Khoo at Truth BPC,
24 January 2010)

Money is the god of many a Singaporean. The casinos in Sentosa and in Marina Bay are the new temples of materialism and moneytheism. Besides food, what occupies the mind of Singaporeans in general is how to get rich, and quick; how I can earn more and more, buy bigger houses, drive bigger cars. Understand that it is not money or wealth that is sinful, but the love of money—the sin of greed. "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (1 Tim 6:10).

So, we find ourselves in pursuit of wealth whether by hook or by crook with utter disregard for God and His commandments. "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" (Jas 4:13-14). One of the ways whereby believers have befriended the world and made the Lord their enemy was their total disregard for God in their business decisions and dealings. You can just imagine these people looking at the world map and thinking of what they can do to get rich: "I cannot wait to book my ticket to fly out today or tomorrow, go to India and China, spend a year in this city and that city, get the contacts, set up shop, import and export, buy and sell, and make it big."

Diligent and meticulous planning is not wrong in and of itself. It is only wrong when we do not take God into consideration. It is wrong when it is done with selfish ambition. Questions like "Does the Lord want me to go here?", "Will He be pleased if I do this?", "What can I do to extend the kingdom of God in my business trips?" were never asked. To such, making money is the number one priority, and when discussing business, religion takes a backseat. The Apostle James had to remind these presumptuous businessmen that their lives were not in their hands.

We need to understand that we are able to subsist and engage in business only because God has graciously allowed us to. For our life is like a vapour or mist which appears but for a while and is gone. As much as we are



Ladies Fellowship 6th Anniversary, February 3, 2010

not able to control the time a vapour will last, neither can we determine how long we live. If we continue to live our lives without due regard for God and His Word, He may cut short our time here on earth. There is a lesson from Jesus about the rich fool. To the godless and proud towkay who told himself to enjoy life and take it easy, God said, *“Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided. So is he that layeth up treasures for himself, and is not rich toward God”* (Luke 12:20-21). We should rather *“seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you”* (Matt 6:33).

“For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that” (Jas 4:15). Instead of arrogantly saying, “I will do this,” or “I will do that,” Christians should always seek the will of God, and humbly include the words, “The Lord willing.” This should be the case not only in the planning of business trips but also mission trips. This may be seen in the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul. Paul told the Ephesians that “if God will” he will pay them a second visit (Acts 18:20). He said the same to the Corinthians (1 Cor 4:19, 16:7), and to the Philippians (Phil 2:19). It is always *Deo volente* (DV), “God willing.”

“But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil” (Jas 4:16). There are business executives who show off their five-year or ten-year plans. Some Christians are impressed by such godless planning, and adopt such worldly methods for the Church. It ought always to be remembered that while man may propose, it is ultimately God who disposes. Our planning must never be independent of God, and our plans should rather be short-term ones. We must never run ahead of God. We enter only when God opens the door. And God opens doors one at a time. He leads us a step at a time. This causes us to be ever dependent on Him for guidance each step of the way. That is why God does not reveal to us the exact time of Christ’s return. He wants us to be mindful that He may come at any time; hence, we have to be prepared all the time (Matt 24:30, 42,

25:13). Sinful man is such that if he knew the exact moment of Christ’s return, he would choose to live according to his pleasure until it is five minutes too late!

“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin” (Jas 4:17). It is the sin of omission. The word “good” (*kalon*) speaks of that which is morally excellent and praiseworthy. The word “do” (*poiein*) is written in the present tense indicating that good is something to be done continually. The late Rev Dr Timothy Tow used to say, “Do something good for Jesus every day.” Not once in a while, but all the time. A person may sin in two basic ways: (1) by violating and (2) by ignoring the Word of God. Both types of sin—commission and omission—are equally sinful. James here issues a warning. He has shown them the error of their ways, and the correct paths they ought to take. If they refuse to do that which is good, to heed God’s Word, then they have shown contempt for God Himself. This might be an unpardonable sin—the sin of contempt—for *“faith without works is dead”* (Jas 2:20). Having heard the Word of God, we must do the Word of God.

It is not money that is the root of all evil but the love of it (1 Tim 6:10). There is nothing wrong in being rich, but there is everything wrong in trusting in riches. In chapter 5, James continues to warn against worldliness (5:1-4). He now zeroes in on one very real problem—the worship of money. Adultery against God is committed when people make money their god. Instead of seeking “to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever” (Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q1), their philosophy of life is purely materialistic, to *“buy and sell, and get gain”* (Jas 4:12). James warns against taking this road of self-destruction.

“From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive

not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble” (Jas 5:1-6).

James here speaks of the rich who merely professed Christ, but never truly possessed Christ. These were first mentioned in 1:10-11 where James said that their wealthy state was only temporary. They might be rich in their life on earth now, but they would be poor in the life hereafter.

So, let us humble ourselves to know that our life is not in our hands, but entirely in God’s, and we should always live our lives in the light of His Word and His will so that in all that we do, He might be glorified. What is the chief end of man? It is “to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever” (WSC Q1). Are you living such a life?

FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE



Despite the lawsuit brought against the Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC) by Life Bible-Presbyterian Church (LBPC) due to FEBC’s belief in the verbal and plenary preservation of the Holy Scriptures, which went to trial in the High Court of Singapore from 25-29 January 2010, the College by the grace of God got off to a blessed start with a total enrolment of 391 students comprising 115 day-time students (56 full-time, 59 part-time) from 18 countries (Australia, Cambodia, China, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Northern Ireland, Philippines, Singapore, Tanzania, Thailand, and Vietnam), and 276 lay students in the “Basic Theology for Everyone” classes on Monday and Thursday nights, with an increasing number of local and overseas students taking the online distance learning courses.

The Biblical and theological subjects this semester are taught by the following lecturers: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo (Principal), Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew (Academic Dean), Rev Dr Das Koshy (Dean of Students), Rev Koa Keng Woo, and Rev Tan Kian Sing. Mrs Ivy Tow (Matron) teaches Elementary Greek, and Mrs Jemima Khoo and Miss Carol Lee teach Christian Education. Mr Dennis Kabingue and Mrs Janice Lai are our tutors in Greek and Music respectively. We congratulate Mrs Janice Lai for being conferred the degree of Master of Sacred Music by Foundations Bible College (USA) in December last year. Dr Paul Ferguson who is also a Foundations graduate teaches the Acts of the Apostles as part of his ThD requirements at FEBC.

We welcome Mrs Irene Lim to the faculty of FEBC as English tutor to the Intermediate English class. Mrs Lim is a qualified school teacher and holds a Diploma in English Studies from the University of Cambridge and a BA in English Language and Geography from the National University of Singapore. The College is also blessed with Mrs Anne Lim who teaches Intensive English. Mrs Lim is a BRE/MRE graduate of FEBC and was trained to teach English by the British Council. We also thank the Lord for Eld Han Soon Juan who has taught English in FEBC since time immemorial. He holds an MA from Columbia University and was Senior Subject Teacher in the English department of St Andrew’s Junior College. Eld Han teaches Advanced English at FEBC.

We covet your prayers for FEBC. Pray the Lord to protect and preserve His school of prophets at Gilstead Road, and grant His servants the grace to teach and defend the perfect preservation of His inspired, infallible and inerrant Words in these last days of blinding uncertainty and unbelief. *“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).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Feb 22 – 28, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Catechism Class (Rm 1703)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Dennis Kwok) Korean Service (Rm 1702) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

FCM Combined Meeting 2010 this Fri, Feb 26 at Calvary Pandan BPC (Level 3 Sanctuary), 7.30 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm. Message: "The Reason for Being Bible-Presbyterian" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. All tertiary students are strongly encouraged to attend. For more info, contact Brian Lim at 91269832.

Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, Feb 27. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road, Singapore 209272. For those requiring transport, please meet at Lavender MRT at 3.15 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Feb 27 at Mr and Mrs Ng Choon Seng's home, 5 Mount Faber Road, #07-12 The Pearl, 5.30pm. Message: "Deity and Humanity of Christ" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$9,043; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$159.55

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$50; *Rev Stephen Khoo* \$50; *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$50, \$50; *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$50; *Eld Tan Nee Keng* \$50; *Mrs Ivy Tow* \$50; *Mrs Jemima Khoo* \$50; *Ng Yaw Chong* \$50; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$50; *Barnabas Yap* \$50; *Yap Ling Ling* \$50; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$500, \$200, \$50; *FEBC* \$10,000, \$450, \$400, \$400, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$22,102.55
Church Building Fund \$1,100, \$1,000, \$400, \$100
Total: S\$936,799.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *An ungodly witness scorneth judgment: and the mouth of the wicked devoureth iniquity. Prov 19:28*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Brisbane BPC will hold its 3rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on the Lord's Day, Mar 14. Bible Seminar on Biblical Sanctification will be held on Mar 13. Speaker: Rev Errol Stone. True Lifers planning to go for the anniversary service can write to Rev Hien (hien7ng@optusnet.com.au) for information.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson.

Registration commences today. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register early. Closing Date: Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

Calvary Pandan Kindergarten urgently needs two Christian teachers. Qualifications: Have a burden to serve in this ministry. Teachers with DPET is preferred, or minimum of 5 'O' levels & B4 for English. Training will be provided. Applications, as soon as possible, with a resume, should be addressed to chewchongkiat@gmail.com.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 21

21 February 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	No. 32
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 7
Hymn	No. 355
Announcements	
Special Number	Young People's Fellowship
Offering & Hymn	No. 64
Offertory Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	John 8:1-11
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Sermon	<i>Judge of Judges</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 55
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Occupy till He Comes!

(A Report by William Teo on the Occasion of the Adults Fellowship's 5th Anniversary Thanksgiving, 6th February 2010)

We would like to thank our Heavenly Father for sustaining us these last five years! It is our prayer that the Lord will continue to lead and guide as we seek to grow in faith and in the knowledge of Him!

We thank God for providing Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo as our speaker who has taught us the truth from God's perfect, infallible and preserved Word. Our heartfelt thanks to Dr Khoo who has ministered to us and we pray that the Lord will grant him grace and strength as he continues to defend the faith which was once delivered to the saints! Currently, Dr Khoo is teaching us from the book of Acts (we have completed 16 out of 28 chapters). We pray that more brethren will be able to join us to study God's Word together.

As usual, we meet monthly on the third Saturday to study God's Word together in my

house at 3.30pm. During our monthly meetings, we have the message first followed by testimony and prayer time when we break into groups to pray for one another. Sister Jenny Kan will take the children for their own Bible study and craft work during testimony and prayer time. After that we stay for some refreshments and fellowship. We thank God for the growing number of children attending the AF meeting. We pray that they will come to know the Lord before they enter secondary school.

Besides the monthly meetings, some of the AF brethren also participate in the following activities: (1) Monthly door-to-door HDB flats evangelism led by Deacon Charles Kan; (2) Children's Ministry and Vacation Bible School; and (3) Church camp – so that we can also have fellowship with our church brethren. A good number of us were able to join the church camp last year.

We thank God that many of us are attending the "Basic Theology for Everyone" night classes of FEBC as we are strongly encouraged to study the Word of God at FEBC to build up our faith and knowledge of Him.

The highlight of the year was Christmas Carolling on 25 December 2009. Christmas is a time when we can share God's glad tidings and great joy of salvation to those who are still unsaved. We thank God for four homes that were opened last year: (1) Sister Desy's and (2) Sister Wendy's home where Brother Joshua Yong shared

Adults Fellowship's 5th Anniversary Thanksgiving, 6th February 2010



God's Word to them; (3) Sister Keng Hong's and (4) Sister Kuan Tai's home where the Gethsemane Care Ministry presented a special item and Preacher Daniel Lim exhorted from God's Word. We ended our carolling with fellowship at Sister Kuan Tai's home. Thank God for every opportunity to preach the gospel and to share God's Word.

Our love gifts in support of missions and the needy were disbursed to the following: (1) Young People's Fellowship 5th Anniversary, (2) Sister Kuan Tai, (3) Sister Hui Ching, and (4) Baraka Church in Bethlehem.

We pray for the Lord to open up avenues of service for us to serve Him in 2010 as we seek to occupy till He comes!

Provoking One Another unto Good Works

(A Testimony by Wendy Teng on God's Blessings upon the Adults Fellowship)

I would like to thank God for His mercy and goodness that He has showered upon the Adults Fellowship (AF) for the past five years.

Thank God for providing this fellowship and preserving this fellowship as a means of grace for us to grow spiritually in the Lord.

I still remember we started gathering at Bro William and Sis Rachel's home informally to know and better understand the VPP doctrine from Dr Jeffrey Khoo who patiently taught us. And through the encouragement and advice of Dr Khoo, the AF was formed and we have had our meetings here for the past five years. We are grateful to the Lord for providing this home for our meetings and the great hospitality our Chairman Bro William and Sis Rachel have extended to us in their labour of love for the Lord. Now we are all so familiar with this place and could feel very at home here whenever we meet. We thanked God for their kindness and hospitality.

Thank God also for this spiritual family that the Lord has provided for us where we not only could come together and study God's Word and serve the Lord together, but could share our burdens with one another

and pray for one another and also to encourage and provoke one another unto love and good works. We are grateful to the Lord that through mutual encouragement, quite a number of the AFers have been and are now attending the FEBC night classes to study God's Word that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Indeed the Lord has been very good to us.

Thank God also for opening doors for us to serve Him. Thank God for burdening the heart of Sis Jenny Kan to share God's Word with Sarah and Jeremy and she has been faithfully teaching them month after month. And through this, the Lord moved our hearts to start a Children's ministry last year after the VBS as Sarah had invited a number of her classmates to the VBS and we were thinking how to follow up on them. Thank God that some of her classmates do continue to join us for our AF meetings and Sis Jenny Kan will teach them. And through this Children's ministry, we are grateful to the Lord that souls are brought into His kingdom – Herrick, Shirley Leong's neighbour's son came to the Lord the first time he joined us and Solikah, William's maid who sit in to listen to Jenny teaching the children also came to the Lord the same day as Herrick after Sis Jenny shared the gospel with both of them. All praise and glory be to God!

though they are not ready to believe yet. Every opportunity is precious and thank God for moving my parents' heart to allow our home to be opened for carolling last year and for the AF's effort to reach out to my loved ones.



This year, we are thankful to the Lord for helping us start a Visitation Ministry. Thank God for the burden that He has laid upon my heart regarding this Visitation Ministry and I am grateful to the Lord for the enthusiasm shown by AFers when I shared with them this burden that the Lord has given me. Thank God that through their provoking unto love and good works and encouragement, we started our first visitation this month on February 16. The purpose of this ministry is two-fold: (1) To reach out to our loved ones, especially our parents whom we have been praying for their salvation, to share with them the gospel and to invite them to our church; and (2) To visit the sick and other church members to encourage them in the Lord and to fellowship with them.

Praise the Lord for a blessed time we had visiting Sis Mei Lin's and Sis Kuan Tai's mothers on February 16. Thank God for providing Rev Ton Soung Kao from Calvary Pandan BPC and Bro Jose Lagapa to be our speakers. We thank God that our visitation has been a blessing to them.

Please continue to pray for the AF that the Lord will have mercy on us and willing to use us for His glory alone. All praise and glory be to God!



I thank God also for the AF who came to my home at our last Christmas Carolling to share God's Word with my parents. Thank God for giving my parents and my elder brother the opportunity to hear the gospel



Christmas Carolling at the home of Roger & Desy See, December 25, 2009

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 1 – 7, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	First Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU	7.30 pm	First Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Catechism Class (Orange Grove Room)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Korean Service (Rm 1705) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Mar 3 at RELC Room 602, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Enoch" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting this Fri, Mar 5 at 8 pm in the home of Dr and Mrs Chan Kay Heem. Address: 31 Jln Kemboja, Sennett Estate. Tel: 62822341.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Mar 6 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Solus Christus" by Dr Paul Ferguson. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." *Speaker:* Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. *Closing Date:* Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day S\$10,746; AUD0.05; Fellowships' Collections: YPF \$1,249.70

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$300; Gethsemane BPC \$1,000; Anya (FEBC) \$30; Clement Chew (FEBC) \$20; Degu (FEBC) \$30; Eliezeri (FEBC) \$30; Eric Kambale (FEBC) \$30; Samuel Eio (FEBC) \$20; Fransiska (FEBC) \$30; Ibrahim (FEBC) \$30; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$100, \$100, \$30; Samuel Kwong (FEBC) \$50; Marilyn Nanta (FEBC) \$30; Kiet Thaven (FEBC) \$30; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$100, \$30; Sim Swee Ho \$100, \$50, \$50; Wendy Teng \$200; FEBC \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$14,485.70; AUD0.05
Church Building Fund \$500, \$200, \$100 **Total:** S\$937,599.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$14.20

Verse for the Week: Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools. Prov 19:29

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Orange Grove Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3-Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Infant Baptism on Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4. Please register with Wendy Teng (Tel: 62541287/94754067).

Brisbane BPC will hold its 3rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on the Lord's Day, Mar 14. Bible Seminar on Biblical Sanctification will be held on Mar 13. Speaker: Rev Errol Stone. True Lifers planning to go for the anniversary service can write to Rev Hien (hien7ng@optusnet.com.au) for information.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 531 Jelapang Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.



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Vol. VII No. 22

28 February 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	No. 317
Invocation-Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 71
Hymn	No. 191
Announcements	
Special Number	Sunday School Children
Offering & Hymn	No. 525
Offertory Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	1 Peter 2:4-10
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dennis Kwok
Sermon	We Are Lively Stones! (Rev Dennis Kwok)
Closing Hymn	No. 468
Benediction	Rev Dennis Kwok

The Sunday School and Children's Worship Hour

Jemima Khoo

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:4). The Sunday school and Children's Worship at True Life BP Church seek to train children in the way of the Lord by leading them to a saving knowledge of the Lord and then to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Jesus said in Mark 10:14, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God". Children are a gift from God and they are not to be neglected. The Children's ministry is an important one for little ones can be saved at a young age.

The Sunday school hour at True Life runs from 9:15 to 10:15 am every Sunday. We have 5 main classes and a team of dedicated teachers instructing the children every week (see table in the next

page).

We start with a time of Scripture memorization while the children stream in for the opening session. Scripture memorization is important as the Word of God gives life (John 6:63), direction (Psa. 119:105) and guides our conduct (Psa. 119:11). We follow a systematic memory verse programme for the whole year from the nursery level up, which includes *Bible ABCs*, *Bible Bees*, *God Loves Me*, *God Made Me*, *God Speaks to Me*, *God Offers to Me* *Eternal Life*, and a Scripture memory plan from *Five Smooth Stones* for those in the upper primary level. If the children go through the whole programme with us, they will complete 9 books of memory verses.



After the memorization of Scripture, we have a time of singing praises to the Lord. By God's grace, we have come up with a new Children's Song Book with 100 songs and choruses. These are conservative songs with a salvation emphasis. After the collection of the offering, the children go to their respective classes. The syllabus which we use is the Regular Baptist Press Sunday school materials.



Children's Christmas Programme, December 19, 2009

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CLASS	AGE GROUP	TEACHERS	ROOM
Kindergarteners	3 - 6	Hedy Ho, Chan Sok Sin	602
Primary 1 & 2	7 & 8	Jean Koh, Alice Chng	602
Primary 3 & 4	9 & 10	Ruth Tan, Soh Whee Kheng	603
Primary 5 & 6	11 & 12	Jenny Kan, Samuel Eio	604
Young Teens	13 - 16	Elder Koh, Jenny Kan, Clement Chew, Joycelyn Chng, Patricia Joseph	1704

The young teens studied Pastor Tow's book on the *Gospel of Life* last year and are now studying the book of Acts using the *Pattern for Church Growth and Missions*.



Church worship begins at 10:30 am. All the children join in the worship service with the adults until the offering time. They learn to sit quietly in reverence during the church worship. They then go to the 6th floor for the Children's Worship Hour around 11 am. We have 4 main groups.

The Children's Choir, comprising the primary school kids in church, have been singing and ministering to the people in church under the leadership of Mrs. Tow, Lai Suat Pek and Wayne Koh. They present special numbers for occasions like Easter, our Church Anniversary and Christmas.

We thank the Lord for a committed team of helpers aiding our main teachers every week. They assist during the singing time, art and craft time and are there for the younger children.

Sunday school teachers' workshops are also organized before the Vacation Bible School so that helpers from the VBS can benefit from our workshops.

Once a year, a Sunday school Teachers' lunch is provided to thank all our helpers and teachers for their hard work in the service of the Lord. We are thankful for brother Tan Tong Hai and sister Pollyanna for lovingly providing for this luncheon for the past 2 years.

Sunday school outings are organized so that families in church can get together with the Sunday school teachers. Past outings include indoor miniature golf, bumboat ride down the Singapore River with a visit to the Asian Civilizations Museum and prawning in Punggol.

Christmas is a special time of the year and the Sunday school Christmas party is held in conjunction with the Adults' Gospel Rally on the Saturday before Christmas. While the adults have their programme, the children have their programme too where Christmas carols are sung, the Gospel is presented, the children make a craft to take home, and we end with a time of gift exchange and fellowship around food.

The Lord has been good to all of us at True Life BP Church and we can only give thanks to Him and praise His name. "O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever." All praise and glory to the Lord!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HOUR

CLASS	LEVEL	TEACHERS & PROGRAMME	ROOM
NURSERY WORSHIP	Pre-N and Nursery	Tay Yee Fong, Tan Chew Ying, Elizabeth Mok Syllabus: Child Evangelism Fellowship materials on <i>Teaching Preschoolers God's Word</i>	601
KINDERGARTEN WORSHIP	K1 & K2	Chong Lian Neo, Serene Ng, Bernice Tan, Candice Tan, Timothy Tan Syllabus: Regular Baptist Press materials for Children's Church	602
LOWER PRIMARY WORSHIP	Pri. 1-3	Mabel Wong, Clement Chew, Jacelyn Chng, Lee Foong Mei Syllabus: <i>Lessons for Life</i> (Books 1 & 2) by Jill Masters	603
UPPER PRIMARY WORSHIP	Pri. 4-6	Jenny Kan, Quek Siok Eng, Tai Ji Choong, Anya Kera Syllabus: <i>Lessons for Life</i> (Books 3 & 4) by Jill Masters	604



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 8 – 14, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	First Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	First Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Catechism Class (Orange Grove Room)
	10.30 am	Worship (Lord's Supper) (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew) Korean Service (Rm 1705) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/SundaySchool.htm.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Mar 13 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Closing Date: Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day S\$21,446; RM23.05; THB1; Fellowships' Collections: FBF \$138.50; YPF \$40

Designated Offerings: New Life Orphan Center \$350; Biak (Myanmar) \$350; Bohol Philippines \$200; Bible Witness \$100; Kenneth Wong \$100; Anya (FEBC) \$300; Clement Chew (FEBC) \$300; Degu (FEBC) \$300; Eric Kambale (FEBC) \$300; Eliezeri (FEBC) \$300; Samuel Eio (FEBC) \$300; Fransiska (FEBC) \$300; Ibrahim (FEBC) \$300; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$2,000, \$300, \$200; Kiet Thaven (FEBC) \$300; Samuel Kwong (FEBC) \$500; Leakena (FEBC) \$200; Marilyn Nanta (FEBC) \$300; Peter Maurice (FEBC) \$100; Tann Heng (FEBC) \$200; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$1,000, \$300, \$200; Sim Swee Ho \$500, \$50, \$50; Wendy Teng \$500, \$100; FEBC Bookroom \$283; FEBC \$400

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$32,607.50; RM23.05; THB1

Church Building Fund \$3,850, \$700, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** S\$943,249.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$11.50

Verse for the Week: Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. Prov 20:1

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Orange Grove Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3-Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Infant Baptism on Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4. Please register with Wendy Teng (Tel: 62541287/ 94754067).

Brisbane BPC will hold its 3rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on the Lord's Day, Mar 14. Bible Seminar on Biblical Sanctification will be held on Mar 13. Speaker: Rev Errol Stone. True Lifers planning to go for the anniversary service can write to Rev Hien (hien7ng@optusnet.com.au) for information.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 23

7 March 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	No. 217
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 18
Hymn	No. 325
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Church Choir
Offering & Hymn	No. 392
Doxology/Prayer	
Scripture Text	Psalms 18:7
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Sermon	Earthquakes: God's Announcement of Judgement (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	No. 220
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

The Renewing of the Mind

(Exhortation delivered by Elder JT Joseph at the 6th Anniversary of the Young People's Fellowship of True Life B-P Church, 20th February 2010)



"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed

to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1, 2).

The issue being addressed here is not salvation: the apostle has spent the first eleven chapters on salvation. We have got past that stage, to the point where the concern is: 'What next?'

What next? A lot, actually, and involving both body and mind. In dealing with body and mind, we should note two extremes of Christian life and service: (1) Zeal without proper doctrinal knowledge; (2) Meditative contemplation only of God's Word.

Zeal without knowledge can be damaging to the cause of Christ, and in some cases, positively destructive. Such was the case with a Christian pastor, which case made headline news recently. He may have meant well, but the end result of his misguided zeal has been, arguably, to diminish the credibility of the faith.

What of meditative contemplation only of God's Word? When Calvin first visited Geneva in 1536, he wanted nothing more than to study and teach God's Word. It took his friend, Farrel, a night's worth of heated argument to turn the tables. We learn that Farrel, in desperation, threatened Calvin with God's curse should he refuse the pastorate of the Genevan church.

We see, therefore, that neither extreme is desirable: the one is an exercise in futility at best; the other leads to paralysis.



Young People's Fellowship 6th Anniversary, 20th February 2010

Both body and mind are completely involved in Christian life and service. We deal first with the body – see *v.1*. Note that St. Paul *beseeches* us to present our bodies a living sacrifice. There is no question of legalistic compulsion; rather, the nature of God's gift to His own – salvation by faith in the death and resurrection of Christ alone – should elicit from us a *willing* response.

This is borne out by the apostle's use of the phrase, 'by the mercies of God'. There are nine different manifestations of God's mercy, the present usage – *oiktirmos* – emphasising an inward compassion on God's part towards us who are totally undeserving. Thus, it is not what God has done for us that should elicit a ready response, but the pity God feels for us that should motivate us to present our bodies a 'living sacrifice'.

This presenting of our bodies is in a sacrificial sense – a willing sacrifice – and relates to the duties performed by a Levitical priest. In the context of *v.1*, God is interested in our BODIES. The works we do in the flesh constitute evidence of our salvation. If you have observed an aircraft about to touch down, you would have seen a puff of smoke at the moment the tyres make contact with the runway. That smoke is proof of a successful landing; so, too, with our works in relation to our salvation.

Moreover, the living sacrifice of our bodies is characterised by being (1) holy, and (2) acceptable to God.

'Holy': in the sense of being dedicated to God, no reference being made here to 'purity' of 'perfection'. 'Acceptable' – meaning, as sinners saved by grace, our willing sacrifice is *automatically* acceptable to God. We are told, furthermore, that our willing presentation of our bodies for the Master's use is only *reasonable*: what God seeks is not blind obedience but intelligent cooperation. That last observation points to the main thrust of *v.2* – the renewing of the MIND.

The mind's renewal is characterised as follows: (1) CONFORMED – be not conformed; (2) TRANSFORMED – be

transformed by; (3) RENEWING – the renewing of your mind.

CONFORMED can have one of two meanings, depending on the context. It could refer to *alignment* – but that is not the sense in which it is used in *v.2*; rather, it is 'taking on a shape or form that is foreign to one's nature'.

The latter is best illustrated by a rather unique sweet called 'Mintie'. It is hard – but not too hard; it is sticky, gummy & gooey – but not too sticky, gummy & gooey. When you first pop it into your mouth, it feels really hard: it resists pressure very effectively. The way to 'conquer' it is to do nothing – at first. Let the warmth of your mouth get to the Mintie. Let your saliva wash constantly over it: there are powerful, if hidden, enzymes in saliva that need time to work. Before long, the Mintie will have softened to the point of being pliable: you can then have fun pressing it into various shapes with gentle pressure from your tongue.

Isn't this how the world and the devil get to us? – hardly ever a frontal attack; rather, a slow process of desensitisation and softening, without your even being aware of it. Before long, you could be in the same predicament as Lot, born-again but *carnal*, conformed to the world around you.

The antidote? – be TRANSFORMED. In the present context, being transformed has the idea of 'metamorphosis' – going beyond yourself whilst still remaining yourself, not becoming a different person as in New Age teaching.

Think of the change that occurs when a caterpillar becomes a butterfly. The one is repulsive to the eye, slow-moving, clumsy, an easy prey for hungry predators. The other is so different – yet, in essence, it has the same nature as the caterpillar.

The transformation that the Scriptures have in view has nothing whatever to do with the 'positive thinking' promoted by the secular world. We are reminded, in John 15:5, that without Christ we can do nothing. It is by the grace of God alone that we can rise above

our caterpillar-like selves. To be sure, this is the work of the Holy Spirit, but our active participation is required. The object of such a transformation is to enable us to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.

To recap: we need to be: not conformed *but* transformed *by* the renewing of the mind.

We are renewed once and for all when we are regenerated by the Holy Spirit: we become, as the Bible teaches, a 'new man'. Such a change is in view when *v.2* speaks of the renewal of the mind. Think of the way your skin is renewed: the old cells die and slough off, to be replaced by fresh, new cells. Without the renewal of the mind, the old sin-nature (which remains in us post-regeneration) will bring about a corruption of the new life. Thus, for a Christian, it is a necessity that the mind be renewed *continually* – '... be renewed in the spirit of your mind ...' (Ephesians 4:23), where the Greek present tense is used, signifying a continual and progressive development. Note the emphasis, 'spirit of your mind': it is, after all, your mental state that governs your behaviour and conduct.

It follows that *lack of renewal of the mind*, whether due to laziness or some other cause, leads to a creeping corruption of the New Life, though your salvation be not lost. Should this corruption happen in a believer's life, God will hold him fully accountable, for the power to renew the mind is a gift given every true believer.

The rest of *v.2* tells us what this transformation, engendered by the renewing of the mind, enables us to do: '... [to] prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God'. *To prove* has a double connotation: 'to verify through experience', as well as 'to agree or concur with'.

We see here a 'process' at work: (1) by *actively opposing* the pressure to conform to the unsaved world; (2) by then *obeying* God's will as revealed in the Bible; (3) resulting in a *transformation of self* driven by the renewing of the mind; (4) we finally get to *verify and concur* with God's will as revealed in and through the Bible. This process is life-long and

is driven by the Holy Spirit, but our active participation is required. We are to deny self, submit to God and grow in the faith, and as a grand result, glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

The LORD bless and keep you all.

Young People's Fellowship 6th Anniversary Thanksgiving



The YPF would like to thank our Heavenly Father for sustaining and guiding us these six years. It is our fervent prayer that the Lord may continue to lead and guide us in the years ahead as we strive to grow in the faith and be good testimonies for Him.

We thank the Lord for the providence of faithful speakers who have taught us the truth from God's perfect, infallible and preserved words. Our heartfelt thanks to the speakers who have ministered to us, and we pray that you continue to defend the faith which was once delivered to the saints.

We would like to thank the Lord for Mr and Mrs Foo Chee Yong who have opened their house for us over the last five years. You have truly been a blessing to us.

We would like to thank Berean B-P Church, as well as their Session for kindly allowing us to use their premises to conduct our YPF meetings. Thank you for your labour of love for the Lord.

We would like to thank God for each and everyone who has contributed in one way or another, and all who have been a great blessing to us.

Soli Deo Gloria!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Mar 15 – 21, 2010)

MON-FRI	FEBC Mid-Semester Break
FRI 8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT 3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Catechism Class (Orange Grove Room)
10.30 am	Worship (Rev Prabhudas Koshy) Korean Service (Rm 1705) Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Mar 20 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Mar 20 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Sola Scriptura" by Dr Paul Ferguson. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

FEBC's 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Jordan-Israel-Egypt, 29 Nov – 11 Dec 2010. For information, please write to Mrs Jemima Khoo (email: jemimatow@yahoo.com).

We extend our deepest condolences to Sis Seah Hong Choo on the demise of her eldest brother on Mar 7. Praise the Lord for his receiving Christ at the hospital.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day \$11,403; Fellowships' Collections: LF \$461

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Rev Mark Kim \$1,000; BCEA \$300; Gethsemane BPC \$1,400; FEBC Students \$1,000; Tann Heng (FEBC) \$50; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$300; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$300; Barnabas Yap & family \$500; Sim Swee Ho \$91 (YPF), \$50; Wendy Teng \$200; FEBC \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$17,305
Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$200, \$100 **Total:** S\$944,549.27; USD600

NB: General Offerings of \$21,446 reflected in the 7 March weekly is amended to \$21,046 due to a designated offering of \$400 (\$200 to Mrs Ivy Tow and \$200 to Mrs Stephen Khoo).

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$25.50

Verse for the Week: *The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoso provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul. Prov 20:2*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Catechism Class for all who are seeking baptism, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership. Class meets in Orange Grove Room from 9.15-10.15 am, Jan 3–Mar 28. Teacher: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Infant Baptism on Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4. Please register with Wendy Teng (Tel: 62541287/94754067).

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Closing Date: Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.



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Vol. VII No. 24

14 March 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	No. 8
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 29
Hymn	No. 74
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	No. 409
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	James 1:26-27
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Wee Eng Moh
Sermon	<i>The Marks of True Religion</i> (Rev Wee Eng Moh)
Closing Hymn	No. 551 (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Wee Eng Moh

The Bible Makes the Holy Land Come Alive

Testimony by Ho Xiao Wei, FEBC Student

Going to the Holy Land was not always a dream of mine. Unlike some who really desire to visit the place and long for the opportunity to go, I never was immensely attracted to it. The Holy Land does not have the most staggering mountains, the most breathtaking sunsets, or the most sun-bathed beaches. Neither does it have the most mouth-watering food nor the most adrenaline-pumping activities, and surely no one would call it a shopping paradise. It has few of the qualities I would normally look for in a holiday destination. So, when the opportunity came for me to go to the Holy Land with the FEBC/True-Life team, I asked around and prayed about whether I should go or not. I had to make sure the trip was well-worth the hefty sum it costs, and also that it was good use of my time. I pondered and pondered. Finally, I was moved by what someone who had been to the Holy

Land said. He said that if a person goes there with the right attitude, the trip can be a life changing experience. It was then that I saw the trip not as a holiday, but as a pilgrimage. It was then that I sought a spiritual refreshment above a physical one especially after a busy semester in school. The Lord laid in my heart the conviction to go for the Holy Land Pilgrimage, with the purpose of drawing closer to Him. I was not going there in order to have a lot of fun and laughter, or simply for sight-seeing. I was going there with a spiritual focus.

Importance of God's Word

The greatest lesson that I have learnt from my Holy Land pilgrimage is how important the Word of God is. As mentioned earlier, I wanted to draw closer to God through this trip, and therefore, I really hoped that going to the different places in the Holy Land, visiting the sites of significance, walking the path Jesus once trod down the Via Dolorosa etc would somehow achieve that. I was hoping to be filled with great emotions and a sense of the presence of God when I went to each location and heard the tour guide giving an explanation of the place. But this was not the case. A lot of times, the places have been so disfigured, be it by commerce, politics or simply natural civilization, that it hardly bore any resemblance to that of Jesus' time. I do not know what I was thinking, but during the trip I somehow wished that I could go back to Jesus' time, and see things as He did. I did not want to see churches being built over the place



FEBC's 14th Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 15-29 November 2009

where Jesus was supposedly born. I wanted to be there at the stable of the small little inn. I wanted to be right there when the angels proclaimed Christ's birth to the shepherds. I yearned to, if possible, travel back in time. Of course, this was not possible. So, I was slightly disappointed at times.



However, even during those times that I went to places which have not been so disturbed, for example, the Garden of Gethsemane with the saplings which accompanied Jesus during His agony now fully grown, I was not greatly stirred. This really made me quite puzzled. Surely, being at the place where my Lord went through such intense agony for my sake, I cannot be unmoved. I started to wonder. Then, I realized what the problem was. The place alone, without the Word of God, is just a place to me. It is only in relation to the Word of God that the place has any meaning or significance. It is only when the Word of God is read and remembered and brought into the picture that the place is of any use in touching me. Until then, it is no different from any other place on earth. The place had no intrinsic value. On its own, it had no power to draw me closer to God. If I want to know what Jesus went through when He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, it is not by being there; it is by reading the portion of Scripture that records for me the words He uttered, the blood He sweat etc. If I want to know the suffering Jesus endured when He bore His cross to Golgotha, it is not by walking down the Via Dolorosa; it is by reading the account in the Bible. If I want to know anything about Christ, about God, it is

in the Bible that I will find my answer, and not in any geographical location.

Some people say that being in the Holy Land makes the Bible come alive. I want to say that the Bible makes the Holy Land come alive. Without the Bible, the place is merely a place. But with the Bible, the place is given a new dimension. The Bible makes the place meaningful. I really really thank God for this lesson I learnt. I went to the Holy Land with the wrong expectation, thinking that being there would be sufficient. But no, it does not work that way. It is still His Word that will draw me to Him and bring me into a deeper relationship with Him. I am really encouraged and spurred on to read my Bible more. I want to seek God, I want to find Him, I want to know Him, walk closer to Him and love Him more each day. And to do so, I must read my Bible, for it is in His Word that He reveals Himself. On top of that, I desire to read my Bible more devotionally, instead of treating it as a textbook for my studies. I thank God for using this trip to convict me of my sin in not loving His Word enough. I pray that the Lord will help me.



Drawing Closer to the Lord

If anyone were to ask me which was the best part of each day for me, it would not be the meal times, it would not be when I lay my head down on the pillow after a long day out touring. Rather, it would be the evening/morning services/devotions we had. I really treasure those times. It was during those times that the Biblical significances of the places were mentioned. It was during

those times that my heart did burn within me.



Of all the services we had, the most memorable one for me was at the Garden Tomb. It was a short service, coupled with the administering of the Lord's Supper. Though the physical conditions were not the best (just rained, cold weather, hard benches) compared with other services in the hotels, this was the one in which I reconsecrated myself to the Lord. Somehow, amidst the flurry of activities, we were given this quiet moment and the Lord showed me how far I had been from Him, and that I had not been living a life that is pleasing to Him. I thank God for that. I asked the Lord

to forgive me of all my sins and my waywardness, and I surrendered myself to Him once again, laying all on the altar, and letting Him do whatever He wants with my life.

I also thank God for the privilege to have the Lord's Supper at the Garden Tomb. I thank God for providing us with a minister who can administer the Lord's Supper. Having a minister there who could do so made me more appreciative of God's servants. I thank God for blessing the B-P Churches in Singapore with some good and faithful servants. This is something many of us have taken for granted. The opportunity to study God's Word, the opportunity to hear His Word faithfully expounded, the opportunity to grow and serve etc, these things I will cherish more from now on. Amen.

[Ed: The next pilgrimage to the Holy Land will be from 29 November to 11 December 2010 (DV). If you wish to participate, please see Mrs Jemima Khoo or write to her for the details (email: jemimatow@yahoo.com).]



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 22 – 28, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	First Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	First Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
		Catechism Class (Eld Joseph) (Orange Grove Room)
	10.30 am	Worship (Dr Paul Ferguson)
		Korean Service (Rm 1705)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, Mar 27. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road, Singapore 209272. For those requiring transport, please meet at Lavender MRT at 3.15 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Mar 27 at Mr and Mrs Cheong's home, 18 Upper Serangoon View, #15-16 Rio Vista, 5.30 pm. Tel: 68860282. Message: "5 Points of Calvinism" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Closing Date: Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

Amazing Grace available at the Booktable. Every member/visitor (per family) is entitled to a free copy, with compliments from Brisbane BPC.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day S\$11,012; RM40; Fellowships' Collections: YPF \$130.10

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Mrs Anne Clements \$500; New Life Orphan Center \$1,800; Berean BPC \$50; Bible Witness \$350; FEBC \$450, \$400, \$400, \$200, \$100, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$15,642.10; RM40

Church Building Fund \$500, \$200 **Total:** S\$945,249.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$18.00

Verse for the Week: *It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling. Prov 20:3*

Infant Baptism on Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4. Please register with Wendy Teng (Tel: 62541287/ 94754067).

Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4, will be held at the Labrador Park, 7 am. Bus leaves Newton Food Centre Carpark at 6.30 am sharp. To take the bus, sign up at the Notice Board outside the Auditorium. For those driving, please park at Carpark B. Bring along your own sitting mats/chairs. For enquiries, please contact Dn Tan Beng Lee at 98719796.

FEBC's 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Jordan-Israel-Egypt, 29 Nov – 11 Dec 2010. For information, please write to Mrs Jemima Khoo (email: jemimatow@yahoo.com).

Our deepest condolences to Bro Chua Jin Yong and family on the home-going of his father, Mr Chua Heng Tuon (83) on Mar 15. Vigil Services were conducted on Mar 16-18 and Burial Service was conducted at the Choa Chu Kang Christian Cemetery on Mar 19 by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Bro Jin Yong thanks everyone from True Life who came and helped out in his dad's wake. Thank God for the evangelistic services conducted by Rev Jeffrey Khoo, which he prays will touch the hearts of his unsaved loved ones. Thank God also for the heartwarming hymn sung by the church choir. Lastly, he wants to thank God for the wonderful testimony of his dad, who despite his medical condition, found an unexpected strength to hear the gospel and accept Christ as his Lord and Saviour. To God be the glory.



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Vol. VII No. 25

21 March 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Fairest Lord Jesus!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 23
Hymn	<i>The Lord is My Shepherd</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	VBS Team
Offering & Hymn	<i>More About Jesus</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Matthew 16:13-19
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
Sermon	What Do We Know of Jesus? (Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy)
Closing Hymn	<i>All Hail the Power</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

Judge of Judges

(Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC, 21 February 2010)

Text: John 7:53-8:59

In the Bible, Jesus Christ is called "King of kings, and Lord of lords" (Rev 19:16). But know that He is not just King of kings and Lord of lords, He is also Judge of judges. In this account of the woman taken in adultery in John 7:53-8:11, we find the Lord Jesus Christ—the Judge of judges—being tried by the Pharisees, the interpreters and practitioners of the Law of Moses at that time.

But before I comment on this passage, I must assure you that this account is indeed a divinely inspired and historically true account that God has providentially preserved for our edification today. We oppose the attempts of many a Bible critic who denies its authenticity. One such attempt is found in modern versions like the New International Version (NIV) which questions the authenticity of this story by saying that "the earliest and most reliable manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do

not have John 7:53-8:11". What are these earliest and supposedly "most reliable" manuscripts? They are chiefly the Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus which have been proven beyond doubt to be "most corrupt" by Oxford scholar Dean J W Burgon in his monumental treatise—*The Revision Revised: A Refutation of Westcott and Hort's False Greek Text and Theory*. Those who arrogantly reject the authenticity of this passage and refuse to preach from it should rather humble themselves and heed the good advice of Calvin who judged that "it contains nothing unworthy of an Apostolic Spirit; so there is no reason why we should refuse to apply it to our own advantage." The faithful Christians in times past had humbly received this wonderful account in the life of Christ as Scripture. In it we hear the voice of our Good Shepherd. Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27).

From this Scripture passage, what can we learn about the Lord Jesus Christ who is the Judge of judges Himself? We learn these three things about Him:

He Judges Righteously

Jesus Christ judges righteously. Surely one important lesson for us is the need to judge righteously. Jesus said, "Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24). In this incident, we find the scribes and the Pharisees bringing to Jesus an adulterous woman. The scribes and Pharisees outwardly looked good and holy with their

**Praise Items by Sunday School Children
at True Life BPC's Worship Service, 28 February 2010**



clerical or religious garb, and the woman looked bad, dirty and sinful having been caught in the act of adultery. Presented with such a case, will we be quick to side with these religious teachers and pronounce the death sentence against her? Let us learn how to judge righteously from Jesus.

The scribes and Pharisees had caught this woman in the very act of adultery. They brought her to Jesus and asked Him how He would judge this case: *“Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?”* (John 8:5). They did this to trap Jesus. In their mind, the case was foolproof. If Jesus were to let her go, He would be accused of violating the 7th commandment—*“Thou shalt not commit adultery”* (Exod 20:14)—but if He were to let her be stoned to death, He would be accused of breaking the 9th commandment—*“Thou shalt not bear false witness”* (Exod 20:16)—because He had earlier testified that He had come not to condemn but to save sinners (John 3:16-17). What would Jesus do? He seemed to have been cornered! But really it is like a kindergarten kid trying to stump the university professor.

Jesus was very patient with these crooks. He was not quick to expose the sins of these proud and self-righteous rabbis who had shamed this woman publicly and used her for their own sinister ends. He ignored them by doodling on the ground giving them a chance to retreat. But they kept on questioning Him in order to catch Him. Each question became louder and bolder. They were like a pack of hyenas closing in on their prey. When Jesus did not answer, they thought that He could not: *“Now, we’ve got Him!”* Jesus finally stood up and questioned them, *“He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her”* (John 8:7). After this, He went back to His doodling giving them another chance to retreat. If they had persisted, Jesus would surely have exposed them publicly for their lustful liaisons and secret affairs. They were not clean! They were adulterers themselves. If the woman was guilty, so were they. If she had to be stoned, so must they. They knew this well, and were convicted by their conscience. One by one, from the oldest to the youngest, they slunk away. We see here the Lord’s “transcendent wisdom [as] the Judge of judges. Here is a

greater than Solomon. Here is a wiser than Daniel. See how at a word from the lips of the Master-Lawyer the trap that the Jews had sprung on Him boomeranged. The accusers became the accused. They became the more guilty, being pricked by their awakened conscience. The executioners became the executed” (Rev Dr Timothy Tow).

He Judges Mercifully

In this account, we not only see the Lord’s wisdom but also His mercy. Jesus came to save, not condemn, *“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved”* (John 3:17). He dealt with the woman gently. As much as He could see the hearts of her accusers, He could see hers as well. She must have been remorseful for the sin she had committed, and so did not receive the condemnation she so deserved. There is really nothing to stop us from concluding that she had placed her trust on Jesus her Saviour. The Lord then let her go but not without a warning, *“sin no more”* (John 8:11). A false Christ would say, “go and sin some more.” But we know this was truly Christ speaking when He said, *“Go and sin no more.”*

If you are in the same plight as this woman, you know you can go to Jesus. He will forgive and save you if you confess and repent of your sins. 1 John 1:9 says, *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* The proud, pharisaical heart will never find forgiveness, but God will show mercy to the humble and repentant heart. *“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit”* (Ps 34:18). *“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise”* (Ps 51:17).

We must not be quick to judge and condemn people for there is always mercy with the Lord. *“The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy”* (Ps 103:8). Those who are quick to condemn, who have a Pharisaical holier-than-thou attitude are usually those who are truly unholy and sinful. They have many sins and faults of their own,

but try to deny them by pointing to the sins and faults of others in order to make themselves look good. They are hypocrites. Let us always judge ourselves first before we start judging others. Jesus said, *“Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother’s eye”* (Matt 7:1-5).

He Judges Truthfully

Jesus is the light of the world. Light represents Truth. He is Light in that He is Truth. He is the Answer to life’s questions and problems. In this dark and sinful world, full of confusion and death, Jesus is the Light that gives meaning to life. The Apostle John says, *“In him was life; and the life was the light of men”* (John 1:4). Jesus is *“the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world”* (John 1:9). All the answers pertaining to our origins, our existence, our destiny are found in the Holy Scriptures which is His Truth. That is why Jesus said to those who believed on Him, *“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”* (John 8:31-32).

Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”* (John 8:12). Did the world embrace this light? John said, *“And the light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. ... He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not”* (John 1:5, 10). Man loves darkness rather than light. We see this in the self-righteous and hypocritical Pharisees who maliciously called Jesus a liar (John 8:13). But Jesus was the righteous and truthful Judge for He judged according to His omniscience and holiness. Jesus told the Pharisees, *“Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man. And yet if I judge,*

my judgement is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me ... I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him” (John 8:15-18, 26).

Jesus challenged and rebuked the Pharisees, *“Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? He that is of God heareth God’s words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God”* (John 8:46-47). The Pharisees bore false witness against Christ. There was no truth whatsoever in their charges against Him. They could not produce one shred of evidence against Him. Jesus was sinless, the holy Son of God Himself. The truth was so clear, but the Pharisees could not see the truth because they had for their father the devil who from the outset was a liar and a murderer (John 8:44). They were behaving just like him. Indeed obedient sons of the devil they were.

Conclusion

We thank God for this inspired and preserved account which teaches us that Jesus is God Himself who judges righteously, mercifully, and truthfully. Let us learn to do the same.

Do not be afraid of the judgements of men. Rather be afraid of the judgement of God. Jesus said, *“The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household? Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell”* (Matt 10:24-28).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Mar 29 – Apr 4, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>No FEBC Night Class</i>
FRI	8.00 pm	Good Friday Service (Lord's Supper)
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	7.00 am	Easter Sunrise Service at Labrador Park (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	10.30 am	Korean Service (Room 602)

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Apr 3 at Mr and Mrs Bernard Tee's home, 11 Greenwood Lane, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Serve in the VBS! Application forms available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. *Theme:* "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." *Speaker:* Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. *Closing Date:* Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

FEBC's 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Jordan-Israel-Egypt, 29 Nov – 11 Dec 2010. For information, please write to Mrs Jemima Khoo (email: jemimatow@yahoo.com).

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$14,917; *Fellowships' Collections:* AF \$210; YPF \$51.15

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *BCEA Kenya & Tanzania* \$150; *Berith BPC* \$100; *FEBC Students* \$1,000; *Samuel Kwong (FEBC)* \$50; *Rovelyn Macarilay* \$100; *FEBC* \$100, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:

\$16,978.15

Church Building Fund \$310 **Total:** S\$945,559.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$15.00

Verse for the Week: *The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing. Prov 20:4*

Maundy Thursday: No Thursday night class at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Infant Baptism on Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4. Please register with Wendy Teng (Tel: 62541287/94754067).

Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4, will be held at the Labrador Park, 7 am. Bus leaves Newton Food Centre Carpark at 6.30 am sharp. To take the bus, sign up at the Notice Board outside the Auditorium. For those driving, please park at Carpark B. Bring along your own sitting mats/chairs. For enquiries, please contact Dn Tan Beng Lee at 98719796.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 533 Jelapang Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 26

28 March 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 73
Hymn	<i>O God, How Good Thou Art</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	African Students
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Surrender All</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Acts 12:1-25
Sermon	God's Unstoppable Plan (Dr Paul Ferguson)
Closing Hymn	<i>Hold the Fort</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

One Step Closer to God

Chua Peng Hwa

I was born into a non-Christian family. My parents were Taoist worshippers. I completed my primary and secondary education in St Andrew's School. Before lessons commenced, we sang hymns from our hymn book and my favourite was "Stand Up for Jesus". I attended chapel once a week in school which was part of the school programme. Despite being exposed to the Word of God, I could not comprehend who Jesus Christ was.

I worshipped pagan gods and attended services in Novena Church once in a while. I had worldly thoughts that to be successful in life one must have a good education and the gift of the gap which was essential to climbing the corporate ladder. There was this sense of emptiness in me and I started to wonder if there

was a true and living God.

I met my wife in 1988 and she brought me to New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church, and I was baptised in 1989. I was a carnal Christian for 14 years. I thought that as long as things went well in my life, I could tell myself that God has blessed me. I wanted the things of this world and I wanted God to bless me as well. Jesus said "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt 6:24). I had no desire to study God's Word because the KJV was too difficult for me to comprehend. Each time when I read God's Word, it would be skimming through without digesting the spiritual food He had given me.

Crisis came in April 2003. I was warded in Raffles Hospital for a spine operation during the SARS period. As I was wheeled into the operation theatre, I prayed to God for His grace and mercy. My life was in His hands. The whole operation took six hours and by His grace I woke up. After two months of medical leave, I went back to work but was told by my employer that I had been retrenched. This was a severe blow to my family and me. I was jobless for six months. I was angry and I questioned God; why did He allow this to happen to me? I told Him that wicked people



Brisbane BPC's 3rd Anniversary Thanksgiving Service, March 14, 2010

are getting away with their wicked ways and were prospering. One brother pointed me to Psalm 73. I was still not convinced after reading Psalm 73 and I continued to murmur against God.

One day, I read the Daily Bread and God spoke to me from Psalm 46:10 *“Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.”* I was dumbfounded and I found inner peace coming from God. This was a very rich experience God had given to me. Nobody can take this away from me and I thank God for it. My faith in God was elevated and this brought me one step closer to Him and I felt this desire to study His Word.

My family and I came to True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church in 2009 for spiritual food. Jesus said *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me”* (John 10:27). My family and I have been blessed by the sermons that are preached week after week by faithful and God-fearing preachers. We thank God for these faithful preachers and we have been blessed by these sermons that have spiritually strengthened us during our pilgrim journey in this sin-cursed world. I affirm that the Bible is the inspired, infallible and inerrant Word of God, and that the KJV Bible that we hold in our hands is the very Word of God because God said, *“The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times”* (Ps 12:6), and *“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away”* (Matt 24:35).

God Is Our Guide

Lee Yoot Ming (Mrs Chua Peng Hwa)

Like most Chinese families, my parents were ancestor worshippers. They also worshipped some other Chinese gods. As such, when I was a child, religion did not mean much to me, and I did not care whether there was a God or not. To me whatever my parents worshipped were just

traditions passed down from one generation to the next.

In my school days and subsequently when I started working, I often received Christian tracts from classmates, friends and also from strangers (often at public places). I would just read and later throw them away. In my mind, Christianity was just another religion no different from other religions.

One day, I was given a tract which talked about God giving His only begotten Son who died to save us sinners. That evening I contacted a Christian friend, and arranged to meet her in church on Sunday. Basically I wanted to satisfy my curiosity because I have never attended a church service before. I also wanted to understand what was mentioned in the tract.

I met her at New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church located in Woodlands which was also very near to my home. That morning, I sat through the service, but did not understand what was preached on that day. However, I could still remember a few words from one of the hymns sung on that day—“God the Omnipotent ...”. Since I did not understand the message, I was determined to return the following week, hoping to have a better understanding of the message the next time.

Soon I was invited to attend the Young Adults Fellowship (YAF) meetings, and the young people there lent me Christian books and other Christian publications to read. While reading one of those books one evening, I came across a passage where the writer said that we human beings are just like ants going about not knowing the dangers that are ahead of us. If we take the wrong route, it might lead us to a dead end. But if we have a guide who is able to see far ahead to direct us and warn us of the dangers around, then we can travel peacefully without fear. God is our Guide,

and He can see everything ahead of us! This simple analogy made me realise there is God! How could I deny His existence all this while? I began to reflect upon my life and began to realise how God had guided me in every step of my life even before I knew Him. At that moment, I accepted Christ as my personal Saviour. Truly our God is almighty and gracious. Although I was so ungrateful, even doubting His existence previously, He did not let me perish but still saved me in His good time. I was baptised on Easter day 1988 in New Life B-P Church.

About 18 months ago my family started attending True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. I found the weekly sermons a blessing, because I was able to draw many applications from them and they were beneficial to my daily living. In addition to the useful messages, I was also blessed with the faithful teaching of God’s Word during Sunday School. Most important of all, it was at True Life B-P Church that I understood the doctrines of the VPI (Verbal Plenary Inspiration) and VPP (Verbal Plenary Preservation) of the Scriptures. I can now confidently declare that the KJV Bible is the very Word of God (without any mistake, without any translation error).

Together with my family, we have decided to transfer our membership to True Life B-P Church. Indeed, it was not an easy decision for me to move out of my previous church after having worshipped there for over 20 years. But ultimately, it is the good spiritual food and the teaching of sound biblical truth that is of utmost important.

A Good Christian Forever

Amos Chua Zheng Jie

My parents are Christians. I was baptised when I was a few months old during Easter 1993, in New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church.

All this while, I have been going to church every Sunday with my parents

without fail. Through the Sunday school lessons and the many Bible stories, I came to know who Jesus Christ is. I know that Jesus Christ is my Saviour. He died on the cross, so that when I believe in Him, I will have everlasting life.

Since Christ has died for us, I must be faithful and obedient to God. I must also spend time studying His Word and keep my Quiet Time everyday praying to God. I must behave myself in school at all times. I must learn to love my siblings, my classmates. I must learn to forgive them if they do me wrong. I must be kind to others.

Lastly, I prayed that I will be a good Christian forever.

God Is Very Gracious

Hannah Chua Rui En

I was born into a Christian family. I was baptised as an infant in New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church in November 1995 and have been a Christian for 15 years.

Since young, my parents would bring me to church without fail every Lord’s Day. From Sunday School I learned numerous things from the Bible like how Jesus died for our sins.

In the past, going to church was like a standard operation procedure every Sunday and sometimes it also felt like chore as I had to wake up early in the morning. During Sunday School I was not interested in what the teacher was teaching and was not really concerned who God was at that time.

I drew closer to Christ two years ago when I was in Secondary One. My father brought me to join a Bible study class. That was where I knew more about how God took care of His people when they were in the wilderness, and the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Despite sinning many times, I realise that He is still very gracious and have been blessing me continually.

nearby our home. Ever since I attended the SGBF I began to feel happier and peaceful and looked forward to hearing the message week after week.

In June 2009 I joined the True Life B-P Church camp in Mersing. The messages given by Dr Das Koshy on "Family Life in Christ" were captivating. At one of the outings to the kelong during the camp, Jenny and Charles Kan took the opportunity to spend sometime sharing the gospel with me. I felt uplifted and made up my mind to attend the worship services at True Life B-P Church despite my initial apprehension.

In October 2009 my family was

faced with my son's problem with his employer. He was working unhappily due to his employer's unreasonable demands and long hours of work without overtime pay. He desperately wanted to resign but could not do so because he signed an unfair contract of two years and his boss threatened to sue him. I was very distressed during that period and I felt closer to God and learnt to leave matters in His hands. With God's blessings, things turned up unexpectedly well because his employer decided to release him.

Now I am very happy and can rejoice in feeling at peace and in the fact that life is no longer meaningless.

Easter Sunrise Service, Apr 4, will be held at the Labrador Park, 7 am. Bus leaves Newton Food Centre Carpark at 6.30 am sharp. To take the bus, sign up at the Notice Board outside the Auditorium. For those driving, please park at Carpark B. Bring along your own sitting mats/chairs. For enquiries, please contact Dn Tan Beng Lee at 98719796.



Golgotha, or Calvary, "the place of a skull" (Luke 23:33)



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT RELC AUDITORIUM

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

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Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

2 April 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

8 pm

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Lead Me to Calvary</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 53
Hymn	<i>Hallelujah, What a Savior!</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Church Choir
Offering & Hymn	<i>Jesus Paid It All</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Luke 22:39-46
Sermon	Not My Will but Thine (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>Alone</i> (<i>Lord's Supper</i>)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

No More for a While

Yip Meng Fai

Before knowing Christ, I was an advocate of European humanism, having been exposed to it during a Secondary Two History lesson. European humanism emphasises the intrinsic value, dignity and rationality of human beings. As explained by Friedrich Durrenblatt, "What the world needs is not redemption from sin but redemption from hunger and oppression; it has no need to pin its hope upon Heaven, it has everything to hope for from this earth." But such a doctrine places man, and not God, at the centre of creation. In fact, when my Form Teacher asked how many in the class believed in an afterlife, I was one of two pupils who said that one would cease to exist the moment he died. Thank God that this belief did not last. Two years later, a classmate from Life Bible-Presbyterian Church shared with me the Gospel,

and I was converted to Christ. God plants believers everywhere!

I attended Life Church with my classmate soon after. My life after believing in Christ had not been an easy one. It could even be said to be a roller-coaster ride. In the first two years of my Christian life at Life Church, while I was zealous for the Lord, I forgot to remind myself to be wary of the dangers that lay in the life ahead of me. Following Christ is like running a race. "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that you may obtain" (1 Cor 9:24). It is like a marathon. One has to pace himself. On hindsight, I might have run too quickly during the initial stages of the race. I sprinted! And that could be the reason for my backsliding during my National Service years. "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world" (1 John 3:15a). But I behaved as if I was walking after the flesh. I felt so ashamed when my platoon mate asked me why as a Christian I was uttering vulgarities.

My National Service lasted until the early 1990s. I returned to God at that time. But it was only for a while. I had to choose which course to take up at the university. I was particularly attracted to the

discipline of Philosophy, and I decided to study it. “Know thyself, know thy enemy, and every war you fight shall be your victory” was the reason given. To know the enemies of God, I had to “infiltrate” and learn more about them, somewhat reminiscent of the New Evangelical teaching of infiltration. But it was only an excuse. Moreover, to paraphrase what Rev (Dr) Jeffrey Khoo once said, while Theology is like throwing darts and hitting the target, Philosophy is like throwing darts and missing the target. It was also during the 1990s that I committed a grave sin against God and had to bear the consequences of my sin. But I was brought to remembrance how David had confessed his sins after being rebuked by Nathan. I did the same thing, and felt really at peace. I turned back to God. But it was only for a while. Very soon, probably due to my training in Philosophy, I began to think to myself, “What is the meaning of life? God does not provide meaning to my life. I need to look for something deeper. Surely there is a deeper meaning to life. Surely there was more to the meaning of life than just God.” Thus began a long detour in my life in search for the “true meaning of life”.

In the year 2000, while still in my search for “life’s true meaning”, I prayed and asked for a certain favour from God. But my prayer was not answered. I began to be very angry with God. I even cursed and swore at Him. But I forgot that God would answer prayers in His own time, and we had to wait upon Him. “*I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait*” (Ps 130:5a). I feel so ashamed every time I think about what I did.

Yet God never did let go of me. “*Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it*” (1 Thess 5:24). After a long detour for five over years, I returned to God in 2006. I was like the murmuring

generation of Israelites who wandered in the wilderness without reaching the Promised Land. “*Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me*” (Num 14:29). But unlike these Israelites, God brought me back to His bosom. “*And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold, them also I must bring*” (John 11:16a). I am in tears every time I think about how God still remembered me after so many years of wandering.

This time, my return to God is not for a while. I know that God is walking with me in my current job at Republic Polytechnic. Every major project and task I had to do was rather smooth sailing, and it would not have been so if not for God. “*Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain*” (Ps 127:1). God has also blessed my family. While I did pray for my parents’ salvation, deep in my heart I was sceptical that they would be saved. This was especially so for my father. I thought to myself, “My father’s heart is so hardened. How is that possible? Does the verse “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house*” (Acts 16:31) really apply to my family?” But God taught me a lesson. He has shown me that His arm is never too short. “*Is the LORD’S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not*” (Num 11:23b). It was a miracle when both my parents uttered the Sinner’s Prayer.

God is sovereign. As a Secondary School teacher from 2001 to 2005, I transferred from one school to another without first consulting God. But on hindsight, I know somehow that despite

my willfulness, God was in control and had planned my route from one school to the next. May God continue to lead me where He wants me to go. And may I walk closely with God in the days ahead. I had learnt my lesson. No more for a while.

Heavenly Father Hears Our Prayers

Long Soo Kwee

I was born in a non-Christian family. My parents, brothers, sisters and I were all free thinkers. After I had completed my primary school education, I decided to enrol in Christchurch Secondary School. This was a Christian mission school. There was a church in front of the school. Every morning, when the school bell rang, every student must go to the church to listen to God’s Word. But at that time, I had not known Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour. The Gospel was something that I found hard to accept and believe.

I have my own family now. Things began to change after my husband passed away in February 2009. I remember going to True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church on Palm Sunday. The following Friday, I also went to church as it was Good Friday. I asked God to forgive me for my unbelief. I had wasted so many years of my life! I knew I was a sinner. I began to pray for peace in my heart, and asked God to forgive me of all my sins.

It has been more than nine months since I worshipped at True Life. Every Sunday, I could see the brethren praying fervently together, and I know that our Father in Heaven hears our prayer.

Thank God for encouraging me to join the AF Christmas Carolling on 25 December last year! I was very happy as all the brothers and sisters were very kind to me. To Mr and Mrs Charles Kan and

Sister Wendy Teng especially, I would like to express my sincere thanks. Thank God also for enabling me to attend Catechism Class! I must really thank God for being able to learn so many things from Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Father, help me to be still and to remember you. Thank you for being with me. Help me to give all of my heart to you, and to increase in my knowledge of God. Father, help me to believe your words and to trust in your grace. Give me a strong faith. Father, give me courage to be honest, and help me to be more like Jesus – the Lamb of God who “*taketh away the sin of the world*”, who sacrificed Himself on the Cross, and rose from the dead on the third day. Heavenly Father, give me understanding of the Bible, and thank you for everything. Amen.

Life Is No Longer Meaningless

Wendy Yeo Bee Eng

I was born into a non-Christian home. It was only after my marriage that I started following my husband in attending the Worldwide Church of God (WCG) because I felt that it was my duty to bring the children to church and attend worship services as a family. After sometime, my husband did not attend WCG worship services regularly and I also felt that I did not grow spiritually. Since then I stopped attending the worship services at WCG.

I always had the feeling of emptiness in me and I felt very guilty when praying to God for help in times of trouble.

In October 2008 my husband started attending the True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church and I noticed a change in his character for the better. It was on his baptism day 12 April 2009 that he asked me to attend the Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship (SGBF) in the evening at Calvary Pandan Bible-Presbyterian Church

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 5 – 11, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 602</i>
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Koa Keng Woo)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Apr 7 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Noah" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Apr 10 at 3.30 pm. Message: "*Soli Deo Gloria*" by Dr Paul Ferguson. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Serve in the VBS! Application forms for Volunteers are available. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$11,083; RM6; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF \$694.50

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$200; *Rev Mark Kim* \$1,000; *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$500; *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$500; *Bible Witness* \$50; *New Life Orphan Center (Myanmar)* \$500; *Kenneth Wong* \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *Clement Chew (FEBC)* \$150; *Samuel Eio (FEBC)* \$150; *Samuel Kwong (FEBC)* \$50; *Jose Lagapa & family (FEBC)* \$100; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$200; *Marilyn Nanta (FEBC)* \$200; *FEBC* \$1,000, \$480, \$450

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$17,757.50; RM6

Church Building Fund \$1,100, \$920, \$700, \$500, \$200, \$200, \$160 **Total:** S\$949,339.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$7.00

Verse for the Week: *Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out. Prov 20:5*

Sunrise Service Notice: Please sit closer to the front. Keep the park clean. Hired bus to Newton departs at 10.30 am sharp.

Teens Sunday School will be held at RELC Level 5, Room 504, wef next Lord's Day, Apr 11.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. *Theme:* "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." *Speaker:* Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. *Closing Date:* Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr and Mrs Wayne Koh for God's gift of a newborn son Zechariah Koh, born on Mar 21, 2010.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT LABRADOR PARK

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 27

4 April 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

7 am

Call to Worship Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

Invocation/Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading Matthew 28
Hymn *He Lives*

Baptism, Reaffirmation
of Faith & Transfer of
Membership
Ministry of Music

Children's Choir
Church Choir
FEBC Students
Filipino Bible Study
Korean Worship Service
Heavenly Melodies

Offering & Hymn
Doxology/Prayer
Scripture Text
Sermon

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Revelation 20:6
The First Resurrection
(Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Welcome Happy Morning
Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Closing Hymn
Benediction

No Longer Afraid, God Is With Me

Chua Guan Ee

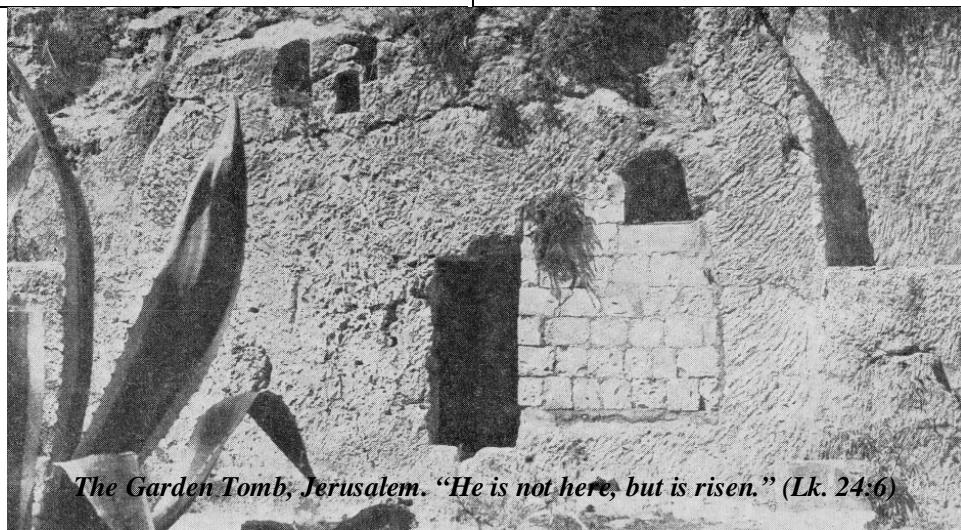
In my early 20s, before I got married, I liked the idea of going to church. I did not know the difference between a Catholic Church and a Protestant Church. I went to a Catholic church near my house. I enjoyed going to church because of the songs that were sung in church.

After I had gotten married, my aunt gave me a piece of paper containing a picture of the Goddess of Mercy. From then on, I decided to worship and pray to the Goddess of Mercy. Things turned out well at the beginning. But the more I prayed, the more confused my heart became. I had no peace in my heart. My husband's sudden death in 1999 added to my confusion.

Towards the end of 2004, I was hospitalised for almost a month due to tiny gall stones in my gall bladder. I was in tremendous pain, but I could not be operated on immediately because there was water in the gall bladder. The doctor told me that I had to wait until the water cleared before the operation could be performed. All the doctor could do was to prescribe pain killers to relieve my pain. During this time, my daughters, Jane and Jean, had been telling me about God and asked me to put my trust in God. I told myself that if I recovered, I would believe in God. I had a successful operation in April 2005. I remembered the promise that I made. Believing in God means that I must only worship and pray to God, and therefore I must get rid of my Goddess of Mercy idol. I asked my nephew to help me remove the idol. My nephew consulted the medium at the temple and told me that I could not remove the idol because it had been protecting me. After hearing what he said, I was afraid to remove the idol for fear that I might lose my life. My daughters also stopped insisting that I should believe in God.

Towards the end of 2008, my daughter Jane, who has been attending True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church, asked me whether I would like to open my house for AF (Adults Fellowship) carolling. I agreed. On 25 December 2008, True Lifers came to my house. After the preaching of God's Word and the presentation of carols, Sister Jenny came to talk to me. She told me that Jesus Christ died for my sins and asked me whether I wanted to receive Jesus Christ into my heart. I was touched by the fact that Jesus Christ could forgive my sins and I decided to do so.

Since then, I have been attending



The Garden Tomb, Jerusalem. "He is not here, but is risen." (Lk. 24:6)

True Life B-P Church. I cannot read very well but I come faithfully to listen to the Word of God. I have removed the Goddess of Mercy idol because I know that I can only worship and pray to the living and true God. Since I became a Christian, there has been peace and happiness in my heart. As God is in my heart, I am not afraid for I know that He is constantly guiding, protecting, and watching over me. I decided to seek baptism to affirm my belief.

I Have Been Drawn Closer to God

Jane Goh Tsui Keng

I attended a mission school where Bible Knowledge was taught. There were the daily devotions, weekly chapel services, etc. Every year, the school also organised a Religious Emphasis Week, which was held in the week before Good Friday. It was during the Religious Emphasis Week that I came to know the Lord. I was in Secondary One then. At that time, the speaker spoke of sin, and said that if we did not confess our sins and acknowledged the Lord Jesus as our personal Saviour, we would be doomed for hell. I was very afraid after hearing what he had said. I decided to accept the Lord as my personal Saviour.

At the end of 2005, Meng Fai and I decided to attend another church. After much consideration and discussion, we decided to worship at True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. We came to worship at True Life B-P Church at the beginning of 2006.

Since attending True Life, I have been drawn closer to God. I am always urged to live a godly life and to know God more through a deeper study and meditation of His infallible and inerrant Word. May I always be faithful.

Closer to Him

Jonathan Lam

I was born into a Christian family, but I was not baptised when I was an infant. When I was older, I started attending Sunday School with the other kids. I can still remember the joy of hearing stories of Jesus calming the storm and the splitting of the Red Sea etc, but I did not actually believe in the Lord at that time. I used to think that these were just historical lessons of Jesus Christ, and at that time, I did not know about the death and resurrection of Christ.

When I was around five, I heard about the story of Jesus dying on the cross, shedding His blood to save us from eternal death. At that

time, I was touched, hearing what Jesus did to save us was just too unlike our human nature, but I still believe in what the teacher said, and I can still remember on that day, I said that I wanted to be a good boy, repaying the Lord with my obedience. But sadly, actions speak louder than words.

The next three years was a year that I was in complete darkness. I had completely forgotten what I said three years back and I was living like any other non-Christian was, sinning, disobedient and carefree. But, everything changed during one of the vacation Bible studies. During the break time, Auntie Jenny approached me and told me more about the Lord, telling me what would happen if I sin and rebel against the Lord. I was both frightened and stricken with guilt. I was frightened as I did not know that Satan was the cause of all my sins and temptation and that he could potentially land me in hell. I was stricken with guilt as I had been living a sinful life. Up till this day, I still thank the Lord that Auntie Jenny was there to reaffirm my faith, and on that day, I said the sinner's prayer and became serious in the Word of the Lord.

Five years later, it was the same person God sent to encourage me to be baptised, which is why I am getting baptised now, at fourteen years of age. I face many temptations out there, but I do know, with God by my side through trials and sufferings, it is well with my soul. No matter the number of times I fail or stumble, I know the Lord will always be there to pick me up and draw me closer to Him.

I Want to Be Part of His Family

Khoo May Lynn

I would like to thank the Lord for letting me hear the gospel and be assured and know that when I believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, I will have everlasting life.

Since a very young age, I have heard the gospel being taught in the Sunday school which I attended. After hearing the gospel multiple times and realising that I am a sinner condemned to hell who needs the Lord Jesus Christ to save me, I confessed my sins and prayed to God to save me and come into my heart as I want to be part of His family.

I would also like to thank the Lord for chastising me whenever I go astray in my walk with Him and always reminding me through His Word on what I have to do to be a faithful

steward for Christ. I would also like to thank the Lord for guiding me thus far and protecting me in every step that I take and also for being so merciful towards me though I do not deserve it. Lastly, I would like to thank the Lord for letting me faithfully attend and participate in many Bible study groups in True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church and also grow in my faith in the Lord by learning from His perfect infallible Word.

His Very Dear Own Child

Nakajima Junji

I was not born into a Christian family but thank God for my aunt who brought me to church with my three other siblings since young. Although I have been attending church from young, I never really know what going to church was all about and who Jesus is. I also thank God for Auntie Jenny who was the one who told me what salvation was all about and that I am a sinner and how God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross to shed His precious blood for me. Ever since I heard the gospel, I have learnt always to look to God in times of trouble and I started reading the Bible, learning precious lessons from it and I thank the Lord for making me His very dear own child.

God Was Working

Galvin Seah Chong Kwang

I was born in 1997 and had my baptism at birth. In 2004 at the age seven I accepted Christ Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. I have never known a time that I was not aware of Jesus' love for me, and attribute this primarily to my father's and mother's unconditional love for me and those around me. As I continued to grow older, stories of Jesus and great Biblical figures of repute abounded in our home, Sunday school, and worship services.

When I was ten, I fell away from walking with Christ, I was a difficult child. My spiritual life was dry and the study of God's Word and prayer became less frequent. But God was working, I felt uneasy, everything I did seemed wrong. During this period of uncertainty, God made me realise that I was a sinner undone, I need Him to guide me in everything I do. I began to look upon my spiritual life in a new way. God opened my eyes to a need for study and devotion in His Word. As these studies and devotions progressed I learnt to put my trust in God. My ears and eyes became open to Him

again and a renewed life in prayer began. I read the Bible and the Holy Spirit began to make Himself known as I made my way through the studies of His Word.

In November 2009, I was blessed to be given the opportunity to visit the Holy Land together with my mum. Following this trip, I have decided to reaffirm my faith.

INFANT BAPTISM

1. Chiang Jun En Eliezer
s/o Mr and Mrs Chiang Sie Boo
2. Lai Chi Yoong Ethan
s/o Mr and Mrs Lai Seng Kwoon
3. Soh En-Huey Stacey
d/o Mr and Mrs Benjamin Soh

BAPTISM

4. Chua Guan Ee *Self-Employed*
5. Gaby Rienna Buijs
-Wijnen Riems *Accountant*
6. Lam Zhao Xuan Jonathan *Student*
7. Lim Ngum Fong *Housewife*
8. Loh Seow Ching Felicia *Unemployed*
9. Long Soo Kwee *Housewife*
10. Mary Ann Daliva Dela Vega *Domestic Helper*
11. Nakajima Junji *Student*
12. So Yuk Yung Gina *Internal Audit*
13. Yeo Bee Eng Wendy *Admin Assistant*

REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH

14. Chua Rui-En Hannah *Student*
15. Chua Zheng Jie Amos *Student*
16. Khoo May Lynn *Student*
17. Seah Chong Kwang Galvin *Student*

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

18. Chan Taw Wun Rebecca *Human Resource*
19. Cheong Kok Hong *Retired*
20. Wong How Leen Rosaleen *Retired*
21. Chua Peng Hwa *Principal Buyer*
22. Lee Yoot Ming *Bank Manager*
23. Goh Tsui Keng Jane *Accounts Assistant*
24. Lau Desmond *Tutor*
25. Teo Wee Liang Gerald *Pilot*
26. Yip Meng Fai *Snr Academic Staff*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Apr 12 – 18, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>First Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>First Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 602</i>
SAT	3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Quek Suan Yew) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

True Life Chinese Service. Inaugural service will be held on May 2 at 10.30 am. All Chinese-speaking worshippers welcome.

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Apr 17 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Apr 17 at 3.30 pm. Message: "The Holy Trinity" by Rev Dennis Kwok. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

FCM Camp 2010 will be held from Mon-Sat, May 17-22 at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Parables for Children of God's Kingdom" by 13 Pastors/Preachers/Elders. Registration forms obtainable from Student Coordinators. Closing Date: 17 Apr. For more info, contact Jason Liew at 90178213.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Good Friday Service* S\$8,503; RM11; USD1.50; *Easter Sunrise Service* S\$9,486

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$200, \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$74.10 (YPF); *Tan Mui Mui* \$200; *Marilyn Nanta (FEBC)* \$500 (LF); *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$100; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$100; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC* \$500, \$400, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$20,743.10; RM11; USD1.50
Church Building Fund \$400, \$100, \$50 **Total:** S\$949,889.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find? Prov 20:6*

True Life BPC 6th Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) will be held on April 25 at 9.15 am. It is your duty as a member to attend. Please be punctual.

Training for Sunday School and VBS teachers and teacher assistants will be held on May 1 in RELC Room 602, 9 am-1 pm. Speaker: Mrs Jemima Khoo.

Daily Vacation Bible College course on "Harmony of the Gospels" will be held from May 3-8, 8.30 am-12 pm at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Serve in the VBS! Application forms available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Please register early. Availability of rooms will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Closing Date: Apr 18. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 28

11 April 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord!*

Invocation/Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading Psalm 27
Hymn *Close to Thee*

Announcements
Offering & Hymn *Pass Me Not*
Doxology/Prayer Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text Psalm 27:4
Pastoral Prayer Rev Koa Keng Woo
Sermon **What Are You Seeking?**
(Rev Koa Keng Woo)

Closing Hymn *Whiter Than Snow*
(Lord's Supper)

Benediction Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

I Have Found the Way Back

Gaby Buijs

I come from a Christian family, attended Christian schools and went to Sunday school. However, I was never baptised. My husband comes from a conservative Reformed Christian family. They attended church and after every meal his father would read from the Bible.

In 1976 my husband and I were sent to Singapore to set up a new representative office. The running of a company was something completely new to us and absorbed much of our time. We did not attend church in Singapore, but we do pray daily and also before and after our meals. I thought that trying to be a "decent" human being who could tell right from wrong was sufficient.

In 2000 I was confronted with skeletons which I thought I had buried a long time ago. I could not cope with the grief it brought back to me. It was

then that I started praying and asking our Lord Jesus Christ to help me. Feeling the impact it had on me, I decided for myself that I should "invest" more time in my spiritual life.

I started listening to live sermons from a Church in Dordrecht in Holland on the internet every Sunday and also started reading the Bible (a Dutch Bible that my brother received when he left primary school in 1955). However, I found that after some time, I was less focused, till 2004 when my father was terminally ill and I had to rush back to Holland. Surprisingly the last night my father was alive, I had a very long and intense talk with my father's caregiver who was a Christian. This talk really developed because I asked him the meaning of Romans 8:28 (which, in turn, I was asked to explain to a young friend). This caregiver, who was a total stranger to me, then told me that the fact we had this talk was no coincidence but the workings of the Lord. I had to repent. We prayed for my father and early in the morning my father passed away.

I again made a resolution to myself to change, but again, sadly enough, after some time, yet again, I started to get less focused. In February 2009 my husband fell seriously ill. He needed an urgent operation. In the surgeon's waiting room I noticed a sign "May God Bless You" and there were Gideon Bibles and other Christian literature on display. I had never seen that before in a doctor's waiting room in Singapore and I felt that this was the



Easter Sunrise Service at Labrador Park, April 4, 2010

Lord's working to lead me back to His fold. (For me it was the third "warning" since the year 2000). During the surgeon's daily hospital visits after the operation, he always prayed with us, thanking the Lord for leading his hands during the operation and asking the Lord to heal my husband but that everything was in His hands. I then felt strongly that I had to attend church. But where to go to?

My sister-in-law, a Reformed Christian, who lives in Holland, many years ago mentioned to me True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church as it was similar to the Dutch Reformed Church. She read about it in a Dutch Christian magazine *Terdege* and it seemed that pastor Timothy Tow had even written various articles for the *Reformatorsch Dagblad* which is a Dutch newspaper.

After the operation my husband had to undergo a PET scan in March. We were very afraid and I then felt very strongly that I had to pray in the Lord's house and so I remembered what my sister-in-law told me and went to True Life B-P Church. The very first time I went I was introduced to Pastor Timothy Tow. I was very grateful for that. Whenever I am in Singapore I attend True Life B-P Church. I always leave church with a serene heart.

On our regular trips to Perth (which are recommended by my husband's doctor as it is good for his health) I worship at Faith Presbyterian Church where I have found in Pastor Errol Stone a truly caring and loving leader of his small congregation.

I am very happy to have found the way back to our Lord Jesus Christ through True Life B-P Church and truly would like to be baptised.

So Safe and So Secure

Gina So Yuk Yung

Before I knew Christ, I always believed that I have learnt relatively enough to deal with day-to-day matters and people around me. I used to believe in myself and believed "we are what we think", "when there is a will, there is a way". I was confident that I could achieve

what I wanted myself to be.

I recall my five years of secondary education in Hong Kong with a Christian School. I studied the Bible for all those years without understanding and remembering what was really in the Bible other than the Ten Commandments. I worked hard to pass my examination in this subject. Once my examination was over, I was only too happy to leave this book behind and to pursue my dream.

Back to our day-to-day life, before knowing Christ, it seemed really normal for a group of us to get together and gossip about others or to criticise our friends, colleagues who did not share the same values or thinking with us. As people would say, this is office politics; we did not feel guilty or that it was our fault to talk about others.

After my marriage with my husband, Beng Keng in Singapore, I got to know my brother-in-law, Beng Lee, but I did not really know him other than the fact that he goes to church every Sunday with his wife Chew Ying and their children. Chew Ying invited me with my daughter, Amberlyn, to attend church at RELC sometime in 2006.

Since I have been attending church with Amberlyn at her toddler's class from the start, I got to know more Bible stories. I used to think these stories were just stories without historical basis. As time went by, I felt myself like a little child starting to believe in these stories. I started to read the Children's Bible with Amberlyn, I began to believe there must be a Creator of mankind, of the universe, of heaven and earth etc, that God exists. I realised how much I had underestimated the Holy Bible all these years.

I remember, it was on 13 April 2008, we were singing a song at RELC during our Sunday church service, I was so touched by it that my tears kept flowing down non-stop. I have never felt so safe and so secure in church, I have no worries of everything.

Chew Ying knew that I had received God's calling, she was next to me and prayed with me.

Moving forward, thank God Chew Ying has been around all the time to help me start studying the Bible. She guided me in choosing the right Bible, joining a weekly Bible Study meeting at Hong Lim Centre (until I moved my office), attending morning church classes etc. Gradually, I desired to be baptised.

We also started to pray everyday at home. We try not to get angry with others, avoid gossips, learn to love all the people around us, and learn to pray for others. Even by doing all these, I still found I have not done enough and that there is so much more to learn.

My husband does not come to church with me and Amberlyn. I pray that God will touch his heart, and that he can join me in church in the near future.

A Doctrinally Sound and Sincere Church

Gerald Teo

The Lord led me to True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church in 2005 just after I got back from a posting in the United States. I was originally from Sharon Bible-Presbyterian Church but I was looking to attend another church as I wanted to attend the Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship (SGBF) but the timing of Sharon's service clashed with SGBF. Also, I had come to love starting and ending the day with the Lord in corporate fellowship, something that I was doing when I was in Australia for my basic flying training. I wanted to continue doing the same in Singapore.

When I expressed a desire to find a suitable church to attend for the morning service, my godmother, Mrs Irene Tan, suggested True Life B-P Church. I was doubly interested when she told me that Rev Timothy Tow had started it. Rev Tow was

one of those who led me to the Lord when I was younger. The split in Life Church happened when I was away on training but I was familiar with the issues at hand. There was no doubt in my mind that Rev Tow and the members of True Life had taken a stand for truth and for God, and I knew I would be worshipping in a doctrinally sound and sincere church.

In the years since I first attended True Life I have been through many spiritual ups and downs, but the Lord has always been faithful and led me back to Him. Last year I finally began to get acquainted with the other younger members of the church. I realised that the onus was on me to get more involved in the church and I started attending YPF (Young People's Fellowship) as well as the weekly prayer meetings. After talking to some friends who had also transferred out of Sharon, I finally decided it was time to transfer my membership over to True Life. There was no point in retaining membership in a church that I had not worshipped in for many years. I thank the Lord for leading me to True Life B-P Church, it truly has been a blessing for me, and I pray that over time I would become more involved in His service if He wills it.

Perfect Book and Perfect Saviour

Cheong Kok Hong

Before I became a Christian, I thought I can gain salvation through good works and by refraining from sin. I realise that this is not possible after studying the Bible through classes in church and in camps conducted by the late Dr Timothy Tow.

He taught us that the Bible is a PERFECT BOOK inspired and preserved without error. He also told us that JESUS CHRIST is a Perfect Saviour, fully God and fully Man who died on the cross for our sins, was buried and rose from the grave on the third day.

When he started True Life B-P Church we followed him.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Apr 19 – 25, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	First Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU		FEBC Exams Begin
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	6 th Annual Congregational Meeting
	10.30 am	Worship (Dr S H Tow) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

True Life Chinese Service. Inaugural service will be held on May 2 at 10.30 am. All Chinese-speaking worshippers welcome.

Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, April 24. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For those requiring transport, please meet at Lavender MRT at 3.15 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, April 24 at Mr and Mrs Tay Bee Heng's home, Blk 526 Serangoon North Ave 4 #02-110, 5.30 pm. Tel: 92302728. Message: "The Sacraments" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Closing Date: Today. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day \$10,010; Fellowships' Collections: LF \$319; YPF \$64.40

Designated Offerings: Bohol Philippines \$200; VBS \$100; Kuan Tai's mother \$500; Sim Swee Ho \$200; Marilyn Nanta \$200, \$200 (YPF); Eileen Chee (FEBC) \$25; Fransiska (FEBC) \$25; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$300; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$300; FEBC Dining Club \$100; FEBC \$1,000, \$1,000, \$450, \$250
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$15,243.40
Church Building Fund \$500, \$400, \$100 **Total:** S\$950,889.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$19.00

Verse for the Week: *The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him. Prov 20:7*

In loving memory of Rev Timothy Tow, called Home a year ago, 20 April 2009, Mrs Ivy Tow and children would like to give \$3,000 to the Lord's work in Baraka BPC, Bethlehem. Flowers today are from Lily and Carl Dauber, on behalf of the family, "in loving memory of father for his legacy and his immense dedication to Jesus and hard work".

True Life BPC 6th Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) will be held next Lord's Day, April 25 at 9.15 am. It is your duty as a member to attend. Please be punctual.

Mon night class, 7.30-9.30 pm, is held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Daily Vacation Bible College course on "Harmony of the Gospels" will be held from May 3-8, 8.30 am-12 pm at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Training for Sunday School and VBS teachers and teacher assistants will be held on May 1 in RELC Room 602, 9 am-1 pm. Speaker: Mrs Jemima Khoo.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Serve in the VBS! Application forms available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr and Mrs Jonathan Lee for God's gift of a newborn son Jeremiah Lee Zhen Jie, born on April 10, 2010.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 29

18 April 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 11
Hymn	<i>Trusting Jesus</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Deborah & Judith
Offering & Hymn	<i>Jesus Loves Even Me</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Luke 15:11-32
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Sermon	Who is the Prodigal Son? (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	<i>Lord, I'm Coming Home</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

May the Lord Find Me Faithful

Rebecca Chan

My earliest memory of knowing Christ was at the age of five when the seed of the Gospel was planted in me by my cousin. She had a beautiful set of children Bible storybooks and she took the opportunity to tell me the story of Jesus Christ who died so that man might live. I did not fully understand the whole story at that time, but since then, I always had the notion of a heavenly Father who watches over me as I grew up.

By God's loving grace, my father, an atheist, sent me to Anglican High School for my secondary school education. In December 1986, the Gospel was once again preached at the school camp and I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. On 25 December of the same year, I was baptised at the All Saints Church. Almost immediately, I faced strong persecution from my father who forbade me to go to church on Sundays. I attended some fellowship groups on Saturdays, but without strong grounding in the Christian faith, I gradually

stopped attending all church events after a while.

My schooling days were, regrettably, godless. Although I never departed from the knowledge of my salvation, my life can hardly be called a Christian life. Once in a while a friend would ask me to go to church and I would, but only for a few months. Being pulled by worldly temptations, my teenage years were spent going after friendships, entertainments and even vices, in between the pursuit of exams and certifications. Upon my return from my overseas studies in 1997, I had the opportunity to join Sharon Bible-Presbyterian Church under Rev Peter Chua. It was in Sharon that I came to know the B-P Church and its teachings. I am very sure I had disappointed the Lord Jesus once again, when I left the church after one year, being pulled back to my worldly pursuits.

Looking back at those years since 1998, no words could describe the life I led, how worldly, sinful and utterly degenerating. The pursuit of a career by working hard with long hours occupied practically all my time and my thoughts. I dedicated all that I had to my job and the money and prestige that came with climbing the corporate ladder. What I thought was a successful life was the expensive lifestyle that came with corporate recognition – worldly pursuit of luxuries and pleasures. This was the focus of 10 years of my life. There were brief moments of remorse, when things in my life went wrong – lost promotions, failed relationships etc. Only then would I find a church, any



Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith & Transfer of Membership, Easter Sunrise Service, 4 April 2010

church – Methodist, Presbyterian – to satisfy my need for a higher power to solve all my problems. However, none lasted. I went quickly back to my worldly pursuits the minute the pain of such losses passed, with no further thoughts of Christ or church.

I truly thank God for not giving up on me altogether after 10 years. In early 2009, after being hit by another of my life's problems, I went in search for a church yet again. The still small voice of God in my heart finally moved me to seek my faith and learn more about this God whom I have believed all my life. I knew about the Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC) during my days at Sharon B-P Church. God gave me the strong desire to attend FEBC classes to learn more about Him. It was then that I found information on True Life B-P Church, and since then I have not looked back. The various fellowship groups, Bible studies, FEBC night classes have firmly anchored me to God. I thank the Lord for the faithful teachings that I have received which have confirmed my belief that True Life B-P Church is indeed the church where I can grow in the Lord.

I thank God for finally opening my eyes to the sinful past and led me out of such darkness. The changes God made in me are so significant that it would be unthinkable to return to my old ways. The worldly desires that I had in the past have gradually faded away and are replaced by a strong desire to study God's Word. I finally see God's will for me so clearly and can confidently declare that I am truly dead to the world and born again in Christ. All that I desire now is to walk closely with the Lord every minute of my life, to learn all that I can and serve Him wherever He wants me to. May the Lord find me faithful all the days of my life, always giving Him all the glory and praise.

Now I Live a Meaningful Life

Mary Ann dela Vega

I am Mary Ann dela Vega. I was born and grew up in a Catholic family. Every Sunday I went to church but not heartily or willingly.

My life was like a happy-go-lucky kind of life. My parents did not bother about what I was doing. They never asked about my school life or

whether I had problems. So I told myself, "Be free and enjoy life."

When I was in secondary school, things changed. My parents quarreled every day and every night I cried because there was nothing I could do. I was still young to understand what was happening and I asked God why all these things were happening to me. I wondered why I did not have the right to be happy. I reached a point when I blamed the day I was born.

One day I decided to run away from home so I could find peace for myself. I stayed at my teacher's place. I helped to do the housework so that I could continue in my studies. My parents did not bother about me because they were busy themselves. As I stayed at my teacher's place, I kept on thinking about my younger brother and sister because they were still too young to take care of themselves. After six months, I decided to go home. Still things did not change, and I just focused on my studies and looked after my brother and sister.

In my final year of secondary school, I planned to find a job to support my family's needs. I grew up lacking everything—we used the old things over and over again especially school things. After my graduation, I told my father that I wanted to go to Manila to find a job so I could help the family. At first my father said no but I was very persistent and insisted on going whether he agreed to it or not. So I asked my friend to find me a job in Manila and thank God I found a good job as a saleslady of electrical products. At that time, I did not go to church at all. I was busy earning money. I worked there for two years. Then I went home because my mother got sick. I chose to look after her and take care of her. After she became well, I went to work again. At that time, I just did part-time work as a cleaner. At least I had an income. At the same time I was there for my mother.

One day my neighbour invited me to attend a fellowship meeting. At first I was undecided whether to attend or not because I thought it could be a waste of time. I needed to work and my time was very precious, but since it was on Sunday I said okay. I would go and have a look first. Only then did I realise that I never

spent time with God. I just did things according to my own ability and strength and made my own decisions. The pastor's sermon was about how important it was to have God in our life. I started to cry and felt sorry for all the years I had spent without God. I realised that without Him I could do nothing. God is the One who knows me and what is best for me.

I went to church every Sunday, and I slowly learned about God. I was given the Bible and I read it. But I was still distracted. I was too weak and lacked faith. I backslided again. I was back in my old ways. I continued to work and support my sister until she finished college and now she is a teacher.

I got married and have two sons. After I gave birth to my second son I decided to apply for work in Singapore. I knew that Singapore was quite safe for domestic workers. My first two years with my previous employers were very hard because they were of a different race and culture but I was hoping to adjust. I kept observing the lifestyle here in Singapore and realised that worldly things did not bring real or true happiness. I see that this was part of God's plan for me. God enlightened me to realise that worldly things are only temporal. All along my desire was to have money to buy whatever I wanted. I never placed any importance to my spiritual life. I was very hungry for God's presence, and God answered all my questions.

One night I had a quiet time for myself and I prayed to God. I asked God for forgiveness and I gave thanks to Him because He guided me back into His kingdom. After finishing my contract, I went back home. I applied again to work in Singapore and prayed to God to give me a Christian employer so I could go to church every Sunday to refresh myself and to serve Him. I was happy to know that my employers are Christians. I started attending True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church with my employers and I thanked them for allowing me to attend the Filipina Bible Study so that I could learn God's Word and know about God's plans for me and how to follow His path.

My one year here in True Life has been a very happy one. I learned so much about God and it changed me completely. God changed my

point of view, and my priorities in life. Now I live a meaningful life as a parent and wife and a servant of God. God is the centre of my family because He is our strong foundation. God is my strength and my refuge. I hope those who read my testimony will find that life is meaningful only if they make God the centre of their life. Thank God that He used True Life to bring me back to where I belong. Now I am attending Catechism Class. I plan to get baptised to become a Christian and a servant of God.

The Lord Was Always with Me

Rosaleen Cheong

I was born a sinner into a staunch Buddhist family. I came to know the Lord through a classmate during my primary education. To attend Sunday church services, I told lies. My brother and I were beaten and warned by our parents when we were discovered. Although I backslided for more than 15 years, the Lord is always in my mind. The Lord forgave my parents and they were even baptised earlier than me. The Lord was gracious to them. On my part, I tried attending church services again, but I found no peace in the churches that I attended but the Lord was always with me.

When I met my husband, Kok Hong, he was a non-believer. I wanted to be a Christian, but I also wanted to convert him and be baptised together with him. When we shifted to Chancery Court, Life Church was nearby. I was overwhelmed because we could go to Life Church and prayed that the day would come when my husband and I could be baptised there.

I found peace when I entered the church. The late Pastor Tow preached from the pulpit and his sermon touched us. We were not active in church but we attended Sunday services regularly. My Lord answered my prayer when my husband told me one day that he desired baptism. Imagine the joy when Pastor Tow baptised both of us. What a blessed and happy day that was for us.

We believe that the Bible is 100% true and that late Pastor Tow was right in starting True Life B-P Church. Whatever happens, we are proud to be members of True Life B-P Church.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK

(Apr 26 – May 2, 2010)

MON – FRI	FEBC Exams
FRI 7.00 pm	FEBC End-of-Term Thanksgiving Service
SAT 9.00 am	Sunday School Teachers' Training Seminar
3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School
10.30 am	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	Worship (Pr Richard Tiu)
	Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
	Korean Service (Rm 503)
	Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

True Life Chinese Service. Inaugural service will be held next Lord's Day, May 2 at RELC Room Tanglin 1, 10.30 am. All Chinese-speaking worshippers welcome.

No Prayer Meeting this Friday but all are invited to attend the **FEBC End-of-Term Thanksgiving Service** this Friday, April 30 at 9A Gilstead Road, 7 pm. Dinner will be served at 6 pm.

Training for Sunday School and VBS teachers and teacher assistants this Sat, May 1 in RELC Room 602, 9 am-1 pm. Speaker: Mrs Jemima Khoo.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, May 1 at 3.30 pm. Message: "The Providence of God" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Serve in the VBS! Application forms available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

October 2009 at the Tang Court Restaurant, RELC, after the Thanksgiving service.

The 14th Holy Land Pilgrimage, from 15th to 29th November 2009 was led by Rev Dr and Mrs Jeffrey Khoo. There were a total of 48 pilgrims.

A Christmas Gospel Meeting was held on 19th December 2009 at RELC and Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo spoke on "God's Perfect Gift".

There were a number of Christmas carolling sessions organised by the various fellowship groups to spread the good news of salvation in Christ.

RELATIONSHIP WITH FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE

True Life B-P Church has a symbiotic relationship with the Far Eastern Bible

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$10,218; *Fellowships' Collections:* AF \$214; YPF \$83

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Baraka BPC* \$3,000; *Gethsemane BPC* \$100; *Jubilee Magazine* \$10,000; *Mrs Ivy Tow* \$100; *Mrs Jemima Khoo* \$200; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *FEBC* \$1,000, \$300, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$25,865
Church Building Fund \$2,000, \$200, \$100, \$50
Total: S\$953,239.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$15.00

Verse for the Week: *A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes. Prov 20:8*

Daily Vacation Bible College course on "Harmony of the Gospels" will be held from May 3-8, 8.30 am-12 pm at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road. **FEBC's 35th Graduation Exercises** will be held at Calvary Pandan BPC on May 9, SGBF Hour, 6 pm.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 539 Bukit Panjang Ring Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

FCM Camp 2010, May 17-22, Calvary Pandan BPC. Register at www.fcm.sg/camp. All tertiary students welcome! Contact Jason Liew at 90178213 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

College which lies in the sameness of spirit and doctrine.

The Church functions as a training ground for students of the College, and it also supports a number of them through scholarships.

FUTURE PLANS AND COMMITMENTS

True Life B-P Church shall continue to worship at the RELC Auditorium, and will rent more space as and when required. The Church Building Fund was borne out of a spontaneous desire by members for a permanent home, and it is our prayer that God will show the way according to His will.

The Church will also continue to redouble its efforts in evangelism, outreach and missions to hasten the coming of our Lord.

To God be the glory!



TRUE



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELIC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 30

25 April 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 75
Hymn	<i>To Thee, O God, We Render Thanks</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>O to Be Like Thee!</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	Genesis 12:1-4
Pastoral Prayer	Dr S H Tow
Sermon	Call of Abraham (Dr S H Tow)
Closing Hymn	<i>The God of Abraham Praise</i>
Benediction	Dr S H Tow

CLERK OF SESSION'S REPORT FOR 2009

(Annual report by Dn Wilson Tan on behalf of the Session to members of True Life BPC at its ACM, April 25, 2010)

"...as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." Joshua 1:5

Truly, the Lord has been faithful to True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church, as we reflect upon His dealing toward us in the past year.

VISION AND MISSION

According to Article 3 of the Church Constitution, the objects for which the Church is established are:

- 3.1 The salvation of souls;
- 3.2 The edification of Christians through the teaching of God's Word;
- 3.3 The promotion of godly worship;
- 3.4 The defence of "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints";
- 3.5 The establishment and extension of Christian missions and institutions for the furtherance of God's Kingdom on earth;
- 3.6 The promotion of Christian relief for the poor and needy;
- 3.7 The strengthening of mutual fellowship, encouragement and unity among individual

Bible-Presbyterian Churches and other Bible-believing churches of similar stand "for the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev. 1:9).

GOVERNANCE

The Church is governed according to the Presbyterian system of rule by Elders, with a Session consisting of Pastor, Elders and Deacons. The Session of True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church for Electoral Term 2008 to 2011 included: the late Rev Dr Timothy Tow Siang Hui as Pastor, Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo Eng Teck and Elder JT Joseph as Elders, and Mr Philip Goh Yong Chuan, Mr Charles Kan Kai Pui, Mr Leong Kwok Whye, Mr Tan Beng Lee and Mr Wilson Tan Tai Tian as Deacons.

Elder JT Joseph is the Acting Chairman of the Session during this interim period as we pray and wait upon the Lord to appoint a new pastor for True Life B-P Church.

MEMBERSHIP

As of 31st December 2009, 5 adults were admitted to communicant membership of the church by water baptism, 3 by reaffirmation of faith. There was 1 infant baptism (non-communicant membership). In addition, a total of 3 were admitted to membership, having been transferred from other churches.

The Church continues to call for its congregants and visitors to register to become Church members either by water baptism, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership.

ATTENDANCE ON THE LORD'S DAY

The Church was blessed by the Lord with steady attendance in its worship services as well as prayer meetings, Sunday school and fellowship groups.

Average attendance each Lord's Day for worship service was about 390, including children.

MINISTRIES

Worship Service

The Church holds its worship service every Lord's Day, 10.30 am at the Regional Language Centre (RELC), 30 Orange Grove Road, Singapore 258352. The pulpit is jealously guarded, with only preachers of the same doctrinal persuasion, i.e. of the reformed faith, taking a stand for biblical separation and standing squarely on the perfect inspiration and perfect preservation of Scripture, are invited to preach the Word. Our preachers include: Rev Koa Keng Woo, Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew, Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy, Rev Tan Kian Sing, Rev Stephen Khoo, Dr Tow Siang Hwa, Rev Errol Stone, Rev Nguyen Gia Hien, Bishop Richard Kivai, Rev Wee Eng Moh, Rev Dennis Kwok, Rev Gordon Ferguson, Rev Dr An Yohan, Dr Paul Ferguson, and Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Korean Worship Service

The Korean Worship Service at True Life B-P Church holds two services on the Lord's Day, at 10.30 am and 1 pm at the Chancery Room (#503), RELC. The pastor of the Korean Worship is Rev Park Seung Kyu. The Korean Worship had weathered a storm in 2009 with the departure of some members, but is now steadily growing from strength to strength.

Children's Ministry

The children are ministered to each Lord's Day through the Children's Ministry. The younger ones attend the Children's Worship, and those of school-going age attend the Children's Choir.

Prayer Meeting

Prayer meetings are held every Friday evening at the RELC, and for the first Friday of each month, Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting is held at the homes of True Lifers.

In keeping with the format of John Sung revival meetings, the study of God's Word led by Dr Jeffrey Khoo is followed by a season of thanksgiving and testimonies, whereby the faith of members is fortified by hearing how the Lord has been good to their fellow-brethren. Prayer meeting has a regular attendance of about 85, with a good number of parents bringing their children with them to pray and seek the Lord's blessing.

Sunday School

The Adults' Sunday school is an important teaching ministry that seeks to ground believers in the Word of God. It is held each Lord's Day from 9.15 am – 10.15 am. For 2009, the class

was conducted by Elder JT Joseph and Mr Joshua Yong (FEBC student). A distinctive feature of each lesson was the concluding session on "Lessons for Life", these being applications derived from the chapter covered on that occasion. The Biblical Books completed in 2009 by Joshua Yong were Ephesians, Colossians and followed by Hosea (partial) and by Elder JT Joseph, II Kings. The average attendance was about 80 (regulars).

Catechism class is held once a year for 12 weeks (January to March) for those who wish to be baptised, reaffirm their faith or join the church as members. Lessons on the fundamentals of the Christian faith and Bible-Presbyterian distinctives are conducted by Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

The Children's Sunday school is led by Mrs Jemima Khoo, and ably assisted by a committed team of teachers and helpers.

Evangelism

Door to door HDB flat's evangelism is held at Bukit Panjang every last Lord's Day of the month, with close to 25 (including children) coming each time to share the good news of salvation.

Missions and Outreaches

The Church supports missions in Brisbane (Rev Nguyen Gia Hien and Brisbane B-P Church), Perth (Rev Errol Stone and Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth), Kemaman (Dr Wee Tiong Soon and Kemaman Life B-P Church), Kuching (Marilyn Nanta), Myanmar (Amos Go and Thang No), Palestine/Bethlehem (Rev Danny Awad) and the Bible College of East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania).

Choir Ministry

The Choir ministers to the congregation through music. The Choir Ministry consists of the Church Choir and Youth Choir. The Church Choir is led by Ms Jean Koh and the committee. They sing every first Lord's Day of the month as well as on special occasions. The Youth Choir is under Mr and Mrs Herbert Goh and they render a song item every quarter. Practices of both Choirs are held every Sunday after worship service.

Bible Study Groups

The Church has two foreign language Bible study groups meeting on the Lord's Day. The Indonesian Bible Study is led by FEBC students as part of their ministry practicum. The Filipina Bible Study group meets once a month under Mrs Manuela Heng.

Fellowship Groups

Adults' Fellowship

The fellowship meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday at the home of Mr and Mrs William Teo. The group is privileged to have Dr Jeffrey Khoo who continues to teach them on the Book of Acts (completed 15 chapters). The children are being ministered by Mrs Jenny Kan who teaches them Bible study and craft works. The fellowship celebrated their 4th Anniversary on 14th February 2009. Another highlight was the Christmas carolling on 25th December 2009 where the group together with the Gethsemane Care Ministry visited the homes of Mrs Desy See, Ms Wendy Teng, Ms Lim Keng Hong and Ms Ow Kuan Tai, where messages on God's glad tidings and great joy of salvation were shared in the respective homes.

Family Bible Study Fellowship

The group seeks to build up godly families, a key pillar of the church. It meets on the last Saturday of every month at the homes of various members to listen to God's Word and followed by fellowship over dinner brought by members. The theme and goals of Ministry for 2009 were: (1) to encourage fathers to be the spiritual leaders in their family and (2) to encourage families to bear a good testimony for our Lord and to serve God together. The group was privileged to have Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew who delivered 10 messages on the theme for 2009, "Prayer – Our Treasure Trove". Mrs Angie Quek had kindly offered her services to lead the children in the children's ministry. The group had an outing where family members had good healthy recreation canoeing in the Bedok Reservoir in May 2009. In October 2009, the FBF and YPF had a combined meeting and fellowship where Rev Quek spoke on "Praying as a Family".

Ladies' Fellowship

The Ladies' Fellowship meets every 1st Wednesday evening of the month at 7.45 pm at the RELC and is open to all True Lifers, and not just the ladies of the Church. The group was blessed to have Preacher Dennis Kabingue who spoke on a series of 10 messages on "He that Overcomes" from the Book of Revelation. Also the group was privileged to have Rev Stephen Khoo as the speaker for their 5th Anniversary on 4th February 2009, who spoke on "The Full and Empty Cup". On 6th May 2009, Bishop Richard Kivai was invited to the fellowship and he spoke on "The Role of Women".

Young People's Fellowship

The Young People's Fellowship has been

meeting every Saturday at the home of Mr and Mrs Foo Chee Yong since its inception. From May 2009 onwards, meetings were held at Berean BPC. Bible study based on the theme for 2009 was, "Disciples and soldiers of Christ" taken from 2 Timothy 2:3 and Luke 9:23. The objectives were (1) denying self (2) following Christ daily and (3) enduring hardness for Christ. Besides Bible study, the youth also have activities like combined Bible study with brethren of Berean BPC on the last week of the month, cottage meetings at the homes of church members, combined meetings and youth conferences with the YF of other like-minded churches. The following were the highlights of the YPF: The 5th Anniversary on 21st February 2009 was held at RELC, speaker was Dr Jeffrey Khoo who spoke on "Taking Up Our Cross". For 6 days in December 2009, Rev Tan Kian Sing and Dr Jeffrey Khoo were speakers at the YPF Camp at Calvary Tengah BPC, speaking on the theme, "YPF – Your Purpose in Fellowship".

SPECIAL SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

The special services on the church calendar included the Good Friday Service, 10th April 2009, 8 pm; Easter Sunrise Baptismal Service at Labrador Park, 12th April 2009, 7 am; Christmas Eve Service, 24th December 2009, 8 pm; Watchnight Service, 31st December 2009, 10.45 pm.

A combined B-P Churches' choirs presented the Easter Cantata on "No Greater Love" was held on 4th April 2009 at Calvary Pandan BPC with Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy as the speaker.

Pastor Rev Dr Timothy Tow was called home to be with the Lord on 20th April 2009. Vigil services were held at Calvary Pandan BPC from 20th April 2009 to 22nd April 2009.

The Sunday School Teachers' Training Seminar held at RELC on 16th May 2009 was conducted by Mrs Dorothy Ng of Gethsemane BPC.

The 2nd Vacation Bible Adventure (VBA) was held from 3rd to 5th June 2009 at the Boys' Brigade campus at Zion Road. There were 40 teachers and helpers, and 70 – 80 children signed up for the activities.

The 6th True Life Church Camp from 8th to 12th June 2009 was held at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing with 127 campers. Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy spoke on the theme, "Family Life in Christ".

A total of 378 (including children) attended the 6th Anniversary Thanksgiving lunch on 4th

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 3 – 9, 2010)

MON – SAT	Daily Vacation Bible College
WED 7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
FRI 8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT 3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School
	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Errol Stone)
	Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
	Korean Service (Rm 503)
	Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
6.00 pm	FEBC 35 th Graduation Exercises

True Life Chinese Service. Inaugural service today at RELC Room Tanglin 1, 10.30 am. All Chinese-speaking worshippers welcome.

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, May 5 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Abraham" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting this Fri, May 7 at 8 pm in the home of Mr and Mrs Shirley Leong. Address: 11C Woodlands Drive 72, #07-38 Woodvale (near Admiralty MRT). Tel: 91194305.

Young People's Fellowship's Cottage Meeting this Sat, May 8 at 3.30 pm in the home of the Nakajimas. Address: 108 Holland Road #03-03 Fairlodge, Singapore 278551. Speaker: Rev Tan Kian Sing. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$14,842; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF \$346

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$50; *Marilyn Nanta* \$50; *Mrs Ivy Tow* \$200; *Degu (FEBC)* \$100; *Barnabas Yap & family* \$100; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *FEBC* \$1,000, \$400, \$300, \$50
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$17,838
Church Building Fund \$2,000, \$1,300, \$992, \$920, \$400, \$200 **Total:** S\$959,051.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin? Prov 20:9*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/Sunday_School.htm.

Daily Vacation Bible College course on "Harmony of the Gospels" will be held this week, May 3-8, 8.30 am-12 pm at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

FEBC's 35th Graduation Exercises will be held at Calvary Pandan BPC next Lord's Day, May 9, SGBF Hour, 6 pm. All are cordially invited.

FCM Camp 2010, May 17-22, Calvary Pandan BPC. Register at www.fcm.sg/camp. All tertiary students welcome! Contact Jason Liew at 90178213 for details.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Theme: "Sea Quest: Diving for God's Treasure." Application forms for both Volunteers and Children are available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 31

2 May 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 119:89-112
Hymn	<i>Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>Trust and Obey</i>
Doxology/Pastoral	
Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	2 Timothy 3:15-17
Sermon	Knowing Our Precious Bible (Pr Richard Tiu)
Closing Hymn	<i>O Changeless Word</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

Gospel of Life to the Chinese

"Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim" (Isa 49:12).

What is "the land of Sinim"? Concerning "the land of Sinim", Dr Allan A MacRae of Faith Theological Seminary in his commentary on Isaiah wrote, "Many commentators, particularly before the rise of the modern critical theories, were quite convinced that the word referred to the land of China. Even today, experts in the study of Chinese are called 'Sinologists.' ...

"... It is most interesting that God led the prophet thus to use the name that would eventually come to represent all China as an indication of the wide outreach of the work of the LORD's Servant.

"Today strong atheistic forces hold the Chinese mainland in subjection and prohibit the preaching of the Gospel. We may well take heart from Isaiah's prophecy in verse 12 and hope that there may yet be another great period of Gospel preaching in that land, if our Lord tarries."

God loves the Chinese people and wants them to hear the good news of salvation in Christ Jesus. In this age of the Chinese Diaspora when many Chinese from the Mainland are in Singapore for economic and educational reasons, the Church is presented with a golden opportunity to reach out to them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, not forgetting our loved ones and relatives, to show them the only way to everlasting life.

Hence, we are moved to start a Chinese service to reach out to our Mandarin-speaking brethren and friends. Our brother, Lin Yang (FEBC student), who hails from Mainland China will be the regular preacher. He will preach serially from the Gospel of John. He is also in the process of translating our late pastor's commentary on the Gospel of John titled *The Gospel of Life* into Chinese which will be published in the Chinese weekly part by part. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo will preach every first week of the month and administer the Lord's Supper. Brother Mern Yee has also come in most readily to support this new work. We meet in the newly



Praise Item by Filipino Bible Study at Easter Sunrise Service, April 4, 2010

built Tanglin Room 1 adjacent to the Auditorium at the ground floor, most convenient to our elderly worshippers.

Our brother Lin Yang writes in the inaugural weekly, “Thanks and praise be to our all-knowing, all-powerful Heavenly Father who enables us to start a Chinese service in True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. Our Chinese service will start its “Journey of Life” with a series of messages preached from the Gospel of John which our late founding pastor Rev Timothy Tow called “The Gospel of Life”. Starting from this issue of the Chinese weekly, the related portions from Rev Tow’s applied commentary on the Gospel of John will be published.”

Let us invite our Mandarin-speaking family, relatives, and friends to our Chinese service so that they might hear the Gospel of Life and be saved.

Not My Will but Thine

(Message by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the Good Friday Service of True Life BPC, 2 April 2010)

“Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done” (Luke 22:42).

Why did Jesus pray such a prayer? Why did Jesus ask His Father to spare Him from drinking this cup?

What was this cup? This cup was the cup of shame and humiliation, the pain and suffering He would be facing, His death on the cruel cross.

Was Jesus not willing to drink of this cup? If so, then why did He speak about His death so confidently? He predicted His death no less than 5 times.

For an example, see Matthew 16:21-23: *“From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the*

elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, 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.”

In this instance, the Lord even rebuked Peter for telling Him not to go to the cross, saying that Peter was speaking like Satan.

As a matter of fact, the Lord Jesus in Luke 9:51 was determined to go to Jerusalem to face His crucifixion and death. *“And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem.”*

Why then did Jesus at this point in time pray to His Father to remove the cup from Him? Was He having second thoughts?

The only answer to this is “God forbid!” Jesus was certainly not having a change of heart or a change of mind. He knew what He had to do to save His people from sin, and He was certainly determined to accomplish His redemptive mission.

To understand what is going on here in Gethsemane, we must understand (1) the two natures of Christ—His deity and His humanity, (2) His two wills—the divine will and the human will, and (3) the two aspects of His obedience—His active and passive obedience.

His Two Natures

Jesus Christ was a unique person. There was never a person on earth like Him for He was not only fully God but also fully Man in one person. He was not only very God, but also very human. As God, He was all-powerful, all-knowing, all-seeing, all-present. He possessed all the attributes of deity when He was on earth. At the same time, He was human, He possessed the limitations of flesh and blood. He could

feel hunger and thirst, tiredness and pain.

Now, words cannot explain the intense agony that Jesus went through. We can only imagine how hard it must have been for Him—the sinless Son of God who must bear the sins of the world all alone on the cross, and experience all that physical and spiritual pain, all the mental and emotional anguish. So, in His humanity, He cried out to His Father to spare Him from the bitter cup.

His Two Wills

The Lord Jesus due to His dual natures had two wills—the human will and the divine will. When He prayed, “remove this cup from me,” it was His human will speaking. But Jesus would always submit Himself to the divine will—His Father’s will, which was also His will since He was also God Himself. The human will is always subject to the divine will. That was why Jesus prayed a most God-honouring prayer, *“not my will, but thine, be done.”*

Jesus in His prayer practised what He preached. Did He not teach His disciples to pray, *“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done ...”*? Here, He sets the example and walked His talk.

Whenever we pray for God’s will to be done, God will give what we asked for. Jesus’ prayer was answered. Hebrews 5:7 tells us, *“Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared”*.

Do we want our prayers to be heard as well? Then learn to pray like Jesus. Always pray for God’s will to be done in our lives. Our heavenly Father knows best. He knows what is best for us, and will always answer our prayers when we pray according to His will.

His Twofold Obedience

It is said, *“[He] was heard in that he feared.”* What did Jesus fear? He feared

God. He was afraid to offend His Father. Jesus the Son of God, despite His humanity, was always a perfectly obedient Son. Hebrews 5:8 explains this fear, *“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered.”*

We see here the twofold obedience of Christ—His active obedience and His passive obedience.

His passive obedience is seen in His agony and suffering, which was so intense and great that *“his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground”* (Luke 22:44). Hebrews 9:22 says, *“without shedding of blood is no remission.”* The shedding of blood did not begin at Calvary. It started right here in Gethsemane. His agony in Gethsemane was part of His sufferings for us.

His active obedience is seen in His determination to do His Father’s will. He obeyed His Father’s command to be our Substitute, our Sacrifice, our Saviour. The Son was *“made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons”* (Gal 4:4-5).

As such, Jesus Christ is our Perfect Saviour. He is our Great High Priest who knows all our physical and spiritual needs: *“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”* (Heb 4:15).

Are you weighed down by your sins? Are you going through much hardship and suffering in life? Tell it to Jesus. He loves you and cares for you. He can save you from your sins, and grant you the grace to overcome all your trials and tribulation. *“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need”* (Heb 4:16).

Hallelujah, what a Saviour!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 10 – 16, 2010)

MON – THU	FEBC Retreat (Mersing)
FRI 8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT 3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
10.30 am	Worship (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
2.30 pm	Evangelism

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, May 15 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, May 15 at 3.30 pm. Message: "God Repented?" by Rev Dennis Kwok. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Theme: "Sea Quest: Diving for God's Treasure." Application forms for both Volunteers and Children are available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: S\$14,385; RM2; USD0.10

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Rev Errol Stone \$170; Rev Quek Suan Yew \$50; Kenneth Wong \$50; Marilyn Nanta \$100, \$100; BCEA (Kenya) \$200; BCEA (Tanzania) \$800, \$200; Gethsemane BPC \$1,000; Bible Witness \$50; Chinese Service \$300, \$100; Sim Swee Ho \$100, \$91.60 (YPF), \$50; Wendy Teng \$200; Anya (FEBC) \$100; Clement Chew (FEBC) \$50; Degu (FEBC) \$300; Samuel Eio (FEBC) \$50; Eliezeri (FEBC) \$100; Fransiska (FEBC) \$100; Ibrahim (FEBC) \$100; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$300, \$100, \$100; Kambale (FEBC) \$100; Kiet Thaven (FEBC) \$100; Samuel Kwong (FEBC) \$300; Peter Maurice (FEBC) \$100; Lin Yang (FEBC) \$300, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$20,446.60; RM2; USD0.10

Church Building Fund \$1,700, \$300, \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** S\$961,451.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$15.00

Verse for the Week: *Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD. Prov 20:10*

FEBC's 35th Graduation Exercises will be held this evening at Calvary Pandan BPC, SGBF Hour, 6 pm. All are cordially invited.

There will be a door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session next Sunday afternoon, May 16. Meet at Blk 2A Boon Tiong Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

Our condolences to Christine Tow and family whose beloved mother Mrs Tow Cheng Im (83) went home to be with the Lord on 5 May 2010. Our sympathies to Dr S H Tow and all loved ones during this time of bereavement. "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints" (Ps 116:15).



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Vol. VII No. 32

9 May 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Jesus Saves!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Luke 12:1-32
Hymn	<i>Only Believe</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>The Light of the World Is Jesus</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Luke 23:32-43
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Errol Stone
Sermon	It's Never Too Late (Rev Errol Stone)
Closing Hymn	<i>Jesus Paid It All</i> (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Earthquakes: God's Announcement of Judgement

(Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC, 7 March 2010)

"Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth" (Ps 18:7).

On 27 February 2010 an 8.8-magnitude earthquake hit the country of Chile causing great damage and even tilted the earth's axis according to one NASA scientist. Since the massive 26 December 2004 earthquake (9.1-magnitude) in Sumatra Indonesia which triggered a tsunami that killed about 250,000 people all over the world, the world has been getting more and more earthquakes that are close to cities or populated areas taking many lives and destroying much property. For example, the October 8, 2005 Kashmir earthquake in Pakistan (7.6-magnitude) took 80,000 lives. Then there was the earthquake in Sichuan China (8.0-magnitude) on May 12, 2008 which killed 70,000 people. A couple of months ago on January 12, 2010, there was a terrible earthquake in Haiti (7.0-

magnitude) which killed 200,000, and flattened Haiti's capital Port-au-Prince.

Do you think such earthquakes happen by chance? I really do not think so. They have been sent by God. God is speaking to the world. He is making an announcement, that the world is being judged and the final judgement—the Judgement of judgements—is going to come soon. In Matthew 24, the disciples asked Jesus, "What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matt 24:3). One of the signs the Lord gave was that of earthquakes, there shall be "earthquakes, in divers places" (Matt 24:7).

Announcing Judgement

In the Scriptures, we find God displaying His anger and announcing His judgement by using the earthquake or other loud and forceful phenomena of nature like storm and tempest, thunder and lightning. The Prophet Isaiah for instance announced the impending judgement by saying, "Thou shalt be visited of the LORD of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire" (Isa 29:6). The Apostle John in the Apocalypse, "And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake" (Rev 8:5). Like what Jesus said in Matthew 24:7, earthquakes are God's way of telling people that He is angry with them for all their evil and wickedness, and that He is ready to judge and punish them if they refuse to repent.

In the world today, we are hearing

Inaugural Chinese Worship Service, 2 May 2010



and seeing more and more earthquakes. Is God not telling us something, that the world is ripe for judgement? Sceptics deny this. They say that earthquakes have been commonplace throughout history. People think they are becoming more frequent but actually the frequency is not due to more earthquakes but to vast improvements in news reporting and communications technology, and so we find ourselves getting more informed about such events. Although that may be so, yet it must not be ignored that in the last decade, we find an increasing number of earthquakes hitting *big cities or highly populated areas*, the Haitian earthquake for example, and *The Straits Times* on 2 March 2010 reported that the Chilean quake has affected no less than two million people in one way or other.

Divine Judgment Itself

God had used earthquakes to judge and punish those who sin and rebel against Him. One example is found in Numbers 16:1-33 where we find the sons of Korah, namely Dathan and Abiram, rebelling against God's anointed servants Moses and Aaron. Dathan and Abiram served in the tabernacle for they were Levites and made a name for themselves among the people. Seeing they have become strong and powerful they became proud, and challenged the leadership of Moses and Aaron and charged them falsely and maliciously.

What did God do to these proud and rebellious men? In Numbers 16:23-33 we read, *"And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the congregation, saying, Get you up from about the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. And Moses rose up and went unto Dathan and Abiram; and the elders of Israel followed him. And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of theirs, lest ye be consumed in all their sins. So they gat up from the tabernacle of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, on every side: and Dathan and Abiram came out, and stood in the door of their tents, and their wives, and their sons, and their little children. And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works; for I have not done them of mine own mind. If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD*

hath not sent me. But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation."

Although the greatest earthquake ever recorded (9.5-magnitude) occurred in Chile in 1960, the mother of all earthquakes was the one that occurred in the Genesis Flood. We read in Genesis 7:11-12, *"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights."* Note that global deluge involved not just the bursting of the water canopy that enveloped the earth causing the waters from above to rain down upon the earth but also the waters from below through the eruption and disruption of the earth's surface that altered the whole face of the earth. The very first earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis occurred in the days of the Genesis Flood. The cosmic disruption of the earth's pre-Flood surface led to the high mountains, glaciers, volcanoes, geysers, hot springs, continental shorelines, and deep undersea trenches that we see today (Ps 104:6-9).

Dr John Whitcomb commented in his book—*The World that Perished*, "A third supernatural aspect of the Flood was the uplift of oceanic waters through the breaking up of 'the fountains of the great deep' (Gen. 7:11). The Bible excludes the possibility of a mere fortuitous combination of natural geologic causes here, for we are told that this involved 'all the fountains of the great deep,' and that they were all broken up 'on the same day,' namely, the

seventeenth day of the second month of the six hundredth year of Noah's life. This was indeed a noteworthy day in world history, for in that day God completely upset the delicate balances of the primeval continents and oceans (cf. Isa. 40:12) and initiated a catastrophe so gigantic that the 'world [cosmos] at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water' (2 Peter 3:6).

"This uplift of ocean basis, accompanied by enormous explosions of suboceanic and subterranean magmas and steam, together with a corresponding sinking of continents, continued for six weeks until the Flood attained its maximum, mountain covering depth" (p35).

Judgement to Come

The earthquakes today point to the great and final earthquake to come. Revelation 16:18 says *"And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great."*

Our late founding pastor—Rev Timothy Tow—called this the final E-Bomb. In his commentary on Revelation—*Coming World Events Unveiled*, he wrote, "As six plagues from six vials are still resisted by wicked men, God has to press the final button of punishment. This triggers the E-Bomb, an Earthquake that brings down not only the great city which is Jerusalem, splitting it into three parts, but also the cities, surely the capital cities of the nations. From West to East, all the superficially glittering cities, but filled inside with the filth of homosexuality, drugs, murders, fornication, abortion, cheating, etc. etc. like Sodom and Gomorrah, are brought down by God's E-power in heaps. A look around ASEAN will see Bangkok, Manila, Brunei, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur all flattened. Beware, ugly Singaporeans also!" (p89).

Singapore is living up to its international airport code which is SIN. It is fast catching up with other first world cities to become a premier City of Sin. The new temples of moneytheism and materialism in Sentosa and Marina Bay will only fuel more and more the sins of lust and greed, and many lives will be destroyed and families broken up because of the love of money, *"For the love of money is the root of all*

evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (1 Tim 6:10). Gambling is a curse. Say No to Casino!

The immense destructiveness of that final apocalyptic earthquake is recorded in Revelation 16:20-21, *"And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great."* Rev Tow commented on how this can happen, "In the super earthquakes, blocks of masonry can be easily thrown skywards for them to fall on men scattered in the open. Blocks of masonry from skyscrapers crashing and splashing downwards are even worse. Volcanoes can erupt sending sheets of lava to crash on fleeing men." How terrifying! As Hebrews 10:31 says, *"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."*

Knowing the terror of God, let us confess and repent of our sins, and make peace with the thrice holy God before it is too late. The Lord Jesus Christ will one day judge this earth with all His might. *"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness"* (Rom 1:18).

When such disasters befall others, do we quickly pass judgement on them thinking that they must be terrible sinners and so deserve such a punishment from God? If you think in such a self-righteous way, Jesus has a word for you, *"Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish"* (Luke 13:2-5). Such catastrophes should cause us to wake up to our sins and cause us to examine ourselves. Unless we repent, our turn will come!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 17 – 23, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Dr Paul Ferguson)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Family Bible Fellowship will be having game activities at SAFRA Yishun this Sat, May 22 at 3.30 pm. If you need transportation, meet at Khatib MRT at 3.15 pm. For details, please contact Edmund Wong at 98522318.

Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, May 22. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For those requiring transport, please meet at Lavender MRT at 3.15 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$11,554; AUD50; *Fellowships' Collections:* LF \$418
Designated Offerings: *Chinese Service* \$500; *Bohol Philippines* \$200; *Bible Witness* \$200; *Gethsemane Care Ministry* \$500; *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$50; *Richard Tiu* \$500; *Kelvin Lim* \$150; *Kenneth Wong* \$150; *FEBC Students* \$1,000; *Degu (FEBC)* \$100; *FEBC* \$400
Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$15,722; AUD50
Church Building Fund \$2,000, \$500, \$230, \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** S\$964,581.27; USD600
 Children's Sunday School Offering: \$13.00

Verse for the Week: *Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right. Prov 20:11*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febe.edu.sg/SundaySchool.htm.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). Theme: "Sea Quest: Diving for God's Treasure." Application forms for both Volunteers and Children are available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at 2.30 pm. Meet at Blk 2A Boon Tiong Road. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.



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RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

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Vol. VII No. 33

16 May 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 103
Hymn	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	African Students
Offering & Hymn	<i>'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Luke 12:51-53
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Sermon	Jesus is Divisive (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>Who Is on the Lord's Side?</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

brethren who speak lies in order to deceive, to call black white and white black, to call good bad and bad good. Did not the Lord Jesus Christ warn His disciples about these false Christians who shall "deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many" (Matt 24:9-11).

These things will come as predicted, and as believers we will have to face them, but the Lord comforts us with these words, "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you" (Matt 5:10-12). There is a double blessing for those who have been falsely accused and persecuted for the sake of Christ and His Truth.

Accuser of the Saints

Why do false accusers do the things they do? False accusers do the things they do because they are of the devil. In the original, the word for "false accuser" is the Greek *diabolos*.

False Accusers

(A message by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship, Calvary Pandan BPC, 7 March 2010)

The Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 3:1-9 described what reprobates and apostates will be like in the last days: "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof" (2 Tim 3:2-5).

In the last days we will find many false accusers. They come from outside the church as well as inside the church. These false accusers are the false Christs, false prophets and false



Church Choir Presentation at the Inaugural Chinese Worship Service, 2 May 2010

The word *diabolos* is used 38 times in the Bible and has been translated in a number of ways, mostly as “devil” (35 times), twice as “false accuser” (2 Tim 3:3, Tit 2:3), and once as “slanderer” (1 Tim 3:11).

Diabolos is the Devil’s name. In Revelation 12:9 we read, “*And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil (Diabolos), and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*” Why is the old serpent called the Devil? The next verse tells us he is the Devil because he is “*the accuser of our brethren.*” (Rev 12:10). He engages in malicious slanders against the saints, falsely accusing them before God, distorting the truth and manufacturing lies.

Satan our Adversary is working overtime to destroy the witness and testimony of the saints, especially those who preach the gospel and earnestly contend for the faith. He does all this to thwart God’s Word and Work of salvation. You will see this again and again if you study the Book of Acts. When God works Satan also works! But we know that Satan is already a defeated foe; his end has already been determined and announced. Revelation 20:10 says, “*And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night*” (Rev 12:10). He is already cast down.

Accuser at Work

How does Satan go about falsely accusing the saints? A clear example of how Satan does it can be found in the book of Job. In Job 1:1, 6, 8 we read, “*There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. ... Now there was a day when the sons of God*

came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. ... And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?” God was telling the truth about Job. Truly Job was such a believer, one who was “*perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.*”

But Satan being who he is always seeks to oppose the truth. “*Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face*” (Job 1:9-11). Here he falsely accused Job by suggesting that Job had believed in God for less than pure reasons, with an ulterior motive because he wanted to be wealthy and not because he feared God. By so suggesting, the Devil was also effectively accusing God, that God had tempted or bribed Job to become a believer, that God had either lied about Job or was wrong about Job.

And the LORD said unto Satan, “*Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD*” (Job 1:12). With God’s permission, Satan went all out to take away all of Job’s precious possessions, his property and his children—all gone in a single day. Job must have known that this was not something natural but supernatural, it was the hand of God. He did not blame God. Knowing deeply that God was in control and in charge of everything, he humbled himself before the Lord and worshipped Him, “*Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked*

came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly” (Job 1:20-22).

“*Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. ... And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause*” (Job 2:1, 3). God knew Job, and spoke the truth about him—“*a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil.*” The first test showed Satan to be a liar, a false accuser, for what he had said about Job was proven to be entirely wrong. Did not the Devil tell God that if He were to take away all of Job’s wealth, Job would curse Him to His face? Despite all that had happened, Job still blessed the Lord and did not sin against Him.

But Satan would not give up but kept on falsely accusing Job and tempting God, “*And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face*” (Job 2:4-5).

Of course God was certain of the truth that Job was totally faithful and loyal to Him. So He granted Satan permission to afflict Job but on one condition, “*And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life*” (Job 2:6).

“*So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself*

withal; and he sat down among the ashes. Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die. But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips” (Job 2:7-10). Job was vindicated, and Satan indicted.

Confessors or Accusers?

It is easy for us to confess God when times are good, but when times are bad, will we still confess Him or will we curse Him? Will we become like the Devil, to blame God for all the bad things and bad times in life? If we do this without feeling guilty at all, and we keep doing it, finding fault with God, doubting Him and denying Him, it might just reveal that we have not been born again, not saved in the first place; God is not our Father, and we are not His children. We may claim to be Christians, but we are hypocrites, no different from the scribes and Pharisees, who have “*a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof*” (2 Tim 3:5). That was why Jesus rebuked the scribes and Pharisees with these words, “*Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it*” (John 8:44).

Dear friends, let us never become and behave like the Devil. Only and always believe that God is holy, and good, and just, and righteous, and no matter what, this one thing is true—God can do no wrong. As Romans 3:4 says, “*let God be true, but every man a liar.*” Are you a good confessor of Christ or are you a false accuser like the Devil? May we always speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. May God help us!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 24 – 30, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	No YPF Meeting
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Quek Suan Yew) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Hosea under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Vacation Bible School 2010 (June 2-4). General Volunteers Meeting will be held next Lord's Day, May 30, 2010 at 12.30 pm, Room 602. Lunch will be provided. Application forms for both volunteers and children are available at the VBS Booth. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

VBS Gospel Meeting on Friday night, June 4, 6.30-8 pm, at the Boys' Brigade Campus, 105 Ganges Avenue. No church prayer meeting that night. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$14,274; RM125; *Fellowships' Collections:* AF \$1,087; YPF \$55.50

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$50; *Church Missionary* \$200; *Wendy Teng* \$200, \$50; *FEBC Dining Club* \$1,200; *FEBC* \$5,000, \$1,000, \$400, \$200; *Chinese Service* AUD200 (Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth)

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$23,916.50; AUD200; RM125

Church Building Fund \$200, \$100 **Total:** S\$964,881.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$15.00

Verse for the Week: *The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them. Prov 20:12*

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. All campers to attend a **Camp Briefing** on June 6, 2010 after the Worship Service. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

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Vol. VII No. 34

23 May 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
*We Praise Thee, O God,
Our Redeemer*

Invocation/Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading
Hymn

Psalm 100
*All People That on Earth
Do Dwell*

Announcements
Ministry of Music
Offering & Hymn
Doxology/Pastoral

Deborah & Judith
Channels Only

Prayer
Scripture Text
Sermon

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Romans 1:1-20
Still Unashamed of the Gospel
(Dr Paul Ferguson)
Jesus Saves!
Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Closing Hymn
Benediction

Dwelling Together in Unity

*A Report by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew of FEBC's
Annual Retreat at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing,
10-13 May 2010*

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Ps 133:1). About 100 brethren from 16 different countries dwelling together in unity by the common grace of Christ Jesus was what I experienced at the Resort Lautan Biru from the 10th to the 13th of May 2010! These 16 countries include Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Nagaland, South Korea, Australia, China, Philippines, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Congo, Ghana, and last but not least Singapore. From extremely different walks of life the LORD assembled all of us together through the amazing workings of the Holy Spirit. The students have all come to Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC) to be trained in the Word and to

encourage one another in the work of the LORD. At FEBC, these students live together, study, eat, interact, debate, encourage and challenge one another in the things of God. The Holy Spirit will shape and mould their characters for the Master's use in the great vineyard that is white unto harvest. You do not really know these students until they share their testimonies of their homeland and struggles. Every one of them envisaged facing many challenges and struggles upon their graduation and return.



The theme of the main message at the retreat was "The Minister's Witness" taken from 2 Corinthians 6:1-13. The three main points of the message were: (1) The minister can turn the grace of God into vanity if he lives a life of sin, (2) The aim of the minister's witness is not to bring shame to the Name of Christ, and (3) The scope of minister's witness is in all things and the approval from God.

Three DVD films were screened to challenge our hearts: (1) "Here I Stand" (on the history of Biblical fundamentalism in the 20th Century),



FEBC's Annual Retreat at Resort Lautan Biru, Mersing, 10-13 May 2010
"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Ps 133:1)

(2) “Bamboo in Winter” (on the life of a young Chinese girl searching for the meaning of life and finding Christ during the Cultural Revolution), and (3) “Fanny Crosby” (on her life as a hymn writer). There were skits performed by the students, the singing of hymns of praise, testimonies by some of the new graduates, and the sharing by students about their own countries. The latter was most instructive because the students introduced their respective countries from a Christian perspective. Some of these countries have less than 1% Christians (e.g. Thailand) and others have nearly 80% (e.g. Kenya). These statistics comprise a mix of Roman Catholics, Charismatics and Conservatives and they highlight how influential the ecumenical movement has been in various parts of the world in these last days. One of the richest countries in the world with many natural resources is Congo. The country has gold, and many different types of precious stones and a large forest with trees of many different colours. There are trees with trunks so huge that it requires ten men holding hands together to encircle it. Yet the people are very poor because of bad management. Wars have plagued the country of Congo for years. The weekly prayer in Congolese churches is for peace!



Some students come from Bible Colleges founded by missionaries. These students testified of the blessings they have received in these Bible Colleges. Their desire is to return as teachers in their respective Bible Colleges

after graduating from FEBC. These Bible Colleges include the Bible College in Ethiopia (under the care of Gethsemane BPC), Bomet Bible Institute, Kenya (under the care of Rev Michael Koech, an FEBC graduate), Faith College of the Bible in Eldoret, Kenya (the majority of faculty members are FEBC graduates), and the Bible College of East Africa, in Kenya and in Tanzania (under the care of Rev Dr Mark Kim, an FEBC graduate).



God’s servants shared about their countries’ needs. The common prayer in all the testimonies is that they would preach the gospel of Christ faithfully upon their return to their homeland and that what they have learnt from God in FEBC would stand them in good stead as they earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints. Charismatics have overrun their countries. These graduates have now been equipped with God’s truth. They need prayers for strength and courage to fight the good fight of faith. What they have learnt from God in FEBC will be put to the test. Head knowledge will soon become heart knowledge. The DVD on “Here I Stand” told the story of courageous defenders of the faith like Dr J Gresham Machen, Dr Carl McIntire, and the Rev Ian Paisley. The DVD also showed how the mighty like Billy Graham have fallen into ecumenism, denying that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation. Our students pray that the LORD will keep them faithful. Not only must God’s ministers begin well in the ministry, it is paramount

that they end well too.

As I sat there listening to the testimonies of the graduates, I could not help but reflect upon the work of God in the life of one man—the late Rev Dr Timothy Tow—who by God’s high calling started FEBC in 1962 to train men and women from all walks of life and from faraway countries. These graduates who experienced life together in the dormitories, in the kitchen, in the classrooms, in the chapel, at prayer time, will in all likelihood never meet again when they leave the College. Nevertheless, the few years they have had together have helped shape and transform their lives to be more like Christ and have equipped them for the years of ministry ahead, fighting in the forefront of God’s battle against the forces of Satan. Through the obedience of one man, hundreds if not thousands of lives have been and continue to be impacted by the Word of God for eternity. God enlarged the cause of Christ when the Rev Timothy Tow heeded the call to found FEBC 48 years ago. We owe God so much. We thank God for Rev Tow in so many ways that are beyond what words can say. Personally, I owe Rev Tow so much. How can you thank someone who was used by God to turn your life around to know the truth and to have your theology straightened out so that your earthly life will not be lived foolishly?



FEBC may be located on a tiny island. However, the outreach FEBC has to the many distant continents of the world must not be underestimated. It is the work of the Almighty God. With the strong Singapore dollar, and the stable government (both by the grace of God), FEBC and God’s people in Singapore can do so much without leaving the shores of our tiny island. It is no wonder Satan wants FEBC destroyed. The work of God in FEBC might appear small and insignificant in the eyes of man but the global impact it has will be revealed one day when the LORD returns. One graduating student summed up her testimony very well when she said, “If we do not meet again, let us meet in heaven.” Please pray for FEBC.



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (May 31 – Jun 6, 2010)

WED-FRI	Vacation Bible School
WED 7.45 pm	No Ladies Fellowship Meeting
8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
FRI 6.30 pm	VBS Gospel Meeting
SAT 3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School
	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 1705)
10.30 am	Worship (Rev Dennis Kwok)
	Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
	Korean Service (Rm 503)
	Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Vacation Bible School 2010 this week from Wed to Fri (June 2-4). Venue: Boys' Brigade Campus, 105 Ganges Avenue. All are invited to the **Gospel Meeting** this Friday night, June 4, 6.30 pm. **No church prayer meeting** that night. Contact Timothy Tan at 97664802 for details.

VBS General Volunteers Meeting today at 12.30 pm, Room 602. Lunch is provided.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, June 5 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Spiritual Maturity" by Rev Tan Kian Sing. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration form and details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: \$11,209

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$200; *BCEA Tanzania* \$50; *Ng Yew Chong* \$150; *Sim Swee Ho* \$150; *Marilyn Nanta (FEBC)* \$300; *Fransiska (FEBC)* \$200; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$100; *FEBC* \$400, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$13,009

Church Building Fund \$200, \$200, \$100 Total: \$5965,381.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$15.00

Verse for the Week: *Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread. Prov 20:13*

Adults' Sunday School Class on Joel by Joshua Yong will commence next Lord's Day, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome.

Classes for the Children's Sunday Schools and Worship at Level 6 will be held at Level 17 next Lord's Day, June, 6. Details of the classes will be posted on the Notice Board outside the Auditorium next Lord's Day. All parents please note.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. All campers to attend a **Camp Briefing** next Lord's Day, June 6, 2010 after the Worship Service. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

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Vol. VII No. 35

30 May 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading Hymn	Psalm 84 <i>O Lord of Hosts, How Lovely</i>
Announcements	Youth Choir
Ministry of Music	<i>I Gave My Life for Thee</i>
Offering & Hymn	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Doxology/Prayer	Psalm 2:1-12
Scripture Text	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Pastoral Prayer	Who Is Christ to You? (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
Sermon	<i>What a Wonderful Saviour!</i>
Closing Hymn	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Benediction	

What Makes a Missionary?

A testimony by Miss Bai Eun Young, a missionary of True Life BPC to Kenya, East Africa, received on 25 May 2010



It was the Sunday Service before my trip to Maasai land that the message from the pulpit struck

my heart. The preacher was preaching on godly Christian living. He said that a person's name does not make his life but his life makes his name. What he meant was that a name like "Gloria" does not prove a glorious life, but a godly life might cause one to be named "a man of God", or "a prayer warrior," etc by God's people. Then I asked myself, "What makes a missionary?" What would make a person "a missionary" in the eyes of the people?

Recently in April, the Bible College of East Africa (BCEA) organised a Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children. Both the teachers and children seemed to have enjoyed the VBS. Then, the door to Maasai land was opened to reach out to the children there. I headed towards the land with the burden to be called a missionary.

Appropriate Methods

Sometime ago I asked my BCEA students about VBS in their home churches. They said that VBS normally covers all ages from children to adults and it is more like an intensive Bible study for a period of one week. Tests on the Bible lessons learned during the VBS are also conducted. As for me, I had experienced VBS in a slightly different way. All my VBS classes were for children. In those VBS classes, Bible lessons with textbooks, group activities, action songs, instructive games, art and craft were essential



Miss Bai Eun Young, True Life BPC's missionary to Kenya, East Africa

items. That was the reason why I tried some of those methods in my first VBS for children in the BCEA Campus Church. Soon I realised that they were something new or strange to both teachers and children. Finally, I came up with three days of VBS for children. Worksheets were prepared for Bible lessons everyday. Instead of expensive colour papers, locally dried flowers and leaves were used for art and craft, and rice or maize flour sacks for outdoor games. My task as a missionary has been to find appropriate teaching methods to teach the Bible with materials available in the local environment. I can say that those methods worked pretty well for the VBS in April 2010.

Maasai Children



BCEA Campus Church has two sister churches in Maasai land. One is Kiluani Church and the other is Lenkijape Church. Monday morning, April 26th, I left BCEA at 5 am and arrived at Kiluani at about 9.30 am. It took me about four hours by the college van. I was with seven teachers. We started the first Kiluani VBS right upon arrival. We used the same BCEA VBS programme for this Kiluani VBS. The number of children was about 70 on the first day. Soon we realised that young children of ages five and six spoke only the Maasai language. So we needed the help of interpreters. Again we noticed that Kiswahili spoken by the children had a slightly different intonation from that of my teachers. Most of the children were in worn clothes. Some were

barefooted. At the beginning, they stared silently at us, these new people. They gazed at me with big eyes and called me “Mjungu” (European), but I am Asian (the word “Mjungu” is widely used to describe people with light skin colour).

As the VBS went on, the initial gap between teachers and children lessened with mutual respect. On the 2nd day, the number of the children reached 140. After three days in Kiluani, we moved to Lenkijape Church for the VBS there. All the teachers had just one comment on the Maasai children—that they were organised and disciplined children. In comparison with those in the Campus Church, these Maasai children were slower to follow instructions. But once they understood, they performed at a higher level in their activities. They were slow maybe because of little exposure to city life and to education. Yet they respect highly the teachers and their rules. This is probably because of the strict discipline exercised by their families and community. Well, this might also explain how they could have preserved their unique tradition and culture from generation to generation up to this point in the 21st century. In this regard, I see the potential for Christianity to influence the Maasai tribe. This is because Christian education begins at home, and if the Maasai home is a Christian home, then the parents will be the ones primarily responsible to teach Christian values and practices to their children.



Chance to Widen Views

When the VBS was on, my teachers and I took the afternoon off to visit the Maasai villages nearby. We saw the famous Manyatta houses, ladies with necklaces of beads, their dances with songs, men in dark clothes leaning on long sticks, and so on. Hierarchy and discipline in the community were observable because they were singing or sitting orderly according to rank, age and gender. It was interesting to learn about the unique culture of the Maasai.

We also went to see the church and school buildings completed by senior missionaries. We were amazed at God’s working for His Kingdom in this remote area. The pastors of the churches were not from the Maasai tribe. But they devoted themselves to the people. They learned the language and coped with the culture and environment. This made us think what commitment for the Lord was all about. All my Sunday school teachers were BCEA students. They came from different tribes of Kenya. They had different mother tongues and traditions. This VBS trip to Maasai land provided a chance for them to appreciate the progress of Christianity in another tribe and culture within their own country Kenya.



I used to think that cross-cultural missions involved only missions with political borders to cross. On this trip, I saw how cross-cultural missions can include crossing tribal boundaries within a country. This trip deepened my view of the ministry entrusted to me. I am supposed

to reach out to children as I train the teachers called to ministry in this country.



As I share my VBS experience with you, I can say I have worked hard and learned much. Now I would like to go back to the question, “What makes a missionary?” Are they the works of a missionary? Yes, but I would like to say that works are only a part of it. What about the attitude of a missionary? We should frown on wrong attitudes of our own as well as of others. Right attitude is not less demanding than the works that need to be done. Language, culture, gender, age, transportation, safety and even our appearance are obstacles in the life of a missionary in a foreign country. Sometimes, I find myself too disappointed at the reality. When this happens it becomes hard to maintain a good attitude towards work, people and life. Many times, I have to remind myself of the invisible hand of God beyond the reality that is seen. This helps me to make good choices and decisions. All in all, I am saying, when I do missionary tasks, I also struggle in how to do them. I am reminded that no Christian is perfect on earth, and that there are many obstacles to overcome. My comfort is from the Word of God. These days I hold on to the Word, “*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you*” (Matthew 6:33). Let the glory of the Lord be first in my life, then I shall be helped for His name’s sake.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 7 – 13, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Stephen Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, June 12 at 3.30 pm. Message: "What is the Image of God in Man?" by Rev Dennis Kwok. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: S\$11,849; RM70

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$300, \$200; *Bible Witness* \$50; *Kenneth Wong* \$50; *Joshua Yong* \$60; *Marilyn Nanta (FEBC)* \$200; *Kambale (FEBC)* \$100; *Ibrahim (FEBC)* \$100; *FEBC Dining Club* \$40; *FEBC* \$400

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$13,549; RM70

Church Building Fund \$920, \$700, \$500, \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** S\$967,901.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$6.20

Verse for the Week: *It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth. Prov 20:14*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/SundaySchool.htm.

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." Speaker: Dr Paul Ferguson. **There will be a Camp Briefing at 12.15 pm** after the Worship Service today. All campers please stay for the briefing.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 36

6 June 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>O Worship the King</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 43
Hymn	<i>Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Church Choir
Offering & Hymn	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Psalm 95
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dennis Kwok
Sermon	Worship the LORD Our Maker (Rev Dennis Kwok)
	<i>More Like the Master</i>
Closing Hymn	Rev Dennis Kwok
Benediction	

ailment of the elderly, but to spiritual incontinence, the utter lack of spiritual power to overcome the sinful desires of the heart and the sinful activities of the flesh. In other words, a spiritually incontinent person is a person who is addicted to sin; he is a sin-addict, totally given over to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. It is one characteristic of a reprobate or an apostate, someone who does not believe in Christ and who is an enemy of Christ.

Disease of Incontinency

The sin of incontinence is due to the total depravity of man. Man is conceived in sin, born in sin, grows in sin and lives in sin. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Man being spiritually dead is totally unable and incapable of doing anything good that would be acceptable to God. Man cannot help but sin against God, "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Rom 3:10-18).

Incontinent

Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship, Calvary Pandan BPC, 14 March 2010

2 Timothy 3:1-3 says, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, **incontinent**, ...".

What is incontinency? The word for incontinence in the Greek Bible is *akrates* which literally means "without power," or "without control." It is used only once in the Bible, right here in 2 Timothy 3:3. The adjective "incontinent" describes people who are utterly lacking in self-control. Obviously, the lack of self-control is not with reference to physical incontinence, a common



Praise Items by FEBC African Students at True Life BPC's Worship Service, May 16, 2010

What is the heart condition of sinful humanity? The clearest description of what the heart is like is found in Jeremiah 17:9, *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”* That is why the totally depraved heart is bent on breaking God’s Law, and not able to control its lustful desires for sinful and immoral things. This is clearly seen in Romans 1:26-32, *“For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”*

Surely the above is a description of incontinent human beings who are not only without any self-control but also totally out of control; they sin against God and against their fellow human beings and enjoy doing so.

Types of Incontinency

The incontinent man shows his utter lack of self-control in his speech and in his deeds.

Verbal Incontinence

The incontinent man is unable to control his speech. In James 3:5-8, we are warned about our tongue—how destructive it can be if uncontrolled. *“Even so the tongue is a little*

member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.” Someone has said, “A tongue six inches long can kill a man six feet tall.”

There are people who just cannot control their tongue; they speak without any regard for truth or charity. And that is because their thoughts and feelings are controlled by sin and Satan. That is why James went on to say, *“Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be”* (Jas 3:9-10). Those who speak with wild abandon and unbridled fury without any charity and without any truth show themselves to be without Christ as James says, *“Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh”* (Jas 3:11-12).

Jesus denounced the unbelieving Jews who had maliciously accused Him of performing all His good works by the power of Satan with these words of rebuke and warning, *“O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned”* (Matt 12:34-37).

Only the Holy Spirit can tame the tongue. It is only the Spirit-indwelt and Spirit-filled Christian who is able to control the tongue. Wisdom dictates that we should be careful with our words: *“Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few”* (Eccl 5:2). *“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath”* (Jas 1:19).

Carnal Incontinence

The incontinent man is unable to suppress his carnal desires. The sinful man is naturally attracted to the carnal pleasures of life—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Like metal to magnet, he finds himself unable to resist the lure of power, money and sex. In no time, he gets hooked and addicted to the sins of the flesh which will bring about his downfall and destruction. The newspapers and tabloids find no lack of material reporting on the fall of politicians, tycoons, sports and movie stars when they find themselves trapped by their carnal incontinence or addiction. O the many who have fallen into the four proverbial Chinese sins of womanising, gambling, drinking, and smoking! The two new temples of materialism in Sentosa and Marina Bay where money is god and greed is good will only make our bad moral situation worse. Many more lives will be destroyed, and families broken up. Crime rates will climb, and the quality of life will plunge.

What the Bible says is so true, *“For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows”* (1 Tim 6:10). What then should the Christian do in light of all this? The man of God *“must flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses”* (1 Tim 6:11-12). Be in control. Be disciplined not to

allow your sinful nature to get the better of you.

The Christian who is in control or who is controlled by the Spirit and Word of Christ is someone described in 1 John 2:14-17, *“I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one. 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.”* Let us not love the world which is governed by Satan, and the sinful pleasures of the world that are offered by him. Satan and this world will one day be destroyed, but all who are ruled by Christ and His Word will be saved and have eternal life.

There is only one cure for incontinence and it can only come from the Physician of physicians who is none other than Jesus Christ Himself. His powerful name brings forgiveness, and His blood cleanses us from all sin. He sanctifies us by His Word and His Spirit. What must we do to get this cure? Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek”* (Rom 1:16). *“[I]f thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation”* (Rom 10:9-10). *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 John 1:9). If you have yet to believe in Jesus Christ, will you accept Him as your Saviour today? Only He can save you from the curse of incontinence!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 14 – 20, 2010)

MON-FRI	Sabbatical Jubilee Camp
FRI 8.00 pm	No Prayer Meeting
SAT 3.30 pm	No YPF Meeting
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School
	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
10.30 am	Worship (Rev Hien Nguyen)
	Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
	Korean Service (Rm 503)
	Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Sabbatical Jubilee Camp (June 14-18, 2010) at Tioman Island, Malaysia. All campers taking the coach to Mersing are to assemble tomorrow morning at **6 am sharp at RELC Main Lobby. Please be punctual and do not leave your vehicle at RELC.**

In view of Church Camp, there will be **no Prayer Meeting and Young People's Fellowship Meeting** this week.

Combined Youth Conference 2010 (June 24-26) at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Closing Date: *Today*. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for registration forms and details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$21,763; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$82.55

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$295; *Rev Mark Kim* \$1,000; *Rev Eben Yoon* \$1,000; *Bai Eun Young* \$1,000; *Bohol Philippines* \$200; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$500; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *Jose Lagapa & family (FEBC)* \$300; *Lin Yang & family (FEBC)* \$300, \$100, \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$200; *Wendy Teng* \$100; *Rev Hien* AUD100; *Brisbane BPC* AUD200; *Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth* AUD200

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$27,220.55; AUD500

Church Building Fund \$200, \$100 **Total:** S\$968,201.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$13.00

Verse for the Week: *There is gold, and a multitude of rubies; but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel. Prov 20:15*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/Sunday_School.htm.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.



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Vol. VII No. 37

13 June 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>All Glory, Laud and Honor</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 29
Hymn	<i>Lead Me to Calvary</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>He Is So Precious to Me</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	1 Thess 1:1-10
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Stephen Khoo
Sermon	Remembering Your Faith, Love and Hope (Rev Stephen Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>Cleanse Me</i> (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory" (Col 3:1-4). Such exhortation is it not to induce us to glorify God and enjoy Him forever?

In practice, however, we have many dropouts in the Church. These have left off coming to worship on the Lord's Day. There are the backsliders who come on and off. They are living a defeated Christian life.

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

"To Glorify God and Enjoy Him Forever"

Rev Dr Timothy Tow

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

Thus the Apostle Paul instructs the Colossians, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ,

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

Seeing through the misery that encompasses dropouts and backsliding Christians, Paul beams the healing word on them, "*Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of*



FEBC Board and Faculty 2010

disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds” (Col 3:5-9).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1)

Since the Great Commission is to the whole Church, which I would call the First Command to the Church, let us support it with all we can, giving particularly to missions. The better part is to offer ourselves to become missionaries. When William Chalmers Burns gave up law to become a missionary to China, he said this was the greatest decision in all the world he made for his life. Has God been speaking to you, young man or young woman? What will you do with your life? Man’s chief end, is it not to “glorify Him and enjoy Him forever”?

(2)

Let us take care of the sick and poor amongst us. In so doing, do you realise you have done it on the Lord Himself? We are called sheep against the goats which did nothing and are totally rejected. A Christian if he says he loves the Lord must have sympathy to the down and out. *“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also”* (1 John 4:20, 21).

(3)

In these last days when more and more false Christs and prophets invade the Church,

let us *“earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints”* (Jude 3). Like David waxing strong for his God who was blasphemed against by Goliath, *“Is there not a cause?”* The founding of the B-P Church is God’s blessing to its leaders for the firm stand they take against Ecumenism and Roman Catholicism. Now the battle wages around the Bible whether we are for the good KJV, or NIV which is based on the corrupt text of Westcott and Hort.

(4)

As it is our need to pray, let us come to the Church prayer meeting, which is the least attended. God promises to bless where two or three are gathered in His Name. One reason why God has blessed our prayer meeting in Singapore is we give an half-hour to members to testify of God’s mercies which bring glory to His Name.

(5)

Tithing is the law of financial support of the Church (Mal 3:8-10). Be a regular tither. Are you among those who neglect God with your over-commitments to your own programme? Is God glorified with your leftovers?

(6)

“Do something good for Jesus everyday. Do something good wherever you go.” When put to practice the good that you do comes back to you. *“But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work”* (2 Cor 9:6-8).

(7)

“Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matt 6:33).

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

(Adapted from his message preached at New Life Bible-Presbyterian Church, London, Easter Lord’s Day, 15 April 2001.)

Are You a Big-Godder or a Little-Godder?

About twelve years after Donald Grey Barnhouse had graduated from Princeton, he was invited back to preach in the chapel, and when he arrived, he noted that Wilson had taken a place near the front to hear him.

When the service was over, his old Hebrew Professor came up to Donald Barnhouse and said, “If you come back again, I will not come to hear you preach. I only come once. I am glad that you are a big-godder. When my boys come back, I come to see if they are big-godders or little-godders, and then I know what their ministry will be.” Barnhouse asked Wilson to explain. **“Well, some men have a little god, and they are always in trouble with him. He can’t do any miracles. He can’t take care of the inspiration of the Scriptures and their preservation and transmission to us. They have a little god, and I call them little-godders. Then there are those who have a great God. He speaks, and it is done. He commands, and it stands fast. He knows how to show himself strong on behalf of those who fear Him. You have a great God, and He will bless your ministry.”**

Source: James Montgomery Boice, Joshua (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006), 83 cited from Donald Grey Barnhouse, Let Me Illustrate: More Than 400 Stories, Anecdotes & Illustrations (Westwood: Fleming Revell, 1967), 132-133.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 21 – 27, 2010)

THU-SAT	Combined Youth Conference
FRI 8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 602</i>
SAT 5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
10.30 am	Worship (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
2.30 pm	Evangelism

Combined Youth Conference 2010 will be held this week from June 24-26, Thu-Sat, at Calvary Pandan BPC. Theme: "Peter's Progress: What About Mine?" Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. Contact Samuel Goh at 91817471 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, June 26 at Mr and Mrs Lam Pin Juh's home, 57 Hillview Avenue, #06-01, Hillington Green, 5.30 pm. Tel: 91377086. Message: "Gifts of the Holy Spirit" by Dr Paul Ferguson. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$12,130; AUD500 (Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth), AUD50; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$86.25
Designated Offerings: *Rev Hien* \$100; *Mission* \$250; *Samuel Kwong* \$100; *FEBC* \$300, \$250, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$13,266.25; AUD550

Church Building Fund \$500, \$250, \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** S\$969,351.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$14.00

Verse for the Week: *Take his garment that is surety for a stranger: and take a pledge of him for a strange woman. Prov 20:16*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febe.edu.sg/Sunday_School.htm.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting will be held on July 2, Friday at 8 pm in the home of Mrs Quek Siok Eng, 58 Watten Drive. Tel: 64671360.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.



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Vol. VII No. 38

20 June 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	<i>Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 96
Hymn	<i>Take Time to Be Holy</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Church Camp Children
Offering & Hymn	<i>Speak, Lord, in the Stillness</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Charles Kan
Scripture Text	John 4:19-26
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Hien Nguyen
Sermon	True Worshippers (Rev Hien Nguyen)
Closing Hymn	<i>I Would Be True</i>
Benediction	Rev Hien Nguyen

both Christians and non-Christians during the June school holidays. By God's grace, this is the third year that it is being organised, and God is indeed faithful and good to see VBS through once again.



The theme of this year's VBS was "Diving for God's Treasure", and the five main lessons were: (1) Hidden Treasure – We are valuable treasures to God (Matthew 9:9-13, 13:44-46), (2) Lost Treasure – God loves us and is happy when we believe on Jesus (Luke 15:1-10), (3) Real Treasure – Salvation through Jesus Christ alone (Luke 15:11-32), (4) Wise Treasure – Living a life of obedience to God's Word (Matthew 7:24-27, Luke 6:46-49), and (5) Eternal Treasure – Living a life that puts God first (Luke 12:13-34). The theme verse was taken from Mark 8:36, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

I truly thank God for the opportunity to serve in this year's VBS Committee. Thank God for godly advisors in Elder Joseph and Sister Jenny Kan, as well as faithful and God-fearing committee members led by Brother Timothy Tan. Thank God for

Diving for God's Treasure

*A Report on the Vacation Bible School by
Joycelyn Chng*



Thank God for granting us a most blessed time at this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS), which was held from 2nd to 4th June 2010 at the Boys' Brigade Campus. VBS is a ministry of True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church to reach out to children,



Vacation Bible School's Gospel Meeting, June 4, 2010

guiding us each step of the way and for helping us keep our focus on God and His Word. The Lord also provided faithful and dedicated teachers who love Him and desire that the little ones may come to know Him as their personal Lord and Saviour at an early age.

We are filled with much gratefulness to the Lord for moving the hearts of so many members of the church to come forward to offer their service unto the Lord in the VBS, in one way or another. There were about 50 volunteers who signed up to serve in various areas such as assisting the teachers during lesson time, song leading, playing the guitar, helping to serve food during meal time, driving the children to and from VBS, leading in games, taking photographs, and helping in administration matters.



Besides these, there were many others who laboured lovingly for the Lord behind the scenes. Thank God for those who gave out the VBS registration forms during evangelism sessions and others who slotted the forms in letterboxes at their own time. Some who were unable to be present on the actual days of the VBS, signed up to serve in the preparation of handicraft materials prior to the VBS. There were also warm-hearted ladies in the church who gladly and readily availed themselves to serve the Lord with their hands by making sandwiches and buying buns for the children's snack time. Thank God for Mrs Tow who got a number of FEBC students to help out in logistics. We truly thank the Lord for sending these students who were a great blessing and help to us, ever ready to lend a helping hand

joyfully, wherever it was needed.

Exactly one week before the start of VBS, there were only about 40 children who had signed up to attend VBS. But the committee continued to pray and trust that the Lord would send more children if it be His will. By the grace and mercy of God, a total of 74 children attended VBS over the three days in the end! The Lord is indeed good! The children were divided into three departments, the Juniors, Lower Primary, and Upper Primary, with the biggest number of children in the Lower Primary Department.



Each day started with the VBS volunteers gathering together for prayer to seek the Lord's blessing for the day's activities. The Boys' Brigade Campus would then begin to buzz with activity once the first VBS van, full of eager and excited children, pulled in. The children, after being screened for fever and registering for the day, would then go to their respective classrooms for a time of singspiration, where they learnt choruses teaching them many truths from God's Word. Thank God for faithful song leaders who recognise that singspiration time is not just a time to have fun, but is actually a good means to reinforce the Bible lessons taught. This was followed by the actual Bible lesson, and some of the lessons the children learnt included the parables of the lost sheep, the prodigal son, and the rich fool who built bigger barns to store his goods. Thank God for teachers who love God's Word and who gave faithful renditions of God's precious truths, made plain and simple that the children might understand.



After replenishing their energy with snacks, the children would continue with activity time, working on worksheets that are based on the lessons, as well as crafts that served as good reminders for the children on what they had learnt and experienced in VBS. Some of the crafts done by the children included gospel bracelets, which the children immediately put to good use at the end of the day, using them as they practised sharing the gospel with one another, and photo frames for their group photos, beautifully decorated with sand art and seashells. The children also enjoyed themselves when they had games on Thursday morning. The older ones played captain's ball with sponge, while the younger ones took part in station games where they recited memory verses before starting each station.

The three days of VBS culminated in the

Gospel Night on Friday evening, where the children's parents were invited to attend to watch their children put up song items, but most importantly, to hear the gospel being preached. Thank God for the Rev Stephen Khoo, who faithfully preached God's Word from Matthew 13:45-50, exhorting all to heed the gospel call to salvation. Thank God for the children who all put up wonderful song items praising the Lord, showing their parents a little of what they had learnt in VBS, and also for all the teachers and helpers who had guided the children patiently.

Thank and praise God for a number of children who had said the sinner's prayer during VBS. Indeed, the teachers and helpers have been used by the Lord to plant the gospel seed, but it is God who gives the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6-7). Seeing all the children leave VBS at the end of three days with much joy on their faces, and hearing them say that they want to join VBS again the next year (God willing), is confirmation from the Lord that the good old-fashioned teaching of God's Word is all sufficient, for salvation is truly only of the Lord (Jonah 2:9). Surely that is a wonderful testimony to the almighty power of God and His Word! All praise and glory be to God!



APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (June 28 – July 4, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship
		(Rev Quek Suan Yew)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Church Photo for the Sabbatical Jubilee Magazine. Please remain seated in the sanctuary right after the service for further instructions. Thank you.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting will be held on this Friday, July 2 at 8 pm in the home of Mrs Quek Siok Eng, 58 Watten Drive. Tel: 64671360.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, July 3 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Bro Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 544 Jelapang Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: S\$10,774; RM1
Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$50; *Rev Hien* \$100; *Rev Quek Suan Yew* \$50; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *FEBC* \$50, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:
 S\$11,424; RM1

Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$500, \$202
Total: S\$971,053.27; USD600

Corrigendum: *General Offering of AUD500 from Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth reflected in 20 June Weekly should read as AUD1,000.*

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$10.00

Verse for the Week: *Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel. Prov 20:17*

Far Eastern Bible College will reopen with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, July 19, 9 am, Calvary Tengah BPC. **FEBC's Basic Theology for Everyone night courses** will resume with *Second Kings* by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew on July 19 (Mon) and *Second Corinthians* by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo on July 22 (Thu), 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

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Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

Vol. VII No. 39

27 June 2010

“BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name”

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Jesus, I Come</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Leviticus 19
Hymn	<i>Take Time to Be Holy</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Young People's Fellowship
Offering & Hymn	<i>Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus</i>
Doxology/Pastoral	
Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	1 Corinthians 15:33
Sermon	Poison of Worldliness (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	<i>Take the World, but Give Me Jesus</i>
Closing Hymn	
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

and (3) Creation is linked to Scripture.

(II)

The Glory of God in Salvation (Heb 2:9)

In the second message of the camp we looked at the Glory of God in Salvation from Hebrews 2:9. We saw that salvation is all of God and so He alone gets all the glory from it in Christ. The campers were reminded that God must have all the glory in salvation because (1) God planned it all, (2) God effected it all, and (3) God will perfect it all.

The Glory of God

Summary of the Messages by Dr Paul Ferguson at the True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Camp, 14-18 June 2010, Tioman Island, Malaysia

(I)

The Glory of God in Creation (Ps 19:1)

In the first message of the camp we began by having a brief look at the history of the Westminster Assembly. We were then directed to the fact that the Divines sought to elevate the view of God and diminish man in their deliberations. In our study of Psalm 19, the speaker unfolded how that the Psalmist declared that everything in this world was and is created to declare the Glory of God. In particular, we saw (1) Creation begins and ends with God, (2) Creation has a Purpose,

(III)

The Glory of God in Worship (Ps 148:13)

In the third message of the camp the message centred on the worship of God. We noted that despite the attempts made today to make man the object of worship that from the beginning this was not so. The speaker showed (1) that God was the object of our worship, (2) that there were a number of purposes in worship – to praise and glorify God, to edify the saints, and to encourage the saints, (3) that there were hindrances to true worship (Psalm 24), (4) that there must be a purity of worship – music that is



True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Camp at Tioman Island, Malaysia, June 14-18, 2010

disorderly (1 Cor 14:33, 40), that teaches an unbiblical philosophy, that takes the focus from the lyrics, that is sentimental, and mere emotionalism is to be avoided (1 Cor 15:33), (5) that worship will be perfected in heaven.

(IV)

The Glory of God in Providence (Rom 11:33-36)

In the fourth message, the speaker dealt with the subject of Providence – the doctrine that God provides for His creatures and creation. We saw that traditionally Reformed Churches have adopted a high view of the Providence of God. We were encouraged to see God as here with us but also that He is everywhere, within and without, sustaining all things, and guiding every event in history to a glorious consummation. The speaker made the following points:

Absolute Sovereignty of God in Providence

We were urged to see God as a living Sovereign who is actively interested in human affairs and actively intervening in them. This He does unguided and unadvised for His own glory.

Wisdom of God in Providence

We were directed to the great wisdom of God in providence in the lives of men like Joseph, Daniel and even the Apostle Paul in Scriptures. The speaker pointed out that Providence of God in their lives and in our own lives was just as much God's working as any of the miracles in the Bible. We must always interpret our experiences by our doctrine of the wisdom of God's Providence.

Incomprehensibility of God in Providence

We then saw that God's providential workings are "unsearchable" and "past finding out." The speaker encouraged us to simply respond in humility, confidence in God, courage, and in a doxology of praise (Rom 11:36).

(V)

The Glory of God in Church History (Ps 63:1-2)

In the penultimate message, the speaker took the topic of surveying the wonderful work of God in Church history. We were shown how the past warns of the dangers in the present (1 Cor. 10:11). The speaker also pointed out that the church has many great monuments and pillars of the past which remind us of the goodness and faithfulness of God. The following points were made about God's interventions:

God Intervenes Sovereignly in Church History

We were urged to keep at the forefront of our minds that God is the Sovereign, Immutable, and Living God who acts, intervenes, and erupts into the history of the Church and the life of individuals.

The effects of God's intervention in power on His Church there were many effects such as a heightened reverence and fear of God, a sense of personal sin and the holiness of God, the formation of Bible societies and great missionary movements, and the proliferation of great hymnody movements from hearts overflowing with praise of the goodness of God.

God Uses Human Instruments in Church History

We saw that God uses men from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and with differing abilities so that God alone gets the glory in Church history. There is the need for God to intervene in power in our churches and lives.

(VI)

The Glory of God in the Second Coming of Christ (Rev 21:23)

In the final message the speaker reminded the campers of the glorious truth of the return of Christ in power and glory. This day will surpass every other day of the glory of God in Biblical and Church history. It will be a day when Christ will conquer all the foes of His kingdom and He will reign supreme on this earth. This truth should lift us above our trials, fears, and threats of intimidation.

The speaker made the following points: (1) Jesus Christ is the centre of all history – All history begins, is sustained, and will be consummated in Him. (2) Believers need to prepare themselves to meet Him. (3) Christ will come at exactly the right moment – No man will end this world but it will be only at the Sovereign plan and timing of God. (3) The great Glory of God will be revealed at that moment.

Thanksgiving Letters

"Dear Dr Khoo and the Session of True Life BPC. We would like to thank you all for recent camp which we were graciously allowed to attend. Thank God for the feast of God's Word, fellowship with believers, fabulous food for every

meal and fun in the sun! It was especially heartening to hear Dr Paul preach the Word again (he was our camp speaker last year), and heart-warming to renew friendships as well as make new friends. We wish God's richest blessings upon True Life BPC." *The Tabernacle pilgrims: Mee Mee (Lydia), together with Bee Pheng (Kezia), Isaac, Keturah and Javan Koh*

"We thank God for the warm hospitality shown by True Life BPC members. We especially would like to express our thanks to Dn Charles Kan and Dn Tan Beng Lee for seeing to our needs. Our family has been much encouraged and blessed by the soul-stirring messages of Dr Paul Ferguson, Rev Errol Stone, Rev Hien Nguyen, and Rev Stephen Khoo. In particular we learned from the message, "The Glory of God in Providence," our need to trust and obey Him at every step of our life's journey to glorify and enjoy Him. We are also to approach Him with clean hands and pure hearts in worship. Most of all, we are to make every effort to study His Word and to live it. All thanks and glory be unto God." *Wai Ho, Tse'fong, Jan & Tim (Calvary Pandan BPC)*

"To the leadership and our family in Christ at True Life B-P Church: We will always remember your kindness and care for us and the blessings God has bestowed upon us by your generosity and Christian love in bringing us to your Sabbatical Camp and to once again be revitalised even in the twilight of our years. Keeping you in prayer with grateful hearts." *Eld & Mrs Harold Watkins (Faith Presbyterian Church, Perth)*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 5 – 11, 2010)

WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, July 7 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Sarah" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, July 10 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Bro Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$12,064; AUD0.70; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF \$422

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$100; *Amos Go's ministry (Myanmar)* \$100; *Korean Service* \$100; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$50; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$100, \$100; *FEBC* \$1,200, \$300, \$100, \$50, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$14,936; AUD0.70

Church Building Fund \$920, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$50 **Total:** S\$972,723.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$16.00

Verse for the Week: *Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war. Prov 20:18*

Far Eastern Bible College will reopen with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, July 19, 9 am, Calvary Tengah BPC. **FEBC's Basic Theology for Everyone night courses** will resume with *Second Kings* by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew on July 19 (Mon) and *Second Corinthians* by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo on July 22 (Thu), 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/Sunday_School.htm.



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Vol. VII No. 40

4 July 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	<i>May Jesus Christ Be Praised</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 5
Hymn	<i>Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Church Choir
Offering & Hymn	<i>O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Charles Kan
Scripture Text	Psalm 3
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Sermon	God My Saviour! (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	<i>Jesus Saves!</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

Tioman Testimonies

Thanksgiving Testimonies from the Sabbatical Jubilee Camp of True Life BPC, Pulau Tioman, 14-18 June 2010



"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Ps 133:1).

The True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Camp was God's gift to His children who enjoyed not only His beautiful creation on the island of Tioman but also His Holy Scriptures through the faithful preaching of Dr Paul Ferguson of Calvary Tengah BPC. We truly beheld the glory of God in Creation and in Scripture and enjoyed His manifold blessings upon us, both physical and spiritual. Sinners were converted to Christ, and believers rededicated their lives to the Lord. The fellowship of friends from near and far was especially precious. We thank the Lord for Carl and Lily Dauber who flew in all the way from Akron Ohio to be with us, for Rev Nguyen Gia Hien and his family from Brisbane, Rev Errol Stone, Eld and Mrs Harold Watkins from Perth, Rev and Mrs Stephen Khoo from Melbourne, Amos Go and Thangno from Myanmar, and last but not least Dr and Mrs Wee Tiong Soon from Kemaman. We truly had a little taste of heaven on earth, "for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore" (Ps 133:3).

Here are some testimonies from the campers:

"It was a most wonderful Church Camp, being with likeminded brethren, and the spiritual food was edifying and an absolute blessing, leaving us spiritually fed and refreshed. It was also a privilege to fellowship with Dr Paul Ferguson and his beloved wife. It was indeed a blessing to have Carl and Lily (Rev Tow's daughter) at the Camp. The Camp venue being a



True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Camp, Tioman Island, Malaysia, June 14-18, 2010
Theme: "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever"

tropical paradise was outstanding as was the physical food. Congratulations to Dn Charles Kan the Camp Master and the Camp Committee who laboured tirelessly for many months to organise a blessed Camp. We give thanks also for the Lord granting us safety during the entirety of the Camp and in all our travels.” *Rev Errol Stone (Faith Presbyterian Church, Perth)*

“We truly thank God for His grace, mercy and goodness and for the prayers, encouragement and kind support from True Life BPC, which we do not deserve, that my family and I can join her church camp this year. We have been much blessed by God’s Word and His Truth through the preaching of His faithful servants and by the sweet and encouraging fellowship with True Lifers and like-minded brethren. That is God’s providence indeed! Praise the Lord!” *Rev Hien Nguyen & family (Brisbane BPC)*



“We want to thank God for granting our family the privilege to attend this Church camp. The messages were profound and spiritually enriching to our souls. Thank God for sending forth His ministers to deliver His Words to His flock and many of us were blessed through the messages. Thank God for the wonderful fellowship we had with other brothers and sisters in Christ and a safe journey back to Singapore. My family and I will be looking forward to attend next year’s church camp, God willing. God bless.” *Peng Hwa & family*

“I really thank God for the privilege to be part of the Sabbatical Jubilee Camp especially

for providing us with a good camp speaker. It was a success and would surely leave a deep impression especially in those who attended the church camp for the first time. The time spent at camp went by so quickly; wished it could be longer.” *Tang Chan Ying*



“Thank God for His providence that I was able to travel to the church camp by air. The first thing that I learned from the camp was patience. This reminded me of the flight which was delayed both ways, and the hotel staff who took some time to attend to our needs. The second thing I learned was the greatness and glory of God which was manifested in the beautiful waterfall, fishes, and corals, and the clear blue sea. In addition, I was reminded of the sovereignty of God—nothing happens to His children without His permission. God’s glory will be fully revealed when Jesus comes again. Everything will be perfect—no more sin, no more illness, no more aging, a perfect body and a perfect voice. We will be able to see God and be with Him forever. May I be ready and may I press on with this Blessed Hope.” *Jane Goh*



“I am really happy and enjoyed our Church camp. I thank God for His preservation and mercy. This is my first experience and everything is new and nice for me. I ate like I never ate before, especially the messages which touched me so much. Revelation 2:2 touched my heart. Yes God knows all my labour and work. I realise that I need to work harder and I need to serve the Lord humbly to the end. I need to pray more than before. Please remember me in your prayers. Thank you. God bless.” *Amos Go (Myanmar)*



“I would like to thank God for helping me to get to Tioman Island safely and swiftly, firstly on the coach then on the ferry. I would also like to thank God for keeping me in good care as my parents were not traveling with me. Despite the fact of the second ferry being delayed, I praise God for keeping his people safe and sound. The Berjaya Resort was a big and beautiful one, with many things to do. During the first two nights, I slept with Aunty Suzanne and family. I thank them for letting me stay with them and also thank God for sending them to look after me for the time being. The messages from Dr Paul Ferguson were very inspiring and I learned a lot just by listening. While I was thoroughly enjoying myself, God sent a sickness to me and on Tuesday afternoon, I came down with a fever. I would really like to thank God for helping me get over the fever and also for sending all the Uncles and Aunties who came to my aid and helped me to recover more quickly. I am grateful to Aunty Suzanne and Uncle Tiong Peng, Uncle Steve and Aunty Alice, Uncle Ming Kuang and Aunty Lai Peng, Uncle

Wilson and Aunty Molly, Aunties Anya and Fransiska, and all the other worshippers who prayed for me or helped me in any other way. My mother finally came on Wednesday afternoon while I was sleeping, and I thank God for keeping her and my brothers safe during the plane ride on the Berjaya Airlines. I had a really great time with all the other people in Church and I look forward to our heavenly Church Camp! I was sad to leave but I remembered that all good things must come to an end, except the Kingdom of God and his Holy, preserved Word.” *Tai Cae Ryn*

“The camp was very fun and the activities are very thrilling. The teachers were very friendly and they were quite professional. The lessons were also very enlightening, and they taught a lot about God’s Word. I learnt that the journey to heaven (Celestial City) is strait and narrow, and very, very difficult. However difficult it is, we must still continue and endure the rocky path. We have to be contented and not be envious as it is sinful to be envious. We also have to put on the spiritual armour. Thank the Lord for all these lessons.” *Lucas Tan (12 years old)*



“I like the lessons that I learned from our classes. I like also the food here, the rooms, and especially the surroundings. I learned many things in this camp. In Uncle Herbert’s class, I learned true joy, to be diligent like the ants, and to be contented with what I have. In Uncle Clement’s class I learned comfort, to trust in the Saviour only. In Aunty Jenny’s class I learned that I am on a journey (a pilgrim), and to make sure of my salvation.” *Thessa Lagapa (10 years old)*

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 12 – 18, 2010)

WED	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Tan Kian Sing) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Far Eastern Bible College will reopen with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, July 19, 9 am, Calvary Tengah BPC. Transport leaves College at 8.15 am sharp. **FEBC's Basic Theology for Everyone night courses** will resume with *Second Kings* by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew on July 19 (Mon) and *Second Corinthians* by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo on July 22 (Thu), 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/SundaySchool.htm.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, July 17 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Bro Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$15,881; RM5; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$60.55

Designated Offerings: *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$100; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$50; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$300; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$300; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC* \$800, \$450, \$250, \$150, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$18,871.55; RM5
Church Building Fund \$400, \$100, \$100
Total: S\$973,323.27; USD600

Children's Sunday School Offering: \$8.00

Verse for the Week: *He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips. Prov 20:19*

"Church wins suit to evict bible college" (The Straits Times, 1 July 2010). The College family take comfort from God's Word, "*Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee. ... Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's*" (2 Chron 20:11, 12, 15). Let us continue to praise the Lord for He is sovereign and pray for His faithful deliverance to the glory of His Name.



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(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 41

11 July 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 46
Hymn	<i>Be Still, My Soul</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>It Is Well with My Soul</i>
Doxology/Pastoral	
Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Daniel 3:13-17
Sermon	Uncompromising Faith (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i> (Lord's Supper)
Closing Hymn	
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Tioman Reflections

Dn Leong Kwok Whye

my family to attend this year's church camp in Tioman from June 14th to 18th. I would like to share some of God's blessings I had received through Dr Paul Ferguson's messages on the camp theme, which is, "Glorifying and Enjoying God Forever." After listening to the theme messages, we gladly praise and thank God for the following things.

(1) Creation



His wonderful glory is displayed in Creation. Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." The speaker helped us to see the wonders of God and His power as Psalm 19 was expounded to us. Our eyes and our ears beheld and enjoyed the beauty of God's Creation. Truly, only the Great God Almighty can create all things out of nothing by His Word (Genesis 1:1). I also thank God that the Evolution lie was exposed so that our faith might be firmly anchored on the Great Creator of Heaven and Earth.



"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)



There are many magnificent holiday destinations to enjoy the pleasures of the world but there is only one place where we can enjoy God's Word when on a holiday and that is at the True Life Annual Church Camp. I thank God that He had providentially provided for me and

Creation reflected God's perfection and our praises to God were echoed in the hymns we sang in grateful worship.



(2) Salvation

Salvation is all of God because He alone took the initiative and executed His salvation plan to perfection for His glory. We are all saved by His grace and mercy alone. There is absolutely nothing good in us. Spurgeon said it well, "If my garment of salvation requires only a stitch from me, I am lost!" Hence, we gladly render all glory and honour to Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of our faith. We saw the glory of God in our salvation, He alone is worthy of the highest praise.

(3) Worship

We were taught how to worship the Lord according to His Word. Worship is ascribing worth, reverence and respect to God according to how He has revealed Himself in Scripture. The glory of God revealed in His Words and His Works are more than sufficient for our total worship and devotion.

Greater appreciation of God's glory would enhance our understanding of worship, and teach us how to worship God, in praise and song. Godly worship is neither entertainment nor man-centred. The object of worship is always God alone. In this respect, we are reminded that there is no place for carnality in our worship of God. Carnal music that draws our focus away

from Christ to man through its unbiblical ideas, emotionalism and sentimentalism, have no place in worship, for God has commanded us to worship Him in spirit and in truth. In addition, contemporary Christian music and lyrics which are often shallow in the Word do not build up the believer's faith in Christ. The Scripture warns, "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Corinthians 15:33).

Finally, we are reminded that worship will be perfected in heaven (Revelation 5:9-14). Then all the glorified saints will worship God perfectly in the beauty of holiness. Praise be to God.



(4) Providence

We learned about the amazing glory of God in Providence. Divine Providence is God providing and sustaining His Church, His Word, His Creation by ordaining the circumstances and events that happen in this world. Providence rests upon the absolute wisdom and sovereignty of God Almighty who is controlling everything perfectly to fulfil His purpose. He is in absolute control even in the darkest hour, and He knows exactly how to handle the worst of men e.g. King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:34-35). By way of application, He knows exactly how to handle those who attack His Word and Work. Thus, we are deeply humbled by the incomprehensibility and the wisdom of

God in Providence. At the same time, the doctrine of Providence gives us great hope, joy and confidence that God will take care of all of us every time without fail (Romans 8:28). Only man fails, God never fails. God alone be the glory. Divine Providence is really wonderful. "For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen" (Romans 11:36).



(5) History

The glory of God was manifested in Church history as He intervened to chart the course of His Story. History is a record of God's intervention in time for His own purpose. Church history is a clear testimony of God's glory as He does the impossible to establish His testimony in the darkest hours from the time of Acts till today. God alone was responsible for raising up faithful servants, e.g. John Wesley, George Whitefield, Jonathan Edwards, John Sung, Timothy Tow, to lead His people back to His truth and to save His people from sin. God uses weak but faithful men for His purpose. These special ministers were not produced by men but by His Spirit who transformed and equipped them for His work. Like in Acts 2:41-47, God used these men powerfully. However, man will come and go, but God alone abides still. He is our Almighty God and our Sure Foundation in every situation. We thank the Almighty God for our hope and future as He is willing and able to change our course and lift us up to a

higher spiritual plane. To God be the glory.

(6) Hope

All our hope in Christ will be fulfilled and all things will be made right when Christ returns. In the end, the focus is Christ. He alone is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. The Man of sorrows now returns as the King of glory to the joy and praise of all true, born again believers. There will be no darkness or night in the heavenly City of Gold. Believers will be like Christ when He returns—pure and perfect in holiness. What a blessed fellowship it will be for all eternity! Everything that is good flows from the grace and goodness of God. The Christian's great assurance is faith and belief in God's infallible and inerrant Words, kept perfectly for us. We affirm that God is in control and is faithful. Only those who stand on the solid Rock of Christ will be saved from the Day of Judgment.



It is so good to hear the concluding message on the earnest hope of Christ's soon return. Oh, how our hearts yearn to behold the glory of God when He returns. What a wonderful and glorious day it will be for all who have trusted in Christ. Revelation 22:20 says, "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 19 – 25, 2010)		
MON	9.00 am	FEBC Day of Prayer
	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 602</i>
SAT	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Dr S H Tow) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism
<p>Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/Sunday_School.htm.</p> <p>Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, July 24. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For those requiring transport, please meet at Lavender MRT at 3.15 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.</p>		

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS	
General Offerings: <i>Last Lord's Day</i> \$10,707; <i>Fellowships' Collections:</i> LF \$461; YPF \$104.40 Designated Offerings: <i>Rev Jeffrey Khoo</i> \$200; <i>Rev Hien</i> \$500; <i>Bohol Mission</i> \$200; <i>Bible Witness</i> \$50; <i>Dn Lok Kwok Wah</i> \$50; <i>Jose Lagapa (FEBC)</i> \$100; <i>FEBC</i> \$2,000, \$1,000, \$540, \$500, \$500, \$100, \$100, \$50 Total General and Designated Offerings: \$17,162.40 Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$500, \$400, \$100, \$50 Total: S\$975,373.27; USD600	
Children's Sunday School Offering: \$12.00	
Verse for the Week: <i>Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness. Prov 20:20</i>	
Far Eastern Bible College reopens with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, July 19, 9 am, Shalom Chapel, Calvary Tengah BPC. Transport leaves FEBC at 8.15 am sharp. FEBC's Basic Theology for Everyone night courses will resume with <i>Second Kings</i> by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew on July 19 (Mon) and <i>Second Corinthians</i> by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo on July 22 (Thu), 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road.	
True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.	

lighted not on anyone else but Jesus, and the Father's voice was heard from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt 3:17).

All this tells us that knowing Jesus Christ is not something that we can achieve in and of ourselves. All of us because of our sin are blind towards God. We see Christ, know Christ, believe in Christ because God by His love and His Spirit has revealed Him to us, and given us the faith to believe. For example, when Jesus asked His disciples, "Whom say ye that I am?" Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Peter answered correctly, but who gave him the answer? Jesus said, "Blessed art thou,

Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven" (Matt 16:17).

A true preacher is someone who will not preach man's ideas, but God's truth that comes from God's Word. He will be totally dependent on the Holy Spirit to guide Him into the truth, and not on any intelligent man or method. He must never preach himself but only Christ and nothing else but Christ (2 Cor 4:5). Know the Holy Scriptures, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and you will be able to tell the true preacher from the false preacher. Remember this good motto: "Not I but Christ." "He must increase, and I must decrease."



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 42

18 July 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>The Lord Is King!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Proverbs 21
Hymn	<i>God Moves in a Mysterious Way</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Ladies Fellowship
Offering & Hymn	<i>Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Esther 3:1-6
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Tan Kian Sing
Sermon	Are You Seeking after Honour from Men? (Rev Tan Kian Sing)
Closing Hymn	<i>More Like the Master</i>
Benediction	Rev Tan Kian Sing

John in his three "I am ... I am not" statements:

"I am not the Christ ... I am the voice ..." (John 1:20, 23)

Jesus is the Christ. The word "Christ" is a title. It means the "Anointed". Jesus is the Anointed Prophet, Priest, and King. Although the nation of Israel had prophets, priests and kings, none of them could save mankind from sin. Only Jesus Christ the Prophet of prophets, Priest of priests, King of kings can be the Saviour of mankind. Jesus Christ is very special and unique for He is the Son of the living God who became fully man to save us from our sins.

That was why John said he was just a voice (v23), a mouthpiece of God, announcing the coming of the Christ. Know that John was merely an instrument, a mouthpiece of God. It is not the instrument that is important but the person using that instrument. The wok is nothing without the chef; the scalpel is useless without the surgeon. When we taste fine cuisine or get cured after surgery we do not say, "What a good wok!" or "What a good knife!" but "What an excellent chef!" "What an excellent doctor!" Likewise the case with John and Jesus—Jesus gets all the glory, not John, and John understood this only too well.

John served as God's herald to make straight the way of the Lord

Not I but Christ

Message by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the Chinese Worship Service of True Life BPC, 6 June 2010

False Christianity is not uncommon in these last days. The Bible warned of false Christs and false prophets (Matt 24:11, 24). How can we tell a true preacher from a false one? To answer this question, let us study the words of John the Baptist as found in John 1:19-34.

John the Baptist was no doubt a true preacher of the Gospel of Christ because of the way he saw himself and the way he regarded the Lord Jesus Christ. Consider his life-principle as found in John 3:30, "He must increase, but I must decrease". In other words, "Not I but Christ". We see this "Not I but Christ" motto of

(v23). Last year, many foreign dignitaries were in Singapore for a trade conference, and stayed at the Shangri-La, next to RELC. On our way to church that Sunday, we were stopped at the traffic light junction. The traffic police would not allow us through. They were clearing the road for these VIPs to have a smooth journey to the conference venue. John the Baptist was serving like the traffic police clearing the road for the King of kings and Lord of lords—Jesus Christ Himself. Jesus Christ is prominent, not those who clear His way.

Likewise, as servants of God and preachers of His Word, we must understand who and what we are—mere mouthpieces of God. We must always point people to Christ, never to ourselves. As Christians we must also make sure that our faith is in Christ alone and our focus is always on Him. If people were to ask you, “Why do you believe in Christ?” How would you answer? If you say, “I believe because my pastor is so capable, a Doctor of Ministry, so eloquent and so handsome, so good in this and so good in that,” then I think that either that pastor has failed or you have failed. He has failed to point you to Christ or you have failed to see Christ as the One who is truly and fully the object of your faith. As Christians, we believe not because the pastor is good, but because Christ is good and only He. True ministers of the Gospel must ensure that church members see more and more of Christ and not more and more of them, that they should have the highest view of Christ and not any other person. Believers are in church not because of the pastor, but because of their Saviour—Jesus Christ Himself. Pastors are only under-shepherds, directing people to Christ the Good Shepherd who alone is God and Saviour.

Church leaders can fall and can fail, but Jesus cannot. If one day, your pastor falls, will your faith be shaken? Your faith will not be shaken if your faith is in Christ and Christ alone. Look to Christ always. Now, I am not saying that pastors and preachers can live any way they like and sin against God. Of course as servants of God, they must live a Christlike life, and strive towards perfection or holiness in Christ. But know that for every Christian, whether clergy or laity, Christ alone is the perfect Standard and we are all accountable to Him.

“I baptise with water ... I am not worthy ...” (John 1:26, 27)

Water baptism is only external, ceremonial cleansing. It is symbolic and does not actually take away sins. Water baptism seeks to point to Holy Spirit baptism and the cleansing that comes from Christ and His blood which actually and effectively take away sins. That was why John pointed to Christ in verse 29, “Behold the Lamb of God ...” for He is the One who baptises with the Holy Spirit and with fire—“the same is he which baptiseth with the Holy Ghost” (v33).

John here confesses that he is nothing. It is Jesus Christ who is Everything—all powerful, all-knowing, all-seeing, God Himself in the flesh. John says that the One who comes after him is Someone so great, he is not even worthy to untie His shoelaces. Note that the job of taking off the sandals and washing the feet of someone was the job of a slave in those days. In other words, John was actually saying, “Jesus is so great, I’m not even worthy to be His slave.”

To serve the Lord is a great privilege.

A true servant of God will not feel that he is worthy to serve God. He will feel very unworthy. He will not think that God needs him or anything that he has, whether it be a high IQ or a high EQ, or whatever else it may be. A true servant of God is one who knows himself—where he stands before God. He will not go ahead of God, but will serve only if God allows him to. He will serve only if the Lord grants him the opportunity, calling him into ministry. God was the One who chose John and called him into ministry. John himself knew that he was able to preach and baptise only because God had called and empowered him to do so.

God’s calling of a man to pulpit ministry is something that transcends human standards. The Apostle Paul makes this clear, “For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: 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 Cor 1:26-29).

I am thankful to the Lord for calling me to full-time service. Although I currently serve as Principal and a lecturer at FEBC, I know I am there only because God allows it. I consider it a wonderful privilege. I do not deserve to serve God like this, and I know very well that God can take it away anytime. It is only by His mercies and grace that I am what I am, and can do what I am doing now, even preaching from the pulpit. It is not something I am worthy of. If one day God says, “No more, I don’t want you

anymore” or “I don’t need you to do this anymore”, I will still praise His Name and worship Him. Because everything belongs to Him, nothing belongs to me, and I am nothing, a nobody. If I am to be useful for God, I must follow the example of John—in everything “He must keep on increasing, and I must keep on decreasing” (John 3:30).

“I knew Him not ... I saw the Spirit descending ... And I saw ... the Son of God” (John 1:31-34)

We know that Mary (Jesus’ mother) and Elizabeth (John’s mother) were cousins. John was only about 6 months older than Jesus. Yet, John did not know Jesus. That is not strange because Jesus grew up in Galilee and John in Judah. Travelling in those days was not so easy or convenient (no planes, MRTs, buses, etc). So both of them did not grow up together, and until Jesus made His appearance John did not know it was Jesus and that He was the Christ.

Why is this important? This is important to show that there was no conspiracy involved. John did not use his cousin Jesus to create a new religion. The Christian religion is not something that came from man but entirely the work of God. John’s ministry and identification of the Messiah was something God had already revealed way ahead of time, by the Prophet Isaiah 700 years before (Isa 40:3). Furthermore, John’s birth and work was also announced in a miraculous way to his parents even before he was conceived in his mother’s womb (Luke 1:5-20).

The heavenly origin of Christianity is also attested by two divine Witnesses. God the Father and God the Holy Spirit both testified concerning God the Son for the Spirit descended visibly as a dove and

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (July 26 – Aug 1, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	10.00 am	Young People's Fellowship
	4.30 pm	Combined FBF & AF
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Quek Suan Yew)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road. **Young People's Fellowship** will be having an Outing to the Botanic Gardens this Sat, July 31. Please meet at the Botanic Gardens food court at 10 am. For transport, meet outside FEBC Bookroom at 9.30 am. Attire: Modest sportswear. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details. **Combined Family Bible Fellowship & Adults Fellowship Meeting** this Sat, July 31 at 4.30 pm. Venue: RELC Room 602. Message: "Building the Christian Home" by Eld J T Joseph. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$11,908; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$82.95
Designated Offerings: *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$200, \$100; *Marilyn Nanta* \$50; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$200; *FEBC* \$500, \$450, \$300, \$200, \$50, \$50, \$50
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$14,140.95
Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$530, \$200
Total: S\$977,103.27; USD600

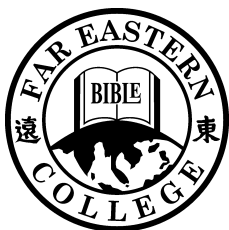
Verse for the Week: *An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed. Prov 20:21*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Joel under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.
Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 603 Senja Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

We extend our deepest condolences to Bro Johnny Heng and family on the demise of his father, Mr Heng Yee Hai (81) on July 20. Vigil service was conducted by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo on July 21 for the bereaved family.

Bro Johnny Heng and family would like to thank TLBPC choir and all church members for their presence, prayers and encouragement during his father's confinement and family's recent bereavement.

Far Eastern Bible College



We thank the Lord for a blessed day of prayer on 19 July 2010 at the sylvan grounds of Shalom Chapel, Calvary Tengah BPC, Chua Chu Kang. About 90 staff and students gathered together for a time of worship, Bible study, prayer and fellowship.

The Principal spoke from 1 Samuel 30:1-25 and applied it to the very difficult time of loss the College is now suffering, for our birthplace and home at Gilstead Road have been taken away from us. In such distressing moments, to whom do we turn? We look to the Lord like David, for "David encouraged himself in the LORD his God" (1 Sam 30:6). In this whole experience, we see the various aspects of God's will at work—His chastitive

will, His permissive will, His preceptive will, His directive will and His cooperative will. Surely "the secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law" (Deut 29:29). What a privilege it is not only to study theology but also experience theology!

We welcome four new students this semester: Eld Dr Sim Siang Kok from Calvary Pandan BPC and Brother Ho Kee How from Gethsemane BPC, both Singaporeans; and two foreign students Desnawati Ambarita from Indonesia and Jung Sin Chel from Korea.

"Why art thou cast down O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God" (Ps 43:5). We covet your prayers for FEBC.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 43

25 July 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>Standing on the Promises</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 77
Hymn	<i>Grace Greater Than Our Sin</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Gave My Life for Thee</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	Ephesians 6:1-4
Pastoral Prayer	Dr S H Tow
Sermon	The Family under Siege (Dr S H Tow)
Closing Hymn	<i>Teach Me Thy Way,</i> <i>O Lord</i>
Benediction	Dr S H Tow

Uncompromising Faith

Message by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC, 11 July 2010

What kind of faith do you have? The Bible tells us that in the end times many will deny the faith and give up on Christ. 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4 warns of an apostasy—a great falling away from the faith in the last days, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

Living in perilous times, we can expect a lot of hardship and trials on account of our faith. When we suffer persecution, would our faith hold up? When Jesus Christ comes back, "shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8). Very little!

What can we do in trying times when our faith

is sorely tested? We must remain steadfast in our faith and trust in our God and Saviour no matter what. We learn this from Daniel's three friends—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Dan 3). What did they do when a king made himself God, and demanded all to fall down and worship him? They exhibited a faith that was uncompromising, a faith we must have especially today.

Abomination of the King (Dan 3:1-7)

In this true historical testimony of these three young Jewish men in ancient Babylon, we learn what it means to be loyal to the one living and true God, and be obedient to the Holy Scriptures. In Daniel 3:1-7, we find King Nebuchadnezzar setting up a golden image of himself and commanding all his subjects to bow to this golden image. Verse 1 tells us that the golden image was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits wide. 1 cubit is 1½ feet. So this statue was huge—90 feet tall and 9 feet broad. Nebuchadnezzar threatened all who would not fall down to worship his image with death in the fiery furnace (v6).

What would you do if you were in the shoes of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? Would you find some excuse in your mind how you can be both right with God and with man? I trust not for Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the

other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Matt 6:24). What we should do in such times is to remember the Scriptures, know the commandments of God and obey them. And the commandments of God are clear with regard to idolatry. The first two commandments of the Decalogue say, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God” (Exod 20:3-5).

The decision that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had to make was a very clear and straightforward one. They cannot bow to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar no matter what. These three godly young men had already determined in their hearts to fear God and not man. They had the courage to face the death penalty for their faith. No compromise!

Accusation of the Enemies (Dan 3:8-12)

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were appointed administrative officers of Nebuchadnezzar in the capital city of Babylon itself (Dan 2:49). There was probably a whole lot of jealousy among Nebuchadnezzar’s officers that these Jews should be promoted so fast, occupying such high positions because of Daniel’s wisdom in the interpretation of the king’s dream about 15 years ago. For 15 years they have been trying to get rid of them, but could find no headway whatsoever.

Daniel’s three friends must have been outstanding servants of the court. No doubt their exemplary conduct and excellent service were difficult for the enemies to attack. But now, they saw their chance to destroy them when they refused to participate in the worship of the king’s image. They were quick to accuse Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego before the king

saying, “There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up” (v12).

This is also what will happen in the last days. Jesus said, “They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.” (John 16:2). We at the Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC) are seeing the prophetic warning of Christ fulfilled in our very own eyes and by our very own experiences. FEBC is teaching the truth that the Bible was not only 100% perfect in the past, it is also 100% perfect today without any mistake because God has singlehandedly and supernaturally preserved His inspired words as He promised (Ps 12:6, 7; Matt 5:18). Those who persecute FEBC sincerely think that they are doing God a favour by getting rid of FEBC. They call the biblical doctrine of Verbal Plenary Preservation (VPP) a “deviant doctrine” and “heresy”. This is a malicious charge and a false accusation. But we testify like the Apostle Paul, “But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets” (Acts 24:14). We do not doubt the truth despite what men might say against it because our faith is grounded on God’s forever infallible and inerrant Words (Matt 24:35) and in Christ our Saviour who is the same, yesterday, today and forever (Heb 13:8).

What is God’s word of comfort to persecuted saints? Jesus in His beatitudes said, “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in

heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.” (Matt 5:10-12).

Although we are persecuted by our enemies, we must love them nonetheless. Jesus commanded us to love our neighbours as ourselves (Matt 22:39) and our neighbours include our enemies—those who hate us. People might try to hurt and harm us because of our faith, but as Christians we must never do anything that would hurt and harm others.

Annihilation by Fiery Furnace (Dan 3:13-30)

Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego into the fiery furnace if they did not bow to his image. The three friends did not waver, but bravely stood their ground and would not deny the faith. Nebuchadnezzar even sneered at their God, “and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?” (v15). But they answered and said to him, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter” (v16). In other words, “We are not worried, nor do we think it necessary to reply to you.” No matter what, they would never do as the king had asked, and neither would the king excuse them but put them to death.

The faith of the three friends was such that if they be thrown into the fire, “our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up” (vv17, 18). They had the faith of Esther, “If I perish, I perish” (Esth 4:16), and of Job, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him” (Job 13:15).

FEBC today goes through a fiery test. Almost everything is taken away from us because we would not disavow the truth that the Bible today is 100% perfect without any mistake.

Life Church says, “If you will undertake

not to teach VPP, we will let you stay.” The temptation to yield or compromise is great. If FEBC gives up the truth that the Bible is presently infallible and inerrant, her sole and supreme authority of faith and practice, she would have lost her reason to exist. We would have no perfect Bible to teach from, and we would have taken the Dean Burgon Oath in vain. We would have sinned.

All we can say is that the Lord can deliver us, and preserve our existence in our birthplace and home at Gilstead Road, but if He does not, let it be known that we will never yield to the unbelieving spirit of the age, nor bow to the scholarly idolatry of liberal theology.

I thank the Lord for the faith of the saints who love FEBC for the truth that she teaches. I have received many letters of encouragement in support of VPP and FEBC, and the faith expressed must have ascended to God’s throne as “an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God” (Phil 4:18).

The Lord did deliver Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the fiery furnace. God showed His glory and His power. No one can fight God and win. Nebuchadnezzar himself praised God and said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king’s word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.” (vv28, 29).

May the Lord deliver us, but if He does not, we will never compromise our faith. We will never kowtow to the god of liberalism and modernism. We will never deny the integrity of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour and the veracity of His forever infallible and inerrant Words.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 2 – 8, 2010)		
MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Aug 4 at 7.45 pm in the home of Aik Kean and Su Yuan. Address: Blk 311 Jurong East St 32, #10-325 (Lift Lobby C). Tel: 97369215. Message: "The Faith of Moses" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.		
Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting this Fri, Aug 6 at 8 pm in the home of Mr and Mrs Jeffrey Kho Peng Soon. Address: Blk 838 Yishun St. 81, #05-308 Singapore 760838. Tel: 68518067.		

speakers" nowadays have much confidence in the flesh, in their credentials and scholarship, thinking that they are qualified to preach God's Word employing their proud textual-critical methods! They are not in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling like the apostle Paul! But this is the truth, "*the flesh profiteth nothing.*" Many claim that they are filled with the Holy Spirit in their worship, but they still trust in themselves, in their ability, and in worldly means and ways! They are not truly submissive to the control and guidance of the Holy Spirit, then how can they be the true worshippers of God? How about you and me?

Conclusion

God is still seeking true worshippers to worship Him in spirit and in truth. Are you and I true worshippers of God? We must make sure that we are truly born again and that our worship is Christ-centred and Word-centred worship through the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We are to humble ourselves, trust in and submit to the Lord and His Word alone, and magnify the Lord and His Word alone. Amen.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: \$13,378
Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Errol Stone* \$100; *Amos Go's Church* \$150; *BCEA Tanzania* \$6,000; *Gethsemane Care Ministry* \$5,000; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$100; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$100, \$100; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$50; *FEBC* \$500, \$470, \$300, \$200, \$50
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$26,698
Church Building Fund \$500, \$500, \$300, \$200, \$200 **Total:** S\$978,803.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee. Prov 20:22*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road. **Adults' Sunday School Class** is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

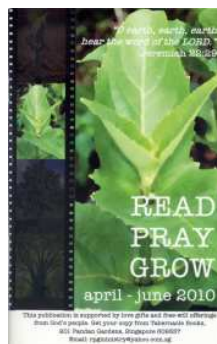
Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Aug 7 at 3.30 pm. Message: "What is Sin?" by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.

Gratitude

Dear friends in Christ:

Greetings in the Name of our Messiah Jesus.



I want to say a hearty thanks for the excellent April-June 2010 RPG prepared by Rev. Hien Nguyen of Brisbane. His studies are extremely well done

and have brought great praise to the Lord in our devotional readings. Kindly convey our deep thanks to Pastor Nguyen.

Through the kindness of Dr. S.H. Tow, the RPG comes regularly to our home.

Every blessing until the Lord comes.

Through His infinite mercy,

Raymond H. Saxe, Th.D; D.Miss.

Ps. 145



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 44

1 August 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	<i>How Great Thou Art!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 145
Hymn	<i>I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord!</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Church Choir
Offering & Hymn	<i>'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Charles Kan
Scripture Text	Psalms 4
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Sermon	Dwelling in Safety (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	<i>A Shelter in the Time of Storm</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

membership and wealth, believing that God has blessed their churches so much. But they do not care about God's Word, Biblical doctrines or Bible versions. Many have an ecumenical mindset and think that all religions are good, all Bible versions are good, and all worshippers are good. But is it true that all worshippers are true worshippers of God? Definitely not!

This world is full of deceits and lies. Why? It is because "*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*" (Jer 17:9), and because "*the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world*" (Rev 12:9). Satan is a deceiver, "*a liar, and the father of it*" (John 8:44). He even disguises himself as "*an angel of light*" (2 Cor 11:14), with a very nice and bright appearance but full of deceits and temptations to turn many people away from the living and true God and from God's Word and God's Truth.

Therefore, you and I must be cautious while living in this deceitful world with "*false prophets ... false Christs*" (Matt 24:24), "*false witnesses*" (Acts 6:13), "*false apostles, deceitful workers*" (2 Cor 11:13); "*false accusers*" (2 Tim 3:3; Titus 2:3), "*false teachers*" (2 Peter 2:1), "*false brethren*" (2 Cor 11:26; Gal 2:4); and even false worshippers. How can you and I detect and discern truth from falsehood, lies and deception so that we may not be deceived? We must personally know

True Worshippers

Message by the Rev Nguyen Gia Hien at True Life BPC on the Lord's Day, 20 June 2010

Everyone wants to be regarded and respected as a true and honest person. No one wants to be labelled a liar, a hypocrite, a false Christian, a false believer, a false worshipper, a false pastor, a false teacher, or a false prophet. No one wants to follow a false leader, a false religion, a false doctrine, a false belief, or a false philosophy. But sadly, we still see many who are not aware that they are deceiving themselves by thinking that they are right when actually they are not.

Before we left Brisbane for Singapore, we received a tract in our mail box with an invitation to attend a Gospel meeting organized by the Church of Christ. They claim that only the Church of Christ is the true church in this world. Is it true? Absolute not! Many attend charismatic churches and are proud of their church growth with big

the Lord and His Word and be rooted and grounded in Him and His Word and walk closely with Him in His Light, and the Holy Spirit will help us discern and keep us from being deceived.

We thank God for raising our late beloved founding Pastor, Rev Dr Timothy Tow, to establish Life Bible-Presbyterian Church over 50 years ago and the Far Eastern Bible College nearly 50 years ago. However, Life Church, which he had founded with much love, labour and sacrifice, rejected him and the doctrine of the verbal and plenary preservation of the Holy Scriptures. So he left and founded True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. We thank God for having preserved, guided and blessed True Life for nearly 7 years. We thank God for having used her to support FEBC and other like-minded Bible colleges and churches, including Brisbane BPC. We really want to be true worshippers of God, who truly believe in Him and truly believe in His Word. Our Lord Jesus Christ says to the Samaritan woman, *“Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth”* (John 4:21-24). Do you and I truly believe in the Lord Jesus’ words, and are we the true worshippers of God? How can we know that we or others are the true worshippers of God? As God is Spirit and He is seeking true worshippers, we must worship Him in spirit and in truth. There is no other way.

Worship God the Father in Spirit

Unsaved people are *“dead in trespasses and sins”* (Eph 2:1). They are spiritually dead, so they cannot truly know, love and worship God in spirit. They cannot cry unto God, *“Abba, Father”* (Rom 8:15) meaningfully. We can only worship the Father in spirit without any idols, statues or images if we are born

again to be His children. Our Lord Jesus confirms that if we are not born again by the Holy Spirit and by God’s Word, we can neither see the kingdom of God nor enter into it (John 3:3, 5), Jesus says, *“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit”* (John 3:6). Dear brethren, please make sure that you are truly born again and are God’s true children. Our Lord Jesus always loves you and stands and knocks at the door of your heart, *“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”* (Rev 3:20). Do you happily welcome Him to be the Lord and Saviour of your heart and life? Do you and I truly thirst for God and His Word, truly know Him and know His Word, truly live by Him and by His Word, truly love Him and keep His Word, truly trust in Him and in His Word, truly fear Him and honour His Word? If we are not truly born again, we can never be the true worshippers of God.

Worship God the Father in Truth

Many simply think worshipping God the Father in truth means worshipping Him sincerely. That’s true, but not enough as many are “sincerely” worshipping their false “gods” and following false leaders and false doctrines. Then what does it mean to worship God the Father in truth?

Christ-Centred Worship

Our Lord Jesus says, *“I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”* (John 14:6) and *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them”* (Matt 18:20). God is holy, righteous and glorious. Then how can we sinners stand before Him and worship Him worthily, and how can our worship be acceptable unto Him? The Bible tells about the worship and offerings of Cain and Abel in Genesis chapter 4. God accepted Abel and his blood-shedding sacrifice but rejected Cain and his offerings although he offered the best of the fruit of his labour. Why? Because he trusted in himself and his merits and did not offer a blood-shedding

sacrifice for his sins. That Sacrifice is the Lamb of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, who came to die for our sins and rise again for our justification (John 1:29; Rom 4:25; Rev 13:8). Without the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we ourselves and our worship will surely be rejected. Then we must humble ourselves and promote the Saviour Jesus Christ alone. When we gather together to worship God, we are to humbly look unto our Saviour Jesus Christ and trust in His Name and His merits so that our worship may be acceptable unto God, *“to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ”* (1 Pet 2:5). Many say to Jesus, *“Lord, Lord,”* but they still just do what they like regardless of His will and Word! They are not truly submissive to the Lord and His Lordship, then how can they be the true worshippers of God? How about you and me?

A true worship must be a Christ-centred worship. Christ must be glorified alone, not anyone else. Christ must be preached, not anyone else, *“we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord”* (2 Cor 4:5; 1 Cor 2:2), and Christ alone must increase (John 3:30).

Word-Centred Worship

Next, we are to worship the Father according to His Word, the Holy Bible. The Lord Jesus says, *“Thy Word is truth”* (John 17:17). God’s Word must be the foundation of our worship, our faith, our doctrines, our practices, our preaching, our teaching etc. Only when we worship the Father according to His word will He accept our worship. David worshipped God properly, saying, *“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”* (Ps 138:2). God’s Word must be preached, taught and magnified in our worship. Our worship must be Word-centred or Bible-centred worship. Many say that they believe in God’s perfect Word and even preach God’s Word, but they do not truly submit to the authority of God’s Word to the jot and tittle! Are they true worshippers of God? Definitely not! How about you and me?

Sadly, nowadays many “Christians” do not magnify God’s Word, but blindly follow “scholars” or “scholarly leaders” who criticise,

question and cast doubt on God’s Word! They like to hear quotations from “great men” and interesting stories rather than God’s Word! However, it is only God’s Word that can regenerate and sanctify the believers!

We worship God according to God’s Word not only in our preaching and teaching but also in singing and praising God with reverence and thanksgiving (Col 3:16) without being *“conformed to this world”* (Rom 12:2). Disappointedly, many churches are drawing many young people to their churches by entertaining them with contemporary music and performances regardless of the worldly music and unbiblical doctrines of the lyrics! But God is seeking the true worshippers who *“worship the Father in spirit and in truth”* and who are truly submissive to the authority of His Word!

Spirit-Led Worship

The Holy Spirit which is *“the Spirit is truth”* (1 John 5:6) and *“the Spirit of Truth”* (John 14:16-17) convicts us of our sins (John 16:8), teaches us all things (John 14:25) guides us into all truth (John 16:13), helps us understand spiritual things (1 Cor 2:10-16), regenerates us and sanctifies us (John 3:5; Rom 15:16) and helps us worship God and serve Him properly, *“For we are the circumcision, which worship God in spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have not confidence in the flesh”* (Phil 3:3). Our Lord Jesus confirms, *“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life”* (John 6:63). Without the presence of the Holy Spirit, our worship, our prayers and our preaching and our singing of hymns are dead! It is the Holy Spirit who teaches us to pray, tunes our hearts to sing praises to the Lord meaningfully, illumines our hearts to understand the message and be edified. Realising this truth, we shall humble ourselves always and trust in the Holy Spirit, and not in ourselves nor our strength nor our ability. Paul shared his experience, *“I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling”* (1 Cor 2:3). Many “great

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 9 – 15, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	No FEBC Night Class
WED	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	Second Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Wee Eng Moh) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

BPC 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving @ Calvary Pandan, Sunset hour, Oct 24, 2010. Register your attendance with Wendy Teng at the book table after service. Send testimonies for the commemorative magazine to Dr SH Tow (calbp@pacific.net.sg) by Aug 31, 2010.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Aug 14 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Why is Creation Important?" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For transport, please meet at FEBC at 2.50 pm or at Lavender MRT at 3.10 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$11,891; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF \$709.40

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Baraka BPC* \$800; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$1,000, \$400, \$100; *Amos Go's Goat Farm* \$100; *Bible Witness* \$50; *Kenneth Wong* \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$100; *Clement Chew (FEBC)* \$100; *Ibrahim (FEBC)* \$100; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$300, \$100; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$300, \$200; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$8,000, \$100; *FEBC* \$1,300, \$1,000, \$150, \$100, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$27,480.40

Church Building Fund \$200 **Total:** S\$979,003.27; USD600

Verse for the Week: *Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good. Prov 20:23*

BTFE Thu night class, 7.30-9.30 pm is held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Genocide Through the Ages" by Dr SH Tow.

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr and Mrs Timothy Tan for God's gift of a newborn son, Joshua Tan (Chen Junjie), born on Aug 2, 2010.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 45

8 August 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Crown Him with Many Crowns</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Romans 13
Hymn	<i>Singapura</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>Trust and Obey</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Matthew 5:17-20
Sermon	Jesus and the Law (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>It Is a Thing Most Wonderful</i> (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

but righteously, knowing that our God is Sovereign. God is still on the throne, and He is still in control. "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).

In such difficult days and hard times, we must be a people of faith. Why? Because "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). It is easy to have faith when times are good, but the real test comes when times are bad. Will you still believe and trust in the Lord in times of sickness and suffering, poverty and want, persecution and affliction?

So what is faith? Through Abraham's example, we learn that faith is:

Taking God at His Word

"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went" (Heb 11:8).

We read of the call of Abraham in Genesis 12:1, "Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee." God simply told Abraham to move to a place He has prepared for him without telling him precisely where. Abraham simply

What is Faith?

Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship, Calvary Pandan BPC, 11 July 2010

In *The Straits Times* of 1 July 2010, there was an article titled, "Church wins suit to evict bible college." The Church is a Church we know very well—Life Bible-Presbyterian Church, the very first Bible-Presbyterian Church (BPC), and the College is none other than the Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC), founded by the late founding pastor of Life BPC himself—the Rev Dr Timothy Tow by God's grace and calling.

Like me you must have been greatly saddened by the news. We all know that 9A Gilstead Road is our birthplace, and our home for nearly five decades, the Lord's inheritance not only for Life BPC but also FEBC.

I trust we have not reacted to the news sinfully



Presentation of Praise Items by Ladies Fellowship at True Life BPC's Worship Service, 18 July 2010

“obeyed, and he went out, not knowing whither he went.” This is faith! Faith is obedience. It is simply taking God at His Word. Dr Raymond Saxe put it this way, “God says it, that settles it, I believe it.” Why do we believe that the whole universe was created out of nothing by divine fiat in 6 literal 24-hour days? We were not there to see it happen, but we believe this was what exactly happened because God said so in His infallible and inerrant Word. It is by faith in God’s Word that we see and understand this truth about origins. Hebrews 11:3 says, “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.” We believe in order to see, not see in order to believe.

Abraham simply obeyed what God told him to do. He trusted in the Word of the Lord to him without any doubt, without any question. His faith was all the more remarkable if we consider that Ur of the Chaldees where he resided was one of the great centres of urban civilisation in the ancient Near East. It was not some poor, obscure kampong or village, but a very wealthy and luxurious city with walls 30 feet high, and brick houses two stories high equipped with piped water and flushing toilets. It could be deemed the New York or London of the ancient world. Abraham was not a poor man either. He was a man of means and considerable wealth. In Genesis 12:16, we are told that Abraham had “sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels,” and in Genesis 14:14 he had trained servants, 318 of them. He could be considered the equivalent of a CEO or GM today. Thus when God told Abraham to move, Abraham had everything to lose. Humanly speaking, it was a very risky move. But Abraham’s faith was such that he believed God. He knew His God to be completely truthful and faithful.

God knows what He is doing. He is all

that He says He is, all-powerful, all-knowing, all-present, and can be trusted fully without question. That is why we believe that God’s Word is not only perfectly inspired, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Tim 3:16), but also perfectly preserved, “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). 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.” God’s Word is very clear on the twin doctrines of Verbal Plenary Inspiration (VPI) and Verbal Plenary Preservation (VPP), and the logic of faith leads us to the inspired and preserved Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek words on which good old versions like the Authorised Version (KJV) are based, and not the modern versions which are based on corrupt texts with many verses and words scissored out.

Willing to Suffer for Christ

“By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise” (Heb 11:9). As already noted, Abraham, humanly speaking, had everything to lose if he moved out of Ur, for he was already a well-established and wealthy man, living in comfort and luxury. It was not a case of rags to riches, but potentially riches to rags. As a matter of fact, Abraham did to a certain extent become poor for he found himself in a strange country and dwelt in tents. He became a nomad, dwelling from place to place in temporary shelters.

These were not conditions of security or certainty that all of us would like to have when setting up our homes. FEBC for instance is now without a home. We are now judged as “trespassers” of what is truly our birthplace and home. Where can we go, what will happen to us? We may have

many questions, and many worries, but one thing is for sure, like Abraham we must never doubt the veracity of God’s Word and the integrity of God’s Person. Abraham was prepared to suffer in a strange country without any permanent dwelling for the sake of Christ. The blessings promised to him might not have come immediately, but God was nevertheless true. Faith means we have to wait on the Lord and continue to hope in Him. He has His own time and will to fulfill His holy purposes in our lives.

If you ask me for an example of a man of faith who was willing to suffer for Christ at the drop of a hat, it would be the late Rev Dr Timothy Tow, for after 53 years serving in the Church the Lord had used him to found, he left all of that behind, and with almost nothing but faith in the Lord, he started a new Church called True Life BPC. He did this because he sincerely believed that God had perfectly preserved His inspired, infallible and inerrant words and these words were the very Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek words underlying the KJV. He could not deny the faith, often quoting 2 Corinthians 13:8, “For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.” Just before the Lord took him home, I remember asking him a question: “Pastor, do you regret holding so strongly to VPP?” His immediate reply was, “No!” His faith could not be shaken despite the persecution and sufferings he went through.

Desiring for Spiritual and Not Material Wealth

“For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. ... These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had

opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city” (Heb 11:10, 13-16).

When Abraham obeyed God to leave his home country to a place that He would show him, he was not thinking of material wealth or riches—more and bigger houses, more oxen, sheep and asses, more servants, more gold or silver, more power and prestige. The Bible tells us he was looking “for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” In other words, he was looking for a city that was eternal and lasting, a city designed and built by God Himself. He had no confidence in man, neither was he interested in what this world could offer. His only confidence was in God and His power, and all he desired was for heavenly or spiritual things that God had promised him.

What were these heavenly things that Abraham desired after? Surely, it must be the promise of salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ—the Messiah to come. Our Lord gave this insight concerning Abraham’s faith in John 8:56, “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.” Abraham by faith understood and believed all the prophecies and promises that God gave him, and he saw them being fulfilled in Christ who came 2000 years later.

Do you have this kind of a faith, a faith that is spiritual and not material? Many today have a false faith because of a pseudo gospel—the prosperity gospel—promoted in many a megachurch where wealth and success are the measure of God’s approval. Do you want to be a true disciple of Christ? Then banish all thoughts of selfish ambition and worldly success, and follow the Cross-carrying principle of Christ Jesus who said, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me” (Matt 16:24).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 16 – 22, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Prabhudas Koshy) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road. **Adults Fellowship Meeting** this Sat, Aug 21 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Aug 21 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Why Tithe and Give to God?" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session next Sunday, Aug 22 at Bukit Panjang, 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$11,020; *Fellowships' Collections:* LF \$387; YPF \$118.90

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Errol Stone* \$50; *Rev Hien* \$250, \$50; *Marilyn Nanta* \$250; *Gethsemane Bohol Mission* \$200; *Bible Witness* \$50; *Mission* \$1,500; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$50; *FEBC* \$2,000, \$1,000, \$1,000, \$1,000, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$19,225.90
Church Building Fund \$4,350, \$500, \$200, \$100, \$50
Total: \$984,203.27 + \$863 (USD600) = \$985,066.27

Verse for the Week: *Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way? Prov 20:24*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Call of Moses" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew.

BPC 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving @ Calvary Pandan, Sunset hour, Oct 24, 2010. Register your attendance with Wendy Teng at the book table after service. Send testimonies for the commemorative magazine to Dr SH Tow (calbp@pacific.net.sg) by Aug 31, 2010.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, *Oct 3*, 12.30 pm. The subsidised rate for members and regular worshippers is \$15 per person including children who sit at the big tables and \$5 for children buffet (age 11 years and under). For non-members, it is \$25. Come and praise the Lord on this happy occasion.

"I Truly Thank God for FEBC"

Dear Dr Khoo

I greet you in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Lord moved my heart to set aside this humble love gift for the Lord's work. It's a token of God's mercy, grace and love in my life. Truly He is faithful to see me through day by day. With joy and thanksgiving, I kindly ask of your kind assistance to channel this humble amount as the Lord leads to the needs of FEBC. I truly thank God for FEBC for being a blessing to me and building me in the faith. Truly it is the Lord and His working in my heart that encourages and strengthens me to delight in His Word and Ways. Psalm 16:11, "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."

I am remembering FEBC in my prayers. I pray that these verses would encourage you in the Lord to be of good cheer and courage. "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour" (Isa 43:1-3). "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert" (Isa 43:19).

In my prayers

[Signed]

30 July 2010



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 46

15 August 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship
Opening Hymn

Eld J T Joseph
My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

Invocation/Gloria Patri
Responsive Reading
Hymn
Announcements
Offering & Hymn

Psalms 27
Only Believe

Doxology/Prayer
Scripture Text
Pastoral Prayer
Sermon

I Know Whom I Have Believed

Eld J T Joseph
Genesis 16:1-16
Rev Wee Eng Moh
Tragedy of a Double Mind

(Rev Wee Eng Moh)

Closing Hymn
Benediction

Hiding in Thee

Rev Wee Eng Moh

Spirituality, Scholarship, and Service



movement in Southeast Asia.

The Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC) is one of the oldest Bible colleges in Singapore, founded in 1962 by the late Rev Dr Timothy Tow, who also founded the Bible-Presbyterian Church

FEBC endeavours to provide a comprehensive biblical-theological education (Acts 20:27) that is based solely on the forever infallible and inerrant Scriptures (Ps 12:6-7, Matt 5:18, 2 Tim 3:16-17) so as to equip both Christian men and women for effective spiritual leadership and service (2 Tim 2:2, 2:15) in the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Matt 28:18-20), and in the defence of the Reformed Faith (Phil 2:16, Titus 1:9, Jude 3).

The most important asset of the College is her teaching faculty. FEBC has a total of nine spiritually and academically qualified lecturers in Biblical Studies, Systematic Theology, Church History, Pastoral Ministry, and Christian Education, and six tutors in Greek, English, Music, and Information Technology. The FEBC lecturers are themselves graduates of the College. As such, they understand well the vision and mission of the College, and can be trusted to serve as effective teachers and mentors to our students. Know that FEBC lecturers are also practitioners of the faith in their respective churches. Being skilled in practical ministry themselves, they are no "ivory tower" professors.

FEBC is not only a Biblical-theological institution of higher learning and spiritual training, it is also a charitable trust. As a bona fide non-profit institution, every effort is made by the College to keep student fees to the barest minimum. Tuition is highly subsidised, and needy but worthy students often enjoy a full-tuition scholarship. This is only possible because of the loving support of God's people through their freewill offerings.

FEBC seeks born again believers called of God to a life of committed and consecrated Christian service to be students of the College (Luke 9:23-24). As such, being a student in FEBC is not a personal right but a God-given privilege.

Are you willing to serve the Lord

Jesus Christ unconditionally and unreservedly, and submit yourself fully to the academic rigour, spiritual discipline, and theological excellence of this College? If yes, then we welcome you warmly to study with us. Those looking for an easy route towards their theological degree are hereby advised to look elsewhere. "There is no royal road to learning."

The key to theological and ministerial success is, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15).

Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matt 16:24).

VPP Is Not a New Doctrine

Verbal Plenary Preservation (VPP) is not a new doctrine. What does VPP mean? "Verbal" means "every word to the jot and tittle" (Ps 12:6-7, Matt 5:18). "Plenary" means "the Scripture as a whole with all the words intact" (Matt 24:35, 1 Pet 1:25). So VPP means *the whole of Scripture with all its words even to the jot and tittle is perfectly preserved by God without any loss of the original words, prophecies, promises, commandments, doctrines, and truths, not only in the words of salvation, but also the words of history, geography and science. Every book, every chapter, every verse, every word, every syllable, every letter is infallibly preserved by the Lord Himself to the last iota.*

What and where are the preserved words of God today? They are the inspired OT Hebrew words and NT Greek words the prophets, the apostles, the church fathers, the reformers used which are today found in the long and continuously abiding and preserved words underlying the Reformation Bibles best represented by the time-tested and time-honoured KJV, and **NOT** in the corrupted Alexandrian manuscripts and critical Westcott-Hort texts underlying the liberal, ecumenical, and neo-evangelical modern English versions.

Historically speaking, VPP is:

(1) **As old as the Bible-Presbyterian Church (BPC) and the Far Eastern Bible College (FEBC).** The KJV was the English Bible of both institutions since the beginning (1950/1962). The KJV was upheld as the Word of God. VPP simply underscores the infallibility and inerrancy of the original language Scriptures underlying the KJV. VPP is both logical and consistent with the KJV as used and highly regarded by the BPC and FEBC since their founding.


(2) **As old as the Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF)** and its Catechisms (1643-8) which is subscribed to by all BPCs and FEBC. The original language Scriptures that the WCF upheld as authoritative and authentic (1.8) must necessarily be the traditional Hebrew Masoretic Text and Greek Textus Receptus, ie the very Scriptures underlying the good old KJV (1611) which they used and quoted from, and not the Corrupt Westcott and Hort Text (1881) which became the underlying Text of the new and modern English versions today.

(3) **As old as the Bible itself** since God had promised to preserve His inspired words in Psalm 12:6-7, Matthew 5:18, 24:35 etc "by His singular care and providence." The Lord is true and faithful to His promise and cannot fail.

FEBC Not a New College

Why was FEBC founded? It was founded to defend the Bible. *"A Bible College that is to be called a Bible College is called to defend the Bible! May the proposed Far Eastern Bible College neglect not this part of the holy ministry that is committed to her charge"* (Initial Statement of the 3-man Committee, 1960). VPP defends the Bible that is in our hands today. FEBC is not a "new college" and VPP is not a "new doctrine." FEBC's directors are duty bound to protect the charitable purpose trust that is FEBC's. "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set" (Prov 22:28). May the Lord, in our appeal, magnify His Word above all His Name (Ps 138:2). Please pray for FEBC.

MILLIONS HAVE FOUND IT SO



THE WORD OF GOD

IS CHARACTERIZED AS BEING:

1. **PERFECT**, *i.e., COMPLETE AND WITHOUT FAULT,*
2. **SURE**, *i.e., NOT VARIABLE,*
3. **RIGHT**, *i.e., STRAIGHT,*
4. **PURE**, *i.e., WITHOUT ALLOY*
5. **CLEAN**, *i.e., WITHOUT IMPURITIES,*
6. **TRUE**, *i.e., UTTERLY DEPENDABLE,*

— PSALM 19: 7-9

"THY RIGHTEOUSNESS IS AN EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THY LAW IS THE TRUTH." *— PSALM 119: 142*

ILLUSTRATION BY JACK HAMAN

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart:
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever:
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

— Psalm 19:7-9

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 23 – 29, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Dr S H Tow) Chinese Service (Tanlin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, Aug 28. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For those requiring transport, please meet at FEBC at 3.30 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Aug 28 at Mr and Mrs Bernard Tee's home, 11 Greenwood Lane, Singapore 287001, 5.30 pm. Tel: 96780319. Message: "Building up children in the fear of the Lord" by Rev Park Seung Kyu. Contact Ng Choon Seng at 97669005 for details.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 607 Senja Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$9,641; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$123.40

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$100; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$1,100, \$300, \$100, \$50; *Berean BPC* \$50; *Bible Witness* \$50; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$100, \$50; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$50; *FEBC Dining Club* \$50; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$50; *FEBC* \$540, \$400, \$100
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$13,104.40
Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$700, \$50 **Total:** \$986,816.27

Verse for the Week: *It is a snare to the man who devoureth that which is holy, and after vows to make inquiry. Prov 20:25*

Sunday School Teachers' Lunch will be held next Sunday, Aug 29 at the Pan Pacific Orchard, 12.45 pm.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Exodus" by Dr S H Tow.

BPC 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving @ Calvary Pandan, Sunset hour, Oct 24, 2010. Register your attendance with Wendy Teng at the book table after service. Send testimonies for the commemorative magazine to Dr SH Tow (calbp@pacific.net.sg) by Aug 31, 2010.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, Oct 3, 12.30 pm. The subsidised rate for members and regular worshippers is \$15 per person including children who sit at the big tables and \$5 for children buffet (age 11 years and under). For non-members, it is \$25. Come and praise the Lord on this happy occasion.

Our deepest condolences to Loong Chiew Yen and family on the homegoing of her father on Aug 19. "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints" (Ps 116:15).



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 47

22 August 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 92
Hymn	<i>It Is Good to Sing Thy Praises</i>

Announcements	
Ministry of Music	The Evangelistic Band
Offering & Hymn	<i>Make Me a Blessing</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	John 17:17
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
Sermon	Our Lord's Prayer for Our Sanctification (Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy)
Closing Hymn	<i>Sitting at the Feet of Jesus</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

The Low Ways of Christ Are the High Ways of God

Sermon by the Rev Jeffrey Khoo at the Chinese Service of True Life BPC, 1 August 2010

Introduction

Today in Singapore, the "Megachurches" have become very prominent. The big four are City Harvest (23000), New Creation (16000), Lighthouse Evangelism (12000), and Faith Community Baptist (10000). In a matter of 20 to 30 years, they are able to boast a 5-digit membership. How did they grow so huge so quickly? It is the philosophy of ministry they adopt and the type of gospel they preach, which is utterly man-centred and man-exalting. The "worship" and the "gospel" are packaged in a worldly and carnal way that exalts the ego and excites the flesh. The worship is no different from a pop or rock concert,

and the prosperity, health-wealth gospel is no different from what many New Age think-big and feel-good motivational gurus dish out to a gullible audience. These Megachurches pattern themselves after the Multinationals, and their "Pastors" function as "CEOs". One sees very much the world in the church; "I desire heaven, but I want the world as well." The Megachurches offer a very attractive two-in-one bargain!

What should be our philosophy of ministry according to Scripture? We learn from John 3:30 that our philosophy of ministry must first and foremost be Christ-centred and Christ-glorifying—"He must increase, but I must decrease." The Lord Jesus Christ Himself sets for us the supreme example of what it means to serve in a humble and lowly way that would bring glory and praise to God the Father. Jesus said in John 17:4 that He had glorified His Father on earth, and that He came not to be served, but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many (Matt 20:28, Mark 10:45).

How did Jesus minister in a godly and not worldly manner? We see Him ministering in a godly manner in these three ways:

Not Centralisation but Decentralisation (John 4:1-3)

This is one of the well-known sayings of our late founding pastor, the Rev Dr Timothy Tow, "Decentralisation, not centralisation, is the key to Church growth." Here, we



Combined Family Bible Fellowship & Adults Fellowship Meeting, July 31, 2010

are told that Jesus “made and baptized more disciples than John” (John 4:1). Was Jesus trying to compete with John? Was Jesus trying to show off that He was indeed much better and greater than John? Of course not for in the next verse, it was quickly clarified that it was not Jesus who baptised but His disciples. The Apostle John made sure that this was made clear to all his readers, that it was not about who had the bigger following or tallest building. Kong Hee of City Harvest is well known for having built a \$48 million modern-looking, titanium-clad skyscraper of a church with a 12m-high, 800kg-heavy stainless steel cross which he boasts as the largest in the world. Joseph Prince in partnership with Capitaland is going to build a new \$1 billion shopping mall cum church complex just next to the Buona Vista MRT. You may say, “Wow, what a success story! The Church is making it big time!”

Is such vertical growth the way of Christ? In John 4, the Lord, seeing more and more coming to Him for baptism, could have thought that Judea where all the action was was the place to do His work. His work would become more prominent and powerful with the growing number of disciples. Jerusalem the capital city and Judah the royal tribe of Israel were located in Judea, the centre of politics and religion. There was no better place to make a name for Himself and His religion. He could have centred His ministry and grew His church in Jerusalem, Judah and Judea. But the way of our Lord was not a Tower-of-Babel centralisation but a Go-and-make-disciples decentralisation!

Jesus was not interested in building a tower of Babel but in fulfilling the Great Commission, “ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). That was the policy of our late founding pastor, the father of the Bible-Presbyterian movement in Southeast Asia. He was never interested in building God’s kingdom vertically but horizontally, encouraging his church members to take the

step of faith and start new BPCs in other parts of Singapore in order to spread the gospel. The BPC is not one big Megachurch with a claim to fame but over 40 BPCs scattered all over Singapore, each one having their own pastors, and doing their bit to shine the gospel light; “you in your small corner, and I in mine.”

Not the Popular but the Despised (John 4:4-6)

Jesus went to places that were not popular with the common people. He went to places which in fact were despised by the community. He went to places which most people would not want to go. We are told in verses 3 and 4 that he went to Galilee and Samaria. Galilee was not as prestigious a place as Judea. It was inhabited mostly by farmers and fishermen, unlike Judea which was populated by kings and priests because of Judah and Jerusalem.

In travelling to Galilee, it is significant to note that He chose to go by way of Samaria. Samaria was a place hated by the Jews. The Jews despised the Samaritans because they were not true blue Jews. The Samaritans also had a corrupted form of the Jewish religion which centred not in Jerusalem but in their own appointed mountain—Gerizim (John 4:20, 22). That was also why the Samaritan woman was totally taken aback when Jesus a Jew asked her for a drink: “How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans” (John 4:9).

God is no respecter of persons, and Jesus did not discriminate against the Samaritans. Jesus visited Samaria to offer the gospel of salvation to them. From the well of Jacob, He preached the good news to this Samaritan woman who was very immoral and sinful, for she had many husbands, and was then having an affair with a man who was not her husband (John 4:18). This was precisely what Jesus came to do—to save sinners and call them to repentance. Jesus said in Luke 5:32, “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Following the spirit of Christ, the Church is not a hotel for the healthy but a hospital for the sickly. We minister to the poor. We do our bit for the poor saints in Palestine (Baraka BPC, Bethlehem). We help the orphans in Myanmar (New Life Orphanage, Yangon). We give to the needs of the Bible College of East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania). We thank the Lord for our sisters Jenny Kan and Deborah Mae who minister to the elderly at St John’s, and a few have come to worship with us every Lord’s Day in our Chinese service. All of us come to church because we are spiritually dead, spiritually sick, or spiritually weak. We need to be spiritually revived, refreshed and recharged by the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Scriptures. Be baptised and partake of the Lord’s Supper. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are means of grace which God uses to strengthen our faith in Christ. Never forget to come to church on the Lord’s Day. Keep the Sabbath holy!

Not the High and Mighty, but the Poor and Lowly (John 4:7-9)

Jesus reached out to those who were shunned and despised by the high and mighty. That was why the disciples were surprised that their Master talked with this Samaritan woman (John 4:27). She was a Samaritan and a woman. Know that in those days the Jews not only despised the Samaritans, they also despised the womenfolk. The men regarded the women as no better than their goods or property. Women could be used and discarded according to their pleasure. Women were considered second-class citizens, and no better than slaves.

Jesus however broke away from sinful culture, and spoke to the Samaritan woman. Lowering Himself to speak to the Samaritan woman was nothing. It was merely a tiny extension of the tremendous extent to which He had already humbled Himself—He who was none other than God Himself became man, He who was King in heaven became a slave on earth. That was why Paul wrote, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 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 2:5-8). Jesus was “a friend of publicans and sinners” in order to save them from their sins. What great love Jesus showed, “For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom 5:6-8).

Most of us in church do not belong to the rich and powerful class. We are mainly ordinary folk with nothing to shout about. That was why the Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, “For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: 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.” James 2:5 says, “Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?”

For sure, God has not shut the door of salvation to the rich and powerful. But if they are to enter into God’s kingdom, they must become lowly and humble, and kowtow to Christ. Jesus said, “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matt 5:3). May we ever follow after the humble ways of Christ for they are the exalted ways of God Himself. Let us “be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble” (1 Pet 5:5). “Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up” (Jas 4:10).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Aug 30 – Sep 5, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	Second Kings (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU	7.30 pm	Second Corinthians (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
	10.30 am	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
		Worship (Dr Paul Ferguson)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian Bible Study
	1.00 pm	Korean Sunday School

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Sep 1 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Rahab" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting will be held at the home of Elder and Mrs Koh Kim Song this Fri, Sep 3 at 8 pm. Address: 57 Mimosa View, Singapore 805637. Tel: 94355582.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Sep 4 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Covenant Theology" by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God With My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day \$20,914; Fellowships' Collections: AF \$372; YPF \$86

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200, \$50; Rev Errol Stone \$100; Amos Go's Church (Myanmar) \$150; Bible Witness \$50; Jose Lagapa (FEBC) \$100; FEBC Legal Fees \$200; FEBC \$50
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$22,272
Church Building Fund \$400 Total: \$987,216.27

Verse for the Week: A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them. Prov 20:26

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Sunday School Teachers' Lunch will be held today at 12.45 pm, Pan Pacific Orchard.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Diaspora" by Dr S H Tow.

BPC 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving @ Calvary Pandan, Sunset hour, Oct 24, 2010. Register your attendance with Wendy Teng at the book table after service. Send testimonies for the commemorative magazine to Dr SH Tow (calbp@pacific.net.sg) by Aug 31, 2010.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, Oct 3, 12.30 pm. The subsidised rate for members and regular worshippers is \$15 per person including children who sit at the big tables and \$5 for children buffet (age 11 years and under). For non-members, it is \$25. Come and praise the Lord on this happy occasion.

shall not vex him. But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God" (Lev 19:33f). It is further observed that the Mosaic commandment to love one's enemy reaches into the remotest recess of the heart and stretches to the uttermost reach of the hand. This may be seen in the Book of Proverbs: "Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth; lest the Lord see, and it displease him, and he turn his wrath away from him" (Prov 24:17f). "If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if

he be thirsty; give him water to drink: For thou shalt heap fire upon his head, and the Lord shall reward thee" (Prov 25:21f).

What a good and loving God and Saviour we have! True disciples of Jesus Christ should not negate nor dilute the law or commandments of God, but uphold and apply them in their lives.

Jesus was a true Legalist because He was the perfect Law-Giver, Law-Keeper and Law-Teacher. As Christians, we should walk in the steps of our Saviour by loving God and keeping His commandments. We are saved by faith and by faith alone, but faith is not dead but alive and lively, and will cause one to live a life that is Christlike, sanctified by His Word and His Spirit.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

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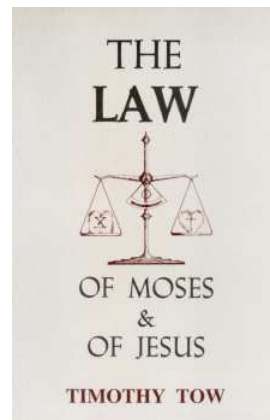
29 August 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 91
Hymn	<i>Under the Care of My God, The Almighty</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Youth Choir
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Need Thee Every Hour</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Matthew 5:27-32
Pastoral Prayer	Dr S H Tow
Sermon	The 7th Commandment (Dr S H Tow)
Closing Hymn	<i>I Am Thine, O Lord</i>
Benediction	Dr S H Tow

Jesus the Legalist

Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC, 8 August 2010



Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 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. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments,

and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in

the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 5:17-20).

Christians who take the commandments of God seriously are often written off as "legalistic" by those who loathe to hear the "Thou shalt not's" of Scripture. When law-haters and law-breakers charge law-keeping and law-abiding believers with "legalism," they paint them in a bad light, as narrow-minded, unloving, and self-righteous people. Of course, there is a sort of legalism or legalistic behaviour that should be avoided, namely, the proud, pharisaical, holier-than-thou sort, but that does not negate the truth that there is such a thing as Biblical legalism and that Christians are duty bound to obey God's commandments. Jesus for example was legalistic, but not like the Pharisees for He kept the law with full of love for God and man without compromising the commandments of God or condoning sin and error.

What is legalism? According to Chambers Dictionary, legalism is generally defined as a "strict adherence to law." If we accept this definition of legalism, then Jesus was certainly legalistic for He upheld the law and kept it perfectly and taught the people to obey the law as well.

**Jesus Kept the Law Perfectly
(Matt 5:17-18)**

The word "law" for instance appears more than 500 times in the Bible. The word "law" in the Bible can

mean the Ten Commandments, the Pentateuch (ie first five books of the Bible), or the Old Testament, even the whole Bible itself. Our God is a God of Law and His Bible is a Law Book. The Bible is full of “Thou shalt not’s”; there are a total of 239 of them.

Jesus said that He did not come to destroy but to fulfil the law. What did Jesus mean by this? The word “destroy” (*kataluo*) here has been used of demolishing a house (Matt 24:2) or of releasing a load that is on one’s shoulders (Luke 9:12). Jesus did not come to get rid of the law or dilute its demands. He came to fulfil, not nullify it. The word “fulfil” (*pleroo*) means to make full or to fill up. Here it has the idea of accomplishment or achievement—Jesus was going to perform fully or keep perfectly the law, and to complete what was lacking in the law and to satisfy the very purpose for which it was given.

Understand that the law was ordained unto life (Rom 7:10). If we want to live forever with God, God’s requirement was holiness, a perfect keeping of the law to earn our right to heaven. We see this in what Jesus said to a certain rich man in Matthew 19:16-26. “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but *if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.*” Jesus was not misleading this rich man. His answer was true and correct. Anyone who wants to enter heaven must keep perfectly the Ten Commandments. The rich man then said to Jesus, “All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?” This rich man was blind to his sinfulness and conceited to think that he was good and a perfect keeper of the law. But the truth is, “There is none righteous, no, not one ... For all have sinned, and come short of the glory God” (Rom 3:10, 23). Jesus then said unto him, “If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.” But when the rich man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for

he had great possessions.” Jesus proved how the rich man was a sinner and a law breaker. Money was his god. He was a transgressor of the very first commandment—“Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exod 20:3). He loved his earthly wealth more than heavenly treasure. Jesus said, “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matt 6:24).

What happened to this rich man is explained by Romans 7:10-12, “And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me. Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.”

But here is salvation: “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Rom 8:1-4)

Jesus Christ our Saviour fulfilled or obeyed the commandments of God totally and perfectly not for Himself but for you and for me. He was the One who earned the righteousness that we need to enter into heaven. As totally depraved sinners we can never keep the law. That was why our Saviour must keep the law for us, fulfilling all righteousness according to God’s legal requirements. That was why God had to send His Son to earth and subject Him to the law, “But when the fulness of the time was come,

God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons” (Gal 4:4, 5). It was for our sake that the sinless Son of God came, to be our perfect law-keeper, so that we as sinners might become saints through faith in Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

Jesus was a Legalist. He not only kept the law in His life by obeying the commandments of God, He also took upon Himself the penalty of our sins by dying on the cross. The law required Him to die for our sins. He kept that law as well. He died for you and for me, shedding His precious blood. God’s justice must be satisfied, and man can only be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. Hebrews 9:22 says, “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” Jesus Christ redeemed us by His blood, and He conquered death by His resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:56, 57 says, “The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

If Jesus was not a Legalist, He could not be our Saviour. We would still be under the Law and under its curse because of sin. But Jesus Christ is our eternal Life-Giver because He was our perfect Law-Keeper.

Jesus Taught the Law Perfectly (Matt 5:19-20)

The Gospel does not make Christian life “free and easy”—“Believe in Jesus Christ and then sin all you like.” Although the gift of eternal life is free, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” (Eph 2:7), and the yoke of Christ is easy to bear and His burden light (Matt 11:30), yet we are called to obey God’s commandments. The Bible contains plenty of rules and regulations. Jesus said, “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15).

In the days of Christ, the scribes and Pharisees taught and applied the law of God wrongly. Jesus warned that those who break

the law and teach others to break the law are unworthy and worthless (Matt 5:19). That was why Jesus said, “For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt 5:20). The so-called “righteousness” of the scribes and Pharisees was of the hypocritical, self-righteous sort. They taught the law for their own selfish ends. Jesus on the other hand taught authoritatively because He was the author of the law, and gave the correct interpretation to the law. For instance, in Matthew 5:42-45, “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven.”

God never taught the Jews to hate their enemies. The Pharisees were the ones who taught that, misinterpreting and misapplying the law. Jesus Christ taught according to the Law of Moses as originally given. The Rev Dr Timothy Tow in his book, *The Law of Moses and of Jesus*, explained how our Saviour upheld the law of love as originally taught in the Old Testament:

“Hate thy enemy” is nowhere to be found in the whole Old Testament, much less in Moses’ Pentateuch. This is simply an erroneous interpolation of his law, first made by them of old times and now taken for granted by them of this age. Moses’ teaching on loving one’s enemy is no less positive than Christ’s, as may be seen in this enactment: “If thou meet thine enemy’s ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again. If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help with him” (Exod 23:4f). A collateral state of love for one’s enemy is the law on the hospitable treatment of aliens: “And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 6 – 12, 2010)

MON-FRI	FEBC Mid-Term Break
FRI 8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT 3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Sep 11 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Sep 11 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God With My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, Oct 3, 12.30 pm. The subsidised rate for members and regular worshippers is \$15 per person including children who sit at the big tables and \$5 for children buffet (age 11 years and under). For non-members, it is \$25. Come and praise the Lord on this happy occasion.

What Should We Do?

So, what should we do? Well, the one thing we do not want to do is to have the attitude, 'Let me take the mote out of your eye while there is a beam in our eye.' We should not be hypocritical about this, and by that I mean, we ourselves should seek to be right with God. We do not want to criticise Alpha from the point of view of just being hypocritical. The first step is to be right with God ourselves, make sure that we turn from our sins and confess them, and seek the true infilling of the Holy Ghost that we might be filled, for

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$16,541; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF \$415.20

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$200; *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$100; *Rev Quek Suan Yew* \$50; *BCEA Kenya* \$500; *Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth* \$800; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$200, \$150; *Bible Witness* \$50, \$50; *John Peh* \$100; *Marilyn Nanta* \$400; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *Eric Kambale (FEBC)* \$50; *Ibrahim (FEBC)* \$50; *Peter Maurice (FEBC)* \$50; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$350, \$100, \$100, \$80; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$350, \$100; *FEBC Dining Club* \$250; *FEBC* \$500, \$470, \$300, \$135, \$50, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$22,941.20

Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$800, \$500, \$200
Total: \$989,716.27

Verse for the Week: *The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly. Prov 20:27*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from www.febc.edu.sg/Sunday_School.htm.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Sign of The Fig Tree" by Dr S H Tow.

VBS 2011: The Session has appointed Mrs Jenny Kan and Elder Joseph to serve as advisors in connection with next year's VBS.

FCM Combined Meeting will be held on Sep 24 at Calvary Pandan BPC, 7.15 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm (\$3 per packet). Message: "A Victorious Christian Life Amid Ungodly Influences" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. For more info, contact Lek Xuan at 96389814.

God says, 'Be filled with the Spirit.' We need to be filled with the Spirit of God, and we need to engage in sincere and earnest Bible study each day. We need to pray for souls to be saved. There is no point in criticising people who are sincerely making an effort if we are not making any effort to reach out with the Gospel. We need to live holy lives, and only then can we truly experience God's power and blessing.

(The above is an abridgement of Rev G Ferguson's sermon. Hear the whole sermon at <http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?SID=2141084570>)



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

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Vol. VII No. 49

5 September 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Blessed Be the Name</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 34
Hymn	<i>Trusting Jesus</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	
Scripture Text	Eld J T Joseph Deuteronomy 32:20
Sermon	Children in Whom Is No Faith (Dr Paul Ferguson)
Closing Hymn	<i>Rescue the Perishing</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

What's Wrong with the Alpha Course?

Rev Gordon Ferguson

(Minister of South Grove Free Presbyterian Church, London)

The Alpha Course started, in a sense, in 1997 when a man called Charles Marnham, who was a member and a worker in Holy Trinity Church in Brompton, London, decided to have some basic Bible lessons for people in the church—a very commendable thing. It was later developed by Nicky Gumbel, who was a barrister, Oxford and Cambridge educated. He entered the ministry and became curate of Holy Trinity Brompton, and now he is the vicar of that church. That church, we may add, was very much associated with what is called 'the Toronto Blessing.' Many people in the Toronto Blessing were grunting like pigs and barking like dogs, which is a very strange way of saying that they are filled with the Spirit—something that you will not find anywhere in the

Word of God.

What is the Alpha Course about? It is called a basic introduction to Christianity. It is described as a fifteen-session practical introduction to the Christian faith. It is aimed specifically at those who do not normally go to church. Therefore, the course will be accessed from the point of view of the man or woman who is ignorant of the faith, rather than from the point of view of those who are already Christians. So it is an introduction to the Christian faith and it is based upon the book, 'Alpha, Questions of Life', written by Nicky Gumbel. In the course, material is supplied for the leaders, and other material supplied for the participants in the course. This material is copyrighted, so all are meant to keep to it when using it for teaching in the local church. Fifteen lessons take place mid-week, and they start with a meal (a very nice start!) and then there is a forty-five minute talk.

Now you may say, 'This is grand; this is exciting. We need courses to introduce us to the Bible and we need courses to introduce the unconverted to Jesus Christ.' But we must examine Alpha to see if it is scripturally sound.

A One-sided View of God

The first problem I identify is this: Alpha presents a one-sided view of God. It is very much focussed on the love of God. The love of God is absolutely scriptural. 1 John 4 verses 8 and 16 contain the words: 'God is love', and there is no greater love than

the love of God. If you want to know what true love is you find it in God. The God who is almighty is a God of love. However, love does not sum up God, if I can put it that way. There is so much more about God, whereas the whole thrust of the Alpha Course is the love of God: 'God loves every one of you. God loves you so much He wants to be in a relationship with you.' You know how it is if a young man falls in love with a young woman and she is not so keen on him. All he can do is dream about her and talk about her, and every day he thinks about her, and when he talks to his friends he describes her and tells how much he is in love with her. But she does not want to know him. You know what you think: 'Why does he not understand she is not interested?' In a sense, that is the way Alpha speaks of God's love. 'God loves you so much, and God wants to be in a relationship with you', as if God were the weak party and we were the party that plays what is called, 'hard-to-get.' It is true that by nature we are not interested in God. But the aspect of God's character that is predominant in the Alpha Course is: God is so keen to have a relationship with us. It is vital to know that God is love, but according to the Shorter Catechism, which gives a very good definition, 'God is a spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.' God is a holy God, and that aspect is very much overlooked in Alpha. I am not saying that it is totally absent, but overlooked. It is interesting that the Bible has more to say about the holiness of God than of the love of God.

God is a God of justice and judgment. If you read through Alpha you will not see the word 'hell.' In a sense, there is no hell in Alpha's teaching. I know that people do not want to hear about hell. It is a fearful thought that there is a hell, but if we get a one-sided view of God and we just see God in terms of love, we forget about His justice, we forget about His holiness, we forget about His punishment of sin. When the holiness of God is undervalued, there is a defective view of sin and a defective view of hell. It is closed out of one's mind. If you do not have a right view of

God all else will be off-centre. You must have your view of God right. That is so important. Remember the Shorter Catechism, which I quote again. In reply to the first question, 'What is the chief end of man?' the answer is, 'Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him for ever.' We glorify God and enjoy Him when we come into a right relationship with Him. That is brought about by repentance of sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

So the first problem we have with Alpha is that it has a defective, one-sided view of God, and that is disastrous.

A Confusing Gospel Message

The second problem that I want to identify is that the Alpha Course gives a confusing Gospel message. It fails to show the true nature of sin. Tim Chapman (this man who has taken the course) says, 'sin is presented as being the mess we make of our own lives. The problem is explained as the rubbish that clutters up our lives and clutters up our world and the pollution of sin,' and Chapman says, 'For all its biblical use of words, Alpha fails to define sin biblically. It does so by concentrating on the consequences of sin rather than on what sin actually is. To define the root cause of sin as broken relationship does not identify why the relationship is broken or who has done the breaking. Man without God is the subject of God's wrath. We are not slightly displeasing to Him with the occasional foible. Rather, by nature we are the objects of wrath, because we have offended against God and broken His holy law. So there is a failure to see sin.'

We need to have a true view of sin. What is sin? According to the Shorter Catechism, it 'is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.' We break the law of God, we defy God. By defying God, by breaking His law, we are sinners. We were born with a sinful nature. It all began in the Garden of Eden when God told man that he was not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and man put forth his hand in rebellion against God and he

sinned. From that moment all mankind has been sinful. It is not just a broken relationship; God hates sin and He must, and will punish sin.

Let us look at Alpha's, or you could say Nicky Gumbel's, quotation of testimonies of people that profess to have been converted through Alpha. He is quoting them, so they must be authentic. The first of the five main testimonies is particularly revealing. It reads, 'The one thing that stuck in my mind was how the work of the Holy Spirit was described as of paramount importance. I knew in my heart I had to have this power in my life at any cost, so I found out where the church was, enrolled on the course and focussed on the weekend. I felt like a dying man waiting for a life-saving operation. Never mind the weeks of pre-med, I just had to get into the operating theatre.' That is interesting! What is this man talking about? The weeks of pre-med are the weeks of teaching about Jesus; teaching about sin, the necessity of the work of the cross. I have said that it is set out in a very shallow way—this person dismisses even that fairly light presentation as the pre-med. 'I am waiting for the real thing.' That is something that you need to remember about Alpha, it is very much experience orientated. There is a focus on experience, and that is dangerous. Those who focus on experience seem to think that speaking in tongues is the all-important thing, forgetting that lots of heretics speak in tongues. We are not convinced that these tongues they use are biblical, but they say, 'You are speaking in tongues; you are filled with the Spirit of God, so you must be a Christian.'

Here is a man, what is he looking for? Teaching? No. He says, 'Never mind the pre-med, I want to get into the operating theatre. I do not want to go through all this business of getting little injections in my arm, getting dressed up in the gown, everything like that and the nurse taking my temperature and telling me how ill I am and the doctor coming round and explaining the operation. No, I want to leave that out, I want to get into the operating theatre, and the operating theatre is when the power of the Holy Ghost comes

down and I am filled with the Spirit and I speak in tongues and I have this warm, glowing feeling.'

Remember what happened when Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost. There was not much of a warm feeling initially there; indeed there was deep sorrow. People were really troubled. Three thousand were converted but thousands, perhaps many more than three thousand cried out, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?' Peter had shown them who Jesus was; he had shown them that by wicked hands He had been crucified and slain, and he says, 'Ye have taken.' This same Jesus, you took Him and by wicked hands you have crucified and slain Him. He came to a great climax in that message and said, 'Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.' In the original it ends in a very powerful way, because it speaks about 'God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ,' and the last two words in the Greek are, 'whom ye crucified.' After showing that He is the Lord of glory, He is risen from the dead, he really, in a sense, stabs them right through the heart with the message. He says, 'You crucified Him.' The Bible says, 'When they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart.' It was just as if a sword had gone through them. They were pricked to the heart and they cried out, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?' They were under deep trouble of soul.

Paul spoke about the exceeding sinfulness of sin in Romans 7:13, and if we are to be converted we need to see sin in its true colours. We need to see that God hates it, and will judge it; not warm, glowing feelings though those warm feelings will come after thorough repentance. Here is a man, he does not want the pre-med, he does not want to go through this. 'Just let me have the feelings. Just let me have that warm glowing feeling. Let me feel I am loved, and all is well. Before you have those feelings you need to know you are lost; you need to feel you are a sinner, you need to feel you are guilty.'

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 13 – 19, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Quek Suan Yew) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Sep 18 at 3.30 pm. Message: "The Glory of the Cross" by Dn Lek Aik Wee. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God With My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

FCM Combined Meeting will be held on Sep 24 at Calvary Pandan BPC, 7.15 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm (\$3 per packet). Message: "A Victorious Christian Life Amid Ungodly Influences" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. For more info, contact Lek Xuan at 96389814.

Complimentary Sabbatical Jubilee Camp 2010 DVD available for collection by campers at the Booktable at one copy per family. Others may place your prepaid orders of the camp messages at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$11,929.25; *Fellowships' Collections:* LF \$384; YPF \$124.05

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$100; *Gethsemane BPC* \$100; *New Life Orphan Centre* \$100; *Missions* \$20,000; *Mrs Ivy Tow* \$100; *Samuel Kwong* \$100; *Sim Swee Ho* \$50; *Eric Kambale (FEBC)* \$50; *Peter Maurice (FEBC)* \$50; *FEBC* \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$33,387.30

Church Building Fund \$150 Total: \$989,866.27

Verse for the Week: *Mercy and truth preserve the king; and his throne is upholden by mercy. Prov 20:28*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Whose Jerusalem?" by Dr S H Tow.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, Oct 3, 12.30 pm. The subsidised rate for members and regular worshippers is \$15 per person including children who sit at the big tables and \$5 for children buffet (age 11 years and under). For non-members, it is \$25. Come and praise the Lord on this happy occasion. **Closing Date for registration: Sep 19.**

True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service will be held on Oct 3 at Calvary Pandan BPC, SGBF Hour, 6 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. All are cordially invited to an evening of praise through songs.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 50

12 September 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 43
Hymn	<i>Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Know Whom I Have Believed</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	2 Timothy 1:12, 13
Sermon	Biblical Certainty versus Global Uncertainty (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>Amazing Grace</i> (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Knowing God and His Word

Rev Dr Timothy Tow

Theology is the study of God. It is the study of God's dealing with man whom He has created, but fallen into sin. The study of God and study of man which is inseparable from the study of God is true wisdom, says Calvin. We would add to the statement that they are the apex of all knowledge. They are the two highest strata of learning, way beyond "mosquitology," though that is important in the quelling of malaria and dengue. The study of God and the study of man leads us to God's only begotten Son Jesus Christ, Mediator between God and man, by whom we are saved (1 Tim 2:5). The Bible is God's book for man, the textbook of our salvation (2 Tim 3:14, 17).

Theology is not like any other science. It is not

to be studied like any branch of scientific learning. It cannot be put under a microscope for the seeing eye to examine. Rather it is to be studied by putting on the eye-glasses of faith. Not "seeing is believing" but "believing is seeing" is the theological method (John 20:29).

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear" (Heb 11:1-3). By faith, the doctrine of creation, not evolution, is to be received. By faith, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity transcends the principles of mathematics. By faith the doctrine of the Virgin Birth of Christ cannot be taught but by worshipful reverence. Theology is not only a science, but a "metascience," if we may coin a new word.

Nor can any man intrude into the study of theology without becoming a Christian, a born-again Christian. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Cor 2:14). "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom 10:17). Faith is taking God at His Word.



Children of New Life Orphan Centre, Yangon

Nominal Christians can go through a liberal and modernistic seminary and obtain a PhD in theology. But they will come out preaching themselves, not Jesus Christ the Lord. They will lord over their congregations with their own conceited ideas, “even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction” (2 Pet 2:1). “For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake” (2 Cor 4:5) is our devout emphasis. So, it is of utmost importance that we examine the credentials of the teacher of theology. Not only must he be born again but also have received a mandate to teach, like Timothy from Paul, “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” (2 Tim 2:2).

It is of the utmost importance for a teacher of theology to be thoroughly scrutinised before he can be taken on the faculty of any fundamental Bible College or Seminary. “Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?” (1 Cor 5:6). Fuller Seminary which was founded in 1947 by Charles Fuller of the Old-fashioned Revival Hour succumbed to liberalism in a matter of years. Princeton Seminary, though a proven stalwart of the faith from its founding in 1812, finally fell in 1929, J Gresham Machen notwithstanding.

What makes theology far above any brand of scientific learning is the higher teaching of the Holy Spirit. “But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things” (1 John 2:20). “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him” (1 John 2:27).

How do we receive the unction of the Holy One? How do we get the anointing that we need, not that any man teaches us? By being a devout student of the Bible. By being a regular reader of the Bible, day and night, and by meditating therein, that we might be enabled to compare “spiritual things with spiritual” (1 Cor 2:13). Dr John Sung read his Bible 11 chapters

a day and 13 chapters on the Lord’s Day. Hence the power of his preaching that brought several hundred thousands to Christ. [Read Timothy Tow, John Sung My Teacher (Singapore: Christian Life Publishers, 1985).] So testifies the Psalmist, “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation” (Ps 119:97–99).

How does Calvin excel all other students of theology? By the superior knowledge of the Bible that shines throughout his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. He outshines all other theologians because he is a Biblical theologian.

Dr William Lyon Phelps of Yale University has said, “A knowledge of the Bible without a college education is better than a college education without the Bible.” We would encourage you, though not having a college degree, to launch right into the study of theology. In Paul’s words of encouragement to young Timothy, “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim 3:15). “The Bible has in it all that the Christian needs” (Dr Carl McIntire).

“Doctors Cure but God Heals”

*A Thanksgiving Report from Bro Thangno,
New Life Orphan Centre, Yangon,
2 September 2010*

Praise God and glory be to His name. Niang Hoih is finally doing well. Truly the Lord hears and answers the prayers of the righteous and the faithful. God answers our prayers and True Life BPC’s prayers for His glory. If God did not answer our prayers she will surely die because her heart-disease was very serious when she felt it. At home she was like dead more than three times. Even when I sent her to Special Clinic, I could not hope she would heal again but wonderfully God healed her completely now for His glory. From this Monday she could go to school and

her tuition class and study well. Praise God. How good our God is to her. Actually the government school would not allow her to study at all since she was absent from school for too long because of her sickness. But by the special grace of God and His mercy the school and the tuition class allow her to continue her study. How wonderful the work of the Lord to her. Niang Hoih could not study for about one and half months from 16 July to 29 August 2010. My wife always reported her health situation to the school and tuition class. That is why the teachers could consider and allow her to return to school. Thank God.

From Monday until today, Niang Hoi is feeling like as she was before when she was in good health. Praise God. I strongly believe it is because of True Life BPC’s prayers for her, and paying for all her medical costs that God blessed and healed her. There is a saying: “Doctors cure but God heals.” If you did not pray for her and not provide for her medical costs, I would not be able to send her for medical treatment. As I always mentioned many times, I and my family and all the children are always very happy and thankful to True Life BPC because New Life Orphan Centre is running very well and doing well because of True Life BPC’s prayers and designated offerings. New Life Orphan Centre is running well and doing well physically and spiritually every day. We all study the Word of God, and pray to God always for True Life BPC and FEBC constantly.

Here is Niang Hoih’s short testimony and thanksgiving to True Life BPC and to God too.

I am Miss Niang Hoih Nuam @ Naing Hoih. I arrived at New Life Orphan Centre in May 2004 with my younger brother. After my father died my mother married another man and I and my brother did not have anyone to take care of us. How good our God is to us that when I and my brother were hopeless and fatherless, Bro Thangno went to our village and found us and God touched his heart to pity me and my brother and he took me to New Life Orphan Centre. If God did not use Bro Thangno, I dare not imagine how we would live for food and for education and for my

spiritual life.

Now, in New Life Orphan Centre, I and my brother know the love of God through Bro Thangno and I have received Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and Lord and I am always happy in the Lord. Now, I am in High School Standard 10, before I came to New Life Orphan Centre, I was in Primary School Standard 4. I know deeply that the Lord is really the Father of the fatherless, hopeless and helpless. As Psalm 10:14 says, “Thou art the helper of the fatherless.” I know that we are family and brothers and sisters in Christ because True Life BPC always pray for us and provided for all our needs for His glory in Christ.

I specially give thanks to God for True Life BPC not only for your prayers and support for New Life Orphan Centre but also when I was serious in sickness you and True Life BPC prayed for my good health earnestly and provided for the cost of my medicine. I heard about your true concern and encouragement from Bro Thangno. I strongly believe that I am completely healed now by the special grace of God through True Life BPC’s prayers for me. When I was seriously sick at the Special Clinic I heard through Bro Thangno that True Life BPC earnestly prayed for me and that I need not to worry to pay for the expensive medicine. When I heard that my tears automatically dropped down. I felt how God loves me so much and you too in True Life BPC, brothers and sisters in Christ. Because of True Life BPC’s encouragements and earnest prayers and financial support, I have more strength and strong faith and I prayed to God, “Please give me good health for your glory and I will share your goodness to my brothers and sisters in Christ how wonderful the Lord’s work is to me.” I can say that I am very happy in the Lord and thankful to God and to True Life BPC more than I can say. May God bless True Life BPC more for His glory. Thanks.

I and all the children always pray for True Life BPC and FEBC without ceasing. May God bless you!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 20 – 26, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	No YPF Meeting
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

FCM Combined Meeting will be held this Fri, Sep 24 at Calvary Pandan BPC, 7.15 pm. Dinner at 6.30 pm (\$3 per packet). Message: "A Victorious Christian Life Amid Ungodly Influences" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. For more info, contact Lek Xuan at 96389814.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Sep 25 at Mr and Mrs Edward Wong's home, 45 Hindhede Walk, #06-04 (Lobby 1), Springdale Condominium, Singapore 587978, 5.30 pm. Tel: 96388203. Message: "Roles of Husbands" by Rev Park Seung Kyu. Contact Bernard Tee at 96780319 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God With My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

come to a dead end. Take heed to John 3:16-21, "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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 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. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$17,051; *Fellowships' Collections:* AF \$461; YPF \$99

Designated Offerings: *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$50; *Niang Hoih's medical after care* \$350; *Bohol Mission* \$200; *Bible Witness* \$100; *Gethsemane Care Ministry* \$100; *Missions* \$5,000, \$1,000; *Mrs Ivy Tow* \$400; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$150; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$200; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$3,000; *FEBC* \$2,000, \$50
Total General and Designated Offerings: \$30,491
Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$500, \$250 **Total:** \$991,616.27

Verse for the Week: *The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head. Prov 20:29*

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Jews Who Make A Difference" by Dr S H Tow.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, *Oct 3*, 12.30 pm. The subsidised rate for members and regular worshippers is \$15 per person including children who sit at the big tables and \$5 for children buffet (age 11 years and under). For non-members, it is \$25. Come and praise the Lord on this happy occasion. **Closing Date for registration: Today.**

True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service will be held on Oct 3 at Calvary Pandan BPC, SGBF Hour, 6 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Come for an evening of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Evening Tea Reception after service.

Complimentary Sabbatical Jubilee Camp DVD available for collection by campers at the Booktable. One copy per family. Others may place an order for the camp messages at the Booktable, 12.00 - 12.30 pm.

rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God."

If we want to be sure and certain of the true answers to age-old questions concerning our origins, our existence, and our destiny, we need theology, not philosophy. Know God and know His Word. Biblical certainty in the midst of global uncertainty!



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 51

19 September 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Charles Kan
Opening Hymn	<i>Rejoice the Lord Is King!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 42
Hymn	<i>As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>Sweet Peace, the Gift of God's Love</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Charles Kan
Scripture Text	Psalms 5:1-12
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew
Sermon	In Whom Do You Trust? (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
Closing Hymn	<i>Trusting Jesus</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

Biblical Certainty versus Global Uncertainty

Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC, 12 September 2010

2 Timothy 1:12, 13, "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus."

In *The Straits Times* of August 11, 2010, Mr Kishore Mahbubani's article, "Why a Liberal Arts Education Is Useful", caught my attention. Mr Mahbubani is dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, and was Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. In that article, he explained why his decision to study philosophy at NUS was a wise move despite many

telling him that he was doing something most foolish. So why was it wise? He answered, "Simple! We are moving into an era of great uncertainty. Frankly, no one has a clue about the nature of the new world order which is emerging. Experts are clueless. ... we have never experienced the kinds of historical changes we are experiencing now."

People by and large do not like to be uncertain. Uncertainty makes us afraid, it causes us to worry, it robs us of joy and peace. So how does one prepare for uncertainty? Mr Mahbubani's answer is, "The only way to do so is to take nothing for granted. We must learn to question every assumption in our minds." To him, a liberal arts education equips one to do this. He says confidently, "this habit of questioning gives me the confidence to predict with certainty that we will be encountering uncertainty on many fronts." In other words, he is saying, "I am absolutely certain about one thing in life and in the world, and that is uncertainty." He is being honest, and he is right in his observation. Man with all his intelligence cannot tell for sure what will happen in the future.

Mr Mahbubani says we need to be philosophers—be thinking and inquiring. We need to think correctly, ask the right questions, and hope for the best. At any rate, philosophy as he admits can only make one certain about uncertainty. Philosophy can only go so far and no further. But there is a better

way, if not the only way to certainty, not the way of philosophy but theology. Theology offers not such a hope-so faith but a know-so faith. The basis of our know-so faith is God and His Word.

Knowing God

The Apostle Paul was very sure of his God and Saviour, “For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day” (2 Tim 1:12).

The Bible tells us, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction” (Prov 1:7). “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding” (Prov 9:10). The important questions of life like “Where did I come from?”, “What is the meaning of life?” and “Where will I be when I die?” can only be answered and known if one fears God. The fear of God means we must acknowledge His existence. The atheist is a fool. Psalm 14:1 says, “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.” The pantheist goes to the other extreme thinking that everything is god. That too is foolishness. “Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things” (Rom 1:21-23).

In order to be sure and certain of life’s meaning and be able to interpret correctly life’s experiences, man must have the mind of God. He must see himself and the world the way God sees it. How can he do that? Not on his own. On his own, he is hopeless and blind. Man needs God. He needs to surrender all autonomy and pray humbly to God, “I cannot help myself, please help me.” Unless and until man kowtows before the only living and true God his Maker, he will never be able to

interpret his experiences and the events of this world that would bring him joy and peace.

Man if he is to want true knowledge and wisdom needs a BA. Not a BA in philosophy but be “Born Again”. Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). This rebirth is not a physical one, not reincarnation. It is a spiritual birth that makes one a child of God. It is the work of the Holy Spirit who convicts a man of his sinfulness, of his need for righteousness and of the terrible judgement to come if he does not repent. And if he will ask this good question, “What must I do to be saved?”, it is the first step to true knowledge. “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house” (Acts 16:31), for Jesus died for our sins and rose from the dead. “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). There is only one way to heaven, Jesus is the only way. “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Tim 2:5). Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

Faith is the key to divine knowledge. We do not see in order to believe; we believe in order to see. “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” (Heb 11:3). The question of origins is answered by faith. Not a Big Bang, but by divine fiat—“for he commanded, and they were created” (Ps 148:5). As the Rev Dr Timothy Tow said, “By faith, the doctrine of creation *ex nihilo* (“out of nothing”), not evolution, is to be received. By faith, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity transcends the principles of mathematics. By faith the doctrine of the Virgin Birth of Christ cannot be taught but by worshipful reverence. Theology is not only a science, but a ‘metascience’.” It is not Science that triumphs but “Metascience”, i.e. Divine Wisdom, and such Wisdom is found in God’s Word.

Knowing His Word

The Apostle Paul told young Timothy, “Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim 1:13).

Faith is not blind. It is not blind because it is based on God’s Word which is Truth. What is Truth? God’s Word is Truth (John 17:17). Faith is not only not blind, it takes away blindness. Sin blinds us from God. Our natural mind cannot grasp spiritual matters. The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:6-14 said, “Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” Spiritual things are spiritually discerned.

That is why the unregenerate man no matter how intelligent he is continues to be lost over the question of suffering and evil. He has no answer nor solution to the crisis of a self-destructive and sin-cursed world. He cannot tell the future for sure. He is at the mercy of the unknown. But God wants man to know not

only his past but also his future. Know the Bible! Study the Bible! Dr William Lyon Phelps of Yale University rightly observed, “A knowledge of the Bible without a college education is better than a college education without the Bible.”

If we want to know our destiny and be certain about our future, we must go to God who knows all things, and has revealed to us what the future holds. What God has revealed to mankind is found in the Holy Bible which is full of prophecies, a lot of which concern world events, events that have already happened, and events yet to happen. For instance, Daniel 2:31-45 speaks of the successive empires in world history beginning with the Babylonian under King Nebuchadnezzar. Babylon fell and was taken over by the Medes and Persians. The Medo-Persian empire was conquered by the Greeks under Alexander the Great, and the Grecian empire was taken over by the Romans. The Roman empire gradually declined in strength and eventually ceased to be a superpower. But one day, it will be revived, and the world will come under the rule of an end-time Caesar, the Antichrist (Rev 13). As Christians, with the light of biblical prophecy, we know where we are in history, and can expect our Saviour to come back very soon.

The Apostle Paul warned of the imminent return of Christ, “But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober” (1 Thess 5:1-6). We have the light of God’s truth, and should live in the light of His truth.

The truth is man is not in control, God is. Until and unless sinful man repents of his sin and believes in Christ and His words for his salvation, he will continue to walk blindly and

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Sep 27 – Oct 3, 2010)

MON 7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU 7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI 8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT 3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School
10.30 am	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503)
12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School
6.00 pm	Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting this Fri, Oct 1, at 8 pm in the home of Mr and Mrs Bernard Tee. Address: 11 Greenwood Lane, Singapore 287001. Tel: 67609069.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Oct 2 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God With My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 612 Senja Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$11,425.60; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$100.90

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$400, \$200; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$250, \$200, \$80; *Bible Witness* \$100; *Jubilee Praise Service Expenses* \$1,000; *Barnabas Yap* \$100; *Clement Chew* \$100; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$5,000; *FEBC Dining Club* \$50; *FEBC* \$800, \$600, \$400, \$100, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:
\$21,006.50

Church Building Fund \$500, \$150 **Total:**
\$992,266.27

Verse for the Week: *The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly. Prov 20:30*

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "The Insoluble Problem" by Dr S H Tow.

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service next Lord's Day (Oct 3, 10.30 am) followed by thanksgiving lunch at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, 12.30 pm. Let us praise the Lord on this happy occasion.

True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service will be held next Lord's Day, Oct 3 at Calvary Pandan BPC, SGBF Hour, 6 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Come for an evening of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Evening Tea Reception after service.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VII No. 52

26 September 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>Our Great Saviour</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 88
Hymn	<i>In Times Like These</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Adults Fellowship
Offering & Hymn	<i>Fill Me Now</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	2 Peter 2:9
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
Sermon	What does it mean to you that "the Lord knows"? (Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy)
Closing Hymn	<i>Be Still, My Soul</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

The Messianic Seed

Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at Calvary Pandan BPC, Sunset Hour, 18 July 2010

Text: Galatians 3:16, 17

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect."

Exposition

Galatians 3:17 tells us that God's covenant with Abraham could not be abrogated in any way because He was the One who would fulfil it. No one and nothing could make the covenant of none effect. Contracts made between men are subject to change, improvements or revisions depending on the terms and agreements inherent in the contracts.

But the covenant God made with Abraham was no ordinary covenant, it was a one-sided covenant, and can never be changed. In Galatians 3:16, it is described as a promise. In other words, it was not a *suntheke*—a covenant between two equal parties, but a *diatheke*—a covenant between unequal parties, between God and man. God establishes the terms of the covenant and makes the promises, and He Himself will fulfil the terms and keep the promises.

What did God promise? God promised salvation through the Messianic Seed under the Covenant of Grace. The recipient of the promise is hopeless and helpless, totally corrupted by sin, guilty of sin, and condemned in sin. No man can save himself. If man is to be saved from sin, and obtain eternal life, it must come from God Himself—it is all by His grace, it is His gift to the undeserving sinner. That is why the Covenant God made with man is called a Covenant of Grace—"God's Riches at Christ's Expense."

This Covenant of Grace is fulfilled by the Messianic Seed—the Lord Jesus Christ. The identity of the Messianic Seed was progressively revealed in Scripture, and He was known as:

(1) **The Woman's Seed:** God was the first to preach the Gospel and He preached it to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:15, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise



Brisbane BPC, August 1, 2010

his heel.” “Her seed” speaks of the Messianic Seed, the virgin-born Son of God who will come to destroy Satan and Death, and save His people from their sins by dying on the Cross (“thou shalt bruise his heel”).

(2) **Abraham’s Seed:** The Messianic Seed will come from Abraham’s family, “For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever” (Gen 13:15). The Messianic Seed will be Jewish, He will rule over the Promised Land, even the whole world for a millennium (Rev 20:6). And all believers who have the faith of Abraham, both Jews and Gentiles, born again in Christ will benefit from this Covenant promise made to Abraham, “And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness” (Gen 15:5, 6).

(3) **David’s Seed:** The Saviour will come from the line of David, “And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever” (2 Sam 7:12, 13). This Messianic promise is further revealed in Isaiah 7:13, 14, “Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel,” and fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ (Matt 1:20-23).

Application

What does this covenant doctrine of the Messianic Seed teach us about God, and what we must do to be blessed by God?

(1) **What about God?** The doctrine of the Messianic Seed teaches us that we have a God who can be fully trusted. He is a covenant-keeping God. He did not cancel the covenant despite the sins of His people, the nation of Israel. He revealed more and more the nature and contents of the covenant, but He never

altered it in any way. That is why we believe the nation of Israel is still God’s chosen nation. God is chastising the nation, and one day all Israel shall be saved (Rom 11:26, “And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away the ungodliness from Jacob). “For it is written” (ie, “for it stands perfectly written”). The covenant promise made 4000 years ago, or 6000 years ago if you go back to Adam and Eve written down in God’s Holy Book remains perfectly written. Note the singular “Seed” and not plural. The corruption of the word with an additional letter would have changed the intent of the Covenant promise, but God kept His words pure. This is VPP—the doctrine of the verbal and plenary preservation of the Scriptures, “for he is faithful that promised” (Heb 10:23).

(2) **What about Us?** We need to be born again, we must be spiritually born to be heirs of this promise. Are you born again? If not, believe on the Lord Jesus right now. Once we are born into His family, we will forever remain in His family. God will never disown us. The promise of eternal life given to us at the point of salvation will go on perpetually. Once God has saved us, He will save us until the very end. Romans 8:36-39 tells us, “As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” “As it is written” (v36a)—again this is VPP, “for he is faithful that promised” (Heb 10:23).

Brisbane Report

Rev Hien Gia Nguyen of Brisbane BPC

We greet you in the blessed Name of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We give thanks and praise to the Lord for His grace

and mercy upon us. We are very thankful for your kind concerns, support and prayers. As a missionary pastor, I would like to write a brief report so that you may pray for us and our ministry and give us your advice.

Bible Study in July and August 2010

Thank God for sustaining the Bible study in Vietnamese at Jade’s home on Thursday (5 brethren), the Bible study for the Youth on Friday (from 5 to 9 brethren). Thank God for blessing our Bible study and dinner fellowship (July 31) with the presence of 29 brethren including 9 visitors (5 from Singapore, Bro Mern Yee’s family). After the Bible study we screened the movie, *The Blind Korean Pastor*. Thank God also for blessing our Bible study, Teens’ fellowship and dinner fellowship (August 28) with the presence of 28 brethren including 8 faithful visitors.

Sunday Worship in July and August 2010

Thank God for our faithful brethren, who played the piano, and led our prayer meeting and did the tracting in our evangelism. The attendance of our worship week by week in July was 15, 17, 15, 21 respectively.

Thank God for providing Bro Mern Yee to help pastor Hien with the baptism of Michael Benjamin and with the Holy Communion on August 1. The attendance of our worship week by week in August was 29, 21, 24, 21, 17 respectively. Thank God for bringing a Vietnamese lady, Sis Hue and her Australian husband, Bro Ian, into our midst. After the English service, Pastor Hien preached to Sis Hue in Vietnamese at the church and over the phone at home.

Thanksgiving

We thank God for His grace and mercy and His blessings upon us and Brisbane BPC.

We thank God for the prayers, advice, encouragement and kind support from True Life BPC.

We thank God for blessing our ACM (Aug 8) with the election of Brisbane BPC office bearers (Term 2010-2013). We have Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo as our honorary elder, Eld Dr

Boaz Boon as our advisor, Rev Hien Nguyen as our pastor, Bro Jason Lim as our Secretary and Bro Michael Benjamin as our Treasurer. Bro Jason, Bro Michael and Pastor Hien took the Dean Burgon Oath on the following Sunday (August 15).

We thank God for the encouraging visit of Bro Mern Yee and his family from True Life BPC and for the blessed fellowship we had with them at our humble home. We thank God for the kind support from like-minded brethren: USD100.00 (= AUD99.03) from Mr Thien Le (pastor Hien’s uncle from the US) to Brisbane BPC. AUD1,500.00 from Bro Mern Yee and his family to Pastor Hien’s family. AUD349.00 from Sis Ziling to Brisbane BPC. AUD100.00 from Sis Ziling to pastor Hien’s family.

Prayer Requests

Please continue praying for Brisbane BPC, her spiritual growth and our ministry here.

May God open a door for us to minister to the residents in Brisbane, the students, and the Vietnamese among the Vietnamese community when Sis Hue and Bro Ian come back to Brisbane by the end of September (from their trip to VN).

Please pray for Sis Ziling and her ministry at her hometown in Nanjing. There are about 30 brethren attending the Bible study on Thursday at her home. May God send godly and faithful preachers or missionaries to teach, preach and train the brethren over there. May God’s will be done upon Sis Ziling’s studies at FEBC next January.

Please pray for pastor Hien’s wisdom and strength to take care of the flock and his family (when his mother-in-law is back in VN until next January).

We do uphold you, True Life BPC and FEBC in our prayers. May God preserve FEBC and graciously grant her the victory, all because of His Word, His Truth, His Name and His Glory. May God be with you, strengthen you, sustain you and mightily bless you and True Life BPC’s 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving on the 3rd of October. Praise the Lord of His grace, goodness and faithfulness over the years!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 4 – 10, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Oct 6 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Isaac" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Oct 9 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God With My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$10,711; *Fellowships' Collections:* FBF \$272.50

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$400; *Baraka Educational Centre (Bethlehem)* \$160; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$100; *Gethsemane BPC* \$100; *Bible Witness* \$200, \$100; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$100; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$100; *FEBC Dining Club* \$100, \$50, \$50; *FEBC* \$470, \$300

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$13,413.50

Church Building Fund \$5,000, \$500, \$400, \$250
Total: \$998,416.27

Verse for the Week: *The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will. Prov 21:1*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."

Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch: The 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Lunch will be held at the Tang Court Cantonese Restaurant, RELC, after Worship Service today at 12.30 pm.

True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service will be held this evening at Calvary Pandan BPC, SGBF Hour, 6 pm. Message: "The Bible Stands, Will You?" by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Come for an evening of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Evening Tea Reception after service. **The Sabbatical Jubilee magazine** will be officially released tonight at the praise service.

Free Sabbatical Jubilee Olive Wood Bible in Commemoration of 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving of True Life BPC. Get your copy from the book table.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

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Vol. VIII No. 1

3 October 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>Come, Ye Thankful People</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 119:89-104
Hymn	<i>Psalms 119</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Deborah & Judith Children's Violin Item Children's Choir Church & Youth Choirs
Offering & Hymn	<i>Our God Is a Loving Father</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Philippians 2:12-16
Sermon	Why True Life? (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>Wonderful Words of Life</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

have to take on this work of faith without compromise. There is a need for the new generation to know what it means to be Bible-Presbyterian. Young minds and hearts must not only know history, they must also feel history. They must catch the spirit of the founding fathers, what moved them, what drove them. This is the purpose of our Sabbatical Jubilee—"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation." (Heb 13:7).

Our Founding Pastor

We remember our founding pastor—the Rev Dr Timothy Tow—whom the Lord had called home last year, April 20, 2009 at the age of 88. He was not just founding father of True Life but the whole Bible-Presbyterian movement in Southeast Asia. There are about 40 Bible-Presbyterian churches in Singapore. Life Church is the oldest, and True Life one of the youngest. Yet, we can say we are in principle the oldest since our pastor was the founding pastor himself who resigned from Life to establish True Life according to the founding ideals and spirit of the Bible-Presbyterian Faith, "Holding forth the word of life" (Phil 2:16), "Holding fast the faithful word" (Tit 1:9).

"Whose Faith Follow"

The year 2010 is the seventh year of True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church. The Sabbatical year is a holy year, a year to remember our past in grateful devotion to God. It is a Jubilee because it is a time to rejoice over how the Lord has blessed us all these years.

History

History is important. We must remember our roots so that we might not forget the reason for our existence. This year is the 60th year of the Bible-Presbyterian Church in Singapore. The first generation have laboured faithfully for the Lord Jesus Christ. A new generation will now



Family Worship at the home of Eld & Mrs Koh Kim Song, Sep 3, 2010

Battle for the Bible

As Bible-Presbyterians, we believe and defend the Bible. The battle for the faith today is still the battle for the Bible! Not all Bibles are the same. Know your Bible. Know which Bible! The logic of faith based on the twin doctrines of Verbal Plenary Inspiration (2 Tim 3:16) and Verbal Plenary Preservation (Matt 5:18) will enable you to recognise and receive the forever infallible and inerrant Scripture—our sole, supreme and final authority of faith and practice. Our faith in God's Word is sure and certain and not foolish, blind, or agnostic.

It is tragic that there are Bible-Presbyterian churches and schools which do not believe that the Bible we have in our hands today is 100% perfect without any mistake. Instead of believing in the perfect preservation of Scripture, they choose to accept the rationalistic presuppositions of modern textual criticism believing that the Bible today contains mistakes. Textual criticism like source, form and redaction criticism denies all things supernatural and miraculous about the Bible, and is thus very destructive to the Christian Faith.

In obedience to the biblical command of separation, we reject all unclean theories and methods of Bible study. *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you"* (2 Cor 6:17).

Despite the fierce opposition and persecution that we face today because of our faith in the present perfection of Scripture, we cannot but *"earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints"* (Jude 3).

Praise Service Tonight

Besides the Seventh Anniversary

Thanksgiving Service this morning, we will have a Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service tonight at Calvary Pandan. The combined Church and FEBC choir, one hundred strong, will sing a series of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs in praise of our good Lord for His Attributes, His Word, and His Church. Do not forget your appointment with the Lord this evening. Come for a blessed time of joyful worship and fellowship. Note that the offerings collected tonight will go to the support of our Palestinian brethren at the Baraka Bible Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem.

Olive Wood Bible

In commemoration of this very special occasion, every member and visitor this morning will get a Sabbatical Jubilee olive wood Bible. The olive wood comes from the Holy Land, made by our brethren in Bethlehem.

Sabbatical Jubilee Magazine

At the evening Praise Service, our Sabbatical Jubilee magazine will be officially released, hot from the press. We thank the Lord for the labour of love put in by the editorial committee headed by Elder J T Joseph and ably assisted by Judith D'Silva. The magazine is aptly titled, *"In the Steps of Our Saviour."* It tells why we are True Life. Read all about our life as True Lifers in the magazine, handsomely bound and in full colour. I am sure you will enjoy reading the True Life story, the people whom God had used, what we as a church stand for, and how God can use us in the days ahead. *"For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth"*

(Zech 4:10).

May the Lord magnify His Word above all His Name (Ps 138:2). To God be the glory great things He has done!

What Causes a Denomination to Drift from Its Beliefs?

Dr John C Whitcomb

I have come to this conclusion: there is such a thing as a Second Law of Ecclesiastical Thermodynamics! Every system that has ever been launched in human history by human beings that has quality to it, that has integrity to it, that has something that's divine in it, through the passing of time, it will drift downward unless acted upon by outside intelligent, authoritative energy.

One of the most fragile, delicate ephemeral systems in the world is the faculty of a theological seminary, where all the professors are in harmony with what God has written, where they are in harmony with Him personally day by day, where they are in harmony with each other.

That is a target of Satan, isn't it? Because a faculty of men who want to teach the whole counsel of God to another generation (2 Timothy 2:2) will cause a chain reaction that will evangelize the whole world; that's the Great Commission. That's the dynamic of it, so it has to be the most prominent target Satan has on this planet.

The same application applies to a fellowship of churches that is in harmony with God and each other—my, show me one that has no deviations or driftings or problems in terms of integrity and faithfulness to the original model and

commitment. So God is watching, Satan is watching, and we have to be very conscious, don't we, of the fact that this is fragile system that has to be daily prayed over, confronted, watched, disciplined, controlled—or it's going to go down irretrievably, irreversibly.

What are the first signs of this drift?

John put his finger on it with the church of Ephesus: "You have left your first love." Your doctrine is okay and you still have some standards, but you have lost your first love. Unless you repent, I will come and take away your candlestick. In other words, we need a relationship to Christ personally, day by day. "Lord, tell me this day how to serve You effectively. Guard my thoughts, my motives, every thing I do. I'm answerable and accountable to You." If we're not consciously committed to Him day by day, our service becomes mechanical and professional; then we begin subconsciously to drift.

What is the greatest need in our churches today?

From the perspective of the theologian, the greatest need is getting back to God and His Word, getting back to the Bible. You may say, "Well, I'm doing more important things. I'm on the cutting edge of some new philosophy or perspective or principle." To which I respond by saying, Now just be careful here. If an idea isn't solidly based on Scripture and Scriptural priorities, it is immediately suspect.

(Excerpts of interview with John C Whitcomb by Kevin Mungons, managing editor of the Baptist Bulletin. For the whole interview, go to <http://baptistbulletin.org/?p=9509>.)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 11 – 17, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
TUE	8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 602</i>
SAT	3.30 pm	Adults Fellowship
	5.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Pr Joshua Yong)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Oct 16 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Acts by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Combined Meeting with Calvary Pandan YF this Sat, Oct 16 at 5 pm. Venue: Calvary Pandan BPC Level 3 Sanctuary. Message: "Humility in Christian Life" by Eld J T Joseph. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$21,284; AUD200 (Faith Presbyterian Church-Perth); RM5 *Fellowships' Collections*: YPF \$93.70

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Baraka BPC* \$300; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$500, \$100; *Bible Witness* \$50; *Kenneth Wong* \$50; *Dn Charles & Jenny Kan* \$50; *Sim Swee Ho* \$200, \$50; *Ibrahim (FEBC)* \$10; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC Legal Fees* \$1,000; *FEBC* \$300, \$250, \$100, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$24,867.70; AUD200; RM5

Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$1,000, \$1,000, \$950, \$800, \$500, \$320, \$300, \$200, \$200, \$100, \$50 **Total:** \$1,004,836.27

Verse for the Week: *Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.* Prov 21:2

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Amos under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Not Ashamed of the Testimony of Christ" by Dr Paul Ferguson.

Mdm Chan Peh Wan (72), mother of Mrs Johnny Wan (Wendy), accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour on 8 October 2010, and was baptised by Rev Jeffrey Khoo in the presence of her children at NUH Ward 64, Bed 32. We continue to remember Mdm Chan and family in prayer.



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RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

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(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 2

10 October 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 119:105-112
Hymn	<i>Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>Break Thou the Bread of Life</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	1 Corinthians 11:24
Sermon	Broken for Me (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>Wounded for Me</i> (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving of True Life BPC, 3 October 2010

We are True Life because of the Word of Life. The theme verse of True Life Bible-Presbyterian Church is Philippians 2:16, "Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain." That is the reason for our existence—to hold forth the Word of Life. In fact, when we sought to register the church, we submitted the name "Word of Life Bible-Presbyterian Church" as our first choice. "True Life" was our second choice. Since there was already a "Word of Life" church from another denomination, the Registrar of Societies told us to take the name "True Life".

What does "holding forth" mean? In the Greek text, the word *epecho* literally means to hold upon or to hang on. It has the idea of holding on to

something very tightly, like hanging on to dear life. So what is this thing so precious that we must hold on to, to protect from being damaged or destroyed? It is the Word of Life, the Holy Scriptures. If we do not want to waste our Christian life away here on earth, if we are to serve the Lord meaningfully, we must first and foremost uphold God's forever infallible and inerrant Word, 100% perfect without any mistake.

There are many unbelievers today who attack the Bible. One example is Dan Brown who attacked Christ and His Word through his book, *The Da Vinci Code*, saying that the Bible is spurious and false, and that Jesus Christ is not God and Saviour. The National Council of Churches petitioned the authorities to have the book and movie banned but to no avail. Anyway, it does not matter. True believers will not be shaken in their faith for they know their Saviour and they know the Truth. Our faith is not so weak that we will go berserk each time our faith is attacked or ridiculed. We will teach the truth and defend the faith without compromise, and we know that God Himself will judge the reprobates in due time. We also know that God is "longsuffering...", not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Pet 3:9).

As God's children, we understand why unbelievers attack God's Word. It is because they are blind to the truth, blinded by pride. However, what is troubling nowadays is that we have professing Christians talking like unbelievers, saying that it is intellectually dishonest to believe the Bible is 100% perfect without any



7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service of True Life BPC, 3 October 2010

mistake. They say it is foolish to believe that the Bible is *presently* infallible and inerrant. Now, note that when the Apostle Paul told the Philippians to hold forth the Word of Life, it was not some intangible, non-existent Word. It was a presently existing infallible and inerrant Word. It is only from the Word of God that we can know the Way, the Truth, and the Life. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom 10:17). The Word of God is the Word that gives life.

So, we as True Lifers affirm that the Word of God is not only perfect in the past, it is also perfect today. God not only inspired His Word perfectly, He also preserved His Word perfectly. We believe that we have the very same Holy Scriptures that the Apostle Paul had, that the saints had in the first century. But this is derided as "foolish faith" by some who insist that there is just no such thing as a 100% perfect Bible today. I once asked a pastor how he would answer a young believer if he were to be asked this question, "Pastor, are there any mistakes in the Bible?" His reply was, "I would tell him that there are no mistakes in the Bible that should cause him any worry." What a faith shattering answer! Jesus warned, "And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea" (Mark 9:42).

Those who write off a 100% perfect Bible without any mistake as "foolish faith" should be reminded that "the foolishness of God is wiser than men" (1 Cor 1:25). "Let God be true, but every man a liar" (Rom 3:4). The Bible says it, that settles it and it is our duty to believe it. God makes no mistakes, and His Word is also without mistakes. God not only inspired His Word but also preserved it to the last iota. Psalm 12:6-7 makes it very clear who does the work of preservation and why the words of God are perfectly pure. "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." I believe my Saviour who said, "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), "Heaven and earth shall

pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt 24:35), the scripture cannot be broken" (John 10:35). We reject the forked tongue hissing of the snake, "Yea, hath God said?" Let us believe only the Lord Jesus Christ who said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4). If I want to know the truth about God's Word, I go to the primary source, to the Author Himself, to God Himself who speaks truthfully through His forever infallible and inerrant Word.

Why do we hold on or hang on to the Word of Life? It is because without it we are lost. Without it we have no life. No Bible, no Gospel. No Gospel, no life. We cannot live without it. It is in the Bible that we hear the voice of God. Dean Burgon said, "The Bible is none other than the voice of Him that sitteth upon the throne ...". Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27).

It is not by chance that the King James Bible (KJB) has stood the test of time. Next year will be the 400th anniversary of the KJB. God has placed His stamp of approval on this grand old version of the English Bible. It continues to be well loved by those who love the Lord and His Word. To commemorate our 7th anniversary, we have a specially-made olive wood Bible for all worshippers. It is the KJB published by the Trinitarian Bible Society (TBS). We support the good work of the TBS which promotes and defends the KJB. The olive wood is from the Holy Land, from Bethlehem made by our Palestinian brethren at Baraka Bible-Presbyterian Church. Olive trees are known for their longevity, and can live for thousands of years. Olive wood is very hardy and beautiful. The longevity, hardiness and beauty of olive wood are the very characteristics of the KJB—long-lasting, time-tested, faithful and beautiful! May you treasure this Bible and use it often. Dr D A Waite, President of the Dean Burgon Society, is absolutely right to say that the KJB has a fourfold superiority over other versions of the Bible. It is superior in its Texts, Translators, Technique and Theology.

There is much to say about the goodness of the KJB. However, there are those who

say the KJB is no good, that it is hard to understand, outdated in its English, and no longer useful. But David Marshall who was a Jew and Singapore's first chief minister said that the KJB was his English textbook. Marshall said he read the KJB many, many times, and it "influenced both my passion for human justice and my feel for the English language" (read *Marshall of Singapore* by Dr Kevin Tan, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies). You want to learn good English, learn it from the KJB.

God gave us only one Bible, the one He inspired and preserved. But there are so many "Bibles" today, so many versions, and they are all different and not the same. This has brought confusion. Which Bible? Albert Einstein rightly observed, "A man with one watch knows what time it is, a man with two watches is never sure." Similarly, a Christian with one Bible knows what the Truth is, a Christian with two Bibles is never sure. Let us be sure of God's Truth by returning to the good old Bible, the Bible of the great Protestant Reformation, which we have in our hands today! That is why we are True Life!

Sabbatical Jubilee Thanksgiving and Praise Services

Praise the Lord for the blessed Sabbatical Jubilee Lord's Day services in the morning and in the evening, October 3, 2010. We thank the Lord for our many guests and friends from sister Bible-Presbyterian churches who graced our Thanksgiving and Praise Services with their presence and gifts.

The evening Praise Service at Calvary Pandan was attended by about 700 people. What a holy night of sacred music! The Church and Youth Choirs, and the Far Eastern Bible College students, sang a repertoire of psalms and hymns and spiritual songs exulting God's Attributes ("Canon of Praise", "*Ye Su De Bao Xue*", "My Hope Is in the Lord"), God's Word ("Be Thou My Vision", "Thy Word Is Like a Garden, Lord", "The Bible Stands"), and God's Church ("Onward Christian Soldiers", "The Lord Himself Has Built a Church", "The Church Victorious"), with a consecration solo by

Deborah Mae. The choir was ably conducted by Sister Zuyi and Brother Ming Kuang. Brother Bee Heng is to be commended for his diligence in coordinating the whole choir effort. Elder J T Joseph solemnly led the congregation into the right spirit of worship, and Mrs Joseph was excellent as narrator. Mrs Susanne Sim was impeccable on the piano and organ, and Mrs Janice Lai on the Clavinova.

The message "The Bible Stands, Will You?" was delivered by Dr Jeffrey Khoo. There is no doubt that many if not all went home that night with great joy and gladness for God's wonderful work, and greatly encouraged and edified by God's Word. The whole service started at sunset 6 pm, and ended at 7.45 pm with Dr S H Tow, Senior Pastor of Calvary Pandan, pronouncing the benediction. The celebrations continued over dinner at the newly air-conditioned fellowship hall. We are very grateful to the pastors, session and members (PA crew, ushers, and other helpers) of Calvary Pandan for their kind hospitality and assistance. May the Lord bless them richly for the love they have shown to us.

The offerings collected that night will go to the support of the Baraka Education Centre, a ministry of Baraka Bible-Presbyterian Church (pastored by Rev George Awad and his son Rev Danny Awad) in Bethlehem, Palestine. We will present this gift to them when we visit them at FEBC's year-end pilgrimage to the Holy Land, November 29-December 11, 2010.

Five hundred copies of the Sabbatical Jubilee Magazine, 188 colour pages, chronicling the story of True Life BPC from its inception in 2003 were given out at the Praise Service. If you still do not have the Magazine, please make sure you get your copy at the reception table. The magazine can also be picked up from FEBC Bookroom and Tabernacle Books.

We thank our photographers, Dr Chan Kay Heem and Mrs Catherine Tan, for capturing all the images for posterity. Video and photos of our Sabbatical Jubilee Thanksgiving celebrations will be made available soon.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 18 – 24, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>RELC Room 602</i>
SAT	4.00 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Dr S H Tow) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School
	5.30 pm	60 th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service of BP Movement

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Obadiah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Young People's Fellowship will be having a combined Bible Study with Berean BPC this Sat, Oct 23. Time: 4 pm. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. For those requiring transport, please meet at FEBC at 3.30 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$11,393.30
Fellowships' Collections: LF \$340.10; YPF \$198

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Hien* \$100; *Thangno* \$200; *Amos Go* \$100; *Mrs Anne Clements* \$500; *Marilyn Nanta* \$500; *Baraka Education Centre* \$520; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$150, \$70; *Church Choir* \$100; *Youth Choir* \$100; *YPF* \$300; *VBS 2011* \$400; *Barnabas Yap* \$500; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$300; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$300; *FEBC Dining Club* \$50; *FEBC* \$5,600, \$3,000, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:
\$24,971.40

Church Building Fund \$500, \$200, \$100 **Total:**
\$1,005,636.27

Total collection from the Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service at Calvary Pandan for Baraka BPC was S\$17,068.65; USD100.

Verse for the Week: *To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice. Prov 21:3*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."

Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Are We Faithful Stewards of the Lord?" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy.

2010 Church Camp messages are available for sale in MP3 Audio CD (\$3 without photos and \$5 with photos). You may place your prepaid orders at the Booktable, 12 pm – 12.30 pm.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 3

17 October 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Yesterday, Today, Forever</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	1 John 4:1-21
Hymn	<i>O How I Love Jesus</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Surrender All</i>
Doxology/Pastoral	
Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Matthew 28:6
Sermon	The Joy the Resurrection of Christ Brings (Pr Joshua Yong)
Closing Hymn	<i>Rejoice – the Lord Is King!</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

The Bible Stands, Will You?

*Sermon by the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at the True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service,
3 October 2010*

In Jeremiah 6:16 we read, "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. But they said, We will not walk therein."

What are the old paths? The old paths are the paths of the Lord which is described as "the good way", the way to salvation, to righteousness, to heaven. "Walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." Where can we find such old paths? The good old ways are found in good old Book—the Holy Bible—which we have in our hands today.

The good old way is a strait and narrow way. Jesus said, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in

thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matt 7:13-14).

Throughout history, Satan and his agents have tried to corrupt this way, to widen or broaden it, to make it a highway to hell. The good old way is a very narrow way because it says that there is only one way to heaven—Jesus is the only way. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim 2:5). "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Satan tried to broaden the way by attacking the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He used the liberals like Dan Brown and his bestselling book—*The Da Vinci Code*—to tell us that the Bible we have today is not the only Bible (66 books of Canonical Scripture), that there is another Bible—the Gnostic Bible that tells us of another Saviour also called Jesus but quite different from the one found in the traditional Bible, the old Bible. There is also another Gospel called the Gospel of Judas which gives us another Jesus quite different from the one we know. Then there are the manuscripts that come from Egypt which question the full deity of Christ, that cut away



True Life & FEBC Choirs at the Sabbatical Jubilee Praise Service, 3 October 2010 (Evening)

nearly 10,000 words from the good old Bible.

How do we know the Bible is true, and with so many new Bibles and versions popping up here, there and everywhere, how do we know *which* Bible is true? We know the truth because the truth is found in the old ways, in the old Book. Look for the good old Bible comprising just 66 books of the verbally and plenary inspired (VPI) Scripture that speak of God's love for us through the Lord Jesus Christ. Look for the same VPI Book that God has verbally and plenary preserved (VPP), kept pure throughout the ages by His singular care and providence. Look for the inspired and preserved Book that has been faithfully received, read, used, multiplied and distributed all the time throughout time. Not the manuscripts buried in the sands of Egypt, nor the texts edited by the modernists, but those found in the hands of the faithful, well loved and well used, time-honoured and time-tested. It is the Bible for which many believers paid with their lives just to preach and print it. It is the Bible of the great Protestant Reformation which gave us the doctrine of Scripture alone—one Bible only, no other authority but this Bible only. It is the Reformation Bible that has the marks of divine inspiration and preservation.

The Bible you have in your hands—the King James Bible—is a Reformation Bible, a Bible that is based on the traditional Hebrew Masoretic Text and the Greek Textus Receptus. It is not by chance that the King James Bible has outstripped and outlasted all other English Bibles. Next year, 2011, will be the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. The King James Bible and its underlying Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek Words is the Bible that has been most severely attacked since the day God gave it. But the remarkable thing is—it still stands. Why? It is because the God of providence had promised to preserve His inspired Words. The doctrine of the verbal and plenary preservation of the Holy Scriptures

is the truth. *“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). Dr Carl McIntire, the late founder of the Bible Presbyterian denomination in the United States, commented on this psalm, and he said, “Now come verse 6, ‘*The words of the LORD are pure words,*’ not one of them is mistaken, ‘*as silver tried in the furnace of earth, purified seven times.*’ All the dregs are out. Here is a marvelous affirmation and vindication that God's Word is perfect. ... Now, ‘*The words of the LORD are pure words.*’ And then verse 7, how I love this: ‘*Thou shalt keep them O LORD,*’ that is, keep His words; ‘*thou shalt preserve them from this generation forever.*’ No matter what happens, one generation comes and another passes away, God is going to preserve His words ... from one generation to another. The words of God will be preserved throughout all the generations.”

Our late founding pastor—the Rev Dr Timothy Tow—believed likewise. Read his story in the True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Magazine, “In the Steps of Our Saviour.” Walk in the old path, which is the good way, the strait and narrow way that leads to life. Will you walk in the good old way? The unbelieving and disobedient Jews said, *“We will not walk therein.”* How about you? The Bible stands. The question is, will you?

Greetings from Chiangmai

Dear Dr Khoo,

Firstly, we want to congratulate True Life B-P Church for its 7th Anniversary. May the Lord continue to prosper the church, bless the preaching of His Word to the edification of His people and the saving of souls, like our beloved Principal used to remind us in the class, quoting the Scripture, *“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” (Matthew 24:14)! So sorry for being late in sending our greetings to your church on your joyous occasion as we are not so well informed over here of what is happening in Singapore.

Thank God also for the article that you wrote on your church 7th Anniversary weekly entitled “Whose Faith Follow” which is very encouraging and edifying. Yes, the battle for the Bible is still on today and we agree with you that we as Bible-Presbyterians must continue to proclaim and teach “the twin doctrines of Verbal Plenary Inspiration (2 Tim 3:16) and Verbal Plenary Preservation (Matt 5:18).” As Rev Dr Timothy Tow's students, we have not forgotten the truth that he had imparted to us from the Holy Scriptures, clearly printed on your church weekly, *“Holding forth the word of life”* (Philippians 2:16). Though we may not be at the same place geographically,

we are with True Life BPC and FEBC in the same spirit and mind, *“for we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth”* (2 Corinthians 13:8).

Could you kindly send me a copy of your Sabbatical Jubilee magazine: “In the Steps of Our Saviour”? I want to know and be blessed by “the True Life story, the people whom God had used, what we as a church stand for, and how God can use us in the days ahead.” Thank you.

We are still praying for FEBC and True Life BPC.

“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding” (Proverb 23:23).

Peace be with you,

Robert & Dara Peh

Truth BP Church, Chiangmai

The Christian Home of Love

<http://www.christianhomeoflove.blogspot.com>



Children's Violin, Children's Choir and Church & Youth Choirs at the 7th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service, 3 October 2010 (Morning)

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Oct 25 – 31, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
THU	7.30 pm	<i>Second Corinthians</i> (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting <i>FEBC Hall</i> <i>9A Gilstead Road</i>
SAT	1.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Mark Kim) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Mon and Thu night classes, 7.30-9.30 pm, are held at the FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road.

FEBC's 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage Prayer Meeting will be held this Fri, Oct 29 at the FEBC Hall, 9A Gilstead Road, 8 pm. *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem* (Ps 122:6). All are welcome.

Young People's Fellowship's Cottage Meeting at the home of Mr and Mrs Herbert Goh this Sat, Oct 30 at 1.30 pm. Address: Blk 206 Choa Chu Kang Central #07-14, Singapore 680206. Taking MRT: please meet Andrew Kan (91598914) at CCK MRT at 1.15 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Oct 30 at Mr and Mrs Ng Choon Seng's home, 5 Mount Faber Road, #07-12 The Pearl, 5.30 pm. Message: "Roles of Wives" by Rev Park Seung Kyu. Contact Bernard Tee at 96780319 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$8,261.20; USD20; RM5 *Fellowships' Collections:* AF \$342; YPF \$130

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200, \$100; *Baraka BPC* \$5,000; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$1,000, \$500, \$70; *Jose Lagapa & family* \$300; *Lin Yang & family* \$300; *FEBC Dining Club* \$100, \$50; *FEBC* \$500, \$100, \$50, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:
S\$17,053.20; USD20; RM5

Church Building Fund \$500, \$200, \$100, \$30
Total: \$1,006,466.27

Verse for the Week: *An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin. Prov 21:4*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."
Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

60th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service of BP Movement tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, **5.30 pm**. Message: "Hallmark of the B-P Movement!" by Dr S H Tow.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Obadiah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Reformation Lecture and Cantata 2010 will be held at Gethsemane BPC on Oct 31, 7.30-9.00 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

2010 Church Camp messages are available for sale in MP3 Audio CD (\$3 without photos and \$5 with photos). You may place your prepaid orders at the Booktable, 12-12.30 pm.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 4

24 October 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>We're Marching to Zion</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 90
Hymn	<i>O God, Our Help in Ages Past</i>

Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Family Bible Fellowship
Offering & Hymn	<i>A Christian Home</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	Matthew 24:1-7, 24
Pastoral Prayer	Dr S H Tow
Sermon	The Lord Is Coming

(Dr S H Tow)

Closing Hymn	<i>Maybe Today</i>
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Benediction	Dr S H Tow
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The King James Bible versus the Modern Paraphrase

Rev Dr Carl McIntire

The Bible is the Word of God, the only Word of God that there is. It was delivered by the prophets, the apostles, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit with the approval and the promise of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Head of the church. It is not an ordinary book; it is God's Book. It has been the confession of the church through the centuries that it is indeed "the only infallible rule of faith and practice." It is inspired of God in a way that no other book ever has been or ever will be inspired. It is without error as given by the Holy Spirit to its authors.

Our twentieth century has been characterized primarily by an attack upon the Word of God—what was called modernism, higher criticism, claimed that the Bible had mistakes in it, and the statements of the Bible concerning itself were

questioned and rejected. With the rejection of the truth and inspiration of the Holy Scripture came of course the questioning of the common doctrines or the fundamental doctrines of the Christian Faith. Once the trustworthiness of the Book was destroyed, away went its infallibility and its authority.

The ungodly are blind; the unregenerate do not see. This is why the scholars who translate the Bible should be born-again men, who have the Spirit within them. This was the case with the King James translators.

It is the whole Word of God, the whole counsel of God, the fullness of what God has revealed to us which we must maintain. The revealed things are for us and for our children, but "the secret things belong to the Lord our God." But once it has been revealed it is for us to guard, to protect, to cherish, to make certain that exactly what God has said will be communicated to those who are lost and who needed to be saved and be given to those who are saved that they may therefore be edified by it. It is the Word of God that is the means of grace, not a paraphrase.

The tragedy of it all is that that which is not the Word of God is now being offered as the Word of God, and it carries with it the historic connotation that the Word of God itself has sustained in the esteem and the love of God's people throughout the world. There is a twist here that is



Praise Item by the Evangelistic Band at the Worship Service, 22 August 2010

deceptive. “Take heed that no man deceive you,” our Lord said. What the world needs is the unity, the authority, the glory of an accurate, honest translation of the text as given by the Holy Spirit to the prophets and the apostles of old.

The King James is still the best and most generally accepted version. The world needs the Word of God, not just what one man thinks the Word of God ought to say, or how he can adjust it so he thinks it will be more acceptable to a generation of the twentieth century. These accommodations of man to man, and the adjustment of God’s Word to sinful men, so that what man has is not indeed the fullness of God’s revelation or even His Word and truth, will only contribute further to the confusion that exists about whether there is a Word from God or not.

Jesus Christ said, “Thy Word is truth.” Let us have it, love it, believe it, obey it, and die for it. Here are the words of eternal life!

If we are going to believe that the Scriptures are infallible, inerrant, and that every word of God is pure, then why should anyone even attempt to give us a paraphrase? Did not God give His Word to His church in all time and to the world? Must we improve on what God Himself designed and planned and did? No wonder we are having trouble with the young people, who demand that Christianity and the culture which is produced be conformed to them rather than their being transformed.

The King James Version still remains to be the best translation. The arguments of the liberals to destroy it, to take it away from the church have failed. It is a version; it is a translation, but it is the truest, the best, the most beautiful, the most beloved. The tragedy of these various translations is that they have produced a condition in which there is no longer any common text that the church memorizes and lives on. God’s people should insist that the King James continue to be read in the public worship

and that it be used in their private ministry, for who can possibly improve upon John 3:16, the most beloved text of all Scripture?

Let it be recognized that the first assault upon the Scripture in our century has come from the modernist, now it comes from the Neo-Evangelicals for the very purpose of unsettling the church and weakening her commitment and her knowledge both of the Word and of her Lord.

God’s people need and must have what God has been pleased to give to His church. It is the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testaments, which are indeed the Word of God, “the only infallible rule of faith and practice.” A paraphrase of what God has said has nothing to offer, for who on this earth could possibly improve on what God Himself has said? All of this tampering with the Bible affects the prophecies and especially those that relate to the end time.

The old Devil is determined to break the blessings that belong to God’s people as the remnants of the last days. He wants confusion so that people will not understand that God is going to deal with him. And He wants the way to be prepared for his man, the Antichrist, the man of sin, the beast of the Book of the Revelation, to arise who will deceive the whole world.

Let Christians come back to the Bible, love it, read it, delight in it, honor it, and recognize that in it God speaks directly to their souls and satisfies their minds and gives them the grace they need to serve Him until our Saviour appears and gathers to himself His bride, the church. In these days every true Christian must stand as John the beloved said, “For the Word of God, and for the Testimony of Jesus Christ” (Revelation 1:9).

(An abridgement of Carl McIntire’s sermon, “*The Living Bible: Word of God or Thoughts of Man?*”)

Versions, Versions, Confuversions

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Ken Walker reported in *Christianity Today*, 30 September 2010,

In his research for a book on translations, Phoenix Seminary professor Paul Wegner identified nearly 100 English versions by 1950. He estimates there are twice as many now, although only a handful controls a dominant share of the market.

“We’ve probably reached the saturation point,” Wegner said. “It may be doing more damage than good. It’s gotten to the point that people are making money.” In other words, profit may be prompting more translations than readability concerns demand.

Leland Ryken, literature professor at Wheaton College and a member of the translation oversight committee of the English Standard Version, labeled the CEB’s [Common English Bible] title “ironic,” saying numerous versions have created a lack of common understanding of Scripture. “With the proliferation of Bibles, the public has become confused,” Ryken said. “There’s no longer a genuine search to find an authentic Bible.” (Ken Walker, “*Good News Glut: Common English Bible Joins the Crowd*,” <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2010/septemberweb-only/49-41.0.html>).

There was a time when Satan tried to destroy the Gospel by burning every copy of the Bible, or hide the Gospel by banning people from owning and reading the Bible for themselves. That failed. The Bible cannot be broken nor bound. Today, Satan adopts a new strategy. He floods the market with new Bibles, with hundreds of new and different versions, creating confusion! Peddling the Bible for profit, these Bible publishers corrupt the Word of God and confuse the people of God.

The hundreds of modern versions seek to drown out the good old Bible—the King James Bible. Again the authentic Bible cannot be shut out or overthrown. The King James Bible has lasted for 400 years. This is surely God’s doing. God is keeping His Word pure, and is preserving His inspired Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek Words by His singular care and providence. The King James Bible is the most faithful and accurate translation of those inspired and preserved Words of God.

We are of the One Bible Movement! God gave us only one Bible—the Bible He originally inspired and continues to preserve. We have this Bible today. It is in our hands to have and to use for the extension of God’s Kingdom and the edification of God’s people.

Satan is not happy with this at all. He goes all out to destroy the faithful and true. Just like in days of old, the faithful will continue to be hated, persecuted, bullied and ridiculed even by those who profess Christianity. There is a whole lot of false and hypocritical Christianity today. It is the end times.

But one thing is for sure: God’s perfect Word cannot be destroyed and His remnant church cannot be defeated. Jesus the Author and Keeper of His Words promised three times, “*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away*” (Matt 24:35, Mark 13:31, Luke 21:33). Jesus the Rock of our salvation also said, “*upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*” (Matt 16:18).

The dual promise of Psalm 12:5-7 holds true; God will protect His faithful saints and preserve His inspired words from the proud and wicked, “*For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him. 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.*”

Our God is a God of order, not confusion (1 Cor 14:33).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 1 – 7, 2010)

MON	7.30 pm	<i>Second Kings</i> (Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew)
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
THU		FEBC Exams Begin
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Stephen Khoo)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

BTFE Mon night class, 7.30-9.30 pm, is held at the Far Eastern Bible College, 9A Gilstead Road. **Ladies Fellowship Meeting** this Wed, Nov 3 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Jacob" by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details. **Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting** this Fri, Nov 5 at 8 pm in the home of Mr and Mrs Tan Tong Hai. Address: 30 Leedon Road, Singapore 267849. Tel: 98258577.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Nov 6 at 3.30 pm. Message: "What is Biblical Separation?" by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Inaugural Chinese Fellowship Meeting will be held at the home of Mr and Mrs Tai Mern Yee on Nov 13 (Sat) at 4 pm. Address: 18 Yew Siang Road, #04-01 Flynn Park, Singapore 117755. Tel: 92991663. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo will be away teaching in BCEA Kenya from Nov 15-28.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: \$12,319

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Gethsemane Care Ministry* \$100; *VBS 2011* \$70; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$100; *FEBC Dining Club* \$50; *FEBC* \$1,200, \$1,000, \$500

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$15,739

Church Building Fund \$800, \$800, \$200 Total: \$1,008,266.27

Verse for the Week: *The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want. Prov 21:5*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Jonah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Is There Not a Cause?" by Rev Quek Suan Yew.

Reformation Lecture and Cantata 2010 tonight at Gethsemane BPC, 7.30-9.00 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 615 Bukit Panjang Ring Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

Church Choir will be having Christmas Caroling on Dec 19 (Sun evening). Those who would like to open their homes, please contact Joycelyn at 97658004 by **Nov 21**.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Register at the Booktable. *Closing Date:* Dec 5. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 5

31 October 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 46
Hymn	<i>God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Deborah & Judith
Offering & Hymn	<i>Faith of Our Fathers</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Mark 1:1-8
Sermon	The 8th Turning Point (Rev Dr Mark Kim)
Closing Hymn	<i>Pentecostal Power</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Mark Kim

The Reformation Bible

Jeffrey Khoo

No Bible, no Reformation! "*Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*" (Rom 10:17). It was God's Word that brought about the 16th Century Protestant Reformation. The Reformation did not happen by chance or by accident. It was a special event predestined by God and it finally happened in God's perfect time. According to Church historian Philip Schaff, "The Reformation of the 16th Century is, next to the introduction of Christianity, the greatest event in history." Just as the Lord Jesus Christ came miraculously in "the fullness of the time" (Gal 4:4), so did the Reformation. In light of biblical precedents and special providence, the Protestant Reformation was a "miracle event" from God.

The Reformation fire was lit by the light of

God's Word. The Word of God had to be put into the hands of the common folk. The Lord used His servants like Wycliffe, Tyndale, Coverdale, and finally the King James translators to put the Bible into the hands of the people in the pew so that they might know the truth, for it is only the truth that can make them see and set them free (John 8:32).

The Authorised or King James Version (AV/KJV) is built upon all the Reformation versions (Wycliffe, Tyndale, Coverdale, Geneva etc) of the English Bible and is providentially the best of all the English versions. It has stood the test of time and blessed many millions all over the world for what would be 400 years in 2011, just a few months away.

There are four reasons why the KJV is superior:

(1) It Is Based on Divinely Inspired and Preserved Texts

All Christians should believe in the inspiration and preservation of the Holy Scriptures (2 Tim 3:16, Ps 12:6-7). Jesus used the OT Scriptures during His earthly ministry, and considered every word of it to be inspired. In Matthew 5:18, He said, "*Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*" This surely means that the



True Life BPC Chinese Service, October 3, 2010

Hebrew Scriptures have been preserved through the centuries, to the extent that every bit of it has been left intact. If God has so preserved the inspired words of the OT Scriptures so that none of them is lost, will He not also preserve the NT Scriptures? Based on God's promises and power, we can say with confidence that we have the very Word of God today in the divinely preserved Hebrew and Greek texts (or words) on which the KJV is based.

(2) It Is Translated by Godly and Able Scholars

The KJV is an excellent translation of the Holy Scriptures. It is a good fruit. It is a good fruit because it comes from a good tree (Matt 7:15-20). The KJV is a good translation because of good translators; in terms of their intellect and learning, they were brilliant; and in their faith and devotion towards God, they were vibrant. There were a total of 54 scholars of the highest rank who translated the KJV. They were not only men of great learning but also of great piety. They were skilled in the biblical languages, and lived in a period when the English language was at its glorious height. It was a most providentially opportune time to translate the Scriptures into the English tongue. They began their work in 1604 and completed it in 1611—a total of seven years.

Without doubt, the KJV is a product of God's special providence. Alexander McClure wrote, "As to the capability of those men, we may say again, that by the good Providence of God, their work was undertaken in a fortunate time. Not only had the English language, that singular compound, then ripened to its full perfection, but the study of Greek, and of the oriental tongues, ... had then been carried to a greater extent in England than ever before or since. ... it is confidently

expected that the reader of these pages will yield to the conviction, that all the colleges of Great Britain and America, even in this proud day of boastings, could not bring together the same number of divines equally qualified by learning and piety for the great undertaking. Few indeed are the living names worthy to be enrolled with those mighty men. It would be impossible to convene out of any one Christian denomination, or out of all, a body of translators, on whom the whole Christian community would bestow such confidence as is reposed upon that illustrious company, or who would prove themselves as deserving of such confidence" (*Translators Revived*, 63-4).

(3) It Is Accurately Translated Word for Word

The KJV employs the correct method of translation. The KJV uses the verbal/formal equivalence over against the dynamic equivalence method of translation. The verbal/formal equivalence method is the only acceptable method for the translation of the Holy Scriptures. Why? Simply because the Bible is the *verbally* inspired Word of God!

God issued a very serious warning in Revelation 22:18, "*For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*" In any attempt to translate the Scriptures, it is paramount that there should be no addition to, subtraction from, and changing of God's Word. It must be translated word for word without any alteration of its divine sense or intent.

The dynamic equivalence method is a subjective and interpretive thought-for-

thought method. Such a method may be applied to human literature, but certainly not Holy Scripture. The Bible's divine origin and its verbal inerrancy forbid it. "Virgin" must be translated "virgin," and not "young woman" (as in the RSV), and "blood" must be translated "blood," and not "death" (as in the TEV), and "only begotten" must be translated "only begotten," and not just "one and only" (as in the NIV) undermining the eternal generation of God the Son.

(4) It Is Faithful to Historic Protestant Theology

The KJV preserves all the fundamental doctrines of the Christian Faith like the (1) Inspiration of Scripture (2 Tim 3:16), (2) Preservation of Scripture (Ps 12:6-7), (3) Virgin Birth of Christ (Isa 7:14), (4) Eternal Generation of Christ (John 1:14, 18, 3:16, 18, 1 John 4:9), (5) the Holy Trinity (1 John 5:7), (6) the deity and humanity of Christ (1 Tim 3:16), and many others. The modernistic 20th and 21st century versions on the other hand have unfaithfully manipulated these biblical texts to distort or corrupt these and other fundamental truths of the Christian faith.

One fundamental doctrine of the Christian faith that is attacked by the modern versions is the doctrine of the Trinity. They undermine this important doctrine by scissoring out 1 John 5:7—the clearest proof-text for the doctrine of the Trinity, "*For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*" Some will argue that the absence of 1 John 5:7 does not affect the doctrine of the Trinity because there are many other biblical passages that teach it. The doctrine to them is thus not lost. While the doctrine may not be lost, a very strong and powerful testimony for it would surely be. Which other scriptural passage is as crystal clear as 1 John 5:7 in expressing

the unity of the three Persons of the Godhead? We lose a very valuable proof-text if we reject the old and preserved text in favour of the new and corrupt text. This is not a small matter as some would like to think. Paul warned, "*a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump*" (Gal 5:9). By faith in God's promise of perfect preservation of not just His doctrines but also His words to the last iota (Matt 5:18, 24:35), we believe 1 John 5:7 to be God's inspired words in the original.

In an age when the pressure to be popular, to compromise, and to backslide is so great, there is a real need to remember and to return to the old-time faith of the Protestant Reformation as expressed in the biblical dicta of Grace alone, Faith alone, Christ alone, Scripture alone, and to the Glory of God alone. In this postmodern and apostate age of uncertainty and unbelief, the temptation is great to denounce the forever infallible and inerrant Word of God as found in the 100% inspired and 100% preserved Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek words of the Reformation Bible, and to renounce the Protestant Reformation as a mistake in the history of the church.

As true Protestant sons and Bible-loving Christians, we reject any kind of unity that will compromise the truth. We also reject the neo-deistic worldview that denies the divine preservation and present perfection of the Holy Scriptures.

What of the many new and modern "Bibles" today which depart from the good old Reformation Bible? Albert Einstein once said, "A man with one watch knows what time it is, a man with two watches is never sure." Similarly, a Christian with one Bible knows what the truth is, a Christian with two Bibles is never sure. Let us be sure of God's truth by returning to the good old Bible, the one Bible of the great Protestant Reformation, which we have in our hands today!

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 8 – 14, 2010)

MON-FRI	FEBC Exams
TUE 8.00 pm	Church Session Meeting
FRI 7.00 pm	FEBC End-of-Term Thanksgiving Service
SAT 3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
4.00 pm	Chinese Fellowship
SUN 9.15 am	Sunday School
10.30 am	Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

No Prayer Meeting this Friday but all are invited to attend the **FEBC End-of-Term Thanksgiving Service** this Friday, Nov 12 at 9A Gilstead Road, 7 pm. Dinner will be served at 6 pm.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Nov 13 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Inaugural Chinese Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Nov 13 at Mr and Mrs Tai Mern Yee's home, 4 pm. Address: 18 Yew Siang Road, #04-01 Flynn Park, Singapore 117755. Tel: 92991663. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Register at the Booktable. *Closing Date*: Dec 5. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

Bible has been translated into many languages based on the inspired and preserved Traditional and Reformation Texts. According to David Cloud, "Many good translations were made during the Protestant Reformation. These include German, Spanish, French, Slovenian, Finnish, and Italian. Good translations were also made from the Received Text into the major languages of Asia, Africa, and elsewhere during the great missionary era of the late 1700s, the 1800s, and the early 1900s." The English language has pretty much become the global *lingua franca*, and the Lord had used 54 of England's best in scholarship and

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* \$9,742
Fellowships' Collections: FBF \$302.20

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200;
Rev Mark Kim \$100; *BCEA Tanzania* \$6,000;
New Life Orphan Centre \$120; *Mrs Ivy Tow*
\$100; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC* \$500, \$400,
\$200, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:
\$18,044.20

Church Building Fund \$550, \$400, \$250, \$200,
\$200 **Total:** \$1,009,866.27

Verse for the Week: *The getting of treasures by a
lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them
that seek death. Prov 21:6*

**"O worship the LORD in the beauty of
holiness."** Please switch off all handphones before
the service. No eating and drinking in the
auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying
Jonah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am. All
are welcome. Lessons are downloadable from
www.febc.edu.sg/SundaySchool.htm.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at
Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm.
Message: "Battle for the Bible!" by Rev Dr Quek
Suan Yew.

Church Choir will be having Christmas Caroling
on Dec 19 (Sun evening). Those who would like
to open their homes, please contact Joycelyn at
97658004 by **Nov 21**.

Mr Ng Joo Hee from St John's Home for Elderly
Persons is baptised this morning at the True Life
Chinese Service.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo will be away teaching in
BCEA Kenya from Nov 15-28.

spirituality to produce the KJV of 1611.
This blessed Bible will be 400 years old
in 2011. This is nothing short of God's
marvelous providence and preservation.

God has kept His promise and we
are kept by His power evinced by His
Spirit and His Scripture—two infallible
Witnesses that give us certainty and
security in these very troubling days of
unbelief and apostasy. As Spirit-indwelt
and Spirit-filled Christians, we are sure
and certain about His inspired and
preserved Words. Jesus said, "My sheep
hear my voice, and I know them, and they
follow me" (John 10:27).



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 6

7 November 2010

**"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is
within me, bless his holy name"**

Call to Worship

Dn Charles Kan

Opening Hymn

How Great Thou Art!

Invocation/Gloria Patri

Responsive Reading

Psalms 100

Hymn

*Before Jehovah's Awful
Throne*

Announcements

Offering & Hymn

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Doxology/Prayer

Dn Charles Kan

Scripture Text

Hebrews 10:23-31

Pastoral Prayer

Rev Stephen Khoo

Sermon

Do You Fear God?

(Rev Stephen Khoo)

Closing Hymn

*Have Thine Own Way,
Lord!*

Benediction

Rev Stephen Khoo

Spirit and Scripture

*Message by the Rev Jeffrey Khoo to Berith BPC
on Reformation Sunday, 31 October 2010*

After our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
completed His redemptive work on earth, He did
not leave us alone without any help. He gave two
precious things: the Holy Spirit and the Holy
Scriptures. These two in their respective ways are
the visible and invisible Witnesses of God's
salvation grace. We cannot do without them. May
we never despise the Scriptures nor the Spirit. If
we are to be saved from our sins, and be helped in
our Christian life we need them both. The trouble
with Christians today is that they fail to understand
the role of the Spirit and the function of Scripture
in their lives. That is why many are tired of their
faith, unhappy in their life, ignorant of God's will,
disturbed and confused by the world.

Holy Spirit

"But ye have an unction from the Holy One,

*and ye know all things. I have not
written unto you because ye know not
the truth, but because ye know it, and
that no lie is of the truth. ... These
things have I written unto you
concerning them that seduce you. But
the anointing which ye have received
of him abideth in you, and ye need not
that any man teach you: but as the
same anointing teacheth you of all
things, and is truth, and is no lie, and
even as it hath taught you, ye shall
abide in him" (1 John 2:20, 21, 26,
27).*

The Lord Jesus Christ our great
High Priest has anointed us with
the Holy Spirit. "Now he which
stablisheth us with you in Christ, and
hath anointed us, is God; Who hath
also sealed us, and given the earnest
of the Spirit in our hearts" (1 Cor
1:21, 22). This anointing happens
when we believe on the Lord Jesus
Christ and accept Him as our Lord and
Saviour, and are born again. The Holy
Spirit at that moment indwells us and
remains in us forever. The Holy Spirit
taking residence within us makes us
children of God. "For as many as are
led by the Spirit of God, they are the
sons of God. For ye have not received
the spirit of bondage again to fear; but
ye have received the Spirit of adoption,
whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The
Spirit itself beareth witness with our
spirit, that we are the children of
God" (Rom 8:14-16).

You do not need anyone to tell you
whether you are a child of God or not.

You know it yourself by the inward testimony of the Holy Spirit in your heart. That is why I am not bothered when my enemies call me a heretic for believing and teaching the perfect preservation of the Holy Scriptures (Ps 12:6-7, Matt 5:18). You would think I should be greatly troubled or distressed. For a heretic is not saved, a heretic is cursed by God, a heretic is on his way to hell. Should not I be worried? Why should I when the Reformers themselves suffered the same fate. John Wycliffe, John Huss, William Tyndale were all falsely accused and condemned as heretics by the Roman Catholic Church. What caused them to be labeled so? It was because they preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ believing that salvation is by faith alone, and not by works. It was because they affirmed that the supreme and final authority of a Christian's faith and practice is the inspired and preserved Scripture alone, and not any man or institution, certainly not the Pope nor the Church. It was because they translated the Bible and encouraged the reading of it by everyone who desired to know the truth. For these "heresies", many of the Reformers and their followers were persecuted, tortured, and burned at the stake. Till today, the Roman Catholic Church by virtue of the Council of Trent continues to condemn the doctrines of *Sola Gratia*, *Sola Fide*, *Solus Christus*, and *Sola Scriptura* as heresies, and considers those who believe such doctrines to be under God's curse.

So, dear friends, if you are called a heretic because you believe like the Reformers did in the promise of God and the power of God not only to inspire His Words but also preserve His Words perfectly so that the Holy Scriptures you have today are totally infallible and inerrant, and by the logic of faith consider these very infallible and inerrant Words to be none other than the Holy Scriptures of the Protestant Reformation, the very Scriptures the Reformers preached from and died for, then count yourselves privileged to be found in such esteemed company of faithful saints, "*Of whom the world was not worthy*" (Heb 11:38).

Jesus told His disciples in John 14:16, 26, "*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ... But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*" In John 15:26, Jesus said, "*But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.*"

Jesus Christ did not leave His disciples destitute when He returned to heaven. He promised "another Comforter," ie the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Holy Trinity. The Greek word for "Comforter" is *Parakletos*. It is a legal term used with reference to an advocate—a lawyer whose role is to counsel and guide his client with regard to the demands and requirements of the law. The Holy Spirit is our Comforter and Counsellor. He protects and defends us when we are falsely accused by the devil and his agents. He encourages and strengthens us in times of distress and discouragement in our pursuit to live a holy life for Christ.

The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of truth because He works in conjunction with the Word of Truth—the Holy Scriptures. Jesus prayed to the Father in John 17:17, "*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*" All of God's elect have become His children "*through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth*" (2 Thess 2:13).

Holy Scriptures

God has not only given us His infallible Spirit, but also His infallible Words—the Holy Scriptures. For "*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*" (2 Tim 3:16-17).

What must we know about the Holy Scriptures? First, we must know that the

divinely inspired Words of Scripture are the original language Words of Hebrew and Greek. The Westminster Confession of Faith (1.8) states, "The Old Testament in Hebrew (which was the native language of the people of God of old), and the New Testament in Greek (which, at the time of the writing of it, was most generally known to the nations), [are] immediately inspired by God." In other words, the nature of the Holy Scriptures is tied strictly to the nature of God Himself. The Holy Scriptures are the product of divine inspiration, the work of the Holy Spirit Himself. The Words of Scripture are therefore not humanly inspired but Spirit-inspired Words. Since God is holy, perfect, infallible, faithful and true, so must His Words be. There are no two ways about it.

There is no question that God gave His Holy Scriptures without any error in the past by divine inspiration, but do we have the same Holy Scriptures today that are totally infallible and inerrant without any mistake? The Westminster Confession answers this question in the affirmative, for the inspired Scriptures are "by His singular care and providence, kept pure in all ages, are therefore authentic." The proof text used was 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.*" The work of biblical preservation is clearly God's work, and God makes no mistakes in preserving His inspired Words "by His singular care and providence" throughout history. So we can be very sure that we in the 21st century have the very same Words the Prophets, the Apostles, the Church Fathers, the Reformers had. The Words of God are not corrupted and no Words are lost. This is what we call Verbal Plenary Preservation which means "the whole of Scripture with all its words even to the jot and tittle is perfectly preserved by God without any loss of the original words, prophecies, promises, commandments, doctrines, and truths, not

only in the words of salvation, but also the words of history, geography and science. Every book, every chapter, every verse, every word, every syllable, every letter is infallibly preserved by the Lord Himself to the last iota."

Next question is: What and where are the inspired and preserved Words of God today? They must be the very Words the Westminster pastors and theologians regarded "authentic," "so as, in all controversies of religion, the Church is finally to appeal unto them." And the authentic and authoritative, infallible and inerrant Scriptures are the traditional Hebrew Masoretic Text and the Greek Textus Receptus of the 16th century Protestant Reformation. These traditional Hebrew and Greek texts are the good old texts of the good old faith which the liberals and modernists tried to replace and displace with their new texts, especially the corrupt Greek text of Westcott and Hort (1881) which was based on scandalously corrupt manuscripts which the Church had long rejected. Most of the new and modern versions of the Bible are translated from these corrupt texts and manuscripts. For this reason, we reject these new versions, and stick to the good old Reformation Bible and the Traditional Texts.

How then can we benefit from the Scriptures if we do not know Hebrew and Greek? The Westminster Confession tells us how, "But, because these original tongues are not known to all the people of God, who have right unto, and interest in the Scriptures, and are commanded, in the fear of God, to read and search them, therefore they are to be translated into the vulgar language of every nation unto which they come, that, the Word of God dwelling plentifully in all, they may worship Him in an acceptable manner; and, through patience and comfort of the Scriptures, may have hope."

The Reformation did one good thing. It put the Bible into the hands of the common folk, a Bible they can read for themselves in their own language. Since the 16th century, the

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 15 – 21, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting REL C Room 602
SAT	3.00 pm	Adults Fellowship
	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
	5.30 pm	Family Bible Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Pr Joshua Yong)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Adults Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Nov 20 at Mr and Mrs William Teo's home, Blk 835 Woodlands St 83 #12-113, 3 pm. Message: "Feasts of the Jews" by Joshua Yong. Contact William Teo at 91831150 for details.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Nov 20 at 3.30 pm. Message: "Election and Predestination-Is God Fair?" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

Family Bible Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Nov 20 at Dr and Mrs Chan Kay Heem's home, 31 Jalan Kemboja, Sennett Estate, Singapore 349430, 5.30 pm. Tel: 62822341. Message: "Serving God as a Family" by Rev Park Seung Kyu. Contact Bernard Tee at 96780319 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Register at the Booktable. *Closing Date:* Dec 5. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

leading from different quarters, including from former students and brethren in China. As per His guidance I have got three months' visa; and His itinerary is also gradually shaping up. He also graciously provided a special fare, praise Him! I fly directly to Shanghai. Having a divine Navigator certainly makes for smooth sailing/flying. Incidentally, one of my favourites is "How Great Thou Art!" (Ps 96).

Covet your prayers for good health and wisdom, during this time of preparation. May you continue to

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day* S\$11,904; RM46; *Fellowships' Collections:* LF \$332.35; YPF \$137.40

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Prabhudas Koshy* \$50; *Bohol Mission* \$200; *Bible Witness* \$100, \$50; *Gethsemane BPC* \$100; *Faith and Freedom Ministries* \$50; *New Life Orphan Centre* \$300, \$250; *RPG Ministry* \$100; *Marilyn Nanta* \$500; *Clement Chew (FEBC)* \$100; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$300; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$300; *FEBC* \$100, \$100, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$15,223.75; RM46

Church Building Fund \$100, \$70 **Total:** \$1,010,036.27

Verse for the Week: *The robbery of the wicked shall destroy them; because they refuse to do judgment. Prov 21:7*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Jonah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Battle for the Faith!" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew.

Church Choir will be having Christmas Caroling on Dec 19 (Sun evening). Those who would like to open their homes, please contact Joycelyn at 97658004 by **Nov 21**.

Hot from the Press! *The Burning Bush*, January 2011. Get your copy from the book-table.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo will be away teaching in BCEA Kenya from Nov 15-28.

participate in my missions endeavours, even as the Lord tarries and constrains me (frail and inadequate as I may be) to go to "regions beyond" (Luke 10:2), that His name may be glorified. I might not have internet access, so do continue to intercede for me at His Throne of Grace, even when you do not hear from me. I may not be able to repay your kindness but my omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent Lord (who is no man's debtor) will reward and bless you accordingly, in His time and way (Matt 19:29). Immanuel. (*Esther Chew*, 27 October 2010)



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 7

14 November 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>I Will Praise Him!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 53
Hymn	<i>Look to the Lamb of God</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Gave My Life for Thee</i>
Doxology/Pastoral	
Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	1 Corinthians 11:25
Sermon	Shed for Me (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
Closing Hymn	<i>The Blood of Jesus</i> (Lord's Supper)
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Broken for Me

Sermon of the Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC, 10 October 2010

The Holy Communion text of 1 Corinthians 11:24 reads, "Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." Recently, a gentleman wrote me to tell me that the above verse in the KJV is erroneous. He wrote, "This fatal and fundamental mistake is also made in the NKJV; but not made in the NIV and NASB which translates I Cor 11:24 thus: 'This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.'" His argument was, "The body of Jesus cannot be broken as it would then not be a perfect sacrifice." For support, he cited the following verses: John 19:33 and 36, "But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: ... For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken"; Psalm 34:20, "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken"; Exodus 12:46,

"...neither shall ye break a bone thereof"; and Numbers 9:12, "...nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it."

So there are a couple of questions here; one is textual and the other doctrinal. These questions can be easily answered by those who believe in the 100% perfection of the inspired and preserved Scripture without any mistake. So, let us answer these two questions: (1) Which reading is correct, the KJV or the NIV? (2) Was Jesus' body broken for us or not?

First the text. It is clear that the reading of the KJV differs from the NIV's. The KJV reads, "Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you." The NIV has it as, "This is my body, which is for you." The difference lies in two missing clauses, "Take, eat," and "which is broken." This is due to the underlying texts. The KJV is translated from the Textus Receptus. The NIV (and most of the new versions), on the other hand, is translated from the modern critical text. We who believe in God's promise of Verbal Plenary Preservation accept the Textus Receptus (TR) as our authentic and authoritative text for reasons already well known to us. The TR reading is also the reading of the Majority Text. However, those clauses are not found in the new and modern text edited by liberals because they follow the readings of corrupt manuscripts. The corrupt manuscripts

show a docetic hand. Docetism was a first century heresy. The docetists believed that Jesus Christ did not come in the flesh, that His body only had an appearance of flesh, but was not truly flesh, physical and tangible. The TR reading which we believe is the original reading goes against the docetic heresy. A body which can be broken must necessarily be physical and tangible, and not ethereal or intangible. It is possible that the docetists corrupted the Scripture by deleting the Greek *klomenon* (“which was broken”) to make it agree with their heresy.

The Apostle John warned against docetism, “And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world” (1 John 4:3). The corrupt manuscripts of the modern versions, more often than not, betray a heretical hand. The Rev Dr Ian Paisley rightly warned against the new versions, “Knowing the attack wielded in the early centuries of Christianity against the essential deity and true, proper and impeccable humanity of our Lord, it can be rightfully concluded that, out of satanic hatred and hellish malice against the truth itself, the intention of the corrupter of God’s Holy Word was striking at the central truth of the Word of Salvation and tacitly denying what he dared not openly exclude, that Jesus Christ was ‘come in the flesh’. The saint of God rightly discerns here the ‘the spirit of the antichrist’.” Paisley went on to say, “This one plain example of contrasting the NIV with the Authorised Version is enough, and the inference follows that it is the duty of the saints of God to see to it that the Authorised Version must be preserved and maintained in preference to, and rejection of, the NIV.”

“Take, eat,” was what the Lord said when He broke the bread and distributed it to His disciples (Matt 26:26, Mark 14:22, Luke 22:19). It is significant to note that Luke 22:19b, “This is my body which is

given for you,” is said in the context of the breaking of the bread, and the bread symbolises the body of Christ which is offered as a sacrifice for our sins (Luke 22:15-17, 19a). The command “take, eat” is required to make sense of the next clause, “This do in remembrance of me.” There is something missing if the verse were to just read, “This is my body which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” The text says, “Do this,” but the question is, “Do what?” “Take, eat” is required to tell us what it is we must do in remembrance of Christ.

Jesus said, “I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” (John 6:51). Jesus went on to say, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever” (John 6:53-58). Of course what Jesus meant was a *spiritual* eating and drinking of His flesh and blood (cf John 3:3-8), ie, believing in His atoning work on the cross where His body was broken and His blood shed for the remission of sin, and how this very same body sacrificed for our sins was raised from the dead on the third day, bringing life to all who trust in Him.

Now we come to the doctrinal question. Was Jesus’ body broken for us? If so, how do we explain the verses that say that none of His bones were broken. I think you can see how this can be easily explained when attention is paid to the words of Scripture. Note that Paul said that it was Jesus’ *body*

that was broken, not His bones. His bones indeed remained intact in fulfilment of prophecy. However, His body, ie, his flesh was truly broken for us. Consider how His flesh was ripped apart and torn by the scourging He received (Matt 27:26), how the crown of thorns was pressed onto His head (Matt 27:29), His hands and feet were pierced by the nails (Matt 27:35), how the spear was thrust into His side (John 19:34).

It is important also to know for what reason His body was “broken.” It was broken “for you.” Jesus broke the bread and the bread symbolised His body which pointed to His substitutionary atonement, His body was broken, ie, it was *given as a sacrifice* for our sins. Calvin commented, “understand the word *broken* as used here for *sacrificed* — not, indeed, with strict propriety, but at the same time without any absurdity. For although *no bone was broken*, yet the body itself having been subjected, first of all, to so many tortures and inflictions, and afterwards to the punishment of death in the most cruel form, cannot be said to have been uninjured. This is what Paul means by its being *broken*. This, however, is the *second* clause of the promise, which ought not to be passed over slightly. For the Lord does not present his body to us simply, and without any additional consideration, but as having been *sacrificed* for us. The *first* clause, then, intimates, that the body is presented to us: this *second* clause teaches us, what advantage we derive from it — that we are partakers of redemption, and the benefit of his sacrifice is applied to us. Hence the Supper is a mirror which represents to us Christ crucified, so that no one can profitably and advantageously receive the supper, but the man who *embraces* Christ crucified.”

A BPC in China!

Time flies! There are so many signs of His Very Imminent Return, let us watch and pray (Matt 25:13). Daily I am more and more constrained of the urgency and

shortness of time. Thanks for being my prayerful and supportive participant all through the many years (FEBC 1996-2003), the subsequent missions assignments in different countries, and more especially the China missions (which began on 14 July 2007, and still continuing, according to His purpose).

Personally, I am still amazed at God’s marvellous enabling, and the fruitfulness of my previous four visits to China (Mark 10:27). My most recent ministry was at Nantong last April. I returned to Canada on 24th May. Praise God, in August, the house church in Nantong came under the support of Calvary Jaya Bible-Presbyterian Fellowship and is now named “Nantong Bible-Presbyterian Church.” I never dreamt I would ever hear of a BPC in China! (Rom 10:13-15)! Nothing happens by chance (Rom 8:28) and what encouragement, that even our feeble efforts are never in vain (1 Cor 15:58). What a great Lord I serve!

For some months I had felt my heart’s tugging for China once again. Had been praying amidst all the daily ups and downs in this temporal world, with its many trials and commitments. It is easy to ascertain God’s directive for China, though I still do not like staying/serving in China, for it is like stepping from a clean, safe comfort-zone into an unhygienic, polluted, health-hazard area. But by His bountiful grace, I have learned how to abound and how to be abased. Certainly it’s a mighty privilege to be given the opportunity to serve (Isa 6:8)!

Daily praying for submission and strength to obey (1 Sam 15:22). How can I not go! I do have a gospel debt to discharge, as long as I still have this breath of life. I have full confidence in His protection and His grace is sufficient for me (2 Cor 12:9). “Not my will, but thine, Lord!” My Lord is a wonderful Master, and the appreciation/changed life of just one student more than compensate; thank God, there has been more than one! (Matt 13:23).

Step by step, He has confirmed His

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 22 – 28, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	No YPF Meeting
	5.00 pm	Holy Matrimony of Clement Chew & Lee Yu Jie Venue: Calvary Pandan BPC
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Tan Kian Sing) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism
	10.30 pm	Pilgrims Depart for Holy Land

Christmas Gospel Meeting will be held on Dec 18 (Sat), 4.30 pm, RELC, Level 6, Room 602. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo speaks on "The Good News of Christmas". Bring a friend! There will be a **Sunday School Christmas Party** held at RELC Room 603 concurrently with the Christmas Gospel Meeting for children aged 3 to 12 years. All are welcome.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Register at the Booktable. **Closing Date:** Dec 5. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Nov 29–Dec 11. All pilgrims to be at Changi Airport, Terminal 1 (Emirates flight EK405) on Sunday night (Nov 28) by 10.30 pm.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo is away teaching in BCEA Kenya from Nov 15-28.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: Last Lord's Day \$61,721; Fellowships' Collections: YPF \$75.10

Designated Offerings: Rev Jeffrey Khoo \$200; Rev Hien \$100; Mrs Ivy Tow \$100; BCEA Kenya \$20,000; BCEA Tanzania \$20,000; Bomet Bible Institute \$10,000; New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar) \$500, \$100; FEBC \$500, \$200

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$113,496.10
Church Building Fund \$500, \$450, \$100, \$100, \$50
Total: \$1,011,236.27

Verse for the Week: *The way of man is froward and strange: but as for the pure, his work is right. Prov 21:8*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Micah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Battle for Holy Living!" by Dr S H Tow.

Church Choir will be having Christmas Caroling on Dec 19 (Sun evening). Those who would like to open their homes, please contact Joycelyn at 97658004 by **Today.**

Principal Post at Calvary Pandan Kindergarten (CPK): CPK is looking for a Christian lady with the relevant experience and qualification for CPK. Interested, please write to Eld Chew at chewchongkiat@gmail.com with your resume.

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr and Mrs Tan Ming Wei for God's gift of a newborn son Ian Tan, born on Nov 10.

Our deepest condolences to Dr Wee Tiong Soon of Kemaman Life BPC on the homegoing of his mother, Mdm Soh Hian Lee on Nov 16.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 8

21 November 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Because He Lives</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 42
Hymn	<i>As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Deborah & Judith
Offering & Hymn	<i>Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Romans 13:11, 13-14
Sermon	Are You Sleeping? (Pr Joshua Yong)
Closing Hymn	<i>Go Labour On</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

What Happens to the Soul Right after Death?

Jeffrey Khoo

Man consists of two parts—the body and the soul. What happens to the soul when a person dies? According to the Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 22, paragraphs 1-3, "Of the State of Men after Death, and of the Resurrection of the Dead":

- (1) The bodies of men, after death, return to dust, and see corruption: but their souls, which neither die nor sleep, having an immortal subsistence, immediately return to God who gave them: the souls of the righteous, being then made perfect in holiness, are received into the highest heavens, where they behold the face of God, in light and glory, waiting for the full redemption of their bodies. And the souls of the wicked are cast into hell, where they remain in torments and utter darkness,

reserved to the judgment of the great day. Beside these two places, for souls separated from their bodies, the Scripture acknowledgeth none.

- (2) At the last day, such as are found alive shall not die, but be changed: and all the dead shall be raised up, with the self-same bodies, and none other (although with different qualities), which shall be united again to their souls forever.
- (3) The bodies of the unjust shall, by the power of Christ, be raised to dishonour: the bodies of the just, by his Spirit, unto honour; and be made conformable to his own glorious body.

Clearly, the two parts of man are separable and they are separated when man dies. The body is buried and decomposes, while the soul lives on in the netherworld, believers in heaven and unbelievers in hell, waiting for the resurrection to come.

Souls of Believers

All who have died in Christ will participate in the first resurrection. Revelation 20:6 says, "*Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*" The first resurrection will take place when Jesus Christ returns to raise His saints from the grave and rapture all



The baptism of Mr Ng Joo Hee (73) on 7 November 2010 at the Chinese Service

believers who are still alive on earth. This event is described for us in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, *“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 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.”* When the rapture happens, it will be over *“in the twinkling of an eye”* (1 Cor 15:52). It takes only one-fiftieth of a second to blink an eye. That is how fast it will take for the Lord to catch the believer up to meet Him in the air when He comes back.

Souls of Unbelievers

The souls of the unbelieving dead will participate in the second resurrection. The second resurrection is a cursed resurrection because it is a resurrection unto damnation. All the unbelieving dead will be raised up to stand before the Judgement of the Great White Throne and be condemned to eternal torment in the lake of fire. This Judgement is described in Revelation 20:11-15, *“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.”

Intermediate State

At this point in time, those who have passed away, be they believers or unbelievers, are said to be in their intermediate state. What is the intermediate state? The intermediate state is “that realm or condition in which souls exist between death and the resurrection” (Boettner). For the Christian, to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (2 Cor 5:8). Walter B Knight told a story of “Christians of a certain tribe in Africa who never say of their dead ‘who die in the Lord’ that ‘they have departed!’ Speaking, as it were, from the vantage point of the Gloryworld, they triumphantly and joyously say, ‘They have arrived!’ What joy, even in sorrow, is ours when we say of our loved ones, who enter life eternal trusting Jesus. ‘Absent from the body—at home with the Lord!’.”

The reprobate, on the other hand, is now in a place of torment till the judgment day (Luke 13:27-28, 16:23-24, Jude 6-7, Rev 20:11-15). The reprobate intuitively know that they are on their way to hell. For example, “Sir Francis Newport, the head of an English infidel club, said to those gathered around his dying bed. ‘You need not tell me there is no God for I know there is one, and that I am in His angry presence! You need not tell me there is no hell, for I already feel my soul slipping into its fire! Wretches, cease your idle talk about there being hope for me! I know I am lost forever.’”

The intermediate state is described by Jesus in the story of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). From this true story of what happened to the rich man (an unbeliever) and Lazarus (a child of God) after they died, we find the following description of what the intermediate state is like: (1) The souls of the departed are truly alive, and fully conscious. (2) The wicked

are experiencing tremendous pain, and suffering. (3) The redeemed are said to be in “Abraham’s bosom.” (4) Verbal communication is possible. (5) Heaven and hell are separated by a great chasm. (6) The souls of men are waiting for the resurrection of the body (Luke 14:13-14, John 5:29, Rev 20:4-6). (7) The departed cannot return to communicate with the living (cf Exod 22:18, Lev 20:6, 27, Deut 18:10-12).

False Views

In light of the above, we reject the following false views of life after death:

- (1) **Soul Sleep:** This view held by the Seventh-day Adventists teaches that when man dies, his soul enters into a state of unconsciousness. This view certainly contradicts the story of the rich man and Lazarus, for the rich man whose soul was in hell was very conscious of where he was and what he was going through. Lazarus himself was very much awake and comforted by Abraham in heaven.
- (2) **Purgatory:** This view says that those who die without being thoroughly cleansed of venial sins (ie forgivable sins) will have to undergo a process of purification in a “half-way house” before they can enter heaven. Taught by Roman Catholics; it contradicts what Jesus said in Luke 23:43 when He told the repentant thief, *“Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”* The Apostle Paul himself made it very clear that all the purging of our sins have already been done by our Saviour, *“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. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your*

conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” (Heb 9:12-14).

- (3) **Annihilation:** This view is taught by the Jehovah’s Witnesses and the liberals. They say that when the finally impenitent dies, he will cease to exist. They deny the existence of hell. Such a view contradicts what God says in Revelation 19:20, and 20:10, *“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. ... And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”*

Live Forever in Christ

Finally, what benefits do believers receive from Christ at death? The Westminster Shorter Catechism (Q37) has this good answer, “The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united in Christ, do rest in their graves, until the resurrection.” In light of this, let us make sure that we are born again, truly children of God, having the gift of eternal life which only the Lord Jesus Christ can give to all who will trust in Him.

Jesus said, *“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”* (John 14:1-6).

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Nov 29 – Dec 5, 2010)

MON	1.20 am	<i>Pilgrims Depart for Holy Land</i>
WED	7.45 pm	Ladies Fellowship
FRI	8.00 pm	Family Worship
SAT	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Pr Dennis Kabingue)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Nov 29-Dec 11. All pilgrims to be at Changi Airport, Terminal 1 (Emirates flight EK405) tonight (Nov 28) by 10.30 pm.

Ladies Fellowship Meeting this Wed, Dec 1 at RELC Room 601, 7.45 pm. Message: "The Faith of Joseph" by Eld J T Joseph. All are welcome. Contact Judith at 96729973 for details.

Family Worship cum Prayer Meeting this Fri, Dec 3 at 8 pm in the home of Mr and Mrs David Ong. Address: 31 Windsor Park Road, Singapore 574137. Tel: 64599459.

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Dec 4 at 3.30 pm. Program: Bible Study on Galatians by Joshua Yong. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YFP Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Register at the Booktable. *Closing Date:* Dec 5. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo is away teaching in BCEA Kenya from Nov 15-28 and will be away leading the 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Nov 29-Dec 11.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day:* S\$11,938.60; RM50; *Fellowships' Collections:* AF \$332; FBF \$235.35; YPF \$90.70

Designated Offerings: *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$100, \$90; *Joshua Yong* \$100; *Wendy Teng* \$200; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$200; *FEBC* \$300, \$136, \$100, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings: S\$13,922.65; RM50

Church Building Fund \$500 Total: \$1,011,736.27

Verse for the Week: *It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house. Prov 21:9*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Micah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Battle for Agape Love!" by Rev Quek Suan Yew.

Christmas Gospel Meeting will be held on Dec 18 (Sat), 4.30 pm, RELC, Level 6, Room 602. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo speaks on "The Good News of Christmas". Bring a friend! There will be a **Sunday School Christmas Party** held at RELC Room 603 concurrently with the Christmas Gospel Meeting for children aged 3 to 12 years. All are welcome.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 618 Senja Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

Principal Post at Calvary Pandan Kindergarten (CPK): CPK is looking for a Christian lady with the relevant experience and qualification for CPK. Interested, please write to Eld Chew at chewchongkiat@gmail.com with your resume.

What a Production!

Dear Judith (and Deborah)

What a production! Your book is one long sermon written by True-Lifers. The testimonies are filled with Scripture dear to True-Lifers. I intend to be blessed as I read every verse and the Bible quotations so very real to the writers.

I also enjoy the photographs so well done that I am able to recognize friends that I knew while at FEBC and at True Life.

I am closer to being with the Lord. Amen! At age 90 in June I am limited to a walker, and don't drive, so I am dependent on my children, and they care.

Enclosed is a check for 50.00 for mailing the church weekly and a check for 20.00 for my copy of the True Life Testimonies "In the Steps of Our Saviour".

Gramps

(A letter from Dr Arthur Steele, founder of Clearwater Christian College, Florida, upon receiving the True Life Sabbatical Jubilee Magazine.)



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 9

28 November 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 31
Hymn	<i>Only Trust Him</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>As with Gladness Men of Old</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	1 Kings 17:1-16
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Tan Kian Sing
Sermon	God Uses Little Things (Rev Tan Kian Sing)
Closing Hymn	<i>Just As I Am</i>
Benediction	Rev Tan Kian Sing

After God's Own Heart

Message by the Rev Jeffrey Khoo at True Life Adults' Sunday School, 26 September 2010

"But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee" (1 Sam 13:14).

"And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will" (Acts 13:22).

David was called a man after God's own heart. To be a man after God's own heart is to be a man who desires what God desires, a man who will submit to the will of God and obey His Word. How did David show himself to be a man after God's own heart? He did it by his

(1) Love for God (David v Goliath)

In 1 Samuel 17, we find the Philistines taunting

and threatening Israel. They had a champion warrior named Goliath. He was a giant—nine feet tall and heavily armed (vv4-7). He spoke proudly against the armies of Israel. He spoke blasphemously against the God of Israel.

King Saul and his men *"were dismayed, and greatly afraid"* (v11). Why? It was because they loved themselves and not God. They were afraid for their lives. They showed very little regard for the glory and honour of their God. Their faith was practically non-existent. They forgot how the God of their fathers—Jehovah Himself—had crushed mighty Pharaoh and his gods, and all the Canaanite armies to give them the Promised Land. Considering how the Lord had delivered them so wonderfully and mightily from their enemies, there was no reason for them to be frightened of Goliath. Instead of being afraid, they should have been filled with righteous anger at this boastful infidel who had spoken so wickedly against the living and true God.

On the other hand, we have young David who was zealous for God's glory and honour. He loved His God and Saviour, and felt compelled to defend God's Holy Name. David's love for God and righteous anger against blasphemers are well captured in Psalm 139:21, 22, *"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."*

Moved by his love for God and fired up with holy indignation, David stepped up to fight Goliath. *“And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?”* (v26). In the battlefield, David with godly confidence said to Goliath, *“Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give you into our hands”* (vv45-47).

We know this famous story. Goliath was slain by David’s sling and David beheaded Goliath with the Goliath’s own sword, and the Philistine army was routed and soundly defeated.

Do you love the Lord? If you love the Lord you will obey His commandments. Jesus said, *“If ye love me, keep my commandments”* (John 14:15). If we love Christ, we must hate sin. We must hate all forms of worldliness and unbelief. We must also expose and refute the heretical teachings of false pastors and teachers who speak against Christ and His Word, who deny His virgin birth, His miracles, His substitutionary atonement, His resurrection, who deny the perfect inspiration and perfect preservation of the Holy Scriptures, who say God’s Word is not infallible and inerrant but contains mistakes, who say we do not have God’s Perfect Word today and deny we can be certain about God’s Perfect Word to the last word, letter and syllable (Matt 5:18).

(2) Hope in God (David v Saul)

King Saul was very jealous of David for

the Lord was with him (1 Sam 18:12). Saul wanted to have David killed. David knowing Saul’s evil intention fled for his life and hid in the wilderness of Engedi (1 Sam 24:1). Saul when he heard that David was in Engedi went with 3000 men to hunt him down. In Engedi, Saul went to ease himself in a cave. Unknown to him, David and his men were in that cave. David could have easily taken Saul’s life but did not. He merely cut a piece of cloth from Saul’s robe. Later, David felt bad that he had done so. Why? He told his men, *“The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD’S anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD”* (1 Sam 24:6). *“And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men’s words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt? Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD’S anointed”* (1 Sam 24:9, 10).

Although David was already anointed king by the prophet Samuel according to God’s decree (1 Sam 16:13), David was in no hurry to take the crown from Saul. That was because he would not play God. Since it was God who put Saul on the throne, then only God had the right to dethrone him. Although Saul was wicked in his ways, he was still the Lord’s anointed, and David must honour the man whom God had anointed as king. When one honours the king, one honours God (Rom 13:1-6, 1 Pet 2:13-17).

David did not want to sin against God. He did not want to run ahead of God. He had to be patient and wait on the Lord to do all things according to His own good time. So, David hoped in the Lord to avenge the evil that Saul had done to him. David told Saul, *“Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee;*

yet thou huntest my soul to take it. The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee. After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand” (1 Sam 24:11-15).

Many a time when we are persecuted by our enemies, we are tempted to be impatient and take matters into our own hands. We want our afflictions and sufferings to go away quickly and so try to solve our problems by some worldly way. In times of tribulation, we should seek God first. Seek God in His Word and through prayer and He will direct our paths and deliver us from all our troubles. Psalm 43 captures well the hope that was in David, *“Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man. For thou art the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles. Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.”*

(3) Faith in God (David v David)

There was a very low point in David’s life when he sinned against God. Although a man after God’s own heart, David was not sinlessly perfect. In a moment of weakness, he fell into temptation and committed adultery with Bathsheba who was already married to Uriah—one of his faithful soldiers. David even schemed to have Uriah killed in battle. The Bible tells us that *“the thing that David had done displeased the LORD. And the LORD*

sent Nathan unto David” (2 Sam 11:27, 12:1). Nathan the prophet rebuked David for his sin. David when rebuked confessed his sin immediately and cried, *“I have sinned against the LORD”* (2 Sam 12:13). Unlike Pharaoh David did not harden his heart. Unlike Saul he did not try to excuse himself from his sins. He was quick to repent and was deeply remorseful. That is why David was a man after God’s own heart. His heart was not rebellious against nor resentful towards God’s rebuke and chastening.

Psalm 51:1-4 reveals David’s broken and contrite heart, *“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.”* David prayed for forgiveness and trusted in the Lord who can save him from his sins, *“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee”* (Ps 51:7-13). The faithless heart will never pray such a prayer to God.

Are we sensitive to God’s rebuke? Are we quick to repent? The Lord rebukes us through His Word and by His Spirit. Many a time, He uses His servants to preach against our sins. If we have the faith of David, we will be ever ready to confess our sins and repent of our ways when we are convicted by God’s Word and chastised by His Spirit.

A man after God’s own heart is thus a man of faith, hope and love. Be sure you possess these virtues in your life.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 6 – 12, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	1.45 pm	<i>Pilgrims return from Holy Land</i>
	3.30 pm	Young People's Fellowship
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (<i>Lord's Supper</i>) (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School
	2.30 pm	Evangelism

Young People's Fellowship Meeting this Sat, Dec 11 at 3.30 pm. Message: "A Carnal Christian?" by Eld Tan Nee Keng. Venue: Berean BPC, 48A Foch Road. Transport leaves FEBC at 3 pm. Contact Herbert at 94377715 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Register at the Booktable. **Closing Date: Today.** Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

Christmas Gospel Meeting will be held on Dec 18 (Sat), 4.30 pm, RELC, Level 6, Room 602. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo speaks on "The Good News of Christmas". Bring a friend! There will be a **Sunday School Christmas Party** held at RELC Room 603 concurrently with the Christmas Gospel Meeting for children aged 3 to 12 years. All are welcome.

Pilgrims return from the Holy Land this Sat afternoon, Dec 11 at 1.45 pm, Changi Airport Terminal 1, Flight: EK432.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: \$13,514

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Rev Tan Kian Sing* \$100, \$100; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$70; *Wendy Teng* \$100; *Clement Chew (FEBC)* \$200; *FEBC Bookroom* \$280; *FEBC* \$400, \$300, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings: \$15,364
Church Building Fund \$400, \$300, \$200 **Total:** \$1,012,636.27

Verse for the Week: *The soul of the wicked desireth evil: his neighbour findeth no favour in his eyes. Prov 21:10*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."

Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you. **Adults' Sunday School Class** is now studying Micah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "What Is Wrong with the Charismatic Movement?" by Dr S H Tow.

Catechism Class for 2011 Easter Baptism will commence on Jan 16, 2011. Those seeking Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith and Transfer of Membership are to attend the Catechism Class. Please submit registration forms to Wendy Teng by Jan 9, 2011.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session next Sunday afternoon, Dec 12 at Bukit Panjang. Contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468 for details.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo is away leading the 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage, Nov 29-Dec 11.

Our deepest condolences to Mrs Ruth Tan and family on the homegoing of her mother-in-law, Mdm Ang Keow Ngoh (the late Bro Henry Tan's mother) on Nov 30. "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints" (Ps 116:15).



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

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Vol. VIII No. 10

5 December 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Joy to the World!</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 21
Hymn	<i>Good Christian Men, Rejoice</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	2 Peter 1:2
Sermon	When Christ Abounds in Our Life (Pr Dennis Kabingue)
Closing Hymn	<i>Jesus Is All the World to Me</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

Be Teetotallers! (I)

Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

Proverbs 31:6-7, "Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more." There is a need to warn against the sin of drinking.

The Bible does not teach Christians to drink in moderation. The Bible warns of the pitfalls and consequences of drinking. Men like Noah ended up naked in his own bed and caused his son to sin, and then he had to curse his son's descendants afterwards. Lot was made drunk by his two daughters, and they committed incest with him. *If only* they had not ended up as drunkards, the events in their lives and that of the world would have been quite different. The sad reality is that no amount of tears and sorrow can undo what has been done

when in a state of drunken stupor. How many men have used wine to trick women into bed, and how many women have been taken advantage of because they were drunk? How many have killed or crippled others because they drink and drive? Are such warnings of the dangers of drunkenness good enough to stop Christians from drinking? Many would find all kinds of arguments to counter or neutralise all the reasons in favour of total abstinence.

There are Christians who argue that drinking is good on the basis of medical science. They say that medical science tells them that drinking a glass of red wine once in a while is good for their health. It must be pointed out that medical reasons cannot be used to stop an act of the will or to support an action. Smoking has been proven by medical science to cause cancer and other deadly diseases but that has not stopped millions of both young and old from smoking! Medical science is helpless against a person's will. If one chooses to drink or smoke or eat any thing, medical science is helpless against a rebellious will. As far as the Christian is concerned, his supreme guide for life and practice must not be medical science. The Bible—God's perfect Word—should be his supreme and final rule for life and practice.

Medical science should not be the supreme and final authority of a believer's behaviour and manner of life. We know that medical discoveries have been proven wrong from time to time. Once we were told that



Praise Item by the Family Bible Fellowship at the Worship Service, 24 October 2010

margarine is better than butter. Now it is asserted that butter is better than margarine because it has been discovered that eating margarine is like eating plastic! Human science is fallible and capable of error. But the Bible is perfect, unchanging and ever relevant! We must live by faith in God's Word, not by the science of man. Romans 14:23b says, "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin."

Time and time again it has been the argument of drinkers of wine to use Jesus' first miracle in Cana of Galilee as a licence to drink. Did Jesus not turn water into wine? Yes Jesus did turn water into wine and the people who tasted it called it "good wine" (see John 2). But the wine in those days was not the same as the wine of today. In those days, normal grape juice or the fruit of the vine was called "wine." Barnes explained it well when he wrote, "We should not be deceived by the phrase '*good wine*.' We often use the phrase to denote that it is good in proportion to its strength and its power to intoxicate; but no such sense is to be attached to the word here. Pliny, Plutarch, and Horace described wine as good, or mentioned that as the best wine, it was *harmless or innocent*—*poculo vini innocentis*. The most useful wine—*utilissimum vinum*—was that which had little strength; and the most wholesome wine—*saluberrimum vinum*—was that which had not been adulterated by 'the addition of anything to the must or juice.' Pliny expressly said that 'good wine' was one that was destitute of spirit (lib. iv. c. 13). It should not be assumed, therefore, that the 'good wine' was stronger than the other: it is rather to be presumed that it was milder. The wine referred to here was doubtless such as was commonly drunk in Palestine. That was the pure juice of the grape. It was not brandied wine, nor drugged wine, nor wine compounded of various substances, such as we drink in this land. The common wine drunk in Palestine was that which was the simple juice of the grape. We use the word *wine* now to denote the kind of liquid which passes under that name in this country—always containing a considerable portion of alcohol—not only the alcohol produced by fermentation, but alcohol

added to keep it or make it stronger. But we have no right to take that sense of the word, and go with it to the interpretation of the Scriptures. We should endeavour to place ourselves in the exact circumstances of those times, ascertain precisely what idea the word would convey to those who used it then, and apply *that* sense to the word in the interpretation of the Bible; and there is not the slightest evidence that the word so used would have conveyed any idea but that of the pure juice of the grape, nor the slightest circumstance mentioned in this account that would not be fully met by such a supposition. No man should adduce this instance in favour of drinking wine unless he can prove that the wine made in the 'water-pots' of Cana was just like the wine which he proposes to drink. The Saviour's example may be always pleaded *just as it was*; but it is a matter of obvious and simple justice that we should find out exactly what the example was before we plead it. There is, moreover, no evidence that any other part of the water was converted into wine than that which was *drawn out* of the water-casks for the use of the guests."

There are 12 words used in the Bible for the different types of drinks that were available in biblical times. The following is adapted from *Easton's Bible Dictionary*:

The most common Hebrew word for wine is *yayin*, from a root meaning "to boil up," "to be in a ferment." Others derive it from a root meaning "to tread out," and hence the juice of the grape trodden out. The Greek word for wine is *oinos*, and the Latin *vinum*. But besides this common Hebrew word, there are several others which are thus rendered.

(1) *Ashishah* (2Sa 6:19; 1Ch 16:3; Song 2:5; Ho 3:1), which denotes a solid cake of pressed grapes, or "a cake of raisins."

(2) '*Asis*, "sweet wine," or "new wine," the product of the same year (Song 8:2; Isa 49:26; Joe 1:5; 3:18; Am 9:13), from a root meaning "to tread," hence juice trodden out or pressed out, thus referring to the method by which the juice is obtained. The power of intoxication is ascribed to it.

(3) *Hometz*. i.e., vinegar or "sour wine."

The Hebrew word is rendered vinegar in Ps 69:21, a prophecy fulfilled in the history of the crucifixion (Mt 27:34). This was the common sour wine (*posea*) daily made use of by the Roman soldiers. They gave it to Christ, not in derision, but from compassion, to assuage his thirst. Pr 10:26 shows that there was a stronger vinegar that was not fit for drinking.

(4) *Hemer*, De 32:14 (rendered "blood of the grape"), Isa 27:2 ("red wine"), Ezr 6:9; 7:22; Da 5:1-2, 4. This word conveys the idea of "foaming," as in the process of fermentation, or when poured out. It is derived from the root *hamar*, meaning "to boil up," and also "to be red," from the idea of boiling or becoming inflamed.

(5) '*Enabh*, a grape. De 32:14, "Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and thou didst drink the pure blood of the grape." (Comp. Ge 49:11; Nu 6:3; De 23:24, etc., where this Hebrew word is rendered in the plural "grapes".)

(6) *Mesekh*, properly a mixture of wine and water with spices that increase its stimulating properties (Isa 5:22). Ps 75:8, "The wine (*yayin*) is red; it is full of mixture (*mesekh*)," Pr 23:30, "mixed wine;" Isa 65:11, "drink offering".

(7) *Tirosh*, properly "must," translated "wine" (De 28:51); "new wine" (Pr 3:10); "sweet wine" (Mic 6:15; "vintage"). This Hebrew word has been traced to a root meaning "to take possession of" and hence it is supposed that *tirosh* is so designated because it is so intoxicating that it takes control of the brain. Among the blessings promised to Esau (Ge 27:28) mention is made of "plenty of corn and *tirosh*." Palestine is called "a land of corn and *tirosh*" (De 33:28; comp. Isa 36:17). See also De 28:51; 2Ch 32:28; Joe 2:19; Ho 4:11, ("wine [*yayin*] and new wine [*tirosh*] take away the heart").

(8) *Sobhe* (root meaning "to drink to excess," "to suck up," "absorb"), found only in Isa 1:22; Ho 4:18 ("their drink;"), and Na 1:10 ("drunken as drunkards;" lit., "soaked according to their drink;" i.e., according to

their *sobhe*).

(9) *Shekar*, "strong drink," any intoxicating liquor; from a root meaning "to drink deeply," "to be drunken", a generic term applied to all fermented liquors, however obtained. Nu 28:7, "strong wine". It is sometimes distinguished from wine, c.f., Le 10:9, "Do not drink wine [*yayin*] nor strong drink [*shekar*]" Nu 6:3; Judges 13:4, 7; Isa 28:7 (in all these places rendered "strong drink"). Translated "strong drink" also in Isa 5:11; 24:9; 29:9; 56:12; Pr 20:1; 31:6; Mic 2:11.

(10) *Yekebh* (De 16:13, or "wine-press"), a vat into which the new wine flowed from the press. Joe 2:24, "their vats;" Joe 3:13, "the fats;" Pr 3:10, "Thy presses shall burst out with new wine [*tirosh*];" Hag 2:16; Jer 48:33, "wine-presses;" 2Ki 6:27; Job 24:11.

(11) *Shemarim* (only in plural), "lees" or "dregs" of wine. In Isa 25:6 it is rendered "wines on the lees", i.e., wine that has been kept on the lees, and therefore old wine.

(12) *Mesek*, "a mixture," mixed or spiced wine, not diluted with water, but mixed with drugs and spices to increase its strength, or, as some think, mingled with the lees by being shaken (Ps 75:8; Pr 23:30).

In Acts 2:13 the word *gleukos*, rendered "new wine," denotes properly "sweet wine." This is the word from which we get the English word "glucose." In addition to wine the Hebrews also made use of what they called *debash*, which was obtained by boiling down must to one-half or one-third of its original bulk. In Genesis 43:11 this word is rendered "honey." It was a kind of syrup, and is called by the Arabs at the present day dibs. This word occurs in the phrase "a land flowing with milk and honey (*debash*)" (Ex 3:8, 17; 13:5; 33:3; Le 20:24; Nu 13:27).

From the use of the many words to describe the "fruit of the vine" we can see that "wine" can mean different things, and the ancients have many methods to preserve, use and keep the fruit of the vine as long as possible. This makes our study of wine very interesting. There is even a drink offering offered to God. It is important to note that not all "wine" in the Scriptures mean alcoholic wine.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 13 – 19, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Prayer Meeting RELC Room 602
SAT	3.30 pm	No YPF Meeting
	4.30 pm	Christmas Gospel Meeting Sunday School Christmas Party
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Pr Joshua Yong) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Christmas Gospel Meeting will be held this Sat, Dec 18, 4.30 pm, RELC, Level 6, Room 602. Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo speaks on "The Good News of Christmas". Bring a friend! There will be a **Sunday School Christmas Party** held at RELC Room 603 concurrently with the Christmas Gospel Meeting for children aged 3 to 12 years. All are welcome.

Church Choir will be having Caroling next Lord's Day, Dec 19. Contact Joycelyn at 97658004 for details.

Christmas Eve Carol Service will be held at the RELC Auditorium on Dec 24 at 8 pm.

Watchnight Service will be held at the RELC Auditorium on Dec 31 at 10.45 pm. The Lord's Supper will be served.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. Theme: "Loving God with My All". Speaker: Joshua Yong. Contact Andrew Kan at 91598914 for details.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day:* \$12,318.35; *Fellowships' Collections:* LF \$364; YPF \$135

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *New Life Orphan Centre (Myanmar)* \$60; *Dennis Kabingue* \$50; *Joshua Yong* \$100; *Wendy Teng* \$100; *Jose Lagapa (FEBC)* \$300; *Lin Yang (FEBC)* \$300, \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:

\$14,027.35

Church Building Fund \$200, \$100, \$100 **Total:** \$1,013,036.27

Verse for the Week: *When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise: and when the wise is instructed, he receiveth knowledge. Prov 21:11*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."

Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Micah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "Why Are We Not Part of the Ecumenical Movement?" by Dr S H Tow.

Catechism Class for 2011 Easter Baptism will commence on Jan 16, 2011. Those seeking Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith and Transfer of Membership are to submit their registration forms to Wendy Teng by Jan 9, 2011, and attend the Catechism Class.

Door-to-door HDB flats evangelism session this afternoon at Bukit Panjang. Meet at Blk 619 Bukit Panjang Ring Road at 2.30 pm. For details, contact Dn Charles Kan at 98310468.

Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo will be away preaching at the Berith BPC Camp in KL from Dec 14-17.



TRUE *Life* **BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

RELC Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 11

12 December 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Opening Hymn	<i>The God of Abraham Praise</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Psalm 122
Hymn	<i>Yerushalayim, Messiah Is Come</i>
Announcements	
Ministry of Music	Pilgrims
Offering & Hymn	<i>O Bethlehem</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Scripture Text	Isaiah 9:6-7
Sermon	World Peace Will Come (Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo)
	<i>Sweet Peace, the Gift of God's Love</i> (Lord's Supper)
Closing Hymn	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo
Benediction	Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

It was a happy occasion. 1 Chronicles 16:3 talks of the same event. The Song of Solomon 2:5 reads, "Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples: for I am sick of love." These are the words of one coaxing his lover to stay longer and flagons were used to keep him. Hosea 3:1 is the only verse where the word "wine" is attached to "flagon." It reads, "Then said the LORD unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine (*enabh*)."

The word *enabh* literally means "grape". The BDB Hebrew Lexicon has the word *enabh* as grape. In Deuteronomy 32:14 the KJV translators rendered it as "grape", "Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and thou didst drink the pure blood of the grape." The "wine" that was used at that time was actually grape juice.

Be Teetotallers! (II)

Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

We shall look at all the 12 different Hebrew words used in the Bible for "wine". A word study will show how "wine" was used and understood in Bible times. Let us look at the first two on the list.

(1) *Ashishah* occurs only four times in the Bible (2Sa 6:19; 1Ch 16:3; Song 2:5; Ho 3:1), and denotes a flagon or container.

2 Samuel 6:19 says, "And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. So all the people departed every one to his house." David had brought the Ark of God successfully into the capital city of Jerusalem.

(2) *Asis* is "sweet wine" or "new wine," the product of the same year (Song 8:2; Isa 49:26; Joe 1:5; 3:18; Am 9:13), from a root meaning "to tread," hence juice trodden out or pressed out, thus referring to the method by which the juice is obtained. The power of intoxication is ascribed to it. The word is used in Song of Solomon 8:2, "I would lead thee, and bring thee into my mother's



FEBC Choir at the 60th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service of the B-P Movement at Calvary Pandan BPC, 24 Oct 2010

house, who would instruct me: I would cause thee to drink of spiced wine of the juice of my pomegranate.” “The pomegranate tree, *Punica granatum* (Natural Order, *Granataeae*) occurs usually as a shrub or small tree 10-15 ft. high, and is distinguished by its fresh green, oval leaves, which fall in winter, and its brilliant scarlet blossoms (compare Song 7:12). The beauty of an orchard of pomegranates is referred to in Song 4:13. The fruit which is ripe about September is apple-shaped, yellow-brown with a blush of red, and is surmounted by a crown-like hard calyx; on breaking the hard rind, the white or pinkish, translucent fruits are seen tightly packed together inside. The juicy seeds are sometimes sweet and sometimes somewhat acid, and need sugar for eating. The juice expressed from the seeds is made into a kind of syrup for flavoring drinks, and in ancient days was made into wine.” [*International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* (ISBE)]. Spices were added to wine to make it less intoxicating. “Spiced wine was much used by the ancients, and in the eastern countries: so Phoenician wine, or wine of Byblis, is said to be odoriferous; so the wine of Lebanon, Ho 14:7; the Babylonians had a wine they called nectar: spiced wine was thought less inebriating, and therefore the ancients sometimes put into their wine myrrh and calamus, and other spices; sometimes it was a mixture of old wine, water, and balsam; and of wine, honey, and pepper.” (ISBE). In the Song of Solomon, “spiced wine” is used with reference to giving “the best and most delicate” drink to the one you love when you bring the person to meet your mother. The alcoholic nature of the drink was greatly diluted by the spices. The giver of the wine has no intention of making the recipient drunk.

‘*Asis* is also found in Isaiah 49:26, “And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the LORD am thy

Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.” The colour of the grape juice is the focus as this reflects the colour of blood which God said will be shed by the enemies of God’s people whose blood these men have shed. Barnes explained the sweet wine as, “The ‘must,’ or new wine, was the pure juice which ran first after the grapes had been laid in a heap preparatory to pressure. The ancients had the art of preserving this for a long time, so as to retain its special flavor, and were in the habit of drinking it in the morning (see Hor. Sat. ii. 4). This had the intoxicating property very slightly, if at all; and Harmer (Obs. vol. ii. p. 151) supposes that the kind here meant was rather such as was used in ‘royal palaces for its gratefulness,’ which was capable of being kept to a great age. It is possible, I think, that there may be an allusion here to the fact that it required a ‘large quantity of the must’ or new wine to produce intoxication, and that the idea here is that a large quantity of blood would be shed.”

Joel 1:5 reads, “Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.” The word ‘*asis*’ here refers to concentrated grape juice that has fermented with very little alcohol. However, such when taken in excess will cause drunkenness, hence the warning and judgement against these sinners of Israel.

Joel 3:18 reads, “And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.” Here, it speaks of how the land of Israel will be filled once again with vineyards and all good things when the LORD brings His people Israel back to the Promised Land.

Amos 9:13 says, “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman

shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.” The context of Amos was the copious blessings of God that will come upon Israel when Israel returns to God in repentance. This is the picture of the abundance fruitfulness of the land after the restoration by God.

From the above study, we note that the word “*ashishah*” (flagon) is used of a container to hold grape juice. ‘*Asis* (sweet wine) is concentrated fermented grape juice with very low alcohol content, but when consumed excessively can cause drunkenness. The Bible does not say that God approves of such drinking. When such a wine is drunk, it is deliberately spiced so that the little bit of alcohol is reduced further to practically zero. The Bible warns against those who drink and get drunk.

1 Timothy 3:8 states, “Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre.” The instruction here is the same as the one found in 1 Timothy 3:3 which speaks of the requirement for an elder. The only difference between the two is the addition of the word “much”. It appears to point to a lesser requirement in the case of a deacon compared to an elder. Could this be the right interpretation? Albert Barnes wrote, “The word ‘much’ is added here to what is said in the qualification of a bishop. It is not affirmed that it would be proper for the deacon, any more than the bishop, to indulge in the use of wine in small quantities, but it is affirmed that a man who is much given to the use of wine, ought not, on any consideration, to be a deacon. It may be remarked here, that this qualification was everywhere regarded as necessary for a minister of religion. Even the heathen priests, on entering a temple, did not drink wine. The use of wine, and of strong drinks of all kinds, was absolutely prohibited to the Jewish ministers of every rank, when they were about to engage in the service of God,

Le 10:9. Why should it, then, be any more proper for a Christian minister to drink wine, than for a Jewish or a heathen priest! Shall a minister of the gospel be less holy than they? Shall he have a feebleness of the purity of his vocation? Shall he be less careful lest he expose himself to the possibility of conducting the services of religion in an irreverent and silly manner? Shall he venture to approach the altar of God under the influence of intoxicating drinks, when a sense of propriety restrained the heathen priest, and a solemn statute of Jehovah restrained the Jewish priest from doing it?”

Priests and kings, elders and deacons are to refrain from drinking. The fact that we may stumble others when we indulge in this vice should be sufficient grounds for total abstinence. Sunday school teachers, and leaders of fellowship groups, Bible study leaders, parents, and all who lead in one way or another must practise total abstinence. This applies to all who drink privately or secretly for drinking or alcoholism cannot be hid.

Proverbs 31:6-7 says, “Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.” To those who are living a life without hope and are about to perish, they would drink and forget their sorrows. Such a temporary relief numbs the mind and the soul for a moment. When they come out of their drunken stupor, the reality of their hopeless life hits them in the face again and they turn to their alcohol again.

How about Christians? Are Christians miserable and hopeless people? Surely not! Christians are people full of life and hope. As such, they have a vital testimony to bear to the world. All believers should practise total abstinence for it is the only witness and testimony that is in keeping with the truth of God’s holy and perfect Word.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 20 – 26, 2010)

FRI	8.00 pm	Christmas Eve Carol Service
SAT	3.30 pm	No YPF Meeting
SUN	9.15 am	Sunday School
		Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601)
	10.30 am	Worship (Rev Prabhudas Koshy)
		Chinese Service (Tanglin 1)
		Korean Service (Rm 503)
		Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2)
	12.30 pm	Korean Sunday School

Christmas Eve Carol Service will be held this Fri, Dec 24 at the RELC Auditorium at 8 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. Bring a friend to hear the gospel.

Watchnight Service will be held at the RELC Auditorium on Dec 31 at 10.45 pm. The Lord's Supper will be served.

Church Choir will be caroling this evening. Please meet at FEBC (below Parsonage) at 4.15 pm. Contact Joycelyn at 97658004 for details.

YPF Camp 2010, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC. *There will be a Camp Briefing in the Auditorium immediately after Worship Service today. All Campers please stay for the briefing.*

Far Eastern Bible College reopens with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, Jan 3, 9 am, Calvary Tengah BPC. **FEBC's Basic Theology for Everyone night classes** (Jan-Apr 2011) will resume on Jan 3 (Mon) with Epistle to the Hebrews by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo, and Jan 6 (Thu) with Ecclesiastes by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy, 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road. Registration forms at the reception table.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: *Last Lord's Day:* S\$15,212; USD5,860; *Fellowships' Collections:* YPF \$72.35

Designated Offerings: *Rev Jeffrey Khoo* \$200; *Baraka BPC* \$50; *Bohol Mission* \$200; *YPF Camp* \$500; *Joshua Yong* \$200; *Clement Chew (FEBC)* \$200; *FEBC* \$1,200, \$1,000, \$400, \$200, \$100, \$50

Total General and Designated Offerings:

S\$19,584.35; USD5,860

Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$700, \$500, \$300, \$300, \$100 **Total:** \$1,015,936.27

Verse for the Week: *The righteous man wisely considereth the house of the wicked: but God overthroweth the wicked for their wickedness. Prov 21:12*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."

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Adults' Sunday School Class is now studying Micah under Joshua Yong, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "What Is Neo-Evangelicalism?" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew.

Catechism Class for 2011 Easter Baptism will commence on Jan 16, 2011. Those seeking Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith and Transfer of Membership are to submit their registration forms to Wendy Teng by Jan 9, 2011, and attend the Catechism Class.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 – 12.30 pm.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 141, Newton Post Office, Singapore 912205

Email: febc@pacific.net.sg; Website: <http://www.febc.edu.sg>

(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 12

19 December 2010

"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Eld J T Joseph
Opening Hymn	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Philippians 2:1-16
Hymn	<i>Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>As with Gladness Men of Old</i>
Doxology/Pastoral Prayer	Eld J T Joseph
Scripture Text	Matthew 2:1-12
Sermon	The Five Gifts of Christmas (Pr Joshua Yong)
Closing Hymn	<i>In the Bleak Mid-Winter</i>
Closing Prayer	Eld J T Joseph

jealousy and greed. "As it is written, *There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes.*" (Rom 3:10-17).

Yes, there is a lot of talk about peace, but Psalm 120:7 says, "*I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war.*" Peace might be in their lips, but there is war in their hearts. The nations of the world are preparing for war. That is why in Singapore we have National Service. Look at all the weapons we have—rifles, artillery, tanks, battleships, submarines, fighter jets. We spare no effort to equip our men for war.

World War I lasted for 4 years (1914-18) killing 11 million people, World War II lasted 6 years (1939-45) and took 59 million lives. After World War I, it took only 21 years for World War II to erupt. It has been 65 years since World War II. When will World War III come?

False Peace

Some say that World War III

World Peace Will Come

Sermon by the Rev Jeffrey Khoo at True Life BPC on 12 December 2010

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this." (Isa 9:6, 7).

The world wants peace but cannot find it. Why? It is because we live in a sin-cursed world. Man is born in sin and plagued by sin. That is why in the 6000 years of world history, there have been only 300 years of peace. Man is full of war and hatred,



Faculty and Graduands at the 40th Graduation Exercises of the Bible College of East Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, 27 November 2010

has already started. It began on September 11, 2001. You have witnessed the terror on television. It was unprecedented. It was unreal. Some people thought it was a Hollywood movie. How could this have happened in real life? But it did. That is the kind of world we live in. Utterly wicked, evil, and cruel as God said.

Why terrorism? The terrorists say it is due to Israel. They deny that Israel has a right to the Promised Land. There is great hatred for Israel. Israel on the other hand is still unbelieving, having rejected their Messiah—the Lord Jesus Christ. On account of this, there is no peace in Jerusalem despite its namesake for Jerusalem means “the city of peace.” It has been one long war for Israel since its independence in 1948. Soldiers and weapons are everywhere. There is very tight security. When Israeli children go for a school outing or excursion, they are accompanied by soldiers, and their teachers carry a rifle. It is not a safe place. Each time we go for a pilgrimage, we pray for the Lord’s protection. Our tour guides do not carry a rifle. But we have the Lord, and He sends His angels to watch over us. By God’s grace, all 43 pilgrims have returned safe and sound, with much blessing from the Lord.



Pilgrims at Tel Dan

One day, peace will come, but before that comes, there will come a false peace. It is a false peace because it comes from man and as such the peace will only be temporary. 1 Thessalonians 5:3 tells us that

one day, the inhabitants of the world will declare, “*Peace and safety.*” But when they say that, “*then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*”

This false peace will be brought by one man called the Antichrist—a false prince of peace. He will make a peace treaty with Israel and others but will break that treaty and persecute Israel after 3½ years. We read of this in Daniel 9:27, “*And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.*” Then Christ will return to deliver Israel, “*And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob*” (Rom 11:26). There will be a final war called the war of Armageddon (Rev 16:16). It will be fought in *Har Megiddo* or the Plain of Jezreel, and the whole battlefield will be 200 miles long, from *Har Megiddo* in the north to the Gulf of Eilat in the south (Rev 14:16-20). The battle will be between the armies of heaven and the armies of earth, between Christ and the Antichrist. Christ will defeat the Antichrist by divine fiat, by His powerful Word, the Sword that proceeds from His mouth (Rev 19:21).

True Peace

True peace comes after the Antichrist is defeated. Christ will then reign as King of kings and Lord of lords on earth for a millennium. We His saints will reign with Him for a thousand years (Rev 20:6). Israel will be the first nation of the world, and Jerusalem will be the world’s capital, and Jesus Christ will sit on the throne of His father David as prophesied (2 Sam 7:12-13). Then will the world experience peace like never before for the Prince of peace has come and He will rule this world most wonderfully with His power and wisdom.

That is why He is called, “*Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*” What do all His names mean? The Rev Dr Timothy Tow explained, “The people must worship Him who is arrayed with such Divine titles. He is wonderful because He is both God and Man. He is wonderful in His life, death and resurrection. Great was the mystery of godliness concerning Him. He is Counsellor because He is intimately acquainted with the counsels of God from eternity. He is God Almighty too because He is able to save to the uttermost. He is the Everlasting Father to the people He has saved, in tender care of all their needs. He is the Prince of Peace because He is the author of our reconciliation to God the Giver of peace, who commands His subjects to live in peace with each other and with all men. Under His rule, when His kingdom is fully established men shall learn war no more.” (*The Gospel Prophets*, p58).

Yes, “*men shall learn war no more*” for Isaiah 2:2-4 tells us, “*And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.*”

We long for this day. Global peace will come one day. Not the false peace of the Antichrist, but true peace from the Prince of peace Himself—the Lord Jesus Christ. But if we want to enjoy this peace in the world to come, we must first make peace with

God. The only way to make peace with God is through the Lord Jesus Christ who is the only way. Jesus said, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” (John 14:6). “*For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*” (1 Tim 2:5). You must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ who died for your sins on the cross, shedding His precious blood, who was buried but rose from the dead the third day according to the Scriptures. It is a matter of faith. “*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*” (Rom 5:1).

“*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder*” (Isa 9:6). That was why when this child was born 2000 years ago the angels sang, “*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*” (Luke 2:14). Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ today. Make peace with God right now, and you will be sure to enjoy this peace that the world will one day experience when Jesus Christ returns to rule a thousand years.

“Never Retire from Serving God”

Dear Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Many thanks for the Sabbatical Jubilee Magazine of True Life B-P Church. My wife and I feel so honoured that our photo appeared with Rev Dr Timothy Tow in the magazine (p56). I can never forget—from him we learn “Never retire from serving God.”

Kindly accept the enclosed cheque. We want too to have a share in the remembrance of your late father-in-law, Timothy Tow, a man of God.

Continue to fight the good fight of faith for the Lord!

Humbly in Christ,
Elder Y C Leong
11 November 2010

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE WEEK (Dec 27, 2010 – Jan 2, 2011)

MON-FRI	YPF Camp
FRI	8.00 pm No Prayer Meeting 10.45 pm Watchnight Service 11.00 pm Korean Service (Rm 503)
SAT	3.30 pm No YPF Meeting
SUN	9.15 am Sunday School Filipino Bible Study (Rm 601) 10.30 am Worship (Rev Quek Suan Yew) Chinese Service (Tanglin 1) Korean Service (Rm 503) Indonesian BS (Tanglin 2) 12.30 pm Korean Sunday School

YPF Camp will be held this week from Mon-Fri, Dec 27-31 at Calvary Tengah BPC.

Watchnight Service will be held at the RELC Auditorium this Fri, Dec 31 at 10.45 pm. Speaker: Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo. The Lord's Supper will be served.

Far Eastern Bible College reopens with a Day of Prayer and Registration on Mon, Jan 3, 9 am, Calvary Tengah BPC. **FEBC's Basic Theology for Everyone night classes** (Jan-Apr 2011) will resume on Jan 3 (Mon) with Epistle to the Hebrews by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo, and Jan 6 (Thu) with Ecclesiastes by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy, 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at FEBC, 9A Gilstead Road. Registration forms at the reception table.

True Life B-P Church's sermons are recorded and available for sale in DVD (\$5) or Audio CD (\$3). You may place your prepaid orders or collect your orders at the Booktable, 12 – 12.30 pm.

LAST LORD'S DAY OFFERINGS

General Offerings: S\$13,619; RM10

Designated Offerings: **Rev Jeffrey Khoo** \$250, \$200, \$200; **Rev Hien** \$50; **Gethsemane Care Ministry** \$5,000, \$1,000; **Joshua Yong** \$3,000, \$150, \$100; **Sim Swee Ho** \$200, **Wendy Teng** \$250; **Lin Yang & family (FEBC)** \$200; **Charles Sang (FEBC)** \$20; **Ngoc Chan (FEBC)** \$20; **Ibrahim Kiarie (FEBC)** \$20; **Michael Accadio (FEBC)** \$20; **Tann Heng (FEBC)** \$20; **FEBC** \$100

Total General and Designated Offerings:
S\$24,419; RM10

Church Building Fund \$1,000, \$800, \$300 **Total:**
\$1,018,036.27

Verse for the Week: *Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard. Prov 21:13*

"O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." Please switch off all handphones before the service. No eating and drinking in the auditorium. Thank you.

Adults' Sunday School Class on Job by Eld Joseph will commence next Lord's Day, Jan 2, 2011, 9.15-10.15 am.

Sunset Gospel Bible Fellowship tonight at Calvary Pandan BPC, 201 Pandan Gardens, 6 pm. Message: "What Is Wrong with Holding a Perfect Bible in Your Hand?" by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew.

Catechism Class for 2011 Easter Baptism will commence on Jan 16, 2011. Those seeking Baptism, Reaffirmation of Faith and Transfer of Membership are to submit their registration forms to Wendy Teng by Jan 9, 2011, and attend the Catechism Class.



TRUE *Life* BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REL C Auditorium, 10.30 am

30 Orange Grove Road, down Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore 258352

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(Ring Rev Jeffrey Khoo 62561189 Anytime)

Vol. VIII No. 13

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"BLESS the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name"

Call to Worship	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Opening Hymn	<i>Down from His Glory</i>
Invocation/Gloria Patri	
Responsive Reading	Isaiah 9:1-7
Hymn	<i>That Beautiful Name</i>
Announcements	
Offering & Hymn	<i>I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day</i>
Doxology/Prayer	Dn Tan Beng Lee
Scripture Text	Hebrews 3:14
Pastoral Prayer	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy
Sermon	Be Steadfast unto the End (Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy)
Closing Hymn	<i>Keep on Believing</i>
Benediction	Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

In the Land of Milk and Honey

Clement Chew



I and my wife Yujie thank God for the opportunity to attend FEBC's 15th Holy Land Pilgrimage (Nov 29-Dec 11, 2010) just after our marriage (Nov 27). It is truly a blessing to begin our life together by "feasting" in the land of milk and honey. And what a spiritual feast it was! The experience was just like attending a crash course in the university of life. Space does not permit me to write down all the things I have learned from this pilgrimage. Nevertheless, let me share some of the lessons of faith and obedience learned, and the Lord's goodness to the pilgrims.

The Fire and the Rain

When we arrived in the Holy Land, we were in

for a huge surprise. Although it was supposed to be winter, the weather was hot, just a shade below that of Singapore. The guide explained that it had not rained in Israel for nearly nine months. If this persists, Israel will surely face one of the worst droughts in its modern history. In fact, the Sea of Galilee had dropped by an astonishing five metres due to the drought and constant pumping of fresh water out of the Sea.

What is the reason for the drought? To the common man, it could be due to global warming. But the people of the land should know the reason—they had sinned against God. *"And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full. Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; And then the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you."* (Deut 11:13-17). The Lord means every Word that He says, even till today!

As if to confirm His Word, God sent a fire to engulf the forests of Carmel. It was the worst forest fire in Israel's history. This caused me to recall the



Pilgrims at the Garden Tomb: "He is not here, but is risen" (Luke 24:6)

story of Elijah, the prophet of fire, and his contention with the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. The Lord sent fire from heaven that day. Could it be the case here too, seeing how unbelief has consumed much of the people in the Holy Land?

While the weather was good for the pilgrims, I could sense the people's desperate desire for rain. Sensing their plight, the pilgrims prayed that God would have mercy on the land and send rain. The next day, I saw clouds for the first time in Israel. I joked with the guide that just as God sent a little cloud of the sea and subsequently rain after Elijah prayed (1 Kgs 18:44), maybe the same would happen in 2010. It was no joke. Lo and behold, the day after, the Lord heard the cry of the pilgrims, and sent the rain. Joy filled my heart for the people of the land that day. No complaints from the pilgrims; they came prepared with umbrellas and raincoats. Praise the Lord!

The lesson I have learned from the rain is this—God is ready to forgive, if only we would repent and come to Him for forgiveness. Our God is a merciful and gracious God.

The “Tells” and Excavation Sites

The pilgrims had the privilege of visiting several “tells” and excavation sites in the Holy Land. A “tell” or “tal” is a mound that is formed by several cities, each one built on top of the other throughout time. During the time of the Bible, they did not have cranes and dozers like we have today. Hence, whenever a city or village is conquered, the conquerors would build the new city upon the stones of the one previously destroyed. With time, a mound or a “tell” is formed.

One of the “tells” we visited was that of Jericho. Over there, we were told how an archaeologist—Kathleen Kenyon—through her excavations concluded that there was no evidence of the destruction of Jericho by Joshua and the Israelites, and that Jericho was destroyed before the time of Joshua. As a result, she lost her faith in the Bible. However, later excavations by Bryant G Wood uncovered evidence that the excavated city was indeed the city destroyed by Joshua, verifying the truth of the Biblical account. Why did Kathleen Kenyon lose her “faith”? It was because she wanted to see in order to believe! But the Bible teaches us that we must believe in order to see (Heb 11:1; John 21:19). Wood adopted this

method of “Believing Bible Study” and ended up having his faith strengthened. Is faith in Christ and His Word first in my life?

The other significant place where we visited was Tal-Dan, where we got to see the great apostasy of Jeroboam I in making a duplicate of the Jerusalem temple and installing the worship of the golden calf. This syncretistic worship in the Northern Kingdom is exemplified by a grove uncovered by archaeologists. On the top of this grove was a big stone dedicated to the worship of Jehovah, and a small stone dedicated to the worship of Asherah. The people of Israel bowed down to worship both stones. The people had two “masters”. But as the Bible tells us that we cannot serve two masters (Matt 6:24), so the people ended up loving their idols instead of the one living and true God. This reminded me how it is true today that our whole being must be wholly dedicated to God. *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”* (Mark 12:30).



“But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves”
(Exod 34:13)

Egypt and the Sinai Desert

During my stay in Egypt I was beset with a wheezing cough that would not go away, preventing me from climbing Mount Sinai. However that additional portion of rest at night allowed me to be fresh the next day as the bus traversed the Sinai Desert. As I looked at the rocky mountains and the acres and acres of barren desert, I could scarcely imagine how difficult it must have been for Moses to lead

two million people in this wilderness for 40 years! The desert seemed uninhabitable—hardly any water, hardly any food; extreme heat in the day, extreme cold at night. But the Lord provided miraculously for the Israelites. Are we like the children of Israel who murmured and complained against God? Do we often complain about the food we eat? Are we discontented with the salary we get, or the size of the roof above our heads? Surely our circumstances are not worse than what the children of Israel faced. Surely then there is no cause for me to complain about my life, but rather to thank God for all I have in my life. The lesson God wanted the children of Israel to learn in such extreme circumstances was how they must live not by bread alone but by every word that proceeded out of His mouth (Deut 8:3; Matt 4:4). The Lord too must be my sole dependence from day to day. Without Christ, I can do nothing (John 15:5).



Our Resting Place in the Sinai Desert

The riches of ancient Egypt as found in the Egyptian museum in Cairo also brought to remembrance how I ought to live each day by faith, for without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6). Moses set for us an example: *“By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king’s commandment. By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.”* (Heb 11:23-26).

Jerusalem and Bethlehem

While there were many sites to behold in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, I have learnt the

most by observing the people and their way of life. How sad it is to see that little Christianity exists in Jerusalem! There is much idolatry and blindness in the land. Much of it is exemplified by the many idols and icons we see in so-called churches, and the Jews at large who still do not believe that Jesus Christ is their Messiah. Those who are Messianic Jews have to hide their identities or flee from the city. The rest of the Christians remain persecuted. Hence, it is little wonder that Jerusalem, the city of peace, has no peace at all. Neither does Bethlehem, the house of bread, have any bread at all.

When then will peace come? Peace will come when Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life who was born in Bethlehem, returns to the earth again. *“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”* (Isa 9:6-7).



Ultra-orthodox Jews at the Wailing Wall, Jerusalem

In the meantime, what can I do as a Jerusalem pilgrim? Psalm 122:6 says, *“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.”* After learning so many lessons of faith and obedience in the Holy Land, how can I not pray for the peace of Jerusalem? Revisiting all the pictures I had taken of the land of Israel made me yearn for the land again. May the Lord Jesus Christ come soon and bring peace to the land!