

2 JUNE 2013

ambassador|baptistchurch



be ye reconciled to God
2 Corinthians 5:20

be ye *reconciled* to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

find.it

from the pastor's heart

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from the pastor's heart

PRAISE THE LORD



today's program

the **news**

hymn | *o beulah land*

opening **prayer**

hymn | *joyful, joyful we adore Thee*


hymn | *love divine all loves
excelling*

offertory

hymn | *only trust Him*

exhortation | *pastor Johnny*

invitation and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan (johnny@ambassador-baptist.org)

 Bastique, Wikimedia Commons

And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

Romans 15:11

Praise and thanksgiving needs to be a constant practice in the life of a

believer (1 Thessalonians 5:18; Psalms 150:1). To give thanks and to praise God enables us to take our eyes off ourselves and place them on our Saviour Who is in charge of all things and is able to change things or sustain us in the midst of our trials for our good. Paul admonishes the Roman Christians to praise and thank

the Lord. What are some reasons he gives that we should rejoice and thank and praise the Lord?

We can praise the Lord for the Lord Jesus (Romans 15:8). The Lord Jesus came as a servant to fulfill the Old Testament promises made to

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Israel. Many promises were made to the Jewish nation, but if they go unfulfilled, then God is untrue and Christianity is unreliable. The reality, however, is that every promise given by God has been fulfilled to the letter through the Son of God, the Lord Jesus. The most important fulfillment is the promised redemption of this world through the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is of the Jews, and therefore, the Lord Jesus, the Saviour of this world, came through Israel, and was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God. We can praise the Lord because God, through the Lord Jesus Christ, fulfilled His promise of salvation through the Jews.

We can praise the Lord also because He included us (*Romans 15:9*). When God called Abraham, He told Abraham that through Abraham shall all families of the earth be blessed. He started with the Jews but included the Gentiles into His plan for eternal salvation. Who are we that He should consider us? We are nothing but He is all love. The plain reason for our inclusion was His love for us (*John 3:16*) Dear Gentile believer, do we pause to thank the Lord for the great salvation provided for us? Do we praise Him because He sent a concerned believer to share with us the Word that is able to save our souls? He has spoken to our hearts

through the Holy Spirit and He has graciously led us to the point that we responded to His grace. There are many who still have not believed even as Christians are in the fold of God. We have been graciously saved, and included in the kingdom of God. Praise the Lord because He included us in His plan that we may become the children of God.

Paul never ceased to thank the Lord and therefore repeatedly admonishes the praise, rejoicing in and lauding of our Saviour. The biblical command is never to stop praising the Lord, because of our constant unchanging salvation. This life brings many uncertainties. Some are pleasant and, if so, we can be happy and thankful for them. However, there will be offences, tragedies and problems and they may beset us. As a result, we are led to despair, sorrow and discouragement. Yet, the salvation of the Lord is a constant - a joy that will never depart, never be lost and never be destroyed. Praise the Lord that with Christ in our vessel, we can smile at the storms of life.

Dear believer, is life beset with storms and winds? We can still praise the Lord Jesus, that He included us and that salvation is a constant in the life of a true believer.

thought of the week

Comparing ourselves with ourselves is not wise

memory verse

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Matthew 22:37-39

Sunday Worship Service

2 June 2013

"Paul's Defense of His Apostleship: Living Boldly for Christ"

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 10: 7 - 11**

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

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Romans 10:9-10 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

1 Timothy 1:15 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.

Acts 9:18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.

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

James 2:18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

Sunday Worship Service

2 June 2013

"Paul's Defense of His Apostleship: Living Boldly for Christ"

Passage: _____

introduction

I. God wants us to live _____ for the Lord

how do I live confidently for the Lord where I am ?

I. Be _____ of your _____

A. "Salvation happens to us when we are _____ from _____ by _____ from _____ and _____ in Christ"

B. How do we know Paul is a Christian?

1. Paul trusted _____ as his Saviour

2. Paul was _____

3. Paul _____ Christ

4. Paul _____ Christ

II. Be _____ of your _____ for God

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

THE ANGELS' MISSED OPPORTUNITY IN SODOM



If we would accept the thinking and philosophy of Christian rock, the angels missed a great opportunity when they visited Sodom. They entered the city by way of the gate, where Lot was sitting, and then went to his house for the evening (Genesis 19). The Sodomites came around, looking for a good time, and got upset when the angels wouldn't come out and party. Think of how things could have turned out differently if the angels would have not been so stand-off-ish and "holier than thou." They could have done what Mark Driscoll of Seattle did with the Paradox rock theater that his church operated, which was simply to show hospitality "rather than preaching at the kids" (*Confessions of a Reformission Rev.*, pp. 126, 127). Or they could have followed the advice that Dan Kimball gives pastors, which is to go to drinking clubs to "hang out with and build trust and credibility" rather than winning the drinkers to Christ (*They Like Jesus but Not the Church*, pp. 12, 14). Kimball says the emerging church position is that "we don't 'bring Jesus' to people but that we realize Jesus is

active in culture and we join him in what he is doing," and, "we serve our communities, and that we build relationships with people in them, rather than seeing them as evangelistic targets" (*They Like Jesus*, p. 20). So the angels could have brought out the stringed instruments, delighting the Sodomites with some mind-bending rock & roll licks, playing some of the town's popular party songs, especially those by the old-style groups that everybody loved such as the Rolling Gomorrhahs' "I Can't Get No Satisfaction," or better yet, The Locusts' "Love You To," with its lyrics -- "Make love all day long" -- which would doubtless have resonated with the Sodomites. Having won their hearts, the angels could have explained that God is on their side and that he, too, loves a good party (perhaps using the female rock-grooving god of *The Shack* as their authority). The angels could have told the Sodomites what Rick Warren told the sophisticated, worldly attendees of his Ted Talk: "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'" ("Rick Warren Preached No Gospel at Ted Talks," FBIS, Jan. 17, 2013). This emerging, Christian rock, "lifestyle evangelism" approach would doubtless have broken down the barriers and caused the Sodomites to see that the angels were regular guys and that God's love is unconditional. It was a lost opportunity because of a separatist Pharisaical mentality.

POPE SAYS ATHEISTS REDEEMED BY CHRIST

During papal mass on May 22, Pope Francis said everyone is redeemed by Christ's blood. "The Lord has redeemed all of us, all of us, with the Blood of Christ: all of us, not just Catholics. Everyone! 'Father, the atheists?' Even the atheists. Everyone! And this Blood makes us children of God of the first class! We are created children in the likeness of God and the Blood of Christ has redeemed us all! And we all have a duty to do good. And this commandment for everyone to do good, I think, is a beautiful path towards peace" ("Pope at Mass," *Vatican Radio*, May 22, 2013). Some Catholic

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publications have been trying to spin this to say that the pope only meant that Christ made it possible for all men to be saved, but the Roman Catholic Church has been preaching variations on universalism since the Second Vatican Council. “Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience—those too may achieve eternal salvation” (“Dogmatic Constitution

on the Church,” chap. 2, 16, p. 338, *Vatican II Documents*). Mother Teresa, who is on a fast track to “sainthood,” was an unabashed universalist. When Mother Teresa died, her longtime friend and biographer Naveen Chawla said that he once asked her bluntly, “Do you convert?” She replied, “Of course I convert. I convert you to be a better Hindu or a better Muslim or a better Protestant. Once you’ve found God, it’s up to you to decide how to worship him” (“Mother Teresa Touched other Faiths,” Associated Press, Sept. 7, 1997).

EPISCOPAL LEADER SAYS DEMON POSSESSED GIRL MORE GODLY THAN APOSTLE PAUL

Katharine Jefferts Schori, head of the ultra-liberal Episcopal Church in America, says that Paul was wrong in casting the demon out of the girl in Ephesus and that she was probably more godly than he was. Speaking on the island nation of Curacao, Jefferts Schori said: “Paul is annoyed, perhaps for being put in his place, and he responds by depriving her of her gift of spiritual awareness. Paul can’t abide something he won’t see as beautiful or holy, so he tries to destroy it. It gets him thrown in prison. That’s pretty much where he’s put himself by his own refusal to recognise that she, too, shares in God’s nature, just as much as he does – maybe more so!” (“Episcopal Leader Claims St. Paul Was Wrong,” *Christian Post*, May 23, 2013). If apostasy is a sign of the times (and it is!), the hour is very late indeed!



SPURGEON AGAINST POPERY AND NEW CALVINISM

The “new Calvinists” sometimes cite the late Charles Haddon Spurgeon, pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, as a soul-mate, but he was nothing of the sort. Consider his stance against the Roman Catholic Church, for example. It was bold and unequivocal. It is impossible that Spurgeon would have, therefore, countenanced the ecumenical contemporary worship movement, which is so closely affiliated with Rome (as we have documented in the free eBook *The Directory of Contemporary Worship Music*.) Consider just two of many quotes that could be offered: “I know what would happen if we feared God more: we should

sooner die than remain in any fellowship with popery. Every man who saw any fear of his being found in complicity with Antichrist would at once say, ‘I will not have it. Popery is abhorred of the Lord, and they who help it wear the mark of the beast. I hate Antichrist, and therefore I denounce it and cry, Down with it, raze it even to the ground’” (Spurgeon, Oct. 7, 1877). “It is impossible but that the Church of Rome must spread, when we who are the watchdogs of the fold are silent, and OTHERS ARE GENTLY AND SMOOTHLY TURFING THE ROAD, AND MAKING IT AS SOFT AND SMOOTH AS POSSIBLE, that

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SPURGEON AGAINST POPERY AND NEW CALVINISM

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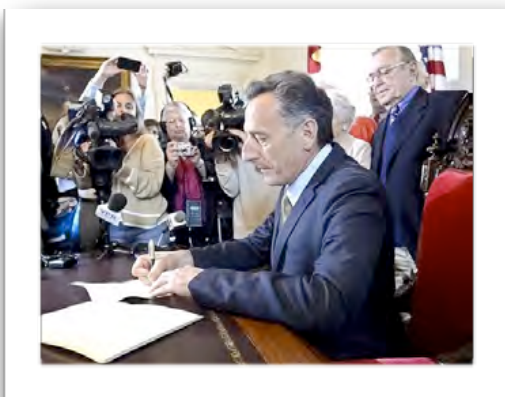
converts may travel down to the nethermost hell of Popery. We want John Knox back again. Do not talk to me of mild and gentle men, of soft manners and squeamish words, we want the fiery Knox, and even though his vehemence should ‘ding our pulpits into blads,’ it were well if he did but rouse our hearts to action” (Spurgeon, *Sermons*, Vol. 10, pp. 322-323). When was the last time you read something like that from the pen of John Piper or R.C. Sproul or Mark Driscoll or Ed Stetzer or Al Mohler? These men are not pro-Rome, but they are soft on Rome. They are men of soft manners in their zeal against heresy. They don’t call for strict biblical separation. Mohler, for example, is a big promoter of Billy Graham’s ecumenical evangelism, which destroys the effect of anything he might have said against Rome. These men are doing exactly what Spurgeon described as turfing the road to Roman Catholicism to make it smooth for those traveling thereon to hell.

PRAY FOR THE SUPREME COURT

We need to obey 1 Timothy 2 and pray for the U.S. Supreme Court and the momentous decisions that are before it (“High Court to Hear Prayers Case,” Associated Baptist Press, May 21, 2013). In coming days it will decide on whether same-sex “marriage” should be the law of the nation, as well as whether “sectarian prayers” at government meetings violate the First Amendment. Pastors, please make this a matter of special prayer in the church services, and fathers, please make this a matter of special prayer at meals and family devotions. Let us ask for God’s mercy, not because we deserve it as a nation, but for the sake of those in it who love Him and keep His Word and for the sake of answered prayer in Jesus’ name. “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty” (1 Tim. 2:1-2).



VERMONT GOVERNOR SIGNS EUTHANASIA LAW



On May 20, Vermont became the fourth state in the U.S. to allow doctors to prescribe lethal medication to terminally ill patients (“Vermont Governor Signs,” *Los Angeles Times*, May 20, 2013). The other states are Oregon, Washington, and Montana. Barbara Coombs Lee, president of the euthanasia activist organization Compassion & Choices, says Vermont’s action “will boost support for death-with-dignity bills nationwide.” Under Vermont’s bill a patient must be at least 18 years old and suffering from an “incurable and irreversible disease” (an ephemeral thing in light of the deep imperfection of modern medicine), with less than six months to live. The patient must make a request from his doctor and two physicians must approve. Euthanasia is man taking God’s prerogative into his own frail and incapable hands. (For more on this subject see “Do We Have the Right to Die?” at www.wayoflife.org; there is a search engine.)

MEDITATIONS ON THE PROMISES OF GOD'S WATCH CARE IN THE PSALMS



“For this God *is* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even* unto death” (Psa. 48:14). Since death is a reality in this world because of sin, the promise that God is our guide unto death is most precious. He is with us as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death (Psa. 23:4). The thought of death, typically, is fearful and unsettling, and men do everything they can to avoid it, particularly those who do not know Christ. But for the believer, the process of death is

only a shadow that momentarily hides the Sun, and shadows are only passing things. In contrast, for the unbeliever death is the entrance into “the blackness of darkness forever.” Further, shadows aren’t harmful. For the believer, death isn’t harmful because Jesus took the harm upon Himself on the cross. The basic meaning of death is separation. The first death is physical death, which is the separation of the spirit from the body (James 2:26). But the most fearful aspect of death is the second death, wherein the soul is eternally separated from the Creator God in the lake of fire (Rev. 20:14-15; 21:8). But the Son of God was forsaken of the Father in our place when he cried out, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Psa. 22:1). He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, and with his stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5). Those who trust Him will not be ashamed at the hour of death. The momentary shadow of death will turn into the glorious light of an eternity of “pleasures for evermore” with the Saviour (Psalm 16:11). Recently a 22-year-old single man named Sharan died who was a member of a church pastored by a friend. He collapsed during a Bible conference where I was preaching in April and had to be taken to the hospital, and within three weeks this fervent disciple of Christ was dead of leukemia. He suffered great physical discomfort and pain, yet he constantly testified that God was helping him. He said, “I don’t have any complaint against the Lord; God has given me joy.” Looking around at all of the unbelievers in the hospital who were suffering of various diseases, he said, “I’m the only one here who isn’t sick.” He meant, of course, that in his case the fatal disease was merely the door to eternal blessing.

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.

A. What does it mean to serve surely, so that we can bold for God?

1. Serve _____

2. Serve _____

3. Serve _____

III. Be _____ in your _____ for God

personal application and reflection

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Ephesians 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Matthew 6:3-4 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

Proverbs 27:2 Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.

1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

IN BRIEF

New Facility

Be in prayer for the new facility. The tenant has submitted the relevant documents to URA. More details as we get them.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VBS June 2013

Registration for the annual Vacation Bible School is now closed as the VBS is just around the corner!

Themed "Expedition Needle's Eye," the VBS will run from June 6 - 9.

All weekday activities are postponed this week due to the VBS.

Please refer to page 8 for details

COMING UP • HIGHLIGHTS

In the Month of June

Ambassador will be holding the following events in the month of June.

Vacation Bible School

June 6 - 9

1096 Sembawang Road

These members' birthdays are also in the month of June. Be sure to wish them a happy birthday!

Sis Kym Titt
June 4

Bro. Roland Teo
June 24

Bro. Lee Thay Liong
June 28



issues of the HEART

Why do people behave the way they do?
Why do I behave the way I do?
How do I **overcome** bad behaviour?
What does the Bible say?

Find out in Sunday Bible Hour

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

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

3 - 9 JUNE 2013

ambassador**baptist**church



"Be **reconciled** to God"
1 Corinthians 5:20

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
			Vacation Bible School (June) 2013			Sunday Worship Service Mandarin Service

"All activities cancelled due to the VBS"

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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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

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
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2013
- Bro. Terry's palliative care.
- **Sis Kym's parents**
- **Sis Lydia's parents**

the new testament in 4 months

- JUN 3** 2 Peter 3; 1 John 1-3
- JUN 4** 1 Jn 4-5; 2 Jn; 3 Jn; Jude
- JUN 5** Revelations 1-3
- JUN 6** Revelations 4-8
- JUN 7** Revelations 9-12
- JUN 8** Revelations 13-16
- JUN 9** Revelations 17-19