

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT- PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 12 September 2021

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

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Text: Isaiah 27

A VINEYARD OF RED WINE

A SECOND SONG

The first Song that Isaiah wrote (Isaiah 5) turned out to be a sad one. There was a second Song that he wrote (Isaiah 27).

²In that day sing to her,
"A vineyard of red wine!"

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

³ I, the LORD, keep it,
I water it every moment;
Lest any hurt it,
I keep it night and day.

⁴ Fury *is* not in Me.
Who would set briers *and* thorns
Against Me in battle?
I would go through them,
I would burn them together.

⁵ Or let him take hold of My strength,
That he may make peace with Me;
And he shall make peace with Me."

⁶ Those who come He shall cause to take root in Jacob;
Israel shall blossom and bud,
And fill the face of the world with fruit. Isaiah 27:2-6

FEATURES OF THE SECOND SONG

The following features may be noted:

1. Title of the Song
"A Vineyard of Red Wine"

2. The Lord's Involvement

- a) He is like a Vinedresser (John 15:1)
- b) He is committed to doing the following:
 - i) To keep the vineyard
 - ii) To water the vine
 - iii) He will guard it day and night

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

3. The enemies

- a) They will battle the Lord
- b) They will set up briers and thorns
- c) The Lord will burn them out

THE CHALLENGE TO ALL

The Lord's word to all who believe in Him:

1. To all who trust in the Lord

- a) To find strength in the Lord
- b) He would grant strength indeed

2. To all who are estranged

- a) To make peace with the Lord
- b) He will offer peace

3. To all who are new

- a) To be rooted in the Lord
- b) To blossom and to bud
- c) To become very fruitful

Let us be moved to apply this word of God in our life!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus with us today. May your heart be uplifted through worship!



CONDOLENCES

1.

Heartfelt condolences to Pastors Mark and Mitch Tan on the passing away of their mother on Tuesday, 7 September 2021.

The late Mdm. Wong Mee Neun was 87 years old.

2.

Heartfelt Condolences to the Sng family (Mrs. Sng, Yu Jen, Wei Jen and Shao Jen and their families) on the passing away of Dr. Jimmy Sng.

Dr. Sng was called home to be with the Lord on Thursday, 9 September 2021. He was 85 years old.

LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dear Pastors and Session of Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church,

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the concern, love and support from everyone in Bethany during the homegoing of our beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother to her Heavenly Father last week.

We especially wish to thank Pastor Charles for officiating the Memorial Service on Friday, 3 September 2021. We would also like to thank the Pastoral Team, Session Members, and AVA Team for their loving support. We are grateful and thank all from Bethany who visited with gifts, condolences and comforting words.

From the families of Yams, Boos and Ongs.
8 September 2021.

ESPECIALLY FOR SENIORS

A CONTEMPLATION OF ASAPH

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my law;
Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² *I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings of old,*

Psalms 78:1-2

1. Asaph
 - a) He was a very senior Levite
 - b) He was the head of Levites who served as Assistant-Priests
2. He played many roles as a Senior and older Levite
 - a) Teacher
 - b) Mentor
 - c) Psalmist
3. Challenge to all Seniors
 - a) Be encouraged by the example of Asaph
 - b) He was able to function meaningfully to many who were younger
4. His writing
 - a) It came from acquired knowledge
 - b) It was reinforced through life's experiences
 - c) He sought to teach as his skills enabled him
 - i) He could teach in parables (stories)
 - ii) He could teach by writing proverbially (dark sayings to the uninitiated)

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 12 September 2021

Text: Ephesians 5:2 Walk in love

*And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us,
an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.*

1. Walk in love

a) The word "walk" is another way of saying "Live"

b) Love should be a part of our Christian way of life

2. The Example of Christian love

a) The Lord Jesus Christ Himself

b) He loved us

i) He gave Himself for us

ii) As a sacrifice

c) His sacrifice was accepted by God

As a sweet-smelling aroma

19 September 2021

Text: John 16:22 Your joy no one takes from you

*Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will
rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.*

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:89-90

*⁸⁹ Forever, O LORD,
Your word is settled in heaven.
⁹⁰ Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
You established the earth, and it abides.*

1. The Nature of God's word

- a) It is settled in heaven
- b) It is settled forever
- c) The word of God is firmly established

2. The Nature of God

- a) He is absolutely faithful
- b) His faithfulness endures to all generations
- c) The earth's existence is an illustration of how God establishes something

POETRY CORNER

1

THE SONG OF THE VINEYARD OF RED WINE

The first song that was written turned out to be sad;
God's plans for His people should have made them glad.
But Israel had chosen to rebel and walk in disobedience;
The people became churlish and full of rude insolence.

But God did not give up on the people He had chosen;
He came up with a great plan of grace and redemption.
He would give to Israel a second chance in His plan;
He would plant another vineyard by His own hand.

He would watch over His people night and day;
He knew how easily they could go astray.
He would battle all who were adversaries;
He would destroy all their plans readily.

To all who seek strength He would empower;
They would receive grace every single hour.
Those who take root would bud and blossom;
They would bear fruit that is good and wholesome.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Isaiah 27:1-6

POETRY CORNER

2

Love

“Love is a many-splendored thing;
It’s nature’s way of giving a reason to be living”.
Those old enough may know these lyrics and the song I’m humming;
But perhaps love is much more, and is about selfless giving.

The Lord Jesus told His disciples to abide in His love;
Just as He had abided in the love of His Father above.
It is God who will outpour His love by the Spirit which was given to us;
We merely keep His commandment and remain steadfast.

His commandment is that we love one another, as He has loved us;
And to the confession of our hope in Christ, we are to hold fast.
What greater love has seen one man lay down his life for another?
Our Lord and Savior’s love for us is the ultimate example!

May our love for family, friends and fellow believers;
Cause us to pray unceasingly for one another.
May we be willing to bear the burdens of our brothers and sisters;
And spur one another on to greater love and good works together.

Dr. Sng Li Wah

Inspiration: John 15:9-10, 12-13; Galatians 6:2; Hebrews 10:23-24

POETRY CORNER

#3

LORD, TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?

The Lord Jesus imparted deep teachings,
Many heard Him but had trouble following.
They complained for they were offended,
Sadly, they rejected Him and departed.

A few people stayed loyal to the Lord Jesus,
These did not give up, unlike the masses.
They knew He is the Son whom God has given,
The Christ and the Living Bread from heaven.

These people valued the Lord's sayings,
In His words, they found life everlasting.
Surely, there was no other alternative,
Their response to Him was affirmative!

It is God who draws us to the Lord Jesus,
To come to the Son of God is so precious.
May we abide with Him and never depart!
May we always hide His words in our heart!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: John 6:66-69

POETRY CORNER

4

Love

The fruit of the Holy Spirit grows naturally out of His operation
Open up to Jesus for the entrance of the Spirit into us
Give ourselves up to be led by Him away from temptation
To bear much fruit as we abide in Lord Jesus

Love is the core of the fruit of the Spirit
Agape is the perfect and selfless love given by our Lord
Through us show God's love by reaching out to people in need
May the fruit of love mature and ripen in us by the grace of God

Seek the power of the Holy Spirit to grow the fruit of love
Human toiling can never produce the love God so desires
Unconditional and sacrificial love towards enemies are challenges to even think of
Only the Holy Spirit can enable the love to spill over from our hearts

Let us choose to walk in the Spirit of the Lord
Strive conscientiously to obey Jesus' commandments
"With all your heart, mind and soul to love the Lord your God"
And "love your neighbour as yourself" the second great commandment

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 22:35-40

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

INVOCATION

MESSAGE

“The Fruit of the Spirit: JOY”

Text: Galatians 5:22-23; John 15-16

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



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