



BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF W.A.

For the Testimony and Glory of Jesus Christ

Vol. 32 No. 11
March 22nd, 2015

SUNDAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

1 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.

Preparatory Hymn

Dn Joel Wong

Prelude

Ruth Wong

Call to Worship

Robert Wong/Andy Yu

*Hymn

HOP 41 Crown Him with Many Crowns

*Invocation/Gloria Patri 1

Responsive Reading

Psalms 68:24-35

Hymn

HOP 378 My Saviour's Love

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

*Doxology 2/Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading

Numbers 22:36-23:12

Hymn

HOP 417 Face to Face with Christ

Pastoral Prayer/Message

Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip

God's Sovereign Control

*Hymn

HOP 212 How Firm a Foundation

*Benediction/Threefold Amen

Announcements

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You 3

*Congregation Standing



Theme for 2015: "WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD UNTO ALL PLEASING" (Colossians 1:10)

27 Ullapool Road
Mt Pleasant, WA 6153

P: (08) 9364 8998
W: <http://www.bpcwa.org.au>
E: bpcwa@bpcwa.org.au

Elder James Wong
Dn Adrian Cheng
Dn Michael Lee
Dn Stephen Chia
Dn Joel Wong
Rev Joseph Poon

M: 0438 392 242
M: 0402 036 430
M: 0403 002 368
M: 0433 502 981
M: 0423 862 392
M: 0406 241 032

E: jameslwong@hotmail.com
E: ajcheng@inet.net.au
E: mtlee35@yahoo.com.au
E: stephenchia50@hotmail.com
E: yiing_yw@yahoo.com
E: josephpoonemail@gmail.com

WORDS FROM OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

My dear readers,

1. A topsyturvy world

(Wise Man, Foolish Man: Ecclesiastes 8)

The Preacher saw it and said, *“This also is vanity.”* We see it still: the just punished and the wicked rewarded. The godly are perplexed while the godless prosper. It would seem as if the righteous has *“cleansed his heart in vain”* (Ps 73:13). He cries out: *“My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, where is thy God?”* (Ps 42:3). *“If there is a God, why all this mess in the world today?”* So the atheist and unbeliever think they have the matter settled. Truly, it is a topsyturvy world -- on the surface, that is.

Dear reader in Christ, the things of God are beyond our vision. We need eyes of faith, and understanding hearts to perceive the deeper issues. In His own time and in His own way the Lord will bring order out of seeming chaos and confusion. After all, ours is only a momentary passing through, on this earth of corruption and vanity. In the New World to come all will be made right. Goodness will receive its rightful place. Evil will not be there. Until then, we must persevere.

But then, Christian sufferer, are you downhearted to see the wicked prosper? Does your heart rebel against the apparent injustice of it all? Perhaps you thought to exchange places. Is he better off than you? Would you truly have his earthly “good things” for your heavenly grace? Do you not realize that Jesus our Lord is more than all the world to you?

Listen to the Psalmist: *“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God”* (Ps 42:11). Leave yourself with God and be at peace. Let this living faith preserve you from that brooding dis-content. Earthly pleasures and possessions will soon pass away. They can never satisfy. God’s gifts, however small and meagre, are a foretaste of His heavenly favours.

Enjoy them, whatever He has sent. Above all, strive for the smile of Divine acceptance. Serve Him with all that you have. He is our abiding portion, our lasting joy. Hold fast to Him and let the world go by.

“Take the world but give me Jesus, all its joys are but a name.”

2. The Bruised Reed And The Smoking Flax

David Cloud, (February 25, 2015, 2015, fbns@wayoflife.org)

“Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth” (Isa 42:1-3).

For more than 40 years I have meditated on this wonderful Messianic prophecy, this amazing statement of the character of Almighty God.

We learn here that the Son of God will not break the bruised reed or quench the smoking flax (Isa. 42:3).

What a wonderful description of Christ’s tender compassion! He is the Good Shepherd who redeems sinners by His atonement and cares for them continually as their High Priest. He does not discard His people when they are weak and overcome by temptation. He has committed Himself to them. They are ordained to be conformed to His image. It will happen! He has guaranteed that it will happen. And it is an eternal process that begins in this present life.

The believer is likened to a **bruised reed**. What could be weaker? At his best, the believer is a mere reed rather than a strong and majestic tree. But how often we are “bruised” reeds. Reeds are easily bent by the wind and injured by the elements. Reeds are highly affected by drought conditions. Likewise, the believer is easily bruised by the world, the flesh, and the devil, bent over by the storms of wickedness and trouble and persecution. We are bruised by failure to abide in God’s Word, bruised by unfaithfulness and sin and backsliding. Yet

Christ does not cast away His bruised reeds; He does whatever is necessary to bring them back to health. He cares for them, nurses them, reproves and chastens them. David was a bruised reed after his sin with Bathsheba, yet Jehovah God brought him to repentance and forgave him. In his old age, David wrote great Psalms and received the plans for the Temple by the Spirit of God. The bruised reed was healed.

Likewise the believer is likened to **smoking flax**. This is a picture of an oil lamp with a flax wick that is not properly trimmed or that is low on oil. Rather than burning brightly, it is smoking. Rather than providing light in the darkness as it is intended to do, it is smouldering and producing irritants. Christ doesn't throw away His smoking lamps. Those with true faith even as weak as a smoking flax are accepted and taken into His tender care. He renews the oil and tenderly trims the wicks and fans the smouldering fibres into a bright flame. Peter was a smoking flax after he denied Christ, yet Christ restored him, and afterward Peter's lamp burned more brightly than ever. *(End of article)*

My dear readers, be of good comfort, heed God's loving words:

*“My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.*

*Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them
upon the table of thine heart:*

*So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and
man.*

*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own
understanding.*

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil”

(Prov 3:1-7).

God bless all readers.

Yours faithfully in the Saviour's Service,

Dr SH Tow

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAISE & PETITION

- 1. Rededication forms:** For those that are serving in any capacity, please complete the rededication forms and place them in the box located in the foyer. If you are not currently serving and have any questions about the Church or interested in an area of service, please fill in the Feedback & Service Survey.
- 2. Mandarin Family Care Group Meeting:** will be held this evening at the home of Elder James and Sister Choon Fang Wong. Dinner is at 6:30pm, please bring a dish to share. The meeting starts at 7:30pm. Address: 22 Stuart Court, Bateman. If you understand Mandarin, we welcome and encourage you and your family to join us for an evening of learning God's Word and mutual encouragement.
- 3. Church Combined Fellowship:** Fri 27 Mar, 7:30pm. Having learnt the different aspects of God's will, where am I in His will today? Can I know it? How do I choose my course of studies, my career choice, my life and family choices? Can I change God's will for my life? What if I made the wrong choice already? Submit your questions, if you have any, to Rev Joseph for this final session where practical case studies will be addressed.
- 4. Lunch Fellowship:** Next Sunday after the worship service. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome.
- 5. City Evangelism:** Join us for the bi-monthly street evangelism outreach in the Perth City malls next Sunday. Sign up or confirm your attendance on the registration form in the foyer. If you are interested to learn more please see Deacon Adrian Cheng or email evangelism@bpcwa.org.au
- 6. Church 29th Anniversary:** A thanksgiving dinner has been organised on the 5th April at North Lake BBQ Chinese Restaurant, 406 North Lake Road, Bibra Lake at 6pm. The cost is \$25 per adult, children 4 to 10 years old \$10. Register after the worship service at the fellowship hall with Sisters Yi San or Yi Min. Registration closes next Sunday.
- 7. BPCWA Family Camp:** Please start applying for leave and make arrangements to join this year's family camp. Rev Koshy will be speaking which will be held from Sunday - Thursday (5th - 9th July) at Orchard Glory Resort.

8. Special Mission Fund Collection: This special collection of offering will run for today and next Sunday. If the Lord has set this burden in your heart to give, you can designate your love gift to “Myanmar Mission” or “Cebu Mission” and drop it in the offering bag. This Mission love gift will be used to help the Myanmar brethren to attend the Family Camp or for the mission work in Myanmar and Cebu.

9. Item Collection for Myanmar & Cebu Brethren: We are collecting specific items which are in good condition to bring to Myanmar and Cebu. Please see Sister Choon Fang if you have any of below items to give by Sunday the 5th of April.

- Used laptops and mobile phones (10 of each are required). This will enable communication between the churches.
- New A4 zip/snap lock clear satchels, small packs of thin colour textas, UHU glue sticks and small scissors. Between the two camps there will be approximately 70 children attending the respective children’s programs.
- Collection of men’s, women’s and children’s jackets would be very useful to the brethren in Myanmar.

10. Thanksgiving and Prayer Items:

- Thank God for a time of learning from God’s Word, and for those who came to study the different aspects of God’s will at the combine church fellowship last Friday.
- The Brethren who have Rededicated their lives and services to God last Sunday.
- The Church - Unity in faith, love and knowledge of God’s Word.
- A strong, faithful and united Session.
- Plan to rebuilding Nehemiah Place.
- God’s leading and timing to restart the Mandarin Worship Service once a month.
- Those who are spiritually discouraged or physically unwell.
- Security in and around the church and homes.

SERVICE DUTY	22/3 COMBINED	29/3 COMBINED - Lunch Fellowship
Speaker/Interpreter	Rev Joseph Poon/Kong Vui Yip	Rev Joseph Poon/Andy Yu
Worship Leader/Interpreter	Robert Wong/Andy Yu	Dn Joel Wong/Sonny Lim
Prep Hymns	Dn Joel Wong	Jason Tey
Musician	Ruth Wong	Sharon Poon
Welcomers	Terry Chong, Lydia Chong, Julia Sun	Allen Liew, Fiona Liew, Claude Yiu
Offering Stewards *To Help Count Offering	*Terry Chong, *Caleb Cheng, Yi Choong Liew, Allan Ang, Dn Joel Wong, Dn Michael Lee	*Jason Tey, *Allen Liew, Alex Luu, Yi Choong Liew, Claude Yiu, Dn Stephen Chia
Ushers	Caleb Cheng, Rowena Cheng, Shie Tian Wong	Yi Choong Liew, Ellainne Cheng, Lee Lee Yong
P.A. System	Kenny Chia	Adrian Ng
Kitchen Duties	Yi Min Chieng, Yi San Chieng, Lily Liow, Shuin Ning Jong	Lilian Yong, Victoria Lew, Mew Yung Tsing, Julia Sun
JSS Singspiration	Karen/Yi Mey	Esther/Kenny Chia
Toddler Class Assistant	Ka Yii/Lilian	Lee Lee/Mary
Transport	Eugene Leong (0401 155 386) / Allan Ang (0433 032 709)	

Old Folks' Home Ministry		
Subiaco	Robert Wong (Ruth Wong)	Edward Ee (Karen Ee)
South Perth	Hall A: Andy Yu Hall B: Mark Heath	Hall A: Mark Heath Hall B: Rev Joseph Poon
Bayswater	Mark Heath	Kenny Tan

APPOINTMENTS OF THE WEEK			
Tuesday	24/3	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting: Rev Joseph Poon/Dn Joel Wong, Elder James Wong, Ruth Wong
Wednesday	25/3	7:30pm	FEBC: Life of Christ
Friday	27/3	7:30pm	Church Combined Fellowship
Sunday	29/3	8.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting
		9:00am	English & Mandarin Sunday School/English & Mandarin Basic Bible Knowledge Class
		10:00am	Combined Sunday Worship Service
		12pm	Mandarin Choir
		12:15pm	Church Van Depart
		2:00pm	Nursing Home: Concorde – 25 Anstey Street, South Perth Onslow Gardens – 39 Hamersley Road, Subiaco
		3:30pm	Nursing Home: Ben Ritcher Lodge – 480 Guildford Road, Bayswater

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS (15/3)

Attendance: 243 (Combined-205; JSS-38); Prayer Meeting: 63

Offerings in Total: \$6788.15

General Fund: \$6738.15 (#3883-\$1000; #3884-\$210; #3885-\$149.60)

Mission Fund: (10% of General Fund is set aside for missions; #3886-Brunei Mission-\$50)

SHORTER CATECHISM: Which is the fifth commandment? The fifth commandment is, honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. (Exo 20:12; Deu 5:16).