



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

February 4th, 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.

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.

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.



Prelude/Preparatory Hymn Winnie Lim/Deacon Joel Wong

The Lord Is in His Holy Temple 1

Call to Worship Deacon Adrian Cheng/Sonny Lim

*Hymn **HOP 1** O Worship the King

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 2

Responsive Reading Proverbs 2:10-22

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

Hymn **HOP 100** The Old Rugged Cross

HOP 185 According to Thy Gracious Word

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings **HOP 397** I Gave My Life For Thee

*Doxology 3/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 10:12-17

Hymn **HOP 315** Must I Go and Empty Handed?

Pastoral Prayer/Message Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

Serve the LORD Thy God

*Hymn **HOP 396** Give of Your Best to the Master

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 4

*Congregation Standing

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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Traditional Chinese Medicine Concepts

Dear BPCWAians, We have discussed a recent cultural performance, Eastern philosophies and ideas, and their religious undertones. Today, we want to consider a popular aspect which we cannot overlook. It is what Encyclopedia Britannica quite rightly points out, that “the significance of Yin-Yang through the centuries has permeated every aspect of Chinese thought, influencing astrology, divination, medicine, art, and government.” We want to specifically look at the area of medicine, because it can be increasingly adopted into the believer’s ideas and life without careful understanding of their background and beliefs. So what is the thinking behind Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM)? Is it just traditional or religious? Let us have a closer look.

The basis of TCM. Generally, there are 2 energy forces that are fundamental roots in TCM beliefs – Yin-Yang and Qi. Qi is the vital life force and in effect makes up Yin and Yang energies, according to the TCM department of the University of Minnesota. These are derived from Taoism. As we saw last week, Christians must reject the Taoist belief of Yin-Yang and Qi. It stems from a spiritual basis of a godless impersonal, universal life giving and healing energy. The principal aim of TCM is to create harmony in the Yin Qi and Yang Qi energies for healing and good health. TCM seeks to analyse and facilitate harmony among these 2 opposite yet complementary forces that are in the human body. Its belief is that each internal organ has its own life force or Qi. It is believed that disharmony in these forces results in illnesses

and diseases. TCM's growing acceptance is evidenced by universities researching and promoting it. Some nursing professions have taken interest in it as well. But just like the theory of evolution, it does not mean that it is a true science just because schools teach it. If we reject the Yin-Yang and Qi in Taoism and Eastern religions, then we must also similarly reject them for TCM or any medical philosophies having such beliefs. This is because they hold to the same fundamental mystical belief which teaches that this same Yin-Yang and Qi force of Taoism is the life force which affects the body's well-being.

The application of TCM beliefs. The aim of TCM is to increase or improve harmony in the energies in the human body. They believe this will improve health, provide healing, and reduce anxiety stress. It teaches that these improvements can be achieved through particular foods, beverages, physical touches or manipulations (eg foot reflexology, acupuncture), meditations, and certain exercises (for example tai chi, qi gong, and yoga). For instance, certain foods or beverages are considered "heaty" (Yang) or "cooling" (Yin). The TCM practitioner's duty is to find out which energy is higher in you and prescribe the opposite to balance the Yin and Yang in you for better health and healing. In healing massage therapies and reflexologies, the principal concept for restoring Yin-Yang harmony for promoting healing is to locate and release stressful congestions in the body's organs or nervous system that affect the flow of the life force Qi energy in the body. Certain movements in yoga, tai chi, or qi gong are believed to promote and increase the Qi in the body. Simply put, TCM is basically a system of beliefs in energy therapy to naturally accelerate healing and improve body wellness. Then,

there is also Reiki (a spiritually guided life force energy). It is a spiritual technique which does not even require ingestion of food or physical contact massages. It believes different coloured lights shone on the body can alter the energies in the human body, or even laying on of hands can cause this life force energy to flow and promote healing in another person. All these treatments stem from the belief that the body is sustained by energy fields and forces that are constantly in flux and need to be kept balanced by increasing or decreasing Yin Qi or Yang Qi through foods, massages, particular exercises, or meditations. TCM practitioners even believe that all humans have the innate energy to heal others because of the natural existence and interaction of such energies within and between them and other people. Such energies might even increase as they heal more people.

The Biblical perspective. The application of Taoism's Yin-Yang and Qi energy force theories in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is the basis for its applications. Such beliefs stem from the teachings of Eastern religions and have no basis from Holy Scriptures. TCM principles replace God, Who is the Creator and Sustainer (Col 1:16-17) of all life and the Healer of man, with the gods of "vital life energy forces". The Bible teaches us that we should pray for the sick and provide practical medication and help (Jam 5:14). At Creation, "the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Gen 2:7). Only God can give life. The thinking that man can enhance his own Qi makes man to be God. God alone holds life (Ps 104:29). Those who think that they have the power to heal themselves, if they can manage these mystical energies in themselves or in others, have not glorified God, but have instead "lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven... and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways." (Dan 5:23).

So for some of you reading this article, the question you may have in your mind is – does that mean that I can't take TCM remedies, eat "heaty" or "cooling" foods and drinks, take any Chinese herbs, or get massages and acupuncture treatments? Can I use TCM without its Yin Yang Qi principles? God willing, we will see the answers in our next Pastoral.

Yours in our Lord's service

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

1. **Husbands and Fathers Fellowship (This Saturday, 10 February, 7:30 am):** All husbands and fathers who have not previously attended this fellowship group are encouraged to join this Saturday's gathering over breakfast at church. Do come with any questions you may have regarding lessons we have learnt in the 2017 meetings. Please inform Terry Chong of your attendance for catering purposes.
2. **Men's Fellowship and Ladies Fellowship (Next Sunday, 11 February, 6:00 pm):** Come and join us in fellowshiping with each other as we study how to live a God honouring life as a Christian man or woman. Dinner starts at 6 pm with both programs starting at 7 pm. More details next week.
3. **Seniors Fellowship (Saturday, 17 February, 10:30 am):** This will be our first meeting of the year and will be held at church. Pastor will be speaking on the topic "The Reason for Earthly Possessions Part 2". There will be a "steamboat" lunch fellowship after the meeting. All are warmly welcome. Please bring something to share for the steamboat lunch. For more information, please see Allan Ang.

4. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for wisdom at the Session Meeting yesterday and God's help and unity of minds in decisions on the operations of the church.
- Thank God for the transport ministry which enables people to come to church. Pray for much needed drivers to step up for this work.
- Pray for the Sunday School ministry as they plan for 2018 programs and activities to help children grow in their personal faith in God from year to year.
- Pray for University Outreach activities to bring in students that God intends for BPCWA so that they may know God personally in salvation and to grow spiritually with us during their studies here in Perth.
- Pray for unity in BPCWA that all may set themselves to serve God with pure motives and singleness of hearts in gratitude and devotion to exalt His Name alone and for the furtherance of His kingdom.
- Pray for individual hearts to be revived and stirred anew to deal with sin in their lives and reconsecrate themselves for His service.

SERVICE DUTY	4/2 COMBINED - Holy Communion	11/2 COMBINED
Speaker/Interpreter	Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Pastor Joseph Poon/Sonny Lim
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Deacon Adrian Cheng/Sonny Lim	Deacon Eugene Leong/Deacon Joel Wong
Preparatory Hymn	Deacon Joel Wong	Kenny Tan
Musician(s)	Winnie Lim	Sharon Poon
Welcomers	Claude Yiu, Esther Yiu, Lee Lian Yong	Colin Tey, May Chee Tey, Yi Choong Liew
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Eddie Foo, *Mark Heath, Terry Chong Allan Ang, Caleb Cheng, Michael Lee	*Kenny Tan, *Yi Choong Liew, Claude Yiu Edward Ee, Colin Chng, Pei Shion Chai
Ushers	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng Shie Tian Wong	Edward Ee, Mable Soon Yung Tsing Mew
Audio Visual	Kenny Chia	Caleb Cheng
Kitchen Duties	Lee Lian Yong, Lily Liow, Victoria Lew Valerie Wan, Shuin Ning Jong	Yi Min Chieng, Phyllis Voun, Yi San Chieng Yi Jye Chieng, May Chee Tey
Transport	Allan Ang (0433 032 709) / Deacon Eugene Leong (0401 155 386)	
Nursing Home Ministry		
Subiaco	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)	Colin Tey (Benjamin Kan)
South Perth	A: Caleb Cheng B: Kenny Tan	A: Alex Luu B: Mark Heath
Berrington	Allan Ang (Hannah Th'ng)	Edward Ee (Benjamin Kan)
Bull Creek	Kenny Tan	Mark Heath
APPOINTMENTS FOR TODAY AND THE WEEK		
Tuesday 6/2	10:00 am	Chinese Bible Study
	7:30 pm	Prayer Meeting: Pastor Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip, Deacon Joel Wong, Angeline Yong
Wednesday 7/2	7:30 pm	Far Eastern Bible College Online Courses: Genesis
Friday 9/2	7:30 pm	Fellowships Meeting: Regen/Youth 180°/CAF/CSF
Saturday 10/2	7:30 am	Husbands and Fathers Fellowship
Sunday 11/2	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
	6:00 pm	Men’s Fellowship and Ladies Fellowship
ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (28/1)		

Attendance: 187 (Combined-154; CSS-33); Prayer Meeting: 70
 Tithes and Offerings: \$5,717.30