

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Not my will, but Thine, be done" – Luke 22:42

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A WORD ON WORSHIP

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Christian worship is Theocentric and Christocentric. Only through the Lord Jesus Christ can one ever acceptably come before God (John 14:6; 1 Peter 3:18; 2 John 9). Furthermore, if God the Father hath not granted a man to come to His Son, the Lord Jesus, no one can come to Christ (cf. John 6:45, 65). So, both the Father and the Son are engaged in mutual glorification in the hearts of the people of God (cf. John 13:31-32). In fact, the Holy Spirit is also at work in our hearts to glorify Christ (cf. John 16:13-14).

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SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

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Devil(s)

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Call to Worship

Elder Alan Choy

*Hymn 60: Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Responsive Scripture Reading

Psalm 130

Hymn 167: Hark! What Joyful Notes are Swelling

Collection of Offerings

*Doxology & Prayer

Hymn 327: All Things Work Out for Good

Scripture Memorisation

*Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Israel's Unprecedented Trouble"

Matthew 24:16-28

*Spiritual Song: Come, Lord Jesus!

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

** Congregation Standing*



TODAY, 16 DECEMBER 2018

NEXT LORD'S DAY, 23 DECEMBER 2018

8.00 – 9.00am		CHURCH CHOIR	CHURCH CHOIR
9.00am		CHINESE SERVICE	CHINESE SERVICE
		ADULTS' BIBLE STUDY (GBI-REVELATION)	ADULTS' BIBLE STUDY (GBI-REVELATION)
		CHILDREN'S CHOIR & CHILDREN'S BIBLE STUDY	CHILDREN'S CHOIR & CHILDREN'S BIBLE STUDY
11.00am	ENGLISH SERVICE	<p>Worship Leader: Elder Alan Choy Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Eunice Choy, Sarah Teo Ushers: Dn Lok Kwok Wah (i/c) Andy Lee, Benjamin Quek Marcus Peh, Ricky Yang David Ng, Julius Del Rosario Greeter: Lee Kim Lei AV Ministry: Andronicus Koshy, Aron Ong Jonathon Lim, Khoo Xin Hao Flowers: Stella Yang Refreshments: Violet Quek, Edeliza Ballega Rachel Teo, Corliss Ooi Junior Worship: Sharon dela Cruz, (Esther Quek) Rossellini Liu, (Adlucia Lim) Stephanie Lee</p>	<p>Worship Leader: Elder Ng Poh Kok Preacher: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy Musicians: Ellyzabeth, Jeremy Teo Ushers: Dn Low Boon Siang (i/c) Samuel Yong, Lee Shing Shyan Jonathon Lim, Randy Laurencio Arvind Pawa, George Chee Greeter: Mong Jee Pawa AV Ministry: John Ku, Andy Lee Aidan Kang, Matthew Peh Flowers: Alice Chee Refreshments: Lena Chan , Khoo May Ping Cecilia Siah, Mary Chan Junior Worship: Pr Dennis Kabingue, (Eunice Choy) Eld Mah Chin Kwang, (Jean Tindaan) Pr Ho Kee How</p>
2.00pm	OTHER MINISTRIES	FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP	FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP
		MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP	MALAYALAM FELLOWSHIP
		CATECHISM CLASS	CATECHISM CLASS
		YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE	YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE <i>(cancelled in view of Evangelism)</i>
3.30pm	LIONS HOME	<p>Venue: 487 Bedok South Ave 2 English Speaker: Elder Alan Choy Dialect Speaker: Pr Kelvin Lim</p>	<p>Venue: 9 Bishan Street 13 English Speaker: Bro Edwin Quek Dialect Speaker: Pr Jeremiah Sim</p>

16 December 2018

“The Everlasting Father”

Samson Hutagalung

*“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” (Isaiah 9:6).*

“The everlasting Father” in Isaiah 9:6 portrays the distinguishing divine nature of Jesus Christ the Messiah who would be the real comfort and tranquillity of the people of Israel. Jesus Christ is called “The everlasting Father” despite the fact that it has just been said about Him in the same verse: “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given”. How could Jesus Christ the Son of God be referred to as “The everlasting Father”? As far as the Godhead is concerned, Jesus Christ is not the Father but the Son. It is important that we note that Isaiah 9:6 is not about the position of Jesus Christ in the Trinity but His relationship with His people who have come to trust Him.

The historical context of this passage in Isaiah was set in the time when Ahaz was the king of Judah. He was not a good king, unlike his father Jotham and grandfather Uzziah (Isaiah 1:1). He had no fear for God. During his reign, when Israel was facing serious threats from the Assyrian Empire (Isaiah 8:1-22), the people were full of sadness and filled with fear. Furthermore, because of the

irreparable damage caused by King Ahaz, the future of Judah seemed doomed and uncertain. It was at that very moment of great national despair, that the prophet Isaiah prophesied the coming Messiah’s birth, which rekindled hope for the people.

So when Isaiah the prophet called Jesus “The everlasting Father”, it gave God’s people a great hope and help in time of trouble (Psalm 46:1-2). The portrayal of Jesus Christ as the everlasting Father could refer to: first, He being the Eternal King will come to lead and care for His people; second, He being the father of eternity knows all things from eternity past to eternity future; and third, He being the father of the great work of redemption saves sinners.

CHRIST THE KING, AS A FATHER WHO LOVES AND CARES

In His relationship with His people, Christ is like a father who is tender and caring towards His children. He not

only provides them with eternal life but also constantly nurtures them. Isaiah speaks of Christ as a father of His people in Isaiah 53:10 when he said, "He shall see his seed." They need not ever fear that they will be without His care. His people will never be anywhere without His presence, provision and protection. He is an everlasting father to His people.

This truth about Christ the Messiah would have been a very consoling message to His people who had suffered under the ungodly and cruel kingship of Ahaz. Earthly kings may fail in their responsibilities to their people, but Christ, the King shall always be a faithful father unto His people. He will never fail to redeem them and tend to them in accordance to all His covenantal promises.

According to the Old Testament Scriptures, one who provided tender care for those who were poor and needy was referred to as "father". Job spoke of himself, "I was a father to the poor" (Job 29:16). God is called "the father of the fatherless" (Psalm 68:5). Hence, it is not farfetched at all to say that Christ, being God, cares for all His people and is unto them "The everlasting Father".

CHRIST, THE FATHER OF ETERNITY

Another important fact about the Lord Jesus Christ is that He is the Father of eternity. It reflects the very nature of God, that He is immortal, invisible, eternal, God Almighty, the Creator of all things and source of all life. He has all

the attributes of God the Father, "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9). He has the very nature of God (Philippians 2:6). As He has said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30) and "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9). This reveals the eternity of the Lord Jesus Christ. The angel of the Lord declared to Mary concerning the Holy Child she was about to conceive, "And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:33).

Jesus Christ knows all things from eternity past to eternity future, for He is the Creator of the universe. "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist" (Colossians 1:16-17). He was with God the Father from eternity (Genesis 1:1, 26; John 1:1-3) and yet the same God humbled Himself, leaving heaven's glory to take the form of man and to live among sinful men like us, that we might be called His people (Philippians 2:5-9). It was because of His love for His people that He came to be their eternal Saviour (John 3:16).

In Revelation 1:8, He is also called Alpha and Omega (cf. Revelation 4:8; Isaiah 41:4), revealing His nature as the unchanging God for ever and ever. Although people and everything keep on changing, the everlasting Father, not being confined by time and space, is unchangeable. He

is in control of everything in the world, for He “laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands” (Hebrews 1:10).

Jesus Christ was sent to be our everlasting Father to care for us, despite our spiritual destitution and unworthiness. He who is the eternal God, who is always with the Father, who is from everlasting to everlasting, and the author of everlasting life, came to be with men to bring eternal life. The Lord Jesus Christ is not a dead but an eternally living Saviour (Revelation 1:18). Being the possessor of eternity, Jesus Christ is totally trustworthy, though the whole world may be against us. The everlasting father is the same yesterday and today and for ever (Hebrews 13:8).

CHRIST, THE FATHER OF THE GREAT WORK OF REDEMPTION

Jesus Christ came in fulfilment of what God the Father had promised when our first father Adam failed to obey perfectly the given commandments. Adam was the physical father of the human race. Jesus Christ as the second Adam was a representative of the human race in His obedience to the law in order to merit eternal life for sinners. This was declared by Paul in his writing, “God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under law, to redeem them that were under the law...” (Galatians 4:4-5). This is the great work of redemption that Christ had done on the cross in order to obtain the righteousness of

God in Him, that His righteousness might be imputed to those who believe in Him. Paul further explained, “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” (Romans 8:3-4; cf. 10:3-4). Jesus had perfectly obeyed God, which the first Adam failed to do.

God did not choose an angel to execute what He required of man but appointed His own Son to be the Redeemer of the world by becoming man (Philippians 2:5-9) and living among men (John 1:11, 14). His coming was so determined that the eternal love of God for the human race might be manifested. Christ’s work of redemption has merited the eternal salvation of those who gladly receive and believe in Him. He is our everlasting Redeemer who had willingly and sacrificially offered Himself to be crucified on the cross, “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us” (Galatians 3:13). What a Redeemer we have! He took the curse on Himself in order to save sinful and wretched men like us.

Now we have the hope and anticipation of the return of the great Saviour – “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13). What a wonderful and blessed joy we will have when we see the return of “The everlasting Father” of the great work of our redemption. Amen.



Advice on Facing Off Your Adversary, the Devil

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

1 Peter 5:8-9

Here, the Bible teaches us that the devil (or Satan) is a vicious enemy of all Christians. He is like a predatory lion that seeks to devour his prey. The devil is always on the prowl to afflict and destroy Christians. He has no good intentions in his dealings with Christians. He will not be kind nor benevolent to any Christian. He will maliciously target every Christian to afflict and destroy their faith.

So, we are given special advice when we have to face off that wicked enemy. The first advice is that we should “be sober and vigilant”. We must always be alert to recognise the devil’s evil assaults. He is very subtle and deceptive. If we are not watchful, he will lead us astray.

The second advice is that we must “resist” him, being “steadfast in the faith”. The devil will always try to turn us away from the biblical truths, which we ought to believe always. We must resolutely stand in all the truths of the Bible, which God has revealed to us as our faith. Then, the devil’s attempt to lead us astray will not succeed. The only sure way to stand up against the devil is by faithful obedience to biblical truths.

All Christians, of the past and present, face the attack of the devil. But we must be like all who overcame Satan and his evil plots. Jesus once said to Peter, “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not...” (Luke 22:31-32a). We thank God that the Lord Jesus stands guard by us to protect us from destroyed by Satan. So, if we stand in the truths that the Lord has revealed to us in His Word, our adversary can be resisted and be defeated.

Prabhudas Koshy

COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 9th December 2018

Tithes: 2,402.00

Offerings: 6,620.00

Building Project: 100.00

Designated Gifts: Youth Fellowship

Retreat 100.00; GBI-Ethiopia 100.00; GBI-

India 50.00; Bible Witness 2,000.00; Pr

Samson 100.00; Bro Cornelius 100.00

LOVE GIFTS TO GBWL

Please direct all love gifts related to the renovation and ministries of 33 Ubi Crescent to Gethsemane Bible Witness Limited (DBS 025-904568-2).

The Building Fund account will be closed by the end of December 2018.

GETHSEMANE ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairman: Pr Jeremiah Sim

Date: Saturday, 22 December 2018

Time: 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Venue: Home of Pr & Mrs Jeremiah Sim
Blk 725, Tampines Street 71, #06-167
Singapore 520725

*A concurrent separate programme will
be catered for children aged 4-12.*

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES/ ROSTERS (JANUARY - JUNE 2019)

Leaders of all fellowship groups are kindly asked to submit your programme/roster for January-June 2019 to Sis Joey Lim at joeylim.gbpc@gmail.com for consolidation and Sunday's bulletin announcement purposes, latest by **17th December 2018**.

Please include (a) the preacher and the topic, (b) the address of the venue, and (c) the name of the chairperson in the roster to facilitate the collation of information.

FAR EASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE

BASIC THEOLOGY FOR EVERYONE

January - May 2019

Monday Night Class

"Minor Prophets"

by Rev Dr Quek Suan Yew

Commencing on 7 January

Thursday Night Class

"Biblical Covenants"

by Rev Dr Prabhudas Koshy

"Systematic Theology IV - Eschatology"

by Rev Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Commencing on 3 January

'LOOKING UNTO JESUS' MUSIC ALBUM

A music album has been produced by Bible Witness Media Ministry. Ten hymns, sung by Jenice Choy and Dorcas Koshy, are contained within the album. Physical copies of the album are available in USB flash drives. The USB flash drives are priced at \$18/piece, and are available on a first-come-first-served basis. You may make your order at the reception table, or place an order online at <http://bit.ly/LookingUntoJesusAlbumOrder>.

All proceeds will be directed towards the purchasing of equipment for use in the new premises.

PASTORAL VISITATION 2019

Brethren who would like to open their homes for next year's pastoral visitations, please write down your names on the sheet provided at the reception table.

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BIBLE WITNESS CALENDARS

Bible Witness Media Ministry is giving a set of 2019 Desk and Wall Calendars to each family (one set per family). If you would like to have more than one set of these calendars, they are available at \$13.00/set at the book table. For 10 sets and above, it is \$11.00/set.

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GETHSEMANE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP RETREAT 2018

Theme: "Children of the Most High"

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Dates: 24th - 26th December 2018

Venue: UK Farm Resort, Kluang, Malaysia

Retreat Fees: \$180/person (*Youths who require subsidy, please approach Elder Choy*)

Registration has closed. Payment for the retreat is due today, 16th December 2018.

Note: There will be a briefing for the retreat next Sunday, 23 December 2018, immediately after the worship service.

POST-WORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Please stay back after worship to join us for:

Refreshment & Fellowship

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Catechism Class, Malayalam Fellowship,

Filipino Fellowship, Youth Choir

2.00pm onwards

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Prayer

8.00pm @ L5 Auditorium, SingPost Centre

Wednesday Lunch Hour Bible Study

On break till 2019

Thursday Seniors' Ministry

11.00am (Please contact Pr Jeremiah Sim)

Campus Bible Study

Break @ NAFA

Break @ SUTD

Sunday Lions Home Ministry

For enquiry, contact Pr Jeremiah Sim

For more information, please call
the church office at 6741 1910.



Bible Witness
Magazine



Bible Witness
Web Radio



Church
Weekly

Time & Place of Worship

11.00am

Level 5 Auditorium

Singapore Post Centre

10 Eunos Road 8

Singapore 408600

(next to Paya Lebar MRT station)

Prayer Hotline

8138 8139

SMS or WhatsApp

your prayer item

Our Office

(Temporary Mailing Address)

Singapore Post Centre

P.O. Box 1124

Singapore 914038

Tel: 6741 1910

Our Websites

gethsemanebpc.com

biblewitness.com

gbi-online.com

Our Pastor

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Mobile: 9001 1119

Email: pastor.gbpc@gmail.com

Our Session

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Elder Mah Chin Kwang

Elder Alan Choy

Elder Ng Poh Kok

Elder Francis Lee

Deacon Daniel Lim

Deacon Lok Kwok Wah

Deacon Kelvin Lim

Deacon Low Boon Siang