

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 8 August 2021

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	5
Especially for Seniors	7
Bible Memory Work	8
Worship	9
Poetry Corner	10
Order of Worship	13

Text: Deuteronomy 32:13-14

UNDERSTANDING BLESSINGS

APPRECIATING GOD'S BLESSINGS

As we trace the gracious hand of God, it would be good to understand that we have truly amazing blessings from Him.

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

¹³ "He made him ride in the heights of the earth,
That he might eat the produce of the fields;
He made him draw honey from the rock,
And oil from the flinty rock;

¹⁴ Curds from the cattle, and milk of the flock,
With fat of lambs;
And rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats,
With the choicest wheat;
And you drank wine, the blood of the grapes.

Deuteronomy 32:13-14

The language used in this passage is highly figurative but most illuminating.

1. He made him ride in the heights of the earth
That he might eat the produce of the fields

- a) This is a figure of speech to describe great success
- b) The children of Israel were given the whole land of Canaan
 - i) There were rich plains
 - ii) There were beautiful high mountain ranges
- c) This was his "ride in the heights of the earth"
- d) In conquering the land, Israel was able to enjoy "the produce of the fields"

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

2. He made him draw honey from the rock,
And oil from the flinty rock

- a) There were blessings that came from hard work
- b) Honey had to be found and they are sometimes found in unusual places like rocky grounds
 - i) Israel had to learn how to farm colonies of bees to produce honey
 - ii) The "rock" is a figure of speech to refer to hard work
- c) Oil from the flinty rock
 - i) This is not petroleum oil
 - ii) This is a reference to olive trees that produce oil
 - iii) The grounds had to be tilled and cleared of flinty rocks before olive trees could be planted
 - iv) There are blessings that come after hard work has been put in

3. Curds from the cattle, and milk of the flock,
With fat of lambs;
And rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats,
With the choicest wheat;
And you drank wine, the blood of the grapes.

- a) There was animal husbandry that had to be learned and mastered

(Continued on page 4)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 3)

- b) There was also agricultural knowledge and skills to be obtained
- c) The results were blessings from God
- d) Israel enjoyed the fruit of their labour

BLESSINGS COME IN DIFFERENT WAYS

Not all blessings come in the same way! Some are outright blessings. Some others are hard earned. But all blessings ultimately come from the Lord.

The blessings bestowed on Bethany may be viewed in the same way. Thank God for all His manifold blessings!

Write to me at: charleston@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

Thank you for your faithfulness in worship even if it is on-line!
Thank God for every opportunity to offer Worship!



CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 40+8 ANNIVERSARY

1. Thank God for His abundant blessings these past 48 years
2. Thank God for grace and strength to work hard all these years
3. Thank God for all who have had a part in supporting Bethany!



RESUMPTION OF ON-SITE WORSHIP

Thank God we can resume on-site Worship at Bethany!

1. Morning Worship
Sunday, 15 August 2021
Time: 10.00am
2. Youth Worship
Saturday, 21 August 2021
Time: 3.00pm



(Continued on page 6)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORDINATION SERVICE

29 August 2021

Ordinands:

1. Moses Kwek
2. Eugene Seow



CONGRATULATIONS!

1. Heartfelt congratulations to You Cai and Alvina on the occasion of their wedding on 7 August 2021. May the Lord's blessings be on them!

2. Heartfelt congratulations also to Joel and Yuwen Lee on the gift of a baby boy. Baby Ezra was born 3 August 2021. Congratulations also to Deaconess Geraldine Lee and Kum Seng on becoming grandparents. Congratulations to Aunty Margaret on being a great grandmother!



HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

Heartfelt condolences to Rachel on the homegoing of her paternal grandmother, Mdm. Pang Ai Lin. She was 96 years of age.



ESPECIALLY FOR SENIORS

*¹¹Who knows the power of Your anger?
For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.
¹²So teach us to number our days,
That we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

Psalm 90:11-12

1. The Anger of God

- a) Moses saw the anger of God
- b) It was righteous anger
- c) He stood in awe of His wrath
- d) He learned to fear the Lord

2. The days our life on earth

- a) They are limited and precious
- b) They must not be risked by incurring God's anger
- c) Wisdom is needed so that we may walk aright
- d) May God teach us how to number (value) our days on earth

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:79-80

⁷⁹ Let those who fear You turn to me,
Those who know Your testimonies.

⁸⁰ Let my heart be blameless regarding Your statutes,
That I may not be ashamed.

1. Serving the Lord as a teacher of God's word

- a) The Psalmist has become a teacher
- b) He welcomes all who fear the Lord
- c) Those who know His testimonies

2. Prayer for blamelessness

- a) To teach correctly
- b) To live out what he teaches/ preaches
- c) That he might not be ashamed as a teacher of God's word

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 08 August 2021

Text: Romans 8:28 Called according to His purposes

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

1. To those who are called according to God's purpose

a) Called to Salvation

b) Called to Service

2. There is deep assurance

a) That all things work together for good

b) This is a wonderful sense of hope in the Lord

NEXT SUNDAY: 15 August 2021

Text: Romans 8:29 Predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

POETRY CORNER

1

UNDERSTANDING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

The Blessings of God need to be understood carefully;
They are sometimes misunderstood, unfortunately.
We assume that God's blessings are naturally given;
Just because we are called the Lord's children.

This was a mistaken concept Moses had to address;
All too often we commit the sin of presumptuousness.
God's Blessing must be understood before they are received;
There is an important part that must be clearly perceived.

The grounds may be likened to flinty rock that seem unproductive;
The farmer needs to break these rocks, before the ground is productive.
There is a lot of hard work that must be done;
But God will give grace as we labour in the sun.

The Blessings of God still come from mercy and grace;
But we have to work hard and faithfully seek His face.
When we do our part diligently without fail;
Strength and blessings, the Lord will avail.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Deuteronomy 32:13-14

POETRY CORNER

2

The Exceeding Riches of His Grace

In Christ Jesus is the exceeding riches of God's grace and kindness.
Its expanse, revealed in ages to come, to be embraced with gladness.
Humanly wisdom will not adequately fathom the extent of this love.
Not within our ability to define this immeasurable mercy from above.

The gift of salvation from God is in His choosing and predestination.
These blessings, possible only through Christ's blood of redemption.
Facilitated through the Holy Spirit by being our seal and our guarantee.
O, such infinite provision ever so sweet, ever so rich and ever so free!

And thus, with a renewed sense of humility, we should fully realise.
That salvation is by grace, and not by the works nor by the faith exercised.
Yet genuine faith must shine through this joy in Christ's salvation.
Which then enables good works prepared before man's very foundation!

Dr. Tan Kok-Yang
Inspiration: Ephesians 2: 7-10

POETRY CORNER

3

A Man After God's Own Heart

(Inspiration: Psalm 89:3,20; Samuel 13:14, Acts 13:22; Psalm 51:1-2)

How blessed is one to receive a covenant from God
David was chosen as he was a man after God's own heart
He will do ALL the will of the Lord
Trusting and obeying God since a young lad right from the start

As a leader David was given help and strength
He was exalted and anointed by the Lord Himself
With God on his side how could he possibly be out of his depth?
In no way will he falter and fail as a king extending himself

However, there were times of darkness during David's life
He was not infallible and far from perfect
Adultery, lying and murdering are sins in the Lord's eye
Nevertheless, forgiven by God after truly repenting for his sins in retrospect

So, like David our faith is stress tested at times
Sometimes we fail but if we are committed to His Word
He will compassionately and mercifully pardon us
Bless the Almighty God for His lovingkindness so graciously conferred

Jessie Quek

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

INVOCATION

MESSAGE

“He shall cry to Me, ‘You are my Father’”

Text: Psalm 89:24-29; 1 Samuel 16

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church

301 Upper Paya Lebar Road. Singapore 534934

tel : 65-62877713 . fax : 65-62877980 . website URL : bethanyipc.sg