

GETHSEMANE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WORD ON WORSHIP

Our God is to be praised, for He has not despised nor abhorred us in our wretched conditions. He has shown great mercy to save, sanctify and strengthen us. His compassion towards us ceases not; His mercies are new every morning (cf. Lamentations 3:22-23). His pity towards us has been like that of a gracious and generous father (cf. Psalm 103:13; Matthew 6:32). So, let us exalt Him with thanksgiving, and by renewing our faith in Him and submitting to His glorious counsels.

SCRIPTURE MEMORISATION

Ear

Proverbs 18:15

The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge;
and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

*Hymn 27: Now Thank We All Our God

*Invocation & Gloria Patri

*Scripture Reading in Unison

Matthew 7:13-29

Hymn 349: Surely Goodness and Mercy

Scripture Memorisation

Hymn 426: All for Jesus

*Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

"Jesus Calls Us To Enter By the Narrow Gate"

Matthew 7:13, 14

*Hymn 425: Take the World, But Give Me Jesus

*Benediction & Threefold Amen

**Congregation Standing*



28 June 2020

Heaven Awaits All Who Follow Christ

Prabhudas Koshy

If you have been following the Lord Jesus, having trusted Him as your Saviour and Lord, then heaven is prepared for you. Jesus said, “If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour” (John 12:26). Later He said, “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” (John 14:2-3).

The day before His crucifixion, Jesus prayed, “Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world” (John 17:24). How remarkable is it that Jesus’ greatest desire concerning His people is that they will share His celestial glory for all eternity! He eagerly awaits our arrival in heaven to welcome us to heaven’s pure and perfect joys.

However, Christians of our times, generally, seem to have lost the excitement about the glory of heaven. Their hearts relentlessly pursue earthly affluence, success, pleasures, and prosperity. Their lives are so dedicated to their academic excellence, career goals, business success, vacation plans, etc. that the notion of “laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come” (1 Tim 6:19) is viewed as an unwanted distraction. To them, the appeals from Scripture that they ought to prepare themselves to eventually leave this earth by laying up treasures in heaven, are unwelcome intrusions into their busy lives. They disdain and set aside the biblical counsels to live every day with heaven in view. They think that living for heaven while on earth is an enormous waste of their time and energy. When such Christians lose their focus on heaven, they become self-indulgent and self-centred, materialistic and worldly, spiritually weak and lethargic.

All genuine Christians must remind themselves that they are “strangers and pilgrims” (1 Peter 2:11; cf. Heb.

11:13), and that their citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20). This world is not the Christians' real home. Like the ancient heroes of faith, we too must confess that "here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come" (Heb. 13:14).

Godly men in the Bible longed for heaven, and expressed their earnest expectation of the coming glory with the LORD in heaven:

- "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me" (Job 19:25-27).
- "Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore" (Psalm 16:9, 11).
- "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory" (Psalm 73:24).
- "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better" (Philippians 1:23).
- "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8).

- "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

Like those saints who declared their enthusiasm and hope of heaven, we too should sing and declare our longing for heaven, and live with great anticipation for heaven's glory. Let us rejoice that we are called to be heirs of the eternal celestial glory. As Jesus told the disciples, let us "rejoice, because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20; cf. Phil. 4:3; Rev. 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27). As noted earlier, their citizenship is there (Phil. 3:20). We are promised "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven" (1 Peter 1:4). Our eternal reward is there. In Luke 6:23, Jesus said, "Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven". Our greatest impetus to be in heaven is the rich fellowship that we will have with our wonderful Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the glory of heaven.

If the church loses its heavenly-mindedness, it will become a worldly, carnal, and spiritually lethargic church. Such a worldly-minded church will be disobedient to the Lord and be ungodly in its pursuits. So brethren, let us take

heed to the Lord’s command to all His followers, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:19-21). “If ye then be risen with Christ,” Paul wrote, “seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God” (Colossians 3:1).

A Pilgrim’s Glorious Hope

As a pilgrim I look for a better country
 Which my LORD is preparing for me.
 In that glory land where God is the builder,
 He promised me a mansion in His house.
 There’ll be glory for me at the end of this road;
 There’ll be glory that outshines my troubles here.
 So I’ll patiently endure, as I forward go;
 With a hope that is steadfast and sure.
 (A chorus written by Pastor Koshy)

OUR ONLINE RESOURCES

In this period where our regular church meetings are curtailed, we hope that our online resources will continue to be a source of encouragement and edification for you.

- For Christian literature, please visit biblewitness.com/magazine to find past issues of our BW Magazine.
- For 24/7 fundamental Christian music, please visit our Bible Witness Web Radio at biblewitness.com/webradio/radio-player/
- For our sermons, you may visit our church’s YouTube channel at youtube.com/user/gethsemaneipc/ or gbi-online.com
- Finally, you may also follow our church’s Facebook page at facebook.com/Gethsemane.BP.Church/ to stay updated with any urgent announcements from our church leaders.

Please pray for our BWMM staff as they labour to maintain all these services and resources.

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**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
 (ACM) REPORT**

Leaders of respective ministries and fellowship groups are to submit a short write-up for collation as part of the Annual Report for the upcoming ACM. Please send it to Dn Low Boon Siang at lbs83@yahoo.com by 26th July 2020.

Junior Worshipper's Page

Ears: The Heart's Gate for Knowledge

*"The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge."
(Proverbs 18:15)*

The "ear" is one of the great inlets for knowledge in the heart. It is mentioned here as an organ that serves the heart in its acquisition of wisdom. The prudent man knows that without lending a listening ear, it is impossible to grow in wisdom. Only when the heart pursues the acquisition of knowledge with the help of the ear, can it secure understanding. God gave us ears so that we may receive knowledge for ourselves.

Wise people always seek to expand and increase their knowledge. Those who are prudent would not proudly think that they have in themselves all the knowledge they need. They still seek for more knowledge. Prudent men are always inquisitive after more knowledge.

They grow in wisdom because their ears are open to instructions. The more the ears are open to the instructions, the greater the understanding that one receives. When our ears give diligent attention to those from whom we can learn, it is certain we will succeed in acquiring much knowledge.

Prabhudas Koshy



COLLECTIONS

LORD'S DAY on 21st June 2020

Tithes: 9,525.00

Offerings: 6,295.00

Designated Gifts: Cebu Building Fund 1,220.00; Rev. Ephrem 200; Vizag Vehicle Fund: 2,090.00; General Missions 50.00

Non-Sunday Collections

(15th–20th June 2020)

Tithes: 2,000.00

General Fund: 4,925.00

Designated Gifts: General Missions \$50.00; Full Time Workers \$1,000.00; Matthew Peh \$20; Mr & Mrs Jonah So \$700.00

Total Funds Collection

(as of 26th June 2020)

Vizag Vehicle Fund: 33,127.50

San Antonio Bldg Fund: 30,225.00

Cebu Building Fund: 30,312.50

(Note: The Vizag Vehicle and San Antonio funds have been sufficiently raised. They are now discontinued.

Last Sunday, the Cebu Building Fund reflected \$100,000.00 given by our Church upon the decision of the Session. That amount will not be reflected here as it is not a gift received for the fund.)

FOR TITHES & OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

Send in your gifts to 'Gethsemane Bible-Presbyterian Church' via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-011173-7), or you may scan the QR code to transfer via Paylah! or PayNow.



FOR LOVE GIFTS TO GBWL

Send in your gifts to 'Gethsemane Bible Witness Limited' via bank transfer (DBS Current Account 025-904568-2), or you may scan the QR code to transfer via Paylah! or PayNow.



UPCOMING ZOOM FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Links to the meetings will be provided in the respective Whatsapp Groups.

YOUNG ADULTS' FELLOWSHIP

Topic: By Adding to Godliness Brotherly Kindness & Charity—2 Peter 1:7

Speaker: Pr Ho Kee How

Chairperson: Bro. Matthew Peh

Date & Time: Sat, 4th July 2020, 4.00pm

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Topic: Study of Proverbs

Speaker: Pastor Prabhudas Koshy

Chairperson: Bro. Amoz Choy

Date & Time: Sat, 4th July 2020, 4.00pm

Prayer Hotline:

8138 8139

*SMS or WhatsApp
your prayer item*

Our Office:

33 Ubi Crescent
Singapore 408584

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