

3 FEBRUARY 2013



# be ye **reconciled** to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

find.it

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from the pastor's heart

## OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD



## today's program

the **news**

**hymn** | praise the Saviour

opening **prayer**

**hymn** | crown Him with many  
crowns

**hymn** | blessed assurance

**offertory**

**hymn** | all i ever need is found in  
Thee

**exhortation** | pastor johnny

**invitation** and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan ([johnny@ambassador-baptist.org](mailto:johnny@ambassador-baptist.org))  
 Courtesy F. Lee Corkran, Wikimedia Commons

*Therefore if thine enemy  
hunger, feed him; if he thirst,  
give him drink: for in so  
doing thou shalt heap coals  
of fire on his head. Be not  
overcome of evil, but  
overcome evil with good.*

Romans 12:20-21

How do we respond in a way that befits a child of God after enduring the insults, persecutions and opposition of the enemy and obeying God in giving place for wrath? We need to realize that vengeance is God's.

**We need to be kind to those who have hurt us.**

The enemy is one who, in heart and deed, opposes us openly and has no kind thoughts towards us. This enemy yearns for our destruction and shame. However, God says, "Feed him and give him drink as he needs." The intention is not to merely provide his

continued on page 2

necessities but all the individual needs. True and sacrificial love cannot merely reflect the giving to meet specific needs but all needs, including the basic needs of the enemy that will contribute to his comforts and needs. Paul echoes the words of our Saviour that we are to love our enemies, to bless them that curse us and to pray for them that insult and spitefully use us. We are to be kind, beneficial, useful and meeting the needs of those who hurt us. This was the response of the Saviour. When He was reviled, He reviled not again; He was persecuted but He did not retaliate; He was insulted but He was quiet. However, by his death, He provided salvation to those who killed Him if they would accept His grace. Be kind to those who hurt you. This is the Saviour's pattern and apostolic teaching.

**We can overcome the enemy and evil by our kindness.** The heaping of coals of fire refers to two possible references. In the Jewish culture, bringing coals of fire indicate the warming of the house through lending coals to houses without any. Our kindness, in this instance, warms the cold heart of sin and, hopefully, wins over the enemy. However, in Egypt, criminals had coals of fire placed upon their heads and they were to be ashamed of

what they had done and, as a result, recant and repent of the corrupt deed.

**We as children of God are to overcome all evil with good.** When men revile us, we are to bless them; when men curse us, we are to bless them. We are to subdue the opposition against us through kindness, good works and deeds that are useful and beneficial to our opposers.

Believer, do you find this difficult? When you have been offended, do you immediately seek revenge and seek to get even? Paul teaches us that even though we have been hurt, we are to overcome it by doing good.

thought of the week

I wonder have I done my  
best for Jesus

memory verse

Only fear the LORD, and serve  
him in truth with all your heart: for  
consider how great things he  
hath done for you.

1 Samuel 12:24

*Sunday Worship Service*  
*3 February 2013*  
*"Living Life As a Christian"*

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 5:12 - 15**

**Proverbs 10:7** The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.

**Acts 26:24** And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

**Mark 3:21** And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself.

**1 Corinthians 15:10** But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

**1 Timothy 1:12 - 16** And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

**Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

**Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

**Acts 20:22 - 24** And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Sunday Worship Service  
3 February 2013  
"Living Life As a Christian"

Passage \_\_\_\_\_

how should I live life as a Christian?

- I. Live your Christian life to give someone a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- II. Live your Christian life to \_\_\_\_\_ God and others,
  
- III. Live your Christian life \_\_\_\_\_ to God

what does a grateful Christian life look like?

- A. It is a life of \_\_\_\_\_
  
- B. It is life based on a \_\_\_\_\_
  
- C. It is a life of \_\_\_\_\_

personal reflection and application

# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMBAT ROLES IN U.S. MILITARY OPEN TO WOMEN ACCOMPANIED BY LIES



It was announced last week that the U.S. military is rescinding its policy restricting women from serving in combat-focused positions such as infantry units. At a Pentagon press conference Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said, “If members of our military can meet the qualifications for a job--and let me be clear, we’re not talking about reducing the qualifications for a job--if they can meet the qualifications for the job then they should have the right to serve” (“Panetta: ‘Everyone Entitled to a Chance’ to be Combat Soldier in Gender Neutral Military,”

CNSNews.com, Jan. 24, 2013). Panetta said they aren’t talking about reducing the qualifications, but of course, that is pure nonsense, since history has already proven that the pressure to reduce qualifications for the sake of “gender equality” will outweigh the concern for military readiness. In fact, at the same press conference General Martin Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said it will be up to the services to explain why any position--including Navy SEALs and other special forces--should still exclude women. He continued, “If we do decide that a particular standard is so high that women couldn’t make it, THE BURDEN IS NOW ON THE SERVICE TO COME BACK AND EXPLAIN TO THE SECRETARY WHY IS IT THAT HIGH, DOES IT REALLY HAVE TO BE THAT HIGH” (Ibid.). It is very sad to see what has happened to the U.S. military. It has been feminized, lawyerized, environmentalized, psychologized, and homosexualized, but at root this is a judgment upon a wicked nation, particularly a judgment for the apostasy and deep moral and spiritual compromise of the nation’s churches, and the only solution is a spiritual revival. “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” (2 Chron. 7:14).

## FORMER IRANIAN DIPLOMAT WARNS ISRAEL THAT IRAN WILL USE THE NUCLEAR BOMB



The following is excerpted from “Ex-Iranian diplomat warns Israel,” The Times of Israel, Jan. 25, 2013: “In an interview with Israel’s Channel 2 TV, Mohammad Reza Heydari, the former Iranian consul in Oslo who resigned and obtained political asylum there three years ago, said that ‘if Iran is given more time, it will acquire the knowledge necessary to build a nuclear bomb within a year.’ Asked whether it would use the bomb against Israel, he said: ‘If Iran gets to the point where it has an atomic bomb, it will certainly use it, against Israel or any other [enemy] country.’ Heydari--who defected soon after he was asked to identify his son in photos taken during the protests that followed the 2009 vote in which Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was reelected--said the regime in Tehran was aiming to develop two or three bombs. It saw nuclear weapons as “insurance” to guarantee its survival. Regime leaders ‘believe that when they acquire a nuclear bomb, [others] will start to

behave toward them as they do toward North Korea,’ said Heydari. ... ‘They are busying themselves with ideological preparations for the arrival of the hidden Imam and are preparing the ground for that in a practical way; for this purpose, they are willing to spill much blood and destroy many countries.’ ... He was posted as consul to Norway in 2008. In 2010, he resigned and has stayed in Oslo since, in a location strictly guarded by the Norwegian authorities. During the interview, Heydari claimed that five other Iranian diplomats--in Brussels, London, Geneva, Milan and Paris--had defected recently.”



## ANTI-JEWISH PERSECUTION IN EUROPE



The following is excerpted from “No Hebrew, Please, This Is Europe,” FrontPageMag.com, Jan. 7, 2013: “Israel’s ambassador to Denmark and the head of Copenhagen’s Jewish community have both warned Jews in that city that if they don’t want to be roughed up on the street by anti-Semites, they’d better not wear anything that would identify them as Jews--and, for good measure, they should also lower their voices when speaking

Hebrew. ... a Jewish theological seminary in Potsdam has asked its rabbis not to wear yarmulkes in public. Pupils at a Jewish school in Berlin have been warned to speak German, not Hebrew, on school trips--and to wear baseball caps over their yarmulkes ‘so you don’t give stupid people something to get annoyed about.’ Jews at Rome’s main synagogue now remove their yarmulkes when leaving services; so do Jews in Malmö, Sweden. A Jewish teacher at an adult education center in Kristiansand, Norway, has been told ‘that wearing the star could be deemed a provocation towards the many Muslim students at the school.’ ... [A] Paris Metro passenger was recently beaten unconscious by a mob who pegged him as Jewish because he was reading a book by Paris’s chief rabbi. ... [In a New Year’s Eve report in Haaretz] Joel Braunold admitted that Europe does indeed have “a serious anti-Semitism problem” now, and that “the number of safe European capital cities has shrunk to a tiny number.” ... In a piece headlined “Anti-Semitism: a growing problem in France,” Public Radio International noted that the Toulouse school shootings last March were only the most widely reported of an alarming number of anti-Semitic attacks across France this year,’ PRI quoted anti-Semitism expert Sammy Ghozlan as saying that French Jews now ‘avoid going out late, going to certain neighborhoods, wearing yarmulkes.’”

## THE CLOSE LINK BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND SOCIALISM

The following by Don Jasmin is from The Fundamentalist Digest, February-March 2013: “The organization known as ‘The Socialist International’ [TSI] has been a mixture of one-world slanted Communists and global oriented Socialists since its origin in 1864. Karl Marx, Communism’s founder, was its first ‘honorary secretary.’ While communists and socialists have internally squabbled over its control since its founding, both factions have always sought the same ‘common goal’: a ‘socialistic world government.’ In another related article, this writer summarizes some of the goals and activities of the 20th International Socialist Congress [ISC] This article, however, discloses the close links of the ISC and left-wing members of the U. S. Congress. ‘In our country, the principal affiliate of the Socialist International is the Democratic Socialists of America [DSA].’ According to a reliable report, the ‘DSA boasts of working hand -in-glove with the Congressional Progressive Caucus [CPC], whose recent list of members shows 78 Democrats and one Independent...’ ‘In a 2010 report to the Communist Party USA’s National convention, Party official David Bell called the Congressional Progressive Caucus “our allies in Congress.” Current Progressive Caucus co-chairs are Congressmen Keith Ellison [a committed Muslim] of



MN and Raul Grijalva of AZ. One of the [CPA’s] vice-chairs is newly elected [lesbian] Tammy Baldwin of WI.’ While all the CPC members swear allegiance to the U. S. Constitution, they all ‘support increasing socialism here at home, and are consistent backers of UN empowerment--both key goals in the drive for world government sought by communists and socialists.’ Norman Thomas, six time Socialist Party Presidential candidate, said, ‘The American people will never knowingly adopt socialism. But, under the name of liberalism, they will adopt every fragment of the socialist program, until one day American will be a socialist nation, without knowing it happened.’ In 1944, Thomas stated, ‘I no longer need to run as a presidential Candidate for the Socialist Party; the Democrat Party has adopted our platform.’”

## THE DESTRUCTIVE RESULTS OF SOCIALISM

The following is excerpted from “Obama’s America Looks Like Detroit,” Terrence Jeffrey, The Detroit News, Dec. 15, 2012: “Detroit is the reduction ad absurdum of President Obama’s economic policies. What happened to Detroit? It is achieving socialism in one city. Traditional two-parent families and the productive taxpaying citizens they produce have fled. In 1950, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, Detroit had 1.9 million people and was the fifth largest city in the nation. By 2000, its population had dropped to 951,000; by 2010 to 714,000 and by 2011, to 707,000. What has happened to the people who remain? The Census Bureau estimates there are 563,055 people age 16 or older in the city who could potentially work and be part of the labor force. But only 54.3% of these--or 306,000 --actually do. The 258,000 people in Detroit who neither work nor seek work outnumber the 224,846 residents who have jobs. And of those who work, 34,500--or 15.3% work for the government. Thus this city that

boasted 1.9 million residents in 1950 has only 190,346 private-sector workers today.”



## RICK WARREN PREACHED NO GOSPEL AT TED TALK



When Rick Warren, one of the most influential pastors in the world, was invited to speak at Ted Talks in February 2006 to a mixed secular audience, a forum that he knew would be recorded and heard widely beyond the immediate audience, it was a wonderful opportunity for a Baptist preacher to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. That is what the apostle Paul would have done. It was what he always did in every forum, whether in the market place at Corinth or on Mars Hill in Athens, because Paul was convinced that the gospel alone is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). Thus he testified, “For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2:2). But Rick Warren does not walk in the steps of the apostle Paul. He has a different gospel and a different objective in ministry, his gospel being a human-centered gospel of doing good and self-fulfillment and his objective being to change the world through his PEACE program. Paul summarized his gospel as follows: “For I delivered unto you first of all that

which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures” (1 Cor. 15:3-4). He said elsewhere that this gospel was delivered to him by divine revelation and that if anyone preaches another gospel, he is under God’s curse (Galatians 1:6-12). Paul’s gospel is clear. It says that all men are fallen sinners who are under God’s holy wrath for their rebellion, that without salvation they will perish forever, and that Christ, the Son of God, came into this world to suffer in the sinner’s place by dying on the cross, and that He died, and that He rose from the dead the third day. All of this was done in accordance with the prophecies that were recorded in Old Testament Scripture before Jesus’ birth. Rick Warren didn’t preach anything like this in his Ted Talk. In fact, he didn’t talk about Christ at all. He said nothing about man’s sin or God’s holiness or the Cross or the atonement or Jesus’ death or the resurrection. He didn’t mention the Holy Scripture or Bible prophecy. He spent most of his time talking about the success of his book *A Purpose Driven Life* and the things he has done, the money he has given away, the projects he has developed. Then in the last few moments of the 20-minute talk, having preached zero Christ and zero gospel to the needy souls of his audience, Rick Warren concluded with these words: “So the good life is not about looking good, feeling good, or having the goods. It’s about being good and doing good. The bottom line is that God gets pleasure watching you be you. Why? He made you. And when you do what you are made to do, He goes, ‘That’s my boy; that’s my girl.’ You are using the talent and the ability that God gave you. So my advice to you is look at what is in your hand, your identity, your influence, your income. And say, ‘It’s not about me; it’s about making the world a better place.’” Remember, Warren stated these words to a secular congregation without having preached the biblical gospel. For him to

say in that context that God looks upon those who try to do what He made them to do as “my boy, my girl” is universalism and the Father of God heresy. Even on his best day, such as in *The Purpose Drive Life*, Rick Warren preaches the most shallow, empty “easy believism” gospel imaginable, but at Ted Talks he preached no gospel at all, and that was a high crime before Almighty God. Of course,

if Warren were a forthright preacher of the gospel, he would never have been invited to the New Age-tinged Ted Talks which are sponsored by the likes of Bill Gates. Those who invited him knew their man. They knew that he wouldn't betray their confidence in him by offending their human arrogance or reproving their enmity with God.



The majestic bald eagle has been the national bird of America since 1782. It is a large raptor about three feet high, weighing 9 to 14 pounds, with a wing span of 6 to 8 feet. Its habitat covers most of North America and northern Mexico. Its head and tail feathers are brilliant white, its body and wings are chocolate-brown, and its legs and bill are bright yellow. It has amazing eyesight, with the frontal setting of the eyes giving it binocular as well as

peripheral vision. It can see prey from a mile and more away. The bald eagle can reach speeds of more than 35 miles per hour in level flight and dive at speeds of 100 mph. The bald eagle is a masterpiece of weight reduction and micro-engineering. Its bones are hollow, with braces at certain points to increase structural integrity, the entire skeleton weighing only a little more than half a pound. This allows the bird to be light enough to take off and fly but strong enough to swoop down on prey at high speeds and carry it away, etc. A bald eagle has approximately 7,000 lightweight but very strong feathers, all of the feathers together weighing only about 21 ounces. The flying feathers consist of amazing interlocking microscopic structures consisting of barbs and barbules (each feather held together by more than 350,000 barbule hooks), and there are four types of flight feathers, with each playing a different and necessary role in the bird's ability to fly. The feathers trap layers of air to protect the bird from heat, cold, and rain. The bird has perfect control over every part of the wings and tail for maneuverability. It kills its prey with its powerful talons, which are capable of creating 1,000 pounds of pressure per square inch with each foot. The bald eagle mates for life and the pair usually enlarge the same nest for several years. In the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia, and Alaska, bald eagles congregate to feed on spawning salmon in the early winter. I saw probably 200 bald eagles in one 10 mile stretch of the Skagit River in Washington State in December 2012.



*photo by David Cloud*

**CONCLUSION:** The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).





**Acts 21:10 - 13** And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles. And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

**Philippians 1:21** For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

**Philippians 3:13 - 14** Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

**2 Timothy 4:6 - 8** For 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.

**Ambassador Baptist Church  
welcomes you! We are thankful that  
the Lord Jesus has brought you and  
we believe He has something  
wonderful for you.  
May our spiritual life reach new  
heights of growth this year for  
Christ's name sake.**

Courtesy Cody Williams, Flickr

## THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

*"To win the north of  
Singapore for Christ  
and a thousand souls  
for Christ in five years."*

COMING UP • CHINESE MINISTRY

## Chinese New Year Dinner

The Chinese New Year is a traditional Chinese festival to commemorate the start of the new traditional lunar year. Families typically gather for meals during visits and other gatherings with each other.

Ambassador will use the festive season to share the love of Christ with friends and family with a special Chinese New Year Dinner on 17 February. Mark your calendars and join us! More details to be released.

### **"Chinese New Year Dinner"**

**17 February 2013**

There will be a Mandarin translation of the messages on 10 February 2013.

## IN BRIEF: CHAPEL CURRICULUM

Ambassador is calling for labourers to assist in developing a curriculum for the chapel program. Interested persons should contact Pastor within the next two weeks

**4 - 10 FEBRUARY 2013**

ambassador**baptistchurch**



"Be reconciled to God"  
1 Corinthians 5:20

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	Outreach Efforts (SEM)	Outreach Efforts (YIS)		Rivers in a Dry Place	ABC Youth	Sunday Worship Service Mandarin Service

*"All activities running normally"*

get in touch!

We'd love to hear from you, be it feedback about this bulletin, requests for material, or just about any other query you may have about Christ, His Kingdom, and Ambassador. Contact us by:

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(pastor's email)

**Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG](http://www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG)

**Twitter:** @abc\_singapore

weekly activities

**Sunday Services**

Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM  
Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM  
Mandarin Service 03:30PM  
English Worship Service 11:00AM

**Routine Weekly Activities**

Faith Bible Institute  
Mondays, 07:45PM

"Rivers in a Dry Place"  
Fridays, 08:00PM

Ambassador Youth  
Saturdays, 10:30AM

For more information on our weekly activities, visit our website at [www.ambassador-baptist.org](http://www.ambassador-baptist.org)

**Outreach Efforts**

SEMBAWANG  
Person-in-Charge: Bro. Robert  
Tuesdays, 08:15PM

YISHUN  
Person-in-Charge: *We need one.*  
Wednesdays, 08:15PM

prayer requests

- **For wisdom as we prepare to move to our new facility**
- The various ministries
- For God's leadership in the transition of Ambassador Baptist Church to a Discipleship church
- For direction and unity in the training of Discipleship Group Leaders and other areas of training
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2013
- Bro. Terry's palliative care.
- ABC Biblical doctrines manual

the new testament in 4 months

- 4 FEB** Heb 7-10
- 5 FEB** Heb 11-13
- 6 FEB** Jas 1-4
- 7 FEB** Jas 5; 1 Pet 1-3
- 8 FEB** 1 Pet 4-5; 2 Pet 1-2
- 9 FEB** 2 Pet 3; 1 Jn 1-3
- 10 FEB** 1 Jn 4-5; 2 Jn; 3 Jn; Jude