



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

January 7th, 2018

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 The Lord Is in His Holy Temple

The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord is in His holy temple: Let all the earth keep silence, Let all the earth keep silence before Him Keep silence, keep silence before Him. Amen.

Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Sharon Poon/Deacon Eugene Leong
The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong

*Hymn **HOP 4** Holy, Holy, Holy

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Proverbs 1:1-9

Holy Communion [Deacon Adrian Cheng, Deacon Eugene Leong, Deacon Joel Wong]

Hymn **HOP 92** O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
HOP 185 According to Thy Gracious Word

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 432** Thanks to God!

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 10:12-17

Hymn **HOP 406** Take My Life and Let It Be

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim

2 Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

3 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

What Does the LORD Require of Me?

*Hymn **HOP 27** God of Our Fathers

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 4

*Congregation Standing

4 The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace, and give you peace; The Lord make His face to shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, be gracious, The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.



THEME FOR 2018:

"...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," (Deuteronomy 10:12)

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PASTORAL LETTER

Will You Have a Blessed 2018?

Dear BPCWAers. Wishing all worshippers a blessed New Year in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As we enter into a New Year, I felt it is important for us to review what we learnt at our Watchnight Worship Service. Do you wish to have a year with the blessings of God?

In Leviticus 26, the LORD God gave specific instructions for the children of Israel about what they needed to do when they enter into the Promised Land. These instructions were part of the covenant they entered into with Him when they took Him as the LORD their God. Every covenant has terms and conditions between the parties. As God's people, He will bless them for obedience and will chastise them for disobedience. The blessings were to enable them to fulfil their purpose in the land. The chastisements were in love to keep them from falling into sin and failing in the good purposes God has set for them. The terms and conditions are always for our good also. Like them, the 10 Commandments are for us to keep - not in order to be saved, but because we have been saved.

There were 3 key areas they were to focus on. If they kept them, they would experience great blessings. Like them, as we enter into the new year 2018, we can be assured of blessings from God if we too keep these commands as children of God. These 3 areas were:

1) Make no idols. Lev 26:1 gives the first instruction not to break the 2nd Commandment. It reminds us to make sure there are no idols that we carry into or intend to set up for 2018. Idols are what takes the place of God in our hearts. You love and desire it more than God. It can be a person, pursuit, possession, hobby, or job. Any form of addiction is idolatry. We may not bow to a physical image but we do so in our heart to many things. We do so when we, instead of following God, bow to the pressure of acting and dressing in certain ways to be like others in certain friendships or be in certain circle of people in school and at work. We work nonstop to make more money and would give up coming to church to learn about God and to serve Him because we bow to the pressure of achieving a certain level of lifestyle. We would rather be pursuing our hobbies than to be found in church worshipping and serving Him because we bow to the pleasures of our fleshly desires. Our family, children, and spouse can also be our idols. Saving Israel out of Egypt was one thing, getting Egypt out of Israel was another. Idols are the root cause of us breaking all the other 9 commandments. Husbands, are there idols you held on to in 2017 that has made you fail your God and your family? Deal with them at the start of 2018 now.

2) Keep the Sabbath. Lev 26:2 gives the command to keep the 4th Commandment to observe the Lord's Day. Keeping the Lord's day is fundamental to the believer's life each week. Again, this is for our good. It not a grievous command. Keeping the Lord's Day maintains our

perspective of eternal things. God knows it is needed for us, else we will become worldly and self centred. “Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy” (Exo 20:8). The children of Israel did not keep it and as expected, they fell into grievous sins and grew further and further from the LORD. “Keep it holy” means to set the day (note that it is the Sabbath DAY, not morning) apart for God alone. Guard the Lord’s day jealously and let nothing interfere with it. Hence it is to use the entire day for worship, for His service, and for prayer and meditation. The children of Israel did not guard it. Idols kept them from it. What idols will keep you and your family from setting Sundays apart in spiritual pursuit and service in 2018?

3) Reverence God’s Presence. God’s sanctuary represents His Presence with the children of Israel. Our attitude towards God when we come to worship Him and serve Him is important. While no one can see our heart, yet our outward often does naturally reflect our inward. Our casualness in attitudes during worship, in being on time, and even how we dress is telling. Ultimately, our reverence is shown in how we take His instructions. Perhaps you do not think all the above are necessary. You have been doing well without keeping the above. Leviticus 26 reminds us of the final state. Israel’s situation today is our living reminder. God was very merciful. His dealing was long and extended. He only gradually increased the chastisement. This is His longsuffering and kindness. But do not presume upon it. Reverence your LORD. What will result of your life, your family, depends upon how you live year after year. We despise God and His Word and break covenant with Him when we break His commandments. This is how God views it, it is not your Pastor’s opinion. We see this in Lev 26:14-15.

God promised blessings. God also promised chastisements. He will keep both faithfully. Will you have a blessed 2018? Your answer is found in the conditional statement of Lev 26:3 – “If ye walk in my statutes and keep my commandments, and do them”. It clearly depends on your choice to obey or despise His commands in the year ahead. Resolve, by His grace, to have a blessed 2018.

Yours in our Lord’s service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. **Busy Bee (Saturday, 20 January, 9:00 am):** We encourage as many as possible to come to clean the church and serve God together as a family together in this area. Lunch will be provided.
2. **2018 Church Calendars:** The 2018 bookmark calendar with this year’s church activities is available at the foyer. Worshippers are encouraged to help yourself to copies of this as you leave the church. Do mark out your calendars with these events and come and attend them with your families. Use it to pray for BPCWA too. The online calendars can also be downloaded and automatically added to your handphones from <http://bpcwa.org.au/addcalendar> and <http://bpcwa.org.au/addcalendar2>.

3. **2018 Calendars:** There are some copies of the Gethsemane BP's Bible Witness 2018 calendars on the reception table. Due to the limited copies, they are on a first come first serve basis. Please help yourself to a copy after the worship service, but do only take them if you would be using them.

4. **Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:**

- Thank God for those that came to give thanks and seek God at the close of the year at the Watchnight Thanksgiving Worship Service and who joined in prayer for the activities for the year.
- Thank God for all who contributed to the planning of the 2018 church calendar.
- Pray that we will all reconsecrate ourselves to live for Christ in 2018.
- Pray that BPCWA will be used to draw God's sheep closer to Him in holy fear, obedience, piety and service to our King in 2018.
- Pray that all will continue to depend upon God in prayer and will come to participate in church activities to help us grow spiritually.
- Pray for Australia Pre-Departure Briefings being conducted in Singapore today and next Sunday, that students coming to Australia to study will join sound churches and grow spiritually.
- Pray for FEBC as it starts a new semester and that it will be used and protected by God to train fulltime workers for His harvest. Pray for Yew Jinn, and other FEBC ministerial students to be equipped to serve God through the ministry of the Word.

SERVICE DUTY	7/1 COMBINED - Holy Communion	14/1 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Deacon Joel Wong	Deacon Eugene Leong/Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Eugene Leong	Allan Ang
Musician(s)	Sharon Poon	Winnie Lim
Welcomers	Alex Luu, Grace Luu, Ellainne Cheng	Eddie Foo, Carol Wee, Albert Ho
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Yi Choong Liew, *Kenny Chia, Alex Luu Benjamin Kan, Jason Tey, Michael Lee	*Mark Heath, *Terry Chong, Allan Ang Caleb Cheng, Eddie Foo, Kenny Tan
Ushers	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Vincent Naing	Benjamin Kan, Cheryl Lin, Mable Soon
Audio Visual	Caleb Cheng	Kenny Chia
Kitchen Duties	Yung Tsing Mew, Andy Ho, Lee Fung Fong Ming Ming Th'ng, Mable Soon	Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, May Chee Tey Edward Teng, Joanne Teng
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	

Nursing Home Ministry

Subiaco	Mark Heath (Benjamin Kan)	Colin Tey (Hannah Th'ng)
South Perth	A: Alex Luu B: Kenny Tan	A: Caleb Cheng B: Mark Heath
Berrington	Mark Heath (Benjamin Kan)	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)
Bull Creek	Kenny Tan	Mark Heath

APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK

Tuesday	9/1	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Deacon Joel Wong, Deacon Adrian Cheng, Hannah Th'ng
Wednesday	10/1	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Genesis
Friday	12/1	7:30 pm	Fellowships Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CAF/CSF
Sunday	14/1	8:30 am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00 am	Chinese Adults Sunday School/English Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00 am	Sunday Combined Worship Service
		12:30 pm	Teens Q & A
		2:00 pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30 pm	Nursing Home: Berrington, Subiaco – 45 Bishop St, Jolimont Bull Creek – RAAFA Memorial Estate, 2 Bull Creek Drive, Bull Creek WA 6149

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (31/12)

Attendance: 184 (Combined-151; CSS-33); Prayer Meeting: 74; Watchnight Thanksgiving Worship Service: 120
 Tithes and Offerings - Sunday Service: \$6,551.25 (#4372: \$491.00; #4373: \$60.00; #4374: \$101.75); Watchnight
 Thanksgiving Worship Service: \$1,397.10

SHORTER CATECHISM: What do we pray for in the fourth petition? In the fourth petition, which is, *Give us this day our daily bread*, we pray that of God's free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy his blessing with them. (Proverbs 30:8-9; Matthew 6:31-34; Philippians 4:11, 19; 1 Timothy 6:6-8)