

BETHANY

INDEPENDENT-
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

God's Kind of Church...

Where God is touching lives...

And people care for people.

Bethany IV ... 26 June 2022

MEDITATION

REV DR CHARLES TAN

Text: 2 Peter 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meditation	1
Announcements	4
Worship	5
Letters That Warm The Heart	6
Bible Memory Work	8
Poetry Corner	9
Order of Worship	13

“BE DILIGENT”

MANY VITAL TRUTHS

The Lord Jesus taught His Disciples many important truths. The following may be highlighted:

1. The Doctrine of Salvation
2. Discipleship and its relevant challenges to serve the Lord

(Continued on page 2)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 1)

THE DOCTRINE OF THE SECOND COMING

This doctrine also had to be taught. This was a complex teaching that involved so many factors. The Apostle Peter devoted his second pastoral epistle to help his readers to learn how to respond appropriately to this doctrine.

¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

¹⁵ and consider *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,

¹⁶ as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable *people* twist to their own destruction, as *they do* also the rest of the Scriptures. 2 Peter 3:13-16

1. An essential Basic response

- a) To believe in the promises of God
- b) The 2nd Coming is a promise of the Lord to return for His people

2. To look forward to the Return of the Lord Jesus

- a) This is an important outlook we must adopt
- b) We must ever look forward to the Lord's Return

3. Appropriate features

- a) To be diligent in our faith in the Lord
- b) To be found by the Lord, at His Return:
 - i) In peace
 - ii) Without spot
 - iii) Blameless

(Continued on page 3)

MEDITATION

(Continued from page 2)

A WORD OF ADMONITION

Peter was not the only Apostle to write about the Return of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul also wrote on this subject. But his thoughts on this doctrine were not easy to comprehend. Those who were unlearned were warned that they might hurt themselves doctrinally if they tried to master very complex issues.

Diligence was taught by the Lord Jesus. The Apostle Peter was wise to give emphasis to this focus!

Write to me at: charlestan@bethanyipc.sg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO BETHANY

We are glad that you have chosen to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us today. May your heart be drawn closer to God through worship and fellowship!



HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY

1. Morning Worship Service
3 July 2022

2. Chinese Worship Service
10 July 2022



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY THIS COMING WEEK **27 June - 3 July 2022**

1. Special Seniors Program

Tuesday, 28 June 2022 | 9.30am-11.30am

Thursday, 30 June 2022 | 9.30am- 11.30am

2. Weekend Ministry

Saturday, 2 July 2022

Catechism Class | 1.00pm

Fellowship Group Meetings (YPG 1-3; YAG 1-2) | 2.00pm

Youth Worship | 3.00pm

Sunday, 3 July 2022

All Sunday School Departments (Except SSS 4) | 8.30am

Morning Worship Service (Holy Communion) | 10.00am

Chinese Worship Service | 10.00am

Children's Worship | 10.00am

Crèche | 10.00am



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW PULPIT SERIES:

July- August 2022

“Ascribe Strength to God” Psalm 68:34

(Theme for Bethany’s 49th Anniversary Celebration)



CONGRATULATIONS! IT’S A GIRL!

Heartfelt congratulations to Dao Hong and Olivia
on the gift of a Baby Girl. Baby Adora was born on 20 June 2022.
Both mother and daughter are doing well!



WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

Psalm 119:171 - 172

¹⁷¹ My lips shall utter praise,
For You teach me Your statutes.

¹⁷² My tongue shall speak of Your word,
For all Your commandments *are* righteousness.

1. Praise for the LORD
 - a) When His statutes are well-learned
 - b) The Scriptures bring much enlightenment
2. Proclamation of the Word
 - a) This is a good commitment to make
 - b) God’s commandments are truly righteous

LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

Dear Pastor,

We would like to specially thank you and our Bethany family for the outpouring of love and support not just during my dad's wake, but the 2 years that he was fighting with cancer. Through the love that we have received, we see the Lord's hand of provision and His presence with us despite the difficulties. Truly the Lord was there all the way and we were never alone in these trying times.

We are grateful to everyone who made the time to be with us at the wake and the many others who wrote to us, sending their condolences, assuring us that they were praying for us, and lending their help in any way that they could. Though we are going to miss Dad very much, the love and support we have received has brought much comfort to us and we are most comforted to know that Dad was ready to meet the Lord and we will see him again one day. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for this precious Body of Christ and we thank God that we are a part of this spiritual family. We would also like to specially thank Aunty Eileen who graciously provided all our meals during the wake, it was a very big help to us as we were so busy just being with the different ones who came to pay their last respects. Thank you also for loaning Bethany's video equipment so that we could record the memorial service with the help of Rachel, Kevin, Nic and Joseph Lim.

We were also especially grateful for the opportunity to speak of Dad's faith and to share with those who came about how the entire family could see the Lord's hand even amidst our grief. Sarah and I recall sharing with you back when the COVID restrictions limited our wedding guest list, that we were disappointed that we could not invite some friends whom we hoped to use our wedding as a platform to reach out to. Yet, all these and more came for Dad's wake and memorial service, and we hope that our sharing how Dad faced cancer with faith, and how the Lord has been so

LETTERS THAT WARM THE HEART

very real to the family over the journey, will be an even more powerful testimony to them of the reality of God.

Truly, we have seen how the Lord has worked in ways that we would not have expected or even have thought to pray for. For example, Vera was supposed to start work as a physiotherapist at SGH on the day of Dad's funeral, but due to some delays with her entire batch's practicing license, their start date was delayed by 2 weeks, allowing Vera time to grieve and process before starting work, and also to be with and support Mum as she adjusts to life without Dad. In addition, in our most desperate times when we did not know how to help Dad be more comfortable, because the hospital had somehow missed out on referring us to home hospice care before discharging him, the Lord answered our pleas. Nic Khoo helped us to get in contact with the CEO of the Singapore Cancer Society, who happens to be Dom's relative, and he helped us to arrange for a home visit by a palliative team, just 2 days before he passed, and their interventions really helped Dad be more comfortable in his final days and the family to understand better how to help him and what to expect in the days that followed.

We stand in awe of how the Lord has provided for us so thoroughly, and we cannot but give Him praise for all He has done.

In His Love,
Jerome, Sarah, and Vera

BIBLE MEMORY WORK

TODAY: 26 June 2022

Text: “Be ready”

Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Matthew 24:44

1. The Challenge

To always be ready for the Lord's Return

2. The Coming of the Lord Jesus

He may come at any time!

Diligence is the watchword.

NEXT SUNDAY: 3 July 2022

Text: “Your God has commanded your strength”

Your God has commanded your strength;

Strengthen, O God, what You have done for us. Psalm 68:28

POETRY CORNER

1

BE DILIGENT

The Second Coming is a wonderful Promise;
It is a Word that we must greatly cherish.
The Lord Jesus will return as our great King;
His Return would be the most important thing!

All of God's Plans would climax at the Lord's Return;
The Lord would create a new Earth and a new Heaven.
All of this is impossible for Man to fully comprehend;
But all that is planned would be accomplished by His Hand.

Our challenge is to be ready and to be diligent;
Nothing could be more urgent and important.
Temptations and distractions must be set aside;
The Lord will lead us, great strength, He will provide.

Let peace be deeply embedded within our heart;
May the grace of the Lord, to our soul, impart!
Let us determine to be spotless and blameless too;
When the Lord returns, may we be found to be true!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: 2 Peter 3:13-16

POETRY CORNER

2

Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant

When a master entrusts a task to his servant;
He expects the latter to work hard and be diligent.
It will also be the servant's wish fervent;
To hear his master say "Well done, good and faithful servant".

Likewise, our Master has gone on a journey distant;
His command to go forth and bear fruit has been given.
Yet one day, when our Master makes His return;
Will He be able to say "Well done, good and faithful servant"?

For thus is the case in the kingdom of heaven;
To each according to his ability, his lot will be given.
Our job is to cherish and invest our God-given talents;
To deserve to be told finally "Well done, good and faithful servant".

So make haste to spread the gospel and herald the kingdom of heaven;
For the return of the Lord Jesus is indeed imminent.
May we be accountable for the responsibility rendered on us as God's children;
To merit His affirming us "Well done, good and faithful servant".

Dr. Sng Li Wah
Inspiration: Matthew 25:14-30

POETRY CORNER

3

THEREFORE, BE READY

We can be certain the Lord Jesus will return,
But we do not know when this will happen.
We must be ready for the return of the Lord,
Important truths on servanthood, He taught.

A good servant of the Lord is faithful and true,
All that he has been instructed, he would do.
This servant is also thoughtful and sensible,
He would care for the needs of other people.

In contrast, the evil servant is found wanting,
He is sinful and he indulges in merry-making.
One day, he will receive his just punishment,
By then, it is too late to regret his actions.

The Lord is delighted by the good servant,
To him, greater responsibility will be given.
May we be challenged by these teachings,
And serve Him well as we await His coming!

Yvette Seow

Inspiration: Matthew 24:36-51

POETRY CORNER

4

Let's be prepared

The Lord sows His children in His kingdom
Sadly His crop is corrupted by the evil one
Who wilfully mingles His children in God's system
Thus believers and unbelievers live together under the Lord's sun

A challenge to discern wheat from tares during early phase of growth
Rooting out weeds from wheat may cause irreparable damage
Wise to wait till harvest time when ears of wheat with grains droopeth
Patience is required as harvest occurs at the end of the age

No one except the Father knows the time of the end of the age
When angels are tasked to separate the wheat from the tares
Into the furnace of fire they will cast the tares on that date
But the destiny of the righteous is one of glorious radiance

Abide by the Lord's Word and prepare for His coming
Like the faithful servant awaiting his master's return sharpen our watchfulness
For blessed is he whom his master when he comes finds so doing
May we keep awake and not slumber away into spiritual drowsiness

Jessie Quek

Inspiration: Matthew 13:38-39; 24:36-42

ORDER OF WORSHIP



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deaconess Dr Jane Tan

Deaconess Tan Li Hong

PRAYER

HYMN

CP 308 | Thanks to God for My Redeemer

CP 339 | Higher Ground

MESSAGE

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory”

Text: Matthew 25; Daniel 7; 2 Thessalonians 1; Revelation 1

Rev Dr Charles Tan

PRAYER

HYMN

HWC 521 | Redeemed

POSTLUDE



HYMNS

CP 308 THANKS TO GOD FOR MY REDEEMER

AUGUST L. STORM

1. Thanks to God for My Redeemer,
Thanks for all Thou dost provide!

Thanks for times now but a memory, thanks for Jesus by my side!

Thanks for pleasant, balmy spring-time,

Thanks for dark and dreary fall!

Thanks for tears by now forgotten, thanks for peace within my soul!

2. Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered,
Thanks for what Thou dost deny!

Thanks for storms that I have weathered,

Thanks for all Thou dost supply!

Thanks for pain and thanks for pleasure,

Thanks for comfort in despair!

Thanks for grace that none can measure,

Thanks for love beyond compare!

3. Thanks for roses by the wayside,

Thanks for thorns their stems contain!

Thanks for homes and thanks for fireside,

Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!

Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,

Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!

Thanks for hope in the tomorrow, thanks through all eternity.



HYMNS

CP 339 HIGHER GROUND

JOHNSON OATMAN, JR

1. I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day;
Still praying as I'm onward bound,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

Refrain

Lord, lift me up and let me stand, by faith on heaven's tableland;
A higher plane than I have found,
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

2. My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Though some may dwell where these abound,
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.

Refrain

3. I want to live above the world,
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught the joyful sound,
The song of saints on higher ground.

Refrain

4. I want to scale the utmost height
And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,
"Lord, lead me on to higher ground."

Refrain



HYMNS

HWC 521 REDEEMED

FANNY CROSBY

1. Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child, and forever, I am.

Refrain

Redeemed, redeemed,
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, Redeemed,
His child and forever, I am.

2. Redeemed and so happy in Jesus,
No language my rapture can tell;
I know that the light of His presence
With me doth continually dwell.

Refrain

3. I think of my blessed Redeemer,
I think of Him all the day long:
I sing, for I cannot be silent;
His love is the theme of my song.

Refrain

4. I know I shall see in His beauty
The King in whose Law I delight;
Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps
And giveth me songs in the night.

Refrain

